



Iowa Ag News – Crop Progress & Condition

Upper Midwest Regional Field Office · 210 Walnut St, Ste 833 · Des Moines, IA 50309 · (515) 776-3400 · (800) 772-0825
www.nass.usda.gov/ia Media Contact: Greg Thessen

Cooperating with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

April 21, 2025 - For Immediate Release

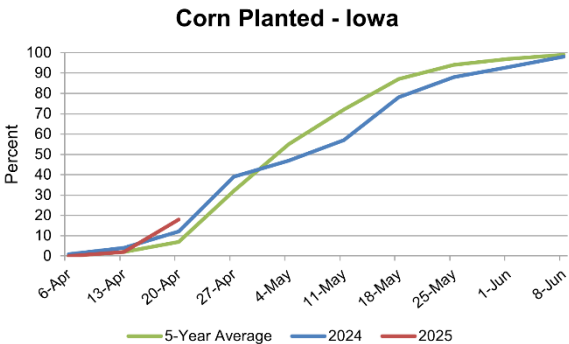
Planters were rolling across much of the State before being slowed by precipitation. Iowa farmers averaged 5.5 suitable for fieldwork for the week ending April 20, 2025, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service. In addition to planting corn, soybeans and oats, fieldwork included tiling, building waterways and spraying when winds allowed.

Topsoil moisture condition rated 6 percent very short, 22 percent short, 69 percent adequate and 3 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** condition rated 7 percent very short, 30 percent short, 61 percent adequate and 2 percent surplus.

Corn planted reached 18 percent, 3 days ahead of last year and 5 days ahead of the 5-year average. Eleven percent of the expected **soybean** crop has been planted, 3 days ahead of last year and 1 week ahead of the 5-year average. **Oats** seeding reached 68 percent complete, 5 days behind last year but 3 days ahead of the 5-year average. Twenty-three percent of the expected oat acreage has emerged, 4 days behind last year but 5 days ahead of normal.

Crop Condition as of April 20, 2025

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Pasture and range	3	9	41	42	5



Crop Progress as of April 20, 2025

Item	Districts									State			
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Corn planted	24	15	11	19	19	18	15	16	24	18	2	12	7
Oats planted	87	68	57	65	61	70	70	76	67	68	47	76	60
Oats emerged	38	22	18	16	26	14	21	27	24	23	6	32	14
Soybeans planted	13	7	8	6	13	15	9	14	16	11	1	7	3

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Condition as of April 20, 2025

Item	Districts									State		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year
	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)
Days suitable	5.5	4.8	4.8	5.4	5.8	5.5	5.4	6.9	6.1	5.5	5.9	3.0
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Topsoil moisture												
Very short	5	3	4	11	6	3	16	2	4	6	7	10
Short	31	13	20	28	15	25	21	12	30	22	24	27
Adequate	62	83	67	61	77	69	63	84	58	69	68	60
Surplus	2	1	9	0	2	3	0	2	8	3	1	3
Subsoil moisture												
Very short	8	4	7	14	5	4	17	0	3	7	9	19
Short	27	33	25	46	21	35	23	42	21	30	31	36
Adequate	63	57	64	39	72	61	60	56	74	61	59	43
Surplus	2	6	4	1	2	0	0	2	2	2	1	2

The complete report can be found on the USDA NASS website at www.nass.usda.gov/Publications.

IOWA PRELIMINARY WEATHER SUMMARY

Provided by Justin Glisan, Ph.D., State Climatologist
Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

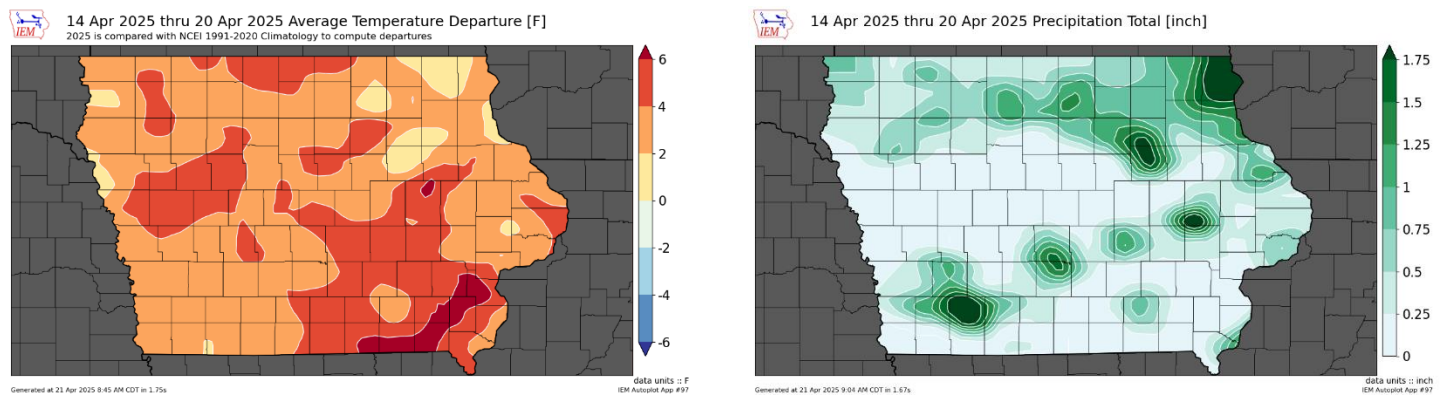
Reports from the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship and maps from the Midwestern Regional Climate Center reflect data collected from 7:00 A.M. Central Time April 14, 2025 through 7:00 A.M. Central Time on April 20, 2025.

An active weather pattern ramped up across Iowa with hail, high winds and a few tornadoes. These thunderstorms brought above-normal rainfall to swaths of northern and southern Iowa, however several stations reported no measurable totals. Temperatures were several degrees warmer across the state with Iowa’s average temperature at 52.6 degrees, 3.2 degrees above normal.

Scattered showers with a few rumbles of thunder pushed across northern Iowa on Sunday (13th) afternoon as daytime temperatures rose into the 70s. Several stations reported at least a trace with 0.11 inch in Osage (Mitchell County) and 0.15 inch in Algona (Kossuth). Winds shifted to the northwest overnight into Monday (14th), becoming blustery as lows held in the mid 40s west to low 50s east. Skies over Iowa were partly to mostly cloudy through the day with temperatures in the mid 50s over northern Iowa and a few degrees warmer farther south. Spotty, light showers moved southeast through the state during the afternoon hours as an upper-level disturbance transited the Upper Midwest. Over 60 stations receiving measurable amounts reported under 0.10 inch except for Lake Park (Dickinson County), which observed 0.12 inch. Gusty northwesterly winds persisted on Tuesday (15th) as clouds cleared in western Iowa at daybreak; morning lows there were in the low 30s while holding in the low 40s in eastern Iowa under cloud cover. Afternoon temperatures warmed into the upper 50s and low 60s with sunshine and patchy haze. Wednesday (16th) started chilly in eastern Iowa where upper 20s and low 30s were observed. Clear skies reigned over the state with an easterly wind signaling a shift to a more active pattern. As a low pressure system approached Iowa, winds swung to a southerly direction, helping boost afternoon highs in the mid to upper 70s in portions of western Iowa; 60s were reported east.

Thursday (17th) was an active weather day across the Midwest with morning temperatures at many stations in the upper 50s and low 60s, 10-20 degrees above normal. The scattered thundershowers that formed before sunrise in central Iowa continued through eastern Iowa before dissipating after noon. Across Iowa’s northern two-thirds, temperatures climbed into the upper 70s and low 80s as dew point temperatures pushed into the upper 50s ahead of ample moisture flow from the Gulf. As a strong low pressure system moved across northern Iowa, the attendant cold front fired the first round of strong to severe thunderstorms. During the evening hours, two supercell thunderstorms formed in eastern Nebraska and moved into southwest Iowa. These cells had a history of producing large hail and tornadoes; McClelland reported 4.00-inch hail with 2.75 inches observed in Essex (Page County). This storm had a long-track, wedge tornado that moved from Tabor (Fremont County) to Essex, where a Tornado Emergency was issued. Another tornado was reported by a trained spotter in Oakland (Pottawattamie County). The storms held together into central and eastern Iowa, though losing a great deal of strength. Farther northwest, severe thunderstorms with strong winds and large hail moved over the length of the state. Reports of hail and some wind damage came in from Sioux City (Woodbury County), Storm Lake (Buena Vista County) and Waverly (Bremer County). Event rain totals reported at 7:00 am on Friday (18th) had nearly 75 stations at or above 0.50 inch with 20 stations collecting an inch or more. The highest totals were southwest and north central with 1.49 inches at Mason City Municipal Airport (Cerro Gordo County) to 2.42 inches in Corning (Adams County), the highest total of the week. Saturday (19th) was pleasant with light winds and highs in the 50s under mostly sunny skies. Overcast conditions developed across southern Iowa into Sunday (20th) morning with temperatures in the upper 30s to mid 40s north to south.

The statewide weekly average precipitation was 0.35 inch while the normal is 0.91 inch. Three northwest stations reported the week’s high temperature of 85 degrees on the 17th, on average 26 degrees above average. Several northern stations reported the week’s low temperature of 25 degrees on the 16th, on average nine degrees below normal. Four-inch soil temperatures were in the upper 40s north to upper 50s south as of Sunday.



Temperature and Precipitation Maps, courtesy of Iowa Environmental Mesonet of Iowa State University, are available at: <https://mesonet.agron.iastate.edu/>

Additional soil moisture data are available at: <https://nassgeo.csiss.gmu.edu/CropCASMA/>