



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

May 5, 2025 - For Immediate Release

While some producers were able to get into their fields, precipitation continued to delay planting in many parts of the State, allowing only **3.2 days suitable for fieldwork** during the week ending May 4, 2025, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service.

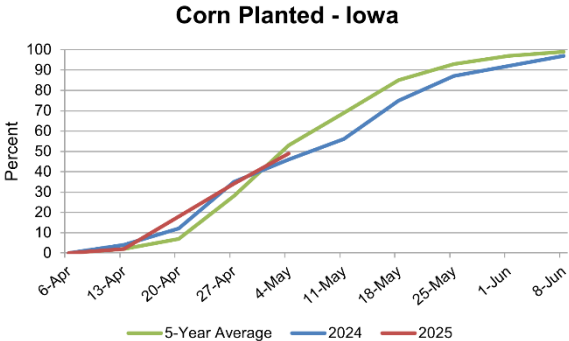
Topsoil moisture condition rated 3 percent very short, 9 percent short, 76 percent adequate and 12 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** condition rated 4 percent very short, 18 percent short, 71 percent adequate and 7 percent surplus.

Corn planted reached 49 percent, 3 days ahead of last year but 2 days behind the 5-year average. Corn emerged reached 10 percent, 2 days ahead of last year’s pace and 3 days ahead of normal. Thirty-eight percent of the expected **soybean** crop has been planted, one week ahead of last year and 2 days ahead of the 5-year average. Soybeans emerged reached 5 percent. **Oats** seeding reached 91 percent complete. Fifty-eight percent of the expected oat acreage has emerged, 4 days behind last year but 3 days ahead of normal. The first oat condition rating of the season was 1 percent very poor, 2 percent poor, 18 percent fair, 66 percent good and 13 percent excellent.

Pasture condition rated 60 percent good to excellent. No livestock issues were reported.

Crop Condition as of May 4, 2025

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Oats	1	2	18	66	13
Pasture and range ..	1	6	33	48	12



Crop Progress as of May 4, 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	71	32	19	53	47	57	55	52	59	49	34	46	53
Corn emerged	9	3	1	10	8	12	15	24	24	10	2	6	6
Oats planted	99	91	88	87	89	92	95	96	88	91	81	95	89
Oats emerged	86	64	33	51	64	55	63	71	59	58	41	66	50
Soybeans planted	47	17	17	32	45	53	38	46	47	38	25	29	34
Soybeans emerged	4	1	1	2	6	8	2	14	12	5	0	4	2

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Condition as of May 4, 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	3.6	1.9	2.5	3.4	3.5	4.1	3.2	2.8	3.2	3.2	2.3	1.4
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Topsoil moisture												
Very short	4	1	0	7	3	1	8	0	0	3	3	4
Short	23	3	4	8	3	6	21	4	12	9	11	12
Adequate	73	75	71	77	82	86	64	89	62	76	75	65
Surplus	0	21	25	8	12	7	7	7	26	12	11	19
Subsoil moisture												
Very short	6	1	1	9	3	1	11	0	2	4	4	7
Short	27	9	7	27	7	14	26	37	19	18	21	20
Adequate	65	72	75	62	84	83	62	57	75	71	67	64
Surplus	2	18	17	2	6	2	1	6	4	7	8	9

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 28, 2025 through 7:00 A.M. Central Time on May 4, 2025.

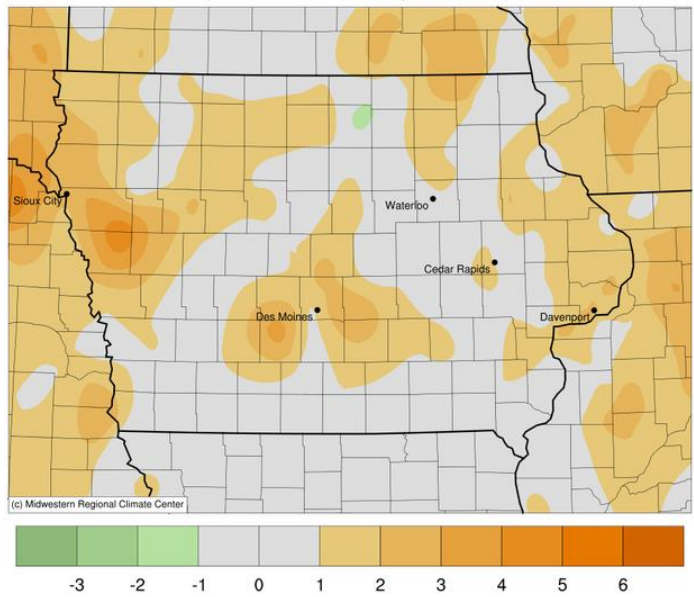
Scattered severe thunderstorms early in the reporting period gave way to a less active storm track with widespread, though below-average rainfall; portions of northern and eastern Iowa saw the wettest conditions. Temperatures also moderated from the previous week with a statewide average temperature of 54.8 degrees, 0.5 degrees above normal.

Cloudy skies remained through Sunday (27th) afternoon with southeasterly winds and high temperatures in the mid to upper 60s. Winds increased overnight into Monday (28th) with ample moisture transport into the Midwest ahead of a potent low pressure system. Morning temperatures were unseasonably warm with a statewide average low of 50 degrees, eight degrees above normal. With afternoon conditions in the upper 70s and low 80s and abundant atmospheric instability, isolated severe thunderstorms fired along the low’s attendant dry line; this surface feature is a boundary between very moist air to the east and drier air farther west. Additional storms developed later in the evening along the cold front trailing the dry line with some stronger cells moving through southwest Iowa. Luckily, a warm, stable layer in the lower levels of the atmosphere prevented a more widespread severe weather outbreak. Large hail was observed from Sioux City (Woodbury County) to Osage (Mitchell County) with the largest report being egg-sized hail in Lyon County. The strongest wind gusts were 62 to 64 mph from Ames (Story County) and in Sibley (Osceola County). Rain totals at 7:00 am on Tuesday (29th) were highest along the Iowa-Minnesota border with many stations registering at least 0.50 inch; two Worth County locations, Grafton and Northwood, observed 0.52 inch and 0.91 inch, respectively.

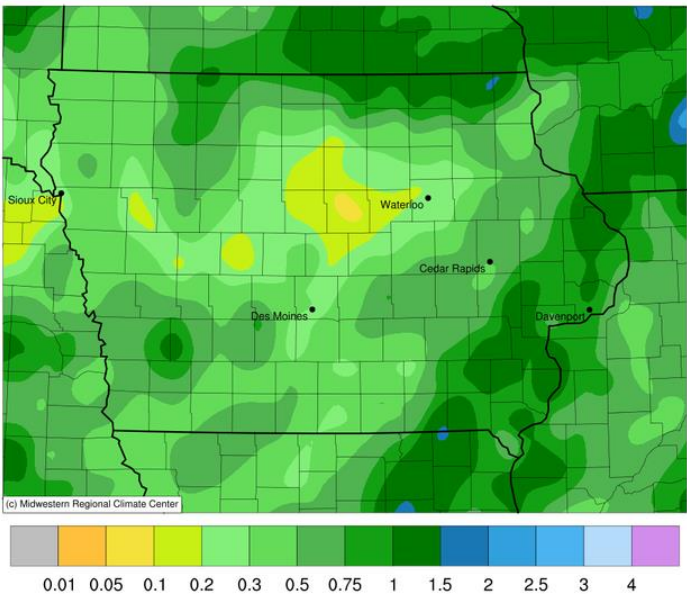
Tuesday (29th) was sunny with daytime highs in the upper 50s north to mid 60s south under northwesterly winds. Starry skies persisted into Wednesday (30th) as winds swung around to an easterly direction. Overcast conditions developed through the late morning as scattered showers moved into southern Iowa. A complex of moderate showers developed across eastern Iowa after sunset with isolated pockets of light rain farther west after midnight on Thursday (1st). Morning lows held in the mid 50s with patchy fog and variable, light winds. Twenty eastern Iowa stations reported more than an inch of rainfall, varying from 1.00 inch at Fairfield (Jefferson County) to 1.81 inches in DeWitt (Clinton County). Totals decreased to a few tenths of an inch towards central Iowa with a pocket of higher amounts in west-central Iowa. Daytime temperatures were only a few degrees warmer through the day as cloud cover remained. Brief clearing over western Iowa allowed early morning lows on Friday (2nd) to dip into the 40s with northwest to westerly winds until another disturbance pushed into southwest Iowa. Showers continued across southern Iowa into the afternoon with isolated cells filling in behind the system. High temperatures remained in the 50s with lingering cloud cover and light winds. Rain totals were generally in the 0.20-to-0.50-inch-range, though Atlantic (Cass County) collected 0.55 inch and Earlham (Madison County) observed 0.75 inch. Saturday (3rd) dawned clear across western Iowa with stubborn cloud over eastern Iowa for most of the day. Temperatures varied from the mid 60s northwest to mid 50s southeast as clouds gradually broke over eastern Iowa. Morning lows on Sunday (4th) dropped into the upper 30s and low 40s under clear skies.

Weekly precipitation totals ranged from 0.05 inch in Iowa Falls (Hardin County) to 1.88 inches in Keokuk (Lee County). The statewide weekly average precipitation was 0.59 inch while the normal is 0.97 inch. Several northwestern stations reported the week’s high temperature of 89 degrees on the 28th, on average 24 degrees above normal. Mason City (Cerro Gordo County) reported the week’s low temperature of 28 degrees on the 1st, 13 degrees below normal. Four-inch soil temperatures were in the low 50s east to low 60s west as of Sunday.

Average Temperature (°F): Departure from 1991-2020 Normals
April 28, 2025 to May 04, 2025



Accumulated Precipitation (in)
April 28, 2025 to May 04, 2025



Temperature and Precipitation Maps, courtesy of the Midwestern Regional Climate Center, are available at: <https://mrcc.purdue.edu/CLIMATE/>

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