United States Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service



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 12, 2025 - For Immediate Release

A warm and dry week made for excellent planting conditions, allowing 6.4 **days suitable for fieldwork** during the week ending May 11, 2025, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service. Producers made quick progress planting corn and soybeans. Conditions were also favorable for spraying.

Topsoil moisture condition rated 5 percent very short, 22 percent short, 70 percent adequate and 3 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** condition rated 5 percent very short, 24 percent short, 67 percent adequate and 4 percent surplus.

Corn planted reached 76 percent 8 days ahead of last year and 3 days ahead of the 5-year average. Corn emerged reached 30 percent, 4 days ahead of last year's pace and 2 days ahead of normal. Sixty-four percent of the expected **soybean** crop has been planted, 10 days ahead of last year and 5 days ahead of the 5-year average. Soybeans emerged reached 16 percent. Nearly all of the **oat** crop has been planted, with 74 percent emerged, 3 days behind last year but 2 days ahead of normal. Reports of oats starting to head were received. Oat condition rated 85 percent good to excellent, up 6 percentage points from last week.

Six percent of the State's first cutting of **alfalfa hay** has been completed. The first **hay** rating of the year showed 84 percent in good to excellent condition. **Pasture condition** rated 64 percent good to excellent, up 4 percentage points from last week. Livestock were reported to be in good condition with some cows and calves turned out on grass.

Crop Condition as of May 11, 2025

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	
Hay, all	0	2	14	64	20	
Oats	0	1	14	68	17	
Pasture and range .	1	5	30	50	14	



Crop Progress as of May 11, 2025

	Districts										State			
Item	NW	NC	NE	WC	С	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year avg	
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)										
Corn planted	91	81	56	76	70	80	73	73	80	76	49	56	69	
Corn emerged	39	23	11	34	26	33	28	40	44	30	10	23	23	
Hay, alfalfa, 1st cutting	4	0	2	1	3	12	6	10	8	6	0	2	1	
Oats planted	100	97	97	92	97	96	97	98	97	97	91	98	94	
Oats emerged	93	88	54	68	71	81	75	80	77	74	58	79	71	
Soybeans planted	73	56	48	61	68	77	58	64	71	64	38	38	52	
Soybeans emerged	19	8	8	10	17	28	12	26	29	16	5	12	9	

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Condition as of May 11, 2025

			State									
Item	NW	NC	NE	WC	С	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year
	(days)	(days)	(days)									
Days suitable	6.7	6.8	6.3	6.5	6.1	6.5	5.9	6.4	5.7	6.4	3.2	1.7
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)									
Topsoil moisture												
Very short	5	1	1	8	4	4	15	2	1	5	3	1
Short	42	7	24	20	8	20	39	20	18	22	9	7
Adequate	53	88	71	70	78	74	46	75	75	70	76	71
Surplus	0	4	4	2	10	2	0	3	6	3	12	21
Subsoil moisture												
Very short	7	2	4	12	2	4	14	1	1	5	4	4
Short	30	10	18	40	11	18	43	34	21	24	18	17
Adequate	62	75	72	47	83	76	43	62	76	67	71	67
Surplus	1	13	6	1	4	2	0	3	2	4	7	12

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 May 5, 2025 through 7:00 A.M. Central Time on May 11, 2025.

A stable blocking high pressure system brought unseasonable warmth across Iowa through the reporting period. Temperatures were 10 to 12 degrees above normal in northwestern Iowa with a statewide average temperature of 54.8 degrees, 0.5 degree above normal. Rainfall was generally sparse across the state, though southern and eastern Iowa stations did report measurable amounts.

Sunday (4th) afternoon was pleasant with highs in the upper 60s to low 70s under sunny skies and light, variable winds. Skies remained generally clear into Monday (5th) with morning temperatures in the 40s and spotty clouds southeast. Easterly winds increased through the daylight hours with temperatures rising into the upper 70s in western Iowa with upper 60s farther east. A southerly shifting wind held overnight lows into Tuesday (6th) in the upper 40s and low 50s as starry skies persisted. Afternoon conditions were nice as temperatures climbed into the mid to upper 70s with low relative humidity. Wednesday (7th) morning dawned with cloudless skies, northerly winds and lows in the 50s. Daytime temperatures warmed into the 60s over southern Iowa as a warm front lifted north across Iowa. Winds north of the boundary remained northeasterly as southerly winds held over southern Iowa. With enough forcing and moisture near the surface front, westerly propagating thundershowers formed along a west-to-east line during the evening hours. Of the stations reporting rainfall, most locations observed under a tenth of an inch. The highest totals were found in east-central Iowa, particularly in Linn County; amounts ranged from 0.29 inch in Cedar Rapids to 1.01 inches in Marion. Cloud cover cleared through the nighttime hours with winds shifting easterly.

Thursday (8th) morning started with low temperatures in the 50s with cloudless skies. Afternoon conditions were again ideal with low dewpoint temperatures and highs in the 70s. Morning conditions on Friday (9th) were five to 10 degrees cooler than the prior day with high-level haze and light winds. There was a broad range of temperatures during the afternoon with mid 80s northwest to lows 70s southeast with variable winds statewide. Winds shifted gradually from southerly to northerly into Saturday (10th) as temperatures rose into the 80s and low 90s at a handful of stations. Even with warmer temperatures, anomalously low dewpoints created enjoyable conditions with ample sunshine; the statewide average high was 85 degrees, 16 degrees above normal. Sunday (11th) began warmer than usual, also, with lows in the low 50s southeast to low 60s northwest.

Weekly precipitation totals ranged from no accumulation at many stations to 1.09 inches in Marion. The statewide weekly average precipitation was 0.05 inch; the normal is 1.00 inch. Ames (Story County) reported the week's high temperature of 92 degrees on the 10th, 23 degrees above normal. Chariton (Lucas County) reported the week's low temperature of 32 degrees on the 5th, 10 degrees below normal. Four-inch soil temperatures were in upper 50s to low 70s east to west as of Sunday





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/