



Iowa Ag News – Crop Progress & Condition

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Cooperating with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

May 27, 2025 - For Immediate Release

Timely rains while needed, limited Iowa farmers to **3.8 days suitable for fieldwork** during the week ending May 25, 2025, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service. Corn and soybean planting continued but some producers are waiting for warmer and drier conditions to start spraying.

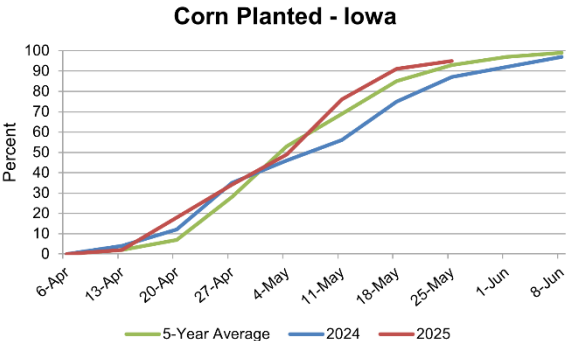
Topsoil moisture condition rated 4 percent very short, 15 percent short, 76 percent adequate and 5 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** condition rated 5 percent very short, 23 percent short, 67 percent adequate and 5 percent surplus.

Corn planted reached 95 percent. Corn emerged reached 76 percent, 6 days ahead of last year’s pace and 2 days ahead of normal. Corn condition rated 0 percent very poor, 2 percent poor, 15 percent fair, 62 percent good and 21 percent excellent. Ninety-two percent of the expected **soybean** crop has been planted, just over 2 weeks ahead of last year and 8 days ahead of the 5-year average. Soybeans emerged reached 60 percent, 8 days ahead of last year and 4 days ahead of normal. Soybean condition rated 1 percent very poor, 2 percent poor, 17 percent fair, 64 percent good and 16 percent excellent. Ninety-two percent of the State’s **oat crop** has emerged. Oats headed reached 26 percent. Oat condition rated 0 percent very poor, 1 percent poor, 13 percent fair, 69 percent good and 17 percent excellent.

Forty percent of the State’s first cutting of **alfalfa hay** has been completed. **Hay condition** rated 85 percent good to excellent. **Pasture condition** rated 68 percent good to excellent.

Crop Condition as of May 25, 2025

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Corn	0	2	15	62	21
Hay, all	0	2	13	61	24
Oats	0	1	13	69	17
Pasture and range ..	1	4	27	49	19
Soybeans	1	2	17	64	16



Crop Progress as of May 25, 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	97	99	92	96	93	97	87	94	95	95	91	87	93
Corn emerged	85	82	57	77	73	81	70	79	79	76	58	63	72
Hay, alfalfa, 1st cutting	31	13	37	23	44	42	42	47	45	40	23	19	15
Oats emerged	99	97	88	87	90	93	94	93	93	92	86	94	94
Oats headed	14	17	13	26	26	43	50	50	26	26	15	29	13
Soybeans planted	95	97	88	93	93	94	81	91	93	92	84	71	84
Soybeans emerged	70	63	42	57	61	68	46	63	67	60	42	39	48

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Condition as of May 25, 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	3.0	3.7	4.0	3.8	3.5	3.8	5.2	3.9	4.2	3.8	6.6	2.3
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Topsoil moisture												
Very short	3	0	1	12	1	1	13	3	7	4	8	0
Short	18	16	16	11	3	19	25	6	31	15	37	3
Adequate	78	80	79	73	80	74	62	88	61	76	53	71
Surplus	1	4	4	4	16	6	0	3	1	5	2	26
Subsoil moisture												
Very short	5	0	4	13	1	2	13	0	1	5	6	2
Short	32	8	15	40	7	25	34	8	33	23	34	9
Adequate	62	80	69	46	84	71	53	92	65	67	58	72
Surplus	1	12	12	1	8	2	0	0	1	5	2	17

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 19, 2025 through 7:00 A.M. Central Time on May 26, 2025.

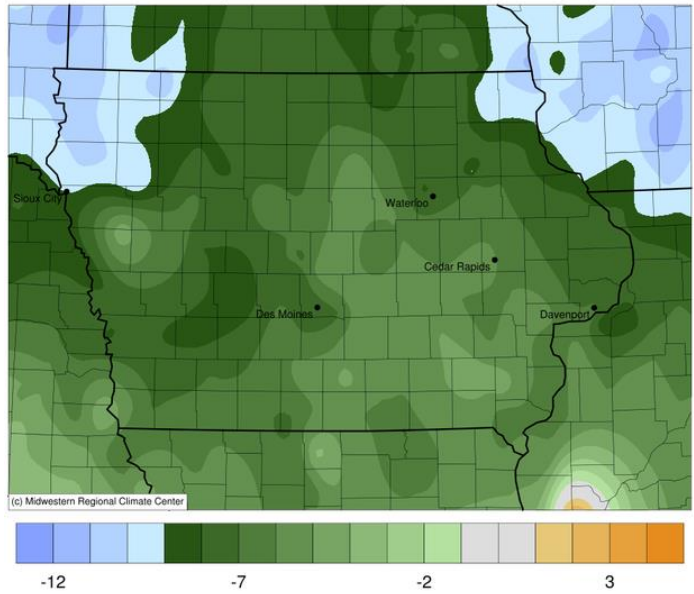
Unseasonably cool and wet conditions were the headline of the reporting period with widespread, beneficial rain across much of Iowa; nearly 250-300% of normal rainfall was observed in central to eastern Iowa. Coupled with cloud cover and rain, conditions were six to 10 degrees below normal with the statewide average temperature at 55.0 degrees, 8.1 degrees below normal.

Easterly winds persisted through Sunday (18th) afternoon under sunny skies and highs in the upper 60s and low 70s. Cloud cover increased towards midnight as showers and a few thunderstorms pushed into southwest Iowa ahead of a low pressure center over the Dakotas. Rain totals at 7:00 am on Monday (19th) were in the 0.25 – 0.75 inch range across much of western Iowa with pockets over an inch near the Iowa-Nebraska border; Randolph (Fremont County) reported 1.10 inches while 1.55 inches was observed in Blencoe (Harrison County). A stronger disturbance moved into southern Iowa during the afternoon hours, where high temperatures were in the mid to upper 60s. Severe-warned thunderstorms crossed into Iowa from northern Missouri and sped northeast into late evening as showers and thunderstorms overspread much of Iowa. Several reports of hail were noted along I-35 with 2.00-inch diameter hail in Grand River (Decatur County) and Osceola (Clarke County). Light to moderate rain continued from central to northeastern Iowa into Tuesday (20th) morning with lows in the mid 40s northeast to upper 50s southwest. Additional stronger thunderstorms fired in eastern Iowa as the low pressure center transited into Wisconsin in the latter daytime hours. Nearly 85% of Iowa stations reported an inch or more with 70 stations collecting at least two inches, particularly along a swath of south-central to central Iowa and into eastern Iowa; Gilbert (Story County) registered 3.02 inches while Norwalk (Warren County) observed 4.76 inches. At a statewide average of 2.06 inches, these rain totals made up the bulk of the week’s rainfall.

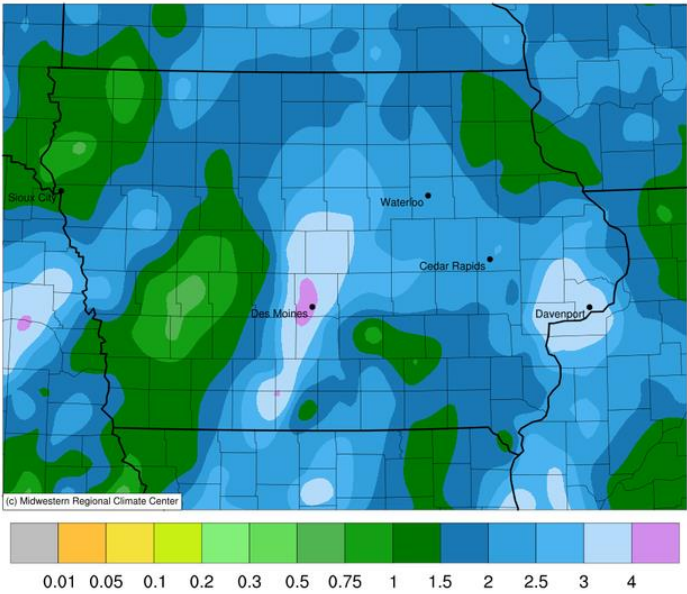
Overcast skies remained through Wednesday (21st) with daytime highs in the low 50s north to low 60s south with gusty northwesterly winds. Light showers filtered into eastern Iowa, though totals were generally under a few tenths of an inch; Anamosa (Jones County) collected 0.20 inch with 0.31 inch in Park View (Scott County). Skies over western Iowa cleared into Thursday (22nd) morning, allowing lows to drop into the low to mid 40s. Highs rose into the 60s across much of the state as stubborn clouds and light northerly winds remained. Friday (23rd) was pleasant as mostly sunny skies, light winds and temperatures in the mid to upper 60s greeted Iowans ahead of Memorial Day weekend. Cloud cover and showers moved through western Iowa into the late evening and dissipated through the overnight hours. Northwest Iowa reported the highest totals with 0.55 inch in Orange City (Sioux City) with totals tapering off to a few tenths east and south. Saturday (24th) stayed cloudy for most of the day with temperatures in the low 60s to low 70s with light showers filling in across southern Iowa after sunset. The highest rain totals, between 0.21 – 0.42 inch, were isolated to Mills, Page and Pottawattamie counties as of Sunday (25th) morning.

Weekly rain totals ranged 0.49 inch in Sanborn (O’Brien County) to 4.99 inches in Grand River. The statewide weekly average rainfall was 2.10 inches; the normal is 1.10 inches. Several stations reported the week’s high temperature of 78 degrees on the 18th, on average five degrees above normal. Mason City (Cerro Gordo County) reported the week’s low temperature of 32 degrees on the 20th, 17 degrees below normal. Soil temperatures were in the upper 50s to low 60s statewide as of Sunday.

Average Temperature (°F): Departure from 1991-2020 Normals
May 19, 2025 to May 25, 2025



Accumulated Precipitation (in)
May 19, 2025 to May 25, 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/>