



Iowa Crops & Weather

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Issued December 14, 2009

Vol 09-41

For the week ending December 13, 2009

BLIZZARD STOPS CORN HARVEST

Farmers made some harvest and field work progress Monday before the storm, but by Wednesday more than a foot of snow covered Iowa. After the snow fell, winds gusting to over 45 miles an hour created snow drifts over 5 feet tall in corn end rows, around buildings, and across roadways. As a result, field work stopped after Tuesday. Work on cattle operations has picked up as feeding hay and keeping water troughs open has become a priority.

There were 1.5 days suitable for fieldwork during the week, compared to 5.6 days last week. Topsoil moisture rated 0 percent very short, 1 percent short, 79 percent adequate, and 20 percent surplus across the state. Subsoil moisture rated 0 percent very short, 2 percent short, 79 percent adequate, and 19 percent surplus.

Grain movement was reported at 38 percent none, 35 percent light, 19 percent moderate, and 8 percent heavy. On-farm grain storage availability rated 31 percent short, 67 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus, while off-farm grain storage availability rated 27 percent short, 70 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus. Reporters estimated 61 percent of cropland had fall applications of fertilizer complete.

Field Crops Report: Corn harvested for grain reached 96 percent, remaining 2 percentage points ahead of last week.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Use of stubble fields was reported 51 percent none, 29 percent light, 17 percent moderate, and 3 percent heavy. Hay and roughage availability is currently rated 7 percent short, 84 percent adequate, and 9 percent surplus. The quality of hay and roughage is currently rated 9 percent poor, 48 percent fair, and 43 percent good.

IOWA PRELIMINARY WEATHER SUMMARY Provided by Harry Hillaker, State Climatologist

The Iowa weather news of the past week was dominated by the historic blizzard of the 8th-9th. Snow began falling in western Iowa on Monday (7th) afternoon and finally ended over eastern Iowa on Wednesday (9th) evening. The bulk of the snow fell on Tuesday with high winds moving through the state from Tuesday evening through Wednesday evening. The greatest snow amounts, generally in the 10 to 16 inch range, fell from the southwest corner of the state, through central Iowa, to the northeast corner of the state. Snow amounts declined to about 4 or 5 inches over far northwest Iowa, while the snow changed to rain over the far southeast for a few hours Tuesday afternoon to hold snow totals down to about 3 inches in the extreme southeast corner of the state. Wind gusts over 50 mph were common over the northern half of Iowa on Wednesday with a peak gust of 61 mph reported at Estherville. The snow was followed by very cold air with wind chill readings down to -31F at Mason City on Wednesday morning while actual temperatures bottomed out at -19F at Little Sioux on Thursday morning. Milder weather late in the week allowed Iowans to dig out of the storm. However, light rain fell over central and southeastern sections on Saturday afternoon and evening while freezing drizzle and snow fell across northwestern Iowa late Sunday through Monday (14th) morning. Precipitation for the week averaged 0.82 inches, or nearly three times the normal of 0.30 inches. Snowfall averaged 10.2 inches statewide to make this the largest snow event in Iowa since the blizzard of January 2-4, 1971 (10.5 inches). Temperatures averaged 8.0 degrees below normal for the week as a whole despite readings climbing above normal in most areas on Sunday (13th) when Donnellson reached 39 degrees.

The National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will continue to monitor the harvest progress of the crops to determine if additional data collection and estimation are necessary. Not Applicable (NA) was published where estimates do not exist for the previous year or 5-year average due to this year's extended Crop Progress season.

State Post-Harvest Conditions as of December 13, 2009

Item	None	Light	Moderate	Heavy
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Grain movement	38	35	19	8
Grazing on stubble fields	51	29	17	3

Statewide Hay/Roughage Availability as of December 13, 2009

Item	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Hay/Roughage	7	84	9

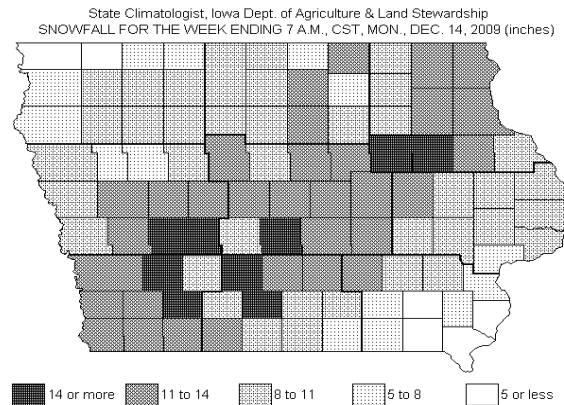
Statewide Hay/Roughage Quality as of December 13, 2009

Item	Poor	Fair	Good
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Hay/Roughage	9	48	43

Statewide Grain Storage Availability as of December 13, 2009

Item	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent
On-farm, grain storage	31	67	2
Off-farm, grain storage	27	70	3

PRELIMINARY IOWA PRECIPITATION



Field Work and Crop Progress as of December 13, 2009

Item	Districts									State	Last Week	Last Year	Normal
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent				
Fertilizer application completed	61	84	69	63	62	49	55	29	49	61	58	NA	NA
Corn harvested (grain or seed)	98	99	93	94	98	96	94	83	95	96	94	NA	NA

Days Suitable & Soil Moisture Condition as of December 13, 2009

Item	Districts									State	Last Week	Last Year
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE			
	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days			
Days suitable	1.7	1.4	1.8	2.0	1.0	1.8	1.0	1.3	1.0	1.5	5.6	NA
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil moisture												
Very short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA
Short	1	2	2	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	2	NA
Adequate	85	89	82	85	64	88	91	64	63	79	82	NA
Surplus	14	9	16	14	35	12	8	36	37	20	16	NA
Subsoil moisture												
Very short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA
Short	4	3	3	0	1	0	10	0	0	2	3	NA
Adequate	87	85	82	96	57	78	79	71	69	79	79	NA
Surplus	9	12	15	4	42	22	11	29	31	19	18	NA

Weather Summary For National Agricultural Statistics Service, Iowa Field Office
For the week ending: Sunday, December 13, 2009, Prepared by AWIS, Inc.

STATION	CURRENT WEEK						SINCE APRIL 1		CURRENT WEEK	
	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION		PRECIPITATION		GDD BASE 50F	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DFN	TOTAL	DFN	TOTAL	DFN
North West District										
Estherville	30	-11	10	-11	0.50	0.31	24.70	0.47	0	0
Sioux Center	33	-10	12	-10	0.23	0.02	24.56	0.93	0	0
Spencer	32	-10	11	-10	0.41	0.24	21.82	-3.20	0	0
Spirit Lake	33	-8	13	-7	0.18	-0.03	22.63	-1.22	0	0
North Central District										
Britt	30	-10	10	-12	0.49	0.15	33.22	6.47	0	0
Humboldt	32	-9	11	-12	0.78	0.55	31.58	4.51	0	0
Mason City	31	-7	14	-7	0.29	0.01	25.37	-2.95	0	0
Osage	25	-9	11	-11	1.07	0.79	31.32	2.13	0	0
North East District										
Decorah	30	-12	14	-9	0.86	0.58	30.73	2.80	0	0
Dubuque	33	-6	20	-4	0.59	0.10	36.06	4.17	0	0
Elkader	32	-16	13	-12	1.13	0.78	33.15	4.91	0	0
Fayette	32	-9	15	-9	0.80	0.45	37.92	8.54	0	0
Waterloo	32	-12	16	-7	0.59	0.26	32.09	3.24	0	0
West Central District										
Carroll	32	-8	13	-11	1.14	0.93	30.97	2.41	0	0
Castana	35	-8	12	-14	0.60	0.39	29.24	3.49	0	0
Guthrie Center	37	-15	13	-12	0.92	0.62	32.13	3.24	0	0
Harlan	33	-12	11	-15	1.32	1.07	31.53	3.06	0	0
Jefferson	33	-8	12	-12	1.18	0.97	30.26	1.70	0	0
Logan	34	-17	11	-14	0.85	0.57	30.43	3.56	0	0
Rockwell City	31	-9	11	-14	0.43	0.22	27.67	0.19	0	0
Sac City	31	-10	10	-12	0.43	0.15	26.00	-1.24	0	0
Sioux City	34	-13	13	-11	0.52	0.31	28.30	6.05	0	0
Central District										
Boone	33	-11	12	-12	1.26	0.93	32.69	3.17	0	0
Des Moines	36	-6	20	-7	0.67	0.35	30.34	2.32	0	0
Grundy Center	32	-10	13	-10	0.80	0.49	38.01	9.57	0	0
Marshalltown	32	-5	17	-8	0.85	0.53	31.12	1.65	0	0
Newton	34	-6	15	-11	0.56	0.28	33.55	4.68	0	0
Perry	35	-8	13	-11	1.21	0.93	31.26	3.63	0	0
Toledo	32	-7	14	-11	0.65	0.35	34.56	4.82	0	0
East Central District										
Cedar Rapids	32	-6	19	-6	0.70	0.30	42.00	13.46	0	0
Davenport	37	-4	22	-7	0.97	0.49	39.79	11.26	0	0
Iowa City	35	-7	21	-8	0.54	0.16	34.78	3.61	0	0
Lowden	34	-6	18	-7	1.11	0.59	45.20	13.02	0	0
Maquoketa	32	-6	18	-8	0.96	0.53	38.16	8.75	0	0
Muscatine	38	-3	21	-8	0.97	0.48	41.33	11.30	0	0
South West District										
Atlantic	33	-11	12	-13	1.49	1.21	36.19	9.17	0	0
Clarinda	34	-17	12	-15	0.93	0.65	29.36	-2.37	0	0
Glenwood	34	-13	12	-15	1.01	0.73	28.61	0.10	0	0
Red Oak	35	-13	13	-15	1.04	0.75	28.12	-2.72	0	0
Sidney	33	-6	15	-13	1.37	1.09	23.70	-6.08	0	0
South Central District										
Allerton	33	-10	18	-10	0.89	0.57	42.98	11.96	0	0
Beaconsfield	34	-9	15	-12	1.04	0.76	39.56	9.87	0	0
Chariton	35	-8	17	-10	0.82	0.47	39.06	7.40	0	0
Indianola	36	-11	15	-12	1.40	1.05	34.70	5.48	0	0
Leon	37	-9	17	-11	0.90	0.56	34.88	4.07	0	0
South East District										
Bloomfield	38	-4	19	-11	0.91	0.53	44.29	12.78	0	0
Burlington	41	2	27	-3	0.66	0.17	42.60	12.86	0	0
Ottumwa	35	-3	21	-7	0.81	0.46	43.62	14.39	0	0
Washington	37	-4	18	-11	0.94	0.52	42.98	14.41	0	0

Precipitation (rain, melted snow or ice) in inches. Precipitation Days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more. Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit. Copyright 2009: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

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 AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE, IOWA FIELD OFFICE, 210 WALNUT
 ST. RM 833, DES MOINES IA 50309. POSTMASTER, SEND ADDRESS CHANGES
 TO IA CROPS & WEATHER, C/O SD AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS, PO BOX
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