



## IOWA WEATHER SUMMARY 6 OCTOBER 2013

General Summary. Temperatures averaged 50.4° or 0.4° below normal while precipitation totaled 2.85 inches or 0.24 inches above normal. This ranks as the 47<sup>th</sup> coolest and 53<sup>rd</sup> wettest October among 141 years of records.

Temperatures. The first 15 days of the month averaged 5.0° warmer than normal with temperatures reaching 80° somewhere in the state on eight of the first eleven days of the month. However, the last 16 days of October averaged 4.9° below normal with hard freezes occurring nearly every night somewhere in Iowa from the 17<sup>th</sup> through the 27<sup>th</sup>. Temperatures did not exceed 70° anywhere after the 11<sup>th</sup>. Temperature extremes varied from highs of 88° at Sioux City on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and at Donnellson, Fort Madison and Keokuk on the 4<sup>th</sup> to lows of 18° at Mount Ayr and Stanley on the morning of the 25<sup>th</sup>. A few southeast Iowa locations did not record their first freeze of the season until the 25<sup>th</sup>.

Degree Days. Home heating requirements, as estimated by heating degree day totals, averaged 9% less than last October but 2% greater than normal. Meanwhile the 2013 air conditioning season came to an end during October. Cooling degree day totals during the year averaged 21% less than was recorded in the very warm season of 2012, but were still 9% greater than normal.

Precipitation. Rain was widespread across Iowa from the 2<sup>nd</sup> through the 4<sup>th</sup> with locally heavy rain over the west and far north. Additional heavy rain fell over far western areas on the 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>. The season's first accumulating snow fell on the 22<sup>nd</sup> along a relatively narrow band from the northwest corner of the state east-southeastward to the Quad Cities area. The greatest snowfall of two to three inches was in the Davenport area but melted by the next morning. Finally, rain was widespread on the 29<sup>th</sup> to the 31<sup>st</sup> with amounts of two to three inches falling over the southeast one-quarter of the state on the 30<sup>th</sup>. Monthly precipitation totals varied from 1.35 inches at Hampton to 6.89 inches at Rathbun Dam. The statewide average precipitation was above normal for the first time since May. Nevertheless a warm and relatively dry first one-half of fall (up to mid-October) helped push along crop maturity and dry-down allowing the soybean harvest to proceed at a near normal pace despite a very late start to the growing season.

Severe Weather. A large severe weather outbreak on the afternoon and evening of the 4<sup>th</sup> across brought at eleven tornadoes to northwest Iowa with a storm reaching EF-4 intensity near Pierson in Woodbury County. This was the strongest storm for so late in the year in Iowa since an EF-5 at Belmond on October 14, 1966 while these were the greatest number of tornadoes for so late in the year in Iowa since twelve touched down on November 12, 2005. Nevertheless, the 2013 season still produced only slightly more than one-half of the typical number of tornadoes for the year in Iowa.

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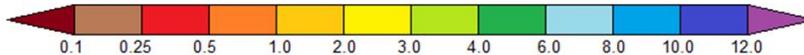
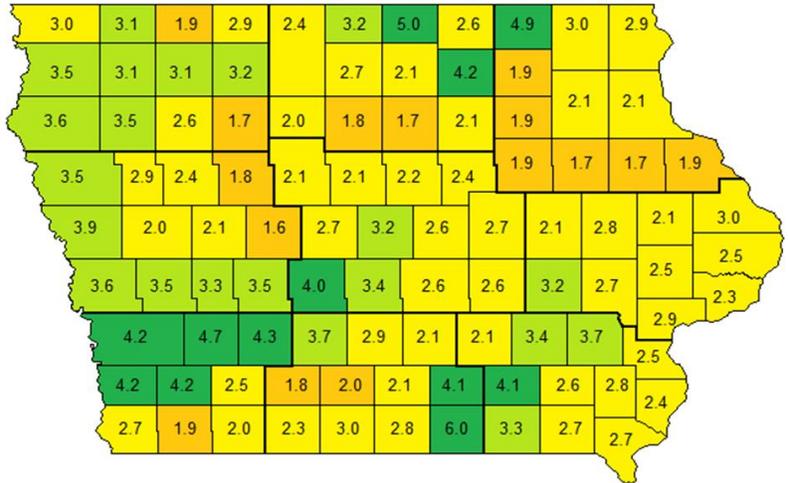
## WEATHER BY DISTRICTS

| DISTRICT      | TEMPERATURE (F) |            | HEATING DEGREE DAYS |            |                     |            | PRECIPITATION (inches) |            |                    |            | SNOWFALL<br>Oct 2013<br>Average |
|---------------|-----------------|------------|---------------------|------------|---------------------|------------|------------------------|------------|--------------------|------------|---------------------------------|
|               | October 2013    |            | October 2013        |            | Since Jul., 1, 2013 |            | October 2013           |            | Since Jan. 1, 2013 |            |                                 |
|               | Average         | Departure* | Average             | Departure* | Average             | Departure* | Average                | Departure* | Average            | Departure* |                                 |
| Northwest     | 48.8            | -0.2       | 501                 | -3         | 611                 | -81        | 3.03                   | +0.79      | 27.76              | -0.20      | 0.2                             |
| North Central | 49.1            | +0.2       | 493                 | -13        | 624                 | -79        | 2.54                   | +0.17      | 36.38              | +5.18      | 0.2                             |
| Northeast     | 49.4            | -0.2       | 482                 | -2         | 626                 | -39        | 2.19                   | -0.39      | 38.83              | +6.34      | 0.1                             |
| West Central  | 49.9            | -0.6       | 473                 | +16        | 573                 | -39        | 3.08                   | +0.67      | 28.09              | -2.16      | T                               |
| Central       | 50.6            | -0.1       | 454                 | +2         | 555                 | -49        | 2.67                   | +0.05      | 34.04              | +1.15      | T                               |
| East Central  | 51.5            | -0.2       | 433                 | +10        | 538                 | -20        | 2.69                   | -0.20      | 35.91              | +3.40      | 0.5                             |
| Southwest     | 51.1            | -1.3       | 438                 | +35        | 506                 | -12        | 3.49                   | +0.88      | 30.13              | -2.32      | T                               |
| South Central | 51.5            | -0.8       | 433                 | +27        | 514                 | -18        | 3.14                   | +0.29      | 32.88              | -1.19      | T                               |
| Southeast     | 53.1            | -0.5       | 392                 | +23        | 462                 | -9         | 3.01                   | -0.05      | 34.47              | +0.21      | T                               |
| STATE         | 50.4            | -0.4       | 458                 | +9         | 561                 | -41        | 2.85                   | +0.24      | 33.10              | +1.22      | 0.1                             |

\* Departures are computed from 1981-2010 normals.

The weather data in this report are based upon information collected by the U. S. Dept. of Commerce, NOAA National Weather Service

State Climatologist, Iowa Dept. of Agriculture & Land Stewardship  
 OCTOBER 2013 COUNTY AVERAGE PRECIPITATION (inches)



State Climatologist, Iowa Dept. of Agriculture & Land Stewardship  
 OCTOBER 2013 COUNTY AVERAGE SNOWFALL (inches)

