



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND LAND STEWARDSHIP

Bill Northey, Secretary of Agriculture

IOWA MONTHLY WEATHER SUMMARY – AUGUST 2014

General Summary. Iowa temperatures averaged 71.4°, 0.1° below normal, while precipitation averaged 5.99 inches or 1.79 inches above normal. This ranks 57th coolest and 14th wettest among 142 years of data.

Temperatures. The unseasonably cool weather of July continued through the first 16 days of August with only one day (4th) during the period averaging warmer than normal. The second half of the month was just the opposite with only one day (27th) not averaging above the daily norm. Temperature extremes were minimal during August with a range from a low of 47° at Chariton and Stanley on the 13th to a high of 95° at Donnellson on the 25th. Numerous locations, particularly across the northern one-third of the state, have yet to reach ninety degrees this year.

Cooling Degree Day Totals. Home air conditioning requirements, as estimated by cooling degree day totals, averaged 12% less than last August and 4% less than normal. Totals for the 2014 season-to-date are running 15% less than last year at this time and 14% less than normal.

Precipitation. The relatively dry weather pattern that began in early July gradually came to an end for most of Iowa during August. Widespread rain fell across the southwest one-half of the state on the 6th-7th and 15th-16th. Parts of northeast Iowa finally began seeing significant rain on the 18th with rain becoming nearly a daily occurrence statewide beginning on the 21st. August rainfall was excessive over a wide area from west central into south central Iowa with monthly totals over ten inches. At Greenfield (17.95 inches, old record 14.66 in July 1915) and Denison (12.65", old record 12.39 in June 1967) August was the wettest calendar month on record while these same locations also experienced their wettest summer and wettest year-to-date. A summary of records includes:

Wettest August:

Station	2014	Old Record	Period of Record
Greenfield	17.95"	12.63 in 1977	114 years
Denison	12.65	9.75 in 1910	122 years
Harlan	12.59	9.85 in 1952	115 years
Sioux City	10.12	9.07 in 2007	136 years

Wettest Summer:

Greenfield	31.85"	26.79 in 1993	113 years
Sioux City	30.38	20.12 in 2010	135 years
Denison	28.57	24.47 in 1993	122 years
Harlan	26.72	24.66 in 2010	115 years
Le Mars	22.36	20.87 in 2010	122 years

Wettest Year-To-Date

Greenfield	44.20	38.89 in 1993	110 years
Denison	40.17	38.19 in 1993	115 years
Sioux City	35.63	second to 36.72 in 1881	130 years

On the other end of the spectrum, portions of the northeast one-half of the state recorded below normal rainfall in August. East central Iowa was particularly dry with Anamosa recording only 1.43 inches.

Summer Summary. Summer temperatures averaged 70.2° or 1.4° below normal while precipitation averaged 19.31 inches or 5.60 inches above normal. This ranks as the 28th coolest and 4th wettest summer among 142 years of records.

Harry J. Hillaker, State Climatologist
Iowa Dept. of Agriculture & Land Stewardship
Wallace State Office Bldg.
Des Moines, IA 50319
Telephone: (515) 281-8981
E-mail: Harry.Hillaker@IowaAgriculture.gov

