

# Iowa crops in good condition following ‘unseasonably cool and wet’ conditions last week

By Cami Koons  
Iowa Capital Dispatch

Iowa’s statewide temperatures were nearly 10 degrees Fahrenheit below normal last week, and the state had almost double the normal amount of precipitation, according to State Climatologist Justin Glisan.

The rain came at a good time following corn and soybean planting, which is more than 90% complete across the state, and helped to replenish soil moisture conditions.

The latest crop progress and condition report from the U.S. Department of Agriculture rated corn and soybeans for the first time this season. Corn measured 83% good or excellent, and soybeans at 80% good or excellent.

Most of the crops have emerged as of the May 19 through May 25 reporting period. Soybean emergence, at 60%, is eight days ahead of last year and four ahead of the average. Seventy-six percent of corn has emerged, putting it six days ahead of last year’s pace and just two ahead of the average.



Nearly all of the season’s oat crop has emerged, and 26% has headed. Hay in the state is also reaching maturity and 40% of the first cut has been completed.

Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Mike Naig said the “cool and soggy” conditions from last week sidelined some work for

farmers, who had an average of 3.8 days suitable for fieldwork.

Iowa’s corn planted rate compared to last year and the five year average. (Graphic courtesy of USDA)

“Despite the delays, most farmers are grateful to receive the rain as we recharge

our soils and give the crops a strong early season boost,” Naig said.

Indeed, the week’s moisture returned soil moisture conditions to their admirable ratings from earlier this spring. Subsoil moisture conditions rated 67% adequate and 76% of topsoil conditions rated adequate for the state. Central Iowa, which saw 250-300% normal rainfall for the reporting period, had 16% of its topsoil condition rated surplus.

The average temperature across the state measured 55 degrees Fahrenheit, which is 8 degrees below normal, according to Glisan who said the week had “unseasonably cool and wet” conditions.

Average rainfall for the period was 2.10 inches, a full inch above the normal.

According to the report, many farmers are waiting for drier, warmer conditions to begin spraying their fields.

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## Gov. Kim Reynolds signs into law rural health care, medical residency expansion proposal

By: Robin Opsahl  
Capitol Dispatch

Gov. Kim Reynolds signed two healthcare bills into law at the Guthrie County Hospital in Guthrie

Center May 28, 2025, including her proposal to increase rural health care accessibility. (Photo by Robin Opsahl/Iowa Capital Dispatch)

Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds signed into law

Wednesday her legislative proposal to increase physician training options and rural health care accessibility, a step she said will help ease burdens on rural hospitals and increase patients’ health outcomes across the state.

Reynolds signed House File 972 at Guthrie County Hospital in Guthrie Center, one of many rural health providers she said will benefit from the measure. The law, which she first introduced in February, includes multiple components. It directs the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services to create a “hub-and-spoke” funding model for rural health care services based on the current Centers of Excellence Program and makes changes to Iowa Medicaid rates for providers serving mothers and infants.

Reynolds said improving rural health care access “starts with grow-

ing our physician workforce.” To address health care workforce shortages, the law makes changes to Iowa’s training and residency programs — HHS is also directed to work to draw down \$150 million in federal funding that will go toward the creation of a projected 115 new residency slots at Iowa teaching hospitals. Reynolds said this expansion will help Iowa retain more of the health care providers who went to school in Iowa.

“Doctors often decide to practice where they do their residency,” Reynolds said. “Today, Iowa ranks 40th in the number of residency slots ... which means many of our (medical graduates) don’t get chance to continue their training here.”

The new residency slots are one way to encourage medical providers to stay in the state — another part of the law works to provide

an incentive to health care providers by consolidating the state’s medical student loan repayment programs to a new system with a boost of \$8 million in funding, opening the program to individuals who are trained out-of-state who commit to practicing in high-demand areas of Iowa for five years.

Other medical professions, like Registered Nurses and Certified Nursing Assistants, can also receive funding for training through the Health Care Professional Incentive Program, with Iowa HHS designating what fields are in high demand and eligible for the program.

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### Audubon County Fair

## Figure 8 Races 2025 Dates

**RACE DATES:**  
Friday, May 9  
Friday, June 13 and 27  
Friday, July 18 (Fair)  
Friday, Aug. 1 - T-Bone Special (Rain Date, Sunday, Aug. 4)  
*Pits open at 5:00 p.m.*  
*Flag drops at 7:30 p.m.*

**NO Alcohol in the Pits Concessions will be available**

**Grandstand Fans: Adults - \$10 Kids under 5 FREE**

**Racers and Pit Fans:**  
**\$25 for pit pass \$40 for driver and car**

**Must be 12 years or older to watch from the pits! NO EXCEPTIONS!**

**Check out website or contact Fairboard for more information**  
**Tune to KKRL, KCIM, KSOM on Race Day for weather reports and information updates**  
*Sponsored by Audubon County Fairboard*  
*Subject to change.*

## Morningside University recognizes Spring 2025 Dean’s List honorees

**SIoux CITY —** Morningside University Provost and Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs Chris Spicer announced the 475 students named to the Dean’s List for the fall semester of the 2024-25 academic year.

The Dean’s List recognizes Morningside students who achieve a 3.67-grade point average or better and complete at least 12 credits of coursework with no grade below a “C-.”

Local students include Victoria Asmus of Audubon. Asmus also achieved a 4.0-grade point average.

## Legal Notice

### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS May 20th, 2025

The meeting of the Board of Supervisors was called to order at 9:01 am by Chairman Heath Hansen. Present at the meeting were Heath Hansen, Don Mosinski, Kent Grabill, Lisa Frederiksen, Chassity Musfeldt, Mitch Rydl, Cally Christensen, Meg Andersen, Tyler Thygesen, Devin Gieselman, John Hansen, Brooke Hansen, Paul Nielsen, Clint Fichter, Mike Blum, Todd Johnson, Melissa Thygesen, and Dave Hansen.

Motion- Grabill Second- Mosinski to approve the agenda with the addition of discuss/approve Cost Advisory documents. Vote-all in favor. Grabill said he talked to Cally Christensen (West Central Sales/Auction) about the window air units going up for bid. They will store them during the bidding process. No sealed bids were received for the Court-house desks needing disposed of. Supervisors discussed having those go with the window air units to be auctioned. Chairman Hansen gave an update on the SWI JDC email regarding the lack of presentation from Audubon County. Hansen is on that Board and said they hold their meetings once a month, in Council Bluffs, at noon on Wednesdays and it has been hard to attend. They do not offer a Zoom option, but will allow members to phone in. Hansen said he will follow up with them on this and will make more of a commitment to attend moving forward. Mosinski gave an update regarding the ACED allocations. He would like to schedule a time with Attorney Swensen to work on an agreement between the County and ACED. Once the agreement is in place, ACED will provide the requested information/ spreadsheet. Hansen will reach out to the State Auditors regarding the County credit card policy and make sure they have all the information needed.

Engineer Rydl gave Secondary Roads maintenance and construction updates. Motion- Grabill Second- Mosinski to approve both utility permits for Casey Mutal Telephone Co. The first one is located between Sections 2 & 3 (King-bird Ave), in T80, R35 Leroy Township. The second located along US Hwy 71 (190th St to 120th St). Vote- all in favor. Motion- Mosinski Second- Grabill to accept/file the resignation for Road Crew Equipment Operator B Grade 2 Tyson Smith. Vote-all in favor. Supervisors gave the okay for Rydl to advertise this position as open to be filled. Rydl explained the CDL agreement that Secondary Road uses with employees who do not have one. If the employee stays with the County for at least 3 years, they do not have to pay back any costs for the classes to acquire the CDL. If they leave within 3 years, they will have to pay back a percentage of the class cost depending on how long they had worked for the County. Mosinski- Mosinski Second- Grabill to approve the CDL agreement for two employees to attend training in Mason City. Vote-all in favor. Crews have been working on ditch cleaning on Lark Ave, South of Exira and Goldfinch Ave at the end of the hospital highway. Trucks have been hauling gravel from the quarry and have started to apply to some of the roads listed on the map for this year. Contractors have been working on the driveways for the Hamlin Feedmill project. The Brayton Road project had a minor setback with a gas line being located where the culvert is going. Contractors are working with the gas company to get the line moved.

Supervisors discussed the Compensation Time resolution for Custodian position. They are having HR Attorney Galloway review the resolution. Supervisors agreed that the Comp time earned is not to be used for banking, as the County provides leaves such as vacation, personal, and floating holidays for this. There is still an opening for a member to be appointed to the Audubon County Magistrate Appointing Commission. Supervisors will reach out to current members for a recommendation. Chairman Hansen will reach out to Cass County regarding a policy on General Relief/Funeral Assistance to see if they would be willing to share a template for Audubon County. There is currently no policy in place. Hansen is still awaiting a reply from Simmering Corey (Jennifer Movall) on the status of the Audubon County ordinance recodification. Auditor Clerk Musfeldt discussed the idea of moving a Supervisor’s Tuesday meeting to a Wednesday during the weeks that a Holiday falls on a Monday. The upcoming change from monthly to bi-weekly payroll will put a short deadline on submitting/running the payroll, and with bank deadlines, the Auditor’s Office will need staff available on those Tuesdays following a holiday. Supervisors thought this would be a good idea and will review the potential date changes next week. Jeff Lorenz with Cost Advisory Services returned a phone call from Supervisors to explain the services he provides. Motion- Mosinski Second- Grabill to approve/sign the certification of the Cost Advisory Services. Vote-all in favor.

The City of Exira and Brayton met with Supervisors to give an update on the water crisis. Exira City Clerk Andersen discussed the costs of getting the professional opinion of an engineer to assess using the City’s wells that were

used in the past, before hooking on to Regional water. The County is open to the idea of helping with some of these costs if they can within the budget. A revolving loan agreement or economic development funds were two potential ideas. Chairman Hansen would like Exira to provide the County with the amount they would need and a list of reasons why this qualifies as economic development. EMA Director Thygesen discussed the concerns of the residents who are affected by Regional water and not located within the City of Brayton or Exira. Thygesen will talk with Guthrie Public Health/Environmental Health to potentially get a survey sent out to see how many of the rural residents affected have their own wells as a back-up water source. Regional water is still in level red. They are testing water today.

Supervisors discussed allocations for FY26. The libraries within the County are to be allocated the following amounts: Audubon- 60% of \$50,000 and Exira 40% of \$50,000 plus an additional \$1000 for being accredited. Sheriff Johnson and Melissa Thygesen met with the Supervisors to discuss a potential resolution regarding the usage of out of county Deputies being able to drive their patrol cars home. Sheriff said this is considered a benefit and would help retain good employees without requiring them to live within the County. The stipulation in the resolution states they would have to live within 15 miles of the Audubon County line. Previously, Deputies have not been allowed to drive patrol vehicles home if they are not living within the County. The benefit to allowing them to do this would make response times faster if called out because Deputies would not have to drive to the Courthouse to get their vehicle because they would already have it at home. This may potentially increase the number of good quality employees who may apply for a Deputy position in the future. Motion- Grabill Second- Mosinski to approve the patrol vehicle usage

**Resolution 2025-25 as follows. Vote-all in favor.**

**Resolution 2025-25**

Be it hereby resolved by the Audubon County Board of Supervisors, that Audubon County Sheriff’s Deputies may take their patrol vehicles out of county to their residences as long as it is within 15 miles from the county line. The Deputy must go on duty and off duty from the county line and they will not be paid for travel time outside of the county.

Dated this 20th day of May, 2025, with the vote thereon being as follows:

Ayes: Hansen, Mosinski, Grabill      Nays: None

/s/ Heath Hansen      /s/Chassity Musfeldt

Audubon County Board of Supervisors      Attest: Auditor Clerk

EMA Director Thygesen and Sheriff Johnson spoke to the Supervisors regarding an alarming provision passed in the final hour of the 2025 legislative session that threatens to destabilize 911 operations across the state. This would grant the Iowa 911 Program the authority to charge local 911 services boards for undefined “reasonable costs” associated with delivering 911 traffic to Public Safety Answering Points. The costs must be paid within 30 days of billing. This is very concerning not knowing or having limits to the “reasonable costs”. Many officials will be bringing this up to the Governor, as it is currently awaiting her decision to approve or deny.

Motion- Mosinski Second- Grabill to approve claims as submitted by various departments to be paid in the amount of \$39,424.53 and \$6,000 and published in a separate publication. Vote-all in favor. Mosinski left at 12:30 to attend the Board of Health monthly meeting. Hansen had called a member of Planning & Zoning regarding today’s meeting but has yet to hear back. It was requested by Hansen to be put on the agenda to discuss the director opening/planning & zoning during next week’s meeting at 11:00 am. Motion- Grabill Second- Hansen to approve the meeting minutes of 5-13-25. Vote-all in favor. Mosinski-absent. Motion- Grabill Second- Hansen to accept/file the Auditor’s April 2025 Month End. Vote-all in favor. Mosinski-absent. Motion- Grabill Second- Hansen to accept/file Supervisor’s April 2025 Month End. Vote-all in favor. Mosinski-absent. Meeting recessed at 12:58 pm. Meeting called back to order at 1:39 pm. Supervisors had a work session to finish completing the MD&A Analytical information requested by the State Auditors. Mosinski returned to the meeting. Chairman Hansen informed others that he will be attending another County’s meeting next week and will be absent. Meeting was adjourned at 2:13 pm.

/s/Kent Grabill      /s/Chassity Musfeldt

Chairman, Board of Supervisors      Attest: Audubon County Auditor Clerk

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