I took some time to look up the rainfall, prior to this wave of rain that started Sunday. Here is a chart of rainfall April 1 – 26 compared to normal for same time period.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site</th>
<th>This year</th>
<th>Norm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northwood</td>
<td>5.48</td>
<td>2.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mason City</td>
<td>5.08</td>
<td>2.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humboldt</td>
<td>3.46</td>
<td>2.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarion</td>
<td>4.34</td>
<td>2.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hampton</td>
<td>5.20</td>
<td>2.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rockwell City</td>
<td>2.88</td>
<td>2.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ft Dodge</td>
<td>3.46</td>
<td>2.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Webster City</td>
<td>2.46</td>
<td>2.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iowa Falls</td>
<td>4.39</td>
<td>2.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carroll</td>
<td>1.93</td>
<td>2.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jefferson</td>
<td>2.39</td>
<td>2.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boone</td>
<td>3.01</td>
<td>2.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ames</td>
<td>3.01</td>
<td>2.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshalltown</td>
<td>4.60</td>
<td>2.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perry</td>
<td>2.32</td>
<td>2.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ankeny</td>
<td>1.28</td>
<td>2.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newton</td>
<td>3.20</td>
<td>2.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indianola</td>
<td>4.54</td>
<td>2.91</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It gives a good picture of why the % planted varies as much as it does. You can see normal rainfall does not vary all that much across these counties, but this year’s rainfall has. The more western counties have been dryer and the more eastern counties have been wetter. The central counties have been somewhere in between, with Wright and Warren being heavier than the other central counties. I placed the city in the site column to represent its east west location relative to the group.

In Ankeny we had rain off and on Sunday, Sunday night and Monday. I dumped 2.6” from my gauge at 6:00 pm Monday. We have had only a trace since then.