

FALL COLOR REPORT 9/27/16 for E-Mail

Welcome to Iowa's fall color report from the State Forest Nursery. This recording was made Tuesday, September 27th, 2016.

In **Northeast Iowa:** Not much change this past week in the landscape. The sumac and Virginia creeper are turning red. There are hints of color in the forest canopy. The forester believes that the fall color season is right on schedule with a projected peak sometime between October 5th and October 10th. There isn't much color to look at this weekend but with the projected color and drier weather next week, things could start changing in a hurry.

In **Southeast Iowa:** Most of the vegetation is still fairly green in SE Iowa. Some elm, walnut, ash, cottonwood, and roadside shrubs are changing a little but they are scattered. The week October 17 - 21 should be the best viewing.

In **North Central Iowa:** The colors are coming out ever so gradually in this part of the state. Still mostly green landscape, but some yellows are appearing on green ash, walnut, elm and cottonwood, and the sumac has turned more crimson just this past week. The peak leaf viewing weekend is predicted to be Oct. 15-16.

In **Central Iowa:** There hasn't been much change in the vegetation yet. Some corn and bean fields are drying up and turning brown. Sumac has been turning red for weeks. The vine species such as Poison Ivy and Virginia Creeper are showing spots of red. The peak will probably be around the week of October 16th through the 22nd.

In **South Central Iowa:** Things are slowly changing. They still have walnut and cottonwood leaves turning yellow and starting to fall. Green ash is turning yellow and white ash is starting to turn a deep purple. Ivy and sumac are bright red. Hickory is turning brown in a few areas, not very showy. Overall, the landscape is still very green with exception to the bottomland areas that are generating some good yellow color from the ash, walnut and cottonwood. Estimated peak is the second to third week in October.

In **Northwest Iowa:** The only change from last week is there are pockets of green ash starting to turn a light yellow, but not a very good display of fall color yet. The peak date is hard to predict at this time but will be the middle of October.

In **Southwest Iowa:** The bottomland species such as green ash and cottonwoods are starting to show a yellow color. The prairies are showing a little fall color – especially the goldenrods and sunflowers. The peak will probably be around the 15th – 20th of October.

The State Forest Nursery is offering seedlings for fall and spring planting. If you would like to receive a brochure, please call the nursery at 800/865-2477. You may also view our brochure and order on-line at www.iowadnr.gov/nursery.