

ILLINOIS

WEATHER & CROPS



ILLINOIS COOPERATIVE CROP REPORTING SERVICE

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National Weather Service, USDC

The condition of WINTER WHEAT was reported as 6% excellent, 71% good and 23% fair. Winter snow cover was adequate in most areas, which helped ease moisture shortages and prevent freeze damage. Other fall seeded grains are also reported in mostly good condition.

Movement of 1979 grain from storage has been generally adequate. Poor prices have slowed grain movement in many areas. Some comments indicated poor road conditions caused temporary delays in grain movement in a few areas. Quality of stored grain was good throughout the State.

LIVESTOCK are generally in good condition Statewide. Mild weather conditions have reduced the need for supplemental feeding in most areas. Large temperature variations have caused a few minor health problems.

SOIL MOISTURE was reported as 40% short, 53% adequate, and 7% surplus. The West and Central Districts reported soil moisture being over 70% short.

FUEL SUPPLIES for agricultural use are mostly adequate Statewide.

MAIN ACTIVITIES include caring for livestock, repairing machinery, hauling grain, buying supplies, building fences, attending meetings, and general farm chores.

FEBRUARY

Average monthly TEMPERATURES during February ranged from 6 to 9 degrees below normal in the State. A cold period continued from the last week

of January and lasted through the first half of February. In the first week, temperatures were as much as 17 degrees below normal which were the lowest since mid-February 1979. Minimum temperatures fell below the zero degree mark in many areas. An above normal period developed during the third week, but a cold period occurred during the last week sending minimum temperatures near the zero mark in many areas.

PRECIPITATION was below normal in every district of the State for the second straight month. The largest variations again occurred in the South where precipitation was more than an inch below normal. The first week of the month was the driest in most areas as less than .30 of an inch fell. Precipitation ranged from .20 to .50 of an inch during the latter 3 weeks except in the central section where during the second week precipitation was less than .10 of an inch.

On the 4th of February 1 to 4 inches of snow fell across the State, and on the 8th, 1 to 3 more inches fell in scattered areas. On the 23rd 1 to 3 inches fell on the north and central areas. During the fourth week, 3 to 6 inches of new snow fell across the State from two separate snowstorms with the central portions receiving the heaviest amounts. Up to 10 inches of snow fell near Lake Michigan on the 29th.



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AGR-101

Illinois Weather & Crops
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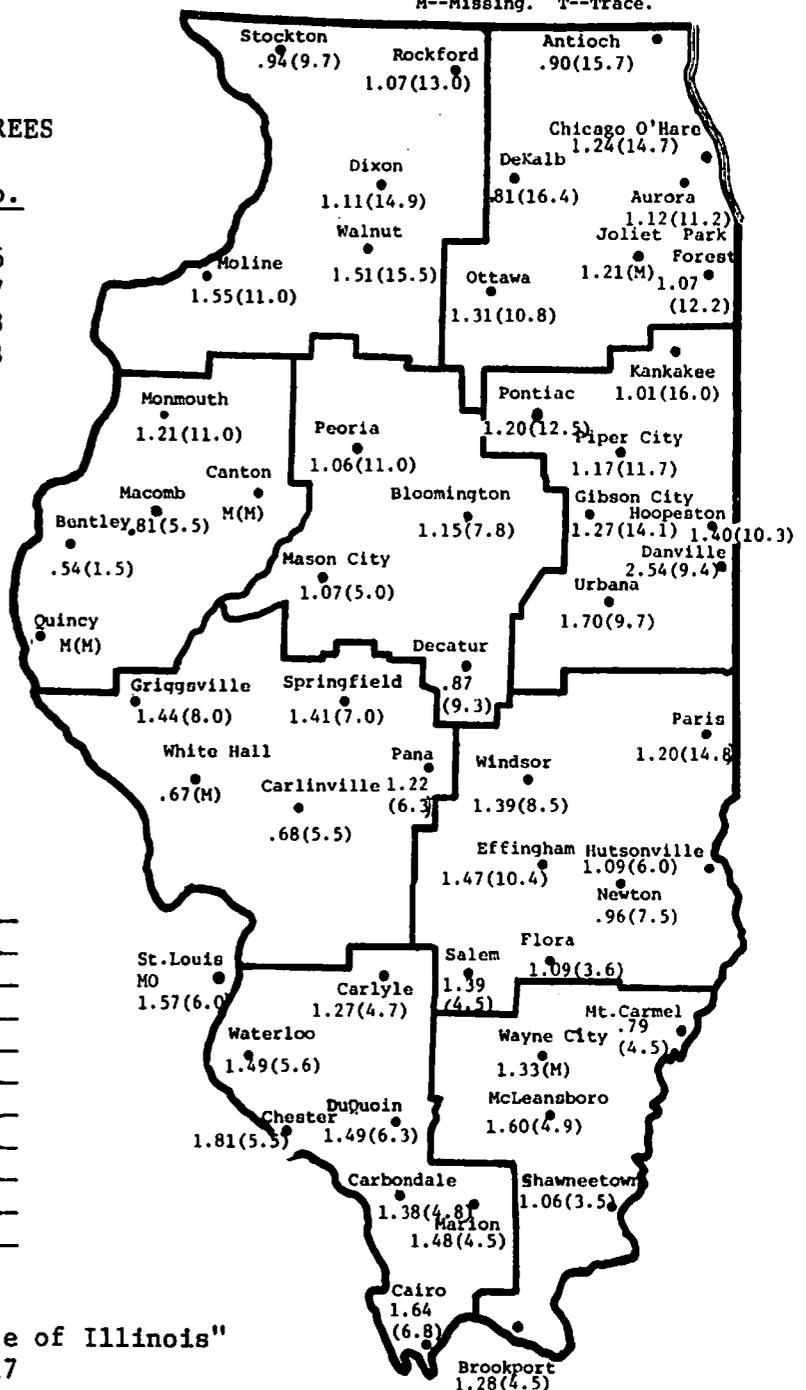
ILLINOIS WEATHER

PRELIMINARY DISTRICT PRECIPITATION AVERAGES AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL IN INCHES

	NW	WE	W	C	E	WSW	ESE	SW	SE
February	1.24	1.02	0.91	1.07	1.63	1.20	1.28	1.51	1.26
Departures	-0.01	-0.43	-0.56	-0.55	-0.11	-0.72	-1.08	-1.43	-1.83

FEBRUARY PRECIPITATION AND SNOWFALL

NOTE: First figure--Precipitation
Parentheses--Snowfall
M--Missing. T--Trace.



MONTHLY TEMPERATURE DEPARTURES IN DEGREES

	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
Chicago	-1	+1	+5	-1	-6
Moline	-2	-2	+5	-1	-7
Springfield	-2	0	+6	+1	-8
So. Central	-1	0	+4	0	-8

MARCH 17 TEMPERATURES

STATION	WEEK ENDING MONDAY 6 A.M.		
	MAXIMUM	MINIMUM	AVERAGE
Moline	59	13	35
Rockford	49	8	31
Chicago O'Hare	55	14	34
Quincy	60	21	39
Decatur	62	19	38
Peoria	58	15	35
Springfield	62	18	38
Cairo	71	28	46