

ILLINOIS

WEATHER & CROPS



**ILLINOIS
COOPERATIVE CROP
REPORTING SERVICE**

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CROPS

CORN planting was reported as being about 5% complete by April 26, compared with 10% last year, and 13% for the 5-year average (1976-80). Wet field conditions, particularly over the northern half of the State, slowed planting progress.

WINTER WHEAT was reported as 33% excellent, 65% good, and 2% fair. Wheat is starting to head out in the southern part of the State.

ALFA was reported as 19% excellent, 75% good, and 6% fair as of April 24.

PASTURES on April 24 were reported as 18% excellent, 73% good, and 9% fair. Pastures, on April 26, were supplying about 65% of the livestock roughage requirements, compared with 47% last year and the 5-year average of 54%.

SOIL MOISTURE was reported as 12% short, 78% adequate and 10% surplus as of April 24.

For the week ending April 24, an average of 1.25 DAYS was SUITABLE for FIELDWORK.

MAIN ACTIVITIES include soil preparation, seeding corn, applying fertilizer, and general chores.

CHAMPAIGN SOIL MOISTURE

The Illinois State Water Survey regularly monitors soil moisture at a site a few miles west of Champaign. As of April 21, the uppermost 6 ft. contained about 61% of plant available moisture, a one percent decrease since last week. Almost two-thirds

(0.63) inch of precipitation fell during the week prior to the observation, but only 0.16 (25%) inch entered the ground, the rest lost to runoff or evaporation. In spite of the recent precipitation, the uppermost 16 inches of soil exhibited a decrease in soil moisture, with increases from 3 ft. to 6 ft. This is due to the meager amount of recent precipitation, and the relatively fast percolation rate of this soil.

WEATHER

TEMPERATURES for the period of April 20-26 averaged 2 degrees to 5 degrees below normal over most of the State and thus ending a 4-week warm period. Some western and central sections recorded normal temperatures, while the area near St. Louis, MO was the only area above normal. Readings dropped below freezing during part of the week in the northern half of the State, but by the 26th most areas were recording maximum readings from 70 degrees to 85 degrees.

PRECIPITATION was very scattered as it ranged from .33 of an inch to 1.60. Heavy rains deluged parts of Northern Illinois with more than an inch during a 24-hour period on the 22nd, which caused some local flooding. The following day some southern sections received more than one inch. The western half of the State received the least amount of rainfall.

The OUTLOOK for the period of April 28 through May 4 is for temperatures and precipitation to be near normal.

ILLINOIS CROP REPORTING DISTRICT SUMMARY

	NW	NE	W	C	E	WSW	ESE	SW	SE	STATE
Days Suitable for fieldwork: (week ending April 24)	2.0	2.0	---	0.5	0.5	0.5	1.5	2.5	3.0	1.25
Soil Moisture %:										
(as of April 24) Short	--	--	--	5	--	5	15	35	50	12
Adequate	75	85	90	80	90	95	85	55	50	78
Surplus	25	15	10	15	10	--	--	10	--	10

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ILLINOIS WEATHER

MONTHLY AND WEEKLY TEMPERATURE DEPARTURES IN DEGREES

Mar. 30-

	Feb.	Mar.	Apr. 5	Apr. 6-12	Apr. 13-19	Apr. 20-26
Chicago	+2	+1	+11	+7	+6	-5
Moline	+2	+2	+10	+8	+3	-3
Springfield	+2	+5	+15	+12	+7	0
So. Central	+2	+1	+11	+10	+7	0

STATION	April 24			April 27		
	Maxi- : num	Mini- : num	Aver- : age	Current: : week	3-yr. : avg.	Totals: : 1980: 1981
Dubuque, IA	--	--	--	28	113	133 191
Moline	80	30	52	43	149	159 232
Rockford	80	28	50	27	118	123 188
Chicago O'Hare	82	29	48	27	113	119 210
Quincy	77	35	55	65	179	178 288
Decatur	77	33	54	54	160	145 266
Peoria	80	33	53	47	151	141 249
Springfield	81	36	57	63	184	172 317
Cairo	82	46	66	91	280	241 409
St. Louis	--	--	--	89	230	216 391

* Totals are accumulated from April 1.

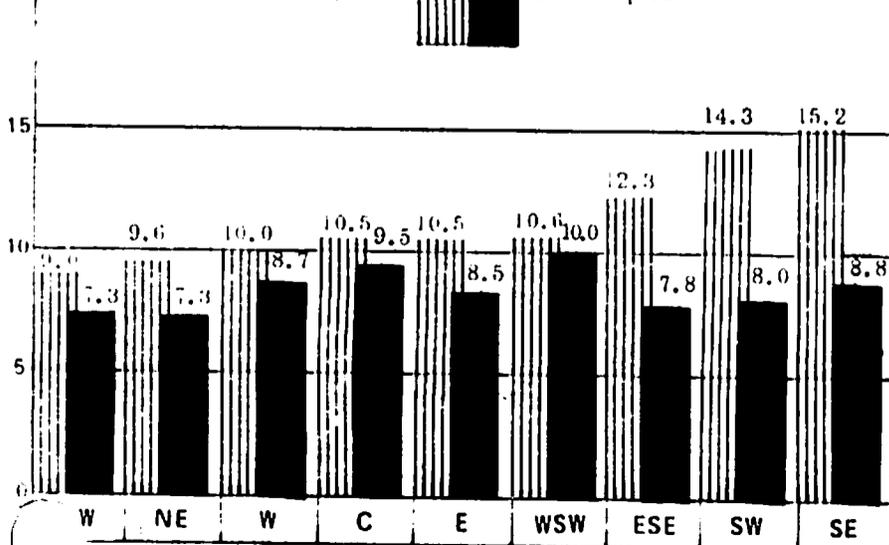
Growing degree days (GDD's) are calculated by subtracting a 50-degree (F) base temperature from the average of the maximum and minimum temperatures for the day. The daily maximum temperature is limited to 86 degrees (F) and daily minimum to 0 degrees (F). Thus, if the mean temperature for the day is 0 degrees, then 25 GDD's will have been accumulated.

ACCUMULATED PRECIPITATION (Inches)

LEGEND: Normal | Actual

Jan. 1-Apr. 30

Jan. 1-Apr. 23



PRECIPITATION:

First figure--current week, 4/17-23
Parentheses--previous week
Asterisk--Friday-Sunday
M--Missing, T--Trace.

