

ILLINOIS WEATHER & CROPS



**ILLINOIS
COOPERATIVE CROP
REPORTING SERVICE**

Illinois Department of Agriculture
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CROP HI-LITES

- *** Corn - 80% dough, 46% dented
- *** Soybeans - 83% setting pods,
4% turning yellow
- *** Soil Moisture - 4% short, 82% adequate, 14% surplus

CORN on August 21 was reported as 28% in excellent condition, 71% good, and 1% fair. On August 23, 80% of the corn crop was in the dough stage, compared to 91% last year and an average of 86%. Forty-six percent of the crop is dented compared to 61% last year and an average of 52%.

SOYBEANS on August 21 were reported as 15% in excellent condition, 72% good and 13% fair. As of August 23, 83% of the soybeans were setting pods compared to 94% last year and an average of 92%. Four percent of the crop was turning yellow compared to 7% last year and an average of 7%.

ALFALFA HAY was reported as 16% excellent, 71% good and 13% fair on August 21. About 64% of the third cutting was complete on August 23 compared to 50% last year and an average of 50%.

PASTURES on August 21 were reported as 29% excellent, 67% good, and 4% fair.

SOIL MOISTURE on August 21 was reported as 4% short, 82% adequate, and 14% surplus.

For the week ending August 21, there were **5.50 DAYS SUITABLE** for **FIELDWORK**.

WEATHER

TEMPERATURES for the period of August 17-23 averaged 1 degree to 8 degrees below normal as a cool trend continued for the second week. Minimum temperatures in most of the State fell into the 40's and 50's setting a few new record lows.

PRECIPITATION was light throughout the State with little or no precipitation being recorded.

The Outlook for the period of August 29 to August 31 is for temperatures and precipitation to be near normal.

The Extended Outlook thru September 15 is for below normal temperatures throughout Illinois. Precipitation is expected to be below normal in the North and above normal in the South.

JULY WEATHER SUMMARY

TEMPERATURES: Average monthly temperatures were 1 degree to 2 degrees below normal in the North, normal in the central sections, and 1 degree to 3 degrees above normal in the South. This was the same pattern as in June. Near normal temperatures which started in mid-June continued through the first week of July and were followed by an above normal 2-week period. A below normal trend developed during the fourth week and continued through the end of the month. Minimum readings at the end of the month dropped into the upper 40's in the North setting a few minimum temperature records.

PRECIPITATION was below normal in the Northwest District and slightly below normal in the Northeast District. The remaining sections of the State recorded 1 to 4 inches above normal rainfall amounts. Some areas reported this July to be the wettest (or one of the wettest) July's on record. The southern sections of the State recorded 12 to 16 inches of rain during the month. The North was dry during the first week, while the South received 1 to 3 inches. In the second week an average of 2 inches fell on the Northeast District while the remaining areas received little or no rain. On the 12-13th, 2 to 5 inches deluged the Northeast District in a very short time, causing major flooding. During the second half of the month, the North had moderate rainfall amounts and the South recorded 1 to 4 inches during each week. The Springfield area received more than 3 inches during a 24-hour period. Many rivers and creeks were above flood stage again during part of July.

SOIL MOISTURE MEASUREMENTS

Soil moisture in a moderately well-drained Flanagan soil in Champaign County continues at a relatively high level according to observations made on the 17th of August by the Illinois State Water Survey. They report that the surface continued at near saturation levels, with increased soil moisture noted from about 8 to 55 inches depth from the previous week. About 2.40 inches of precipitation were received during the seven days prior to the observation. About 2.20 inches of soil moisture was located from the surface to a depth of six inches, representing about 86% of potential plant available moisture. From the surface to 20 inches, 6.81 inches of soil moisture was found, representing about 71% of the potential plant available moisture.

ILLINOIS CROP REPORTING DISTRICT SUMMARY

Crop and Soil Characteristics	NW	NE	W	C	E	WSW	ESE	SW	SE	STATE	5-YR. AVG.
Corn: % dented (as of Aug. 23)	45	40	43	35	50	50	45	65	70	46	52
Alfalfa: % 3rd crop cut (Aug. 23)	60	60	60	50	78	70	70	78	78	64	50
Days suitable for fieldwork: (week ending Aug. 21)	5.5	6.0	6.0	4.5	5.0	6.0	4.5	5.5	6.5	5.50	
Soil moisture % of Aug. 21)											
Short	--	10	--	--	--	--	5	20	--	4	
Adequate	90	90	90	70	50	80	85	80	100	82	
Surplus	10	--	10	30	50	20	10	--	--	14	

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PRELIMINARY DISTRICT PRECIPITATION AVERAGES AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL IN INCHES

	NW	NE	W	C	E	WSW	ESE	SW	SE
July	3.01	3.95	7.71	8.29	8.84	9.17	5.19	7.12	5.86
Departure	-1.12	+0.11	+3.62	+4.62	+4.83	+5.40	+1.50	+3.54	+2.03

MONTHLY AND WEEKLY TEMPERATURE DEPARTURES IN DEGREES

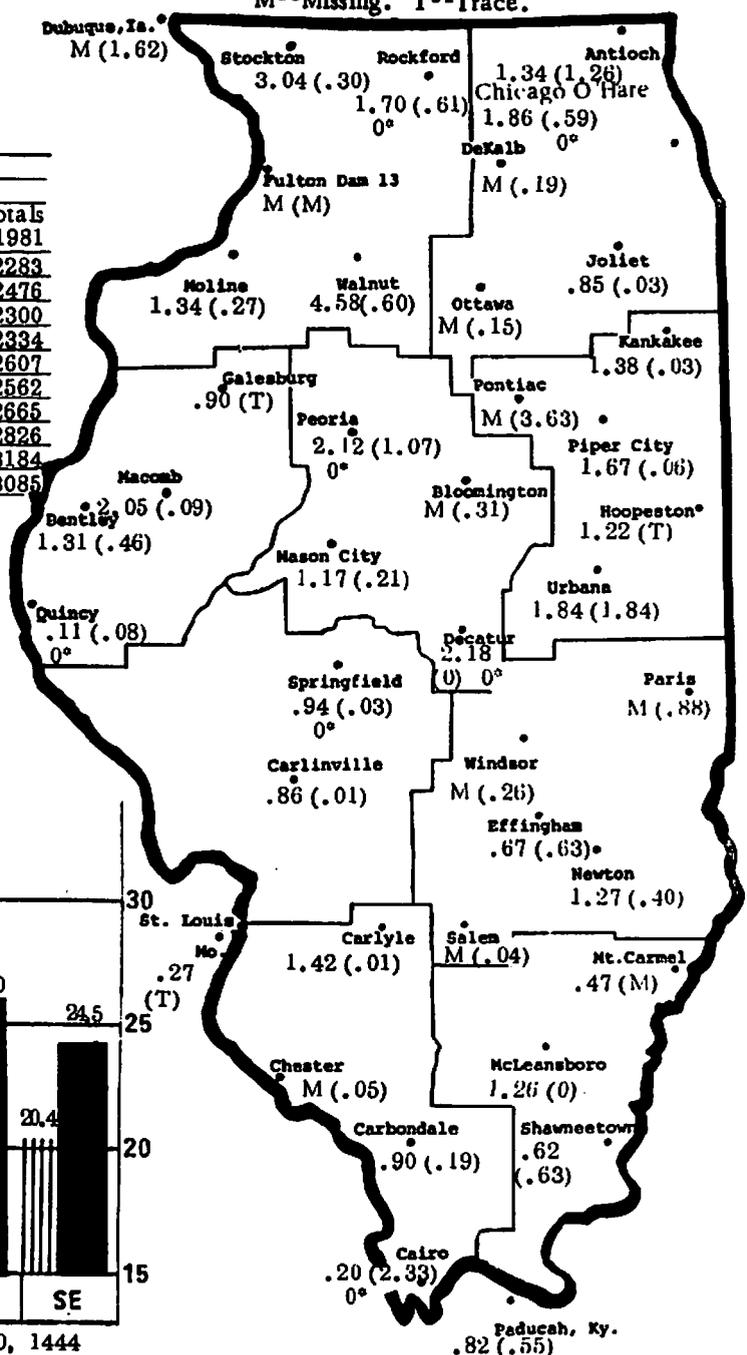
	June	July	Aug. 3-9	Aug. 10-16	Aug. 17-23
Chicago	+2	+1	0	-1	-4
Moline	0	-2	-3	-3	-8
Springfield	+2	+1	+1	-3	-5
So. Central	+2	+1	+2	-2	-4

STATION	August 21			August 24			Totals 1980	Totals 1981
	Maxi- mum	Mini- mum	Aver- age	Current week	3-year avg.	Totals		
Dubuque, IA:	--	--	--	114	2253	2474	2283	
Moline	87	47	68	117	2520	2612	2476	
Rockford	80	47	68	120	2300	2340	2300	
Chi. O'Hare	78	51	67	122	2328	2337	2334	
Quincy	88	52	70	122	2767	2935	2607	
Decatur	83	51	68	113	2643	2730	2562	
Peoria	85	59	70	133	2529	2610	2665	
Springfield	88	54	71	134	2734	2853	2826	
Cairo	92	65	76	164	3096	3149	3184	
St. Louis	--	--	--	149	3012	3173	3085	

* Totals are accumulated from April 1.

PRECIPITATION:

First figure--current week, August 14-20
Parentheses--previous week
Asterisk--Friday-Sunday
M--Missing. T--Trace.



ACCUMULATED PRECIPITATION (Inches)

LEGEND: Normal | Actual

April 1-August 31

April 1- August 20

