

ILLINOIS

WEATHER & CROPS



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WEATHER

CROPS

There were 1.5 DAYS SUITABLE for FIELDWORK for the week ending April 22. The week started with more cool, wet weather along with record low temperatures for several nights. However, sunshine returned by midweek, allowing farmers to resume fieldwork in most areas. Only in the southern districts where rain fell again late in the week were farmers unable to return to the fields.

Less than 1% of the CORN acreage has been planted as of April 24, compared to 2% last year and a 5-year average (1978-82) of 3%.

WINTER WHEAT on Friday, April 22, was reported as 8% excellent, 66% good, 25% fair, and 1% poor. The wheat continues to show the effects of the 1, wet weather, although the warmer temperatures and sunshine late in the week should be beneficial to the crop.

OATS seeded as of Sunday, April 24, was 35% complete, compared to 67% for both last year and the the 5-year average.

ALFALFA condition as of April 22 was reported as 6% excellent, 70% good, 22% fair, and 2% poor.

PLOWING for 1983 Corn and Soybean acreage is 78% complete, compared to 77% last year and the 5-year average of 78%.

PASTURES were reported as 4% excellent, 68% good, 27% fair, and 1% poor and were supplying 38% of livestock roughage requirements. This compares to 36% last year and the 5-year average of 44%.

LIVESTOCK was reported to be in fair to good condition as the clear weather allowed lots and pastures to dry.

FREEZE DAMAGE to the 1983 PEACH crop was reported to be moderate to severe from the record low temperatures last week. Damage to the 1983 APPLE crop was reported to be light to moderate. The extent of the damage in many orchards is still somewhat undetermined.

SOIL MOISTURE on Friday, April 22, was reported to be 34% adequate and 66% surplus.

TEMPERATURES for the period of April 19 thru 25 averaged from 9 to 16 degrees below normal throughout the State as a cool period continued for the 5th straight week. Minimum temperatures fell below freezing in many areas setting a few new minimum records and damaging the fruit crops.

PRECIPITATION was light over the State. Rainfall amounts ranged from a trace to .55 of an inch. The heavier amounts fell in the extreme South.

The OUTLOOK for April 25 through May 2 is for temperatures to be below normal and precipitation to be near normal.

MARCH WEATHER SUMMARY

Average monthly TEMPERATURES ranged from 1 to 3 degrees above normal throughout the State. The Northwest District had the largest above normal variation (3.3 degrees above normal). This was the fourth straight month of above normal temperatures over much of the State. Many new maximum temperature records were set as readings climbed into the 70's and 80's during the first week.

PRECIPITATION was above normal in all areas except the West, Southwest, and Southeast districts of the State. The largest above-normal variation was in the Northwest District and the largest below-normal variation was in the Southwest District. Precipitation was moderate in many sections during the first two weeks and heavy during the third week. Some areas reported 2 inches of rain in the third week. On the 9th of March 1 to 2 inches of snow fell on the north and central sections of the State. Two to eight inches also fell on these sections on the 26th.

The Extended Outlook for April 15 through May 15 is for temperatures to be below normal and precipitation to be above normal in Illinois.

STATE WATER SURVEY DIVISION

The State Water Survey Division reports that Potential Plant Available Moisture (PPAM) decreased in the moderately well-drained Flanagan soil four miles south of Bondville in Champaign County. Precipitation amounted to only 0.03 inch last week. In the soil layer from the surface to 4 inches the PPAM declined from 141% to 74%; at the 4 to 12-inch depth, the PPAM declined from 90% to 75%; and at the 12 to 20-inch depth, the PPAM declined from 83% to 74%. Over the total soil column from the surface to nearly 7 feet, the PPAM declined from 88% to 81%.

ILLINOIS CROP REPORTING DISTRICT SUMMARY

Characteristics	NW	NE	W	C	E	WSW	ESE	SW	SE	STATE
Days suitable for fieldwork; (week ending April 22)	3.0	1.5	2.5	1.5	1.0	1.5	1.0	0.5	0	1.5
Soil Moisture %: (as of April 22)										
Short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adequate	59	14	36	59	50	44	21	0	0	0
Surplus	41	86	64	41	50	56	79	100	100	34
										66

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PRELIMINARY DISTRICT PRECIPITATION AVERAGES AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL IN INCHES

	NW	NE	W	C	E	WSE	ESE	SW	SE
March	3.09	2.99	2.62	3.14	2.73	3.44	3.43	3.28	3.70
Departure	+0.66	+0.38	-0.17	+0.39	+0.02	+0.53	+0.03	-0.82	-0.69

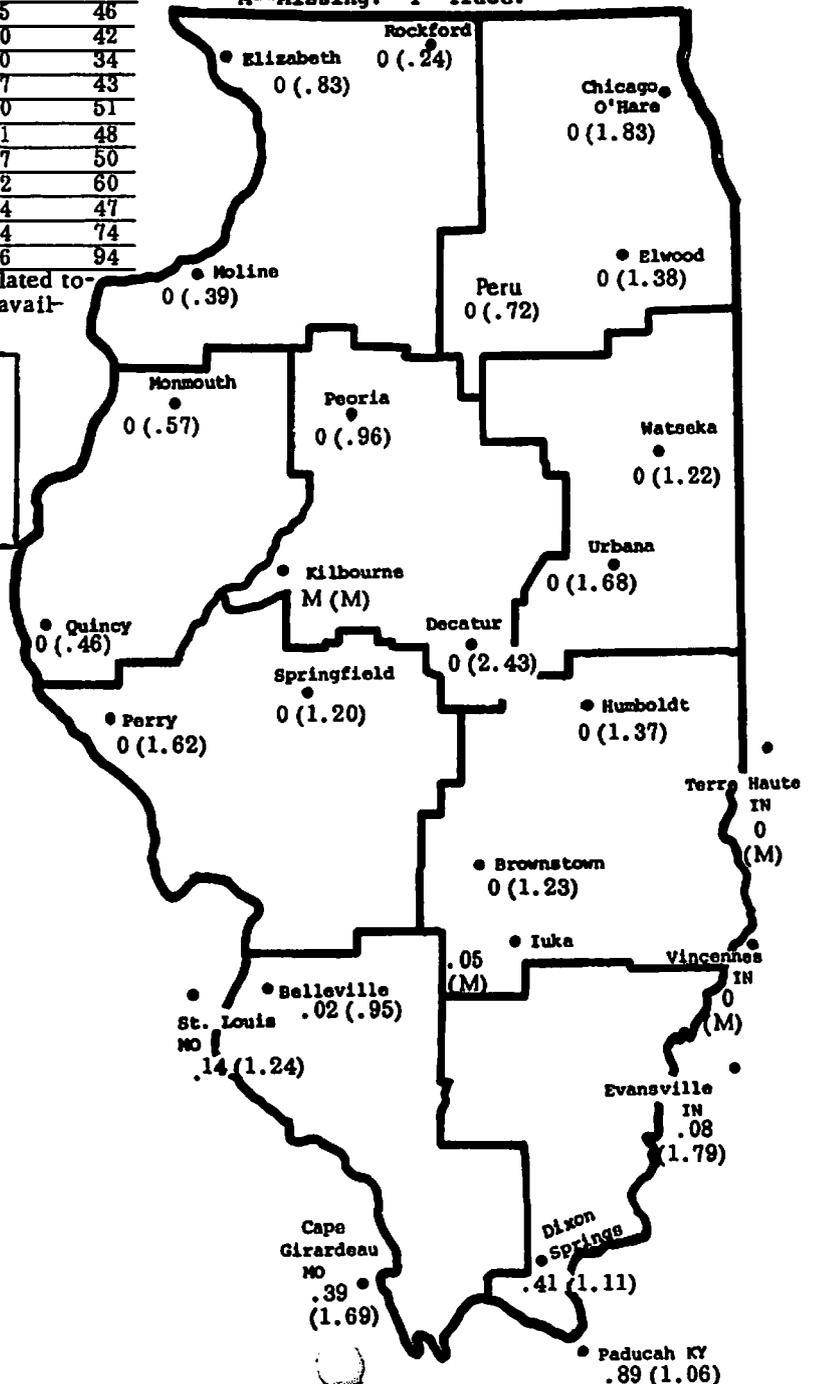
MONTHLY AND WEEKLY TEMPERATURE DEPARTURES IN DEGREES

	January	February	March	April 5-11	April 12-18	April 19-25
Chicago	+7	+5	+1	-5	-7	-9
Peoria	+7	+6	+3	-6	-7	-6
Springfield	+4	+5	+3	-7	-6	-8
St. Louis	+4	+4	+1	-11	-7	-10

Station	Week ending Monday, 6 A.M., April 25					
	Temperatures			Growing degree days 1/		
	Maxi- mum	Mini- mum	Aver- age	Current; week	3-yr. av. 2/	Totals 1982 : 1983
Moline	69	23	45.4	33	175	115 46
Rockford	68	16	42.4	28	133	110 42
Chicago O'Hare	64	22	41.9	17	136	100 34
Quincy	67	26	47.4	26	182	117 43
Decatur	66	22	45.9	26	163	110 51
Peoria	69	23	47.1	32	160	121 48
Watsika 3/	68	24	43.3	28	138	87 50
Springfield	69	24	47.1	30	198	142 60
Brownstown 3/	68	22	45.0	23	221	134 47
St. Louis	68	26	48.0	28	244	174 74
Dixon Springs 3/	63	24	45.1	22	276	186 94

1/ Totals are accumulated from April 1. 2/ Average of accumulated totals for 1980, 1981 and 1982. 3/ Two-year average - 1980 not available.

PRECIPITATION:
First figure--Current week, April 19-25
Parentheses--Previous week
M--Missing. T--Trace.



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 50 degrees (F). Thus, if the mean temperature for the day is 75 degrees, then 25 GDD's will have been accumulated.

Station	Week ending Mon., 6 A.M. 4/25	
	Average daily soil temperature 4" bare soil	
	Maximum	Minimum
Elizabeth	52	39
Elwood	56	39
Monmouth	53	42
Urbana	55	44
Perry	53	40
Brownstown	52	45
Belleville	54	41
Dixon Springs	56	42