

ILLINOIS WEATHER & CROPS



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CROPS

Corn and soybean planting continued to make rapid progress last week as warm and windy weather provided excellent conditions. The State averaged 5.75 days suitable for fieldwork with northern and central areas most active, while farmers in southern areas had to wait until midweek to resume fieldwork after the previous week's rain. On May 12 corn planting was nearing completion in all areas of the State except the South.

CORN planting as of Sunday, May 12, was 87% complete, compared to 38% last year and the 5-year average (1980-84) of 61%. Cutworms were being reported in every district of the State.

SOYBEAN planting as of May 12 was 32% complete, compared with 3% last year and the 5-year average of 15%. Reports indicate that soybean planting was being delayed by dry topsoil in the northern half of the State.

WINTER WHEAT condition on Friday, May 10, was 12% excellent, 72% good, 14% fair, and 2% poor. As of May 12, 40% of the acreage had headed, compared to 1% last year and the 5-year average of 20%.

SORGHUM planting on May 12 was 6% complete compared to none last year and the 5-year average of 4%.

OATS condition on May 10 was reported as 6% excellent, 73% good, 19% fair, and 2% poor.

TILLAGE for 1985 corn, sorghum, and soybean acreage was 94% complete, compared to 85% last year and the 5-year average of 96%.

ALFALFA condition on May 10 was reported as 28% excellent, 66% good, and 6% fair. Alfalfa weevils were being reported in some fields in central and northern parts of the State.

PASTURE condition on May 10 was reported as 16% excellent, 71% good, 12% fair, and 1% poor.

SOIL MOISTURE on May 10 was reported as 36% short, 54% adequate, and 10% surplus.

WEATHER

This past week continued warm and very dry over most of the State. Mean TEMPERATURES only varied between 63 and 68° over the entire State! However, this represented 10 to 11° above normal in the North to only 1 to 3° above normal in the South.

The only site with PRECIPITATION greater than 0.50 inches during the week occurred at Morrison (Whiteside Co.) with 1.05 inches, and Pana (Christian), Kaskaskia (Randolph) and Harrisburg (Saline), each with 0.50 to 0.65 inches. About one-third of the State (a band about 60 miles wide from Kankakee to Mattoon to Carlyle to Edwardsville) received no precipitation for the week. The differences from normal over the State are very close to one inch below normal.

The OUTLOOK for the week of May 13-19 calls for showers and thunderstorms into midweek, with a day-to-day chance of showers thru Friday. Temperatures will be cooler and continue below normal into the weekend.

APRIL WEATHER SUMMARY

Average monthly TEMPERATURES were once again above normal throughout the State, as they ranged from 3 to 6° above normal, with the Northwest District again recording the largest above normal variation (6.7° above normal). The West-Southwest District, around Springfield, recorded the smallest variation (4.4° above normal). The month started with below normal temperatures over much of Illinois, with only short-lived warm spells. It was during the second half of the month that a warm trend developed. Maximum temperatures climbed into the upper 80's in most sections around midmonth. Several new maximum records were set during this period. In the last week, maximum readings dropped to the 40's and 50's in some northern areas. PRECIPITATION was below normal in every district of the State, except in the Southwest District. The West District had the largest below normal variation which only averaged 0.87 of an inch, (4 inches below normal). This was the first time that precipitation was below normal since January 1985. Galesburg had the least amount of rain with 0.71 of an inch. Cairo reported the greatest amount of rain with 7.29 inches. Much of the State was dry until the 7th when some areas (mainly in the South) reported more than an inch of rain during a 24-hour period. A dry period developed during the second and part of the third week. Scattered light to moderate rain fell in the third week. The fourth week was mainly dry.

ILLINOIS CROP REPORTING DISTRICT SUMMARY

20	NW	NE	W	C	E	WSW	ESE	SW	SE	STATE	5-YR. AVG.
As of May 12											
Corn: % Planted	94	96	92	97	96	90	72	42	28	87	61
Soybeans: % Planted	34	26	40	58	28	38	26	14	7	32	15
Days Suitable for fieldwork:	6.5	6.0	6.0	6.5	6.5	5.5	5.0	5.5	5.5	5.75	
Soil Moisture %											
Short	85	90	20	35	80	10	5	0	0	36	
Adequate:	15	10	80	60	20	80	75	75	70	54	
Surplus :	0	0	0	5	0	10	20	25	30	10	

CROP INFORMATION in this report is provided voluntarily by county officials of Extension Service and SCS and agribusiness managers.

Additional WEATHER INFORMATION is provided by Midwest Agr. Weather Serv. Ctr. (W. Lafayette, Ind.) and National Weather Service Cooperative Observers

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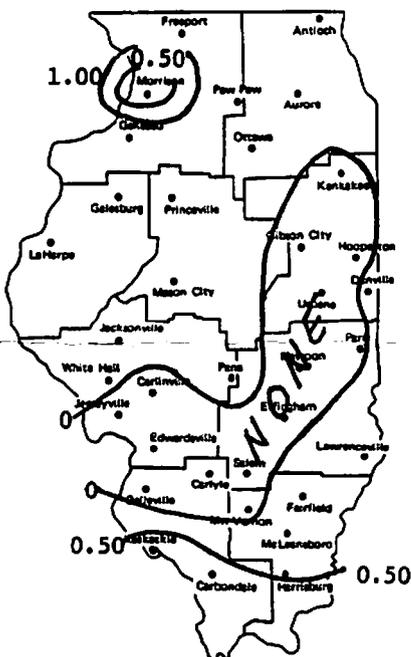
PRELIMINARY DISTRICT PRECIPITATION AVERAGES AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL IN INCHES

	NW	NE	W	C	E	WSW	ESE	SW	SE
April	1.43	1.52	0.82	1.79	1.85	2.70	2.62	4.79	3.3
Departure	-2.94	-2.58	-4.07	-2.49	-2.29	-2.07	-1.92	0.47	-0.8

Week ending Sunday, May 12, 1985

Location	Temperatures			Precipitation			Soil Moisture, % Plant Available Moisture 1/	
	Maxi- mum	Mini- mum	Depar- ture	Current : week	Since : May 1, '85	Departure : since May 1	0-6"	6-24"
Freeport	85	43	10	0.23	0.84	-0.82	22	66
Paw Paw	84	42	5	0.11	0.63	-1.03	43	81
Antioch	83	43	7	0.04	0.04	-1.32		
Galesburg	82	50	8	0.06	0.41	-1.42	28	80
Walnut	85	46	6	0	0.40	-1.26		
Mason City	82	50	7	0.02	1.67	0.22	47	72
Princeville	85	47	7	0.45	1.42	-0.12	7	61
Kankakee	86	38	5	0	0.21	-1.44		
Jacksonville	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	35	61
Pana	83	40	4	0.51	1.39	-0.34	91	78
Urbana	86	48	8	0	1.54	-0.04	71	92
Carlinville	83	47	5	0	1.71	-0.26		
Effingham	85	47	5	0	2.48	0.96	45	65
Lawrenceville	86	47	4	0.01	3.05	1.12	45	65
Belleville	86	40	3	0	1.57	0.12	59	71
Carlyle	89	55	5	0	1.34	-0.56		
McLeansboro	85	48	1	0.31	1.45	-0.57	46	91
Kaskaskia	89	47	2	0.65	2.95	1.07	80	79
Dixon Springs	85	47	4	0.57	2.34	0.32	76	99

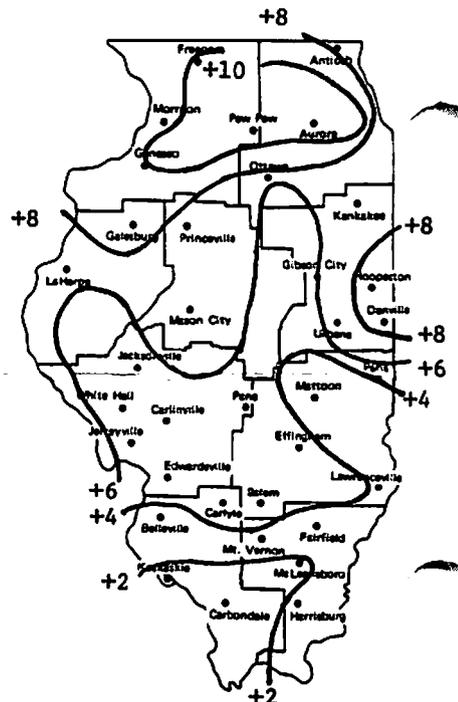
1/ Soil moisture measurements is based on reading from closest station. Readings taken approximately May 1. 2/ Missing data.



TOTAL PRECIPITATION
FOR WEEK ENDING
MAY 12

MONTHLY TEMPERATURE DEPARTURES IN DEGREES

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.
Chicago	-7	-6	+3	+4
Peoria	-5	-4	+6	+6
Springfield	-6	-5	+7	+4
St. Louis	-4	-3	+6	+5



MEAN TEMPERATURE DEVIATIONS
FROM NORMAL
WEEK ENDING MAY 12