

# ILLINOIS WEATHER & CROPS



Illinois Department of Agriculture  
 STATISTICAL REPORTING SERVICE USDA  
 Box 429 Springfield, Illinois 62705-0429  
 Phone: (217) 492-4295



ILLINOIS STATE  
 WATER SURVEY



Illinois Department  
 of Energy and Natural Resources  
 2204 Griffith Drive  
 Champaign, Illinois 61820  
 Phone: (217) 333-0729

RELEASED: DECEMBER 16, 1985, 3 P.M., CST

VOL.6, NO. 37

## Season's Greetings

AND BEST WISHES FOR THE NEW YEAR

### CROPS

Wet weather during the last four weeks limited fieldwork to a few days in most areas and delayed completion of harvesting of corn, soybeans, and sorghum. Most fields have been saturated since early November allowing fieldwork only when the ground has been frozen solid enough to support machinery. Harvest losses have increased because of lodging and difficult harvest conditions, and grain quality has deteriorated.

By December 15, 96% of the CORN acreage had been harvested for grain, compared to 98% last year and 5-year average (1980-84) of 100%.

By December 15, 98% of the SOYBEAN acreage had been harvested, compared to 97% last year and the 5-year average (1980-84) of 100%. High moisture content in the soybeans now being harvested is reported to be a problem.

By December 15, 93% of the SORGHUM acreage had been harvested for grain, compared to 90% last year and the 5-year average (1980-84) of 100%. Low test weight and high moisture problems in the grain sorghum are being reported.

WINTER WHEAT condition on December 13 was reported as 10% excellent, 65% good, 23% fair, and 2% poor. Standing water in poorly-drained fields could cause problems with winterkill.

SOIL MOISTURE on December 13 was reported as 19% adequate and 81% surplus.

### WEATHER

TEMPERATURES were below normal throughout the State this past week, varying from 12° to 14° below normal from Western Illinois to Northeastern Illinois, and about 6° to 8° below to the northwest and southeast of that band. Coldest temperatures were observed during midweek. Mean highs for the week were in the 40-45's in the North and the low to mid-40's in the South. Mean lows were about 15° to 20° lower.

PRECIPITATION was much above normal for the southern three-fourths of the State, with the maximum band extending from Quincy to Paris. Greatest amounts were 2.69 in. at Carlinville, 3.12 in. at Pana, and 3.63 in. at Paris, these being 2.26 in., 2.52 in. and 3.08 in. above normal, respectively. Total precipitation in the northern counties was between 0.3 and 0.7 in., and between 1.0 and 1.5 in. in the South.

The OUTLOOK for December 16-22 calls for very cold temperatures during the week, with a chance of snow by Friday. Highs are expected to be 12° to 22° in the North, and 22° to 32° in the South. Expected lows are 8° below zero to 8° above in the North, and 8° to 18° in the South. Temperatures will increase slightly by the weekend.

The 3-month OUTLOOK for December through February is for temperatures to be near normal and precipitation to be above normal.

### NOVEMBER WEATHER SUMMARY

The Statewide average monthly TEMPERATURE was only -0.3° below normal. Temperatures ranged from 5° below normal in the North, to 5° above normal in the South. The Northwest District recorded the largest below normal variation (5.4° below normal), while the East Southeast District recorded the largest above normal variation (5.0° above normal). A cool period, which started during the last week of October and continued into the second week of November, dropped the maximum readings into the 40's and 50's. The minimum readings were in the 30's. A brief warm period occurred on the 9th and 10th and sent temperatures in the 60's in most sections of the State. During the third week, temperatures again climbed above normal for a short time, as readings rose to near 70°. In the fourth week, temperatures fell below normal in many areas, as maximum readings fell into the 30's. Cairo recorded its coldest night on the 21st as the mercury dropped to 28°.

PRECIPITATION averaged above normal in the State (6.39 in. above normal). The northern third of Illinois received the least amount of rain—4 to 5 in. above the norm. The remaining districts received 6 to 7 in. above normal rainfall. The largest above normal variation was in the East-Southeast District (7.99 in. above normal). The area around Waterloo, in the Southwest District, had the greatest amount of rain with a monthly total of 13.50 in. The area near Dubuque, in the extreme Northwest District, reported the least amount of rain with a monthly total of 4.22 in. Scattered rainfall occurred during every week. Many stations reported 2 to 3 in. of rain during a 24-hour period. As a result, many stations reported record rainfall amounts for the month causing most rivers to rise. Flooding problems were reported. During the third and fourth week, two snowstorms hit the northern part of the State. The greatest total snowfall (5.4 in.) fell in Lake Villa in the Northeast District.

### ILLINOIS CROP REPORTING DISTRICT SUMMARY

	NW	NE	W	C	E	WSW	ESE	SW	SE	STATE	5-YR. AVG.
As of December 15											
Corn: % harvested	92	87	95	99	99	97	98	96	93	96	100
Soybeans: % harvested	95	95	91	99	99	97	99	96	92	98	100
As of December 13											
Soil Moisture %:											
Short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adequate	25	20	30	20	25	15	5	0	35	19	
Surplus	75	80	70	80	75	85	95	100	65	81	

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.

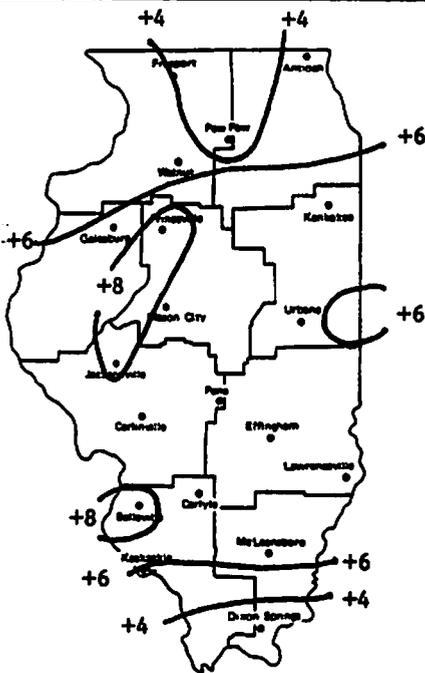
Illinois Weather & Crops  
 December 16, 1985

Illinois Weather & Crops (ISSN 0273-8635) is published weekly April-November, semi-weekly the second week of June, weekly December-March, by the Illinois Dept. of Agriculture, Illinois Cooperative Crop Reporting Service, Room 54, Department of Agriculture Bldg., 801 Sangamon Ave., Springfield, IL 62706. For information on subscribing, send request to the above address. Second-class postage paid at Springfield, Illinois.

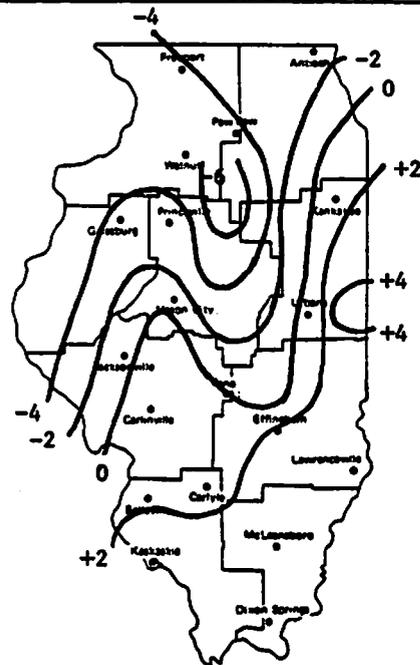
Postmaster: Send Address Change to Illinois Weather & Crops, P.O. Box 429, Springfield, IL 62705-0429

PRELIMINARY DISTRICT PRECIPITATION AVERAGES AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL IN INCHES

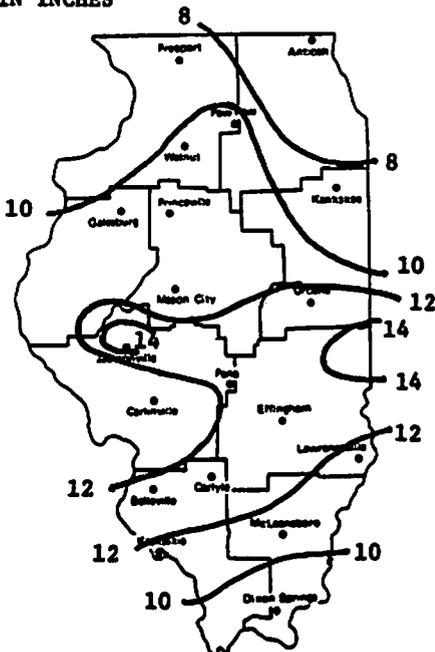
	NW	NE	W	C	E	WSW	ESE	SW	SE
November	6.61	7.66	8.92	8.34	9.17	8.96	11.15	10.00	10.07
Departure	4.52	5.50	6.98	6.01	6.83	6.43	7.99	6.67	6.58



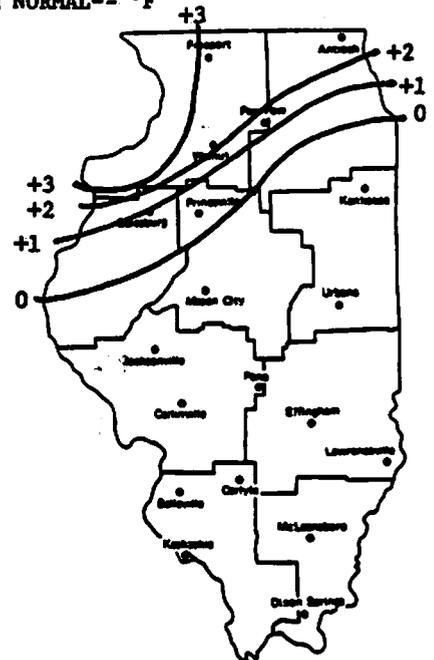
NOVEMBER PRECIPITATION--DEVIATIONS FROM NORMAL IN INCHES



NOVEMBER TEMPERATURE--DEVIATIONS FROM NORMAL-- °F



TOTAL PRECIPITATION--NOV.1-DEC.15 IN INCHES



NOVEMBER SNOWFALL IN INCHES