

# ILLINOIS WEATHER & CROPS

## ILLINOIS COOPERATIVE CROP REPORTING SERVICE

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## ILLINOIS STATE WATER SURVEY

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### CROPS

Virtually all of the CORN and SOYBEANS have been harvested, as the mild and dry weather has allowed fields to dry. There are only a few isolated fields remaining unharvested, mostly in the northern and southern quarters of the State. Grain quality in unharvested fields has declined and harvest losses have increased.

SOIL MOISTURE on January 17 was reported as 5% short, 78% adequate and 17% surplus.

WINTER WHEAT condition on January 17 was reported as 5% excellent, 59% good, 32% fair, and 4% poor. Early planted wheat generally is in the best condition while the late planted wheat is in poorer condition. Ice that had covered some fields in the northern one-half of the State may have damaged some wheat and the lack of snow cover is a major concern if extremely cold temperatures should occur.

LIVESTOCK is in generally good condition aided by the mild and dry weather. A few reports indicated some problems were caused by the wide range in temperatures. Some livestock are still in stalk fields because of the lack of a snow cover. Hay supplies are mostly adequate to surplus with only certain qualities in short supply.

There have been good conditions for grain movement because of the dry weather, although movement is slow in most areas because of high participation in the loan program.

### WEATHER

TEMPERATURES during the last 7 days have been between 5° and about 15° above normal. The greatest positive temperature differences from normal were found in the western and northwestern part of the State. Daily highs were in the high 30's and low 40's in the North, and the low 50's in the South, usually each day being somewhat warmer than the day before.

A small amount of PRECIPITATION was received over the southern quarter of Illinois on Friday and Saturday. Harrisburg received 0.7 inch and McLeansboro 0.67 inch. Most of Illinois was 0.3 to 0.6 inch below normal rainfall, except for the southeast corner. The precipitation over the southern third of Illinois was the first measurable precipitation in the area since the 19th or 20th of December. The remainder of Illinois has not received any precipitation since the 4th or 5th of January.

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

The OUTLOOK for January 21-26 is calling for partly cloudy skies and cool temperatures early. Shower activity will return again early in the weekend.

The 30-day OUTLOOK from January 15 thru February 15 is for temperatures to be near normal and precipitation to be above normal.

The 3-month OUTLOOK for January through March is for temperatures to be below normal and precipitation to be near normal.

### DECEMBER WEATHER SUMMARY

The Statewide average monthly TEMPERATURE was 9.5° below normal as temperatures ranged from 6° to 14° below normal. The Northwest District again recorded the largest below normal variation (14° below normal), while the Southwest District recorded the least below normal variation (5.7° below normal). Dubuque recorded the coldest December in history, while Chicago was the second coldest. Champaign and Cairo reported the third coldest December on record. A cool period which started during the last week of November continued throughout the month with only brief warm periods. There were three very cold periods during the month, and during each period the departures ran from 20° to 26° below normal. Minimum readings fell to as low as 14° below zero. The two warm periods (one during the second week and the other during the fourth week) sent the maximum readings into the 40's.

PRECIPITATION averaged slightly above normal in the State (0.33 of an inch above normal). The northern two-thirds of Illinois received above normal precipitation with the West-Southwest and the East-Southeast Districts receiving the most. The southern third was below normal. The largest above normal variation was again in the East-Southeast District (1.88 inches above normal). The largest below normal variation was in the Southeast District (1.84 inches below normal). The area around McHenry, in the Northeast District, had the greatest amount of rain with a monthly total of 6.32 inches. The area near Walnut, in the Northwest District, reported the least amount of rain with a monthly total of 0.99 of an inch. Precipitation occurred during every week in many sections. Decatur reported the greatest 6-hour rainfall total, with 1.22 inches on the 11th.

The northern sections received the greatest SNOWFALL, ranging from 2 to 17 inches. The remainder of the State received from 1 to 9 inches. The heaviest snow occurred on the 10th and 11th and again during the third week. Antioch, in the Northeast District received the greatest total snowfall (17.2 inches).

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

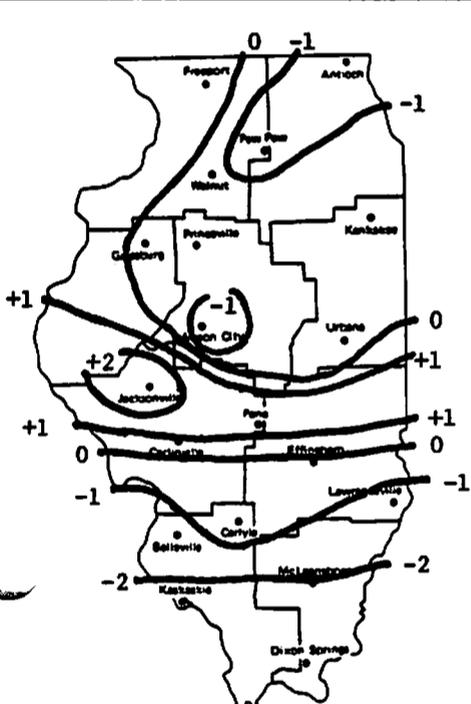
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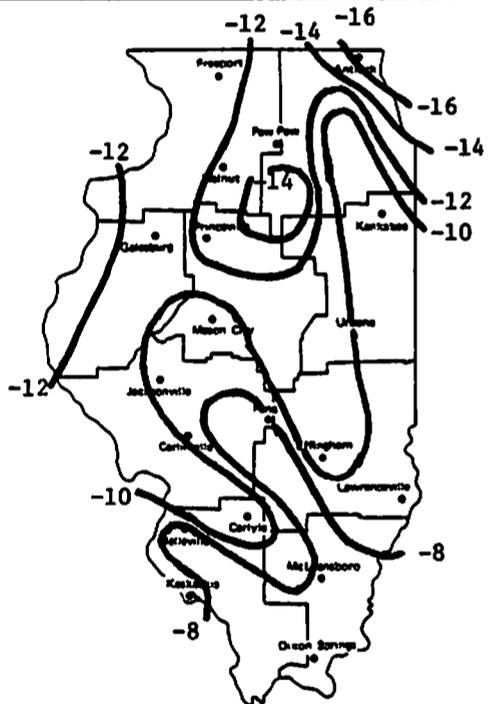
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**PRELIMINARY DISTRICT PRECIPITATION AVERAGES AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL IN INCHES**

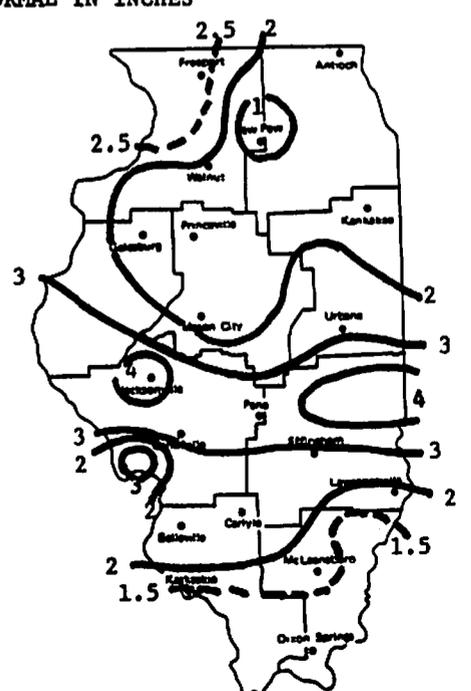
	NW	NE	W	C	E	WSW	ESE	SW	SE
December	1.93	2.49	2.55	2.51	2.40	3.81	4.57	1.94	1.47
Departure	0.17	0.56	0.77	0.44	0.31	1.79	1.88	-1.10	-1.84



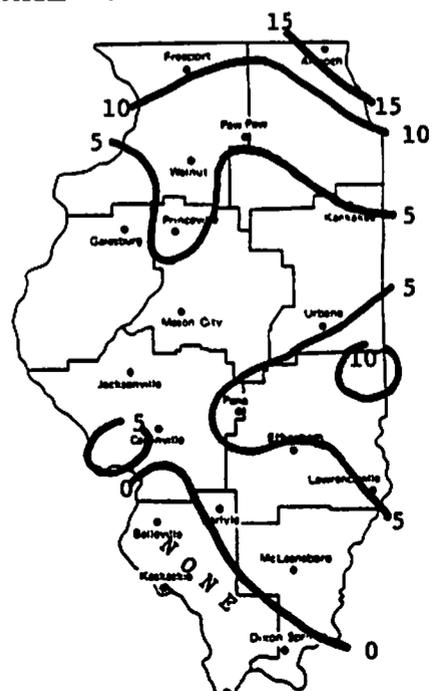
DECEMBER PRECIPITATION-DEVIATIONS FROM NORMAL IN INCHES



DECEMBER TEMPERATURE-DEVIATIONS FROM NORMAL- °F



TOTAL PRECIPITATION--DEC.1-JAN.15 INCHES



DECEMBER SNOWFALL IN INCHES