

November 24, 1986

CROPS

Another relatively good week for harvest allowed most farmers to complete their corn and soybean harvest and concentrate on fall tillage and fertilizing. Farmers in the west and northwestern areas continue to harvest under muddy conditions. There was an average of 4.5 days rated as suitable for fieldwork, with all areas active.

By November 23, 97% of the CORN acreage for grain was harvested, compared to 90% last year and the 5-year average (1981-85) of 95%.

About 99% of the SOYBEAN acreage was harvested, compared to 95% last year and the average of 97%.

SORGHUM harvest was 97% complete, compared to 91% last year and the average of 91%.

WINTER WHEAT seeding was 97% complete, compared to 98% last year and the average of 93%. Ninety-four percent of the acreage has emerged, compared to 89% last year and the average of 88%. Condition of the emerged crop on November 21 was reported as 8% excellent, 72% good, 17% fair and 3% poor.

PASTURE condition on November 21 was reported as 3% excellent, 58% good, 36% fair and 3% poor. Pastures were supplying about 45% of the livestock roughage requirements, compared to 48% last year and the average of 40%.

SOIL MOISTURE was reported as 71% adequate and 29% surplus.

WEATHER

The last seven days were warmer than the previous seven, but remained below normal. Illinois continued to be dry, except for the northern one-fourth of the State.

TEMPERATURES were 2 to 4° below normal over the State, except for a band from Freeport to Effingham, which was 6 to 8° below normal.

PRECIPITATION was less than 0.25" south of a line from Jerseyville to Kankakee. North of that line totals were generally 0.4 to 0.6" except for Freeport (0.79) and Belvidere (0.87).

Several inches of snow fell during the last seven days in the northern quarter of the State: Antioch, 3.5"; Freeport, 6.7"; Morrison, 3"; PawPaw, 3.4"; Belvidere, 2.4". One to two inches remain on the ground as of the 24th.

ILLINOIS CROP REPORTING DISTRICT SUMMARY

	NW	NE	W	C	E	WSW	ESE	SW	SE	STATE	5-YR. AVG.
	As of November 23										
Corn: % harvested	94	95	96	99	99	99	99	99	99	97	95
Soybeans: % harvested	98	98	96	99	99	99	99	98	99	99	97
Days suitable for fieldwork:	Week ending November 21										
Soil moisture %:	4.0	4.5	5.0	5.0	4.0	5.0	6.0	4.0	4.5	4.5	
Short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Adequate	60	75	70	55	90	45	80	75	80	71	
Surplus	40	25	30	45	10	55	20	25	20	29	

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.