

ILLINOIS WEATHER & CROPS

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CROPS

WINTER WHEAT condition on February 20 was reported as 4% excellent, 59% good, 36% fair and 1% poor. Weather conditions have been very mild through the winter with little or no winterkill damage expected. There were several reports indicating that heaving may have caused some plant damage.

SOIL MOISTURE on February 20 was reported as 9% surplus, 79% adequate, and 12% short.

LIVESTOCK condition across the State is mostly good. Livestock have generally experienced little or no weather related stress, as temperatures have been mild much of the winter. Some reports of muddy feedlots have been reported, mainly in the southern areas. Feed supplies are generally adequate.

WEATHER

These fifteen days of February in Illinois were above the long term average except for the 14th and 15th, when TEMPERATURES dropped to near average. For the fifteen days, however, average temperature was 10° greater than average in Central Illinois, i.e., from Galesburg to Effingham to Carlyle to La Harpe, and also north of a line from Rock Island to Rockford. Except for the northeast, west-central and southern counties where mean temperatures were only 3 to 5° greater than average, the remainder of the State was between 5 and 10° above average.

Total fifteen day PRECIPITATION was less than 0.25 inch over all of Illinois except the southeastern 20% of the State. Indeed, about one-fourth of the State (north-central, west-central and central areas) received no precipitation during the fifteen days. Only the area around Goreville received more than 1.00 inch. These amounts were about 0.75 inch less than average in the North and Central and 1.00 to 1.25 inches short in the southern one-third of Illinois.

The OUTLOOK for the rest of February is for temperatures and precipitation to be near normal.

The 90-DAY OUTLOOK from February through April is for temperatures and precipitation to be near normal.

JANUARY WEATHER SUMMARY

The Statewide average monthly TEMPERATURE was 3.1° above normal as temperatures ranged from 7° above normal to 3° below normal. Freeport, in the Northwest District, recorded the largest above normal variation (7° above normal), while Whitehall, in the Southwest District, recorded the largest below normal variation (-3° below normal). During the last half of the month, temperatures were once again above normal with maximum readings climbing into the 40's and 50's. A short-lived cold period, which started on the 21st and lasted through the 28th, sent minimum readings to as low as 10° below zero in Rockford. By the 29th, very warm air moved back into Southern Illinois sending maximum temperatures into the upper 60's.

PRECIPITATION averaged below normal in the State (-0.98 inches) as most of the districts were 0.50 to 2 inches below normal. However, the West Southwest District received normal precipitation. The largest below normal variation was in the Southeast District (-2.61 inches below normal), while the least below normal variation was in the East District (0.01 of an inch above normal). Carlinville, in the West-Southwest District, received the greatest monthly total precipitation (2.52 inches). Goreville, in the Southwest District, received the least monthly total with 0.36 of an inch. Illinois received light to moderate precipitation during each week except the third week, which was dry. Snowfall was very heavy during the month in the Central portion of Illinois. Both St. Louis and Springfield reported this to be the second snowiest January on record. The total snowfall in this section of the State was from 18 to 21 inches. The greatest amount was recorded at St. Louis on the 9th. Heavy snow also fell across this area on the 19th.

ILLINOIS CROP REPORTING DISTRICT SUMMARY

	NW	NE	W	C	E	WSW	ESE	SW	SE	STATE
As of February 20										
Soil Moisture Percent:										
Short :	35	20	10	10	10	5	0	5	10	12
Adequate :	65	80	90	80	90	90	85	80	55	79
Surplus :	0	0	0	10	0	5	15	15	35	9

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.

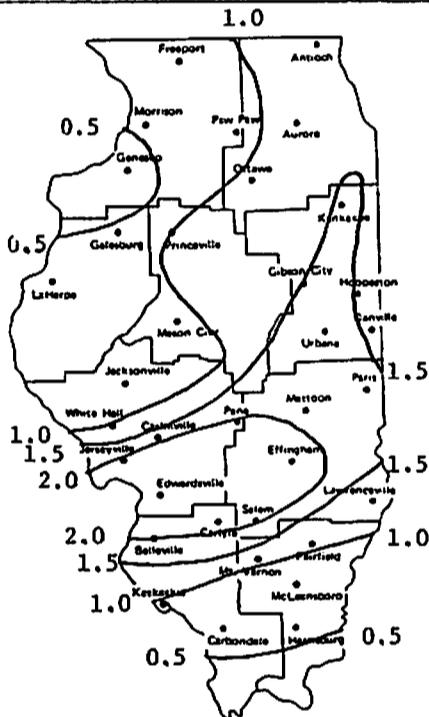
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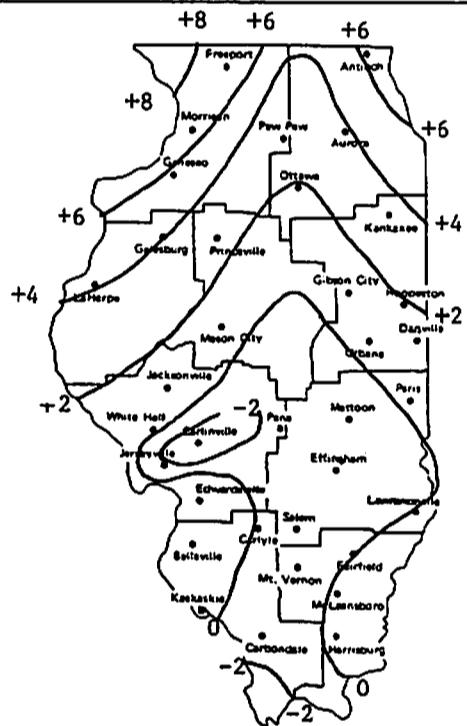
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PRELIMINARY DISTRICT PRECIPITATION AVERAGES AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL IN INCHES

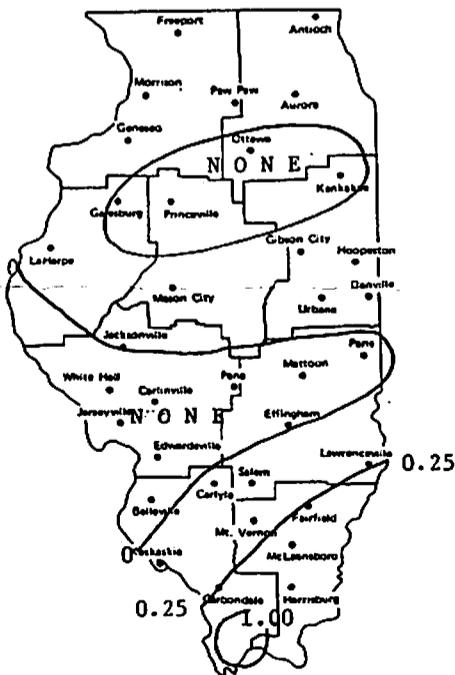
	NW	NE	W	C	E	WSW	ESE	SW	SE
January	0.81	1.38	1.26	1.28	1.53	1.91	1.65	0.74	0.76
Departure	-0.84	-0.42	-0.48	0.56	-0.32	-0.01	-0.89	-2.25	-2.61



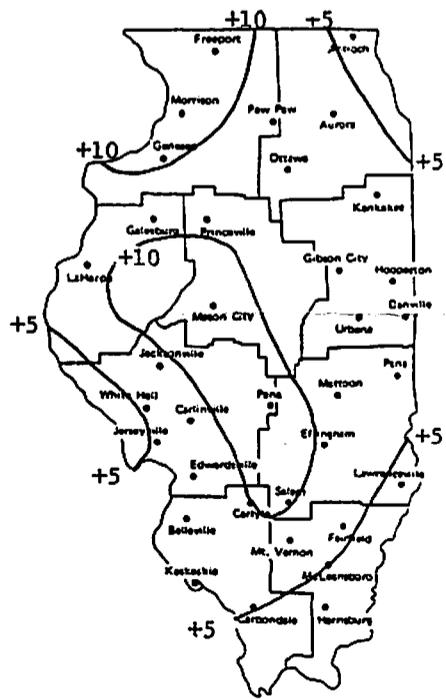
PRECIPITATION-JANUARY 1987
(INCHES)



TEMPERATURES-JANUARY 1987
DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL (°F)



TOTAL PRECIPITATION
FEBRUARY 1-15 (INCHES)



TEMPERATURE DEPARTURE
FROM NORMAL-FEBRUARY 1-15 (°F)