

ILLINOIS WEATHER & CROPS



**ILLINOIS
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ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**



**NATIONAL OCEANIC AND
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Another week of warm and dry weather allowed farmers to almost complete planting corn and continue planting soybeans and sorghum at a record pace. For the week of May 9-15, there was an average of 6.5 days reported as suitable for fieldwork, as all districts reported 6 or more days suitable. In the last three weeks, 18.75 of the 21 days have been suitable for fieldwork, which has allowed farmers to plant their crops ahead of last year's record pace and far ahead of the average. Only isolated rainfall was reported last week with very few areas receiving beneficial amounts.

CORN planting, as of May 17, was 97% complete, compared to 96% last year, and the 5-year average (1982-86) of 80%. Condition of the emerged crop on May 15 was reported to be 17% excellent, 66% good, and 17% fair.

SOYBEAN planting, as of May 17, was 70% complete, compared to 54% last year and the 5-year average (1982-86) of 36%. Dry soil conditions over much of the State may limit germination and emergence of the crop in some areas.

On May 17, 82% of the **WINTER WHEAT** acreage was heading, compared to 75% last year and the 5-year average (1982-86) of 42%. Ten percent of the acreage was filling, compared to 23% last year and the average of 9%. Condition of the crop on May 15 was reported as 12% excellent, 71% good, 16% fair, and 1% poor.

OATS condition on May 15 was reported as 15% excellent, 62% good, 18% fair and 5% poor.

SORGHUM planting on May 17 was 50% complete, compared to 34% last year and the average of 15%.

Cutting of the first crop of **ALFALFA HAY** was 25% complete on May 17, compared to 13% last year and the average of 8%. Condition of the crop on May 15 was reported as 9% excellent, 68% good, and 23% fair. Cutting of **CLOVER HAY** on May 17 was 10% complete compared to 9% last year and the average of 5%. Condition of the crop on May 15 was reported to be 6% excellent, 91% good, and 3% fair.

PASTURE condition on May 15 was reported to be 8% excellent, 65% good, 21% fair, and 6% poor.

SOIL MOISTURE on May 15 was reported as 84% short, 7% adequate, and 1% surplus.

WEATHER

TEMPERATURES were mostly between 4 and 8° above normal for the week ending Monday, May 18. Highs averaged in the low to mid-80's, and lows averaged mostly in the 50's. Extreme minimums fell to the mid or upper 30's in the far North, but the circumstances were not damaging. Stress was a bit more likely at the other end of the temperature spectrum, where extreme maximums reached the upper 80's to around 90° throughout the State.

PRECIPITATION: Events were concentrated in a rather narrow band across Central Illinois. Totals of 1 to 2 inches were reported in parts of East-Central Illinois, while outward from that focus, the totals dwindled to less than a tenth of an inch. Growth rates were high where moisture was adequate. Accumulation of Base 50 growing degree days averaged around 115 North to 135 Central and 160 South. Soil temperatures at a depth of 4 inches averaged between mid-60's North to mid-70's South.

OUTLOOK: More moisture is expected to benefit crops in the week ahead. Showers and thunderstorms will be most widespread over Northern Illinois today and Tuesday. Partly sunny and warm weather will dominate the South thru the middle of the week, followed by a better chance of thundershowers there Thursday or Friday. Scattered showers will continue on a daily basis in the North thru the end of the week. Low temperatures ranging thru the 50's to low 60's and highs from the 70's to low 80's will be typical for the week.

The outlook for May 24 thru May 28 is above normal temperatures with below normal precipitation.

The 90-day outlook from April thru June is for temperatures and precipitation to be near normal.

APRIL WEATHER SUMMARY

The Statewide average monthly **TEMPERATURE** was 1.6° above normal as temperatures ranged from 3° above normal to 4° below normal. The warmest portion of the State was again in the Northwest, while the coolest area was in a small area in the Northwest District near Paw Paw, and in the central and west sections. Morrison, in the Northwest District, recorded the largest above normal variation (3° above normal). Whitehall, in the West Southwest District, as well as several other stations in the southern districts, recorded the largest below normal variation (4° below normal). The first part of the month was below normal over much of the State, with maximum readings falling into the 40's and 50's. The next three weeks were above normal sending maximum temperatures to near the 90° mark. Another cold period occurred during the third week and continued to the end of the month.

PRECIPITATION averaged below normal in the State (-1.63 inches below normal). This was the sixth straight month that most of the districts were below normal. The Northern Districts were more than 1 inch below normal, while the Southern Districts were more than 2 inches below normal. The largest below normal variation was in the Southeast District (-2.89 inches below normal). The least below normal variation was in the Northeast District (0.90 of an inch below normal). Illinois again received most of its precipitation during the last half of the month. Lake Villa, in the Northeast District, was the only station in the State which received above normal rainfall (5.13 inches). McLeansboro, in the Southeast District, only received a total of .10 of an inch of rain during April.

ILLINOIS CROP REPORTING DISTRICT SUMMARY

	NW	NE	W	C	E	WSW	ESE	SW	SE	STATE	5-YR. AVG.
As of May 17											
Percent planted	98	90	98	99	100	98	98	90	90	97	80
Soybeans: Percent planted	82	55	68	80	90	70	75	55	50	70	36
Alfalfa Hay: % 1st crop cut	25	15	20	15	10	30	22	45	50	25	8
Week ending May 15											
Days suitable for fieldwork:	7.0	6.5	7.0	6.0	7.0	6.5	6.0	6.5	6.0	6.5	
Soil Moisture Percent:											
Short	100	45	100	100	100	60	80	75	100	84	
Adequate:	0	55	0	0	0	40	20	15	0	15	
Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	1	

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 the Illinois State Water Survey, IDE&NR, Champaign, Ill. and National Weather Service Cooperative Observers.

NEWSPAPER TIME VALUE

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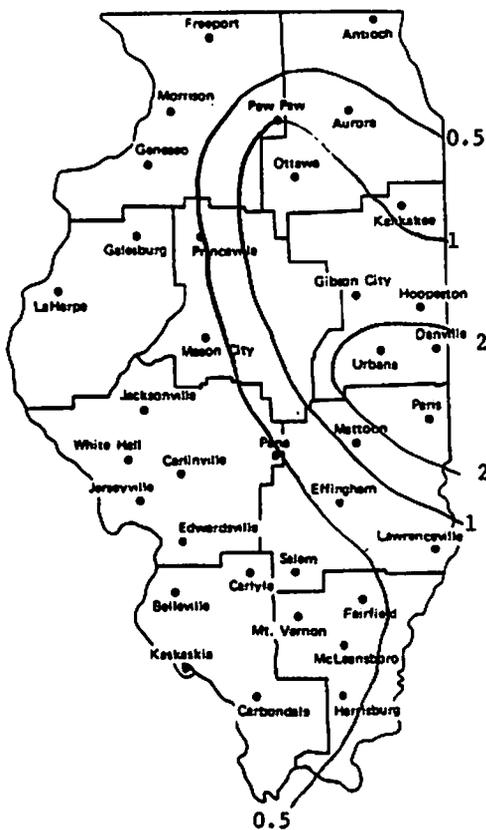
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PRELIMINARY DISTRICT PRECIPITATION AVERAGES AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL IN INCHES

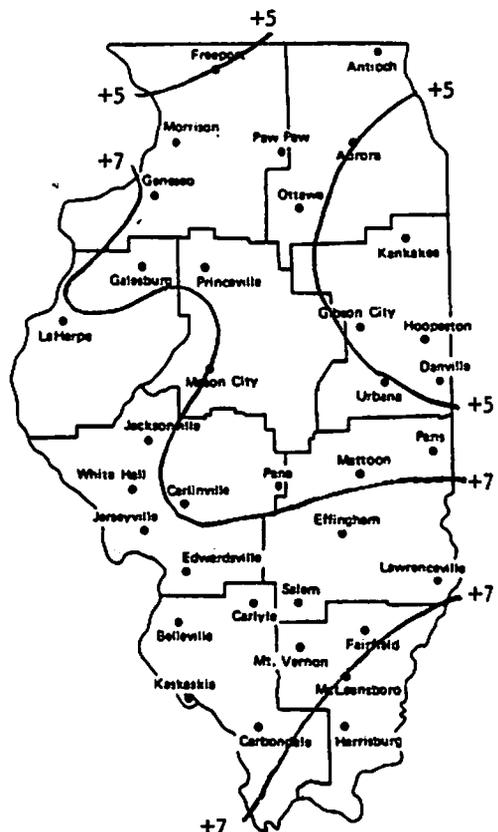
	NW	NE	W	C	E	WSW	ESE	SW	SE
April	1.61	2.62	1.91	2.02	2.64	2.65	2.74	2.16	1.46
Departure	-1.89	-0.90	-1.83	-1.81	-1.16	-1.10	-1.11	-2.01	-2.89

Week ending 8 A.M. Monday, May 18, 1987

Location	Temperatures			Precipitation			Growing Degree Days (50 deg)		
	Maxi- mum	Mini- mum	Depar- ture	Curr. : week	Since : May 1	Departure : since May 1	Curr. : week	Since : May 1	Departure : since May 1
Elizabeth	80	47	4	0.09	0.45	-1.96	119	245	64
Rockford	81	48	5	0.05	0.55	-1.71	117	247	81
Chicago	78	50	5	0.27	0.97	-0.92	113	232	70
Chi Botanical	75	49	1	0.56	1.80	-0.19	101	195	29
Elwood	81	50	6	1.34	1.54	+0.66	119	251	86
Watseka	81	48	3	0.96	0.96	-1.49	112	255	66
Peru	82	51	5	1.80	1.80	-0.52	125	261	62
Moline	83	53	7	0.03	0.26	-2.22	138	297	113
Peoria	83	55	8	0.27	0.27	-2.00	135	297	111
Kilbourne	86	54	7	0.12	0.14	-2.37	143	318	101
Monmouth	83	54	6	0.00	0.05	-2.18	134	292	89
Quincy	83	57	7	0.15	1.40	-1.14	143	309	106
Perry	82	49	2	0.72	1.42	-0.99	128	290	66
Springfield	83	55	5	0.44	0.51	-1.52	136	314	102
Decatur	83	55	5	0.51	0.58	-1.82	137	302	80
Urbana	82	54	5	2.05	2.05	-0.09	131	289	91
Windsor	81	57	5	0.40	0.45	-1.87	138	302	83
Terre Haute	81	56	6	2.03	2.10	-0.22	137	301	97
St Louis	84	63	NA	0.05	1.70	NA	166	364	NA
Belleville	85	58	7	0.05	1.05	-1.19	154	318	78
Brownstown	84	60	8	0.23	0.25	-2.27	156	330	102
Iuka	83	59	6	0.16	0.18	-2.06	150	316	78
Lawrenceville	84	57	NA	0.77	1.12	NA	147	322	NA
Vincennes	83	58	7	0.85	1.15	-1.31	148	315	90
Dixon Springs	84	59	4	0.75	1.33	-1.37	157	336	55
Paducah	86	62	7	0.00	0.06	-2.58	172	365	85
Olive Branch	84	62	7	0.21	0.24	-2.57	169	355	92
Carbondale	84	61	7	0.15	0.51	-1.98	162	344	87
C Girardeau	85	63	NA	0.16	0.20	NA	172	369	NA



PRECIPITATION (INCHES)
MAY 12-18, 1987



TEMPERATURE DEPARTURES FROM
AVERAGE (F) MAY 12-18, 1987