

ILLINOIS WEATHER & CROPS



**ILLINOIS
AGRICULTURAL
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**U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**



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CROPS

Dry weather conditions the past week improved field conditions across the State, thus allowing farmers to get some fieldwork done. Several farmers have seeded oats and a small portion have started planting corn. Frost on Wednesday evening contributed to some of the planting delay. There was an average of five and one-quarter days rated as suitable for fieldwork during the week of April 9-15. All areas reported 4 days or more as suitable. The Southeast and East-Southeast Districts reported some areas with surplus moisture. Farmers were also seeding government program acres, applying fertilizer, nitrogen, herbicide, and pesticide in a few areas (the Southwest District reported problems with alfalfa weevil), plowing, disking, chiseling, spreading manure, field cultivating, and caring for livestock.

CORN planting, as of April 17, was about 3% complete, compared to 2% last year, and the 5-year average (1983-87) of 2%. Most of the corn acreage that has been planted is in the central areas of the State.

Condition of **WINTER WHEAT** on April 15 was reported as 21% excellent, 72% good, and 7% fair. Most of the wheat acreage came through the winter in good condition and recent mild weather should further improve the crop.

OAT seeding as of April 17, was 70% complete, compared to 82% last year and the 5-year average of 55%. Most of this year's oat seedings are being planted as a cover crop on set-aside ground rather than for grain acres.

ALFALFA HAY condition on April 15 was reported as 12% excellent, 77% good, and 11% fair.

PASTURE condition, as of April 15, was rated as 13% excellent, 66% good, and 21% fair. Pastures were supplying about 41% of livestock roughage requirements, compared to 42% last year and the 5-year average of 34%.

SOIL MOISTURE on April 15 was reported as 12% short, 85% adequate, and 3% surplus.

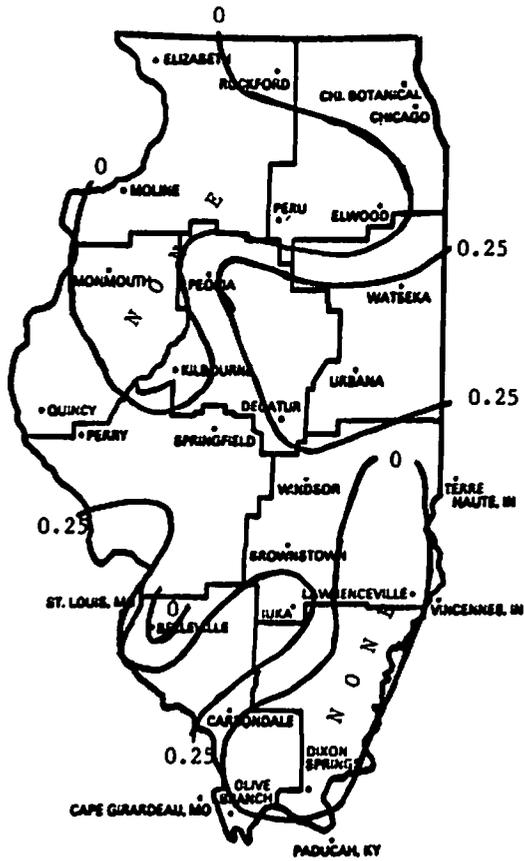
Freeze damage to the 1988 **APPLE** crop was reported as 69% none and 31% light.

Freeze damage to the 1988 **PEACH** crop was reported as 62% none, 34% light, and 4% moderate.

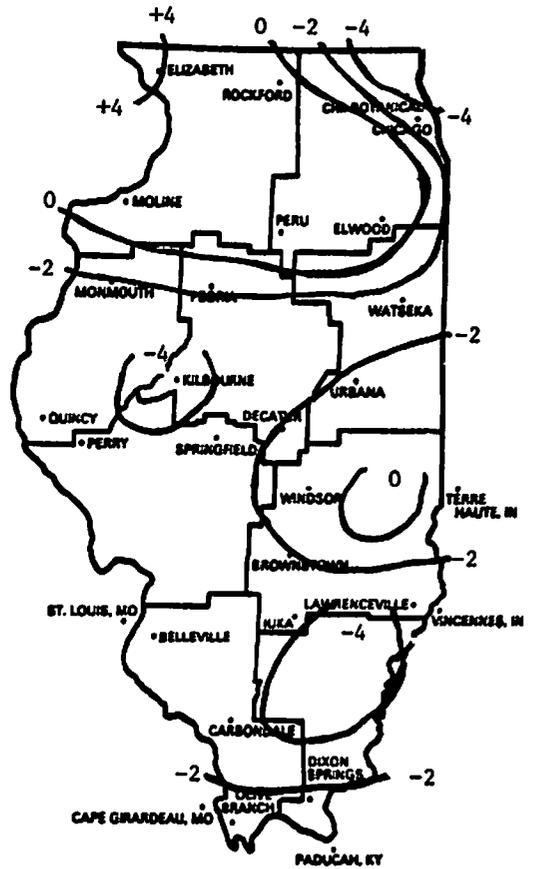
ILLINOIS DISTRICT SUMMARY

:	Days	:	Soil
District:	suitable for:	moisture percent	
:	fieldwork	:Short:	Adequate:Surplus

:	As of April 15				
NW	:	6.0	35	65	0
NE	:	4.5	0	100	0
W	:	6.0	30	70	0
C	:	5.5	30	70	0
E	:	4.5	0	100	0
WSW	:	5.0	0	100	0
ESE	:	4.0	0	90	10
SW	:	6.5	5	95	0
SE	:	4.0	0	90	10
State	:	5.25	12	85	3



PRECIPITATION (INCHES)
APRIL 12-18, 1988



TEMPERATURE DEPARTURES FROM
AVERAGE (°F) APRIL 12-18, 1988

WEATHER

A COLD FRONTAL PASSAGE EARLY THURSDAY WAS FOLLOWED BY MUCH COOLER WEATHER THEN MODERATING **TEMPERATURES** DURING THE WEEKEND. HIGH TEMPERATURES FOR THE PERIOD AVERAGED FROM AROUND 60 IN THE NORTH TO NEAR 70 IN THE SOUTH. THESE READINGS WERE 1 TO 3 DEGREES ABOVE NORMAL IN THE NORTH AND AROUND NORMAL IN THE CENTRAL AND SOUTH. AVERAGE LOWS RANGED FROM AROUND 30 IN THE NORTH TO THE MID-30'S IN THE CENTRAL AND THE MID-40'S IN THE SOUTH. LOWS AVERAGED 2 TO 8 DEGREES BELOW NORMAL FOR THE PERIOD. LOWEST READINGS ON FRIDAY AND SATURDAY WERE IN THE MID AND UPPER 20'S IN THE CENTRAL AND NORTH TO THE LOWER 30'S IN THE SOUTH. THIS LIKELY PRODUCED SOME INJURY TO FRUIT BUDS IN THE NORTH.

PRECIPITATION FOR THE WEEK WAS LIGHT AVERAGING FROM .25 INCH OR LESS IN THE NORTH AND CENTRAL TO .75 INCH IN THE SOUTH. THIS WAS AS MUCH AS .92 INCHES BELOW NORMAL IN THE NORTH AND CENTRAL.

AVERAGE SOIL TEMPERATURES AT THE 4-INCH DEPTH UNDER SOD WERE IN THE LOW 50'S IN THE NORTH TO LOW 60'S IN THE SOUTH. READINGS AT THE SAME DEPTH UNDER BARE SOIL WERE MOSTLY IN THE LOW TO MID-60'S.

THE EXTENDED OUTLOOK CALLS FOR DRY WEATHER IN THE NORTH AND A CHANCE OF SHOWERS IN THE SOUTH ON THURSDAY AND FRIDAY. HIGHS WILL BE IN THE 50'S AND 60'S AND LOWS IN THE 30'S TO 40'S.

Week ending 8 A.M. Monday, April 18, 1988

Location	Temperatures			Precipitation	Growing
	Maxi- mum	Mini- mum	Depar- ture	Current week	Degree Days
ELIZABETH	62	28	-3	0.00	46
ROCKFORD	59	32	-2	0.05	35
CHICAGO	60	36	0	0.10	39
CHI BOTANICAL	58	34	-3	0.17	31
ELWOOD	62	35	0	0.10	47
WATSEKA	62	33	-3	0.25	35
PERU	64	35	-1	0.00	52
MOLINE	65	36	0	0.01	56
PEORIA	60	35	-3	0.00	40
KILBOURNE	64	37	-2	0.22	47
MONMOUTH	64	35	-2	0.06	52
QUINCY	64	38	-1	0.09	53
PERRY	63	36	-4	0.00	42
SPRINGFIELD	61	37	-3	0.00	43
DECATUR	63	39	-2	0.39	51
URBANA	62	36	-2	0.00	41
WINDSOR	66	40	0	0.16	53
TERRE HAUTE	63	38	-2	0.02	49
ST LOUIS	67	43	NA	0.45	65
BELLEVILLE	67	39	-2	0.47	55
BROWNSTOWN	63	35	-5	0.00	42
IUKA	65	37	-4	0.41	56
LAWRENCEVILLE	66	38	NA	0.36	61
VINCENNES	63	38	-3	0.36	52
DIXON SPRINGS	70	44	-1	0.75	67
PADUCAH	69	44	-2	0.88	75
OLIVE BRANCH	70	43	0	0.72	66
CARBONDALE	69	38	-3	0.70	72
C GIRARDEAU	69	43	NA	0.69	70

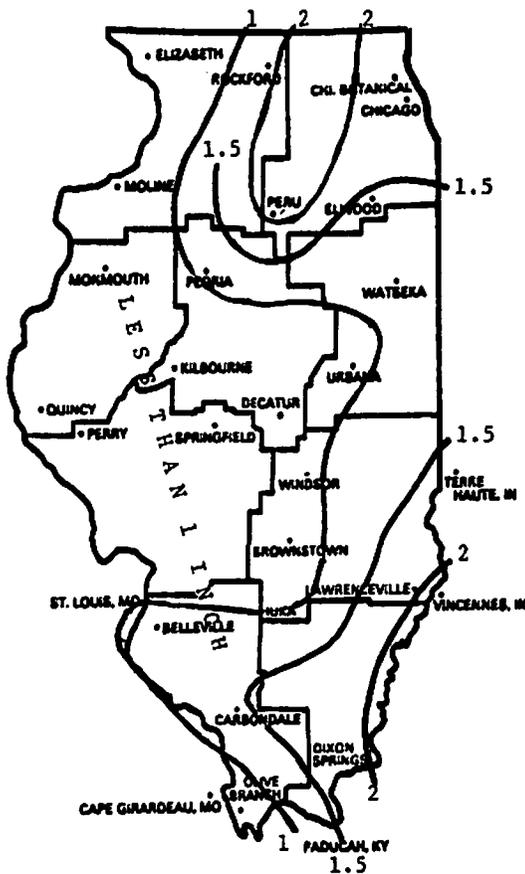
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PRECIPITATION (INCHES)
APRIL 1-15, 1988

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, NOAA, Rosemont, Ill.