

ILLINOIS WEATHER & CROPS



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CROPS

WINTER WHEAT condition on January 20 was reported as 4% excellent, 72% good, and 24% fair. Winter wheat conditions decreased slightly since last month despite the improved soil moisture supplies. Recent freezing and thawing may have caused some heaving but it is too early to assess the damage. This is a concern in the northern two-thirds of the State because there is no snow cover, and soil moisture supplies are still short over most of the State. The Northeast and Northwest Districts also reported some possible ice damage. On the other end of the State, saturated soils may be a potential problem. Some areas show evidence of herbicide carry-over damage.

SOIL MOISTURE on January 20 was reported as 59% short, 37% adequate, and 4% surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies continue to be a concern as wells and other water sources aren't getting enough water to be replenished.

LIVESTOCK condition across the State is mostly good to excellent. The generally mild weather conditions have been good for feeding and marketing. The mild conditions also cut down feed consumption, and bedding needs while increasing gains. Only a few reporters noted any problems with muddy lots. Livestock sickness hasn't been significant. Only respiratory problems continue to be a minor problem due to fluctuating temperatures. Hay supplies are mostly adequate to short over the State. There is plenty of lower quality hay which was cut mostly from government program acres. Water shortages continue to be a concern for livestock producers. Feed supplies across the State are adequate, but grain quality is lower than normal in the northern two-thirds of the State.

GRAIN movement is good over the State. The weather conditions have allowed farmers easy grain transport and a minimum number of roads to be posted. Alfatoxin continues to be a concern in the northern two-thirds of the State.

ILLINOIS DISTRICT SUMMARY

District	Winter Wheat			Hay			Soil		
	Condition			Supply			Moisture Percent		
	Exc.:	Good:	Fair:Poor	Short:	Adq.:	Surplus	Short:	Adq.:	Surplus

	Week ending January 20									
Northwest	--	45	55	--	35	65	--	100	--	--
Northeast	--	85	10	5	70	30	--	85	15	--
West	--	60	40	--	15	80	5	95	5	--
Central	5	70	25	--	15	85	--	85	15	--
East	10	65	25	--	20	70	10	50	50	--
W Southwest:	--	95	5	--	15	85	--	65	35	--
E Southeast:	--	60	40	--	20	80	--	45	55	--
Southwest	10	65	25	--	15	80	5	5	70	25
Southeast	--	85	15	--	50	50	--	--	85	15

State	4	72	24	--	27	71	2	59	37	4
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PRELIMINARY DISTRICT PRECIPITATION AVGS. AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL IN INCHES

	NW	NE	W	C	E	WSW	ESE	SW	SE	STATE
December	1.70	1.88	1.66	2.55	2.71	3.09	2.55	2.34	2.68	2.35
Departure	-0.14	-0.14	-0.26	0.42	0.51	0.91	-0.23	-0.72	-0.63	-0.03

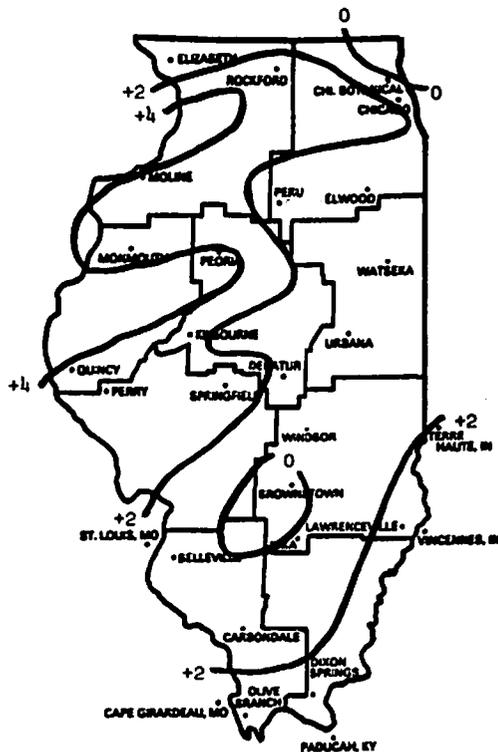
DECEMBER WEATHER SUMMARY

Illinois recorded slightly above normal temperatures and near normal precipitation. Illinois average monthly TEMPERATURE was 1.5 degrees above normal as temperatures ranged from 1 to 3 degrees above normal. The warmest portion of the State was in the Northwest and West-Southwest sections. The month started with above normal temperatures, with maximum readings in the 40's and 50's. During the second week a cool period brought minimum temperatures down near the zero degree mark. A warm trend again developed sending maximum readings to their highest mark in December by the 4th week (into the 50's in the North and 60's in the South). In the last week, a cold air mass entered the State with minimum temperatures again near the zero degree mark.

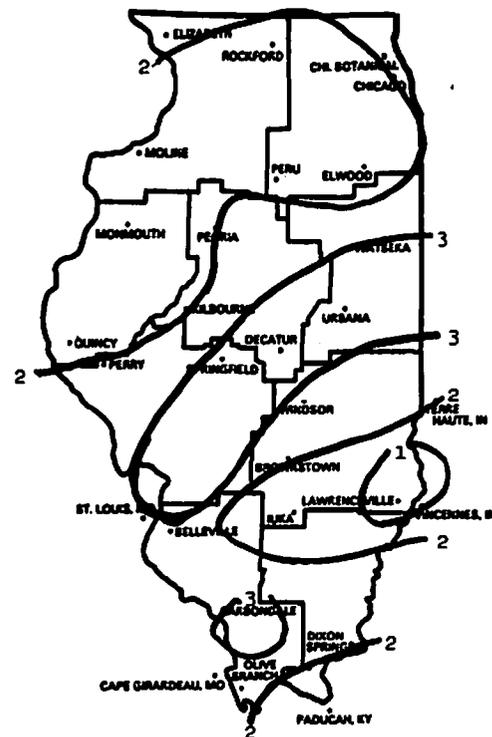
PRECIPITATION averaged near normal in the State (-0.03 of an inch below normal). The northern third of the State was slightly below normal, while the mid portions were slightly above normal. The southern third of Illinois received below normal amounts. The largest above normal variation was in the West-Southwest District (0.91 of an inch above normal). The largest below normal variation was in the Southwest District (-0.72 of an inch below normal). Most of the precipitation fell during the second half of the month. Several stations, especially in the South, recorded more than 2 inches of precipitation during a 24-hour period. Snowfall during the month, was average. Several areas in the North and Northwest received 11 to 13 inches. The remaining areas reported 2 to 6 inches. The heaviest snow fell during the last week.

The OUTLOOK for January 15th through February 15th is for temperatures and precipitation to be near normal.

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



TEMPERATURE DEVIATION FROM AVERAGE (°F) DECEMBER 1988



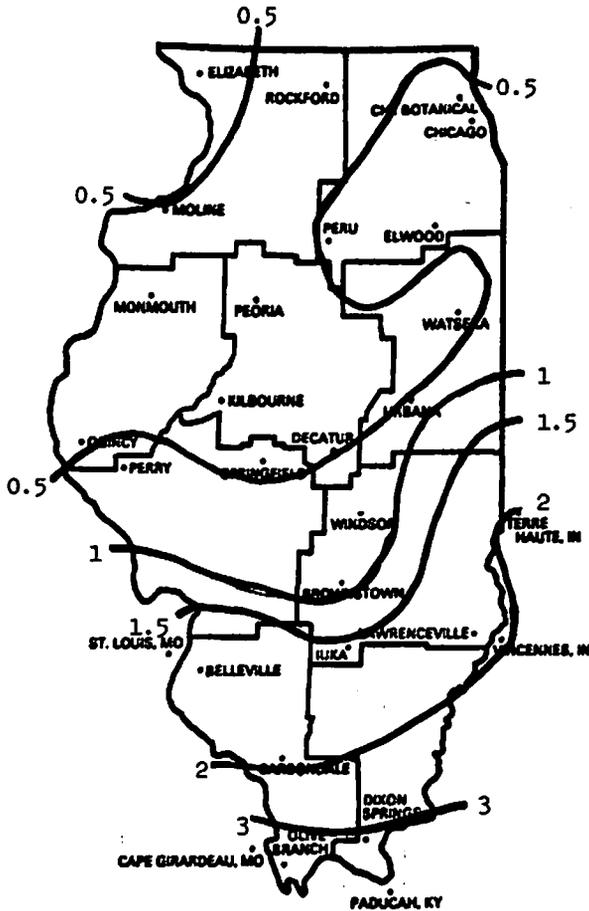
PRECIPITATION (INCHES) DECEMBER 1988

WEATHER SUMMARY, JANUARY 1-15, 1989

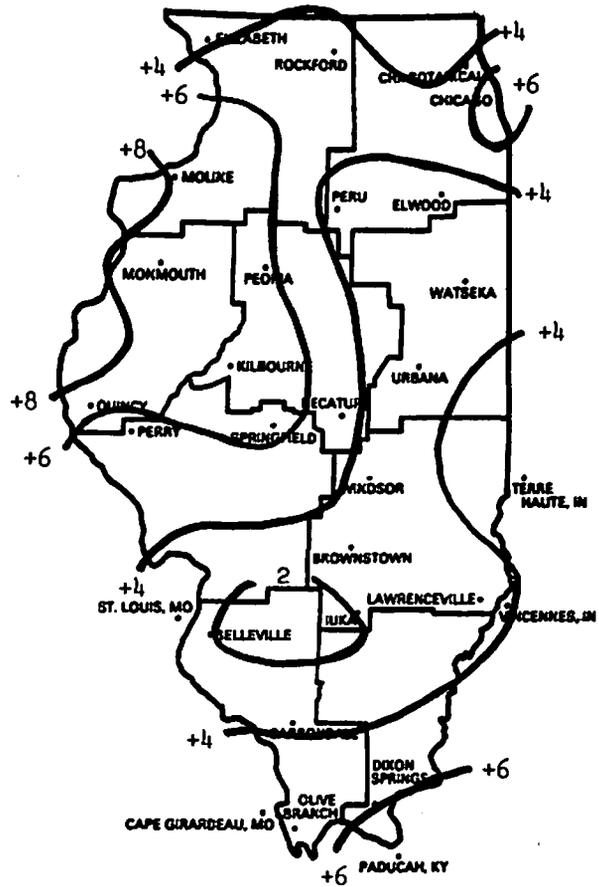
A SUMMARY OF THE FIRST FIFTEEN DAYS OF JANUARY 1989 REVEALS A WIDE RANGE IN TEMPERATURES WITH AVERAGES TURNING OUT ABOVE NORMAL. PRECIPITATION LAGGED BEHIND NORMAL OVER THE NORTHERN HALF OF THE STATE, BUT ABOVE NORMAL TOTALS KEPT SOIL MOISTURE SUPPLIES FED IN THE SOUTH. ALTHOUGH SOME SNOW COVER WAS CARRIED INTO JANUARY, NEARLY ALL OF THE PRECIPITATION THAT HAS OCCURRED DURING THE MONTH HAS BEEN IN THE FORM OF RAIN.

THE WATER EQUIVALENT PRECIPITATION TOTALS FOR THE TWO WEEK PERIOD RANGE MOSTLY BETWEEN A THIRD AND TWO-THIRDS OF AN INCH OVER THE NORTHERN HALF OF THE STATE. IN THE SOUTH, TOTALS BETWEEN ONE AND TWO INCHES WERE COMMON AND THE EXTREME SOUTH HAD MORE THAN THREE INCHES.

TEMPERATURES CLIMBED STEADILY DURING THE FIRST WEEK CULMINATING IN HIGHS OF 50'S AND 60'S ACROSS THE STATE. READINGS THEN DROPPED SHARPLY WITH ARRIVAL OF A SEASONAL COLD FRONT REACHING LOWS IN THE SINGLE DIGITS AND TEENS. THE PERIOD'S HIGHEST AND LOWEST READINGS THUS OCCURRED WITHIN A 24 HOUR PERIOD.



PRECIPITATION (INCHES)
JANUARY 1-15, 1989



TEMPERATURE DEVIATION FROM
AVERAGE (°F) JANUARY 1-15, 1989

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1988 ILLINOIS PRECIPITATION SUMMARY

1988 was one of the driest years in history. Rainfall during the growing season was very light resulting in drought conditions in many areas. Urbana, in the Eastern section, received the least amount of precipitation in history during the first six months of 1988. Other sections in the Central and Northern areas reported similar severe conditions.

Station	PRECIPITATION		Yearly	
	: Growing Season (April-Sept.)	:	: Total	: Departure
	: Total	: Departure	: Total	: Departure
Dubuque, IA	: 12.30	-13.35	22.57	-16.02
Moline	: 13.49	-11.39	25.75	-11.42
Rockford	: 11.54	-12.93	24.78	-12.00
Chicago	: 14.14	- 7.26	33.36	0.02
Urbana	: 11.82	-11.06	27.43	- 9.93
Galesburg	: 12.30	-10.58	24.45	-13.19
Peoria	: 9.13	-13.41	22.16	-12.73
Springfield	: 9.79	-11.01	25.31	- 8.47
St. Louis, MO	: 11.88	- 7.82	33.93	0.02
Paducah, KY	: 13.30	-10.77	42.97	- 3.92
Evansville, IN	: 14.75	- 6.94	38.43	- 3.27
Cairo	: 27.93	3.55	50.92	6.02

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.