

ILLINOIS WEATHER & CROPS



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CROPS

Corn planting is underway, helped by warmer and drier weather conditions this past week over most of the State. Corn planting is behind the 5-year average due to cool soil temperatures, wet field conditions, or both, over most areas of the State. Last week farmers were also applying chemicals, seeding oats and set-aside acres, plowing, discing, chiseling, repairing machinery, planting some vegetables, and tending to livestock. Fruit trees are reported to be in good condition and are budding. Reporters in the Southern third of the State have reported a problem with alfalfa weevil, so operators are busy spraying fields for them. For the week of April 15-21, there was an average of four and one-half days suitable for fieldwork. Only the East-Southeast District reported less than four days as suitable. All Districts, except the East-Southeast, Southwest, and Southeast, reported significant shortages of soil moisture. There is still concern about subsoil moisture reserves and wells going dry.

CORN planting, as of April 23, was 6% complete, compared to 20% last year and the 5-year average (1984-88) of 12%. Most of the corn acreage planted is in the Central and West-Southwest Districts.

Condition of WINTER WHEAT on April 21 was reported as 15% excellent, 72% good, and 13% fair. Regrowth has been slowed by cool temperatures, but the condition of the crop continues to improve.

OAT seeding, as of April 23, was 85% complete, compared to 88% last year and the average of 78%. Most of this year's oat seedings are being planted on set-aside ground rather than for grain acres.

ALFALFA HAY conditions on April 21 was reported as 1% excellent, 61% good, 37% fair, and 1% poor.

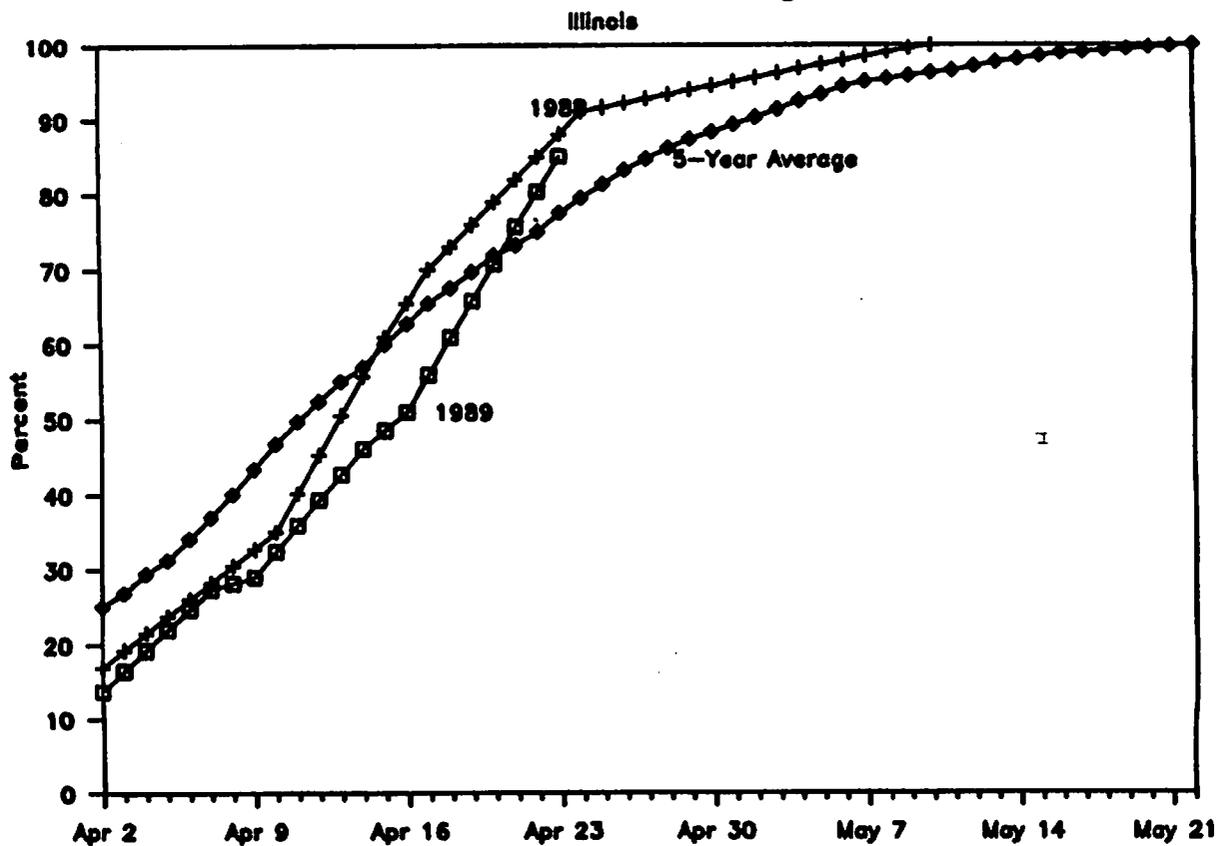
PASTURE condition, as of April 21, was rated 1% excellent, 52% good, 43% fair, and 4% poor. On April 23, pastures were supplying about 49% of the livestock roughage requirements, compared to 51% last year and the average of 48%.

SOIL MOISTURE on April 21 was reported as 50% short, 45% adequate, and 5% surplus.

ILLINOIS DISTRICT SUMMARY

District	Days Suitable For Fieldwork	Soil Moisture Percent		
		Short	Adequate	Surplus
As of April 21				
Northwest	6.0	100	0	0
Northeast	6.0	90	10	0
West	5.5	95	5	0
Central	5.0	70	30	0
East	4.0	45	50	5
W Southwest	5.0	50	50	0
E Southeast	1.5	0	95	5
Southwest	5.5	0	75	25
Southeast	4.0	0	85	15
State	4.5	50	45	5

Oats – Percent of Acreage Seeded



WEATHER

A WEAK FRONTAL SYSTEM LINGERED ACROSS THE STATE OF ILLINOIS FOR MUCH OF THE PERIOD. DAILY HIGH TEMPERATURES AVERAGED FROM THE LOW TO MID 60'S NORTH TO THE UPPER 60'S TO UPPER 70'S SOUTH. THESE READINGS WERE MOSTLY NEAR NORMAL ACROSS THE STATE, EXCEPT FOR 2 TO 5 DEGREES ABOVE NORMAL IN THE FAR SOUTH. LOWS AVERAGED MOSTLY FROM THE UPPER 30'S TO LOW 40'S NORTH TO THE MID TO UPPER 40'S SOUTH. THIS WAS 1 TO 5 DEGREES BELOW NORMAL OVER THE EAST, BUT NEAR NORMAL OVER THE WEST. COLDEST READINGS FOR THE PERIOD WERE AROUND 30 IN THE CENTRAL AND NORTH.

GREATEST PRECIPITATION AMOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD WERE REPORTED IN THE WEST CENTRAL AND NORTHWEST WHERE 1.00 TO 2.40 INCHES FELL IN SOME AREAS. ELSEWHERE, AMOUNTS OF 0.15 TO 0.60 INCH WERE COMMON ACROSS THE STATE. THIS WAS MOSTLY 0.25 TO 0.80 INCH BELOW NORMAL ACROSS THE STATE, EXCEPT FOR AROUND 1.00 INCH ABOVE IN THE WEST CENTRAL AND NORTHWEST. SHOWERS MAY DEVELOP ACROSS THE SOUTH ON THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, WHILE THE NORTH IS DRY. HIGHS WILL BE IN THE 60'S AND 70'S NORTH TO THE 70'S AND 80'S SOUTH.

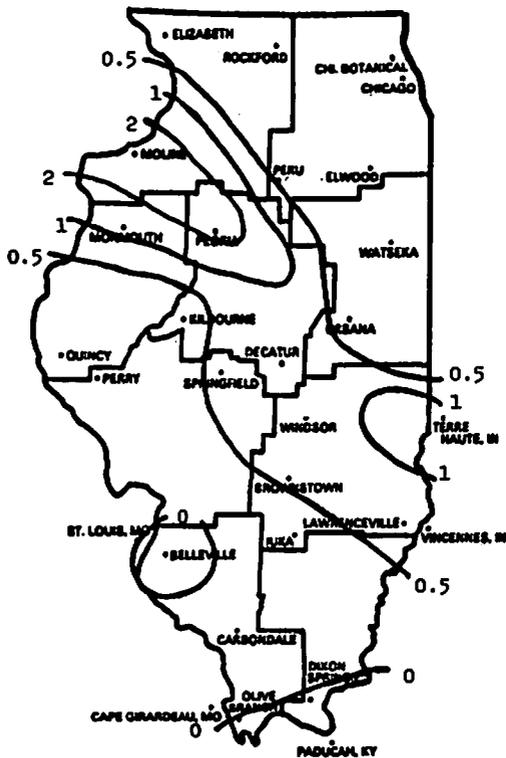
Week ending 8 A.M. Monday, April 24, 1989

Location	: Temperatures : Precipitation : Growing				
	: Maxi-: Mini-: :Depar-: : Current : : Degree				
	: mm : mm : ture : week : : Days				
ELIZABETH	62	38	0	0.38	47
ROCKFORD	62	38	0	0.21	47
CHICAGO	59	38	-1	0.18	37
CHI BOTANICAL	56	37	-5	0.18	29
ELWOOD	64	38	0	0.30	55
WATSEKA	65	39	-1	0.20	56
PERU	64	41	0	0.22	55
MOLINE	65	43	1	2.44	58
PEORIA	66	42	0	1.99	61
KILBOURNE	66	42	-1	0.13	63
MONMOUTH	64	43	0	1.47	53
QUINCY	69	47	3	0.16	80
PERRY	68	46	1	0.26	76
SPRINGFIELD	66	45	0	0.61	67
URBANA	66	41	0	0.34	62
WINDSOR	67	44	0	0.69	70
TERRE HAUTE	66	42	0	1.12	62
ST LOUIS	72	53	NA	0.02	99
BELLEVILLE	70	46	0	0.05	82
BROWNSTOWN	69	43	0	0.50	76
IUKA	68	40	-2	0.19	69
LAWRENCEVILLE	70	41	NA	0.79	75
VINCENNES	68	43	0	0.93	69
DIXON SPRINGS	75	49	1	0.00	105
PADUCAH	77	49	2	0.06	111
OLIVE BRANCH	76	48	2	0.00	103
CARBONDALE	75	45	1	0.01	101
C GIRARDEAU	78	47	NA	0.08	111

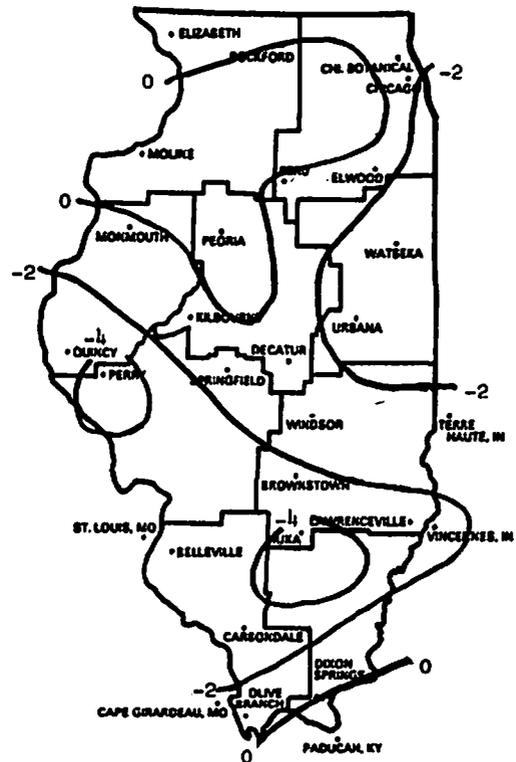
NEWSPAPER TIME VALUE

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PRECIPITATION (INCHES)
APRIL 18-24, 1989



TEMPERATURE DEPARTURES FROM
AVERAGE (°F) APRIL 18-24, 1989

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.