

ILLINOIS WEATHER & CROPS



**ILLINOIS
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE**

P.O. Box 19283, Springfield, IL 62794-9283
Phone: (217)492-4295

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

RELEASED: April 16, 1990, 3 P.M., CDT
VOL. 11, NO. 05

CROPS

Spring field activity was again limited last week as cool temperatures and abundant soil moisture supplies were common across much of the State. Isolated cases of corn planting were reported, with many farmers awaiting warmer soil temperatures and better field conditions before attempting to plant corn. Oat seeding has passed the halfway mark and should progress rapidly in the next two weeks. Other farm activities last week were fertilizer application, spreading manure, spring tillage work, and field equipment preparation. Muddy feedlots and pastures were reported, especially in the Southern half of the State where surplus moisture supplies existed last week. For the week of April 14-20, there was an average of two and three-quarter days suitable for fieldwork.

CORN planting, as of April 15, had just begun compared to 1% for both last year and the 5-year average. Cool soil temperatures and damp soil has prevented any widespread progress.

WINTER WHEAT condition, as of April 13, was reported as 6% excellent, 71% good, 21% fair, and 2% poor.

OAT seeding, as of April 15, was 51% complete compared to 49% last year and the average of 65%.

ALFALFA HAY conditions, as of April 13, was reported as 65% good, 33% fair, and 2% poor. Some freeze damage has been reported on newly seeded alfalfa.

PASTURE condition as of April 13, was reported as 2% excellent, 67% good, 30% fair, and 1% poor. By April 13, pastures were supplying 32% of the livestock roughage requirements, compared to 24% last year and the average of 35%.

SOIL MOISTURE, on April 13, was reported as 17% short, 63% adequate, and 20% surplus.

FREEZE DAMAGE to the 1990 apple crop was reported as 26% with no damage, 47% light, 23% moderate, and 4% severe. The moderate to severe damage was reported in the West, Central, East Southeast, Southwest, and Southeast Districts and occurred toward the end of March and early April.

FREEZE DAMAGE to the 1990 peach crop was reported as 10% with no damage, 27% light, 11% moderate, and 52% severe. Severe damage was reported in the Southern half of the State and occurred during the same period as reported for apples in addition to the cold snap in December.

ILLINOIS DISTRICT SUMMARY

District	Days Suitable For Fieldwork	Soil Moisture Percent		
		Short	Adequate	Surplus
----- Week ending April 13 -----				
Northwest	4.0	35	65	0
Northeast	3.0	0	100	0
West	4.5	65	35	0
Central	4.0	35	65	0
East	1.5	0	95	5
W Southwest	3.0	15	60	25
E Southeast	2.5	5	70	25
Southwest	2.0	0	55	45
Southeast	1.0	0	15	85

State	2.75	17	63	20

PRELIMINARY DISTRICT PRECIPITATION AVGS. AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL IN INCHES

	NW	NE	W	C	E	WSW	ESE	SW	SE	STATE
March	3.65	2.87	3.68	2.51	3.13	2.42	2.09	2.99	2.72	2.90
Departure	2.41	1.46	2.23	0.92	1.40	0.56	-0.14	0.25	-0.15	0.99

MARCH WEATHER SUMMARY

DURING MARCH, ILLINOIS HAD RECORDED ABOVE NORMAL TEMPERATURES FOR THE THIRD CONSECUTIVE MONTH. PRECIPITATION WAS ABOVE NORMAL FOR THE SECOND STRAIGHT MONTH.

A WARM PERIOD WHICH STARTED IN JANUARY CONTINUED WITH THE AVERAGE MONTHLY TEMPERATURE BEING 6 DEGREES ABOVE NORMAL. MANY STATIONS SET NEW HIGHS AT MID-MONTH AS MAXIMUM READINGS CLIMBED INTO THE 70'S AND 80'S. ST. LOUIS (NEAR THE WEST-SOUTHWEST DISTRICT) HAD RECORDED THE HIGHEST MAXIMUM READING OF 84 DEGREES ON THE 13TH. FOR THE SECOND MONTH IN A ROW ELIZABETH (IN THE NORTHWEST DISTRICT) RECORDED THE LOWEST TEMPERATURE, 10 DEGREES ON THE 1ST.

THE AVERAGE PRECIPITATION FOR THE STATE WAS .99 OF AN INCH ABOVE NORMAL. THE NORTHWEST DISTRICT HAD RECORDED THE GREATEST ABOVE NORMAL AMOUNT OF PRECIPITATION WITH 2.41 INCHES. THE SOUTHEAST DISTRICT WAS SLIGHTLY BELOW NORMAL. MOLINE (WHICH IS IN THE NORTHWEST DISTRICT) RECORDED THE GREATEST PRECIPITATION TOTAL WITH 6.68 INCHES. MORE THAN 2 INCHES OF RAIN FELL DURING A 24-HOUR PERIOD ON THE 10TH AND 11TH.

THE RIVERS AND CREEKS IN THE STATE ROSE TO NEAR OR ABOVE FLOOD STAGE CAUSING AGRICULTURE FLOODING. SOME PROPERTY DAMAGE HAD OCCURRED ON THE VERMILION RIVER.

THE HEAVIEST SNOWFALL FELL ACROSS THE SOUTH-CENTRAL SECTIONS ON THE 19TH. AMOUNTS WERE FROM 4 TO 8 INCHES.

THE OUTLOOK FOR THE REMAINDER OF APRIL IS FOR TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION TO BE NEAR NORMAL.

THE 90-DAY OUTLOOK FOR ILLINOIS FOR APRIL THROUGH JUNE IS FOR TEMPERATURES TO BE ABOVE NORMAL AND PRECIPITATION TO BE ABOVE NORMAL IN THE NORTH.

WEATHER

WEATHER CONDITIONS FOR THE SEVEN DAY PERIOD WERE MORE LIKE MARCH THAN APRIL ACROSS THE STATE OF ILLINOIS. SURGES OF COLD ARCTIC AIR SWEEP ACROSS THE STATE WHICH LIMITED DAILY HIGH TEMPERATURES TO AROUND 50 NORTH, TO THE MID 50'S TO AROUND 60 SOUTH. THESE READINGS WERE MOSTLY 7 TO 12 DEGREES BELOW NORMAL ACROSS THE STATE. LOWS AVERAGED FROM THE LOW TO MID 30'S NORTH TO THE MID AND UPPER 30'S SOUTH. THIS WAS MOSTLY 3 TO 8 DEGREES BELOW NORMAL ACROSS ILLINOIS.

COLDEST READINGS IN THE LOW TO MID 20'S ACROSS MUCH OF THE STATE CAUSED DAMAGE TO APPLE AND CHERRY TREES ESPECIALLY IN THE SOUTH.

PRECIPITATION WATER EQUIVALENT FOR THE SEVEN DAY PERIOD AVERAGED FROM 0.50 TO 1.25 INCHES NORTH AND WEST CENTRAL TO 1.50 TO AROUND 2.00 INCHES SOUTH AND EAST CENTRAL. THIS WAS OVER 0.50 INCH ABOVE NORMAL ACROSS MUCH OF THE SOUTH.

SOIL TEMPERATURES AT THE 4-INCH DEPTH UNDER BARE SOIL AVERAGED IN THE LOW TO MID 40'S NORTH TO THE UPPER 40'S SOUTH.

THE EXTENDED FORECAST INDICATES A CHANCE OF SHOWERS THURSDAY AND FRIDAY. HIGH'S IN THE 50'S AND 60'S ON WEDNESDAY WILL INCREASE INTO THE 60'S AND 70'S BY FRIDAY. FROST MAY OCCUR IN SOME AREAS WEDNESDAY WITH LOWS IN THE 30'S NORTH BUT THE 40'S SOUTH.

Week ending 8 A.M. Monday, April 16, 1990

Location	Temperatures			Precipitation Current week	Growing Degree Days
	Maxi- mum	Mini- mum	Deper- ture		
ELIZABETH	51	29	-7	0.75	13
ROCKFORD	50	32	-5	1.12	11
CHICAGO	50	35	-5	0.79	13
CHI BOTANICAL	49	33	-7	1.02	14
ELWOOD	50	32	-6	0.48	12
WATSEKA	51	33	-7	1.38	13
PERU	50	34	-7	0.74	13
MOLINE	50	35	-6	1.21	11
PEORIA	51	35	-7	0.86	14
KILBOURNE	52	36	-8	0.51	5
MONMOUTH	49	33	-9	1.22	10
QUINCY	51	38	-6	1.13	13
PERRY	52	33	-10	0.92	15
SPRINGFIELD	52	38	-7	0.63	15
URBANA	50	36	-8	1.51	9
WINDSOR	53	35	-9	1.49	17
TERRE HAUTE	54	33	-8	2.33	20
ST LOUIS	55	41	NA	1.78	25
BELLEVILLE	55	34	-10	1.68	21
BROWNSTOWN	53	35	-9	1.73	19
IUKA	54	34	-9	1.68	21
LAWRENCEVILLE	54	31	NA	1.80	18
VINCENNES	55	36	-7	2.08	24
DIXON SPRINGS	59	39	-8	2.55	38
PADUCAH	60	39	-8	1.66	42
OLIVE BRANCH	57	39	-8	0.06	38
CARBONDALE	56	36	-10	1.94	27
C GIRARDEAU	58	43	NA	2.11	36

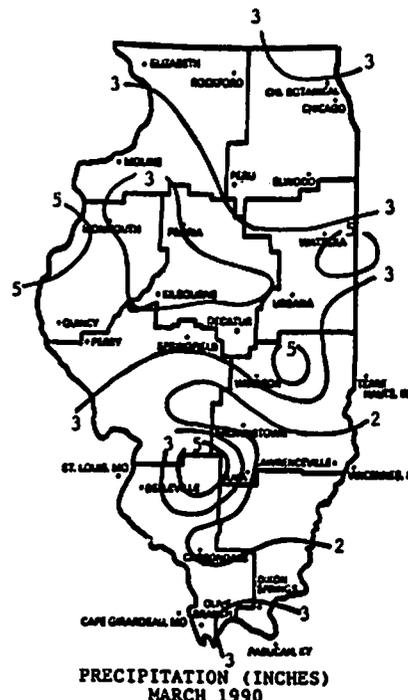
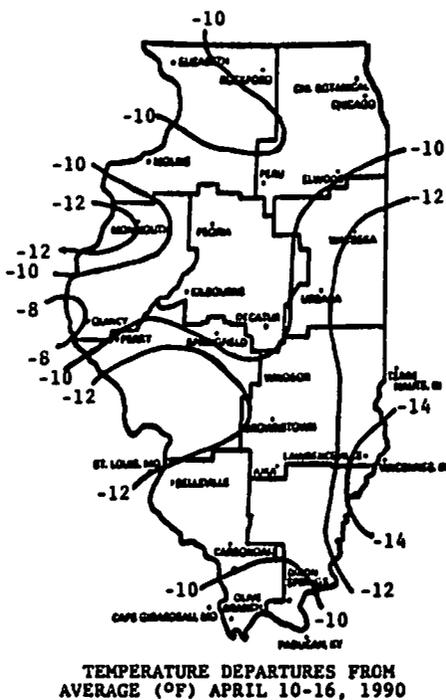
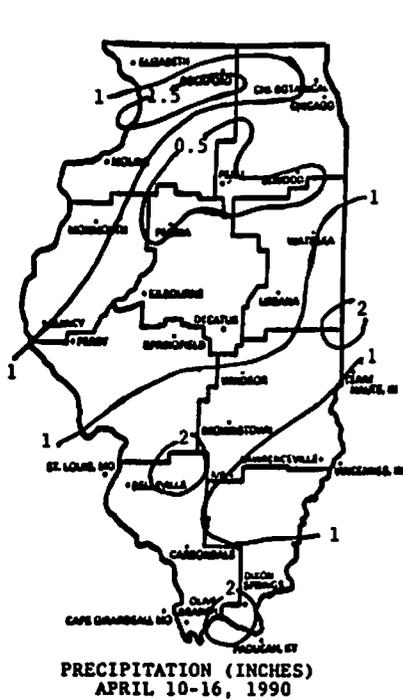
Information above provided by Midwest Agricultural Weather Service Center
Purdue University, West LaFayette, Indiana 47907

NEWSPAPER TIME VALUE

Illinois Weather & Crops
 April 16, 1990

Illinois Weather & Crops (ISSN 0273-8635) is published weekly April–November, semiweekly the second week of June, monthly December–March, by the Illinois Dept. of Agriculture, Illinois Agricultural Statistics Service, Room 54, Department of Agriculture Bldg., 801 Sangamon Ave., Springfield, IL 62702. For information on subscribing, send request to the above address. Second-class postage paid at Springfield, Illinois. Postmaster: Send Address Change to Illinois Weather & Crops, P.O. Box 19283, Springfield, IL 62794-9283.

Weather maps provided by Illinois State Water Survey
 Champaign, Illinois 61820



CROP INFORMATION in this report is provided voluntarily by county officials of Extension Service and SCS, and agribusiness managers.