

ILLINOIS WEATHER & CROPS



ILLINOIS
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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CROPS

Spring fieldwork began across most of the state last week after the weekend showers were absorbed into the topsoil. Farmers were busy plowing, disking, applying anhydrous, dry fertilizer, and early preplant herbicides along with seeding oats and other small grains. Equipment preparation, spreading manure, farm program signup and assessment of the winter wheat crop continued last week. Corn planting started in the central and south central areas of the state but many farmers were waiting for warmer soil temperatures to begin. Peach growers are reporting some damage from the extreme cold in January. Livestock is reported in generally good condition with below normal rainfall benefitting the spring calf crop. For the week ending April 1, there was an average of three days suitable for fieldwork.

WINTER WHEAT condition, as of April 1, was reported as two percent excellent, 30 percent good, 48 percent fair, 17 percent poor, and three percent very poor. As wheat has started coming out of dormancy, some damage has been reported. Reports of wheat being destroyed in the southern part of the state due to poor stands were received. Other areas indicate farmers are still assessing their crop as it continues to green up.

OAT seeding progressed rapidly and as of April 3, 42 percent of the crop had been seeded statewide compared to three percent last year and the five year average of 20 percent.

ALFALFA condition was reported as 65 percent good, 32 percent fair and three percent poor on April 1.

PASTURE condition was rated at 90 percent of normal as of April 1.

SOIL MOISTURE supplies were reported as four percent short, 84 percent adequate and 12 percent surplus.

This is the first Weekly Illinois Weather and Crops report for the 1994 season. This report will be published at 3:00 p.m. every Monday (Tuesday if Monday is a holiday) until harvest is completed in the fall.

The cooperation of our weekly crop reporters and weather reporters makes this service available to Illinois agriculture. The Illinois Agricultural Statistics Service and the Weather Service express our thanks for the faithful help of these volunteers.

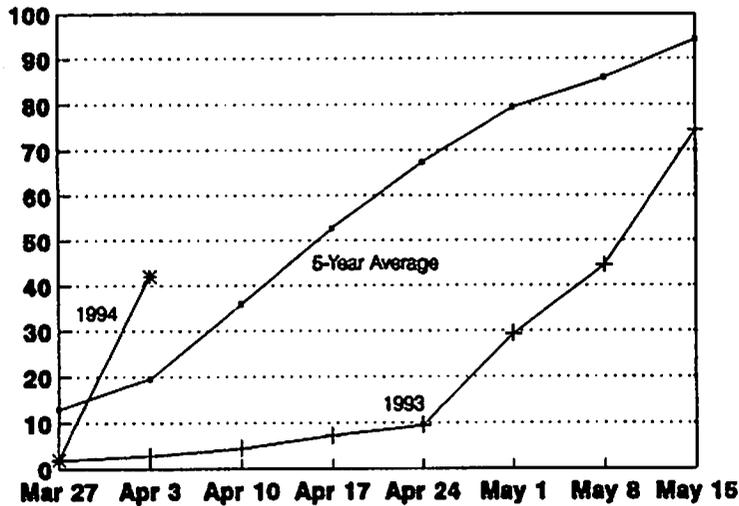


Soil Moisture Supply
April 1, 1994

ILLINOIS DISTRICT SUMMARY

District	Days Suitable For Fieldwork	Soil Moisture Percent		
		Short	Adequate	Surplus
	March 26 - April 1	As of April 1		
Northwest	4.0	0	100	0
Northeast	2.5	10	90	0
West	3.5	0	100	0
Central	3.5	10	85	5
East	3.5	10	85	5
W Southwest	3.0	0	95	5
E Southeast	2.5	5	80	15
Southwest	1.0	0	65	35
Southeast	1.0	0	45	55
State	3.0	4	84	12

**Oats - Percent Seeded
Illinois**



WEATHER

It was a fairly dry period until the weekend across Illinois with temperatures on a bit of a rollercoaster. Canadian high pressure slid into the central U.S. at midweek producing low temperatures in the teens and 20's Thursday morning. As the high moved east, warmer air moved in with highs in the 60's and lower 70's Saturday. Colder air returned for Easter.

The week averaged 3 to 8 degrees cooler than normal, except a bit warmer in the far north. Average highs were in the 50's with average lows in the upper 20's to middle 30's. Most of the precipitation fell across central and southern Illinois with amounts generally .25 to .50 inch.

Four-inch bare soil temperatures averaged mostly in the 40's across Illinois. Daytime maximums did climb above 50 degrees on most days in the south.

The forecast for Wednesday through Friday has a chance of rain Wednesday with dry weather Thursday and Friday. Thursday looks the coldest with highs in the 40's and lows in the 20's before temperatures moderate Friday.

Week ending 8 A.M. Monday, April 4, 1994

Location	Temperatures			Precipitation Current week	Growing Degree Days	Soil Temperature 4" Bare	
	Maxi- mum	Mini- mum	Deper- ture			Maximum	Minimum
Elizabeth	52	22	-5	0.00	18	46	37
Rockford	52	29	-1	0.01	19	46	35
Chicago	54	32	0	0.00	22	N/A	N/A
Chi Botanical	51	31	1	0.00	20	43	41
Watseka	57	30	-1	0.40	29	52	40
Peru	54	29	-2	0.06	23	47	38
Moline	53	30	-3	0.00	22	N/A	N/A
Peoria	55	31	-3	0.12	28	50	40
Monmouth	54	28	-5	0.05	28	50	38
Quincy	52	32	-6	0.50	21	N/A	N/A
Perry	54	28	-6	0.19	25	50	37
Springfield	55	33	-4	0.45	25	49	45
Urbana	55	31	-4	0.31	23	49	39
Windsor	54	33	-5	0.47	23	52	41
Terre Haute	56	33	-3	0.31	26	44	33
St. Louis	55	36	N/A	0.18	25	N/A	N/A
Belleville	56	34	-7	0.32	25	51	40
Brownstown	55	32	-5	0.03	24	49	39
Iuka	55	30	-8	0.23	24	51	39
Lawrenceville	55	32	-6	0.22	23	N/A	N/A
Vincennes	54	29	-7	0.38	20	52	36
Dixon Springs	57	34	-7	0.24	30	51	40
Paducah	58	35	-7	0.35	34	61	49
Olive Branch	57	33	-7	0.23	32	51	41
Carbondale	56	32	-7	0.41	26	N/A	N/A
C Girardeau	59	36	N/A	0.40	36	N/A	N/A

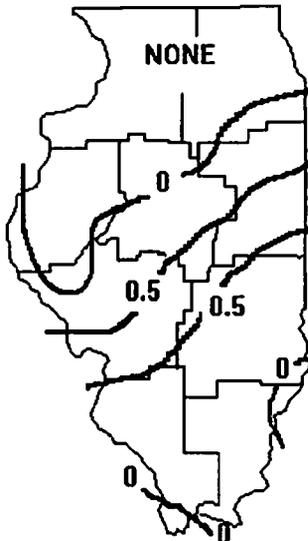
Information above provided by Midwest Agricultural Weather Service Center
Purdue University, West LaFayette, Indiana 47907

NEWSPAPER TIME VALUE

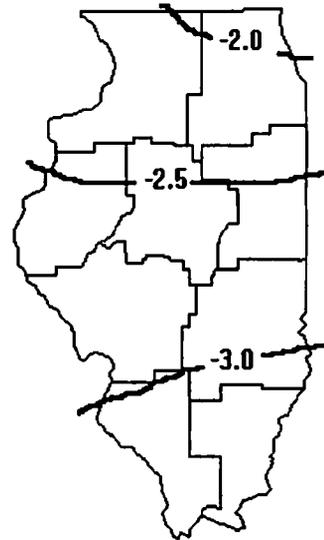
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Weather maps provided by Illinois State Water Survey
Champaign, Illinois 61820



Precipitation (inches)
March 29-April 4, 1994



Temperature Difference
from Average (deg. F)
March 29-April 4, 1994

CROP PROGRESS INFORMATION in this report is provided voluntarily by local area officials of Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, Extension Service, Soil Conservation Service, Farm Business Farm Management field staff, and agribusiness managers.