

# 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

Corn planting made good progress this past week, but some farmers are still waiting for warmer soil temperatures. Most farmers with wheat are still waiting to decide what to do with the poor wheat crop, while others have reported some winter wheat plowed under. Warmer weather will show the true possibilities of the wheat crop that can be salvaged. The much needed rain fall was a help but more is needed in the northern districts. Hay and pastures have been slow to green but now look fairly good. Farmers who have not begun planting are preparing fields, spraying chemicals, spreading and hauling manure, and tending livestock. There were 4.6 days suitable for fieldwork during the week of April 13-19. Soil moisture was rated five percent very short, 27 percent short, 64 percent adequate, and four percent surplus as of April 19.

Corn planting was 14 percent complete by April 21, compared to four percent last year and the five-year average of six percent.

Seeding of oats was 85 percent complete by April 21, compared to 53 percent last year and the five-year average of 60 percent.

Condition of the wheat crop, as of April 19, was one percent excellent, seven percent good, 26 percent fair, 29 percent poor, and 37 percent very poor.

Alfalfa was rated one percent excellent, 26 percent good, 56 percent fair, 14 percent poor, and three percent very poor on April 19.

Condition of pastures on April 19 was three percent excellent, 19 percent good, 46 percent fair, 26 percent poor, and six percent very poor.

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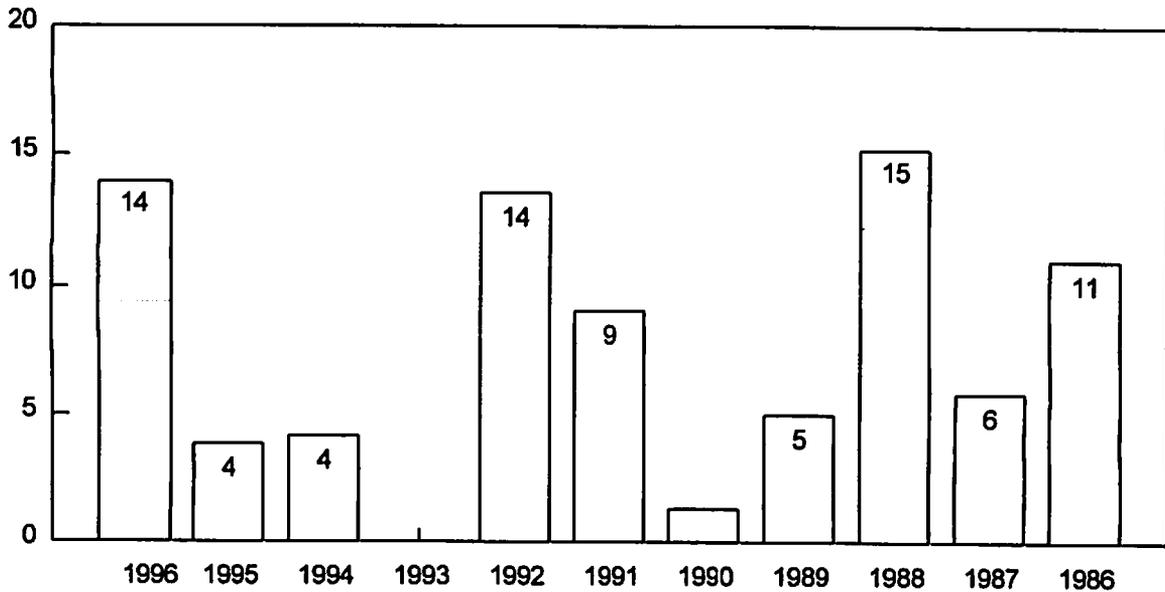


Topsoil Moisture Supply  
April 19, 1996

**ILLINOIS DISTRICT SUMMARY**

District	Corn	Days	Soil Moisture			
	Acreage	Suitable	Percent			
	% Planted	For	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
		Fieldwork				
	As of	April	As of			
	April 21	13 - 19	April 19			
Northwest	1	4.5	14	21	65	-
Northeast	1	3.7	4	23	73	-
West	6	4.5	2	36	60	2
Central	23	4.9	2	27	71	-
East	7	5.6	15	60	25	-
W Southwest	59	5.4	3	43	54	-
E Southeast	7	4.8	2	25	69	4
Southwest	17	4.0	8	15	71	6
Southeast	7	4.1	-	14	69	17
State	14	4.6	5	27	64	4

**Corn - Percent Planted**  
As of April 21



WEATHER SUMMARY

The emerging concern for droughty conditions was alleviated somewhat during the past week, as precipitation events over most of the state became more frequent and yielded greater totals. Northwestern Illinois continues to be the driest sector of the state. The precipitation was associated with thunderstorms, some severe in central and east-central counties on the 18th and 19th. Tornadoes tore through Decatur (Macon County) on both nights, and Champaign County on the 19th.

Temperatures during the last week rose to the above-average category in southern Illinois, however, central and northern counties still remain 1° to 2°F below average. Growing degree days follow the same pattern.

Week ending 8 A.M. Monday, April 22, 1996

Location	Temperatures			Precipitation	Growing Degree Days
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure		
Elizabeth	62	34	-2.8	1.20	50
Rockford	64	39	-2.5	0.26	66
Chicago	65	42	-1.7	0.96	69
Chi Botanical	62	39	-1.7	0.34	49
Watseka	62	39	-1.6	1.26	47
Peru	64	37	-2.3	0.38	45
Moline	67	38	-1.9	0.16	42
Peoria	67	41	-2.1	0.82	62
Monmouth	64	39	-1.1	0.02	45
Quincy	70	44	0.0	0.32	76
Perry	68	43	-0.4	0.43	66
Springfield	69	43	0.8	1.74	63
Urbana	69	40	-1.3	0.78	64
Windsor	71	44	0.4	N/A	73
Terre Haute	70	46	-0.7	1.38	74
St. Louis	73	51	0.9	1.90	91
Belleville	73	46	1.2	N/A	101
Brownstown	66	45	0.0	2.63	64
Iuka	70	45	0.5	N/A	72
Lawrenceville 1/					
Vincennes	N/A	N/A	N/A	1.97	N/A
Dixon Springs 1/					
Paducah	75	51	2.9	1.03	103
Olive Branch	64	50	2.3	N/A	66
Carbondale	72	47	2.0	2.35	74
C Girardeau	76	51	3.2	1.00	102

1/ - Data for location not available.

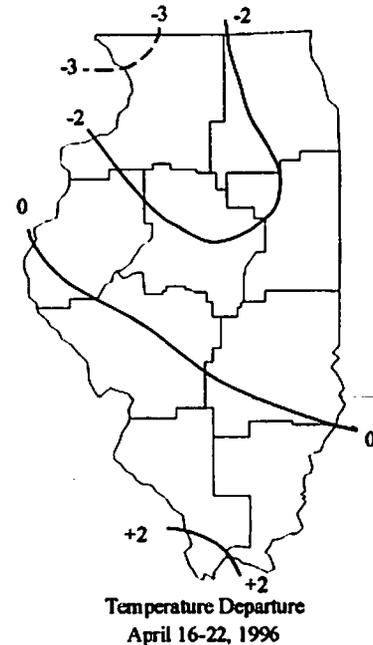
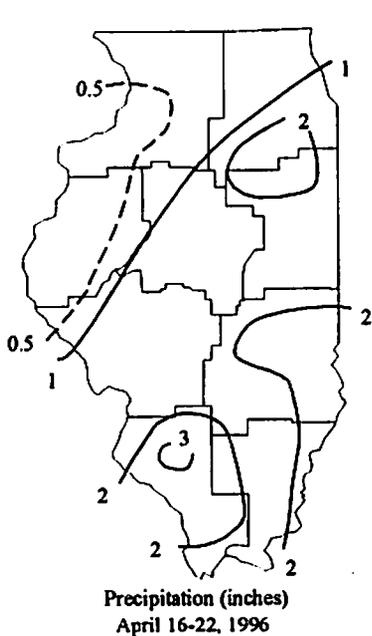
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CROP PROGRESS INFORMATION in this report is provided voluntarily by local area officials of Farm Service Agency, Extension Service, National Resources Conservation Service, Farm Business Farm Management field staff, and agribusiness managers.

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