

ILLINOIS WEATHER & CROPS



**ILLINOIS
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE**

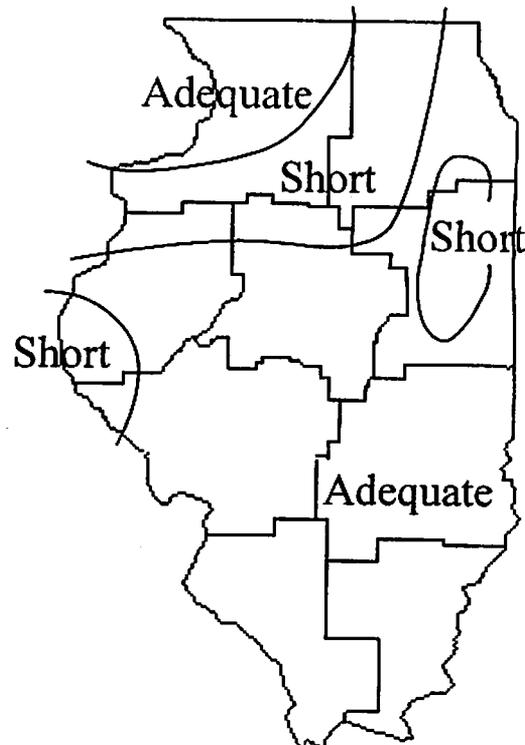
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
<http://www.agr.state.il.us/agstats.htm>

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Statewide, soybean fields are contending with outbreaks of sudden death syndrome but it is too early to evaluate any yield loss. Despite the recent setback to the soybean crop, conditions have remained fairly stable for both corn and soybeans. Dating back to July 24, 60 percent or more of both crops have been reported to be in good to excellent condition. The recent warm and dry weather continues to push the maturing of the corn crop. As of August 23, 44 percent of the crop was dented, which compares to 22 percent last year and 26 percent for the five-year average. Corn is especially maturing quickly in the West Southwest district, where 67 percent of the crop is in the dent stage. Corn fields in the East Central district are not far behind with 65 percent of the crop reported as dented. Farming activities last week included baling hay, hauling grain, preparing equipment for harvest and livestock care.

Crop Progress

| Crop Stage | August 23 | | 5-Year Average |
|---------------------|-----------|------|----------------|
| | 1998 | 1997 | |
| CORN: | | | |
| Dough | 83 | 74 | 73 |
| Dented | 44 | 22 | 26 |
| Mature | 3 | 0 | 1 |
| SOYBEANS: | | | |
| Blooming | 94 | 100 | 97 |
| Setting pods | 86 | 95 | 84 |
| Turning yellow | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| SORGHUM: | | | |
| Headed | 79 | 89 | 83 |
| Coloring | 16 | 14 | 16 |
| ALFALFA HAY: | | | |
| Third cutting | 59 | 40 | 43 |



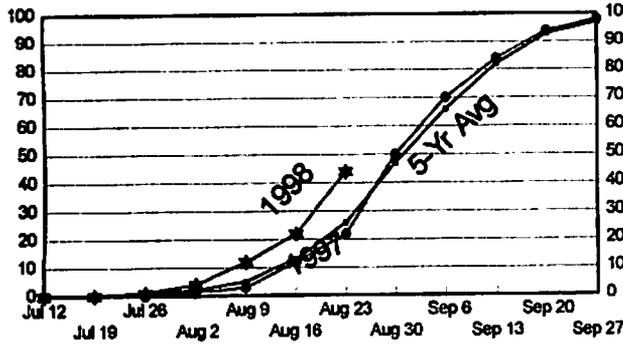
**Topsoil Moisture
August 21**

Crop Conditions

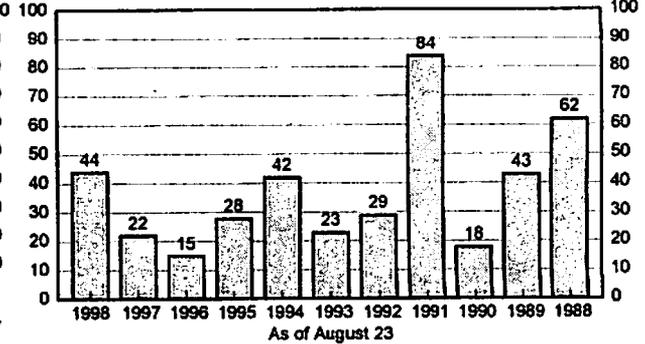
| Crop | : Very Poor | : Poor | : Fair | : Good | : Excellent |
|----------|-------------|--------|--------|--------|-------------|
| | August 21 | | | | |
| Corn | 3 | 8 | 26 | 49 | 14 |
| Soybeans | 2 | 7 | 21 | 50 | 20 |
| Sorghum | 9 | 6 | 29 | 45 | 11 |
| Pasture | 1 | 6 | 26 | 51 | 16 |

The charts on this page and the next are available from the World Wide Web site noted in the upper right corner on the front page. There are also additional charts at that site that are not shown here.

Corn - Percent Dented
Illinois



Corn - Percent Dented
Illinois



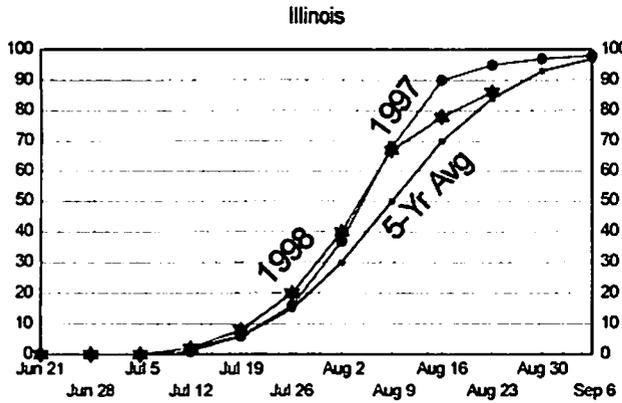
Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Topsoil Moisture

| District | Days Suitable for Fieldwork | Topsoil Moisture | | | |
|-------------|-----------------------------|------------------|---------|------------|-----------|
| | | : Very Short | : Short | : Adequate | : Surplus |
| | August 15 - 21 | August 21 | | | |
| Northwest | 5.2 | 1 | 25 | 71 | 3 |
| Northeast | 6.8 | 6 | 36 | 58 | - |
| West | 6.3 | 1 | 39 | 59 | 1 |
| Central | 4.9 | - | 22 | 71 | 7 |
| East | 6.8 | 7 | 28 | 59 | 6 |
| W Southwest | 5.1 | - | 8 | 88 | 4 |
| E Southeast | 5.9 | 1 | 6 | 87 | 6 |
| Southwest | 6.7 | - | - | 91 | 9 |
| Southeast | 6.8 | - | - | 80 | 20 |
| State | 6.0 | 2 | 19 | 74 | 5 |

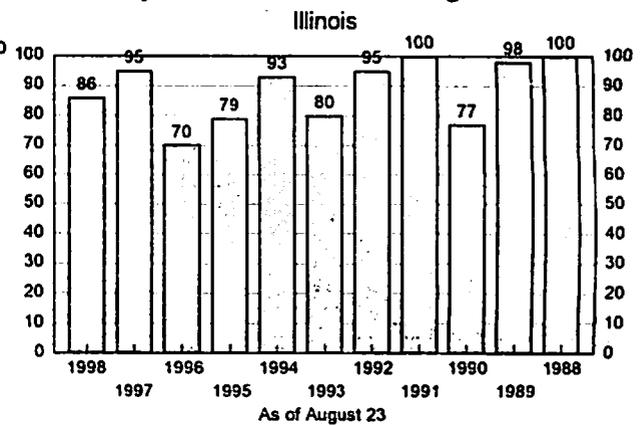
Illinois District Summary

| District | Corn | | Corn | | Soybean |
|-------------|-----------|-------|-----------|------|--------------|
| | Acreage % | Dough | Acreage % | Dent | Setting Pods |
| August 23 | | | | | |
| Northwest | 78 | | 32 | | 89 |
| Northeast | 91 | | 23 | | 99 |
| West | 86 | | 59 | | 87 |
| Central | 93 | | 65 | | 92 |
| East | 67 | | 34 | | 79 |
| W Southwest | 91 | | 67 | | 92 |
| E Southeast | 85 | | 48 | | 82 |
| Southwest | 72 | | 38 | | 72 |
| Southeast | 84 | | 33 | | 80 |
| State | 83 | | 44 | | 86 |

Soybeans - Percent Setting Pods



Soybeans - Percent Setting Pods



Temperature and Precipitation

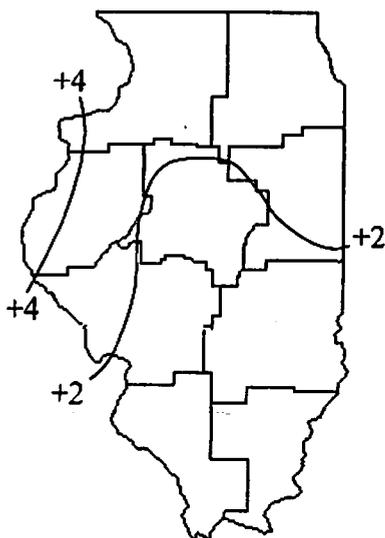
| District | Temperature | | | Precipitation | | |
|----------------|-------------|--------|-----------|---------------|--------|-----------|
| | Average | Normal | Departure | Total | Normal | Departure |
| August 17 - 23 | | | | | | |
| Northwest | 74.3 | 71.7 | 2.6 | 0.64 | 1.03 | -0.39 |
| Northeast | 74.4 | 71.5 | 3.0 | 0.28 | 0.85 | -0.56 |
| West | 77.5 | 74.0 | 3.5 | 0.35 | 0.81 | -0.45 |
| Central | 75.1 | 73.3 | 1.8 | 0.89 | 0.77 | 0.12 |
| East | 74.8 | 72.5 | 2.3 | 0.22 | 0.77 | -0.54 |
| W Southwest | 76.3 | 74.6 | 1.7 | 1.16 | 0.71 | 0.45 |
| E Southeast | 75.5 | 74.7 | 0.8 | 0.30 | 0.63 | -0.33 |
| Southwest | 77.1 | 76.1 | 0.9 | 0.46 | 0.67 | -0.21 |
| Southeast | 76.7 | 76.3 | 0.4 | 0.09 | 0.65 | -0.55 |
| State | 75.7 | 73.7 | 1.9 | 0.52 | 0.77 | -0.25 |

NEWSPAPER TIME VALUE

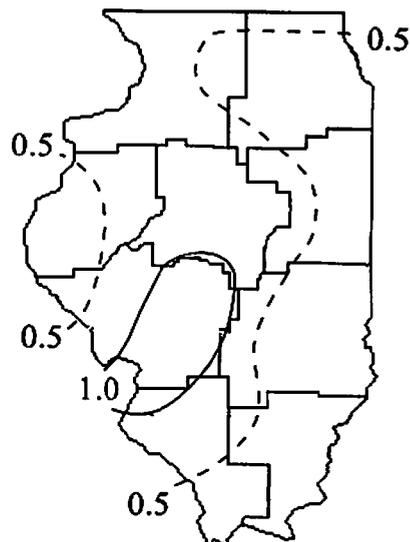
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August 24, 1998

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Weather data and maps provided by the Illinois State Water Survey, Department of Natural Resources, 2204 Griffith Drive, Champaign, Il. 61820, (217)244-8226.



Temperature Departure
August 17 - 23



Precipitation Total
August 17 - 23

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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