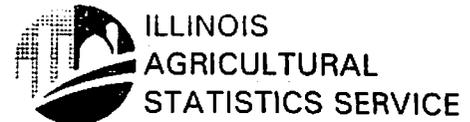


ILLINOIS WEATHER & CROPS



P.O. Box 19283, Springfield, IL 62794-9283
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 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
 ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
<http://www.agr.state.il.us/agstats.htm>

RELEASED: May 1, 2000 3 P.M., CT
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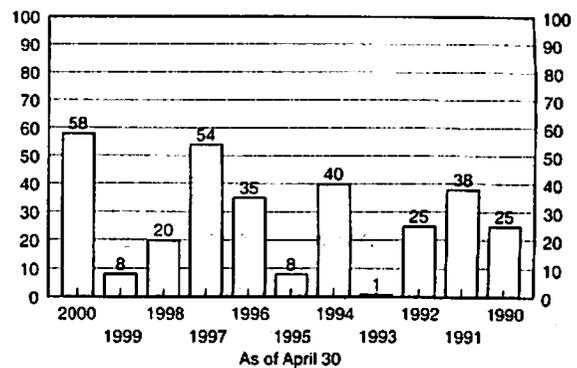
Rain across the state early last week kept farmers out of the field for a few days. However, drier weather later in the week allowed farmers to continue planting corn at a record pace. As of April 30, 58 percent of the corn had been planted compared to just eight percent last year and a five-year average of 25 percent. The moisture has allowed some early corn to emerge with 11 percent out of the ground compared to three percent last year. With farmers wrapping up corn planting, they have begun to prepare the ground for soybeans. Limited planting has started with six percent complete as of April 30. This compares to none last year and a five-year average of two percent. The West District leads the way with 14 percent complete, followed by the Central and Southwest Districts with nine percent in the ground. The winter wheat and alfalfa hay conditions remain stable with the rain and normal temperatures. Other activities for last week included applying fertilizer and herbicides and caring for livestock.

Crop Progress

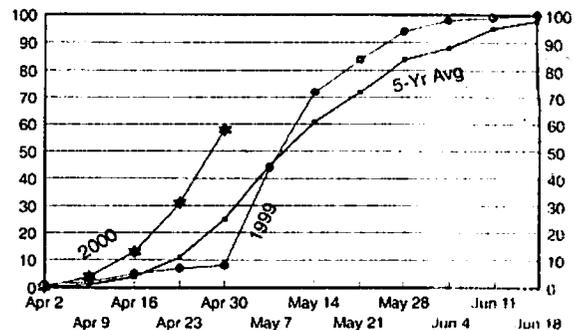
| Crop Stage | 2000 | 1999 | 5-Year Average |
|---------------------|------|------|----------------|
| April 30 | | | |
| CORN: | | | |
| Planted | 58 | 8 | 25 |
| Emerged | 11 | 3 | N/A |
| SOYBEANS: | | | |
| Planted | 6 | 0 | 2 |
| Emerged | 1/ | 0 | N/A |
| SORGHUM: | | | |
| Planted | 8 | 0 | 0 |
| WHEAT: | | | |
| Headed | 14 | 2 | 2 |
| OATS: | | | |
| Planted | 97 | 93 | 86 |
| ALFALFA HAY: | | | |
| First cutting | 2 | 0 | 0 |

N/A Not available.
 1/ Less than one percent.

Corn - Percent Planted Illinois



Corn - Percent Planted Illinois



Crop Conditions

| Crop | : Very Poor : | Poor : | Fair : | Good : | Excellent |
|--------------|---------------|--------|--------|--------|-----------|
| | April 28 | | | | |
| Winter Wheat | 1 | 6 | 19 | 58 | 16 |
| Alfalfa | 0 | 4 | 22 | 61 | 13 |
| Red Clover | 0 | 4 | 23 | 62 | 11 |
| Pasture | 1 | 5 | 27 | 58 | 9 |

Crop Progress by Districts

| District | : Corn Planted : | Soybeans Planted |
|-------------|------------------|------------------|
| | April 30 | |
| Northwest | 34 | 8 |
| Northeast | 23 | 3 |
| West | 64 | 14 |
| Central | 74 | 9 |
| East | 73 | 2 |
| W Southwest | 85 | 7 |
| E Southeast | 54 | 3 |
| Southwest | 63 | 9 |
| Southeast | 45 | 5 |
| State | 58 | 6 |

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Topsoil Moisture

| District | : Days Suitable for Fieldwork : | Topsoil Moisture | | | |
|-------------|------------------------------------|------------------|----------|------------|---------|
| | | : Very Short : | Short : | Adequate : | Surplus |
| | April 22-28 | | April 28 | | |
| Northwest | 3.6 | 1 | 8 | 85 | 6 |
| Northeast | 2.7 | 0 | 12 | 88 | 0 |
| West | 4.4 | 17 | 48 | 34 | 1 |
| Central | 4.0 | 3 | 37 | 60 | 0 |
| East | 3.8 | 10 | 28 | 59 | 3 |
| W Southwest | 3.6 | 7 | 35 | 58 | 0 |
| E Southeast | 3.5 | 6 | 31 | 57 | 6 |
| Southwest | 3.4 | 0 | 20 | 77 | 3 |
| Southeast | 2.3 | 0 | 23 | 42 | 35 |
| State | 3.5 | 5 | 27 | 63 | 5 |

Weather Summary

| Location | Maximum | Temperature Minimum | Departure | Precipitation |
|------------------------|---------|------------------------|-----------|---------------|
| April 24 - 30 | | | | |
| Northwest: | | | | |
| Freeport | 72 | 36 | 0 | 0.09 |
| Kewanee | 72 | 35 | -3 | 0.47 |
| Moline | 72 | 36 | -1 | 0.33 |
| Mount Carroll | 74 | 33 | 2 | 0.46 |
| Paw Paw | 71 | 32 | -2 | 0.34 |
| Rochelle | 72 | 27 | -2 | 0.32 |
| Rockford | 72 | 35 | 0 | 0.17 |
| Northeast: | | | | |
| Aurora | 73 | 32 | -3 | 0.16 |
| Chicago | 70 | 37 | -3 | 0.10 |
| De Kalb | 73 | 38 | 2 | 0.34 |
| Lake Villa | 70 | 35 | 0 | 0.21 |
| McHenry | 69 | 33 | -3 | 0.09 |
| Morris | 73 | 36 | -2 | 0.27 |
| Ottawa | 76 | 37 | -1 | 0.57 |
| Park Forest | 71 | 35 | -3 | 0.23 |
| West: | | | | |
| Bentley | 72 | 37 | -2 | 0.45 |
| Galesburg | 76 | 38 | 0 | 0.18 |
| Quincy | 73 | 37 | -2 | 0.36 |
| Central: | | | | |
| Bloomington | 78 | 35 | -2 | 0.75 |
| Decatur | 73 | 37 | -5 | 0.84 |
| Lincoln | 75 | 37 | -3 | 0.69 |
| Peoria | 73 | 37 | 0 | 0.26 |
| East: | | | | |
| Champaign | 73 | 33 | -3 | 0.53 |
| Pontiac | 74 | 36 | -2 | 0.45 |
| West Southwest: | | | | |
| Carlinville | 74 | 39 | -4 | 0.54 |
| Morrisonville | 74 | 37 | -4 | 0.59 |
| Springfield | 72 | 35 | -4 | 0.69 |
| East Southeast: | | | | |
| Brownstown | 71 | 39 | -6 | 0.88 |
| Flora | 76 | 37 | -4 | 0.33 |
| Hutsonville | 71 | 38 | -5 | 0.20 |
| Iuka | 73 | 36 | -5 | 1.26 |
| Lawrenceville | 74 | 38 | -5 | 0.28 |
| Newton | 70 | 37 | -5 | 0.42 |
| Paris | 72 | 37 | -4 | 0.25 |
| Windsor | 77 | 36 | -3 | 0.56 |
| Southwest: | | | | |
| Carbondale | 74 | 37 | -6 | 0.89 |
| Lebanon | 75 | 39 | -5 | 1.26 |
| Olive Branch | 76 | 40 | -5 | 1.24 |
| Southeast: | | | | |
| Mt Vernon | 72 | 39 | -5 | 1.50 |

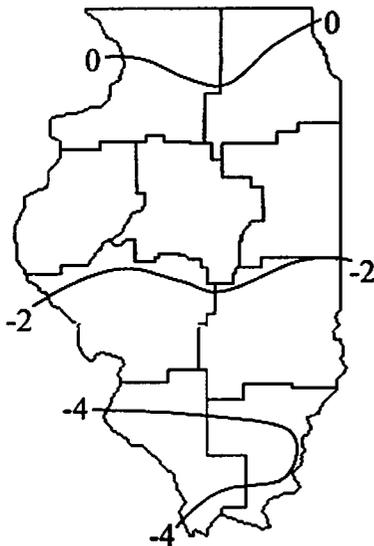
Departure is from the overall average for the week during the 1961-90 period.

NEWSPAPER TIME VALUE

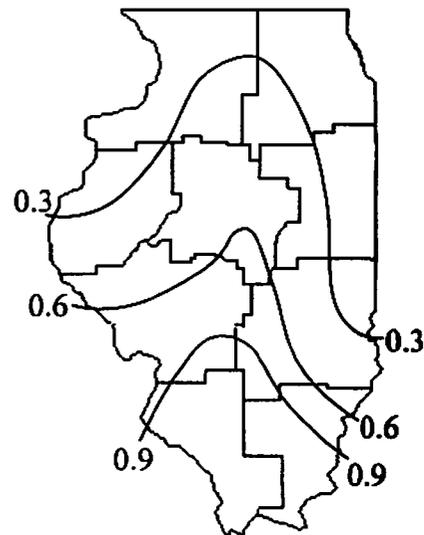
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Maps provided by the Illinois State Water Survey
Visit their home page at <http://mcc.sws.uiuc.edu>
(217)244-8226



Temperature Departure
April 24 - 30



Precipitation Total
April 24 - 30

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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