

ILLINOIS WEATHER & CROPS



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

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Mild temperatures earlier last month allowed farmers to finish anhydrous applications and fall tillage across most of the state. Along with December equipment maintenance and repairs many farmers made time to study the new farm programs. Late December snow cover has left many pastures and feedlots a muddy mess. Average topsoil moisture levels across the state are four percent very short, 28 percent short, 61 percent adequate and seven percent surplus. Temperatures have not been cold enough to put a great deal of stress on cattle or winter wheat. Winter wheat is reportedly short in some areas but well germinated and no problems with winter kill were reported last month. Statewide average conditions for winter wheat are two percent poor, 30 percent fair, 58 percent good and ten percent excellent. Other farm activities included conservation work on waterways, preparing beef cattle for sales and spreading manure on pastures.

Illinois District Summary

District	Topsoil Moisture			
	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
January 5				
Northwest	9	53	38	-
Northeast	1	41	58	-
West	15	37	48	-
Central	1	25	70	4
East	1	14	79	6
W Southwest	1	25	68	6
E Southeast	4	25	71	-
Southwest	-	23	52	25
Southeast	-	-	64	36
State	4	28	61	7

Temperature and Precipitation

District	Temperature			Precipitation		
	Average	Normal	Departure	Total	Normal	Departure
December 1 - 31, 2002						
Northwest	28.8	25.1	3.7	1.03	2.04	-1.01
Northeast	29.1	26.6	2.6	1.16	2.31	-1.15
West	32.0	28.6	3.4	1.77	2.25	-0.47
Central	31.0	28.4	2.6	1.62	2.50	-0.88
East	30.7	28.7	2.0	1.56	2.58	-1.02
W Southwest	33.2	31.2	2.0	2.32	2.72	-0.40
E Southeast	32.9	32.2	0.6	2.85	3.08	-0.23
Southwest	35.3	34.5	0.8	4.21	3.42	0.78
Southeast	35.5	35.1	0.4	4.76	3.60	1.16
State	31.9	29.8	2.1	2.27	2.69	-0.42

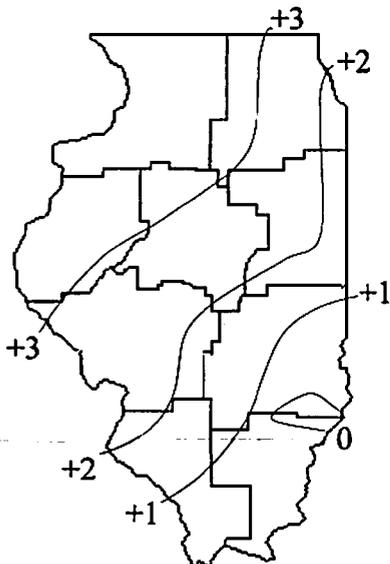
Weather data provided by Illinois State Water Survey, Department of Natural Resources, 2204 Griffith Drive, Champaign, IL 61820, (217)244-8226.

NEWSPAPER TIME VALUE

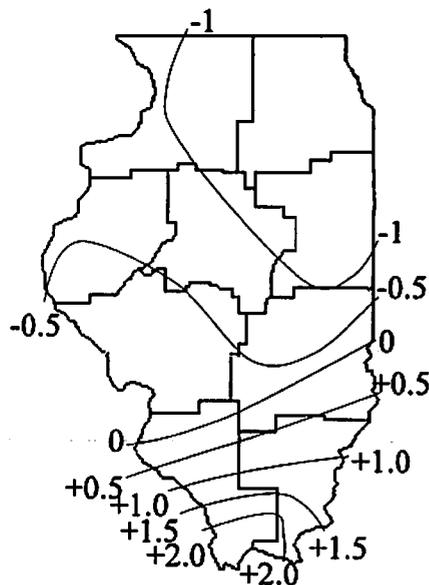
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Maps provided by the Illinois State Water Survey
Visit their home page at <http://mcc.sws.uiuc.edu>
(217)244-8226



Temperature (°F) Departure
December 1 -31



Precipitation (in.) Departure
December 1 -31

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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