

ILLINOIS WEATHER & CROPS



**ILLINOIS
COOPERATIVE CROP
REPORTING SERVICE**

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CROPS

WINTER WHEAT was reported as 3% excellent, 55% good, 38% fair, and 4% poor on January 16. Wheat in the northern areas is still in need of snow cover but no serious damage is reported so far. Wheat statewide has limited moisture supplies available. Rain will be needed when spring growth begins.

LIVESTOCK were reported in good condition with no major disease problems. Several reports of livestock still grazing on crop residue were noted, reducing the need for supplemental feeding.

SOIL MOISTURE as of January 16 was reported as 81% short and 19% adequate.

MAIN ACTIVITIES included caring for livestock, repairing machinery, hauling manure, and general farm chores. Some problems with river grain movement were noted.

WEATHER

TEMPERATURES for the period of January 12-18 averaged 1 to 3 degrees above normal in most northern sections except in the Northeast District where the average was 2 degrees below normal. The South averaged 2 to 5 degrees below normal. A cool period continued into the first part of the week with some minimum readings again falling below the zero degree mark. A warming trend developed at the end of the week sending maximum temperatures into the 40's and 50's.

PRECIPITATION was very light, ranging from less than .10 of an inch in the North to trace amounts in the South. One inch of snow fell on the 14th in the North and some central and eastern sections.

DECEMBER WEATHER SUMMARY

Average monthly TEMPERATURES were again near normal, as they ranged from 1 degree below normal to 2 degrees above normal. The southwestern sections had the largest above normal variations and the Northwest District had the largest below normal variation. The first two weeks of the month recorded above normal temperatures sending maximum readings into the 60's and 70's and setting several new maximum records. The latter half of the month was below normal. Minimum readings dropped below the zero mark in the northern areas and several new minimum records were set.

PRECIPITATION was above normal in the northern and western districts, with the largest variation in the West District. The rest of the State recorded below normal precipitation. The South District was nearly 2 inches below normal for the month. One to two inches of precipitation fell over the northern sections during the first week, while the South only recorded trace amounts. Nearly 1 inch of precipitation fell on the South during the second week and was followed by a dry third week. In the fourth week, light to moderate precipitation fell across the State.

On December 1, 2 to 4 inches of snow fell on the northwestern portion of the State. The snows did not return until the 23rd and 24th when 1 to 4 inches fell over the northern and central sections. The southside of Chicago received the heaviest amounts. On the 28th and 29th, 1 to 3 more inches of snow fell on the northern areas.

The Extended Outlook for January 15 thru February 15 is for near normal temperatures over much of Illinois. Precipitation is expected to be below normal over the entire State.

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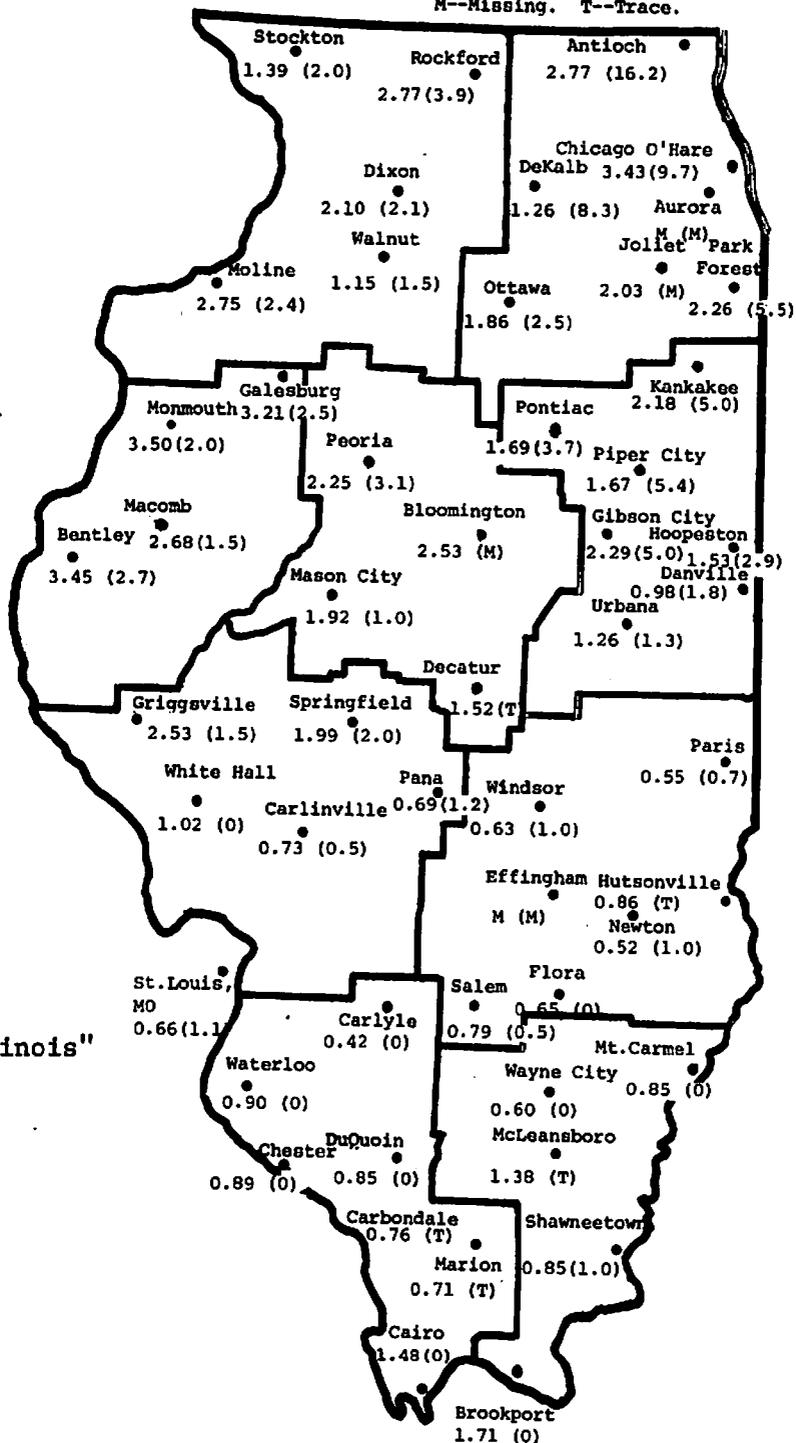
ILLINOIS WEATHER

PRELIMINARY DISTRICT PRECIPITATION AVERAGES AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL IN INCHES

	<u>NW</u>	<u>NE</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>WSW</u>	<u>ESE</u>	<u>SW</u>	<u>SE</u>
December	2.03	2.27	3.21	2.06	1.66	1.27	0.67	0.88	1.08
Departures	+0.27	+0.34	+1.48	-0.01	-0.43	-0.75	-2.02	-2.16	-2.23

DECEMBER PRECIPITATION AND SNOWFALL

NOTE: First figure--Precipitation
Parentheses--Snowfall
M--Missing. T--Trace.



MONTHLY TEMPERATURE DEPARTURES IN DEGREES

	<u>Aug.</u>	<u>Sept.</u>	<u>Oct.</u>	<u>Nov.</u>	<u>Dec.</u>
Chicago	+4	0	-6	+1	+1
Moline	+3	+2	-5	+1	0
Springfield	+4	+2	-4	0	+1
So. Central	+6	+5	-3	+1	+2

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