

ILLINOIS

WEATHER & CROPS



ILLINOIS COOPERATIVE CROP REPORTING SERVICE

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SOIL MOISTURE MEASUREMENTS

CROP HI-LITES

- *** Corn - 48% planted
- *** Soybeans - 7% planted
- *** Wheat - 62% headed
- *** Soil Moisture - 15% Short
76% Adequate
9% Surplus

CORN planting was reported as 48% complete as of May 10. This compares to 84% last year and the 5-year (1976-1980) average of 57%. Planting progressed rapidly where weather conditions permitted.

SOYBEAN planting, as of May 10, was 7% complete compared to 28% last year and 12% for the average.

WINTER WHEAT on May 8 was reported as 40% in excellent condition, 53% good, and 7% fair. Sixty-two percent of the crop was headed by May 10 compared to 2% a year ago and 25% for the average.

Condition of the OATS crop was reported as 22% excellent, 68% good, and 10% fair on May 8.

ALFALFA was reported on May 8 as 21% in excellent condition, 70% good, and 9% fair. About 6% of the first crop was cut by May 10 compared to none last year and 1% for the average. Scattered reports of alfalfa weevil were again noted.

PASTURES, as of May 8, were reported as 24% excellent, 70% good, and 6% fair. Pastures were supplying about 85% of the livestock roughage requirements on May 10 compared to 80% last year and an average of 79%.

SOIL MOISTURE on May 8 was reported as 9% surplus, 76% adequate, and 15% short.

For the week ending May 8, there were 4.25 DAYS SUITABLE for FIELDWORK.

The Illinois State Water Survey at Champaign regularly monitors soil moisture at a site near Bondville. As of the 5th of May 1981, total soil moisture to a depth of about seven feet decreased from that of the week before. The greatest downward trend occurred in the uppermost two feet, in spite of the precipitation which was received during the previous seven days. Soil moisture amounts from two to seven feet remained essentially unchanged. Total precipitation received during the week prior to the observation was 0.66 inches, whereas the total soil moisture loss during the same period was 0.75 inches. This depletion resulted from surface evaporation, transpiration, and by percolation to greater depths in the soil. Total soil moisture from the surface to seven feet was about 55% of the potential plant available moisture, having declined about 5% from the week before.

On April 29, soil moisture measurements were initiated at Dixon Springs Agricultural Research Center in Pope County, Brownstown Experimental Farm in Fayette County, and the Orr Experimental Farm in Pike County. Since these are the first measurements made at these sites, we cannot yet report changes during the past week. Total soil moisture from the surface to seven feet at Bondville (Champaign County) and the Orr Experimental Farm was 24 inches, whereas 23 inches were reported at Dixon Springs and 20 inches at Brownstown.

WEATHER

TEMPERATURES for the period of May 4-10 averaged 2 to 5 degrees below normal as a cool period developed during the first part of the week. Maximum temperatures dropped from the 70's to the 50's in the northern half of the State and minimum readings fell near the freezing mark. Maximum temperatures in the South stayed at 60 and 70 degrees.

PRECIPITATION was light to moderate in the northern third of the State and heavy in the South. The northwest section received .33 to .37 of an inch while the northeast portion recorded from .75 of an inch to 1.00 inch. The remainder of the State was deluged with 1 to 3 inches. Some areas recorded more than 1.50 inches during a 24-hour period. The heaviest rain fell on the 9th and 10th.

The OUTLOOK for the period of May 12 through 18 is for temperatures to be below normal and precipitation to be above normal throughout Illinois.

ILLINOIS CROP REPORTING DISTRICT SUMMARY

Crop and Soil Characteristics	NW	NE	W	C	E	WSW	ESE	SW	SE	STATE	5-YR. AVG.
Corn: % planted (as of May 10)	40	30	50	55	25	80	55	55	60	48	57
Days Suitable for fieldwork: (week ending May 8)	4.0	4.5	4.5	4.0	3.0	5.0	3.5	4.5	5.0	4.25	
Soil Moisture %:											
as of May 8) Short	--	10	10	5	--	30	15	60	60	15	
Adequate	80	70	75	95	90	70	70	40	40	76	
Surplus	20	20	15	--	10	--	15	--	--	9	

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ILLINOIS WEATHER

MONTHLY AND WEEKLY TEMPERATURE DEPARTURES IN DEGREES

	Feb.	Mar.	Mar. 30- Apr. 5	Apr. 6- 12	Apr. 13- 19	Apr. 20- 26	Apr. 27- May 3	May 4- 10
Chicago	+2	+1	+11	+7	+6	-5	+1	-5
Moline	+2	+2	+10	+8	+3	-3	+2	-6
Springfield	+2	+5	+15	+12	+7	0	+2	-5
So. Central	+2	+1	+11	+10	+7	0	+4	-4

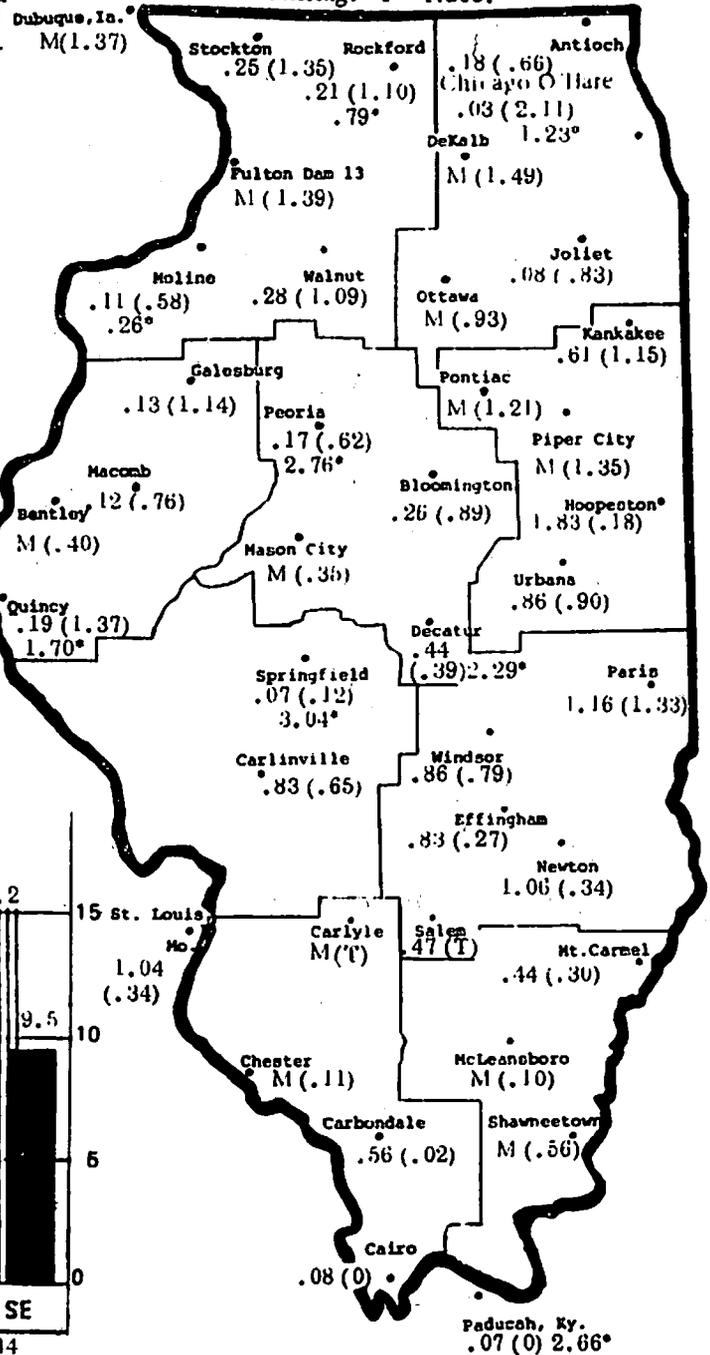
STATION	May 3			May 11		
	Maxi- mum	Mini- mum	Aver- age	Current week	3-year avg.	Totals 1980-1981
Dubuque, IA	--	--	--	36	227	281
Moline	77	32	54	48	278	311
Rockford	78	31	53	47	235	250
Chicago O'Hare	78	32	53	53	222	239
Quincy	72	34	55	43	321	352
Decatur	74	37	56	55	291	288
Peoria	76	35	56	56	277	279
Springfield	74	36	57	58	327	327
Carro	80	46	60	89	454	421
St. Louis	--	--	--	71	385	396

* Totals are accumulated from April 1.

Growing degree days (GDD's) are calculated by subtracting a 50-degree (F) base temperature from the average of the maximum and minimum temperatures for the day. The daily maximum temperature is limited to 86 degrees (F) and daily minimum to 50 degrees (F). Thus, if the mean temperature for the day is 55 degrees, then 25 GDD's will have been accumulated.

PRECIPITATION:

First figure--current week, May 1-7
Parentheses--previous week
Asterisk--Friday-Sunday
M--Missing. T--Trace.



ACCUMULATED PRECIPITATION (Inches)

LEGEND: Normal | Actual

Jan. 1-Apr. 30

Jan. 1-May 7

