

ILLINOIS WEATHER & CROPS



ILLINOIS COOPERATIVE CROP REPORTING SERVICE

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CROPS

WINTER WHEAT was reported as 60% good, 32% fair and 8% poor as of Friday, December 17. Wheat was reported as being planted early this fall and the mild weather has benefited the crop. Flooding from early December's rain has caused some damage to the crop in low-lying areas.

PLOWING FOR 1983 CORN AND SOYBEAN acreage is slightly behind normal for this time of the year. As of December 19, 65% had been tilled compared to 68% last year and an average of 72%.

STOCK was reported to be in mostly good condition. The mild fall has allowed cattle to remain on corn stubble longer than normal. However, heavy rains have created problems with muddy feedlots and the wide fluctuations in temperature have left some livestock susceptible to possible disease problems.

SOIL MOISTURE as of December 17 was reported to be 53% adequate and 47% surplus.

PASTURES as of December 17 were reported to be 14% excellent, 71% good, 13% fair and 2% poor.

WEATHER

TEMPERATURES for the period of December 13 thru 19 averaged from 1 to 5 degrees above normal throughout most of the State. However, the extreme South was near normal.

PRECIPITATION was light over much of the State except the extreme South where amounts were heavy. Amounts ranged from .05 of an inch to near 2 inches. One inch of snow fell in parts of the north and central sections on the 15th.

The OUTLOOK for the period of December 21 thru 27 is for temperatures to be above normal and precipitation to be below normal in Illinois.

NOVEMBER WEATHER SUMMARY

Average monthly TEMPERATURES ranged from normal to 4 degrees above normal throughout the State. The East-Southwest District had the largest above normal variation (3.9 degrees above normal). Temperatures were below normal during the first week with minimum readings falling below 20 degrees. During the next 2 weeks, readings were above normal with some new maximum temperature records being set. By the end of the month, below normal readings were again recorded in many areas except the South.

PRECIPITATION was above normal in all districts. However, some southern areas were near normal. The largest above normal variation was in the West District. During the first half of the month, rainfall was moderate to heavy with amounts ranging from .50 of an inch to 2 inches. A dry period set in during the next 2 weeks in the North, but the South received 1 to 2 inches.

Up to an inch of snow fell on parts of the North during the month.

The Extended Outlook from December 15 to January 15, 1983 is for temperatures and precipitation to be above normal.

MONTHLY TEMPERATURE DEPARTURES DEGREES

	<u>Aug.</u>	<u>Sept.</u>	<u>Oct.</u>	<u>Nov.</u>
Chicago	-2	-1	-1	0
Peoria	-2	-1	0	+2
Springfield	-2	-1	-1	+1
St. Louis	-2	-2	-1	+1

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PRECIPITATION CONDITIONS

District	November <u>Precipitation 1/</u>			Sept.-Nov. <u>Precipitation 2/</u>		Dec.1981-Nov.1982 <u>Precipitation 2/</u>	
	Averages	Departures	% of Normal	Amount	% of Normal	Amount	% of Normal
Northwest	4.59	+2.50	220	9.4	111	42.5	121
Northeast	4.93	+2.77	228	9.9	124	41.2	119
West	4.90	+2.96	253	9.5	108	38.0	103
Central	4.86	+2.49	209	9.0	107	42.5	118
East	4.85	+2.51	207	8.2	100	46.2	128
W. Southwest	3.88	+1.35	153	10.3	117	44.4	119
E. Southeast	3.50	+0.34	111	10.8	119	49.3	124
Southwest	3.51	+0.18	105	9.9	103	42.4	99
Southeast	4.71	+1.22	135	8.3	88	40.7	93

November brought excessive precipitation to nearly all of Illinois, according to the State Water Survey Division of Champaign, Illinois. Places like Chicago (with 6.95 inches) had the wettest November on record, and the northern half of the State had more than double the normal rainfall.

The excessive November rainfall, coupled with above normal fall season (Sept.-Nov.) rainfall, have resulted in a dangerous winter water condition--too much water in state soils and rivers. These conditions have set the stage for potential severe winter flooding.

Illinois will now enter the 1983 growing season with well saturated soils. The saturated soils will allow the soils to freeze to considerable depths, causing all precipitation that falls to runoff. Thus, the advent of further heavy winter rains and/or heavy winter snowfalls holds portent for severe flooding anytime during the winter or spring 1983.

PRECIPITATION OUTLOOK 2/

<u>Areas</u>	<u>December 1982</u>	<u>Winter 1982 (Dec.-Feb.)</u>
Northern 3/	Above Normal	Above Normal
North Central 3/	Above Normal	Above Normal
South Central 3/	Above Normal	Near Normal
Southern 3/	Near Normal	Below Normal

1/ National Weather Service, Rosemont, Illinois. 2/ State Water Survey Division, Champaign, Illinois. 3/ Northern=northwest and northeast crop districts; North Central=west, central and east central districts; South Central=west-southwest districts and east-southeast; Southern=southwest and southeast crop districts.