

# ILLINOIS WEATHER & CROPS



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CROPS

WEATHER OUTLOOK

WINTER WHEAT condition, as of February 15, is 2% excellent, 52% good, 40% fair, and 6% poor. Snow cover over most of the State has helped protect winter wheat stands from the cold temperatures. Thus far, winterkill is expected to be light due to the adequate snow cover, but it is still too early to assess the damage.

SOIL MOISTURE as of February 15 was 59% adequate and 41% surplus.

LIVESTOCK condition across the State continues to be mostly good to fair. Cold temperatures and snow have increased feed requirements and slowed weight gains. Hay supplies across the State are mostly adequate to surplus, with a few southern locations reporting spot shortages. Ice and drifting snow has hampered delivery of finished stock in some areas.

GRAIN MOVEMENT has also been slowed by adverse road conditions over much of the State. Barge movement of grain has been slowed or halted by ice on the rivers in many areas.

WEATHER

Mean TEMPERATURES for this past week varied from the mid-teens in the North to the mid-20's in the South, about 10° below normal for the North and South, and up to 17° below normal for East-Central Illinois. The coldest temperatures for the week were reported on the 14th and 15th.

PRECIPITATION was limited to the eastern half of the State, with measurements between 0.20 and 0.40". Only Lawrenceville exceeded that amount with 1.01". The only measurable precipitation occurred from the 11th to the 13th. This past week's precipitation was 0.15 to 0.56" less than normal, with the largest deviations below normal observed in Southern Illinois.

The OUTLOOK for February 19-24 calls for mild temperatures during the week into the weekend, with a chance of precipitation Thursday and lingering cloudiness Friday and Saturday.

Illinois is expected to be colder than normal in the southern two-thirds of the State and near normal in the North from mid-February to mid-March with near normal PRECIPITATION. Mean 30-day maximum TEMPERATURES should therefore be less than about 39° in the North, less than about 40° in Central, and less than about 50° in Southern Illinois. Daily minima will be about 20° less than the maxima. Normal precipitation is about 2 inches in the North and about 4 inches in the South for this period.

Both TEMPERATURE and PRECIPITATION is expected to be near normal from Feb. 1 through April 30. Daily highs are mid-30's in the North in February, increasing to the low 60's in April, and the high 40's to low 70's during the same period in the South. Daily lows are about 20° lower. Normal precipitation is about 7.5 inches in the North for the 90 days, and about 12.3 inches in the South.

JANUARY WEATHER SUMMARY

Average monthly TEMPERATURES ranged from 3 to 7 degrees below normal in the North and from 4 to 9 degrees below normal in the South with the Southwest District recording the largest below normal variation (8.9 degrees below normal). Temperatures started out the month below normal across the State with minimum readings in the Northwest falling below the zero degree mark. During the second week, temperatures were slightly above normal in many areas as maximum temperatures climbed into the 30's and 40's. A record breaking cold period then developed in the third week and lasted through the end of the month. Minimum readings dropped to 20 to 30 degrees below zero in many parts of the State on the 20th which set new records. Many sections, mainly in the northern half of the State, failed to climb above the freezing mark since the 8th of January.

PRECIPITATION was slightly above normal in the Northwest, West, and Central Districts and below normal in the remaining sections. The largest above normal variation was in the Western District, while the largest below normal variation was in the Southeast District. Heavy precipitation also fell on the first day of the month. Light amounts fell during the second week. Periods of light precipitation fell in the third and fourth weeks.

During the first week heavy snow, with amounts of 5 to 12 inches, fell in many areas of the State (the South received the heaviest amounts). Several other snows laid a blanket of 1 to 6 inches of snow across the State during the month. Carbondale, IL received the heaviest snow with a total of 24.7 inches.

The EXTENDED OUTLOOK for Feb. 15 to March 15 is for TEMPERATURES to be below normal and PRECIPITATION to be near normal.

ILLINOIS CROP REPORTING DISTRICT SUMMARY

	NW	NE	W	C	E	WSW	ESE	SW	SE	STATE	5-YR. AVG.
Week ending February 15											
Soil Moisture %											
Short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Adequate	95	85	55	80	80	75	40	20	0	59	
Surplus	5	15	45	20	20	25	60	80	100	41	

CROP INFORMATION in this report is provided voluntarily by county officials of Extension Service and SCS, and agribusiness managers.

Additional WEATHER INFORMATION is provided by Midwest Agr. Weather Serve. Ctr. (W. Lafayette, Ind.) and National Weather Service Cooperative Observers.

NEWSPAPER TIME VALUE

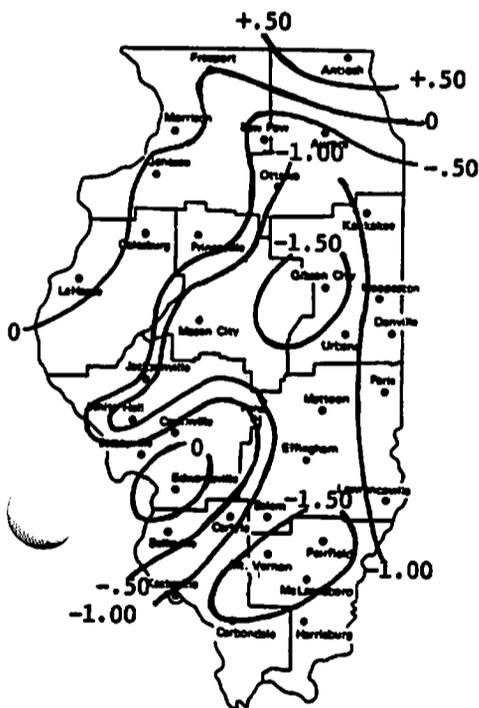
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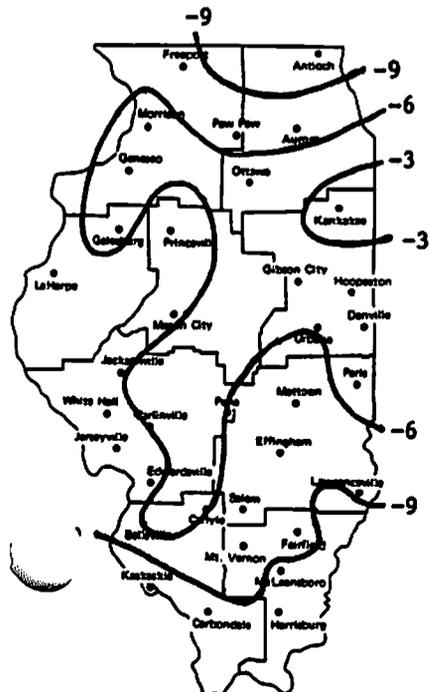
PRELIMINARY DISTRICT PRECIPITATION AVERAGES AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL IN INCHES

	NW	NE	W	C	E	WSW	ESE	SW	SE
January	1.72	1.76	1.98	2.04	1.71	1.46	1.40	2.01	1.79
Departure	+0.09	-0.05	+0.23	+0.18	-0.14	-0.37	-1.15	-1.01	-1.59

JANUARY PRECIPITATION--DEVIATIONS FROM NORMAL IN INCHES



JANUARY TEMPERATURE--DEVIATIONS FROM NORMAL--OF



PRECIPITATION: M-Missing  
 First figure-February 1-15, 1985  
 Parentheses-January 1985

