

ILLINOIS WEATHER & CROPS



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ILLINOIS STATE WATER SURVEY

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RELEASED: APRIL 15, 1985, 3 P.M., CST

VOL.6, NO.05

CROPS

Wet fields and cool temperatures early last week continued to slow spring fieldwork. Days suitable for fieldwork averaged only 1.75 for the State. Lighter precipitation in northern and western areas allowed farmers to resume tillage and oat seeding by midweek. However, heavier precipitation over the rest of the State kept farmers out of the fields most of the week.

WINTER WHEAT condition, on Friday, April 12, was reported as 4% excellent, 65% good, 28% fair, and 3% poor. Farmers continue to apply fertilizer to wheat where conditions allow. Reports indicate growth has been slowed by cool, wet soil conditions.

OAT SEEDING as of Sunday, April 14 was 48% complete, compared to 22% last year and the 5 year average (1980-84) of 36%.

TILLAGE for intended 1985 corn, sorghum, and soybean acreage was 65% complete by April 14 compared to 72% last year and the 5-year average (1980-84) of 78%.

ALFALFA condition as of April 12 was reported as 4% excellent, 78% good, 17% fair, and 1% poor.

PASTURE condition was reported as 1% excellent, 67% good, 26% fair, and 6% poor. Pastures were supplying about 30% of livestock roughage requirements, compared to 17% last year and the 5-year average of 24%.

SOIL MOISTURE on April 12 was reported as 53% surplus and 47% adequate.

WEATHER

TEMPERATURES in the northern quarter of the State, and extreme eastern Illinois were generally between 2 and 4° above normal. Warmest deviations from normal extended from Galesburg to Aurora. The remainder of the State was cooler than normal, with the greatest deviations (-6°) at Mason City and Carle.

PRECIPITATION was light over the State, with the Northwest District receiving none. Other areas received between 0.1 and 0.7 inches. Only Harrisburg received more than 1 inch (1.13"). This precipitation was generally 0.5 to 0.8 inches below normal for the period.

The **OUTLOOK** for the week of April 15-21 calls for **TEMPERATURES** to average above normal, with highs in the 60's and lower 70's North, and 70's and lower 80's South. **PRECIPITATION** will be near normal.

MARCH WEATHER SUMMARY

Average monthly **TEMPERATURES** ranged from 3 to 8 degrees above normal throughout the State, with the Northwest District recording the largest above normal variation (7.8 degrees above normal). This was the first month since December 1984 that temperatures were above normal. A warm trend which started during the second half of February continued throughout March. Above average readings were recorded during the first week of March, as readings climbed into the 50's and 60's during part of the week. On the 6th and 7th, a short-lived cool period sent maximum temperatures into the 30's and 40's. The warm period returned on the 8th in many areas of Illinois, and continued through the end of the month. On the 19th, maximum readings climbed into the 60's and 70's. During the last few days of the month, very warm air pushed its way into the southern half of the State and sent maximum readings into the 70's and 80's. However, the temperatures in the North failed to reach 70 degrees. On the 30th and 31st, average temperatures fell below normal in many areas.

PRECIPITATION was again above normal in every District in the State, with the Central District recording the largest above normal variation (2.55 inches above normal). The smallest variation was 1.25 inches above normal in the Northeast. Watseka, IL (in the East District), reported the greatest rainfall total for the month with 8.20 inches. Quincy, IL (in the West District) reported the least total rainfall with 2.77 inches. However, La Harpe, IL, which is also in the West District, reported a total of 7.66 inches. Heavy rain fell over many sections in the first week, with more than 1 inch being recorded during a 24-hour period. Light to moderate rain fell during the second and third weeks. In the 4th week, heavy rainfall once again returned to the State. Some southern areas recorded 2 inches of rain during a 24-hour period. Many rivers went above flood stage during the month, causing severe flooding.

Several snows in the North laid a blanket of a quarter of an inch to 4 inches of snow.

ILLINOIS CROP REPORTING DISTRICT SUMMARY

	NW	NE	W	C	E	WSW	ESE	SW	SE	STATE	5-YR. AVG.
	Week ending April 12										
Days Suitable for fieldwork:	3.5	2.5	3.0	2.0	1.0	1.0	0.5	1.0	0.5	1.75	
Moisture %											
Short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Adequate:	80	75	75	65	60	40	10	10	10	47.	
Surplus:	20	25	25	35	40	60	90	90	90	53	

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 Serv. Ctr. (W. Lafayette, Ind.) and National Weather Service Cooperative Observers.

NEWSPAPER TIME VALUE

Illinois Weather & Crops
April 15, 1985

Illinois Weather & Crops (ISSN 0273-8635) is published weekly April-November, semi-weekly the second week of June, monthly December-March, by the Illinois Dept. of Agriculture, Illinois Cooperative Crop Reporting Service, Room 54, Department of Agriculture Bldg., 801 Sangamon Ave., Springfield, IL 62706. For information on subscribing, send request to the above address. Second-class postage paid at Springfield, Illinois.
Master: Send Address Change to Illinois Weather & Crops, P.O. Box 429, Springfield, IL 62705.

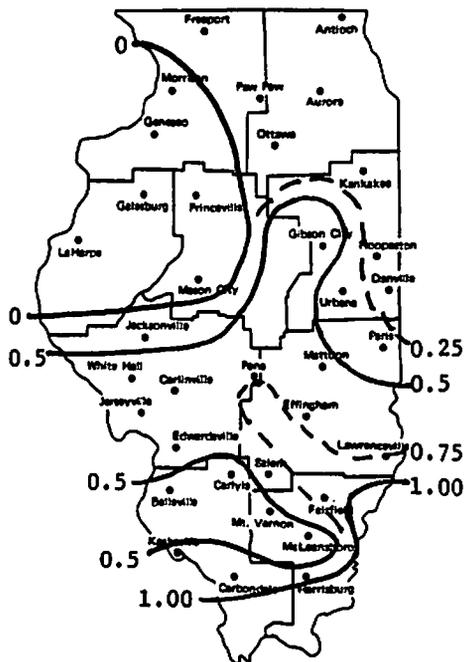
PRELIMINARY DISTRICT PRECIPITATION AVERAGES AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL IN INCHES

	NW	NE	W	C	E	WSW	ESE	SW	SE
March	4.38	3.86	5.22	5.30	5.00	4.51	5.90	5.59	6.71
Departure	+1.95	+1.25	+2.43	+2.55	+2.29	+1.60	+2.50	+1.49	+2.32

Week ending Sunday, April 14, 1985

Location	Temperatures			Precipitation			Soil Moisture, surface to 5 inches, % Potential
	Maxi- mum	Mini- mum	Depar- ture	Current : week	Since : May 1, '84	Departure : since May 1	
Freeport	77	20	3	0.07	33.67	1.48	91
Paw Paw	75	20	-2	0.14	33.84	1.42	94
Antioch	73	22	-1	0.18	38.89	5.88	
Galesburg	76	24	4	0	33.47	-1.39	
Walnut	60	21	-10	0	33.24	0.82	
Mason City	69	25	-6	0	33.74	2.30	61
Princeville	80	20	1	0	37.65	4.89	92
Kankakee	75	23	-2	2/	2/	2/	
Jacksonville	75	25	-4	0.18	40.09	8.65	65
Pana	71	24	-1	0.75	38.04	1.31	65
Urbana	74	26	2	0.43	39.49	4.53	79
Carlinville	74	27	1	0.60	44.22	12.42	
Effingham	75	27	0	0.61	32.95	-3.27	
Lawrenceville	77	27	-2	0.73	47.26	6.00	
Belleville	73	26	-3	0.43	44.78	12.61	96
Carlyle	69	28	-6	0.37	34.53	-2.66	
McLeansboro	72	28	-5	0.13	43.40	2.11	63
Kaskaskia	78	29	-1	0.83	39.72	-0.52	92
Marion Springs	76	26	0	0.97	54.31	13.02	

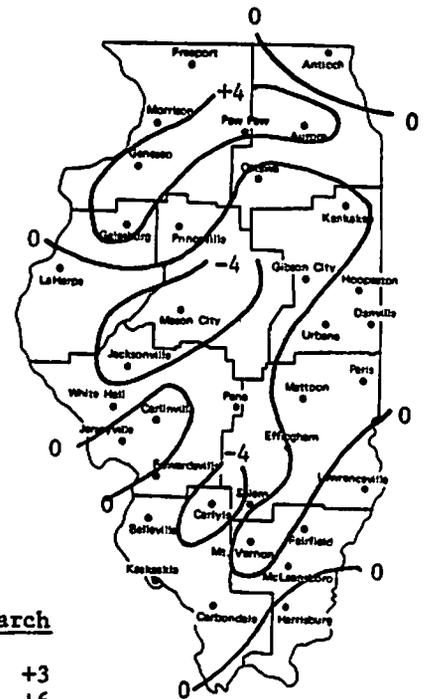
Soil moisture measurement is based on reading from closest station. Readings taken approximately April 29. 2/ Missing data.



PRECIPITATION
FOR WEEK ENDING
APRIL 14

MONTHLY TEMPERATURE DEPARTURES IN DEGREES

	December	January	February	March
Chicago	+3	-7	-6	+3
Peoria	+6	-5	-4	+6
Springfield	+5	-6	-5	+7
St. Louis	+7	-4	-3	+6



TEMPERATURE DEVIATIONS
FROM NORMAL FOR
WEEK ENDING APRIL 14