

ILLINOIS WEATHER & CROPS



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WATER SURVEY



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CROPS

WINTER WHEAT condition on February 14 was reported as 2% excellent, 49% good, 47% fair, and 2% poor. Early planted wheat generally is in the best condition while the late planted wheat is in poorer condition. Standing water and ice in poorly drained fields may have damaged some wheat. Also, lack of snow cover during the recent below zero temperatures may have caused some winterkill. It is too early in most areas to assess winterkill.

SOIL MOISTURE on February 14 was reported as 1% surplus, 61% adequate, and 38% short.

STOCK condition across the State is mostly good. Problems have been reported because of the wide variations in temperatures. Hay supplies are reported as adequate across the entire State.

WEATHER

This past week was characterized by much below normal TEMPERATURES and below normal PRECIPITATION. The mean temperatures for the week were between 14° and 25° below normal. There was no simple pattern to the differences from normal over the State. Greatest deviation from normal was 25° below normal at Gibson City, and 22° below normal at Whitehall.

PRECIPITATION over the State was generally between 0.1 and 0.3 inch, with the greatest amounts in Effingham (0.50 inch) and Lawrenceville (0.45 inch). These totals are generally 0.3 inch below normal for the seven days.

The OUTLOOK for February 18-23 calls for mild temperatures midweek with a chance of showers North, turning colder by the weekend.

The 30-DAY OUTLOOK from February 15 thru March 15 is for temperatures to be above normal. Precipitation is expected to be below normal in the west and central sections of the State and near normal over remaining districts.

3-MONTH OUTLOOK for February through April is for temperatures to be near normal in the North and West Districts, while the remaining sections of the State will be below normal. Precipitation will be near normal.

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

JANUARY WEATHER SUMMARY

The Statewide average monthly TEMPERATURE was 2.2° above normal as temperatures ranged from 2° to 5° above normal. The West-Southwest District recorded the largest above normal variation (6.1° above normal). The month started with a 4-day warm period with temperatures climbing into the 30's and 40's. Very cold air traveled southward across the State during the second week dropping the minimum temperatures to as low as 20° below zero in the Northwest. By the end of the second week, readings were once again above normal. During mid-month the departures ran from 10° to 20° above normal as maximum readings climbed into the 40's in the North and the 60's in the South. On the 26th and 27th, a brief cold period sent minimum readings below the zero mark over the northern two-thirds of the State. By the end of January, temperatures were once again above normal.

PRECIPITATION averaged below normal in the State (-1.92 inches below normal). The northern two-thirds of Illinois received the most precipitation. The largest below normal variation was in the Southeast District (2.86 inches below normal). This was the one of the driest Januarys on record for Illinois. The area near Springfield and St. Louis reported this to be the driest January on record. One station in the West-Southwest, 4 stations in the East-Southeast, and 1 station in the East only received a trace of precipitation. The area around Greenville, in the West-Southwest District, had the greatest amount of precipitation with a monthly total of 2.07 inches. This was due to a heavy rain-shower on the 11th which deluged the area with 1.44 inches.

The northern sections received the greatest SNOWFALL, ranging from 2 to 11 inches. The remainder of the State received from a trace to 1 inch. The heaviest snow occurred during the first and third week. Antioch, in the Northeast District, again received the greatest total snowfall (11.6 inches).

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

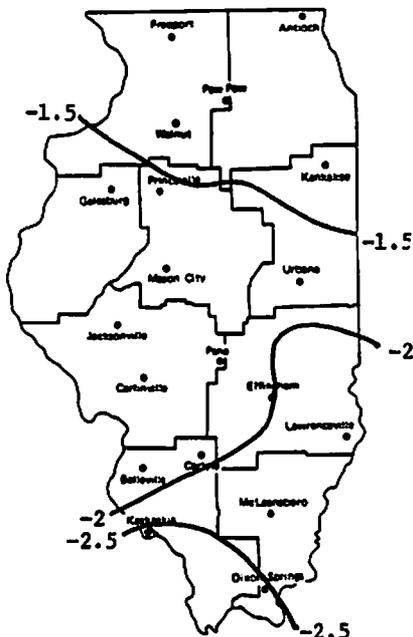
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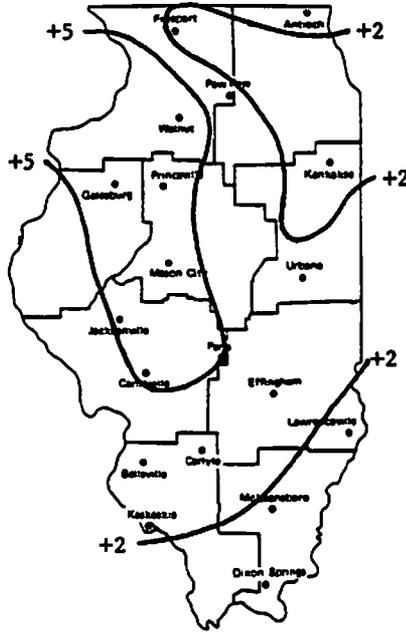
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PRELIMINARY DISTRICT PRECIPITATION AVERAGES AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL IN INCHES

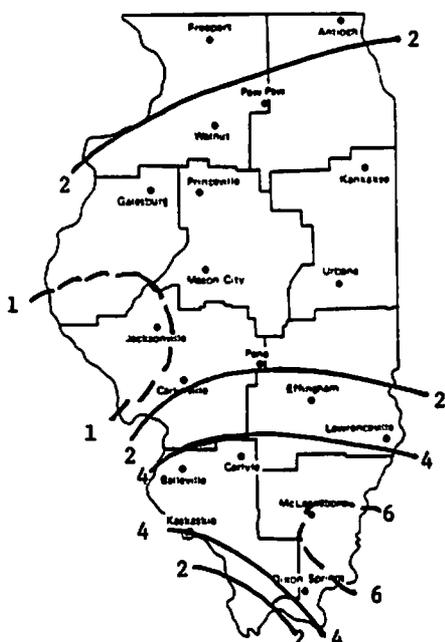
	NW	NE	W	C	E	WSW	ESE	SW	SE
January	0.48	0.38	0.15	0.13	0.08	0.25	0.00	0.36	0.51
Departure	-1.15	-1.43	-1.61	-1.73	-1.77	-1.58	-2.55	-2.66	-2.86



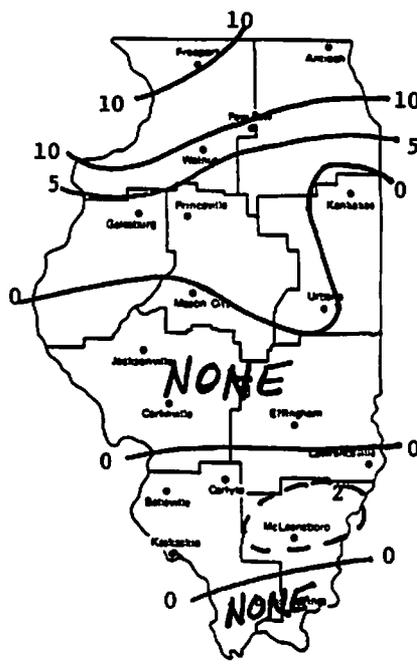
JANUARY PRECIPITATION-DEVIATIONS FROM NORMAL IN INCHES



JANUARY TEMPERATURE-DEVIATIONS FROM NORMAL - OF



TOTAL PRECIPITATION--JAN.1-FEB.15 IN INCHES



JANUARY SNOWFALL IN INCHES