

ILLINOIS WEATHER & CROPS

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ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



ILLINOIS STATE WATER SURVEY

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Weather conditions improved last week and were mostly excellent over the State, greatly increasing fieldwork activities. There was an average of 6.25 days rated as suitable for fieldwork, with nearly all areas active. The major field activities were applying fertilizer, planting oats, planting grasses or other crops on government set-aside acreage, field tillage, and some corn planting.

CORN planting, as of April 12, was about 1% complete, compared to 2% last year and the 5-year average (1982-86) of less than 1%. Most of the acreage that was planted was in the southern one-half of the State.

WINTER WHEAT condition on April 10 was reported as 12% excellent, 74% good, and 14% fair. Most of the wheat acreage came through the winter in good condition, with little to no winterkill reported in most areas.

OAT seeding, as of April 12, was 75% complete, compared to 77% last year and the 5-year average of 36%. Most of this year's oat seedings are being planted on set-aside ground rather than for grain acres.

ALFALFA condition was reported as 9% excellent, 65% good, and 26% fair. Winterkill to alfalfa was reported as minor, compared to rather heavy losses a year ago.

PASTURE condition, as of April 10, was rated as 6% excellent, 51% good, 41% fair, and 2% poor. Moisture was needed over most of the State. Pastures were supplying about 32% of the livestock roughage requirements, compared to 38% last year and the average of 24%.

SOIL MOISTURE on April 10 was reported as 60% short, 39% adequate, and 1% surplus. Soil moisture conditions were generally the best in west-central and extreme southern Illinois.

WEATHER

TEMPERATURES, for the week ending 7 A.M. Monday, April 13, ranged from the low 60's North to near 70° in the South. These values ranged from as high as 7° above normal in Northern Illinois to only 1 or 2° above normal in the South. Average lows ranged from mid-30's North to the low 40's in parts of the South. Those values were within a degree of normal in northern sections but fell short of normal by 2 to 5° in the Central and South. Clear, dry weather on some days allowed a wide spread between day and night readings. At the extremes temperatures ranged from a low of 20° at Watseka on Friday morning to a high of 77° at Lawrenceville during the day Friday.

PRECIPITATION totals remained under a half inch over most of Illinois and most of what did fall was during the last weekend. The seven-day totals ranged from virtually none in the southern tip of the State to 1.05 inches at Quincy.

The OUTLOOK for Wednesday through Friday indicates some lingering chance for showers Wednesday, then fair skies Thursday and Friday. Highs, in the 50's to 60's Wednesday, should climb into the 60's to 70's by Friday as high pressure builds over the area. Lows should hold in the 40's.

The OUTLOOK for the rest of April is for temperatures to be above normal and precipitation to be near normal.

The 90-DAY OUTLOOK from April through June is for temperatures and precipitation to be near normal.

MARCH WEATHER SUMMARY

The Statewide average monthly TEMPERATURE was 5.4° above normal as temperatures ranged from 1 to 8° above normal. The warmest portion of the State was again in the Northwest, while the coolest area was in a small area in the Northeast District near Antioch, and in the extreme South. Morrison, in the Northwest District, recorded the largest above normal variation (8° above normal). Goreville, in the Southwest District, and Antioch in the Northeast District, both recorded the least above normal variation (1° above normal). The first part of the month was above normal over much of the State, with maximum readings climbing into the 60's and 70's, setting several new temperature records during this period. A short-lived cold period occurred during midmonth but was quickly replaced by the warm, dry air. However, another cold period developed at the end of the month dropping minimum readings into the teens and 20's.

PRECIPITATION averaged below normal in the State (-1.42 inches below normal). This was the 5th straight month that most of the districts were below normal. The northern districts were 0.77 to 0.99 of an inch below normal. Largest below normal variation was in the Southeast District (-2.23 inches below normal). The least below normal variation was in the Northeast and the Central Districts (0.76 of an inch below normal). Illinois received most of its precipitation during the last half of the month. Cairo, in the Southwest District, received 1.33 inches during a 24-hour period from the 17th thru the 18th.

Snowfall was moderate during the month. On the 14th 1 to 4 inches fell in the northern portion of Illinois. On the 28th and 29th, another 4 inches fell on Northwest Illinois. On the 30th, 1 inch fell in the South.

ILLINOIS CROP REPORTING DISTRICT SUMMARY

	NW	NE	W	C	E	WSW	ESE	SW	SE	STATE
As of April 10										
Days suitable for fieldwork:	6.5	7.0	6.0	6.5	6.5	6.0	6.5	6.0	5.0	6.25
1 Moisture Percent:										
Short	70	85	40	90	90	25	85	30	25	60
Adequate	30	15	60	10	10	75	15	70	65	39
Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	1

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 13, 1987

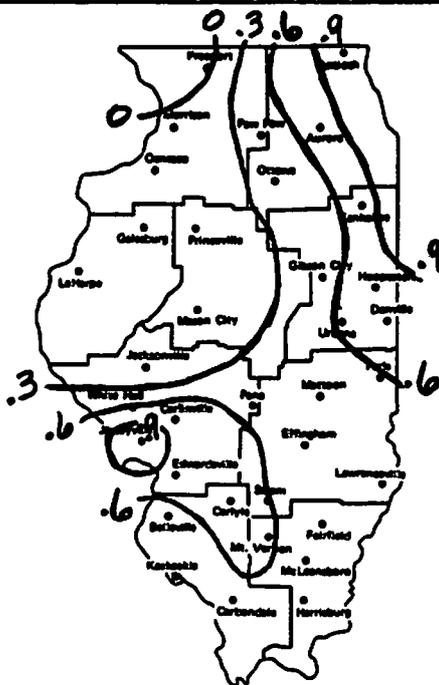
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PRELIMINARY DISTRICT PRECIPITATION AVERAGES AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL IN INCHES

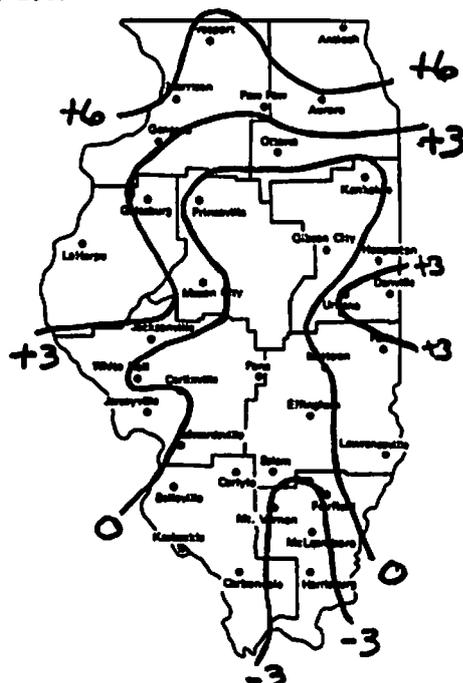
	NW	NE	W	C	E	WSW	ESE	SW	SE
March	1.71	1.63	1.92	2.16	1.31	1.98	1.55	2.12	2.19
Departure	-0.76	-0.97	-0.99	-0.76	-1.60	-1.23	-2.12	-2.11	-2.23

Week ending Sunday, April 5, 1987

Location	Temperatures			Precipitation
	Maxi- : num :	Mini- : num :	Depar- : ture :	Current : week :
ELIZABETH	65	33	+2	.03
ROCKFORD	65	36	+5	.11
CHICAGO	62	38	+3	.76
CHI BOTANICAL	58	37	+0	.69
ELWOOD	64	36	+3	.73
WATSEKA	66	35	+1	.90
PERU	67	34	+1	.62
OLINE	65	35	+2	.06
ZORIA	66	39	+3	.10
KILBOURNE	63	35	-1	.15
MONMOUTH	65	36	+0	.05
QUINCY	65	40	+2	1.05
PERRY	65	35	-1	.10
SPRINGFIELD	66	36	+0	.13
DECATUR	66	39	+1	.09
URBANA	66	37	+1	.64
WINDSOR	66	36	+0	.15
TERRE HAUTE 8S65	66	38	+0	.80
ST. LOUIS	66	44	NA	.38
BELLEVILLE	66	38	-1	.15
BROWNSTOWN	67	36	-1	.15
IUKA	67	37	-1	.39
LAWRENCEVILLE	67	37	NA	.59
VINCENNES	65	39	+0	.60
DIXON SPRINGS	68	42	-1	.00
PADUCAH	70	43	+0	.40
OLIVE BRANCH	68	39	-1	.47
CARBONDALE	67	40	-1	.02
C GIRARDEAU	68	44	NA	.40



TOTAL PRECIPITATION (INCHES)
APRIL 7-13, 1987



TEMPERATURE DEPARTURES FROM
AVERAGE (°F) APRIL 7-13, 1987