

ILLINOIS WEATHER & CROPS

ILLINOIS AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

Box 19283, Springfield, IL 62794-9283
Phone: (217) 492-4295

**U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**



NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

Midwest Agricultural Weather Service Center
Purdue University
West Lafayette, Indiana 47907
Phone: (317) 743-2272



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CROPS

WEATHER

Widespread rain last week improved soil moisture conditions across the State while delaying fieldwork. There was an average of 1.50 days suitable for fieldwork during the week of April 11-17. All areas reported 2.0 days or less. Conditions improved at the end of the week and farmers were able to resume seedbed preparation and planting of corn, oats and cover crops on set-aside acres.

CORN planting, as of April 19, was about 3% complete, compared to 7% last year and the 5-year average (1982-86) of 2%. Most of the corn acreage that has been planted is in the central and southern areas of the State.

WINTER WHEAT condition on April 17 was reported as 16% excellent, 74% good, and 10% fair. Most of the wheat acreage came through the winter in good condition and the recent rain should further improve the crop condition.

OAT seeding, as of April 19, was 85% complete, compared to 88% last year and the 5-year average of 52%. Most of this year's oat seedings are being planted on set-aside ground rather than for grain.

ALFALFA condition was reported as 8% excellent, 70% good, and 22% fair.

PASTURE condition, as of April 17, was reported as 10% excellent, 66% good, 23% fair, and 1% poor. Pastures were supplying about 45% of livestock roughage requirements, compared to 48% last year and the 5-year average of 33%.

SOIL MOISTURE on April 17 was reported as 25% surplus, 69% adequate, and 6% short. Soil moisture improved last week as most areas received beneficial rainfall.

FREEZE DAMAGE to the 1987 **APPLE** crop was rated as 44% none, 47% light, 8% moderate, and 1% severe. Most of the damage occurred during the cold weather early in April.

FREEZE DAMAGE to the 1987 **PEACH** crop was rated as 33% none, 27% light, 36% moderate, and 4% severe. As with apples, much of the damage occurred in early April.

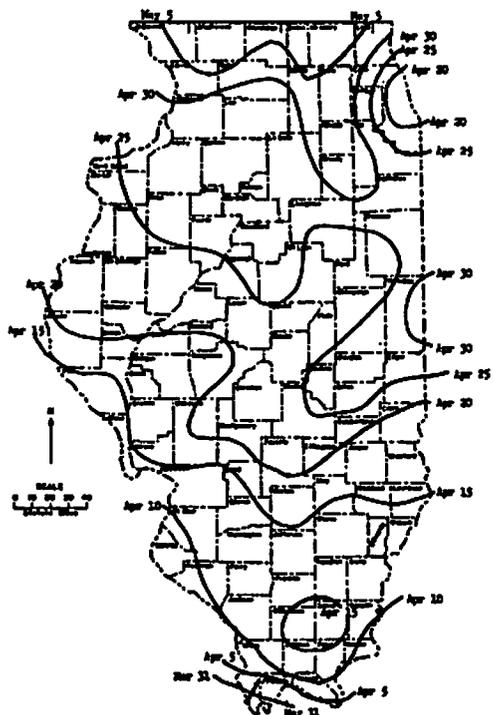
TEMPERATURES this past week averaged above seasonal levels. Readings South were 1 to 3 degrees warmer than usual, but in the North, weekly averages were as much as 3 to 7 degrees warmer than normal. Temperature extremes were wide, ranging from morning lows in the lower 40's on the 17th to summerlike highs in the 80's on the afternoon of the 20th.

PRECIPITATION was widespread and incoming totals generous. In the North totals generally averaged from three-quarters of an inch to about an inch and a half. Southern totals were even greater, with the needed recharge averaging from over an inch to as much as two and a half inches.

The **OUTLOOK** for Thursday thru Saturday is calling for partly cloudy skies and mild temperatures early. The next frontal advance will arrive on Friday, but it appears that the shower threat will be greater North than South.

The **10-DAY OUTLOOK** is above normal temperatures with below normal precipitation for Illinois.

AVERAGE DATE OF LAST SPRING FREEZE (32° F or below)



ILLINOIS CROP REPORTING DISTRICT SUMMARY

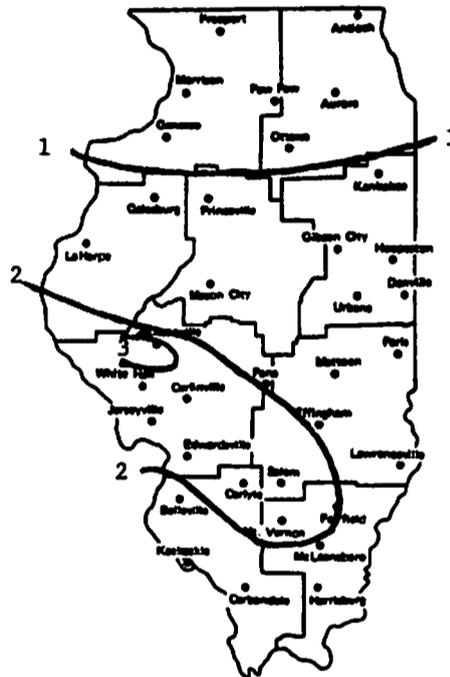
	NW	NE	W	C	E	WSW	ESE	SW	SE	STATE
As of April 17										
Days suitable for fieldwork:	2.0	1.5	1.5	2.0	2.0	1.5	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.50
Soil Moisture Percent:										
Short :	20	0	0	25	5	0	5	0	0	6
Adequate:	80	75	80	70	55	55	70	70	60	69
Surplus :	0	25	20	5	40	45	25	30	40	25

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 the Illinois State Water Survey, IDE&NR, Champaign, Ill. and National Weather Service Cooperative Observers.

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April 20, 1987

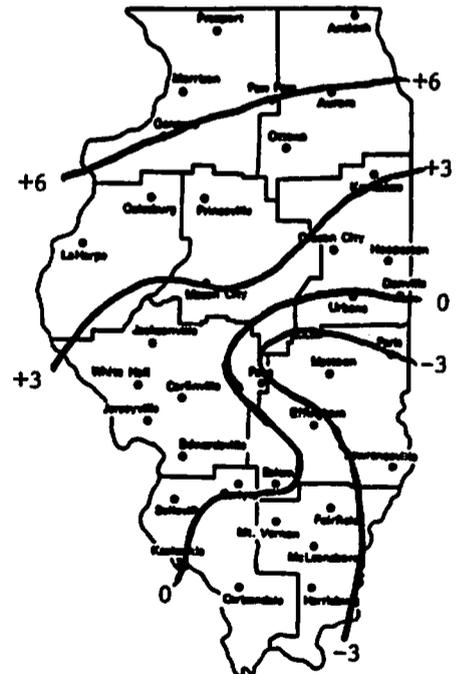
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PRECIPITATION (INCHES)
APRIL 14-20, 1987

Week ending Sunday, April 12, 1987

Location	Temperatures			Precipitation Current week
	Maxi- mum	Mini- mum	Depar- ture	
Elizabeth	66	44	+5	.67
Rockford	67	45	+7	.89
Chicago	65	48	+7	1.14
Chi Botanical	61	44	+2	1.44
Elwood	68	46	+7	.74
Watseka	65	45	+3	1.21
Peru	68	47	+5	.96
oline	69	49	+8	.73
oria	69	51	+8	1.47
illbourne	68	48	+4	.80
Monmouth	69	47	+5	.78
Quincy	69	51	+6	.72
Perry	68	47	+2	.81
Springfield	67	51	+5	1.99
Decatur	65	46	+1	.66
Urbana	65	49	+4	1.17
Windsor	67	48	+3	2.49
Terre Haute	66	48	+3	1.55
St Louis	69	53	NA	1.25
Belleville	69	49	+2	1.27
Brownstown	66	47	+1	2.07
Iuka	67	46	+0	1.72
Lawrenceville	67	46	NA	1.47
Vincennes	66	48	+1	1.77
Dixon Springs	72	49	+1	2.17
Paducah	71	48	+0	1.47
Olive Branch	72	52	+3	1.42
Carbondale	70	47	+0	1.75
C Girardeau	72	51	NA	1.26



TEMPERATURE DEPARTURES FROM
AVERAGE (°F) APRIL 14-20, 1987