

ILLINOIS WEATHER & CROPS



**ILLINOIS
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE**

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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CROPS

WINTER WHEAT condition as of February 16 was reported as 8% excellent, 82% good, and 10% fair. Condition of wheat improved from last month, with the aid of above normal temperatures and beneficial precipitation. Wheat in the Southern areas of the State is reported to be coming out of dormancy and showing growth. The affect of last week's ice storm in Central Illinois on the wheat crop is not yet known and will warrant close observation in the coming weeks. Producers are still concerned over winter kill occurring if extended cold weather returns.

SOIL MOISTURE on February 16 was reported as 49% short, 35% adequate, and 16% surplus. Soil moisture supplies improved dramatically from last month with the Southern third of the State currently reporting surplus soil moisture. Soil moisture improved in all areas of the State with the exception of the West District which remained in the short category. Moisture received during this last month has been absorbed into the soil and is replenishing surface moisture supplies.

LIVESTOCK are in mostly good to excellent condition across the State. Feed efficiency has been positively influenced by the mild weather conditions. A few respiratory problems have been reported in livestock due to the wide temperature variations. Thawing conditions have made feedlots muddy causing some stress in animals. Lambing is reported to be well underway.

ILLINOIS DISTRICT SUMMARY

District	Winter Wheat Condition				Soil Moisture Percent		
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Short	Adq.	Surplus
As of February 16							
Northwest	0	100	0	0	95	5	0
Northeast	0	55	45	0	50	50	0
West	5	75	20	0	100	0	0
Central	0	75	25	0	90	10	0
East	10	65	25	0	25	75	0
W Southwest	5	75	20	0	55	45	0
E Southeast	10	90	0	0	20	65	15
Southwest	15	75	10	0	10	60	30
Southeast	0	100	0	0	0	0	100
State	8	82	10	0	49	35	16

PRELIMINARY DISTRICT PRECIPITATION AVGS. AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL IN INCHES

	NW	NE	W	C	E	WSW	ESE	SW	SE	STATE
January	1.35	1.74	0.93	1.69	1.40	1.82	1.27	3.54	3.76	1.94
Departure	-0.30	-0.06	-0.81	-0.15	-0.45	-0.10	-1.25	0.56	0.39	-0.24

JANUARY WEATHER SUMMARY

ILLINOIS RECORDED NEAR RECORD HIGH TEMPERATURES AND SLIGHTLY BELOW NORMAL PRECIPITATION FOR JANUARY 1990. UNLIKE THE COLD TEMPERATURES OF DECEMBER, UNSEASONABLY WARM READINGS WERE RECORDED THROUGHOUT THE STATE. THE AVERAGE MONTHLY TEMPERATURE WAS 12 DEGREES ABOVE NORMAL. TEMPERATURES WERE ABOVE NORMAL DURING THE FIRST HALF OF THE MONTH AS READINGS AVERAGED 10 TO 20 DEGREES ABOVE NORMAL. SEVERAL STATIONS RECORDED NEW MAXIMUM HIGHS AS TEMPERATURES CLIMBED INTO THE UPPER 60'S IN THE CENTRAL AND SOUTH. TWO BRIEF COLD PERIODS BROUGHT THE MINIMUM TEMPERATURES INTO THE SINGLE NUMBERS IN THE NORTH. PADUCAH (NEAR THE SOUTHEAST DISTRICT) RECORDED THE WARMEST JANUARY ON RECORD. MANY STATIONS REPORTED THIS JANUARY TO BE ONE OF THE TOP THREE WARMEST ON RECORD.

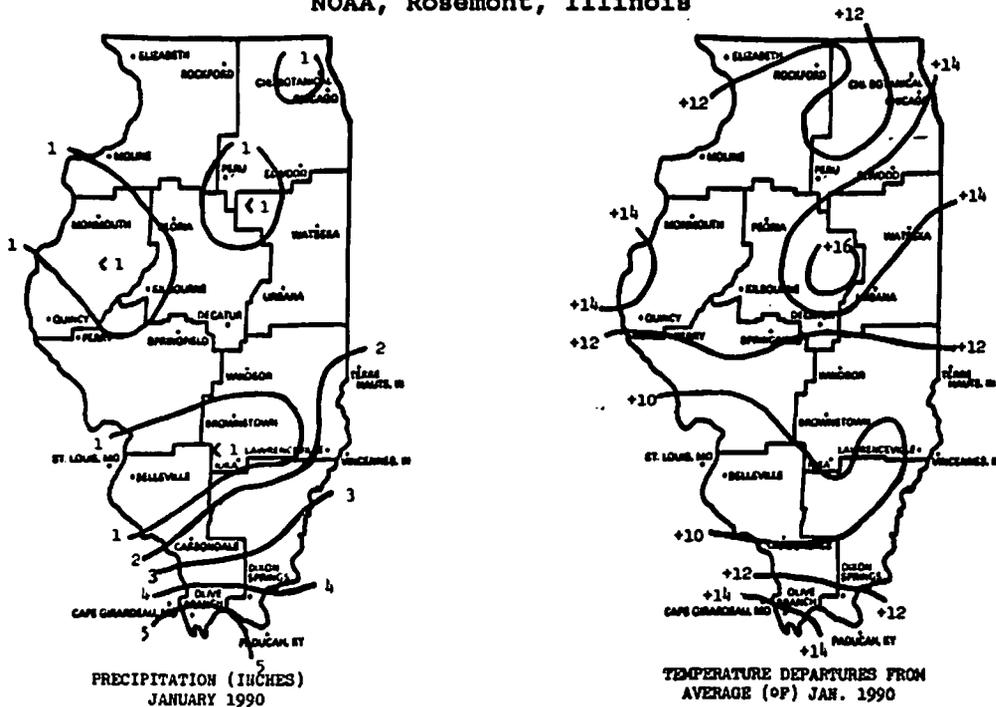
THE AVERAGE PRECIPITATION FOR THE STATE WAS 0.24 OF AN INCH BELOW NORMAL. HOWEVER, SEVERAL SECTIONS OF THE STATE RECORDED SLIGHTLY ABOVE NORMAL PRECIPITATION. THE LARGEST BELOW NORMAL VARIATION WAS IN THE EAST-SOUTHEAST DISTRICT (1.25 INCHES BELOW NORMAL). THE LARGEST ABOVE NORMAL VARIATION WAS IN THE SOUTHWEST DISTRICT (0.56 OF AN INCH ABOVE NORMAL). THERE WERE TWO PERIODS IN WHICH THE GREATEST PRECIPITATION FELL. IN THE FIRST WEEK THE AMOUNTS WERE LESS THAN 0.50 OF AN INCH. DURING THE THIRD WEEK BETWEEN 0.50 OF AN INCH AND 2.75 INCHES FELL. PADUCAH RECORDED 2.49 INCHES OF PRECIPITATION ON THE 19TH AND 20TH. GRAND TOWER (IN THE SOUTHWEST DISTRICT) RECEIVED THE LARGEST MONTHLY TOTAL WITH 6.40 INCHES.

SNOWFALL WAS NEAR NORMAL IN THE NORTH WHILE THE REMAINDER OF THE STATE WAS BELOW NORMAL. THE GREATEST SNOW FELL IN THE CORNER OF THE NORTHEAST. AMOUNTS OF 10 TO 12 INCHES WERE REPORTED ON THE 25TH.

THE OUTLOOK FOR THE REMAINDER OF FEBRUARY IS FOR TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION TO BE ABOVE NORMAL.

THE 90-DAY OUTLOOK FOR ILLINOIS FROM FEBRUARY THROUGH APRIL IS FOR TEMPERATURES TO BE BELOW NORMAL AND PRECIPITATION TO BE NEAR NORMAL.

Summary provided by The National Weather Service Cooperative Observers
NOAA, Rosemont, Illinois



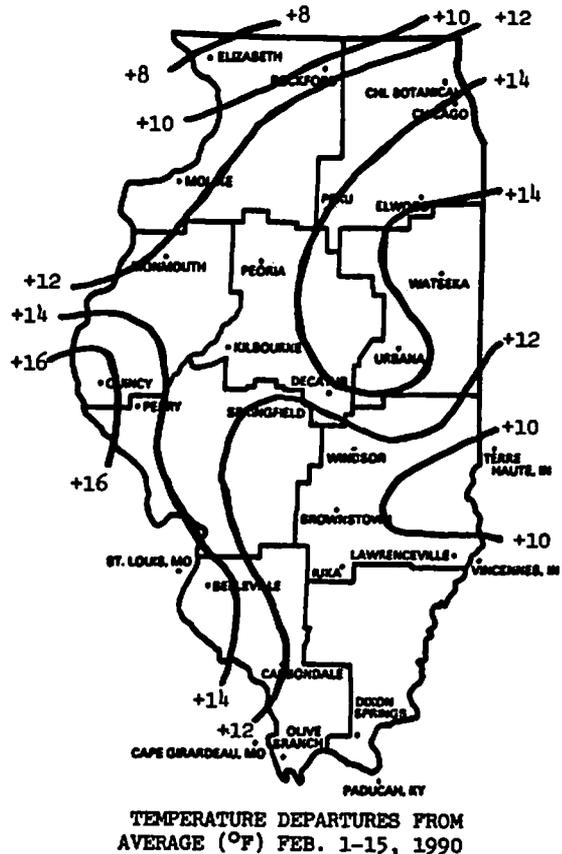
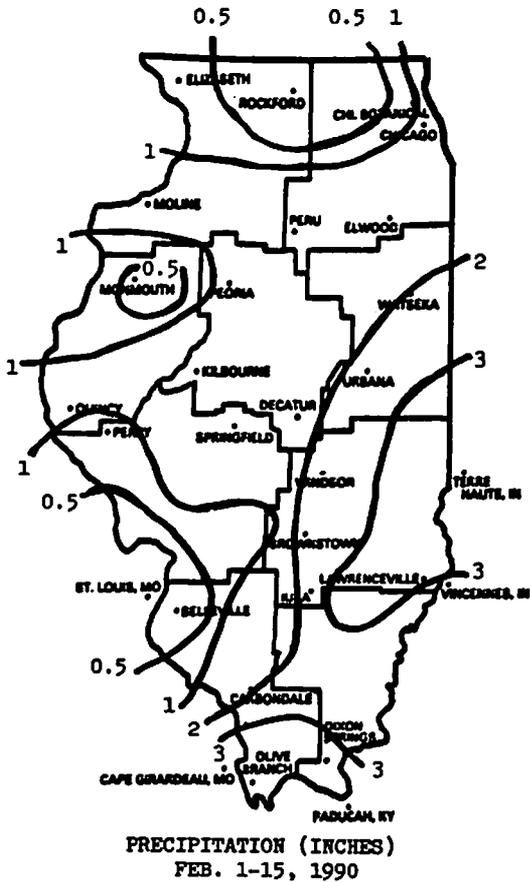
Weather maps provided by Illinois State Water Survey
Champaign, Illinois 61820

WEATHER SUMMARY FOR FEBRUARY 1 - 15, 1990

MILD WEATHER DOMINATED THE STATE DURING THE FIRST HALF OF FEBRUARY. TEMPERATURES AVERAGED 10 TO 15 DEGREES ABOVE NORMAL IN MOST PLACES AS ANY COLD SPELLS WERE LIMITED TO ONLY A FEW DAYS IN LENGTH AT MOST. AVERAGE HIGH TEMPERATURES RANGED FROM THE 40'S NORTH TO 50'S SOUTH WHILE AVERAGE LOWS WERE IN THE 20'S NORTH AND 30'S SOUTH. THE MILD SPELLS DID PUSH HIGHS INTO THE 50'S AND 60'S ON SOME INDIVIDUAL DAYS WHILE THE FEW COLD INTRUSIONS DROPPED LOWS INTO THE TEENS ON A FEW NIGHTS.

PRECIPITATION OVER THE FIRST 15 DAYS WAS ABOVE NORMAL IN MOST PLACES AND IN THE FORM OF RAIN MORE OFTEN THAN NOT. THE GREATEST AMOUNTS WERE RECORDED IN SOUTHERN ILLINOIS AS WEATHER SYSTEMS OFTEN MOVED FROM THE SOUTHWEST THROUGH THE MID-MISSISSIPPI VALLEY. TOTALS WERE GENERALLY GREATER THAN ONE INCH, THOUGH SOME AREAS OF THE FAR NORTH HAD LESS. SOME SOUTHERN LOCATIONS RECORDED MORE THAN FOUR INCHES. SNOW COVER WAS GENERALLY NON-EXISTENT OR CONFINED TO THE NORTH AND SHORT-LIVED. THE MILD TEMPERATURES THAWED TOPSOILS ACROSS MOST OF ILLINOIS WITH THE NORTHERN COUNTIES AVERAGING CLOSE TO FREEZING AT THE 4-INCH DEPTH. FOUR-INCH SOIL MAXIMUMS AVERAGED IN THE MID 30'S NORTH TO MID 40'S SOUTH WITH MINIMUMS IN THE LOW AND MID 30'S NORTH TO THE MID AND UPPER 30'S SOUTH. UNFROZEN SOILS ALLOWED MUCH OF THE PRECIPITATION TO MOVE INTO SOIL MOISTURE RESERVES.

Information above provided by Midwest Agricultural Weather Service Center
Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana 47907



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