

ILLINOIS WEATHER & CROPS



P.O. Box 19283, Springfield, Il. 62794-9283
Phone: (217)492-4295

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

RELEASED: April 3, 1995 3 P.M., CDT
VOL. 16, NO. 4

CROPS

Spring fieldwork began across most of the state last week. Farmers were busy plowing, disking, seeding oats and applying anhydrous, dry fertilizer, and early preplant herbicides. Equipment preparation, spreading manure, farm program signup and assessment of the winter wheat crop continued last week. Corn planting was just beginning in the central and south central areas of the state but most farmers were waiting for warmer soil temperatures to begin. Livestock were reported in generally good condition due to the mild winter. Conditions have been favorable for the spring calf crop. For the week ending March 31, there was an average of 2.1 days suitable for fieldwork.

WINTER WHEAT condition, as of March 31, was reported as 19 percent excellent, 74 percent good, five percent fair, and two percent poor. As wheat has started coming out of dormancy, no major damage has been reported. Wheat reports are positive with most of wheat greening with good stands.

OAT seeding progressed slowly and as of April 2, 13 percent of the crop had been seeded statewide compared to 39 percent last year and the five year average of 23 percent.

ALFALFA condition was reported as 11 percent excellent, 67 percent good, 21 percent fair and one percent poor on March 31.

PASTURE condition was rated as seven percent excellent, 63 percent good, 25 percent fair, four percent poor and one percent very poor.

SOIL MOISTURE supplies were reported as ten percent short, 82 percent adequate and eight percent surplus.

This is the first Weekly Illinois Weather and Crops report for the 1995 season. This report will be published at 3:00 p.m. every Monday (Tuesday if Monday is a holiday) until harvest is completed in the fall.

The cooperation of our weekly crop reporters and weather reporters makes this service available to Illinois agriculture. The Illinois Agricultural Statistics Service and the Weather Service express our thanks for the faithful help of these volunteers.

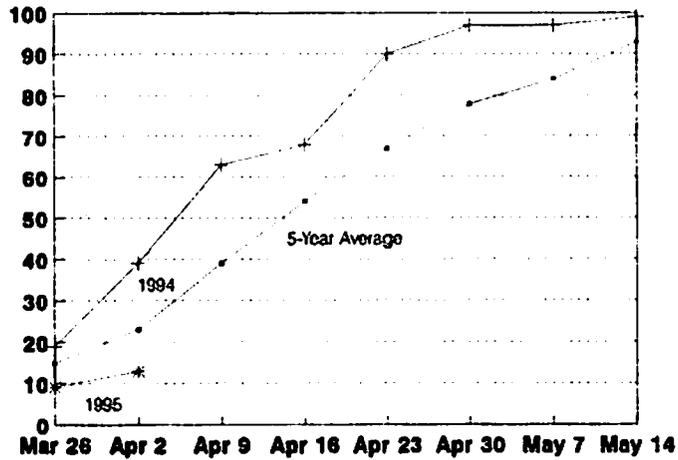


Soil Moisture Supply
March 31, 1995

ILLINOIS DISTRICT SUMMARY

District	Days Suitable For Fieldwork	Soil Moisture Percent		
		Short	Adequate	Surplus
	March 25 - 31	As of March 31		
Northwest	0.5	0	95	5
Northeast	0.5	0	100	0
West	2.0	15	80	5
Central	1.5	15	80	5
East	1.5	5	70	25
W Southwest	3.5	15	85	0
E Southeast	2.5	15	80	5
Southwest	3.0	0	80	20
Southeast	3.5	20	65	15
State	2.1	10	82	8

**Oats - Percent Seeded
Illinois**



WEATHER SUMMARY

A northwest flow of air from Canada tended to dominate Illinois weather the past seven days with some light snow and flurries reported. Colder and drier than normal weather occurred for the period.

Daily high temperatures averaged from the mid and upper 40's in the north to the 50's and around 60 in the south, which was mostly 2 to 10 degrees below normal across the state. Lows averaged in the low and mid 30's most areas of Illinois, which was 1 to 9 degrees below normal in the central and south. Northern parts of the state averaged near normal to as much as 3 degrees above normal in some areas for lows. Coldest readings for the seven day period were mostly in the 20's.

Precipitation totals, water equivalent, averaged mostly less than 0.20 inch across Illinois, which was 0.50 to 1.00 inch below normal. A few scattered areas of eastern Illinois reported precipitation totals of 0.30 to 0.70 inch.

Dry weather will occur for the period Wednesday through Friday. Highs in the 30's and 40's on Wednesday will increase by Friday into the 40's and 50's. Lows around 20 in the north to near 30 in the south on Wednesday will moderate into the mid and upper 20's in the north to the 30's in the south by Friday.

Week ending 8 A.M. Monday, April 3, 1995

Location	Temperatures			Precipitation	Growing Degree Days	Soil Temperature 4" Bare	
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure			Maximum	Minimum
Elizabeth	46	28	-4	0.18	5	45	40
Rockford	45	34	-2	0.22	3	43	35
Chicago	46	37	-2	0.10	3	N/A	N/A
Chi Botanical	44	33	-1	0.73	2	43	38
Watseka	47	34	-3	0.32	4	48	40
Peru	48	31	-4	0.07	5	44	36
Moline	48	34	-3	0.11	8	N/A	N/A
Peoria	48	36	-3	0.05	7	47	41
Monmouth	48	32	-6	0.03	8	46	39
Quincy	47	36	-6	0.06	10	N/A	N/A
Perry	49	32	-6	0.00	9	48	39
Springfield	50	33	-6	0.00	9	48	45
Urbana	48	34	-5	0.16	6	48	43
Windsor	50	35	-6	0.33	11	55	48
Terre Haute	51	36	-4	0.17	13	52	44
St. Louis	54	40	N/A	0.12	23	N/A	N/A
Belleville	51	35	-8	0.60	10	51	43
Brownstown	49	33	-7	0.00	10	52	46
Iuka	51	32	-9	0.00	8	50	42
Lawrenceville	51	32	-7	0.00	12	N/A	N/A
Vincennes	51	34	-6	0.00	9	50	42
Dixon Springs	56	35	-7	0.00	24	53	44
Paducah	61	36	-5	0.00	39	62	59
Olive Branch	62	34	-4	0.86	44	61	47
Carbondale	54	30	-8	0.08	19	N/A	N/A
C Girardeau	60	38	N/A	0.00	37	N/A	N/A

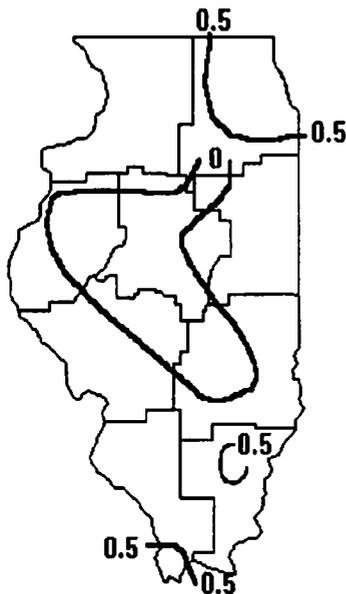
Summary provided by Illinois State Water Survey
Champaign, Illinois 61820

NEWSPAPER TIME VALUE

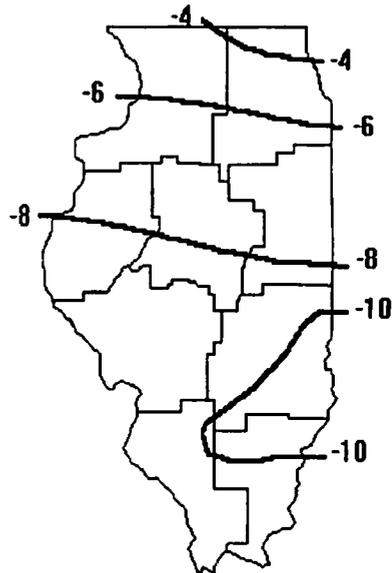
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Illinois Weather & Crops (ISSN 0273-8635) is published weekly April-November, semiweekly the second week of June, monthly December-March, by the Illinois Dept. of Agriculture, Illinois Agricultural Statistics Service, Room 54, Department of Agriculture Bldg., 801 Sangamon Ave., Springfield, IL 62702. For information on subscribing, send request to the above address. Second-class postage paid at Springfield, Illinois. Postmaster: Send Address Change to Illinois Weather & Crops, P.O. Box 19283, Springfield, IL 62794-9283.

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



Precipitation (Inches)
March 25-April 3, 1995



Temperature Departure
March 25-April 3, 1995

CROP PROGRESS INFORMATION in this report is provided voluntarily by local area officials of Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, Extension Service, Soil Conservation Service, Farm Business Farm Management field staff, and agribusiness managers.