

ILLINOIS WEATHER & CROPS



ILLINOIS
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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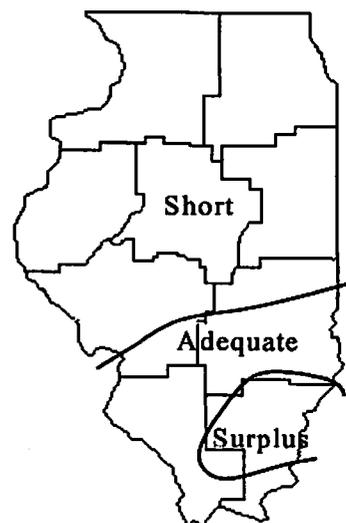
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CROPS

Most Illinois farmers were preparing fields for corn planting last week. Even though soil temperatures were not ideal corn planting picked up last week, but the majority of farmers are waiting for warmer weather conditions before going full tilt. As of April 14, three percent of the corn crop had been planted. This compares to one percent last year and the five-year average of two percent. Oat sowing increased substantially from last week. As of April 14, 72 percent of the oat crop had been planted, up from 16 percent a week earlier. This compares to 42 percent last year and the five-year average of 50 percent.

There was an average of 5.4 days suitable for field work during the week of April 6-12. Topsoil moisture was rated nine percent very short, 42 percent short, 44 percent adequate, and five percent surplus on April 12. As of April 12, wheat was rated 31 percent very poor, 32 percent poor, 29 percent fair, seven percent good, and one percent excellent. Alfalfa condition was three percent very poor, 17 percent poor, 57 percent fair, 22 percent good, and one percent excellent. The weather conditions are causing pastures to green up slowly. Pasture was rated as eight percent very poor, 28 percent poor, 47 percent fair, 16 percent good, and one percent excellent. Other farm activities were fertilizer and chemical applications, evaluating wheat, disking, hauling and spreading manure, and livestock tending.

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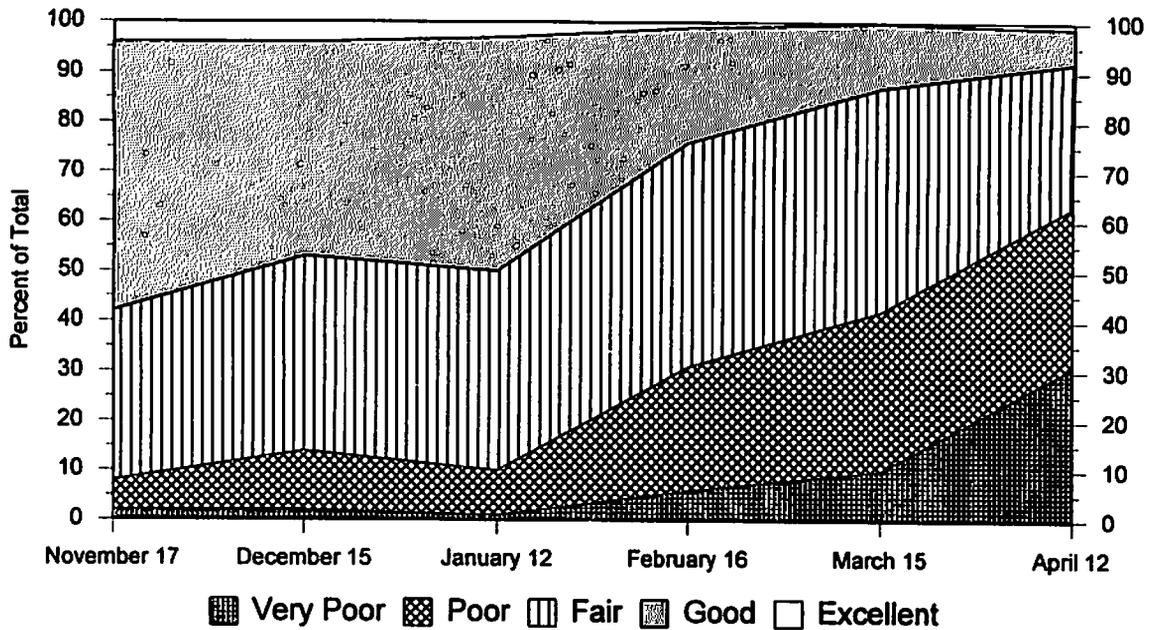
Topsoil Moisture Supply
April 12, 1996

ILLINOIS DISTRICT SUMMARY

District	Days Suitable For Fieldwork	Topsoil Moisture Percent			
		Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	April 6 - 12		As of April 12		
Northwest	6.2	11	49	39	1
Northeast	6.0	13	65	22	-
West	6.5	17	52	28	3
Central	6.3	15	54	31	-
East	6.1	15	71	14	-
W Southwest	6.0	5	53	42	-
E Southeast	3.8	7	21	66	6
Southwest	3.8	-	30	66	4
Southeast	4.3	4	3	62	31
State	5.4	9	42	44	5

Wheat Condition

Illinois 1996 Crop



WEATHER SUMMARY

Temperatures continued colder than average during the past seven days, but were somewhat less severe than in past weeks. During the past week, temperatures were 4°F below average in southeast counties and near 1°F below average in the northwest. Whereas precipitation has been substantially greater in southern counties during the past month, that of this week was greatest in the northeast, greater than one inch within an arc from Lake County to about Peoria County. The southern half of the state measured less than 0.5 inch. Soil temperatures were greater than 50°F in the southeastern third of the state.

Week ending 8 A.M. Monday, April 15, 1996

Location	Temperatures			Precipitation	Growing Degree Days
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure		
Elizabeth	59	27	-0.5	0.67	34
Rockford	60	32	-1.0	0.05	31
Chicago	56	35	-1.8	1.00	29
Chi Botanical	52	32	-6.5	1.05	23
Watseka	59	29	-3.3	0.27	40
Peru	59	30	-4.4	0.79	35
Moline	62	34	-1.9	0.63	39
Peoria	63	35	-2.9	1.62	46
Monmouth	63	34	-2.0	0.98	42
Quincy	62	36	-0.8	0.66	42
Perry	62	35	-1.2	0.24	45
Springfield	65	35	-2.7	0.24	50
Urbana	67	34	-3.5	0.03	42
Windsor	67	37	-3.4	0.23	43
Terre Haute	62	36	-4.0	0.16	40
St. Louis	67	43	-1.6	0.99	52
Belleville	70	41	-1.9	0.30	52
Brownstown	62	36	-2.9	0.58	51
Iuka	63	38	-3.1	0.20	42
Lawrenceville ^{1/}					
Vincennes	58	37	-4.2	N/A	42
Dixon Springs	64	38	-3.8	0.01	52
Paducah	67	35	-4.0	0.63	57
Olive Branch	65	40	-3.1	0.20	51
Carbondale	62	35	-2.8	0.01	49
C Girardeau	67	41	-3.1	0.37	62

^{1/} - Data for location not available.

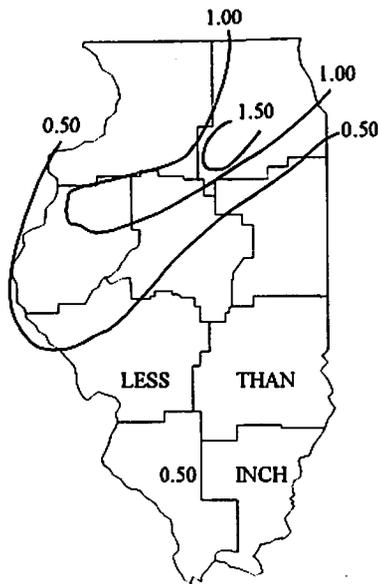
N/A - Not Available.

NEWSPAPER TIME VALUE

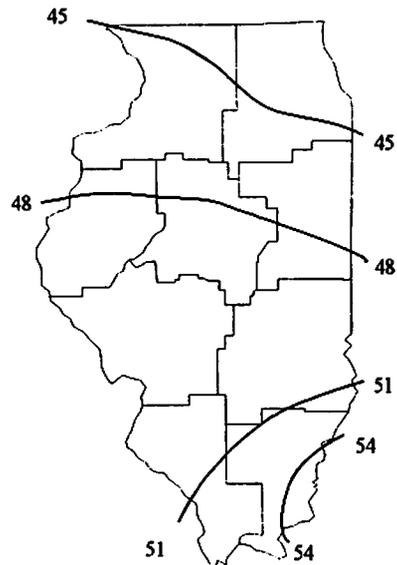
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Weather maps provided by Illinois State Water Survey
Champaign, Illinois 61820



Precipitation (inches)
April 9-15, 1996



4-inch Soil Temperature
7 a.m. April 14, 1996

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

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