

ILLINOIS WEATHER & CROPS



ILLINOIS
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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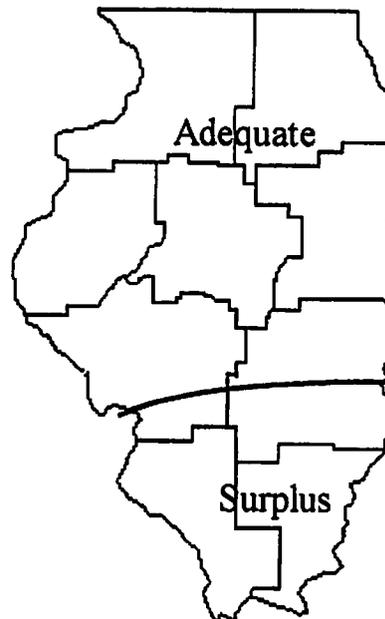
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Fieldwork slowed to a halt last week as record cold temperatures hit statewide followed by heavy snow in the north at week's end. Damage to wheat, oats, alfalfa, fruit trees, vegetables and unemerged corn was widespread but only time will tell the severity of the damage. The most concern was with the peach and apple crops as many varieties were beginning to bud out just as the record cold hit. Transplanted vegetables in the north were frozen and will need to be replanted. Before the blast of arctic air hit, oats, peas and a limited amount of corn were being planted. As of April 13, 63 percent of the oat crop had been planted, compared with 64 percent last year, and the five-year average of 49 percent. Two percent of the corn crop had been planted compared to three percent last year and the five-year average of two percent.

Winter wheat and alfalfa hay conditions declined slightly last week due to the unseasonable weather conditions. As of April 11, the wheat crop was rated two percent very poor, three percent poor, 19 percent fair, 63 percent good and 13 percent excellent. Alfalfa hay was rated one percent very poor, two percent poor, 27 percent fair, 60 percent good and ten percent excellent. Pasture was rated two percent very poor, four percent poor, 28 percent fair, 57 percent good and nine percent excellent.

There was an average of 3.1 days suitable for fieldwork last week and topsoil moisture was rated four percent short, 72 percent adequate and 24 percent surplus as of April 11. Other farm activities were spreading manure, applying herbicides, constructing soil conservation structures and plowing snow!!

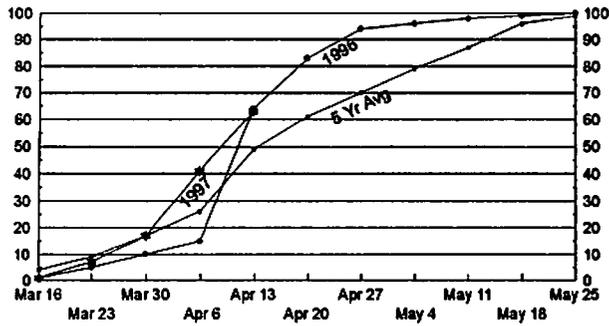


Topsoil Moisture
April 11

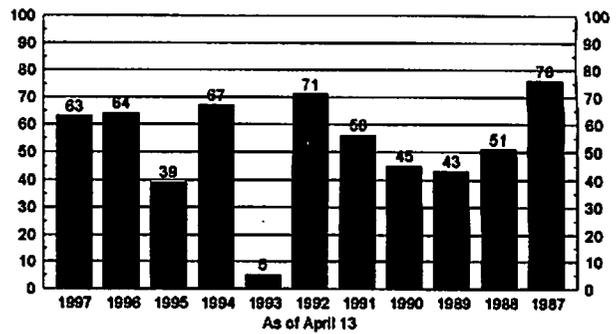
Crop Conditions

| Crop | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|--------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|
| April 11 | | | | | |
| Winter Wheat | 2 | 3 | 19 | 63 | 13 |
| Alfalfa | 1 | 2 | 27 | 60 | 10 |
| Pasture | 2 | 4 | 28 | 57 | 9 |

Oats - Percent Seeded
Illinois



Oats - Percent Seeded
Illinois

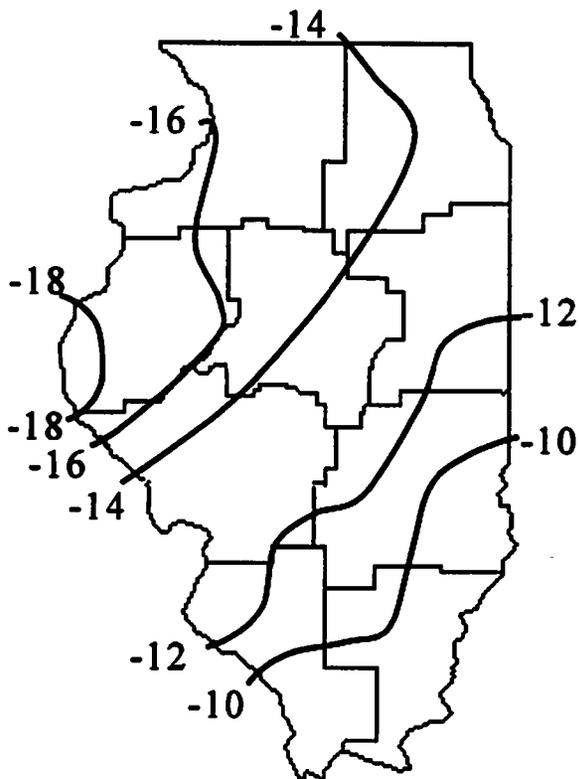


Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Topsoil Moisture

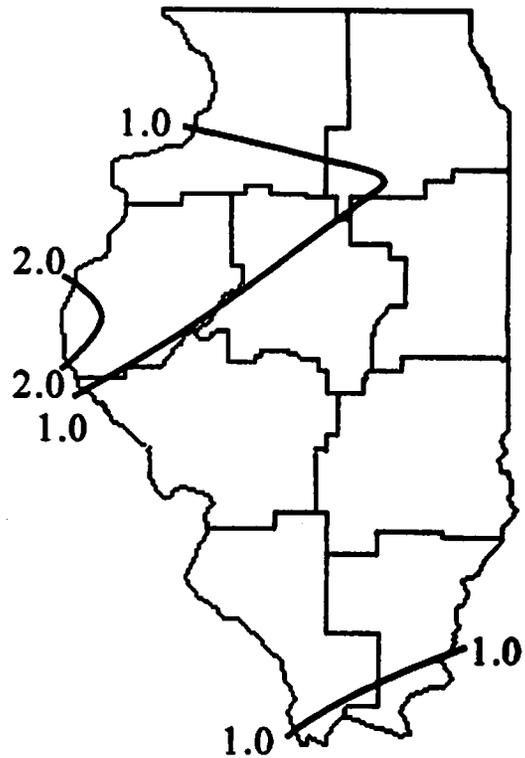
| District | Days Suitable for Fieldwork | Topsoil Moisture | | | |
|-------------|-----------------------------|------------------|-------|----------|---------|
| | | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
| | | April 11 | | | |
| Northwest | 3.4 | 1 | 5 | 92 | 2 |
| Northeast | 4.0 | - | 9 | 88 | 3 |
| West | 3.6 | 1 | 11 | 70 | 18 |
| Central | 3.6 | - | 9 | 87 | 4 |
| East | 4.2 | - | 1 | 85 | 14 |
| W Southwest | 3.2 | - | 4 | 86 | 10 |
| E Southeast | 3.5 | - | - | 76 | 24 |
| Southwest | 1.1 | - | - | 27 | 73 |
| Southeast | 1.6 | - | - | 29 | 71 |
| State | 3.1 | - | 4 | 72 | 24 |

Weather for the week April 7-13

| District | Temperature | | | Precipitation | | |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|------------|-------------|
| | Average | Normal | Departure | Total | Normal | Departure |
| Northwest | 30.9 | 46.6 | -15.7 | .80 | .72 | .08 |
| Northeast | 31.9 | 45.7 | -13.8 | .79 | .80 | -.01 |
| West | 33.2 | 50.4 | -17.2 | 1.72 | .82 | .89 |
| Central | 34.3 | 49.2 | -14.9 | 1.12 | .85 | .27 |
| East | 35.8 | 48.2 | -12.5 | .57 | .86 | -.29 |
| W Southwest | 37.8 | 51.6 | -13.8 | .45 | .90 | -.45 |
| E Southeast | 40.8 | 51.4 | -10.5 | .33 | .88 | -.54 |
| Southwest | 43.6 | 53.6 | -9.9 | .54 | .89 | -.35 |
| Southeast | 44.9 | 53.6 | -8.8 | .78 | .92 | -.13 |
| State | 36.7 | 49.9 | -13.1 | .77 | .84 | -.08 |



**Temperature Departure
April 7-13**



**Precipitation Total
April 7-13**

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WORLD WIDE WEB: The Illinois Agricultural Statistics Service has a home page at <http://www.state.il.us/agr/agstats.htm>. You can find various farm facts about Illinois as well as press releases and links to other statistical information.

The home page for the NASS headquarters office in Washington, D.C. can be found at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>. There you will find reports issued by NASS as well as links to state statistical offices. You will also find many charts showing long term trends in agriculture.

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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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