

# ILLINOIS WEATHER & CROPS



ILLINOIS  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS SERVICE

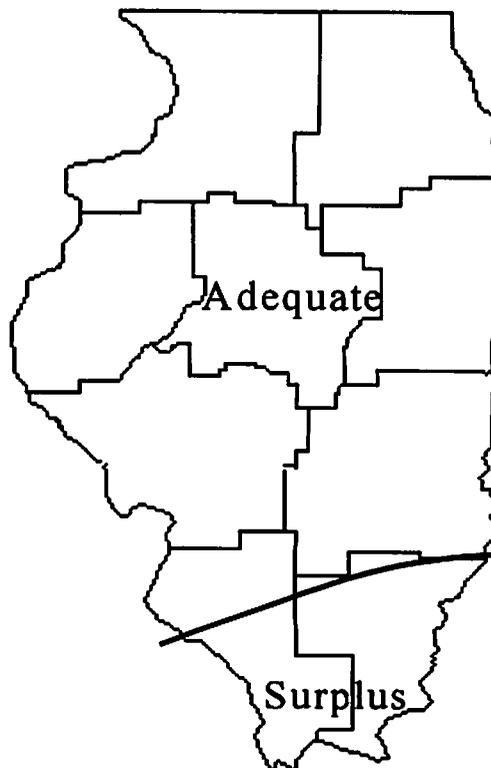
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
<http://www.state.il.us/agr/agstats.htm>

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Corn planting last week advanced to the earliest on record for this date and the same as was planted in 1988. Wet soils in the southern districts allowed virtually no planting, but over 50 percent of the corn in the Central and East Districts was planted during the week and over 20 percent of the corn in the West and the West Southwest Districts was also planted during last week. Statewide, 37 percent of the corn crop had been planted by April 27 compared to 27 percent last year and the five-year average of 15 percent. The cool weather has prevented soil temperatures from warming satisfactorily, but some farmers in the Central, East, and West Southwest Districts who had finished corn planting began planting soybeans in anticipation of warmer weather. The earliest planted corn began to emerge last week and oat seeding neared completion. As of April 27, 95 percent of the oat crop had been planted compared with 94 percent last year and the five-year average of 70 percent.

Growth of wheat, pasture and hay crops has been slow due to cool temperatures and frequent overnight frosts. As of April 25, the wheat crop was rated two percent very poor, four percent poor, 22 percent fair, 62 percent good and ten percent excellent. Alfalfa hay was rated one percent very poor, five percent poor, 33 percent fair, 54 percent good and seven percent excellent. Pasture was rated two percent very poor, four percent poor, 32 percent fair, 54 percent good and eight percent excellent.

There was an average of 4.3 days suitable for fieldwork last week ranging from less than two in the south to more than six in the central district. Topsoil moisture was rated eight percent short, 74 percent adequate and 18 percent surplus. Soils in the central areas of the state would welcome a shower but the south needs drier weather before major fieldwork can begin. Other farm activities last week were tillage in preparation of corn and soybean planting, applying fertilizer and herbicides, and spreading manure.

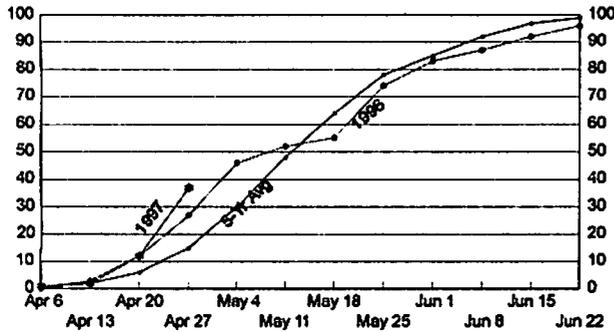


Topsoil Moisture  
April 25

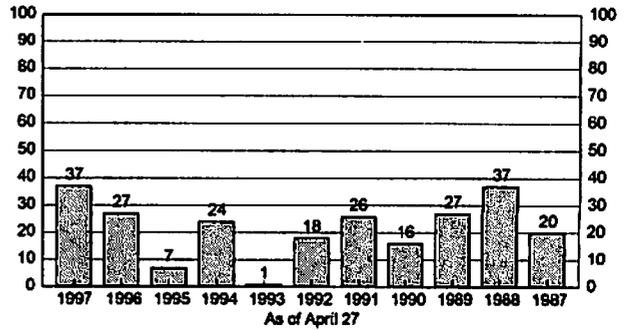
**Crop Conditions**

Crop	Very	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Poor				
April 25					
Winter Wheat	2	4	22	62	10
Alfalfa	1	5	33	54	7
Pasture	2	4	32	54	8

**Corn - Percent Planted**  
Illinois



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Illinois



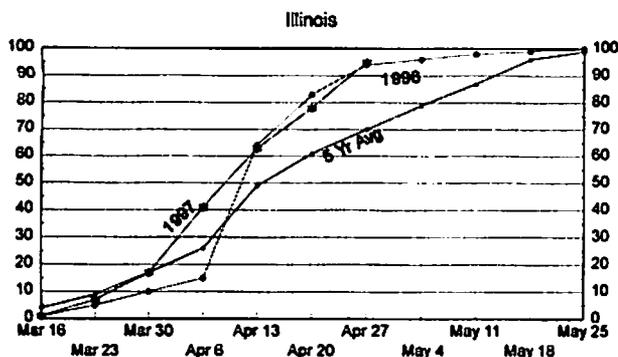
**Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Topsoil Moisture**

District	Days Suitable for Fieldwork	Topsoil Moisture			
		Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	April 19-25	April 25			
Northwest	5.9	-	13	83	4
Northeast	3.1	-	11	89	-
West	3.7	-	9	71	20
Central	6.1	-	19	80	1
East	5.4	-	23	75	2
W Southwest	4.0	-	5	87	8
E Southeast	4.5	-	3	88	9
Southwest	1.9	-	-	32	68
Southeast	1.8	-	-	42	58
State	4.3	-	8	74	18

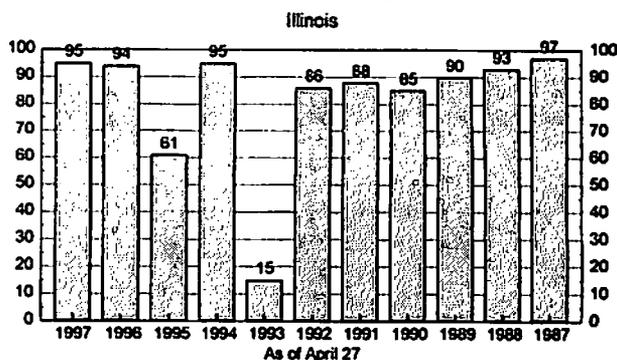
### Crop Progress by District

District	Corn Acreage Percent Planted
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	April 27
Northwest	20
Northeast	13
West	25
Central	73
East	63
W Southwest	71
E Southeast	34
Southwest	6
Southeast	4
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State	37
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**Oats - Percent Seeded**



**Oats - Percent Seeded**



### Temperature and Precipitation

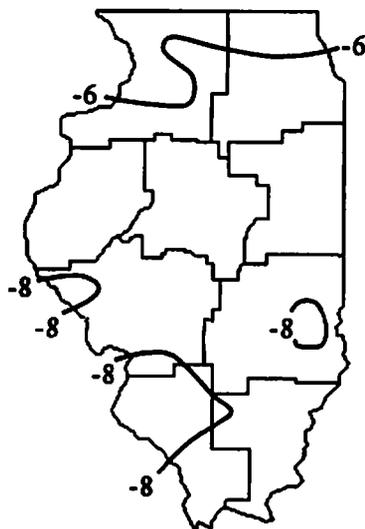
District	Temperature			Precipitation		
	Average	Normal	Departure	Total	Normal	Departure
-----						
	April 21 - 27					
Northwest	48.1	54.0	-5.9	.02	.87	- .85
Northeast	46.8	52.7	-5.9	.10	.89	- .79
West	50.4	57.3	-6.9	.24	.75	- .51
Central	49.7	56.4	-6.6	.10	.86	- .76
East	48.8	55.6	-6.8	.06	.91	- .85
W Southwest	51.0	58.6	-7.6	.64	.86	- .22
E Southeast	50.7	58.6	-7.9	.64	.97	- .33
Southwest	52.5	60.6	-8.0	.64	1.00	- .37
Southeast	52.9	60.6	-7.8	.62	1.09	- .47
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State	50.0	57.0	-7.0	.34	.91	- .57
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NEWSPAPER TIME VALUE

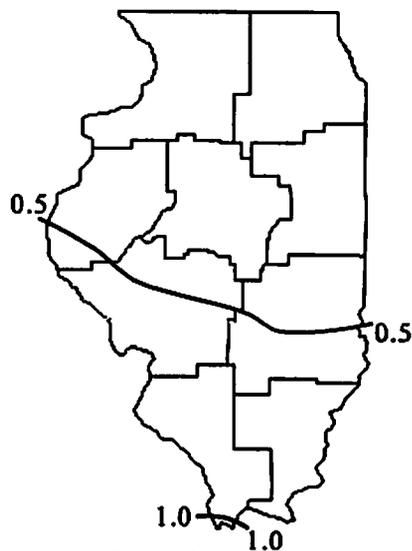
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Data and maps provided by the Illinois State Water Survey, Department of Natural Resources, 2204 Griffith Drive, Champaign, Il. 61820, (217)244-8226.



Temperature Departure  
April 21-27



Precipitation Total  
April 21-27

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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