

# 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>

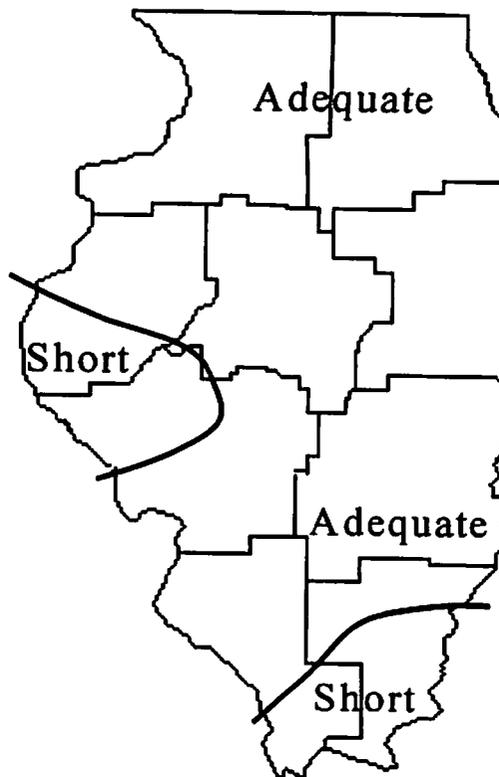
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Soybeans matured rapidly last week under warmer and drier than normal weather conditions. Scattered reports of corn and soybean harvest, and silage chopping were received but most farmers were just testing equipment or shelling some wet corn to feed livestock. Harvest of the earliest maturing soybean varieties was under way with two percent of the crop harvested by September 21, compared to one percent last year and the average of six percent. Apples are ready for picking and are reported to have exceptionally good taste this year. Farmers in the north continue to be concerned over the possibility of crop damage from an early frost. Farm activities last week included harvesting the last cutting of hay, harvesting seed corn, mowing weeds, spreading manure and preparing machinery for harvest.

### Crop Progress

Crop Stage	: 1997	: 1996	: 5-Year Average
September 21			
<b>CORN:</b>			
Dent	95	90	92
Mature	33	43	48
Harvested	1	4	4
<b>SOYBEANS:</b>			
Turning yellow	83	53	75
Shedding leaves	48	22	46
Harvested	2	1	6
<b>WINTER WHEAT:</b>			
Planted	1	0	1
<b>SORGHUM:</b>			
Coloring	84	88	83
Mature	20	28	34
Harvested	1/	1	2
<b>ALFALFA HAY:</b>			
Third cutting:	94	92	90

1/ Less than one percent.



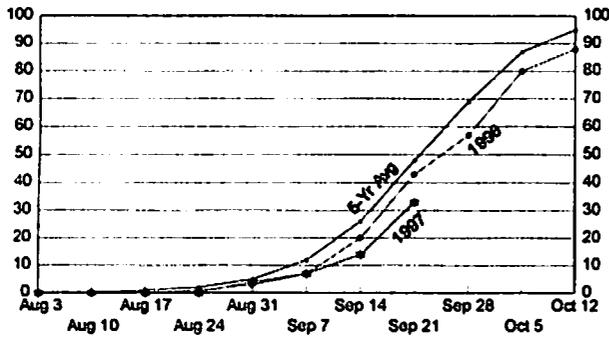
Topsoil Moisture  
September 19

**Crop Conditions**

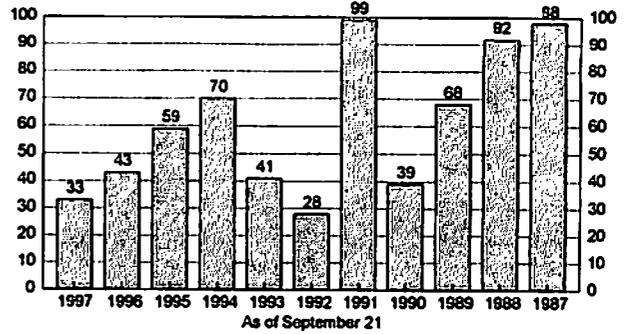
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<b>September 19</b>					
Corn	3	12	39	41	5
Soybeans	2	9	36	46	7
Sorghum	6	17	33	43	1
Pasture	5	14	37	39	5

The charts on this page and the next are available from the World Wide Web site noted on the front page. There are also additional charts at the site that are not shown here.

**Corn - Percent Mature**  
Illinois



**Corn - Percent Mature**  
Illinois



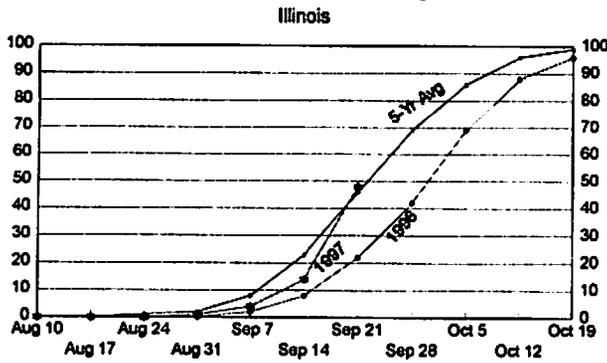
**Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Topsoil Moisture**

District	Days Suitable for Fieldwork	Topsoil Moisture			
		Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
<b>September 13 - 19</b>		<b>September 19</b>			
Northwest	5.1	-	13	86	1
Northeast	5.5	5	46	49	-
West	5.3	8	31	58	3
Central	5.4	-	8	90	2
East	5.1	-	21	75	4
W Southwest	5.1	4	23	73	-
E Southeast	5.5	2	24	74	-
Southwest	6.4	16	32	52	-
Southeast	6.2	1	36	63	-
<b>State</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>1</b>

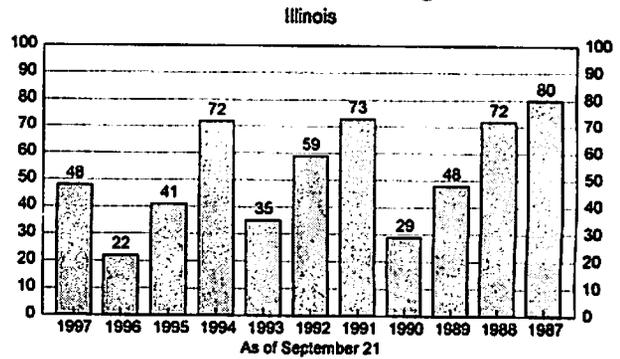
**Crop Progress by District**

District	Corn		Soybeans	
	Dent	Mature	Turning yellow	Shedding Leaves
September 21				
Northwest	96	16	84	34
Northeast	94	10	89	34
West	95	55	93	65
Central	94	42	80	44
East	92	17	82	54
W Southwest	98	66	91	62
E Southeast	94	35	83	58
Southwest	96	38	69	28
Southeast	90	32	62	21
State	95	33	83	48

**Soybeans - Percent Shedding Leaves**



**Soybeans - Percent Shedding Leaves**



**Temperature and Precipitation**

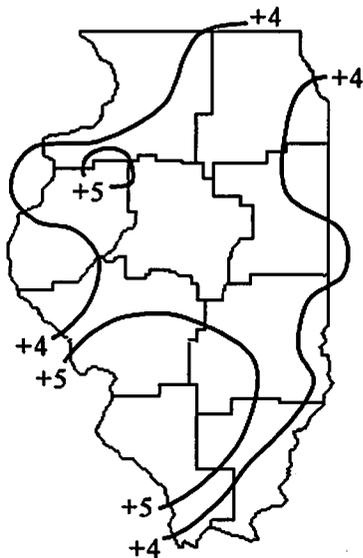
District	Temperature			Precipitation		
	Average	Normal	Departure	Total	Normal	Departure
September 15 - 21						
Northwest	66.9	63.0	3.9	1.35	1.07	.28
Northeast	67.6	63.4	4.2	1.57	1.04	.53
West	69.3	65.5	3.7	.48	1.21	-.73
Central	70.0	65.5	4.5	.81	1.13	-.32
East	69.5	65.3	4.2	.72	.99	-.27
W Southwest	71.5	66.7	4.8	.84	1.15	-.31
E Southeast	71.8	67.2	4.6	.44	.89	-.45
Southwest	73.4	68.1	5.3	.79	.92	-.12
Southeast	72.4	68.5	3.9	.63	.77	-.14
State	70.2	65.8	4.4	.87	1.03	-.16

NEWSPAPER TIME VALUE

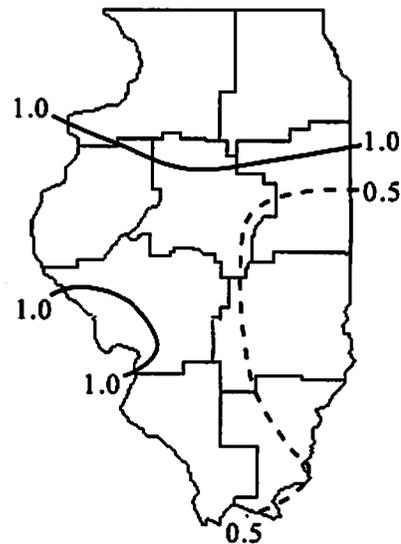
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Data and maps provided by the Illinois State Water Survey, Department of Natural Resources, 2204 Griffith Drive, Champaign, Il. 61820, (217)244-8226.



Temperature Departure  
September 15 - 21



Precipitation Total  
September 15 - 21

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.