

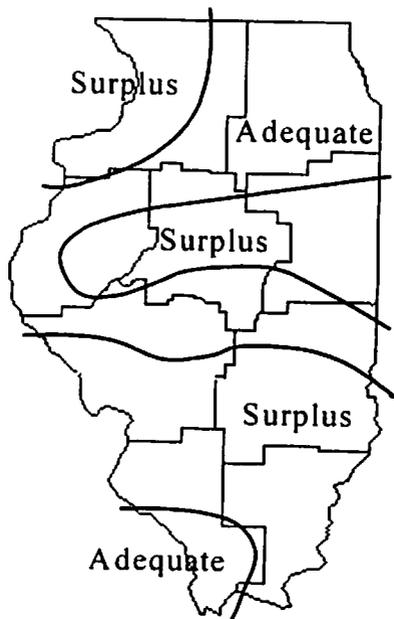
ILLINOIS WEATHER & CROPS



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

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Rainy conditions and wet ground continued to delay most field activities last week with only 1.1 days suitable for fieldwork. Corn plantings have been delayed with only one percent being planted as of April 19, compared to 11 percent last year and a five-year average of five percent. Oat plantings are also late with only 46 percent planted compared to 76 percent at this time last year and a five-year average of 58 percent. Wheat looks good considering the excess moisture and some standing water. The wheat condition was rated one percent very poor, two percent poor, 16 percent fair, 63 percent good and 18 percent excellent. Alfalfa hay and pastures appear favorable as well. Alfalfa conditions were one percent very poor, one percent poor, seven percent fair, 68 percent good and 23 percent excellent. Pasture conditions were one percent very poor, two percent poor, ten percent fair, 63 percent good and 24 percent excellent. Topsoil moisture has been a concern and was rated 38 percent adequate and 62 percent surplus. Activities this past week included last minute machinery preparation, fertilizer application, and moving stored grain.



Topsoil Moisture
April 17

INTERNET E-MAIL: The Illinois Weather & Crops report is offered by an e-mail subscription at no charge. To receive the report, send an e-mail message to nass-il@nass.usda.gov.

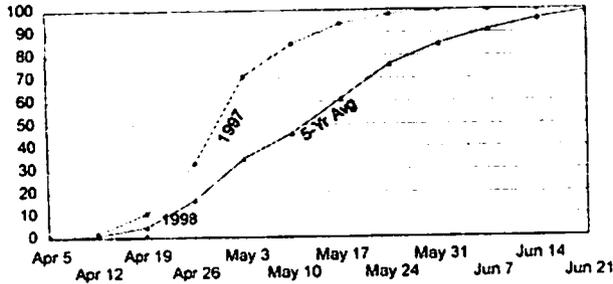
All of the reports issued by the Washington D.C. headquarters office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) are available at no charge via an e-mail subscription. Send an e-mail message with the word "list" in the body to usda-reports@usda.mannlib.cornell.edu. You will receive a reply containing further instructions for subscribing and a list of the available reports.

Crop Conditions

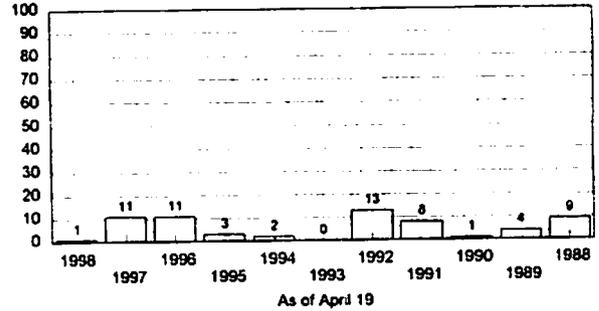
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
April 17					
Winter Wheat	1	2	16	63	18
Alfalfa	1	1	7	68	23
Pasture	1	2	10	63	24

The charts on this page 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 Planted
Illinois**



**Corn - Percent Planted
Illinois**



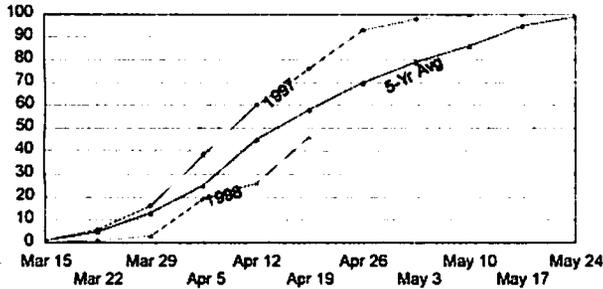
Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Topsoil Moisture

District	Days Suitable for Fieldwork	Topsoil Moisture			
		Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
		April 17			
Northwest	.8	-	-	25	75
Northeast	1.7	-	-	76	24
West	-	-	-	35	65
Central	.9	-	-	53	47
East	.9	-	-	56	44
W Southwest	.9	-	-	49	51
E Southeast	.9	-	-	14	86
Southwest	2.1	-	-	43	57
Southeast	1.4	-	-	3	97
State	1.1	-	-	38	62

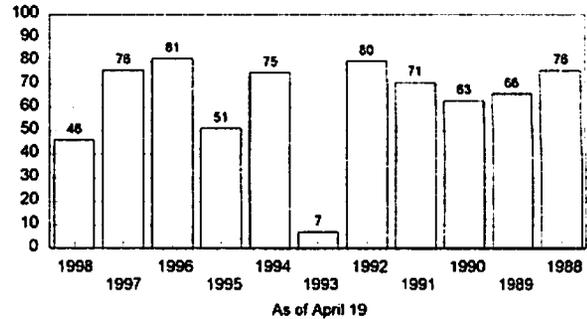
WORLD WIDE WEB: The Illinois Agricultural Statistics Service has a home page at <http://www.agr.state.il.us/agstats.htm>. You can find various farm facts about Illinois as well as press releases and links to other statistical information.

The home page for the NASS headquarters office in Washington, D.C. can be found at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>. There you can 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.

Oats - Percent Seeded
Illinois



Oats - Percent Seeded
Illinois



Temperature and Precipitation

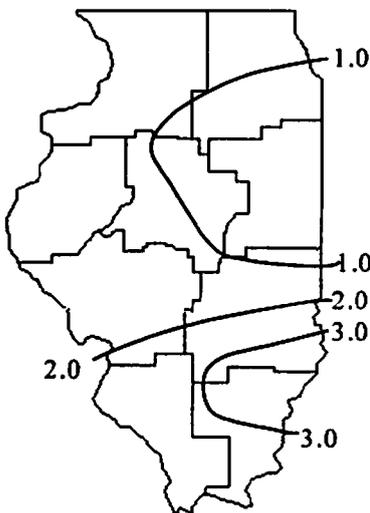
District	Temperature			Precipitation		
	Average	Normal	Departure	Total	Normal	Departure
April 13 - 19						
Northwest	49.5	51.2	-1.7	1.29	.71	.58
Northeast	51.0	50.4	0.6	1.04	.77	.27
West	53.3	54.1	-0.8	1.37	.76	.61
Central	53.3	53.4	-0.2	.94	.75	.20
East	53.8	52.6	1.2	.72	.76	-.04
W Southwest	53.6	55.3	-1.7	1.60	.79	.80
E Southeast	54.6	55.2	-0.7	2.10	.84	1.25
Southwest	55.8	57.2	-1.4	2.57	.92	1.65
Southeast	56.2	57.3	-1.1	2.94	1.02	1.92
State	53.3	54.0	-0.7	1.58	.81	.77

NEWSPAPER TIME VALUE

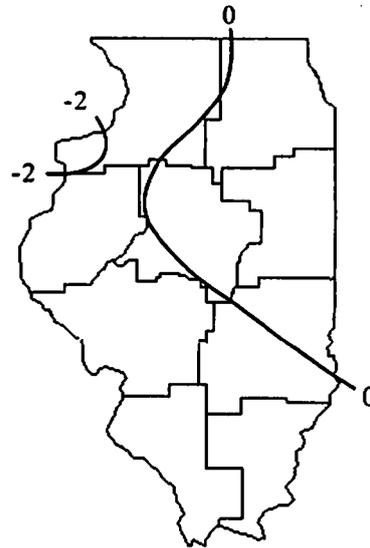
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April 20, 1998

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



Precipitation Total
April 13-19



Temperature Departure
April 13-19

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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