

# ILLINOIS WEATHER & CROPS



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 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
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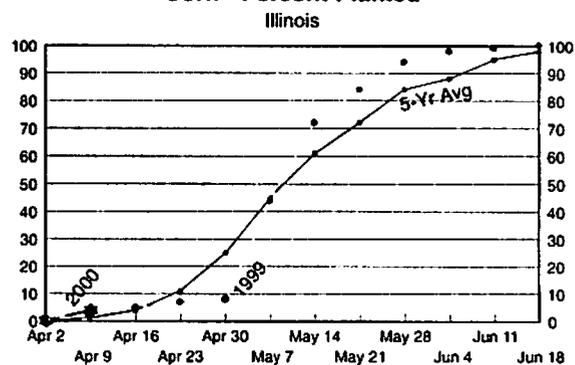
**RELEASED: April 10, 2000 3 P.M., CT**  
**VOL. 21, NO. 07**

Corn planters began to roll in Illinois last week as dry weather allowed farmers to utilize 6.0 days suitable to plant corn in the central and southwest regions, and to seed oats in the north. Farmers in many areas held off planting though due to cool, dry soils and the early date on the calendar. Statewide corn planting reached four percent as of April 9 compared to two percent at this time last year and the five-year average of one percent. Oat seeding advanced to 81 percent complete compared to 79 percent last year and 42 percent for the five-year average. Topsoils continue to be dry across most of the state with 19 percent rated very short, 48 percent rated short, 31 percent rated adequate and two percent rated surplus. The surplus moisture levels continue to be reported in the Southeast District. Rains at week's end were a welcome blessing across many areas of the state but with the dryness of the topsoil they were quickly absorbed. The wheat crop continues to grow with 76 percent of the crop rated good to excellent. The below normal temperatures last week caused some concern with the fruit crops as peaches are now in bloom and apples will begin soon. High winds experienced last week dried topsoils as quickly as they were being worked and hindered spraying applications. During last week most farmers were also preparing equipment for planting, hauling grain and discussing the dryness of the soils when "a normal wet hole through April is working up like the best piece of dirt on the farm".

### Crop Progress

Crop Stage	: 2000	: 1999	: 5-Year Average
April 9			
<b>CORN:</b>			
Planted	4	2	1
<b>OATS:</b>			
Planted	81	79	42

### Corn - Percent Planted

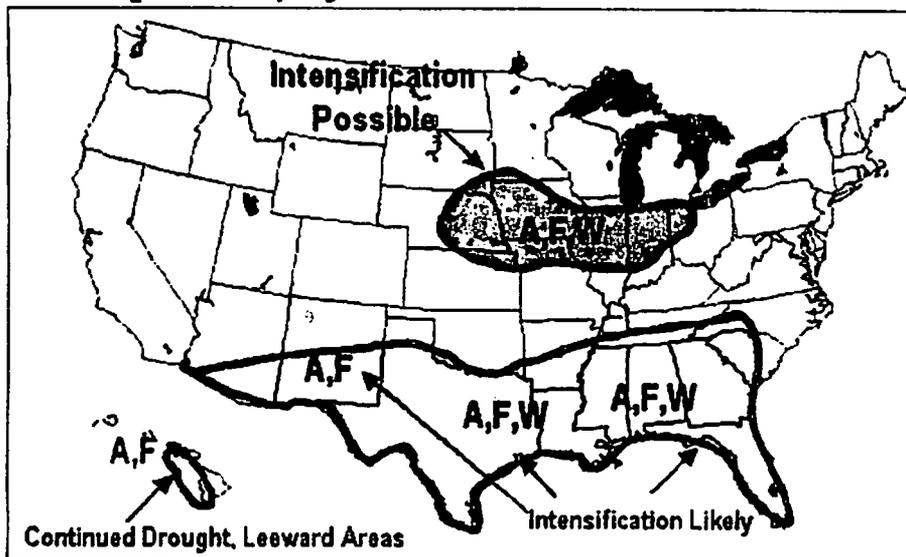


### Crop Conditions

Crop	: Very Poor :	Poor :	Fair :	Good :	Excellent
	April 7				
Winter Wheat	-	4	20	58	18
Alfalfa	-	7	25	58	10
Pasture	3	13	37	41	6

## Spring U.S. Drought Outlook

April - May - June 2000: Areas Most at Risk



Anticipated Impacts: (A)griculture  
 (F)orest Fires  
 (W)ater Supplies



### Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Topsoil Moisture

District	Days Suitable		Topsoil Moisture		
	: for Fieldwork	: Very Short :	: Short	: Adequate	: Surplus
	April 1-7		April 7		
Northwest	5.4	12	55	33	-
Northeast	5.6	31	60	9	-
West	6.4	23	61	16	-
Central	6.3	21	53	26	-
East	6.3	20	55	22	3
W Southwest	5.9	20	47	33	-
E Southeast	5.9	27	32	40	1
Southwest	6.1	-	35	61	4
Southeast	5.8	-	23	59	18
State	6.0	19	48	31	2

**Weather Summary**

Location	Maximum	Temperature Minimum	Departure	Precipitation
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April 3 - 9				
<b>Northwest:</b>				
Freeport	70	24	-3	0.44
Kewanee	75	26	-4	0.24
Moline	77	27	-1	0.23
Mount Carroll	70	22	-2	0.52
Paw Paw	67	21	-3	0.17
Rochelle	68	24	-3	0.22
Rockford	69	23	0	0.42
<b>Northeast:</b>				
Aurora	66	21	-3	0.43
Chicago	64	25	-2	0.00
De Kalb	66	24	-2	0.24
Lake Villa	62	24	-2	0.72
McHenry	63	23	-2	0.49
Morris	67	27	-3	0.44
Ottawa	69	27	-4	0.16
Park Forest	63	27	-3	0.86
<b>West:</b>				
Bentley	79	28	-3	0.23
Galesburg	62	26	-5	0.00
Quincy	79	30	-3	0.19
<b>Central:</b>				
Bloomington	71	26	-4	0.76
Decatur	70	28	-5	0.15
Lincoln	73	25	-4	0.32
Peoria	74	28	-3	0.32
<b>East:</b>				
Champaign	67	21	-4	0.04
Pontiac	68	26	-3	0.64
<b>West Southwest:</b>				
Carlinville	73	30	-4	0.68
Morrisonville	72	27	-5	0.36
Springfield	75	29	-3	0.29
<b>East Southeast:</b>				
Brownstown	71	28	1	0.79
Flora	70	27	-2	2.20
Hutsonville	66	28	-6	2.34
Iuka	70	28	-5	0.97
Lawrenceville	68	28	-6	1.62
Newton	65	28	-5	1.46
Paris	67	30	-5	0.60
Windsor	69	28	-4	0.34
<b>Southwest:</b>				
Carbondale	75	27	-2	0.53
Lebanon	75	30	-4	1.01
Olive Branch	76	30	-4	0.83
<b>Southeast:</b>				
Mt Vernon	70	27	-4	1.01

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Departure is from the overall average for the week during the 1961-90 period.

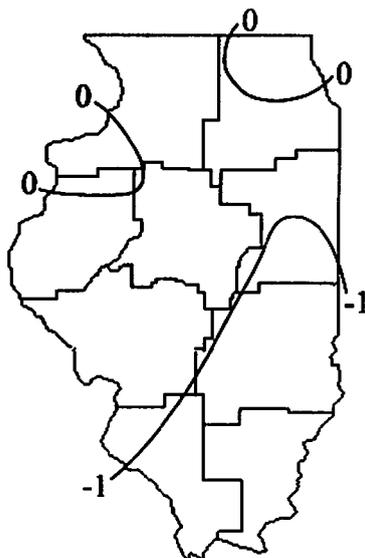
Data prepared by AWIS, Inc.  
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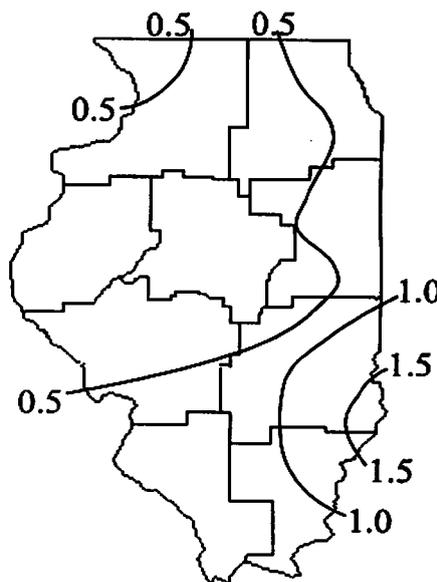
Illinois Weather & Crops  
April 10, 2000

Illinois Weather & Crops (ISSN 0273-8635) is published weekly April-October, semimonthly in January, monthly in December, February and March and three issues in November, by the Illinois Dept. of Agriculture, Illinois Agricultural Statistics Service, Room 54, Department of Agriculture Bldg., 801 Sangamon Ave., Springfield, IL 62702. For information on subscribing, send request to the above address. Periodical postage paid at Springfield, Illinois. Postmaster: Send Address Change to Illinois Weather & Crops, P.O. Box 19283, Springfield, IL 62794-9283.

Maps provided by the Illinois State Water Survey  
Visit their home page at <http://mcc.sws.uiuc.edu>  
(217)244-8226



Temperature Departure  
April 3 - 9



Precipitation Total  
April 3 - 9

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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