

ILLINOIS WEATHER & CROPS



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 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
 ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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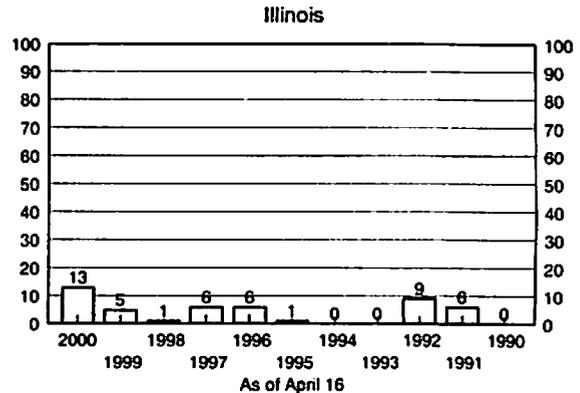
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Dry weather across the state allowed farmers 5.5 days suitable for fieldwork last week which farmers used to set a new record for corn planted at this time of year. Corn planting was 13 percent complete statewide as of April 16 compared to five percent last year and four percent for the five-year average. Planting progress varied widely across the state from 40 percent in the West Southwest district to two percent in the Northeast. Some farmers were reported to be finished with their corn planting and beginning to plant a few acres of soybeans while others were still waiting for warmer soils and moisture before planting any corn. Dry soils continue to be a concern as topsoil ratings statewide as of April 14, (prior to the weekend storms) were 29 percent very short, 42 percent short, 28 percent adequate and one percent surplus. It was reported by one respondent that "a farmer was heard to say the other day that the seed bag instructed him to store in a dry, cool place".....so he planted it. Other farmers stated that it is drier now than it was in 1983 with some older farmers saying this weather pattern is very similar to 1954! Oat planting continues to progress with 87 percent planted as of April 16 compared to 88 percent last year and the five-year average of 64 percent. Other activities last week consisted of hauling water, preparing equipment for planting and replanting vegetable crops in the north where some were frozen.

Crop Progress

Crop Stage	2000	1999	5-Year Average
April 16			
CORN:			
Planted	13	5	4
OATS:			
Planted	87	88	64

Corn - Percent Planted



Crop Conditions

Crop	: Very Poor	: Poor	: Fair	: Good	: Excellent
	April 14				
Winter Wheat	-	3	23	57	17
Alfalfa	-	5	32	55	8
Pasture	5	9	37	42	7

Crop Progress by Districts

District	: Corn Planted
	April 16
Northwest	3
Northeast	2
West	13
Central	15
East	14
W Southwest	40
E Southeast	14
Southwest	8
Southeast	14
State	13

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Topsoil Moisture

District	: Days Suitable : for Fieldwork	: Topsoil Moisture			
		: Very Short	: Short	: Adequate	: Surplus
	April 8-14		April 14		
Northwest	5.2	8	53	39	-
Northeast	5.2	49	39	12	-
West	6.4	35	52	13	-
Central	5.7	25	52	23	-
East	5.5	48	30	21	1
W Southwest	6.6	34	50	16	-
E Southeast	4.7	34	36	29	1
Southwest	5.6	6	31	62	1
Southeast	4.8	-	9	85	6
State	5.5	29	42	28	1

Weather Summary

Location	Maximum	Temperature Minimum	Departure	Precipitation

April 10 - 16				
Northwest:				
Freeport	76	25	-2	0.10
Kewanee	76	28	-2	0.24
Moline	78	25	1	0.28
Mount Carroll	77	21	1	0.18
Paw Paw	76	25	-2	0.07
Rochelle	77	25	-4	0.15
Rockford	77	23	-1	0.07
Northeast:				
Aurora	76	21	-3	0.12
Chicago	76	29	-2	0.00
De Kalb	77	27	-2	0.14
Lake Villa	75	27	0	0.11
McHenry	77	26	-1	0.12
Morris	78	27	0	0.18
Ottawa	81	28	-2	0.20
Park Forest	77	29	-1	0.16
West:				
Bentley	76	30	0	0.22
Galesburg	77	27	-3	0.36
Quincy	76	29	1	0.14
Central:				
Bloomington	82	28	-3	0.15
Decatur	75	31	-4	0.07
Lincoln	78	30	-3	0.83
Peoria	77	29	1	0.16
East:				
Champaign	76	27	-2	0.43
Pontiac	77	31	-2	0.22
West Southwest:				
Carlinville	77	32	-2	0.05
Morrisonville	75	28	-3	0.06
Springfield	78	30	1	0.07
East Southeast:				
Brownstown	72	30	-2	0.07
Flora	70	31	-3	0.14
Hutsonville	71	32	-5	0.03
Iuka	71	31	-3	0.01
Lawrenceville	71	32	-4	0.03
Newton	66	29	-6	0.00
Paris	72	29	-4	0.12
Windsor	74	31	-2	0.03
Southwest:				
Carbondale	69	33	-2	0.01
Lebanon	74	32	-4	0.07
Olive Branch	68	34	-4	0.52
Southeast:				
Mt Vernon	67	31	-4	0.03

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

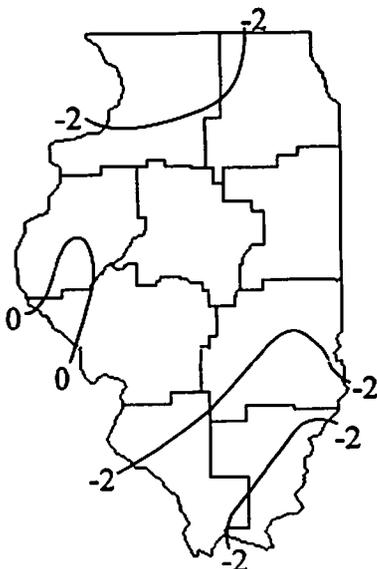
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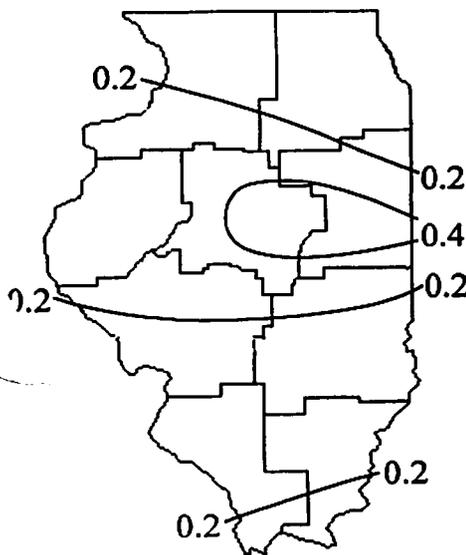
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Maps provided by the Illinois State Water Survey
Visit their home page at <http://mcc.sws.uiuc.edu>
(217)244-8226



Temperature Departure
April 10 - 16



Precipitation Total
April 10 - 16

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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