OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

Ohio Quarterly Climate Summary: Mar-May 2018

Temperature Summary:

- The spring season was close to normal; ranks as the 49th warmest in Ohio since 1895*. But, the season featured extreme monthly variability.
- April 2018 is the 9th coldest on record with temperatures averaging 2-9°F below average (Fig. 1).
- May 2018 ranks as the warmest on record with temperatures averaging 5-11°F above average (Fig. 2).



Figure 3





-10 -9 -8 -7 -6 -5 -4 -3 -2 -1 0 Stations from the following networks used: WBAN, COOP, FAA, GHCN, ThreadEx, CoCRaHS, WMO, ICAO, NWSU, Midwestern Regional Climate Center cli-MATE: MRCC Application Tools Environment Generated at: 6/27/2018 9:39:31 AM CDT





0 5 10 Stations from the following networks used: WBAN, COOP, FAA, GHCN, ThreadEx, CoCoRaHS, WMO, ICAO, NWSU, Midwestern Regional Climate Center cli-MATE: MRCC Application rools Environment Generated at: 6/27/2018 9:40:26 AM CDT

Figure 2



Precipitation Summary:

- Spring 2018 precipitation was above average and ranks as the 38th wettest since 1895*.
- The greatest totals fell across the southeast counties of Belmont, Monroe, and Washington counties (Fig. 3).
- Compared to normal, the western counties were a bit below average (Fig. 4).

Regional summary provided by NOAA: https://www.drought.gov/drought/documents/quarterly-climate-impacts-and-outlook-midwestregion-june-2018.

Figure 4

*Maps provided by cli-MATE, Midwestern Regional Climate Center, Illinois State Water Survey, Prairie Research Institute, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, http:mrcc.illinois.edu/CLIMATE.



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Hot Topic Corner:

- After a very warm February, the spring season started off close to average before temperatures refused to warm during April.
- Cool and wet conditions in April began to raise concerns for farmers regarding timely planting conditions.
- An abrupt transition to record warmth in May allowed a flurry of activity and corn and soybeans to get a great start over much of the state (Fig. 5).



Figure 5: Nice start to corn on a Darke County farm. Photo credit: Sam Custer

• Wet conditions during late spring have delayed hay cuttings across the north.

Outlook:

- The Climate Prediction Center depicts an *elevated probability (>33%) of above normal temperatures* for July through September (JAS; Fig. 6).
- Only a slightly elevated probability (>33%) for above normal precipitation in far eastern Ohio (Fig. 7).





Figure 8

State Climate Office of Ohio (SCOO) Update:

- The office has received equipment support from the USDA Midwest Climate Hub to upgrade the OARDC Ag Weather Network across Ohio.
- SCOO is working with OARDC to add additional sensors and upgrade the connectivity to cell modems for near real-time data access (Fig. 8). Stay tuned for future updates!

