A Science Service Feature

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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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MAY FROSTS

During the first half of May killing frosts occur, on an average, every other year as far south as northern Connecticut, central Pennsylvania, southern West Virginia, central Ohio, northern Indiana, extreme northern Illinois, south-central Iowa and northwestern Kansas. During the second half of the month they are due every other year, on an average, in extreme northern New England, central and northern New York, northern lower Michigan and in the upper peninsula, northern Wisconsin, Minnesota, the Dakotas, and southern Canada.

In the Rocky Mountain region, killing frosts depend upon topography, but occur during May at most higher elevations. Frosts occur on the northern Pacific coast some time during this month in an average season. Killing frosts may be expected one year in ten some time in May as far south as New Jersey, central Maryland and Virginia, extreme western North Carolina, central Kentucky, southern Indiana and Illinois, south-central Missouri, east-central Kansas, and in most of the Rocky Mountain and Plateau states. In central and southwestern California frosts do not happen in May as often as one year in ten.

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