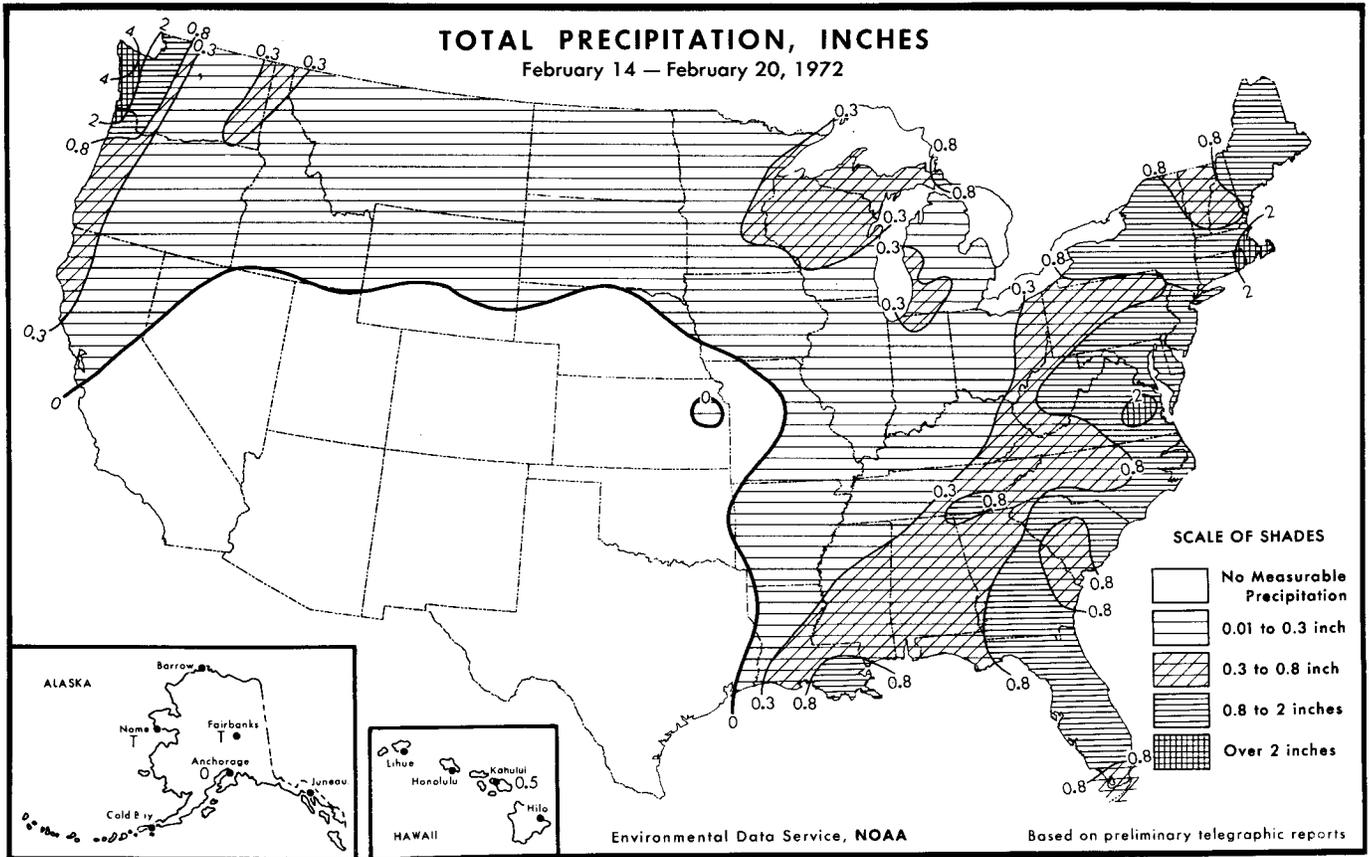


# Weekly Weather & Crop Bulletin

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
Environmental Data Service  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Statistical Reporting Service

Volume 59 No. 8

Edited by Lucius W. Dye FEBRUARY 21, 1972 Washington, D. C.

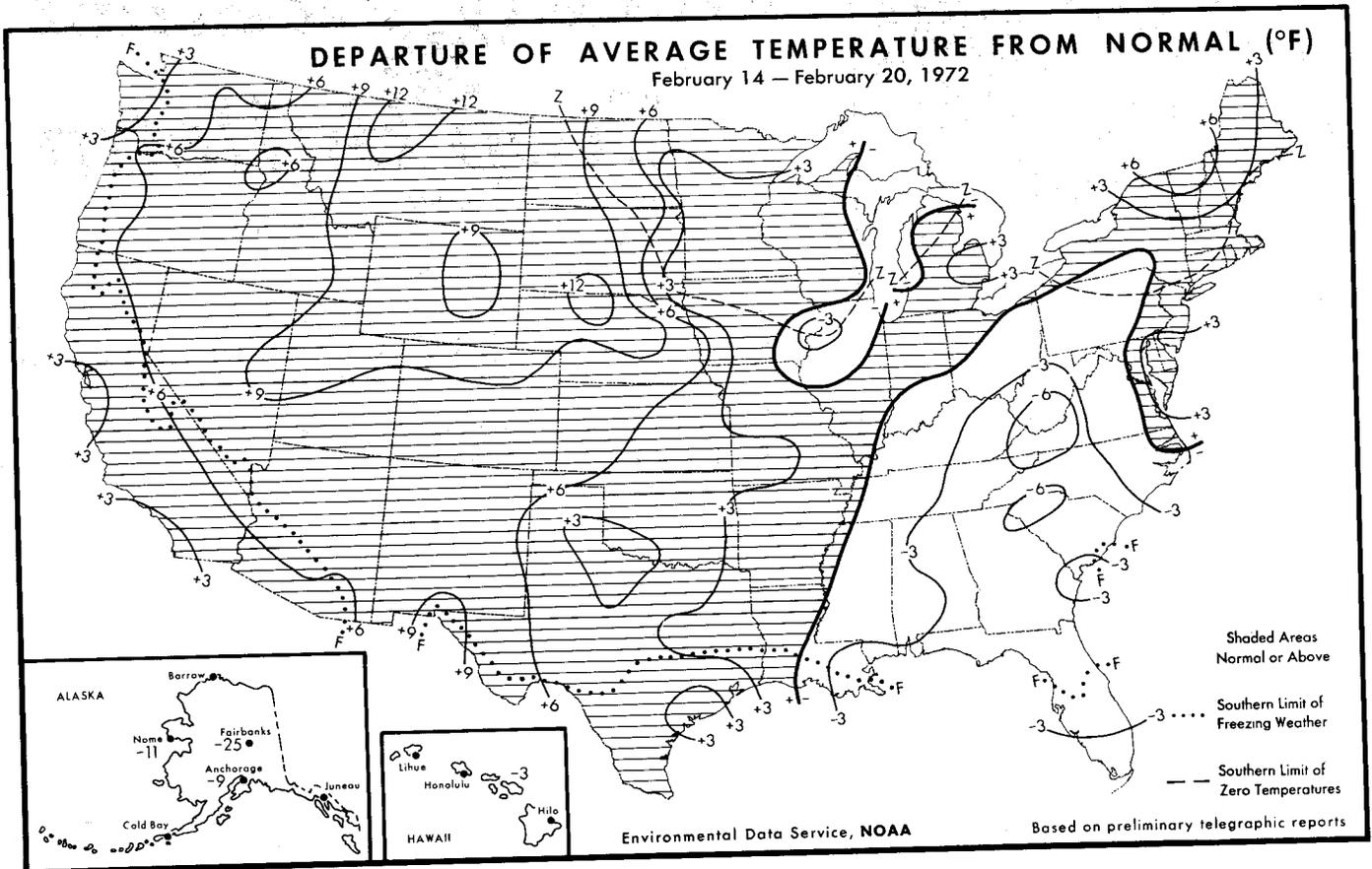


## NATIONAL WEATHER SUMMARY

**HIGHLIGHTS:** One of the most severe winter storms in recent years caused much distress over the eastern third of the Nation.

**PRECIPITATION:** A low which was centered over the Northeast early in the week and which had brought some miserable weather the previous weekend, weakened and moved out in the Atlantic. Another Low caused rain and scattered thundershowers in the Southeast Wednesday, intensified, brought soaking rains to the middle Atlantic coastal States and snow in the southern Appalachians Thursday forenoon and from West Virginia to eastern Pennsylvania Thursday afternoon. Three inches of snow fell at Washington, D.C., and Baltimore, Md., Thursday., before weakening and moving over the Atlantic Ocean.

A High brought a brief period of sunny mild weather to mid-America early in the week. Meanwhile, a storm off the coast of British Columbia moved inland, crossed British Columbia and southern Alberta and, by midnight Wednesday, was centered over western North Dakota. Rain fell along the Pacific Coast which was already too wet, and snow fell in the Cascades, the northern Rocky Mountains and the northern Great Plains. Strong gusty winds blew along the Pacific Coast and in other parts of the Northwest. Gusts reached 62 m.p.h. at Astoria, Oreg., and varied from 75 to 90 m.p.h. at Rattlesnake Ridge in eastern Washington. Early Thursday, a front trailed from the storm center southward across the Great Plains. The front marched eastward at about 25 m.p.h. About Friday noon the front extended



from the Great Lakes to South Carolina. A wave developed in South Carolina, intensified, moved northward along the coast and became one of the worst storms in recent years. It increased in severity as it moved northward. The giant storm brought miserable weather to much of the eastern third of the Nation.

Large waves pounded the coast. One to 2 feet of snow fell in the northern and central Appalachians. Blizzards raged in many areas. Winds gusted 50 or 60 m.p.h. or more. Block Island, R.I., clocked gusts to 75 m.p.h. Deep snow drifts blocked highways and byways and stranded hundreds of motorists. The wet snow froze to wires and trees. Many localities were without power or communication. Helicopters were used to reach some isolated communities, to carry in food and fuel, and evacuate some persons who needed hospitalization. By late Sunday, the skies were mostly clear over much of the Northeast but brisk northerly winds continued.

Rainfall exceeded 4.00 inches along part of the Washington coast, 1.00 inch along much of the Atlantic coast and 0.50 inch near the Great Lakes and in the Appalachians. Most of the western two-thirds of the Nation received less than 0.25 inch and a large area from California to Nebraska and southward to the Mexican Border received no rain or only widely scattered sprinkles or snow flurries.

**TEMPERATURE:** Southerly breezes warmed mid-America early in the week. St. Louis, Mo., registered 72° Monday, February 14. This was warmer than most Florida stations and only 1° cooler than Phoenix, Ariz.

A surge of cold air plunged into the north-central border States early Tuesday dropping the temperature at Bemidji, Minn., to 15° below zero. Temperatures rose gradually and, by midweek, were near normal over most of the Nation. By Thursday afternoon, only the Dakotas and higher elevations in the Northeast remained below freezing. Temperatures exceeded 80° along the Lower Colorado River, over the southern Rio Grande Valley, and in southern Florida. In mid-America, Thursday's maximums ranged from the 40's in Nebraska to the 60's in Oklahoma.

An intense storm moved northward along the Atlantic coast over the weekend. Northerly winds on the western side of the storm brought subfreezing weather to the Deep South. New Orleans, La., registered 31° Sunday morning. Southerly winds warmed the Great Plains. The mercury at Burwell, Nebr., climbed to 74° Sunday afternoon.

Most of the area east of the Mississippi River and south of the Ohio River averaged cooler than normal. Most other areas averaged warmer than normal. Much of the West averaged 6° to 12° warmer than normal.

L. W. Dye

## NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

**AGRICULTURAL HIGHLIGHTS:** High winds and frost hard on Florida vegetables. \* Some wheat areas on Great Plains becoming dry. \* Blizzard made live-stock care difficult in the Northeast. \* Spring oats and barley planting off to fast start in Oklahoma.

**SMALL GRAINS:** It was warm, dry, and windy for fall-seeded grains on the Great Plains. High winds late in the week caused some soil erosion and minor damage to fall-seeded wheatfields from Kansas to North Dakota. Fields that had lost their protective snow cover were the hardest hit. Many areas on the Great Plains are becoming dry. No significant precipitation has fallen in Kansas since early January -- topsoil moisture is becoming short in some west-central and northwestern counties. Subsoil moisture is adequate. Wheat growth was limited on the Southern Plains, but some Oklahoma growers started spraying for greenbugs. Warm temperatures rapidly melted the snow cover on wheat fields from Montana to Washington. Wheat remains in good condition in the West. California grains could use a good rain.

In the eastern third of the Nation, winter wheat is still in good condition despite fluctuating temperatures. Little winterkill is evident in Maryland, but there is more than the usual amount of "drowning out" in low spots.

Warm dry weather got spring fieldwork started with a bang in Oklahoma. Growers planted half their spring oats and barley acreage during the week -- this is well ahead of last spring's pace. Spring oats and barley seeding got underway on a few Kansas farms. Early seedbed preparation started in most Utah valleys and the Fallon, Nevada area. Fieldwork was limited by wet fields in the South, but farmers did start topdressing dryer fields.

**COTTON:** The last bale of 1971 crop cotton was picked in Texas. This is about 2 months behind normal. A small acreage of cotton was planted in the Lower Rio Grande Valley, but full scale planting is still several weeks away. Arizona farmers also applied pre-plant herbicides and started irrigating fields in anticipation of spring planting. California growers also did some pre-plant irrigating.

**OTHER CROPS:** While farmers in the Northeast quarter of the Country were fighting a full-scale battle against winter conditions -- warmer temperatures over the rest of the Nation started many farmers thinking of spring. Tennessee tobacco growers began preparing and seeding plant beds. A few fields of sorghum were also planted in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas. Potato growers in Alabama's late spring areas continued planting. Marketing of the Idaho crop is active. Harvesting sugarcane is on schedule in Florida and increasing in Hawaii.

**Fruits and Nuts:** Scattered frosts did no damage to Florida citrus trees or new blooms. High winds increased fruit droppage, but most of the drops will be salvaged. Citrus groves are being irrigated in Texas. Grapefruit and Valencia oranges are being shipped from the Lower Valley. In Arizona, citrus groves are in very good condition in both the Yuma and Salt River Valley areas. The lack of rain started irrigation pumps working in some California orchards. Pruning fertilizing, and tying grapevines are nearing completion. Grapefruit harvest continues in the Coachella Valley with a high percentage of fruit going to processors.

A prolonged dormancy is anticipated for South Carolina peaches--due to the warm winter. Orchardmen are pruning fruit trees in Washington and Oregon.

**Vegetables:** Florida vegetables had a long hard weekend. Cold weather combined with high winds to severely whip older plants and sandblast new plantings in most areas. Plus, heavy frost on the morning of February 21 caused additional damage and plant loss -- the Pompano and Dade County areas escaped the frost. Replanting and spot transplanting of most losses are expected. No immediate reductions in supplies are expected. Cabbage and lettuce lead the volume of vegetables coming from the Texas' Lower Valley. Onion pulling will start in early March. Early-planted Arizona cantaloupes are making good growth. Lettuce shipments from Imperial Valley, California should reach their peak in early March. Cabbage supplies are stable.

In other areas of the South--strawberry prospects are good in Louisiana and growers are spraying for insect control. Harvesting of greens is active in South Carolina.

**PASTURES AND LIVESTOCK:** A warming trend gave some relief to livestock herds from the West Coast to the Mississippi River. The milder weather helped to make livestock care easier in this area. However, high winds and snow created additional work for farmers and ranchers from the Northern Plains to New England. Snow blocked roads and yards making some feed supplies inaccessible. The weekend snow and power failures caused hardship on many farms as far South as Virginia. Long power outages were especially hard on dairy farms--where the milking was done by hand or not at all.

Feeding of hay and grain continued heavy in most regions of the Nation. Hay supplies are generally adequate, but supplies are bleak where the feeding season is unusually long. Some wheat was grazed as temperatures moderated in Kansas, but wheat and oats are furnishing little grazing for Texas herds. Southern California ranges are badly in need of rain. Milder weather was ideal for calving and lambing--very few losses were noted.

Steve J. Pscodna  
Agricultural Statistician

Temperature and Precipitation Data for the Week Ending Midnight, L.s.t., FEBRUARY 21, 1972

States and Stations	Temperature °F		Precipitation Inches		States and Stations	Temperature °F		Precipitation Inches		States and Stations	Temperature °F		Precipitation Inches	
	Average	Departure*	Total	Departure*		Average	Departure*	Total	Departure*		Average	Departure*	Total	Departure*
ALA, Birmingham . . .	44	- 5	.7	-.7	New Orleans . . .	53	- 5	1.6	+.6	OKLA, Okla. City . .	46	+ 4	0	-.3
ALA, Mobile . . .	53	- 3	.5	-.7	Shreveport . . .	52	+ 1	0	-1.0	Tulsa . . .	46	+ 5	2.7	+.2
ALASKA, Anchorage . .	10	- 9	0	-.2	MAINE, Caribou . . .	16	+ 3	1.1	+.6	OREG, Astoria . . .	46	+ 3	T	+.3
BARROW . . .	---	---	---	---	Portland . . .	27	+ 3	1.4	+.4	Burns . . .	39	+ 8	T	+.3
FAIRBANKS . . .	-27	-25	T	-.1	MD, Baltimore . . .	41	+ 5	1.9	+1.2	Medford . . .	47	+ 6	.3	-.3
JUNEAU . . .	---	---	---	---	MASS, Boston . . .	34	+ 4	2.4	+1.6	Pendleton . . .	45	+ 7	.2	-.1
NOME . . .	-11	-17	T	-.2	Chatham . . .	36	---	2.8	---	Portland . . .	49	+ 7	.9	-.2
ARIZ, Flagstaff . . .	36	+ 6	T	-.2	MICH, Alpena . . .	19	0	.2	-.2	PA, Allentown . . .	47	+ 4	.8	-.5
PHOENIX . . .	61	+ 7	T	-.2	Detroit . . .	28	+ 1	.2	-.3	Erie . . .	31	+ 2	1.4	+.8
TUCSON . . .	58	+ 5	0	-.3	Flint . . .	27	+ 5	.2	-.3	Harrisburg . . .	25	+ 1	.3	-.3
WINSLAW . . .	44	+ 6	T	-.1	Grand Rapids . . .	25	0	.3	-.1	Philadelphia . . .	32	- 1	1.7	+1.1
YUMA . . .	63	+ 5	0	-.1	Houghton Lake . . .	20	+ 1	.3	-.1	Pittsburgh . . .	35	+ 1	1.7	+1.0
ARK, Fort Smith . . .	45	+ 1	.1	-.8	LaSang . . .	25	+ 1	.3	-.2	Scranton . . .	28	0	.6	+.5
LITTLE ROCK . . .	47	+ 2	.1	-1.0	Marquette . . .	20	0	.3	-.1	R.I, Providence . . .	32	+ 2	2.0	+1.2
CALIF, Bakersfield . .	58	+ 5	0	-.3	Muskegon . . .	25	- 1	.4	-.1	S.C, Charleston . . .	48	+ 3	.9	0
EUREKA . . .	51	+ 3	.9	-.6	S, Ste. Marie . . .	14	- 2	.0	+.7	Columbia . . .	44	- 4	.8	-.2
FRESNO . . .	54	+ 3	0	-.6	MINN, Duluth . . .	14	+ 3	.8	+.6	Greenville . . .	39	- 7	.8	-.3
LOS ANGELES . . .	60	+ 3	0	-.8	Internat'l Falls . .	11	+ 3	.1	-.1	S, DAK, Aberdeen . .	21	+ 6	.1	-.1
RED BLUFF . . .	54	+ 4	T	-.9	Minneapolis . . .	17	+ 1	.4	+.2	Huron . . .	23	+ 6	T	-.1
SAN DIEGO . . .	58	+ 2	0	-.6	Rochester . . .	18	+ 2	.2	0	Rapid City . . .	35	+10	T	-.1
SAN FRANCISCO . . .	53	+ 2	T	-.9	St. Cloud . . .	13	- 1	.3	-.1	Sioux Falls . . .	20	0	T	-.3
STOCKTON . . .	54	+ 4	T	-.6	MISS, Jackson . . .	48	- 3	.6	-.6	TENN, Chattanooga . .	40	- 5	1.5	+.1
COLO, Denver . . .	41	+ 9	T	-.2	Meridian . . .	49	- 2	.5	-.8	Knoxville . . .	38	- 5	.8	-.5
GRAND JUNCTION . . .	39	+ 5	T	-.2	MO, Columbia . . .	39	+ 4	T	-.5	Memphis . . .	44	+ 0	T	-1.1
PUEBLO . . .	42	+ 7	0	-.1	Kansas City . . .	38	+ 2	T	-.3	Nashville . . .	41	- 1	.1	-1.0
CONN, Bridgeport . . .	33	+ 2	2.0	+1.3	St. Louis . . .	37	+ 2	.1	-.4	TEX, Abilene . . .	52	+ 3	0	-.3
HARTFORD . . .	30	+ 1	1.4	+.7	Springfield . . .	42	+ 4	T	-.5	Amarillo . . .	45	+ 3	0	-.1
D.C, Washington . . .	38	0	1.8	+1.2	MONT, Billings . . .	36	+ 9	.1	0	Austin . . .	58	+ 3	T	-.7
FLA, Apalachicola . .	54	- 3	.8	-.2	Glasgow . . .	24	+10	T	-.1	Beaumont . . .	57	+ 1	T	-1.1
FT. MYERS . . .	63	- 2	.5	-.1	Great Falls . . .	36	+12	T	-.2	Brownsville . . .	68	+ 4	T	-.4
JACKSONVILLE . . .	53	- 5	1.0	+.2	Havre . . .	30	+13	T	-.1	Corpus Christi . . .	65	+ 4	T	-.4
KEY WEST . . .	71	0	.4	-.1	Helena . . .	35	+11	T	-.1	Dallas . . .	54	+ 4	0	-.7
LAKELAND . . .	57	- 6	.6	0	Kalispell . . .	32	+ 7	.3	+.1	Del Rio . . .	62	+ 5	0	-.2
MIAMI . . .	67	- 1	.5	+.5	Miles City . . .	31	+10	.2	+.1	El Paso . . .	59	+ 9	0	-.1
ORLANDO . . .	57	- 5	1.1	+.1	Missoula . . .	34	+ 8	.3	+.1	Fort Worth . . .	54	+ 4	0	-.6
TALLAHASSEE . . .	52	- 4	1.2	+.1	NEBR, Grand Island .	37	+10	T	-.2	Galveston . . .	61	+ 4	0	-.8
TAMPA . . .	58	+ 5	1.6	+.9	Lincoln . . .	37	+ 7	T	-.3	Houston . . .	57	+ 3	T	-.8
GA, Atlanta . . .	42	- 4	.6	-.6	Norfolk . . .	33	+ 9	T	-.2	Lubbock . . .	48	+ 4	T	-.1
AUGUSTA . . .	46	- 4	.5	-.4	North Platte . . .	36	+ 7	T	-.2	Midland . . .	53	+ 4	0	-.2
MACON . . .	48	- 3	.9	-.2	Omaha . . .	33	+ 7	T	-.2	San Angelo . . .	55	+ 4	0	-.2
SAVANNAH . . .	51	- 2	.7	-.2	Valentine . . .	36	+12	0	-.1	San Antonio . . .	60	+ 4	0	-.4
HAWAII, Hilo . . .	---	---	---	---	NEV, Ely . . .	38	+11	0	-.2	Victoria . . .	61	+ 2	0	-.6
HONOLULU . . .	---	---	---	---	Las Vegas . . .	56	+ 7	0	-.1	Waco . . .	54	+ 2	0	-.6
KAHULUI . . .	69	- 3	.5	-.9	Reno . . .	44	+ 8	T	-.3	Wichita Falls . . .	49	+ 1	0	-.4
LIHUE . . .	---	---	---	---	Winnemucca . . .	41	+ 8	0	-.3	UTAH, Blanding . . .	42	+ 8	0	-.3
IDAHO, Boise . . .	43	+ 8	.2	-.1	N, H, Concord . . .	27	+ 4	.5	-.2	Salt Lake City . . .	45	+11	T	-.3
LEWISTON . . .	42	+ 5	.7	+.5	N, J, Atlantic City .	36	+ 1	1.0	+.2	VT, Burlington . . .	24	+ 7	.5	+.1
POCATELLO . . .	37	+ 9	T	-.2	Trenton . . .	35	+ 1	1.2	+.5	VA, Lynchburg . . .	37	- 2	.8	+.1
ILL, Cairo . . .	28	0	.2	-.2	N, MEX, Albuquerque .	46	+ 5	T	-.1	Norfolk . . .	45	+ 3	1.3	+.5
CHICAGO . . .	23	- 3	.2	-.1	Roswell . . .	51	+ 8	0	-.1	Richmond . . .	38	- 2	2.0	+1.3
MOLINE . . .	27	- 2	.1	-.3	N, Y, Albany . . .	26	+ 2	1.0	+.5	Roanoke . . .	30	- 9	.6	-.1
PEORIA . . .	23	- 2	.1	-.3	Binghamton . . .	23	- 1	1.5	+.9	WASH, Colville . . .	34	+ 3	.3	-.1
ROCKFORD . . .	23	- 2	.1	-.3	Buffalo . . .	24	0	1.2	+.5	Omak . . .	34	+ 6	T	-.3
SPRINGFIELD . . .	32	- 0	.1	-.4	New York . . .	34	0	1.8	0	Quillayute . . .	43	+ 2	4.4	+1.5
IND, Evansville . . .	35	- 3	.1	-.7	Rochester . . .	26	+ 1	1.8	+1.1	Seattle-Tacoma . . .	45	+ 3	1.7	+.6
FORT WAYNE . . .	29	+ 1	.1	-.4	Syracuse . . .	25	+ 1	1.3	+.5	Spokane . . .	38	+ 7	.4	-.1
INDIANAPOLIS . . .	31	0	.3	-.2	N, C, Asheville . . .	36	- 5	.5	-.3	Walla Walla . . .	43	+ 4	.5	+.1
SOUTH BEND . . .	30	+ 3	.4	-.1	Charlotte . . .	39	- 6	.8	-.1	Yakima . . .	38	+ 3	.2	+.8
IOWA, Burlington . . .	27	+ 1	.2	-.1	Greensboro . . .	38	- 3	.5	-.3	W, VA, Beckley . . .	28	- 6	1.0	+.8
DES MOINES . . .	25	+ 1	.2	-.1	Hatteras . . .	46	- 1	1.8	+.8	Charleston . . .	32	- 6	.9	0
DUBUQUE . . .	28	+ 5	.2	-.1	Raleigh . . .	40	- 3	.7	-.2	Huntington . . .	34	- 4	.5	-.2
SIoux City . . .	26	+ 3	.1	-.2	Wilmington . . .	46	- 3	.9	0	Parkersburg . . .	33	- 3	.4	-.3
KANS, Concordia . . .	38	+ 6	T	-.2	N, DAK, Bismarck . .	23	+ 9	.1	0	WIS, Green Bay . . .	21	+ 3	.4	+.1
DOGE CITY . . .	43	+ 7	T	-.2	Fargo . . .	12	0	.2	+.1	La Crosse . . .	21	+ 1	.3	+.1
GOODLAND . . .	39	+ 7	T	-.2	Williston . . .	23	+10	.2	+.1	Madison . . .	21	+ 1	.1	-.2
TOPEKA . . .	38	+ 4	T	-.3	OHIO, Akron-Canton .	26	- 3	.4	-.2	Milwaukee . . .	23	0	---	---
WICHITA . . .	40	+ 3	T	-.3	Cincinnati . . .	33	- 1	.2	-.5	WYO, Casper . . .	33	+ 6	T	-.2
KY, Lexington . . .	33	- 3	.1	-.7	Cleveland . . .	28	0	.3	-.2	Cheyenne . . .	37	+ 9	T	-.1
LOUISVILLE . . .	36	0	.2	-.6	Columbus . . .	30	- 1	.1	-.5	Lander . . .	34	+ 9	T	-.2
LA, Baton Rouge . . .	53	- 3	.8	-.2	Dayton . . .	31	0	.2	-.3	Sheridan . . .	33	+ 8	T	-.2
LAKE CHARLES . . .	58	+ 1	.5	-.7	Toledo . . .	29	+ 1	.1	-.4	P, R, San Juan . . .	77	+ 2	0	-.7
					Youngstown . . .	26	- 2	.6	0					

\* Departures are from 30-year means (1931-60). Based on preliminary reports.

## CONDENSED STATE SUMMARIES

These summaries provide brief descriptions of condition and activities important on a national scale. Detailed reports of crop and weather conditions during the growing season are contained in State issues of Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletins published by field offices of the Statistical Reporting Service, U.S.D.A. in cooperation with NOAA Climatologists

**ALABAMA:** Mostly cloudy and mild early in week, then cooler with rain spreading over all of State Tuesday through Thursday. Colder and slow clearing over weekend. Average temperatures near seasonal. Precipitation generally light except moderate to heavy extreme north. Farmers several southern counties able to accomplish limited amount fieldwork early period. Other areas, farm activities limited to routine chores. Soil moisture continues adequate to surplus. Small grains generally good condition although recovery from earlier damage slow due cold weather. Planting Irish potatoes continued late spring area. Livestock remain fair to good condition. Heavy supplemental feeding continued. Stored feed supplies generally adequate, but becoming short several localities.

**ARIZONA:** No snow at any station. Skies clear over State most of week and temperatures were above normal. Freezing temperatures occurred in colder sections of both Salt River Valley and Yuma area on only 1 night. No significant precipitation. Small grain planting continues southeast, but complete central and southwest. Cold weather continued to limit growth. Cleanup operations for 1971 cotton nearing completion. Land preparations for 1972 crop well underway. Application pre-plant herbicides and pre-irrigation continue. Safflower making satisfactory progress. Sugar beets good growth. Lettuce, mixed vegetable harvest continued Yuma. Fieldwork cantaloupes active. Early plantings making good growth. Harvest mixed vegetables continued Salt River Valley. Lettuce planting continued Cochise County. Lemon harvest nearing completion. Grapefruit harvest slow. Sweets, navels, lemons, and grapefruit being picked Yuma. Valencia oranges making good growth Yuma and Salt River Valley. Ranges fair. Range feed deteriorates due shortage soil moisture. Feed supplies adequate higher elevation areas, short lower elevation and desert ranges. Supplemental feeding at normal levels.

**ARKANSAS:** Mean temperatures in range 2° to 3° above normal. Warm early in week followed by gradual cooling trend. Highest 74° at Texarkana on 14th. Lowest 20° at Gilbert and Fayetteville on 19th and Calico Rock on 20th. Heaviest precipitation 0.34 inch at El Dorado and 0.32 inch at Black Rock. Elsewhere amounts ranged from trace to less than 0.25 inch. Precipitation occurred as widely scattered showers through the week. Fieldwork increased during week. Main activities were topdressing pastures and winter grains, land preparation, and leveling. Winter grains need rain many areas. Cattle still on full winter feed most localities--some grazing available on winter pasture crops.

**CALIFORNIA:** Average temperatures were 2° to 6° above normal except in northeast and Colorado River Basins. Mild daytime temperatures and cool nights at low elevation points. Light precipitation in northern tier of counties on 13th and 14th and northern half of State on 21st and 22d. Snow above 4,000 feet and strong winds. Small grain moisture stress. Some planting, alfalfa growth increasing. New seeding underway. Pre-irrigating cotton increasing. Seedbed preparation active.

Sugar beet planting continues. Warm weather started buds swell. Pruning, fertilizing, spraying, tying grapevines nearing completion. Irrigation started some orchards. Early variety almonds blooming. Picking navel oranges central and southern California remains active. Coachella Valley harvest grapefruit continues--high percentage going to processors. Warm temperatures, sunshine greatly aided range grass growth. Northern grasses greening rapidly. Supplemental feeding common all areas. Range feeding difficult due muddy fields. Streams, lake reservoirs lower than normal, but adequate. Southern California ranges badly need rain, soil moisture short. Milk, egg production seasonal levels. Poultrymen Riverside, San Bernardino Counties experiencing continued Newcastle disease losses. Asparagus harvest increasing southern California; very limited to light cutting Salinas, Stockton. Artichoke harvest light. Broccoli-cauliflower harvest light, but expected to increase Central Coast. Cabbage supplies from Imperial, Coachella Valleys stable. Digging carrots increasing Desert Valleys. Celery supplies moderate Ventura, Orange, San Diego. Lettuce harvest Imperial Valley increasing, expected to reach peak in 1 to 2 weeks. Potato shipments moderate from Tule Lake.

**COLORADO:** Warming trend through week to record or near record highs for dates over weekend. Maximums reached 60's and 70's at lower elevations. Light to moderate snow central and northern mountains. Little or no precipitation other areas. Surface soil moisture becoming short many areas. Subsoil moisture generally adequate. Strong winds weekend. No precipitation caused considerable drying of topsoil. Blowing soils local areas eastern plains. Fall-seeded grains dormant. Condition declining, but generally good to excellent. Limited acreage winter wheat providing grazing. Pruning fruit trees and other orchard work good progress western slope. Range and pastures fair. Supplemental feeding required statewide. Hay and forage supplies short to adequate. Calving continuing southern half State.

**FLORIDA:** Temperatures averaged 4° to 8° below normal in north and central, and 1° to 4° below normal in south, as a succession of cold fronts swept through Florida. Precipitation was heavy, averaging 1.00 to 2.00 inches in north and north-central portions of State and near 0.50 inch elsewhere. St. Leo recorded greatest amount of precipitation with 2.70 inches followed by 2.67 inches at Clermont. Weather story of the week was the strong cold front that pushed rapidly through Florida late Friday and Saturday. Strong northwesterly winds followed the frontal passage with many stations reporting sustained winds of 30 m.p.h. and gusts to 55 m.p.h. Temperatures dropped sharply behind the front with temperatures falling into upper 20's and the lower 30's in northern Florida Sunday morning. Little frost was experienced as the high winds continued. Sunday was fair and cold with diminishing winds and nighttime temperatures falling rapidly. Cold, wet weather hindered growth small grains northern areas. Sugarcane harvest progressing on schedule. Moisture for pastures adequate to surplus. Grasses damaged by

weekend frost. Grazing fair. Cattle good with light to moderate supplemental feeding. Feed, forage supplies ample. Florida citrus excellent condition. Spotty frost--no damage trees or bloom. High winds increased fruit droppage, mostly salvagable. Moisture adequate, new growth, bloom buds, and open bloom becoming abundant. Cold, high winds on weekend severely whipped older plants and sandblasted recent plantings most vegetable areas. Heavy frosts morning of 21st caused additional damage and plant loss to tender crops all areas except Pompano and Dade County areas. Recently-planted beans, cucumbers, squash, peppers, sweet corn, and watermelons incurred some acreage loss and reduction stands. Replanting and spot transplanting most losses expected. Some loss small fruit and blooms on fruiting crops expected along with increased cullage from fruit scarring. No immediate reductions available supplies most commodities expected.

**GEORGIA:** Cloudy and cool Tuesday through Friday with light rain Wednesday and Friday. Turning colder Friday night and continued cold windy and mostly fair through weekend. Freezing on 2 to 3 days north and central and at least 1 day extreme south. Averages ranged from 2° to 4° below normal for 3d straight week of cooler-than-normal temperatures. Rainfall totals ranged mostly from 0.40 to 0.80 inch with a few just over 1.00 inch. An inch or more of snow fell in extreme north Friday night and early Saturday. Wet fields continued to delay land preparation. Small grains, pastures, and tobacco plant beds remain fair to good condition. Topdressing grains beginning where field conditions permit. Routine care livestock.

**HAWAII:** Cool weather with scattered light showers. Growth most crops slowed by low temperatures. Gradual increase in sugarcane harvesting. Harvesting pineapples light. Locally grown vegetable and fruit supplies adequate. Pastures received ample moisture from recent rain, but growth slowed by low temperatures. Cattle fair to good.

**IDAHO:** Warming trend; temperatures for week averaged mostly 5° to 11° above normal. Precipitation mostly less than normal. However, scattered moderate to heavy amounts reported. Lewiston, north, recorded 0.88 inch, 0.62 more than normal, for the greatest total. Snow depths at higher stations decreased 3 to 5 inches. Warmer temperatures thawed ground frost causing muddy roads and feedlots. Calving and lambing progressing very well. Potato marketing active.

**ILLINOIS:** Sunny and cool weekend. Earlier in weekend. Earlier in week, temperatures reached from 0° at Moline on 16th to 50's in south on 17th. Precipitation to 0.25 inch quite general on 14th and 17th. Snowcover in north of up to 6 inches at Moline was melted by weekend. Soil moisture adequate. Winter wheat, other small grains and legumes mostly good condition. Livestock fair to good condition; no unusual health problems. Main activities include routine farm chores, livestock care, and planning for spring work.

**INDIANA:** Temperatures averaged above normal north, below normal south. Precipitation measured few tenths inch at midweek as temperatures climbed to 50's on 17th. Sixteenth was coolest as State minimums ranged from 15° to 22°. Partly cloudy on weekend. Snow 3 inches deep on weekend. Soils frozen 4 to 8 inches, but some surface thawing afternoons. Spreading fertilizer

accomplished on cooler days. Chores and livestock care main farm activities.

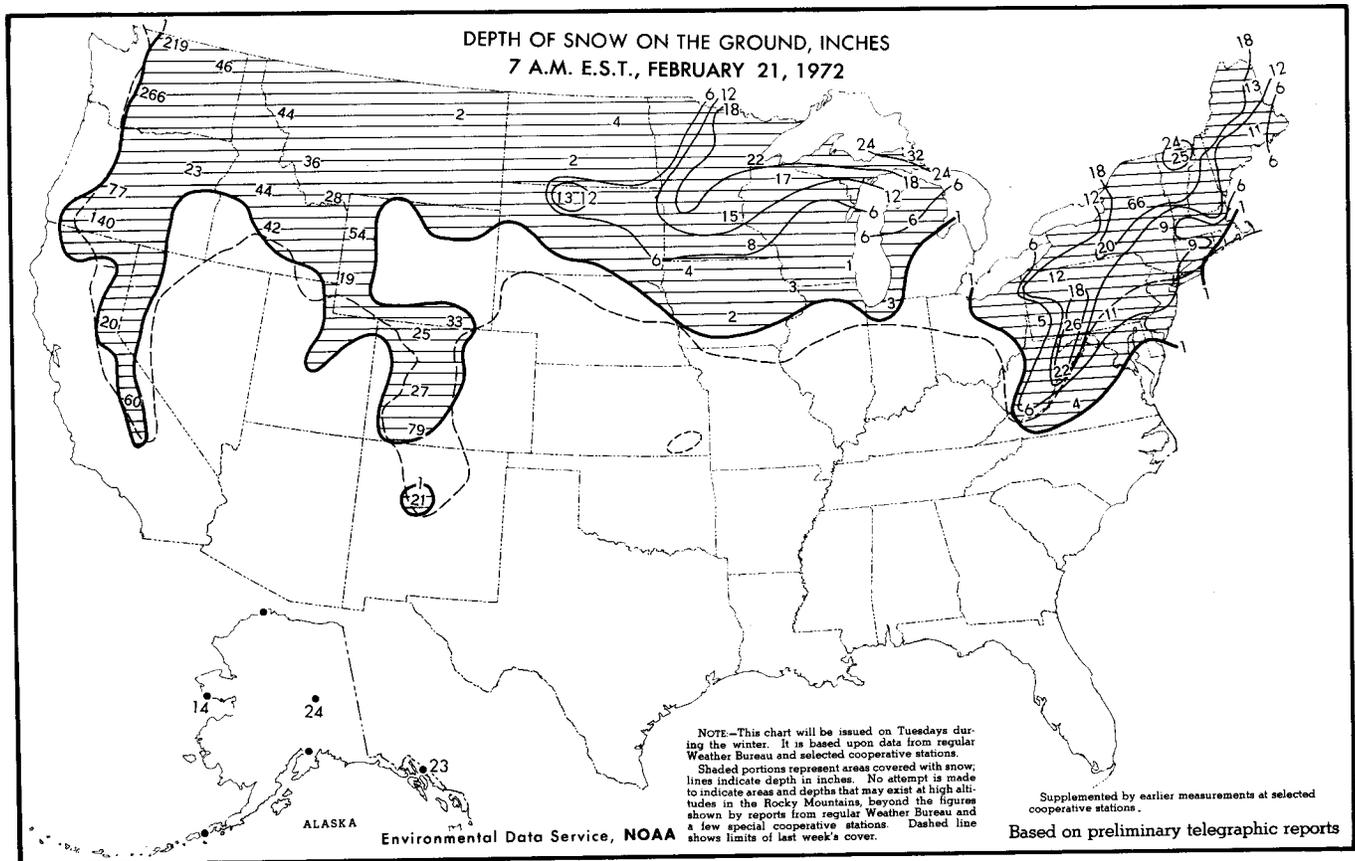
**IOWA:** Dry with seasonal temperatures. Blizzard conditions 17th and 18th northern Iowa with wind gusts 60 to 80 m.p.h. Highways dangerous to impassible. Coldest 16th and 19th. Minima to -7° at Fayette.

**KANSAS:** Very dry. No significant precipitation western half since early January. Strong winds 17th caused patches of blowing dust west. Weekly mean temperatures averaged above seasonal. Greatest departures northwest and north-central. Unusually warm weather 20th with maxima in 70's and 80's. Some wheat grazed as temperatures moderated. Surface moisture now short some west-central and northwestern counties, but subsoil moisture mostly adequate. Light soil blowing wheat fields local areas. Nitrogen topdressing applied to wheat and cool season pasture grasses. Seedbed preparation continued for spring-planted crops. Oat and spring barley seeding underway very limited scale. Supplemental livestock feeding lessened due mild weather. Feed and hay supplies mostly adequate. Calving and farrowing active with weather conditions favorable.

**KENTUCKY:** Precipitation mostly light, 0.09 to about 0.50 inch, heaviest in southeast. Snow chiefly in eastern half on about 5 days. Snow depth 1 to 4 inches at 7 a.m. 17th, 19th and 20th in portions of east and southeast. Temperatures for week averaging about normal, about 1/2 day above normal, and about 1/2 below normal. Farm activities mostly routine chores. Soils mostly frozen. Some pasture renovation and seeding to be done as weather permits. Many farmers attended machinery show Louisville. Livestock wintering well with ample supplemental feed.

**LOUISIANA:** Temperatures 1° to 2° above normal with normal to 5° below normal east. Mild first of week, cooler latter half, milder beginning today. Scattered light freezes Saturday and Sunday mornings. Temperature extremes: 77° Shreveport, Leesville, and De Ridder Thursday; 30° Winnfield February 14. Precipitation light north and central and light to moderate south in scattered showers Monday through Thursday. Greatest 1-day amount, 1.30 inches measured Reserve Wednesday morning. Excessive moisture limited fieldwork to scattered land preparations, stalk destruction, scattering cotton, topdressing winter pastures, and field drainage. Cold cloudy weather held back growth winter pastures and small grain crops. Spraying strawberries for insect control active--strawberry prospects good. Pasture feed below average, supplemental feeding general, livestock fair to good.

**MARYLAND AND DELAWARE:** Temperatures averaged normal to 2° above normal in east and 1° to 4° below normal in west. Extremes: 70's, 5°. Week of heavy precipitation with most rain and melted snow totals between 1.50 and 2.75 inches. Unusually heavy snow on 19th in north and west. One of the worst snow storms on record in Garrett County. One-day totals on 19th reached 14 inches and total on the ground 30 inches. Strong winds brought widespread drifting, drifts to 10 feet. Some fieldwork southern areas prior to weekend storm, mainly seeding tobacco beds and topdressing grain fields. Winter grain fields fair to good. Little winterkill, but more than usual drowning out in low spots. Livestock good condi-



tion. Weekend snow and power failures caused hardships in livestock care, especially dairy.

**MICHIGAN:** Briefly colder mid- and late in period. Intermittent light snow throughout week. Temperatures averaged 1° below to 1° above normal Upper Peninsula, 1° below to 5° above normal Lower Peninsula. Precipitation totals, 0.30 to 1.00 inch except less than 0.25 inch east half Lower Peninsula.

**MINNESOTA:** Temperatures during the period were near normal. Extremes: 38°, -23°. On the 17th, 2 to 6 inch snowfalls, followed by strong winds caused blizzard conditions across much of State. Many schools were closed on 17th and 18th because of blocked roads, particularly in southwest and south-central. One death was caused from exposure during storm. Snow cover varies from 6 to 30 inches except the very northwest with 1 inch. The heavier snow cover of 20 inches or greater fans out towards the northeast from Alexandria.

**MISSISSIPPI:** Rain on 2 to 4 days; weekly totals ranged from less than 0.25 inch northern locations to over 1.50 inches in coastal division. Weekly temperature averages were 3° below normal to slightly above normal with extremes of 26° and 72°. Over weekend: Rain at Biloxi and Yazoo City; on 20th minimum temperatures below freezing except most of coastal division. Soil moisture adequate to surplus. Principal farm activities caring for livestock and land preparation on well drained soils. Average 2.3 days suitable for fieldwork. Plowing for 1972 crop about 18% completed. Wheat and oats mostly fair condition. Livestock and pasture mostly fair.

**MISSOURI:** Two minor surges of cold air failed to pull temperatures below normal as daytime readings reached into 50's and 60's on about half the days. Temperatures averaged about 5° above normal. Precipitation was light, averaging 0.10 inch north to 0.25 inch southeast.

**MONTANA:** Mild week as temperatures averaged about 10° above normal with no significant storms. Precipitation very light except 0.25 to 1.00 inch amounts in western division. Snow cover winter wheat nearly gone. Condition winter wheat generally good. Winter grazing opened up. Supplemental feeding reduced due warmer temperatures and increased grazing. Hay supplies short many areas. Early calving, lambing and shearing progressing normally.

**NEBRASKA:** Dry, warm, and windy. High winds late week caused some soil erosion and minor damage to fall-sown crops in areas dry and exposed soils. Corn shelling, moving hay supplies, cleaning lots and buildings, and stalk shredding were farm activities. Warm temperatures helped to make livestock care easier. Lambing, farrowing, and calving continue with few losses.

**NEVADA:** Temperatures all divisions averaged 7° to 9° above normal. Light precipitation in north from trace at Austin to 0.11 at Owyhee. Only snowfall was 2 inches at Owyhee. Snow in mountains. Mild weather eased winter strain on livestock. Cattle and sheep remain generally good condition. Supplemental feeding continues. No unusual death losses, but coyotes more numerous than usual. Farm activity consists

mainly maintenance, feeding, and clearing for livestock. Early seedbed preparation for spring wheat and barley underway Fallon area.

**NEW ENGLAND:** Very mild at beginning and sharply colder over weekend. Weekly means mostly 1° to 3° above normal. Weekend storm at height on Saturday caused multi-million dollar loss, with worst devastation to coastal installations and flooded shore properties. Extremely high storm surge tides. Hundreds of families evacuated from homes. Storm snowfall mostly 1 to 2 feet, except less in lighter precipitation of extreme northwest and in extreme southeast where most or all fell as rain. Some freezing rain and ice pellets in south. High winds and low temperatures caused blizzard conditions parts of north. Nearly all forms of transportation halted or much delayed, with roads in many areas very poor yet Monday. Some storm related deaths and injuries. Precipitation totals mostly 1.00 to 2.00 inches but some higher in eastern Massachusetts and some lighter in northern New England.

**NEW JERSEY:** Temperatures averaged near seasonal normals with warm weather at start of week and cold latter half. Temperatures ranged from low 60's early in week to -7° on 21st. Precipitation averaged 1.00 inch north, 1.40 inches over south, and 1.90 inches along coast. Precipitation came as mixture of snow, rain, more snow through night, Friday, and early Saturday. Snow depth morning of 21st ranged from none along coast to 14 inches in northwest.

**NEW MEXICO:** Fair and unseasonably warm. A few widely scattered light showers Tuesday. Temperatures averaged from 3° to 8° above normal. Minimum temperatures in north early in week were 5° to 10° in some localities. Warmer during week with maximum temperatures in south on Sunday in 80's in some localities. Topsoil, subsoil moisture adequate to short. Wheat fair to good. Wheat pasturing active. Lettuce planting underway Mesilla Valley. Land preparation active. Ranges good to fair. Supplemental feeding small scale.

**NEW YORK:** Temperatures mostly seasonal through 18th becoming sharply colder by end of week. Maximums in low 50's southeast to mid-40's interior on 15th ranging down to 5° to 15° Upstate on 20th. Coldest minimums zero to 10° Upstate and near 20° coastal on 17th and 20th. Coastal storm on 19th brought most widespread heavy snowfall of winter. Snow heaviest central interior as totals of 18 to 24 inches stalled travel for most of 2 days. Elsewhere snowfalls 12 to 16 inches east-central and average 12 inches extreme west and northern border. Coastal sections 4 to 6 inches snowfall before changing to rain with liquid precipitation totals 1.70 inches. Precipitation very light early and midweek. Deep snow cover prevails all sections except extreme southeast with 18 inches or more on ground much of interior Upstate.

**NORTH CAROLINA:** Rain and snow 17th to 19th averaged about 1 inch. Accumulations of snow 1 to 3 inches west and north, little or none east. Temperatures near normal. Soil moisture adequate to surplus, increased to generally surplus during week. Small grains generally fair to good. Light to heavy small grain damage from past freezes. Pasture conditions changed little mostly fair. Hay and feed grain supplies continued adequate; scattered shortages persist.

Fieldwork limited (state average 1.5 days) by excessive moisture, cool weather.

**NORTH DAKOTA:** Frequent changes in weather. Temperatures averaged 2° above normal southeast to 10° above normal northwest. Warmest since early December. Snowstorm moved across State on 17th with blizzard conditions central and eastern areas. Precipitation light to 0.47 inch. Snow cover mostly 1 to 5 inches. High winds with light snow February 16 and 17 created additional work for farmers and ranchers caring for livestock. Drifted roads and yards made some feed supplies inaccessible. Some unprotected fields lost topsoil and few farm buildings damaged. Livestock remain good condition.

**OHIO:** Maximum and minimum temperatures for 14th to 18th near normal. Temperatures for 19th to 21st, 5° to 10° below normal. Rain and snow on 15th. Rain and snow on 18th and 19th with 4 to 8 inches accumulation over eastern Ohio. Over rest of State, accumulation 2 inches or less. Snow flurries Sunday eastern Ohio. Winter weather continues to limit farm activities. Winter wheat still good condition despite fluctuating temperatures. Farmers attending livestock sales.

**OKLAHOMA:** No measurable precipitation except 0.02 inch southeast. Temperatures averaged 1° to 8° above normal. Wheat mostly good condition, only limited growth. Grazing still adequate most areas. Topdressing small grains active, some farmers spraying for greenbugs. About 1/2 spring oats and barley acreage seeded. Surface soil moisture becoming short western 1/3 and south-central. Statewide surface moisture 1/3 short, balance adequate to surplus. Some fruit buds beginning to swell, but most trees still dormant. Land preparation for gardens active, some early vegetables planted southern areas. Native range and pasture feed short many areas. Winter grasses and clovers limited growth. Heavy supplemental feeding required several localities. Most livestock fair to good condition. Heavy lice population problem several southern counties.

**OREGON:** Mild wet week provided up to 2 inches snow east of Cascades midperiod. Temperatures averaged mostly 4° to 8° above normal. Weekly minima 13° to 29° east, 33° to 41° westside and Columbia Gorge. Maxima 45° to 65°. Daily range in State totaled 0.10 to 0.50 inch eastern 2/3, 1.00 inch western valleys, 2.00 to 4.00 inches northern Cascades and Coast. Pruning caneberrries and fruit trees continues. Some spring plowing began better drained areas. Feed supplies appear adequate with feeding normal to heavy rates. Calving and lambing continue.

**PENNSYLVANIA:** Major snowstorm Friday and Saturday dumped 10 to 22 inches new snow central and northeast, 4 to 10 inches southeast and part of southwest, and trace to several inches northwest corner. Strong winds and bitter cold followed snowstorm. Many roads closed, business and social activities halted. Snow depth Monday morning ranged from 3 inches extreme southeast and northwest corners to 20 to 40 inches central and northern mountains. Total precipitation 1.00 to 2.00 east and central, 0.50 to 1.00 inch elsewhere, except 0.25 inch near Lake Erie. 4th consecutive colder-than-normal week with temperatures near normal southeast and in northwest ranging to 4° to 6° below normal west-central and north.

**PUERTO RICO:** Dry cool week. Rainfall averaged only 0.05 inch or about 0.60 inch below normal. Highest weekly total 0.44 inch in eastern mountains. Little or no rain over most of Island. Crop moisture conditions near normal except South Coast too dry and no water storage remaining. Temperatures averaged 74° on coasts and 69° to 70° interior with mean departure of about 2° below normal. Sugarcane harvesting and transporting operations made good progress, but weather too dry for fall crop non-irrigated zones. Coffee plantations active pruning and preparing soil for new planting. Tobacco zones report good progress cutting, drying, and preparation seedbeds. Pasture zones active cultivating, but ground generally too dry for fertilizing and seeding. Pasture crop development only fair most zone—due lack rain. Minor crops active cultivating and fertilizing, also harvesting peppers, lettuce, and pumpkins southwest, while yams, plantains, and tanners planting southeast. Most other zones too dry for fieldwork.

**SOUTH CAROLINA:** Rains at beginning and end of week totaled 0.75 to 2.00 inches along the coast. Temperatures were about 2° below normal in the Piedmont and near normal elsewhere. Cold air and high winds arrived as week ended. Tobacco plants good shape. Harvesting vegetables (greens) and setting cabbage plants. Prolonged dormancy anticipated for peaches due to warm winter.

**SOUTH DAKOTA:** Temperatures averaged from near normal in east to 12° above normal in west. Extremes ranged from -8° at Brookings on 18th to 65° at Rapid City on 20th. Precipitation fell as snow scattered through week with most amounts 0.10 inch or less although some heavier amounts in north. Bowdle received 0.40 inch with 4 inches new snow on 17th. Snow cover on 18th ranged from zero southwest and south-central to about 1 1/2 feet portions northeast and north-central. Strong winds caused blowing and erosion on fall-seeded wheat fields and fallow land. Early calving and lambing well underway most areas. Generally disease and death loss light. Some local reports red nose and other respiratory diseases. These were due to extreme changes in weather. Feed grain and hay supply generally adequate over State. Main farmwork consists feeding and caring livestock and preparing for spring planting.

**TENNESSEE:** Temperatures near normal west to 5° below normal northeast; below normal most areas on weekend. Light to moderate precipitation almost daily in east, locally 0.70 inch or more. Little or no precipitation central and west. Snowfall trace to 2 inches in eastern mountains accompanying cold frontal passage Friday. Farm planning for coming crop year and repair buildings and fences continued dominate farm activities. Preparation and seeding tobacco beds also begun. Livestock remains good condition with adequate feed supplies on hand. Small grains and pastures still in good condition.

**TEXAS:** Mild and dry throughout week. Supplemental and full feeding livestock practiced in State. Full feeding active northern half, supplemental feeding general southern half. Wheat, oats furnishing less grazing. Growth wheat slowed by cold weather, oats slow recovery. Small acreages cotton, sorghum planted Lower Rio Grande Valley. Full scale planting still several weeks away. Cotton 100% harvested statewide. Lower Valley winter vegetable harvest active. Cabbage, let-

tuce moderate to heavy volume. Carrot digging increasing, but still light. Spring onions generally good progress in mild temperatures, but some blight showing up. Harvest early onions starts early March. Planting other spring vegetables continues Lower Valley. Winter Garden carrot digging active, light supplies cabbage. Spinach shipments increasing, but below year ago. Coastal Bend planting and replanting watermelons and cucumbers. Citrus harvest active Lower Valley with grapefruit, Valencia oranges being shipped. Groves being irrigated.

**UTAH:** A few scattered light showers northwest portion of State. Accumulated amounts of moisture less than 0.10 inch lower valleys and generally less than 0.25 inch northern mountains. Temperatures continued warm for season, averaging 2° to 12° above normal. Farm lands lower valleys free of snow. Early spring plowing started most lower valleys. Farm flock lambing progressing. Care and feeding cattle and sheep on winter ranges, valley farms, and feedlots continue major activities, along with care and feeding dairy herds and poultry flocks. Some marketing potatoes, apples, and dry onions from storage continues. Fruit trees survived winter in good shape, but critical period lies ahead. Warm weather stimulated some new growth. Severe cold spell now could damage fruit trees. Fruit farmers pruning orchards.

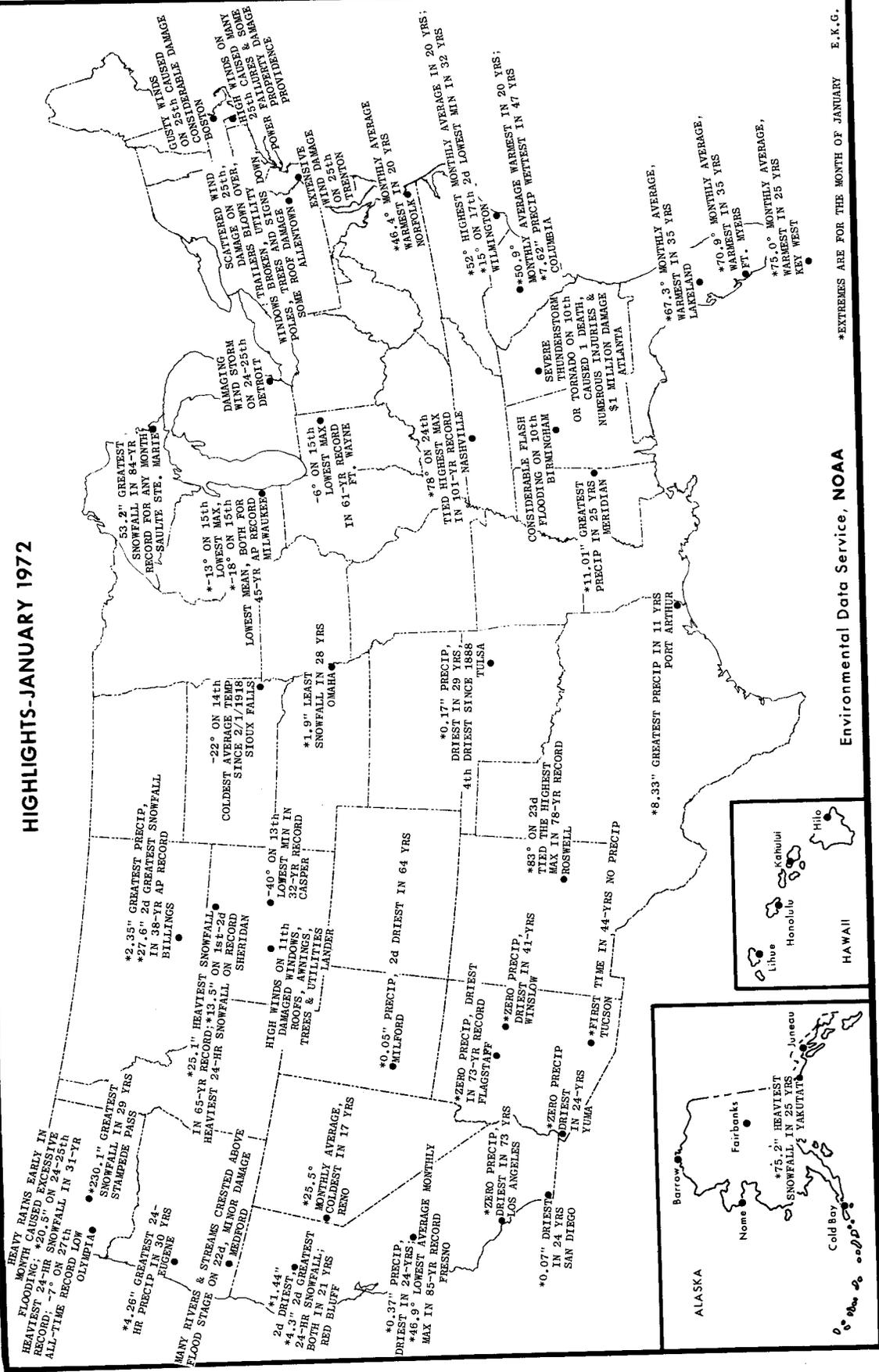
**VIRGINIA:** Temperatures above normal first half and below normal second half. Heavy precipitation second half with snow up to 2 feet northern counties. Topsoil moisture 2/3 surplus. Fieldwork very limited. Broadcast clover and grass on small grains, seeded pastures, planted lespedeza, and seeded tobacco plant beds. Winter rations to livestock increased. Feed supply adequate. Cold wet weather increased concern for saving newborn calves, lambs, and pigs. Snow made care and feeding difficult and time consuming, especially in north.

**WASHINGTON:** Mild temperatures and rain over the slopes, mountains, and northern interior portions of Western Washington and drier than usual over the remainder. Surface water standing on bottom lands. Caneberry pruning continuing and harvest forced rhubarb active. Freeze damage berries, trees, and ornamentals appears to be less serious than feared earlier. Hay and roughage supplies appear adequate. Dogs, weather, and short feed supplies have led to high lambing losses San Juan County. Eastern Washington: Mild temperatures with some rain and high winds during middle of week. Pruning and trellising continuing vineyards with some pruning lower orchards. Frozen ground curtailed fieldwork while erosion occurred some warmer areas. Calving and lambing progressing without major difficulties although predator problems increasing sheep flocks. Livestock generally good shape with adequate hay and roughage supplies.

**WEST VIRGINIA:** Major snowstorm began evening February 18 and drifts closed roads in Preston County February 19. Snow accumulations generally 2 to 4 inches statewide but up to 24 inches north mountains. Precipitation totals 1.00 inch but rain February 15 and 18 and snow February 13, 17, 18, and 19. Most farm activities centered around tending livestock and general maintenance. Supplemental feeding of livestock widespread due continued cold weather. Haystacks are adequate. Most livestock are in good condition.

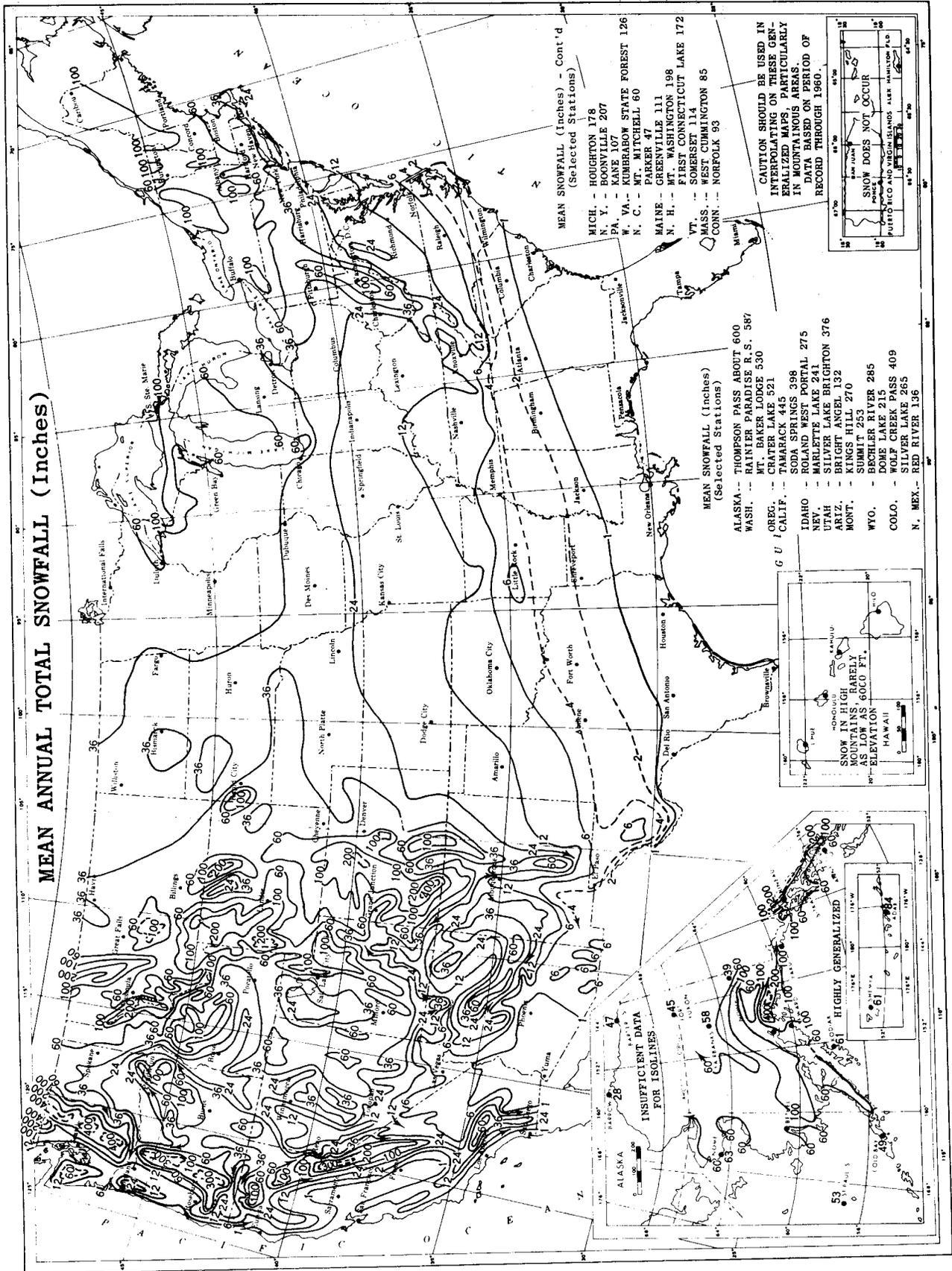
(Continued on back page)

HIGHLIGHTS-JANUARY 1972



\*EXTREMES ARE FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY E.K.G.

Environmental Data Service, NOAA





# FIRST CLASS MAIL

Subscription price \$5.00 per year in U. S. and possessions, foreign mailing \$6.25 per year. For period December to March, \$1.50 domestic, \$2.00 foreign. If air mail is desired, add the appropriate amount. Make checks payable to "Superintendent of Documents."

Publication of this bulletin began in 1872 as the Weekly Weather Chronicle. It is now issued under general authority contained in the Act of January 12, 1895 (44 USC 213), 53d Cong., Ill. Sess. Quotation or reproduction of this material is encouraged. Please give credit to this publication and, in case of special articles, to authors.

Questions and comments are invited; please send to Editor in Agricultural Climatology Service Office, address above.

(Continued from page 9)

**WISCONSIN:** A welcome relief from the cold weather of the previous weeks as temperatures rose to near normal levels. A little thawing in the south on several days. Precipitation light most areas except in extreme north where up to 1 foot of snow fell on Thursday and Friday. Much blowing and drifting of this snow created blizzard conditions with roads closed. Livestock generally doing good. Pastures and new seedings mostly wintering well.

**WYOMING:** Scattered light snows, moderate northwestern mountains, statewide. Moran reported most moisture, 0.64 inch. Temperatures averaged 2° to 11° above normal. Maxima mostly 40's west of Divide and Upper Platte Drainage, high 40's and 50's elsewhere. Minima mostly 10° to -15° west of Divide, 15° to -5° east. Temperature extremes were 58° at Carpenter and Worland, and -17° at Farson. Warming trend gave some relief to livestock under considerable weather stress. Livestock feeding general. Spring hay supplies look bleak where feeding season unusually long.