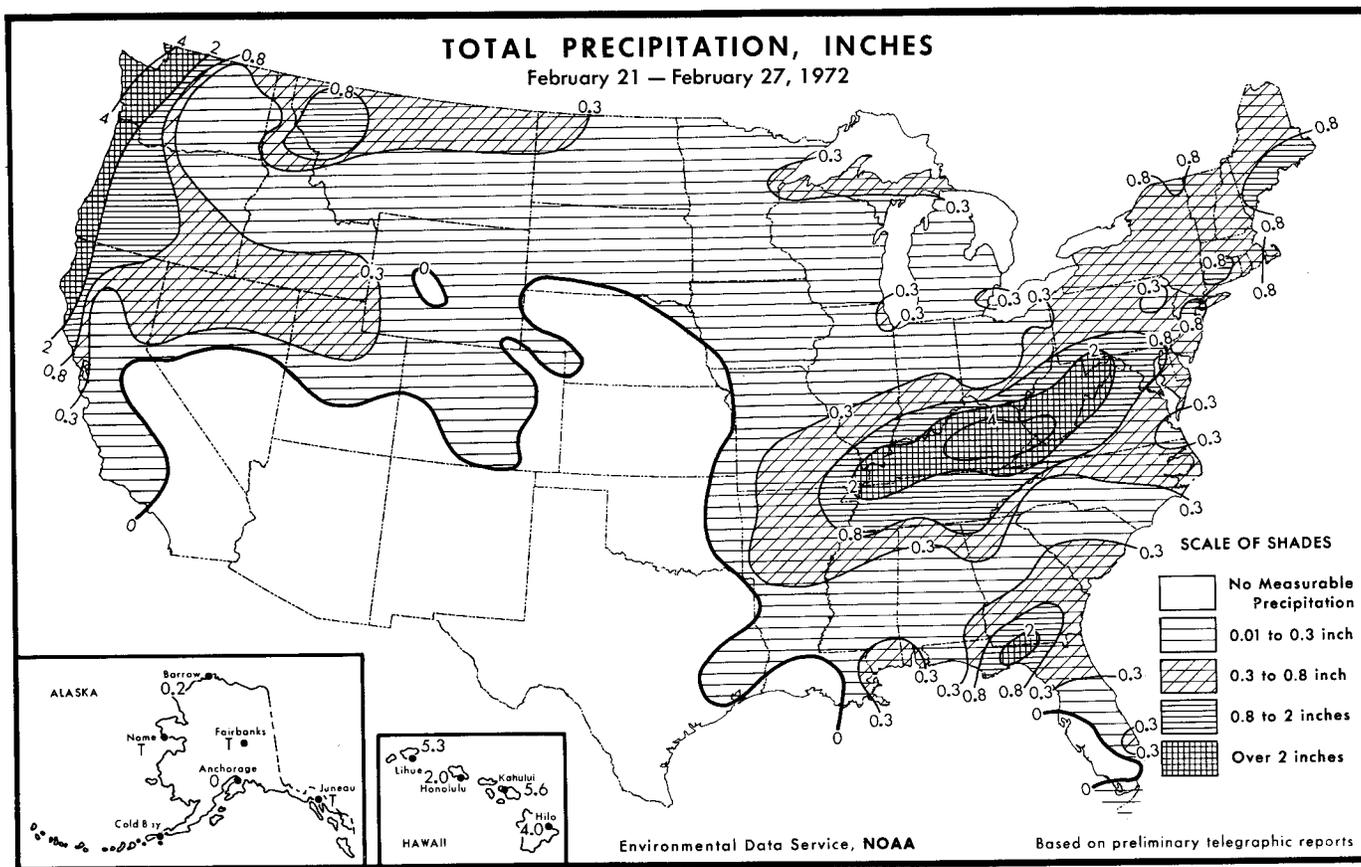


Weekly Weather & Crop Bulletin

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Edited by Lucius W. Dye FEBRUARY 28, 1972 Washington, D. C.



NATIONAL WEATHER SUMMARY

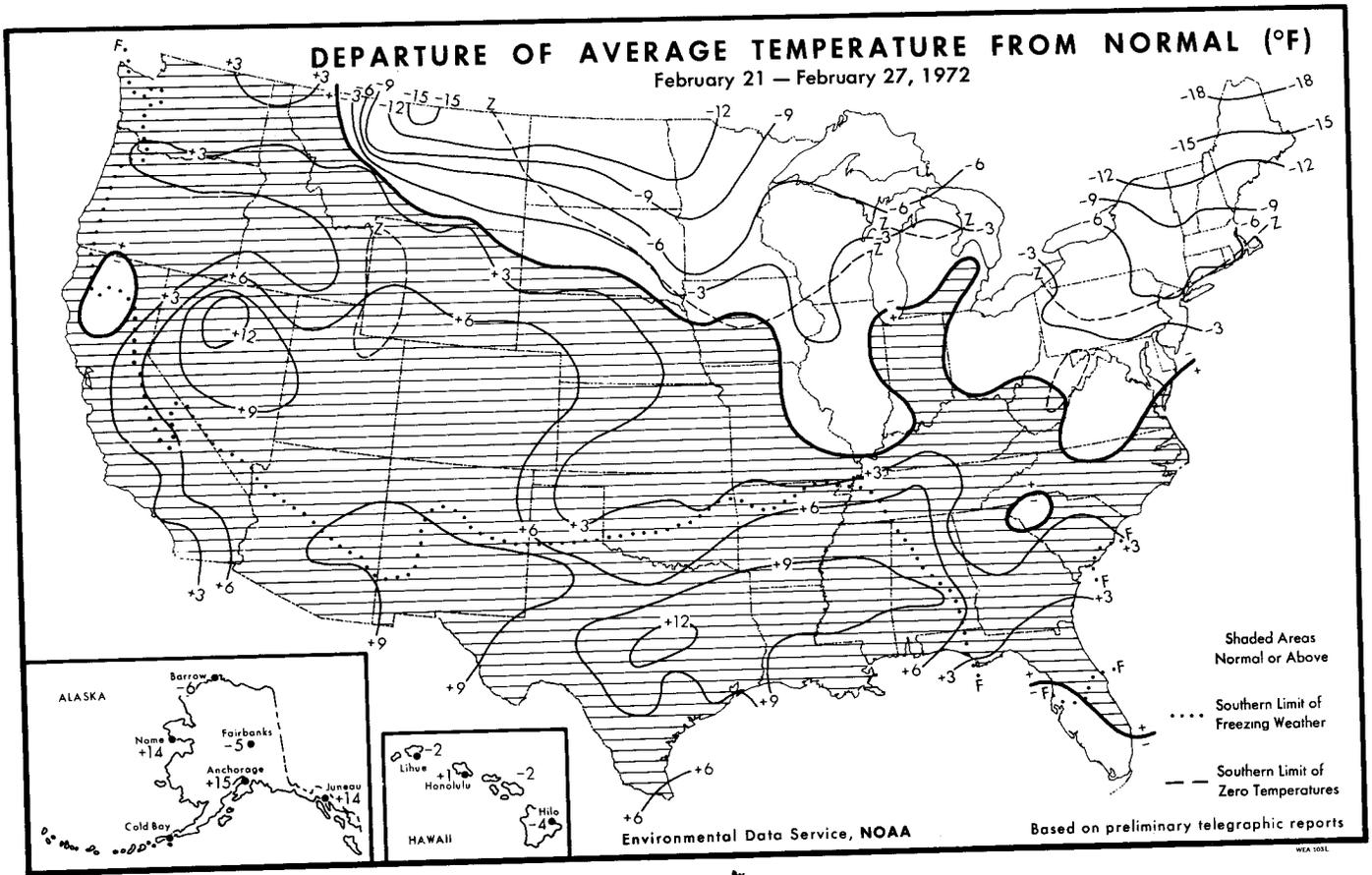
HIGHLIGHTS: Heavy rains and melting snow caused a dam to fail in West Virginia with heavy loss of life and property damage. The Southwest continues very dry. Springlike temperatures were common over much of the West and South.

PRECIPITATION: The storm that had battered the Northeast so severely late last week tapered off and by Monday morning, February 21, skies were becoming clear again. A few snow flurries continued in the vicinity of the Great Lakes.

A series of winter storms paraded across the northern States during the week bringing typical wintry precipitation accompanied, in some places, by strong winds. Rains occurred along the Pacific Coast from Washington to northern California with snow from the Cascades and northern Sierras east-

ward across the northern Rocky Mountains to the northern Great Plains. Snow at Stampede Pass accumulated to 16 feet. Stampede Pass is almost 4,000 feet above sea level. Snow fell in the northern Great Plains but in parts of the central Plains the precipitation occurred as a slippery mixture of snow and freezing rain due to a southerly flow from the Gulf of Mexico. A mixture of sleet, snow, and rain fell in parts of the Pacific Northwest. These mixtures of snow and freezing rain bordering the snow belt caused hazardous driving conditions.

More winter weather came to the East after midweek: snow in the north, rain in Kentucky, Tennessee, and eastward to the middle Atlantic Coast, and an area of freezing rain and freezing drizzle sandwiched between the snow and the rain producing a dangerous glaze on the highways and



byways. A few thunderstorms occurred Thursday in southern Missouri, northern Arkansas and eastward to the mountainous areas of Virginia and North Carolina.

Weekend precipitation included the continuation of rains along the northern Pacific Coast from Washington to northern California with snow in the nearby mountains and eastward to New England. The snow over the Great Plains was mostly light flurries. The heavy rains along the coast were accompanied by winds often exceeding gale force. The winds in the mountains drifted the snow badly. The winds gusted to 60 m.p.h. along the coast and over 90 m.p.h. over the higher Cascades. Several inches of snow fell in the northern Appalachians. Seven inches fell at Burlington, Vt., and at Portsmouth, N.H., and 6 inches at Worcester, Mass.

Several days of heavy rains in eastern Kentucky, western North Carolina, and southern West Virginia along with melting snow resulting from the mild temperatures caused flash flooding along some streams and rivers. In Logan County, W. Va., a coal-slag dam failed causing a disaster on Buffalo Creek. Dozens of persons were drowned, hundreds are still missing, and other hundreds are without homes as the water rushed down the valley carrying away houses, automobiles, and people.

TEMPERATURE: Subzero cold spread over much of the Northeast early in the week as brisk northerly winds and clearing skies followed the recent snow storm. Watertown, N.Y., registered -20° and Philipsburg, Pa., -10° , Monday morning, February 21. Winter continued its icy grip over the northern half of the Nation. A large cold, arctic HIGH, centered over the Great Lakes on Monday moved to New England by Wednesday. Colder, windy, snowy weather continued. Winds reached 40 m.p.h. with gusts considerably higher over the northern and middle Atlantic States. The temperature at Messina, N.Y., plunged to 34° below zero and zero weather came to New York City Wednesday morning.

The Southland enjoyed pleasant temperatures. Maximums reached the 70's and 80's from southern California to Florida almost every afternoon. A warming trend boosted Sunday afternoon temperatures into the 70's over most of Kansas. Also on Sunday afternoon, the temperatures soared to the high 80's in the desert Southwest.

Temperatures averaged below normal from the northern Great Plains to New England and south as far as Virginia and above normal over the rest of the Nation. A large area from the Great Basin to the southern Great Plains averaged 6° to 12° warmer than normal.

L. W. Dye

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

AGRICULTURAL HIGHLIGHTS: Pastures becoming dry in the Southwest. * Texas and Oklahoma spring planting off to fast start. * Cold weather reduced Florida vegetable supplies. * Wheat greening on Great Plains -- moisture needed.

SMALL GRAINS: It was the 2d straight week of warm, dry and windy weather over much of the Great Plains. The above normal temperatures were on the plus side and started the wheat crop growing. Some greening was evident as far north as southeast Nebraska. On the minus side were the dry windy conditions. Topsoils are becoming dry from Texas to Nebraska. Only a trace of precipitation was received in this area during the week. Strong winds caused soil blowing in Kansas and Nebraska. Late-seeded or heavily pastured fields were the hardest hit in Kansas -- growers are chiseling and using other tillage methods to control blowing. Green bugs and mites are reported in action in Oklahoma.

Mild temperatures melted some of the snow on the northern Plains. Wind damage is light in Montana and South Dakota, but fields in some areas are susceptible to blowing. Fall-seeded grains look good in Oregon, with little winter-kill evident. A good rain is needed in the Southwest. Some early fields around Yuma, Arizona, are already in the boot stage. Small grains are mostly in good condition east of the Mississippi River. Moisture is plentiful throughout the South. Rust has already started damaging winter wheat in Georgia. Grain farmers across the Nation were busy topdressing fall-planted acreage.

Oklahoma growers continued to have ideal spring planting weather and have about 2/3 of their oats and barley seeded. Spring seeding also got underway in Kansas. Planting operations were limited in the South as recent rains have left fields too muddy to work. Drilling also began in eastern Washington.

OTHER CROPS: The 2d consecutive week of spring-like temperatures started some spring activities. Fieldwork was active in areas dry enough to support machinery. Planting activity was especially active in the dry Southwest. Cotton, sorghum and corn planting made good progress in the Lower Rio Grande Valley and Coastal Bend regions of Texas. California growers stepped up the planting pace of sugar beets and safflower. Potato planting was underway in North Carolina's Coastal Plain and started in eastern Oregon and Washington. Early-planted Louisiana fields are up and growing. The maple syrup season also started in Ohio as warm temperatures started the sap flow.

Fruits and Nuts: Warmer temperatures started fruit buds swelling in California. Orchard irrigation increased. A high percentage of Coachella Valley grapefruit is being sent to processors. New growth and bloom bud development also advanced on Florida citrus trees. Harvesters are salvaging dropped fruit from last week's strong winds. Citrus harvest was active in Texas and Arizona. Early peaches began blooming in South Texas -- Oklahoma fruit buds began to swell. Damage to peaches and other fruits are showing up in Ohio orchards -- this is due to the mid-January cold snap.

Vegetables: Cold weather was the cause of sharply reduced vegetable supplies from Florida. High winds and frost touched most Florida areas February 19 to 21. Acreage losses to young spring crops were heavy in the Ft. Myers, Immokalee and Pompano areas. Growers are planning to reseed lost acreage. Lettuce is at peak volume from California's Imperial Valley. Carrot shipments should increase from the Oxnard and Orange districts. Lettuce stands are good in Arizona and New Mexico. Strawberry prospects are good in Louisiana. Louisiana tomato growers moved some plants into cold frames. Cabbage planting was underway in both North and South Carolina.

PASTURES AND LIVESTOCK: Favorable spring weather reduced the strain on livestock herds across the Nation. Supplemental feeding of hay and grain continued heavy as pastures are not ready for grazing. Northern herds are confined to the barnyard as snow limits movement. Warmer temperatures were favorable for calving, lambing, and farrowing.

Range and pasture conditions are declining in the Southwest, notably from Southern California eastward to Texas and Oklahoma. The lack of "any type" of precipitation in this area is drying out soils. Pastures are providing less feed and many cattlemen have started giving herds extra hay and grain.

The main topic of conversation on livestock farms during the week was the concern over higher meat import quotas.

Steve J. Pscodna
Agricultural Statistician

Temperature and Precipitation Data for the Week Ending Midnight, l.s.t., FEBRUARY 27, 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 . . .	57	+ 7	.1	-1.3	New Orleans . . .	66	+ 8	.8	-.2	OKLA. Okla. City . . .	49	+ 5	T	-.3
Mobile . . .	64	+ 7	.7	-.6	Shreveport . . .	62	+10	T	-1.0	Tulsa . . .	45	+ 2	T	-.5
Montgomery . . .	60	+ 9	.1	-1.1	MAINE. Caribou . . .	- 3	-18	.6	+ .1	OREG. Astoria . . .	44	0	2.6	+ .2
ALASKA. Anchorage . . .	15	- 5	0	-.2	Portland . . .	14	-10	1.3	+ .4	Burns . . .	33	0	.7	+ .4
Barrow . . .	6	+12	.2	+ .1	MD. Baltimore . . .	35	- 1	1.1	+ .4	Medford . . .	42	0	1.6	+1.0
Fairbanks . . .	5	- 6	T	-.1	MASS. Boston . . .	25	- 6	.8	0	Pendleton . . .	44	+ 4	.2	-.1
Juneau . . .	14	-14	T	-.7	Chatham . . .	27	---	1.1	---	Portland . . .	47	+ 3	1.9	+ .8
Nome . . .	14	+ 8	T	-.2	MICH. Alpena . . .	14	- 5	.3	-.1	Salem . . .	45	+ 1	2.7	+1.5
ARIZ. Flagstaff . . .	37	+ 6	0	-.4	Detroit . . .	27	- 1	.3	-.3	PA. Allentown . . .	25	- 5	.6	0
Phoenix . . .	65	+ 9	0	-.2	Flint . . .	25	+ 1	.3	-.2	Erie . . .	24	- 1	.3	-.3
Tucson . . .	61	+ 6	0	-.2	Grand Rapids . . .	25	- 1	.3	-.1	Harrisburg . . .	30	- 5	.5	-.1
Winslow . . .	49	+ 9	T	-.1	Houghton Lake . . .	18	- 2	.2	-.1	Philadelphia . . .	31	- 3	.8	+ .1
Yuma . . .	66	+ 7	0	-.1	Lausling . . .	25	0	.4	-.1	Pittsburgh . . .	---	---	---	---
ARK. Fort Smith . . .	52	+ 6	T	-.9	Marquette . . .	14	- 7	.5	+ .1	Scranton . . .	23	- 7	.3	-.2
Little Rock . . .	55	+ 8	.8	-.3	Muskegon . . .	26	- 1	.2	-.3	R.I. Providence . . .	23	- 8	.7	0
CALIF. Bakersfield . . .	56	+ 2	.1	-.2	S. Ste. Marie . . .	9	- 8	.7	+ .4	S.C. Charleston . . .	56	+ 4	.7	-.2
Eureka . . .	51	+ 3	4.0	+2.6	MINN. Duluth . . .	7	- 6	.3	+ .1	Columbia . . .	53	+ 4	.3	-.7
Fresno . . .	57	+ 5	T	-.6	Internatl Falls . . .	0	-10	.2	0	Greenville . . .	46	- 1	.2	-.9
Los Angeles . . .	61	+ 3	0	-.7	Minneapolis . . .	13	- 6	T	-.3	S. DAK. Aberdeen . . .	11	- 7	T	-.2
Red Bluff . . .	51	- 1	.3	-.5	Rochester . . .	16	- 3	.1	-.2	Huron . . .	17	- 3	T	-.2
San Diego . . .	58	+ 1	0	-.5	St. Cloud . . .	9	- 8	.1	-.1	Rapid City . . .	27	0	.2	+ .1
San Francisco . . .	54	+ 2	.4	-.8	MISS. Jackson . . .	63	+11	.2	-1.1	Sioux Falls . . .	16	- 6	.1	-.2
Stockton . . .	55	+ 4	.1	-.5	Meridian . . .	61	+ 9	.1	-1.3	TENN. Chattanooga . . .	47	+ 2	.9	-.4
COLO. Denver . . .	40	+ 7	.2	0	MO. Columbia . . .	36	0	.1	-.4	Knoxville . . .	46	+ 2	1.5	+ .2
Grand Junction . . .	43	+ 7	T	-.2	Kansas City . . .	38	0	T	-.3	Memphis . . .	53	+ 8	1.0	-.1
Pueblo . . .	44	+ 8	T	-.1	St. Louis . . .	36	- 1	.4	-.2	Nashville . . .	50	+ 6	1.8	+ .6
CONN. Bridgeport . . .	28	- 3	.7	0	Springfield . . .	42	+ 2	.5	0	TEX. Abilene . . .	59	+ 8	0	-.3
Hartford . . .	23	- 7	1.0	+ .3	MONT. Billings . . .	27	- 2	.1	-.1	Amarillo . . .	46	+ 3	0	-.2
D.C. Washington . . .	37	- 2	1.3	+ .7	Glasgow . . .	5	-13	.4	+ .3	Austin . . .	67	+ 9	0	-.7
FLA. Apalachicola . . .	60	+ 2	1.3	+ .3	Great Falls . . .	15	-11	.4	+ .2	Beaumont . . .	67	+10	0	-.9
Pt. Myers . . .	66	0	0	-.6	Havre . . .	5	-15	.3	+ .2	Brownsville . . .	71	+ 6	0	-.4
Jacksonville . . .	61	+ 2	.3	-.5	Helena . . .	30	+ 4	.1	0	Corpus Christi . . .	70	+ 8	0	-.5
Key West . . .	71	0	.1	-.4	Kalispell . . .	29	+ 2	.8	+ .6	Dallas . . .	62	+10	0	-.7
Lakeland . . .	65	+ 1	0	-.7	Miles City . . .	19	- 5	.1	0	Del Rio . . .	67	+ 8	0	-.2
Miami . . .	68	- 1	T	-.5	Missoula . . .	30	+ 1	1.1	+ .9	El Paso . . .	62	+11	0	-.1
Orlando . . .	65	+ 2	.2	-.5	NEBR. Grand Island . . .	33	+ 4	T	-.2	Fort Worth . . .	62	+10	0	-.6
Tallahassee . . .	60	+ 3	2.0	+ .9	Lincoln . . .	33	+ 1	T	-.3	Galveston . . .	67	+ 8	0	-.8
Tampa . . .	62	- 2	0	-.8	Norfolk . . .	28	+ 2	T	-.2	Houston . . .	67	+11	T	-.8
GA. Atlanta . . .	49	+ 2	.3	-.9	North Platte . . .	35	+ 5	T	-.1	Lubbock . . .	55	+10	0	-.2
Augusta . . .	54	+ 4	.5	-.4	Omaha . . .	29	+ 1	T	-.3	Midland . . .	58	+ 8	0	-.2
Macon . . .	55	+ 3	.1	-1.0	Valentine . . .	30	+ 4	T	-.2	San Angelo . . .	62	+10	0	-.2
Savannah . . .	59	+ 5	.6	-.4	NEV. Ely . . .	39	+10	T	-.2	San Antonio . . .	67	+10	0	-.4
HAWAII. Hilo . . .	72	+ 1	2.0	-1.3	Las Vegas . . .	58	+ 8	0	-.1	Victoria . . .	67	+ 7	0	-.6
Honolulu . . .	69	- 4	4.0	+3.2	Reno . . .	44	+ 6	.1	-.1	Waco . . .	66	+12	0	-.7
Kahului . . .	70	- 2	5.6	+4.1	Winnemucca . . .	48	+13	.6	+ .4	Wichita Falls . . .	52	+ 3	0	-.3
Lihue . . .	69	- 2	5.3	+4.1	N.H. Concord . . .	15	- 9	.7	+ .1	UTAH. Blanding . . .	43	+ 8	0	-.3
IDAHO. Boise . . .	40	+ 2	.2	-.1	N.J. Atlantic City . . .	---	---	---	---	Salt Lake City . . .	43	+ 8	.4	+ .1
Lewiston . . .	43	+ 4	.4	+ .2	Trenton . . .	30	- 4	.8	+ .2	VT. Burlington . . .	7	-12	.6	+ .2
Pocatello . . .	34	+ 3	.3	+ .1	N.MEX. Albuquerque . . .	51	+ 9	T	-.1	VA. Lynchburg . . .	39	- 1	1.0	+ .4
ILL. Cairo . . .	43	0	2.9	+2.3	Roswell . . .	53	+ 9	0	-.1	Norfolk . . .	44	+ 2	.3	-.5
Chicago . . .	30	+ 1	.3	-.1	N.Y. Albany . . .	17	- 8	.7	+ .2	Richmond . . .	40	- 1	.5	-.2
Moline . . .	25	- 4	.1	-.3	Binghamton . . .	19	- 6	.7	+ .1	Roanoke . . .	39	- 1	1.2	+ .5
Peoria . . .	29	- 2	.2	-.2	Buffalo . . .	21	- 4	.5	-.2	WASH. Colville . . .	37	+ 5	.3	0
Rockford . . .	25	- 2	.1	-.3	New York . . .	28	- 6	.9	+ .1	Omak . . .	33	+ 2	.2	-.1
Springfield . . .	33	- 1	.3	-.1	Rochester . . .	21	- 5	.7	0	Quillayute . . .	41	0	5.2	+2.4
IND. Evansville . . .	38	- 2	1.9	+1.2	Syracuse . . .	20	- 6	.3	-.5	Seattle-Tacoma . . .	43	+ 1	3.0	+2.0
Fort Wayne . . .	30	+ 1	.1	-.4	N.C. Asheville . . .	43	+ 1	.2	-.6	Spokane . . .	36	+ 3	.2	-.3
Indianapolis . . .	33	0	.4	-.2	Charlotte . . .	46	+ 1	.3	-.6	Walla Walla . . .	46	+ 4	.4	0
South Bend . . .	29	+ 1	.3	-.2	Greensboro . . .	42	0	.4	-.4	Yakima . . .	39	+ 1	.1	-.1
IOWA. Burlington . . .	29	- 2	.2	-.1	Hatteras . . .	50	+ 3	.4	-.6	W. VA. Beckley . . .	36	+ 1	3.6	+2.5
Des Moines . . .	27	+ 1	.1	-.2	Raleigh . . .	44	0	.4	-.5	Charleston . . .	41	+ 2	2.7	+1.8
Dubuque . . .	20	- 4	.2	-.2	Wilmington . . .	52	+ 2	.1	-.8	Huntington . . .	40	+ 1	2.6	+1.9
Sioux City . . .	25	- 1	.1	-.2	N. DAK. Bismarck . . .	9	- 8	.2	+ .1	Parkersburg . . .	37	0	1.2	+ .5
KANS. Concordia . . .	37	+ 3	T	-.3	Fargo . . .	3	-12	.3	+ .1	WIS. Green Bay . . .	17	- 3	.2	-.1
Dodge City . . .	39	+ 2	T	-.2	Williston . . .	4	-12	.7	+ .6	La Crosse . . .	---	---	---	---
Goodland . . .	39	+ 6	T	-.2	OHIO. Akron-Canton . . .	27	- 2	.4	-.1	Madison . . .	20	- 2	.1	-.2
Topeka . . .	37	+ 1	T	-.3	Cincinnati . . .	35	0	.6	0	Milwaukee . . .	23	- 1	.1	-.3
Wichita . . .	40	+ 1	T	-.3	Cleveland . . .	28	0	.2	-.4	WYO. Casper . . .	34	+ 5	T	-.1
KY. Lexington . . .	39	+ 2	4.1	+3.2	Columbus . . .	32	- 1	.1	-.5	Cheyenne . . .	36	+ 7	T	-.2
Louisville . . .	39	+ 1	2.7	+1.8	Dayton . . .	32	- 1	.1	-.4	Lander . . .	34	+ 6	T	-.2
LA. Baton Rouge . . .	65	+ 8	T	-1.1	Toledo . . .	27	- 2	.3	-.1	Sheridan . . .	31	+ 4	.1	-.1
Lake Charles . . .	66	+ 8	T	-1.2	Youngstown . . .	25	- 3	.3	-.3	P.R. San Juan . . .	78	+ 3	1.3	+ .2

* 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: Cloudy to partly cloudy and warm with occasional periods of light rain most of week. Cooler at end of week. Temperatures for week much warmer than usual with daily maximums in 70's most sections. Precipitation light averaging less than 0.50 inch except moderate near coast. Farmers made fair to good progress preparing land southern and central counties. Only driest fields could be turned in north. Few remaining fields cotton and soybeans were harvested. Small grains benefitted from warmer weather. Farmers top-dressing these crops in driest fields and applied nitrogen to few fields from airplanes. Irish potato planting continued Baldwin County area. Growers eager to wrap up this extended operation. Cattlemen continue to feed heavily to keep livestock in fair to good shape. Supplies stored feed generally adequate.

ARIZONA: No snow at any station. Skies mostly clear and temperatures much above normal over State. Minimum temperatures remained above freezing in both Salt River Valley and Yuma area all week. No measurable precipitation. Small grains making satisfactory progress, recent weather beneficial. Southern Yuma early plantings boot stage. Field preparation 1972 crops well underway central and southwestern areas. Safflower satisfactory. Sugar beets good. Lettuce Cochise County good stand. Growing conditions generally good. Thinning expected next week. Planting irrigating cantaloupes continued Yuma. Early plantings making good growth. Thinning underway. Harvest lettuce other mixed vegetables continued. Few mixed vegetables remain Salt River Valley areas. Dry onions planted Greenlee County. Sweet orange harvest completed most areas. Limited grapefruit picking. Valencia orange harvest expected next week. Harvest sweet and navel oranges, grapefruit and lemons underway Yuma. Spring lush new growth well underway Yuma and Salt River Valley. Range conditions continue downward. No significant moisture received. Soil moisture and stock tank water becoming low. Increased supplemental feeding continues.

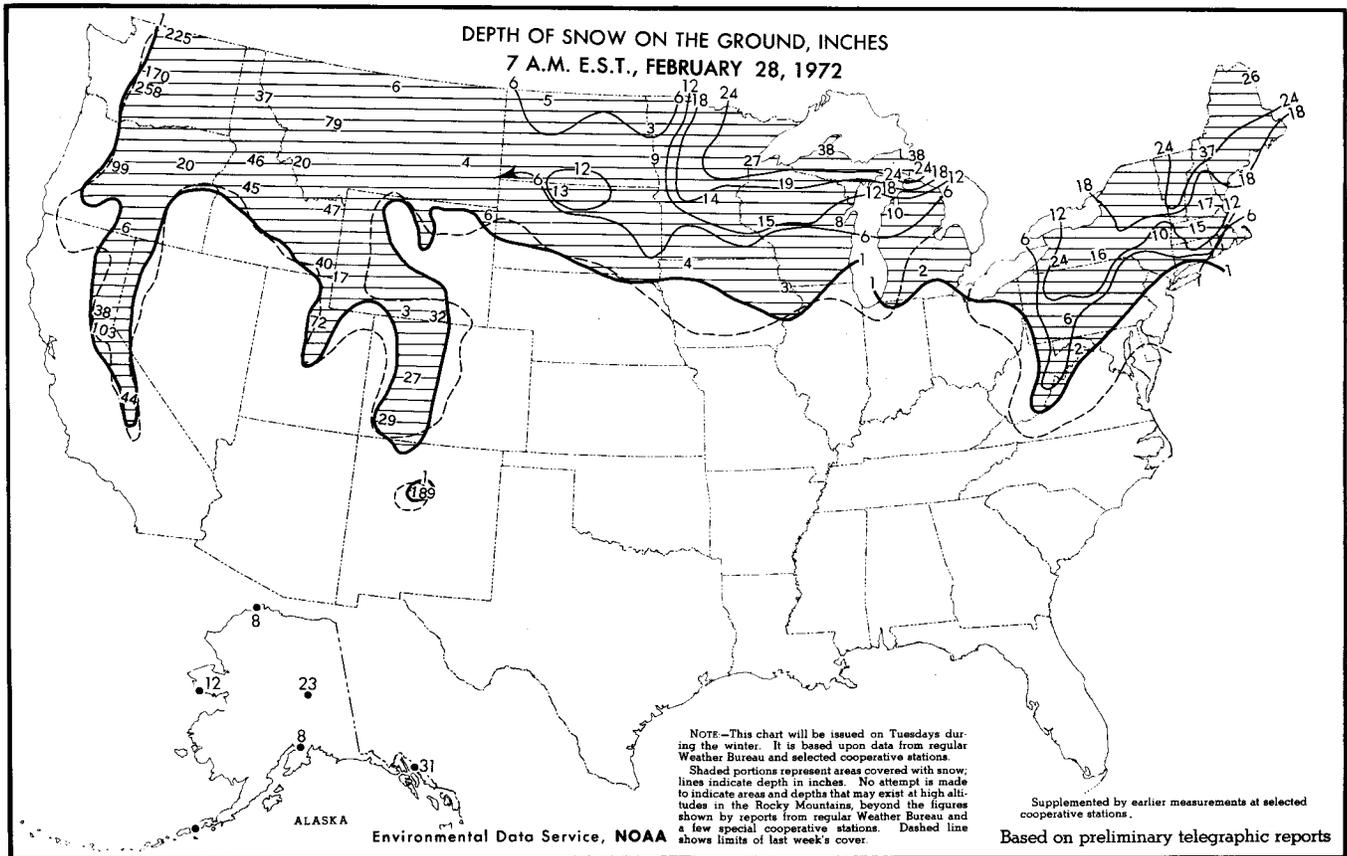
ARKANSAS: Temperatures 0° to 9° above normal with near normal in north-central and northeast portions and greatest departures in southwest. Short cool spells early in week and again weekend. Highest 83° at Texarkana on 25th. Lowest 22° at Gilbert on 27th. Precipitation generally less than 0.10 inch western 1/3 of State and 0.25 inch to less than 1.00 inch elsewhere. Heaviest 0.86 inch at Augusta and 0.77 inch at Little Rock. Most precipitation fell as showers early in week with small amounts again weekend. Fieldwork mainly shredding stalks, plowing, leveling rice land, and top-dressing winter grains and pastures made good progress. Winter grains and cool season pastures showing good growth. Rain needed north and west. Most livestock remain on normal winter rations and in good condition. Hay supplies generally adequate to ample.

CALIFORNIA: Rain most days of week north of San Francisco-Lake Tahoe Line, snow in mountains above 4,000 feet. Precipitation amounts ranged from 4.00 inches on north coast and in the Sierra to

about 0.25 inch Sacramento Valley. Average temperatures again 2° to 6° above normal most of State, were 10° above normal high Desert, Owens Valley. Rain northern half State benefitted small grains. Dryland planting showing stress south. Warm weather increasing growth. Planting safflower, sugar beets increasing. Preparation continues for spring planting other crops. Warm weather made buds swell fruit producing districts. Pruning, tying grape vines nearly completed. Planting new orchards active, except rain slowed activity. Orchard irrigation more active due lack rain. Most early varieties almonds full bloom, later varieties starting bloom. Central, southern California districts picking navel oranges. Harvesting Coachella Valley grapefruit continues, high percentage fruit going directly processors. Rains benefitted north coast ranges; general rains needed. Supplemental feeding maintaining livestock condition. Stockwater supplies below normal, but adequate. Desert area and Stockton Delta asparagus harvesting increasing. Artichokes, Castroville harvesting increasing. Broccoli-cauliflower increasing Central Coast. Cabbage, Desert areas steady, to decrease this week. Carrots, Desert steady. Celery to increase slightly Oxnard, Orange Districts. Lettuce, Imperial peak levels. Potato shipments Tule Lake moderate.

COLORADO: Temperatures much above normal except for mild cold wave Friday with light to moderate snow north portion and central mountains. Continued dry other areas. Periods high winds persisting many areas. Soil moisture supplies short to adequate. Light soils vulnerable to high winds many areas. Light to moderate wind damage local areas. Preparation underway for spring fieldwork. Fall-seeded grains beginning to green local areas eastern plains. Condition fall-seeded crops declined slightly, but remained generally good. Approximately 15% winter wheat utilized for pasture. Range and pasture condition fair. Supplemental feeding required. Hay and forage supplies short to adequate. Livestock generally good. Calving and Lambing underway most areas.

FLORIDA: Below normal temperatures, little precipitation and generally clear skies tell the weather picture for Florida this week. A cold air mass arrived on 19th bringing cold winds. Radiational cooling on the night of February 20 and 21 brought moderate to heavy frost in the north and central districts and patchy frost as far south as the Everglades region away from the lake and along the lower west coast. Some low temperatures recorded were 28° at Lake Placid and Mountain Lake... 32° at Lake Alfred Clermont and Lisbon and 33° at Ona, Kissimmee, and Sanford. The low for the State was 21° at Glen St. Mary. Miami reported only 42° with 39° at Homestead. Little or no precipitation and clear skies brought rapid warming to Florida by midweek and above normal temperatures by Friday. Above normal temperatures on weekend persisted south of a weak front in central Florida. North of the front, partly cloudy skies and normal temperatures prevailed with rainfall generally limited to the vicinity of the front with showers mostly along the east coast. Small grains resumed growth. Rains delaying land preparation. Sugar-



cane harvest continues active. Most pastures fair. Supplemental feeding increased. Cattle and calves fair to good. Citrus groves excellent condition. Soil moisture adequate. New growth and bloom bud development advancing. Peak bloom 2 to 4 weeks away. Harvesters salvaging dropped fruit from heavy winds of week ago. Vegetable supplies sharply reduced following cold. High winds all areas and heavy frost some areas February 19 to 21. Older plants were wind burned and suffered dehydration, fruit scarring. Volume of escarole, endive, lettuce, other leafy greens in Everglades reduced by leaf burn--blowing muck expected light for several weeks. Acreage losses young spring crops heavy in central, Ft. Myers, Immokalee, and Pompano areas. Most acreage lost to be replanted along with spot resetting in fields with reduced stands. Potatoes Hastings suffered some leaf burn--not considered serious. Harvest continues Ft. Myers, Immokalee area and increasing Dade County. First watermelon harvest expected early March.

GEORGIA: Temperatures quite variable. Cooler than normal 23d and 27th but much warmer than normal most other days. Highs reached low 80's south on 26th. Averages ranged from 3° to 9° above normal. Rain on 1 to 3 days with totals mostly 0.25 to 0.75 inch. Saturday's frontal passage brought thundershowers to most areas. Excessive moisture continues to limit land preparation, spring planting and top-dressing small grains. Tobacco beds, pastures and small grains remain fair to good conditions. Rust damaging wheat many areas.

HAWAII: Weather generally unfavorable for most crops. Rainfall heavy all areas. Farm operations

slowed by wet fields. Damage to crops light. Diseases on increase as rain reduced effectiveness of frequent sprayings. Some rain damage to sugarcane fields Maui. Harvesting, however, increasing seasonally other areas. Pineapple harvesting light. Supplies vegetables adequate, but light for bananas and papayas. Pastures and cattle fair to good.

IDAHO: The warming trend started last week continues with averages again ranging 5° to 10° above normal. Precipitation was variable from light to locally heavy south-central. Twin Falls recorded 0.97 inch for the heaviest. Snow depths at higher stations increased 2 to 9 inches; central mountains, increased 9 inches. Warm wet conditions keeping livestock pens muddy. Annual grasses starting to green on lower elevation ranges. Reservoirs being lowered to create storage for expected above normal runoff.

ILLINOIS: Coldest on 26th as minimum temperatures ranged from 8° in north to 26° in south. Warmest on 27th as maximum temperatures ranged from 40° to 53°. Precipitation of 0.25 inch north to 0.50 inch south occurred before weekend. Carroll recorded over 2.00 inches on the 23d. Snowfall of 1 to 4 inches in northeast on 25th; melted over weekend. Soil moisture adequate throughout State, surplus scattered areas. Winter wheat, other winter grains and legumes good. Livestock good. Main activities routine livestock chores and planning springwork.

INDIANA: Temperatures averaged near normal. Coldest on 25th as minimum temperatures ranged

from 16° to 28°. Warmest on 21st as maximums ranged from 45° to 65°. Partly cloudy over weekend but earlier rain of 0.50 to 2.00 inches in south and up to 4 inches of snow near Lake Michigan. Snow melted to 1 inch over weekend. Fields not yet in condition for springwork. Activities mainly care of livestock and other winter chores.

IOWA: A cool dry week. Temperatures averaged 2° to 5° subnormal. Precipitation mostly on 24th, 25th fell as snow with moderate amounts some central and eastern counties. Snow cover at weekend confined mostly to northern and east-central counties with depths 1 to 6 inches.

KANSAS: Another very dry week. Few moderate showers southeast 24th but no significant moisture elsewhere. Strong winds several days west caused blowing dust. Weekly mean temperatures much above seasonal northwest, near normal elsewhere. Maxima climbed to 60's and 70's late in period. Spring small grain seeding underway. Oats 6% seeded, compared 3% average. Spring barley 2% seeded, 2% average. High winds early week caused some light to locally severe damage to wheat mainly on late-seeded or heavily pastured fields. Chiseling and other tillage used to control blowing. Wheat greening most areas with warm temperatures. Topsoil moisture short many areas, but subsoil moisture mostly adequate. Calving and farrowing progressing well with light losses. Some early lambs marketed. Native pasture and range feed down most areas.

KENTUCKY: Cloudy and rainy 5 days, mostly sunny 22d and 27th. Weekly rainfall totals near 1.00 inch extreme north and 2.00 to 5.00 inches balance. Temperatures for week near to several degrees above normal. Portions of rivers near to several feet above flood stage on 25th to 27th. In east along Big Sandy, Upper Cumberland and Kentucky Rivers; in west along Salt and Green Rivers. Some roads under water eastern 3d. Freezing rain some sections morning of 23d and light snow in north 26th. Possible tornado night of 25th in south-central Allen County. Most soils saturated from recent precipitation. Farmers overhauling and preparing farm machinery for spring work. Cattle have wintered well. Livestock prices favorable, producers concerned over talk of increased meat import quotas.

LOUISIANA: Temperatures averaged 8° to 10° above normal. Warming trend brought temperatures from cool to warm during week. New outbreaks of cool air dropped temperatures during weekend. Temperature extremes: 85° New Orleans Saturday and 33° St. Joseph last Monday. Precipitation very light showers most areas. Weekly amounts generally less than 0.10 inch. Heavier showers portions of southeast Saturday totaled more than 0.50 inch. Greatest 24-hour amount 0.78 inch measured at Moisant Airport New Orleans Sunday morning. Soil moisture supplies generally adequate north, adequate to surplus south. Some plowing, land preparation, shaving, and off barring sugarcane, topdressing winter pastures as soils became dry enough. Some sweetpotatoes bedded and tomato plants moved to cold frames. Early Irish potatoes up to stand and growing. Strawberry prospects good. Warm weather stimulated growth winter pastures and small grains. Pasture feed still below average, supplemental feeding continued. Livestock generally fair to good condition.

MARYLAND AND DELAWARE: Cold and wet. Fourth straight week with heavy precipitation. Rain, melted snow this week totaled 1.00 to 2.00 inches. Snow cover at end of period, up to 15 inches in west, little or none east of mountains. Temperatures, with first 3 days and last day below normal, averaged 2° to 4° below normal. Extremes: 56°, -2°. Little field activity. Soils saturated most areas. Orchard work ahead of schedule until interruptions due to recent storms. Livestock remain good condition with adequate feed supplies.

MICHIGAN: Minor daily temperature change except briefly colder north midperiod. Intermittent snow most areas. Temperatures averaged 3° to 5° below normal Upper Peninsula to near normal south to 5° below normal northern Lower Michigan. Precipitation totaled 0.50 to 0.75 inch Upper Peninsula to 0.25 to 0.65 inch Lower Peninsula.

MINNESOTA: Temperatures: Averaged 12° below normal in northwest to 2° below normal in southeast. Precipitation: top 1/3 of State received about 0.30 inch; rest of State received little to none. Snow depth: 4 inches to 36 inches over State. Heavier snow cover of 24 inches or more fans out northeast from Alexandria.

MISSISSIPPI: Weekly average temperatures were nearly all above normal, daily extremes were 18° and 82°. Scattered showers on 1 or 2 days with amounts less than 0.50 inch in northern 2/3 and little or no rain elsewhere in State. Over weekend: Few scattered light showers Saturday or Sunday; temperatures rose to 83° on Friday afternoon and there was a low of 29° this Monday morning. Warmer weather permitted farmers to nitrate winter grazing crops and prepare land for spring planting. Soil moisture adequate. There was an average 3.5 days suitable for fieldwork. Plowing for 1972 crop about 22% completed. Wheat and oats mostly fair. Livestock and pasture mostly fair.

MISSOURI: A typical early spring week with mild days and cool nights. Cool midweek; otherwise, temperatures were warm for this time of year averaging 4° to 8° above normal. Precipitation was light and spotty except in southeast where heavy showers near the end of week averaged over 1.50 inches.

MONTANA: Mild week west with daytime temperatures in 30's and 40's. Cold elsewhere as temperatures averaged up to 15° below normal over northern Plains. Large fluctuations in temperatures central due to varying positions cold air. Heavy precipitation northern half State, light in south. Winter wheat good condition with light snow cover. Wind damage generally light, but few fields badly blown. Virtually all range livestock receiving some supplemental feed shrinkage somewhat more than normal. Calving, lambing, and shearing 10% complete.

NEBRASKA: Warm and dry with several windy days. Mild weather permitted some field activities. Stalk shredding, discing, plowing, and fertilizing began few local areas. Topsoil becoming dry many areas, with the exception of northeast. Strong winds early week caused blowing dust from bare fields. Wheat remains good to excellent condition most areas — some greening in southeast. Weather favorable for livestock.

NEVADA: Warm week. Temperatures 7° to 8° above normal throughout State. High 78°; low 15°. Light to moderate precipitation, 0.01 to 0.78 inch. Windy cold with snow on Friday north. No precipitation south. Warm weekend. Calving and lambing active, starting to increase. Stockwater and supplemental feed remain adequate. Fall-planted grains have wintered and in good condition. Majority farm activity still confined to southern valleys.

NEW ENGLAND: Very cold until moderating Sunday. Means mostly 4° to 8° below normal except 8° to 12° below normal in Maine. Coldest on morning of 23d, with first zero readings of season some southeast coastal stations and -30° at Newport, Vt. Snowfall almost daily with heaviest storm on Saturday. Many streets were not yet cleared from the storm of previous Saturday. Some families still remain homeless from storm of February 19. Snowfall in week 10 to 20 inches most areas but much less in extreme southeast. Precipitation totals averaged near 1.00 inch, with heaviest in southern Maine.

NEW JERSEY: Temperatures averaged few degrees below normal with mild weather on Friday. Extremes ranged from -2° at Long Valley on 23d to 50° at Millville on 25th. Snow Wednesday night and rain and snow Friday night and Saturday averaged 0.70 inch melted precipitation over North Jersey, 0.90 inch over South Jersey, and 1.30 inches along coast. Snow depths morning of 28th varied from 1 to 8 inches over northern counties and little or none over southern 2/3 of State.

NEW MEXICO: Continued fair. A few local showers northern mountains early week. Temperatures averaged 5° to 10° above normal with seasonably very warm days and mild nights. Minimum temperatures predominating on weekend. Surface moisture short. Wheat good, dryland wheat fair due lack of growth. Lettuce, onions, livestock good. Ranges fair, need moisture. Supplemental feeding increasing. Calving, lambing starting. Irrigation land preparation active.

NEW YORK: Temperatures averaged much below normal in spite of moderation to near seasonal levels by late week. Minimums coldest of winter on 23d with 35° to 40° below zero in Adirondacks, 25° to 35° below zero St. Lawrence Valley, and mostly -10° to -15° in southern Upstate. Maximums +5° to +10° northern valleys on 22d precipitation frequent as light snow fall midweek followed by widespread moderate snowfall of 4 to 8 inches on 26th. Snowfall accumulation near record amounts for February in south-central sections. Snow covers continues very deep with 12 to 20 inches southern plateau increasing to 24 inches or more in northern valleys and Adirondacks.

NORTH CAROLINA: Frequent changes in weather with temperature range from near 20° to the 60's most areas. Rain severely different days with some thunderstorms 26th. Total precipitation trace to 1.00 inch averaging 0.50 inch. Periods windy weather with wind damage some areas. Soil moisture decreased slightly, remained mostly surplus. Small grains generally fair, relatively dormant. Pasture conditions little changed, generally poor mountains and fair Piedmont and Coastal Plain. Feed grain, roughage supplies remained adequate; few isolated shortages persist, particularly northeast. Fieldwork slow --

wet soils, cool weather. Tobacco plant bed seeding continued Piedmont, mostly complete Coastal Plain. Routine farm chores main activity; some cabbage and Irish potato planting Coastal Plain. Harvesting 1971 corn, cotton, soybean crops essentially complete -- many late fields abandoned.

NORTH DAKOTA: Cold week with frequent snow showers and occasional sunshine. Temperatures averaged 4° to 10° below normal. Snowfall mostly 2 to 6 inches, heaviest on weekend. Precipitation light to 0.39 inch. Snow cover mostly 4 to 9 inches. No severe winter storms helped livestock maintain good condition. Feed and roughage supplies adequate. Farmers and ranchers hauled grain, marketed livestock, and prepared for winter show at Valley City.

OHIO: Maximum and minimum temperatures were generally 5° to 10° below normal on 22d and 23d. On 24th to 27th Temperatures were generally normal to 5° above normal. Precipitation occurred in many forms during week (rain, snow, sleet, freezing rain). Amounts were generally light to moderate. Warmer weather late week started maple syrup flow. Several reports of damage to peach and other fruit crops due mid-January freeze. Soft fields limited activities to chores and caring for livestock.

OKLAHOMA: Precipitation average less than 0.10 inch southeast half State with no measurable precipitation northwest half. Temperatures averaged 2° to 7° above normal. Wheat made favorable growth and continues to furnish adequate grazing. Crop good condition most areas. Green bugs and mites reported few southwestern counties. Farmers still busy topdressing wheat. Over 2/3 spring oats and barley acreage seeded -- somewhat ahead year earlier. About 1/3 up. Surface soil moisture becoming short -- mostly western areas. Subsoil moisture 95% adequate. Most fruit growers pruning and applying dormant spray. Some fruit buds beginning to swell. Land preparation for gardens and planting early vegetables continue. Livestock fair to good, supplemental feeding. Range and pasture feed short most areas. Only limited growth winter grasses and clovers. Alfalfa weevil damage few south-central counties.

OREGON: Another mild wet week with some snow in mountains and eastside after mid-period. Temperatures averaged near normal with 3° to 6° above normal eastern half. Weekly minima 10° to 32° east, 27° to 39° western 1/3. Maxima 50° to 66°. Rain 2 to 5 days eastern half totaled 0.10 to 0.30 inch, 5 to 6 days elsewhere totaled 0.80 to 1.80 inches with up to 2.60 inches on coast. Pruning of orchards and canberries continues. Some spraying. Fall-seeded crops look good with little winter-kill. Fertilizing grass, clover, and alfalfa started western Oregon. Potato planting starting eastern Oregon. Heavy feeding livestock continues.

PENNSYLVANIA: Rapidly moving weather systems brought frequent periods of generally light precipitation. Mostly near southeast, mixed rain, snow elsewhere. Snow cover morning February 28 generally trace to 3" southeast and southwest, up to 10 to 20 inches mountains. Weekly precipitation 0.50 to 1.00 inch west and southern border, 0.25 to 0.50 inch elsewhere. Temperatures 4° to 8° below normal north, near to 4° below normal south.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Light snow flurries on 1st day at some locations. Rainfall light, generally under 0.30 inch. Cold early in week, followed by warming trend. Temperatures averaged about 6° below normal all sections. Temperatures extremes: 17° and 75°. Good week for farm activity. Soil moisture low enough for cultivation. Tobacco plants good condition. Cabbage transplanting underway Beaufort and Charleston area.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Weekly temperatures averaged up to 8° below normal in east and north and up to 4° above normal in west and south. Extremes ranged from 13° below zero at Waubay National Wildlife Refuge and Flandreau on 22d to 69° at Oral on 21st. Precipitation fell as light snow scattered through week with most amounts about 0.10 inch or less. Snow cover, on 25th ranged from none in southwest and south-central to about 1 1/2 feet in north-central. Mild temperatures since 25th caused some melting of snow. Generally favorable weather reduced cold weather strain on livestock. Several areas susceptible to blowing, particularly southern and central areas. Feed supplies and livestock condition normal. Feeding and caring livestock remains main farm activity.

TENNESSEE: Temperatures averaged 2° to 6° above normal, warmest midweek. Moderate to heavy rains second half with some totals between 2.00 and 2.50 inches northeastern counties. Fair most of State Sunday, highs mostly in lower 60's. Snowfall unusually light thus far this winter. Outside activity limited mainly to care of livestock as recent rainfall left fields muddy. Livestock generally good. Pastures furnishing great deal of roughage needs. Small grains good condition over State.

TEXAS: Little activity spreading southern half. Cotton, corn, sorghum planting making good progress Lower Rio Grande Valley, Coastal Bend. Land preparation active from High Plains to South Texas. Wheat, oats furnishing adequate grazing, but moisture needed. Mild weather aided oat crop in recovering from January freeze. More livestock moving off wheat on northern High Plains. Lower Valley winter vegetable harvest active in open mild weather. Cabbage, lettuce moderate to heavy volume. Carrot digging light to moderate, but increasing. Light supplies beets, broccoli, spinach, greens available. Early spring onions good progress mild temperatures. Other spring vegetables good growth, but high winds damaged some seedlings. Winter Garden carrots, spinach harvest moderately active with light supplies cabbage. Citrus harvest active Lower Valley with good movement grapefruit, oranges. Citrus trees beginning to bloom. Early peaches blooming south Texas.

UTAH: Scattered areas light rain or snow north-west portion. Accumulated amounts of moisture light to moderate. 59 days without measurable precipitation Zion National Park. One of longest dry periods of record. Temperatures averaged 6° to 14° above normal. No snow cover most lower valley farms and ranges. Soil temperatures, 4-inch depth, now range from upper 30's Cache Valley to low 40's Salt Lake and low 50's St. George. Warm temperatures stimulating fruit tree development. Weed burning, irrigation ditch cleaning, and early spring plowing in progress most lower valley farming areas. Reservoir storage -- irrigation water supplies still best ever. Very dry February added virtually nothing

to good December-January snow pack, and stream flow prospects less favorable than month ago. Farm flock lambing in full progress. Care and feeding cattle and sheep on winter ranges, valley farms, and feedlots continue major activity, along with care and feeding dairy herds and poultry flocks. Some marketing potatoes, apples, and dry onions from storage continues.

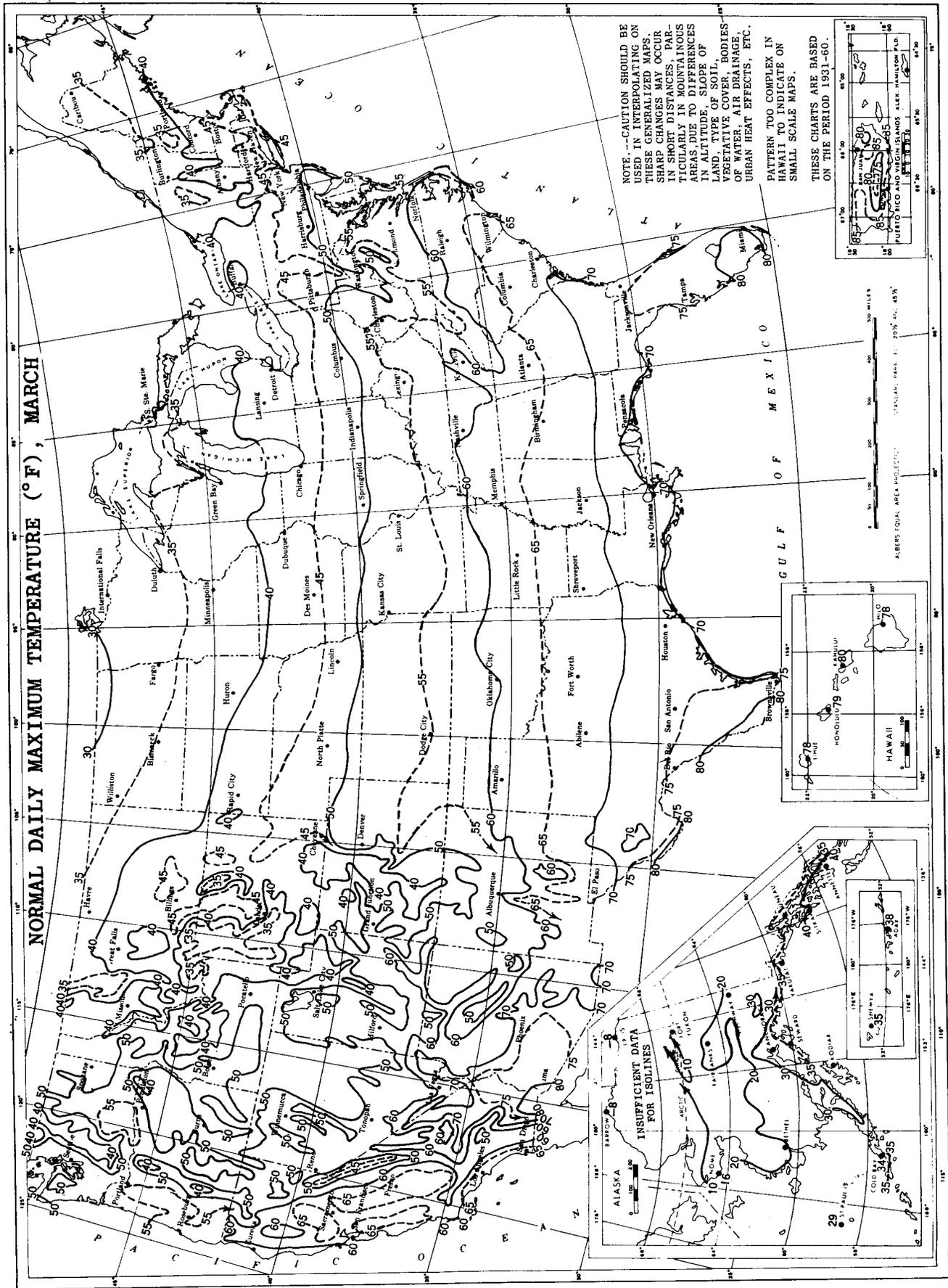
VIRGINIA: Temperatures above normal at beginning and end of week, otherwise normal to below normal. Several days with precipitation, mostly as rain. Snow, rain, and mud made work difficult. Northern Virginia dairymen hit by power failures and blocked roads. Some milk dumped. Most activity centered around livestock. Extra feed required. Snow cover stopped grazing except in Tidewater. Feed supply adequate. Fieldwork non-existent over much of State. Activity greatest southeast. Some tobacco plant beds seeded. Little fertilizer spread.

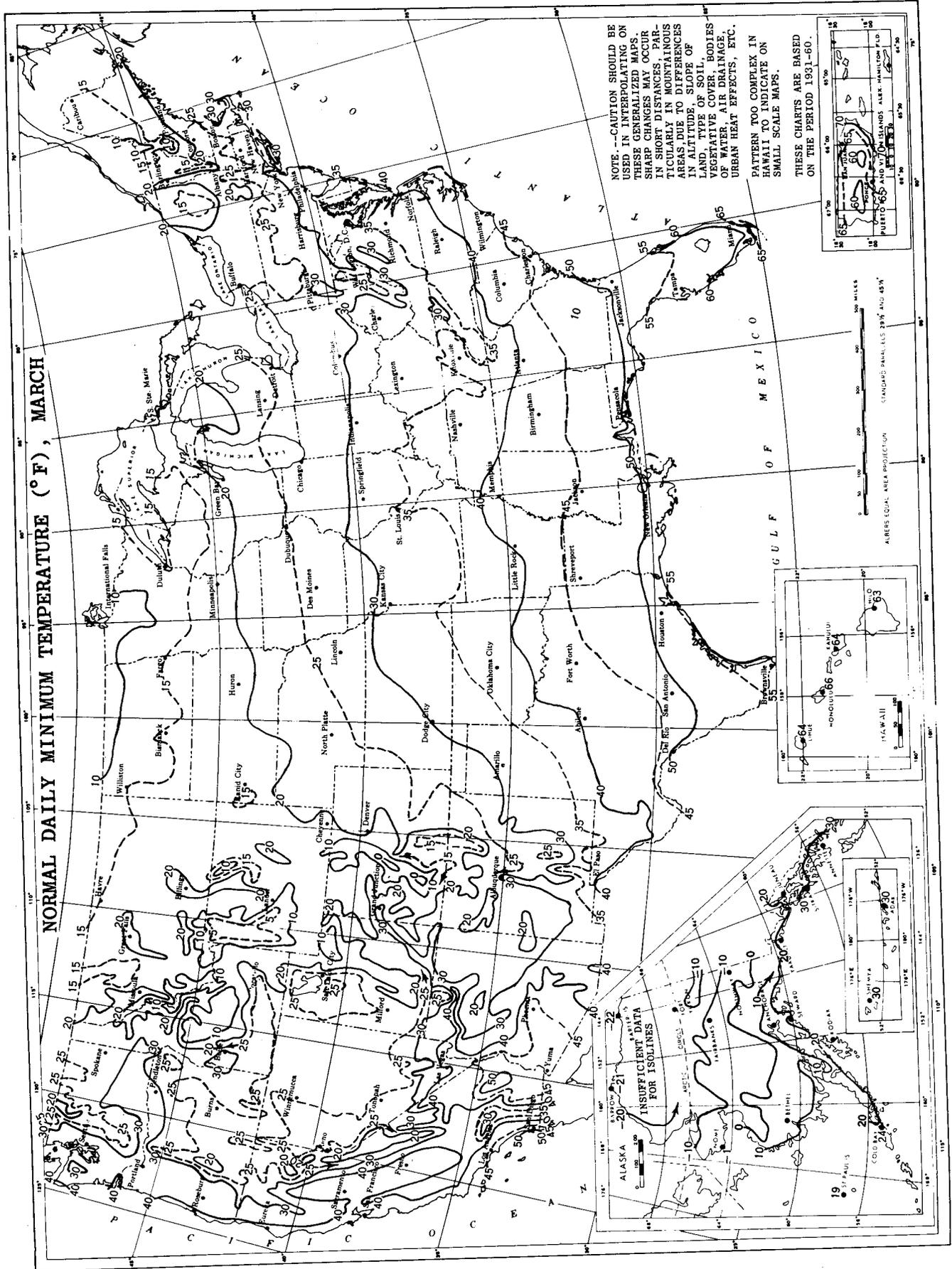
WASHINGTON: Western Washington: Mild temperatures, scattered showers and a few windy periods gave the appearance of spring. Spring flowers, grass and buds on trees and shrubs beginning to show signs of growth. Seed cabbage stands appeared to have weathered cold temperatures and heads being opened to help them along. Some winter damage to raspberries and strawberries northern sections. Hay and roughage supplies adequate. Eastern Washington: Fruit tree pruning continues in mild weather pattern. Fields being prepared for planting and much fertilizing taking place. Calving and lambing operations remain full swing. Some potato planting and drilling spring grains started. Dryland wheat fields show good growth although severe erosion evident Spokane County. Calf scours reported Stevens County. Feed supplies adequate with some alfalfa hay and calves being moved.

WEST VIRGINIA: Rainy period February 23 to 26 produced about 1.00 inch totals statewide. Some snow flurries higher elevations. Buffalo Creek flood tragedy in Logan County due more to failure of coal-slag dam than to excessive precipitation or snowmelt. Variable but mostly mild cloudy weather throughout week. Relatively mild winter favorable for wintering livestock. Most livestock remain good condition. Hay supplies adequate. Machinery repair, repair of buildings, and routine farm chores major activities.

WISCONSIN: Pleasant late winter week with temperatures near normal in south and little below normal north. Extremes -20° and 40°. Precipitation light at generally less than 0.25 inch falling as light snow on Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday. Snow depths average 24 inches across north and 6 inches in south. Farm activities care and feeding livestock, hauling manure.

WYOMING: Light snows west of Divide, scattered light east, moderate in mountains. South Pass city has most moisture with 0.62 inch. Temperatures averaged 1° to 10° above normal west of Divide. 5° to 12° above east. Maxima mostly 32° to 52° West of Divide, 45° to 67° east. Minima were mostly -17° to 21° west of Divide, 5° to 22° east. Temperature extremes: 67° at Torrington and -17° at Big Piney. Warm weather helped improve livestock conditions; most operators still supplemental feeding. Some early calving underway, death losses normal. Stockwater and feed supplies adequate.







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Weather Summaries:

Weather of the Week Each issue
Weather, Monthly Summaries First issue of each month
Weather, Seasonal Summaries Second issue of Mar., June, Sept., and Dec.
Precipitation, 3-month Summaries Second issue of Jan., Feb., Apr., May, July, Aug., Oct., and Nov.

Agricultural Summaries:

Small Grains Each issue
Corn April to December
Soybeans April to December
Cotton April to December
Other Crops Each issue
Pastures and Livestock Each issue

Condensed Telegraphic Summaries Each issue
Ice in the Great Lakes Summaries February to March
Water Supply Forecasts for Western States January to April
Floods Whenever they occur

Charts:

Weekly:

Total Precipitation Each issue
Departure of Average Temperature from Normal ($^{\circ}$) Each issue
Depth of Snow on Ground, Inches December to March
Total Growing Degree Days April to November
Crop Moisture Index April to November

Monthly:

Temperature Departure from 30-Year Mean First issue of following month
Total Precipitation, Inches First issue of following month
Percentage of Normal Precipitation First issue of following month
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Seasonal:

Temperature Departure from 30-Year Mean ($^{\circ}$ F) Second issue of Mar., June, Sept., and Dec.
Total Precipitation, Inches Second issue of Mar., June, Sept., and Dec.
Percentage of Normal Precipitation for Season Second issue of Mar., June, Sept., and Dec.
Percentage of Normal Precipitation for Previous 3 months
. Second issue of Jan., Feb., Apr., May, July, Aug., Oct., and Nov.

Tabulations:

Temperature and Precipitation Data for Week Each issue
Heating Degree Days for Month, September to March First issue of following month