

Weekly Weather & Crop Bulletin

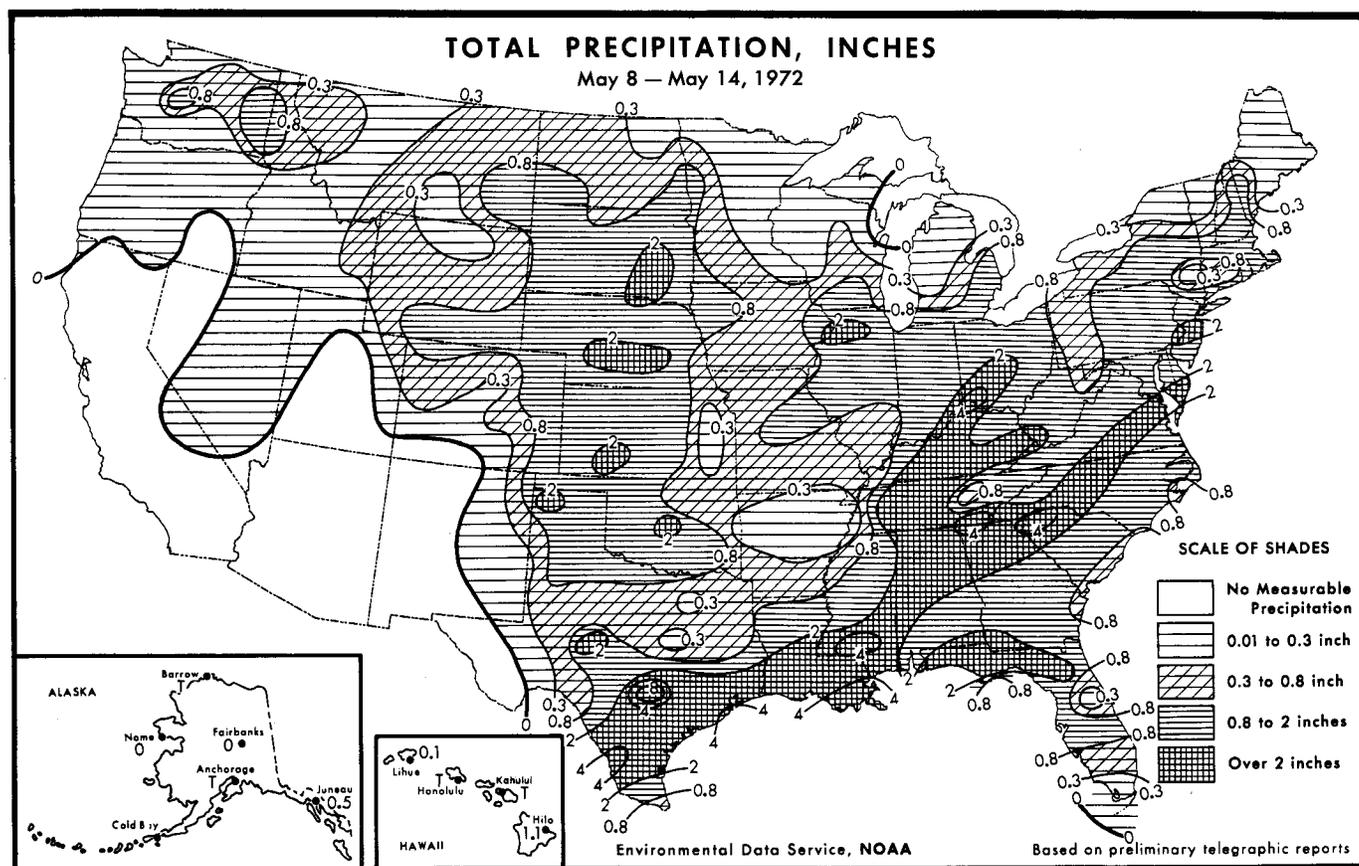
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Edited by Lucius W. Dye

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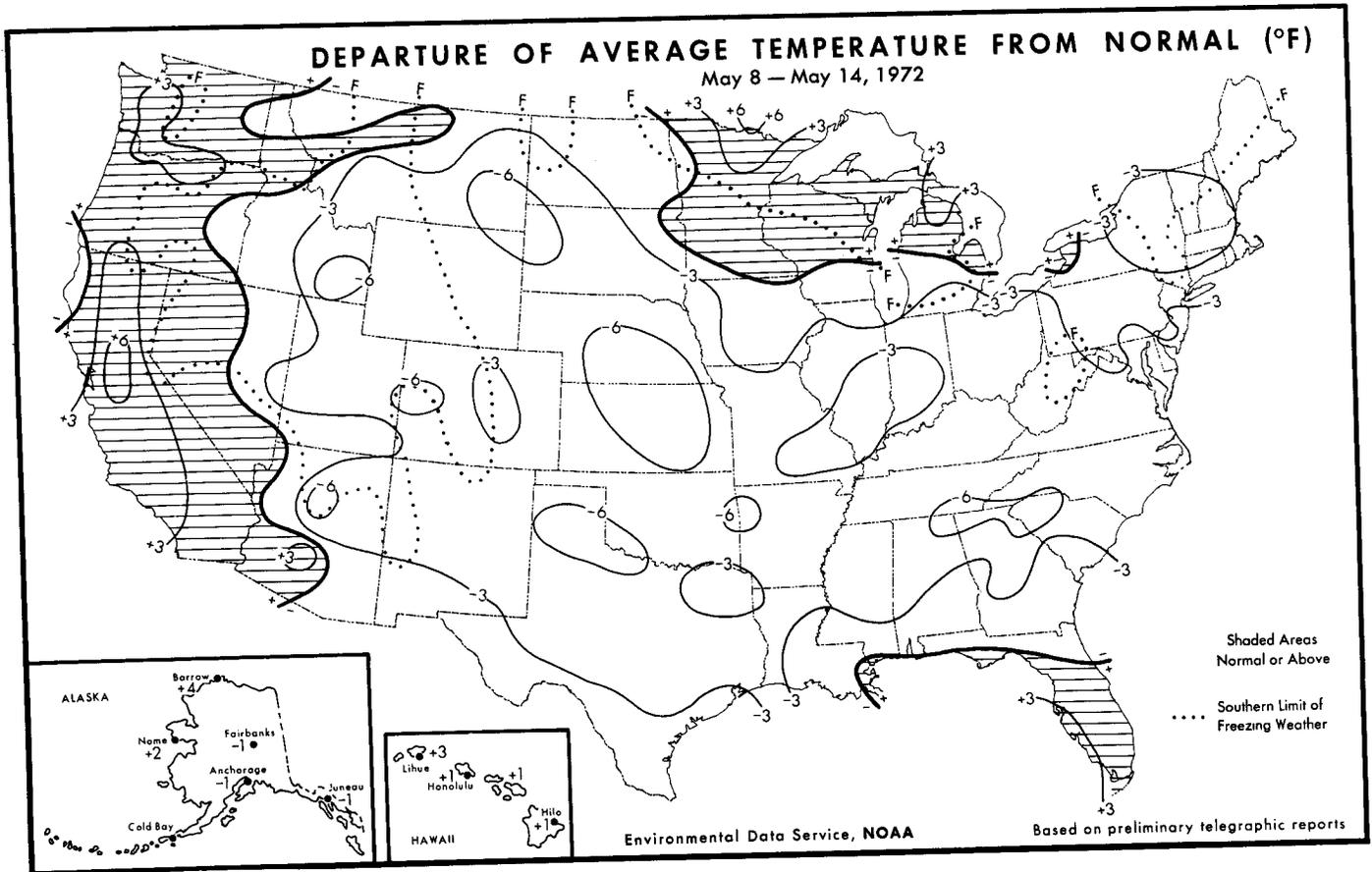
NATIONAL WEATHER SUMMARY

HIGHLIGHTS: Most of the Nation averaged slightly cooler than normal last week. A cloudburst caused heavy damage and loss of life in Texas. Only a few drops of rain have fallen in the Southwest in the past 20 weeks.

PRECIPITATION: Rain fell over most of the eastern third of the Nation Monday, April 8. The precipitation was especially generous along a quasi-stationary front that stretched from Illinois to Maryland. This front separated cool air to the north from warm humid air south of the front. One heavy downpour at Lincoln, Ill., dumped 5.01 inches of rain in 6 hours. Scattered showers occurred also from the Pacific Northwest to the northern and central Great Plains. As the storm system producing the rains east of the Mississippi River moved eastward, it was followed by a large High that brought sunny skies.

New storms developed west of the High. One of these dampened much of the South Dakota, eastern Wyoming, and parts of Nebraska. The other soaked parts of Texas. Over 6.00 inches of rain splashed down on Beeville, Tex., Wednesday afternoon. Beeville is about 35 miles northwest of Corpus Christi. As thunderstorms, some accompanied by hail and high winds, dotted the central and southern High Plains, snow fell in the central Rocky Mountains accumulating to 3 inches at Rock Springs, Wyo.

Generous rains fell late in the week and over the weekend from the Great Plains to the Atlantic Ocean. A "cloudburst" of up to 10.00 inches north of New Braunfels, Tex., Thursday night sent a wall of water estimated at 30 feet in height down Blueeders Creek into the Comal and Guadalupe Rivers washing away people, houses, and automobiles. Sixteen persons were drowned, 9 are



still missing, and property damage has been estimated at \$20 million.

Weekly totals exceeded 1.00 inch over much of the eastern half of the Nation. Stations along the Ohio River received from 1.00 to over 4.00 inches. Totals in Texas ranged from none in the extreme west to over 10.00 inches in the Guadalupe River Basin. This is the 20th week with no rain or only light sprinkles in the Far Southwest.

TEMPERATURE: Hot weather continued in the southwestern deserts with afternoon temperatures reaching the 90's on most days. Afternoon readings in the 70's and 80's were common elsewhere along the South. Cool air spilled southward from the Great Plains to New England. Subfreezing temperatures occurred over the Great Basin and the northern and central Rocky Mountains on one or

two mornings. Flagstaff, Ariz., registered 22° Wednesday morning and Elkins, W. Va., recorded 28° Thursday.

Two large Highs brought pleasant weekend to much of the Nation. The western High brought sunny skies to the Pacific Coast and eastward to the western edge of the Great Plains. The eastern High brought sunny weather to the Upper Mississippi River Valley and eastward to New England. Rochester, N.Y., warmed to 85° Saturday afternoon. As the Highs brought fair weather to the West and East, stormy weather with clouds and rain covered mid-America.

Most of the Nation averaged cooler than normal in the 2d week of May. Spots in the Great Plains averaged 3° to 6° cooler than normal.

L. W. Dye

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

AGRICULTURAL HIGHLIGHTS: More rain on Great Plains.
 * Corn planting made some headway. * Rains delay cotton planting -- some replanting underway.
 * Pastures need rain West.

SMALL GRAINS: Drought relieving rains brought needed moisture to the rapidly maturing winter wheat crop. Well over one inch of rain fell from Texas to the Northern Great Plains. From two to four inches fell in local areas. Kansas wheat responded well to the rain, but more sunshine is needed for crop development. About half the Kansas crop is headed -- ahead of last year. The Oklahoma wheat crop is headed. Some acreage is turning color and combining should start about May 20. The rains generally came too late to benefit the Texas wheat crop; however, improvement is expected on the High Plains. South Dakota wheat fields are showing signs of having excess moisture and could use warmer weather to stimulate growth.

Topsoil moisture improved grain prospects in Montana, but more rain is needed in north-central and southwestern areas. Washington's dryland wheat areas received much needed moisture -- dryland wheat in Utah continues to suffer from lack of rain. Hot weather is accelerating grain maturity in the Southwest. Combining was rapid in Southern California and Arizona.

East of the Great Plains -- wheat, barley, and oats are headed in the South. Fields are ripening and harvesting is on the near horizon. Rust continues to take it's toll in Georgia and Alabama. Wet weather increased disease outbreaks in Virginia and Kentucky. Cold temperatures limited growth from the North Central States to New England.

Spring grain seeding was bogged down on the Northern Plains. Seeding is far behind normal in South Dakota, with growers in some areas still waiting to plant their first fields. Oat planting is on the homeward swing in the southern Corn Belt States. About half the acreage remains unseeded from Minnesota to New England. However, a good week speeded Wisconsin seeding.

CORN: An improvement in the weather allowed some progress in corn planting. Growers from Iowa and Missouri to Ohio had 3 to 4 days of good weather and farmers planted corn late into the night. About 1/4 of the Illinois acreage was planted during the week. Illinois and Ohio growers have about 35 percent of their acreage in with 25 percent or more of the crop planted in Iowa, Minnesota and Michigan. Progress is well behind last spring in all Corn Belt States. Rain and wet fields held corn planting to a near standstill in Nebraska, Kansas, and South Dakota. Fine spring weather speeded planting in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan.

Corn planting was interrupted by both early and late week rains in the South. Planting is on schedule, but hotter temperatures would aid the young corn plants. Rains halted fieldwork in the North Atlantic and New England States -- the season is running 1 to 2 weeks late.

COTTON: Heavy rains (2.00 to 3.00 inches) delayed cotton planting throughout the South. Wet fields slowed planting in many States, however, good headway was made in Arkansas and northern Louisiana as these areas escaped heavy rains. Cold temperatures are hurting cotton stands in the South. Considerable acreage will be replanted in Georgia. Louisiana growers may replant considerable acreage if cool, wet weather holds. Some reseeding will also occur in Arkansas, Alabama, and South Caro-

lina. Southern growers would welcome warmer temperatures that would improve germination and growth.

Daily rains influenced cotton planting in Texas. The crop is 41 percent planted, but planting will not resume until fields dry out. The New Mexico crop is all in. Southeast Arizona growers will replant some fields.

SOYBEANS: A little more attention was focused on soybeans during the week and some acreage was seeded. Many Southern growers started planting soybeans -- as they finished with cotton. Acreage planted is comparable to last year. Georgia growers lead the Nation with 25 percent of their crop in the ground.

A few soybeans were planted in the Corn Belt. Seeding in most eastern and central Corn Belt areas is 5 percent to 10 percent complete -- about 1 week behind last year. Little "if any" acreage has been sown in Nebraska, South Dakota and Kansas.

OTHER CROPS: Fieldwork moved ahead at a brisk pace in the West and along the Upper Great Lake States. Heavy rain made fields unworkable on the Great Plains. Farmers are about 2 weeks behind schedule in the Northeast. Sorghum grain seeding made scant headway on the Great Plains. Rains prolonged the completion of peanut planting in Georgia and Alabama. Rain restricted sweet-potato planting in Louisiana and Mississippi. Maine potato growers should start readying fields this week. Planting is over on Long Island, New York, with Upstate growers seeding between rains. Tobacco transplanting should get underway in Kentucky. South Carolina growers are nearly finished setting for the year. Haying is underway in many Southern States.

Fruits and Nuts: California fruit and nut crops are developing about 2 weeks earlier than normal. Some early picking of cherries, grapes, peaches, plums, and nectarines is underway. Cool, wet weather is having the reverse effect on most orchards in other sections of the Nation. Many northern orchards are in bloom, but pollination weather has been poor. Many orchardists have started their seasonal spraying schedule. Thinning is underway in many States.

Vegetables: Torrential rains and high winds halted Texas vegetable harvesting. Wind, water, and hail damaged or destroyed carrots, onions, and cucumbers in the Laredo and Coastal Bend areas.

Planting of vegetable crop for both fresh market and processing made headway in spite of wet fields from the Northwest to New England. Cool nights are slowing maturity in the South, and warm sunny weather would speed development. Strawberry picking started on the Del-Mar-Va Peninsula--wet fields threaten prospects.

PASTURES AND LIVESTOCK: Recent rains have enhanced pasture prospects from the Great Plains to the Atlantic Ocean. However, higher temperatures are needed for improved grass growth. Some New England pastures are still too wet to graze. Virginia stockmen are blessed with the best mid-May pastures they have had since 1958. Other Southern pastures also improved and are providing lush grazing.

The same cannot be said for the West. Western ranges are deteriorating and in need of a slow soaking rain.

Steve J. Pscodna
 Agricultural Statistician

Temperature and Precipitation Data for the Week Ending Midnight, L.s.t., MAY 14, 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 . . .	66	- 5	2.3	+1.5	New Orleans . . .	73	0	5.9	+4.9	OKLA.Okla. City . .	62	- 5	2.3	+1.1
Mobile . . .	73	- 2	1.7	+ .6	Shreveport . . .	69	- 3	1.1	- .0	Tulsa . . .	62	- 5	.6	- .6
Montgomery . . .	70	- 1	1.1	+ .3	MAINE.Caribou . . .	46	- 2	.1	- .5	OREG.Astoria . . .	55	+ 2	T	- .7
ALASKA.Anchorage . .	43	+ 1	T	- .1	Portland . . .	49	- 2	.1	- .7	Burns . . .	53	0	T	- .2
Barrow . . .	20	+ 4	T	0	MD.Baltimore . . .	59	- 4	1.2	+ .3	Medford . . .	60	+ 3	T	- .3
Fairbanks . . .	44	- 1	0	- .1	MASS.Boston . . .	54	- 3	---	---	Pendleton . . .	61	+ 3	.2	0
Juneau . . .	44	- 1	.5	- .3	Chatham . . .	48	- 1	.9	---	Portland . . .	61	+ 4	.1	- .4
Nome . . .	35	+ 2	0	- .2	MICH.Alpena . . .	48	- 1	.2	- .4	Salem . . .	58	+ 2	T	- .5
ARIZ.Flagstaff . . .	44	- 6	0	- .1	Detroit . . .	54	- 3	.8	0	PA.Allentown . . .	57	- 2	1.3	+ .4
Phoenix . . .	77	+ 3	0	0	Flint . . .	54	0	.8	+ .1	Erie . . .	50	- 3	.9	+ .1
Tucson . . .	71	- 1	0	0	Grand Rapids . . .	54	- 2	.3	- .5	Harrisburg . . .	58	- 3	1.4	+ .5
Winslow . . .	59	- 5	0	- .1	Houghton Lake . . .	54	+ 3	.2	- .4	Philadelphia . . .	59	- 2	2.7	+1.9
Yuma . . .	79	+ 2	0	0	Lansing . . .	53	- 3	.7	- .1	Pittsburgh . . .	56	- 3	.6	- .3
ARK.Fort Smith . . .	63	- 6	.1	-1.1	Marquette . . .	49	0	T	- .6	Scranton . . .	---	---	---	---
Little Rock . . .	64	- 5	.1	-1.1	Muskegon . . .	54	- 1	.1	- .6	R.I.Providence . . .	53	- 3	1.2	+ .4
CALIF.Bakersfield . .	74	+ 4	0	0	S.Ste.Marie . . .	51	+ 3	T	- .6	S.C.Charleston . . .	69	- 3	.6	- .2
Eureka . . .	52	- 1	T	- .5	MINN.Duluth . . .	50	+ 2	.1	- .6	Columbia . . .	66	- 5	1.4	+ .6
Fresno . . .	71	+ 4	0	- .1	Internatl Falls . .	55	+ 6	.2	- .4	Greenville . . .	62	- 7	5.2	+4.5
Los Angeles . . .	69	+ 4	T	0	Minneapolis . . .	57	+ 1	.1	- .6	S.DAK.Aberdeen . .	56	0	1.5	+1.0
Red Bluff . . .	71	+ 4	0	- .3	Rochester . . .	56	+ 1	.3	- .5	Huron . . .	54	- 3	2.5	+2.0
San Diego . . .	66	+ 2	T	0	St. Cloud . . .	55	+ 1	.2	- .6	Rapid City . . .	49	- 6	1.3	+ .7
San Francisco . . .	61	+ 3	T	- .1	MISS.Jackson . . .	69	- 3	1.5	+ .6	Sioux Falls . . .	53	- 4	.9	+ .1
Stockton . . .	71	+ 6	0	- .1	Meridian . . .	68	- 4	3.5	+2.6	TENN.Chattanooga .	62	- 7	4.1	+3.3
COLO.Denver . . .	52	- 2	.2	- .4	MO.Columbia . . .	59	- 4	1.3	+ .3	Knoxville . . .	62	- 5	1.9	+1.1
Grand Junction . . .	55	- 6	.3	+ .2	Kansas City . . .	60	- 4	.7	- .3	Memphis . . .	65	- 4	.2	- .8
Pueblo . . .	56	- 3	.3	- .1	St. Louis . . .	60	- 3	.5	- .3	Nashville . . .	64	- 4	2.3	+1.5
CONN.Bridgeport . . .	55	- 2	1.2	+ .4	Springfield . . .	60	- 3	.6	- .6	TEX.Abilene . . .	66	- 5	.6	- .4
Hartford . . .	55	- 3	.8	+ .1	MONT.Billings . . .	51	- 5	.1	- .3	Amarillo . . .	58	- 7	.9	+ .2
D.C.Washington . . .	62	- 3	1.0	0	Glasgow . . .	52	- 3	.4	+ .1	Austin . . .	70	- 4	2.2	+1.3
FLA.Apalachicola . .	74	0	.8	+ .3	Great Falls . . .	53	+ 1	.2	- .2	Beaumont . . .	69	- 5	3.3	+2.1
Ft. Myers . . .	80	+ 3	4.6	+3.9	Havre . . .	56	+ 2	.2	- .2	Brownsville . . .	---	---	---	---
Jacksonville . . .	74	- 1	2.0	+1.2	Helena . . .	49	- 4	.2	- .1	Corpus Christi . .	75	- 2	3.1	+2.4
Key West . . .	82	+ 3	T	- .6	Kalispell . . .	51	- 1	.6	+ .3	Dallas . . .	70	- 2	.3	- .9
Lakeland . . .	76	0	.9	+ .2	Miles City . . .	50	- 7	1.3	+ .9	Del Rio . . .	73	- 5	.2	- .4
Miami . . .	---	---	---	---	Missoula . . .	53	+ 1	.4	0	El Paso . . .	68	- 2	T	- .1
Orlando . . .	78	+ 1	.3	- .4	NEBR.Grand Island .	53	- 6	2.2	+1.3	Fort Worth . . .	68	- 4	.4	- .7
Tallahassee . . .	74	0	4.8	+4.0	Lincoln . . .	56	- 5	1.1	+ .3	Galveston . . .	73	- 2	4.5	+3.8
Tampa . . .	79	+ 3	1.2	+ .7	Norfolk . . .	53	- 6	1.8	+1.0	Houston . . .	72	- 3	3.6	+2.5
GA.Atlanta . . .	65	- 3	2.8	+2.1	North Platte . . .	51	- 6	2.7	+2.0	Lubbock . . .	63	- 4	1.1	+ .4
Augusta . . .	68	- 2	1.5	+ .9	Omaha . . .	55	- 4	.4	- .4	Midland . . .	67	- 5	---	---
Macon . . .	69	- 4	1.3	+ .5	Valentine . . .	52	- 4	1.3	+ .7	San Angelo . . .	68	- 5	3.4	+2.6
Savannah . . .	72	- 1	.7	- .1	NEV.Ely . . .	46	- 3	T	- .2	San Antonio . . .	71	- 3	2.4	+1.6
HAWAII.Hilo . . .	74	+ 1	1.1	-1.1	Las Vegas . . .	73	+ 1	0	0	Victoria . . .	73	- 3	2.3	+1.3
Honolulu . . .	77	+ 1	T	- .2	Reno . . .	55	+ 1	T	- .1	Waco . . .	69	- 5	.3	- .8
Kahului . . .	76	+ 1	T	- .6	Winnemucca . . .	55	+ 2	0	- .2	Wichita Falls . . .	65	- 6	1.7	+ .6
Lihue . . .	77	+ 3	.1	- .5	N.H.Concord . . .	50	- 4	.8	+ .1	UTAH.Blanding . . .	53	- 2	0	- .2
IDAHO.Boise . . .	57	- 1	T	- .3	N.J.Atlantic City . .	56	- 4	2.0	+1.2	Salt Lake City . . .	55	- 3	T	- .3
Lewiston . . .	59	+ 1	1.1	+ .7	N.MEX.Albuquerque .	56	- 5	2.5	+1.7	VT.Burlington . . .	49	- 3	.1	- .6
Pocatello . . .	49	- 6	.3	0	Trenton . . .	60	- 4	0	- .2	VA.Lynchburg . . .	61	- 4	2.3	+1.6
ILL.Cairo . . .	65	- 3	.8	- .2	Roswell . . .	66	0	T	- .3	Norfolk . . .	61	- 5	.8	0
Chicago . . .	55	- 3	1.2	+ .3	N.Y.Albany . . .	53	- 4	1.3	+ .5	Richmond . . .	62	- 4	2.8	+1.9
Moline . . .	55	- 5	2.1	+1.2	Binghamton . . .	51	- 3	1.7	+ .9	Roanoke . . .	60	- 5	1.9	+1.1
Peoria . . .	56	- 4	1.0	0	Buffalo . . .	54	+ 1	.6	- .1	WASH.Colville . . .	55	+ 1	.3	0
Rockford . . .	55	- 3	2.1	+1.2	New York . . .	60	- 1	1.4	+ .6	Omak . . .	58	0	.4	+ .2
Springfield . . .	59	- 3	.9	0	Rochester . . .	54	- 2	.6	0	Quillayute . . .	53	+ 2	T	-1.0
IND.Evansville . . .	62	- 4	1.3	+ .4	Syracuse . . .	52	- 4	1.4	+ .7	Seattle-Tacoma . .	60	+ 5	.2	- .2
Fort Wayne . . .	55	- 4	1.7	+ .9	N.C.Asheville . . .	58	- 5	2.0	+1.4	Spokane . . .	55	- 1	1.3	+1.0
Indianapolis . . .	59	- 1	1.0	+ .1	Charlotte . . .	62	- 6	2.3	+1.6	Walla Walla . . .	61	+ 1	.8	+ .5
South Bend . . .	54	- 3	1.9	+1.1	Greensboro . . .	60	- 5	2.8	+2.0	Yakima . . .	60	+ 2	.1	0
IOWA.Burlington . . .	56	- 4	.8	- .1	Hatteras . . .	63	- 4	1.5	+ .6	W.VA.Beckley . . .	55	- 5	1.0	0
Des Moines . . .	58	- 1	.7	- .2	Raleigh . . .	62	- 4	.9	+ .1	Charleston . . .	60	- 4	.9	+ .1
Dubuque . . .	56	- 1	.9	0	Wilmington . . .	65	- 4	1.0	+ .2	Huntington . . .	58	- 5	1.1	+ .3
Sioux City . . .	56	- 4	1.1	+ .4	N.DAK.Bismarck . . .	52	- 3	.6	+ .2	Parkersburg . . .	59	- 4	.9	+ .1
KANS.Concordia . . .	55	- 6	1.7	+ .9	Fargo . . .	53	- 1	1.8	+1.4	WIS.Green Bay . . .	55	+ 2	T	- .7
Dodge City . . .	57	- 5	2.1	+1.4	Williston . . .	51	- 3	.5	+ .2	La Crosse . . .	58	0	.3	- .5
Goodland . . .	52	- 5	1.3	+ .8	OHIO.Akron-Canton .	54	- 4	1.4	+ .5	Madison . . .	54	- 1	1.1	+ .4
Topeka . . .	57	- 6	.3	- .7	Cincinnati . . .	57	- 4	4.1	+3.3	Milwaukee . . .	51	- 1	.6	- .1
Wichita . . .	58	- 7	1.0	+ .1	Cleveland . . .	54	- 2	1.3	+ .5	WYO.Casper . . .	47	- 5	.5	0
KY.Lexington . . .	58	- 5	2.0	+1.1	Columbus . . .	55	- 5	3.7	+2.8	Cheyenne . . .	47	- 5	.9	+ .3
Louisville . . .	60	- 3	3.1	+2.2	Dayton . . .	56	- 4	2.6	+1.8	Lander . . .	48	- 4	.6	0
LA.Baton Rouge . . .	72	- 2	3.9	+3.1	Toledo . . .	55	- 2	.9	+ .2	Sheridan . . .	50	- 3	.2	- .4
Lake Charles . . .	71	- 3	2.8	+1.8	Youngstown . . .	53	- 4	.8	- .1	P.R. San Juan . . .	81	+ 1	T	-1.5

* 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: Scattered showers and turning cooler first of period. Partly cloudy and mild Tuesday through Thursday. General rains began Friday and spread to all sections Saturday and ended on Sunday. Temperatures slightly cooler than normal. Rainfall generally heavy with more than 3.00 inches local areas. Rains delayed completion planting cotton, corn, and peanuts. Few soybeans planted. Cotton 90% planted. Replanting light to date. Cultivation earliest fields. Disease and insect problem few fields. About 4/5 corn crop in ground, ahead last year. More than 9/10 peanuts planted. Rain stimulated growth young seedlings. Nearly all small grains headed. Rust caused severe damage wheat fields south Alabama and has become more prevalent central and northern counties. Rains slowed harvest late spring potatoes. Hay crop made good growth. Few early cuttings. Pastures generally supplying adequate grazing. Livestock fair to good condition.

ALASKA: Much warmer past week than the seven days prior. Averages generally near or above normal. Some nighttime readings still below freezing but average minimums above. Snow cover melting rapidly and ground thaw should be fairly rapid. Temperature range was 64° to 22°. Soil moisture generally adequate to surplus throughout Railbelt. Little planting of crops accomplished to date. Snow still reported many areas at lower elevations. Few acres lettuce and cabbage planted Matanuska Valley. General crop planting expected to begin shortly Tanana and Matanuska Valleys. Livestock in generally good condition.

ARIZONA: Temperatures averaged slightly below normal most of State. Strong winds and blowing dust many agricultural areas. No precipitation. In Phoenix, there were 137 consecutive days with no measurable precipitation through May 14. The record for such a run is 143 days from March 2 through July 22, 1960. In Phoenix combined record of observations began in August 1895. Yuma cotton fields receiving post emergence irrigation. Squaring continues normally western and central areas. Some replanting southeast. Barley, wheat maturing rapidly. Harvest accelerating Yuma. Southeast fields turning color. Sorghums making progress. Limited planting continues western, central areas and full swing southeast. Sugar beets make good progress. Alfalfa 2d cutting continues. Spring lettuce harvest nearing completion Salt River Valley other central areas. Lettuce cutting expected Cochise County this week. Potato harvest active Salt River Valley. Cantaloupes making good progress Yuma County. Harvest valencia oranges, grapefruit continued Yuma, Salt River Valley areas. New crop fruit set looks good. Ranges remain fair to poor. Range moisture and stockwater supplies nearing critical levels. Higher elevation ranges fair condition because fairly mild winter. Extreme fire danger continues many range areas. Roundup to brand, inspect, and doctor animals active. Moderate supplemental feeding continues.

ARKANSAS: Cool weather continued through week with mean temperatures ranging 1° to 7° below normal. Mild to warm days; cool nights. Highest temperature 84° occurred at Eudora and Pine Bluff on 14th. Lowest 41° at Gilbert on 11th. Precipi-

tation light during week with heaviest amounts ranging from 0.25 to 0.75 inch. Only 1 station, Eudora, reported over 1.00 inch of precipitation, and the total there was 1.14 inches. Driest in extreme west and northwest. Mostly favorable for planting. Cotton 85%, rice 95% planted. Progress slowest northeast because wet fields. Corn and sorghums mostly planted, except northeast. First active week soybeans, now 15% seeded--as growers finishing cotton and rice. Warmer temperatures needed for germination and growth crops. Some replanting cotton required due poor stands. Cool nights also limited effectiveness herbicides and fertilizers rice. Harvest alfalfa and grass hay increasing, also cutting grain hay. Wheat and otas for grain mostly late heading late dough stage, some early varieties starting to turn. Peaches developing well. Strawberry marketing active. Tomatoes good to excellent condition, but need warmer temperatures. Pastures mostly good feed supplies, except parts central and west-central counties.

CALIFORNIA: Near normal temperatures except below normal extreme northeast. Precipitation less than 0.50 inch northern mountains, northern Sacramento Valley and North Coast; none elsewhere. Grain hay cutting continues. Cotton developing well. Sugar beet thinning, weeding continue. Rice, corn, milo, dry bean plantings progressing. Harvest barley and wheat starting Desert areas. Fruit and nuts about 2 weeks earlier than normal. Those orchards, vineyards not significantly freeze affected, good growth normal crops. Light harvest grapes Coachella. Picking cherries increasing. Limited harvesting peaches, plums, nectarines. Navel orange harvest continues. Valencias increasing. Set avocados good. Broccoli, cauliflower Coast areas moderate volume. Cabbage Oxnard area moderate supplies. Carrot active Imperial; decreasing Coachella. Oxnard, Orange celery increasing. Most shippers active cantaloupes Imperial. Sweet corn Coachella light. Santa Maria lettuce moderate; Salinas good volume. Desert onion harvest active; Stockton, Fresno movement light. Central Coast strawberries active; Southern California decreasing. Market tomato harvest Imperial light. Range feed scarce. Stockwater supply dwindling rapidly. Livestock being moved to available feed. Supplemental feeding increasing. Sale activities heavy. Dairy replacements in demand.

COLORADO: Generally cool and stormy. Clearing and warmer over weekend. Moderate to heavy precipitation except light or none southwest. Frequent moderate to heavy thunderstorms eastern plains. Moderate to severe hail some areas. Some local flooding from heavy rain. Soil moisture supplies greatly improved except local areas southeast and southwest. Condition all crops improved. Insect activity light to moderate mainly wheat and alfalfa. Winter wheat 75% jointing, 13% headed. Winter barley 64% jointing, 10% headed. Spring barley 96% seeded, 77% emerged. Oats 93% seeded, 83% emerged. Corn 65% seeded, 24% emerged. Sugar beets 94% planted, emerged 71%. Small acreage sorghum seeded southeast. Alfalfa condition good to very good. Range and pasture condition declined due to cool temperatures. Warm weather and additional moisture

needed to promote growth.

FLORIDA: Stationary front across south-central Florida brought considerable cloudiness and numerous showers throughout week. Temperatures slightly below normal north as rainfall averaged 3.44 inches northwest division. Elsewhere temperatures slightly above normal with highs for week in upper 80's or low 90's. Rain totals over 0.50 inch most sections with highest totals along Lower East Coast. Severe erosion occurred in planted fields and recently-prepared seed beds early last week western areas. Small grain ripening. Harvest to begin 2 to 3 weeks. Soil moisture supplies favorable for pasture development west and south Florida. Elsewhere pasture conditions variable. Cattle and calves good condition. Citrus tree condition good to excellent. Irrigation still in use. New crop droppage slowing. New fruit growth excellent. Corn, potatoes, tomatoes, and cucumbers dominated Florida's shipments--accounting for 66% total movement. Celery, cabbage, peppers, and snap beans in good supply. Watermelons increasing Arcadia-Wauchula area. Rains continue to hamper potato digging north Florida. Other crops in seasonal supply.

GEORGIA: Moderate to locally heavy rains early this week and again during weekend. Rains heavier in north with totals exceeding 3.00 inches much of northern 1/3 of State. Over 6.00 inches fell at a few places. Parts of the previously dry southwest had more than 2.00 inches. Amounts were smaller in the southeast ranging mostly from 0.50 to 1.50 inches. Temperatures were mild with averages from near normal in southwest to 4° below normal in northwest. Coolest Friday morning when temperatures dropped to just under 40° in mountains and to near 50° over most of north. Soil moisture adequate to surplus after rains near end of period. Dry spots southeast prior to rain. Cool nighttime temperatures continued to bother early planting. Tobacco condition declined slightly--still mostly good. Insects troublesome. Cotton 91% planted, 73% up, condition fair to good. Cool weather hurting stands--considerable replanting. Corn 94% planted, condition good. Peanuts 96% seeded, condition mostly good, but needs warmer weather. Soybeans 1/4 seeded. Wheat poor south, fair to good elsewhere. Rust still taking heavy toll south. Peaches good, manual thinning continuing, fruit sizing well. Truck crops fair to good, cool nights slowing growth. Pasture and cattle good.

HAWAII: Warm, dry weather favorable for crop growth and maturity. Heavy irrigation in usually dry areas. Harvesting sugarcane and pineapples about normal. Up trend papaya production, but banana harvesting light. Vegetables adequate supply. Watermelons increasing seasonally. Cattle and pastures fair to good. Ample range feed.

IDAHO: Temperatures above normal at end of week. However, averages were normal or slightly below normal. Precipitation was heavy north, 1.00 to 2.00 inches; moderate eastern highlands, 0.25 to 0.83 inch, and below normal elsewhere. Field irrigation demands heavy, except in north and portions east Idaho. Potato planting behind schedule east Idaho with about 40% in ground. South-central about 75% potatoes planted, and nearly 95% southwest. Droughty conditions showing many ranges and dryland farming areas south. Rains continue to slow seeding north. About 10% sugar beets blocked and thinned south. Corn

seeding underway, but field pre-irrigation necessary many localities. Small grain seeding 60% complete north. Nearly complete elsewhere.

ILLINOIS: Another wet week. As temperatures failed to penetrate the 80's. Rainless period May 9 to 11. Rainfall averaged 0.50 to 1.00 inch, more in north-central. Lowest temperature 34° at Moline on 10th. Corn planting 35% completed, year ago 78%; 1970, 32%. Soybean planting 10%, year ago 20%; 1970, 4%. Oat seeding 95% complete, last 2 years completed. Wheat 50% headed, 10% filled. Both slightly ahead past 2 years. Plowing for corn and soybeans 85% complete, last year completed. Pastures good to excellent supplying 90% livestock roughage requirements. Red clover and alfalfa hay good to excellent condition. Main activities planting corn and soybeans.

INDIANA: Wet and cool. Temperatures averaged 5° below normal and ranged from 33° to 78°. Rainfall averaged by divisions from 0.70 inch west-central to 2.70 in southeast. Tornadoes 14th from East Indianapolis to near Anderson destroyed or damaged 100 homes and left 26 families homeless. No deaths. Four days suitable. Topsoil and subsoil moisture mostly adequate to surplus. Fieldwork 8 days behind average. Plowing 75% done, same as average, but 3 weeks behind 1971. Corn 20% planted, 25% average. Soybeans 5% planted, same as average. Wheat 10% headed, same as average. Barley 20% headed. Oats 4 inches high. Pasture condition mostly good.

IOWA: Cool cloudy week with frequent showers. Temperatures mostly 2° to 4° subnormal. Coldest 9th with 31° at Anamosa. Stream flows relatively high. Scattered showers, overcast skies, and cool temperatures hampered fieldwork. Only 3 days suitable fieldwork. Corn planting progressing slowly; almost 2 weeks behind last year's early planting and one of latest seasons in last 10 years. Corn acreage 25% planted, falling well behind last year's 83% and 5-year average 60% for this date. Less than 10% planted east-central and southeast counties. Soybean planting started despite wet conditions, almost 5% planted; over 15% last year and 5-year average. Condition growing crops (oats, clover, and alfalfa hay, pastures) mostly good to fair. Topsoil moisture 55% adequate and 45% surplus. Last year 44% short, 54% adequate and 2% surplus.

KANSAS: Cloudy, cool, and wet. Moderate to heavy rains over State. One to 2.00 inches most western 2/3 and 0.50 to 1.00 inch elsewhere. Locally 5.33 inches at Liberal in southwest with some flash flooding that area. Weekly mean temperatures averaged 4° to 7° below seasonal. Maxima 50's and 60's early in period warming generally to 60's and 70's after 10th. No freezes during week. Wheat responded to drought-relieving rains western areas and additional moisture elsewhere, but needed more sunshine for development. Wheat 49% headed, 43% last year, 10-year average 45%. Streak mosaic infection, wild mustard infestation and hail damage widely scattered and local. Rains slowed field operations considerably and row crop planting well behind average. Corn planting 38% complete, 66% year earlier, average 55%. Sorghum 5% planted, 17% last year, average 10%. Soybeans 1% planted, 9% year earlier, average 11%. First cutting alfalfa 9% complete, 5% last year. Some alfalfa weevil and pea aphid damage. Pasture and range feed prospects improved considerably by moisture, but higher temperatures needed for development warm season grasses.

KENTUCKY: Rainfall moderate to heavy, 0.69 inch to about 3.50 inches. General rains on 3 days early in week and on weekend. Mostly sunny balance. Temperatures on cool side until seasonable end of period, averaging generally 3° to 6° below normal. Minima in 30's number of locations on 10th. Fieldwork limited 3.5 days. Soil moisture 1/3 surplus, remainder adequate. Land preparation and planting still handicapped by wet soils. Corn 42% planted, last year 71%. Tobacco beds good condition, plant size variable. About 1/4 plants 2 to 4 inches. Setting expected to begin this week. Soybean planting underway. Wheat 3/4 heading or blooming; most remaining acreage reached boot stage. Wheat and barley show damage from mildew and other leaf diseases, but generally cool weather has benefitted small grains. Alfalfa less than 5% cut. Pastures excellent.

LOUISIANA: Heavy rains Thursday south and Friday statewide. Weekly totals generally more than 1.00 inch north and central and 2.00 to locally more than 6.00 inches south. Greatest 1-day amount, 4.70 inches measured at Moisant Airport, New Orleans, Saturday morning. Temperatures mild to cool for May. Weekly departures 2° to 5° below normal. Daily extremes: 88° at Clinton and Oberlin Monday, 48° at Ashland and Homer Tuesday. Some progress made fieldwork, mostly northern half State. Cotton 70% planted and 60% up to stand, about same as year ago. Excessive moisture and cool nights may result in considerable replanting. Rice 95% planted, stands good. Soybeans 15% planted, very few up. Sugarcane showing very good stand. Corn 95% planted, sorghum 40%, sweet potatoes 30%. Pasture feed average.

MARYLAND AND DELAWARE: Cool and wet. Temperatures averaged 2° to 4° below normal. Extremes 70's, upper 30's to mid-40's except upper 20's to upper 30's in north and west. Rainfall, on 8th, 10th, and 12th, heavy, totaling mostly 1.00 to 2.50 inches. Heaviest in southern Maryland, Eastern Shore, and Delaware. Rain continued to slow pace field activity and progress now 2 weeks behind last year. Corn planting 2/3 done southern shore, only scattered fields elsewhere. Barley 80% headed south, wheat heading just started. Tobacco markets continue active. Early tobacco setting expected next week. Strawberry harvest to be full swing next week Southern Shore counties.

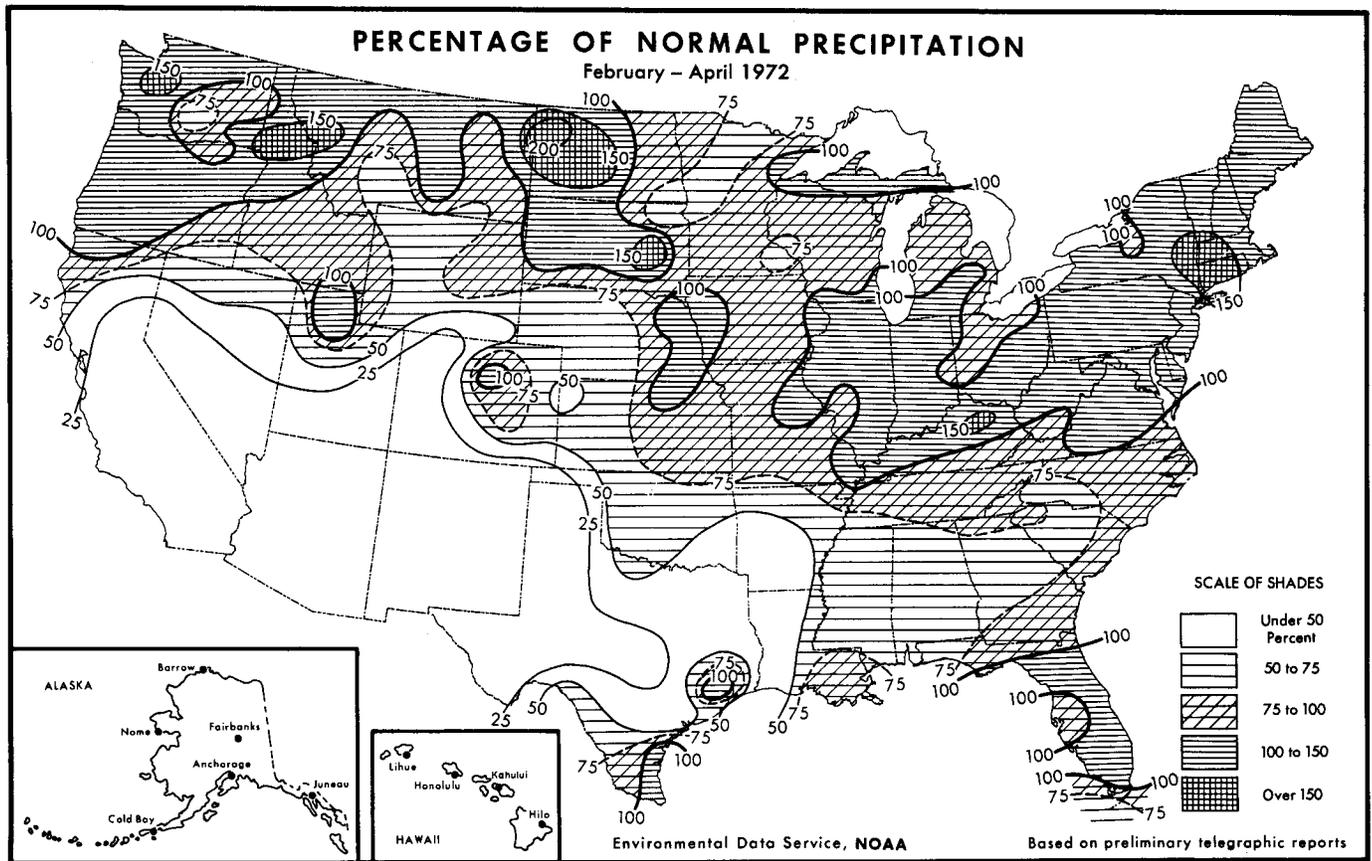
MICHIGAN: Cool; rain ending early, slow warming during week until turning cooler as period ended, rain over weekend Lower Peninsula. Temperatures averaged 3° above normal north to normal south Upper Peninsula, normal north and east-central to 3° below normal south and northwest Lower Peninsula. Precipitation totals, mostly a trace Upper Peninsula, 0.50 to 1.00 inch Lower Peninsula except 0.10 to 0.30 inch in band Muskegon to Oscoda and Thumb areas. Fieldwork speeded up, but planting progress still behind normal. Soil moisture adequate to surplus. State averaged 4.4 days suitable fieldwork. Nearly 60% acreage plowed for spring crops, 80% last year. Oats 65%, sugar beets 70%, potatoes 40%, corn 25% planted. Early-planted oats and sugar beets up. Wheat not killed during winter making good growth. Alfalfa and pastures developing well southern counties and starting to grow north. Cherries reached full bloom southwest, delayed dormant northwest. Little or no bloom on peaches. Apples delayed dormant northwest, showing pink southwest. Asparagus picking underway southwest, started west-central. Onions planted most areas. Some early carrots up.

MINNESOTA: Temperatures averaged near normal, northeast 4° above normal, and southwest 4° below normal. Extremes: 80°, 24°. Precipitation: little to no rain the weekend when the southwest, west-central, and southern part of northwest district received 1.00 to 1.50 inches. Rest of State generally about 0.25 inch. Snow still in patches in heavier forests in northeast. All lakes clear of ice except a few scattered patches. Lake Superior from Silver Bay west near 100% covered with ice pack. Corn planting good progress southern districts. Small grains seeding remains slow northwest and west-central. Percent small grains seeded: Spring wheat 30, normal 71; oats 46, normal 79; barley 19, normal 59; flax 18, normal 47. Percent small grains emerged: Spring wheat 7, normal 41; oats 20, normal 54; barley 1, normal 32; flax 2, normal 26. Percent planted: Corn 28, normal 49; soybeans 3, normal 11; potatoes 8, normal 18; sugar beets 11, normal 20.

MISSISSIPPI: Rain 2 or 3 days; weekly amounts ranged from 0.75 inch in upper Delta division to 12.09 inches at Poplarville. On 7th, flash flooding in coastal areas and tornadoes near Poplarville and near Gulf coast, 2 injured 12 miles northwest of Gulfport. Temperature averages 3° to 6° below normal. Temperature extremes: 86°, 41°. Over weekend: Severe thunderstorms with funnel clouds Friday; rainfall ranged from less than 0.25 inch to 3.37 inches at Meridian. Sunday; scattered showers, and small hail in Jackson and Clinton, and temperatures warmer at most stations. Soil moisture mostly adequate south-central and east-central, other areas mostly surplus. Average 2.0 days suitable fieldwork. Oats 23%, wheat 14% ripe. Harvesting just starting south. Cotton 83%, corn 76%, rice 86%, sorghum 36%, sweetpotatoes 34%, soybeans 6% planted. Cotton 62%, corn 69% up to stand. Corn, wheat, hay, soybeans, Irish potatoes, truck crops, pastures and livestock mostly good condition. Cotton and peaches mostly fair to good.

MISSOURI: A cloudy, cool, damp week. Temperatures averaged 2° to 6° below normal. Very cool early in week, with number of stations north of Missouri River reporting minima in 30's. Warmed to near normal by end of week. Rainfall moderate over weekend with most areas receiving between 0.50 and 1.00 inch. Four days suitable fieldwork. Corn 49%, cotton 77%, soybeans 7% and grain sorghum 10% planted. Wheat 53% headed. First cutting alfalfa 8% completed. Pastures good condition. Soil moisture mostly adequate, with some reports surplus throughout State.

MONTANA: Progressive warming through week with temperatures rising into 80's Sunday. Nighttime temperatures generally above freezing. Temperatures averaged below normal eastern half of State; near normal elsewhere. Precipitation first half of week averaged near 0.30 inch western and central divisions with 1.00-inch amounts common eastern divisions. Topsoil moisture improved, but north-central and southwestern districts still short. Subsoil moisture short north-central, central and southwestern districts. Planting pace slowed by rain showers. Barley 80% planted, spring wheat 65%, and oats 60% seeded. Sugar beet plantings nearly finished, 85% seeded. Corn 35%, and potatoes 20% planted. Winter wheat condition generally good. Plant growth slow, causing additional supplemental feeding. Forty-five percent range livestock moved to summer ranges. Calving 90% complete, lambing and shearing 80% finished.



PRECIPITATION - February to April 1972

Most of the Nation received less than normal rainfall in the 3-month period, February to April 1972. A large area from central and southern California to western Texas received less than 25% of the 3-month normals. Much of this area has received no more than a few drops of rain since late December 1971.

Above-normal rains occurred in the Far Northwest, parts of the northern Great Plains, and parts of the Northeast in each of the 3 months, February, March and April. February rainfall exceeded 4.00 inches from eastern Tennessee to

southern New England and along the Atlantic coast from North Carolina to Georgia.

A large area from the Ohio River to the Gulf of Mexico received from 4.00 to more than 6.00 inches of rain in March. Similar amounts fell in New England. Heavy rains fell at mid-April over the Ohio River Valley. Much of this occurred in thundershowers along a quasi-stationary front stretched from the middle Mississippi River Valley to the middle Appalachians.

L. W. Dye

NEBRASKA: Cool and wet. Southwestern division, where spring moisture had been low, received over 2.50 inches during week. Wet soil prevented fieldwork most areas, with average 1 day favorable for work. There was little run off from the additional precipitation. About 10% corn and little, if any, sorghum or soybeans planted. Normally 50% corn, 10% sorghum and 7% soybeans have been planted. Soil temperatures cool, delaying emergence and growth plants. Alfalfa dehydration operations starting. Winter wheat prospects remain good most areas, but wheat streak mosaic still problem in local areas. Cool damp conditions causing some sickness young livestock.

NEVADA: Temperatures near normal. Light spotty precipitation in north and south-central from trace at Reno to 0.07 inch at Tonopah. None in extreme south. Snow melting mountains. Planting potatoes and cotton making favorable progress. Planting spring grain crops nearing completion.

Alfalfa hay making progress after setback by earlier freezing temperatures. Ranges dry all areas and need moisture. Livestock generally good condition with calving and lambing near completion. Death losses about normal.

NEW ENGLAND: Another cool week, with means mostly 1° to 4° below normal. Lowest on May 11, with many subfreezing minima and some in low 20's in north. Much warmer over weekend, with some maxima near 80°. Very dry in north where totals were generally less than 0.25 inch. Rain almost daily in south, with some thunderstorms on May 11. Totals in south mostly 1.00 to 3.00 inches. Wet fields continue delay fieldwork. Very little corn planted. Pastures making good growth, but many too wet for grazing. Most apple buds showing pink. Peaches full bloom. Vegetable crops making little progress. Asparagus harvest starting. Preparing potato fields Aroostook county Maine should start by midweek. Potato planting Connecticut Valley delayed by wet conditions.

NEW JERSEY: A cool wet week with temperatures averaging from 2° to 6° below normal. Some light frost in scattered areas on 11th. Rain-fall has been ample to excessive with heavy showers early in week and again Sunday night and early Monday. North Jersey averaged 2.10 inches of rain while remainder of State averaged 2.50 inches. Fieldwork lagging some areas because weather conditions. Most areas soil moisture excessive. Asparagus volume increasing slowly. Light harvest Boston lettuce begun. Greens and radishes available. As conditions permit growers planting tomatoes, sweet corn, beans, eggplant, cucumbers, squash, and melons. Fruit bloom heavy northern areas, past South Jersey. Planting field corn and soybeans delayed by wet fields. Isolated alfalfa weevil damage reported. Fall-seeded grains did not winter well some areas.

NEW MEXICO: Dry northwest and central portions of State. Showers most frequent in northeast with locally moderate totals. Light showers in south mostly on weekend. Temperatures averaged about same as previous week with generally below normal averages. Freezing nighttime temperatures in much of northwest and northern mountains. Warmest early in week. Soil moisture short, scattered showers received. Wheat mostly jointed, heading out; dryland poor, irrigated good. Cotton all planted--good stands south, 50% emerging north, irrigated corn, sorghum planting underway. First cut alfalfa all areas. Lettuce harvest active Mesilla Valley. Ranges dry. Live-stock holding up well, supplemental feeding all areas.

NEW YORK: Daytime temperatures well below normal through 10th with maximums 45° to 55° on 8th and 9th. Sunny with cool nights mid-period. Lowest minimums 26° to 32° interior Upstate on 11th. Warming trend late week brought warmest maximums of season on 13th with mid-70's to low 80's. Extended period of precipitation from 7th through 9th. Heaviest totals 2.00 to 2.50 inches south-central. Elsewhere 1.00 to 1.50 inches most of southern Upstate and Long Island as amounts decreased to 0.20 to 0.50 inch northern valleys. Wet weather continues hamper fieldwork. Planting oats and corn about 10 days behind schedule. Oats 15% planted. Wheat and pasture good condition. Warmer weather needed. Potatoes planting completed Long Island, planting Upstate continues between rains. Planted onions growing under very wet adverse conditions. Sweet corn progressing slowly. Processing snap beans and peas about 2 weeks behind schedule. Fruit spraying continues. Western New York sweet cherries approaching full bloom--pollinating conditions poor. Tart cherries excellent condition--bloom just beginning. Apples nearing "half inch to pink stage" western New York. Tying grapes nearly complete.

NORTH CAROLINA: Temperatures averaged below normal. Range from 30's to 70's mountains 40's to 80's elsewhere. Rain 8 through 9, and 14th, 15th. Total amounts 1.00 to 5.00 inches, mostly 2.00 inches west and mostly 1.00 inch elsewhere. Soil moisture mostly adequate, some surplus. Major activities--transplanting tobacco, planting corn, cotton, peanuts, cultivating tobacco, corn. Flue-cured setting 70% complete--60% last year. Field condition mostly good. Burley plant beds mostly good. Some blue mold burley and flue-cured plant beds, but not severe. Small grains mostly fair to good. Irish potatoes and other truck crops mostly good, cool weather retarded growth.

Peaches spotty, range poor to good. Corn 83% planted, 86% last year; cotton 77% and 80% last year; soybeans 17% and 22% last year; peanuts 50% and 53% last year.

NORTH DAKOTA: Cool weather continued except warmer at end of week. Temperatures averaged 2° below normal northeast to 7° below normal in southwest. Precipitation averaged about 1.30 inches in south, 0.80 inch central, and 0.50 inch in north. Fair in east except rain Thursday through Saturday. Scattered showers starting western counties first of week and ending eastern counties weekend continued to delay seeding small grains. With predicted warmer weather, fieldwork should make good progress this week. Wild oats causing problems and some reseeding could occur. Rate pasture growth accelerating.

OHIO: In general, temperatures were below normal. On mornings of 10th to 12th, minimum temperatures dropped to the low 30's. Toledo's 30° on morning of 10th was the lowest temperature of 3-day period. Rain fell on everyday except for 10th to 12th. The highest 2-day amount was 3.10 inches at Irwin. Rainfall amounts on 13th-14th were under 1.50 inches. Severe thunderstorms parts of Ohio on 14th. At Versailles, Ohio, 25 miles south of St. Marys, Auglaize county, golf ball size hail fell. Fieldwork again stalled by rain. Three days favorable fieldwork. Soil moisture supply reported surplus by 74% reporters and adequate by 26%. Plowing for corn and soybeans 85% done. Corn 35% planted, 75% last year an average progress 45%. Over 5% soybean acreage planted, against 20% last year, but only 10% for 1967-71 average. Oat seeding and sugar beet planting 90% complete. Potato planting 45% along. Winter wheat condition good while new seeded oats fair to good.

OKLAHOMA: Rainfall average approximately 0.50 inch east, 1.50 inches central, and 2.25 inches west. Temperatures were 5° to 8° below normal. Cool weather and rain expected to help wheat. Condition 1/4 poor, balance mostly fair to good. Crop essentially headed, 2/5 dough. Some acreage starting to turn yellow. Moderate to heavy hail damage scattered northwest localities. Wheat harvest expected to start about May 20 few southern localities. Oats and barley 1/2 dough. Soil moisture supplies continued to improve. Surface moisture 4/5 adequate or better. Subsoil moisture 2/3 adequate. Wet soil delayed fieldwork, but momentum will rapidly increase when fields dry. Corn 3/5 planted. Planting other row crops progressing slowly. About 1/10 sorghum grain and cotton planted. Only small acreage peanuts and soybeans planted. Native grasses making good growth following recent rains and beginning to furnish fair to good grazing.

OREGON: Cloudy, showery days early in week and sunshine last half averaged weekly temperatures near normal. Minima 28° to 36° eastside, 37° to 43° westside. Maxima 64° to 90°. Most precipitation of 2 to 3 days totaled less than 0.10 inch except 0.30 to 0.70 inch over northern Cascades and four northeast counties. Soil moisture adequate western Oregon. Eastern Oregon soil moisture short to adequate, with irrigation underway most areas. Strawberries full bloom, red raspberries starting to bloom. Vegetable planting continues with early-planted corn, beans, and carrots emerging. Some hay being cut.

PENNSYLVANIA: Cool, rather wet week. Heavy clouds and showers Monday through Wednesday morning,

then sunny, dry, and pleasant through Saturday. Clouds and showers returned Sunday. Daytime temperatures in 50's and 60's first half of week, in 70's most areas Friday and Saturday. Quite cool nights midweek with subfreezing temperatures central and north. Extremes: 81°, 26°. Weekly precipitation over 2.00 inches extreme southeast, 0.50 to 1.00 inch west and northeast, mostly 1.00 to 1.50 inches elsewhere. Temperatures 2° to 4° below normal south, 4° to 7° below normal north. Wet weather caused additional delay fieldwork. Season 1 to 2 weeks late. Spring plowing 2/3 finished, potatoes 1/3 seeded, spring oats 1/2 seeded. Corn 10% planted. Winter grains entering boot stage. Pasture mostly average. Fruit trees blooming most regions. Limited frost damage, wet pollinating weather. Limited asparagus cutting.

PUERTO RICO: A dry cool week. Rainfall averaged only 0.45 inch or 1.44 inches below normal. Highest weekly total 2.11 inches western interior. Little or no rain northern and western coasts with dry belt continuing from north to south coasts through central interior. Temperatures averaged 78° on coast and 72° to 73° interior divisions with mean departure of 1.8° below normal. Highest maximum 93°; lowest minimum 55°. Sugarcane plantations excellent progress harvesting and transporting. Yellow aphid continued affecting ratoons southwest. Coffee plantations good development coffee beans and optimism for abundant harvest. Dry weather central interior retarded flowering some plantations. Tobacco harvesting and drying operations progressed well. Central zones excess dryness prevented second planting seedbeds; however, other zones planting in full swing. Pastures generally good to excellent. Good progress sowing and fertilizing all other pasture zones. Most minor crop zones too dry for normal development. Many farmers busy preparing land to take advantage of seasonal May rains which are lacking so far this year. Some pineapple plantations report losses due premature flowering.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Rain fell early in week. Amounts decreased from 1.50 inches in the northwest to 0.25 inch along the south coast. Rain began as week ended. Temperatures averaged 5° below normal in northwest and 2° below normal in south. Cool temperatures slowed development all crops. Tobacco transplanting 97% complete, 98% year ago. Planting good condition. Corn good to excellent, condition. Side dressing major activity. Planting 95% complete, 94% year ago. Cotton replanting occurring because cool nights, 91% planted, 90% year ago. Cotton condition fair. Corn stands good, cotton fair to good. Soybean planting 11% complete, same this time last year. Sorghum planting 20% complete, 12% last year. Small grains fair to good condition. Hay crops, pastures good to excellent. Wheat 87% headed, oats 84% headed. Wheat 24% turning color, oats 32%. Peaches fair to good condition. Vegetables crops good condition. Cool nights slowing maturity. Harvesting some snap beans, squash, cabbage. Peanut planting 68% complete, compared with 73%. Sweetpotatoes planting 39% complete.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Continued cool and wet most of State. Weekly temperatures averaged from near normal to 4° below normal. Extremes ranged from 32° at Ralph on 12th to 83° at Philip on 14th. Precipitation fell as showers and thundershowers occasionally heavy most of week with total amounts ranging from about 0.75 inch to over 3.50 inches. Wewala reported 2.29 inches on 12th. For 4th straight week, fieldwork delayed by rain and cool

weather. Generally by this date spring grains are virtually all in, but with oats 73%, barley 68% and spring wheat 74% seeded they are considerably behind normal. Some areas have yet to begin. Normally 33% corn planted, this year 5%. Flaxs 8% planted, normally 53%. No sorghum or soybeans planted, usually planted by this date. Most crops growing slow but pastures making fair growth. Some winter wheat showing signs excess moisture and lack sunshine. Sunshine and warm temperatures would stimulate rapid crop growth. Topsoil moisture mostly surplus, adequate reported southwest areas. Most livestock on pastures. Scours calves and lambs still problem. Stock dams and dugouts generally full.

TENNESSEE: Mild, wet week. Temperatures averaged below normal until seasonable over weekend. Showers and thunderstorms widespread early in period and on weekend. Heaviest Monday in west-central with over 2.00 inches many areas. Weekly totals less than 0.50 inch extreme southwest to 3.00 to 4.00 inches north-central. Cumberland Plateau and parts southeast. Farmers made good progress in their corn and cotton planting. Soybean planting and tobacco transplanting also got underway. Average 2.9 days were suitable for fieldwork. Pastures remain in good condition.

TEXAS: With exception southwest Texas, substantial rains fell almost daily throughout State. Amounts were extremely heavy Coastal Plain east of San Antonio. Hallettsville reported 15.99 inches for week. A 10.00-inch cloudburst north of New Braunfels Thursday night sent a wall of water down Bluebirds Creek into the Comal and Guadalupe Rivers that resulted in 15 persons drowned, 2 persons still missing, and total damage of about 20 million in the worst flood in this area since 1952. New Braunfels was hardest hit with lesser damage at Seguin, San Marcos, McQueeney, Martindale, Luling, Belmont, and Gonzales. Heavy rains from High Plains to Lower Rio Grande Valley influenced all farming activities for week. Planting cotton, corn, sorghum, peanuts, soybeans delayed; will not resume until fields dry out. Rains generally too late to benefit wheat crop, however some improvement dryland grain prospects High Plains expected. Hail and flood damaged cotton, sorghum Gulf Coast and lower Rio Grande Valley. Percent planted major crops; cotton 41, 48 last year; corn 93, 93 last year; sorghum 53, 57 last year; rice 100, 97 last year; soybeans 0, 1 last year; peanuts 21, 16 last year. Percent harvested; oats 5, 1 last year; flaxseed 83, 41 last year. Lower Rio Grande Valley rains continued to interrupt harvest operations. Some vegetable acreage damaged due to recent hail and winds. At Laredo many late carrots and onions destroyed by high winds and heavy rain. San Antonio rains delayed vegetable harvest. Winter Garden onion harvest slowed by rains. Coastal Bend rains causing damage to cucumbers. Watermelon harvest started Falfurrias area. High Plains Carrots rapid growth. Irish potatoes good condition. Onions making satisfactory growth. Early varieties peaches being harvested. Good pecan crop prospects. Citrus groves good condition, except isolated groves which received hail damage.

UTAH: Few isolated light showers and thunderstorms first part period. Accumulated amounts of moisture light. Little or no moisture reported drought plagued south portion. Temperatures averaged near to a little below normal. Soil temperatures, at 4-inch depth, ranged from low 50's Cache Valley to upper 50's Salt Lake City and upper 70's St. George. Accumulated growing

degree days since March 1 continue well above normal most sections, ranging from more than 250 degree days above extreme south to between 50 and 100 degree days above extreme north. Moisture urgently needed throughout State. Growth dryland winter wheat and range feed suffering most from lack of rain, but alfalfa hay and other crops grown irrigated land would profit from good rains. Planting 75% completed field corn, 60% sweet corn, 10% tomatoes, 40% snap beans, 75% early potatoes Davis and Weber Counties, only 5% for main late crop potatoes southern Utah. Calving 90% completed, lambing 55%, shearing 90% completed. Movement to spring and summer range land 65% completed for cattle, 70% for sheep.

VIRGINIA: Temperatures near to below normal. Heavy precipitation in showers and thundershowers at beginning and over weekend. Rains delayed fieldwork, now 5 to 6 days behind. Corn planting 55% completed, 70% normal. Cotton 85% planted, well ahead normal. Peanut planting delayed, 30%, 40% normal. Effectiveness herbicides on early acreage questionable. Soybeans 10% planted. Tobacco transplanting 20% flue-cured, over 5% fire-cured and burley, with small amounts sun-cured. Small grains good growth. Wet weather causing disease outbreaks. Setting cabbage continues Carroll County. Norfolk and Eastern Shore first harvest strawberries began. Wet conditions threatened prospects. Cabbage and potatoes doing well. Sweet potatoes being set. All crops need sunny warm weather. Orchardists spraying. Apple prospects favorable. Some haying, but hampered by weather. Pasture conditions 99% of normal, best for date since 1958.

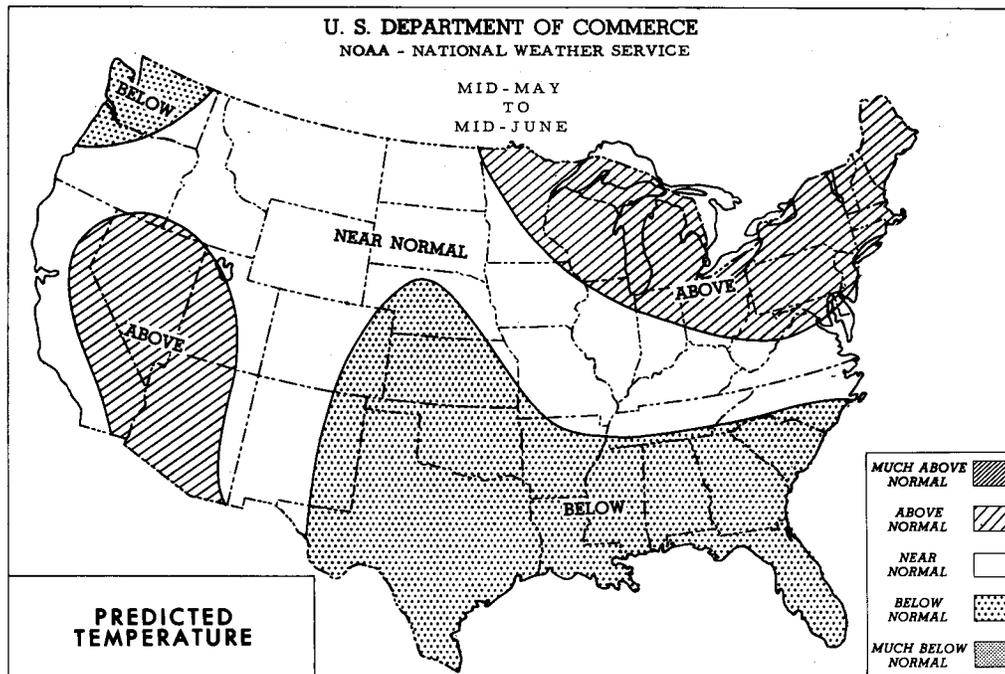
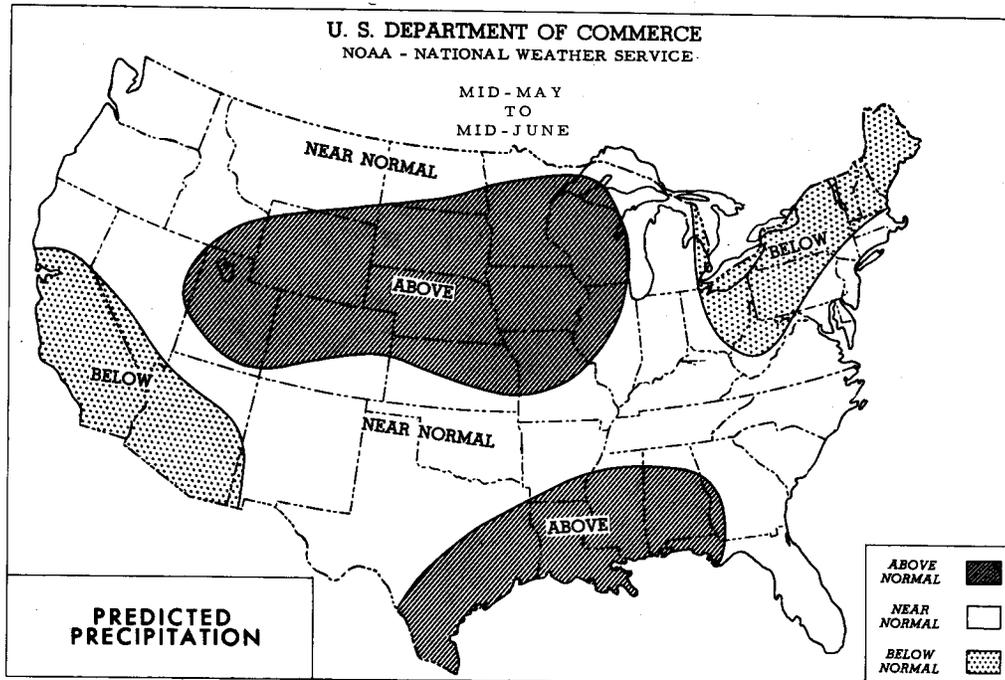
WASHINGTON: Western Washington: Dry warm weather prevailed with temperatures at or slightly above normal and precipitation well below normal. Fieldwork proceeding at rapid pace and planting seed and silage corn underway. Early planting peas emerging in good condition, while mustard and cabbage seed crops in bloom. Strawberries nearing full bloom and some raspberries beginning to bloom. Pastures have dried and show sufficient growth to permit livestock grazing. Weed spraying activities underway. Eastern Washington: Early period rains encouraged plant and grass growth. Above normal precipitation and below normal temperatures generally favorable. Dryland wheat areas received much needed moisture. Seeding corn, potatoes, and replanting sugar beets underway. Apples full blossom and thinning sprays being applied. Ranges good condition and much stock turned out for grazing.

WEST VIRGINIA: Rain May 8 and 9 gave 0.50-inch totals west of mountains and 1.00 inch mountains and eastern Panhandle. Scattered thunderstorms May 14 gave up to 0.50-inch totals. Cold week with below-normal temperatures and light frost May 11. Warmup over weekend with highs in 80's. Limited plowing and planting during week. Fieldwork held to 2 1/2 to 3 days most areas due wet soil. Planting progress: Corn 11%, potatoes 68% and spring oats 74%. Gardens delayed further. Hay and pasture need warm rainless days to develop. Crops fair to good, but fruit damaged by late spring frosts and freezes.

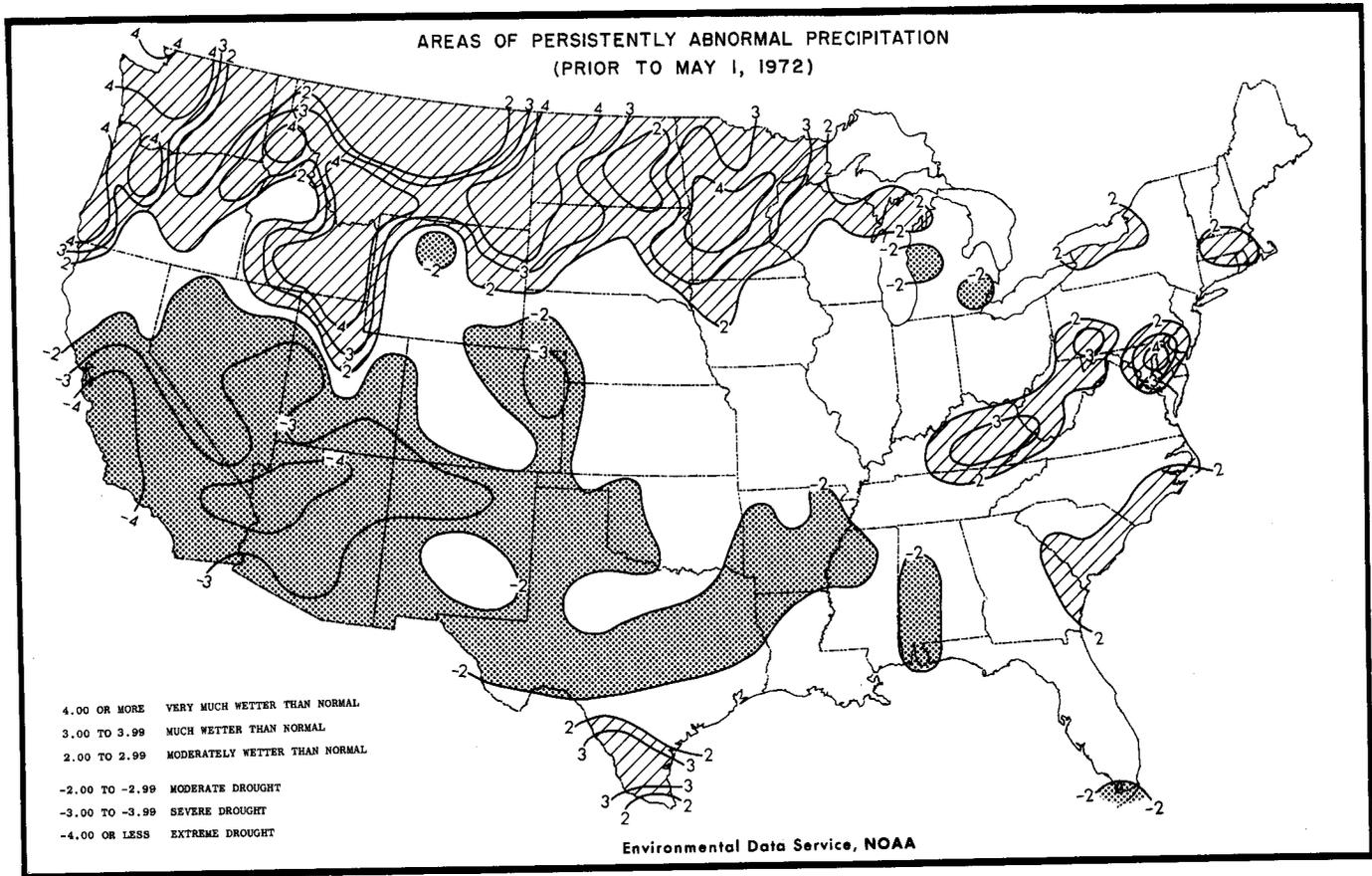
WISCONSIN: Fine spring weather. Temperatures a little above normal in north and a little below normal in south. Extremes: 80° and 25°. Rain southern counties Monday. Otherwise sunny and dry till weekend showers which were mostly in south. Lots of fieldwork done with tractors working into the night. Most oats now in. Few lagging areas east. Farmers working corn land. About 10% corn planted; last year 40%. With good weather coming up this week, farmers expect to be nearly caught up to normal. Spring plowing 1/2 done. Planting potatoes north. Early potatoes central areas all in. Peas, sweet corn and other vegetable crops planted. Also some cabbage planted southeast. Orchards still about 10 days behind. Hayfields and pastures slow. Concern over extensive winterkill in old seedings south. Seedings very good north. Not many cattle out yet. Soil moisture 80% adequate, 15% surplus and 5% short.

WYOMING: Most of State received moderate or heavy precipitation, very beneficial in needy southeast corner. Rock Springs reported most moisture with 1.72 inches. Temperatures averaged from near to 9° below normal. Maxima were mostly mid-50's to 60's. Minima were mostly 20's west of Divide, 30's east. Temperature extremes were 75° at Torrington and 18° at Bondurant. Chief agricultural activities planting, irrigating, and general care livestock. Approximately 45% corn, 85% oats, 90% barley, 85% spring wheat, and 95% sugar beets planted. About 60% spring wheat, 65% oats, 65% barley, and 20% sugar beets emerged. Prospects winter wheat and alfalfa hay good. Surface and subsoil moisture supplies adequate most areas. Spring calving about 85% complete and 60% range ewes lambed. Cattle obtaining about 75% and sheep 90% total roughage from grazing. Prospects for spring and early summer grazing good.

AVERAGE MONTHLY WEATHER OUTLOOK

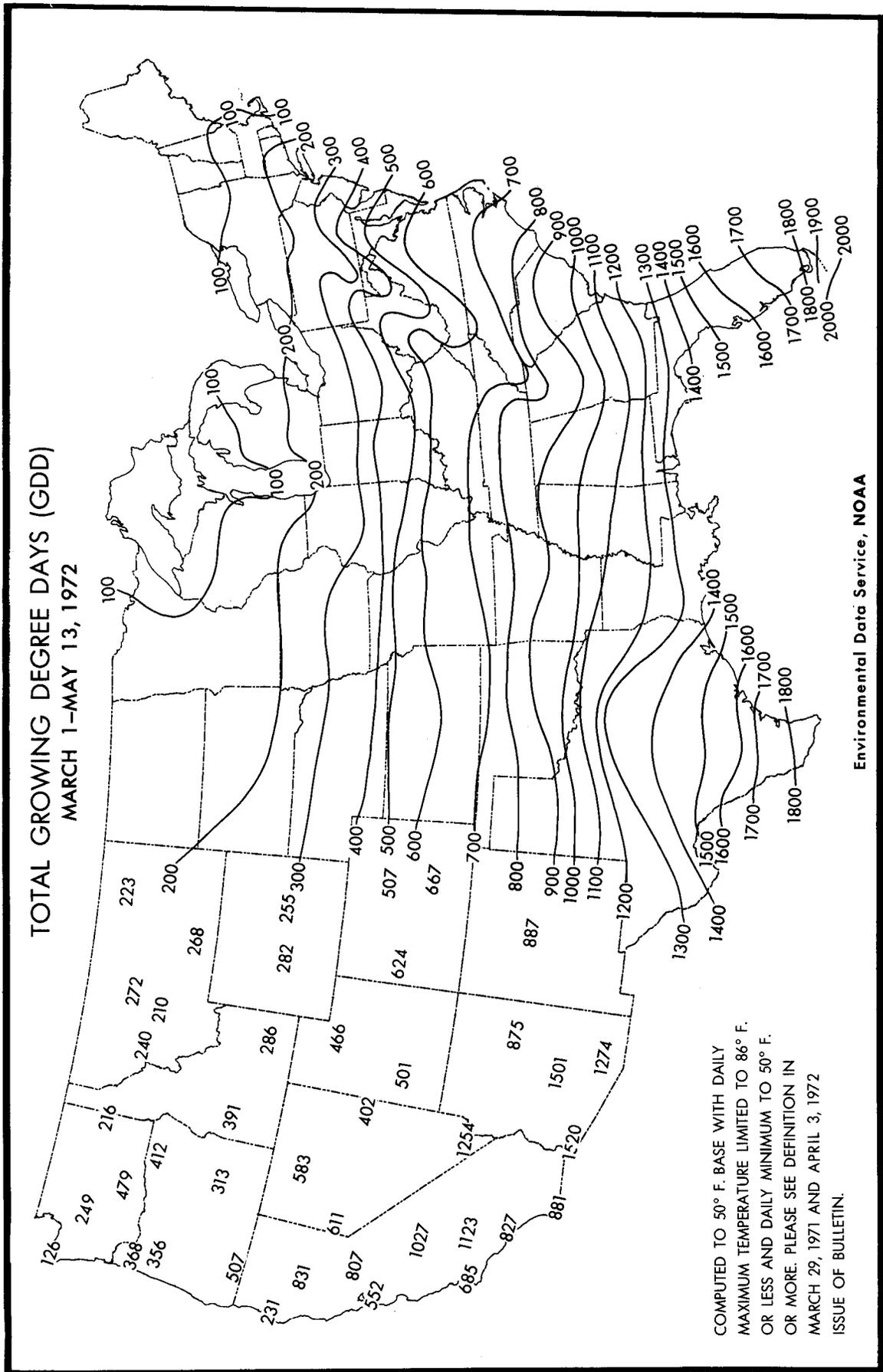


The above prognostic charts show the expected categories of average temperature and total precipitation for the period indicated. They were extracted from the Extended Forecast Division's publication "Average Monthly Weather Outlook" which contains additional information necessary for complete interpretation.



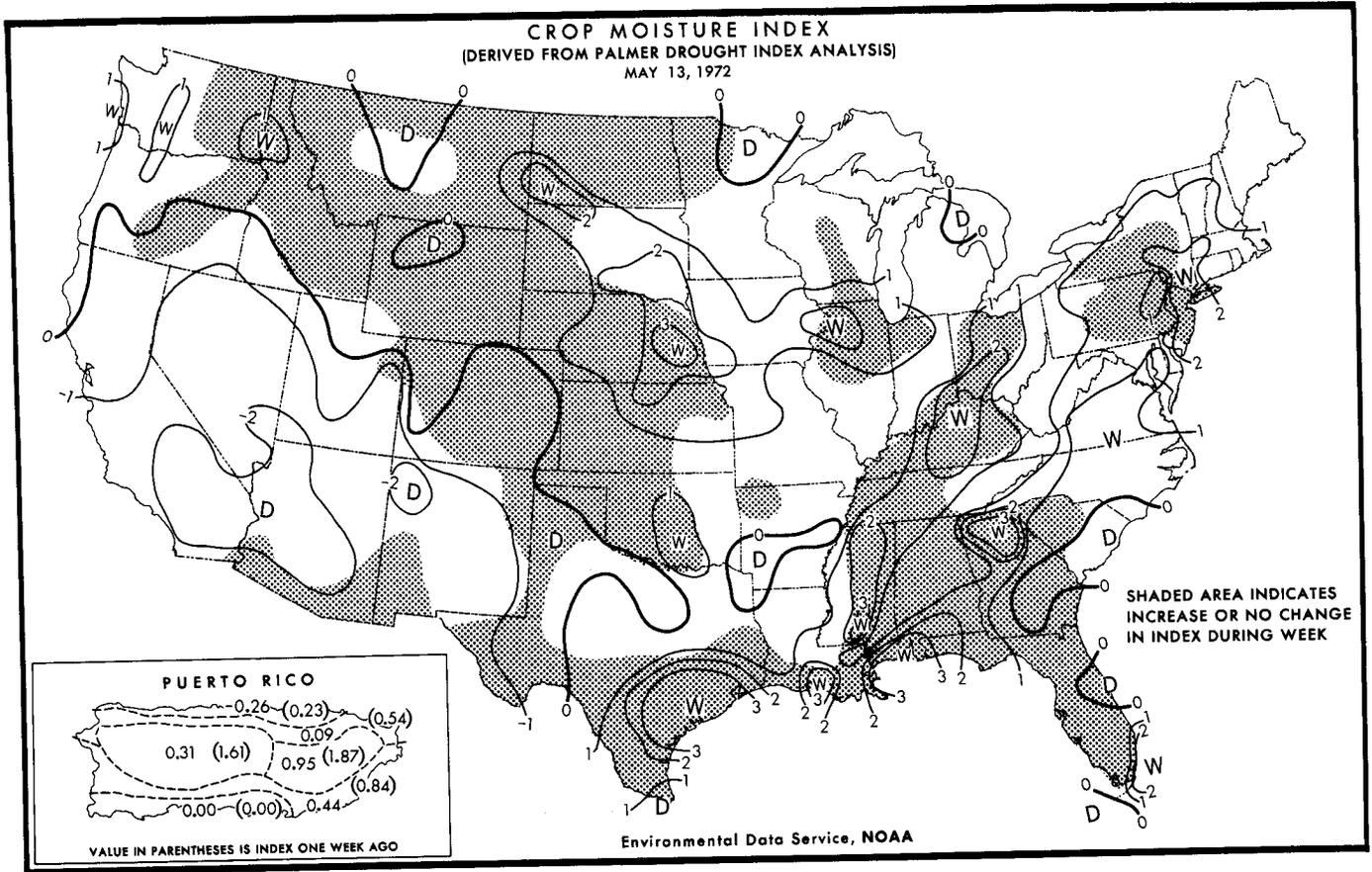
The legend that should have accompanied the map on page 12 of last week's Bulletin was omitted. The map is reproduced above with the legend. Please refer to pages 12 and 13 in last week's Bulletin for Mr. Palmer's discussion of drought in the Southwest.

TOTAL GROWING DEGREE DAYS (GDD)
MARCH 1-MAY 13, 1972



COMPUTED TO 50° F. BASE WITH DAILY
 MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE LIMITED TO 86° F.
 OR LESS AND DAILY MINIMUM TO 50° F.
 OR MORE. PLEASE SEE DEFINITION IN
 MARCH 29, 1971 AND APRIL 3, 1972
 ISSUE OF BULLETIN.

Environmental Data Service, NOAA



INDEX DECREASED DURING WEEK
(Unshaded Areas)

INDEX INCREASED OR DID NOT CHANGE DURING WEEK
(Shaded areas)

INDEX

- ABOVE 3.0 SOME DRYING, BUT STILL EXCESSIVELY WET.
- 2.0 to 3.0 MORE DRY WEATHER NEEDED, WORK DELAYED.
- 1.0 to 2.0 FAVORABLE, EXCEPT STILL TOO WET IN SPOTS.
- 0 to 1.0 FAVORABLE FOR NORMAL GROWTH AND FIELDWORK.
- 0 to -1.0 TOPSOIL MOISTURE SHORT, GERMINATION SLOW.
- 1.0 to -2.0 ABNORMALLY DRY, PROSPECTS DETERIORATING.
- 2.0 to -3.0 TOO DRY, YIELD PROSPECTS REDUCED.
- 3.0 to -4.0 POTENTIAL YIELDS SEVERELY CUT BY DROUGHT.
- BELOW -4.0 EXCEPTIONALLY DRY, MOST CROPS ABOUT RUINED

INDEX

- ABOVE 3.0 EXCESSIVELY WET, SOME FIELDS FLOODED.
- 2.0 to 3.0 TOO WET, SOME STANDING WATER.
- 1.0 to 2.0 PROSPECTS ABOVE NORMAL, SOME FIELDS TOO WET.
- 0 to 1.0 MOISTURE ADEQUATE FOR PRESENT NORMAL NEEDS.
- 0 to -1.0 PROSPECTS IMPROVED, BUT RAIN STILL NEEDED.
- 1.0 to -2.0 SOME IMPROVEMENT, BUT STILL TOO DRY.
- 2.0 to -3.0 DROUGHT EASED, BUT STILL SERIOUS.
- 3.0 to -4.0 DROUGHT CONTINUES, RAIN URGENTLY NEEDED.
- BELOW -4.0 NOT ENOUGH RAIN, STILL EXCEPTIONALLY DRY.

The map above is based on weekly areal mean values of temperature and precipitation for 350 climatological divisions. Weather during previous weeks has been taken into account through successive weekly computations of both topsoil and subsoil moisture. The map shows recent crop moisture conditions; i.e., areas in which crops have been hindered by abnormal dryness or wetness, and areas where moisture conditions have been favorable.

This is a generalized picture; local variations caused by the occurrence or absence of heavy rain or by soil differences are not shown. Shallow rooted crops and crops in areas with poor soils are likely, on occasion, to suffer more than indicated. Conditions may be better than shown in areas having exceptionally good soils.

The legend applies primarily to growing rather than matured vegetation. Interpretation of the

effects on crops and native vegetation must, therefore, take account of the stage of growth as well as the status and trend of moisture conditions. The trend is indicated by the shading which denotes areas where the index did not decrease below its value of a week previous; i.e., conditions did not become noticeably drier during the week. A trend toward drier occurred in the unshaded regions. The lines show the crop moisture situation according to the computed index values which may be interpreted using the legends above. One legend applies to the unshaded areas, the other to the shaded. Centers of relative maximum and minimum index values are marked for easier recognition - W for wet and D for dry. In irrigated regions the index values merely reflect departures from ordinary irrigation requirements.



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

NATIONAL FLOOD SUMMARY

May 12, 1972

Severe flash flooding began last night in Texas in the New Braunfels-Sequin-San Marcos areas following 7.00 to 10.00 inches of short duration rainfall. Latest reports indicate at least seven persons have lost their lives. Many houses were totally destroyed, and hundreds of persons were evacuated from their homes. The American Red Cross was caring for 3,000 evacuees in five shelters in New Braunfels alone. Substantial flooding is occurring at all downstream points as a result of rises which began last weekend. Rainfall of 4.00 inches in the San Marcos, Texas area is causing flooding along the San Marcos River southward to Luling. Moderate flooding is in progress on the Mission River in Texas and light to moderate overflow is occurring on the Nueces River and tributaries. Some local flooding developed in the extreme Upper Trinity Basin in Texas, on some tributaries in southeastern Oklahoma, and locally on the North Canadian River in Western Oklahoma. Considerable lowland flooding is occurring along the Big Black and Pearl Rivers in Mississippi. Additional heavy rain fell in those basins in the last 24 hours. In Alaska, above normal temperatures in May following a cold April has resulted in some local ice jam flooding in the Fairbanks area on the Chena and Tanana Rivers and on the Copper River at Copper Center. A few families were evacuated from their homes and some roads were under water and basements flooded in Fairbanks.

Heavy rain fell over portions of the Texas Coastal Plain in the last 24 hours and also over a large area extending from north central Texas, sizeable portions of Oklahoma and Kansas, and some placed in Nebraska. Another area of heavy rain extended from southern Louisiana across southern Mississippi and southwestern Alabama. Excessive amounts of 7.00 to 10.00 inches fell in the Guadalupe Basin in the New Braunfels and Sequin vicinities last night. There was report of 10.00 inches of rain falling in 90 minutes. In the extreme Upper Trinity River Basin, Antelope, Texas received 7.65 inches.

Hydrologic Services Division
National Weather Service