

# Weekly Weather & Crop Bulletin

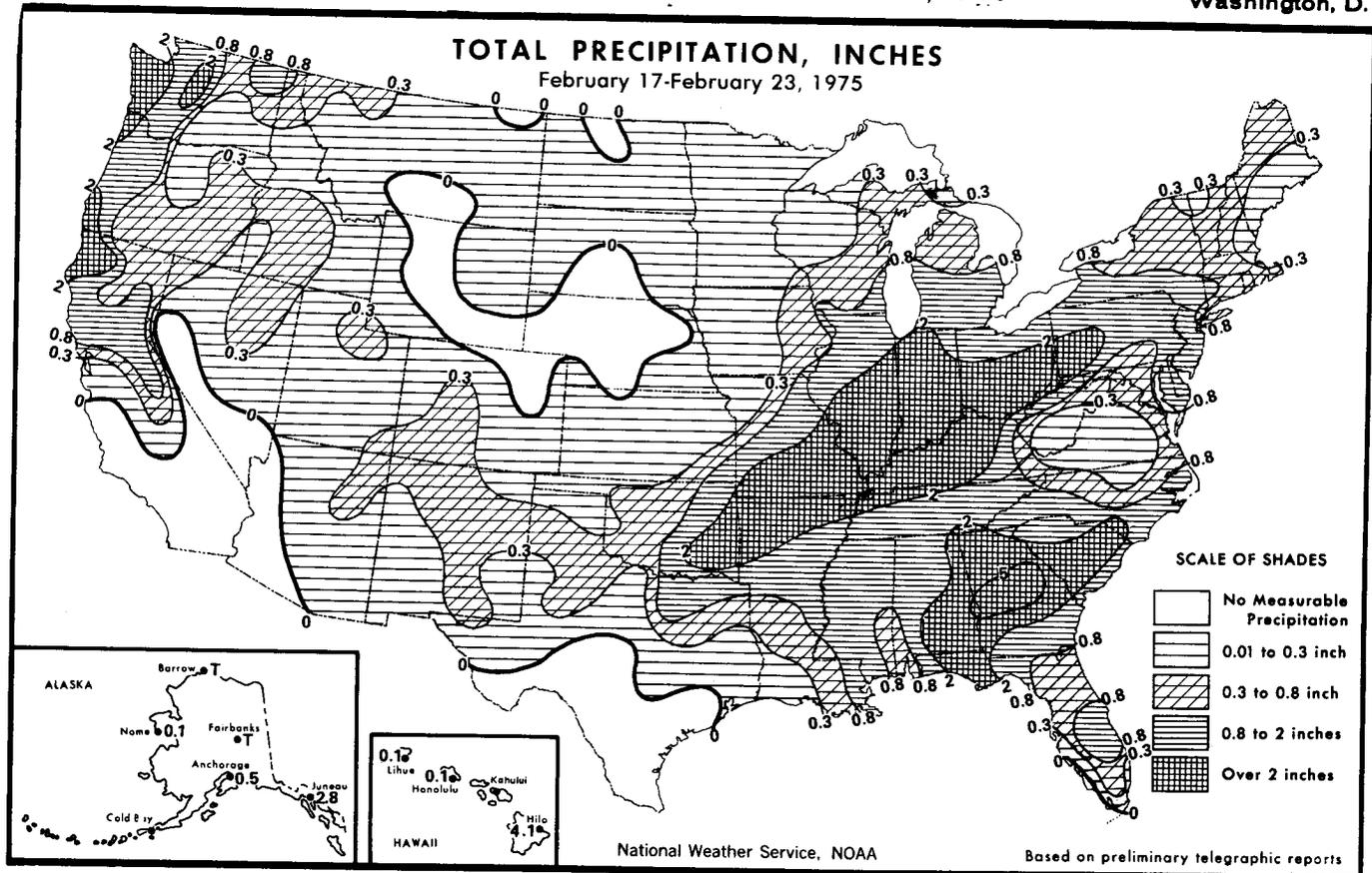
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## NATIONAL WEATHER SUMMARY

For the Week of February 17-23

**HIGHLIGHTS:** A storm packing heavy precipitation, tornadoes and high winds cut a path from eastern Oklahoma through the Ohio Valley last week. This powerful storm dumped precipitation in excess of 3 in. across a widespread area including Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio.

In the Southeastern United States, other storm systems soaked the area with over 2 in. of rain. Macon, Ga. reported more than 5 in. of precipitation for the week.

**PRECIPITATION:** A cold front drifting eastward from the eastern Plains triggered widespread, and at times, heavy precipitation across the entire Eastern Half of the Nation last week. The Pacific Northwest Coastal areas got more than 2 in. of rain, while some light precipitation was recorded in most other sections of the country.

Monday, a Low centered in northern Illinois and another hovering over the Dakotas triggered widespread snow from the Dakotas eastward to the Lakes area. Some freezing rain occurred in south-

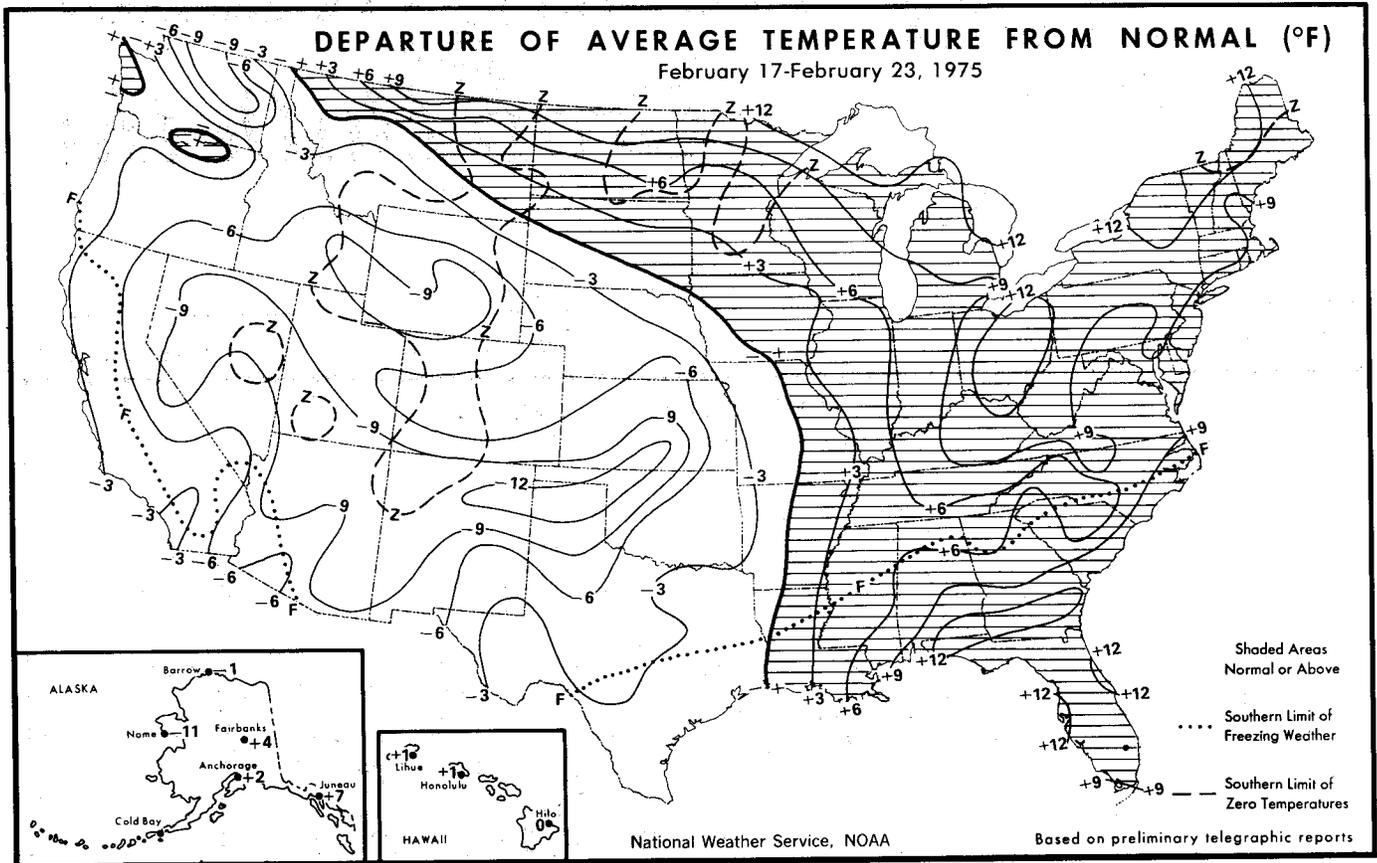
ern Michigan.

The Lows joined on Tuesday in southern Quebec and a front extended through New England into the Atlantic and then from North Carolina to central Mississippi and southwestward along the Texas Coast. Light snow blanketed the Great Lakes area westward to the Dakotas, southward to Oklahoma and Missouri and along the front in New England.

Meanwhile, thunderstorms moved through parts of northern Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina and extreme southeast North Carolina.

Wednesday, heavy rains peppered with thunderstorms drenched sections of the south Atlantic Coast States along a front from North Carolina to southern Alabama. Elsewhere, a frontal system invaded the Pacific Northwest producing showers along the Washington and Oregon Coasts.

The Pacific frontal system pushed eastward to the northern Rockies Thursday. Gradually the system inched through the Rockies to the central Plains and southwestward to the Plateau region and to central California, producing con-



siderably rain along the front and snow over the mountainous areas.

Friday, a winter storm along the front blanketed both Winslow and Flagstaff, Ariz. with 1 inch of snow in just one hour. High winds accompanied the storm whipping across Kingman, Ariz. at 60 mph and battering Rapid City, S.Dak. at 50 mph.

On Saturday, a complex storm system triggered snow throughout New Mexico, and behind the front in Oklahoma, Missouri and Kansas. Heaviest snowfall was reported in southeast Kansas and west central Missouri where 2 to 4 in. or more were widespread in those areas.

Sunday, the cold front dangled from northern New England to a Low in northern Ohio extending southwestward to a Low in Mississippi, southward into the Gulf. This system dumped snow from eastern Oklahoma into northern Illinois and southeast Wisconsin. Greatest amounts covered southwest Missouri with 13 in. at Monett and 10 in. at Springfield.

**TEMPERATURE:** Most of the Eastern United States experienced temperatures near or above normal last week, from northwestern Montana east southward to Iowa and southward through the Mississippi Valley. The greatest above normal departures occurred in Ohio, northern New England and the Southeastern United States, where temperatures were 12° or more above the seasonal normals.

Except northern Montana, North Dakota and Minnesota, all of the area west of the Mississippi River Valley averaged below normal temperatures for the week.

Monday, unseasonably warm air surged over the

southeast contrasting with very cold temperatures surrounding the high plains. By early afternoon, the thermometer hit 86° in Fort Myers, Fla. while Butte, Mont. was only 3° below zero after a morning low of 13° below zero.

Early morning temperatures were rather cold in the West with some sub-zero readings from the northern Plains into the central Plateau Region. Tuesday Tucson, Ariz. equaled the record low temperature for the date with 28°.

Wednesday, unseasonably warm weather was experienced in the Atlantic Coast States, while cool temperatures prevailed from the West Coast all the way to the lower Mississippi Valley. The thermometer dipped into the upper 20's in some citrus groves in southern California.

Much of the Nation experienced fair weather on Thursday. Unseasonably warm weather dominated southern Florida, where West Palm Beach recorded another record high for the date with 88°. This was the fourth time in eight days.

Friday, warm weather continued in southern Florida while colder air spread across the northern and central Plains. West Palm Beach reported a record breaking high of 86° for the eighth time this year.

Afternoon temperatures in the 60's ranged as far north as southwest Pennsylvania while the 30's lingered as far south as southwest Texas, Saturday. Little Rock, Ark. set a record high for the day with 75°.

Sunday, temperatures in the East were quite mild. Record highs were set at Norfolk, Va., 79°, Raleigh, N.C., 77° and Atlantic City, N.J., 59°.

## NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

For the Week of February 17-23

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Excess soil moisture in many Eastern and Southern States delaying start of spring fieldwork. Small grains and pastures responding to warmer weather in Southeast. Citrus fruit harvest continues active while orchard pruning and care progressing. Calving and lambing increasing many States. Heavy rain and snow during weekend causing additional stress to livestock many areas.

**SMALL GRAINS:** Growth of small grains increasing in California following rains and warmer weather. In Arkansas, small grains were greening up and growth began in the Delta areas. Excessive moisture was causing damage in the low-lying areas of Virginia and North Carolina. Oat seeding was progressing in New Mexico as moisture and ground temperatures permit.

Winter wheat prospects continue to look good in most areas of Illinois and Ohio, however, excess moisture is causing some discoloration in southern Illinois. Winter wheat was in favorable condition in the eastern two-thirds of Kansas, while dryness and short stands continue in western areas. Snow cover was good in central areas of Kansas. Wheat in Texas made good progress early in the period, responding to warm weather and adequate moisture. Cooler temperatures late in the period slowed growth in northern Texas, while cold weather in Oklahoma kept wheat dormant except in the south central. Condition of the wheat crop remained steady in Oklahoma at mostly good. Winter wheat still needs more moisture in Colorado and Wyoming, but stands in Montana range from fair to good. Wheat condition ranged from fair to good in western Nebraska, while snow covered wheat fields in the east. Melting snow increased moisture in Washington's wheat fields. Most fields were covered with snow or slush which will aid growth in immature fields.

**OTHER CROPS:** Final cotton harvest and scrapping operations were underway in New Mexico. Field preparations started for cotton in California. Cotton planting was underway in southern areas of Texas.

Preparation and seeding tobacco plant bed continued in Virginia. Seedbed planting was still active in the South Carolina Pee Dee area. Tobacco plants were doing well in Georgia and Florida, plants were ready for transplanting. Dark-fired tobacco was still selling in Kentucky, but volume was light as the season end nears.

Sugarcane harvest in Florida remained active. Sugarbeets made good growth in Arizona and maple sirup production was underway in Virginia's Highland County.

Corn and sorghum planting started in southern Texas. A few remaining fields of corn and soybeans remain to be harvested in southeastern Illinois.

Potato harvesting increased in Florida and was nearing completion in some areas of California, while light harvest was being done in other areas.

Potato planting was underway in north Texas and active in the High Plains.

Southeastern States needed dry weather to facilitate fieldwork. Wet weather curtailed most field activity, and some States are already running behind in their fieldwork. Flooding from heavy rain occurred in low-lying areas of Alabama, Indiana, Ohio, and Mississippi.

**FRUITS AND NUTS:** California apricots, almonds, peaches, and plums were nearing or starting bloom. Citrus continues to show effects of earlier frost damage and Valencias were coloring at smaller sizes.

Citrus tree condition was excellent in Florida and some irrigation was applied where needed. Bloom was in all stages, but continues heavy. Harvest remained very active.

In Texas, citrus harvest continues active. Midseason orange harvest was virtually complete, and a large portion of the grapefruit crop was moving through processing channels.

Lemon and grapefruit harvests were active in Arizona. Early peaches were in full bloom and early grapes were budding.

Fruit tree pruning continued in Maryland and Virginia, while peach tree pruning was complete in the ridge area of South Carolina. In eastern Washington, pruning of fruit trees was slowed by new snowfalls and rain. Pruning was behind schedule in that area. Most trees were still in good dormancy.

**VEGETABLES:** Harvest was active on all of Florida's vegetable crops and overall movement was up slightly. Cabbage, the volume leader was off, but supplies of lettuce, peppers, sweet corn, and tomatoes increased. Carrots, celery, snap beans and strawberries decreased, while all other vegetable supplies held steady.

In Texas, harvest of beets, carrots, cabbage, collards, green onions, lettuce, and turnips was being done in the Lower Rio Grande Valley, San Antonio Winter Garden area, and north Texas. Planting was underway and continued for cantaloup, honeydew melons, cucumbers, and tomatoes. Land preparations and fertilizing were also active.

Vegetable harvest in California continues for asparagus, broccoli, cauliflower, carrots, celery, and lettuce.

Harvest of lettuce and mixed vegetables in western Arizona was good, while the emergence of cantaloups, weeding and thinning new crop lettuce improved in central areas.

**PASTURES AND LIVESTOCK:** Abundant rainfall east and south continues to cause pasture conditions to decline and limit grazing. Wetness, mud, and snow kept grazing at a low level in Oklahoma, while grazing improved in some northern and western areas of Texas. Snowcover added to the stress on livestock in northern States. Movement of cattle from wheat and oat pastures accelerated in Texas where a grain crop was expected. Supplemental feeding was still required in most States and shortages of hay and roughages are becoming more apparent in some areas. Livestock condition continues to decline in most States because of over stocking, poorer quality feed, short feed supplies, and higher feed costs. Stock ponds and reservoirs were filled in California, while short water supplies in South Dakota necessitated hauling water to livestock. Calving and lambing started in Montana and continues to gain momentum in Idaho. Early calving and lambing were making good progress in Nebraska, continued strong in Wyoming and were active in Washington. Farm flock lambing was in full swing in Utah.

Temperature and Precipitation Data for the Week Ending Midnight, l.s.t., Feb. 23, 1975

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 . . .	55	+ 7	.9	- .5	La.Baton Rouge . . .	60	+ 5	.4	-.9	Youngstown . . . .	39	+12	1.2	+ .6
Mobile . . . . .	64	+ 9	.6	-.7	Lake Charles . . . .	58	+ 2	.1	-1.1	OKLA.Okla. City . .	37	- 5	.6	+ .2
Montgomery . . . .	60	+ 9	2.1	+ .9	New Orleans . . . .	63	+ 7	2.0	+ .7	Tulsa . . . . .	38	- 4	1.7	+1.3
ALASKA.Anchorage . .	21	+ 2	.5	+ .3	Shreveport . . . . .	49	- 2	.3	-.6	OREG.Astoria . . . .	42	- 2	2.2	+ .3
Barrow . . . . .	-20	- 1	.1	+ .1	MAINE.Caribou . . .	24	+10	.4	-.2	Burns . . . . .	26	- 6	.6	+ .3
Fairbanks . . . . .	4	+ 4	T	-.1	Portland . . . . .	35	+11	.2	-.7	Medford . . . . .	39	- 3	.6	+ .1
Juneau . . . . .	36	+ 7	2.8	+2.0	MD.Baltimore . . . .	46	+11	.8	+ .1	Pendleton . . . . .	42	+ 2	.4	+ .1
Kodiak . . . . .	- 6	-11	.1	-.1	MASS.Boston . . . .	40	+ 9	.2	-.7	Portland . . . . .	42	- 2	1.5	+ .5
Nome . . . . .	- 6	-11	.1	-.1	Chatham . . . . .	38	- 5	.5	-.7	Salem . . . . .	41	- 3	1.3	+ .2
ARIZ.Flagstaff . . . .	21	-10	.1	-.3	MICH.Alpena . . . . .	31	+12	.6	+ .2	PA.Allentown . . . .	39	+ 9	.9	+ .2
Phoenix . . . . .	50	- 6	.1	0	Detroit . . . . .	35	+ 8	1.3	+ .9	Erie . . . . .	37	+11	1.0	+ .4
Tucson . . . . .	44	-10	.1	-.1	Flint . . . . .	35	+10	1.0	+ .6	Harrisburg . . . . .	39	+ 6	.8	+ .2
Winslow . . . . .	31	- 9	.3	+ .2	Grand Rapids . . . .	32	+ 7	1.0	+ .6	Philadelphia . . . .	42	+ 7	.9	+ .2
Yuma . . . . .	53	- 7	0	-.1	Houghton Lake . . . .	30	+11	.5	+ .2	Pittsburgh . . . . .	41	+11	2.5	+1.9
ARK.Fort Smith . . . .	40	- 4	2.6	+1.8	Lansing . . . . .	34	+ 9	1.1	+ .7	Scranton . . . . .	39	+11	.9	+ .4
Little Rock . . . . .	46	+ 2	1.1	0	Marquette . . . . .	33	+13	.4	0	R.I. Providence . . .	39	+ 9	.3	-.6
CALIF.Bakersfield . .	49	- 4	T	-.2	Muskegon . . . . .	34	+ 9	.9	+ .5	S.C. Charleston . . .	62	+11	1.0	+ .1
Eureka . . . . .	46	- 3	2.0	+ .8	S. Ste. Marie . . . .	27	+11	.2	-.2	Columbia . . . . .	52	+ 4	3.4	+2.4
Fresno . . . . .	45	- 6	T	-.4	MINN.Duluth . . . . .	21	+ 8	.2	0	Greenville . . . . .	52	+ 7	1.6	+ .5
Los Angeles . . . . .	54	- 4	0	-.7	Internatl Falls . . .	21	+12	.2	0	S.D. Aberdeen . . . .	22	+ 5	T	-.2
Red Bluff . . . . .	46	- 5	.4	-.3	Minneapolis . . . . .	22	+ 4	.2	0	Huron . . . . .	21	+ 2	.1	-.1
San Diego . . . . .	55	- 2	T	-.4	Rochester . . . . .	23	+ 5	.1	-.1	Rapid City . . . . .	24	- 3	.1	0
San Francisco . . . .	49	- 3	.3	-.4	St. Cloud . . . . .	19	+ 4	.2	0	Sioux Falls . . . . .	22	+ 1	.1	-.2
Stockton . . . . .	45	- 5	.2	-.3	MISS.Jackson . . . .	56	+ 5	1.0	-.2	TENN.Chattanooga . .	48	+ 4	2.3	+1.0
COLO.Denver . . . . .	27	- 6	.1	-.1	Meridian . . . . .	56	+ 5	.6	-.7	Knoxville . . . . .	50	+ 7	1.1	-.1
Grand Junction . . . .	30	- 5	.1	0	MO.Columbia . . . . .	35	0	1.7	+1.3	Memphis . . . . .	49	+ 4	1.7	+ .5
Pueblo . . . . .	32	- 4	.1	0	Kansas City . . . . .	31	- 3	.2	-.1	Nashville . . . . .	50	+ 8	1.4	+ .3
CONN.Bridgeport . . .	39	+ 8	.8	+ .1	St. Louis . . . . .	38	+ 2	2.1	+1.5	TEX.Abilene . . . . .	45	- 4	.2	0
Hartford . . . . .	38	+10	.7	-.1	Springfield . . . . .	36	- 2	2.9	+2.3	Amarillo . . . . .	29	-12	.6	+ .5
D.C.Washington . . . .	46	+ 8	.3	-.3	MONT.Billings . . . .	26	- 3	0	-.2	Austin . . . . .	52	- 2	T	-.8
FLA.Apalachicola . . .	65	+ 9	2.4	+1.4	Glasgow . . . . .	23	+ 5	T	-.1	Beaumont . . . . .	54	- 2	.1	-1.0
Daytona Beach . . . .	72	+12	.8	0	Great Falls . . . . .	25	- 3	.1	-.1	Brownsville . . . . .	64	0	0	-.4
Ft. Myers . . . . .	76	+11	0	-.6	Havre . . . . .	29	+10	.1	0	Corpus Christi . . .	59	- 1	T	-.5
Jacksonville . . . . .	67	+10	.4	-.5	Helena . . . . .	24	- 3	T	-.1	Del Rio . . . . .	54	- 3	0	-.3
Key West . . . . .	79	+ 7	0	-.5	Kalispell . . . . .	26	0	.1	-.1	El Paso . . . . .	42	- 7	T	-.1
Lakeland . . . . .	74	+11	.8	+ .1	Miles City . . . . .	26	+ 3	T	-.1	Fort Worth . . . . .	48	- 2	1.0	+ .4
Miami . . . . .	78	+10	.2	-.3	Missoula . . . . .	27	- 2	T	-.2	Galveston . . . . .	56	- 1	T	-.6
Orlando . . . . .	73	+11	.9	+ .1	NEBR.Grand Island . .	24	- 5	T	-.2	Houston . . . . .	54	- 2	T	-.9
Tallahassee . . . . .	65	+10	.8	-.5	Lincoln . . . . .	23	- 6	.1	-.1	Lubbock . . . . .	37	- 7	.3	+ .2
Tampa . . . . .	74	+12	.3	-.5	Norfolk . . . . .	23	- 2	0	-.2	Midland . . . . .	46	- 3	.2	+ .1
W.Palm Beach . . . . .	76	+10	0	-.7	N.Platte . . . . .	24	- 5	T	-.1	San Angelo . . . . .	47	- 4	T	-.2
GA.Atlanta . . . . .	52	+ 6	3.1	+2.0	Omaha . . . . .	26	- 1	.1	-.2	San Antonio . . . . .	53	- 3	T	-.5
Augusta . . . . .	57	+ 8	2.7	+1.7	Valentine . . . . .	23	- 3	T	-.1	Victoria . . . . .	57	- 1	T	-.6
Macon . . . . .	58	+ 7	5.4	+4.2	NEV.Ely . . . . .	20	- 9	T	-.1	Waco . . . . .	47	- 5	.1	-.5
Savannah . . . . .	65	+12	1.1	+ .3	Las Vegas . . . . .	45	- 5	0	-.1	Wichita Falls . . . .	43	- 4	.2	-.1
HAWAII.Hilo . . . . .	71	0	4.1	+ .6	Reno . . . . .	30	- 8	T	-.2	UTAH.Blanding . . . .	25	- 9	.4	+ .2
Honolulu . . . . .	73	+ 1	.1	-.5	Winnemucca . . . . .	25	-10	.2	0	Salt Lake City . . . .	28	- 7	.3	0
Kahului . . . . .	72	0	.1	-.5	N.H.Concord . . . . .	31	+ 8	.2	-.4	VT.Burlington . . . .	32	+12	.3	-.1
Lihue . . . . .	72	+ 1	.1	-.9	N.J.Atlantic City . . .	42	+ 8	.9	0	VA.Lynchburg . . . . .	46	+ 7	.2	-.5
IDAHO.Boise . . . . .	32	- 5	.3	0	Trenton . . . . .	42	+ 8	1.0	+ .3	Norfolk . . . . .	49	+ 7	.6	-.2
Lewiston . . . . .	36	- 4	T	-.2	N.MEX.Albuquerque . .	31	-10	.5	+ .4	Richmond . . . . .	48	+ 8	.3	-.5
Pocatello . . . . .	22	- 9	.1	-.1	Roswell . . . . .	40	- 4	.2	+ .1	Roanoke . . . . .	47	+ 8	.2	-.6
ILL.Cairo . . . . .	44	+ 3	3.2	+2.2	N.Y.Albany . . . . .	35	+11	.6	0	WASH.Colville . . . .	28	- 4	1.1	+ .8
Chicago . . . . .	34	+ 6	1.3	+ .9	Binghamton . . . . .	34	+11	1.2	+ .6	Omak . . . . .	21	-11	.5	+ .2
Moline . . . . .	32	+ 5	.7	+ .3	Buffalo . . . . .	36	+11	1.1	+ .5	Quillayute . . . . .	42	0	2.4	-.5
Peoria . . . . .	34	+ 5	1.3	+ .9	New York . . . . .	43	+ 9	.7	-.1	Seattle-Tacoma . . . .	41	- 2	2.4	+1.4
Rockford . . . . .	30	+ 5	.9	+ .6	Rochester . . . . .	36	+11	.6	0	Spokane . . . . .	25	- 9	.4	0
Springfield . . . . .	36	+ 5	2.2	+1.7	Syracuse . . . . .	37	+12	.7	0	Walla Walla . . . . .	40	- 2	.2	-.2
IND.Evansville . . . .	44	+ 7	3.3	+2.4	N.C.Asheville . . . . .	46	+ 6	1.6	+ .7	Yakima . . . . .	36	- 2	T	-.2
Ft. Wayne . . . . .	36	+ 8	1.5	+1.0	Charlotte . . . . .	50	+ 5	.9	-.1	W.Va.Beckley . . . . .	45	+12	.1	-.8
Indianapolis . . . . .	39	+ 7	2.9	+2.3	Greensboro . . . . .	51	+10	.5	-.3	Charleston . . . . .	47	+10	.2	-.6
South Bend . . . . .	35	+ 8	2.1	+1.6	Hatteras . . . . .	57	+11	1.0	-.1	Huntington . . . . .	49	+12	.7	0
IOWA.Burlington . . . .	32	+ 3	1.3	+1.0	Raleigh . . . . .	50	+ 7	.2	-.6	Parkersburg . . . . .	47	+12	2.1	+1.4
Des Moines . . . . .	27	+ 1	.2	-.1	Wilmington . . . . .	59	+10	1.5	+ .6	WIS.Green Bay . . . .	28	+ 9	.6	+ .3
Dubuque . . . . .	25	+ 2	1.0	+ .7	N.DAK.Bismarck . . . .	19	+ 4	.3	+ .2	La Crosse . . . . .	27	+ 6	.5	+ .3
Sioux City . . . . .	24	- 1	T	-.3	Fargo . . . . .	18	+ 6	.1	0	Madison . . . . .	29	+ 8	.6	+ .3
KANS.Concordia . . . .	26	- 7	T	-.2	Williston . . . . .	24	+ 8	.1	0	Milwaukee . . . . .	31	+ 7	1.2	+ .9
Dodge City . . . . .	28	- 8	T	-.2	OHIO.Akron-Canton . .	41	+13	2.0	+1.4	WYO.Casper . . . . .	17	-11	.1	0
Goodland . . . . .	27	- 5	T	-.1	Cincinnati . . . . .	45	+11	2.5	+1.7	Cheyenne . . . . .	22	- 7	T	-.1
Topeka . . . . .	30	- 5	.1	-.2	Cleveland . . . . .	41	+13	1.8	+1.2	Lander . . . . .	19	- 8	T	-.2
Wichita . . . . .	25	-12	.2	-.1	Columbus . . . . .	43	+12	2.4	+1.8	Sheridan . . . . .	22	- 5	T	-.2
KY.Lexington . . . . .	46	+10	3.1	+2.2	Dayton . . . . .	43	+12	3.0	+2.4	P.R.San Juan . . . . .	77	+ 2	.4	-.2
Louisville . . . . .	46	+ 9	3.1	+2.2	Toledo . . . . .	38	+10	1.8	+1.4					

Based on 1941-70 Normals

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## STATE SUMMARIES OF WEATHER AND AGRICULTURE

These summaries provide brief descriptions of crop and weather conditions important on a national scale. More detailed data are available in Weather and Crop Bulletins published each Monday by SRS State offices in cooperation with the National Weather Service.

**ALABAMA:** Continued wet weather early and late in week prolonged saturated conditions over much of State. Well above normal temperatures again averaged about 8° high. Several locations in south touched the 80° mark.

Flood crests were traveling into lower portions of streams south with moderate flooding into low lands. Heavy rains delayed land preparation. Care of livestock and machinery maintenance consumed much time. Excess moisture slowed growth, limited grazing, prevented grazing of small grains. Pruning fruit trees and gardening active some areas. Livestock poor to mostly fair condition. Pastures short, hay short to adequate.

**ARIZONA:** Temperatures 5 to 10° below normal. Precipitation from a few hundredths, southwest deserts to more than 0.50 in. mountains. Snowfall 5 to 10 in. above 6,000 feet level.

Post harvest cotton complete. Preparations full swing for 1975. Small grains, safflower, sugarbeets good progress. Harvest lettuce, mixed vegetables western area. Emergence cantaloupes good. Weeding, thinning new crop lettuce active central. Lemon, grapefruit harvest active. Early peaches full bloom, early grapes budding. Cattle condition mostly good. Forage normal, supplemental feeding necessary. Lamb movement to slaughter increasing.

**ARKANSAS:** Temperatures averaged from 4° below to 1° above normal. Highest temperature 79°, lowest 14°. Warm latter part of week, sharply cooler on 23d. Precipitation statewide first of week, again toward weekend, 2.00 to 3.00 in. north and west.

Small grains greened and began growth in Delta. Very little field preparation. Pastures providing no forage except a few fescue and small grain fields. Cattle feeding in full swing but cattle are in poor condition.

**CALIFORNIA:** Light precipitation northern and central areas early week, decreasing to showers northern Sierra Nevada and extreme northwest by 20th. Amounts ranged 2.00 in. north coast and northern Sierra Nevada to light amounts except none south. Low temperatures into twenties at times lower valleys. Averages below normal all areas and 4 to 7° below most areas.

Growth small grains increasing following rains, warmer weather. Weed control increasing. Preparation cotton fields starting. Apricots, almonds, peaches, plums nearing or starting bloom. Date harvest completed. Citrus shows effects earlier frost damage. Valencias coloring smaller. Lemon harvest slowed, complete desert areas. Asparagus continues Desert, starting southern Salinas. Broccoli, cauliflower volume good Santa Maria, light Salinas. Carrot digging peaking Desert, celery lighter. Lettuce continues Imperial, good quality. Winter potato nearing completion Hemet, light Kern. Livestock good condition. Weather, predators cause losses calves, lambs. Supplemental feeding continuing. Range feed improving. Cattle feedlots operate below capacity. Stock ponds, reservoirs filled.

**COLORADO:** Precipitation several days west, but mainly 15th and 17th eastern plains. Amounts

generally light eastern plains and lower elevations west, but moderate to heavy higher mountains, greatest 1.15 in. Aspen. Temperatures 2 to 12° below normal. Highs for week generally on 20th. Windy some points north 20th and 21st.

Precipitation light major winter wheat areas. Mountain snows good; prospects for irrigation water for row crops improving. Soil moisture southwest corner good. Livestock generally good condition.

**FLORIDA:** Unseasonably warm weather prevailed. Temperatures averaged well above normal throughout. Rainfall was widespread, scattered showers. Amounts generally light to moderate.

Soil moisture variable; excessive west, mostly adequate north, mostly short central, south. Disease appearing in small grains. Tobacco plants large, some ready for transplanting, but none set to date. Sugarcane harvest continues active. Young plant and stubble cane good condition. Pastures poor to fair condition. Small grain pastures becoming short. Cattle and calves fair condition. Citrus tree condition excellent, moisture less than adequate, some irrigation. Bloom all stages, but continues heavy. Harvest very active. Harvest active all vegetable crops. Overall movement up slightly. Cabbage supplies down but continues as volume leader. Sweet corn, lettuce, peppers, potatoes and tomatoes increased. Snap beans, carrots, celery and strawberries decreased. Other vegetables held to about same level.

**GEORGIA:** Temperatures 6 to 8° above normal north and 8 to 10° above south. Rainfall over 4.50 in. west central, 2.00 to 3.00 in. north and south central and 0.50 in. extreme south and coast. Showers and thunderstorms on 22d and 23d, 1.00 in. north to 0.75 in. south. Turned colder west night of 23d.

Soil moisture excessive. Land preparation curtailed due to wet weather. Condition small grains good. Pasture poor to good condition. Cattle condition poor to fair. Condition of tobacco plants good.

**HAWAII:** Partly cloudy to clear skies. Rainfall light and scattered.

Crop condition improving all Islands. Vegetable supplies light. Banana supplies adequate, papaya supplies light. Pastures in good condition. Pineapple, harvesting light. Sugar harvest operations resuming.

**IDAHO:** Temperatures were below normal, average ranging 3 to 8° below for the period. Extremes: 47° at Emmett and Mountain Home, 20° below zero at Fairfield. Precipitation was above normal in the southwestern valleys and generally below normal elsewhere. Emmett, with 0.67 in. had the greatest amount.

Farmwork limited by snows and wet weather. Care and feeding of livestock major activity. Hay supplies adequate. Calving and lambing continues, gaining momentum. Farmers arranging for seed and fertilizer supplies and readying equipment for spring fieldwork. Potato market sluggish and movement light.

**ILLINOIS:** Temperatures 2 to 7° above normal.

Precipitation heavy just under 1 in. north to more than 3.00 in. south. Heavy snow 23d, 2 to 11 in. northern two-thirds.

Winter wheat, other small grains, legumes good condition. Some discoloration winter wheat due to excessive moisture south half. Limited freeze damage north from lack of snow cover. Recent snows provide good protection. Ample moisture supplies. Livestock good to excellent condition. Muddy feedlots. Mild winter aided less disease problems than normal. Recent snows increased need for supplemental feeding. Hay short supply some areas. Fertilizer materials generally adequate, certain herbicides short. Soil moisture adequate 63%, surplus 37%. Main activities: Livestock care, machinery repair, some fertilizer application, legume seeding, and grain marketing. Few fields of corn and soybeans to be harvested southeast. High field losses from late harvested acreage.

INDIANA: Warm very wet week. Rain of 1.00 in. north to 3.00 in. south occurred over weekend. Many streams flooding low areas, some people evacuated. Temperatures averaged 6° above normal and ranged from 22° on the 20th in north, to 67° southeast on 22d.

Activities minimal. Mostly caring for livestock and chores.

IOWA: Temperatures near normal west half, 3 to 5° above normal east. Little or no precipitation northwest, heavy eastern third from snow, night 23d, morning 24th, over 8 in. common. Strong winds accompanied snow, producing blizzard conditions.

KANSAS: Temperatures from 7 to 9° below normal central and south central to 1° below normal southeast. Heavy snow portions of southeast and extreme east central on 22d. Heaviest amounts 7 to 9 in. in Neosho, Allen, and Linn Counties. Wheat condition favorable eastern two-thirds. Dry in west with short stands. Good snowcover in central areas, wet in east. Most livestock on supplemental feed.

KENTUCKY: Temperatures fluctuated greatly during past week. Readings in 40's and 50's 17th, dropped to 20's and 30's by midweek, then soared to 60's and 70's by week's end. Rainfall amounts of 3.00 to 4.00 in. were recorded over central on 22d and 23d, elsewhere amounts ranged from less than 0.50 to 1.50 in. for weekly totals.

Wet and soggy soil limiting field activities. Some manure spreading and a little plowing prior to heavy rains on weekend. Farmers getting anxious to start spring work. Supplemental feeding livestock still necessary. Most animals in reasonably good condition. Dark fired tobacco still selling, but volume light as season end nears.

LOUISIANA: Temperature near normal north and central, 2 to 5° above normal south. Weather mild to cool during week, very warm on 21st, turning sharply colder 22d and 23d. Temperature extremes 83° Baton Rouge 22d, and 28° Shreveport on 24th. Thundershowers locally heavy late in week. Weekly rain totals less than 0.25 in., many places. Greatest 1-day total, 1.31 in., on 22d at New Orleans.

Agricultural activity confined mainly to routine chores.

MARYLAND AND DELAWARE: Temperatures 2 to 6° above normal. Highs upper 40's to upper 50's. Lows mid-teens to mid-20's except 5° Garrett County. Precipitation light ranging 0.12 to 0.61 in. Small grains good, late fields fair. Wet soils

delaying top dressing. Seeding tobacco beds also delayed. Orchard pruning progressing well. No known damage to peach buds. Livestock generally good condition. Calving and lambing underway.

MICHIGAN: Temperatures averaged from 7 to 16° above normal. Precipitation totals varied from 1.60 in. south central to 1.00 in. central and less than 0.20 in. northern lower peninsula. Upper peninsula totals ranged from 0.08 in. to 0.37 in.

Farmwork mostly routine chores.

MINNESOTA: A mild week with temperatures averaging 3° above normal southwest to 10° above normal northeast. Below normal central and west with 1 to 2 in. new snow. Normal to a little above east with 2 to 4 in. new snow. Snow on ground at week's end: 26 to 34 in. northeast quarter; 14 to 25 in. central into northern; and 6 to 13 in. south and west extremes.

Farm activities: Mostly care and management of livestock.

MISSISSIPPI: Most rain early in week. Mild most of week, cooler last two days. Temperatures averaged 3° above normal. Extremes: 82 and 21°. Greatest 24-hour rainfall was 4.10 in., at Ridgeland on 16th.

Soil moisture was surplus to excessive in north-west and central, remaining areas had adequate to surplus. Days suitable for fieldwork 0.8. Condition of wheat and oats fair. Condition of livestock poor to fair. Hay, roughage, and feed grain supplies were short.

MISSOURI: Temperatures were below normal first half, averaging near normal for week. Temperatures on 21st rose into 60's over all but north providing a taste of spring before turning colder over weekend. It was dry week until weekend, when general and rather heavy rains occurred over the central and south, causing tributary streams and rivers to rise to bank full or flood levels.

MONTANA: Temperatures averaged well below normal southwest, well above normal north central and northeast, near normal elsewhere. Highest maximums mostly 40's on 23d. Minimums dropped well below zero in southwest on 21st and 22d. Snow occurred about midweek, but precipitation amounts averaged below normal.

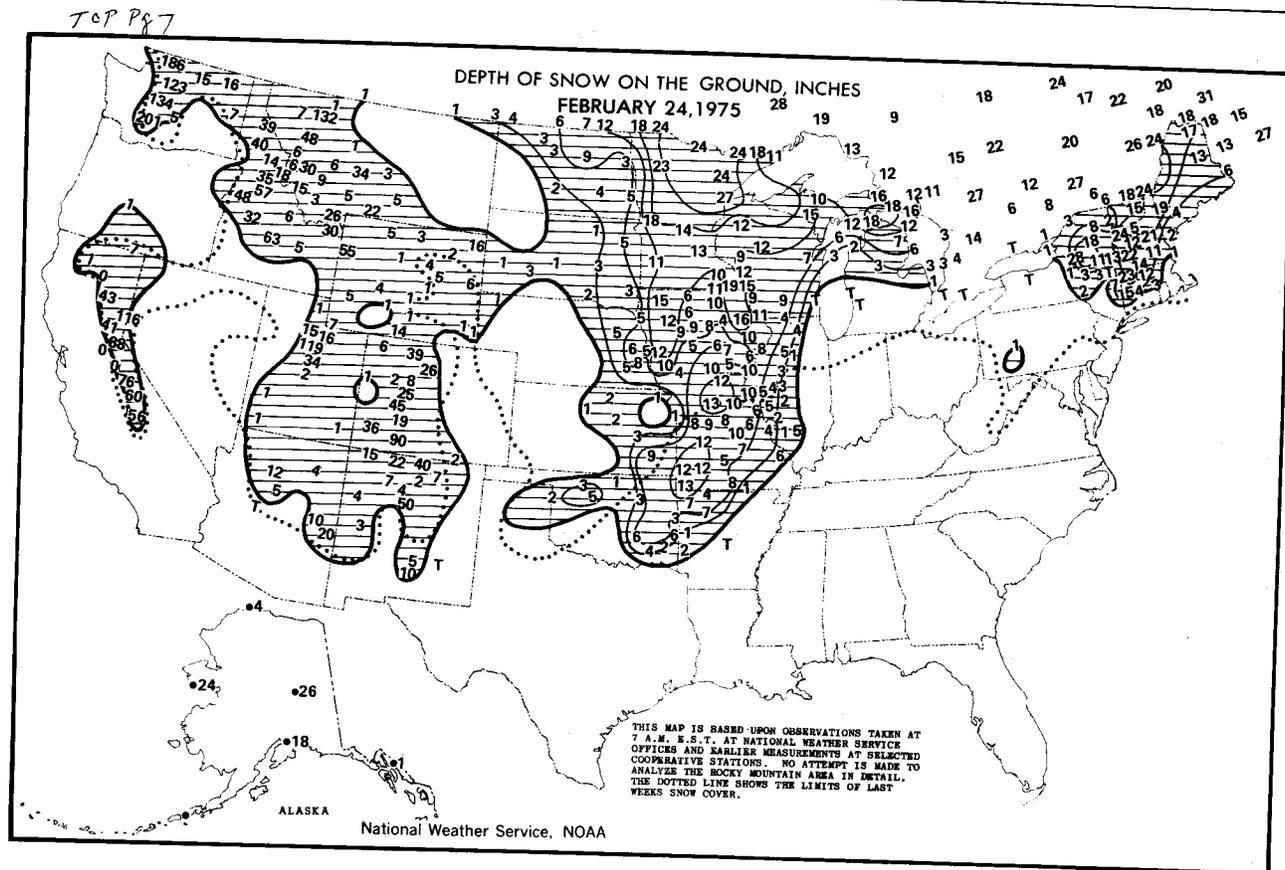
Warmer days helping livestock care. Grazing difficult to closed. Calving and lambing started. Winter wheat condition fair to good. Some county roads drifted shut.

NEBRASKA: Temperatures continued cold averaging 1 to 6° below normal. Precipitation from 0.25 in. panhandle to 0.75 in. southwest, mostly snow. Wheat in west continues poor to fair. Snow covered wheat east.

NEVADA: Two vigorous storms left measurable precipitation most areas except extreme south. Sierras received 6 to 12 in. new snow. Temperatures averaged 5 to 10° below normal, but warmed to near normal by end of week. Extremes ranged from 64° Las Vegas to -5° Ely.

Fall grains wintering well. Some fieldwork southern valleys. Early calving and lambing good progress.

NEW ENGLAND: Temperatures on 17th near normal but above normal for balance of week. Highs: Boston and Portland 49° on 19th; Lebanon, New Hampshire 53° and Greenville, Maine 44° on 22d. Fair weather predominated New England on 17th and 20th to 22d.



Light rain began in Maine on 17th and continued sporadically until 22d.

**NEW JERSEY:** Temperatures averaged 4 to 6° above normal. Weekly averages were 39° north, 41° south and 42° coastal. Extremes: 21° at Canoebrook and Newton, 59° at Freehold, Long Branch and Pomona. Precipitation heavy averaging 1.22 in., along coast and nearly 1.50 in. elsewhere. No snowfall reported.

**NEW MEXICO:** Fair and mild weather through midweek. Major storm brought extensive and substantial snow and rain 21st and 22d most central and east portions with extensive snow cover continuing through weekend. Temperatures averaged 6 to 10° colder than normal.

Moisture adequate. Winter wheat, barley mostly good. Planting oats as moisture and ground temperatures permit. Stalk cutting on sorghum. Final harvesting and scrapping operations on cotton. Short range grass showing on cattle, especially after calving. Ranges fair. Livestock fair to good.

**NEW YORK:** Mild temperatures 10 to 15° above normal. Maximum above freezing all week most areas. High of 63° at Dansville on 22d, elsewhere highs in 50's. Coldest: 1° below at Saranac Lake and zero at Massena on 17th. Some precipitation fell every day except 21st most areas. Snowfall early in week from 2 to 4 in., with more in snowbelt. Warm temperatures reduced snow pack by week's end. Snow cover by 23d ranged from 0 to 2 in., in open areas. Up to 2 ft. remains in parts of Adirondacks.

**NORTH CAROLINA:** A rainy and mild week, with ample rainfall and above normal temperatures. Fieldwork averaged 1.6 days. Soil moisture

surplus to adequate. Small grains 25% fair, 70% good, 5% excellent. Low lying fields damaged by excessive rain. Quality pastures declining, overgrazed. Supplement feeds, hay roughage supplies, adequate. General farm supplies scarce and costly.

**NORTH DAKOTA:** Temperatures averaged 3° above normal except southeast. Range from 1° below normal to 9° above normal. Extremes: -15° at Pembina to 46° at Beulah and Watford City. Near blizzard conditions in State on 21st. Precipitation below normal west central and southwest. Snow depth less than 2 in. many parts to 9 in. at Upham and Devils Lake.

Farmers feeding and caring for livestock, securing supplies of seed and fertilizer for spring planting and repairing machinery for upcoming spring work. Weather conditions favorable for livestock.

**OHIO:** High temperatures on 17th ranged 47° northwest to 70° south. Readings in 30's and 40's by 19th. Precipitation light 17th through 21st. Thunderstorms and heavy rains moved in on 22d. Flood watch posted on 23d with some low lying areas becoming flooded. Most areas received 1.00 to 3.00 in. of rain on 23d.

Wheat looks good in most areas. Wet weather delaying all fieldwork.

**OKLAHOMA:** Temperatures 2 to 12° below normal. Precipitation averaged from 0.02 in. southeast to 0.90 in. west central and north central. Week-end cold with heavy snow east half. Snow, rain, and freezing rain elsewhere.

Wet soils held fieldwork to minimum. Mud and snow cover northwest kept grazing wheat and ranges to low level. Wheat made no growth except south

central. Condition crop steady at mostly good. Some top dressing when ground frozen. Supplemental feeding and care livestock main activity. Marketing activity increased slightly.

**OREGON:** Precipitation along coast ranged 2.50 to 3.50 in., western interior valleys, 0.70 to 2.08 in., east of Cascades 0.20 to 0.50 in. Temperatures averaged 2 to 4° below normal. Maximum 55° in west, minimum -3° in east.

Farmers attending agricultural meetings. Most fall grain in good condition. Spraying for weed control and repairing machinery. Filberts in bloom, orchard pruning continuing. Ground too wet to fertilize in most areas. Livestock feeding normal to heavy, feed supplies adequate. Calving and lambing continuing.

**PENNSYLVANIA:** General rains 23d and 24th. Ground too wet for fieldwork.

**PUERTO RICO:** Very dry weather continued over south coastal areas where the only amount of rainfall recorded was 0.03 in. at Magueyes Islands. Rainfall averaged 0.33 in. Highest weekly total 2.52 in. at Maricao. Highest 24-hour total 1.25 in. at Maricao. Temperatures averaged 74° on coasts and 69° interior. Extremes: 90 and 53°.

Dry weather benefited maturing and harvesting of sugarcane. Coffee cultivating under favorable weather. Tobacco plantings developing well and some areas continued harvesting and drying operations. Pastures suffering from lack of rain mostly south coastal. Insect attacks affecting pastures some areas. Dry weather favored harvesting of food crops but affected new plantings mostly in south coastal areas. Abundance of bananas, plantains, pigeon peas, vegetables and citrus on market.

**SOUTH CAROLINA:** Week averaged wetter than usual. Rainfall occurred every day first of week with rainfall again near weekend. Temperatures averaged above normal. Clearing skies persisted from 19th into weekend.

Dry weather needed for land preparation. Harvesting greens and setting out cabbage coastal area. Tobacco seedbed planting still active Pee Dee area. Peach tree pruning complete ridge area. Setting out pine seedlings active.

**SOUTH DAKOTA:** Temperatures averaged 3 to 6° above normal. Extremes: 50° Kennebec and Winner on 20th, -4° Belle Fourche, Edgemont, Hot Springs and Selby on 18th. Snowfall heavy northwest, light elsewhere except for Brookings area where blizzard conditions occurred on the 21st. Most areas have above normal moisture for this year.

Feed supply is short in some areas. Livestock in mostly fair condition with most of the blizzard weakened animals already culled. The water supply is short with many farmers hauling water to livestock. Farmers are planning for spring fieldwork.

**TENNESSEE:** Precipitation averaged about normal. Temperatures averaged mid 40's to low 50's, about 5° above normal.

Ground still too wet for plowing or most other farm activities.

**TEXAS:** Snowfall northwest first of week; again northwest, north central portions end of week. Snow near normal precipitation north; northwest slightly above normal. Little precipitation coastal plains, central, southern, southwestern. Temperatures northwest 10° below average due to

strong cold fronts. Temperatures several degrees below normal north, southwest.

Wheat, oats good progress early in week responding to warm weather, adequate moisture. Grazing improved but most fields overstocked. Movement livestock from wheat, oats accelerated where grain crop expected. Planting cotton, corn, sorghum started in southern areas.

Lower Rio Grande Valley: Carrot, cabbage, lettuce harvest continues as harvest early spring onion fields underway. Cantaloup, honeydew melon planting continues with some early fields emerged. Coastal Bend: Planting some late melons continues, most melons already emerged with some 6-to-8 leaf stage. Planting of cucumbers, tomatoes underway. San Antonio Winter Garden: Cabbage, carrot harvest continues. Most onions making good growth. Most potatoes planted with some early fields emerging. Central: Tomato, watermelon land preparation continues. East: Land preparation, fertilization active. North: Beets, collards, turnips, green onions being harvested. Most fields too wet to work. Irish potato planting underway. High Plains: Land preparation, fertilization onion, potato planting active. Peach trees continue blooming southcentral, south. Citrus harvest continues active. Midseason orange harvest virtually complete. Large portion grapefruit crop moving processing channels.

Grazing improved north, western areas as winter grasses, weeds provide relief from heavy grazing pressure. Livestock east poor condition; losses malnutrition, internal parasites above normal; south and western areas; livestock wintering well, light feeding many localities. Sheep, goat shearing underway Edwards Plateau, Trans-Pecos, South.

**UTAH:** Recurring periods rain or snow most sections. Accumulated amounts quite variable ranging from little or none to over 1.75 in. Temperatures average generally 2 to 9° below normal except 1 to 3° above Uinta Basin.

Farm flock lambing in full swing. Marketing of potatoes, dry onions, and apples continues but near completion. Preparation of machinery for spring fieldwork a current activity. Care and feeding of cattle and sheep, dairy herds, and poultry flocks major share of farmers interest.

**VIRGINIA:** Temperatures averaged 5° above normal. Extremes: 79 and 5°. Rain ranging from less than 0.25 in. west and north to 1.50 in. southeast.

Fieldwork: 1.4 days favorable. Topsoil moisture 60% surplus, 40% adequate. Feed and care for livestock, general farm repairs chief activities. Livestock, including poultry, in good condition. Spot shortages remain in feed supply. Pastures topseeded, soil prepared for spring crops where not too wet. Small grains in low areas turning yellow. Some may drown if excess moisture persists. Highland County maple syrup in production. Preparation, seeding of tobacco plantbeds. Fruit tree pruning continued. Farm Census completion, filing income taxes, obtaining production supplies.

**WASHINGTON:** West: Temperatures average about 3° subnormal. Extremes: 40's, 30's. Precipitation throughout period. Total amounts from 0.90 in. to over 2.00 in.

Pruning and tying canberries. Other activities: Attending meetings, repairing equipment. Hothouse rhubarb reached peak production. Tulip, daffodil fields growing well. Calving and lambing very active. Local hay supplies adequate. East: Average readings 2 to 5° subnormal.

Extremes: 40's, 10's. Precipitation beginning and end of period. Total amounts from 0.05 in. to 0.70 in. Local snow showers.

Snowcover, north half. Pruning of fruit trees slowed by new snowfalls and rain. Pruning behind schedule. Mice caused damage in some places. Most trees in good dormancy. Melting snow increased moisture in wheat fields but caused minor erosion. Most fields covered with snow or slush. Winter wheat looking good. Some stripe rust and many stands small. Snow cover expected to improve sprouting and growth in immature fields. Livestock in good condition. Calving, lambing proceeding. Little movement of cattle to market.

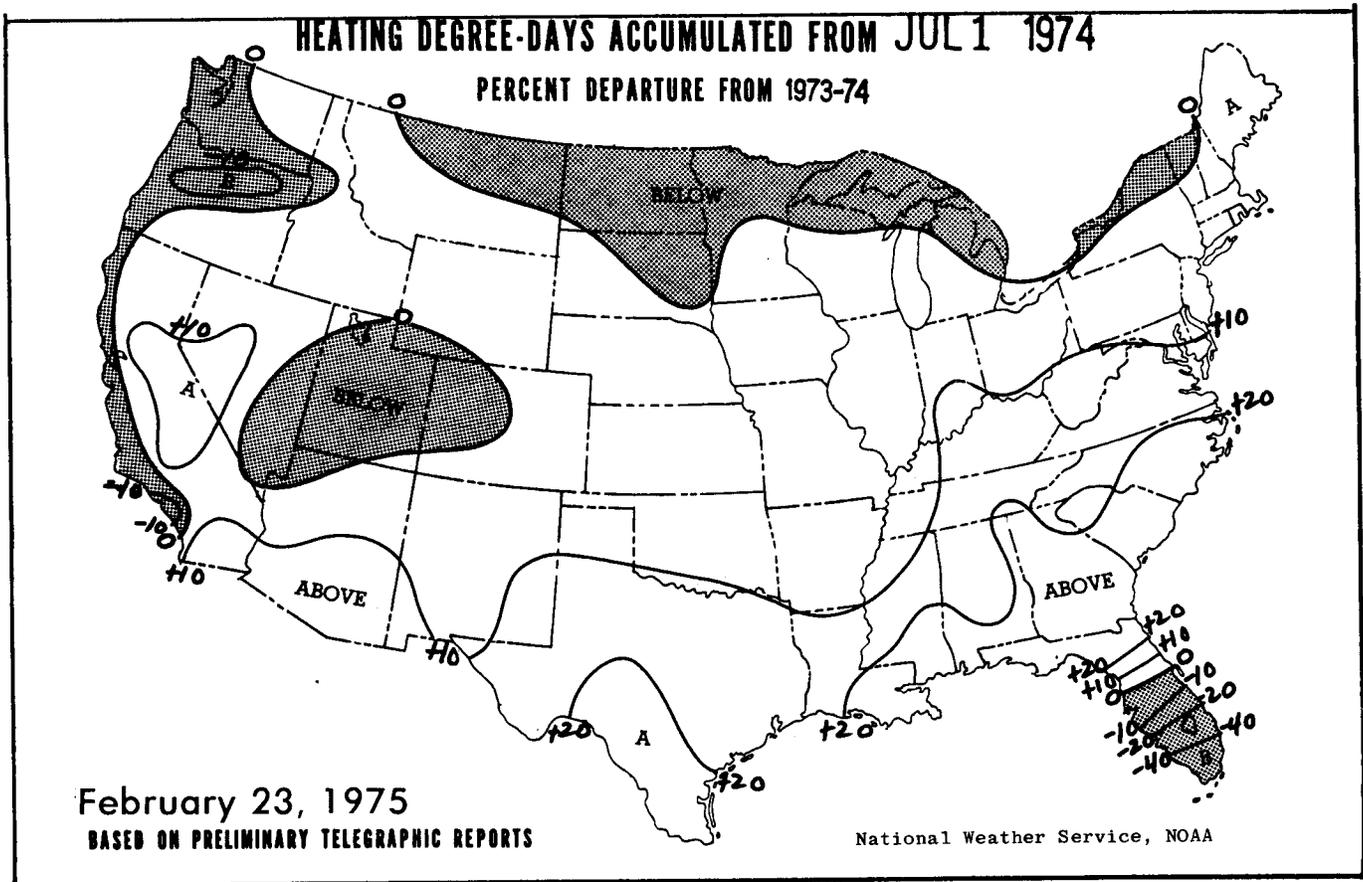
WISCONSIN: Temperatures above normal most of week with highs in 30's and 40's south and 20's and 30's north. Lows, 20's and 30's south and 20's north except in teens and near zero midweek when skies were clear. Snow of 4 to 6 in. fell 17th south and central, less in southeast where precipitation was mixed. On 18th snow spread southwest to northeast with 3 to 6 in., less near

Lake Superior where up to 2 in. fell. Dense ground fog morning of 21st many sections. Mixture rain and snow south afternoon of 21st moved north evening. Light snow north and central afternoon 22d. Light rain southeast. Major storm moved into State late 23d, with freezing rain southeast and heavy snow southwest.

WEST VIRGINIA: Temperatures above normal. Precipitation below normal and occurred early in week. Soil moisture 50% surplus, 50% adequate. Fieldwork: Suitable 2.6 days. Fall sown grains show signs of growth due to mild weather. Farm activities mostly care and management of livestock.

WYOMING: Below normal temperatures, with coldest averages in east central. Precipitation near seasonal normal except Cheyenne and Niobrara Drainage above normal.

Early calving, lambing continued. Care of livestock, supplemental feeding major activities. Snow covered areas required heavier feeding. Livestock condition good. Winter wheat needs additional moisture.



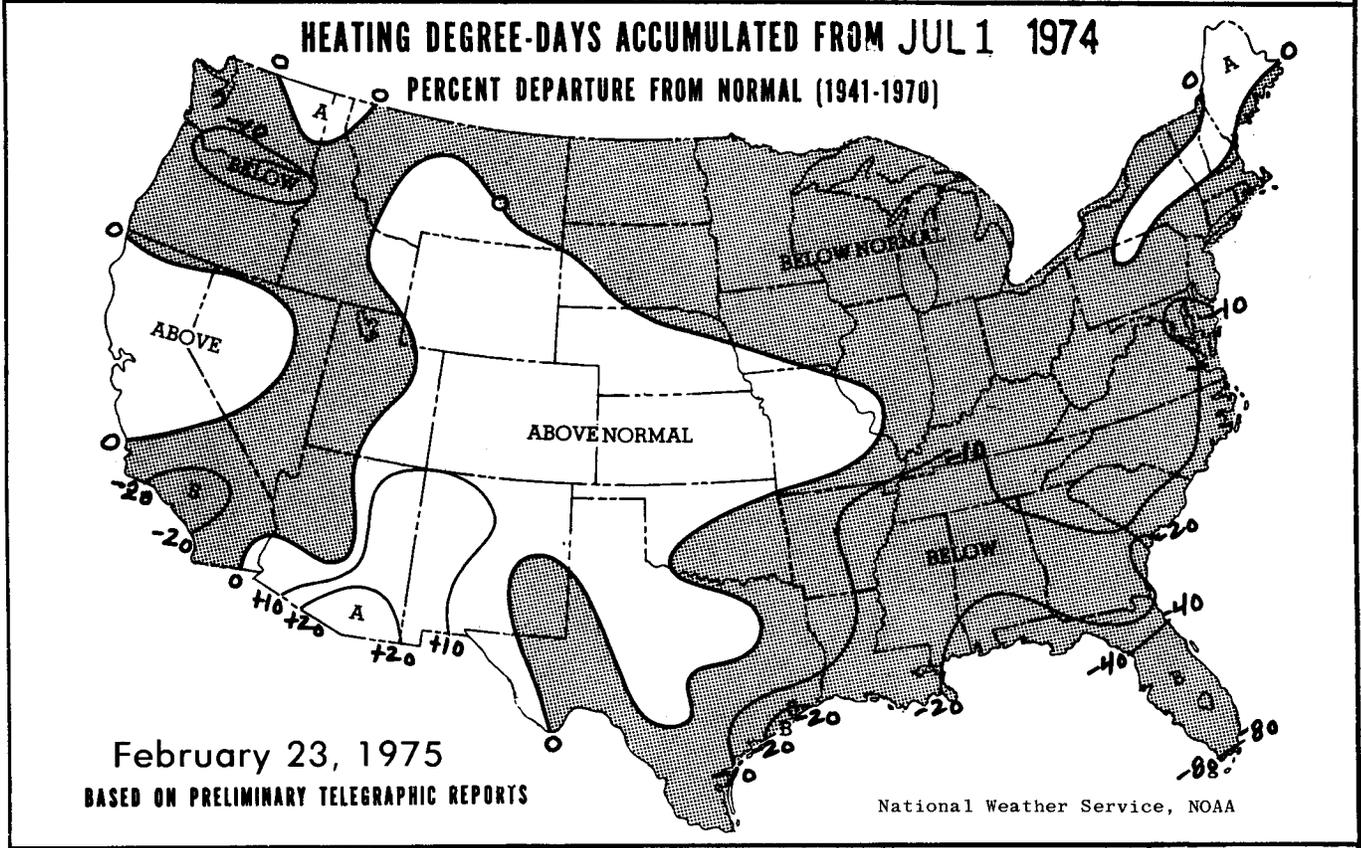
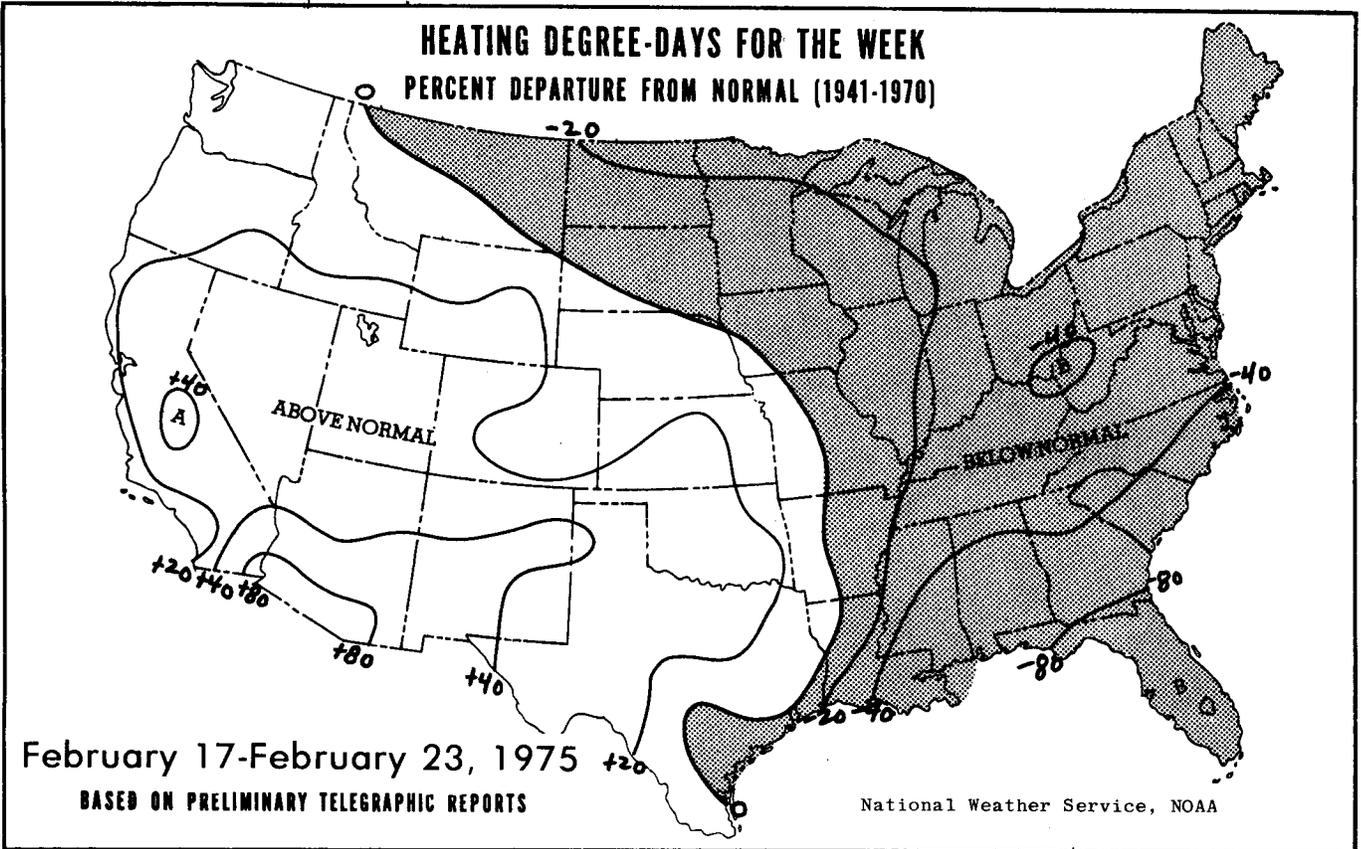
### THE HEATING DEGREE-DAY STATISTIC

The heating degree-day statistic is a simple indicator of the demand for heating fuel in an area based on average temperature. It is based on the fact that when the daily mean temperature is 65° or higher, most buildings require no heat to maintain an inside temperature of at least 70°. It is computed as follows:

$$65^{\circ} - \frac{\text{Max Temp} + \text{Min Temp}}{2.0} = \text{Daily HDD}$$

The heating fuel industry has adopted this procedure for monitoring current consumption and anticipating future fuel needs. This is of particular importance when the supply situation is tight.

As the maps are presented, a positive departure (shaded) indicates that the heating degree-day accumulation is greater than the comparative value, so temperatures have been colder. Similarly, a negative departure (unshaded) indicates that conditions have been warmer.





## WORLD AGRICULTURE WEATHER SUMMARY

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Through mid-February Europe continued to experience one of the mildest winters of this century. In many countries of Europe, it has been the warmest and precipitation has been mostly rain with snow cover erratic and sparse except in the mountains. North America was also unusually warm during December and January, at least east of the Rockies, but February has been trying to make up for the earlier warmth with severe cold.

Relatively dry weather has persisted in much of the Mediterranean Basin where Portugal, Spain, Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia need precipitation to sustain crops. On the other hand, conditions have improved in many of the western Mediterranean and Middle East countries. West Africa was seasonally dry during January. Rainfall to the east was below normal. Persistent rains in South Africa have started to create problems, particularly in the corn growing areas.

The situation in India has continued to worsen with January rainfall below normal or nonexistent and important winter crops still in dire need of moisture. Timely rains in Pakistan provided a boost to the wheat crop, although additional moisture is needed. Bangladesh still has good moisture supplies for the dry winter season. January moisture relieved the drought conditions in Sri Lanka.

Conditions vary in South America where it is mid-season for summer crops. The Peruvian central highlands have been dry but major producing areas of Brazil and Argentina have had plentiful moisture. Late December frosts did considerable damage to crops near Bogota, Columbia.

The Philippines were hit with yet another typhoon on January 24 damaging crops in Negros and Panay.

**GRAIN:** The winter has been most unusual in all the middle latitude wheat growing regions of the Northern Hemisphere. Indeed, it can hardly be defined as winter in much of Europe where temperatures have remained mild and snow cover sparse. Winter grains have fared well so far, with a minimum of winter injury. Winter wheat in many areas is still green and growing. However, these winter grains remain vulnerable to cold injury. Some flooding occurred in the river basins of Eastern Europe in early January.

A minimal snow cover, mostly 2 to 3 in., in the Western Plains exposed some U.S. and Canadian wheat to intense cold in early February. The Eastern Plains were blanketed with heavy snows by several storms that moved through the area during January.

In the U.S.S.R., 33.7 million hectares of winter were sown last fall for 1975 harvest, a million hectares less than planned and about 1.5 million less than sown a year earlier. However, thanks to a warm fall and open winter, the area plowed for spring crops totaled 116.2 million hectares, 11 million more than last year.

Wheat in the western portions of the Mediterranean Basin is in critical need of moisture where dry conditions have persisted for several months. Rainfall in Morocco, which was below normal during January, started several weeks later than expected. The outlook is bleaker than last year when rain started in December. This is the third consecutive year with moisture problems.

Conditions have improved markedly in the eastern Mediterranean. Turkey and Iran both report good rainfall and crop conditions. In Lebanon, the prospects for 1975 are good because of early rains and generally favorable weather so far this season. Conditions have also been favorable in the major

grain producing areas of Syria. Better distribution of rainfall has resulted in better soil moisture conditions than at this time last year. The moisture situation is good to excellent in northern Israel, but a drought has affected southern portions, where rainfall has been only about 60 percent of normal.

Most of the winter grains in India and Pakistan are suffering, although timely rains in Pakistan provided a boost to crops there. Low river water levels threaten irrigated crops, including those irrigated from wells because of lower hydroelectric output for pumps. The relative failure of India's October-December northeast monsoon reduced rice prospects in Tamil Nadu, converting the State from an adequate food grain supply to a deficit.

Moisture conditions in Bangladesh appear to be favorable going into the dry winter season as the result of remaining from flooding several months ago.

Flooding occurred in the southern provinces of Thailand in early January. Some low fields could not be drained because of high water levels that remained. Rice in the area was in the vegetative stage of growth and will have to be replanted. This will be possible by broadcasting, although yields will not be as great as with transplanted seedlings. During the second week of January, unseasonable rains fell in the Central Plains of Thailand where harvesting was underway. Most of the rice from this area is grown for export and as a result of the rain grades will be lower due to high moisture content. Moisture conditions appear favorable in China.

Mid-winter rains aided corn, sorghum, and other grains in Brazil and Argentina and good yields are expected. Heavy rains and cool weather occurred during the crucial tasseling stage in the main corn growing areas of Argentina, almost assuring good crops. Conditions have been good for the rice growing areas of Brazil where harvest will begin in March. Late December frosts damaged barley in Columbia. Peru, however, could use more rain, particularly in the central highlands.

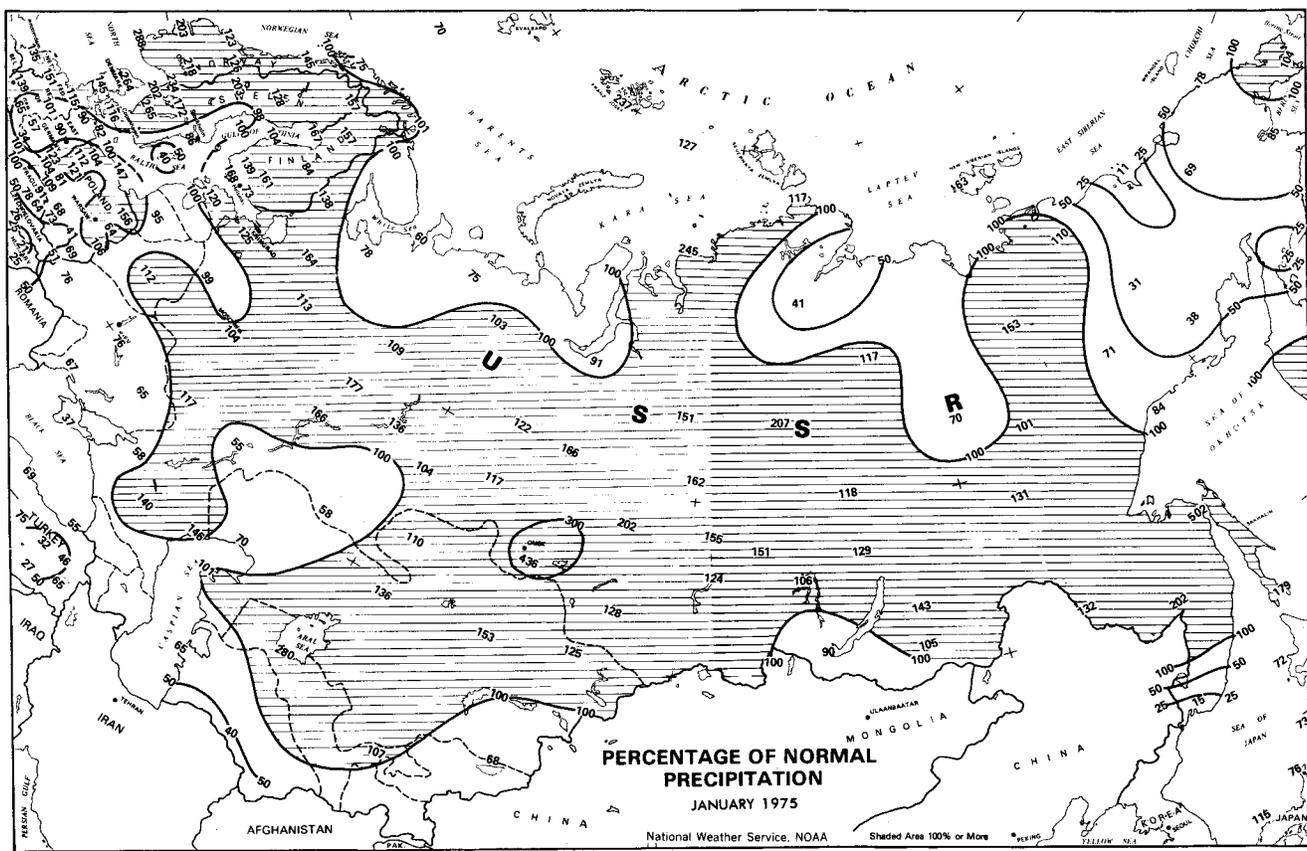
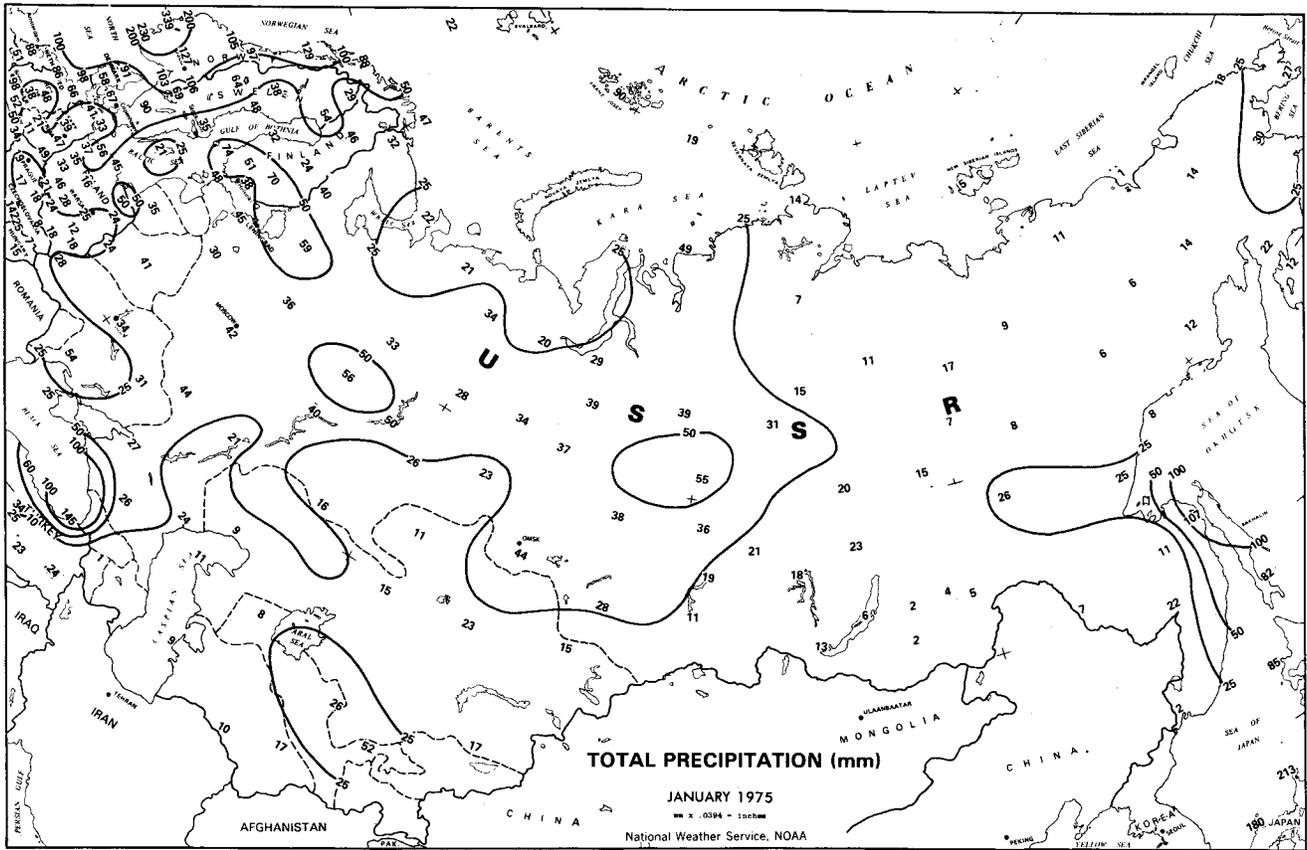
Australia, for the most part has experienced its third consecutive month of below normal rainfall. Although the wheat crop has been harvested, moisture will be needed for seeding which will begin in April.

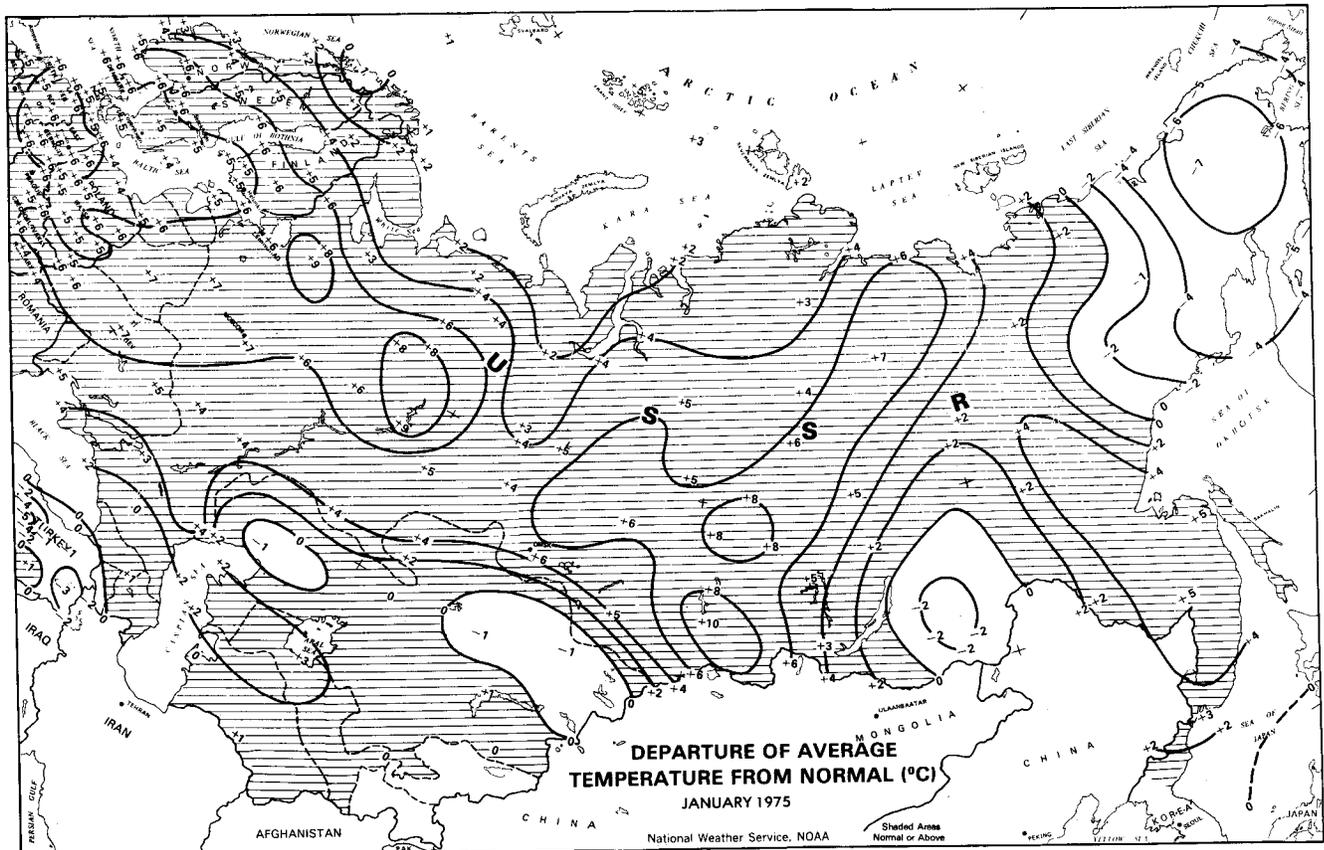
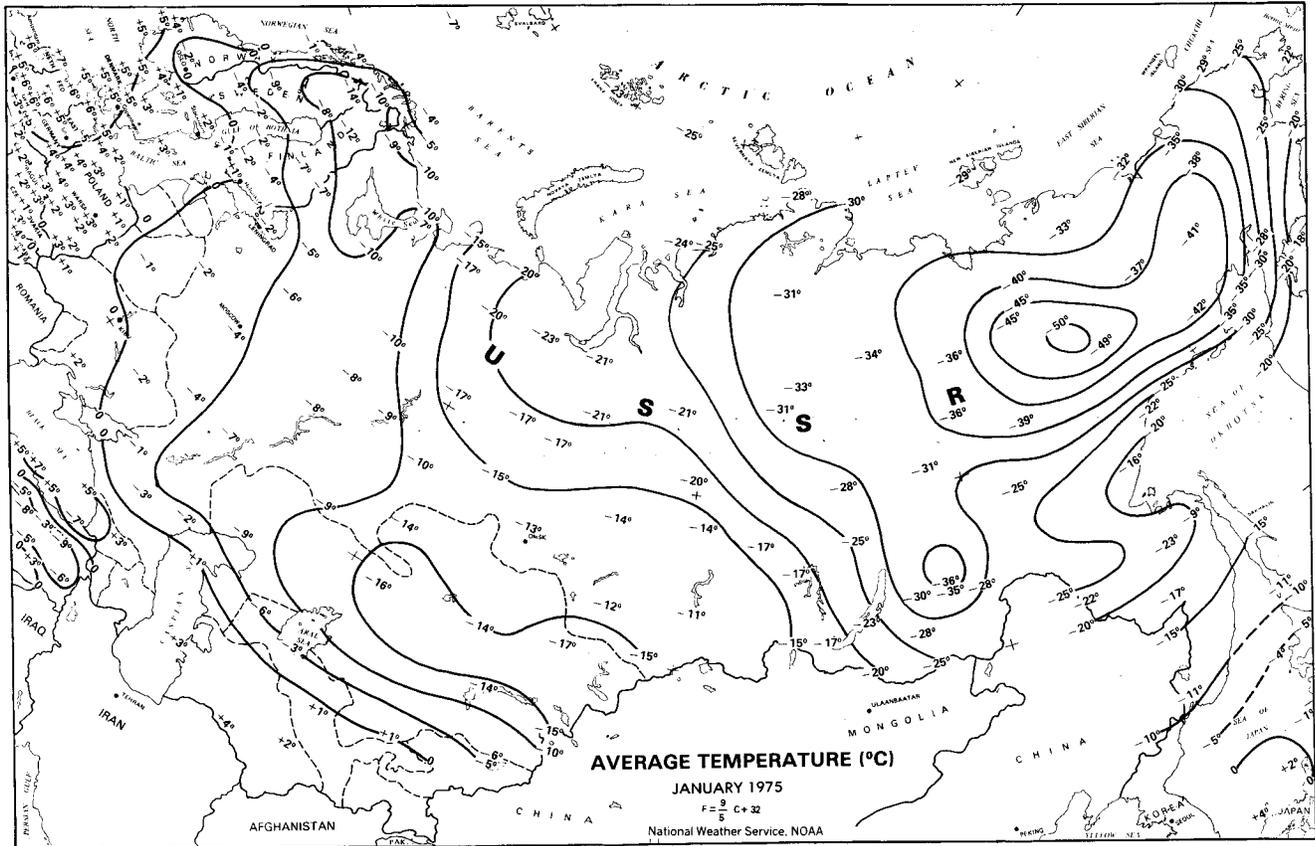
**OILSEEDS:** Favorable weather is partially responsible for a sizeable increase in flaxseed over last season in Uruguay. Soybeans in Brazil have had good growing weather after a late start. Three consecutive months of subnormal precipitation in southern Australia has reduced flax, sunflower, and rape seed prospects, while soybeans have responded to irrigation.

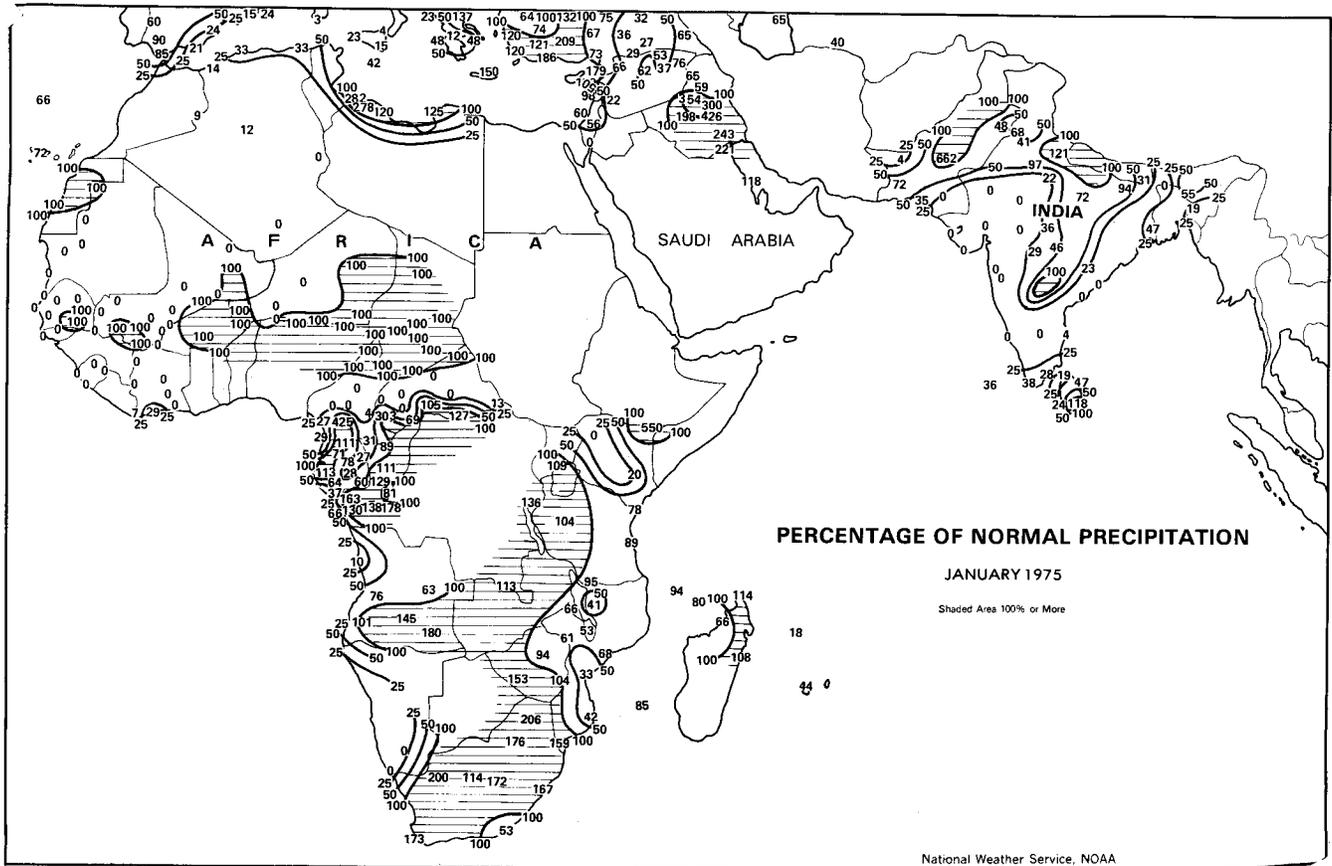
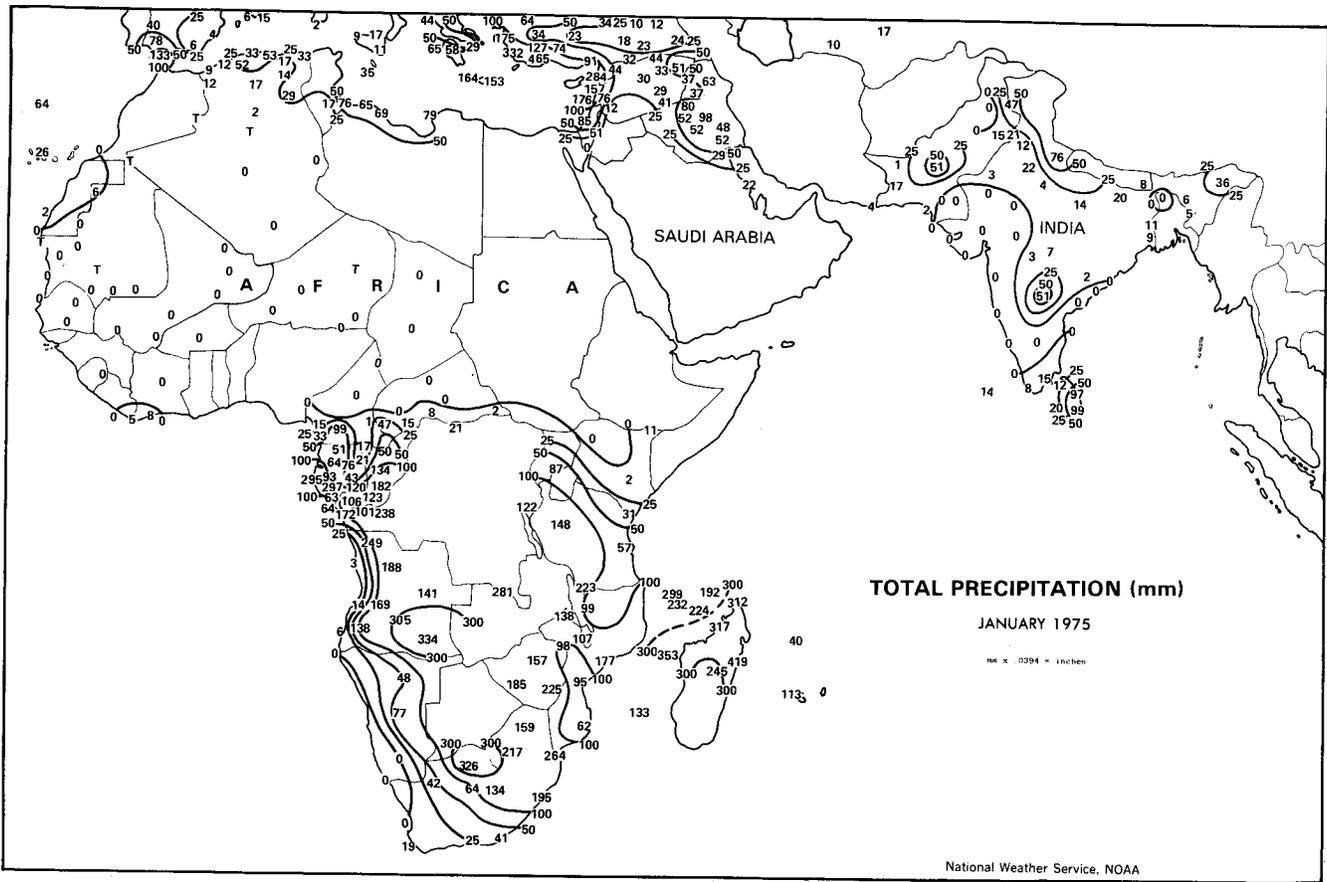
**OTHER CROPS:** Frost damaged citrus in the Argos area of Greece on January 12 and 13. Frost also damaged potatoes and pastures near Bogata, Columbia in late December. Unseasonably wet weather caused severe disease problems to wine grapes and corn in South Africa. Drought hurt potatoes, beans, corn, and pastures in Peru's central highlands and is eroding forage and row crop prospects in Australia. Prolonged drought in Cuba reduced yields, particularly of sugar.

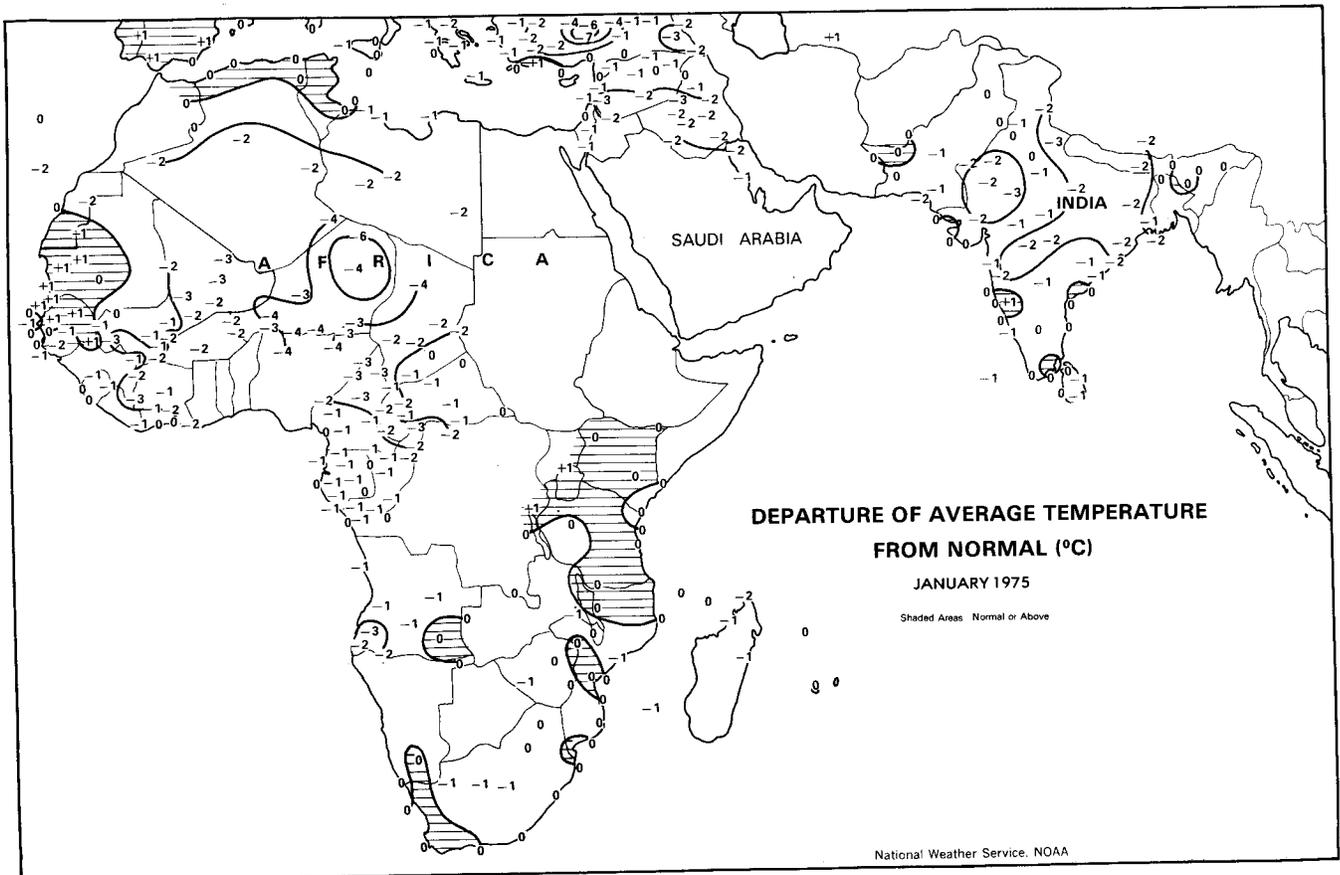
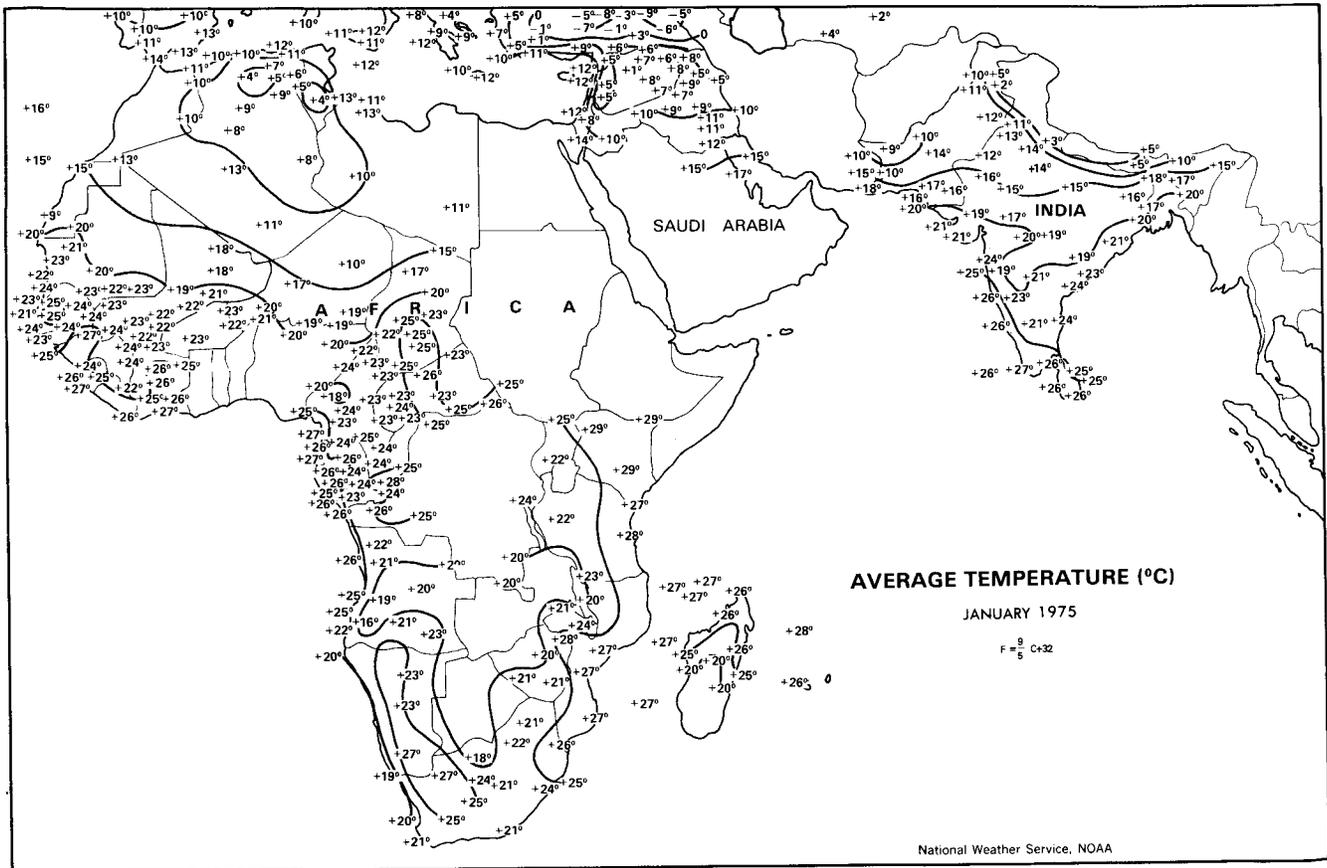
The wet autumn that led to less winter grain being sown in much of northern Europe is expected to lead to an increase in sugarbeet acreage this spring.

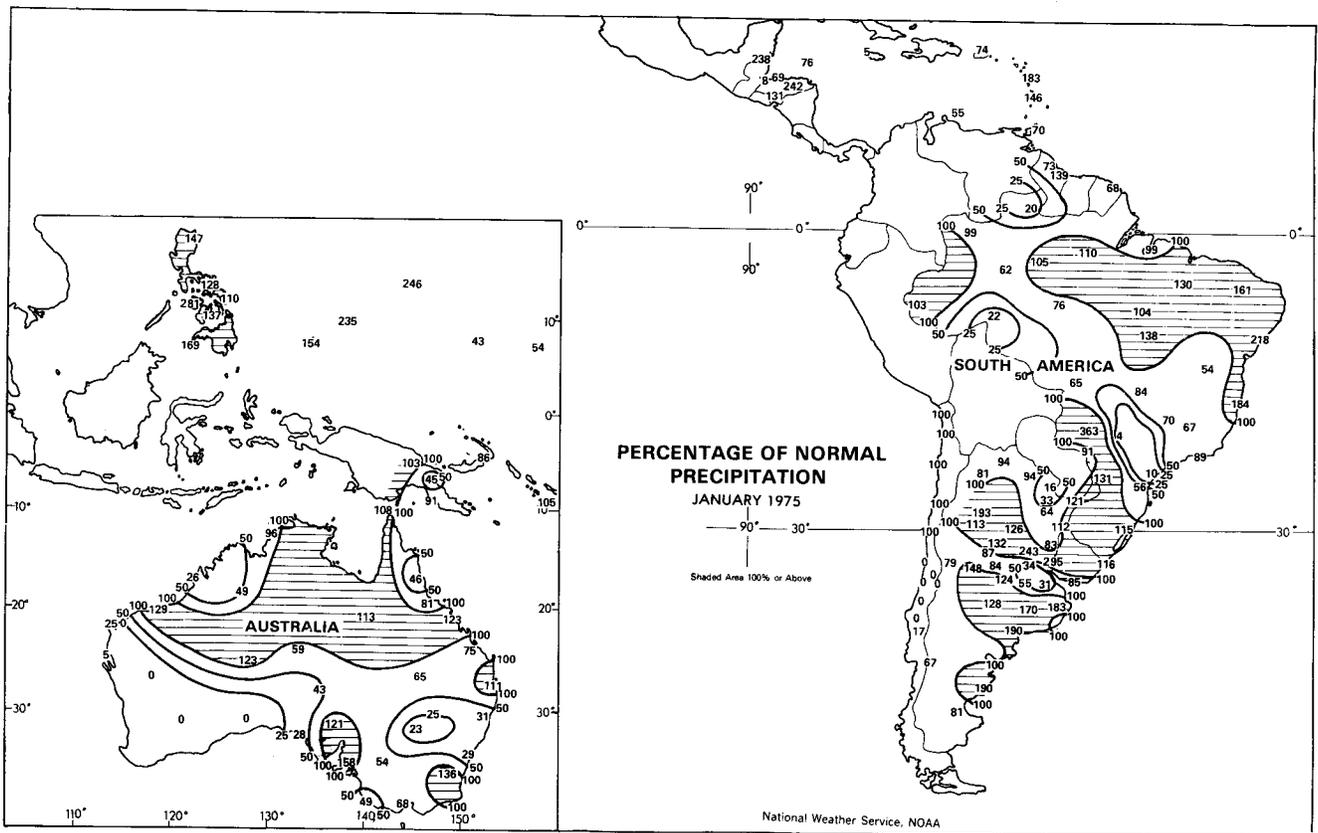
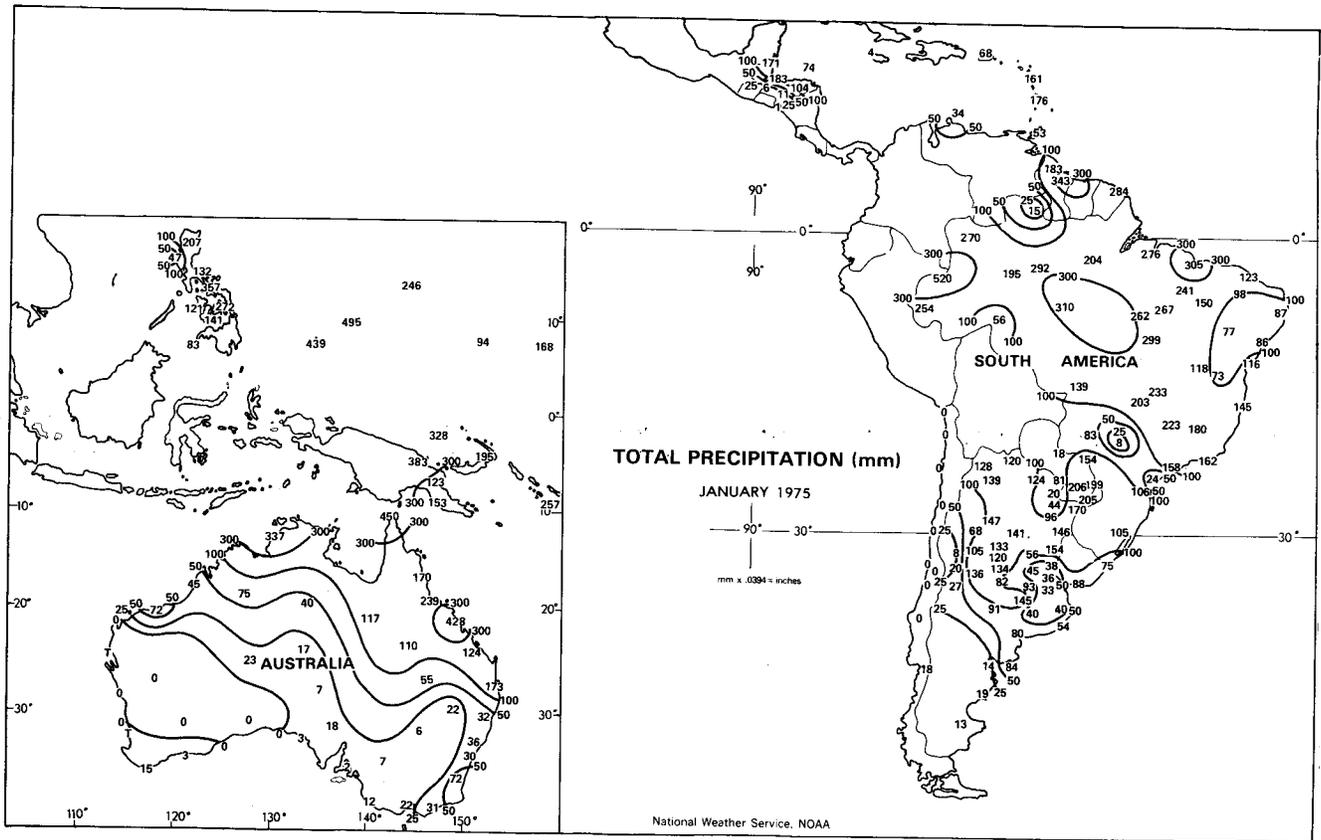
A typhoon struck the major sugar growing areas of Negros and Panay in the central Philippines

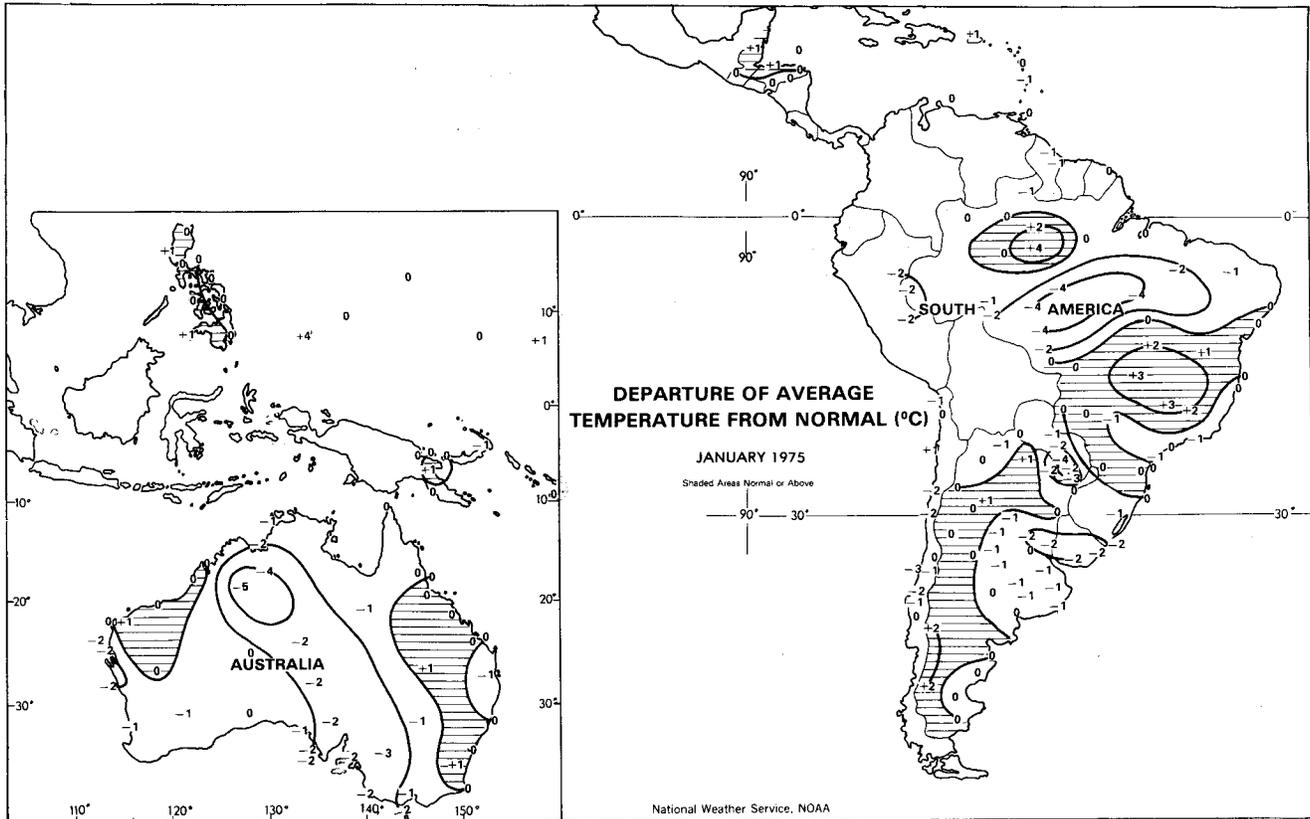
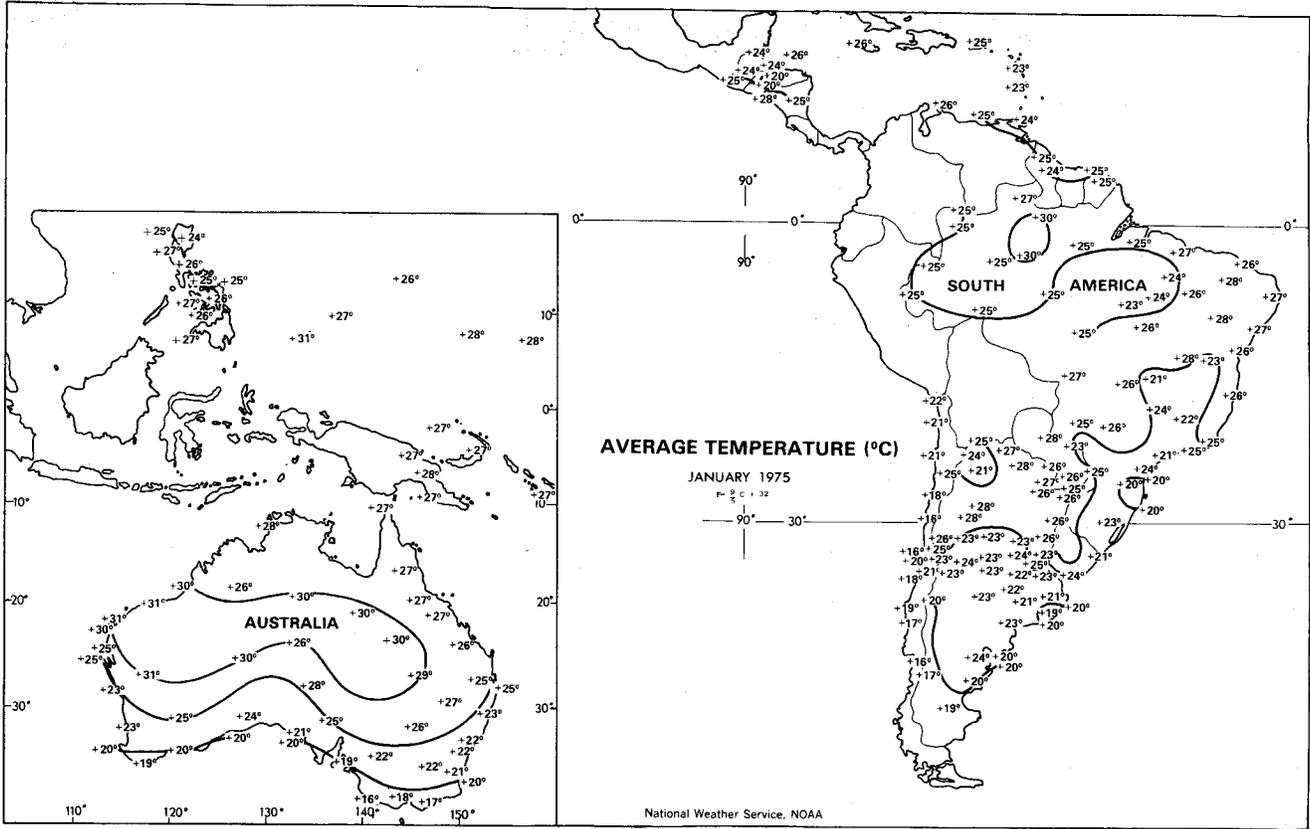














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