

Weekly Weather & Crop Bulletin

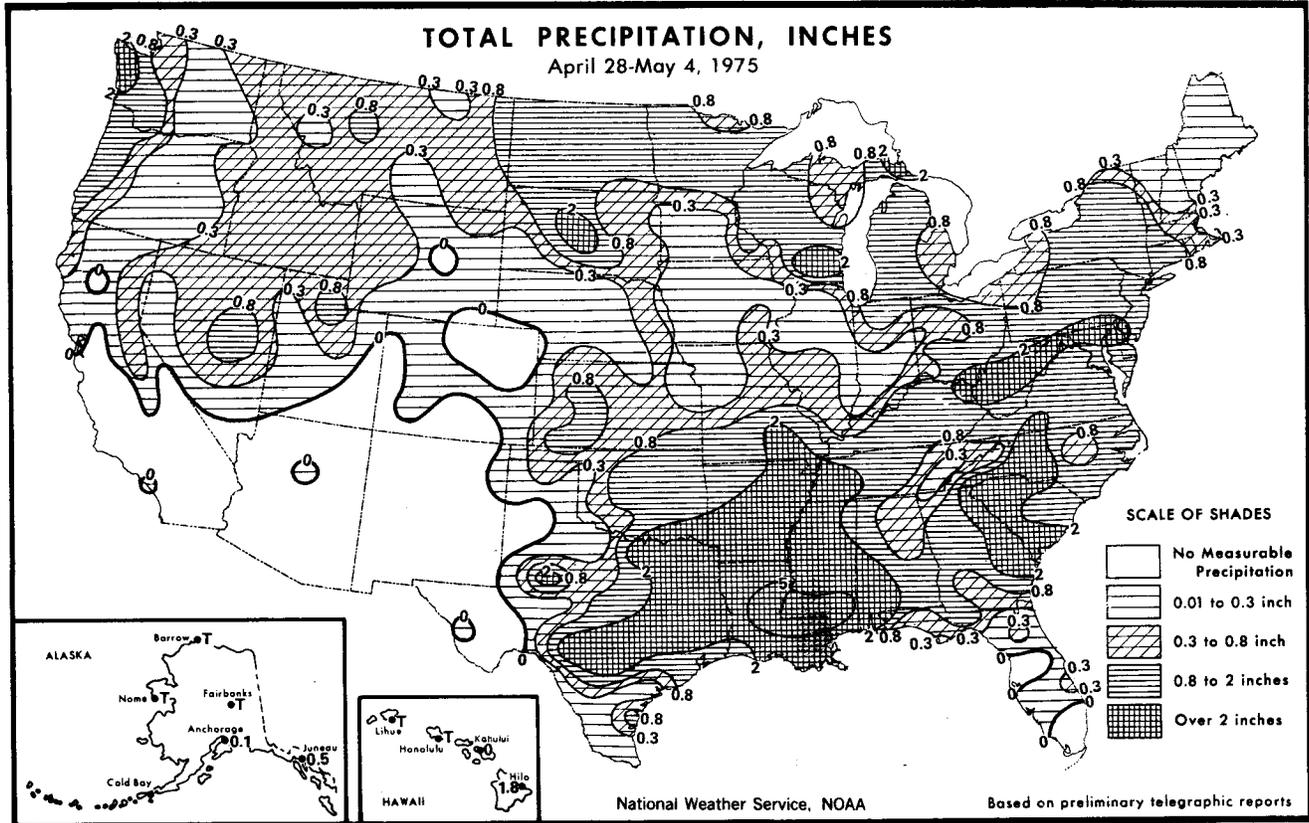
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Statistical Reporting Service

Volume 62, No. 18

May 6, 1975

Washington, D. C.



NATIONAL WEATHER SUMMARY

For the Week of April 28 - May 4

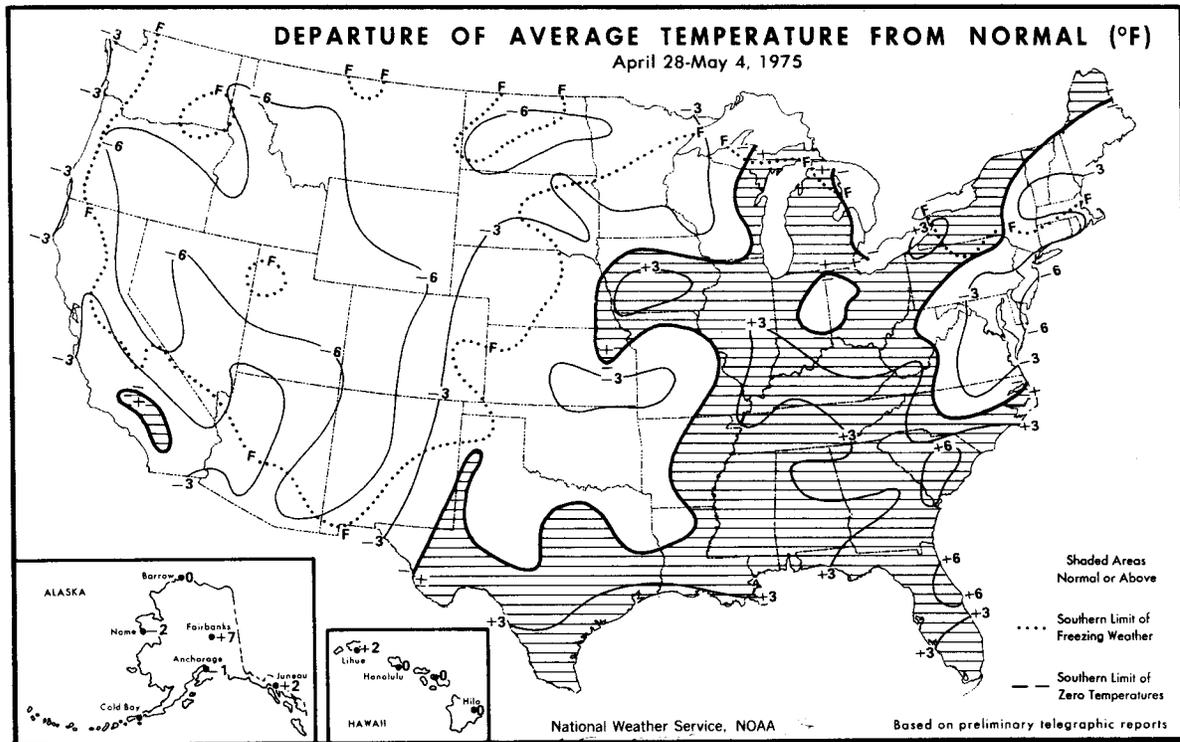
HIGHLIGHTS: Cool air from the Rocky Mountains moving eastward collided with warm moist air from the Gulf of Mexico to cause heavy rain from central Texas northeastward into Pennsylvania and New York. Rain, in excess of 5.00 in., accumulated in the lower Mississippi River Valley.

PRECIPITATION: On Monday a deepening low from Colorado moved into South Dakota. A warm front extended southeastward through North Carolina and a cold front south from Iowa to Oklahoma and central Texas. Warm moist air from the Gulf of Mexico flowed northward to the fronts and around the low. Severe weather occurred ahead of the cold front and along and north of the warm front. Thunderstorms were reported from Michigan to North Carolina and from the mid Mississippi Valley into central Texas.

By midday Tuesday the low in South Dakota had

depended into an intense storm causing strong wind from North Dakota through Montana and Wyoming. Snow mixed with rain fell to the north and west of the low. The warmer air met the cooler air along a line from North Carolina through West Virginia, to southern Ohio, to central Oklahoma and southward. Thunderstorms broke out again from central Texas to the middle Great Lakes area and in the southern part of the Southeastern States. A total of 18 tornadoes were reported by late Tuesday. Rain and drizzle fell north of the front from North Carolina to West Virginia to Pennsylvania.

The weather pattern had developed into a very complex system by Wednesday. High pressure was blocking systems moving eastward. The intense low from South Dakota was filling rapidly as it moved northeastward into the high. The cool air was bounded by a front from Wisconsin to east



Texas and the warm front through Michigan, West Virginia, North Carolina and east. Severe weather began in southeast Texas with tornado sightings numerous in the Galveston-Houston area. More severe weather with thunderstorms, tornados and hail developed later in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama. Wind gusts of 100 mph rocked Atmore, Ala. and New Orleans measured gusts to 90 mph. To the north, severe weather buffeted parts of Illinois and Indiana. Lesser thunderstorms extended into Ohio and the Tennessee Valley.

Thursday saw the warm moist air from the Gulf being displaced by cooler air from the west. The blocking high pressure along the east coast was holding and the leading edge of the cooler air was about to mix with the cool air in the north-east. A narrow wedge of the warm air extended northward but east of the Great Lakes and west of the Appalachians. Most of the severe weather was in the South although some rain and showers fell in western New York and Pennsylvania. A low center began to form in Georgia. Rain, heavy at times, and thunderstorms were reported in the warm air from southeast Texas to Georgia and north to West Virginia.

On Friday the depression, started in Georgia, developed into a strong low center off the coast of North Carolina. Rain, drizzle and fog occurred north of the low into New York. This line moved eastward off the Coast. The center of the cool air was in Indiana, its southern border in the central Gulf States. The back side of the high again induced warm moist air to flow northward. Locally heavy rains in Louisiana, Arkansas, Tennessee and northeast Texas produced local flooding.

As the cool high moved further east on Saturday, a trough of low pressure followed behind it from Arkansas northward into Wisconsin. Another push of

cold air was emerging from the Rockies into the Plains States. Showers and thunderstorms were reported all through the Mississippi River Valley. Showers and thunderstorms were also scattered throughout the South.

On Sunday a low center had formed on the front in the South and moved to the area of Cape Hatteras and a trough of low pressure extended north into New York. Rain and showers, with isolated thunderstorms, occurred from Michigan to New York and south to the Hatteras area. Weather activity diminished in the deep South. Elsewhere, the next system had formed in the eastern Rockies centered around a low in Wyoming. Cooler air flowed southward from Canada through Montana, setting off snow showers in the mountains. Rain and showers fell in Iowa, Wisconsin and Minnesota.

TEMPERATURE: The week was dominated by below normal temperature in the West and Northeast and near normal to above normal elsewhere.

On Monday warm air was flowing northward from the Gulf of Mexico from Texas to Georgia and cool air was moving off the mountains into the Plains. Temperatures in the 30's and 40's were recorded in the western Plains while the 50's reached into eastern South Dakota.

By midweek the cool air had enveloped all of the Plains. Alamosa, Colo. had a record low of 10° while the 50's reached into Michigan. At the same time, New England was recording record low temperature for the season.

On Friday another push of warm air from the Gulf moved north through Texas as the next cool air mass moved east from the mountains.

Warm air continued to flow into the South all week as the successive pushes of cool air moved eastward across the northern States.

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

For the Week of April 28 - May 4

HIGHLIGHTS: Cooler weather over much of the Great Plains slowed development of winter wheat and other small grains. Corn planting on May 4th was 13% complete nationwide, much behind 1974 and normal. Cotton planting advanced rapidly, but progress remains sharply behind 1974 and usual. Soybean planting was still at a low level priority on most farms in the major soybean States. Pastures improved slightly in a few States, but continue below normal in most areas.

SMALL GRAINS: Subnormal temperatures returned to the Great Plains keeping growth and development of winter wheat behind normal in nearly all areas except much of Texas.

Winter wheat harvest was 1% complete in Texas, ahead of both 1974 and normal. Most of the wheat crop was headed out in the southern High Plains southward and rapidly reaching maturity. Cool cloudy weather in Oklahoma slowed progress with only 20% headed versus 75% in 1974 and a normal 60%. Kansas wheat made good growth, but development was still much behind normal. About 65% of the Kansas crop was jointed versus 85% in 1974 and an average 80%. Soil-borne Mosaic was becoming less evident.

Winter wheat was 5% headed in Missouri, 10% in Kentucky, and 33% in Tennessee; much behind last year's pace in all three States. Wind continued to damage winter wheat in Colorado, where 19% of the crop was jointed against 62% in 1974.

Spring wheat seeding continues to be delayed in all of North Dakota and the main growing area of Minnesota. Seeding was 26% completed in South Dakota versus 89% in 1974; 5% in Montana against 50% a year ago and 30% done in Idaho.

Oat seeding continued ahead of usual in Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio. Farmers in most other North Central States made good progress except in North Dakota and Minnesota where soil conditions were too wet in many areas for heavy machinery.

CORN: Drier weather in Iowa enabled growers to finally get into their fields, but progress was slow in Illinois and Indiana. By May 4th, 13% of the Nation's intended corn acreage was planted, less than half the 1974 progress.

Farmers in the North Central States, the main growing area, were 7% finished, much behind last year's excellent pace of 27% and the normal 16%. Iowa farmers made good progress where soil conditions permitted and planting was 6% done, but this was sharply behind the 37% of a year ago. Planting was slow in Illinois and Indiana but progress still equals the normal pace. Corn planting has yet to start in Michigan, Minnesota, and was less than 1% complete in Wisconsin. Last year all three States were making good progress.

Corn planting made excellent progress in most South Atlantic and South Central States and was running ahead of normal in Alabama, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas. Most other States in these areas were sharply behind last year's level.

COTTON: Cotton planting made excellent progress in most major States. Planting in the 11 major Southern States was 23% finished by May 4th, versus 34% in 1974 and the usual 32%.

Cotton planting started on early fields in the

Texas High Plains and statewide planting was 23% done, slightly behind normal. Cotton planting was underway in Oklahoma, but only in a few fields. Planting was behind the 1974 level in all States except Missouri and Tennessee, and ranged from 57% complete in South Carolina to 10% done in Louisiana.

In the Western States: Planting was 30% complete in New Mexico, much behind the 1974 level of 75% planted. Cotton planting was active in California and good stands have been established. Arizona cotton growers were nearing completion in planting this year's crop, but emergence has been retarded.

OTHER CROPS: Soybean planting started in Alabama, Indiana, Mississippi, Missouri, and South Carolina during the past week. North Carolina growers have 6% of their acreage planted, Ohio 5% and Arkansas, Missouri and South Carolina 3%.

Sorghum planting in Texas was 60% complete against 46% in 1974. Excellent planting progress was made in the Low Plains and was underway in the High Plains.

Flue-cured tobacco plant bed development was below normal in Virginia. Transplanting was 36% complete in North Carolina; 92% in South Carolina, and 98% in Georgia. Cold, wet weather restricted growth of tobacco plants in Kentucky.

Rice seeding was behind normal in Mississippi but ahead of normal in Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Citrus trees remain in good condition in Texas with heavy irrigation. In Florida, citrus trees are showing stress and a few unhealthy trees were dying from moisture deficiency. Harvest of Valencia oranges was increasing in California and lemon picking peaked in the southern coastal area. Navel, avocado, and grapefruit harvests were active.

Peaches in Georgia were in fair to good condition; mostly good in North Carolina; nearing harvest in Arizona and being harvested in South Texas.

VEGETABLES: Volume of snap beans, cucumbers, and tomatoes increased in Florida and was sharply higher for watermelons, cabbage, and escarole. In Texas, onion harvest was active in the Lower Rio Grande Valley and San Antonio-Winter Garden. Supplies of cabbage, carrots, cucumbers, and sweet corn were also available. Vegetables in other areas of Texas were showing good growth. California broccoli, cauliflower, carrots, celery and lettuce harvests were steady. Heavy diversion was being made of asparagus to processors.

Vegetable planting was progressing in Maryland, Virginia, Oregon, and Washington.

PASTURES AND LIVESTOCK: Pastures showed improvement in a few Southern States, but cool temperatures in the west and north continued to slow development. Ranges in Texas were generally in good condition except in the extreme southern areas. Livestock continued to be turned out on pastures and ranges where feed and roughage supplies were short, despite the low forage content available. Calving in Montana was 85% finished and lambing 75% complete.

Temperature and Precipitation Data for the Week Ending Midnight, l.s.t., May 4, 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..	70	+3	.6	-.3	La.Baton Rouge..	73	+1	6.0	+4.8	Youngstown..	55	+2	.5	-.4
Mobile..	74	+2	2.5	+1.4	Lake Charles..	75	+3	2.0	+ .9	OKLA.Okla. City..	63	-2	1.5	+ .4
Montgomery..	71	+2	.8	-.1	New Orleans..	74	+2	2.8	+1.9	Tulsa..	64	-1	1.3	+ .2
ALASKA.Anchorage..	40	-1	.1	0	Shreveport..	68	-2	3.7	+2.4	OREG.Astoria..	47	-3	1.6	+ .8
Barrow..	9	0	T	0	MAINE.Caribou..	45	+1	.2	-.4	Burns..	42	-7	T	-.2
Fairbanks..	46	+7	T	-.1	Portland..	46	-2	.3	-.5	Medford..	49	-5	.2	-.1
Juneau..	45	+2	.5	-.2	MD.Baltimore..	56	-3	2.4	+1.6	Pendleton..	51	-4	.1	-.2
Kodiak..	-	-	-	-	MASS.Boston..	49	-5	.2	-.6	Portland..	50	-4	1.0	+ .6
Nome..	25	-2	T	-.2	Chatham..	44	-	.3	-	Salem..	47	-6	1.1	+ .7
ARIZ.Flagstaff..	43	-3	.3	+ .1	MICH.Alpena..	46	0	1.2	+ .6	PA.Allentown..	53	-2	1.2	+ .3
Phoenix..	69	-3	0	-.1	Detroit..	53	0	.7	-.1	Erie..	53	+3	.5	-.3
Tucson..	64	-6	0	-.1	Flint..	54	+3	.5	-.2	Harrisburg..	54	-4	1.9	+1.1
Winslow..	53	-5	0	-.1	Grand Rapids..	52	0	1.9	+1.1	Philadelphia..	54	-4	1.0	+ .3
Yuma..	71	-4	0	0	Houghton Lake..	50	+2	1.8	+ .6	Pittsburgh..	56	+1	1.0	+ .2
ARK.Fort Smith..	65	-2	1.8	+ .5	Lansing..	54	+2	.8	+ .1	Scranton..	54	0	1.0	+ .2
Little Rock..	67	+1	2.8	+1.5	Marquette..	45	0	.6	0	R.I.Providence..	50	-2	.4	-.4
CALIF.Bakersfield..	66	0	0	-.1	Muskegon..	53	+2	1.5	+ .8	S.C.Charleston..	74	+5	2.0	+1.7
Eureka..	48	-3	.7	+ .1	S. Ste. Marie..	45	+1	2.5	+1.9	Columbia..	74	+6	1.9	+1.2
Fresno..	61	-3	T	-.2	MINN.Duluth..	40	-5	1.3	+ .6	Greenville..	68	+3	2.9	+2.1
Los Angeles..	62	-1	0	-.1	Internat'l Falls..	41	-4	.5	0	S.D.Aberdeen..	49	-2	.4	-.1
Red Bluff..	59	-4	T	-.3	Minneapolis..	47	-5	.2	-.4	Huron..	49	-3	.4	-.1
San Diego..	61	-1	T	-.1	Rochester..	50	-1	.9	+ .3	Rapid City..	46	-5	.2	-.4
San Francisco..	53	-4	T	-.2	St. Cloud..	46	-4	.7	0	Sioux Falls..	50	-3	.6	0
Stockton..	60	-2	0	-.2	MISS.Jackson..	70	0	3.6	+2.5	TENN.Chattanooga..	66	+1	.2	-.7
COLO.Denver..	49	-4	T	-.6	Meridian..	70	+1	3.3	+2.3	Knoxville..	68	+3	.1	-.7
Grand Junction..	50	-7	0	-.2	MO.Columbia..	58	-2	.4	-.6	Memphis..	69	+2	2.7	+1.5
Pueblo..	53	-4	T	-.4	Kansas City..	60	-1	T	-.8	Nashville..	66	+1	1.7	+ .8
CONN.Bridgeport..	50	-3	1.4	+ .6	St. Louis..	62	0	.4	-.5	TEX.Abilene..	69	0	0	-.4
Hartford..	51	-2	.9	+ .1	Springfield..	58	-3	.8	-.3	Amarillo..	61	0	.4	-.5
D.C.Washington..	59	-3	1.8	+1.0	MONT.Billings..	45	-5	.1	-.3	Austin..	73	+1	3.5	+2.6
FLA.Apalachicola..	76	+4	.2	-.5	Glasgow..	46	-4	.3	+ .1	Beaumont..	75	+3	1.2	+ .1
Daytona Beach..	78	+6	.1	-.3	Great Falls..	43	-6	1.0	+ .6	Brownsville..	82	+5	T	-.4
Ft. Myers..	79	+3	.3	-.2	Havre..	47	-4	.3	0	Corpus Christi..	80	+4	.8	+ .1
Jacksonville..	75	+4	.3	-.3	Helena..	40	-8	.7	+ .4	Del Rio..	77	+2	.2	-.3
Key West..	81	+1	0	-.5	Kalispell..	43	-4	.5	+ .2	El Paso..	64	-4	0	-.1
Lakeland..	80	+5	.3	-.3	Miles City..	47	-5	.7	+ .3	Fort Worth..	70	+1	1.1	0
Miami..	79	+2	0	-1.1	Missoula..	43	-6	.2	-.1	Galveston..	75	+2	1.8	+1.2
Orlando..	80	+6	0	-.5	NEBR.Grand Island..	54	-2	.1	-.6	Houston..	76	+3	1.1	+ .1
Tallahassee..	76	+4	.8	0	Lincoln..	56	-1	.6	0	Lubbock..	64	-1	T	-.5
Tampa..	80	+5	T	-.4	Norfolk..	55	0	.5	-.1	Midland..	69	0	.2	-.2
W.Palm Beach..	76	0	0	-.9	N.Platte..	53	-1	.1	-.5	San Angelo..	71	0	.2	-.3
GA.Atlanta..	69	+4	1.4	+ .5	Omaha..	59	+3	.1	-.7	San Antonio..	73	0	2.1	+1.4
Augusta..	71	+3	2.3	+1.6	Valentine..	50	-2	.2	-.3	Victoria..	78	+4	.2	-.6
Macon..	73	+3	1.7	+ .9	NEV.Ely..	40	-6	.8	+ .6	Waco..	71	0	2.0	+ .9
Savannah..	76	+6	2.9	+2.2	Las Vegas..	64	-5	T	0	Wichita Falls..	68	-1	.2	-.8
HAWAII.Hilo..	73	0	1.8	-.9	Reno..	44	-7	.1	0	UTAH.Blanding..	47	-5	0	-.2
Honolulu..	76	0	T	-.2	Winnemucca..	44	-6	.7	+ .5	Salt Lake City..	47	-7	.8	+ .4
Kahului..	75	0	0	-.2	N.H.Concord..	46	-4	.2	-.5	VT.Burlington..	49	0	.1	-.5
Lihue..	76	+2	T	-.6	N.J.Atlantic City..	51	-6	1.5	+ .7	VA.Lynchburg..	58	-3	1.6	+ .9
IDAHO.Boise..	48	-6	.5	+ .2	Trenton..	53	-4	1.4	+ .6	Norfolk..	58	-4	1.6	+ .9
Lewiston..	50	-5	.2	-.1	N.MEX.Albuquerque..	54	-7	0	-.1	Richmond..	59	-4	1.1	+ .4
Pocatello..	42	-8	.4	+ .1	Roswell..	61	-3	0	-.2	Roanoke..	58	-2	1.3	+ .6
ILL.Cairo..	69	+4	.8	-.3	N.Y.Albany..	49	-4	1.0	+ .3	WASH.Colville..	46	-5	.8	+ .5
Chicago..	56	+1	.5	-.3	Binghamton..	51	+1	1.7	+ .9	Omak..	48	-5	.1	-.1
Moline..	58	+2	.3	-.6	Buffalo..	53	+3	.6	-.2	Quillayute..	46	-3	3.8	+2.4
Peoria..	59	+2	T	-1.0	New York..	53	-4	1.1	+ .3	Seattle-Tacoma..	49	-3	.6	+ .2
Rockford..	54	0	.3	-.6	Rochester..	54	+2	1.2	+ .5	Spokane..	45	-6	.4	+ .1
Springfield..	61	+2	.7	-.2	Syracuse..	53	+1	1.2	+ .5	Walla Walla..	52	-5	.3	-.1
IND.Evansville..	66	+4	.1	-.9	N.C.Asheville..	65	+5	.6	-.2	Yakima..	49	-5	.2	+ .1
Ft. Wayne..	55	0	.7	-.2	Charlotte..	67	+2	4.2	+3.5	W.Va.Beckley..	58	+3	1.4	+ .6
Indianapolis..	58	0	.2	-.7	Greensboro..	62	-1	1.6	+ .9	Charleston..	62	+1	2.7	+1.9
South Bend..	55	+2	1.2	+ .4	Hatteras..	65	+2	1.2	+ .5	Huntington..	60	0	3.1	+2.3
IOWA.Burlington..	59	+2	.1	-.7	Raleigh..	61	-3	.6	-.1	Parkersburg..	61	+1	1.4	+ .6
Des Moines..	60	+4	.1	-.7	Wilmington..	72	+4	1.1	+ .4	WIS.Green Bay..	52	+2	.7	0
Dubuque..	53	0	.3	-.7	N.DAK.Bismarck..	44	-6	1.5	+1.1	La Crosse..	50	-4	.7	0
Sioux City..	55	-1	.1	-.5	Fargo..	44	-5	1.0	+ .5	Madison..	53	+2	2.2	+1.5
KANS.Concordia..	57	-1	T	-.7	Williston..	44	-5	1.2	+ .9	Milwaukee..	50	0	2.0	+1.4
Dodge City..	58	-1	1.1	+ .5	OHIO.Akron-Canton..	54	0	1.1	+ .3	WYO.Casper..	44	-4	T	-.4
Goodland..	52	-2	T	-.5	Cincinnati..	60	+1	.5	-.3	Cheyenne..	42	-6	T	-.5
Topeka..	61	+1	T	-.8	Cleveland..	55	+1	.7	-.1	Lander..	43	-6	.4	-.2
Wichita..	58	-4	.4	-.4	Columbus..	59	+3	.6	-.3	Sheridan..	44	-5	.3	-.2
KY.Lexington..	62	+2	.9	0	Dayton..	56	-1	.8	0	P.R.San Juan..	79	+1	.2	-1.0
Louisville..	64	+3	1.2	+ .3	Toledo..	55	+1	.9	+ .2					

Based on 1941-70 normals

Standard copy for the weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin is prepared by: Richard E. Felch, Lyle M. Denny, Orus W. Byrd, National Weather Service, NOAA; DeLon Brown, Statistical Reporting Service.

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: Frequent rains dotted State with light accumulations. Most persistent rains along coast, lighter northward into Tennessee Valley. Temperatures averaged 2° above normal with 91° at Selma on 28th.

Four days suitable fieldwork. Corn 64% planted, 77% 1974, average 62%. Cotton 56% planted, 1974 75%, average 60%. Peanuts 56% planted, 62% 1974, 70% average. Soybean planting started. Wheat 80% headed. Some insect and disease in wheat. Pastures fair to good.

ARIZONA: Cool, dry and windy. Temperatures 3 to 6° below normal.

Cotton planting nearing completion. Emergence retarded, some replanting. Small grains good growth and color. Safflower growth reasonably good, budding started. Sugarbeets satisfactory progress, harvest two weeks late. Beets for fall harvest good stands. Alfalfa hay cutting full swing, yields down. Lettuce harvest active Pima, Maricopa Counties. Carrot harvest Yuma. Perlette grapes full bloom Salt River Valley. Deciduous fruit thinning continues. Peach growth indicates harvest soon. Harvesting Valencia oranges and grapefruit. Cattle condition good. Some supplemental feeding. Range forage mostly normal.

ARKANSAS: Temperatures averaged 1 to 2° above normal. Warmer early in week, cooling later. Extremes: 86 and 38°. Precipitation widespread, amounts of 1.00 to 5.00 in.

Rains kept soils saturated. Soil moisture surplus all areas except northwest. Fieldwork limited to 2 days. Cotton land prepared, but rains prevented planting. Early fields have good stands, 20% planted, 35% 1974, 29% average. Rice planting 65% complete, 66% 1974, 56% average. Early rice excellent stand. Soybean planting 3% complete, 1974 and average 6%. Wheat and oats in boot to head stages. Alfalfa hay cutting began. Pastures below normal. Cattle thin, but improving. Farms overstocked.

CALIFORNIA: Precipitation limited scattered showers, thundershowers Sierra Nevada 29th and 1st, north, central on 30th, northwest on 2d. Amounts generally light except over 1.00 in. some thundershowers. Warming trend most inland areas. Minimums above 32° low valleys except upper 20's to low 30's early week north and central coastal valleys. Average temperatures 1 to 6° below normal except 10° below northeast interior.

Small grain looks good. Insect treatment active. Lodging still problem. Rice planting in swing; shrimp heavy some fields. Sugarbeet harvest and planting active. First cutting alfalfa complete. Alfalfa weevil control active. Corn, milo planting active. Cotton planting active, good stands established. Some cultivation active. Safflower looks good. Good weather helped fruit and nut crops; still 2 weeks behind normal. Thinning peaches, plums, nectarines. Harvest large cherry crop expected begin midmonth. Early walnuts sizing well. Short sets almonds, plums. Pear, apricot sets vary by area. Valencia harvest increasing, lemon picking southern coastal at peak. Navel, avocado, grapefruit harvest active. Artichoke at peak. Heavy diversion asparagus to processors. Broccoli supply good central coast. Cauliflower plentiful Santa Maria. Carrot levels

unchanged Desert, Kern. Celery down slightly. Sharp lettuce increase expected Salinas; Kern nearly complete. Onion light Desert, potato started Edison. Strawberry increasing central coast. Processing tomato planting rapid pace Sacramento Valley. Range good to excellent. Supplemental feeding declining. Stock water ample. Southern San Joaquin Valley fat lambs slaughter market. Beekeepers moving colonies into citrus range areas.

COLORADO: Precipitation east generally less than 0.10 in. Below normal temperatures first half week, seasonal remainder. Alamosa, 10° morning of 30th.

Additional wind damage winter wheat 25th to 27th. Condition fair to poor east, good west: 19% jointed, 62% 1974, 47% average. Oats 73% seeded, 73% 1974, 74% average. Spring barley 83% planted, 88% 1974, 81% average. Emergence and growth slow. Sugarbeets 77% seeded, 83% 1974, 67% average. Corn 26% planted, 48% 1974, 26% average. Alfalfa and range grass growth slow due cool temperatures and dry weather.

FLORIDA: Summer-like weather dominant. Temperatures averaged above normal. Rainfall generally light to moderate, scattered thundershowers.

Soil moisture adequate Panhandle, mostly short in north and central, very short south. Corn mostly planted. Early crop good condition. Planting peanuts and cotton underway. Soybean land being prepared. Small grains ready for harvest. Light peach and nectarine harvest underway. Grazing conditions improved. Rainfall brought some relief to drier areas. Pastures in Panhandle, upper northern counties mostly good to excellent. Peninsular pastures poor to fair north central and central very poor south. Cattle and calves fair condition. Citrus trees showing stress. Irrigation continues, light rains some areas, much more rain needed. Few unhealthy trees dying from moisture deficiency. Potato harvest nearing peak, Hastings area main supplier. Volume up snap beans, cucumbers, potatoes, tomatoes, sharply higher for watermelons. Cabbage, escarole, lettuce in seasonal decline. Most other vegetables in steady supply.

GEORGIA: Significant rain late week averaged 0.50 in. west, near 1.00 in. elsewhere. Amounts variable, heaviest 3.00 in. Temperatures 4 to 8° above normal. Highs 70° north, 76° south. Significant rains 3d isolated hail.

Soil moisture adequate north, adequate to surplus south. Good week for fieldwork, averaged 4 days suitable. Tobacco mostly fair to good, transplanting 98% complete, 1974 and average nearly complete. Cultivation and fertilization active. Corn fair to mostly good, 71% planted, 1975 80%, average 83%. Replanting continues active south. Cotton fair, soils cool and wet, 34% planted, 1974 62%, average 69%. Peanuts fair to good 42% planted, 1974 58%, average 74%. Soybeans fair, 5% planted, 1974 10%, average 11%. Small grains mostly good, some wind damage south, some armyworm damage central. Peaches fair to good. Watermelons fair to good, 77% planted. Replanting active. Vegetable crops mostly fair to good, and improving. Pastures good. Cattle fair to mostly good, lice a problem. Hogs good.

HAWAII: Weather mostly warm and dry most Islands. Generally wet and cool with overcast skies.

Progress plantings fair to good. Vegetable supplies adequate. Papaya production increasing. Banana supplies light. Moisture still sufficient in most pastures. Pineapple harvesting light. Sugar production active.

IDAHO: Temperatures averaged below normal, greatest departures east. Maxima 50's to mid-60's east and high valleys to 60's and low 70's elsewhere. Minima in teens and 20's east and south central to 20's and low 30's north and southwest. Precipitation throughout mainly early period. Amounts variable 0.33 in. below normal Coeur D'Alene to 0.76 in. above normal Salmon.

Fieldwork made rapid headway most areas. Planting operations full swing lower elevations. Spring work most advanced southwest and south. Progress winter wheat slow, plants beginning to make top growth as temperatures rise. Seed potato movement active. Spring wheat 30% planted, 80% 1974. Spring barley 25% planted, 75% previous year. Sugarbeets 50% planted, 90% 1974. Live-stock continue show stress from cold wet spring. Hay shortage acute. Pastures lower elevations good growth.

ILLINOIS: Temperatures normal to 3° above normal. Precipitation 0.25 to 0.75 in. Lightest amounts west and central. Heaviest rains 30th.

Corn planting 10% complete, 22% 1974, average 10%. Corn and soybean acreage 90% plowed, 91% 1974, average 71%. Oat seeding nearly complete, 100% 1974, average 88%. Winter wheat good to excellent condition. Pastures good condition, supplying 70% roughage requirements. Hay crops good. Severe infestation alfalfa weevils south, spraying underway. Soil moisture 43% adequate, 57% surplus. Fieldwork: 2.5 days suitable.

INDIANA: Rainfall 0.50 to 0.80 in. generally, but 1.30 in. northwest and east central. Slightly below normal air and soil temperatures. Air temperatures ranged from 35 to 86°. Humidities and evaporation above normal.

Fieldwork averaged 1 day. Topsoil moisture adequate to mostly surplus. Subsoil moisture adequate to surplus. Corn and soybean land 85% plowed, 80% in 1974, 60% average. Corn still 5% planted, same as 1974 and average. Few soybean fields planted. Oats 90% seeded, 85% in 1974, 70% average. Wheat 8 in. high, 12 in. 1974, 10 in. average. Oats 2 in. high, 3 in. 1974. Pastures improved, mostly fair go good.

IOWA: Temperatures averaged 1° below normal northwest, 1 to 3° above normal elsewhere. Precipitation well below normal.

Dry weather permitted good progress. Fieldwork: Over 3 days suitable. Oat plantings 60% complete, 95% in 1974, average 97%. Corn plantings 6% complete, 37% 1974, 24% average. Plowing 67% complete, 97% 1974, 86% average. Pastures 8% poor, 61% fair, 31% good. Topsoil moisture 63% adequate, 37% surplus. Subsoil moisture 5% short, 76% adequate, 19% surplus.

KANSAS: Temperatures below normal south, near normal elsewhere. Subnormal range south 1 to 2°. Precipitation was scattered thundershowers. Southwest received 0.75 to 1.25 in.

Wheat made good growth, but development behind normal 65% jointed, 85% 1974, 80% average. Soil-borne Mosaic less evident. Corn 10% planted, 25% 1974, 30% average. Alfalfa weevil heavy east central, southeast, and south central.

KENTUCKY: Near normal temperatures prevailed, averages in low to mid-60's. Rainfall heavy east, isolated 4.00 in. totals, and occurred nearly all week. Central and west rains averaged from 0.50 to 2.00 in.

Heavy rains held fieldwork to 2 days. Soil moisture 75% surplus, 25% adequate. Cropland 90% too wet to plow. Corn planting slow, 16% planted, 42% 1974, 27% average. Tobacco plant beds improved slightly, 78% of normal versus 89% 1974. Cold, wetness restricting growth, 80% of plants not yet larger than a dime, 16% quarter-size, 4% half-dollar size. Year ago, 56% quarter-size or larger. Small grains and pastures improved, growth still slow. Wheat 10% headed, 60% 1974. Alfalfa weevils active, rains interrupted spraying.

LOUISIANA: Temperatures 1 to 3° below normal north, 1 to 3° above south. Rain ranged from 2.00 to 6.00 in. Greatest 1-day total 4.35 in. Bunkie 1st.

Virtually all fieldwork stopped after rains 29th. Main activities: Machinery repair, routine chores, and drainage work. Soil moisture surplus. Fieldwork: 2.0 days favorable. Cotton 10% planted, 50% 1974, 46% average. Corn 60% planted, 80% 1974. Most up to stand. Rice seeding approaching windup stages south; well under way north; 80% seeded, 90% 1974, 77% average. Growth poor due to cool, overcast days. Disease problems severe some fields. Sugarcane improving, although behind 1974. Fertilization 50 to 75% complete. Small grains maturing. Pastures average. Cattle fair to good.

MARYLAND AND DELAWARE: Temperatures 1 to 6° below normal. Highs, low 60's to mid-70's and lows, mid-30's to mid-40's. Garrett County low 26°. Precipitation throughout, 0.45 to 2.75 in. Week-end sunny, mild then rain night 3d, morning of 4th.

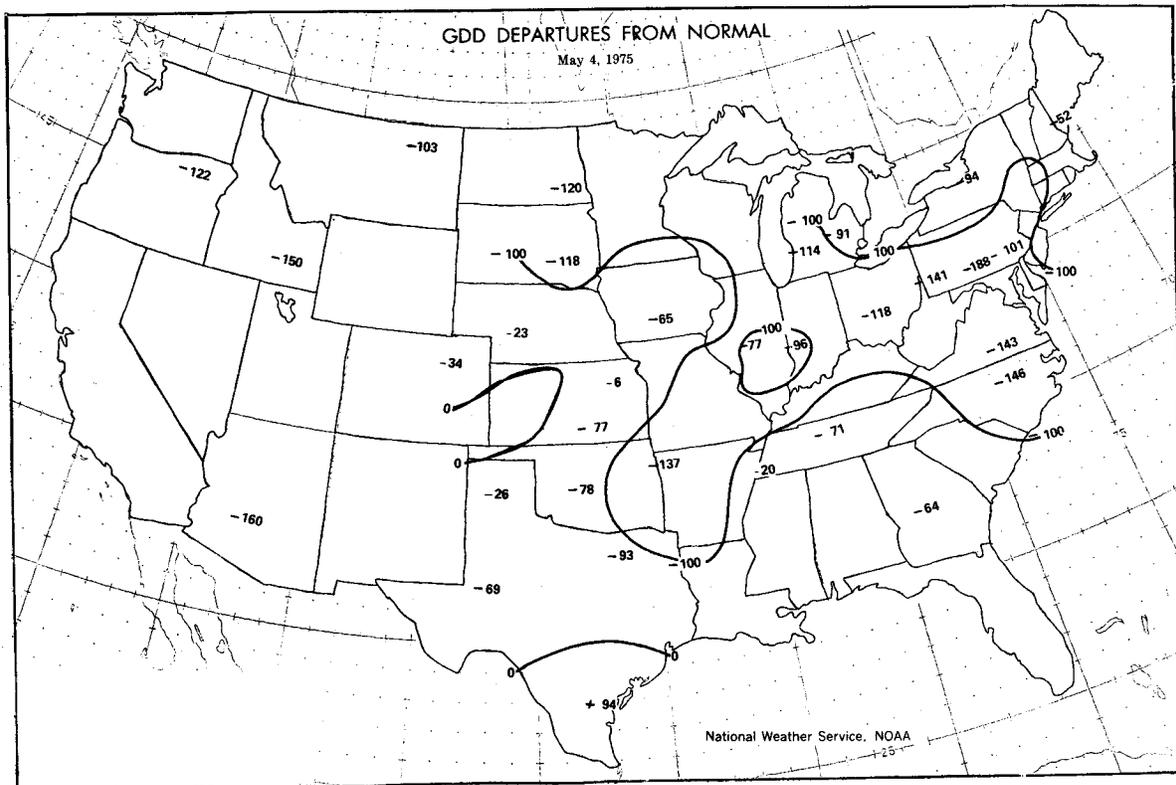
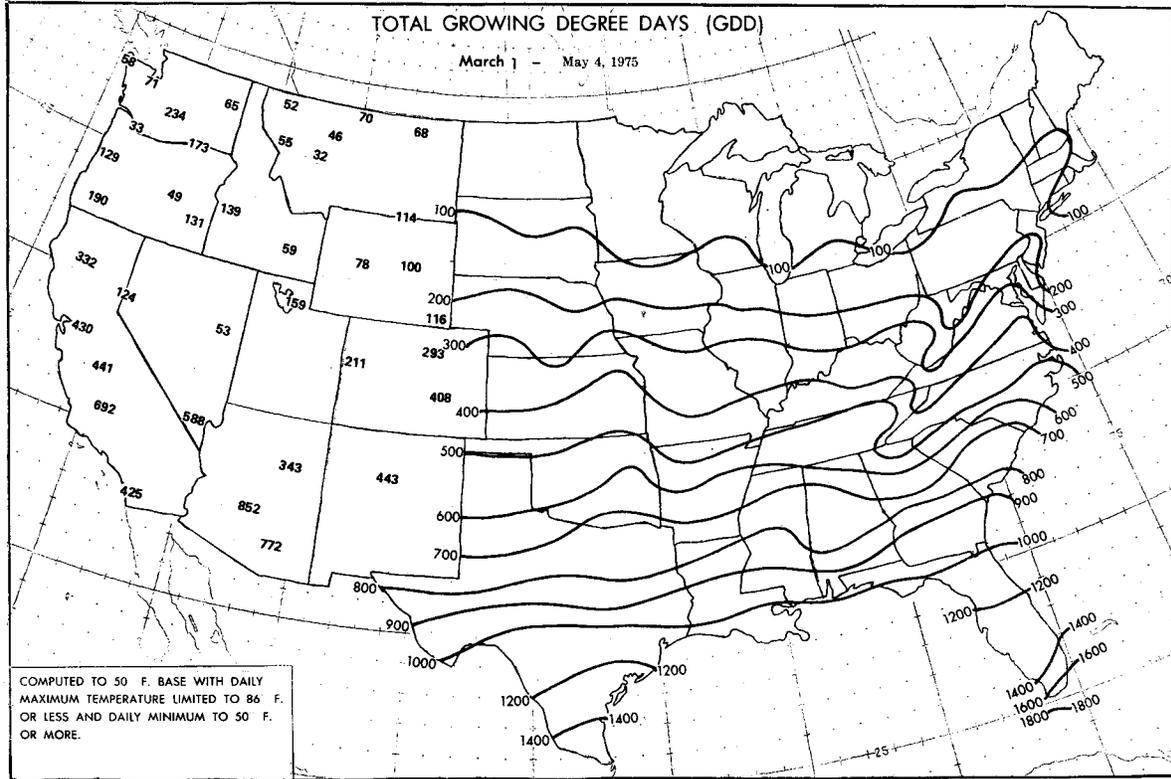
Wet and cool hampered fieldwork. Topsoil moisture mostly surplus. Soil temperatures remained cool. Corn 11% planted, 44% 1974, 24% normally. Spring oats 90% planted, behind normal. Small grain condition good, slow growth. Tobacco growers hauling, selling 1974 crop. Early tobacco beds spotty, late beds good but small. Hay and pasture crops good, slow growth. Vegetable planting slowed; sweet corn, snap beans, cucumbers and watermelons 66% done; tomatoes 60%. Asparagus 10% harvested. Apple and peach crops favorable, minor frost damage northeast. Strawberry harvest starts May 20th.

MICHIGAN: Temperatures very erratic. Rainfall heavy over northern Lower Peninsula and east Upper Peninsula. The Soo, Pellston and Traverse City had over 2.50 in. Jackson registered just 0.18 in.

Fieldwork averaged only 2 days. Fall plowing at 40% lagging behind 1974's 56% and average 49%. Oats 20% planted, 69% 1974, 52% average. Sugarbeets only 12% planted, 74% 1974 and 43% average. Potatoes at 5% are behind last year's 25% and 15% average. Corn none planted, 10% 1974, 11% average. Fruit buds late: Peaches, cherries, apples in pre-pink southwest, green tip central and north.

MINNESOTA: Temperatures 2 to 5° below normal. Extremes: 75° at Redwood Falls to 17° at Isabella. Precipitation 1.00 to 2.50 in. from northwest to southeast, 2.00 to 3.00 in. over southeast.

Fields dry enough to permit planting of small grains on light, well-drained soils west and southeast. Planting wheat, oats, and barley will not start for another week in important Red River Valley due to wet soils. Fieldwork de-



laid about 2 weeks in every area, plowing was mostly complete last fall. Planting of spring wheat 3% complete, 1974 28%, average 43%; oats 2%, 1974 54%, average 54%; barley 2%, 1974 20%, average 33%. Several fields summer potatoes planted. Winter wheat, rye, hayfields and pastures greening up rapidly. Moisture supplies adequate, growth slowed by cool temperatures. No pasture feed yet.

MISSISSIPPI: Most rain midweek. Temperatures ranged from normal to 5° above normal. Extremes: 91 and 50°. Greatest 24-hour rainfall was 3.68 in. at D'Lo on 30th.

Soil moisture surplus to excessive. Fieldwork: 1.5 days suitable. Cotton 18% planted, 45% 1974, normal 47%; 4% up to stand, 12% 1974, normal 19%. Corn 40% planted, 59% 1974, normal 49%; 22% up to stand, 36% 1974. Rice 37% planted, 78% 1974, normal 54%; 8% up to stand, 33% 1974. Soybeans 2% planted, 2% 1974, normal 4%. Wheat 88% headed, 97% 1974. Oats 88% headed, 95% 1974. Sorghums 6% planted, 5% 1974, normal 16%. Sweetpotatoes 11% planted, 8% 1974.

MISSOURI: Temperatures averaged 1 to 2° above normal. Bootheel temperatures averaged 5° above while West Ozarks 2° below normal. Rainfall below normal, averaging from 0.25 in. north west to 1.00 in. West Ozarks. Few over 2.00 in. East Ozarks.

Fieldwork: 2.5 days suitable. Plowing 65% complete, 79% 1974. Oats 83% seeded. Corn 21% planted, 50% 1974, 34% average. Cotton 19% planted, 17% 1974, 19% average. Soybeans 3% planted, 5% 1974. Wheat fair to good condition, 5% headed, 20% 1974. Pastures fair to good condition.

MONTANA: Cool wet week. Warming midweek cooling over weekend except southeast, maximums to 80's. Temperatures averaged well below normal, from 5° below normal north central to 14° below normal southwest. Precipitation above normal except few areas west and central. Most areas had about 1.00 in. with heavy snow higher elevations southwest.

Continued wetness delays spring seeding. Spring wheat, barley, and oats 5% seeded. Normals for spring wheat and barley 50%, oats 45%. Last year spring grain seeding was normal. Sugarbeet seeding about 5% complete, 1974 65%, normal 45%. Range feed short due to cold weather. Farmers starting to turn stock out due scarcity of hay. Calving 85%, lambing 75%, shearing 65% complete.

NEBRASKA: Temperatures below normal. Showers general, heavier amounts east and panhandle.

High winds caused some wind erosion on wheat and sugarbeet fields local areas. Fieldwork: 5.0 days suitable. Oat and barley seedings 65% and 60%, respectively. Winter wheat fair to good condition, excellent ratings east central and southeast. Weed problem in thin and spotty fields. Soil-borne Mosaic some areas. Corn 10% planted, 30% 1974, normal 15%. Alfalfa and wild hay fair to good condition. Alfalfa weevil and army cutworms some fields. Sugarbeet planting continuing. Morrill County had sizeable loss to sanstorm. Topsoil moisture supplies adequate 67%, surplus 5%, short 28%. Subsoil moisture supplies short 82% and adequate 18%. Pasture and range feed mostly short. Pastures growing slowly.

NEVADA: Never-ending winter continued. Temperatures averaged 4 to 10° below normal. Ex-

trems: 15° Mountain City, 88° Las Vegas. Precipitation mostly in form of snow central and north. Battle Mountain most with over 1 in.

Seedbed preparation and seeding delayed again by inclement weather. Vegetative growth at standstill. Supplemental feeding livestock still necessary.

NEW ENGLAND: Rain over most areas latter half of week, only up to 0.50 in., generally less. Low temperatures below normal, highs below normal except southern areas on 30th and May 3d.

Vegetable planting continued south, growth slow. Much land preparation done. Some pears about to bloom, apples being sprayed for scab control south.

NEW JERSEY: Temperatures averaged 4 to 5° below normal. Extremes: 34 and 76°. Frost various locations on 30th and 3d. Rainfall averaged 1.40 in. north, 1.84 in. central and 1.24 in. south. Long Branch 2.48 in. of rain on 4th to 5th. Estimated soil moisture 100%.

Soil temperature at 4 in. on morning of 5th 52° north and central and 54 to 57° south.

Soil moisture adequate to excessive. Cool temperatures delaying crop development 10 to 14 days behind. Greens and light asparagus volume available. Vegetable planting active as soil conditions permit. Weather conditions poor for bee activity and fruit pollination. Preparation and planting field corn and soybeans will resume as fields dry.

NEW MEXICO: Dry with no precipitation except few light showers northeast on 1st. Temperatures rose gradually to reach the highest levels yet over weekend. Nights continued very cool with some freezing reported except southeast and eastern border. Temperature averages were 2 to 4° colder than normals eastern plains and 5 to 7° colder elsewhere.

Topsoil moisture short due to drying winds, subsoil adequate. Cotton 30% planted, 1974 75%. Alfalfa fair to good with 1st cutting underway south. Small grains fair to good. Winter wheat 70% jointed, 1974 85%. Wheat and barley production prospects very good. Some corn planted. Cool soil temperatures hampering planting and seed germination. Apples fair to good. Lettuce and onions good with lettuce harvest starting in Mesilla Valley. Cattle, sheep and ranges fair to good.

NEW YORK: Temperatures above normal west, below east. Extremes: 77° Buffalo, 24° Saranac Lake. Precipitation above normal central, near to above normal coastal southeast, below normal elsewhere. Weekly high at Binghamton 1.50 in.

Favorable for field activity. Rain improved soil conditions, most areas adequate. Good progress plowing and fitting. Oats 30% planted. Corn planting beginning all but north. Cool conditions holding back hay and pasture growth. Very little grazing begun. Alfalfa heaving widespread. Wheat beginning to grow. Long Island early planted potatoes on light soils beginning to crack, heavier soils not as advanced. Upstate potato planting increasing. Early fields of beets, carrots, and direct seeded, cabbage planted. Onion planting nearly complete Orange and Oswego Counties. Lettuce looks good. Celery transplant going well. Orchard and vineyard development latter than normal.

NORTH CAROLINA: Temperatures ranged 3 to 5° below normal northeast, 3 to 5° above normal south and west. Precipitation generally less than 1.00 in.

Fieldwork: 3.7 days suitable. Soil moisture mostly adequate. Flue-cured tobacco beds fair to good, 36% transplanted, 1974 35%, average 27%. Flue-cured tobacco in fields, fair to excellent. Pasture condition fair to mostly good. Corn 69% planted, 1974 58%, average 54%. Cotton 42% planted, 1974 53%, average 46%. Peanuts 7% planted, 1974 14%, average 16%. Soybeans 6% planted, 1974 2%, average 8%. Irish potatoes fair to mostly good. Peaches 73% good, 27% fair, some damage from cold-freeze in April. Labor adequate.

NORTH DAKOTA: Temperatures averaged 3° below normal. Extremes: 73° at Lemmon, 20° at Fortuna. Precipitation ranged from 1.90 in. above normal southwest to 0.59 in. above normal southeast. Greatest weekly precipitation 3.05 in. at Bottineau. Bottineau also had highest 24-hour precipitation 2.84 in. on 26th. Weekend fair temperatures. Gusty winds May 4th.

Drying weather late week, but still no small grains planted. Last year 18% hard red spring wheat, 6% durum wheat planted. Ten-year average 37% hard red spring wheat, 23% durum wheat planted. About fourth oats and barley also normally planted. Field tillage underway and seeding just started. Pastures and haylands growing.

OHIO: Cloudy and cool, beginning of week. Temperatures above normal end of week. Extremes: 35 and 81°. Precipitation 2.65 in. south to 0.32 in. northeast.

Corn and soybean planting behind normal due to wet fields. Corn 15% planted, 50% 1974 and 30% normal. Soybean planting less than 5% complete, 10% 1974, and 5% normal. Oat planting nearing completion with over 95% done. Potatoes 50% planted, over 50%, 1974. Virtually all sugarbeets have been planted. Hay and pastures providing 30% forage requirements, 50% in 1974, 40% normal. Winter wheat, oats, pasture and alfalfa conditions fair to good. Fieldwork: 3 days favorable, 19 days favorable for April, 15 days, 1974. Soil moisture short 2%, adequate 51% and surplus 47%.

OKLAHOMA: Temperatures averaged from near normal to 2° above normal. Precipitation averaged 0.25 to 0.50 in. west, 0.50 to 0.75 in. central, and 0.75 to 1.25 in. east. Weekend generally mild with locally heavy rains in all but northwest.

Cool cloudy weather slowed heading small grains. Wheat 20% headed, 75% 1974, 60% average. Condition good. Greenbug threat subsiding. Oats 20% headed, barley 25%, both crops 1 to 2 weeks late. Ground preparation row crops made modest advance. Corn 35% planted, 50% 1974. Ground cool. Only few fields cotton, soybeans, peanuts planted. Outlook mostly good. Sorghum planting 6% complete, same as year ago. Pecans blooming. Pastures making rapid growth.

OREGON: Temperatures averaged 1 to 9° below normal. Maximum temperatures in 60's and 70's west, 50's and 60's east. Minimum temperatures in 30's west, 20's east. Precipitation along coast 0.25 to 1.11 in. Southwest interior valleys 0.10 in. or less, east 0.58 in. or less.

Fall seeded grains growing slowly. Plowing, disking, seeding, reseeding, fertilizing continuing. Hay crop in fair condition. Hop stringing continues. Brown rot blossom blight, leaf roller,

basal and blossom sprays being applied in orchards. Cultivation and spraying berry fields. Green beans, sweet corn, beets, carrots, cauliflower, potatoes being planted. Asparagus harvest continues. Rangeland and pastures beginning to grow. Grass still short, feed supplies low. Livestock fair to good condition. Sheep shearing underway. Early lambs beginning to move to market.

PENNSYLVANIA: Overcast skies and easterly ocean breezes provided cooler than normal central and east. Temperatures averaged 3 to 6° below normal. West normal. Daytime highs mostly in 50's and 60's and minima in 40's. Only the 3d was springlike, maxima in 70's most places. Extremes: 76 and 33°. Rainfall on 5th and 6th totaled 1.00 to 2.00 in. most places.

Soil moisture adequate. Cool weather still delaying crops. Major activities: Fertilizing, limeing, planting oats, potatoes and seeding tobacco beds. Plowing 62%, same as 1974. Oats planted 65%, 1974 68%. Potatoes 37% planted, 1974 44%. Tobacco beds 88% seeded, usually complete by now. Hay condition mostly fair to good. Peaches 51% pink, 36% full bloom. Cherries 39% pink, 60% full bloom. Apples 18% pink. Most fruit development central and south, one week to ten days late. Amount of feed from pastures below average.

PUERTO RICO: Island average rainfall 0.79 in. Highest weekly total 3.78 in. at Pico Del Este Luquillo. Highest 24-hour total 2.26 in. at Maricao. Temperatures averaged about 77° on coasts and 72° interior. Extremes: 50 and 92°.

Weather favored sugarcane harvesting operations, but prolonged dry weather seriously affecting development of ratoons and new plantings. Coffee farms need more rains for good development of bean and new growth. Favorable weather for tobacco harvesting and drying in the shed, but dry weather affecting new plantings. Scarcity of pastures from dryness. Rains needed badly in food crop areas for normal development.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Temperatures averaged above normal, warmest occurring on 28th in low 90's much of inland. Temperatures dropped below normal late week. Rainfall averaged mostly above normal, heaviest amounts northwest, totaled 3.00 to 4.00 in.

General crop condition good. Cotton condition fair to good; 57% planted, 66% 1974, 69% average. Corn stands good; 83% planted, 86% 1974, 84% average. Tobacco stands good, 92% planted, 97% 1974, 87% average, some damage due to budworm. Soybean 3% and 10% sweetpotato acreage planted.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Temperatures averaged below normal, by weekend in the 70's and 80's. Precipitation widespread west and central receiving over 2:00 in. east, less than 1.00 in.

Fieldwork made little progress north, but made rapid progress elsewhere. Spring plowing 31% complete, 1974 69%, normal 54%. Spring wheat 26% seeded, 1974 89% normal 77%. Oats 45% seeded, 1974 90%, normal 80%. Barley 31% seeded, 1974 85%, normal 73%. Flax 4% complete, 1974 42% normal 26%. Corn 2% planted, 1974 11%, normal 5%. Premature movement of livestock to pasture continuing. Stock water supplies generally adequate. Pasture and winter grain growth slow to moderate.

TENNESSEE: Frequent periods of rainfall totaled 1.00 to 2.50 in. throughout. Temperatures averaged

in mid and upper 60's, 4° above seasonal.

Weather was very favorable for crop development and field activities. Plowing 75% completed, same as 1974 and average. Corn 41% planted, 33% 1974, 38% normal. Cotton 26% planted, 20% 1974, 26% normal. Wheat 33% headed, 65% 1974, normal 43%. Oats 33% headed, 55% 1974, average 33%. Barley 49%, 72%, and 55% headed respectively. Pastures below normal due to less fertilization and overstocking.

TEXAS: Weather severe. Thunderstorms evident daily. Precipitation below normal west and south; above normal east. Heavy rains up to 5.00 in. east. Golf ball size hail various points across central. Temperatures near normal. Planting cotton, corn, sorghum, peanuts continue satisfactory progress. Good rains central and east provided adequate moisture satisfactory growth into early summer. South short moisture reduced growth, development, prospects generally below normal. Wheat harvest underway south, south central, early yields satisfactory. Most wheat crop headed out southern High Plains southward, rapidly approaching maturity. Dry land crop high, low plains beginning show moisture stress. Oats harvest started south, south central making rapid progress. Cotton planting started early fields High Plains. Sorghum planting excellent progress Low Plains, just started High Plains. Stands beginning head out south central to Lower Rio Grande Valley where short moisture threatens crop prospects. Major crops percent planted: Cotton 23, 1974 28, average 25; corn 83, 1974 89, average 81; sorghum 60, 1974 46, average 42; peanuts 22, 1974 12, average 14; rice 91, 1974 91, average 87. Major crops percent harvested: Wheat 1, 1974 0; oats 1, 1974 0; flax 52, 1974 30. Lower Rio Grande Valley: Onion harvest active, cabbage, carrot harvest continues. Light harvest cucumbers, tomatoes, corn. Potato digging continues. Cantaloup, honeydew melons, watermelons requiring heavy irrigation as dry, hot weather continues. Cucumber, onion, carrot harvests also continue in other areas. Tomatoes, watermelons making good progress. Cantaloups, cucumbers most areas. Peach harvest continues south. Pecan trees showing development. Citrus trees remain good condition, heavy irrigation required. Both range and livestock generally good condition. Exception extreme South, Lower Rio Grande Valley. Pastures holding up well under heavy grazing pressure from East to High Plains. First hay cuttings baled north to Low Plains.

UTAH: Rain and snow most areas. Accumulated amounts variable from little or none to over 1.50 in. Average temperatures continue very cold, 8 to 14° below normal. Most areas reported light to moderate frost.

Alfalfa growth slow, rated only fair condition. Small grain plantings 36 to 64%. Other spring crops 2 to 20% planted. Pasture and range feed supply poor to fair. Calving about 80% complete. Range lambing reached halfway mark.

VIRGINIA: Rainfall 0.50 to 2.00 in. Daily showers, thunder showers. Temperatures average slightly above normal southwest. West 2 to 4° elsewhere. Extremes 86 and 33°.

Moderate to heavy rains. Fieldwork: 2.8 days suitable. Topsoil moisture 41% surplus, 57% adequate, 2% short. Corn 30% planted, 42% 1974, average 44%. Soybean, peanut planting 1%, 12% 1974 and 5% average. Wheat good color. Aphids in barley, heading started. Tobacco plant beds

below normal. Plant shortage expected, but supplies from south. Potatoes Eastern Shore emerging, stands irregular. Planting snap beans, cucumbers. Transplanting tomatoes. Apple and peach prospects good to excellent commercial areas. Wet weather ideal apple scab and cedar apple rust. Spraying hindered. Cold weather delayed apple blooming, but full now. Pastures improved. Preparations first cuttings hay light.

WASHINGTON: West: Precipitation totaled 0.10 to over 1.00 in.

Planting vegetable crops including peas, sweet corn. Spraying green peas. Planting silage and field corn but many soils too wet and cold. Caneberries showing excellent growth and some fields blooming. Cabbage, mustard, fruit trees also in bloom. Harvesting field rhubarb and tulips. Soils excellent for pasture and forage seeding but too cold and wet for growth. Green chopping rye and grass. East: Scattered showers early week. Total amounts 0 to 0.10 in.

Temperatures and wind favorable for fruit blossom development, pollination and fruit set. Pears in full bloom. Apples showing pink blossoms. Frost some areas but under control. Spraying and installing sprinklers. Planting sweet corn, dry beans, potatoes, spring grains, field peas, lentils. Working summerfallow, spraying, working seed beds. Fall seeded grains making good progress, fields germinating late are small and ragged. Hay and pasture growth slow and much supplemental feeding necessary.

WEST VIRGINIA: Temperatures near normal. Low 20° central and high 83° south. Precipitation above normal with 3.00 in. south and southwest and 1.00 in. elsewhere.

Fieldwork: 1.8 days suitable. Soil moisture mostly surplus. Main farm activities were fencing, maintenance and repairs. Cattle in good condition.

WISCONSIN: Temperatures averaged near normal. Cool 40's south and 30's north 28th, warming to 60's and 70's south and 40's and 50's north rest of week. Overnight lows below freezing north, several occasions. Some rainfall in showers and thunderstorms each day but no heavy amounts. Totals ranged from 0.30 to 1.00 in.

Wet fields limited oats planting and spring plowing. Oats 8% seeded, 1974 80%, normal 60%. A little progress on sandy and lighter soils. Spring plowing 10% done, 1974 60%, normal 45%. Little corn ground worked. Corn less than 1% planted, 1974 12%, normal 5%. Planting of peas, potatoes, early vegetables behind normal. Pastures and hayfields greening up. New seeding looks good, some winterkill on old stands. Winter wheat condition varies some good, winterkill on lowlands where ice cover was extensive. Soil moisture 30% adequate, 70% surplus.

WYOMING: Temperatures unseasonably below normal. Very dry week except extreme northeast. Elsewhere below normal.

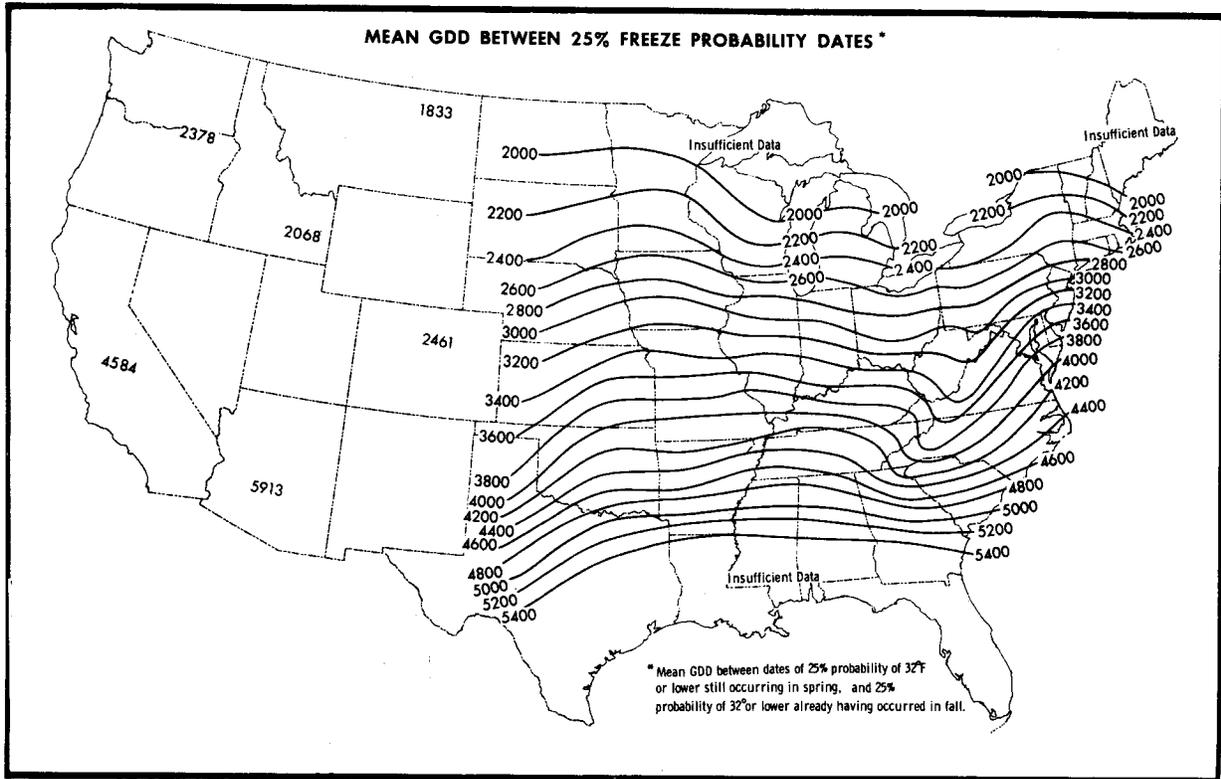
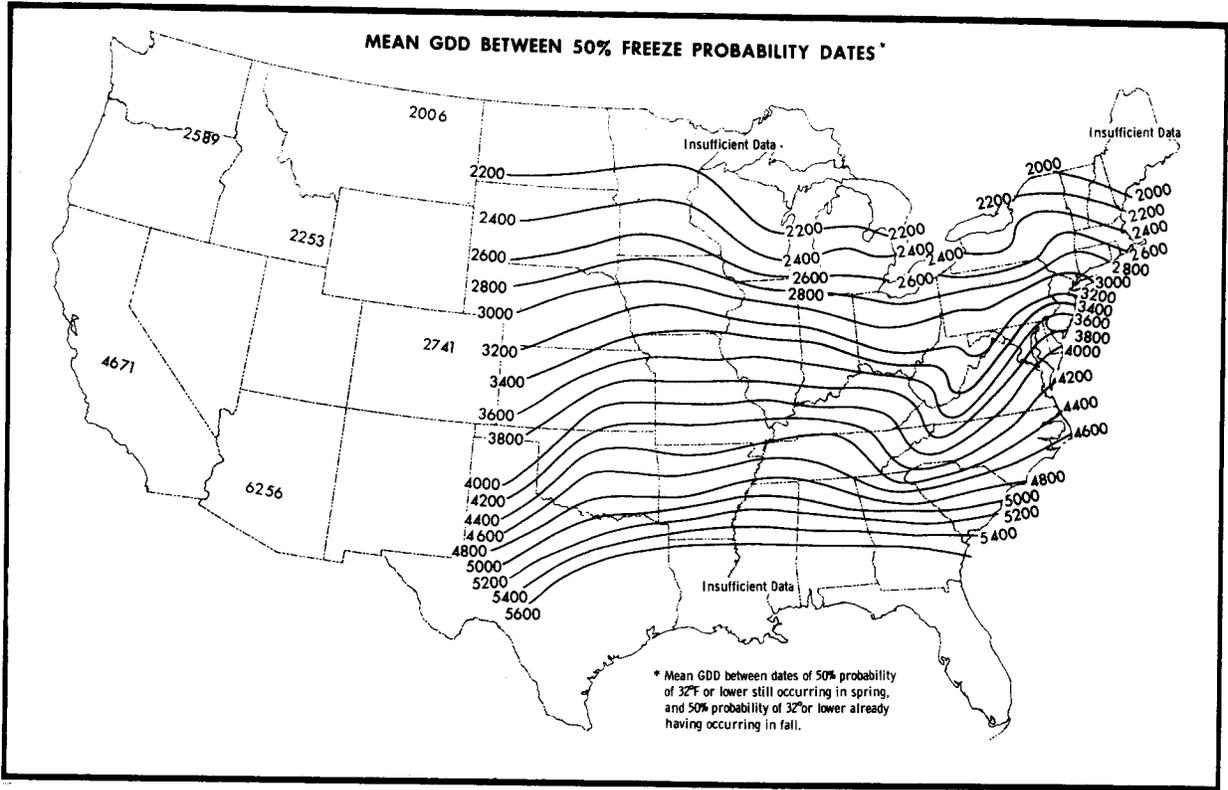
Fieldwork made progress. Planting still 2 to 3 week behind 1974. Spring wheat and barley 30%, oats and sugarbeets 25%, corn 18%, potatoes 5% planted. About 5 to 10% of the spring wheat, oats, barley, sugarbeets emerged. Topsoil moisture adequate. Calving, lambing, shearing about same as 1974. Calving 80% complete. Ewes lambed: Range flocks 50%, farm flocks 90%. Sheep shorn: Range 70%, farm flocks 80%.

Heating Degree Days (Base 65° F.)

April 1975

ALA. Birmingham . . .	190	MAINE, Caribou . . .	890	OKLA. Okla. City . . .	235
Mobile . . .	70	Portland . . .	746	Tulsa . . .	205
Montgomery . . .	123	MD. Baltimore . . .	436	OREG. Astoria . . .	390
ALASKA, Anchorage . . .	----	MASS. Boston . . .	590	Burns U. . .	802
Barrow . . .	2077	Chatham . . .	680	Medford . . .	590
Fairbanks . . .	1028	MICH. Alpena . . .	868	Pendleton . . .	517
Juneau . . .	----	Detroit . . .	714	Portland . . .	523
Nome . . .	1545	Flint . . .	736	Salem . . .	584
ARIZ. Flagstaff . . .	856	Grand Rapids . . .	750	PA. Allentown . . .	577
Phoenix . . .	107	Houghton Lake . . .	835	Erie . . .	781
Tucson . . .	217	Lansing . . .	737	Harrisburg . . .	520
Winslow . . .	518	Marquette U . . .	890	Philadelphia . . .	483
Yuma . . .	86	S. Ste. Marie . . .	968	Pittsburgh . . .	617
ARK. Fort Smith . . .	217	MINN. Duluth . . .	1013	Scranton . . .	627
Little Rock . . .	195	Internatl Falls . . .	950	R. I. Providence . . .	606
CALIF. Bakersfield . . .	192	Minneapolis . . .	775	S. C. Charleston . . .	152
Eureka U. . .	547	Rochester . . .	755	Columbia . . .	136
Fresno . . .	325	St. Cloud . . .	851	Greenville . . .	227
Los Angeles U . . .	262	MISS. Jackson . . .	138	S. DAK. Aberdeen . . .	725
Red Bluff . . .	375	Meridian . . .	165	Huron . . .	756
Stockton . . .	335	Vicksburg U . . .	----	Rapid City . . .	728
San Diego . . .	182	MO. Columbia . . .	378	Sioux Falls . . .	701
San Francisco . . .	424	Kansas City . . .	381	TENN. Chattanooga . . .	290
COLO. Denver . . .	621	St. Louis . . .	353	Knoxville . . .	257
Grand Junction . . .	551	Springfield . . .	334	Memphis . . .	180
Pueblo . . .	472	MONT. Billings . . .	829	Nashville . . .	241
CONN. Bridgeport . . .	604	Glasgow . . .	867	TEX. Abilene . . .	144
Hartford . . .	564	Great Falls . . .	1015	Amarillo . . .	323
D. C. Washington . . .	345	Havre . . .	935	Austin . . .	53
FLA. Apalachicola . . .	44	Helena . . .	954	Beaumont . . .	67
Ft. Myers . . .	0	Kalispell . . .	777	Brownsville . . .	5
Jacksonville . . .	59	Miles City . . .	773	Corpus Christi . . .	10
Key West . . .	0	Missoula . . .	765	Dallas . . .	----
Lakeland U. . .	6	NEBR. Grand Island . . .	524	Del Rio . . .	22
Miami . . .	0	Lincoln . . .	495	El Paso . . .	188
Orlando . . .	10	Norfolk . . .	604	Fort Worth . . .	112
Daytona Beach . . .	30	North Platte . . .	558	Galveston U. . .	28
Tallahassee . . .	84	Omaha . . .	469	Houston . . .	48
Tampa . . .	5	Valentine . . .	642	Lubbock . . .	233
GA. Atlanta . . .	192	NEV. Ely . . .	921	Midland . . .	135
Augusta . . .	171	Las Vegas . . .	249	San Angelo . . .	101
Macon . . .	112	Reno . . .	746	San Antonio . . .	41
Savannah . . .	86	Winnemucca . . .	730	Victoria . . .	14
IDAHO, Boise . . .	607	N. H. Concord . . .	730	Waco . . .	120
Lewiston . . .	547	N. J. Atlantic City . . .	565	Wichita Falls . . .	157
Pocatello . . .	745	Trenton U . . .	519	UTAH, Blanding R . . .	681
ILL. Cairo U. . .	223	N. MEX. Albuquerque . . .	449	Salt Lake City . . .	613
Chicago . . .	638	Roswell . . .	269	VT. Burlington . . .	831
Moline . . .	593	N. Y. Albany . . .	722	VA. Lynchburg . . .	362
Peoria . . .	534	Binghamton . . .	833	Norfolk . . .	382
Rockford . . .	668	Buffalo . . .	764	Richmond . . .	368
Springfield . . .	435	New York . . .	529	Roanoke . . .	361
IND. Evansville . . .	320	Rochester . . .	764	WASH. Colville . . .	647
Fort Wayne . . .	628	Syracuse . . .	749	Omak . . .	----
Indianapolis . . .	481	N. C. Asheville . . .	331	Quillayute . . .	643
South Bend . . .	634	Charlotte . . .	212	Seattle-Tacoma . . .	570
IOWA, Burlington . . .	515	Greensboro . . .	256	Spokane . . .	694
Des Moines . . .	539	Hatteras R. . .	289	Walla Walla U. . .	491
Dubuque . . .	706	Raleigh . . .	293	Yakima . . .	540
Sioux City . . .	575	Wilmington . . .	160	W. VA. Beckley . . .	514
KANS. Concordia . . .	414	N. DAK. Bismarck . . .	880	Charleston . . .	445
Dodge City . . .	357	Fargo . . .	867	Huntington . . .	376
Goodland . . .	524	Williston U . . .	904	Parkersburg U. . .	451
Topeka . . .	352	OHIO. Akron-Canton . . .	626	WIS. Green Bay . . .	779
Wichita . . .	333	Cincinnati U. . .	435	Madison . . .	714
KY. Lexington . . .	387	Cleveland . . .	691	Milwaukee . . .	813
Louisville . . .	333	Columbus . . .	542	WYO. Casper . . .	813
LA. Baton Rouge . . .	74	Dayton . . .	530	Cheyenne . . .	819
Lake Charles . . .	66	Toledo . . .	664	Lander . . .	836
New Orleans . . .	73	Youngstown . . .	717	Sheridan . . .	852
Shreveport . . .	124				

Preliminary reports from airport locations, except those marked U for urban and R for rural.
*Estimated.



The 1975 Planting Season: The Outlook

For the third year in a row, farmers are facing serious problems in planting because of the weather. Although the weather in parts of the Corn Belt finally broke briefly, as of May 4, only 13% of the Nation's intended corn acreage was planted, less than half the 1974 progress, and trailing the normal 21%. The weather during the next four weeks will be extremely important. While it is not possible to precisely predict what will happen, several factors can be considered which will shed some light on the overall picture.

The Growing Degree Day maps on page 7 show that so far this year most of the Nation has been cooler than usual since March 1. This is reflected in the fact that fall sown grains and forages are running one to two weeks behind normal. This also indicates that soils will be a little cooler than usual for this time of the year. However, soil temperatures in the planting zone will warm rapidly with only a few days of warm sunny weather.

The Palmer Index Map on page 14 shows that the overall soil moisture situation is well above normal in all areas east of the Missouri River and southwestward across Texas, New Mexico, the bulk of Oklahoma and eastern Kansas. The only serious drought areas at the present time are pockets in South Dakota, Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming and southern Florida. There has been very little change in this picture during the past month. What this means is that in these areas the soil moisture content is considerably higher than normal for this time of the year. This moisture can provide a good reserve for the upcoming growing season. It also means that additional rainfall could cause problems in getting equipment into the fields since drainage will be slow. Heavy rains would result in heavy runoff and the potential for flooding would be high.

The Crop Moisture Index on page 15 gives a representative look at what the surface soil moisture condition would be in relation to what is needed for crop growth. It is a measure of the moisture supply versus the demand from evapotranspiration. Except along our southern border and the southern half of Florida, moisture is adequate to meet the demands at the present time. The extremely high values in Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas indicate serious problems in getting into the fields. Parts of the Ohio Valley are also extremely wet.

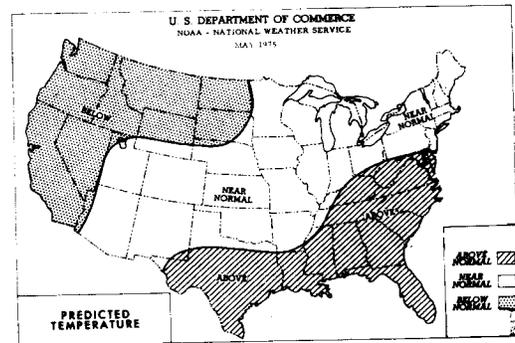
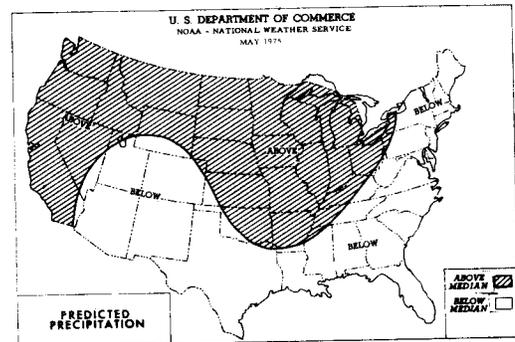
The Average Monthly Outlook is reproduced from last week. It calls for above normal precipitation and near normal temperatures in the Corn Belt. This could cause some serious problems if the rainfall is persistent. The above normal precipitation in the northern Great Plains would be helpful to the moisture situation, but the

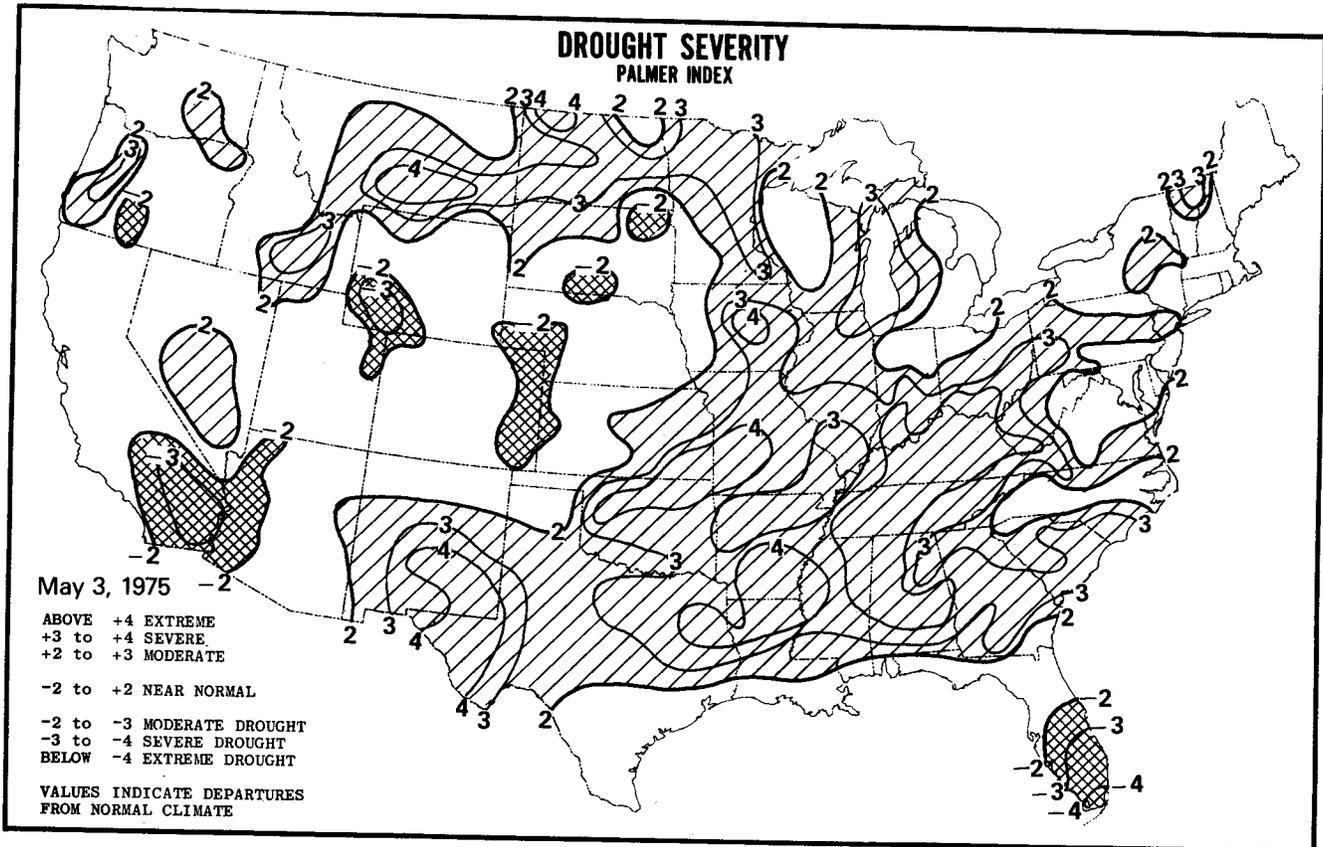
below normal temperatures could delay seeding considerably. Somewhat below normal precipitation in the Deep South would be beneficial in many areas, provided what moisture does fall is well distributed. Farmers in this area have been able to catch up recently and the Outlook is favorable.

Additional moisture is expected again this week in most areas. However the amounts may be fairly light to moderate.

In summary, farmers are again facing potentially serious problems in planting. However, the soil moisture situation appears good to excellent in most areas except in the western Great Plains. Moisture is excessive in parts of the Deep South and a period of good drying weather is needed. The most serious problems in the Corn Belt would arise if the moisture is persistent or frequent. Heavier rains, with good dry periods in between would be more favorable.

AVERAGE MONTHLY WEATHER OUTLOOK





THE PALMER AND CROP MOISTURE INDICES

The Palmer Index was designed to evaluate the scope, severity, and frequency of prolonged periods of abnormally wet or dry weather. For this purpose it works reasonably well. However, it does not provide a measure of the current status of agricultural drought; i.e. the effects of short periods of very dry weather. For this reason the Crop Moisture Index was developed to respond rapidly to changes in the soil moisture situation and take into account only those moisture aspects which affect vegetation and field operations.

If one is interested in the overall soil moisture situation, which will integrate the effects of the past weather over weeks and even months, the Palmer Index provides the best evaluation. However, if one is interested in the availability of moisture to meet current demands, the Crop Moisture Index is the most useful. For example, a recent rain might have replenished the soil sufficiently to meet the current demands. However if the Palmer Index is highly negative, one can interpret this to mean that the overall soil moisture situation is very poor.

A negative CMI value means that the demand for moisture, or the potential evapotranspiration, has been greater than available supplies so that actual transpiration has been reduced. On the other hand, positive CMI values mean that either actual evapotranspiration exceeded the expected amount, or

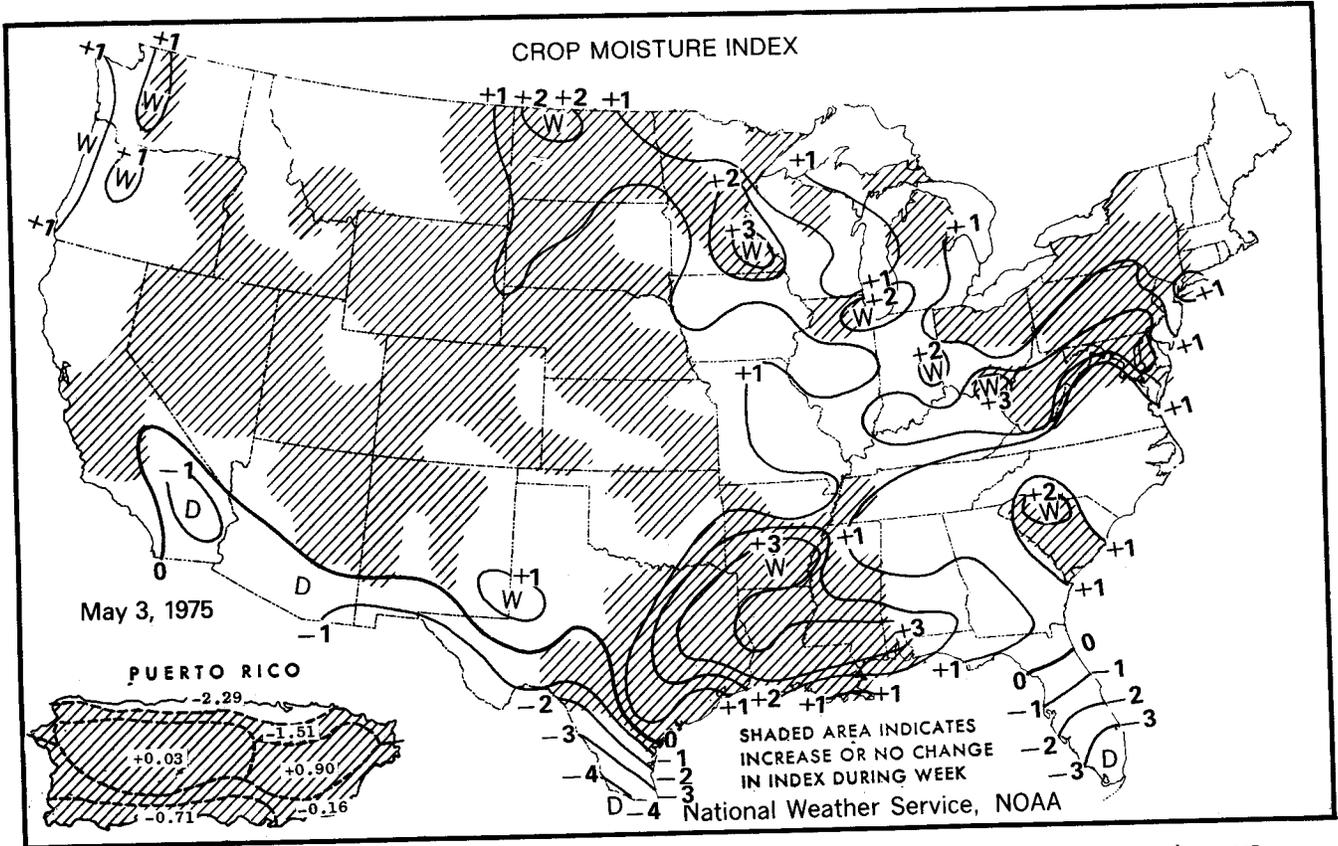
recent rainfall exceeded the moisture requirements of the crops and the additional moisture was added to the soil or was regarded as runoff.

Negative Palmer Index values imply negative abnormalities of either evapotranspiration, the amount of moisture stored in or added to the soil, or of runoff, or a combination of all these types of moisture shortages. In other words, negative PI values simply indicate that the weather has been abnormally dry, and do not specify the exact nature of the effects of the dry weather.

However, positive PI values indicate that the moisture supply either from current or antecedent rainfall exceeded the amount required to sustain soil moisture levels that would be considered as normal and appropriate for the climate of the area.

In brief summary, Palmer Index values are based on all aspects of the moisture situation, but the Crop Moisture values refer only to the crop moisture situation. In addition, the PI values are highly dependent on antecedent moisture conditions, whereas CMI values are much more responsive to weekly or current rainfall, or the lack of it.

The CMI map will appear each week in the Bulletin during the season from now through October. The Palmer Index will be published only in the first issue of each month during the same period.



The map above gives a general picture of how wet or dry the nation was last week. The lines show the crop moisture situation according to an index computed from values of temperature and precipitation by areas. Previous weekly computations of soil moisture account for the effect of prior weather.

Shaded areas are those where precipitation increased the index last week or where soils did not dry. Unshaded

UNSHADED AREAS: INDEX DECREASED

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	EXTREMELY DRY, MOST CROPS RUINED

areas dried last week. The centers of wet or dry areas are marked: W for wet; D for dry. Use the legend to interpret.

Local variations caused by isolated rain or by soil differences are not shown. Any interpretation must consider the type of agriculture and the stage of crop development.

SHADED AREA: INDEX INCREASED OR DID NOT CHANGE

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 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 EXTREMELY DRY



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1975 PLANTING PROGRESS

PERCENT OF ACREAGE PLANTED
 (as of May 4th)

COTTON			
	<u>Average</u>	<u>1974</u>	<u>1975</u>
ALA.	60	75	56
ARK.	29	35	20
GA.	69	62	34
LA.	46	50	10
MISS.	47	45	18
MO.	19	17	19
N.C.	46	53	42
OKLA.	5	2	1/
S.C.	69	66	57
TENN.	26	20	26
TEX.	25	28	23
11 States	32	34	23

These 11 States produced 68% of the Nation's cotton in 1974.

1/Less than 1%.

CORN			
	<u>Average</u>	<u>1974</u>	<u>1975</u>
GA.	83	80	71
ILL.	10	22	10
IND.	5	5	5
IOWA	24	37	6
KANS.	30	27	10
KY.	27	42	16
MICH.	11	10	0
MINN.	14	26	0
MO.	34	50	21
NEB.	15	30	10
N.C.	54	58	69
OHIO	30	50	15
S. DAK.	5	11	2
WIS.	5	12	1
U. S.	21	31	13

These 14 States produced 88% of the Nation's corn in 1974.

