

WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

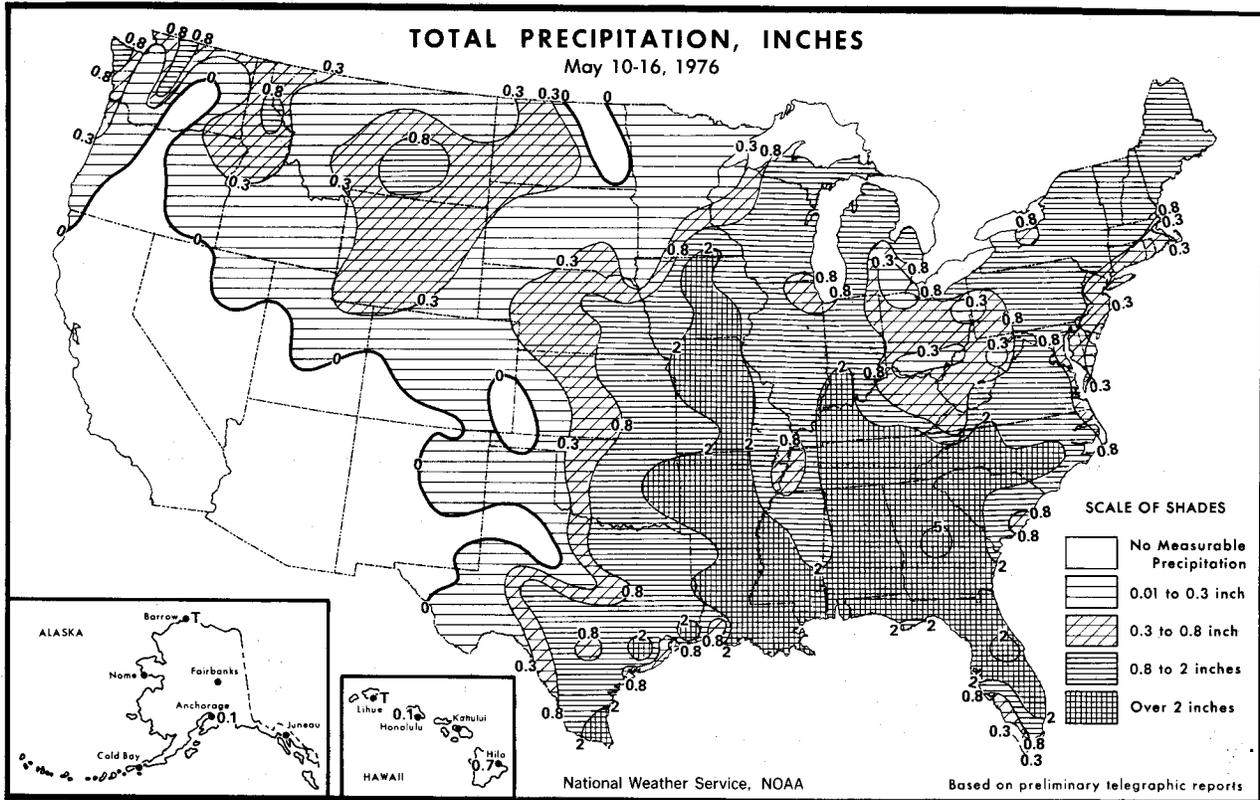
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National Weather Summary

For the week of May 9 - 16

HIGHLIGHTS: Forecasters blamed a cold front in the upper Mississippi Valley and southern Great Plains for cool, rainy weather across central U.S. and much of the Southeast. In the desert Southwest, however, temperatures headed in the opposite direction as warm air spread along the California Coast. Heavy storms associated with the eastern front soaked portions of the Midwest and East with more than 2 inches of rain and spawned damaging tornadoes, especially in the lower Mississippi Valley. The eastward moving storm system closed out the week by producing a 200-mile wide band of precipitation from Florida into the Ohio Valley and central Plains.

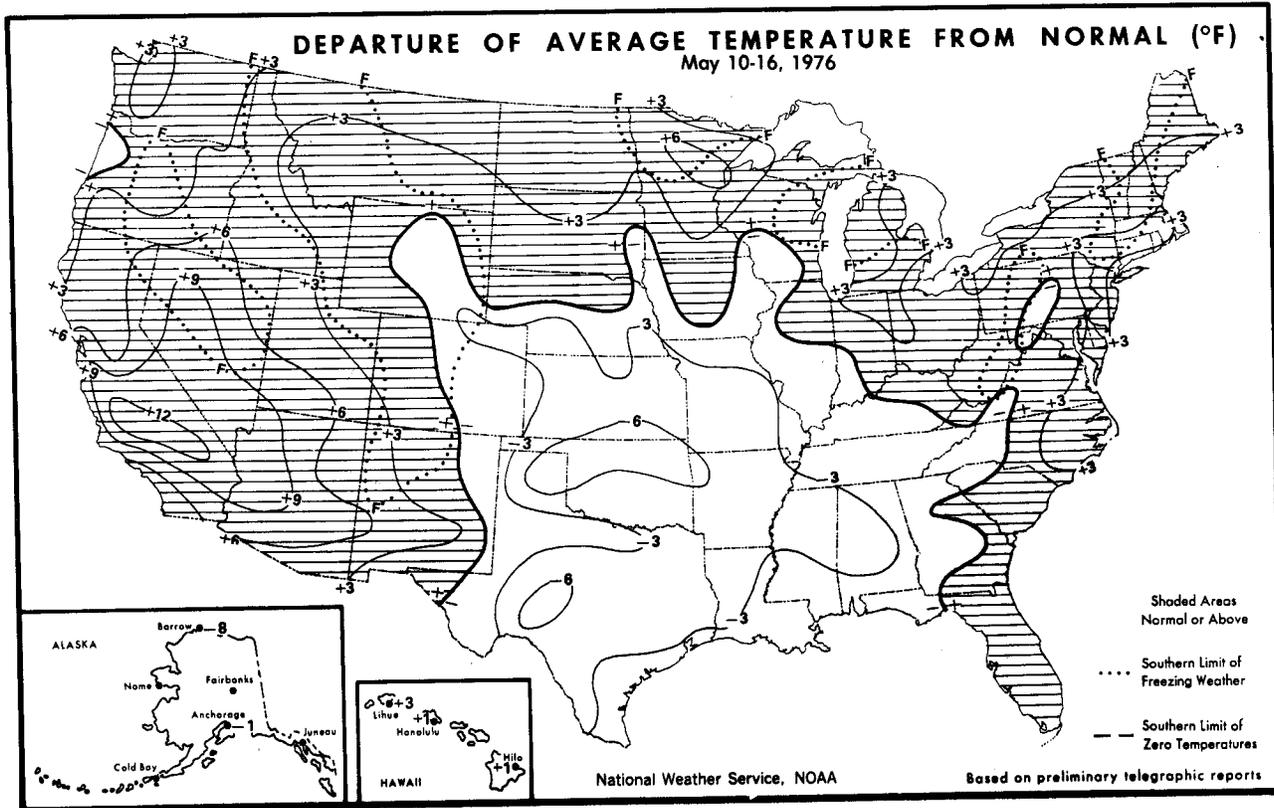
After favoring the East with fair weekend weather, Monday's high pressure system brought cool air to some eastern areas. Cape Hatteras, N.C. sank to a record low of 43°. A cool flow also circulated across the northern Great Plains and

into the upper Mississippi Valley and Great Lakes regions.

Meantime high temperatures warmed the desert Southwest, pushing into the mid 90's in parts of Arizona and California, where 97° pegged Needles the Nation's hot spot.

Throughout the day showers and thundershowers focused on south central U.S. In the evening, though, much of the precipitation pulled up stakes in the central and lower Mississippi Valley and abandoned the coasts of the Southeast States. Some showers continued in the Great Lakes region and from the northern Rockies westward to the Cascades.

Showers and thundershowers from the Appalachians to the Atlantic Coast and over portions of Florida and Louisiana made the East an exception to Tuesday's widespread fair weather across much of the Nation. A few showers and thundershowers also blemished daytime skies in the northern Rockies. In the early afternoon locally heavy rain storms



occurred in parts of Texas, Nebraska, and Colorado.

Mild temperatures from warm stable air that spread along the California Coast contrasted chilly morning readings in the 30's and 40's from the upper Great Lakes region through the northern half of the Plains, across the Rockies, and in the Pacific Northwest.

At midweek a cold front signaling an invasion of colder air penetrated the upper and middle Mississippi Valley regions and southern Great Plains. Heralding the arrival of the front, a band of scattered showers and thunderstorms stretched from South Dakota and Minnesota, through eastern Kansas and southwest Oklahoma into Texas. During the day the energetic front produced severe weather in some areas. Locally heavy rains and hail pounded a 6-State region.

Mississippi, Louisiana, and Alabama took the worst beating in Thursday's barrage of severe weather in central U.S. The slowing frontal system generated a line of eastward moving thunderstorms that spawned damaging tornadoes in the lower Mississippi Valley.

Meanwhile warm, humid air from the Gulf triggered scattered thundershowers from the Gulf Coast into the Ohio Valley.

In the Pacific Northwest a cold front brought showers and thundershowers to Idaho and western Montana. Nationwide, the only area of clear skies ranged from California through the southern Intermountain region and the southern Rockies.

Friday's precipitation pattern traced showers moving slowly northeastward from the Gulf Coast toward Indiana. Throughout southeastern U.S. the near stationary front plus a low over Arkansas, cre-

ated severe weather in the Gulf and south Atlantic States. Forecasters cited 18 tornadoes in the area but high winds associated with severe thunderstorms caused most of the damage.

Locally heavy activity drenched Macon, Ga. with nearly 4 inches of rain in 6 hours. Mississippi claimed the highest incidence of hail.

Cooler air moving throughout the Northwest slashed as much as 30° from Friday afternoon temperatures, compared with Thursday's readings for the same time of day.

Saturday morning seemed to promise a rainy weekend for much of the Southeast. Flash flood watches were posted in response to a band of rain and thunderstorms--nearly 200 miles wide--that ranged from Florida through the middle Ohio Valley and westward across Iowa and Missouri into Kansas.

Colliding with moist air as it headed up the Mississippi Valley, the slow moving storm system touched off severe thunderstorms that extended to the southern Atlantic Coast. Most of the severe storms struck Illinois, Kentucky, and the Carolinas, spawning tornadoes and in places, golf ball size hail.

The pattern of showers and thunderstorms dominating the weekend weather map progressed to the North and East on Sunday. An early morning survey showed an almost continuous band of moisture from northern Missouri into the upper Great Lakes and from the lower Lakes into the central Atlantic States and southern Florida.

For the third day in a row, the Midwest and East received most of the Nation's precipitation, thanks to the low pressure center and eastward bound frontal system. Minor flooding plagued areas from Texas to Iowa to the East Coast.

National Agricultural Summary

For the week of May 10 - 16

HIGHLIGHTS: Unseasonably cool temperatures in many of the Central States slowed crop growth and frost damaged some emerging crops, but little permanent injury was expected. Spring planting remained far ahead of previous years. Considerable cotton acreage was replanted because cold, wet weather reduced germination and caused seedling rot. Soil moisture was short in a few Eastern States, Ohio, the extreme North Central States, and most of the West; elsewhere moisture was adequate.

SMALL GRAINS: The spring wheat crop was 92% planted, far ahead of 33% completed at this time last year and 61% average. Planting was virtually complete in South Dakota and Minnesota but in Idaho seeding was only 72% complete.

Harvest of the winter wheat crop was underway in several States, including Florida, Alabama, Texas, and California. Frost slightly damaged winter wheat in the northern part of the United States. In Kansas the winter wheat crop was 100% jointed and 55% headed. Frost damage became apparent from freezing temperatures earlier this month. Effects on yield were not determined and injury depended on crop maturity and local temperatures. In Nebraska winter wheat was fair to good; 80% of the crop was jointed. The Oklahoma winter wheat crop, helped by cool, wet weather, advanced to 25% in the dough stage, about average. In Texas, wheat harvest was nearly complete in central and south central areas. Some fields were abandoned because of wet soils. On the High and Low Plains harvest was beginning. In Washington winter wheat showed signs of drought stress.

CORN: Planting of the U. S. corn crop was 79% complete, compared with 63% in 1975 and 55% average. Only 19% of the crop was planted during the week, slower than the rate for previous weeks this year. In the eastern North Central States planting was 77% complete, compared with 63% in 1975 and 46% average. In the western North Central States planting was 79% complete, 59% last year and 57% average. Only Michigan fell behind last year's pace and average. Planting in most States was at least 80% finished; exceptions included Michigan, the Dakotas, and Kansas. Cold, wet weather slowed germination and caused some yellowing. In Iowa, wet fields slowed planting, 16% of the crop had emerged but was mostly yellow. The crop needs warmer temperatures. In Ohio cool, dry weather slowed germination and emergence. In Nebraska, 10% of the corn crop emerged.

COTTON: Planting of the cotton crop was 62% complete, compared with 50% last year and 52% average. Little headway was made since cold, wet conditions caused poor germination and required replanting of substantial acreage. In Mississippi 20% of the cotton acreage was replanted. In Arkansas and Tennessee seeds were in short supply; not all varieties were available for replanting. Over 90% of the acreage was planted in all States except Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas. In Oklahoma planting was only 5% complete, far

behind earlier years. In Texas planting was 40% complete. Cool temperatures slowed progress in the High Plains but progress was good elsewhere.

SOYBEANS: Planting of the U. S. soybean crop advanced to 29% complete, well ahead of 18% in 1975 and 16% average. Farmers in the North Central States made excellent progress. In Ohio 40% of the crop was planted. Planting in Minnesota stood at 49%, 38% in Illinois, and 27% in Iowa. Most of the South Central States were between 20 and 30% complete. In the South Atlantic States planting was nearly 25% complete.

OTHER CROPS: Sorghum was 36% planted in the seven major producing States, behind 40% in 1975 and 39% average. In Texas seeding was two-thirds complete. Adverse weather slowed early seeding growth. In Arkansas the crop was stunted and yellowing.

Flue-cured tobacco was 38% transplanted in Virginia, 80% in North Carolina, 99% in South Carolina, and complete in Georgia and Florida. In Kentucky 3% of the burley was transplanted. Tennessee's tobacco crop made good progress, in spite of cool weather, with 30% of the crop transplanted.

Peanut planting was 65% complete in Mississippi, 63% in Virginia, 87% in Alabama, 61% in North Carolina, and 93% in Georgia.

Irish potato planting was 46% finished in Idaho. Wet soils held planting at a standstill in Maine.

Rice seeding was complete in Texas, 94% in Arkansas, 95% in Louisiana, and 88% in Mississippi.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Early peach harvest was underway in Georgia, South Carolina, Alabama, Arkansas, Texas, Arizona, and California. Deciduous orchards in northern areas of the Nation showed signs of freeze damage, but extent of injury is unknown. Spraying of post-bloom thinners was done on the crops. Citrus harvests were active in Florida, Arizona, and California. The Texas harvest was virtually complete. Valencia harvest was nearing peak volume. Rains in Florida and Texas put citrus groves in good condition for next year's crops.

VEGETABLES: Warm weather in California promoted excellent plant growth. Sweet corn and potato harvests started. In Arizona, growers harvested lettuce, potatoes, and dry onions. In Texas, rains damaged some vegetable and melon crops. Picking of peppers, cucumbers, tomatoes, carrot, cabbage, and onions continued. In northern areas vegetable crops made satisfactory progress. In Florida watermelon shipments increased sharply. Overall vegetable volume increased 8%.

PASTURE AND LIVESTOCK: Western ranges were in fair to good condition except in the dry California area. Pastures in the eastern half of the Nation were good except in some Middle Atlantic States. Cattle were in good condition and gaining weight although cool temperatures temporarily slowed grass growth. Alfalfa hay harvest was active everywhere except the Northern States. Some growers began second cuttings in the extreme south.

Temperature and Precipitation Data for the Week Ending Midnight, l.s.t., May 16, 1976

States and Stations	Temperature °F		Precipitation Inches		States and Stations	Temperature °F		Precipitation Inches		States and Stations	Temperature °F		Precipitation Inches	
	Average	Departure	Total	Departure		Average	Departure	Total	Departure		Average	Departure	Total	Departure
ALA. Birmingham . . .	66	-4	4.2	+3.4	La. Baton Rouge . . .	72	-2	3.7	+2.7	Youngstown . . .	60	+3	.2	-.7
Mobile . . .	74	0	2.6	+1.6	Lake Charles . . .	72	-3	.5	-.7	OKLA. Okla. City . . .	62	-5	1.1	-.1
Montgomery . . .	68	-4	4.1	+3.3	New Orleans . . .	73	-1	2.5	+1.6	Tulsa . . .	62	-6	1.9	+ .8
ALASKA Anchorage . . .	44	-1	.1	0	Shreveport . . .	68	-5	1.4	+ .2	OREG. Astoria . . .	53	+1	.4	-.2
Barrow . . .	10	-8	T	0	Portland . . .	53	+4	.8	+ .1	Burns . . .	55	+3	.2	0
Fairbanks . . .	---	---	---	---	MAINE. Caribou . . .	54	+2	1.0	+ .2	Medford . . .	61	+4	0	-.4
Juneau . . .	---	---	---	---	MD. Baltimore . . .	64	+1	.7	-.1	Pendleton . . .	61	+3	.1	-.2
Kodiak . . .	---	---	---	---	MASS. Boston . . .	62	+4	.3	-.5	Portland . . .	58	+2	.3	-.2
Nome . . .	---	---	---	---	Chatham . . .	56	---	.1	---	Salem . . .	54	-1	.2	.3
ARIZ. Flagstaff . . .	57	+8	0	-.1	MICH. Alpena . . .	53	+4	1.2	+ .6	PA. Allentown . . .	62	+3	.8	0
Phoenix . . .	85	+9	0	-.1	Detroit . . .	59	+2	.5	-.2	Erie . . .	57	+4	1.4	+ .6
Tucson . . .	79	+6	0	-.1	Flint . . .	58	+3	1.1	+ .4	Harrisburg . . .	62	0	1.7	+ .8
Winslow . . .	66	+4	0	-.1	Grand Rapids . . .	57	+1	1.4	+ .7	Philadelphia . . .	67	+5	.6	-.2
Yuma . . .	85	+7	0	0	Houghton Lake . . .	53	+1	.9	+ .3	Pittsburgh . . .	60	+1	.4	-.4
ARK. Fort Smith . . .	63	-6	2.7	+1.4	Lansing . . .	57	+1	.3	-.5	Scranton . . .	61	+3	1.1	+ .3
Little Rock . . .	65	-4	2.3	+1.0	Marquette . . .	51	+2	1.8	+1.2	R.I. Providence . . .	60	+4	.5	-.3
CALIF. Bakersfield . . .	83	+14	0	-.1	Muskegon . . .	54	0	.9	+ .3	S.C. Charleston . . .	73	+2	.6	-.2
Eureka . . .	52	0	T	-.5	S. Ste. Marie . . .	48	0	1.1	+ .4	Columbia . . .	73	+2	1.7	+ .9
Fresno . . .	77	+10	0	-.1	MINN. Duluth . . .	54	+6	T	-.7	Greenville . . .	65	-3	2.8	+2.2
Los Angeles . . .	69	+5	0	0	Internatl Falls . . .	51	+2	T	-.6	S.D. Aberdeen . . .	59	+4	.1	-.5
Red Bluff . . .	72	+5	0	-.2	Minneapolis . . .	60	+4	.4	-.3	Huron . . .	56	0	.1	-.5
San Diego . . .	66	+3	T	-.1	Rochester . . .	56	+1	1.8	+1.1	Rapid City . . .	55	+1	.1	-.5
San Francisco . . .	64	+6	T	-.1	St. Cloud . . .	57	+3	T	-.8	Sioux Falls . . .	57	0	.1	-.6
Stockton . . .	70	+5	0	-.1	MISS. Jackson . . .	70	-2	3.0	+2.0	TENN. Chattanooga . . .	66	-2	3.0	+2.2
COLO. Denver . . .	55	-1	.1	-.5	Meridian . . .	67	-5	1.9	+1.0	Knoxville . . .	66	-2	2.6	+1.9
Grand Junction . . .	62	+1	T	-.1	MO. Columbia . . .	60	-3	2.1	+1.0	Memphis . . .	67	-3	.5	-.5
Pueblo . . .	59	-1	.2	-.2	Kansas City . . .	60	-4	2.7	+1.8	Nashville . . .	67	-1	2.6	+1.6
CONN. Bridgeport . . .	59	+2	.6	-.2	St. Louis . . .	62	-3	1.0	+ .2	TEX. Abilene . . .	67	-5	T	-.9
Hartford . . .	61	+4	.8	0	Springfield . . .	59	-5	1.1	0	Amarillo . . .	59	-6	.1	-.5
D.C. Washington . . .	67	+2	.4	-.4	MONT. Billings . . .	56	+2	1.4	+1.0	Austin . . .	71	-3	1.0	+ .1
FLA. Apalachicola . . .	73	-1	1.0	+ .4	Glasgow . . .	58	+4	.2	0	Beaumont . . .	72	-2	2.2	+1.1
Daytona Beach . . .	75	0	2.8	+2.3	Great Falls . . .	56	+3	.3	-.2	Brownsville . . .	77	-2	2.3	+1.7
Ft. Myers . . .	78	+1	.5	-.3	Havre . . .	58	+4	.1	-.2	Corpus Christi . . .	75	-2	1.6	+ .9
Jacksonville . . .	75	+1	2.0	+1.4	Helena . . .	54	+2	.2	-.2	Dallas . . .	74	-4	T	-.6
Key West . . .	81	0	.1	-.4	Kalispell . . .	54	+4	.2	-.2	Del Rio . . .	74	-2	T	-.1
Lakeland . . .	77	0	4.8	+4.1	Miles City . . .	58	+2	.8	+ .4	El Paso . . .	73	+2	T	-.1
Miami . . .	78	0	2.0	+ .7	Missoula . . .	55	+3	.2	-.2	Fort Worth . . .	69	-3	1.0	-.1
Orlando . . .	78	+2	6.0	+5.5	NEBR. Grand Island . . .	59	-1	.6	-.2	Galveston . . .	74	-1	.6	-.1
Tallahassee . . .	78	+1	4.2	+3.8	Lincoln . . .	58	-3	1.5	+ .8	Houston . . .	70	-5	.7	-.5
Tampa . . .	78	+1	2.7	+1.6	Norfolk . . .	61	+2	.6	-.2	Lubbock . . .	65	-2	0	-.7
W. Palm Beach . . .	68	0	2.2	+1.4	N. Platte . . .	52	-5	.6	-.1	Midland . . .	68	-3	2	-.3
GA. Atlanta . . .	71	0	2.2	+1.4	Omaha . . .	59	-1	1.3	+ .4	San Angelo . . .	68	-6	1.0	+ .4
Augusta . . .	72	-1	5.6	+4.8	Valentine . . .	57	+1	.3	-.3	San Antonio . . .	72	-3	.5	-.2
Macon . . .	73	0	1.2	+ .3	NEV. Ely . . .	55	+6	T	-.2	Victoria . . .	74	-2	.8	-.1
Savannah . . .	73	0	1.2	+ .3	Las Vegas . . .	82	+10	0	0	Waco . . .	70	-4	.4	-.7
HAWAII. Hilo . . .	74	+1	.7	-1.7	Reno . . .	60	+6	0	-.2	Wichita Falls . . .	68	-3	.7	-.4
Honolulu . . .	78	+1	.1	-.1	Winnemucca . . .	62	+9	0	-.2	UTAH. Blanding . . .	60	+4	0	-.1
Kahului . . .	---	---	---	---	N.H. Concord . . .	55	+1	1.0	+ .3	Salt Lake City . . .	61	+3	.2	-.2
Lihue . . .	78	+3	T	-.6	N.J. Atlantic City . . .	61	0	.2	-.6	VT. Burlington . . .	58	+4	1.8	+1.1
IDAHO. Boise . . .	61	+4	.1	-.2	Trenton . . .	64	+3	.8	0	VA. Lynchburg . . .	65	+1	.9	+ .2
Lewiston . . .	62	+4	.7	+ .3	N.MEX. Albuquerque . . .	66	+2	0	-.1	Norfolk . . .	70	+4	.3	-.5
Pocatello . . .	57	+3	.1	-.2	Roswell . . .	70	+3	T	+ .2	Richmond . . .	68	+2	1.2	+ .4
ILL. Cairo . . .	66	-2	.8	-.4	N.Y. Albany . . .	57	0	1.1	+ .3	Roanoke . . .	64	0	1.1	+ .3
Chicago . . .	60	+1	.8	0	Binghamton . . .	57	+3	.8	-.1	WASH. Colville . . .	54	0	.1	-.3
Moline . . .	59	-1	1.0	+ .2	Buffalo . . .	57	+3	1.7	+1.0	Omak . . .	51	0	1.3	+ .2
Peoria . . .	61	+1	1.5	+ .6	New York . . .	63	+2	.5	-.3	Quillayute . . .	51	0	1.1	-.3
Rockford . . .	58	0	.7	-.1	Rochester . . .	59	+4	.6	0	Seattle-Tacoma . . .	57	+3	.2	-.2
Springfield . . .	61	-1	1.1	+ .3	Syracuse . . .	58	+2	1.9	+1.2	Spokane . . .	61	+1	.4	0
IND. Evansville . . .	63	-2	2.8	+1.7	N.C. Asheville . . .	61	-2	2.6	+1.9	Walla Walla . . .	61	+1	.4	0
Ft. Wayne . . .	61	+3	.3	-.5	Charlotte . . .	67	-1	2.1	+1.5	Yakima . . .	59	+2	0	-.1
Indianapolis . . .	61	0	.9	0	Greensboro . . .	67	+1	1.3	+ .6	W.Va. Beckley . . .	61	+4	1.1	+ .3
South Bend . . .	61	+4	1.4	+ .7	Hatteras . . .	70	+4	.7	0	Charleston . . .	65	+1	.5	-.3
IOWA. Burlington . . .	60	-1	1.7	+ .9	Raleigh . . .	70	+3	2.0	+1.2	Huntington . . .	66	+2	.4	-.5
Des Moines . . .	61	+1	2.0	+1.1	Wilmingon . . .	73	+3	1.0	+ .1	Parkersburg . . .	65	+2	.3	-.5
Dubuque . . .	56	-1	.9	-.2	N.DAK. Bismarck . . .	58	+5	.7	+ .3	WIS. Green Bay . . .	54	+1	1.2	+ .5
Sioux City . . .	59	-1	.3	-.5	Fargo . . .	57	+3	T	-.5	La Crosse . . .	57	-1	2.1	+1.3
KANS. Concordia . . .	60	-2	1.1	+ .2	Williston . . .	57	+4	.2	-.1	Madison . . .	55	0	1.6	+ .9
Dodge City . . .	59	-4	.3	-.4	OHIO. Akron-Canton . . .	59	+1	.3	-.6	Milwaukee . . .	53	0	.9	+ .3
Goodland . . .	56	-2	.1	-.5	Cincinnati . . .	63	+1	.2	-.6	WYO. Casper . . .	51	-1	.5	0
Topeka . . .	60	-4	1.7	+ .9	Cleveland . . .	59	+2	1.3	+ .5	Cheyenne . . .	49	-3	.2	-.4
Wichita . . .	59	-6	.7	-.1	Columbus . . .	61	+1	.3	-.6	Lander . . .	52	0	.7	+ .1
KY. Lexington . . .	64	0	.7	-.2	Dayton . . .	63	+3	.4	-.4	Sheridan . . .	52	0	.5	0
Louisville . . .	65	+1	.9	0	Toledo . . .	60	+2	.2	-.6	P.R. San Juan . . .	80	+1	1.4	-.1

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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, NOAA.

ALABAMA: Heavy rains 14th and 15th ended unusual spring drought. Temperatures 2° below normal.

Fieldwork: 3 days suitable. Cotton 93% planted, 85% 1975, 87% average; fair condition. Some replanting poor stands. Corn, good condition, 89% planted, 76% last year, 79% average. Peanuts 87% planted, 76% last year, 86% average, good condition. Soybeans 24% planted, same last year. Sorghum 33% planted. Small grain harvest began. Early varieties of peaches marketed. Pastures fair to good. Livestock marketings moderately up.

ALASKA: Tanana Valley cooler than normal daytime temperatures prevailed. Rainfall above normal over west. Matanuska Valley dry. Temperatures below normal with frost most nights. Kenai Peninsula wetter than normal. Temperatures cool for season. Half of nights had frost.

Planting of grain, potatoes and lettuce started in Railbelt. Soil moisture adequate except short on hillsides in Fairbanks.

ARIZONA: Hot, dry except few sprinkles White Mountains. Temperatures 2 to 9° above normal.

Cotton over 90% planted western, central areas. Wheat and barley harvests underway central. Sorghum planting increasing. Sugarbeet harvest continuing. Second cutting alfalfa hay underway. Lettuce harvest complete central. Potato, dry onion harvest well underway. Cantaloups excellent progress. Deciduous fruit harvest underway. Harvest grapefruit, valencias active. Fruit prospects good. Range conditions poor in deserts, excellent central, eastern mountains. Cattle, calves good gains, improved range. Cattle shipments moderate, lamb shipments tapering off.

ARKANSAS: Cool with general precipitation. Temperature extremes: 88 and 39°. Precipitation ranged 3.16 in. to 0.12 in.

Soil moisture short north central and northeast. Fieldwork: 4 days suitable. Soybean planting 21% complete, 9% last year, average 12%. Cotton 86% planted, 60% year ago, average 68%. Most replanting finished, seed shortage a problem. Thrip and aphid infestation early planted fields. Rice seeding 94% complete, 81% last year, average 85%. Replanting, flushing and propanil application continued. Sorghum planting 77% complete. Stunting, yellowing, bird damage reported. Wheat and oats good condition, maturing rapidly. Harvest early peach varieties underway. Pastures short with weekend rains promoting growth.

CALIFORNIA: Fair with some coastal low cloudiness, mainly south coast. Precipitation limited to scattered thundershowers northern mountains and Sierra Nevada on 9th. Warming inland areas midweek with highs near 100° Central Valley and inland coastal valleys and 105° low southeast deserts. Lows into 60's Central Valley and low southeast deserts and near 50° inland coastal valleys. Weekly averages mostly 5 to 10° above normal except near normal northwest coast.

Grain harvest near, underway desert. Dry land crop not good. Rice planting continues. Sugarbeets, cotton, corn, dry beans, good progress. Alfalfa haying active. White peach harvest about complete. Yellow varieties underway Kern County. Thinning active apples, plums, nectarines, and

peaches. Harvest of Burlat cherries active. Eings next week. Harvest of early perlettes expected by 24th with volume by June 1. Valencia harvest gaining momentum. Lemon, grapefruit, and avocado harvests active. Some contracted onion acreage planted. Excellent plant growth from warm weather. Heavy harvests of strawberries, artichokes; sweet corn harvest starting. Spring potato harvest gaining. Cattle gaining well despite below normal range conditions. Feed prospects still inadequate. Stock ponds critical.

COLORADO: Two cold fronts, 11th and 15th. Little precipitation, maximum 0.30 in. Strong gusty winds 13th. Temperature extremes: 90° minimum near freezing 15th.

Winter wheat condition very poor southeast, poor to very good elsewhere, 62% jointed, 61% 1975, 79% average, 16% headed. Sugarbeets 96% seeded, 96% 1975, 92% average. Corn 71% planted; 74% 1975, 69% average. Spring barley 91% seeded, 77% emerged, condition good. Oats 90% seeded, 69% emerged. Condition good. Summer potatoes 90% planted, 40% emerged, condition very good; fall potatoes 31% seeded. Soil moisture generally short. Livestock condition good. Ranges and pastures poor southeast, fair to good elsewhere.

FLORIDA: Partly cloudy to cloudy. Temperatures near or slightly above normal. Very heavy rainfall 4.00 to 7.00 in. Heaviest rains weekend with 3.00 to 5.00 in. most north and central areas.

Corn good to excellent. Peanuts up to good stands. Soybean planting active. Flue-cured tobacco excellent progress. Shade tobacco harvest underway. Small grain harvest starting. Peach harvest active. Sugarcane growth good. Pastures good to excellent in Panhandle, poor to good elsewhere. Rains helping grasses recover from dry period. Cattle, calves fair to good. Citrus tree condition very good following rains. Irrigation discontinued most areas. New crop fruit progressing well, Valencia harvest at peak. Spring vegetable and melon harvest increased 8% from previous week due in part to a sharp jump in watermelon shipments. Harvest activity generally moving from south to central and northern areas. Crops increasing were carrots, chinese cabbage, watermelons, celery, sweet corn, cucumber, eggplant, potato, pepper, and total tomato shipments held steady. Palmetto-Ruskin tomato movement continued heavy. Snap beans, cabbage, escarole, strawberries, squash, lettuce declined in shipments.

GEORGIA: Scattered showers and thundershowers mainly north 8th and 9th, and again over most of State 11th through 14th, averaged 0.50 to 1.00 in. Temperatures averaged 1 to 2° below normal. Lows mid 30's mountains on 9th. Moderate to locally heavy rains 15th amounts in excess of 4.00 in. especially over mountains.

Soil moisture adequate. Fieldwork: 4 days suitable. Cool nights slowing plant growth. Planting very active. Haying becoming more active. Corn condition fair to mostly good, planting 97% complete, last year 83%, average 91%. Tobacco transplanting 100% complete, some laid by, condition good. Cotton condition fair to good, planted 93%, last year 78%, average 87%.

Cotton 68% up to stand. Peanuts fair to mostly good, 93% planted, last year 79%, average 91%. Spraying active. Soybeans fair to mostly good, 23% planted, last year 19%, average 26%. Sorghum 30% planted. Small grain fair to good, turning color rapidly. Peaches good, light harvest, heavier volume expected. Apples good. Watermelons good, 95% planted. Pastures fair to mostly good. Cattle fair to mostly good. Hogs good.

HAWAII: Weather favorable. Light showers windward and higher elevation.

Most areas irrigating. Vegetable supplies getting plentiful. Leafy crops in active harvest. Bananas production light. Papayas gradually increasing. Pineapple supply light. Sugar active harvest. Pasture good condition. Moisture still adequate.

IDAHO: Temperature 2 to 6° above normal. High 94°, low 26. Precipitation above normal north; below normal south.

Plant growth, fieldwork good progress. Seeding completed, 1976, 1975 spring wheat 72%, 55%; spring barley 68%, 49%; pats 79%, 51%; sugarbeets 91%, 82%; potatoes 46%, 32%; corn 29%, 33%. Livestock excellent condition. Pasture range growth good.

ILLINOIS: Temperatures 1° above normal to 3° below normal. Precipitation: 0.75 to 2.00 in., severe thunderstorms central 15th.

Corn 88% planted, 75% 1975, 58% average. Soybeans 38% planted, 31% 1975, 15% average. Winter wheat 16% excellent, 68% good, 16% fair; 85% headed, 50% 1975, 61% average; 35% filled, 12% 1975, 22% average. Oats 10% excellent, 72% good, 16% fair, 2% poor. Alfalfa and red clover hay mostly good. Pastures mostly fair to good, supplying 88% livestock roughage requirements. Soil moisture 35% short, 50% adequate, 15% surplus. Fieldwork: 4.5 days suitable.

INDIANA: Temperatures declined to 29° southwest on 12th. Rainfall 14th to 17th ranged from 0.30 extreme east and southeast to over 1.00 in. in west central, extreme northwest, and over 2.00 in. extreme southwest.

Fieldwork: 6 days suitable. Corn 85% planted, 1975 65%, average 30%. Soybeans 25% planted, 1975 15%, average 10%. Winter wheat 45% headed, 1975 10%, average 15%, some frost damage. Oats 7 in. tall, 1975 5 in. Topsoil and subsoil moisture mostly short to adequate. Pastures poor to mostly fair.

IOWA: Temperatures 1 to 2° below normal. Warm at start, cool at end. Rain on 13th, 15th, and 16th accumulated heavy amounts in southeast.

Cool weather slowed crop development. Rains activated herbicides, aided corn germination. Most crops recovered from early light frost. Need warmer temperatures. Corn planting 89% complete, 70% last year, 63% average. Planting slow south central, southeast because of wet fields. Corn emerged 16%, mostly yellow. Need warmth for germination and growth. Soybean planting 27% complete, 19% last year, 16% average. Oats, winter wheat condition fair to good, growth slow. Hay crops mostly good. Some weevil damage, spraying slowing activity. Topsoil moisture 26% short, 67% adequate, 7% surplus. Subsoil moisture 12% short, 85% adequate, 3% surplus. Moisture short northwest, surplus southeast. Fieldwork: 5 days suitable. Livestock condition good. Calving, lambing nearly complete,

few losses. Farrowing progressing well. Pasture condition mostly good, growth not keeping up with grazing.

KANSAS: Frequent showers and thunderstorms. Moisture ranged from a few hundredths in. along western border to over 1.00 in. central and east. Temperatures near normal northwest to 1 to 3° below normal elsewhere.

Wheat 100% jointed, 95% average, 90% last year, 55% headed, 50% average, 30% last year. Some damage east from May 3 freeze. Damage varies widely depending on stage of development and local temperatures. Some local reports as high as 30 to 40% damage. Effect on yield not yet determined. Very little freeze damage western two-thirds. Corn 60% planted, same as average and last year. Some replanted as a result of freeze. Sorghum 5% planted, 15% last year, 10% average. Soybeans 5% planted, 10% last year and average. Alfalfa first cutting, 10% completed, same as average and last year.

KENTUCKY: Temperatures slightly below normal. Scattered showers and thundershowers, except 12th. Most rainfall week's end. Precipitation near 0.50 in. east to near 2.50 in. west.

General rains near end period a welcome sight to farmers, extending over weekend showers gave relief to row crops, pastures and hays. Corn planting 85% complete, 57% last year and 52% average. About 60% emerged. Soybean seeding 16% finished, compared 9% a year earlier and 12% average. About 33% tobacco plants larger than 4 in. tall, setting underway with 3% burley in ground. About 29% first cutting alfalfa cut. All hays and pasture grasses should improve with rains.

LOUISIANA: Temperatures 2 to 4° below normal. Extremes: 90 and 50°. Rain 3 to 4 days most stations; 1.00 to 3.00 in. common.

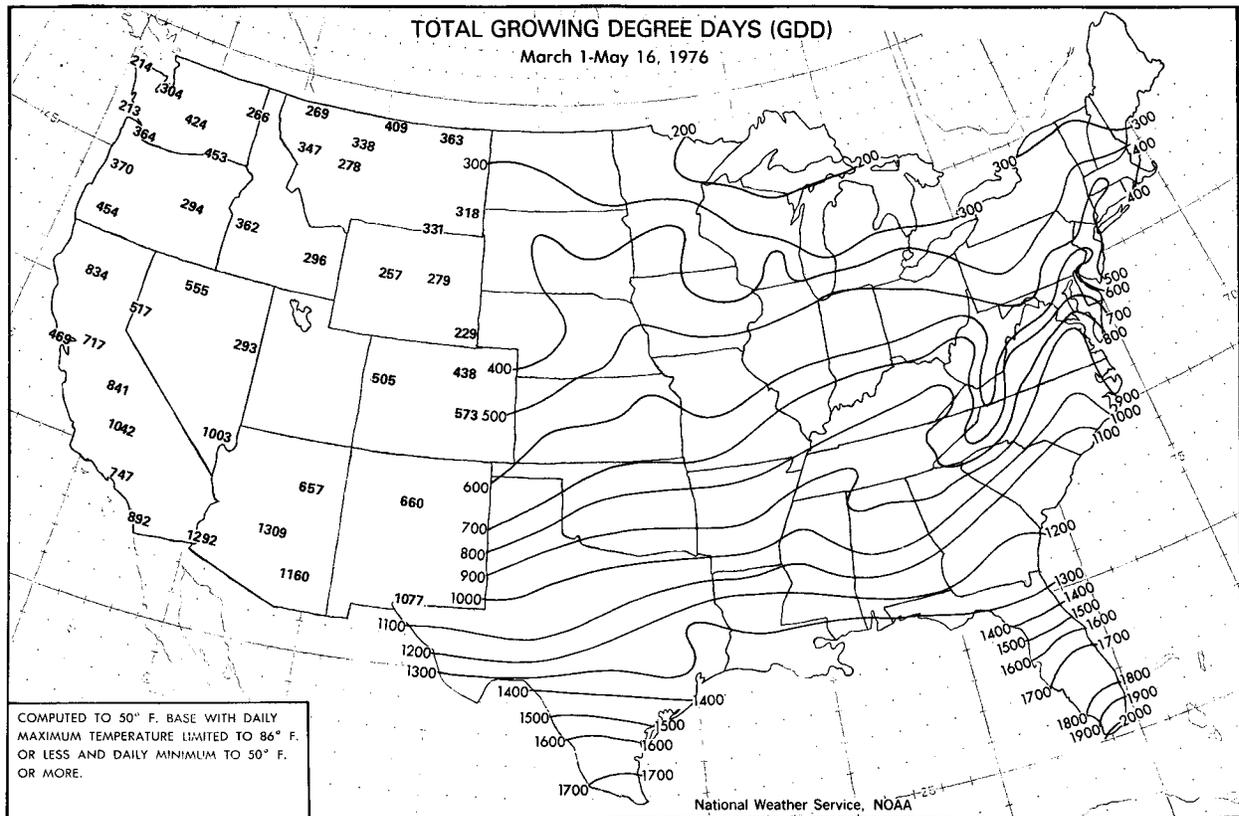
Fieldwork: 2.1 days suitable. Soil moisture adequate to surplus. Cotton 74% planted, 20% last year, 67% average. Rice 95% planted, 87% last year, 88% average, some bronzing problems. Soybeans 19% planted, 5% last year, 22% average. Corn 94% planted, 65% 1975. Sugarcane good growth; rains beneficial. Sweetpotato transplanting 27% complete, same as last year, but behind normal. Small grains nearly ready for harvest. Pastures about average. Cattle fair to good; gaining weight.

MARYLAND & DELAWARE: Temperatures 2 to 5° below normal. Highs, low 80's; lows, mid 20's. Precipitation ranged from 0.06 to 1.14 in.

Corn 85% planted; 50% 1974, 62% average. Few soybeans planted, delayed due to cool weather. Small grains fair to good condition, straw short caused by moisture stress. First cutting alfalfa started. Asparagus and spinach harvest underway. Planting other vegetables active.

MICHIGAN: Temperatures 6 above to 2° below normal. Light to moderate winds, precipitation light. Showers most of the State, heavy rainfall weekend.

Fieldwork resumed but slowed by rains. Plowing 75% complete, 65% last year, 66% normal. Fieldwork: 3 to 4 days available. Corn 32% planted, 35% 1975, 36% average. Oats 90% planted, 70% last year, 79% normal. Sugarbeets poor condition. Many fields need to be replanted. Potato planting progressing slowly with 45% complete, 35% last year, 40% average. Soybean planting just started. Hay and pasture good. Fruits still



showing damage to foliage. Tomato planting, cucumber seeding continue. Some onions planted were damaged by frosts and high winds.

MINNESOTA: A warm, continued dry week most districts with temperatures averaging 3° above normal. Extremes: 91 and 29°. Precipitation continues well below normal except southeast. Totals range from 1.30 in. above normal southeast to 0.50 in. to 0.75 in. below normal elsewhere.

Crop development slowed by moisture shortage most of State. Moisture critical southern part west central district mostly short elsewhere. Percent planted: corn 92%, 1975 43%, normal 57%; soybeans 49%, 1975 12%, normal 18%; flax 72%, 1975 35%, normal 48%; potatoes 70%, 1975 34%, normal 31%. Small grains mostly seeded. Growth 22% poor, 50% fair. Hay growth is also very slow.

MISSISSIPPI: Temperatures 4 to 5° subnormal. Extremes: 88 and 39°.

Soil moisture short to adequate northwest, adequate to excessive elsewhere. Fieldwork: 2.9 days suitable. Cotton 90% planted, 35% 1975, 71% average; 53% up to stand, 19% 1975, 44% average; 20% of acreage replanted. Soybeans 25% planted, 4% 1975, 14% average; 7% up to stand, 2% 1975. Rice 88% planted, 41% 1975, 69% average; 58% up to stand, 27% 1975. Corn 89% planted, 51% 1975, 66% average; 74% up to stand, 39% 1975. Winter wheat 19% ripe, 15% 1975. Oats 25% ripe, 17% 1975. Peanuts 65% planted, 15% 1975. Sorghums 37% planted, 12% 1975, 25% average. Sweet potatoes 27% planted, 21% 1975, 31% average. Cotton and rice in fair condition. Other crops in fair to good condition.

MISSOURI: Temperatures 2° below normal north-west Prairie, to 5° below normal East Ozarks.

Precipitation Bootheel area 0.30 in., west Ozarks 1.00 in. and 0.60 in. elsewhere.

Fieldwork: 3 days suitable. Corn planting 77% complete, 71% 1975, 60% normal. Condition of corn mostly fair. Grain sorghum planting 25% complete, 32% 1975, 22% normal. Cotton planting Bootheel 97% complete, 81% 1975, 67% normal. Wheat 81% headed, 1975 59% headed, 54% normal. Wheat turning color, central and southern areas, 6% now in this stage. Condition of wheat is fair to good, some freeze damage occurring northwest, north central, northeast. Soil moisture 20% short, 67% adequate, 13% surplus.

MONTANA: Mild week, temperatures 2 to 6° above normal. Freezing occurred 15th. Showers or thunderstorms becoming more frequent 14th and ending weekend. Heavy precipitation south central, southeast and northeast. Only light amounts north central.

Crop growth, development and seeding well ahead of normal. Irrigation now started. Summerfallow and weed spraying active. About 90% spring wheat planted--last year 15%, normal 70%. Barley and oats 80% seeded--last year 15%, normal 70%. Sugarbeets 90% seeded, corn 40%, potatoes 50%, and beans 35%. All spring and winter crops in good condition except parts of north central, where condition fair. Range feed supplies adequate. About 40% cattle and sheep on summer ranges.

NEBRASKA: Precipitation near normal, up to 1.50 in.

Topsoil moisture supplies short 35% and adequate 65%. Subsoil moisture supplies short 63% adequate 37%. Winter wheat condition poor 13%, fair 57%, good 28% and excellent 2%. Wheat

80% jointed, 45% last year. Corn 70% planted, 50% normal and 60% 1975, emerged 10%. Sorghum and soybeans 15% and 10% planted, respectively, near normal. A year ago both 15%. Alfalfa and wild hay fair to good condition.

NEVADA: High temperatures averaging 6 to 11° above normal. Extremes: 104 Las Vegas, 24° Mountain City. Precipitation midweek light.

Spring planting nearing completion. Irrigation underway all areas. Ranges mostly fair to poor. Irrigation water supply near normal.

NEW ENGLAND: Near normal temperatures. Widespread rains 11th, 12th, 1.25 in. Showers 14th gave 0.20 to 0.50 in. north, less south.

Cold nights and wet soils slowed plant growth and field preparations all areas potato planting at standstill. Frost damage to fruits some areas, particularly strawberries. Corn and vegetable planting as weather permits. Hay and potatoes growing.

NEW JERSEY: Temperatures 2 to 3° above normal. Frost morning of 13th. Extremes: 30 and 88°. Rainfall 0.59 in. north, 0.37 in. central and 0.13 in. south. Soil moisture in percent of field capacity averaged: 84% north, 68% central and 55% south. Soil temperature 61° north and 66° south.

Frost damage low areas north morning of 13th. Vegetable planting continues. Harvest of asparagus, lettuce, spring spinach, radishes and "greens" increasing. Early planted potatoes up 6 in. Peach and apple prospects vary. Strawberry harvest increasing. Blueberry prospects good. Field corn planting active. Soybean planting increasing. Wheat heading.

Pasture and range feed supplies short 46%. Warmer temperatures, more rainfall needed.

NEW MEXICO: Widely scattered light showers 11th and 12th with negligible rain.

Soil moisture short. Range and livestock fair. Cotton planting 90% complete in south. Alfalfa fair, first cut underway. Dryland winter wheat poor. Durum wheat fair to good. Irrigated winter wheat and barley fair, heading well advanced. Corn good, mostly planted. Sorghum planting 70% complete. Onions and lettuce fair. Lettuce harvesting in Mesilla Valley. Apples fair.

NEW YORK: Temperatures below normal Upper Hudson Valley; normal to above elsewhere. Rainfall below normal east of Lake Ontario, southwest, and coastal southeast, above normal elsewhere. Temperatures near freezing in interior 13th with frost.

Rains slowed fieldwork. Corn planting 15% complete. Oat planting 70% complete, 55% last year. Wheat condition good. Most livestock on pasture. Soil moisture adequate to surplus. Irregular growth Orange County onions due to early dry soils and some replanting. Lettuce stands spotty some replanting necessary. Apples full bloom Champlain Valley. Low limbs and low areas show some freeze damage. McIntosh and Cortland set poor in Hudson Valley. Romes reached full bloom west. Some improvement pollinating conditions. Concord grapes developing slowly, shoots 3 in. in Chautauqua-Erie area. Some frost damage.

NORTH CAROLINA: Temperatures 1 to 3° below normal west, near normal east. Precipitation less than 1.00 in. coastal region to over 5.00 in. western mountains. Weekend warm with rain most areas.

Fieldwork: 5.1 days suitable. Soil moisture short to adequate. Favorable weather permitted

good planting progress. Flue-cured tobacco 80% transplanted, 1975 73%; average 67%; crop mostly fair to good condition. Burley tobacco 14% transplanted, 1975 10%. Corn 92% planted, 1975 88%, average 81%; fair to good condition. Soybeans 24% planted, 1975 25%, average 25%. Peanuts 61% planted, 1975 72%, average 62%. Cotton 90% planted 1975 86%, average 84%. Sweetpotatoes 23% planted, 1975 28%. Sorghum 37% planted, 1975 26%. Wheat condition: 27% poor, 60% fair, 13% good. Other small grains poor to good. Pastures improving, mostly fair. Cabbage harvest underway east.

NORTH DAKOTA: Temperatures 6° above normal. Extremes: 91 to 31°. Rainfall 0.53 in. below normal central and southeast to 0.12 in. above normal southwest. Sunny skies and above average temperature with no precipitation weekend.

Planting progressed rapidly with 90% hard red spring wheat and 80% durum wheat seeded. Comparable progress other spring grains. Flax planting full swing and row crops well underway. About half planted crops emerged with soil moisture too dry in some areas for best germination and early growth.

OHIO: Normal to below normal temperatures. Record lows 12th. Extremes: 88 and 32°. Rainfall below normal. Range: 0.22 to 1.25 in.

Topsoil moisture supplies reported 64% short, 36% adequate. Planting completed: corn 85%, 65% 1975 and 55% normal; soybeans 40%, 30% 1975, and 20% normal; potatoes 85%, 70% 1975, and 65% normal. Wheat 15% headed, 15% 1975, and 5% normal. Virtually all oats emerged. Concern over corn and soybean emergence due to dry, cool weather. May crop reported very short. Alfalfa weevil infestation heavy but controlled by spraying. Fieldwork: 6 days favorable.

OKLAHOMA: Temperatures 4 to 6° below normal. Precipitation 0.22 in. southwest to 2.35 in. east central. Weekend mild with scattered rains mostly east.

Wet and cool weather beneficial to small grains but land preparation, planting, development of summer crops slowed. Wheat 25% dough stage, 15% year ago, 25% average. Oats 40% dough stage, 35% average. Barley 51% dough, 38% average. All small grains good to fair. Corn 77% planted, 62% average, 32% up to stand. Cotton, peanut, soybean plantings behind year ago. Sorghum 21% planted, 21% year ago, 10% average. First cuttings alfalfa 42% complete, rains delayed baling. Pastures and livestock good to excellent. Insect problems increasing. Livestock on pastures making good weight gains with no supplemental feeding required. Cotton 5%, 24%, 19%.

OREGON: Temperatures averaged 3 to 8° above normal. Extremes: low 90's, low 30's west; low 90's, high 20's east. Precipitation occurred midweek along coast and over north half of interior section. Cougar Dam received 0.60 in., elsewhere 0.30 in. or less.

Fall seeded crops in good condition. Spring seeding, spraying and fertilizing continues. Summerfallow maintenance continues. Hay being cut. Good cherry crop expected. Prune set light. Filbert crop expected light. Strawberries blooming. Beans and corn emerging. Potatoes and onions up and looking good. Livestock in good condition. Feed supplies adequate. Pastures in good condition.

PENNSYLVANIA: Seasonably mild and cloudy with showers, thunderstorms early, late in period. Warm and sunny midweek. Temperatures near to 5° above normal. Extremes: 19 and 88°. Rainfall mostly weekend totaled 0.50 to 1.00 in. most areas.

Soil moisture mostly short. Fieldwork: 5 days suitable. Activities: plowing, making haylage, grape tying, orchard spraying and mowing plus planting oats, corn and potatoes. Plowing 93%, 1975 79%. Oats planted 96%, 1975 89%. Potatoes planted 79%, last year 57%. Corn planted 53%, 1975 32%--some frosted or drouth hit may require re-plant. Barley 35% boot, 34% headed--1975 13% headed. Wheat 48% boot, 6% headed--1975 23% boot. Condition of hay stands fair--need rain. Alfalfa first cut 8%, all for haylage.

PUERTO RICO: Island rainfall 0.88 in. or 0.77 in. below normal. Temperatures about 78° on coasts and 73° interior with mean temperatures ranging from 82 to 65°. Extremes: 98 and 56°.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Temperatures 4° below normal; considerably below normal first, several degrees above normal end. Rainfall 1.50 in. above normal. Rainfall varied from 3.00 in. northwest to less than 1.00 in. along southern coast.

Rain slowed or stopped field activities. Condition of most crops improving with additional rain. Some hail damage isolated areas. Heavy rains night of 14th, 15th caused erosion damage some areas. Light harvest of early peaches.

Wheat, oats poor to fair condition. Cotton, hay, pastures fair condition. Tobacco, peaches fair to good condition. Budworm, flea beetles, cutworm infestation high in some tobacco fields. Corn condition good. Tobacco planted: 99%, 1976; 99%, 1975; 98% average. Corn planted: 98%, 1976; 94%, 1975; 93% average. Cotton planted: 93%, 1976; 83%, 1975; 87%, average.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Temperatures 2 to 5° above normal. Extremes: 30 and 94°. Thundershowers midweek. Precipitation from 0.02 in. northeast to over 1.00 in. southwest.

Topsoil moisture short except southwest and southeast where adequate. Crop recovery from frost damage slow, due to dryness and excessive winds. Winter wheat damaged severely by frost. Alfalfa damage varies, light to heavy. Alfalfa yields reduced. Small grains set back by frost but recovering slowly. Fieldwork ahead of normal. Corn 57% planted, 1975 41%, normal 46%. Soybeans 14% planted, 1975 11%, normal 14%. Sorghum 8% planted, 1975 6%, normal 6%. Spring plowing 91% complete, 1975 73%, normal 77%. Winter wheat 28% in boot stage, 1975 7%, normal 8%. Livestock condition good. Pasture growth very slow. Most cattle on pasture due to dwindling feed supplies.

TENNESSEE: Cloudy skies and frequent rain showers temperatures mid 60's except in the upper 60's central, 3° above seasonal normals west but near normal elsewhere. Precipitation 2 in. or more, above seasonal normal.

Rains brought welcome relief especially east. Rains slowed farm activities. Fieldwork: 4.5 days suitable. Much of cotton crop replanted causing seed shortage. Cool, moist weather caused seed to rot and seedlings to die. Planting of corn, cotton, and soybeans made excellent progress. Corn 84% planted, 71% last year and 66% average. Cotton 90% planted, 65% last year and 70% average. Soybeans 30% planted, 16% last year and 14% average. Recent moisture improved small grain prospects. Wheat and barley about 95% headed compared with about 90% a year earlier. Oats are over 90% headed compared with 85% a year ago and 78% average. Pastures and livestock conditions improving. Tobacco transplanting making good progress with 30% transplanted compared with 14% average and 10% last year.

TEXAS: Cool with showers. Rainfall above normal east. Temperatures below normal. Highs in 70's, 80's lows mostly 50's, 60's, some 40's west.

Wheat, flax, oat harvest almost complete in south central Texas. Rice, corn, sugarbeet planting complete. Heavy rain hampered sorghum seeding. Wheat harvest complete central, south central, some fields abandoned or harvest delayed due wet soil. On Plains, wheat heading harvest beginning. Oat harvest below last year; begun Central Texas delayed wet fields; begin Plains next week. Cotton: Planting 40% complete. Cool hampered progress High Plains. Planting progressing well South, West, Central. Sorghum seeding 66%. Rain, cool, slowed growth early seedings necessitated cultivation. Rice seeding complete, cool weather hampered early stands. Peanut seeding complete south beginning northeast. Planting delayed rain throughout. Sugarbeet planting complete. Cultivation thinning underway. Corn planting 98%, progressing well Plains. Cool, wet weather slowed planting early crop growth. Tasselling south.

Lower Rio Grande Valley: Cantaloup harvest underway. Picking green peppers, cucumbers, tomatoes active. Rains continue cause damage tomatoes. Carrot, cabbage, onion shipments continue seasonal decline. Coastal Bend: Cucumber harvest active. Watermelons showing moderate growth. Laredo: Few onions still being harvested. Melon crop needs warm weather, sunshine stimulate growth. San Antonio-Winter Garden: Wet weather continues delay, interrupt harvest potatoes, onions. Heavy rains, hail caused severe damage some watermelon fields. Central: Excessive rains caused watermelons, cantaloups show slow plant development. Tomatoes beginning ripen. East: Sweetpotato planting continues areas fields dry enough. Watermelons, tomatoes need hot, dry weather develop crop. North: Potatoes excellent condition with harvest expected begin within 3 weeks. Tomatoes making satisfactory progress. Knox-Haskell: Fungicide spraying continues potatoes. Cool wet weather slowed progress watermelons, cantaloups. Trans-Pecos: Weeding onion fields underway. High Plains: Potatoes, onions making satisfactory progress. Some carrots beginning emerge planting peppers, cucumbers nearing completion. Peaches: Harvest early peaches remains active south, south central. Pecans: Now in 75% to full leaf stage. Citrus: Harvest virtually complete. Trees good to excellent condition result of rains.

Range average to good. Northern Plains need rain, northeast needs sunshine. Screwworms problem south, central Texas. Cattle good condition market price stable.

UTAH: Widely scattered showers first and again northwest weekend. Accumulated moisture very light except locally moderate along western slopes of Wasatch Mountains. Temperatures ranged from near normal to 7° above.

Small grain planting complete. Finishing corn and potato planting. Field corn 50% planted. Tomato planting just starting. All grain planted to date 85% emerged. Range and pasture condition fair to good. Cattle and sheep moved on spring and summer range. Range lambing about 60% completed.

VIRGINIA: Temperatures below normal first, above normal by end. Extremes: 88 and 27°. Rainfall light, averaged 0.25 in.

Fieldwork: 5.7 days suitable. Topsoil moisture: 89% short, 11% adequate. Corn planting 80% complete; 1975, 65%; average 63%. Corn being cultivated, herbicide applications. Peanuts 63% planted. Soybeans 19% planted. Small grains short. Ensilage cut. Flue-cured tobacco ahead of normal; 38% set. Fire-cured 10% set. Early vegetables

cultivated. Later vegetables planted. Potatoes look good. Fruit crop uncertain. First hay cuttings short. Some hay fields grazed. Hay fed to supplement poor pasture.

WASHINGTON: West: Temperatures 1 to 3° above normal. Precipitation from 1.00 in. to 0.30 in. subnormal.

Pastures growing well. Cattle turned out. Strawberries blooming. Raspberries near full bloom. Seed and silage corn emerging. Planting sweet corn and green peas.

East: Readings 1 to 4° above normal. Precipitation near normal. Planting: Potatoes, dry beans, field corn, alfalfa, pasture. Other activities: Irrigating, spraying for broadleaf weeds in spring wheat. Cutting asparagus and alfalfa. Fruit growing regions applying post-bloom thinners. Winter wheat showing patches of drought stress and heavy crust. Cattle being moved to pastures, especially from dry lower elevations to higher levels.

WEST VIRGINIA: Temperatures normal. Precipitation below normal except in south.

Fieldwork: 5.5 days suitable. Soil moisture short to adequate. Condition of growing crops poor to fair. Planted: Oats 98%, potatoes 97%, corn 60%, tobacco beds 90% emerged. Farm activities: Planting corn, gardening and fencing. Pastures and hay crops short. Livestock in mostly good condition.

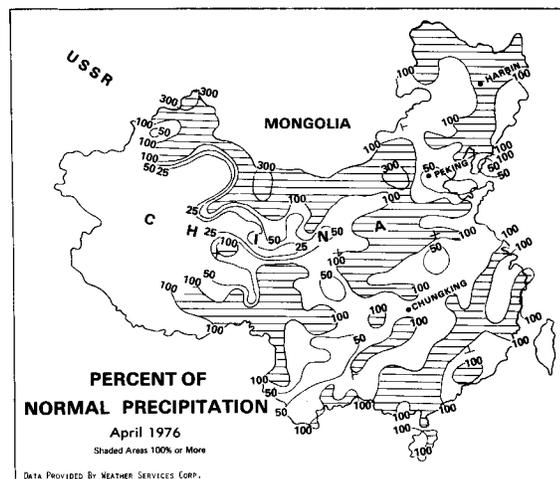
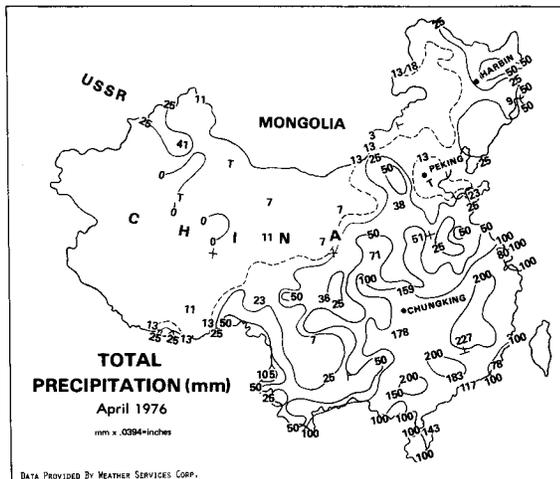
WISCONSIN: Temperatures near normal. Sunny and cool 11th and 12th. Scattered light showers 10th and 13th. Sunny and mild 14th. Rain developed south 15th, moved over State except northwest. Lingering showers 16th. Rainfall amounts 1.00 in. northeast, west central, central and south. Little or none northwest.

Good for planting crops until weekend rains. Corn 50% planted, 1975 40%, normal 30%. Many done south and west. Recent moisture helpful for germination as soils dry at planting time. Early corn up nicely. Oats 90% seeded, same as last year and normal. Finally able to plant oats in east where had been delayed by wet soil. Early oats benefited from rains. Spring plowing 80% done, 1975 70%, normal 70%. A few soybeans planted. Hay and

WYOMING: Temperatures quite warm. Precipitation below seasonal normals. Traces to 0.50 in.

Irrigation starting. Topsoil moisture 61% short, 39% adequate, 0% surplus. Subsoil moisture lowest since 1967. Planting ahead of normal. Sugarbeet planting completed. Barley 90% seeded, 66% in 1975. Potato planting in progress. Winter wheat prospects 5% poor, 59% fair, 36% good. Calving 90% complete. Farm flock lambing and shearing 95% complete, ahead of normal. Pastures improved with added moisture. Old hay fields good, some new seedings spotty. Planting of vegetable crops active. Early peas frozen off but new growth coming good. Most tobacco beds seeded. Soil moisture 40% short, 55% adequate, 5% surplus.

China Precipitation



World Agricultural Weather Summary

HIGHLIGHTS: Prolonged winter-spring drought caused spotty germination and slow and uneven crop growth in northern Europe from the United Kingdom (U.K.) to Poland. Generous rainfall in most Mediterranean countries benefited crops, especially winter grains. Continued good spring rains in European USSR enhanced yield prospects for surviving winter grains and provided a uniform start for spring sown crops; rains weren't up to par, however, in the North Caucasus, Volga, and Urals regions. Mostly light precipitation in the New Lands favored soil preparation and planting. Weather aided timely sowing of crops in the Canadian Prairies, where moisture conditions were reasonably good in most of Manitoba and Saskatchewan but relatively dry in Alberta. Timely rains encouraged uniform germination and growth of spring plantings in the northeast People's Republic of China (PRC); rainfall was sparse in the Hopeh Province, and erratic but mostly adequate in the rest of the North China Plain. Fall seeding got underway in the Southern Hemisphere amid mostly good soil moisture conditions.

WEATHER: Drought intensified in much of northern Europe because of below normal precipitation in April and early May. Low lying countries in the North Sea region received as little as 20% of normal precipitation in April and much below normal in the December-April period. Rains in mid-May eased dry conditions in Poland, Czechoslovakia, Austria, and Switzerland.

In contrast, most of the Mediterranean region received generous rains in April. Temperatures in Europe averaged near normal; many warm days cancelled brief periods of unusual cold. In the north, there were extensive areas of frost. Greatest departures were the cooler-than-usual temperatures in the Iberian Peninsula.

The USSR experienced wetter than usual April weather in much of the European sector, although rainfall continued to lag below normal in parts of the Volga, Urals, and North Caucasus regions. It was considerably drier in most of Kazakhstan and West Siberia. Temperatures were close to seasonal but tended to be a little above normal. The same weather pattern continued to mid-May except for increased shower activity in the North Caucasus and Volga regions.

April was drier and warmer than normal in the Canadian Prairie Provinces, where Alberta, particularly dry, was helped by some mid-May rainfall. Rains were substantial in northeast Mexico but much less elsewhere, including the dry northwest.

In the PRC, April precipitation was above normal in the northeast, below normal in the northern portion of the North China Plain, and about normal elsewhere. Good rains fell in the northeast in the first half of May. April and early May temperatures were cool. The gradual south to north advance of the rainy season was about on schedule.

The Philippines were mostly dry, as usual, in April, while temperatures averaged about normal.

India had significant amounts of rain in parts of the south, as expected. Areas of above normal, yet light, rainfall were extensive; these areas usually receive even lesser amounts.

Substantial rains fell in the Malay Peninsula as weather there took a turn toward normal.

Australia was relatively dry except for isolated areas. Most important were the rains in the southwestern portion of western Australia, western Victoria, and southwestern New South Wales. Temperatures were about normal in these areas and generally below normal throughout the interior.

Venezuela was quite dry. Much of Uruguay and central and southern Brazil received 3 to 6 inches of rain in April. In Argentina, rains were mostly light and spotty in the north, becoming more uniform and seasonably moderate in the central Provinces.

Seasonal rainfall in much of South Africa measured 2 to 4 inches. Temperatures were about normal. Coastal regions adjacent to the Guinea Basin of West Africa were rather wet. Rains penetrated part of the Sahel but most of interior West Africa was dry.

CROPS: Northern Europe's prolonged drought caused spotty germination, slow and uneven growth of spring sown crops and pastures, and clouded winter grain prospects. Recovery of most spring crops will require timely, soaking rains. The U.K., northern France, and low lying North Sea and Baltic countries suffered the most dryness. In contrast, spring rains enhanced growth and development of crops in most Mediterranean countries and should favor good yields of winter grains. To some extent, conditions were similar in the Balkans.

Spring weather has been nearly ideal in much of the USSR. Favorable temperatures and adequate precipitation encouraged good growth and development of winter grains and forage and favored start of spring crops. Because of spotty germination and uneven growth of considerable winter grain, much of the crop was reseeded or overseeded with spring grain or reseeded to other crops. Below normal moisture conditions limited crop prospects in the North Caucasus, where winterkill was extensive; the Urals; and much of the Volga. However, rains the first half of May helped in the Volga and the North Caucasus. Dry spring weather suited soil preparation and planting in Kazakhstan and Siberia. Good crop prospects hinge on timely early summer rains and a minimum of hot, desiccating winds (Sukhoveis). Even now, rains are needed to establish thick and uniform stands.

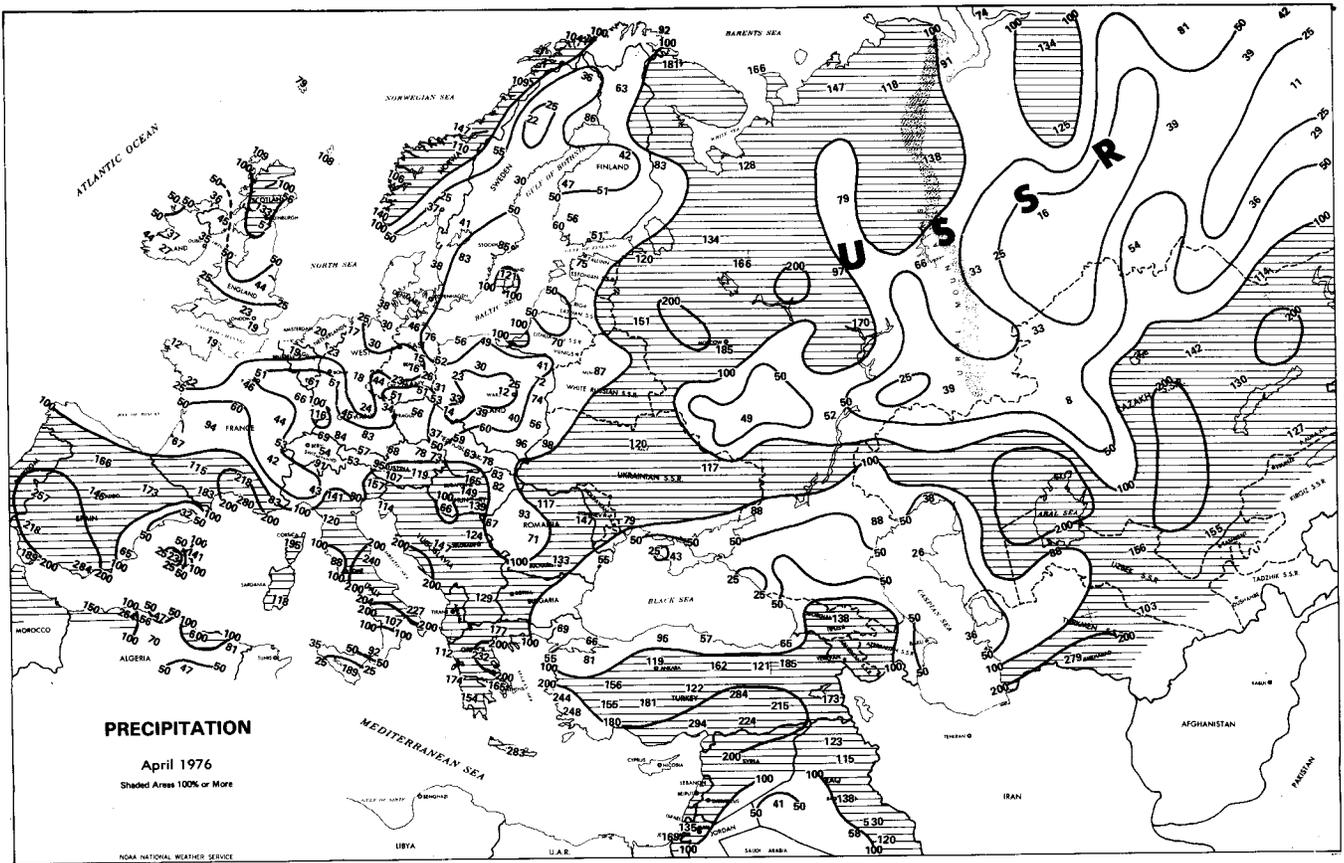
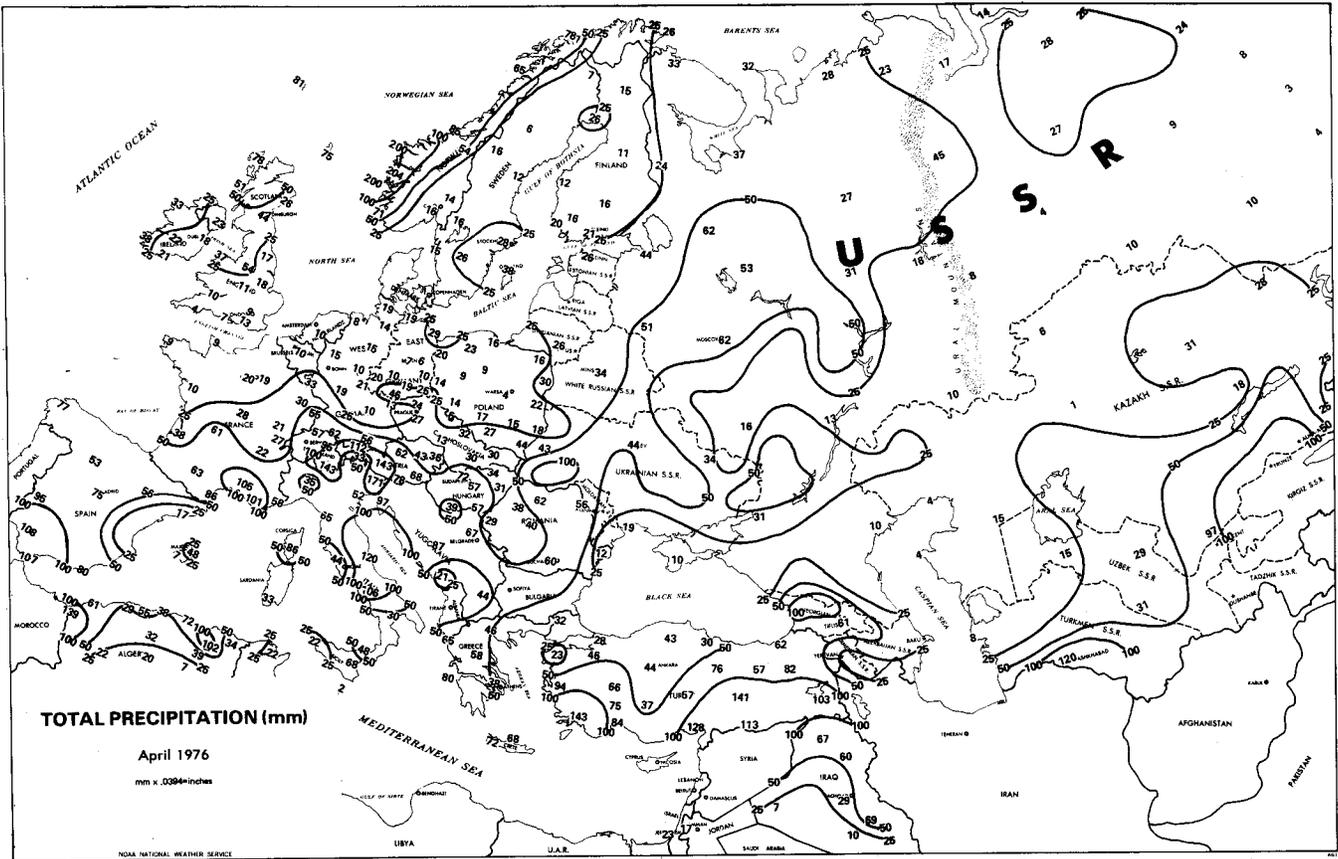
Sowing of spring crops advanced well in the Canadian Prairie Provinces with little weather interference. Mostly adequate moisture helped establish crops; Alberta, however, especially needs adequate rainfall soon, though some areas received temporary relief in May.

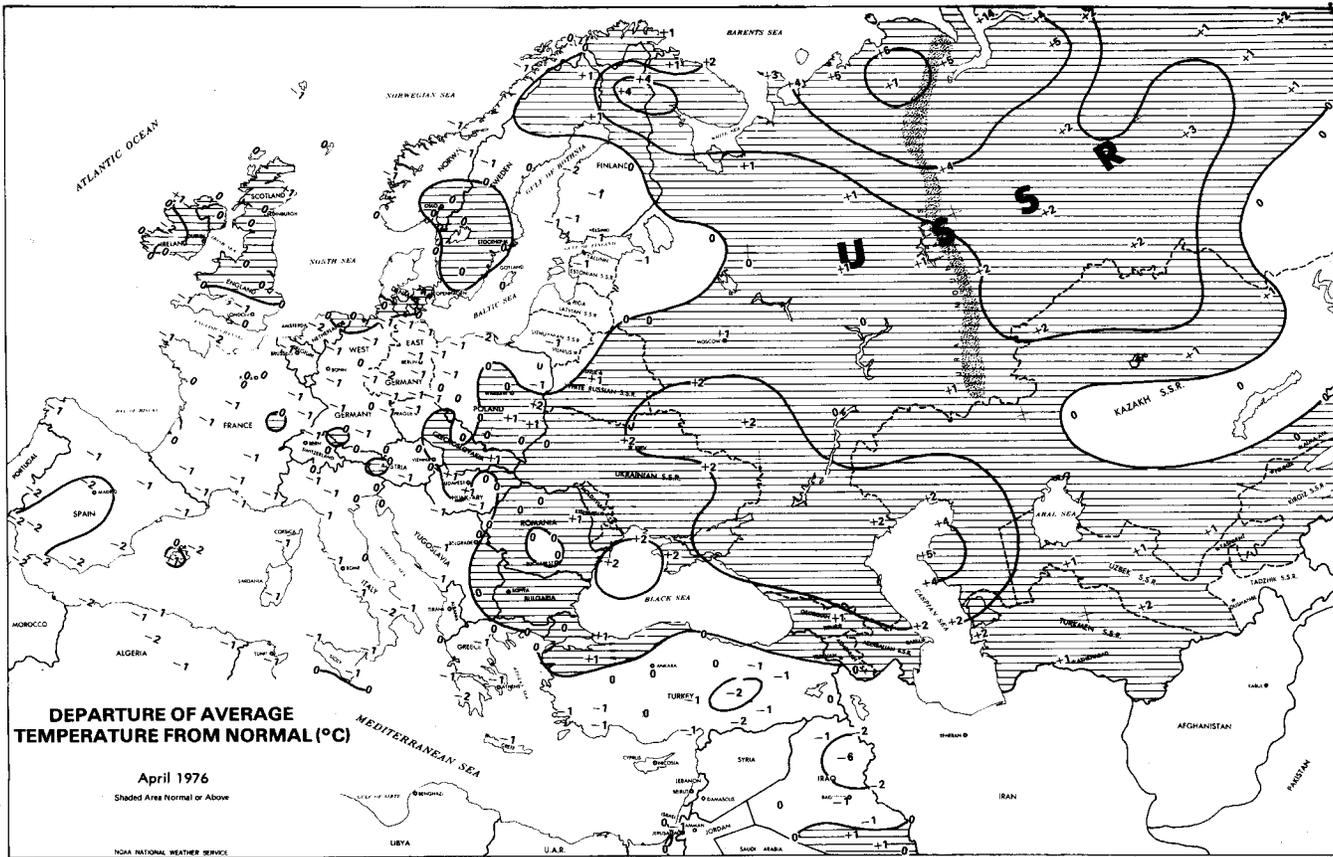
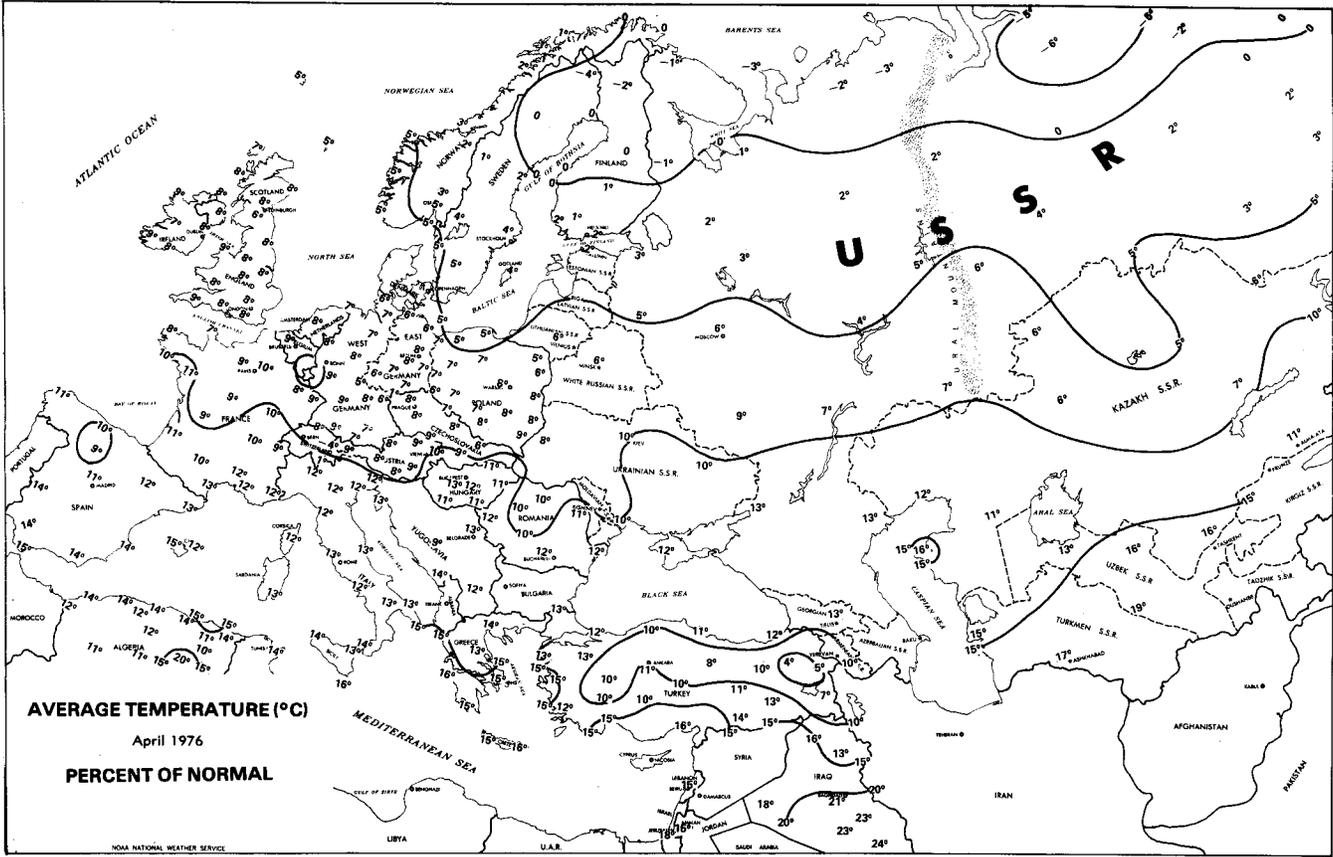
Timely rains this year in the northeast PRC, in contrast to 1975, should provide a good start for spring and summer crops. Most of the North China Plain received adequate moisture for winter wheat and spring sowing, although drought still grips Hopeh Province.

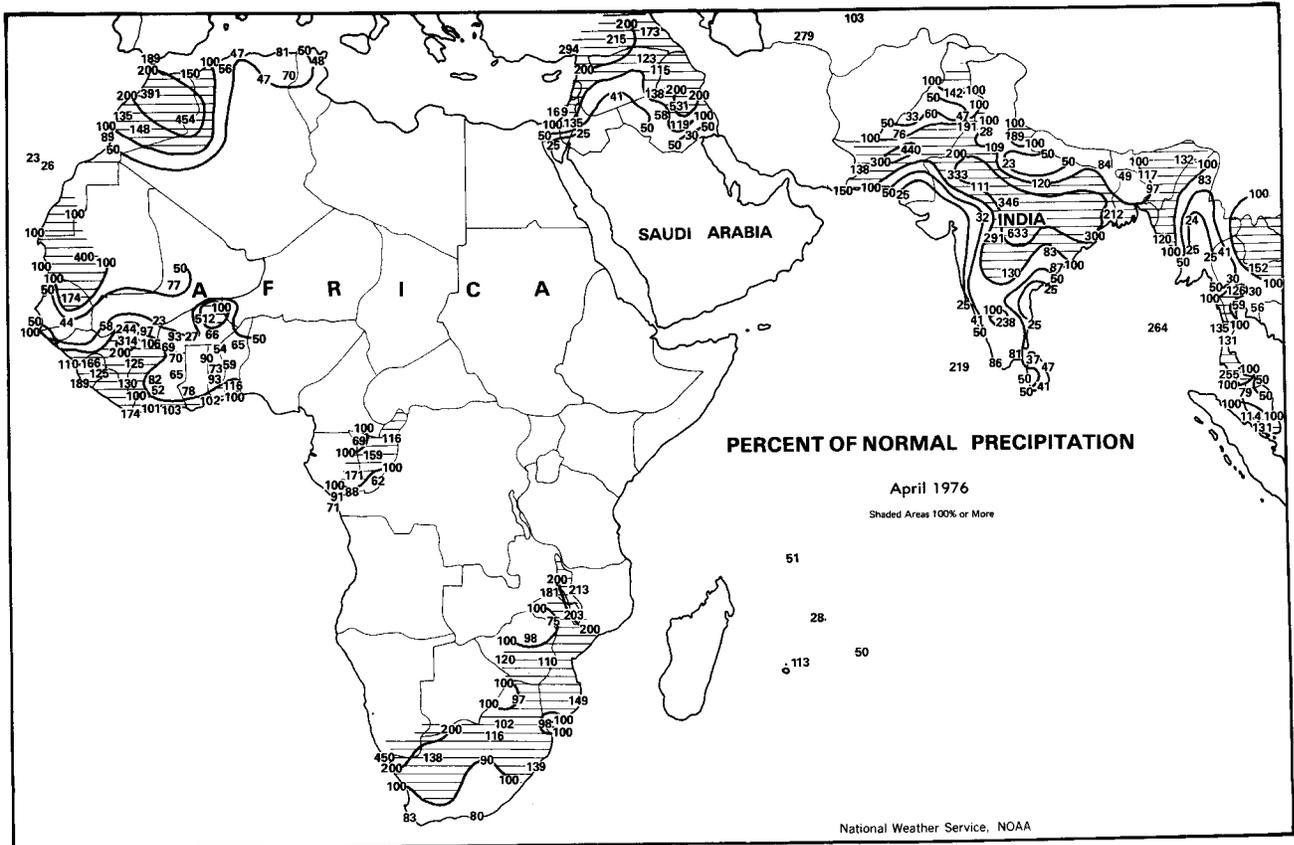
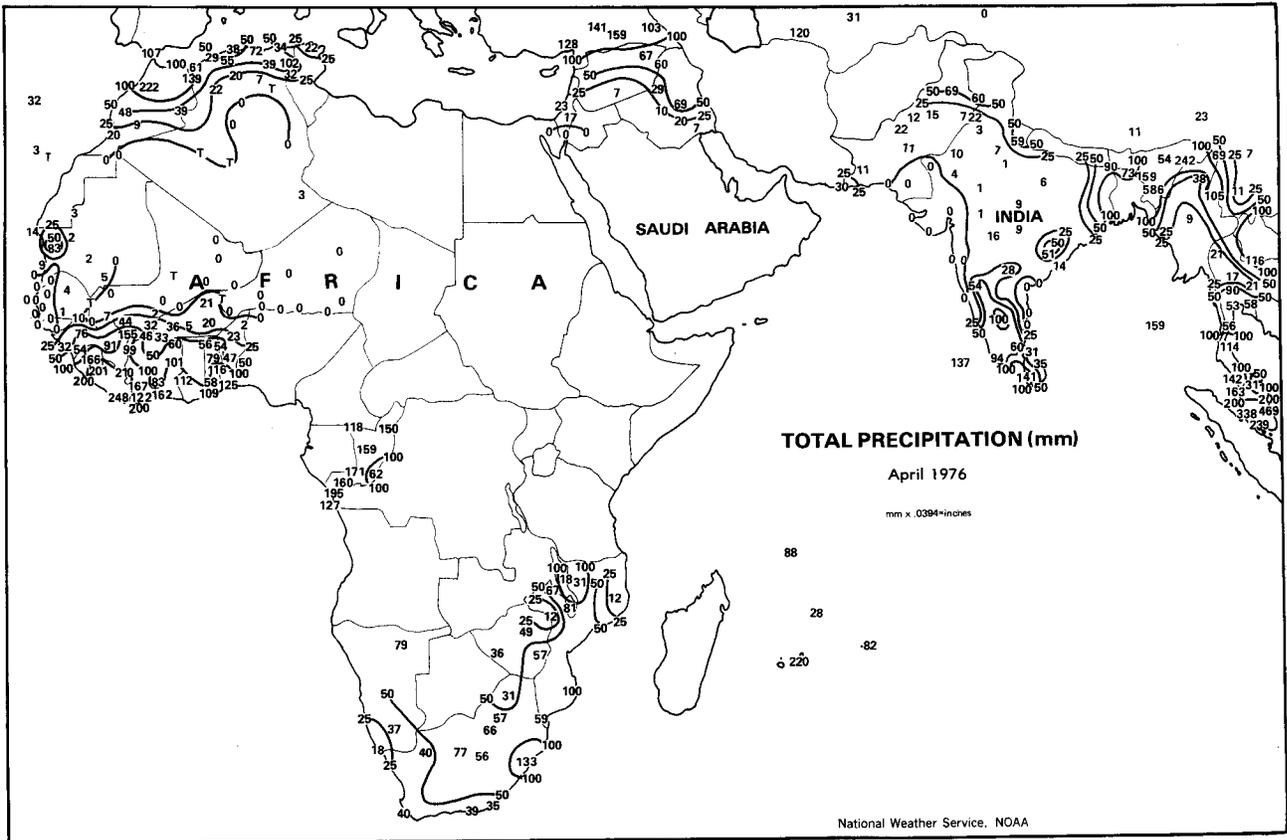
India's grain harvest advanced with little interruption but hail caused some damage in the Punjab.

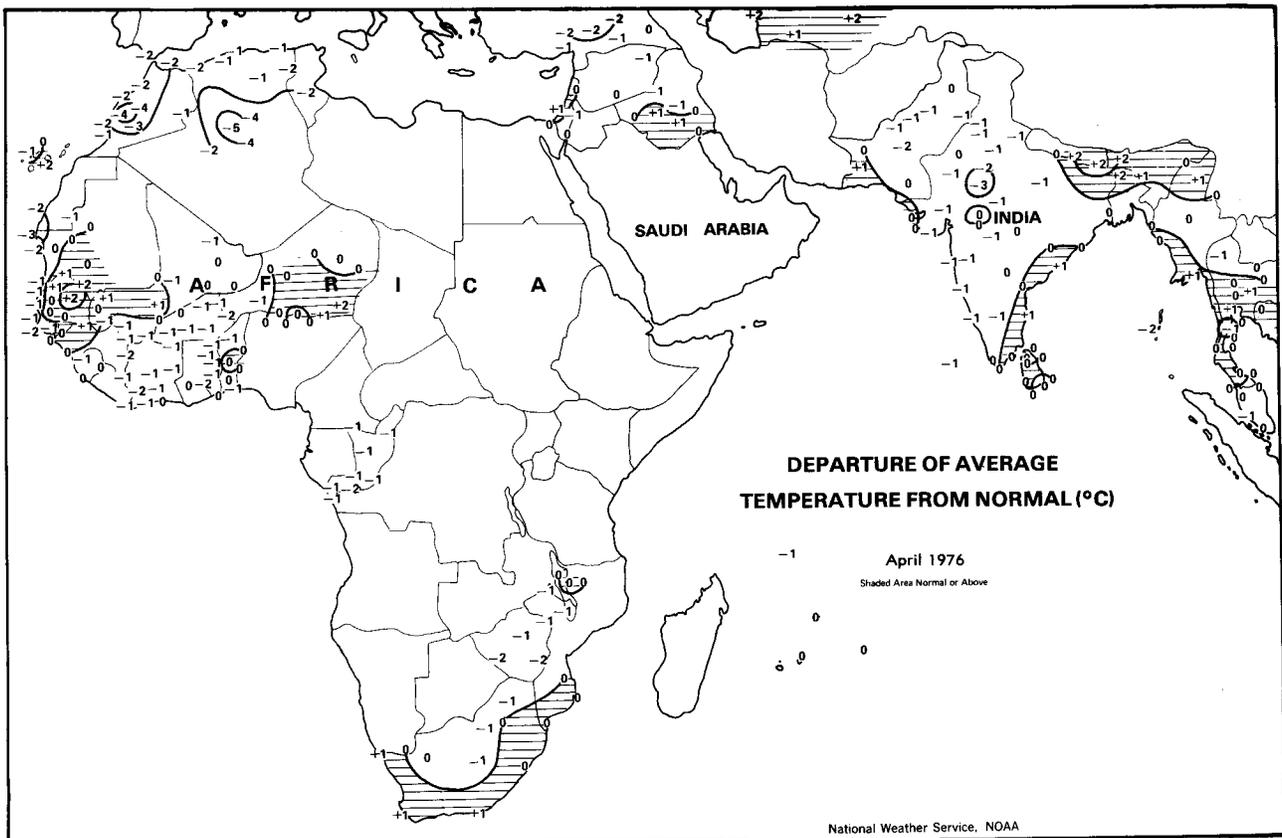
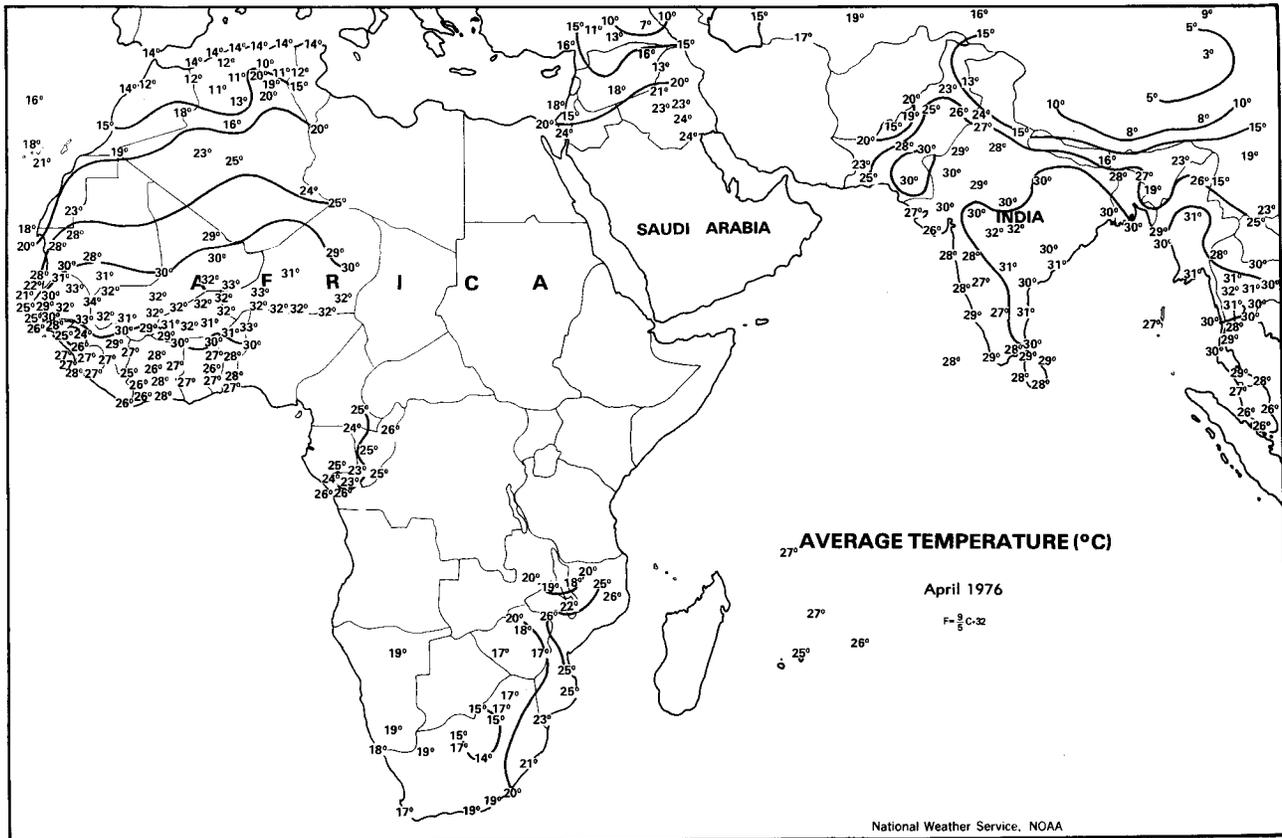
In the Southern Hemisphere, weather was mostly suitable for harvest and soil moisture was adequate to establish fall crops.

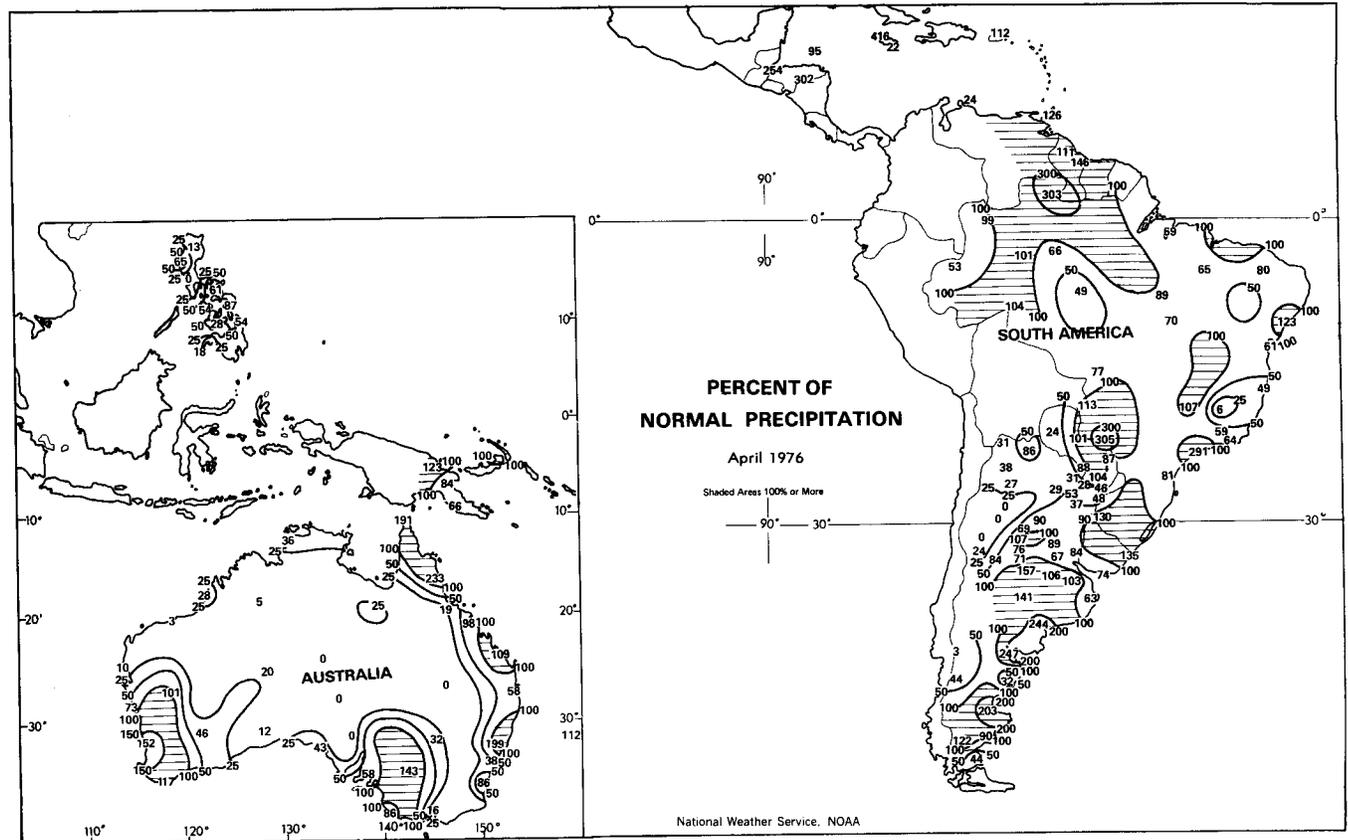
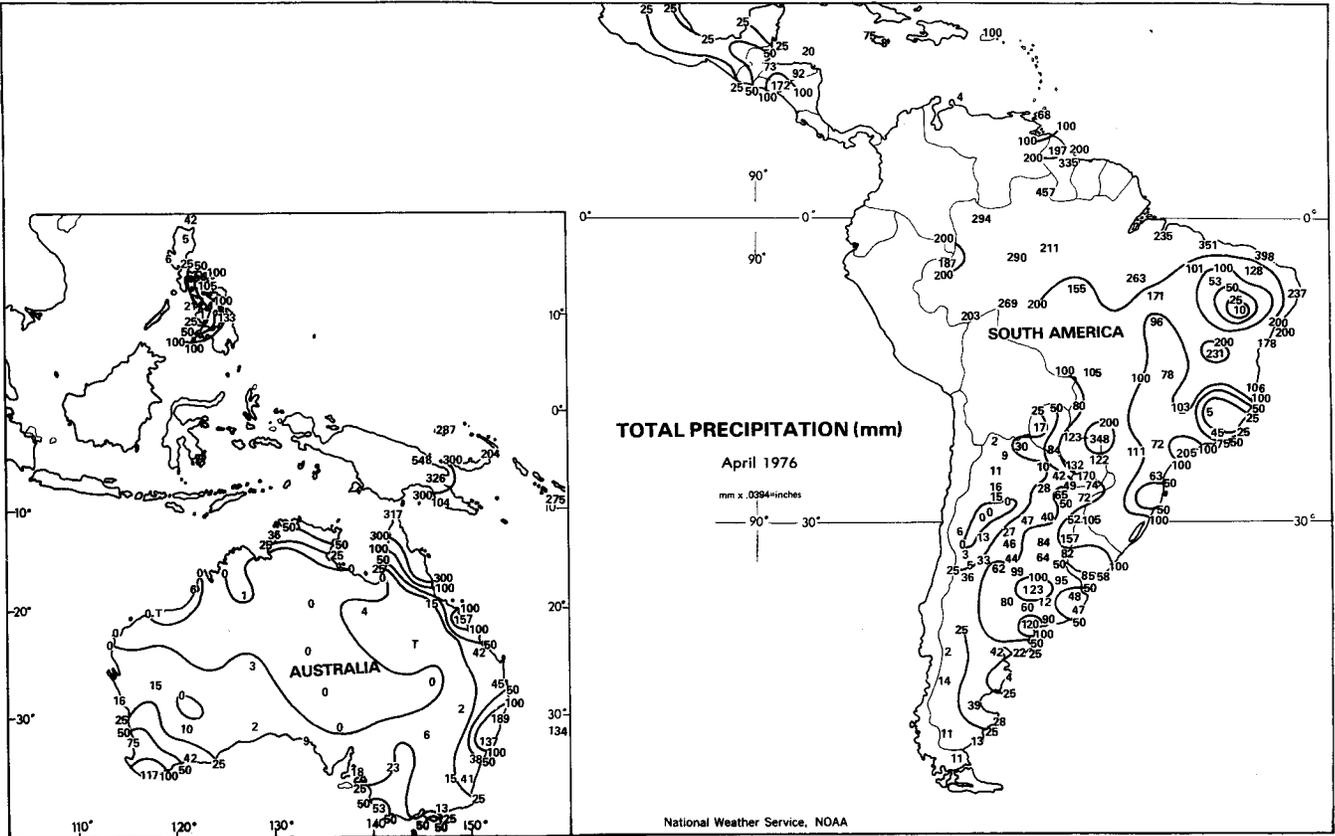
William J. Cremins
Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA

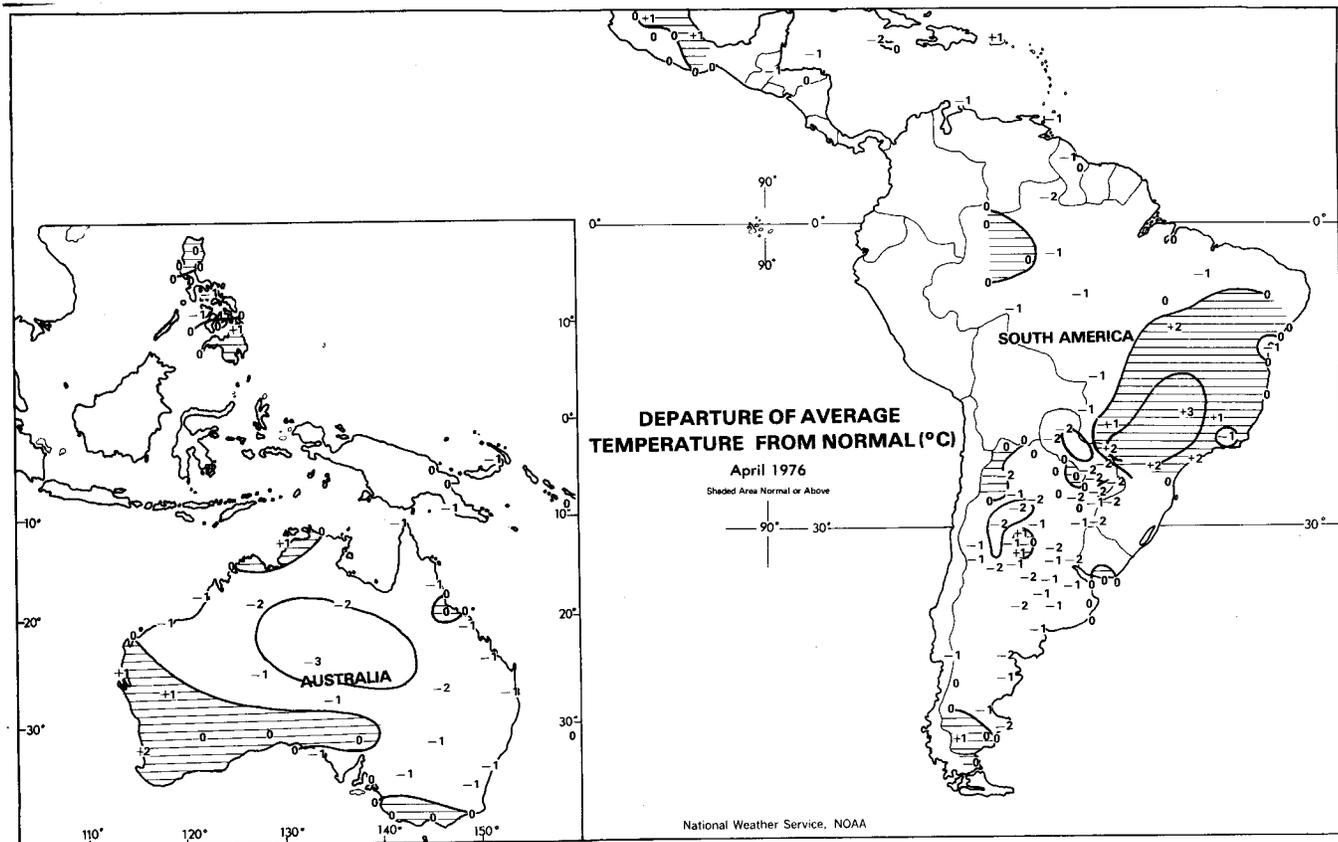
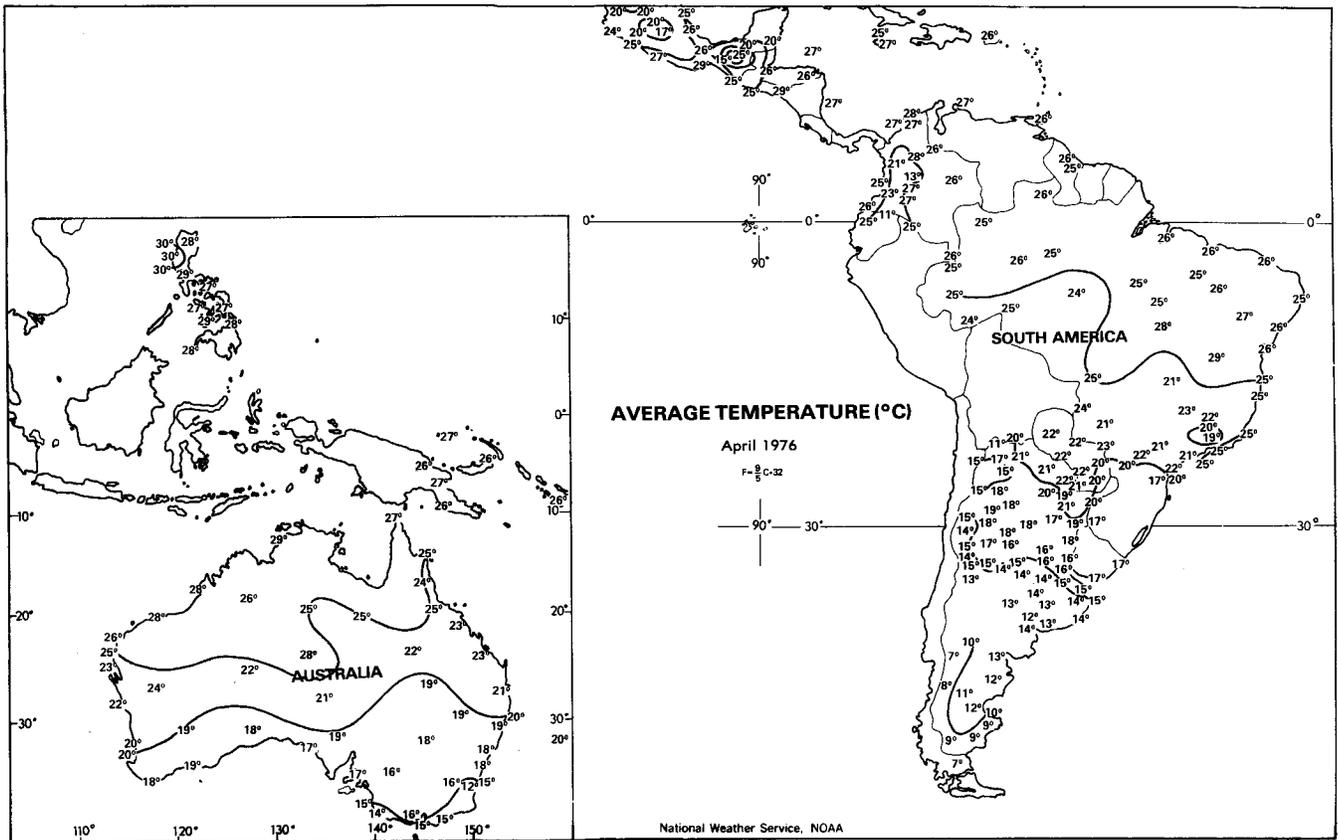




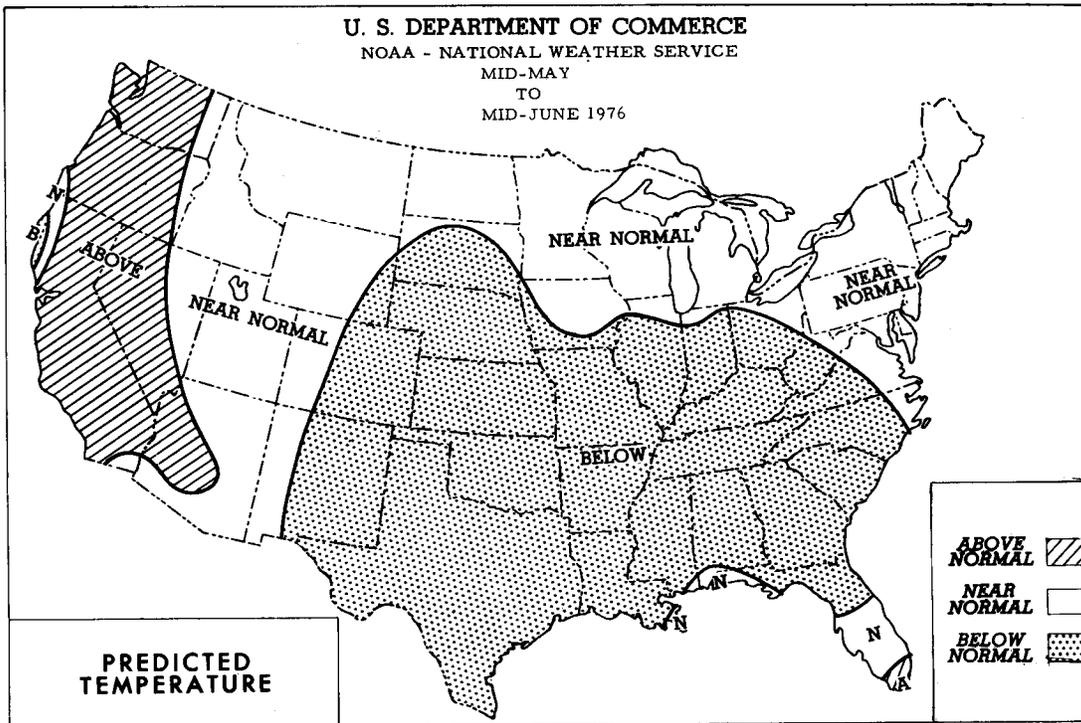
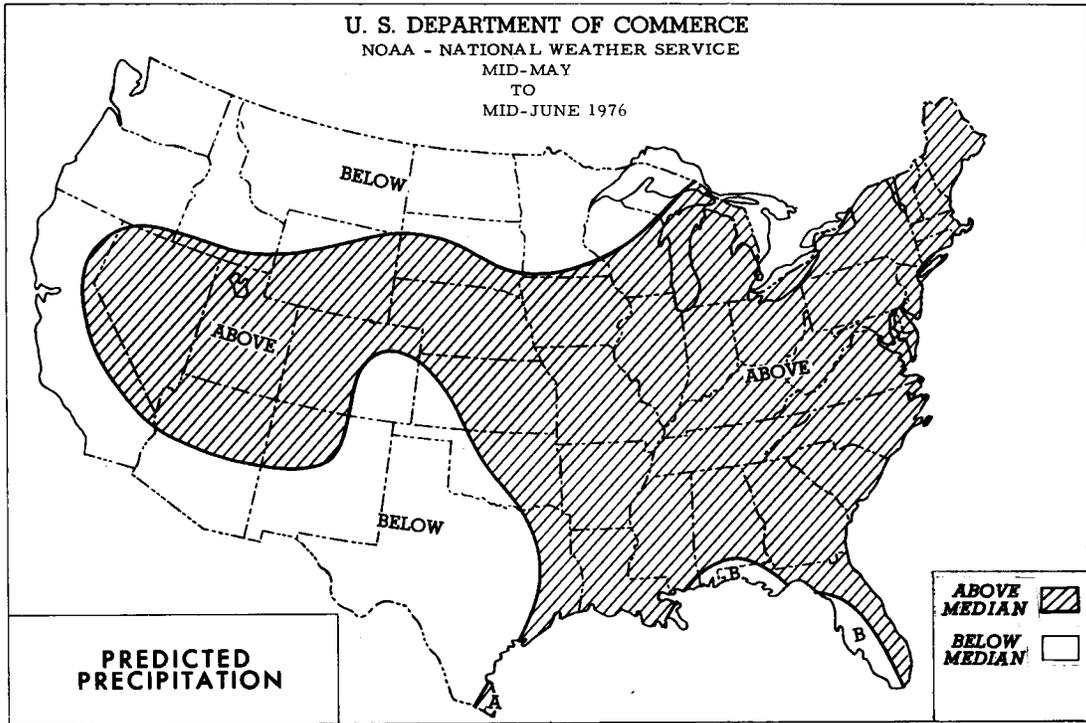




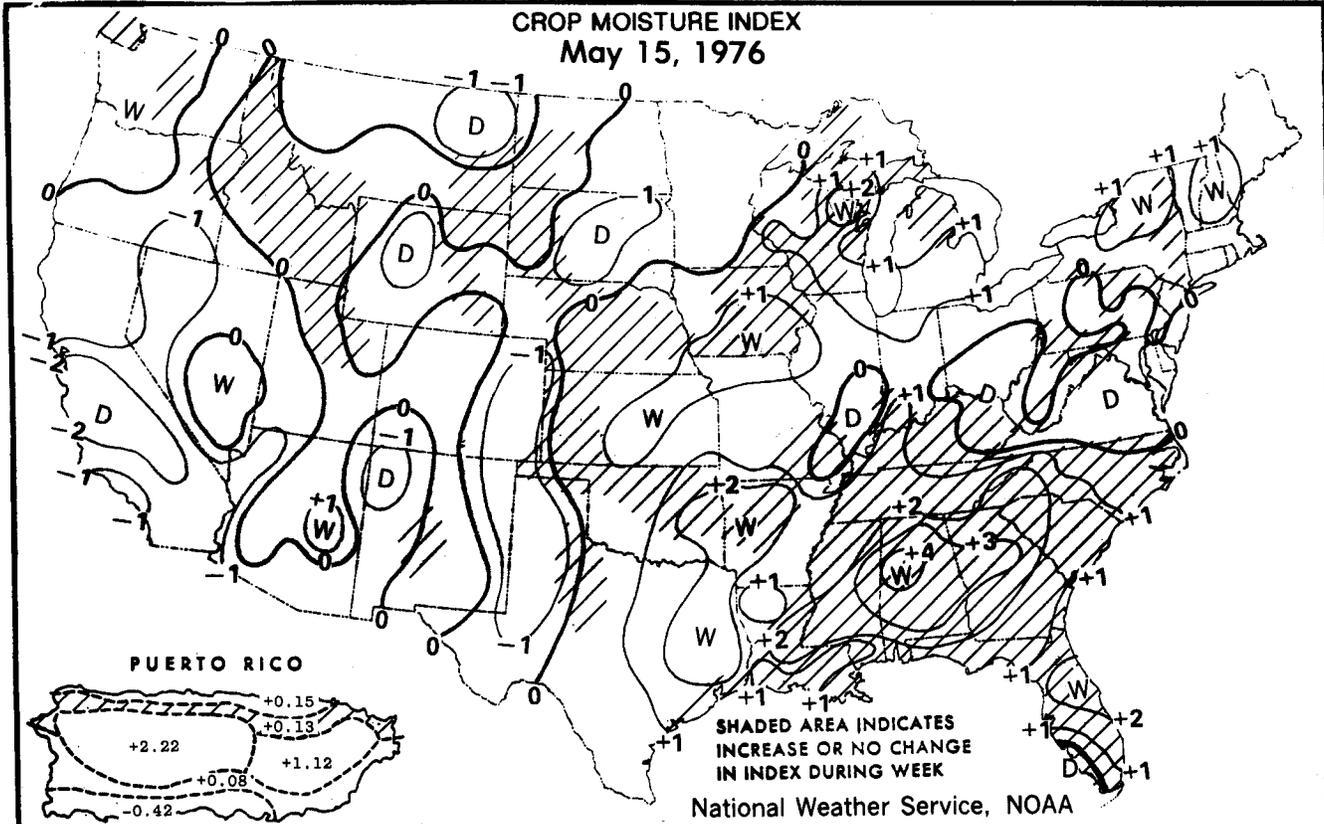




Average Monthly Weather Outlook



CROP MOISTURE INDEX
May 15, 1976



The Crop Moisture Index measures the degree to which moisture requirements of growing crops were met during the previous week. The index is computed from average weekly values of temperature and precipitation. These values are used to calculate the potential moisture demand. Taking into account the previous soil moisture condition and current rainfall, the actual moisture loss is determined.

If the potential moisture demand, or potential evapotranspiration, exceeds available moisture supplies, actual evapotranspiration is reduced and the CMI gives a negative

value. However, if moisture meets or exceeds demand the index is positive.

Shaded areas indicate the index was unchanged or increased from the previous week's value; soils dried in the unshaded areas. Centers of positive and negative areas are identified by W for wet and D for dry.

Local moisture conditions may vary because of differences in rainfall distribution or soil types. The type of agriculture and stage of crop development must be considered when assessing the impact of moisture conditions based on the Crop Moisture Index. Some general guidelines follow.

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

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



FIRST CLASS MAIL

PLANTING PROGRESS

PERCENT OF ACREAGE PLANTED
 (As of May 16)

corn

	1976	1975	Avg.
Ga.	97	83	91
Ill.	88	75	58
Ind.	85	65	30
Iowa	89	70	63
Kans.	60	60	60
Ky.	85	57	52
Mich.	32	35	36
Minn.	92	43	57
Mo.	77	71	60
Nebr.	70	60	50
N. C.	92	88	81
Ohio	85	65	55
S. Dak.	57	41	46
Wis.	50	40	30
U. S.	79	63	55

These 14 States produced 89% of the Nation's corn in 1975.

cotton

	1976	1975	Avg.
Ala.	90	65	70
Ark.	86	60	68
Ga.	93	78	87
La.	74	20	67
Miss.	90	35	71
Mo.	97	81	67
N. C.	90	86	84
Okla.	5	24	19
S. C.	93	83	87
Tenn.	90	65	70
Tex.	40	46	33
11-States	62	50	52

These 11 States produced 68% of the Nation's cotton in 1975.

soybeans

	1976	1975	Avg.
Ala.	24	24	N.A.
Ark.	21	9	12
Ga.	23	19	26
Ill.	38	31	15
Ind.	25	15	10
Iowa	27	19	16
Kans.	5	10	10
Ky.	16	9	12
La.	19	5	22
Mich.	1/	N.A.	N.A.
Minn.	49	12	18
Miss.	25	4	14
Mo.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Nebr.	10	10	15
N. C.	24	25	25
Ohio	40	30	20
S. C.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Tenn.	30	16	14
U. S.	29	18	16

These 18 States produced 96% of the Nation's soybeans in 1975.

spring wheat

	1976	1975	Avg.
Idaho	72	55	N.A.
Minn.	98	52	66
Mont.	90	15	70
N. Dak.	90	27	57
S. Dak.	100	N.A.	N.A.
5-States	92	33	61

These 5 States produced 95% of the Nation's Spring Wheat (other than Durum) in 1974.

1/ Less than 1%.

sorghum

	1976	1975	Avg.
Kans.	5	15	10
Mo.	25	32	22
Nebr.	15	15	15
Okla.	21	21	10
S. Dak.	8	6	6
Tex.	66	70	72
6-States	36	40	39

These 6 States produced 90% of the Nation's sorghum grain in 1975.