

WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

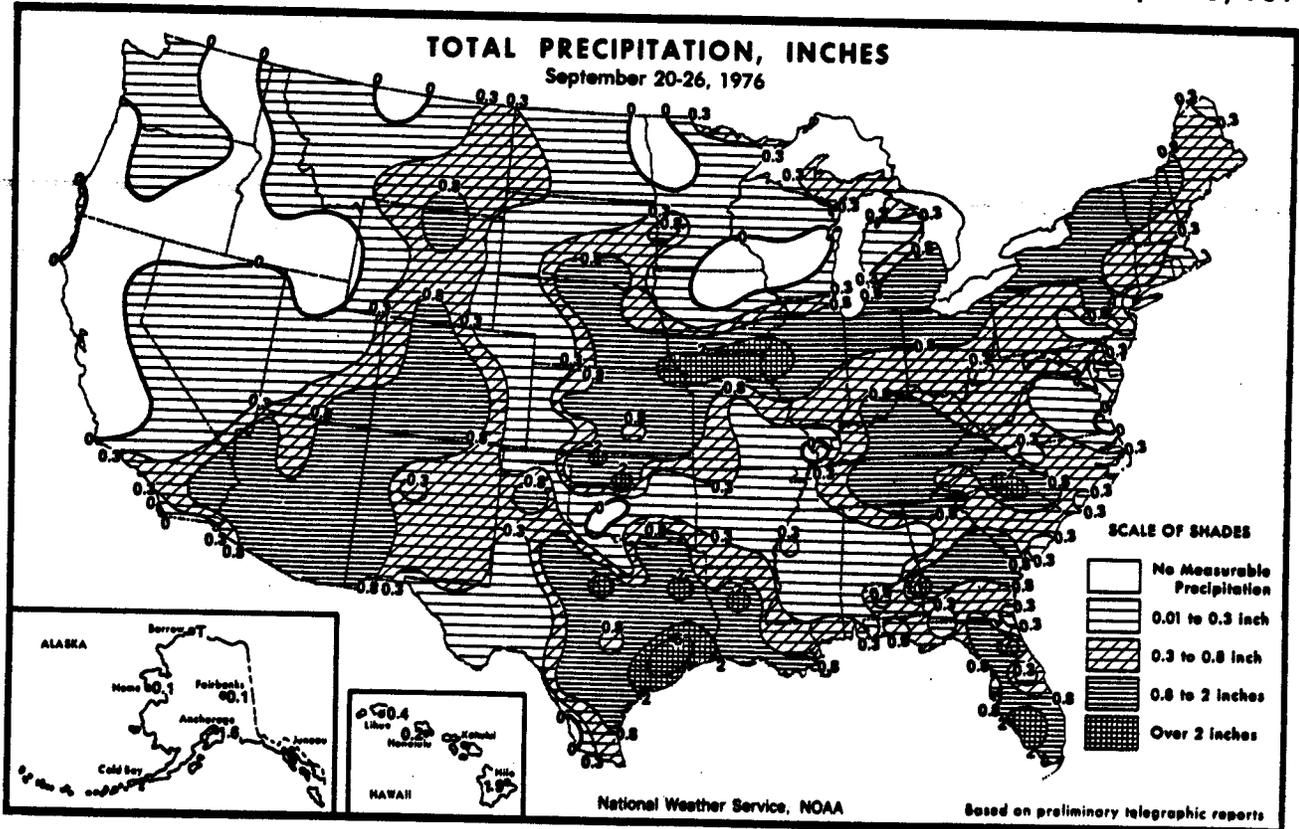
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National Weather Summary

For the Week of September 20-26

HIGHLIGHTS: The moderate drought area in the central and southern Plains, the lower Missouri Valley, and the central Mississippi Valley received a slow but steady rain on Saturday. Earlier in the week, rains in Texas, Arizona, and California caused much flash flood activity. A Canadian cold air mass plunged temperatures to record lows and produced frosts and freezes in the Midwest and Northeast and some snow in Colorado.

Torrential rains barraged Texas on Monday, as rivers and streams escaped their banks to cause flash flooding. About 5 1/2 inches fell in a 6-hour period at Houston and pushed the 48-hour to more than 11 inches.

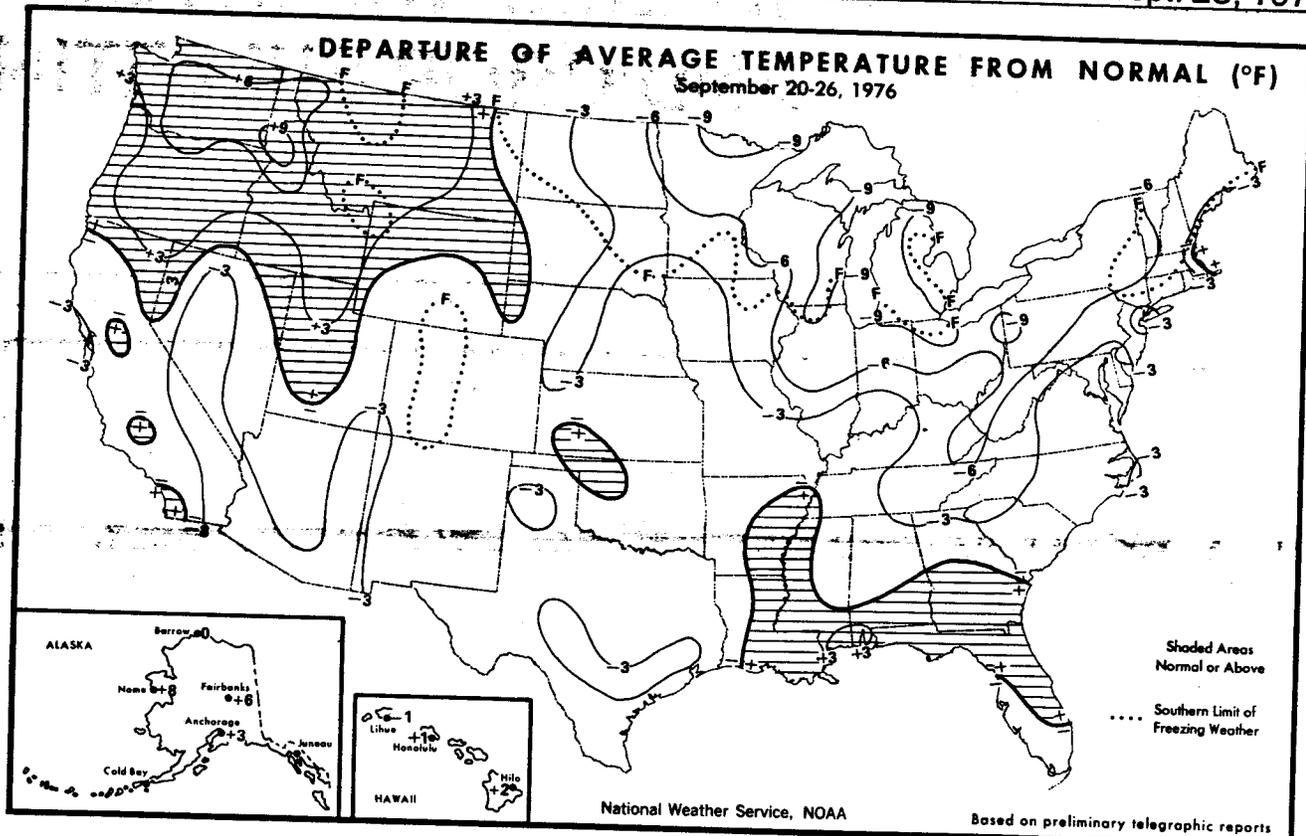
Other showers and thunderstorms were scattered from southwestern Texas through New England, over much of the Atlantic Coast, and the southeastern portion of the Nation. A few thunder-

storms continued over the western end of the Great Lakes area, while showers and thundershowers remained widely scattered over California into the Intermountain Region.

Meanwhile, the Mississippi River stage at the Memphis, Tenn. station slipped beneath the January 1956 record low of -5.4 feet to -4.48 feet. River stages have been kept at Memphis since November 1871.

A new surge of cold Canadian air moved into the upper Mississippi Valley late Monday and lowered temperatures to around the 30 degree mark early Tuesday. Bemidji, Minn. noted the Nation's low reading of 29°, while Laramie, Wyo. scored 30°. Minimum readings dropped to only the 60 degree range in much of Washington and Oregon.

Frost and freeze warnings were posted for lower Michigan, while the upper portion of the State received only a freeze warning. Wisconsin,



northern and west central Indiana, and central and northern Illinois listed frost warnings.

Buckeye, Ariz. soared to 103° for the Nation's high on the last day of summer, while Pittsburgh, Pa. reported the coldest summer since records started in 1870.

Autumn's frosty season hit the north central section of the Nation with full force on Wednesday, as light to moderate frost covered the area. Chicago, Ill. reported its first frost of the season, as suburban temperatures dropped to the lower 30's. Madison, Wisc. reported the Nation's lowest reading at 27°, while Needles, Calif. noted the high of 98°.

Snow fell over many of Colorado's higher elevations and caused travelers' advisories to be posted. By late afternoon, a new outbreak of thunderstorms started in the central high plains of Kansas and Colorado. Showers and isolated thundershowers lingered across much of the Rocky Mountains, while thundershowers were scattered across southern Florida, the lower Great Lakes area, New England, and even a few showers fell in northwest Washington.

Frost dipped into the Northern Plains, upper Mississippi Valley, and the Pennsylvania Mountains, while flash flooding prevailed over the Great Southwest on Thursday.

Although frost covered some portions of Pennsylvania, south winds limited the severity and extent of the frost. Las Vegas, Nev., the Lake Mead and Lake Mojave areas, an area near Kingman, Ariz., and Needles, Calif. reported flooding from heavy thunderstorms.

Roseau, Minn. recorded an early morning low of just 21°, while the Nation's high reached 96° at Coolidge, Ariz.

The upper Midwest's temperatures plunged to

record lows for September 24. Lansing, Mich. and Madison, Wisc. each listed only 26°, while Green Bay, Wisc. and Rockford, Ill. each noted a 28° reading. The early morning low dipped to a mere 24° at both Hibbing, Minn. and Houghton Lake, Mich., while the Nation's high for the day reached 95° at Presidio, Tex.

As the day progressed, lowland flooding continued in Texas. Flash flood alerts remained in effect over the Southwest, as frost warnings prevailed over the Northeast.

Cloudy skies remained over the Rockies, the western high Plains States, the Southern Plateau region, southern California, much of the Great Lakes area, the Atlantic coastal plains, portions of Florida, and eastern Louisiana. Elsewhere across the Nation, partly cloudy skies persisted.

A long overdue rain fell Saturday over the central and southern Plains, the lower Missouri Valley, and the central Mississippi Valley, which were categorized in the moderate drought area. Rain fell at a slow but steady pace and reached 1 1/2 inches in Valentine, Neb., 1 1/4 inches in Kirksville, Mo., 3/4 inch in Fort Riley, Kans., and 2/3 inch in Kansas City, Mo.

South Dakota received a frost and freeze warning and a frost alert was posted for Wyoming, as the cold air mass moved southward on Sunday. The Colorado Mountains, above the 9,000 foot level were issued a heavy snow warning.

Showers and thundershowers continued to cover a large area of the Nation. This area extended east of a line from the central Great Lakes area, across southern Missouri, and into central Texas. Other showers and thundershowers lingered in the central high Plains and the upper Mississippi Valley.

National Agricultural Summary

For the Week of September 20-26

HIGHLIGHTS: Harvesting of the major row crops became more widespread as the crops reached maturity. Rain interrupted harvesting activities in some areas of the United States, notably Texas and parts of the midwest. Most crops in the northern States reached a safe maturity stage before frost could cause much damage.

SMALL GRAINS: Seeding of the 1977 winter wheat crop in the United States reached 35% complete. Dry soil conditions caused the lag with previous years. Recent rain improved seeding and germinating conditions. At this time in 1975 seeding advanced to 41% complete. On the average 46% of the winter wheat acreage was sown by this time. Seeding in all States fell behind most recent years with the exception of Nebraska, at 70%, equaled the average and Montana, at 75%, surpassed both last year's 45% and 50% average. In the North Central States, winter wheat seeding reached 31% complete, far short of last year's 46% and the 43% average. Kansas stood at 25% complete compared with 40% in 1975 and 35% average. In the South Central States, planting attained 23% complete, nearing 1975's 26% but short of the 44% average. Oklahoma farmers seeded 17% of their acreage, less than half the 38% average. In Texas, seeding was 31% complete compared with 34% last year and 53% average.

CORN: Dry soil conditions, previous above normal temperatures, and earlier planting dates last spring helped bring the crop to an earlier maturity. Nationally, harvesting attained 15% complete, edging out last year at 13% and the average of 12%. Most of the corn crop reached maturity before serious frost damage. In the eastern North Central States, corn picking stood at 6% complete equaling the average but behind last year's pace of 9%. Harvesting only began in Michigan and Wisconsin. Moisture content of grain from the drier areas tested lower than 30%. In the western North Central States, farmers made greater progress reaching 13% complete well ahead of 9% last year and almost double the 7% average. Minnesota farmers harvested 12% of their crop compared with 3% in 1975 and the average. Iowa farmers at 8% also moved ahead of last year when only 5% was harvested.

COTTON: The United States cotton crop exceeded last year's rate of boll opening in all States, except Arkansas where the difference was only 2 points, Missouri where only 22% of the bolls were open compared with 36% last year, and Tennessee at 12%, only a third of the 35% last year. Although picking started in many States, very little progress occurred in any of the States. In Mississippi, only 1% of the crop was picked compared with 1975's 2% and the average of 6%. Picking stalled in Texas with only 8% of the cotton harvested. Last year, 18% was picked by this time and on the average 16% was harvested. Rains slowed the Texas harvest. Elsewhere, the crop needs warmer weather to complete development. In Arizona, high humidity caused boll rot which reduced yields and fiber quality. New Mexico farmers picked 1% of the cotton crop. California cotton growers defoliated plants in the San Joaquin Valley.

SOYBEANS: Combining moved rapidly in the North Central States. Elsewhere, very few soybeans were harvested. In the eastern North Central States, combining reached 23% complete

surpassing 1975's rate of 16% and more than double the 10% average. Illinois farmers did most to push the harvest progress along with 35% of the crop harvested compared with 25% in 1975 and 13% average. In Wisconsin, growers only began combining the first fields. In the western North Central States, where earlier dry hot weather accelerated the soybean crop to maturity, combining reached 30% complete about four times the 7% in 1975 and the 8% average. Harvest in all the western North Central States at least doubled over last year and the average, but in Iowa growers harvested 30% of the crop compared with 5% last year and Minnesota farmers reached 45% complete compared with 10% in 1975. In the South Central States, harvesting just began in Arkansas and hit 9% complete in Louisiana.

OTHER CROPS: The sorghum harvest in the six major States stood at 38% complete, one point ahead of last year and 9 points ahead of the average. Kansas producers reached 20% complete compared with 10% last year and 5% average. Oklahoma farmers harvested 14% of the crop which equalled the average but lagged last year's 20%. In Texas, rains slowed combining in some areas and moisture readings generally ran high. Aroostook County farmers in Maine harvested Irish potatoes, but wet fields delayed progress in northern areas. Digging was also active in Washington and Idaho. The Idaho harvest hit 10% complete compared with 5% last year.

The Arkansas rice harvest at 25% complete lagged 1975's 43%. In Louisiana, harvest reached 92% slightly ahead of 88% last year and average. California rice combining activity increased. Mississippi growers harvested only 19% of their crop compared with 32% in 1975 and 27% average. Peanut harvest lagged most recent years except in Mississippi. In Texas, rains helped many peanut fields but also slowed digging operations.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Apple picking was in progress throughout the major production areas. Florida citrus trees were in good condition and cool temperatures helped a good color break. Florida grapefruit harvest increased. In Texas, a light volume of citrus moved to market. In California, subnormal temperatures and no wind limited drying of the raisin crop. The moisture in the fruit attracted insects and caused additional mold damage. Crop losses are unknown.

VEGETABLES: Subnormal temperatures in northern vegetable areas slowed maturity of many crops, but very little frost damage was reported. Marketings of vegetables slid into the usual seasonal decline. In Florida, locally heavy rain delayed vegetable fieldwork and forced spot resetting in some tomato fields. Light supplies of squash, eggplant and sweet corn moved to market. Texas growers seeded vegetable crops in southern areas. Harvests of various vegetables were active in northern areas.

PASTURES AND LIVESTOCK: Pastures remained short in the North Central States providing inadequate forage for cattle herds. Many producers dug into winter reserves to provide additional forage. Grasslands in States bordering the Gulf and Atlantic Coasts improved in response to recent rains. Cattlemen in the Mountain States moved more cattle from summer grazing to lower elevations. Cattle rated generally in good condition.

Temperature and Precipitation Data for the Week Ending Midnight, 1st, September 26, 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 . . .	71	-1	.2	-.6	La. Baton Rouge . . .	77	+1	.6	-.2	Youngstown . . .	52	-9	.5	-.1
Mobile . . .	79	+3	.6	-.8	Lake Charles . . .	78	+1	.8	-.6	OKLA. Okla. City . . .	71	0	.1	-.8
Montgomery . . .	74	0	.3	-.7	New Orleans . . .	73	-2	.5	-.2	Tulsa . . .	71	0	.0	-.9
ALASKA. Anchorage . . .	48	+3	1.6	+1.1	Shreveport . . .	47	-5	.2	-.6	OREG. Astoria . . .	60	+2	.1	-.8
Barrow . . .	28	0	T	-.1	MAINE. Caribou . . .	54	-2	.5	-.2	Burns . . .	60	+4	0	-.1
Fairbanks . . .	47	+6	T	-.1	Portland . . .	64	-2	.3	-.4	Medford . . .	65	+3	0	-.2
Juneau . . .	---	---	---	---	MD. Baltimore . . .	63	+1	.1	-.6	Pendleton . . .	68	+6	.2	+1
Kodiak . . .	---	---	---	---	MASS. Boston . . .	61	---	.2	---	Portland . . .	65	+4	T	-.4
Nome . . .	47	+8	.1	-.4	Chathaus . . .	47	-7	.3	-.4	Salem . . .	61	+1	T	-.4
ARIZ. Flagstaff . . .	55	-1	1.3	+1.2	MICH. Alpena . . .	54	-7	1.5	+1.0	PA. Allentown . . .	58	-6	.8	0
Phoenix . . .	80	-2	1.4	+1.1	Detroit . . .	51	-8	1.1	+1.5	Erie . . .	61	-6	1.4	+6
Tucson . . .	62	-5	.8	+1.1	Flint . . .	50	-10	.5	-.3	Harrisburg . . .	63	-3	.2	-.3
Winslow . . .	69	-3	.1	-.1	Grand Rapids . . .	46	-9	.1	-.7	Philadelphia . . .	55	-7	.8	+2
Yuma . . .	80	-5	.1	-.1	Houghton Lake . . .	49	-10	.9	+3	Pittsburgh . . .	68	+5	1.0	+4
ARK. Fort Smith . . .	71	0	T	-.8	Lansing . . .	47	-8	.6	-.2	Scranton . . .	56	-5	1.0	+6
Little Rock . . .	76	+1	0	0	Marquette . . .	49	-10	.3	-.5	R.I. Providence . . .	58	-3	.1	-.6
CALIF. Bakersfield . . .	70	-2	0	0	Muskegon . . .	43	-10	.5	-.4	S.C. Charleston . . .	73	-1	T	-1.1
Eureka . . .	55	-1	T	-.2	S. Ste. Marie . . .	45	-7	.1	-.6	Columbia . . .	72	-1	.5	-.4
Fresno . . .	70	-2	0	0	MINN. Duluth . . .	41	-10	.3	-.4	Greenville . . .	66	-4	2.5	+1.7
Los Angeles . . .	71	-1	.5	+1.5	Internat'l Falls . . .	53	-4	.1	-.1	S.D. Aberdeen . . .	53	-3	.1	-.3
Red Bluff . . .	73	-1	0	-.1	Minneapolis . . .	51	-6	.0	-.5	Huron . . .	54	-4	.4	0
San Diego . . .	72	+3	T	-.1	Rochester . . .	49	-6	.3	-.3	Rapid City . . .	58	0	.1	-.2
San Francisco . . .	61	+3	.9	-.1	St. Cloud . . .	75	+1	.1	-.6	Sioux Falls . . .	67	-3	.3	-.3
Stockton . . .	72	+1	0	-.1	MISS. Jackson . . .	71	-2	.1	-.6	TEX. Chattanooga . . .	64	-5	.7	-.9
COLO. Denver . . .	58	-2	.8	+1.5	Meridian . . .	63	-3	.3	-.8	Knoxville . . .	74	+5	.7	+1
Grand Junction . . .	63	-2	1.4	+1.3	MO. Columbia . . .	64	-2	1.1	+1	Memphis . . .	67	-3	.1	-.6
Pueblo . . .	59	-2	.2	-.4	Kansas City . . .	66	-1	.5	-.2	Nashville . . .	72	-2	1.9	+3.3
CORN. Bridgeport . . .	61	-3	.4	-.4	St. Louis . . .	59	+3	.4	+1	TX. Abilene . . .	65	-3	1.5	+1.1
Hartford . . .	58	-3	.4	-.4	Springfield . . .	57	+3	.2	+1	Austin . . .	78	-1	.5	-.4
D.C. Washington . . .	67	-1	.2	-.4	MONT. Billings . . .	59	+3	.4	+1	Beaumont . . .	78	-1	2.4	+1.2
FLA. Apalachicola . . .	77	0	.6	-1.4	Glasgow . . .	59	+4	T	-.3	Brownsville . . .	81	0	.3	-1.0
Daytona Beach . . .	79	0	.4	-1.2	Great Falls . . .	59	+5	T	-.2	Corpus Christi . . .	80	0	1.1	-.1
Ft. Myers . . .	79	-2	2.3	+3	Havre . . .	56	+3	.1	-.1	Dallas . . .	78	0	T	-.8
Jacksonville . . .	77	0	2.3	+3	Helena . . .	57	+6	T	-.3	Del Rio . . .	70	-2	.2	-.1
Key West . . .	83	0	1.0	-.8	Kalispell . . .	57	+0	.4	+1	El Paso . . .	70	-2	.1	-.7
Lakeland . . .	80	0	1.9	+8	Miles City . . .	61	+3	1.1	+1	Fort Worth . . .	75	0	.1	-.1
Miami . . .	80	-1	1.4	-.7	Missoula . . .	61	-2	1.9	+1.3	Galveston . . .	78	-1	3.4	+2.1
Orlando . . .	80	+1	.2	-1.4	NEBR. Grand Island . . .	59	-2	.3	-.2	Houston . . .	73	-5	1.1	-1.0
Tallahassee . . .	77	0	.1	-1.4	Lincoln . . .	55	-4	.2	-.3	Lubbock . . .	60	0	T	-.6
Tampa . . .	79	-1	.6	-.7	Norfolk . . .	62	0	.8	+1	Midland . . .	71	-2	.1	-.3
W. Palm Beach . . .	79	-2	1.5	-.9	N. Platte . . .	62	0	.8	+1	San Angelo . . .	72	-3	.1	-.6
GA. Atlanta . . .	69	-1	.1	-.6	Omaha . . .	55	-3	1.6	+1.3	San Antonio . . .	74	-4	1.4	+5
Augusta . . .	71	-1	1.3	+1.2	Valentine . . .	54	0	T	-.1	Victoria . . .	75	-3	2.0	+9
Macon . . .	76	+2	1.9	+1.2	NEV. Ely . . .	60	+2	T	-.1	Waco . . .	73	-1	1.5	+7
Savannah . . .	75	0	1.2	0	Las Vegas . . .	62	-5	T	-.1	Wichita Falls . . .	57	-4	1.0	+8
HAWAII. Hilo . . .	77	+2	1.9	+2	Reno . . .	52	-5	.5	-.2	Salt Lake City . . .	65	+3	T	-.2
Honolulu . . .	81	+1	.2	0	Winneucca . . .	61	-4	.2	-.4	UTAH. Blanding . . .	51	-6	1.5	+8
Kahului . . .	---	---	---	---	N.H. Concord . . .	62	-3	.5	-.2	VT. Burlington . . .	65	-1	1.2	-.5
Lihue . . .	---	---	---	---	N.J. Atlantic City . . .	66	-2	.2	+1	VA. Lynchburg . . .	69	-1	T	-.9
IDAHO. Boise . . .	64	+3	0	-.1	Trenton . . .	70	+2	.4	0	Norfolk . . .	66	-2	.1	-.7
Lewiston . . .	70	+9	0	-.2	N.MEX. Albuquerque . . .	52	-8	.7	0	Richmond . . .	62	-4	.4	-.4
Pocatello . . .	60	+3	T	-.8	Roswell . . .	51	-7	.8	+1	Roanoke . . .	61	+5	T	-.2
ILL. Cairo . . .	69	-1	0	-.8	N.Y. Albany . . .	52	-7	1.8	+1.1	OK. Okla. . .	61	+5	0	-.1
Chicago . . .	56	-8	1.4	+7	Buffalo . . .	64	-2	.2	-.5	Quillayute . . .	64	+6	T	-.5
Moline . . .	54	-8	1.6	+7	New York . . .	53	-7	1.1	+6	Seattle-Tacoma . . .	64	+7	T	-.2
Peoria . . .	55	-8	1.7	+9	Rochester . . .	58	-5	.9	+3	Spokane . . .	69	+7	T	-.2
Rockford . . .	52	-9	.6	-.3	Syracuse . . .	60	-5	.6	-.3	Walla Walla . . .	66	+7	T	-.1
Springfield . . .	57	-8	1.6	+8	N.C. Asheville . . .	67	-3	.3	-1.0	Yakima . . .	58	-3	.5	-.3
IND. Evansville . . .	66	-1	.5	-.1	Charlotte . . .	69	-2	.4	-.4	W. Va. Beckley . . .	59	-6	.4	-.3
Ft. Wayne . . .	55	-7	.8	+2	Greensboro . . .	67	-2	.3	-.9	Charleston . . .	60	-6	.4	-.2
Indianapolis . . .	60	-4	.3	-.4	Hatteras . . .	72	-1	.3	-.9	Huntington . . .	61	-4	.2	-.4
South Bend . . .	53	-9	1.5	+8	Raleigh . . .	52	-3	.1	-.2	Parkersburg . . .	48	-9	T	-.7
IOWA. Burlington . . .	67	-6	2.2	+1.3	Wilmington . . .	49	-6	T	-.4	La Crosse . . .	54	-5	T	-.8
Des Moines . . .	60	-2	.2	-.5	N. DAK. Bismarck . . .	52	-2	.3	0	Madison . . .	50	-7	T	-.8
Dubuque . . .	59	-2	.3	-.3	Fargo . . .	54	-8	1.4	+8	Milwaukee . . .	54	-5	.1	-.7
Sioux City . . .	53	-2	.3	-.3	Williston . . .	61	-5	.6	0	WYO. Casper . . .	55	-1	.7	+5
KANS. Concordia . . .	63	-2	1.8	+1.1	OHIO. Akron-Canton . . .	54	-8	2.0	+1.4	Cheyenne . . .	55	-1	.2	0
Dodge City . . .	67	+1	T	-.4	Cincinnati . . .	58	-5	.6	+1	Lander . . .	55	-1	.2	-.1
Goodland . . .	59	-3	.2	-.1	Cleveland . . .	58	-6	.5	0	Sheridan . . .	57	+2	1.0	+7
Topeka . . .	64	-2	1.0	+3	Columbus . . .	52	-10	1.8	+1.3	P.R. San Juan . . .	84	+3	.5	-.9
Wichita . . .	66	-2	.9	0	Toledo . . .	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
KY. Lexington . . .	63	-4	1.1	+5	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Louisville . . .	66	-1	1.3	+6	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Based on 1941-70 Normals

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State Summaries of Weather and Agriculture

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

ALABAMA: Cold front on 20th lowered temperatures. Temperatures increased with a return of warm, moist air from the Gulf.

Fieldwork: 5.5 days suitable. Soil moisture short to adequate. Major activities: Harvesting corn and peanuts, defoliating cotton and preparing machinery for harvest. Cotton fair to good, 34% with bolls open, 24% 1975, 35% average. First bales harvested south. Corn 43% harvested, 31% 1975, 23% average. Soybeans 22% mature, 21% 1975, 24% average. Peanuts 49% combined, 59% 1975, 67% average. Seeding of small grains continues, 22% complete, 17% 1975. Pastures adequate.

ARIZONA: Moist tropical air brought thunder-showers, over 2.00 in. in some locales. Temperatures normal to 7° below.

Rainy weather slowed field operations, cotton. High humidity, light showers causing boll rot reducing yield, fiber quality. Early fields ready for picking when weather improves. Harvest sorghum continues, limited by wet weather. Preparation 1977 wheat fields started. Sugarbeets good progress. Alfalfa hay baling slow, wet fields. Lettuce good progress, planting continues. Lemon harvest continues, pruning and removal of tree damage underway. Recent precipitation will promote fall regrowth on ranges. Rains improved stock water supplies. Livestock good condition higher elevations.

ARKANSAS: Temperatures from 0 to 5° below normal. Extremes: 93 and 35°. Rainfall general but light.

Fieldwork: 6 days suitable. Early maturing soybean varieties dropping leaves. Few more fields harvested. Cotton mostly fair; open bolls 33% of acreage, 35% year ago. Dry weather hurt boll size with initial yields below average. Rice harvest 25% complete, 43% last year. Corn harvest 75% complete. Sorghum harvest 62% complete, 53% last year. Wheat seedings 9% complete, 13% year ago. Oat planting farther along. Armyworm damage reported. Short hay crop caused some farmers to bale sorghum stubble for hay. Pastures short most areas. Fall armyworm populations heavy many pastures.

CALIFORNIA: Temperatures near normal except along south coast where departure several degrees above normal and southeastern interior where temperatures about 4° below normal. Little or no precipitation. Greatest amount 1.78 in. in Coachella Valley.

Rains slowed fieldwork southern part. Some rain damage hay, dry beans. Replanting sugarbeets Imperial Valley. Planting small grain Sacramento Valley. Cotton defoliation active San Joaquin Valley. Rice harvest increasing. About 33% date crop lost to weather. Raisins primary problem weather. Low temperatures. Lack of wind limiting drying. Moisture in fruit attracting insects. Additional mold damage. Crop loss remains unknown.

COLORADO: Temperatures near to below normal. General precipitation with heavier amounts east and south; 0.50 in. or less on western slope, 0.50 to 1.50 in. over eastern plains.

Winter wheat seeding 81%, 84% 1975, 80% average. Emergence 56%, 56% 1975, 49% average. Sorghum coloring 89%, 80% 1975, 84% average, 29% ripe, 30% 1975. Corn dented 93%, 93% 1975,

86% average; 70% mature, 75% 1975, 71% average. Silage harvest 75%, 82% 1975, 67% average. Dry bean cutting 94%, 80% 1975, 74% average; combining 54%, 41% 1975, 39% average. Summer potato harvest 79%, 74% 1975. Fall potato harvest 25% complete. Alfalfa third cutting 90%, fourth cutting 13%. Topsoil moisture adequate, subsoil short. Ranges and pastures poor to fair.

FLORIDA: Warm days, mild nights with scattered thundershowers. Temperatures near normal. Rainfall generally light to moderate.

Soil moisture mostly adequate, few dry areas in eastern Panhandle. Few wet spots along Atlantic Coast. Peanut harvest progressing rapidly. Yields lower than expected earlier. Late planted corn being harvested. Soybean harvest getting underway. Haying continues but declining. Sugarcane good condition, harvesting for seed active. Pecan prospects poor. Pastures providing fair to good grazing. Grasses in Panhandle declined in quality faster, shortage of soil moisture. Preparation of winter pastures progressing well. Condition cattle, calves varies widely, but mostly good. Citrus tree condition excellent, cool temperatures aiding color break. Moisture adequate most areas, very little irrigation. Harvest increasing mostly on grapefruit. Vegetable crops generally progressing well. Locally heavy rainfall delayed fieldwork, necessitated spot re-setting tomatoes some fields. Planting continues very active. Light harvest of squash, eggplant underway. Harvest sweet corn gaining.

GEORGIA: Temperatures near normal south to 4° below normal in north half. Temperatures ranged from near 60 north to upper 70s south. Rainfall generally less than 0.25 in. but near 0.50 in. central. Scattered thundershowers weekend with a few areas in excess of 1.50 in.

Soil moisture extremely variable, northern third and southwest corner very short to short, elsewhere variable but mostly adequate. Fieldwork: 5.0 days suitable. Cotton mostly fair to good, 39% open. Peanuts fair to mostly good, 67% dug, 53% threshed, last year 72% and 56%, average 81% and 69%. Corn fair to mostly good, 52% harvested, last year 35%, average 22%. Soybean condition fair to good, insect control active. Hay crop condition fair to good. Pastures mostly fair to good. Apples fair to mostly good, harvest very active. Pecans mostly fair to good. Cattle fair to mostly good. Hogs good condition.

HAWAII: Hot humid weather continuing. Most areas dry. Some light showers mountain sections. Crops heavily irrigated. Vegetable supplies adequate. Banana supplies heavy. Papaya supplies increasing but still light. Sugar harvesting steady. Pineapple harvesting light. Pastures dry leeward, windward getting dry.

IDAHO: Temperatures near to 9° above normal. Extremes: 88 and 32°. Precipitation near to below normal.

Favorable weather allowed harvest good order. Harvest small grains near completion. Potato and sugarbeet harvest underway on limited scale. Winter wheat 95% harvested, same 1975. Spring wheat 85% harvested, 90% 1975. Dry beans

70% swathed and 30% combined, 90% swathed, 45% combined 1975. Seeding 1977 winter wheat crop 30% completed, 40% 1975. Potato crop 10% harvested, 5% 1975. Cattle excellent condition; being moved off summer ranges.

ILLINOIS: Temperatures 9° below normal north and central, near normal elsewhere. Precipitation 0.10 to 2.50 in., heaviest central.

Corn 94% mature, 100% 1975, 84% average; 7% harvested, 11% 1975, 7% average; most advanced south. Soybeans 90% shedding leaves, 85% 1975, 64% average; 35% combined, 25% 1975, 13% average; most advanced central and southern. Winter wheat 10% seeded, 14% 1975, 15% average. Pastures fair to poor. Soil moisture short. Fieldwork: 6.5 days suitable.

INDIANA: Stormy over weekend. Rainfall ranged from 0.50 to 1.50 in. considerable fog. Scattered frost in north on 22d and 24th.

Fieldwork averaged 6 days. Topsoil and subsoil moisture mostly short. Corn 5% harvested, about average. Corn 80% mature, 1975 70%, average 55%. Soybeans 10% combined, 1975 75%. Wheat land 65% plowed, 1975 70%, average 70%. Tobacco 90% harvested, 1975 70%, average 65%. Silos 65% filled. Apples 55% picked. Pastures decline, mostly poor to fair.

IOWA: Cool with showers mostly on weekend. light showers over north provided little soil moisture but south generally reported from 1.00 in. upward to 2.63 in. Light to killing frost reported 22d, 23d and northeast and scattered light frost elsewhere in east.

Continued dry conditions. Cooler temperatures with some light scattered showers. Fieldwork: 6 days suitable. Corn and soybeans continue to mature ahead of previous years. Harvest well underway, highly variable yields with low moisture content. Silage still being cut in some areas. Overall corn condition reported at 4% excellent, 32% good, 46% fair, 18% poor. Virtually all corn is mature and 8% of corn is harvested, 5% 1975. Soybean condition 34% good, 53% fair, 13% poor. Soybean leaf shedding near complete. Maturity reported at 96%, 87% 1975, 74% average. Soybeans harvested 30%, 5% 1975. Winter wheat seeded 27%. Topsoil and subsoil moisture short. Hay growth very slow, pastures short. Livestock in good condition with supplemental feeding.

KANSAS: Temperatures near normal, highs in 70's and 80's, lows in 40's and 50's. Rainfall 0.10 in. west central to 0.90 in. south central. Local amounts 3.50 in. central produced minor flooding.

Scattered showers, primarily eastern two-thirds should help newly seeded wheat. Wheat seeding 25% complete, 40% last year, 35% average. Corn 70% mature, same as average, 75% last year. Harvest primarily east, 20% complete, same as last year, 15% average. Sorghum grain 50% mature, 45% last year, 35% average. Harvest started on dryland sorghum, 20% complete, 10% last year, 5% average. Newly seeded alfalfa 75% planted, 90% last year, 85% average. Pasture condition improved. Topsoil and subsoil moisture short.

KENTUCKY: Mild, dry except thundershowers at week's end. Rainfall averaged 0.50 to 1.00 in. except north central with average rainfall 1.00

to 1.50 in. Temperatures near seasonal normal to low to mid-60's.

Fieldwork: 6 days favorable. Soil moisture short. Main activities: Corn, soybeans and hay harvest, fall plowing and wheat seeding. Corn 62% mature but not harvested, 25% not mature, 13% harvested. Soybeans 34% leaves green, 31% turning yellow, 27% shedding leaves and 8% harvested. Tobacco harvest virtually complete, burley 94% cut. Houseburn very light. Winter hay supply 91% of normal.

LOUISIANA: Temperatures above normal. Extremes: 94 and 48°.

Soil moisture short. Fieldwork: 5 days suitable. Cotton condition fair; open bolls 50%, 29% year ago. Rice 92% harvested, 88% last year and average. Soybeans fair to good, underdeveloped beans result of dry weather; 67% turning color, 42% dropping leaves; 9% harvested, 7% year ago. Sugarcane fair to good; 84% planted, 36% last year. Corn harvest 79%, 76% year earlier. Sorghum 85% ripe; 61% harvested, 30% last year, 50% average. Sweetpotatoes fair to good, 65% dug, 42% year ago. Hay, pastures fair. Livestock fair to good.

MARYLAND & DELAWARE: Temperatures 2° below normal. Extremes: Upper 70's and mid 50's. Precipitation light, generally less than 0.10 in. Weekend cloudy, cool and showers. Both days.

Corn for silage 85% harvested, 75% 1975, 73% average. Corn for grain 30%, 30% 1975, 22% average. Soybeans 55% yellowed, 20% shed leaves, a few being harvested. Tobacco 97% harvested, slightly ahead of average. Stripping started. Fall apple harvest in full swing; good growth and color development. Seeding of small grains started; barley, rye 30%, oats 40%, wheat 20% completed.

MICHIGAN: Extremes: 71 and 18°. Frost 24th. Precipitation general, ranging from 0.16 in. northern Lower to 1.11 in. in southeastern Lower Peninsula.

Soil moisture remains light. Corn 50% dent, 40% mature. Silage 65% cut. Grain corn harvest started. Winter wheat almost 20% planted. Dry beans 70% harvested. Soybean harvest beginning, 5% complete. Potatoes 45% dug. Third cutting hay 60% complete, 40% last year. Pasture feed remains short. McIntosh 75% picked. Other fall apples advancing. Pear and plum harvesting finishing. Sweet corn and tomatoes hurt by frost. Onions progressing with 75% dug. Other vegetables advancing.

MINNESOTA: Fall crop harvesting made good progress. Corn, soybeans drying rapidly. Silage cutting near completion, except southeast. Winter wheat, rye seeding slow; some acreage may not be seeded because of lateness of season. Frost did no damage, most crops mature. Corn 12% picked, 1975 3%, normal 3%. Silage 94% cut, 1975 77%, normal 71%. Soybeans 45% combined, 1975 10%, normal 12%. Flax 94% combined, 1975 76%, normal 78%. Seeded: Winter wheat 57%, 1975 94%, normal 90%; rye 46%, 1975 99%, normal 92%. Harvested: Sugarbeets 6%, 1975 6%, normal 10%; potatoes 66%, 1975 45%, normal 44%; sunflowers 35%, 1975 0%, normal 7%.

MISSISSIPPI: Temperatures near normal. Extremes: 45 and 94°.

Soil moisture very short to short south, short to adequate elsewhere. Fieldwork: 6.1 days

suitable. Cotton 75% open bolls, 55% 1975, 40% average; 1% harvested, 2% 1975, 6% average. Soybeans 71% turning, 66% 1975; 33% shedding, 35% 1975; 10% mature, 12% 1975. Rice 86% ripe, 75% 1975; 19% harvested, 32% 1975, 27% average. Corn 96% mature, 82% 1975; 30% harvested, 20% 1975, 22% average. Sorghums 86% ripe, 75% 1975; 51% harvested, 37% 1975, 48% average. Hay crops 88% harvested, 82% 1975, 81% average. Peanuts 57% harvested, 51% 1975, 44% average. Sweet-potatoes 35% harvested, 44% 1975, 42% average. Winter wheat 27% planted, 18% 1975. Oats 24% planted, 23% 1975. Cotton and soybeans in fair condition. Rice and corn in fair to good condition.

MISSOURI: Temperatures normal in northwest prairie, west central plains, 2° below normal northeast prairie, 1° above normal elsewhere. Precipitation 0.50 in. northwest prairie, 0.25 in. elsewhere.

Fieldwork: 6.2 days suitable. Soybeans mature, 58%, 29% normal. Soybean harvest 12%, 7% 1975, 6% normal. Corn mature 85%, 68% normal. Corn 33% harvested, 32% 1975, 16% normal. Grain sorghum 74% mature, 81% 1975, 62% normal. Grain sorghum 24% harvested, 33% 1975, 15% normal. Cotton bolls open 22%, 36% 1975, 42% normal. Winter wheat 5% seeded, 22% 1975. Fall plowing 6% completed, 8% 1975. Condition of soybeans 63% poor, 36% fair, 1% good. Condition of cotton 59% poor, 41% fair. Condition of pastures 94% poor, 6% fair. Soil moisture short.

MONTANA: Warm cool days, nights with scattered frost. Daytime temperatures well above normal. Showers and a few scattered thunderstorms began in the southwest 22d spreading eastward. Mostly dry 26th with a few showers lingering in the central and east.

Good progress seeding winter wheat, near 75% done, last year 45%, normal 50%. Topsoils dry major growing areas. Germination spotty but averages fair to good. Sugarbeet harvest to start generally October 1, some beets already lifted. Corn silage and dry bean harvest 80% complete. Hay harvest final stages. Livestock sales both open market and contracting, lighter than average. About 25% cattle and 20% sheep moved from summer pastures.

NEBRASKA: Temperatures 2 to 11° below normal except 4 to 13° above normal last two days. Nights above normal first half and below the latter half. Rainfall up to 1.00 in. southeast while northwest below 0.25 in. received.

Topsoil moisture short. Subsoil moisture short. Wheat 70% seeded, 70% normal and 80% 1975. Corn 80% mature, 75% normal and 85% 1975. Corn for grain 10% harvested, normal less than 5%, 10% 1975. Silage cutting nearing completion. Sorghum 85% ripe, normal 50%, 1975 85%; 20% harvested, 5% normal, 20% 1975. Soybeans 85% shed leaves, normal 65% and 1975 80%; 65% mature, 30% normal and 55% 1975; 20% harvested, 5% normal and 10% 1975. Dry bean harvest nearing completion. Alfalfa hay 35% of fourth cutting harvested. Pasture and range feed supplies short. Supplemental feeding continues.

NEVADA: Near normal temperatures, above normal rainfall. Temperatures 1 to 3° above normal most areas, 3° below normal extreme south. Extremes: 83 and 29°.

Potato digging started. Third crop alfalfa hay about completed except west. Sixth cutting alfalfa extreme south.

NEW ENGLAND: Temperatures generally below normal with low's in mid-20's in northern areas on 24th. Rainfall light.

Good week for fieldwork. Potato harvest in Aroostook County, Maine moved into full swing while wet fields are delaying progress in northern areas. Harvest of silage corn very active with yields high. Apple harvest continues in full swing. Cranberry harvest doing well, no frost as yet. Haying nearing completion.

NEW JERSEY: Temperatures cooler than normal with frost on 23d and 25th. Extremes: 31 and 83°. Rainfall 0.95 in. north, 0.25 in. central and 0.48 in. south. Soil temperature averaged 60° north and 68° south. Estimated soil moisture in percent of field capacity 88% north, 48% central, 54% south.

Showers beneficial for late crops. Fall crop harvest increasing. Summer vegetable supplies light. Sweetpotato harvest general next week. Apple and cranberry harvest active. Harvest of field corn for silage and grain continue. Scattered soybean combining begun. Seeding of grain and cover crops continues.

NEW MEXICO: Rains all sections with substantial totals except east central plains and extreme southwest. Totals of 0.75 to near 1.00 in. in dry northwest.

Soil moisture mostly adequate, southern ranges good, northern ranges fair to good, livestock good. All irrigated crops good condition. Cotton 20 to 40% open, 1% harvested, harvest should increase in early October. Irrigated grain sorghum in dough stage, dryland poor to fair condition. Corn good, all in dough stage. Winter wheat 70% seeded with low emergence rate due to lack of moisture. Recent moisture should increase planting rate. Apples being harvested.

NEW YORK: Cooling, temperatures near to 7° below normal. Extremes: 81 and 20°. Precipitation 0.20 in. extreme south to 2.15 in. at Watertown. Scattered frost, no general freeze. Silage corn 15% in. Cool weather slowing corn maturity. Third cutting alfalfa 65% complete. Harvest of potatoes, cabbage, tomatoes and late cucumbers continuing. Late sweet corn not mature. Onion, snap bean harvests nearly complete. Hudson Valley apple harvests underway.

NORTH CAROLINA: Temperatures about normal. Precipitation well below normal.

Fieldwork: 5.4 days suitable. Soil moisture short to adequate. General improvement in crop conditions due to recent rainfall. Corn, cotton, sorghum mostly fair to good. Peanuts, sweet-potatoes fair to good. Soybeans, pastures mostly fair. Corn for grain 58% harvested, 40% 1975, 41% average. Corn for silage 81% cut. Burley tobacco 90% harvested, 85% 1975. Peanut harvest just underway, about ten days behind normal. Small amount of cotton picking. Sweet-potatoes 20% dug, 24% 1975. Apples 50% picked, 59% 1975, 50% average. Wheat 8% planted, 9% 1975, 14% average.

NORTH DAKOTA: Temperatures 5° below normal to 2° above normal. Extremes: 82 to 24°. Precipitation ranged 0.36 in. below normal to 0.38 in. above normal.

Potato digging over half done. Sugarbeet lifting well underway but no stockpiling as yet. Flax and dry bean combining virtually complete.

Winter wheat and rye seeding about 75% complete. Range and pastures poor.

OHIO: Below normal temperatures, light frost northwest 24th. Precipitation ranged 0.06 in. southwest to 1.08 in. northeast.

Crops good to excellent condition. Rain at week's end stopped active harvest. Light frost slightly curtailed vegetable harvest. Corn 80% mature, same as last year, 65% normal; 5% harvested, 5% 1975 and normal. Soybeans 50% mature, 55% 1975 and 45% normal; 12% harvested, 5% 1975, 10% normal. Harvest completed: Corn silage 65%, same as last year, 60% normal; tobacco 95%, 85% 1975, 80% normal; potatoes 62%, 55% normal. Apples 30% and on schedule; grapes 29%; processing tomatoes 85%, on schedule; popcorn beginning, sugarbeets not yet started. Fall acreage planted: Wheat 15%, slightly above last year, below 5-year average. Barley 45%, rye 25%, both on schedule. Pasture condition fair. Fieldwork: 5.0 days favorable. Soil moisture short to adequate.

OKLAHOMA: Temperatures from 1° above normal Panhandle to 2° below normal in southwest, south central, and southeast. Precipitation ranged from 0.07 in. Panhandle to 1.67 in east central. Weekend mild with scattered rain most areas.

Wheat 17% planted, 38% average, 21% 1975. Corn good, 42% picked, compared 26% average, 33% 1975. Sorghum fair to good, 14% harvested, 14% normal and 20% 1975. Cotton fair, 35% bolls open, 38% average, 11% 1975. Late planted cotton better condition than early. Peanuts and soybeans both good. Peanuts 32% mature, 38% average, 50% 1975. Soybean harvest beginning, 13% mature, 35% 1975. Pasture and range fair, cattle good.

OREGON: Temperatures 3 to 6° above normal. Extremes: High 80's, low 40's west; low 90's, mid-30's east. Precipitation widespread, light.

Spring grain harvest virtually complete. Fall soil preparation and seeding begun. Corn silage being harvested. Some fourth cuttings alfalfa being made. Peach harvest finishing up, pears and apples are being picked. Onion harvest continues. Sweet corn being picked. Potatoes in good condition; being harvested. Range and pastures in excellent condition. Livestock in good condition.

PENNSYLVANIA: Frost and freezing temperatures west, central and north midweek. Temperatures mostly 40's to 60's and low 70's. Extremes: 80 and 25°. Rainfall 0.50 in. south to near 1.50 in. central and northwest.

Fieldwork: 4.0 days suitable. Soil moisture mostly adequate to some surplus in north. Activities: Plowing; sowing wheat and barley; filling silos; making hay; harvest of apples, tomatoes, potatoes, tobacco, grapes, ensilage corn. Potatoes 68% dug, last year 50%. Tobacco 90% cut, last year 82%. Ensilage corn 37% harvested, 40% in 1975. Corn 20% dough, 59% dent; 20% mature, 35% in 1975. Fall plowing 70%, last year 57%. Barley sown 57%, last year 53%. Wheat sown 44%, week ahead of last year's 33%. Alfalfa third cut 81%. Quality of hay fair to good. Feed from pastures average. Good volume of tomatoes, cabbage and peppers. Light volume sweet corn and grapes.

PUERTO RICO: Island rainfall 1.08 in. or 0.75 in. below normal. Temperatures about 81° on coasts and 78° interior. Extremes: 93 and 59°.

Sugarcane ratoons and new canes making satisfactory progress. Good weather for development of coffee bean. Harvest underway some areas. Production reduced due past drought. Pastures greening up due recent rains but showers not sufficient some areas. Planting and fertilizing active. Favorable weather for food crops. Abundance of bananas on market.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Temperatures above normal. Warmer early, cooler later. Extremes: 89 to 43°. Rainfall below normal, scattered showers 20th and 21st.

Corn, sorghum, fall hay, sweetpotato, pickling cucumber harvest continues. Soybeans, pastures generally improved after rains. Early cotton harvest, defoliation continues. Preparing land, planting small grains. Insect activity decreased due to cooler weather. Corn harvested 73% 1976, 61% 1975, 49% average. Cotton open bolls 66% 1976, 63% 1975, 57% average. Sorghum harvested 24% 1976. Sweetpotatoes harvested 20% 1976. Soybeans leaves turning 24% 1976, 23% 1975, 22% average. Soybeans shedding leaves 12% 1976, 15% 1975, 14% average.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Scattered rains up to 1.75 in.; most amounts under 0.50 in. Moisture deficit in east 5.75 to 12.33 in. for growing season. Temperatures 2 to 8° below normal east, normal west. Extremes: 88 and 20°.

Topsoil and subsoil moisture short. Row crop harvest underway. Drought rushed crop maturity. Row crops percent harvested: Soybeans 39%, 1975 8%, normal 7%; grain sorghum 27%, 1975 5%, normal 7%; corn for grain 15%, 1975 2%, normal 5%. Many corn and sorghum fields cut for silage earlier or now being grazed. Sunflowers damaged by drought and insects; harvest 31% complete with low yields. Recent rains prompting winter wheat seedings, 85% complete, 1975 91%, normal 88%. Rye seedings lagging, 57% complete, 1975 89%, normal 87%. Northwest and north central areas showing large cattle and sheep movements, other areas slowing. Hay shipped in. Pastures still poor, need much more rain to improve.

TENNESSEE: General rainfall amounts of 0.25 to 0.50 in. with a few amounts near 1.00 in. in middle and east. Temperatures normal west and 5 to 10° below normal middle and east. Highs in the low 80's west to mid-70's east. Overnight lows in the 70's west to the 60's east.

Showers improved crops but more rain needed. Soil moisture short. Pastures short and dry with condition declining. Fieldwork: 5.5 days suitable. Corn harvest in full swing with excellent early yields. Corn 19% harvested same as last year and average. Corn 78% mature, 78% last year, 75% average. Cotton 12% open boll stage, 35% last year, 45% average. Soybeans 8% mature, 4% last year, 12% average. Burley tobacco 93% harvested, 90% last year, 92% average. Fall plowing 56% completed, 51% last year, 64% average. Wheat 25% seeded, 20% last year, 25% average. Oats 40% seeded, 40% last year, 45% average. Barley 45% seeded, 40% last year, 45% average.

TEXAS: Cooler temperatures, rain except midweek sunny skies with fog, haze over east and gulf coast. Temperatures 2 to 6° subnormal except south, south central where near normal. Rainfall

eastern half 1.00 in. above normal, western half 0.25 in. above normal.

Rain slowed row crop harvest, small grain planting. Cotton: bolls open but need warmer weather to complete crop development. Harvest slowed by rain. Sorghum harvest slowed by rain, moisture content generally high. Corn harvest 37% complete, 44% 1975, 50% average. Peanut fields aided by rain. Harvest 28%, 39% 1975, 45% average. Soybeans improved following rain. Early wheat fields up to good stands. Planting, now 31% complete, 34% last year, average 53%. Light harvest of citrus. Vegetable seeding active as fields dry. Harvest of various vegetables continues. Bell peppers, cabbage, carrots, onions making good growth.

Screwworms, ticks in central south. Cattle otherwise good. Recent rains most areas filled stock tanks, improved pastures. Warmer weather needed to stimulate growth.

UTAH: Scattered shower and thunderstorm activity principally south and east. Accumulated amounts locally moderate to heavy with some areas flash flooding. Temperatures generally near normal ranging from 3° below to 4° above normal.

Harvest activities made rapid progress. Peaches and pears virtually harvested. Apple harvest just beginning. Tomatoes 66% complete. Dry beans and potatoes 25% harvested, yields down. Corn silage 40% and third crop alfalfa hay 60%. Silage yield light but alfalfa hay excellent. Fall and winter range feed prospects poor to fair. Movement to winter ranges just beginning. Some lambs being marketed. Market for calves slow.

VIRGINIA: Temperatures below normal. Light frost few localities southwest on 23d. Extremes: 85 and 31°. Rainfall light and spotty, averaging less than 0.10 in. and ranging from zero to 0.31 in.

Fieldwork: 5.4 days suitable. Topsoil moisture short to adequate. Corn for grain 30% harvested. Corn silage harvest in full swing. Soybean harvest 8% complete. Spraying late crop still active. Peanut digging begun. Tobacco harvest progress: Flue-cured 87%, 1975 92%; fire-cured 91%, 1975 89%; burley 92%, 1975 85%; sun-cured 77%, 1975 92%. Pasture slightly improved. Small grain seeding progress: Wheat 12%, barley 19%, oats 19%.

WASHINGTON: West: Temperatures 5° above normal. Precipitation 0.30 to 1.00 in. below normal.

Sweet corn developing well. Harvest starting this week. Small grains harvested. Pears in full swing. Pastures excellent. Farmers active preparing for winter cover crops.

East: Temperatures 6° above normal. Precipitation 0.30 in. to 0.10 in. below normal. Apple harvest proceeding rapidly. Size and color good. Grain harvest complete. Fall seeding continues. Some fall seeded grain up. Sweet corn harvest continues. Digging potatoes. Controlled harvest of sugarbeets. Cutting alfalfa. Some cattle coming in from mountain ranges. Feeder cattle, lambs being marketed.

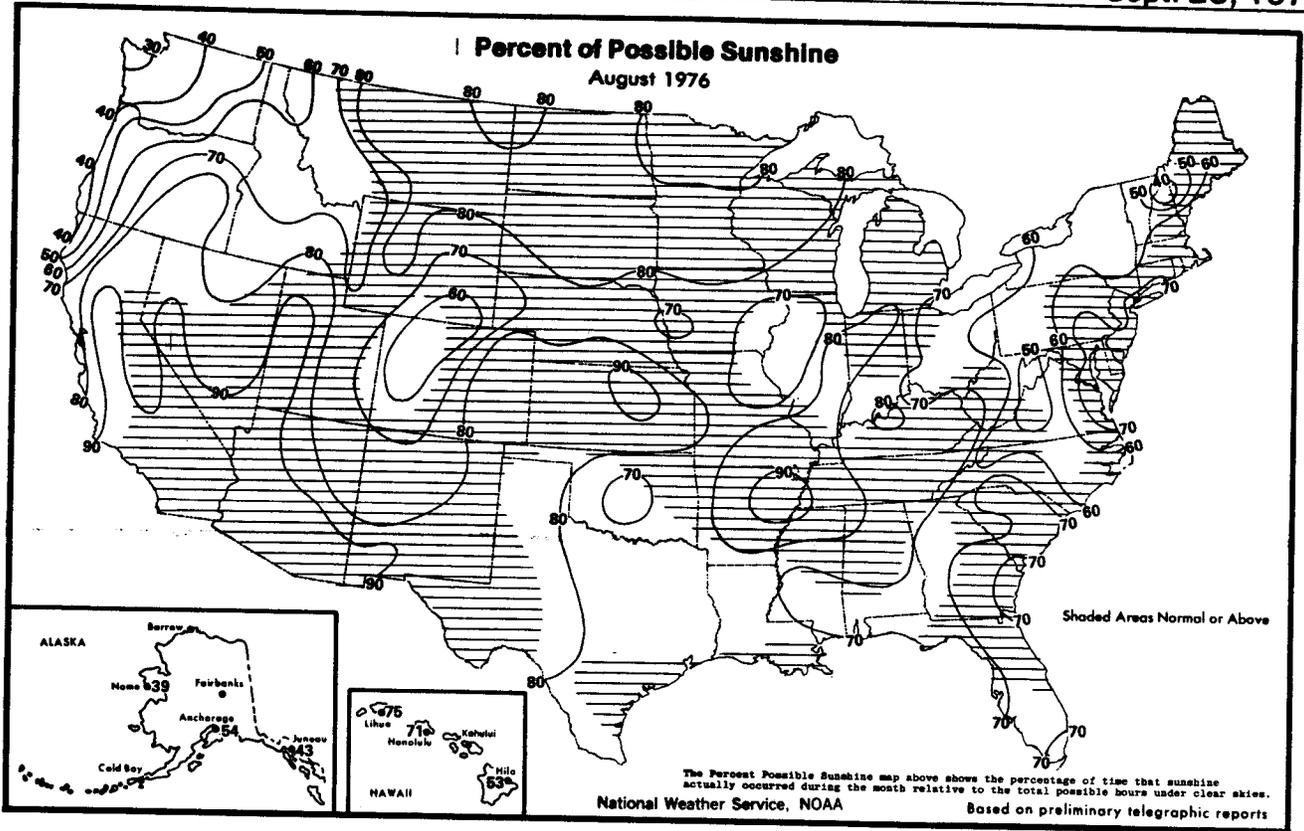
WEST VIRGINIA: Temperature below normal. Precipitation well below normal except central. Farmwork: 5.0 days suitable. Haying, silo filling, digging potatoes and clipping pasture most active. Soil moisture short to adequate. Burley tobacco 87% harvested. Potatoes 89%, dug 13% ahead of 1975, 10% above average. Second haying 91% complete, 2% above average. Third haying 53%. Corn good to fair. Pastures mostly fair condition.

WISCONSIN: Temperatures 7° subnormal. Only daytime highs in 70's were on 22d in south and west. Frost 24th except for narrow band along Lake Michigan. Rainfall light, averaging 0.20 in. or less except for 0.50 in. near Illinois border 26th.

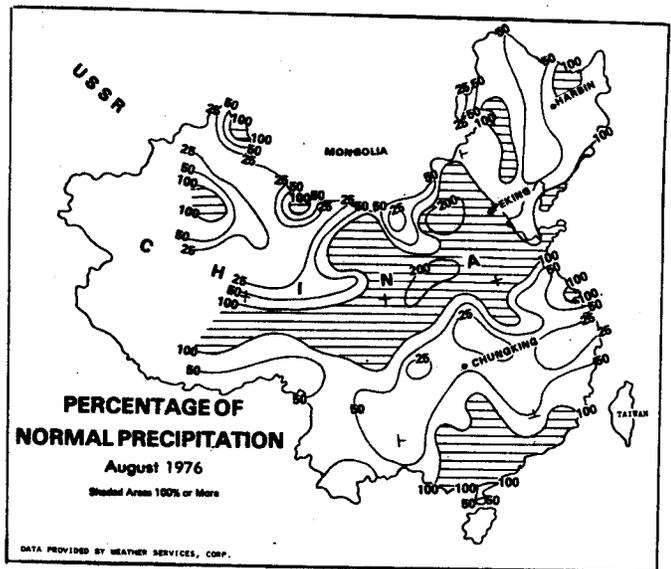
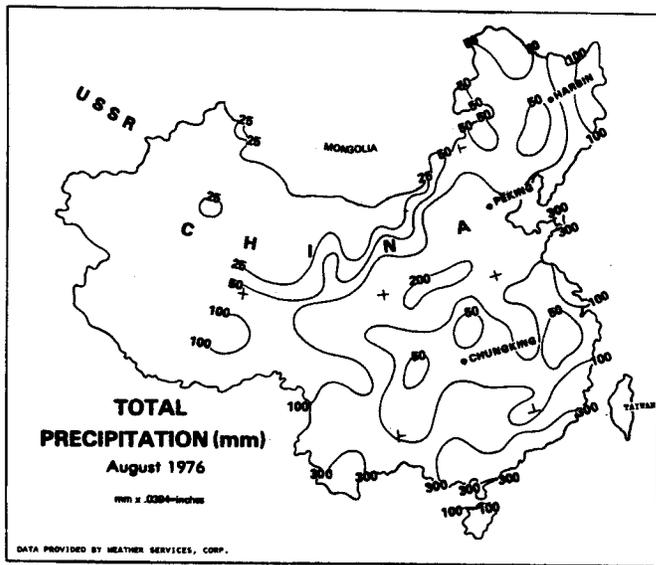
Soil moisture short. Corn and soybeans drying rapidly. Silo filling 80% done, 1975 50%, normal 45%. Silage yields varied but generally below average. Corn almost too dry for best quality silage. Little corn for grain picked, mostly for immediate feeding. Moisture content of corn below 30% on early varieties. Soybeans 70% shedding leaves, 1975 50%, normal 35%. Harvesting soybeans, moisture content around 12%. Fall plowing 8% done, 1975 15%, normal 13%. Most areas too dry for plowing. Farmers trying to plant winter wheat and rye where possible. Some wheat already planted has spotty germination. Fall pastures poor, most farms on full winter feed program. New seedings need moisture. Potato harvest in full swing. Cranberry harvest started. Harvesting apples and root vegetable crops continues. Most tobacco, sweet corn, and snap beans, harvested before frost.

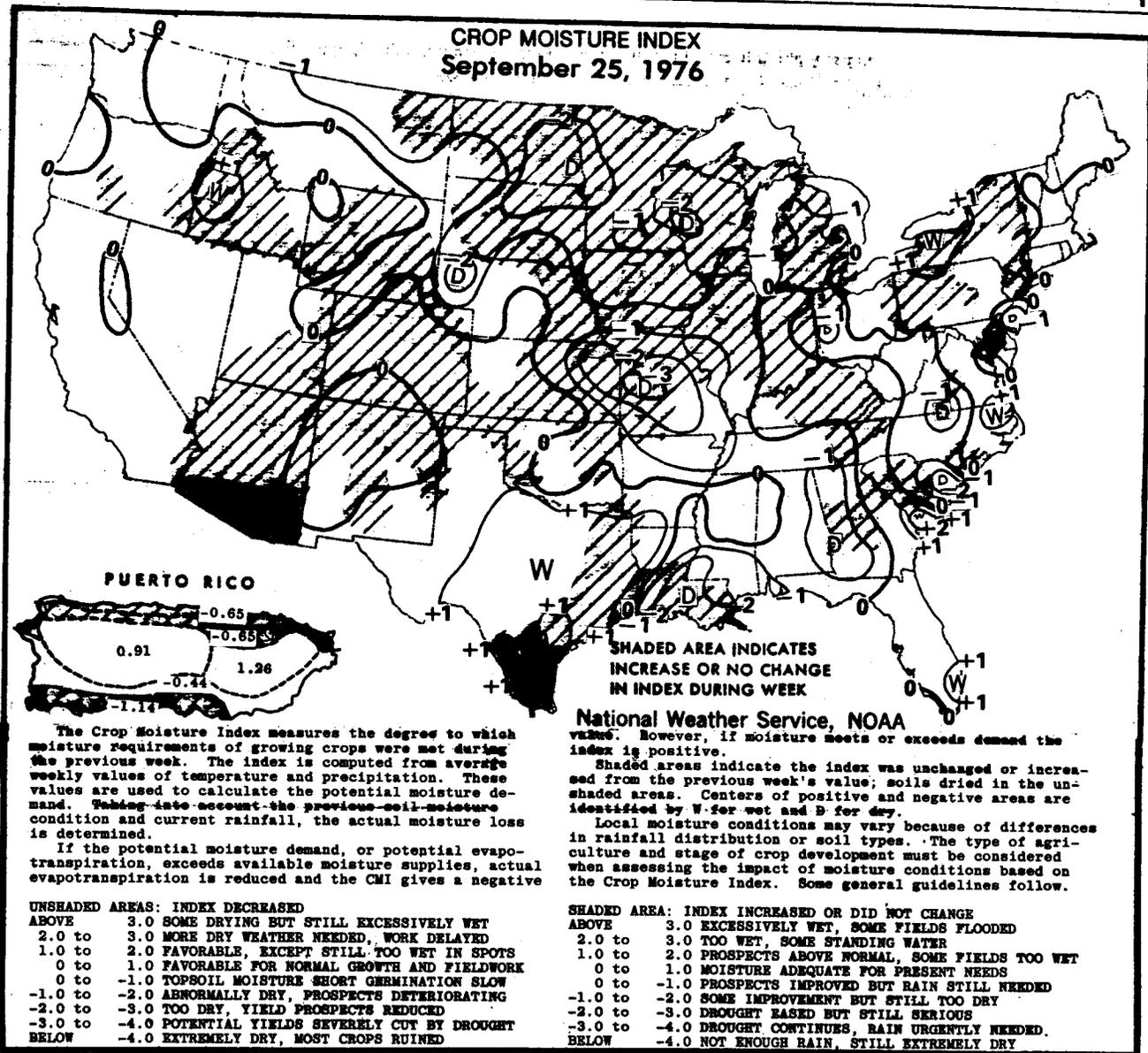
WYOMING: Temperatures near normal except west slightly above normal. Precipitation near normal, slightly above in Big Horn drainage.

Soil moisture short. Precipitation variable, moisture stress greatest in the east. Winter wheat 89% seeded, 64% emerged. Dry beans 54% combined. Grain corn 38% mature, the rest mostly dented. Silage corn 85% cut. Potato digging 41% completed. Sugarbeet digging began, 1% harvested. Winter hay supplies appear adequate, livestock contracting slow. Major activities: Row crop harvest movement of livestock to winter pasture.



China Precipitation





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

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

World Weather and Crop Update

Rain fell in important agricultural areas of southern Australia September 19-22. Amounts ranged mostly from 1/2 to 2 1/2 inches and, in many places, provided the best rainfall since January. The moisture particularly benefitted pastures and rangeland and enhanced conditions for spring planting. Tardiness of the rain limited its benefit for winter grains, which were in the late tillering or early jointing stages. Rain occurred too late to add much bushiness, which would have increased the yield capacity of the plants.

India's on again-off again southwest monsoon all but disappeared after the first week of September. Its chances of revival are remote. The southwest monsoon generally functions from June through September. Its poor June performance in the middle and lower portions of the Gangetic Plain made many crops, especially rice, more dependent than usual on good September rainfall. Early end of the monsoon also caused concern for winter wheat, a crop that derives much of its support from soil moisture accumulated in summer.

Frequent rains soaked much of Indo-China and the Peoples Republic of China (PRC) south of the South China Mountains. Mostly fair weather with spotty precipitation predominated elsewhere in the PRC and favored harvests and fall planting. Java continued rather dry.

Drought relaxed its hold on Europe as rain drenched much of the region, including Iberia. Although the rains provided much needed moisture for the catch crops, pastures, and winter grains; they slowed harvesting operations.

Grain harvest neared completion and harvest of other crops advanced in the USSR. In general, suitable weather prevailed although rain harassed farm activities in much of the Ukraine. Frosts touched the usual areas for this time of year. It ended the season for tender crops, especially vegetables, in some northern and eastern places.

Summer drought damaged cotton in the Atlantic zone of Colombia and in Honduras. Shower activity increased in the region since mid-September.

Agricultural Climatology Service Office
 South Building Mail Unit
 U. S. Department of Agriculture
 Washington, D.C. 20250

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 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

COM 210



PLANTING PROGRESS

Percent of Acreage Planted
 (As of September 26)

	WINTER WHEAT		Aug.
	1976	1975	
Colo.	81	84	80
Ida.	30	40	1/
Kans.	25	40	35
Mont.	75	45	50
Nebr.	70	80	70
Ohio	15	1/	1/
Okla.	17	21	38
S. Dak.	85	91	88
Tex.	31	34	53
U. S.	35	44	46

1/Data not available

HARVESTING PROGRESS

Percent of Acreage Harvested
 (as of September 26)

	SORGHUM		Avg.
	1976	1975	
Kans.	20	10	5
Mo.	24	33	15
Nebr.	20	20	5
Okla.	14	20	14
S. Dak.	27	5	7
Tex.	61	64	56
6-States	38	37	29

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

	CORN		Avg.
	1976	1975	
Ga.	52	35	22
Ill.	7	11	7
Ind.	5	1/	1/
Iowa	8	5	1/
Kans.	20	20	15
Ky.	13	1/	1/
Mich.	2/	1/	1/
Minn.	12	3	3
Mo.	33	32	16
Nebr.	10	10	5
N. C.	58	40	41
Ohio	5	5	5
S. Dak.	15	2	5
Wis.	2/	1/	1/
U. S.	15	13	12

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

1/Data not available