

WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

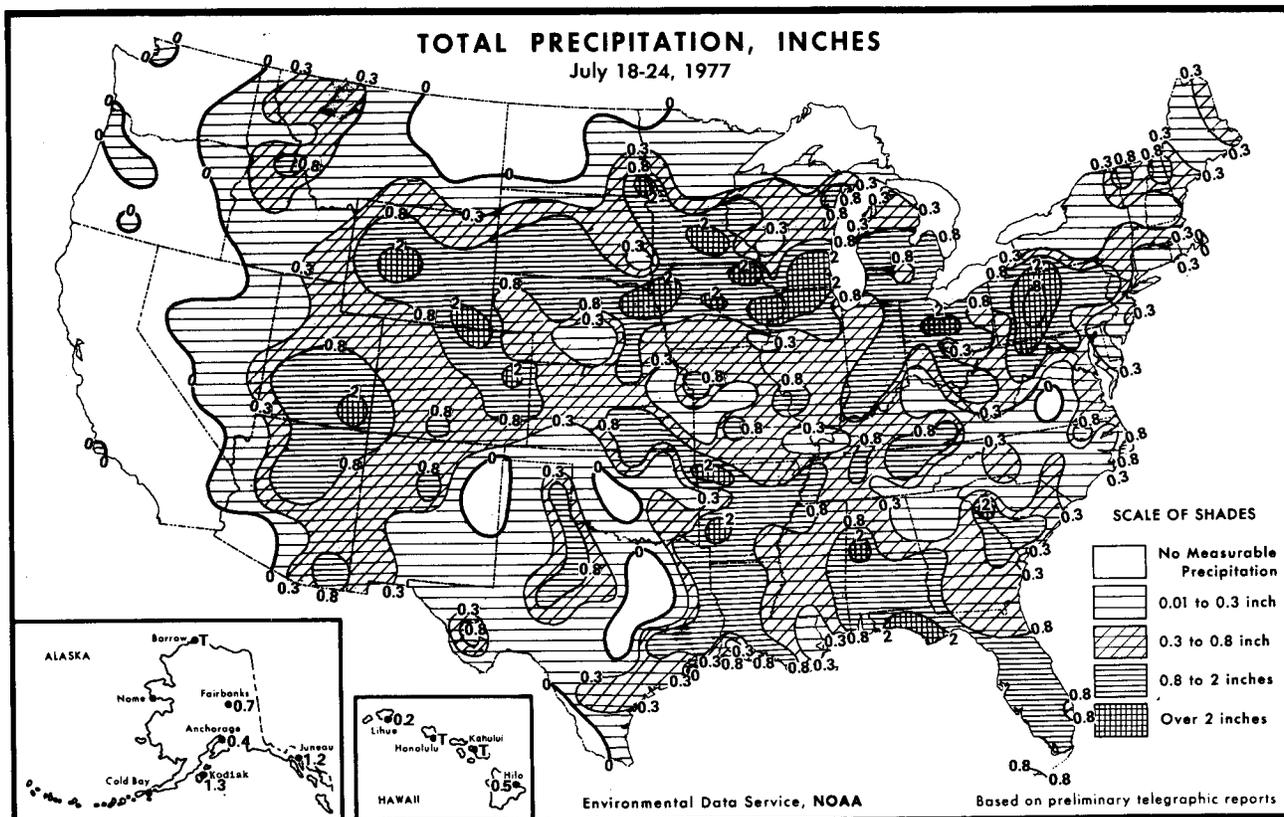
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Environmental Data Service, NOAA

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Statistical Reporting Service

Volume 64, No. 30

Washington, D.C.

July 26, 1977



National Weather Summary

July 18 - 24

HIGHLIGHTS: Though on a smaller scale than the Johnstown Flood of the past century, history repeated itself in that western Pennsylvania town when heavy rains caused major flooding at midweek; numerous deaths and extensive property damage resulted.

The northern portion of the Corn Belt was drenched by 1-2 inches of rain. Showers fell over most of the remainder of the corn-growing areas eastward through Pennsylvania. Parts of the dry Southeast were dampened, but more moisture was needed.

Temperatures continued warm until week's end east of the Rockies. Cool polar air relieved the warmest spell of the season in that section of the country.

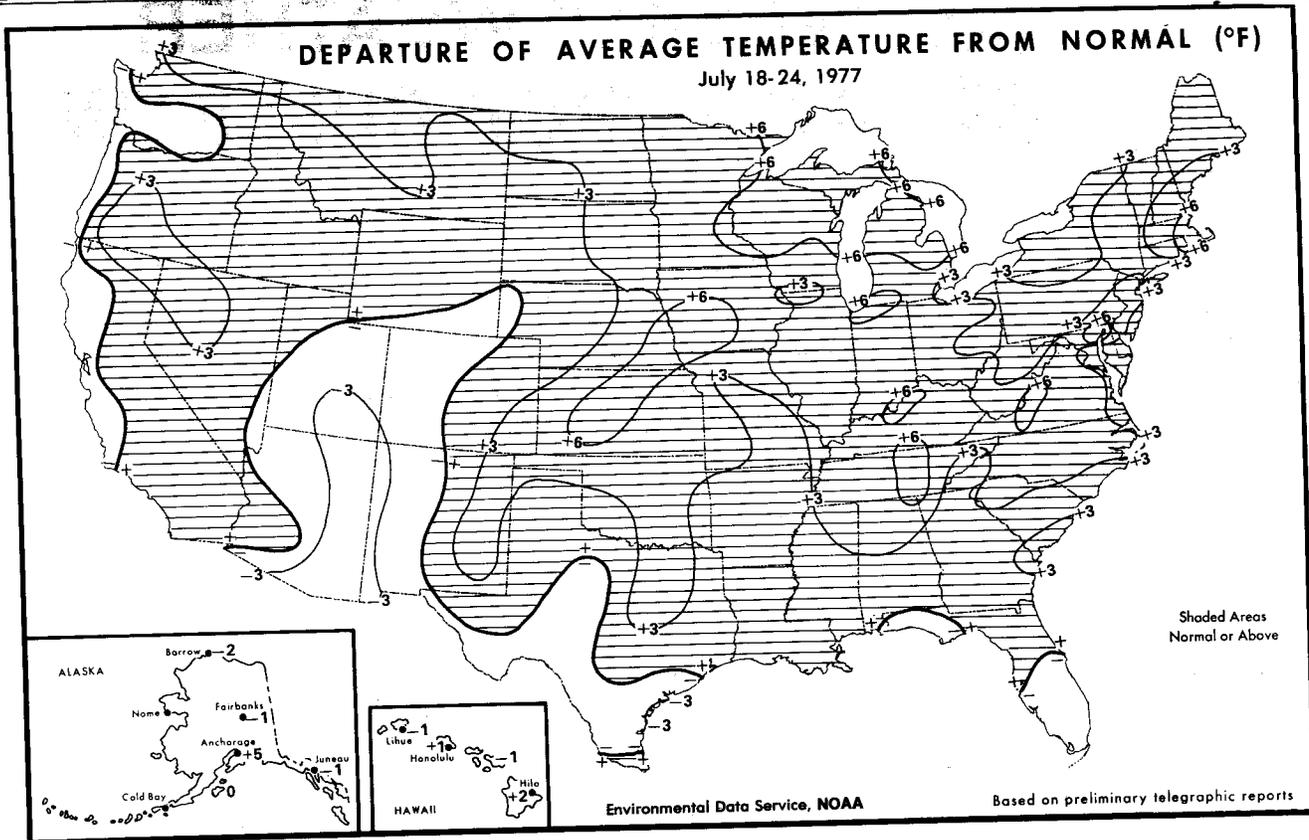
Heavy thunderstorms continued early Monday from the Iowa/Minnesota border eastward into southern Michigan. Other areas of storms covered the upper Great Lakes and southern Atlantic and Gulf Coasts.

Two afternoon tornadoes were sighted in Illinois. Toward evening, heavy rains fell in southwestern Utah; showers dampened southern California; and hail peppered El Paso.

Monday kept the heat on most of the Nation east of the Rockies. Philip and Pierre, S. Dak., shared 109° readings while Roanoke, Va., noted its ninth record-breaking day in July.

Cool air extended from the upper Missouri Valley to the Pacific Northwest, but Olympia's 39° provided little solace to most of the States east of the Rocky Mountains on Tuesday. Many stations from Colorado Springs to Portland, Maine, put a new high temperature in the record books.

Precipitation included showers over the northern Rockies and scattered thunderstorms from the northern Plains to the upper Mississippi Valley and from the Gulf Coast States into the western Ohio Valley. Heavy rain drenched northwestern Pennsylvania including 3.75 inches at Conneautville. Tornadoes stirred the dust in Nevada, Arizona, and Texas.



A nightmare returned to Johnstown, Pa., as the city became a flood victim once again. Death and property damage followed 8.50 inches of rain in this southwestern Pennsylvania town.

Wednesday became another day of contending with heat and humidity across the eastern two-thirds of the U.S. Only Oregon and Washington did not report temperatures in the 90's. However, a cool, dry air mass moved southeastward from Canada to bring relief later in the day. Pierre, S. Dak., posted a reading 33° cooler than Tuesday.

Heavy rains fell in the southern half of the Rockies, southwestern Texas, and parts of central Iowa which welcomed the much-needed moisture. Corn was in its critical silking stage in parts of the Corn Belt where dryness and excessive heat at this time of year could lower prospects for a bumper crop.

Cool air slipped across the Midwest triggering rain along the front on Thursday. The Atlantic Coast and Southeast, however, continued hot. New York City reported 104°, its second highest temperature in history. Southerly winds kept the Southeast in wilting heat; little or no rain relieved dryness. These conditions have stressed some vegetation, including hearty tobacco and peanut plants and drought-resistant cotton.

Toward evening, thunderstorms rumbled over the Ohio Valley and the lower halves of the Atlantic Coast, Mississippi Valley, and Great Plains. Pennsylvania's swollen tributaries began to recede and portions of the Southwest were dampened; Low, Ariz., received more than one inch of rain.

On Friday locally heavy thunderstorms developed over the east central and southern Rockies and Arizona as well as from the southern Atlantic Coast to eastern Texas into the lower half of the Plains. In the Southeast, Macon, Ga., reported more than

one inch of rain and Meridian, Miss., and Charleston, S.C., each showed three-quarters inch. Gallup, N. Mex., waded through more than three feet of water after flash flooding.

Early afternoon thunderstorms ahead of cool air dotted an area from the central Atlantic Coast and lower Ohio Valley to the lower Mississippi Valley and upper Gulf Coast States.

A cool air mass settled over a large portion of the Nation east of the Mississippi River on Saturday bringing welcome relief from the heat and humidity. Temperatures dipped sharply from New England to the Carolinas; record lows were set or equalled from Vermont's 46° at Burlington to Delaware's 54° at Wilmington.

Morning precipitation was spotty, however, scattered heavy thunderstorms raked the western U.S. later in the day. Portions of Utah and Arizona received more than one-half inch of rain. Further east, parts of Minnesota got more than three inches. Afternoon and evening thunderstorms rumbled over the Intermountain Region and the Rockies. They also covered the eastern sections of Oklahoma and Texas through the lower Mississippi Valley to Florida. The western Plains were soaked; just south of Denver, three-quarter inch hail fell.

The high pressure center off the Atlantic Coast kept temperatures cool on Sunday, and set some record lows once again, this time from Pennsylvania to Florida.

Heating of moisture-laden air increased thunderstorm intensity over the upper half of the Rockies, Plains, and Mississippi Valley. Isolated storms dumped rain on central Oregon, the southern Rockies, Great Lakes, New England, and Florida. Hail fell in Nebraska, Missouri, and Arkansas while a tornado was reported near St. Louis. Late night thunderstorms spread to western Pennsylvania which was still recovering from floods earlier in the week.

National Agricultural Summary

July 18-24

HIGHLIGHTS: Above-normal temperatures and dwindling moisture supplies adversely affected the Nation's agriculture. Only a few areas received an inch or more of rainfall during the week. Soil moisture rated short to very short in all areas except Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, Florida, Ohio, and Indiana. The corn crop remained in generally good condition except in the Southeast and portions of the south central areas. Cotton and soybeans became stressed as they entered critical stages of development. Some fruit shedding was reported. Winter wheat harvest was 92% complete. Pastures rated poor to fair in the south central States, South Atlantic areas, and the West; mostly fair elsewhere. Cattle were heavily culled in the Southeast and California due to poor grazing conditions and water shortage.

SMALL GRAINS: The U. S. winter wheat crop was 92% harvested by week's end, slightly ahead of last year when 91% was combined and more advanced than the 89% average. The Colorado acreage was 93% harvested while Montana made excellent progress to 10%. Idaho winter wheat was 25% ripe with harvest active at the weekend. Yields in Washington were poor to fair as harvest continued.

Oats in Iowa was virtually harvested and 75 to 80% harvested in Illinois and Indiana. North Dakota harvest moved to 15%, Minnesota 39%, and South Dakota 69%.

Minnesota spring wheat was 51% swathed and 17% harvested. North Dakota's spring wheat harvest just began; 5% was combined. Harvest was more advanced than normal in all areas.

CORN: Harvest was underway in the southern and central areas of Texas and continued active in Florida where low yields were recorded. Development advanced rapidly in the north central area where the crop rated good to excellent. Iowa corn was 92% silked, compared with 69% last year and the 57% average. The Illinois crop was 40% in the dough stage, well ahead of the 17% in 1976 and the 16% average. Kansas corn was in the 25% dough stage compared with none last year and average 9%. Moderate infestations of the European Corn Borer and Corn Root Worm were noted.

The crop declined under the stress of short soil moisture and above normal temperatures in the south central States. In Alabama, where 51% of the acreage was dented, corn rated poor. Corn was fair in Louisiana and 20% mature. Prospects were still good in Kentucky where many early fields were made. Japanese Beetles were a problem in the eastern Kentucky counties.

Southeastern farmers harvested more corn acreage for silage to salvage the crop. Georgia and South Carolina corn was rated poor; it was poor to fair in North Carolina.

COTTON: Cotton declined to poor to fair in the southeastern area, fair to good elsewhere. Adequate rainfall in much of North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia could greatly improve prospects. The Arkansas crop squared heavily in most areas and was at peak rate in many counties; however, fruit was shedding in some fields. The Louisiana crop had 88% setting bolls and was in fair to good condition. Mississippi cotton was 96% blooming, compared with 60% in 1976 and 85% setting bolls, much ahead of the 24% a year ago.

Some Texas cotton was picked in southern areas; California fields bloomed heavily.

SOYBEANS: The north central acreage was generally in good condition; rapid development was reported. Pod setting ranged from 55% in Ohio to 15% in Kansas. The south central crop was fair to good, but stress was evident in some areas. Seventy percent of the Tennessee crop was in the bloom stage compared with 30% in 1976; 23% was setting pods, well advanced from the 6% one year ago. The Mississippi crop was 55% in bloom; there was a 16% pod set.

Soybeans in the Southeast were under stress and in urgent need of timely, adequate rainfall. The Georgia acreage rated poor to mostly fair, but wilting and suffering from a variety of insect problems. Soybeans in South Carolina were poor to fair; 21% blooming. The North Carolina crop was in fair condition.

OTHER CROPS: Grain sorghum harvest was in full swing from the lower Texas Blacklands southward. Dryland fields needed moisture. Oklahoma grain sorghum was 33% headed, compared with 25% a year ago and 35% average. Kansas acreage was good, 20% headed, well ahead of 5% in 1976 and the average of 10%. Chinch bug infestations were localized, but grasshoppers were a problem in the State.

Tobacco advanced rapidly during the extreme weather conditions. Early leaf maturity may reduce quality; topping, spraying and harvesting were active.

Rice was in good condition; harvest was 6% complete in Louisiana and active in Texas. Early varieties headed in Arkansas; 20% of the crop was headed in Mississippi.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Peach harvest was beyond the seasonal peak in some areas; other regions neared that point. Harvest of early apple varieties gained momentum. Nectarine, pear, and plum harvest continued in California. Valencia orange and grapefruit harvest was very slow with poor demand. Lemon picking in Arizona was expected to start soon. Cherry harvest in Washington was nearly completed. Some apples, raspberries, and blueberries were harvested in the Northeast. Pecan trees in central East Texas shed some fruit due to insufficient moisture.

VEGETABLES: Commercial and home garden vegetable harvest was active. California growers harvested a large variety; there were abundant supplies and good to high quality. Texas and Florida producers prepared land and planted fall crops. Snap bean harvest was active in Oregon. Washington sweet-corn, tomatoes, green peas, and onions were harvested. Michigan producers harvested cantalopes, sweetcorn, and cucumbers.

PASTURES AND LIVESTOCK: Grazing areas did not improve from the low rating of a week ago. More forced marketings occurred in Georgia where cattle were poor to mostly fair. Some beef cattle producers in South Carolina sold herds because of lack of grazing or feed. Hay harvest remained active, but yields were severely reduced in many areas. Regrowth of recently cut fields was very slow. Stock water supplies were critical in some areas.

July 24, 1977

Temperature and Precipitation Data for the Week Ending Midnight, L.s.t.,

Table with 12 columns: States and Stations, Average Temperature (F), Departure Temperature (F), Total Precipitation (Inches), Departure Precipitation (Inches), and four additional columns for the same metrics. The table lists data for numerous states and stations across the United States, including Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

Based on 1941-70 normals

Publication of the Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin began in 1892 as the Weekly Weather Chronicle. It is issued under general authority of the Act of January 12, 1895 (44USC 213), 53d Congress, 3d Session. Contents of the Bulletin may be reprinted freely, with proper credit. Standard copy for the Bulletin is prepared by Lyle Denny and O.W. Byrd, Environmental Data Service, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration.

Harry DeLong and Jim Carlin, Statistical Reporting Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Yearly subscription rate: \$5.00 domestic and \$11.25 foreign airmail. Order from the Agricultural Weather Support Service, South Building Mail Unit, Room 1248, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250. Make checks payable to Department of Commerce, NOAA.

State Summaries of Weather and Agriculture

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

ALABAMA: Continued hot with scattered showers. Rainfall light statewide.

Fieldwork: 5.5 days available. Soil moisture very short to short. Cotton fair to good, but declining; 81% setting bolls, 20% 1976, 54% average. Corn poor, 51% dented, 40% 1976, 33% average. Peanuts fair, 77% pegging, 87% 1976, 97% average. Pastures and hay poor.

ALASKA: Tanana Valley warm early in the week with a cooling and wet trend mid-week and at week's end. Frequent showers and thundershowers occurred the last half of the week. High temperatures were a little below normal and low temperatures were near normal for the week as a whole. Matanuska Valley was warm with temperatures above normal. Seasonal rainfall is below normal. Kenai Peninsula warm; temperatures near 5° above normal. Kodiak Island very warm; high temperatures 7° above normal during early and mid-week.

Rain showers limited field activity. Crops continue to respond favorably in all areas. Nearly all oats and barley intended for grain has headed and some has started to turn. Most commercial potato growers are through hilling potatoes and nearly all fields in bloom stage. Soil moisture supplies generally adequate in Tanana and Matanuska Valleys and short in Kenai Peninsula. Supplies of radishes, lettuce, and greens continue to be marketed.

ARIZONA: Moist air, scattered thundershowers. Precipitation heaviest in mountains, southeast. Temperatures below normal except western portion.

Uninterrupted fieldwork. Major activities irrigation, cultivation, insect control. Cotton continues square, set bolls--beginning to open southwest, south central. Pink bollworm populations increased. Early sorghum reaching maturity, other fields all stages development. Corn beginning tassel. Harvest safflower continues. Fourth cutting alfalfa hay southwest, central. Rain damaged cut hay scattered areas. Cantaloup, watermelon harvest virtually complete. Land preparations underway fall vegetables. Citrus sizing, some lemon picking expected soon. Ranges mostly poor to fair. Recent spotty rains helped some areas but no general improvement. Cattle, calves mostly fair to good.

ARKANSAS: Temperature range: 100 and 65°. Most precipitation 3.51 in. Fayetteville.

Soil moisture short 70%, 30% adequate. Fieldwork: 5.8 days available. Soybean planting complete, same as year ago. Crop good condition, Cotton, good condition; peak squaring many counties. Fruit shedding some fields. Early rice varieties heading. Crop good condition. Weeds troublesome. Corn fair to good condition. Sorghum good condition. Limited silage harvest underway. Summer variety apple harvest underway. Blake and Southland variety peaches being picked. Watermelon harvest underway, melon size below normal. Hay cutting continued. Pastures providing below average amounts of feed.

CALIFORNIA: Above average temperatures were recorded over nearly the entire State. A few light showers fell in mountain areas, but no precipitation was recorded at reporting stations.

Small grain harvest nearing completion. Rice progressing well. Cotton fields blooming heavily.

Normal pest control. Corn silk stage: mild heading out. Alfalfa third cutting, quality and yield variable. Harvest increasing sugarbeets San Joaquin Valley. Almond hull split continues. Apricot harvest complete. Gravenstein apple harvest began Sonoma County, size down, sugar content above last year. Grapefruit harvest slow, demand poor. Valencia harvest slow. Nectarine, freestone peach, pear, plum harvests continue. Clingstone peach harvest starting.

Harvest active for broccoli, cauliflower, snap beans, cantaloups, carrots, cucumbers, celery, sweet corn, honeydews, garlic, lettuce, onions, bell peppers, strawberries, fresh and processing tomatoes, and watermelons. Supplies plentiful most crops, quality good to high. Rangeland lower elevations continues poor water critically short. Supplemental feeding water hauling, herd reduction continues. Irrigated pasture showing stress. High mountain range in good condition.

COLORADO: Very warm beginning of week. Rain began 19th in west, entire State 20th thru weekend. Heaviest precipitation 20th.

Temperatures averaged 1 to 3° above normal statewide. Winter wheat harvested 93%, 86% 1976, 78% average. Winter barley harvest, 86% complete. Corn condition very good, 65% tasseled. Alfalfa 1st cutting 98%, second cutting 37%. Alfalfa condition good. Most irrigated crops in good condition. Dryland crops in west fair to poor. Vegetable harvest continuing, fruit harvest in progress. Range and pasture poor to fair west, good east. Soil moisture short to very short.

FLORIDA: Showers and thundershowers increased entire state. Increased cloudiness, easterly winds maintained temperatures to near normal. Rainfall generally moderate to heavy averaging 1.00 to 3.00 in. most areas. Soil moisture conditions improving, mostly adequate south, west but continues short northern areas.

Corn harvest active, yields low. Tobacco harvest in full swing. Markets have opened. Soybean and peanut condition improved. Soybeans still being planted. Hay harvest active. Sugarcane good condition. Pasture condition improving. Some areas continue dry, mostly in Northern Peninsula, Panhandle counties. Cattle condition remains poor in dry areas of Northern Peninsula, Panhandle, mostly good elsewhere. Citrus grove condition excellent, daily rains improved groves, new growth all areas, all tree ages. Orange harvest nearly over. Land preparation active fall season. Plantings celery, cucumbers, peppers, sweet corn, eggplant, tomatoes underway in 2 to 3 weeks. Planting seedbeds some crops continues. Limited supplies summer vegetables moving through local markets.

GEORGIA: Temperatures near normal south to 8° above normal northwest. Extremes: 103 and 60°. Hot temperatures persisted through the week. Scattered afternoon and evening thundershowers occurred each day. Amounts were variable, mostly less than 1.00 in.

Crop conditions declined again. Soil moisture still very short. Six days suitable for fieldwork. Insect levels very high, controls were a major activity. Corn condition weakened; rated poor; extensive salvage cutting for silage or hay. Tobacco weaker; called fair; 34% harvested, last

year 78%, average 66%, marketing active. Cotton significantly weaker, rated poor to mostly fair; worms bad, 94% setting bolls, last year 83%. Peanuts down sharply, poor to mostly fair; 98% blooming and 94% pegging, equal to last year. Soybeans further decline; poor to mostly fair; wilting; a variety of insects attacking. Limited haying. Pastures poor, some burned. Cattle weaker at poor to mostly fair; more forced to marketings. Hogs lower at fair to good, heat hurting. Additional poultry losses from heat. Peaches 91% harvested. Apple harvest more active, condition mostly fair to good. Watermelons poor to fair; 88% harvested, last year 85%.

HAWAII: Weather favorable. More showers Big Island than others.

Beneficial especially along Hamakua coast to sugarcane crop. Irrigation heavy truck crop growing areas on Kauai, Maui, and Oahu. Spraying frequent to control insect infestations. Vegetable supplies: leafy crops short; others adequate. Banana supplies moderate to heavy. Papaya supplies steady but still heavy. Pineapple harvesting peak harvest continues. Sugar harvesting steady. Pastures fair to good.

IDAHO: Temperatures were 3° above normal in south and 1° below normal in north. Extremes: 106 and 45°. Precipitation in east, spotty thundershowers elsewhere.

Crops good progress. Generally more advanced than last year. Grain prospects reduced in some areas by lack soil moisture. Winter wheat is 90% turned, 75% 1976; 25% ripe, 15% 1976. Combining becoming active at weekend. Spring barley is 75% turned, 40% 1976; 18% ripe, 3% 1976. Harvest starting early fields. Potatoes mostly good condition, 70% closing middles, 65% in 1976.

ILLINOIS: Temperatures: 3-5° above normal, warm period third straight week. Precipitation: few scattered areas up to 6.00 in., most areas less than 0.33 in.

Corn condition 26% excellent, 59% good, 15% fair; 40% in dough, 17% 1976, 16% average. Soybeans 15% excellent, 61% good, 24% fair; 85% blooming, 69% 1976, 59% average; 52% pods set, 28% 1976, 28% average. Oats 80% combined, 70% 1976, 59% average. Wheat 25% plowing completed, 14% 1976, 7% average. Second crop alfalfa hay 88% cut, 81% 1976, 68% average; mostly good. Pasture mostly fair. Soil moisture 69% short, 31% adequate. Fieldwork: 5.3 days suitable.

INDIANA: Week began hot then little cooler with increased showers as front drifted through State. Temperatures averaged 5° above normal and ranged from 50 to 97°. Rainfall 0.80 to 1.10 in. in north central, northeast and southwest; 0.40 to 0.70 elsewhere except 0.20 southeast.

Fieldwork averaged 6.0 days. Topsoil moisture short to adequate. Subsoil moisture mostly short to adequate. Wheat combining completed; 1976 100%, average 95%. Oats 75% combined; 1976 70%, average 50%. Corn condition good. Corn 85% in silk; 1976 65%, average 50%. Soybean condition good. Soybeans 27 in. high. Soybeans 75% in bloom, 1976 55%. Soybeans 15% setting pods. Alfalfa hay 80% cut 2d time; 1976 75%, average 60%.

IOWA: Rainfall varied from virtually none in some south central and southeast counties to more than 4.00 in. over Woodbury and Ida Counties.

Topsoil moisture improved: 53% short, 47% adequate. Subsoil moisture: 93% short, 7% adequate. Days suitable: 5.1. 92% of corn has silked with 36% in milk stage. Last year 69% had

silked and 57% is average. Soybean acreage is 87% blooming; 72% last year and 61% average. 49% of the soybean acreage is setting pods; 38% last year, 21% average. Oats harvest virtually complete. 2nd cutting of alfalfa is 90% complete, 80% last year, 62% average. Livestock suffering heat stress with some losses among large hogs.

KANSAS: Scattered showers, thunderstorms many sections latter half week. Average amounts little to none northeast and southwest, to around 0.06 in. southeast and central. Temperatures averaged from 82° northwest to 87° central and from 4 to 8° above normal.

Hot weather continues. Wheat harvest finalized. Moisture supplies rapidly depleting southwest quarter state, irrigation that area. Elsewhere moisture supplies semi-dry top state, adequate east. Corn good condition 75% tasseling, 55% last year, 60% average. Moderate infestations European corn borer and corn root worms. Dough stage 25%, last year 0%, average 5%. Sorghum grain good condition 20% headed, last year 5%, average 10%. Locally severe chinch bug infestations and grasshoppers entire state. Soybeans growing well, blooming 30%, last year 10%. Soybeans podding 15%, last year 5%, average 15%. Second cutting alfalfa nearing completion 95% cut, equal last year, average 90%. Third cutting alfalfa 30%, last year 25%, average 20%. Pastures and ranges holding good condition, need moisture, supporting livestock. Principal farm activities working irrigation wells and irrigation, working summer fallow ground, haying, cultivation row crops.

KENTUCKY: Temperatures well above normal. High in 90's and low in 70's. Rainfall averaged less than 0.10 in. west and north to around 1.00 in. east during thunderstorms.

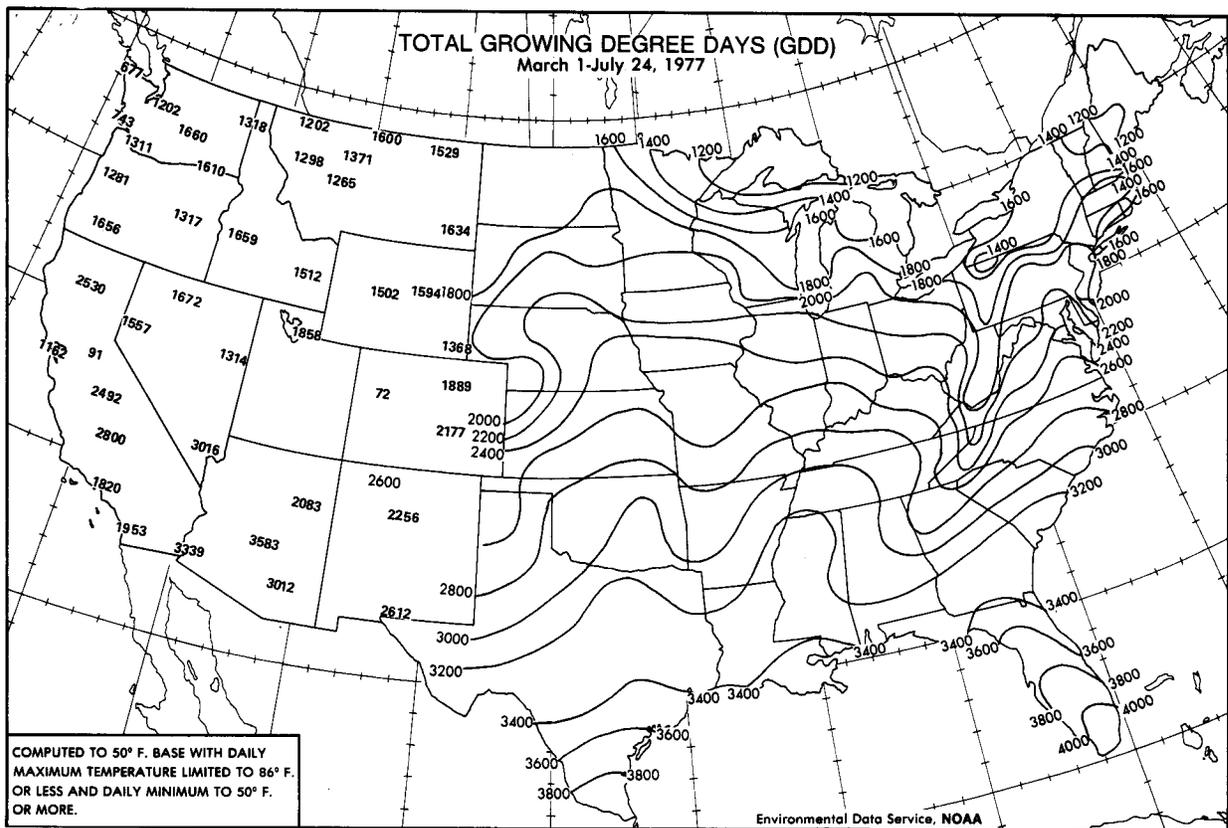
Generally favorable for outside work until weekend. About 80% reporting shortage soil moisture, 18% adequate as high temperatures and larger plant growth used available moisture. Farmers cultivating row crops, topping and spraying tobacco, harvesting hay, spraying weeds and clipping pastures. Corn prospects still good, many early fields already made. Over 50% soybeans blooming, earliest in last 15 years. Moisture stage critical. About 45% of burley tobacco blooming. Dark types 50% blooming and nearly 25% topped. Tobacco most advanced of any crop on record since 1962. Pastures deteriorating again, needing more rain, as are late hay crops.

LOUISIANA: Temperatures normal to 2° above. Extremes: 62 and 101°. Scattered showers over State.

Soil moisture short to adequate. Fieldwork: 4.8 days suitable. Main activities: haying, cultivation of row crops and application of herbicides and insecticides. Rice condition good; 68% headed, 16% ripe, 6% harvested. Cotton condition fair to good; 88% setting bolls. Corn condition fair; 84% dough stage, 20% mature. Sorghum condition fair; 83% headed. Soybean condition fair to good; 57% blooming. Sugarcane condition good; sweetpotato condition fair to good. Harvest underway in southern areas. Hay and pasture condition fair. Cattle condition fair.

MARYLAND AND DELAWARE: Temperatures averaged 5° above normal. Extremes: 70's, mid 90's. Precipitation 1.00 in. except the Eastern Shore and Delaware 0.50 in.

Corn standing well, 65% silked, 65% 1976. Small grains harvest: barley virtually complete, oats 75%, rye 95%. Rains have been enough to maintain crops.



MICHIGAN: Temperatures ranged 2 to 8° above normal. Extremes: 104 and 38°. Precipitation 0.42 in. Upper to 1.40 in. Lower.

Pasture feed supplies and 2d cut hay short. Fieldwork: 6.0 days suitable. Corn 60% silked, 20% last year and normal. Wheat harvest 80%, 76% last year and 44% normal. Dry beans 45% blooming. Soybeans 40% blooming. Early potato harvest started. Sweet cherries complete. Tart cherries 90%, 80% last year and 60% normal. Early fruit and vegetable harvest continues on peaches, apples, sweet corn, cantaloupes, blueberries and cucumbers.

MINNESOTA: Temperatures averaged 4 to 8° above normal. Extremes: 105 and 48°. Precipitation less than 0.25 in. northwest half and 0.25 in. to 1.00 in. southeast half with many areas southwest and south central 1.00 in. to 2.00 in., isolated areas 4.00 in. Precipitation 0.50 in. to 0.90 in. below normal northwest half and near normal to 1.00 in. above normal southeast half with isolated areas near 3.00 in. above normal.

High temperatures along with short moisture supplies placed row crops under stress early part last week. However, weekend rains helped mitigate stress. Most corn crop remains good to excellent condition, soybeans rated good. Small grain harvest progressing rapidly. Corn 32% milk stage, 1976 5%, normal 1%. Soybeans 52% setting pods, 1976 17%, normal 17%. Swathed: Spring wheat 51%, oats 72%, barley 70%, winter wheat 92%, rye 90%. Combined: Spring wheat 17%, oats 39%, barley 34%, winter wheat 64%, rye 56%. Flax: 74% setting bolls, 1976 62%, normal 59%. Turning ripe 29%, 1976 29%, normal 22%.

MISSISSIPPI: Temperatures near normal. Extremes: 101 and 65°.

Soil moisture adequate to short. Fieldwork: 5.1 days suitable. Soybeans 55% blooming, 35% 1976; 16% podding, 4% 1976. Cotton 96% blooming, 60% 1976; 85% setting bolls, 24% 1976, 63% average. Rice 20% headed, 19% 1976, (13% previous week corrected). Corn 93% silked, 88% 1976, 76% average; 70% in dough stage, 54% 1976; 39% dented, 15% 1976. Sorghums 46% headed, 40% 1976. Hay crops 51% harvested, 51% 1976, 52% average. Peaches 79% harvested, 81% 1976, 77% average. Cucumbers 94% harvested, 85% 1976. Watermelons 51% harvested, 50% 1976, 46% average. Corn silage 29% harvested. Soybeans and cotton good to fair condition. Rice good condition. Corn fair condition. Pastures fair to poor condition.

MISSOURI: Temperatures averaged about 4° above normal. High temperatures ranged from upper 80's thru the 90's. Low temperatures ranged from upper 60's thru 70's. Rainfall amounts generally light. Most of the precipitation was in the east and southern portions with little or none from central thru northwest.

Fieldwork: 6.0 days suitable. Soil moisture 69% short, 31% adequate. Corn condition 9% poor, 29% fair, 50% good, 12% excellent. Corn silking 90%, last year 59%, normal 62%. Corn in dough stage 40%, 2 weeks ahead of last year. Soybean condition 2% poor, 33% fair, 59% good, 6% excellent. Soybeans blooming 56%, 34% last year, 38% normal. 20% soybeans setting pods. Grain sorghum headed 61%, 13% last year, 28% normal. Cotton setting bolls 79%, last year 7%. Cotton condition 10% fair, 85% good, 5% excellent. 2nd cutting alfalfa harvested 91%, 87% last year, 84% normal. 3rd cutting alfalfa harvested 15%. Pasture condition 28% poor, 44% fair, 24% good, 4% excellent.

MONTANA: Temperatures were 3 to 6° above normal. Frequent showers west and southwest divisions and above normal precipitation. Dry and below normal elsewhere in State. High reading in the 100's reported in north central and eastern divisions.

Wheat harvest under way some areas. About 10% winter wheat combined--last year and normal under 5%. Soil moisture short. Growth and condition spring grains poor to good--mostly fair. Sugarbeets fair to good. Potatoes good. Second cutting alfalfa fair to good. More than 40% winter wheat ripe or harvested. Last year 25% ripe, 65% turning, 5% green. Spring wheat, oats and barley about 15% ripe--last year 5 to 10% ripe and normal under 5%. First cutting alfalfa 95% complete--second cutting 10%. Wild hay harvest 55% done. Range feed and stockwater supplies very short to short except southwest. Grasshopper activity light to moderate.

NEBRASKA: Precipitation averaged 0.50 in. statewide with 2.00 in. common northeast district. Temperatures averaged normal west to 5° above normal east.

Topsoil moisture 41% adequate, 59% short. Subsoil 52% adequate, 48% short. Wheat harvest over 98% cut, 95% year ago, 80% normal. Corn 75% silked, 60% year ago, 50% normal. Sorghum 45% headed, 25% year ago, 15% normal. Soybeans 35% podding, 20% year ago, 10% normal. Second cutting alfalfa 90% complete.

NEVADA: High pressure ridge brought light, scattered thunderstorms. Temperatures averaged 2 to 6° above normal. Extremes: 113 to 40°.

Sunny weather favorable harvesting hay and small grains. Ranges generally dry.

NEW ENGLAND: Heat wave over most of New England well into the week. Several record high temperatures reported. Cooler drier air mass routed the heat wave on 21st to the accompaniment of showers and thunderstorms. Rainfall averaged on the light side.

With many fields in bloom, vegetable growth is good. Beans, cabbage, summer squash, radishes, sweet corn, cukes, tomatoes and peppers being harvested. Fruit crops doing well. Some early apples, peaches, raspberries, and blueberries being harvested. Field corn generally normal but most fields need moisture. Pastures suffering from dry and hot weather. Harvesting of second cutting hay active during week.

NEW JERSEY: Temperatures averaged 3° above normal. Extremes: 46 and 103°. Weekly rainfall averaged 0.44 in. north, 0.19 in. central and 0.08 in. south. Soil moisture, in percent of field capacity: 55 north, 38 central and 21 south. Soil temperature today averaged 74° north and central and 79° south.

Extremely high temperatures over much of the period have scalded some vegetables. Reduced supplies for later harvest are expected, resulting from high temperatures and blossoms dropping especially for tomatoes, snap beans, eggplant and peppers. Some areas, especially central and south are extremely dry. Processing tomato harvest expected to increase over the next 10 days. Blueberry supplies declining. Peach and apple harvest increasing. Wheat combining about complete. Second cutting of hay well advanced. Milk production has declined because of extreme heat. Situation getting critical on some farms without irrigation.

NEW MEXICO: Substantial rains all central and western sections with totals ranging to 2.00 in.

or more some counties. Only widely scattered, very light showers eastern Plains sections.

Corn, cotton, irrigated grain sorghum, good. Dryland grain sorghum, fair. Cotton, 90% squaring, 50% setting bolls. Harvest of winter wheat and durum wheat completed. Second cutting of alfalfa 50% completed in north, third cut 40% completed in south. Ranges poor to fair. Livestock fair to good.

NEW YORK: Hot, humid weather continuous to 22d. Rainfall light and spotty, but up to 1.00 in. in Adirondacks. Average temperatures in 60's in mountains to lower 80's in N.Y.C. Extremes: 104 and 30°.

Good fieldwork progress. Corn making good growth. Early corn well tasseled, ahead of normal. Oats turning, wheat harvest in high gear, some sprouting damage. Second cutting alfalfa progressing well. Fall cabbage planting nearing completion. Sweet corn ripening early due to hot weather. Some early potatoes being dug. Early variety peaches ripening earlier than normal. Tart cherry harvest nearly complete.

NORTH CAROLINA: Heat wave broke Friday, but precipitation remained light. Rainfall varied from 0 to over 1.00 in.

Fieldwork: 5.9 days suitable. Soil moisture: 63% very short, 32% short, 5% adequate. Conditions: pastures are mostly poor; corn and hay poor to fair; tobacco, soybeans, cotton and apples mostly fair; sweetpotatoes and peanuts fair to good; Irish potatoes good. Harvested: flue-cured tobacco 18%, 1976 26%, average 22%; hay 72%, 1976 68%; peaches 77%, 1976 71%, average 59%.

NORTH DAKOTA: Hot weather beginning of week with temperatures above 100° many sections. Cooler temperatures remainder. Temperatures averaged 4 to 8° above normal. Extremes: 45 and 106°. Precipitation generally very light or non-existent. Few light to moderate showers central and southeast areas.

Harvest beginning with 5% hard red spring wheat combined, oats 15% combined, barley 10% combined and durum harvest just beginning. Swathing to be general this week except northwest and north central districts. Row crops and pastures in need of rain across State.

OHIO: Precipitation ranged from 2.54 in. north central to trace south. Temperatures well above normal. Extremes: 99 and 51°. Harvest completion: wheat virtually complete same as last year, 95% normal; oats 55%, 50% 1976 and 35% normal; second cutting alfalfa hay 75%, 65% 1976 and 50% normal; clo-tim 45%, 40% 1976 and 30% normal. Corn 65% silked, 60% 1976 and 45% five-year average. Corn 10% in dough stage, 5% 1976 and normal. Soybeans 55% setting, pods same as year earlier, 35% normal. Corn and soybean condition reported mostly good. Tobacco condition deteriorated, considered fair to good, showing much scalding. Soil moisture: 28% short, 68% adequate, and 4% surplus. Fieldwork: over 5 days suitable.

OKLAHOMA: Temperatures for week averaged above normal across State. Precipitation light and drought continues.

Hot temperatures and light rain have depleted topsoil moisture in 85% of State, and have lowered crop condition. Main farm activities past week was row crop cultivation, irrigation, baling hay, and working wheat ground. Corn in good to fair condition but hot winds in western Panhandle caused concern for irrigated acres. Crop 16% dough or past, ahead 13% year ago, below 29% average.

Sorghums need rain but have been quite free of insects. 33% headed, compared 35% average and 25% year ago. Cotton in good to fair condition with near 70% crop squaring, compared 67% year ago and 50% average. Rain needed as bolls start to set. Peanuts fair to good near half acreage flowering, behind 55% average but a bit ahead of year ago. Soybeans mostly good condition as 33% acres blooming but only 4% setting pods. Bloom is ahead of 25% average and 10% year ago. 3rd cutting alfalfa nearly 40% baled. Ranges losing condition as soils dry and new growth stops. Grazing ample to hold cattle in good condition.

OREGON: Light rain fell across extreme northern portion early week. Temperatures averaged near normal in the north. Southern and extreme eastern 3 to 7° above. Extremes: High 80's, mid 40's west; mid 90's, low 40's east. Rainfall ranged up to 0.25 in.

Grain harvest continuing in east. Yields variable mostly below average. Haying continues. Snap bean harvest underway. Grass seed harvest in full swing. Heavy prune drop. Peach harvest started in south. Potatoes in good condition, harvest started. Peppermint doing well. Livestock continue good shape west and poor to fair east. Fall-winter pasture outlook bleak because of drought.

PENNSYLVANIA: Hot and humid through 21st. Cool and dry until 24th when return to somewhat warmer and more humid conditions. Temperatures 80's and 90's afternoons and 60's and 70's nights early week. Extremes: 100 and 42°. Flooding from 9.00 to 12.00 in. rainfall 19th and 20th in Johnstown area. Elsewhere weekly rainfall mostly 0.50 in. to 2.00 in.

Fieldwork: 4.0 days suitable. Soil moisture mostly adequate, some surplus. Activities: hay-making, spraying and digging potatoes, combining grains. Corn 63 in., last year 60 in. Barley 5% ripe, 82% harvested, last year 87%. Wheat 53% harvested, last year 57% harvested. Oats 33% turning, 40% ripe, 11% harvested, last year 15% harvested. Alfalfa second cut 71%, last year 59%. Clo-tim virtually complete. Hay quality fair to poor. Feed from pastures mostly average.

PUERTO RICO: Island rainfall 0.72 in. Temperatures averaged about 80 to 82° on coasts and 76 to 78° interior divisions. Extremes: 95 and 58°.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Temperature above normal. Rainfall below normal. Some scattered thunderstorms across state 17th and 22d. Continued hot, dry weather.

Tobacco condition only fair. Leaves matured early causing a poorer quality leaf. Rain would be primarily helpful to late planted acreage. Corn condition poor. Cotton condition poor. Earworm activity heavy some areas. Rain would improve size of new bolls, help yield. Soybean condition poor to fair. Armyworm, earworm activity some areas. Rain would help crop since only 21% blooming. Peach condition only fair. Sizes smaller than normal. Harvest declining seasonally. Watermelon condition poor. Dry hot weather has shortened season. About 16% production remains for harvest. Pasture, hay crop condition very poor to poor. Most grazing has dried up. Beef cattle farmers forced to sell off heads due to lack of feed.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Hot early week but cooled to 80's latter week. Extremes: 47° and 110°. Widespread thundershowers. Most locations received less than an in. of precipitation.

Topsoil moisture: 25% adequate, 75% short. Winter wheat harvested 84%, 1976 84%, normal 64%. Spring wheat harvested 41%, 1976 59%, normal 20%. Rye harvested 81%, 1976 90%, normal 55%. Oats harvested 69%, 1976 75%, normal 35%. Barley harvested 69%, 1976 71%, normal 42%. Flax harvested 4%, 1976 6%, normal 0%. Sorghum headed 24%, 1976 9%, normal 5%. Corn silked 62%, 1976 34%, normal 33%. Soybeans podded 28%, 1976 0%, normal 0%. Pasture condition ranges from poor to excellent, depending on where rains received. Livestock good condition. Flies and pinkeye bothersome to cattle.

TENNESSEE: Precipitation 0.25 in. to 1.61 in. Temperatures 3-6° above normal.

Soil moisture very short. Fieldwork: 5.7 days suitable. Cattle marketings above normal. Pasture conditions poor. Soybeans blooming 70% 1977, 30% 1976, 36% normal. Soybeans setting pods 23% 1977, 6% 1976, 9% normal. Cotton squaring 97% 1977, 86% 1976, 92% normal. Cotton setting bolls 70% 1977, 26% 1976, 39% normal. Corn silking 86% 1977, 73% 1976, 72% normal. Corn in dough 40% 1977, 23% 1976, 30% normal. Alfalfa 2d cutting 95% 1977, 92% 1976, 93% normal.

TEXAS: Temperatures above normal Cross-Timbers, Blacklands, Upper East Texas, Edwards Plateau, near normal elsewhere. Average rainfall less than 0.25 in. High Plains, Trans-Pecos, Edwards Plateau, South Texas, Lower Coast: 1.00 in. Southern Low Plains, 0.25 in. elsewhere.

Hot, dry weather lowered moisture supplies. Cotton on plains fruiting well, insect activity light, building. Many fields need moisture, some wilting, shedding of squares dryer areas. Few fields picked from Coastal Bend, southward; harvest more active next week. Sorghum harvest full swing from lower Blacklands, southward. Sorghum on plains from pre-boot to headed out, dryland fields stressed from lack of moisture, except southern Low Plains. Corn on High Plains is generally roasting ear stage. Harvest underway southern, central areas. Rice harvest active, but slowed by showers. Early sunflowers completed blooming southern High Plains, late planted in bud stage. Soybeans developing well, but need rain. Many peanut fields pegging. Irrigated fields developing well, dryland stands stressed from lack of moisture. Sorghum harvested: 26% 1977, 17% 1976, 27% average. Rice harvested: 9% 1977, 15% 1976, 9% average. Corn harvested: 1% 1977, 6% 1976, 5% average.

Lower Rio Grande Valley, melon harvest complete. Citrus being irrigated; sprayed for rust mite. Fall planting underway. Coastal Bend, land ready for cucumber planting. San Antonio-Winter Garden, onion harvest complete. Grasshopper damage heavy some bell pepper fields. Cabbage, cucumber planting active. Land conditioning begun for spinach. Upper Gulf Coast, melon harvest near completion. Land preparation fall crops active. East Texas, hot dry conditions continues. Irrigated sweetpotatoes making normal progress, dryland crop suffers lack of moisture. Central Texas, dry condition exist. High Plains, harvest cabbage, onions, potatoes active. Trans-Pecos, cantaloup harvest complete at Presidio, active other areas. Pecan trees Central East Texas suffer insufficient moisture as shedding occurs some areas. Peach harvest remains active Central East Texas, High Plains.

Pastures, ranges continue to dry. Grazing generally adequate; ranchers in dryer areas feeding hay, protein supplements. Stock water low some areas. Livestock remain generally fair, good condition; some shrinkage on short pastures. Regrowth hay fields slow.

UTAH: Scattered afternoon and evening showers and thunderstorms most sections of State. Accumulated amounts moisture extremely variable ranging from little or none to locally very heavy. Average temperatures ranged from near normal to 11° above.

Nonirrigated soil moisture continued very short, range feed poor. Harvest of second crop alfalfa hay about 25% completed. Other hay almost 50% harvested. Dryland winter wheat about 33% harvested--irrigated winter wheat about 20%. Spring planted small grain harvest getting started with yield prospects fair to good. Sour cherries about 90% harvested, apricots 60% completed.

VIRGINIA: Rainfall averaged 0.50 in. Temperatures 7° above normal. Extremes: 103 and 53°.

Topsoil moisture 90% short, 10% adequate. Livestock watering supplies in pasture areas 34% adequate, 54% short. 12% critical. Household and farm service water supplies mostly adequate, central areas mostly short, northern cisterns drying up. Corn 72% silked, 60% 1976, 53% normal; condition declining in eastern areas. Soybeans starting to bloom, condition fair to good. Flue-cured tobacco 3% harvested, 7% 1976, 5% normal. Wheat harvest virtually complete. Fieldwork: 5.9 days suitable.

WASHINGTON: West: Near normal temperatures Sound area; 3° below Coastal; 2° below east Cascade foothills. Precipitation 0.10 in. above Sound area; 2.00 in. above Coastal area; 1.00 in. below normal east Cascade foothills.

Raspberry harvest continues. Green peas 20 to 30% harvested. Pea vines being baled. Flower bulb digging continues. Truck produce: Broccoli, cauliflower, lettuce, cabbage going to market. Celery planting underway; cucumbers in bloom. Hay harvest continues, production good.

East: Temperatures near normal northeast; 1° below Palouse area; 3° below normal elsewhere. Precipitation 0.10 in. above normal Palouse; 4 in. below northeast; near normal elsewhere.

Cherry harvest completed except isolated orchards. Apricot and peach harvest continues. Pears sizing well. Apples good condition. Sweet corn being harvested; tomatoes just starting. Green pea harvest completed; green beans starting soon. Onions being harvested; early potatoes starting soon. Mint harvest continues. Winter wheat, barley harvest continues. Yields mostly poor to fair. Above normal abandonment. Dry pea harvest over, yields below normal. Haying continues, yields poor to

fair. No second cutting likely numerous areas. Cattle fair to good, forage should improve as stubble in grain fields becomes available.

WEST VIRGINIA: Temperatures well above normal, extreme 102°. Rainfall above normal except central and parts northeast.

Fieldwork: 5.0 days suitable. Soil moisture short. First haying 90% complete, 92% 1976, 87% average; 2d haying 32%, 15% 1976, 20% average. Small grains mostly fair to good. Harvest: wheat 75%, 87% 1976, 72% average; barley 87%, 93% 1976, 81% average; oats 50%, 39% 1976, 29% average. Corn good to fair. Potatoes 11% dug, 6% 1976, 9% average. Pastures fair. Flies stressing cattle, Japanese beetle populations very high.

WISCONSIN: Temperatures averaged 3° above normal. Cold front 20th triggered heavy rains south central and southeast. Rainfall for week heaviest northwest, central, and southern areas.

Corn continues rapid development. Corn 67% silked, 1976 30%, normal 25%. Growth tall, ears developing nicely. Oat harvest 10% completed, last year 5%, normal 3%. Wheat combining well advanced. Yields good on small grains. Much lodging and weed growth in some oat fields. Second crop hay 55% harvested, 1976 30%, normal 15%. Some second crop yields better than first crop. Third crop coming good where had moisture. Soybeans have very good growth, developing pods. Pasture conditions better than year ago. Tobacco growing fast, some ready for topping. Early potatoes being harvested. Pea harvest near end, sweet corn harvest underway. Cherry harvest proceeding well, good crop. Soil moisture supplies 48% short, 50% adequate, 2% surplus.

WYOMING: Temperatures generally above normal. Precipitation generally below normal except in lower Platte Drainage.

Topsoil moisture supplies: 52% very short, 29% short, 15% adequate and 4% surplus. Moisture conditions will improve with weekend rains. Small grain development ahead of last year; winter wheat 84% mature, 45% harvested; spring wheat 71% turning color and 29% mature; barley 95% headed, 64% turning color, 28% mature. First cutting of alfalfa hay 90% complete, second cutting 12%. Other hay 41% harvested. Corn 27% tasseled. Dry beans 63% in bloom. Potatoes 11% in bloom. Row crops were in fair to good condition. Stock water supplies mostly short.

World Weather and Crop Update

USSR. Generally better harvesting weather prevailed in European USSR although rain in some regions probably hampered harvesting. The pace of harvesting picked up, and official Soviet figures indicate that since the start of harvest 19.1 million hectares of grain crops had been cut and 10.3 million hectares threshed by July 18. Precipitation was light throughout most of the spring wheat regions in western Siberia and North Kazakhstan; crops were under moisture stress in some areas.

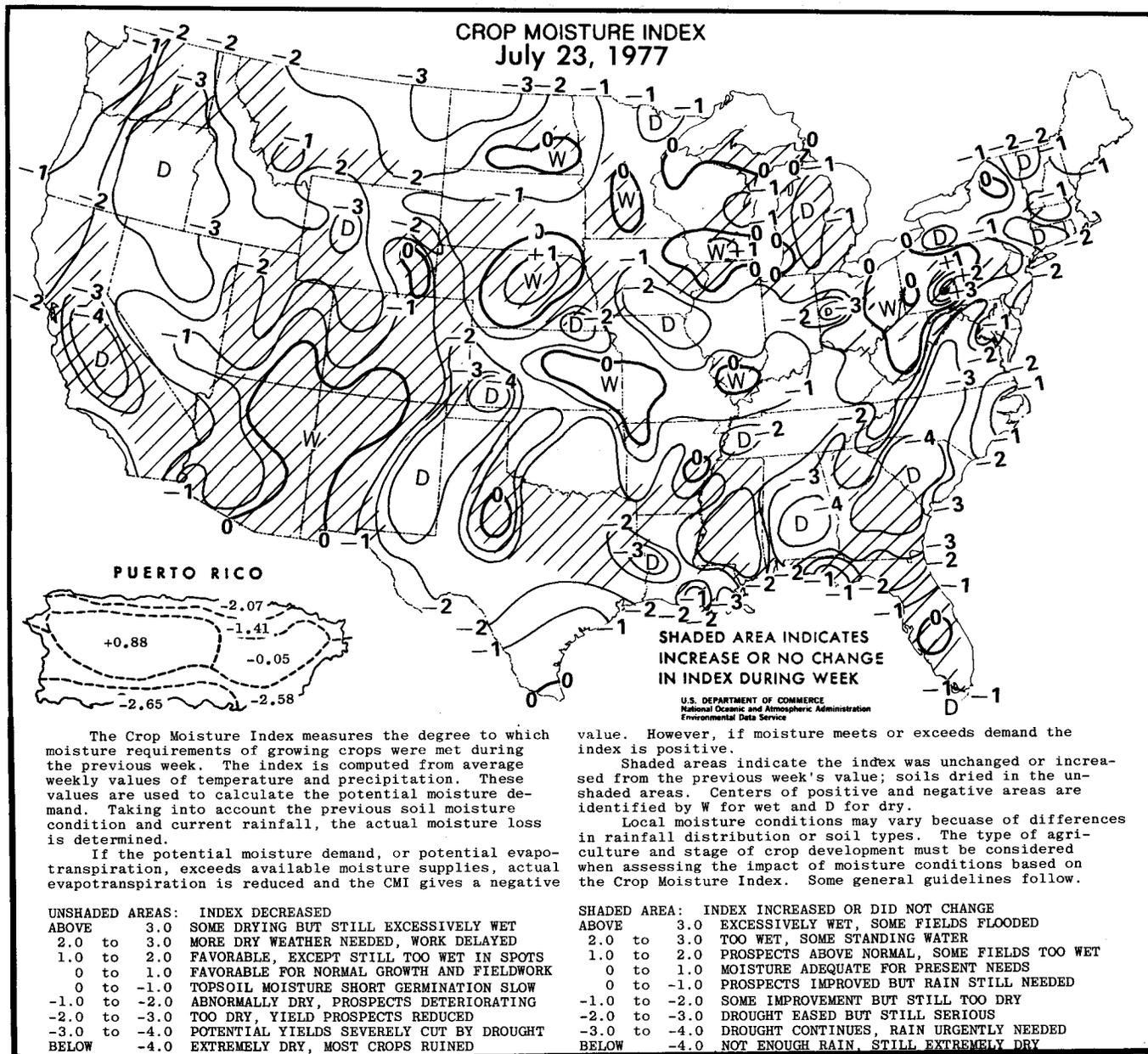
ASIA. In the People's Republic of China, heavy rains continued to drench most of the North China Plain, the PRC's main winter wheat belt and a major producing region for corn, cotton, and soybeans. The continuous rainfall of recent weeks caused waterlogging and localized flooding, and was particularly bad because of the adverse impact on the wheat crop which was being threshed and sun dried. Heavy rains, excessive in places, also fell throughout the northeast where spring wheat, coarse

grains, and soybeans predominate. Seasonally heavy rains fell throughout most of the rice-growing areas south of the Yangtze River. India's monsoonal flow patterns continued basically favorable although precipitation was light in some areas. In Australia, rainfall occurred mainly along the coasts in the principal grain areas. Sowing of winter wheat was virtually completed in the eastern regions and Victoria. Although sowing neared completion in western Australia, a good soaking rain was needed, especially in the north. South Australia, however, continued to suffer from a moisture deficit which held up wheat planting in some areas.

AFRICA. Seasonally hot and dry weather prevailed in North Africa--Morocco, Tunisia and Algeria--while at the other end of the continent in South Africa it was cool and dry. There was a decided drop-off in rainfall over the western region of Central Africa. The precipitation deficiency was most evident in the coastal countries--Mauritania.

(Continued on last page)

World Weather and Crop Update



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.



FIRST CLASS MAIL

HARVESTING PROGRESS

Percentage of acres harvested as of July 24

WINTER WHEAT

	1977	1976	Avg.
Colo.	93	86	78
Ill.	100	100	100
Ind.	100	100	95
Kans.	99	99	99
Mo.	100	100	100
Mont.	10	1/	1/
Nebr.	98	95	80
Ohio	99	99	95
Okla.	100	100	100
Tex.	100	100	100
U.S.	92	91	89

These 10 States produced 77% of the 1976 U.S. winter wheat crop.

1/ less than 5%.

(Continued from page 10)

Senegal, Gambia, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo, Benin and Nigeria--where rainfall has been well below normal during the past 2 to 4 weeks. Spotty drought may occur in the interior Sahel areas, but rainfall in the eastern Sahel over Niger, Chad, Sudan, Ethiopia, and Somalia was generally adequate.

SOUTH AMERICA. Minimum temperatures in Brazil's coffee-growing regions were well above freezing. Heavy rains again fell in Rio Grande do Sul and in parts of Parana, but precipitation was generally light elsewhere in the main agricultural areas. Heavy, frequent showers generated by the Inter-tropical Convergence Zone drenched the northern coastal regions. In Argentina, the main grain belt received very little significant precipitation, and the moisture shortage continued to hamper wheat planting in the western and southwestern parts of the grain belt.

EUROPE. Cool, damp weather covered most of western Europe. Rainfall was light to moderate, in general, but cloudy weather significantly reduced the amount of solar insolation available to crops. Scattered showers fell throughout north central Spain, but

precipitation was light elsewhere. Unirrigated crops and pastures in southern Spain, especially in the extreme southeast, continued under moisture stress. Light to moderate showers dampened Italy's Po Valley, but southern Italy and Sicily were dry. In eastern Europe, below normal temperatures prevailed as light to moderate showers moistened most of the region. Greece received no significant rainfall, and it was generally dry in the major grain areas of Turkey.

NORTH AMERICA. Significant rains brought some relief to parts of the parched southeastern states, mainly Georgia and South Carolina and including the Shenandoah Valley in western Virginia; but dry areas in Alabama were by-passed by the rain. The moisture situation was significantly boosted in western and east central Iowa, but spotty drought persists in central Illinois. Portions of east central Indiana and west central Ohio also needed moisture. Helpful rains occurred in Arizona, Utah, and Colorado. Drought lingered in the western portion of North Dakota and in the spring wheat region of the northern Great Plains. Recent rains improved the outlook for spring wheat throughout most of the Prairie Provinces in Canada. However, crop conditions continued below normal in southern Alberta and southern Saskatchewan.