

WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

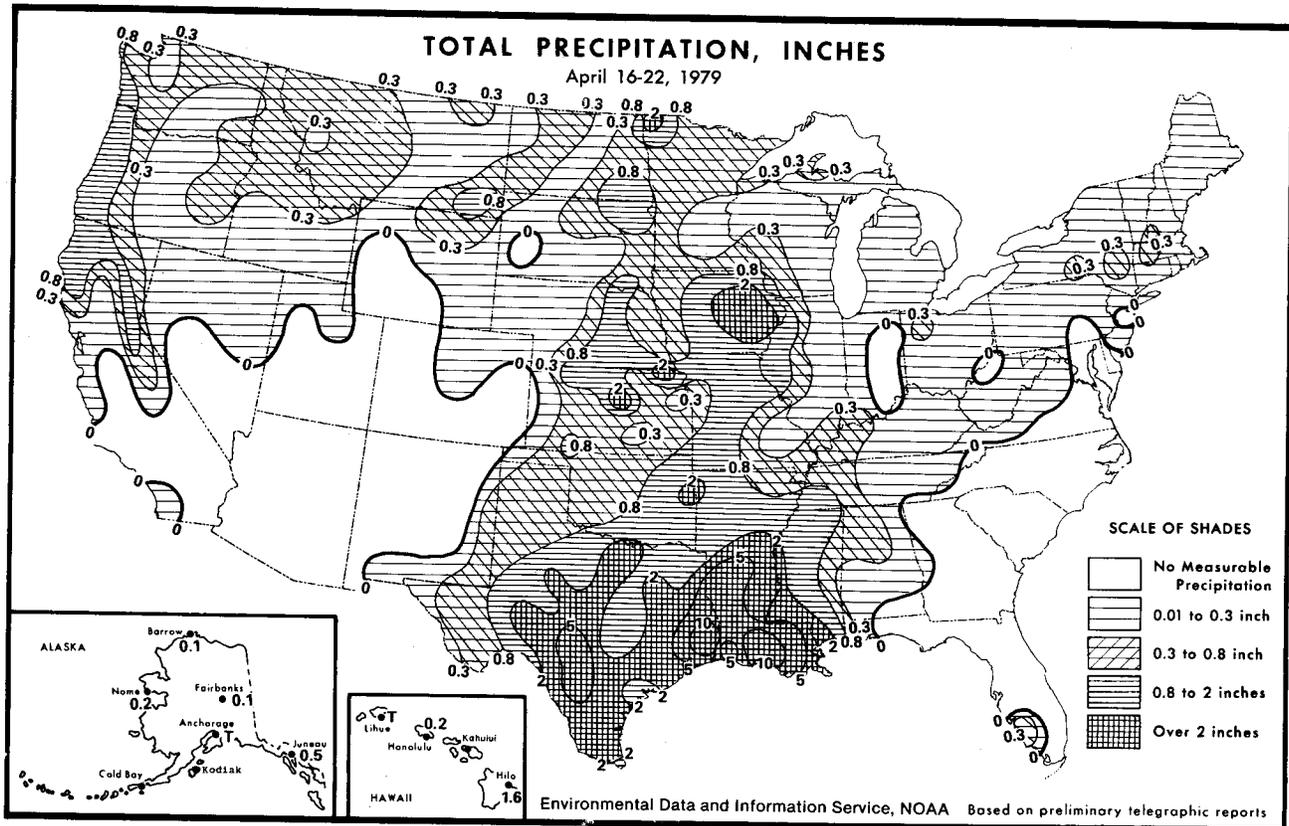
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Environmental Data and Information Service, NOAA

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Economics, Statistics, and Cooperatives Service

Volume 66, No. 17

Washington, D.C.

April 24, 1979



National Weather Summary

April 16 - 22

HIGHLIGHTS: Heavy rain caused severe flooding in Louisiana and southeastern Texas, and aggravated Mississippi's overflow problems. Moderate rains fell on already-saturated areas of Minnesota and North Dakota compounding the flooding there.

Thunderstorms, with isolated hail, moved throughout the Plains and Mississippi Valley.

Much of the Nation showed warmer-than-normal temperatures. The eastern slopes of the central Rockies warmed 10 to 12 degrees above normal. The eastern and northwestern sections of the country were near or a bit cooler than normal.

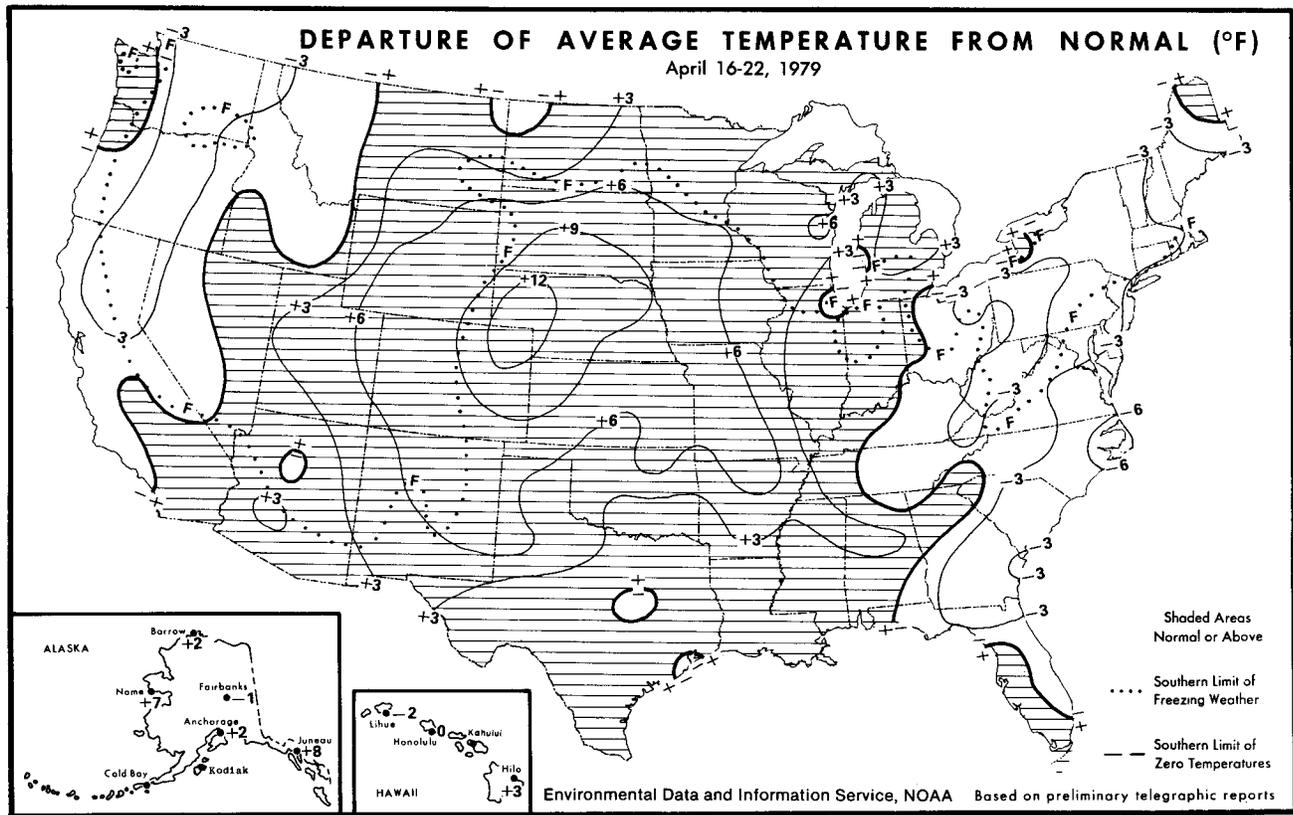
On Monday, flooding waterways were reaching record crests in the South after the past week's heavy rains. Mississippi and Alabama contended with the worst overflow.

Early in the day, showers dotted the upper West Coast, parts of the Midwest, and New York State. The heaviest rainfall amounted to three-quarters inch in portions of northern California.

By nightfall, thunderstorms rumbled over the lower Great Plains; Del Rio, Tex., on the Rio Grande, collected an inch of rain.

Rain, sometimes heavy, extended from the western sections of Kansas and Oklahoma through the eastern two-thirds of Texas into Louisiana on Tuesday. In Texas, nearly 2 inches soaked Corpus Christi and Fort Worth.

Heavy hail pelted some towns in east central New Mexico and south central Nebraska, and snow fell in the mountains of northern California and Washington.



Mississippi's Pearl River crested at 43.3 feet in Jackson; this topped the former high mark of 1902 by 6 feet.

Heavy rains drenched southern and eastern Texas on Wednesday. Four inches in one hour covered Mountain Home, near San Antonio. Conroe, north of Houston, reported 8 inches of rain. Tornadoes and hail accompanied the unsettled weather. Two twisters touched down near Houston.

The northern tier of States noted moisture, as well; a couple of inches of snow whitened portions of Idaho and dipped down to Nevada. Two inches of rain soaked an area in extreme northwestern Minnesota.

Temperatures rose in the High Plains, where Colorado Springs, east central Colorado, scored a record-tying 77°. By contrast, Beckley, southern West Virginia, noted a low record of 28°, undercutting the old mark by 5 degrees.

Severe weather persisted in Texas on Thursday. Thunderstorms continued in the Houston area adding to flooding problems. Sourlake, close to Beaumont, measured 7 inches of rain; other points recorded 5 inches. To the south, San Antonio gathered more than an inch. Seven tornadoes touched down from central Nebraska to southeastern Texas. Heavy hail pounded parts of the Texas Panhandle.

Temperatures dropped from the Appalachians eastward. Beckley, W. Va., at 30°, set another record. Elkins, east central West Virginia, broke the 1905 low mark by one with 23°. Cape Hatteras, N.C., posted a record low of 37°.

Thunderstorms rolled over portions of the western Plains, Texas, the South, and Midwest. Additional rain in the Houston and Beaumont vicinities contributed to more flooding. San Antonio counted more than 2 inches of rain.

To the east, Lake Charles, southwestern Louisiana, collected two and one-half inches. Flooding continued in Mississippi, where the Pearl River still rampaged. Springfield, Mo., got about an inch of rain.

In Iowa, 2 to 3 inches drenched the Waterloo and Cedar Rapids areas.

Readings remained cool in the East, where Cape Hatteras, N.C., at 33° tallied its second consecutive record low. This was also its lowest temperature ever this late in spring.

On Saturday, heavy rains doused several stations in eastern Texas and southern Louisiana. Corpus Christi received another three and a half inches of rain. In southwestern Louisiana, Lafayette gathered several inches, and to the east, Baton Rouge chalked up more than four and one-half inches. A tornado was sighted just east of the city. The rains edged into water-logged Mississippi by nightfall.

Rain in the northern Plains posed overflow problems in eastern North Dakota and western Minnesota.

Especially dry weather covered sections of the Southwest; Phoenix tied a record with only 2-percent humidity.

On Sunday, heavy rains continued pouring over the southern portions of Louisiana and Mississippi. Baton Rouge registered another 3 inches; Centreville, southern Mississippi, topped five and a half inches. The rain stretched northward, where El Dorado, southern Arkansas, counted more than an inch and one-half.

Another area of precipitation showed some snow in the Montana mountains.

In the Pacific Northwest, Seattle/Tacoma hit a record high 68°.



National Agricultural Summary

April 16 - 22

HIGHLIGHTS: Low temperatures slowed grass growth in the Northeast and Northwest, but high readings speeded drying across most of the Corn Belt. Rains continued to saturate the south central States where flooding already was a problem. Plowing and land preparation advanced on schedule in the north central States but lagged in the Delta. Pastures generally rated fair to good. Winds dried ranges in the Southwest, and most of Florida was dry. Soil moisture scored adequate to surplus except in New Mexico and Florida. Winter wheat rated fair to good with heading evident on the Texas Low Plains and across most of the South. Early Arizona stands began turning color. Spring wheat seeding lagged at 3%, half last year's rate and far behind the 20% average. Oats and barley seeding showed similarly slow progress. Cotton planting, excluding California, reached 14%, shy of 1978's 20% and the 16% average. Including California data, which are only available for the current year, 1979 cotton planting stands at 22% complete. Rice planting in the Delta stood at 32%, well behind 1978's 66% and the 60% average. Corn planting finally reached the Corn Belt and advanced nationally to 4% compared with 5% last year and the 8% average. Only a few soybeans were planted in the Southeast. Grain sorghum planting remained centered in Texas.

SMALL GRAINS: Winter wheat condition ranged from fair to good. All major production areas had adequate soil moisture and above-normal temperatures. Heading advanced northward into the Texas Low Plains. Across the Southeast, heading ranged from 28 to 55%. Some early wheat in the Southwest began turning yellow. Insect infestations were minimal. Pacific Northwest growers finished reseeding winter-killed stands.

Spring wheat planting advanced very slowly to only 3% complete; last year, seeding stood at 6% and on the average 20%. Only Idaho, among the five major producing States, was close to usual progress. The late snowmelt along with rains kept soils unworkable in the northern Plains. Oats and barley seeding also lagged far behind normal.

COTTON: Cotton planting reached 14%, short of the 20% last year and the 16% average. Growers in the Southwest and the Southeast made good progress surpassing last year and the average in those areas. The Delta States fell far short of both 1978 and the average because of persistent rains, which saturated soils and flooded many low fields. Texas growers prepared seedbeds on the Plains. Earlier planted fields in South Texas needed sunshine to promote better growth.

CORN: Corn planting finally began in the Corn Belt when above-normal temperatures helped dry fields and raise soil temperatures. Several north central States growers did not start planting corn, but those that did planted less than 5% of the acreage. Corn planting in the Southeast stood at 65%, 4 points less than 1978 but 10 points ahead of the average. For the Nation, corn seeding reached 4%, behind last year's 5% and the 8% average.

OTHER CROPS: Texas was the only major grain sorghum-producing State reporting planting progress. Texas growers expect to start planting sorghum on the Plains soon while States to the north have not started planting.

Rice seeding lagged in the Delta States because of the wet soils and continuing rains. Planting stood at 32%, less than half the 66% last year and just over half of the 60% average.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Peaches reached the full bloom stage in New Jersey, and a few early orchards advanced to the pink stage in Pennsylvania. Michigan peaches attained the green tip stage. Virginia peach trees lost petals. Georgia peaches rated good. Apples bloomed as far north as Virginia. Jersey apples reached the pink bud stage and Pennsylvania's the green tip or earlier. Only light freeze damage was noted in a few States. Pacific Northwest fruit growers fired orchard heaters to ward off cold temperatures. The cool wet conditions may influence fruit set on Oregon cherries and prunes. Some areas of the Northwest were too wet to apply sprays effectively. Spraying was widespread throughout other fruit areas. California growers thinned early stone fruits. California almond drop continued. Texas pecan trees leafed out; catkins developed from the southern through central and eastern Texas. Arkansas pecans rated good.

Florida citrus showed stress in nonirrigated groves; all irrigation equipment was in use. Old crop Valencias rated excellent with harvest in full swing. Arizona growers harvested Valencias and grapefruit. Groves scored good with bloom and new crop fruit set in progress. California citrus bloom increased; the Valencia harvest began in central and coastal areas.

VEGETABLES: Sweet corn planting began in northern production areas including the Northeast. Growers planted green peas in Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Washington. Snap bean planting advanced into the Carolinas and Tennessee. Cucumber and tomato planting moved actively in the Carolinas too. The asparagus harvest continued along the Pacific Coast States and should begin soon in Michigan. Florida vegetable shipments advanced 13% from the previous week. Okra and tomatoes led the increase with fewer gains reported for sweet corn, cucumbers, peppers, potatoes, and squash; volumes of other crops held steady or declined. Texas rains and high winds caused some problems---among them, delayed planting in some areas, a little crop damage, and disease development. The lack of sunshine also curtailed development of some crops. California growers harvested lettuce and asparagus.

PASTURES AND LIVESTOCK: Grasslands rated fair to good, although low temperatures in the Northeast and the Northwest slowed growth; elsewhere, pastures showed seasonal improvement. Wind dried Southwest rangelands, but forage supplies were ample. Most of the Florida peninsula suffered from dry conditions, and pastures rated only poor. Herdsmen in the Mountain States moved cattle to summer ranges. Calving and lambing were almost complete. Wet conditions were hard on calves in North Dakota, but other areas reported no unusual losses.

Temperature and Precipitation Data for the Week Ending Midnight, l.s.t., April 22, 1979

States and Stations	Temperature Of		Precipitation Inches		States and Stations	Temperature Of		Precipitation Inches		States and Stations	Temperature Of		Precipitation Inches	
	Average	Departure	Total	Departure		Average	Departure	Total	Departure		Average	Departure	Total	Departure
ALA. Birmingham . . .	67	+ 3	.4	- .6	LA. Baton Rouge . . .	70	+ 1	8.8	+ 7.6	Youngstown . . .	47	- 2	.1	- .7
Mobile . . .	72	+ 3	.2	- 1.0	Lake Charles . . .	70	0	4.4	+ 3.3	OKLA. Okla. City . . .	65	+ 2	.6	- .3
Montgomery . . .	68	+ 2	T	- 1.0	New Orleans . . .	72	+ 2	2.5	+ 1.6	Tulsa . . .	69	+ 2	1.2	+ .2
ALASKA. Anchorage . . .	39	+ 2	.1	0	Shreveport . . .	68	0	5.4	+ 4.1	OREG. Astoria . . .	48	- 0	1.1	+ .1
Barrow . . .	0	- 1	0	0	MAINE. Caribou . . .	41	+ 3	T	- .6	Burns . . .	42	- 3	.3	+ .1
Fairbanks . . .	39	+ 8	.5	+ .4	Portland . . .	40	- 4	.1	- .7	Medford . . .	49	- 2	.6	+ .4
Juneau . . .	--	--	--	--	MD. Baltimore . . .	53	- 2	T	- .7	Pendleton . . .	48	- 4	.2	0
Kodiak . . .	45	+ 7	.2	+ .7	MASS. Boston . . .	48	- 2	T	- .8	Portland . . .	52	+ 1	.6	+ .1
Nome . . .	30	+ 9	.8	+ .7	Chatham . . .	42	- 1	T	--	Salem . . .	52	+ 2	.7	+ .2
ARIZ. Flagstaff . . .	42	- 1	0	- .3	MICH. Alpena . . .	46	+ 4	.2	- .4	PA. Allentown . . .	50	- 1	T	- .9
Phoenix . . .	72	+ 3	0	.1	Detroit . . .	49	0	T	- .8	Erie . . .	43	- 3	.2	- .6
Tucson . . .	69	+ 2	0	.1	Flint . . .	50	+ 3	.1	- .6	Harrisburg . . .	52	- 2	T	- .7
Winslow . . .	57	+ 2	0	.1	Grand Rapids . . .	52	+ 4	.2	- .6	Philadelphia . . .	54	0	T	- .8
Yuma . . .	72	0	0	0	Houghton Lake . . .	47	+ 3	.1	- .5	Pittsburgh . . .	40	- 1	T	- .8
ARK. Fort Smith . . .	67	+ 3	1.2	0	Lansing . . .	51	+ 3	.2	- .5	Scranton . . .	48	- 2	.1	- .6
Little Rock . . .	68	+ 5	1.9	+ .6	Marquette . . .	43	+ 4	.1	- .6	R.I. Providence . . .	44	- 5	.1	- .7
CALIF. Bakersfield . . .	62	- 1	0	.2	Muskegon . . .	46	- 1	T	- .8	S.C. Charleston . . .	62	- 4	0	- .6
Eureka . . .	48	- 2	1.3	+ .7	S. Ste. Marie . . .	43	+ 3	.2	- .4	Columbia . . .	60	- 5	0	- .8
Fresno . . .	61	0	0	- .3	MINN. Duluth . . .	44	+ 4	.5	- .1	Greenville . . .	63	+ 1	0	- 1.0
Los Angeles . . .	60	- 2	0	- .3	Internatl Falls . . .	45	+ 5	.6	+ .2	S.D. Aberdeen . . .	52	+ 6	.8	+ .3
Red Bluff . . .	56	- 4	.1	- .3	Minneapolis . . .	53	+ 6	.1	- .4	Huron . . .	54	+ 6	.2	- .3
San Diego . . .	62	+ 1	T	- .2	Rochester . . .	52	+ 5	.6	0	Rapid City . . .	54	+ 8	T	- .5
San Francisco . . .	54	- 2	.1	- .3	St. Cloud . . .	50	+ 5	.2	- .4	Sioux Falls . . .	57	+ 9	.4	- .2
Stockton . . .	58	- 1	T	- .3	MISS. Jackson . . .	68	+ 1	1.1	0	TENN. Chattanooga . . .	61	- 1	T	- 1.0
COLO. Denver . . .	59	+10	T	- .5	Meridian . . .	68	+ 1	.1	- 1.1	Knoxville . . .	61	- 1	T	- .8
Grand Junction . . .	60	+ 7	0	- .2	MO. Columbia . . .	63	+ 6	1.6	+ .7	Memphis . . .	69	+ 5	1.2	- .1
Pueblo . . .	60	+ 7	0	- .3	Kansas City . . .	62	+ 6	.5	- .3	Nashville . . .	60	- 2	1	- .8
CONN. Bridgeport . . .	47	- 3	.2	- .6	St. Louis . . .	60	+ 2	.3	- .7	TEX. Abilene . . .	69	+ 2	1.0	+ .4
Hartford . . .	47	- 2	.2	- .6	Springfield . . .	84	+ 6	1.1	0	Amarillo . . .	61	+ 3	.4	+ .1
D.C. Washington . . .	57	- 1	T	- .6	MONT. Billings . . .	50	+ 4	.2	- .2	Austin . . .	71	+ 1	1.4	+ .5
FLA. Apalachicola . . .	68	- 1	0	- .8	Glasgow . . .	46	+ 1	.2	0	Beaumont . . .	71	+ 1	6.2	+ 5.2
Daytona Beach . . .	70	0	0	- .5	Great Falls . . .	44	- 1	.5	+ .2	Brownsville . . .	78	+ 2	1.7	+ 1.4
Ft. Myers . . .	75	+ 1	.8	+ .4	Havre . . .	47	+ 1	.3	0	Corpus Christi . . .	76	+ 2	2.8	+ 2.2
Jacksonville . . .	66	- 3	0	- .7	Helena . . .	43	- 1	.6	+ .4	Del Rio . . .	73	0	1.4	+ 1.0
Key West . . .	79	0	T	- .6	Kalispell . . .	42	- 2	.4	+ .2	El Paso . . .	68	+ 3	.3	+ .3
Lakeland . . .	--	--	--	--	Miles City . . .	52	+ 5	.2	- .1	Fort Worth . . .	68	+ 2	1.7	+ .6
Miami . . .	77	+ 2	T	- .9	Missoula . . .	45	0	.3	+ .1	Galveston . . .	69	- 1	4.0	+ 3.4
Orlando . . .	71	- 1	0	- .6	NEBR. Grand Island . . .	60	+ 8	.8	+ .2	Houston . . .	70	0	4.9	+ 4.0
Tallahassee . . .	66	- 3	0	- .9	Lincoln . . .	61	+ 8	.1	- .5	Lubbock . . .	68	+ 7	.4	+ .1
Tampa . . .	73	0	T	- .4	Norfolk . . .	59	+ 9	.8	+ .3	Midland . . .	68	+ 2	1.6	+ 1.4
W. Palm Beach . . .	72	- 2	.1	- .7	N. Platte . . .	60	+ 10	.1	- .4	San Angelo . . .	70	+ 2	.9	+ .5
GA. Atlanta . . .	65	+ 3	0	- 1.0	Omaha . . .	60	+ 8	.6	- .1	San Antonio . . .	73	+ 2	3.4	+ 2.8
Augusta . . .	61	- 4	0	- .8	Valentine . . .	59	+ 11	.1	- .4	Victoria . . .	73	+ 1	1.6	+ .9
Macon . . .	64	- 3	0	- .6	NEV. Ely . . .	44	+ 2	.1	- .2	Waco . . .	68	- 1	.7	- .3
Savannah . . .	65	- 2	0	- .8	Las Vegas . . .	66	+ 1	0	- .1	Wichita Falls . . .	69	+ 3	1.5	+ .7
HAWAII. Hilo . . .	75	+ 3	1.6	- 1.4	Reno . . .	45	- 3	.1	0	UTAH. Blanding . . .	53	+ 4	0	- .2
Honolulu . . .	75	0	.2	- .1	Winnemucca . . .	46	0	.1	- .1	Salt Lake City . . .	45	+ 4	.2	- .3
Kahului . . .	74	0	1.1	+ .9	N.H. Concord . . .	41	- 5	.1	- .6	VT. Burlington . . .	43	- 2	.2	- .4
Lihue . . .	71	- 2	T	- .7	N.J. Atlantic City . . .	50	- 3	T	- .8	VA. Lynchburg . . .	56	- 2	T	- .6
IDAHO. Boise . . .	51	+ 1	.2	- .1	Trenton . . .	52	- 2	T	- .7	Norfolk . . .	55	- 4	0	- .6
Lewiston . . .	49	- 2	.5	+ .2	N.MEX. Albuquerque . . .	63	+ 6	T	- .1	Richmond . . .	56	- 3	0	- .6
Pocatello . . .	45	- 2	.1	- .2	Roswell . . .	67	+ 6	0	- .1	Roanoke . . .	55	- 2	T	- .6
ILL. Cairo . . .	64	+ 2	.7	- .3	N.Y. Albany . . .	46	- 2	.2	- .4	WASH. Colville . . .	44	- 4	.4	+ .2
Chicago . . .	51	- 1	T	- .9	Binghamton . . .	43	- 3	.1	- .7	Omak . . .	45	- 5	.6	+ .4
Moline . . .	55	+ 3	1.1	+ .2	Buffalo . . .	47	+ 1	.2	- .6	Quillayute . . .	46	0	.7	- 1.1
Peoria . . .	55	+ 2	.1	- 1.0	New York . . .	50	- 3	.2	- .6	Seattle-Tacoma . . .	50	+ 1	T	- .6
Rockford . . .	50	0	.1	- .8	Rochester . . .	46	- 2	.2	- .4	Spokane . . .	43	- 4	.2	0
Springfield . . .	57	+ 2	.4	- .6	Syracuse . . .	47	- 1	.3	- .4	Walla Walla . . .	52	- 2	.4	0
IND. Evansville . . .	59	+ 1	.6	- .3	N.C. Asheville . . .	57	0	0	- .8	Yakima . . .	46	- 4	.1	0
Ft. Wayne . . .	52	+ 1	T	- .8	Charlotte . . .	59	- 3	0	- .8	W.VA. Beckley . . .	52	- 1	T	- .7
Indianapolis . . .	55	+ 1	0	- .9	Greensboro . . .	59	- 1	0	- .7	Charleston . . .	54	- 3	T	- .8
South Bend . . .	51	+ 3	1.1	+ .2	Hatteras . . .	51	- 9	0	- .7	Huntington . . .	56	- 1	T	- .7
IOWA. Burlington . . .	56	+ 1	T	- 1.0	Raleigh . . .	57	- 4	0	- .7	Parkersburg . . .	53	- 3	T	- .8
Des Moines . . .	57	+ 6	1.3	+ .6	Wilmington . . .	61	- 3	0	- .6	WISC. Green Bay . . .	51	+ 7	T	- .6
Dubuque . . .	53	+ 4	.5	- .5	N.DAK. Bismarck . . .	47	+ 2	.1	- .3	La Crosse . . .	55	+ 5	.6	0
Sioux City . . .	60	+ 9	.5	0	Fargo . . .	48	+ 4	.5	0	Madison . . .	51	+ 4	T	- .6
KANS. Concordia . . .	61	+ 7	.4	- .2	Williston . . .	44	- 1	.1	- .2	Milwaukee . . .	49	+ 3	.2	- .5
Dodge City . . .	64	+ 8	.6	+ .2	OHIO. Akron-Canton . . .	47	- 3	T	- .8	WYO. Casper . . .	50	+ 6	.1	- .3
Goodland . . .	61	+11	T	- .4	Cincinnati . . .	54	- 1	.2	- .6	Cheyenne . . .	53	+ 9	T	- .4
Topeka . . .	62	+ 6	.1	- .8	Cleveland . . .	47	- 3	.1	- .7	Lander . . .	51	+ 7	T	- .6
Wichita . . .	63	+ 5	.2	- .5	Columbus . . .	51	- 2	T	- .9	Sheridan . . .	49	+ 4	.5	0
KY. Lexington . . .	56	- 1	.1	- .8	Dayton . . .	54	+ 1	.1	- .7	P.R. San Juan . . .	80	+ 2	1.4	+ .6
Louisville . . .	59	+ 2	T	- .9	Toledo . . .	49	- 1	.1	- .6					

Based on 1941-70 normals

Publication of the Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin began in 1872 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 Donald J. Haddock, Lyle Denny, and O. W. Byrd, Environmental Data and Information Service,

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Yearly subscription rate: \$13.00 domestic and \$18.00 foreign airmail. Order from the Agricultural Weather Facility, USDA South Building, Room 1248, 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 ESCS State offices in cooperation with the National Weather Service.

ALABAMA: Showers north and west ended week of dry weather; most amounts less than 0.50 in. Warmer temperatures, 3° above normal.

Fieldwork: 3.2 days suitable. Soil moisture adequate to surplus. Planting corn and cotton, plowing mostly higher ground. Heavy erosion damage reported, freshly tilled fields hit hardest. Farmers in several areas must prepare new seedbeds before planting. Corn 55% planted, 59% 1978, 36% average. Cotton planted 12%, 39% 1978, 29% average. Peanuts 18% planted, 10% 1978. Wheat headed 36%, 43% 1978; crop fair to good condition. Pastures, livestock fair condition.

ARIZONA: Cool, dry weather, gusty winds. Temperatures dropped, rose again by weekend. No precipitation. Temperatures near normal.

Cotton planting active all areas except west, virtually complete; 60% planted, 55% last year. Small grains good progress, color change early fields. Heading underway most late plantings. Safflower, corn, milo planting good progress. Second cutting alfalfa nearing completion west. Regrowth good progress. Sugarbeets good progress. Harvest lettuce, other spring vegetables good progress. Harvest lettuce central area full swing. Cantaloups, watermelons good progress, flowering; first set underway. Cultivation, vine turning later plantings active. Green chili plantings 50% complete Cochise County. Valencia orange harvest full swing, grapefruit harvest active, limited. Groves good condition. Blooming, setting new crop fruit good progress. Water, soil moisture holding reasonably well. Browse ample, but drying rapidly. Calves good condition.

ARKANSAS: Temperatures several degrees above normal. Rainfall light in northern half, moderate to heavy in southern sections. Most rainfall end of week. Lowest normal 58°; highest 65°. Lowest mean 65°; highest 69°. Lowest temperature 43°; highest 89°. Least precipitation 0; most 2.27 in.

Land preparation and planting progressed rapidly during midweek however, wet soils and late week rainfall continued to hamper field progress. Fieldwork: 4.4 days suitable. Soil moisture average to surplus. Soybean field preparation active. No plantings to date, 1% completed 1978, average 2%. Cotton land preparation active; less than 1% planted, 11% 1978, 8% average. Rice planting 14%, 45% 1978, 40% average. Corn planting 21%, 50% 1978, 50% average. Sorghum planting 7% completed, 41% 1978, 36% average. Small grain crop conditions good. Plant growth in boot stage or beginning to form heads. Fruit trees good condition. Strawberries, tomatoes, pecans, good condition. Hay and pasture growth improved, cattle gaining weight on improved pastures; good condition.

CALIFORNIA: Early week moderate to heavy precipitation extreme north coastal area and northern Sierra. Sacramento Valley less than 0.10 fell. Up to 1 foot new snow fell at higher elevations of northern Sierra. Fair mild weather prevailed over first and latter part of period with high temperatures into low 80's in Central Valley. Temperatures below normal with considerable cloudiness over northern third. Minimum temperatures near freezing in foothill areas of Sierra late week.

Cool weather slowed planting activities. Rice 3% planted. Planting cotton continued desert area.

Cotton 81% planted; 43% emerged. Cultivation under-way San Joaquin Valley. Planting small grains northeast interior. Grains satisfactory development. High winds caused lodging San Joaquin Valley. Alfalfa slowed by cool weather San Joaquin Valley. Cutting, baling active south coast, Sacramento, San Joaquin Valleys. Ground preparation corn continued Sacramento Valley. Planting sugarbeets continued south coast. Cultivation irrigation underway San Joaquin Valley. Treatment sugarbeets cutworms active San Joaquin Valley. Digging beets active San Joaquin Valley, central coast. Planting safflower continued Sacramento, San Joaquin Valleys. Planting milo underway Imperial Valley. Early stone fruit thinned. Orchards, vineyards sprayed, cultivated, irrigated. Citrus bloom increased, Valencia harvest began central, coastal districts. Almond drop continued. Asparagus harvest nearly finished desert, active other areas, much to processors. Lettuce harvest complete desert, increasing San Joaquin Valley, south and central coast. Strawberry harvest near peak south coast, increasing central coast, San Joaquin Valley. Digging spring potatoes started Kern County. Range, forage supply good. Calving, lambing nearly complete. Stock movement to summer pastures.

COLORADO: Warm and dry. Isolated showers produced only light precipitation on eastern plains. Temperatures generally 6 to 11° above normal.

Winter wheat good condition. Wind and insect damage light. Foot rot or wheat rust continued to show up on eastern plains. Oats seeded 16%, 67% 1978, 56% average. Onions seeded 28%. Spring barley 39%, 48% 1978, 56% average. Fieldwork: 4.5 days suitable. Calving 72% complete. Lambing 46% complete. Death losses slightly below average.

FLORIDA: Generally dry and warm. Lows in north in 40's and 50's on 16th, warming to 60's by 22nd. Elsewhere, lows in 60's prevailed. Highs in 80's with few low 90's. Thundershowers widely scattered in south, 21st mainly during afternoon, evening hours.

Soil moisture short; adequate few areas north and eastern Panhandle. Corn good condition. Peanut planting full swing. Soybean planting just beginning. Tobacco planting complete, crop fair progress. Sugarcane good condition. Small grains headed, good to excellent condition. Central pastures remain under moisture stress, generally poor condition; fair to good condition other areas. Cattle fair to good condition. Stress showing in nonirrigated citrus groves; all irrigation equipment being used. Old crop Valencias excellent condition. Valencia harvest full swing. Overall vegetable crop condition good to excellent, some only fair. Plant wilting from high temperatures a problem some areas. Growth, progress generally good to very good. Fruit set, size mostly very good. Irrigation very heavy, spraying active. Harvest very active; at peak for some crops. Shipments up 13% from previous week. Supplies okra, tomatoes up considerably. Harvest sweet corn, cucumbers, peppers, potatoes, squash increased while snap beans, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, chinese cabbage, eggplant held steady. Celery, escarole, lettuce, parsley, radish, strawberry supplies decreased. Strawberry crop condition fair to good. Watermelon crop condition mostly

good; irrigation active. Light harvest underway southwest area.

GEORGIA: Temperatures ranged from mid-50's mountains to mid and upper 60's across central and south. Rainfall from 1.00 to 4.00 in. north and west to less than 1.00 in. southeast. Extremes: 84 and 29°.

Soil moisture adequate to surplus except southeast where short. Fieldwork: 5 days suitable. Some wind and sandstorm damage reported. Corn good; 91% planted, last year 82%, average 68%. Sidedressing continued, some pesticide applications. Tobacco fair to mostly good condition; 97% transplanted, 89% last year, 93% average. Watermelon fair to good; 90% planted, 86% last year. Cotton fair to mostly good condition; 52% planted, 36% up to stand, some stands damaged due to cool weather, will require replanting, last year 44% planted, 10% up to stand, average 36% planted. Soybeans good; 3% planted, 2% last year and average. Peanuts fair to mostly good condition; 25% seeded, 28% last year, 26% average. Soil temperatures still cool. Sorghum 15% planted, 14% last year. Small grains good condition, heading, some disease problems in wheat. Peaches good condition, spraying. Apples good, blooming, spraying. Vegetables fair to good. Tent caterpillars northern areas. Pastures, cattle and hogs good condition.

HAWAII: Weather favorable. More sunny periods occurring. Showers generally light, confined to higher elevation.

Irrigation getting frequent. Some isolated severe insect, disease damage, lettuce crop Island of Maui. Harvesting most vegetable crops becoming active. Banana supplies light. Papaya supplies light but steady. Pineapple harvesting steady. Sugar harvesting active. Pastures generally fair to good.

IDAHO: Fields continued wet north and southeast. Most field activity in south central below normal. Seeding behind last two years and below normal. Spring wheat 35% seeded, last year 45%, normal 40%. Spring barley 25%, last year 40%. Sugarbeets 50% planted. Potato planting full swing southwest. Calving and lambing nearly complete.

Temperatures generally 1 to 3° below normal. Precipitation above normal north, elsewhere below normal.

ILLINOIS: Temperatures near normal north, east; 3 to 4° above normal elsewhere. Precipitation 0.10 to 0.33 in. most areas, west 1.00 in.

Soil moisture adequate to surplus. Winter wheat good. Oat seeding 50% complete, 43% last year, 80% average. Alfalfa good. Plowing corn, soybeans 72% complete, 57% last year, 83% average. Corn less than 1% planted, 1% last year, 7% average. Pastures good. Fieldwork: 2.5 days suitable.

INDIANA: Sunny, dry. Temperatures near normal; sunshine 63 to 81% of possible. Temperatures ranged 30 to 81°. Rainfall none or slight in north and central. Southwest and southeast averaged 0.20 in. coming on weekend.

Soil temperatures in 50's. Fieldwork: 2 days suitable. Topsoil and subsoil moisture mostly adequate to surplus. Spring planted cropland 60% plowed, 1978 50%, average 60%. Few fields corn and sorghum planted. Oats 30% seeded, 1978 35%, average 65%. Clover 75% seeded, 1978 50%, average 80%. Wheat condition fair to good; 6 in. high, 1978 4 in., average 9 in. Wheat 10% jointed, 1978 5%. Pastures improved, rated fair to good.

IOWA: Warm, wet. Widely scattered early week showers followed by moderate to heavy general rains and thunderstorms on 19th to 20th.

Plowing: 60% complete, last year 46%, normal 72%. Oat acreage seeded 37%, last year 45%, normal 67%. Fertilizer applied 51%, last year 36%. Fieldwork: 3 days suitable. Livestock fair condition and improving.

KANSAS: Precipitation from 0.10 in. west to 0.60 in. central and northeast, being widely variable with little or none extreme west. Heavy thunderstorms central 16th night produced 3.20 in. at Salina. Temperatures from 66° southeast and 62 to 64° elsewhere, 7 to 12° above normal.

Wheat growth behind normal pace; 20% jointing, last year 30%, average 50%. Scattered fields showing winterkill. Some soil-borne mosaic. Light to moderate army cutworm infestations. Corn planting less than 5%, slightly behind last year, average 10%. Oat seeding 50% complete, last year 75%, average 85%. Barley seeding 65% complete, last year 90%, average 85%. Fieldwork: 3.5 days suitable.

KENTUCKY: Beautiful spring weather. Temperatures started cool, but averaged near normal by weekend. No precipitation received until over weekend, and then less than 0.20 in.

Fieldwork: 4.2 days suitable. Progress of farm work 9 days behind schedule. Soil moisture adequate to surplus. Plowing 50% completed. Corn 5% planted, 11% last year, average 18%. Tobacco beds mostly good condition, emerged plants mostly size of dime or less. Barley 10% headed, only a few early fields of wheat beginning to head. Weevil infestation in 50% alfalfa fields and spraying begun. Fruit prospects fair to good, some freeze damage north and east.

LOUISIANA: Temperatures 1° below normal to 3° above normal. Extremes: 89 and 46°. Rainfall statewide.

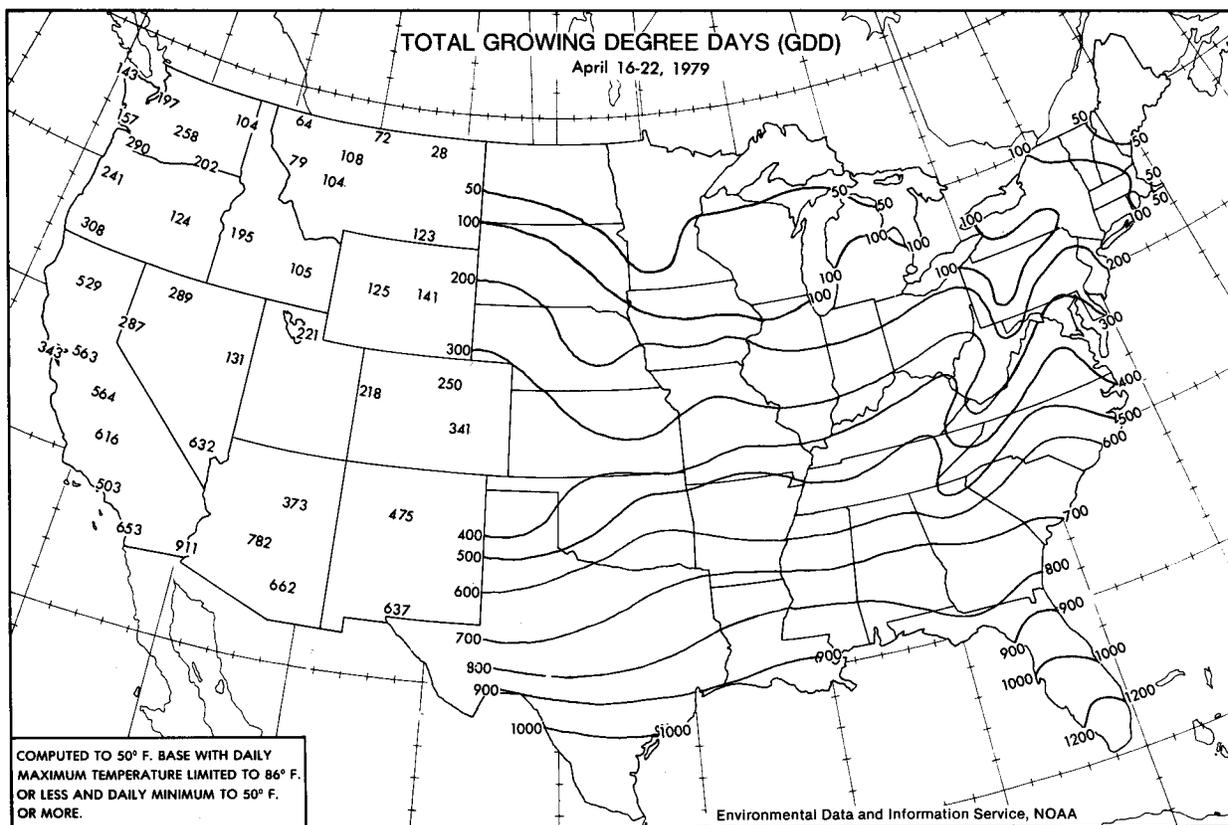
Fieldwork: 4.6 days suitable. Soil moisture adequate to surplus. Rice 55% planted, 78% last year, 71% average; 45% emerged. Corn 70% planted, 80% last year, 71% average; 60% emerged. Cotton 3% planted, 20% last year, 13% average. Sugarcane weed control, fertilizing. Strawberry harvest active. Small grains and cattle fair to good. Pastures average. Oats 40% headed, wheat 55% headed.

MARYLAND & DELAWARE: Temperatures 4° below normal. Highs in upper 50's and low 60's and lows in upper 30's to low 40's. Precipitation light, averaging about 0.25 in.

Fieldwork: 4.9 days suitable. Soil moisture mostly adequate. Pastures supplying average amounts of feed. Plowing for corn over 40% completed. Small grains mostly good condition. Vegetable planting continued. Tobacco beds in good shape. Fruit growers pruning and spraying orchards.

MICHIGAN: Temperatures ranged from 1° above normal west central Lower to 4° above normal over most of eastern Lower. Slight heating trend late week, maximums reached low to mid-70's over parts of Lower and upper 60's over portions of Upper. Precipitation 0.13 in. Upper and 0.07 in. Lower.

Onion and celery planting begun. Fruit tree buds northwest tight. Ice still floating Grand Traverse Bay. Fruit crops moving fast southwest. Apples, pears, plums and peaches reached green tip or more advanced. Cherries at silvertip while grape buds swelling. Asparagus harvest to begin this week.



Potato and sugarbeet planting started Thumb, though soil still wet. Very limited field preparation and oats seeding other areas, including Upper Peninsula.

MINNESOTA: Temperatures 5° above normal. Extremes: 71 and 23°. Precipitation 0.20 in. subnormal central and south, near normal north; however, local areas 0.50 to 0.75 in. above normal northwest, west central and southeast. Precipitation totals ranged from less than 0.25 in. much of central to locally more than 1.00 in. extreme northwest, west central and southeast. Only trace of snow in northern section.

Fieldwork began on well drained soils in east central, south central, southeast; will begin this week in west central, central. Too wet to work elsewhere. Seeded: Spring wheat 1%, 1978 1%, normal 26%; oats 1%, 1978 2%, normal 30%; barley 0%, 1978 0%, normal 15%; green peas for processing 1%, 1978 1%, normal 16%. Corn ground 1% prepared for planting, 1978 1%, normal 14%. Virtually none planted.

MISSISSIPPI: Temperatures near normal. Extremes: 40 and 88°. Sunny and dry early, midweek; rain late week with amounts up to 7.00 in. southwest.

Soil moisture adequate south central, southeast; surplus elsewhere. Fieldwork: 3.7 days suitable. Planting of cotton, rice underway in well drained fields. Mississippi River backwater flooding many fields along river and tributaries. Acreage plowed 57%, 81% 1978, 74% average. Corn fair to good condition; 49% planted, 68% 1978, 49% average; 31% up to stand, 39% 1978. Cotton 3% planted, 14% 1978, 14% average. Rice 11% planted, 68% 1978, 45% average; 1% up to stand, 23% 1978, 12% average. Winter wheat good to fair condition; 94% jointing, 86% 1978; 25% headed, 19% 1978. Irish potatoes

85% planted. Watermelons 73% planted. Peaches good condition. Pastures good condition; livestock, good to fair.

MISSOURI: Temperatures warmed, 1° above normal Bootheel, 4° above normal east and northwest, 8° above normal west central plains and west Ozarks. Precipitation light, 0.50 to 0.75 in. northwest prairie, less than 0.25 in. elsewhere.

Fieldwork: 2.0 days suitable. Plowing 62% complete, last year 26%, normal 62%. Oats 29% seeded, last year 18%, normal 74%. Corn 3% planted, last year 5%, normal 22%. Cotton 1% planted, last year 3%, normal 7%. Condition of winter wheat and pasture mostly good. Soil moisture mostly adequate to surplus.

MONTANA: Typical spring weather. Temperatures rose into 80's in some areas early week but fell into 50's following day. Temperatures generally normal except for south central and east where few degrees above normal. Precipitation ranged from snow to heavy thundershowers. Overall, precipitation light to moderate.

Soil moisture adequate. Fieldwork: 1 day suitable. Winter wheat fair condition, winterkill moderate, some localized areas heavy. Planting progress: Spring wheat started, 1978 10%, average 25%. Barley started 1978 10%, average 25%. Oats started, 1978 10%, average 15%. Sugarbeets 10%, 1978 35%, average 35%. Range growth just starting, limiting available range feed. Calving 80% complete, lambing 70%, shearing 65%.

NEBRASKA: Temperatures 10° above normal. Precipitation 0.50 in. most areas except southwest with only traces.

Winter wheat condition good to fair. Wheat stands and appearance variable. Oats planting 50%

complete, 50% year ago, 75% normal. Barley seeding 35% complete, 40% year ago, 75% normal. Sugarbeet planting active Panhandle. Soil moisture adequate. Replacement cattle demand strong. Calving nearing completion. Fieldwork: 5.3 days suitable.

NEVADA: Dry and mild early week, storm about mid-week brought precipitation and cooler weather. Temperatures near to a little above normal. Precipitation confined to north.

Alfalfa cuttings gaining momentum southern valleys. Livestock movement to summer ranges slow. Some seeding small grains south.

NEW ENGLAND: Light showers early week. Temperatures near normal until 19th, then 10 to 15° above normal.

NEW JERSEY: Temperatures 2 to 4° below normal. Extremes: 25 and 76°. Rainfall 0.03 in. north, 0.01 in. central and 0.01 in. south. Soil moisture in percent of field capacity 96% north, 92% central, and 90% south. Soil temperature 48° north, 54° central and south.

Warmer weekend temperatures advanced crop progress. Field activity increased. Fieldwork: 5 days suitable. Growers plowing, discing, spreading fertilizer and lime, spraying fruit, planting spring vegetables and trying to catch up on Irish potato planting. Peaches in full bloom south. Apples in pink bud stage. Strawberries forming buds, prospects good. Fall seeded grains growing nicely. Oat planting active.

NEW MEXICO: Scattered showers northeast and east central 17th and southern areas over weekend. Rain mostly negligible. Warm early week cooling mid-week then mild weekend. Temperatures near normal to 5 to 6° above normal.

Soil moisture short to adequate. Alfalfa good condition. Cotton planting in progress. Wheat, barley good condition; 80% small grains jointed. Corn planting in progress. Lettuce, onions good condition. Limited amount chile being planted. Pastures fair condition, winds continued to sap moisture. Lambing and calving continued.

NEW YORK: Temperatures near normal. Extremes: 76 and 15°. Precipitation well below normal. Fieldwork delayed by cool, wet soils. Oat planting just starting. Wheat condition fair to good. Sweet corn planting, onion field preparation underway. Apples in green tip to earlier stage. Some winter injury to peaches. Pears wintered well.

NORTH CAROLINA: Temperatures subnormal. No precipitation.

Fieldwork: 5.2 days suitable. Soil moisture adequate. Condition of small grains, pasture, tobacco beds, Irish potatoes and truck crops fair to mostly good. Tobacco in fields fair to good. Vegetables mostly fair to good. Planted: Corn 59%, 1978 70%, average 56%; cotton 23%, 1978 20%, average 16%; flue-cured tobacco 12%, 1978 7%, average 16%; Snap beans 73%; cucumbers 73%, peppers 25%; watermelons 50%; cabbage complete; sorghum, peanuts and soybeans just getting underway.

NORTH DAKOTA: Temperatures rose into 40's and were above normal for first time this spring. Snow north melted causing flood problems. Extremes: 23° north central to 79° southwest. Midweek storm spread rain across State. Amounts generally averaged 0.50 in., except south central where ranged 0.10 to 0.20 in.

Virtually no fieldwork yet. Expected dates for beginning fieldwork progress from later in week

south to mid-May or later north. Fields east central and northeast under flood water. No seeding of grains yet. Hard red spring planted last year 1%, average 9%. Continued wet conditions this spring hard on calves and lambs. Causing problems with scours in calves.

OHIO: Maximum temperatures low 80's 21st. Minimums reached freezing early week. Rainfall very light. Drying conditions slowed by cool weather. Corn planting now underway except north central. Wheat condition mostly fair to good but varies widely, some fields not topdressed. Oats showing some growth. Sugarbeet planting late but growers not yet overly concerned. Development of fruit on schedule, most will blossom first week in May, some losses reported. Transplanting and seeding vegetables full swing. Corn planted less than 1%, 5% 1978, 10% average. Oats planted 25%, 35% 1978, 65% average. Sugarbeets planted less than 5%, 30% 1978, 65% average. Spring and fall plowing 80%, 70% 1978, 75% average. Fieldwork: 2 days favorable. Pasture condition fair. Soil moisture adequate to surplus.

OKLAHOMA: Temperatures 5 to 7° above normal over western third, 2 to 4° above normal in central third and 3 to 5° above normal in eastern third. Precipitation slightly above normal over southern third and below normal elsewhere.

Topsoil and subsoil moisture supplies adequate. Wheat good condition with 88% jointing 1979 and average, 77% 1978. Oats and barley rated good. About 75% of oat crop jointing, compared to 52% 1978 and 71% average. About 84% of barley jointing, compared to 57% last year and 78% average. Alfalfa rated good with first cuttings this week. Ground preparation for most major crops lagged but still ahead of normal. Native pastures begun to support livestock but some haying is continuing. Fieldwork: 4.1 days suitable.

OREGON: Another cold week. Temperatures 2 to 4° below normal in west; 4 to 8° below normal east. Maximum temperatures ranged from mid-50's to mid-60's. Minimum temperatures in 30's west, teens and 20's east. Rainfall averaged about 1.50 in. along coast; 0.50 in. interior valleys; 0.10 to 0.40 in. east.

Soil moisture surplus west; adequate east. Fieldwork slowed due to rain. Spring grain seeding about complete west; full swing northeast and Klamath Basin. Most reseeded complete. Fertilizing winding down. Preparation in progress for planting alfalfa and silage corn. Cool, wet weather causing serious concern about fruit set possibilities of cherries and prunes. Too wet to spray fungicides. Heavy mite infestations in raspberries and strawberries. Strawberries starting to bloom. Some orchard heating, Medford. Filbert leaf roller infestations in some orchards. Asparagus harvest beginning. Livestock condition good. Pastures a little slow. Range good, forage average. Feed supplies adequate.

PENNSYLVANIA: Mostly sunny with warming trend but still 1 to 3° below normal. Lows in 20's and 30's early week to highs in 70's weekend. Extremes: 14 and 80°. Scattered light showers 16th and weekend produced less than 2.50 in. rainfall statewide for driest week so far this year.

Fieldwork: 5 days suitable. Soil moisture adequate. Activities: Plowing, discing; chopping, baling corn fodder; spreading manure, lime, fertilizer; spraying; orchard pruning; trimming, tying grapes; planting oats, alfalfa, clover, potatoes, sweet corn, cabbage plants, tobacco beds. Plowing 30%, same as 1978. Oats planted 23%, last year

29%. Potatoes planted 11%, last year 8%. Tobacco beds 90% sown, last year 70%. Barley and wheat pre-boot, condition good. Hay stands mostly good to fair condition. Feed from pastures below average. Peaches 10% pink, cherries 8%, apples under 5%.

PUERTO RICO: Island average rainfall 0.66 in. or 0.45 in. below normal. Temperatures about 78° on coasts and 73° interior. Extremes: 94 and 56°.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Mild days and cool nights. Temperatures moved upward to near normal late week. Extremes: 84 and 34°. Rainless with clear skies.

Soil moisture adequate. Fieldwork: 5 days available. Tobacco transplanting active; condition good with slight insect damage; 80% planted, 50% last year, average 73%. Corn condition generally good in spite of some wind and sand damage; 84% planted, 90% last year, 77% average. Cotton planted reached 41%, 40% last year, 38% average. Stands fair to good, some replanting required due to strong winds and blowing sand. All cucumbers 93% planted; tomatoes 95%; watermelons 81%; cantaloups 68%; peanuts 16% planted, 26% last year, 28% average. Wheat and oats heading; 28% and 35%. Pastures and livestock good.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Temperatures warmed to averages in 50's; 5 to 15° above normal. Extremes: 16 and 86°. Precipitation ranged from trace in southwest to 1.75 in. east. Growing degree days below normal north; above normal elsewhere. No snowcover.

Fieldwork behind. Winter wheat fair. Oats planted 8%, 1978 5%, average 39%. Spring wheat planted 4%, 1978 10%, average 38%. Barley planted 5%, 1978 4%, average 33%.

TENNESSEE: Fair most of week, rain at weekend. Amounts averaged 0.25 in. Temperatures 2 to 5° above normal.

Fieldwork: 3.9 days suitable. Soil moisture adequate, some bottomland flooded. Spring plowing 53% complete, 1978 74%, average 68%. Corn 12% planted, 1978 32%, average 24%. Cotton 2% planted, 1978 8%, average 9%. Tobacco plant beds all seeded, growth slow. Pastures fair. Alfalfa weevil above control levels. Cattle good condition. Small grains fair, growth slow. Tent caterpillar heavy in fruit trees. Snap bean planting just beginning east.

TEXAS: Early week thunderstorms, heavy rains. Continued rainfall over east remainder of week. River flooding occurred southeast. Rainfall 4.50 in. above normal Upper Coast, southeast; 2.00 to 2.50 in. above normal northeast, south, south central. Rainfall Panhandle near normal, elsewhere 0.50 to 1.00 in. above normal. Soil temperatures 70° or warmer over south, Edwards Plateau. Rolling Plains, southern High Plains, lower elevations Trans-Pecos in Blacklands, Brazos Valley, east Texas, soil temperatures in upper 60's. Panhandle soils averaged in low and mid-60's.

Rain hindered fieldwork, planting especially central, east Texas. Rice, sorghum planting continue lag although some fields planted before heavy rains moved into central, east. Lower Rio Grande Valley received needed moisture but some flooding reported. Only portions State still short moisture are Trans-Pecos, High and Low Plains. Cotton planted south, central as weather permitted. Land preparation continued brisk pace on Plains. Early planted cotton south needs sunshine to promote growth. Corn planting gathered momentum Plains where few earlier planted fields have emerged. Chinch bugs, cutworms presented problems for farmers in parts of Blacklands coastal areas where cool,

rainy weather prevailed. Sorghum planting should begin on Plains as soil temperatures slowly rise. Good growth noted on emerged fields elsewhere although many fields remain wet. Wheat began to head as far north as Low Plains. High winds, heavy rains damaged fields central, east. Insect damage minimal. Rice planting well behind schedule due to wet conditions. Peanuts emerged to good stands some south fields but most State awaiting warmer soil temperatures to commence planting. Sugarbeet planting continued active on Plains. Corn planted 47%, 46% 1978, 52% average. Cotton planted 15%, 19% 1978, 17% average. Peanuts planted 7%, 10% 1978, 14% average. Rice planted 53%, 94% 1978, 91% average. Sorghum planted 50%, 64% 1978, 58% average. Sugarbeets planted 86%, 93% 1978, 86% average.

Lower Rio Grande Valley spring potato harvest underway. Carrot and spring onion harvest active. Light supplies cabbage available. Bell peppers, melons, tomatoes made good progress. Rain interrupted field activities. Coastal Bend cucumbers and melons making good growth. Laredo spring onion harvest underway and carrot harvest continued. San Antonio-Winter Garden area bell peppers and onions growing well although some onion stands need sunshine to halt disease development and enhance bulb development. Carrot harvest interrupted by rain some areas. Melons beginning to vine. East Texas rains continued to delay planting in some areas. Plant growth slowed by prolonged, wet soil conditions. Insect populations, especially cutworms, have increased. Some losses occurred result of recent high winds and torrential rainfall. High Plains onion and potato planting near completion. Most onion and potato fields making good progress although some seeded onion fields suffered damage from high winds. Trans-Pecos cabbage and onion fields at Dell City suffered extensive wind damage. Peach producers in central and south began thinning fruit. Small peaches forming in east. Trees on High Plains that escaped freeze and wind damage remain in bloom stage with petal drop underway. Pecan trees continued to leaf. Catkin development noticeable from south throughout central and east. Zinc and pre-pollination spraying active most areas.

Pastures and rangeland continued to green in response to warm temperatures and ample moisture supplies although ranges beginning to dry in Trans-Pecos. Supplemental feeding virtually ended as forage supplies increased. On High Plains, cattle on wheat pasture making rapid gains. Bermuda growth slow in central and east. Grazing limited in some areas southeast result of flooded pastures caused by heavy rainfall. Shearing remained active on Edwards Plateau. Livestock in good to excellent condition.

UTAH: Few, widely scattered showers northwest mid-week. Amounts moisture generally light. Cooling trend forepart of period but warming over weekend. Temperatures ranged between 1° below to 7° above normal.

Weather improved. Fieldwork active. Spring planting, fertilization and field preparation progressing. Spring grains about 45% planted. Freeze damage to fruit slight. Range and pasture short because of cold. Lambing, calving, shearing continued.

VIRGINIA: Below normal temperatures with mostly sunny days and fair nights. Scattered and very light showers over weekend as slow-moving frontal system brought above normal temperatures.

Topsoil moisture mostly adequate; some surplus east. Fieldwork: 4.4 days available. Good progress land preparation for spring planting. Corn 20% planted, 36% 1978, 27% average; Tidewater and

southeast corn 38% planted, 59% 1978. Peanuts less than 1% seeded, 3% 1978, 2% usual. Condition pastures, wheat, hay good. Some rye haylage made. Fruit good; apples in heavy bloom; peaches petal fall stage.

WASHINGTON: West: Temperatures 2 to 4° below normal. Precipitation 0.30 in. below normal to 0.20 in. above normal.

Wet weather delayed farm activity. Planting strawberries, seed spinach, green peas, and other early vegetables active. Field rhubarb harvest continued. Tulip and daffodil harvests winding down. Cutworms reported in berry fields. Pastures starting to make good growth. Some greenchop being cut.

East: Temperatures 3 to 7° below normal. Precipitation 0.10 in. below normal to 0.10 in. above normal.

Night frosts forced orchard heating. First bloom showing on apples in lower Yakima Valley. Cherries, peaches, prunes, pears in bloom. Some spraying, pruning in late orchards. Potato, green pea, other vegetable plantings continued. Asparagus cutting active. Planting spring grains, dry peas and lentils active. Fertilizing, spraying for weeds continued as weather permitted. Working summerfallow becoming active.

WEST VIRGINIA: Temperatures normal south and northeast, below normal elsewhere. Precipitation well below normal. Snow 16th higher elevations.

Fieldwork: 3.9 days suitable. Soil moisture mostly adequate to surplus. Main activities: Plowing, fencing, and spreading fertilizer and manure. Small grains fair to good condition. Oats 32% planted. Tobacco beds 70% planted, 21% emerged.

Pasture and hay fair to good condition, growth slow.

WISCONSIN: Temperatures 6° above normal during sunny, mild week. High readings in 60's and 70's, lows mostly in 20's and 30's. Precipitation light, averaging less than 0.33 in. Scattered showers 19th to 20th. Clearing again south 21st, sunny and pleasant 22d.

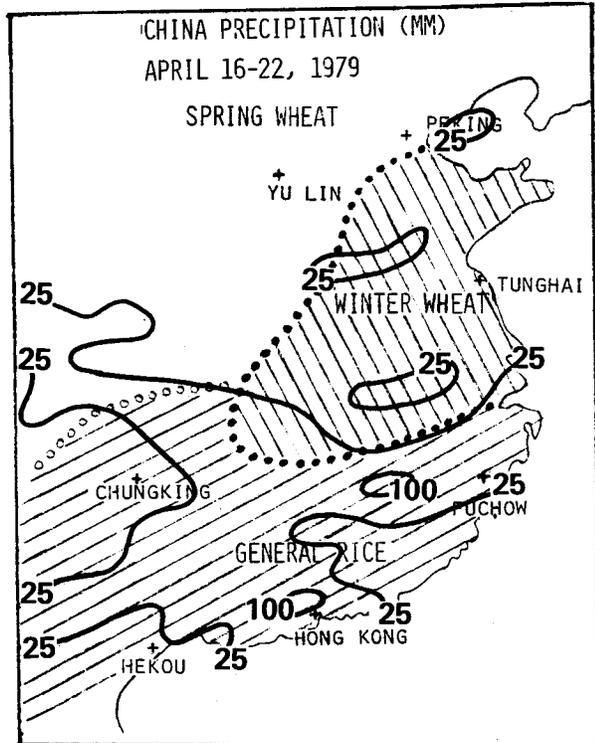
Crop season underway. Fieldwork: 2 days suitable. Wet fields prevented work in northern areas, south able to work most days. Oats 10% seeded, 1978 5%, normal 20%. Some farmers done in south and preparing ground for corn planting. Spring plowing 5% done, 1978 5%, normal 15%. Ground works up nice. Lot of manure being hauled that had to be piled during winter due to deep snow. Planting early peas and potatoes underway. Tobacco beds being prepared. Maple sap still running after slow start. Hay supplies adequate to surplus, bedding short and bringing higher prices than hay. Soil moisture adequate to surplus.

WYOMING: Temperatures 2 to 11° above normal with daytime highs ranging from 65 to 85°. Low temperatures ranged from 15 to 31°. Precipitation generally below normal.

Topsoil moisture adequate. Acreage planted: Spring wheat 20%; oats 20%; sugarbeets 20%, barley 36%. Spring planting behind normal. Acreage emerged: Barley 6%; small amount oats, spring wheat, and sugarbeets. Winter wheat prospects mostly good. Fieldwork: 4 days suitable. Calves born 74%; range ewes lambed 39%; farm flock ewes lambed 81%; range sheep shorn 44%; farm flock sheep shorn 77%. Ranchers plan to start moving livestock to summer range late April.

World Weather and Crop Update

April 16 - 22

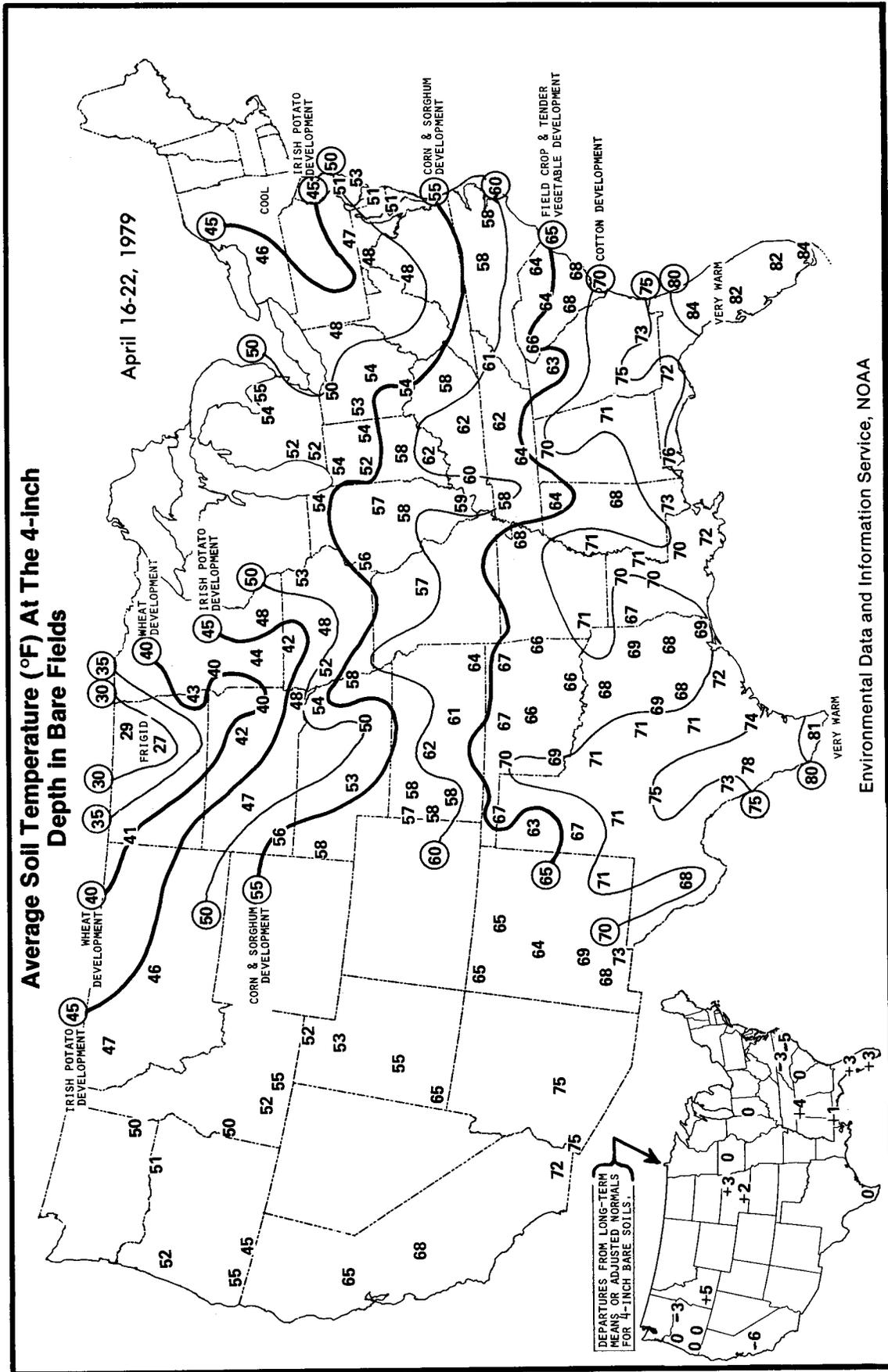


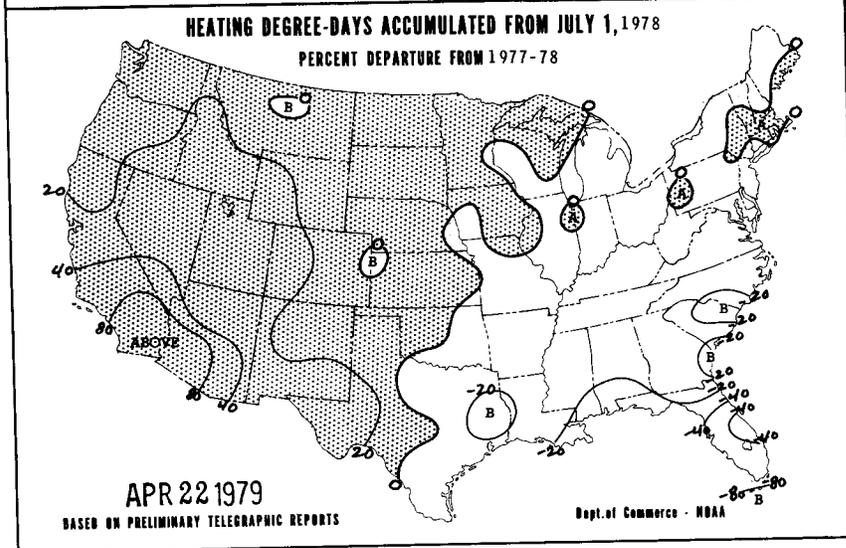
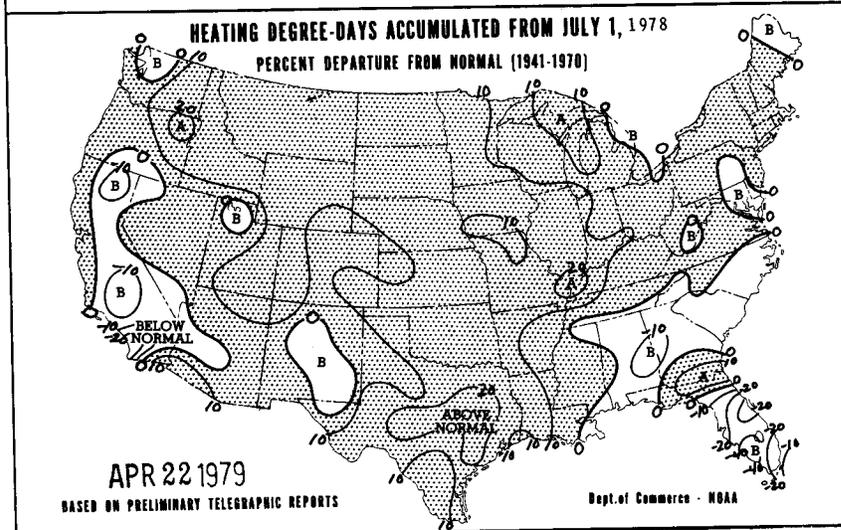
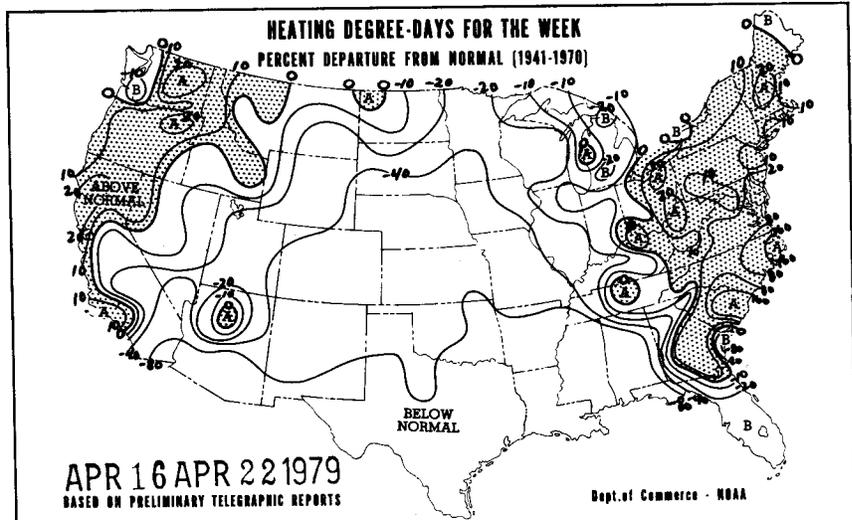
USSR. Planting continued to lag normal last week as 10 to 25 mm of precipitation fell over most of the Ukraine and surrounding areas. However, some progress was most likely made but not enough to catch up with earlier delays. Soil moisture is generally excellent to excessive in most areas.

CHINA. The winter wheat region of China received only light precipitation this past week after excellent rains the week before. Amounts ranged from zero to 10 mm, although isolated stations reported 25 mm. Soil moisture is still very good over the area. To the south, generous rains fell over the rice-tea area and the double crop rice area. Amounts ranged from 25 to 70 mm over the region. The southwestern rice-growing region, which has been very dry, received an average of 25 mm.

INDIA-SOUTHEAST ASIA. Northern India was dry, but the southern tip received at least 25 mm. Rain activity also increased markedly over eastern India, Bangladesh, and Burma, which is typical for this time of year. Thundershowers occurred over parts of Thailand.

AFRICA. Over North Africa, no precipitation fell in Morocco, but the northern portions of Tunisia received excellent rains for the second consecutive week. Rainfall also is beginning to increase over the Sahel with amounts of 10 to 50 mm common over Benin, Togo, Ghana, and the Ivory Coast. In South Africa, rainfall was general over the country---10 to 25 mm was common. This moisture may help some late corn in the Maize Triangle but is too late



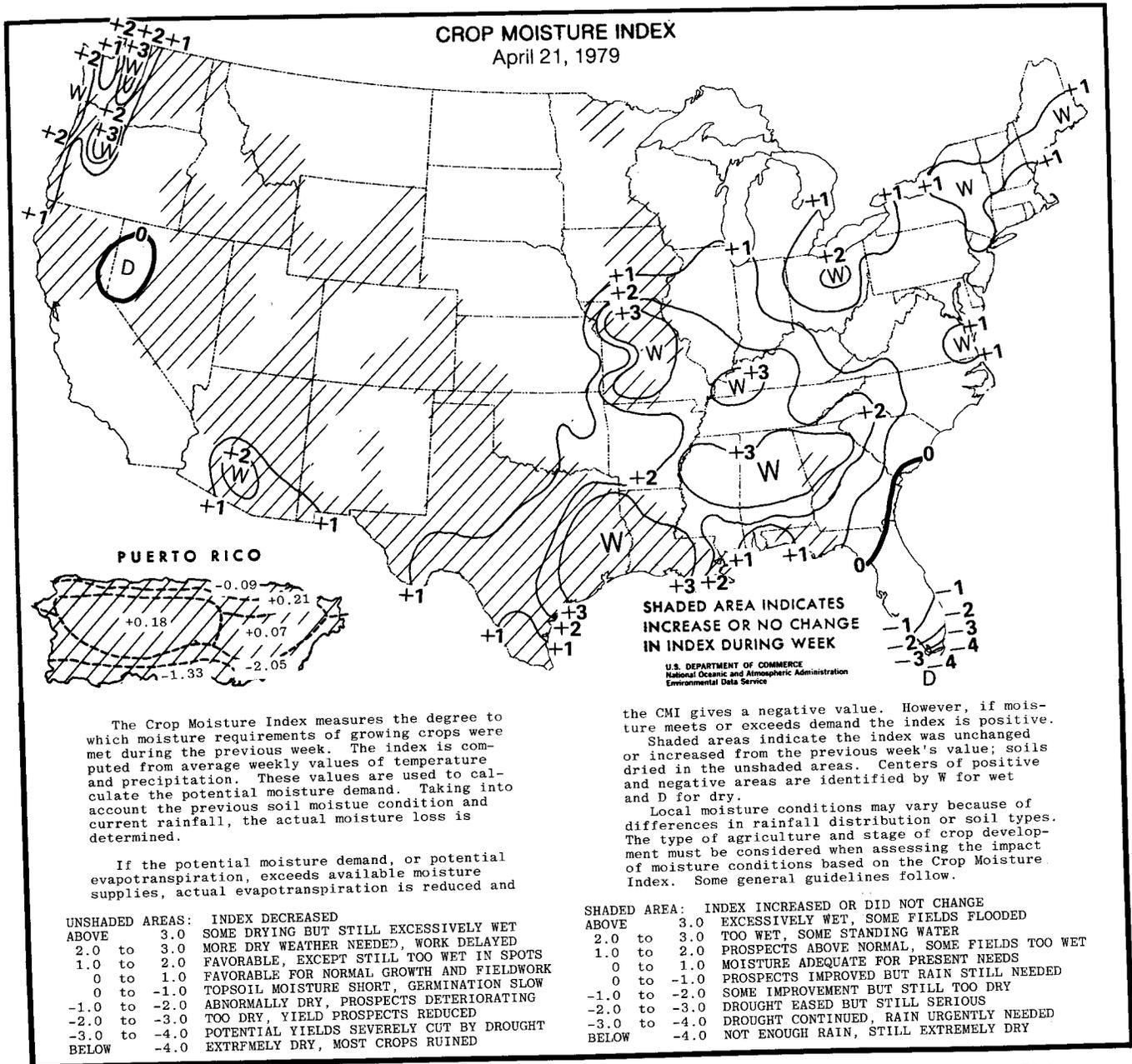


HEATING DEGREE DAYS (BASE 65°) FOR WEEK ENDING APR. 22, 1979.

STATES AND STATIONS	WEEKLY		SEASONAL ACCUMULATION +			STATES AND STATIONS	WEEKLY		SEASONAL ACCUMULATION +			STATES AND STATIONS	WEEKLY		SEASONAL ACCUMULATION +		
	TOTAL	DEPARTURE*	TOTAL	DEPARTURE*	DEPARTURE FROM 1977-78		TOTAL	DEPARTURE*	TOTAL	DEPARTURE*	DEPARTURE FROM 1977-78		TOTAL	DEPARTURE*	TOTAL	DEPARTURE*	DEPARTURE FROM 1977-78
ALA. BIRMINGHAM...	17	2777	33	593	593	MAINE CARIBOU...	163	24	8638	162	28	YOUNGSTOWN...	127	17	6213	192	363
MOBILE...	17	1617	33	406	406	PORTLAND...	172	24	7040	178	28	OKLA. OKLAHOMA CITY	12	20	414	508	499
MONTGOMERY...	17	1987	266	458	458	MD BALTIMORE...	79	9	4508	47	259	TULSA...	2	29	4129	50	151
ARIZ FLAGSTAFF...	155	2	6813	331	1355	MASS BOSTON...	116	11	5425	152	134	OREG ASTORIA...	11	4	4746	625	486
PHOENIX...	113	1483	19	554	554	MICH ALPENA...	129	3	7577	171	48	BURNS...	11	17	7093	630	1092
TUCSON...	113	1840	19	554	554	DETROIT...	103	11	6538	198	48	MEDFORD...	11	11	4499	625	609
WINSLON...	5	211	4758	150	543	FLINT...	128	11	6993	198	48	PENDLETON...	11	27	4588	102	5435
YUMA...	5	1155	150	543	543	GRAND RAPIDS...	128	11	6993	198	48	PORTLAND...	11	10	4577	279	552
ARK FORT SMITH...	18	3870	565	115	115	HOUGHTON LAKE...	128	11	6993	198	48	SALEM...	11	11	4648	329	552
LITTLE ROCK...	21	3528	212	53	53	LANSING...	128	11	6993	198	48	PA ALLENTOWN...	10	10	5502	25	254
CALIF BAKERSFIELD	21	1834	305	668	668	MARQUETTE...	155	20	8826	980	822	ERIE...	10	10	5502	25	254
EUREKA...	10	4017	136	205	205	MUSKOGEE...	131	11	7127	743	118	HARRISBURG...	10	10	4915	112	347
FRESNO...	10	3528	212	53	53	S. STE. MARIE...	155	20	8826	980	822	HARRISBURG...	10	10	4915	112	347
LOS ANGELES...	14	2345	271	554	554	MINN DULUTH...	147	25	9577	674	374	PITTSBURGH...	10	10	5064	349	551
RED BLUFF...	14	1093	271	554	554	INTERNATL FALLS...	147	25	9577	674	374	SCRANTON...	10	10	6348	412	259
SAN DIEGO...	14	2774	132	77	77	MINNEAPOLIS...	147	25	9577	674	374	R. I. PROVIDENCE...	144	29	5867	303	22
SAN FRANCISCO...	7	2517	166	554	554	ROCHESTER...	89	7	8132	428	67	S. C. CHARLESTON...	24	16	1972	161	385
STOCKTON...	4	166	554	554	554	ST. CLOUD...	104	10	9205	881	365	COLUMBIA...	25	25	2418	161	446
COLO DENVER...	43	5937	363	717	717	MISS JACKSON...	0	10	2451	165	487	GREENVILLE...	21	4	3122	7	338
GRAND JUNCTION...	44	6342	1581	610	610	MERIDIAN...	1	11	2592	147	359	S. DAK ABERDEEN...	84	47	9152	1056	81
PUEBLO...	54	5758	616	610	610	MO. COLUMBIA...	23	39	5320	457	171	HURON...	76	44	8635	1039	207
CONN BRIDGEPORT...	10	5093	16	270	270	KANSAS CITY...	41	14	5811	827	96	RAPID CITY...	77	53	7626	881	209
HARTFORD...	12	6286	291	246	246	ST. LOUIS...	41	14	5811	827	96	SIOUX FALLS...	59	59	8393	991	123
DEL WILMINGTON...	98	4883	142	541	541	SPRINGFIELD...	20	20	5116	693	73	TENN CHATTANOOGA...	29	1	3349	80	427
D.C WASHINGTON...	56	4	3885	210	275	MONT BILLINGS...	104	28	7878	1206	378	KNOXVILLE...	30	1	3520	111	378
FLA APALACHICOLA...	140	40	49	528	528	GLASGOW...	104	28	7878	1206	378	MEMPHIS...	1	20	3205	22	114
DAYTONA BEACH...	250	249	1	1	1	GREAT FALLS...	143	1	8138	1152	319	NASHVILLE...	34	1	3852	226	458
FORT MYERS...	1525	198	226	539	539	HAVRE...	134	1	9116	1023	504	TEXAS ABILENE...	5	13	2832	245	79
JACKSONVILLE...	1525	198	226	539	539	HELENA...	150	857	1036	1036	1036	AMARILLO...	31	13	4540	49	364
KEY WEST...	5	39	23	184	184	KALISPELL...	155	837	873	873	873	AUSTIN...	24	24	2062	32	5
LAKELAND...	5	183	133	383	383	MILES CITY...	91	34	8633	1267	310	BEAUMONT...	0	0	1605	8	200
MIAMI...	5	183	133	383	383	MISSOULA...	135	875	1219	875	1219	BROWNSVILLE...	0	0	1605	8	200
MIAMI...	5	183	133	383	383	NEBR GRAND ISLAND...	34	61	7244	1135	598	CORPUS CHRISTI...	0	0	1605	8	200
ORLANDO...	17	46	183	41	41	LINCOLN...	35	35	6881	929	40	DEL RIO...	1	1	1719	19	193
TALLAHASSEE...	3	1746	183	41	41	NORFOLK...	45	45	7403	663	354	FORT WORTH...	1	1	1719	19	193
TAMPA...	3	1746	183	41	41	NORTH PLATTE...	45	45	7403	663	354	GALVESTON...	1	1	1719	19	193
MEST PALM BEACH...	1	1746	183	41	41	VALENTINE...	59	99	1045	144	133	HOUSTON...	1	1	1719	19	193
GA ATLANTA...	17	2757	292	608	608	NEV ELY...	142	17	7324	383	1239	LUBBOCK...	3	3	3572	8	151
AUGUSTA...	10	2473	56	388	388	LAS VEGAS...	10	14	2517	56	753	MIDLAND...	1	1	3074	46	551
Macon...	10	2184	56	416	416	RENO...	10	14	2517	56	753	SAN ANGELO...	1	1	2717	48	311
SAVANNAH...	10	1751	195	506	506	MINNEAPOLIS...	123	2	5987	0	1168	SAN ANTONIO...	1	1	1720	15	203
IDAHO BOISE...	98	5984	603	1342	1342	N. H. CONCORD...	168	32	7229	376	360	VICTORIA...	1	1	1505	27	126
LEWISTON...	16	5802	748	1076	1076	N. J. ATLANTIC CITY...	102	18	5078	348	21	MCO...	0	0	1505	27	126
POCATELLO...	132	7190	730	1645	1645	TRENTON...	82	2	4818	79	341	WICHITA FALLS...	1	1	4532	55	181
ILL CAIRO...	12	4556	784	62	62	N. MEX ALBUQUERQUE...	16	41	4020	166	298	UTAH SALT LAKE CITY...	73	30	5526	35	1212
CHICAGO...	19	6686	882	33	33	ROSMELL...	10	28	3581	66	790	VT BURLINGTON...	152	9	7623	281	164
MOLINE...	2	7109	1000	153	153	N. Y ALBANY...	13	13	6806	315	80	V. LYNCHBURG...	64	12	4280	177	177
PEORIA...	1	6676	855	122	122	BINGHAMTON...	12	18	6918	156	234	NORFOLK...	6	6	4459	23	23
ROCKFORD...	1	7313	831	173	173	NEW YORK...	12	18	6918	156	234	RICHMOND...	6	6	4459	23	23
SPRINGFIELD...	5	6079	731	213	213	ROCHESTER...	11	11	6573	331	145	ROANOKE...	6	6	4459	23	23
IND EVANSVILLE...	41	4979	495	327	327	SYRACUSE...	11	11	6573	331	145	WASH QUILLAYUTE...	128	2	5192	108	329
FORT WAYNE...	93	6271	395	564	564	N. C ASHEVILLE...	5	49	3882	190	593	SEATTLE TACOMA...	107	2	4414	176	432
INDIANAPOLIS...	10	5748	415	132	132	CHARLOTTE...	5	59	3775	4	4	SPOKANE...	149	2	7368	112	1110
SOUTH BEND...	96	7190	202	370	370	HATTERAS...	5	59	3775	4	4	HALLA HALLA...	87	5	5090	55	662
IOWA BURLINGTON...	65	6881	998	163	163	WILMINGTON...	2	6	1049	160	568	YAKIMA...	131	29	6274	696	977
DES MOINES...	41	7041	629	126	126	N. DAK BISMARCK...	125	10	9728	1279	617	W. VA BECKLEY...	90	5	5072	180	620
DUBUGUE...	88	7749	872	109	109	FARGO...	114	11	9915	1213	423	CHARLESTON...	79	2	4534	19	490
STOUX CITY...	51	7912	1269	524	524	HILLSTON...	149	10	9784	1241	433	HUNTINGTON...	61	61	4841	19	315
KANS CONCORDIA...	30	6142	763	163	163	OHIO AKRON CANTON...	122	17	10104	247	406	PARKERSBURG...	87	2	4861	231	520
DODGE CITY...	47	5459	610	349	349	CINCINNATI...	122	17	10104	247	406	WIS GREEN BAY...	99	37	8227	692	109
GOODLAND...	31	5985	233	86	86	CLEVELAND...	133	13	10104	247	406	LACROSSE...	68	40	7247	627	647
TOPEKA...	29	6023	265	98	98	COLUMBUS...	133	13	10104	247	406	MADISON...	94	31	7897	587	37
MICHA...	7	5310	765	314	314	DAYTON...	80	8	6678	596	558	MILWAUKEE...	111	20	7193	318	68
KY LEXINGTON...	47	4844	391	438	438	TOLEDO...	107	26	6520	596	558	WYO CASPER...	99	4	7817	942	931
LOUISVILLE...	13	4583	99	438	438						CHEYENNE...	85	1	8851	291	314	
LA BATON ROUGE...	0	1744	74	363	363						LANDER...	1	1	8851	291	314	
LAKE CHARLES...	0	1718	220	297	297						SHERIDAN...	1	1	8851	291	314	
NEW ORLEANS...	0	1453	12	440	440												
SHREVEPORT...	0	2405	248	578	578												

BASED ON 1941-70 NORMALS.

+ ACCUMULATION FROM JULY 1, 1978.



CROP MOISTURE IS BECOMING SHORTER IN PENINSULA FLORIDA AND EXTREME SOUTHEASTERN U.S. PASTURE DECLINE CONTINUES IN MUCH OF FLORIDA AND SOME NON-IRRIGATED CITRUS IS UNDER STRESS. CONVERSELY, EXCESSIVE MOISTURE CONTINUES IN MUCH OF THE SOUTH AND MIDDLE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY. SOME TEMPORARY RELIEF IN THE DELTA COTTON AREA ALLOWED SOME PLANTING BUT MOST OF THE AREA IS STILL TOO WET. RECENT RAIN IN SOUTHERN TEXAS HAS RELIEVED THE DRY PROBLEM THERE.

IMMEDIATE - U. S. Weather Report

This Report Will be Treated in All Respects as Letter Mail

FIRST CLASS MAIL

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

COM 210



SEEDING PROGRESS

FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 22

CORN			
	1979	1978	AVG.
COLO	0	0	0
GA	91	82	68
ILL	1/	1	7
IND	1/	1	0
IOWA	0	0	NA
KANS	1/	1/	10
KY	5	11	18
MICH	0	0	1/
MINN	0	0	0
MO	3	5	22
NEBR	0	0	1/
N C	59	70	56
OHIO	1/	5	10
PA	NA	NA	NA
S DAK	0	0	0
VA	20	36	27
16 STATES	4	5	8

THESE 16 STATES PRODUCED 93%
 OF THE 1978 CORN CROP.

COTTON			
	1979	1978	AVG.
ALA	12	39	29
ARIZ	60	55	NA
ARK	1/	11	8
CALIF	81	NA	NA
GA	52	44	36
LA	3	20	13
MISS	3	14	14
MO	1	3	7
N MEX	NA	NA	NA
NC	23	20	16
OKLA	0	0	0
SC	41	40	38
TENN	2	8	9
TEX	15	19	17
14 STATES	22		
EXCL CALIF	14	20	16

THESE 14 STATES PRODUCED
 99% OF THE 1978 COTTON CROP.

SPRING WHEAT			
	1979	1978	AVG.
IDAHO	35	45	40
MINN	1	1	26
MONT	1/	10	25
N DAK	0	1	9
S DAK	4	10	38
5 STATES	3	6	20

THESE 5 STATES PRODUCED 95%
 OF THE 1978 SPRING WHEAT
 CROP EXCLUDING DURUM.

RICE			
	1979	1978	AVG.
ARK	14	45	40
CALIF	3	NA	NA
LA	55	78	71
MISS	11	68	45
TEX	53	94	91
5 STATES	27		
EXCL CALIF	32	66	60

THESE 5 STATES PRODUCED 99%
 OF THE 1978 RICE CROP.

NA NOT AVAILABLE
 1/ LESS THAN 5%