

# WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

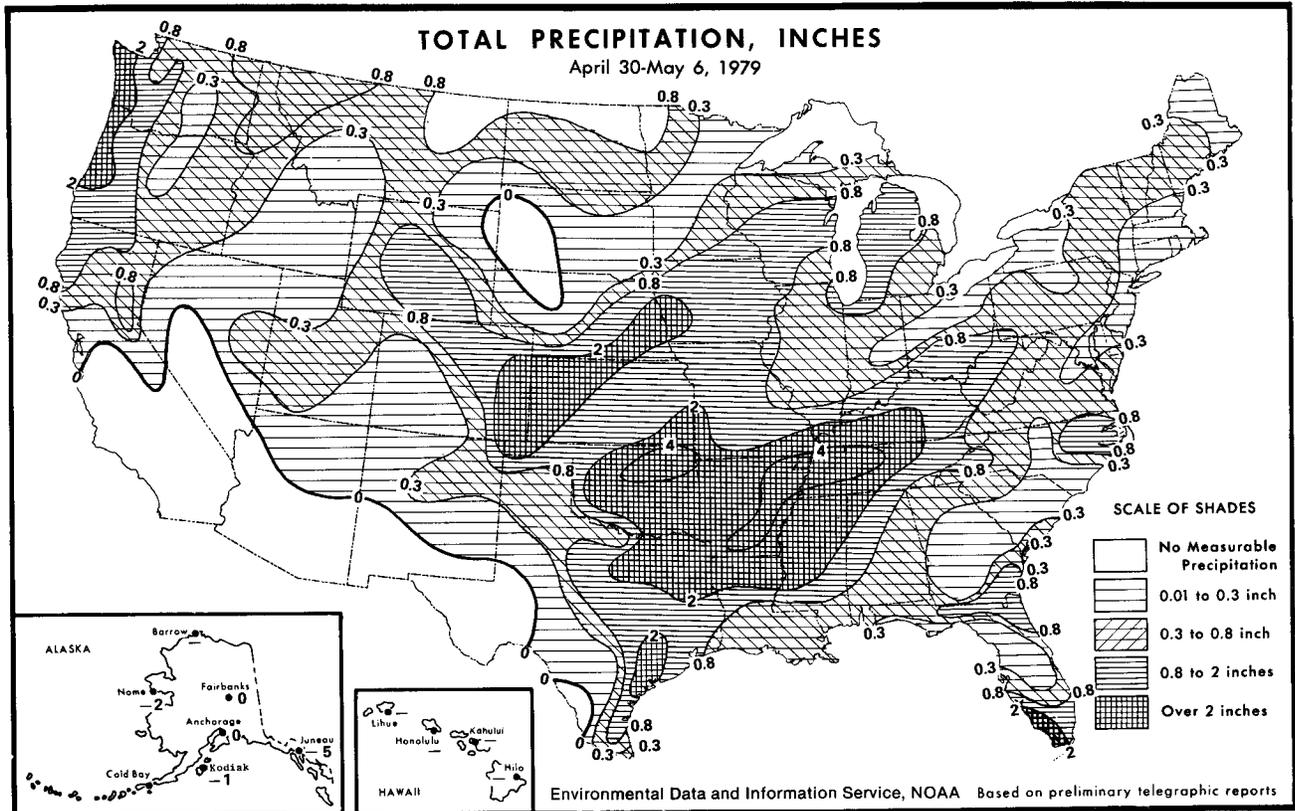
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Environmental Data and Information Service, NOAA

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May 8, 1979



## National Weather Summary

April 30 - May 6

**HIGHLIGHTS:** An area of heavy rain, including tornadoes and hail, struck the Nation from central Texas to eastern Nebraska and northeastward through the Ohio Valley. Moderate to heavy rain and/or snow fell in the Wyoming and Colorado mountains; the cold air and wet snow produced difficulties for livestock.

Cold temperatures continued throughout the Plains and Midwest. The northern Plains averaged 6 to 12 degrees colder than normal. The East's readings neared normal, while the Great Plateau and West showed temperatures 6 degrees above normal.

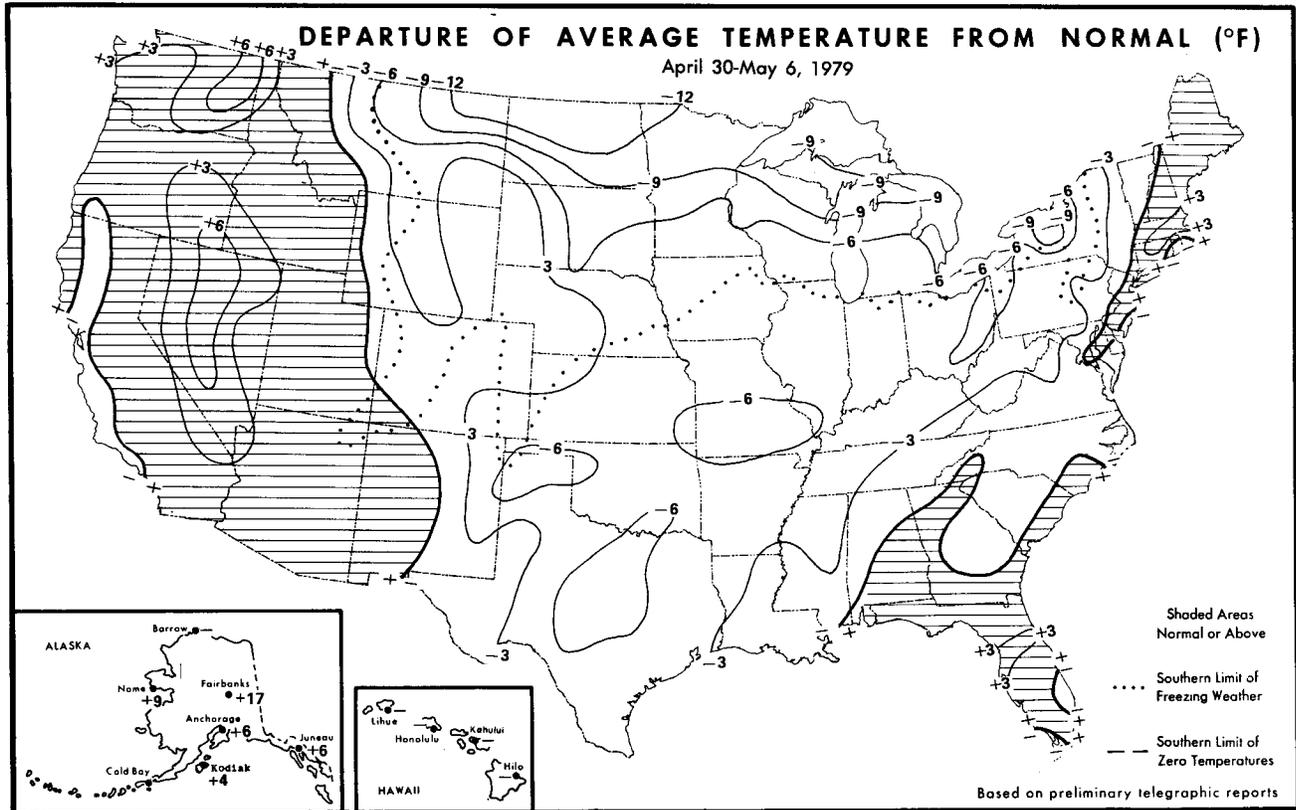
On Monday, rain and hail fell over several areas of the country's southern tier. While Key West, Fla., picked up an inch and one-third of rain, thunderstorms rumbled over the southern Plains. Small hail hit parts of New Mexico, Texas, and Kansas; 6 to 10 inches of hail pummeled Balko, in the Oklahoma Panhandle. Hickok, southwestern Kansas, scored three and a half inches of rain.

Meantime, portions of northern Michigan received up to 5 inches of snow.

The North's Red River began receding, while rivers rose in New England. Northern Maine's St. John River reached a record crest at Fort Kent, but levees protected the city.

Temperature records provided an unexpected contrast. Columbia, S.C., tied a record low reading of 41°, while Fort Wainwright, Alaska, near Fairbanks, at 75°, set the highest April temperature ever recorded in the State.

The Nation's severest weather extended from Nebraska to Texas on Tuesday. Hail, tornadoes, and heavy rains spanned the area. In eastern Nebraska, Stromsberg counted 4 inches of rain



and Osceola, nearly 3 inches. Four-inch rains and two tornadoes struck southeastern Colorado, and baseball-sized hail pounded Goodland, western Kansas.

Unsettled weather rushed over several sections of Texas. Austin saw a tornado 10 miles outside the city and gathered more than an inch of rain. Victoria, near the Gulf Coast, notched 1.27 in., and 2 inches fell near Dallas.

Rain again washed over southern Florida, where Key West noted 1.61 in. Light rain dampened the Pacific Northwest, and a tornado was sighted at Davenport, eastern Washington.

On Wednesday, rainfall ranged from the Plains to the western Great Lakes.

Severe weather struck the southern Plains. More than a dozen tornadoes tore through parts of Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas. Hail and heavy rains accompanied the thunderstorms. Tulsa reported an inch and one-half of rain and heavy hail.

Other areas of rain showed an inch and a quarter at Chicago and more than an inch at Denver. Nearly 3 inches drenched an area near Lincoln, Nebr.

Heavy snow blanketed portions of Wyoming. Lander collected 15 inches, and Casper measured a half-foot.

Storms pummeled the southern Plains and Delta Region on Thursday.

Heavy rains---more than 2 inches at Dallas, nearly 4 inches close to Little Rock, and more than a half-foot at Marianna, east central Arkansas---fell over a large area. Once again, more than a dozen tornadoes rampaged over the south central United States. Fayetteville, northwestern Arkansas, weathered more than 2 inches of rain and large hail.

Other rain areas included Oklahoma City, 2.2 inches; Nashville, 1.13 in.; and Memphis, more than 2 inches.

The mountains from New Mexico through Colorado received up to 10 inches of snow.

Rain, sometimes heavy, fell from the southern tip of Texas to the Ohio Valley on Friday.

The heaviest rains doused northwestern Louisiana, where Minden collected nearly 6 inches and Keithville, about 5 inches.

One to 2 inches soaked Corpus Christi, Jackson, Miss., and Nashville.

Temperatures dropped sharply in the upper half of the Plains. Williston, northwestern North Dakota, managed a record-tying 22°, and North Platte, central Nebraska, plunged to a record low 28°.

On Saturday, the south central section of the Nation finally gained a respite from severe weather.

The upper Midwest was whitened by some unspring-like snow. Two to 6 inches fell from western Minnesota to Michigan.

Rain dampened two extreme corners of the country---the Pacific Northwest and Florida. One-half to an inch and three-quarters fell in the Northwest; Crescent City, extreme northwestern California, posted 1.7 inches. Thunderstorms dropped nearly an inch on some Florida stations; a twister was sighted at Debary, not far from Daytona Beach.

While temperatures surged past 100° in the Southwest, record low readings chilled the country from Texas to Pennsylvania. In Texas, Abilene, at 41°, and Wichita Falls, at 39°, set new marks. Other records showed 33° at Springfield, Mo., 27° at Muskegon, Mich., and 32° at Columbus, Ohio. Pittsburgh notched a record-equaling 32°.

The northern Rockies saw a mixture of rain and snow on Sunday. One-half-inch rains moistened the Pacific Northwest, and 1.4 inches soaked Brunswick, southeastern Georgia. Some light hail fell near Jacksonville, Fla.

North Platte, Nebraska's record low temperature of 28° on Friday gave way to 91°.



## National Agricultural Summary

April 30 - May 6

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Low temperatures delayed soil warming throughout most of the Nation. Farmers are delaying planting crops sensitive to soil temperatures until readings are adequate for good germination. Precipitation throughout the south central States and parts of the western Corn Belt continued to hinder land preparation and planting progress. Soil moisture rated adequate to surplus except for some shortages noted along the East Coast. Farmers in the Southeast had almost a full week suitable to perform fieldwork. Most other row crop areas had 2 or 3 days available to plow and plant. Plowing in the north central States lagged the average but generally surpassed last year's performance. Wet soils continued to delay most fieldwork in North Dakota and the Delta. Pastures rated good and improving throughout the Nation. Low temperatures slowed growth in the extreme North, but forage supplies from grasslands were adequate. Winter wheat rated fair to good; heading was observed as far north as Kansas. Cotton planting advanced to 34%; excluding California, progress reached 26%, last year 36%, and the average 42%. Corn planting reached 13%, well behind 1978's 23% and the 35% average. Grain sorghum seeding advanced to 23%, only 3 points behind last year and the average. Rice seeding stood at 56%; excluding California, progress reached 59%, lagging the 85% last year and the 81% average. Spring wheat seeding stood at 13%, far behind the 30% last year and the 47% average. Soybean planting ranged up to 13% complete in the South although lagging at 3% in the Delta. Very few soybeans were planted in the north central States. Peanut planting reached 42%, equal to the average and 10 points ahead of last year. Fruit bloom advanced into several northern States. Low temperatures caused some damage to orchards in northern production areas. Wet soils and low temperatures slowed vegetable planting in most areas of the Nation. Subnormal temperatures also damaged asparagus in northern production areas.

**SMALL GRAINS:** Winter wheat rated fair to mostly good in the major production areas. Most of the crop was headed across the South and advanced as far north as Kansas. Arizona reported some western stands harvested. Texas rains helped winter wheat stands on the High and Low Plains; southern stands began turning yellow. Nebraska reported some southern and eastern stands abandoned because of winterkill.

Spring wheat seeding advanced to 13%, less than half of 1978's 30% and less than a third of the 47% average. Only Idaho was on schedule among the five major producing States. The other major producing States in the north central region lagged far behind because of wet soils. Oats seeding in the nine major producing States stood at 44%, compared with 51% last year and the 66% average. Barley seeding also lagged last year and the average.

**CORN:** Corn planting stood at 13%, lagging last year's 23% and the 35% average. Wet soils and low soil temperatures hindered progress. Planting in the eastern north central States stood at 7%, well behind 1978's 19% and the 31% average. Ohio was the most advanced at 20%, equaling last year but short of its 35% average. Illinois showed

the widest departures with only 4% planted compared with 25% last year and its 41% average. In the western north central States, progress also stood at 7%, lagging last year's 17% and 31% average. Kansas planting stood at 20%, the highest in that region and not far behind the 25% recorded last year and the 30% average. Iowa corn planting advanced to only 8%, a fifth of its 40% average. In the Southeast, corn planting advanced to 84%--- the only region ahead of last year at 81% and the average of 78%.

**COTTON:** Cotton planting in the 14 major producing States stood at 34%. Excluding California, seedings advanced to 26%, compared with 36% last year and 42% average. California stood at 95% complete, but no data were available for last year or average. Planting continued to surpass recent years in most of the Southeast and Southwest. Wet soils continued to hinder planting in the Delta area. Emerged cotton generally rated fair to good. Arizona growers observed the first squares on early-seeded acreage. Wet soils delayed cotton seeding on the Texas Plains, in central areas, and along the Gulf Coast.

**OTHER CROPS:** Soybeans planting in the Southeast ranged from 6 to 13%, ahead of last year and the average. Planting in the Delta got off to a slow start and lagged the progress of recent years. Only a small acreage of soybeans was planted in the north central States, notably Ohio at 5% and Kansas just starting.

Grain sorghum seeding stood at 23% in the seven major producing States compared with 26% for last year and average. Texas accounted for most of the progress at 59%, short of the 67% last year and the 61% average. Among the other six States, Kansas reported 1% and Missouri 2%; other States showed none planted.

Rice seeding advanced to 56%; excluding California, seeding stood at 59% compared with 85% last year and the 81% average. California had no comparable data for last year and average. Wet soils in Arkansas and Mississippi severely hampered progress, which advanced to slightly over half the pace set last year and average. Heavy rains also delayed Texas rice seeding.

**FRUITS AND NUTS:** Deciduous orchard bloom advanced into New England, the bud stage in Wisconsin, and delayed dormant to pre-pink in Michigan. Frost damaged some southwestern Michigan cherries. Growers harvested peaches in South Texas and California. Mild temperatures helped orchard pollination in Washington, but low temperatures in Utah slowed bee activity and may adversely affect pollination. South Carolina and Georgia growers thinned peaches. Texas pecan trees in central and south central continued to pollinate and set nuts. Trees in eastern areas bloomed in various stages. Oregon walnuts started to bloom.

Florida citrus groves rated good to excellent with soil moisture improving in most areas. The Valencia harvest continued active; new crop citrus progressed very well. Grapefruit picking was almost complete. Arizona growers harvested Valencias and grapefruit, but volume tapered off. The new crop looks good. California harvested Valencias, grapefruit, and lemons.

**VEGETABLES:** Low soil temperatures and wet conditions delayed vegetable planting in most northern production areas, while wet soils delayed planting

(continued on page 15)

Temperature and Precipitation Data for the Week Ending Midnight, 1st., May 6, 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 . . .	68	0	.6	-.3	LA. Baton Rouge . . .	70	-2	.6	-.5	Youngstown . . .	48	-6	.3	-.6
Mobile . . .	72	0	.6	-.5	Lake Charles . . .	71	-2	.4	-.7	OKLA. Okla. City . . .	60	-5	3.5	+2.4
Montgomery . . .	70	+1	.5	-.3	New Orleans . . .	73	0	.6	-.3	Tulsa . . .	62	-4	4.4	+3.3
ALASKA Anchorage . . .	48	+6	.1	0	Shreveport . . .	67	-4	3.7	+2.4	OREG. Astoria . . .	52	+2	2.9	+2.1
Barrow . . .	-	-	-	-	MAINE Caribou . . .	45	+1	.2	-.4	Burns . . .	52	+3	.6	+.4
Fairbanks . . .	57	+17	.1	0	Portland . . .	51	+2	.7	-.1	Medford . . .	53	-1	1.3	+1.0
Juneau . . .	50	+6	.2	-.5	MD. Baltimore . . .	57	-3	.3	-.5	Pendleton . . .	57	+2	.4	+.1
Kodiak . . .	44	+4	.9	-.1	MASS. Boston . . .	59	+5	.3	-.5	Portland . . .	56	+2	1.7	+1.3
Nome . . .	37	+9	T	-.2	Chatham . . .	53	-	.6	-	Salem . . .	55	+2	1.9	+1.4
ARIZ. Flagstaff . . .	47	0	.1	-.1	MICH. Alpena . . .	37	-9	2.5	+1.9	PA. Allentown . . .	55	-1	.3	-.6
Phoenix . . .	75	+2	0	-.1	Detroit . . .	48	-6	.8	0	Erie . . .	44	-6	.2	-.6
Tucson . . .	71	+1	0	-.1	Flint . . .	47	-5	.6	-.1	Harrisburg . . .	55	-4	.5	-.3
Winslow . . .	60	+1	T	-.1	Grand Rapids . . .	50	-3	.9	+.1	Philadelphia . . .	60	+1	1.1	-.6
Yuma . . .	77	+1	0	-.2	Houghton Lake . . .	41	-8	1.5	+.9	Pittsburgh . . .	51	-5	.6	-.2
ARK. Fort Smith . . .	62	-5	1.1	-.2	Lansing . . .	48	-5	.5	-.2	Scranton . . .	50	-5	.4	-.4
Little Rock . . .	62	-4	2.6	+1.3	Marquette . . .	35	-9	.3	-.4	R.I. Providence . . .	55	-2	.3	-.5
CALIF. Bakersfield . . .	69	+2	T	-.1	Muskegon . . .	46	-5	1.0	+ .3	S.C. Charleston . . .	69	0	.3	-.4
Eureka . . .	52	+1	1.7	+1.1	S. Ste. Marie . . .	38	-7	.6	0	Columbia . . .	67	-2	T	-.7
Fresno . . .	65	0	0	-.2	MINN. Duluth . . .	38	-7	.3	-.4	Greenville . . .	66	0	.7	0
Los Angeles . . .	62	-1	0	-.1	Internat'l Falls . . .	36	-10	.2	-.3	S.D. Aberdeen . . .	44	-8	.3	-.2
Red Bluff . . .	63	-1	.5	+.2	Minneapolis . . .	49	-4	.7	+.1	Huron . . .	47	-6	.2	-.6
San Diego . . .	64	+2	T	-.1	Rochester . . .	47	-5	.9	+.3	Rapid City . . .	51	0	T	-.6
San Francisco . . .	57	0	.1	-.1	St. Cloud . . .	43	-7	.3	-.4	Sioux Falls . . .	48	-4	.2	-.4
Stockton . . .	63	+1	T	-.2	MISS. Jackson . . .	69	-1	2.9	+1.1	TENN. Chattanooga . . .	64	-1	.6	-.3
COLO. Denver . . .	52	-1	1.7	+1.1	Meridian . . .	67	-3	1.0	0	Knoxville . . .	64	-1	.8	0
Grand Junction . . .	57	-1	.2	0	MO. Columbia . . .	57	-4	.8	-.2	Memphis . . .	64	-4	3.9	+2.8
Pueblo . . .	54	-3	.4	0	Kansas City . . .	55	-5	1.6	+.8	Nashville . . .	61	-4	4.8	+3.8
CONN. Bridgeport . . .	56	+2	.2	-.6	St. Louis . . .	57	-5	.7	-.2	TEX. Abilene . . .	63	-6	1.1	+.3
Hartford . . .	58	+4	.2	-.6	Springfield . . .	56	-6	1.9	+.8	Amarillo . . .	56	-6	.4	-.1
D.C. Washington . . .	61	+1	.1	-.7	MONT. Billings . . .	48	-3	.4	0	Austin . . .	67	-6	1.1	+.2
FLA. Apalachicola . . .	72	0	.2	-.4	Glasgow . . .	39	-12	1.8	+1.6	Beaumont . . .	70	-3	.3	-.8
Daytona Beach . . .	76	+3	1.6	+1.2	Great Falls . . .	45	-5	.5	+.1	Brownsville . . .	75	-3	.3	-.2
Ft. Myers . . .	78	+2	2.1	+1.6	Havre . . .	44	-7	.5	+.2	Corpus Christi . . .	73	-3	1.7	+1.0
Jacksonville . . .	72	0	.9	+.3	Helena . . .	49	0	.2	-.1	Del Rio . . .	71	-5	.1	-.4
Key West . . .	79	-1	2.9	+2.4	Kalispell . . .	49	+1	1.2	+.9	El Paso . . .	69	0	0	-.1
Lakeland . . .	79	+2	1.8	+.7	Miles City . . .	50	-2	.2	-.2	Fort Worth . . .	64	-6	2.9	+1.8
Miami . . .	76	+2	.3	-.2	Missoula . . .	50	+1	.3	0	Galveston . . .	69	-4	.9	+.3
Orlando . . .	73	+1	.9	+.1	NEBR. Grand Island . . .	53	-4	1.8	+1.1	Houston . . .	69	-4	1.3	+.2
Tallahassee . . .	78	+3	.3	-.1	Lincoln . . .	55	-3	2.9	+2.3	Lubbock . . .	63	-2	.3	-.3
Tampa . . .	72	-4	1.0	+.1	Norfolk . . .	52	-4	1.7	+1.0	Midland . . .	66	-3	T	-.4
W. Palm Beach . . .	68	+2	.2	-.7	N. Platte . . .	55	+1	T	-.6	San Angelo . . .	66	-6	.2	-.4
GA. Atlanta . . .	68	+1	T	-.7	Omaha . . .	53	-4	2.4	+1.6	San Antonio . . .	69	-4	1	-.6
Augusta . . .	69	-1	.1	-.7	Valentine . . .	47	-6	1	-.4	San Antonio . . .	69	-5	2.6	+1.8
Macon . . .	71	+1	.3	-.5	NEV. Ely . . .	49	+2	.5	+.3	Victoria . . .	64	-8	1.4	+.3
Savannah . . .	71	+1	.3	-.5	Las Vegas . . .	73	+4	T	-.1	Waco . . .	64	-5	.4	-.6
HAWAII. Hilo . . .	---	---	---	---	Reno . . .	53	+2	T	-.1	Wichita Falls . . .	54	+1	.1	-.2
Honolulu . . .	---	---	---	---	Winnemucca . . .	56	+6	.1	-.1	UTAH. Blanding . . .	57	+2	.3	-.1
Kahului . . .	---	---	---	---	N.H. Concord . . .	52	+1	.3	-.4	Salt Lake City . . .	48	-2	.4	-.2
Lihue . . .	---	---	---	---	N.J. Atlantic City . . .	56	-2	.1	-.7	VT. Burlington . . .	60	-2	.4	-.3
IDAHO. Boise . . .	57	+3	.3	0	Trenton . . .	58	0	.1	-.7	VA. Lynchburg . . .	60	-2	.4	-.3
Lewiston . . .	57	+2	1.3	+1.0	N.MEX. Albuquerque . . .	61	0	.4	+.3	Norfolk . . .	61	-2	.6	-.1
Pocatello . . .	52	+1	.1	-.2	Roswell . . .	62	-3	T	-.2	Richmond . . .	82	-1	.5	-.2
ILL. Cairo . . .	60	-6	3.1	+2.0	N.Y. Albany . . .	51	-2	.2	-.5	Roanoke . . .	60	-1	.3	-.4
Chicago . . .	51	-5	1.3	+.5	Binghamton . . .	46	-5	.4	-.4	WASH. Colville . . .	58	+6	.9	+.6
Moline . . .	54	-3	.6	-.3	Buffalo . . .	45	-6	.3	-.4	Omak . . .	57	+3	.3	+.1
Peoria . . .	54	-3	.6	-.4	New York . . .	58	0	T	-.8	Quillayute . . .	52	+3	2.7	+1.3
Rockford . . .	50	-5	.7	-.2	Rochester . . .	42	-10	.1	-.6	Seattle-Tacoma . . .	54	+2	.7	+.3
Springfield . . .	55	-4	.8	-.1	Syracuse . . .	47	-6	.4	-.3	Spokane . . .	58	+7	.7	+.4
IND. Evansville . . .	57	-5	1.3	+.3	N.C. Asheville . . .	62	+1	.9	+.2	Walla Walla . . .	60	+3	.8	+.4
Ft. Wayne . . .	52	-3	.3	-.5	Charlotte . . .	65	-1	.3	-.4	Yakima . . .	59	+4	T	-.1
Indianapolis . . .	53	-5	.2	-.7	Greensboro . . .	63	-1	.2	-.5	W. VA. Beckley . . .	55	-1	.7	-.1
South Bend . . .	51	-3	1.2	+.4	Hatteras . . .	63	-1	.8	+.1	Charleston . . .	58	-3	.9	+.1
IOWA. Burlington . . .	54	-4	1.0	+.2	Raleigh . . .	64	0	1.0	+.3	Huntington . . .	57	-4	1.0	+.2
Des Moines . . .	54	-3	1.0	+.2	Wilmingon . . .	68	0	.2	-.6	Parkersburg . . .	54	-6	1.3	+.5
Dubuque . . .	50	-4	.8	-.2	N.DAK. Bismarck . . .	41	-9	.5	+.1	WISC. Green Bay . . .	41	-9	1.4	+.7
Sioux City . . .	52	-5	1.1	+.4	Fargo . . .	40	-10	.8	+.3	La Crosse . . .	51	-4	1.0	+.3
KANS. Concordia . . .	55	-4	1.1	+.3	Williston . . .	37	-13	.6	+.3	Madison . . .	48	-4	.7	0
Dodge City . . .	56	-4	1.6	+1.0	OHIO. Akron-Canton . . .	48	-6	.3	-.5	Milwaukee . . .	47	-3	.6	0
Goodland . . .	53	-2	2.4	+1.9	Cincinnati . . .	54	-5	1.4	+.6	WYO. Casper . . .	46	-3	1.3	+.9
Topeka . . .	56	-5	1.1	+.3	Cleveland . . .	49	-5	.2	-.4	Cheyenne . . .	46	-3	.7	+.2
Wichita . . .	57	-5	1.2	+.4	Columbus . . .	53	-4	1.1	+.2	Lander . . .	46	-3	1.9	+1.3
KY. Lexington . . .	57	-4	1.5	+.6	Dayton . . .	54	-3	.8	0	Sheridan . . .	47	-3	.2	-.3
Louisville . . .	58	-3	1.2	+.3	Toledo . . .	49	-5	.5	-.2	P.R. San Juan . . .	83	+5	.2	-.1

Based on 1941-70 normals

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## State Summaries of Weather and Agriculture

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

**ALABAMA:** Temperatures 2° below normal. Mild days, cool nights. Showers continued to bring above normal rainfall. Heaviest accumulation in north, up to 2.00 in. Totals under 0.50 in. more common to south.

Fieldwork: 4.1 days. Soil moisture adequate to surplus. Planting field crops major activity. Corn planted 74%, 71% 1978, 64% average. Cotton planted 60%, 63% 1978, 69% average. Soybeans 12% planted, 8% 1978. Peanuts 56% planted, 38% 1978, 57% average. Sorghum planted 15%, 15% 1978. Wheat headed 84%, 80% 1978, 88% average. Wheat turning 12%, 9% 1978. Corn, soybeans, sorghum mostly good condition. Wheat, pastures good condition. Cotton fair to good condition.

**ARIZONA:** Weather disturbance 2d, 3d caused showers and light snow northeast, eastern mountains. Precipitation trace to 0.38 in. Sunny skies other areas. Temperatures near normal.

Cotton planting active but tapering off, early planted fields, first signs squaring; over 90% planted, 80% last year. Harvest small grain just underway west. Sorghum, corn, safflower planting active, early plantings growing well. Sugarbeet harvest expected this week. Alfalfa haying full swing, excellent progress all growing areas. Lettuce harvest active, limited. Lowered prices forced reduced volume. Cantaloups, watermelons good progress, especially west, early bloom fruit very good. Valencia orange, grapefruit harvest active, but tapering off. New crop prospects good. Soil moisture, stock water adequate. Spring annuals coming. Cattle, calves good. Movement to late spring pastures.

**ARKANSAS:** Week was cool and wet. All stations subnormal temperatures. Means ranged 4° subnormal, 10° above normal. Extremes: 33 and 84°. Lowest normal 64°, highest 70°. Lowest mean 55°, highest 67°. Most rain fell during midweek. Highest reported rainfall 5.23 in., least 1.07 in.

Heavy rains and strong winds on 3d stopped most fieldwork. Germination and emergence in early seeded fields hindered by cool, wet soils. Soil moisture surplus. Fieldwork: 2.7 days suitable. Soybean planting 3%, 8% 1978, 15% average. Cotton poor to fair; planting 17%, 37% 1978, 41% average. Rice early plantings good stands; planting 39%, 71% 1978, 59% average. Corn and sorghum fair to good. Corn 48% planted, 74% 1978, 77% average. Sorghum 25% planted, 50% 1978, 52% average. Wheat prospects good. Fruit and vegetable crops fair to good. Peach and apple fruit set good. Grapes good. Strawberry harvest delayed. Watermelons fair to good. Tomatoes yellowing, excessive moisture. Hay and pasture plant growth good to excellent. Pastures average. Hay harvest delayed. Cattle good. Marketings generally good.

**CALIFORNIA:** Fair weather and slightly above normal temperatures first 3 days of week. Cooler than normal 2d and 3d in north as a weak Pacific front and upper air disturbance crossed through area. Precipitation light and mostly confined to mountain areas of north including the northern Sacramento Valley. No precipitation in southern half except for Riverside on 3d. Warming trend began late week with above normal temperatures except for cooling and more rain in extreme north on 5th.

Small grains progressing. Planting northeastern interior. Cool weather slowed maturing Sacramento Valley. San Joaquin Valley dryland planting stress. Desert area good growth. Small grains 95% headed. Cotton 95% planted; 85% emerged. Cool weather slowed rice planting Sacramento Valley. Rice 44% planted. Alfalfa hay good growth. Cutting active central coast, San Joaquin Valley. Rain slowed cutting Sacramento Valley. Corn 37% planted. Desert area sugarbeets good growth. Harvesting San Joaquin Valley, central coast. Stone fruit thinned, irrigated. Vineyards good progress. Desert peach harvest full swing. Pear set variable. Citrus bloom moved north. Grapefruit, lemons, Valencias harvested. Some almond trees damaged Fresno County. Asparagus cutting slow in Delta, heavy in Yolo County. Carrot harvest continued in desert. Cauliflower supplies increase Salinas-Watsonville, active Orange. Celery excellent progress central coast. Lettuce harvest peaked Huron, increasing central coast. Melons show good fruit set Blythe, spraying for mites in Central Valley. Onions progress well, a little mildew. Harvest increasing in desert. Strawberries and tomatoes doing well. Ranges continue mature rapidly lower elevations. Feed plentiful, excellent quality. Cool weather prolonging. Season movement livestock summer ranges continued. Sheep grazing abandoned lettuce fields. Bee colony strength high, ample pollen, nectar sources.

**COLORADO:** Spring storm produced heavy rain, snow 2d along front range. Several locations over 2.00 in. moisture, 5 to 8 in. snow higher elevations. Temperatures 4 to 6° below normal.

Spring barley seeded 68%, 88% 1978, 88% average; emerged 46%, 68% 1978, 56% average. Oats seeded 47%, 84% 1978, 81% average; emerged 32%, 62% 1978, 55% average. Sugarbeets seeded 79%, 96% 1978, 86% average; emerged 23%, 64% 1978. Corn seeded 33%, 52% 1978, 44% average; emerged 3%, 11% 1978. Summer potatoes seeded 28%, 73% 1978, 66% average. Onions seeded 55%; emerged 31%. Winter wheat good condition; jointed 28%, 36% 1978, 38% average. Alfalfa, range and pasture good condition. Livestock good condition.

**FLORIDA:** Rainfall accumulating over 2.00 to 3.00 in. in south already soaked from heavy rains previous week. Weekly amounts averaged 1.00 to 3.00 in. south and 0.50 to 1.00 in. east coast but spotty elsewhere. Temperatures near normal.

Soil moisture variable, adequate north, parts of south and eastern half of Panhandle; short central, western Panhandle; surplus much of southern tip. Corn, tobacco good condition, excellent growth. Peanut planting active, early plantings up to good stands. Soybean planting underway, increasing rapidly, about 2 weeks ahead of normal. Sugarcane good condition. Small grains maturing, good to excellent condition. Pastures improved; fair condition central, good elsewhere. Cattle fair to mostly good condition. Citrus grove condition good to excellent, moisture conditions improving most areas. New crop progressing very well. Valencia harvest continued active, grapefruit picking almost complete. Overall vegetable crop condition mostly fair to good. Many crops declining seasonally. Damage from previous heavy rains in southeast greater than expected. Fruit

quality, fair to good, some very good. Size variable. Harvest remains active. Shipments up 12% from previous week. Supplies potatoes, watermelon up considerably. Harvest chinese cabbage, sweet corn, cucumbers, peppers increased while cabbage, carrots, celery, escarole, okra, squash, tomatoes held steady. Snap bean, cauliflower, eggplant, lettuce, parsley, radish supplies decreased. Strawberry harvest winding down. Watermelon volume increasing southwest but supplies continue light. Plants making good growth west central, north central area. Fruit setting, sizing well.

GEORGIA: Temperatures mid-60's north to low 70's south. Extremes: 31 and 88°. Rainfall mostly light and showery 30th and again 4th through 6th. except for local amounts up to 1.50 in. south over weekend. Totals generally less than 0.50 in.

Soil moisture adequate statewide; localities southeast short. Fieldwork: 5 days available. Some suppliers reported short of diesel fuel. Corn fair to mostly good; 95% planted, last year 90%, average 86%. Cotton fair to mostly good; 84% planted, 56% up to stand; last year 73% planted, 43% up to stand, average 72% planted. Tobacco fair to mostly good condition. Peanuts good condition; 76% planted, 59% last year, 68% average. Soybeans good; 13% planted, 8% last year, 10% average. Watermelons fair to mostly good; 93% planted, 90% last year. Peaches and apples good condition, thinning peaches, spraying apples and peaches. Vegetables fair to mostly good. Sorghum 24% planted, 21% last year. Pastures, cattle, hogs good.

HAWAII: Favorable weather continued. Showers light, mainly higher elevations and windward areas.

Advent warmer weather, insects, diseases increasing. Frequent spraying necessary. Vegetable supplies increased. Banana, papaya supplies light. Disease incidence less. Pineapple harvesting approaching summer seasonal increase. Sugar harvesting active. Pastures generally fair to good.

IDAHO: Temperatures above normal. Precipitation below normal south, above normal north.

Fieldwork active statewide. Seeding progress near last year and normal. Spring wheat 70% seeded, last year 65%, normal 70%. Spring barley 60%, last year 65%, normal 60%. Sugarbeets 75% planted. Potatoes 25%, 35% last year. Winds drying topsoil in southern areas. Calving and lambing virtually complete.

ILLINOIS: Temperatures 3 to 5° below normal; precipitation ranged 0.50 to 3.00 in., heaviest south.

Soil moisture surplus. Winter wheat good. Corn planting 4% complete, 25% 1978, 41% average. Oats seeding 80% complete, 87% 1978, 97% average. Alfalfa good. Corn, soybean plowing 79% complete, 75% 1978, 91% average. Pastures good. Fieldwork: 1 day suitable.

INDIANA: Cool, wet in south. Temperatures 3° below normal and ranged from 25 to 80°. Rainfall on 2d in north and central averaged 0.70 in., south 3 day rainfall 1.30 in. Sunshine 66% of possible.

Fieldwork averaged 2 days. Topsoil moisture adequate to surplus. Subsoil moisture mostly adequate to surplus. Spring cropland 80% plowed, 1978 60%, average 80%. Corn 10% planted, 1978 10%, average 30%. Wheat 40% jointed, 1978 20%; 5% in boot; 10 in. tall, 1978 6 in. Wheat fair to good. Oats 2 in., 1978 2 in., average 4 in. Rye 10% headed. Pastures fair to mostly good.

IOWA: Another cold week with moderate precipitation falling on the 1st to 2d followed by warm, windy drying weather late week.

Topsoil and subsoil moisture adequate to surplus. Plowing 75% completed, 73% last year, 88% normal. Fertilizer applied 70%, last year 66%. Oat acreage seeded 75%, last year 86%, normal 90%. Corn acreage planted 8%, last year 25%, normal 40%. Fieldwork: 1.7 days favorable. Crop conditions: Oats, fair to good; clover hay, good; alfalfa hay, good; pasture, good. Strong demand for slaughter livestock. Muddy feed lots.

KANSAS: General rains 0.50 to 1.50 in. toward midweek. Locally heavy amounts 2.00 to 3.00 in. west and central. Hail to size of baseballs reported northwest 1st. Temperatures 2 to 5° below normal. Well below normal reading midweek, warming trend toward end of week.

Fieldwork: 3.0 days suitable. Corn planted 20%, last year 25%, average 30%. Sorghum planted 1%, last year 1%, average 5%. Soybean planting and first cutting of alfalfa just underway. Sugarbeet planting near completion. Wheat acreage jointing 65%, last year 70%, average 85%. Few fields just heading. Soil moisture mostly adequate to surplus.

KENTUCKY: Temperatures 2 to 4° below normal and precipitation averaged 3.00 in. west to a little over 1.00 in. east. Most of rain fell on 2d, 3d, and 4th.

Rain again limited fieldwork to 3.8 days. Soil moisture surplus western third, adequate elsewhere. Corn planting 22%, 28% last year, 46% average. Tobacco beds generally good condition but behind normal growth. Tobacco setting later than normal because of slow plant growth and late soil preparation. Wheat, hay and pastures good condition as a result of the abundant spring rains. Barley 64% headed, wheat 17%.

LOUISIANA: Temperatures normal to 7° below normal. Extremes: 86 and 46°. Rainfall statewide.

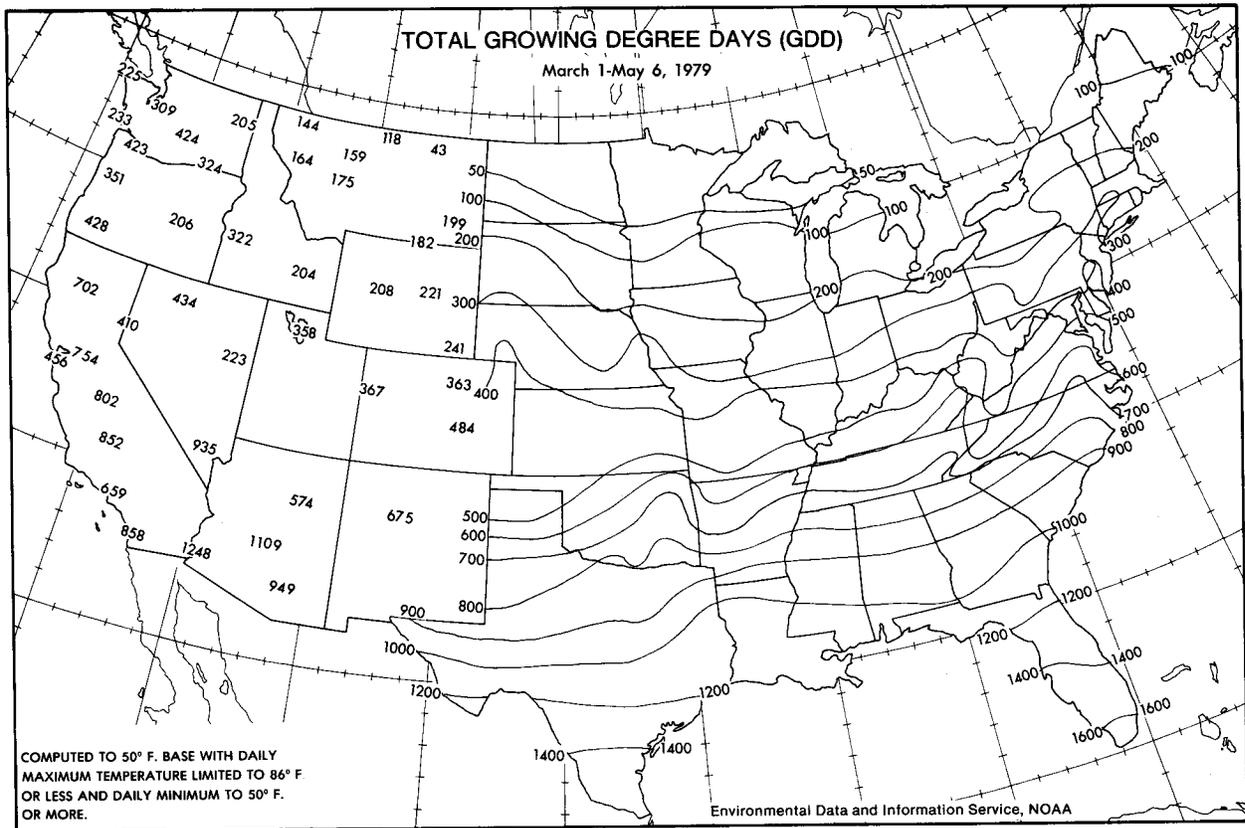
Fieldwork: 3.1 days suitable. Soil moisture adequate to surplus. Rice 84% planted, 92% last year, 89% average; 75% emerged. Corn 84% planted, 92% last year, 86% average; 80% emerged. Cotton 25% planted, 57% last year, 55% average; 5% emerged. Soybeans 3% planted, 7% last year. Sweetpotatoes 15% planted. Strawberry growers scrapping remaining berries. Small grains fair to good. Pastures average. Cattle good.

MARYLAND & DELAWARE: Temperatures 3° below normal. Highs in upper 60's to low 70's and lows in upper 40's to low 50's. Precipitation light, less than 0.50 in.

Fieldwork: 6.2 days suitable. Soil moisture adequate. Pastures supplying average amounts of feed. Corn planting 20%, 30% last year, 39% normal. Vegetable planting continued with tomatoes, sweet corn and watermelons. Tobacco beds need warmer weather to speed growth. Fruit crops in good shape with no freeze damage so far.

MICHIGAN: Cool with temperatures 3 to 11° below normal. Very cold with moderate to heavy frost. Minimum temperatures in low 20's to low 30's 1st and 5th. Scattered light frost 4th. Precipitation ranged from 0.30 in. to 2.50 in. Most precipitation fell midweek and over weekend. Several inches snow reported over northern Lower 5th.

Fieldwork: 2 days suitable. Plowing 55% complete, 50% last year, 60% normal. Corn 2% planted, 25% last season, 15% normal. Soil moisture surplus. Pasture feed supplies mainly adequate.



Oats seeding 35% complete, 40% last spring, 65% normal. Sugarbeets 45% planted, 75% last year, 70% normal. Potatoes 7% planted, 20% last season, 25% normal. Apples, peaches, pears and plums delayed dormant to pre-pink. Sweet and tart cherries green tip to delayed dormant. Southwest some cherries reached first bloom. Series of freezes damaged cherries southwest. Emerged asparagus seriously damaged by freezes; 1% asparagus harvested. Early onions and radishes emerging. Celery transplants covered for protection from cold. Vegetable plantings delayed by poor weather conditions.

**MINNESOTA:** Temperatures averaged 3 to 7° below normal south and 7 to 13° below normal north. Extremes: 85 and 22°. Precipitation near normal except 0.62 in. below normal central through northeast and locally 0.25 in. above normal Red River Valley. Precipitation 0.50 in. or less except locally to 1.21 in. north central. Weekly snowfall localized with up to 3 in. Wadena and North Shore of Lake Superior.

Fieldwork limited to lighter, well-drained soils of southern half; nearly none in northern half. Many areas still have surplus moisture; others drying enough to extend fieldwork this week if no additional moisture. Planted: Corn 1%, 1978 11%, normal 31%; soybeans 0%, 1978 0%, normal 3%; spring wheat 6%, 1978 38%, normal 52%; oats 15%, 1978 42%, normal 59%; barley 1%, 1978 23%, normal 43%; green peas for processing 20%, 1978 35%, normal 51%.

**MISSISSIPPI:** Temperatures 2 to 8° below normal. Extremes: 39 and 86°. Heavy rains midweek in northern areas with some north central locations receiving 4.00 to 5.00 in.

Soil moisture excessive to surplus north, adequate to surplus south. Fieldwork: 3.0 days suitable. Planting of early crops and some land preparation early week before rains halted fieldwork in most areas. However fieldwork active all week in some southern areas. Cotton 24% planted, 46% 1978, 53% average; 7% up to stand, 18% 1978, 23% average. Soybeans about 1% planted, 3% 1978, 6% average. Rice 34% planted, 89% 1978, 74% average; 11% up to stand, 61% 1978, 40% average. Corn fair to good condition; 61% planted, 75% 1978, 70% average; 45% up to stand, 55% 1978. Winter wheat good condition; 84% headed, 82% 1978; 4% ripe, 6% 1978. Peanuts 2% planted, 29% 1978. Sorghums 7% planted, 5% 1978, 12% average. Sweetpotatoes 18% planted, 18% 1978, 16% average. Watermelon 81% planted. Pastures good condition. Peaches good to fair condition.

**MISSOURI:** Temperatures 5 to 8° below normal. Precipitation general, 0.60 to 0.80 in. along eastern half Missouri River, over 1.00 in. elsewhere.

Fieldwork: 1.4 days suitable. Plowing 65% complete, last year 37%, normal 74%. Oats 56% sown, last year 46%, normal 84%. Corn 8% planted, last year 11%, normal 47%. Grain sorghum 2% planted, last year 6%, normal 12%. Wheat 2% headed, last year 8%, normal 32%. Cotton 8% planted, last year 38%, normal 46%. Condition of wheat and pasture mostly fair to good. Soil moisture mostly surplus.

**MONTANA:** Rapidly changing temperatures and spotty precipitation. West and southwest had temperatures a few degrees above normal; elsewhere temperatures averaged from around 10° below normal over northeast, 5° below normal in north central, and 3 to

4° below normal elsewhere east of Divide. Most of west; southwest, northeast and southeast had fairly dry week. Some areas east and southwest had no precipitation. Precipitation in central mostly light to moderate.

Soil moisture adequate. Fieldwork: 3 days suitable. Winter wheat condition fair, winterkill mostly moderate. Planting progress: Spring wheat 5%, 40% 1978, 50% average; barley 10%, 35% 1978, 50% average; oats 5%, 35% 1978, 45% average; corn 5%, 35% 1978, 25% average; potatoes and dry beans less than 5%, 30% 1978, 15% average; sugarbeets 45%, 85% 1978, 70% average. New grass growth slow, range feed adequate. About 25% livestock moved to summer range. Calving and lambing virtually complete. Shearing 70% complete.

NEBRASKA: Temperatures below normal initially; rose above normal latter part of period. Precipitation heavy east; very light west.

Winter wheat condition fair; some wheat abandoned south and east due to poor stands and winterkill. Oats planting 95% complete, year ago 80%, normal 85%. Barley seeding 85% complete, 80% year ago, 90% normal. Corn planting 10% complete, year ago 15%, normal 20%. Planting progress about normal western half; quite limited east. Some cattle moved to grass. Fieldwork: 4.4 days suitable.

NEVADA: Precipitation early week confined to northeast. Second cold front late in period pushed west. Temperatures above normal all areas. Extremes: 94 and 25°.

Cold night temperatures slowed crop growth. Fieldwork slowed by gusty winds. Sheep shearing and lambing on schedule. Calving well along. Livestock moving to summer ranges.

NEW ENGLAND: Amounts of 0.25 to 0.50 in. of rain fell daily along northern and eastern coast of Maine. Week began with temperatures in 70's, near normal 2d to 5th but turned much cooler 6th with morning readings in 20's in north. An expected frost in south thwarted by cloud cover.

Early vegetable crops up, but running about one week late. Most peaches in full bloom, and apples expected to be in full bloom by midweek. Corn planting in full swing south with some planting in north. Some rhubarb and asparagus being harvested. Soil moisture adequate but available grazing short.

NEW JERSEY: Temperatures 1 to 3° below normal. Extremes: 29 and 78°. Rainfall 0.19 in. north, 0.04 in. central and 0.15 in. south. Soil temperature 55° north, 58° central and south. Sunshine 79% of possible hours.

Fieldwork: Nearly 6 days suitable. Topsoil moisture adequate, short on light soils. Crop growth increasing. Soil preparation and planting continued. Limited supplies of asparagus, bibb and leaf lettuce, spinach, green onions, radishes and "greens" moving to market. Vegetable planting advancing. Apple bloom heavy. Strawberries in full bloom. Blueberries in bloom. Fall seeded barley and rye heading.

NEW MEXICO: Widely scattered, light showers 30th then more general rains and snows and sharp cooling 2d and 3d, especially eastern plains. Moisture totals to 0.50 in. or more northeast.

Cotton planting in full swing. Overall 50% planted, but wide variation exists between areas. Over 80% planted in southern areas, but some northern areas not started. Alfalfa good; 1st cutting started in extreme south. Irrigated wheat and barley good and dryland fair; 95% jointed,

and over 50% in the major producing area headed. Corn and grain sorghum planting in progress. Onions good. Chile stands good. Lettuce harvest just started. Range fair to good. Livestock good.

NEW YORK: Precipitation below normal. Temperatures near normal, cooling to subnormal during midweek.

Fieldwork well underway. Oats 30% planted, 50% 1978. Corn planting under 5% done, 1978 same. Wheat condition good. Onion planting completion variable, 50 to 85%. Sweet corn 20% planted, 15% 1978. Cabbage 10% planted. Strawberry growth good, full bloom on Long Island. Upstate potato planting advancing. Long Island 95% done. Sweet cherries, Hudson Valley peaches in full bloom. Cold weather delaying Chautauqua-Erie grape growth. Apples half inch green to pink stage.

NORTH CAROLINA: Temperatures 1 to 2° subnormal. Precipitation 0.25 to 0.50 in.

Fieldwork: 5.0 days suitable. Soil moisture adequate. Condition of small grains, cotton, corn, tobacco plant beds, tobacco in fields, Irish potatoes, pasture, vegetables, and peaches fair to mostly good. Planted: Flue-cured tobacco 50%, 1978 20%, average 48%; corn 87%, 1978 83%, average 80%; soybeans 12%, 1978 6%, average 10%; peanuts 24%, 1978 7%, average 28%; cotton 69%, 1978 36%, average 57%; sweetpotatoes 14%, average 6%; sorghum 16%, 1978 15%, average 20%; green peppers 75%, summer cucumbers 63%, summer snap beans 8%, watermelons complete.

NORTH DAKOTA: Above normal precipitation and below normal temperatures. Precipitation totals of 0.50 in. to around 1.00 in. common. Major portion occurred over weekend, with northwest receiving up to 1.46 in. In many areas, portions of precipitation fell as snow. Temperatures averaged 8 to 12° below normal.

Beginning of fieldwork continues to be delayed. Only significant amount southern portion where some small grain seeding done before weekend. Not expected to become general in northern areas until mid-May or later. Newborn calves and lambs continue susceptible to scours and respiratory diseases. Hard red spring wheat 1% seeded, last year 14%, average 33%.

OHIO: Cool temperatures early week with lows around freezing over some parts. Warming brought highs into 70's and 80's by midweek but rain was general until fair weather again on weekend. Frost on 5th. Rainfall below normal over all but southwest where more than 1.00 in. reported.

Other activities besides planting include planting strawberries, tying grapes and seeding alfalfa. Movement of bedding plants from greenhouses reached its peak. Corn planted 20%, 20% 1978, 35% average. Sugarbeets planted 65%, 70% 1978, 90% average. Oats planted 80%, 75% 1978, 90% average. Soybeans planted 5%, 5% 1978, 10% average. Oats emerged 30%, 25% 1978, 75% average. Wheat height 9 in. Wheat jointed 25%, 5% 1978. Fieldwork: 4 days favorable. Pasture condition good. Soil moisture adequate to surplus.

OKLAHOMA: Temperatures 5 to 7° below normal. Precipitation statewide. Largest average 2.81 in. central, lightest 0.53 in. south central. 12 in. snow western Panhandle.

Growing weather ideal wheat and small grains, with adequate moisture and cool temperatures. Wheat crops good condition; jointing stage 100%, 95% 1978, 100% average. Wheat heading 40%, 50% 1978, 65% average. First cutting alfalfa 20% complete, 40% 1978, 20% average. Cotton seedbeds

70% complete, 60% average. Fieldwork: 3.5 days suitable.

OREGON: Temperatures 3 to 8° above normal. Maximum temperatures ranged in upper 60's and 70's; low 80's in a few spots. Minimum temperatures in 40's west, upper 20's and 30's east. Precipitation varied widely along coast from 1.27 to 0.06 in. before heavy weekend rains. Remainder of State averaged about 0.10 in. until heavy weekend rains fell west.

Soil moisture supplies adequate. Grain, hay and seed crops good condition west, fair to good condition east. Warmer weather improved fields. Tree fruit and nut crops developing normally. Some disease and insect problems. Strawberry bloom excellent. Walnuts starting to bloom. Planting of all vegetables on schedule. Onions and sugarbeets showing growth in Malheur County. Livestock and poultry condition good. Range and pasture growth improving with warmer weather. Feed supplies adequate.

PENNSYLVANIA: Sunny, cool, and dry. Temperatures near to 10° below normal. Extremes: 20 and 78°. Rainfall 3d and 4th totaled from near 1.00 in. southwest to less than 0.10 in. north central and extreme southeast.

Fieldwork: 5 days suitable. Soil moisture adequate to surplus. Activities: Fixing fences; spreading lime, manure, fertilizer; discing; plowing; spraying; pruning fruit trees; greenchopping rye; tying grapes; cutting asparagus; setting cabbage plants; planting corn, potatoes, alfalfa, oats, sweet corn. Plowing 73%, same as last year. Corn 15% planted, 17% last year, 13% average. Barley 20% boot, last year 3%. Wheat 16% boot, last year 1%. Hay condition mostly good to fair. Feed from pastures average to below. Peaches 67% in or past full bloom, 25% last year. Apples 45% in or past full bloom, 12% last year. Frost damage to fruit, extent indeterminate.

PUERTO RICO: Island average rainfall 0.68 in. or 0.68 in. below normal. Temperatures averaged about 80° on coasts and 74° interior. Extremes: 94 and 59°.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Temperatures about normal, highest midweek, many in mid-80's. Very light rainfall in central and northeast, elsewhere near normal.

Soil moisture adequate. Fieldwork: 5 days suitable. Corn good condition; 96% planted, 95% last year, 93% average. Cotton 91% planted, ahead of 61% last year, 74% average. Tobacco 99% planted, 95% last year, 93% average. Soybeans 6% planted, 5% last year, 9% average. Peanuts 46% planted this year and last, 58% average. Snap beans 86% planted; 99% all cucumbers, tomatoes. Thinning bumper peach set; good prospects. Wheat and oats condition fair to good, some powdery mildew. Pastures, hay crops good condition.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Temperatures cool early week but warmed late. Extremes: 18 and 88°. Precipitation north and east was 0.20 to 0.50 in., elsewhere 0.10 or less.

Fieldwork: 4 days suitable; behind schedule. Oats planted 58%, 1978 38%, average 76%. Barley planted 45%, 1978 35%, average 72%. Spring wheat planted 49%, 1978 45%, average 80%. Flax planted 5%, 1978 2%, average 25%. Corn planted 0%, 1978 0%, average 6%.

TENNESSEE: Fair early week. Heavy rains 3d. Flooding some areas. Weekend fair. Precipitation

5.00 to 7.00 in. over west and middle. Temperatures 2 to 4° below normal.

Soil moisture surplus. Fieldwork: 3.2 days suitable. Spring plowing 68% complete, 1978 81%, average 78%. Corn 35% planted, 1978 54%, average 50%. Cotton 18% planted, 1978 36%, average 38%. Pastures, small grains, and cattle good condition. Wheat 28% headed, 1978 22%, average 60%. Oats 29% headed, 1978 20%, average 43%. Barley 42% headed, 1978 47%, average 63%. Snap bean planting few days behind average. Tobacco plantbeds fair.

TEXAS: Moisture over most Texas. Severe thunderstorms 3d with cold front occurred eastern half. Skies cleared for weekend. Rainfall 1.00 to 1.50 in. above normal over north, south central. Southeast, upper coast received 0.75 in. above normal. Rainfall amounts elsewhere near normal. Temperatures 7° below normal High Plains; 4° below normal Edwards Plateau; 5° below normal east; near normal elsewhere.

Heavy rains continued to delay plantings in north central, south, east. Parts of Trans-Pecos and west remain only dry areas. Lower Rio Grande Valley, Gulf Coast received heavy rains, hail. Cotton planting moved slowly statewide. Cool temperatures, wet soils caused delay cotton planting on Plains while wet conditions delayed planting in central, along Gulf Coast. Corn planting made good progress on both High, Low Plains. Warmer and drier conditions are needed to promote growth. Sorghum plantings advanced on southern Low Plains. Wet conditions hampered planting in north central, east. Warmer, drier conditions also needed to promote growth in earlier emerged sorghum fields statewide. Wheat continued to benefit from recent rains with crop in good condition statewide. Many south fields that had headed were observed turning color. Insect damage remains minimal statewide. Rice planting continued behind normal due to recent heavy rains along Gulf Coast. Some earlier planted fields attained four leaf stage. Planting of sugarbeets completed by midweek on Panhandle. Peanut plantings continue to move slowly as most areas awaiting warmer soil temperatures and correspondingly drier conditions. Barley harvest commenced in south. Cotton planted 20%, 28% 1978, 29% average. Rice planted 82%, 100% 1978, 96% average. Rice emerged 18%. Sorghum planted 59%, 67% 1978, 61% average. Wheat headed 30%. Wheat turning color 1%. Corn planted 11%, 79% 1978, 85% average. Peanuts planted 10%, 16% 1978, 19% average. Sunflowers planted 6%, 9% 1978. Sugarbeets planted 100%, 100% 1978, 99% average.

Harvesting cabbage, carrots, potatoes, onions. Cucumbers, bell peppers, potatoes, melons, onions making good progress. Cool, wet weather continued delay vegetable planting as well as slow plant development; replanting necessary some areas of east. Peach harvest underway south, other areas, crop continued to size with rains interrupting spray routines. Thinning behind schedule central due recent wet weather. Pecan trees central, south central continued pollinate, set nuts. Trees east various stages bloom. Zinc spraying, looking for casebearers main activities.

Pastures, ranges most areas continued improve with ample moisture. Weeds begun present problems north central. Warmer temperatures would be welcomed to promote additional forage development on High Plains, central, east. Many pastures east remain saturated, thus limiting grazing. Rangeland Trans-Pecos begun to dry, grass development slowed. Stockers High Plains excellent condition. continued favorable gains on wheat pasture. Livestock condition ranged from fair to excellent.

UTAH: Scattered areas rain in valleys, snow in mountains latter half of period. Moisture generally light to moderate. Temperatures near normal ranging between 5° below and 5° above normal.

Planting, field preparation active with 6 days suitable for fieldwork. Spring wheat, barley 75% sown. Field corn about 20% planted. Potato planting to good start. Fruit crop prospects good. Bee activity still slow causing questionable pollination and fruit set. Soil moisture adequate but getting shorter. Irrigation and spraying for weeds and insects starting. Ranges fair to good. Livestock moving to spring range. Lambing 60% complete for range bands. Calving 80% complete.

VIRGINIA: Temperatures little below normal. Extremes: 85 and 26°. Rainfall about 0.20 in. except around 0.70 in. southwest.

Topsoil moisture mostly adequate. Fieldwork: 4.9 days available. Planting progress: Corn 55%, 54% 1978, 58% average; Tidewater and southeastern corn 80%, 80% 1978; soybeans 5%, 3% 1978, 6% usual; peanuts 15%, 5% 1978, 21% average; flue-cured tobacco 2%, 3% 1978, 6% usual. Condition of pastures, wheat, hay good to excellent. Fruit prospects excellent, a little frost damage earlier central Piedmont. Hay cuttings started. Rye ensilage and hay harvests continued. Barley heading north. Sheep shearing active north.

WASHINGTON: West: Temperatures 1 to 4° above normal. Precipitation 0.20 to 0.40 in. below normal. Sunny, warm weather broken up by late week rains and weekend thunderstorms.

Fieldwork active. Planting green peas, sweet and silage corn, cole crops, carrots active. Harvest of field rhubarb at peak. Berry plants made good growth with blueberries and strawberries in bloom. Berries have shown some winter damage. Pasture seeding near complete. Established pastures made good growth.

East: Temperatures 4 to 7° above normal. Precipitation near normal to 0.20 in. above normal. Weather variable with rain, sun, warm temperatures and weekend thunderstorms.

Mild weather helped pollination in orchards. Yakima Valley showed some apple trees with poor return bloom and vineyards with severe winter damage. Potato planting near complete, some Norgolds are up. Bean and corn being planted. Asparagus cutting in full swing. Alfalfa recovering from winter damage. Cloudbursts caused erosion in Spokane and Whitman Counties. Weeds a problem in grain stands; spraying active. Spring seeding

small grains winding down. Working summerfallow active.

WEST VIRGINIA: Temperatures below normal. Precipitation below normal northeast, near normal elsewhere. Extremes: 82° southwest, 21° Canaan Valley.

Fieldwork: 3.8 days suitable. Soil moisture adequate to surplus. Main activities: Fencing and plowing. Wheat, barley and oats fair to good condition. Oats 66% planted. Corn 16% planted. Tobacco beds 96% planted, 64% emerged. Pasture and hay fair to good condition. Planting progress 1 to 2 weeks behind normal.

WISCONSIN: Temperatures 7° below normal. Week began cool and wet, ended warmer, windy, and dry except extreme north. Highs reached 70's west and south 6th, lows in 20's north and 30's and 40's elsewhere. Extremes: 81 and 11°. Most precipitation fell April 30th to May 2d. Amounts totaled less than 0.25 in. extreme northwest, 1.00 to 2.00 in. central, and 0.75 to 1.00 in. south. North central and northeast areas had 3 to 7 in. snow 5th while south mild and breezy as warm front moved slowly through central. Front became stationary, keeping northern areas cool 6th.

Little fieldwork accomplished, only 1 day suitable. Oats 27% planted, 1978 70%, normal 60%. Early seeded oats up. Winter wheat looks good. Spring plowing 25% done, 1978 50%, normal 50%. Corn about 1% planted, 1978 8%, normal 10%. Hay fields and pastures green but growth slowed by cool temperatures. Some hay fields look very good, some hurt by wet conditions, winter injury, and lodged grain last summer. Planting of peas, potatoes, sweet corn, and other vegetable crops slowed by wet fields. Tobacco beds being seeded. Fruit trees in bud stage. Soil moisture mostly surplus but good drying conditions over weekend except in north.

WYOMING: Below normal temperatures. Approximately one-half state above and half below normal precipitation.

Topsoil moisture adequate. Wet fields slowed land preparation and planting. Fieldwork: 4 days suitable. Acreage planted: Spring wheat 58%; oats 58%; barley 62%; sugarbeets 75%; corn 27%; potatoes 8%. Acreage emerged: Spring wheat 21%; oats 17%; barley 29%; sugarbeets 21%. Prospects for winter wheat and alfalfa mostly good. Spring and early summer grazing prospects mostly good. Spring calves born 83%; range ewes lambed 56%; farm flock ewes lambed 92%; range sheep shorn 77%; farm flock sheep shorn 86%.

## World Weather and Crop Update

April 30 - May 6

USSR. Most of the Ukraine has enjoyed its second consecutive week with only light amounts of precipitation. Fieldwork should have been extremely active across the area and some catching-up achieved. However, the far western portions of the Ukraine and the northwestern states received 20 to 30 mm, causing a continuation of the problems with fieldwork and planting. Soils were already extremely wet, and cold temperatures slowed evaporation. The New Lands were dry, and preparations for seeding spring grains should be well underway. Showers persisted over parts of the cotton-growing areas in southern Kazakhstan and adjoining states. Soil moisture is excellent, but warmth and sunshine are needed for good early development.

**CHINA.** Most of China experienced above-normal precipitation. The double crop rice region of the south and southeast received 75 to 150 mm compared with a normal of about 45 mm per week. In the central rice-tea region, 40 to 80 mm fell, while the southern portion of the winter wheat area received 25 to 40 mm. Northern portions of the winter wheat region received only 5 to 20 mm. Precipitation fell lightly across the spring grain region.

**AUSTRALIA.** The winter grains area of Australia received the best rains of the fall season this past week. Amounts ranged from 10 to 35 mm over most of the area compared to monthly normals of 25 to 50 mm. This moisture was badly needed for preparing seedbeds for planting.

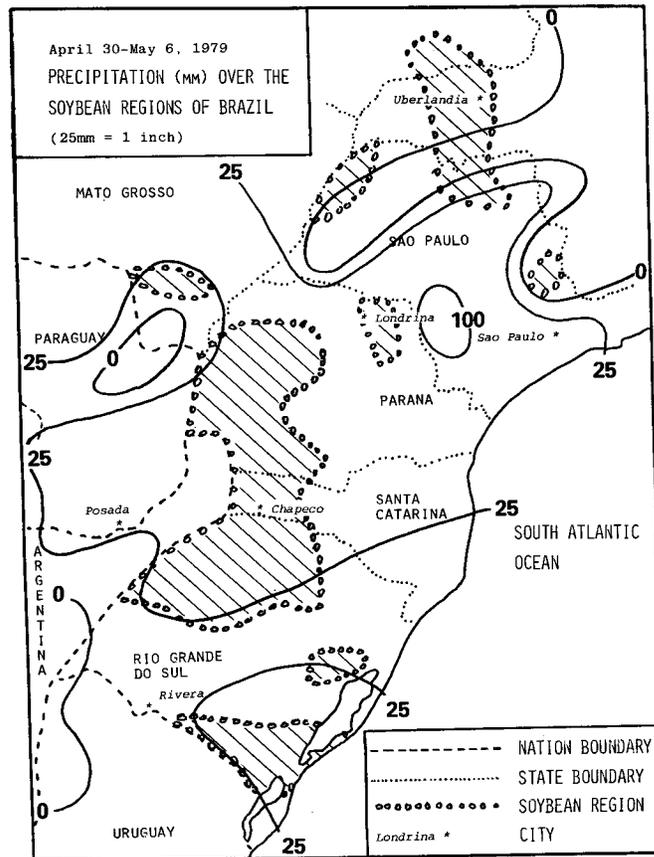
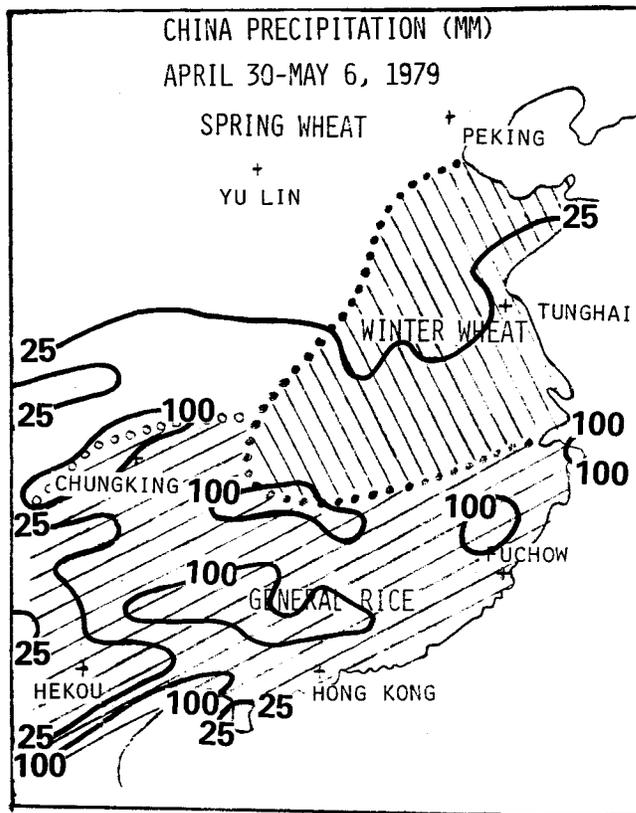
**INDIA-SOUTHEAST ASIA.** India showed dryness in the northern winter wheat areas where harvesting is active. The only significant moisture fell in the far southern States. Precipitation continued to be very light over most of Southeast Asia. Rainfall over Thailand ranged from 5 to 20 mm, while Cambodia likely received very little, if any, moisture. Normally, rainfall amounts on the order of 40 to 60 mm a week would be expected over the area. Moisture is needed to work the fields in preparation for the planting of the main rice crop next month.

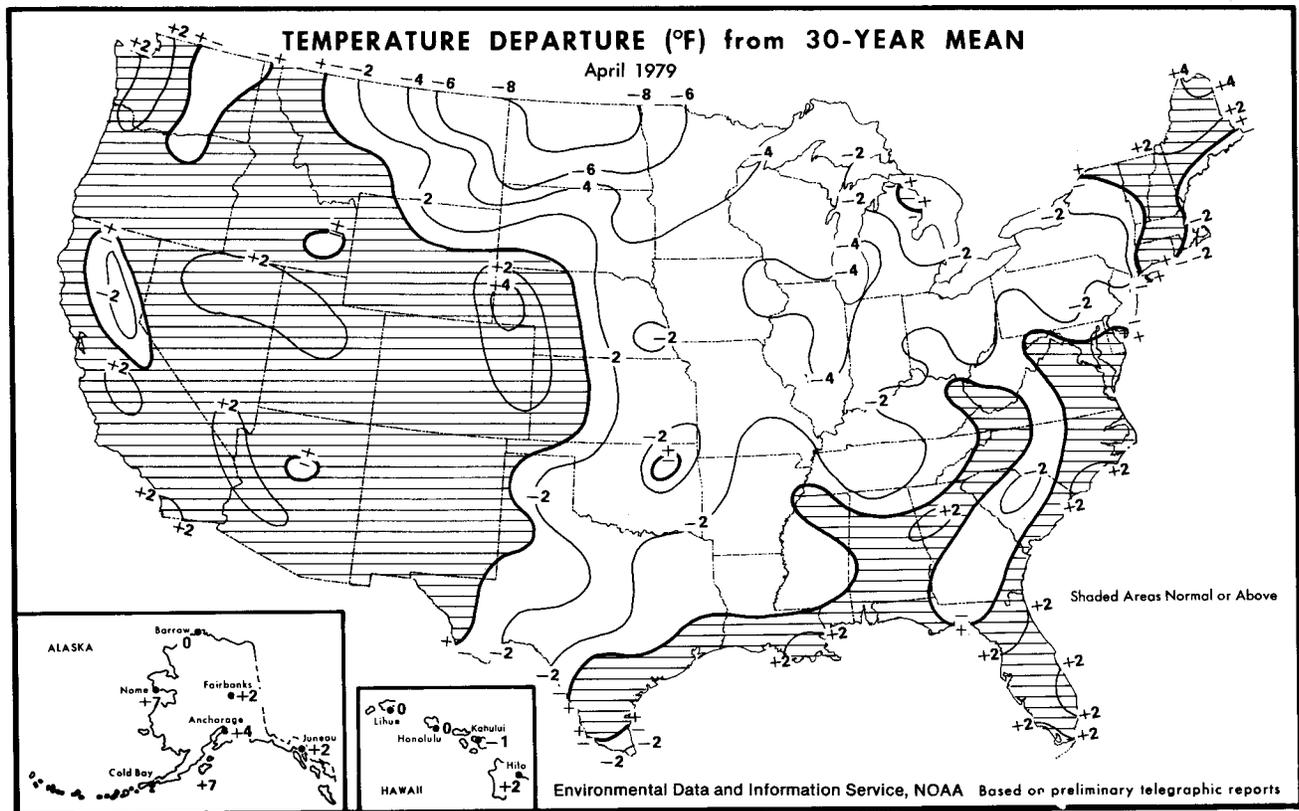
**AFRICA.** Precipitation across North Africa was limited to a few scattered showers, which should not have interfered with the winter wheat harvest that is now underway. In South Africa, some scattered showers did fall, but they were of no benefit to crops.

**EUROPE.** Precipitation ranged above normal across most of both western and eastern Europe with amounts generally at 15 to 25 mm. However, there were pockets which were extremely wet over much of West Germany, Belgium, Switzerland, and southern Poland. Most of the moisture fell earlier in the week with the weekend generally drier. Most of southern Europe, including Spain, Italy, Hungary, and Greece, received little or no precipitation. Fieldwork is generally lagging over most of Europe with the most difficult situations arising in the northern sectors.

**SOUTH AMERICA.** The remaining soybean fields in Brazil were drenched with 30 to 80 mm of moisture. Usually, only about 25 mm a week is expected. This has definitely slowed harvest progress but should represent no threat to beans still in the field. Most of Argentina was dry except for some scattered showers in the winter wheat region to the south.

**MEXICO.** Sunny, warm conditions dominated most exporting agricultural areas. However, a few rains of 8 to 25 mm fell in the Jalapa-Vera Cruz citrus district. Some soils are still very dry in the Montemorelos citrus area. Zamora-Irapuato strawberry areas continued clear and relatively warm; maxima averaged 25 to 31°C, and minima were 13 to 18°C. West coast vegetable areas had maxima of 30 to 37°C, minima of 15 to 20°C, and no rain.





### April Weather Summary

**HIGHLIGHTS:** April averaged near-normal temperatures west of the Rockies, but most areas to the east were cooler than normal. The northern Plains averaged 6 to 8 degrees cooler, while the western portion of the Corn Belt became 4 to 5 degrees cooler. New England and Florida rose slightly warmer than normal.

Moderate to heavy rain accumulated from the Sierras in California northward and across the Plateau and northern Rockies. Most areas east of the Rockies had normal or above rainfall. Severe weather hit most sections of the Nation east of the Rockies. Severe flooding occurred in several areas, and record floods plagued North Dakota, Southeast Texas, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida.

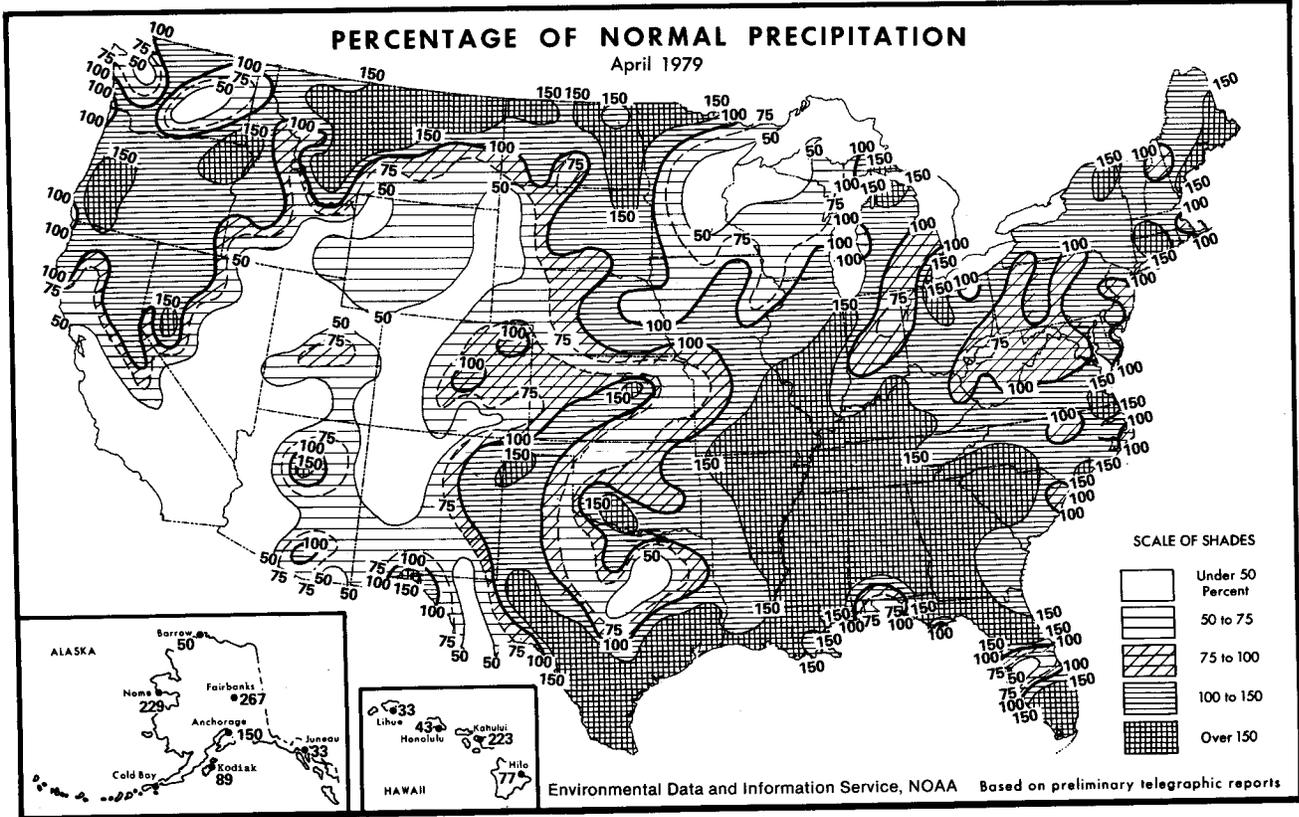
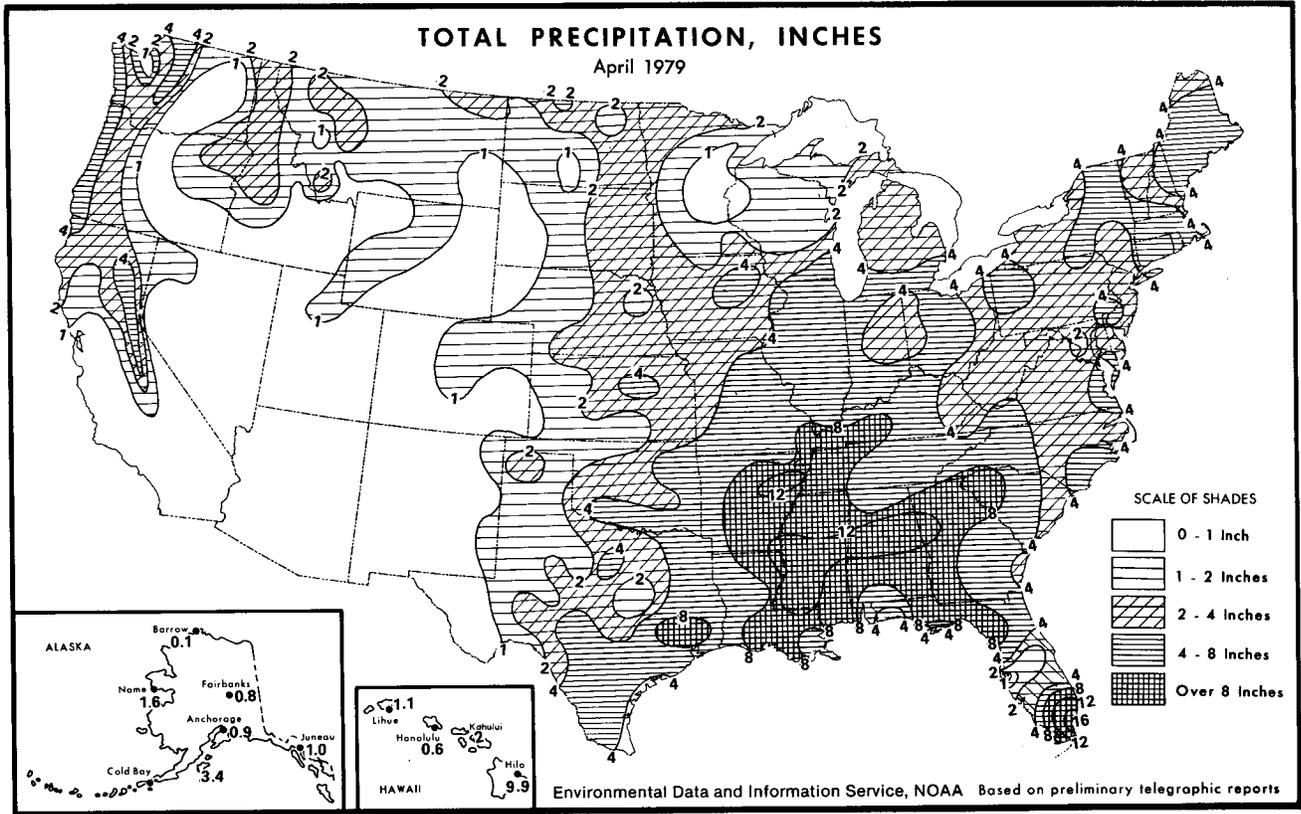
In the early part of April's first week, a series of storm systems moved rapidly from western Canada southeastward into the central United States and then eastward. Cool air met warm, moist Gulf air triggering heavy rain which reached into the South along a line from East Texas to the Ohio Valley and the Appalachians. More than 5 inches caused flooding in Mississippi and Alabama. A Pacific storm dumped rain in the Northwest and snow in the northern Rockies later in the week. April began with near-normal temperatures in the West and Southeast. Cold weather returned to the northern Plains and pushed southward into Texas.

The second week in April (9th to 15th) also brought heavy rain in the South. A storm system moved into the Pacific Northwest causing rain with snow in the higher elevations of the Plateau and northern Rockies. A new storm center formed in Colorado and moved northeastward trailing behind it a cooler air mass which moved eastward. Again, the cooler air moving into warmer, moist air set off heavy rain. More than two inches fell from

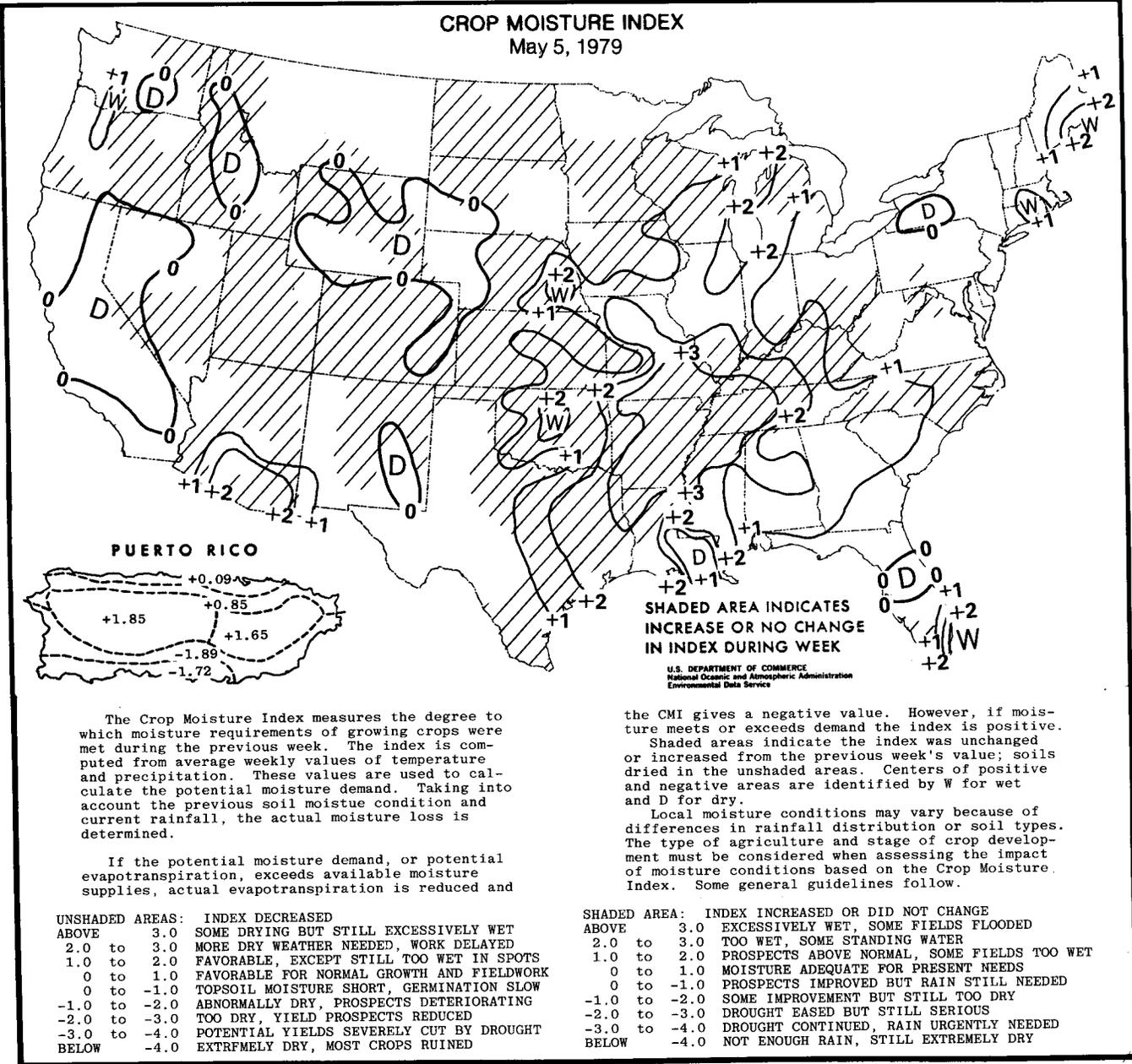
Oklahoma to Lake Michigan. As the cooler air moved through the South, five-inch-plus rains fell from northern Mississippi through northern Georgia. Some points in northeastern Mississippi measured 18 inches of rain during the week; severe flooding resulted.

Another weather system moved onto the central West Coast early in the week after mid-April (16th-22nd). Rain fell along the coast northward and through the Plateau and northern Rockies. The frontal system moved through the Southwest remaining essentially dry, but showers and thunderstorms broke out in West Texas as the front moved into that area. At midweek, the front sat nearly north-south from central Manitoba in Canada to West Texas and moved slowly eastward. Light rain or showers fell along the front; the only severe weather occurred from central Texas through Louisiana, where some areas recorded over 10 inches of rain during the week. Temperatures in most of the Nation ranged warmer than normal---as much as 12 degrees in the eastern slopes of the central Rockies. The East and West Coasts neared normal.

The last week of the month contained a mixture of weather systems. The old frontal system weakened and moved off the East Coast, but an intense low pressure system formed on its trailing end in Louisiana and edged eastward carrying heavy rain and severe weather to the Southeast. Almost at the same time, an impulse of energy moved through the southern Gulf of Mexico and turned northward to deluge southeastern Florida. Considerable crop damage resulted from the very heavy rain and flooding. Another front from the West caused heavy rain and severe weather through the Mississippi Valley and in southern Nebraska. Cooler air moved into the Plains and the South, but the West and New England remained warm.







THE SLIGHTLY DRY AREA IN WESTERN U.S. HAS EXPANDED SOMEWHAT BUT THE CROP MOISTURE INDEX IS VERY NEAR TO NORMAL. THERE ARE NO SERIOUSLY DRY AREAS IN THE NATION. IN CONTRAST, THE COTTON AREA OF THE MISSISSIPPI DELTA REMAINS EXCESSIVELY WET. RECENT RAINS IN OKLAHOMA AND IN SOUTHEAST NEBRASKA HAVE RESULTED IN ABUNDANT CROP MOISTURE AND SOME FIELDS ARE TOO WET.

(continued from page 3)

in some southern areas. Asparagus harvest began across northern areas and stood at 1% complete in Michigan. Florida vegetable crops generally rated fair to good although declining seasonally. Damage proved greater than expected from earlier rains in the southeast. Shipments advanced 12% from the previous week on the strength of potatoes, watermelons, chinese cabbage, sweet corn, cucumbers, and peppers; other crops held steady or declined. Florida strawberry harvest began winding down. Texas growers harvested cabbage, carrots, potatoes, and onions. Cold, wet weather delayed vegetable planting and slowed plant development in eastern

areas. California growers harvested asparagus, carrots, celery, and lettuce.

**PASTURES AND LIVESTOCK:** Pastures generally rated fair to good and improving throughout the Nation. Grasses in northern areas grew slowly because of the subnormal temperatures but provided some grazing. In the South, rains kept grasslands saturated and prevented grazing in some areas. Mild temperatures and adequate soil moisture extended the spring grazing season in California. Calving and lambing neared completion. Wet conditions made animals susceptible to scours and respiratory diseases in North Dakota.

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**SEEDING PROGRESS**

FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 6

	CORN 1979	1978	AVG.
COLO	33	52	44
GA	95	90	86
ILL	4	25	41
IND	10	10	30
IOWA	8	25	40
KANS	20	28	30
KY	22	28	46
MICH	2	25	15
MINN	1	11	31
MO	8	11	47
NEBR	10	15	20
NC	87	83	80
OHIO	20	20	35
PA	15	17	13
S DAK	0	0	6
VA	55	54	58
WISC	1	8	10
17 STATES	13	23	35

THESE 17 STATES PRODUCED 93%  
OF THE 197A CORN CROP.

	COTTON 1979	1978	AVG.
ALA	60	63	69
ARIZ	90	80	NA
ARK	17	37	41
CALIF	95	NA	NA
GA	84	73	72
LA	25	57	55
MISS	24	46	53
MO	8	38	46
N MEX	50	NA	NA
NC	69	36	57
OKLA	0	0	0
SC	91	61	74
TENN	18	36	38
TEX	20	28	29
14 STATES	34	-	-
EXCL CALIF	26	36	42

THESE 14 STATES PRODUCED 99%  
OF THE 197A COTTON CROP.

	GRAIN SORGHUM 1979	1978	AVG.
COLO	NA	NA	NA
KANS	1	1	5
MO	2	6	12
NEBR	0	0	0
OKLA	0	4	8
S DAK	0	0	0
TEX	59	67	61
7 STATES	23	26	26

THESE 7 STATES PRODUCED 92%  
OF THE 197A GRAIN SORGHUM  
CROP.

	RICE 1979	1978	AVG.
ARK	39	71	69
CALIF	44	NA	NA
LA	84	92	89
MISS	34	89	74
TEX	82	100	96
5 STATES	56	-	-
EXCL CALIF	59	85	81

THESE 5 STATES PRODUCED 99%  
OF THE 197A RICE CROP.

	SPRING WHEAT 1979	1978	AVG.
IDAHO	70	65	70
MINN	6	38	52
MONT	5	40	50
N DAK	1	14	33
S DAK	49	49	80
5 STATES	13	30	47

THESE 5 STATES PRODUCED 95%  
OF THE 197A SPRING WHEAT  
CROP EXCLUDING DURUM.

NA NOT AVAILABLE