

WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

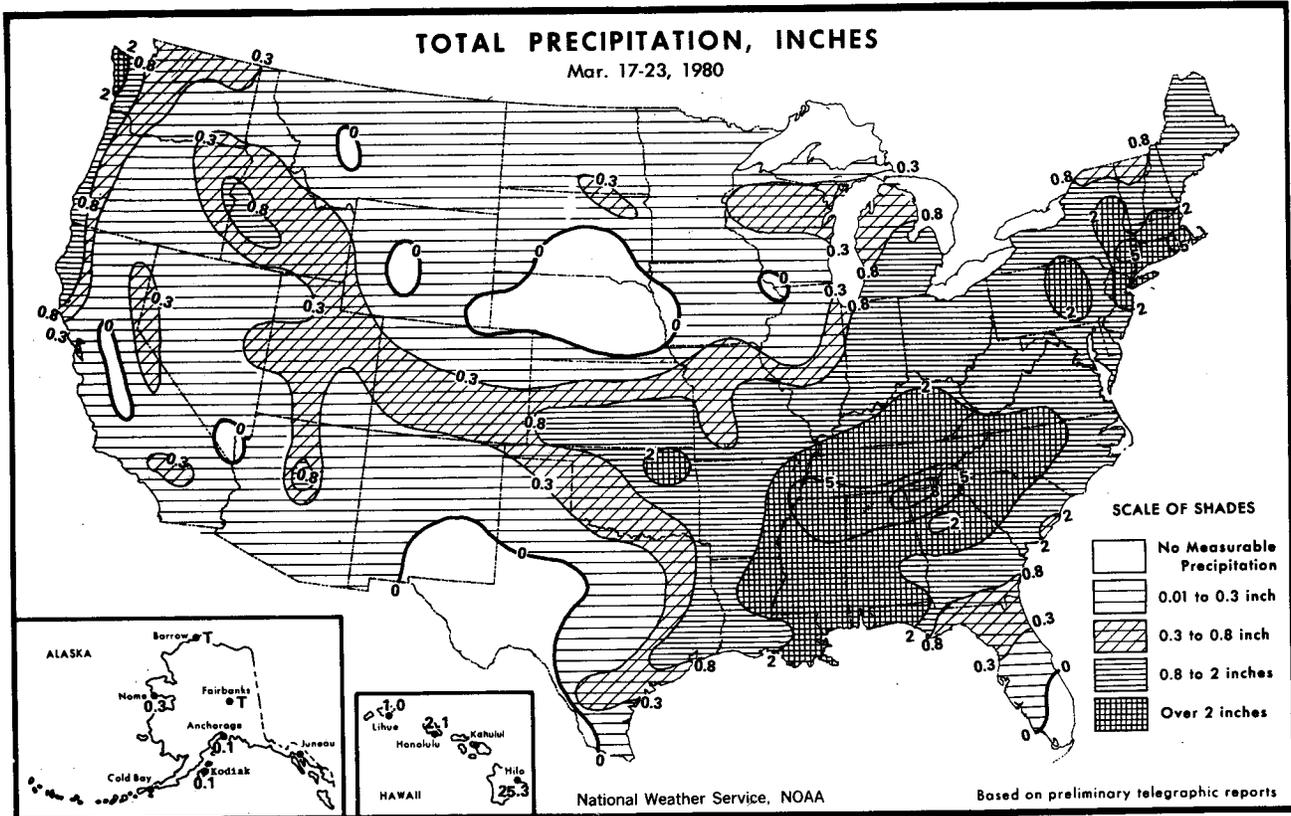
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National Weather Summary

March 17 - 23

HIGHLIGHTS: A series of storm systems--moving from the southern United States through the lower Mississippi and Ohio Valleys and up the East Coast--produced moderate to heavy precipitation. The heavy rains swelled rivers and caused flooding from Mississippi through northern Georgia. Local flooding also covered parts of eastern New England.

Late in the week, a storm triggered heavy snow and high winds in Colorado, New Mexico, and Kansas.

Temperatures ranged 6 to 10 degrees warmer than normal in the northern Plains and from the eastern Great Lakes through New England. Elsewhere, temperatures were near normal.

Early Monday, thunderstorms ranged over the Deep South where rainfall totals showed 4 inches at Greenwood and 3 inches at Jackson in Mississippi.

By day's end, rain had reached the southern Atlantic Coast and as far north as the Ohio Valley. A sampling of rain amounts included 2.6 inches at Mobile, southern Alabama, 3.3 inches at Pensacola, in the Florida Panhandle, 1.5 inches at Chattanooga, eastern Tennessee, and an inch and a quarter at Columbia, S.C. Six tornadoes touched down in the eastern Gulf Coastal States.

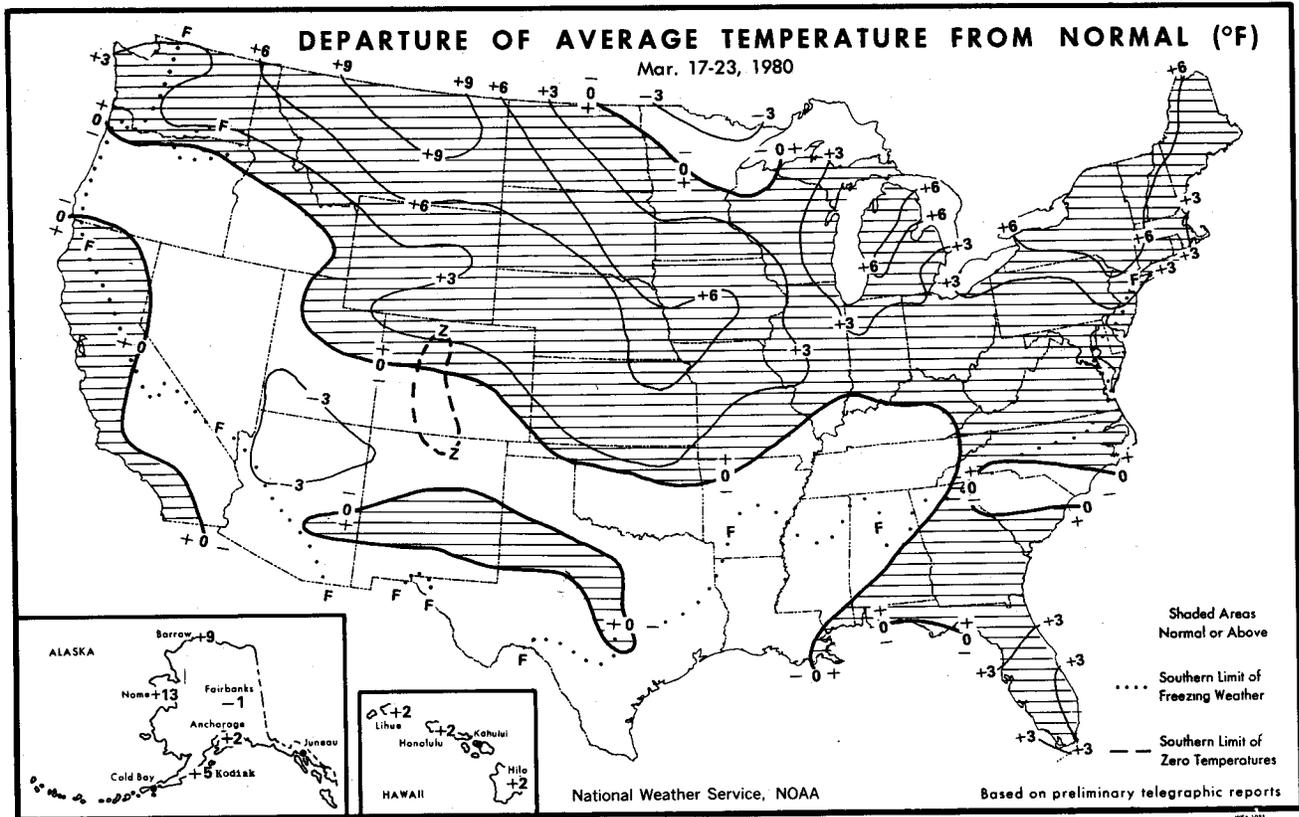
Two inches of snow whitened Cleveland, Ohio, and Stampede Pass, in the mountains of Washington State.

Rain worked its way up the East Coast on Tuesday. In the Southeast, totals generally stayed below an inch. Further north, more than an inch of rain fell at Cape Hatteras, northeastern North Carolina, Providence, R.I., and Eastport, Maine.

Rain turned to snow inland and dusted sections of New York State and Pennsylvania.

A West Coast low pressure system triggered light rain from Washington to southern California; totals remained below a half-inch.

Very light rain persisted over the Pacific Coast States on Wednesday, and a frontal system brought some snow to



parts of Montana and the western Dakotas where a couple of inches fell.

The West Coast rain edged eastward into Arizona; Flagstaff, in the north central portion of the State, picked up 3 inches of snow.

A warm front moved northward through the Gulf Coastal States where about three-quarters inch of rain dampened Alexandria, central Louisiana, and Meridian, east central Mississippi.

On Thursday, the first day of spring, rain stretched from the Gulf Coast through the Mississippi and Ohio Valleys into southern Virginia.

One-inch-plus rainfalls doused Monroe, northeastern Louisiana, Greenwood, west central Mississippi, and Huntsville, northern Alabama. Three and one-half inches of rain deluged Chattanooga, Tenn., triggering localized flooding in that part of the State.

Eight tornadoes, six in Alabama, raced over the Southeast, with the worst in Sycaluga, east central Alabama. High winds of up to 80 mph rushed over parts of the Deep South. Light snow fell over sections of Idaho and Nevada.

The low pressure system moved up the Atlantic Coast on Friday carrying heavy rains and high winds.

The morning began with three damaging tornadoes in central Georgia. Rainfall accumulations reached 3 to 5 inches in many localities from the Ohio and Tennessee Valleys to the Carolinas.

As the storm blew northward and eastward, several inches of rain washed over portions of New York State and southern Vermont, swelling waterways; Tannersville, eastern New

York, gathered 5 inches of rain. More than an inch soaked Worcester, central Massachusetts, and Providence, R.I. Most of the remainder of the Atlantic Seaboard States scored less than an inch. A tornado touched down in Blades, southeastern Delaware.

Meantime, light snow fell over the upper half of the Plateau Region.

Miami Beach, Fla., at 90°, notched a record high temperature for the day; the old mark of 86° was set in 1963.

The intense storm continued to buffet New York State and southern New England on Saturday before finally drifting out to sea.

Two to 5 inches of rain was common throughout the area. Tannersville's total from the storm reached 9 inches; Providence managed another 1.3 inches.

To the west, snow covered some areas; Buffalo, N.Y., had 5 inches on the ground by the end of the day.

Snow also spread from the Dakotas across the Great Lakes; the heaviest snowfall centered on the Dakotas where up to 4 inches blanketed some points.

On Sunday, an intense low pressure system triggered blizzard conditions from the Rockies across a large section of Kansas.

About a foot fell in parts of Colorado and northern New Mexico. Two to 12 inches blanketed much of southern and central Kansas. Rain fell to the south and east. One to 2 inches soaked Tulsa, Okla., Little Rock, Ark., and Memphis.

Snow ranged from Minnesota to the upper Great Lakes; Green Bay, eastern Wisconsin, received 3 inches.



National Agricultural Summary

March 17 - 23

HIGHLIGHTS: Rains swept from the Gulf Coast into the New England States saturating soils and holding days suitable for fieldwork to three or fewer throughout the region. Farmers accomplished only a limited amount of plowing. The western Corn Belt, northern Great Plains, and parts of the Southwest reported short soil moisture. Pastures rated only fair to good but improving with plenty of soil moisture and higher temperatures. Feed supplies proved adequate for the season, although hay supplies were tight in the Northwest. Winter wheat rated fair to mostly good; Great Plains stands needed additional moisture. Wind damage and winterkill appeared light. Corn planting advanced northward into Virginia; none of the major producing States outside the South reported planting activity. Cotton planting remained confined to the Southwest and southern Texas; low soil temperatures held California planting in check. Texas grain sorghum planting advanced to almost half complete. Rice seeding advanced along the Texas Gulf Coast. Peaches began blooming in South Carolina. Wet weather slowed seasonal vegetable activity in most of the South.

SMALL GRAINS: Winter wheat rated fair to mostly good and improving as average temperatures increased seasonably. Stands on the Great Plains needed more soil moisture to sustain optimum growth. Wind damage and winterkill appeared negligible as plants began greening. Winter wheat continued heading in the Southwest. Early stands began jointing in parts of the South. Growers in the South and the Pacific Coast States fertilized and sprayed winter wheat. Snow covered the crop in parts of Montana, the Dakotas, and the central Plains where fresh snow fell during the past week.

Spring grain seeding began in the Northwest and in parts of the central Plains where snow did not interfere.

OTHER CROPS: Cotton planting reached 30% complete in western Arizona and 5% in central areas. California cotton planting was slowed by low soil temperatures in the southern San Joaquin Valley. Texas cotton seeding reached 9% complete, one point below last year and a point ahead of the average. High winds hampered land preparations on the High Plains. Planting was almost complete in the Rio Grande Valley and lower Gulf Coast; low soil temperatures delayed planting in central Texas.

Corn planting advanced as far north as Tidewater Virginia. Wet soils delayed seeding progress in parts of the South, such as Georgia where 17% was planted compared with 40% last year. In other

States, progress exceeded recent years; Texas planting stood at 30%, well ahead of 1979's 18% and the 22% average, and Louisiana seeding reached 25%, surpassing last year and the average by 9 and 10 points respectively.

Texas rice seeding stood at 18%, equaling the average and twice the figure for last year. Gulf Coast showers delayed some land preparations. Texas grain sorghum seeding reached 48%, far ahead of 1979's 29% and the 34% average. Many central and South Texas fields needed moisture before planting. No other major producing States reported planting grain sorghum or rice.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Deciduous fruit tree pruning was almost complete. Trees began blooming in Washington. Peach trees bloomed across the South as far north as South Carolina. Alabama peaches showed heavy damage from the earlier March freeze. Peach buds swelled in the Virginia Tidewater area. Texas pecans began budding. Cherries bloomed in the San Joaquin Valley.

The Florida early and midseason orange harvest reached the clean-up stages; Valencia picking was underway. Most citrus groves rated excellent; bloom was at peak level. Texas growers harvested Valencias. Arizona citrus trees showed new growth and blooms. The California Navel harvest continued and the Valencia harvest started in the south.

VEGETABLES: Rains and wet soils slowed land preparations and planting of vegetables across most of the South. South Carolina growers were able to finish planting early tomatoes along the north coast. Florida vegetables ranged from poor to very good. Freeze-damaged plants recovered well with improved weather. Shipments increased 10% from the previous week; all crops held steady or increased. Texas growers harvested increasing supplies of onions, cabbage, and carrots; lettuce volume declined. Most crops grew well, but freeze damage was evident in some fields of tomatoes, melons, and beans. California vegetable and strawberry harvests increased. Soil crusting forced replanting of some tomatoes.

PASTURES AND LIVESTOCK: Grasslands rated fair to good across the South. Pastures greened but grew slowly. The Southeast had too much rain, and the southern Plains were too dry. Higher temperatures improved growth in California. Feed supplies were adequate except for hay in the Northwest. Livestock generally scored fair to good. Mild temperatures held calving and lambing losses to a minimum.

Weather Data for the Week Ending March 23, 1980

States and Stations	Temperature °F						Precipitation						Relative Humidity, percent		Number of Days			
	Average maximum	Average minimum	Extreme high	Extreme low	Average	Departure from normal	Weekly total, in.	Departure from normal	Greatest in 24-hour, in.	Total, in., since	Pct. normal since	Average maximum	Average minimum	Temperature °F		Precipitation		
														90 and above	32 and below	.01 inch or more	.50 inch or more	
ALA. Birmingham	64	40	69	32	52	-3	4.9	3.5	2.9	11.1	258	77	50	0	1	4	2	
ALA. Mobile	73	50	79	44	62	1	3.6	1.9	3.0	4.6	94	83	49	0	0	3	1	
ALA. Montgomery	71	48	80	40	59	1	1.8	.4	1.3	4.4	105	79	44	0	0	3	1	
ALASKA. Anchorage	33	18	42	2	26	2	.1	0	.1	.2	67	86	60	0	7	3	0	
ALASKA. Barrow	-8	-17	3	-27	-5	9	T	0	T	0	0	76	66	0	7	1	0	
ALASKA. Fairbanks	25	-5	40	-23	10	-1	T	-1	T	.2	67	74	45	0	7	0	0	
ALASKA. Kodiak	44	31	48	18	37	5	.1	.7	.4	1.3	48	62	58	0	4	1	0	
ALASKA. Nome	28	14	36	-20	21	13	.3	.1	.1	.7	117	79	72	0	6	5	0	
ARIZ. Flagstaff	41	22	47	17	32	-3	1.6	1.2	.7	3.8	317	71	51	0	7	4	2	
ARIZ. Phoenix	71	48	79	44	60	-1	.1	0	.1	.9	180	58	23	0	0	2	2	
ARIZ. Tucson	69	45	78	38	57	-2	.2	.1	.1	.5	167	55	16	0	0	2	0	
ARIZ. Winslow	57	28	65	16	43	-3	.1	0	.1	.4	133	—	—	0	5	2	0	
ARIZ. Yuma	76	48	81	46	62	-2	.1	0	.1	.4	133	42	19	0	0	1	0	
ARK. Fort Smith	64	35	73	25	50	-2	1.5	.7	1.3	2.4	100	89	33	0	0	3	2	
ARK. Little Rock	62	41	73	37	52	-1	1.9	.8	1.1	3.9	118	77	44	0	0	3	2	
CALIF. Bakersfield	68	43	75	40	55	-2	.1	0	.1	1.0	200	—	—	0	0	2	0	
CALIF. Eureka	53	43	55	40	48	0	1.7	.6	.9	5.6	165	88	67	0	0	3	1	
CALIF. Fresno	67	41	72	38	54	-1	T	-4	T	1.7	142	79	33	0	0	0	0	
CALIF. Los Angeles	66	51	74	46	53	1	.2	-3	.2	1.7	106	73	53	0	0	1	0	
CALIF. Red Bluff	68	44	75	37	56	2	.2	-4	.1	1.8	100	65	30	0	0	2	0	
CALIF. San Diego	68	53	75	51	61	2	.1	-3	T	2.1	175	71	51	0	0	3	0	
CALIF. San Francisco	64	45	68	43	55	2	.1	-5	T	2.0	111	69	44	0	0	2	0	
CALIF. Stockton	63	40	73	36	54	1	0	-4	0	.7	54	35	—	0	0	0	0	
COLO. Denver	55	27	66	16	41	3	.1	-2	T	.3	38	67	29	0	5	3	0	
COLO. Grand Junction	54	29	63	20	42	-1	.5	.3	.5	1.4	350	71	32	0	4	2	0	
COLO. Pueblo	55	24	70	14	40	-2	.3	.2	.3	.4	133	—	37	0	7	1	0	
CONN. Bridgeport	49	35	55	30	42	2	2.5	1.7	.8	5.0	208	70	42	0	2	4	2	
CONN. Hartford	53	31	59	12	42	5	2.3	1.4	1.3	5.1	204	79	41	0	3	3	1	
D.C. Washington	62	42	69	34	52	5	1.1	.3	.7	2.5	104	72	51	0	0	3	1	
FLA. Apalachicola	71	51	74	38	61	0	.3	-8	.2	2.0	61	91	59	0	0	3	0	
FLA. Daytona Beach	80	61	88	40	69	4	.1	-7	.1	1.3	54	81	46	0	0	1	0	
FLA. Ft. Myers	86	64	93	50	75	5	T	-7	T	.1	5	89	50	1	0	0	0	
FLA. Jacksonville	76	50	85	40	63	1	.5	-3	.4	4.6	192	87	53	0	0	1	0	
FLA. Key West	81	72	84	64	76	1	0	-4	.0	0	85	64	0	0	0	0	0	
FLA. Miami	82	67	87	57	75	2	T	-5	T	0	81	57	0	0	0	0	0	
FLA. Orlando	84	58	90	46	71	4	.2	-6	.2	.4	17	86	40	1	0	1	0	
FLA. Tallahassee	73	50	82	35	61	0	.6	-7	.4	0	198	91	42	0	0	2	0	
FLA. Tampa	81	61	85	47	71	4	.1	-8	.1	1.0	37	80	51	0	0	1	0	
FLA. W. Palm Beach	81	60	89	47	70	0	0	-8	.0	0	88	57	0	0	0	0	0	
GA. Atlanta	66	44	69	36	55	2	1.2	-1	.6	7.0	179	77	43	0	0	4	2	
GA. Augusta	70	43	76	34	57	0	2.2	1.1	1.0	7.6	230	93	43	0	0	4	3	
GA. Macon	71	45	76	37	58	0	2.0	.8	.9	8.3	231	89	42	0	0	5	2	
GA. Savannah	71	50	77	40	61	1	.8	-2	.4	5.2	168	82	45	0	0	5	0	
HAWAII. Hilo	—	—	—	—	73	2	25.3	22.3	—	39.3	423	—	—	0	0	—	—	
HAWAII. Honolulu	—	71	82	69	75	2	2.1	1.3	—	1.2	2.6	113	91	67	0	0	4	2
HAWAII. Kahului	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0	0	—	—	
HAWAII. Lihue	—	—	—	—	74	2	1.0	-1	—	2.4	73	—	—	0	0	—	—	
IDAHO. Boise	51	32	57	29	41	-1	1.1	.9	.4	2.0	286	80	44	0	4	4	0	
IDAHO. Lewiston	53	38	61	35	46	2	.3	.1	.2	1.2	200	71	44	0	0	2	0	
IDAHO. Pocatello	44	27	51	22	35	-1	.5	.3	.4	1.0	167	78	47	0	7	3	0	
ILL. Cairo	56	40	60	32	48	-1	1.9	.9	1.1	3.1	97	—	—	0	1	3	1	
ILL. Chicago	50	29	59	22	40	3	.5	-2	.4	1.2	67	84	48	0	5	3	0	
ILL. Moline	50	31	59	24	41	2	.1	-5	.1	1.0	62	78	45	0	3	1	0	
ILL. Peoria	52	31	59	24	42	2	.2	-5	.1	1.5	83	79	47	0	4	3	0	
ILL. Rockford	46	23	54	21	37	1	.1	-6	.1	.5	28	83	55	0	5	3	0	
ILL. Springfield	56	34	64	26	45	3	.2	-5	.2	2.0	111	87	48	0	3	3	0	
IND. Evansville	53	34	56	27	44	-3	1.7	.6	.8	2.5	78	85	55	0	2	4	1	
IND. Ft. Wayne	47	31	53	26	39	0	1.7	1.0	.9	3.0	158	74	56	0	6	2	1	
IND. Indianapolis	52	32	58	27	42	0	1.5	.6	.6	2.6	104	79	48	0	4	4	1	
IND. South Bend	51	33	57	26	42	4	.9	.2	.7	2.1	117	85	59	0	3	3	1	
IOWA. Burlington	52	32	60	26	42	4	.1	-6	.1	1.3	72	—	—	0	2	1	0	
IOWA. Des Moines	53	32	66	28	42	6	T	-6	T	.6	40	72	40	0	5	1	0	
IOWA. Dubuque	44	30	54	23	37	2	T	-7	T	.8	44	80	46	0	5	0	0	
IOWA. Sioux City	53	28	67	21	40	5	T	-4	T	.3	30	79	36	0	5	0	0	
KANS. Concordia	60	33	75	25	46	5	.1	-3	.1	.3	27	61	26	0	3	2	0	
KANS. Dodge City	60	34	76	25	47	4	1.3	1.0	1.3	1.5	188	70	30	0	3	1	1	
KANS. Goodland	55	28	69	20	41	3	.1	-1	.1	.4	67	79	34	0	6	1	0	
KANS. Topeka	61	35	73	27	48	5	.7	.2	.7	1.0	77	57	30	0	2	2	1	
KANS. Wichita	61	36	70	28	49	3	1.2	.8	1.2	1.9	173	60	31	0	2	1	1	
KY. Lexington	55	36	59	29	46	0	2.2	1.1	.8	3.9	118	75	43	0	3	4	3	
KY. Louisville	56	35	60	30	46	0	1.6	.4	.8	2.5	71	80	47	0	3	4	1	

Based on preliminary reports and 1941-70 normals

Weather Data for the Week Ending March 23, 1980

States and Stations	Temperature °F						Precipitation					Relative Humidity, percent		Number of Days			
	Average maximum	Average minimum	Extreme high	Extreme low	Average	Departure from normal	Weekly total, in.	Departure from normal	Greatest in 24-hours, in.	Total, in., since	Pct. normal since	Average maximum	Average minimum	Temperature °F		Precipitation	
														90 and above	32 and below	.01 inch or more	.50 inch or more
LA. Baton Rouge . . .	68	50	76	39	59	-2	1.2	.1	.9	1.9	56	76	57	0	0	4	1
Lake Charles . . .	68	49	74	42	59	-3	1.9	1.1	1.4	2.7	108	87	62	0	0	1	1
New Orleans . . .	71	52	79	46	61	-1	2.3	1.1	2.0	3.5	92	72	53	0	0	3	2
Shreveport . . .	68	44	81	34	56	-2	.9	0	.4	2.0	74	83	45	0	0	4	0
MAINE. Caribou . . .	37	19	43	2	28	3	1.0	.5	.5	3.1	207	72	48	0	0	2	1
Portland . . .	47	29	53	20	38	4	1.3	.5	1.0	4.5	188	67	41	0	4	2	1
MD. Baltimore . . .	57	35	63	30	46	1	.9	.1	.7	2.8	117	68	42	0	2	3	1
MASS. Boston . . .	51	34	59	30	42	3	2.2	1.3	.9	4.7	174	78	51	0	0	4	3
Chatham . . .	46	34	50	31	40	0	2.5	1.6	1.4	3.8	141	83	64	0	2	2	2
MICH. Alpena . . .	43	25	58	19	34	6	.5	.1	.2	1.1	92	—	—	0	0	5	0
Detroit . . .	47	29	58	26	38	0	1.6	1.0	.7	2.6	163	84	56	0	6	4	2
Flint . . .	45	29	60	24	37	2	1.0	.5	.7	1.6	114	81	54	0	6	4	1
Grand Rapids . . .	49	31	61	24	40	5	1.0	.4	.5	1.3	81	88	52	0	5	3	1
Houghton Lake . . .	41	25	53	13	33	4	.6	.2	.3	1.1	92	87	58	0	6	4	0
Lansing . . .	45	30	62	22	37	3	.9	.3	.4	1.4	87	89	55	0	4	3	0
Marquette . . .	36	18	51	9	27	3	.2	-.2	.1	.5	42	85	54	0	7	3	0
Muskegon . . .	42	31	48	24	36	1	.3	-.3	.2	.8	50	77	60	0	5	3	0
S. Ste. Marie . . .	36	21	51	14	29	4	.3	-.1	.1	1.1	92	86	66	0	7	3	0
MINN. Duluth . . .	31	16	44	4	24	-2	-.1	-.3	-.1	.8	73	87	59	0	7	2	0
Internatl. Falls . . .	32	5	43	-11	19	-5	.1	-.2	.1	.8	114	67	44	0	7	1	0
Minneapolis . . .	40	26	55	19	33	2	.2	-.2	.2	.9	82	65	46	0	6	2	0
Rochester . . .	40	27	55	21	34	3	T	-.4	T	.7	64	77	60	0	6	2	0
St. Cloud . . .	38	20	51	13	29	0	.2	-.1	.2	.6	75	83	—	0	7	2	0
MISS. Jackson . . .	67	42	75	34	55	-3	3.2	1.9	1.2	8.7	223	87	51	0	0	4	3
Meridian . . .	69	42	75	36	55	-2	4.7	3.3	2.1	8.4	200	81	46	0	0	4	3
MO. Columbia . . .	56	36	65	28	46	3	.9	.3	.4	1.9	112	80	37	0	3	2	0
Kansas City . . .	58	35	69	29	47	4	.7	.1	.5	1.4	82	61	32	0	2	2	0
St. Louis . . .	58	37	64	30	48	2	1.2	.5	.5	2.1	105	88	46	0	2	3	1
Springfield . . .	58	35	66	27	46	0	.8	.1	.5	2.5	132	75	37	0	4	2	0
MONT. Billings . . .	52	30	56	24	41	7	.1	-.1	T	1.0	167	63	30	0	5	2	0
Glasgow . . .	48	26	53	22	37	10	T	-.1	T	.1	33	88	44	0	7	1	0
Great Falls . . .	50	29	55	25	40	7	T	-.2	T	.3	50	63	35	0	6	2	0
Havre . . .	51	27	55	22	39	11	T	-.1	T	.4	133	82	37	0	7	1	0
Helena . . .	48	27	50	22	37	4	T	-.1	T	.6	200	78	36	0	7	0	0
Kalispell . . .	48	28	54	24	38	6	.1	-.1	.1	.6	100	84	47	0	6	2	0
Miles City . . .	52	29	58	22	40	8	.1	0	.1	.3	100	72	31	0	5	2	0
Missoula . . .	48	30	55	24	39	4	.1	-.1	T	.9	225	90	46	0	5	2	0
NEBR. Grand Island . . .	55	29	71	22	42	5	T	-.3	T	.6	86	69	30	0	5	0	0
Lincoln . . .	57	32	69	23	44	6	T	-.4	T	.5	50	82	34	0	4	0	0
Norfolk . . .	52	28	67	21	40	5	0	-.3	0	.2	22	74	33	0	6	0	0
N. Platte . . .	57	25	73	21	41	5	T	-.2	T	.1	17	69	25	0	7	0	0
Omaha . . .	54	27	66	23	42	6	T	-.4	T	.5	50	78	42	0	6	0	0
Valentine . . .	51	22	66	15	37	4	0	-.2	0	.1	25	84	37	0	7	0	0
NEV. Ely . . .	45	20	55	13	33	-1	.4	-.2	.2	1.5	250	77	40	0	7	4	0
Las Vegas . . .	66	45	74	37	55	-1	T	-.1	T	.6	200	46	20	0	0	0	0
Reno . . .	55	27	61	19	41	0	.4	-.3	.2	.5	125	81	28	0	6	4	0
Winnemucca . . .	53	21	60	17	37	-1	T	-.1	T	.3	75	77	30	0	7	2	0
N.H. Concord . . .	50	27	61	16	39	4	.9	-.3	.4	3.1	172	71	42	0	5	4	0
N.J. Atlantic City . . .	53	33	57	29	44	2	1.8	.8	.9	3.1	103	83	53	0	4	3	2
Trenton . . .	55	37	60	33	46	4	2.4	1.5	2.0	4.3	165	—	—	0	0	4	1
N.MEX. Albuquerque . . .	64	31	72	23	48	0	.1	0	.1	.2	67	53	16	0	3	1	0
Roswell . . .	67	37	78	27	52	1	0	-.1	0	0	0	—	—	0	2	0	0
N.Y. Albany . . .	52	30	63	27	41	6	1.2	.6	.8	3.2	178	85	51	0	6	4	1
Binghamton . . .	48	29	59	25	38	5	1.3	.7	.8	3.6	200	75	60	0	5	4	1
Buffalo . . .	46	33	58	27	39	5	2.0	1.4	1.3	3.2	178	80	62	0	5	4	1
New York . . .	52	38	56	35	45	2	3.6	2.7	10.0	5.6	207	69	55	0	0	4	2
Rochester . . .	48	32	61	25	40	5	1.3	.7	.8	3.0	167	88	61	0	5	4	1
Syracuse . . .	49	34	64	26	42	6	1.3	.6	.3	2.9	138	83	62	0	4	3	0
N.C. Asheville . . .	57	40	63	28	48	1	4.5	3.4	2.0	5.5	167	84	50	0	2	3	2
Charlotte . . .	62	41	65	33	52	-1	2.5	1.5	1.4	4.5	141	77	43	0	0	3	2
Greensboro . . .	63	41	66	30	52	2	2.4	1.6	1.0	3.2	133	71	39	0	2	4	2
Hatteras . . .	61	45	68	34	53	1	2.1	1.3	1.3	3.7	142	60	51	0	0	3	2
Raleigh . . .	64	38	71	29	51	0	1.8	1.0	.7	3.3	138	84	44	0	3	4	3
Wilmington . . .	66	47	73	35	54	-1	1.4	.5	.8	3.3	114	71	32	0	0	4	1
N.DAK. Bismarck . . .	41	21	58	14	31	3	.2	0	.2	.3	75	86	46	0	7	2	0
Fargo . . .	33	20	40	9	27	1	.1	-.1	.1	.4	100	85	67	0	7	1	0
Williston . . .	43	21	56	13	32	5	.1	0	.1	.1	33	89	50	0	7	2	0
OHIO. Akron-Canton . . .	49	30	58	23	39	1	1.3	.6	.7	3.4	162	74	54	0	6	3	1
Cincinnati . . .	54	33	57	27	44	1	1.3	.3	.5	4.5	161	90	53	0	4	3	1
Cleveland . . .	49	30	60	23	39	2	1.5	.8	.9	2.7	135	84	47	0	6	4	1
Columbus . . .	53	32	58	27	42	1	1.2	.4	.6	2.6	113	75	45	0	4	3	2
Dayton . . .	52	31	57	26	42	2	1.4	.6	.5	2.9	132	82	53	0	6	3	1
Toledo . . .	48	31	57	26	40	2	1.5	.9	.9	2.5	147	80	53	0	6	3	1
Youngstown . . .	46	29	57	20	37	-1	1.4	.6	.7	3.6	164	63	50	0	6	3	2

Based on preliminary reports and 1941-70 normals

Weather Data for the Week Ending March 23, 1980

States and Stations	Temperature °F						Precipitation					Relative Humidity, percent		Number of Days			
	Average maximum	Average minimum	Extreme high	Extreme low	Average	Departure from normal	Weekly total, in.	Departure from normal	Greatest in 24-hours, in.	Total, in., since	Pct. normal since	Average maximum	Average minimum	Temperature °F		Precipitation	
														90 and above	32 and below	.01 inch or more	.50 inch or more
OKLA.Okla. City . . .	62	35	69	29	48	-2	.8	.3	.6	1.1	85	62	26	0	2	2	1
Tulsa	64	40	73	33	52	2	2.1	1.5	1.6	3.0	188	60	36	0	0	1	
OREG.Astoria	51	41	52	35	46	1	1.5	.1	.5	5.0	111	88	74	0	0	1	
Burns	46	24	54	21	35	-2	.2	0	.1	.5	83	92	46	0	4	2	
Medford	55	34	61	29	44	-1	.1	-.3	.1	1.2	100	87	47	0	1	0	
Pendleton	52	37	57	34	44	0	.5	-.3	.3	1.5	214	80	56	0	0	0	
Portland	54	41	56	36	48	1	.6	-.2	.3	2.7	104	92	64	0	0	0	
Salem	53	37	55	29	45	-1	.5	-.5	.3	2.8	90	90	62	0	1	2	
PA.Allentown	53	35	58	31	44	4	1.7	.9	1.4	3.7	154	75	50	0	2	3	
Erie	46	30	61	26	38	4	1.0	.4	.6	2.7	150	75	50	0	6	4	
Harrisburg	55	40	60	32	44	2	2.1	1.3	1.1	4.0	174	67	45	0	1	1	
Philadelphia	54	36	59	31	45	1	1.3	.4	1.2	3.6	144	77	55	0	1	1	
Pittsburgh	50	30	59	24	40	-1	1.5	.7	.8	3.8	158	74	48	0	5	3	
Scranton	49	34	58	28	42	5	1.2	.6	.8	2.7	159	77	53	0	3	3	
R.I.Providence	55	33	63	26	44	6	5.2	4.3	2.0	7.1	263	84	52	0	4	4	
S.C.Charleston	69	46	76	39	58	0	.6	-.5	.3	6.0	182	82	45	0	0	0	
Columbia	67	39	76	31	53	-3	1.9	.8	1.2	5.5	167	96	45	0	3	4	
Greenville	60	41	66	34	51	-2	4.3	3.1	1.8	7.2	195	69	49	0	0	3	
S.DAK.Aberdeen	42	26	56	21	34	4	.6	.4	.3	.9	180	83	52	0	7	0	
Huron	47	24	63	18	35	3	T	-.2	T	.3	50	82	42	0	7	0	
Rapid City	51	24	57	19	37	5	.1	-.1	.1	.3	60	79	27	0	6	0	
Sioux Falls	47	26	63	19	37	4	T	-.3	T	.2	22	85	51	0	6	0	
TENN.Chattanooga . . .	59	39	63	31	49	-3	8.8	7.5	5.7	3.0	333	79	49	0	1	6	
Knoxville	60	39	66	32	49	-2	4.8	3.7	2.6	6.7	197	85	52	0	1	4	
Memphis	61	41	66	31	51	-2	5.1	3.9	1.5	9.1	268	76	49	0	1	4	
Nashville	60	36	66	29	48	-2	3.5	2.4	2.4	5.1	146	85	42	0	2	2	
TEX.Abilene	69	42	75	31	55	-1	T	-.2	T	.1	17	56	20	0	4	0	
Amarillo	59	30	74	22	45	-1	.2	0	.1	.5	125	62	23	0	5	1	
Austin	76	50	88	38	63	2	T	.4	T	.2	15	63	27	0	0	0	
Beaumont	71	50	79	41	61	0	1.1	.5	.6	1.5	75	85	59	0	0	1	
Brownsville	81	61	91	54	71	2	T	-.1	T	0	0	79	36	1	0	0	
Corpus Christi	79	58	95	47	69	2	T	-.2	T	.1	14	68	42	2	0	1	
Del Rio	75	51	83	37	63	-2	0	-.1	0	.7	—	63	23	0	0	0	
El Paso	70	38	78	30	54	-2	0	-.1	0	.2	67	39	14	0	2	0	
Fort Worth	70	41	76	28	56	-1	.1	-.5	T	.2	13	64	27	0	1	2	
Galveston	65	56	74	48	61	-1	.8	.2	.6	1.0	56	76	61	0	4	1	
Houston	72	49	83	38	61	-1	.9	.3	.4	1.2	63	85	41	0	0	3	
Lubbock	67	36	79	28	51	1	T	-.2	T	0	0	53	16	0	1	1	
Midland	67	37	76	30	52	-4	0	-.1	0	0	0	48	18	0	1	0	
San Angelo	69	40	74	27	55	-4	0	-.2	0	.2	33	57	24	0	2	0	
San Antonio	76	45	88	32	61	-2	.1	-.2	.1	.1	10	75	25	0	1	0	
Victoria	74	51	89	39	62	-1	.6	.2	.6	.8	67	79	47	0	0	2	
Waco	73	42	84	26	57	-1	.1	-.4	.1	.4	27	72	27	0	1	3	
Wichita Falls	68	36	75	31	52	-2	.3	-.1	.3	.3	27	68	22	0	2	1	
UTAH.Blanding	52	25	58	13	38	-1	.1	-.1	.1	.8	133	73	22	0	7	2	
Salt Lake City	52	30	60	23	41	0	.7	.3	.7	1.8	164	73	35	0	5	1	
VT.Burlington	49	31	58	26	40	8	.6	.2	.4	1.9	158	91	52	0	5	3	
VA.Lynchburg	59	38	65	27	49	2	2.0	1.2	.8	3.0	125	73	51	0	2	3	
Norfolk	62	40	76	33	51	1	1.0	.2	.6	1.8	75	58	42	0	0	4	
Richmond	65	41	74	30	53	4	1.5	.7	.8	3.0	125	77	39	0	1	4	
Roanoke	59	37	63	26	48	1	2.0	1.2	.9	3.3	138	73	51	0	2	3	
WASH.Colville	50	32	60	27	42	4	.3	.1	.2	1.5	188	—	—	0	3	4	
Omak	53	33	61	23	43	3	.5	.4	.2	.7	140	72	59	0	2	3	
Quillayute	51	39	55	37	45	3	3.2	.8	1.7	8.3	111	87	70	0	0	5	
Seattle-Tacoma	51	40	53	36	45	1	.7	-.1	.4	1.9	76	88	64	0	0	2	
Spokane	50	34	56	32	42	3	.2	-.2	.2	.8	67	94	57	0	2	3	
Walla Walla	53	40	59	38	48	2	.5	.2	.5	1.7	189	79	56	0	0	1	
Yakima	59	37	66	28	48	5	.1	0	.1	.4	133	70	30	0	1	2	
W.VA.Beckley	52	32	60	23	42	1	1.3	.3	.6	1.9	63	77	44	0	5	4	
Charleston	58	34	65	24	46	-1	1.0	.1	.4	2.7	100	75	37	0	4	4	
Huntington	57	33	64	25	45	-1	1.1	.1	.7	2.9	100	80	41	0	4	4	
Parkersburg	56	36	63	29	45	1	.9	0	.5	3.0	120	82	40	0	3	4	
WISC.Green Bay	42	28	52	22	35	4	.6	.2	.5	1.0	91	80	58	0	5	2	
La Crosse	43	29	58	22	36	2	.1	-.4	.1	.7	54	85	60	0	6	2	
Madison	43	26	52	18	35	2	.1	-.4	.1	.7	54	81	52	0	6	1	
Milwaukee	45	30	57	22	38	4	.2	-.4	.1	.7	47	79	52	0	5	2	
WYO.Casper	46	22	52	16	34	2	.1	-.1	.1	.8	133	70	36	0	7	2	
Cheyenne	50	25	58	16	38	5	0	-.3	.0	.4	57	59	26	0	7	0	
Lander	49	22	53	13	35	2	T	-.3	T	.2	29	64	30	0	7	0	
Sheridan	48	22	55	9	35	3	.1	-.2	.1	.7	87	87	40	0	7	0	
P.R.San Juan	85	73	87	71	79	3	.4	-.1	.4	1.5	116	90	61	0	0	1	

Based on preliminary reports and 1941-70 normals

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 1° subnormal. More rain; heaviest north.

Fieldwork: 0.4 day suitable. Soil moisture surplus. Activities: Livestock, poultry care; equipment maintenance; some corn planting south. Heavy damage to peach crop from early March freeze. Corn 9% planted. Pastures short. Wheat fair to good.

ARIZONA: Weather disturbances 19th, 22d kept state cool, moist. Snow totaling 2 to 6 in. mountains above 5,000 ft., up to 1.50 in. rain other higher elevations. Temperatures 2 to 5° below normal.

Small grains continue making good progress. Head emergence, flowering, seed setting, grain development continued at steadily increasing rate west. Heading rapidly underway central. Upland cotton planting continued. Plantings approaching 30% west, 5% central. Good progress continued on sugarbeets. Safflower planting complete. Alfalfa haying continued. LP gas, diesel, gasoline mostly adequate except southeast where diesel and gasoline tight to adequate. Lettuce, mixed vegetable harvest steady, warm weather causing rapid maturity. Watermelons, cantaloups, making good progress. Citrus harvest making seasonal progress. Citrus groves flush bloom, new growth. Recent rains, snow north created adequate water supplies, ranges supplying mostly average amounts feed. South water supply short to adequate with ranges supplying below average amounts feed some areas. Cattle, sheep mostly fair to good condition statewide.

ARKANSAS: Wet and cool; rainfall averaged 1.50 in. northwest to 3.50 in. southeast. Highest normal 57°; lowest 50°. Highest mean 57°; lowest 46°. Extremes: 82 and 19°. Most rainfall 3.76 in.; least 0.30 in.

Not much fieldwork due to wet soils. Small grains and fescue made substantial growth with pastures and grasses beginning to turn green. Cattle condition good; hay being fed.

CALIFORNIA: Scattered light rain. Temperatures near or slightly below normal.

Small grains good growth; application fertilizer, weed, insect controls increasing as soils dry. Desert grain heading. Preplant, plant activity increasing cotton, safflower, sugarbeets, field corn, other spring planted crops. Low soil temperatures delaying cotton planting south San Joaquin. Alfalfa beginning rapid growth; insect, weed controls underway. Fall planted sugarbeets rapid growth, good stands; harvest continued central areas. Nonpareil almond set about 50 to 75% of normal. Avocado harvest continued. Cherries blooming San Joaquin Valley. Navel harvest continued. Valencia harvest started in south. Walnut blight spraying San Joaquin Valley. Artichokes, broccoli, cauliflower supplies from central coast steady. Asparagus harvest increased Delta; decreased south. Carrot supply heavy. Celery about done San Diego; production gap Orange; Oxnard active. Lettuce shifting north to Kern. Melons developing well. Replanting tomatoes due to crusting. Strawberry harvest increasing. Warm temperatures stimulated grass growth. Range, pastures, excellent. Livestock good to excellent condition. Sheep shearing underway San Joaquin Valley. Movement bees from almond orchards continued. Fuels adequate.

COLORADO: Widely scattered rain, snow showers brought up to 0.50 in. moisture 17th. On 22d to 23d storm dropped up to 0.80 in. precipitation west, 0.50 in. east, 2 to 4 in. snow in mountains. Temperatures 2 to 4° below normal northern mountains and northwest, near normal San Luis Valley. Elsewhere average 4 to 8° above normal.

Winter wheat very good condition; wind damage light. Livestock good condition. Ranges and pastures good condition. Plowing 33% complete. Limited spring seeding underway. Fuel supplies adequate.

FLORIDA: Heavy rains northwest 18th and 19th. Rainfall sparse central, south. Winds rapidly dried soils. Temperatures in 90's central, south interior areas, 18th through 21st. Cooler, drier air weekend. Skies almost cloud-free. Frost whitened portions of far north 23d as temperatures dropped to mid-30's. Central and south chilled with readings in 40's and 50's. Warmer late 23d. Temperatures 4 to 6° above normal except near normal northwest.

Soil moisture mostly adequate south, east central, northeast; surplus north and parts of the Panhandle, but getting short west central. Corn planting active, replanting necessary on early planted corn killed by freeze. Tobacco transplanting active. Land preparation for planting soybeans and peanuts good progress. Sugarcane harvest nearing completion, several mills beginning to close. Fuel supplies mostly adequate. Pastures recovering but mostly poor to fair condition; liming, fertilizing underway. Cattle fair to good. Most citrus groves excellent condition. Moisture less than ideal with some irrigating. Bloom about at peak. Early, midseason orange harvest clean up stages; Valencia picking underway. Overall vegetable crop conditions variable, from poor to very good. Freeze damaged plants most areas recovering well with improved weather. Harvest, planting, replanting, other fieldwork very active. Quality, size, yields generally fair to good, improving. Bloom buds, blooms becoming more abundant. Overall shipments up 10% from previous week. Shipments okra, peppers increased considerably; cauliflower, celery, escarole, lettuce, parsley, potatoes, squash, strawberries also increased. Snap bean, cabbage, carrot, chinese cabbage, sweet corn, cucumber, eggplant, radish, tomato supplies held steady. Strawberries, potatoes, watermelons responding well to improved weather conditions. Strawberry, potato harvest increasing some areas.

GEORGIA: Temperatures 2 to 3° above normal. Extremes: 21 and 82°. Rainfall heavy northern quarter, moderate elsewhere; range 0.47 to 7.35 in. Most central and south around 2.00 in. Sunny and mild most of weekend with rain returning 23d.

Soil moisture surplus. Fieldwork: 1.0 day suitable. Corn 17% planted, last year 40%; condition poor to fair. Tobacco 10% transplanted, 17% last year; condition fair to good. Blue mold in plant beds a problem. No cotton, soybean or sorghum plantings reported. Small grains fair to good, some freeze burn. Pastures, cattle, hogs fair to good. Pine beetles very active. LP gas, diesel fuel, gasoline adequate.

IDAHO: Temperatures ranged from near normal to 7° above normal, averaging in high 30's. Precipitation above normal; some south central and eastern areas below normal.

Moderate weather permitted increased fieldwork on lighter soils. Seeding of spring grains, onions, sugarbeets, dry peas and lentils underway. Winter wheat in good condition. Some early movement of seed potatoes. Calving and lambing progressing well; some local problems. Hay supplies short and expensive. Water supplies and soil moisture adequate. Fuel supplies sufficient.

ILLINOIS: Temperatures averaged 1 to 5° above normal. Precipitation ranged less than 0.10 in. north and central, 1.00 to 2.70 in. south.

Soil moisture adequate to short. Winter wheat, livestock mostly good. Farmers buying supplies, repairing machinery.

INDIANA: Moderate temperatures, wet. Air temperatures near normal, averaged in 40's, ranged from 25 to 67°. Rainfall 0.70 in. north to 1.60 in. south. Soils thawed. Solar radiation 56% of possible.

Minimum of fieldwork because of continuing soft field conditions. Caring for livestock and preparing for spring main activities.

IOWA: Mild, dry. Temperatures averaged 3° above normal east to 5 or 6° warmer than normal west. Mildest days 18th, 19th with many south and east localities reporting temperatures in 60's. Precipitation negligible until light rain, sleet and/or snow fell south and southeast night of 23d to 24th.

KANSAS: Mild temperatures but marked cooling weekend. Temperatures averaged 4 to 5° above normal south; 6 to 9° above normal north. Precipitation 0.50 in. or less until 0.50 to 1.50 in. weekend, near 2.00 in. southwest. Snowfall light except 10 in. or more portions west late 23d.

Farming activity increased. Oats planted 25%, last year 15%, average 40%. Barley planted 20%, last year 10%, average 35%. Livestock moved to wheat pastures. Light to moderate wind damage wheat fields west two-thirds.

KENTUCKY: Temperatures averaged near seasonal normals with above normal readings first half week and near to below normal readings weekend. Rainfall on several days with showers and thunderstorms first of week and again at end. Amounts averaged around 1.00 in. northeast to 2.00 to 2.50 in. west and central to 3.00 in. or more southeast.

Most fields too wet to work. Some seeding of tobacco beds; other tobacco farmers getting anxious. Few nice days but no extended dry, warm period. Livestock relying primarily on supplemental feed. Feed supplies adequate.

LOUISIANA: Soil moisture surplus. Fieldwork: 1.4 days suitable. Spring plowing 31% complete. Corn planting 25% complete, 14% 1979, 15% normal. Sugar-cane fair condition. Small grains, pastures, cattle rated fair to good.

MARYLAND & DELAWARE: Temperatures averaged 3 to 4° above normal. Highs averaged upper 50's. Lows averaged low 30's. Precipitation averaged 1.19 in. Cloudy 22d with winds averaging 20 mph. Temperatures averaged high 30's to mid-40's. Clear and breezy 23d with high temperature in high 50's and lows in mid-30's.

MICHIGAN: Temperatures averaged 1 to 6° above normal. Maximum temperatures reached into 50's and low 60's over most of Lower midweek; 30's and 40's remainder of week. Precipitation generally totaled 0.50 to 1.70 in. over southeast half of Lower tapering off to less than 0.10 in. over extreme north-west Lower. Over Upper amounts ranged from around

0.30 in. east to less than 0.10 in. extreme west. Snow depths over Lower ranged from 1 to 3 in. north to less than 1 in. south half.

Farm chores and feeding livestock main farm activities.

MINNESOTA: Temperatures averaged from 5° above normal south to 5° below normal north. Extremes: 60 and 11°. Precipitation averaged near normal to 0.43 in. below normal except locally 0.20 to 0.90 in. above normal west central and central. Precipitation totals less than 0.25 in. except locally 0.25 to 1.21 in. west central and central. Snowfall less than 1 in. except 2 in. to locally 8 in. west central through east central. Snow depth 1 in. or less extreme south and west, 2 to 8 in. central through east central, and 9 to 22 in. north central through northeast.

MISSISSIPPI: Temperatures near to 6° below normal. Extremes: 25 to 79°. Heavy rains in excess of 5.00 in. early week.

Soil moisture mostly excessive north and central, excessive to surplus south. Fieldwork: 0.2 day suitable. Continued heavy rains further slowed spring plowing. Winter wheat and cover crops improving. Some corn planted south. Plowing completion 24%, 39% 1979, 36% average. Corn 10% planted, 17% 1979. Winter wheat jointing 11%, 12% 1979. Hay and roughage supplies adequate. Feed grain supplies adequate to short. Wheat condition good to fair. Pasture condition fair to poor north and central, fair to good south. Livestock condition fair to good. Diesel, gasoline, LP gas supplies adequate.

MISSOURI: Temperatures 2 to 5° above normal north-west and northeast prairies, west central plains, west Ozarks, below normal elsewhere. Northwest had 0 to 0.25 in. rainfall, Bootheel and east Ozarks 1.50 to 2.73 in., 0.50 to 1.00 in. elsewhere.

MONTANA: Temperatures averaged 2 to 7° above normal. Precipitation light over plains with some moderate snow over mountains and valleys of west and southwest.

Mild weather aided calving and lambing. Calving 40% and lambing 35% completed. Sheep 45% sheared. Hay, grain supplies adequate. Snowcover generally poor due to warm weather but wind damage to winter wheat light. Winter wheat fair condition.

NEBRASKA: Temperatures 6° above normal with lows below freezing most of week. No precipitation except in extreme southeast where 0.05 in. received.

NEVADA: Unsettled weather; weak high pressure and cool spring storms. Limited precipitation. Extremes: -2 and 74°.

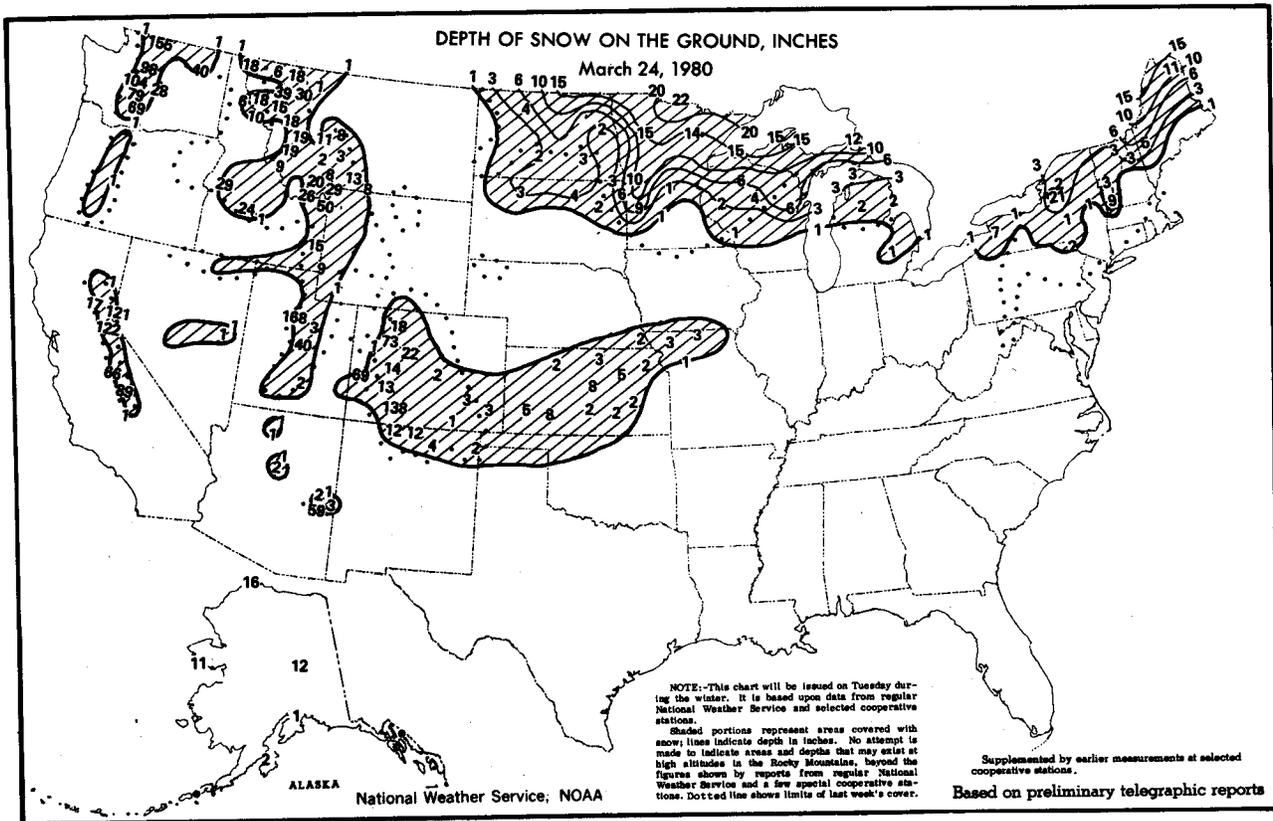
Seedbed preparations progressing. Calving and lambing continued.

NEW ENGLAND: High winds and much-needed rains. Rainfall 1.00 to 6.00 in. Flooding central and southern New England 21st and 22d. Gale to near-storm force winds. Temperatures near normal.

NEW JERSEY: Temperatures averaged 1 to 3° above normal. Extremes: 22 and 65°. Rainfall averaged 3.26 in. north, 2.35 in. central, 1.74 in. south. Soil moisture in percent of field capacity 100% north, 99% central, 99% south. Soil temperature averaged 34° north, 44° central, 45° south.

Some soil preparation begun. Many fields too wet for plowing. Fruit pruning well advanced.

NEW MEXICO: Light rains and snows 19th and over weekend north. Cold beginning of week warming toward



21st. Temperatures ranged from normal to 3° colder than normal.

Land preparation continued. Irrigated wheat and barley fair to good, dryland crop poor condition. Strong winds and insects slowing growth. Chile planting underway, lettuce and onions in good condition. Rangeland mostly fair with supplemental feeding required. No shortage of fuel.

NEW YORK: Average temperatures 3 to 10° above normal ranging from mid-30's to mid-40's. Above normal precipitation ranged from near 0.50 in. north to 3.50 in. southeast.

NORTH CAROLINA: Temperatures near normal mountains and 1 to 4° above normal eastward. Precipitation moderate to heavy.

Fieldwork: 2.0 days suitable. Soil moisture surplus. Condition of wheat, oats, barley, rye fair to mostly good, improving; pastures mostly fair to good, improving; tobacco beds mostly fair to good, declining; spring Irish potatoes mostly fair to good, declining. Plantings of spring Irish potatoes 13%; some corn being planted; spring vegetables slowed by dampness. Supplies of hay, roughage, feed grains mostly adequate. Major activities: Fertilizing small grains and pastures, plowing where able, tending and seeding plant beds, caring for livestock, repairing equipment.

NORTH DAKOTA: Wintry weather with snow. Snow spread eastward late 21st and 22d. Accumulations varied with 4 to 5 in. new snow central. Temperatures near normal central and east and 4 to 5° above normal west. Extremes: -3 and 61°.

Calving and lambing increasing. Livestock generally in good to excellent condition. Feed supplies plentiful. Preparation for spring fieldwork underway. Ground still mostly frozen. Snow helpful to improve soil moisture but most areas need more.

Light snowcover general over eastern half to two-thirds.

OHIO: Temperatures mild; highs in 50's on several days. Extremes: 60 and 20°. Average temperatures about normal. Ranged from 38 to 47°. Precipitation widespread; mostly 1.00 in. or more.

Soils saturated. Soil temperatures reached 40's.

OKLAHOMA: Month-long dry spell ended. Statewide rain ranged from an average of 0.50 to 1.50 in. Temperatures several degrees below normal north central and warmest in northeast averaging 4° warmer than normal.

Dry, windy. Conditions favorable for livestock; crop and soil environments need moisture, warmer temperatures. Wheat fair to good condition with development somewhat below average. Seedbed preparation for sorghum 40%, 35% 1979; corn 55%, 35% 1979, 45% average; cotton 40%, 25% 1979. Fieldwork: 5.5 days suitable.

OREGON: Temperatures west of Cascades averaged near or slightly below normal; east of Cascades near normal except slightly below normal in south central area. Heaviest precipitation occurred along coast where amounts ranged from 1.67 in. to 2.50 in.; northern interior areas west of Cascades had up to 1.00 in., but southern interior areas at most 0.50 in.; northern Cascades received about 1.33 in. East of Cascades central portion had only about 0.10 in. precipitation while north and southeast had between 0.10 and 1.00 in.

Soil moisture surplus west of Cascades, adequate east of Cascades. Winter wheat condition mostly good; some rust present. Some early plowing where field conditions permit. Spraying continuing; some fertilization. Pruning almost complete. Livestock condition fair to good. Range and pasture condition variable. Hay supplies short. Pastures greening.

PENNSYLVANIA: Unsettled weather; storms 17th and 21st brought moderate to heavy precipitation and mild temperatures followed by snow and snow flurries, much cooler temperatures and very windy but clearing conditions. Temperatures averaged from several degrees below normal west to several degrees above normal east. Extremes: 16 and 62°. Precipitation 1 to 2 in. most areas with up to 8 in. new snow north central mountains by 22d. Winds to 50 mph 21st and 22d.

Normal winter chores.

PUERTO RICO: Island average rainfall 0.38 in. or 0.11 in. below normal. Temperatures averaged 76° on coasts and 72° interior. Extremes: 95 and 50°.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Temperatures colder; near midweek and end had scattered frost. Heavy rainfall flooded most rivers. Strong winds 19th and 20th caused considerable minor damage to trees and utilities.

Cropland generally too wet to plant corn. Early tomato planting completed along north coast, general condition good, cool weather slowing development. Other vegetable planting delayed by wet soils. Peaches starting bloom south.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Mild early but cool late week. Average temperatures above normal. Extremes: 70 and 6°. Snowstorm dumped up to 8 in. snow north. Little precipitation elsewhere.

TENNESSEE: Very wet; cold front brought rain 17th, 19th, 20th, 23d. Rains averaged 3.00 to 5.00 in. Temperatures ranged from lows in 30's to highs in 60's.

Fieldwork: 0.6 days suitable. Soil moisture surplus. Spring plowing 35% complete, 1979 35%, average 38%. Tobacco plant beds 41% seeded, 1979 55%, average 61%. Pastures fair. Cattle good, on supplemental feed, some grazing. Wheat and oats fair. Gas and diesel supplies adequate. Early vegetable planting continued.

TEXAS: South, East, upper Gulf Coast received showers 17th; East Texas received scattered showers weekend. Two cool fronts moved through midweek, weekend. Temperatures slightly below normal. Rainfall below normal except East Texas where precipitation 0.25 in. above normal.

Early planted cotton, corn, sorghum fields established good stands throughout lower Rio Grande Valley, Coastal Bend. Parts of East Texas, upper Gulf Coast received general rains early week; midweek high winds depleted surface moisture elsewhere. Dryland wheat, other small grains suffered on Panhandle, Edwards Plateau, Cross-Timbers due to drying conditions. Rice planting began Gulf Coast. Planting of corn, milo active Central, South Texas; dry conditions northern Blacklands, Edwards Plateau slowed planting. Cotton planting 9% complete, 10% 1979, average 8%. Sorghum planting 48% complete, 1979 29%, average 34%. Corn planting 30% complete, last year 18%, average 22%. Rice planting gained momentum with 18% complete, 9% 1979, and 18% average. Wheat, other small grains hindered by continued dry conditions Panhandle, Cross-Timbers, Edwards Plateau, South Texas. Some Plains, Cross-Timbers fields grazed out due to sparse stands, poor growth. Greenbug populations increased; Plains, Blackland growers spraying. Rains would be most welcome in all wheat producing areas. Sugarbeet planting behind schedule High Plains due to brisk winds preventing seeding. Alfalfa watered throughout Trans-Pecos; coastal bermuda fertilized East Texas.

Range, pasture growth slow; some moisture received East Texas; other areas dry. Shearing sheep, goats continued. Spring calving, lambing, kidding active.

Lower Rio Grande Valley onion harvest increased; seed stems becoming problem. Cabbage, carrot supplies plentiful; supplies of lettuce diminished. Peppers, tomatoes, okra, melons making good growth. Most citrus harvest limited to Valencia oranges. South Texas watermelon planting nearing completion; some 6 to 8 leaf stage. Coastal Bend area melons, cucumbers looking good. San Antonio-Winter Garden area harvest of carrots active. Laredo carrot harvest continued; onions growing well. Central Texas vegetable planting continued; some freeze damage. East Texas wet fields slowed vegetable planting activity. Some frost damage occurred early tomatoes, watermelons, cantaloups, beans. Onions and potatoes making good growth. El Paso chili peppers planted, lettuce emerged; onions and cabbage making good growth. High Plains onion and potato planting continued. Peach trees blooming west; full bloom elsewhere. Some loss of blooms from last week's freeze. Pecan trees continued to bud; some trees leafing out southern areas.

UTAH: Scattered rain or snow forepart period. Heavier precipitation over weekend. Accumulated moisture generally light to moderate but heavy few localities. Average temperatures variable ranging from 9° below normal to 4° above.

Above normal precipitation continued to limit outside activity and placed some additional stress on spring calving and lambing. Winter grains generally good condition with more than ample soil moisture. No weather damage to fruit trees in major producing areas. Crop prospects generally bright with forecast of plentiful irrigation water.

VIRGINIA: Temperatures averaged a little above normal. Extremes: 76 and 18°. Rainfall averaged around 1.50 in., heaviest amounts over southwest.

Wet conditions hampered most outside activity. Topsoil moisture adequate to surplus. Fieldwork: 1.5 days available. Pastures, alfalfa, wheat, oats, barley rated good to excellent. Yellow dwarf disease slowing some central Piedmont barley development. Peaches in good condition, buds swelling Tidewater area. Tobacco plant beds seeded: Flue-cured 70%, 85% 1979; burley 30%, 50% 1979; some seedlings emerged eastern part of flue-cured belt. Corn plantings started southeast; less than 1% seeded, equal to 1979 progress. Seeding spring oats central Piedmont, Tidewater areas. Fuel supplies mostly adequate. Eastern Shore: Potato seedings two to three weeks behind usual progress; sweetpotato bed preparation active.

WASHINGTON: West: Temperatures and precipitation averaged near normal.

Field harvest of daffodils, caneberry pruning, tying continued. Berries budding, blossoming in trees. Early planted leafy vegetables sprouting.

East: Temperatures averaged slightly below normal. Snowcover receding.

Soil moisture normal. Wheat, barley, potato, pea, hop, alfalfa plantings beginning. Fertilization, herbicide applications underway. Fruit pruning nearly complete. Grape pruning well along. Severe freeze damage fall seeded sweet onions; freeze damage grains not serious.

WEST VIRGINIA: Temperatures above normal early part of week; below normal later. Extremes: 74 and 13°. Precipitation above normal.

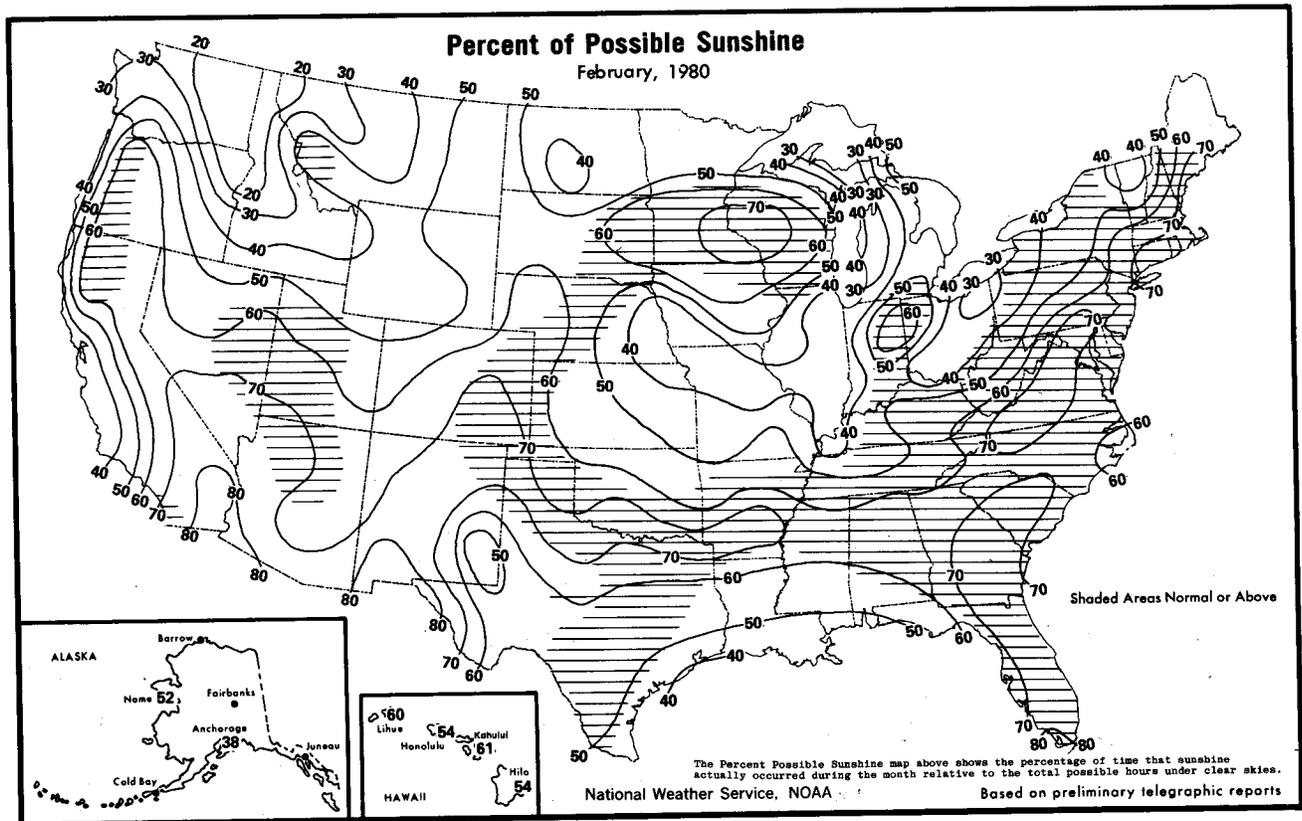
Soil moisture surplus to adequate. Fieldwork: 2.8 days suitable. Hay adequate to surplus. Grain and other feed supplies adequate. Fuels adequate to tight.

WISCONSIN: Temperatures above normal. Week began and ended cooler, but highs reached 40's and 50's 18th to 20th. Overnight lows ranged from teens

to 30's. Extremes: 58 and 6°. Precipitation light until weekend when rain-snow system developed. Locally heavy band of 4 to 6 in. of wet snow fell from central to northeast. Light rain and snow south. Frost softening and beginning to come out top few inches of soils. Frost depths averaged 30 in. as of 21st, decline of 3 in. from two weeks earlier but 19 in. more than normal. Snow depths averaged only 1 in. as of 21st, 5 in. below normal. Little runoff due to light snowcover and lack of heavy rains.

WYOMING: Temperatures above normal. Precipitation much below normal.

Topsoil and subsoil moisture adequate. Winter wheat fair to good condition; wind damage light to non-existent. Seedbed preparation and spring planting just starting. Calving 28% complete. Range flocks lambing 8%, farm flocks 47%. Range sheep shorn 8%, farm flocks 35%. Ranges, pastures mostly fair to good condition. Feed supplies mostly adequate.



International Weather and Crop Summary

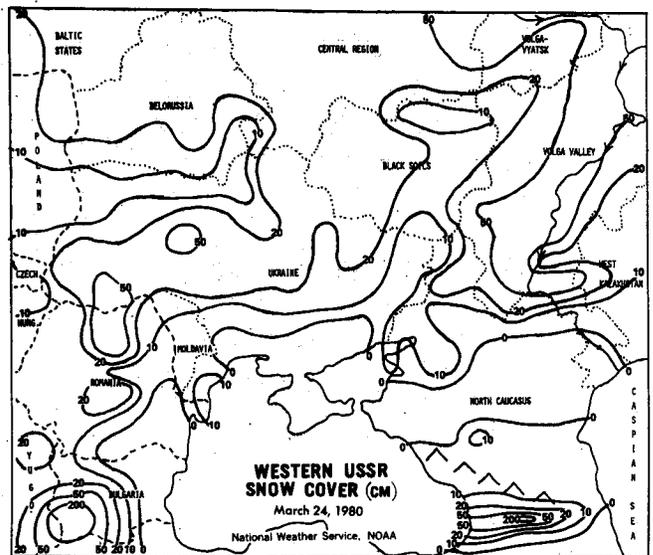
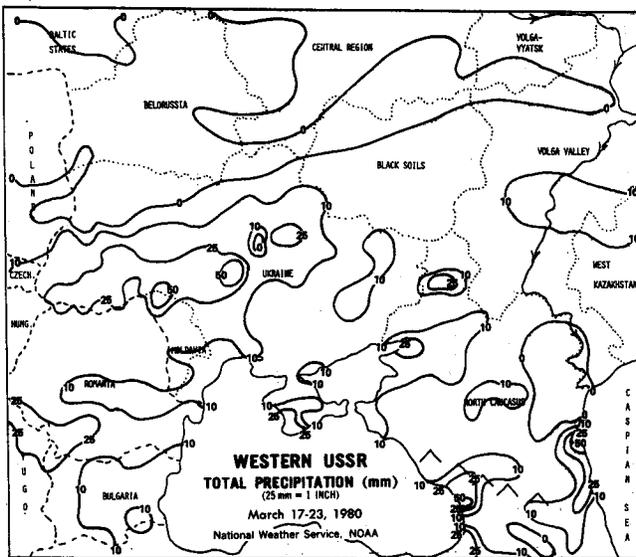
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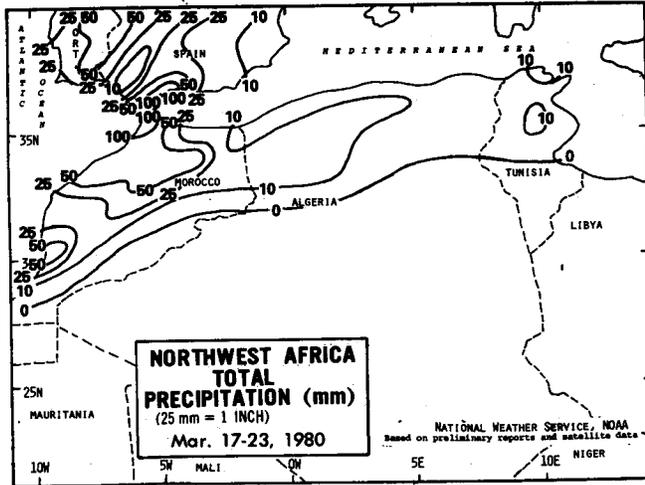
HIGHLIGHTS:

- USSR. Winter grains dormant...heavy snow in southwestern Ukraine.
- EUROPE. Winter grains mostly dormant, except in south...beneficial rain in Spain.
- CHINA. Wheat growth in southern half of belt...beneficial rainfall. Rice planting in progress in south*...Yangtze Valley too wet.
- INDIA. Wheat should be in heading stage in north*...conditions too dry.
- AFRICA. Northwestern: winter grains heading*...beneficial rains in Morocco. South: most maize mature*...coverage discontinued until October.
- ARGENTINA. Soybeans podding*...some areas too dry.
- BRAZIL. Harvesting soybeans in Parana...good harvest weather. Soybeans pod-filling in Rio Grande de Sul... soil moisture good.
- MEXICO. Tomato harvesting decreasing...warmer temperatures. Cotton planting at Mexicali... good weather.

*Based on normal crop calendar information.

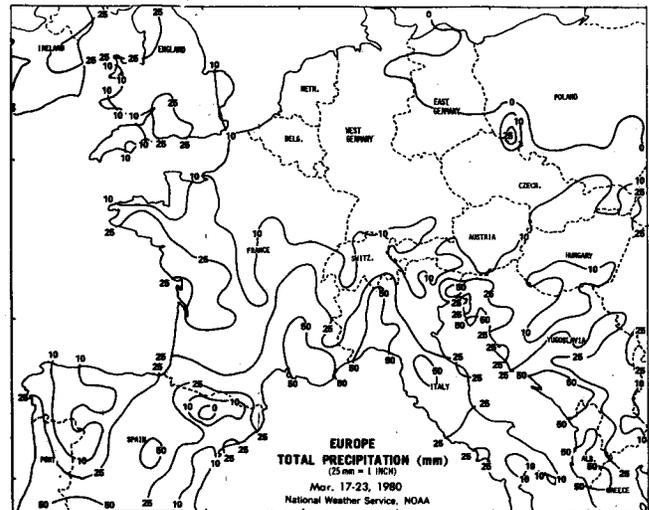
USSR. Heavy snowfall in the central and southwestern Ukraine substantially increased snow depths to 30 or 50 cm in many areas, while snowcover in other winter grain areas decreased only slightly. Snowcover became quite thin in parts of the eastern Ukraine, but temperatures remained high enough not to threaten crops. Above-normal precipitation of 10 to 25 mm in Rostov Oblast and other parts of the North Caucasus and Volga Valley improved the moisture outlook as spring approaches. Temperatures in all areas remained too cold for winter grain regrowth.

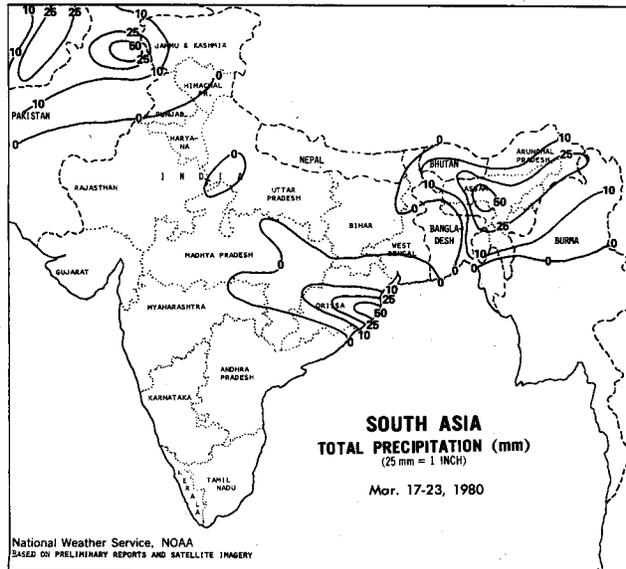




NORTHWESTERN AFRICA. Heavy rainfall in Morocco probably helped winter grains now heading, though some lodging may have occurred. Lighter amounts to the east in Algeria and Tunisia maintained favorable growing conditions in nearly all areas, and adequate winter grain crops are now a distinct possibility in all three countries.

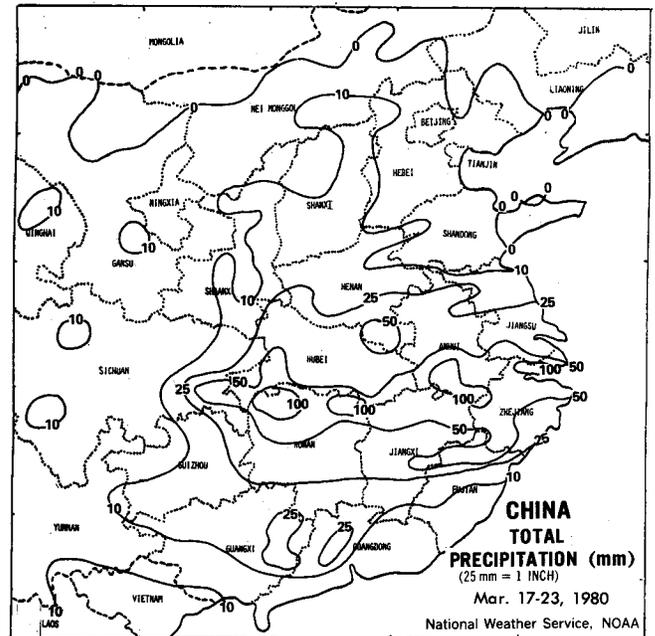
EUROPE. Relatively dry weather persisted across the northern countries, and spread a little westward to include the Netherlands, Belgium, and northeastern France. Only in parts of Poland might moisture shortages pose a problem as spring approaches. Moderate precipitation of 15 to 30 mm benefited crop areas in the United Kingdom, western France, and most Mediterranean countries. Heavy rains fell in localized areas in southeastern France and northern Italy, but little damage is expected. Winter grain fields in Spain received rainfall amounts of 25 to 50 mm, substantially improving crop prospects as grains approached the heading stage.

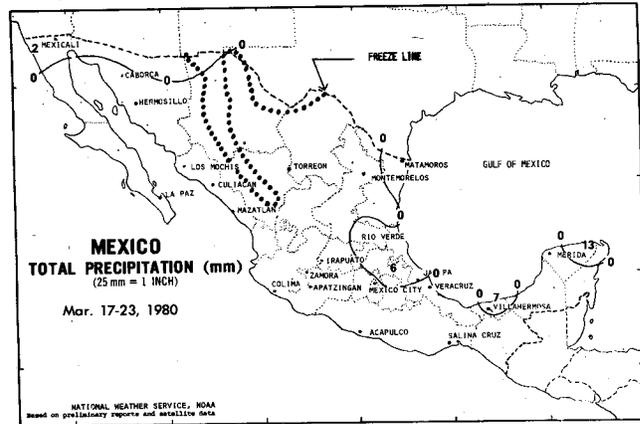
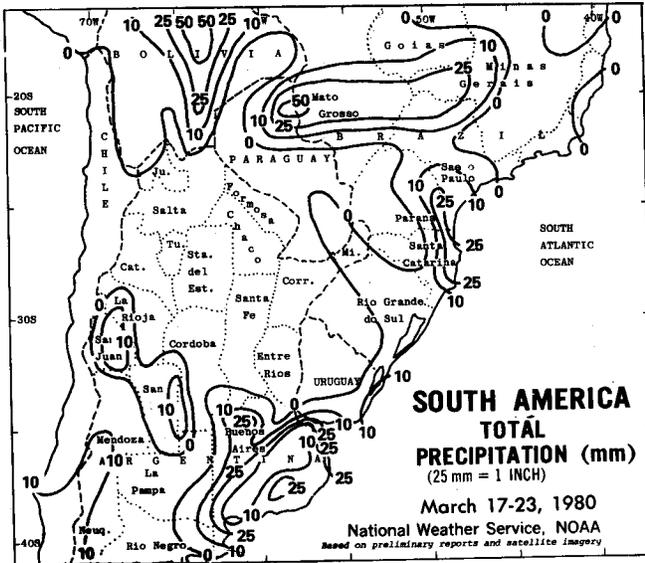




INDIA. Dry weather continued over the major winter wheat belt in the north. A few light showers occurred in Uttar Pradesh, but daytime temperatures averaged about 32°C, with some locations reporting as high as 40°C. Much of the wheat should have finished heading by now, and yields from most unirrigated fields will probably fall quite short of normal. Abundant rainfall returned to Assam in the east.

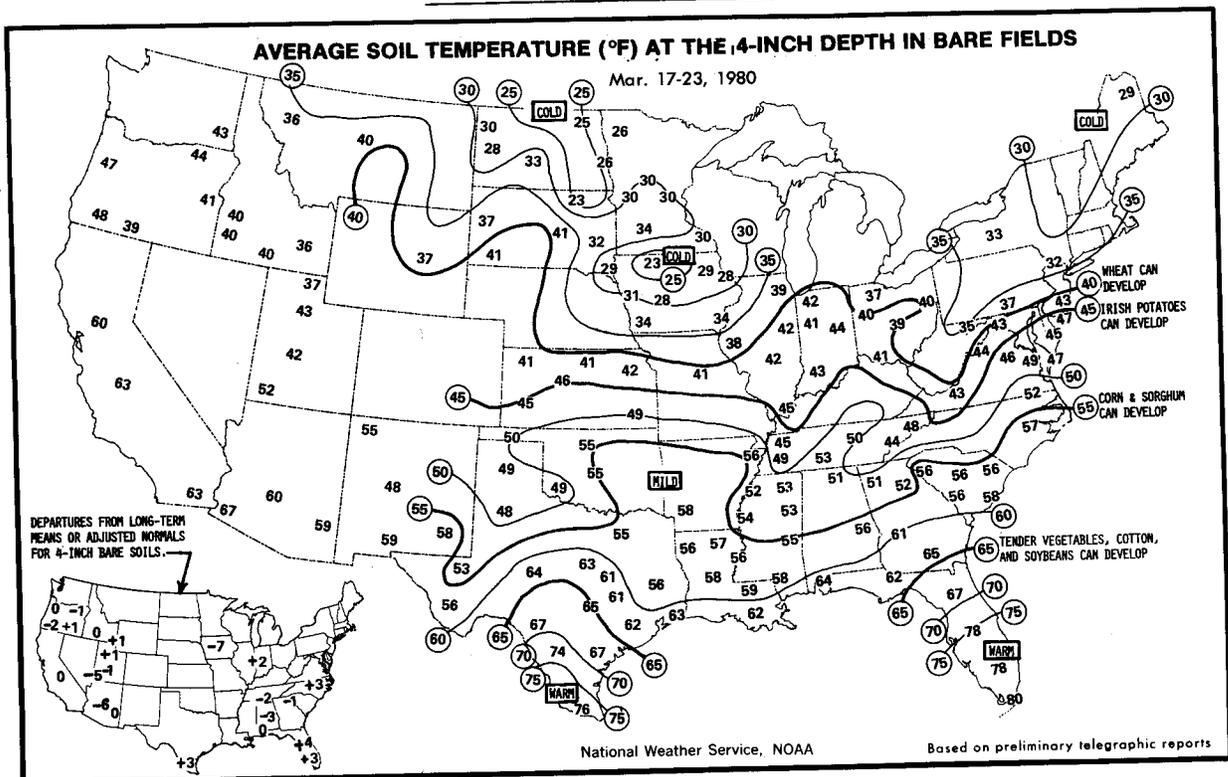
CHINA. Rainfall increased again in the Yangtze Valley, and while most areas probably did not receive so much water as to disrupt rice planting, 100 mm totals just south of the river amounted to four times the norm and surely caused some problems. Winter wheat to the north received beneficial rains as temperatures rose again, and growth resumed over the southern half of the belt. March rainfall totals have already far exceeded normal over much of the belt, and have substantially raised yield expectations in all but the most northerly wheat-growing areas.





SOUTH AMERICA. Heavy rains fell over the weekend in northern Buenos Aires Province of Argentina. Maize had already matured and was not very susceptible to damage, and even the southernmost soybean fields had probably finished flowering, so only some lodging could have occurred. Actually, moisture deficits posed a greater problem for soybeans. Although soil moisture remained quite adequate in the central portion of the belt, dry soils in the northeast and southwest probably detracted from yields as pod filling continued. In Brazil, dry weather returned to all soybean areas. This allowed harvest to resume in Parana, probably with little detrimental effect from the previous week's rains. Soil moisture in Rio Grande do Sul should remain quite adequate as soybeans enter the latter stages of pod filling.

MEXICO. Sunny, dry weather prevailed over most major agricultural areas. A few showers dotted the east coast and extreme northwest, but rainfall was too light to improve soil moisture or hamper fieldwork. Reservoir levels are averaging less than half the norm in the northeast, and are also somewhat low in the central and north central regions. Young grain sorghum progressed well around Matamoras with soil temperatures averaging 25°C. Cotton planting was in full swing in the Mexicali Valley with soil temperatures averaging 19°C. Temperatures soared to a 33°C during a few afternoons over west coast vegetable areas. Culiacan's afternoon maxima averaged 31°C with a relative humidity of 28 percent, while overnight minima averaged 15°C with a 78-percent humidity.



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