

WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration,
National Weather Service

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
National Agricultural Statistics Service and
World Agricultural Outlook Board

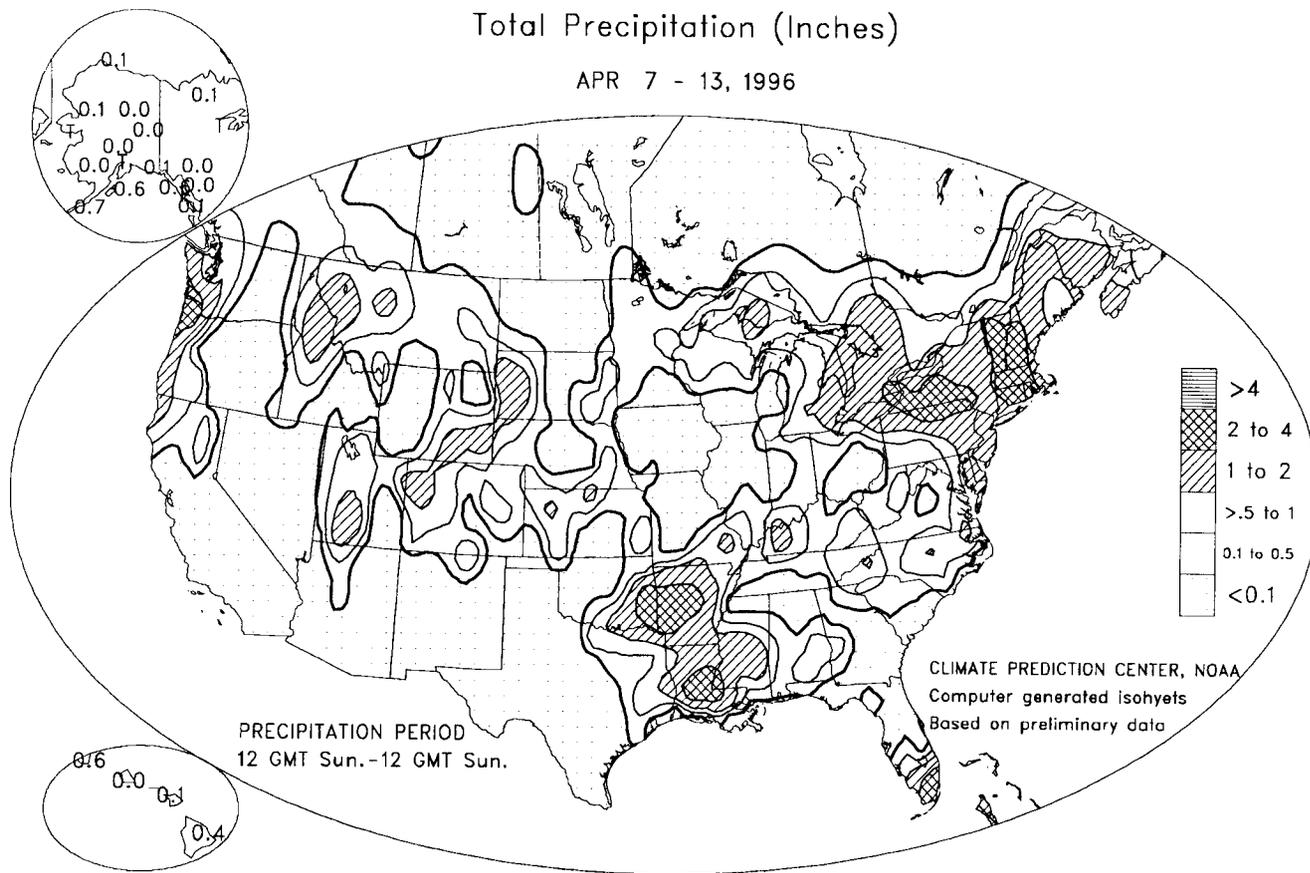
Volume 83, No. 15

Washington, D.C.

April 16, 1996

Total Precipitation (Inches)

APR 7 - 13, 1996



HIGHLIGHTS

April 7 - 13, 1996

Dryness continued through a 28th week in **Texas' northern panhandle**, aggravated by a late-week storm that produced wind gusts in excess of 50 mph. Farther north, the storm delivered the month's first significant precipitation to parts of **Kansas** and ended a midweek warm spell that elevated temperatures into the 90's as far north as **central South Dakota**. Snowmelt pushed the **Red River (North Dakota/Minnesota border)** into a spring flood, with rapid rises noted at week's end. Meanwhile, heavy precipitation and cool weather delayed fieldwork and crop development in the **Delta** and the **Northeast**. Frost and sub-freezing temperatures cloaked the **interior Southeast** on April 10-11. Farther north, heavy snow blanketed the **Northeast** on April 7-8 and 9-10, further boosting seasonal record totals.

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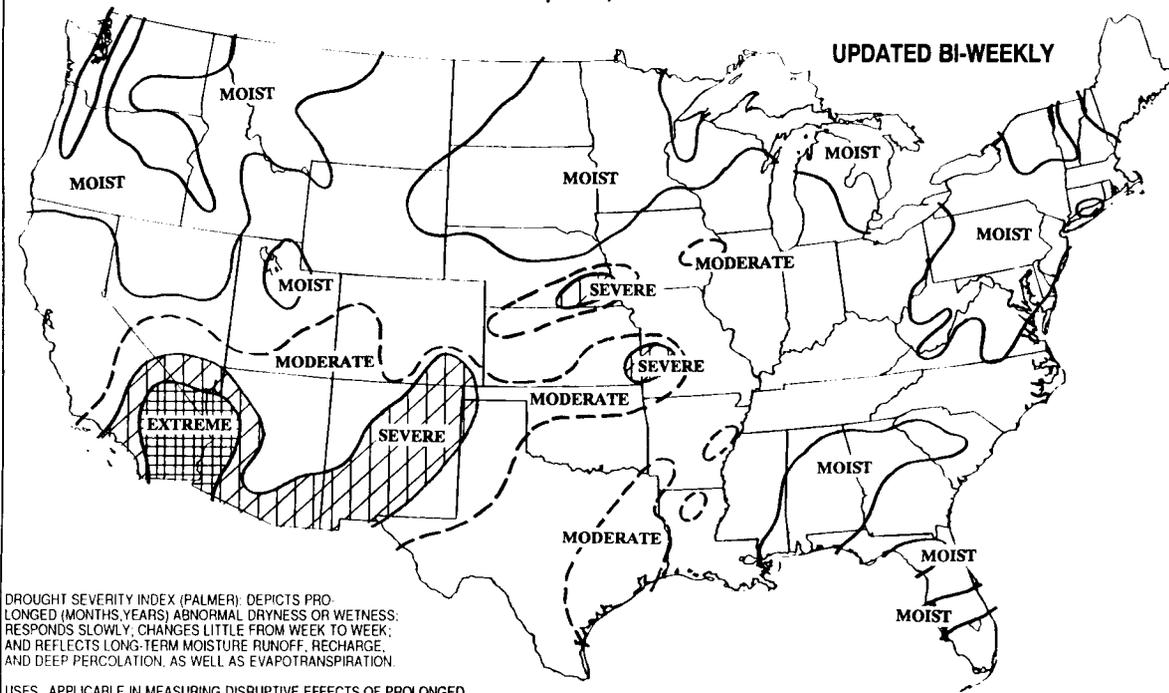
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DROUGHT SEVERITY

(LONG TERM, PALMER)

April 13, 1996

UPDATED BI-WEEKLY



DROUGHT SEVERITY INDEX (PALMER): DEPICTS PROLONGED (MONTHS, YEARS) ABNORMAL DRYNESS OR WETNESS; RESPONDS SLOWLY; CHANGES LITTLE FROM WEEK TO WEEK; AND REFLECTS LONG-TERM MOISTURE RUNOFF, RECHARGE, AND DEEP PERCOLATION, AS WELL AS EVAPOTRANSPIRATION.

USES... APPLICABLE IN MEASURING DISRUPTIVE EFFECTS OF PROLONGED DRYNESS OR WETNESS ON WATER SENSITIVE ECONOMIES, DESIGNATING DISTURBED AREAS OF DROUGHT OR WETNESS; AND REFLECTING THE GENERAL LONG-TERM STATUS OF WATER SUPPLIES IN AQUIFERS, RESERVOIRS, AND STREAMS.

LIMITATIONS... IS NOT GENERALLY INDICATIVE OF SHORT-TERM (FEW WEEKS) STATUS OF DROUGHT OR WETNESS SUCH AS FREQUENTLY AFFECTS CROPS AND FIELD OPERATIONS (THIS IS INDICATED BY THE CROP MOISTURE INDEX).

NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY Based on preliminary reports

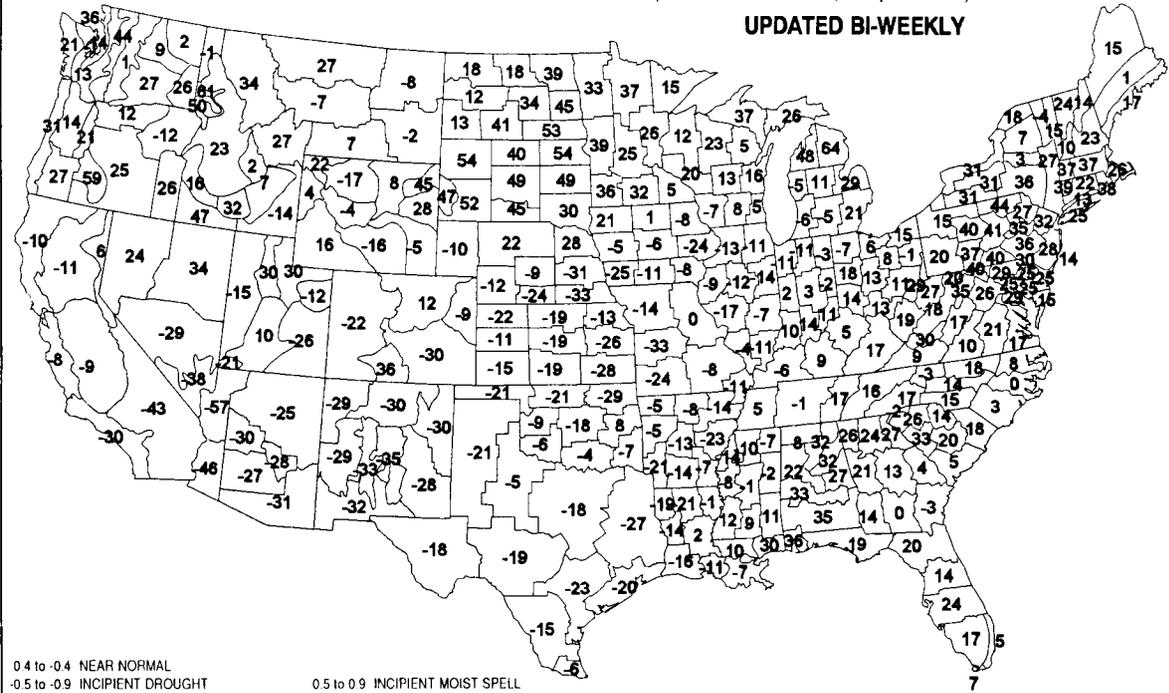
DROUGHT SEVERITY INDEX BY DIVISION

(LONG TERM, PALMER)

April 13, 1996

(Index values are in tenths; example: 37 = 3.7)

UPDATED BI-WEEKLY



0.4 to -0.4 NEAR NORMAL	0.5 to 0.9 INCIPIENT MOIST SPELL
-0.5 to -0.9 INCIPIENT DROUGHT	1.0 to 1.9 MOIST SPELL
-1.0 to -1.9 MILD DROUGHT	2.0 to 2.9 UNUSUAL MOIST SPELL
-2.0 to -2.9 MODERATE DROUGHT	3.0 to 3.9 VERY MOIST SPELL
-3.0 to -3.9 SEVERE DROUGHT	ABOVE 4.0 EXTREME MOIST SPELL
BELOW -4.0 EXTREME DROUGHT	

NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY Based on preliminary reports

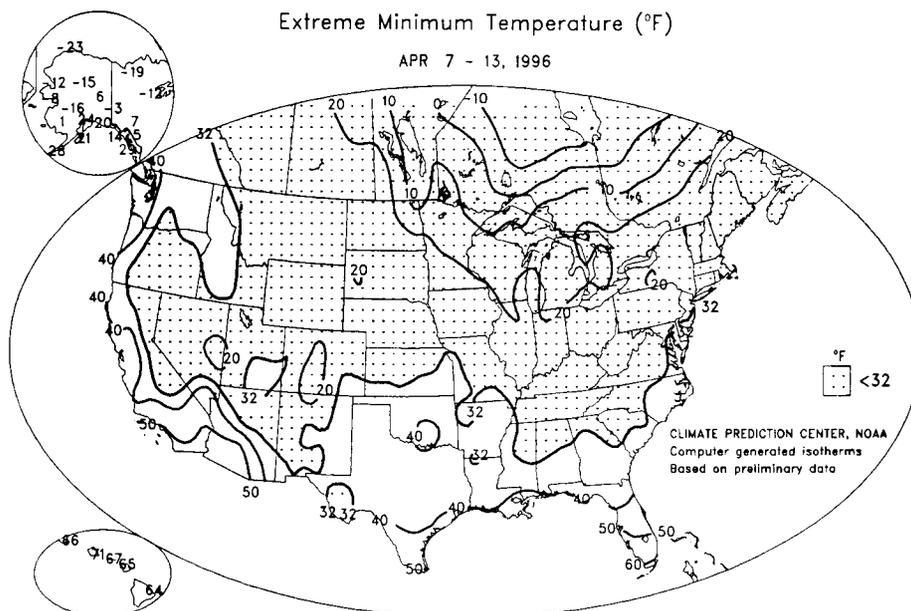
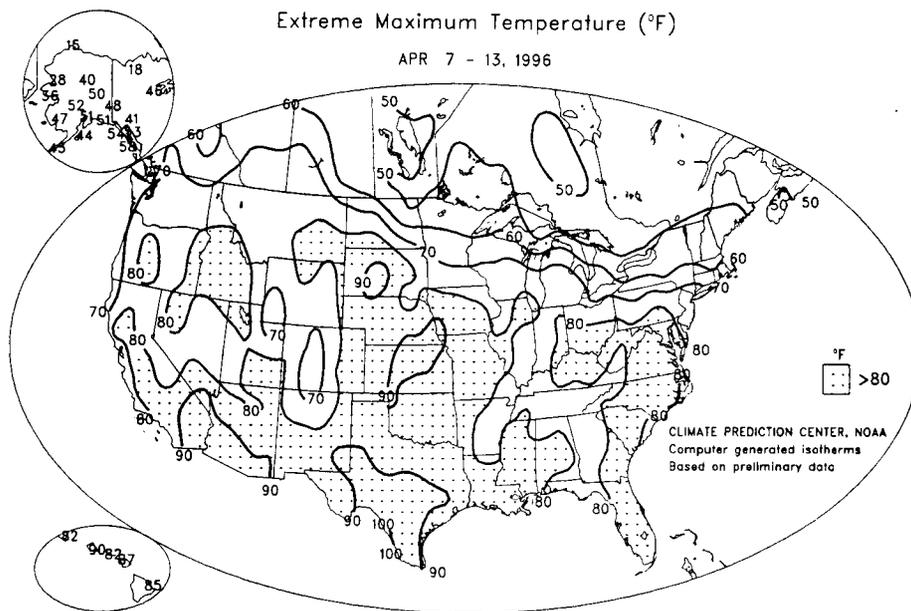
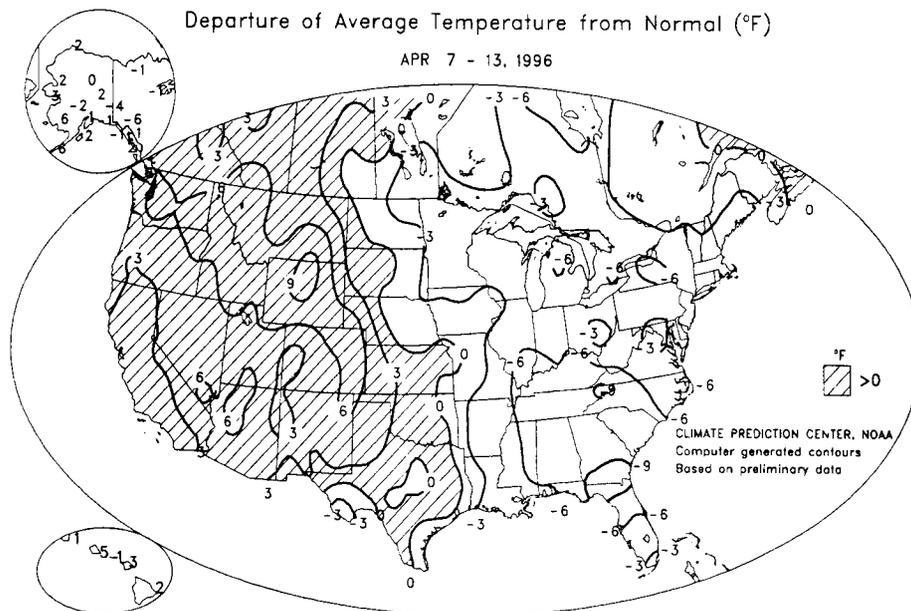
(Continued from front cover)

Early-week warmth spread eastward from the Northwest, reaching the Plains by April 10-11. More than six dozen daily-record highs were established, in contrast to about 30 record lows in the East during the same 5-day period. On Sunday, highs reached 83°F in Medford, OR and 78°F in Seattle, WA. A day later, records included 82°F in Boise, ID and 93°F in St. George, UT. In Hawaii, Honolulu notched 90°F, an April record and their fifth of six consecutive daily records. Meanwhile, snowfall on April 7-8 reached 6.1 inches in Binghamton, NY, 4.8 inches in Concord, NH, and 3.6 inches in Providence, RI.

Snow returned to the Northeast before midweek, dumping another 4 to 14 inches of snow from central Pennsylvania to Maine. April 9-10 amounts included 14.0 inches in Worcester, MA, 11.3 inches in Bridgeport, CT, and 9.5 inches in Concord, NH. Monthly snowfall reached 9.7 inches in Providence, RI and 23.6 inches at the Blue Hill Observatory (near Boston, MA), establishing April records. Seasonal snowfall records were eclipsed on April 8 in Binghamton, NY (132.0 inches), and on April 10 at Blue Hill (143.8 inches), Worcester (132.9 inches), and Bridgeport (76.8 inches). Farther west, daily-record lows on Tuesday included 22°F in Springfield, IL and 25°F in Evansville, IN. A day later, lows dipped into the 20's as far south as Florence, SC (27°F) and Augusta, GA (28°F). In Florida, Tallahassee's low of 31°F on April 11 marked their second-latest freeze on record.

On Wednesday, Pierre, SD tallied 94°F; a day later, highs in Nebraska reached 93°F at both Omaha and Lincoln. But the arrival of stormy, cool weather in Montana left 1.24 inches of precipitation and an 8-inch snow cover in Great Falls on Thursday morning. Toward week's end, snowfall became widespread north of a developing storm system over the central Plains. Another 12.4 inches blanketed Marquette, MI (seasonal total 225.7 inches), while 2.0 inches fell in Duluth, MN (all-time record seasonal total of 133.1 inches).

Rain changed to snow across the central Plains on Saturday evening, with 2.0 inches noted at North Platte, NE by midnight. By storm's end on Sunday, 1.05 inches of precipitation--including 3.6 inches of snow--dampened Goodland, KS, accounting for 63 percent of their year-to-date total. But in northern Texas, Amarillo's driest 194-day period (October 3, 1995 to April 13, 1996) on record yielded a mere 1.22 inches of precipitation, 24 percent of normal and far below the former record of 1.70 inches, set from October 1955 to April 1956. In addition, southwesterly wind gusts across the Texas plains reached 51 mph at Lubbock on Saturday. Across the southern half of Texas, highs at week's end reached 101°F in Laredo, 95°F in San Antonio, and a daily-record 92°F in Houston. Farther east, late-week rainfall topped an inch from the Ouachita highlands southeastward to the Delta, including 1.60 inches in Little Rock, AR and 2.28 inches in Baton Rouge, LA.



National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 13, 1996

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 Mar 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Mar 1	TOTAL IN. SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	TEMP. °F			
																90 AND ABOVE	82 AND BELOW	01 INCH OR MORE	05 INCH OR MORE
AL BIRMINGHAM	69	39	78	29	54	-7	0.01	-1.17	0.01	10.84	129	23.52	127	90	31	0	2	1	0
MOBILE	73	48	82	38	60	-6	0.36	-0.88	0.36	10.12	121	20.78	111	90	37	0	0	1	0
MONTGOMERY	71	41	82	36	58	-8	0.03	-1.03	0.03	10.18	123	21.40	114	83	31	0	0	1	0
AK ANCHORAGE	44	27	51	24	36	1	0.03	-0.14	0.02	0.46	48	2.97	115	79	45	0	7	2	0
BARROW	6	-13	15	-23	-3	2	0.08	0.02	0.08	0.15	63	0.26	54	83	74	0	7	1	0
FAIRBANKS	41	17	50	6	29	2	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.53	102	2.26	158	71	32	0	7	0	0
JUNEAU	48	28	63	25	38	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	88	34	0	6	-	-
KODIAK	42	35	44	21	38	2	0.58	-0.36	0.34	4.40	69	9.33	49	86	61	0	2	4	0
NOME	28	8	36	-8	18	3	0.02	-0.15	0.02	0.48	57	3.39	151	72	51	0	7	1	0
AZ PHOENIX	85	61	92	56	73	4	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.55	53	1.81	75	34	11	2	0	0	0
PRESCOTT	72	42	90	36	57	9	0.03	-0.18	0.03	0.48	21	1.63	29	54	18	1	0	1	0
TUCSON	83	52	90	47	68	3	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.32	37	1.13	47	33	8	1	0	0	0
YUMA	87	61	94	56	74	4	0.00	-0.03	0.00	0.43	139	0.61	69	48	11	2	0	0	0
AR FORT SMITH	73	46	86	30	60	-1	1.39	0.50	1.39	5.42	97	9.83	96	82	34	0	1	1	1
LITTLE ROCK	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.80	0.58	-	5.73	78	9.85	71	-	-	-	-	-	-
CA BAKERSFIELD	78	47	96	42	63	1	0.00	-0.15	0.00	0.80	45	4.15	127	78	27	2	0	0	0
EUREKA	80	47	82	40	53	3	0.72	-0.02	0.30	4.78	71	23.82	134	92	61	0	0	6	0
FRESNO	78	49	88	41	63	3	0.00	-0.26	0.00	1.73	73	6.70	108	83	16	0	0	0	0
LOS ANGELES	69	54	78	53	62	2	0.00	-0.20	0.00	2.20	93	8.31	113	87	35	0	0	0	0
REDDING	71	45	81	37	58	1	0.04	-0.50	0.04	2.40	44	21.10	131	88	36	0	0	1	0
SACRAMENTO	71	48	84	42	59	2	0.00	-0.31	0.00	3.36	106	12.76	130	96	45	0	0	0	0
SAN DIEGO	68	57	82	56	63	1	0.01	-0.20	0.01	1.14	52	3.54	63	85	48	0	0	1	0
SAN FRANCISCO	64	49	73	45	57	1	0.00	-0.38	0.00	3.66	96	16.80	145	91	47	0	0	0	0
CO DENVER	66	39	80	23	52	6	0.08	-0.28	0.08	0.98	50	1.28	42	75	27	0	2	1	0
GRAND JUNCTION	66	41	81	34	54	1	0.73	0.51	0.44	1.28	86	3.01	116	71	31	0	0	2	0
PUEBLO	74	37	83	31	56	5	0.17	-0.02	0.09	1.44	126	1.77	96	82	17	0	1	2	0
CT BRIDGEPORT	50	36	75	30	43	-3	1.75	0.87	0.48	5.72	108	14.15	120	88	49	0	1	6	0
HARTFORD	51	36	84	28	43	-4	0.68	-0.20	0.26	3.98	75	13.87	116	84	45	0	2	4	0
DC WASHINGTON	61	41	84	35	51	-4	0.39	-0.22	0.37	4.96	118	11.97	122	77	43	0	0	2	0
FL PANAMA CITY	86	50	73	44	59	-6	0.00	-0.93	0.00	7.19	99	13.39	75	91	39	0	0	0	0
DAYTONA BEACH	72	49	82	40	61	-9	0.03	-0.47	0.03	12.20	319	19.09	196	96	44	0	0	1	0
JACKSONVILLE	74	43	83	37	58	-9	0.00	-0.58	0.00	6.89	147	9.10	77	93	36	0	0	0	0
KEY WEST	79	69	85	65	74	-3	1.11	0.74	0.85	3.58	151	4.67	76	84	64	0	0	2	1
MIAMI	79	66	86	60	72	-2	2.79	2.22	2.00	4.29	125	7.41	98	83	54	0	0	3	2
ORLANDO	77	55	86	48	66	-4	0.00	-0.40	0.00	9.69	244	16.80	177	93	45	0	0	0	0
TALLAHASSEE	72	38	76	31	55	-10	0.00	-0.89	0.00	8.80	111	15.29	83	94	32	0	2	0	0
TAMPA	74	55	80	47	64	-6	0.10	-0.14	0.10	4.74	137	10.98	127	87	47	0	0	1	0
WEST PALM BEACH	78	61	82	51	69	-5	0.67	0.09	0.82	5.91	149	7.93	84	91	59	0	0	3	1
GA ATLANTA	68	43	77	34	56	-5	0.14	-0.87	0.14	6.94	90	18.98	108	66	26	0	0	1	0
AUGUSTA	70	37	81	28	54	-8	0.00	-0.78	0.00	5.24	86	10.48	72	89	33	0	2	0	0
MACON	70	39	78	33	55	-9	0.11	-0.71	0.11	6.65	105	12.41	79	90	41	0	0	1	0
SAVANNAH	71	42	81	34	56	-9	0.00	-0.69	0.00	4.69	92	8.06	67	92	35	0	0	0	0
HI HILO	83	66	86	64	75	2	0.36	-3.34	0.16	18.45	88	44.56	107	87	58	0	0	3	0
HONOLULU	88	73	90	71	80	5	0.00	-0.37	0.00	3.02	103	7.51	86	77	49	1	0	0	0
KAHULUI	85	68	87	65	77	3	0.09	-0.36	0.09	6.98	190	12.37	115	82	57	0	0	1	0
LIHUE	80	70	82	66	75	1	0.58	-0.25	0.53	4.35	76	13.68	91	84	66	0	0	2	1
ID BOISE	66	42	82	34	54	6	0.17	-0.13	0.12	2.27	121	4.20	95	73	32	0	0	2	0
LEWISTON	65	46	78	39	56	6	0.82	0.57	0.58	2.19	142	5.47	145	85	44	0	0	3	1
POCATELLO	64	36	82	27	50	6	0.00	-0.28	0.00	1.78	98	3.58	95	78	29	0	1	0	0
IL CHICAGO	55	31	82	21	43	-4	0.00	-0.85	0.00	0.98	23	3.18	44	80	48	0	4	0	0
MOLINE	60	32	79	21	46	-3	0.00	-0.89	0.00	1.46	31	4.87	65	76	31	0	4	0	0
PEORIA	60	32	80	23	46	-4	0.00	-0.88	0.00	2.05	45	4.30	57	76	34	0	4	0	0
QUINCY	59	36	79	26	48	-4	0.00	-0.84	0.00	1.91	40	4.67	61	68	36	0	3	0	0
ROCKFORD	57	29	80	19	43	-3	0.00	-0.84	0.00	0.51	13	2.42	37	84	35	0	4	0	0
SPRINGFIELD	61	33	81	22	47	-5	0.03	-0.82	0.03	1.98	41	4.50	55	77	33	0	4	1	0
IN EVANSVILLE	61	35	78	25	48	-9	0.68	-0.30	0.68	6.08	89	11.04	83	84	36	0	4	1	1
FORT WAYNE	58	30	81	19	44	-4	0.21	-0.57	0.21	2.41	55	6.18	75	85	39	0	5	1	0
INDIANAPOLIS	59	33	79	24	46	-4	0.16	-0.89	0.16	3.78	70	8.81	86	76	37	0	4	1	0
SOUTH BEND	56	30	79	16	43	-4	0.29	-0.82	0.29	1.55	32	5.29	59	83	41	0	5	1	0
IA DES MOINES	62	34	84	26	48	-1	0.00	-0.81	0.00	1.28	35	2.69	47	67	30	0	5	0	0
SIoux CITY	60	31	85	19	45	-3	0.03	-0.48	0.03	1.13	39	2.19	52	79	37	0	5	1	0
WATERLOO	59	29	80	21	44	-2	0.00	-0.74	0.00	0.99	27	3.20	57	89	39	0	5	0	0
KS CONCORDIA	67	36	91	28	52	1	0.03	-0.45	0.03	0.98	32	1.53	34	74	27	1	1	1	0
DODGE CITY	74	38	90	34	58	3	0.47	0.02	0.47	1.94	82	2.41	68	65	20	1	0	1	0
GOODLAND	72	34	86	27	53	5	0.08	-0.16	0.08	0.31	20	0.57	24	72	23	0	3	1	0
TOPEKA	68	39	90	30	54	0	0.00	-0.68	0.00	1.50	40	2.43	42	71	24	1	1	0	0
WICHITA	72	41	87	34	58	0	0.04	-0.59	0.04	1.86	49	2.02	35	70	28	0	0	1	0
KY BOWLING GREEN	60	36	80	26	48	-8	0.60	-0.40	0.42	8.53	122	17.49	116	89	39	0	4	2	0
LEXINGTON	57	35	79	23	46	-7	0.13	-0.78	0.13	5.50	90	11.89	97	79	37	0	3	1	0
LOUISVILLE	62	39	83	28	50	-5	0.18	-0.82	0.18	5.74	88	11.89	93	70	31	0	3	1	0
LA BATON ROUGE	75	49	80	36	62	-6	2.28	1.02	1.89	10.52	147	19.22	108	95	42	0	0	2	1
LAKE CHARLES	76	54	83	37	65	-2	0.03	-0.67	0.03	1.67	37	5.78	45	99	52	0	0	1	0
NEW ORLEANS	74	54	84	47	64	-4	0.03	-1.02	0.03	3.41	50	9.69	54	88	41	0	0	1	0
SHREVEPORT	76	49	81	34	63	-2	0.52	-0.35	0.52	3.77	67	6.52	46	84	38	0	0	1	1

Based on 1961-90 normals

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 13, 1996

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 Mar 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Mar 1	TOTAL IN, SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	TEMP, °F		PRECIP.	
																90 AND ABOVE	82 AND BELOW	0.1 INCH OR MORE	0.5 INCH OR MORE
ME CARIBOU	39	27	46	25	33	-2	1.07	0.52	0.59	3.05	88	9.77	124	82	57	0	7	4	1
ME PORTLAND	45	31	58	28	38	-4	1.04	0.08	0.58	4.07	74	12.02	97	89	56	0	5	4	1
MD BALTIMORE	60	39	85	29	49	-3	0.58	-0.14	0.46	4.83	102	14.00	127	89	46	0	1	2	0
MD SALISBURY	57	39	80	33	48	-4	1.18	0.43	0.79	6.24	112	14.46	113	87	46	0	0	3	1
MA BOSTON	46	36	80	33	41	-6	1.10	0.25	0.34	3.97	76	14.59	116	87	59	0	0	5	0
MA CHATHAM	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MI ALPENA	44	27	66	16	35	-4	0.66	0.14	0.29	1.46	48	4.39	72	89	49	0	6	5	0
MI DETROIT	54	30	76	21	42	-4	0.66	-0.01	0.36	2.36	61	5.98	81	80	36	0	4	2	0
MI FLINT	51	27	75	19	39	-5	1.17	0.48	1.12	3.02	87	6.32	102	85	44	0	5	2	1
MI GRAND RAPIDS	51	28	77	20	40	-5	0.38	-0.41	0.38	1.48	36	3.46	47	84	46	0	5	1	0
MI HOUGHTON LAKE	43	23	70	9	33	-7	0.65	0.14	0.36	2.30	78	5.53	97	90	53	0	6	3	0
MI LANSING	51	26	77	18	39	-4	1.04	0.36	0.90	2.28	66	3.86	62	90	44	0	5	2	1
MI MARQUETTE	39	19	56	4	29	-6	2.04	1.43	0.77	4.70	120	12.86	162	88	60	0	7	4	3
MI MUSKEGON	49	30	73	19	40	-4	0.08	-0.61	0.08	1.59	42	4.63	60	85	47	0	4	1	0
MI SAULT ST. MARIE	38	25	46	17	31	-5	0.84	0.29	0.41	2.41	72	8.68	115	91	52	0	6	3	0
MN ALEXANDRIA	46	26	66	20	36	-5	0.06	-0.44	0.05	0.27	12	2.60	66	87	53	0	5	1	0
MN DULUTH	41	23	55	15	32	-5	0.41	-0.09	0.41	1.03	36	3.49	71	83	50	0	6	1	0
MN INT'L FALLS	46	20	56	9	33	-4	0.00	-0.34	0.00	0.56	33	3.80	118	80	37	0	7	0	0
MN MINNEAPOLIS	62	27	71	21	40	-5	0.02	-0.52	0.02	1.41	49	3.52	73	82	39	0	6	1	0
MN ROCHESTER	51	29	71	22	40	-3	0.07	-0.54	0.07	2.71	93	4.92	110	86	43	0	6	1	0
MS GREENWOOD	73	44	82	32	59	-4	0.80	-0.39	0.80	4.19	52	10.48	80	87	35	0	1	1	1
MS JACKSON	73	43	80	33	58	-5	0.89	-0.30	0.79	9.88	118	20.74	110	88	34	0	0	2	1
MS MERIDIAN	72	40	82	32	56	-7	1.03	-0.29	1.03	9.41	102	18.70	93	97	35	0	2	1	1
MO CAPE GIRARDEAU	61	39	77	31	50	-6	0.48	-0.54	0.30	4.72	68	9.25	89	85	41	0	3	4	0
MO COLUMBIA	63	36	86	27	50	-3	0.25	-0.56	0.17	2.61	57	5.43	68	78	39	0	2	3	0
MO KANSAS CITY	65	39	87	31	52	-1	0.00	-0.67	0.00	1.27	34	2.61	43	67	32	0	1	0	0
MO SAINT LOUIS	63	43	83	32	53	-3	0.02	-0.78	0.01	3.08	61	6.87	75	68	30	0	1	2	0
MO SPRINGFIELD	66	41	84	34	53	-1	0.00	-0.91	0.00	1.98	36	5.11	56	72	33	0	0	0	0
MT BILLINGS	63	40	82	31	51	7	0.25	-0.12	0.25	1.51	82	2.92	86	76	41	0	2	1	0
MT GLASGOW	59	34	79	31	46	4	0.30	0.17	-	0.66	102	1.27	99	91	50	0	3	-	-
MT GREAT FALLS	59	36	79	29	47	5	1.13	0.84	0.86	1.96	121	2.57	82	91	41	0	4	3	1
MT HAVRE	60	34	79	31	47	5	0.28	0.08	0.17	1.21	120	2.15	112	86	42	0	3	2	0
MT HELENA	59	34	79	31	47	5	0.24	0.04	0.17	1.31	120	1.87	97	80	40	0	3	2	0
MT KALISPELL	58	36	73	31	47	6	1.06	0.82	0.62	3.40	243	7.93	196	93	54	0	1	4	1
MT MILES CITY	64	39	84	32	51	7	0.89	0.40	0.64	1.82	161	3.32	155	89	41	0	2	2	1
MT MISSOULA	62	39	80	33	50	7	1.47	1.27	0.98	2.41	181	5.30	155	91	39	0	0	4	1
NE GRAND ISLAND	65	32	90	22	48	-1	0.00	-0.54	0.00	0.51	18	1.59	36	77	32	1	3	0	0
NE LINCOLN	66	35	93	28	50	0	0.00	-0.61	0.00	1.46	46	2.54	56	83	33	1	2	0	0
NE NORFOLK	59	32	80	25	46	-2	0.00	-0.50	0.00	0.80	22	1.56	38	79	39	0	4	0	0
NE NORTH PLATTE	64	31	86	25	48	1	0.15	-0.26	0.15	0.46	24	0.96	35	82	32	0	3	1	0
NE OMAHA	62	36	93	26	49	-2	0.00	-0.56	0.00	1.17	39	2.88	58	72	34	1	3	0	0
NE SCOTTSBLUFF	68	35	87	27	51	7	0.36	0.03	0.20	1.36	83	2.22	83	78	28	0	3	2	0
NE VALENTINE	60	30	86	26	45	-2	0.27	-0.17	0.19	0.71	33	1.39	43	93	46	0	5	3	0
NV ELY	63	27	75	13	45	5	0.00	-0.22	0.00	0.98	72	2.43	87	66	17	0	6	0	0
NV LAS VEGAS	83	57	92	52	70	7	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.12	23	0.39	27	25	8	1	0	0	0
NV RENO	66	33	78	26	50	2	0.00	-0.08	0.00	1.67	196	4.77	161	71	20	0	4	0	0
NV WINNEMUCCA	66	33	81	23	49	4	0.00	-0.19	0.00	1.20	104	3.95	156	73	23	0	3	0	0
NH CONCORD	45	31	57	27	38	-4	1.16	0.49	0.32	3.24	82	10.68	117	91	48	0	4	5	0
NJ ATLANTIC CITY	54	38	79	31	46	-2	0.95	0.12	0.69	7.07	136	12.48	105	86	47	0	2	2	1
NM ALBUQUERQUE	72	44	80	37	58	4	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.04	5	0.39	23	34	9	0	0	0	0
NM CLOVIS	79	43	87	35	61	6	0.00	-0.16	0.00	0.05	6	0.41	23	58	11	0	0	0	0
NM ROSWELL	82	46	90	32	64	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	52	15	1	1	-	-
NY ALBANY	48	35	59	24	41	-3	1.07	0.38	0.72	3.50	83	7.46	83	83	47	0	2	4	1
NY BINGHAMTON	41	29	56	21	35	-8	2.53	1.81	1.26	4.91	118	9.00	100	90	63	0	5	4	2
NY BUFFALO	47	30	60	26	39	-5	2.04	1.38	1.13	4.73	120	9.40	104	93	58	0	5	3	2
NY NEW YORK	53	40	76	34	46	-4	1.31	0.43	0.49	6.44	122	12.67	113	81	43	0	0	5	0
NY ROCHESTER	46	30	56	22	38	-6	1.37	0.76	0.91	3.85	113	8.66	113	91	56	0	5	3	1
NY SYRACUSE	45	31	58	23	38	-6	1.36	0.59	0.72	3.25	77	7.64	87	90	53	0	4	4	1
NC ASHEVILLE	59	33	82	27	48	-8	0.07	-0.83	0.07	3.43	47	13.35	84	82	31	0	4	1	0
NC CHARLOTTE	63	41	81	32	52	-6	0.45	-0.18	0.26	5.47	98	12.08	91	73	27	0	1	3	0
NC GREENSBORO	62	36	80	27	49	-7	0.85	0.22	0.53	6.04	124	12.27	107	78	29	0	3	3	1
NC HATTERAS	58	45	66	37	51	-6	0.00	-0.62	0.00	6.72	115	-	-	87	54	0	0	0	0
NC NEW BERN	67	44	84	35	56	-5	0.11	-0.61	0.11	6.60	126	12.58	91	73	28	0	0	1	0
NC RALEIGH	64	38	83	31	51	-7	1.07	0.49	0.49	4.98	102	11.77	97	84	32	0	4	3	0
NC WILMINGTON	66	43	81	38	55	-5	0.00	-0.70	0.00	5.54	96	9.69	65	86	31	0	0	0	0
ND BISMARCK	53	30	79	24	41	0	0.08	-0.29	0.05	1.36	94	2.98	126	86	45	0	6	2	0
ND FARGO	46	31	84	25	39	-2	0.02	-0.38	0.02	0.45	25	3.21	108	83	53	0	4	1	0
ND GRAND FORKS	45	28	58	12	36	-3	0.00	-0.30	0.00	1.11	75	2.70	1						

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 13, 1996

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 Mar 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Mar 1	TOTAL IN, SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	TEMP. °F		PRECIP.	
																		01 INCH OR MORE	05 INCH OR MORE	01 INCH OR MORE	05 INCH OR MORE
OK TOLEDO	54	31	77	24	43	-3	0.37	-0.32	0.36	3.15	79	5.98	80	81	38	0	4	2	0		
OK YOUNGSTOWN	53	29	78	18	41	-5	0.37	-0.35	0.20	3.94	88	8.85	99	89	41	0	5	5	0		
OK OKLAHOMA CITY	75	46	86	42	60	1	0.00	-0.57	0.00	2.31	82	2.37	38	69	30	0	0	0	0		
OK TULSA	73	48	87	37	59	-1	0.00	-0.81	0.00	2.09	42	2.72	32	67	32	0	0	0	0		
OR ASTORIA	58	47	87	44	52	5	2.36	1.21	0.96	7.48	81	31.08	115	97	75	0	0	5	2		
OR BURNS	61	31	78	24	48	4	0.30	0.16	-	1.92	148	4.69	152	90	28	0	4	-	-		
OR MEDFORD	66	41	83	33	54	3	0.33	0.05	0.28	2.11	89	10.50	149	89	41	0	0	3	0		
OR PENDLETON	66	48	77	39	58	6	0.13	-0.12	0.13	1.77	108	5.24	121	79	39	0	0	1	0		
OR PORTLAND	63	48	79	44	56	5	1.17	0.59	0.50	4.96	107	21.42	153	91	50	0	0	4	1		
OR SALEM	61	46	78	41	53	5	1.22	0.62	0.71	4.54	85	25.80	162	94	60	0	0	3	1		
PA ALLENTOWN	53	36	79	29	44	-4	0.54	-0.26	0.48	6.08	128	14.40	131	81	47	0	2	2	0		
PA ERIE	49	30	68	23	40	-5	1.10	0.36	0.80	3.35	76	8.87	97	89	50	0	5	2	2		
PA HARRISBURG	56	38	87	26	47	-3	0.87	0.15	0.59	5.09	111	12.54	121	83	47	0	3	3	1		
PA PHILADELPHIA	54	39	78	33	47	-3	0.89	0.02	0.53	6.31	123	11.33	96	85	49	0	0	2	1		
PA PITTSBURGH	57	34	82	20	45	-3	0.10	-0.62	0.05	5.58	116	11.83	121	76	35	0	4	4	0		
PA SCRANTON	50	34	72	27	42	-4	1.17	0.50	0.43	4.24	112	12.02	148	88	52	0	4	3	0		
RI PROVIDENCE	48	35	63	29	42	-4	0.97	0.01	0.44	5.13	88	12.27	91	89	54	0	1	6	0		
SC CHARLESTON	69	43	80	36	56	-8	0.00	-0.62	0.00	4.28	78	6.69	54	86	31	0	0	0	0		
SC COLUMBIA	69	41	82	30	55	-7	0.13	-0.65	0.13	7.31	116	11.41	78	81	30	0	2	1	0		
SC FLORENCE	68	40	82	28	54	-8	0.00	-0.65	0.00	3.86	72	8.15	67	83	26	0	2	0	0		
SC GREENVILLE	64	40	80	31	52	-7	0.28	-0.63	0.24	7.98	112	17.28	109	74	33	0	1	2	0		
SD ABERDEEN	53	30	78	23	41	-1	0.11	-0.29	0.11	0.98	54	3.08	100	89	47	0	5	1	0		
SD HURON	57	31	84	25	44	-1	0.19	-0.27	0.14	0.81	32	2.16	69	88	44	0	5	3	0		
SD RAPID CITY	59	31	87	20	45	2	1.22	0.81	0.95	2.28	128	3.18	117	85	63	0	4	2	1		
SD SIOUX FALLS	53	30	79	20	42	-3	0.31	-0.26	0.31	1.13	42	2.30	59	84	51	0	5	1	0		
TN CHATTANOOGA	66	37	80	30	52	-6	0.05	-0.97	0.05	8.97	112	18.59	104	86	29	0	3	1	0		
TN KNOXVILLE	60	38	77	28	49	-7	0.53	-0.34	0.45	5.40	80	15.69	103	83	36	0	2	2	0		
TN MEMPHIS	67	47	79	35	57	-5	0.49	-0.80	0.28	5.91	75	14.13	88	72	34	0	0	2	0		
TN NASHVILLE	62	37	79	29	50	-8	0.13	-0.88	0.08	5.56	82	11.96	84	79	33	0	4	2	0		
TX ABILENE	81	48	89	35	65	1	0.00	-0.40	0.00	3.30	159	4.05	94	78	26	0	0	0	0		
TX AMARILLO	79	44	84	37	62	6	0.00	-0.19	0.00	0.24	18	0.55	23	58	14	0	0	0	0		
TX AUSTIN	84	53	91	41	69	0	0.00	-0.52	0.00	1.32	47	1.98	30	88	33	2	0	0	0		
TX BEAUMONT	77	55	86	38	66	-2	0.13	-0.62	0.13	1.00	22	4.87	36	99	52	0	0	1	0		
TX BROWNSVILLE	84	59	89	50	72	-3	0.00	-0.31	0.00	0.12	11	0.33	9	92	41	0	0	0	0		
TX CORPUS CHRISTI	81	57	89	42	69	-2	0.01	-0.33	0.01	1.35	89	1.44	28	96	41	0	0	1	0		
TX DEL RIO	87	63	98	38	70	0	0.00	-0.50	0.00	0.63	32	1.03	23	67	19	4	0	0	0		
TX EL PASO	80	51	89	35	66	3	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.80	205	1.11	91	41	10	0	0	0	0		
TX FORT WORTH	78	50	84	37	64	1	0.26	-0.54	0.28	4.01	90	5.29	60	79	37	0	0	1	0		
TX GALVESTON	73	62	79	52	67	-1	0.05	-0.48	0.05	0.99	31	1.76	20	88	60	0	0	1	0		
TX HOUSTON	83	57	92	37	70	3	0.14	-0.61	0.14	0.33	7	2.50	21	89	33	1	0	1	0		
TX LUBBOCK	81	47	89	34	64	4	0.00	-0.19	0.00	0.18	15	0.48	20	82	11	0	0	0	0		
TX MIDLAND	82	50	91	35	66	2	0.00	-0.12	0.00	1.33	198	1.41	81	66	13	1	0	0	0		
TX SAN ANGELO	84	49	90	33	68	0	0.00	-0.34	0.00	2.32	155	2.82	77	79	21	3	0	0	0		
TX SAN ANTONIO	86	51	95	35	69	0	0.00	-0.52	0.00	0.74	30	1.43	24	81	23	4	0	0	0		
TX VICTORIA	82	56	92	37	69	1	0.00	-0.57	0.00	0.63	19	0.95	10	92	34	2	0	0	0		
TX WACO	83	48	91	35	65	-1	0.01	-0.68	0.01	2.56	72	3.56	48	91	30	1	0	1	0		
TX WICHITA FALLS	79	46	87	39	62	1	0.02	-0.63	0.02	1.98	55	2.08	30	76	29	0	0	1	0		
UT CEDAR CITY	66	36	79	23	51	5	0.45	0.18	0.45	1.86	101	3.48	100	72	23	0	1	1	0		
UT SALT LAKE CITY	67	43	83	34	55	7	0.38	-0.12	0.27	3.17	111	7.81	148	71	28	0	0	3	0		
VT BURLINGTON	44	32	54	30	38	-4	1.26	0.63	0.53	2.17	64	6.70	97	96	54	0	5	6	1		
VA NORFOLK	61	43	85	36	52	-3	0.76	0.06	0.83	5.86	113	14.17	115	83	47	0	0	2	1		
VA RICHMOND	63	40	85	29	52	-4	0.64	-0.03	0.40	4.46	92	9.86	87	75	33	0	1	2	0		
VA ROANOKE	61	40	83	30	50	-4	0.12	-0.62	0.08	4.18	85	13.17	124	67	26	0	3	2	0		
WA QUILLAYUTE	58	47	88	42	52	6	1.84	-0.01	0.89	10.25	68	36.06	85	97	64	0	0	5	1		
WA SEATTLE-TACOMA	61	48	78	43	54	6	0.29	-0.29	0.13	2.89	65	18.67	132	91	55	0	0	4	0		
WA SPOKANE	62	43	75	35	52	8	0.06	-0.22	0.05	1.82	91	6.82	124	88	46	0	0	2	0		
WA YAKIMA	68	40	79	27	54	5	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.85	71	3.78	131	80	42	0	1	0	0		
WV BECKLEY	54	35	77	24	44	-6	0.40	-0.38	0.18	5.08	106	13.45	125	78	43	0	4	3	0		
WV CHARLESTON	60	39	83	28	49	-4	0.24	-0.51	0.19	5.62	112	13.49	122	84	35	0	3	3	0		
WV HUNTINGTON	60	39	84	28	50	-2	0.36	-0.47	0.32	6.20	123	13.96	124	83	34	0	4	3	0		
WV PARKERSBURG	59	38	82	24	49	-4	0.03	-0.80	0.03	4.57	85	12.78	111	79	33	0	4	1	0		
WI GREEN BAY	48	28	75	19	38	-4	0.73	0.18	0.83	2.27	74	4.81	91	80	49	0	6	3	1		
WI LACROSSE	55	31	76	22	43	-2	0.06	-0.59	-	2.15	68	5.59	112	86	35	0	5	-	-		
WI MADISON	52	29	76	19	41	-4	0.00	-0.73	0.00	0.95	27	4.00	69	83	45	0	5	0	0		
WI MILWAUKEE	50	31	80	23	40	-2	0.00	-0.83	0.00	1.06	25	3.05	41	83	45	0	4	0	0		
WI WAUSAU	48	27	72	17	37	-4	0.21	-0.40	0.18	1.61	52	4.24	86	81	43	0	6	2	0		
WY CASPER	61	36	76	30	49	7	0.42	0.08	0.34	1.09	70	2.28	84	80	37	0	2	4	0		
WY CHEYENNE	60	35	75	28	47	6	0.89	0.60	0.60	2.42	156	3.01	128	79	34	0	3	4	1		
WY LANDER	63	39	76	30	51	9	0.07	-0.39	0.07	1.74	87	2.96	96	68	26	0	2	1	0		
WY SHERIDAN	64	39	82	29	51	9	0.18	-0.19	0.10	2.13	129	2.96	97	76	39	0	2	2	0		
PR SAN JUAN	86	73	90	70	80	0	0.34	-0.45	0.28	5.37	143	13.57	155	84	54	1	0	2	0		

Based on 1961-90 normals

National Agricultural Summary

HIGHLIGHTS for April 8 - 14, 1996

Small grains continued to endure drought conditions in the Texas High Plains. Warm, windy weather in the Southwest and central Great Plains depleted soil moisture supplies. Beneficial rains fell over parts of Kansas, but more rain was needed. Heavy rains and thunderstorms over the Delta States slowed fieldwork. Snowmelt caused flooding, while wet or frozen soils

pushed fieldwork behind schedule in the Red River Valley. Sugarcane producers in Louisiana reported losses from last month's freeze to second growth stubble. The recent cold snaps across the Southeast damaged the peach crop. Producers were uncertain about the extent of peach crop losses.

The Nation's winter wheat crop was in mostly fair to poor condition, with 3 percent (%) of the acreage heading. In Kansas, wheat condition was mostly poor to fair. Winter wheat condition in Texas and Illinois was mostly poor to very poor. Winterkill and heaving in the middle Mississippi and Ohio Valleys adversely affected winter wheat. Scattered rain in Kansas did little to revive the wheat crop that was hurt by wind and low temperatures. Wheat progress in Kansas was behind normal due to cold weather and the continued lack of soil moisture. Insect activity remained active in southern Kansas. Wheat producers in the central Great Plains reported that wheat was beginning to grow, but wheat stands were thin. Wheat in the Ohio Valley was beginning to joint.

beginning to emerge. New Mexico cotton planting was 5% complete, 11 points behind the average. Texas cotton planting progressed to 12% complete, up 2 points from last week. Field preparations continued in the Texas Plains, but cotton growth was slowed on early-planted fields. Cotton planting was slowed in the Southeastern States by wet fields and below-normal temperatures.

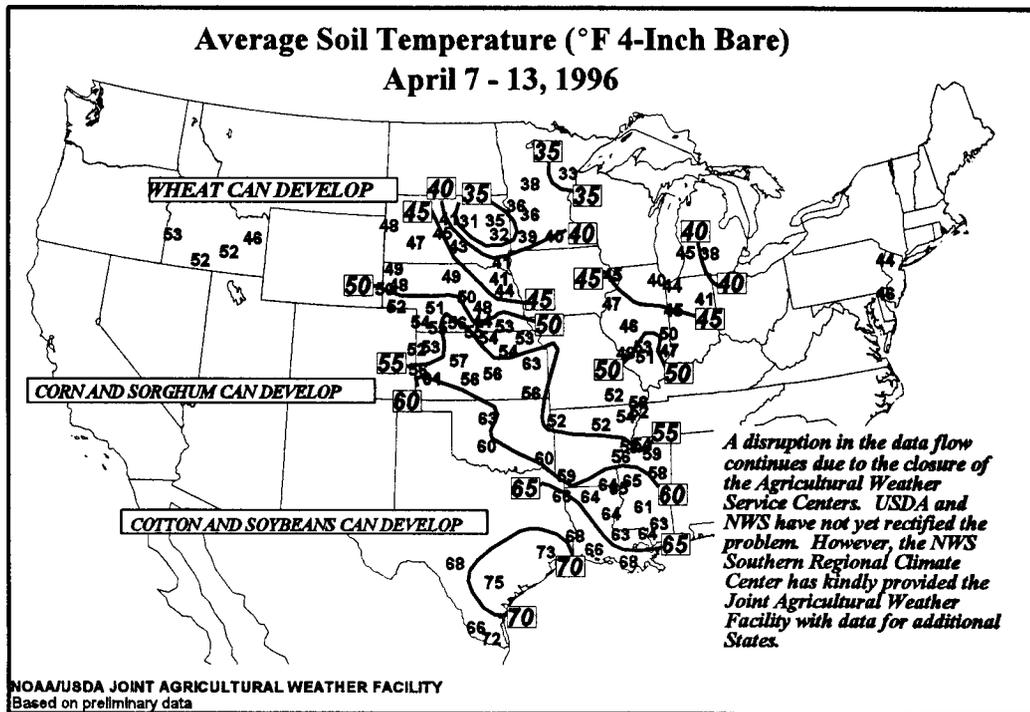
Spring wheat seeding was 2% complete, up 1 percentage point from last week but 9 points below the 5-year average. Small grain planting in the Dakota's was 1 week behind normal due to saturated fields that limited fieldwork. Rain, snow, and cool soil temperatures prevented farmers from planting. Spring wheat planted in South Dakota was 2% complete, 24 points behind the average, while in Montana less than 1% of the acreage was seeded, 17 points behind the average.

Sorghum planting was 14% complete for the 12 major producing States, up 2 points from last week but 1 point below the average. Planting resumed in Texas, with some reports that producers were planting sorghum instead of corn due to the continued dry conditions.

Corn planted was 4% complete for the 17 major producing States, identical to last year on this date and the average. Low soil temperatures in the Midwest limited corn planting, with the majority of producers waiting for warmer weather before seeding. Cool, wet soils in the Ohio Valley slowed field preparation and delayed planting. Unseasonably cold weather in the Great Lakes Region restricted pre-planting activities. Favorable weather in Missouri allowed farmers to plant 18% of the corn crop, 5 points ahead of the average.

Rice seeding was 25% complete, 4 points ahead of the average for the 5 major producing States. Louisiana rice planting was 54% complete, up 23 points from last week and 10 points ahead of the average. Louisiana producers reported that rice was slow to emerge due to low temperatures. Texas rice planting was 61% complete, 19 points ahead of the average. Producers continued flushing emerged rice fields.

Cotton planting was 8% complete, up 3 points from last week but 1 point behind the average for the Nation. Cotton planting in California was 20% complete, up 10 points from last week but 6 points behind the average. Dry weather in California allowed cotton planting to gain momentum, with early-planted fields



Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending April 14, 1996

Winter Wheat Percent Headed

	Apr 14 1996	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	5	NA	NA	NA
CA	70	NA	NA	NA
CO	0	NA	NA	NA
GA	18	NA	NA	NA
ID	0	NA	NA	NA
IL	0	NA	NA	NA
IN	0	NA	NA	NA
KS	0	NA	NA	NA
MI	0	NA	NA	NA
MO	0	NA	NA	NA
MT	0	NA	NA	NA
NE	0	NA	NA	NA
NC	7	NA	NA	NA
OH	0	NA	NA	NA
OK	1	NA	NA	NA
OR	0	NA	NA	NA
SD	0	NA	NA	NA
TX	10	NA	NA	NA
WA	0	NA	NA	NA
ALL	3	NA	NA	NA

These 19 States produced 92% of the 1995 winter wheat crop.

Corn Percent Planted

	Apr 14 1996	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
CO	0	0	1	1
GA	71	46	90	79
IL	3	0	1	2
IN	0	0	1	0
IA	0	0	0	1
KS	6	1	4	9
KY	2	0	32	9
MI	0	0	0	0
MN	0	0	0	0
MO	18	2	19	13
NE	0	0	0	0
NC	29	12	45	33
OH	1	0	1	1
PA	0	0	0	0
SD	0	0	0	0
TX	55	52	51	55
WI	0	0	0	0
ALL	4	2	4	4

These 17 States produced 91% of the 1995 corn crop.

Cotton Percent Planted

	Apr 14 1996	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	10	1	9	7
AZ	40	32	41	35
AR	1	0	1	0
CA	20	10	16	26
GA	1	0	3	3
LA	1	0	4	2
MS	1	0	5	3
MO	0	0	0	0
NM	5	0	5	16
NC	0	0	1	1
OK	0	0	0	0
SC	2	0	2	1
TN	0	0	1	1
TX	12	10	12	13
ALL	8	5	8	9

These 14 States produced 99% of the 1995 cotton crop.

Sorghum Percent Planted

	Apr 14 1996	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	14	6	14	13
CO	0	0	0	0
IL	0	0	0	0
KS	0	0	0	0
LA	10	1	15	17
MS	20	6	28	20
MO	0	0	1	0
NE	0	0	0	0
NM	0	0	0	0
OK	0	0	8	2
SD	0	0	0	0
TX	45	41	47	51
ALL	14	12	15	15

These 12 States produced 98% of the 1995 sorghum crop.

Spring Wheat Percent Planted

	Apr 14 1996	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	56	22	40	45
MN	0	0	0	7
MT	0	0	4	17
ND	0	0	0	5
SD	2	1	1	28
ALL	2	1	2	11

These 5 States produced 96% of the 1995 spring wheat crop.

Oats Percent Planted

	Apr 14 1996	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
IA	33	NA	NA	NA
MI	0	NA	NA	NA
MN	0	NA	NA	NA
NE	51	NA	NA	NA
ND	0	NA	NA	NA
OH	0	NA	NA	NA
PA	13	NA	NA	NA
SD	4	NA	NA	NA
WI	1	NA	NA	NA
ALL	10	NA	NA	NA

These 9 States produced 56% of the 1995 oat crop.

Barley Percent Planted

	Apr 14 1996	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	31	NA	NA	NA
MN	0	NA	NA	NA
MT	0	NA	NA	NA
ND	0	NA	NA	NA
SD	0	NA	NA	NA
WA	0	NA	NA	NA
ALL	4	NA	NA	NA

These 6 States produced 82% of the 1995 barley crop.

Rice Percent Planted

	Apr 14 1996	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	11	1	24	14
CA	0	0	0	0
LA	54	31	50	44
MS	30	1	40	21
TX	61	45	44	42
ALL	25	11	29	21

These 5 States produced 96% of the 1995 rice crop.

(continued on back cover)

State Summaries of Weather and Agriculture

These summaries, issued weekly through the summer growing season, 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 NASS State Statistical Offices in cooperation with the National Weather Service. The crop weather reports are also available on the Internet through the NASS Home Page on the World Wide Web at "http://www.usda.gov/nass/."

ALABAMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Topsoil 3% short, 89% adequate, 8% surplus. Spring plowing 54% complete, 73% 1995, 65% avg. Corn 48% planted, 65% 1995, 55% avg. Wheat 18% headed, 45% 1995, 37% avg.; 1% very poor, 12% poor, 52% fair, 20% good, 15% excellent. Pasture feed 2% very poor, 14% poor, 58% fair, 25% good, 1% excellent. Livestock 1% very poor, 13% poor, 61% fair, 25% good. Activities: Planting row crops, cool season vegetables, ground preparation for spring planting, general care of livestock, poultry, catfish.

ARIZONA: Karnal bunt meetings held, zero tolerance standard outlined. Small grains headed 90%, 91% 1995, 82% avg. Condition 1% fair, 69% good, 30% excellent. Alfalfa harvest 1% light, 2% moderate, 79% active, 18% not being harvested; 2% very poor, 2% poor, 11% fair, 20% good, 65% excellent. Quality increasing. Winter vegetable season nearing completion. Western growers continued to harvest lesser amounts of head lettuce, romaine, cabbage, broccoli, salad savoy, cauliflower, celery, kale, leaf lettuce. Spring vegetable season in Central areas increasing. Central growers harvested head lettuce, mixed greens, spinach, potatoes, carrots, cabbage, broccoli, dry onions, green onions, squash, fava beans, cauliflower, kale, radishes, turnips, swiss chard. Eastern growers continued to harvest a small supply of tomatoes. Grapefruit, lemon, tangerine, Valencia orange harvest continued Central, Western areas. Peach harvest began in western growing areas.

ARKANSAS: Main farm activities: Planting row crops, preparing fields for crop planting, fertilizing wheat, cool season grasses. Field preparation for sorghum, soybeans, rice plantings reported by numerous counties. Fertilizing, applying herbicides to wheat were reported by several counties. Some counties reported crop planting was hampered due to soil moisture surplus. Tomato planting was reported by a couple of counties. Livestock reported in good condition. Hay shortage remains a concern.

CALIFORNIA: Field activities progressed normally, as dry weather prevailed. Small grains were irrigated, treated for weeds. Some fields were turning color, drying for harvest in central, southern counties. Late planting continued at higher elevations. Cotton planting gained momentum in the Sacramento, San Joaquin valleys. Many growers applied systemic insecticides with the seed. Earlier seeded fields began to emerge. Rice field burning, ground preparation resumed where conditions, air quality regulations permitted. Corn, safflower planting was in full swing. Sugarbeet harvest was underway in the central, northern San Joaquin Valley. Garbanzo beans were sprayed with fungicides in Fresno County. Seed alfalfa was harvested and weeded. Oats, winter forage, alfalfa were cut for hay or greenchopped. Pre-planting ground preparation for corn, cotton and safflower continued in the Sacramento, San Joaquin valleys. Mowing, disking, fertilizing, irrigating, spraying continued in orchards, vineyards. Grapes were progressing well. Thinning of stone fruit had begun. Pecans, late season walnut varieties were producing catkins. Kiwifruit bud break started. Fruit was beginning to set for apricots; crop appeared spotty, light. The bloom period for cherries has been abnormally long. Cherry set in the San Joaquin Valley looked good. Almond set light to near normal. Walnuts were sprayed for blight and worms; pears for psylla; most orchards for aphids. Soils were treated for nematodes. Navel orange picking was nearing the end, as poor quality forced heavy grading, fruit drop was increasing. Valencia orange harvest continued. Lemons were picked in the central valley, south coast areas. Warmer weather was favoring the growth, development of many vegetables. Ground preparation for numerous crops was underway. Pre-plant herbicides were being applied. Tomato planting was in full swing in the Sacramento Valley. Fresh market tomatoes, bell peppers were irrigated in the San Joaquin Valley. The asparagus harvest continued. Some peas were treated for worms. Watermelon transplanting was reported. Lettuce was close to harvest in the Hollister area, while harvest was winding down in the Hanford area. Much of the lettuce crop in Tulare County was going for salad packs. The pace of the spring head lettuce harvest reached its peak in Fresno County. Romaine, red and green leaf lettuces were also harvested. Broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage were being harvested. Onion, garlic crops were developing well, with cultivation, irrigation underway. Early planted squash, cucumbers were growing well, some squash started producing fruit buds. Harvest of vegetables from hot houses continued in Tulare County. Late blight was present to some extent in all potato fields in Kern County. It was being effectively controlled with spraying. Sweet potato planting was getting started. Imperial County melons were treated for

white fly; tomatoes for armyworms, thrips; sweet corn for earworms. Rangelands, pastures were in very good condition in most areas. Supplemental feeding was reportedly light, since most livestock were feeding on green pastures. Cattle, sheep were in good condition. Calving, lambing were active. Spring branding was also active. Bees moved into orange groves.

COLORADO: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Topsoil 37% very short, 33% short, 29% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil 15% very short, 47% short, 37% adequate, 1% surplus. Spring barley 54% seeded, 22% 1995, 26% avg.; 16% emerged, 5% 1995, 9% avg. Oats 51% seeded, 24% 1995, 31% avg.; 9% emerged, 11% 1995, 11% avg. Dry onions 81% planted, 56% 1995, 49% avg.; 1% poor, 2% fair, 88% good, 9% excellent. Spring wheat 40% planted, 8% 1995, 10% avg.; 14% emerged, 1% 1995, 1% avg. Sugar beets 80% planted, 80% 1995, 38% avg.; 10% fair, 80% good, 10% excellent. Winter wheat 3% pastured, 3% 1995, 6% avg; 2% jointed, 22% 1995, 6% avg. Pasture feed 5% very poor, 18% poor, 40% fair, 36% good, 1% excellent. Cows 82% calved, 80% 1995, 75% avg. Ewes 78% lambled, 72% 1995, 77% avg. Livestock death losses are average. Stored feed supplies are rated as adequate.

DELAWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 1.8. Topsoil 26% adequate, 74% surplus. Subsoil moisture 43% adequate, 57% surplus. Cold, wet soils retarding spring small grain development and slowing spring fruit bloom. Winter wheat 17% very poor, 9% poor, 63% fair, 10% good. Barley 4% very poor, 13% poor, 74% fair, 9% good. Rye 7% poor, 80% fair, 13% good. Green peas 13% planted, 67% 1995, 45% avg. Hay supplies 25% very short, 35% short, 40% adequate. Acreage prepared for spring planting 19%. Potato planting behind normal; green pea planting far behind. Activities: preparation for spring planting continues to lag well behind due to wet, cold weather; some drying late in week.

FLORIDA: Topsoil adequate to surplus throughout State. Farmers planting peanuts. Tobacco transplanting winding down. Frost this past week burned leaves on tobacco plants, killed some plants in low spots. Growers planting field corn, making preparations for spring planted crops. Scattered storms dropped varying amounts of precipitation over the southern Peninsula with Dade County reporting at least 1.50 in. Temperatures dipped to freezing or near freezing around Zellwood on April 11 which burned leaves on some crops with plants expected to recover. Freezing weather damaged some watermelons in northern localities with some acreage replanted. Most low temperatures over the southern Peninsula dropped into the 50s as a cold front passed after mid-week with Palmetto-Ruskin reporting mid-40s. Warmer weather at the end of the week boosted vegetable development. Vegetable volume leaders: Tomatoes, potatoes, cabbage, peppers, sweet corn, squash, cucumbers, snap beans, carrots, celery. Citrus groves very good condition. Rain needed, irrigation continues. Abundant new growth, most bloom completed. Valencia harvest very active. Grapefruit movement slowing as supplies are low. Temple, Honey tangerine harvest all but over. Caretakers cutting cover crops, disking following fertilizations, post bloom spraying. Pasture feed poor 5%, fair 40%, good 55%. Frost damaged pastures north. Pastures south markedly improved over last week. Condition of cattle herds: poor 5%, fair 50%, good 45%.

GEORGIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Soil moisture 4% short, 86% adequate, 10% surplus. Corn 1% very poor, 8% poor, 67% fair, 24% good. Hay 5% very poor, 15% poor, 43% fair, 36% good, 1% excellent. Peanuts 1% planted, 6% 1995, 4% avg. Sorghum 4% planted, 5% 1995, 5% avg. Tobacco 7% poor, 56% fair, 35% good, 2% excellent; 75% transplanted, 83% 1995, 74% avg. Wheat 1% very poor, 6% poor, 25% fair, 62% good, 6% excellent; 95% jointing, 99% 1995, 97% avg.; 65% boot, 84% 1995, 79% avg.; 18% headed, 48% 1995, 44% avg. Onions 11% very poor, 20% poor, 41% fair, 28% good; 0% harvested, 2% 1995, 2% avg. Watermelons 16% poor, 54% fair, 28% good, 2% excellent; 49% planted, 84% 1995, 76% avg. Apples 2% poor, 18% fair, 80% good, 0% excellent; 18% blooming, 84% 1995, 57% avg. Peaches 52% very poor, 34% poor, 14% fair; 98% blooming, 100% 1995, 97% avg. Pasture feed 2% very poor, 14% poor, 45% fair, 37% good, 2% excellent. Planting progress rapid south, central, slowed by wet fields, cold north. Cold injury to some vegetables central, development slowed

south. Below normal temperatures delaying pasture greening. Planting of cotton, peanuts just underway. Activities included transplanting tobacco, watermelons, planting corn, land preparation, liming, spraying, fertilizing pastures.

HAWAII: Overall crop conditions improved. Dry weather, longer day length aiding crops. Head cabbage in good condition with production steady. Cucumber down due to premature termination. Tomato production increasing in some areas. Banana orchards continue recovery; production to remain light. Papaya production will remain light.

IDAHO: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil 1% short, 67% adequate, 32% surplus. Potatoes planted 3%, 5% 1995, 6% avg. Spring wheat emerged 15%, 10% 1995, 17% avg. Barley planted 31%, 25% 1995, 37% avg.; emerged 8%, 6% 1995, 13% avg. Oats planted 24%, 13% 1995, 25% avg.; emerged 6%, 2% 1995, 4% avg. Dry peas planted 12%, 18% 1995, 21% avg. Dry peas emerged 4%, 2% 1995, 1% avg. Sugar beets planted 60%, 38% 1995, 56% avg.; emerged 7%, 5% 1995, 9% average. Onions planted 85%, 71% 1995, 68% avg.; emerged 18%, 9% 1995, 10% avg. Calving 94% complete. Lambing 93% complete. Hay, roughage supply 3% very short, 6% short, 76% adequate, 15% surplus. Pasture feed, 64% good, 36% excellent. Irrigation water supply 34% good, 66% excellent. Activities: Planting barley, spring wheat, sugar beets, potatoes, onions, moving cattle to spring pastures, preparing for irrigation, sorting, cutting, hauling seed potatoes, fertilizing.

ILLINOIS: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Topsoil 9% very short, 42% short, 44% adequate, 5% surplus. Most farmers preparing fields for corn planting. Soil temperatures not ideal, corn planting picked up last week. Majority of farmers waiting for warmer weather. Oat sowing increased substantially from last week. Oats 72% seeded, 42% 1995, 50% avg. Alfalfa 3% very poor, 17% poor, 57% fair, 22% good, 1% excellent. Weather conditions causing pastures to green up slowly. Pasture feed 8% very poor, 28% poor, 47% fair, 16% good, 1% excellent. Farm activities included fertilizer, chemical applications, evaluating wheat, discing, hauling and spreading manure, livestock tending.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.9. Topsoil 6% very short, 21% short, 59% adequate, 14% surplus. Subsoil 8% very short, 19% short, 64% adequate, 9% surplus. Winter wheat continued to green up, stands poor in many fields. Winter wheat 3% jointed, 26% 1995, 19% avg. Winter kill, heaving has taken a heavy toll on winter wheat. Forage crops, pastures showed marked improvement. Pasture feed 6% very poor, 32% poor, 47% fair, 14% good, 1% excellent. Livestock below normal due to temperature changes, poor quality roughage supplies. Activities: Seeding oats, applying anhydrous, spreading fertilizer, discing stalks, chisel plowing, preparing equipment for spring planting, purchasing supplies, hauling manure, calving, care of livestock.

IOWA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.4. Topsoil very short 11%, short 42%, adequate 45%, surplus 2%. Subsoil very short 11%, short 40%, adequate 44%, surplus 5%. 1996 row crops primary seedbed preparation completed 57%, 43% 1995, 50% avg.; fertilizer application completed 63%, 49% 1995, 52% avg. Corn planted trace, 0% 1995, 1% avg. Oats planted 33%, 34% 1995, 53% avg. Winter wheat 2% very poor, 22% poor, 45% fair, 29% good, 2% excellent. Percent crop lost to winterkill 9% winter wheat, 7% alfalfa hay, 5% red clover hay.

KANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.4. Topsoil 29% very short, 51% short, 20% adequate. Wheat progress is well behind normal due to cold weather, lack of moisture. Wheat jointing is 8%, 76% 1995, 47% avg. Wheat 23% very poor, 34% poor, 31% fair, 12% good. Wheat has been hurt by wind, freezing temperatures, extremely dry conditions. Brown wheat mites, armyworms, greenbugs remain active in the southern areas. Wind damage 6% severe, 24% moderate, 30% light, 40% no damage. Freeze damage 9% severe, 20% moderate, 28% light, 43% no damage. Insect infestation 5% severe, 10% moderate, 16% light, 69% none. Oats seeded 99%, 99% 1995, 87% avg. Barley seeded 96%, 99% 1995, 86% avg. Corn planted 6%, 4% 1995, 9% avg. Hay supplies are becoming short in many areas as pastures need rain to green up. Pasture feed 12% very poor, 30% poor, 43% fair, 15% good. Activities: Spring tillage, anhydrous application, chemical application, spraying wheat for insects, planting corn, caring for livestock.

KENTUCKY: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.6. Topsoil 2% short, 67% adequate, 31% surplus. Subsoil 2% short, 65% adequate, 33% surplus. Cool wet soils have limited soil preparation for planting, the actual planting of corn. Field activities included spreading fertilizer, applying herbicides to winter

wheat, sowing grasses, legumes, preparing fields for planting of crops, planting corn as weather, soil conditions permitted. Tobacco 80% planted, 89% 1995, 85% avg.; plants up 38%, 54% 1995, 47% avg. Winter wheat 8% very poor, 19% poor, 39% fair, 31% good, 3% excellent. Height 7 in. Barley 16% very poor, 39% poor, 15% fair, 29% good, 1% excellent. Fruit trees 29% budding or in bloom. Pasture feed 7% very poor, 24% poor, 42% fair, 24% good, 3% excellent. Farmers still feeding hay with some buying it.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Soil moisture 5% very short, 24% short, 66% adequate, 5% surplus. Corn 11% poor, 42% fair, 42% good, 5% excellent; 97% planted, 81% 1995, 89% avg.; 79% emerged, 71% 1995, 67% avg. A few corn fields in the extreme northern portion of the State reported slight frost damage. Cotton 0% emerged, 1% 1995, 0% avg. Hay first cutting 4%, 1% 1995, 1% avg. Rice 35% emerged, 32% 1995, 28% avg. Rice was slow to emerge because of cool nighttime temperatures, planting remained active. Sorghum 1% emerged, 4% 1995, 9% avg. Spring plowing 88% plowing, 65% 1995, 65% avg. Sugarcane 7% very poor, 21% poor, 42% fair, 30% good. Sugarcane producers continued to report losses to second year stubble due to last month's freeze. Sweet potatoes 0% planted, 0% 1995, 1% avg. Seed sweet potatoes showed a fair amount of growth. Wheat 9% very poor, 17% poor, 50% fair, 24% good; 53% headed, 72% 1995, 65% avg.; 0% turning, 5% 1995, 3% avg. Livestock 5% very poor, 14% poor, 48% fair, 31% good, 2% excellent. Cattlemen were busy worming, vaccinating their herds. Crawfish harvest remained active, yields showed only slight improvement. Vegetables 4% very poor, 21% poor, 47% fair, 28% good. Pasture feed 5% very poor, 19% poor, 47% fair, 29% good. Cool nighttime temperatures continued to slow growth of permanent pastures.

MARYLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.3. Topsoil 76% adequate, 24% surplus. Subsoil 63% adequate, 37% surplus. Winter wheat 17% very poor, 13% poor, 33% fair, 33% good, 2% excellent. Barley 19% very poor, 11% poor, 26% fair, 39% good, 5% excellent. Rye 6% very poor, 3% poor, 35% fair, 49% good, 7% excellent. Hay supplies 18% very short, 37% short, 45% adequate. Market active. Pastures, small grains need drier, warmer soils. Acreage prepared for spring planting 15%. Peaches, strawberries beginning to bloom. Activities: Preparation for spring planting slow due to wet, cold weather; planting green peas, potatoes active; sweet corn planting just underway. Few acres corn for grain planted.

MICHIGAN: Wet fields limited fieldwork in the northern areas. Southern part of the State is dry, need of rain. Barley, oat planting was just beginning. Livestock conditions were normal with no unusual problems. Feed supplies remain adequate. Calving, lambing were in full swing. Major activities for the month were caring for livestock, hauling manure, spreading fertilizer, repairing equipment, gearing up for spring. Some pruning of fruit trees continues as weather permits.

MINNESOTA: Unseasonably cold temperatures continue to dominate the States weather. Planting of early spring grains has been delayed as farmers wait for the arrival of more seasonal temperatures to thaw and warm up the soil so seed bed preparation can start. Pre-planting activities have also been delayed on corn, soybean fields.

MISSISSIPPI: Main farming activities: Planting corn, rice, sorghum, soybeans. Warm conditions allowed cotton producers to make significant progress in land preparation for planting. Chinch bugs, corn aphids have begun to show up in some corn acreage. Some replanting of earlier planted corn has been reported. Pastures are beginning to show improvements.

MISSOURI: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Topsoil 11% very short, 39% short, 50% adequate. Notable shortages exist in the northwest, north central, west central, central, southwest districts which all report 50% or more very short or short. Favorable weather allowed farmers to make significant corn planting progress during the past week. Beneficial rains fell across most areas of the State over the past weekend, providing some relief where moisture supplies were short. Percent of corn planted ranges from 5% northeast to 44% southeast. Condition of the wheat crop is poorest in the southwest district which reports 38% very poor, 36% poor; the most favorable crop ratings are found in the south central, southeast districts which report 39% or more as good or better. Oats sown 74%, 85% 1995, 68% avg. Ground tilled for spring crops 73%, 69% 1995, 60% avg. Pasture feed 19% very poor, 38% poor, 33% fair, 10% good.

MONTANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 0.5. Topsoil 1% short, 63% adequate, 36% surplus. Subsoil 5% short, 80% adequate, 15% surplus. Weather continues to limit amount of field work done. Less than 1% of spring

grains planted. Field work in progress 98% none, 2% just started, 0% well underway. Winter wheat 18% still dormant, 77% greening, 5% green and growing. Wind damage to winter wheat 59% none, 32% light, 8% moderate, 1% heavy. Freeze, drought damage to winter wheat fields 64% none, 30% light, 5% moderate, 1% heavy. Calving 82% complete. Lambing 54% complete. Most livestock still receiving supplemental feed.

NEBRASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Topsoil 28% very short, 51% short, 21% adequate. Subsoil 15% very short, 43% short, 41% adequate, 1% surplus. Weather during the week took producers on a roller coaster ride. Record high temperatures occurred in many areas on 11th then plummeted on 12th. Temperature drop was accompanied by much needed precipitation in the form of rain and snow on 13th, 14th. However, most areas still need moisture to recharge low soil profiles. Wheat: Reporters in the west indicated that the crop was beginning to grow but stands were very thin. Signs of winter kill became apparent. Corn planting started last week in a few southern, eastern fields, overall less than 1% had been seeded, about average for the date. Oats 51% planted, 25% 1995, 47% avg. Sugar beet planting underway in the Panhandle. Pasture feed 2% very poor, 23% poor, 44% fair, 29% good, 2% excellent. Pasture need moisture and warmer conditions to start growth.

NEVADA: Fieldwork was delayed due to the rains, resumed later in the week. Spring grain planting was underway, progress was behind normal in the Winnemucca area due to the wet weather. Fall seeded grains were greening up appeared to be in good condition. Hay fields were being sprayed, fertilized. Some Winnemucca acreage intended for alfalfa seed may instead be planted to grain due to weather related delays to planting. Calving was very active. Shearing, lambing continued. Ditch burning was common. Main farm, ranch activities: Spring planting, plowing, field leveling, ditch cleaning, calving, lambing.

NEW ENGLAND: Major farm activities: By 11th of this past week, two snowstorms had dumped several inches of snow throughout the region. These spring snows should give plants additional nitrogen for growth and will help to replenish the water table. Planting sweet corn under plastic, planting potatoes in southernmost States continues. Maple syrup season is almost completed except for the northernmost regions. Orchardists continue to assess damage from the past winter and also from various predators. Field stacking of manure continues until dry weather returns.

NEW JERSEY: Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Topsoil as mostly surplus. Fruit producers were busy pruning, applying fertilizer. Nurserymen were primarily digging out, shipping plant material. Vegetable farmers were also busy planting asparagus, potatoes, sweet corn, peas, lettuce, cabbage, turnips. All growers were implementing pest control measures, repairing equipment.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Soil moisture 58% very short, 32% short, 10% adequate. Cotton, corn planting just beginning with 5%, 6% completed, respectively. Alfalfa continues coming out of dormancy with 8% poor, 40% fair, 39% good, 13% excellent. Chile planting 89% complete, condition at 1% fair, 97% good, 2% excellent. Due to extreme drought, dry wheat remains nearly a total loss at 99% very poor, 1% fair. Irrigated wheat 3% very poor, 11% poor, 71% fair, 13% good, 2% excellent. Lettuce 73% good, 27% excellent. Onions 2% fair, 64% good, 34% excellent. Cattle 4% very poor, 17% poor, 54% fair, 24% good, 1% excellent. Ranchers continued supplemental feeding, watering.

NEW YORK: Spring plowing gaining momentum as fields dry. Cool weather vegetable crops being planted. Onion planting active statewide. Sweet corn being planted under plastic. Asparagus up, harvest starting. Bedding plants beginning to appear at farm markets. Livestock producers tending animals, spreading manure, moving hay from storage. Hay supplies tight. Some producers forced to buy feed. Machinery being readied for upcoming season. No winter damage is evident on fruit in the Hudson Valley. Bloom is expected to be later than usual. Vinifera varieties of grapes in the Finger Lakes Region show injury due to extremely cold temperatures this past winter. Growers are adjusting pruning plans. Native American, hybrid grape varieties appear to have only minor damage at most.

NORTH CAROLINA: Crop condition: Oats 10% poor, 21% fair, 67% good, 2% excellent; barley 1% poor, 29% fair, 62% good, 8% excellent; rye 4% poor, 14% fair, 70% good, 12% excellent; pasture 5% very poor, 16% poor, 37% fair, 38% good, 4% excellent; greenhouse tobacco plant beds 1% poor, 7% fair, 72% good, 20% excellent; outside tobacco plant beds 1% very poor, 1% poor, 37% fair, 51% good, 10% excellent; potatoes 1% very poor, 2% poor,

27% fair, 70% good; peaches 63% very poor, 25% poor, 3% fair, 9% excellent; truck crops 8% fair, 87% good, 5% excellent; tobacco plant supply 3% short, 96% adequate, 1% surplus; hay, roughage supply 6% very short, 43% short, 50% adequate, 1% surplus; feed grain supplies 19% short, 80% adequate, 1% surplus. Activities included: Planting corn; transplanting flue-cured tobacco; preparing fields for planting; pasture maintenance; tending livestock; repairing equipment, general maintenance.

NORTH DAKOTA: Wet or frozen ground pushed expected statewide average start of fieldwork to 29th; avg. 18th. No plantings reported. Cold, wet conditions continue to hamper calving. Cattle conditions remained fair to mostly good. Cows 7% poor, 17% fair, 73% good, 3% excellent. Calves 1% very poor, 7% poor, 20% fair, 69% good, 3% excellent. Hay, forage supplies 1% very short, 10% short, 83% adequate, 6% surplus. Grains, concentrates 2% very short, 10% short, 87% adequate, 1% surplus. Pastures, ranges 99% dormant; 68% open for grazing. Pasture feed 9% very poor, 13% poor, 21% fair, 6% excellent.

OHIO: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.2. Topsoil 3% short, 64% adequate, 33% surplus. Corn planting is proceeding slowly. Ground is wet, soil temperatures are low. Winter wheat is being top dressed. Jointing of wheat has just started. Planting of sweet corn has begun. Pastures are greening up slowly. Some livestock problems, attributed to poor nutrition, have been reported.

OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Topsoil 42% very short, 39% short, 19% adequate. Subsoil 28% very short, 44% short, 28% adequate. Wheat 55% jointing, 94% 1995, 84% avg. Oats 24% jointing, 39% 1995, 39% avg.; 0% heading, 4% 1995, 4% avg. Corn 87% seedbed prepared, 88% 1995, 86% avg.; 19% planted, 19% 1995, 25% avg.; 7% up-to-stand, 8% 1995, 8% avg. Sorghum 20% seedbed prepared, 57% 1995, 40% avg. Soybeans 48% seedbed prepared, 38% 1995, 42% avg.; 7% planted, 3% 1995, 4% avg.; 1% up-to-stand, 1% 1995, 0% avg. Peanuts 48% seedbed prepared, 42% 1995, 46% avg. Cotton 34% seedbed prepared, 62% 1995, 64% avg. Alfalfa 2% very poor, 20% poor, 52% fair, 25% good. Livestock 1% very poor, 10% poor, 31% fair, 57% good, 1% excellent. Feeder steers, heifers were steady to \$1/cwt lower.

OREGON: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Topsoil 94% adequate, 6% surplus. Subsoil 98% adequate, 2% surplus. Barley 37% planted, 61% 1995, 61% average. Pasture feed 4% fair, 80% good, 16% excellent. Activities: Fertilizing, spraying, spring small grain seeding. Malheur County sugar beet planting winding down. Nurseries, greenhouses spring activities continued, digging, balling, shipping plants to retail outlets; Christmas trees near bud break, shearing, spraying winding down; vegetable acreage plowing, some planting underway, Willamette Valley. Onion planting, Malheur County. Pear bloom weak early frost damage, Hood River Valley. Caneberries, hazelnuts leafing out, fruit trees blooming, cool, wet weather hampered bee activity, Willamette Valley. Hail showers, thunderstorms stripped blueberry blooms; cranberry bud development varied early bud break-roughneck, southern coast. Livestock good-excellent, feeding hay, waiting for turnout, eastern sections. Pasture feed development quite fast, muddy, west.

PENNSYLVANIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.3. Soil moisture 1% short, 55% adequate, 44% surplus. Plowing 15% complete, 39% 1995, 22% avg. Oats planted 13% complete, 33% 1995, 20% avg. Potatoes planted 3% complete, 6% 1995, 7% avg. Tobacco beds planted 78% complete, 66% 1995, 46% avg. Wheat 1% very poor, 11% poor, 46% fair, 36% good, 6% excellent. Alfalfa, alfalfa mixtures stand 2% very poor, 11% poor, 43% fair, 40% good, 4% excellent. Timothy clover stand 6% very poor, 9% poor, 41% fair, 40% good, 4% excellent. Peaches 10% pink, 16% 1995, 14% avg.; 0% full bloom or past, 0% 1995, 3% avg. Cherries 3% pink, 14% 1995, 13% avg.; 0% full bloom or past, 0% 1995, 2% avg. Apples 1% pink, 8% 1995, 4% avg.; 0% full bloom or past, 0% 1995, 0% avg. Activities: Some plowing, planting of oats; fixing fences; machinery maintenance and storing; hauling manure; caring for livestock.

PUERTO RICO: No weather data available.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5 and other outdoor activities. Statewide soil moisture 2% short, 91% adequate, 7% surplus. Cold weather continued to delay row crop field activities, hamper existing crop stages. Corn 61% planted, 77% 1995, 72% avg.; 9% poor, 35% fair, 54% good, 2% excellent. Tobacco 25% planted, 32% 1995, 31% avg.; 8% very poor, 12% poor, 22% fair, 56% good, 2% excellent. Recent cold snaps devastated State fruit crops. Peach production expected to be 80% loss. Apple

production severely harmed by freezes. Peach 76% very poor, 16% poor, 8% fair. Vegetable, melon crops also significantly damaged by recent cold snap. Watermelon 40% planted, 67% 1995; 65% avg.; 3% very poor, 17% poor, 47% fair, 29% good, 4% excellent. Cantaloupe 54% planted, 48% 1995; 51% avg.; 4% very poor, 28% poor, 23% fair, 41% good, 4% excellent. Wheat 6% headed, 15% 1995, 19% avg.; 1% very poor, 8% poor, 23% fair, 58% good, 12% excellent. Rye 23% headed, 0% 1995, N/A avg.; 6% very poor, 13% poor, 46% fair, 30% good, 5% excellent.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 1.7. Topsoil 1% very short, 10% short, 67% adequate, 22% surplus. Subsoil 1% very short, 1% short, 74% adequate, 24% surplus. Winter rye 1% very poor, 5% poor, 42% fair, 50% good, 2% excellent. Some producers were just beginning to get into the fields early in the week, it was abruptly halted by a week-ending storm that brought rain, snow. This storm pushed seeding back another week. Livestock 1% poor, 15% fair, 73% good, 11% excellent. Week ending storm caused more scour problems among newborn calves. Pasture feed 5% very poor, 5% poor, 36% fair, 47% good, 7% excellent. Pastures are slow to green-up with the cold weather. Cattle moved to pasture 4%. Calving 64% completed, lambing 70% completed. Feed supplies 6% short, 86% adequate, 8% surplus. Stock water supplies 80% adequate, 20% surplus.

TENNESSEE: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.5. Topsoil 3% short, 84% adequate, 13% surplus. Subsoil 3% short, 83% adequate, 14% surplus. Corn 21% planted, 53% 1995, 19% avg. Tobacco 87% seeded, 95% 1995, 93% avg.; 55% plants up, 69% 1995, 64% avg. Wheat 7% very poor, 17% poor, 42% fair, 31% good, 3% excellent; 54% jointed, 87% 1995, 59% avg. Apples 82% budding or beyond, 92% 1995, 85% avg.; 52% blooming or beyond, 75% 1995, 50% avg. Peaches 94% budding or beyond, 98% 1995, 96% avg.; 79% blooming or beyond, 92% 1995, 88% avg. Strawberries 12% poor, 56% fair, 32% good. Pasture feed 4% very poor, 25% poor, 44% fair, 25% good, 2% excellent. Cattle 2% very poor, 16% poor, 49% fair, 31% good, 2% excellent.

TEXAS: Warm, windy conditions returned most areas last week. Fieldwork resumed across State under open conditions. Rain, snow that fell last week beneficial to pastures, ranges. Warmer temperatures, more rain needed for recently planted crops. Extremely cold temperatures last week caused losses to sheep, goats in Edward's Plateau. Livestock herd reductions continued as hay supplies further depleted during last week's cold spell.

Small Grains: Dryland fields in High Plains continued to suffer from lack of rain, latest cold temperatures. Irrigation remained steady. Insect problems been minimal. Rain, snow across Low Plains, North Central areas last week brought some benefit where fields begun to head out. Heading also continued Central areas. Corn planting underway in High Plains on limited basis during week. Planting also resumed many other Northern, Central areas. Emergence, growth been slow because intermittent cold spells, dry conditions. Fields along Coast, in Valley showing a little progress despite dry conditions. Statewide 57% normal compared 78% 1995. Grain sorghum planting resumed many areas during week. Some producers have decided to plant sorghum instead of corn. Emergence, growth have been slow for sorghum also. Statewide 52% normal compared 74% 1995. Cotton planting increased parts north central last week. Land preparations continued in Plains. Growth been slow early planted fields. Rice planting winding down some areas along Upper Coast. Flushing continued on emerged fields. 33% emerged, 25% 1995, 5% avg. Peanuts planting increasing some areas during week. 2% planted, 1% 1995, 0% avg. Soybeans planting continued North Central areas. Planting winding down some fields along Upper Coast. 14% planted, 5% 1995, 3% avg. Other crops: Sugar beets 29% planted, 29% 1995, 38% avg.

Commercial Vegetables: Rio Grande Valley, harvest onions, cabbage, carrots continued. San Antonio- Winter Garden, dryland melons making fair progress with irrigated fields showing a little better progress. Some cabbage harvested. East, land preparation, some planting resumed during week. Some tomatoes set out. High Plain, potato, onion planting virtually been completed. Trans-Pecos, melon planting continued with early fields emerging under steady irrigation. Pecans: Increased leafing, budding occurred over major portion of State. Crop prospects will depend on amount of rainfall received. Peaches Producers still waiting see if any crop survived recent freezes. Prospects don't look good however on early varieties.

Range and Livestock: Ranges, pastures many areas showing increased greening after last week's moisture however additional rain, warmer temperatures needed for any growth to develop. Some significant death losses to sheep, goats occurred Edward's Plateau after last weeks harsh weather. Increase hay, supplement prices continued cause additional livestock liquidating.

UTAH: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Topsoil 7% very short, 13% short, 64% adequate, 16% surplus. Subsoil 16% Short, 74% adequate, 10% surplus. Winter wheat 35% fair, 49% good, 16% excellent. Fall barley 33% fair, 55% good, 12% excellent. Spring wheat planted 78%, 71% 1995, 64% avg. Spring wheat emerged 35%, 38% 1995. Barley planted 74%, 69% 1995, 64% avg.; emerged 34%, 39% 1995. Oats planted 28%, 34% 1995, 40% avg.; emerged 19%, 24% 1995. Peaches full bloom, past 95%, 91% 1995. Pears full bloom and past 20%, 64% 1995. Sweet cherries full bloom and past 22%, 70% 1995. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 2% poor, 15% fair, 73% good, 9% excellent. Cattle, calf conditions 1% poor, 11% fair, 79% good, 9% excellent. Cows calved 83%, 71% 1995, 75% avg. Sheep 23% fair, 63% good, 14% excellent. Ewes lambing on farm 85%, 76% 1995, 78% avg. Ewes lambing on range 51%, 37% 1995, 44% avg. Sheep sheared on the farm 72%, 67% 1995, 71% avg. Sheep sheared on range 58%, 52% 1995, 53% avg. Major farm, ranch activities: Spring tillage, planting small grains, alfalfa, some corn, hauling manure, calving, lambing, shearing sheep.

VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.2. Temperatures were below average to mid-week, above average at weekend. Precipitation during the week was about normal in most areas of State. Pastures, hayfields continue to be fertilized, over seeded. Fieldwork continues in preparation for upcoming planting. Growers are active with maintenance of greenhouse plants. Early vegetable crop planting continues. Corn planting is beginning to pick up after a slow start. Tobacco planting to plantbeds, greenhouses is virtually complete. Potato planting is almost complete.

WASHINGTON: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5 Topsoil 3% short, 77% adequate, 20% surplus; subsoil 9% short, 90% adequate, 1% surplus. Temperatures increasing, wet fields continued to dry out, field activities in full swing. Winter wheat, dryland 9% fair, 61% good, 30% excellent; irrigated, 1% fair, 64% good, 35% excellent. Hay, other roughage supplies, 16% short, 84% adequate. Pasture feed, 28% poor, 17% fair, 55% good. Calving and lambing nearly complete. Livestock on pastures, early ranges where possible. Barley 32% planted, 35% 1995, 54% avg.; 9% emerged, 18% 1995, 28% avg. Potatoes 35% planted, 26% 1995, 29% avg.; 8% emerged, 5% 1995, 4% avg. Spring wheat 37% planted, 45% 1995, 62% avg.; 19% emerged, 21% 1995, 36% avg. Apples cherries, strawberries in bloom. Vegetable seeding continued.

WEST VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.2. Topsoil 1% short, 82% adequate, 17% surplus. Wheat 1% very poor, 20% poor, 56% fair, 23% good. Hay 1% very poor, 24% poor, 52% fair, 23% good. Intended acreage prepared for spring planting 26%, 60% 1995. Corn planted 2%, 15% 1995. Oats planted 6%, 33% 1995, 27% avg. Tobacco beds seeded 41%, 66% 1995, 76% avg.; 18% emerged, 5% 1995, 31% avg. Pasture feed 13% very poor, 15% poor, 40% fair, 30% good, 2% excellent. Cattle 3% very poor, 10% poor, 21% fair, 63% good, 3% excellent; 85% calved. Sheep 21% poor, 37% fair, 41% good, 1% excellent; 82% lambing. Hay, roughage supplies 22% very short, 29% short, 48% adequate, 1% surplus. Feed grain supplies 9% very short, 21% short, 70% adequate. Apples 50% fair, 50% good. Peaches 50% fair, 50% good. Activities: Fertilizing small grains where conditions allow, seeding tobacco beds. Hauling manure, building, repairing fences, feeding livestock, calving, lambing, general maintenance.

WISCONSIN: Days suitable for fieldwork 1.7. Soil moisture 19% short, 50% adequate, 31% surplus. Spring tillage 2%, 4% 1995, 7% avg. Moisture levels around the State varied widely with the northern two-thirds of the State reporting the most surplus moisture, southern third being shortest in moisture. Reporters in the northern districts commented that the snow cover, frost levels have delayed any start of spring tillage. Farmers in the Southwest District had the best conditions, were able to do fieldwork on 4.5 out of the 7 days of the week. Frozen ground continued to allow farmers to easily haul manure or apply fertilizer to the fields. Many reporters commented on the need for a warm rain to get things going. Maple Syrup production, quality ranged from poor to good.

WYOMING: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.7. Topsoil 100% adequate or better. Subsoil 92% adequate or better. 1995 winter wheat crop 46% fair, 54% good. Mild temperatures across the State allowed small grain planting to progress rapidly. Barley 58% planted, 70% 1995, 59% avg.; 1% emerged 13% 1995, 15% avg. Oats 19% planted, 25% 1995, 25% avg.; 2% emerged, 2% 1995, 2% avg. Spring wheat 24% planted, 31% 1995, 26% avg.; 3% emerged, 2% 1995, 3% avg. Sugar beets 12% planted, 36% 1995, 33% avg. Calving 75% complete, 78% 1995, 75% avg. Farm flock ewes lambing 88%, 85% 1995, 79% avg.; shorn 86%, 89% 1995, 80% avg. Range flock ewes lambing 17%, 13% 1995, 24% avg.; shorn 42%, 53% 1995, 49% avg. Lamb losses mostly normal. Pasture feed 7% fair, 78% good, 15% excellent.

International Weather and Crop Summary

April 7 - 13, 1996

HIGHLIGHTS

FSU-WESTERN: Snow cover persisted over the north, while winter grains resumed spring growth 1 to 2 weeks later than usual in the south.

EUROPE: Warmer weather promoted winter grain development and increased soil temperatures for spring grain and summer crop planting.

NORTHWESTERN AFRICA: Dry weather covered winter grain areas in Morocco, while light showers fell over crop areas in Algeria and Tunisia.

SOUTH AFRICA: Drier weather benefited maturing corn following last week's wetness.

AUSTRALIA: Summer crop harvesting progressed.

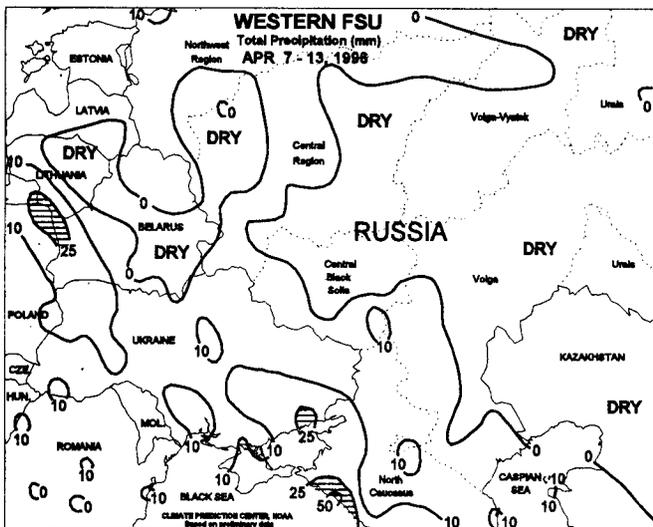
EASTERN ASIA: Rain and cool weather hampered early rice development in southeastern China, while cool weather slowed spring wheat planting farther north.

SOUTHEAST ASIA: Tropical Storm Ann brought heavy rains and flooding to the central Philippines.

SOUTH AMERICA: Mostly dry weather favored summer crop harvesting across central Argentina, while rain slowed cotton harvesting in the north.

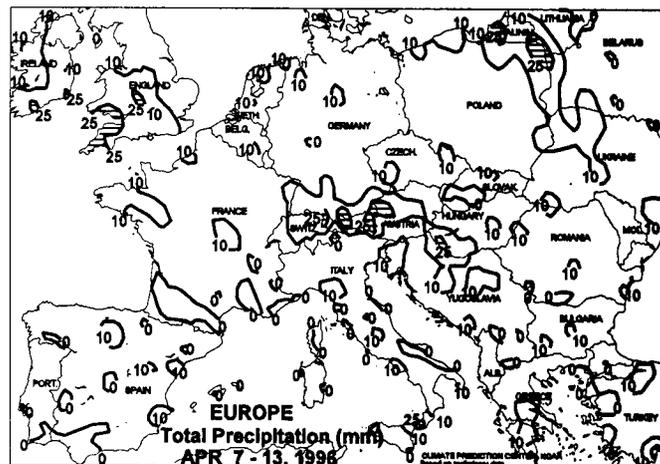
FSU-WESTERN

Daytime temperatures rose above freezing on most days during the week, melting the prolonged snow cover. As a result, snow cover continued to retreat northward but still remained over the Baltics, northern Belarus, and northern Russia. Temperatures continued their seasonal increase over Ukraine and southern Russia, prompting winter grains to begin breaking dormancy. Winter grains in southern Ukraine and North Caucasus resumed spring growth about 1 to 2 weeks later than usual. Spring grain planting is typically underway in Ukraine and southern Russia (southern Black Soils Region, lower Volga Valley, and North Caucasus). However, planting was likely progressing slowly due to continued cool weather and light showers (2-18 mm). Weekly temperatures averaged near normal in the north and 1 to 3 degrees C below normal in the south.

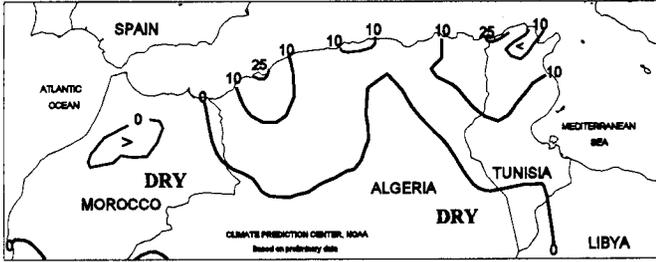


EUROPE

Warmer weather spread eastward over the continent, promoting winter grain development and raising soil temperatures to favorable levels for spring grain and summer crop planting. Light scattered showers (2-19 mm) were accompanied by seasonable temperatures over the United Kingdom and northern France, favoring winter grains in the early vegetative stage and spring grain emergence. Topsoil moisture is lacking in these areas, and additional rain is needed to ensure normal crop development. Farther east, although unseasonably cool weather continued over Germany, temperatures were high enough to allow some growth in winter crops and to raise soil temperatures for spring grain planting. Warm weather and light showers over Spain and Italy followed last week's rainy weather pattern, favoring winter grains and early summer crop planting. Light showers (around 10 mm) fell over eastern Europe, favoring early winter grain development and causing only minor delays in early spring grain planting. Winter grains have likely resumed spring growth in southeastern Europe but remained dormant farther north in Poland.



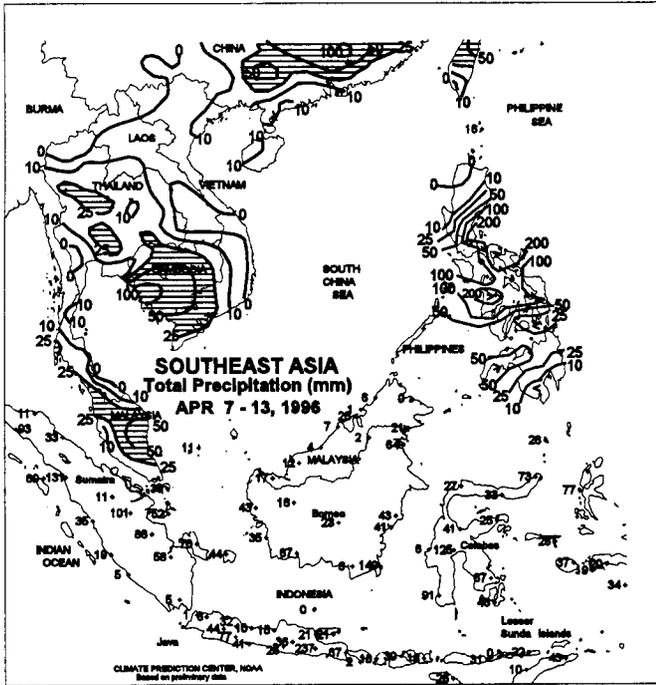
NORTHWEST AFRICA Total Precipitation (mm)
APR 7 - 13, 1996



NORTHWESTERN AFRICA

Dry weather prevailed over winter grain areas in Morocco, where crops were in the reproductive to filling stages of development. Although rainfall has tapered off in recent weeks over Morocco, adequate soil moisture reserves favored crop growth. In Algeria and Tunisia, light showers (2-25 mm) continued to maintain adequate moisture conditions for winter grains. Weekly temperatures averaged 2 to 4 degrees C above normal over Morocco, promoting rapid crop development. In contrast, crop development was slowed in eastern Algeria and Tunisia, where weekly temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C below normal.

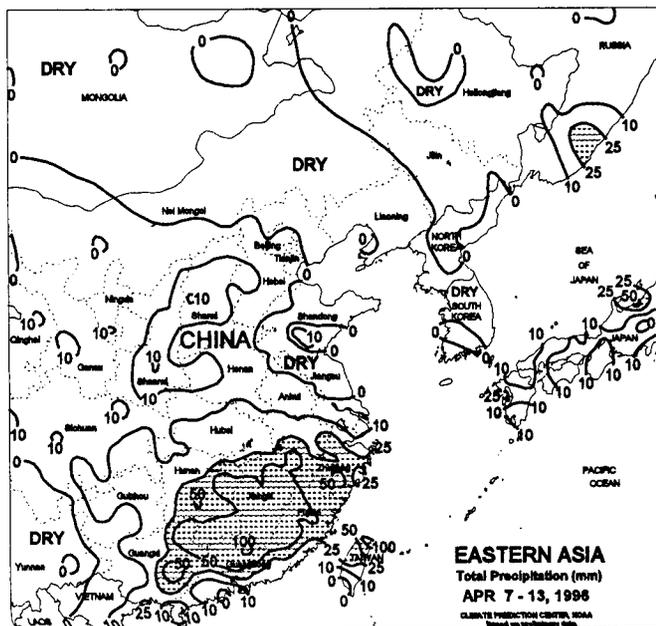
SOUTHEAST ASIA Total Precipitation (mm)
APR 7 - 13, 1996



SOUTHEAST ASIA

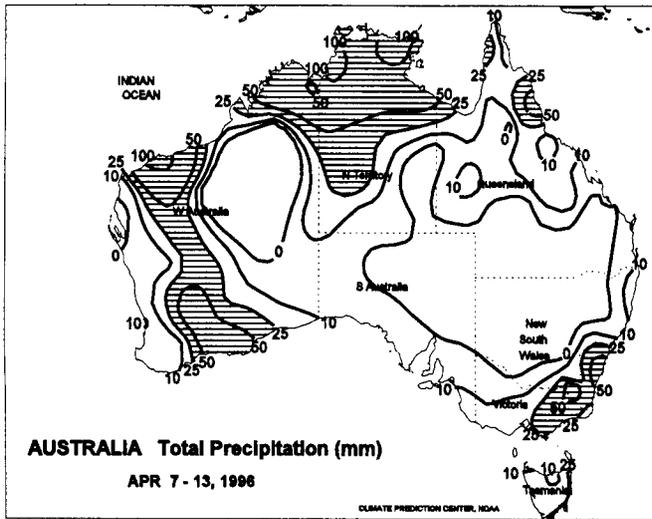
Tropical Storm Ann crossed the central Philippines, producing heavy rain and flooding. Early in the week, Ann hit the central Philippines with sustained winds of 40 knots (46 mph). The storm then weakened, but the residual moisture still produced rain for several days. The east-central Islands and southern Luzon received 100 to 250 mm of rain, causing flooding and delaying late second-crop rice harvesting. Late-week showers followed several days of dry weather over Indochina, slowing secondary rice harvesting in Thailand and winter-spring rice harvesting in Vietnam. Across most of Java, rain (28-60 mm, with local amounts in excess of 100 mm) slowed main-season rice harvesting.

EASTERN ASIA Total Precipitation (mm)
APR 7 - 13, 1996



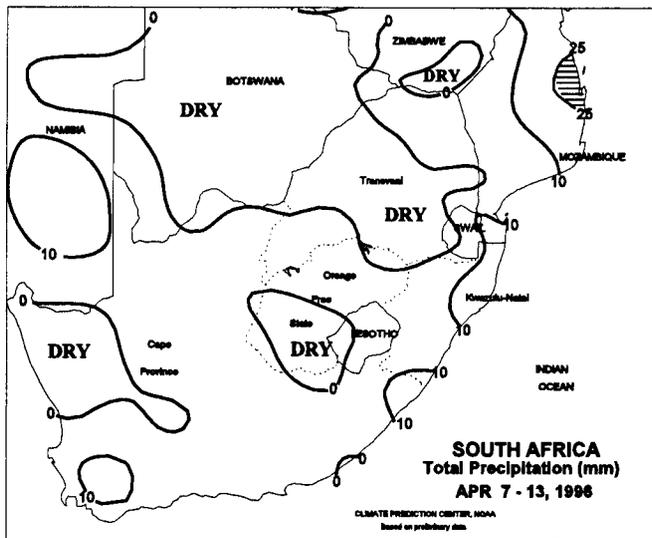
EASTERN ASIA

Rain continued across southeastern China, while cooler weather slowed spring grain planting in the north. Southeastern China again received moderate rain (15-50 mm). Although the continued rainy weather boosted irrigation supplies, it was accompanied by unseasonably cold weather, hampering early rice planting and development. Mostly dry weather aided early summer crop planting across the North China Plain. Light rain (4-15 mm) fell across the northwestern spring wheat areas (Gansu and Shaanxi). The rain increased topsoil moisture for planting, which was slowed by cool weather (weekly temperatures averaged 2-4 degrees C below normal).



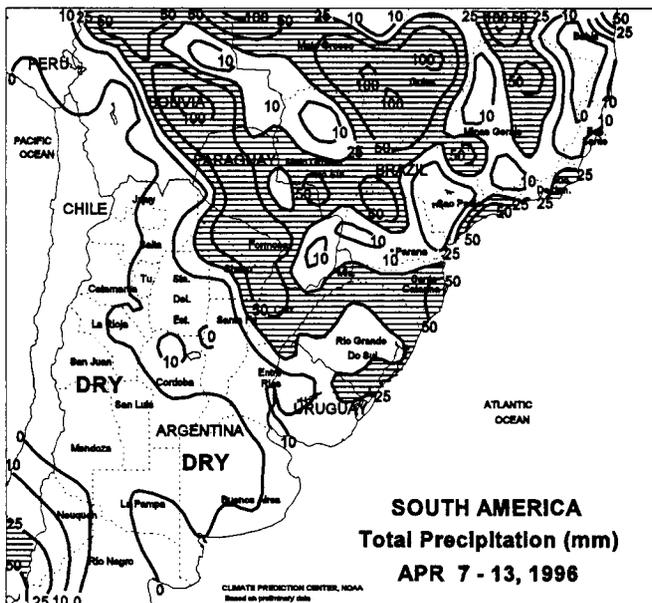
AUSTRALIA

Mostly dry weather continued over eastern Australia's main sorghum and cotton areas, favoring harvesting. Scattered, mostly light showers (15 mm or less) likely caused only minor delays in Queensland's northern crop areas. Dry weather persisted over major pasture areas and southern sugarcane areas, further reducing moisture reserves. In northern sugarcane areas, however, moderate showers boosted moisture for additional growth. Temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C below normal throughout the main summer crop and pasture areas. Elsewhere, light to moderate showers (4-28 mm) continued across winter grain and pasture areas of southeastern Australia (southern New South Wales to southeastern South Australia). In Western Australia, variable, locally heavy rain (5-50 mm or more) from the remnants of Cyclone Olivia fell throughout the main winter grain areas. Highest amounts (24-96 mm) were recorded in the north and east. In New Zealand, light to moderate rain (15-31 mm) covered the main pasture areas.



SOUTH AFRICA

Drier weather returned to the corn belt, benefiting maturing corn following last week's unfavorable wetness. In fact, measurable rain (5 mm or less) was limited to the northwestern corn belt (North West) as well as interior grain areas of Kwazulu-Natal. Light showers (3-24 mm) also fell in coastal crop areas of Eastern Cape and Kwazulu-Natal. Temperatures averaged near to below normal, with lows dipping below 10 degrees C across the region. Temperatures in the low single digits (1-2 degrees C) in the southern corn belt raised the potential for scattered frost. Elsewhere, showers (3-13 mm) in Western Cape moistened topsoils for winter wheat germination.



SOUTH AMERICA

Dry weather prevailed across central Argentina, favoring sunflower, corn, and early soybean harvesting. Farther north, moderate rain (18-45 mm) slowed cotton harvesting across northern Argentina. Reports as of early April indicated that sunflower harvesting progressed to about 85 percent, corn 32 percent, cotton 18 percent, and soybeans under 5 percent. Corn and cotton harvesting were about 15 percentage points behind schedule, while sunflower and soybeans were on schedule. In southern Brazil, rain (20-50 mm) aided immature soybeans across Rio Grande do Sul but slowed harvesting of mature soybeans. Elsewhere, isolated heavy rain (90-125 mm) fell across western Sao Paulo and northern Parana, slowing fieldwork.

Northern Hemisphere Winter Grains Weather Summary

Unusually cool weather this spring has slowed greening and early development of winter grains across key growing areas in the Northern Hemisphere. The cool weather follows a winter of generally below-normal temperatures with periods of widely fluctuating temperatures. A moderate to deep snow cover over most of Europe and the former Soviet Union protected winter grains from widespread winterkill. However, a lack of snow cover during periods of bitter cold along with high winds and poor crop establishment in the autumn caused extensive winterkill in the central and southern Great Plains region of the United States. The following is a review of the agricultural weather situation for winter grains and oilseeds in the Northern Hemisphere. Growing conditions since the autumn of 1995 as well as climatological information form the basis for this overview.

UNITED STATES: Spring storms since mid-March brought limited and localized relief from extreme dryness that gripped hard red wheat areas of the central and southern Plains during the past 6½ months (table 1). The Plains' 1996 winter wheat crop endured historically bad winter weather. In addition to dryness (fig. 1), the grains were subjected to temperature oscillations (fig. 2) and frequent high winds. Farther east, soft red winter wheat in the Ohio Valley had adequate moisture for autumn establishment, but was damaged by severe early-February cold and frequent winter and spring freeze/thaw cycles. Among major U.S. winter wheat areas, the Pacific Northwest (soft white) and the northern Plains (hard red) fared best, as extensive and deep snow cover coincided with bitter cold.

Across the central and southern Plains, 1995's last significant precipitation occurred in late September or early October. Later in October, wheat's poor establishment was ensured by a spell of 90°F heat, followed at month's end by a burn-back freeze. Windstorms and sharp temperature changes characterized the Plains' weather in November. After a few weeks of tranquility, a Plains blizzard raised dust across the region in mid-January.

A frigid air mass overspread much of the Nation in early February, producing the lowest temperatures of the decade across parts of the Nation's mid-section. Little or no snow covered wheat in the central Plains and Ohio Valley as temperatures fell below 0°F, locally dropping to -20°F. Despite readings below -20°F in the interior Pacific Northwest and to -40°F or below in Montana, wheat remained insulated beneath a thick blanket of snow.

A storm in mid-March brought the year's first substantial precipitation to Kansas. Four other March storms failed to boost monthly precipitation to normal, but improved topsoil moisture in a band from Kansas southward into north-central Texas. Heavy precipitation from an early-April storm benefited the central third of Texas, but missed the critically dry northern panhandle. Elsewhere on the Plains, dry April weather prevailed until the 13th, when precipitation briefly returned to Kansas. Despite scattered precipitation during the past month, the Plains' wheat has been slow to develop due to cool weather and continuing moisture deficits. Six consecutive cool weeks slowed wheat development in the Ohio Valley.

Table 1

Plains Precipitation (Inches / Percent of Normal)

Location	April 1-15	Jan. 1 - Apr. 15	Oct. 1, 1995 - Apr. 15, 1996
North Platte, NE	0.38 / 46%	1.21 / 43%	2.18 / 44%
Topeka, KS	0.16 / 11%	2.59 / 44%	4.03 / 33%
Concordia, KS	0.79 / 75%	2.41 / 53%	3.95 / 46%
Lubbock, TX	0.11 / 28%	0.45 / 19%	1.44 / 26%
Midland, TX	1.22 / 407%	1.35 / 71%	1.93 / 39%

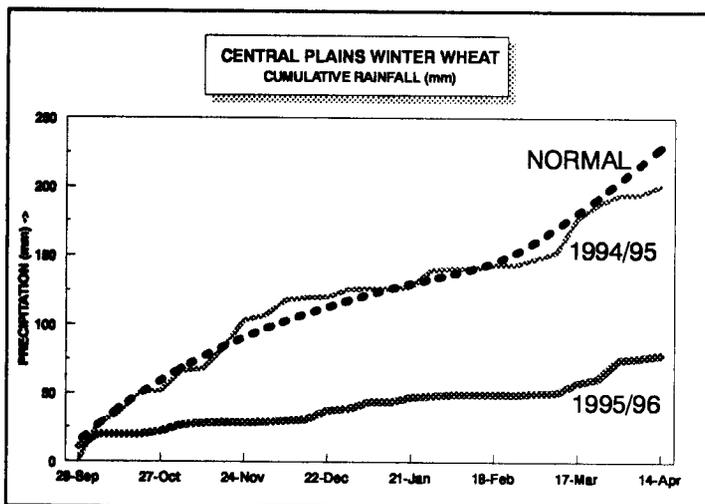


Figure 1.

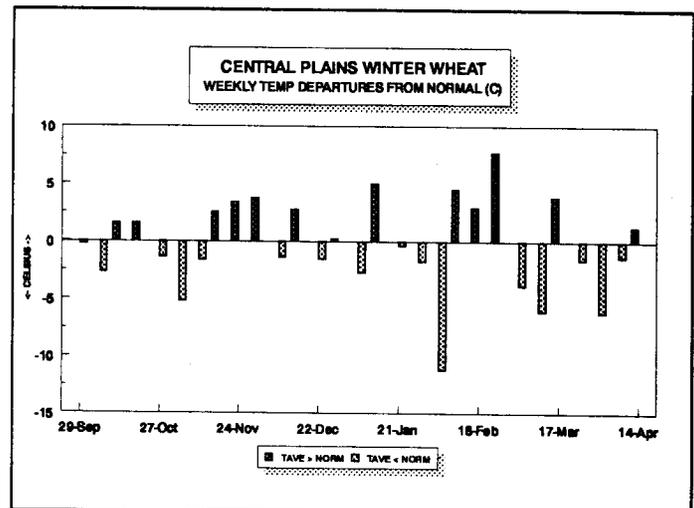


Figure 2.

MEXICO: Below normal rainfall during the rainy seasons (June to October) of both 1994 and 1995 has reduced irrigation supplies to extremely low levels across northern Mexico. Figure 3 depicts the rainfall for the past two years across northwestern Mexico, which is representative of northern Mexico. The low irrigation supplies threaten to reduce wheat and sorghum yields. In addition to low irrigation supplies, below-normal winter rainfall has stressed rainfed sorghum in the northeast. The drought has also reduced pasture growth for livestock. Northwestern Mexico (Sonora, Sinoloa, and Baja California Norte) typically accounts for about 50 percent of Mexico's total wheat production. Northeastern Mexico (Tamaulipas and Nuevo Leon) produces about 40 percent of Mexico's sorghum. Across northern Mexico, June to October rainfall usually accounts for 70 to 80 percent of the total annual rainfall.

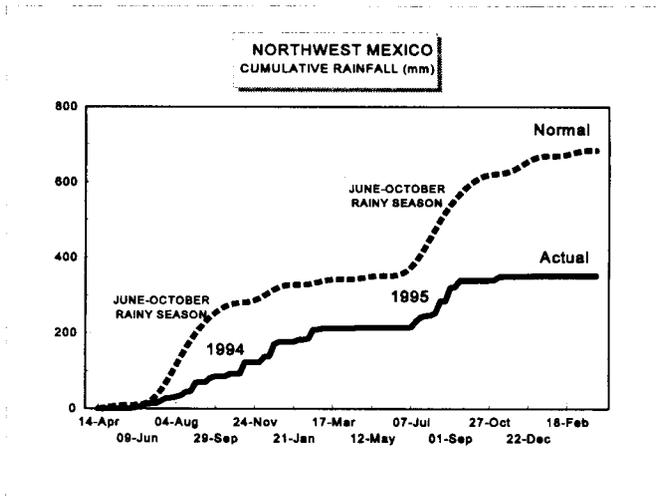


Figure 3.

UKRAINE AND RUSSIA: In traditional winter wheat producing areas of Ukraine and Russia, crop prospects are favorable and much better than last year. Weather conditions last fall (September - November, 1995) benefited crop germination and establishment. Above-normal precipitation in September provided generous topsoil moisture for germination. Although precipitation tapered off in October, soil moisture remained adequate for further crop development. Winter wheat entered dormancy in November with adequate establishment.

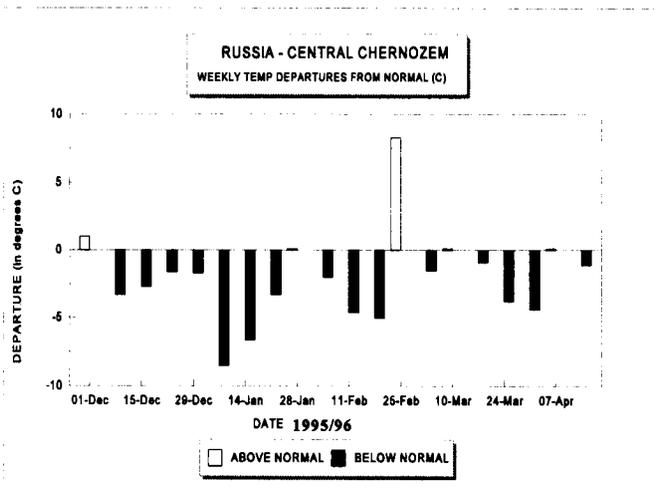


Figure 4.

During the winter (December - February), unusually cold weather maintained a moderate to deep snow cover over winter wheat areas. There were periods of bitterly cold weather which threatened winter

wheat. Two such periods of extreme cold occurred from December 29, 1995 to January 9, 1996 and February 6-13, 1996, when minimum temperatures dropped below -20 degrees C. In both cases, snow cover was adequate to protect the crop from widespread winterkill. In figure 4, the December 1, 1995 through April 13, 1996 weekly temperature departures from normal are shown for the Central Chernozem region in Russia. The persistent nature of the unusual cold as shown by the graph also occurred over Ukraine, Belarus, the Baltics, and a large portion of Russia. Precipitation during the winter was near- to above-normal over most winter wheat areas.

In March, unusually cold weather continued over winter wheat areas, maintaining a moderate to deep snow cover as far south as the southern Ukraine and the northern tip of the North Caucasus Region in Russia. Typically, snow cover begins retreating northward over Ukraine and southern Russia in March. The persistent snow cover kept winter grains dormant and prevented early season fieldwork for spring planting. However, the absence of snow cover in the western and southern portion of Russia's North Caucasus region likely permitted some timely fieldwork. Last year (1995), unusually warm weather caused snow cover to retreat northward about one month earlier than usual, and prompted early growth of winter wheat.

Since April 1, a warming trend occurred over Ukraine and Russia, melting the unusually late snow cover. By April 13, most of Ukraine and southern Russia (North Caucasus, Central Chernozem Region, and lower Volga Valley) were snow-free. The warming trend promoted greening of winter grains in the southern half of Ukraine and western North Caucasus about 1-2 weeks later than usual. Elsewhere, winter wheat remained dormant.

EUROPE: Prospects for winter grains are currently favorable over most of Europe. Moisture conditions last autumn favored crop germination in most areas except in Bulgaria where planting moisture was limited. Mild weather during the autumn favored winter grain establishment prior to dormancy. An unusually cold winter in the north and east has persisted into the early spring, slowing crop development in many areas. Although overwintering conditions were mostly favorable for winter crops throughout most of Europe, periodic bitterly cold weather in northeastern areas stressed crops. Above-normal rainfall in Spain during the winter ended a 4-year long drought.

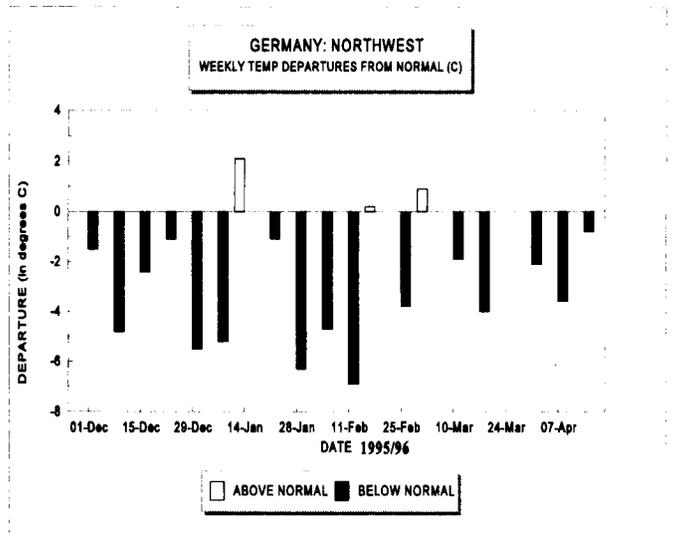


Figure 5.

In northwestern Europe (United Kingdom, France, the Netherlands, and Belgium), winter grains are typically planted in October and November. Above-normal pre-planting rains in September were followed by

periodic showers and mild weather conditions in October and November, favoring autumn-sown crops. Near- to above-normal precipitation fell during the winter, including periodic snowfalls. Temperatures during the winter averaged slightly below normal, providing favorable overwintering conditions for winter grains.

In Germany and Poland, winter grains are planted in September and October. Above-normal precipitation in September provided abundant topsoil moisture for planting. Mild weather in the autumn favored crop germination and establishment prior to dormancy in November. During the winter, cold, dry weather covered winter grain areas. Periods of bitterly cold weather occurred with lowest temperatures occurring in early February. A variable snow cover in northeastern Germany and Poland increased the likelihood for some crop damage,

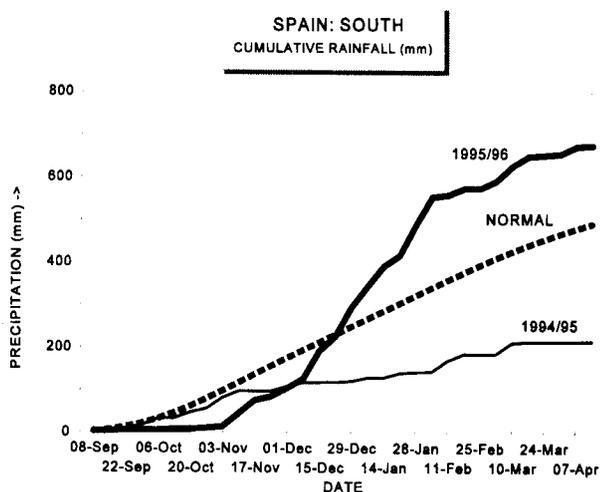


Figure 6.

especially to winter rapeseed and barley, which are less resistant to extreme cold than winter wheat or rye. In figure 5, the December 1, 1995 through April 15, 1996 weekly temperature departures from normal are shown for northwestern Germany. The graph shows the persistent nature of the cold winter weather that occurred not only in northern Germany but surrounding countries as well. In Germany, an average of several stations with available data since 1951 indicated the winter of 1996 was the coldest and driest since 1985 and the second coldest and driest since 1951. Similarly for Poland, the winter of 1996 was the coldest since 1985 and the fifth coldest in the last 46 years. For both Germany and Poland, the unusually cold winter followed 8 previous winters with temperatures averaging near- to above-normal.

In Hungary, former Yugoslavia, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Romania, and Bulgaria, winter grains are planted in September and October. Above-normal precipitation in September provided favorable topsoil moisture for winter grain emergence. The exception was the crop area in Bulgaria, where below-normal rainfall in September limited planting moisture. While dry weather prevailed over most areas in October, rainfall increased in November. During the winter, above-normal precipitation was accompanied by below-normal temperatures. Snow cover persisted over most areas during the winter, protecting winter grains from periods of bitterly cold weather.

In the Iberian Peninsula (Spain and Portugal), winter grains are planted in November and December, coinciding with the autumn rainy season.

Dry weather in October and November continued four years of unrelenting drought, delaying winter grain planting. Autumn rains began over Spain and Portugal in mid-November, prompting planting. Excessive amounts of rain in Portugal prevented planting in some areas and hampered early crop development. Above-normal rainfall continued in Spain during the winter, ending four years of drought (see figure 6). The rain increased reservoir levels and boosted soil moisture reserves depleted by the drought. An average of several stations in Spain indicated winter rainfall was the highest since 1963 and the second highest in the past 46 years.

In Italy, winter grains are usually planted in October. Above-normal precipitation in September provided favorable pre-planting moisture for winter grains. Overwintering conditions were mostly favorable for winter grains, and above-normal winter precipitation boosted soil moisture reserves.

In March, unseasonably cold weather prevailed over most of Europe, with near- to above-normal temperatures confined to western France and parts of the Iberian Peninsula. The cold weather slowed winter crop development in the north and maintained snow cover in the east later than usual. Below-normal precipitation fell over most of Europe in March. Well below-normal amounts of moisture (less than 50 percent of normal) fell from northern France eastward through northern Germany, continuing the winter's dry pattern in these areas. March's drier weather was welcomed in Spain and Portugal, following excessive wetness in some areas during the winter months. Recently, warmer weather over Europe has helped to spur winter grain development, but continued dryness in the north from the United Kingdom and northern France eastward through Poland has reduced topsoil moisture for early winter grain development.

NORTHWESTERN AFRICA: In Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia, winter grain planting usually begins in November, coinciding with the onset of the autumn rainy season. Planting often continues through December and can occur as late as early January without significant loss in yield potential. In Morocco, above-normal rainfall from mid-November through December provided adequate to abundant moisture for winter grain germination and establishment. Although above-normal rainfall during the winter kept crops well-watered, locally heavy rainfall did cause some flooding. The wet weather pattern continued into early March, but rainfall has since tapered off (figure 7).

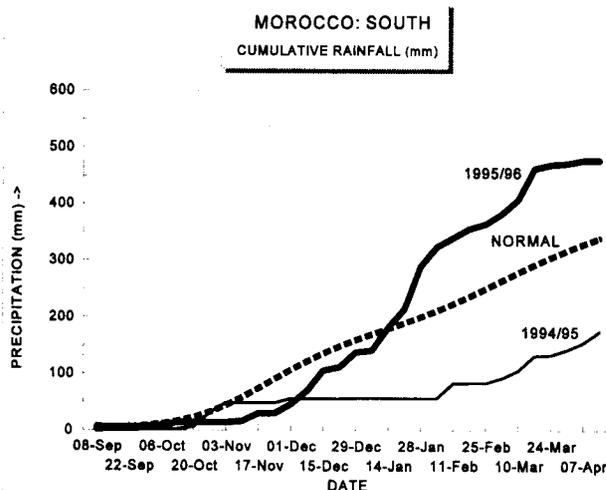


Figure 7.

7). Moisture reserves are currently favorable for winter grains in the reproductive to filling stages of development.

In Algeria and Tunisia, below-normal rainfall from November through December limited moisture for crop germination and establishment. Precipitation from January through early March increased in both timeliness and intensity, improving conditions for crop development. Although rainfall has tapered off since early March, recent light showers provided additional moisture for crop development.

CHINA: Seasonable weather has prevailed across most of the major Chinese winter wheat areas, with winter dryness confined to the southern wheat areas. In the North China Plain, where about 75 percent of all winter wheat is grown, near-to-above normal October rainfall favored germinating and vegetative wheat. During the winter, seasonably dry weather occurred across the region. Typically from November to March, only 10 to 15% of the total annual precipitation falls on the North China Plain. This period is characterized by dry weather, with only occasional light precipitation. Since winter and early spring precipitation normally is low, a majority of the wheat crop is irrigated, either by small wells or surface storage. Temperatures have been near normal across the region with one cold spell occurring in mid-February. The wheat crop entered and broke dormancy nearly on schedule. Currently, winter wheat is in the vegetative stage and typically advances through reproduction from late-April to mid-May.

Unfavorable dryness was confined to northern Anhui and Jiangsu, where wheat areas received below-normal rainfall during the autumn and winter months from September through February. Winter precipitation across this region is typically higher than the rest of the North China Plain. Although near-to-above normal March rainfall helped to ease dryness and favored vegetative wheat across this region, dryness has since returned in April. These two provinces account for about 15 percent of total wheat production.

SOUTH ASIA: For the second consecutive season, timely winter rainfall across the major winter wheat and oilseed regions of South Asia have sustained excellent crop prospects. In fact, despite a normal to sub-par start of the winter growing season, most areas have experienced a better growing season than last year, when timely rains resulted in record winter grain and oilseed production.

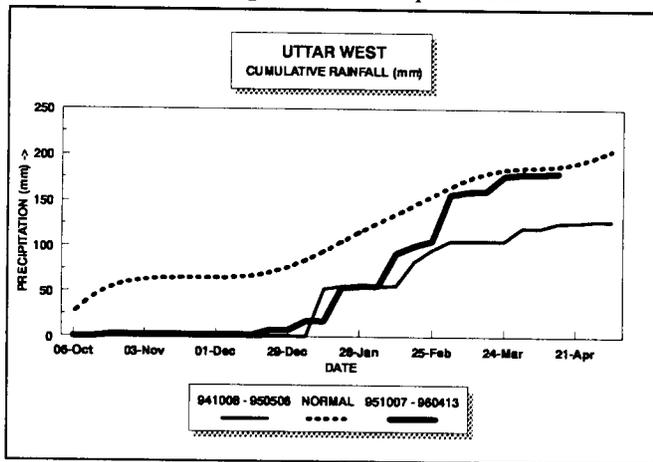


Figure 8.

Last summer's monsoon began erratically but by September, when the monsoon began its seasonal withdrawal, most summer crop areas had received adequate to abundant rain for normal crop development. Seasonal deficits, however, occurred across central and northern India and Pakistan, the primary winter grain and oilseed areas. Since

residual monsoon moisture is important across South Asia for winter plantings, moisture was limited in some areas for crop establishment.

The winter (December through February) of 1994/95 was characterized by infrequent but timely rain that boosted crop yield prospects, resulting in record winter wheat production. In 1996, winter rainfall was more evenly distributed throughout the months of January and February (Figure 8), benefiting nearly all crops during their reproductive cycle. February rainfall was especially beneficial to the rainfed portion of the crops (typically 10-20%) in Pakistan and India.

By March, seasonably drier conditions had settled in over the region, although isolated showers continued in India's far northern grain areas. Temperatures have been variable, with periods of unseasonable heat hastening crop maturity and aiding crop dry-down. Harvesting is advancing across the region, and continued warm, dry weather is critical in maintaining good quality.

MIDDLE EAST & TURKEY: Across the eastern Mediterranean region, mild, wet weather has recently improved crop prospects following a generally drier-than-normal winter.

Turkey - Autumn (September through November) rainfall was evenly distributed, totalling near to above normal in most winter wheat areas. However, excessive rainfall in sections of Anatolia and the southeast during November likely caused some localized flooding and possibly affected germinating wheat. In winter (December through February), rainfall was frequent but trended below normal. Turkey's driest areas were along the Mediterranean coast, where cotton and some winter wheat is grown. Winter temperatures were generally above normal, reducing the likelihood of significant winterkill.

In early March, cool, wet weather increased soil moisture reserves for tillering wheat. Unseasonable coolness in Anatolia kept winter grains dormant longer than usual but reduced evaporative losses. Elsewhere, generally mild weather and adequate moisture benefited winter wheat development.

Middle East - The rainy season got off to a slow start during the autumn of 1995. Rainfall was below normal in a band from Israel through Syria eastward to the Caspian, reducing available moisture for crop establishment. However, beginning in January, a wetter pattern enveloped the region, bringing needed precipitation (Figure 9). While still trending below normal, the rainfall was both timely and highly beneficial for vegetative to reproductive crops. Seasonal moisture (since September 1) is still generally below normal, forcing some crops to rely on limited moisture reserves. Throughout the region, the wet season is winding down, and most areas should not receive much more rain. The region's wheat development ranges from reproductive to filling in the coolest areas to maturing in the warmest regions.

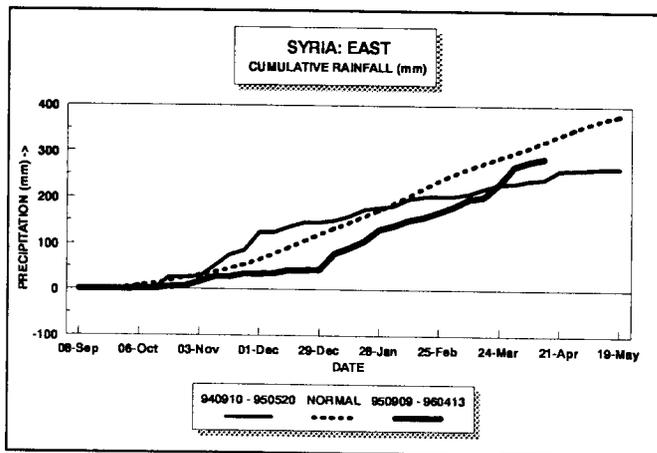


Figure 9.

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(continued from page 8)

Corrected Tables for Week Ending April 7, 1996

Winter Wheat Crop Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
AR	1	6	27	56	10
CA	0	0	15	55	30
CO	14	18	39	25	4
GA	1	6	25	62	6
ID	0	1	8	58	33
IL	31	32	29	7	1
IN	19	33	37	11	0
KS	23	34	31	12	0
MI	8	10	21	51	10
MO	17	35	33	14	1
MT	0	4	25	59	12
NE	11	29	46	14	0
NC	0	13	20	47	20
OH	9	19	45	24	3
OK	20	35	34	11	0
OR	0	0	3	46	51
SD	3	20	44	31	2
TX	25	45	22	8	0
WA	0	0	8	61	31
ALL	16	27	30	22	5
Prev Wk	15	25	33	22	5
Prev Yr	2	8	32	47	11

Winter Wheat Crop Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
AR	1	7	31	52	9
CA	0	0	10	65	25
CO	12	21	42	21	4
GA	2	5	32	52	9
ID	0	1	9	57	33
IL	20	34	33	12	1
IN	14	24	43	19	0
KS	21	31	36	12	0
MI	3	6	28	43	20
MO	16	32	36	15	1
MT	0	5	47	40	8
NE	10	37	38	15	0
NC	0	3	32	60	5
OH	9	16	38	32	5
OK	19	35	36	10	0
OR	0	0	13	47	40
SD	2	18	31	47	2
TX	27	36	29	8	0
WA	0	0	4	64	32
ALL	15	25	33	22	5
Prev Wk	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Prev Yr	1	4	26	57	12

Spring Wheat Percent Planted				
	Apr 7 1996	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	22	NA	NA	NA
MN	0	NA	NA	NA
MT	0	NA	NA	NA
ND	0	NA	NA	NA
SD	1	NA	NA	NA
ALL	1	NA	NA	NA
These 5 States produced 96% of the 1995 spring wheat crop.				

VP - Very Poor
P - Poor
F - Fair
G - Good
EX - Excellent

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