

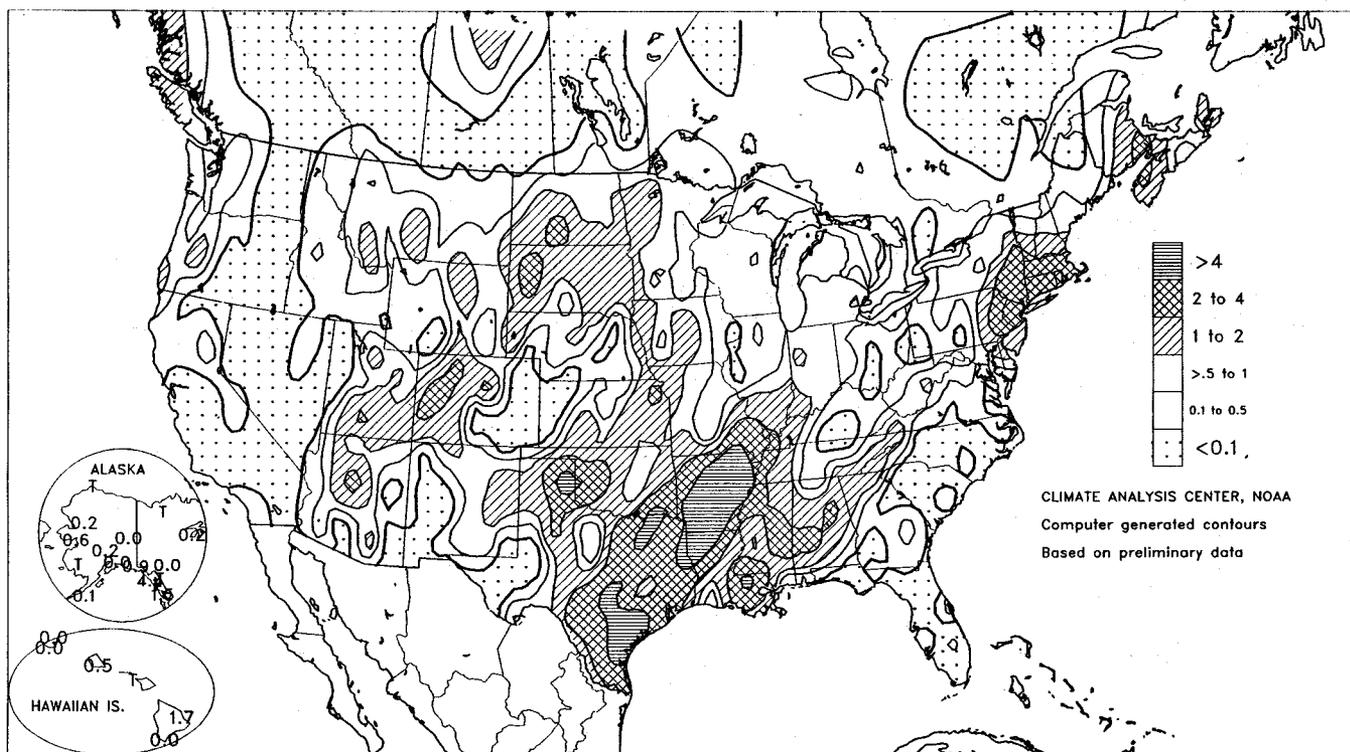
WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

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

Total Precipitation (Inches)

MAR 30 - APR 5, 1997



CLIMATE ANALYSIS CENTER, NOAA
Computer generated contours
Based on preliminary data

HIGHLIGHTS

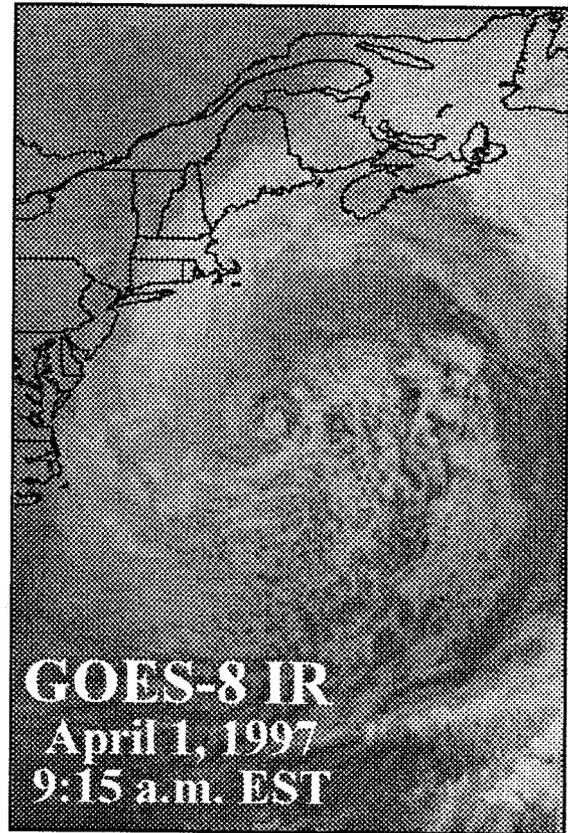
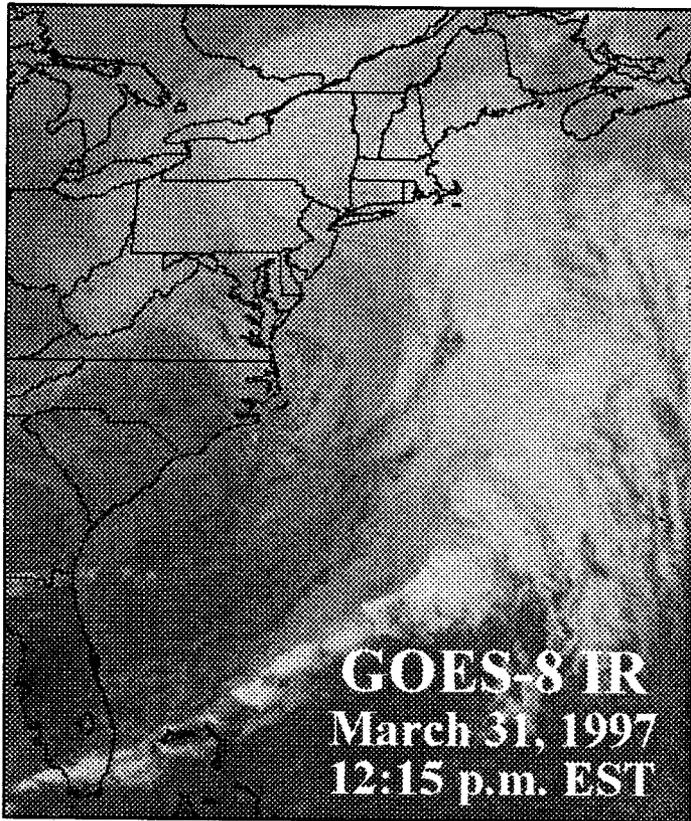
March 30 - April 5, 1997

A pair of vicious spring storms paralyzed parts of the Nation beneath wind-driven snow, first interrupting an otherwise placid season in the **Northeast**, then extending a long-running spell of miserable weather across the **North Central States**. The latter storm also dropped much-needed moisture on the **central and southern Plains**, especially from **Texas' Northern Panhandle** to **eastern Kansas**. But the system also sparked some flooding, especially in **northern Texas** and from **southern Texas** to the **lower Ohio Valley**. In contrast, dry weather persisted in the **Southeast**. Very cool weather prevailed in the **West** during and after the second storm's passage, holding weekly temperatures up to 7°F below

(Continued on page 3)

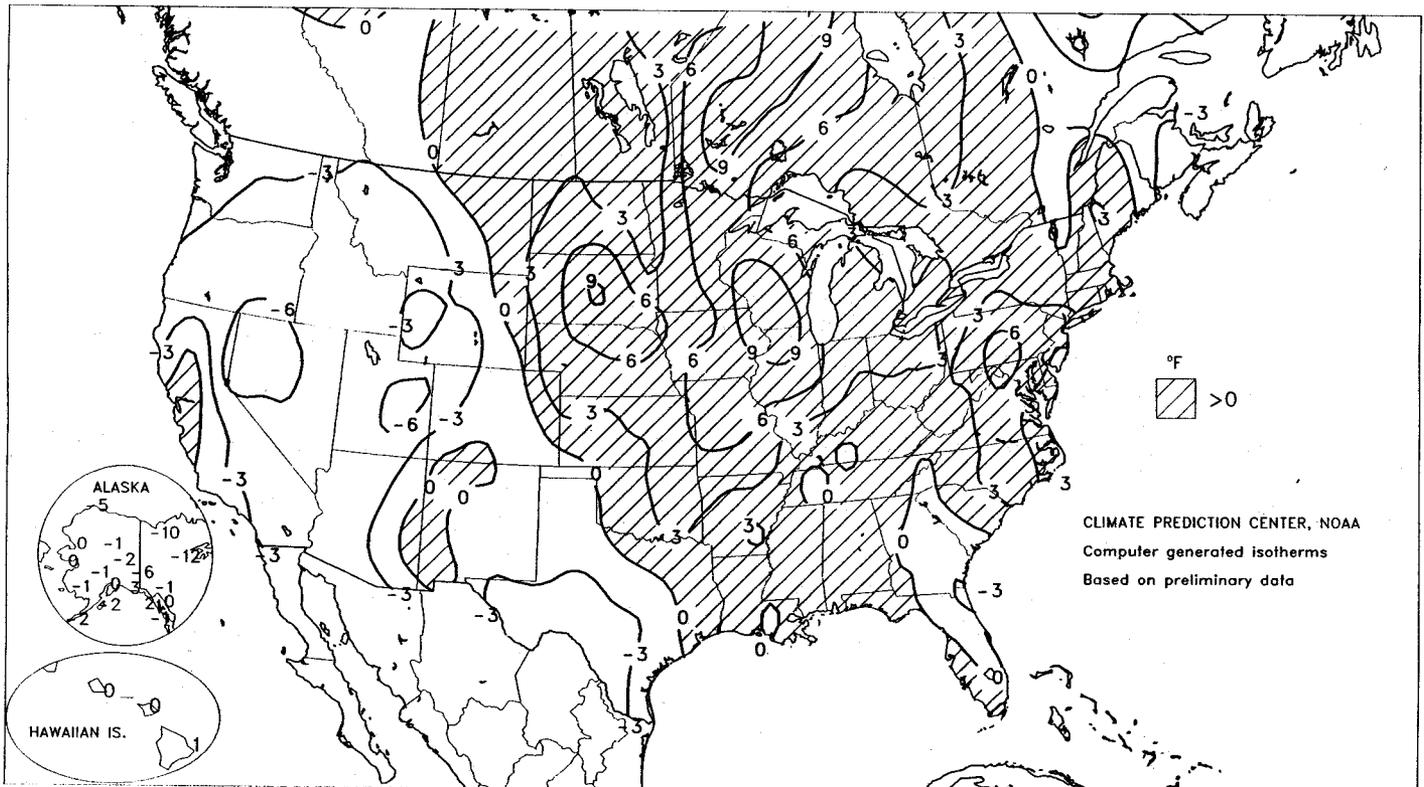
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Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F)

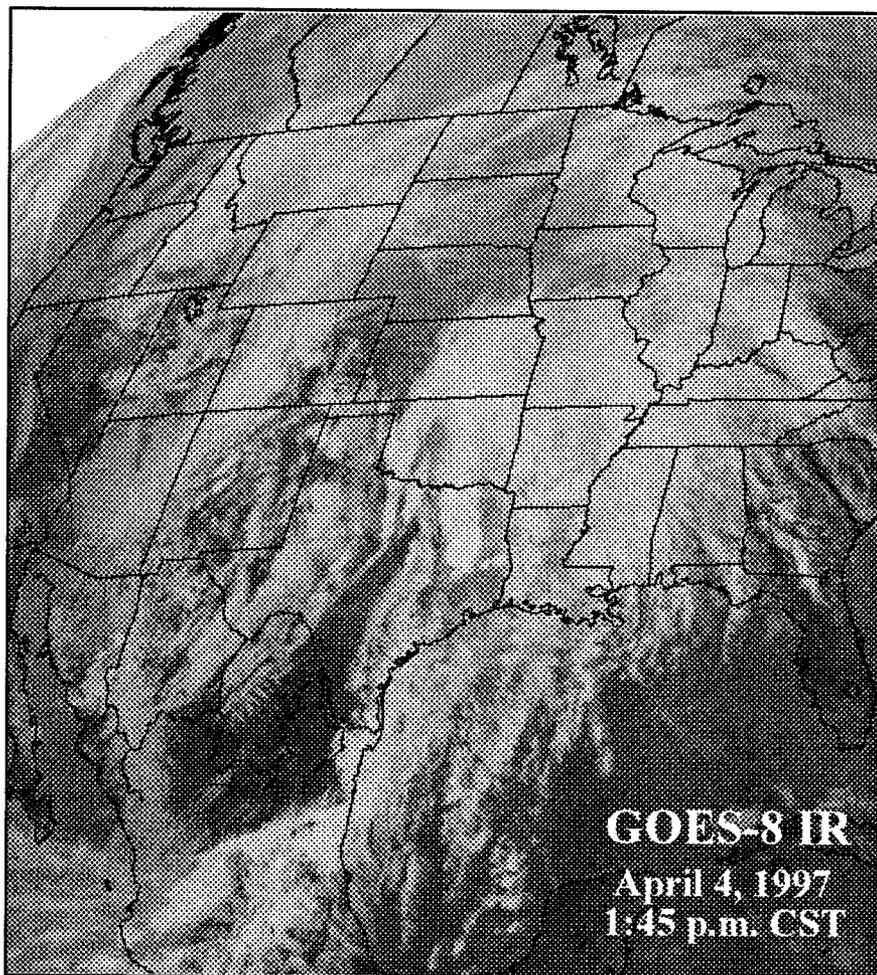
MAR 30 - APR 5, 1997



(Continued from front cover)

normal and promoting more than a dozen daily-record lows. Despite the arrival of cooler air across the **Southeast**, temperatures averaged near normal. Farther north, however, departures ranged from +3 to +10°F in a band from the **upper Midwest** to the **Middle Atlantic region**, resulting in more than a dozen daily-record highs.

Early in the week, a storm intensified explosively near the **Middle Atlantic coast**. A day before the storm hit, **Bridgeport, CT** tallied a daily-record high (66°F) for March 30. Heavy snow was confined to a narrow band from **northeastern Maryland** to **southern Maine**. Nevertheless, an all-time, storm-total record 33.0 inches, accompanied by wind gusts to 47 mph, blanketed **Worcester, MA** on March 31 - April 1, eclipsing their mark of 32.1 inches set on December 11-13, 1992. Elsewhere in **Massachusetts**, totals of 30.0 inches (gusts to 72 mph) at the **Blue Hills Observatory** and 25.4 inches in **Boston** (gusts to 53 mph) were the locations' third-greatest snowfalls on record. **Boston's** snow depth reached an April-record 21 inches. Even though the storm unfolded on the last day of March, April snowfall records were established in several locations, including **Worcester** (24.0 inches), **Boston** (22.4 inches), and **Providence, RI** (18.0 inches). Elsewhere, storm totals reached 37.0 inches in **East Jewett, NY**, 36.0 inches in **Milford, MA**, 30.5 inches in **Burrillville, RI**, and 26.0 inches atop **High Point, NJ**.



The departing storm propelled cool air deep into the **Southeast**, resulting in scattered frost. On Tuesday, **Augusta, GA** noted a low of 32°F. A day later, daily records were set in **Bristol, TN** and **Asheville, NC** (both 28°F). **Macon, GA** recorded 33°F. Meanwhile, very warm air spread into the Nation's mid-section in advance of a developing storm. On Monday, daily-record highs reached 73°F in **Williston, ND** and 75°F in **Worland, WY**. Two days later, **Marquette, MI** notched 63°F despite a 37-inch snow cover.

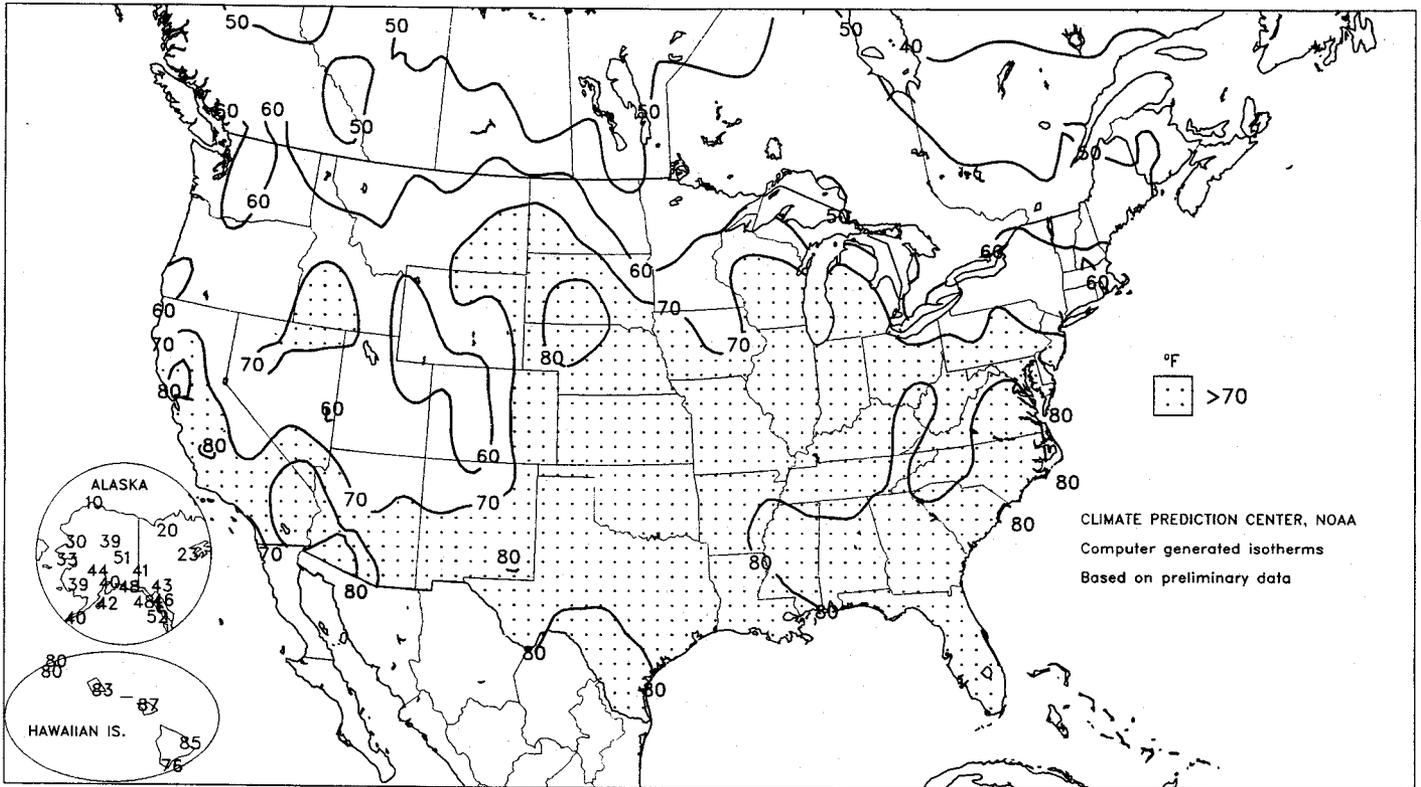
Over the course of several days, a major storm evolved across the **West**. As early as Sunday, wind gusts in **western Washington** were clocked to 69 mph on **Whidbey Island** and 60 mph in **Bellingham**. By midweek, a powerful low-pressure system developed over the **Southwest**. On Wednesday, winds in **Utah** gusted to 84 mph in **Centerville** and 66 mph in **Brigham City**. Heavy snow developed and spread northeastward from **Arizona's** **Mongollon Rim**. In **Flagstaff, AZ**, 28.0 inches fell on April 2--an April record and second only to a 31.0-inch total on December 30, 1915--en route to a storm total of 44.3 inches. Meanwhile, torrential rain developed across **southeastern Texas**. On Wednesday, **Victoria's** 5.03-inch rainfall was their first of three consecutive daily records, totaling 9.89 inches.

On the **central and southern Plains**, storm-total rainfall reached 1.95 inches in **Amarillo, TX**, 1.58 inches in **Wichita, KS**, and 1.01 inches in **Oklahoma City, OK**. East of **Amarillo**, isolated totals topped 10 inches, causing a record crest on the **Salt Fork of the Red River** near **Wellington, TX**. Dryness persisted, however, across parts of **western Kansas**, where only 0.06 inches fell in **Goodland**. As moisture spread northeastward on April 4-5, **Shreveport, LA** measured their sixth-greatest 24-hour rainfall (7.81 inches) on record. Farther north, a blizzard engulfed the **North Central States**. In **Scottsbluff, NE**, 11.2 inches of snow fell on Saturday, driven by April-record wind gusts to 68 mph. Similarly, gusts to 69 mph accompanied 6.4 inches of snow in **Rapid City, SD**. Storm-total snowfall of 13.8 inches in **Billings, MT** placed their seasonal snowfall at 90.4 inches, less than 4 inches from the 1954-55 record. With a 17.3-inch total, a new seasonal snowfall record was established in **Bismarck, ND** (101.3 inches), surpassing 1993-94's record. East of the storm's track, highs on Friday soared to 79°F in **Milwaukee, WI** and 72°F in **Flint, MI**.

Heavy snow and very strong winds continued into April 6 across the **upper Midwest**. The **James and Red River basins** endured the unique combination of blizzard conditions and major to record flooding. The storm added an unwelcomed 1 to 3 inches of moisture to the already saturated basins. Cold air overspread the **Northwest** in the storm's wake. **Forks, WA** noted consecutive daily-record lows (24 and 27°F) on April 4-5. Other records on Saturday included 25°F in **Spokane, WA** and 9°F in **Ely, NV**. Meanwhile, heavy rain arrived in **southern Alaska** late in the week. An April-record 2.92 inches pelted **Kodiak** on Friday. Farther north, **Barrow's** temperature topped 0°F on April 4 for the first time in 20 days.

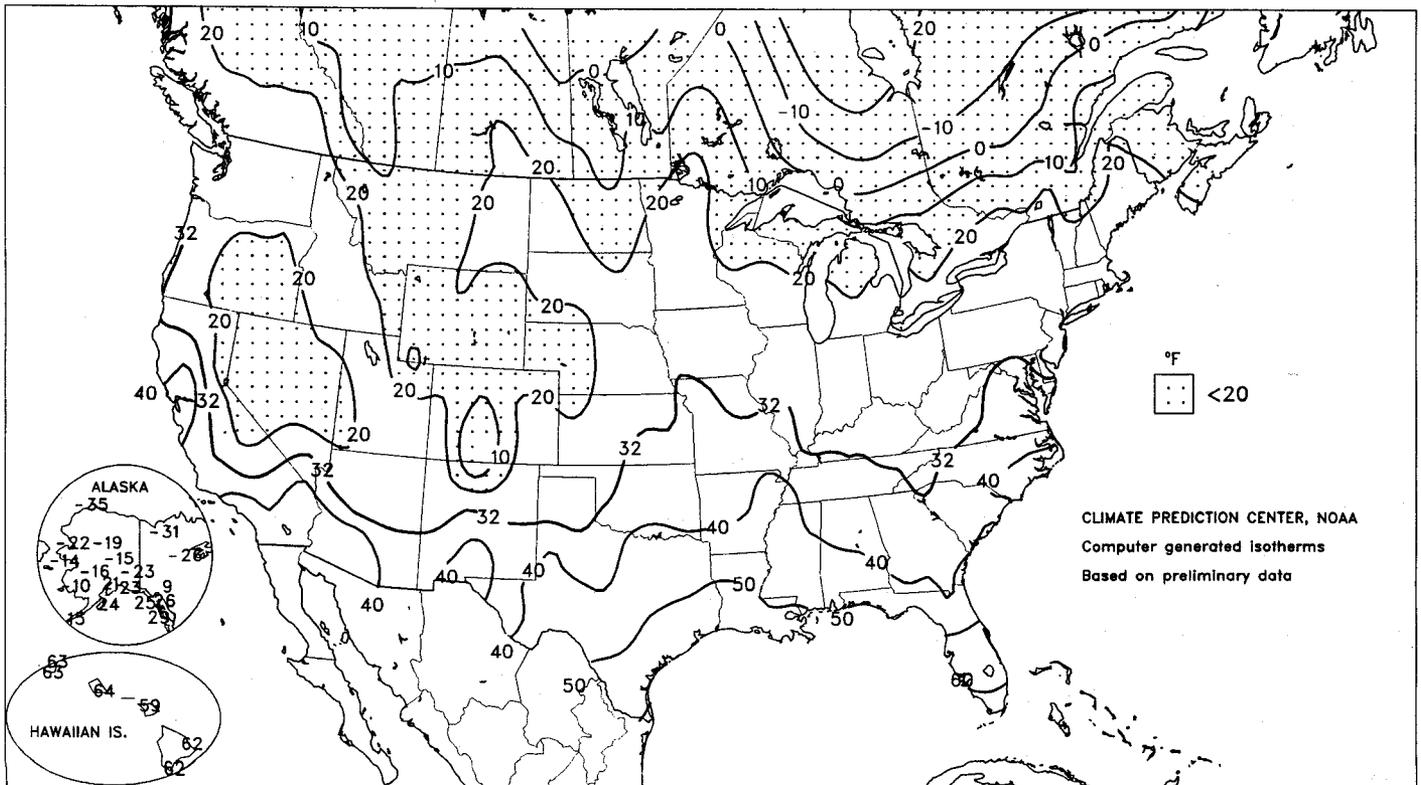
Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F)

MAR 30 - APR 5, 1997

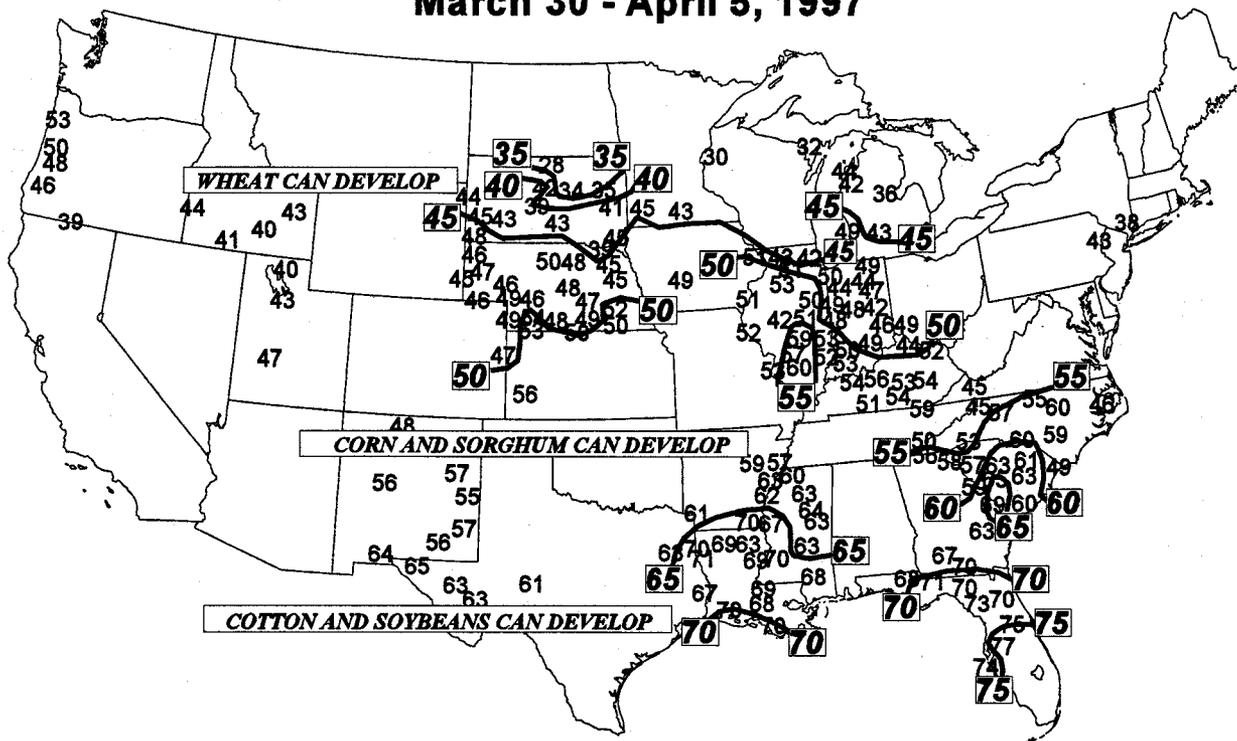


Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)

MAR 30 - APR 5, 1997

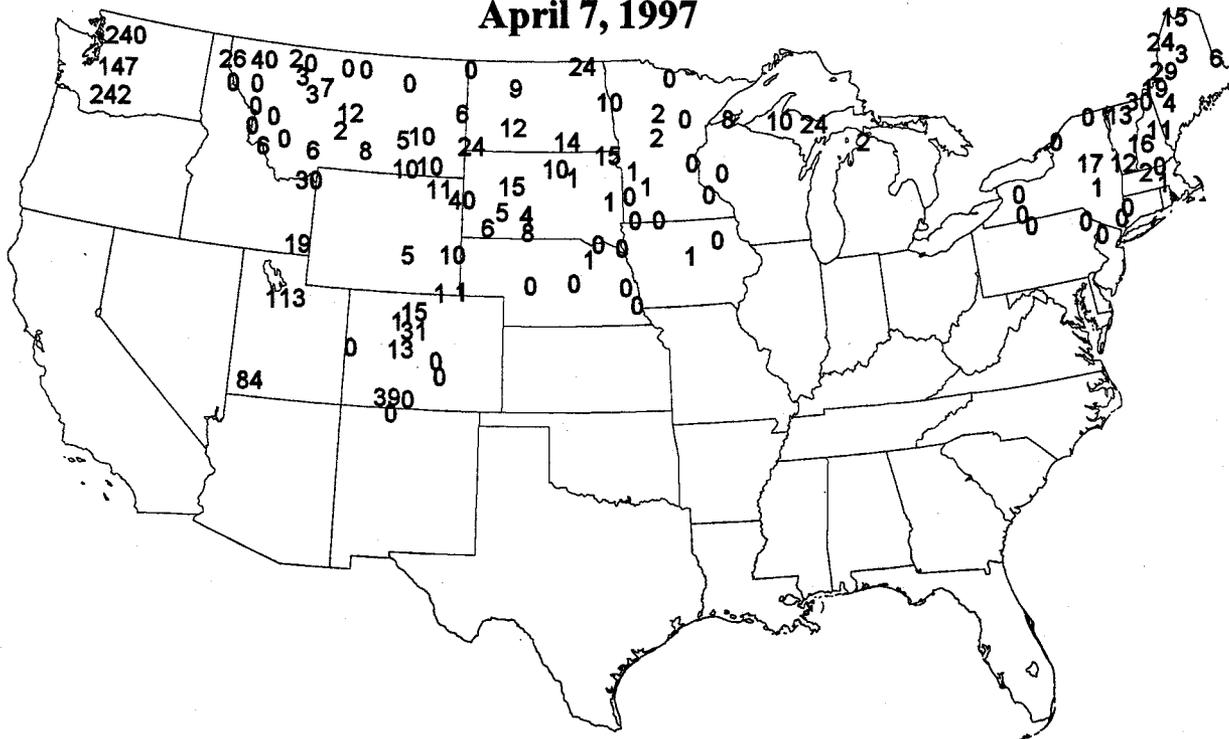


Average Soil Temperature (°F 4-Inch Bare) March 30 - April 5, 1997



NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY
Based on preliminary data

SNOW DEPTH (Inches) April 7, 1997



Experimental product based on preliminary data
NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY

The NWS co-operative observer network is the principal source of the snow depth reports. Gaps in data coverage will be disappearing as more data come online.

National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 5, 1997

| 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 | 32 AND BELOW | 01 INCH OR MORE | 50 INCH OR MORE |
| AL BIRMINGHAM | 74 | 45 | 81 | 36 | 60 | 1 | 0.93 | -0.36 | 0.93 | 4.16 | 59 | 15.28 | 90 | - | - | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| MOBILE | 75 | 55 | 81 | 46 | 65 | 1 | 0.18 | -1.00 | 0.12 | 5.54 | 77 | 16.09 | 92 | 83 | 35 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| MONTGOMERY | 76 | 47 | 84 | 40 | 62 | 1 | 1.57 | 0.36 | 1.25 | 3.00 | 42 | 15.95 | 92 | 85 | 32 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 |
| AK ANCHORAGE | 37 | 25 | 40 | 21 | 31 | 0 | 0.00 | -0.16 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0 | 0.63 | 26 | 80 | 39 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 0 |
| BARROW | -8 | -22 | 10 | -35 | -15 | -5 | 0.02 | -0.04 | 0.02 | 0.06 | 33 | 0.14 | 34 | 78 | 74 | 0 | 7 | 1 | 0 |
| FAIRBANKS | 35 | 3 | 51 | -15 | 20 | -2 | 0.00 | -0.08 | 0.00 | 0.07 | 16 | 0.66 | 50 | 70 | 29 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 0 |
| JUNEAU | 43 | 30 | 46 | 26 | 36 | 0 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0 | 5 | - | - |
| KODIAK | 38 | 29 | 42 | 24 | 34 | -2 | 3.66 | 2.71 | 2.37 | 5.20 | 98 | 22.11 | 123 | 82 | 59 | 0 | 5 | 5 | 2 |
| NOME | 19 | 5 | 33 | -14 | 12 | 0 | 0.62 | 0.46 | 0.36 | 0.76 | 119 | 2.65 | 130 | 84 | 75 | 0 | 7 | 4 | 0 |
| AZ PHOENIX | 71 | 54 | 84 | 47 | 62 | 4 | 0.25 | 0.13 | 0.16 | 0.25 | 26 | 1.71 | 73 | 61 | 29 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| PRESCOTT | 50 | 34 | 70 | 27 | 42 | -4 | 0.74 | 0.44 | 0.26 | 0.74 | 37 | 3.80 | 75 | - | - | 0 | 3 | 5 | 0 |
| TUCSON | 70 | 50 | 80 | 40 | 60 | -3 | 0.49 | 0.37 | 0.41 | 0.49 | 63 | 2.10 | 90 | 75 | 26 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| YUMA | 72 | 54 | 85 | 48 | 63 | -5 | 0.02 | -0.03 | 0.02 | 0.02 | 7 | 0.48 | 57 | - | - | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| AR FORT SMITH | 72 | 50 | 78 | 36 | 61 | 4 | 1.82 | 0.92 | 1.57 | 5.83 | 127 | 12.88 | 142 | 87 | 38 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 1 |
| LITTLE ROCK | 71 | 50 | 79 | 41 | 61 | 3 | 3.75 | 2.51 | - | 11.59 | 200 | 18.86 | 151 | - | - | 0 | 0 | 3 | 2 |
| CA BAKERSFIELD | 70 | 41 | 84 | 37 | 56 | -4 | 0.00 | -0.19 | 0.00 | 0.21 | 18 | 2.99 | 97 | 77 | 21 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| EUREKA | 54 | 38 | 57 | 34 | 46 | -4 | 0.32 | -0.62 | 0.27 | 2.73 | 46 | 14.11 | 84 | 89 | 50 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| FRESNO | 71 | 43 | 82 | 40 | 57 | -1 | 0.02 | -0.31 | 0.02 | 0.11 | 5 | 3.50 | 60 | 82 | 17 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| LOS ANGELES | 65 | 53 | 68 | 50 | 59 | 0 | 0.43 | 0.14 | 0.08 | 0.27 | 12 | 4.48 | 63 | 69 | 27 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 |
| REDDING | 68 | 42 | 78 | 35 | 55 | 0 | 0.00 | -0.72 | 0.00 | 2.12 | 44 | 11.83 | 77 | - | - | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| SACRAMENTO | 70 | 45 | 79 | 41 | 58 | 2 | 0.00 | -0.43 | 0.00 | 0.58 | 20 | 8.52 | 90 | - | - | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| SAN DIEGO | 64 | 54 | 66 | 47 | 59 | -2 | 0.29 | -0.01 | 0.18 | 0.29 | 15 | 3.56 | 67 | 76 | 40 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| SAN FRANCISCO | 64 | 48 | 75 | 43 | 56 | 2 | 0.04 | -0.47 | 0.03 | 0.25 | 7 | 8.05 | 74 | 89 | 30 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| CO DENVER | 54 | 29 | 73 | 20 | 42 | -2 | 0.65 | 0.21 | 0.38 | 0.80 | 53 | 1.47 | 57 | - | - | 0 | 5 | 3 | 0 |
| GRAND JUNCTION | 54 | 32 | 67 | 25 | 43 | -5 | 1.59 | 1.39 | 0.89 | 2.08 | 196 | 2.79 | 132 | 88 | 51 | 0 | 4 | 6 | 1 |
| PUEBLO | 61 | 28 | 75 | 15 | 44 | -3 | 0.36 | 0.17 | 0.17 | 0.62 | 68 | 1.21 | 79 | 84 | 31 | 0 | 5 | 4 | 0 |
| CT BRIDGEPORT | 56 | 37 | 66 | 30 | 47 | 3 | 1.87 | 0.99 | 1.83 | 4.91 | 112 | 10.01 | 94 | - | - | 0 | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| HARTFORD | 55 | 34 | 63 | 27 | 45 | 1 | 1.18 | 0.31 | 1.14 | 3.78 | 89 | 8.35 | 77 | 75 | 34 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| DC WASHINGTON | 67 | 45 | 79 | 33 | 56 | 4 | 0.44 | -0.21 | 0.25 | 4.15 | 115 | 9.15 | 101 | 72 | 33 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| FL PANAMA CITY | 75 | 56 | 79 | 50 | 66 | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0 | 0 | - | - |
| DAYTONA BEACH | 76 | 52 | 87 | 49 | 64 | -3 | 0.02 | -0.53 | 0.02 | 2.30 | 70 | 4.79 | 52 | - | - | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| JACKSONVILLE | 76 | 49 | 86 | 40 | 62 | -3 | 0.27 | -0.38 | 0.27 | 1.84 | 45 | 6.01 | 54 | 88 | 39 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| KEY WEST | 81 | 73 | 84 | 70 | 77 | 2 | 0.00 | -0.34 | 0.00 | 1.87 | 96 | 6.20 | 107 | 79 | 59 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| MIAMI | 82 | 67 | 87 | 62 | 75 | 1 | 0.03 | -0.50 | 0.03 | 2.06 | 74 | 5.29 | 77 | 78 | 44 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| ORLANDO | 80 | 55 | 86 | 52 | 68 | -2 | 0.00 | -0.51 | 0.00 | 3.46 | 97 | 6.96 | 78 | 84 | 40 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| TALLAHASSEE | 77 | 49 | 80 | 38 | 63 | -1 | 0.49 | -0.59 | 0.49 | 2.08 | 30 | 11.49 | 66 | 86 | 43 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| TAMPA | 82 | 61 | 86 | 56 | 72 | 3 | 0.09 | -0.29 | 0.08 | 1.28 | 39 | 2.89 | 35 | 80 | 41 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| GA WEST PALM BEACH | 81 | 65 | 85 | 56 | 73 | 0 | 0.00 | -0.56 | 0.00 | 3.39 | 102 | 12.09 | 139 | 76 | 43 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| ATLANTA | 72 | 46 | 79 | 37 | 59 | 1 | 0.44 | -0.70 | 0.43 | 2.62 | 40 | 15.26 | 95 | 67 | 29 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| AUGUSTA | 76 | 40 | 84 | 32 | 58 | -1 | 0.06 | -0.82 | 0.06 | 2.27 | 43 | 10.78 | 79 | 92 | 27 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| MACON | 77 | 42 | 85 | 33 | 60 | -1 | 0.58 | -0.34 | 0.32 | 1.49 | 27 | 11.96 | 81 | 92 | 30 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| SAVANNAH | 75 | 45 | 85 | 36 | 60 | -3 | 0.00 | -0.75 | 0.00 | 1.54 | 36 | 6.93 | 62 | 89 | 33 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| HI HILO | 81 | 65 | 85 | 62 | 73 | 1 | 1.67 | -1.96 | 0.83 | 20.09 | 121 | 30.25 | 82 | 88 | 60 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 2 |
| HONOLULU | 82 | 68 | 83 | 64 | 75 | 0 | 0.58 | 0.15 | - | 5.48 | 215 | 13.35 | 161 | 85 | 57 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 |
| KAHULUI | 84 | 63 | 87 | 59 | 74 | 0 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0 | 0 | - | - |
| LIHUE | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 82 | 68 | - | - | - | - |
| ID BOISE | 57 | 30 | 72 | 21 | 43 | -3 | 0.00 | -0.30 | 0.00 | 0.52 | 34 | 3.39 | 84 | 80 | 21 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| LEWISTON | 54 | 33 | 64 | 28 | 44 | -4 | 0.13 | -0.12 | 0.11 | 1.82 | 146 | 5.45 | 158 | - | - | 0 | 4 | 2 | 0 |
| POCATELLO | 50 | 24 | 66 | 21 | 37 | -4 | 0.12 | -0.16 | 0.08 | 0.80 | 54 | 2.76 | 80 | 86 | 32 | 0 | 7 | 2 | 0 |
| IL CHICAGO | 61 | 40 | 75 | 27 | 51 | 7 | 0.32 | -0.47 | 0.26 | 1.87 | 57 | 7.65 | 124 | 86 | 43 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 0 |
| MOLINE | 65 | 43 | 72 | 26 | 54 | 9 | 0.37 | -0.47 | 0.21 | 1.47 | 42 | 6.96 | 110 | - | - | 0 | 1 | 4 | 0 |
| PEORIA | 65 | 43 | 73 | 31 | 54 | 8 | 0.67 | -0.16 | 0.33 | 2.27 | 64 | 8.53 | 132 | 86 | 42 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 |
| QUINCY | 66 | 45 | 76 | 28 | 55 | 7 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0 | 1 | - | - |
| ROCKFORD | 63 | 41 | 73 | 30 | 52 | 10 | 0.42 | -0.35 | 0.28 | 1.66 | 55 | 5.62 | 103 | - | - | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 |
| SPRINGFIELD | 66 | 43 | 78 | 31 | 54 | 7 | 0.23 | -0.61 | 0.10 | 2.63 | 68 | 6.72 | 94 | - | - | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 |
| IN EVANSVILLE | 63 | 40 | 73 | 30 | 52 | 0 | 1.37 | 0.38 | 0.93 | 8.13 | 151 | 15.10 | 135 | 91 | 40 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 |
| FORT WAYNE | 61 | 35 | 77 | 23 | 48 | 4 | 0.65 | -0.11 | 0.44 | 3.77 | 109 | 9.52 | 132 | 89 | 41 | 0 | 4 | 3 | 0 |
| INDIANAPOLIS | 62 | 40 | 74 | 28 | 51 | 3 | 0.84 | -0.03 | 0.50 | 5.19 | 117 | 12.59 | 137 | 76 | 41 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| SOUTH BEND | 59 | 37 | 77 | 21 | 48 | 4 | 0.53 | -0.34 | 0.44 | 2.51 | 67 | 7.31 | 93 | - | - | 0 | 4 | 4 | 0 |
| IA DES MOINES | 62 | 41 | 71 | 26 | 51 | 7 | 1.21 | 0.51 | 0.88 | 2.49 | 92 | 3.40 | 73 | 85 | 46 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 1 |
| SIOUX CITY | 63 | 36 | 75 | 27 | 50 | 6 | 1.21 | 0.73 | 1.12 | 1.67 | 73 | 2.62 | 74 | 87 | 50 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| WATERLOO | 62 | 38 | 69 | 22 | 50 | 8 | 0.73 | 0.06 | 0.62 | 2.25 | 81 | 3.99 | 86 | - | - | 0 | 2 | 4 | 1 |
| KS CONCORDIA | 64 | 42 | 70 | 30 | 53 | 6 | 0.29 | -0.20 | 0.24 | 0.46 | 18 | 1.99 | 51 | 85 | 42 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 |
| DODGE CITY | 65 | 38 | 72 | 26 | 51 | 2 | 0.59 | 0.18 | 0.46 | 0.59 | 32 | 1.81 | 61 | 90 | 42 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 0 |
| GOODLAND | 63 | 32 | 77 | 19 | 48 | 3 | 0.06 | -0.16 | 0.04 | 0.06 | 5 | 1.11 | 52 | 87 | 39 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 0 |
| TOPEKA | 67 | 43 | 76 | 29 | 55 | 5 | 1.97 | 1.33 | 0.76 | 2.21 | 76 | 5.09 | 104 | 91 | 32 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 3 |
| WICHITA | 65 | 44 | 70 | 33 | 55 | 2 | 1.59 | 0.97 | 1.40 | 2.05 | 67 | 4.57 | 91 | 87 | 42 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 1 |
| KY BOWLING GREEN | 65 | 40 | 73 | 30 | 53 | 0 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0 | 1 | - | - |
| LEXINGTON | 64 | 39 | 77 | 28 | 51 | 0 | 0.24 | -0.70 | 0.18 | 13.88 | 274 | 21.87 | 196 | 71 | 31 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| LOUISVILLE | 66 | 43 | 76 | 35 | 55 | 3 | 0.41 | -0.61 | 0.29 | 17.81 | 332 | 26.47 | 229 | 86 | 33 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| LA BATON ROUGE | 74 | 55 | 77 | 47 | 64 | -1 | 4.19 | 3.00 | 1.69 | 6.81 | 120 | 20.44 | 127 | - | - | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| LAKE CHARLES | 73 | 60 | 79 | 56 | 66 | 1 | 1.53 | 0.85 | 0.88 | 4.57 | 122 | 17.84 | 150 | 88 | 60 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 1 |
| NEW ORLEANS | 73 | 59 | 77 | 51 | 66 | 1 | 0.42 | -0.64 | 0.38 | 2.58 | 46 | 15.14 | 90 | 85 | 39 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| SHREVEPORT | 74 | 55 | 77 | 48 | 64 | 2 | 8.04 | 7.18 | 4.88 | 16.53 | 355 | 29.09 | 223 | 83 | 44 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 2 |

Based on 1961-90 normals

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 5, 1997

| 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 | 92 AND BELOW | PRECIP. | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | .01 INCH OR MORE | .50 INCH OR MORE |
| ME CARIBOU | 38 | 24 | 45 | 18 | 31 | -1 | 0.18 | -0.38 | 0.18 | 2.47 | 87 | 8.30 | 116 | 75 | 54 | 0 | 7 | 1 | 0 |
| ME PORTLAND | 51 | 31 | 58 | 28 | 41 | 2 | 0.29 | -0.63 | 0.27 | 4.06 | 94 | 9.10 | 81 | 75 | 41 | 0 | 5 | 3 | 0 |
| MD BALTIMORE | 66 | 42 | 78 | 33 | 54 | 5 | 0.67 | -0.05 | 0.37 | 5.68 | 145 | 10.75 | 107 | - | - | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| MD SALISBURY | 64 | 40 | 77 | 32 | 52 | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0 | 3 | - | - |
| MA BOSTON | 51 | 35 | 63 | 28 | 43 | 0 | 2.07 | 1.22 | 1.55 | 5.44 | 127 | 8.94 | 78 | 74 | 41 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 2 |
| MA WORCESTER | 49 | 33 | 56 | 27 | 41 | 1 | 1.69 | 0.78 | 1.33 | 5.46 | 119 | 10.52 | 90 | - | - | 0 | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| MI ALPENA | 47 | 24 | 63 | 16 | 36 | 0 | 0.29 | -0.21 | 0.24 | 2.74 | 111 | 8.88 | 164 | 84 | 49 | 0 | 6 | 3 | 0 |
| MI DETROIT | 58 | 36 | 68 | 26 | 47 | 5 | 0.82 | 0.16 | 0.52 | 3.90 | 129 | 9.53 | 146 | 77 | 52 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 1 |
| MI FLINT | 57 | 32 | 72 | 21 | 46 | 4 | 0.50 | -0.14 | 0.36 | 2.31 | 88 | 7.27 | 137 | 87 | 46 | 0 | 4 | 3 | 0 |
| MI GRAND RAPIDS | 58 | 35 | 75 | 22 | 47 | 6 | 0.60 | -0.15 | 0.32 | 1.96 | 82 | 8.69 | 135 | 90 | 38 | 0 | 4 | 4 | 0 |
| MI HOUGHTON LAKE | 54 | 27 | 71 | 16 | 41 | 5 | 0.42 | -0.08 | 0.19 | 1.82 | 77 | 6.09 | 121 | 87 | 44 | 0 | 6 | 4 | 0 |
| MI LANSING | 58 | 32 | 75 | 19 | 45 | 6 | 0.65 | 0.02 | 0.53 | 2.87 | 100 | 7.74 | 145 | - | - | 0 | 4 | 4 | 1 |
| MI MARQUETTE | 50 | 25 | 63 | 6 | 38 | 7 | 0.25 | -0.39 | 0.24 | 3.90 | 121 | 11.50 | 161 | 88 | 46 | 0 | 5 | 2 | 0 |
| MI MUSKEGON | 54 | 34 | 71 | 20 | 44 | 5 | 0.52 | -0.14 | 0.42 | 1.43 | 48 | 6.70 | 98 | - | - | 0 | 4 | 4 | 0 |
| MI SAULT ST. MARIE | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| MN ALEXANDRIA | 47 | 32 | 55 | 23 | 39 | 4 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0 | 4 | - | - |
| MN DULUTH | 44 | 30 | 54 | 16 | 37 | 5 | 0.68 | 0.19 | 0.54 | 2.10 | 93 | 3.59 | 84 | 88 | 58 | 0 | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| MN INT'L FALLS | 48 | 33 | 58 | 24 | 40 | 8 | 0.84 | 0.54 | 0.54 | 1.98 | 155 | 2.89 | 104 | 88 | 45 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| MN MINNEAPOLIS | 59 | 38 | 69 | 23 | 47 | 8 | 0.63 | 0.12 | 0.54 | 1.81 | 79 | 3.82 | 88 | 91 | 62 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 1 |
| MN ROCHESTER | 56 | 37 | 63 | 22 | 46 | 8 | 0.46 | -0.09 | 0.41 | 2.09 | 96 | 4.53 | 122 | - | - | 0 | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| MS GREENWOOD | 75 | 51 | 82 | 41 | 63 | 3 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0 | 0 | - | - |
| MS JACKSON | 74 | 51 | 80 | 46 | 63 | 2 | 1.45 | 0.12 | 1.05 | 3.71 | 54 | 14.89 | 87 | 88 | 42 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 |
| MS MERIDIAN | 78 | 51 | 84 | 43 | 63 | 2 | 1.60 | 0.16 | 1.38 | 5.27 | 68 | 15.85 | 96 | 95 | 34 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 |
| MO CAPE GIRARDEAU | 66 | 42 | 76 | 32 | 54 | 1 | 2.90 | 1.82 | 1.53 | 7.00 | 121 | 14.63 | 122 | - | - | 0 | 1 | 3 | 2 |
| MO COLUMBIA | 66 | 46 | 77 | 32 | 56 | 8 | 0.92 | 0.14 | 0.42 | 2.62 | 72 | 9.74 | 141 | 89 | 34 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 |
| MO KANSAS CITY | 66 | 45 | 75 | 37 | 55 | 6 | 1.38 | 0.75 | 0.50 | 2.31 | 78 | 5.62 | 109 | 88 | 36 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 1 |
| MO SAINT LOUIS | 66 | 48 | 79 | 33 | 57 | 5 | 1.13 | 0.30 | 0.54 | 3.69 | 88 | 10.46 | 129 | 87 | 34 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 |
| MO SPRINGFIELD | 67 | 46 | 76 | 36 | 57 | 5 | 1.61 | 0.70 | 0.89 | 5.68 | 127 | 10.80 | 133 | 84 | 32 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 2 |
| MT BILLINGS | 49 | 27 | 72 | 19 | 38 | -3 | 0.11 | -0.22 | 0.07 | 0.87 | 62 | 1.83 | 62 | 80 | 54 | 0 | 7 | 2 | 0 |
| MT GLASGOW | 49 | 29 | 67 | 22 | 39 | 1 | 0.23 | 0.13 | 0.23 | 0.72 | 150 | 1.07 | 96 | 86 | 41 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 0 |
| MT GREAT FALLS | 44 | 25 | 61 | 13 | 34 | -5 | 0.60 | 0.33 | 0.47 | 1.25 | 96 | 1.68 | 61 | 83 | 48 | 0 | 6 | 4 | 0 |
| MT HAVRE | 50 | 26 | 62 | 12 | 38 | 0 | 0.13 | -0.04 | 0.13 | 0.24 | 31 | 0.44 | 26 | 82 | 34 | 0 | 6 | 1 | 0 |
| MT HELENA | 46 | 23 | 64 | 16 | 35 | -4 | 0.00 | -0.18 | 0.00 | 0.11 | 13 | 0.46 | 24 | 81 | 36 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 0 |
| MT KALISPELL | 42 | 25 | 50 | 18 | 34 | -5 | 0.45 | 0.23 | 0.26 | 2.20 | 193 | 5.24 | 139 | 91 | 42 | 0 | 7 | 3 | 0 |
| MT MILES CITY | 53 | 28 | 74 | 23 | 41 | 0 | 0.68 | 0.46 | 0.54 | 1.10 | 139 | 1.40 | 79 | - | - | 0 | 8 | 3 | 1 |
| MT MISSOULA | 47 | 27 | 62 | 22 | 37 | -4 | 0.38 | 0.18 | 0.37 | 2.17 | 196 | 4.61 | 148 | 82 | 43 | 0 | 7 | 2 | 0 |
| NE GRAND ISLAND | 62 | 38 | 73 | 27 | 50 | 5 | 0.28 | -0.22 | 0.13 | 0.48 | 21 | 1.55 | 45 | 87 | 49 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 0 |
| NE LINCOLN | 64 | 37 | 73 | 26 | 50 | 4 | 0.57 | 0.00 | 0.35 | 1.31 | 52 | 2.24 | 60 | - | - | 0 | 2 | 4 | 0 |
| NE NORFOLK | 62 | 37 | 74 | 27 | 50 | 6 | 0.22 | -0.25 | 0.12 | 0.80 | 37 | 1.79 | 52 | 86 | 47 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 0 |
| NE NORTH PLATTE | 62 | 33 | 78 | 17 | 47 | 4 | 0.43 | 0.08 | 0.32 | 0.51 | 35 | 1.18 | 52 | 85 | 44 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 0 |
| NE OMAHA | 64 | 39 | 74 | 31 | 51 | 5 | 1.00 | 0.48 | 0.56 | 1.59 | 67 | 2.75 | 71 | 88 | 47 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 1 |
| NE SCOTT'S BLUFF | 58 | 27 | 78 | 12 | 42 | 1 | 2.66 | 2.37 | 1.46 | 2.83 | 218 | 3.45 | 154 | - | - | 0 | 5 | 3 | 2 |
| NE VALENTINE | 62 | 33 | 82 | 18 | 47 | 7 | 0.60 | 0.31 | 0.51 | 0.61 | 49 | 1.13 | 59 | - | - | 0 | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| NV ELY | 46 | 20 | 64 | 9 | 33 | -6 | 0.03 | -0.19 | 0.03 | 0.03 | 3 | 1.92 | 77 | 79 | 27 | 0 | 7 | 1 | 0 |
| NV LAS VEGAS | 66 | 46 | 81 | 38 | 56 | -4 | 0.04 | -0.02 | 0.04 | 0.04 | 9 | 0.24 | 17 | 61 | 19 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| NV RENO | 53 | 25 | 66 | 17 | 39 | -7 | 0.01 | -0.09 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 1 | 4.03 | 141 | 79 | 17 | 0 | 6 | 1 | 0 |
| NV WINNEMUCCA | 52 | 21 | 70 | 13 | 36 | -7 | 0.04 | -0.15 | 0.04 | 0.10 | 11 | 1.75 | 76 | 75 | 24 | 0 | 7 | 1 | 0 |
| NH CONCORD | 51 | 30 | 61 | 24 | 40 | 2 | 0.50 | -0.15 | 0.46 | 3.63 | 113 | 9.06 | 110 | - | - | 0 | 6 | 2 | 0 |
| NJ ATLANTIC CITY | 60 | 37 | 74 | 30 | 48 | 2 | 0.60 | -0.25 | 0.60 | 5.35 | 126 | 11.85 | 108 | 72 | 37 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| NM ALBUQUERQUE | 61 | 41 | 71 | 35 | 61 | -1 | 0.63 | 0.50 | 0.48 | 0.74 | 116 | 1.41 | 92 | 69 | 28 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| NM CLOVIS | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| NM ROSWELL | 68 | 42 | 79 | 35 | 55 | -2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0 | 0 | - | - |
| NY ALBANY | 52 | 31 | 63 | 23 | 42 | 1 | 1.61 | 0.92 | 1.59 | 4.43 | 129 | 6.79 | 84 | 92 | 49 | 0 | 5 | 2 | 1 |
| NY BINGHAMTON | 51 | 32 | 65 | 23 | 42 | 3 | 0.97 | 0.27 | 0.89 | 3.80 | 114 | 6.68 | 83 | 80 | 42 | 0 | 4 | 4 | 1 |
| NY BUFFALO | 50 | 32 | 69 | 24 | 41 | 1 | 0.39 | -0.26 | 0.30 | 4.62 | 143 | 11.72 | 143 | 83 | 52 | 0 | 4 | 4 | 0 |
| NY NEW YORK | 61 | 44 | 70 | 33 | 53 | 6 | 1.87 | 1.00 | 1.82 | 5.16 | 122 | 11.54 | 114 | 71 | 30 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 |
| NY ROCHESTER | 54 | 33 | 71 | 26 | 43 | 3 | 0.71 | 0.14 | 0.37 | 4.03 | 149 | 8.56 | 124 | - | - | 0 | 4 | 3 | 0 |
| NY SYRACUSE | 53 | 32 | 73 | 26 | 43 | 2 | 0.53 | -0.20 | 0.31 | 3.69 | 109 | 7.02 | 90 | 83 | 46 | 0 | 4 | 3 | 0 |
| NC ASHEVILLE | 67 | 37 | 75 | 29 | 52 | 0 | 0.08 | -0.97 | 0.04 | 5.48 | 86 | 15.13 | 103 | - | - | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| NC CHARLOTTE | 73 | 45 | 81 | 39 | 59 | 4 | 0.05 | -0.70 | 0.04 | 2.51 | 51 | 9.87 | 79 | 66 | 20 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| NC GREENSBORO | 70 | 41 | 79 | 32 | 55 | 2 | 0.11 | -0.59 | 0.08 | 4.60 | 110 | 10.39 | 97 | 68 | 22 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| NC HATTERAS | 84 | 51 | 72 | 43 | 58 | 2 | 0.03 | -0.84 | 0.03 | 4.52 | 92 | 12.01 | 84 | 80 | 42 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| NC NEW BERN | 74 | 47 | 84 | 42 | 61 | 3 | 0.00 | -0.76 | 0.00 | 2.12 | 48 | 9.31 | 72 | - | - | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| NC RALEIGH | 73 | 42 | 84 | 31 | 58 | 2 | 0.13 | -0.54 | 0.13 | 3.41 | 80 | 9.35 | 82 | 76 | 27 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| NC WILMINGTON | 73 | 47 | 82 | 39 | 60 | 3 | 0.03 | -0.78 | 0.03 | 2.55 | 51 | 9.40 | 67 | - | - | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| ND BISMARCK | 53 | 28 | 64 | 20 | 41 | 4 | 2.44 | 2.14 | 1.95 | 3.41 | 344 | 4.83 | 254 | 90 | 49 | 0 | 6 | 2 | 1 |
| ND FARGO | 45 | 30 | 54 | 23 | 38 | 2 | 0.20 | -0.15 | 0.15 | 2.09 | 160 | 2.72 | 111 | 87 | 63 | 0 | 5 | 2 | 0 |
| ND GRAND FORKS | 43 | 30 | 52 | 18 | 36 | 2 | 0.80 | 0.54 | 0.50 | 1.56 | 138 | 2.44 | 105 | - | - | 0 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| ND WILLISTON | 50 | 26 | 73 | 22 | 38 | 1 | 0.03 | -0.19 | 0.03 | 0.97 | 114 | 1.41 | 77 | 87 | 47 | 0 | 6 | 1 | 0 |
| OH AKRON-CANTON | 58 | 36 | 73 | 25 | 47 | 3 | 0.30 | -0.44 | 0.24 | 3.20 | 83 | 6.19 | 75 | 80 | 43 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 0 |
| OH CINCINNATI | 62 | 36 | 75 | 27 | 49 | 1 | 0.49 | -0.43 | 0.28 | 6.28 | 129 | 10.81 | 107 | 77 | 33 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 0 |
| OH CLEVELAND | 57 | 36 | 74 | 26 | 47 | 4 | 0.39 | -0.32 | 0.18 | 3.41 | 100 | 8.11 | 106 | 77 | 44 | 0 | 4 | 4 | 0 |
| OH COLUMBUS | 61 | 38 | 77 | 29 | 50 | 3 | 0.47 | -0.28 | 0.29 | 4.25 | 112 | 7.87 | 96 | 75 | 32 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 0 |
| OH DAYTON | 61 | 38 | 76 | 26 | 50 | 3 | 0.51 | -0.30 | 0.35 | 4.31 | 108 | 8.41 | 101 | 75 | 40 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 0 |

Based on 1961-90 normals

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 5, 1997

| 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. | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 80 AND ABOVE | 82 AND BELOW | .01 INCH OR MORE | .50 INCH OR MORE |
| OK TOLEDO | 61 | 38 | 77 | 26 | 49 | 7 | 0.89 | 0.01 | 0.55 | 3.11 | 99 | 9.72 | 147 | 86 | 35 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| OK YOUNGSTOWN | 56 | 36 | 71 | 25 | 46 | 3 | 0.23 | -0.49 | 0.20 | 3.07 | 85 | 4.45 | 57 | 77 | 46 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 0 |
| OK OKLAHOMA CITY | 68 | 48 | 73 | 34 | 58 | 2 | 1.01 | 0.44 | 0.88 | 1.80 | 52 | 4.21 | 72 | 86 | 48 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 |
| OK TULSA | 71 | 49 | 78 | 35 | 60 | 3 | 0.54 | -0.26 | 0.40 | 2.16 | 54 | 5.82 | 77 | 84 | 36 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| OR ASTORIA | 53 | 36 | 62 | 31 | 45 | -2 | 0.85 | -0.68 | 0.28 | 15.64 | 196 | 31.78 | 124 | 89 | 53 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 0 |
| OR BURNS | 50 | 22 | 62 | 18 | 36 | -4 | 0.01 | -0.17 | 0.01 | 0.23 | 20 | 3.05 | 105 | - | - | 0 | 7 | 1 | 0 |
| OR MEDFORD | 60 | 30 | 66 | 25 | 45 | -4 | 0.10 | -0.23 | 0.10 | 1.00 | 49 | 5.53 | 83 | 91 | 28 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 0 |
| OR PENDLETON | 55 | 32 | 71 | 25 | 44 | -4 | 0.01 | -0.24 | 0.01 | 1.17 | 86 | 2.59 | 65 | 79 | 34 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 |
| OR PORTLAND | 57 | 37 | 62 | 31 | 47 | -2 | 0.32 | -0.35 | 0.22 | 7.18 | 179 | 15.96 | 121 | 89 | 35 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 |
| OR SALEM | 56 | 33 | 62 | 29 | 45 | -3 | 0.15 | -0.59 | 0.11 | 7.32 | 156 | 18.46 | 122 | - | - | 0 | 3 | 2 | 0 |
| PA ALLENTOWN | 61 | 36 | 70 | 28 | 48 | 3 | 1.17 | 0.40 | 1.04 | 3.71 | 97 | 7.69 | 77 | 76 | 33 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| PA ERIE | 53 | 35 | 70 | 24 | 44 | 3 | 0.38 | -0.36 | 0.35 | 5.99 | 170 | 11.29 | 141 | 79 | 49 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 0 |
| PA HARRISBURG | 65 | 41 | 76 | 30 | 53 | 6 | 0.69 | -0.03 | 0.38 | 3.44 | 91 | 6.91 | 72 | - | - | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| PA PHILADELPHIA | 63 | 40 | 75 | 31 | 52 | 4 | 0.95 | 0.12 | 0.91 | 3.95 | 97 | 9.42 | 94 | 76 | 41 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| PA PITTSBURGH | 59 | 37 | 74 | 25 | 48 | 3 | 0.13 | -0.63 | 0.13 | 3.22 | 82 | 6.29 | 71 | 71 | 42 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 |
| PA SCRANTON | 57 | 37 | 67 | 27 | 47 | 4 | 0.98 | 0.35 | 0.85 | 3.20 | 107 | 5.80 | 80 | 76 | 36 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| RI PROVIDENCE | 53 | 36 | 62 | 29 | 45 | 2 | 1.82 | 0.66 | 1.51 | 4.97 | 105 | 11.07 | 91 | 70 | 38 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| SC CHARLESTON | 75 | 48 | 84 | 39 | 61 | 0 | 0.00 | -0.76 | 0.00 | 1.81 | 37 | 6.69 | 58 | 83 | 29 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| SC COLUMBIA | 76 | 44 | 83 | 32 | 60 | 1 | 0.00 | -0.91 | 0.00 | 1.21 | 22 | 10.34 | 74 | 78 | 23 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| SC FLORENCE | 75 | 46 | 82 | 39 | 60 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0 | 0 | - | - |
| SC GREENVILLE | 72 | 43 | 79 | 34 | 57 | 1 | 0.04 | -1.00 | 0.04 | 2.67 | 44 | 13.54 | 93 | 71 | 23 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| SD ABERDEEN | 54 | 32 | 60 | 17 | 43 | 5 | 1.48 | 1.14 | 1.48 | 2.27 | 167 | 4.49 | 175 | 91 | 60 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 1 |
| SD HURON | 90 | 36 | 75 | 23 | 48 | 8 | 1.20 | 0.76 | 1.07 | 1.45 | 73 | 2.79 | 91 | 86 | 51 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 1 |
| SD RAPID CITY | 58 | 29 | 79 | 21 | 44 | 3 | 3.27 | 2.93 | 3.19 | 3.46 | 268 | 4.33 | 199 | 85 | 34 | 0 | 6 | 2 | 1 |
| SD SIOUX FALLS | 61 | 34 | 74 | 26 | 47 | 7 | 1.22 | 0.72 | 1.07 | 1.45 | 72 | 3.22 | 102 | 87 | 55 | 0 | 5 | 4 | 1 |
| TN CHATTANOOGA | 72 | 43 | 81 | 36 | 57 | 2 | 0.44 | -0.73 | 0.40 | 5.51 | 80 | 16.89 | 102 | 87 | 22 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| TN KNOXVILLE | 69 | 41 | 83 | 33 | 55 | 1 | 0.22 | -0.77 | 0.18 | 6.38 | 110 | 16.46 | 117 | 83 | 30 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| TN MEMPHIS | 69 | 49 | 80 | 42 | 60 | 1 | 1.83 | 0.54 | 1.37 | 12.98 | 205 | 24.98 | 173 | - | - | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 |
| TN NASHVILLE | 68 | 43 | 76 | 35 | 56 | 0 | 0.44 | -0.61 | 0.39 | 10.03 | 179 | 17.12 | 132 | 86 | 34 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| TX ABILENE | 69 | 51 | 75 | 38 | 60 | -2 | 0.91 | 0.55 | 0.69 | 1.83 | 114 | 5.41 | 142 | 87 | 55 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 |
| TX AMARILLO | 65 | 38 | 76 | 26 | 52 | -1 | 1.95 | 1.77 | 1.69 | 1.96 | 181 | 3.07 | 140 | 85 | 35 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| TX AUSTIN | 71 | 56 | 80 | 50 | 64 | -3 | 2.42 | 1.98 | 0.62 | 3.92 | 179 | 8.88 | 147 | 93 | 61 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 3 |
| TX BEAUMONT | 73 | 62 | 76 | 58 | 67 | 2 | 1.31 | 0.60 | 0.44 | 5.29 | 140 | 15.92 | 134 | - | - | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 |
| TX BROWNSVILLE | 78 | 66 | 82 | 60 | 72 | -1 | 3.19 | 2.99 | 1.67 | 7.79 | 1146 | 8.82 | 267 | 97 | 47 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 2 |
| TX CORPUS CHRISTI | 75 | 62 | 79 | 57 | 69 | -1 | 5.20 | 4.95 | 3.33 | 9.89 | 875 | 11.27 | 235 | 93 | 48 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 2 |
| TX DEL RIO | 71 | 54 | 84 | 45 | 62 | -6 | 0.70 | 0.37 | 0.25 | 3.18 | 338 | 5.42 | 221 | 92 | 59 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 0 |
| TX EL PASO | 69 | 48 | 78 | 44 | 59 | -1 | 0.02 | -0.04 | 0.02 | 0.66 | 200 | 1.37 | 119 | 58 | 20 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| TX FORT WORTH | 71 | 55 | 76 | 44 | 63 | 2 | 3.05 | 2.31 | 2.46 | 5.26 | 148 | 12.94 | 166 | 86 | 54 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 2 |
| TX GALVESTON | 71 | 63 | 76 | 59 | 67 | 1 | 3.19 | 2.68 | 1.52 | 14.45 | 560 | 21.42 | 264 | - | - | 0 | 0 | 5 | 2 |
| TX HOUSTON | 74 | 60 | 79 | 54 | 67 | 2 | 3.04 | 2.40 | 1.93 | 10.59 | 313 | 19.25 | 200 | 92 | 57 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 1 |
| TX LUBBOCK | 67 | 45 | 77 | 30 | 56 | -1 | 1.97 | 1.80 | 1.90 | 2.00 | 206 | 3.57 | 175 | 82 | 38 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 1 |
| TX MIDLAND | 68 | 49 | 78 | 40 | 58 | -3 | 0.12 | 0.03 | 0.09 | 0.38 | 69 | 2.27 | 143 | 83 | 39 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| TX SAN ANGELO | 68 | 52 | 76 | 46 | 60 | -3 | 1.03 | 0.77 | 0.42 | 3.52 | 320 | 8.40 | 283 | 88 | 54 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 |
| TX SAN ANTONIO | 70 | 55 | 82 | 48 | 63 | -3 | 3.34 | 2.92 | 0.88 | 5.21 | 285 | 7.93 | 148 | 97 | 64 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 4 |
| TX VICTORIA | 73 | 59 | 78 | 54 | 66 | -1 | 10.44 | 10.04 | 5.02 | 22.01 | 1203 | 27.44 | 457 | 96 | 54 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 3 |
| TX WACO | 70 | 54 | 76 | 46 | 62 | -1 | 1.45 | 0.84 | 0.92 | 5.22 | 188 | 15.53 | 239 | 95 | 58 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 1 |
| UT WICHITA FALLS | 71 | 51 | 78 | 41 | 61 | 2 | 0.68 | 0.09 | 0.41 | 0.91 | 34 | 4.12 | 80 | 86 | 42 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| UT CEDAR CITY | 49 | 26 | 67 | 18 | 38 | -6 | 0.27 | -0.02 | 0.11 | 0.43 | 28 | 2.94 | 91 | - | - | 0 | 6 | 4 | 0 |
| UT SALT LAKE CITY | 55 | 30 | 71 | 28 | 43 | -3 | 0.62 | 0.13 | 0.41 | 1.18 | 52 | 5.08 | 110 | 86 | 31 | 0 | 5 | 4 | 0 |
| VT BURLINGTON | 47 | 27 | 60 | 22 | 37 | -1 | 0.49 | -0.10 | 0.45 | 2.80 | 98 | 5.48 | 90 | 87 | 49 | 0 | 6 | 3 | 0 |
| VA NORFOLK | 66 | 46 | 80 | 36 | 56 | 3 | 0.20 | -0.54 | 0.20 | 3.21 | 76 | 8.09 | 71 | 80 | 45 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| VA RICHMOND | 70 | 41 | 82 | 35 | 56 | 2 | 0.29 | -0.43 | 0.28 | 2.96 | 72 | 8.60 | 82 | 76 | 22 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| VA ROANOKE | 70 | 41 | 82 | 34 | 56 | 4 | 0.08 | -0.67 | 0.06 | 3.12 | 78 | 8.67 | 90 | 79 | 26 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| WA QUILLAYUTE | 53 | 32 | 69 | 25 | 43 | -2 | 0.82 | -1.32 | 0.39 | 21.27 | 164 | 48.00 | 120 | 91 | 41 | 0 | 4 | 3 | 0 |
| WA SEATTLE-TACOMA | 54 | 36 | 61 | 33 | 45 | -2 | 0.12 | -0.55 | 0.04 | 8.24 | 206 | 17.26 | 129 | 91 | 45 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| WA SPOKANE | 50 | 28 | 60 | 24 | 39 | -3 | 0.00 | -0.29 | 0.00 | 2.40 | 141 | 5.47 | 106 | 81 | 37 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| WA YAKIMA | 57 | 29 | 61 | 23 | 43 | -4 | 0.00 | -0.14 | 0.00 | 0.60 | 77 | 1.94 | 71 | 86 | 26 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| WV BECKLEY | 62 | 35 | 75 | 24 | 48 | 1 | 0.36 | -0.41 | 0.34 | 6.41 | 163 | 10.94 | 112 | 73 | 32 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 0 |
| WV CHARLESTON | 68 | 37 | 83 | 27 | 52 | 1 | 0.36 | -0.42 | 0.36 | 8.35 | 200 | 11.62 | 115 | 75 | 26 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 |
| WV HUNTINGTON | 67 | 39 | 81 | 30 | 53 | 4 | 0.22 | -0.59 | 0.19 | 8.36 | 203 | 11.94 | 117 | 74 | 29 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| WV PARKERSBURG | 63 | 37 | 79 | 26 | 50 | 1 | 0.21 | -0.65 | 0.17 | 6.74 | 162 | 10.32 | 99 | - | - | 0 | 4 | 2 | 0 |
| WI GREEN BAY | 57 | 35 | 75 | 20 | 46 | 8 | 0.23 | -0.29 | 0.13 | 2.15 | 89 | 4.75 | 103 | 87 | 50 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 0 |
| WI LACROSSE | 63 | 42 | 72 | 27 | 52 | 11 | 0.31 | -0.29 | 0.27 | 3.38 | 140 | 6.34 | 149 | - | - | 0 | 2 | - | - |
| WI MADISON | 61 | 39 | 74 | 28 | 50 | 10 | 0.29 | -0.37 | 0.18 | 1.74 | 66 | 5.16 | 106 | 83 | 45 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 0 |
| WI MILWAUKEE | 59 | 39 | 79 | 25 | 49 | 9 | 0.29 | -0.49 | 0.25 | 0.91 | 28 | 4.89 | 78 | - | - | 0 | 3 | 2 | 0 |
| WI WAUSAU | 59 | 34 | 72 | 22 | 47 | 9 | 0.45 | -0.11 | 0.27 | 2.22 | 94 | 4.64 | 111 | - | - | 0 | 3 | 2 | 0 |
| WY CASPER | 48 | 23 | 66 | 15 | 36 | -3 | 0.37 | 0.08 | 0.28 | 1.27 | 109 | 2.37 | 103 | 86 | 45 | 0 | 6 | 5 | 0 |
| WY CHEYENNE | 49 | 25 | 66 | 18 | 37 | -1 | 0.73 | -0.47 | 0.45 | 1.18 | 98 | 1.89 | 95 | 91 | 39 | 0 | 7 | 4 | 0 |
| WY LANDER | 49 | 24 | 64 | 17 | 36 | -3 | 0.32 | -0.07 | 0.16 | 1.23 | 85 | 1.82 | 73 | 74 | 29 | 0 | 6 | 3 | 0 |
| WY SHERIDAN | 50 | 24 | 71 | 18 | 37 | -2 | 0.23 | -0.08 | 0.10 | 0.47 | 39 | 1.38 | 53 | - | - | 0 | 7 | 4 | 0 |
| PR SAN JUAN | 84 | 72 | 88 | 68 | 78 | -1 | 0.05 | -0.57 | 0.03 | 1.85 | 67 | 10.44 | 103 | 85 | 64 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 |

Based on 1961-90 normals

Note: These data are preliminary and subject to change. In the past, precipitation totals from a number of stations have been incomplete.

March Weather and Crop Summary

Weather

A remarkably consistent weather pattern led to precipitation extremes, ranging from near-record to record wetness in the Northwest and from southern Texas to the Ohio Valley, to very dry weather from the Southwest into the central and southern Plains. Sub-normal rainfall was also observed in the Southeast, as the primary storm track remained well to the northwest. Several monthly temperature records were broken in the Southeast, where readings ranged from 4 to 8°F above normal. In contrast, monthly temperatures ranged from 1 to 5°F below normal in New England. Cool weather also prevailed across snow-covered portions of the northern Plains and upper Midwest, keeping widely anticipated snow-melt flooding in check until month's end. In the Southwest, however, a mid- to late-month warm spell propelled monthly temperatures 3 to 7°F above normal.

A fierce spring storm emerged from the Southwest on March 1, dumping 4 to 10 inches of rain from the northern Delta to the southern half of the Ohio Valley, and sparking a ferocious tornado outbreak--leaving 25 dead--in Arkansas. Ensuing floodwaters coursed through the Ohio River, generating one of the 10 worst floods on record from the Ohio-West Virginia border downstream to the confluence with the Mississippi. For much of the middle Ohio River, the flooding was the worst since March 1964. Some of the worst flooding unfolded in Kentucky, where March 1 totals included 10.48 inches in Louisville--breaking their all-time, 24-hour record set on March 9, 1964--and 5.56 inches in Lexington. Other storms perpetuated the region's wet spell, boosting totals by month's end to 17.52 inches in Louisville and 13.82 in Lexington. March-record precipitation was observed in the following locations:

| <u>Location</u> | <u>Total (In.)</u> | <u>Former Record (In.)/Year</u> |
|-----------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| Louisville, KY | 17.52 | 14.91 in 1964 |
| Astoria, OR | 15.31 | 13.47 in 1956 |
| Lexington, KY | 13.82 | 10.38 in 1975 |
| Olympia, WA | 11.79 | 10.13 in 1950 |
| Victoria, TX | 11.61 | 7.91 in 1957 |
| Galveston, TX | 11.33 | 9.49 in 1973 |

Monthly rainfall of 5.95 inches in Brownsville, TX was 1,123 percent (%) of normal, and second only to a 6.46-inch total in 1903. In San Angelo, TX, January-March rainfall totaled 7.60 inches, their third-highest amount on record, and the most since 8.03 inches fell in 1923. In Tennessee, Nashville's total of 9.64 inches was their greatest in March since 1975.

Meanwhile, a broad area from California to the western Corn Belt, and on the central and southern Plains, received less than a quarter of the normal precipitation. Especially dry weather persisted in the Southwest and in winter wheat areas from Nebraska to Texas. For the first time since 1959, no rain fell in March at the L.A. Civic Center. Only a trace dampened Goodland, KS. March records included:

| <u>Location</u> | <u>Total (In.)</u> | <u>Former Record (In.)/Year</u> |
|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| L.A. Civic Center | 0.00 | 0.00 in 1959 and earlier |
| Goodland, KS | trace | 0.03 in 1929 |
| Dodge City, KS | trace | trace on five occasions |
| Valentine, NE | 0.01 | 0.01 in 1957 |

Only 0.01 inch fell in Amarillo, TX, their smallest total since only a trace fell in 1950. Farther west, recovery from the New Year's flood continued in northern California and western Nevada under mostly dry conditions. Only 3.00 inches (35% of normal) fell in the western Sierra Nevada foothills at Blue Canyon, CA. After 75.35 inches (329% of normal) pelted Blue Canyon in December-January, only 4.77 inches (26% of normal) has fallen since. Farther north, however, persistent storminess culminated in record flooding on the southern slopes of Washington's Olympic Mountains on March 18-19. March 16-19 rainfall reached 22.36 inches at the dam near the headwaters of the Wynoochee River. By month's end, snow depths in the Washington Cascades stood at 238 inches at 5,500-foot Paradise Ranger Station near Mt. Rainier and 228 inches at 4,200-foot Mt. Baker Lodge. In northern Idaho, a March-record 31.2 inches fell in Bonners Ferry, nearly half of which accumulated on the 12th.

Several stations in Florida experienced March-record warmth:

| <u>Location</u> | <u>Average (°F)</u> | <u>Departure (°F)</u> | <u>Former Record (F)/Year</u> |
|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Miami | 76.3 | +4.7 | 76.3 in 1948 |
| West Palm Beach | 74.6 | +4.6 | 73.7 in 1977 |
| Tampa | 73.9 | +7.3 | 73.2 in 1945 |
| Melbourne | 72.3 | +5.7 | 71.1 in 1961 |

Although no average-temperature records were set in the West, several locations came close. For example, downtown Sacramento, CA posted a March-record average maximum temperature of 73.3°F, but their average temperature of 61.1°F fell short of their 1934 record by 0.4°F. More than half of the month's 275 daily-record highs were set across the Western and Central States between March 17 and 22. On the 19th, the L.A. Civic Center logged 97°F, an astronomical winter record. A day later in Arizona, a high of 98°F at Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument was within 1°F of their March

record. Farther east, maxima on March 21 reached 94°F in Wichita Falls, TX and 90°F in Gilbert, AR.

Less than 1 inch of rain fell on isolated parts of the Southeast, including Lakeland, FL (0.61 inches). Totals of 1.23 inches in Macon, GA and 1.75 inches in Montgomery, AL were 26 and 28 percent of normal, respectively. Farther north, in the James River basin, snowfall in South Dakota totaled only 8.5 inches in Aberdeen and 3.0 inches in Huron. In the Red River basin, however, Grand Forks, ND received 15.1 inches and Fargo, ND netted 26.2 inches, boosting their record-setting seasonal total to 109.6 inches. In Michigan, monthly snowfall of 31.0 inches in Alpena and 50.4 inches in Marquette helped to set seasonal snowfall records (180.0 and 257.7 inches, respectively). In New England, snow accompanied the cold weather. Totals reached 28.9 inches in Caribou, ME and 26.4 inches in Rochester, NY. At month's end, a powerful "nor'easter" began to deliver heavy snow and high winds from Maryland to Maine.

Wet weather prevailed in Hawaii, but dry, cold conditions dominated Alaska. Fairbanks' monthly average temperature was 4.7°F, more than 8° below their February value. Monthly precipitation totaled 0.01 inches in Anchorage, their lowest in March since a trace fell in 1983.

Fieldwork

In March, farm chores changed from winter to spring activities. Spring fieldwork was active across the southern half of the country. Spring planting was active in the Southwest and the Gulf States. Winter wheat was greening and in good to excellent condition. Some areas of the central and southern Great Plains were dry. In California, field activities were progressing normally under weather conditions that were ideal for fieldwork. In the eastern Corn Belt through the Northeast, spring activities were delayed due to rainy weather and wet fields. In the Dakotas and Minnesota, the snowpack was moderately receding. The temperatures were steady enough to prevent major flooding.

Spring fieldwork started on schedule in the southern one-third of the country. In Arizona, above-normal temperatures and

virtually no precipitation provided plenty of days suitable for cotton planting and small grain development. By the end of the month, approximately one-fourth of the cotton had been planted, equal to last year's progress, and ahead of the 5-year average. In Alabama, corn planting was one-third complete, ahead of the 1996 progress and the average. In Arkansas, fields were too wet for most field activities. Some planting was underway in the southeast portion of the State. Georgia producers were ahead of normal with land preparation and crop progress.

In the southern Great Plains, winter wheat was breaking dormancy and in mostly good to excellent condition. Little rain fell over the southern Plains and additional moisture would have been beneficial. The crop came through the winter with very little freeze or wind damage. In Oklahoma, over two-thirds of the winter wheat crop was jointing, up from last year and the average. Colorado winter wheat experienced a rather dry winter and by month's end needed more moisture to maintain favorable crop prospects.

On the West Coast, spring fieldwork was progressing normally in most areas. California weather conditions were ideal for growth. By mid-month, cotton planting began in the San Joaquin and Sacramento Valleys. In the desert area, cotton planting was complete by month's end. Alfalfa and winter forage were being cut for hay or greenchop.

The eastern Corn Belt and areas of the Northeast experienced rainy weather and wet field conditions that prevented the use of heavy equipment in many areas. Standing water remained in many low-lying areas of fields. Winter wheat was in generally good condition, but the standing water did cause some damage. The Dakotas and Minnesota experienced some snowmelt. The melt was steady and major flooding was avoided. However, the potential for major flooding still exists. Mud, rather than snow, was causing major difficulties while stressing livestock and creating problems in accessing feed supplies and hauling grain. Difficult birthing conditions caused above-normal losses. Shortages of hay and forage supplies were reported in many areas of the Northern States.

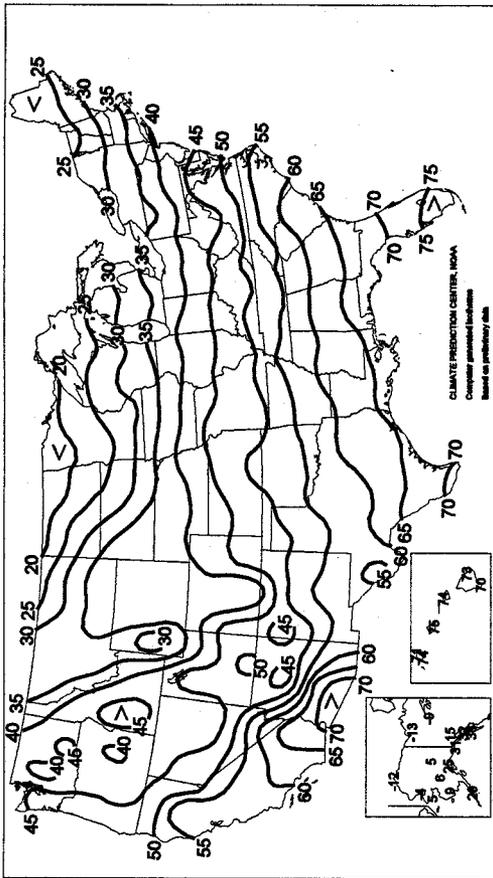
TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION SUMMARY

March 1997

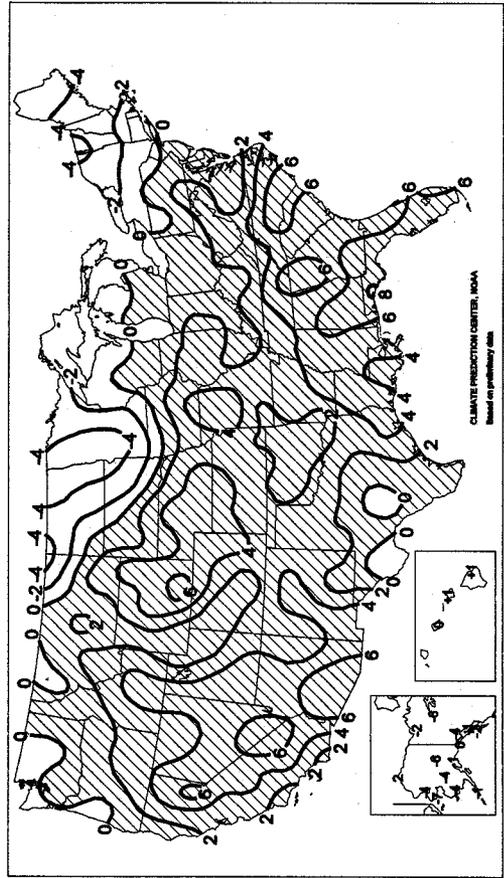
| STATES AND STATIONS | TEMP. °F | | PRECIP. | | STATES AND STATIONS | TEMP. °F | | PRECIP. | | STATES AND STATIONS | TEMP. °F | | PRECIP. | |
|---------------------|----------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------------------|----------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------------------|----------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| | AVERAGE | DEPARTURE | TOTAL | DEPARTURE | | AVERAGE | DEPARTURE | TOTAL | DEPARTURE | | AVERAGE | DEPARTURE | TOTAL | DEPARTURE |
| AL BIRMINGHAM | 60 | 5 | 3.23 | -2.96 | ME NEW ORLEANS | 66 | 5 | 2.54 | -2.37 | OR TULSA | 52 | 2 | 1.63 | -1.83 |
| AL HUNTSVILLE | - | - | 6.39 | -0.23 | ME SHREVEPORT | 61 | 4 | 8.72 | 4.68 | OR ASTORIA | 46 | 0 | 16.31 | 8.24 |
| AL MOBILE | 66 | 6 | 5.42 | -0.98 | ME CARIBOU | 19 | -6 | 2.47 | 0.03 | OR BURNS | 39 | 3 | 0.23 | -0.78 |
| AL MONTGOMERY | 63 | 7 | 1.75 | -4.49 | ME PORTLAND | 30 | -3 | 4.05 | 0.38 | OR MEDFORD | 49 | 2 | 1.00 | -0.83 |
| AK ANCHORAGE | 25 | -1 | 0.01 | -0.68 | MD BALTIMORE | 45 | 1 | 5.68 | 2.29 | OR PENDLETON | 45 | 1 | 1.16 | -0.02 |
| AK BARROW | -13 | 2 | 0.04 | -0.10 | MD SALISBURY | 46 | 1 | 4.82 | 0.65 | OR PORTLAND | 47 | 0 | 7.14 | 3.58 |
| AK FAIRBANKS | 5 | -6 | 0.07 | -0.30 | MA BOSTON | 37 | -2 | 4.92 | 1.26 | OR SALEM | 47 | 1 | 7.32 | 3.15 |
| AK JUNEAU | 32 | -1 | 3.91 | 0.63 | MA WORCESTER | 32 | -2 | 5.10 | 1.15 | PA ALLENTOWN | 39 | -1 | 3.71 | 0.43 |
| AK KODIAK | 32 | -1 | 2.18 | -2.45 | MI ALPENA | 26 | -2 | 2.48 | 0.37 | PA ERIE | 36 | 1 | 5.96 | 2.96 |
| AK NOME | 5 | -7 | 0.14 | -0.40 | MI DETROIT | 37 | 1 | 3.21 | 0.67 | PA HARRISBURG | 43 | 1 | 3.44 | 0.16 |
| AZ FLAGSTAFF | - | - | 0.00 | -2.55 | MI FLINT | 34 | 0 | 1.90 | -0.26 | PA PHILADELPHIA | 43 | 1 | 3.91 | 0.45 |
| AZ PHOENIX | 69 | 7 | 0.01 | -0.89 | MI GRAND RAPIDS | 34 | 0 | 1.38 | -1.25 | PA PITTSBURGH | 40 | 1 | 3.22 | -0.20 |
| AZ PRESCOTT | 49 | 6 | 0.06 | -1.77 | MI HOUGHTON LAKE | 27 | -1 | 1.51 | -0.51 | PA SCRANTON | 37 | 0 | 3.20 | 0.65 |
| AZ TUSCON | 66 | 6 | 0.02 | -0.68 | MI LANSING | 34 | 1 | 2.07 | -0.14 | PA WILLIAMSPORT | - | - | 2.93 | -0.26 |
| AZ WINSLOW | - | - | - | - | MI MARQUETTE | 21 | -2 | 3.85 | 0.87 | RI PROVIDENCE | 38 | 0 | 4.86 | 0.81 |
| AZ YUMA | 71 | 6 | 0.00 | -0.24 | MI MUSKEGON | 33 | 0 | 0.95 | -1.56 | SC CHARLESTON | 64 | 6 | 1.81 | -2.52 |
| AR FORT SMITH | 56 | 3 | 4.18 | 0.22 | MI SAULT ST. MARIE | 23 | -2 | 2.60 | 0.29 | SC COLUMBIA | 62 | 6 | 1.21 | -3.62 |
| AR LITTLE ROCK | 57 | 4 | 7.99 | 3.02 | MN ALEXANDRIA | 22 | -5 | - | - | SC FLORENCE | 61 | 5 | 2.47 | -1.66 |
| CA BAKERSFIELD | 60 | 3 | 0.21 | -0.83 | MN DULUTH | 24 | -1 | 1.48 | -0.43 | SC GREENVILLE | 57 | 5 | 2.67 | -2.72 |
| CA EUREKA | 49 | 1 | 2.73 | -2.59 | MN INT'L FALLS | 19 | -3 | 1.18 | 0.12 | SD ABERDEEN | 24 | -5 | 0.79 | -0.33 |
| CA FRESNO | 60 | 5 | 0.11 | -1.76 | MN MINNEAPOLIS | 29 | -2 | 1.18 | -0.76 | SD HURON | 30 | -2 | 0.25 | -1.41 |
| CA LOS ANGELES | 60 | 2 | 0.00 | -1.98 | MN ROCHESTER | 28 | -2 | 1.63 | -0.16 | SD RAPID CITY | 37 | 3 | 0.20 | -0.84 |
| CA REDDING | 57 | 4 | 2.12 | -2.27 | MN ST. CLOUD | - | - | 1.14 | -0.27 | SD SIOUX FALLS | 31 | -2 | 0.23 | -1.41 |
| CA SACRAMENTO | 58 | 4 | 0.58 | -1.99 | MS GREENWOOD | 61 | 5 | - | - | TN BRISTOL | - | - | 5.92 | 2.22 |
| CA SAN DIEGO | 62 | 2 | 0.00 | -1.78 | MS JACKSON | 62 | 6 | 2.26 | -3.56 | TN CHATTANOOGA | 57 | 7 | 5.11 | -0.93 |
| CA SAN FRANCISCO | 56 | 3 | 0.25 | -2.81 | MS MERIDIAN | 62 | 5 | 3.72 | -3.03 | TN KNOXVILLE | 54 | 5 | 6.34 | 1.24 |
| CA STOCKTON | - | - | 0.14 | -2.03 | MS TUPELO | - | - | 7.46 | 1.39 | TN MEMPHIS | 57 | 4 | 11.28 | 5.87 |
| CO ALAMOSA | - | - | 0.04 | -0.41 | MO CAPE GIRARDEAU | 49 | 2 | 4.29 | -0.75 | TN NASHVILLE | 54 | 3 | 9.64 | 4.74 |
| CO CO. SPRINGS | - | - | 0.34 | -0.60 | MO COLUMBIA | 46 | 4 | 1.86 | -1.22 | TN ABILENE | 58 | 1 | 0.98 | -0.37 |
| CO DENVER | 42 | 3 | 0.28 | -1.02 | MO KANSAS CITY | 46 | 3 | 1.16 | -1.36 | TN AMARILLO | 50 | 3 | 0.01 | -0.95 |
| CO GRAND JUNCTION | 45 | 2 | 0.53 | -0.39 | MO SAINT LOUIS | 48 | 2 | 2.85 | -0.73 | TN AUSTIN | 63 | 1 | 1.58 | -0.29 |
| CO PUEBLO | 43 | 2 | 0.26 | -0.52 | MO SPRINGFIELD | 47 | 2 | 4.09 | 0.26 | TN BEAUMONT | 65 | 4 | 4.38 | 1.10 |
| CT BRIDGEPORT | 38 | 0 | 4.89 | 1.13 | MT BILLINGS | 38 | 2 | 0.80 | -0.36 | TN BROWNSVILLE | 70 | 1 | 5.95 | 5.42 |
| CT HARTFORD | 36 | -2 | 3.74 | 0.11 | MT GLASGOW | 28 | -2 | 0.49 | 0.08 | TN CORPUS CHRISTI | 68 | 2 | 4.78 | 3.84 |
| DC WASHINGTON | 49 | 1 | 4.15 | 1.00 | MT GREAT FALLS | 33 | 0 | 0.67 | -0.43 | TN DEL RIO | 65 | 1 | 2.78 | 2.09 |
| FL PANAMA CITY | 68 | 8 | - | - | MT HAVRE | 32 | 1 | 0.11 | -0.55 | TN EL PASO | 59 | 4 | 0.64 | 0.35 |
| FL DAYTONA BEACH | 70 | 6 | 2.30 | -0.60 | MT HELENA | 37 | 3 | 0.28 | -0.45 | TN FORT WORTH | 58 | 3 | 2.21 | -0.81 |
| FL FT. MYERS | - | - | 1.50 | -1.57 | MT KALISPELL | 32 | -2 | 1.87 | 0.89 | TN GALVESTON | 65 | 4 | 12.78 | 10.56 |
| FL JACKSONVILLE | 67 | 5 | 1.84 | -1.78 | MT MILES CITY | 37 | 4 | 0.43 | -0.19 | TN HOUSTON | 65 | 5 | 7.96 | 5.04 |
| FL KEY WEST | 77 | 3 | 1.87 | 0.16 | MT MISSOULA | 36 | 0 | 1.79 | 0.82 | TN LUBBOCK | 54 | 3 | 0.03 | -0.86 |
| FL MIAMI | 76 | 4 | 2.06 | -0.34 | MT GRAND ISLAND | 41 | 4 | 0.21 | -1.68 | TN MIDLAND | 58 | 2 | 0.26 | -0.23 |
| FL ORLANDO | 72 | 5 | 3.46 | 0.24 | MT LINCOLN | 42 | 4 | 0.74 | -1.35 | TN SAN ANGELO | 60 | 0 | 2.69 | 1.78 |
| FL TALLAHASSEE | 67 | 6 | 2.08 | -4.14 | MT NORFOLK | 40 | 4 | 0.58 | -1.28 | TN SAN ANTONIO | 63 | 2 | 2.24 | 0.72 |
| FL TAMPA | 74 | 7 | 1.28 | -1.73 | MT NORTH PLATTE | 5 | 3 | 0.07 | -1.13 | TN VICTORIA | 65 | 2 | 11.61 | 10.06 |
| FL WEST PALM BEACH | 74 | 4 | 3.39 | 0.45 | MT OMAHA | 42 | 3 | 0.99 | -1.45 | TN WAGO | 59 | 1 | 3.77 | 1.44 |
| GA ATHENS | - | - | 1.66 | -3.80 | MT SCOTTSBLUFF | 39 | 3 | 0.18 | -0.81 | TN WICHITA FALLS | 56 | 3 | 0.23 | -1.98 |
| GA ATLANTA | 60 | 7 | 2.19 | -3.58 | MT VALENTINE | 38 | 4 | 0.01 | -1.03 | UT CEDAR CITY | 46 | 6 | 0.17 | -1.17 |
| GA AUGUSTA | 62 | 5 | 2.27 | -2.38 | NV ELKO | 40 | 4 | 0.21 | -0.75 | UT SALT LAKE CITY | 46 | 4 | 0.97 | -0.94 |
| GA MACON | 62 | 5 | 1.23 | -3.55 | NV ELY | 40 | 6 | 0.03 | -0.91 | VA BURLINGTON | 27 | -4 | 2.59 | 0.36 |
| GA SAVANNAH | 64 | 5 | 1.54 | -2.24 | NV LAS VEGAS | 63 | 7 | 0.00 | -0.43 | VA LYNCHBURG | 47 | 1 | 4.40 | 0.83 |
| GA HILO | 73 | 1 | 19.25 | 5.32 | NV RENO | 47 | 4 | 0.01 | -0.70 | VA NORFOLK | 51 | 2 | 3.21 | -0.49 |
| GA HONOLULU | 75 | 1 | 4.90 | 2.70 | NV WINNEMUCCA | 43 | 3 | 0.10 | -0.69 | VA RICHMOND | 49 | 1 | 2.96 | -0.65 |
| GA KAHULUI | 75 | 1 | - | - | NH CONCORD | 30 | -2 | 3.59 | 0.86 | VA ROANOKE | 50 | 3 | 3.12 | -0.36 |
| GA LIHUE | 74 | 3 | - | - | NJ ATLANTIC CITY | 42 | 1 | 5.35 | 1.73 | WA QUILLAYUTE | 43 | -1 | 20.67 | 9.19 |
| ID BOISE | 45 | 3 | 0.52 | -0.78 | NM ALBUQUERQUE | 52 | 5 | 0.11 | -0.43 | WA SEATTLE-TACOMA | 45 | -1 | 8.20 | 4.66 |
| ID LEWISTON | 45 | 1 | 1.69 | 0.60 | NY CLOVIS | 52 | 5 | - | - | WA SPOKANE | 39 | 1 | 2.40 | 0.90 |
| ID POCATELLO | 39 | 3 | 0.75 | -0.53 | NY ROSWELL | 54 | 2 | - | - | WA WALLA WALLA | 44 | 1 | 0.60 | -0.07 |
| IL CHICAGO | 38 | 1 | 1.57 | -1.12 | NY ALBANY | 33 | -1 | 4.41 | 1.48 | WA YAKIMA | - | - | - | - |
| IL MOLINE | 40 | 3 | 1.15 | -1.84 | NY BINGHAMTON | 32 | -1 | 3.77 | 0.95 | WV BECKLEY | 45 | 3 | 6.41 | 3.02 |
| IL PEORIA | 41 | 2 | 1.68 | -1.24 | NY BUFFALO | 33 | -1 | 4.47 | 1.78 | WV CHARLESTON | 47 | 1 | 8.35 | 4.72 |
| IL QUINCY | 43 | 3 | 1.20 | -1.99 | NY NEW YORK | 42 | 0 | 5.13 | 1.53 | WV ELKINS | - | - | 7.42 | 3.59 |
| IL ROCKFORD | 37 | 2 | 1.28 | -1.18 | NY ROCHESTER | 33 | -2 | 3.97 | 1.69 | WV HUNTINGTON | 47 | 3 | 8.33 | 4.79 |
| IL SPRINGFIELD | 43 | 3 | 2.50 | -0.74 | NY SYRACUSE | 33 | -1 | 3.57 | 0.80 | WV PARKERSBURG | 43 | 1 | 6.70 | 2.88 |
| IN EVANSVILLE | 47 | 1 | 6.90 | 2.18 | NC ASHEVILLE | 51 | 3 | 5.48 | -0.19 | WI GREEN BAY | 29 | -1 | 1.92 | -0.13 |
| IN FORT WAYNE | 39 | 1 | 3.32 | 0.42 | NC CHARLOTTE | 58 | 7 | 2.51 | -1.92 | WI LACROSSE | 34 | 1 | 3.09 | 1.13 |
| IN INDIANAPOLIS | 43 | 1 | 4.59 | 0.80 | NC GREENSBORO | 53 | 4 | 4.60 | 0.90 | WI MADISON | 34 | 1 | 1.54 | -0.62 |
| IN SOUTH BEND | 38 | 0 | 2.02 | -1.08 | NC HATTERAS | 54 | 3 | 4.52 | 0.22 | WI MILWAUKEE | 36 | 3 | 0.96 | -2.01 |
| IA DES MOINES | 40 | 3 | 1.29 | -0.90 | NC NEW BERN | 59 | 6 | 2.12 | -1.79 | WI WAUSAU | 29 | 1 | 1.77 | -0.19 |
| IA DUBUQUE | - | - | 1.20 | -1.69 | NC RALEIGH | 54 | 4 | 3.41 | -0.37 | WY CASPER | 37 | 4 | 0.92 | -0.03 |
| IA SIOUX CITY | 38 | 2 | 0.46 | -1.50 | NC WILMINGTON | 59 | 6 | 2.55 | -1.88 | WY CHEYENNE | 38 | 5 | 0.44 | -0.59 |
| IA WATERLOO | 35 | 1 | 1.56 | -0.74 | ND BISMARCK | 26 | -2 | 0.87 | 0.20 | WY LANDER | 37 | 3 | 0.92 | -0.23 |
| KS CONCORDIA | 46 | 5 | 0.17 | -2.03 | ND FARGO | 20 | -5 | 1.89 | 0.83 | PR SHERIDAN | 36 | 2 | 0.29 | -0.68 |
| KS DODGE CITY | 47 | 3 | T | -1.58 | ND GRAND FORKS | 20 | -4 | 0.76 | -0.18 | PR SAN JUAN | 77 | -1 | 1.83 | -0.44 |
| KS GOODLAND | 43 | 4 | T | -1.18 | OH WILLISTON | 24 | -4 | 0.94 | 0.25 | | | | | |
| KS TOPEKA | 46 | 3 | 0.26 | -2.20 | OH AKRON-CANTON | 38 | 0 | 3.14 | -0.17 | | | | | |
| KS WICHITA | 47 | 1 | 0.46 | -2.15 | OH CINCINNATI | 44 | 1 | 6.00 | 1.78 | | | | | |
| KY BOWLING GREEN | 50 | 3 | - | - | OH CLEVELAND | 39 | 1 | 3.26 | 0.36 | | | | | |
| KY JACKSON | - | - | 9.76 | 4.99 | OH COLUMBUS | 42 | 2 | 3.96 | 0.68 | | | | | |
| KY LEXINGTON | 46 | 1 | 13.82 | 9.42 | OH DAYTON | 42 | 1 | 3.96 | 0.53 | | | | | |
| KY LOUISVILLE | 49 | 3 | 17.52 | 12.86 | OH MANSFIELD | 38 | 1 | 3.35 | 0.06 | | | | | |
| KY PADUCAH | 50 | 3 | 7.42 | 2.50 | OH TOLEDO | 38 | 2 | 2.56 | -0.10 | | | | | |
| LA BATON ROUGE | 64 | 3 | 3.43 | -1.38 | OK YOUNGSTOWN | 37 | 0 | 3.04 | -0.08 | | | | | |
| LA LAKE CHARLES | 65 | 5 | 3.43 | 0.14 | OK OKLAHOMA CITY | 52 | 2 | 0.69 | -2.12 | | | | | |

Based on 1961-90 normals.

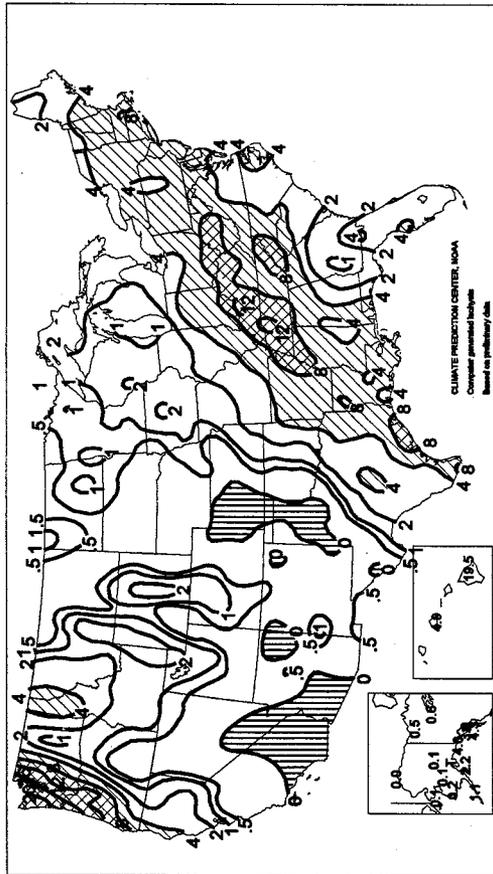
Average Temperature (°F)
March 1997



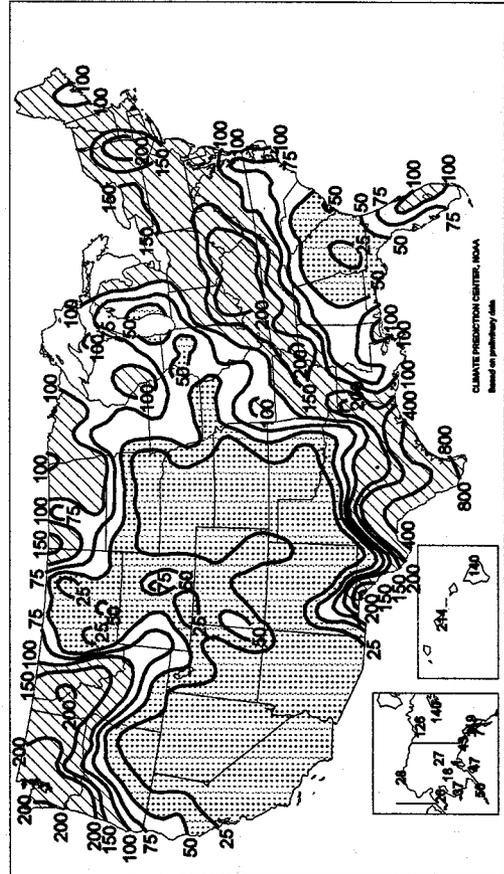
Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F)
March 1997



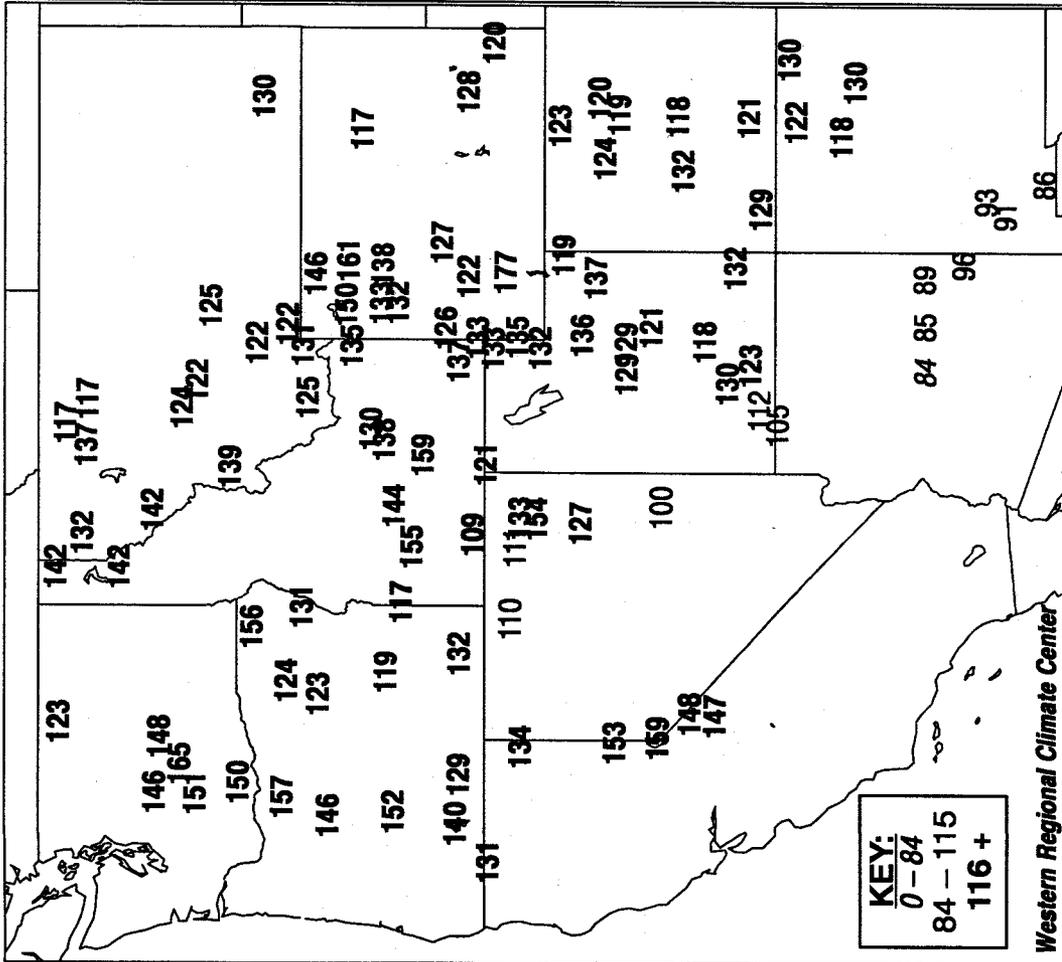
Total Precipitation (Inches)
March 1997



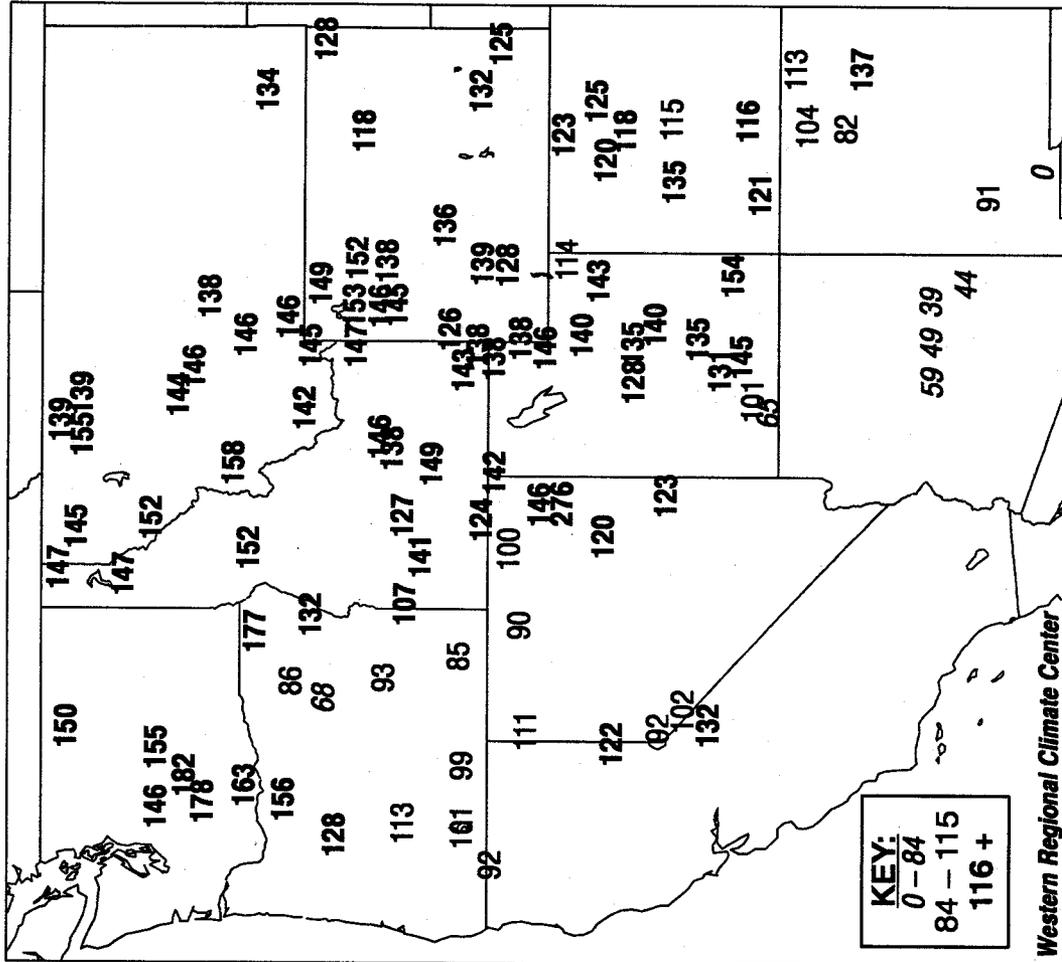
Percent of Normal Precipitation
March 1997



SNOTEL Basin-Average
Percent of Normal Total Precipitation
October 1, 1996 - April 5, 1997



SNOTEL Basin-Average
Percent of Normal Snowpack
As of April 5, 1997



National Agricultural Summary

March 31 - April 6, 1997

HIGHLIGHTS

Beneficial rains fell across central Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, and Nebraska. Heavy rains delayed field activities in the eastern half of Texas and extended up through Arkansas. Heavy snow fell in a line from the southern Rocky Mountains, up through the Dakotas and Minnesota, bringing winter-type problems. The additional snow in the northern Great Plains added to

the existing snowpack, causing heavy flooding in low-lying areas, and delaying field activities for another 2-3 weeks. An area extending from Florida to North Carolina remained dry. Additional moisture was needed to maintain crop development. Seeding and crop development across the southern one-third of the country was rapidly progressing.

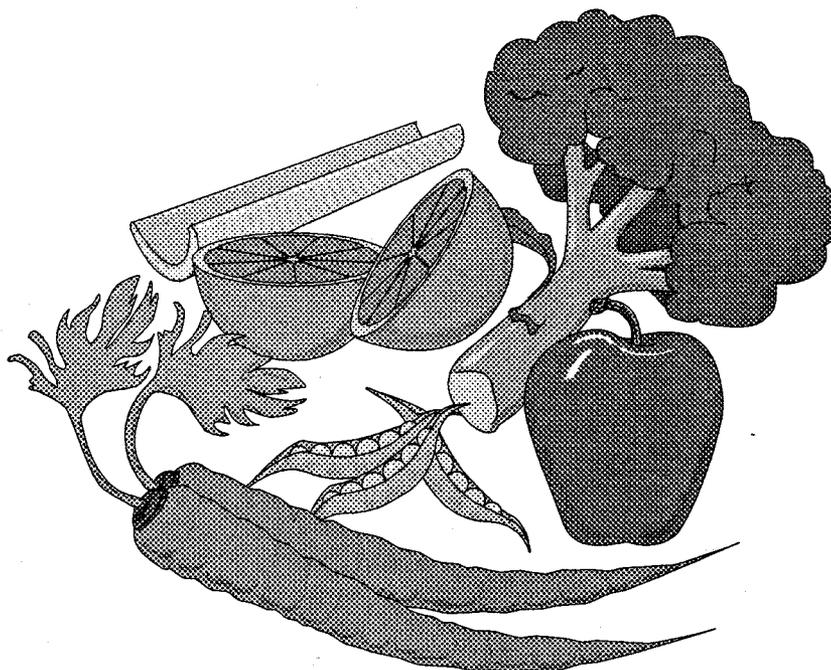
Winter Wheat: Crop condition was mostly good to fair. About 70 percent of the crop was described as good or excellent and only 6 percent of the crop was described as poor or very poor. Over 80 percent of the Kansas crop was reported in good or excellent condition. About 45 percent of the Kansas wheat crop had reached the jointing stage, well above the 3 percent last year and the 25 percent average. Very little freeze damage, wind damage, or insect problems had been reported. Soft Red Winter wheat in the eastern Corn Belt benefited from the ample moisture and higher temperatures.

Corn: Planting was 3 percent complete, 1 percentage point ahead of last year at this time and the 5-year average. Planting was underway in 7 of the 17 major producing States. Planting progress was well ahead of last year and the average in Georgia, where dry weather allowed for rapid progress. Planting activities have extended as far north as

southern Missouri and North Carolina. Wet soils and low temperatures have prevented corn planting in the Corn Belt.

Cotton: Planting was 6 percent complete, equaling last year and the average. Arizona and California recorded the most progress at 25 percent and 30 percent completed, respectively. Some progress was reported in 7 of the 14 major producing States. Planting progress was running slightly behind normal in Texas.

Other Crops: Seeding progress for sorghum at 11 percent complete was slightly behind normal. Only Arkansas, Mississippi, and Texas recorded planting progress. Spring wheat seeding was only 1 percent completed, slightly behind normal. South Dakota was behind normal progress due to the snow, cold, and wet fields. Rice planting progress was about normal for this time of year. Texas rice producers were considerably behind in planting due to heavy rains.



Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending April 6, 1997

| Corn Percent Planted | | | | |
|----------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| | Apr 6 1997 | Prev Week | Prev Year | 5-Yr Avg |
| CO | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 |
| GA | 78 | NA | 44 | 58 |
| IL | 1 | NA | 0 | 0 |
| IN | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 |
| IA | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 |
| KS | 3 | NA | 1 | 0 |
| KY | 1 | NA | 0 | 2 |
| MI | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 |
| MN | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 |
| MO | 7 | NA | 2 | 4 |
| NE | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 |
| NC | 11 | NA | 10 | 10 |
| OH | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 |
| PA | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 |
| SD | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 |
| TX | 40 | NA | 51 | 46 |
| WI | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 |
| ALL | 3 | NA | 2 | 2 |

These 17 States produced 90% of the 1996 corn crop.

| Cotton Percent Planted | | | | |
|------------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| | Apr 6 1997 | Prev Week | Prev Year | 5-Yr Avg |
| AL | 2 | NA | 1 | 1 |
| AZ | 25 | NA | 31 | 26 |
| AR | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 |
| CA | 30 | NA | 10 | 15 |
| GA | 1 | NA | 0 | 1 |
| LA | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 |
| MS | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 |
| MO | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 |
| NM | 4 | NA | 0 | 3 |
| NC | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 |
| OK | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 |
| SC | 1 | NA | 0 | 0 |
| TN | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 |
| TX | 6 | NA | 10 | 11 |
| ALL | 6 | NA | 6 | 6 |

These 14 States produced 99% of the 1996 cotton crop.

| Sorghum Percent Planted | | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| | Apr 6 1997 | Prev Week | Prev Year | 5-Yr Avg |
| AR | 11 | NA | 9 | 7 |
| CO | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 |
| IL | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 |
| KS | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 |
| LA | 0 | NA | 3 | 4 |
| MS | 10 | NA | 5 | 8 |
| MO | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 |
| NE | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 |
| NM | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 |
| OK | 0 | NA | 0 | 2 |
| SD | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 |
| TX | 31 | NA | 40 | 44 |
| ALL | 11 | NA | 14 | 15 |

These 12 States produced 99% of the 1996 sorghum crop.

| Rice Percent Planted | | | | |
|----------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| | Apr 6 1997 | Prev Week | Prev Year | 5-Yr Avg |
| AR | 7 | NA | 1 | 5 |
| CA | 0 | NA | 0 | 0 |
| LA | 40 | NA | 29 | 30 |
| MS | 12 | NA | 1 | 7 |
| TX | 2 | NA | 44 | 29 |
| ALL | 12 | NA | 11 | 11 |

These 5 States produced 96% of the 1996 rice crop.

| Spring Wheat Percent Planted | | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| | Apr 6 1997 | Prev Week | Prev Year | 5-Yr Avg |
| ID | 24 | NA | 21 | 29 |
| MN | 0 | NA | 0 | 1 |
| MT | 0 | NA | 0 | 4 |
| ND | 0 | NA | 0 | 1 |
| SD | 1 | NA | 1 | 10 |
| ALL | 1 | NA | 1 | 3 |

These 5 States produced 96% of the 1996 spring wheat crop.

| Winter Wheat Crop Condition by Percent | | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|----|----|
| | VP | P | F | G | EX |
| AR | 2 | 19 | 39 | 36 | 4 |
| CA | 0 | 5 | 20 | 20 | 55 |
| CO | 3 | 10 | 35 | 45 | 7 |
| GA | 0 | 7 | 25 | 61 | 7 |
| ID | 0 | 3 | 16 | 62 | 19 |
| IL | 2 | 3 | 16 | 65 | 14 |
| IN | 0 | 6 | 24 | 55 | 15 |
| KS | 0 | 2 | 16 | 60 | 22 |
| MI | 1 | 7 | 29 | 45 | 18 |
| MO | 1 | 4 | 25 | 55 | 15 |
| MT | 0 | 3 | 25 | 66 | 6 |
| NE | 0 | 6 | 39 | 49 | 6 |
| NC | 0 | 0 | 24 | 61 | 15 |
| OH | 4 | 13 | 37 | 35 | 11 |
| OK | 0 | 2 | 16 | 69 | 13 |
| OR | 0 | 1 | 13 | 65 | 21 |
| SD | 4 | 13 | 27 | 50 | 6 |
| TX | 2 | 10 | 37 | 38 | 13 |
| WA | 0 | 1 | 14 | 65 | 20 |
| ALL | 1 | 5 | 24 | 55 | 15 |
| Prev Wk | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Prev Yr | 15 | 25 | 33 | 22 | 5 |

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

National crop conditions for selected States are weighted based on 1996 planted acres.

State Agricultural Summaries

These summaries, issued weekly in April through November and monthly in the other months, 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/> or from JAWF at <http://www.usda.gov/ocel/waob/jawf>.

ALABAMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 2% very short, 19% short, 74% adequate, 5% surplus. Spring plowing complete 50%, 32% 1996, 40% avg. Corn planted 51%, 29% 1996, 40% avg. Wheat headed 23%, 12% 1996, 21% avg.; 1% poor, 25% fair, 56% good, 18% excellent. Livestock 1% poor, 12% fair, 84% good, 3% excellent. Mild weather with drier conditions continued in most areas. Spring plowing and planting activities continued with few delays.

ARIZONA: Below normal temperatures, rain halted cotton planting, slowed emergence. Small grain development continued ahead of 1996, average. Small grains 81% heading, 66% 1996, 67% avg.; 4% fair, 79% good, 17% excellent. Alfalfa harvest activity continued 39% light, 11% active, 50% not being harvested. Alfalfa 57% good, 43% excellent. Western vegetable harvest continued seasonal decline with shipping of Iceberg, Boston, leaf, Romaine lettuce, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, celery, endive, escarole, kale, spinach, salad savoy. Central areas shipped broccoli, cabbage, kale, spinach, anise, beets, carrots, Swiss chard, greens, green onions, leeks, parsley, radishes, rapini. Light volume of Romaine, leaf, iceberg also shipped from central. Harvest of Grapefruit, tangerines, tangelos continued active in central, western areas. Lemon harvest winding down, Valencia harvest gained momentum in both areas.

ARKANSAS: Main farming activities: Planting preparation, planting of row crops, fertilizing pastures and wheat. Field preparation for row crops, planting of rice, corn reported by several counties. Fertilizing, applying herbicides to wheat reported by several counties. Several counties report field preparation delays due to excess soil moisture. Livestock reported in fair condition.

CALIFORNIA: Field activities progressed normally under clear skies in most areas. Small grains were fertilized, irrigated and treated for aphids. High winds caused extensive lodging in many wheat, barley fields. Head development was ongoing in central, southern counties. Dryland wheat, barley, oat condition deteriorated rapidly due to lack of rainfall. Rice seedbed preparation, preplant fertilizer applications continued in the Sacramento Valley. Corn and safflower were planted in the San Joaquin, Sacramento valleys. Harvest of over-wintered sugar beets began in Merced County. New crop sugar beets and alfalfa showed good growth, emergence. Cotton planting was slowed by high winds in some areas. Seed alfalfa was cut and baled in Fresno County. Alfalfa, small grains, winter forage were cut for hay or green chopped. Ground preparation, pre-irrigation for planting corn, cotton, safflower continued in most areas. Fruit set in stone fruit orchards was generally heavy. Apricots, nectarines were thinned. Cherry bloom was complete with variable fruit set. Pistachios, walnuts, pecans were blooming. Apple bloom continued in various stages. Beehives were moved into apple, citrus orchards. Grapes were crown suckered, leaves were pulled, insecticides, pesticides were applied. Navel orange harvest neared completion, while Valencia harvest gained momentum. Grapefruit harvest continued. Broccoli, cauliflower, lettuce harvests were completed in the Imperial valley. Onion fields were prepared for harvest. Potatoes were being dug in southern areas. Broccoli, cauliflower, lettuce, carrots, asparagus were harvested in the San Joaquin Valley, along the coast, with good quality reported. Young lettuce fields were thinned, weeded, irrigated and treated for aphids. Growers were planting fresh tomato transplants. Garlic fields were irrigated. A few acres of zucchini, green beans sustained frost damage in the Fresno area. It was hoped that regrowth would take place in the affected fields. Melons, peppers, eggplant, oriental, other summer vegetables were being planted. Some spinach fields were being cut. Insecticides were applied to peas, tomatoes. Snap bean fields were fumigated, pre-irrigated. Bean acreage was expected to increase in the

Modesto area as farmers make up for last year's heat-burn loss. Sweet potato planting was slowed by high winds in central counties. Pasture feed, ranges were mainly in fair condition, although forage supplies remained plentiful. Dryland range grasses were badly in need of moisture. Warm, dry winds accelerated the maturation, drying of rangeland vegetation, even at higher elevations.

COLORADO: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.4. Topsoil 34% very short, 36% short, 28% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil 17% very short, 32% short, 50% adequate, 1% surplus. Spring barley 32% seeded, 34% 1996, 23% avg. Oats 43% seeded, 34% 1996, 22% avg. Sugar beets 22% planted, 45% 1996, 23% avg. Dry onions 54% planted, 69% 1996, 40% avg. Winter wheat 5% pastured, 4% 1996, 8% avg. Cows 70% calved, 76% 1996, 70% avg. Ewes 67% lambled, 70% 1996, 73% avg. Livestock mostly in good to fair condition.

DELAWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.7. Subsoil 92% adequate, 8% surplus. Topsoil 37% adequate, 63% surplus. Winter wheat 5% poor, 13% fair, 72% good, 10% excellent. Barley 2% poor, 16% fair, 73% good, 9% excellent. Potatoes 31% planted, 2% 1996, 18% avg. Green peas 50% planted, 4% 1996, 19% avg. Apples 9% bloomed, 0% 1996, 1% avg. Peaches 65% bloomed, 0% 1996, 10% avg. Strawberries 10% bloomed, 0% 1996, 2% avg. Hay supplies 8% short, 89% adequate, 3% surplus. Range, pasture feed 11% fair, 81% good, 8% excellent. Activities: Preparing soil for planting, starting to plant field crops, vegetables.

FLORIDA: Topsoil moisture was short to adequate throughout the State, and scattered areas were very short. Tobacco transplanting was virtually complete. Field corn planting was active. Field preparations for spring planted crops were active. Small grains were heading. Clear weather allowed vegetable harvesting to proceed at steady pace. Tomato harvesting was beginning, Palmetto-Ruskin. Vegetable volume leaders were tomatoes, peppers, cabbage, sweet corn, cucumbers, potatoes, celery, snap beans, squash, carrots, and eggplant. Citrus areas received very little rain. Most growers were irrigating. Bloom was over, and new growth was abundant. Valencia harvest was active in all areas. Grapefruit movement continued for both fresh and processed use. Temple and honey tangerine harvests were slowing as supplies were running low. Caretakers were cutting cover crops, post bloom nutritional spraying, herbicide spraying, as well as pushing and burning dead trees. Pasture feed was poor 30%, fair 30%, and good 40%. Pastures condition was poor to good. Northern pastures were mostly fair to good, southern pastures were mostly poor to good. Cattle were in fair to good condition. Condition of cattle herds was fair 55% and good 45%.

GEORGIA: Days suitable for field work 6.1. Soil moisture 10% very short; 36% short, 51% adequate, 3% surplus. Corn 1% poor, 28% fair, 63% good, 8% excellent. Hay 6% poor, 28% fair, 61% good, 5% excellent. Peanuts 1% planted, 1% 1996, 1% avg. Sorghum 3% planted, 0% 1996, NA avg. Tobacco 30% fair, 50% good, 20% excellent; 72% transplanted, 37% 1996, 40% avg. Wheat 97% jointing, 92% 1996, 92% avg.; 80% boot, 36% 1996, 46% avg.; 53% headed, 5% 1996, 13% avg. Onions 17% fair, 61% good, 22% excellent. Watermelons 1% poor, 28% fair, 64% good, 7% excellent; 72% planted, 33% 1996, 47% avg. Apples 1% poor, 16% fair, 71% good, 12% excellent, 48% blooming, 1% 1996, 21% avg. Peaches 5% fair, 46% good, 49% excellent; 100% blooming, 96% 1996, 96% avg. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 6% poor, 24% fair, 61% good, 8% excellent. Activities: Irrigating, fertilizing pastures, hay fields, applying herbicides, spraying pecans, preparing land for planting. General: It was another week of spring temperatures and scattered showers. Soil moisture

levels down sharply from last week, driest in southwest part of State. Overall, crop conditions decreased during the week, remain mostly good. Warm weather, dry fields pushed planting, crop development progress for early crops well ahead of normal.

HAWAII: Moderate to heavy showers early in the week slowed farming throughout State. General clearing later in week helped farming. Windward areas continued to receive daily showers, mostly beneficial to agriculture. Banana production seasonally light to moderate. Production further hampered by previous wind damage. Overall papaya production steady, some areas declining others increasing. Head cabbage production moderate, aided by spring weather. Maui onion crop continues to improve, other areas adversely affected by rains. Watermelon plantings increasing. Ginger root harvesting at moderate level. Rains hampered harvesting, planting activities.

IDAHO: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.3. Cool temperatures, mid-week snow showers slowed planting, fieldwork. Topsoil 36% surplus, 56% adequate, 8% short. Spring wheat emerged 4%, 3% 1996, 8% avg. Barley planted 15%, 16% 1996, 22% avg.; emerged 3%, 3% 1996, 6% avg. Potatoes planted 2%, 1% 1996, 2% avg. Sugar beets planted 39%, 20% 1996, 32% avg.; emerged 6%, 2% 1996, 1% avg. Dry peas planted 3%, 7% 1996, 10% avg. Oats planted 4%, 9% 1996, 13% avg. Onions planted 87%, 49% 1996, 49% avg.; emerged 7%, 5% 1996, 3% avg. Lentils planted 0%, 0% 1996, 7% avg. Irrigation water supply 69% excellent, 30% good, 1% fair. Hay, roughage supplies 22% adequate, 57% short, 21% very short. Calving completed 84%. Lambing completed 87%. Activities: Planting spring wheat, barley, onions, potatoes, sugar beets, feeding, caring for livestock, preparing for irrigation, hauling seed potatoes, weed control, fertilizing.

ILLINOIS: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.1. Topsoil 7% short, 74% adequate, 19% surplus. Spring fieldwork began across the State last week with the main focus being tillage, fertilizer application. Corn planters were being tested in various areas of the State, most farmers limited activities to seedbed preparation, oat seeding in anticipation of this week's cold snap. Peas, potatoes were being planted in the northern districts while activities in the southern districts were more limited due to wetter soils. Winter wheat, pastures, hay fields continued to green up nicely last week, benefited from warm temperatures, adequate to surplus topsoil moisture. Other farm activities were preparing field equipment, hauling grain, spreading manure, applying herbicides, constructing waterways other soil conservation structures. Alfalfa hay 23% fair, 67% good, 8% excellent. Pasture feed 3% very poor, 5% poor, 26% fair, 57% good, 9% excellent. Oats planted 41%, 15% 1996, 26% avg.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.0. Topsoil 62% adequate, 38% surplus. Subsoil moisture 61% adequate, 39% surplus. Excessive precipitation has left fields too wet for fieldwork. Winter wheat 2% jointed, 1% 1996, 4% avg. Wheat weathered the winter very well. It has plenty of moisture, now it will need some warmer weather to progress. Range, pasture 5% very poor, 12% poor, 46% fair, 33% good, 4% excellent. Activities: spreading fertilizer, applying anhydrous, repairing equipment, caring for livestock.

IOWA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.1. Soil moisture is in good shape for planting for most of the State. Topsoil very short 1%, short 9%, adequate 76%, surplus 14%. Subsoil very short 1%, short 8%, adequate 81%, surplus 10%. 1997 row crops primary seedbed preparation completed 41%, 49% 1996, 41% avg.; fertilizer application completed 47%, 51% 1996, 42% avg. Oats planted 27%, 8% 1996, 26% avg. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 2% poor, 21% fair, 64% good, 12% excellent. Percent crop lost to winterkill 3% winter wheat, 8% alfalfa hay, 7% red clover hay. Weather conditions during the week were very beneficial for calving. Farmers were busy early in the week as temperatures approached 70°, a cold, wet, windy storm over the weekend stopped fieldwork, left farmers anxious for the "real" onset of spring.

KANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.3. Topsoil 1% very short, 19% short, 74% adequate, 6% surplus. Subsoil 1% very short, 8% short, 89% adequate, 2% surplus. Wheat 2% poor, 13% fair, 65% good, 20% excellent; jointing 45%, 3% 1996, 25% avg.; wind damage 3% moderate, 11% light, 86% none; freeze damage 1% moderate, 9% light, 90% none. Insect, disease infestations minimal, few reports of armyworms, brown wheat mites, various types of mosaic. Oats 100%, 93% 1996, 82% avg. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 3% poor, 25% fair, 62% good, 9% excellent. Farmers began burning, spraying pastures in preparation for grazing. Major field activities included top dressing wheat, spring tillage, spraying for weeds. Livestock activities calving, lambing, fencing, moving cattle. Most areas report calving, lambing progressing well.

KENTUCKY: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.5. Topsoil 54% adequate, 46% surplus. Subsoil 39% adequate, 61% surplus. Dry most of week, above normal temperatures, significant rainfall in western counties late week. Wet soils delaying fieldwork. Land preparation 30% complete. Primary field activities clearing fields of flood debris, mending fences, applying fertilizer, preparing fields for planting, spring forage seeding. Winter wheat acreage loss 10%, barley loss 9%. Alfalfa stand loss 7%, red clover 9%. Hay supplies mostly adequate with 15% remaining. Winter feed being provided by 57% of livestock farms. Pastures providing 40% of roughage requirements. Tobacco beds 70% seeded, 57% 1996, 64% avg.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.3. Soil moisture 55% adequate, 45% surplus. Corn 82% planted, 95% 1996, 81% avg.; 48% emerged, 80% 1996, 53% avg.; planting made excellent progress as fields dried. Rice 20% emerged, 15% 1996, 15% avg.; planting made good progress with planting slightly ahead of normal. Sorghum 0% emerged, 0% 1996, 0% avg. Spring plowing 46%, 84% 1996, 62% avg. Sugarcane 4% poor, 34% fair, 44% good, 18% excellent; produces were busy fertilizing their fields. Wheat 10% poor, 55% fair, 34% good, 1% excellent; 46% headed, 28% 1996, 37% avg.; 0% turning color, 0% 1996, 1% avg. Livestock 1% very poor, 10% poor, 43% fair, 42% good, 4% excellent. Livestock producers fed fewer supplements as pasture growth accelerated. Vegetables 13% poor, 38% fair, 46% good, 3% excellent. Planting of spring vegetables was delayed by wet conditions. Pasture feed 5% poor, 42% fair, 49% good, 4% excellent. Pastures responded well to warmer temperatures, growth was still hampered by excessive soil moisture.

MARYLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.3. Subsoil 82% adequate, 18% surplus. Topsoil 1% short, 84% adequate, 15% surplus. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 3% poor, 21% fair, 64% good, 11% excellent. Barley 2% very poor, 5% poor, 16% fair, 66% good, 11% excellent. Rye 1% poor, 26% fair, 60% good, 13% excellent. Field corn 5% planted, 0% 1996, 1% avg. Tobacco beds planted 95%. Apples 17% bloomed, 0% 1996. Peaches 38% bloomed, 0% 1996, 13% avg. Strawberries 6% bloomed, 0% 1996, 6% avg. Hay supplies 9% very short, 17% short, 72% adequate, 2% surplus. Range, pasture feed 4% poor, 24% fair, 56% good, 16% excellent. Activities: Preparing soil for planting, starting to plant field crops, vegetables.

MICHIGAN: Farmers are getting ready for spring planting. A few are tilling the drier fields or pruning the orchards. Wheat is beginning to green up. Sugar beets, oat planting have begun. Feed is said to be expensive, in short supply. Livestock fairs well in the mild weather. Lambing, calving are still underway.

MINNESOTA: Soils had started to thaw in southern districts, remain very wet and top layer has re-frozen with very cold air temperatures. Snow cover is not gone in northern areas. No fieldwork has been possible except manure spreading. The start of planting is still 1 to 2 weeks away at best. Record to near-record flood levels along major rivers are occurring. Widespread road closures are a side-effect of the floods.

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.6. Soil moisture 2% short, 67% adequate, 31% surplus. Corn 58% planted, 45% 1996, 39% avg.; 22% emerged, 22% 1996, 18% avg.; 1% poor, 29% fair, 60% good, 10% excellent. Wheat 83% jointing, 76% 1996, 80% avg.; 20% heading, 2% 1996, 9% avg.; 4% poor, 29% fair, 53% good, 14% excellent. Watermelons 33% planted, 20% 1996, 22% avg.; 1% poor, 29% fair, 67% good, 3% excellent. Cattle 5% poor, 22% fair, 49% good, 24% excellent. Pasture feed 4% poor, 23% fair, 51% good, 22% excellent. Hay supply 8% short, 68% adequate, 24% surplus. Feed grain 3% short, 85% adequate, 12% surplus. Activities: Planting corn, land preparation for other crops, caring for livestock.

MISSOURI: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.8. Topsoil 4% short, 83% adequate, 13% surplus. Mild temperatures coupled with some days of dry weather permitted farmers to make progress with spring tillage, fertilizer applications, corn planting across the State. Particularly good corn planting progress was made in the extreme southern counties of the Bootheel, where reporters indicated as much as 60 to 80% planted. The Bootheel leads the State with 33% planted, followed by 13% south-central, 7% southwest. The most favorable winter wheat condition ratings are found north central, central, east central, southwest, while less favorable ratings exist across the southeast region of the State. Oats sown 58%, 54% 1996, 50% avg. Ground tilled for spring crops 52%, 57% 1996, 50% avg. Pasture feed, range condition, 1% very poor, 9% poor, 30% fair, 55% good, 5% excellent.

MONTANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 1.7. Topsoil 27% surplus, 69% adequate, 4% short. Subsoil 20% surplus, 70% adequate, 10% short. Mild temperatures were the norm for the first part of the week with snow storms and below freezing temperatures by the end of the week. Field tillage work in progress 92% none, 7% just started, 1% well under way. Crop progress for oats, spring wheat, sugar beets 0% planted with barley at 1% planted, 0% 1996, 6% avg. Winter wheat 40% still dormant, 55% greening, 5% green, growing. Winter wheat wind damage 53% none, 36% light, 10% moderate, 1% heavy. Freeze damage to winter wheat 42% none, 51% light, 7% moderate. Calving 71% complete, lambing 44% completed. Livestock receiving supplemental feed: cattle 95%, sheep 94%.

NEBRASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.3. Topsoil 1% very short, 26% short, 68% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil 14% short, 85% adequate, 1% surplus. A late winter storm over the weekend brought blizzard conditions which halted fieldwork over much of the State. Up to 10 inches of snow was recorded in parts of the west, north. Much needed moisture will benefit the wheat crop, newly seeded oats, raised concerns about flooding along the Missouri River considering the heavy snows in the Dakotas this winter. Corn planting had not yet begun in most areas of the State due to cool soil temperatures. Winter wheat 6% poor, 39% fair, 49% good, 6% excellent; overall, the crop continued to look good; the weekend moisture should improve crop prospects in the very dry western wheat growing area. Oats 36% seeded, 22% 1996, 30% avg.; 4% emerged, 2% 1996; Cattle 76% cows calved since January 1, 71% 1996; the late winter storm stressed young calves. Pasture feed, range 1% very poor, 4% poor, 36% fair, 57% good, 2% excellent. Activities: Oats seeding, spring tillage, stalk shredding, fertilizer applications, spring equipment preparation, livestock care.

NEVADA: Temperatures returned to normal in most areas, precipitation remained limited. Hard frosts in central, northern regions destroyed some early seeded onion fields, halted fruit bloom. Above normal temperatures during March did much to relieve the potential for further flooding along the watersheds of the eastern Sierra Nevada mountains. Sod harvest continued in the extreme south. Fields were being prepared for planting central, spring grain planting was gaining momentum. Replanting of onion fields got underway in Smith Valley. Weed burning, ditch cleaning continued. Calving was well along. Castrating, branding of calves underway. Lambing underway, shearing beginning. Main farm, ranch activities: Ditch repair, working livestock, grain planting, onion planting, field leveling, irrigating.

NEW ENGLAND: Maple sugaring activities winding down. Operators tending livestock, fixing fences, general clean up after severe winter storm April 1. Growers moving apples and potatoes out of storage. Garden centers, greenhouses gearing up for spring.

NEW JERSEY: Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Topsoil adequate to surplus. Peaches in full bloom. Farmers plowing, discing. Vegetable farmers were establishing transplants in greenhouses as well as planting potatoes, leeks, lettuce, spring cabbage, turnips, spinach, sweet corn. Nursery operations were busy shipping out plant material.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Soil moisture 27% short, 72% adequate, 1% surplus. Farmers in the south have begun planting cotton, 4% complete, 0% 1996, 3% avg. Continue planting chile, 68% complete; finished planting lettuce. Chile 12% fair, 88% good. Lettuce 3% fair, 43% good, 54% excellent. Onion 2% fair, 78% good, 20% excellent. First cutting of alfalfa is expected to begin in the southern part of the State in 2 to 3 weeks. Alfalfa 3% very poor, 1% poor, 15% fair, 64% good, 17% excellent. Elsewhere in the State land preparation continued for spring planting while farmers irrigated wheat. Winter wheat 23% poor, 43% fair, 32% good, 2% excellent. Light freeze damage was reported on peach, apricot trees. Ranchers continued supplemental feeding of livestock, calving, sheep shearing. Cattle were rated mostly in good condition, while sheep were in fair to good condition. Range, pasture feed conditions, 2% very poor, 14% poor, 44% fair, 38% good, 2% excellent.

NEW YORK: Heavy snow in eastern regions halted outside activities. Many areas were without power and downed limbs, trees blocked roadways. Warmer weather late in the week melted snow, made outside activities easier. Maple syrup making got off to a late start. Fruit, potatoes, onions being graded, packed. Spring plowing active in drier fields. Producers tending livestock, spreading manure.

NORTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Most areas of the State experienced drier, cooler weather which allowed farmers to make progress on their spring plantings, land preparation. However, the drier weather shortened the topsoil moisture across the State. There were no reports of any freezes in the fruit or vegetable regions of the State. Soil moisture 10% short, 80% adequate, 10% surplus. Activities included: Planting corn, cabbage, irish potatoes; preparing tobacco, cotton land for planting; top dressing small grains, pastures; maintaining pastures; tending livestock; repairing equipment; general farm maintenance.

NORTH DAKOTA: Three day blizzard during the latter part of week contributed to increased livestock stress, closed roads, made feed difficult to access throughout the State, except for the Northwest district. Extra snow has halted any progress in fieldwork for 2-3 weeks. With the continued winter conditions, there have been reports of scours, pneumonia in newborn calves. Some country areas have been left without power. This severe winter storm may cause repercussions for livestock producers in the south central district that has already been hit hard with livestock losses. Due to winter storm, most of the county agents were not available to report.

OHIO: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.4. Topsoil 1% short, 65% adequate, 34% surplus. Fieldwork active in all but a few northern areas. Farmer activities include: Preparing machinery, top dressing winter wheat, hauling manure, applying anhydrous, dry fertilizer, plowing, chiseling, or discing corn stocks. Some crops have been planted; cabbage, early sweet corn in southern counties, some oats. Tobacco beds are 49% seeded. Planting of field corn, potatoes just getting under way. Peaches, pears, cherries are in bloom in southern counties. Apples 30% fair, 56% good, 14% excellent. Peaches 12% poor, 18% fair, 57% good, 13% excellent. Hay 2% very poor, 7% poor, 37% fair, 44% good, 10% excellent. Pasture feed 2% very poor, 7% poor, 42% fair, 41% good, 8% excellent. Livestock mostly good thanks to the mild winter.

OKLAHOMA: Much needed rain fell during the week, improving wheat conditions and halting row crop preparations. Days suitable for fieldwork 4.5. Topsoil 6% short, 81% adequate, 13% surplus. Subsoil 2% short, 85% adequate, 13% surplus. Wheat 83% jointing, 34% 1996, 67% avg.; 6% heading, 0% 1996, 1% avg.; oats 53% jointing, 19% 1996, 31% avg.; corn 83% seedbed prepared, 79% 1996, 77% avg.; 16% planted, 14% 1996, 14% avg.; 3% up-to-stand, 2% 1996, 3% avg.; sorghum 53% seedbed prepared, 17% 1996, 29% avg.; soybeans 39% seedbed prepared, 37% 1996, 33% avg.; 3% planted, 3% 1996, 1% avg.; peanuts 37% seedbed prepared, 37% 1996, 40% avg.; cotton 54% seedbed prepared, 27% 1996, 47% avg.; livestock 3% poor, 22% fair, 70% good, 5% excellent. Pasture feed, range 4% poor, 36% fair, 56% good, 4% excellent. Prices of feeder steers and heifers were steady.

OREGON: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Topsoil 6% short, 88% adequate, 6% short. Subsoil 7% short, 88% adequate, 5% surplus. All barley 70% planted, 29% 1996, 40% avg. Pasture feed 11% poor, 30% fair, 41% good, 18% excellent. Activities: Western field crop development slowed, cool wet weather; fertilizer & herbicide applications underway. Eastern spring grains seeding continued, some fieldwork underway. Sugar beets planting underway, Klamath Basin & Malheur county, early beet plantings in Malheur County froze out. High winds caused erosion problems in the Mid-Columbia region. Willamette Valley nursery trees being balled, unsold bare root plants being potted, container plants being rotated, & flats of flower, vegetable starts being readied for sale. South coast Easter lily growers scouting fields for aphids. Christmas trees being planted, excellent. Spring vegetable plantings underway, statewide. Malheur County onion planting continued. Mid-Columbia green pea seeding 50% completed. Willamette Valley: Vegetable seeding slowed by weather, some onions planted, green peas planting underway, strawberries & caneberries leafing out, apples & pears pre-bloom. Statewide apple & pear producers enacted frost prevention devices, temperatures mid 20's. Rogue River valley pears nearing full bloom. Hood River valley pears & apples mostly in pre-bloom stages. The Dalles district cherry crop 10-30% bloom. Milton-Freewater district apples bud stage; cherries beginning bloom stage. Southern coast cranberry development tight unopened to early elongation. Hay feeding continued. Livestock good. Calving continued, supplemental hay feeding continued, eastern section. Western pasture feed started regrowth, cattle on pastures. Lambing continued western sections

PENNSYLVANIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.2. Soil moisture 82% adequate, 18% surplus. Plowing 20% complete, 8% 1996, 9% avg. Oats planted 16% complete, 9% 1996, 6% avg. Tobacco beds planted 85% complete, 75% 1996, 33% avg. Wheat 2% very poor, 12% poor, 16% fair, 57% good, 13% excellent. Alfalfa, alfalfa mixtures stand 3% very poor, 4% poor, 27% fair, 57% good, 9% excellent. Timothy clover stand 4% very poor, 4% poor, 15% fair, 74% good, 3% excellent. Peaches 1% pink, 0% 1996, 1% avg.; 0% full bloom or past, 0% 1996, 0% avg. Cherries 1% pink, 0% 1996, 1% avg.; 0% full bloom or past, 0% 1996, 0% avg. Apples 1% pink, 0% 1996, 1% avg.; 0% full bloom or past, 0% 1996, 0% avg. Activities: Some plowing, planting of oats; fixing fences, machinery maintenance, storing; hauling manure; caring for livestock.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Soil moisture 2% very short, 32% short, 63% adequate, 3% surplus. Cantaloupes 55% planted, 11% 1996, 27% avg.; 2% poor, 17% fair, 81% good. Corn 75% planted, 25% 1996, 47% avg.; 1% poor, 22% fair, 66% good, 11% excellent. Cotton 1% planted, N/A 1996, N/A avg. Cucumbers 40% planted, N/A 1996, N/A avg.; 20% fair, 60% good, 20% excellent. Hay 25% harvested, N/A 1996, N/A avg.; 1% poor, 19% fair, 67% good, 13% excellent. Rye 50% headed, N/A 1996, N/A avg.; 1% poor, 19% fair, 72% good, 8% excellent. Snap beans 35% planted, 30% 1996, 35% avg.; 25% fair, 50% good, 25% excellent. Tobacco 10% planted, 3% 1996, 10% avg.; 4% poor, 25% fair, 71% good. Tomatoes 55% planted, 37% 1996, 54% avg.; 29% fair, 28% good, 43% excellent. Watermelons 65% planted, 16% 1996, 38% avg.; 27% fair, 68% good, 5% excellent. Winter Wheat 40% headed, 1%

1996, 4% avg.; 2% poor, 17% fair, 70% good, 11% excellent. Barley 3% fair, 55% good, 42% excellent. Pasture feed 3% poor, 19% fair, 57% good, 21% excellent. Peaches 10% fair, 55% good, 35% excellent.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Temperatures slightly above normal, precipitation moderate to heavy. Topsoil 2% short, 34% adequate, 64% surplus. Subsoil 1% short, 37% adequate, 62% surplus. Day suitable for fieldwork 1.0. Expected date to start fieldwork, April 16th. Winter wheat acreage 60% breaking dormancy, winter rye 45% breaking dormancy. Winter rye 21% fair, 67% good, 12% excellent. Livestock 1% very poor, 4% poor, 24% fair, 63% good, 8% excellent. Calving 37% complete. Newborn calf death losses 7% below average, 79% average, 14% above average. Lambing 50% completed. Newborn lamb death losses 5% below average, 80% average, 15% above average. Feed supplies 4% very short, 18% short, 71% adequate, 7% surplus. Stock water 54% adequate, 46% surplus.

TENNESSEE: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil 79% adequate, 21% surplus. Subsoil 74% adequate, 26% surplus. Corn 13% planted, 5% 1996, 8% avg. Tobacco 87% seeded, 77% 1996, 81% avg.; 58% plants up, 38% 1996, 40% avg. Wheat 5% poor, 23% fair, 57% good, 15% excellent; 61% jointed, 28% 1996, 33% avg. Apples 89% budding or beyond, 71% 1996, 67% avg.; 50% blooming or beyond, 26% 1996, 23% avg. Peaches 95% budding or beyond, 81% 1996, 86% avg.; 78% blooming or beyond, 55% 1996, 70% avg. Pasture feed 3% poor, 21% fair, 64% good, 12% excellent. Cattle 4% poor, 24% fair, 61% good, 11% excellent.

TEXAS: Cloudy, overcast skies covered most areas during the week. Violent weather erupted late week, causing heavy rains in many central, southern, and coastal areas. Beneficial rain also fell in the High Plains. Field operations again slowed by wet conditions in most areas. Excessive amounts of rainfall on recently planted fields caused problems in some areas. Ranges and pastures continued to show great improvement in nearly all areas. Livestock conditions remained very good across the State. Markets were steady to improving. **Crops:** Dryland fields in Plains benefited from first good rainfall in a while. Irrigated fields remained in good condition. Fields in central and southern areas continued to head. Rust and mildew problems increased with wet conditions. Some spraying occurred early in the week. Corn planting was getting underway early in the week in some fields in the High Plains when rainfall stalled progress. Final planting operations were delayed in the central areas. The additional moisture will benefit emerged fields. Open weather is needed for further progress. Isolated heavy rain in Coastal Bend and Rio Grande Valley may cause some replanting to occur. Some yellowing from excessive rains occurred. Wet fields along Upper Coast, Blacklands continued stall planting, producers have fallen critically behind. Statewide condition rated 68% normal compared with 44% last year. Cotton planting operations will begin as fields dry along the Upper Coast. Final planting operations stalled in Coastal Bend and Rio Grande Valley. Heavy rains may cause some replanting in these areas. Land preparations slowed late in the week in the Plains. Grain sorghum planting occurred in parts of the State early in the week. However, progress stalled by late week. Planting progress remained slow along the Upper Coast. Heavy rains on recently planted fields in Rio Grande Valley may cause replanting. The statewide crop condition rated 74% normal compared with 44% in 1996. Rice planting remained critically behind schedule along the Upper Coast because of very wet conditions. Little, if any, progress occurred. Some soybeans planting occurred in the north-central areas early in the week. Producers along the Upper Coast have made little progress since many have not started planting. The rainfall during the week should aid germination on recently planted sugar beet fields. Planting progress slowed by late-week rains.

Commercial Vegetables: In Rio Grande Valley, onion harvest was underway. However, wet fields have kept progress to a minimum. Continued wet conditions were giving rise to disease problems. Melons were making good progress. In the San Antonio-Winter Garden area, continued wet conditions hampered watermelon development. Other vegetables were making good progress. In the High Plains, most onions and potatoes have been planted. Onion stands were good. In the east, most sweetpotato beds have been prepared. Wet fields kept activity to the minimum. Prospects for peaches were good across the

State. Trees in the Hill Country past the bloom stage, with threat of freeze virtually gone. Good fruit set occurred in many central and eastern groves. Pecan trees continued to bud in many areas. Continued rainfall should help prospects but may also increase insect and disease problems.

Range and Livestock: Good moisture conditions in most areas have left ranges and pastures in good condition. Livestock was also in good condition in most areas. Spring lambing and calving continued. Supplemental feeding slowed in many areas.

UTAH: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.1. Topsoil 10% short, 71% adequate, 19% surplus. Subsoil 7% short, 71% adequate, 22% surplus. Winter wheat 52% fair, 23% good, 25% excellent; freeze damage 51% none, 19% light, 26% moderate, 4% severe. Fall barley 43% fair, 51% good, 6% excellent; freeze damage 48% none, 40% light, 12% moderate. Pasture feed, range 5% very poor, 23% poor, 24% fair, 36% good, 12% excellent. Spring wheat planted 44%, 37% 1996, 46% avg. Barley planted 45%, 34% 1996, 43% avg. Oats planted 15%, 11% 1996, 21% avg. Apricots full bloom or past 92%. Cows calved 50%, 60% 1996, 62% avg. Ewes lambed: on farm 45%, 54% 1996, 66% avg.; on range 10%, 25% 1996, 28% avg. Sheep sheared: on farm 35%, 47% 1996, 52% avg.; on range 5%, 40% 1996, 34% avg. Major farm, ranch activities: Spring planting, spring tillage, spraying fruit, pruning fruit, shearing sheep, lambing, calving.

VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.1. Topsoil 4% short, 89% adequate, 7% surplus. Subsoil 1% short, 84% adequate, 15% surplus. Corn 2% planted, 3% 1996, 2% avg. Winter wheat 5% poor, 15% fair, 60% good, 20% excellent. Barley 2% poor, 23% fair, 60% good, 15% excellent. Apples 25% fair, 75% good. Peaches 32% fair, 67% good, 1% excellent. Tobacco greenhouses 100% seeded, 99% 1996, 100% avg.; 4% fair, 56% good, 40% excellent. Tobacco plantbeds 96% seeded, 96% 1996, 95% avg.; 12% poor, 9% fair, 70% good, 9% excellent. Summer potatoes 80% planted, 88% 1996. Livestock 22% fair, 63% good, 15% excellent. Pasture feed 30% fair, 60% good, 10% excellent. Alfalfa 10% fair, 75% good, 15% excellent. Other Hay 15% fair, 65% good, 20% excellent. Small grain, winter grazing crops, 5% poor, 20% fair, 65% good, 10% excellent. Gale force winds early week slowed outdoor work. Cooler evening temperatures delayed maturation of small grains. Scouting for cereal leaf beetle continues. Tillage, fertilizer and chemical applications progressed as ground conditions become more favorable. Corn planting, hay seeding continued. Operators topdressed small grains, applied herbicides, fungicides, lime in preparation for planting. Cotton, peanut growers continued bedding fields. Vegetable growers laying plastic, bedding vegetable plants. Some vegetables being transplanted. Livestock fully grazing, in good condition.

WASHINGTON: Topsoil 1% short, 57% adequate, 42% surplus; subsoil 97% adequate, 3% surplus. Hay, other roughage supplies, 50% very short, 27% short, 21% adequate, 2% surplus. Flooding in mid-March caused considerable damage in Grays Harbor, Pacific, Lewis counties of western Washington. Grays Harbor estimated preliminary losses in excess of \$1,000,000. Along with flood cleanup efforts, major activities in western areas included rhubarb, daffodil harvesting, orchard and raspberry field punning, applying fertilizer and herbicides to planted Christmas tree fields. Livestock were on limited pasture forage while most pastures remain saturated. In central areas field crop tillage got underway. Vegetable bed preparation began, while spring wheat,

potato, green pea planting progressed. Tree planting was reported behind schedule in Chelan county, excessive mouse damage to trees was also reported. Wet field conditions has limited field work in eastern areas. Many fields, ranges are still under snow with Ferry, Pend Oreille counties reporting very short hay supplies. Some field crop seeding began, where possible, top-dress fertilizer application began. Winter wheat conditions in Whitman county were reported as generally good.

WEST VIRGINIA: Mild weather allowed planting of oats, tobacco bed seeded and land preparation to be ahead of last year. Soils still wet some areas of State preventing some farmers from doing field preparation. Open weather improved soil moisture, but more drying is needed in some areas. Days suitable for fieldwork 5.1. Topsoil 4% short, 86% adequate, 10% surplus. Wheat 1% poor, 34% fair, 59% good, 6% excellent. Hay 11% poor, 23% fair, 62% good, 4% excellent. Intended Acreage Prepared for Spring Planting 34%, 13% 1996. Corn planted 1%, 1% 1996. Oats planted 26%, 6% 1996, 12% avg.; emerged 1%, 0% 1996, 4% avg. Tobacco beds seeded 74%, 26% 1996, 52% avg. Cattle 1% poor, 22% fair, 70% good, 7% excellent; 78% calved. Sheep 1% poor, 14% fair, 80% good, 5% excellent; 87% lambed. Hay, roughage supplies 1% very short, 15% short, 83% adequate, 1% surplus. Feed grain supplies 10% short, 89% adequate, 1% surplus. Activities: Field preparation, seeding tobacco beds, spreading fertilizer on meadows, pastures, checking, repairing fences, calving, lambing, general maintenance.

WISCONSIN: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.3. Soil moisture 3% short, 67% adequate, 30% surplus. Spring tillage 2% complete, 0% 1996, 3% avg. Most of the soil being worked was in the southern districts. Southwest district had the least amount of moisture with 10% of the acreage being short. A reporter from Langlade County noted 12 to 15 inches of snow cover yet in the woods. In 1994 State had 9% of the oat acreage planted. A reporter from Lafayette County, in the Southwest district, noted oats being sown. In some areas, it may be too early to tell the condition of winter wheat. However, some reporters from the East Central district remarked that most of the winter wheat in the area looked in great condition, plants were starting to green up. A reporter from Grant County observed that the alfalfa hay crop seemed to have made it through the winter. A reporter from Taylor County commented that maple syrup season has been going well; however, the colder forecasted temperatures may cause sap gathering to drop drastically. Other activities last week were: hauling manure, feeding livestock, soil sampling, and preparing equipment for the planting season.

WYOMING: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.9. Topsoil 4% short, 78% adequate, 18% surplus. Shortages mostly southeast. Winter wheat 50% fair, 49% good, 1% excellent. Barley 65% planted, 9% 1996, 33% avg.; 0% emerged, 0% 1996, 4% avg. Oats 9% planted, 5% 1996, 11% avg.; 0% emerged, 0% 1996, 0% avg. Spring wheat 19% planted, 11% 1996, 15% avg.; 0% emerged, 2% 1996, 1% avg. Hay, roughage supplies 18% very short, 26% short, 54% adequate, 2% surplus. Range, pasture feed 1% poor, 10% fair, 88% good, 1% excellent. Spring calves born 67%, 65% 1996, 65% avg. Farm flock ewes lambed 77%, 76% 1996, 76% avg.; shorn 78%, 77% 1996, 77% avg. Range flock ewes lambed 8%, 11% 1996, 15% avg.; shorn 30%, 35% 1996, 39% avg. Calf, lamb loss mostly normal with some heavy losses in the east. Spring blizzard late in the week with high winds, drifting brings fieldwork to a halt, produces some heavy calf, lamb losses.

International Weather and Crop Summary

March 30 - April 5, 1997

HIGHLIGHTS

FSU-WESTERN: A warming trend accompanied several days of dryness in Ukraine and southern Russia, favoring spring grain planting and prompting further greening of winter wheat.

SOUTH AFRICA: Persistent widespread, locally heavy rain hampered maturation and harvesting of corn and sugarcane.

NORTHWESTERN AFRICA: Drought worsened in Algeria, while only light scattered showers fell in parts of Morocco and Tunisia.

SOUTH AMERICA: In central Argentina and extreme southern Brazil, dry weather stressed late-filling soybeans, but favored summer crop harvesting.

EUROPE: Persistent dryness in Spain and Portugal reduced prospects for nonirrigated winter grains in or nearing reproduction.

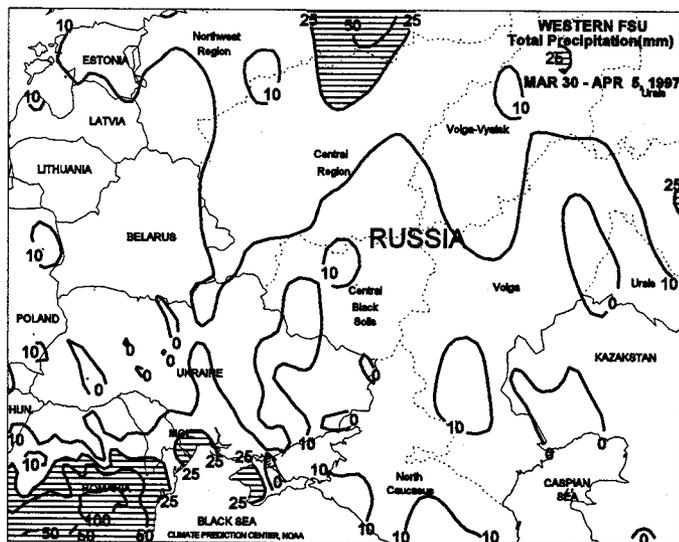
SOUTHEAST ASIA: Showers slowed main-season rice harvesting across Java. Early-season showers slowed second-crop rice harvesting in Thailand.

EASTERN ASIA: Widespread showers benefited vegetative winter wheat across the North China Plain, but slowed winter grain and oilseed harvesting and early rice transplanting across southern China.

AUSTRALIA: Drier weather covered Queensland's main agricultural areas, bringing some relief from recent weeks of unwelcomed rain.

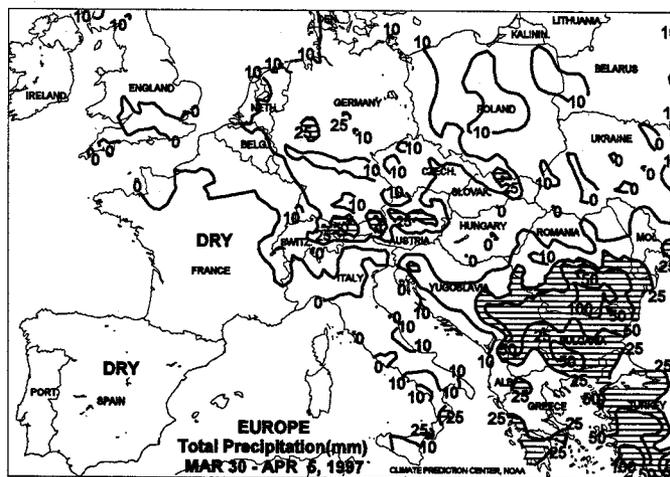
FSU-WESTERN

Unusually mild weather accompanied several days of dryness in Ukraine and southern Russia, allowing a resumption in early spring grain planting. Weekly temperatures averaged 2 to 7 degrees C above normal in Ukraine and southern Russia. The mild weather prompted further greening of winter wheat in Ukraine and caused winter wheat in the North Caucasus region in Russia to begin breaking dormancy. In the North Caucasus, winter wheat greening has been delayed by about 2 weeks due to unusually cold weather that began in mid-March and persisted until month's end. The mild weather extended into northern Russia, melting snow cover. Precipitation amounts ranged from 2 to 10 mm in Latvia, Lithuania, most of Ukraine, and southern Russia. Greatest amounts of moisture (15-38 mm) occurred in Estonia, extreme southern Ukraine, and northern Russia.



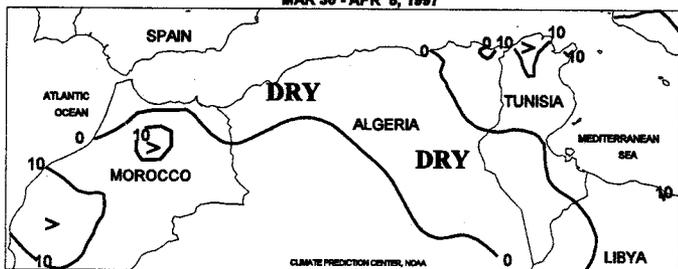
EUROPE

The 10th consecutive week of dryness prevailed over Spain and Portugal, reducing yield prospects for nonirrigated winter grains in or nearing reproduction and stressing newly emerged spring-planted crops. The dryness extended northward into France and the United Kingdom, where a lack of moisture was beginning to stress winter wheat in the jointing stage. However, the dryness in these areas allowed rapid spring grain and sugarbeet planting. Farther east, light to moderate showers (10-25 mm) in Germany with seasonable temperatures favored winter grain development and emerging spring grains. However, the rain slowed sugarbeet planting. In eastern Europe, mild, dry weather favored fieldwork in Poland, while cold, wet weather slowed fieldwork in Romania, Bulgaria, and southeastern areas in former Yugoslavia. Heavy amounts of rain (50-127 mm) in southern Romania and Bulgaria likely caused some localized flooding. Weekly temperatures averaged 3 to 7 degrees C below normal in southeastern Europe and 2 to 4 degrees C above normal in western Europe.



Due to problems resulting from the conversion to a new computer system at NCEP, the March 1997 foreign city table was not available for this week's issue. We expect to include it in next week's Bulletin.

NORTHWEST AFRICA Total Precipitation (mm)
MAR 30 - APR 5, 1997



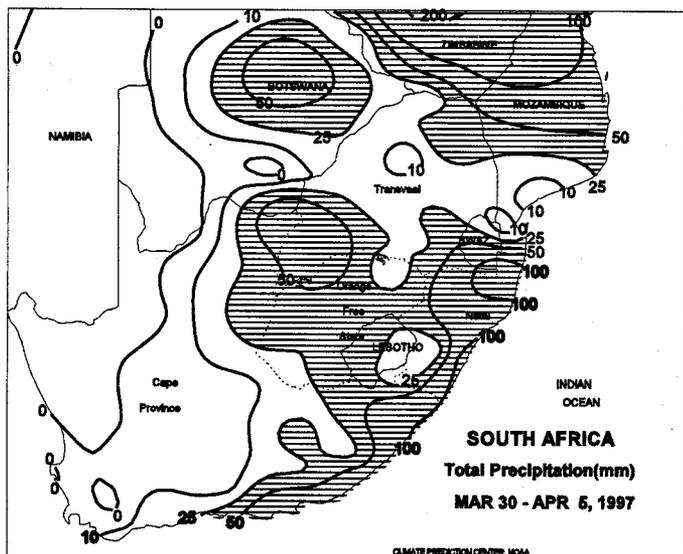
NORTHWESTERN AFRICA

Light showers (10-23 mm) fell over winter grains in southern Morocco, helping to stabilize conditions for drought-stressed winter grains. However, weekly temperatures averaged 2 to 4 degrees C above-normal, increasing evaporation rates and offsetting the benefits of the rain. In northern Morocco, unseasonably warm weather was accompanied by little, if any, precipitation, causing further declines in yield potential. Farther east, unrelenting drought continued in Algeria, worsening conditions for winter grains in the reproductive to filling stages of development. In Tunisia, light, scattered showers (3-15 mm) brought only temporary relief to drought-reduced winter grain crops.

SOUTH AFRICA

Moderate to heavy showers (25-50 mm or more) covered a broad area of the corn belt. Consequently, temperatures averaged near to below normal, with highs in the mid-20's C. Drier, warmer weather is needed for corn maturation and harvesting, which typically begins by late April. Heavy rain (66-130 mm) along the coast of the Kwazulu-Natal precluded early sugarcane harvesting. The wetness extended southward to crop areas of Eastern Cape, but winter grain areas of Western Cape received only light, scattered showers (3-21 mm).

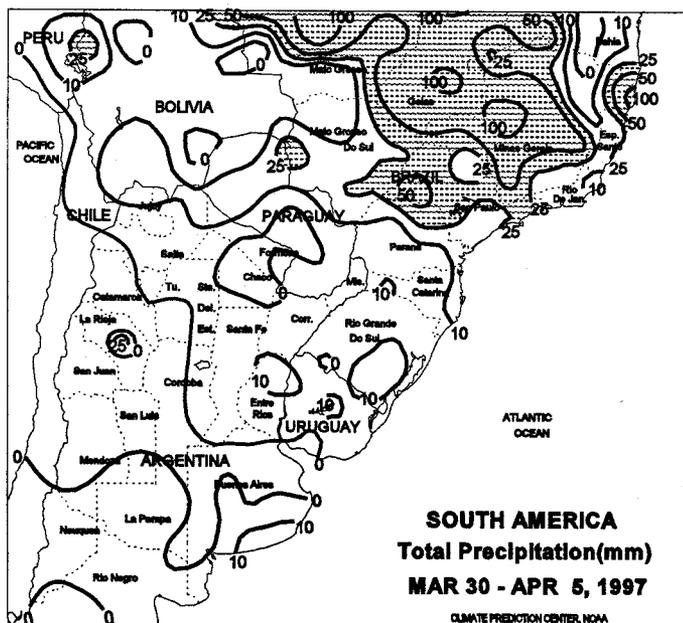
SOUTH AFRICA
Total Precipitation(mm)
MAR 30 - APR 5, 1997



SOUTH AMERICA

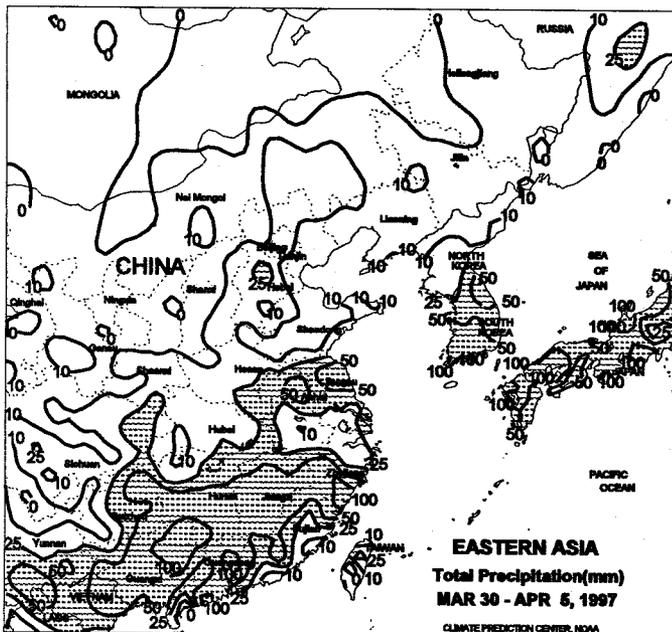
Mostly dry weather (less than 10 mm) stressed late-filling soybeans in central Argentina and Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil. However, the dryness favored corn, sunflower, and soybean harvesting. On April 6, frost possibly damaged immature soybeans in central Buenos Aires, Argentina. Dry weather also benefited cotton harvesting in northern Argentina. In the rest of Brazil, moderate showers (25-70 mm) slowed soybean harvesting from Parana northward. Temperatures averaged near to below normal across most of the region.

SOUTH AMERICA
Total Precipitation(mm)
MAR 30 - APR 5, 1997



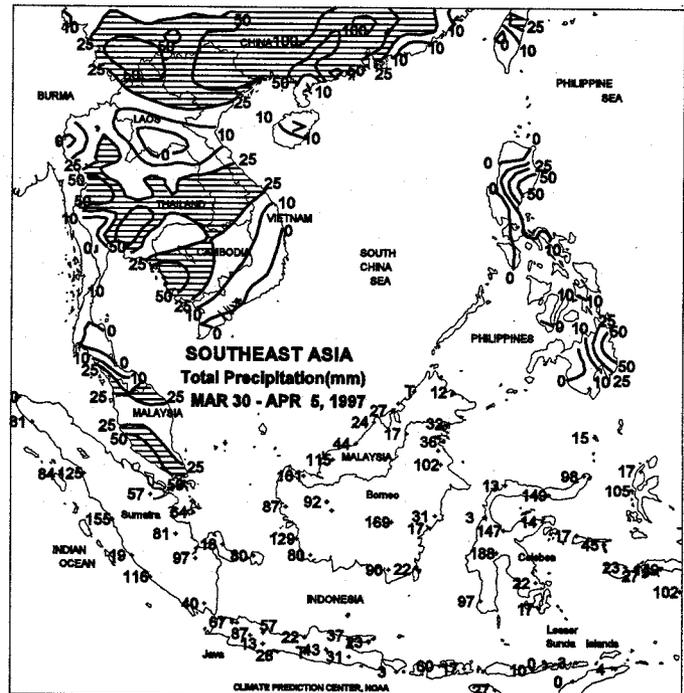
EASTERN ASIA

Widespread rain covered most of China, increasing moisture supplies but slowing fieldwork. In the North China Plain, light to moderate rain (5-20 mm) favored vegetative winter grains and increased topsoil moisture for early corn, soybean, and cotton planting. Minimum temperatures fell to near freezing across the region, causing only minor burn back of winter grains. Across the Yangtze Valley and southern China, moderate to heavy rain (25-70 mm, with scattered amounts greater than 100 mm) boosted irrigation supplies for summer crops, but slowed winter grain and oilseed harvesting and early double-crop rice transplanting. Only light rain (2-8 mm) fell across southern Manchuria, where spring wheat planting is just beginning. Temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C above normal across most of China. Only portions of eastern North China Plain reported average temperatures 1 to 2 degrees below normal.



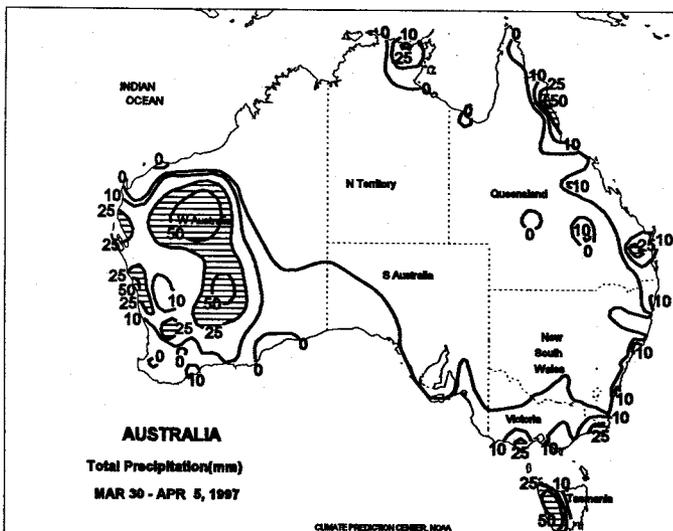
SOUTHEAST ASIA

Moderate showers (20-75 mm) slowed main-season rice harvesting across Java. Early-season showers (10-60 mm) continued to favor rainfed second-season rice in northern and central Thailand, but slowed harvesting in the east. Temperatures averaged 1 to 2 degrees below normal across most of Thailand. Showers (10-50 mm) benefited winter-spring rice across the Red River Delta of northern Vietnam. In the Philippines, mostly dry weather prevailed, reducing moisture for rainfed main-season crops. Only the east-central islands received significant rain (10-25 mm).



AUSTRALIA

Drier weather covered Queensland's coast, with moderate showers (25-38 mm) confined to a few local areas. Since sugarcane will be harvested in a few months, the region needed a break from recent weeks of inundating rain. Dry, seasonably warm weather benefited maturing sorghum and cotton in New South Wales, but scattered, mostly light showers (10 mm or less, most areas) fell in summer crop areas of southeastern Queensland. Continuing, unseasonable rain (10-25 mm, exceeding 50 mm locally) improved moisture reserves in major agricultural areas of Western Australia. In New Zealand, dry weather dominated the main pasture areas.



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Spring Flood Update (through April 7, 1997)

In eastern South Dakota, the James River continued to rise downstream of Huron. Crests are expected to arrive in Forestburg on April 9 and Scotland about April 13. The crest at Huron occurred on April 5, topping the flood stage by 10.1 feet, and obliterating the former record by 4.2 feet.

The crest on the Big Sioux River passed Brookings, SD on April 3, reaching Dell Rapids, SD on April 7. Brookings' river level was the fourth highest on record, and greatest since July 4, 1993. Dell Rapids' flood ranked third behind the floods of April 1969 and July 1993. The crest is expected to reach Akron, IA on April 8.

The ice-affected upper Mississippi River at Aitkin, MN rose to 4.2 feet above flood stage on April 7, with the river expected to rise almost another foot by April 9. Farther downstream, from Minneapolis, MN to Guttenberg, IA, the Mississippi is expected to crest between April 11 and 22, and to surpass levels experienced during the flood of June 1993. However, crests are not forecast to exceed the April 1965 flood of record for this stretch of the Mississippi. Major flooding was in progress on several Mississippi River tributaries, including the Minnesota River at Montevideo, MN, where the river stood near crest at 9.9 feet above flood stage on April 7.

Major rises occurred in early April along the Red River. At Wahpeton, ND, the river crested at a record 9.2 feet above flood stage on April 6, eclipsing the April 1989 high-water mark by about 1.2 feet. On April 7, record flooding was in progress on several Red River tributaries, including the Wild Rice River at Abercrombie, ND (a possibly ice-affected crest near 16.4 feet above flood stage), the Sheyenne River at Kindred, ND (near crest at 6.0 feet above flood stage), and the Buffalo River at Hawley, MN (near crest at 3.7 feet above flood stage).

Farther south, very heavy rain in the western Gulf Coast region resulted in at least one record crest. Near Springhill, LA, Bayou Dorcheat crested at an estimated 13 feet above flood stage on April 6. The crest topped the April 28, 1958, record by about 1.2 feet.

Main-stem records on the James and Red Rivers:

| <u>River</u> | <u>Location</u> | <u>Crest (feet above flood stage)/Date</u> | <u>Old Record (feet above flood stage)/Date</u> |
|--------------|-----------------|--|---|
| James River | Columbia | 6.4 feet on April 1 | 6.1 feet on April 22, 1969 |
| | Ashton | 13.0 feet on April 4 | 9.4 feet on May 18, 1995 |
| | Redfield | 10.3 feet (and steady) on April 7 | 6.3 feet on May 15, 1995 |
| | Huron | 10.1 feet on April 5 | 5.9 feet on May 19, 1995 |
| | Forestburg | 8.3 feet (and steady) on April 7 | 5.3 feet on April 22, 1995 |
| Red River | Mitchell | 8.5 feet (and rising) on April 7 | 6.4 feet on April 23, 1995 |
| | Wahpeton | 9.2 feet on April 6 | 8.0 feet on April 5, 1989 |

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