

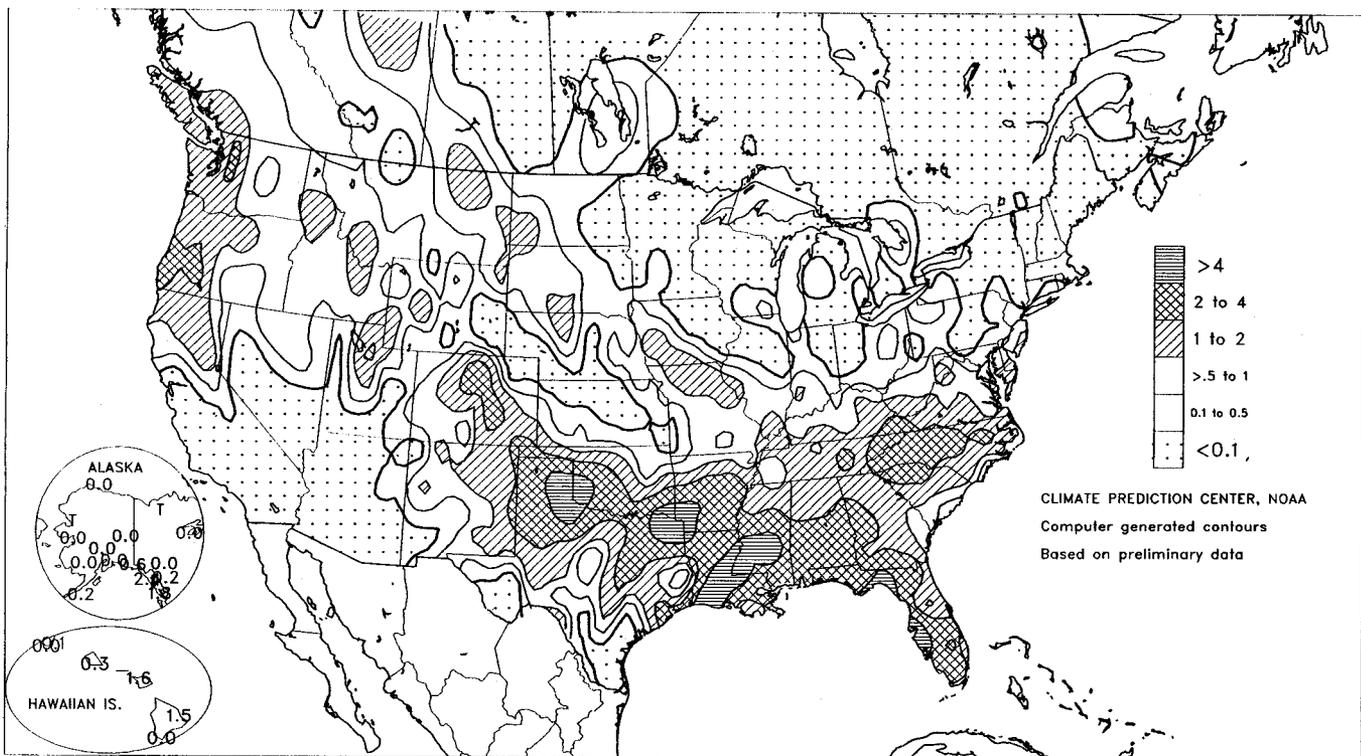
WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

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)

APR 20 - 26, 1997



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

HIGHLIGHTS

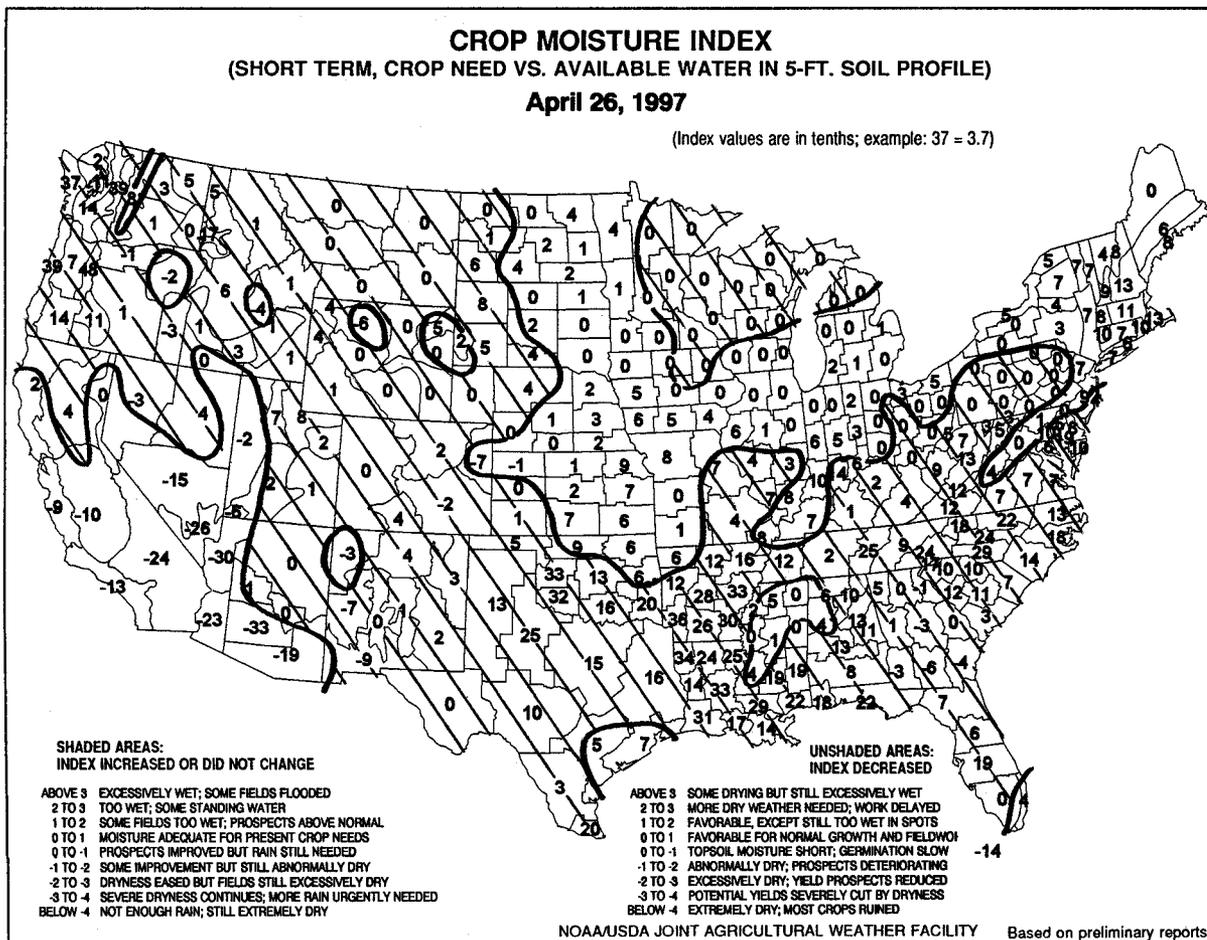
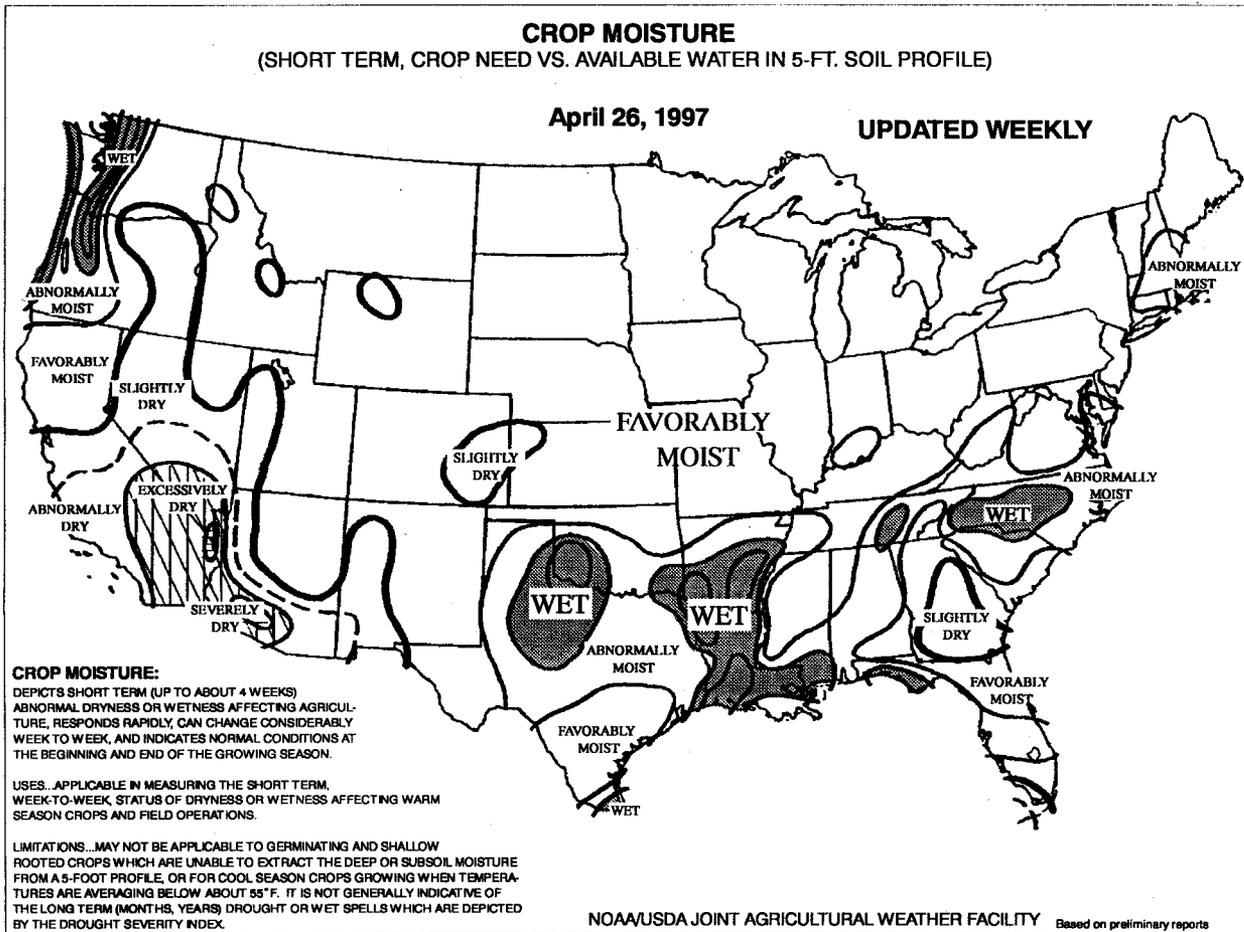
April 20 - 26, 1997

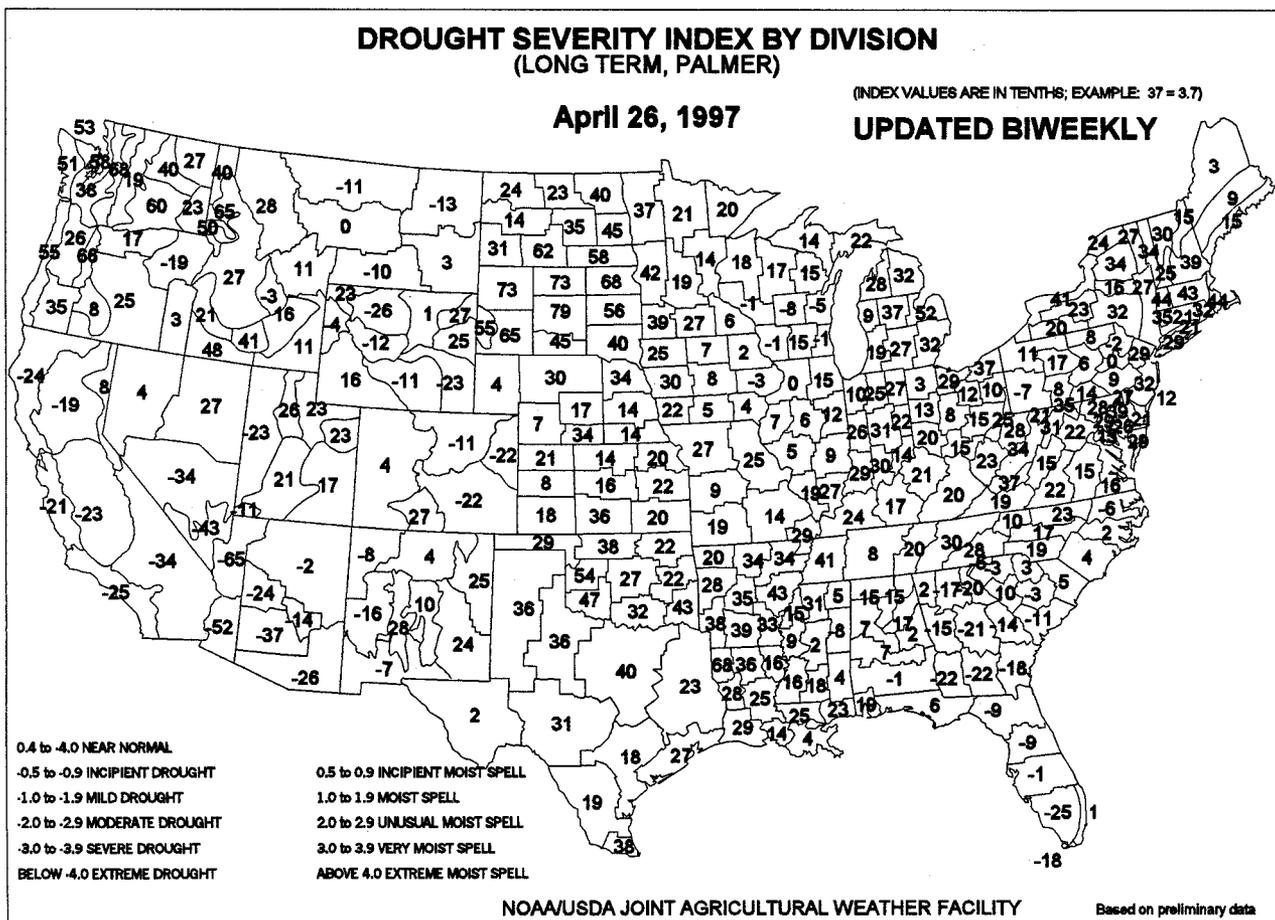
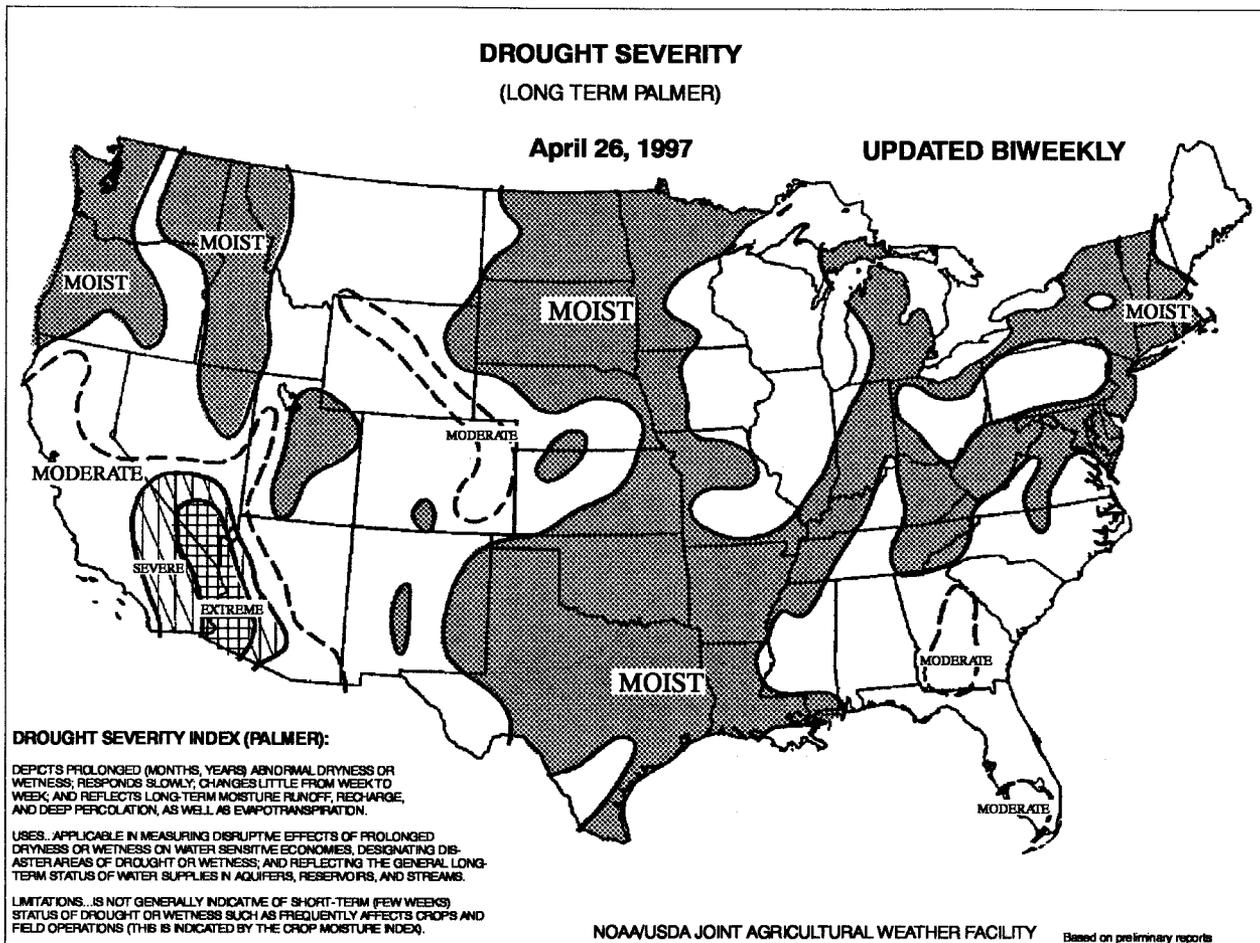
A series of storms traversed the Nation from the Northwest to the Southeast. Rainfall locally in excess of 4 inches caused flash flooding from northern Texas to Florida's west coast, while heavy snow blanketed parts of the High Plains and Rockies. The moisture tempered the effects of a 2-month dry spell across the Southeast. Farther north, Corn Belt planting progressed despite low temperatures (3 to 6°F below normal). Cold weather also continued on the central and southern Plains, resulting in weekly departures of -3 to -10°F. Meanwhile, the Red River crest approached the Canadian border after devastating Grand Forks, ND.

(Continued on page 5)

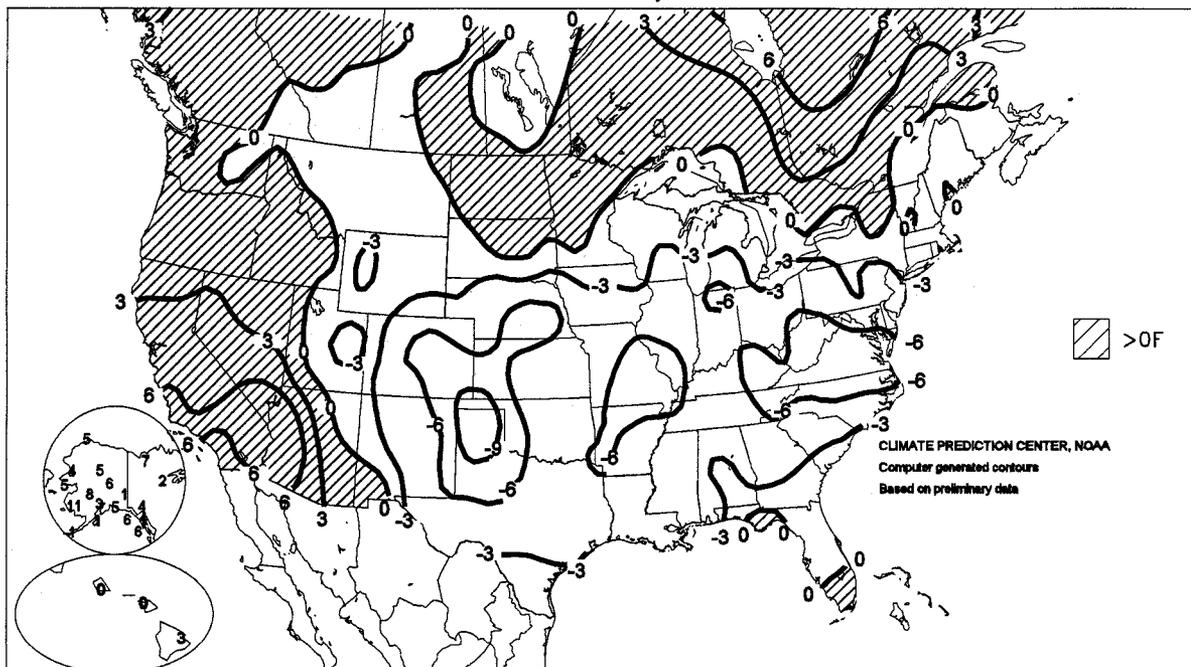
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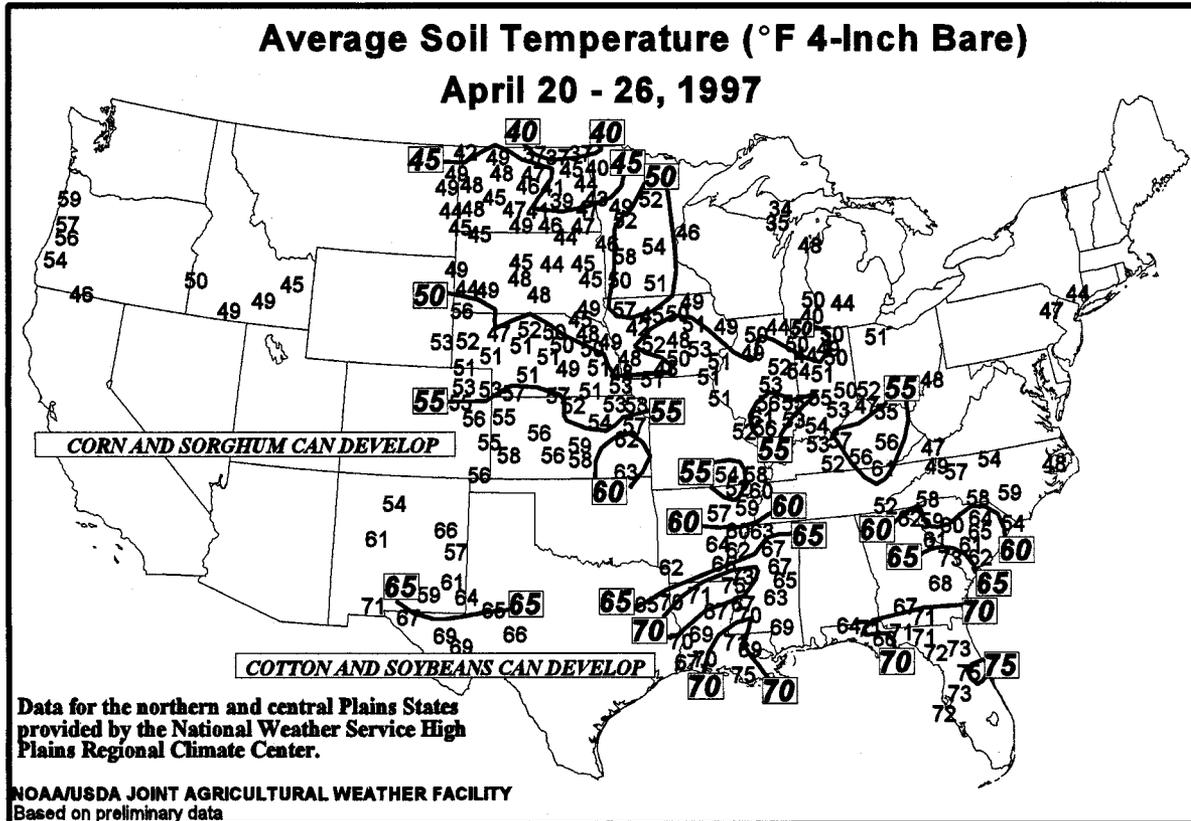




Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F)
APR 20 - 26, 1997



Average Soil Temperature (°F 4-Inch Bare)
April 20 - 26, 1997



(Continued from front cover)

Early in the week, a low-pressure system displaced cool air across the East. On Sunday, daily-record lows included 25°F in Pittsburgh, PA and 26°F in Manfield, OH. Farther west, thunderstorm winds gusted to 69 mph in Cape Girardeau, MO and 61 mph in Paducah, KY. Warmth overspread Texas, propelling Midland (93°F) to a daily-record high. Farther west, another storm system crossed the Northwest, producing (non-thunderstorm) wind gusts to 49 mph in Spokane, WA and 57 mph in Rexburg, ID.

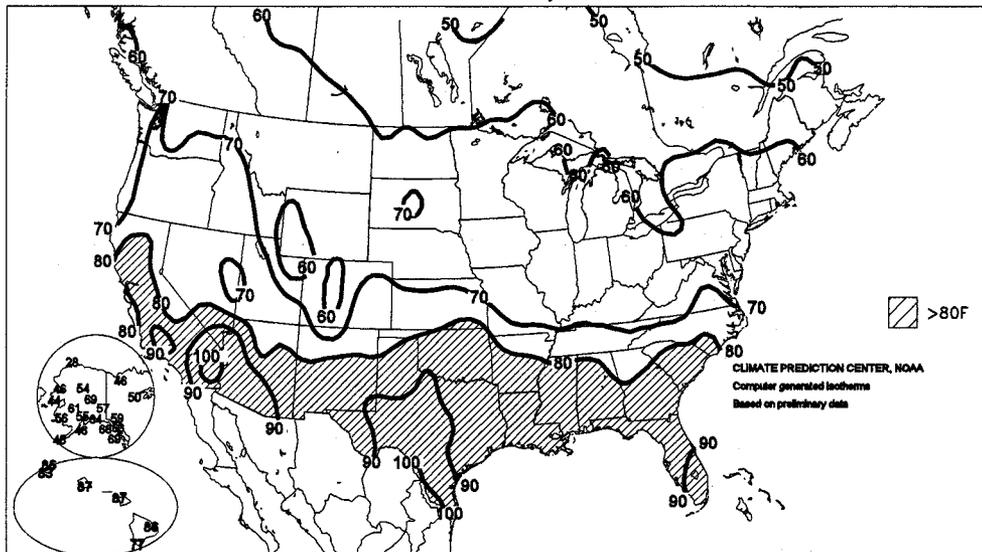
Substantial rainfall boosted topsoil moisture across the Southeast on April 21-23 and 25-26. In Georgia, Macon received 1.78 inches, lifting their total since March 1 to 3.12 inches (40 percent [%] of normal). Some severe weather struck the Southeast, especially on Wednesday across Florida, where more than a dozen tornadoes were reported, and thunderstorm winds in Melbourne gusted to 66 mph.

Heavy rainfall returned to the South at week's end. In Florida, totals on April 26 reached 2.85 inches in Miami and 5.44 inches in Tampa. As a result, Tampa's monthly rainfall reached an April-record 9.13 inches (904% of normal). Farther west, 48-hour (April 25-27) totals reached 5.66 inches in Lake Charles, LA and 8.51 inches in McComb, MS. In Texas, late-week rainfall lifted monthly totals to April-record levels in Amarillo (6.05 inches; 747% of normal) and Victoria (11.50 inches; 581% of normal). Some of Amarillo's precipitation fell as 6.5 inches of wet snow on Friday, eclipsing their April-record total of 6.4 inches, set in 1947. Highs on April 25 struggled to only 38°F in Amarillo and 43°F in Liberal, KS.

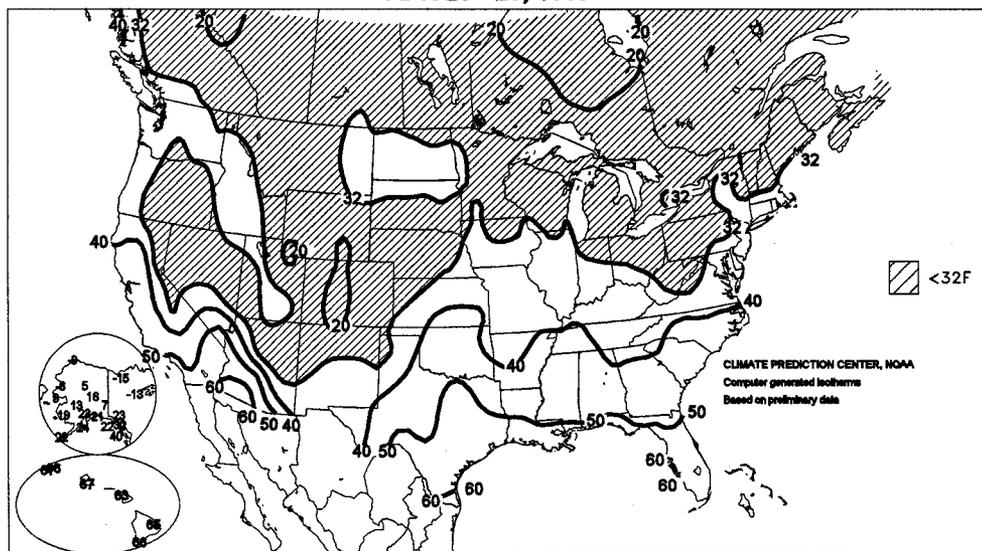
April 23-24 snowfall topped 2 feet in parts of the Colorado Rockies, including 30 inches in Allenspark. Elsewhere, snowfall totaled 4.2 inches in Cheyenne, WY and 11.7 inches in Colorado Springs, CO. The storm eradicated warmth from the South, leaving only the West with above-normal temperatures. Locations in California noting daily-record highs included Santa Barbara (93°F on Monday) and Bakersfield (94°F on Saturday). Warm weather (up to 11°F above normal) also prevailed in Alaska, where daily-record highs on Friday reached 61°F in McGrath and 69°F in Fairbanks.

Four days after overwhelming Grand Forks, ND, the Red River crested at 26.1 feet above flood stage on April 22, shattering their April 1979 record by 5.3 feet. Farther north, 1979 crest records were broken by less than 2 feet in the North Dakota towns of Drayton (13.5 feet above flood stage on April 25) and Pembina (12.9 feet on April 28). In northeastern North Dakota, the elevation of Devils Lake rose to 1,438.5 feet, second only to a 1,441-foot level in 1830, and 37.6 feet above the minimum elevation of record, set in 1940. Devils Lake is forecast to crest at 1,442.0 feet by July. Meanwhile, the middle and upper Mississippi River began to fall or continued to fall at all gauging points after April 23.

Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F)
APR 20 - 26, 1997

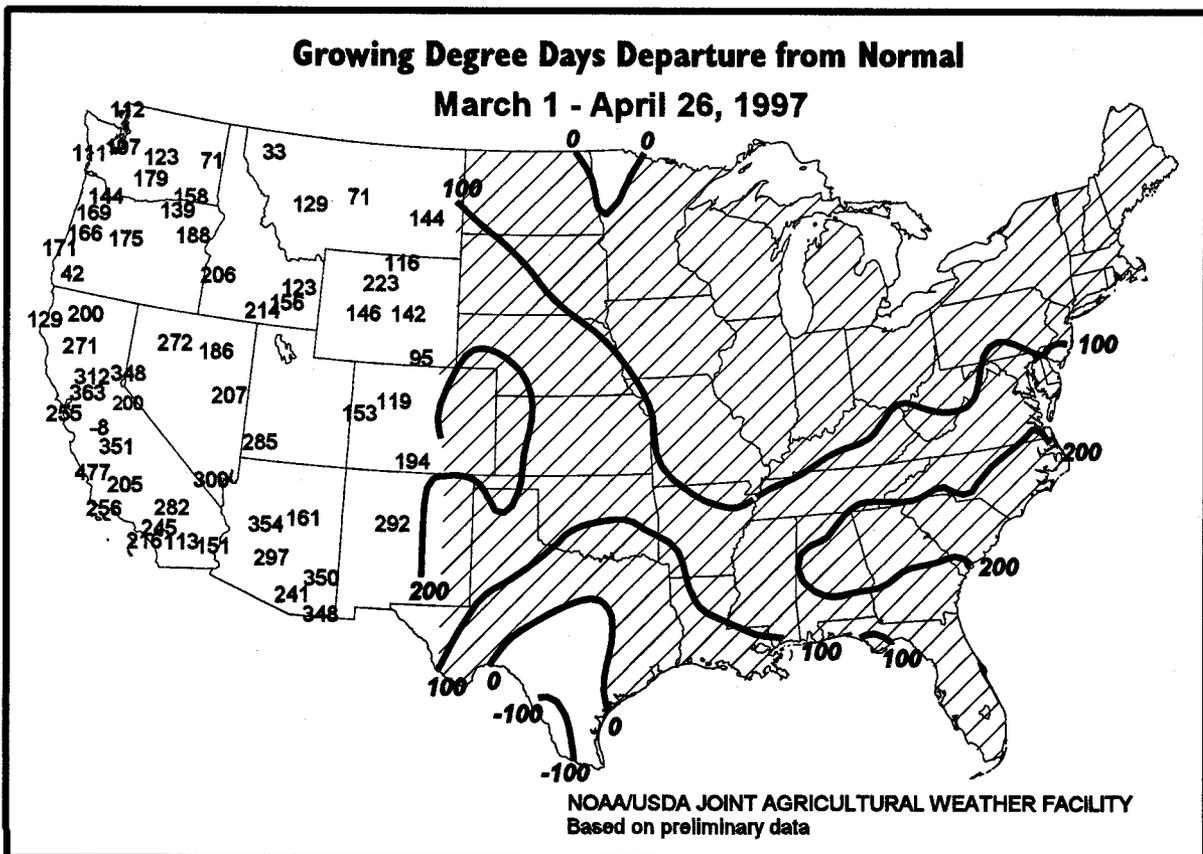
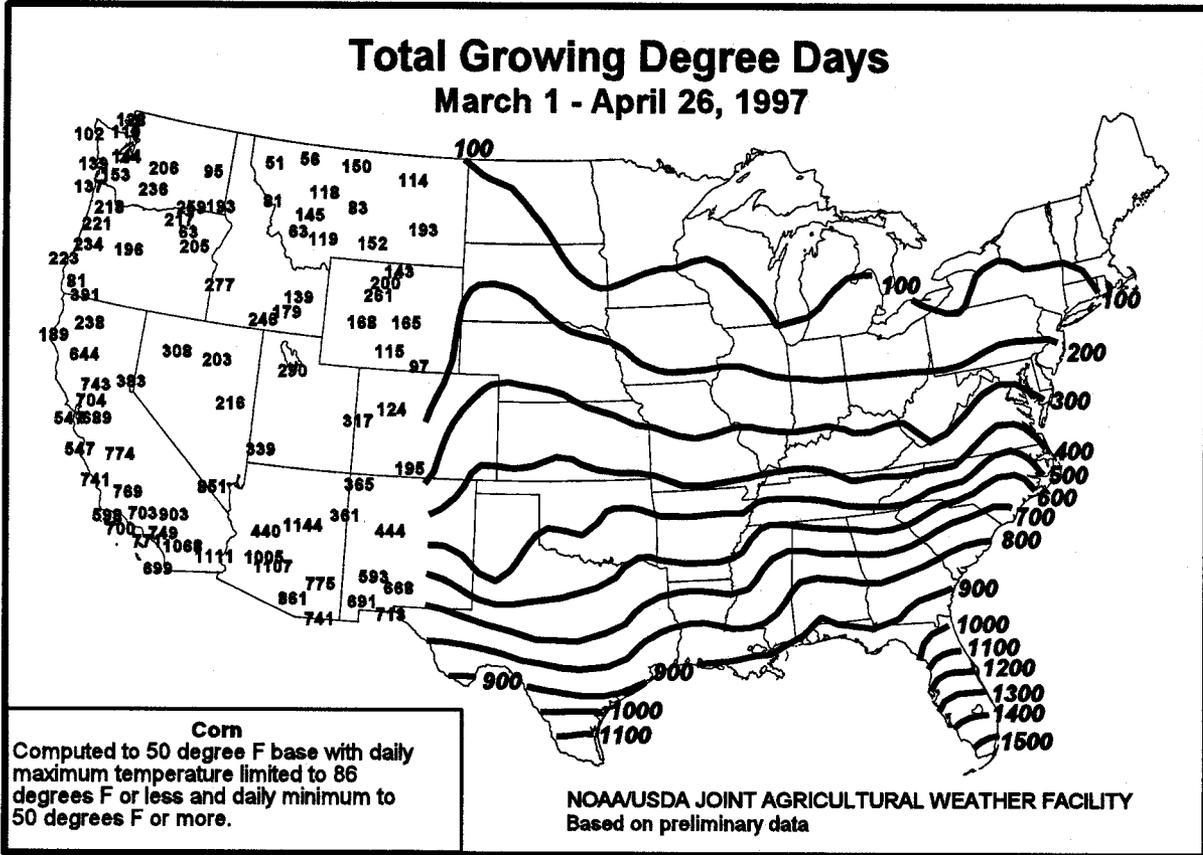


Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)
APR 20 - 26, 1997



CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA
Computer generated isotherms
Based on preliminary data

CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA
Computer generated isotherms
Based on preliminary data



National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 26, 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	32 AND BELOW	TEMP. °F		PRECIP.	
																		01 INCH OR MORE	50 INCH OR MORE	01 INCH OR MORE	50 INCH OR MORE
AL BIRMINGHAM	71	50	80	40	61	-3	0.88	-0.22	0.46	6.42	61	17.54	86	92	46	0	0	3	0		
AL HUNTSVILLE	69	49	81	43	59	-4	1.28	0.18	0.77	8.80	81	19.54	83	92	46	0	0	4	1		
AL MOBILE	75	56	82	49	66	-4	1.71	0.70	1.24	10.52	103	21.07	103	95	50	0	0	3	1		
AL MONTGOMERY	74	53	83	45	63	-2	2.86	1.93	1.83	6.81	68	19.76	97	95	53	0	0	3	2		
AK ANCHORAGE	50	33	55	23	42	3	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.25	19	0.88	31	90	33	0	3	0	0		
AK BARROW	16	-1	28	-9	8	5	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.15	44	0.23	40	87	77	0	7	0	0		
AK FAIRBANKS	57	27	69	16	42	6	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.09	13	0.68	43	88	24	0	5	0	0		
AK JUNEAU	53	37	63	31	45	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	2	-	-	-		
AK KODIAK	45	36	46	24	40	1	2.10	1.08	0.97	12.48	162	29.39	141	93	67	0	2	5	2		
AK NOME	34	19	44	9	26	5	0.00	-0.17	0.00	1.00	88	2.89	114	83	65	0	8	0	0		
AZ FLAGSTAFF	60	32	69	22	46	2	0.02	-0.28	0.02	0.66	17	4.89	61	-	-	0	3	1	0		
AZ PHOENIX	89	67	96	61	78	6	0.00	-0.03	0.00	0.25	23	1.71	69	37	14	4	0	0	0		
AZ PRESCOTT	72	43	81	36	57	6	0.00	-0.14	0.00	0.75	29	3.81	68	-	-	0	0	0	0		
AZ TUCSON	83	57	91	46	70	2	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.49	50	2.10	83	58	21	2	0	0	0		
AZ YUMA	92	67	98	63	79	6	0.00	-0.03	0.00	0.02	6	0.48	62	39	14	4	0	0	0		
AR FORT SMITH	89	50	85	40	69	-4	1.01	0.04	0.34	7.70	105	14.74	124	95	52	0	0	5	0		
AR LITTLE ROCK	69	52	83	42	61	-4	1.70	0.40	-	13.75	147	21.02	131	-	-	0	0	3	3		
CA BAKERSFIELD	81	54	94	46	67	3	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.21	13	2.99	86	71	19	1	0	0	0		
CA EUREKA	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.81	1.27	0.96	4.85	61	16.22	87	95	38	-	-	4	2		
CA FRESNO	82	55	91	49	68	5	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.12	4	3.50	54	77	18	1	0	0	0		
CA LOS ANGELES	77	59	83	54	68	7	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.00	0	4.21	56	77	31	0	0	2	0		
CA REDDING	74	51	87	44	62	3	0.96	0.58	0.70	4.58	73	14.29	85	-	-	0	0	3	1		
CA SACRAMENTO	80	56	90	45	68	-	0.09	-	0.09	0.89	-	8.27	-	-	-	1	0	1	0		
CA SAN DIEGO	72	50	77	58	66	4	0.00	-0.13	0.00	0.29	12	3.56	61	88	47	0	0	0	0		
CA SAN FRANCISCO	69	53	79	49	61	5	0.03	-0.19	0.02	0.53	12	8.32	70	91	35	0	0	2	0		
CO ALAMOSA	55	27	67	23	41	-3	0.02	-0.09	0.01	0.13	15	1.50	106	84	32	0	6	2	0		
CO COLORADO	50	33	69	26	42	-7	2.52	2.21	1.86	2.94	162	3.37	129	-	-	0	3	4	1		
CO DENVER	56	32	71	27	44	-6	0.68	0.23	0.57	1.44	53	2.11	56	-	-	0	4	4	1		
CO GRAND JUNCTION	63	41	73	35	52	-2	0.38	0.21	0.30	2.60	168	3.31	127	82	30	0	0	3	0		
CO PUEBLO	58	35	78	33	47	-8	1.88	1.66	1.24	2.80	183	3.39	158	87	40	0	0	5	1		
CT BRIDGEPORT	58	43	66	39	51	0	0.02	-0.86	0.02	6.96	99	12.06	91	-	-	0	0	1	0		
CT HARTFORD	61	40	66	36	51	-1	0.00	-0.91	0.00	5.26	76	9.83	72	70	34	0	0	0	0		
DC WASHINGTON	62	48	70	42	54	-5	0.39	-0.26	0.16	5.27	97	10.27	94	82	45	0	0	4	0		
DE WILMINGTON	61	42	67	37	51	-4	0.21	-0.59	0.10	4.34	68	8.00	65	-	-	0	0	4	0		
FL DAYTONA BEACH	80	57	89	49	69	-2	1.58	1.06	0.95	4.65	97	7.13	67	-	-	0	0	2	2		
FL JACKSONVILLE	80	57	87	48	68	-2	1.73	1.16	1.15	4.33	75	8.51	66	95	48	0	0	3	2		
FL KEY WEST	84	72	87	61	78	0	0.28	-0.18	0.12	3.66	116	7.99	114	88	64	0	0	5	0		
FL MIAMI	84	69	90	59	76	0	2.89	2.12	2.85	6.85	145	10.07	114	91	54	1	0	3	1		
FL ORLANDO	81	58	90	51	70	-3	1.77	1.37	0.89	6.72	141	10.22	101	95	58	1	0	2	2		
FL TAMPA	80	64	85	60	72	0	6.25	6.00	5.43	10.39	261	12.00	133	88	63	0	0	4	2		
FL VALPARAISO/EGLIN	75	59	78	52	67	-1	3.92	2.75	3.34	8.22	81	20.34	109	-	-	0	0	3	2		
FL WEST PALM BEACH	84	66	90	55	75	0	0.44	-0.36	0.30	7.97	149	16.87	156	91	55	2	0	2	0		
GA ATHENS	69	48	78	41	59	-5	0.66	-0.02	0.59	3.22	36	14.07	78	97	50	0	0	4	1		
GA ATLANTA	68	50	75	42	59	-5	1.31	0.37	0.79	4.63	49	17.26	91	92	55	0	0	5	1		
GA AUGUSTA	74	47	82	40	61	-4	0.68	-0.06	0.53	3.82	48	12.13	76	98	48	0	0	4	1		
GA COLUMBUS	74	53	83	46	63	-3	2.47	1.53	1.30	4.83	51	14.94	79	-	-	0	0	5	2		
GA MACON	73	49	84	42	61	-5	1.78	1.02	0.84	3.48	45	13.95	82	93	51	0	0	5	2		
GA SAVANNAH	78	55	85	47	66	-1	0.80	0.10	0.65	2.26	35	7.85	58	92	48	0	0	3	1		
HI HILO	84	67	86	65	75	2	1.48	-1.98	1.02	24.13	88	34.29	72	83	58	0	0	3	1		
HI HONOLULU	84	69	87	67	76	0	0.28	-0.05	0.15	5.88	163	13.75	147	84	59	0	0	3	0		
HI KAHULUI	84	66	87	63	75	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	83	56	0	0	-	-		
HI LIHUE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ID BOISE	63	41	74	35	52	1	0.92	0.64	0.81	2.00	84	4.87	100	86	37	0	0	2	1		
ID LEWISTON	62	44	75	36	53	1	0.68	0.40	0.44	3.54	174	7.17	170	-	-	0	0	2	0		
ID POCATELLO	58	36	65	32	47	0	0.36	0.08	0.25	1.26	55	3.22	76	85	40	0	2	3	0		
IL CHICAGO/O'HARE	57	38	65	34	47	-4	0.12	-0.73	0.08	2.79	48	8.57	98	85	43	0	0	3	0		
IL MOLINE	62	39	68	33	50	-3	0.11	-0.84	-	3.05	49	8.54	94	-	-	0	0	-	-		
IL PEORIA	62	40	68	35	51	-3	0.00	-0.91	0.00	3.60	58	9.86	108	85	43	0	0	0	0		
IL ROCKFORD	59	36	65	32	47	-3	0.12	-0.76	0.09	2.63	47	6.59	82	-	-	0	1	3	0		
IL SPRINGFIELD	63	41	69	36	52	-4	0.49	-0.36	0.41	3.24	51	7.33	78	-	-	0	0	2	0		
IN EVANSVILLE	63	43	68	39	53	-5	0.13	-0.80	0.13	9.72	119	16.69	120	91	44	0	0	1	0		
IN FORT WAYNE	60	35	65	29	47	-5	0.04	-0.76	0.03	4.13	71	9.87	103	86	41	0	2	2	0		
IN INDIANAPOLIS	61	39	67	36	50	-5	0.26	-0.80	0.24	6.41	92	13.81	117	82	39	0	0	2	0		
IN SOUTH BEND	57	30	65	25	44	-8	0.01	-0.88	0.01	3.03	47	7.83	74	-	-	0	4	1	0		
IA BURLINGTON	62	38	67	33	50	-5	0.02	-0.81	0.02	3.81	62	9.65	117	-	-	0	0	1	0		
IA CEDAR RAPIDS	61	38	66	32	49	-3	0.08	-0.70	0.08	1.74	34	5.43	77	-	-	0	1	1	0		
IA DES MOINES	60	41	65	35	50	-3	0.61	-0.29	0.29	4.07	60	4.07	56	84	35	0	0	4	0		
IA DUBUQUE	59	38	63	35	49	-2	0.01	-0.90	0.01	2.23	37	6.01	70	86	36	0	0	1	0		
IA SIOUX CITY	60	38	64	31	49	-4	0.77	0.17	0.71	2.70	69	3.84	70	92	35	0	2	3	1		
IA WATERLOO	62	36	66	31	49	-2	0.00	-0.82	0.00	2.82	55	4.56	65	-	-	0	2	0	0		
KS CONCORDIA	62	40	70	34	51	-5	0.00	-0.60	0.00	1.82	44	3.35	61	90	48	0	0	0	0		
KS DODGE CITY	61	42	75	36	52	-8	0.43	-0.09	0.18	1.89	57	3.11	71	91	47	0	0	4	0		
KS GOODLAND	58	37	71	29	48	-5	0.21	-0.16	0.11	0.45	21	1.50	50	86	37	0	2	4	0		
KS TOPEKA	64	45	69	38	54	-3	0.21	-0.58	0.10	4.97	66	7.85	111	90	40	0	0	3	0		

Based on 1961-90 normals

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 26, 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	95 AND BELOW	TEMP. °F		PRECIP.	
																		90 AND ABOVE	95 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
WICHITA	86	47	78	43	57	-3	0.14	-0.57	0.12	4.29	85	6.81	97	83	40	0	0	2	0	0	0
LA JACKSON	81	41	88	34	51	-8	0.42	-0.49	0.20	10.85	132	16.81	106	-	-	0	0	3	0	0	0
LEXINGTON	81	40	86	34	50	-7	0.21	-0.70	0.20	14.14	182	22.13	180	93	47	0	0	2	0	0	0
LOUISVILLE	84	46	89	39	54	-4	0.44	-0.54	0.37	18.82	226	27.48	190	84	43	0	0	2	0	0	0
PADUCAH	84	44	88	38	54	-7	0.80	-0.66	0.21	10.77	117	18.71	114	-	-	0	0	4	0	0	0
LA BATON ROUGE	76	58	83	50	66	-5	1.85	0.58	1.75	11.41	120	25.04	128	-	-	0	0	2	1	1	1
LAKE CHARLES	76	57	81	52	67	-3	5.28	4.42	5.02	10.80	178	24.07	170	94	57	0	0	3	1	1	1
NEW ORLEANS	76	60	83	56	68	-2	1.43	0.38	1.40	5.81	68	18.37	92	65	52	0	0	2	1	1	1
SHREVEPORT	72	54	86	48	63	-4	2.33	1.35	1.30	19.29	261	31.85	202	97	56	0	0	4	2	2	2
ME CARIBOU	50	33	53	28	41	0	0.02	-0.57	0.02	3.01	66	8.83	100	86	47	0	3	1	0	0	0
PORTLAND	56	37	64	34	46	0	0.00	-0.95	0.00	7.60	105	12.64	90	81	39	0	0	0	0	0	0
MD BALTIMORE	63	42	69	34	52	-4	0.33	-0.40	0.18	6.77	112	11.84	97	-	-	0	0	4	0	0	0
MA BOSTON	54	42	66	39	48	-2	0.00	-0.83	0.00	7.22	106	10.72	77	83	50	0	0	0	0	0	0
WORCESTER	55	39	61	35	47	0	0.00	-0.93	0.00	7.46	101	12.52	86	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0
MI ALPENA	56	32	62	20	44	0	0.43	-0.11	0.35	3.88	96	10.02	144	84	39	0	2	2	0	0	0
GRAND RAPIDS	58	35	63	29	47	-2	0.01	-0.79	0.01	2.77	50	9.50	108	82	38	0	2	1	0	0	0
HOUGHTON LAKE	54	32	62	25	43	-3	0.15	-0.37	0.09	2.79	71	7.06	107	84	39	0	3	3	0	0	0
LANSING	57	31	63	25	44	-4	0.30	-0.39	0.24	3.62	75	8.59	116	-	-	0	3	2	0	0	0
MARQUETTE	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.08	-0.53	0.08	4.19	83	11.79	132	86	41	-	-	1	0	0	0
MUSKOGON	56	36	60	28	45	-3	0.16	-0.52	0.11	2.30	46	7.57	85	79	37	0	3	2	0	0	0
MN DULUTH	53	31	61	27	42	0	0.01	-0.54	0.01	1.27	33	2.77	47	76	40	0	4	1	0	0	0
INT'L FALLS	57	29	64	25	43	0	0.12	-0.29	0.12	2.42	101	3.33	85	80	32	0	6	1	0	0	0
MINNEAPOLIS	61	37	65	31	49	-1	0.06	-0.54	0.05	2.07	52	3.88	67	76	27	0	1	2	0	0	0
ROCHESTER	59	35	65	31	47	-1	0.08	-0.61	0.08	3.04	74	5.48	97	76	36	0	1	1	0	0	0
ST. CLOUD	62	33	66	30	47	0	0.00	-0.59	0.00	1.71	50	3.68	77	82	27	0	4	0	0	0	0
MS JACKSON	71	53	81	43	62	-4	3.02	1.75	1.40	7.44	89	19.63	89	94	59	0	0	3	2	2	2
MERIDIAN	73	50	82	40	62	-4	2.62	1.33	1.51	8.67	75	19.25	87	98	58	0	0	3	2	2	2
TUPELO	70	50	82	41	60	-5	1.12	-0.09	0.84	10.44	98	21.15	104	-	-	0	0	3	1	1	1
MO COLUMBIA	59	43	64	39	51	-5	0.61	-0.31	0.36	4.56	73	11.68	123	89	48	0	0	3	0	0	0
KANSAS CITY	59	45	64	38	52	-5	0.82	-0.19	0.36	5.39	106	8.70	119	86	54	0	0	4	0	0	0
SAINT LOUIS	62	44	65	38	53	-6	0.71	-0.12	0.64	5.35	81	12.12	115	85	42	0	0	3	1	1	1
SPRINGFIELD	62	42	73	35	52	-6	0.50	-0.44	0.24	6.65	92	11.76	108	89	40	0	0	4	0	0	0
MT BILLINGS	57	37	62	33	47	-1	0.29	-0.16	0.26	1.83	62	2.59	82	83	38	0	0	2	0	0	0
BUTTE	51	30	62	25	41	0	0.66	0.31	0.28	2.30	151	4.43	181	-	-	0	5	4	0	0	0
GLASGOW	56	38	67	33	47	-1	1.13	0.93	0.38	1.85	193	2.20	138	94	48	0	0	6	0	0	0
GREAT FALLS	56	33	65	29	45	-2	0.40	0.02	0.28	1.82	81	2.25	60	85	41	0	3	4	0	0	0
KALISPELL	57	33	64	28	46	-1	0.23	-0.05	0.23	2.81	137	5.65	125	84	36	0	3	1	0	0	0
MILES CITY	59	38	70	31	49	0	0.39	0.02	0.26	1.58	90	1.88	69	-	-	0	1	5	0	0	0
MISSOULA	56	35	68	30	46	-1	0.51	0.26	0.29	3.11	178	5.55	145	85	42	0	2	3	0	0	0
NE GRAND ISLAND	57	38	61	31	47	-7	0.46	-0.18	0.41	1.10	28	2.17	42	87	43	0	1	4	0	0	0
LINCOLN	59	38	65	31	48	-6	0.49	-0.21	0.24	2.51	57	3.44	61	-	-	0	2	3	0	0	0
NORFOLK	58	39	63	31	48	-5	0.85	0.26	0.39	2.46	65	3.44	68	87	37	0	2	3	0	0	0
NORTH PLATTE	58	35	67	25	46	-5	0.36	-0.18	0.20	1.06	37	1.72	47	90	43	0	2	3	0	0	0
OMAHA	58	41	66	36	50	-5	0.71	0.01	0.34	3.39	80	4.55	79	93	38	0	0	4	0	0	0
SCOTTSBLUFF	59	33	68	28	46	-3	0.02	-0.40	0.02	3.74	158	4.36	131	-	-	0	4	1	0	0	0
VALENTINE	57	36	66	24	47	-3	1.07	0.81	0.88	2.56	106	3.07	99	94	39	0	2	4	1	1	1
NV ELY	57	34	70	27	46	2	0.58	0.33	0.54	1.04	58	2.93	92	84	38	0	2	3	1	1	1
LAS VEGAS	84	63	91	58	73	7	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.04	6	0.24	15	26	14	1	0	0	0	0	0
RENO	67	40	79	30	53	3	0.01	-0.07	0.01	0.23	23	4.25	137	81	24	0	1	1	0	0	0
WINNEMUCCA	63	37	75	27	50	2	0.84	0.65	0.58	1.43	95	3.08	107	91	32	0	2	4	1	1	1
NH CONCORD	58	32	64	26	45	-1	0.01	-0.68	0.01	5.74	110	11.17	109	-	-	0	3	1	0	0	0
NJ NEWARK	61	43	68	40	52	-3	0.24	-0.67	0.24	7.32	102	12.96	95	-	-	0	0	1	0	0	0
NM ALBUQUERQUE	64	42	81	33	53	-4	0.61	0.50	0.37	1.76	173	2.43	127	65	30	0	0	3	0	0	0
NY ALBANY	59	37	64	30	48	-1	0.00	-0.71	0.00	5.09	92	7.45	73	84	36	0	2	0	0	0	0
BINGHAMTON	54	36	59	31	45	-3	0.02	-0.72	0.02	4.19	76	7.06	69	80	46	0	2	1	0	0	0
BUFFALO	55	36	62	30	46	-3	0.04	-0.65	0.03	5.69	110	12.89	126	85	42	0	2	2	0	0	0
ROCHESTER	57	36	62	31	47	-2	0.00	-0.63	0.00	4.94	109	9.46	108	-	-	0	1	0	0	0	0
SYRACUSE	59	39	65	33	49	0	0.00	-0.80	0.00	4.17	74	7.59	75	81	39	0	0	0	0	0	0
NC ASHEVILLE	64	41	74	36	53	-5	1.66	0.79	0.71	9.37	104	19.02	109	-	-	0	0	4	2	2	2
CHARLOTTE	69	48	83	44	58	-3	1.18	0.57	0.78	5.09	76	12.46	87	86	47	0	0	4	1	1	1
GREENSBORO	62	43	68	40	53	-7	2.29	1.62	1.06	8.03	131	13.81	109	91	55	0	0	3	2	2	2
HATTERAS	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.34	0.54	-	6.28	86	13.77	82	89	85	0	0	-	-	-	-
RALEIGH	64	42	74	38	53	-8	1.67	1.07	1.27	5.82	97	11.76	89	96							

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 26, 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	60	38	65	29	49	-2	0.02	-0.67	0.02	2.91	56	9.52	110	81	35	0	1	1	0
OK YOUNGSTOWN	56	36	62	26	46	-4	0.26	-0.46	0.13	5.24	91	6.82	66	86	47	0	1	3	0
OK OKLAHOMA CITY	66	50	84	47	58	-5	1.44	0.72	0.66	5.00	99	7.61	98	91	56	0	0	4	1
OR TULSA	68	50	86	41	59	-5	0.32	-0.61	0.13	5.82	85	9.28	92	92	44	0	0	4	0
OR ASTORIA	60	43	66	39	51	2	1.08	0.14	0.39	20.02	179	36.17	126	94	47	0	0	5	0
OR BURNS	59	33	75	26	46	1	0.33	0.19	0.19	0.93	59	3.76	113	89	39	0	3	3	0
OR EUGENE	63	44	71	38	53	2	1.33	0.72	0.54	9.73	117	17.73	81	96	42	0	0	5	1
OR MEDFORD	67	43	80	39	55	3	1.24	0.99	0.52	2.43	86	6.96	93	94	31	0	0	5	1
OR PENDLETON	63	43	75	35	53	1	0.51	0.26	0.30	2.17	103	3.59	78	90	38	0	0	4	0
OR PORTLAND	63	46	73	39	55	2	1.18	0.67	0.40	9.99	178	18.77	126	91	42	0	0	4	0
PA SALEM	62	43	71	37	53	3	1.26	0.78	0.60	10.48	168	21.83	129	-	-	0	0	5	1
PA ALLENTOWN	61	36	66	30	48	-4	0.09	-0.76	0.06	4.56	72	8.52	69	84	41	0	2	3	0
PA ERIE	62	36	66	29	44	-5	0.43	-0.34	0.37	7.79	134	13.09	127	89	52	0	2	2	0
PA MIDDLETOWN	64	41	70	34	52	-2	0.08	-0.71	0.06	3.92	65	7.39	63	-	-	0	0	3	0
PA PHILADELPHIA	61	43	67	40	52	-3	0.32	-0.53	0.22	6.14	93	11.61	92	86	44	0	0	4	0
PA PITTSBURGH	56	36	64	25	47	-5	0.08	-0.66	0.06	4.31	70	7.38	67	83	37	0	1	2	0
PA SCRANTON	57	36	63	28	46	-5	0.22	-0.51	0.14	3.76	74	6.36	68	85	40	0	2	3	0
PA WILLIAMSPORT	61	34	67	29	48	-4	0.07	-0.70	0.07	3.43	57	6.04	53	94	41	0	3	1	0
RI PROVIDENCE	59	41	66	36	50	0	0.09	-0.86	0.08	7.41	97	13.51	89	76	38	0	0	2	0
SC BEAUFORT	77	56	86	50	67	-1	0.12	-0.52	0.12	3.39	51	7.80	57	-	-	0	0	1	0
SC CHARLESTON	76	56	86	49	66	-1	0.38	-0.20	0.27	4.03	61	8.91	67	89	43	0	0	2	0
SC COLUMBIA	73	49	84	44	61	-4	1.54	0.82	1.51	3.49	46	12.63	78	91	46	0	0	3	1
SC GREENVILLE	69	47	79	41	58	-4	1.47	0.62	0.70	5.05	58	15.91	92	91	46	0	0	4	1
SD ABERDEEN	59	38	64	33	49	0	0.09	-0.39	0.03	2.92	110	5.14	133	89	33	0	0	3	0
SD HURON	60	41	66	34	51	1	0.61	0.09	0.33	2.26	66	3.60	80	90	45	0	0	4	0
SD RAPID CITY	58	36	68	28	46	-2	0.37	-0.12	0.30	4.26	163	5.12	146	88	41	0	3	3	0
SD SIOUX FALLS	60	36	62	28	48	-3	0.33	-0.30	0.21	2.21	58	3.98	81	93	38	0	3	2	0
TN BRISTOL	60	41	65	37	50	-7	1.15	0.38	0.45	8.29	127	16.36	124	-	-	0	0	5	0
TN CHATTANOOGA	68	46	78	39	57	-4	1.11	0.17	0.69	8.13	83	19.51	100	96	46	0	0	2	1
TN KNOXVILLE	62	45	68	39	54	-6	0.50	-0.33	0.26	8.58	103	18.66	113	94	54	0	0	3	0
TN MEMPHIS	68	51	76	45	60	-6	2.02	0.75	1.40	16.28	160	28.26	156	-	-	0	0	2	2
TN NASHVILLE	66	47	70	39	57	-5	0.72	-0.30	0.39	10.84	128	17.93	112	91	44	0	0	3	0
TX ABILENE	72	53	90	49	63	-5	0.91	0.41	0.54	3.97	135	7.56	147	88	46	1	0	3	1
TX AMARILLO	59	40	81	32	49	-10	3.85	3.58	1.57	6.06	344	7.17	251	90	58	0	1	6	3
TX AUSTIN	76	58	89	53	67	-5	2.91	2.21	1.89	6.92	174	11.68	162	87	49	0	0	4	2
TX BEAUMONT	77	58	81	52	68	-3	3.41	2.50	3.37	9.06	148	19.69	137	-	-	0	0	3	1
TX BROWNSVILLE	83	67	96	63	75	-2	0.00	-0.46	0.00	10.59	592	11.82	263	96	59	1	0	0	0
TX CORPUS CHRISTI	83	63	91	56	73	-1	0.16	-0.33	0.13	10.72	458	12.10	202	95	53	1	0	3	0
TX DEL RIO	82	59	97	54	70	-3	2.78	2.26	1.40	6.59	279	8.83	228	84	42	2	0	2	2
TX EL PASO	74	52	87	38	63	-3	0.38	0.32	0.22	1.06	212	1.77	134	68	30	0	0	3	0
TX FORT WORTH	70	55	85	52	63	-4	2.43	1.49	1.27	8.96	146	16.83	161	90	63	0	0	5	1
TX GALVESTON	75	64	80	61	69	-2	2.87	2.26	2.83	17.20	403	24.17	247	-	-	0	0	2	1
TX HOUSTON	77	57	89	52	67	-3	2.31	1.48	2.27	14.50	258	23.17	195	92	55	0	0	3	1
TX LUBBOCK	64	47	85	41	55	-8	2.79	2.52	1.37	5.82	357	7.40	274	86	62	0	0	5	2
TX MIDLAND	74	50	93	45	62	-5	1.42	1.19	0.75	2.30	219	4.19	200	82	44	2	0	4	1
TX SAN ANGELO	75	51	93	49	63	-6	1.85	1.19	1.01	5.24	231	10.12	244	90	46	2	0	4	2
TX SAN ANTONIO	80	57	90	53	68	-3	1.38	0.70	1.26	6.82	190	9.54	134	89	49	1	0	2	1
TX VICTORIA	79	59	84	54	69	-3	0.55	-0.11	0.53	23.13	657	28.57	371	96	54	0	0	2	1
TX WACO	73	54	88	51	64	-6	3.62	2.79	2.26	9.18	183	19.49	223	90	62	0	0	3	2
TX WICHITA FALLS	68	51	91	47	59	-6	2.09	1.33	0.93	4.43	93	7.64	105	96	61	1	0	5	1
UT SALT LAKE CITY	63	41	73	34	52	0	1.11	0.61	0.54	2.52	67	6.41	106	79	35	0	0	4	2
VT BURLINGTON	58	35	61	27	46	-1	0.00	-0.67	0.00	3.74	81	6.61	82	84	35	0	2	0	0
VA LYNCHBURG	59	37	68	30	48	-10	0.87	0.14	0.44	7.05	115	13.72	114	92	45	0	1	4	0
VA NORFOLK	59	45	67	40	52	-7	1.15	0.44	0.58	4.89	77	9.77	72	93	60	0	0	5	1
VA RICHMOND	60	42	69	36	51	-8	0.82	0.12	0.51	4.64	76	10.28	82	84	53	0	0	4	1
VA ROANOKE	60	41	67	37	51	-7	0.85	0.07	0.52	4.87	78	10.42	87	89	46	0	0	5	1
VA WASH/DULLES	60	39	68	30	50	-5	0.47	-0.28	0.18	5.89	101	9.56	84	86	44	0	2	4	0
WA HANFORD	67	45	74	36	56	-	0.26	-	0.18	1.02	128	2.78	126	76	33	0	0	2	0
WA OLYMPIA	61	39	73	33	50	1	1.41	0.74	0.47	14.96	190	28.93	133	-	-	0	0	4	0
WA QUILLAYUTE	58	39	62	32	48	1	1.65	0.09	1.01	28.92	159	55.65	123	96	58	0	1	5	1
WA SEATTLE-TACOMA	61	44	71	39	53	2	1.03	0.55	0.35	11.46	204	20.48	137	92	43	0	0	4	0
WA SPOKANE	57	38	69	30	48	0	0.94	0.68	0.49	4.43	176	7.50	125	93	42	0	1	3	0
WA YAKIMA	64	38	70	29	51	0	0.29	0.18	0.16	0.89	79	2.23	73	81	35	0	2	3	0
WV BECKLEY	56	37	63	30	46	-7	1.03	0.22	0.88	7.86	124	12.39	102	93	48	0	2	5	1
WV CHARLESTON	60	40	68	35	50	-7	0.81	0.03	0.44	9.96	154	13.22	108	93	48	0	0	5	0
WV ELKINS	55	31	63	21	43	-7	0.37	-0.52	0.17	6.89	122	12.82	97	-	-	0	4	4	0
WV HUNTINGTON	62	42	67	37	52	-3	0.25	-0.62	0.15	9.05	136	12.63	99	89	44	0	0	3	0
WI EAU CLAIRE	61	33	68	29	47	-2	0.00	-0.72	0.00	2.04	50	3.83	66	-	-	0	3	0	0
WI GREEN BAY	58	31	67	28	44	-3	0.00	-0.58	0.00	2.23	54	4.83	77	88	39	0	5	0	0
WI MADISON	58	33	63	29	46	-4	0.14	-0.63	0.08	2.80	57	6.23	69	90	37	0	2	3	0
WI MILWAUKEE	53	38	62	34	45	-2	0.08	-0.74	0.08	1.54	27	5.52	63	-	-	0	0	1	0
WY CASPER	57	28	67	20	42	-3	0.08	-0.33	0.08	1.19	53	2.30	68	94	30	0	5	1	0
WY CHEYENNE	51	32	65	28	41	-4	0.43	0.07	0.33	1.94	89	2.65	90	85	40	0	5	3	0
WY LANDER	54	31	67	28	43	-3	0.72	0.19	0.63	1.93	68	2.52	63	78	38	0	5	3	1
WY SHERIDAN	57	35	65	26	46	0	0.28	-0.17	0.22	1.26	62	2.16	57	83	38	0	2	3	0

Based on 1961-90 normals

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

National Agricultural Summary

April 21 - 27, 1997

HIGHLIGHTS

A slow-moving low-pressure system moved from the Pacific Northwest southeastward to the Gulf of Mexico, leaving rain and snow in its wake. Damp weather prevailed in Washington and Oregon, snow fell on the central Rockies, and heavy rain caused localized flooding in parts of Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Florida. Beneficial rains fell in the Southeast, where precipitation had been lacking

for several weeks. An area extending from southeast Wyoming to northwest Kansas received scattered precipitation, but overall conditions remained dry. Flooding eased slowly in the Red River Valley as the flood crest neared the Canadian border by week's end. Temperatures were below normal in the Central and Eastern United States, while the Southwest recorded higher than normal temperatures.

Winter Wheat: The winter wheat crop rated mostly good to fair as condition improved slightly from last week. The Kansas crop condition rebounded from last week as freeze damage was confined to southern areas and less extensive than first expected. However, the wheat condition in Oklahoma declined as freeze damage became more apparent. Freeze-damage assessments continued in Texas, where early-week heat was followed by cooler weather. In Texas, damage to dryland fields seemed more severe than irrigated fields. Damage appeared in headed fields, but damage to late-boot fields may not be as severe as earlier indicated. Recent rains should benefit the wheat crop. Nevertheless, open, sunny conditions are very much needed as the crop begins to dry down. Nationwide, 16 percent (%) of the wheat crop was headed, compared with 12% last year and the 5-year average of 15%.

Rice: Rice seeding progressed to 45% complete, 3 points ahead of 1996 and equal to the average. Some producers along the Upper Coast of Texas who opted for aerial seeding made limited planting progress. Cool weather in Louisiana hampered rice planting. Despite excessive rainfall that halted most fieldwork in Mississippi, rice growers made good progress. Farmers in Arkansas made good progress before late-week heavy rains arrived. Fourteen percent of the rice crop was emerged by week's end, behind both the 20% emerged at this time last year and the average of 24%.

Other Small Grains: Flooding and saturated soils in the Red River Valley continued to delay the start of small grain planting. Farmers in Idaho and Montana seeded limited amounts of spring wheat, but nationwide the progress remained well behind the average. Likewise, the western barley-producing States made limited planting progress, while North Dakota, South Dakota, and Minnesota lagged behind normal. Oat planting made significant progress, with 40% of the crop in the ground. This compared with 34% in 1996 and the average of 36%. All major oat-producing States, except North Dakota and South Dakota, made good progress.

Other Crops: For the Nation, sorghum planting advanced to 19% complete, 1 point behind last year and 3 points behind the average. Sorghum growers in Arkansas and Louisiana made very good progress before late-week rains. Planting activity increased in many parts of Texas during the first half of the week. Peanut planting was 9% complete, but fell further behind the average of 16%. Peanut farmers in South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida made good planting progress, while growers in Alabama, North Carolina, and Virginia made limited progress. Late-week cool weather and precipitation halted planting in the Southeast.

Corn: Despite temperatures that reached only into the 60's, corn growers in the Middle Mississippi and Ohio Valleys made very good planting progress. For the Nation, corn planting progressed to 18% complete, just behind 21% planted at this time last year, but ahead of the average of 15%. Corn planting in Illinois equaled 1988's progress as the earliest on record for this date. Corn planting in Indiana was well ahead of normal even though soil temperatures remained low. Ground temperatures were still below average in Ohio, but corn planting accelerated to a near-record pace. Planting in the western Corn Belt remained behind normal even though farmers made a significant start.

Cotton: Cotton planting was 21% complete, 2 percentage points ahead of 1 year ago, but 3 points behind the average. Warm, dry weather aided Arizona, California, and New Mexico cotton planting. The late-week cold front delayed planting in the Southeast, where progress fell further behind normal.

Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending April 27, 1997

Winter Wheat Percent Headed				
	Apr 27 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	74	41	33	48
CA	99	90	94	95
CO	0	0	0	0
GA	92	89	66	78
ID	0	0	0	0
IL	0	0	0	0
IN	0	0	0	0
KS	2	0	0	3
MI	0	0	0	0
MO	6	2	0	4
MT	0	0	0	0
NE	0	0	0	0
NC	35	21	30	41
OH	0	0	0	0
OK	33	16	24	40
OR	0	0	0	0
SD	0	0	0	0
TX	44	25	41	39
WA	0	0	0	0
ALL	16	9	12	15

These 19 States produced 92% of the 1996 winter wheat crop.

Corn Percent Planted				
	Apr 27 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
CO	11	5	35	17
GA	92	90	92	94
IL	37	12	27	15
IN	30	5	7	8
IA	4	0	20	14
KS	20	6	55	32
KY	35	26	24	33
MI	0	0	0	1
MN	9	0	1	7
MO	22	17	65	32
NE	6	0	23	13
NC	80	60	75	70
OH	39	6	4	8
PA	8	1	4	4
SD	0	0	2	2
TX	61	57	72	71
WI	0	0	0	0
ALL	18	7	21	15

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

Cotton Percent Planted				
	Apr 27 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	26	15	22	37
AZ	76	63	85	73
AR	4	2	5	11
CA	90	70	62	67
GA	13	9	16	24
LA	10	3	6	25
MS	10	3	4	22
MO	3	0	2	4
NM	60	37	37	44
NC	9	4	13	12
OK	0	0	0	2
SC	15	6	23	20
TN	3	0	3	7
TX	16	12	17	19
ALL	21	14	19	24

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

Sorghum Percent Planted				
	Apr 27 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	51	24	36	39
CO	0	0	0	0
IL	0	0	0	0
KS	0	0	1	0
LA	53	19	39	30
MS	47	39	59	46
MO	2	1	6	6
NE	0	0	0	0
NM	0	0	1	1
OK	2	2	3	5
SD	0	0	0	0
TX	49	43	53	59
ALL	19	16	20	22

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

Peanuts Percent Planted				
	Apr 27 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	12	5	12	20
FL	15	3	8	NA
GA	14	4	17	26
NC	4	0	4	5
OK	0	0	0	1
SC	23	11	15	22
TX	0	0	5	2
VA	5	0	5	9
ALL	9	3	11	16

These 8 States produced 99% of the 1996 peanut crop.

Barley Percent Planted				
	Apr 27 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	44	30	49	62
MN	2	0	1	14
MT	10	6	16	38
ND	0	0	0	10
SD	1	0	12	35
WA	44	34	40	65
ALL	11	8	13	28

These 6 States produced 82% of the 1996 barley crop.

Rice Percent Planted				
	Apr 27 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	46	19	36	46
CA	15	1	1	3
LA	72	61	71	65
MS	78	55	57	56
TX	25	12	78	67
ALL	45	25	42	45

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

Rice Percent Emerged				
	Apr 27 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	6	NA	0	17
CA	0	NA	0	0
LA	56	NA	57	51
MS	11	NA	29	32
TX	5	NA	64	39
ALL	14	NA	20	24

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

Oats Percent Planted				
	Apr 27 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
IA	81	53	84	68
MI	70	24	17	17
MN	25	3	11	25
NE	73	54	94	74
ND	0	0	1	11
OH	80	63	41	49
PA	60	48	38	44
SD	5	1	27	40
WI	40	8	18	20
ALL	40	21	34	36

These 9 States produced 56% of the 1996 oat crop.

(Continued on back cover)

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 4.4. Topsoil 4% short, 81% adequate, 15% surplus. Spring plowing 81% complete, 74% 1996, 78% avg. Corn planted 87%, 73% 1996, 76% avg. Wheat headed 81%, 45% 1996, 58% avg.; 1% very poor, 3% poor, 27% fair, 65% good, 4% excellent. Livestock 2% poor, 22% fair, 65% good, 11% excellent. Cool weather conditions continued. Showers on 22nd delayed fieldwork in some areas. Soaking rains over the weekend halted fieldwork. Row crop farmers will begin plowing, planting at a brisk pace when weather clears, fields dry out.

ARIZONA: Warm, dry weather aided cotton planting, alfalfa harvesting. Small grains 99% heading, 98% 1996, 95% avg.; 11% fair, 57% good, 32% excellent. Alfalfa harvest activity 0% light, 35% moderate, 55% active, 10% not being harvested; 8% fair, 53% good, 39% excellent. Seasonally declining volume of broccoli, cabbage, salad savoy, iceberg lettuce shipped from the western area while dry onion harvest was gaining momentum. Central growers were harvesting broccoli, cabbage, carrots, kale, iceberg, Romaine, leaf lettuces, green and dry onions, greens, spinach, turnips. Digging of potatoes gaining with both table stock, chippers available. Valencia orange, grapefruit harvest steady. Light volume of peaches available from the western area.

ARKANSAS: Main farming activities: Planting preparation, planting of row crops, fertilizing pastures, wheat. Field preparation for row crops, planting of rice, corn, cotton, soybeans, sorghum reported by several counties. Fertilizing, applying herbicides to wheat reported by several counties. A few counties report field preparation delays due to excess soil moisture. Spring fruit, vegetable work reported by several counties. Livestock good condition.

CALIFORNIA: Field activities progressed normally in most areas under favorable weather conditions. Small grains matured rapidly, began drying for harvest in the San Joaquin Valley. Wheat harvest began in a few fields in Fresno County, as desert area harvest continued. Rice planting gained momentum in the Sacramento Valley. Seeded fields were treated for weeds, water weevils. Cotton planting was winding down in the San Joaquin, Sacramento valleys. Warm temperatures aided germination, growth. Emerged fields were sprayed for lygus. Corn, dry bean, safflower, grain sorghum planting continued. Harvest of overwintered sugar beets neared completion in most areas. New crop sugar beets, corn, safflower showed good growth. Corn was treated for weeds in the Sacramento Valley. Harvested small grain, forage crop fields were prepared for second crop plantings. Alfalfa, oats, winter forage were cut for hay or green chopped. Peaches, plums, apricots, nectarines continued to be thinned. Quality, color of the early peach varieties were good. Pears, apples were sprayed for codling moth. Grapes were suckered, bunch thinned. Fungicides, sulphur were applied to grapes. High winds in the San Joaquin Valley caused stone fruit growers to worry about fruit scarring. High winds also broke some heavily loaded almond branches, toppled a few trees. Cherries were changing color, picking was beginning. Late season walnuts, pecans were in bloom, while earlier varieties were sizing nicely. Lemon harvest was nearly over. Navel orange harvest continued to wind down. Valencia orange harvest increased. Hillside groves showed pea-sized new season fruit, while valley groves continued to bloom. Olives were showing a heavy bloom. Warm weather continued to stimulate the growth of asparagus as harvest proceeded. Head, leaf lettuce harvesting was winding down in the San Joaquin Valley. Lettuce harvest in the Salinas-Watsonville area was picking up speed. Broccoli, cauliflower were harvested in Monterey County. Preparations for planting sweet potatoes continued; some growers expected to plant next week. Tomatoes were making good progress, starting to flower in central, southern areas. Cantaloupe and watermelons were beginning to emerge, strong winds were slowing growth. Spinach harvest continued in Tulare, Stanislaus counties. Sweet corn, snap beans were irrigated, thinned. In Fresno County, the tops of red onions were knocked off in preparation for harvesting. Onions, peppers, garlic were progressing well. Rangeland condition was good to excellent in the northern part of the State. Rains during the past week ensured plenty of moisture, helped grass growth.

Rangeland fair condition over the rest of the State, with winds causing vegetation to dry out rapidly. New calves, lambs were good.

COLORADO: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.7. Topsoil 12% very short, 31% short, 44% adequate, 13% surplus. Subsoil 10% very short, 22% short, 61% adequate, 7% surplus. Spring barley 49% emerged, 46% 1996, 24% avg. Oats 47% emerged, 31% 1996, 23% avg.; 2% poor, 24% fair, 62% good, 12% excellent. Summer potatoes 85% planted, 86% 1996, 57% avg. Sugar beets 84% planted, 100% 1996, 79% avg. Dry onions 98% planted, 99% 1996, 73% avg.; 1% very poor, 7% poor, 13% fair, 63% good, 16% excellent. Cows 89% calved, 91% 1996, 86% avg. Ewes 87% lambled, 87% 1996, 87% avg. Livestock mostly good to fair.

DELAWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.4. Subsoil 1% short, 72% adequate, 27% surplus. Topsoil 63% adequate, 37% surplus. Winter wheat 1% poor, 16% fair, 75% good, 8% excellent; 5% headed, 0% 1996, 1% avg. Corn 21% planted, 15% 1996, 19% avg. Barley 1% poor, 15% fair, 80% good, 4% excellent; 45% headed, 16% 1996, 34% avg. Potatoes 75% planted, 68% 1996, 73% avg. Green peas 86% planted, 75% 1996, 72% avg. Watermelons 9% planted, 0% 1996, 1% avg. Cantaloupes 10% planted, 0% 1996, 1% avg. Sweet corn 15% planted, 23% 1996, 21% avg. Apples 78% bloomed, 36% 1996, 34% avg. Peaches 99% bloomed, 67% 1996, 74% avg. Strawberries 40% bloomed, 36% 1996, 33% avg. Hay supplies 38% short, 62% adequate. Range, pasture feed 5% poor, 23% fair, 69% good, 3% excellent. Activities: Cool wet conditions are delaying spring planting of crops.

FLORIDA: Topsoil was adequate in the Panhandle, with scattered areas having surplus. Moisture in Peninsula was short to adequate, with scattered areas surplus. Fifteen percent of peanuts were planted. Field preparations for spring-planted crops were active. Haying was starting. Strong winds and heavy rains damaged some vegetables around Palmetto-Ruskin and some northern localities. Sweet corn picking was getting underway, Zellwood. Vegetable volume leaders: tomatoes, potatoes, sweet corn, peppers, cabbage, cucumbers, watermelons, celery, snap beans, eggplant, escarole, and endive. Hard rain was welcomed in all citrus areas. Tree condition was very good. New crop fruit condition was good. Valencia harvest was very active. Most oranges were going to processors. Seedless grapefruit was also going to fresh markets. Temple and honey tangerine harvests was nearly complete. Caretakers were cutting cover crops, and spraying herbicides and for post bloom. Pasture feed condition was poor 5%, fair 40%, good 50%, and excellent 5%. Most pastures in the south and central areas received needed rain. Other central and northern areas were short of moisture. Cooler weather limited growth of permanent pastures, but was good for haymaking on northern small grain pastures. Heavy rain in the southwest and central areas caused some pasture flooding. Some severe mole cricket damage was reported in the west-central area. Cattle condition was generally fair to good throughout the State. Condition of cattle herds was fair 40%, good 55%, and excellent 5%.

GEORGIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.9. Soil moisture 4% very short; 19% short, 65% adequate, 12% surplus. Corn 3% poor, 33% fair, 58% good, 6% excellent. Cotton 2% very poor, 7% poor, 42% fair, 47% good, 2% excellent. Hay 2% very poor, 12% poor, 34% fair, 48% good, 4% excellent. Peanuts 1% very poor, 3% poor, 52% fair, 42% good, 2% excellent. Sorghum 8% planted, 16% 1996, 19% avg. Soybeans 0% planted, 2% 1996, 1% avg. Tobacco 1% very poor, 12% poor, 42% fair, 39% good, 6% excellent; 98% transplanted, 98% 1996, 97% avg. Wheat 98% boot, 92% 1996, 96% avg. Onions 35% fair, 49% good, 16% excellent; 52% harvested, 2% 1996, 13% avg. Watermelons 1% very poor, 6% poor, 47% fair, 38% good, 8% excellent; 92% planted, 87% 1996, 92% avg. Apples 4% poor, 16% fair, 80% good; 99% blooming, 98% 1996, 94% avg. Peaches 10% fair, 66% good, 24% excellent; 1% harvested, 0% 1996, 1% avg. Pasture feed 2% very poor, 11% poor, 35% fair, 48% good, 4% excellent. Fire blight hitting apple trees, behind in planting due to cool soils, some

diseases developing in vegetables, wind damage to tobacco, Tomato Spotted Wilt Virus disease getting worse in both tobacco and peppers, budworms, aphids, beetles showing up in tobacco. Activities: Preparing fields for row crop planting, corn weed control, fungicides being sprayed, resetting and transplanting some tobacco and treating cotton land with pre-herbicides.

HAWAII: Weather conditions were mostly beneficial for agriculture. Sunny skies for most of week. Light, steady rains from 24th provided gentle soaking. Banana production seasonally light to moderate. Overall papaya production steady, favorable progress made. Head cabbage production moderate. Tomato production moderate, crop good. Dry onion production expected to increase. First watermelon harvest expected.

IDAHO: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.1. Topsoil 47% surplus, 50% adequate, 3% short. Winter wheat jointed 24%. Spring Wheat emerged 36%, 36% 1996, 39% avg. Barley emerged 23%, 23% 1996, 31% avg. Potatoes planted 18%, 25% 1996, 24% avg. Sugar beets planted 94%, 90% 1996, 85% avg.; emerged 26%, 23% 1996, 34% avg. Dry peas planted 23%, 13% 1996, 36% avg.; emerged 11%, 6% 1996, 13% avg. Oats planted 42%, 39% 1996, 44% avg.; emerged 15%, 12% 1996, 20% avg. Onions emerged 55%, 51% 1996, 43% avg. Lentils planted 12%, 3% 1996, 29% avg.; emerged 3%, 1% 1996, 12% avg. Irrigation water supply 56% excellent, 44% good. Pasture, range feed 13% excellent, 61% good, 21% fair, 4% poor, 1% very poor. Hay, roughage 2% surplus, 43% adequate, 38% short, 17% very short. Activities: Planting small grains, potatoes, corn, dry peas, sugar beets, moving livestock to spring pasture, fencing, branding, irrigating, hauling seed potatoes, weed control, fertilizing.

ILLINOIS: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.3. Topsoil 8% short, 74% adequate, 18% surplus. Corn planting last week advanced to the earliest on record for this date, the same as was planted in 1988. Wet soils in the southern districts allowed virtually no planting, over 50% of the corn in the central, east districts was planted during the week and over 20% of the corn in the west, west southwest districts was also planted. Cool weather has prevented soil temperatures from warming satisfactorily, but some farmers in the central, east, west districts who had finished corn planting began planting soybeans in anticipation of warmer weather. Earliest planted corn began to emerge last week, oat seeding neared completion. Growth of wheat, pasture, hay crops has been slow due to cool temperatures, frequent overnight frosts. Soils in the central areas of the State would welcome a shower, south needs drier weather before major fieldwork can begin. Other farm activities last week were tillage in preparation of corn, soybean planting, applying fertilizer and herbicides, spreading manure. Alfalfa hay 1% very poor, 5% poor, 33% fair, 54% good, 7% excellent. Pasture feed 2% very poor, 4% poor, 32% fair, 54% good, 8% excellent. Oats planted 95%, 94% 1996, 70% avg.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.1. Topsoil 1% very short, 9% short, 75% adequate, 15% surplus. Subsoil moisture 4% short, 78% adequate, 18% surplus. Field operations progressed rapidly due to dry weather. Corn, soybean planting is well ahead of average, even though soil temperatures remain low. Winter wheat 52% jointed, 23% 1996, 38% avg. Range, pasture feed 3% very poor, 16% poor, 39% fair, 36% good, 6% excellent. Activities: Corn planting, soybean planting, applying fertilizer, applying anhydrous, applying herbicide, field preparation, caring for livestock.

IOWA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.0. Topsoil short 3%, adequate 76%, surplus 21%. Subsoil short 4%, adequate 81%, surplus 15%. Rains kept farmers in the southwest, south central portions out of the field, rest of the State made good field progress. 1997 row crops primary seedbed preparation completed 64%, 76% 1996, 62% avg.; fertilizer application completed 71%, 77% 1996, 65% avg. Significant start was finally made in corn planting, oat seeding advanced past the normal progress for this date. Corn planted 4%, 20% 1996, 15% avg. Oats planted 81%, 86% 1996, 73% avg. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 2% poor, 35% fair, 51% good, 11% excellent. Muddy feedlots in the southwest, south central have been stressful for cattle, where incidents of scours are still present. Soil temperatures across the State are still too cool for proper corn germination, and pastures are developing slowly.

KANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.4. Topsoil 8% short, 83% adequate, 9% surplus. Subsoil 9% short, 85% adequate, 6% surplus. Wheat jointing 73%, 57% 1996, 73% avg.; wind damage 1% moderate, 11% light,

88% none; freeze damage 9% severe, 19% moderate, 33% light, 39% none. Corn planted 20%, 55% 1996, 32% avg. Insect, disease infestations minimal. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 5% poor, 24% fair, 59% good, 11% excellent. Major field activities: Planting row crops. Livestock activities included moving cattle to pasture.

KENTUCKY: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.5. Topsoil 3% very short, 18% short, 63% adequate, 16% surplus. Subsoil 2% very short, 18% short, 62% adequate, 18% surplus. Cool temperatures for third straight week combined with rain received by most of State over weekend. Farmers have begun planting soybeans. Farmers are waiting for their current planted corn acreage to germinate, emerge. 10% of intended corn acreage has emerged. Tobacco plant development slowed by cooler temperatures. Plant size in beds 70% less than 2 in., 24% 2 to 4 in., 6% larger than 4 in. About 65% plants from greenhouses/floatbeds. Winter wheat deteriorated a little with 1% very poor, 8% poor, 31% fair, 45% good, 15% excellent. About 8% of the crop is headed or heading. Pasture, hay development has been slowed by cool soil temperatures. Pasture feed 2% very poor, 17% poor, 40% fair, 35% good, 6% excellent. Alfalfa harvest expected to start about May 13. Cold temperatures this spring have hurt fruit crops (apples, peaches, strawberries) to various degrees.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.2. Soil moisture 4% short, 75% adequate, 21% surplus. Corn 2% poor, 21% fair, 71% good, 6% excellent; 100% planted, 100% 1996, 97% avg.; 98% emerged, 99% 1996, 88% avg. Corn growers prepared to fertilize recently emerged fields. Cotton 1% emerged, 2% 1996, 13% avg. Cool temperatures delayed cotton planting. Hay 10% first cutting, 9% 1996, 7% avg. Rice development continued to be hampered by cool temperatures. Sorghum 37% emerged, 23% 1996, 19% avg. Soybeans 10% planted, 6% 1996, 2% avg. Spring Plowing 75% plowing, 96% 1996, 84% avg. Sugarcane 4% poor, 30% fair, 51% good, 15% excellent. Drier field conditions allowed sugarcane producers to resume fertilizer applications. Sweet potatoes 2% planted, 1% 1996, 2% avg. Wheat 5% poor, 44% fair, 48% good, 3% excellent; 98% headed, 90% 1996, 88% avg.; 14% turning color, 7% 1996, 13% avg. A few wheat fields were showing signs of leaf rust. Livestock 6% poor, 34% fair, 54% good, 6% excellent. Vegetables 1% very poor, 9% poor, 39% fair, 48% good, 3% excellent. Some damage to young tomato plants resulted from light frost the weekend of the nineteenth. Pasture feed 3% poor, 33% fair, 56% good, 8% excellent.

MARYLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.6. Subsoil 2% percent short, 76% adequate, 22% surplus. Topsoil 3% short, 76% adequate, 21% surplus. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 4% poor, 21% fair, 61% good, 13% excellent; 6% headed, 0% 1996, 2% avg. Barley 2% very poor, 3% poor, 19% fair, 60% good, 16% excellent; 30% headed, 16% 1996, 27% avg. Rye 1% poor, 17% fair, 70% good, 12% excellent; 36% headed, 11% 1996, 17% avg. Field corn 14% planted, 19% 1996, 16% avg. Cantaloupes 9% planted, 45% 1996, 15% avg. Sweet corn 26% planted, 28% 1996, 21% avg. Tomatoes 21% planted, 49% 1996, 24% avg. Apples 65% bloomed, 35% 1996, 32% avg. Peaches 100% bloomed, 60% 1996, 63% avg. Strawberries 41% bloomed, 32% 1996, 36% avg. Hay supplies 9% very short, 22% short, 67% adequate, 2% surplus. Range, pasture feed 2% poor, 19% fair, 56% good, 23% excellent. Activities: Cool weather, excessive moisture have slowed field activities.

MICHIGAN: Fieldwork started for many farmers this week. Major crops planted were oats, sugarbeets, alfalfa, corn. Main activities: Spreading manure, fertilizer, plowing, trimming fruit trees. Livestock conditions were good. Lambing, calving are almost complete. Short supply of feed continued due to delayed pasture growth.

MINNESOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.4. Topsoil 3% short, 64% adequate, 33% surplus. Corn 23% ground prepared, 4% 1996, 17% avg.; 9% planted, 1% 1996, 7% . avg. Soybeans 3% ground prepared, 0% 1996, 3% avg. Spring wheat 1% planted, 3% 1996, 18% avg. Oats 25% planted, 11% 1996, 25% avg. Barley 2% planted, 1% 1996, 14% avg. Sugar beets 6% planted, 1% 1996, 11% . avg. Sweet corn 1% planted, 2% 1996, 2% avg. Green peas 14% planted, 6% 1996, 14% avg. Potatoes 10% planted, 2% 1996, 6% avg. Winter wheat 11% very poor, 18% poor, 51% fair, 20% good. Alfalfa 8% very poor, 16% poor, 39% fair, 35% good, 2% excellent. Rye 1% very poor, 4% poor, 43% fair, 46% good, 6% excellent.

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.8. Soil moisture 4% short, 49% adequate, 47% surplus. Corn 96% planted, 90% 1996, 79% avg.; 77% emerged, 68% 1996, 61% avg.; 3% poor, 27% fair, 66% good, 4% excellent. Soybeans 22% planted, 23% 1996, 12% avg. Wheat 100% jointing, 98% 1996, 97% avg.; 91% heading, 44% 1996, 63% avg.; 5% very poor, 21% poor, 43% fair, 29% good, 2% excellent. Peanuts 5% planted, 23% 1996, 26% avg. Sweet potatoes 9% planted, 8% 1996, 8% avg. Watermelons 80% planted, 65% 1996, 64% avg.; 1% poor, 37% fair, 57% good, 5% excellent. Blueberries 1% poor, 28% fair, 46% good, 25% excellent. Cattle 4% poor, 22% fair, 54% good, 20% excellent. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 3% poor, 23% fair, 59% good, 11% excellent. Activities: Planting cotton, rice, other crops, fertilizing, spraying pastures. Excessive rainfall throughout most of the week halted most fieldwork, slowed crop progress.

MISSOURI: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.1. Topsoil 3% short, 56% adequate, 41% surplus. Wet weather, muddy field conditions continued to limit most farmers from performing significant field operations during the past week, particularly across the northern third of the State. Significant corn planting progress was made southwest, to a lesser extent, central, southeast. Most favorable winter wheat condition ratings are found north-central, west-central, east-central, southwest, while less favorable ratings exist southeast. Minimal amount of the wheat crop has reached the heading stage, largely limited to the extreme southern Bootheel. Oats sown 86%, 99% 1996, 80% avg. Ground tilled for spring crops 68%, 86% 1996, 69% avg. Pasture feed, range 7% poor, 33% fair, 55% good, 5% excellent. Warm, sunny weather is needed to encourage growth which has been slowed by cooler than normal temperatures of late.

MONTANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.8. Topsoil 15% surplus, 81% adequate, 4% short. Subsoil 14% surplus, 66% adequate, 19% short, 1% very short. Precipitation at the end of the week has slowed planting progress. Planting of spring grains behind normal. Field tillage work in progress 46% none, 40% just started, 14% well under way. Oats 4% planted, 7% 1996, 26% avg.; sugar beets 25% planted, 30% 1996, 47% avg. Corn 2% planted, 14% 1996, 15% avg.; potatoes 21% planted, 0% 1996, 5% avg. Winter wheat wind damage 50% none, 36% light, 13% moderate, 1% heavy. Freeze damage to winter wheat 58% none, 30% light, 9% moderate, 3% heavy. Calving 90% complete, lambing 75% complete. Cattle moved to summer pasture 9%, sheep moved 4%.

NEBRASKA: Day suitable for fieldwork 3.6. Topsoil 1% very short, 9% short, 83% adequate, 7% surplus. Subsoil 9% short, 88% adequate, 3% surplus. Wet soil conditions continued to delay fieldwork activities early in the week, but by 24th, spring corn planting had begun. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 3% poor, 35% fair, 54% good, 7% excellent; 6% jointed, 8% 1996, 22% avg.; overall, crop looks good, southwest fields need moisture. Corn 6% planted, 23% 1996, 13% avg. Oats 73% seeded, 94% 1996, 74% avg.; 27% emerged, 36% 1996. Alfalfa 1% very poor, 5% poor, 29% fair, 58% good, 7% excellent. Cattle: 94% cows calved since January 1, 93% 1996, greatest calf losses continued in Panhandle. Pasture feed, range 2% poor, 27% fair, 68% good, 3% excellent. Warmer temperatures would encourage pasture growth. Other activities: Fertilizer applications, spring tillage, fixing fence, livestock care.

NEVADA: Above normal temperatures made good conditions for continued seeding, crop development. Spring grain planting continued, preparation for alfalfa planting was underway. Irrigation continued for some while others were still repairing irrigation systems damaged by the January flood. Sheep shearing continued in the northern part of the State. Pasture feed, range improved as the warm weather enhanced plant growth. Main farm, ranch activities: Ditch, hay equipment repair, working livestock, grain planting, irrigating, spraying.

NEW ENGLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Topsoil 5% short, 56% adequate, 39% surplus. Subsoil 45% adequate, 55% surplus. Pasture feed 65% very poor, 7% poor, 16% fair, 12% good. Massachusetts potatoes 20% planted, 15% 1996, 5% avg. Rhode Island potatoes 10% planted, 7% 1996, 5% avg. Field corn 0% planted, 0% 1996, 0% avg. Sweet corn <5% planted, 3% 1996, 2% avg. Apples, peaches, pears, strawberries, cranberries and blueberries vary in development from dormant to bud stage. Cool, wet weather has slowed crop development, field work progress throughout the region. Major farm activities: Plowing, harrowing, discing, fertilizing, liming well drained fields. Application of dormant oils, pre-emergence herbicides to fruit crops.

NEW JERSEY: Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Topsoil adequate to surplus. Farmers are busy fertilizing, discing, planting spring vegetables. Currently, planting corn for grain, potatoes, cabbage, lettuce, sweet corn, snap beans, early soybeans. Harvesting of asparagus, kale, herbs, leeks, radishes, spinach. Peaches are in petal fall stage, entering shuck split stage. Strawberries are blooming.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.0. Soil moisture 15% short, 82% adequate, 3% surplus. Cold, rain slowed planting toward weekend, good progress was made early; cotton 60% complete, 37% 1996, 44% avg.; chile 95% complete; corn 35% complete. While colder temperatures caused most crop conditions to decline slightly much needed moisture helped improve dryland wheat conditions. Chile 30% fair, 68% good, 2% excellent; onion 5% fair, 82% good, 13% excellent; lettuce 20% fair, 50% good, 30% excellent; corn 20% fair, 80% good. Winter wheat 1% poor, 40% fair, 57% good, 2% excellent. Alfalfa 1st cut 3% complete; 1% poor, 25% fair, 71% good, 3% excellent. Ranchers are beginning to move livestock to spring pastures, while calving, branding, sheep shearing continues. Cattle, sheep mostly fair to good condition. Range, pasture feed 6% poor, 47% fair, 46% good, 1% excellent.

NEW YORK: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.1. Soil moisture 7% short, 70% adequate, 23% surplus. Plowing widespread. Pasture feed 7% poor, 27% fair, 56% good. Wheat fair to good. Oats 13% seeded, 3% 1996, 18% avg. Corn planting just beginning. Potato planting picked up momentum. Fruit growth slowed by cool weather. Apple bloom normal to heavy. Southern regions fruit is ready to bloom. Further north most fruit is at green top. Vegetable planting underway. Strawberries in good condition. Growers hoping for warmer weather.

NORTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.8. Very wet conditions across the State inhibited fieldwork activities, slowed down the spring planting progress. Abnormally cool weather has also slowed the growth of some of the young tobacco, corn crops. Some tobacco suffered minor damage from high winds early in the week. Soil moisture 2% very short, 5% short, 67% adequate, 26% surplus. Activities for the week included: Planting corn, cotton, peanuts, tobacco; preparation of tobacco, peanut, cotton, vegetable land for planting; maintaining pastures; tending livestock; repairing equipment; general farm maintenance.

NORTH DAKOTA: Fieldwork was minimal as much of the State was still in need of warm weather, sunshine. Statewide average starting date for fieldwork is expected to be the 3rd, behind last year, average. Topsoil 1% short, 69% adequate, 30% surplus. Subsoil 4% short, 69% adequate, 27% surplus. Durum wheat was 1% planted, N/A 1996, 4% avg.; sugar beets 3% planted, 1% 1996, 14% avg. Livestock continued to improve, fair to mostly good. Cattle 3% very poor, 13% poor, 31% fair, 51% good, 2% excellent; sheep 1% very poor, 8% poor, 29% fair, 58% good, 4% excellent. Spring calving 83% complete, lambing 86%. Pasture feed, ranges 72% remain dormant; 77% open for grazing. Pasture feed 12% very poor, 11% poor, 29% fair, 44% good, 4% excellent.

OHIO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 13% short, 79% adequate, 8% surplus. Mostly sunny, dry all week. Ground temperatures are still below average, corn planting accelerated to a near record pace, especially in west central, central districts where over 50% of corn is reported to be planted. In northeast, east central districts, progress is still in single digits while the rest of State is in the 25% to 33% range. No reports of corn emerged this week. Oat seeding made good progress, 38% of the crop has emerged compared to 12% 1996, 21% avg. Soybean planting is picking up as well with reports of up to 30% in some areas. Other work includes machinery repair; spreading manure; applying anhydrous ammonia, dry fertilizer, herbicides; field tillage; top dressing winter wheat; tree pruning in orchards. Southern districts, tomato beds are being prepared, some plants were set. Tobacco beds are 95% seeded. Potato planting is 28% complete, 8% last week, 9% 1996, 15% avg. Apple 14% very poor, 19% poor, 39% fair, 25% good, 3% excellent. Peach 37% very poor, 22% poor, 21% fair, 17% good, 3% excellent. Hay 2% very poor, 9% poor, 38% fair, 44% good, 7% excellent. Pasture feed 2% very poor, 9% poor, 36% fair, 48% good, 6% excellent. Growth remains slow due to below average temperatures. Some sweet corn is 3 in. tall in extreme southern counties. Some crown bud injury reported on strawberries; secondary blooms and pistils are developing normally.

OKLAHOMA: Mild weather allowed plants to recover from freezing temperatures. Days suitable for fieldwork 3.3. Topsoil 75% adequate, 25% surplus. Subsoil 93% adequate, 7% surplus. Wheat 100% jointing, 84% 1996, 94% avg.; oats 69% jointing, 39% 1996, 59% avg.; 24% heading, 5% 1996, 18% avg.; corn 99% seedbed prepared, 99% 1996, 97% avg.; 19% planted, 52% 1996, 57% avg.; 10% up-to-stand, 16% 1996, 26% avg.; sorghum 32% seedbed prepared, 30% 1996, 42% avg.; soybeans 69% seedbed prepared, 65% 1996, 56% avg.; 15% planted, 19% 1996, 13% avg.; 6% up-to-stand, 6% 1996, 4% avg.; peanuts 50% seedbed prepared, 73% 1996, 67% avg.; cotton 67% seedbed prepared, 57% 1996, 68% avg.; alfalfa hay 2% 1st cutting, 1% 1996, 11% avg. Livestock 2% poor, 16% fair, 78% good, 4% excellent. Prices of feeder steers, heifers were steady to \$2 per cwt. higher for the week.

OREGON: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil 1% short, 92% adequate, 6% surplus. Subsoil 2% short, 92% adequate, 6% surplus. All barley 77% planted, 50% 1996, 71% avg. Pasture feed 1% poor, 32% fair, 55% good, 12% excellent. Activities: Rain delayed field preparation, fertilizing continued, field corn planting underway, eastern sections. Western small grains fertilizing, spraying winding down. Nursery, greenhouse planting, shipping continued. Digging, balling, shipping evergreens very active. Pear, apple bloom winding down, statewide. Willamett valley: Caneberries, strawberries developing slowly, wet cool weather hindering pollination, hazelnut growers spraying suckers, some vegetable field preparation, planting underway. Malheur county: First cultivation of onions underway. Mid-Columbia: asparagus harvest underway, first chipping potatoes emerged. Livestock good. Calving winding down, branding, turnout to lower rangeland continued, northeast mountains. Western cattle, sheep on pasture, no supplemental feed.

PENNSYLVANIA: Good week for fieldwork. Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Soil 3% very short, 35% short, 58% adequate, 4% surplus. Plowing 62% complete, 35% 1996, 40% avg. Corn 8% complete, 4% 1996, 4% avg. Oats planted 60% complete, 38% 1996, 44% avg. Potatoes planted 12% complete, 10% 1996, 15% avg. Tobacco beds planted 100% complete, 97% 1996, 92% avg. Barley 5% heading or headed, 2% 1996, 2% avg. Wheat 7% poor, 30% fair, 56% good, 7% excellent. Oat 30% fair, 65% good, 5% excellent. Alfalfa, alfalfa mixtures stand 2% very poor, 7% poor, 33% fair, 53% good, 5% excellent. Timothy clover stand 3% very poor, 9% poor, 26% fair, 56% good, 6% excellent. Peaches 65% pink, 36% 1996, 42% avg.; 40% full bloom or past, 15% 1996, 17% avg. Cherries 60% pink, 35% 1996, 37% avg.; 35% full bloom or past, 16% 1996, 21% avg. Apples 55% pink, 19% 1996, 19% avg.; 20% full bloom or past, 1% 1996, 4% avg. Activities: Plowing, planting oats, corn; fixing fences; machinery maintenance; hauling manure; caring for livestock.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Soil moisture 2% very short, 9% short, 77% adequate, 12% surplus. Cantaloupes 94% planted, 89% 1996, 78% avg.; 1% very poor, 11% poor, 58% fair, 30% good. Corn 98% planted, 92% 1996, 94% avg.; 4% poor, 23% fair, 67% good, 6% excellent. Cucumbers 95% planted, 71% 1996, 73% avg.; 6% fair, 52% good, 42% excellent. Hay 37% harvested, 33% 1996, 25% avg.; 2% very poor, 4% poor, 30% fair, 58% good, 6% excellent. Rye 87% headed, 69% 1996, N/A avg.; 21% turn color, 8% 1996, 12% avg.; 1% poor, 26% fair, 67% good, 6% excellent. Snap beans 77% planted, 55% 1996, 59% avg.; 25% fair, 45% good, 30% excellent. Tobacco 85% planted, 78% 1996, 76% avg.; 8% poor, 35% fair, 54% good, 3% excellent. Tomatoes 85% planted, 80% 1996, 93% avg.; 6% fair, 48% good, 46% excellent. Watermelons 98% planted, 88% 1996, 83% avg.; 4% poor, 34% fair, 57% good, 5% excellent. Winter wheat 90% headed, 57% 1996, 63% avg.; 7% poor, 14% fair, 65% good, 14% excellent. Barley 79% headed, 50% 1996, N/A avg.; 4% fair, 56% good, 40% excellent. Peaches 1% very poor, 3% poor, 25% fair, 31% good, 40% excellent.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Farmers, ranchers waited last week for fields to dry out, expected to begin fieldwork on 28th. Days suitable for fieldwork 0.7. Small grain producers are noticeably behind the historical averages for seeding progress. Producers tending to calving, lambing, fence fixing, general cleanup as they waited to get into the fields.

TENNESSEE: Crop progress, planting was slowed to a near normal pace as rainfall, cool temperatures passed through the state last week. Corn producers stayed slightly ahead of normal by planting an additional 11% of

the crop, with the 4 days available for work. Tobacco, wheat development also remained 3 to 5 days ahead of average. Warmer temperatures, drier soils should provide cotton, sorghum growers the opportunity needed to get planting underway. Days suitable for fieldwork 4.0. Topsoil 3% short, 74% adequate, 23% surplus. Subsoil 3% short, 77% adequate, 20% surplus. Corn 63% planted, 69% 1996, 58% avg. Tobacco 95% plants up, 84% 1996, 89% avg. Wheat 7% poor, 25% fair, 51% good, 17% excellent; 41% headed, 4% 1996, 31% avg. Sorghum 6% planted, 4% 1996, 12% avg. Pasture feed 4% poor, 22% fair, 61% good, 13% excellent. Alfalfa hay 2% poor, 25% fair, 54% good, 19% excellent.

TEXAS: Good drying conditions persisted until late in the week in most areas. Fieldwork was active through the mid-week under open conditions. The passage of a strong cold front combined with gulf moisture brought moderate to heavy rainfall in many areas late in the week, once again stalling fieldwork. The cooler temperatures in the Plains further delayed the start of planting many fields, as well as slow development on planted fields in other areas. Ranges and pastures continued to show improvement; however, weeds were increasing. Livestock conditions remained good during the week.

Crops: Small grains: Freeze damage assessments continued. On the High Plains, damage to dryland fields seemed more severe than irrigated fields. Damage also appeared in fields in north-central areas. Damage to late boot fields may not be as severe as earlier indicated. The recent rains in the central and southern areas should benefit the crop. However, open, sunny conditions are very much needed as the crop begins dry down. Rust is still a problem in some fields. Corn: Planting increased in the High Plains until late in the week. Cooler weather late in the week will slow germination. Planting operations are winding down in many north and south-central fields. Emerged fields in these areas look good but will need open conditions for further improvement. Planting increased along Upper Coast. However, much concern exists due to lateness of crop. Statewide condition 73% normal compared with 55% in 1996 on this date. Cotton: The late week cold front will delay planting in the Plains since soil temperatures continued to be in the fifties. A few fields were planted early in the week. However, most producers will await higher temperatures. Farmers were very actively planting in the central areas with open conditions. Many fields in the area have emerged but growth was slowed by cool, wet conditions. Grain sorghum planting increased in many areas during the first half of the week. Emergence of fields slowed by late-week rain and cool weather. Open, sunny conditions were needed in most areas for good development and further planting progress. Statewide condition was 78% normal compared with 50% in 1996. Peanut planting was getting underway during the first part of the week in some north-central fields. Rice made some planting progress along Upper Coast during the week, with some producers opting for aerial seeding. Emergence remained slow because of wet conditions and lack of sunshine. Rice was 79% normal compared with 72% in 1996. Soybeans planting occurred in parts of north-central areas and along Upper Coast, of which 30% were planted, compared with 37% in 1996, and the 22% avg. Sugar beet planting was completed in many fields early last week, and drier, open conditions are needed for good development. Progress was 63% planted, compared with 79% in 1996 and the 84% avg. Other crops: Sunflowers were 7% planted, compared with 3% in 1996 and the 6% avg.

Commercial Vegetables: Rio Grande Valley, harvest onions, cabbage, celery, greens, and carrots occurred with mostly open conditions. Yields were down for onions and carrots. In San Antonio-Winter Garden, onion harvest was slowly increasing during the week. Watermelon progress improved during the week. In the High Plains, potatoes were emerging and onions were improving from recent freeze damage. In the east, land preparations resumed for watermelons and sweetpotatoes. Trans-Pecos' early planted chili pepper fields were emerging. Some cantaloups were planted during the week. Few planted onion fields were showing damage from thrips. Peach producers reported potential for a very good crop, except where some freeze damage occurred. Thinning and spraying occurred in many areas. Pecans' late freeze may have caused damage in some north-central groves. Trees in many other areas continued to leaf out, with zinc spraying increasing.

Range and Livestock: Additional good rains in many areas will add to an excellent condition. Weeds continued to become more evident with additional moisture. Fertilizing and weed spraying activity will increase as dry conditions return. Livestock conditions remained good in all areas.

UTAH: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.6. Topsoil 11% short, 58% adequate, 31% surplus. Subsoil 4% short, 66% adequate, 30% surplus. Pasture feed, range 2% poor, 32% fair, 53% good, 13% excellent. Spring wheat planted

83%, 91% 1996, 86% avg.; emerged 51%, 66% 1996, 57% avg. Barley planted 83%, 89% 1996, 83% avg.; emerged 53%, 65% 1996, 57% avg. Oats planted 46%, 44% 1996, 54% avg.; emerged 19%, 24% 1996, 29% avg. Corn planted 13%, 22% 1996, 21% avg. Alfalfa hay height 5 in, 6 in 1996. Potatoes planted 16%. Sweet cherries full bloom or past 50%, 99% 1996. Tart cherries full bloom or past 10%, 99% 1996. Peaches full bloom or past 97%. Apples full bloom or past 5%, 29% 1996, 9% avg. Pears full bloom or past 31%, 99% 1996. Cattle, calf 3% poor, 28% fair, 64% good, 5% excellent. Sheep, lamb condition 15% fair, 78% good, 7% excellent. Cows calved 86%, 89% 1996, 90% avg. Ewes lambed: on farm 87%, 93% 1996, 92% avg.; on range 50%, 70% 1996, 67% avg. Sheep sheared: on farm 89%, 89% 1996, 89% avg.; on range 74%, 76% 1996, 75% avg. Major farm, ranch activities: Spring planting, tillage, spraying for weeds, shearing sheep, lambing, calving. Colder, wet weather had delayed planting of crops, damaged some of the fruit crop, caused some calf losses.

VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.4. Topsoil 75% adequate, 25% surplus. Subsoil 90% adequate, 10% surplus. Corn 25% planted, 27% 1996, 32% avg.; 15% poor, 20% fair, 40% good, 25% excellent. Cotton 7% planted, 18% 1996, 23% avg. Winter wheat 5% poor, 15% fair, 65% good, 15% excellent. Barley 35% fair, 60% good, 5% excellent. Apples 25% poor, 65% fair, 10% good. Peaches 25% very poor, 30% poor, 35% fair, 10% good. Tobacco greenhouses 5% fair, 45% good, 50% excellent. Tobacco plantbeds 5% very poor, 5% poor, 30% fair, 55% good, 5% excellent. Peanuts 5% planted, 5% 1996, 9% avg. Summer potatoes 100% planted, 100% 1996. Pasture feed 5% poor, 30% fair, 60% good, 5% excellent. Alfalfa 20% fair, 70% good, 10% excellent. Other hay 5% poor, 40% fair, 50% good, 5% excellent. Planting of field crops delayed by rain. Crops previously planted emerging slowly because of cool temperatures. Producers scouting, treating small grain crops. Potato planting virtually complete. Tomato, snap bean, sweet corn planting continue field conditions permitting. Pastures, hay responded well to rain but being slowed by cool nighttime temperatures.

WASHINGTON: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.4. Topsoil 1% short, 81% adequate, 18% surplus. Subsoil 15% short, 80% adequate, 5% surplus. Fieldwork continued to progress where possible. Rains were keeping soils wet and unworkable in many areas. Fields in northeastern areas are extremely wet with very limited fieldwork possible. Whitman county reported being two weeks behind historical normals. Winter wheat, dryland 6% poor, 35% fair, 47% good, 12% excellent; irrigated 5% fair, 90% good, 5% excellent. Spring wheat 65% planted, 51% 1996, 71% avg.; 44% emerged, 37% 1996, 53% avg. Spring wheat, dryland 10% poor, 50% fair, 35% good, excellent 5%; irrigated 7% fair, 90% good, 3% excellent. Some fields appear stressed from cool temperatures. In central areas some damage was reported in dryland wheat due to the long snow cover and wet late winter, early spring conditions. Interseeding into damaged stands with spring wheat was occurring. Whitman county reported that the critical need is now for warmer conditions and a dry spell to "jump start" winter wheat growth. Barley 44% planted, 40% 1996, 65% avg.; 26% emerged, 24% 1996, 45% avg. Barley dryland, 10% poor, 65% fair, 20% good, 5% excellent; irrigated 5% fair, 95% good. Dry peas 19% planted, 14% 1996, 52% avg. Hay, other roughage supplies, 12% very short, 33% short, 54% adequate, 1% surplus. Range, pasture feed 2% poor, 22% fair, 76% good. Pastures in western areas were lush, but still very wet in many areas. Pastures in eastern areas were starting to green in some areas, growth was still hindered by wet, cool

conditions. Potatoes 78% planted, 58% 1996, 61% avg.; 29% emerged, 27% 1996, 17% avg. Early vegetable crop, fieldwork continued as soil conditions permitted. Asparagus harvesting was picking up. Rhubarb harvest was nearing completion. Strawberries, blueberries, stone fruit and early apples were in bloom west of the Cascades. Frost made fruit thinning decisions difficult in central areas.

WEST VIRGINIA: Spring field activities hampered as cooler than normal temperatures, rainfall moved across State. Days suitable for fieldwork 3.5. Topsoil 1% very short, 11% short, 82% adequate, 6% surplus. Intended Acreage Prepared for Spring Planting 64%, 56% 1996. Corn 8% planted, 14% 1996, 18% avg. Hay 7% poor, 35% fair, 57% good, 1% excellent. Cool nights continue to hinder growth of hay and pastures. Oats 64% planted, 54% 1996, 57% avg.; 20% emerged, 18% 1996, 31% avg. Tobacco beds 98% seeded, 87% 1996, 87% avg.; 70% emerged, 71% 1996, 60% avg. Wheat 1% poor, 21% fair, 65% good, 13% excellent. Apple 19% poor, 74% fair, 7% good. Peach 18% poor, 82% fair. Green peach aphids observed on peach trees. Cattle 1% poor, 16% fair, 78% good, 5% excellent; 90% calved. Sheep 13% fair, 84% good, 3% excellent; 95% lambed. Hay, roughage supplies 2% very short, 16% short, 81% adequate, 1% surplus. Feed grain supplies 12% short, 87% adequate, 1% surplus. Activities: Field preparation for planting, planting corn, oats, seeding tobacco beds; applying fertilizer to crop acres, meadows and pastures; turning cattle out to grass, repairing fences, calving, lambing, general maintenance.

WISCONSIN: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.2. Soil moisture 23% short, 69% adequate, 8% surplus. Last week provided good weather to move ahead from tilling to planting. However, crop reporters from Fond du Lac County noted some fields in the area were still too wet for tillage. Spring tillage jumped to 32% complete, almost twice as much as 1996 figure of 18%. Soil was still too cold in many areas for corn. Many farmers planted potatoes in Portage, Dunn, Pepin, Waushara, Wood counties. Planting of canning peas was observed in Marathon, Portage, Columbia, Walworth counties. Some other vegetables, sweet corn were being planted in Walworth County. Pasture feed 7% very poor, 24% poor, 45% fair, 18% good, 6% excellent. Pastures still showed little greening due to lack of moisture, warmth. Maple syrup production was rated fair to good in Forest, Outagamie, Dunn counties.

WYOMING: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.3. Topsoil 2% very short, 12% short, 74% adequate, 12% surplus. Subsoil 1% very short, 10% short, 76% adequate, 13% surplus. Winter wheat 33% fair, 67% good. Barley 77% planted, 79% 1996, 76% avg.; 40% emerged, 24% 1996, 37% avg. Oats 35% planted, 41% 1996, 45% avg.; 2% emerged, 6% 1996, 10% avg. Spring wheat 38% planted, 40% 1996, 43% avg.; 4% emerged, 10% 1996, 12% avg. Sugar beets 82% planted, 63% 1996, 72% avg.; 1% emerged, 3% 1996, 11% avg. Corn 10% planted, 21% 1996, 17% avg. Range, pasture feed 1% poor, 27% fair, 71% good, 1% excellent. Spring calves born 89%, 89% 1996, 88% avg. Farm flock ewes lambed 93%, 93% 1996, 93% avg.; shorn 87%, 91% 1996, 92% avg. Range flock ewes lambed 31%, 25% 1996, 29% avg.; shorn 59%, 57% 1996, 65% avg. Livestock mostly good. Calf, lamb loss mostly normal with continued heavy losses reported in the east due to repercussions from spring blizzards early in the month. Stock water supplies adequate to surplus.

International Weather and Crop Summary

April 20 - 26, 1997

HIGHLIGHTS

FSU-WESTERN: Unseasonably cool, wet weather slowed winter grain development and spring grain emergence.

NORTHWESTERN AFRICA: Moderate to heavy rain eased drought in Morocco and Algeria but likely caused some flooding.

EUROPE: Much-needed rain fell in western Europe, easing persistent dryness.

SOUTH AMERICA: In southern Brazil, moderate showers slowed soybean harvesting, but boosted soil moisture for winter wheat planting.

SOUTHEAST ASIA: In the Philippines, dryness continued across the central islands, reducing moisture for main-season rice.

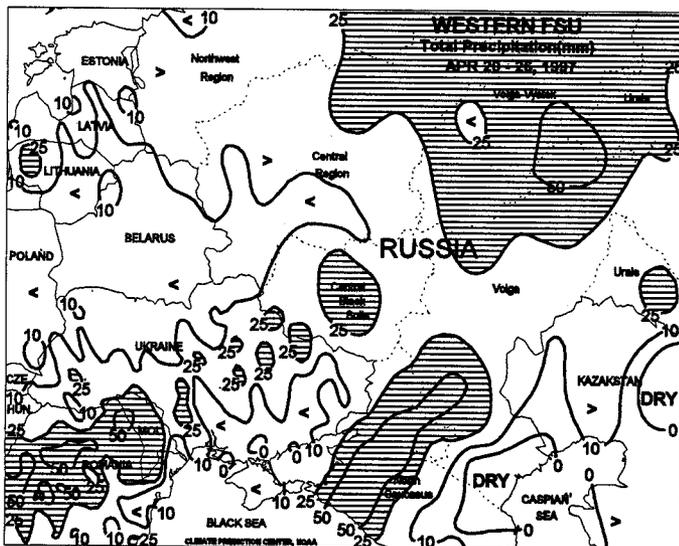
EASTERN ASIA: Rainy, cool weather continued to increase irrigation supplies across southern China, but slowed early-rice development and winter crop harvesting.

AUSTRALIA: Dry weather favored seasonal fieldwork, but rain was needed in southeastern winter grain areas for planting preparations.

SOUTH AFRICA: Moderate to heavy showers returned to sections of the corn belt, slowing early fieldwork.

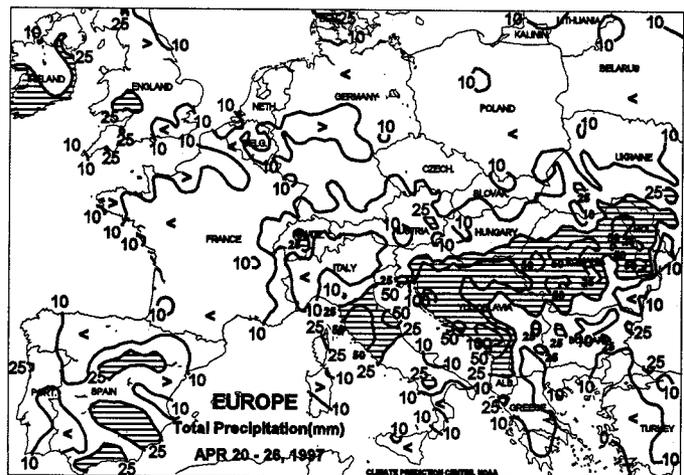
FSU-WESTERN

Unseasonably cool weather continued over Ukraine, Russia, Belarus, and the Baltics, slowing winter grain development and spring grain emergence. Weekly temperatures averaged 2 to 4 degrees C below normal in Russia, Belarus, and the Baltics, and 2 to 6 degrees C below normal in Ukraine. Winter grains were jointing in extreme southern Ukraine and the North Caucasus region in Russia and were tillering in the remainder of Ukraine, central Russia, and southern Belarus. Winter grains remained dormant in northern Russia, northern Belarus, and the Baltics. Wet weather (10-50 mm, with local amounts in excess of 60 mm) in Russia and central Ukraine slowed spring grain planting but boosted topsoil moisture. Light precipitation (less than 10 mm) caused only brief planting delays in southern Ukraine and Belarus.

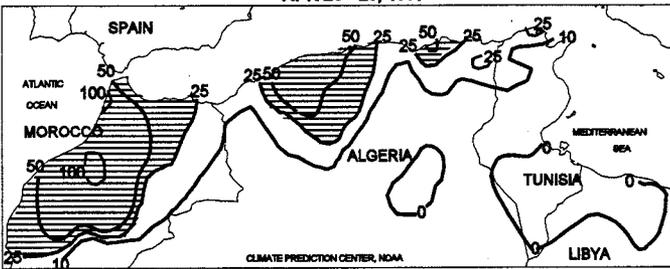


EUROPE

Light to moderate precipitation fell in western Europe, moistening topsoils following prolonged dryness. Precipitation amounts in England, Spain, and Portugal ranged from 10 to 25 mm, with locally heavier amounts (25-40 mm) in central and southern Spain. Lesser amounts of precipitation (2-12 mm) fell late in the week in France and northern Italy. Although the moisture in western Europe favored winter grain development and newly emerged spring-sown crops, additional rain is needed to boost soil moisture reserves that remained limited. Elsewhere, light precipitation (3-12 mm) in Germany and Poland maintained adequate moisture for crop development. In southeastern Europe, continued unseasonably cool, wet weather in Romania, Bulgaria, and southeastern former Yugoslavia slowed winter grain development and spring crop planting. Precipitation amounts in these areas ranged from 10 to 50 mm. The cool, wet weather spread southward into Greece, slowing cotton planting. Unseasonably cool weather (temperatures averaging 2 to 5 degrees C below normal) prevailed over most of Europe, with subfreezing temperatures (-1 to -7 degrees C) as far west as France and as far south as central Italy. The cold weather may have caused some minor damage to newly emerged sugar beets in France and Germany.



NORTHWEST AFRICA Total Precipitation (mm)
APR 20 - 26, 1997

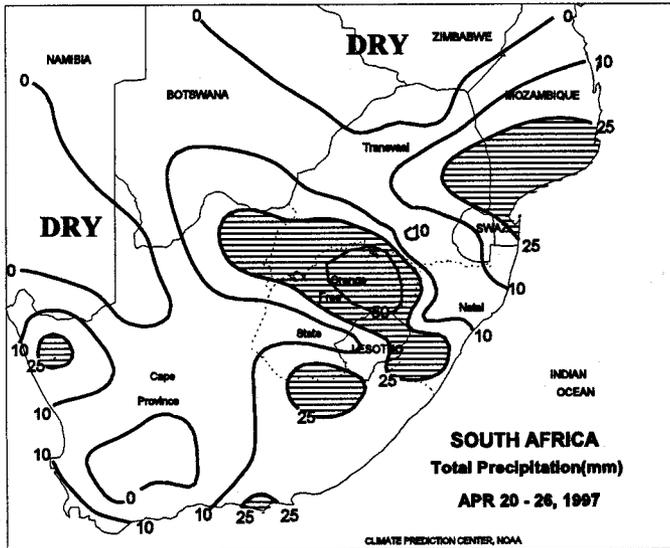


NORTHWESTERN AFRICA

Moderate to heavy rain eased drought in Morocco and Algeria, but arrived too late to significantly improve yield prospects for drought-stricken winter grain crops. Precipitation amounts in Morocco and western Algeria ranged from 30 to 100 mm, creating the potential for some flooding. Rainfall in central and eastern Algeria ranged from 10 to 30 mm. Farther east, although light, scattered showers (7-13 mm) eased severe drought in Tunisia, the rain came too late to significantly improve yield prospects for winter grains stressed by adverse dryness during most of the growing season.

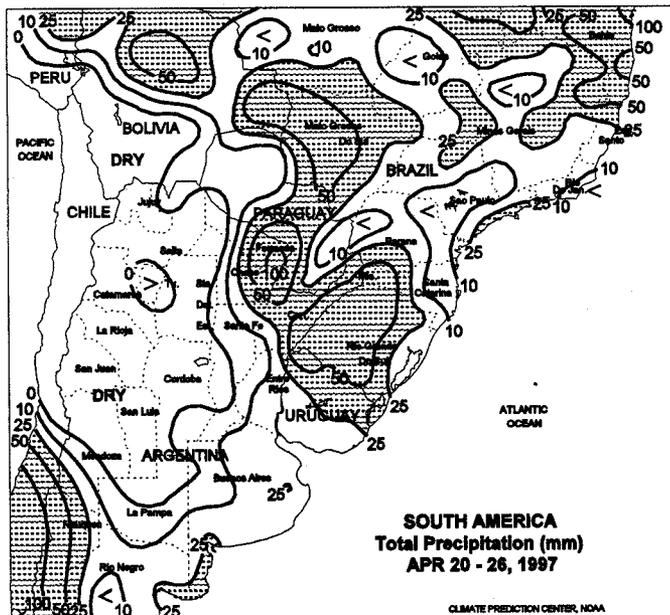
SOUTH AFRICA

Moderate to heavy showers (22-51 mm) returned to the corn belt, hampering early harvests from North West Province through eastern Orange Free State. Mostly light showers (15 mm or less) elsewhere caused no major disruptions. Temperatures averaged below normal, with lows near or below freezing (-1 to 3 degrees C) common throughout the corn belt. No significant impact from the cold was likely. Sugarcane harvesting progressed along the coast amidst light rain (5-17 mm). Scattered light rain (less than 10 mm) also fell in the main winter wheat region of Western Cape Province. Except for a few dry spots in western sections of Western Cape, moisture reserves favored winter wheat germination and establishment throughout the main growing regions.



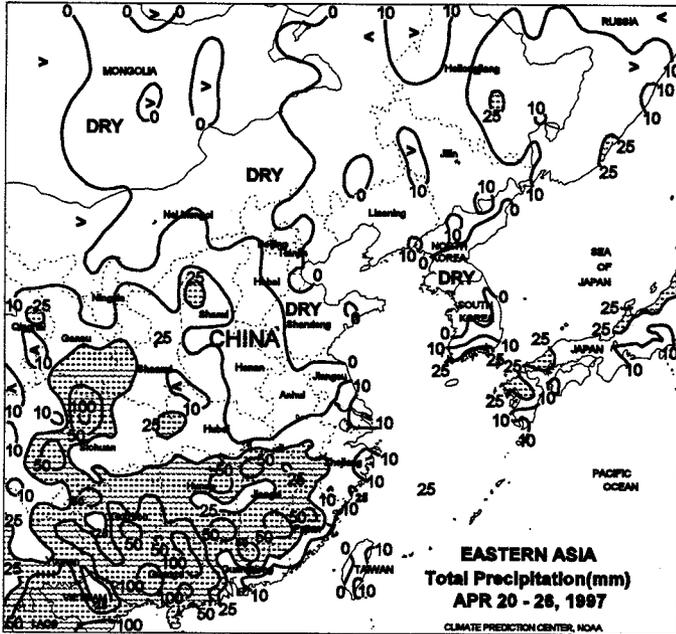
SOUTH AMERICA

In central Argentina, light rain fell across Buenos Aires province, causing only minor delays in summer crop harvesting. The rain increased soil moisture for winter wheat planting, which will be taking place from May through July. Dry weather elsewhere in the region favored harvesting, but rain is needed for wheat planting, especially in Santa Fe. As of April 18, 31 percent of the soybean crop had been harvested. In southern Brazil, widespread moderate showers (25-60 mm) covered Rio Grande do Sul and southern Parana, delaying soybean harvesting. This rain, however, boosted soil moisture for winter wheat planting, which is just beginning. Light to moderate showers (10-50 mm) elsewhere in southern Brazil likely slowed harvesting. According to reports as of April 24, 90 percent of the soybean crop had been harvested. Temperatures averaged 1 to 2 degrees C above normal across both central Argentina and southern Brazil, favoring maturing summer crops.



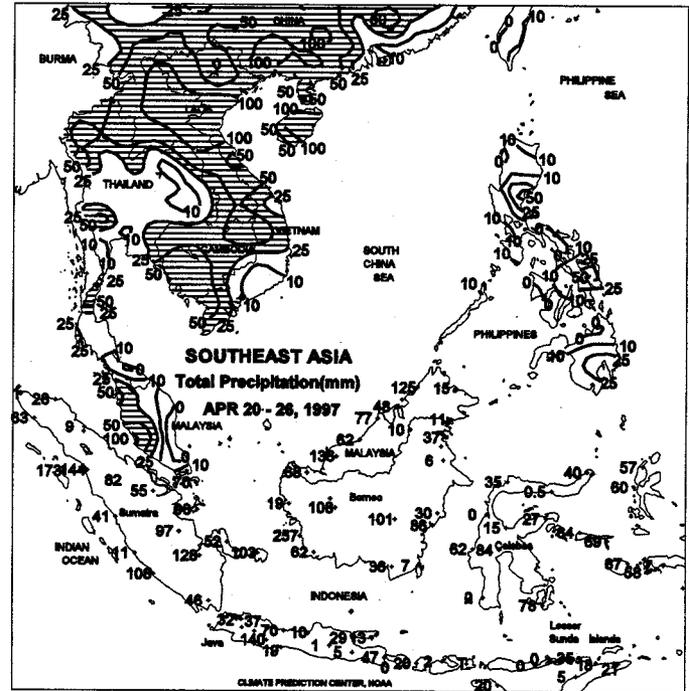
EASTERN ASIA

Rainy, cool weather (25-80 mm) continued across the southern half of China, increasing irrigation supplies but slowing early-rice development. Temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C below normal across the region. Sunnier, warmer weather is needed for rice development and fieldwork. Light rain (less than 15 mm) fell across the North China Plain, where adequate moisture favored vegetative winter wheat and summer crop planting. Light rain (less than 12 mm) was also reported across Manchuria, but more rain is needed for spring wheat planting.



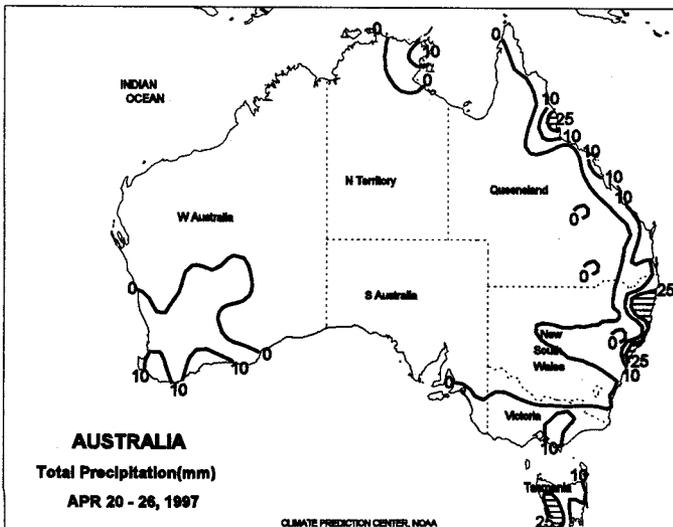
SOUTHEAST ASIA

Little or no rain in the central Philippines continued a below-normal rainfall trend across the region, reducing moisture supplies for rainfed main-season crops. Only the east-central islands, central Luzon, and central Mindanao received significant rain (10-40 mm). Moderate showers (10-40 mm, with isolated amounts greater than 100 mm) slowed main-season rice harvesting in Java. Light to moderate showers (10-30 mm) helped to slow second-crop rice harvesting in Thailand, but continued to increase irrigation supplies. In northern Vietnam, moderate to heavy showers (50-150 mm) boosted moisture supplies but caused some local flooding.



AUSTRALIA

Dry weather in eastern Australia favored cotton and sorghum harvesting, with light showers (25 mm or less) generally confined to the coastal sugarcane areas. Scattered light showers (5 mm or less) in the southeastern winter grain belt brought scant relief to crop areas in need of pre-planting showers. In the west, light rain in the southern grain belt caused only minor delays in planting preparations. In New Zealand, light to moderate showers (10-25 mm or more) covered the main pasture lands.



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Spring Wheat Percent Planted

	Apr 20 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	64	51	66	70
MN	1	0	3	18
MT	10	5	14	35
ND	0	0	2	12
SD	2	1	30	44
ALL	5	3	9	23

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

Winter Wheat Crop Condition by Percent

	VP	P	F	G	EX
AR	1	23	44	30	2
CA	0	0	20	45	35
CO	2	12	35	40	11
GA	2	14	40	41	3
ID	1	5	24	54	16
IL	2	4	22	62	10
IN	2	7	28	54	9
KS	3	11	31	52	3
MI	1	7	21	45	26
MO	1	10	26	51	12
MT	1	6	33	55	5
NE	1	3	35	54	7
NC	1	4	28	59	8
OH	3	12	36	38	11
OK	12	23	36	28	1
OR	0	2	24	63	11
SD	10	21	28	32	9
TX	11	26	39	17	7
WA	0	5	32	51	12
ALL	5	14	33	41	7
Prev Wk	6	13	35	40	6
Prev Yr	20	26	27	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.

Climate Prediction Center, W/NP52
Attn: *Weekly Weather & Crop Bulletin*
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