

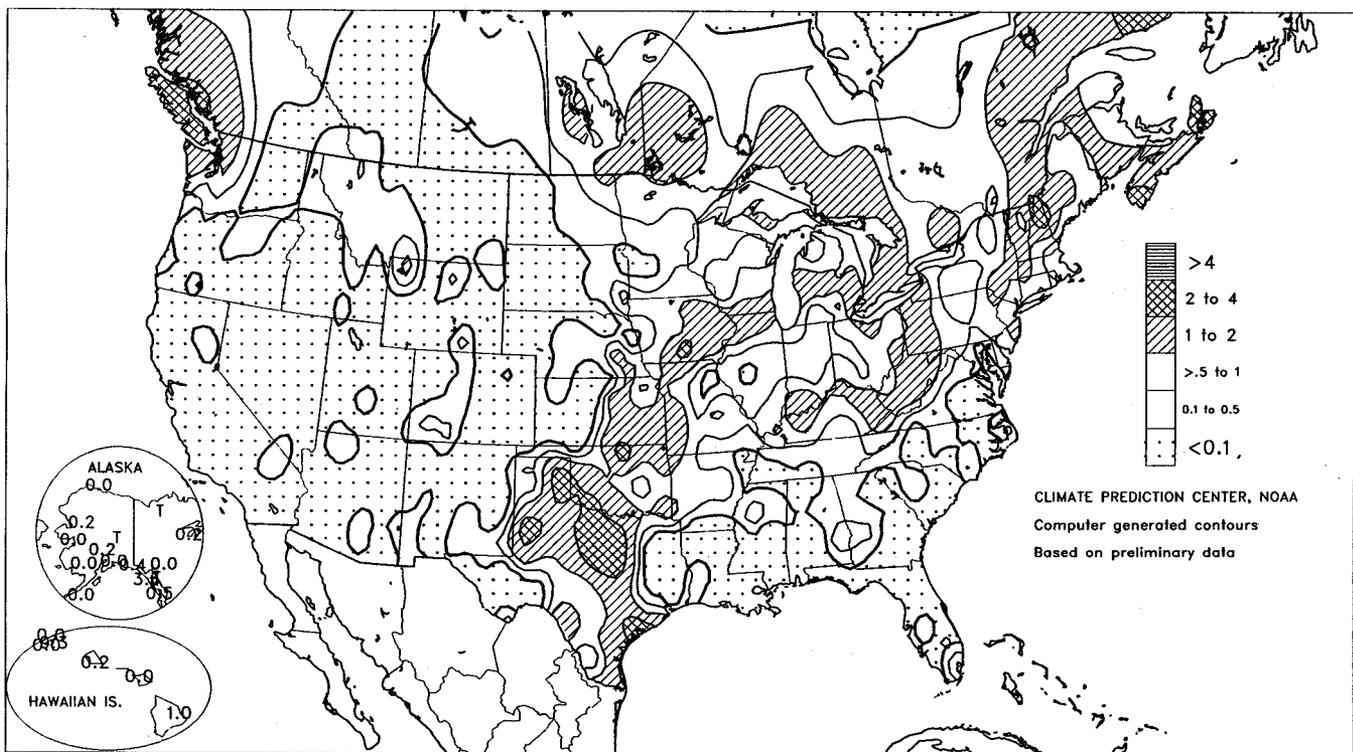
# WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

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)

MAY 4 - 10, 1997



## HIGHLIGHTS

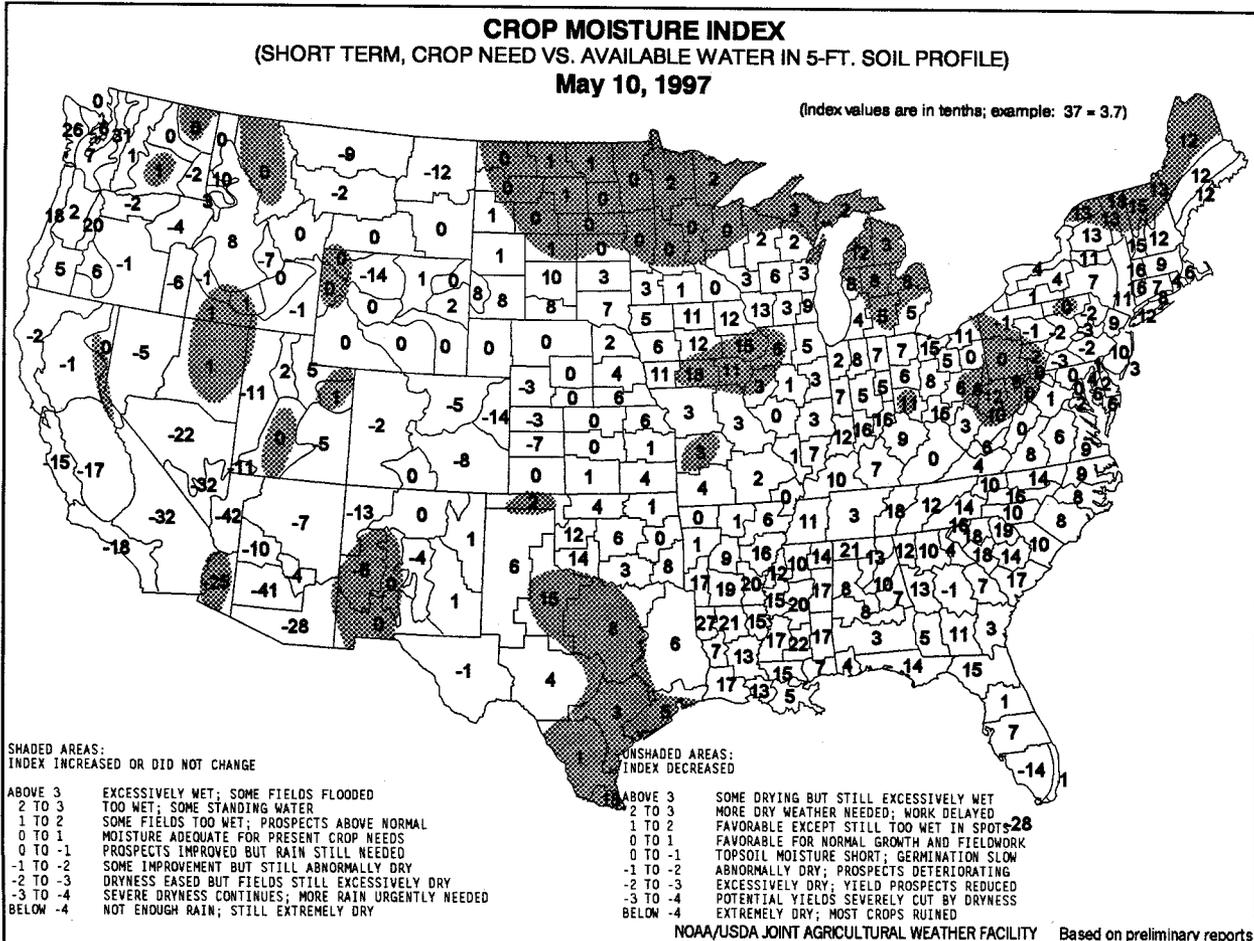
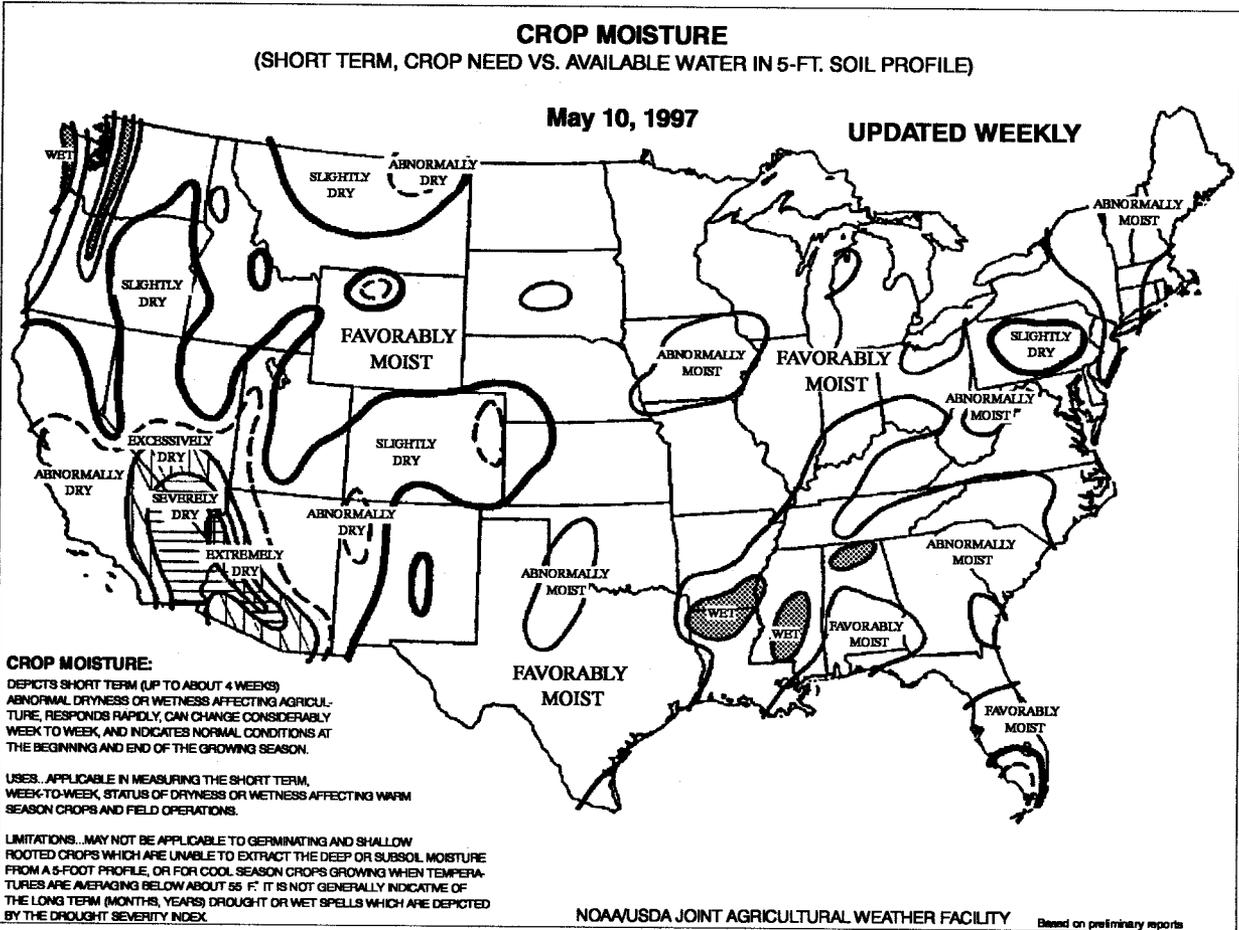
May 4 - 10, 1997

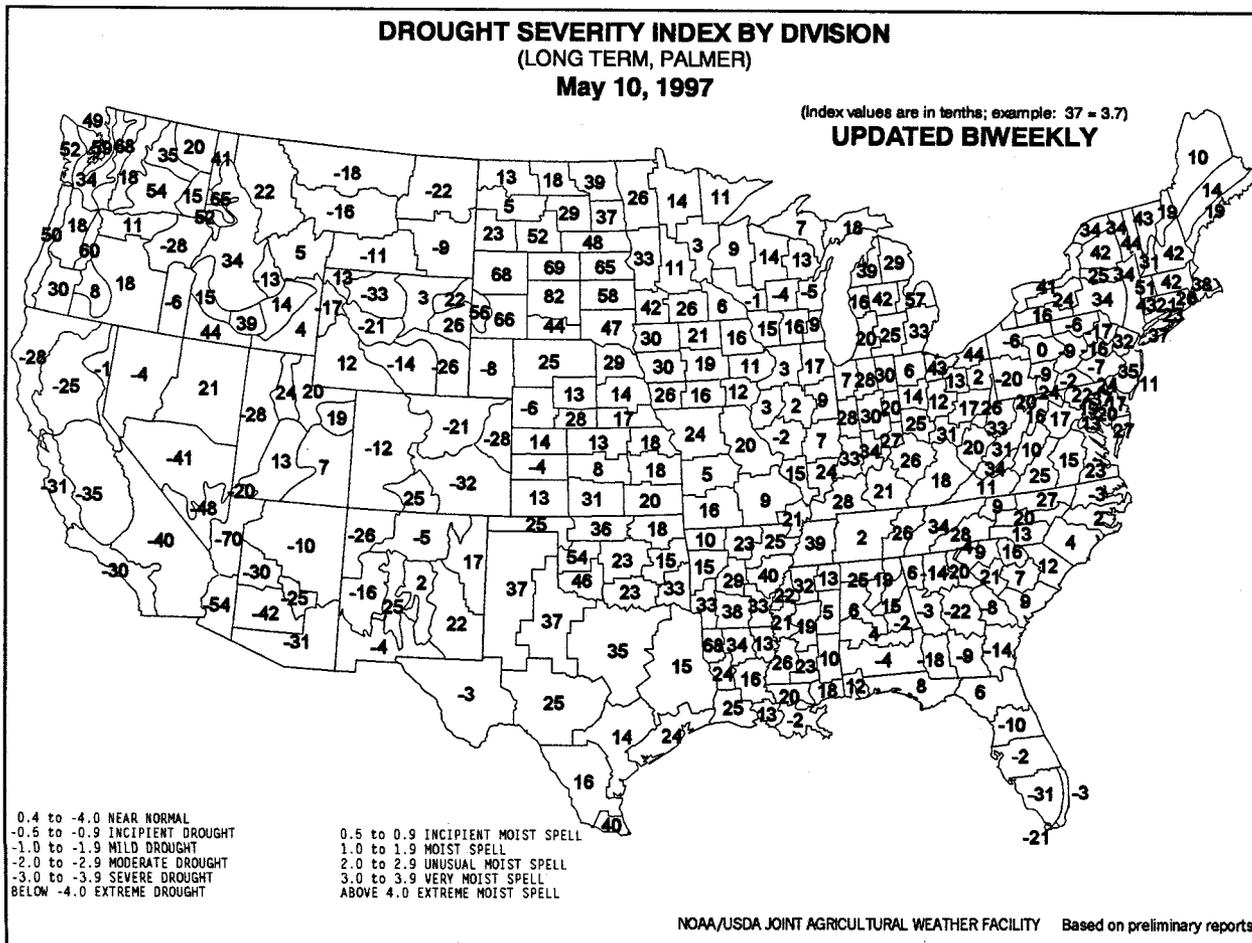
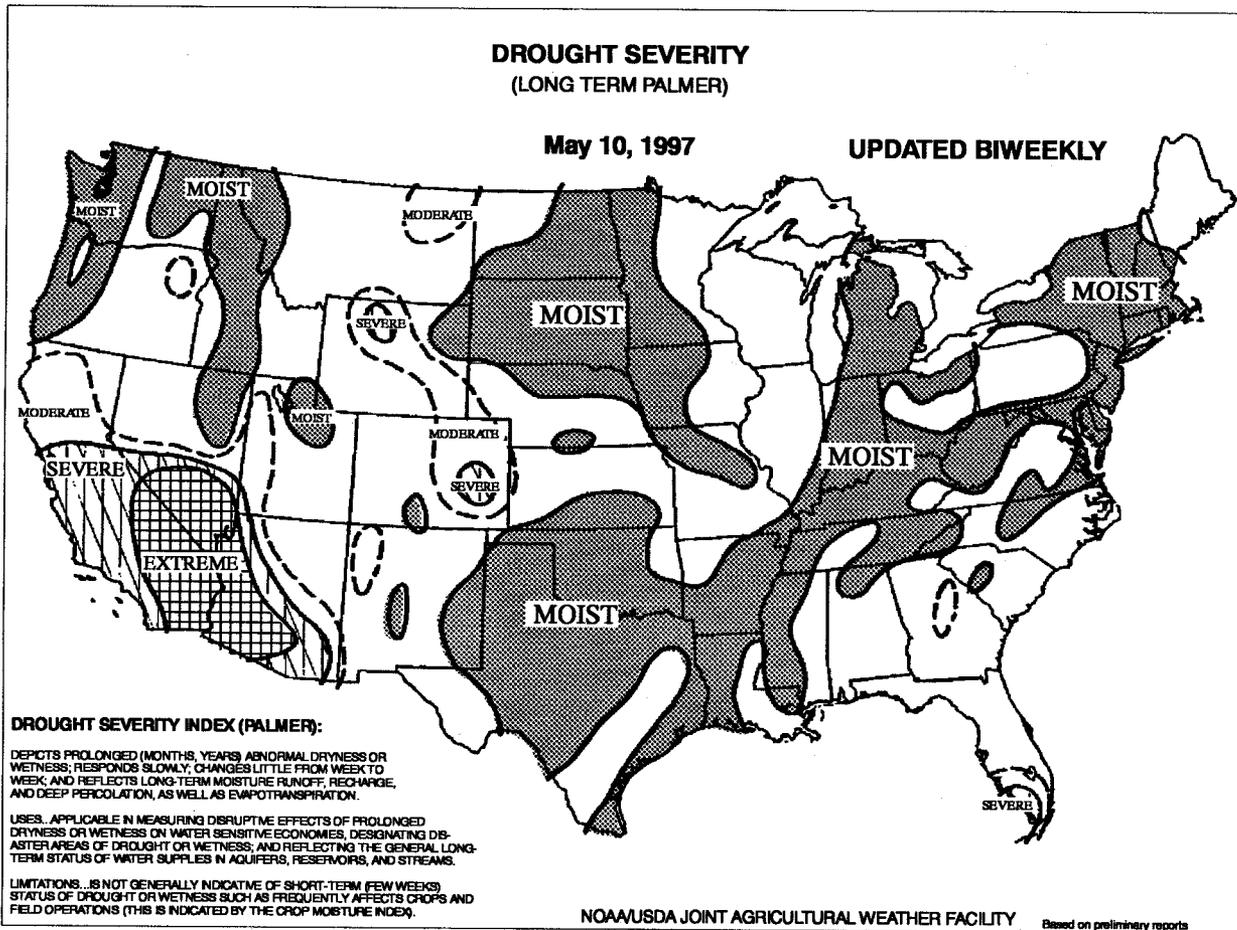
**D**espite a fifth consecutive week of cooler-than-normal weather, **Midwestern** soils--moistened by widespread rainfall on May 7-8--warmed enough to promote crop development. Weekly temperatures averaged 6 to 9°F below normal across the **eastern Corn Belt**--with maxima peaking only in the 60's--but only 1 to 5°F below normal elsewhere in the **Midwest**, as highs occasionally reached into the 70's and lower 80's. Below-normal temperatures (3 to 10°F) also prevailed for the fifth week in a row across the **South-Central and Eastern States**. In addition, locally heavy rainfall dotted the **southern Plains** on May 7-9. On the **central High Plains**, temperatures dipped below 32°F on

*(Continued on page 5)*

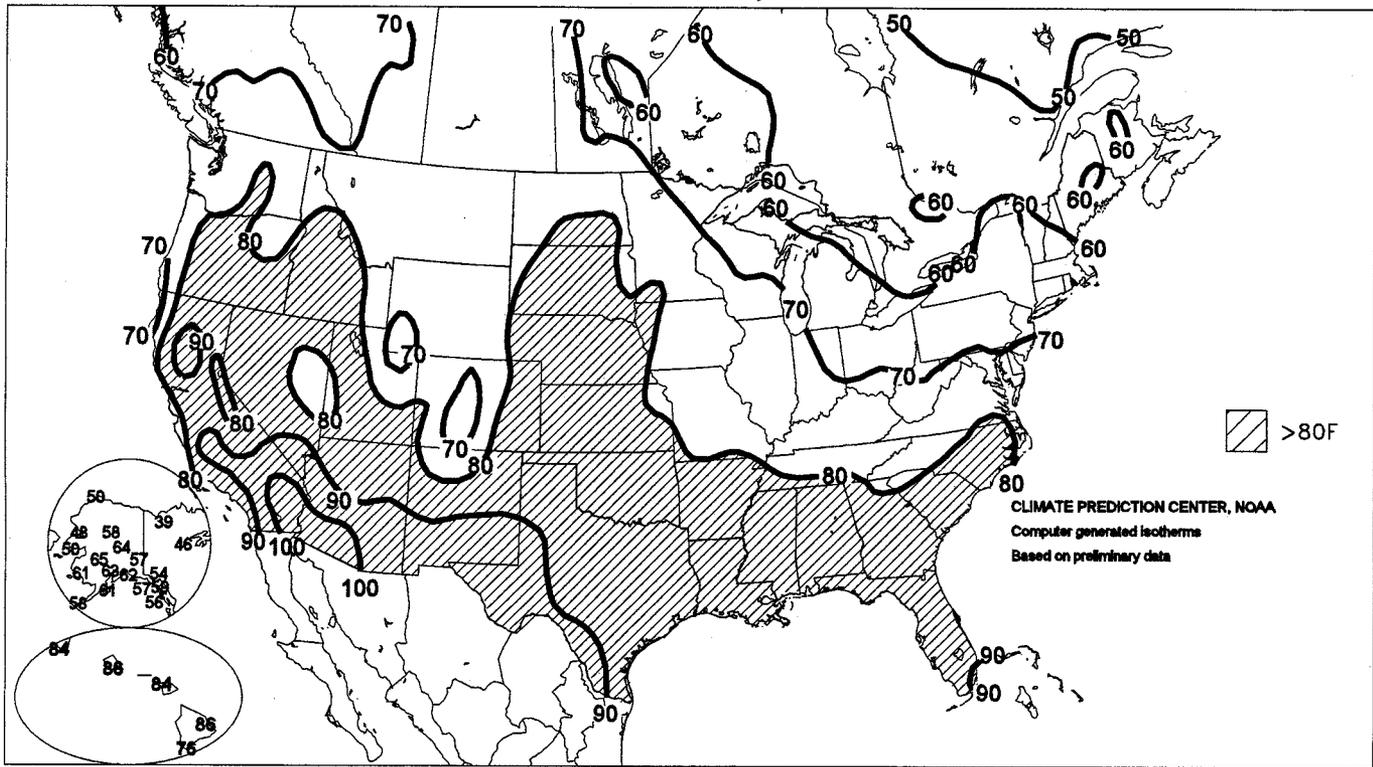
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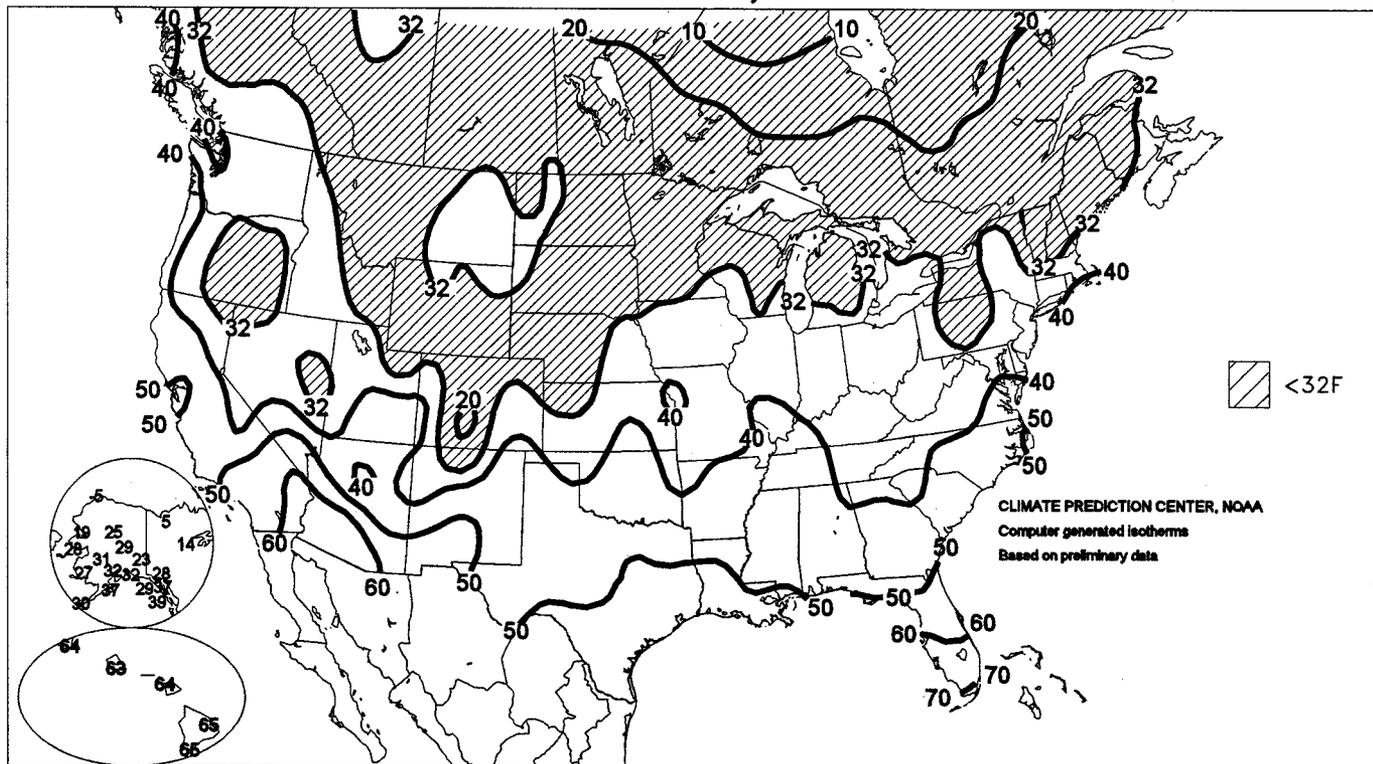




### Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F) MAY 4 - 10, 1997



### Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F) MAY 4 - 10, 1997



(Continued from front cover)

May 9, about a week later than the region's typical last spring freeze. In contrast, very warm weather prevailed across the Southwest, producing departures of +6 to +12°F.

Early in the week, cool air settled into the East, while daily-record warmth developed in the Southwest. On Monday, Burlington, VT (27°F), Asheville, NC (32°F), and Augusta, GA (39°F) were among the locations reporting daily-record lows. Later in the day, daily-record highs were established in Arizona at Safford (98°F) and Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument (104°F). Warmth extended as far north as Alaska (weekly temperatures up to 8°F above normal), where McGrath (65°F) logged a daily-record high. Two days later, Cold Bay, AK notched 58°F, their second consecutive daily record.

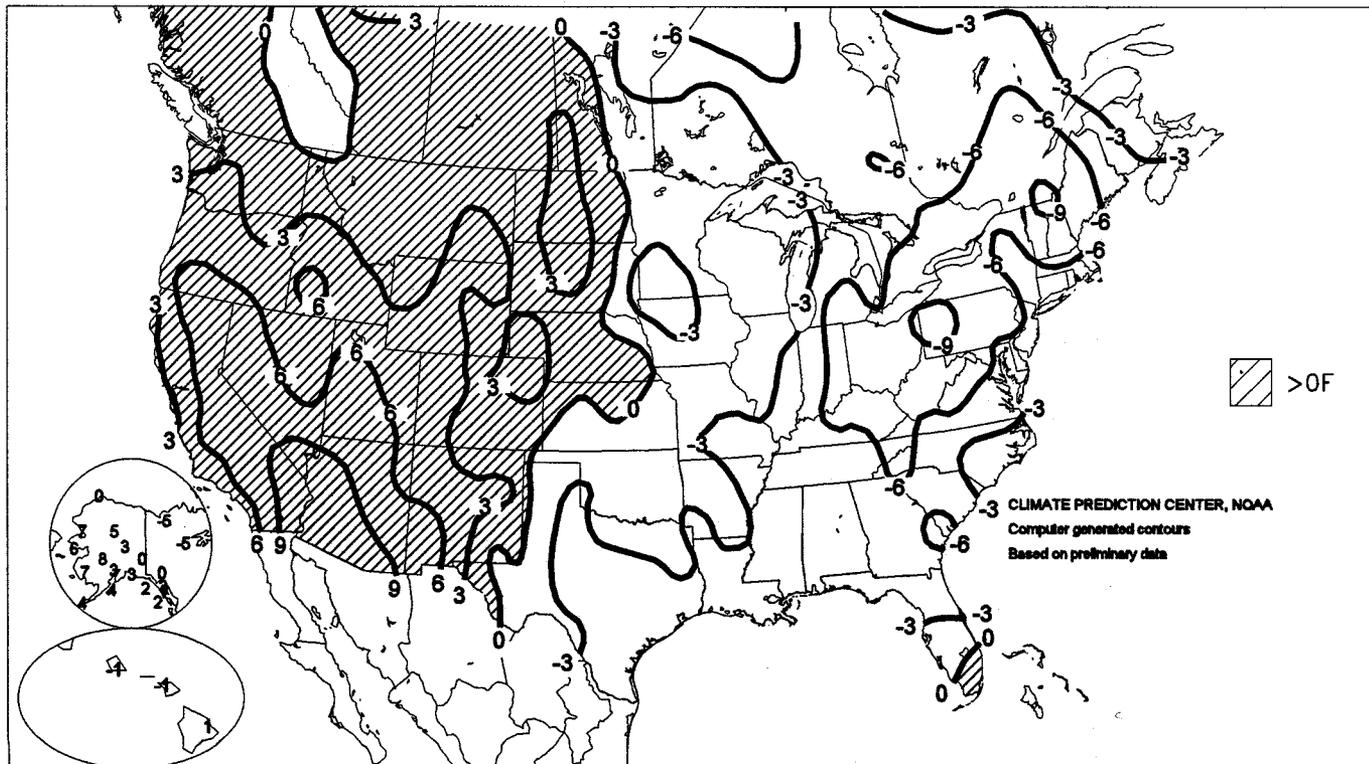
At midweek, another high-pressure system shifted into the East. Flint, MI (26°F) tallied a daily-record low on May 7, followed a day later by records in Allentown, PA (30°F) and Baltimore, MD (33°F). Farther west, rainfall totaled 1 to 2 inches from southern Wisconsin and northern Illinois southwestward into eastern Kansas and northern Oklahoma. Up to 1 inch of unwelcomed rainfall soaked the lower Red River basin in the northern parts of North Dakota and Minnesota.

Cool air reached the Plains on Friday, spreading into the East at week's end. On May 9, more than a dozen daily-record lows were established on the central High Plains, including 25°F in North

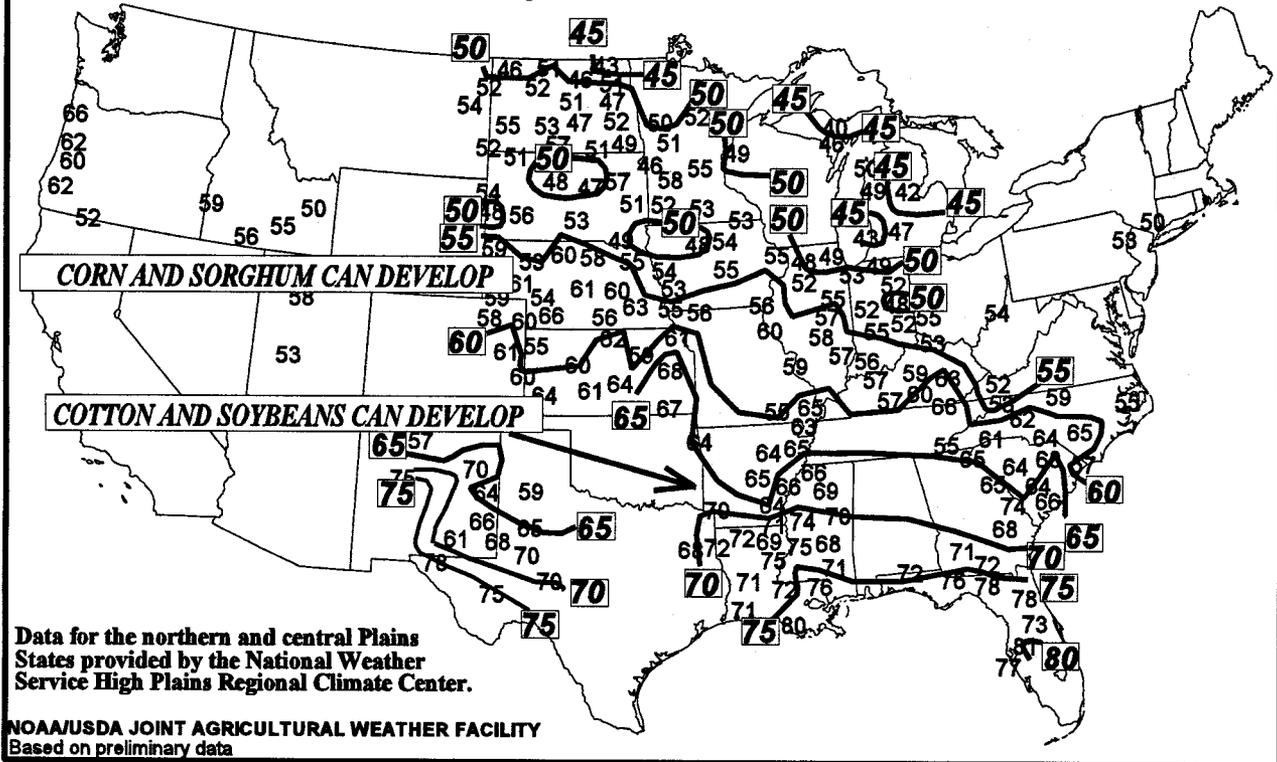
Platte, NE, 26°F in Burlington, CO, and 29°F in Goodland, KS. Lows in Kansas dipped to 32°F as far south and east as Hays. The typical last hard freeze (28°F or below) occurs in North Platte on April 28; the normal date of the last spring freeze in Goodland is May 4, and in Hays is April 28. Farther south, heavy rain erupted across the South-Central States, totaling 2 to 4 inches in some areas. On Friday, a daily-record total of 3.73 inches pelted Victoria, TX. Meanwhile, very warm weather arrived in the Northwest, where Burns, OR (83°F on May 10) collected a daily-record high.

**Flood Update:** As of May 12, the James River in eastern South Dakota remained 3 to 8 feet above flood stage (a.f.s.), but 2 to 7 feet below record levels set in early April. Even without any rainfall, however, the river is expected to remain a.f.s. into August at many gauging sites. Meanwhile, the Red River at Wahpeton, ND fell below flood stage on May 9. Downstream, the river stood at 6.0 feet a.f.s. in Fargo and 9.1 feet a.f.s. in Grand Forks on May 12, down 16.5 and 17.0 feet, respectively, from crests in April. In northeastern North Dakota, Devils Lake continued to rise toward historic levels, fed by record flows in Channel A near Penn and Big Coulee near Churchs Ferry. Ice melted off the lake in early May, leaving the water's level at 1,440.2 feet above sea level on May 7, 0.8 feet below the 1830 high-water mark. The lake is expected to crest between 1,443.5 and 1,444.0 feet in late June or July. Devils Lake's lowest level on record, 1,400.9 feet, was set at the end of the Dust Bowl era in 1940.

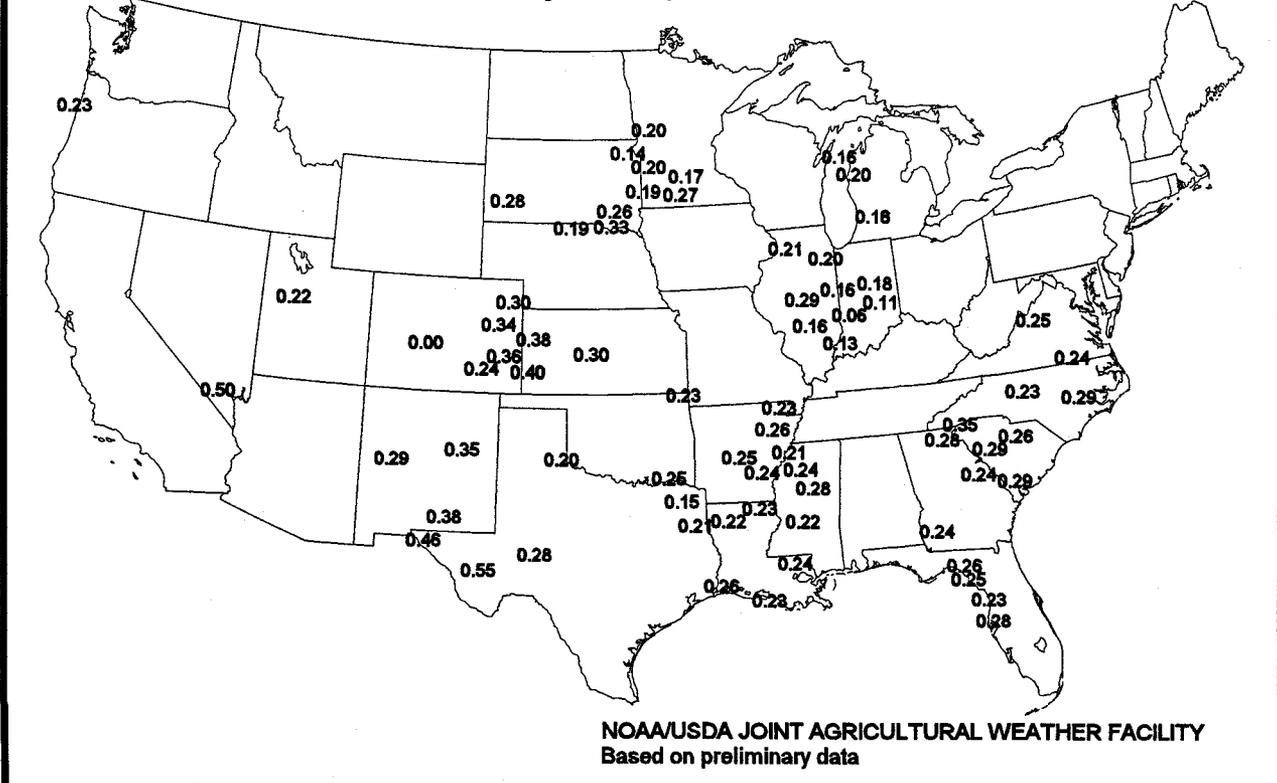
**Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F)  
MAY 4 - 10, 1997**



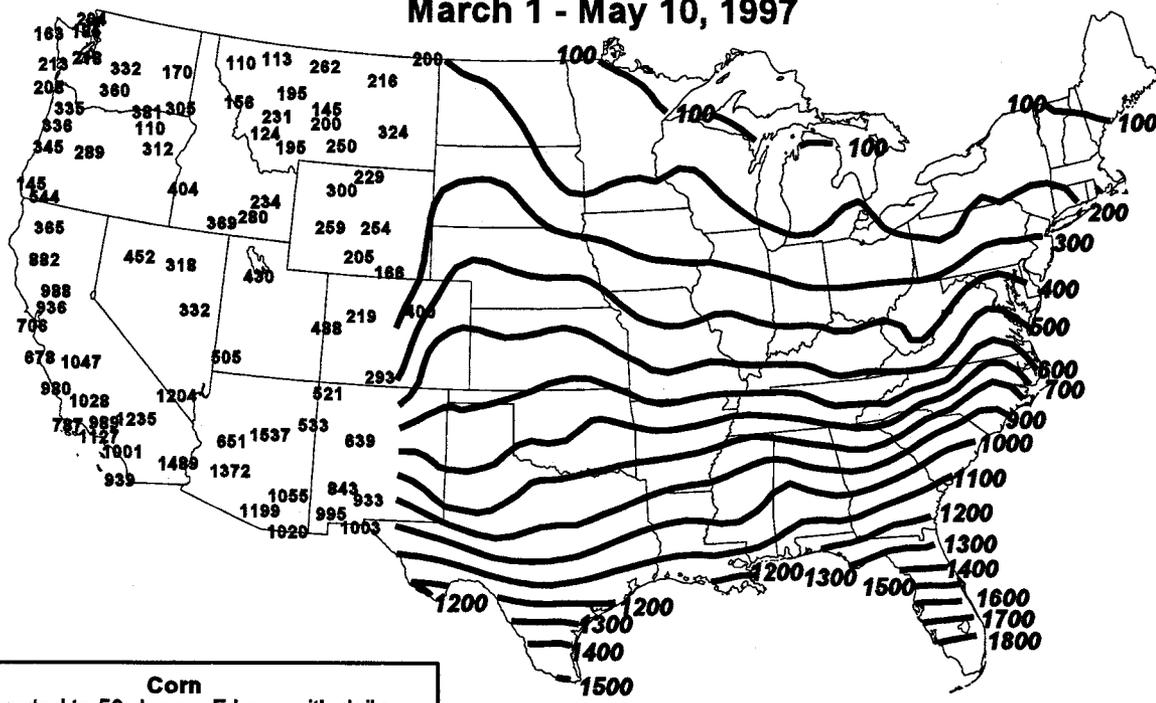
### Average Soil Temperature (°F 4-Inch Bare) May 4 - 10, 1997



### Average Pan Evaporation (Inches/Day) May 4 - 10, 1997



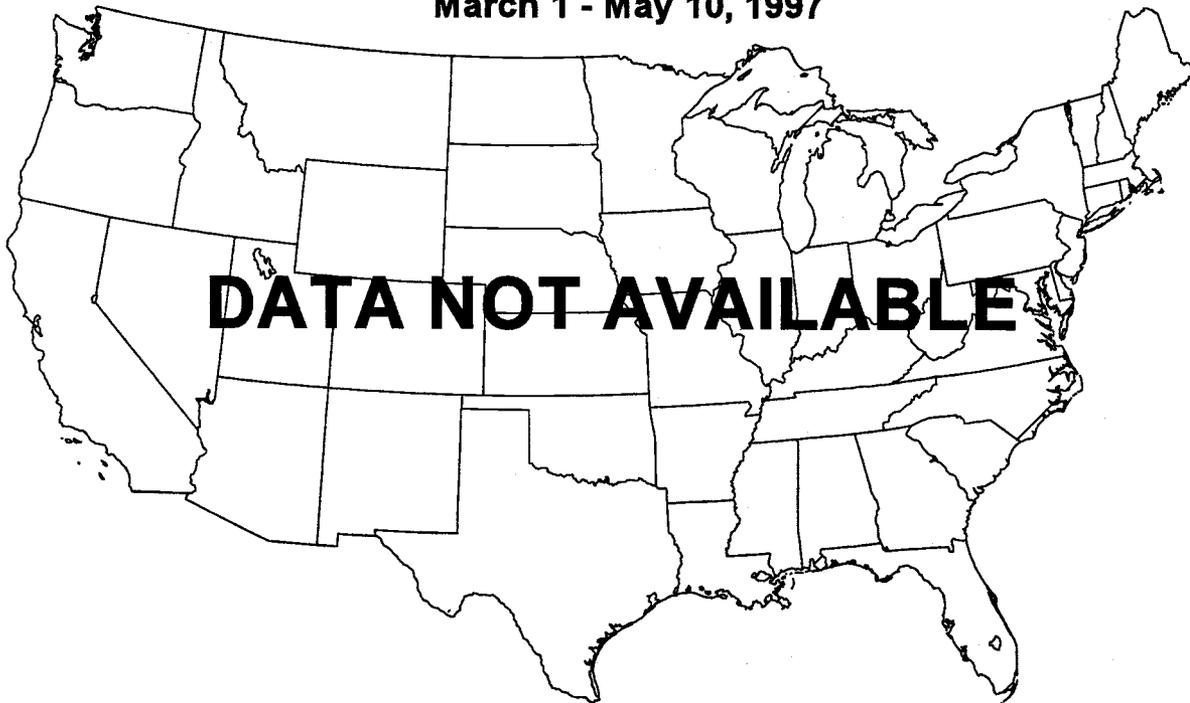
### Total Growing Degree Days March 1 - May 10, 1997



**Corn**  
Computed to 50 degree F base with daily maximum temperature limited to 86 degrees F or less and daily minimum to 50 degrees F or more.

NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY  
Based on preliminary data

### Growing Degree Days Departure from Normal March 1 - May 10, 1997



NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY  
Based on preliminary data

# National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending May 10, 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.	
																90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
AL BIRMINGHAM	77	48	83	41	62	-5	0.33	-0.82	0.33	9.71	76	20.83	92	-	-	0	0	1	0
AL HUNTSVILLE	78	50	83	43	63	-3	0.04	-1.13	0.03	11.78	88	22.52	97	86	32	0	0	2	0
AL MOBILE	80	55	85	47	67	-5	0.01	-1.28	0.01	11.24	89	21.79	95	85	37	0	0	1	0
AL MONTGOMERY	79	52	85	42	66	-3	0.00	-0.88	0.00	7.95	67	20.90	95	89	41	0	0	0	0
AK ANCHORAGE	57	37	63	31	47	3	0.00	-0.14	0.00	0.24	15	0.67	27	94	36	0	1	0	0
AK BARROW	23	5	50	-5	14	0	0.00	-0.03	0.00	0.17	41	0.25	38	90	71	0	7	0	0
AK FAIRBANKS	60	34	63	29	47	3	0.01	-0.09	0.01	0.09	10	0.68	39	95	24	0	3	1	0
AK JUNEAU	54	43	59	37	48	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	-	-
AK KODIAK	51	41	61	37	46	4	0.36	-0.85	0.22	14.52	138	31.43	135	86	64	0	0	3	0
AK NOME	44	30	50	28	37	6	0.00	-0.14	0.00	0.98	69	2.87	101	92	72	0	6	0	0
AZ FLAGSTAFF	72	36	74	32	54	6	0.00	-0.21	0.00	1.88	43	6.11	72	-	-	0	2	0	0
AZ PHOENIX	100	74	101	71	87	11	0.00	-0.03	0.00	0.24	21	1.70	67	37	15	7	0	0	0
AZ PRESCOTT	83	49	86	46	66	11	0.00	-0.15	0.00	1.08	37	4.12	70	-	-	0	0	0	0
AZ TUCSON	96	65	99	63	81	9	0.16	0.10	0.16	0.63	58	2.25	86	39	11	7	0	1	0
AZ YUMA	101	72	103	70	86	10	0.00	-0.02	0.00	0.08	20	0.55	57	42	16	7	0	0	0
AR FORT SMITH	79	51	84	40	65	-2	0.66	-0.55	0.61	8.52	88	15.56	110	93	41	0	0	2	1
AR LITTLE ROCK	78	53	85	46	66	-2	0.61	-0.64	-	16.29	137	23.56	127	-	-	0	0	2	1
CA BAKERSFIELD	88	57	93	54	73	4	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.21	12	2.99	83	55	14	2	0	0	0
CA EUREKA	61	48	63	43	54	2	0.00	-0.41	0.00	6.25	71	17.63	90	91	66	0	0	0	0
CA FRESNO	89	58	94	58	74	7	0.00	-0.09	0.00	0.12	4	3.50	52	62	15	3	0	0	0
CA LOS ANGELES	74	60	78	58	67	5	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.00	0	4.21	55	89	39	0	0	0	0
CA REDDING	86	54	93	45	70	6	0.00	-0.33	0.00	4.79	69	14.50	83	-	-	3	0	0	0
CA SACRAM/MCCLELL	88	55	91	62	72	-	0.00	-	0.00	0.89	-	8.27	-	-	4	0	0	0	0
CA SAN DIEGO	75	63	80	59	69	5	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.28	11	3.54	59	92	46	0	0	0	0
CA SAN FRANCISCO	67	52	74	51	60	3	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.55	12	8.35	69	84	41	0	0	0	0
CO ALAMOSA	67	32	74	25	49	2	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.53	46	1.90	113	81	30	0	3	1	0
CO COLORADO	67	42	75	37	54	2	0.02	-0.43	0.02	3.65	132	4.07	118	-	-	0	0	1	0
CO DENVER	74	42	80	31	58	4	0.00	-0.54	0.00	1.48	40	2.15	45	-	-	0	1	0	0
CO GRAND JUNCTION	80	48	85	42	64	5	0.00	-0.19	0.00	2.87	149	3.57	120	53	17	0	0	0	0
CO PUEBLO	75	40	84	35	58	-1	0.00	-0.28	0.00	2.55	124	3.14	118	74	24	0	0	0	0
CT BRIDGEPORT	80	44	84	41	52	-4	0.73	-0.18	0.34	10.01	113	15.11	100	-	-	0	0	4	0
CT HARTFORD	59	42	65	37	51	-6	0.56	-0.38	0.40	8.13	92	12.69	82	78	38	0	0	3	0
DC WASHINGTON	68	47	74	42	58	-6	0.22	-0.58	0.14	7.19	103	12.19	98	71	40	0	0	4	0
DE WILMINGTON	63	44	68	35	54	-6	0.13	-0.73	0.07	5.28	66	8.93	64	-	-	0	0	3	0
FL DAYTONA BEACH	80	58	89	52	69	-4	0.02	-0.61	0.02	5.61	94	8.10	68	-	-	0	0	1	0
FL JACKSONVILLE	81	54	89	47	67	-6	0.00	-0.67	0.00	6.48	92	10.65	78	96	39	0	0	0	0
FL KEY WEST	85	75	86	73	80	0	0.00	-0.84	0.00	4.53	105	8.86	108	79	62	0	0	0	0
FL MIAMI	85	72	92	70	78	1	0.65	-0.48	0.65	7.89	116	11.12	102	77	47	2	0	1	1
FL ORLANDO	85	60	89	55	73	-3	0.03	-0.55	0.03	7.51	129	11.02	99	89	42	0	0	1	0
FL TAMPA	83	65	86	60	74	-1	0.00	-0.52	0.00	11.97	248	13.58	137	83	53	0	0	0	0
FL VALPARAISO/EGLIN	80	55	88	46	67	-3	0.00	-0.92	0.00	8.91	73	21.03	102	-	-	0	0	0	0
FL WEST PALM BEACH	84	69	88	64	76	0	0.00	-1.30	0.00	8.28	108	16.98	130	78	49	0	0	0	0
GA ATHENS	75	48	81	41	62	-5	0.00	-0.99	0.00	6.93	64	17.79	89	81	36	0	0	0	0
GA ATLANTA	73	50	81	45	62	-5	0.05	-0.94	0.05	7.45	65	20.09	96	78	38	0	0	1	0
GA AUGUSTA	78	48	85	39	63	-6	0.08	-0.73	0.08	6.74	74	15.24	87	85	36	0	0	1	0
GA COLUMBUS	78	53	84	44	66	-4	0.76	-0.18	0.76	9.88	86	19.98	96	-	-	0	0	1	1
GA MACON	78	49	85	40	64	-6	0.14	-0.86	0.14	5.16	55	15.63	84	90	37	0	0	1	0
GA SAVANNAH	78	51	86	44	65	-7	0.00	-0.82	0.00	5.44	68	10.83	73	88	36	0	0	0	0
HI HILO	83	66	86	65	75	1	0.96	-1.66	0.43	26.94	82	37.09	70	90	66	0	0	6	0
HI HONOLULU	84	66	85	63	76	-1	0.16	-0.13	0.08	6.06	146	13.93	141	86	59	0	0	3	0
HI KAHULUI	82	67	84	64	75	-1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	85	58	0	0	-	-
HI LIHUE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ID BOISE	75	47	86	39	61	6	0.00	-0.25	0.00	2.40	82	5.28	98	61	22	0	0	0	0
ID LEWISTON	71	47	78	40	59	3	0.24	-0.04	0.14	4.48	172	8.11	169	-	-	0	0	2	0
ID POCATELLO	71	35	78	26	53	2	0.02	-0.28	0.02	1.92	66	3.89	80	75	21	0	3	1	0
IL CHICAGO/O'HARE	66	44	75	39	55	-1	0.70	-0.04	0.68	4.57	62	10.35	101	78	32	0	0	3	1
IL MOLINE	68	45	75	35	56	-2	1.28	0.32	1.09	5.17	63	10.66	97	-	-	0	0	3	1
IL PEORIA	69	46	75	38	57	-2	0.39	-0.44	0.38	4.66	59	10.92	101	80	35	0	0	2	0
IL ROCKFORD	66	41	73	32	53	-2	1.13	0.33	1.09	4.98	69	8.94	92	-	-	0	1	3	1
IL SPRINGFIELD	71	46	78	37	59	-2	0.11	-0.72	0.11	4.15	51	8.24	72	-	-	0	0	1	0
IN EVANSVILLE	69	44	74	39	57	-6	0.51	-0.58	0.51	12.83	125	19.80	123	83	29	0	0	1	1
IN FORT WAYNE	61	42	65	37	51	-6	0.46	-0.31	0.33	5.91	80	11.66	104	86	47	0	0	4	0
IN INDIANAPOLIS	65	43	71	37	54	-6	0.24	-0.67	0.16	7.88	90	15.28	113	83	39	0	0	2	0
IN SOUTH BEND	61	41	69	36	51	-5	0.47	-0.25	0.30	4.44	56	9.24	76	-	-	0	0	4	0
IA BURLINGTON	69	47	75	39	58	-2	0.75	-0.09	0.73	5.15	68	11.20	113	-	-	0	0	2	1
IA CEDAR RAPIDS	66	46	71	36	56	-1	1.12	0.33	1.12	5.33	81	9.02	104	-	-	0	0	1	1
IA DES MOINES	69	44	74	38	57	-2	1.82	0.92	1.74	7.63	108	8.53	95	83	27	0	0	5	1
IA DUBUQUE	64	42	72	36	53	-3	1.33	0.38	1.31	6.39	80	10.17	97	88	32	0	0	2	1
IA SIOUX CITY	72	41	86	31	56	-2	0.17	-0.60	0.10	3.76	70	4.70	71	82	26	0	1	3	0
IA WATERLOO	68	42	75	35	55	-2	1.08	0.18	1.08	6.88	100	8.62	99	-	-	0	0	1	1
KS CONCORDIA	76	47	83	38	61	2	0.03	-0.84	0.03	3.27	67	4.81	68	75	30	0	0	1	0
KS DODGE CITY	76	44	84	34	60	-1	0.00	-0.65	0.00	2.02	45	3.24	57	82	32	0	0	0	0
KS GOODLAND	76	42	85	29	59	3	0.20	-0.51	0.19	1.03	30	2.08	49	74	25	0	1	2	0
KS TOPEKA	75	46	78	38	60	-1	0.26	-0.64	0.26	5.90	87	8.77	100	81	30	0	0	1	0

Based on 1961-90 normals

Weather Data for the Week Ending May 10, 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.		
																90 AND ABOVE	82 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE	
KY	WICHITA	74	48	79	40	61	-3	0.96	0.09	0.83	5.72	86	8.24	96	84	36	0	0	5	1
	JACKSON	86	46	72	42	56	-6	0.15	-0.89	0.11	12.13	119	18.09	102	-	-	0	0	3	0
	LEXINGTON	86	45	70	41	55	-7	0.48	-0.54	0.44	17.43	178	25.42	161	86	38	0	0	2	0
	LOUISVILLE	88	47	74	41	58	-5	0.96	-0.11	0.91	21.58	207	30.24	182	87	37	0	0	2	1
	PADUCAH	72	46	76	42	60	-4	0.67	-0.49	0.67	16.42	142	24.36	130	-	-	0	0	1	1
LA	BATON ROUGE	80	56	84	49	68	-6	0.00	-1.16	0.00	14.70	124	28.33	127	-	-	0	0	0	0
	LAKE CHARLES	79	59	86	54	69	-4	0.04	-1.18	0.04	11.54	139	24.80	151	90	50	0	0	1	0
	NEW ORLEANS	78	62	84	57	70	-3	0.00	-0.98	0.00	6.97	65	19.53	89	79	41	0	0	0	0
	SHREVEPORT	78	57	83	51	68	-2	0.02	-1.25	0.02	22.34	228	34.90	192	87	49	0	0	1	0
ME	CARIBOU	51	33	58	30	42	-5	0.69	0.01	0.59	4.53	77	10.35	102	87	56	0	3	3	1
	PORTLAND	51	36	58	29	44	-7	0.51	-0.33	0.22	10.01	112	15.05	95	86	49	0	2	6	0
MD	BALTIMORE	66	41	71	33	54	-7	0.24	-0.59	0.15	8.90	117	13.97	101	-	-	0	0	3	0
MA	BOSTON	56	44	63	43	50	-5	0.20	-0.55	0.09	8.21	99	11.71	75	87	52	0	0	3	0
	WORCESTER	53	38	59	33	45	-7	0.50	-0.48	0.22	10.57	114	15.63	95	-	-	0	0	4	0
MI	ALPENA	55	36	62	27	46	-3	0.50	-0.09	0.34	5.13	99	11.27	139	81	38	0	1	2	0
	GRAND RAPIDS	59	38	63	32	48	-6	0.86	0.17	0.40	4.30	61	11.03	108	89	40	0	1	3	0
	HOUGHTON LAKE	56	35	62	27	45	-6	0.74	0.19	0.44	4.10	82	8.37	109	85	36	0	2	5	0
	LANSING	59	36	61	29	48	-8	1.00	0.37	0.50	5.07	84	10.14	117	-	-	0	2	5	1
	MARQUETTE	58	33	67	25	45	-1	2.28	1.83	2.01	6.96	110	14.56	142	86	35	0	5	4	1
	MUSKEGON	57	39	63	28	48	-5	1.03	0.42	0.51	4.29	68	9.56	94	85	44	0	2	4	1
MN	DULUTH	60	36	68	28	47	0	0.42	-0.20	0.33	2.35	47	3.85	55	82	30	0	1	3	0
	INTL FALLS	60	32	69	27	46	-3	0.87	0.40	0.34	3.36	102	4.27	89	86	32	0	4	5	0
	MINNEAPOLIS	65	39	75	30	52	-3	0.54	-0.16	0.33	2.97	56	4.78	67	79	30	0	2	3	0
	ROCHESTER	64	39	73	34	52	-2	0.81	0.07	0.79	5.26	95	7.70	109	82	33	0	0	2	1
	ST. CLOUD	65	38	76	27	51	-2	0.40	-0.22	0.38	2.34	50	4.31	72	82	29	0	3	2	0
MS	JACKSON	78	54	83	45	66	-3	0.00	-1.32	0.00	10.82	81	22.00	93	90	42	0	0	0	0
	MERIDIAN	79	52	84	42	66	-3	0.00	-1.07	0.00	12.12	88	22.70	93	94	41	0	0	0	0
	TUPELO	75	49	81	43	62	-6	0.15	-1.20	0.15	14.24	107	24.94	109	-	-	0	0	1	0
MO	COLUMBIA	72	47	79	40	60	0	0.50	-0.57	0.27	5.45	66	12.57	109	75	35	0	0	3	0
	KANSAS CITY	73	50	78	42	61	0	1.02	-0.06	1.02	7.04	99	10.34	111	73	32	0	0	1	1
	SAINT LOUIS	73	50	77	42	61	-2	0.31	-0.57	0.28	6.33	76	13.10	107	72	31	0	0	2	0
	SPRINGFIELD	71	46	75	36	58	-4	0.86	-0.17	0.55	8.75	95	13.87	107	86	37	0	0	2	1
MT	BILLINGS	69	43	77	35	56	3	0.09	-0.48	0.09	2.04	55	3.01	57	61	26	0	0	1	0
	BUTTE	63	30	75	22	46	2	0.08	-0.29	0.03	3.19	145	5.33	170	-	-	0	5	3	0
	GLASGOW	68	41	77	34	55	2	0.00	-0.34	0.00	2.28	148	2.63	120	70	23	0	0	0	0
	GREAT FALLS	64	37	77	30	50	0	0.20	-0.32	0.18	2.63	81	3.07	65	-	-	0	1	2	0
	KALISPELL	62	34	76	29	48	-1	0.32	-0.05	0.25	3.58	138	6.62	127	93	34	0	3	2	0
	MILES CITY	73	43	80	36	58	4	0.02	-0.43	0.02	1.99	76	2.28	83	-	-	0	0	1	0
	MISSOULA	65	36	78	28	51	1	0.17	-0.20	0.10	3.44	141	5.88	131	87	29	0	1	3	0
NE	GRAND ISLAND	76	43	82	34	59	1	0.03	-0.77	0.03	3.07	56	4.14	62	78	25	0	0	1	0
	LINCOLN	77	43	85	31	60	1	0.77	-0.06	0.77	5.53	92	6.46	89	-	-	0	1	1	1
	NORFOLK	73	43	84	34	58	0	0.12	-0.62	0.08	3.58	69	4.56	70	79	27	0	0	2	0
	NORTH PLATTE	75	38	81	25	57	2	0.00	-0.72	0.00	0.24	6	0.91	18	78	24	0	2	0	0
	OMAHA	73	46	81	37	59	0	0.10	-0.87	-	4.48	74	5.64	75	80	31	0	0	-	-
	SCOTTSBLUFF	75	39	84	28	57	4	0.00	-0.58	0.00	4.11	118	4.72	107	-	-	0	1	0	0
	VALENTINE	74	39	85	25	57	2	0.00	-0.87	0.00	3.82	105	4.33	100	73	20	0	2	0	0
NV	ELY	72	33	76	30	52	5	0.00	-0.27	0.00	1.09	47	2.98	81	62	13	0	5	0	0
	LAS VEGAS	94	68	95	67	81	10	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.04	5	0.24	14	26	11	7	0	0	0
	RENO	78	43	84	39	60	6	0.00	-0.15	0.00	0.24	19	4.26	126	59	17	0	0	0	0
	WINNEMUCCA	78	39	85	33	59	6	0.00	-0.19	0.00	1.32	70	2.98	91	59	15	0	0	0	0
NH	CONCORD	55	34	62	29	45	-8	0.55	-0.15	0.34	7.45	112	12.89	110	-	-	0	4	3	0
NJ	NEWARK	63	46	68	42	55	-5	0.75	-0.21	0.37	9.92	109	15.57	100	-	-	0	0	3	0
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	79	53	84	50	66	5	0.00	-0.11	0.00	1.78	140	2.43	113	52	16	0	0	0	0
NY	ALBANY	58	39	64	31	49	-6	0.62	-0.12	0.38	7.27	104	9.63	83	84	37	0	1	2	0
	BINGHAMTON	54	36	63	31	45	-8	0.54	-0.20	0.23	6.52	93	9.39	80	84	56	0	2	5	0
	BUFFALO	55	38	64	34	47	-7	0.72	0.03	0.24	7.27	111	14.48	125	83	40	0	0	5	0
	ROCHESTER	58	36	67	30	47	-7	0.34	-0.27	0.17	5.86	102	10.39	105	-	-	0	2	6	0
	SYRACUSE	58	40	64	34	49	-6	0.23	-0.49	0.14	5.78	81	9.19	79	82	40	0	0	4	0
NC	ASHEVILLE	68	41	74	32	55	-7	0.04	-1.03	0.04	11.36	103	21.01	108	-	-	0	1	1	0
	CHARLOTTE	75	51	80	43	63	-2	0.28	-0.55	0.24	8.76	108	16.12	102	66	29	0	0	2	0
	GREENSBORO	71	46	77	40	59	-5	0.26	-0.81	0.24	12.53	162	18.32	129	74	34	0	0	2	0
	HATTERAS	68	59	73	55	64	-1	0.55	-0.33	0.55	10.03	110	17.52	95	79	47	0	0	1	1
	RALEIGH	74	45	80	39	60	-5	0.09	-0.74	0.05	9.61	127	15.56	106	78	34	0	0	3	0
	WILMINGTON	74	52	81	44	63	-3	0.30	-0.53	0.30	6.16	71	13.01	73	-	-	0	0	1	0
ND	BISMARCK	71	38	81	29	55	3	0.23	-0.22	0.17	4.52	147	5.94	149	82	27	0	1	2	0
	DICKINSON	70	39	77	32	55	4	0.08	-0.45	0.06	4.30	129	5.28	131	-	-	0	1	2	0
	FARGO	67	39	81	28	53	0	0.49	-0.03	0.36	5.49	152	6.12	129	78	32	0	1	3	0
	GRAND FORKS	67	40	80	29	53	1	0.71	0.30	0.58	3.07	107	3.95	98	-	-	0	1	4	1
	JAMESTOWN	70	41	82	31	55	3	0.15	-0.22	0.08	3.21	110	4.27	106	-	-	0	1	2	0
	WILLISTON	70	34	77	27	52	0	0.09	-0.32	0.06	1.31	52	1.74	49	84	26	0	2	2	0
OH	AKRON-CANTON	57	38	66	34	48	-8	0.85	0.00	0.34	6.06	79	9.05	75	94	41	0	0	5	0
	CINCINNATI	65	44	70	38	54	-6	0.95	-0.01	0.84	10.61	114	15.14	104	84	36	0	0	2	1
	CLEVELAND	57	40	67	35	49	-6	0.71	-0.08	0.28	6.67	94	11.37	100	93	45	0	0	5	0
	COLUMBUS	63	43	69	38	53	-6	0.56	-0.29	0.50	7.38	96	11.00	91	81	37	0	0	2	1
	DAYTON	63	41	68	33	52	-7	0.52	-0.34	0.41	8.06	99	12.16	98	86	41	0	0	3	0
	MANSFIELD	58	38	65	36	49	-7	1.09												

Weather Data for the Week Ending May 10, 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	82 AND BELOW	0.1 INCH OR MORE	5.0 INCH OR MORE
OK TOLEDO	61	39	67	33	50	-5	0.78	0.13	0.66	5.47	84	12.08	121	94	39	0	0	5	1
OK YOUNGSTOWN	55	36	66	31	46	-9	0.28	-0.48	0.20	5.99	82	7.37	84	90	44	0	1	3	0
OK OKLAHOMA CITY	77	53	83	44	65	-1	0.40	-0.71	0.19	6.52	83	9.13	94	87	43	0	0	3	0
OR TULSA	77	53	85	43	65	-2	0.69	-0.84	0.49	6.77	78	10.43	84	84	37	0	0	2	0
OR ASTORIA	63	46	69	40	54	3	0.41	-0.33	0.24	22.96	180	39.11	129	94	49	0	0	3	0
OR BURNS	71	34	81	28	53	4	0.02	-0.19	0.02	1.28	68	4.10	111	78	21	0	2	1	0
OR EUGENE	71	45	78	39	58	4	0.06	-0.49	0.04	10.53	112	18.53	81	93	28	0	0	2	0
OR MEDFORD	79	43	86	37	61	6	0.00	-0.25	0.00	2.95	88	7.48	94	87	24	0	0	2	0
OR PENDLETON	70	44	78	36	57	1	0.00	-0.24	0.00	2.36	91	3.78	72	90	29	0	0	0	0
OR PORTLAND	73	50	81	44	62	6	0.14	-0.36	0.13	11.18	168	19.96	128	81	28	0	0	2	0
PA SALEM	73	46	83	40	59	7	0.07	-0.38	0.06	10.98	161	22.11	125	-	-	0	0	2	0
PA ALLENTOWN	60	40	66	30	50	-7	0.67	-0.27	0.32	6.78	83	10.78	78	79	42	0	1	4	0
PA ERIE	54	38	67	31	46	-8	0.98	0.24	0.31	9.82	135	15.12	128	91	51	0	1	6	0
PA MIDDLETOWN	63	43	69	34	54	-5	0.42	-0.51	-	4.93	63	8.40	62	-	-	0	0	-	-
PA PHILADELPHIA	63	45	70	36	54	-6	0.67	-0.18	0.32	8.74	105	14.21	99	74	44	0	0	4	0
PA PITTSBURGH	58	38	66	33	48	-9	0.97	0.18	0.54	6.28	82	9.33	74	89	40	0	0	6	1
PA SCRANTON	58	40	65	34	49	-7	0.43	-0.36	0.19	5.30	80	7.89	72	80	41	0	0	4	0
PA WILLIAMSPORT	60	38	68	29	49	-9	0.22	-0.61	0.10	5.19	68	7.80	60	84	41	0	2	3	0
RI PROVIDENCE	58	43	64	39	51	-4	0.39	-0.49	0.15	8.80	93	14.90	88	77	42	0	0	3	0
SC BEAUFORT	77	55	86	48	68	-5	0.09	-0.87	0.09	9.50	118	13.90	92	-	-	0	0	1	0
SC CHARLESTON	77	53	86	45	65	-6	0.20	-0.55	0.20	9.74	121	14.82	98	89	34	0	0	1	0
SC COLUMBIA	78	50	85	40	64	-5	0.00	-0.76	0.00	6.46	70	15.59	88	72	32	0	0	0	0
SC GREENVILLE	74	48	80	41	61	-4	0.01	-0.94	0.01	8.19	77	19.06	100	73	32	0	0	1	0
SD ABERDEEN	68	39	81	32	54	0	0.36	-0.23	0.33	2.73	72	4.95	99	86	28	0	1	2	0
SD HURON	70	43	83	32	56	2	0.08	-0.51	0.08	3.80	83	5.14	91	76	37	0	1	1	0
SD RAPID CITY	71	39	81	31	55	3	0.00	-0.56	0.00	6.58	177	7.42	161	69	25	0	1	0	0
SD SIOUX FALLS	68	36	80	30	52	-3	1.85	1.20	1.83	5.28	104	7.05	113	88	35	0	1	2	1
TN BRISTOL	68	42	73	34	55	-6	0.15	-0.71	0.09	10.42	127	18.48	124	-	-	0	0	4	0
TN CHATTANOOGA	74	47	82	41	61	-4	0.09	-0.93	0.07	11.87	99	23.04	107	89	33	0	0	2	0
TN KNOXVILLE	71	46	78	41	58	-5	0.31	-0.61	0.21	12.09	119	22.17	121	85	35	0	0	4	0
TN MEMPHIS	77	55	82	47	68	-3	0.26	-0.94	0.28	20.65	164	32.65	158	-	-	0	0	1	0
TX NASHVILLE	72	49	78	40	61	-5	0.21	-0.92	0.21	12.39	114	19.47	107	87	34	0	0	1	0
TX ABILENE	79	57	88	44	68	-3	0.96	0.33	0.75	4.90	119	8.48	134	84	43	0	0	3	1
TX AMARILLO	75	49	84	43	62	-1	0.01	-0.44	0.01	6.47	253	7.57	206	82	41	0	0	1	0
TX AUSTIN	77	61	83	56	69	-5	1.84	0.81	1.83	9.01	153	13.97	143	88	58	0	0	2	1
TX BEAUMONT	79	61	86	58	70	-3	0.38	-0.82	0.35	9.74	115	20.38	123	-	-	0	0	2	0
TX BROWNSVILLE	80	66	85	56	73	-8	1.63	1.02	0.88	12.38	419	13.39	240	94	51	0	0	2	2
TX CORPUS CHRISTI	82	64	86	57	73	-3	1.56	0.87	1.48	12.27	340	13.65	187	94	50	0	0	2	1
TX DEL RIO	83	65	89	59	74	-2	1.42	0.95	1.42	6.78	203	9.00	186	82	44	0	0	1	1
TX EL PASO	89	59	98	55	74	5	0.08	0.03	0.08	1.14	193	1.85	131	51	22	4	0	1	0
TX FORT WORTH	77	59	81	48	68	-1	1.21	0.01	1.04	10.15	121	17.83	141	88	56	0	0	2	1
TX GALVESTON	77	67	81	62	72	-2	0.50	-0.23	0.33	17.74	313	24.71	221	-	-	0	0	2	0
TX HOUSTON	82	59	85	51	70	-2	0.35	-0.76	0.35	15.59	203	24.25	174	96	48	0	0	1	0
TX LUBBOCK	79	52	89	46	65	-2	1.36	0.90	1.13	7.15	292	8.72	248	81	38	0	0	3	1
TX MIDLAND	82	56	92	44	69	-2	0.20	-0.28	0.08	2.48	132	4.37	160	85	38	1	0	3	0
TX SAN ANGELO	79	56	86	41	67	-5	0.71	0.06	0.71	5.87	189	10.76	201	87	47	0	0	1	1
TX SAN ANTONIO	80	61	86	51	71	-3	0.53	-0.37	0.53	7.70	146	10.41	118	88	52	0	0	1	1
TX VICTORIA	80	61	86	52	70	-5	3.85	2.94	3.73	27.17	520	32.60	346	95	54	0	0	2	1
TX WACO	78	58	83	46	68	-4	2.05	1.02	2.05	11.26	182	21.58	202	93	56	0	0	1	1
TX WICHITA FALLS	79	55	84	45	67	-2	1.19	0.30	0.87	5.62	86	8.83	97	85	42	0	0	2	1
UT SALT LAKE CITY	76	46	82	41	61	5	0.00	-0.45	0.00	3.29	70	7.19	102	61	21	0	0	0	0
VT BURLINGTON	54	38	65	27	45	-8	1.10	0.41	0.78	5.78	97	8.66	92	82	38	0	2	3	1
VA LYNCHBURG	68	39	73	32	56	-8	0.22	-0.65	0.18	8.44	108	15.11	110	82	35	0	1	3	0
VA NORFOLK	69	53	78	48	61	-2	0.10	-0.73	0.06	6.31	80	11.19	74	78	38	0	0	3	0
VA RICHMOND	71	47	78	41	59	-5	0.14	-0.70	0.14	7.64	99	13.28	94	69	29	0	0	1	0
VA ROANOKE	67	45	73	38	56	-6	0.10	-0.80	0.06	5.91	74	11.46	84	73	34	0	0	3	0
VA WASH/DULLES	66	40	71	31	53	-7	0.41	-0.46	0.31	7.48	100	11.15	86	70	32	0	1	3	0
WA HANFORD	76	47	86	42	62	-	0.00	-0.11	0.00	1.03	100	2.79	114	58	22	0	0	0	0
WA OLYMPIA	64	48	72	36	53	2	0.50	-0.02	0.24	17.38	193	31.34	138	-	-	0	0	3	0
WA QUILLAYUTE	61	42	75	33	52	2	2.01	0.65	1.04	34.12	163	60.85	127	95	51	0	0	4	2
WA SEATTLE-TACOMA	65	46	74	42	55	2	0.45	0.04	0.28	13.28	208	22.28	141	86	33	0	0	3	0
WA SPOKANE	66	41	74	33	53	2	0.05	-0.25	0.03	5.22	168	8.29	128	83	26	0	0	2	0
WA YAKIMA	73	41	82	33	57	2	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.89	70	2.23	69	78	25	0	0	0	0
WV BECKLEY	60	40	69	35	50	-7	1.03	0.14	0.42	9.93	123	14.46	104	80	40	0	0	5	0
WV CHARLESTON	66	43	72	37	55	-7	1.00	0.12	0.84	12.84	157	16.11	114	89	36	0	0	4	1
WV ELKINS	60	35	71	30	47	-7	1.57	0.66	0.67	11.31	127	15.44	103	-	-	0	3	6	1
WV HUNTINGTON	66	44	72	38	55	-4	0.59	-0.37	0.47	11.04	130	14.82	100	89	38	0	0	4	0
WI EAU CLAIRE	66	39	73	31	52	-2	0.57	-0.24	0.45	3.19	58	4.99	68	-	-	0	1	3	0
WI GREEN BAY	63	37	71	32	50	-2	0.71	0.11	0.38	4.74	90	7.34	98	91	41	0	2	3	0
WI MADISON	65	39	72	31	52	-3	0.44	-0.28	0.37	4.96	78	8.38	98	80	32	0	2	3	0
WI MILWAUKEE	62	41	72	36	52	0	0.39	-0.27	0.22	3.59	50	7.57	74	-	-	0	0	3	0
WY CASPER	69	33	75	25	51	1	0.00	-0.49	0.00	2.24	70	3.35	77	81	24	0	3	0	0
WY CHEYENNE	67	35	73	27	51	2	0.01	-0.50	0.01	2.20	71	2.91	75	63	19	0	1	1	0
WY LANDER	60	38	74	32	53	3	0.00	-0.55	0.00	2.72	68	3.31	65	61	16	0	1	0	0
WY SHERIDAN	67	38	74	28	52	2	0.04	-0.48	0.03	2.45	72	3.38	70	75	27	0	1	2	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.

## National Agricultural Summary

May 5 - 11, 1997

### HIGHLIGHTS

**Despite cooler-than-normal temperatures for the fifth straight week in the Eastern United States, farmers made substantial progress planting spring crops. A mid-week storm brought showers to the Midwest, temporarily halting fieldwork. The same storm brought locally heavy, unwelcomed rain to Texas and the northern Red River Valley, keeping farmers out of**

**already saturated fields. Warmer, drier weather aided planting progress and crop development in the Northwest. Farmers in the Southeast took advantage of drying soils and made rapid progress planting cotton and peanuts. An area extending from southeastern Wyoming to western Kansas remained dry, as it has for several weeks.**

**Winter wheat:** The winter wheat crop progressed to 34 percent (%) headed, just behind 37% last year on this date and the 5-year average of 38%. Winter wheat condition rated slightly better than last week as a result of moisture and enhanced grain filling in eastern Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas. However, rain was needed in western Kansas for crop progress to continue. Wet weather increased the risk of foliar disease in Oklahoma. Lack of precipitation in western Nebraska, eastern Colorado, and southeast Wyoming continued to cause concern. On the other hand, wheat grew vigorously in eastern Washington as seasonable temperatures and abundant sunshine helped the crop to improve rapidly.

**Corn:** Corn growers in the western Corn Belt and central Plains made rapid planting progress. For the second week in a row, planting was well ahead of the average and advanced to 71% complete for the Nation. Planting in Nebraska, advancing 40 percentage points, was in full swing except where slowed by rainfall in the east and very dry soils in the west. Iowa growers planted 25% of the State's crop despite scattered showers and unseasonably low temperatures. The last time corn planting conditions in Wisconsin were as good as this year was in 1994, when 52% of the crop was planted at this time. Farmers in the other major corn-producing States made good progress. A later-than-normal freeze kept planting behind the average in South Dakota. Several States reported slow emergence because of continued below-normal temperatures.

**Soybeans:** Soybean planting progressed to 20% complete as the weather allowed producers to turn from planting corn immediately to planting soybeans. This compared with 8% planted at this time in 1996 and the average of 12%. In Illinois, growers in the northern two-thirds of the State made good progress, while those in the south were continually rained out. Soybean planting progress in Indiana and Ohio remained well ahead of the average. Producers in Minnesota, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Iowa also made good progress, advancing 12 to 15 points.

**Cotton:** Nationwide, 44% of the cotton crop was in the ground at week's end, compared with 51% for both last year and the average. Texas growers made limited progress despite open, mild conditions. The planting pace was brisk in Alabama as clear

weather provided excellent conditions for fieldwork. Planting was active throughout Georgia. Louisiana cotton growers took advantage of excellent conditions and planted 57% of their crop during the week. Dry weather was favorable for planting cotton in Mississippi. Cotton planting was the main activity for farmers in middle and western Tennessee, where nearly half of the acreage was planted. Precipitation slowed planting in New Mexico. Planting was virtually complete in California.

**Rice:** Seventy-four percent of the rice crop was planted, ahead of the 72% in 1996 and the average of 68%. Although planting is ahead of normal at the national level, planting continued to lag in Texas, where only 69% of the crop was planted. Forty-one percent of the crop was emerged, compared with 52% last year and the average of 49%. California was the only State where emergence was well ahead of normal. Emergence was well behind normal in Arkansas as well as in Texas, where farmers were flushing fields. Nationwide, condition of the rice crops rated mostly good to fair.

**Other Small Grains:** Excellent drying weather outside of the Red River Valley of Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota accelerated small grain planting progress. All major spring wheat-producing States made good planting progress, especially Montana and South Dakota. Nationwide, one-third of the spring wheat crop was in the ground, slightly ahead of 1996 but well behind the average of 56%. Likewise, planting in the major barley-producing States advanced to 37% complete, just ahead of 34% last year, but well behind the average. Emergence of both spring wheat and barley lagged well behind normal. By week's end, 65% of the oat crop was seeded. Oat planting and emergence in North Dakota and South Dakota remained well behind normal.

**Other Crops:** Sorghum planting advanced to 28% complete, just behind 29% for 1996 and the average of 30%. Growers in the Southeast made good progress, while all other major sorghum-producing States made limited progress. Farmers in the Southeast also planted a significant amount of peanuts during the week. Although large portions of the acreage in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Virginia were planted, progress remained behind normal.

# Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending May 11, 1997

Winter Wheat Percent Headed				
	May 11 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	98	90	87	89
CA	99	99	98	97
CO	4	1	2	3
GA	99	98	97	98
ID	0	0	0	0
IL	9	1	2	17
IN	10	0	11	12
KS	25	5	29	35
MI	0	0	0	0
MO	30	21	20	25
MT	0	0	0	0
NE	0	0	0	1
NC	95	85	88	86
OH	0	0	2	1
OK	78	55	86	84
OR	0	0	0	5
SD	0	0	0	0
TX	66	51	80	73
WA	0	0	0	3
ALL	34	22	37	38

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

Soybeans Percent Planted				
	May 11 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	12	5	20	16
AR	15	14	19	11
GA	10	2	10	10
IL	35	13	4	12
IN	31	22	3	12
IA	12	0	11	15
KS	10	4	9	6
KY	3	2	1	6
LA	26	12	37	19
MI	6	3	1	5
MN	19	4	4	13
MS	36	23	56	29
MO	9	1	6	6
NE	5	0	6	8
NC	13	5	10	12
OH	39	29	0	14
SC	11	5	7	7
SD	1	0	2	4
TN	4	0	4	4
ALL	20	9	8	12

These 19 States produced 94% of the 1996 soybean crop.

Corn Percent Planted				
	May 11 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
CO	84	52	85	58
GA	95	95	97	98
IL	86	77	52	48
IN	71	60	10	36
IA	78	53	79	58
KS	75	50	88	71
KY	56	44	34	55
MI	49	30	12	21
MN	78	59	41	49
MO	71	43	78	52
NE	70	30	74	55
NC	95	91	94	91
OH	82	71	6	40
PA	45	20	16	27
SD	18	5	28	29
TX	81	68	93	92
WI	50	18	21	30
ALL	71	50	52	50

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

Cotton Percent Planted				
	May 11 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	60	35	67	69
AZ	95	90	93	91
AR	40	7	57	48
CA	98	95	94	92
GA	53	21	60	62
LA	70	13	78	78
MS	34	11	78	67
MO	46	12	24	32
NM	70	65	76	74
NC	35	10	56	54
OK	1	1	10	13
SC	63	22	72	64
TN	41	7	47	46
TX	27	19	27	32
ALL	44	25	51	51

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

Sorghum Percent Planted				
	May 11 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	79	57	70	64
CO	1	0	22	11
IL	4	3	0	3
KS	12	6	10	6
LA	66	55	68	59
MS	70	60	72	66
MO	17	4	11	16
NE	5	0	5	5
NM	1	1	1	7
OK	6	6	10	12
SD	0	0	3	2
TX	56	51	63	69
ALL	28	22	29	30

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

Oats Percent Planted				
	May 11 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
IA	98	94	99	85
MI	87	74	34	58
MN	81	60	71	73
NE	98	87	100	96
ND	14	1	7	41
OH	96	93	56	81
PA	90	75	63	74
SD	35	13	62	65
WI	90	70	49	60
ALL	65	49	55	66

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

Oats Percent Emerged				
	May 11 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
IA	76	NA	76	69
MI	44	NA	0	27
MN	32	NA	18	35
NE	73	NA	89	NA
ND	0	NA	0	16
OH	71	NA	40	55
PA	65	NA	44	NA
SD	9	NA	27	45
WI	36	NA	17	NA
ALL	34	NA	29	38

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

# Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending May 11, 1997

## Peanuts Percent Planted

	May 11 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	45	18	45	56
FL	40	19	61	NA
GA	54	24	65	67
NC	20	8	27	34
OK	22	16	13	13
SC	67	33	81	66
TX	11	6	18	10
VA	35	20	42	52
ALL	37	17	45	45

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

## Barley Percent Planted

	May 11 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	64	51	76	79
MN	22	8	10	46
MT	60	28	50	69
ND	13	2	11	44
SD	22	4	52	63
WA	86	72	80	85
ALL	37	20	34	58

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

## Barley Percent Emerged

	May 11 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	42	NA	43	55
MN	4	NA	3	17
MT	8	NA	8	27
ND	0	NA	0	17
SD	2	NA	11	40
WA	60	NA	53	69
ALL	12	NA	12	29

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

## Spring Wheat Percent Planted

	May 11 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	80	71	84	84
MN	24	10	14	51
MT	62	29	56	73
ND	17	3	15	45
SD	48	13	64	70
ALL	33	13	31	56

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

## Spring Wheat Percent Emerged

	May 11 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	58	NA	63	67
MN	4	NA	4	21
MT	12	NA	6	28
ND	1	NA	1	18
SD	6	NA	14	45
ALL	6	NA	6	25

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

## Rice Percent Planted

	May 11 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	77	60	77	72
CA	50	35	27	27
LA	85	79	89	85
MS	90	84	91	80
TX	69	52	87	83
ALL	74	60	72	68

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

## Rice Percent Emerged

	May 11 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	33	21	52	50
CA	20	5	4	4
LA	70	64	74	74
MS	67	39	76	63
TX	34	20	76	64
ALL	41	28	52	49

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

## Winter Wheat Crop Condition by Percent

	VP	P	F	G	EX
AR	2	21	46	27	4
CA	0	0	30	40	30
CO	4	12	29	41	14
GA	2	11	36	46	5
ID	1	1	24	51	23
IL	2	3	21	63	11
IN	1	6	31	51	11
KS	5	8	27	49	11
MI	3	8	32	41	16
MO	1	7	27	55	10
MT	3	9	32	49	7
NE	1	7	38	47	7
NC	1	6	31	51	11
OH	3	12	35	40	10
OK	10	17	39	33	1
OR	0	0	22	66	12
SD	9	18	33	34	6
TX	12	20	37	26	5
WA	0	2	14	58	26
ALL	5	11	31	44	9
Prev Wk	5	12	33	42	8
Prev Yr	22	24	26	23	5

## Rice Crop Condition by Percent

	VP	P	F	G	EX
AR	1	10	53	32	4
CA	0	0	10	80	10
LA	0	16	43	39	2
MS	0	0	49	51	0
TX	0	0	31	56	13
ALL	0	7	40	48	5
Prev Wk	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Prev Yr	0	4	29	59	8

VP - Very Poor

P - Poor

F - Fair

G - Good

EX - Excellent

\* Revised

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

## April Crop Summary

The "April Weather Summary" appeared in last week's issue.

April started with unseasonably cold, wet weather in most of the United States that gradually warmed and dried as the month progressed. Early-month rain and snow compounded flooding problems that already existed in the Red River Valley because of record snowfall in North Dakota, South Dakota, and Minnesota. Saturated soils delayed the start of spring wheat, barley, and oat planting and kept farmers out of fields until the end of the month. Small grain planting in the Northwest also progressed behind the 5-year average as cool, damp weather prevailed. However, conditions were ideal in the eastern Great Lakes and farmers planted oats at a faster-than-normal pace.

Cool soils and wet weather prevented farmers in the Mississippi, Tennessee, and Ohio Valleys from planting spring crops. Even though soils were still cool, planting accelerated later in the month as the soils dried in the Corn Belt. Corn planting was progressing at or near a record pace in Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio by the last week in April. Soils in Tennessee, Kentucky, Virginia, and North Carolina remained cool and wet, slowing planting the entire month. Heavy rains in the Gulf Coast States caused localized

flooding and limited fieldwork. Cotton, peanut, and rice planting lagged further behind the 5-year average as the month continued.

Reminiscent of 1996, below-freezing temperatures during April 11-13 damaged the winter wheat crop in the southern Plains. Farmers and agronomists were in fields evaluating the effects of the freeze, but the full extent of the damage was difficult to determine. The condition of the Kansas wheat crop dropped significantly after the freeze, but improved later as damage was limited to the southern part of the State. Oklahoma and Texas farmers found more damage in their further-advanced crop. The crop condition in both States declined significantly after the freeze.

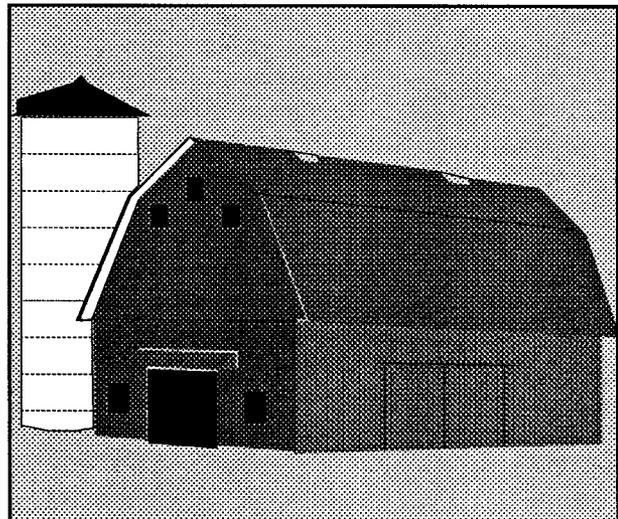
An area extending from Florida northward to North Carolina started dry, then became wet. Winter wheat developed rapidly and planting of spring crops progressed ahead of the normal pace. At mid-month, farmers stopped planting spring crops because soils were too dry. The winter wheat condition in Georgia declined as the crop became stressed. Beneficial moisture finally fell at the end of the month. Cotton planting progressed well in California and Arizona as these were the only States to record above-normal temperatures for April.

## U.S. Crop Production Highlights

The following information was released by USDA's Agricultural Statistics Board on May 12, 1997. Forecasts refer to May 1.

**Winter wheat** production is forecast at 1.56 billion bushels, up 6 percent (%) from 1996 and 1% above 1995. The U.S. yield is forecast at 38.2 bushels per acre. If realized, this would be a bushel better than last year and a half-bushel above 1995. Grain area totals 40.8 million acres, up 3% from last year. Hard Red Winter wheat production is forecast up 17% from last year, while Soft Red and Soft White Winter wheat are down 3 and 12 percent, respectively.

**All oranges** production for the 1996-97 season is forecast at a record-large 12.9 million tons, up 1% from the previous forecast in April. The U.S. forecast is up 10% from a year ago. This year's crop is 9% larger than the previous record of 11.8 million tons set in the 1979-80 season. Florida's production amounts to 224 million boxes (10.10 million tons), up 1% from April's forecast and 10% above last season. Early and midseason varieties remained at 134 million boxes (6.04 million tons), 11% above last year. Florida's Valencia crop forecast, 90 million boxes (4.05 million tons), is up 3% from April's forecast and 10% above last season's crop.



## 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/oce/waob/jawf>.*

**ALABAMA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.1. Topsoil 3% very short, 15% short, 68% adequate, 14% surplus. Spring plowing 88% complete, 89% 1996, 90% avg. Corn planted 96%, 94% 1996, 92% avg. Wheat headed 96%, 83% 1996, 84% avg.; 1% very poor, 6% poor, 20% fair, 70% good, 3% excellent. Livestock 1% poor, 13% fair, 75% good, 11% excellent. Planting pace was brisk as clear weather provided excellent conditions for fieldwork. Rains were needed especially in southern areas.

**ALASKA:** Generally dry conditions prevailed. Topsoil 45% short, 55% adequate. Subsoil 25% short, 50% adequate, 25% surplus. Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Fieldwork progress on schedule to a few days ahead. Barley seeding 35% complete, equal to last year's progress. Commercial potato planting not yet begun. Commercial vegetable planting continues. Livestock 5% poor, 20% fair, 50% good, 25% excellent.

**ARIZONA:** Temperatures continued well above normal. Cotton condition declined slightly due to wind damage, weed pressure. Small grains 32% mature; 3% harvested, 3% 1996, 2% avg.; 12% fair, 51% good, 37% excellent. Alfalfa declined due to heat, wind, water stress. Harvest activity 1% light, 38% moderate, 47% active, 14% not being harvested; 1% poor, 12% fair, 42% good, 45% excellent. Eastern growers commenced shipping of iceberg lettuce. Cantaloupe harvest underway in the western area. Central area growers continue to harvest cabbage, carrots, iceberg, Romaine lettuce, green, dry onions. A light volume of broccoli, kale, greens also shipped from the central area. Digging of potatoes, both tablestock, chippers, remained active. Valencia orange, grapefruit harvest continued steady. A light volume of peaches available from the western area.

**ARKANSAS:** Below normal temperatures, precipitation. 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. Black Chaff, Bacterial Stripe in wheat are being reported in some counties. Some counties report armyworms reaching treatment thresholds. Spring fruit, vegetable work reported by several counties. Livestock reported in good condition. Cattle are being treated for Brucellosis.

**CALIFORNIA:** Field activities progressed rapidly under clear skies, warm temperatures in most areas. Small grains were drying for harvest in the San Joaquin, Sacramento valleys. Many fields received their final irrigation. Wheat harvest was in full swing in the desert counties. Rice planting was active in all growing areas. Seeded fields were treated for weeds, water weevils. Cotton planting was virtually complete in the San Joaquin, Sacramento valleys. Emerged fields were cultivated, weeded. Corn, safflower, sugar beets, sunflowers were growing well with the warmer weather. Blackeye bean, corn, grain sorghum planting continued. Safflower planting was complete in most areas. Seed alfalfa fields began to bloom. Sugar beet harvest was active in the San Joaquin Valley, was just getting underway in the Imperial Valley. Garbanzo beans were drying for harvest in Fresno County. Alfalfa, sudangrass, winter forage were cut for hay or greenchopped. Harvest of early variety apricots, plums began in the southern San Joaquin Valley. Nectarine, peach, cherry picking continued. Some peaches were thinned. Apples were sprayed for fireblight, codling moths. Grapes were sprayed with bloom sprays, fungicides. Olive bloom was heavy throughout the State. In the Sacramento Valley, almonds, walnuts were sprayed for various pests. Lemons, valencia oranges were harvested. New season navel orange bloom was nearly complete. Strawberry harvest had slowed in southern counties but was active in central counties. Head, leaf lettuce harvests were virtually complete in the San Joaquin Valley. Lettuce harvest in the Salinas-Watsonville area was in full swing. Broccoli, cauliflower continued to be harvested in Monterey County. Sweet potato planting gained momentum in the San Joaquin Valley. Tomatoes continued to bloom, set fruit in central, southern counties. Fresno County asparagus harvest was winding down. Early harvested garlic fields were windrowed, were drying. Red onions were harvested. Cantaloupe, watermelons showed

good growth. Watermelons were sprayed for aphids in the Sacramento Valley. Peas were harvested in Stanislaus County. Season's first cucumbers were harvested in Tulare County. Sweet corn, snap beans were irrigated, thinned. Onions, peppers were progressing well. Rangeland conditions were good in the upper elevations, in the northern portion of the State; fair to poor in the south, at lower elevations. Range animals were moved to higher elevations to take advantage of available feed, water. Despite higher temperatures this week, range cattle remained in good condition. This condition was attributed to the early-season abundance of high quality feed.

**COLORADO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Topsoil 21% very short, 37% short, 39% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil 22% very short, 25% short, 51% adequate, 2% surplus. Spring barley 84% emerged, 75% 1996, 55% avg. Oats 74% emerged, 66% 1996, 48% avg.; 8% poor, 25% fair, 56% good, 11% excellent. Corn 15% emerged, 11% 1996, 5% avg. Sorghum 1% planted, 22% 1996, 11% avg. Summer potatoes 99% planted, 99% 1996, 79% avg.; 7% emerged, 4% 1996, 3% avg. Dry onion 1% very poor, 4% poor, 22% fair, 55% good, 18% excellent. Winter wheat 4% headed, 2% 1996, 3% avg. Livestock mostly in good to fair condition.

**DELAWARE:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.4. Topsoil 1% short, 82% adequate, 17% surplus. Subsoil 1% short, 87% adequate, 12% surplus. Winter wheat 2% poor, 14% fair, 77% good, 7% excellent; 20% headed, 14% 1996, 22% avg. Barley 1% poor, 16% fair, 79% good, 4% excellent; 81% headed, 82% 1996, 90% avg. Corn 40% planted, 47% 1996, 61% avg. Soybeans 4% planted, 1% 1996, 1% avg. Potatoes 95% planted, 92% 1996, 94% avg. Tomatoes 8% planted, 23% 1996, 26% avg. Watermelons 17% planted, 8% 1996, 22% avg. Cantaloupes 20% planted, 6% 1996, 16% avg. Sweet corn 30% planted, 31% 1996, 48% avg. Apples 95% bloomed, 69% 1996, 82% avg. Strawberries 70% bloomed, 70% 1996, 72% avg. Hay supplies 39% short, 60% adequate, 1% surplus. Activities: Wet conditions continue to delay spring planting in heavier soils.

**FLORIDA:** Topsoil moisture adequate in Panhandle with scattered areas of short moisture. Moisture in Peninsula short to adequate with scattered areas of surplus moisture. Forty percent of peanuts planted. Cotton planting delayed by wet, cool weather. Soybean planting starting. Corn, sugarcane, tobacco normal growth. Haying starting. Harvesting of several vegetables is almost over in Dade County. Growers delayed some picking of squash due to the low market. Major vegetables shipped: potatoes, tomatoes, watermelons, sweet corn, peppers, and cucumbers. Dry weather, growers irrigating, new growth showing on well-cared-for young trees, new crop fruit making good progress. Valencias remaining for harvest holding well with excellent quality. All seedless grapefruit movement is most active on the lower east coast. Caretakers cutting cover crops, spraying, pushing, resetting larger groves. Pasture feed fair 35%, good 60%, excellent 5%. Pastures generally improved from Panhandle to southwest due to rain storms of week ago. Some dry pockets exist north. Cooler temperatures held back pasture grass north, central. Some pastures overgrazed due to slow growth of grass. Condition of cattle herds fair 40%, good 60%.

**GEORGIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.6. Soil moisture 1% very short, 11% short, 81% adequate, 7% surplus. Corn 3% poor, 26% fair, 63% good, 8% excellent. Cotton 2% very poor, 10% poor, 31% fair, 53% good, 4% excellent. Hay 1% very poor, 5% poor, 28% fair, 61% good, 5% excellent. Peanuts 6% poor, 33% fair, 58% good, 3% excellent. Sorghum 1% poor, 21% fair, 76% good, 2% excellent; 22% planted, 41% 1996, 40% avg. Tobacco 1% very poor, 8% poor, 37% fair, 50% good, 4% excellent. Onions 1% poor, 21% fair, 50% good, 28% excellent; 79% harvested, 52% 1996, 60% avg. Watermelons 4% poor, 33% fair, 58% good, 5% excellent; 95% planted, 94% 1996, 96% avg. Apples 7% fair, 89% good, 4% excellent. Peaches 2% poor, 5% fair, 33% good, 60% excellent; 3% harvested, 8% 1996, 5% avg. Topsoil mostly adequate. Planting active throughout State. Cooler temperatures slowed growth some crops. Planting active throughout State. Planting of peanuts, cotton more than 50% complete but behind

normal. Corn planting nearing completion. Slight increase in planting of soybeans. Farmers also planted watermelons, sorghum. Harvest of onions is 80% complete. Harvest of peaches is increasing. First cutting of hay started. Wheat mostly headed. Harvest begun few fields. Tobacco conditions range from fair to good. Some disease damage to tobacco. Main activities: Planting, preparing land for row crops, cultivating row crops, baling hay, harvesting vegetables, peaches. Spraying pecan groves.

**HAWAII:** Variable showers had a mixed effect on agriculture. Northern islands received most of the rainfall. Farming was slowed, crops made fair progress. Southern island received gentler showers which aided crop development. Banana production steady most areas, slight increase expected from major producing area. Overall papaya production steady, disease continued to be problem in some areas. Head cabbage production moderate, crop condition is generally good. Sweet corn production expected to increase. Watermelon harvest moderate to heavy.

**IDAHO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 18% surplus, 77% adequate, 5% short. Farmers took advantage of a dry week to make substantial progress in small grain, potato, corn planting. Spring wheat jointed 9%. Barley jointed 9%. Winter wheat jointed 47%; booting 6%. Potatoes planted 50%, 68% 1996, 58% avg.; emerged 6%, 3% 1996, 4% avg. Sugar beets planted 99%, 99% 1996, 98% avg.; emerged 62%, 79% 1996, 65% avg. Corn planted 61%; 71% 1996; 40% avg.; emerged 11%, 15% 1996, 5% avg. Dry beans planted 7%, 10% 1996, 5% avg. Dry peas planted 26%, 28% 1996, 52% avg.; emerged 18%, 10% 1996, 34% avg. Oats planted 61%, 63% 1996, 67% avg.; emerged 37%, 36% 1996, 44% avg. Onions emerged 100%, 95% 1996, 76% avg. Lentils planted 15%, 11% 1996, 44% avg.; emerged 5%, 1% 1996, 25% avg. Irrigation water supply 83% excellent, 16% good, 1% fair. Hay, roughage supplies 2% surplus, 46% adequate, 24% short, 26% very short. Activities: Planting small grains, potatoes, dry beans, corn, dry peas, sugar beets, moving livestock to spring pasture, fencing, branding, cultivating, irrigating, hauling seed potatoes, weed control, fertilizing.

**ILLINOIS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.1. Topsoil 5% short, 76% adequate, 19% surplus. Farmers made good planting progress last week with farmers in the northern two thirds of the State focusing on soybean planting. By 11th, 86% of the corn crop, 35% of the soybean crop had been planted. Farmers in the west southwest district planted 33% of their soybean crop last week, virtually no soybeans were planted in the southeast as farmers there struggled to plant just 7% of their corn crop. Just as soils dried enough to plant, another storm would rain farmers out in the southeast. Emergence of corn has been slow. Three to four weeks germination was quite common with emerged plants being yellowish in color. Dry soils have prevented any large emergence problems so far, growth of all crops has been slow because of the continued cool weather. Other activities for the week included ground preparation, chemical application, spreading of manure, fertilizer. Wheat filled less than 1%, 0% 1996, 1% avg. Oats headed 7%, 7% 1996, 2% avg.; 24% fair, 66% good, 10% excellent. Alfalfa hay 2% poor, 28% fair, 62% good, 8% excellent; 1st cutting 1%, 0% 1996, 2% avg. Red clover 2% very poor, 2% poor, 15% fair, 69% good, 12% excellent.

**INDIANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 2.1. Topsoil 3% short, 60% adequate, 37% surplus. Subsoil 3% short, 70% adequate, 27% surplus. Corn, soybean planting remain well ahead of average. Corn emergence has been very slow due to continued cool temperatures. Winter wheat 89% jointed, 61% 1996, 72% avg. Range, pasture condition 2% very poor, 7% poor, 34% fair, 48% good, 9% excellent. Activities: Corn planting, soybean planting, applying fertilizer, applying herbicide, field preparation, caring for livestock.

**IOWA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.1. Topsoil adequate 60%, surplus 40%. Subsoil short 1%, adequate 69%, surplus 30%. Fieldwork is getting done between scattered rains, crop progress has been delayed by unseasonably cold weather. 1997 row crops primary seedbed preparation completed 86%, 90% 1996, 76% avg.; fertilizer application completed 91%, 93% 1996, 80% avg. Corn planting is still lagging behind in the south central district due to wet conditions. Corn planted 78%, 79% 1996, 58% avg. Corn acreage emerged 3%, 5% 1996, 10% avg. Oat seeding is basically complete. Oats planted 98%, 99% 1996, 85% avg.; emerged 76%, 76% 1996, 69% avg. Pasture feed 6% poor, 31% fair, 52% good, 11% excellent. Winter wheat 3% poor, 28% fair, 61% good, 8% excellent. 12% of alfalfa acres lost to winterkill will be planted to other crops. Up to 50% will be replanted to other

crops in the northwest, north central districts. Livestock experienced improved conditions, are rated generally in good health.

**KANSAS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.2. Topsoil 3% very short, 20% short, 69% adequate, 8% surplus. Subsoil 2% very short, 10% short, 85% adequate, 3% surplus. Wheat jointing 97%, 93% 1996, 94% avg. Progress continues on schedule, rain is needed for crop to reach yield potential. Insect infestations moderate to none. Disease infestations; wheat streak mosaic in southwest, west central areas. Pasture feed 4% poor, 22% fair, 62% good, 12% excellent. Stock water supplies 5% short, 92% adequate, 3% surplus. Major field activities included planting corn, sorghum, soybeans, sunflowers, cutting hay, wheat silage. Livestock activities included moving cattle to pasture, working calves.

**KENTUCKY:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.8. Topsoil 1% very short, 8% short, 68% adequate, 23% surplus. Subsoil 2% very short, 8% short, 70% adequate, 20% surplus. Temperatures below normal for fifth straight week with rainfall below normal for the week. Soil moisture in western areas tending to be surplus that turns to adequate as one moves across State. Southeastern areas below normal in rainfall received. Planting of corn, tobacco has been slowed by cold wet soil conditions, 35% corn emerged. Soybean planting just continues to start. Tobacco development continues to be varied with greenhouse plants the most developed to conventional the least developed. Plant size 42% less than 2 in., 37% 2 to 4 in., 21% over 4 in. Winter wheat 60% headed. A few comments concerning disease are starting to appear, there is nothing specific to date. Wheat 1% very poor, 7% poor, 35% fair, 45% good, 12% excellent. Pasture, hay development continues slowed by cold temperatures. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 12% poor, 42% fair, 39% good, 6% excellent. Hay 2% very poor, 13% poor, 41% fair, 39% good, 5% excellent.

**LOUISIANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Soil moisture 8% short, 76% adequate, 16% surplus. Corn 2% poor, 27% fair, 65% good, 6% excellent; 100% emerged, 100% 1996, 98% avg.; 0% silked, 0% 1996, 0% avg. Corn growers were fertilizing recently emerged fields. Cotton 18% emerged, 55% 1996, 58% avg. Cotton producers took advantage of drier conditions, made excellent progress planting. Hay 26% 1st cutting, 19% 1996, 21% avg. Peaches 0% harvested, 0% 1996, 0% avg. Rice weed populations were becoming a problem in rice fields. Sorghum 1% poor, 23% fair, 71% good, 5% excellent; 56% emerged, 56% 1996, 48% avg. Sorghum planting proceeded at a brisk pace. Soybeans 14% emerged, 19% 1996, 11% avg. Soybean planting resumed as fields dried. Spring plowing 92% plowing, 98% 1996, 93% avg. Sugarcane 6% poor, 27% fair, 50% good, 17% excellent. Sugarcane producers began wrapping up fertilizer applications. Sweet potatoes 7% planted, 4% 1996, 7% avg. Wheat 6% poor, 51% fair, 41% good, 2% excellent; 49% turning color, 59% 1996, 60% avg.; 1% harvested, 0% 1996, 2% avg. Livestock 4% poor, 32% fair, 58% good, 6% excellent. Vegetables 10% poor, 38% fair, 48% good, 4% excellent. Vegetable producers were harvesting tomatoes.

**MARYLAND:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.1. Topsoil 6% short, 83% adequate, 11% surplus. Subsoil 4% short, 88% adequate, 8% surplus. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 3% poor, 20% fair, 61% good, 15% excellent; 45% headed, 32% 1996, 35% avg. Barley 2% very poor, 3% poor, 21% fair, 60% good, 14% excellent; 85% headed, 75% 1996, 85% avg. Field corn 54% planted, 47% 1996, 55% avg. Soybeans 4% planted, 6% 1996, 4% avg. Cantaloupe 65% planted, 66% 1996, 46% avg. Sweet corn 44% planted, 47% 1996, 44% avg. Watermelons 45% planted, 58% 1996, 41% avg. Tomatoes 60% planted, 71% 1996, 55% avg. Apples 96% bloomed, 74% 1996, 82% avg. Strawberries 78% bloomed, 62% 1996, 71% avg.; harvest beginning. Hay supplies 6% very short, 17% short, 75% adequate, 2% surplus; some fields have been cut. Activities: A few areas still wet; some becoming dry. Still frosty at night, slowing crop, planting progress. Insects still scarce.

**MICHIGAN:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.5. Rainy weather contributed to the short work week since many fields were too wet to work. Cold weather slowed fruit, field crop development. Frost reported in some parts of the State. Topsoil 4% short, 67% adequate, 29% surplus. Subsoil 10% short, 73% adequate, 17% surplus. Potatoes planted 61% 1997, 23% 1996, 30% avg.; emerged 40% 1997, historic data not available. Asparagus, harvested 14% 1997, 1% 1996, 9% avg.

**MINNESOTA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.1. Topsoil 3% very short, 6% short, 71% adequate, 20% surplus. Corn 89% ground prepared, 61% 1996, 62% avg.; 78% planted, 41% 1996, 49% avg.; 2% emerged, 3% 1996, 7% avg. Soybeans 42% ground prepared, 16% 1996, 27% avg.; 19% planted, 4% 1996, 13% avg. Spring wheat 24% planted, 14% 1996, 51% 5 avg.; 4% emerged, 4% 1996, 21% avg. Oats 81% planted, 71% 1996, 73% avg.; 32% emerged, 18% 1996, 35% avg. Barley 22% planted, 10% 1996, 46% avg.; 4% emerged, 3% 1996, 17% avg. Sugar beets 76% planted, 18% 1996, 55% avg. Sweet corn 26% planted, 14% 1996, 22% avg. Green peas 61% planted, 43% 1996, 52% avg. Potatoes 39% planted, 25% 1996, 34% avg. Flaxseed 0% planted, 0% 1996, 8% avg. Dry edible beans 4% planted, 2% 1996, 7% avg. Sunflowers 0% planted, 0% 1996, 11% avg. Pasture feed 4% very poor, 25% poor, 44% fair, 26% good, 1% excellent. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 13% poor, 29% fair, 54% good, 3% excellent. Alfalfa 10% very poor, 17% poor, 46% fair, 25% good, 2% excellent. Rye 2% very poor, 9% poor, 46% fair, 34% good, 9% excellent.

**MISSISSIPPI:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.6. Soil moisture 2% very short, 12% short, 73% adequate, 13% surplus. Corn 99% planted, 98% 1996, 92% avg.; 95% emerged, 94% 1996, 83% avg.; 4% poor, 17% fair, 65% good, 14% excellent. Soybeans 36% planted, 56% 1996, 29% avg.; 23% emerged, 35% 1996, 21% avg.; 17% fair, 78% good, 5% excellent. Wheat 99% heading, 98% 1996, 95% avg.; 7% mature, 25% 1996, 12% avg.; 1% very poor, 3% poor, 15% fair, 74% good, 7% excellent. Peanuts 9% planted, 67% 1996, 56% avg.; 7% fair, 85% good, 8% excellent. Sweet potatoes 10% planted, 12% 1996, 16% avg.; 1% fair, 98% good, 1% excellent. Hay 51% harvested (cool season), 40% 1996, 19% avg.; 1% very poor, 4% poor, 18% fair, 69% good, 8% excellent. Watermelons 86% planted, 90% 1996, 83% avg.; 3% poor, 30% fair, 55% good, 12% excellent. Blueberries 2% poor, 8% fair, 52% good, 38% excellent. Cattle 1% very poor, 2% poor, 12% fair, 62% good, 23% excellent. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 8% poor, 30% fair, 46% good, 15% excellent. Activities: Planting cotton, rice, sorghum, soybeans, other crops. Cool weather is still delaying crop development in some areas; in other areas, drier weather has been favorable for planting.

**MISSOURI:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.3. Topsoil 1% very short, 11% short, 69% adequate, 19% surplus. Major planting progress reported despite mid-week rain. Bean planting most advanced in west central, central districts at 18%, less than 10% other districts. Corn planting less than 60% northern third of State, 80% central districts, 95% or more southwest, southeast. Sorghum planting most advanced southwestern district at 40%, least advanced northern third of State at 5%. Wheat 87% headed southeast, less than 10% northern two-thirds of State. Most favorable winter wheat east central, southwest, least favorable ratings central, southeast. Alfalfa cut 4%, 1% 1996, 3% avg. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 10% poor, 37% fair, 47% good, 5% excellent.

**MONTANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Topsoil 4% very short, 19% short, 68% adequate, and 9% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% very short, 13% short, 76% adequate, and 9% surplus. Warm dry weather allowed excellent progress on spring planting. Field tillage work in progress 15% none, 21% just started, and 64% well under way. Oats 48% planted, 28% 1996, 58% avg. Oats emerged 13%, 6% 1996, 22% avg. Sugar beets 94% planted, 76% 1996, 87% avg. Sugar beets 47% emerged, 15% 1996. Corn 54% planted, 51% 1996, 56% avg. Corn 1% emerged, 10% 1996. Potatoes 12% planted, 16% 1996, 27% avg. Dry beans 24% planted, 3% 1996, 18% avg. Pastures starting to green up. Calving 95% complete and lambing 83% complete. Cattle moved to summer pasture 32%, sheep moved 18%.

**NEBRASKA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Topsoil 1% very short, 16% short, 79% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil 11% short, 86% adequate, 3% surplus. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 7% poor, 38% fair, 47% good, 7% excellent; 44% jointed, 37% 1996, 65% avg. Corn producers made excellent planting progress with 70% planted, 74% 1996, 55% avg.; 6% emerged, 9% 1996, 12% avg. Soybeans 5% planted, 6% 1996, 8% avg. Sorghum 5% planted, 5% 1996, 5% avg. Oats 98% seeded, 100% 1996, 96% avg.; 73% emerged, 89% 1996. Alfalfa 5% very poor, 10% poor, 37% fair, 41% good, 7% excellent. Some fields with winter kill were being worked up for planting row crops or alfalfa. Pasture feed, range 2% very poor, 5% poor, 31% fair, 56% good, 6% excellent. Working calves, moving cattle to summer pastures. Other activities: Fertilizer application, spring tillage.

**NEVADA:** Clear weather allowed farm activities to progress rapidly, warming soils encouraged further planting, rapid crop growth. Alfalfa hay

good to excellent; 1st cutting beginning northwest. 2nd cutting alfalfa underway extreme south. Seeding of new alfalfa fields was underway. Spring grain planting was nearly completed with progress a week or two ahead of normal. Wheat, barley fair to good. Onions fair to good. Garlic good to excellent. Potato planting progressed rapidly. Calves were being branded, castrated, many cattle were being moved onto spring range. Lambing was virtually completed, shearing was well along. Range feed supplies remained predominately good. Main farm, ranch activities: Potato planting, grain planting, alfalfa planting, haying, equipment repair, working livestock, irrigating, spraying.

**NEW ENGLAND:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.5. Topsoil 48% adequate, 52% surplus. Subsoil 43% adequate, 57% surplus. Pasture feed 17% very poor, 26% poor, 40% fair, 12% good, 5% excellent. Massachusetts potatoes 55% planted, 40% 1996, 40% avg. Rhode Island potatoes 40% planted, 35% 1996, 35% avg. Field corn 5% planted, 5% 1996, 10% avg.; 0% emerged. Sweet corn 20% planted, 15% 1996, 20% avg. Oats in Maine 0% planted, 0% 1996, 0% avg. Barley in Maine 0% planted, 0% 1996, 0% avg.; 0% emerged. Strawberries bud to dormant. Apples bud to early bloom stage. Peaches, pears in full bloom. Cranberries, blueberries in bud stage. Cool, wet weather continues to delay crop development, fieldwork progress by at least one week throughout the region. Major farm activities: Plowing, harrowing, discing, fertilizing, liming well drained fields. Planting corn on driest soils. Putting livestock out on pastures.

**NEW JERSEY:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4. Topsoil adequate to surplus. Farmers are busy tilling, planting, harvesting, implementing pest control measures, spreading fertilizer. Currently planting tomatoes, peppers, squash, sweet corn, snap beans. Harvesting of asparagus, green onions, herbs, spinach, leeks, radishes, parsley. Light harvest of Boston lettuce. Peaches are in various stages of shuck split stage. Apples are setting in some areas. Strawberries are blooming.

**NEW MEXICO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.4. Soil moisture 2% very short, 15% short, 79% adequate, 4% surplus. Precipitation slowed planting in the many southern areas of the State. Cotton 70% complete, 76% 1996, 74% avg. Corn 70% complete, 77% 1996. Sorghum 1% complete, 1% 1996, 7% avg. Rainfall throughout the State remains well above normal for the year keeping most crops in good condition. Chile 30% fair, 51% good, 19% excellent; onion 1% fair, 65% good, 34% excellent; lettuce 4% fair, 30% good, 66% excellent; corn 2% fair, 95% good, 3% excellent. Winter wheat 33% fair, 64% good, 3% excellent; 44% headed, 49% 1996, 68% avg. 1st cutting alfalfa 25% complete; 19% fair, 67% good, 14% excellent. Ranchers continue to move livestock to spring pastures, while calving, branding continues. Cattle, sheep mostly in fair to good condition. Range, pasture feed 1% very poor, 4% poor, 28% fair, 59% good, 8% excellent.

**NEW YORK:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.1. Soil moisture 5% short, 90% adequate, 5% surplus. Pasture feed 8% poor, 53% fair, 39% good. Corn 16% planted, 6% 1996, 14% avg. Oats 54% planted, 6% 1996, 41% avg.; 17% fair, 83% good. Wheat 100% good. Potato planting continued. Warmer weather needed to warm soils, promote growth. Cool, wet weather slowed vegetable planting. Orange County onion planting complete. Replanting possible due to wind damage. Sweet corn planted under plastic was emerging. Hudson Valley peaches in full bloom. Lake Ontario apple bloom expected at mid-May.

**NORTH CAROLINA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.1. The above average moisture conditions finally abated allowing farmers to get back in the fields to continue field preparation, planting activities. Still, below normal temperatures along with the recent wet conditions have caused disease problems in tobacco, slowed the growth in both the corn and tobacco crops. Soil moisture 3% short, 79% adequate, 18% surplus. Activities included: Planting corn, cotton, peanuts, soybeans, tobacco; preparation of tobacco, peanut, cotton, vegetable land for planting; fertilizer, herbicide applications on corn; maintaining pastures; tending livestock; repairing equipment; general farm maintenance.

**NORTH DAKOTA:** Excellent drying weather accelerated planting progress, especially in small grain, sugar beets. Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Topsoil 8% short, 78% adequate, 14% surplus. Subsoil 4% short, 80% adequate, 16% surplus. Durum wheat 11% planted, 6% 1996, 29% avg.; corn 19% planted, 9% 1996, 21% avg.; potatoes 5% planted, 6% 1996, 17% avg.;

sugar beets 75% planted, 15% 1996, 60% avg.; dry edible beans 0% planted, 1% 1996, 3% avg. Spring calving 94% complete, lambing 95%. Pastures, ranges 26% remain dormant; 91% open for grazing. Pasture feed 7% very poor, 12% poor, 28% fair, 46% good, 7% excellent.

**OHIO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 2.3. Topsoil 3% short, 63% adequate, 34% surplus. Corn planting slowed, progress is still near record pace. Corn emergence very slow due to cold soils. Corn planted most advanced in the central, west central, northwest districts where nearly 90% planted; least advanced in northeast district where under 50% planted. Oat seeding nearly complete everywhere, northeast district which has 10% of crop still to plant. Oats emerged is nearly a week ahead of normal. Soybean planting is more than a week ahead of normal. Progress is approaching 50% in central, west central, southwest districts while the northeast is barely in double digits. Soybeans emerged is 2%, 0% 1996, 2% avg. Potato planting is 66% complete, 11% 1996, 49% avg. Transplanting processed tomatoes is less than 1% complete. Southern counties continue setting fresh market tomatoes, peppers; planting sweet corn. Other activities include spraying, scouting crops, applying fertilizer, machinery maintenance. Hay 3% very poor, 10% poor, 38% fair, 43% good, 6% excellent. Pasture feed 3% very poor, 10% poor, 36% fair, 44% good, 7% excellent. Growth slow due to below average temperatures.

**OKLAHOMA:** Cool, wet weather has increased the risk of foliar disease problems in the western half of State. Days suitable for fieldwork 4.2. Topsoil 2% short, 90% adequate, 8% surplus. Subsoil 2% short, 92% adequate, 6% surplus. Wheat 6% soft dough, 9% 1996, 16% avg. Oats 68% heading, 31% 1996, 44% avg. Corn 56% planted, 97% 1996, 91% avg.; 38% up-to-stand, 57% 1996, 67% avg. Sorghum 42% seedbed prepared, 58% 1996, 59% avg.; 3% up-to-stand, 4% 1996, 5% avg. Soybeans 85% seedbed prepared, 74% 1996, 70% avg.; 32% planted, 27% 1996, 22% avg.; 14% up-to-stand, 10% 1996, 8% avg. Peanuts 77% seedbed prepared, 88% 1996, 79% avg.; 22% planted, 13% 1996, 13% avg. Cotton 76% seedbed prepared, 75% 1996, 78% avg. Alfalfa hay 34% 1st cutting, 20% 1996, 32% avg. Watermelons 76% planted, 73% 1996, 16% avg. Livestock 3% poor, 26% fair, 65% good, 6% excellent. Stocker prices were unevenly steady to several dollars higher. Fed cattle prices advanced \$2 for the week.

**OREGON:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.7. Topsoil 2% short, 94% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil 3% short, 92% adequate, 5% surplus. All barley 87% planted, 66% 1996, 79% avg. Winter wheat 22% fair, 66% good, 12% excellent. Activities: Farmers taking advantage of the dry, warm conditions. Grain crops developing fast, first hay down. Seeding spring grains continued. Sugar beets emerging. Nurseries moving, rotating containers, potted plants. Evergreens, plants still being balled, burlapped. Hot temperatures required increased irrigation. Willamette Valley: Sweet corn, snap beans being planted, strawberries at full bloom, cultivation active, canberries growing vigorously. South coast: Cranberry development continued, Steven's variety at 20 to 30% hook, McFarlin at roughneck. Mid-Columbia: Asparagus being harvested, green beans developing. Hood River Valley: Fruit set good, mite populations increasing. Pear bloom past peak in Hood, Rogue River valleys. Pollination conditions improved by warm dry weather. Livestock, pasture feed conditions improved statewide. Most cows turned out, branding underway, cattle rotating to new pastures in east.

**PENNSYLVANIA:** Fair week for fieldwork. Days suitable for fieldwork 4.4. Soil moisture 3% very short, 23% short, 67% adequate, 7% surplus. Plowing 80% complete, 59% 1996, 68% avg. Corn planted 45% complete, 16% 1996, 27% avg. Soybeans planted 10% complete, 2% 1996, 4% avg. Oats planted 90% complete, 63% 1996, 74% avg. Potatoes planted 45% complete, 22% 1996, 37% avg. Barley 35% heading or headed, 44% 1996, 26% avg. Wheat 8% heading or headed, 14% 1996, 5% avg.; 1% very poor, 3% poor, 26% fair, 64% good, 6% excellent. Oat 5% poor, 28% fair, 62% good, 5% excellent. Alfalfa, alfalfa mixtures stand 2% very poor, 8% poor, 33% fair, 51% good, 6% excellent. Timothy clover stand 3% very poor, 8% poor, 36% fair, 48% good, 5% excellent. Peaches 98% pink, 66% 1996, 81% avg.; 85% full bloom or past, 48% 1996, 63% avg. Cherries 95% pink, 73% 1996, 85% avg.; 90% full bloom or past, 55% 1996, 70% avg. Apples 92% pink, 46% 1996, 72% avg.; 75% full bloom or past, 26% 1996, 51% avg. Activities: Plowing; planting oats, corn, soybeans; fixing fences; hauling manure; caring for livestock.

**SOUTH CAROLINA:** Soil moisture 7% short, 85% adequate, 8% surplus. Barley 99% headed, 93% 1996; 47% turn color, 36% 1996, 32% avg.; 7%

fair, 53% good, 40% excellent. Cantaloupes 97% planted, 96% 1996, 86% avg.; 1% very poor, 5% poor, 43% fair, 51% good. Corn 100% planted, 99% 1996, 99% avg.; 3% poor, 18% fair, 71% good, 8% excellent. Cucumbers 100% planted, 87% 1996, 85% avg.; 17% fair, 42% good, 41% excellent. Hay 53% harvested, 51% 1996, 50% avg.; 2% very poor, 2% poor, 27% fair, 62% good, 7% excellent. Oats 100% headed, 97% 1996, 93% avg.; 57% turn color, 39% 1996, 41% avg.; 28% ripe, 4% 1996, 9% avg.; 1% poor, 24% fair, 66% good, 9% excellent. Peaches 11% poor, 11% fair, 40% good, 38% excellent. Rye 99% headed, 95% 1996; 54% turn color, 39% 1996, 44% avg.; 25% ripe, 11% 1996, 11% avg.; 1% poor, 25% fair, 68% good, 6% excellent. Snap Beans 85% planted, 80% 1996, 73% avg.; 1% poor, 15% fair, 40% good, 44% excellent. Sorghum 42% planted, 27% 1996, 18% avg.; 80% good, 20% excellent. Soybeans 11% planted, 7% 1996, 7% avg.; 9% poor, 61% fair, 27% good, 3% excellent. Sweet potatoes 38% planted, 18% 1996, 21% avg.; 49% fair, 50% good, 1% excellent. Tobacco 99% planted, 99% 1996, 96% avg.; 37% poor, 22% fair, 41% good. Tomatoes 97% planted, 99% 1996, 100% avg.; 9% fair, 90% good, 1% excellent. Watermelons 100% planted, 95% 1996, 89% avg.; 4% poor, 28% fair, 63% good, 5% excellent. Winter Wheat 99% headed, 98% 1996, 94% avg.; 49% turn color, 23% 1996, 29% avg.; 11% ripe; 7% poor, 14% fair, 59% good, 20% excellent.

**SOUTH DAKOTA:** Topsoil 55% adequate, 44% surplus. Subsoil 50% adequate, 50% surplus. Days suitable for fieldwork 3.0. Winter rye 1% very poor, 3% poor, 33% fair, 55% good, 8% excellent. Livestock 1% very poor, 5% poor, 30% fair, 57% good, 7% excellent. Calving 86% complete. Lambing 82% complete. Cattle, calves moved to pasture 39% complete. Feed supplies 8% very short, 19% short, 67% adequate, 6% surplus. Stock water 57% adequate, 43% surplus.

**TENNESSEE:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil 4% short, 81% adequate, 15% surplus. Subsoil 2% short, 82% adequate, 16% surplus. Corn 4% poor, 22% fair, 59% good, 15% excellent; 86% planted, 87% 1996, 84% avg. Tobacco 13% transplanted, 12% 1996, 15% avg. Wheat 7% poor, 28% fair, 50% good, 15% excellent; 90% headed, 79% 1996, 86% avg. Sorghum 25% planted, 20% 1996, 31% avg. Pasture feed 5% poor, 30% fair, 55% good, 10% excellent. Alfalfa hay 6% poor, 32% fair, 51% good, 11% excellent; 17% 1st cutting, 12% 1996, 19% avg. Other hay 8% poor, 39% fair, 46% good, 7% excellent. Cotton planting was the main activity for farmers in middle, western areas, where nearly half of the State's acreage has been planted. Producers in the east concentrated primarily on transplanting tobacco into fields. Farmers throughout the State continue to hope for warmer temperatures to aide crop development, planting progress.

**TEXAS:** Good weather conditions held on until late week allowing producers make good progress field activities. Warmer temperatures helped planted crop progress. Late week, a cold front moved across State bringing rain, slightly cooler temperatures many areas. Isolated severe thunderstorms in High Plains produced locally heavy rains, hail, causing damage some fields. Beneficial rainfall received many North, Central areas. Livestock conditions continued good across State. Pasture conditions continued improve with added moisture. Crops: Small grains many fields High Plains continued show improvement during week, however there still visible damage from freeze. Isolated hail caused damage some fields. Many fields have begun to head. Warmer temperatures until late week beneficial fields in Blacklands, Central areas. Harvest increased Coastal Bend. Fields Central, Southern areas rapidly turning color early week. Corn planting active High Plains, along Upper Coast during week. Warmer temperatures in Plains for most week helped emergence. Hail caused isolated damage emerged fields. Fields in Coastal Bend, Rio Grande Valley continued to tassel. Fields Central, Blackland areas made good progress with early week warm temperatures, late week rains. Cotton planting slowly increasing in Plains as soil temperatures warmed under mild conditions most week. Planting progress moved ahead central areas under open conditions most week. Fields in Coastal Bend, Rio Grande Valley squaring. Planting also increased along Upper Coast. Grain sorghum in Plains, North Central areas increased planting activity during week. Fields responding favorably to warmer temperatures Central areas. Planting increased along Upper Coast as producers rapidly catching up under good drying conditions. Fields heading in Rio Grande Valley. Some very late planting also occurred. Peanut planting slowly increasing parts Low Plains. Land preparations continued many parts State. Rice planting rapidly increased along Upper Coast under good drying conditions. Producers flushing emerged fields. Soybean planting increased North Central, Upper Coast areas during week. Emergence slowed by cool temperatures; however, a return to warmer

conditions for most week, emergence, growth improved. Sugar beets good progress reported most fields in High Plains. Hail damage minimal.

**Commercial Vegetables:** Rio Grande Valley, onion harvest continued with disappointing yields reported. Cabbage, carrot harvest also continued. San Antonio-Winter Garden, onion harvest increased. A few early watermelons harvested. High Plains, good progress continued onions, potatoes. East, planting increased as conditions slowly dried down. Disease heavy on some fields because prolonged wetness. Trans-Pecos: Irrigation activity remained active. Recent cooler temperatures slowed growth slightly. Peach producers continued spray, thin a very good crop most areas. Pecan producers most Central, Southern areas expecting very good crop, small nuts forming in these areas. Scouting for casebearers active. Zinc spraying also active.

**Range and Livestock:** Additional rainfall many areas further benefit already good pasture conditions. Supplemental feeding of hay tailed off very much. Flies becoming problem for some producers. Livestock conditions remained good across State. Some reports late calving were reported as a result of last year's drought.

**UTAH:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.7. Topsoil 11% short, 78% adequate, 11% surplus. Subsoil 8% short, 82% adequate, 10% surplus. Pasture feed, range 2% poor, 15% fair, 68% good, 15% excellent. Spring wheat emerged 85%, 87% 1996, 83% avg. Barley emerged 80%, 86% 1996, 81% avg. Oats planted 75%, 67% 1996, 75% avg.; emerged 45%, 44% 1996, 51% avg. Corn planted 55%, 61% 1996, 53% avg. Alfalfa hay height 10 in., 9 in. 1996, 11 in. av. Potatoes planted 65%, 37% 1996, 21% avg. Sweet cherries full bloom or past 99%, 100% 1996. Tart cherries full bloom or past 99%, 100% 1996. Apples full bloom or past 99%, 98% 1996. Pears full bloom or past 99%, 100% 1996. Cattle moved to summer range 15%, 21% 1996. Ewes lambing on range 90%, 83% 1996, 83% avg. Sheep sheared on range 98%, 93% 1996, 90% avg. Sheep moved to summer range 20%, 27% 1996. Major farm, ranch activities: Spring planting, tillage, spraying for weeds, irrigating, shearing sheep.

**VIRGINIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.8. Topsoil 15% short, 80% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil 10% short, 80% adequate, 10% surplus. Corn 60% planted, 58% 1996, 62% avg.; 2% poor, 42% fair, 54% good, 2% excellent. Soybeans 3% planted, 5% 1996, 7% avg. Cotton 65% planted, 67% 1996, 77% avg. Winter wheat 4% poor, 25% fair, 65% good, 6% excellent. Barley 1% very poor, 3% poor, 32% fair, 60% good, 4% excellent. Apples 5% very poor, 20% poor, 60% fair, 15% good. Peaches 30% very poor, 30% poor, 30% fair, 10% good. Tobacco greenhouses 2% fair, 20% good, 78% excellent. Tobacco plantbeds 5% poor, 30% fair, 65% good. Flue tobacco transplanted 6%, 12% 1996, 31% avg. Sun tobacco transplanted 1%, 8% 1996, 7% avg. Burley tobacco transplanted 1%. Dark fire cured tobacco 2%, 2% 1996, 10% avg. Peanuts 35% planted, 42% 1996, 52% avg. Summer potatoes 20% fair, 70% good, 10% excellent. Pasture feed 10% poor, 37% fair, 48% good, 5% excellent. Alfalfa 3% poor, 38% fair, 55% good, 4% excellent. Other Hay 13% poor, 47% fair, 37% good, 3% excellent. Producers were busy planting corn, cotton, peanuts as local conditions permitted. Hay crop appears short due to cool spring. Farmers are getting hay equipment ready. Producers continue scouting, treating small grain crops. Vegetable crops being planted but growth is slow. Tomatoes are being staked. Strawberry picking continues. Tobacco transplanting progressed last week.

**WASHINGTON:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.6. Topsoil 4% short, 77% adequate, 19% surplus. Subsoil 7% short, 82% adequate, 11% surplus. Eastern counties report contingency plans for predicted, severe flooding. Winter wheat, dryland 2% poor, 15% fair, 56% good, 27% excellent; irrigated 80% good, 20% excellent. Spring wheat 91% planted, 83% 1996, 88% avg.; 70% emerged, 62% 1996, 76% avg. Spring wheat, dryland 20% fair, 60% good, 20% excellent; irrigated 88% good, 12% excellent. Spring cereal grains, winter wheat conditions improved rapidly as warm, dry conditions prevailed. Wheat in the boot stage in southeastern counties. Barley 86%

planted, 80% 1996, 85% avg.; 60% emerged, 53% 1996, 69% avg. Barley dryland, 35% fair, 45% good, 15% excellent; irrigated 100% good. Corn 75% planted, 62% 1996, 61% avg. Dry peas 70% planted, 72% 1996, 79% avg. Potatoes 91% planted, 93% 1996, 92% avg.; 50% emerged, 46% 1996, 43% avg. Potatoes, 97% good, 3% excellent. Hay, other roughage supplies, 5% very short, 30% short 60% adequate, 5% surplus. Range, pasture feed 1% poor, 25% fair, 70% good, 4% excellent. Eastern pastures improved rapidly, as the weather warmed. Western growers began cutting grass for silage, green chop. Calving neared completion. Field cultivation was underway around the clock in west of the Cascades. Vegetable growers began field preparations for warm weather crops. Strawberries, blueberries, raspberries were in full bloom. Tree fruit bloomed in eastern areas. Sprays were applied with excellent results expected. Conditions for pollination were favorable.

**WEST VIRGINIA:** Intermittent showers continue to disrupt farm activities in some areas while other areas were in need of rain. Cool soil temperatures holding back germination of early seeded crops. Days suitable for fieldwork 3.9. Topsoil 10% short, 85% adequate, 5% surplus. Intended Acreage Prepared for Spring Planting 83%, 62% 1996. Corn 36% planted, 30% 1996, 39% avg. Hay 2% very poor, 15% poor, 35% fair, 46% good, 2% excellent. Some pastures being overgrazed due to cool temperatures, intermittent frosty conditions hindering pasture growth. Oats 82% planted, 70% 1996, 74% avg; oats 51% emerged, 39% 1996, 53% avg. Soybean 6% planted, 3% 1996. Tobacco bed seeding virtually complete; tobacco beds 96% emerged, 95% 1996, 92% avg. Wheat 2% poor, 64% fair, 34% good. Apple condition 96% fair, 4% good. Peach condition 100% fair. Cattle 1% poor, 21% fair, 74% good, 4% excellent; 94% calved. Sheep 11% fair, 87% good, 2% excellent; 99% lambing. Hay & roughage supplies 1% very short, 16% short, 83% adequate. Feed Grain Supplies 10% short, 90% adequate. Activities: Field preparation for planting, planting corn, oats and soybeans; applying fertilizer; repairing fences, calving, lambing and general maintenance.

**WISCONSIN:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.1. Soil moisture 1% very short, 10% short, 73% adequate, 6% surplus. Last time the planting conditions were this good, was in 1994 when 52% of the corn acreage was planted. Soybean acreage 12% planted, 3% 1996, 7% avg. In Walworth County, beans were going in fast with excellent soil conditions. As of 11th, spring tillage jumped twenty points to 76% complete, 47% 1996, 52% avg. Alfalfa/other legumes freeze damage rated 47% none, 34% light, 16% moderate, and 3% severe. A Pepin County reporter noted a lot of winterkill in the old alfalfa fields, 30 to 40%. Southeast and East Central district reporters observed that alfalfa stands looked good. Pasture feed conditions rated 1% very poor, 14% poor, 41% fair, 35% good, and 9% excellent. Farmers in Price County were still buying hay in hopes for pasture growth soon. Raspberries and strawberries wintered well in Douglas County. Winter rye came through in good condition in Marathon County. Potato planting was pretty much done in Dunn County. Hardly any buds on the fruit trees yet in Grant County.

**WYOMING:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Topsoil 23% short, 74% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil 1% very short, 12% short, 77% adequate, 10% surplus. Barley 89% planted, 88% 1996, 87% avg.; 72% emerged, 60% 1996, 64% avg. Oats 71% planted, 73% 1996, 72% avg.; 33% emerged, 24% 1996, 35% avg. Spring wheat 69% planted, 82% 1996, 71% avg.; 30% emerged, 31% 1996, 39% avg. Sugar beets 99% planted, 97% 1996, 97% avg.; 28% emerged, 37% 1996, 37% avg. Corn 41% planted, 65% 1996, 54% avg.; 4% emerged, 5% 1996, 8% avg. Winter wheat 8% poor, 16% fair, 76% good. Barley 10% fair, 80% good, 10% excellent. Range, pasture feed 3% poor, 17% fair, 78% good, 2% excellent. Range flock ewes lambing 50%, 43% 1996, 51% avg.; shorn 88%, 86% 1996, 85% avg. Stock water supplies 5% short, 82% adequate, 13% surplus. Moisture needed especially in northwest, southeast. Sunshine, warmer weather also needed for crops, pastures.

# International Weather and Crop Summary

May 4 - 10, 1997

## HIGHLIGHTS

**FSU-WESTERN:** Continued dry weather in Ukraine and the western portions of North Caucasus region in Russia allowed summer crop planting to accelerate.

**NORTHWESTERN AFRICA:** Unusually warm, dry weather hastened winter grain maturity but favored early harvest activities.

**EUROPE:** Soaking rain in England, France, the Netherlands, Germany, and northern Italy benefited crop development.

**AUSTRALIA:** Showers in the east improved winter grain planting prospects.

**CANADA:** Cool, wet conditions prevented significant planting progress.

**SOUTHEAST ASIA:** Dryness continued to reduce moisture for main-season crops across the central and western islands of the Philippines.

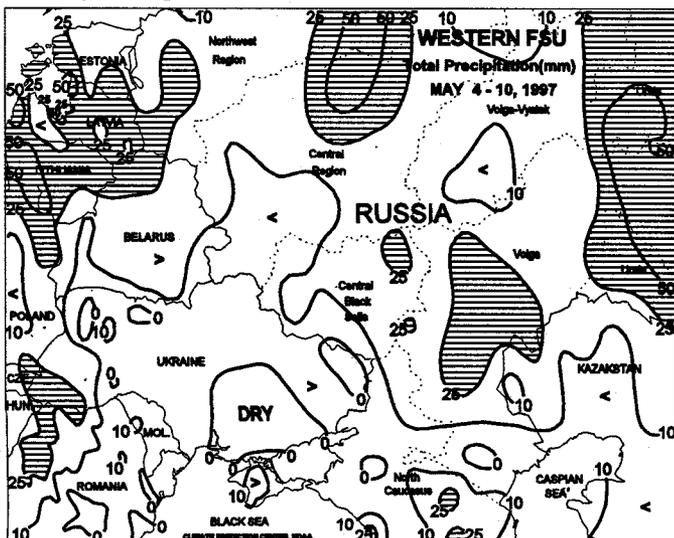
**EASTERN ASIA:** Widespread rain benefited reproductive winter wheat in the North China Plain, but heavy showers caused flooding in portions of southern China.

**SOUTH AMERICA:** Warm, dry weather favored summer crop harvesting across the region, but reduced soil moisture for winter wheat planting.

**MEXICO:** Showers boosted pre-planting moisture and reservoir supplies across central and northern Mexico.

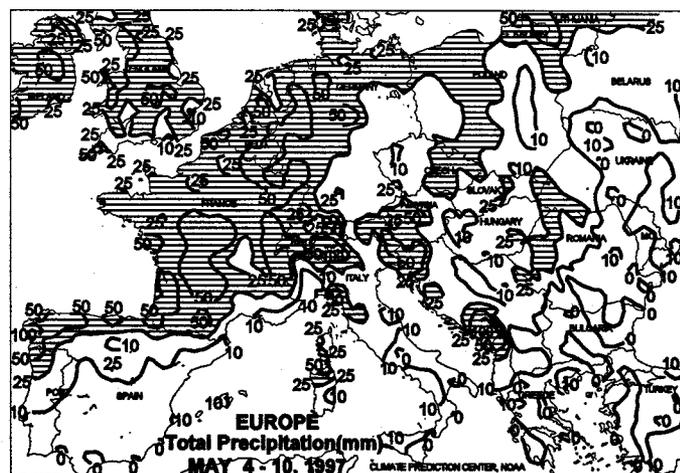
### FSU-WESTERN

Warm, dry weather continued in Ukraine, allowing spring grain and summer crop planting to accelerate. Significant precipitation (10-25 mm) was confined to extreme southwestern portions of the country. In Russia, warm, dry weather in the western portion of the North Caucasus region favored corn, sunflower, and sugarbeet planting. Farther north in Russia, frequent, light showers (10-34 mm) in Volga Valley, Central Black Soils Region, Central Region, and the Volga Vyatsk may have caused some delays in spring grain planting. Reports as of May 5 indicated that spring grain planting was progressing ahead of last year's delayed pace in Ukraine and Russia. However, corn, sunflower, and sugarbeet planting was progressing slowly. In Russia, spring wheat planting had begun in all regions, including major wheat-producing areas of the Urals and Siberia. Elsewhere, widespread rain (10-56 mm) in Belarus and the Baltics caused planting delays but provided generous topsoil moisture. Winter grains were jointing in most areas and tillering in the Baltics. In cotton growing areas of Central Asia, widespread light to moderate showers (10-40 mm) continued in Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan, with greatest amounts of moisture (25-40 mm) occurring in central Uzbekistan. The rain was accompanied by unseasonably cool weather, slowing crop emergence and early development.

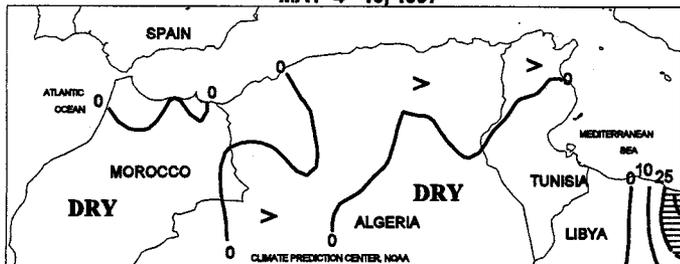


### EUROPE

Widespread soaking rain (25-50 mm, with local amounts in excess of 50 mm) in England, France, the Netherlands, Germany, and northern Italy benefited winter grains in or nearing the heading stage and provided generous topsoil moisture for emerging summer crops. Light showers (10-25 mm) fell in northern Spain and peninsular Italy, benefiting winter grains in the reproductive to filling stages and newly emerging corn and sunflowers. Dry weather in southern Spain favored winter grain maturation and early harvesting. In eastern Europe, widespread rain (10-38 mm) and mild weather in Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Hungary, favored winter grain and summer crop development. Mostly dry weather in Romania and Bulgaria allowed rapid corn planting previously delayed by cold, wet weather in April. Weekly temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C below normal in the western half of Europe and 1 to 3 degrees C above normal in the east. Scattered frost on May 7-8 in the northwestern areas had little, if any, impact on crops.

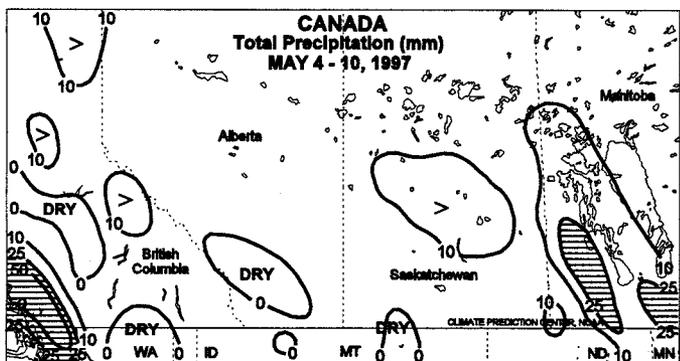


**NORTHWEST AFRICA Total Precipitation (mm)  
MAY 4 - 10, 1997**



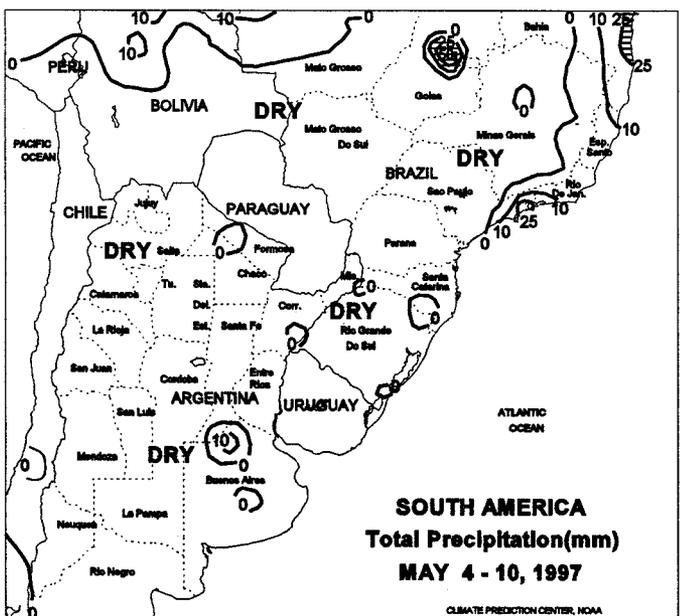
**NORTHWESTERN AFRICA**

Unseasonably warm, dry weather prevailed over winter grain areas in Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia. Highest weekly temperatures were reported in Tunisia, where maximum temperatures ranged from 32 to 37 degrees C. Although the unseasonably warm weather throughout the region hastened maturity in winter grains, it favored harvest activities, typically underway in Morocco. Winter grain harvesting normally begins in May and extends through July.



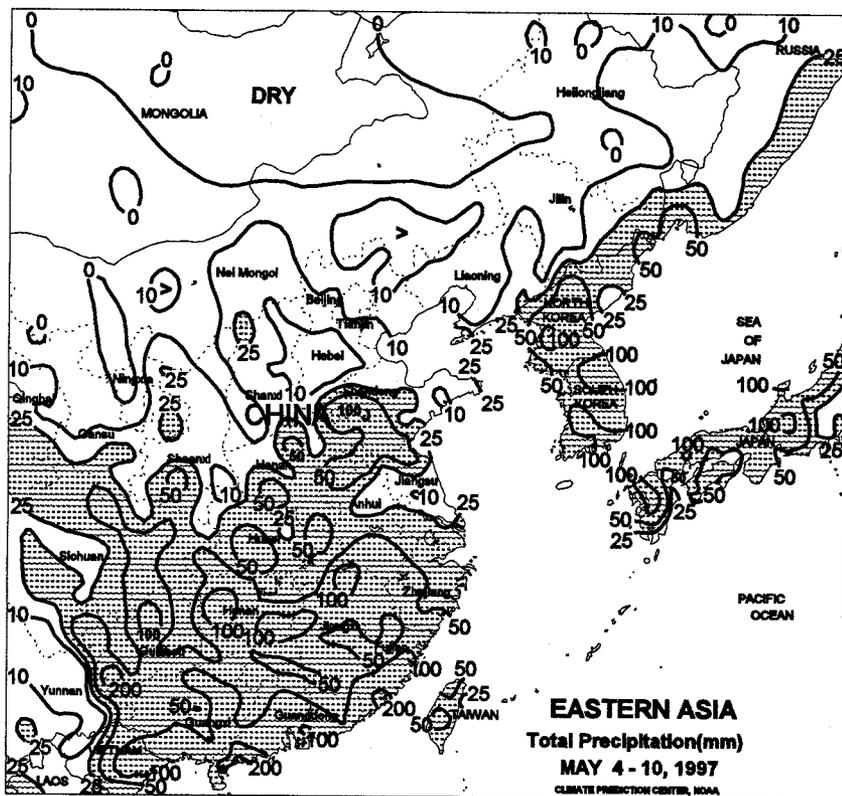
**CANADA**

Scattered showers (15 mm or less in most areas) fell throughout the western and central Prairies. In Manitoba, somewhat heavier rain (15-47 mm) in the western and southern districts kept fields unfavorably wet, especially in flooded areas of the Red River Valley. Temperatures averaged near to slightly above normal across the Prairies, although subfreezing temperatures were recorded at nearly all locations. Early spring grain and oilseed planting was just underway and will become more widespread as temperatures rise. Weather conditions over the next few weeks will be critical for fieldwork, as crops planted past the first week of June face a greater risk of summer heat stress and damage from an early autumn freeze prior to maturity. Farther east, cool, wet weather in Ontario and Quebec inhibited winter wheat development and corn planting efforts. Warmer, drier weather is also needed to help break the disease cycle that has plagued this region in recent growing seasons.



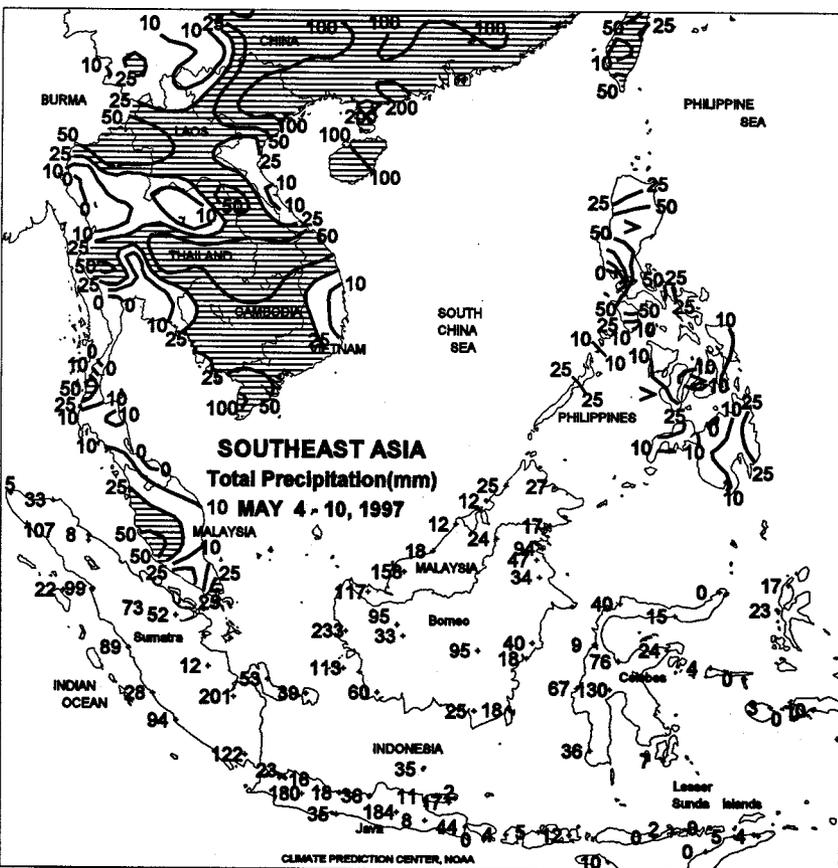
**SOUTH AMERICA**

Mostly dry, warm weather prevailed across Argentina and southern Brazil, favoring summer crop harvesting, but reducing soil moisture for winter wheat planting. Typically, winter wheat is planted from mid-May through August in central Argentina and from April to July in southern Brazil. Temperatures averaged 4 to 7 degrees C above normal in central Argentina and 1 to 3 degrees above normal in southern Brazil.



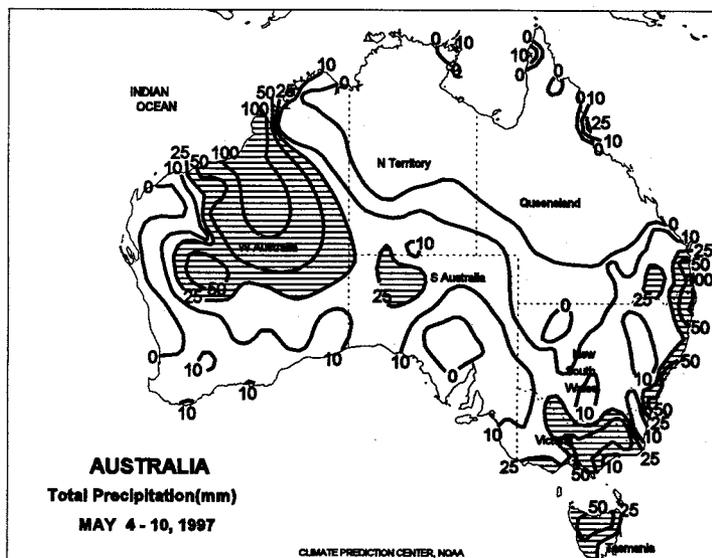
**EASTERN ASIA**

Widespread rain (15-40 mm) covered the North China Plain, benefiting reproductive winter wheat and boosting topsoil moisture for germinating corn, cotton, and soybeans. Moderate showers (25-80 mm) boosted moisture supplies for early-rice and summer crops, but slowed winter grain and oilseed harvesting across the Yangtze Valley. Heavy showers (100-200 mm) along the southern coastal provinces of Guangxi, Guangdong, and Fujian caused some flooding and slowed early-rice development. Light rain (5-15 mm) fell across Manchuria, increasing topsoil moisture for germinating spring wheat, but more moisture is needed, especially in Liaoning. Temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C above normal across China, except for the northern North China Plain, and Manchuria, where temperatures averaged 1 to 2 degrees C below normal. Widespread rain covered the Korea (70-125 mm) and Japan (25-80 mm), boosting planting moisture for rice. Typically, rice planting occurs from May to June across the Korean Peninsula and Japan.



**SOUTHEAST ASIA**

In the Philippines, moderate rain (15-50 mm) fell across Luzon, aiding main-season crops. However, below-normal rainfall (less than 10 mm) continued to reduce moisture supplies for main-season rice in the western and central Islands. Isolated heavy showers (greater than 150 mm) fell across Java, causing some harvest delays, but drier weather (less than 25 mm) in most areas allowed fieldwork to progress. Scattered showers (20-50 mm) increased moisture supplies for main-season rice and corn in Thailand, but more widespread showers are needed. Moderate to heavy showers (30-100 mm) maintained moisture supplies for rice in northern and southern Vietnam.



### AUSTRALIA

Widespread showers (10-25 mm or more) covered primary winter grain areas from western Victoria to southeastern Queensland. The rainfall was timely for planting and increased moisture in pastures and grazing lands but slowed cotton and sorghum planting in the northern summer crop areas. Unfortunately, only light rain (5 mm or less) fell in western and northern agricultural areas of South Australia. Scattered, mostly light showers (10 mm or less in most areas) fell throughout Western Australia's winter grain belt, keeping topsoils moist for fieldwork. In New Zealand, generally dry conditions prevailed in the main pasture areas.

## El Niño Returns

*The following information on the El Niño/Southern Oscillation (ENSO) is derived from the Climate Prediction Center, National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP), Diagnostic Advisory 97/3, May 9, 1997.*

The evolution of the atmospheric and oceanic conditions in the tropical Pacific during the past few months is consistent with the beginning stages of warm episode (El Niño) conditions. Since early 1997, sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies have increased throughout the equatorial Pacific, with areas centered on the date line and near the South American coast experiencing anomalies in excess of  $+1^{\circ}\text{C}$  during April.

During the past several months, enhanced tropical convection has gradually shifted eastward toward the date line, accompanied by a transition to suppressed convection over the western equatorial Pacific and Indonesia. Accompanying this evolution has been an overall weakening of the equatorial low-level easterlies across the central and eastern Pacific and a strengthening of low-level equatorial westerlies over the western Pacific. As a result, low-level westerly wind anomalies during March and April extended across the entire tropical Pacific. In addition, the Southern Oscillation Index (SOI) has switched from positive to strongly negative during

the period. Collectively, this evolution indicates the early stages of a warm (ENSO) episode.

In recent months, the NCEP coupled model and CCA statistical technique have been consistent in indicating the development of warm episode conditions during the first half of 1997. The latest forecasts from these two techniques indicate a continued warming trend through the end of the year. Based on the recent evolution and the indications given by these forecasts, we can expect warm episode conditions to intensify during the next several months.

*Editor's Note: This would be the third warm episode of the decade. Two El Niño's occurred from 1991 to early 1995, followed by a weak cold episode from 1995 through early this year (see "ENSO Update: Cold Episode (La Niña) Continues," WWCB 83/7, February 21, 1996). The map on this week's back cover illustrates the global impacts that usually occur from June to August during warm episodes. It should be noted that each episode is different, and not all impacts are certain to occur every time.*

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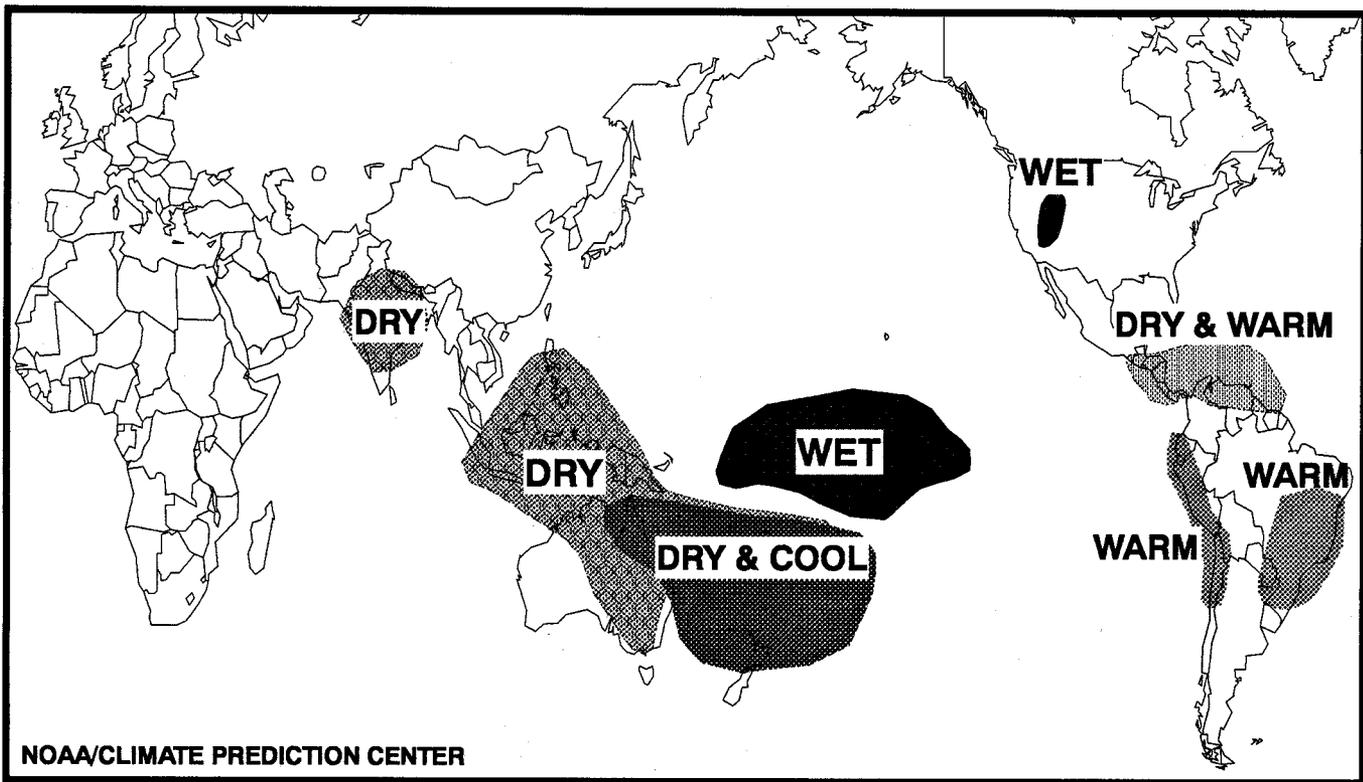
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**WARM EPISODE RELATIONSHIPS JUNE - AUGUST**



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