

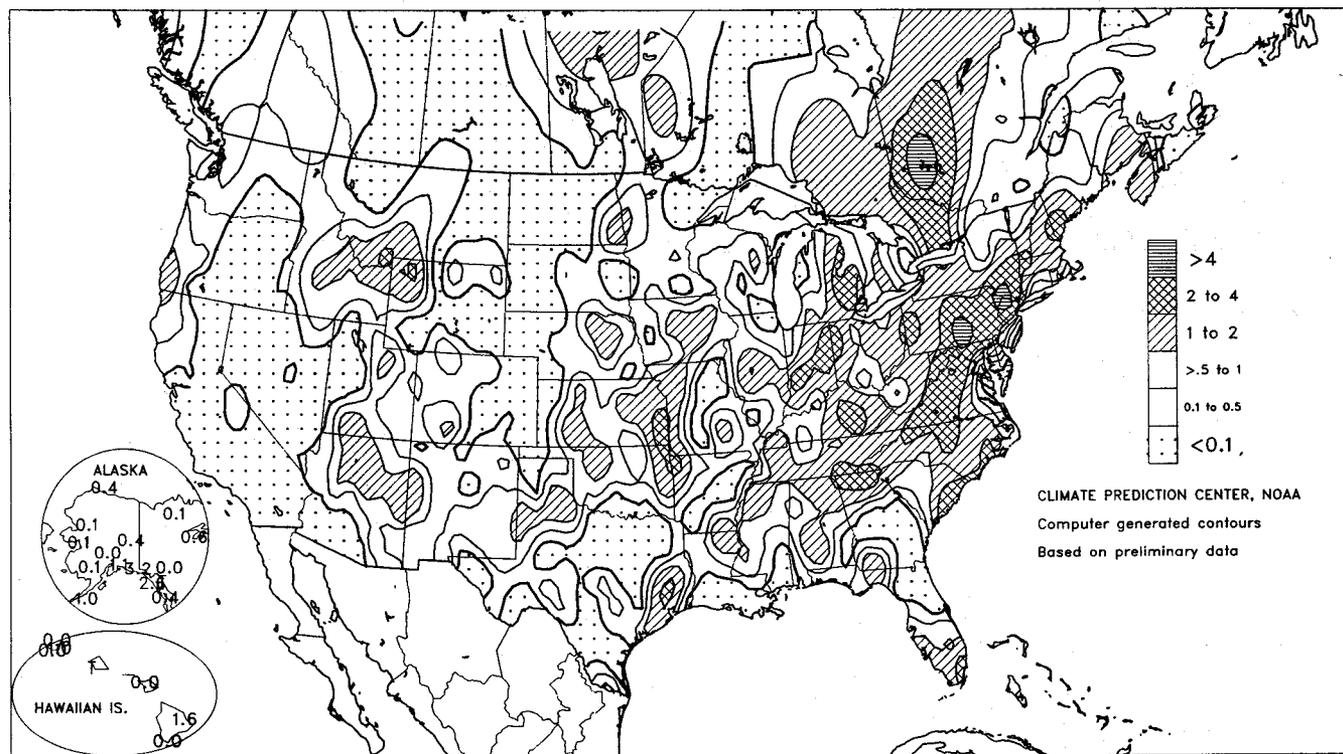
WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

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)

SEP 7 - 13, 1997



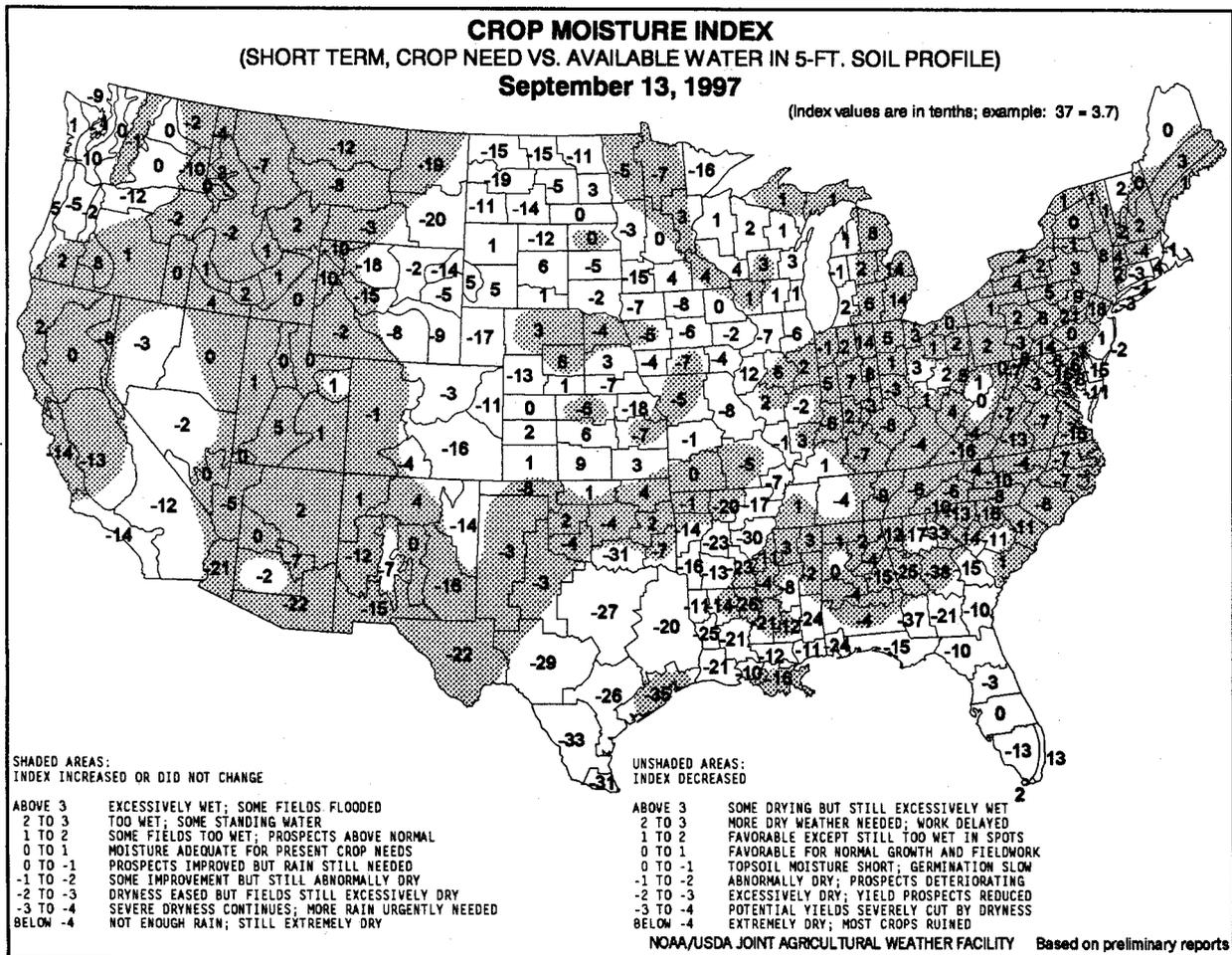
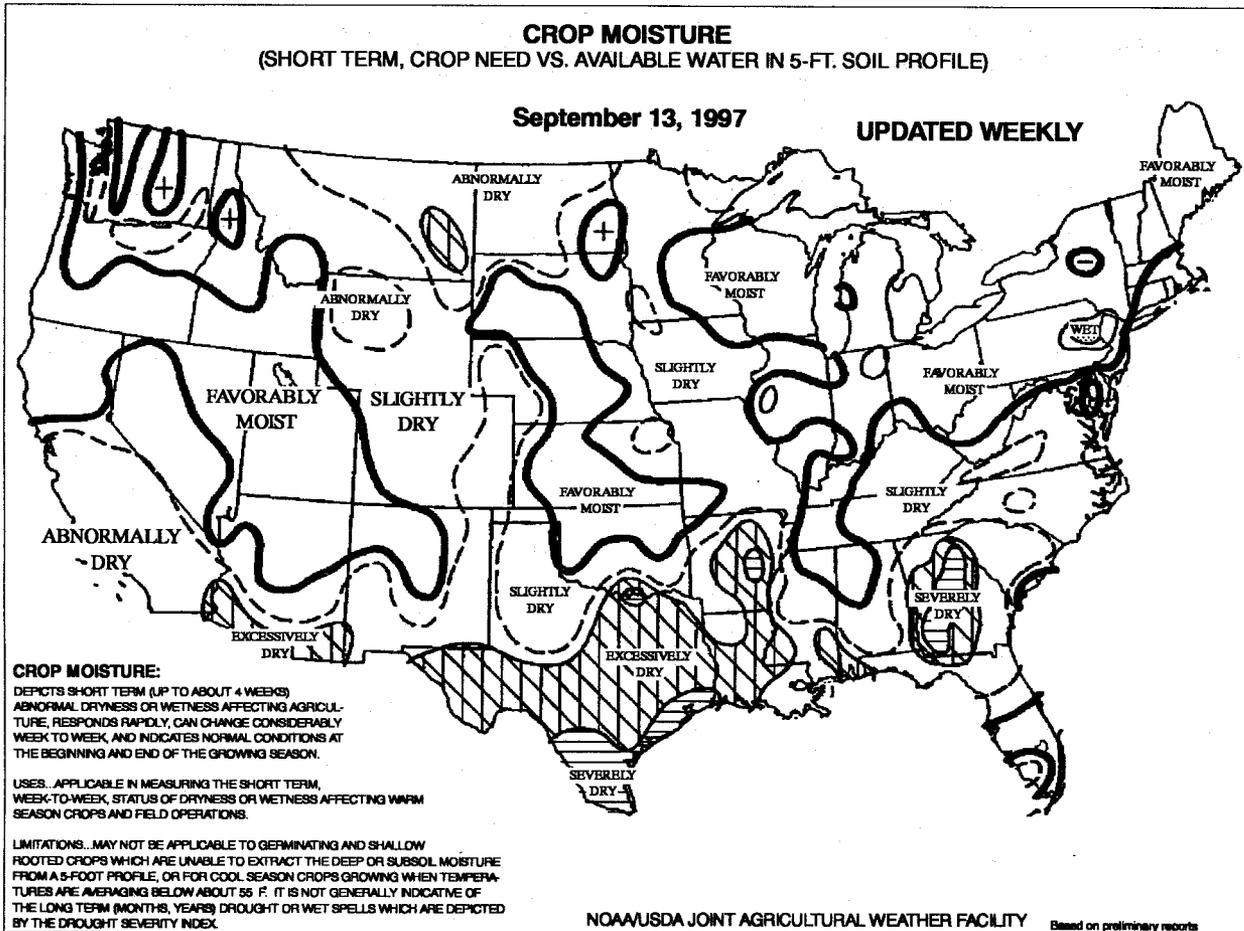
HIGHLIGHTS

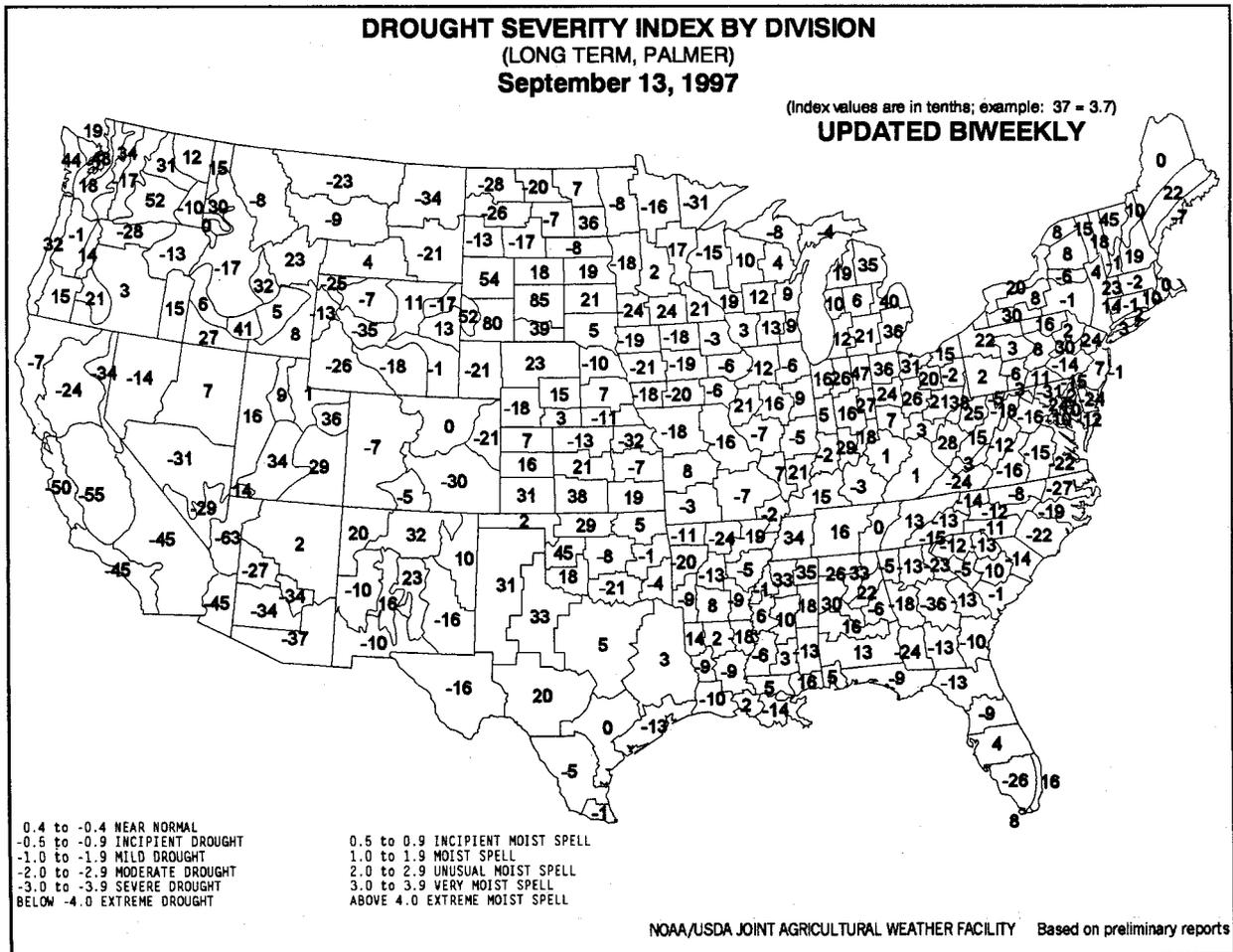
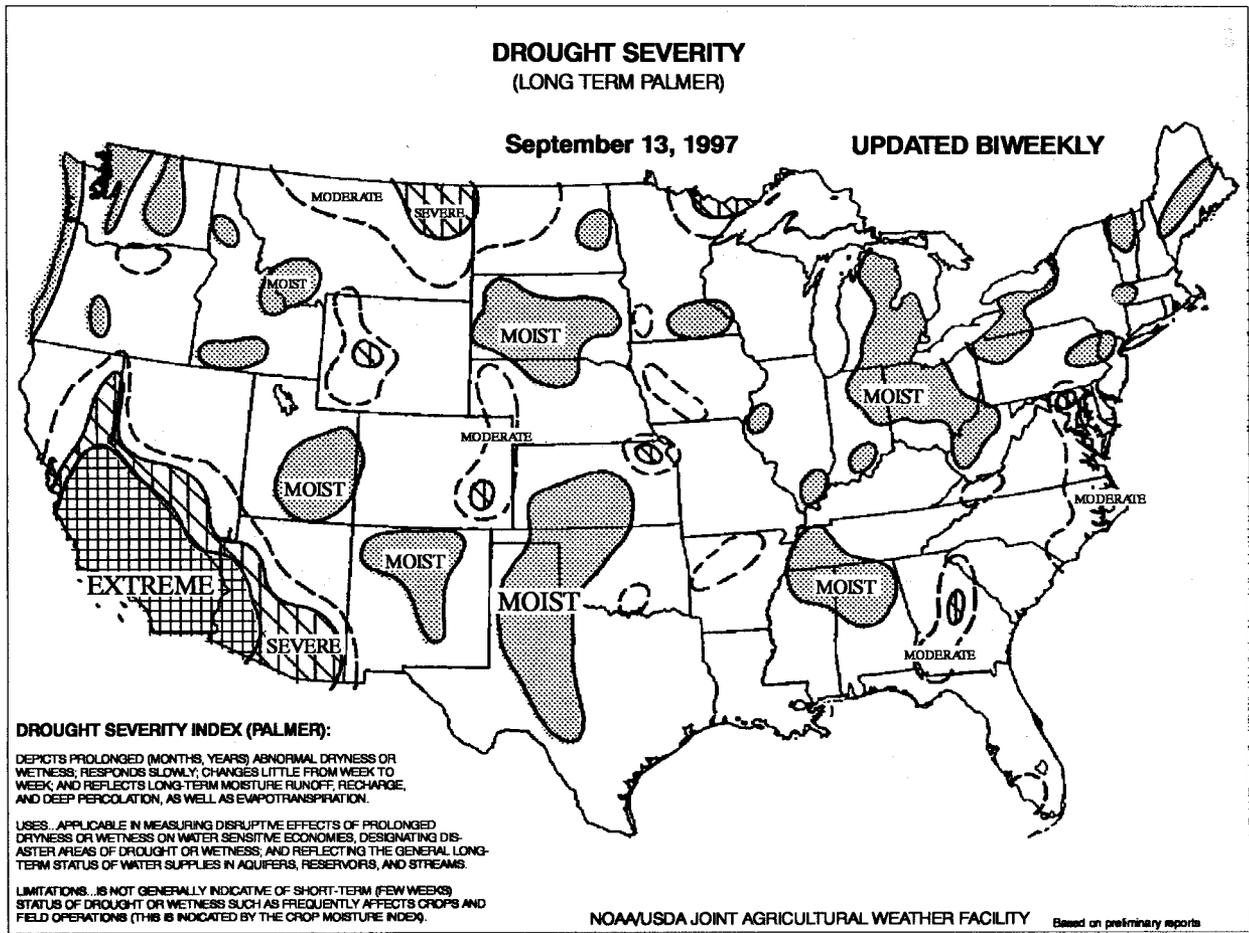
September 7 - 13, 1997

Beneficial rains, sparked by a slow-moving low-pressure system, eased dryness across the **Mid-Atlantic region**. In the **eastern Corn Belt**, however, several days of cloudy, cool weather slowed crop development. Farther south, dry weather persisted across the **southern Atlantic and Gulf Coast regions**. Monsoonal moisture continued to flow into the **Southwest**, causing locally heavy rainfall and flash flooding. At week's end, a developing storm over the **West** drew a plume of tropical moisture from Hurricane Linda toward the region. Meanwhile, warm, dry weather across the **northern Plains and upper Midwest** favored small grain harvesting and crop maturation. Weekly temperatures
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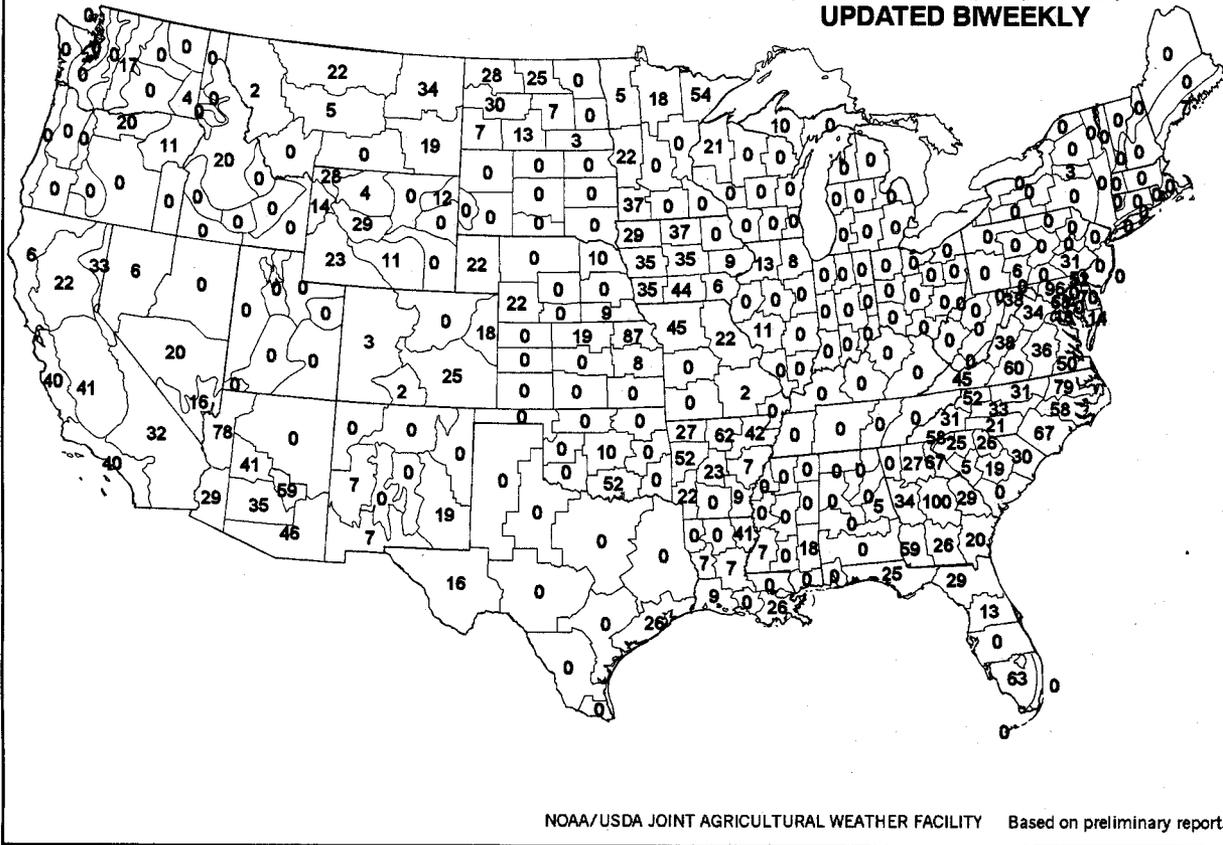
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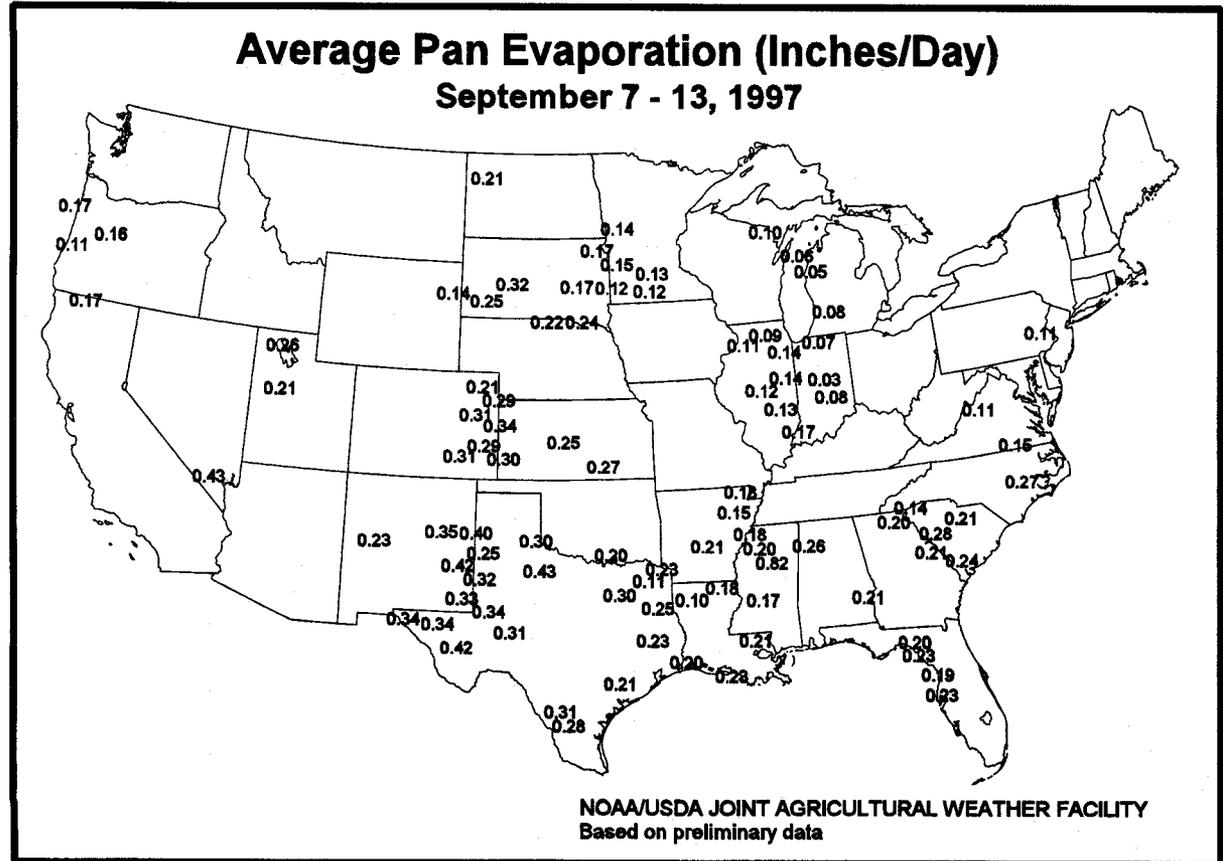


ADDITIONAL PRECIPITATION NEEDED TO BRING INDEX NEAR ZERO
 (LONG TERM, PALMER)
 September 13, 1997

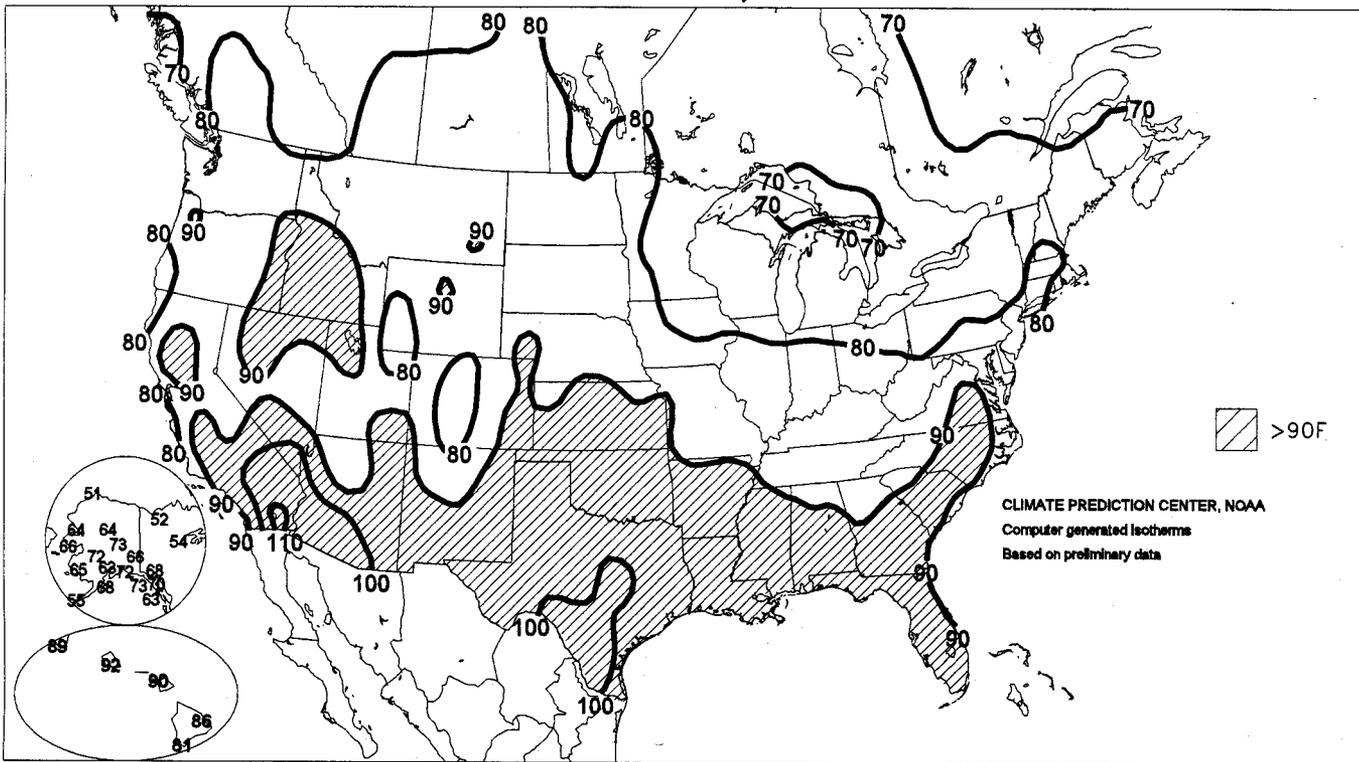
(Index values are in tenths; example: 37 = 3.7)
UPDATED BIWEEKLY



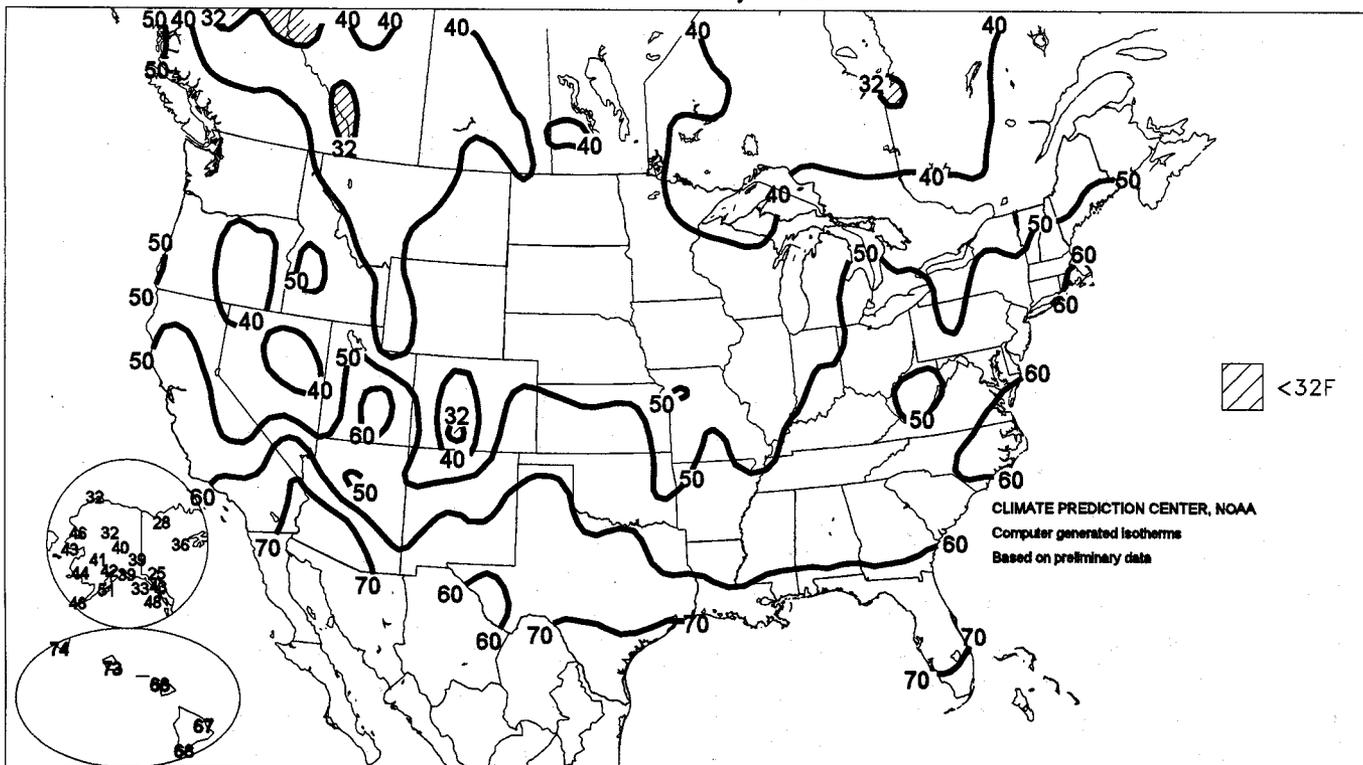
Average Pan Evaporation (Inches/Day)
 September 7 - 13, 1997



Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F) SEP 7 - 13, 1997



Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F) SEP 7 - 13, 1997



(Continued from front cover)

averaged 3 to 9°F above normal on the northern Plains and 2 to 7°F above normal across the southern Plains and Southwest. In contrast, weekly readings ranged from 0 to 4°F below normal from the Great Lakes southward to the central Gulf Coast.

Early in the week, cool air lingered in the Southeast, adding another 20 daily-record lows. On Sunday in North Carolina, Wilmington's low of 57°F was their fourth consecutive record. Macon, GA notched a low of 53°F. Record warmth appeared across the West on Monday, including highs of 84°F in Astoria, OR and 103°F in Safford, AZ. A day later, Boise, ID recorded 95°F. Record heat also spread into Texas, where Corpus Christi registered 99°F. Austin's high of 100°F represented their first triple-digit heat since August 12, 1996.

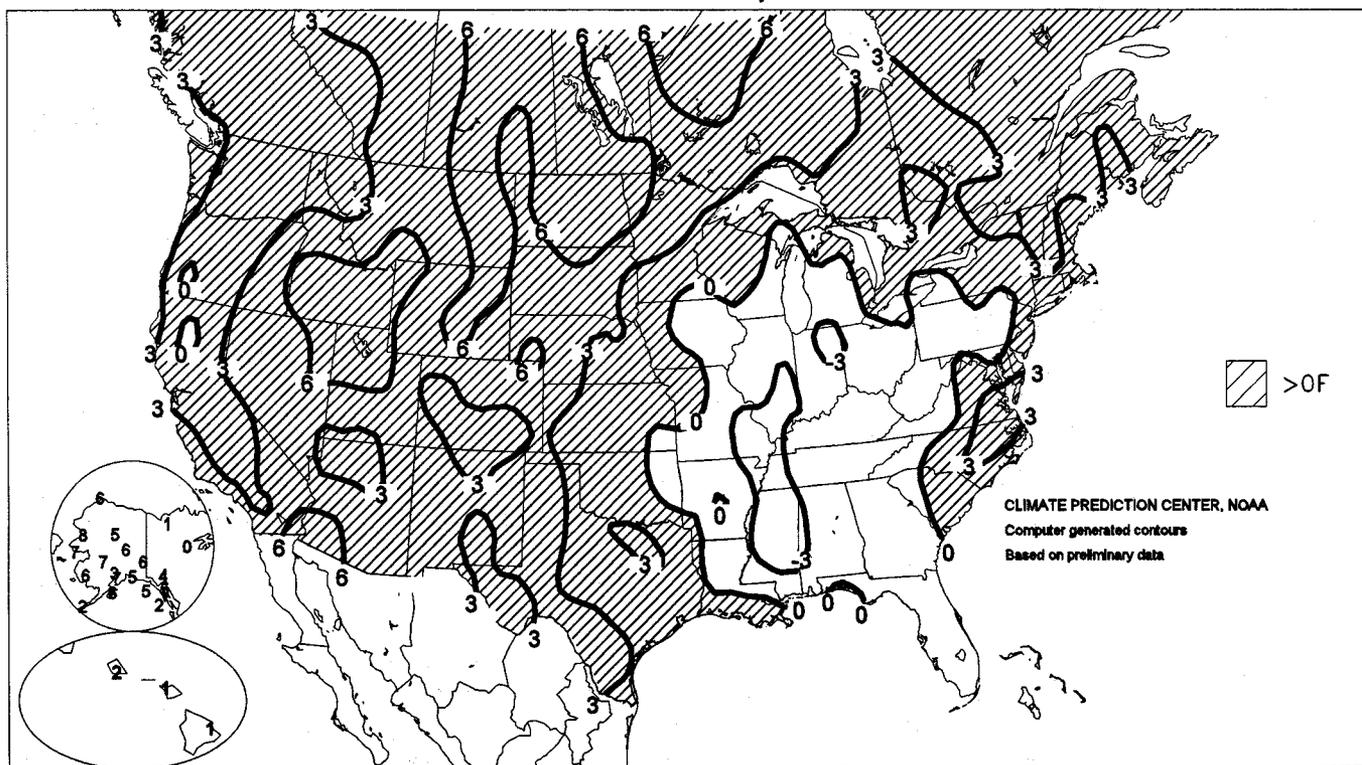
Rain developed over the Midwest on September 7 and 8, spreading to the East Coast by midweek. More than 2 inches dampened locations such as Springfield, IL, Mansfield, OH, and Lynchburg, VA. As much as 4 to 5 inches fell along the eastern slopes of the Appalachians from Virginia to south-

eastern New York. Only scattered showers fell, however, from southern Georgia to southern Texas, allowing moisture deficits to mount.

On Friday, Hurricane Linda became the strongest storm on record over the Pacific Ocean east of the Date Line, packing estimated 185 mph sustained winds while passing within about 300 miles of Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, the southern tip of Baja California. The hurricane's eyewall passed directly over Socorro Island, part of the Islas Revillagigedo. Beginning on Saturday, the storm weakened steadily while moving west-northwestward, but a plume of its moisture approached the Southwest. Even before the arrival of Linda's moisture, weekly rainfall locally topped 1 inch in the Four Corners region.

Very warm conditions prevailed in Alaska (2 to 8°F above normal) and Hawaii (1 to 2°F above normal). On Friday, Alaskan daily-record highs were set in Juneau (70°F) and Barrow (52°F). Yakutat tallied record highs (73 and 69°F) on September 12-13. In Hawaii, Honolulu also ended the week with consecutive daily-record highs (91 and 92°F).

Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F) SEP 7 - 13, 1997



U.S. Crop Production Highlights

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

Corn production is forecast at 9.27 billion bushels, virtually unchanged from last month and 1996. Yields are expected to average 125.2 bushels per acre, down 0.1 bushels from last month and 1.9 bushels from 1996. Acreage harvested and to be harvested for grain is forecast at 74.0 million acres, unchanged from last month.

All cotton production is forecast at 18.4 million bales, up 4 percent (%) from August, but down 3% from 1996. This is the fourth-largest crop on record. Yield is expected to average 658 pounds per acre, down 49 pounds from last year.

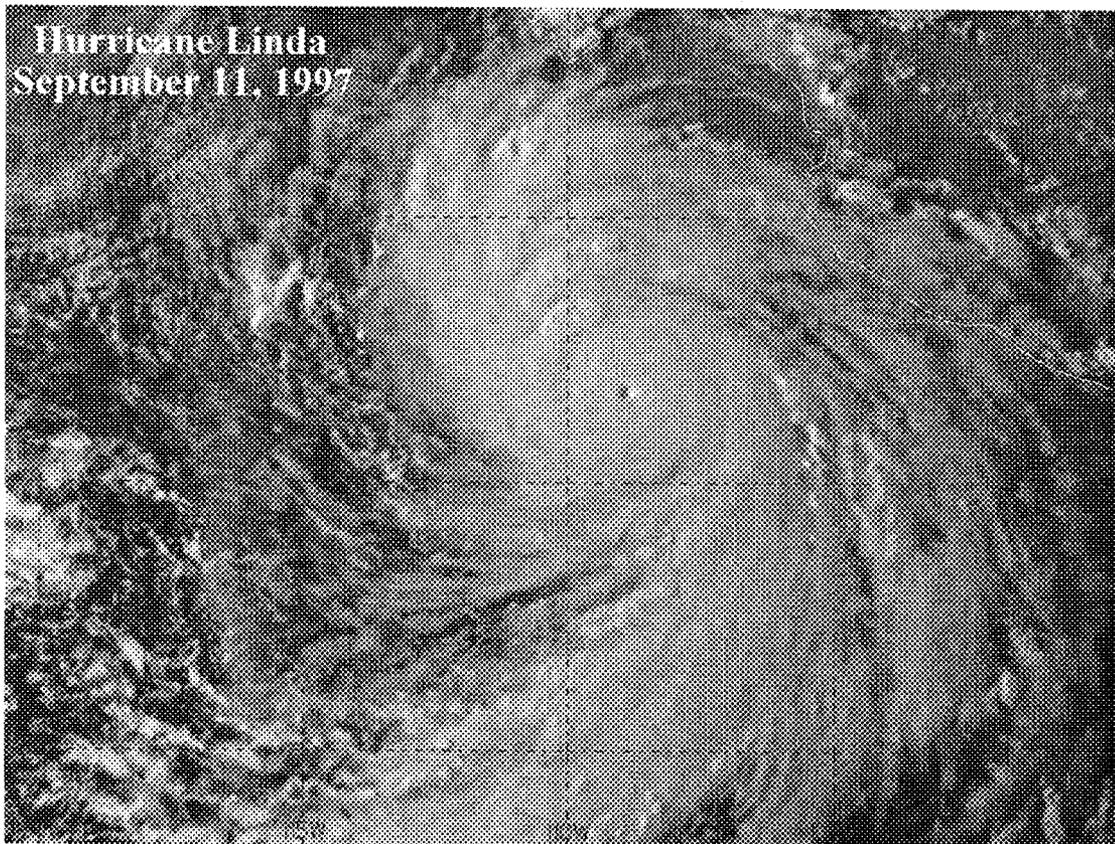
Soybean production is forecast at 2.75 billion bushels, up fractionally from the August 1 forecast and up 15% from 1996. Yield is unchanged from last month at 39.3 bushels per acre, but 1.7 bushels above last year. Estimated area for harvest remains unchanged from the last estimate of 69.8 million acres.

All wheat production is placed at 2.51 billion bushels, down 1% from the last forecast, but 10% higher than 1996. The yield is now forecast at 39.5 bushels per acre. This is 0.4 bushels less than last month, but equals the record-high yield.

Durum wheat: Production is forecast at 90.2 million bushels, unchanged from last month, but still well below last year.

Other spring wheat: Production is now forecast at 562 million bushels, down 4% from last month. The yield is forecast at 30.0 bushels per acre. This is 1.3 bushels per acre lower than August 1. There were no acreage changes. Hard Red Spring production dropped 5% from August to 503 million bushels. White Spring production is up again, to 58 million bushels, because of the improved Washington crop.

Hurricane Linda: In a visible image taken by GOES-9 at 5:00 p.m. PDT, Linda is shown here only hours before reaching peak strength. A day later, on September 12, the hurricane scored nearly a direct hit on Mexico's Socorro Island, part of the Islas Revillagigedo, packing sustained winds estimated at 185 mph. Linda weakened thereafter, continuing on a northwestward course, but moisture stripped from the storm entered the U.S. Southwest a few days later.



National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending September 13, 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 Sep 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Sep 1	TOTAL IN, SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	50 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	0.1 INCH OR MORE		
																		50 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	0.1 INCH OR MORE
AL BIRMINGHAM	87	60	91	56	74	-2	0.22	-0.72	0.16	0.46	28	38.06	96	93	42	1	0	2	0	
HUNTSVILLE	84	61	88	56	72	-2	0.91	-0.05	0.88	0.91	51	39.40	96	95	46	0	0	2	1	
MOBILE	89	66	92	63	77	-2	0.07	-1.43	0.04	1.13	40	60.41	124	93	44	2	0	2	0	
MONTGOMERY	89	62	93	56	76	-3	1.18	0.19	1.18	1.28	70	33.40	96	94	38	3	0	1	1	
AK ANCHORAGE	59	47	63	42	53	3	1.13	0.50	0.80	1.26	107	13.61	134	96	72	0	0	2	1	
BARROW	43	36	52	32	40	6	0.36	0.21	0.17	0.48	186	4.50	141	99	92	0	1	3	0	
FAIRBANKS	65	46	74	40	55	6	0.42	0.18	0.33	0.46	94	4.29	54	93	54	0	0	3	0	
JUNEAU	63	49	70	43	58	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	98	73	0	0	-	-	
KODIAK	63	53	68	51	58	6	0.15	-1.44	0.15	0.88	31	40.77	94	84	61	0	0	1	0	
NOME	55	48	66	43	52	7	0.13	-0.48	0.05	0.48	42	11.35	109	90	78	0	0	4	0	
AZ FLAGSTAFF	75	48	79	45	61	2	1.05	0.55	0.50	1.54	169	10.55	87	98	44	0	0	5	1	
PHOENIX	102	82	105	74	92	5	0.00	-0.22	0.00	0.19	46	3.46	70	64	28	7	0	0	0	
PRESCOTT	82	59	84	55	71	5	0.43	-0.09	0.29	1.35	130	10.97	76	88	35	0	0	3	0	
TUCSON	98	74	101	71	86	4	0.51	0.09	0.27	1.23	154	6.61	79	74	32	7	0	3	0	
YUMA	106	84	108	81	95	6	0.44	0.36	0.44	0.52	306	1.09	53	63	28	7	0	1	0	
AR FORT SMITH	88	62	94	52	75	0	0.84	0.10	0.49	0.84	62	27.18	96	91	42	3	0	2	0	
LITTLE ROCK	89	65	95	57	77	1	0.00	-0.94	0.00	0.53	30	43.58	130	88	41	3	0	0	0	
CA BAKERSFIELD	90	66	97	61	78	0	0.00	-0.03	0.00	0.00	0	2.99	75	61	30	4	0	0	0	
EUREKA	71	58	75	51	64	6	0.11	-0.05	0.09	0.11	39	20.25	93	88	67	0	0	2	0	
FRESNO	91	65	97	62	78	2	0.07	0.01	0.07	0.14	176	4.13	59	61	28	5	0	0	0	
LOS ANGELES	81	68	85	66	74	4	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.00	0	4.21	52	84	56	0	0	0	0	
REDDING	88	58	94	53	73	-3	0.00	-0.18	0.00	0.00	0	17.89	91	72	28	2	0	0	0	
SACRAM/MCCLELL	89	64	95	61	76	-	0.00	-	0.00	0.00	-	9.51	-	72	26	4	0	0	0	
SAN DIEGO	80	71	84	69	75	3	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.00	0	3.33	52	82	82	0	0	0	0	
SAN FRANCISCO	74	62	76	60	68	3	0.00	-0.02	0.00	0.00	0	9.37	76	87	57	0	0	0	0	
CO ALAMOSA	76	42	81	38	59	2	0.06	-0.16	0.06	0.31	78	5.17	95	96	34	0	0	1	0	
CO SPRINGS	79	52	83	47	65	3	0.09	-0.26	0.06	1.05	144	21.08	152	85	30	0	0	2	0	
DENVER	84	55	86	48	69	5	0.00	-0.30	0.00	0.78	137	17.59	144	75	26	0	0	0	0	
GRAND JUNCTION	82	58	88	54	70	0	0.00	-0.19	0.00	0.65	181	9.07	154	78	34	0	0	0	0	
PUEBLO	86	51	91	48	69	1	0.00	-0.24	0.00	0.20	40	10.82	116	84	25	2	0	0	0	
CT BRIDGEPORT	74	63	80	59	68	1	0.25	-0.47	0.25	0.29	22	27.32	92	88	65	0	0	1	0	
HARTFORD	76	59	83	54	68	2	0.00	-0.88	0.00	0.11	7	28.28	93	94	58	0	0	0	0	
DC WASHINGTON	82	65	89	59	73	0	0.46	-0.34	0.43	0.65	43	22.82	83	90	57	0	0	2	0	
DE WILMINGTON	77	62	83	56	70	0	1.18	0.35	0.78	1.19	77	19.15	85	93	63	0	0	3	1	
FL DAYTONA BEACH	88	69	91	65	78	-2	0.09	-1.45	0.08	2.84	99	36.68	105	95	57	2	0	2	0	
JACKSONVILLE	88	67	91	62	77	-2	0.00	-1.80	0.00	0.13	4	36.18	91	95	53	3	0	0	0	
KEY WEST	87	78	89	74	82	-2	0.69	-0.71	0.53	2.23	86	27.75	103	86	62	0	0	2	1	
MIAMI	88	75	89	73	82	-1	0.67	-1.16	0.67	3.64	106	51.03	123	86	58	0	0	1	1	
ORLANDO	90	70	93	67	80	-2	0.08	-1.48	0.06	0.97	33	42.91	113	97	51	4	0	1	0	
TAMPA	90	72	92	67	81	-1	0.37	-1.19	0.37	0.45	15	32.14	92	88	53	6	0	1	0	
VALPARAISO/EGLIN	89	69	91	66	79	0	0.22	-1.52	0.22	0.22	7	48.40	101	87	51	4	0	1	0	
WEST PALM BEACH	86	73	89	71	79	-3	0.00	-2.00	0.00	1.35	37	46.89	111	91	65	0	0	0	0	
GA ATHENS	86	61	89	55	73	-1	0.00	-0.80	0.00	0.72	49	31.48	85	93	45	0	0	0	0	
ATLANTA	85	63	88	57	74	-1	0.00	-0.81	0.00	0.00	0	33.35	89	83	43	0	0	0	0	
AUGUSTA	86	61	91	52	74	-2	0.30	-0.44	0.28	0.70	49	29.78	87	98	49	4	0	2	0	
COLUMBUS	90	64	92	59	77	-1	0.08	-0.71	0.08	0.08	5	34.65	90	84	37	4	0	1	0	
MACON	90	60	94	53	75	-1	0.00	-0.69	0.00	0.00	0	23.58	69	95	36	4	0	0	0	
SAVANNAH	89	65	92	57	77	-1	0.20	-0.97	0.20	0.25	11	36.12	91	98	53	2	0	1	0	
HI HILO	85	68	85	67	77	1	1.61	-0.38	0.47	2.58	69	96.09	109	91	63	0	0	6	0	
HONOLULU	91	75	92	73	83	2	0.01	-0.12	0.01	0.08	38	15.52	125	78	48	6	0	1	0	
KAHULUI	89	72	90	68	81	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	80	54	1	0	-	-	
LIHUE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ID BOISE	85	58	95	53	72	7	0.00	-0.19	0.00	0.10	30	8.61	107	70	27	1	0	0	0	
LEWISTON	83	55	91	49	69	3	0.13	-0.06	0.13	0.40	111	11.48	131	71	29	1	0	1	0	
POCATELLO	83	50	91	44	67	6	0.28	0.09	0.28	0.59	164	9.78	116	85	36	2	0	1	0	
IL CHICAGO/O'HARE	73	58	77	48	65	-2	0.11	-0.84	0.11	0.11	6	24.42	94	95	58	0	0	1	0	
MOLINE	75	57	83	49	66	0	0.28	-0.71	0.12	0.63	35	26.97	92	96	63	0	0	4	0	
PEORIA	76	58	85	52	67	-1	1.04	0.11	0.67	1.87	111	24.21	92	93	58	0	0	2	1	
ROCKFORD	73	52	75	43	63	-2	0.17	-0.75	0.13	0.19	11	21.96	82	94	57	0	0	3	0	
SPRINGFIELD	78	55	87	47	66	-3	2.05	1.25	0.98	2.41	163	20.92	82	96	54	0	0	4	2	
IN EVANSVILLE	79	57	86	49	68	-3	0.00	-0.69	0.00	0.01	1	38.04	122	97	54	0	0	0	0	
FORT WAYNE	72	56	80	48	64	-3	0.07	-0.58	0.07	0.15	12	30.44	121	96	68	0	0	1	0	
INDIANAPOLIS	77	57	86	50	67	-1	1.03	0.34	0.76	1.11	84	27.83	96	99	62	0	0	2	1	
SOUTH BEND	70	56	78	50	63	-3	0.80	-0.05	0.54	0.82	51	24.66	90	96	67	0	0	3	1	
IA BURLINGTON	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.32	-0.66	-	0.43	24	24.77	93	-	-	-	-	-	-	
CEDAR RAPIDS	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.70	-0.28	-	0.71	39	19.32	75	-	-	-	-	-	-	
DES MOINES	78	57	81	48	67	-1	0.43	-0.44	0.43	0.55	34	22.97	90	95	54	0	0	1	0	
DUBUQUE	71	54	75	47	63	-1	0.73	-0.42	0.70	0.90	41	23.48	83	96	65	0	0	2	1	
SILOX CITY	81	54	86	43	67	2	0.86	0.16	0.96	0.89	68	15.15	74	97	51	0	0	3	0	
WATERLOO	73	52	77	43	63	-1	0.86	0.01	0.86	1.54	97	21.70	83	97	63	0	0	5	1	
KS CONCORDIA	85	59	91	48	72	2	0.26	-0.48	0.20	0.26	18	17.13	74	90	40	2	0	3	0	
DODGE CITY	86	60	92	52	73	2	1.43	0.95	-	1.44	157	21.22	120	87	42	2	0	-	-	
GOODLAND	84	56	89	51	69	3	0.01	-0.38	0.01	0.42	56	14.61	96	88	36	0	0	1	0	
TOPEKA	83	59	90	49	71	1	0.81	-0.10	0.62	0.87	51	21.16	79	91	43	1	0	3	1	

Based on 1961-90 normals

Weather Data for the Week Ending September 13, 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 Sep 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Sep 1	TOTAL IN. SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90° AND ABOVE		32° AND BELOW	
																TEMP. °F	PRECIP.	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
KY WICHITA	84	62	94	52	73	1	0.25	-0.60	0.12	0.25	16	26.44	118	85	40	2	0	3	0
LA JACKSON	76	60	84	52	68	-2	0.88	0.00	0.84	1.08	68	39.26	108	95	56	0	0	3	1
LA LEXINGTON	77	57	86	50	67	-3	1.50	0.72	1.04	1.54	104	49.20	150	93	52	0	0	2	1
LA LOUISVILLE	81	61	87	54	71	-1	0.52	-0.24	0.48	0.79	55	48.18	148	91	48	0	0	2	0
LA PADUCAH	81	56	87	49	69	-3	0.04	-0.84	0.04	0.57	36	41.14	117	99	47	0	0	1	0
ME BATON ROUGE	89	67	91	59	78	-2	0.00	-1.20	0.00	1.07	47	51.81	115	93	43	3	0	0	0
ME LAKE CHARLES	90	69	92	65	80	1	0.00	-1.38	0.00	0.65	26	46.10	120	93	46	4	0	0	0
ME NEW ORLEANS	90	71	92	69	81	1	0.11	-1.27	0.11	0.28	11	39.11	85	88	46	3	0	1	0
ME SHREVEPORT	90	66	92	60	78	0	0.00	-0.69	0.00	0.27	22	50.02	158	89	48	5	0	0	0
ME CARIBOU	85	51	73	43	59	3	0.20	-0.63	0.14	0.90	57	27.17	109	97	72	0	0	2	0
ME PORTLAND	88	58	75	51	62	1	0.73	0.04	0.59	0.82	64	26.40	91	97	79	0	0	3	1
MD BALTIMORE	81	63	89	56	72	1	0.48	-0.32	0.30	0.83	53	26.25	90	94	61	0	0	3	0
MA BOSTON	72	62	82	60	67	1	0.34	-0.38	0.21	0.49	37	21.59	76	93	71	0	0	3	0
MA WORCESTER	71	59	78	57	65	3	0.84	-0.28	0.63	0.83	49	25.69	79	96	65	0	0	2	1
MI ALPENA	65	53	74	48	59	0	1.95	1.19	1.42	1.96	136	24.32	117	98	77	0	0	3	2
MI GRAND RAPIDS	68	57	74	54	62	-1	1.30	0.28	1.25	1.33	70	21.81	87	97	73	0	0	2	1
MI HOUGHTON LAKE	64	52	72	43	58	-1	0.89	0.05	0.44	0.89	57	19.94	100	96	76	0	0	3	0
MI LANSING	68	54	73	49	61	-2	1.51	0.63	0.90	1.59	98	21.51	99	97	74	0	0	4	2
MI MARQUETTE	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.09	-0.88	-	0.11	6	23.38	98	-	-	-	-	-	-
MI MUSKEGON	69	54	73	46	61	-2	0.13	-0.81	0.11	0.16	9	18.64	86	94	69	0	0	2	0
MI DULUTH	67	49	74	39	59	2	0.15	-0.79	0.15	0.23	13	18.74	84	94	59	0	0	1	0
MI INT'L FALLS	71	47	79	32	59	4	0.09	-0.68	0.06	0.87	47	12.10	65	95	53	0	1	3	0
MI MINNEAPOLIS	72	54	78	47	63	1	0.00	-0.67	0.00	0.49	38	28.70	130	94	60	0	0	0	0
MI ROCHESTER	70	52	74	46	61	0	0.06	-0.79	0.06	0.42	26	24.85	109	95	65	0	0	1	0
MI ST. CLOUD	73	51	77	45	62	3	0.55	-0.23	0.55	0.92	61	21.28	99	94	55	0	0	1	1
MS JACKSON	88	61	91	56	74	-3	0.82	-0.23	0.82	0.82	39	43.08	109	97	41	2	0	1	1
MS MERIDIAN	88	59	92	54	73	-4	0.80	-0.03	-	0.96	62	42.96	104	98	41	2	0	2	1
MS TUPELO	83	60	88	55	72	-4	0.70	-0.14	0.48	0.70	46	52.02	132	95	48	0	0	2	0
MO COLUMBIA	79	58	85	51	69	-1	0.05	-0.86	0.03	0.70	42	27.31	97	92	52	0	0	2	0
MO KANSAS CITY	81	58	89	49	70	1	0.84	-0.52	0.64	0.84	30	23.07	82	88	46	0	0	1	1
MO SAINT LOUIS	80	60	88	52	70	-2	0.20	-0.54	0.20	1.47	108	23.78	89	84	51	0	0	1	0
MO SPRINGFIELD	80	57	86	46	68	-2	0.27	-0.82	0.27	0.27	13	26.70	89	91	47	0	0	1	0
MT BILLINGS	82	52	88	46	67	6	0.02	-0.29	0.02	0.34	7	12.35	107	74	25	0	0	1	0
MT BUTTE	75	40	85	34	57	5	0.22	-0.09	0.14	0.32	54	17.35	177	92	31	0	0	3	0
MT GLASGOW	80	62	87	45	66	8	0.20	-0.05	-	0.20	41	10.35	113	67	25	0	0	-	-
MT GREAT FALLS	78	44	84	40	61	3	0.00	-0.31	0.00	0.01	2	12.43	101	73	28	0	0	0	0
MT KALISPELL	70	40	78	33	55	0	0.18	-0.13	0.18	0.48	81	14.53	122	96	40	0	0	1	0
MT MILES CITY	85	54	91	46	70	8	0.06	-0.24	0.03	0.06	14	9.06	80	70	21	2	0	3	0
MT MISSOULA	78	44	86	39	60	2	0.05	-0.23	0.03	0.32	63	12.54	123	88	41	0	0	2	0
NE GRAND ISLAND	80	56	88	48	68	2	1.07	0.38	0.82	1.44	108	20.35	100	95	49	0	0	2	1
NE LINCOLN	83	56	88	46	70	2	0.09	-0.76	0.07	0.33	21	16.83	78	92	42	0	0	2	0
NE NORFOLK	81	57	86	47	69	3	1.08	0.48	0.39	1.21	108	15.72	77	93	45	0	0	3	0
NE NORTH PLATTE	84	53	89	44	68	5	0.19	-0.20	0.19	0.67	93	13.51	83	93	38	0	0	1	0
NE OMAHA	79	58	84	49	68	1	0.23	-0.68	-	3.59	218	21.54	94	92	55	0	0	-	-
NE SCOTTSBLUFF	86	51	90	47	68	5	0.09	-0.16	0.07	0.11	24	17.27	137	89	28	1	0	2	0
NE VALENTINE	83	52	89	44	68	4	0.02	-0.37	0.02	0.95	127	17.83	115	91	40	0	0	1	0
NV ELY	82	48	84	38	65	7	0.00	-0.24	0.00	0.73	170	7.09	96	77	21	0	0	0	0
NV LAS VEGAS	98	76	103	71	87	5	0.08	0.00	0.08	1.55	1033	2.99	102	43	17	7	0	1	0
NV RENO	84	49	88	45	66	4	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.11	73	5.71	113	71	22	0	0	0	0
NV WINNEMUCCA	86	46	93	39	66	5	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.09	60	6.44	115	58	20	2	0	0	0
NH CONCORD	72	58	82	55	65	4	1.14	0.48	0.58	1.32	108	24.58	99	94	64	0	0	5	1
NJ NEWARK	77	64	85	58	70	0	0.80	-0.08	0.61	1.08	65	30.47	97	87	59	0	0	2	1
NM ALBUQUERQUE	86	63	89	61	75	4	0.04	-0.21	-	0.40	82	8.28	128	69	29	0	0	-	-
NY ALBANY	74	57	78	50	66	2	0.00	-0.70	0.00	0.60	45	21.17	83	99	70	0	0	0	0
NY BINGHAMTON	67	56	70	53	61	0	0.73	-0.07	0.73	1.04	70	20.86	80	97	71	0	0	1	1
NY BUFFALO	69	57	75	52	63	0	1.34	0.49	0.79	1.66	103	28.19	108	93	71	0	0	3	1
NY ROCHESTER	70	57	75	50	63	0	1.30	0.58	1.10	1.95	142	23.06	103	97	73	0	0	4	1
NY SYRACUSE	71	57	75	52	64	1	0.96	0.05	0.45	1.32	79	21.26	80	95	68	0	0	3	0
NC ASHEVILLE	77	56	82	53	67	-1	1.36	0.43	0.89	1.36	77	37.36	107	95	57	0	0	3	1
NC CHARLOTTE	86	64	90	60	75	1	0.31	-0.52	0.27	0.31	20	33.95	109	86	45	1	0	2	0
NC GREENSBORO	81	62	87	56	72	0	0.00	-0.83	0.00	0.79	51	29.15	95	88	49	0	0	0	0
NC HATTERAS	79	72	84	69	75	0	2.34	1.08	1.60	2.34	99	32.19	83	86	71	0	0	3	2
NC RALEIGH	86	62	93	59	74	1	0.85	-0.12	0.37	1.14	78	28.83	94	93	54	1	0	2	0
NC WILMINGTON	86	65	89	57	76	-1	1.70	0.41	1.33	2.02	81	30.19	71	95	59	0	0	5	1
ND BISMARCK	83	51	89	43	67	8	0.00	-0.37	0.00	0.24	34	10.72	84	87	30	0	0	0	0
ND DICKINSON	78	51	84	41	65	6	0.00	-0.41	0.00	0.08	11	14.87	111	78	32	0	0	0	0
ND FARGO	79	54	85	46	67	7	1.03	0.55	0.65	1.58	176	21.84	142	92	44	0	0	2	1
ND GRAND FORKS	80	54	87	48	67	9	0.15	-0.40	0.15	0.17	16	15.11	104	89	39	0	0	1	0
ND JAMESTOWN	80	56	88	51	68	9	0.10	-0.34	0.08	0.17	20	17.41	124	82	37	0	0	2	0
ND WILLISTON	78	50	85	41	64	6	0.02	-0.31	0.02	0.02	3	10.61	95	78	33	0	0	1	0
OH AKRON-CANTON	72	56	79	50	64	-2	0.88	0.06	0.58	1.10	73	25.48	98	98	69	0	0	3	1
OH CINCINNATI	77	58	85	49	68	-2	0.40	-0.29	0.40	0.48	36	32.61	108	94	57	0	0	1	0
OH CLEVELAND	71	59	77	54	65	-1	0.50	-0.33	0.46	0.84	54	25.32	98	82	71	0	0	2	0
OH COLUMBUS	75	58	83	52	67	-1	1.19	0.46	0.71	1.20	86	31.08	110	94	60	0	0	3	1
OH DAYTON	74	57	85	50	66	-2	1.14	0.53	1.14	1.17	101	24.93	93	93	56	0	0	1	1
OH MANSFIELD	71	57	77	51	64	-2	2.08	1.25	1.08	2.14	133	32.87	113	97	67	0	0	3	2

Based on 1961-90 normals

Weather Data for the Week Ending September 13, 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 Sep 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Sep 1	TOTAL IN, SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	TEMP, °F			
																90 AND ABOVE	82 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
OK TOLEDO	71	58	79	51	65	0	0.04	-0.66	0.04	0.09	7	28.78	122	96	67	0	0	1	0
OK YOUNGSTOWN	72	57	76	52	64	0	1.54	0.71	0.96	1.64	106	24.10	90	96	69	0	0	3	2
OK OKLAHOMA CITY	90	64	96	54	77	2	0.12	-0.77	-	0.12	8	20.25	83	38	4	0	-	-	-
OK TULSA	86	62	92	53	74	-1	0.00	-1.10	0.00	0.00	0	30.56	106	87	44	2	0	0	0
OR ASTORIA	73	55	84	49	64	4	0.82	0.04	0.47	0.65	66	51.55	135	94	63	0	0	2	0
OR BURNS	79	43	87	38	61	4	0.45	0.31	-	0.51	196	7.21	110	78	42	0	0	-	-
OR EUGENE	75	52	83	44	63	-1	0.63	0.28	0.59	0.63	102	25.19	90	91	49	0	0	2	1
OR MEDFORD	81	56	90	50	69	1	0.20	0.01	0.18	0.43	130	11.88	115	85	40	1	0	2	0
OR PENDLETON	81	53	90	45	67	2	0.00	-0.14	0.00	0.20	77	6.97	91	70	30	1	0	0	0
OR PORTLAND	78	57	92	50	68	3	0.51	0.13	0.37	0.51	75	28.99	137	93	48	1	0	3	0
OR SALEM	77	54	93	46	65	2	0.81	0.29	0.50	0.61	109	28.14	127	93	49	1	0	3	1
PA ALLENTOWN	74	57	79	48	65	-1	0.00	-0.96	0.00	0.02	1	27.87	90	96	68	0	0	0	0
PA ERIE	70	60	78	57	66	-1	0.90	-0.15	0.68	1.18	61	29.31	106	96	75	0	0	2	1
PA MIDDLETOWN	78	62	85	55	70	1	1.89	1.16	1.04	2.05	131	24.37	84	95	70	0	0	2	2
PA PHILADELPHIA	78	63	82	59	70	0	0.84	0.01	0.81	1.19	78	23.70	78	91	63	0	0	2	1
PA PITTSBURGH	73	59	78	57	66	0	1.30	0.58	0.78	1.33	99	24.75	91	93	67	0	0	3	1
PA SCRANTON	70	57	73	52	63	-1	1.28	0.48	1.11	1.32	89	20.25	78	96	71	0	0	3	1
PA WILLIAMSPORT	72	58	79	53	65	0	0.49	-0.31	0.45	0.54	36	19.81	69	98	71	0	0	2	0
RI PROVIDENCE	74	61	80	59	68	2	0.50	-0.31	0.38	0.54	36	28.97	93	95	66	0	0	3	0
SC BEAUFORT	89	69	91	61	79	1	0.00	-1.30	0.00	0.05	2	30.62	75	96	57	1	0	0	0
SC CHARLESTON	87	67	89	58	77	-1	3.58	2.37	1.29	3.75	158	44.17	109	92	53	0	0	4	3
SC COLUMBIA	89	65	91	58	77	1	0.26	-0.67	0.14	0.28	15	29.78	77	98	45	5	0	2	0
SD GREENVILLE	84	62	89	58	73	0	0.20	-0.71	0.20	0.20	12	34.20	92	90	46	0	0	1	0
SD ABERDEEN	78	53	84	44	66	4	0.26	-0.20	0.24	0.30	35	14.85	96	93	45	0	0	2	0
SD HURON	79	56	85	45	67	4	0.87	0.46	0.67	1.00	130	18.85	115	92	49	0	0	3	1
SD RAPID CITY	82	51	86	45	66	4	0.00	-0.30	0.00	0.13	23	19.33	140	79	36	0	0	0	0
SD SIOUX FALLS	77	53	83	43	65	2	0.38	-0.36	0.29	0.56	41	16.89	91	93	52	0	0	3	0
TN BRISTOL	78	56	86	52	67	-3	0.48	-0.29	0.40	0.48	34	33.43	112	98	56	0	0	2	0
TN CHATTANOOGA	84	61	89	57	73	-2	3.09	2.10	2.81	3.46	191	43.68	114	97	46	0	0	2	1
TN KNOXVILLE	82	62	88	57	72	0	0.65	-0.07	0.60	0.66	50	41.28	120	92	50	0	0	2	1
TN MEMPHIS	83	64	90	58	74	-2	1.46	0.61	1.31	1.46	92	55.63	163	88	49	1	0	2	1
TN NASHVILLE	82	62	87	53	72	-2	0.25	-0.59	0.14	1.04	68	38.28	112	92	49	0	0	2	0
TX ABILENE	92	67	96	60	80	2	0.00	-0.77	0.00	0.00	0	20.34	116	73	33	5	0	0	0
TX AMARILLO	89	63	96	62	76	5	0.00	-0.50	0.00	0.00	0	19.57	122	82	37	4	0	0	0
TX AUSTIN	95	72	100	68	83	2	0.19	-0.55	0.19	0.66	50	33.67	162	90	41	7	0	1	0
TX BEAUMONT	91	72	95	69	82	2	0.00	-1.52	0.00	0.44	16	36.02	91	94	53	6	0	0	0
TX BROWNSVILLE	94	74	95	71	84	1	0.05	-1.39	-	0.33	13	17.42	99	94	49	7	0	-	-
TX CORPUS CHRISTI	96	73	99	71	85	3	0.00	-1.33	0.00	0.03	1	20.31	96	90	48	7	0	0	0
TX DEL RIO	98	74	102	71	86	6	0.00	-0.64	0.00	0.21	18	18.15	142	83	35	7	0	0	0
TX EL PASO	92	68	97	67	80	4	0.31	-0.11	0.22	0.39	50	6.09	98	70	27	7	0	2	0
TX FORT WORTH	92	69	97	64	81	1	0.00	-0.76	0.00	1.91	141	31.25	130	77	39	6	0	0	0
TX GALVESTON	89	78	91	75	84	3	0.09	-1.37	0.09	0.09	3	35.31	121	83	58	5	0	1	0
TX HOUSTON	93	69	98	65	81	2	0.55	-0.58	0.55	0.55	27	39.50	124	96	44	7	0	1	1
TX LUBBOCK	90	65	96	63	77	5	1.34	0.71	0.69	1.34	114	18.57	132	81	36	5	0	3	2
TX MIDLAND	91	66	95	63	79	4	0.14	-0.48	0.09	0.55	50	13.42	128	83	36	6	0	2	0
TX SAN ANGELO	92	68	99	66	80	3	0.91	0.11	0.74	0.95	68	19.81	139	85	36	5	0	2	1
TX SAN ANTONIO	96	73	101	69	84	3	0.56	-0.23	0.56	0.89	62	23.57	109	88	38	7	0	1	1
TX VICTORIA	95	72	99	70	83	3	0.00	-1.32	0.00	0.47	20	45.58	174	96	50	7	0	0	0
TX WACO	96	69	101	60	82	2	0.00	-0.79	0.00	0.29	21	28.71	130	80	32	7	0	0	0
TX WICHITA FALLS	95	66	101	58	80	3	0.02	-0.88	0.02	0.02	1	15.85	75	71	30	5	0	1	0
UT SALT LAKE CITY	88	61	93	51	75	7	0.08	-0.20	0.08	0.19	37	12.24	108	65	29	3	0	1	0
VT BURLINGTON	73	55	79	47	64	3	0.14	-0.66	0.08	0.36	24	20.92	86	93	61	0	0	2	0
VA LYNCHBURG	79	58	88	52	68	-2	2.25	1.51	1.47	2.25	163	25.57	88	96	56	0	0	5	1
VA NORFOLK	81	68	85	65	75	1	0.25	-0.70	0.15	0.34	19	23.88	72	94	61	0	0	2	0
VA RICHMOND	84	63	91	59	74	2	0.34	-0.45	0.16	0.34	23	22.71	72	92	51	1	0	3	0
VA ROANOKE	78	60	87	55	69	0	0.15	-0.66	0.15	0.24	16	26.00	89	91	52	0	0	1	0
VA WASH/DULLES	78	60	87	52	69	0	1.26	0.46	0.82	1.61	106	24.16	84	98	66	0	0	5	1
WA HANFORD	84	56	91	49	70	-	0.00	-0.07	0.00	0.15	115	3.98	106	59	29	2	0	0	0
WA OLYMPIA	75	49	83	43	62	3	0.00	-0.46	0.00	0.06	7	40.54	141	93	45	0	0	0	0
WA QUILLAYUTE	72	49	84	44	61	3	0.37	-0.57	0.30	0.72	45	79.42	130	94	52	0	0	3	0
WA SEATTLE-TACOMA	73	54	81	49	63	1	0.18	-0.22	0.18	0.21	30	29.00	138	86	52	0	0	1	0
WA SPOKANE	78	50	84	45	63	2	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.12	39	11.96	113	77	30	0	0	0	0
WA YAKIMA	79	47	86	39	63	0	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.14	61	3.74	76	84	32	0	0	0	0
WV BECKLEY	72	53	77	45	62	-2	0.39	-0.41	0.29	0.44	30	30.67	102	98	66	0	0	2	0
WV CHARLESTON	78	57	84	51	67	-3	0.06	-0.72	0.06	0.07	5	33.53	108	99	62	0	0	1	0
WV ELKINS	74	51	79	45	62	-2	0.36	-0.55	0.30	0.52	30	30.54	93	97	57	0	0	3	0
WV HUNTINGTON	76	57	83	51	67	-3	0.71	0.01	0.45	0.80	60	31.28	103	98	61	0	0	2	0
WI EAU CLAIRE	71	50	76	43	61	0	0.46	-0.51	0.39	1.29	70	24.74	101	94	58	0	0	3	0
WI GREEN BAY	71	51	75	46	61	0	0.89	0.04	0.89	1.07	67	23.83	113	96	63	0	0	1	1
WI MADISON	70	50	73	42	60	-1	0.21	-0.63	0.18	0.26	16	23.81	104	99	63	0	0	2	0
WI MILWAUKEE	67	55	72	52	61	-3	0.08	-0.74	0.06	0.08	5	26.50	111	67	75	0	0	3	0
WY CASPER	83	48	88	41	65	5	0.02	-0.19	0.02	0.23	61	9.37	98	70	22	0	0	1	0
WY CHEYENNE	78	52	80	48	65	6	0.00	-0.32	0.00	0.37	61	16.32	136	75	33	0	0	0	0
WY LANDER	82	50	87	45	68	5	0.13	-0.11	0.13	0.16	38	10.07	102	66	26	0	0	1	0
WY SHERIDAN	81	47	86	38	64	5	0.02	-0.29	0.02	0.07	12	12.21	111	86	31	0	0	1	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

September 8 - 14, 1997

HIGHLIGHTS

A slow-moving storm brought continued cool weather to the Eastern States, slowing crop maturation. Beneficial moisture generated by the storm eased moisture stress on late-planted crops from the Tennessee Valley northeastward to Pennsylvania. The

storm also brought widespread showers to the western Corn Belt. Hot, dry weather in the central and northern plains provided favorable small grain-harvesting and winter wheat-planting weather. Continued dry soils in the Southeast stressed late-planted crops.

Corn: Warm, sunny weather in the western Corn Belt pushed crops to maturity. Corn still needs sunshine and heat to mature farther east. Corn doughing neared completion, just ahead of progress at this time last year and the 5-year average. Corn was 78 percent (%) dented, ahead of 71% dented in 1996 and the average of 74%. Twenty percent of the corn acreage was mature, equal to 1996 but behind the average of 27%. Corn harvest, at 4% complete, was just behind 5% for both 1996 and the average. Dry weather in the Southeast provided favorable harvest conditions. Harvest was just beginning in the central Plains and eastern Corn Belt. Nationwide, corn condition remained mostly good to fair.

Soybeans: Twenty percent of the soybean acreage was dropping leaves, compared with 16% in 1996 and the average of 22%. Harvest was just beginning in Arkansas and Kansas and became more active in Louisiana and Mississippi. Soybean condition declined due to continued below-normal temperatures east of the Mississippi River and dry soils in the Southeast. Soybean development was ending in Illinois due to cool nights and shorter days. In Iowa, rain benefited soybeans but may have been too late to help the corn. Soybean condition declined in Missouri as the latest maturing crops reflected the effects of moisture shortages. Above-normal temperatures west of the Mississippi moved soybeans toward maturity. Overall, soybean condition rated mostly good to fair.

Cotton: Bolls were opening on nearly half of the cotton acreage, behind a year ago and the average. With the exception of California, Missouri, New Mexico, and Texas, cotton fields were progressing behind the normal pace. Fields were especially behind in Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee. Cotton harvest, at 5% complete, was in its early stages. Despite early-week rains, harvest in Texas made good progress. Growers in Alabama, Arizona, Louisiana, and Mississippi were just beginning to harvest. Cotton condition declined due to continued dry weather in the Southeast. Nationwide, condition rated mostly good to fair.

Sorghum: Eighty percent of the sorghum acreage was turning color, compared with 84% in 1996 and the average of 75%. Thirty-four percent of the crop was mature, behind both 1996 and the average. Sorghum harvest was 22% complete, behind 25% for both last year and the average. Harvest was most active in

Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi. Early-week rains limited harvest in Texas. Harvest in Kansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma was just starting. Overall, sorghum remained in mostly good condition.

Rice: Rice harvest gained momentum as 39% of the rice acreage was harvested. At this time last year, 48% of the crop was harvested and normally 41% is cut. Harvest was ahead of normal in California and Louisiana, but behind normal elsewhere. Blast disease and weed problems were reported in some California fields. In Texas, harvest continued along the Upper Coast, with some smut appearing. Overall, the rice crop remained in mostly good condition.

Spring Wheat and Barley: Small grain harvest neared completion as dry, very warm weather allowed farmers to combine fields for most of the week. Spring wheat harvest advanced to 93% complete, 3 percentage points ahead of 1996 and 15 points ahead of average. Minnesota, Montana, and North Dakota farmers harvested their crops well ahead of the average pace. Barley harvest reached 94% complete, equal to last year but 7% ahead of the average. Harvests in Idaho and South Dakota were slightly behind normal. Harvest was ahead of normal elsewhere.

Peanuts: Peanut harvest advanced to 11% complete, ahead of 6% harvested at this time last year. Condition of the peanut crop declined due to continued dry weather in Georgia and the Gulf Coast States. Dry soils delayed harvest in Florida, adversely affecting the peanut crop condition. In Georgia, very few local areas received beneficial rain, and the main crop area remained the driest in the State. Fields in Texas continued to look good as the harvest moved farther north. Overall, the peanut condition declined to mostly fair to good.

Winter wheat: The 1998 winter wheat crop was 15% planted, compared with 14% planted in 1996 and the average of 16%. Planting was in full swing in Colorado, Nebraska, South Dakota, and Washington as favorable planting weather allowed farmers to plant large portions of their State's acreage. Planting in Washington was behind average due to showers and later-than-normal harvest in eastern areas. The winter wheat crop reached 3% emerged, equal to last year and the average. Wheat seeding progressed slowly in Kansas, where most planting thus far was in southwestern counties.

Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending September 14, 1997

Soybeans Percent Dropping Leaves				
	Sep 14 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	17	10	12	17
AR	8	3	18	10
GA	29	9	17	18
IL	14	4	8	23
IN	27	6	14	27
IA	19	4	6	18
KS	28	13	30	26
KY	9	5	11	17
LA	43	28	45	30
MI	10	5	6	20
MN	24	3	22	20
MS	40	23	50	31
MO	16	2	11	14
NE	17	4	7	20
NC	14	1	10	10
OH	21	8	12	32
SC	10	7	4	1
SD	47	27	53	36
TN	9	0	14	14
ALL	20	7	16	22

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

Soybeans Percent Harvested				
	Sep 14 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	0	NA	0	0
AR	2	NA	6	3
GA	0	NA	0	0
IL	0	NA	0	1
IN	0	NA	0	1
IA	0	NA	0	1
KS	3	NA	1	1
KY	0	NA	0	0
LA	20	NA	15	8
MI	0	NA	0	0
MN	0	NA	0	0
MS	12	NA	20	10
MO	0	NA	0	0
NE	0	NA	0	1
NC	0	NA	0	0
OH	0	NA	0	1
SC	0	NA	0	0
SD	0	NA	1	0
TN	0	NA	0	0
ALL	1	NA	1	1

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

Winter Wheat Percent Planted				
	Sep 14 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	0	0	0	1
CA	0	0	0	0
CO	31	6	35	28
GA	0	0	0	1
ID	15	6	11	13
IL	0	0	0	0
IN	3	0	1	2
KS	7	2	6	10
MI	8	1	3	7
MO	1	0	0	2
MT	19	2	4	6
NE	41	8	23	31
NC	1	0	2	2
OH	1	0	1	1
OK	12	10	9	16
OR	4	0	2	5
SD	47	15	24	33
TX	19	9	26	23
WA	31	8	58	47
ALL	15	5	14	16

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

Winter Wheat Percent Emerged				
	Sep 14 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	0	NA	0	0
CA	0	NA	0	0
CO	0	NA	0	0
GA	0	NA	0	0
ID	3	NA	0	1
IL	0	NA	0	0
IN	2	NA	0	0
KS	2	NA	1	3
MI	1	NA	0	0
MO	0	NA	0	0
MT	0	NA	0	0
NE	3	NA	0	3
NC	0	NA	0	0
OH	0	NA	0	0
OK	2	NA	0	1
OR	0	NA	0	0
SD	10	NA	5	8
TX	3	NA	8	6
WA	15	NA	33	22
ALL	3	NA	3	3

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

Cotton Percent Bolls Opening				
	Sep 14 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	34	22	52	47
AZ	93	90	98	95
AR	46	21	70	54
CA	95	80	92	80
GA	45	24	66	59
LA	79	63	92	86
MS	57	36	92	79
MO	54	29	58	45
NM	58	42	74	54
NC	30	15	60	55
OK	15	8	24	26
SC	37	24	59	58
TN	35	11	75	62
TX	38	28	35	38
ALL	49	34	59	54

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

Cotton Percent Harvested				
	Sep 14 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	1	NA	0	0
AZ	8	NA	6	7
AR	0	NA	4	2
CA	0	NA	0	0
GA	0	NA	5	3
LA	1	NA	5	5
MS	4	NA	8	4
MO	0	NA	3	1
NM	0	NA	0	0
NC	0	NA	1	1
OK	0	NA	0	0
SC	0	NA	4	2
TN	0	NA	4	2
TX	14	NA	16	19
ALL	5	NA	8	8

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

Rice Percent Harvested				
	Sep 14 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	19	5	37	31
CA	20	15	4	3
LA	83	73	86	77
MS	33	12	57	44
TX	72	50	91	79
ALL	39	26	48	41

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

Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending September 14, 1997

Corn Percent Dough

	Sep 14 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
CO	94	79	99	91
GA	100	100	100	100
IL	95	92	95	96
IN	93	92	94	98
IA	97	94	93	90
KS	100	100	100	99
KY	100	99	100	100
MI	71	47	84	82
MN	99	97	99	93
MO	100	100	100	98
NE	100	97	99	99
NC	100	100	100	98
OH	100	92	90	98
PA	86	72	88	92
SD	96	88	94	90
TX	100	99	100	100
WI	87	77	84	81
ALL	96	91	95	94

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

Corn Percent Dented

	Sep 14 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
CO	69	40	84	66
GA	100	100	100	100
IL	86	73	72	81
IN	67	45	59	80
IA	82	65	73	73
KS	93	90	96	87
KY	88	85	94	95
MI	25	16	37	48
MN	78	59	72	64
MO	97	90	97	88
NE	88	61	76	79
NC	96	87	100	98
OH	67	33	40	74
PA	56	43	60	61
SD	78	56	68	64
TX	98	95	100	96
WI	46	20	43	54
ALL	78	60	71	74

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

Corn Percent Mature

	Sep 14 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
CO	17	0	8	8
GA	99	98	98	99
IL	14	7	20	26
IN	18	8	18	24
IA	21	0	14	28
KS	42	35	57	54
KY	42	25	48	63
MI	2	1	2	10
MN	2	0	8	12
MO	58	35	61	49
NE	12	3	5	17
NC	90	68	98	92
OH	2	1	2	13
PA	18	7	18	15
SD	19	8	13	17
TX	77	65	84	78
WI	5	2	5	16
ALL	20	10	20	27

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

Corn Percent Harvested

	Sep 14 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
CO	0	0	8	2
GA	79	65	70	76
IL	0	0	1	1
IN	1	0	1	2
IA	0	0	1	2
KS	7	3	9	11
KY	10	0	12	13
MI	0	0	0	1
MN	0	0	0	0
MO	16	7	16	12
NE	0	0	0	1
NC	37	16	45	40
OH	0	0	0	1
PA	5	3	4	2
SD	0	0	1	0
TX	55	47	62	64
WI	0	0	0	0
ALL	4	2	5	5

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

Sorghum Percent Coloring

	Sep 14 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	97	90	99	98
CO	28	18	79	59
IL	64	45	74	75
KS	77	65	82	67
LA	100	98	100	99
MS	97	93	100	98
MO	86	78	82	79
NE	82	61	72	67
NM	51	30	51	47
OK	75	68	83	75
SD	81	65	84	58
TX	86	81	90	87
ALL	80	70	84	75

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

Sorghum Percent Mature

	Sep 14 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	62	47	84	81
CO	16	0	12	8
IL	8	1	12	18
KS	19	10	23	15
LA	98	89	98	93
MS	88	82	96	89
MO	32	20	32	38
NE	7	1	2	11
NM	2	1	0	5
OK	16	6	26	18
SD	21	14	27	17
TX	60	56	65	73
ALL	34	26	37	38

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

Sorghum Percent Harvested

	Sep 14 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	38	19	53	50
CO	0	0	0	0
IL	0	0	0	0
KS	5	2	6	3
LA	80	64	80	69
MS	40	24	78	60
MO	4	1	7	10
NE	0	0	0	1
NM	0	0	0	0
OK	3	0	6	5
SD	0	0	0	0
TX	54	52	60	66
ALL	22	19	25	25

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

Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending September 14, 1997

Peanuts Percent Harvested

	Sep 14 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	23	9	12	NA
FL	24	17	21	NA
GA	13	4	7	NA
NC	1	0	1	NA
OK	1	0	1	NA
SC	11	10	13	NA
TX	5	2	1	NA
VA	0	0	1	NA
ALL	11	4	6	NA

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

Barley Percent Harvested

	Sep 14 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	85	74	90	86
MN	98	91	89	87
MT	89	78	94	74
ND	97	93	96	90
SD	99	97	100	100
WA	99	99	98	96
ALL	94	88	94	87

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

Spring Wheat Percent Harvested

	Sep 14 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	88	75	92	84
MN	95	90	84	79
MT	88	75	94	71
ND	94	83	88	75
SD	100	99	100	97
ALL	93	84	90	78

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

Rice Crop Condition by Percent

	VP	P	F	G	EX
AR	0	3	29	52	16
CA	0	0	60	40	0
LA	0	2	28	60	10
MS	0	1	21	62	16
TX	0	3	33	58	6
ALL	0	2	24	53	11
Prev Wk	0	3	33	53	11
Prev Yr	0	2	16	59	23

Soybeans Crop Condition by Percent

	VP	P	F	G	EX
AL	1	27	50	20	2
AR	2	12	32	44	10
GA	10	26	40	23	1
IL	2	10	36	45	7
IN	1	7	32	49	11
IA	2	7	28	48	15
KS	0	2	19	56	23
KY	1	6	34	50	9
LA	2	13	36	45	4
MI	1	6	29	53	11
MN	1	8	36	45	10
MS	2	6	22	56	14
MO	5	16	41	32	6
NE	2	11	33	47	7
NC	6	14	40	35	5
OH	1	5	24	52	18
SC	4	12	32	44	8
SD	0	5	15	51	29
TN	1	3	23	54	19
ALL	2	9	31	46	12
Prev Wk	2	8	30	48	12
Prev Yr	3	11	33	42	11

Corn Crop Condition by Percent

	VP	P	F	G	EX
CO	2	6	22	51	19
GA	1	7	34	52	6
IL	3	11	39	42	5
IN	2	9	33	49	7
IA	2	7	29	47	15
KS	1	4	19	52	24
KY	3	14	35	42	6
MI	3	9	36	43	9
MN	1	4	23	54	18
MO	9	19	40	29	3
NE	3	8	24	47	18
NC	8	13	30	47	2
OH	1	6	23	50	20
PA	10	25	37	26	2
SD	0	4	12	54	30
TX	6	6	13	56	19
WI	0	2	13	57	28
ALL	3	8	28	47	14
Prev Wk	2	8	27	49	14
Prev Yr	3	8	28	46	15

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.

Cotton Crop Condition by Percent

	VP	P	F	G	EX
AL	3	25	49	22	1
AZ	0	2	9	62	27
AR	1	15	37	41	6
CA	0	0	0	70	30
GA	3	14	36	39	8
LA	3	13	42	37	5
MS	1	7	24	58	10
MO	1	23	39	36	1
NM	0	2	18	55	25
NC	2	11	50	31	6
OK	0	1	18	73	8
SC	3	10	38	46	3
TN	2	5	27	55	11
TX	2	11	27	48	12
ALL	2	11	29	47	11
Prev Wk	1	10	29	48	12
Prev Yr	2	10	29	46	13

Sorghum Crop Condition by Percent

	VP	P	F	G	EX
AR	2	13	49	34	2
CO	2	5	14	68	11
IL	6	20	32	38	4
KS	0	3	17	61	19
LA	0	1	42	54	3
MS	2	8	27	60	3
MO	4	10	45	36	5
NE	4	11	34	41	10
NM	0	1	38	61	0
OK	0	1	8	88	3
SD	0	1	10	71	18
TX	6	5	21	55	13
ALL	3	5	22	57	13
Prev Wk	1	6	23	58	12
Prev Yr	1	5	22	53	19

Peanuts Crop Condition by Percent

	VP	P	F	G	EX
AL	9	41	41	7	2
FL	14	44	23	18	1
GA	4	17	48	27	4
NC	1	17	53	29	0
OK	0	3	34	59	4
SC	3	17	33	45	2
TX	0	3	29	43	25
VA	0	12	32	48	8
ALL	4	18	40	30	8
Prev Wk	3	12	40	35	10
Prev Yr	1	9	36	43	11

State Agricultural Summaries

These summaries, issued weekly through the summer growing season, provide brief descriptions of crop and weather conditions important on a national scale. More detailed data are available in Weather and Crop Bulletins published each Monday by NASS State Statistical Offices in cooperation with the National Weather Service. The crop weather reports are also available on the Internet through the NASS Home Page on the World Wide Web at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/> or from JAWF at <http://www.usda.gov/oce/waob/jawf>.

ALABAMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Topsoil 36% very short, 47% short, 17% adequate. Corn mature 98%, 96% 1996, 97% avg.; harvested 65%, 55% 1996, 53% avg.; 2% very poor, 5% poor, 26% fair, 59% good, 8% excellent. Livestock 3% very poor 18% poor, 27% fair, 48% good, 4% excellent. Many areas in the State need rain. Peanut, corn harvests made good progress. A few fields of cotton were harvested.

ALASKA: Days suitable for hay or grain harvest 4, days available for potato harvest 6.5. Topsoil, subsoil 10% short, 90% adequate. Barley harvest 70% complete, 20% 1996. Hay harvest (2nd cutting) 30% complete, equal to 1996. Commercial potato harvest was 50% complete, equal to 1996. Livestock were in mostly good to excellent condition.

ARIZONA: Cotton harvest progress moved ahead of 1996, average. Alfalfa harvest activity 3% light, 47% moderate 33% active, 17% not being harvested; 8% poor, 7% fair, 62% good, 23% excellent. Watermelon, cantaloupe, honeydews, specialty melons, carrots shipped from central area. Apple, chile pepper harvest continued in east.

ARKANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 7. State saw widely scattered thundershowers with slightly warmer-than-normal days. Below normal nights left temperatures below normal for the week. Soil moisture 19% very short, 56% short, 25% adequate. Main farming: Harvesting corn, rice, sorghum, irrigating soybeans, cutting hay. Other farm activities: Soybean harvest, cotton defoliation, preparation for fall forage planting. Corn 4% poor, 29% fair, 55% good, 12% excellent. Alfalfa hay 12% poor, 31% fair, 55% good, 2% excellent. Other hay 5% very poor, 22% poor, 37% fair, 34% good, 2% excellent. Pasture feed 6% very poor, 23% poor, 35% fair, 34% good, 2% excellent.

CALIFORNIA: Field activities progressed normally under favorable conditions in most areas. Winter forage mixes, oat hay showed good emergence in the central, southern San Joaquin Valley. Seedbed preparation for planting wheat, barley was ongoing in the Sacramento, San Joaquin Valleys. Rice harvest continued in most growing areas. Blast disease, weed problems were reported in some rice fields. Cotton growers were actively defoliating and applying growth regulators in the San Joaquin, Sacramento Valleys. Harvest was underway in a few desert area cotton fields. Black eye beans were cut, windrowed, harvest was gaining momentum. Garbanzo bean, safflower, seed alfalfa harvests were rapidly winding down. Harvest of corn for grain, silage was nearing completion in southern counties. Harvest of corn for grain was just beginning in the northern areas. Harvest of sugar beets, sunflowers continued. New crop sugar beets were sprayed for aphids. Alfalfa was treated for worms. Grain sorghum was heading out, drying for harvest in southern counties. Alfalfa, sudan grass were cut for hay or green chopped. Walnut, almond harvests continued. Pistachio harvest accelerated, with a heavy crop reported. Table grape harvest was slow due to large inventories. Most raisin grapes have been harvested, 75% remain in the field on trays or rolled. Temperatures have been ideal for drying. Harvest of wine, juice grapes continued. Late season peaches, plums, nectarines were harvested. Apple harvest continued. Pomegranate harvest continued, persimmon harvest began in the San Joaquin Valley. Harvest of olives gained momentum. Valencia orange harvesting was nearly complete. Some groves were treated for red scale. New crop navel oranges were sizing normally, with a few locations showing color. Lettuce, broccoli were harvested in the Salinas-Watsonville area. Fall lettuce beds were treated for worms, aphids, loopers, leafminers.

Cauliflower, cucumber, broccoli crops were progressing quite well. Cauliflower was treated for worms. Harvest of processing, fresh market tomatoes continued. Sweet corn was still being harvested along the coast. Planting of spinach for spring harvest was underway in Tulare County. Pumpkin fields were sprayed to control aphids. Sweetpotato harvest continued in the San Joaquin Valley. Harvesting of honeydew, cantaloupe, watermelon was winding down in the Central Valley. Carrot harvest in Kings, Kern Counties continued. Blight was identified on potatoes in Siskiyou County. Ground preparation for fall vegetable planting in the Imperial, San Joaquin in Valleys progressed normally. Other crops harvested were cabbage, radishes, vineseed, eggplant, squash, okra, green beans. Rangeland forage remained in fair to poor condition over much of the State. Upper elevation ranges showed seasonal decline in forage quantity, quality. At lower elevations, very dry conditions were causing high danger of range fires. Pastures were still being irrigated to maintain quality. In some areas, sheep were being moved in to graze stubble fields after grain harvest. Livestock were in good condition in the generally cooler temperatures.

COLORADO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 10% very short, 34% short, 54% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil 10% very short, 27% short, 60% adequate, 3% surplus. A warm, sunny week across State favored crop development, harvest activities, fieldwork. Spring barley 98% harvested, 99% 1996, 84% avg. Oats 96% harvested, 86% 1996, 78% avg. Spring wheat 60% harvested, 90% 1996, 67% avg. Summer potatoes 65% harvested, 62% 1996, 67% avg. Dry onion 80% harvested, 75% 1996, 62% avg. Fall potatoes 15% harvested, 17% 1996, 13% avg. Sugar beets 1% very poor, 5% poor, 15% fair, 53% good, 26% excellent. Dry beans 55% cut, 58% 1996, 51% avg.; 35% threshed, 40% 1996, 30% avg.; 1% very poor, 6% poor, 26% fair, 47% good, 20% excellent. Alfalfa 55% (3rd cutting), 51% 1996, 48% avg.; 2% very poor, 6% poor, 24% fair, 53% good, 15% excellent.

DELAWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.8. Topsoil 1% very short, 30% short, 69% adequate. Subsoil 2% very short, 37% short, 61% adequate. Corn 8% very poor, 26% poor, 28% fair, 36% good, 2% excellent. Field corn 90% dough, 99% 1996, 99% avg.; 81% dent, 93% 1996, 92% avg.; 28% mature, 43% 1996, 46% avg.; 7% harvested for grain, 8% 1996, 11% avg.; 62% harvested for silage, 51% 1996, 68% avg. Soybeans 4% very poor, 22% poor, 31% fair, 40% good, 3% excellent; 80% setting pods, 83% 1996, 89% avg.; 13% turned, 7% 1996, 17% avg.; 5% shedding leaves, 4% 1996, 6% avg. Sorghum 8% poor, 41% fair, 51% good; 35% turning color, 33% 1996, 38% avg. Tomatoes 90% harvested, 94% 1996, 92% avg. Snap beans 83% harvested, 86% 1996, 91% avg. Lima beans 72% harvested, 55% 1996, 56% avg. Sweet corn 94% harvested, 94% 1996, 97% avg. Apples 3% poor, 16% fair, 73% good, 8% excellent; 60% harvested, 48% 1996, 41% avg. Cantaloupes 90% harvested, 96% 1996, 98% avg. Watermelons 92% harvested, 93% 1996, 96% avg. Hay supplies 17% very short, 57% short, 26% adequate. Clover and other hays 96% harvested (3rd cutting), 83% 1996, 75% avg.; 15% 4th cutting, 17% 1996, 7% avg. Alfalfa 36% (4th cutting), 29% 1996, 37% avg. Pasture feed 4% very poor, 13% poor, 55% fair, 27% good, 1% excellent. Activities: Corn harvesting, rain received for the entire area of Kent County.

FLORIDA: Topsoil moisture mostly very short panhandle, northern peninsula. Central peninsula, soil moisture short to adequate, southern peninsula, soil moisture adequate. Sugarcane growth normal. Tobacco marketing active. Dry weather adversely affecting field crops, forage in panhandle, northern peninsula. Twenty-four percent of peanuts harvested, with harvest being delayed by dry soil

conditions in some areas. Dry weather excellent for haying. Peanuts very poor 14%, poor 44%, fair 23%, good 18%, excellent 1%. Somewhat cooler temperatures aided vegetable development over southern peninsula. Okra harvesting continued in Dade County, with planting to become more active in October. Fall, winter vegetable planting increasing around Immokalee. Palmetto-Ruskin growers continued mostly steady planting of fall vegetables, with some growers finished. Most vegetable planting increased in east coast region. Watermelon picking expected to start within next 2 to 3 weeks around Palmetto-Ruskin. Lots of rain all citrus areas except upper interior. Lakes, ponds, streams at high levels as summer rains end. New growth slowing, early fruit showing some color break. Harvest of early oranges, grapefruit, tangerines increasing. Few processors open to take packing house eliminations. Caretakers cutting cover crops, spraying, herbiciding, liming, dolomiting, removing, burning dead trees. Pasture feed very poor 5%, poor 5%, fair 40%, good 45%, excellent 5%. Condition of cattle good 65%, excellent 5%. Most of panhandle continued dry, range, pasture condition reduced to poor. West-central area short on moisture; army worms active. Central area, cooler temperatures compensated for lack of moisture, pasture condition fair to good. Statewide, condition of cattle fair to excellent.

GEORGIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Soil moisture 42% very short, 35% short, 22% adequate, 1% surplus. Hay 6% very poor, 23% poor, 39% fair, 31% good, 1% excellent. Peanuts 23% dug, 16% 1996, 26% avg. Rye 3% planted, 2% 1996, 2% avg. Sorghum 5% very poor, 16% poor, 35% fair, 42% good, 2% excellent; 31% harvested for grain, 28% 1996, 36% avg. Soybeans 97% setting pods, 95% 1996, 97% avg. Tobacco 100% harvested, 96% 1996, 98% avg. Other small grains 1% planted, 1% 1996, 1% avg. Apples 1% very poor, 6% poor, 13% fair, 75% good, 5% excellent; 48% harvested, 27% 1996, 40% avg. Pecans 2% very poor, 15% poor, 43% fair, 38% good, 2% excellent. Another dry week throughout most of the State. Very few local areas beneficial rains. Only the extreme northern region is not under stressful soil moisture levels. Main crop growing area driest. Lack of water caused crop conditions to fall. Some crops at critical stage for soil moisture. Activities: Harvesting hay, overseeding with winter annuals, defoliating cotton, spraying fungicides and insecticides on vegetables and other crops.

HAWAII: Warm, humid weather continued. Irrigation heavy. Spraying moderate for insects, weeds. Rainfall increased at end of week. Most crops fair condition. Banana good condition, benefited from tropical weather. Production steady. Papaya harvesting active, low in major areas. Head cabbage progress varies, some fields adversely affected by warm weather. Cucumber harvesting increased some areas. Tomato harvesting moderate, good condition. Watermelon harvesting active, slowed market.

IDAHO: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.3. Topsoil 2% surplus, 82% adequate, 16% short. Rain hampered grain, hay, potato harvests. Winter wheat harvested 98%, 99% 1996, 96% avg. Potatoes turning (vines senescent) 91%, 93% 1996, 91% avg.; vines dying/killed 64%, 51% 1996, 73% avg.; harvested 9%, 9% 1996, 11% avg. Potatoes 0% excellent, 60% good, 25% fair, 5% poor. Alfalfa hay harvested (3rd cutting) 54%, 51% 1996, 51% avg. Oats harvested for grain 75%, 80% 1996, 79% avg. Dry peas harvested 91%, 92% 1996, 91% avg. Lentils harvested 67%, 82% 1996, 76% avg. Peaches harvested 86%, 84% 1996, 86% avg. Dry beans harvested 29%, 48% 1996, 40% avg. Hops harvested 59%, 58% 1996, 71% avg. Prunes, plums harvested 76%, 66% 1996, 70% avg. Apples harvested 14, 6% 1996, 14% avg. Mint harvested 88%, 96% 1996, 96% avg. Onions harvested 37%, 44% 1996, 43% avg. Sugar beets harvested 2%, 1% 1996, 2% avg. Sweet corn harvested 77%, 91% 1996, 79% avg. Corn harvested for silage 23%, 18% 1996, 24% avg. Corn harvested for grain 1%, 0% 1996, 0% avg. Irrigation water supply 47% excellent, 49% good, 4% fair. Activities: Rolling and killing potato vines, harvesting, preparing seed beds, irrigating, seeding winter wheat and alfalfa, straw management.

ILLINOIS: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Topsoil 3% very short, 25% short, 70% adequate, 2% surplus. Corn, beans continue to progress toward maturity, warm, sunny days with warm nights are

needed. Cool nights, shorter days are starting to shut down beans. Topsoil moisture continues to be consistent. Farm activities: Harvesting hay, harvesting seed corn, mowing weeds, spreading manure and preparing machinery for harvest. Soybeans turning yellow 53%, 31% 1996, 54% avg. Alfalfa hay (3rd cutting) 84%, 80% 1996, 83% avg.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.6. Topsoil 5% very short, 25% short, 61% adequate, 9% surplus. Subsoil 8% very short, 24% short, 64% adequate, 4% surplus. Corn harvest is underway in the southwest part of the State. Range, pasture feed 3% very poor, 14% poor, 41% fair, 38% good, 4% excellent. Alfalfa (3rd cutting) 67% complete. Activities: Baling hay, wheat seedbed preparation and planting, corn harvest, mowing pastures and roads, preparing equipment for fall harvest, caring for livestock.

IOWA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil very short 12%, short 32%, adequate 53%, surplus 3%. Subsoil very short 14%, short 36%, adequate 47%, surplus 3%. The corn condition improved very slightly; soybean, range and pasture conditions remained unchanged. Crops are maturing fast with many areas receiving some much-needed rain. Several reporters noted that while the rain benefited soybeans it may have been too late to help the corn. Corn dough stage 97%, 93% 1996, 90% avg.; dent stage 82%, 73% 1996, 73% avg.; mature 21%, 14% 1996, 28% avg. Corn silage, seed corn being harvested; no corn for grain harvested yet. Soybean acreage with leaves turning color 71%, 43% 1996, 51% avg.; soybeans leaves dropping 19%, 6% 1996, 18% avg.; no soybeans harvested. Alfalfa hay (3rd harvest) 85% complete, 76% 1996, 71% avg. Second brood corn borer damage was reported along with grey leaf spot, grasshoppers. Corn 2% very poor, 7% poor, 29% fair, 47% good, 15% excellent. Soybean 2% very poor, 7% poor, 28% fair, 48% good, 15% excellent. Livestock in generally good condition. Many reporters indicate short pastures with cows being fed hay, corn, some calves being weaned. Pasture feed 9% very poor, 26% poor, 30% fair, 25% good, 10% excellent.

KANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Topsoil 4% very short, 35% short, 60% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil 3% very short, 23% short, 73% adequate, 1% surplus. Sunflowers 4% poor, 35% fair, 51% good, 10% excellent. Sunflowers mature 27%; harvested 2%. Alfalfa (3rd cutting) 100%, 100% 1996, 99% avg. Alfalfa (4th cutting) 56%, 50% 1996, 46% avg. Stock water 1% very short, 10% short, 87% adequate, 2% surplus. Major field activities are planting wheat, fertilizing, cutting hay, fall harvest.

KENTUCKY: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.9. Topsoil 5% very short, 33% short, 60% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil 9% very short, 35% short, 53% adequate, 3% surplus. Burley tobacco cut 43%, 65% 1996, 71% avg. Dark tobacco cut 60%, 73% 1996, 78% avg.; 6% very poor, 14% poor, 35% fair, 38% good, 7% excellent. Hay 6% very poor, 19% poor, 36% fair, 36% good, 3% excellent. Pasture feed 5% very poor, 16% poor, 42% fair, 33% good, 4% excellent. Corn harvest beginning, late soybeans still need additional rain and a frost-free autumn to fill pods.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Soil moisture 11% very short, 49% short, 38% adequate, 2% surplus. Corn 93% harvested, 97% 1996, 93% avg.; harvest was nearing completion. Cotton defoliant was applied to more fields, harvest was just beginning. Hay 96% (2nd cutting), 92% 1996, 80% avg. Baling was very active due to dry conditions. Rice 100% headed, 100% 1996, 99% avg.; 95% ripe, 97% 1996, 93% avg. Rice harvest in the northern parishes gained momentum. Soybeans 64% turning color, 69% 1996, 55% avg. Late soybeans were in need of moisture to ensure complete pod development. Sugarcane 2% poor, 22% fair, 53% good, 23% excellent; 81% planted, 33% 1996, 53% avg. Planting was active in all producing areas. Sweetpotatoes 5% poor, 46% fair, 47% good, 2% excellent; 33% harvested, 30% 1996, 30% avg. Harvest moved at a slow pace due to bruising caused by overly dry soils. Livestock 4% poor, 32% fair, 57% good, 7% excellent. Vegetables 4% very poor, 20% poor, 43% fair, 32% good, 1% excellent. Pasture: Most pastures were in need of rain. Some land was tilled in preparation for rye grass plantings.

MARYLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Topsoil 5% very short, 32% short, 62% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil 20% very short, 34% short, 44% adequate, 2% surplus. Corn 39% very poor, 20% poor, 23% fair, 16% good, 2% excellent. Field corn 91% dough, 92% 1996, 94% avg.; 69% dent, 77% 1996, 82% avg.; 22% mature, 36% 1996, 46% avg.; 40% harvested for silage, 43% 1996, 43% avg. Soybeans 10% very poor, 24% poor, 28% fair, 32% good, 6% excellent; 94% setting pods, 95% 1996, 95% avg.; 20% turned, 9% 1996, 25% avg.; 7% shedding leaves, 1% 1996, 9% avg. Sorghum 1% very poor, 8% poor, 47% fair, 41% good, 3% excellent; 32% turned, 64% 1996, 53% avg. Sweet corn 96% harvested, 89% 1996, 94% avg. Lima beans 45% harvested, 34% 1996, 49% avg. Snap beans 83% harvested, 93% 1996, 90% avg. Tobacco 85% harvested, 90% 1996, 77% avg. Apples 6% very poor, 9% poor, 33% fair, 39% good, 13% excellent; 28% harvested, 23% 1996, 33% avg. Watermelons 95% harvested, 96% 1996, 96% avg. Tomatoes 96% harvested, 93% 1996, 93% avg. Hay supplies 28% very short, 41% short, 31% adequate. Alfalfa hay 85% 3rd cutting, 98% 1996, 97% avg., 51% 4th cutting, 41% 1996, 55% avg. Clover, other hays 91% 2nd cutting, 100% 1996, 97% avg.; 67% 3rd cutting, 66% 1996, 66% avg.; 6% 4th cutting, 10% 1996, 21% avg. Activities: Precipitation in some areas helped to relieve dry conditions, corn harvesting began, sorghum started turning color.

MICHIGAN: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.5. Topsoil 5% short, 53% adequate, 42% surplus. Subsoil 17% short, 52% adequate, 31% surplus. The scenario continues with low temperatures. Many crops are in serious risk of frost damage due to the lack of heat degree days; they are not maturing. Heavy rains fell over a wide area of the State. Wet weather limited harvesting of some crops until fields dry out. All hay 3rd cutting harvested 60% 1997, 60% 1996, 56% avg.; 4th cutting harvested 6% 1997, 5% 1996, 10% avg.; 4% very poor, 15% poor, 39% fair, 37% good, 5% excellent. Corn milk 95% 1997, 100% 1996, 99% avg. Corn silage harvested 3% 1997, 9% 1996, 16% avg. Dry beans leaves turning 93% 1997, 84% 1996, 85% avg.; leaves dropping 76% 1997, 49% 1996, 64% avg. Dry beans mature 14% 1997, 7% 1996, 32% avg.; harvested 2% 1997, 2% 1996, 15% avg.; 3% very poor, 8% poor, 47% fair, 32% good, 10% excellent. Pasture feed 2% very poor, 17% poor, 41% fair, 32% good, 8% excellent.

MINNESOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Topsoil 3% very short, 16% short, 73% adequate, 8% surplus. Corn 99% dough, 99% 1996, 93% avg.; 78% denting, 72% 1996, 64% avg.; 2% mature, 8% 1996, 12% avg.; 13% silage cut, 16% 1996, 14% avg. Soybeans 78% turning yellow, 66% 1996, 57% avg.; 24% shedding leaves, 22% 1996, 20% avg.; 2% mature, 3% 1996, 4% avg. Spring wheat 95% harvested, 84% 1996, 79% avg. Barley 98% harvested, 89% 1996, 87% avg. Rye 71% seeded, 61% 1996, 53% avg. Winter wheat 80% seeded, 81% 1996, 57% avg. Sweet corn 83% harvested, 83% 1996, 75% avg. Potatoes 26% harvested, 22% 1996, 22% avg. Flax 20% harvested, 17% 1996, 22% avg. Dry beans 27% harvested, 33% 1996, 26% avg. Stubble plowed 54%, 55% 1996, 43% avg. Sugar beets 2% harvested, 5% 1996, 3% avg. Pasture feed 5% very poor, 15% poor, 31% fair, 42% good, 7% excellent. Corn 1% very poor, 4% poor, 23% fair, 54% good, 18% excellent. Soybeans 1% very poor, 8% poor, 36% fair, 45% good, 10% excellent. Dry beans 3% very poor, 8% poor, 49% fair, 32% good, 8% excellent. Sunflowers 7% very poor, 23% poor, 28% fair, 39% good, 3% excellent. Sugar beets 1% very poor, 7% poor, 19% fair, 63% good, 10% excellent.

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.1. Soil moisture 17% very short, 37% short, 44% adequate, 2% surplus.; corn 99% mature, 100% 1996, 97% avg.; 66% grain harvested, 61% 1996, 54% avg.; 94% silage harvested, 97% 1996, 91% avg.; 2% very poor, 4% poor, 18% fair, 61% good, 15% excellent. Soybeans 99% blooming, 100% 1996, 100% avg.; 96% setting pods, 100% 1996, 99% avg.; 66% turning color, 69% 1996, 54% avg.; 40% shedding leaves, 50% 1996, 31% avg.; 2% very poor, 6% poor, 22% fair, 56% good, 14% excellent. Sweet potatoes 11% harvested, 30% 1996.; 36% avg.; 1% poor, 17% fair, 73% good, 9% excellent. Hay (warm season) 90% harvested, 94% 1996, NA avg.; 1% very poor, 8% poor, 25% fair,

57% good, 9% excellent. Cattle 4% poor, 20% fair, 61% good, 15% excellent. Pasture feed 2% very poor, 14% poor, 28% fair, 50% good, 6% excellent. Activities: Harvesting corn, cotton, rice, sorghum.

MISSOURI: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Topsoil 14% very short, 49% short, 37% adequate. Soybean, corn, cotton crops are developing slightly ahead of normal, while sorghum is slightly behind average for this date. All major row crop conditions for the State were reporting some decline from last week, as the latest maturing crops reflect the effects of moisture shortages. Soybean development by district is most advanced in the northern third of the State, ranging from 56% turning color in the northeast to 71% in the northwest. Corn is all mature in the Bootheel, 46% harvested. Corn is least advanced in the northeastern district with 30% mature followed by the northwest at 44%. Sorghum development is most advanced in the southwestern, southeastern districts where 97%, coloring, about 50% mature. Pasture feed 8% very poor, 22% poor, 51% fair, 19% good.

MONTANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Topsoil 6% very short, 44% short, 46% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil 4% very short, 40% short, 52% adequate, 4% surplus. Harvest of small grains continues as weather allows. Winter wheat harvested 97%, 100% 1996, 92% avg. Oats harvested 86%, 91% 1996, 74% avg. Corn for silage harvested 39%, 27% 1996, 29% avg. Dry beans harvested 58%, 68% 1996, 41% avg. Alfalfa hay 2nd cutting 86% complete, 93% 1996, 87% avg. Other hay cutting 96% complete, 100% 1996, 95% avg. Cattle, calves moved from summer ranges 7%, 15% 1996, 11% avg. Sheep, lambs moved from summer ranges 9%, 11% 1996, 12% avg. Livestock good to excellent.

NEBRASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Subsoil 12% very short, 37% short, 51% adequate. Topsoil 14% very short, 31% short, 53% adequate, 2% surplus. Fall wheat seeding was in full swing last week while above normal temperatures continued to move row crops toward maturity. Corn 3% very poor, 8% poor, 24% fair, 47% good, 18% excellent; irrigated 78% good to excellent, dryland 41% good to excellent; 88% dented, 76% 1996, 79% avg.; 12% mature 5% 1996, 17% avg.; harvest high moisture, seed corn. Soybean 2% very poor, 11% poor, 33% fair, 47% good, 7% excellent; 69% turning color, 42% 1996, 52% avg.; 17% dropped leaves, 7% 1996 20% avg. Sorghum 4% very poor, 11% poor, 34% fair, 41% good, 10% excellent; 82% turning color, 72% 1996, 67% avg.; 7% mature, 2% 1996, 11% avg. Dry bean 93% turning color 99% 1996, 66% dropped leaves, 74% 1996, 30% harvested, 24% 1996. Alfalfa 7% very poor, 19% poor, 34% fair, 37% good, 3% excellent; 90% 3rd cutting, 93% 1996, 90% avg.; 13% 4th cutting, 12% 1996. Winter wheat 41% planted, 23% 1996, 31% avg. Some producers in Panhandle indicated that they are reseeding some fields due to poor stands. Pasture feed 10% very poor, 21% poor, 31% fair, 37% good, 1% excellent. Some supplemental feeding.

NEVADA: Irrigation water supplies remained adequate. Pasture feed, range forage conditions remained good compared with seasonal norms. Harvest of spring seeded grains was completed. Haying was common. Alfalfa 3rd cutting was completed in the Fallon area, progressed in Lyon, Pershing counties. Fourth cutting continued extreme south. Alfalfa seed harvest progressing. Garlic harvest nearly complete. Onion harvest in full swing. Potato harvest gaining momentum. Mint harvest progressing. Main farm, ranch activities: Haying, alfalfa seed harvest, bulb harvests, mint harvest, livestock marketing.

NEW ENGLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.2. Topsoil 1% very short, 2% short, 81% adequate, 16% surplus. Subsoil 1% very short, 3% short, 83% adequate, 13% surplus. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 5% poor, 33% fair, 58% good, 3% excellent. Maine potatoes 5% harvested, 10% 1996, 10% avg.; condition good. Massachusetts potatoes 65% harvested, 65% 1996, 50% avg.; condition good. Rhode Island potatoes 40% harvested, 40% 1996, 50% avg.; condition good. Oats in Maine 25% harvested, 60% 1996, 75% avg.; condition good. Barley in Maine 30% harvested, 80% 1996; condition good. Field corn 5% harvested, 5% 1996, 10% avg.; condition good to fair. Sweet corn 85% harvested, 90% 1996, 90% avg.; condition good. Shade tobacco 100% harvested, 99% 1996; condition good

to fair. Broadleaf tobacco 99% harvested, 99% 1996; condition good to fair. First cut hay 99% harvested, 99% 1996, 99% avg.; condition good to fair. Second cut hay 75% harvested, 80% 1996, 85% avg.; condition good to fair. Third cut hay 55% harvested, 45% 1996, 45% avg.; condition good. Apples 25% harvested, 20% 1996, 20% avg.; fruit size avg to above avg.; condition good to excellent. Peaches 95% harvested; 95% 1996, fruit size avg to above avg.; condition good to excellent. Pears 20% harvested, 40% 1996; fruit size avg.; condition good to fair. Cranberries fruit size avg to above avg.; condition good to excellent. Highbush blueberries 99% harvested, 95% 1996; fruit size avg to above avg.; condition good to excellent. Maine potato, cranberry harvest underway. Good crop conditions remain. Major farm activities: Harvesting cabbage, lettuce, zucchini, summer squash, green beans, peppers, tomatoes, field corn, sweet corn, potatoes, pumpkins, winter squash, oats, barley, apples, peaches, pears; spreading manure and fertilizer; disking down harvested fields, planting cover crops; cutting hay; spraying for weed and insect control.

NEW JERSEY: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Topsoil adequate. Main farming activities: Irrigating crops, harvesting vegetables, planting cover crops, spraying herbicides, fungicides, pesticides. Farmers are busy harvesting tomatoes, corn for silage, peppers, cucumbers, potatoes, snap beans. Light harvest of fall items (spinach, cabbage, lettuce, endive, escarole). Good volume of cucumbers, eggplant, green beans, peppers, squash, tomatoes, pickles, sweet corn. Light, increasing supply of endive, escarole, lettuce, spinach. Hay making continues to be active with 3rd, 4th cuttings of alfalfa hay reported. Pasture conditions reported as fair to good. The peach harvest is nearly complete. Harvesting of apples is increasing.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Topsoil 2% very short, 22% short, 74% adequate, 2% surplus. Rainfall during the last week delayed hay harvest in many areas. Fourth cutting of alfalfa reached 90% complete, 5th cutting 38% completed; 2% poor, 24% fair, 61% good, 13% excellent. With cotton harvest about one month away 58% bolls open, 74% 1996, 54% average; condition, 2% poor, 18% fair, 55% good, 25% excellent. With major sorghum producing areas receiving rainfall last week condition improved to 1% poor, 38% fair, 61% good; 51% coloring, 51% 1996, 47% avg.; 2% mature, 0% 1996, 5% avg. Chile harvest reached 56% complete by the weekend; 1% poor, 28% fair, 50% good, 21% excellent. Corn 5% fair, 77% good, 18% excellent; 88% dent, 89% 1996; 28% mature, 52% 1996. Wheat producers continued planting; 46% complete, 52% 1996, 55% avg. Majority of the apple crop was rated in good condition with 35% of the crop harvested. Pecan crop may surpass earlier expectations; 23% fair, 55% good, 22% excellent. Cattle, sheep were in mostly good condition. Range, pasture feed conditions continued to look good for this time of the year; 6% poor, 23% fair, 65% good, 6 excellent.

NEW YORK: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.3. Soil moisture 100% adequate. Pasture feed 33% fair, 67% good. Corn 33% fair, 67% good. Silage harvest continues. Winter wheat planting gained momentum. Alfalfa 2nd cut done, 3rd cutting 70% complete, 58% 1996, 61% avg. Early dry bean harvest gaining momentum. Potato harvest continues statewide. Oat harvest complete. Onion digging continued. Vegetable harvest in full swing. Apple picking well underway for early varieties. Grapes look good but maturity behind normal development. Peach harvest winding down.

NORTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Soil moisture is rated 12% very short, 36% short, 48% adequate, 4% surplus. State finally got some needed rain this week. Many areas reported an inch or more of rainfall. Additional rainfall is needed to improve yield prospects for late season crops. Activities included: Irrigating, harvesting, marketing of flue-cured tobacco; harvesting burley tobacco, apples, sweet potatoes, corn; cutting silage; cutting hay; scouting, spraying for insects on cotton, soybeans; maintaining pastures; tending livestock; repairing equipment.

NORTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Small grain harvest neared completion, while favorable weather pushed late

season crops toward maturity. Topsoil 10% very short, 39% short, 48% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil 9% very short, 37% short, 51% adequate, 3% surplus. Durum wheat 82% combined; 68% 1996; 55% avg. Producers made excellent progress on canola, dry edible bean, flaxseed harvests, while lifting of sugar beets began, behind 1996, avg. Canola 96% swathed and beyond, 65% combined; 92%, 58% 1996; corn for grain 78% denting and beyond, 14% ripe and beyond; 88%, 22% 1996; 65%, 17% avg.; corn for silage 20% chopped; 23% 1996; 15% avg.; dry edible beans 53% cut, 32% combined; 49%, 34% 1996; 32%, 20%, avg.; flaxseed 67% combined; 41% 1996; 23% avg.; potatoes 77% vines killed and beyond, 14% dug; 65%, 22% 1996; 75%, 25% avg.; soybeans 84% lower leaves yellowing and beyond, 40% mature leaves dropping and beyond, 3% harvested; 93%, 40%, 1% 1996; 77%, 37%, 1% avg.; sugar beets 1% lifted; 5% 1996; 4% avg.; sunflower 76% bracts turned yellow and beyond, 28% bracts turned brown and beyond; 76%, 36% 1996; 61%, 23% avg. Late season crop conditions improved slightly from last week, except potatoes and sunflowers. Emerged crop condition: corn for grain 4% poor, 16% fair, 62% good, 18% excellent; corn for silage 4% very poor, 12% poor, 33% fair, 45% good, 6% excellent; dry edible beans 5% very poor, 12% poor, 28% fair, 47% good, 8% excellent; potatoes 14% very poor, 12% poor, 30% fair, 34% good, 10% excellent; soybeans 3% very poor, 4% poor, 26% fair, 47% good, 20% excellent; sugar beets 5% very poor, 8% poor, 16% fair, 56% good, 15% excellent; sunflower 2% very poor, 7% poor, 26% fair, 54% good, 11% excellent. Pasture range 12% very poor, 34% poor, 32% fair, 22% good.

OHIO: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.3. Topsoil 3% short, 85% adequate, 12% surplus. Corn in dough stage is virtually complete; dented about 3 days behind the avg.; mature 11 points behind avg.; 5% harvested for silage, 6% 1996, 21% avg. Soybeans dropping leaves 3 days behind avg.; 1% matured. Winter wheat planting has started. Alfalfa hay 77% 3rd cutting, 79% 1996, 80% avg. Other hay 50% 3rd cutting, 52% 1996, 49% avg. Tobacco 98% topped; 41% harvested. Summer apples 85% harvested. Fall, winter apples 7% harvested. Potatoes 23% harvested, 43% 1996, 46% avg. Processing tomatoes 23% harvested, 42% 1996, 57% avg. Grapes 9% harvested. Activities: Mowing hay, winter wheat stubble, pastures; raking, baling hay; hauling, spreading manure on wheat stubble; fall plowing, other types of field preparations; scouting fields; spraying herbicides; fence maintenance; erecting, preparing grain bins; repairing, preparing machinery for harvest; attending, preparing for county fairs, seed corn field days. In the northern part: growers are harvesting cabbage. Reported weed pressures: ragweed; Canadian thistles; wild carrot; iron weed; foxtail; other grass; broadleaf weeds. Reported insects: European corn borer in corn, Japanese beetle in soybeans, Potato leafhopper in alfalfa. Reported diseases: northern corn leaf blight, gray leaf spots in corn; late tomato blight in tomatoes. Hay 1% very poor, 11% poor, 27% fair, 48% good, 13% excellent.

OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 8% very short, 35% short, 57% adequate. Subsoil 7% very short, 16% short, 77% adequate. Warm weather, below normal precipitation sapped moisture supplies. Wheat 82% seedbed prepared, 77% 1996, 81% avg. Oats 68% seedbed prepared, 72% 1996, 67% avg.; 0% planted, 10% 1996, 8% avg. Corn 22% mature, 57% 1996, 78% avg.; 12% harvested, 26% 1996, 37% avg. Soybeans 17% mature, 42% 1996, 36% avg. Peanuts 21% mature, 33% 1996, 23% avg. Alfalfa hay 69% 4th cutting, 71% 1996, 75% avg.; 7% 5th cutting, 11% 1996, 14% avg. All other hay 39% 2nd cutting, 86% 1996, 97% avg. Livestock 1% poor, 14% fair, 80% good, 5% excellent. Feeder steer prices up \$1 cwt.

OREGON: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.4. Topsoil 11% very short, 31% short, 58% adequate. Subsoil 10% very short, 28% short, 62% adequate. Barley harvested 90%, 87% 1996, 85% avg. Winter wheat planted 4%, 2% 1996, 5% avg. Activities: East side growers continued fall field preparation. Fertilizing, spraying, fieldwork being done. Some producers already planting winter wheat, others waiting for rain. Most hay harvested, continues in Klamath Basin, Southeast, extreme Northeast. Grain harvest ongoing in Klamath Basin, extreme Northeast. Westside most grain harvested, a few fields left in

Willamette Valley. Planting of fall fescue seed fields nearly completed in Willamette Valley. Other grass seed fields being prepared for seeding. Nurseries, Greenhouses busy with fall plantings, fall digging for shipment. Fall bedding plants moving to retail outlets. Onion, potato harvest in full swing in some areas of East side; Klamath Basin reported 15% harvested. Willamette Valley growers continued harvesting cole crops, winding down sweet corn, snap bean harvest. Some Willamette Valley areas reported onions pulled, hauling started. Willamette Valley hazelnuts dropping; apples, pear, plums, prunes being harvested. Rogue River Valley hail damaged remaining winter pear crop. Winter pear harvest continued, apples being picked. South coast some bloom occurring in cranberry beds with well developed buds. Hood River Valley Anjou pear harvest continued in lower, middle valley areas, Gala apples being harvested in lower valley. Red Delicious apples being harvested Milton/Freewater area. Livestock in good to excellent condition. Weaning calves began on south coast, Klamath Basin. In Mid-Columbia area, cattle being moved to stubble. Most yearlings in Klamath Basin moved to feedlots. Westside rain started fall pasture growth, supplemental feeding continued. East side range, pasture continued to dry out despite rainfall.

PENNSYLVANIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.9. Fair week for fieldwork. Soil moisture 4% very short, 19% short, 70% adequate, 7% surplus. Ensilage corn harvest 16% complete, 16% 1996, 22% avg. Soybean 5% very poor, 18% poor, 43% fair, 29% good, 5% excellent. Wheat planted 25% complete, 17% 1996, 17% avg. Barley planted 25% complete, 16% 1996, 18% avg.; emerged 13% complete, 9% 1996, 2% avg. Tobacco harvest 70% complete, 88% 1996, 82% avg. Potato harvest 33% complete, 42% 1996, 45% avg. Alfalfa 3rd cutting 75% complete, 71% 1996, 72% avg. Alfalfa 4th cutting 50% complete, 28% 1996, 30% avg. Timothy clover 2nd cutting 93% complete, 89% 1996, 89% avg. Quality of hay made 3% very poor, 23% poor, 42% fair, 30% good, 2% excellent. Apple harvest 34% complete, 33% 1996, 35% avg. Peach harvest 92% complete, 87% 1996, 90% avg. Grape harvest 10% complete, 34% 1996, 33% avg. Fall plowing 44% complete, 37% 1996, 37% avg. Activities: Harvesting oats; harvesting fruits and vegetables; making hay and haylage; seeding barley and wheat; harvesting tobacco; plowing fields; fixing fences; hauling manure; caring for livestock.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Soil moisture 20% very short, 48% short, 31% adequate, 1% surplus. Apples 49% harvested, 52% 1996, 45% avg.; 14% poor, 19% fair, 57% good, 10% excellent. Corn 100% matured, 100% 1996, 99% avg.; 78% harvested, 66% 1996, 67% avg.; 3% poor, 17% fair, 55% good, 25% excellent. Hay 98% harvested, 98% 1996, 72% avg.; 7% very poor, 17% poor, 37% fair, 37% good, 2% excellent. Peaches 100% harvested, 100% 1996, 99% avg. Sorghum 40% harvested, 43% 1996, 35% avg.; 9% poor, 39% fair, 52% good. Soybeans 98% bloomed, 100% 1996, 99% avg.; 88% pods set, 90% 1996, 90% avg.; 16% leaves turning color, 11% 1996, 9% avg.; leaves dropped 10%, 4% 1996, 1% avg.; 4% very poor, 12% poor, 32% fair, 44% good, 8% excellent. Sweet potatoes 18% harvested, 16% 1996, 13% avg.; 1% poor, 31% fair, 68% good. Tobacco 95% harvested, 93% 1996, 91% avg.; 72% stalks destroyed, 44% 1996, 50% avg.; 1% poor, 16% fair, 69% good, 14% excellent. Winter grazings 21% planted, 19% 1996, 15% avg.; 11% emerged, 9% 1996, 6% avg.; 3% poor, 49% fair, 48% good.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork, 5.7. Topsoil 2% very short, 16% short, 75% adequate, 7% surplus. Subsoil 1% very short, 8% short, 82% adequate, 9% surplus. Stock water supplies 2% short, 91% adequate, 7% surplus. Major activities: Farmers, ranchers harvesting corn and sorghum for silage, seeding winter wheat, working stubble fields, spraying. Flax 1% poor, 28% fair, 60% good, 11% excellent. Sunflower 1% poor, 9% fair, 61% good, 29% excellent. Livestock 7% fair, 68% good, 25% excellent. Winter rye 39% planted, 25% 1996, 34% avg.; 18% emerged. Sunflower 92% flowers dry, 94% 1996, 87% avg.; 73% bracts yellow, 72% 1996, 64% avg.; 23% mature, 15% 1996, 16% avg. Soybeans 21% mature, 20% 1996, 12% avg. Flax 100% ripe, 100% 1996, 93% avg. Corn silage 15% harvested, 10% 1996, 11% avg. Sorghum silage 16% harvested, 7% 1996, 9% avg.

TENNESSEE: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 9% very short, 32% short, 55% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil 11% very short, 33% short, 54% adequate, 2% surplus. Corn 1% very poor, 6% poor, 27% fair, 52% good, 14% excellent; 75% mature, 90% 1996, 75% avg.; 18% grain harvested, 31% 1996, 23% avg; 75% silage harvested, 76% 1996, 72% avg. Tobacco 3% very poor, 18% poor, 40% fair, 34% good, 5% excellent; 91% topped, 97% 1996, 98% avg.; 60% burley harvested, 71% 1996, 71% avg.; 74% Air-cured harvested, 74% 1996, 77% avg.; 62% fire-cured harvested, 71% 1996, 76% avg. Sorghum 3% poor, 23 fair, 68% good, 6% excellent; 97% coloring, 86% 1996, 94% avg.; 61% mature, 66% 1996, 70% avg.; 8% grain harvested, 19% 1996, 24% avg. Pasture feed 3% very poor, 18% poor, 38% fair, 36% good, 5% excellent. Parts of the State received a good amount of much needed rain early in the week, other parts only received a small amount. More rain is needed, especially in pastures, hay fields. Some areas of eastern areas reported that the rains helped somewhat, came too late to do a lot of good for most burley tobacco, soybeans, late planted corn and late cuttings of hay. All fieldwork activities are behind schedule, with the exception of corn, the crops are developing behind the average pace. However, two thirds or more of the crops, except tobacco, good to excellent condition.

TEXAS: The week began with slightly cooler temperatures, scattered rainfall, but by mid-week, hot weather returned, with many areas reporting 100°F days for first time this season. Good rainfall received parts of plains, along Upper Coast. However, accumulations much less across remainder State. Harvest operations in plains experienced slight delays early week, but progress resumed by mid-week. Much dry conditions central, south continued to stress ranges, pastures. Small grains planting activity active mid-week many plains, north-central fields. Rainfall should aid emergence. Across much remainder of State, many producers waiting for good rain before they begin planting. Others have dry seeded in hopes rain will help the crop to develop. Corn harvest increased mid-week in plains, with very good yields reported. Harvest beginning wind down in Blacklands, central Texas. Harvest experienced slight delays along Upper Coast early week, but by late week, progress continued. Cotton bolls continued open in plains, where early-week rain could still benefit some fields. Varied potential reported parts north-central as harvest neared. Harvest moved ahead in Blacklands, central without much delay. Harvest virtually completed in Coastal Bend, south. Harvest continued by mid-week along Upper Coast, where yields have been good. Grain sorghum fields continued mature in plains, where early-week rain will benefit later fields. Harvest continued increase north-central areas. Most harvest has been completed in Blacklands, central. Yields continued good in these areas. Peanut fields continued look good as harvest began north-central areas. Harvest increased south-central, with good yields reported. Rice harvest continued along Upper Coast, with some smut showing up. Yields continued varied. Soybean fields continued look good in plains, where fields maturing, with harvest underway in few fields. Harvest continued in northern Blacklands, along Upper Coast. Sugar beet producers applying fungicides some fields, but overall crop remained good conditions.

Commercial Vegetables: Rio Grande Valley, land preparations, planting continued. San Antonio-Winter Garden, irrigated watermelons made good progress for week. Land preparations continued. High Plains, pepper harvest continued. Pumpkins continued make good progress as harvest neared. East, sweetpotato harvest continued with only slight delays. Trans-Pecos, most cantaloup harvest been completed. Pecan harvest of few early varieties are expected to begin soon, crop continued look good many areas. Recent dry conditions may have negative effect on nut filling where irrigation not available. Other Crops: Oats planted 5%, 6% 1996, 8% avg. Sunflowers 28% harvested, 8% 1996, 13% avg.

Range and Livestock: Dry conditions in much of central, south continued to decline range, pasture conditions. Small grains for grazing in need rain for good establishment. Cooler temperatures helped poultry producers east, where high temperatures had been causing heavy losses. Livestock remained mostly good condition. Supplemental feeding activity increased many areas.

UTAH: Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Topsoil 14% short, 76% adequate, 10% surplus. Subsoil 2% very short, 24% short, 69% adequate, 5% surplus. Irrigation water supplies 12% short, 71% adequate, 17% surplus. Stock water supply 3% very short, 16% short, 79% adequate, 2% surplus. Winter wheat planted 36%. Oats harvested for grain 78%, 76% 1996, 86% avg. Corn doughed 87%, 71% 1996; dented 38%, 41% 1996; harvested for silage 5%, 9% 1996, 17% avg. Alfalfa hay 3rd cutting 49%, 75% 1996, 68% avg.; 4th cutting 12%; seed harvested 25%, 21% 1996, 42% avg. Potatoes 5% harvested, 28% 1996, 24% avg. Onions 24%, 39% 1996, 38% avg. Peaches picked 75%, 86% 1996, 90% avg. Pears picked 67%, 72% 1996, 86% avg. Apples picked 16%, 26% 1996, 21% avg. Cattle moved from summer range 15%, 20% 1996, 22% avg. Sheep moved from summer range 9%, 12% 1996, 18% avg. Pasture feed, range 3% very poor, 4% poor, 12% fair, 61% good, 20% excellent. Major farm, ranch activities: Harvesting hay, picking fruit.

VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.8. Topsoil 20% very short, 35% short, 41% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil 25% very short, 50% short, 25% adequate. Corn 93% dough, 94% 1996, 99% avg.; 78% dent, 75% 1996, 84% avg.; 58% mature, 51% 1996, 67% avg.; 9% harvested, 9% 1996, 23% avg.; 33% corn silage harvested, 38% 1996, 45% avg.; 10% very poor, 27% poor, 42% fair, 21% good. Soybeans 95% bloomed, 97% 1996, 99% avg.; 83% setting pods, 81% 1996, 93% avg.; 14% dropping leaves; 15% very poor, 29% poor, 35% fair, 19% good, 2% excellent. Cotton 5% very poor, 25% poor, 22% fair, 43% good, 5% excellent. Summer apples 95% harvested, 94% 1996, 84% avg. Fall apples 20% harvested, 13% 1996, 46% avg.; 4% very poor, 7% poor, 45% fair, 40% good, 4% excellent. Peaches 95% harvested, 99% 1996, 100% avg. Flue tobacco 48% harvested, 59% 1996, 67% avg. Burley tobacco 47% harvested, 44% 1996, 51% avg. Dark fire cured tobacco 77% harvested, 79% 1996, 79% avg. Sun cured tobacco 80% harvested, 73% 1996, 76% avg. Peanuts 12% poor, 32% fair, 48% good, 8% excellent. Pasture feed 20% very poor, 32% poor, 38% fair, 10% good. Alfalfa 7% very poor, 20% poor, 42% fair, 31% good. Other Hay 15% very poor, 33% poor, 40% fair, 12% good. Livestock 8% poor, 46% fair, 44% good, 2% excellent. Widespread showers, a few thunderstorms brought much needed rain to most of State. Some localities received as little as a trace while isolated localities received as much as four inches of rainfall. These general rains have improved moisture supply levels throughout the State, has offered much relief to pastures, late hay, peanuts, cotton. However, this rainfall has come too late for many corn, soybean fields. Some soybean producers are reporting poor pod development due to previous dry conditions. These producers are planning to plow under a considerable amount of their soybean acreage. Grain corn producers continue to report poor ear quality and poor grain fill. Although beneficial, rains have caused a delay in corn silage harvest. Corn silage harvest is running behind last year and the five year average. Although pasture conditions are improving, they still remain short and some beef producers continue feeding hay. These recent rains have many producers optimistic about fall pastures, possible late hay crop. Producers continue to harvest, market tobacco. In addition they are scouting and spraying corn, soybeans, peanuts, cotton. Other activities include vegetable harvesting and marketing livestock.

WASHINGTON: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Topsoil 20% short 80% adequate. Subsoil 15% short, 85% adequate. Winter wheat 31% planted, 58% 1996, 47% avg.; 15% emerged, 33% 1996, 22% avg. Winter wheat planting progressed well in central areas, with much of the dryland acreage planted and growers reporting good seed zone moisture. Eastern areas (Whitman County) were slightly behind normal with approximately 20% of acreage planted, many producers in the field preparation stages for fall planting. Corn 100% good; silage 30% harvested, 25% 1996, 29% avg. Potatoes

6% fair, 91% good, 3% excellent; 33% harvested, 30% 1996, 29% avg. Dry beans 100% good; 50% harvested, 24% 1996, 33% avg. Hay, other roughage supplies 15% short, 75% adequate, 10% surplus. A significant portion of 2nd cutting timothy hay was subjected to rain. A 4th cutting of alfalfa was underway in some areas. Range, pasture feed 10% very poor, 10% poor, 20% fair, 50% good, 10% excellent. Some pastures improved with rain showers. Blueberry harvest was winding down. Cranberry coloration increased with cooler nights, maturing fruit. Wine, juice grape harvests were underway, some areas may have a record crop. Apple, pear harvests continued. Lima bean, onion, sweet corn, late vegetable harvests progressed. Mint harvest continued.

WEST VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.3. Topsoil 2% very short, 32% short, 64% adequate, 2% surplus. Corn 4% very poor, 19% poor, 31% fair, 41% good, 5% excellent; 91% dough stage, 90% 1996, 92% avg.; 35% dent stage, 66% 1996; 9% mature, 20% 1996, 55% avg.; 2% harvested grain, 0% 1996, 12% avg. Hay 1% very poor, 10% poor, 34% fair, 53% good, 2% excellent; 2nd cutting 90%, 87% 1996, 87% avg.; 3rd cutting 47%, 39% 1996, 61% avg. Oats 97% harvested, 100% 1996, 99% avg. Soybeans 7% poor, 46% fair, 47% good; 47% dropping leaves, 16% 1996, 26% avg. Tobacco 1% poor, 24% fair, 75% good; 55% harvested, 63% 1996, 65% avg. There were some reports of blue mold. Wheat planted 6%, 4% 1996. Apples 50% fair, 41% good, 9% excellent; 31% harvested. Cattle 1% poor, 17% fair, 71% good, 11% excellent. Sheep 16% fair, 75% good, 9% excellent. Activities: Making hay; harvesting apples, corn, oats, tobacco; soil preparation, winter wheat planting, marketing cattle, clipping pastures.

WISCONSIN: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Soil moisture 4% short, 83% adequate, 13% surplus. Many areas of the State reported corn fields being opened, corn may still be immature and high in moisture. Corn silo filling was at 5% complete, 4% 1996, 2% behind avg. A corn silage moisture program in Sheboygan County recorded whole plant moisture averaged in the low 80s. In general, soybeans looked good; but there were still some reports of white mold. Soybean acreage had 59% which showed a change in the color of the leaves, 48% 1996, 43% avg. Soybean acreage had 12% shedding leaves, compared to 10% 1996, 10% avg. Soybeans 2% poor, 10% fair, 55% good, 33% excellent. Continuous poor drying conditions held third crop hay harvest back to 65% complete, 70% 1996, 62% avg. Barley yielded up to 90 bushels per acre in Lincoln County. In Pepin County, farmers were starting to dig potatoes. Snap bean harvest was finishing up in Portage County. A Kewaunee County reporter noted that apples were being picked. A reporter from Fond du Lac County commented that sweet corn yields were above average. Winter wheat yielded up to 84 bushels per acre in Manitowoc County. Pasture feed 3% poor, 22% fair, 60% good, 15% excellent.

WYOMING: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Topsoil 2% very short, 32% short, 61% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil 34% short, 66% adequate. 1998 winter wheat 77% planted, 74% 1997, 67% avg.; 37% emerged, 41% 1997, 30% avg. Barley 91% harvested, 94% 1996, 90% avg. Oats 84% harvested, 84% 1996, 81% avg. Spring wheat 89% harvested, 95% 1996, 85% avg. Corn 92% dented, 88% 1996, 60% avg.; 58% mature, 50% 1996, 24% avg.; 38% harvested for silage, 50% 1996, 35% avg.; 92% good, 8% excellent. Dry beans 93% windrowed, 90% 1996, 74% avg.; 57% combined, 62% 1996, 37% avg.; 15% fair, 77% good, 8% excellent. Sugar beets 2% fair, 89% good, 9% excellent. Alfalfa 92% 2nd cutting complete, 95% 1996, 92% avg.; 25% 3rd cutting complete, 32% 1996, 33% avg. Range, pasture feed 2% very poor, 6% poor, 15% fair, 71% good, 6% excellent. Livestock moved from summer ranges: 9% cattle and calves, 20% 1996, 18% avg.; 24% sheep and lambs, 16% 1996, 19% avg.

International Weather and Crop Summary

September 7 - 13, 1997

HIGHLIGHTS

FSU-WESTERN: Showers benefited emerging winter grains in northern Russia, while rain and cool weather in Ukraine slowed summer crop development.

FSU-NEW LANDS: Unseasonably warm, dry weather in the Urals and adjacent areas in Western Siberia boosted spring grain development.

EUROPE: Favorably dry, warm weather in the south accelerated corn and sunflower maturation and harvesting.

SOUTH ASIA: Late-season monsoonal rains aided immature grains, oilseeds, and cotton but likely spawned localized flooding.

MEXICO: Rain favored filling corn across the main corn belt.

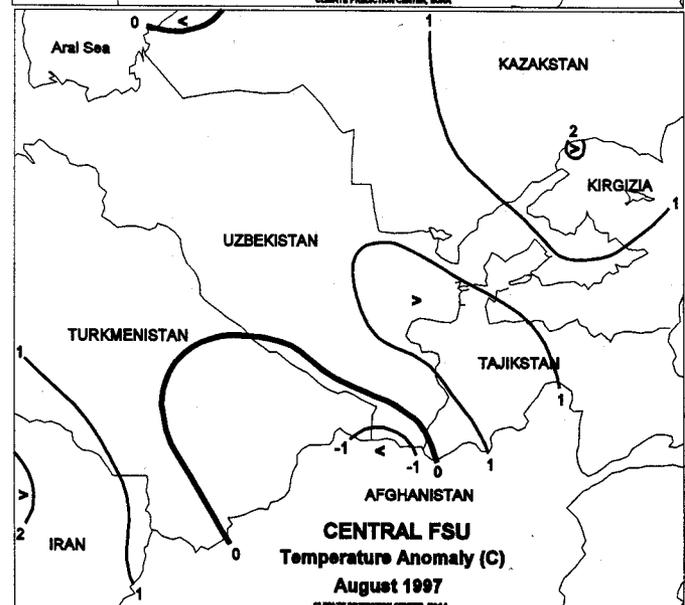
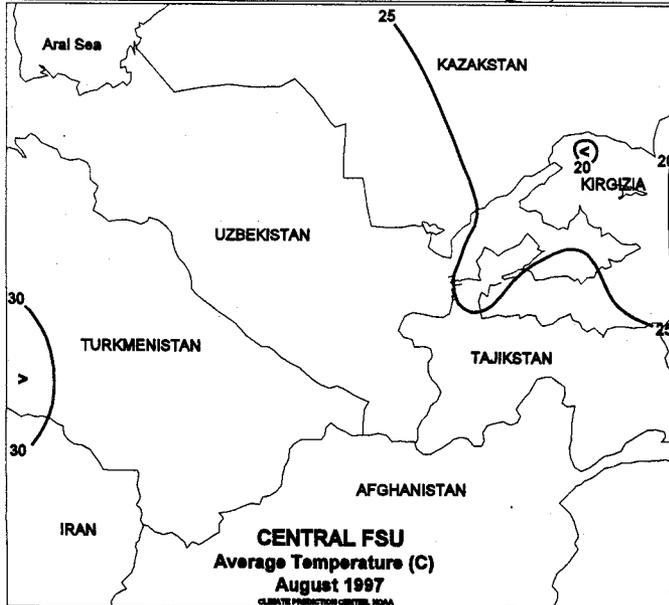
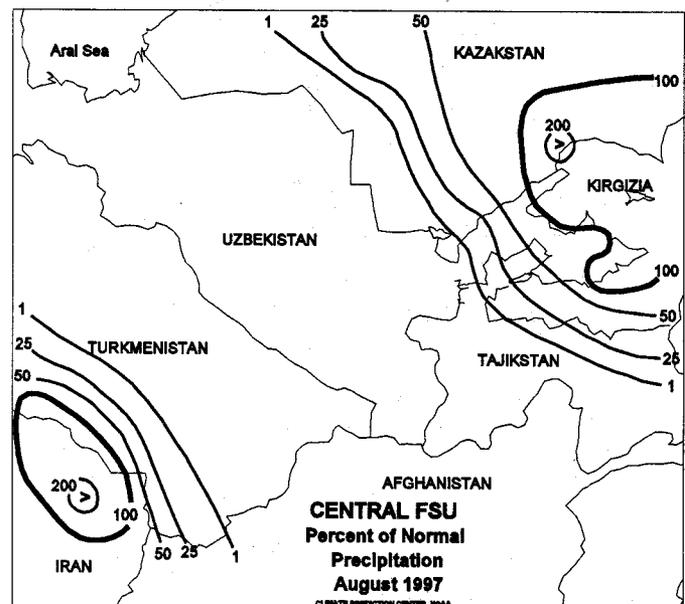
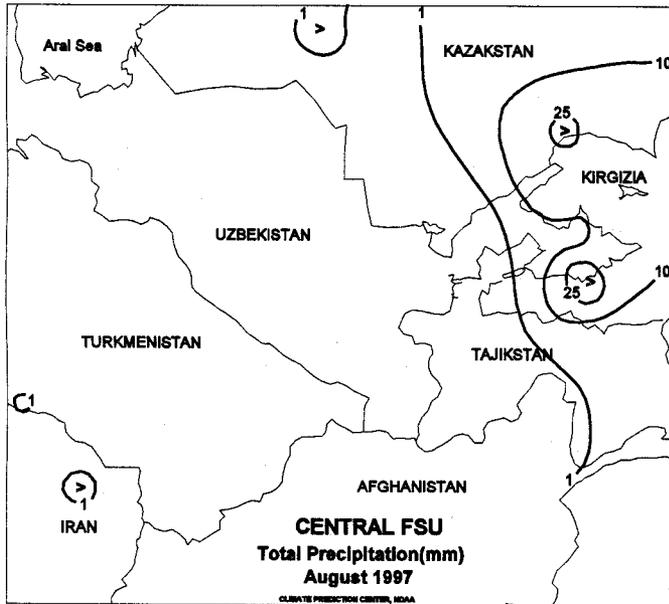
CANADA: Spring grain and oilseed harvests progressed across the Prairies.

SOUTHEAST ASIA: In Java, dry weather continued to stress rainfed second-season crops.

EASTERN ASIA: Widespread rain covered the North China Plain, bringing drought relief and boosting topsoil moisture for winter wheat planting.

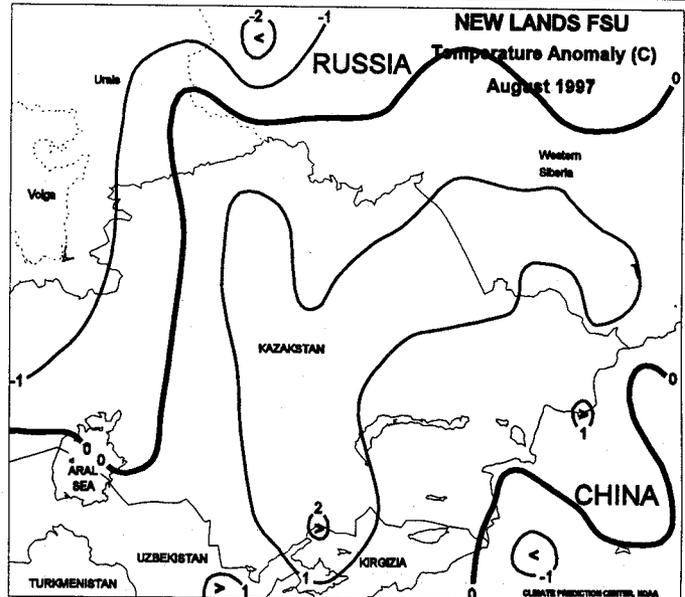
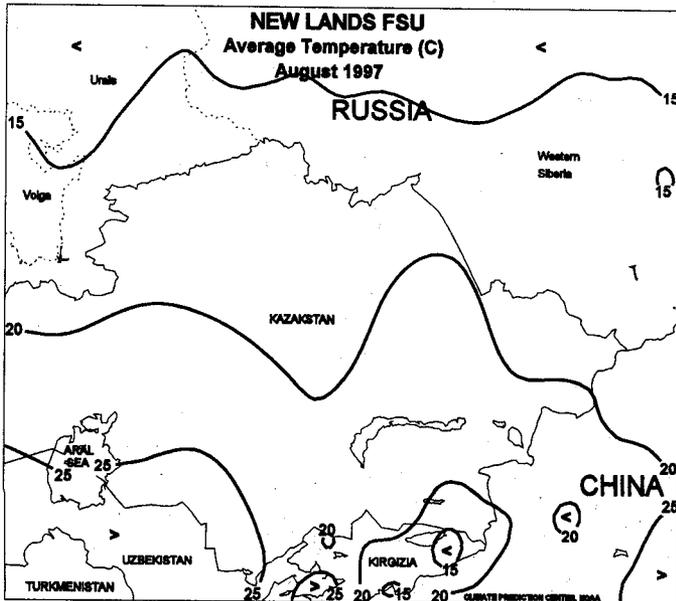
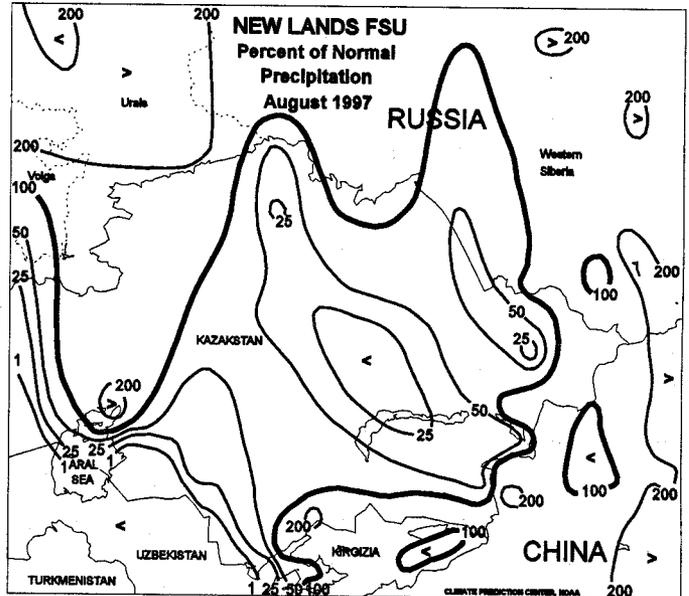
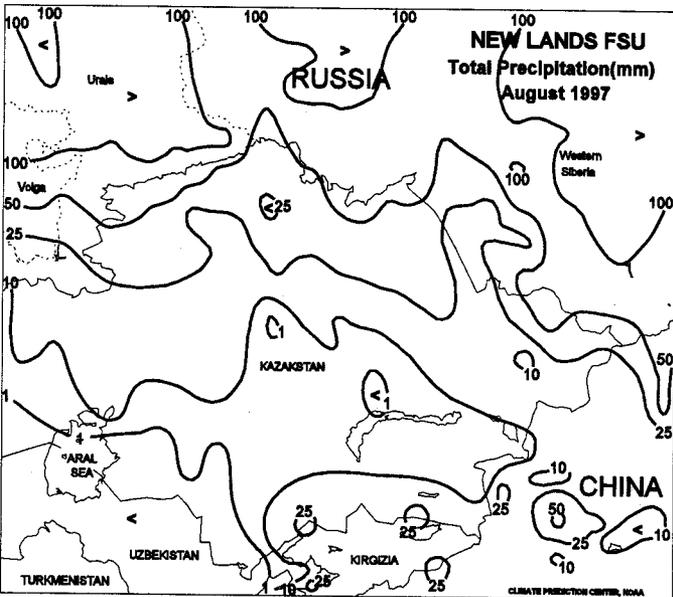
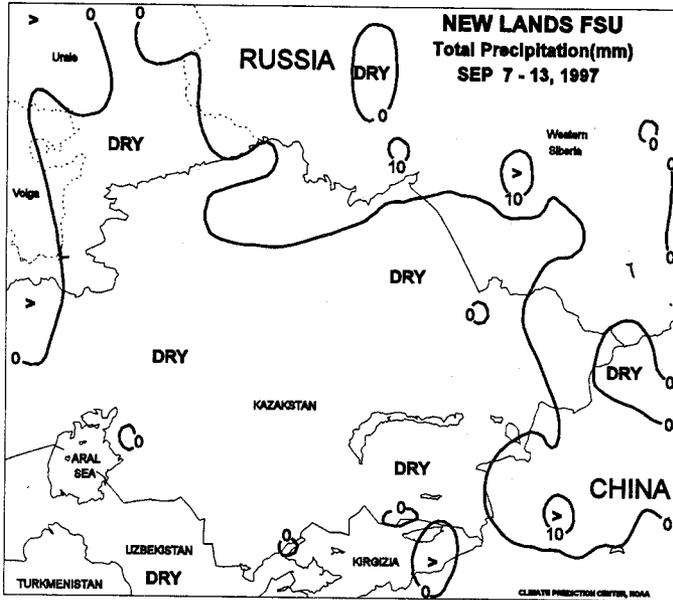
SOUTH AMERICA: In Argentina, cool weather burned back vegetative growth of winter wheat in Buenos Aires.

AUSTRALIA: Scattered showers continued throughout the west and southeast, but dryness returned to Queensland.

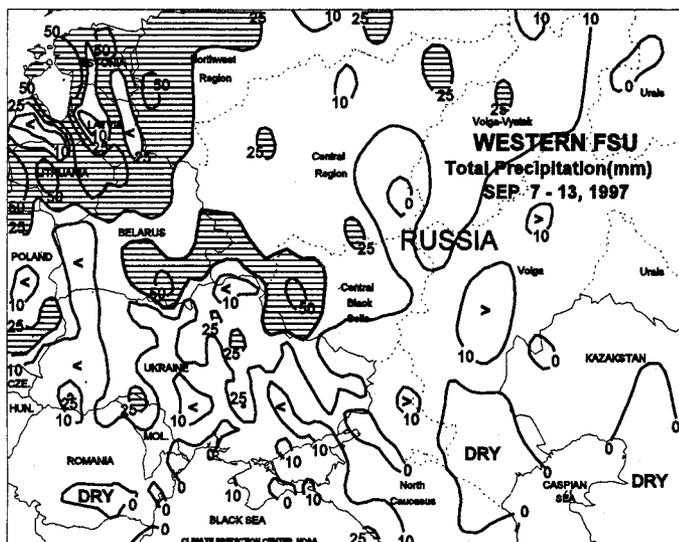


NEW LANDS

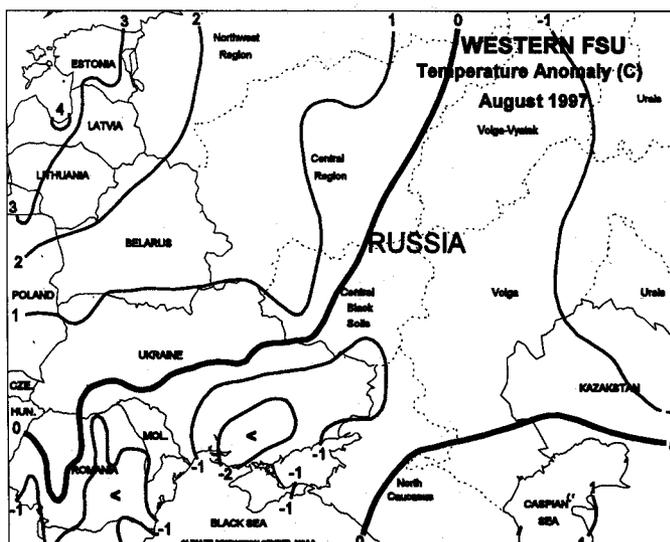
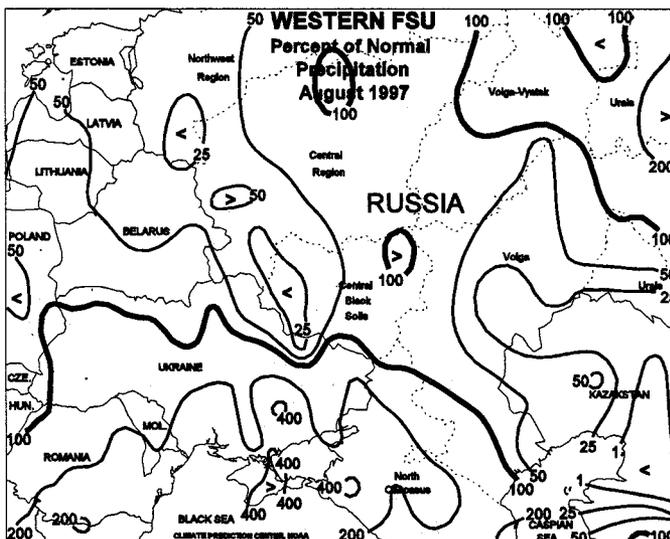
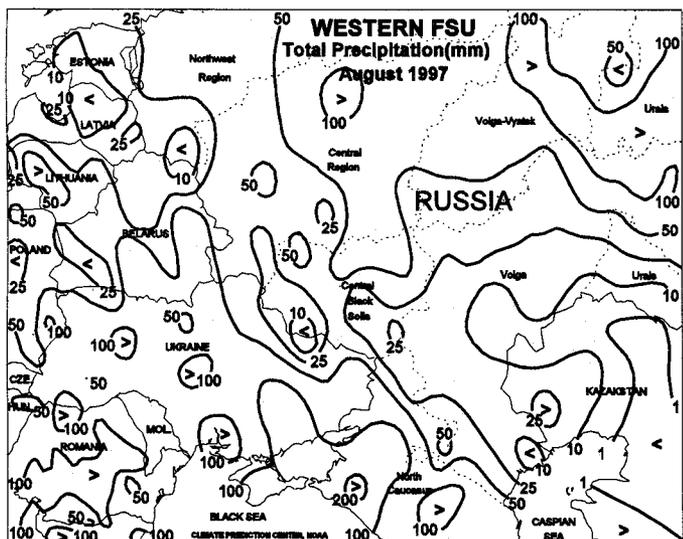
Typically, the bulk of spring grains throughout the region are harvested in September. In Russia, spring grain harvesting was likely underway in the southern Urals and the Altay Kray region in Western Siberia. Crop progress ranged from filling to maturing in the northern Urals and remaining areas in Western and Eastern Siberia. Crop development in these areas was lagging behind normal due to unseasonably cool weather during the growing season. This past week, unseasonably warm, dry weather in the Urals and western areas in Western Siberia helped to boost spring grain development toward maturity. Weekly temperatures in these areas averaged 1 to 3 degrees C above normal. In areas farther east, however, unseasonably cool weather continued to slow crop development. Elsewhere, dry weather in the southern Urals and Altay Kray favored harvest activities. Reports as of August 13 indicated that spring grains and pulses in Russia, excluding corn, were 70 percent harvested. In Kazakstan, the fifth consecutive week of dryness allowed spring grain harvesting to progress rapidly. In August, frequent showers in Russia (northern Urals and Western and Eastern Siberia) produced above-normal precipitation, benefiting spring grains in the filling stage. In Kazakstan, periodic showers in early August were followed by a drying trend that began on August 11 and persisted until month's end, benefiting early spring grain harvesting but limiting moisture for immature crops. In cotton-growing areas of Central Asia, unseasonably cool, dry weather slowed cotton development but favored harvest activities. Typically, cotton harvesting begins in mid-September and continues through November.

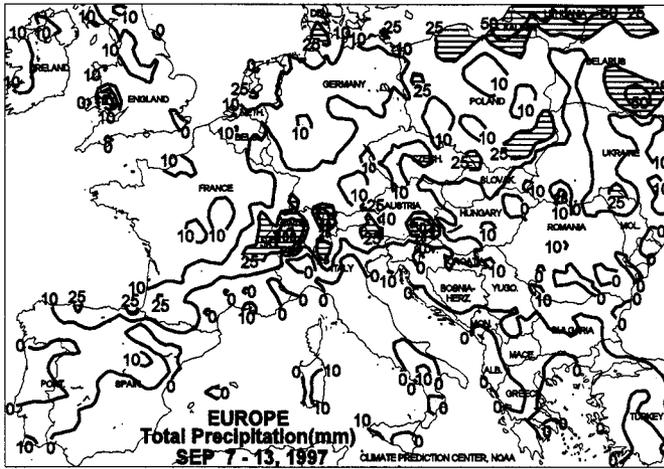


FSU-WESTERN



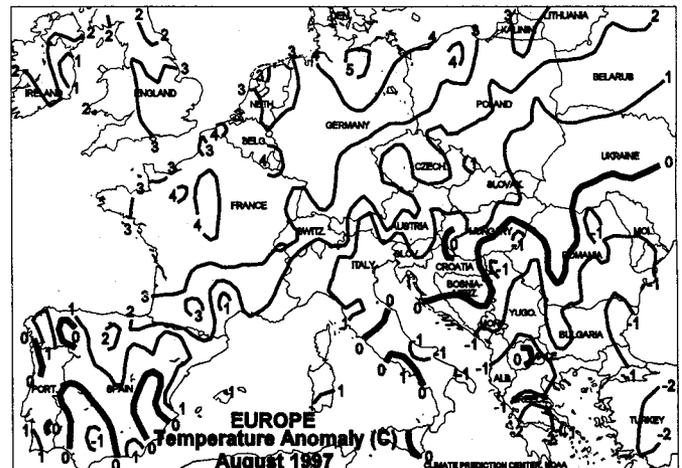
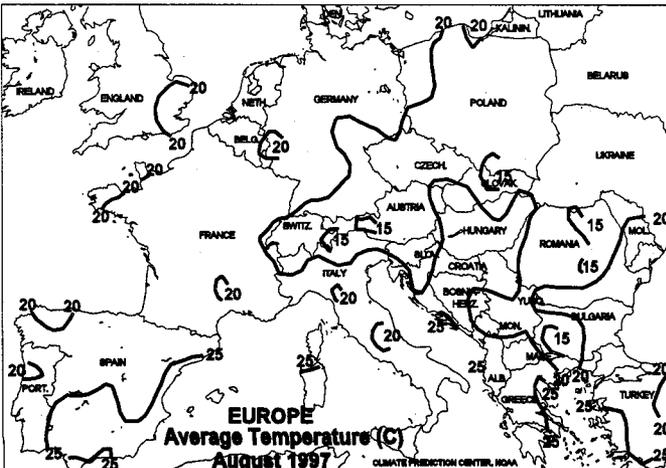
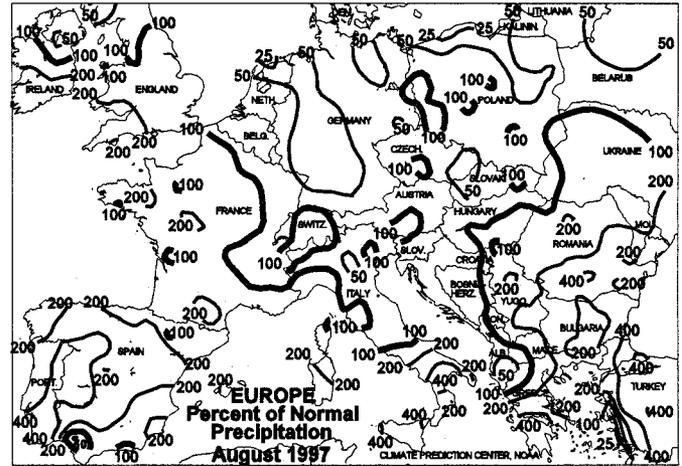
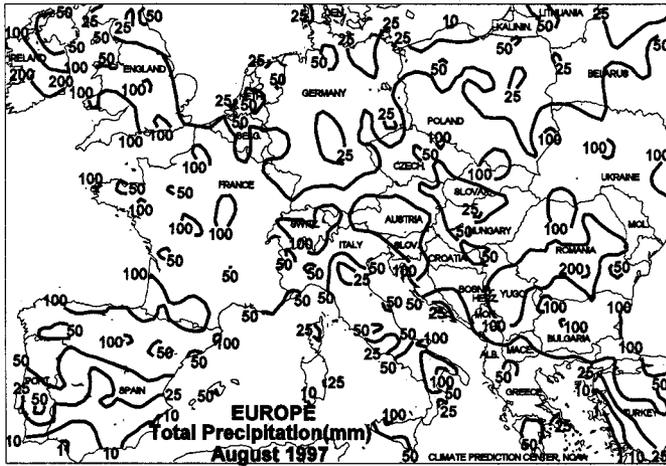
In Russia, widespread showers fell across the north (Northwest Region, Central Region, Volga Vyatsk, and northern Central Black Soils Region), boosting topsoil moisture for winter grain emergence and establishment. Farther south, scattered showers (variable amounts ranging from 3-22 mm) in the lower Volga Valley and the North Caucasus caused only brief delays in corn and sunflower harvesting and winter wheat planting. In Ukraine, periodic showers were accompanied by unseasonably cool weather, benefitting immature summer crops but slowing crop development. Although the precipitation in Ukraine maintained abundant topsoil moisture for winter wheat emergence, it likely caused some interruptions in planting. Elsewhere, wet weather in the Baltics and Belarus hampered fieldwork, but provided abundant topsoil moisture for winter grain emergence and establishment. In August, below-normal precipitation occurred in most of northern Russia (Central Region, Volga Vyatsk, Central Black Soils Region, and middle and upper Volga Valley), Belarus, and the Baltics. The dry weather in these areas favored fieldwork for spring grain harvesting, and winter grain planting, which typically begins in late-August. However, topsoil moisture was becoming limited by month's end and rain was needed for winter grain germination. Farther south, above-normal precipitation continued July's wet weather pattern in Ukraine and North Caucasus, Russia, hampering small grain harvesting and lowering crop quality, but providing generous moisture for filling summer crops. Furthermore, the rains boosted topsoil moisture for winter grain planting.



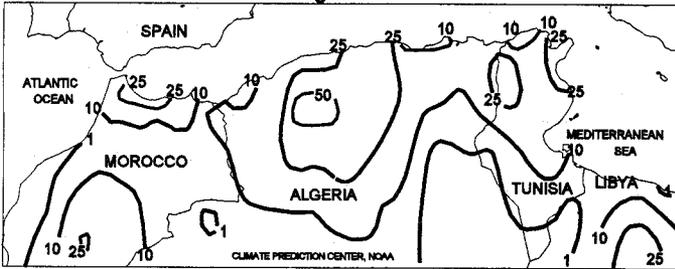


EUROPE

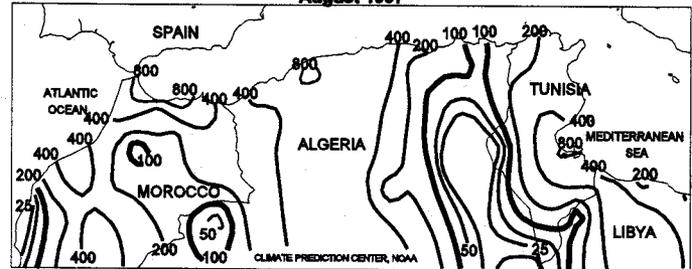
Dry weather prevailed over the United Kingdom during most of the week, helping late spring grain harvesting. Farther south, unseasonably warm, dry weather spread from Spain eastward through Italy into former Yugoslavia, benefiting corn and sunflower maturation and harvesting. Reports indicated that corn harvesting began in southwestern France about 5 to 10 days earlier than usual. Although dry weather during most of the week in southwestern France helped harvesting, showers developed at week's end, causing some interruptions in fieldwork. Elsewhere, scattered light showers (generally less than 10 mm) in northern France and Germany caused only brief delays in rapeseed harvesting as well as land preparation for winter rye and wheat planting. In eastern Europe, winter wheat planting and corn harvesting continued to progress during the week, helped by several days of dry weather. Light showers (6-25 mm, with local amounts in excess of 35 mm) in Poland and the Czech Republic caused only brief delays in fieldwork. In August, unseasonably warm weather prevailed over most of Europe, boosting crop development. A period of generally dry weather from August 8 to 24 prevailed over most of northern Europe, allowing rapid winter and spring grain harvesting. More than twice the normal amount of rain drenched southeastern Europe in August, hampering small grain harvesting. Unseasonably wet weather prevailed over Mediterranean areas, benefiting immature crops.



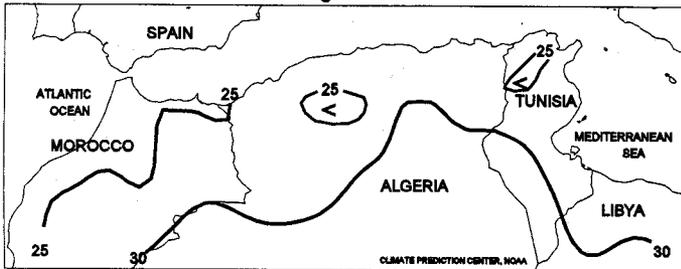
NORTHWEST AFRICA Total Precipitation (mm)
August 1997



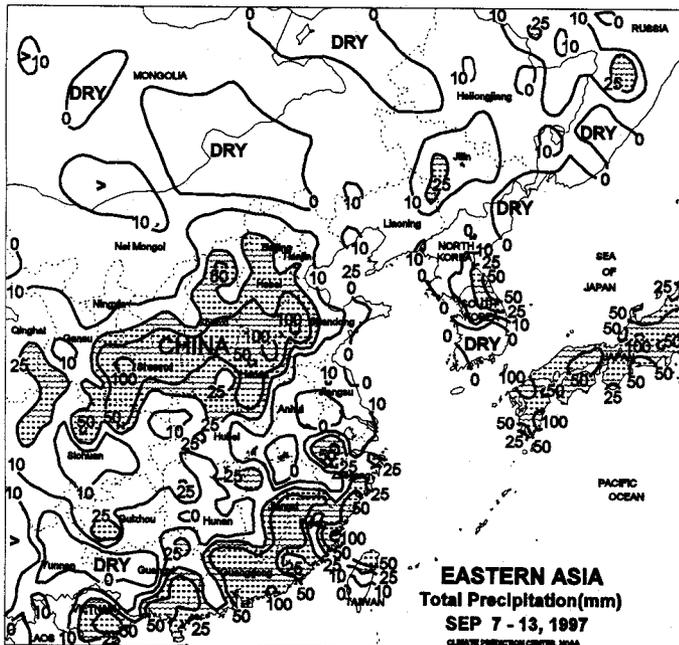
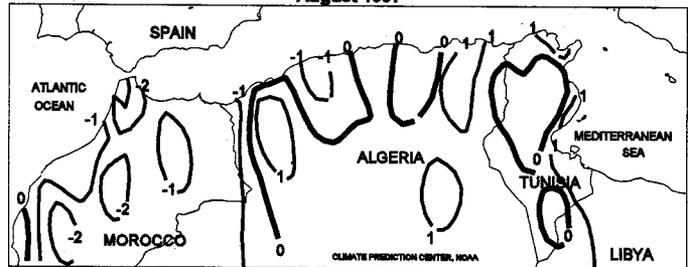
NORTHWEST AFRICA Percent of Normal Precipitation
August 1997



NORTHWEST AFRICA Average Temperature (C)
August 1997

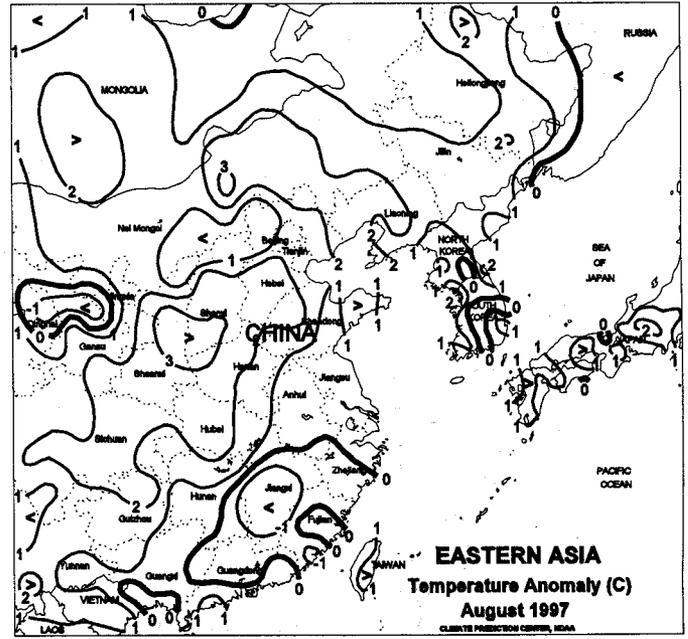
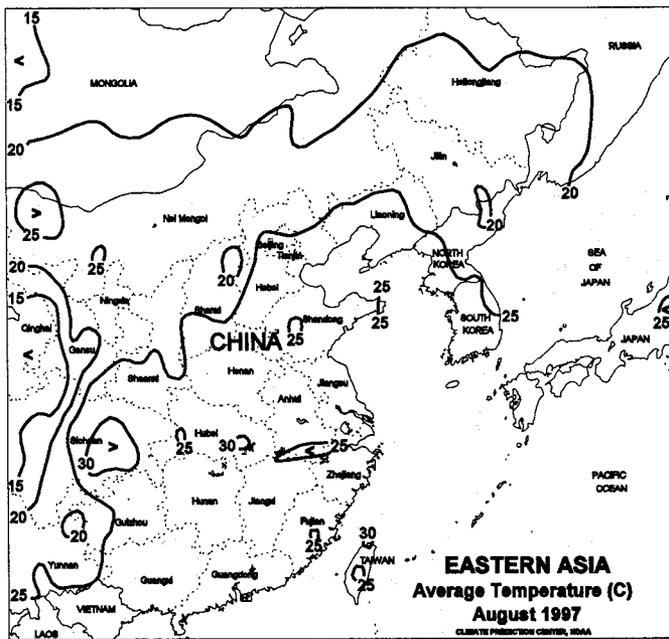
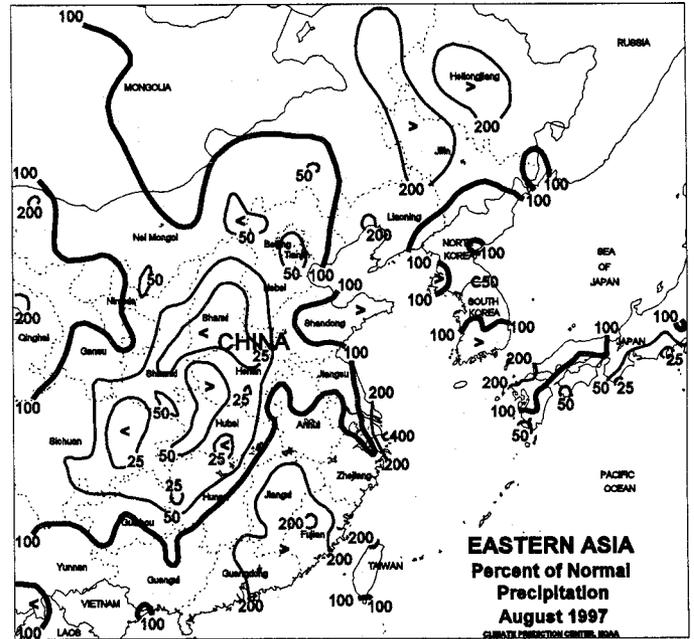
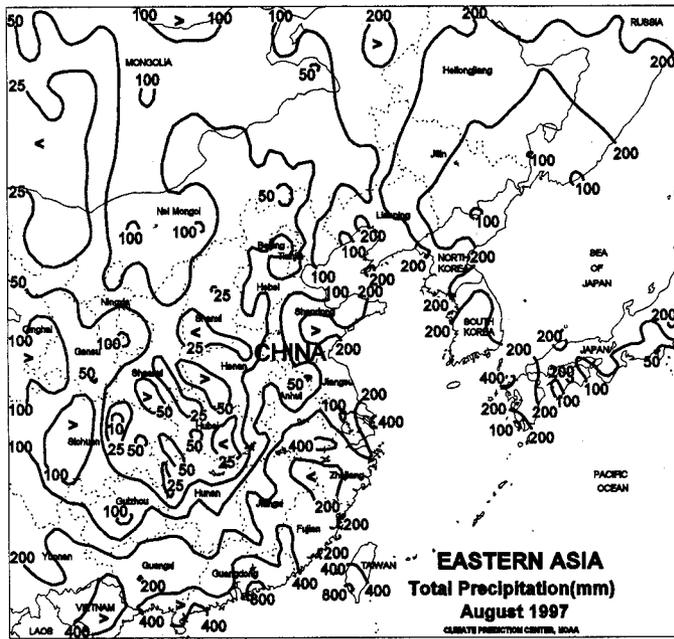


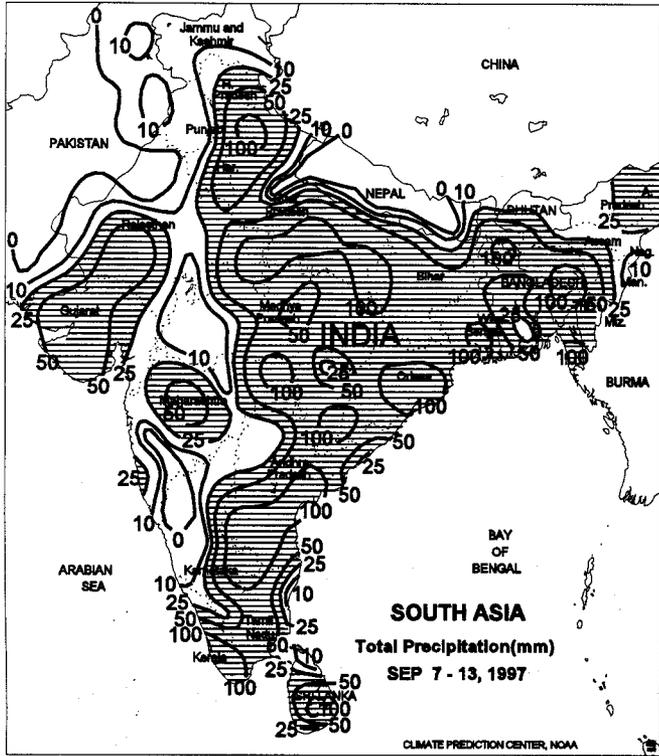
NORTHWEST AFRICA Temperature Anomaly (C)
August 1997



EASTERN ASIA

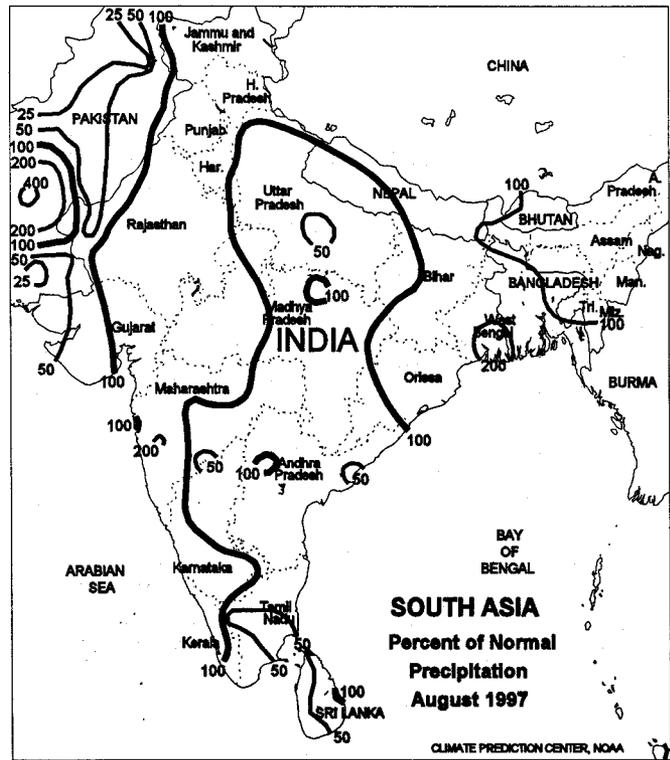
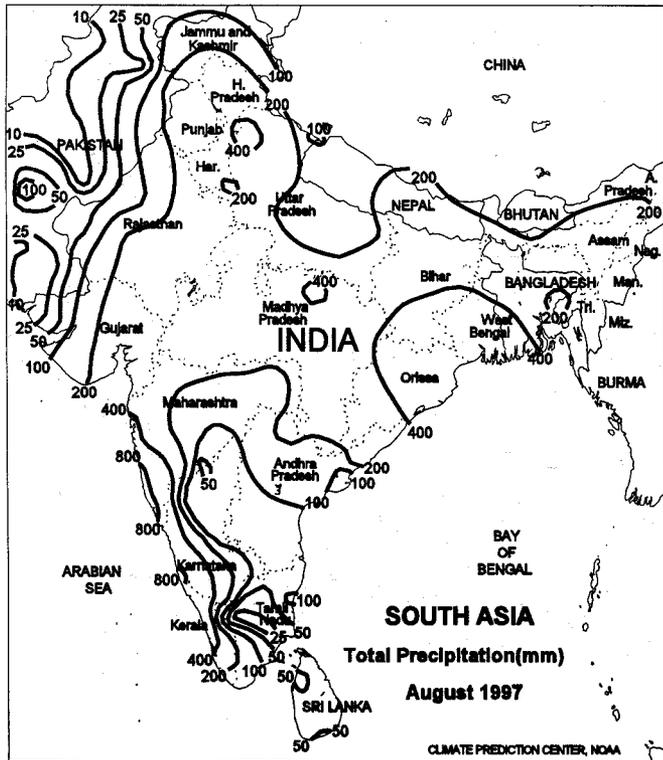
Widespread rain (30-60 mm) covered the North China Plain, easing drought and boosting topsoil moisture for winter wheat planting. The needed moisture stabilized summer crop yield prospects and started to replenish irrigation supplies. Light rain (5-20 mm) aided filling summer crops across Manchuria. Variable showers (5-60 mm) maintained adequate irrigation supplies across central and southern China. Temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C above normal across most of China and 1 to 2 degrees C below normal in Manchuria. Mostly dry weather prevailed across the western Korean Peninsula, aiding maturing rice. In Japan, widespread rain (25-100 mm) slowed maturing rice. During August, drought continued across the western North China Plain (Henan and Shanxi), reducing summer crop yield prospects. The eastern areas (Shandong and southern Hebei) received beneficial rain from the remnants of Typhoon Winnie. Above-normal August rainfall (125-200 percent of normal rainfall) favored summer crops in Manchuria. The remnants of Tropical Cyclones Cass and Amber contributed to much-above-normal rainfall in southeastern China, while below-normal rainfall aided maturing summer crops in Sichuan. August rainfall averaged near normal across the Korean Peninsula and Japan.

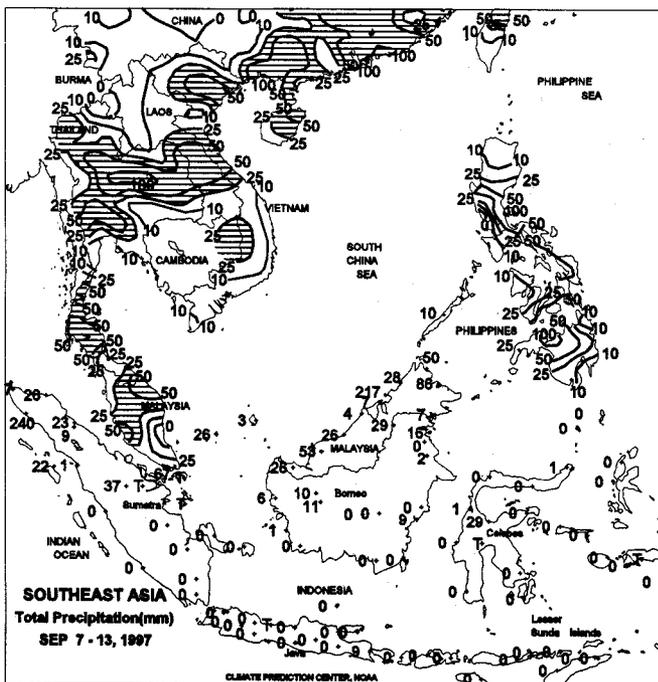
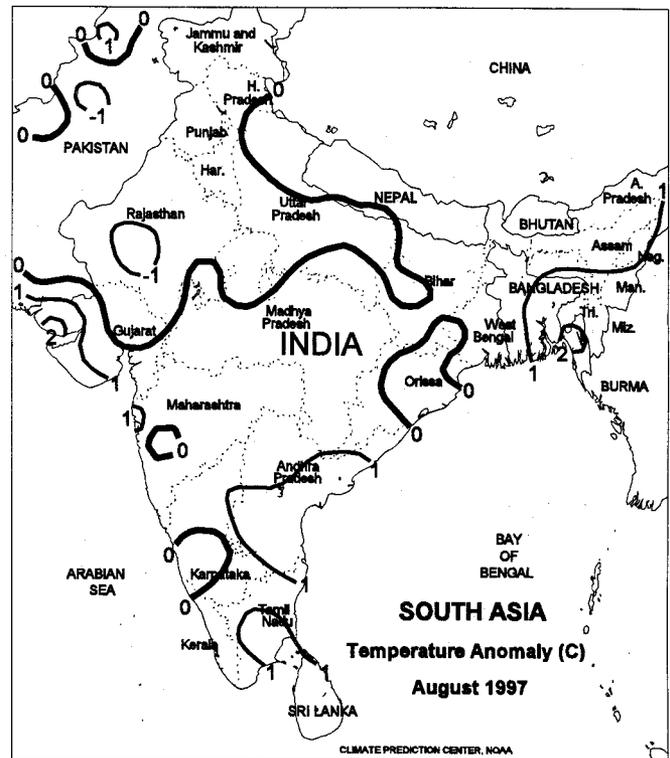
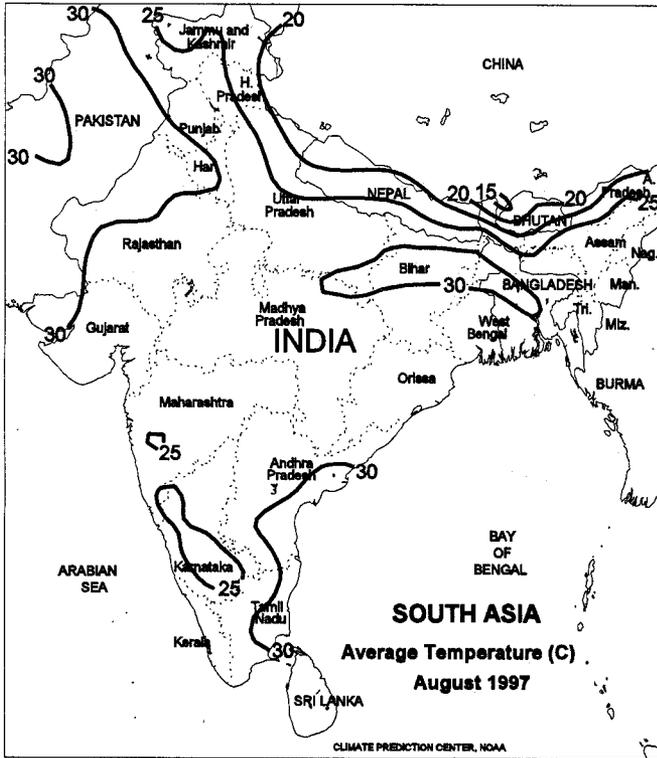




SOUTH ASIA

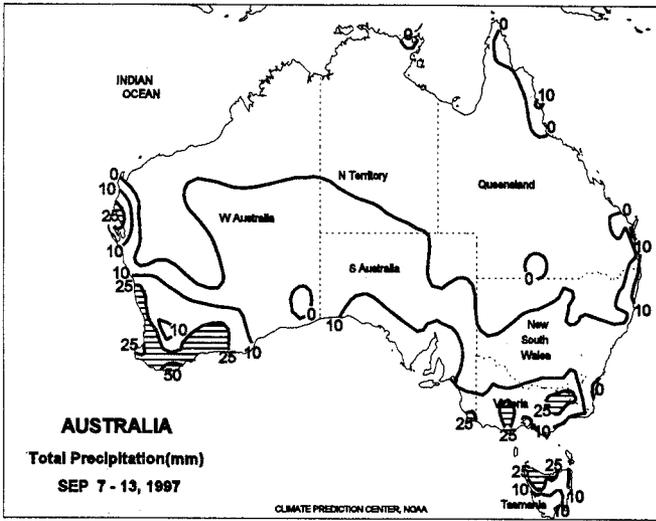
A late-season surge of monsoon moisture benefited immature grains, oilseeds, and cotton across a broad section of central India. Rainfall was especially welcomed for late crop development in Gujarat's western groundnut basin, where 34 to 90 mm broke a brief dry spell. Widespread, moderate to heavy showers (25-50 mm or more) spanned primary rice areas of India and Bangladesh, reaching westward into coarse grain and oilseed areas of north-central India, but missing most of the maturing cotton. Pockets of drier weather extended southward from the soybean belt into the southern interior. Andhra Pradesh continued to receive overall beneficial moisture (20 - 50 mm or more, exceeding 150 mm locally), although a few areas likely saw some flooding. During August, the monsoon remained very active across the region, with near- to above-normal rainfall covering Bangladesh and nearly all major Indian crop areas. India's exceptions included pockets of dryness in the southern interior from Maharashtra to Tamil Nadu, and much of the western Gujarat groundnut region. However, despite the erratic nature of the monsoon over these areas, timely showers did occur throughout the month, stabilizing crop prospects. In Pakistan, a lack of significant moisture until late August typified the disappointing performance of this season's monsoon at its northernmost extent.





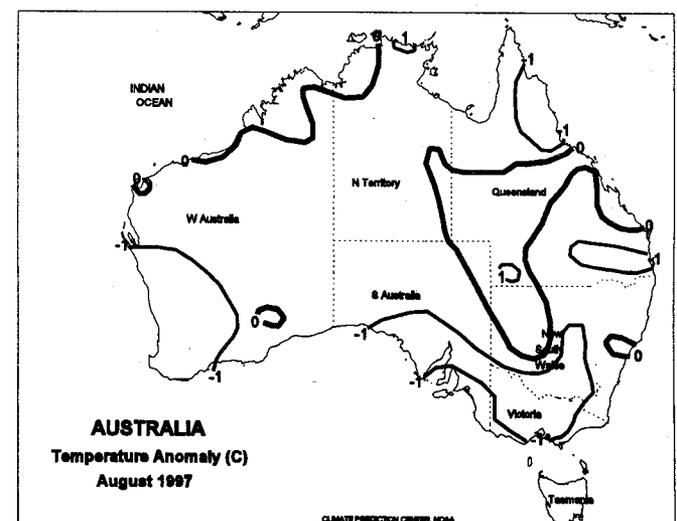
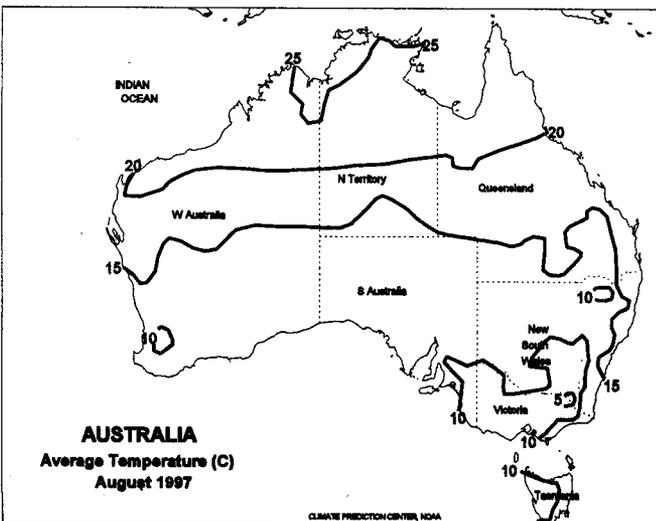
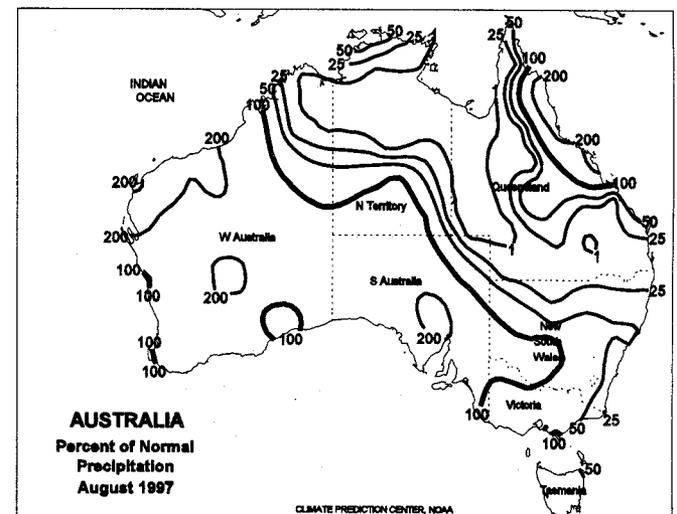
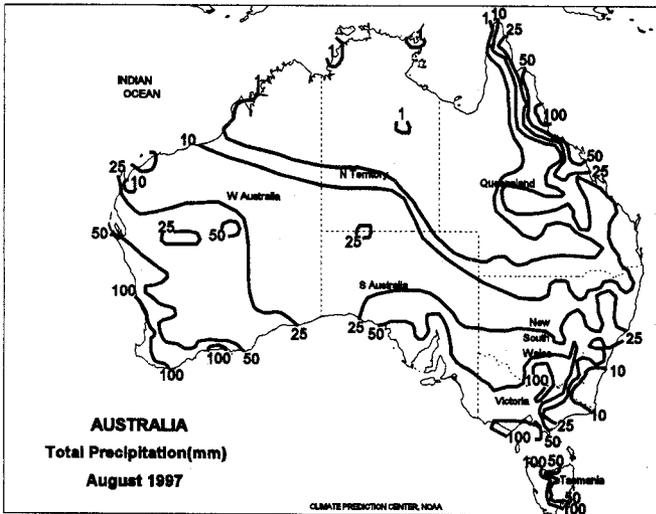
SOUTHEAST ASIA

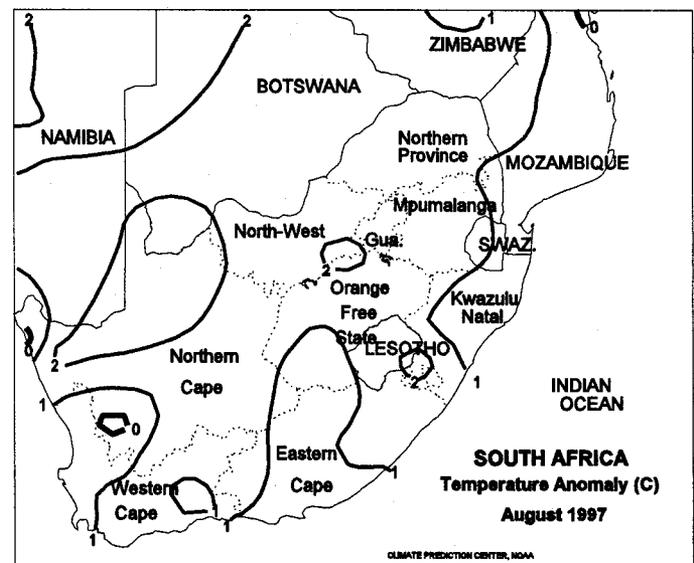
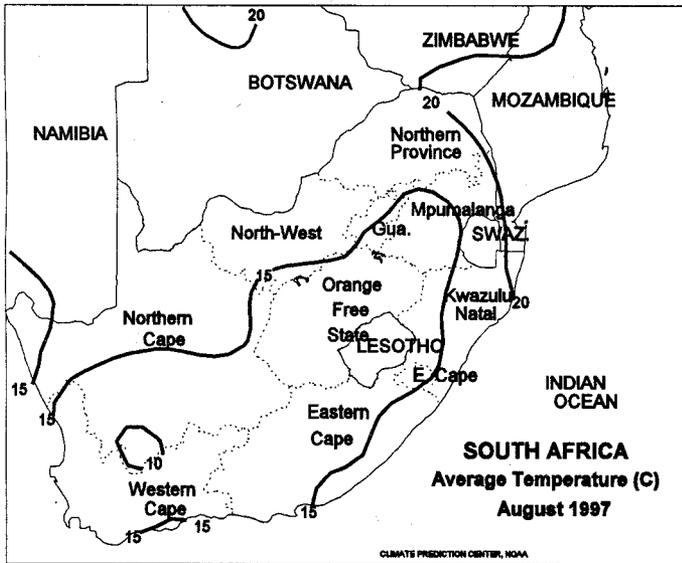
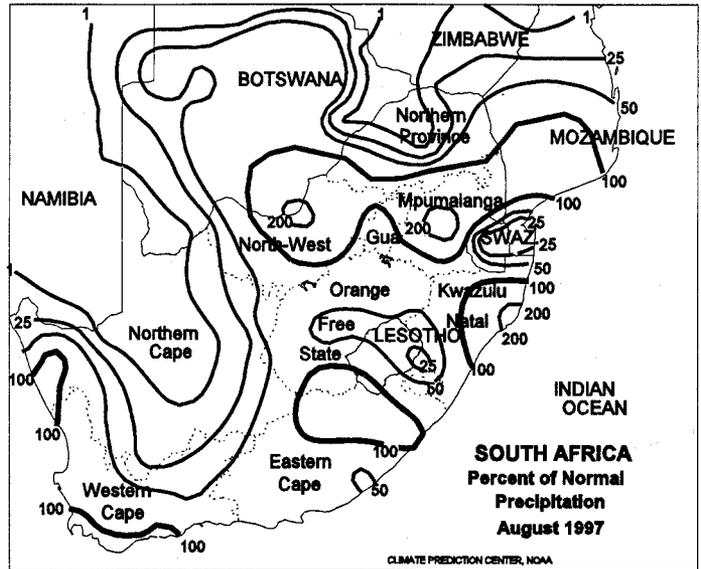
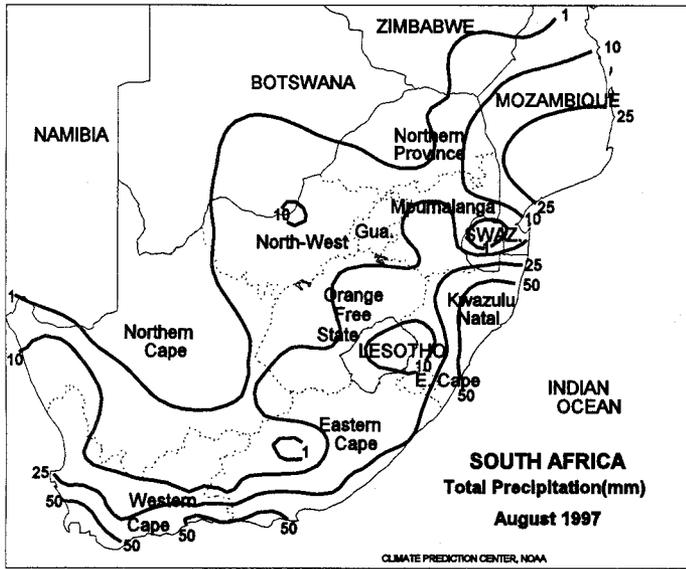
Across Java and southern Sumatra, dry weather continued to stress rainfed second-season crops. Widespread showers (25-80 mm, with scattered amounts greater than 100 mm) covered most of Thailand, boosting moisture supplies for main-season crops. More moderate showers (10-60 mm) eased wetness in northern Vietnam and mostly dry, warm weather aided maturing rice across southern Vietnam. In the Philippines, showers (25-75 mm) benefited late-filling grains and sugarcane across the central islands and Mindanao. Elsewhere, lighter showers (5-40 mm) prevailed. Showers (30-60 mm) favored oil palm across western peninsular Malaysia, but drier weather (less than 10 mm) was reported in the east. During August, below-normal rainfall reduced moisture supplies in Java, most of the Philippines, and south-central Thailand. Near- to above-normal rainfall favored main-season crops in northern and northeastern Thailand and northern Vietnam.

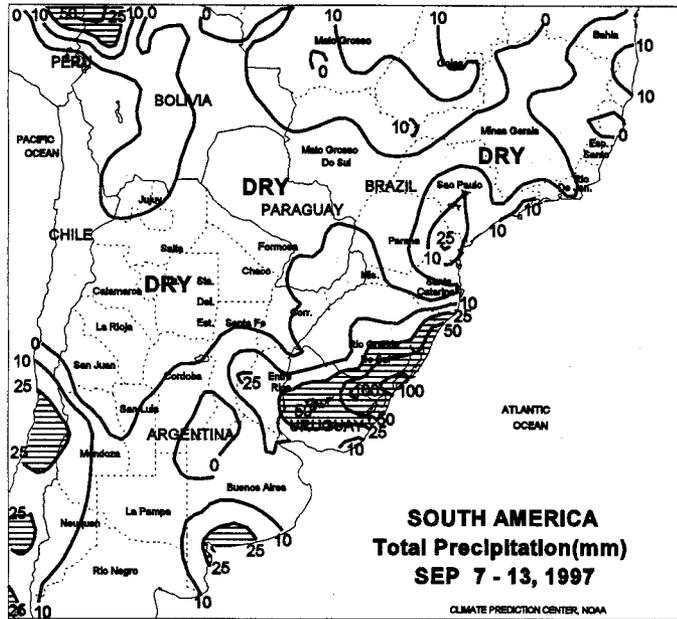


AUSTRALIA

Scattered showers (5-25 mm, in most areas) followed last week's soaking rains in the primary winter grain areas of Western Australia and the southeast (South Australia, Victoria, and southern New South Wales). Rainfall tapered off toward the northeastern crop areas, with no rain reported over Queensland and a broad area of northern New South Wales. Seasonable temperatures fostered normal crop development, with frost likely confined to the higher elevations. In New Zealand, light rains (15 mm or less) covered the main pasture areas. In early August, widespread, soaking rains improved crop prospects over a broad area of the southeast and reinforced high yield expectations in Western Australia. The weather pattern across southern Australia remained active for the remainder of the month, bringing welcomed, albeit lighter follow-up showers. Unfortunately, the beneficial rainfall did not extend northward into northern New South Wales or Queensland, where topsoils had become too dry for vegetative to reproductive winter grains by month's end. However, temperatures trended below normal throughout the winter grain belts for much of August, slowing growth rates and generating significant frost and freezing conditions that constrained crop development.

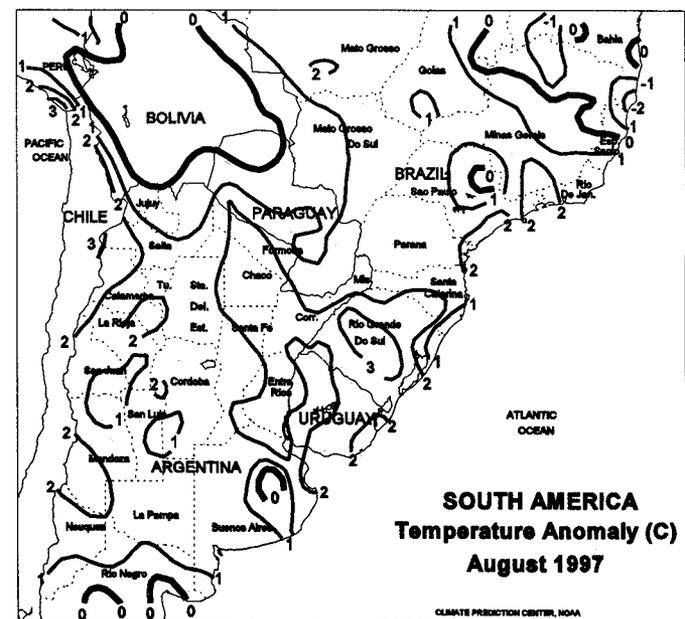
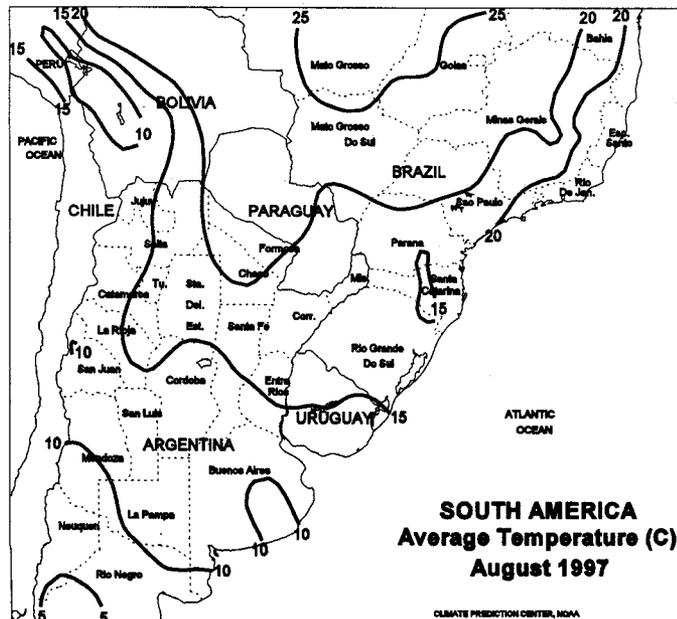
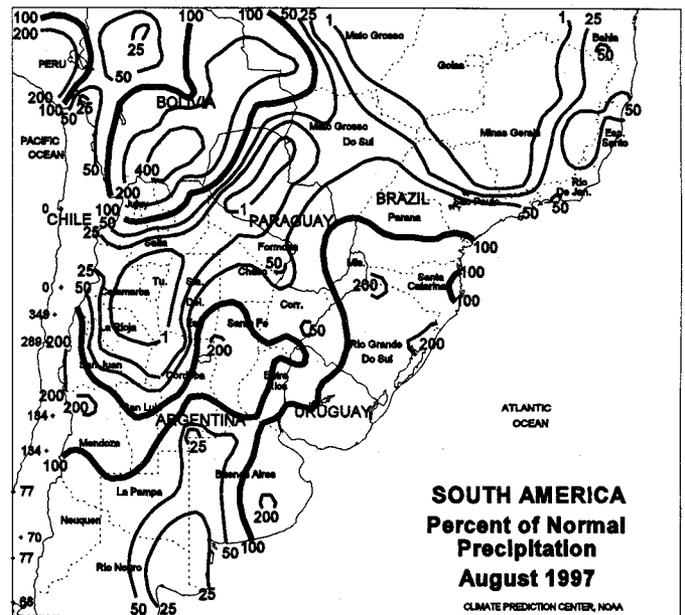
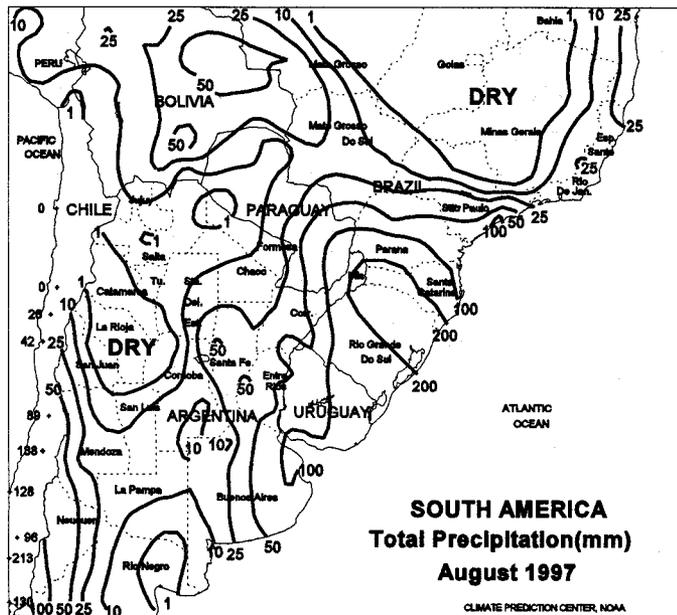


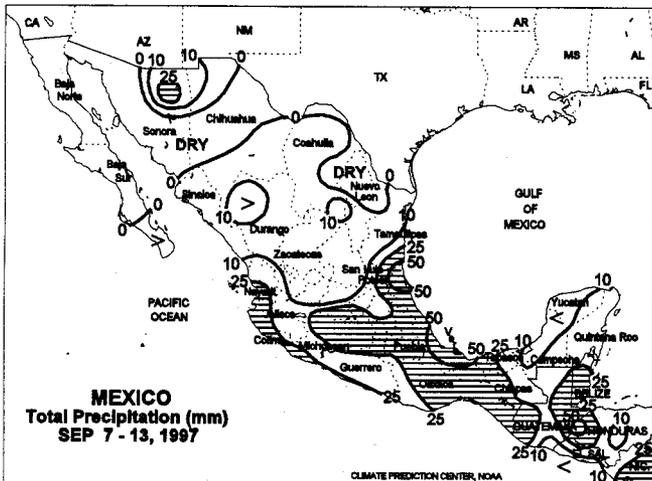




SOUTH AMERICA

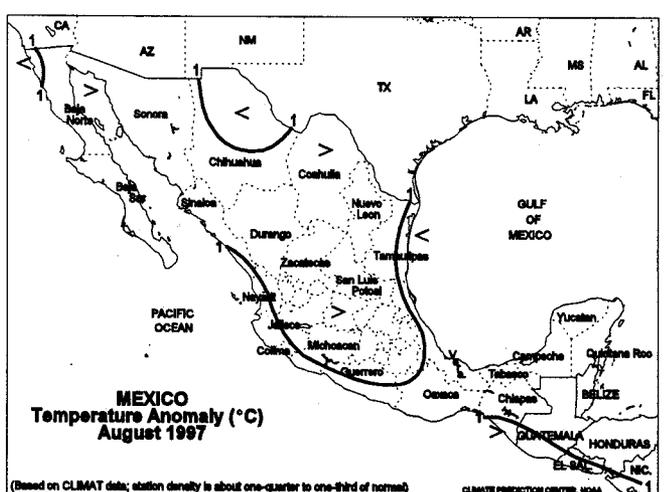
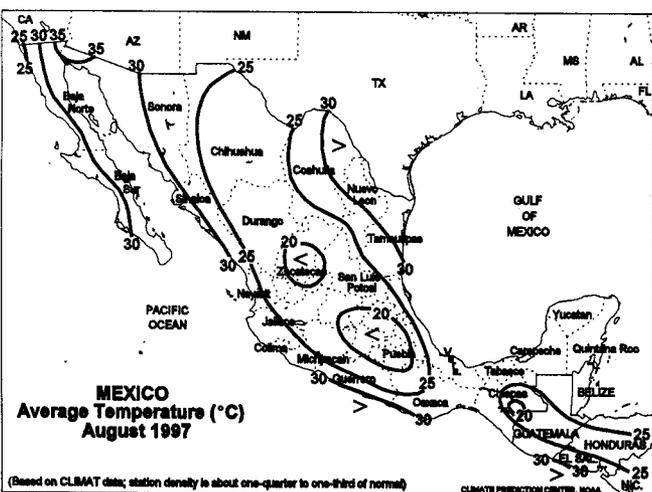
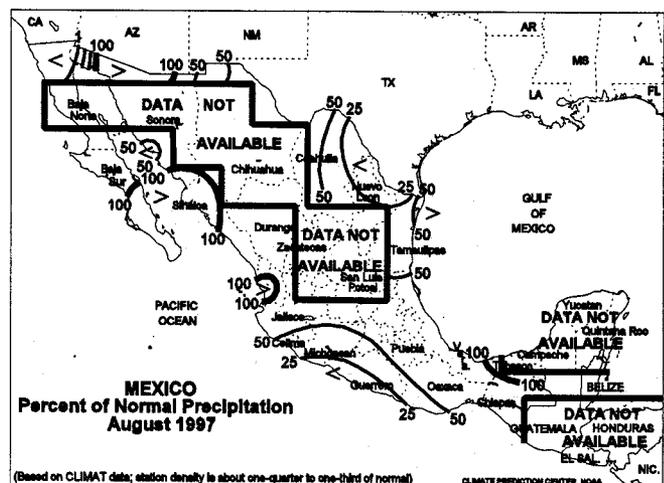
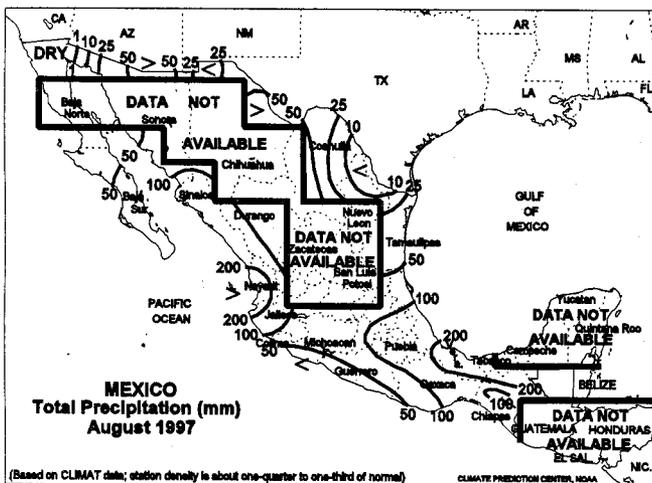
In Argentina, cool weather (lows ranged from 0 to -3 degrees C) burned back early winter wheat growth across most of Buenos Aires. Light to moderate rain (5-25 mm) favored vegetative winter wheat in southern Buenos Aires. Dry weather prevailed in the other major winter wheat areas. In southern Brazil, light to moderate rain (10-40 mm) maintained soil moisture for reproductive to filling winter wheat in eastern Parana and Rio Grande do Sul. Temperatures averaged 3 to 6 degrees C above normal (highs ranging from 35-40 degrees C) from Parana northward, aiding filling to maturing winter wheat, but reducing moisture for citrus and coffee. In August, rainfall averaged near normal in Santa Fe, Argentina but remained below normal across Cordoba. August rainfall averaged near to above normal across eastern Buenos Aires, Argentina northeastward into southern Parana, Brazil, favoring winter wheat development. August temperatures averaged 1 to 2 degrees C above normal across central Argentina and southern Brazil.

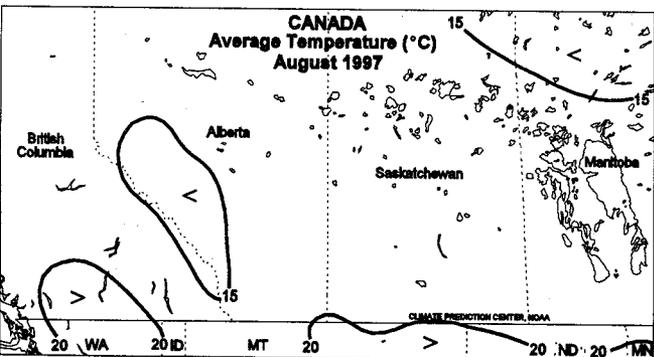
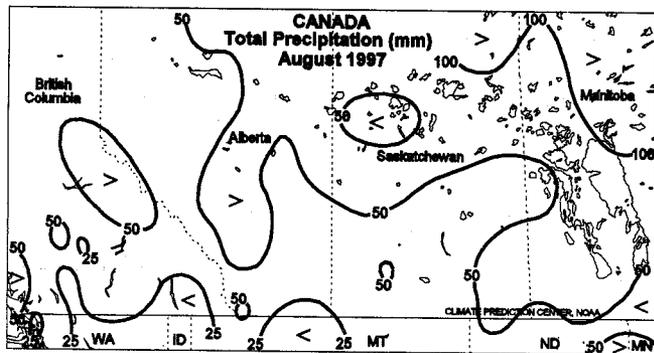
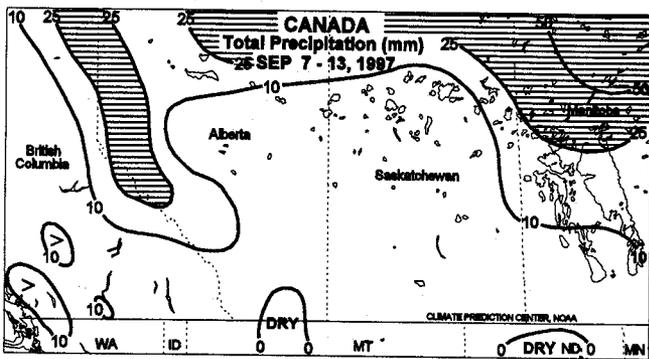




MEXICO

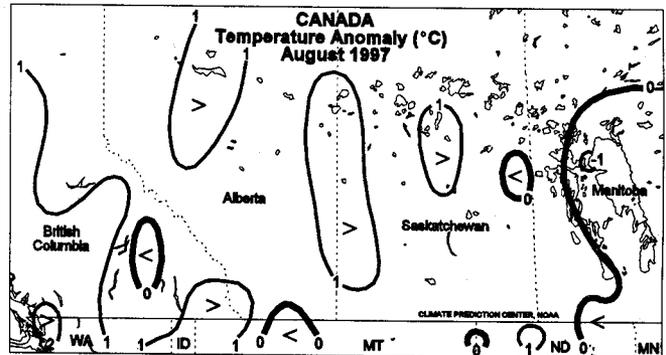
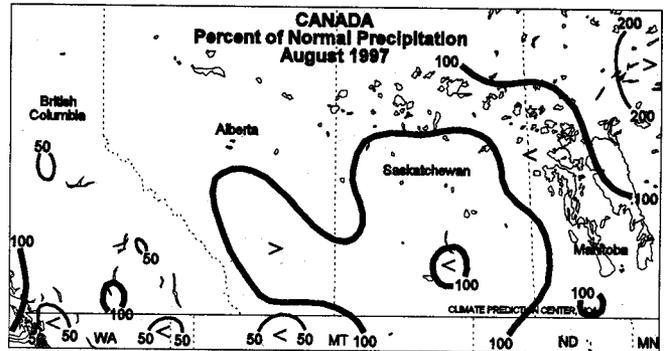
Moderate showers (15-50 mm) benefited filling corn across the main corn belt. Dryness again engulfed northeastern Mexico, while monsoon showers (5-25 mm) prevailed across the northwest. During August, limited data suggest generally below-normal rainfall across the main corn belt. Somewhat drier weather (rainfall less than 50 percent of normal) prevailed across the northeast, worsening the drought. Monthly temperatures averaged near 1 degree C above normal.





CANADA

Generally dry, warm weather promoted rapid spring grain and oilseed harvesting. Progress is running well ahead of last season's pace, with fieldwork virtually complete at many southern locations. Estimates of Prairie-wide harvest completion run as high as 90 percent. The exception was Alberta's Peace River Valley, where untimely rain (22-28 mm) threatened a repeat of last year's harvesting woes. The continued lack of a killing freeze has provided additional time for crop maturation across northern districts. In Ontario and Quebec, mild, showery weather aided immature summer crops but continued to hamper seasonal fieldwork. In early August, unseasonable heat and dryness stressed reproductive to filling spring grains and oilseeds, especially in chronically dry areas centered in eastern Saskatchewan. An ensuing frontal passage brought some relief to immature crops, primarily in the north, but was generally too late to significantly improve overall crop prospects. A drying trend the remainder of the month favored crop maturation and drydown. In Ontario and Quebec, August showers broke a drying trend that had become unfavorable for immature corn. By month's end, however, the focus turned to this season's lack of heating units for corn and soybeans, with most of the east in need of warmer weather to ensure a normal finish to the growth cycle.



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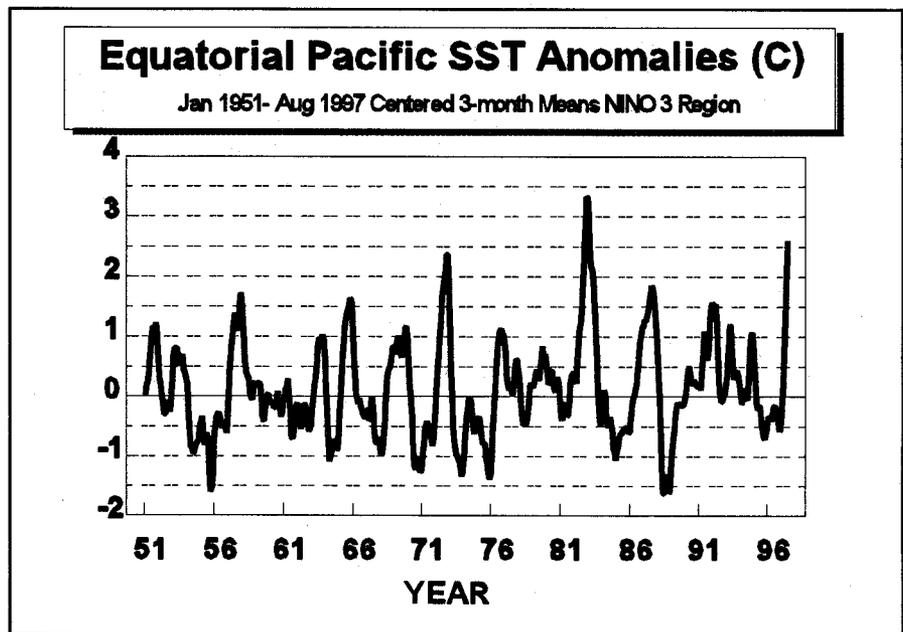
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ENSO Update

The following is based on the El Niño/Southern Oscillation (ENSO) advisory issued on September 10, 1997, by the Climate Prediction Center, National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP).

Strong warm episode (El Niño) conditions continued throughout the equatorial central and eastern Pacific during August. Equatorial sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies (departures from normal) were greater than +1°C everywhere from 180°W to the South American coast. Anomalies exceeding +4°C were observed along the equator east of 120°W. In many areas of the eastern equatorial Pacific, August SST anomalies were the largest observed during the last 50 years. [Based on 3-month means of SST anomalies in the key Niño 3 region (90°W-150°W, 5°N-5°S), this ENSO has already exceeded the severity of the 1972-73 event and is approaching that of the 1982-83 event, which is generally considered the strongest of the century (see accompanying graph).] The latest NCEP forecasts indicate that strong warm episode conditions will continue through early 1998.



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