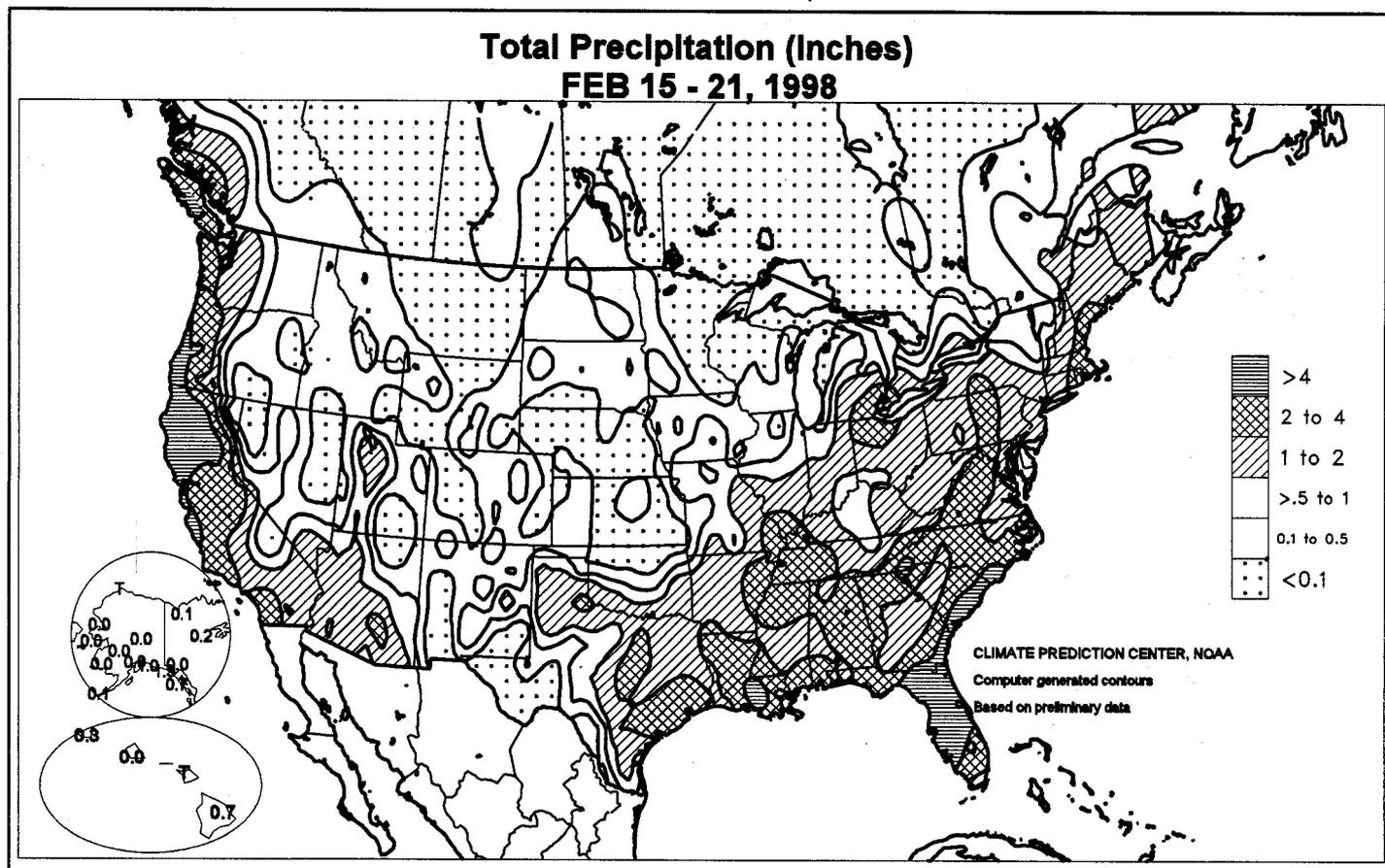


WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

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



HIGHLIGHTS

February 15 - 21, 1998

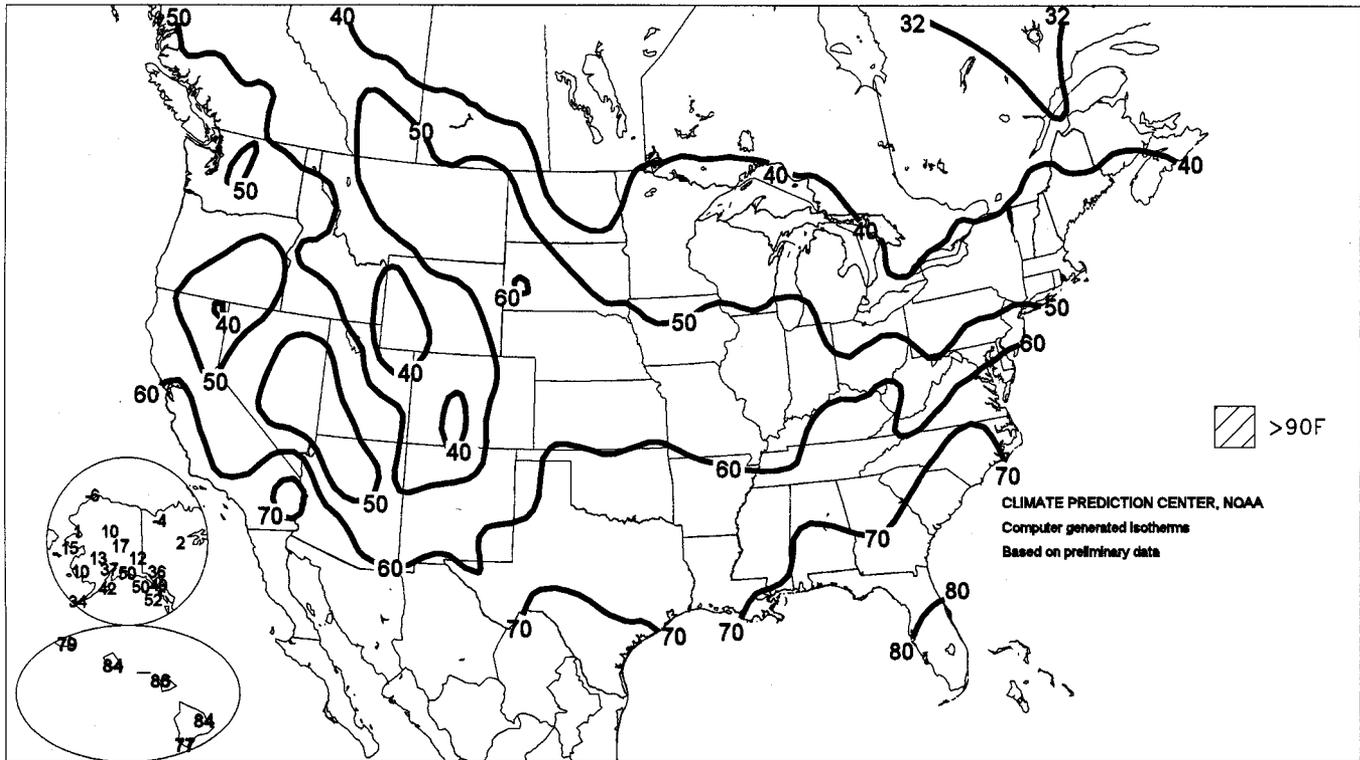
Hheavy precipitation continued to deluge **California** and the **Southwest** as another three storms pushed ashore. Meanwhile, a large, slow-moving storm system in the **East** produced rainfall in excess of 4 inches across the **southern Atlantic Coast States** and kept soils saturated from the **Gulf Coast States** into the **Ohio Valley** and **Northeast**. For the fifth consecutive week, temperatures averaged well above normal (7 to 24°F) in the **North Central States**, but ranged from 2 to 7°F below normal along the primary storm track across **California** and the **Southwest**.

(Continued on page 3)

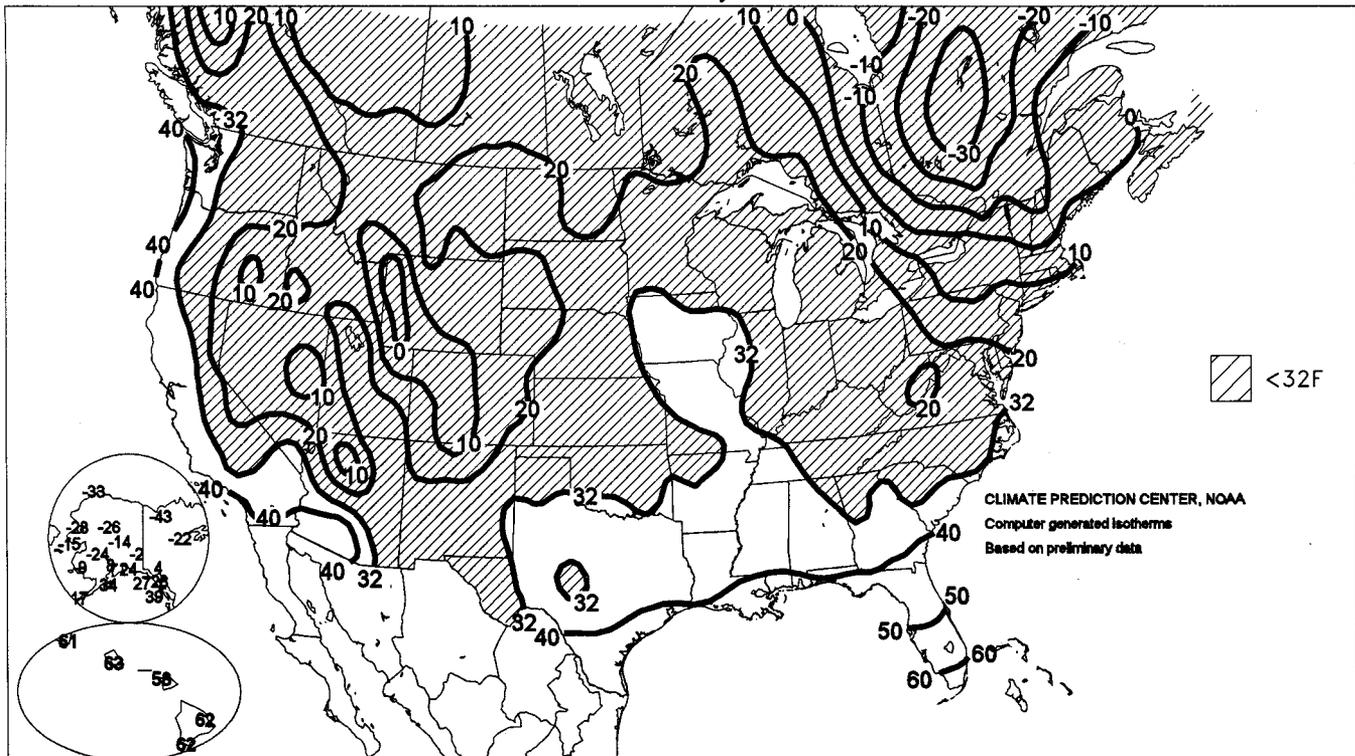
Contents

Extreme Maximum & Minimum Temperature Maps	2
Temperature Departure Map	3
National Weather Data for Selected Cities	4
National Agricultural Summary & Snow Cover Map	7
International Weather and Crop Summary	8
Drought Develops in Eastern Malaysia	11
Subscription Information & February-Record Precipitation Totals	12

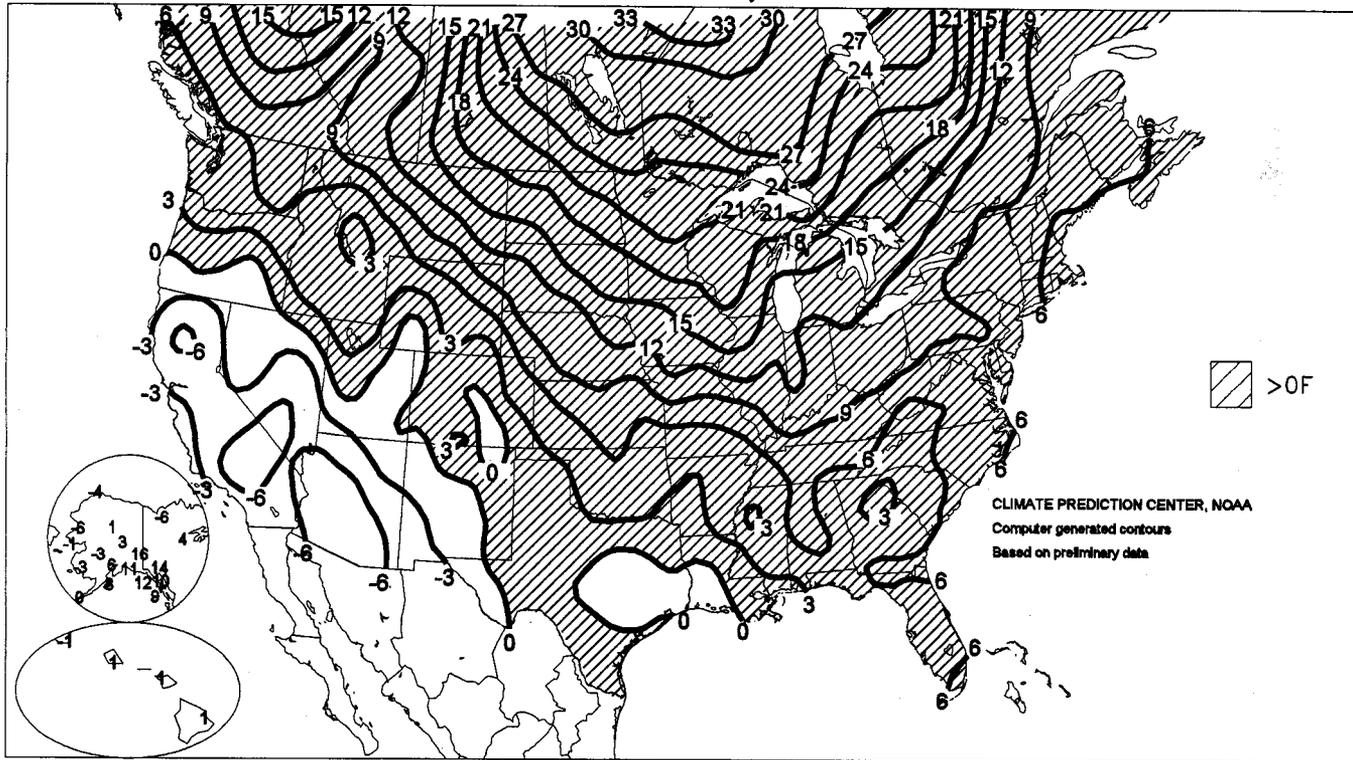
Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F) FEB 15 - 21, 1998



Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F) FEB 15 - 21, 1998



Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F)
FEB 15 - 21, 1998



(Continued from front cover)

In the **Northeast**, cold air made a brief early-week appearance, but elsewhere across the **North**, temperatures averaged much above normal. On Sunday morning, lows dipped to -26°F in **Saranac Lake, NY** and -19°F in **Albany, VT**. Farther west, however, **Williston, ND** notched a daily-record high of 50°F . Meanwhile, bitterly cold air also returned to **western and northern Alaska**, holding weekly temperatures as much as 6°F below normal. On Tuesday, lows plunged to -62°F in **Umiat** (3°F shy of their daily record) and -49°F in **Prudhoe Bay**. In **Hawaii**, dryness intensified despite scattered showers.

By week's end, streaks of above-normal temperatures reached 33 days in **Ft. Wayne, IN** and 28 days in **St. Louis, MO**. (The lowest temperature recorded so far this winter in **Springfield, MO**-- 16°F --is well above their previous record of 9°F , set in 1982-83. In **Illinois**, winter temperatures have not yet fallen to 0°F or below in **Peoria** or **Springfield**. The last time those two cities had no sub-zero cold was 1952-53.) Temperatures remained above freezing from February 15-21 (and continuing) in **St. Louis**, February 15-20 in **Minneapolis, MN**, and February 16-18 in **Fargo, ND**. Cloudy conditions accompanied the mild weather, however, as **Sioux Falls, SD** endured no breaks in their overcast for more than 205 hours (February 13-21).

Heavy rain and gusty winds buffeted much of the **South and East** through midweek. Weekly rainfall totaled 4 to 8 inches from **central Florida** to the **coastal Carolinas**. In **Florida's Citrus County**, 24-hour rainfall on February 15-16 reached 7 inches. For the second time in 3 months, monthly rainfall records were broken

in **Florida** at **Tampa** (9.99 inches through February 23) and **Jacksonville** (9.52 inches). A February record was also established in **Wilmington, NC** (10.62 inches). On February 16-17, as many as a half-dozen tornadoes touched down in **central Florida**, a precursor to a deadly outbreak less than a week later. As the expansive storm shifted northward, daily-rainfall records were established on Tuesday in nearly a dozen locations from **Jacksonville, FL** (2.44 inches) to **Lansing, MI** (0.73 inches). Significant snowfall was confined to **New England**, where 7 inches fell in **Conway, NH**. Peak wind gusts during the storm reached 54 mph in **Chatham, MA** and 50 mph in **Middlebury, VT**.

During the week, February rainfall records were shattered in more than a half-dozen **California** cities. Records had stood since 1878 in **Monterey** (14.45 inches through February 23) and downtown **San Francisco** (14.86 inches). In **Eureka**, where a trace or more of rain fell on 50 of the year's first 52 days, daily-record rainfall accumulated on Thursday (2.47 inches) and Saturday (2.05 inches). Strong winds accompanied Saturday's storm, gusting to 51 mph in **Sacramento** and more than 60 mph in the vicinity of **Reno, NV**. In the **Sierra Nevada**, water content of the snow pack stood at 38 inches (165 percent of normal) on February 23, up from 20 inches (107 percent) at the end of January and 9 inches (74 percent) on January 1, 1998. Farther inland, monthly rainfall through February 23 crept to within 0.16 inch of the February record (2.52 inches in 1993) in **Las Vegas, NV** and rose to 3.08 inches in **Tucson, AZ**, their second-highest February total on record (behind 4.15 inches in 1905).

National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending February 21, 1998

Data Provided by Climate Prediction Center (301-763-8000 EXT. 7511) and the Southern Regional Climate Center

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 Dec 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Dec 1	TOTAL IN, SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	TEMP, °F		PRECIP.	
																90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
AL BIRMINGHAM	62	41	68	34	52	5	2.00	0.81	1.04	18.13	133	14.03	164	93	54	0	0	3	2
AL HUNTSVILLE	57	40	60	32	48	4	1.91	0.68	1.51	16.19	111	12.90	148	92	58	0	1	3	1
AL MOBILE	67	46	69	40	57	3	1.84	0.44	1.17	24.42	174	20.05	229	98	51	0	0	3	2
AL MONTGOMERY	67	45	76	38	56	5	2.31	0.90	2.08	15.80	114	11.28	130	87	45	0	0	5	1
AK ANCHORAGE	30	20	37	8	26	6	0.00	-0.19	0.00	2.12	86	0.47	34	80	62	0	7	0	0
AK BARROW	-18	-28	-6	-33	-22	-4	0.01	-0.02	0.01	0.10	30	0.02	10	73	67	0	7	1	0
AK FAIRBANKS	9	-8	17	-14	0	3	0.00	-0.11	0.00	2.20	136	0.16	19	77	60	0	7	0	0
AK JUNEAU	45	33	50	28	39	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	94	68	0	3	-	-
AK KODIAK	41	36	42	34	38	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	92	82	0	0	-	-
AK NOME	9	-5	15	-15	3	-1	0.00	-0.14	0.00	2.08	98	1.12	89	68	54	0	7	0	0
AZ FLAGSTAFF	34	14	38	1	24	-8	0.28	-0.25	0.12	4.49	75	2.64	74	94	62	0	7	4	0
AZ PHOENIX	57	45	60	42	51	-7	1.20	1.03	0.50	3.71	173	2.88	248	95	54	0	0	5	1
AZ PRESCOTT	42	28	46	23	35	-5	0.38	-0.01	0.14	4.73	112	2.27	86	95	58	0	7	4	0
AZ TUCSON	55	39	59	38	47	-8	1.36	1.19	0.69	6.11	248	3.22	233	93	45	0	0	4	1
AZ YUMA	65	47	68	43	56	-5	0.57	0.51	0.35	4.05	418	1.26	247	83	36	0	0	2	0
AR FORT SMITH	56	40	65	34	47	4	1.02	0.33	0.50	14.51	215	10.01	268	95	64	0	0	4	1
AR LITTLE ROCK	57	40	65	35	49	4	1.14	0.22	-	13.13	126	9.38	163	94	57	0	0	-	-
CA BAKERSFIELD	57	40	61	38	49	-5	0.84	0.56	0.48	6.24	278	5.13	311	93	56	0	0	3	0
CA EUREKA	54	44	58	40	49	0	5.19	4.04	2.47	30.40	25.7	271.00	271	98	62	0	0	6	2
CA FRESNO	55	41	58	38	48	-4	1.03	0.59	0.50	7.57	160	6.83	201	94	61	0	0	6	1
CA LOS ANGELES	61	46	64	43	54	-4	1.40	0.77	0.79	17.85	300	14.13	329	88	57	0	0	5	1
CA REDDING	49	39	53	37	44	-7	3.88	2.81	1.37	31.57	211	28.29	299	96	75	0	0	5	3
CA SACRAM/MCCLELL	55	42	59	36	49	-	2.19	-	0.88	21.24	-	18.78	-	99	66	0	0	5	3
CA SAN DIEGO	61	51	64	49	56	-3	1.91	1.52	1.38	10.22	224	8.67	299	92	60	0	0	4	1
CA SAN FRANCISCO	58	45	58	41	51	-2	3.24	2.48	1.48	26.30	266	21.02	310	94	67	0	0	6	2
CO ALAMOSA	37	18	43	10	27	4	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.21	23	0.02	4	94	49	0	7	0	0
CO CO SPRINGS	41	22	50	18	31	-1	0.26	0.15	0.12	0.38	38	0.28	52	92	49	0	7	3	0
CO DENVER	43	26	52	19	35	1	0.25	0.10	0.20	0.86	57	0.27	31	88	50	0	7	2	0
CO GRAND JUNCTION	46	27	48	19	36	0	0.06	-0.06	0.06	0.76	50	0.62	68	87	47	0	7	1	0
CO PUEBLO	47	25	58	17	36	0	0.13	0.05	0.12	0.80	85	0.41	79	89	48	0	7	2	0
CT BRIDGEPORT	42	30	48	13	36	5	1.40	0.65	1.03	11.02	123	7.67	140	81	56	0	2	4	1
CT HARTFORD	40	27	47	7	34	5	1.32	0.52	0.68	7.89	81	5.70	98	79	54	0	3	3	2
DC WASHINGTON	50	39	56	27	45	6	1.02	0.33	0.87	11.18	142	9.44	200	88	60	0	2	3	1
DE WILMINGTON	49	35	56	20	42	8	0.85	-0.08	0.50	8.94	103	6.37	123	86	58	0	2	3	1
FL DAYTONA BEACH	73	54	81	48	64	4	3.50	2.70	1.74	17.03	223	9.27	183	97	53	0	0	4	3
FL JACKSONVILLE	72	53	74	46	62	6	1.82	0.83	0.89	16.24	181	6.51	104	95	52	0	0	4	1
FL KEY WEST	80	70	82	66	75	4	0.76	0.32	0.53	10.87	201	6.44	190	92	75	0	0	4	1
FL MIAMI	81	68	84	64	74	6	1.53	1.01	1.07	12.64	234	7.37	207	93	68	0	0	5	1
FL ORLANDO	76	55	83	47	66	4	4.55	3.77	1.94	20.94	314	8.31	164	97	51	0	0	5	3
FL TAMPA	74	57	78	51	66	4	6.88	6.07	3.28	29.95	469	14.38	341	95	60	0	0	5	4
FL VALPARAISO/EGLIN	67	49	70	39	58	5	2.27	1.21	1.37	21.04	183	15.54	214	93	50	0	0	3	2
FL WEST PALM BEACH	79	64	83	56	71	5	3.44	2.76	1.83	19.97	277	14.94	318	92	62	0	0	4	2
GA ATHENS	57	38	65	32	48	1	1.57	0.48	1.33	18.05	151	12.14	154	92	50	0	1	3	1
GA ATLANTA	56	39	62	34	48	2	1.40	0.19	0.84	16.31	129	11.26	136	94	54	0	0	3	2
GA AUGUSTA	65	39	72	27	52	4	1.44	0.36	0.94	18.76	177	11.82	164	95	42	0	1	2	2
GA COLUMBUS	66	44	70	37	55	5	1.13	-0.10	0.85	12.75	97	6.03	74	90	48	0	0	3	1
GA MACON	65	40	69	33	52	3	1.19	0.00	1.09	17.79	144	10.51	130	96	47	0	0	4	1
GA SAVANNAH	67	47	75	38	57	5	2.90	2.10	2.08	15.88	177	11.89	198	95	46	0	0	4	2
HI HILO	81	65	84	62	73	2	0.70	-1.92	0.31	9.78	33	0.91	5	84	56	0	0	4	0
HI HONOLULU	82	67	84	63	74	1	0.00	-0.52	0.00	1.41	16	0.97	18	78	47	0	0	0	0
HI KAHULUI	83	64	86	58	73	1	0.01	-0.67	0.01	1.99	21	0.50	8	83	54	0	0	1	0
HI LIHUE	77	65	79	61	71	-1	0.31	-0.45	0.24	6.35	47	3.76	44	88	61	0	0	2	0
ID BOISE	48	33	51	25	40	3	0.49	0.24	0.30	4.52	126	3.87	173	81	47	0	3	3	0
ID LEWISTON	52	38	57	31	45	5	0.01	-0.21	0.01	2.66	83	2.06	105	79	52	0	2	1	0
ID POCATELLO	40	27	45	21	34	4	0.56	0.34	0.31	3.55	128	2.89	169	91	64	0	6	5	0
IL CHICAGO/O'HARE	44	36	53	32	40	14	0.67	0.32	0.34	5.61	113	4.11	168	93	67	0	2	5	0
IL MOLINE	46	37	54	35	41	15	0.20	-0.11	0.15	6.00	131	4.24	179	93	73	0	0	3	0
IL PEORIA	48	37	51	32	41	14	0.27	-0.10	0.13	6.34	129	4.40	177	98	76	0	1	3	0
IL ROCKFORD	44	33	52	28	39	15	0.14	-0.16	0.12	4.05	98	3.21	154	94	67	0	3	2	0
IL SPRINGFIELD	46	38	50	35	42	12	0.67	0.21	0.38	6.13	112	4.37	159	95	78	0	0	3	0
IN EVANSVILLE	51	40	57	31	46	11	0.94	0.13	0.48	6.87	81	4.54	93	96	68	0	1	5	0
IN FORT WAYNE	43	33	50	27	38	11	0.94	0.45	0.51	7.00	114	5.27	163	97	80	0	2	5	1
IN INDIANAPOLIS	48	37	52	29	42	11	0.79	0.16	0.49	4.95	67	3.62	89	96	72	0	1	5	0
IN SOUTH BEND	43	35	52	32	39	12	0.64	0.16	0.44	7.22	105	5.12	143	93	71	0	2	6	0
IA BURLINGTON	47	39	55	37	43	15	0.38	0.08	0.19	5.65	142	4.13	205	90	73	0	0	4	0
IA CEDAR RAPIDS	45	35	56	34	40	16	0.18	-0.27	-	3.10	94	1.94	114	97	72	0	0	3	0
IA DES MOINES	44	36	58	35	40	14	0.34	0.05	0.13	3.29	109	1.93	114	96	75	0	0	5	0
IA DUBUQUE	43	34	53	33	39	17	0.29	-0.05	0.16	3.21	78	2.13	100	95	68	0	0	4	0
IA SIOUX CITY	42	34	54	32	38	14	0.32	0.13	0.11	1.36	77	1.15	117	95	80	0	2	6	0
IA WATERLOO	43	36	51	31	39	18	0.24	-0.05	0.10	2.44	87	1.79	119	97	78	0	1	5	0
KS CONCORDIA	47	34	52	30	40	8	0.16	-0.04	0.09	4.11	221	2.36	231	91	68	0	4	4	0
KS DODGE CITY	51	33	57	25	42	6	0.14	-0.03	0.07	3.67	237	1.07	120	92	60	0	4	3	0
KS GOODLAND	48	28	57	22	38	5	0.11	0.01	0.11	1.30	127	0.78	125	92	57	0	5	1	0
KS TOPEKA	45	33	50	26	39	6	0.23	-0.05	0.11	3.94	129	1.53	83	93	69	0	3	3	0

Based on 1961-90 normals

Weather Data for the Week Ending February 21, 1998

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 Dec 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Dec 1	TOTAL IN SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	TEMP. °F		PRECIP.		
																90 AND ABOVE	82 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE	
KY	WICHITA	52	34	57	25	43	7	0.08	-0.17	0.08	4.00	153	1.35	96	90	56	0	4	4	0
	JACKSON	51	39	62	31	46	8	1.00	0.03	0.34	9.89	90	7.89	117	94	67	0	1	5	0
	LEXINGTON	51	39	63	32	45	9	0.43	-0.40	0.20	9.00	96	6.31	122	98	76	0	2	4	0
LA	LOUISVILLE	52	41	60	33	46	10	0.60	-0.25	0.32	11.37	128	8.05	154	95	72	0	0	4	0
	PADUCAH	52	40	58	32	46	8	2.81	1.80	1.88	9.07	84	6.81	109	97	67	0	1	3	2
	BATON ROUGE	63	45	69	41	54	0	2.18	0.79	1.24	24.80	168	18.28	201	97	67	0	0	4	2
ME	LAKE CHARLES	63	45	68	39	54	0	1.27	0.40	0.96	18.83	153	13.11	181	98	61	0	0	3	1
	NEW ORLEANS	65	48	70	43	56	1	1.58	0.05	0.79	24.33	158	21.78	227	94	56	0	0	3	2
	SHREVEPORT	60	41	68	35	51	1	1.31	0.33	0.54	16.83	152	10.54	153	98	56	0	0	6	1
MD	CARIBOU	28	12	35	-10	20	8	1.16	0.69	0.90	8.37	119	5.58	145	86	61	0	7	4	1
	PORTLAND	36	23	42	5	30	6	2.74	1.91	2.31	11.20	106	8.63	144	88	67	0	5	2	1
	BALTIMORE	51	34	61	20	43	7	1.32	0.53	1.11	12.11	138	10.06	187	93	69	0	3	3	1
MA	BOSTON	39	28	49	7	34	3	2.05	1.14	1.88	9.98	97	7.66	122	82	61	0	3	3	1
	WORCESTER	36	25	46	3	31	5	1.37	0.51	1.05	13.33	129	11.02	178	83	60	0	6	3	1
	ALPENA	37	32	43	25	34	15	0.24	-0.08	0.20	5.13	112	4.40	171	90	75	0	3	3	0
MI	GRAND RAPIDS	40	33	48	29	38	12	0.41	0.06	0.19	6.19	109	5.20	182	97	78	0	3	4	0
	HOGHTON LAKE	37	30	42	26	34	16	0.21	-0.08	0.14	3.10	72	2.76	118	94	71	0	7	4	0
	LANSING	41	32	47	26	38	13	1.28	0.93	0.73	6.19	129	5.30	217	95	78	0	3	4	1
MN	MARQUETTE	34	29	42	23	32	17	0.19	-0.23	-	6.19	102	3.79	110	97	80	0	6	3	0
	MUSKEGON	42	33	50	26	37	12	0.29	-0.07	0.18	4.70	73	3.48	101	91	71	0	2	3	0
	DULUTH	36	31	40	28	34	20	0.20	0.00	0.14	2.39	79	1.98	112	97	80	0	5	2	0
MS	INT'L FALLS	38	27	42	15	33	24	0.10	-0.05	0.07	1.09	50	0.86	64	95	73	0	5	3	0
	MINNEAPOLIS	42	34	46	30	38	19	0.00	-0.23	0.00	1.84	74	1.84	106	89	84	0	1	0	0
	ROCHESTER	38	32	41	28	35	17	0.10	-0.09	0.06	2.16	94	1.78	140	93	78	0	2	2	0
MO	ST. CLOUD	40	34	44	32	37	21	0.06	-0.10	0.05	1.13	57	0.90	77	96	80	0	1	2	0
	JACKSON	62	42	68	35	52	3	1.49	0.32	1.03	18.00	123	12.23	141	96	61	0	0	3	1
	MERIDIAN	66	41	68	33	53	3	2.93	-0.46	0.48	20.41	134	15.70	172	94	44	0	0	3	0
MT	TUPELO	58	40	63	33	49	4	0.84	1.76	1.22	14.61	101	10.90	131	88	66	0	0	3	3
	COLUMBIA	45	39	52	38	42	9	0.87	0.39	0.58	6.13	118	4.35	160	98	79	0	0	4	1
	KANSAS CITY	48	39	54	37	43	10	0.38	0.09	0.36	4.23	124	1.90	104	86	71	0	0	2	0
NE	SAINT LOUIS	48	40	51	33	44	9	1.14	0.58	0.81	6.95	110	5.10	156	95	75	0	0	4	1
	SPRINGFIELD	46	33	57	27	40	3	0.86	0.29	0.49	9.14	142	5.99	183	97	66	0	4	3	0
	BILLINGS	50	28	57	24	39	9	0.00	-0.16	0.00	1.21	56	0.84	46	71	31	0	7	0	0
NV	BUTTE	41	12	47	4	27	4	0.12	0.04	0.12	1.26	98	1.11	136	89	46	0	7	1	0
	GLASGOW	44	28	58	24	38	17	0.12	0.06	0.12	0.40	42	0.39	68	92	83	0	7	1	0
	GREAT FALLS	50	26	56	17	38	10	0.04	-0.10	0.04	1.14	52	0.81	61	72	32	0	6	1	0
OH	KALISPELL	44	25	48	21	34	7	0.06	-0.21	0.06	1.81	44	1.24	52	94	67	0	7	1	0
	MILES CITY	48	28	57	22	38	14	0.04	-0.07	0.04	0.40	27	0.38	43	92	50	0	5	1	0
	MISSOULA	44	25	49	20	34	4	0.04	-0.15	0.03	2.04	68	1.70	91	87	55	0	7	2	0
OR	GRAND ISLAND	45	33	54	26	39	11	0.10	-0.10	0.09	1.20	72	0.79	84	93	89	0	3	2	0
	LINCOLN	46	34	56	28	39	12	0.20	0.01	0.09	2.74	147	2.01	205	92	74	0	2	4	0
	NORFOLK	43	33	52	27	38	13	0.21	0.00	0.09	0.85	49	0.48	48	97	74	0	2	3	0
PA	NORTH PLATTE	48	28	56	22	38	10	0.04	-0.08	0.04	0.63	56	0.43	66	95	54	0	5	1	0
	OMAHA	44	35	54	33	40	12	0.19	-0.02	-	2.02	90	1.53	124	96	77	0	0	-	-
	SCOTTSBLUFF	47	25	56	17	36	5	0.09	-0.03	0.06	0.80	58	0.48	60	93	48	0	7	2	0
RI	VALENTINE	45	29	59	16	37	11	0.07	-0.04	0.06	0.20	22	0.17	31	98	66	0	6	2	0
	ELY	36	15	40	-2	25	-5	0.39	0.22	0.39	1.32	68	1.09	90	88	54	0	7	1	0
	LAS VEGAS	55	39	59	37	47	-5	1.15	1.04	0.82	2.46	207	2.39	291	80	42	0	0	3	1
SD	RENO	46	27	51	21	36	-3	0.38	0.13	0.26	3.89	137	3.31	178	90	42	0	5	3	0
	WINNEMUCCA	44	27	53	18	36	-1	0.48	0.32	0.28	3.38	162	3.13	261	91	57	0	6	4	0
	CONCORD	37	23	44	3	30	8	1.07	0.44	0.80	7.07	94	5.12	116	80	54	0	3	2	1
TN	NEWARK	46	34	53	18	40	6	1.72	0.96	0.97	12.49	138	8.33	148	79	57	0	2	4	2
	ALBUQUERQUE	48	30	53	25	39	-2	0.44	0.33	0.40	1.78	136	0.78	95	87	37	0	6	3	0
	ALBANY	37	28	45	5	32	7	0.68	0.11	0.28	6.85	96	5.17	128	86	59	0	3	3	0
TX	BINGHAMTON	36	26	45	2	31	8	1.27	0.68	0.59	7.72	109	4.91	119	90	68	0	5	6	1
	BUFFALO	41	31	46	13	38	11	1.34	0.76	1.18	10.26	127	7.30	165	91	70	0	2	5	1
	ROCHESTER	39	28	46	6	33	8	0.95	0.43	0.46	9.69	152	6.81	187	91	68	0	3	4	0
VA	SYRACUSE	37	27	46	5	32	7	1.06	0.52	0.41	10.27	144	6.15	157	87	66	0	4	5	0
	ASHEVILLE	50	36	57	24	43	4	2.78	1.77	1.76	18.36	191	15.38	253	90	66	0	1	2	2
	CHARLOTTE	61	41	69	34	51	8	1.33	0.36	0.75	12.74	127	8.67	133	89	46	0	0	2	2
WV	GREENSBORO	56	37	66	27	47	6	1.18	0.34	0.94	12.18	136	10.01	178	89	51	0	1	3	1
	HATTERAS	53	48	60	39	50	4	2.30	1.30	1.77	21.44	166	15.79	188	96	82	0	0	5	1
	RALEIGH	60	40	72	26	50	8	2.38	1.44	1.57	15.39	163	12.64	203	89	48	0	1	2	2
WY	WILMINGTON	65	45	75	30	55	7	5.04	4.12	2.70	21.55	210	16.71	252	89	48	0	1	3	2
	BISMARCK	38	29	42	17	34	17	0.42	0.31	0.21	0.70	55	0.62	78	98	87	0	6	4	0
	DICKINSON	41	30	50	24	35	15	0.35	0.27	0.21	0.51	52	0.48	79	97	77	0	6	3	0

Weather Data for the Week Ending February 21, 1998

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 Dec 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Dec 1	TOTAL IN. SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	92 AND BELOW	TEMP. °F		PRECIP.	
																		01 INCH OR MORE	50 INCH OR MORE	01 INCH OR MORE	50 INCH OR MORE
OK TOLEDO	42	33	48	26	37	11	2.89	2.45	1.98	8.82	146	6.55	220	94	71	0	3	5	1		
OK YOUNGSTOWN	43	33	48	18	38	12	1.11	0.59	0.37	9.15	140	6.44	179	97	80	0	2	6	0		
OK OKLAHOMA CITY	57	38	63	31	47	6	0.01	-0.40	0.01	6.22	173	4.21	191	90	53	0	1	1	0		
OK TULSA	55	37	65	32	46	5	0.16	-0.36	0.11	8.08	160	3.78	131	92	80	0	1	3	0		
OR ASTORIA	52	43	54	42	48	3	2.97	1.14	0.77	32.95	125	24.50	155	94	89	0	0	7	3		
OR BURNS	38	18	40	4	28	-2	0.52	0.32	-	5.62	209	4.80	312	98	84	0	7	4	0		
OR EUGENE	51	40	58	34	45	0	2.73	1.38	1.77	15.67	75	13.44	110	86	86	0	0	6	1		
OR MEDFORD	52	38	55	34	44	0	2.04	1.57	1.72	8.95	119	7.59	182	92	51	0	0	3	1		
OR PENDLETON	54	38	57	30	46	6	0.22	-0.06	0.14	4.74	118	3.69	156	82	48	0	1	4	0		
OR PORTLAND	51	43	54	41	47	3	1.85	0.93	0.65	14.24	99	11.20	135	94	89	0	0	6	1		
OR SALEM	52	41	57	35	47	3	2.22	1.13	1.48	17.07	108	13.90	149	92	88	0	0	7	1		
PA ALLENTOWN	44	32	50	14	38	8	0.68	-0.06	0.39	8.17	92	5.80	108	84	80	0	2	4	0		
PA ERIE	42	33	50	19	37	11	0.73	0.14	0.45	11.38	153	6.53	169	93	73	0	2	5	0		
PA MIDDLETOWN	47	36	52	21	41	9	1.32	0.58	0.70	9.87	120	7.86	157	83	63	0	2	5	2		
PA PHILADELPHIA	49	35	57	21	42	8	1.23	0.54	0.60	9.34	108	6.25	118	86	61	0	2	4	2		
PA PITTSBURGH	44	35	48	23	40	10	1.21	0.61	0.49	8.86	96	5.57	131	97	75	0	2	6	0		
PA SCRANTON	40	30	46	8	35	8	0.67	0.11	-	6.80	110	4.55	123	87	80	0	3	5	0		
PA WILLIAMSPORT	44	32	50	13	38	9	2.45	1.75	1.49	9.25	122	7.79	170	87	83	0	3	5	2		
RI PROVIDENCE	42	28	49	10	35	5	2.15	1.25	1.75	13.41	122	10.57	161	95	57	0	3	2	1		
SC BEAUFORT	67	47	76	40	57	5	4.90	4.09	3.52	17.90	192	13.98	228	94	50	0	0	4	2		
SC CHARLESTON	67	47	76	36	57	6	6.17	5.34	3.02	21.07	235	15.88	272	91	49	0	0	5	2		
SC COLUMBIA	64	41	74	28	52	6	1.26	0.23	0.80	16.11	146	11.72	156	95	46	0	1	2	1		
SD GREENVILLE	57	37	64	33	47	3	2.03	0.91	1.34	16.33	142	12.08	165	91	48	0	0	3	2		
SD ABERDEEN	37	31	43	24	34	16	0.48	0.33	0.21	1.27	119	1.09	163	98	91	0	5	6	0		
SD HURON	40	33	46	32	36	16	0.27	0.08	0.13	0.94	72	0.72	87	95	83	0	3	5	0		
SD RAPID CITY	48	27	59	15	37	9	0.40	0.26	0.29	0.63	52	0.55	75	95	84	0	4	3	0		
SD SIOUX FALLS	40	32	50	32	36	15	0.49	0.32	0.26	1.28	79	1.04	112	98	81	0	6	5	0		
TN BRISTOL	51	37	69	23	44	6	0.71	-0.16	0.37	9.20	101	7.04	122	94	82	0	2	5	0		
TN CHATTANOOGA	57	41	62	29	49	7	1.11	-0.10	0.61	14.00	103	10.70	127	93	52	0	1	4	1		
TN KNOXVILLE	57	42	67	32	50	9	0.44	-0.58	0.36	9.13	78	6.76	95	86	56	0	1	4	0		
TN MEMPHIS	57	41	65	37	49	4	2.57	1.44	1.24	15.63	125	11.31	164	86	58	0	0	3	3		
TN NASHVILLE	56	42	61	30	49	8	1.59	0.82	1.02	9.20	84	7.02	111	85	54	0	1	4	2		
TX ABILENE	59	39	67	34	49	1	0.33	0.03	0.21	5.02	173	1.86	98	95	49	0	0	2	0		
TX AMARILLO	48	33	59	29	41	1	1.65	1.49	0.77	4.85	365	2.73	294	96	67	0	3	5	1		
TX AUSTIN	62	45	67	40	53	0	1.05	0.50	0.84	9.24	177	4.98	150	91	54	0	0	3	1		
TX BEAUMONT	63	47	68	40	55	0	1.98	1.18	0.88	18.43	152	11.81	160	97	65	0	0	4	2		
TX BROWNSVILLE	75	53	79	48	64	1	0.37	0.12	0.35	2.59	69	2.08	86	95	49	0	0	3	0		
TX CORPUS CHRISTI	70	52	74	48	61	2	0.91	0.43	0.64	3.81	85	3.61	111	93	55	0	0	4	1		
TX DEL RIO	69	44	72	37	57	1	0.19	-0.06	0.09	0.93	49	0.35	27	86	33	0	0	3	0		
TX EL PASO	55	37	60	28	46	-3	0.01	-0.10	0.01	1.61	123	0.20	28	68	32	0	1	1	0		
TX FORT WORTH	57	42	67	35	50	1	1.71	1.15	1.18	14.01	265	7.08	206	99	62	0	0	6	1		
TX GALVESTON	60	52	66	47	56	0	1.90	1.34	1.15	14.58	171	9.68	193	91	73	0	0	3	2		
TX HOUSTON	64	43	71	37	54	-1	2.57	1.84	1.39	13.84	154	8.42	152	95	55	0	0	4	2		
TX LUBBOCK	51	36	61	33	44	0	1.45	1.27	0.88	3.57	253	1.82	209	94	61	0	0	5	1		
TX MIDLAND	61	39	66	36	50	2	0.13	-0.04	0.11	2.09	147	0.74	87	88	36	0	0	2	0		
TX SAN ANGELO	61	39	68	30	50	1	0.29	0.01	0.18	3.17	133	1.79	111	92	37	0	1	3	0		
TX SAN ANTONIO	68	44	71	38	55	1	1.41	0.96	0.97	9.27	202	5.72	185	90	48	0	0	5	1		
TX VICTORIA	67	47	71	42	57	0	1.74	1.25	0.83	5.94	103	4.31	116	94	55	0	0	4	1		
TX WACO	58	41	66	36	50	0	0.32	-0.22	0.27	17.95	357	8.14	256	98	89	0	0	3	0		
TX WICHITA FALLS	58	41	64	34	49	3	1.72	1.34	0.76	8.90	266	4.78	232	93	60	0	0	6	1		
UT SALT LAKE CITY	46	32	53	28	39	3	0.72	0.41	0.42	4.25	124	3.61	180	91	58	0	3	3	0		
VT BURLINGTON	36	22	46	0	29	10	0.42	0.01	0.17	7.85	145	6.20	207	81	53	0	7	4	0		
VA LYNCHBURG	51	33	57	22	42	4	1.78	1.01	1.35	15.61	187	12.89	254	89	59	0	3	4	1		
VA NORFOLK	57	44	68	35	51	9	1.31	0.46	1.16	14.04	146	11.39	179	86	57	0	0	3	1		
VA RICHMOND	57	38	63	24	48	8	1.46	0.66	1.19	13.87	157	11.51	206	86	56	0	2	4	1		
VA ROANOKE	51	37	61	24	44	6	2.63	1.85	1.61	17.29	222	14.92	309	87	58	0	2	4	2		
WA WASH/DULLES	51	33	58	21	42	8	1.53	0.82	1.36	11.68	146	9.76	204	91	66	0	3	3	1		
WA HANFORD	54	36	58	29	45	-	0.27	0.09	0.27	2.67	116	2.36	186	93	53	0	2	1	0		
WA OLYMPIA	51	38	56	32	45	3	1.32	-0.05	0.55	21.12	103	14.98	120	97	68	0	2	6	1		
WA QUILLAYUTE	50	41	54	39	45	3	3.99	0.89	1.33	43.67	111	28.15	118	94	76	0	0	7	3		
WA SEATTLE-TACOMA	51	42	54	38	46	2	0.99	0.03	0.23	12.35	86	9.72	115	94	61	0	0	6	0		
WA SPOKANE	47	34	51	29	41	7	0.61	0.25	0.30	4.48	81	3.48	112	89	60	0	2	3	0		
WA YAKIMA	50	34	52	25	42	5	0.37	0.19	0.22	3.98	124	3.79	209	97	86	0	3	6	0		
WV BECKLEY	43	33	52	20	38	5	1.10	0.36	0.60	11.40	137	9.20	181	95	72	0	2	6	1		
WV CHARLESTON	51	39	64	22	45	9	0.81	0.04	0.28	7.71	91	6.14	120	93	65	0	1	5	0		
WV ELKINS	48	33	54	18	39	9	0.91	0.15	0.39	8.34	95	5.81	110	93	67	0	2	6	0		
WV HUNTINGTON	51	39	63	26	45	9	0.75	0.02	0.37	8.90	107	7.34	149	91	82	0	1	6	0		
WI EAU CLAIRE	41	33	48	30	37	20	0.03	-0.15	0.03	2.50	97	2.24	150	92	67	0	4	1	0		
WI GREEN BAY	38	32	42	30	35	18	0.50	0.24	0.34	3.58	105	2.95	159	93	75	0	3	4	0		
WI MADISON	42	33	50	32	37	16	0.28	0.00	0.21	4.33	119	3.08	171	92	72	0	3	3	0		
WI MILWAUKEE	41	34	51	32	38	14	0.37	0.00	0.19	6.20	126	4.90	188	97	75	0	1	4	0		
WY CASPER	41	24	46	20	32	5	0.19	0.04	0.11	1.16	71	0.68	70	84	55	0	7	2	0		
WY CHEYENNE	40	22	49	13	31	1	0.23	0.13	0.20	0.99	84	0.45	70	83	49	0	7	2	0		
WY LANDER	37	18	41	14	28	1	0.01	-0.14	0.01	2.24	154	0.39	44	88	53	0	7	1	0		
WY SHERIDAN	46	22	51	15	34	7	0.00	-0.17	0.00	1.04	53	0.41	33	92	48	0	7	0	0		

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

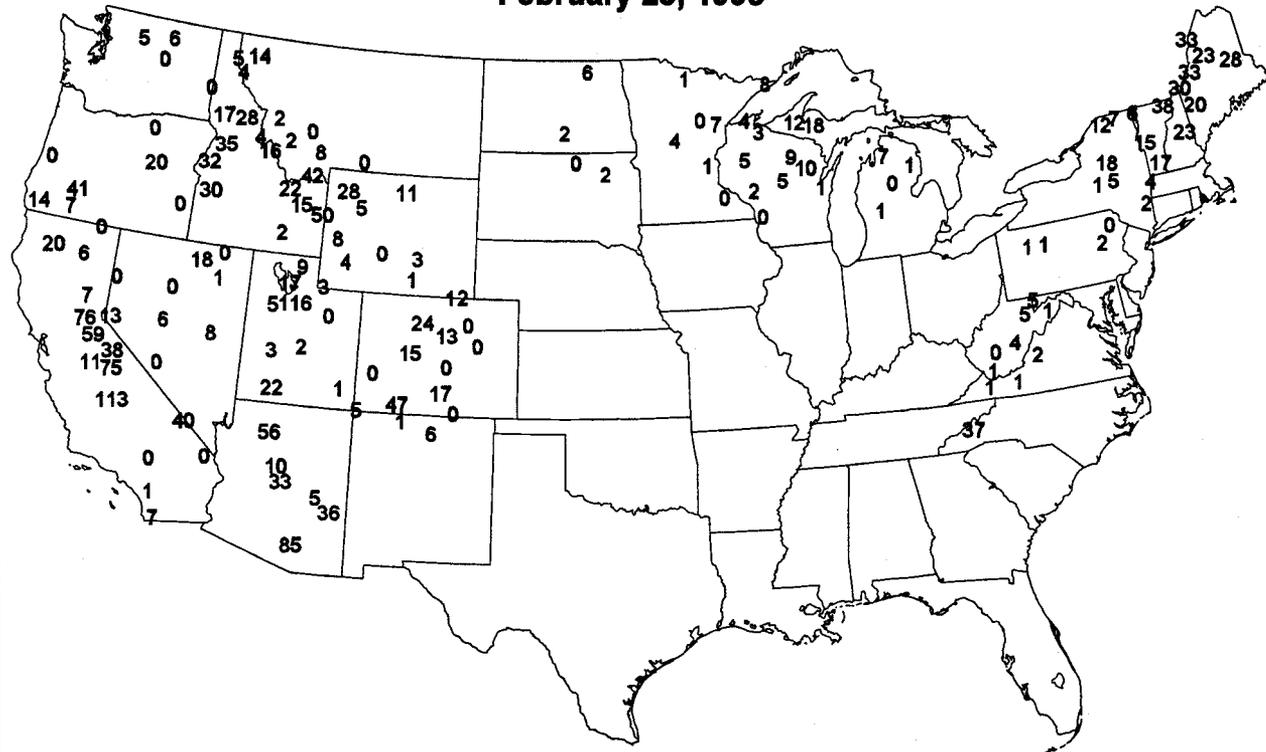
February 16 - 22, 1998

HIGHLIGHTS

Unseasonably warm, wet weather prevailed over much of the Nation during the week. Livestock benefited from the warmer-than-normal temperatures, especially in the northern Plains, where temperatures averaged as much as 15 to 20 degrees above normal. There was growing concern among winter wheat producers that the crop would break dormancy too early and be vulnerable to later cold weather. In an area from Kansas southward and eastward, the winter wheat crop had already started to turn green and develop. Another series of storms pounded California, further delaying fieldwork. Many

crops in low-lying fields remained in standing water and some were a total loss. Heavy rains from Texas to New England benefited small grains but caused livestock feeding problems in Texas. Field preparations and early planting activities were delayed in the Southeast. Also, wet conditions in Georgia prevented top dressing of small grains and harvesting of the last cotton fields. In Florida, soil moisture was adequate to surplus throughout the State. Fieldwork was delayed, sugarcane harvest stopped, and pastures damaged due to excessive moisture.

Snow Depth (Inches) February 23, 1998



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

The NWS co-operative observer network is the principal source of the snow depth reports.

International Weather and Crop Summary

February 15 - 21, 1998

HIGHLIGHTS

FSU-WESTERN: Unusually mild weather in the west and south melted protective snow cover and caused winter grains to lose cold hardiness.

EUROPE: Continued unusually mild weather promoted greening of winter grains in the west and caused winter grains in the east to lose cold hardiness.

NORTHWESTERN AFRICA: Persistent dryness in Algeria and Tunisia worsened conditions for winter grains in the vegetative stage.

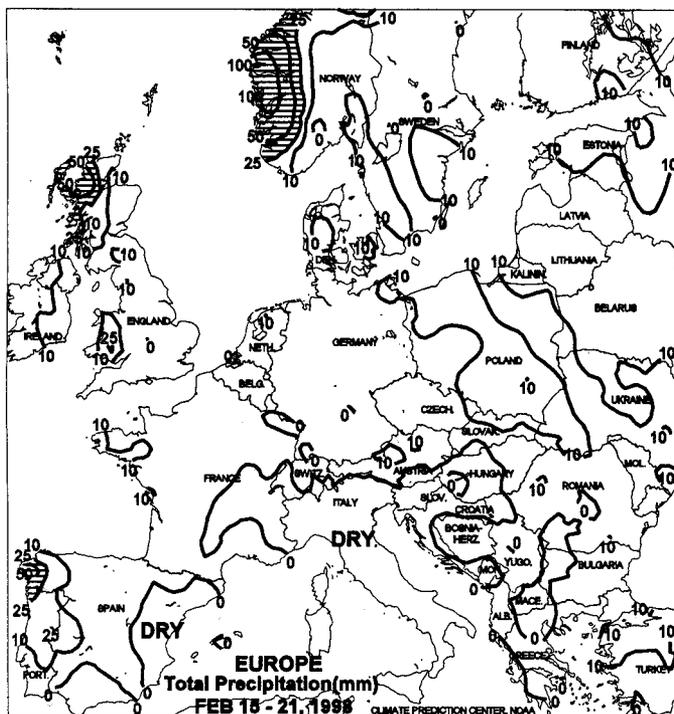
AUSTRALIA: Warmer, drier weather returned to the east, favoring summer crop development.

SOUTH AFRICA: Widespread rain improved corn prospects but caused coastal flooding in major sugarcane areas.

SOUTHEAST ASIA: Widespread showers continued to favor main-season rice in Java, while drought still prevailed in the eastern Philippines.

EASTERN ASIA: Rain boosted soil moisture across the North China Plain, as winter wheat continued to lose hardiness.

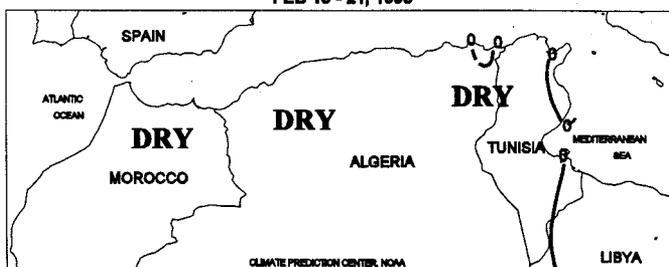
SOUTH AMERICA: Showers maintained abundant moisture for soybeans in central Argentina and drier weather reduced summer crop disease potential across southern Brazil.



EUROPE

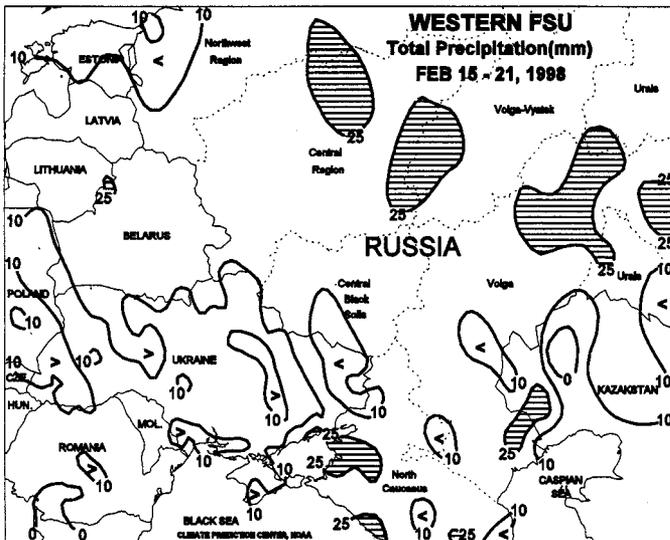
High pressure continued to predominate over most of Europe, bringing the second consecutive week of unusually mild and generally dry weather to most winter grain areas. Weekly temperatures averaged 4 to 8 degrees C above normal over most of the continent. Extreme maximum temperatures ranged from 15 to 24 degrees C in the west and south, and 10 to 18 degrees C in the east. The continued mild weather has likely promoted greening of winter grains as far east as western Poland and the Czech Republic. Winter grains over the remainder of eastern Europe were losing cold hardiness. Light, if any, precipitation fell in most of Europe. The exceptions were in central Poland and northern Portugal, where rainfall ranged from 10 to 20 mm. Dry weather in most Mediterranean areas favored early-season fieldwork.

NORTHWEST AFRICA Total Precipitation (mm)
FEB 15 - 21, 1998



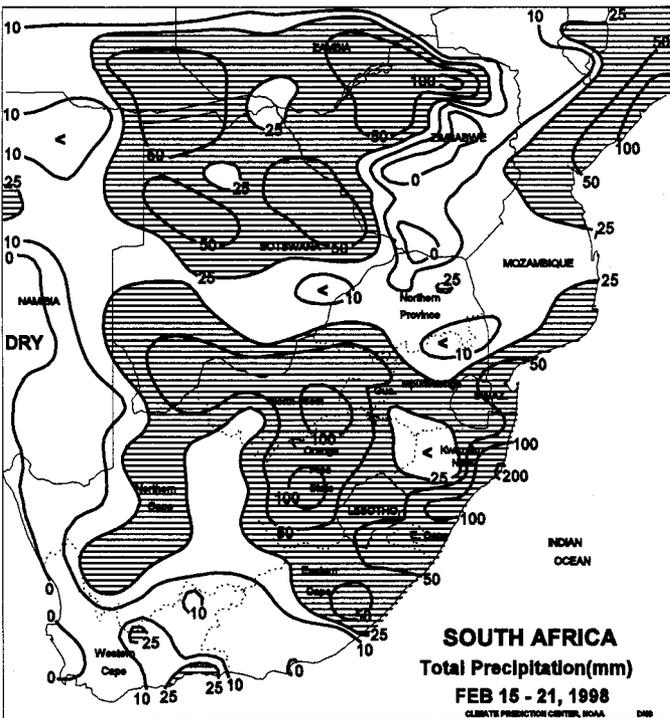
NORTHWESTERN AFRICA

Unfavorable dryness continued over winter grain areas in Algeria and Tunisia, worsening conditions for winter grains in the jointing stage of development. Furthermore, persistent dryness has likely depleted moisture reserves in these areas, and rain is needed soon to halt further declines in crop conditions. In Morocco, although the second consecutive week of dryness prevailed over winter grain areas, soil moisture reserves were likely sufficient to meet increasing crop-moisture demands. Weekly temperatures averaged 2 to 4 degrees C above normal in Morocco and western Algeria and 1 to 3 degrees C above normal in Tunisia.



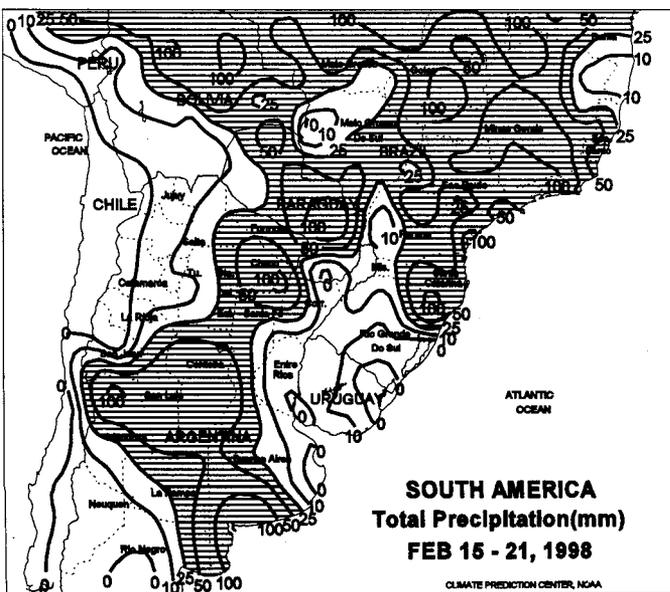
FSU-WESTERN

Mild air from Europe spread gradually eastward over winter grain areas, melting protective snow cover. Weekly temperatures averaged 5 to 9 degrees C above normal in the Baltics, Belarus, and the western half of Ukraine, keeping winter grain areas snow-free and causing crops to lose cold hardiness. In Russia and eastern Ukraine, wide fluctuations in temperatures occurred during the week. Early in the week, bitterly cold weather prevailed in these areas, with extreme minimum temperatures exceeding the threshold for potential winterkill (-17 to -30 degrees C). However, snow cover was adequate to protect winter grains from potential damage. By week's end, much warmer weather overspread these areas, improving overwintering conditions for crops. On February 21, maximum temperatures rose above freezing (2-7 degrees C) in eastern Ukraine and most of Russia, melting some protective snow cover.



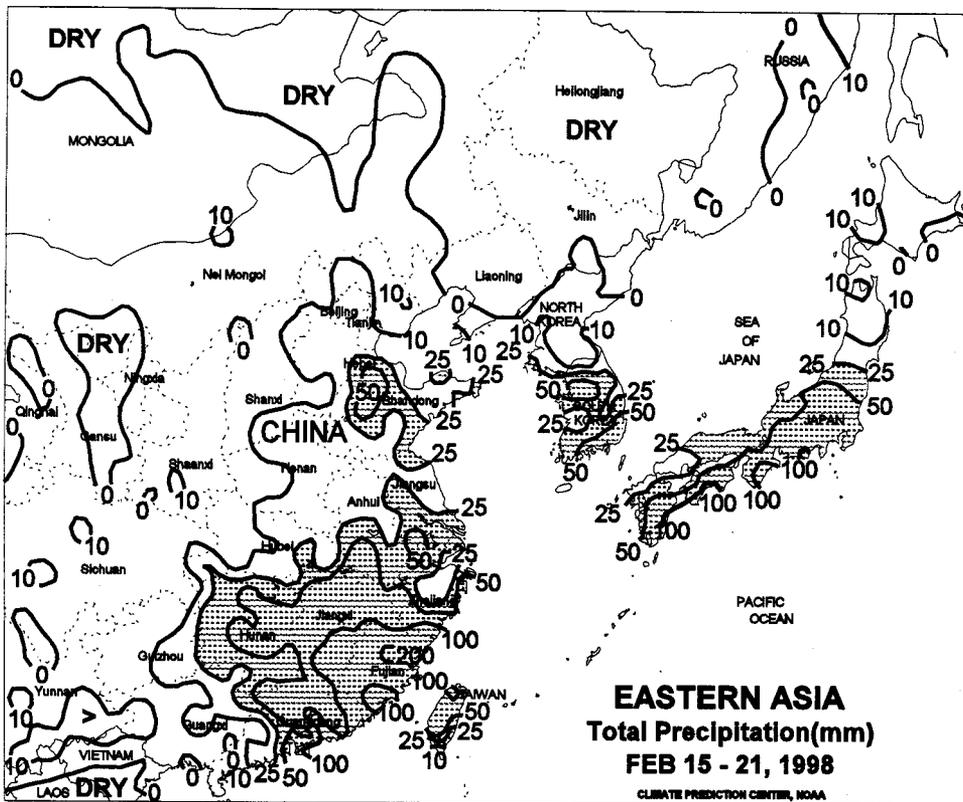
SOUTH AFRICA

Widespread showers (15-50 mm, locally exceeding 100 mm) covered the corn belt, benefiting reproductive to filling crops. Temperatures averaged 2 degrees C below normal, with highs ranging from the mid 20's to low 30's C. Although the lack of heat stress was favorable for corn development, crops at many locations are substantially behind in development and need to accumulate heating units before April, when autumn weather usually arrives. Elsewhere, heavy showers (90-200 mm or more) broke a dry spell in sugarcane areas of Kwazulu-Natal but resulted in some flooding. Farther south, more moderate showers (10-40 mm, most areas) fell in agricultural areas of Eastern Cape and in the eastern half of Western Cape. The rain missed the main winter wheat areas of Western Cape, but winter wheat planting usually does not begin until May in this area, and seasonal rains should pick up soon.



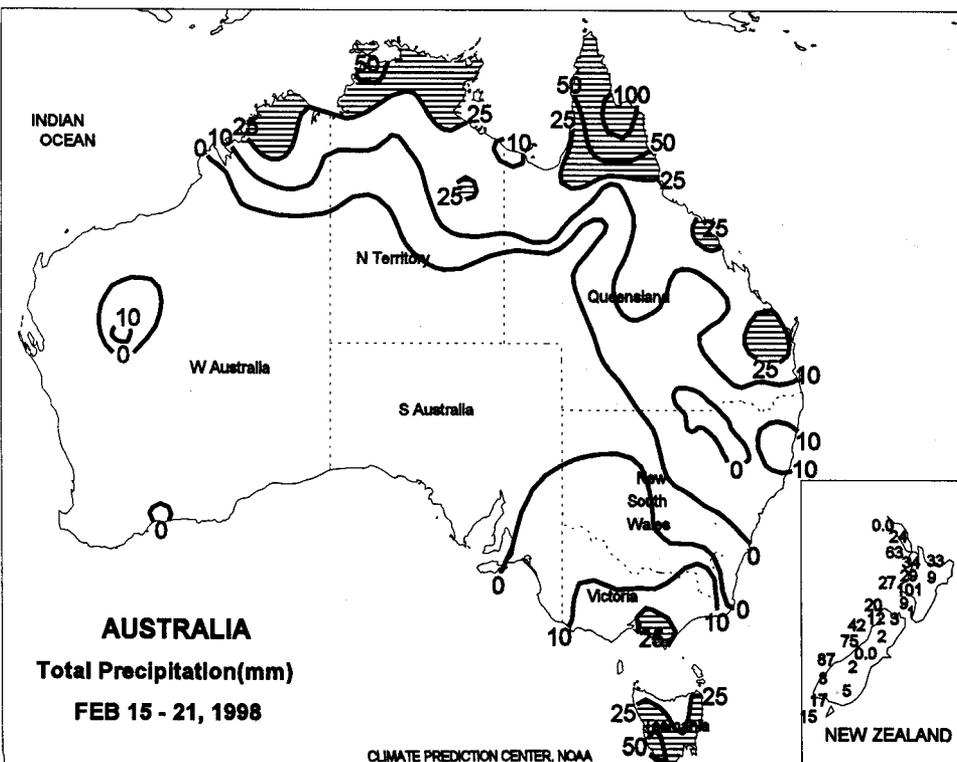
SOUTH AMERICA

After a week of beneficially drier weather, widespread rain (20-80 mm) returned to central Argentina, maintaining abundant soil moisture for reproductive to filling corn and soybeans. Temperatures averaged near normal for the first time since mid-December. Moderate showers (30-60 mm, with isolated amounts greater than 125 mm) favored cotton in northern Argentina and southern Paraguay, but possibly caused some isolated flooding. In southern Brazil, drier weather (less than 20 mm of rain) reduced disease potential in Rio Grande do Sul. Elsewhere, moderate showers (25-75 mm) maintained soil moisture for filling soybeans. Heavy showers (100-150 mm), however, caused some flooding in south-central Minas Gerais and northeastern Sao Paulo. Temperatures averaged 2 to 3 degrees C above normal across southern Brazil.



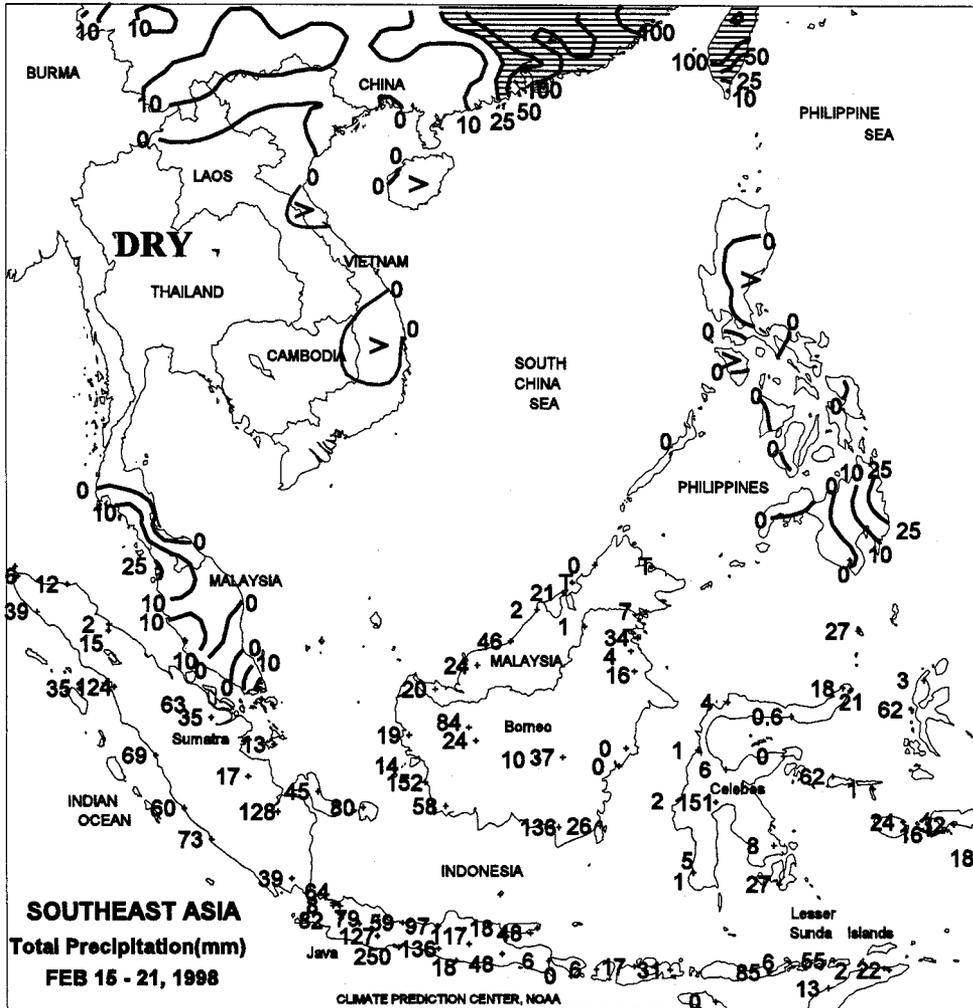
EASTERN ASIA

Widespread rain (10-35 mm) covered the North China Plain, boosting soil moisture for winter wheat. Warm weather caused winter wheat to lose some winter hardiness, but temperatures were still cool enough for wheat to remain dormant. Temperatures averaged 2 to 4 degrees above normal, with highs ranging from 11 to 14 degrees C. Moderate rain (25-70 mm) soaked southern China, aiding early reproductive winter grains and oilseeds, but drier weather is needed to reduce disease potential. Heavier showers (100-175 mm) possibly caused flooding in extreme southeastern China (Fujian).



AUSTRALIA

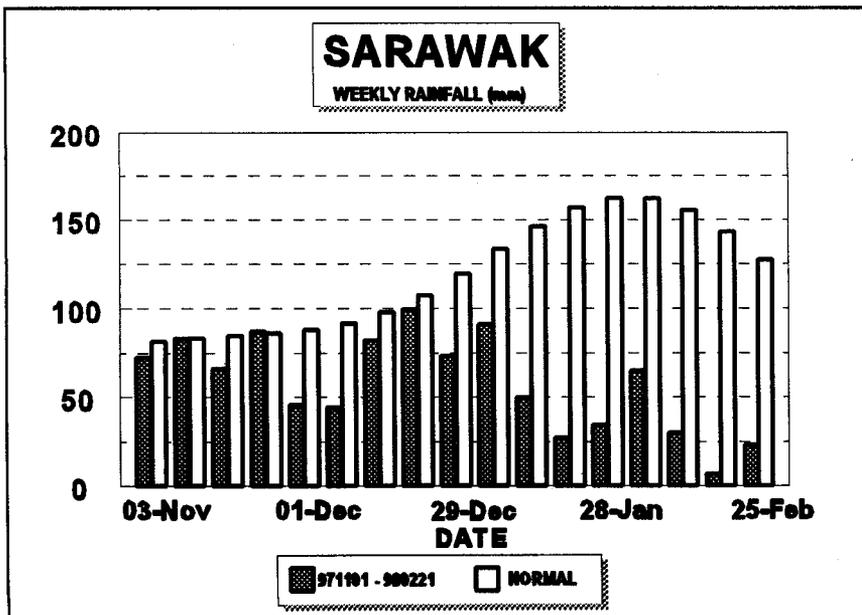
Light to moderate showers (4-21 mm, locally exceeding 40 mm) lingered over the primary summer crop region of east-central Australia. Temperatures averaged near to above normal, with highs commonly reaching the middle 30's C, even in some traditionally milder coastal locations. The overall warmer, drier weather was favorable for sorghum and cotton development following last week's heavy rainfall. Cotton harvests have reportedly begun in some of the more northerly areas. A continuation of drier weather would be welcomed over the next few months for maturing row crops, although sugarcane, grown exclusively along the coast, is generally not harvested until at least July. Field preparations for winter grain planting are still a few months away. In New Zealand, showers were generally light in primary pasture areas, with moderate showers (25 mm or greater) occurring over northern sections of North Island.



SOUTHEAST ASIA

In Java and southern Sumatra, widespread heavy showers (45-140 mm) continued to benefit main-season rice and reduce long-term moisture deficits. Drought persisted across the northern and eastern Philippines. Dry weather was causing drought to develop across eastern Malaysia (Sarawak and Sabah). Scattered showers (1-35 mm) aided oil palm across western peninsular Malaysia, while dry weather prevailed in the east.

Drought Develops in Eastern Malaysia



Dry weather has returned in recent weeks to parts of Indonesia and Malaysia. Rainfall has been especially deficient during the past 7 weeks in the eastern Kalimantan region of Indonesia on Borneo as well as the Malaysian Provinces of Sarawak and Sabah, also on the island of Borneo. In Sarawak, rainfall has been less than one-half of normal during each of the past 7 weeks. Below-normal rainfall has also returned to other parts of Indonesia, including Sulawesi. In contrast, substantial showers have fallen over Java and southern Sumatra in recent weeks.

The *Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin* is published weekly and jointly prepared by the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Publication began in 1872 as the *Weekly Weather Chronicle*. It is issued under general authority of the Act of January 12, 1895 (44-USC 213), 53rd Congress, 3rd Session. NOAA is responsible for managing, printing, and distributing the bulletin. The contents may be reprinted freely, with proper credit.

Annual subscriptions: domestic first class \$45, foreign \$55 (in U.S. funds by international money order or check drawn on U.S. bank) payable to U.S. Department of Commerce, NOAA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: Climate Prediction Center, W/NP52, Attn: *Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin*, NOAA/NWS/NCEP, 4700 Silver Hill Road, Stop 9910, Washington, DC 20233-9910. Order subscriptions from the office and address listed above. First-class postage paid at Washington, DC, and other mailing offices. Correspondence to the meteorologists should be directed to: *Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin*, NOAA/USDA, Joint Agricultural Weather Facility, USDA South Building, Room 5844, Washington, DC 20250. Internet URL: <http://www.usda.gov/oc/waob/jawf>; E-mail address: wwcb@jawfsrv.www.noaa.gov

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service/Climate Prediction Center
Managing Editor *Douglas Le Comte* (202) 720-7919
fax (202) 720-1455
Editor *Brad Rippey* (202) 720-1444
Meteorologists *David Secora, Jeff Savadel, Brian Morris*
Special Requests (202) 720-7917
Subscriptions *John Kopman* (301) 763-8227, ext. 7534
fax (301) 763-8395

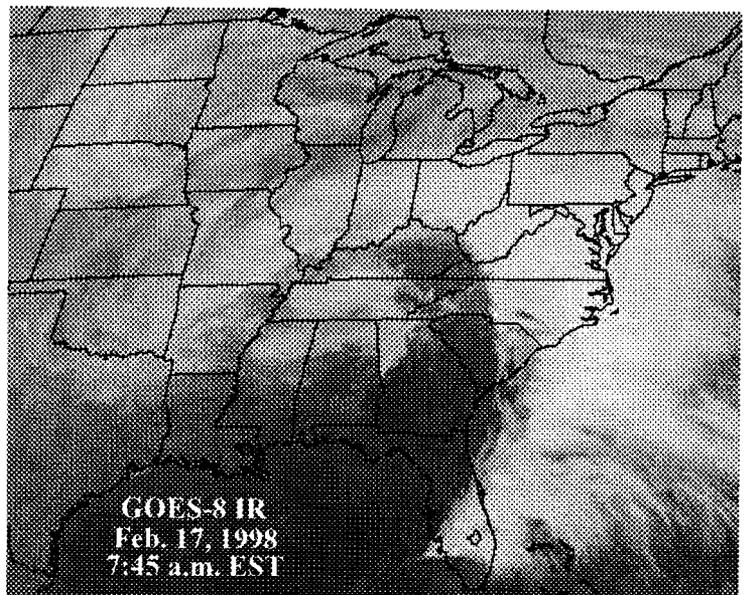
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Economic Research Service
E.R.S. Editor *Sharon Lee*
National Agricultural Statistics Service
Agricultural Statistician *Rhonda Brandt* (202) 720-7621
State Summaries Editor *Klara Haskins* (202) 720-8033
World Agricultural Outlook Board
Agricultural Weather Analysts *Ray Motha*
..... *Tom Puterbaugh, Mark Brusberg, Bob Stefanski*
Secretary *Teressa Davis* (202) 720-9807

February-Record Precipitation (Inches)

(Updated through Feb. 23)

<u>Location</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Former Record/Year</u>
San Francisco, CA	14.86	12.52 in 1878
Monterey, CA	14.45	11.68 in 1878
Santa Maria, CA	11.91	9.69 in 1962
Wilmington, NC	10.62	8.74 in 1983
San Jose, CA	10.12	7.02 in 1915
Tampa, FL	9.99	7.95 in 1963
Jacksonville, FL	9.52	9.16 in 1920
Riverside, CA	8.24	6.97 in 1969
Stockton, CA	8.00	7.34 in 1936
Roanoke, VA	7.97	7.17 in 1960
Bakersfield, CA	5.31	4.68 in 1978



Same Old Story: For the second month in a row, Roanoke, VA netted monthly record precipitation. Roanoke's total for the first 54 days of the year--15.94 inches--is 39% of their normal annual total and 50% of their total for all of 1997. Farther south, in Florida, monthly rainfall records were established for the second time in 3 months at Tampa and Jacksonville. Winter (December-February) rainfall in Tampa reached an all-time-record 30.20 inches (more than 4 times the normal), eclipsing the record of 14.86 inches, set in 1936-37. Even harder hit than the Southeast has been California, where Bakersfield's February rainfall reached 5.31 inches, 93% of their normal annual total. In downtown San Francisco, season-to-date rainfall through February 23 totaled 38.61 inches, their highest total this century (surpassing 38.17 inches in 1982-83). Just north of the San Francisco Bay area, at a location near Cazadero (western Sonoma County), seasonal rainfall recently topped 100 inches and February rainfall surpassed 35 inches.

Climate Prediction Center, W/NP52
Attn: *Weekly Weather & Crop Bulletin*
NOAA/NWS/NCEP
4700 Silver Hill Road
Stop 9910
Washington, DC 20233-9910

**WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN
FIRST CLASS**

FIRST CLASS MAIL
POSTAGE & FEES PAID
NOAA
PERMIT NO. G-19

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300