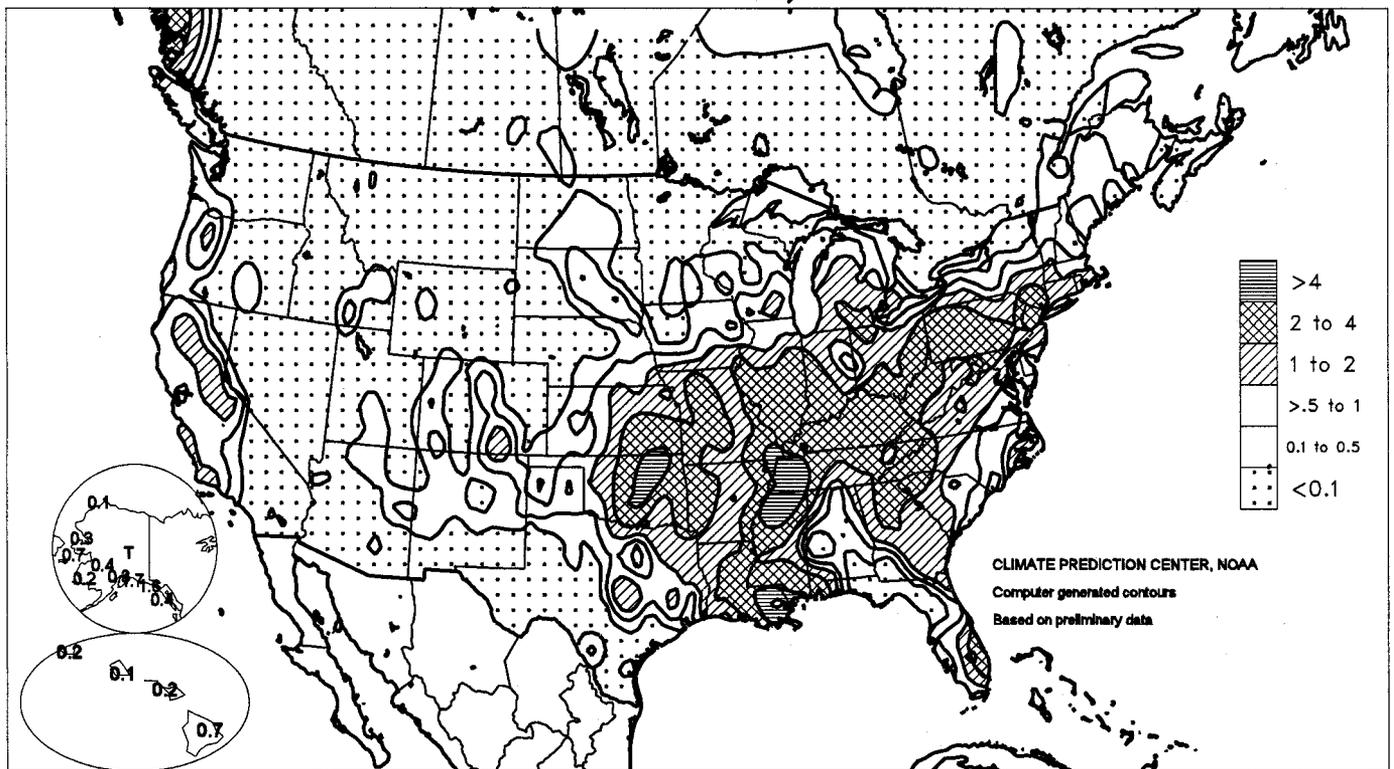


# WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
National Weather Service

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
National Agricultural Statistics Service  
and World Agricultural Outlook Board

**Total Precipitation (Inches)**  
**APR 26 - MAY 2, 1998**



## HIGHLIGHTS

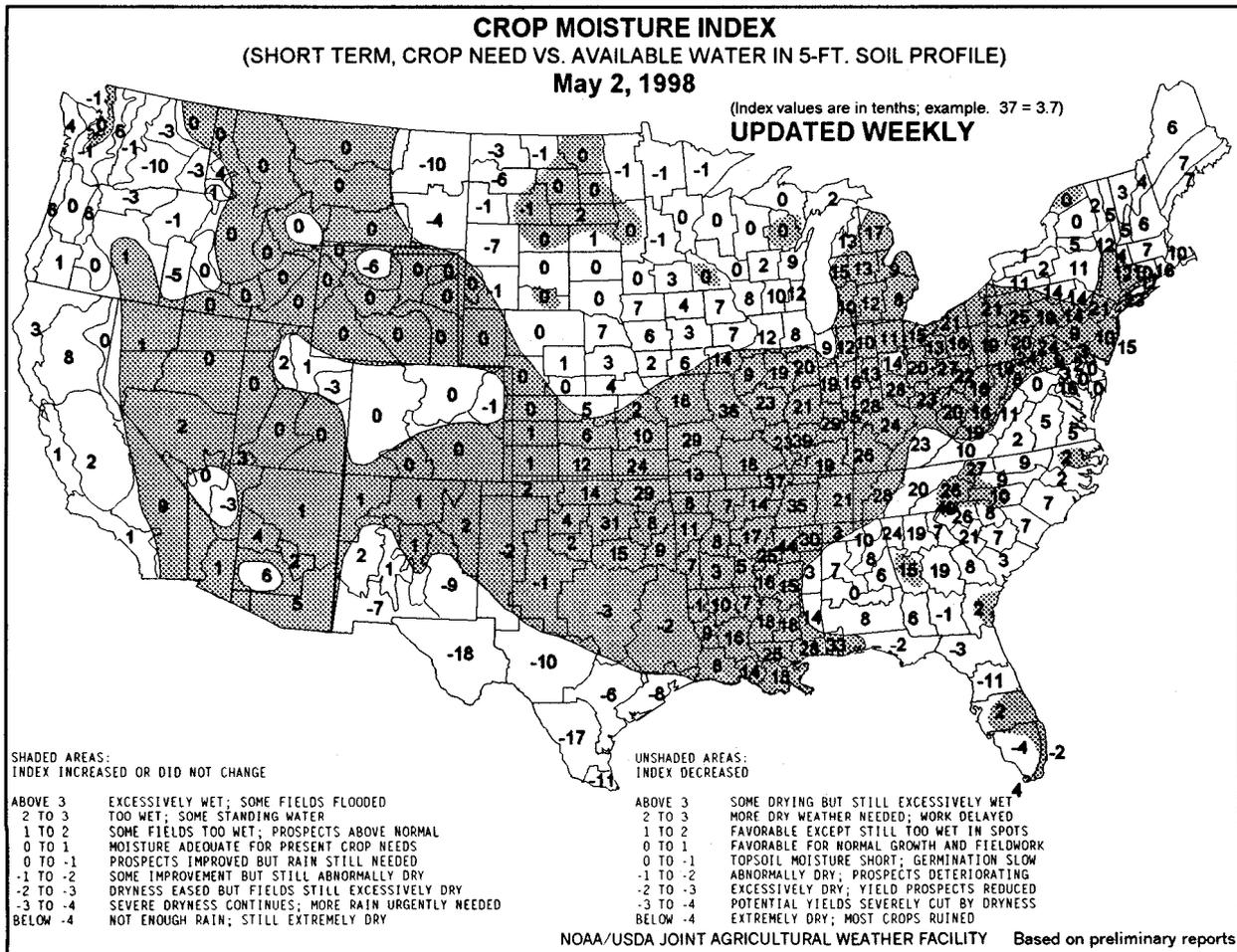
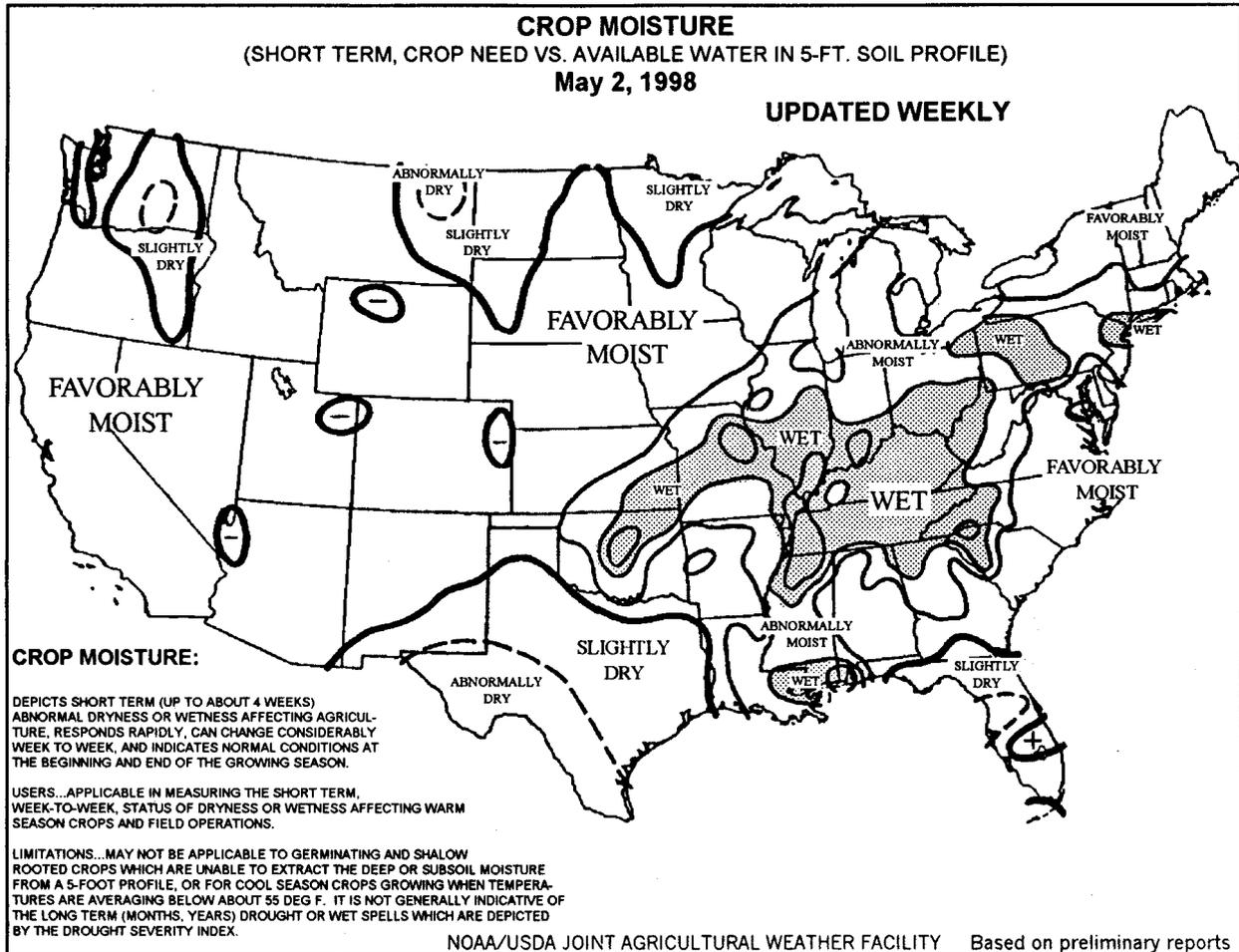
April 26 - May 2, 1998

**R**ainfall topped 2 inches in a broad swath across the **Central and Eastern States**, maintaining unfavorably wet soils and high river levels in the **Ohio and middle Mississippi River Valleys**. In contrast, warm, mostly dry weather across the **northwestern half of the Corn Belt**, the **northern Plains**, and the **Northwest** allowed planting to rapidly proceed. Weekly temperatures averaged up to 12°F above normal in the **Northwest**, resulting in more than 20 daily-record highs. Across **southern and western Texas**, temperatures soared into the 90's and 100's late in the week after 6 weeks of dry weather, further depleting topsoil moisture. Farther east, however, beneficial rains fell along the

*(Continued on page 3)*

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(Continued from front cover)

**Gulf Coast** and in **Florida**, reversing a 5-week trend. In the **Great Lakes and Northeastern States**, sub-freezing temperatures on April 27-29 threatened fruit trees blooming ahead of schedule due to the recent 6-week warm spell. Meanwhile, weekly temperatures averaged 2 to 10°F below normal on the **central and southern Plains**.

On Sunday, the month's first measurable rain fell in locations such as **Albuquerque, NM** (0.59 inches) and **Abilene, TX** (0.35 inches). In **Oklahoma City, OK**, a daily-record total of 2.77 inches fell, accounting for 83 percent of their monthly total. Farther south, however, several **Texas** cities finished the month with record-low rainfall, including **San Antonio** (0.05 inches) and **Midland** (a trace). In **New Orleans, LA**, only 0.07 inches fell during the first 26 days of the month, but 4.32 inches fell from April 27-30. In **southern Florida**, 1.01 inches fell in **Key West** on the last day of the month, ending a 30-day spell without measurable rain.

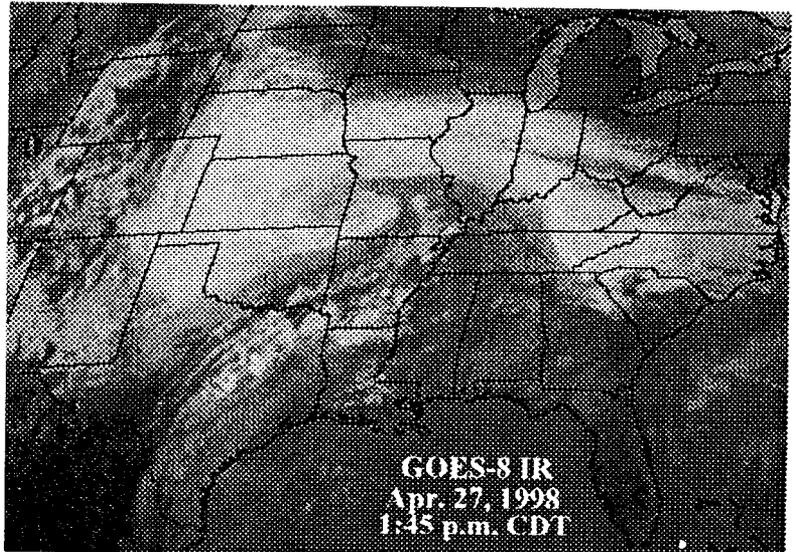
Farther north, several sites posted April-record rainfall totals, including **Cincinnati, OH** (9.77 inches) and **Asheville, NC** (8.70 inches). Boosted by additional late-month rainfall, April totals topped 15 inches in parts of **eastern Tennessee**, including 16.51 inches at **Big Ridge (Union County)**. Meanwhile, cool, dry weather settled into the **Nation's northeastern quadrant**. **Binghamton, NY** (28°F on Monday) and **Lynchburg, VA** (30°F on Tuesday) logged daily-record lows. On April 27 in **Michigan**, **Lansing's** low of 25°F was 1° shy of their daily record, set in 1867.

Farther west, very cool weather prevailed across the **central and southern Plains**. On Tuesday, highs in **Kansas** reached only 43°F in **Garden City** and 44°F in **Russell**. A day later, daily-record lows were noted in **Yuma, CO** (23°F) and **Midland, TX** (38°F). Meanwhile, record warmth overspread the **Northwest**. On Wednesday, **Roseburg, OR** recorded 92°F. A day later, record highs included 94°F at **The Dalles, OR** and 92°F in **Hanford, WA**. In **Oregon**, **Portland** (90°F on April 30) marked their earliest 90-degree day during 58 years of airport records. On Friday, **Corpus Christi, TX** (96°F) collected a daily-record high. The next day, highs in **southern Texas** soared to 107°F in **Laredo** and a daily-record 103°F in **Del Rio**. At week's end, cool weather and showers overspread **California**, ending a period of favorable warmth and dryness. Daily-record rainfall totals occurred on Saturday in **Chatsworth** (0.17 inches) and **Oxnard** (0.06 inches).

Most of **Hawaii** remained in a drought through April, although significant improvement occurred on the central islands and in many windward (east-facing)

locations. At the four major stations, year-to-date rainfall ranged from 16 percent of normal (1.55 inches) in **Honolulu** to 58 percent (9.86 inches) in **Lihue**.

In **Alaska**, where statewide temperatures have been consistently above normal for 3 consecutive months (February-April), cooler weather arrived abruptly toward week's end. Before then, however, **Anchorage** (57°F) and **Cold Bay** (54°F) notched daily-record highs on April 26. By Sunday morning, May 3, lows along the west coast dipped to 7°F in **Nome** and -3°F in **Kotzebue**. **Shishmaref**, near the **Bering Strait**, registered -15°F, just 7° shy of the State's May record, set in **Umiat** on May 4, 1984.



A low-pressure system centered near the Ozark Plateau helps to reduce short-term moisture deficits on parts of the southern Plains, but is poised to soak the Ohio and middle Mississippi Valleys with unwelcomed heavy rainfall.

**Wettest April on Record**

Location	Total (Inches)	Former Record/Year
Knoxville, TN	11.07 *	7.90 in 1994
Cincinnati, OH	9.77	8.62 in 1947
Asheville, NC	8.70	7.26 in 1979
Bristol, TN	7.03	5.85 in 1970

\* A record was set at the airport site; 11.07 inches was second in the city's second-highest April-rainfall on record behind a 17.32-inch total in 1874.

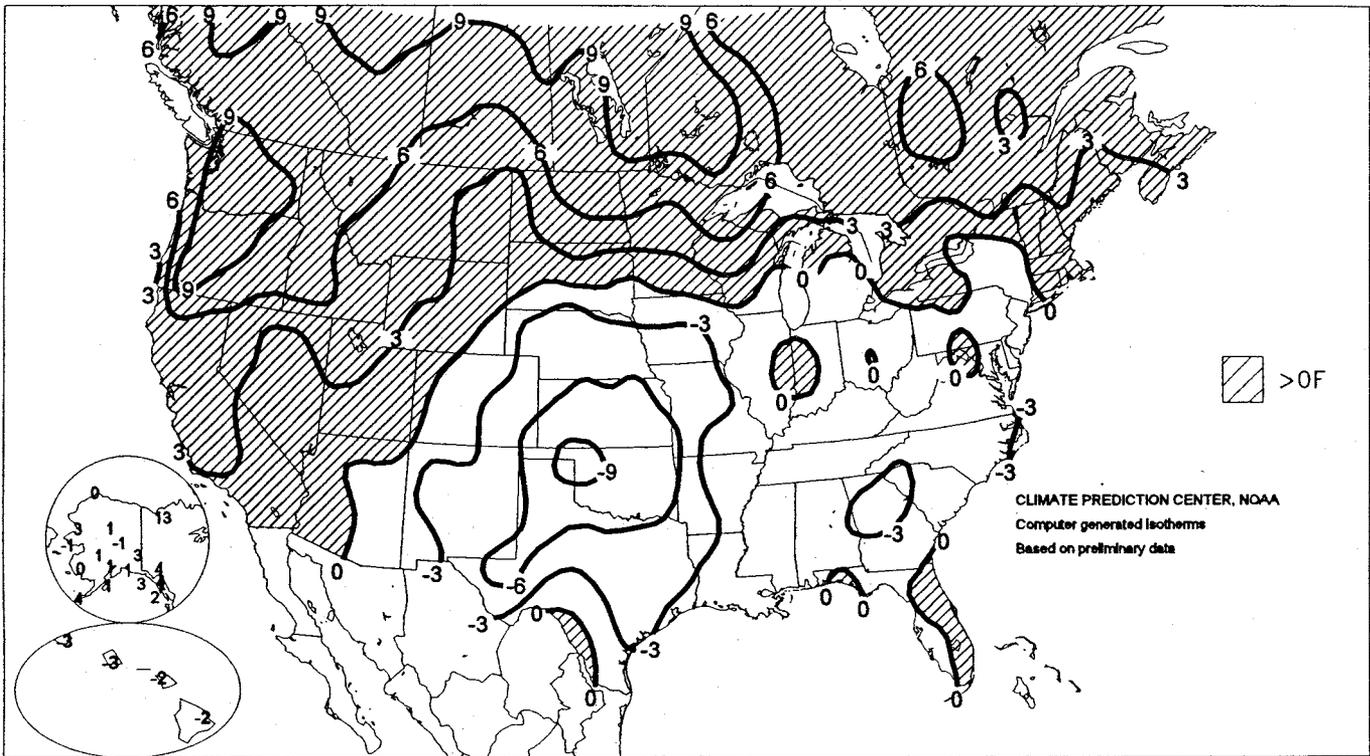
**Driest April on Record**

Location	Total (Inches)	Former Record/Year
San Antonio, TX	0.05	0.11 in 1984
Midland, TX	trace	trace in 1947, 1964

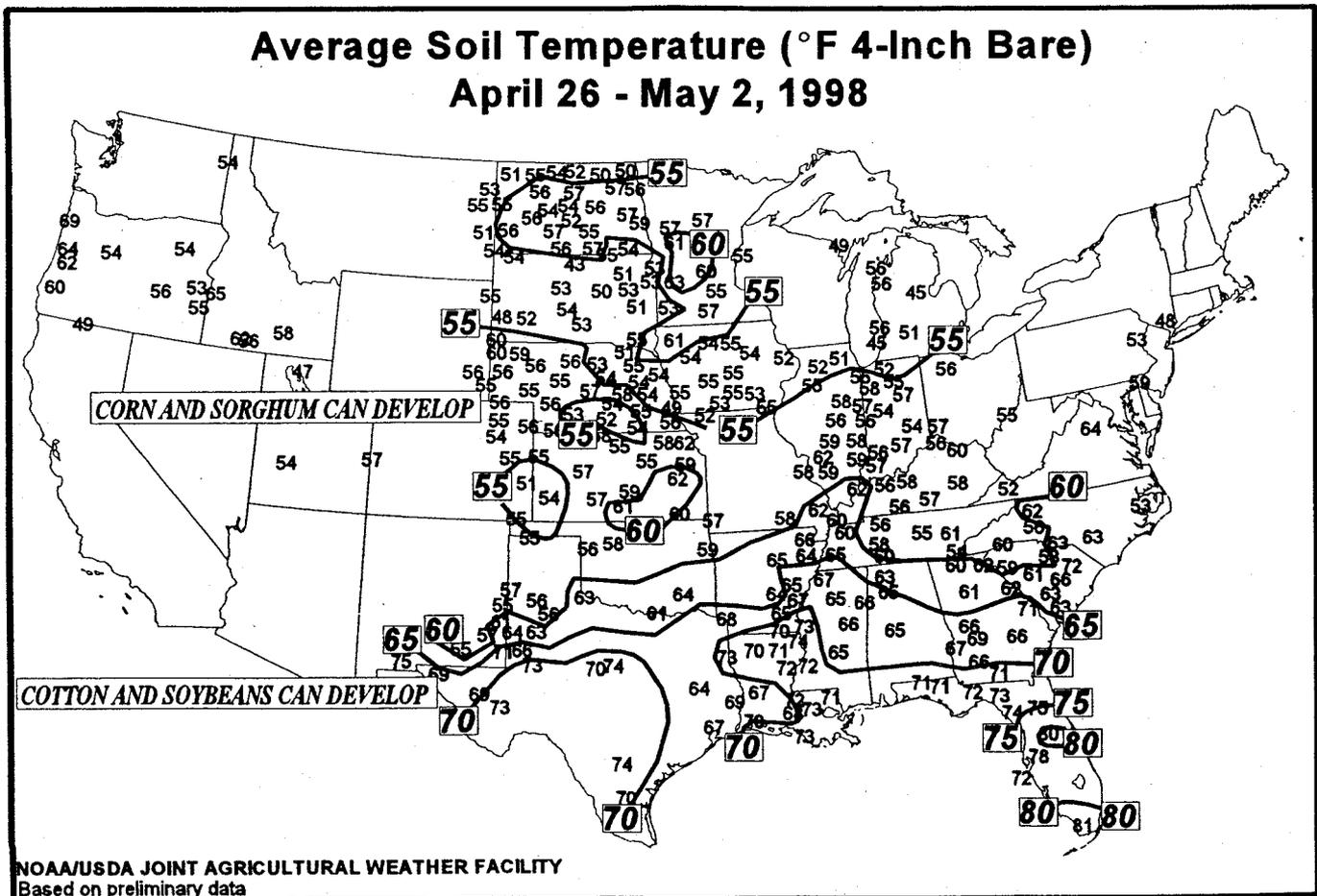
**Driest April Since...**

Location	Total (Inches)	Driest Since...
San Angelo, TX	trace	0.00 in 1920
Del Rio, TX	0.01	0.01 in 1955
Corpus Christi, TX	0.03	trace in 1984
Abilene, TX	0.35	0.20 in 1984

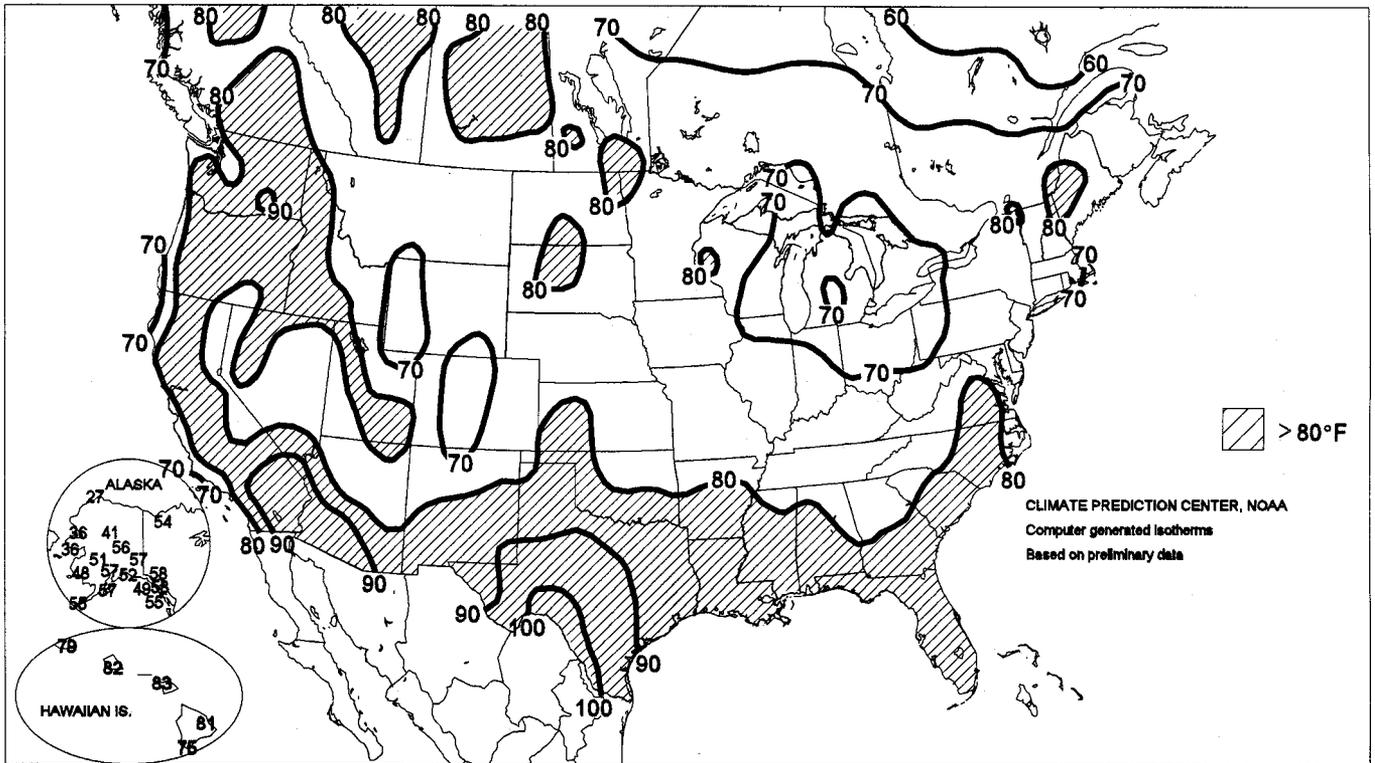
Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F)  
APR 26 - MAY 2, 1998



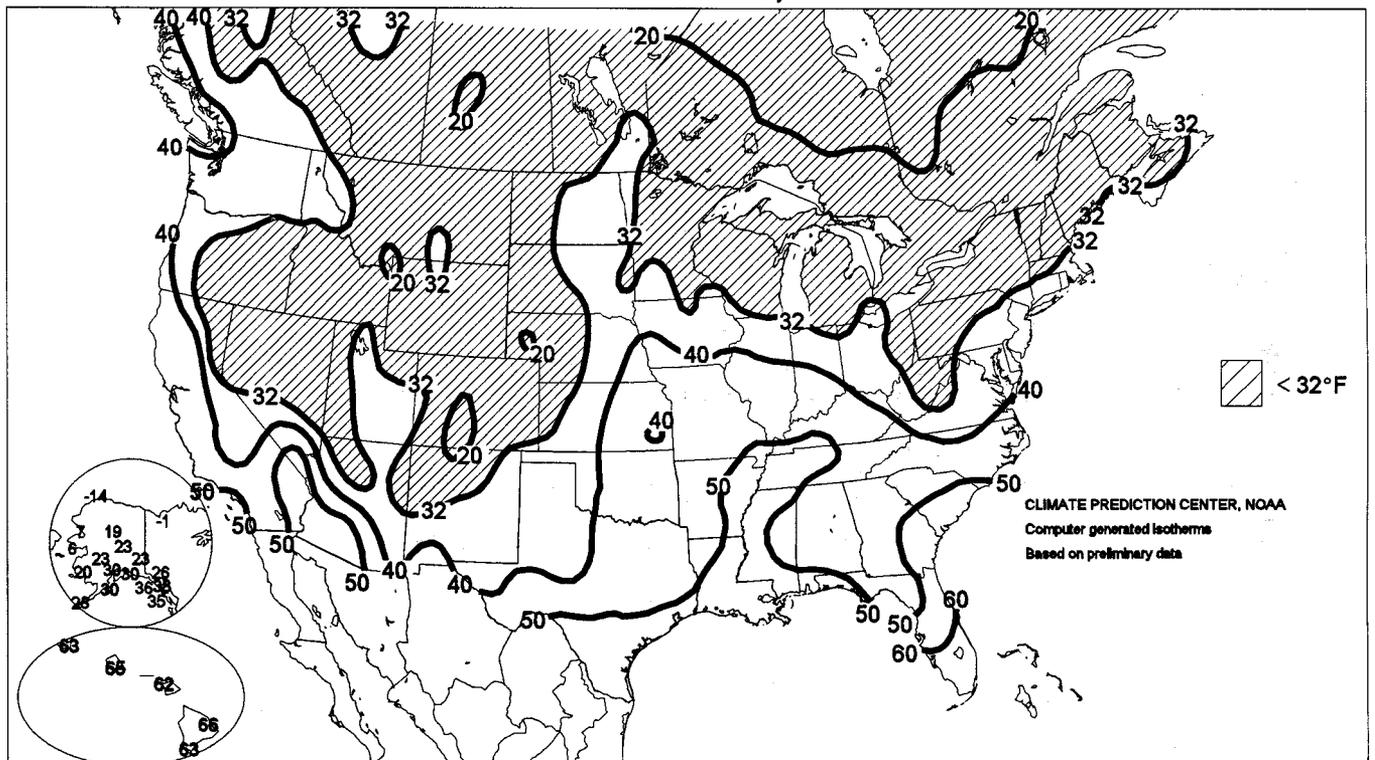
Average Soil Temperature (°F 4-Inch Bare)  
April 26 - May 2, 1998

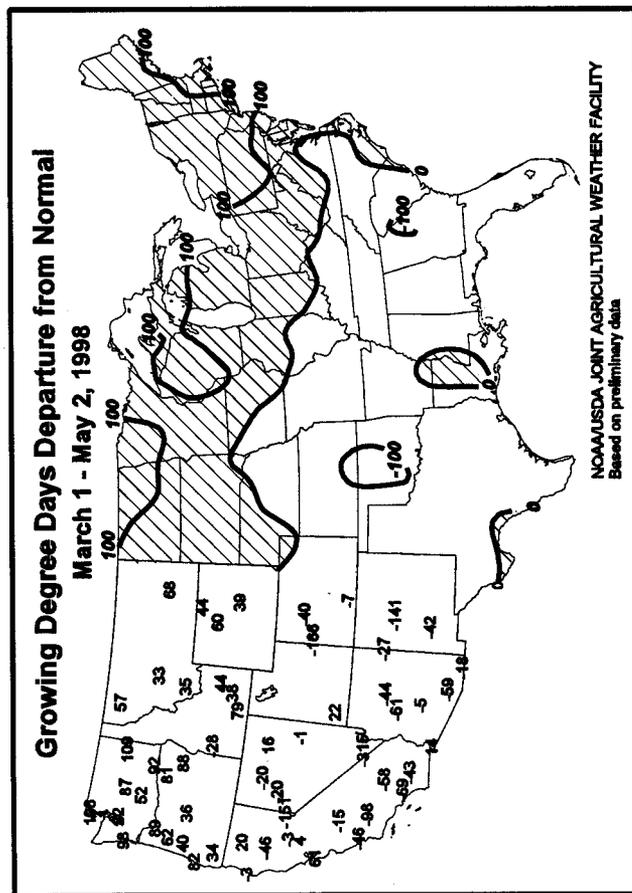
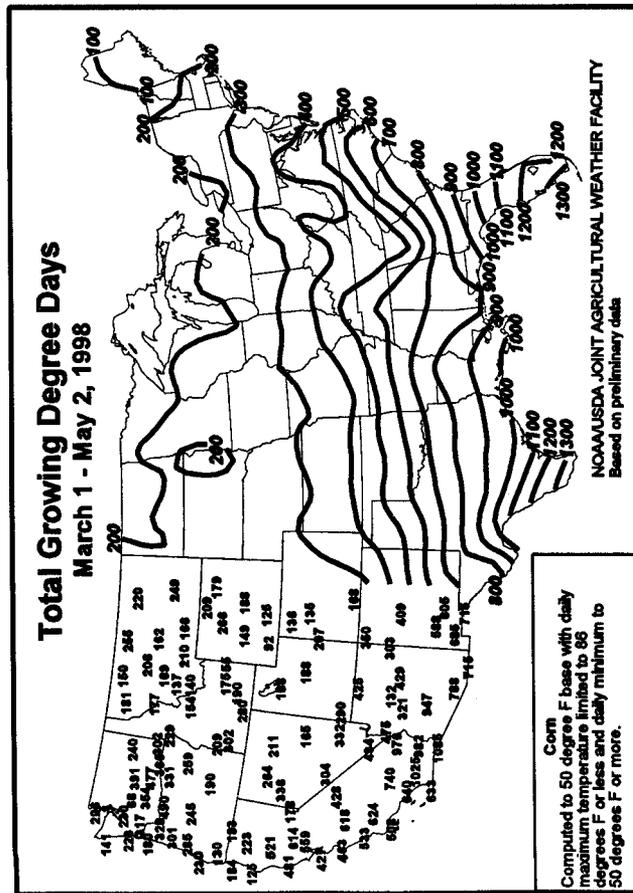
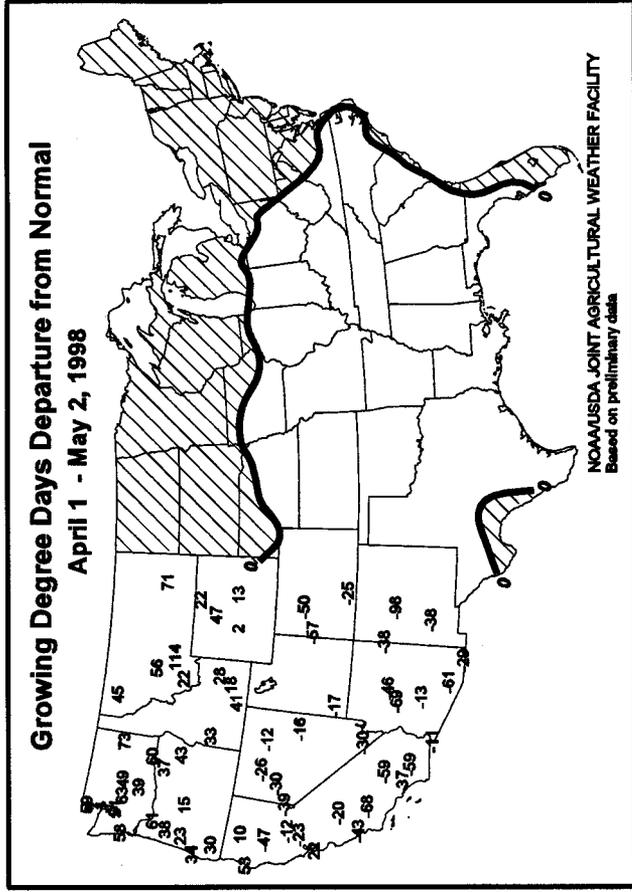
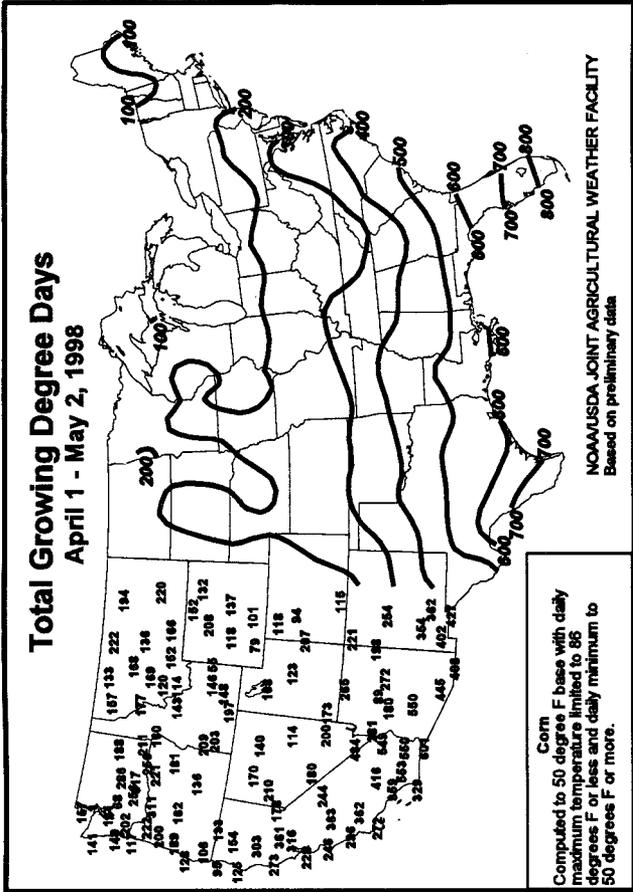


### Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F) APR 26 - MAY 2, 1998



### Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F) APR 26 - MAY 2, 1998





# National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending May 2, 1998

Data Provided by Climate Prediction Center (301-763-8000 EXT. 7511)

STATES AND STATIONS	TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION						RELATIVE HUMIDITY, PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS						
	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL IN, SINCE Mar 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Mar 1	TOTAL IN, SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	92 AND BELOW	TEMP. °F		PRECIP.	
																		01 INCH OR MORE	50 INCH OR MORE	01 INCH OR MORE	50 INCH OR MORE
AL BIRMINGHAM	74	54	80	47	64	-2	0.36	-0.77	0.24	13.66	119	30.24	142	98	82	0	0	4	0	0	0
AL HUNTSVILLE	73	54	80	49	63	-1	0.40	-0.70	0.12	8.10	68	22.67	103	92	57	0	0	6	0	0	0
AL MOBILE	77	58	82	52	68	-3	4.18	3.08	2.89	16.39	146	37.69	175	96	65	0	0	6	2	0	0
AL MONTGOMERY	76	55	81	45	66	-2	0.19	-0.74	0.16	8.08	73	21.98	104	93	59	0	0	3	0	0	0
AK ANCHORAGE	50	36	57	29	42	1	0.30	0.14	0.18	0.67	39	1.20	40	80	60	0	2	4	0	0	0
AK BARROW	15	-1	27	-14	7	0	0.06	0.01	0.05	0.23	61	0.24	39	89	83	0	7	2	0	0	0
AK FAIRBANKS	47	30	56	23	38	-1	0.04	-0.04	0.04	0.06	8	0.14	8	72	36	0	7	1	0	0	0
AK JUNEAU	52	42	58	38	47	4	-	-	-	8.28	100	10.72	74	95	67	0	0	-	-	-	-
AK KODIAK	48	35	57	30	42	2	-	-	-	20.19	220	40.90	187	78	41	0	2	-	-	-	-
AK NOME	29	19	36	6	24	-1	0.74	0.68	0.17	3.50	276	4.72	177	96	78	0	7	6	0	0	0
AZ FLAGSTAFF	80	28	86	25	44	-2	0.09	-0.15	0.09	5.36	130	8.80	107	90	30	0	7	1	0	0	0
AZ PHOENIX	87	63	92	56	75	2	0.00	-0.02	0.00	1.74	154	5.02	202	45	14	4	0	0	0	0	0
AZ PRESCOTT	88	40	93	36	54	1	0.02	-0.12	0.02	3.46	129	6.28	109	68	22	0	0	1	0	0	0
AZ TUCSON	83	54	91	48	68	-1	0.01	-0.04	0.01	2.03	199	5.40	210	50	16	1	0	1	0	0	0
AZ YUMA	91	62	97	55	77	2	0.00	-0.03	0.00	0.31	79	1.57	165	39	24	5	0	0	0	0	0
AR FORT SMITH	70	50	78	44	60	-5	0.70	-0.36	0.44	6.18	75	16.98	133	96	61	0	0	3	0	0	0
AR LITTLE ROCK	75	55	81	50	65	-1	1.39	0.16	-	7.54	72	17.75	103	89	52	0	0	4	1	0	0
CA BAKERSFIELD	86	54	92	46	69	3	0.12	0.04	0.12	3.49	214	10.17	286	69	28	2	0	1	0	0	0
CA EUREKA	61	49	89	46	56	4	0.25	-0.22	0.20	10.33	-	37.58	-	-	-	0	0	2	0	0	0
CA FRESNO	83	56	92	50	70	5	0.17	0.04	0.17	4.64	162	12.84	194	75	29	1	0	1	0	0	0
CA LOS ANGELES	67	55	70	53	61	-1	0.12	0.05	0.12	4.36	160	21.42	281	93	70	0	0	1	0	0	0
CA REDDING	78	51	87	46	65	3	0.55	0.21	0.49	8.98	137	36.41	225	84	34	0	0	2	0	0	0
CA SACRAM/MCCLELL	79	55	88	48	67	-	0.48	-	0.43	3.89	-	23.07	-	94	40	0	0	2	0	0	0
CA SAN DIEGO	68	58	71	54	63	0	0.00	-0.09	0.00	3.00	117	13.33	225	87	62	0	0	0	0	0	0
CA SAN FRANCISCO	70	52	76	49	61	4	0.12	-0.03	0.08	4.42	99	26.30	219	93	60	0	0	2	0	0	0
CA ALAMOSA	80	27	70	21	44	-2	0.25	0.12	0.25	1.10	112	1.13	74	84	21	0	7	1	0	0	0
CO CO SPRINGS	61	36	70	30	48	-2	0.08	-0.29	0.08	3.80	170	4.17	142	67	28	0	1	1	0	0	0
CO DENVER	63	36	72	31	49	-3	0.29	-0.19	0.29	3.36	107	3.63	87	77	27	0	2	1	0	0	0
CO GRAND JUNCTION	73	40	80	36	57	0	0.32	0.14	0.32	2.09	123	3.04	110	72	25	0	0	1	0	0	0
CO PUEBLO	67	36	78	26	51	-5	0.37	0.13	0.37	3.62	209	3.89	166	82	28	0	2	1	0	0	0
CT BRIDGEPORT	60	46	69	39	53	0	1.38	0.50	0.62	11.48	147	20.10	143	85	49	0	0	3	1	0	0
CT HARTFORD	66	43	80	34	55	1	0.79	-0.14	0.34	8.77	113	15.26	106	77	38	0	0	4	0	0	0
DC WASHINGTON	68	50	76	42	59	-2	1.18	0.46	0.62	10.38	171	21.02	183	89	56	0	0	4	2	0	0
DE WILMINGTON	65	46	72	35	56	-1	0.99	0.16	0.67	7.99	113	15.74	121	94	57	0	0	4	0	0	0
FL DAYTONA BEACH	83	62	87	53	72	1	0.13	-0.43	0.09	4.11	78	15.69	141	93	48	0	0	2	1	0	0
FL JACKSONVILLE	80	60	84	52	70	0	1.56	0.92	1.49	7.63	113	22.14	160	94	52	0	0	3	1	0	0
FL KEY WEST	82	73	84	69	77	-1	1.40	0.87	1.01	4.54	126	11.83	159	87	68	0	0	3	1	0	0
FL MIAMI	84	71	88	67	78	1	0.95	0.04	0.60	6.91	125	14.56	151	79	48	0	0	3	1	0	0
FL ORLANDO	84	62	87	55	73	0	0.30	-0.16	0.20	5.79	112	16.62	158	96	47	0	0	3	0	0	0
FL TAMPA	84	66	88	61	75	1	0.28	-0.06	0.28	5.57	130	21.03	225	89	53	0	0	1	0	0	0
FL VALPARAISO/EGLIN	78	64	81	55	71	2	0.07	-1.00	0.07	6.85	60	22.49	115	92	58	0	0	1	0	0	0
FL WEST PALM BEACH	83	70	86	65	77	1	0.63	-0.07	0.62	5.19	76	22.60	183	82	53	0	0	2	1	0	0
GA ATHENS	69	52	75	49	61	-5	1.41	0.50	1.24	15.98	164	29.57	158	93	58	0	0	3	1	0	0
GA ATLANTA	69	53	78	49	61	-4	1.27	0.32	0.55	11.65	113	24.66	124	93	61	0	0	3	1	0	0
GA AUGUSTA	76	53	81	48	65	-2	0.87	0.11	0.86	13.23	161	27.10	164	91	48	0	0	2	1	0	0
GA COLUMBUS	75	57	79	50	66	-2	1.57	0.63	0.87	8.12	78	15.56	79	94	57	0	0	2	2	0	0
GA MACON	75	55	81	48	65	-3	2.10	1.33	1.50	12.21	144	24.15	136	96	58	0	0	3	2	0	0
GA SAVANNAH	77	57	82	52	67	-2	1.40	0.66	1.12	9.78	139	24.17	174	97	52	0	0	3	1	0	0
HI HILO	77	66	81	66	71	-2	0.67	-2.47	0.26	12.24	41	14.68	29	87	61	0	0	6	0	0	0
HI HONOLULU	79	67	82	65	73	-3	0.05	-0.24	0.05	0.62	16	1.60	17	74	49	0	0	1	0	0	0
HI KAHULUI	80	66	83	62	73	-1	0.21	-0.10	0.14	1.26	27	2.12	18	84	48	0	0	4	0	0	0
HI LIHUE	77	66	79	63	71	-3	0.21	-0.57	0.08	2.37	30	6.30	37	82	55	0	0	6	0	0	0
ID BOISE	77	47	86	32	62	9	0.00	-0.28	0.00	1.80	69	5.93	118	65	22	0	1	0	0	0	0
ID LEWISTON	78	46	87	37	62	8	0.00	-0.28	0.00	2.12	93	4.23	96	72	26	0	0	0	0	0	0
ID POCATELLO	71	33	80	28	52	3	0.00	-0.29	0.00	1.87	73	5.29	117	73	19	0	3	0	0	0	0
IL CHICAGO/O'HARE	69	45	65	34	52	-2	0.70	-0.13	0.34	7.86	120	12.23	130	93	82	0	0	4	0	0	0
IL MOLINE	63	48	70	39	54	-1	0.50	-0.46	0.25	10.00	139	15.69	158	92	63	0	0	5	0	0	0
IL PEORIA	65	48	72	40	57	0	1.96	1.07	0.83	9.72	140	14.91	151	92	56	0	0	6	2	0	0
IL ROCKFORD	60	42	69	32	51	-2	0.74	-0.12	0.35	8.11	128	12.04	137	94	60	0	1	5	0	0	0
IL SPRINGFIELD	66	49	77	45	58	0	3.21	2.36	0.90	10.11	142	15.24	148	91	60	0	0	5	4	0	0
IN EVANSVILLE	68	53	76	47	59	-1	3.67	2.68	1.77	9.78	108	14.73	99	93	60	0	0	7	3	0	0
IN FORT WAYNE	61	44	65	32	52	-2	0.86	0.07	0.39	10.40	180	15.80	154	94	68	0	1	6	0	0	0
IN INDIANAPOLIS	66	49	73	41	58	1	1.67	0.78	1.18	10.51	138	14.25	114	86	58	0	0	6	1	0	0
IN SOUTH BEND	60	46	65	34	52	-1	1.25	0.42	0.71	7.74	108	13.23	117	89	59	0	0	5	1	0	0
IA BURLINGTON	64	50	74	43	57	0	2.46	1.82	1.85	12.37	188	17.75	198	86	60	0	0	6	1	0	0
IA CEDAR RAPIDS	61	44	74	36	52	-2	0.39	-0.36	-	8.52	149	11.83	152	88	56	0	0	2	0	0	0
IA DES MOINES	61	45	78	39	53	-3	0.22	-0.59	0.11	5.94	101	8.51	107	90	53	0	0	3	0	0	0
IA DUBUQUE	60	42	68	33	51	-2	0.73	-0.20	0.31	10.69	156	14.67	155	90	54	0	0	6	0	0	0
IA SIOUX CITY	64	43	79	41	54	-2	0.39	-0.28	0.33	10.19	226	11.47	199	86	45	0	0	2	0	0	0
IA WATERLOO	64	43	80	33	54	0	0.44	-0.42	0.20	8.80	150	11.45	148	90	48	0	0	4	0	0	0
KS CONCORDIA	60	45	78																		

Weather Data for the Week Ending May 2, 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 Mar 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Mar 1	TOTAL IN, SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	92 AND BELOW	TEMP. °F		PRECIP.	
																		01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE		
KY WICHITA	61	46	74	43	54	-7	2.79	2.13	1.79	7.81	151	8.98	132	92	82	0	0	5	2		
JACKSON	66	50	76	41	58	-3	1.67	0.72	1.10	13.28	147	21.49	129	89	53	0	0	5	1		
LEXINGTON	66	51	73	42	58	-1	2.19	1.26	1.33	9.83	112	16.20	111	90	81	0	0	6	2		
LOUISVILLE	66	53	75	47	60	-1	2.33	1.31	0.86	10.78	117	18.04	124	89	58	0	0	7	2		
PADUCAH	67	53	78	49	60	-2	2.30	1.14	0.82	9.21	90	17.02	98	93	71	0	0	5	1		
LA BATON ROUGE	78	62	83	56	70	-2	3.71	2.48	3.27	9.08	88	29.82	141	98	59	0	0	2	1		
LAKE CHARLES	80	61	84	56	71	-1	1.11	0.11	0.85	6.19	89	21.33	142	95	56	0	0	2	1		
NEW ORLEANS	78	63	83	58	71	-1	4.71	3.70	3.96	10.42	108	33.97	164	95	58	0	0	4	2		
SHREVEPORT	77	54	84	47	65	-3	0.29	-0.73	0.21	5.07	66	18.10	117	93	50	0	0	2	0		
ME CARIBOU	58	36	80	25	47	3	0.29	-0.34	0.25	5.81	115	12.50	133	86	38	0	3	2	0		
PORTLAND	62	38	74	28	50	2	0.57	-0.34	0.57	8.16	102	18.71	126	80	43	0	1	1	1		
MD BALTIMORE	68	46	74	33	57	-1	0.86	0.10	0.51	9.19	137	21.24	165	94	50	0	0	3	1		
MA BOSTON	65	46	78	39	56	3	0.73	-0.07	0.25	8.22	110	18.52	128	78	41	0	0	4	0		
WORCESTER	62	43	74	34	53	3	1.11	0.17	0.80	10.17	125	17.93	117	78	38	0	0	3	1		
MI ALPENA	58	35	66	25	46	0	0.89	0.33	0.50	9.44	209	13.98	188	85	39	0	3	2	1		
GRAND RAPIDS	61	43	70	29	52	0	2.32	1.55	0.90	8.59	139	14.22	150	92	61	0	2	6	2		
HOUGHTON LAKE	60	36	68	26	48	0	1.25	0.71	0.63	6.43	147	9.44	134	85	41	0	3	3	2		
LANSING	61	38	70	26	49	-2	2.04	1.42	0.75	7.29	138	12.78	157	94	57	0	4	4	3		
MARQUETTE	59	33	73	22	46	2	0.00	-0.63	0.00	6.25	112	10.10	106	-	-	0	2	0	0		
MUSKEGON	60	41	66	32	50	0	1.08	0.43	0.52	5.94	108	10.30	109	87	57	0	1	5	1		
MN DULUTH	66	39	78	29	52	7	0.00	-0.58	0.00	3.57	83	8.03	127	57	22	0	2	0	0		
INT'L FALLS	69	35	79	23	52	6	0.00	-0.43	0.00	1.03	37	2.73	64	66	23	0	3	0	0		
MINNEAPOLIS	68	40	79	32	54	2	0.52	-0.13	0.47	6.63	146	9.07	142	82	29	0	1	3	0		
ROCHESTER	64	40	75	33	52	1	0.61	-0.11	0.39	5.69	121	8.54	137	81	38	0	0	3	0		
ST. CLOUD	70	36	77	28	53	3	0.00	-0.61	0.00	2.89	74	4.47	84	83	24	0	3	0	0		
MS JACKSON	78	58	82	52	67	-1	1.01	-0.26	0.87	9.87	84	24.90	115	96	56	0	0	4	1		
MERIDIAN	77	55	81	47	66	-2	0.90	-0.23	0.67	8.59	69	27.57	119	97	59	0	0	4	1		
TUPELO	74	55	78	49	65	-1	2.46	1.20	1.59	10.97	94	23.15	109	92	59	0	0	5	2		
MO COLUMBIA	63	49	71	44	58	-3	1.47	0.45	0.75	9.96	136	15.69	148	94	63	0	0	6	1		
KANSAS CITY	61	48	76	45	55	-5	0.90	-0.01	0.52	5.61	95	7.87	95	86	82	0	0	5	1		
SAINT LOUIS	66	51	78	46	59	-3	2.55	1.70	0.78	11.49	157	17.30	154	90	59	0	0	6	3		
SPRINGFIELD	63	50	73	43	57	-3	1.88	0.90	1.10	9.14	110	16.09	131	91	70	0	0	5	1		
MT BILLINGS	69	40	78	34	55	6	0.00	-0.50	0.00	3.01	98	3.80	82	86	26	0	0	0	0		
BUTTE	69	28	75	20	48	6	0.05	-0.25	0.05	2.73	153	4.02	148	86	19	0	6	1	0		
GLASGOW	66	39	78	33	53	3	0.00	-0.26	0.00	2.15	182	2.56	140	86	33	0	0	0	0		
GREAT FALLS	72	35	80	30	53	6	0.00	-0.44	0.00	1.55	58	2.73	66	58	18	0	2	0	0		
KALISPELL	72	34	79	27	53	5	0.00	-0.32	0.00	3.41	156	4.72	98	88	24	0	2	0	0		
MILES CITY	69	40	79	32	54	3	0.00	-0.41	0.00	1.80	86	2.43	79	77	28	0	1	0	0		
MISSOULA	74	38	82	32	56	8	0.00	-0.30	0.00	2.67	132	4.44	109	75	22	0	1	0	0		
NE GRAND ISLAND	62	41	78	39	52	-4	0.42	-0.29	0.17	7.12	155	7.99	138	91	45	0	0	3	0		
LINCOLN	60	44	78	40	52	-4	0.68	-0.08	0.51	5.38	108	7.38	116	97	54	0	0	6	1		
NORFOLK	63	41	78	38	52	-3	0.14	-0.51	0.14	6.35	146	6.86	122	90	44	0	0	1	0		
NORTH PLATTE	65	33	73	25	49	-4	0.00	-0.82	0.00	1.97	58	2.64	63	85	25	0	4	0	0		
OMAHA	61	45	78	43	53	-4	0.46	-0.36	0.16	7.72	156	9.32	144	92	52	0	0	4	0		
SCOTTSBLUFF	67	30	78	23	49	-2	0.00	-0.49	0.00	2.83	100	3.67	97	74	20	0	5	0	0		
VALENTINE	64	32	75	25	48	-4	0.01	-0.53	0.01	1.95	68	2.14	60	87	29	0	3	1	0		
NV ELY	65	28	71	21	47	1	0.00	-0.25	0.00	2.48	123	4.59	135	71	17	0	6	0	0		
LAS VEGAS	83	59	89	54	71	3	0.00	-0.06	0.00	1.17	172	4.22	262	41	17	0	0	0	0		
RENO	73	37	78	29	55	3	0.00	-0.11	0.00	2.80	248	6.49	202	73	21	0	1	0	0		
WINNEMUCCA	73	33	80	27	53	3	0.03	-0.16	0.03	2.54	152	5.81	191	79	22	0	3	1	0		
NH CONCORD	66	35	79	25	50	1	0.26	-0.44	0.26	6.17	106	12.27	113	82	30	0	3	1	0		
NJ NEWARK	64	48	72	41	56	-1	1.38	0.45	0.77	11.10	139	20.80	144	77	42	0	0	3	2		
NM ALBUQUERQUE	68	43	78	32	55	-4	0.64	0.53	0.59	2.98	289	3.78	193	70	22	0	1	2	1		
NY ALBANY	64	41	76	31	52	1	0.80	0.08	0.73	7.14	118	13.52	126	81	44	0	2	3	1		
BINGHAMTON	59	41	71	28	49	0	0.50	-0.24	0.37	7.95	129	15.54	143	88	45	0	1	2	0		
BUFFALO	61	42	71	29	51	1	0.28	-0.40	0.27	6.68	116	14.57	135	84	44	0	2	2	0		
ROCHESTER	62	41	75	30	51	0	0.15	-0.48	0.11	5.48	108	13.43	145	83	45	0	2	2	0		
SYRACUSE	61	41	72	30	51	0	0.13	-0.65	0.08	5.27	83	13.19	122	80	44	0	1	2	0		
NC ASHEVILLE	66	46	74	43	56	-3	2.03	1.20	0.99	12.71	154	29.05	189	96	58	0	0	4	1		
CHARLOTTE	74	53	80	45	63	1	0.98	0.31	0.82	9.30	127	18.86	127	85	44	0	0	4	1		
GREENSBORO	69	49	77	38	59	-3	1.34	0.60	1.02	10.15	150	21.43	161	87	49	0	0	3	1		
HATTERAS	63	55	71	48	59	-4	1.07	0.24	0.98	7.05	87	24.51	140	91	74	0	0	2	1		
RALEIGH	72	49	80	38	60	-2	0.66	-0.03	0.46	10.91	165	24.19	176	91	49	0	0	4	0		
WILMINGTON	75	54	82	48	65	-1	0.37	-0.38	0.20	5.02	72	23.53	162	88	45	0	0	2	0		
ND BISMARCK	67	39	81	33	53	4	0.50	0.05	0.33	1.22	47	2.98	86	91	37	0	0	2	0		
DICKINSON	64	38	77	26	51	3	0.05	-0.47	0.05	1.78	65	4.18	121	77	40	0	2	1	0		
FARGO	72	41	78	36	56	7	0.02	-0.48	0.02	1.80	53	3.91	94	80	22	0	0	1	0		
GRAND FORKS	71	40	82	34	55	7	0.02	-0.35	0.02	1.05	44	2.98	83	71	26	0	0	1	0		
JAMESTOWN	69	42	81	38	55	6	0.39	0.01	0.26	2.25	89	4.25	118	82	32	0	0	3	0		
WILLISTON	65	33	77	23	49	0	0.01	-0.36	0.01	0.38	18	2.49	82	86	38	0	3	1	0		
OH AKRON-CANTON	59	43	64	29	51	-2	3.14	2.35	1.39	10.55	157	16.76	151	91	63	0	2	5	3		
CINCINNATI	66	49	71	41	58	0	2.74	1.84	1.07	13.40	162	19.71	148	94	53	0	0	4	3		
CLEVELAND	59	45	66	30	52	0	1.96	1.20	1.47	9.72	155	15.63	148	94	69	0	1	5	1		
COLUMBUS	64	48	68	37	56	0	2.22	1.42	0.70	9.43	140	14.20	127	90	62	0	0	5	2		
DAYTON	64	46	67	34	55	-1	1.26	0.43	0.43	9.48	133	15.09	132	93	62	0	0	5	0		
MANSFIELD	59	43	64	29	51	-2	1.10	0.18	0.52	7.50	104	12.96	116	87	68						

Weather Data for the Week Ending May 2, 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 Mar 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Mar 1	TOTAL IN. SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	PRECIP.		
																		.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE	
OK TOLEDO	61	46	68	32	53	0	2.70	2.03	0.86	9.13	157	15.86	171	89	57	0	1	5	2	
OK YOUNGSTOWN	58	43	66	28	51	-2	2.56	1.81	1.42	10.70	167	17.44	166	96	62	0	2	6	2	
OK OKLAHOMA CITY	66	48	80	43	57	-7	3.03	2.16	2.77	9.79	170	14.00	168	91	60	0	0	2	1	
OR TULSA	66	50	78	44	58	-9	3.92	2.87	2.33	11.88	158	15.66	142	90	58	0	0	2	2	
OR ASTORIA	65	45	78	37	55	5	0.13	-0.71	0.13	12.86	108	39.58	134	89	67	0	0	1	0	
OR BURNS	72	37	79	28	54	8	0.06	-0.12	0.06	2.42	141	7.84	220	80	26	0	2	1	0	
OR EUGENE	73	45	80	35	59	6	0.68	0.12	0.32	8.36	95	22.66	101	89	51	0	0	4	0	
OR MEDFORD	80	47	88	38	63	9	0.15	-0.09	0.08	5.13	167	13.18	171	86	28	0	0	2	0	
OR PENDLETON	78	46	87	35	62	9	0.00	-0.25	0.00	2.29	99	6.08	123	84	32	0	0	0	0	
OR PORTLAND	80	51	90	40	65	12	0.70	0.20	0.56	5.90	95	17.84	117	93	38	1	0	2	1	
OR SALEM	78	47	84	37	62	10	0.20	-0.28	0.20	6.79	101	22.03	128	93	45	0	0	1	0	
PA ALLENTOWN	63	44	71	34	53	-1	1.23	0.34	0.91	9.40	133	16.67	126	90	52	0	0	3	1	
PA ERIE	58	44	69	33	51	0	1.64	0.88	0.69	8.78	136	15.40	141	93	66	0	0	5	2	
PA MIDDLETOWN	65	46	74	37	56	-1	2.43	1.57	1.50	10.48	154	20.00	159	88	48	0	0	3	1	
PA PHILADELPHIA	66	48	73	40	57	0	0.58	-0.27	0.31	6.90	94	14.39	108	91	51	0	0	3	0	
PA PITTSBURGH	60	44	68	32	52	-2	2.44	1.69	1.50	7.63	113	13.82	118	95	62	0	1	4	1	
PA SCRANTON	60	42	71	30	51	-2	0.97	0.20	0.61	8.31	148	14.18	142	-	-	0	1	3	1	
PA WILLIAMSPORT	62	42	72	32	52	-2	1.28	0.48	1.06	8.92	134	19.46	162	94	48	0	2	5	1	
RI PROVIDENCE	65	45	76	38	56	3	1.16	0.23	0.43	11.57	138	23.97	151	86	44	0	0	3	0	
SC BEAUFORT	77	59	81	56	68	-2	0.94	0.26	0.86	9.70	136	26.96	183	93	51	0	0	2	1	
SC CHARLESTON	77	58	81	55	68	-1	0.84	0.21	0.42	9.94	138	27.69	199	91	49	0	0	2	1	
SC COLUMBIA	75	54	83	51	66	-2	0.63	-0.09	0.62	10.38	125	23.54	139	86	42	0	0	2	1	
SC GREENVILLE	70	51	78	46	60	-3	2.31	1.44	1.53	14.11	148	27.81	154	89	54	0	0	3	2	
SD ABERDEEN	66	39	76	33	53	1	0.39	-0.10	0.24	3.90	106	4.98	117	92	39	0	0	3	0	
SD HURON	65	40	74	33	53	1	0.26	-0.31	0.19	4.42	113	5.37	108	91	40	0	0	4	0	
SD RAPID CITY	67	33	80	28	50	0	0.03	-0.50	0.03	1.65	54	2.29	58	69	26	0	3	1	0	
SD SIOUX FALLS	64	36	72	30	50	-3	0.22	-0.43	0.18	7.71	178	8.88	162	92	44	0	2	2	0	
TN BRISTOL	66	48	73	45	57	-2	1.11	0.31	0.68	11.10	153	18.36	132	95	62	0	0	4	1	
TN CHATTANOOGA	70	54	77	50	62	-1	1.08	0.12	0.64	15.12	142	27.68	136	89	58	0	0	4	1	
TN KNOXVILLE	69	53	75	50	61	0	1.48	0.63	0.68	16.67	184	24.00	139	95	60	0	0	5	1	
TN MEMPHIS	72	58	78	52	65	-2	5.23	3.99	2.54	14.44	129	26.71	138	92	62	0	0	4	2	
TN NASHVILLE	69	54	78	51	62	-1	1.89	0.83	1.02	9.85	101	17.44	103	90	66	0	0	6	1	
TX ABILENE	80	50	94	38	65	-4	0.35	-0.20	0.35	3.54	104	5.39	98	82	31	2	0	1	0	
TX AMARILLO	66	40	80	34	53	-8	0.75	0.41	0.52	3.43	167	6.19	196	85	39	0	0	3	1	
TX AUSTIN	81	58	92	53	70	-3	0.28	-0.58	0.28	3.85	82	9.78	114	81	46	1	0	2	0	
TX BEAUMONT	79	60	86	50	70	-2	0.73	-0.30	0.49	7.14	101	21.00	138	94	59	0	0	3	0	
TX BROWNSVILLE	84	66	90	59	75	-2	0.00	-0.53	0.00	0.67	30	2.76	57	91	57	1	0	0	0	
TX CORPUS CHRISTI	86	61	96	51	73	-2	0.03	-0.64	0.03	2.52	89	6.24	96	89	46	2	0	1	0	
TX DEL RIO	90	61	103	52	78	1	0.00	-0.51	0.00	1.07	38	1.46	34	64	24	4	0	0	0	
TX EL PASO	77	48	89	39	62	-5	0.04	-0.01	0.04	0.22	41	0.42	31	54	20	0	0	1	0	
TX FORT WORTH	76	53	89	46	64	-4	0.53	-0.46	0.53	5.70	87	13.99	132	88	45	0	0	1	1	
TX GALVESTON	77	65	79	58	71	-1	0.02	-0.64	0.01	2.26	47	12.73	123	-	-	0	0	2	0	
TX HOUSTON	81	56	89	48	69	-3	0.84	-0.10	0.82	3.62	56	13.82	109	94	50	0	0	2	1	
TX LUBBOCK	74	42	85	37	58	-7	0.37	0.02	0.37	1.73	89	3.59	120	82	28	0	0	1	0	
TX MIDLAND	81	48	96	38	64	-5	0.00	-0.31	0.00	0.42	27	1.16	46	65	19	2	0	0	0	
TX SAN ANGELO	85	53	99	38	69	-2	0.00	-0.54	0.00	1.86	68	3.08	67	67	18	3	0	0	0	
TX SAN ANTONIO	84	58	94	50	71	-1	0.02	-0.75	0.02	2.90	68	9.50	122	85	35	2	0	1	0	
TX VICTORIA	81	58	91	49	70	-4	0.31	-0.46	0.24	2.83	68	7.83	94	96	52	1	0	3	0	
TX WACO	78	53	89	45	66	-5	0.50	-0.41	0.47	3.70	84	13.86	145	93	48	0	0	3	0	
TX WICHITA FALLS	71	48	84	43	60	-7	0.84	0.12	0.94	5.47	100	10.23	129	91	53	0	0	1	1	
UT SALT LAKE CITY	70	45	80	39	57	4	0.00	-0.48	0.00	5.04	121	11.56	177	70	28	0	0	0	0	
VT BURLINGTON	65	37	81	26	51	1	0.22	-0.46	0.22	5.82	112	12.81	149	78	34	0	2	1	0	
VA LYNCHBURG	67	43	78	30	55	-4	2.27	1.49	1.56	12.81	168	26.74	211	97	52	0	1	3	2	
VA NORFOLK	69	51	80	40	60	-1	0.69	-0.07	0.65	9.15	131	23.38	165	88	52	0	0	2	1	
VA RICHMOND	69	49	80	37	59	-2	0.39	-0.36	0.36	11.44	168	24.06	182	89	47	0	0	2	0	
VA ROANOKE	69	46	79	32	58	-2	1.01	0.18	0.90	10.75	154	26.72	211	88	47	0	1	3	1	
VA WASH/DULLES	70	46	79	34	58	1	1.73	0.83	0.78	10.06	155	21.30	177	95	49	0	0	4	2	
WA HANFORD	84	50	93	40	67	-	0.00	-0.13	0.00	0.57	63	2.96	128	63	23	2	0	0	0	
WA OLYMPIA	75	44	85	31	60	10	0.17	-0.44	0.12	7.04	84	24.07	108	89	37	0	1	2	0	
WA QUILLAYUTE	70	43	81	35	58	8	0.28	-1.18	0.20	10.38	54	41.30	89	93	50	0	0	2	0	
WA SEATTLE-TACOMA	72	49	81	42	60	9	0.00	-0.44	0.00	4.96	83	15.42	100	82	45	0	0	0	0	
WA SPOKANE	74	45	83	33	60	10	0.00	-0.28	0.00	2.10	76	5.75	92	68	28	0	0	0	0	
WA YAKIMA	80	44	89	33	62	9	0.04	-0.03	0.04	1.20	101	5.00	159	84	29	0	0	1	0	
WV BECKLEY	63	45	73	30	54	-2	1.70	0.85	1.17	9.91	141	19.69	153	91	52	0	1	6	1	
WV CHARLESTON	68	48	76	33	58	-1	2.26	1.44	1.19	9.81	136	17.46	133	97	52	0	0	6	1	
WV ELKINS	65	40	72	27	53	0	1.88	0.88	0.87	9.57	121	16.39	117	98	46	0	3	4	2	
WV HUNTINGTON	67	49	76	39	58	-1	1.54	0.67	0.46	8.93	121	17.54	134	91	50	0	0	6	0	
WI EAU CLAIRE	70	38	82	28	54	3	0.27	-0.50	0.27	7.48	157	11.42	177	74	22	0	2	1	0	
WI GREEN BAY	80	37	87	28	49	-1	0.38	-0.21	0.31	5.89	128	8.90	131	88	48	0	3	2	0	
WI MADISON	80	42	88	30	51	0	1.48	0.79	1.04	10.74	206	14.42	196	90	61	0	2	3	1	
WI MILWAUKEE	82	41	89	34	46	-3	0.77	0.01	0.34	7.73	121	13.52	144	96	71	0	0	5	0	
WY CASPER	65	30	74	25	48	1	0.00	-0.44	0.00	1.52	58	2.57	68	77	22	0	5	0	0	
WY CHEYENNE	58	32	68	26	46	-1	0.02	-0.40	0.02	1.80	71	2.17	66	74	28	0	4	1	0	
WY LANDER	65	37	71	30	51	3	0.01	-0.54	0.01	4.48	132	5.18	117	65	20	0	2	1	0	
WY SHERIDAN	66	34	73	27	50	2	0.00	-0.48	0.00	3.18	112	3.67	67	77	34	0	2	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

April 27 - May 3, 1998

### HIGHLIGHTS

Farmers in the upper Mississippi Valley and across the northern Plains continued planting at a near-record pace, as temperatures remained above average and rainfall was minimal. Farmers in the western Corn Belt and central Plains also made excellent planting progress despite below-normal temperatures. Rainy weather hampered planting

efforts in some parts of the central Plains, most of the Mississippi Delta and eastern Corn Belt, and parts of the Northeast. Planting operations continued in the Mid-Atlantic and eastern Gulf Coast areas, where little or no rain fell. The Western United States was also dry and much warmer, allowing farmers to resume normal planting operations.

**Winter wheat:** Crop development remained slightly ahead of normal nationally, with 24 percent headed, compared with 22 percent normally headed by this date. Fields were rapidly maturing in Central Texas and the Blacklands. Harvest was underway in the Coastal Bend and South Texas regions. In Kansas, the crop had just begun to develop heads. With 3 percent headed, development was slightly behind the 5-year average. The condition of the crop remains mostly good, and better than recent years at this date. However, conditions deteriorated in several States during the week. In the western Great Plains, from Texas to the Canada border, dry soils have begun to stress the crop. Warm, dry weather was also blamed for the decline in the Washington crop condition. In the eastern Corn Belt, the drop in the percentage rated good or excellent was less pronounced. Excessive rainfall kept soils too soggy and caused ponding in parts of Illinois and Indiana.

**Corn:** Dry weather in the western Corn Belt and Plains States allowed planting progress to move ahead of normal for this date. Minnesota farmers planted over half of their intended corn acreage during the week, raising total planted acres to over 80 percent of intended, the most by this date according to records dating to 1956. Farmers in Iowa, Nebraska, and Colorado planted more than one-third of their corn acreage, moving total progress well ahead of normal for those areas. Progress was less advanced in Wisconsin and South Dakota, but was also ahead of normal. Rain limited planting in eastern Kansas, but good progress in the western half of the State allowed progress to remain well ahead of normal for this date. Progress remained well behind normal in the eastern Corn Belt, where frequent showers and isolated thunderstorms kept fields too wet to support machinery.

**Cotton:** Planting fell further behind normal despite good progress in the Southwest. Rain significantly limited

progress in the Mississippi Delta, the Tennessee Valley, and the southern Piedmont and Atlantic Coast areas. Among the Southeastern States, only Alabama and North Carolina were dry enough to make normal planting progress. In the Southwest, temperatures substantially warmed, allowing planting to accelerate, but progress was still considerably behind normal, especially in California. In Texas, emergence and growth were good, but moisture was short. In the Coastal Bend and Rio Grande regions, plants were squaring and soil moisture was especially short.

**Rice:** Planting progress was slowed by rain, but remained well ahead of normal in all major rice-producing States except California. Progress also slowed in Texas and Louisiana as planting approached 100 percent of intended acres. Farmers were flushing fields to improve stands. Emerged fields were rated in mostly good condition. Planting was just starting in California.

**Small grains:** Farmers made rapid progress planting small grains from the Great Lakes States westward to the Pacific Northwest. Spring wheat seeded advanced to 65 percent, more than double the normal rate. Barley planted was also well ahead of normal, at 58 percent of intended acres, compared with 33 percent normally planted by this date. Oats seeded progressed 25 percentage points to 73 percent of intended acres. Normally 42 percent would be planted by this date. Warm weather promoted growth of earlier planted small grains, but rain was needed to germinate more recently planted fields.

**Other crops:** Sorghum planting progress was slow in most of the Southern States, but remained only slightly behind normal nationally due to above-normal progress in Arkansas and South Dakota. Peanut planting continued to be hampered by rain, especially in Georgia, where less than half the normal acreage has been planted.

# Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending May 3, 1998

Winter Wheat Percent Headed				
	May 3 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	89	74	88	71
CA	98	85	99	97
CO	1	0	1	0
GA	93	66	97	93
ID	0	0	0	0
IL	13	1	1	2
IN	12	5	0	2
KS	3	0	5	7
MI	0	0	0	0
MO	27	8	19	11
MT	0	0	0	0
NE	0	0	0	0
NC	82	35	78	62
OH	0	0	0	0
OK	59	31	52	52
OR	0	0	0	0
SD	0	0	0	0
TX	52	39	50	52
WA	2	0	0	0
ALL	24	14	22	22

These 19 States planted 91% of last year's winter wheat acreage.

Cotton Percent Planted				
	May 3 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	49	27	34	44
AZ	75	52	88	86
AR	7	2	7	20
CA	45	25	94	82
GA	24	10	20	38
LA	23	13	13	38
MS	12	5	11	33
MO	5	3	11	9
NM	54	25	64	59
NC	25	9	10	23
OK	7	7	1	3
SC	18	6	21	36
TN	7	3	6	12
TX	23	19	19	22
ALL	24	15	25	32

These 14 States planted 98% of last year's cotton acreage.

Corn Percent Planted				
	May 3 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
CO	51	14	46	38
GA	85	82	95	96
IL	30	7	71	35
IN	10	3	56	23
IA	38	3	46	34
KS	72	55	46	46
KY	36	32	43	41
MI	23	5	26	9
MN	81	26	52	26
MO	42	30	40	40
NE	43	12	27	26
NC	67	51	89	82
OH	10	4	66	28
PA	24	7	18	13
SD	23	8	4	7
TX	83	74	67	79
WI	26	4	16	10
ALL	39	15	46	30

These 17 States planted 90% of last year's corn acreage.

Corn Percent Emerged				
	May 3 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
CO	0	NA	NA	NA
GA	75	NA	NA	NA
IL	1	NA	NA	NA
IN	0	NA	NA	NA
IA	0	NA	NA	NA
KS	13	NA	NA	NA
KY	18	NA	NA	NA
MI	0	NA	NA	NA
MN	1	NA	NA	NA
MO	0	NA	NA	NA
NE	0	NA	NA	NA
NC	56	NA	NA	NA
OH	1	NA	NA	NA
PA	1	NA	NA	NA
SD	3	NA	NA	NA
TX	65	NA	NA	NA
WI	0	NA	NA	NA
ALL	4	NA	NA	NA

These 17 States planted 90% of last year's corn acreage.

Sorghum Percent Planted				
	May 3 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	60	47	56	48
CO	0	0	0	1
IL	0	0	3	1
KS	3	0	5	2
LA	34	31	55	42
MS	50	44	58	56
MO	3	2	4	6
NE	0	0	0	0
NM	0	0	1	3
OK	5	4	6	7
SD	7	0	0	2
TX	53	50	51	61
ALL	21	18	21	23

These 12 States planted 99% of last year's sorghum acreage.

Oats Percent Planted				
	May 3 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
IA	79	48	92	77
MI	80	64	73	44
MN	84	56	55	48
NE	98	79	85	84
ND	40	16	1	12
OH	83	72	91	65
PA	77	63	73	59
SD	87	68	12	36
WI	84	46	66	40
ALL	73	48	47	42

These 9 States planted 57% of last year's oat acreage.

Peanuts Percent Planted				
	May 3 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	20	7	17	29
FL	19	9	18	NA
GA	19	5	23	40
NC	5	3	7	10
OK	14	6	14	6
SC	16	2	32	40
TX	8	1	6	5
VA	13	4	18	21
ALL	15	4	16	24

These 8 States planted 99% of last year's peanut acreage.

# Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending May 3, 1998

## Barley Percent Planted

	May 3 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	71	47	50	62
MN	65	30	7	19
MT	66	38	25	42
ND	40	15	2	15
SD	85	67	4	31
WA	91	77	68	67
ALL	58	33	20	33
These 6 States planted 83% of last year's barley acreage.				

## Spring Wheat Percent Planted

	May 3 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	83	65	70	73
MN	71	33	9	24
MT	71	40	26	43
ND	53	23	3	16
SD	89	70	11	42
ALL	65	36	12	29
These 5 States planted 96% of last year's spring wheat acreage.				

## Rice Percent Planted

	May 3 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	65	55	58	53
CA	1	0	32	14
LA	91	85	78	75
MS	77	64	83	70
TX	92	82	48	69
ALL	62	54	58	53
These 5 States planted 96% of last year's rice acreage.				

## Winter Wheat Crop Condition by Percent

	VP	P	F	G	EX
AR	0	6	30	53	11
CA	0	0	20	45	35
CO	3	8	25	47	17
GA	2	6	31	53	8
ID	0	1	4	65	30
IL	1	3	19	63	14
IN	1	3	14	58	26
KS	0	3	19	58	20
MI	1	4	17	57	21
MO	1	10	32	48	9
MT	7	9	37	44	3
NE	1	8	30	51	10
NC	1	8	27	58	6
OH	0	2	15	51	32
OK	0	4	19	71	6
OR	0	0	4	45	51
SD	0	0	9	61	30
TX	3	18	41	35	3
WA	3	3	13	60	21
ALL	1	6	23	55	15
Prev Wk	1	4	20	57	18
Prev Yr	5	12	33	42	8

## Pasture and Range Crop Condition by Percent Week Ending May 3, 1998

	VP	P	F	G	EX		VP	P	F	G	EX
AL	0	4	22	59	15	NH	0	5	33	48	14
AZ	0	11	34	37	18	NJ	0	0	0	60	40
AR	0	3	28	61	8	NM	2	8	37	51	2
CA	0	0	15	30	55	NY	0	8	17	66	9
CO	4	8	41	43	4	NC	0	4	18	66	12
CT	0	0	0	50	50	ND	2	14	38	42	4
DE	0	0	8	85	7	OH	0	2	12	52	34
FL	5	5	45	45	0	OK	0	3	36	57	4
GA	0	3	22	63	12	OR	0	0	13	68	19
ID	0	1	5	66	28	PA	1	4	19	58	18
IL	0	2	11	66	21	RI	0	0	0	0	100
IN	0	1	19	55	25	SC	0	1	17	61	21
IA	1	6	22	56	15	SD	1	2	15	65	17
KS	0	4	19	62	15	TN	0	3	18	59	20
KY	1	2	23	58	16	TX	4	16	43	32	5
LA	0	4	29	60	7	UT	0	0	27	60	13
ME	0	0	25	75	0	VT	0	0	4	96	0
MD	1	2	10	58	29	VA	0	1	9	66	24
MA	0	0	22	48	30	WA	0	5	5	50	40
MI	4	4	24	52	16	WV	0	3	23	62	12
MN	1	10	33	49	7	WI	1	8	21	51	19
MS	1	6	24	55	14	WY	0	0	20	64	16
MO	0	2	19	67	12	ALL	1	6	25	53	15
MT	2	9	34	50	5						
NE	0	6	24	59	11	Prev Wk	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
NV	0	0	18	57	25	Prev Yr	2	9	35	47	7

VP - Very Poor

P - Poor

F - Fair

G - Good

EX - Excellent

## 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/waobl/jawf>.*

**ALABAMA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil 1% very short, 14% short, 65% adequate, 20% surplus. Cool temperatures hampered planting, crop growth in some areas. Land preparation for planting soybeans, peanuts neared completion. Acreage prepared 86%, 86% 1997, 87% avg. Corn planted 87%, 90% 1997, 84% avg. Wheat headed 85%, 90% 1997, 73% avg.; 2% poor, 28% fair, 60% good, 10% excellent. Livestock 2% poor, 26% fair, 62% good, 10% excellent. Strawberry harvest got underway in several counties in southern areas.

**ALASKA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4. Fieldwork progress ranged from on schedule to 14 days ahead. Barley seeding in Delta area scheduled to begin May 5. Local hay supplies were 30% short, 70% adequate. Livestock in good to excellent shape. Topsoil 50% short, 45% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil 50% short, 50% adequate.

**ARIZONA:** Pasture condition was mixed this month with some areas improving but most declining. High elevation pastures were mainly in fair to good conditions. Lower elevations were primarily in good condition, while mid-elevation pastures ranged between fair, good condition. Livestock were reported in fair to good condition. Soil moisture was adequate in most areas of the State, while stock water was also adequate. Insect damage was minimal. Northern grazing conditions in low-elevation pastures were mainly in fair to good condition, while high-, mid-elevation pastures were mixed. Cattle were reported in fair condition. Stock water supplies were short to adequate, soil moisture was adequate. Insect damage was light. Conditions in central areas have improved over last month. Pockets have received sufficient moisture, while other areas have received little. Low- to mid-level elevations were mostly in excellent condition. There were no reports from high elevations. Livestock conditions were good; stock water, soil moisture were both adequate. Insect damage was light. Southern grazing conditions in the low-elevation pastures were mostly fair; mid- to high-elevation pastures were mostly good. Livestock conditions were fair to good. Stock water, soil moisture were both adequate. Insect damage was minimal Cotton planting increased last week but is still about 1 week behind last year. Cotton condition was reported as 6% poor, 24% fair, 54% good, 16% excellent. Alfalfa harvest slowed last week. Harvest activity was reported as 39% not being harvested, 9% light, 6% moderate, 46% active. Alfalfa condition improved last week. Condition was reported as 3% poor, 8% fair, 54% good, and 35% excellent. Small grains continued to progress from emerged toward headed. As of May 3, 99% was reported as headed. This compares with 99% 1997, 99% avg. Small grain condition was reported as 3% poor, 11% fair, 43% good, 43% excellent. Central, western area growers continued to harvest vegetables last week. Central area growers began harvesting the spring crop of processed potatoes last week. Other vegetables shipped from central areas included artichokes, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cilantro, iceberg, romaine lettuce, and parsley. The major vegetables harvested by western growers included broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, salad savoy, and spinach. Lettuce shipments continued to include Boston, iceberg, leaf and romaine lettuce. Central, western areas harvested citrus in reduced quantities last week. Central area groves shipped grapefruit and a small volume of Valencias, while western areas shipped Valencias, lemons.

**ARKANSAS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4. Soil moisture 11% short, 68% adequate, 21% surplus. Main farming activities: Planting soybeans, sorghum, rice, flushing rice fields to obtain stands, scouting for disease in wheat, fertilizing pastures. Soybean, sorghum, rice were being planted. Several counties reported herbicide applications to rice, corn. Fertilizer applications to corn continued in some counties. Wheat fields were scouted, some were treated with fungicides, pesticides. Hay was being harvested in several counties. Tomatoes were being staked, tied, pruned. Peaches were sprayed for disease and/or pests. Livestock good condition statewide. Bangs vaccinations, deworming,

breeding were main cattle activities during the week. Poultry houses continued to be cleaned. Alfalfa 2% poor, 12% fair, 81% good, 5% excellent. Other hay 1% poor, 24% fair, 65% good, 10% excellent. Range, pasture feed 3% poor, 28% fair, 61% good, 8% excellent.

**CALIFORNIA:** Field activities were in full swing under favorable conditions for most of the week. Late-week rainfall caused minor delays in some areas. Wheat was heading and maturing rapidly in most fields. Aerial weed treatments were still ongoing in higher elevation wheat fields. Some wheat, barley, oat fields were cut for silage in the coastal valleys and San Joaquin Valley. Durum wheat grain harvest was underway in the Imperial Valley. Corn, cotton, black eye beans and safflower were being planted in the Sacramento, San Joaquin Valleys. Emerging cotton fields were growing well, some were being hand-weeded. Old crop sugar beets were harvested, while new crop fields were hand-weeded. Sacramento Valley rice fields were burned and flooded in preparation for planting. A few rice fields were planted in Sutter County. Seed alfalfa was mowed and baled to promote better seed production. Alfalfa, small grains, Sudan grass, winter forages were cut for hay or green chopped. Grape growers were thinning shoots and leaves, applying sulfur for mildew control, irrigating vines, spraying or discing weeds. Thinning was also active in apples, apricots, plums, nectarines, peaches. Almond orchards were sprayed with herbicides. Walnuts were treated for codling moth. Navel orange crop harvest was winding down; late varieties were being picked. Valencia orange harvest gathered momentum. Lemons, grapefruit were also picked. Vegetable fieldwork increased as fields dried. Broccoli, cauliflower were harvested in the coastal valleys and San Joaquin Valley. Broccoli harvest was completed in Stanislaus County. Head, leaf lettuce harvest was in full swing in central counties. Late spring lettuce was weeded, thinned and sprayed to control mildew, loopers and aphids. Some romaine lettuce fields in the Gilroy-Hollister area were not harvested because of poor quality. Asparagus harvesting continued. Tomatoes were growing nicely in the southern counties, were transplanted in the Sacramento Valley. Garlic, onions were irrigated, fertilized in Fresno County. Spring melon harvest progressed in the Imperial, Coachella Valleys. Warm weather enhanced the development of zucchini. Sweet corn planting progressed in the San Joaquin, Sacramento Valleys. Previously planted fields were cultivated for weed control, irrigated. Desert area sweet corn was being harvested. Ground preparation for potato planting was underway in Siskiyou County. Onions were planted in the Tulelake-Butte Valley area and harvested in the Imperial-Coachella Valley. Spinach was harvested in the San Joaquin Valley. Other crops harvested included potatoes, cilantro, parsley, mushrooms, carrots, cabbage, radishes. Pasture, rangeland across the State remained in excellent condition. Most counties reported rangeland conditions were above normal for this time of year. In the northern areas, at higher elevations, grass, other forage species were rapidly growing with warm weather, abundant soil moisture. Pasture, rangeland at the highest elevations were still under snow cover. At lower elevations in the central, southern portions of the State, forage species were rapidly maturing, slowly beginning to dry. Forage was plentiful, excellent quality. Range animals continued to make good weight gains, with calves heavy, cows in very good shape. Sheep were grazing seed alfalfa fields in Fresno County, bees were active in citrus groves.

**COLORADO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 14% very short, 34% short, 49% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil 10% very short, 22% short, 65% adequate, 3% surplus. Warmer temperatures with isolated rain showers prevailed throughout the week. Spring barley 86% seeded, 93% 1997, 69% avg.; 55% emerged, 75% 1997, 43% avg.; 2% poor, 28% fair, 50% good, 20% excellent. Oats 63% seeded, 76% 1997, 61% avg.; 31% emerged, 58% 1997, 35% avg. Dry onions 94% planted, 100% 1997, 86% avg.; 1% poor, 7% fair, 74% good, 18% excellent.

Sugar beets 95% planted, 100% 1997, 94% avg. Summer potatoes 79% planted, 94% 1997, 68% avg.; 7% emerged, 0% 1997, 0% avg. Winter wheat 68% jointed, 58% 1997, 37% avg. Spring wheat 63% planted, 75% 1997, 45% avg.; 32% emerged, 42% 1997, 25% avg. Cows 90% calved, 91% 1997, 90% avg. Ewes 90% lambled, 93% 1997, 90% avg. Livestock in mostly fair to good condition.

**DELAWARE:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.3. Topsoil 49% adequate, 51% surplus. Subsoil 100% adequate. Winter wheat 13% fair, 74% good, 13% excellent; 16% headed, 8% 1997, 5% avg. Corn for grain 26% planted, 30% 1997, 30% avg.; beginning to emerge. Barley 18% fair, 64% good, 18% excellent; 88% headed, 65% 1997, 64% avg. Potatoes 88% planted, 81% 1997, 83% avg. Green peas 81% planted, 93% 1997, 85% avg. Sweet corn 29% planted, 27% 1997, 30% avg. Cucumbers 13% planted, 6% 1997, 3% avg. Cantaloupes 25% planted, 14% 1997, 6% avg. Snap beans 14% planted, 4% 1997, 4% avg. Tomatoes 11% planted, 4% 1997, 6% avg. Watermelons 30% planted, 14% 1997, 5% avg. Apples 91% bloomed, 84% 1997, 65% avg. Strawberries 67% bloomed, 54% 1997, 53% avg. Hay supplies 25% short, 75% adequate. Pasture feed 8% fair, 85% good, 7% excellent. Activities: Corn planting very active, cool, wet weather continues to slow growth of recent plantings. Small grain maturity continues ahead of 5-year average.

**FLORIDA:** Scattered rains arrived mid-week, with major stations recording from traces to over 1.50 in. Most temperatures averaged within a degree of normal. Daytime highs mostly 70's, 80's. Nighttime lows mostly 60's, 70's, with Daytona Beach, Jacksonville, Orlando, Valparaiso recording at least one low in the 50's. Topsoil moisture throughout the State mostly short to adequate, with scattered areas very short moisture. Sugarcane growth normal. Cool night temperatures delaying development of corn, tobacco. Dry soil conditions starting to delay cotton, peanut planting. Field preparation for spring-planted crops active. Peanuts planted 19%. Harvesting round tomato varieties began, Palmetto-Ruskin. Dade County tomato harvest nears end. Major vegetables shipped during week include snap beans, blueberries, cabbage, carrots, celery, sweet corn, cucumbers, eggplant, endive, escarole, lettuce, okra, parsley, peppers, potatoes, radishes, squash, strawberries, tomatoes, watermelons. This week hot, windy, dry, growers irrigating. Trees shedding excessive fruit, new growth limited. Valencia orange harvest active, most fruit going to processors. Grapefruit movement slowing. Temple, Honey tangerine harvests about over. Caretakers cutting cover crops, herbiciding, spraying. Pasture feed very poor 5%, poor 5%, fair 40%, good 50%. Cattle very poor 5%, fair 35%, good 60%. Pastures throughout most of State fair to good condition, but rain needed. Central area: permanent pasture condition declining due to dry conditions, with some supplemental feeding still active. However, most ponds still very high. Southwest: only few dry areas. Cattle condition fair to good statewide.

**GEORGIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.5. Soil moisture 1% very short, 7% short, 49% adequate, 43% surplus. Corn 6% poor, 29% fair, 53% good, 12% excellent. Cotton 2% very poor, 7% poor, 46% fair, 39% good, 6% excellent. Hay 4% poor, 24% fair, 63% good, 9% excellent. Peanuts 5% poor, 33% fair, 57% good, 5% excellent. Sorghum 1% poor, 24% fair, 70% good, 5% excellent; 12% planted, 11% 1997, 25% avg. Soybeans 2% planted, 2% 1997, 4% avg. Tobacco 2% poor, 31% fair, 49% good, 18% excellent; 80% transplanted, 100% 1997, 99% avg. Wheat 100% jointing, 100% 1997, 100% avg.; 99% boot, 99% 1997, 99% avg. Onions 16% poor, 24% fair, 58% good, 2% excellent; 25% harvested, 61% 1997, 29% avg. Watermelons 1% very poor, 11% poor, 35% fair, 41% good, 12% excellent; 86% planted, 95% 1997, 94% avg. Apples 5% fair, 80% good, 15% excellent; 99% blooming, 99% 1997, 99% avg. Peaches 17% very poor, 18% poor, 28% fair, 24% good, 13% excellent; 0% harvested, 2% 1997, 2% avg. Wet weather still hindering field activities. Rainfall mainly northern two-thirds of the State, varied. Rain in the extreme south helpful. Cool temperatures slowing most crop progress. Wet soils, rains causing yellowing, leaching of fertilizers in corn. Wheat development accelerated, now comparable with normal. Cool soil temperatures hampering peanut, cotton planting. Break in rain, warmer soil temperatures needed. Rain beneficial to peanuts. Some replanting and spraying of tobacco. Onion harvest active, getting close to normal.

Hay harvesting delayed. Activities: Planting corn, cotton, peanuts, sorghum. Preparing land, applying herbicides, spraying for diseases.

**HAWAII:** Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Weather mixed effect on agriculture. Showers windward, higher elevations helped. Cool temperatures, occasionally gusty winds, partly cloudy skies slowed crop progress. Banana harvest active, increased in some areas. Papaya progress variable. Major orchards made improve growth. Crop progress in other areas slowed by cool temperatures. Watermelon harvest expected to increase. Plantings made good progress. Head cabbage harvest heavy, good yield, light insect damage. Cucumber harvest increased, some wind damage. Tomato harvest active, winds hampered crop progress. Onion harvest on Maui active. Good yields, bulb sizes.

**IDAHO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Topsoil 9% surplus, 85% adequate, 6% short. Calving is 99% complete, lambing 98%. Above-normal temperatures, lack of precipitation speeded planting, emergence. Apples in full-bloom, other stone fruits developing normally. Hay, roughage supply 16% surplus, 77% adequate, 7% short. Irrigation supply 50% excellent, 50% good. Dry peas planted 78%, 1997 24%, 28% avg.; emerged 21%, 16% 1997, 16% avg. Lentils planted 40%, 14% 1997, 19% avg.; 5% emerged, 4% 1997, 9% avg. Oats planted 65%, 46% 1997, 48% avg.; 30% emerged, 20% 1997, 20% avg. Onions planted 100%, 100% 1997, 98% avg.; 87% emerged, 93% 1997, 66% avg. Corn 52% planted, 21% 1997, 17% avg. Potatoes 34% planted, 27% 1997, 33% avg. Barley 32% emerged, 28% 1997, 33% avg.; 3% jointed. Spring wheat 45% emerged, 45% 1997, 45% avg.; 5% jointed. Winter wheat 57% jointed; 6% booting. Sugar beets 91% planted, 97% 1997, 94% avg.; 42% emerged, 46% 1997, 38% avg. Activities: Planting potatoes, small grains, dry peas, lentils, onions, corn, sugar beets, field preparation, fertilizing, weed control, irrigation, branding calves, fencing, moving livestock to spring pasture.

**ILLINOIS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 2.0. Topsoil 34% adequate, 66% surplus. Early-week corn planting was significant in the central portion of the State last week. Farmers in the northernmost, southernmost districts have only around 10 percent of their corn planted, made little progress last week. All field operations across the State were shut down by mid-week as showers and thunderstorms erupted, dumping two to three times the normal rainfall nearly everywhere. Spotty best describes the planting activity this year as some areas have farmers finished with corn planting, starting soybean planting, while others are yet to plant their first row of corn. Some concerns were expressed regarding the excessive moisture to this point on the wheat crop. Activities were limited to early in the week, included planting of corn, soybeans, oats, applying fertilizer, herbicides, waiting for the rains to go away! Oats 88% planted, 98% 1997, 79% avg. Alfalfa hay 1% poor, 10% fair, 68% good, 21% excellent. Alfalfa 0% 1st cut, 0% 1997, 0% avg. Soybeans planted 1%, 12% 1997, 3% avg.; emerged 0%. Red clover 3% poor, 17% fair, 64% good, 16% excellent.

**INDIANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 1.6. Topsoil 27% adequate, 73% surplus. Subsoil 1% short, 46% adequate, 53% surplus. Continued rainfall on already saturated soil prevented most farmers from completing any field activities. Corn planting is currently about 10 days behind normal. Winter wheat 96% jointed, 72% 1997, 57% avg. Some yellowing of wheat has occurred in the wettest areas, however no major damage has been reported. Range, pasture feed 1% poor, 19% fair, 55% good, 25% excellent. Activities: Planting corn; soybeans, spreading fertilizer, applying burn-down herbicide, field preparation, caring for livestock.

**IOWA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.8. Topsoil short 1%, adequate 64%, surplus 35%. Subsoil short 2%, adequate 64%, surplus 34%. Drier weather in many areas of the State allowed farmers to make progress in the fields. However, east-central, south-central, southeastern area producers still being kept out of their fields by rain. 1998 row crops primary seedbed preparation completed (includes fall tillage) 71%, 79% 1997, 68% avg.; fertilizer application completed (includes fall application) 77%, 85% 1997, 73% avg. Corn planted 38%, 46% 1997, 34% avg. Oats planted 79%, 92% 1997, 77% avg. Oats

emerged 27%, 43% 1997, 42% avg. Winter wheat 6% poor, 34% fair, 50% good, 10% excellent. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 6% poor, 22% fair, 56% good, 15% excellent. Feedlots still wet, muddy; some cows, calves being moved to pasture. Incidents of scours still present.

**KANSAS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 2.0. Topsoil 8% short, 62% adequate, 30% surplus. Subsoil 4% short, 78% adequate, 18% surplus. Wheat jointing 94%, 85% 1997, 82% avg. Insect, disease infestations were light, with reports of army cutworm, wheat streak mosaic, tanspot, speckled leaf blotch. Some areas in the western-third of the State could use a good rain. Major field activities were seedbed preparation, planting fall crops. Fieldwork was slowed in the eastern two-thirds of the State due to spring showers. Pasture feed 4% poor, 19% fair, 62% good, 15% excellent. Major livestock activities, moving cattle to summer pasture.

**KENTUCKY:** Days suitable for fieldwork 1.2. Topsoil 17% adequate, 83% surplus. Subsoil 29% adequate, 71% surplus. Rainfall across the State limited farm activities to barn maintenance, machinery preparation, purchasing supplies. Few farmers were able to plant on some well-drained soils. Tobacco plant size in beds 55% less than 2 in., 30% 2 to 4 in. and 15% larger than 4 in. Less than 1% of the burley tobacco acreage set. Dark type tobacco setting has just begun. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 9% poor, 37% fair, 43% good, 10% excellent. About 54% of the wheat crop headed or heading. Alfalfa weevil varies from non-existent on some eastern area farms to moderate infestation on some western area farms. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 2% poor, 23% fair, 58% good, 16% excellent. Hay 2% poor, 25% fair, 58% good, 15% excellent.

**LOUISIANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.5. Soil moisture 1% very short, 5% short, 61% adequate, 33% surplus. Corn 4% poor, 17% fair, 71% good, 8% excellent; 100% emerged, 98% 1997, 94% avg. Cotton 9% emerged, 5% 1997, 20% avg. Cool wet weather has delayed come cotton planting. Hay 15% first cutting, 11% 1997, 12% avg. Rice 3% poor, 28% fair, 62% good, 7% excellent; 79% emerged, 62% 1997, 61% avg. Rice growers continue planting, fertilizing, applying herbicides. Sorghum 27% emerged, 39% 1997, 30% avg. Soybeans 27% planted, 11% 1997, 8% avg.; 17% emerged, 5% 1997, 3% avg. Spring plowing 97% plowing, 80% 1997, 87% avg. Sugarcane 3% poor, 18% fair, 55% good, 24% excellent. Sweet potatoes 2% planted, 3% 1997, 3% avg. Wheat 1% very poor, 7% poor, 32% fair, 56% good, 4% excellent; 100% headed, 99% 1997, 94% avg.; 61% turning color, 34% 1997, 29% avg. Livestock 5% poor, 28% fair, 58% good, 9% excellent. Vegetables 6% poor, 34% fair, 54% good, 6% excellent.

**MARYLAND:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.9. Subsoil 2% short, 88% adequate, 10% surplus. Topsoil 5% short, 77% adequate, 18% surplus. Winter wheat 2% very poor, 5% poor, 19% fair, 59% good, 15% excellent; 20% headed, 16% 1997, 12% avg. Barley 3% very poor, 5% poor, 13% fair, 54% good, 25% excellent; 93% headed, 55% 1997, 60% avg. Rye 2% poor, 10% fair, 69% good, 19% excellent; 70% headed, 56% 1997, 44% avg. Field corn 41% planted, 32% 1997, 32% avg. Sweet corn 33% planted, 33% 1997, 31% avg. Green peas 88% planted, 91% 1997, 81% avg. Tomatoes 45% planted, 54% 1997, 47% avg. Cantaloupes 16% planted, 36% 1997, 34% avg. Watermelons 15% planted, 14% 1997, 22% avg. Snap beans 10% planted, 8% 1997, 29% avg. Apples 94% bloomed, 66% 1997, 57% avg. Strawberries 65% bloomed, 57% 1997, 54% avg. Pasture 1% very poor, 2% poor, 10% fair, 58% good, 29% excellent. Hay supplies 28% very short, 24% short, 56% adequate. Activities: Lots of field preparation work, corn planting continued, cool weather continued to slow growth of recent plantings. Small grain maturity continues well ahead of 5 year average.

**MICHIGAN:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil 3% very short, 13% short, 64% adequate, 20% surplus. Subsoil 2% very short, 14% short, 71% adequate, 13% surplus. Barley planted 80%, 68% 1997, 30% avg. Potatoes planted 56%, 51% 1997, 18% avg. Sugarbeet planting was completed. Asparagus harvested 6%, 1% 1997, 1% avg. Frost, freezes occurred on 27th, 28th nights, when fruit bud damage occurred in low-lying area, areas not protected by wind. Rain arrived on the 1st in the Lower Peninsula, bringing planting to a halt. Soil

temperatures have been about 3 weeks ahead of normal, stimulating earlier weed as well as crop growth. Nitrogen applications have lagged behind plant growth, due to the warm weather, an advanced spring. Carrot, celery, cucumber, onion, sweet corn were planted. Asparagus harvest continued in the southwest, west-central regions. Apples were in full bloom across south, open cluster in north. Concord grapes had 1- to 6-inch shoots. Sweet cherries were in petal fall, while tart cherries began blooming in the Northwest. Peaches were at petal fall to shuck split. Plums were in petal fall.

**MINNESOTA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.4. Topsoil 5% very short, 26% short, 67% adequate, 2% surplus. Corn 92% ground prepared, 69% 1997, 40% avg.; 81% planted, 52% 1997, 26% avg. Soybeans 44% ground prepared, 20% 1997, 9% avg.; 15% planted, 3% 1997, 2% avg. Spring wheat 71% planted, 9% 1997, 24% avg.; 19% emerged, 1% 1997, 4% avg. Oats 84% planted, 55% 1997, 48% avg.; 35% emerged, 8% 1997, 10% avg. Barley 65% planted, 7% 1997, 19% avg.; 13% emerged, 1% 1997, 2% avg. Sugar beets 97% planted, 27% 1997, 29% avg. Green peas 55% planted, 35% 1997, 27% avg. Potatoes 52% planted, 25% 1997, 16% avg. Sweet corn 21% planted, 10% 1997, 7% avg. Dry edible beans 11% planted, 1% 1997, 1% avg. Flax 12% planted, 0% 1997, 1% avg. Winter wheat 2% poor, 14% fair, 76% good, 8% excellent. Alfalfa 4% poor, 23% fair, 58% good, 15% excellent. Rye 1% poor, 31% fair, 54% good, 14% excellent. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 10% poor, 33% fair, 49% good, 7% excellent. With little precipitation for the last 2 weeks over the majority of the State, spring fieldwork has been rapidly progressing. This is the greatest percentage of corn planted this early in the season in records dating from 1956. Since it is still early for planting soybeans, along with the decrease in topsoil moisture conditions, some farmers have held back on starting to plant soybeans. Much of the State would welcome some moisture since the average weekly precipitation for the State has been below normal since the first week in April. At the same time, temperatures have been above normal since the middle of March.

**MISSISSIPPI:** Days suitable for fieldwork 2.0. Soil moisture 1% short, 43% adequate, 56% surplus. Corn 84% planted, 98% 1997, 87% avg.; 77% emerged, 87% 1997, 72% avg.; 1% very poor, 5% poor, 27% fair, 56% good, 11% excellent. Rice 77% planted, 83% 1997, 70% avg.; 42% emerged, 35% 1997, 45% avg.; 1% very poor, 2% poor, 32% fair, 59% good, 6% excellent. Soybeans 28% planted, 23% 1997, 20% avg.; 17% emerged, NA% 1997, NA avg. Peanuts 3% planted, 8% 1997, 40% avg. Sweet potatoes 1% planted, 10% 1997, 10% avg. Hay 12% harvested (cool season), NA 1997, NA avg. Wheat 100% jointing, 100% 1997, 99% avg.; 73% heading, 98% 1997, 84% avg.; 2% very poor, 5% poor, 35% fair, 47% good, 11% excellent. Watermelons 37% planted, 83% 1997, 77% avg.; 4% poor, 42% fair, 49% good, 5% excellent. Blueberries 4% very poor, 10% poor, 27% fair, 46% good, 13% excellent. Cattle 4% poor, 23% fair, 57% good, 16% excellent. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 6% poor, 24% fair, 55% good, 14% excellent. Activities: Rainfall delayed fieldwork across the State. Farmers were busy planting field crops, where conditions allowed.

**MISSOURI:** Days suitable for fieldwork 1.6. Topsoil 46% adequate, 54% surplus. Wet weather moved across the State for the majority of the week. Corn planting most advanced in the southwest, southeast districts at about 85%, while north-central, northeast are least advanced at 17%, 6%, respectively. Wheat heading is most advanced in the southeast district at 81%, while heading is barely begun in northern two-thirds of State. Oats sown 77%, 94% 1997, 85% avg. Ground-tilled for spring crops 67%, 72% 1997, 76% avg. Precipitation for the past week's average 2.05 inches, varying from 1.17 in. southwest to 4.58 in. in the southeast district. Precipitation for month of April average 4.19 in., compared with the 30-year average of 3.80 in. Pasture feed 2% poor, 19% fair, 67% good, 12% excellent.

**MONTANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.7. Topsoil 14% very short, 38% short, 47% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil 16% very short, 36% short, 48% adequate. Many counties reporting extremely dry conditions. Oats seeded 42%, 17% 1997, 30% avg.; emerged 12%, 3% 1997, 5% average. Corn seeded 33%, 6% 1997, 22% avg.; emerged 6%, 0% 1997, 2% avg. Sugar beets seeded 96%, 75% 1997, 69% avg.; emerged 49%, 7% 1997, 11% avg. Potatoes planted 9%, 2% 1997, 6%

avg. Dry beans seeded 3%, 0% 1997, 4% avg. Calving is 94% complete, lambing is 82% complete. Cattle moved to summer ranges 26%, sheep moved 23%.

**NEBRASKA:** Day suitable for fieldwork 5.2. Topsoil 2% very short, 13% short, 80% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil 1% very short, 9% short, 86% adequate, 4% surplus. Fieldwork activities were in full swing last week, with corn producers making excellent planting progress. Moisture supplies in northwestern, southwestern counties were beginning to become a concern with wheat fields, pastures needing rain to promote growth. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 8% poor, 30% fair, 51% good, 10% excellent; 29% jointed, 15% 1997, 31% avg.; army cutworms Panhandle, southwestern counties. Corn 43% planted, 27% 1997, 26% avg. Oats 98% seeded, 85% 1997, 84% avg. Alfalfa 2% poor, 20% fair, 64% good, 14% excellent; army cutworms in many portions of the State. Pasture feed 6% poor, 24% fair, 59% good, 11% excellent. Calving 95% complete; some cattle moving to pastures. Activities: Oats seeding, spring tillage, fertilizer application, equipment preparation, grain marketing, livestock care.

**NEVADA:** Warmer, Spring like weather predominant. Soil moisture, irrigation water supplies remained excellent following several months of above-normal precipitation. Water content of the Sierra snowpack much above normal. Insects beginning to appear northwest. Irrigation underway south, getting underway western areas. Spring grain planting advancing. Potato planting underway Humboldt County. Pastures were being dragged, fertilizer applied northeast. Cultivating for weed control underway south. Calving, lambing continued, well along. Branding, shearing continued. Main farm, ranch activities: Field preparation, fertilizing, planting, working livestock, shearing.

**NEW ENGLAND:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Topsoil 14% short, 77% adequate, 9% surplus. Subsoil 24% short, 63% adequate, 13% surplus. Pasture feed 19% fair, 70% good, 11% excellent. Maine potatoes <5% planted, 0% 1997, 0% average; condition good. Massachusetts potatoes 75% planted, 20% 1997, 20% average; condition good. Rhode Island potatoes 0% planted, 30% 1997, 20% average; condition good. Oats in Maine 5% planted, 0% 1997, 0% avg.; condition good. Barley in Maine 5% planted, 0% 1997, 0% average; condition good. Field corn <5% planted, <5% 1997, <5% avg.; condition good. Sweet corn 10% planted, 10% 1997, 10% average; condition good. First cut hay 0% harvested, 0% 1997, 0% average; condition good. Apples early bloom condition good. Peaches full-bloom condition good. Pears full bloom condition good. Strawberries bud stage/dormant condition good. Cranberries dormant condition good. Highbush blueberries bud stage/early bloom condition good. Wild blueberries bud stage condition good. Most crops, field progressed up to 2 weeks ahead of schedule. Pastures greening up. Major farm activities: Plowing, fertilizing fields, also liming well-drained soils; caring for livestock. Application of dormant oils, pre-emergence herbicides to fruit crops.

**NEW JERSEY:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Farmers are busy planting, harvesting, tilling, implementing pest control measures, spreading fertilizer, lime. Farmers are planting snap beans, sweet corn, peppers, squash, pickles, endive, escarole, tomatoes. Harvesting of Swiss chard, asparagus, arugula, radishes, kale, parsley, cilantro, herbs, spinach, leeks occurring. Light, increasing harvest of lettuce (Boston, bibb, romaine) reported. Peaches are nearing the end of the shuck split stage, with some starting to size. Apples are starting to set. Blueberries, strawberries are blooming. Some harvesting of strawberries that are under plastic reported. Wheat, rye are heading up. Farmers are planting field corn. Pastures are in good to excellent condition.

**NEW MEXICO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Topsoil moisture 11% very short 28% short 61% adequate. Week ended with warm to hot weather after experiencing temperatures well below normal the first part of the week. Winter wheat 4% poor, 50% fair, 44% good, 2% excellent; 29% headed, 21% 1997, 25% average. Cotton plantings moved closer to normal as temperatures increased; 54% planted, 64% 1997, 59%

avg.; 55% fair, 41% good, 4% excellent. Corn 20% fair, 74% good, 6% excellent; 54% planted, 49% 1997; 7% emerged. Alfalfa 1st cutting continued in the south as northern, eastern producers prepared to begin cutting the last half of the month. By the end of last week 14% of the first cut was completed statewide, 9% 1997; 1% very poor, 4% poor, 33% fair, 53% good, 9% excellent. Chile producers finished planting last week, the crop condition was 4% poor, 23% fair, 51% good, 22% excellent. Lettuce harvest began last week, 3% harvested; 1% fair, 30% good, 69% excellent. Onion condition was good to excellent. Apples good condition with an average fruit set. Pecans were in good to excellent condition, with an average to heavy nut set. Cattle, sheep were mostly in fair to good condition. Pasture feed, range 2% very poor, 8% poor, 37% fair, 51% good, 2% excellent.

**NEW YORK:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.2. Soil moisture 21% short, 66% adequate, 13% surplus. Pasture feed 8% poor, 17% fair, 66% good, 9% excellent. Wheat 88% good, 12% excellent. Oats 66% seeded, 26% 1997, 25% avg. Corn 10% planted, 4% 1997, 3% avg. Upstate potato planting continued, Long Island potatoes began to emerge. Soybean planting underway. Frost damaged fruit in Lake Ontario region. Hudson Valley apples in full bloom. Grapes in Finger Lakes area at late bud swell to bud burst. Onion planting nearing completion. Rain needed to prevent wind erosion, plant damage. Early strawberry season expected. Snap bean, sweet corn planting gained momentum.

**NORTH CAROLINA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.7. Soil moisture is rated 4% short, 57% adequate, 39% surplus. Rainfall continued, farmers made good progress in planting crops. However, planting progress remains behind the 5-year average for most crops, especially corn, which lags by about 15%. Activities included: Planting corn, cotton, peanuts, sorghum, soybeans; transplanting flue-cured tobacco; tending tobacco beds; tending livestock; repairing equipment.

**NORTH DAKOTA:** Days were suitable for fieldwork 6. Warm, dry weather last week allowed producers to accelerate planting well ahead of the 5-year average, also depleted soil moisture supplies. Increasingly dry conditions have producers worried about the hay crop as slightly more than one-third of the State short to very short on topsoil moisture. Statewide, operators were busy applying anhydrous, spreading granular herbicides, performing tillage operations. Substantial progress was made on both small grain, late season crop planting during the week. Plantings of all crops progressed well ahead of average, last year. Durum wheat was 18% planted, 3% 1997, 8% avg. Canola 33% planted, 2% 1997. Corn 39% planted, 4% 1997, 4% avg. Flaxseed 19% planted, 0% 1997, 1% avg. Potatoes 22% planted, 0% 1997, 4% avg. Soybeans 3% planted, 0% 1997, 0% avg. Sugar beets 96% planted, 20% 1997, 30% avg. Rain is needed on pastures in many areas as cattle are being turned out. Supplemental feeds were fed to 59% of the cattle, 57% of the sheep. Calving 93% complete, while lambing was 89% complete. Hay, roughage supplies 1% very short, 6% short, 90% adequate, 3% surplus. Grain, concentrates were 4% short, 91% adequate, 5% surplus.

**OHIO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 1.9. Topsoil 31% adequate, 69% surplus. Corn planted a little over 8 days behind avg.; emerged tied with avg. Soybeans 3% planted, 27% 1997, 8% avg. Winter wheat 85% jointed, 41% 1997, 33% avg. Oats planted 9 days ahead of avg.; 60% emerged, 52% 1997, 34% avg. Potatoes 31% planted, 47% 1997, 33% avg. Tobacco beds 99% seeded, 97% 1997; 88% plants up. Apples 98% full bloom. Peaches 92% full bloom. Hay 1% poor, 12% fair, 55% good, 32% excellent. Apples 1% poor, 15% fair, 60% good, 24% excellent. Peaches 1% very poor, 2% poor, 17% fair, 57% good, 23% excellent. Activities: Applying fertilizer, manure, anhydrous ammonia, lime; plowing, discing, chiseling; spraying herbicides, fungicides; buying seed, selling 1997 grain; seeding grass, alfalfa; setting tomatoes; pasture clipping; tree trimming; green chopping rye; repairing, preparing machinery for planting; installing, fixing tile; mushroom, turkey hunting; watching the ducks, dodging the rain drops. Northern part, growers are planting sweet corn, vegetables, cabbage. Southern part, growers are planting sweet corn, maintaining tobacco float beds.

**OKLAHOMA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.9. Topsoil 1% very short, 18% short, 71% adequate, 10% surplus. Subsoil 6% short, 91% adequate, 3% surplus. Cool nighttime temperatures combined with early-week rain aided wheat head development. Oats 76% jointing, 80% 1997, 66% avg.; 46% heading, 50% 1997, 26% avg. Corn 80% planted, 31% 1997, 66% avg.; 27% up-to-stand, 19% 1997, 40% avg. Sorghum 47% seedbed prepared, 38% 1997, 47% avg.; 1% up-to-stand, 3% 1997, 3% avg. Soybeans 62% seedbed prepared, 78% 1997, 65% avg.; 22% planted, 18% 1997, 19% avg.; 6% up-to-stand, 9% 1997, 7% avg. Peanuts 81% seedbed prepared, 71% 1997, 72% avg. Cotton 76% seedbed prepared, 72% 1997, 72% avg. Alfalfa hay 38% 1st cutting, 9% 1997, 16% avg. Other hay 6% 1st cutting, 4% 1997, 21% avg. Livestock 1% poor, 19% fair, 77% good, 3% excellent. Feeder steer prices down 75 cents per cwt from preceding week.

**OREGON:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Topsoil 6% short, 87% adequate, 7% surplus. Subsoil 1% short, 90% adequate, 9% surplus. Winter wheat 4% fair, 45% good, 51% excellent. Barley planted 79%, 80% 1997, 69% avg. Spring wheat planted 96%. Activities: Western growers finishing up small grain planting. Field crops looked good, responding to spray, fertilizer applications. Warmer temperatures good for hay. Field preparations underway for grass seed. Mint flaring continued. Eastern growers continued grain seeding continued, barley, spring wheat mostly planted. Alfalfa hay looks good. Sugar beet planting near completion; some replanting being done due to freeze damage. Nurseries over the peak shipping period, planting field, container stock. Greenhouses busy supplying local garden centers with bedding plants. Christmas tree growers checking closer than normal for insects due to mild winter. Onion, potato planting in full swing on east side. Early potatoes emerging in northeast, asparagus harvest peaking. Malheur County reported sweet corn planting started. Willamette Valley growers busy planting sweet corn, green bean, tomatoes for processors. All cool weather fresh market vegetables crops being planted. Onion planting proceeding in North Willamette Valley, rhubarb harvest well advanced. Willamette Valley strawberries blooming, caneberrys nearing bloom. Warm weather optimal for bee pollination, advanced development of fruit already set. Flailing hazelnut orchards underway. Walnuts started to leaf out. Rogue River Valley bosc pears at full bloom, some pear, apple scab beginning to show up. South coast cranberry growth ranged from early shoot to a few hooks, blueberry bloom continued. Hood River Valley pears at petal fall in lower valley, at full bloom in upper valley. Apple bloom trailing off, cherry bloom completed. Milton-Freewater apples in petal fall. Livestock rated mostly good to excellent. Some supplemental feeding continued in eastern, southern counties. Cattle movement to spring pastures, ranges continued. Most calving finished in Willamette Valley. Sheep shearing started in Rogue River Valley. Grass growth good under warmer conditions. Some irrigation started in Klamath Basin, northeast.

**PENNSYLVANIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.5. Soil moisture 2% short, 70% adequate, 28% surplus. Spring plowing 70% complete, 1% ahead of 1997, 26% ahead of avg. Activities included: Planting small grains; spreading lime; plowing fields; harvesting, chopping ryeilage; machinery maintenance; hauling manure; caring for livestock.

**SOUTH CAROLINA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.5. Soil moisture 58% adequate, 42% surplus. Apples 100% blooming, 84% 1997; 100% good. Barley 80% headed, 88% 1997, 1% poor, 25% fair, 31% good, 43% excellent. Cantaloupes 89% planted, 96% 1997, 85% avg.; 15% poor, 20% fair, 58% good, 7% excellent. Corn 95% planted, 99% 1997, 97% avg.; 81% emerged; 2% very poor, 4% poor, 23% fair, 63% good, 8% excellent. Cucumbers 74% planted, 99% 1997, 82% avg.; 2% poor, 48% fair, 38% good, 12% excellent. Hay 32% harvested, 46% 1997, 40% avg.; 2% poor, 28% fair, 59% good, 11% excellent. Oats 89% headed, 97% 1997, 85% avg.; 1% very poor, 3% poor, 30% fair, 52% good, 14% excellent. Peaches 2% very poor, 4% poor, 31% fair, 50% good, 13% excellent. Rye 92% headed, 91% 1997, 21% turned color, 31% 1997, 24% avg.; 1% very poor, 5% poor, 37% fair, 49% good, 8% excellent. Snap beans 70% planted, 83% 1997, 69% avg.; 32% fair, 65% good, 3% excellent. Sorghum 26% planted, 30% 1997, 18% avg.; 10% poor, 35% fair, 35% good, 20% excellent. Tobacco 95% transplanted, 91% 1997, 88% avg.; 1% poor, 26% fair, 70% good, 3% excellent. Tomatoes 82% planted, 91% 1997, 96% avg.; 16% fair, 35%

good, 49% excellent. Watermelons 94% planted, 100% 1997, 88% avg.; 2% very poor, 3% poor, 35% fair, 53% good, 7% excellent. Winter wheat 88% headed, 96% 1997, 84% avg.; 1% very poor, 11% poor, 40% fair, 43% good, 5% excellent.

**SOUTH DAKOTA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.2. Topsoil 1% very short, 8% short, 69% adequate, 22% surplus. Subsoil 6% short, 70% adequate, 24% surplus. Major activities include seeding small grains, tillage for row crop planting, calving, lambing, general maintenance. Small grain seeding is well ahead of the 5-year average. However, 4 out of the last 5 years have been late. Winter wheat 9% fair, 61% good, 30% excellent. Spring wheat 1% poor, 16% fair, 63% good, 20% excellent. Barley 1% poor, 19% fair, 57% good, 23% excellent. Oats 1% poor, 15% fair, 65% good, 19% excellent. Alfalfa 2% poor, 18% fair, 59% good, 21% excellent. Livestock 1% poor, 6% fair, 65% good, 28% excellent. Lambing 83% complete, 76% 1997. calving 83% complete, 80% 1997. Producers have moved 42% of the cattle to pasture. Feed supplies 5% short, 84% adequate, 11% surplus. Stock water supplies 1% short, 79% adequate, 20% surplus. Range, pasture feed 1% very poor, 2% poor, 15% fair, 65% good, 17% excellent.

**TENNESSEE:** Days suitable for fieldwork 2.0. Topsoil 33% adequate, 67% surplus. Subsoil 44% adequate, 56% surplus. Corn 69% planted, 76% 1997, 72% avg.; 46% emerged. Tobacco plants up 97%, 98% 1997, 95% avg.; tobacco 2% transplanted, 4% 1997, 5% avg. Wheat 85% headed, 70% 1997, 58% avg.; 4% very poor, 10% poor, 28% fair, 49% good, 9% excellent. Alfalfa 1st cutting 2%, 4% 1997, 6% avg.; alfalfa 4% poor, 24% fair, 55% good, 17% excellent. Pastures feed 3% poor, 18% fair, 59% good, 20% excellent. Cattle 3% poor, 18% fair, 62% good, 17% excellent. Strawberries 3% poor, 28% fair, 57% good, 12% excellent. Rain, scattered hail received throughout the week slowed various field activities, caused some damage, limited flash flooding. Lack of sunshine, below-normal temperatures promoted disease, growth problems with corn, tobacco. Wheat producers continue to report crop improvement. Pastures responded well to the moisture received.

**TEXAS:** Warm days, cool nights along with scattered showers dominated the weather last week. Early-week rain showers in the High Plains beneficial. However, hail did some damage to young crops. Much-needed rain fell in the North Central early week. Daytime heating helped spawn scattered thunderstorms late week in the Hill Country, parts of Blacklands. Crops need good rain in most of the Central, Southern areas. Livestock conditions remained good across State. Warm-season grasses continued green up most areas.

**Crops:** Corn planting continued in High Plains, emergence slowed by cool soil temperatures. Growth continued good in Blacklands. However, rain needed very soon. Drying winds caused decline in condition in many Central fields. Dryland fields in the South, the Rio Grande Valley beginning to silk, rain very much needed. A shortage of irrigation water in Valley has left many irrigated fields also short of needed moisture. Corn condition 75% normal, 77% 1997. Cotton planting getting underway in Plains. However, cool nighttime temperatures kept progress to minimum until soils warm up. Planting increased in Blacklands. Growth in the early-planted fields good in the Central, along Upper Coast. However, rain will be needed very soon. Plants squaring in the Coastal Bend, Rio Grande Valley, where soil moisture has become short in most fields. 2% squaring, 0% 1997, 1% avg. Grain sorghum planting should begin soon in the Plains as soil temperatures warm up. Planting north-central slowed due to dry soil condition. Planting activity winding down in the Blacklands, with cultivation activity making progress. Fields in the Central doing good so far. However, rain will be needed soon. Grain sorghum 69% normal, 80% 1997. Peanuts planting activity slowly increased north-central. Land preparations continued in the south-central, with some scattered plantings reported. Planting conditions are dry. Rice producers spraying for weeds some fields. Flushing most fields continued to improve stands. Planting activity winding down in most areas. Rice 85% normal, 73% 1997. Soybeans planting getting underway in a few fields in the High Plains. Stands improved during the week in northern Blacklands. Fields along Upper Coast continued to look good, with planting still going on. Small grains fields in most areas need good rain. Many fields in the north-central continued to be grazed out. Fields

beginning to turn color in the Blacklands. Rain would help fill heads. Fields rapidly dried down in the Central as harvest nears. Harvest got underway in the Coastal Bend, south. Other Crops: Sunflowers 20% planted, 8% 1997, 11% avg.

**Commercial Vegetables:** Rio Grande Valley, vegetable harvest continued without delay. A shortage of irrigation water left some crops stressed for moisture. San Antonio- Winter Garden, harvest of onions, carrots, cabbage continued during the week. Melons being irrigated. Potato harvest continued. East, planting continued. Watermelons watered, progress good. High Plains, potatoes, onions continued to make good progress. Trans Pecos, cantaloups up, making good progress. Chilies continued to make good progress. Pecan trees in pollination stage in many Blackland, Central groves last week. Development been good. Zinc applications continued in some areas. Producers scouting for casebearers central, southern areas. Peaches in Hill Country crop continued to make good progress. Trees setting fruit in the East.

**Range and Livestock:** Scattered rain showers helped warm-season grasses in many areas. Cattle continued to show good body condition in most areas. Supplemental feeding activity increased in the South due to declining pasture conditions.

**UTAH:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Topsoil 5% short, 91% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil 3% short, 80% adequate, 17% surplus. Pasture feed, range 27% fair, 60% good, 13% excellent. Cattle/calves 1% poor, 16% fair, 67% good, 16% excellent. Sheep 9% fair, 76% good, 15% excellent. Spring wheat planted 97%, 89% 1997, 90% avg.; emerged 68%, 67% 1997, 64% avg. Barley planted 93%, 89% 1997, 88% avg.; emerged 60%, 68% 1997, 63% avg. Oats planted 58%, 62% 1997, 59% avg.; emerged 26%, 33% 1997, 33% avg. Corn planted 9%, 25% 1997, 25% avg. Potatoes planted 6%, 32% 1997. Alfalfa height 7.5 in., 7 in. 1997. Apples full bloom or past 74%, 18% 1997, 28% avg. Pears full bloom or past 97%, 69% 1997. Sweet cherries full bloom or past 100%, 59% 1997. Tart cherries full bloom or past 89%, 40% 1997. Ewes lambled on range 78%, 71% 1997, 76% avg. Sheep sheared on range 85%, 83% 1997, 81% avg. Major farm, ranch activities: Ground preparation, planting corn, branding or marking livestock.

**VIRGINIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.1. Topsoil 65% adequate, 35% surplus. Subsoil 1% short, 76% adequate, 23% surplus. Corn 42% planted, 34% 1997, 41% avg.; 15% emerged; 2% poor, 30% fair, 58% good, 10% excellent. Cotton 22% planted, 18% 1997, 40% avg. Peanuts 13% planted, 18% 1997, 21% avg. Soybeans 1% planted, 2% 1997, 3% avg. Flue-cured tobacco 4% transplanted, 1% 1997, 8% avg. Tobacco greenhouses 1% fair, 28% good, 71% excellent. Tobacco plantbeds 1% very poor, 11% poor, 42% fair, 32% good, 14% excellent. Winter wheat 4% poor, 26% fair, 58% good, 12% excellent. Barley 3% poor, 28% fair, 54% good, 15% excellent. Summer potatoes 2% poor, 30% fair, 53% good, 15% excellent. Apples 5% fair, 67% good, 28% excellent. Peaches 35% fair, 60% good, 5% excellent. Pasture feed 1% poor, 9% fair, 66% good, 24% excellent. Alfalfa 9% fair, 55% good, 36% excellent. Other hay 16% fair, 56% good, 28% excellent. Open weather earlylast week allowed producers to make progress in the field. By the end of the week, widespread rains brought most field activities to a standstill across most of the State. Light to heavy frost the mornings of the 28th, 29th was reported by some northern, Piedmont localities. Some corn-producing areas are a week or two behind in planting due to extreme wet conditions. Although corn planting progress is ahead of last year, slightly ahead of the 5-year average, producers are usually well over half way complete by this date during a good year. Producers continue to scout, treat small grains for cereal leaf beetles as they anticipate an early crop this season. Producers are optimistic of an abundant hay supply this year based on initial cuttings. Some hay with excellent growth remained unharvested due to rainfall and muddy field conditions. Hay harvest is running up to 2 weeks ahead of schedule in some localities due to rapid growth. Hail damage to tobacco plantbeds was reported in isolated Southwestern localities. Burley producers are also concerned with over maturing and yellowing tobacco plants as they are unable to transplant due to muddy field conditions. Thinning is necessary in apples and some peaches due to heavy fruit set. Other farming activities included vegetable planting in drier localities, land preparation for tobacco, bedding sweet potatoes, fence repairing, working cattle.

**WASHINGTON:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.9. Topsoil 2% very short, 16% short, 80% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil 14% short, 83% adequate, 3% surplus. Warm, dry weather continued to expedite fieldwork, spring crop emergence. Winter wheat, dryland 3% very poor, 3% poor, 13% fair, 60% good, 21% excellent; irrigated 60% good, 40% excellent. Spring wheat 95% planted, 78% 1997, 74% avg.; 80% emerged, 53% 1997, 56% avg. Spring wheat dryland 30% fair, 68% good, 2% excellent; irrigated 60% good, 40% excellent. Barley 91% planted, 68% 1997, 67% avg.; 65% emerged, 30% 1997, 44% avg. Warm, dry weather began to stress some winter wheat fields, spring crops, which had adequate subsoil moisture, flourished with the good weather. Potatoes 85% planted, 87% 1997, 78% avg.; 46% emerged, 43% 1997, 29% avg. Hay, other roughage supplies, 8% short, 52% adequate, 40% surplus. Range, pasture feed 5% poor, 5% fair, 50% good, 40% excellent. Most pastures began to show excellent growth. Apples were in full bloom, blossom thinning was in progress. Warm weather improved conditions for blossom thinning, also increased concerns over fire blight infection in apples, pears. Vegetable planting continued, aided by the dry weather. Truck gardeners were setting vegetable transplants, irrigating fields. Asparagus harvest increased with the warm weather.

**WEST VIRGINIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.2. Topsoil 64% adequate, 36% surplus. Planting progress was slow for most crops as rainy conditions moved across the State. Warmer weather are needed to promote germination of early-seeded crops. Wheat 4% fair, 69% good, 27% excellent; headed 29%, 0% 1997. Apple 80% fair, 20% good. Peach 82% fair, 18% good. Hay 4% poor, 30% fair, 59% good, 7% excellent. Intended acreage prepared for spring planting 62%, 78% 1997, 67% avg. Corn planted 13%, 22% 1997, 27% avg. Oats planted 53%, 76% 1997, 75% avg.; emerged 22%, 45% 1997, 45% avg. Soybeans planted 0%, 3% 1997, 5% avg. Tobacco beds seeded 98%, 99% 1997, 99% avg. Tobacco beds emerged 58%, 95% 1997, 91% avg. Cattle 1% poor, 18% fair, 74% good, 7% excellent; 93% calved. Sheep 29% fair, 69% good, 2% excellent; 93% lambled. Hay, roughage supplies 3% very short, 9% short, 84% adequate, 4% surplus. Feed grain supplies 1% very short, 3% short, 96% adequate. Activities: Field preparation, planting corn and oats, seeding tobacco beds; calving, lambing, meadows and pastures, general maintenance.

**WISCONSIN:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.6. Spring tillage 62% complete, 53% 1997, 34% avg. Dry conditions across much of Wisconsin aided plowing, planting. Last week, farmers had almost a full day more for fieldwork than the previous week. The lack of rain has impacted soil moisture levels, pasture conditions. Soil moisture 27% short, 61% adequate, 12% surplus. Driest region of the State was the northeast district, where only 1.8 inches of rain has fallen since March 30th, 1.3 inches below normal. Rainfall in the southern two-thirds of State has been above normal. Pasture feed 9% poor, 21% fair, 51% good, 19% excellent. Potato growers have finished planting in Dunn County, were winding down in Portage, Waushara Counties. Sweet corn was being planted in Wood County. Strawberries have started to blossom in Columbia County, tobacco beds have been planted in Vernon County. Other farm activities included application of anhydrous ammonia, other fertilizer.

**WYOMING:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Topsoil 42% short, 57% adequate, 1% surplus. Winter wheat 15% fair, 51% good, 34% excellent; jointed 4%, 0% 1997, 0% avg. Barley seeded 80%, 80% 1997, 79% avg. Oats seeded 48%, 50% 1997, 52% avg. Spring wheat seeded 73%, 41% 1997, 45% avg. Sugar beets 95% planted, 92% 1997, 84% avg. Corn planted 40%, 22% 1997, 26% avg. Range, pasture feed 20% fair, 64% good, 16% excellent. Spring calves born 92%, 93% 1997, 93% avg. Farm flock sheep shorn 97%, 90% 1997, 95% avg. Range flock ewes lambled 34%, 41% 1997, 36% avg. Range flock sheep shorn 76%, 68% 1997, 74% avg. Cattle 10% fair, 73% good, 17% excellent. Calf 7% fair, 75% good, 18% excellent. Sheep 2% fair, 86% good, 12% excellent. Lamb 3% fair, 85% good, 12% excellent. Mild, dry weather pattern continued. Topsoil moisture supplies began to drop.

**International Weather and Crop Summary**

April 26 - May 2, 1998

**HIGHLIGHTS**

**FSU-WESTERN:** Warm, dry weather favored spring grain planting in Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, and the Baltics.

**EUROPE:** Rain slowed planting activities in the west and improved moisture conditions for crops in the southeast.

**NORTHWESTERN AFRICA:** Showers continued to stabilize growing conditions for winter grains in Algeria and Tunisia, but arrived too late to significantly improve yield prospects.

**AUSTRALIA:** Drier weather encouraged widespread winter grain plantings.

**CANADA:** Lingering winter cold restricted crop progress.

**SOUTH AFRICA:** Conditions favored late corn development despite localized, patchy frost.

**SOUTHEAST ASIA:** Drought continued across the eastern Philippines, and warm weather reduced moisture supplies in Thailand and southern Vietnam.

**EASTERN ASIA:** Unseasonably heavy rain benefited winter grains approaching reproduction and germinating summer crops across north-central China and southern Manchuria.

**SOUTH AMERICA:** Showers slowed summer crop harvesting in central Argentina and southern Brazil.

**MEXICO:** Seasonably dry weather prevailed across most of Mexico.

**April 1998**

**MONTHLY DATA FROM SELECTED FOREIGN CITIES  
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER-NCEP-NWS-NOAA  
\*\*\* DATA NOT AVAILABLE**

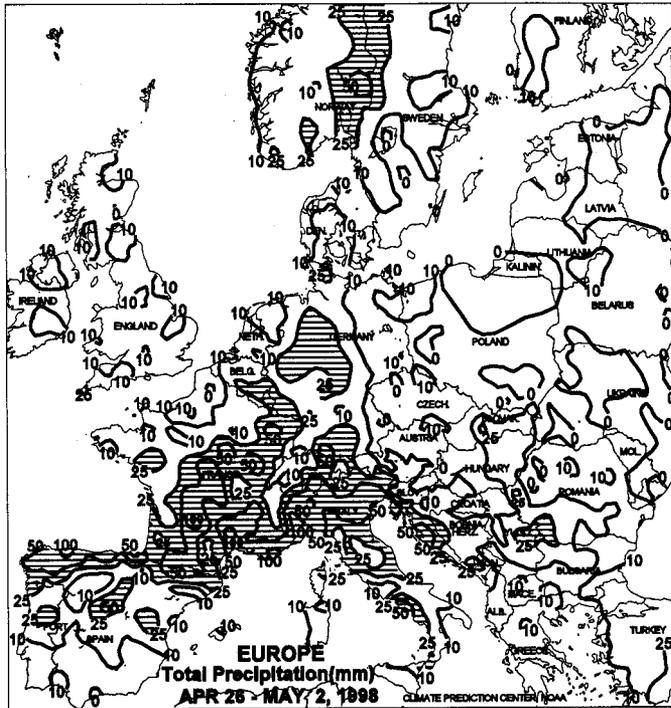
COUNTRY CITY	TEMPERATURE (C)					PRECIPITATION (MM)		
	AVG MAX	AVG MIN	HI MAX	LO MIN	AVG	DPART F/NRM	TOTAL	DPART F/NRM
NORWAY OSLO	6	0	15	-7	3	0.3	93	45
SWEDEN STOCKHOLM	8	0	22	-9	4	-0.2	0	-31
FINLAND HELSINKI	8	-2	23	-12	3	0.1	31	-6
UKINGDO GLASGOW	11	3	16	-4	7	-1.5	88	25
EDINBURGH	10	3	17	-4	7	-0.6	96	55
LONDON	12	5	22	-1	9	0.9	114	60
IRELAND DUBLIN	11	4	15	-4	7	-1.0	115	64
ICELAND REYKJAVIK	7	2	14	-7	4	1.4	45	-12
DENMARK COPENHAGEN	10	4	21	-1	7	0.4	53	15
LUXEMBO LUXEMBOURG	12	5	20	-3	8	0.4	140	81
SWITZERL ZURICH	13	5	21	0	9	1.2	71	-21
GENEVA	14	6	22	-2	10	1.0	110	45
FRANCE PARIS/ORLY	13	7	23	-1	10	***	116	**
STRASBOURG	15	6	23	0	11	1.2	85	38
BOURGES	13	6	23	-1	10	-0.1	155	105
BORDEAUX	16	8	25	2	12	0.6	205	137
TOULOUSE	16	7	27	-1	11	0.2	99	37
MARSEILLE	17	9	23	2	13	0.5	91	47
SPAIN VALLADOLID	15	5	27	-1	10	-0.2	56	14
MADRID	17	6	28	0	11	-1.0	26	-17
SEVILLE	22	11	32	6	17	-0.4	47	-12
PORTUGA LISBON	17	11	25	7	14	-1.2	80	29
GERMANY HAMBURG	12	6	22	0	9	1.7	70	19
BERLIN	15	7	24	1	11	2.0	31	-10
DUSSELDORF	14	6	23	-1	10	0.3	119	68
LEIPZIG	14	6	21	-1	10	2.1	50	9
DRESDEN	15	7	24	1	11	2.4	41	-5
STUTT GART	14	5	21	-2	9	0.6	67	12
NURNBERG	14	5	22	-2	10	1.3	37	-11
AUSTRIA VIENNA	17	6	24	-2	12	1.8	12	-31
INNSBRUCK	15	5	24	-2	10	1.0	64	3
CZECHRE PRAGUE	15	5	23	-2	10	2.2	7	-31
POLAND WARSAW	15	5	23	-2	10	2.4	57	24
LODZ	15	6	22	0	10	3.1	60	10
KATOWICE	16	6	23	-2	11	3.1	57	3
PRZEMYSL	15	6	22	-1	11	2.4	141	94
HUNGARY BUDAPEST	17	8	22	2	12	1.2	95	57
YUGOSLA BELGRADE	20	10	29	3	15	2.6	39	-21
ROMANIA BUCHAREST	22	7	36	2	14	3.1	36	-8
BULGARIA SOFIA	19	7	28	-1	13	2.6	32	-24
ITALY MILAN	18	9	26	2	13	1.1	75	-13
VERONA	17	8	25	3	13	0.6	90	24
VENICE	16	8	22	3	12	0.2	119	49
GENOA	17	12	22	5	14	-0.5	182	96
ROME	19	10	25	5	14	0.6	8	-42
NAPLES	19	10	26	4	15	1.5	85	8
GREECE THESSALONIKA	21	9	26	3	15	1.1	6	-30
LARISSA	23	7	28	-1	15	0.9	8	-22
ATHENS	20	12	24	5	16	-0.1	11	-6
TURKEY ISTANBUL	18	10	27	2	14	3.5	32	-7
ANKARA	19	5	36	-6	12	0.2	84	58
CYPRUS LARNACA	24	13	32	7	19	1.7	5	-15
ESTONIA TALLINN	8	0	25	-12	4	1.0	24	-11
LITHUANI KAUNAS	13	4	23	-2	9	2.6	68	25
BELARUS MINSK	12	4	22	-4	8	1.6	58	16
RUSSIA KAZAN	3	-4	17	-15	0	-4.7	69	34
MOSCOW	9	0	24	-13	4	-1.8	63	21
YEKATERINBURG	2	-5	13	-15	-1	-5.6	65	38
OMSK	3	-4	13	-16	-1	-4.2	60	40
NOVOSIBIRSK	4	-3	16	-10	1	1.3	40	27
BARNAUL	7	-1	18	-9	3	-0.1	55	30
KHABAROVSK	12	1	23	-7	7	2.4	63	21
VLADIVOSTOK	11	3	24	-3	7	2.7	36	-29
SARATOV	9	1	21	-11	5	-1.9	73	46
VOLGOGRAD	14	4	26	-3	9	0.3	49	26
ASTRAKHAN	18	6	31	-1	12	0.7	104	87
KRASNODAR	20	9	34	3	14	2.6	71	18
ORENBURG	7	-2	20	-12	2	-4.5	38	13
KAZAKHS TSELINOGRAD	6	-3	18	-12	2	-3.0	42	20
KARAGANDA	6	-2	23	-14	2	-3.2	62	40

Based on Preliminary Reports

## April 1998

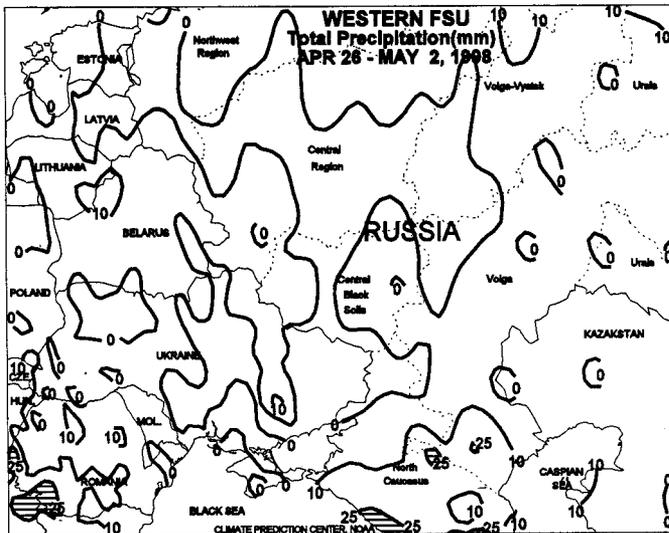
COUNTRY CITY	TEMPERATURE (C)						PRECIPITATION (MM)		COUNTRY CITY	TEMPERATURE (C)						PRECIPITATION (MM)	
	AVG MAX	AVG MIN	HI MAX	LO MIN	AVG	DPART F/NRM	TOTAL	DPART F/NRM		AVG MAX	AVG MIN	HI MAX	LO MIN	AVG	DPART F/NRM	TOTAL	DPART F/NRM
GEORGIA TBILISI	23	10	34	0	17	3.5	45	-10	S AFRICA PRETORIA	23	14	33	10	18	0.5	1	-53
UZBEKIST TASHKENT	23	12	33	2	17	1.8	81	17	JOHANNESBURG	24	11	29	5	18	2.6	12	-41
TURKMENI ASHKHABAD	25	13	36	5	19	2.4	79	35	BETHAL	25	8	30	1	17	1.4	21	-17
SYRIA DAMASCUS	26	8	37	1	17	1.0	2	-11	DURBAN	26	19	31	15	23	0.9	237	164
ISRAEL JERUSALEM	23	11	34	4	17	1.5	3	-32	CAPE TOWN	23	13	30	7	18	1.0	35	-3
PAKISTAN KARACHI	34	24	39	19	30	1.1	0	-5	CANADA TORONTO	14	3	21	-2	9	2.8	42	-23
INDIA AMRITSAR	34	17	41	14	26	0.5	28	3	MONTREAL	14	3	22	-2	8	2.4	36	-40
NEW DELHI	36	22	40	18	29	0.3	5	-9	WINNIPEG	16	0	28	-7	8	4.3	26	-11
AHMEDABAD	40	25	44	20	33	1.3	0	-2	REGINA	15	-1	27	-10	7	3.4	5	-16
INDORE	40	22	43	18	31	1.4	1	-2	SASKATOON	15	-1	29	-9	7	3.3	4	-16
CALCUTTA	35	24	38	18	29	-1.4	20	-15	LETHBRIDGE	15	0	25	-5	8	2.0	26	-10
VERAVAL	32	24	41	20	28	1.2	0	0	CALGARY	13	0	24	-5	6	2.2	34	9
BOMBAY	34	25	39	17	29	0.7	0	0	EDMONTON	14	2	24	-3	8	3.2	29	7
POONA	39	20	40	18	30	0.5	0	-12	VANCOUVER	14	6	20	2	10	0.8	17	-59
BEGAMPET	39	25	43	22	32	1.3	0	-21	MEXICO GUADALAJARA	**	**	28	9	**	**	**	**
VISHAKHAPATNAM	32	26	35	22	29	**	12	**	MEXICO CITY	29	15	33	11	22	4.3	1	-12
MADRAS	36	26	39	22	31	0.4	8	-3	ACAPULCO	**	**	32	21	**	**	0	-5
MANGALORE	36	26	38	25	31	1.9	2	-38	BERMUDA ST. GEORGES	22	18	24	13	20	0.6	65	-16
HONGKO KINGS PEAK	27	22	31	18	25	**	207	**	BAHAMAS NASSAU	28	21	32	17	24	1.1	6	-45
N KOREA PYONGYANG	**	**	26	5	**	**	**	**	JAMAICA KINGSTON	32	24	33	21	28	1.0	20	-16
S KOREA SEOUL	21	12	26	2	16	5.7	124	56	P RICO SAN JUAN	30	23	33	22	26	0.0	105	16
JAPAN SAPPORO	15	5	28	-3	10	3.1	31	-33	GUADELO RAIZET	31	24	32	22	27	1.9	122	50
NAGOYA	22	13	29	3	18	3.7	216	64	MARTINIQ LAMENTIN	31	24	32	22	27	2.1	63	-56
TOKYO	20	14	27	3	17	2.5	191	68	BARBADO BRIDGETOWN	31	25	31	23	28	1.6	97	40
YOKOHAMA	19	13	27	2	16	2.7	233	90	TRINIDAD PORT OF SPAIN	34	25	35	23	29	2.5	23	-12
KYOTO	23	13	29	2	18	4.2	180	16	COLOMBI BOGOTA	20	**	23	9	**	**	87	-15
OSAKA	22	14	29	5	18	3.5	206	71	VENEZUE CARACAS	31	25	34	21	28	2.1	25	2
THAILAND PHETCHABUN	38	25	42	23	32	1.6	93	19	F GUIANA CAYENNE	30	25	32	23	28	1.4	623	219
BANGKOK	36	28	39	25	32	1.6	56	-13	BRAZIL RECIFE	31	25	32	22	28	1.8	106	-219
MALAYSIA KUALA LUMPUR	35	26	37	24	31	3.6	205	-67	BELO HORIZONTE	29	20	32	14	24	2.2	18	-44
VIETNAM HANOI	30	24	39	21	27	3.1	32	-49	FRANCA	27	19	30	14	23	5.3	110	31
CHINA HARBIN	18	5	25	-9	12	5.8	14	-11	RIO DE JANEIRO	26	24	34	21	**	**	22	-90
HAMI	22	8	33	-2	15	1.5	3	1	LONDRINA	**	18	31	12	**	**	232	119
LANCHOW	24	10	33	2	17	5.2	27	8	SANTA MARIA	23	18	27	7	**	**	206	71
BEIJING	20	10	30	0	15	1.3	74	47	PORTO ALEGRE	24	17	29	10	20	0.7	83	-20
TIENTSIN	21	11	32	2	16	1.9	90	64	PERU LIMA	26	21	32	19	25	3.9	0	0
LHASA	15	2	20	-4	9	0.5	13	7	BOLIVIA LA PAZ	16	2	19	-3	9	0.8	54	24
KUNMING	24	12	29	8	18	1.8	37	11	CHILE SANTIAGO	20	9	31	3	15	0.6	9	-1
CHENGCHOW	22	12	32	1	17	1.6	67	19	ARGENTIN IGUAZU	25	17	34	10	21	**	351	**
YECHANG	24	16	33	6	20	2.9	118	23	FORMOSA	26	19	36	13	23	0.4	409	253
HANKOW	24	16	32	5	20	4.4	263	131	CERES	23	14	28	8	19	-0.7	70	-10
CHUNGKING	29	18	35	14	23	**	267	**	CORDOBA	22	11	27	3	17	-0.8	63	10
CHIHKIANG	28	16	33	7	21	4.7	86	-78	RIO CUARTO	20	12	26	5	16	-0.8	93	45
WU HU	24	14	34	5	19	**	84	**	ROSARIO	22	14	27	7	18	0.4	25	-87
SHANGHAI	22	14	30	5	18	**	78	**	BUENOS AIRES	21	13	26	5	17	1.0	116	34
NANCHANG	26	18	32	7	22	4.9	136	-86	SANTA ROSA	20	10	29	3	15	0.1	100	49
TAIPEI	28	21	34	16	25	3.8	404	236	TRES ARROYOS	19	11	27	3	15	0.7	182	95
CANTON	29	21	32	17	25	3.2	255	73	NEW CAL NOUMEA	29	23	33	21	26	2.4	101	-11
NANNING	30	22	38	18	26	4.0	95	-9	FIJI NAUSORI	29	22	31	20	26	0.6	49	-352
CANARY I LAS PALMAS	24	18	25	12	21	1.9	4	-2	SAMOA PAGO PAGO	32	27	35	25	30	2.3	18	-289
MOROCC CASABLANCA	20	13	26	8	16	1.0	21	-19	TAHITI PAPEETE	31	25	34	24	28	1.2	137	-5
MARRAKECH	24	12	35	9	18	1.1	3	-36	AUSTRALI DARWIN	33	26	36	24	29	0.9	74	-6
ALGERIA ALGER	22	9	29	1	15	0.7	75	-5	BRISBANE	25	17	29	11	21	-0.6	173	69
BATNA	21	7	28	-2	14	1.8	51	23	PERTH	25	13	34	8	19	0.1	12	-35
TUNISIA TUNIS	23	13	32	10	18	2.5	33	-6	CEDUNA	22	10	37	5	16	-1.3	42	22
NIGER NIAMEY	43	29	45	23	36	1.9	32	27	ADELAIDE	19	11	31	7	15	-2.0	88	50
MALI TIMBUKTU	42	28	47	19	**	**	0	-2	MELBOURNE	18	9	30	5	13	-2.3	42	-7
BAMAKO	41	28	43	25	34	2.3	3	-16	WAGGA	22	9	32	2	16	-0.3	77	27
MAURITAN NOUAKCHOTT	34	20	42	18	27	2.1	0	0	CANBERRA	20	8	30	1	14	0.8	56	3
SENEGAL DAKAR	26	21	29	12	23	1.9	0	0	INDONESI DJAKARTA	33	25	35	22	29	1.9	220	**
CHAGOS DIEGO GARCIA	**	28	34	25	**	**	109	-72	PHILIPPI MANILA	34	28	36	25	31	1.8	2	-23
LIBYA TRIPOLI	27	14	41	7	21	1.9	3	-14									
BENGHAZI	25	16	36	9	21	1.5	2	-4									
EGYPT CAIRO	30	16	43	12	23	1.2	0	-2									
ASWAN	36	21	46	13	29	2.2	0	0									
ETHIOPIA ADDIS ABABA	26	12	29	8	19	1.1	138	55									
KENYA NAIROBI	26	16	29	14	21	1.0	108	-49									
TANZANIA DAR ES SALAAM	30	24	34	23	27	0.6	356	84									
GABON LIBREVILLE	31	24	33	21	28	1.0	185	-162									
TOGO LOME	34	27	36	24	30	2.1	70	-30									
BURKINA OUAGADOUGOU	40	29	44	21	35	2.0	11	-12									
COTE D'I ABIDJAN	34	26	35	21	30	2.0	104	-41									
MOZAMBI MAPUTO	30	20	34	15	25	1.4	28	-27									
ZAMBIA LUSAKA	**	**	32	11	**	**	0	-17									
ZIMBABW HARARE	27	14	31	9	20	2.1	0	-44									

Based on Preliminary Reports



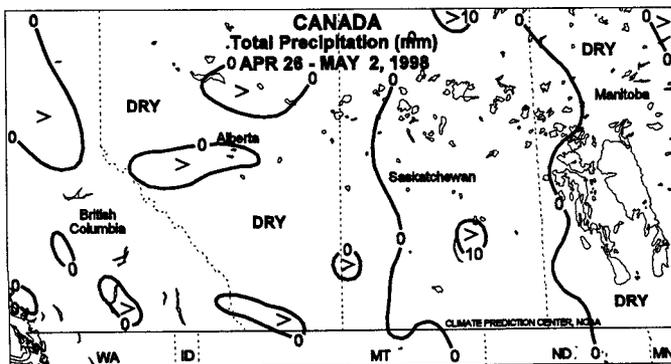
**EUROPE**

Frequent showers fell from northern Spain through France and northern Italy into Germany, slowing fieldwork. Greatest amounts of rain (40-75 mm, with local amounts in excess of 75 mm) fell in extreme northern Spain, the southern half of France, and Italy's Po Valley, halting spring planting activities and likely causing some localized flooding. Lesser amounts of precipitation (10-40 mm) fell in Germany. In England, light showers (generally less than 10 mm) caused only brief delays in fieldwork. Winter grains were likely advancing through the reproductive phase of development in Mediterranean areas and were in the jointing stage over the remainder of Europe. In eastern Europe, unusually mild weather (weekly temperatures averaging 2 to 8 degrees C above normal) promoted rapid development in winter grains and favored spring grain emergence. Generally dry weather in Poland and the Czech Republic favored spring planting activities. Much-needed showers (8-40 mm) fell in southern Romania, Bulgaria, and adjacent areas in Yugoslavia, improving conditions for winter grains and newly emerging spring-sown crops.



**FSU-WESTERN**

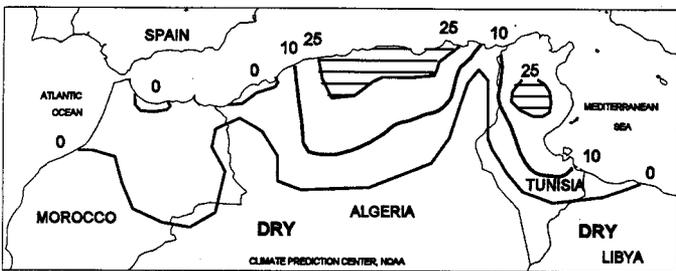
Weather conditions favored crop development and fieldwork during the week. Unseasonably mild and generally dry weather prevailed in Ukraine, most of Russia, Belarus, and the Baltics, promoting winter grain development and allowing spring grain planting to rapidly progress northward. Corn, sunflower, and sugar beet planting is typically just beginning in Ukraine and southern Russia. Crop progress for winter grains ranged from jointing in Ukraine, Belarus, and the Baltics to tillering in northern Russia. Winter grains likely remained dormant in parts of the Volga Vyatsk, upper Volga Valley, and the Urals, where a late arrival of spring has delayed the greening of crops. Precipitation amounts in most of the region were below 5 mm. Greatest amounts of rain (10-25 mm) fell in the southern North Caucasus region in Russia. Weekly temperatures averaged 2 to 4 degrees C above normal in Ukraine and 4 to 8 degrees C above normal in the Baltics, Belarus, and adjacent areas in western Russia. Weekly temperatures averaged near to slightly below normal in the lower Volga Valley and the North Caucasus.



**CANADA**

Dry weather across the Prairies favored spring fieldwork. Temperatures averaging 2 to 5 degrees C above normal helped warm topsoils throughout the main agricultural districts. With few exceptions, however, lows remained below -2 degrees C, restricting actual plantings. Moisture reserves are generally favorable in western and southern growing areas. More rain is needed from central Saskatchewan to the north and eastward. In the east, winter wheat is greening in southern growing areas and breaking dormancy elsewhere, although the recurrence of sub-freezing temperatures limits vegetative growth.

**NORTHWEST AFRICA TOTAL PRECIPITATION (mm)**  
APR 26 - MAY 2, 1998

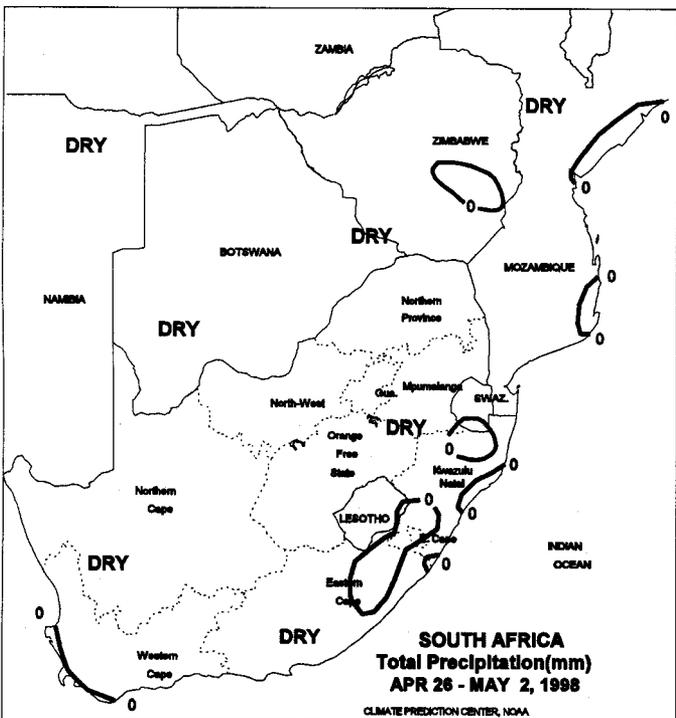


**NORTHWESTERN AFRICA**

Winter grains ranged from filling to mature over the region. Scattered, light to moderate showers (10-25 mm, with local amounts in excess of 25 mm) continued to fall in winter grain areas of Algeria and Tunisia, stabilizing conditions for immature crops. However, the rain came too late to significantly improve yield prospects. In Morocco, dry weather hastened maturity in winter grains in the north and favored crop maturation and early harvest activities in the south. Typically, the winter grain harvest begins in the region in May and extends through July.

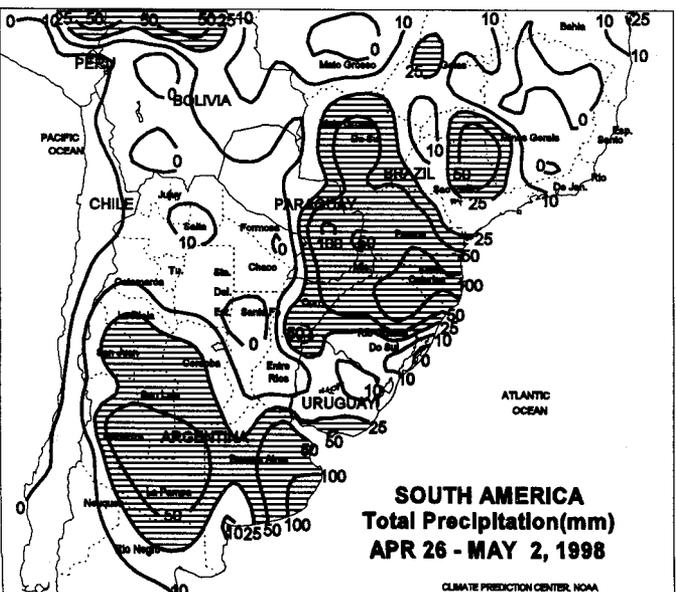
**SOUTH AFRICA**

Continuing dry, warm weather stimulated late summer crop growth and enabled wheat planting to progress unencumbered. Temperatures across the corn belt averaged 2 to 3 degrees C above normal, with highs from the mid 20's to low 30's C, aiding development of late-planted corn and sunflowers. Patchy frost in southern and northeastern growing areas had no significant impact on agriculture. In Western Cape, wheat planting likely made good progress following last week's beneficial moisture. This is the last weekly summary of the season. Coverage will resume when planting of the 1998/99 corn crop begins, probably in early October.



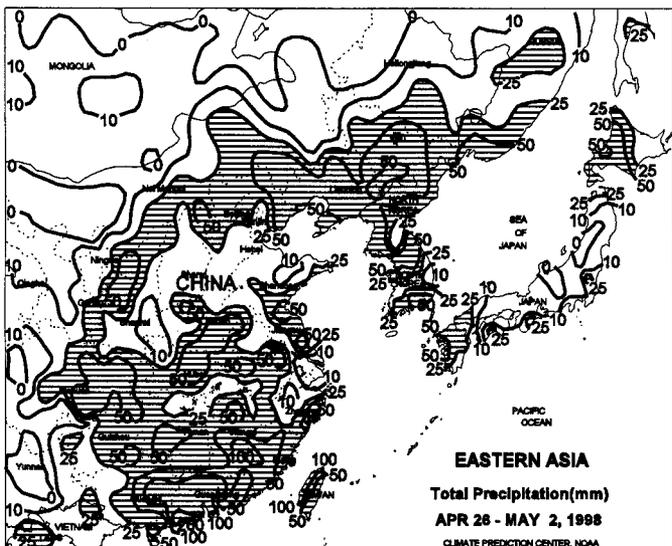
**SOUTH AMERICA**

In northern Argentina, drier weather (less than 10 mm) eased flooding, but more dry weather is needed for resumption of cotton harvesting and improvement of cotton quality. In southern Paraguay, moderate to heavy rain (40-120 mm) delayed cotton harvesting and possibly damaged mature cotton. In central Argentina, moderate showers (20-65 mm) slowed summer crop harvesting and possibly reduced soybean and sunflowerseed quality. Heavier showers (50-100 mm) slowed corn harvesting in southeastern Buenos Aires. According to reports as of April 24, Argentine cotton, soybean, corn, and sunflowerseed crops were 15, 25, 43, and 90 percent harvested, respectively, which are behind last year's pace. Last year at this time, their cotton, soybean, corn, and sunflowerseed crops were 38, 44, 62, and 97 percent harvested, respectively. In southern Brazil, moderate to heavy showers (50-100 mm, with isolated amounts greater than 140 mm) again slowed soybean harvesting and possibly reduced soybean quality in Parana and northwestern Rio Grande do Sul. The rains also delayed cotton harvesting and reduced cotton quality. Elsewhere in southern Brazil, moderate showers (30-60 mm) hampered soybean harvesting in Mato Grosso do Sul. Seasonably drier weather (less than 15 mm) aided soybean harvesting in Mato Grosso and Goias.



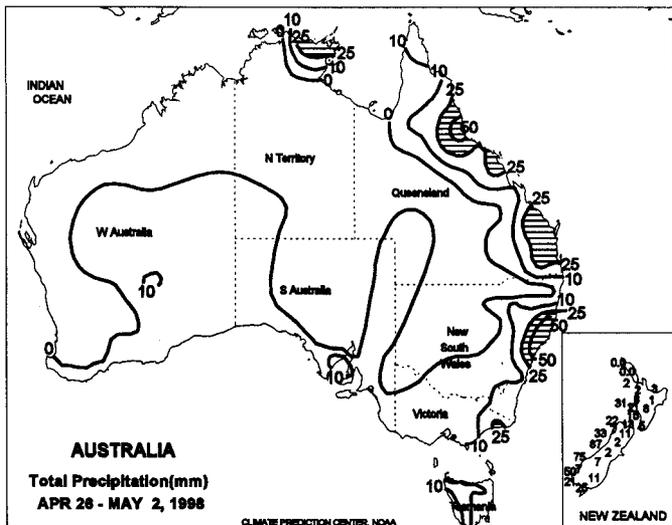
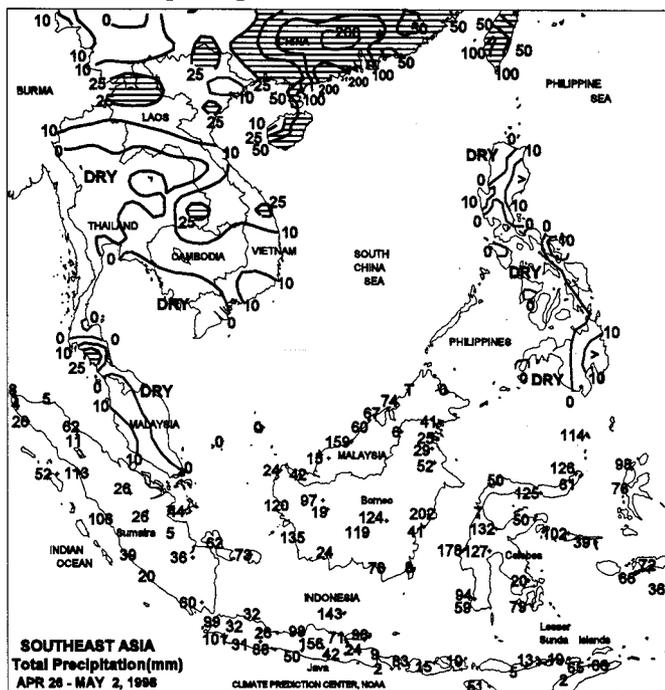
**EASTERN ASIA**

Most of the region experienced a very wet week. Unseasonably heavy rain (10-45 mm, with isolated amounts greater than 50 mm) stretched from north-central China (southern Gansu) eastward into Manchuria (southern Heilongjiang) and most of the North China Plain. The rain boosted soil moisture for winter grains approaching reproduction and germinating summer crops. Typically, rainfall averages less than 10 mm per week across these regions during late April. The showers in Manchuria increased topsoil moisture for summer crop planting. In Shandong, Anhui, and Jiangsu, the continuing rainfall increased moisture for heading winter wheat. Rain (15-60 mm, with isolated amounts greater than 75 mm) also eased dryness across the Sichuan Basin, favoring heading winter wheat and emerging summer crops. Variable rain (10-50 mm or more) prevailed throughout most of southern China, with heavy showers (50-150 mm) causing some flooding in Guangdong. Late-week rain (10-50 mm or more) disrupted rice transplanting across South Korea and sections of Japan, although Honshu experienced favorable dryness.



**SOUTHEAST ASIA**

In Java and southern Sumatra, showers (20-50 mm) maintained adequate moisture supplies for main-season rice and increased supplies for second-season crops. Drought continued across the Philippines. Showers eased dryness across eastern Malaysia (Sabah and Sarawak), but dryness continued to stress oil palm across eastern peninsular Malaysia. Across Thailand and southern Vietnam, unseasonably light showers (less than 10 mm) and temperatures 2 to 4 degrees above normal reduced moisture supplies for early main-season rice transplanting.



**AUSTRALIA**

Following last week's beneficial rainfall, dry, generally mild weather created excellent fieldwork conditions in the primary wheat and barley areas. Light showers (5 mm or less, most areas) lingering over the southeast quickly gave way to more favorable planting conditions. By week's end, however, rain (1-10 mm, locally exceeding 25 mm) had returned to northeastern winter grain areas, locally disrupting farm activities. Winter crop sowing can last through June, but farmers are expected to take advantage of the current favorable moisture levels as soon as possible. Cotton and sorghum harvesting should be winding down, although additional drying is required at some locations. In New Zealand, rainfall continued to be light (15 mm or less) in the main agricultural areas.

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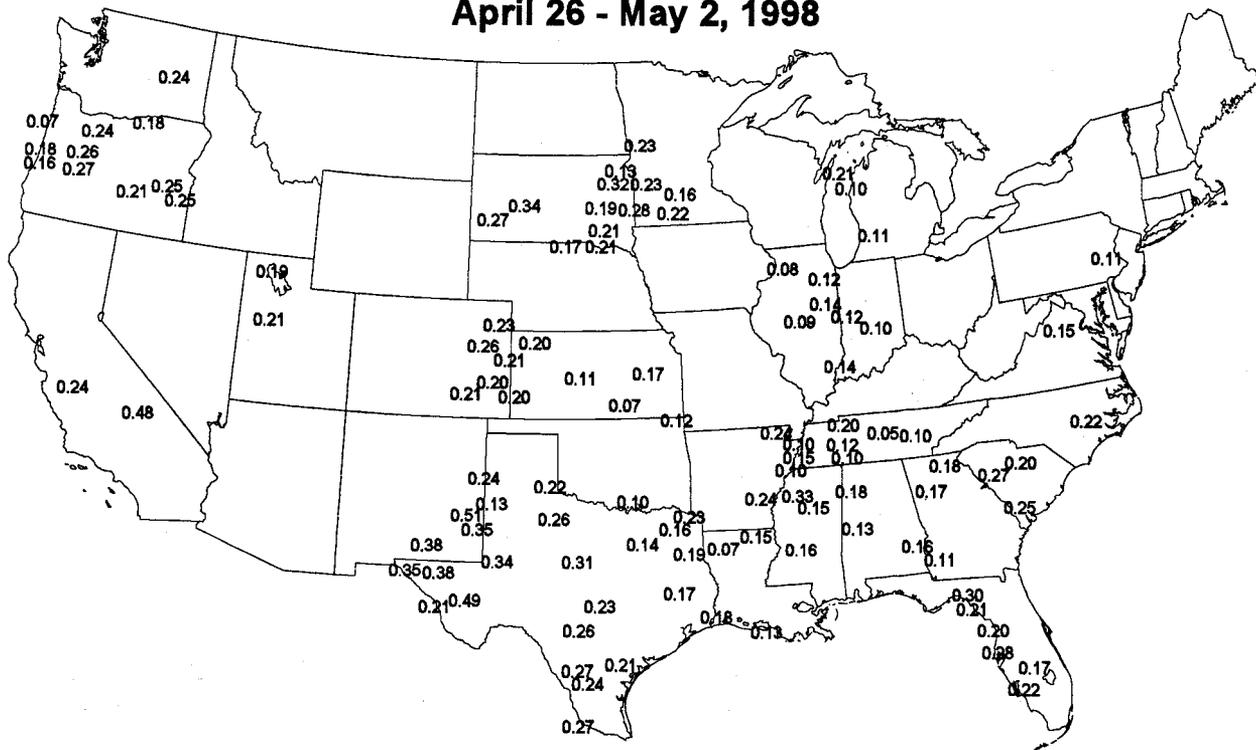
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**Average Pan Evaporation (Inches/Day)**

**April 26 - May 2, 1998**



NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY  
Based on preliminary data

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