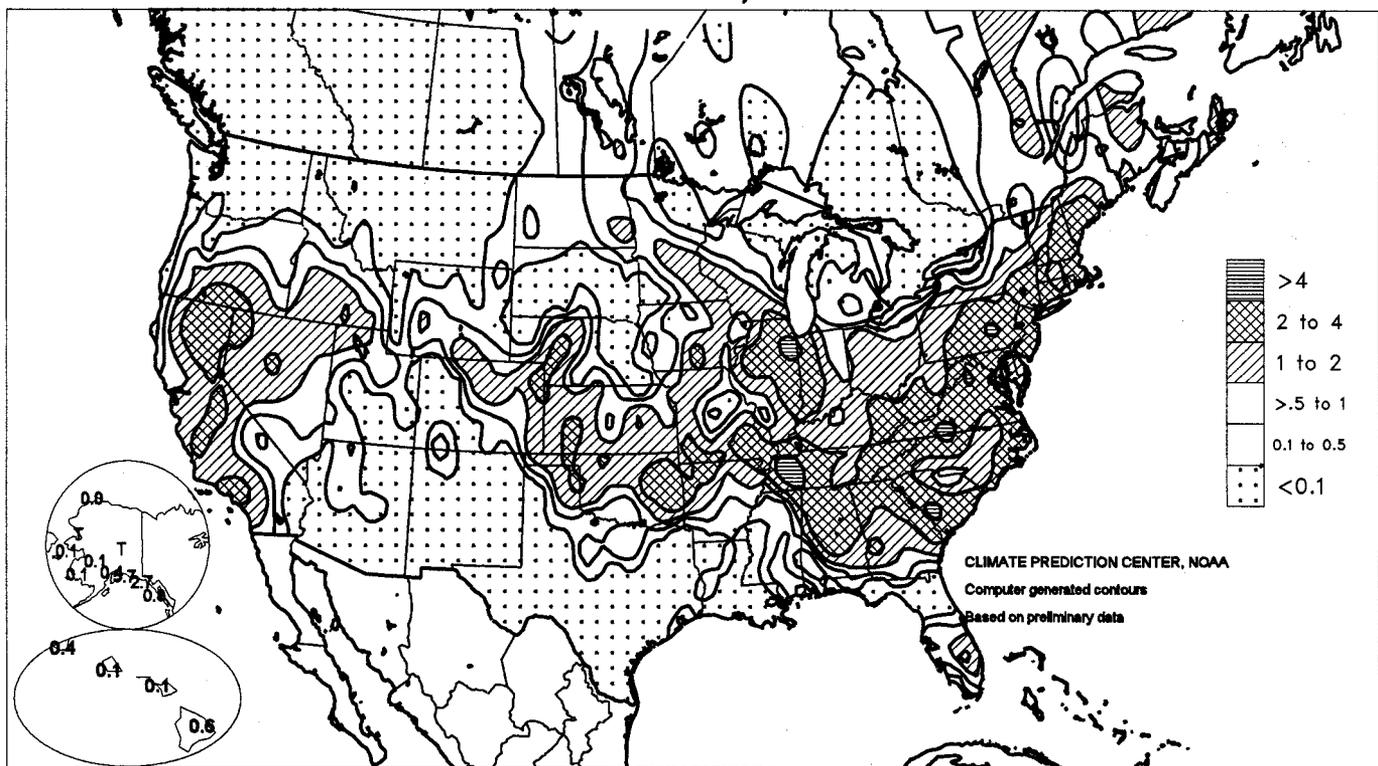


# WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

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

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

**Total Precipitation (Inches)**  
**MAY 3 - 9, 1998**



## HIGHLIGHTS

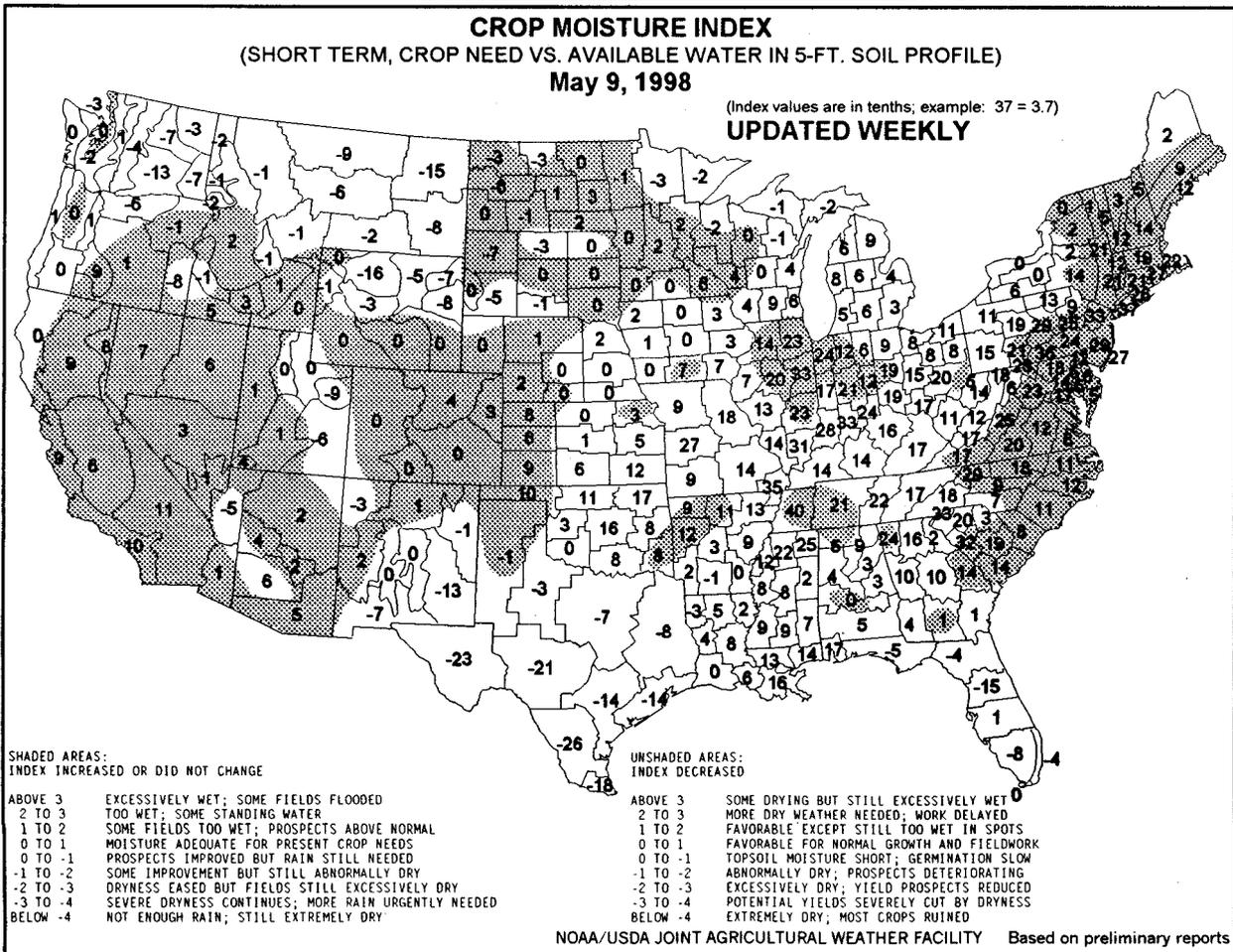
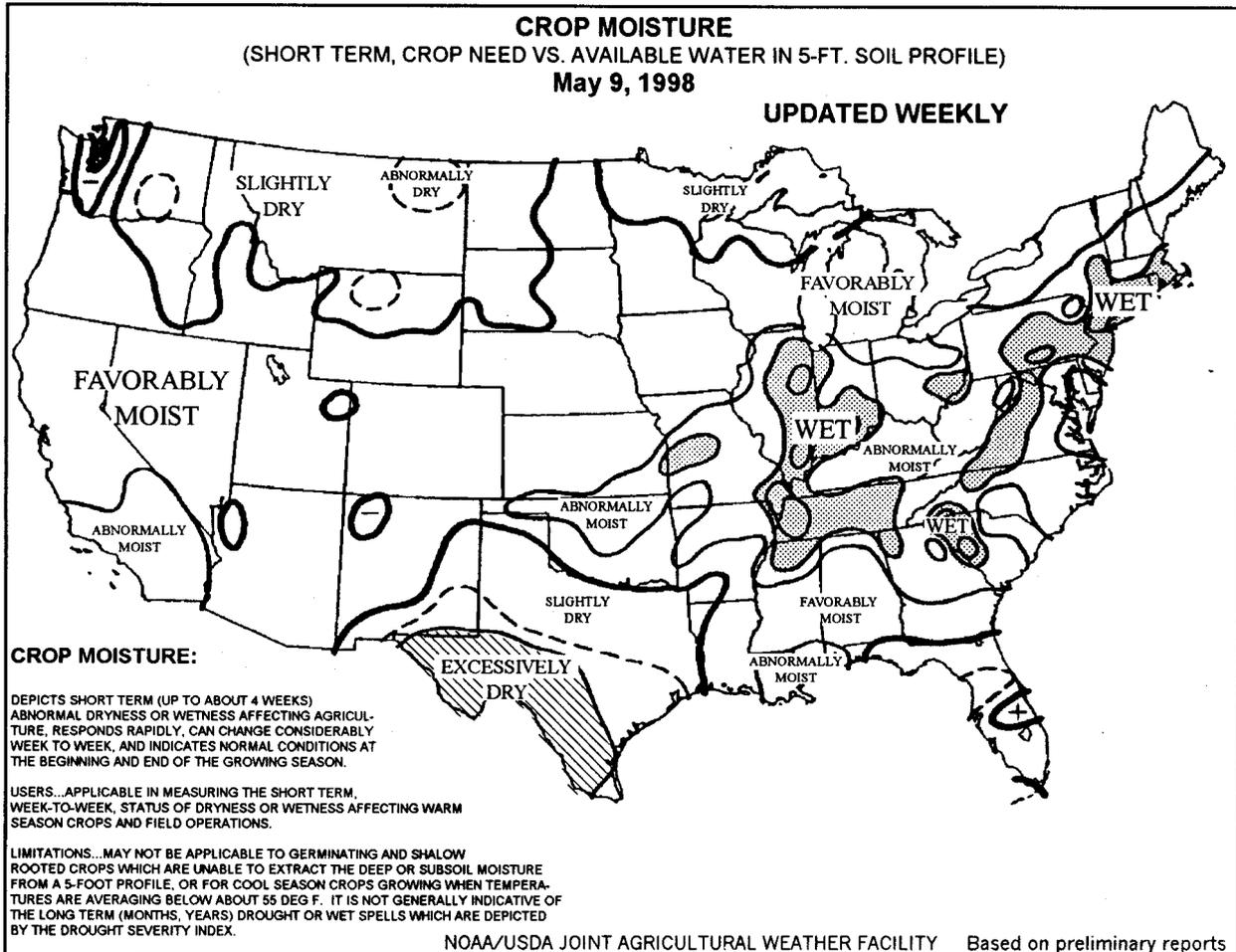
May 3 - 9, 1998

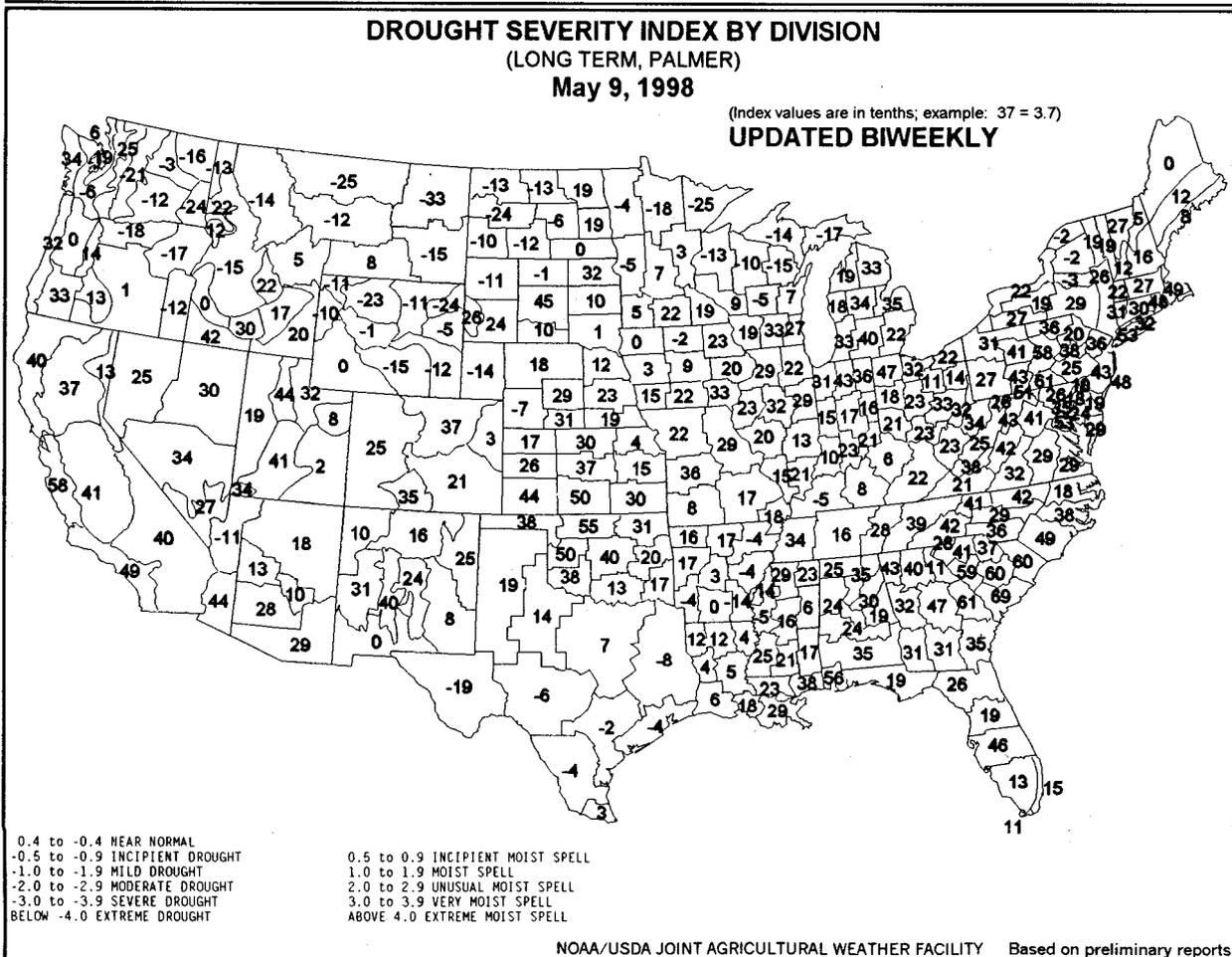
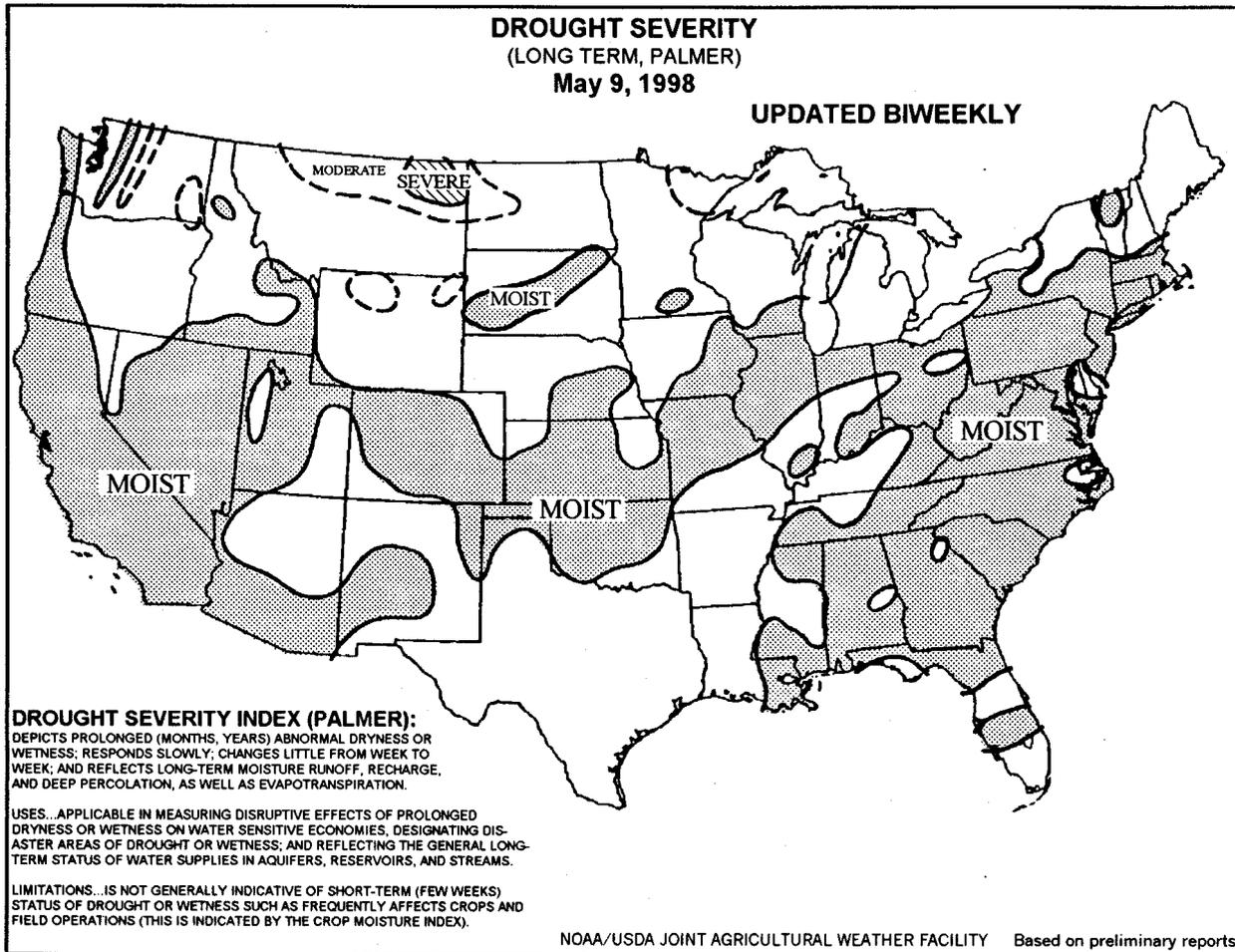
**W**et weather continued from the east-central Plains to the East Coast, slowing spring planting. In California, unusually heavy late-season rainfall and cool weather (as much as 6°F below normal) further delayed fieldwork and crop development. Across the upper Midwest, however, rain aided in the emergence of spring-sown crops. Beneficial rains also fell across the central High Plains. In contrast, heat and dryness intensified across the South. Weekly temperatures averaged as much as 10°F above normal in the lower Rio Grande Valley. Since mid-March, little rain has fallen from southeastern New Mexico and western Texas to Florida. In the Northwest, a third consecutive week of very warm weather (3 to 12°F above normal) further reduced soil moisture.

*(Continued on page 14)*

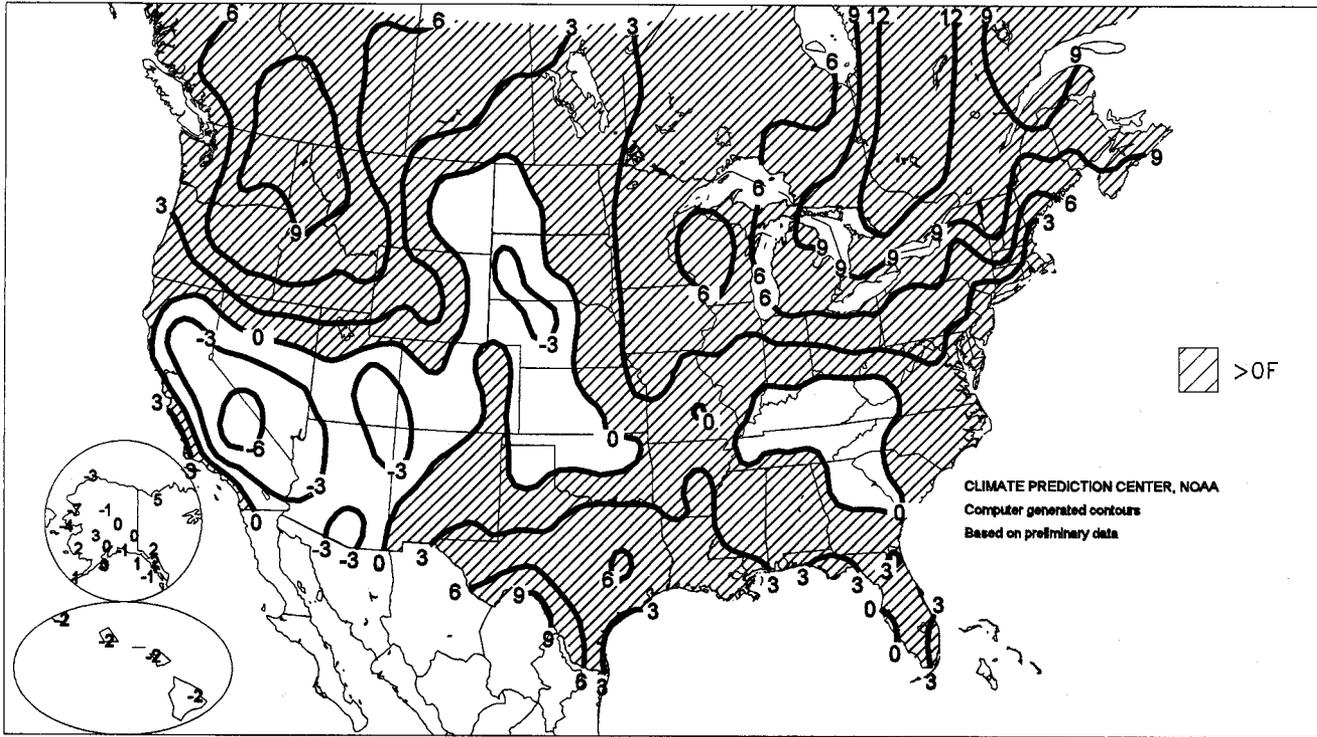
## Contents

Crop Moisture Maps .....	2
Palmer Drought Maps .....	3
Temperature Departure & Soil Temperature Maps ..	4
Extreme Maximum & Minimum Temperature Maps ..	5
Growing Degree Day Maps .....	6
National Weather Data for Selected Cities .....	7
April Weather and Crop Summary .....	10
U.S. Crop Production Highlights .....	11
April Precipitation & Temperature Maps .....	12
April Weather Data for Selected Cities .....	13
Latest El Niño Advisory .....	14
National Agricultural Summary .....	15
Crop Progress and Condition Tables .....	16
State Agricultural Summaries .....	18
International Weather and Crop Summary .....	24
Subscription Information & Pan Evaporation Map ..	28

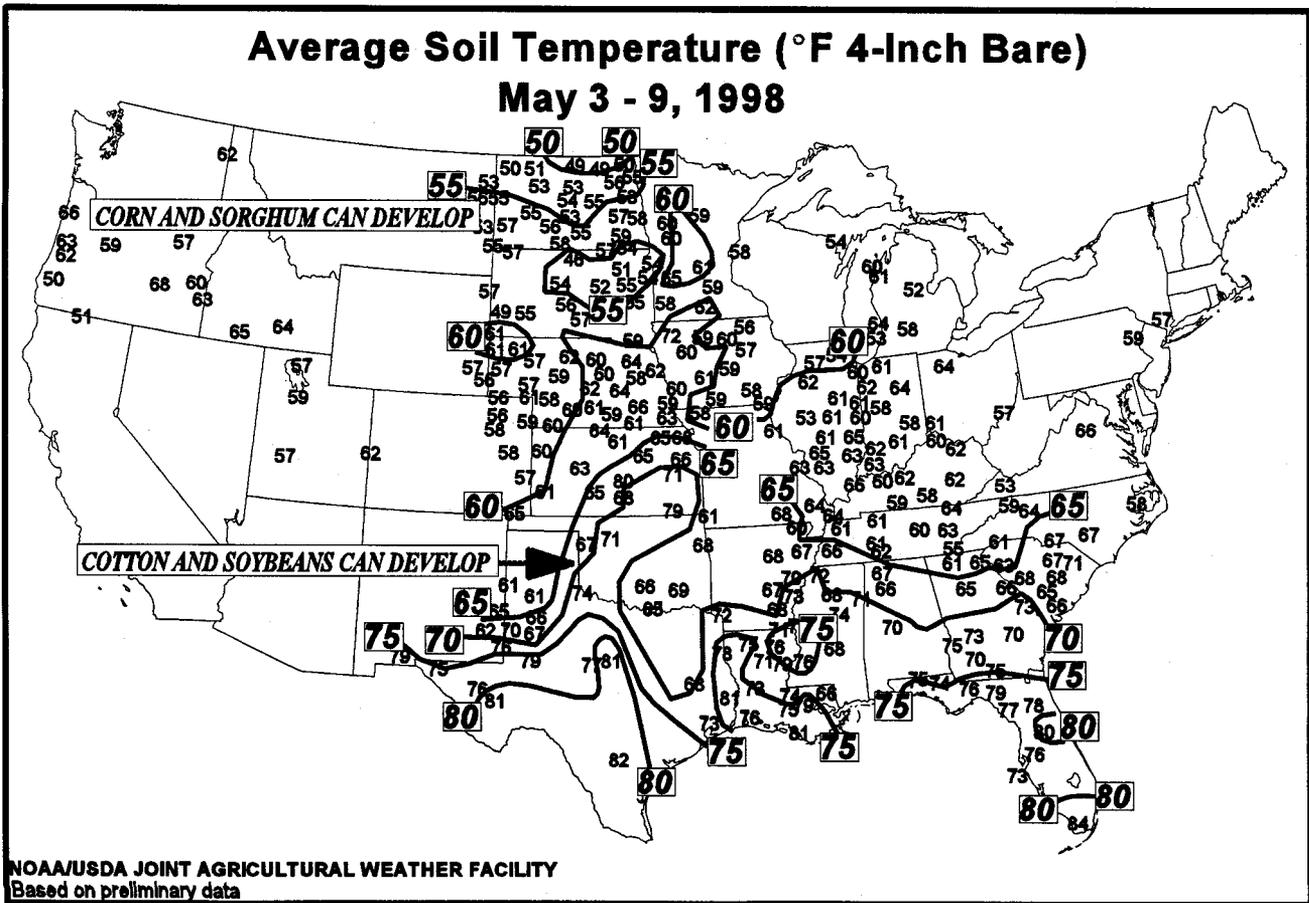




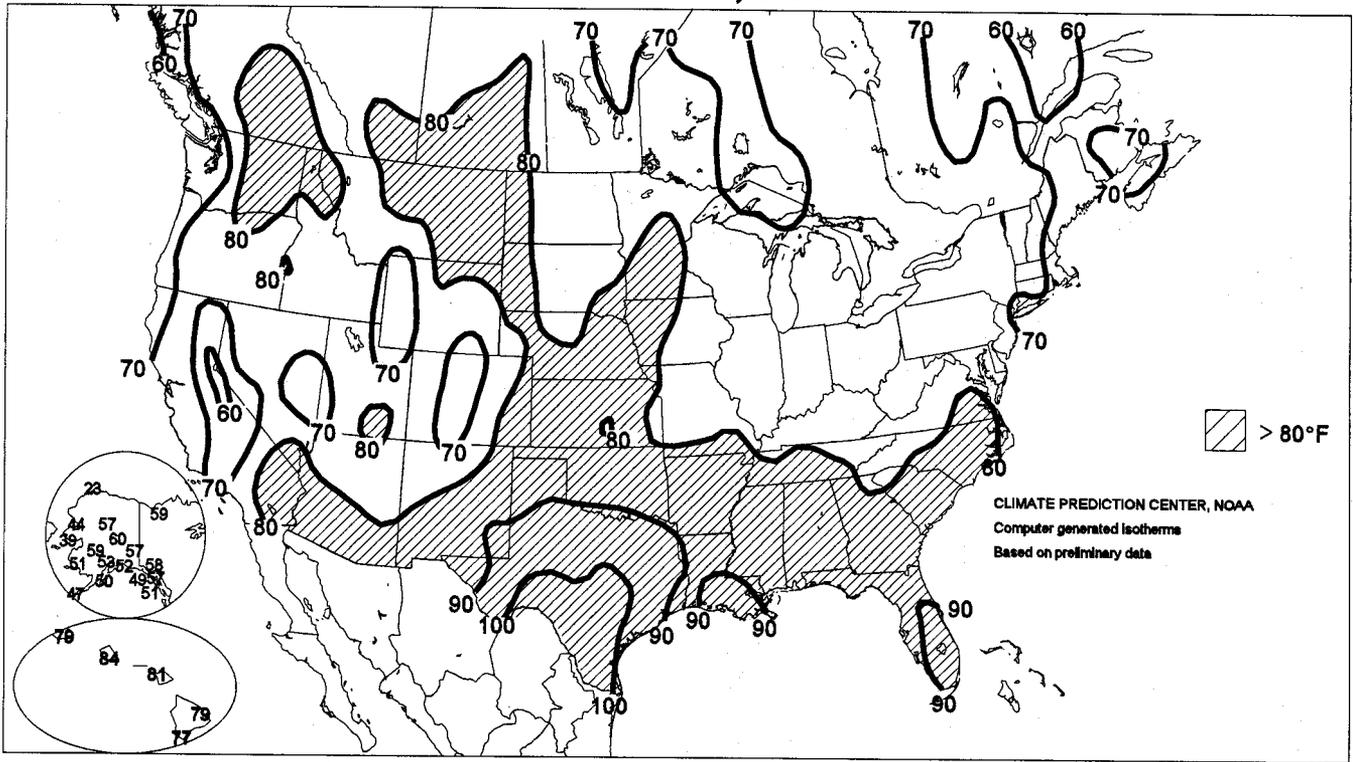
### Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F) MAY 3 - 9, 1998



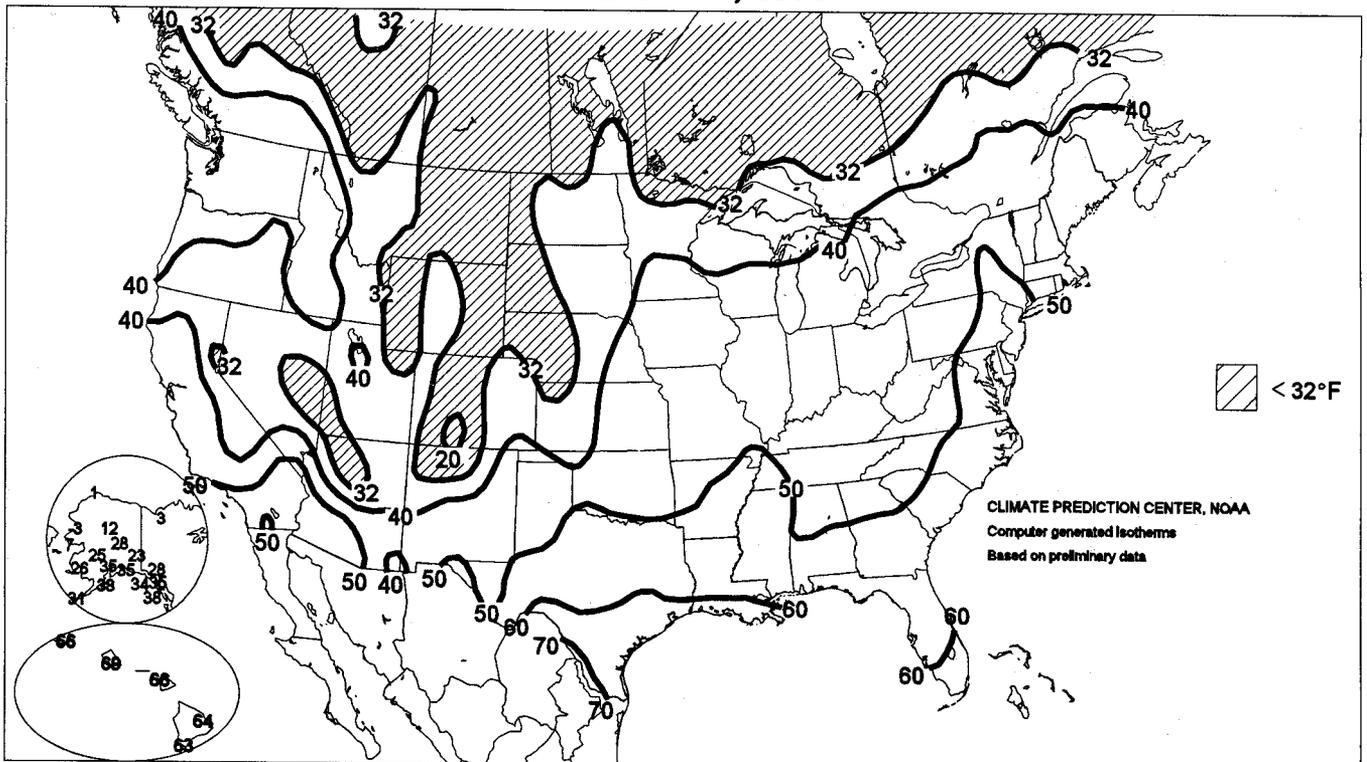
### Average Soil Temperature (°F 4-Inch Bare) May 3 - 9, 1998



**Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F)  
MAY 3 - 9, 1998**



**Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)  
MAY 3 - 9, 1998**





# National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending May 9, 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	.01 INCH OR MORE		.50 INCH OR MORE		
																		01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE	01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE	
AL BIRMINGHAM	81	55	85	47	68	1	2.40	1.24	2.00	16.06	127	32.64	145	96	51	0	0	5	1			
HUNTSVILLE	78	55	84	46	67	1	1.96	0.79	1.44	10.06	77	24.63	107	95	49	0	0	4	1			
MOBILE	83	64	89	56	73	1	0.30	-0.96	0.28	16.69	134	37.89	167	97	60	0	0	2	0			
AK ANCHORAGE	49	38	53	35	43	0	0.45	0.31	0.36	1.02	64	1.66	52	88	51	0	0	3	0			
BARROW	14	7	22	1	11	-2	0.00	-0.03	0.00	0.23	56	0.24	38	84	76	0	7	0	0			
FAIRBANKS	53	35	60	28	44	0	0.02	-0.08	0.02	0.08	10	0.17	10	74	32	0	2	1	0			
JUNEAU	52	40	57	35	46	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	93	57	0	0	-	-			
KODIAK	47	37	50	33	42	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	92	55	0	0	-	-			
NOME	32	21	39	7	27	-4	0.07	-0.07	0.03	3.57	253	4.79	170	82	64	0	6	3	0			
AZ FLAGSTAFF	59	31	64	25	45	-3	0.06	-0.16	0.04	5.42	125	8.86	105	82	31	0	5	2	0			
PHOENIX	84	63	87	58	73	-3	0.00	-0.03	0.00	1.74	150	5.02	200	43	19	0	0	0	0			
PRESCOTT	67	41	81	36	54	0	0.19	0.04	0.19	3.85	129	6.47	110	71	28	0	0	0	1	0		
TUCSON	82	53	88	49	67	-3	0.00	-0.06	0.00	2.03	188	5.40	205	50	19	0	0	0	0			
YUMA	85	64	88	60	74	-2	0.00	-0.02	0.00	0.31	78	1.67	162	55	36	0	0	0	0			
AR FORT SMITH	81	55	85	45	68	1	1.16	-0.04	0.47	7.33	77	18.13	130	97	52	0	0	4	0			
LITTLE ROCK	82	60	86	52	71	4	0.88	-0.38	-	6.42	72	18.63	101	89	46	0	0	4	0			
CA BAKERSFIELD	72	56	77	50	63	-5	0.83	0.77	0.66	4.32	256	11.00	305	94	54	0	0	3	1			
EUREKA	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.14	-	-	10.47	-	37.72	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
FRESNO	71	55	74	52	63	-3	0.92	0.82	0.40	5.56	188	13.76	205	91	47	0	0	4	0			
LOS ANGELES	66	58	68	55	62	0	1.13	1.07	0.47	5.50	196	22.56	294	94	77	0	0	5	0			
REDDING	67	53	73	48	60	-3	0.43	0.10	0.29	9.41	136	38.84	223	92	59	0	0	4	0			
SACRAM/MCCLELL	69	55	73	50	63	-	0.11	-	0.06	4.00	-	23.17	-	96	59	0	0	4	0			
SAN DIEGO	67	61	73	59	64	1	0.31	0.24	0.14	3.31	125	13.86	227	88	67	0	0	4	0			
SAN FRANCISCO	63	54	71	51	59	1	0.73	0.64	0.51	5.15	113	27.02	223	92	72	0	0	4	1			
CO ALAMOSA	66	26	72	22	46	-1	0.00	-0.14	0.00	1.10	98	1.13	68	76	15	0	7	0	0			
CO SPRINGS	95	39	75	36	52	0	0.45	0.01	0.19	4.26	158	4.63	137	86	35	0	0	5	0			
DENVER	67	42	76	36	54	0	1.00	0.46	0.43	4.36	119	4.63	98	88	38	0	0	5	0			
GRAND JUNCTION	72	42	80	39	57	-1	0.04	-0.16	0.04	2.12	112	3.07	104	67	28	0	0	1	0			
PUEBLO	73	41	81	38	57	-1	0.18	-0.10	0.06	3.80	189	4.07	155	86	28	0	0	5	0			
CT BRIDGEPORT	60	52	66	49	58	1	2.54	1.63	1.06	14.03	161	22.65	152	89	86	0	0	6	2			
HARTFORD	68	54	74	48	61	5	3.65	2.71	2.05	12.41	143	18.90	123	97	70	0	0	6	3			
DC WASHINGTON	71	57	74	54	64	1	2.02	1.23	0.69	12.39	181	23.03	167	96	71	0	0	6	2			
DE WILMINGTON	67	58	72	53	62	2	2.06	1.20	0.91	10.06	127	17.80	128	96	75	0	0	6	2			
FL DAYTONA BEACH	88	63	91	57	75	2	0.01	-0.60	0.01	4.12	70	15.70	134	94	42	4	0	1	0			
JACKSONVILLE	85	65	88	59	75	4	0.35	-0.32	0.35	7.89	108	22.49	155	94	45	0	0	1	0			
KEY WEST	85	75	86	68	80	0	0.00	-0.63	0.00	4.54	107	11.83	147	87	68	0	0	0	0			
MIAMI	89	70	92	62	80	2	1.59	0.49	1.04	8.50	128	16.15	151	90	48	3	0	2	2			
ORLANDO	88	63	91	55	78	1	0.42	-0.14	0.26	6.20	108	16.93	153	96	46	3	0	2	0			
TAMPA	84	70	86	63	77	2	0.24	-0.26	0.21	5.81	121	21.28	216	92	60	0	0	3	0			
VALPARAISO/EGLIN	82	64	86	55	73	3	0.21	-0.72	0.21	6.85	57	22.70	111	92	54	0	0	1	0			
WEST PALM BEACH	89	68	93	65	79	3	0.18	-0.95	0.12	5.37	67	22.78	169	92	48	3	0	2	0			
GA ATHENS	76	55	80	50	66	-1	1.95	0.97	1.44	17.93	167	31.52	160	96	58	0	0	3	1			
ATLANTA	76	56	81	50	66	-1	0.70	-0.29	0.29	12.33	109	25.33	121	94	53	0	0	4	0			
AUGUSTA	80	58	85	51	68	0	1.92	1.11	0.87	15.15	168	29.02	168	96	46	0	0	4	2			
COLUMBUS	82	60	86	54	71	1	0.72	-0.23	0.56	8.83	78	16.27	79	93	49	0	0	2	1			
MACON	81	57	85	52	69	-1	0.67	-0.13	0.43	12.88	138	24.82	134	95	49	0	0	4	0			
SAVANNAH	83	59	86	53	71	0	1.03	0.22	0.71	10.80	138	25.20	172	97	49	0	0	3	1			
HI HILO	78	68	79	64	72	-2	0.63	-2.04	0.29	12.87	39	15.31	29	84	53	0	0	6	0			
HONOLULU	80	70	84	69	75	-2	0.03	-0.25	0.02	0.65	16	1.63	17	76	51	0	0	2	0			
KAHULUI	80	67	81	66	73	-2	0.12	-0.12	0.08	1.38	28	2.24	19	83	55	0	0	3	0			
LIHUE	78	68	79	66	73	-2	0.38	-0.40	0.16	2.74	32	6.68	37	78	60	0	0	5	0			
ID BOISE	74	51	79	47	62	7	0.41	0.16	0.33	2.23	78	6.36	118	79	37	0	0	4	0			
LEWISTON	77	53	84	48	65	9	0.08	-0.20	0.08	2.20	86	4.31	91	74	33	0	0	1	0			
POCATELLO	69	40	74	36	55	4	0.55	0.25	0.20	2.42	85	5.84	121	84	35	0	0	5	0			
IL CHICAGO/O'HARE	67	52	77	48	60	4	2.39	1.64	2.08	10.26	141	14.63	144	91	62	0	0	6	1			
MOLINE	71	54	78	44	63	5	1.32	0.36	0.60	11.31	139	17.00	156	95	66	0	0	4	1			
PEORIA	70	54	78	49	62	3	3.07	2.24	1.13	12.79	166	17.98	168	94	64	0	0	5	3			
ROCKFORD	69	52	74	47	61	5	0.97	0.17	0.79	9.08	127	13.01	136	94	65	0	0	4	1			
SPRINGFIELD	70	55	79	50	63	2	1.30	0.47	0.54	11.42	143	16.56	147	94	67	0	0	4	1			
IN EVANSVILLE	70	54	74	49	62	0	1.87	0.78	1.28	11.64	115	16.59	104	96	58	0	0	5	1			
FORT WAYNE	69	54	75	48	61	5	1.03	0.28	0.68	11.43	157	16.83	162	94	62	0	0	5	1			
INDIANAPOLIS	69	52	73	44	60	1	1.73	0.82	1.45	12.24	141	15.98	119	97	64	0	0	4	1			
SOUTH BEND	71	52	75	46	62	6	0.53	-0.19	0.46	8.28	105	13.74	115	92	58	0	0	4	0			
IA BURLINGTON	72	56																				

Weather Data for the Week Ending May 9, 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	TEMP. °F		0.1 INCH OR MORE	5.0 INCH OR MORE
																		01 INCH OR MORE	5.0 INCH OR MORE		
KY	WICHITA	73	51	78	45	62	0	0.74	-0.03	0.55	8.35	144	9.70	128	88	50	0	0	4	1	
	JACKSON	67	53	77	46	60	-2	1.46	0.43	0.67	14.73	146	22.94	130	94	63	0	0	6	1	
	LEXINGTON	68	52	74	43	60	-1	0.43	-0.59	0.24	10.06	105	16.63	106	96	62	0	0	4	0	
	LOUISVILLE	70	55	76	48	63	0	0.82	-0.45	-	11.40	111	19.66	120	91	59	0	0	-	-	
LA	PADUCAH	72	55	78	47	64	0	1.83	0.67	1.06	11.04	97	18.85	102	95	63	0	0	3	2	
	BATON ROUGE	85	67	90	58	76	3	0.00	-1.17	0.00	9.08	78	29.62	134	96	56	1	0	0	0	
	LAKE CHARLES	84	69	91	61	76	4	0.02	-1.18	0.02	8.21	76	21.36	131	95	61	1	0	1	0	
	NEW ORLEANS	85	70	91	65	77	4	0.00	-0.97	0.00	10.42	98	33.97	156	97	58	1	0	0	0	
ME	SHREVEPORT	85	62	91	53	74	3	0.00	-1.13	0.00	5.07	58	18.10	109	91	45	1	0	0	0	
	CARIBOU	64	53	71	48	59	11	1.33	0.65	0.41	7.14	124	13.83	137	97	68	0	0	7	0	
MD	PORTLAND	56	49	64	46	53	3	2.27	1.42	1.67	10.42	118	20.97	133	98	91	0	0	7	1	
	BALTIMORE	70	55	77	52	63	2	1.45	0.64	0.43	10.64	141	22.69	165	97	71	0	0	7	0	
MA	BOSTON	58	49	66	45	54	-1	3.52	2.77	1.51	11.74	143	22.04	143	98	86	0	0	6	2	
	WORCESTER	62	51	70	49	56	4	1.62	0.65	1.00	11.79	129	19.55	120	99	86	0	0	6	1	
MI	ALPENA	69	45	75	39	57	8	0.08	-0.50	0.08	9.53	187	14.07	175	90	47	0	0	1	0	
	GRAND RAPIDS	73	53	77	47	63	9	0.17	-0.52	0.15	8.76	127	14.39	142	85	50	0	0	2	0	
	HOUGHTON LAKE	72	47	75	41	60	9	0.52	-0.03	0.34	6.95	141	9.96	131	89	42	0	0	3	0	
	LANSING	71	50	76	44	61	7	0.14	-0.41	0.08	7.43	127	12.92	149	87	56	0	0	3	0	
MN	MARQUETTE	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	-0.63	0.00	6.25	100	10.10	100	-	-	-	-	0	0	
	MUSKEGON	72	51	78	44	62	9	0.02	-0.59	0.02	5.96	96	10.31	103	85	50	0	0	1	0	
	DULUTH	62	41	73	38	52	4	0.24	-0.38	0.24	3.81	77	8.27	119	75	38	0	0	1	0	
	INT'L FALLS	70	36	79	28	53	4	0.16	-0.30	0.16	1.19	37	2.89	61	84	29	0	2	1	0	
MS	MINNEAPOLIS	72	46	82	42	59	4	1.44	0.75	1.16	8.08	154	10.62	149	91	39	0	0	2	1	
	ROCHESTER	70	49	77	45	59	6	1.44	0.71	1.37	7.13	131	9.98	143	86	47	0	0	4	1	
	ST. CLOUD	73	42	86	37	58	5	1.50	0.88	0.83	4.39	96	6.97	101	90	35	0	0	2	2	
	JACKSON	83	60	88	50	71	2	0.05	-1.19	0.04	9.82	76	24.95	109	95	62	0	0	2	2	
MO	MERIDIAN	83	56	87	48	70	1	0.09	-0.99	0.06	8.69	84	27.67	114	96	49	0	0	2	0	
	TUPELO	78	58	84	51	68	0	0.43	-0.82	0.24	11.39	87	23.57	104	92	51	0	0	3	0	
	COLUMBIA	73	52	79	42	62	2	0.13	-0.98	0.12	10.10	120	15.82	136	91	56	0	0	2	0	
	KANSAS CITY	76	54	80	47	65	4	0.49	-0.58	0.43	6.13	89	8.19	89	84	48	0	0	3	0	
MT	SAINT LOUIS	72	57	80	48	64	2	0.77	-0.11	0.67	12.27	150	18.08	149	89	56	0	0	2	1	
	SPRINGFIELD	73	53	78	46	63	1	1.73	0.79	0.75	10.87	117	17.82	136	91	58	0	0	3	2	
	BILLINGS	67	40	82	33	53	1	0.00	-0.58	0.00	2.99	83	3.78	73	77	36	0	0	0	0	
	BUTTE	71	36	82	31	54	10	0.04	-0.32	0.04	2.77	129	4.06	132	85	23	0	1	1	0	
NE	GLASGOW	66	38	85	30	52	0	0.00	-0.33	0.00	2.15	142	2.56	119	78	30	0	1	0	0	
	GREAT FALLS	71	38	83	33	54	4	0.52	0.00	0.52	2.07	66	3.25	70	80	19	0	0	1	1	
	KALISPELL	77	41	79	36	59	10	0.00	-0.37	0.00	3.41	134	4.72	91	76	24	0	0	0	0	
	MILES CITY	66	39	86	30	53	-1	0.23	-0.21	0.23	2.03	80	2.66	75	65	31	0	1	1	0	
NV	MISSOULA	78	44	81	38	61	12	0.00	-0.36	0.00	2.68	113	4.45	100	78	25	0	0	0	0	
	GRAND ISLAND	72	48	84	40	59	1	0.13	-0.67	0.12	7.25	134	8.12	123	83	38	0	0	2	0	
	LINCOLN	75	48	83	41	62	3	0.03	-0.80	0.03	5.41	92	7.39	103	85	38	0	0	1	0	
	NORFOLK	74	45	87	39	60	2	0.12	-0.61	0.12	6.47	127	6.96	110	84	32	0	0	1	0	
OH	NORTH PLATTE	67	36	84	25	52	-3	0.72	0.00	0.36	2.69	66	3.36	68	89	43	0	1	3	0	
	OMAHA	75	48	82	41	61	2	0.64	-0.31	0.39	8.36	142	9.96	134	89	38	0	0	3	0	
	SCOTTSBLUFF	66	39	78	34	52	-1	0.14	-0.43	0.08	2.97	88	3.81	88	86	38	0	0	3	0	
	VALENTINE	66	36	77	30	51	-3	0.81	0.15	0.55	2.77	78	2.96	70	91	41	0	3	2	1	
NY	ELY	60	35	68	30	47	0	0.20	-0.06	0.12	2.69	119	4.80	131	80	42	0	3	5	0	
	LAS VEGAS	78	58	83	55	68	-2	0.01	-0.05	0.01	1.19	161	4.25	254	63	29	0	0	1	0	
	RENO	62	43	67	35	52	-1	0.66	0.52	0.25	3.45	272	7.14	213	84	41	0	0	5	0	
	WINNEMUCCA	65	41	72	32	53	1	1.25	1.06	0.27	3.78	203	7.05	218	92	48	0	1	7	0	
NC	CONCORD	63	52	70	50	57	5	1.45	0.75	0.75	7.62	117	13.72	118	96	77	0	0	4	1	
	NEWARK	65	55	71	54	60	0	2.27	1.31	1.28	13.37	150	23.07	150	95	83	0	0	6	2	
	ALBUQUERQUE	74	49	80	41	62	0	0.00	-0.11	0.00	2.98	261	3.78	183	45	12	0	0	0	0	
	ALBANY	70	55	74	53	62	8	1.43	0.69	0.56	8.59	125	14.97	130	96	67	0	0	5	1	
ND	BINGHAMTON	65	53	72	49	59	6	0.71	-0.03	0.29	8.66	126	16.25	140	96	67	0	0	5	0	
	BUFFALO	69	53	78	50	61	7	0.64	-0.04	0.23	7.30	114	15.19	133	95	58	0	0	5	0	
	ROCHESTER	69	52	76	50	60	7	0.16	-0.45	0.08	6.62	96	13.59	138	96	64	0	0	3	0	
	SYRACUSE	71	54	77	51	62	9	0.39	-0.33	0.16	5.65	80	13.57	118	95	60	0	0	5	0	
OH	ASHEVILLE	70	48	74	39	59	-2	1.06	0.11	0.71	13.76	150	30.11	184	98	58	0	0	7	1	
	CHARLOTTE	79	57	83	51	68	3	1.03	0.21	0.57	10.33	127	19.89	127	90	45	0	0	5	1	
	GREENSBORO	74	53	77	49	63	0	2.68	1.82	2.23	12.83	168	24.10	171	93	53	0	0	6	1	
	HATTERAS	68	59	70	56	64	-1	2.03	1.15	0.79	9.06	102	26.64	145	98	81	0	0	3	3	
VA	RALEIGH	76	55	80	49	66	1	0.93	0.10	0.63	11.83	159	25.11	172	97	56	0	0	4	1	
	WILMINGTON	81	58	85	52	70	2	1.72	0.86	0.86	6.73	96	25.24	164	94	46	0	0	5	2	
	BISMARCK	63	39	75	33	51	0	0.38	-0.07	0.22	1.60	53	3.36	86	89	46	0	0	2	0	
	DICKINSON	62	37	81	32	50	-1	0.24	-0.28	0.20	2.01	62	4.41	111	78	42	0	1	3	0	
WY																					

Weather Data for the Week Ending May 9, 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	TEMP. °F		0.1 INCH OR MORE	5.0 INCH OR MORE
																		90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW		
OK	TOLEDO	69	53	78	47	61	6	0.25	-0.38	0.19	9.38	148	16.11	163	96	63	0	0	3	0	
	YOUNGSTOWN	68	52	74	46	61	6	0.84	0.08	0.29	11.54	161	18.27	161	96	63	0	0	5	0	
	OKLAHOMA CITY	76	55	81	48	66	0	0.92	-0.17	0.89	10.71	168	14.92	158	88	51	0	0	3	1	
	TULSA	77	55	83	47	66	-1	1.38	0.18	0.83	13.25	162	17.03	139	93	49	0	0	4	1	
OR	ASTORIA	57	51	58	48	54	3	0.18	-0.57	0.06	13.04	103	39.76	131	92	78	0	0	5	0	
	BURNS	67	43	74	36	55	7	0.67	0.46	0.29	3.09	160	8.31	226	95	46	0	0	6	0	
	EUGENE	64	47	70	38	55	2	0.26	-0.28	0.22	6.62	92	22.92	100	88	63	0	0	3	0	
	MEDFORD	66	50	74	44	58	2	0.51	0.26	0.33	5.83	170	13.69	172	90	53	0	0	4	0	
	PENDLETON	74	50	81	46	62	7	0.38	0.13	0.20	2.89	105	6.47	124	91	42	0	0	5	0	
	PORTLAND	64	53	70	45	58	3	0.14	-0.36	0.13	5.94	90	17.98	114	89	65	0	0	2	0	
	SALEM	64	50	71	42	57	5	0.19	-0.26	0.14	6.98	97	22.22	126	90	62	0	0	3	0	
PA	ALLENTOWN	66	57	73	54	62	5	2.36	1.42	0.92	11.75	147	19.02	135	94	72	0	0	6	2	
	ERIE	65	53	77	50	59	6	0.66	-0.08	0.26	9.42	131	16.06	137	95	72	0	0	5	0	
	MIDDLETOWN	69	55	74	52	62	4	3.38	2.46	1.91	13.84	180	23.36	174	98	71	0	0	6	2	
	PHILADELPHIA	68	57	75	57	63	3	2.35	1.50	1.45	9.25	113	16.74	118	97	76	0	0	6	2	
	PITTSBURGH	69	54	74	49	62	5	0.56	-0.22	0.28	6.19	108	14.37	115	95	59	0	0	4	0	
	SCRANTON	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.46	-0.31	-	8.77	136	14.64	136	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	WILLIAMSPORT	67	53	73	49	60	3	2.68	1.86	1.10	11.60	155	22.13	173	98	72	0	0	6	2	
RI	PROVIDENCE	64	53	68	50	59	5	2.70	1.82	1.19	14.28	154	26.68	159	100	84	0	0	6	2	
SC	BEAUFORT	82	62	87	57	72	1	1.81	0.67	1.46	11.31	143	27.57	186	96	55	0	0	3	1	
	CHARLESTON	81	60	86	56	71	0	2.71	1.97	1.22	12.65	160	30.40	208	94	52	0	0	4	3	
	COLUMBIA	90	57	84	51	68	0	1.19	0.43	0.66	11.57	127	24.72	140	93	43	0	0	5	1	
	GREENVILLE	75	54	79	47	65	-1	0.72	-0.23	0.34	14.82	142	28.62	150	92	51	0	0	3	0	
SD	ABERDEEN	67	39	75	36	53	0	0.02	-0.48	0.02	3.62	93	5.00	106	88	45	0	0	1	0	
	HURON	70	42	78	35	56	2	0.00	-0.69	0.00	4.42	98	5.37	96	84	41	0	0	0	0	
	RAPID CITY	65	33	81	26	49	-3	0.04	-0.51	0.03	1.69	47	2.33	52	78	38	0	3	2	0	
	SIoux FALLS	71	42	80	38	57	2	0.00	-0.65	0.00	7.72	155	8.89	145	88	39	0	0	0	0	
TN	BRISTOL	69	49	76	42	69	-2	1.71	0.86	0.79	12.82	158	20.08	136	96	60	0	0	6	1	
	CHATTANOOGA	77	54	85	46	65	1	0.77	-0.25	0.71	15.89	136	26.45	133	97	55	0	0	3	1	
	KNOXVILLE	72	53	79	45	62	0	1.84	0.93	0.79	18.51	185	25.84	142	96	61	0	0	4	2	
	MEMPHIS	79	61	84	54	70	1	0.74	-0.48	0.58	15.18	122	27.45	134	86	49	0	0	2	1	
	NASHVILLE	73	56	82	48	64	0	1.76	0.63	0.72	11.41	107	19.20	106	91	55	0	0	4	2	
TX	ABILENE	90	58	95	54	74	4	0.00	-0.62	0.00	3.54	98	5.39	87	71	24	5	0	0	0	
	AMARILLO	76	48	87	42	62	-1	0.52	0.09	0.35	3.95	159	6.71	187	88	29	0	0	2	0	
	AUSTIN	91	67	102	61	79	6	0.00	-1.01	0.00	3.86	87	9.78	102	94	39	3	0	0	0	
	BEAUMONT	85	69	89	63	77	3	0.10	-1.09	0.08	7.23	87	21.09	128	95	64	0	0	2	0	
	BROWNSVILLE	91	72	97	69	81	3	0.00	-0.61	0.00	0.67	23	2.76	50	95	52	4	0	0	0	
	CORPUS CHRISTI	89	70	100	63	80	3	0.00	-0.67	0.00	2.62	72	6.24	87	93	55	2	0	0	0	
	DEL RIO	99	72	106	68	86	10	0.00	-0.47	0.00	1.07	33	1.46	31	79	17	7	0	0	0	
	EL PASO	85	60	89	55	72	3	0.00	-0.05	0.00	0.22	38	0.42	30	28	10	0	0	0	0	
	FORT WORTH	88	64	100	57	78	6	0.20	-0.91	0.20	5.90	77	14.19	121	86	35	2	0	1	0	
	GALVESTON	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	-0.71	0.00	2.28	41	12.73	115	-	-	-	-	0	0	
	HOUSTON	89	66	94	62	77	5	0.00	-1.09	0.00	3.62	48	13.82	100	97	51	3	0	0	0	
	LUBBOCK	85	52	92	47	68	1	0.00	-0.44	0.00	1.73	73	3.59	104	66	19	1	0	0	0	
	MIDLAND	92	57	97	53	75	5	0.00	-0.41	0.00	0.42	21	1.16	39	49	13	5	0	0	0	
	SAN ANGELO	95	57	100	52	76	4	0.00	-0.64	0.00	1.85	55	3.08	59	59	12	6	0	0	0	
	SAN ANTONIO	90	67	100	64	79	5	0.00	-0.89	0.00	2.90	58	9.50	110	92	44	3	0	0	0	
	VICTORIA	89	67	99	63	78	3	0.00	-0.90	0.00	2.83	58	7.83	84	96	58	3	0	0	0	
	WACO	90	64	98	50	77	5	0.00	-1.02	0.00	3.70	54	13.96	131	93	37	4	0	0	0	
	WICHITA FALLS	84	58	93	50	71	2	0.20	-0.69	0.18	5.67	89	10.43	118	87	33	1	0	3	0	
UT	SALT LAKE CITY	67	50	76	47	59	3	0.19	-0.27	0.08	5.23	113	11.75	168	73	40	0	0	5	0	
VT	BURLINGTON	70	54	76	52	62	9	0.44	-0.24	0.16	6.26	107	13.25	142	94	62	0	0	5	0	
VA	LYNCHBURG	71	52	78	47	62	0	0.94	0.07	0.45	13.75	179	27.68	204	96	59	0	0	6	0	
	NORFOLK	75	58	81	56	67	3	2.35	1.52	1.23	11.50	147	25.72	171	95	60	0	0	6	2	
	RICHMOND	73	56	80	52	65	1	1.79	0.95	1.00	13.25	174	25.86	184	96	61	0	0	6	1	
	ROANOKE	71	54	78	48	62	1	0.95	0.06	0.32	11.69	148	27.66	204	93	57	0	0	4	0	
	WASH/DULLES	72	55	76	51	63	4	2.16	1.29	0.87	12.22	166	23.46	182	98	68	0	0	6	2	
WA	HANFORD	83	52	93	48	67	-	0.00	-0.12	0.00	0.57	55	2.96	121	76	30	2	0	0	0	
	OLYMPIA	62	47	68	43	55	4	0.00	-0.53	0.00	7.04	79	24.07	106	94	65	0	0	0	0	
	QUILLAYUTE	58	48	63	41	53	4	0.03	-1.35	0.01	10.43	50	41.34	87	97	75	0	0	3	0	
	SEATTLE-TACOMA	61	51	67	48	56	3	0.05	-0.36	0.04	5.02	78	15.48	98	96	70	0	0	2	0	
	SPOKANE	74	50	81	46	62	11	0.00	-0.30	0.00	2.10	68	5.75	88	83	37	0	0	0	0	
	YAKIMA	78	52	86	50	65	10	0.00	-0.07	0.00	1.20	95	5.00	156	71	38	0	0	0	0	
WV	BECKLEY	63	49	72	44	56	-1	2.05	1.17	0.70	11.96	151	21.74	158	99	67	0	0	6	1	
	CHARLESTON	69	52	76	47	60	0	1.50	0.62	0.43	11.31	140	18.96	135	99	62	0	0	7	0	
	ELKINS	67	47	72	43	57	2	0.84	-0.07	0.41	10.41	118	17.23	116	99	62	0	0	5	0	
	HUNTINGTON	68	52	75	46	60	-1	1.80	0.85	0.94	10.73	129	19.34	138	97	60	0	0	6	1	
WI	EAU CLAIRE	75	45	80	38	60	6	0.73	-0.07	0.69	8.20	147	12.14	167	87	36	0	0	2	1	
	GREEN BAY	68	47	74	42	57	6	0.43	-0.16	0.27	6.32	122	9.33	126	89	50	0	0	2	0	
	MADISON	67	50	73	46	59	6	0.89	0.21	0.76	11.63	197	15.31	190	93	60	0	0	3	1	
	MILWAUKEE	61	47	67	46	54	3	0.55	-0.12	0.35	8.28	118	14.06	139	91	67	0	0	3	0	
WY	CASPER	65	35	75	30	50	1	0.04	-0.44	0.03	1.56	50	2.61	61	79	29	0	0	3	2	
	CHEYENNE	59	36	70	30	48	-1	0.87	0.38	0.30	2.66	88	3.02	79	89	52	0	1	7	0	
	LANDER	65	41	73	35	53	3	0.63	0.08	0.50	5.11	130	5.81	116	72	29	0	0	6	1	
	SHERIDAN	65	35	79	28	50	0	0.00	-0.51	0.00	3.18										

## April Weather and Crop Summary

### Weather

Under the influence of a very strong southern branch of a split jet stream, below-normal temperatures prevailed from California into the Southeast. Monthly departures ranged from -2 to -5°F from California to the central and southern Plains. Meanwhile, readings averaged 2 to 7°F above normal across the Nation's northern tier. Because of the unusual warmth, some fruit trees across the Great Lakes and Northeastern States were already in bloom when more typical weather--resulting in several freezes--returned toward month's end.

The jet stream's active southern branch produced unsettled weather across California and the Southwest. Farther east, several April rainfall records were broken across the Ohio Valley and into the Southeast. At month's end, many rivers--including the middle Mississippi and lower Ohio Rivers--remained very high. In contrast, the procession of storms failed to dampen the South Central United States. The dry spell, which stretched to 6 weeks by the end of April, also affected the immediate Gulf Coast and most of Florida, although a late-month storm boosted topsoil moisture from eastern Texas to Florida.

Monthly rainfall topped 15 inches at a few locations in eastern Tennessee, including 16.51 inches at Big Ridge (Union County). Some of the heaviest rain fell on April 16-17, when 24-hour rainfall topped 5 inches in a few spots. At least five locations in the Ohio and Tennessee Valleys reported a record-wet April:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Total (Inches)</u>	<u>Former Record/Year</u>
Knoxville, TN	11.07 *	7.90 in 1994
Cincinnati, OH	9.77	8.62 in 1947
Asheville, NC	8.70	7.26 in 1979
Youngstown, OH	7.29	6.43 in 1957
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.)

In contrast, little or no rain fell in parts of Texas. Record-low April rainfall occurred in Midland and San Antonio, and several other cities had their driest April in at least 14 years:

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

<u>Location</u>	<u>Total (Inches)</u>	<u>Driest April Since...</u>
San Angelo	trace	0.00 in 1920
Del Rio	0.01	0.01 in 1955
Corpus Christi	0.03	trace in 1984
Abilene	0.35	0.20 in 1984

All of Abilene's rain fell on April 26, the same day that the month's first rain (0.59 inches) fell in Albuquerque, NM and 2.77 inches (83 percent of the monthly total) soaked Oklahoma City, OK. The same storm responsible for those totals delivered 4.32 inches to New Orleans, LA from April 27-30, ending a 26-day spell during which only 0.07 inches fell. In southern Florida, the month's first rain (1.01 inches) dampened Key West on April 30. But in Tampa, FL, only 0.41 inches (36 percent of normal) occurred during April, ending a 9-month streak (July 1997 - March 1998) with above-normal monthly rainfall.

Deadly tornado outbreaks struck on April 1, 8-9, and 16, claiming 45 lives across five Southeastern States. The last time more people died in April tornadoes was 1979. On the evening of April 8, an F5 (winds in excess of 260 mph) cut a 21-mile swath across Jefferson County, AL, killing 31 people. Through the first 4 months of 1998, the Nation's tornado toll reached 103, the highest calendar-year total since 1984, when 122 died.

During the first half of the month, several storms dumped significant snow from the Southwest to the central High Plains. By the 18th, monthly snowfall reached 16.3 inches in Flagstaff, AZ, 10.1 inches in Cheyenne, WY, and 9.5 inches in Colorado Springs, CO. Flagstaff's monthly average temperature of 37.2°F (5.1° below normal) was their third lowest on record. Tucson, AZ (61.4°F, 4.4° below normal) observed their coldest April since 1983.

In the Northeast, however, no snow fell in Rochester, NY for the first time in April since 1952. But when colder air arrived toward month's end, minima of 28°F (on the 27th) in Binghamton, NY and 30°F (on the 28th) in Lynchburg, VA were the lowest of the month. In Michigan, Lansing registered 25°F on April 27. Meanwhile, record warmth developed across the Northwest. The last day of the month featured an April-record high of 90°F in Portland, OR.

Nearly all of Alaska wrapped up a third consecutive month with above-normal temperatures. Monthly departures ranged from 0 to +14°F. In Anchorage, where the April average temperature was 4.5°F above normal, warmer-than-normal weather prevailed for the first 27 days of the month. Monthly

readings averaged 14°F above normal in Barrow, but a 50-day streak (March 6 - April 24) with above-normal temperatures ended on the 25th. On April 17, Nenana (60°F) posted their earliest 60-degree maximum on record. McGrath noted four daily-record highs during the month, including a high of 61°F on the 18th. On April 26, Cold Bay's high of 54°F was just 1° shy of their monthly record, set in 1965. In addition to the warmth, very wet conditions dominated the west and south. April precipitation was 1.64 inches (241 percent of normal) in Nome and 5.08 inches (258 percent) in Cold Bay. In contrast, unusually dry weather persisted across most of interior Alaska.

Drought continued throughout most of Hawaii, although significant improvement occurred in windward (east-facing) areas. Of the State's 73 official rain gauges, 62 received below-normal April rainfall. Kamuela (14.26 inches; 207 percent of normal), on the Big Island, and Hanapepe, Kauai (2.84 inches; 129 percent), were among the locations netting above-normal rainfall. However, 6-month (November-April) rainfall at the major reporting stations ranged from only 17 percent of normal (2.83 inches) in Honolulu to 54 percent (14.85 inches) in Lihue. In Hilo, where November-April precipitation averages more than 75 inches, the 6-month rainfall deficit topped 40 inches.

### Fieldwork

A rainy weather pattern persisted throughout the month in the eastern half of the United States, limiting fieldwork and delaying planting, especially in the Southeast. Cotton growers barely had time between storms to prepare and plant fields, keeping progress well behind normal as the month ended. The wet weather also delayed the normal beginning of the corn planting season in the Corn Belt. But as the end of the month neared, the western Corn Belt dried and farmers made excellent planting progress. However, the eastern Corn Belt remained wet, and planting continued to lag behind normal in Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio. By month's end, planting was ahead of normal and on a record pace in Minnesota.

Above-normal temperatures and dry weather from the Great Lakes westward through the northern Plains and Pacific Northwest allowed farmers to rapidly progress seeding small grain crops. By the end of the month, most of the Nation's spring wheat, barley, and oat crops were planted. But dry weather slowed germination and crop growth, especially in the central and northern High Plains.

The mild weather also coaxed winter wheat out of dormancy earlier than normal and provided good growing conditions for most of the month. A cold front that brought below-freezing temperatures as far south as northern Texas around mid-month did little damage to the crop. But by the end of the month, dry weather was beginning to stress the crop in the High Plains from Texas to the Canadian border. In the eastern Corn Belt, wet weather was responsible for a decline in the crop condition. Despite the late-month deterioration, winter wheat was in better condition at month's end than in recent years.

Fieldwork and planting were frequently delayed by rain in the Southwest and California. In addition, below-normal temperatures persisted for most of the month, keeping soils unfavorably cool until late-April and caused cotton growers to delay planting. Late-month warm weather allowed Southwest farmers to make good progress, but planting remained behind the 5-year average as the month ended. In the Southeast, cool, wet weather persisted through the end of the month, causing cotton and peanut planting to fall further behind. Rice growers had well over half of their crop seeded, despite the rainy weather.

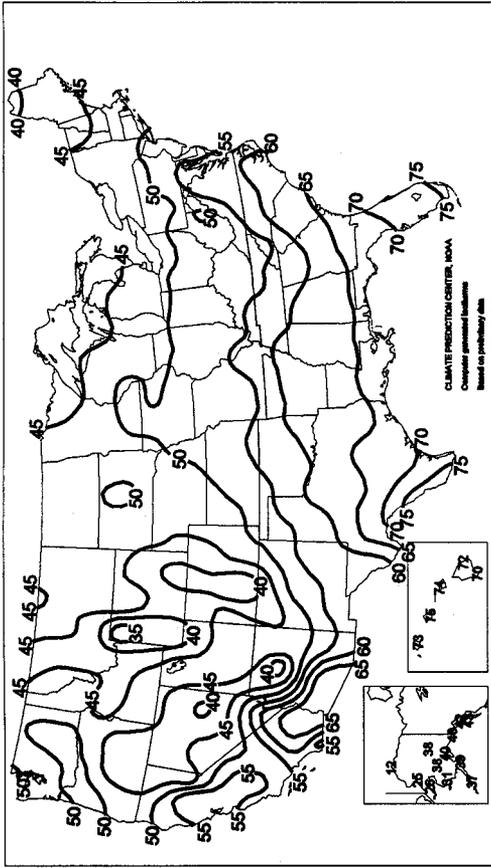
### U.S. Crop Production Highlights

*The following information was released by USDA's Agricultural Statistics Board on May 12, 1998. Forecasts refer to May 1.*

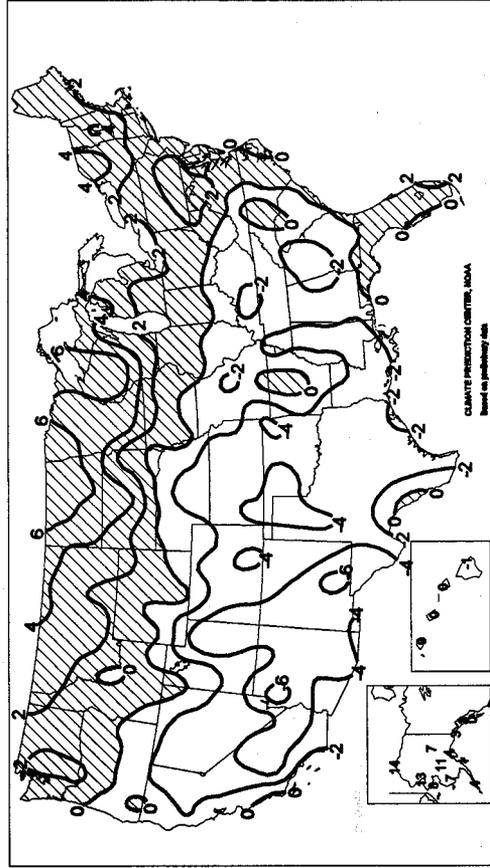
**Winter wheat** production is forecast at 1.71 billion bushels, down 9 percent from last year. The yield is forecast at 41.9 bushels per acre. This is down 3.1 bushels from last year's record-high average, but, if realized, would still be the second-highest U.S. average. Grain area totals 40.7 million acres, down 3 percent from 1997.

**All oranges** production for the 1997-98 season is forecast at a record-large 14.0 million tons, the same as the April 1 forecast but up 11 percent from last season's previous record-large production of 12.7 million tons. Florida's production remains at 248 million boxes (11.2 million tons), 10 percent above last season. Florida's early-midseason forecast is 140 million boxes (6.30 million tons), the same as the previous forecast but 4 percent above last year's record-large production. The Florida Valencia forecast remained unchanged from last month and is a record-large crop of 108 million boxes (4.86 million tons), 17 percent above a year ago.

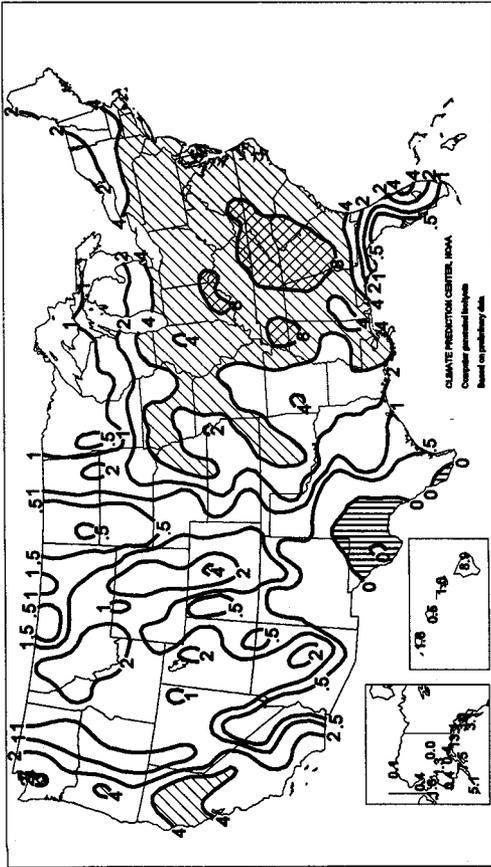
Average Temperature (°F)  
April 1998



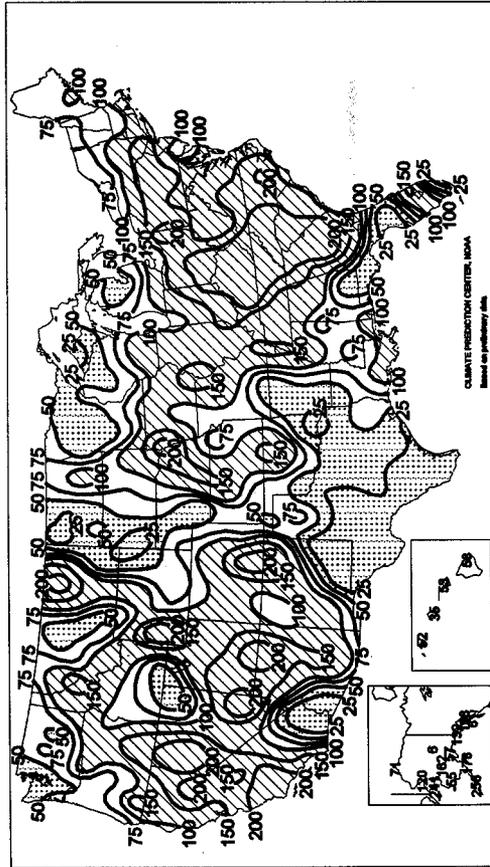
Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F)  
April 1998



Total Precipitation (Inches)  
April 1998



Percent of Normal Precipitation  
April 1998



# TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION SUMMARY

## April 1998

STATES AND STATIONS	TEMP. °F		PRECIP.		STATES AND STATIONS	TEMP. °F		PRECIP.		STATES AND STATIONS	TEMP. °F		PRECIP.	
	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE	TOTAL	DEPARTURE		AVERAGE	DEPARTURE	TOTAL	DEPARTURE		AVERAGE	DEPARTURE	TOTAL	DEPARTURE
AL BIRMINGHAM	61	-1	7.09	2.13	ME CARIBOU	40	2	2.23	-0.22	RI SCRANTON	50	1	5.41	2.44
AL HUNTSVILLE	60	-1	2.79	-2.14	ME PORTLAND	46	3	3.38	-0.73	RI WILLIAMSPORT	50	1	5.84	2.61
AL MOBILE	65	-3	5.19	0.71	MD BALTIMORE	56	1	3.03	-0.06	RI PROVIDENCE	50	2	4.91	0.80
AL MONTGOMERY	63	-1	1.83	-2.68	MA BOSTON	49	1	3.58	-0.02	RI BEAUFORT	66	-1	3.63	0.78
AK ANCHORAGE	40	4	0.39	-0.29	MA WORCESTER	47	3	3.30	-0.48	SC CHARLESTON	65	0	4.01	1.34
AK BARROW	12	14	0.14	-0.10	MI ALPENA	43	3	1.24	-1.01	SC COLUMBIA	63	0	6.12	2.84
AK FAIRBANKS	38	8	0.02	-0.33	MI GRAND RAPIDS	49	3	2.75	-0.83	SC GREENVILLE	59	-1	9.15	5.29
AK JUNEAU	42	3	2.99	0.22	MI HOUGHTON LAKE	45	3	0.86	-1.38	SD ABERDEEN	48	3	1.81	-0.14
AK KODIAK	39	1	7.46	3.26	MI LANSING	47	1	2.62	-0.19	SD HURON	49	3	1.85	-0.24
AK NOME	26	8	1.84	0.96	MI MARQUETTE	42	4	0.90	-1.74	SD RAPID CITY	46	1	0.30	-1.59
AZ FLAGSTAFF	37	-5	1.52	0.04	MI MUSKOGON	48	3	2.12	-0.78	SD SIOUX FALLS	47	0	3.57	1.06
AZ PHOENIX	67	-3	0.43	0.21	MN DULUTH	44	5	1.39	-0.86	TN BRISTOL	54	-1	7.03	3.73
AZ PRESCOTT	47	-3	1.05	0.24	MN INT'L FALLS	44	5	0.73	-0.85	TN CHATTANOOGA	59	0	7.78	3.47
AZ TUCSON	61	-4	0.39	0.09	MN MINNEAPOLIS	51	4	1.56	-0.88	TN KNOXVILLE	57	0	11.07	7.35
AR YUMA	69	-2	0.02	-0.11	MN ROCHESTER	49	4	2.20	-0.53	TX MEMPHIS	61	-1	8.26	2.79
AR FORT SMITH	60	-1	1.01	-2.96	MS ST. CLOUD	49	5	1.14	-1.22	TX NASHVILLE	58	-1	6.33	1.96
AR LITTLE ROCK	62	0	2.75	-2.33	MS JACKSON	63	-2	3.68	-1.89	TX ABILENE	63	-3	0.36	-1.55
CA BAKERSFIELD	58	-4	1.21	0.64	MS MERIDIAN	62	-2	4.23	-1.23	TX AMARILLO	53	-4	0.97	-0.01
CA EUREKA	51	1	2.23	-0.65	MO TUPELO	60	-2	4.95	-0.31	TX AUSTIN	67	-2	0.78	-1.78
CA FRESNO	59	-2	1.07	0.10	MO COLUMBIA	54	-1	5.08	1.25	TX BEAUMONT	67	-2	1.95	-1.68
CA LOS ANGELES	57	-3	1.00	0.28	MO KANSAS CITY	54	0	2.15	-0.97	TX BROWNSVILLE	72	-3	0.06	-1.51
CA REDDING	56	-2	2.84	0.78	MO SAINT LOUIS	56	-1	4.63	1.13	TX CORPUS CHRISTI	70	-2	0.06	-1.87
CA SACRAM/MCCLELL	59	-	2.00	-	MO SPRINGFIELD	54	-2	2.58	-1.80	TX DEL RIO	72	0	0.01	-1.97
CA SAN DIEGO	60	-2	1.11	0.32	MT BILLINGS	48	2	1.16	-0.58	TX EL PASO	59	-4	0.04	-0.18
CA SAN FRANCISCO	56	0	2.30	0.93	MT BUTTE	41	3	1.80	0.87	TX FORT WORTH	64	-2	1.25	-2.25
CA ALAMOSA	38	-3	0.67	0.18	MT GLASGOW	48	4	1.43	0.74	TX GALVESTON	69	0	0.52	-1.91
CA CO SPRINGS	43	-3	1.38	0.19	MT GREAT FALLS	45	2	0.45	-0.96	TX HOUSTON	66	-2	1.23	-1.98
CA DENVER	46	-2	2.47	0.79	MT KALISPELL	46	2	1.18	0.08	TX LUBBOCK	57	-4	0.40	-0.57
CA GRAND JUNCTION	50	-2	0.76	0.00	MT MILES CITY	50	4	0.60	-0.76	TX MIDLAND	62	-2	T	-0.83
CA PUEBLO	48	-4	1.88	1.00	MT MISSOULA	47	3	1.68	0.72	TX SAN ANGELO	65	-2	T	-1.87
CT BRIDGEPORT	49	1	5.50	1.75	NE GRAND ISLAND	49	-2	4.06	-1.55	TX SAN ANTONIO	67	-2	0.05	-2.45
CT HARTFORD	50	1	3.35	-0.50	NE LINCOLN	51	-1	2.19	-0.57	TX VICTORIA	67	-3	0.78	-1.85
DC WASHINGTON	57	1	3.95	1.24	NE NORFOLK	49	0	3.95	1.88	TX WACO	65	-2	1.31	-1.88
DE WILMINGTON	54	2	2.94	-0.45	NE NORTH PLATTE	48	-2	0.67	-1.32	TX WICHITA FALLS	60	-4	1.83	-1.38
FL DAYTONA BEACH	70	1	0.14	-2.08	NE OMAHA	52	0	3.95	1.29	UT SALT LAKE CITY	48	-1	2.08	-0.03
FL JACKSONVILLE	68	1	4.71	1.93	VT SCOTTSBLUFF	48	-1	1.53	-0.06	VT BURLINGTON	46	2	1.79	-0.97
FL KEY WEST	76	-1	1.01	-0.74	VA VALENTINE	70	0	1.25	-0.42	VA LYNCHBURG	55	-1	5.51	2.42
FL MIAMI	76	1	0.68	-2.19	NV ELY	40	-2	1.28	0.28	VA NORFOLK	59	2	4.31	1.25
FL ORLANDO	71	0	0.52	-1.28	NV LAS VEGAS	61	-3	0.14	-0.07	VA RICHMOND	58	1	4.32	1.36
FL TAMPA	72	1	0.41	-0.74	NV RENO	45	-3	0.60	0.22	VA ROANOKE	58	1	4.58	1.33
FL VALPARAISO/EGLIN	87	1	-	-	NV WINNEMUCCA	44	-2	1.44	0.60	VA WASH/DULLES	55	2	2.82	-0.19
FL WEST PALM BEACH	74	1	1.12	-1.79	NH CONCORD	46	3	2.21	-0.70	VA HANFORD	55	-	0.07	-0.34
GA ATHENS	69	-3	10.95	6.96	NJ NEWARK	54	2	6.17	2.33	VA OLYMPIA	49	1	1.21	-2.09
GA ATLANTA	59	-3	5.10	0.84	NM ALBUQUERQUE	52	-3	0.64	0.12	VA QUILLAYUTE	47	0	3.15	-4.35
GA AUGUSTA	62	-1	7.13	3.82	NY ALBANY	49	2	3.49	0.50	WA SEATTLE-TACOMA	50	1	1.00	-1.33
GA COLUMBUS	64	-1	3.62	-0.68	NY BINGHAMTON	48	2	4.54	1.41	WA SPOKANE	48	2	0.89	-0.29
GA MACON	62	-2	7.04	3.58	NY BUFFALO	47	1	2.54	-0.33	WA YAKIMA	50	1	0.21	-0.29
GA SAVANNAH	66	-1	5.68	2.85	NY ROCHESTER	48	2	1.81	-0.80	WV BECKLEY	51	0	4.71	1.29
HI HILO	72	-1	8.86	-6.40	NY SYRACUSE	48	2	2.09	-1.24	WV CHARLESTON	55	0	4.77	1.48
HI HONOLULU	75	-1	0.54	-1.00	NC ASHEVILLE	54	-1	8.70	5.34	WV ELKINS	50	1	5.10	1.30
HI KAHULUI	74	0	0.97	-0.87	NC CHARLOTTE	62	3	6.19	3.51	WV HUNTINGTON	55	0	6.79	3.37
HI LIHUE	73	-1	1.83	-1.87	NC GREENSBORO	57	0	5.52	2.88	WI EAU CLAIRE	51	6	1.18	-1.85
ID BOISE	50	1	0.81	-0.43	NC HATTERAS	57	-1	3.92	0.40	WI GREEN BAY	47	3	1.85	-0.55
ID LEWISTON	51	1	1.30	0.17	NC RALEIGH	59	0	3.12	0.53	WI MADISON	48	3	4.10	1.24
ID POCATELLO	44	0	0.69	-0.50	NC WILMINGTON	63	1	2.80	-0.07	WI MILWAUKEE	48	1	4.18	0.88
IL CHICAGO/O'HARE	50	1	3.58	-0.08	ND BISMARCK	48	5	0.86	-1.01	WI CASPER	43	0	1.00	-0.56
IL MOLINE	51	1	4.94	1.04	ND DICKINSON	47	5	1.37	-0.51	WI CHEYENNE	41	-1	1.09	-0.28
IL PEORIA	52	1	4.96	1.19	ND FARGO	49	8	0.60	-1.22	WI LANDER	43	-1	1.16	-0.92
IL ROCKFORD	49	1	4.51	0.86	ND GRAND FORKS	48	8	0.97	-0.54	WI SHERIDAN	45	1	2.01	0.29
IL SPRINGFIELD	53	0	4.05	0.37	ND JAMESTOWN	50	7	1.78	0.24	PR SAN JUAN	-	-	4.14	0.84
IN EVANSVILLE	55	-1	8.50	4.48	OH WILLISTON	47	3	0.10	-1.18					
IN FORT WAYNE	50	1	5.00	1.82	OH AKRON-CANTON	49	1	5.79	2.83					
IN INDIANAPOLIS	53	1	4.84	1.14	OH CINCINNATI	53	0	9.77	6.02					
IN SOUTH BEND	49	1	3.79	-0.03	OH CLEVELAND	49	1	6.07	2.93					
IA BURLINGTON	54	2	6.57	3.08	OH COLUMBUS	53	2	6.51	3.30					
IA CEDAR RAPIDS	49	0	3.48	0.29	OH DAYTON	62	1	6.19	2.73					
IA DES MOINES	51	0	1.79	-1.57	OH MANSFIELD	49	0	4.81	1.17					
IA DUBUQUE	48	0	5.10	1.38	OH TOLEDO	50	2	4.54	1.58					
IA SIOUX CITY	50	0	6.06	3.72	OH YOUNGSTOWN	49	1	7.29	4.23					
IA WATERLOO	50	2	3.58	0.28	OK OKLAHOMA CITY	57	-3	3.34	0.57					
KS CONCORDIA	52	-1	3.18	0.87	OK TULSA	58	-4	4.54	0.82					
KS DODGE CITY	52	-3	1.11	-0.94	OR ASTORIA	48	0	2.50	-2.10					
KS GOODLAND	47	-2	0.92	-0.38	OR BURNS	43	0	1.03	0.38					
KS TOPEKA	53	-2	2.16	-0.92	OR EUGENE	50	-1	2.61	-0.50					
KS WICHITA	54	-2	3.37	0.99	OR MEDFORD	52	0	2.25	1.09					
KY JACKSON	55	-1	10.00	6.05	OR PENDLETON	51	0	1.28	0.24					
KY LEXINGTON	54	-1	6.20	2.32	OR PORTLAND	63	2	1.04	-1.35					
KY LOUISVILLE	54	-2	6.38	2.13	OR SALEM	51	1	1.83	-0.79					
KY PADUCAH	57	-1	5.41	0.40	PA ALLENTOWN	52	2	5.22	1.70					
LA BATON ROUGE	65	-4	5.06	-0.32	PA ERIE	48	2	4.86	1.61					
LA LAKE CHARLES	66	-2	2.44	-0.89	PA MIDDLETOWN	55	3	5.17	1.83					
LA NEW ORLEANS	67	-1	4.39	-0.11	PA PHILADELPHIA	55	3	2.70	-0.92					
LA SHREVEPORT	63	-2	0.79	-2.98	PA PITTSBURGH	51	1	5.00	1.86					

Based on 1961-90 normals.

*(Continued from front cover)*

Cool, rainy weather plagued **California** for much of the week. In the **southern California** mountains, 6.52 inches fell on **Mount Wilson** during the first 9 days of May. More than half of that total (3.52 inches) fell in 24 hours on May 4-5. In the **Sierra Nevada foothills**, **Blue Canyon** netted 4.19 inches during the 9-day period. May 1-9 rainfall totaled 0.93 inches in **Bakersfield**, including a daily-record total (0.64 inches) on the 5th, raising their all-time-record seasonal total to 13.96 inches (244 percent of their seasonal normal). During the week, seasonal rainfall records were eclipsed in **Santa Barbara** (breaking their 1940-41 record of 45.21 inches) and at **UCLA** (breaking their 1977-78 record of 40.74 inches). On Thursday, downtown **San Francisco** received a 107th day of measurable rain during the season (July 1 - June 30), tying a long-standing record set in 1889-90. Late in the week, rain and snow overspread the **Great Basin**. In **Nevada**, **Elko** noted a daily-record rainfall (0.54 inches) on Saturday, and **Austin** received 9 inches of snow on May 9-10.

More than two dozen daily-record highs were set on May 6-9 from **Texas** to **Florida**. On Wednesday, highs reached 100°F as far north as **Dallas-Ft. Worth, TX**. A day later, **Austin, TX** logged 102°F, their second-highest temperature in May (behind 104°F on May 24, 1925) and only 3 days shy of their earliest triple-digit heat (100°F on May 4, 1984). Highs in **Laredo, TX** soared to 109°F on May 6 and 7. **Laughlin Air Force Base, in Del Rio, TX**, notched 110°F on the latter date. Late in the week, smoke from fires across **Mexico** and **Central America** drifted into the **lower Rio Grande Valley**, lowering visibilities to as little as 1 mile.

With the expansion and intensification of heat, short-term dryness worsened across the **Deep South**. By Friday, daily-record warmth spread as far as **Lafayette, LA** (93°F) and **Pensacola, FL** (92°F). A day later, **Ft. Lauderdale, FL** posted a high of 94°F. Farther north, however, more than 2 inches of rain fell during the week in many areas from **eastern Oklahoma** to the **Carolinas**, and along the **Atlantic Coast**, maintaining wet soils. At week's end, the **lower Ohio River** remained above flood stage by 7.5 feet in **Shawneetown, IL** and 7.7 feet in **Grand Chain, IL**.

In the **upper Midwest**, the rapid spring-planting pace was rewarded by midweek rainfall. On Thursday, daily-record totals were reported in **LaCrosse, WI** (1.31 inches) and **Rochester, MN** (1.37 inches). Dry weather persisted, though, across parts of the **Northwest**, **northern Plains**, and **Great Lakes region**. On Saturday, **Marquette, MI** marked a 21st consecutive day without measurable rain, their longest since May-June 1932. On the **northern Plains**, a combination of blowing dust and smoke from forest fires in **Alberta** produced hazy conditions.

Markedly colder weather continued to overspread **Alaska**. Along the west coast, **Kotzebue** registered -3°F on Sunday en route to weekly temperature departure of -7°F. Along the south coast, 8.6 inches of snow fell in **Valdez** on May 3-4, shattering their May snowfall record of 6.5 inches, set in 1995. Meanwhile in **Hawaii**, another week of below-normal rainfall maintained drought conditions.

## Latest El Niño Advisory

*The following is derived from the El Niño/Southern Oscillation (ENSO) Diagnostic Advisory 98/5 issued by the Climate Prediction Center/National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) on May 11, 1998.*

Strong warm episode (ENSO) conditions continued across the tropical Pacific as sea surface temperatures (SST's) remained above 28°C throughout most of the region. SST anomalies in the equatorial Pacific exceeded +2.0°C east of 120°W and +3.0°C from 90°W eastward. SST anomalies continued to decrease in many sections of the equatorial Pacific during April. However, this decrease primarily reflects the normal annual cycle in SST, which produces increases in the climatological mean temperatures across the eastern half of the equatorial Pacific at this time of the year.

Tropical convection and precipitation during April were again greatly enhanced across the central and eastern equatorial Pacific, and suppressed over the western Pacific. This overall pattern has persisted since June 1997 and has been associated with low-level westerly and upper-level easterly wind anomalies over the east-central and eastern tropical Pacific.

The latest NCEP forecasts indicate a return to near normal conditions in the tropical Pacific during the next 3-6 months. Thereafter, the NCEP coupled model indicates that near-normal

conditions will persist through the end of 1998. The NCEP CCA (statistical model) forecasts a more rapid cooling during the summer season than does the NCEP coupled model, with cooler-than-normal conditions developing during the last half of the year. Other statistical and coupled model forecasts indicate an evolution similar to that of the NCEP CCA. The rate at which the warm episode decays will depend on a return to near-normal or stronger-than-normal low-level easterlies over the equatorial Pacific. Through April, the easterlies continued to be much weaker than normal across the east-central and eastern tropical Pacific.

Based on current conditions in the tropical Pacific, the NCEP SST predictions, and results from historical studies on the effects of ENSO, we expect drier-than-normal conditions to continue over Micronesia and northern South America during the next couple of months. Wetter-than-normal conditions should continue over the central and eastern equatorial Pacific and over southeastern South America. A return to wetter-than-normal conditions is also possible over central Chile as the jet stream over the eastern South Pacific continues to be stronger than normal.

## National Agricultural Summary

May 4 - 10, 1998

### HIGHLIGHTS

**Dry weather continued across the Northern United States from the Great Lakes to the Pacific Northwest, providing excellent conditions for planting corn and small grains. However, rainfall was needed to help germinate crops and promote growth, especially in the northern Plains and Rocky Mountain States. The eastern Corn Belt and Southeast continued to be wet,**

**slowing planting and providing opportunities for diseases to spread. Rain in parts of the central Great Plains aided germination and crop growth. Most of Texas remained hot and dry, stressing young plants and slowing germination of recently planted crops. In California, fieldwork was active until midweek rains halted most field operations.**

**Winter wheat:** Thirty-eight percent of the crop has reached the heading stage or beyond, 4 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Crop development in the eastern Corn Belt was aided by above-normal temperatures, especially in Illinois and Indiana. Progress was also rapid in the central and southern Plains. Crop conditions continued to decline in the central and northern High Plains, particularly in Montana, South Dakota, and Nebraska, due to dry weather. In Kansas, beneficial rains kept conditions nearly unchanged. Wet weather was favorable for the spread of diseases in the eastern Corn Belt and Southeast, but conditions did not significantly deteriorate. The continued dry weather in Texas had very little effect on the crop as it matured. Harvest accelerated in southern areas and began farther north in the Blacklands.

**Corn:** One-fifth of the Nation's corn crop was planted, advancing the total to 60 percent, behind last year's 68 percent, but well ahead of the 5-year average. Dry weather continued in the western Corn Belt and Plains States, allowing progress to rapidly move ahead for the second consecutive week. Following 2 weeks of record-setting planting activity, Minnesota farmers were 3 weeks ahead of the 5-year average. Only 6 percent of the acreage remained to be planted. Farmers in Iowa, Nebraska, and South Dakota planted more than one-third of their corn acreage, moving total progress more than 1 week ahead of normal for those areas. Wisconsin, Michigan, and Colorado planted one-fourth of their acres and were about a week ahead of normal. In the eastern Corn Belt, frequent showers and isolated thunderstorms continued to limit planting, especially in Ohio and Indiana, where progress is more than a week behind the 5-year average. Plants have emerged on 16 percent of the corn acreage, up from 4 percent a week ago. Below-normal rainfall limited emergence in areas where planting was most advanced, but late-week showers helped germinate a large percentage of the Minnesota crop.

**Soybeans:** Fifteen percent of the Nation's soybean crop has been planted, compared with 10 percent normally planted by this date. With corn planting winding down, farmers in Minnesota planted over half of their soybean acreage, 2 weeks ahead of the normal pace. Dry weather in the Mississippi Delta States allowed progress to approach the halfway mark in Louisiana and Mississippi, ahead of normal for both States.

Rain limited progress in most Southeastern soybean-producing States as well as the eastern Corn Belt.

**Cotton:** In spite of locally heavy rainfall, cotton planting advanced to 40 percent, up from 24 percent the previous week, but still behind the 5-year average. The planting pace was most rapid in the Mississippi Delta States, where little or no rain fell during the week. Farmers in Arkansas and Mississippi planted nearly one-third of their crop and Louisiana growers planted more than 40 percent of their acreage. In Georgia and South Carolina, farmers made good progress where conditions permitted, but remained more than a week behind the 5-year average. Tennessee farmers made little progress and fell further behind normal. In the Southwest, dry weather allowed progress to approach the 5-year average, except in California, where planting remained more than 2 weeks behind normal.

**Rice:** The planting pace slowed but remained ahead of normal, at 71 percent complete. Farmers in the Mississippi Delta, aided by dry weather, made the most progress. California growers fell further behind as midweek rain halted planting again. Over half of the rice acreage had emerged, with some fields being flushed three times to obtain good stands.

**Small grains:** Below-normal rainfall allowed growers of the Nation's spring wheat, oat, and barley crops to continue planting well ahead of normal from the Great Lakes, across the northern Plains, and into the Pacific Northwest. Planting in major small grain-producing States was ahead of the 5-year average, with many of them nearly finished. Emergence was also ahead of normal for the small grains, but did not keep pace with planting due to dry soils.

**Other crops:** Sorghum planting advanced to 26 percent, slightly behind the 5-year average. In the Mississippi Delta region, progress was ahead of normal, except in Mississippi, where progress was slow despite dry weather. Progress was also ahead of normal in the northern Plains, where farmers were nearly finished planting other crops. Thirty-one percent of the peanut acreage was planted, but rain continued to delay planting in the Southeast. Progress was ahead of normal in the southern Plains.

# Crop Progress and Condition

## Week Ending May 10, 1998

### Winter Wheat Percent Headed

	May 10 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	97	89	97	88
CA	99	98	99	98
CO	4	1	4	1
GA	99	93	99	98
ID	0	0	0	0
IL	46	13	8	11
IN	37	12	9	10
KS	24	3	22	23
MI	0	0	0	0
MO	48	27	29	22
MT	0	0	0	0
NE	0	0	0	0
NC	93	82	94	85
OH	5	0	0	0
OK	82	59	75	77
OR	1	0	0	3
SD	0	0	0	0
TX	69	52	64	67
WA	5	2	0	1
ALL	38	24	33	34

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

### Soybeans Percent Planted

	May 10 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	14	NA	11	14
AR	20	NA	15	11
GA	5	NA	9	10
IL	3	NA	32	10
IN	3	NA	30	12
IA	14	NA	11	10
KS	13	NA	9	5
KY	1	NA	3	3
LA	47	NA	24	19
MI	10	NA	6	4
MN	53	NA	17	9
MS	40	NA	34	31
MO	4	NA	8	4
NE	12	NA	4	5
NC	12	NA	14	13
OH	4	NA	38	16
SC	8	NA	10	7
SD	14	NA	1	2
TN	2	NA	4	3
ALL	15	NA	18	10

These 19 States planted 94% of last year's soybean acreage.

### Corn Percent Planted

	May 10 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
CO	76	51	79	58
GA	91	85	95	97
IL	39	30	85	46
IN	14	10	69	35
IA	77	38	74	53
KS	89	72	71	66
KY	37	36	54	50
MI	50	23	46	23
MN	94	81	75	46
MO	54	42	67	49
NE	83	43	64	49
NC	75	67	94	91
OH	14	10	80	43
PA	27	24	41	29
SD	58	23	16	17
TX	91	83	79	88
WI	51	26	45	28
ALL	60	39	68	46

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

### Corn Percent Emerged

	May 10 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
CO	18	0	NA	NA
GA	86	75	NA	NA
IL	11	1	NA	NA
IN	4	0	NA	NA
IA	8	0	NA	NA
KS	37	13	NA	NA
KY	23	18	NA	NA
MI	22	0	NA	NA
MN	43	1	NA	NA
MO	0	0	NA	NA
NE	8	0	NA	NA
NC	65	56	NA	NA
OH	4	1	NA	NA
PA	5	1	NA	NA
SD	10	3	NA	NA
TX	73	65	NA	NA
WI	1	0	NA	NA
ALL	16	4	NA	NA

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

### Cotton Percent Planted

	May 10 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	65	49	56	61
AZ	89	75	94	92
AR	39	7	35	38
CA	60	45	98	91
GA	37	24	48	59
LA	66	23	62	68
MS	42	12	31	54
MO	16	5	41	25
NM	70	54	69	71
NC	41	25	36	49
OK	12	7	1	7
SC	38	18	57	62
TN	10	7	36	36
TX	34	23	26	29
ALL	40	24	41	46

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

### Sorghum Percent Planted

	May 10 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	73	60	76	61
CO	1	0	1	7
IL	0	0	4	1
KS	7	3	11	6
LA	77	34	64	55
MS	54	50	69	64
MO	6	3	15	11
NE	9	0	4	2
NM	1	0	1	5
OK	7	5	6	9
SD	26	7	0	1
TX	59	53	55	65
ALL	26	21	26	27

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

### Peanuts Percent Planted

	May 10 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	49	20	41	50
FL	38	19	37	NA
GA	31	19	50	64
NC	16	5	18	27
OK	35	14	21	11
SC	30	16	62	62
TX	22	8	10	10
VA	30	13	33	45
ALL	31	15	34	41

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

# Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending May 10, 1998

Oats Percent Planted				
	May 10 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
IA	93	79	97	84
MI	93	80	85	61
MN	96	84	78	69
NE	100	98	96	95
ND	63	40	12	27
OH	90	83	96	80
PA	82	77	88	75
SD	95	87	32	50
WI	94	84	87	60
ALL	86	73	62	58

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

Oats Percent Emerged				
	May 10 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
IA	68	NA	72	63
MI	65	NA	44	33
MN	72	NA	29	27
NE	70	NA	47	NA
ND	26	NA	0	6
OH	77	NA	69	52
PA	55	NA	64	NA
SD	66	NA	8	27
WI	61	NA	32	NA
ALL	57	NA	30	27

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

Spring Wheat Percent Planted				
	May 10 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	89	83	79	80
MN	93	71	22	40
MT	83	71	57	65
ND	72	53	15	31
SD	97	89	43	58
ALL	81	65	31	45

These 5 States planted 96% of last year's spring wheat acreage.

Spring Wheat Percent Emerged				
	May 10 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	57	NA	56	59
MN	55	NA	4	12
MT	49	NA	11	17
ND	36	NA	1	8
SD	74	NA	5	25
ALL	47	NA	6	15

These 5 States planted 96% of last year's spring wheat acreage.

Barley Percent Planted				
	May 10 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	85	71	62	71
MN	91	65	20	36
MT	85	66	55	61
ND	66	40	11	30
SD	94	85	19	45
WA	98	91	84	80
ALL	79	58	36	48

These 6 States planted 83% of last year's barley acreage.

Barley Percent Emerged				
	May 10 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	51	NA	40	45
MN	48	NA	4	11
MT	48	NA	7	16
ND	26	NA	0	8
SD	68	NA	2	21
WA	85	NA	56	59
ALL	43	NA	12	20

These 6 States planted 83% of last year's barley acreage.

Rice Percent Planted				
	May 10 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	78	65	75	67
CA	3	1	48	29
LA	97	91	84	83
MS	86	77	89	79
TX	96	92	67	78
ALL	71	62	72	65

These 5 States planted 96% of last year's rice acreage.

Rice Percent Emerged				
	May 10 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	51	NA	31	41
CA	0	NA	18	6
LA	86	NA	69	71
MS	65	NA	63	61
TX	85	NA	32	57
ALL	53	NA	39	44

These 5 States planted 96% of last year's rice acreage.

Winter Wheat Crop Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
AR	1	5	29	53	12
CA	0	0	20	50	30
CO	1	5	24	48	22
GA	1	9	30	53	7
ID	0	2	5	60	33
IL	1	3	23	61	12
IN	0	2	17	54	27
KS	0	4	18	55	23
MI	0	3	18	56	23
MO	1	12	30	48	9
MT	7	18	39	34	2
NE	3	14	32	44	7
NC	0	8	36	51	5
OH	0	3	16	50	31
OK	0	6	21	69	4
OR	0	0	7	45	48
SD	0	3	14	63	20
TX	5	19	39	33	4
WA	1	3	14	61	21
ALL	1	7	23	54	15
Prev Wk	1	6	23	55	15
Prev Yr	5	11	31	44	9

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/waob/jawf>.*

**ALABAMA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil 1% very short, 13% short, 56% adequate, 30% surplus. Higher temperatures boosted planting progress, crop growth in most areas. Dry conditions in southern areas caused stress on a few pastures. Acreage prepared 93%, 87% 1997, 92% avg. Corn planted 94%, 95% 1997, 91% avg. Wheat headed 94%, 95% 1997, 82% avg.; 3% poor, 30% fair, 55% good, 12% excellent. Livestock 1% poor, 27% fair, 59% good, 13% excellent. Vegetable crops are progressing well, with scattered showers, warmer weather.

**ALASKA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil, subsoil 50% short, 50% adequate. Fieldwork progress mostly on schedule to 7 days ahead. Barley seeding 30% complete, 5% short of 1997. Potato planting just begun on the Kenai Peninsula. Commercial vegetable planting continues. Livestock 5% poor, 20% fair, 60% good, 15% excellent.

**ARIZONA:** Cotton planting is still almost a week behind. Condition was reported as 5% poor, 21% fair, 58% good, 16% excellent. Alfalfa harvest activity was reported as 41% not being harvested, 7% light, 4% moderate, 48% active. Alfalfa condition slightly declined last week. Condition was reported as 3% poor, 9% fair, 60% good, 28% excellent. Small grains continued to progress, with virtually all headed by weeks end. As of May 10, 7% mature, 30% 1997, 20% avg.; 1% harvested, 3% 1997, 2% avg. Small grain 3% poor, 9% fair, 61% good, 27% excellent. Eastern area growers began harvesting head lettuce last week, while central, western areas growers harvested a smaller assortment of vegetables last week. Central area growers shipped artichokes, cabbage, carrots, mixed greens, iceberg, leaf lettuce, parsley, potatoes. Major vegetables harvested by Western growers included broccoli, cabbage, potatoes. Lettuce shipments included iceberg, leaf, romaine lettuce. Central, western areas harvested citrus in reduced quantities last week. Central area groves shipped a small volume grapefruit, valencias, while western areas shipped a small volume of grapefruit.

**ARKANSAS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Soil moisture 16% short, 71% adequate, 13% surplus. Main farming activities: Planting soybeans, sorghum, rice, cotton; cutting hay; weed control; side dressing corn, sorghum; fertilizing, spraying hay, pastures; spraying, flushing rice fields; working cattle. Livestock good condition statewide. Bangs vaccinations, deworming, castrating, dehorning main cattle activities during the week. Alfalfa 4% poor, 19% fair, 72% good, 5% excellent. Other hay 3% poor, 22% fair, 67% good, 8% excellent. Range, pasture feed 4% poor, 24% fair, 63% good, 9% excellent.

**CALIFORNIA:** Fieldwork was in full swing until midweek rainfall halted activity in most areas. Wheat, barley were heading, rapidly maturing, although lodging was still prevalent in some southern San Joaquin Valley fields. Corn, cotton and black eye beans were being planted in the Sacramento, San Joaquin Valleys before the rains. Early-planted cotton fields were growing well, some were being hand weeded. Newly planted cotton was not germinating, due to soil crusting and excessive moisture in the San Joaquin Valley. Some replanting of cotton may be necessary. Old crop sugar beets were harvested, while new crop fields were hand weeded. Rice planting made very little progress in the Sacramento Valley, due to the rain, wet conditions. Alfalfa, small grains, winter forages were cut for hay or green chopped where conditions permitted. Windrowed hay suffered moderate to severe rain damage in many areas. With the wet weather cherry growers were concerned that fruit may split. Since cherry maturity has been behind, damage may be limited. Grape growers were thinning shoots, leaves, applying sulfur for mildew control. Peaches, plums, nectarines were thinned. Some early-variety freestone peaches were picked in Fresno County. New crop citrus continued to bloom. Current crop navel oranges were picked. Valencia oranges were also picked. Lemon, grapefruit harvests were active. Wet weather slowed vegetable

fieldwork in many areas. Broccoli, cauliflower were harvested in the coastal valley, San Joaquin Valley. Head, leaf lettuce harvest continued where possible in central counties. Late-spring lettuce was weeded, thinned, sprayed to control mildew, loopers, aphids. Some romaine lettuce fields were not harvested in the Gilroy-Hollister area due to quality problems. Asparagus harvest continued, was active in Monterey County despite the rainfall. Cool weather conditions hindered tomato development in the San Joaquin, Sacramento Valleys; some fields were several weeks behind schedule in Fresno County. Spring head, leaf lettuce harvest continued; overall quality was good, with some isolated decay problems. Spring melon harvest continued in the Imperial, Coachella Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Valleys. Sweet corn planting slowed in the central counties. Harvest continued in the desert areas. Ground preparation continued for Siskiyou County potatoes. Squash picking in Tulare County, already at least a week behind schedule, was at a standstill. Some losses were anticipated due to over maturity. Processing tomatoes needed warmer temperatures for optimum growth. Onions were planted in the Tulelake-Butte Valley area, 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 this week. At the highest elevations, rangeland was still under snow cover. At lower elevations, on south facing slopes, annual grasses were rapidly maturing, slowly beginning to dry out. In the foothills, range animals continued to make good weight gains on forage that was plentiful, excellent quality.

**COLORADO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.2. Topsoil 2% very short, 23% short, 72% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil 4% very short, 20% short, 72% adequate, 4% surplus. Seasonal pattern of widely scattered, localized afternoon thunderstorms, with heavy rain and/or hail prevailed throughout the week. Additional moisture was welcomed in most areas, damaging hail caused some loss of crop potential. Spring barley 90% seeded, 97% 1997, 82% avg.; 82% emerged, 84% 1997, 60% avg.; 4% poor, 30% fair, 53% good, 13% excellent. Oats 74% seeded, 91% 1997, 73% avg.; 52% emerged, 74% 1997, 50% avg.; 1% poor, 12% fair, 80% good, 7% excellent. Dry onions 100% planted, 100% 1997, 92% avg.; 1% very poor, 1% poor, 19% fair, 70% good, 9% excellent. Sugar beets 99% planted, 100% 1997, 98% avg. Summer potatoes 89% planted, 99% 1997, 90% avg.; 13% emerged, 7% 1997, 3% avg. Fall potatoes 38% planted, 48% 1997, 41% avg. Winter wheat 84% jointed, 81% 1997, 58% avg. Spring wheat 70% planted, 84% 1997, 60% avg.; 55% emerged, 53% 1997, 38% avg. Livestock in mostly fair to good condition.

**DELAWARE:** Days suitable for fieldwork 2.5. Topsoil moisture 60% adequate, 40% surplus. Subsoil moisture 92% adequate, 8% surplus. Acreage prepared for planting of spring crops 75%. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 1% poor, 12% fair, 70% good, 16% excellent; 50% headed, 18% 1997, 20% avg. Corn for grain 50% planted, 39% 1997, 50% avg.; 17% emerged. Barley 1% very poor, 2% poor, 16% fair, 66% good, 15% excellent; 100% headed, 79% 1997, 86% avg.; 10% turned, 0% 1997, 0% avg. Green peas 90% planted, 98% 1997, 94% avg. Sweet corn 45% planted, 30% 1997, 41% avg. Cucumbers 14% planted, 9% 1997, 8% avg. Cantaloupes 35% planted, 19% 1997, 16% avg. Snap beans 18% planted, 5% 1997, 10% avg. Tomatoes 25% planted, 8% 1997, 19% avg. Watermelons 33% planted, 17% 1997, 19% avg. Strawberries 80% bloomed, 68% 1997, 70% avg. Hay supplies 33% short, 66% adequate, 1% surplus. Pasture feed 5% poor, 18% fair, 70% good, 7% excellent. Activities: Precipitation received throughout week hampered most farming activities in the State, increases in cereal leaf beetle activity, spreading of mildew in small grains.

**FLORIDA:** Topsoil moisture throughout State mostly short to adequate, scattered areas very short moisture. High temperatures, scattered showers accompanied by strong, steady winds blowing over Peninsula during end of week. Some storms dropped hail in some Peninsula localities. Sugarcane growth normal. Wheat growers ready to start harvest. Dry soil conditions starting to delay cotton, peanut planting. Field preparations for spring planted crops active. Peanuts planted 38%. Vegetable harvesting slowed, some southern areas, activity picked up, northern localities. 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, tomatoes, watermelons. Hot, windy weather, with few showers citrus areas, rain needed, lots of irrigation. New foliage showing in well cared for groves. Post bloom fruit drop (blight) still occurring. Valencia harvest very active. Seedless grapefruit movement slowing, supplies limited. Caretakers cutting cover crops, spraying, herbiciding. Pasture feed 5% very poor, 15% poor, 65% fair, 15% good, 5% excellent. Cattle 5% very poor, 5% poor, 55% fair, 35% good. Pasture in Panhandle showed drought stress. Grass growth throughout State hampered by dry conditions. Cattle condition generally fair to good.

**GEORGIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.4. Soil moisture 7% short, 53% adequate, 40% surplus. Corn 4% poor, 26% fair, 58% good, 12% excellent. Cotton 1% very poor, 5% poor, 33% fair, 56% good, 5% excellent. Hay 1% very poor, 5% poor, 23% fair, 61% good, 10% excellent. Peanuts 1% very poor, 5% poor, 33% fair, 55% good, 6% excellent. Sorghum 1% poor, 15% fair, 80% good, 4% excellent; 17% planted, 20% 1997, 38% avg. Soybeans 2% poor, 43% fair, 52% good, 3% excellent. Tobacco 3% poor, 30% fair, 61% good, 6% excellent; 99% transplanted, 100% 1997; 100% avg. Wheat 100% boot, 100% 1997, 100% avg. Onions 14% poor, 26% fair, 48% good, 12% excellent; 49% harvested, 77% 1997, 58% avg. Watermelons 4% poor, 36% fair, 52% good, 8% excellent; 93% planted, 95% 1997, 96% avg. Apples 1% poor, 13% fair, 77% good, 9% excellent; 99% blooming, 100% 1997, 100% avg. Peaches 16% very poor, 19% poor, 32% fair, 23% good, 10% excellent; 2% harvested, 3% 1997, 5% avg. Severe thunderstorms, heavy rain, damaging hail, tornados limited fieldwork. Rainfall variable, more than 3.00 in. some areas. Cool temperatures still slowing some crop growth. Overall crop conditions improved slightly. Corn planting progress advancing, less than a week behind last year and average. Wheat development equal to last year. Small grain diseases spreading. Hay harvest delayed again, quality deteriorating. Activities: Planting cotton, peanuts, sorghum, soybeans. Cultivating tobacco. Preparing land, applying fertilizer, herbicides.

**HAWAII:** Overall conditions fair for agriculture. Crop progress slowed by overcast skies, cool temperatures, localized showers. Showers helped some crops. Papaya benefited from showers. Harvesting active. Banana orchards generally good to fair condition. Showers aided growth. Watermelon harvesting increasing. Crop condition good. Light damage from wind, insects. Head cabbage supplies heavy. Crop in good condition. Sweet corn harvesting picking up. Plantings in fair to good condition. Tomato, cucumber harvesting at moderate levels. Overall crop condition fair to good.

**IDAHO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.10 Topsoil 4% surplus, 85% adequate, 11% short. Warm, dry conditions allowed for substantial planting progress throughout the State. Small area of south-central areas experienced heavy rain, hail, and frost forcing some replanting of sugar beets. Apples in post-bloom, other stone fruits developing normally. Hay, roughage supply 22% surplus, 67% adequate, 11% short. Alfalfa hay 1st cutting 1% complete. Irrigation supply 47% excellent, 53% good. Dry beans planted 7%, 1997 6%, avg. 5%. Dry peas planted 92%, 1997 26%, 36% avg.; emerged 36%, 1997 18%, 21% avg. Lentils planted 88%, 1997 15%, 26% avg.; emerged 26%, 1997 5%, 11% avg. Oats planted 79%, 1997 59%, 59% avg.; emerged 51%, 1997 35%, 34% avg. Onions emerged 99%, 1997 100%, 76% avg. Corn planted 70%, 1997 56%, 39% avg.; emerged 23%, 1997 9%, 6% avg. Potatoes planted 56%, 1997 47%, 50% avg.; emerged 3%, 1997 5%, 3% avg. Barley jointed 9%. Spring wheat jointed 12%. Winter wheat jointed 70%; booting 9%. Sugar beets planted 99%, 1997 99%, 98% avg.; emerged 73%, 1997 60%, 57% avg. Activities: Planting potatoes, small grains, dry peas, lentils, onions, corn,

sugar beets, field preparation, weed control, irrigation, branding calves, fencing, moving livestock to spring pasture.

**ILLINOIS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 1.0. Topsoil 15% adequate, 85% surplus. Another wet week across State hindered almost all field activities. Some wheat fields are ponding, there is concern as to how much damage the excess moisture could cause. Other activities included hauling grain, applying fertilizer, herbicides, wishing for drier conditions. Winter wheat filled 1%, 0% 1997, 0% avg. Oats 94% planted, 100% 1997, 86% avg. Oats 2% poor, 24% fair, 60% good, 14% excellent. Alfalfa hay 1% poor, 12% fair, 65% good, 22% excellent; 1st cut 1%, 1% 1997, 1% avg. Red clover 1% poor, 17% fair, 66% good, 16% excellent.

**INDIANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 0.7. Topsoil 14% adequate, 86% surplus. Subsoil 29% adequate, 71% surplus. Cumulative days suitable for the past 6 weeks is a meager 9.4 days. Corn planting is about 2 weeks behind normal, soybean planting about 10 days. Even though little corn has been planted, some farmers already face the possibility of replanting as continued rainfall has left water standing in fields across the State. Winter wheat 98% jointed, 87% 1997, 73% avg. There has been an increase in disease reports. However, condition remains very good. Range, pasture feed 1% poor, 22% fair, 53% good, 24% excellent. Activities: Planting corn, soybeans; applying burn-down herbicide, field preparation, caring for livestock.

**IOWA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.6. Topsoil short 5%, adequate 63%, surplus 32%. Subsoil short 2%, adequate 66%, surplus 32%. Apart from eastern and south-central areas, where planting progress continues to be hindered by wet conditions, drier weather allowed farmers to spend a lot of time in fields. The 1998 row crops: primary seedbed preparation completed (includes fall tillage) 85%, 85% 1997, 74% avg.; fertilizer application completed (includes fall application) 90%, 90% 1997, 79% avg. Corn planted 77%, 74% 1997, 53% avg.; emerged 8%, 3% 1997, 7% avg. Soybeans planted 14%, 11% 1997, 10% avg. Oats planted 93%, 97% 1997, 84% avg.; emerged 68%, 72% 1997, 63% avg. Winter wheat 7% poor, 25% fair, 57% good, 11% excellent. Pasture feed 4% poor, 22% fair, 57% good, 17% excellent. In general, satisfactory livestock reports: Animals doing better, feed yards drying out. Still battling wet, muddy feedlots across eastern, south-central areas; scours, calf losses continue.

**KANSAS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.7. Topsoil 2% short, 84% adequate, 14% surplus. Subsoil 4% short, 85% adequate, 11% surplus. Wheat jointing 99%, 96% 1997, 93% avg. Precipitation across the State was spotty, with some areas receiving heavy rains, hail. Some fields in the central part of the State are showing signs of nitrogen deficiency. Insect, disease infestations remain light. Alfalfa hay 1st cutting 12%, 7% 1997, 3% avg. Major field activities: Seedbed preparation, planting fall crops. Fieldwork was slowed in some areas due to wet fields. Pasture feed 3% poor, 17% fair, 64% good, 16% excellent. Major livestock activities, moving cattle to summer pasture.

**KENTUCKY:** Days suitable for fieldwork 1.0. Topsoil 19% adequate, 81% surplus. Subsoil 27% adequate, 73% surplus. Previously wet soils, continued rains caused field activity to be less than 2 days suitable for fieldwork for the third straight week. Farmers maintained barns, machinery, fences, prepared for planting, worked cattle, clipped pastures. Corn planting, tobacco setting, seedbed preparation were near a standstill for the week. Tobacco plant size in beds 41% less than 2 in., 36% 2 to 4 in. and 23% larger than 4 in. Burley tobacco acreage set 4% complete. Dark type tobacco setting just beginning. Ninety-nine percent report adequate plants for setting, while 1% report a short supply. Winter wheat 5% very poor, 11% poor, 33% fair, 42% good, 9% excellent. About 84% of the wheat crop headed or heading. Pasture feed 2% poor, 20% fair, 57% good, 21% excellent. Hay 3% poor, 24% fair, 54% good, 19% excellent.

**LOUISIANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.4. Soil moisture 3% very short, 18% short, 75% adequate, 4% surplus. Corn 1% very poor, 4% poor, 15% fair, 68% good, 12% excellent; 0% silked, 0% 1997, 0% avg. Cotton 28% emerged, 19% 1997, 44% avg. Cotton planting continues.

Hay 27% 1st cutting, 25% 1997, 21% avg. Rice 1% very poor, 3% poor, 28% fair, 60% good, 8% excellent. Some rice fields being replanted due to weak stands. Sorghum 57% emerged, 54% 1997, 45% avg. Soybeans 27% emerged, 14% 1997, 11% avg. Group IV, some group V soybeans were planted. Spring plowing 99% plowing, 89% 1997, 92% avg. Sugarcane 1% poor, 16% fair, 56% good, 27% excellent. Sweet potatoes 6% planted, 7% 1997, 6% avg. Wheat 3% very poor, 9% poor, 24% fair, 58% good, 6% excellent; 90% turning color, 50% 1997, 54% avg.; 11% harvested, 2% 1997, 1% avg. Livestock 1% very poor, 3% poor, 25% fair, 61% good, 10% excellent. Vegetables 3% poor, 26% fair, 61% good, 10% excellent.

**MARYLAND:** Days suitable for fieldwork 2.4. Subsoil 1% short, 56% adequate, 43% surplus. Topsoil 40% adequate, 60% surplus. Acreage that has been prepared for planting of spring crops 67%. Winter wheat 3% very poor, 5% poor, 23% fair, 55% good, 14% excellent; 55% headed, 41% 1997, 35% avg. Barley 3% very poor, 5% poor, 16% fair, 52% good, 24% excellent; 100% headed, 81% 1997, 82% avg.; 15% turned, 1% 1997, 1% avg. Rye 2% poor, 11% fair, 68% good, 19% excellent; 85% headed, 68% 1997, 61% avg. Field corn 50% planted, 51% 1997, 50% avg.; 24% emerged. Sweet corn 52% planted, 43% 1997, 43% avg. Green peas 89% planted, 96% 1997, 88% avg. Tomatoes 51% planted, 60% 1997, 57% avg. Cantaloupes 41% planted, 62% 1997, 50% avg. Watermelons 38% planted, 41% 1997, 40% avg. Snap beans 29% planted, 10% 1997, 39% avg. Lima beans 5% planted, 5% 1997, 12% avg. Strawberries 79% bloomed, 75% 1997, 71% avg.; 5% harvested, 0% 1997, 0% avg. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 2% poor, 10% fair, 55% good, 32% excellent. Hay supplies 19% very short, 22% short, 58% adequate, 1% surplus. Activities: Corn planting continued, wet weather slowed most farming activities. Small grain maturity continued well ahead of the 5-year average. However, reports of mold, mildew spreading on wheat, barley started to turn.

**MICHIGAN:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil 1% very short, 9% short, 67% adequate, 23% surplus. Subsoil 7% short, 72% adequate, 21% surplus. Asparagus harvested 47%, 12% 1997, 8% avg. Barley planted 95%, 66% 1997, 49% avg. Potatoes planted 69%, 61% 1997, 33% avg.; emerged 15%, 25% 1997. Rain prevented fieldwork in many areas until later in week, caused crusting. The Upper Peninsula, northern Lower Peninsula received little rain, are below normal since April 1. Southern third of the Lower Peninsula had areas of locally heavy rains. Crops are 10 days to 2 weeks ahead of normal. Corn, soybeans planting advanced rapidly late week as much early-planted corn emerged. Growth of alfalfa, pastures, wheat excellent. Alfalfa maturity was of normal, with first cuttings expected in May. Wheat scouting was active. Planting oats, barley nearing completion. Potato planting continued. Most asparagus growers in 5th or 6th harvest. Cabbage plants excellent condition due to cooler weather, adequate moisture. Carrots, early onions emerged. Tomato planting began. Sweet corn emerging in the southeast. Widespread light damage to fruit buds from late-April frosts. Tree spraying and planting small fruit kept growers active. Peach leaf curl symptoms were widely evident. Apples full bloom. Frost damage Grand Rapids area highest in Jonagold, Idared, Red Delicious. Spur death in Empires reported in the Northwest. Pears in full bloom in the west-central, and petal fall in the south. In the northwest, sweet cherries in petal fall, tart cherries in full bloom. Peaches at shuck split. Strawberries in first bloom; blueberries in late pink bud.

**MINNESOTA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Topsoil 7% very short, 25% short, 65% adequate, 3% surplus. Corn 98% ground prepared, 87% 1997, 60% avg.; 94% planted, 75% 1997, 46% avg.; 43% emerged, 2% 1997, 2% avg. Soybeans 76% ground prepared, 39% 1997, 22% avg.; 53% planted, 17% 1997, 9% avg. Spring wheat 93% planted, 22% 1997, 40% avg.; 55% emerged, 4% 1997, 12% avg. Oats 96% planted, 78% 1997, 69% avg.; 72% emerged, 29% 1997, 27% avg. Barley 91% planted, 20% 1997, 36% avg.; 48% emerged, 4% 1997, 11% avg. Sugar beets 99% planted, 69% 1997, 53% avg. Sunflowers 27% planted, 0% 1997, 6% avg. Green peas 71% planted, 58% 1997, 46% avg. Potatoes 60% planted, 37% 1997, 32% avg. Sweet corn 41% planted, 24% 1997, 18% avg. Dry edible beans 22% planted, 4% 1997, 4% avg. Flax 54% planted, 0% 1997, 5% avg. Winter wheat 9% poor, 36% fair, 42% good, 13% excellent. Alfalfa 5% poor, 26% fair, 57% good, 12% excellent. Rye

2% poor, 36% fair, 51% good, 11% excellent. Pasture feed 2% very poor, 10% poor, 32% fair, 51% good, 5% excellent. Excellent spring conditions last week helped farmers to continue their rapid progress in completing the planting of their crops. Also, many areas of the State benefited from some moisture during the latter part of the week. Records were established for corn planted, corn emerged, soybeans planted.

**MISSISSIPPI:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.9. Soil moisture 9% short, 72% adequate, 19% surplus. Corn 90% planted, 99% 1997, 92% avg.; 84% emerged, 94% 1997, 83% avg.; 6% poor, 21% fair, 61% good, 12% excellent. Rice 86% planted, 89% 1997, 79% avg.; 65% emerged, 63% 1997, 61% avg.; 6% poor, 34% fair, 56% good, 4% excellent. Soybeans 40% planted, 34% 1997, 31% avg.; 26% emerged, 21% 1997, 22% avg. Peanuts 7% planted, 9% 1997, 49% avg. Sweet potatoes 1% planted, 10% 1997, 11% avg. Hay 18% harvested (cool season), 47% 1997, 26% avg. Wheat 85% heading, 99% 1997, 99% avg.; 2% mature; 2% very poor, 6% poor, 40% fair, 50% good, 2% excellent. Watermelons 52% planted, 86% 1997, 83% avg.; 3% poor, 29% fair, 60% good, 8% excellent. Blueberries 1% very poor, 12% poor, 25% fair, 54% good, 8% excellent. Cattle 1% very poor, 4% poor, 21% fair, 61% good, 13% excellent. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 5% poor, 21% fair, 61% good, 12% excellent. Activities: Planting cotton, soybeans, rice, watermelons. Favorable weather allowed farmers to plant approximately 30% of the cotton acreage last week.

**MISSOURI:** Days suitable for fieldwork 2.0. Topsoil 1% short, 45% adequate, 54% surplus. Wet weather, muddy fields continued to hamper fieldwork efforts. Corn planting most advanced in the southwest 93%, southeast districts at 86%, while northeast 10%, north-central 29% are least advanced. Wheat heading most advanced southeast district 94%, south-central 90%, southwest 83%, while heading just beginning in the northern third of State. First crop alfalfa cut 6%, 3% 1997, 2% avg. Ground tilled for spring crops 73%, 84% 1997, 75% avg. Precipitation past week avg 1.30 in., varying from 0.60 in. northwest to 2.41 in. southeast district. Pasture feed 2% poor, 15% fair, 66% good, 17% excellent.

**MONTANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Topsoil 29% very short, 49% short, 22% adequate. Subsoil 24% very short, 39% short, 37% adequate. Dry conditions continue to persist across most of the State. Seeding well ahead of normal. Oats seeded 71%, 44% 1997, 48% avg.; emerged 33%, 12% 1997, 14% avg. Corn seeded 55%, 47% 1997, 49% avg.; emerged 33%, 1% 1997, 8% avg. Sugar beets seeded 99%, 92% 1997, 85% avg.; emerged 85%, 41% 1997, 29% avg. Dry beans seeded 33%, 21% 1997, 16% avg.; emerged 6%, 0% 1997, 2% avg. Potatoes planted 11%, 11% 1997, 16% avg. Calving 96% complete, lambing 88% complete. Cattle moved to summer ranges 41%, sheep moved 44%.

**NEBRASKA:** Day suitable for fieldwork 6.4. Topsoil 4% very short, 36% short, 59% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil 3% very short, 14% short, 80% adequate, 3% surplus. Fieldwork activities were in full swing last week, with corn producers making excellent planting progress. Although the dry weather conditions were good for fieldwork activities, rain was needed to encourage crop emergence and grass growth. As of 8th, western wheat fields were in need of moisture. One inch of rainfall was recorded in parts of the West over the weekend. Winter wheat 3% very poor, 14% poor, 32% fair, 44% good, 7% excellent; 54% jointed, 40% 1997, 53% avg. As of Friday, wheat stands in western, southwestern fields were beginning to show signs of stress due to lack of topsoil moisture. Corn 83% planted, 64% 1997, 49% avg.; 8% emerged, 5% 1997, 6% avg. Soybeans 12% planted, 4% 1997, 5% avg. Sorghum 9% planted, 4% 1997, 2% avg. Alfalfa 2% poor, 23% fair, 64% good, 11% excellent. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 6% poor, 26% fair, 62% good, 5% excellent. Activities: Finalizing oats seeding, spring tillage, irrigation, grain marketing, working cattle.

**NEVADA:** Temperatures turned colder as several storm systems traversed the State. Average temperatures were several degrees below normal in the south, near to slightly below normal in the north. Precipitation traces in Las Vegas to over 2.00 in. Winnemucca. Rain, snow melt

combined to push stream, river levels near flood stage in northeastern areas. Spring grain planting continued where weather permitted. Potato planting was slowed by rains in Humboldt County. Alfalfa growth was slowed by the cooler weather with harvest approaching. Weeds are more of a problem than usual due to the above-normal Spring precipitation. Calving, lambing continued, well along. Branding, shearing continued. Main farm, ranch activities: Field preparation, fertilizing, planting, working livestock.

**NEW ENGLAND:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.1. Topsoil 2% short, 51% adequate, 47% surplus. Subsoil 2% short, 51% adequate, 47% surplus. Pasture feed 8% fair, 63% good, 29% excellent. Maine potatoes 10% planted, 0% 1997, 5% avg.; condition good. Massachusetts potatoes 80% planted, 45% 1997, 40% avg.; 5% emerged, condition good. Rhode Island potatoes 50% planted, 40% 1997, 35% avg.; condition good. Oats in Maine 25% planted, 0% 1997, 10% avg.; 10% emerged, condition good. Barley in Maine 25% planted, 0% 1997; 5% emerged; condition good. Field corn 5% planted, 5% 1997, 10% avg.; <5% emerged; condition good. Sweet corn 25% planted, 20% 1997, 20% avg.; 10% emerged; condition good to fair. First cut hay 0% harvested, 0% 1997, 0% avg.; condition good to excellent. Apples full bloom, condition fair to good. Peaches petal fall, condition good. Pears petal fall, condition good. Strawberries bud stage/early bloom, condition good to fair. Cranberries bud stage, condition good. Highbush blueberries early bloom/bud stage, condition good. Wild blueberries bud stage/early bloom, condition fair. Rain delayed fieldwork, hampered planting, provided less than optimal pollination conditions for apples during full bloom. Major farm activities: Moving livestock to pasture, planting where conditions allowed.

**NEW JERSEY:** Days suitable for fieldwork 2. Due to an abundant amount of rain occurring throughout the week. Farming activities were limited to repairing equipment with some planting, harvesting as the weather permitted. Spraying for diseases, pests was interrupted by the rain, moderate winds. Farmers are planting snap beans, sweet corn, tomatoes, peppers, squash, pickles, eggplant. Increasing harvest of lettuce (all types except iceberg), Chinese cabbage, Swiss chard, asparagus, arugula, radishes, kale, parsley, beets, cilantro, herbs, spinach, endive, escarole, leeks occurring. Peaches are starting to size. Apples are setting. Strawberries (under plastic) are being harvested. Wheat, rye and barley are heading up. First cutting of hay for silage reported in some localities. Farmers are planting field corn. Pastures are in good to excellent condition.

**NEW MEXICO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Topsoil 3% very short, 36% short, 60% adequate, 1% excellent. The week was characterized by dry weather, with temperatures a little below normal. Winter wheat 8% poor, 36% fair, 55% good, 1% excellent; 49% headed, 41% 1997, 52% avg. Cotton plantings, at one time far behind schedule, moved to almost normal for the year; 70% planted, 69% 1997, 71% avg.; 2% poor, 49% fair, 38% good, 11% excellent. Corn condition was reported as 12% fair, 84% good, 4% excellent; 62% planted, 67% 1997; 21% emerged. Alfalfa 1st cutting continued in the south as northern, eastern producers continued to prepare for harvest. By the end of last week, 29% 1st cut was completed statewide, 23% 1997; 2% very poor, 7% poor, 25% fair, 50% good, 16% excellent. With chile planting finished, the crop condition was 1% poor, 32% fair, 51% good, 16% excellent. Lettuce harvest continued, 18% harvested; 12% fair, 29% good, 59% excellent. Onion condition remained good to excellent. Apples also remained in good condition, with an average fruit set. Pecans in good to excellent condition, with an average nut set reported. Cattle, sheep were mostly in fair to good condition. Pasture feed, range 1% very poor, 14% poor, 30% fair, 50% good, 5% excellent.

**NEW YORK:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.5. Soil moisture 6% short, 60% adequate, 34% surplus. Pasture feed 10% fair, 42% good, 48% excellent. Hay growing rapidly. Wheat condition 84% good, 16% excellent. Planting ahead of schedule. Corn 24% planted, 15% 1997, 13% average. Oats 79% planted, 50% 1997, 42% avg. Potato planting active. Soybean planting expected next week. Hudson Valley fruit 2 weeks ahead of normal. Champlain Valley apples at 50% full bloom. Excellent weather for pollination. Frost damage to Lake Ontario apples spotty. Cool, wet weather slowed vegetable development. Planting

delayed across the State. Cabbage transplants and sweet corn were in good condition. Wetness prevented onion growers from spraying. Strawberry growers concerned that moisture may cause fungal problems.

**NORTH CAROLINA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.7. Soil moisture 48% adequate, 52% surplus. Several strong storms, continuing rain throughout the week hindered fieldwork for most crops. Corn, cotton, peanuts, sorghum, soybeans, flue-cured tobacco are all behind average in planting progress. Activities included: Planting corn, cotton, peanuts, sorghum, soybeans; transplanting flue-cured tobacco; tending tobacco beds; tending livestock; repairing equipment.

**NORTH DAKOTA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Topsoil 1% very short, 16% short, 78% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil 3% very short, 19% short, 73% adequate, 5% surplus. Producers continued to show excellent planting progress despite rain during the later part of the week. Plantings of all crops progressed well ahead of average, last year. Emerged crops were reported in good to excellent condition. Wild oats, quack grass, Canadian thistle were reported as a problem in early season crops. Durum wheat 37% planted, 10% 1997, 19% avg.; 9% emerged, 1% 1997, 3% avg. Canola 66% planted, 11% 1997; 15% emerged, 0% 1997. Corn 64% planted, 17% 1997, 15% avg.; 8% emerged, 2% 1997, 1% avg. Dry edible beans 2% planted, 0% 1997, 1% avg. Flaxseed 40% planted, 3% 1997, 5% avg.; 4% emerged, 0% 1997, 0% avg. Potatoes 50% planted, 4% 1997, 13% avg.; 2% emerged, 0% 1997, 0% avg. Soybeans 20% planted, 0% 1997, 3% avg.; 2% emerged, 0% 1997, 0% avg. Sugar beets 99% planted, 37% 1997, 48% avg.; 37% emerged, 3% 1997, 6% avg. Sunflower 5% planted, 0% 1997, 1% avg. Pasture conditions improved slightly during the week; however, rain is still needed in many areas. Supplemental feeds were fed to 39% of the cattle, 44% of the sheep. Calving was 96% complete, while lambing was 94% complete. Hay, roughage supplies 1% very short, 8% short, 88% adequate, 3% surplus. Grain, concentrates 1% very short, 7% short, 88% adequate, 4% surplus.

**OHIO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 0.9. Topsoil 18% adequate, 82% surplus. Corn planted almost 2 weeks 8 days behind avg.; emerged 3 points behind avg. Soybeans planted 13 days behind avg.; 1% emerged, 2% 1997, 1% avg. Winter wheat 92% jointed, 61% 1997, 55% avg.; headed 5 points ahead both 1997, avg. Oats planted 7 days ahead of avg.; emerged 9 days ahead of avg. Alfalfa, other hay 1% 1st cutting, 0% 1997, 0% avg. Potatoes 47% planted, 64% 1997, 52% avg. Tobacco beds 88% plants up, 5% transplanted. Processing tomatoes 4% transplanted, 0% 1997, 8% avg. Sugar beets 20% planted. Hay 1% very poor, 1% poor, 16% fair, 52% good, 30% excellent. Oats 4% poor, 22% fair, 53% good, 21% excellent. Strawberries 2% poor, 18% fair, 55% good, 25% excellent. Activities: Applying fertilizer, manure, top dressing winter wheat; minimal field tillage; bush hogging; pasture clipping; green chopping hay; spraying herbicides; buying seed, selling 1997 grain; planting sweet corn, garden vegetables; tree trimming; repacking wheel bearing; repairing, preparing machinery for planting; installing, fixing tile. Northern part: growers are transplanting vegetables. Southern part: growers are setting tomatoes in plastic.

**OKLAHOMA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.8. Topsoil 3% very short, 20% short, 72% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil 7% short, 89% adequate, 4% surplus. Dry weather reduced soil moisture supplies in the south. Wet weather, cool temperatures benefit wheat development in the north. Wheat 3% soft dough, 6% 1997, 10% avg. Oats 64% heading, 66% 1997, 41% avg.; 5% soft dough, 22% 1997, 8% avg. Corn 5% fair, 93% good, 2% excellent; 99% planted, 53% 1997, 82% avg.; 30% up to stand, 35% 1997, 58% avg. Sorghum 55% seedbed prepared, 42% 1997, 54% avg.; 2% up to stand, 3% 1997, 4% avg. Soybeans 74% seedbed prepared, 84% 1997, 70% avg.; 27% planted, 30% 1997, 25% avg.; 7% up to stand, 13% 1997, 10% avg. Peanuts 97% seedbed prepared, 77% 1997, 77% avg. Cotton 91% seedbed prepared, 76% 1997, 76% avg. Alfalfa hay 1% poor, 20% fair, 67% good, 12% excellent; 48% 1st cutting, 31% 1997, 29% avg. Other hay 10% 1st cutting, 10% 1997, 27% avg. Livestock 1% poor, 15% fair, 80% good, 4% excellent.

**OREGON:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Topsoil 5% short, 86% adequate, 9% surplus. Subsoil 3% short, 90% adequate, 7% surplus. Winter wheat 7% fair, 45% good, 48% excellent. Winter wheat headed 1%, 0% 1997, 3% avg. Barley planted 86%, 86% 1997, 74% avg. Spring wheat planted 97%. Range, pasture feed 9% fair, 78% good, 13% excellent. Activities: Eastern field crops looked good. Some alfalfa cut, planting continued in northeast. Early wheat headed in Mid-Columbia, while fieldwork continued where possible. Western producers harvested some green chop alfalfa, grass, clover, first cutting of hay began in Willamette Valley. Mint fields burned for rust, spraying continued for rust on new plantings of grass seeds. Hops being strung. Nurseries busy spring planting. Container stock, balled material still being shipped. Greenhouses busy supplying local garden centers with bedding plants. Irrigation of field stock started. Willamette Valley producers busy, with field preparation, planting sweet corn, green beans, fresh market crops. Early fields of sweet corn, onions, green beans emerged, some leafy greens being harvested. Asparagus harvest in full swing in Northeast, where early potatoes showing good development. Onions, potatoes emerging in Malheur County. Willamette Valley strawberries near full bloom, caneberries blooming. Fruit set on pears, apples. Scab sprays being applied to apples, hazelnuts being sprayed for Eastern Hazelnut blight, fertilized. Rogue River Valley pears past bloom, growers spraying for scab, codling moth. South coast cranberry growth ranged early shoot growth to hook stage, blueberry bloom continued. Hood River apple bloom about over in lower valley, at petal fall in upper valley. Northeast cherry trees blooming. Livestock condition mostly good to excellent. Seasonal cattle movement to pastures, ranges continued. Growth good, due to warmer-than-normal weather. Some irrigation started in the Northeast and Willamette Valley.

**PENNSYLVANIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 1.5. Soil moisture 1% short, 40% adequate, 59% surplus. Very poor week for fieldwork. Spring plowing 74% complete, 79% 1997, 68% avg. Oats planted 82% complete, 88% 1997, 75% avg.; planted 28% complete, 42% 1997, 35% avg. Barley 80% heading or headed, 32% 1997, 25% avg. Wheat 23% heading or headed, 7% 1997, 6% avg.; 1% poor, 9% fair, 70% good, 20% excellent. Oat 1% poor, 10% fair, 75% good, 14% excellent. Alfalfa, alfalfa mixtures stand 1% poor, 8% fair, 63% good, 28% excellent. Timothy clover stand 1% very poor, 2% poor, 11% fair, 66% good, 20% excellent. Apples 98% pink, 90% 1997, 76% avg.; 91% full bloom or past, 71% 1997, 54% avg. Activities: Some planting of small grains; machinery maintenance; hauling manure; caring for livestock. There was very limited amounts of fieldwork due to continuous rain in most areas.

**SOUTH CAROLINA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.2. Soil moisture 53% adequate, 47% surplus. Apples 6% fair, 88% good, 6% excellent. Barley 93% headed, 98% 1997, 14% turned color, 42% 1997, 33% avg.; 1% poor, 27% fair, 36% good, 36% excellent. Cantaloupes 90% planted, 97% 1997, 88% avg.; 14% poor, 21% fair, 57% good, 8% excellent. Corn 97% planted, 100% 1997, 99% avg.; 92% emerged; 2% very poor, 5% poor, 27% fair, 52% good, 14% excellent. Cucumbers 84% planted, 100% 1997, 87% avg.; 2% poor, 44% fair, 39% good, 15% excellent. Hay 44% harvested, 52% 1997, 51% avg.; 2% poor, 34% fair, 55% good, 9% excellent. Oats 97% headed, 100% 1997, 94% avg.; 1% very poor, 3% poor, 39% fair, 47% good, 10% excellent. Peaches 3% very poor, 6% poor, 25% fair, 43% good, 23% excellent. Rye 98% headed, 98% 1997, 32% turned color, 51% 1997, 43% avg.; 1% very poor, 5% poor, 36% fair, 51% good, 7% excellent. Snapbeans 83% planted, 85% 1997, 75% avg.; 28% fair, 68% good, 4% excellent. Sorghum 37% planted, 40% 1997, 24% avg.; 2% poor, 40% fair, 50% good, 8% excellent. Tobacco 99% transplanted, 98% 1997, 96% avg.; 21% fair, 72% good, 7% excellent. Tomatoes 92% planted, 96% 1997, 99% avg.; 15% fair, 82% good, 3% excellent. Watermelons 96% planted, 100% 1997, 91% avg.; 2% very poor, 2% poor, 34% fair, 55% good, 7% excellent. Winter wheat 95% headed, 99% 1997, 95% avg.; 26% turned color, 46% 1997, 32% avg.; 1% very poor, 8% poor, 40% fair, 45% good, 6% excellent.

**SOUTH DAKOTA:** Days suitable for fieldwork, 6. Topsoil 4% very short, 17% short, 69% adequate and 10% surplus. Subsoil 7% short, 75% adequate, 18% surplus. Small grain seeding is well ahead of the 5-year average. However, 4th of the last 5 years have been late. Winter wheat 3% poor, 14% fair, 63% good, and 20% excellent. Spring wheat 1% poor,

15% fair, 65% good, 19% excellent. Barley 1% poor, 13% fair, 70% good, and 16% excellent. Oats 1% poor, 14% fair, 70% good, and 15% excellent. Sunflower 14% seeded. Flaxseed 74% seeded, 2% last year, 8% 5-year average. Alfalfa 3% poor, 15% fair, 63% good, and 19% excellent. Livestock 1% poor, 7% fair, 67% good, 25% excellent. Lambing 88% complete, compared with 82% a year ago, and calving 90% complete, compared with 86% a year ago. Producers have moved 51% of the cattle to pasture. Feed supplies 1% very short, 4% short, 87% adequate, 8% surplus. Stock water supplies 3% short, 80% adequate, 17% surplus. Range and pasture 1% very poor, 4% poor, 16% fair, 63% good, 16% excellent

**TENNESSEE:** Days suitable for fieldwork 2.0. Topsoil 27% adequate, 73% surplus. Subsoil 32% adequate, 68% surplus. Corn 73% planted, 85% 1997, 82% avg.; 53% emerged, 1% very poor, 5% poor, 37% fair, 50% good, 7% excellent. Tobacco 3% transplanted, 12% 1997, 12% avg. Wheat 95% headed, 88% 1997, 84% avg.; 3% very poor, 7% poor, 28% fair, 52% good, 10% excellent. Alfalfa 1st cutting 9%, 15% 1997, 16% avg.; 3% poor, 27% fair, 59% good, 11% excellent. Pastures feed 1% poor, 17% fair, 64% good, 18% excellent. Other hay 3% poor, 20% fair, 63% good, 14% excellent. Farmers throughout most of the State received more rain last week. In addition, tornadoes touched down in portions of middle, western areas. Some producers also experienced hail damage. Field activities such as corn planting, tobacco transplanting, alfalfa cutting ranged from a few days to approximately a week behind schedule.

**TEXAS:** Another week very hot weather, with virtually no rainfall occurred across State. A late-week frontal passage brought some moisture to Plains, North., However, relief very short lived as high winds continued to dry things down. Crops in the central, southern areas suffered under record-high temperatures that exceeded century mark. Windy conditions also worked against available soil moisture. Open conditions allowed fieldwork to progress. However, livestock held up despite hot weather, dry conditions. However, supplemental feeding increased over past few weeks to help hold body conditions.

**Crops:** Corn crop in High Plains up, doing well, but irrigation has been steady to ensure good emergence. Planting continued in many fields. The crop in Blacklands, central wilted under high daytime temperatures, in immediate need of a rain. In Coastal Bend, fields beginning to tassel, holding up so far, but a rain seriously needed. Fields in Rio Grande Valley holding on, but lack of sufficient irrigation water could spell hard times if a rain does not happen soon. Corn 73% normal, 77% 1997; 1% silking, 1% 1997, 2% avg. Cotton planting increased irrigated fields in Plains, north-central areas. Moisture needed for dryland planting begin. Late-planted fields in Blacklands need water also. Plants squaring in Coastal Bend, Rio Grande Valley. Fields in valley hurting for moisture as well. Cotton 63% normal; 3% squaring, 1% 1997, 3% avg. Grain sorghum planting slowly increased in Plains, north-central areas. Rain needed for further growth in Blacklands, where fields wilted under hot weather. Early-planted fields beginning to head in the central, Coastal Bend. Fields were also heading along Upper Coast. Grain sorghum 65% normal, 83% 1997; 5% headed, 1% 1997, 3% avg. Peanut planting increased in the north-central areas, with early fields emerging good stands. Rainfall needed for good progress. Some planting occurred in the south-central areas under very dry conditions. Rice planting completed more fields during week. Early-planted fields received third flooding to help progress. Weeds continued a problem some fields. Rice 80% normal, 83% 1997; 85% emerged, 32% 1997, 57% avg. Soybean planting began High Plains during week under dry conditions. Planting also continued northern Blacklands, where rain needed. Fields along Upper Coast still look good. However, moisture needed for further progress. Small grains in dryland fields in the High Plains continued to show signs of lack of sufficient moisture. Irrigated fields made good progress, but very high temperatures caused some stress. Fields continued to head. Dry conditions in the north-central areas caused additional fields to be baled, grazed. Fields rapidly dried down in the Blacklands, where harvest got underway. Harvest increased in the Central, Coastal Bend. Early yields fair to good, 1% harvested, 0% 1997, 0% avg.

**Commercial Vegetables:** Rio Grande Valley, harvest onions, carrots, cabbage continued without delay under very dry conditions. Citrus harvest nearing completion most groves. San Antonio-Winter Garden, onion, potato harvest continued during week. A few fields watermelons

harvested. East, progress good for all crops. High Plains, crops continued to make good progress under constant irrigation. Trans Pecos, cantaloups, chilies continued to make good progress. Pecans: Nuts forming many areas, with early reports of light set. Spraying began for first case bearer generation Central. Producers in other areas continued scout groves for case bearer activity. Peaches: Hill Country crop not sizing as desired due to dry conditions. Producers watering where available. The crop in other areas also hurting from hot, dry conditions.

**Range and Livestock:** Some fertilizing pastures occurred last week. However, most producers waiting for rain. Supplemental feeding activity increased over past weeks as grazing conditions declined. Livestock conditions remained good, but flies continued a problem in many herds.

**UTAH:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Topsoil 1% very short, 8% short, 81% adequate, 10% surplus. Subsoil 6% short, 80% adequate, 14% surplus. Pasture feed, range 23% fair, 66% good, 11% excellent. Cattle/calves 15% fair, 71% good, 14% excellent. Sheep 14% fair, 78% good, 8% excellent. Spring wheat emerged 77%, 83% 1997, 78% avg. Barley emerged 69%, 79% 1997, 76% avg. Oats planted 69%, 74% 1997, 71% avg.; emerged 45%, 44% 1997, 45% avg. Corn planted 45%, 51% 1997, 45% avg.; emerged 3%. Potatoes planted 62%, 61% 1997, 26% avg. Alfalfa height 10.5 inches, 10 inches 1997, 9 inches avg. Apples full bloom or past 100%, 88% 1997, 55% avg. Tart cherries full bloom or past 100%, 91% 1997. Ewes lambing on range 86%, 88% 1997, 84% avg. Sheep sheared on range 91%, 96% 1997, 89% avg. Sheep moved to summer range 8%, 17% 1997. Cattle/calves moved to summer range 13%, 13% 1997, 10% avg. Major farm, ranch activities: Ground preparation, planting corn, branding or marking livestock.

**VIRGINIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 2.3. Topsoil 40% adequate, 60% surplus. Subsoil 55% adequate, 45% surplus. Corn 55% planted, 56% 1997, 59% avg.; 30% emerged; 18% fair, 57% good, 25% excellent. Cotton 60% planted, 59% 1997, 72% avg. Peanuts 30% planted, 33% 1997, 45% avg. Soybeans 3% planted, 3% 1997, 6% avg. Flue-cured tobacco 20% transplanted, 5% 1997, 22% avg. Dark fire cured tobacco 6% transplanted, 2% 1997, 6% avg. Tobacco greenhouses 1% fair, 28% good, 71% excellent. Tobacco plantbeds 1% very poor, 7% poor, 28% fair, 41% good, 23% excellent. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 7% poor, 21% fair, 52% good, 19% excellent. Barley 1% very poor, 4% poor, 18% fair, 52% good, 25% excellent. Summer potatoes 1% poor, 30% fair, 50% good, 19% excellent. Apples 10% fair, 75% good, 15% excellent. Peaches 35% fair, 60% good, 5% excellent. Pasture feed 1% poor, 11% fair, 61% good, 27% excellent. Alfalfa 9% fair, 48% good, 43% excellent. Other hay 2% poor, 19% fair, 51% good, 28% excellent. Heavy widespread rains limited field activities to 2.3 days last week. Surplus moisture levels in many localities have caused muddy, impassible field conditions. Excessive rainfall accompanied by hail stopped planting progress in some southeastern localities and caused damage to wheat, corn, and cotton. Some corn-producing areas continue to run 1 to 2 weeks behind in planting due to extreme wet conditions. Although corn planting progress is slightly ahead of last year, producers have now fallen behind the 5-year average. Corn producers are concerned with yellowing due to excess moisture and cool temperatures. Some producers are optimistic of an abundant hay supply this year based on initial cuttings. Other producers are now concerned about hay that has lodged due to over growth. However, some northern producers reported having very short hay due to cooler temperatures and a late frost. Flue, dark fire tobacco producers made good transplanting progress last week as conditions permitted. Other farming activities included vegetable planting in drier localities, land preparation for tobacco, fence repairing.

**WASHINGTON:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.9. Topsoil 8% very short, 31% short, 60% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil 20% short, 78% adequate, 2% surplus. Winter wheat, dryland 2% very poor, 3% poor, 15% fair, 60% good, 20% excellent; irrigated 75% good, 25% excellent. Spring wheat 99% planted, 89% 1997, 85% avg.; 93% emerged, 68% 1997, 68% avg. Spring wheat, dryland 35% fair, 65% good; irrigated 70% good, 30% excellent. Barley 98% planted, 84% 1997, 80% avg.; 85% emerged, 56% 1997, 59% avg. Subsoil moisture has been adequate for most crops. Many areas were rapidly drying, with some crops beginning to show moisture stress. Rainfall amounts in the next 7 to 10 days could significantly impact crop development. Potatoes 95% planted, 91% 1997,

90% avg.; 55% emerged, 49% 1997, 41% avg. Hay, other roughage supplies, 2% short, 68% adequate, 30% surplus. Range, pasture feed 8% poor, 10% fair, 59% good, 23% excellent. Fruit continued to progress ahead of normal. Most tree fruit crops set fruit well, warm weather aided in blossom thinning. Raspberries, strawberries, blueberries continued to bloom. Vegetable planting continued. Christmas tree growers were spot spraying Canada thistle. Grass silage making continued.

**WEST VIRGINIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 1.4. Topsoil 41% adequate, 59% surplus. Extremely wet field conditions continue to delay planting, field activities. Rainy weather did improve pasture growth. Wheat 4% fair, 56% good, 40% excellent; headed 43%, 16% 1997. Apple 92% fair, 8% good. Peach 82% fair, 18% good. Hay 2% poor, 33% fair, 56% good, 9% excellent. Intended acreage prepared for spring planting 69%, 83% 1997, 74% avg. Corn planted 18%, 36% 1997, 38% avg. Oats planted 69%, 82% 1997, 80% avg.; emerged 32%, 51% 1997, 54% avg. Soybeans planted 3%, 6% 1997, 10% avg. Tobacco beds seeded 100%, 100% 1997, 100% avg. Tobacco beds emerged 92%, 96% 1997, 96% avg. Cattle 1% poor, 15% fair, 77% good, 7% excellent; 96% calved. Sheep 11% fair, 87% good, 2% excellent; 95% lambing. Hay, roughage supplies 4% very short, 10% short, 83% adequate, 3% surplus. Feed grain supplies 2% very short, 5% short, 93% adequate.

**WISCONSIN:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.9. Soil moisture 4% very short, 15% short, 58% adequate, 23% surplus. Spring tillage 75% complete, 73% 1997, 52% avg. Soybeans planted was 10% complete, 10% 1997, 6% avg. Where field conditions permitted, farmers got an early start planting soybeans. Planting conditions were mixed statewide. Many farmers have finished planting corn, the crop was emerging in some areas of the State. However, an observer in the Southeast District noted farmers were reordering shorter-season corn hybrids, because the fields were too wet to plant yet. Sweet corn and peas were being planted in Portage County. Peas were up in Waushara, Rock Counties. Tobacco beds were planted in Dane County. Alfalfa was nearly a foot tall in Dunn, Waupaca Counties, hay harvest activities may begin in 2 weeks. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 3% poor, 19% fair, 54% good, 23% excellent. Conditions were deteriorating in the North-Central District due to the dry conditions.

**WYOMING:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.9. Topsoil 23% short, 64% adequate, 13% surplus. Subsoil 19% short, 81% adequate. Winter wheat 15% fair, 47% good, 38% excellent; jointed 27%, 1% 1997, 11% avg. Barley seeded 87%, 88% 1997, 84% avg. Oats seeded 66%, 68% 1997, 67% avg. Spring wheat seeded 83%, 65% 1997, 62% avg. Sugar beets planted 99%, 98% 1997, 96% avg. Corn planted 64%, 39% 1997, 46% avg. Dry beans planted 3%, 1% 1997, 2% avg. Range, pasture feed 23% fair, 61% good, 16% excellent. Spring calves born 96%, 99% 1997, 97% avg. Range flock ewes lambing 50%, 49% 1997, 47% avg. Range flock sheep shorn 86%, 85% 1997, 80% avg. Livestock 4% fair, 87% good, 9% excellent. Stock water 4% short, 94% adequate, 2% surplus. Range, pasture feed 23% fair, 61% good, 16% excellent. Precipitation brought relief to southern part of State, while northern areas remained dry. Mild weather pushed winter wheat development well ahead of last year, average pace.

# International Weather and Crop Summary

May 3 - 9, 1998

## HIGHLIGHTS

**FSU-WESTERN:** Weather conditions favored spring grain planting in Ukraine and Russia.

**EUROPE:** Drier weather improved conditions for summer crop planting in the west, while rain continued to alleviate moisture deficits in southeastern areas.

**NORTHWESTERN AFRICA:** Dry weather helped early winter grain harvesting in Morocco, while showers favored immature crops in eastern Algeria and Tunisia.

**AUSTRALIA:** Rain returned to eastern winter grain areas.

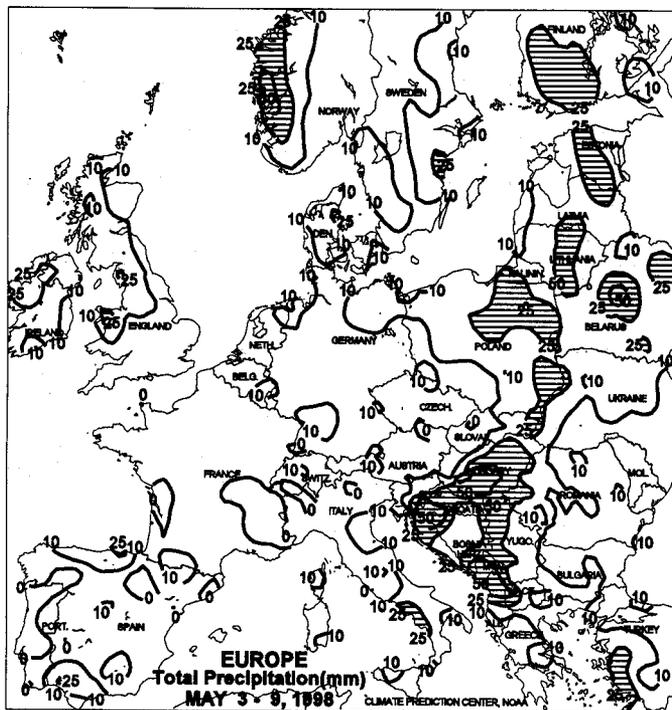
**CANADA:** Prairie plantings made good early progress.

**SOUTHEAST ASIA:** Showers eased drought across the eastern Philippines, while hot, dry weather stressed coffee and rice in southern Vietnam.

**EASTERN ASIA:** Unseasonable rain continued to benefit reproductive winter wheat and germinating summer crops across the North China Plain.

**SOUTH AMERICA:** Dry weather eased flooding in northern Argentina and favored summer-crop harvesting across central Argentina and extreme southern Brazil.

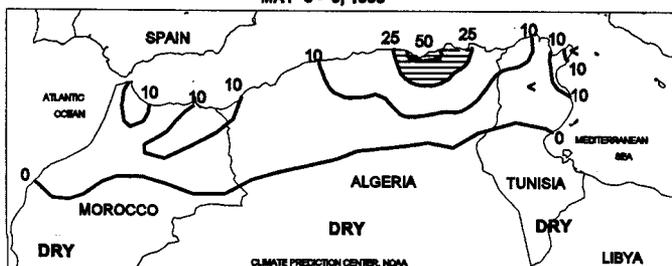
**MEXICO:** Hot, dry weather further reduced moisture supplies across northeastern and central Mexico.



### EUROPE

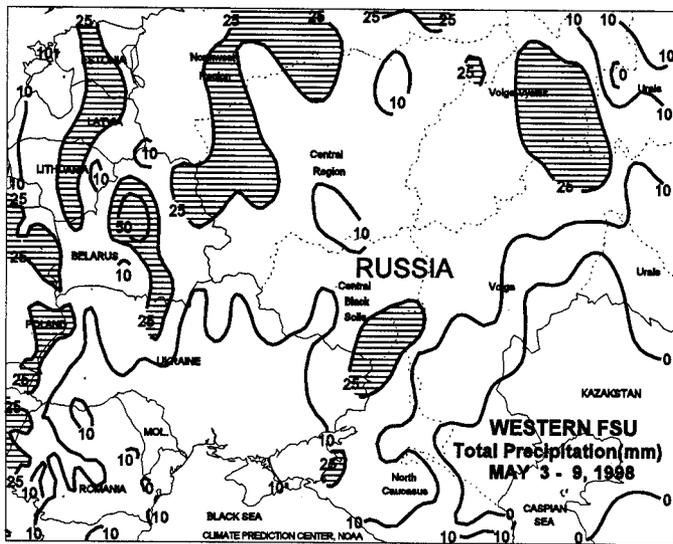
Drier weather (precipitation amounts generally less than 10 mm) was accompanied by seasonable temperatures in England, France, Germany, and northern Italy, favoring winter and spring crop development and improving conditions for corn planting. Winter grains were mostly in the jointing stage in these areas, except in southern France and Italy's Po Valley, where crops were likely in or approaching the heading stage. Crop progress for spring grains ranged from tillering to jointing. In Spain, dryness persisted in eastern areas, stressing nonirrigated crops. Farther east, variable showers (10-25 mm, with local amounts in excess of 50 mm) fell from Poland southward through Hungary into Bulgaria and Greece. Greatest amounts of rain (25-50 mm) fell in Hungary and northern Yugoslavia. While the precipitation in these areas boosted yield prospects for winter grains nearing the heading stage, it interrupted corn and sunflower planting. Weekly temperatures averaged near normal throughout most of eastern Europe.

**NORTHWEST AFRICA Total Precipitation (mm)**  
MAY 3 - 9, 1998



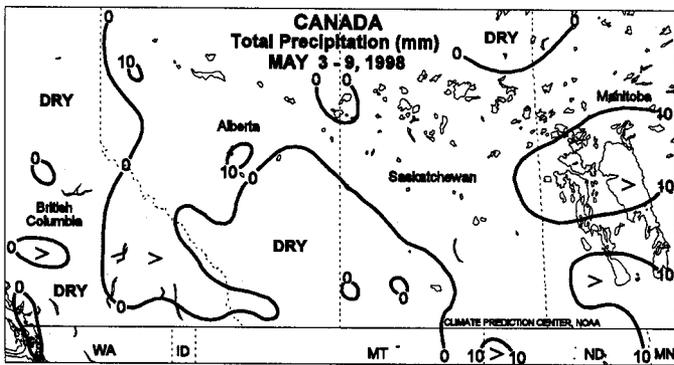
### NORTHWESTERN AFRICA

Winter grains ranged from filling to mature over the region. Typically, winter grain harvesting begins in May and extends through July. Mostly dry weather in Morocco favored early winter grain harvesting, likely underway in southern areas. Farther east, dry weather hastened maturity in winter grains in western Algeria and southern Tunisia, while light showers (10-30 mm) favored immature crops in northeastern Algeria and northernmost crop areas in Tunisia.



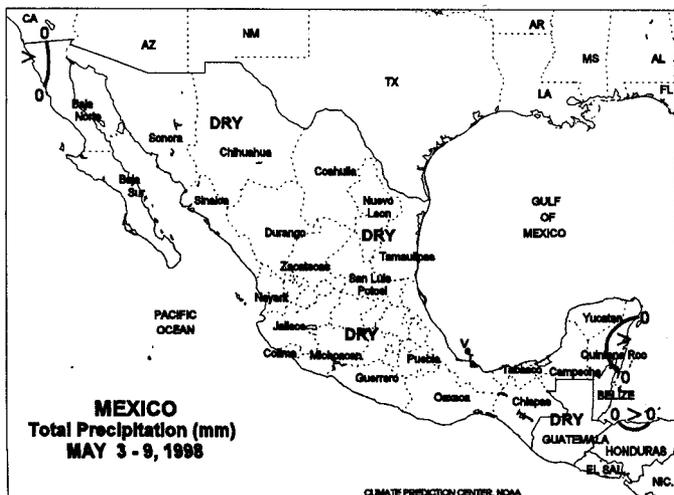
**FSU-WESTERN**

In Ukraine, unseasonably warm, dry weather prevailed in central and southern areas, allowing rapid spring grain planting. Adequate soil moisture in these areas favored winter grains in the jointing stage. Elsewhere, light showers (10-25 mm) in northern and eastern Ukraine caused only brief planting delays. In Russia, winter grains were entering the heading stage in extreme southern areas and were tillering in the extreme north. Light to moderate showers (10-25 mm, with local amounts in excess of 25 mm) fell in most of Russia, maintaining favorable moisture conditions for winter grains and causing only temporary delays in spring grain planting that continued to progress northward. A warming trend occurred over most of Russia, with weekly temperatures averaging 2 to 4 degrees C above normal. The mild weather was especially welcomed in the north, promoting winter grain development and increasing soil temperatures for spring grain planting. Elsewhere, rainy weather (10-40 mm) in Belarus and the Baltics hampered spring grain planting but provided abundant moisture for winter grains in the jointing stage.



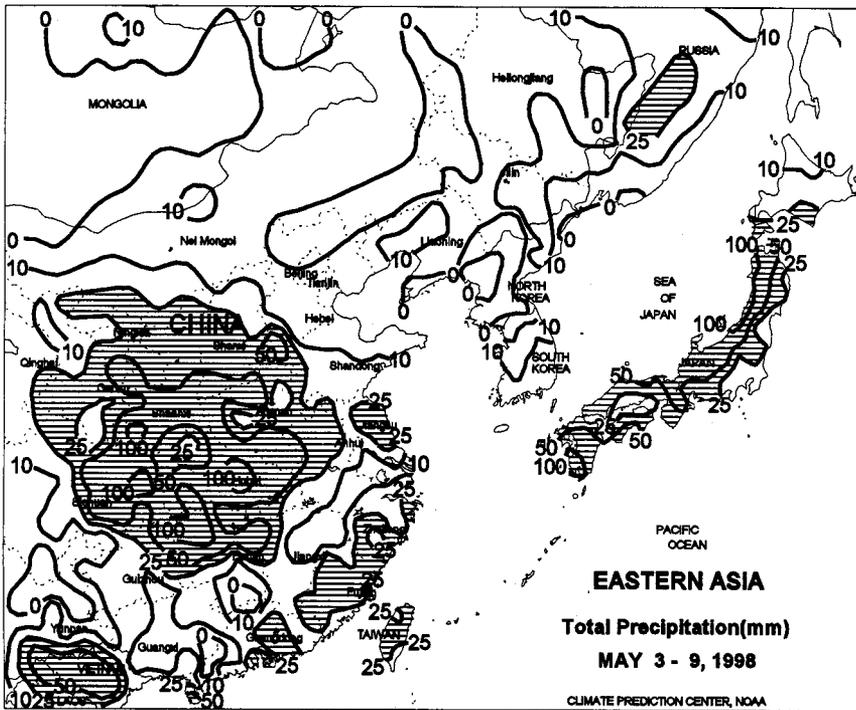
**CANADA**

Spring plantings are reportedly making good early progress. In the Prairies, dry, mild weather (average temperatures as much as 4 degrees C above normal) continued to favor rapid fieldwork in all provinces. On May 11, official estimates indicated that Saskatchewan's spring plantings had reached the halfway mark, 40 percentage points higher than the same time last year. Moisture reserves, however, were not nearly as favorable as last season. Manitoba reported similar progress. Last week, officials in Alberta estimated that all spring sowings would be finished by the third week in May. Moisture will be needed soon over a broad area from Alberta's northeastern crop areas to Manitoba to ensure proper establishment. In addition, early development has been restricted by temperatures that continued to dip below freezing. Farther east, warm, dry weather in Ontario favored corn planting and winter wheat development. Temperatures averaged 4 to 6 degrees C above normal, with lows well-above freezing. Spring plantings were reportedly nearing completion in some districts by the end of last week.



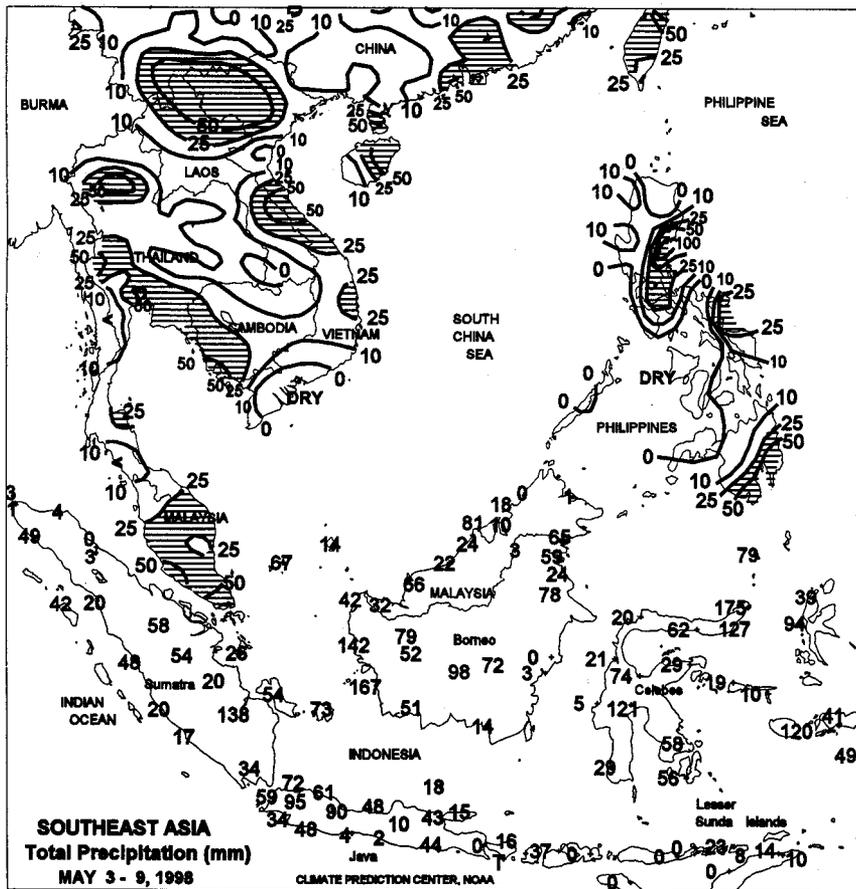
**MEXICO**

Hot, dry weather further reduced moisture supplies across northeastern and central Mexico. Temperatures averaged 2 to 6 degrees across the region, with highs ranging from 35 to 46 degrees C. Dry weather prevailed across southern Mexico, where rainfall typically averages about 10 mm per week during early May.



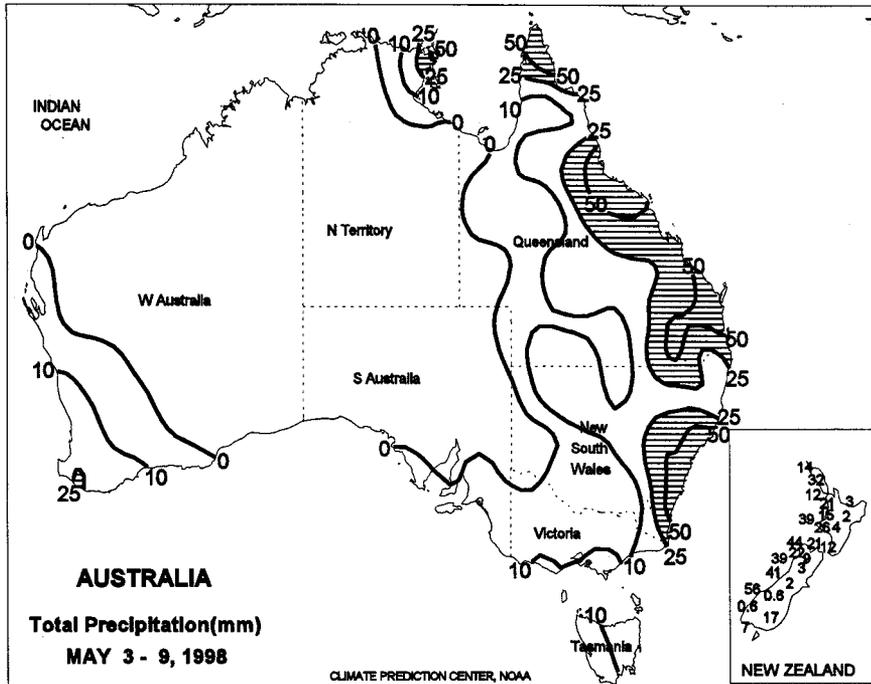
**EASTERN ASIA**

Unseasonably moderate rainfall (10-50 mm, with isolated amounts greater than 70 mm) covered north-central China (southern Gansu eastward into Henan and southern Hebei). The rain benefited reproductive winter wheat and germinating summer crops. In Shandong, rainfall ranged from 5 to 18 mm. In Manchuria, scattered light rain moistened topsoils for summer crop germination. Heavy rain (40-110 mm) erased lingering dryness in the Sichuan Basin. Light to moderate rain (10-50 mm) maintained irrigation supplies for early double-crop rice. Temperatures averaged near normal across the North China Plain, 1 to 3 degrees C above normal across Manchuria, and 3 to 5 degrees C above normal across southern China. Moderate rain (25-75 mm, with isolated amounts greater than 100 mm) covered Japan, boosting rice moisture supplies. Light rain (1-15 mm) covered the Korean peninsula, increasing moisture for summer crop planting.



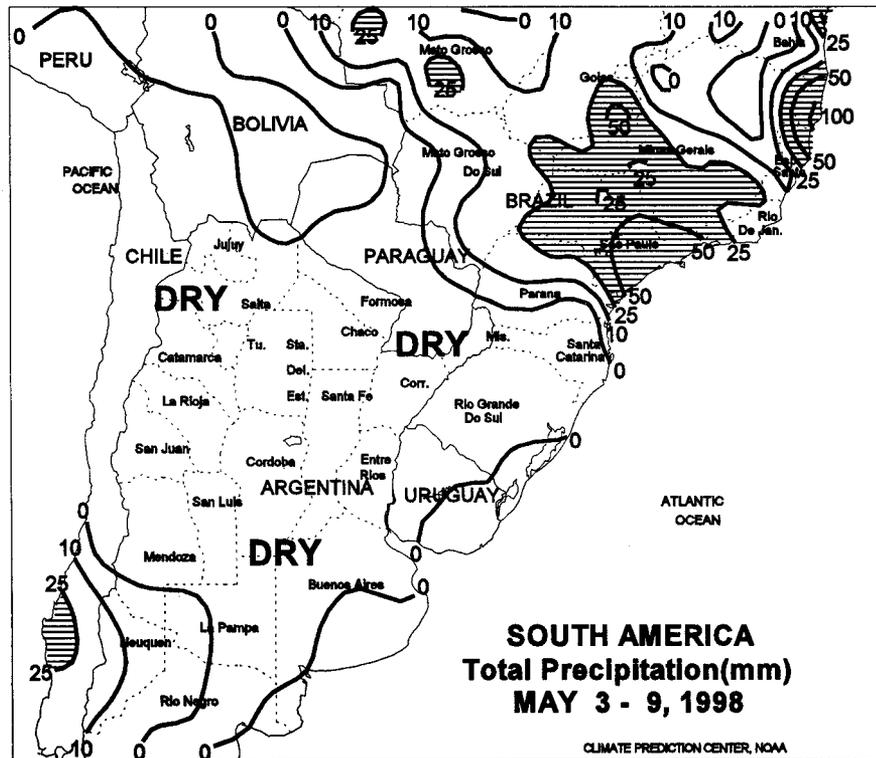
**SOUTHEAST ASIA**

In Java and southern Sumatra, variable showers (10-60 mm) maintained adequate moisture supplies for main-season rice and increased supplies for second-season crops. Moderate showers (25-80 mm) eased drought across the eastern Philippines. Showers (15-40 mm, with isolated amounts greater than 70 mm) increased moisture supplies for rice transplanting across Thailand and northern Vietnam. Hot, dry weather (average temperatures 2-4 degrees C above normal), however, stressed coffee and early-planted summer-autumn rice in southern Vietnam. Showers eased dryness and aided oil palm across eastern Malaysia (Sabah and Sarawak) and peninsular Malaysia.



**AUSTRALIA**

Moderate to heavy rain (10-25 mm, locally exceeding 50 mm) returned to winter grain areas of Queensland and northern and central New South Wales. Although fieldwork was hampered, the rain maintained favorable moisture levels for establishment. Farther south, cool, dry weather prevailed from South Australia to southern New South Wales. Patchy frost likely occurred as far north as central New South Wales. In Western Australia, rain (5-20 mm) was generally confined to southwestern agricultural districts. In New Zealand, moderate showers (25 mm or greater) covered central North Island and northern South Island. Rainfall continued to be light (10 mm or less) in other primary agricultural areas.



**SOUTH AMERICA**

In northern Argentina and southern Paraguay, dry weather since April 29 has eased flooding and dried some cotton fields, but more dry weather is still needed. Dry weather favored summer crop harvesting across central Argentina. According to reports as of May 1, Argentine cotton, soybean, corn, and sunflowerseed crops were 21, 28, 44, and 91 percent harvested, respectively. Last year at this time, cotton, soybean, corn, and sunflowerseed crops were 45, 61, 71, and 99 percent harvested, respectively. In southern Brazil, dry weather favored soybean harvesting in Rio Grande do Sul and southern Parana. Moderate showers (10-40 mm) slowed harvesting from northern Parana into southern Mato Grosso. Temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C below normal across northern Argentina, southern Paraguay, and most of southern Brazil.

The *Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin* (ISSN 0043-1974) is published weekly and jointly prepared by the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Publication began in 1872 as the *Weekly Weather Chronicle*. It is issued under general authority of the Act of January 12, 1895 (44-USC 213), 53rd Congress, 3rd Session. NOAA is responsible for managing, printing, and distributing the bulletin. The contents may be reprinted freely, with proper credit.

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

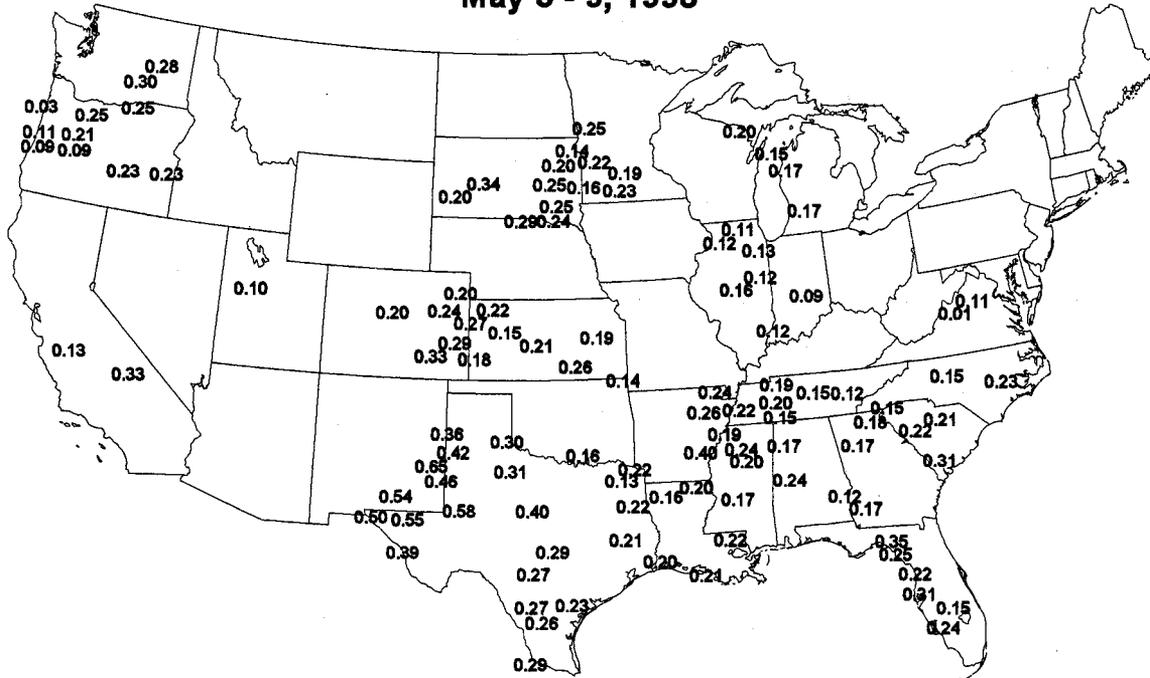
**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
 National Weather Service/Climate Prediction Center  
 Managing Editor (Acting) . . . . . **Brad Rippey** (202) 720-1444  
 fax (202) 720-1455  
 Meteorologists . . **David Miskus, Jeff Savadel, and Brian Morris**  
 Special Requests . . . . . (202) 720-7917  
 Subscriptions . . . . . **John Kopman** (301) 763-8227, ext. 7534  
 fax (301) 763-8125

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

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

**Average Pan Evaporation (Inches/Day)**  
**May 3 - 9, 1998**



NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY  
 Based on preliminary data

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

**WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN**  
**FIRST CLASS**

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

OFFICIAL BUSINESS  
 PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300