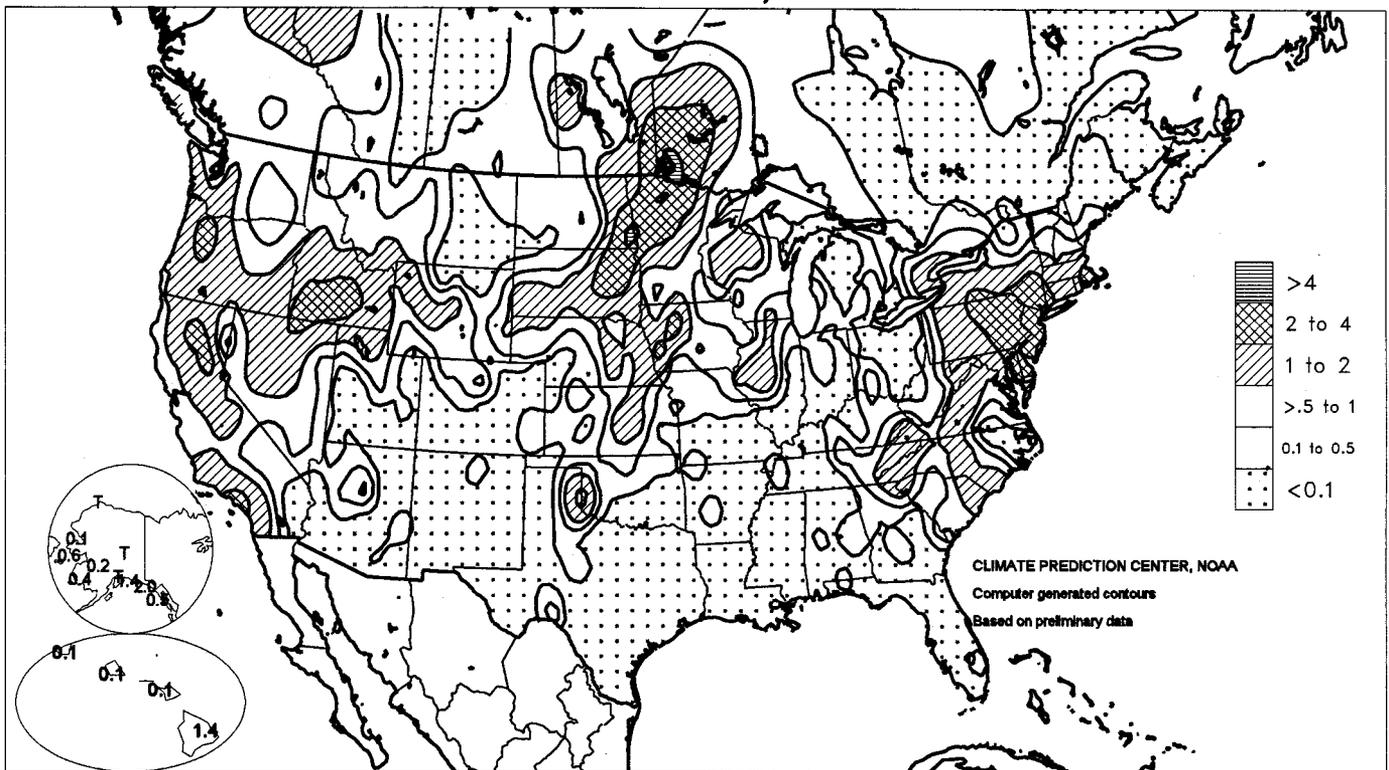


WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

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 10 - 16, 1998



HIGHLIGHTS

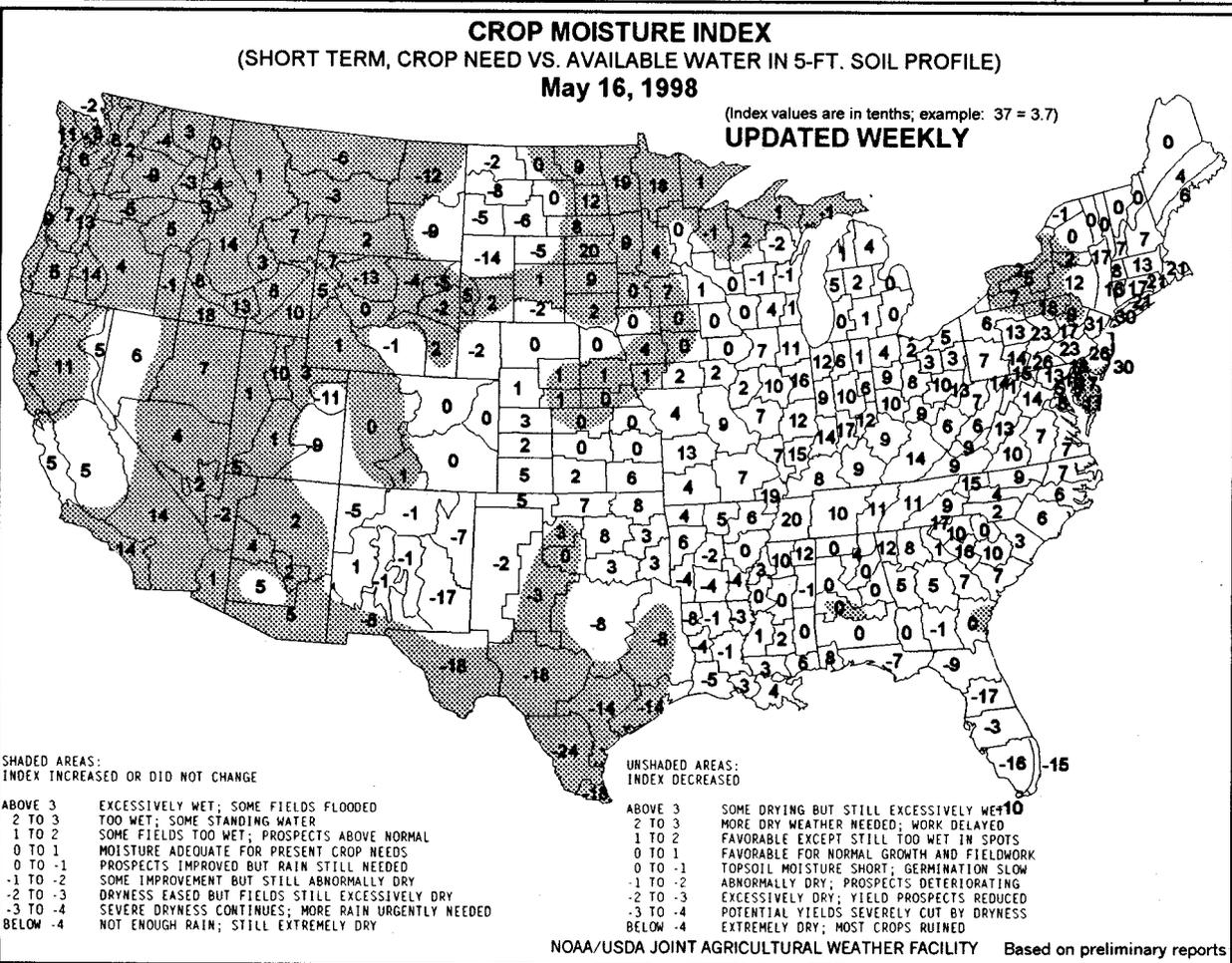
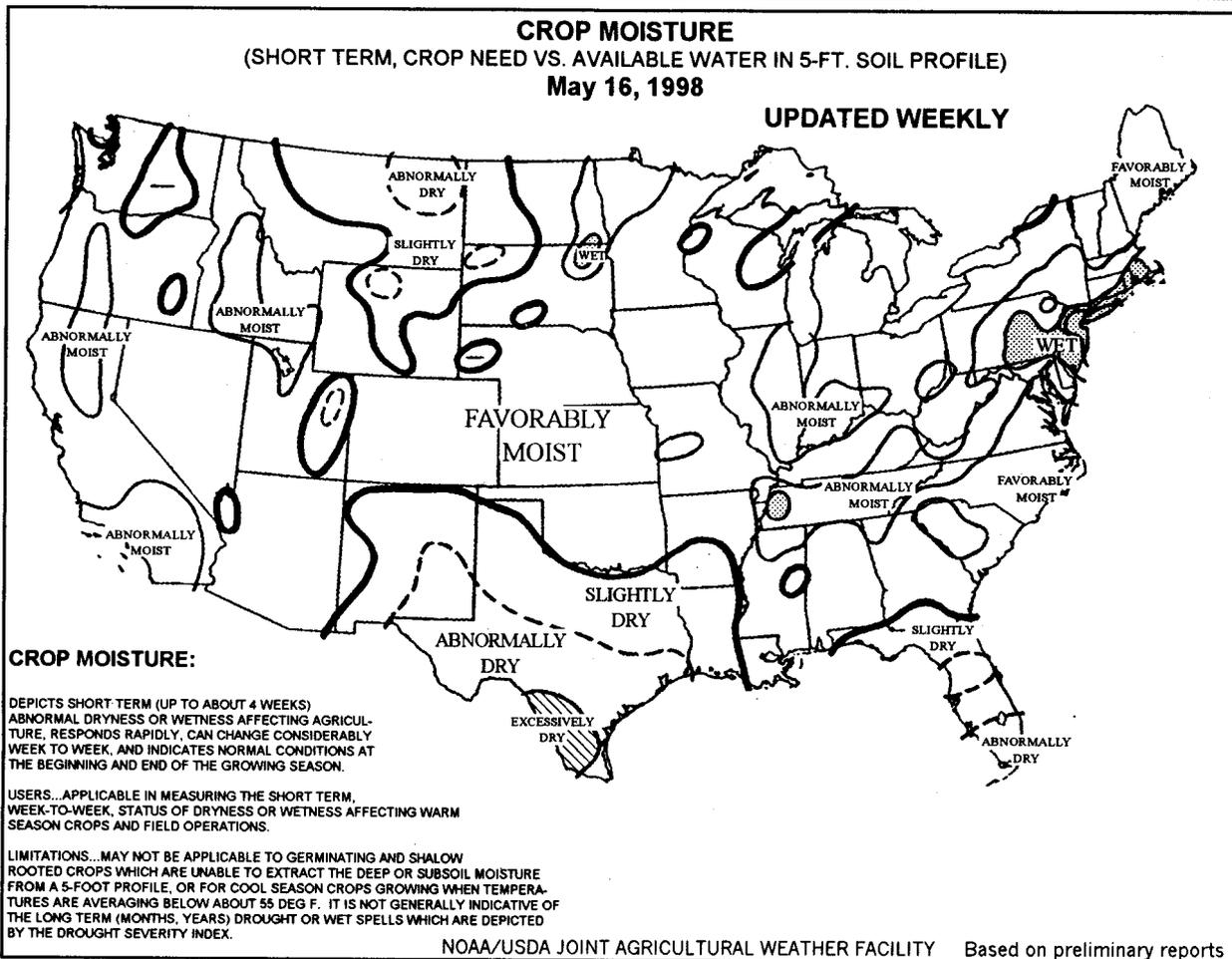
May 10 - 16, 1998

Very cool (5 to 15°F below normal), wet weather continued in **California** and the **Great Basin** for most of the week, slowing planting and crop development. Farther east, warmth expanded northward to cover most of the Nation east of the **Rockies**. Weekly temperatures averaged as much as 10°F above normal across the **Great Lakes States**. From the **central Plains** to the **upper Midwest**, widespread rains boosted crop emergence. Warm, mostly dry weather in the **eastern Corn Belt** allowed planting to proceed rapidly. Rainy, cool weather lingered through midweek, however, in the **Mid-Atlantic region**. Meanwhile, a 2-month dry spell intensified across the **Gulf Coast States**, where more than a dozen daily-record highs were established.

(Continued on page 3)

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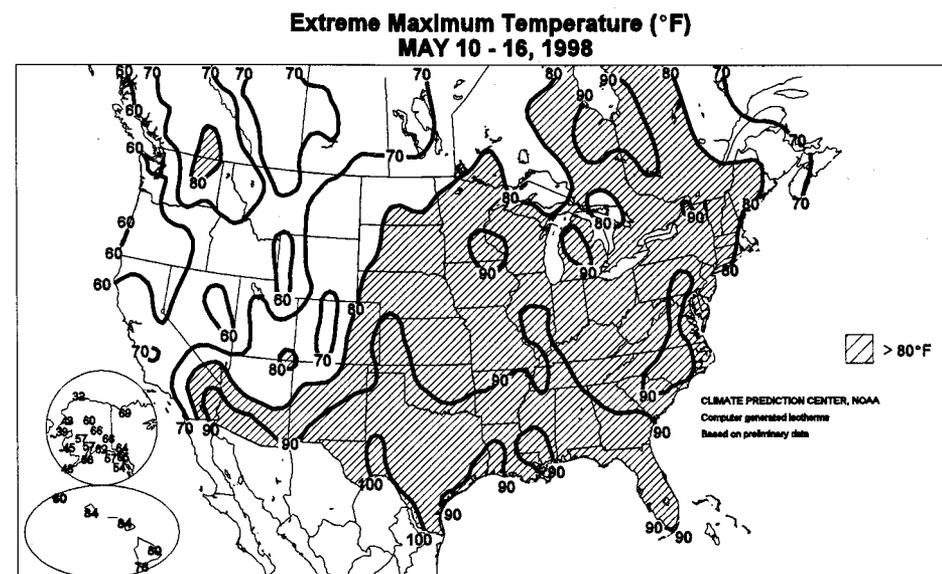
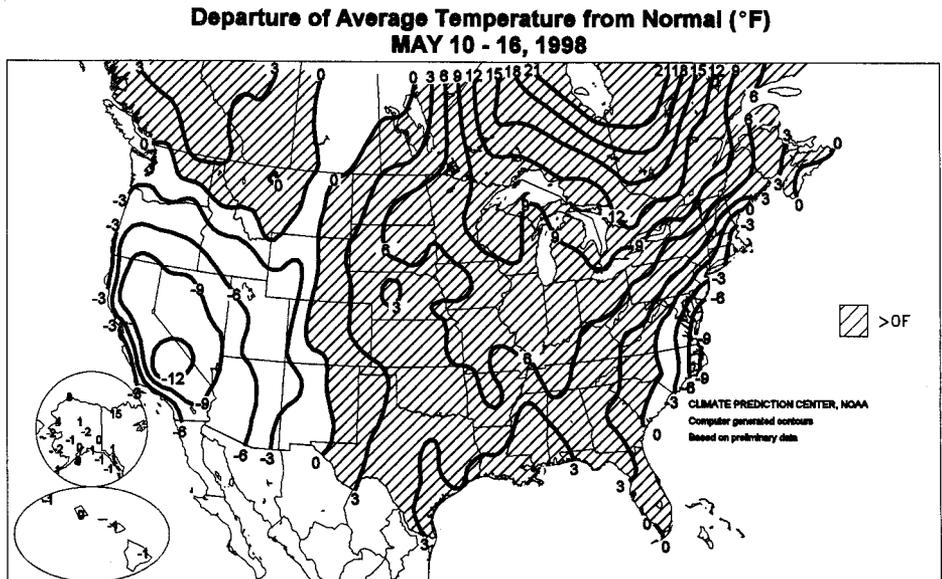


(Continued from front cover)

Early in the week, heavy precipitation continued to overspread the West. On Sunday, Winnemucca, NV netted 1.15 inches of rain, breaking their calendar-day record for May. Rain changed to heavy, wet snow in some areas by midweek. On May 12-13, 24-hour snowfall reached 10 inches in Incline Village, NV, 9 inches in Truckee, CA, and 6 inches at Mt. Charleston, near Las Vegas, NV. On Tuesday, Los Angeles' (Civic Center) high of 58°F was lower than their lowest temperature (59°F) during all of May 1997. In southern California, 6 inches of snow accumulated in Wrightwood, elevation 6,200 feet. At nearby Mt. Wilson, month-to-date rainfall reached 10.58 inches.

Rain twice overspread areas from the central Plains to the upper Great Lakes region. On Wednesday, measurable rain fell in Marquette, MI for the first time since April 18, ending their second-longest dry spell on record at 24 days. On Friday, severe thunderstorms swept northeastward from the central Plains, producing wind gusts to 70 mph in Wichita, KS and 86 mph in Omaha, NE. Weekly rainfall totaled 4.26 inches in Fargo, ND, 3.75 inches in International Falls, MN, and 2.44 inches in Huron, SD. Farther east, Tuesday marked the 12th consecutive day with a trace or more of rain in Philadelphia, PA, tying their May record set in 1894. Williamsport, PA notched 13 consecutive days with measurable rain (April 30 - May 12), breaking their all-time record set in May 1960.

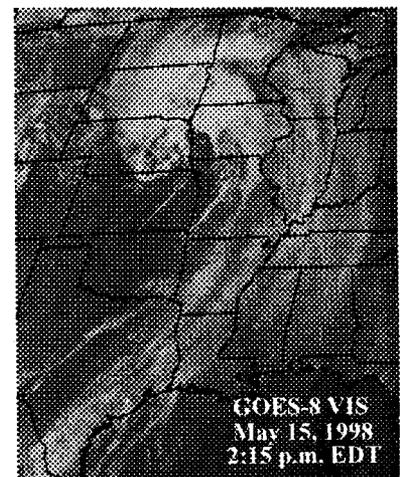
In contrast, extremely dry conditions, accompanied by hot weather, continued to grip areas from Texas to Florida. In Corpus Christi, TX, only 0.05 inches of rain fell from April 1 - May 16, on a pace to break their April-May record of 0.08 inches, set in 1925. For the first time on record, no measurable rain fell in San Antonio, TX during the first 16 days of May. On Thursday, measurable rain fell in Midland, TX for the first time since March 17, but amounted to only 0.02 inches. By week's end, a rainless streak in San Angelo, TX



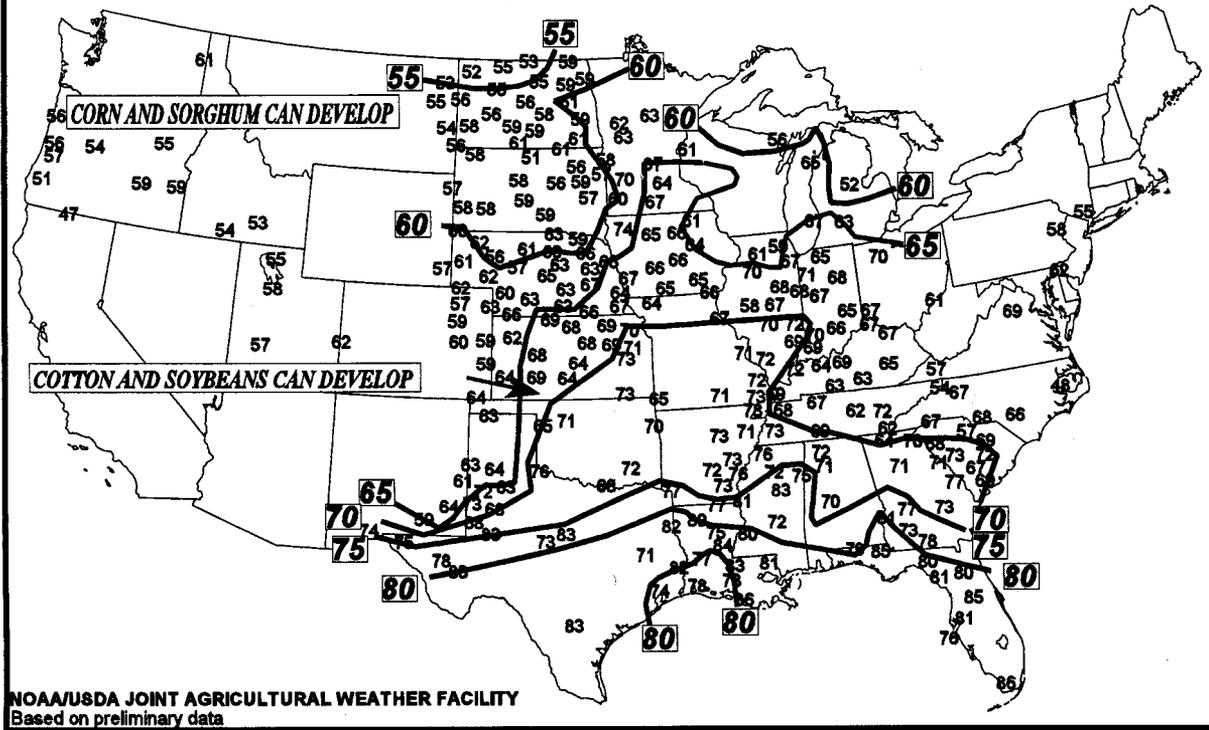
stretched to 50 days, their ninth-longest dry spell (the record is 115 days in 1966-67), but their longest on record during the spring. In addition to the hot, dry weather, smoke from Mexican and Central American fires continued to plague much of Texas and adjacent areas of the South Central States.

In Florida, Tallahassee logged three consecutive daily-record highs, including a pair of 99°F readings on May 14-15. Midland registered 100°F on Thursday. Late in the week, heat spread northward. By Friday, highs reached or exceeded 90°F as far north as Eau Claire, WI (93°F) and Houghton Lake, MI (90°F). A day later, Massena, NY tallied 95°F, tying their May record.

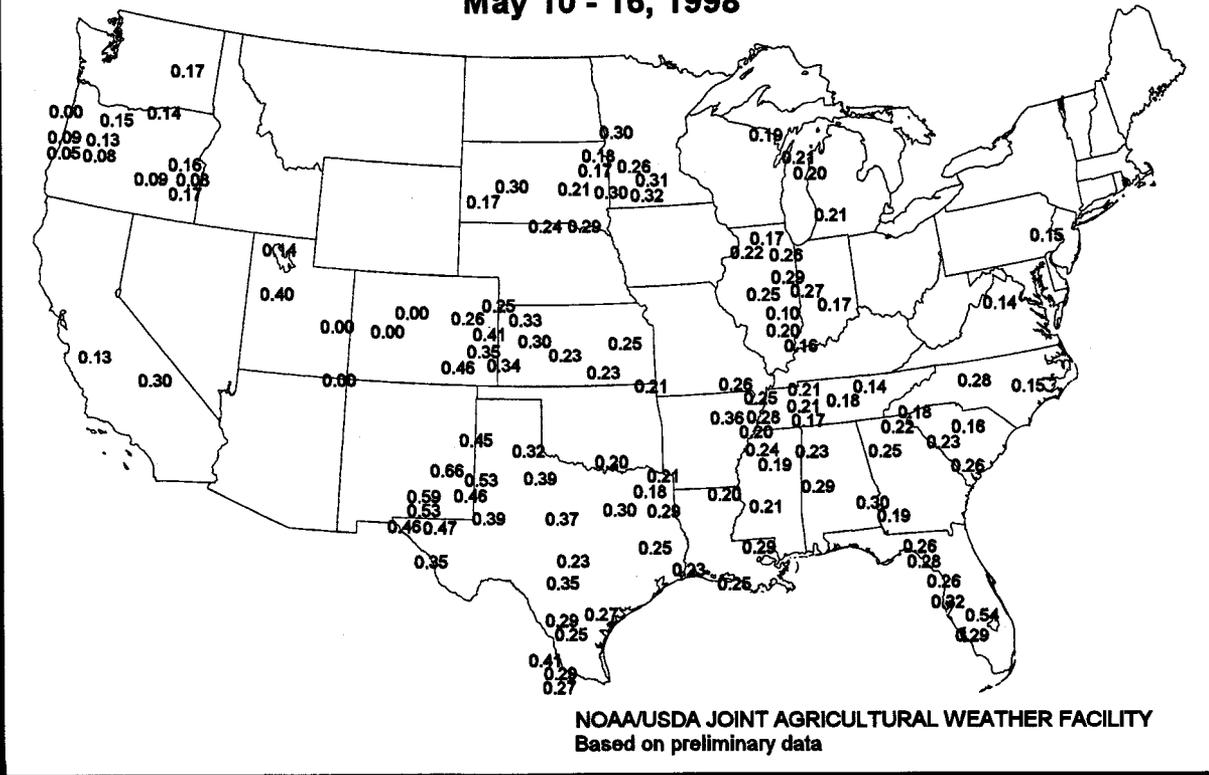
While thunderstorms sweep into the upper Midwest (right), smoke and haze--a by-product of Mexican and Central American wildfires--spreads northward from South Texas into the Mississippi Valley.



Average Soil Temperature (°F 4-Inch Bare) May 10 - 16, 1998



Average Pan Evaporation (Inches/Day) May 10 - 16, 1998



National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending May 16, 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	
																		90 AND ABOVE	92 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
AL BIRMINGHAM	85	60	92	54	73	4	0.34	-0.78	0.34	16.40	119	32.98	140	100	50	1	0	1	0	0	0
HUNTSVILLE	85	61	91	55	73	5	0.00	-1.17	0.00	10.08	71	24.63	102	96	44	1	0	0	0	0	0
MOBILE	88	62	92	59	75	1	0.03	-1.28	0.01	16.72	121	37.92	158	97	41	4	0	3	0	0	0
AK MONTGOMERY	88	60	94	54	74	3	0.00	-0.89	0.00	10.28	80	24.18	105	93	44	3	0	0	0	0	0
ANCHORAGE	52	39	57	37	46	0	0.02	-0.15	0.02	1.04	59	1.68	51	80	40	0	0	1	0	0	0
BARROW	32	21	32	10	26	8	0.02	-0.01	0.01	0.27	61	0.28	42	98	82	0	7	2	0	0	0
FAIRBANKS	56	34	68	28	45	-2	0.03	-0.09	0.02	0.09	9	0.18	10	84	30	0	2	2	0	0	0
JUNEAU	56	39	65	32	48	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	90	41	0	1	-	-	-	-
KODIAK	49	37	53	29	43	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	83	49	0	2	-	-	-	-
NOME	35	30	39	25	33	-2	0.58	0.42	0.14	4.14	267	5.36	182	97	84	0	6	7	0	0	0
AZ FLAGSTAFF	56	31	64	24	43	-7	0.65	0.47	0.47	6.07	135	9.51	110	84	35	0	5	2	0	0	0
PHOENIX	82	60	92	54	71	-7	0.04	0.01	0.04	1.78	150	5.08	199	51	18	1	0	1	0	0	0
PRESCOTT	64	39	73	34	52	-5	0.24	0.10	0.21	3.89	131	6.71	111	72	27	0	0	2	0	0	0
TUCSON	84	54	92	47	69	-4	0.00	-0.06	0.00	2.03	180	5.40	201	44	13	1	0	0	0	0	0
YUMA	82	60	91	58	71	-7	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.31	78	1.57	162	52	24	1	0	0	0	0	0
AR FORT SMITH	86	60	90	55	73	5	0.00	-1.21	0.00	7.34	69	18.14	119	95	44	1	0	0	0	0	0
LITTLE ROCK	88	65	91	59	76	7	0.00	-1.21	0.00	8.42	65	18.63	95	91	43	3	0	0	0	0	0
CA BAKERSFIELD	67	47	71	45	57	-14	0.37	0.31	0.22	4.68	270	11.37	310	93	47	0	0	2	0	0	0
EUREKA	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.53	-	-	11.00	-	38.25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FRESNO	66	49	72	46	58	-11	0.30	0.23	0.28	5.98	193	14.08	207	89	48	0	0	2	0	0	0
LOS ANGELES	64	53	65	51	58	-4	1.28	1.25	0.69	6.77	241	23.83	309	93	70	0	0	2	2	2	2
REDDING	61	47	65	44	54	-11	2.15	1.85	0.65	11.58	161	41.01	232	93	59	0	0	6	2	2	2
SACRAM/MCCLELL	67	55	73	50	61	-	0.37	-	0.22	4.38	-	23.54	-	95	53	0	0	2	0	0	0
SAN DIEGO	65	57	67	54	61	-3	0.35	0.30	0.31	3.67	136	14.00	231	85	59	0	0	2	0	0	0
SAN FRANCISCO	61	51	64	50	56	-2	0.50	0.46	0.42	5.65	123	27.52	227	86	60	0	0	2	0	0	0
ALAMOSA	68	30	74	19	49	0	0.01	-0.13	0.01	1.11	89	1.15	64	64	12	0	4	1	0	0	0
CO SPRINGS	72	43	80	39	58	3	0.00	-0.48	0.00	4.28	134	4.63	120	67	16	0	0	0	0	0	0
DENVER	74	42	81	36	58	1	0.10	-0.45	0.07	4.47	106	4.74	90	85	20	0	0	2	0	0	0
GRAND JUNCTION	72	46	79	38	59	-2	0.00	-0.19	0.00	2.12	101	3.07	98	56	20	0	0	0	0	0	0
PUEBLO	80	42	89	36	61	1	0.00	-0.28	0.00	3.80	167	4.07	140	72	15	0	0	0	0	0	0
CT BRIDGEPORT	85	47	78	39	58	-1	1.84	0.73	1.35	15.70	163	24.31	153	93	54	0	0	2	1	0	0
HARTFORD	72	45	88	36	58	0	2.34	1.40	1.60	14.71	153	21.20	130	90	42	0	0	2	2	2	2
DC WASHINGTON	71	54	86	50	62	-3	0.92	0.09	0.54	13.32	173	23.98	182	96	61	0	0	3	1	0	0
DE WILMINGTON	70	50	87	40	60	-2	1.51	0.63	0.59	11.57	131	19.32	131	94	58	0	0	3	2	0	0
FL DAYTONA BEACH	87	61	91	55	74	0	0.00	-0.71	0.00	4.12	62	15.70	126	98	41	3	0	0	0	0	0
JACKSONVILLE	85	62	88	59	74	1	0.00	-0.75	0.00	7.99	98	22.49	147	96	44	0	0	0	0	0	0
KEY WEST	86	73	87	70	79	-1	0.00	-0.73	0.00	4.54	91	11.83	134	86	58	0	0	0	0	0	0
MIAMI	89	72	93	68	80	2	0.00	-1.31	0.00	8.50	107	16.15	134	87	44	3	0	0	0	0	0
ORLANDO	91	65	93	60	78	1	0.00	-0.70	0.00	6.20	97	16.93	144	95	35	6	0	0	0	0	0
TAMPA	89	70	94	66	79	2	0.00	-0.64	0.00	5.81	107	21.28	203	87	45	4	0	0	0	0	0
VALPARAISO/EGLIN	89	64	93	61	77	5	0.00	-0.88	0.00	6.85	53	22.70	108	90	36	3	0	0	0	0	0
WEST PALM BEACH	88	68	94	64	78	1	0.00	-1.32	0.00	5.37	58	22.78	154	93	45	3	0	0	1	0	0
GA ATHENS	82	61	88	53	71	3	0.65	-0.34	0.65	18.91	162	32.50	157	98	56	0	0	1	1	0	0
ATLANTA	83	62	88	56	73	4	0.06	-0.93	0.06	12.40	101	25.41	118	88	51	0	0	1	0	0	0
AUGUSTA	85	60	89	56	73	3	0.09	-0.75	0.09	15.24	155	29.11	160	98	50	0	0	1	0	0	0
COLUMBUS	89	64	95	58	77	5	0.00	-0.94	0.00	8.83	72	16.27	75	90	40	3	0	0	0	0	0
MACON	87	61	91	54	74	3	0.16	-0.64	0.16	13.04	129	24.98	129	97	45	2	0	1	0	0	0
SAVANNAH	85	60	88	58	73	0	0.00	-0.89	0.00	10.80	124	25.20	162	99	50	0	0	0	0	0	0
HI HILO	78	66	80	65	72	-1	1.42	-0.93	0.42	14.29	41	16.73	30	93	69	0	0	6	0	0	0
HONOLULU	83	71	84	69	77	0	0.04	-0.24	-	0.69	18	1.67	18	78	50	0	0	-	0	0	0
KAHULUI	82	66	84	61	74	-1	0.12	-0.07	0.06	1.50	30	2.36	20	87	53	0	0	4	0	0	0
LIHUE	79	69	80	68	74	-1	0.11	-0.64	0.05	2.84	30	6.78	36	88	64	0	0	3	0	0	0
ID BOISE	59	46	63	41	52	-4	1.35	1.10	0.44	3.65	117	7.78	138	92	60	0	0	7	0	0	0
LEWISTON	67	48	75	42	57	0	0.42	0.12	0.12	2.62	92	4.73	94	86	47	0	0	5	0	0	0
POCATELLO	58	37	68	31	47	-5	1.12	0.82	0.51	3.54	112	6.96	136	93	49	0	1	7	1	0	0
IL CHICAGO/O'HARE	79	54	86	47	68	8	0.07	-0.67	0.06	10.33	129	14.70	135	85	39	0	0	2	0	0	0
MOLINE	81	55	90	43	68	7	0.15	-0.81	0.15	11.46	128	17.15	144	85	39	1	0	1	0	0	0
PEORIA	80	57	88	48	69	8	0.82	-0.21	0.31	13.42	158	18.61	161	85	40	0	0	2	0	0	0
ROCKFORD	79	52	87	43	65	7	0.73	-0.07	0.37	9.81	124	13.75	132	88	41	0	0	3	0	0	0
SPRINGFIELD	81	58	90	46	70	7	0.52	-0.31	0.31	11.93	136	17.07	141	83	41	1	0	3	0	0	0
IN EVANSVILLE	83	61	89	52	72	7	0.00	-1.10	0.00	11.64	104	16.59	98	93	50	0	0	0	0	0	0
FORT WAYNE	80	54	90	48	67	8	0.08	-0.69	0.08	11.51	143	16.91	143	89	39	1	0	1	0		

Weather Data for the Week Ending May 16, 1998

STATES AND STATIONS	TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY, PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS				
	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL, IN, SINCE Mar 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Mar 1	TOTAL, IN, SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	92 AND BELOW	TEMP, °F		
																		.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE	
KY	WICHITA	81	58	86	53	70	5	0.61	-0.23	0.80	8.98	135	10.33	123	92	50	0	0	2	1
	JACKSON	78	59	88	51	69	5	0.48	-0.56	0.49	16.22	137	23.43	125	90	50	0	0	1	0
	LEXINGTON	80	53	87	32	66	3	0.08	-0.94	0.08	10.14	96	16.70	100	85	50	0	1	1	0
	LOUISVILLE	83	62	90	54	73	8	0.00	-1.10	0.00	11.40	100	19.68	112	85	47	1	0	0	0
LA	PADUCAH	83	60	89	50	72	6	0.00	-1.14	0.00	11.07	88	18.88	98	93	47	0	0	0	0
	BATON ROUGE	86	66	88	59	76	1	0.00	-1.12	0.00	9.08	71	29.62	127	97	48	0	0	0	0
	LAKE CHARLES	85	67	88	60	76	2	0.00	-1.30	0.00	6.21	66	21.35	122	95	56	0	0	0	0
	NEW ORLEANS	86	68	90	64	77	3	0.01	-0.98	0.01	10.43	89	33.98	149	96	51	1	0	1	0
ME	SHREVEPORT	88	65	91	56	76	4	0.00	-1.18	0.00	5.07	51	18.10	102	94	45	2	0	0	0
	CARIBOU	72	43	80	33	57	7	0.00	-0.70	0.00	7.14	111	13.83	128	85	31	0	0	0	0
	PORTLAND	61	41	72	32	51	-1	0.27	-0.55	0.25	10.70	111	21.25	128	96	57	0	1	2	0
MD	BALTIMORE	72	51	92	43	61	-1	1.30	0.46	0.75	11.94	143	23.99	165	95	58	1	0	4	1
MA	BOSTON	56	45	68	41	51	-6	2.18	1.44	1.19	13.82	155	24.22	150	92	67	0	1	0	3
	WORCESTER	63	44	81	34	53	-1	1.55	0.56	1.02	13.34	132	21.10	122	88	50	0	0	2	2
MI	ALPENA	72	48	85	41	60	9	0.15	-0.46	0.14	9.68	170	14.22	165	95	59	0	0	2	0
	GRAND RAPIDS	78	51	89	45	64	9	0.37	-0.32	0.36	9.14	120	14.76	136	90	40	0	0	2	0
	HOUGHTON LAKE	77	50	90	42	63	10	0.02	-0.55	0.01	6.97	127	9.98	122	93	40	1	0	2	0
	LANSING	77	49	87	43	63	7	0.09	-0.47	0.09	7.52	118	13.01	141	92	48	0	0	1	0
MN	MARQUETTE	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.43	-0.23	-	6.68	97	10.53	98	-	-	-	-	-	0
	MUSKEGON	76	50	88	43	63	8	0.51	-0.08	0.28	6.47	95	10.82	102	89	43	0	0	3	0
	DULUTH	69	48	78	39	59	9	0.70	0.03	0.49	4.51	81	8.97	118	79	45	0	0	3	0
	INTL FALLS	72	47	83	28	60	8	3.69	3.17	1.51	4.88	130	6.58	125	97	50	0	1	6	4
MS	MINNEAPOLIS	79	53	92	40	66	9	0.82	0.07	0.77	8.91	149	11.35	145	83	37	1	0	3	1
	ROCHESTER	78	52	90	44	65	9	0.50	-0.26	0.41	7.63	123	10.48	135	81	38	1	0	2	0
	ST. CLOUD	78	52	91	41	65	10	0.88	0.21	0.50	5.28	101	6.86	104	87	41	1	0	4	1
	JACKSON	86	61	90	54	73	2	0.00	-1.19	0.00	9.82	70	24.95	103	96	49	1	0	0	0
MO	MERIDIAN	85	57	90	53	71	1	0.02	-1.00	0.01	8.71	60	27.69	110	99	48	1	0	2	0
	TUPELO	85	61	90	54	73	4	0.00	-1.34	0.00	11.39	79	23.57	98	98	41	1	0	0	0
	COLUMBIA	82	60	86	52	71	8	0.26	-0.89	0.24	10.35	108	16.07	125	89	48	0	0	2	0
	KANSAS CITY	83	58	87	54	71	8	0.60	-0.54	0.59	6.72	83	8.78	85	83	48	0	0	2	1
MT	SAINT LOUIS	84	63	89	53	73	8	0.13	-0.78	0.13	12.40	138	18.21	140	82	44	0	0	1	0
	SPRINGFIELD	81	57	84	50	69	5	0.00	-0.97	0.00	10.87	106	17.82	126	93	49	0	0	0	0
	BILLINGS	68	41	75	34	54	0	0.08	-0.51	0.08	3.07	73	3.88	67	93	31	0	0	1	0
	BUTTE	59	33	64	29	46	0	0.79	0.38	0.37	3.66	140	4.85	139	90	34	0	3	5	0
NE	GLASGOW	70	41	73	35	56	1	0.04	-0.35	0.02	2.19	115	2.60	102	82	25	0	0	2	0
	GREAT FALLS	64	38	71	31	51	-1	0.47	-0.10	0.43	2.54	68	3.72	71	79	30	0	1	2	0
	KALISPELL	65	38	74	28	52	2	0.25	-0.16	0.25	3.66	124	4.97	89	79	30	0	1	1	0
	MILES CITY	73	42	77	33	58	2	0.03	-0.47	0.03	2.06	68	2.69	67	80	23	0	0	1	0
NV	MISSOULA	65	41	76	32	53	2	0.58	0.16	0.32	3.24	117	5.01	104	84	38	0	1	4	0
	GRAND ISLAND	80	53	86	44	68	6	1.34	0.49	0.54	8.61	138	9.48	127	92	43	0	0	3	1
	LINCOLN	81	54	86	49	68	7	0.78	-0.09	0.54	6.19	91	8.17	102	94	50	0	0	2	1
	NORFOLK	79	53	86	48	66	6	0.44	-0.36	0.31	6.91	118	7.43	104	92	46	0	0	2	0
NH	NORTH PLATTE	76	43	86	37	60	2	0.16	-0.61	0.16	2.84	58	3.52	62	93	33	0	0	1	0
	OMAHA	79	57	82	50	68	6	1.55	0.50	1.33	9.91	143	11.51	136	94	53	0	0	3	1
	SCOTTSBLUFF	72	43	82	35	58	2	0.41	-0.21	0.20	3.39	84	4.23	85	92	33	0	0	4	0
	VALENTINE	75	48	83	43	62	5	0.79	0.07	0.61	3.56	84	3.74	76	85	34	0	0	3	1
NJ	ELY	54	33	61	29	43	-6	0.55	0.27	0.24	3.23	127	5.34	136	80	38	0	3	4	0
	LAS VEGAS	75	53	84	45	64	-9	0.16	0.10	0.14	1.35	171	4.41	256	64	25	0	0	2	0
	RENO	58	37	63	33	47	-8	0.85	0.48	0.33	4.10	287	7.79	221	80	30	0	0	2	0
	WINNEMUCCA	53	37	60	32	45	-9	2.31	2.12	1.15	6.47	314	9.74	284	94	53	0	1	7	1
NY	CONCORD	70	40	87	30	55	1	0.24	-0.48	0.18	7.88	108	13.98	113	90	38	0	2	2	0
	NEWARK	70	51	86	43	60	-1	2.25	1.29	1.21	15.61	158	25.31	155	93	52	0	0	3	2
	ALBUQUERQUE	78	48	84	37	63	-1	0.00	-0.11	0.00	2.98	238	3.78	173	40	9	0	0	0	0
	ALBANY	74	47	87	38	60	4	1.80	1.04	1.13	10.41	136	16.78	137	95	48	0	0	2	2
NC	BINGHAMTON	70	49	84	41	60	5	2.19	1.45	1.54	10.87	142	18.46	149	92	55	0	0	3	2
	BUFFALO	73	55	86	51	64	8	1.58	0.88	0.80	8.88	125	16.77	138	93	59	0	0	4	2
	ROCHESTER	73	52	89	48	63	7	1.39	0.78	0.73	7.02	112	14.98	143	90	50	0	0	4	2
	SYRACUSE	73	50	88	41	62	5	1.32	0.60	0.71	6.99	90	14.90	122	91	49	0	0	3	2
ND	ASHEVILLE	77	55	86	43	66	4	0.60	-0.40	0.59	14.36	141	30.70	177	99	51	0	0	2	1
	CHARLOTTE	83	61	92	55	72	6	0.42	-0.45	0.40	10.81	120	20.37	123	85	47	2	0	2	0
	GREENSBORO	74	56	88	52	65	0	0.84	-0.27	0.48	13.47	158	24.74	164	92	61	0	0	2	0
	HATTERAS	62	52	76	47	57	-9	0.99	0.09	-	10.07	103	27.53	143	97	81	0	0	-	-
OH	RALEIGH	75	53	90	46	64	-3	0.73	-0.16	0.83	12.57	151	25.85	167	96	57	1	0	3	1
	WILMINGTON	76	55	89	47	65	-4	1.22	0.26	1.04	7.94	90	26.46	161	91	49	0	0	2	1
	BISMARCK	73	47	84	39	60	6	0.20	-0.28	0.20	1.80	52	3.58	81	89	40	0	0	1	0
	DICKINSON	70	42	77	20	56	3	0.77	0.21	0.54	2.78	73	5.18	115	87	33	0	1	2	1
OH	FARGO	72	53	84</																

Weather Data for the Week Ending May 16, 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		PRECIP.	
																		01 INCH OR MORE	50 INCH OR MORE		
OK TOLEDO	78	55	91	49	68	9	0.09	-0.54	0.08	9.48	134	16.21	154	94	50	1	0	2	0		
OK YOUNGSTOWN	74	53	86	52	64	7	0.09	-0.69	0.08	11.63	146	18.36	151	97	58	0	0	2	0		
OK OKLAHOMA CITY	84	60	88	54	72	5	0.03	-1.16	0.03	10.74	133	14.95	138	89	44	0	0	1	0		
OR TULSA	85	62	88	54	73	5	0.02	-1.26	0.02	13.27	133	17.05	126	89	40	0	0	1	0		
OR ASTORIA	53	44	58	39	49	-3	1.13	0.44	0.61	14.17	106	40.89	132	98	72	0	0	6	1		
OR BURNS	52	38	56	33	45	-5	0.84	0.63	-	3.93	184	9.15	236	94	59	0	0	6	0		
OR EUGENE	54	45	55	43	50	-6	1.37	0.87	0.58	10.02	102	24.32	104	89	68	0	0	7	1		
OR MEDFORD	56	45	59	41	50	-7	0.86	0.62	0.29	6.50	183	14.56	178	92	58	0	0	7	0		
OR PENDLETON	59	44	65	39	52	-5	0.54	0.32	0.18	3.23	116	7.02	129	92	58	0	0	6	0		
OR PORTLAND	56	48	58	45	52	-5	1.37	0.90	0.56	7.31	104	19.35	119	97	67	0	0	6	1		
OR SALEM	54	46	57	43	50	-4	1.61	1.17	0.47	8.60	113	23.84	132	96	72	0	0	7	0		
PA ALLENTOWN	74	49	88	40	62	2	1.32	0.36	0.70	13.07	146	20.34	135	90	50	0	0	3	2		
PA ERIE	72	58	84	52	64	8	0.47	-0.29	0.44	9.89	124	16.53	133	88	63	0	0	2	0		
PA MIDDLETOWN	73	52	92	45	62	1	1.54	0.56	0.91	15.38	177	24.92	172	97	54	1	0	3	1		
PA PHILADELPHIA	70	50	90	43	60	-2	0.93	0.08	0.43	10.19	113	17.68	118	96	57	1	0	3	0		
PA PITTSBURGH	74	54	86	47	64	5	0.11	-0.69	0.08	8.30	99	14.48	109	92	56	0	0	2	0		
PA SCRANTON	-	-	90	-	-	-	1.51	0.69	-	10.28	141	16.15	139	-	-	-	-	-	-		
PA WILLIAMSPORT	74	50	89	42	62	3	2.16	1.30	1.01	13.76	165	24.30	178	98	55	0	0	4	2		
RI PROVIDENCE	63	44	80	39	54	-3	1.60	0.74	1.27	16.39	161	28.79	163	91	58	0	0	2	1		
SC BEAUFORT	82	63	87	60	72	0	0.83	0.00	0.67	12.14	139	28.40	180	99	53	0	0	2	1		
SC CHARLESTON	82	60	87	57	71	-1	0.05	-0.79	0.02	12.70	145	30.45	196	95	48	0	0	3	0		
SC COLUMBIA	82	62	91	56	72	2	0.53	-0.27	0.52	12.10	122	25.26	137	89	50	1	0	2	1		
SD GREENVILLE	79	59	86	51	69	2	0.45	-0.53	0.45	15.38	134	29.08	146	95	56	0	0	1	0		
SD ABERDEEN	73	53	83	46	63	7	1.93	1.40	1.45	5.56	126	6.94	131	98	48	0	0	6	1		
SD HURON	74	55	85	46	64	8	2.43	1.80	1.47	6.86	133	7.81	126	92	47	0	0	5	2		
SD RAPID CITY	69	48	78	42	58	3	1.25	0.66	0.98	2.95	70	3.59	70	88	41	0	0	6	1		
SD SIOUX FALLS	75	52	85	41	63	6	1.28	0.61	0.91	8.99	169	10.16	149	90	48	0	0	4	1		
TN BRISTOL	77	53	86	44	65	3	0.72	-0.16	0.70	13.54	151	20.80	133	99	55	0	0	2	1		
TN CHATTANOOGA	84	60	89	52	72	6	0.45	-0.56	0.44	16.34	129	28.90	129	87	50	0	0	2	0		
TN KNOXVILLE	81	60	89	51	71	6	0.41	-0.53	0.41	18.92	173	26.25	137	93	54	0	0	1	0		
TN MEMPHIS	85	67	89	62	78	5	0.00	-1.16	0.00	15.18	112	27.45	127	86	44	0	0	0	0		
TN NASHVILLE	84	61	90	53	72	6	0.17	-0.98	0.17	11.59	98	19.38	101	91	45	1	0	1	0		
TX ABILENE	92	62	96	50	77	5	0.00	-0.67	0.00	3.54	75	5.39	78	83	25	5	0	0	0		
TX AMARILLO	82	49	89	42	66	1	0.02	-0.50	0.01	3.98	132	6.74	164	84	21	0	0	2	0		
TX AUSTIN	88	69	90	61	78	3	0.00	-1.09	0.00	3.85	57	9.78	92	89	48	3	0	0	0		
TX BEAUMONT	84	68	88	62	76	2	0.02	-1.26	0.02	7.25	78	21.11	119	93	62	0	0	1	0		
TX BROWNSVILLE	91	73	93	64	82	2	0.00	-0.67	0.00	0.67	19	2.76	45	95	52	5	0	0	0		
TX CORPUS CHRISTI	87	69	91	57	78	1	0.00	-0.74	0.00	2.52	59	6.24	79	92	58	1	0	0	0		
TX DEL RIO	92	71	97	61	82	5	0.00	-0.47	0.00	1.07	29	1.46	28	78	25	5	0	0	0		
TX EL PASO	87	56	94	47	71	0	0.02	-0.04	0.01	0.24	38	0.44	30	31	10	2	0	2	0		
TX FORT WORTH	87	65	91	58	76	4	0.00	-1.14	0.00	5.90	67	14.19	110	89	41	1	0	0	0		
TX GALVESTON	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	-0.78	0.00	2.28	38	12.73	107	-	-	-	-	0	0		
TX HOUSTON	87	66	89	59	77	3	0.00	-1.18	0.00	3.62	42	13.82	92	92	55	0	0	0	0		
TX LUBBOCK	89	54	93	44	71	3	0.04	-0.48	0.04	1.77	61	3.63	92	61	12	4	0	1	0		
TX MIDLAND	94	58	100	52	78	4	0.02	-0.44	0.02	0.44	18	1.18	34	66	11	6	0	1	0		
TX SAN ANGELO	94	61	99	48	78	4	0.00	-0.69	0.00	1.85	45	3.08	52	75	18	6	0	0	0		
TX SAN ANTONIO	89	68	93	58	79	4	0.00	-0.95	0.00	2.90	48	9.50	99	87	45	2	0	0	0		
TX VICTORIA	87	69	91	59	78	2	0.00	-1.00	0.00	2.83	46	7.83	76	92	54	1	0	0	0		
TX WACO	89	64	93	56	76	3	0.00	-1.06	0.00	3.70	47	13.86	119	92	41	3	0	0	0		
TX WICHITA FALLS	89	62	94	53	75	5	0.00	-0.93	0.00	5.67	78	10.43	107	83	34	3	0	0	0		
UT SALT LAKE CITY	64	45	76	44	55	-3	0.90	0.37	0.40	6.02	119	12.54	169	82	31	0	0	6	0		
VT BURLINGTON	76	49	86	41	62	7	0.46	-0.23	0.40	6.72	102	13.71	137	88	35	0	0	2	0		
VA LYNCHBURG	73	53	88	47	63	-1	0.94	0.05	0.28	14.69	172	28.62	198	99	60	0	0	4	0		
VA NORFOLK	66	51	85	45	58	-7	0.30	-0.56	0.25	11.78	136	26.01	164	94	69	0	0	5	0		
VA RICHMOND	71	51	89	45	61	-4	0.29	-0.58	0.26	13.54	159	26.15	175	95	57	0	0	3	0		
VA ROANOKE	75	54	87	50	64	1	0.91	0.00	0.76	12.80	143	26.57	198	95	58	0	0	5	1		
WA WASH/DULLES	73	52	90	45	62	1	0.57	-0.34	0.39	12.79	155	24.03	174	97	58	1	0	3	0		
WA HANFORD	72	47	82	39	59	-	0.03	-0.07	0.03	0.60	53	2.99	118	79	38	0	0	1	0		
WA OLYMPIA	56	45	61	35	51	-2	0.42	-0.06	0.42	7.48	79	24.51	106	95	67	0	0	1	0		
WA QUILLAYUTE	57	42	61	35	49	-1	1.50	0.23	0.88	11.93	54	42.84	87	99	63	0	0	5	2		
WA SEATTLE-TACOMA	56	47	60	42	51	-3	0.13	-0.26	0.11	5.14	78	15.60	97	94	68	0	0	3	0		
WA SPOKANE	66	44	80	35	55	2	0.51	0.19	0.28	2.61	77	6.26	91	93	36	0	0	3	0		
WV YAKIMA	68	44	76	33	56	-1	0.04	-0.03	0.03	1.24	93	5.04	154	86	44	0	0	2	0		
WV BECKLEY	73	50	83	46	61	2	0.07	-0.84	0.05	12.05	136	21.83	149	99	57	0	0	2	0		
WV CHARLESTON	78	54	87	49	66	3	0.18	-0.73	0.16	11.48	128	19.14	128	99	57	0	0	2	0		
WV ELKINS	74	48	85	44	61	5	0.73	-0.19	0.43	11.13	115	17.95	114	93	54	0	0	4	0		
WV HUNTINGTON	79	55	88	47	67	4	0.03	-0.93	0.01	10.77	118	19.38	129	98	52	0	0	3	0		
WI EAU CLAIRE	81	51	93	43	68	10	1.57	0.72	1.45	9.77	153	13.71	169	87	34	1	0	3	1		
WI GREEN BAY	76	49	84	39	62	8	0.09	-0.53	0.09	6.41	110	9.42	118	90	47	0	0	1	0		
WI MADISON	77	53	84	40	65	9	0.38	-0.31	0.37	12.01	182	15.69	180	87	45	0	0	2	0		
WI MILWAUKEE	71	52	80	45	62	8	0.35	-0.28	0.31	8.63	113	14.42	135	92	53	0	0	2	0		
WY CASPER	64	39	75	34	52	0	0.63	0.13	0.30	2.19	60	3.23	68	87	34	0	0	3	0		
WY CHEYENNE	65	39	74	32	52	1	0.82	0.08	0.57	3.29	92	3.85	84	91	28	0	1	5	1		
WY LANDER	60	37	71	33	49	-4	0.99	0.44	0.47	6.11	136	6.81	123	83	36	0	0	4	0		
WY SHERIDAN	67	37	77	30	52	0	0.04	-0.50	0.02	3.22	83	3.70	70	91	37	0	1	3	0		

NOTE: These data are preliminary and subject to change. In the past, precipitation totals from a number of stations have been incomplete.

National Agricultural Summary

May 11 - 17, 1998

HIGHLIGHTS

Temperatures averaged considerably above normal over most of the Nation east of the Rocky Mountains, promoting rapid crop development and increased field activity. In the eastern Corn Belt and Southeast, drier weather accompanied the high temperatures, allowing farmers to substantially

advance corn and cotton planting. A line of thunderstorms that formed in the Dakotas and moved across Iowa improved soil moisture conditions and aided germination of small grains and corn. Cool, wet weather continued to hamper planting activities in California.

Winter wheat: Above average temperatures prompted rapid development of the Nation's winter wheat crop, especially in the central Great Plains and the eastern Corn Belt. Nearly one-half of the Kansas crop reached the headed stage during the week. In Illinois and Indiana, crop development was more than 1 week ahead of normal. The crop matured rapidly in the southern Plains and harvest moved farther north in Texas and began in Georgia. Sixty-eight percent of the crop was rated good to excellent. Drier weather helped conditions improve slightly in the eastern Corn Belt. Excessive dryness caused Montana's crop to deteriorate further.

Corn: Planting accelerated in the eastern Corn Belt, where sunshine and high temperatures finally allowed soils to dry. In Illinois and Indiana, farmers were back to normal progress for this date, but Ohio farmers continued well behind the 5-year average despite good progress. The pace slowed in the western Corn Belt, where many farmers were finished planting corn. Warm weather promoted rapid germination in the western and northern Corn Belt. Nationally, nearly one-half of the crop has emerged. Rain and warm weather aided germination, especially in Iowa, where over one-half of the crop emerged during the week.

Soybeans: Planted acreage more than doubled from the previous week to 38 percent, well ahead of the 5-year average. With corn planting nearing completion in the western Corn Belt, farmers rapidly planted soybeans. In Iowa, farmers planted nearly one-half of their crop in spite of thunderstorms that brought heavy rainfall to some areas. Planting was also very active in the central Great Plains, especially Nebraska, where the pace was nearly as fast as in Iowa. Progress was much slower and remained behind normal in the eastern Corn Belt, where farmers were more concerned with planting corn. Soybeans had emerged on 9 percent of the acres. Emergence was most advanced in the Mississippi Delta States. In the Corn Belt, only Minnesota had a significant acreage emerged.

Cotton: Hot, dry weather in the Southeast rapidly dried wet soils and allowed farmers to make rapid progress planting their

cotton fields. In Georgia and South Carolina, farmers nearly doubled their planted acres. Progress was also very rapid in the Mississippi Delta region, where farmers planted more than one-third of their crop. Despite the rapid planting pace, progress remained behind normal across most of the Southeast. Cool, wet weather also kept California growers behind normal.

Rice: Seventy-nine percent of the Nation's rice crop has been planted, up from 71 percent the previous week and 2 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Planting slowed in Texas and the Mississippi Delta States, where progress approached completion. In California, planting was active despite cool, wet weather, but remained well behind normal. Emergence was ahead of normal along the Gulf Coast and Mississippi Delta, with two-thirds of the crop rated good or excellent.

Small grains: Planting of oats, barley, and spring wheat slowed as progress neared completion for all three crops. Warm weather promoted rapid germination, especially in the northern Plains, where nearly one-fourth of the spring wheat and almost one-third of the barley emerged. Oats emerged most rapidly in the Great Lakes States. The above-normal temperatures have aided conditions in most of the small grains States despite a growing shortage of soil moisture. Approximately three-quarters of the small grains were rated good or excellent in all States except Montana, where spring wheat and barley conditions were much poorer due to excessive dryness.

Other crops: Sorghum planting reached 33 percent, equal to the 5-year average. Rapid progress was made in the central Great Plains despite above-normal rainfall in some major sorghum-growing districts. Growers in the Mississippi Delta States also made good progress. Dry soils limited planting in the southern Plains. Peanut planting rapidly advanced to 61 percent compared with 31 percent a week ago. Despite the rapid progress, farmers in the Southeast remained behind normal, while growers in the southern Plains continued ahead of normal.

Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending May 17, 1998

Soybeans Percent Planted

	May 17 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	26	14	21	25
AR	34	20	24	18
GA	12	5	19	20
IL	12	3	62	22
IN	21	3	51	25
IA	62	14	47	29
KS	40	13	31	14
KY	7	1	14	9
LA	78	47	48	35
MI	40	10	12	14
MN	79	53	52	28
MS	68	40	58	45
MO	19	4	29	12
NE	52	12	37	19
NC	16	12	20	21
OH	15	4	53	32
SC	14	8	18	15
SD	33	14	12	11
TN	5	2	10	8
ALL	38	15	42	23

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

Winter Wheat Percent Headed

	May 17 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	99	*98	100	96
CA	99	99	99	99
CO	20	4	8	4
GA	100	99	100	99
ID	2	0	1	1
IL	77	46	33	33
IN	67	37	27	25
KS	73	24	52	49
MI	0	0	0	0
MO	73	48	47	41
MT	0	0	0	0
NE	1	0	1	3
NC	95	93	99	95
OH	22	5	1	5
OK	98	82	93	93
OR	5	1	16	14
SD	3	0	0	0
TX	84	69	78	82
WA	18	5	4	7
ALL	60	38	48	48

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

Corn Percent Planted

	May 17 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
CO	92	76	93	75
GA	99	91	98	99
IL	63	39	94	61
IN	51	14	84	54
IA	91	77	92	69
KS	96	89	88	78
KY	58	37	71	65
MI	82	50	60	45
MN	98	94	90	66
MO	75	54	91	59
NE	95	83	91	68
NC	86	75	98	96
OH	38	14	89	61
PA	34	27	58	46
SD	79	58	53	39
TX	95	91	91	95
WI	85	51	74	51
ALL	78	60	85	63

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

Soybeans Percent Emerged

	May 17 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	14	NA	NA	NA
AR	19	NA	NA	NA
GA	3	NA	NA	NA
IL	1	NA	NA	NA
IN	6	NA	NA	NA
IA	0	NA	NA	NA
KS	10	NA	NA	NA
KY	0	NA	NA	NA
LA	63	NA	NA	NA
MI	5	NA	NA	NA
MN	27	NA	NA	NA
MS	48	NA	NA	NA
MO	3	NA	NA	NA
NE	7	NA	NA	NA
NC	9	NA	NA	NA
OH	3	NA	NA	NA
SC	0	NA	NA	NA
SD	7	NA	NA	NA
TN	2	NA	NA	NA
ALL	9	NA	NA	NA

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

Cotton Percent Planted

	May 17 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	80	65	80	78
AZ	95	89	97	96
AR	77	39	79	67
CA	85	60	99	97
GA	70	37	68	76
LA	95	66	87	88
MS	72	42	81	80
MO	58	16	79	59
NM	80	70	81	80
NC	64	41	61	74
OK	19	12	19	18
SC	67	38	78	82
TN	45	10	83	69
TX	47	34	36	38
ALL	62	40	61	61

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

Corn Percent Emerged

	May 17 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
CO	45	18	NA	NA
GA	97	86	NA	NA
IL	29	11	NA	NA
IN	15	4	NA	NA
IA	64	8	NA	NA
KS	64	37	NA	NA
KY	46	23	NA	NA
MI	36	22	NA	NA
MN	77	43	NA	NA
MO	50	*35	NA	NA
NE	49	8	NA	NA
NC	79	65	NA	NA
OH	12	4	NA	NA
PA	15	5	NA	NA
SD	33	10	NA	NA
TX	86	73	NA	NA
WI	43	1	NA	NA
ALL	46	17	NA	NA

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

Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending May 17, 1998

Oats Percent Planted				
	May 17 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
IA	95	93	100	90
MI	98	93	89	81
MN	98	96	83	83
NE	100	100	100	99
ND	83	63	42	47
OH	93	90	99	89
PA	89	82	94	84
SD	98	95	64	70
WI	100	94	95	76
ALL	94	86	77	73

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

Oats Percent Emerged				
	May 17 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
IA	85	68	90	79
MI	88	65	50	42
MN	85	72	50	53
NE	95	*78	88	NA
ND	46	26	4	18
OH	82	77	89	72
PA	68	55	71	NA
SD	80	66	20	47
WI	95	61	58	NA
ALL	76	57	45	45

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

Sorghum Percent Planted				
	May 17 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	83	73	88	72
CO	9	1	7	13
IL	2	0	17	5
KS	12	7	19	11
LA	93	77	74	72
MS	69	54	91	76
MO	15	6	39	22
NE	29	9	24	12
NM	8	1	10	11
OK	10	7	8	17
SD	26	26	4	4
TX	63	59	59	69
ALL	33	26	34	33

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

Barley Percent Planted				
	May 17 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	89	85	79	82
MN	96	91	36	53
MT	97	85	81	77
ND	80	66	35	48
SD	99	94	51	66
WA	99	98	93	91
ALL	89	79	57	64

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

Barley Percent Emerged				
	May 17 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	65	51	51	59
MN	77	48	8	25
MT	77	48	31	36
ND	52	26	5	20
SD	80	68	18	41
WA	95	85	75	70
ALL	66	43	24	34

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

Rice Percent Planted				
	May 17 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	87	78	88	78
CA	20	3	84	49
LA	98	97	94	90
MS	95	86	93	85
TX	98	96	84	87
ALL	79	71	88	77

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

Rice Percent Emerged				
	May 17 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	71	51	54	57
CA	0	0	46	18
LA	94	86	80	80
MS	82	65	78	72
TX	91	85	55	70
ALL	66	53	60	57

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

Spring Wheat Percent Planted				
	May 17 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	94	89	89	87
MN	98	93	40	57
MT	95	83	76	79
ND	83	72	44	50
SD	99	97	72	75
ALL	90	81	56	62

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

Spring Wheat Percent Emerged				
	May 17 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	74	57	68	71
MN	81	55	13	29
MT	73	49	40	41
ND	58	36	9	21
SD	88	74	33	50
ALL	69	47	22	32

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

Peanuts Percent Planted				
	May 17 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	79	49	79	75
FL	64	38	70	NA
GA	71	31	79	82
NC	49	16	29	54
OK	46	35	31	21
SC	66	30	82	79
TX	41	22	17	17
VA	55	30	69	76
ALL	61	31	57	59

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

(Continued on back cover)

State Agricultural Summaries

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

ALABAMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Warmer, drier temperatures had a notable effect on soil moisture. Topsoil 12% very short, 43% short, 44% adequate, 1% surplus. Lack of rain slowed crop emergence on newly seeded fields, may create a need to replant some cotton fields. Acreage prepared 95%, 93% 1997, 94% avg. Corn planted 99%, 98% 1997, 95% avg. Wheat headed 97%, 98% 1997, 90% avg.; 4% poor, 33% fair, 52% good, 11% excellent. Livestock 2% poor, 26% fair, 54% good, 18% excellent. Vegetable crops hurt by lack of rain.

ALASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Farm work progress ranged from on schedule to 7 days behind normal. Topsoil 45% short, 55% adequate. Subsoil 45% short, 55% adequate. High winds, cloudy skies prevailed throughout the State last week, with light showers to rain, hail, sleet. Barley seeding was 75% complete, the same as last year's progress. Commercial potato seeding 10% complete, 10% 1997. Commercial vegetable planting progressed with 5% completion. Livestock 5% poor, 20% fair, 60% good, 15% excellent.

ARIZONA: Cotton planting is still almost a week behind 1997. Condition 7% poor, 25% fair, 47% good, 21% excellent. Alfalfa harvest activity was reported as 43% not being harvested, 1% light, 3% moderate, 53% active; condition declined slightly last week. Condition 5% poor, 15% fair, 64% good, 16% excellent. Small grains continued to progress 16% mature, 49% 1997, 37% avg. Unseasonable cool weather continues to retard the progress of the small grains crop; 2% harvested, 8% 1997, 9% avg. Small grain 5% poor, 17% fair, 52% good, 26% excellent. Eastern area growers continued harvesting head lettuce last week while central, western area growers harvested a smaller assortment of vegetables last week. Central areas growers shipped artichokes, cabbage, carrots, mixed greens, iceberg, and leaf lettuce, parsley, table, manufacturing potatoes. The major vegetables harvested by western growers included cabbage, cantaloupes, potatoes. Shipments of iceberg, leaf and romaine lettuce continued in diminishing quantities. Citrus shipments continued in reduced quantities last week from central, western areas. Central areas groves packed a small volume grapefruit and valencias while western areas packed a small volume of grapefruit.

ARKANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Soil moisture 5% very short, 33% short, 58% adequate, 4% surplus. Some severe weather in north early in the week. Rest of the week was very warm, dry. Main farming activities: Planting soybeans, rice, cotton; cutting hay; weed control; side dressing corn, sorghum; fertilizing, spraying hay, pastures; spraying, flushing rice fields; working cattle. Alfalfa 20% fair, 76% good, 4% excellent. Other hay 4% poor, 28% fair, 61% good, 7% excellent. Range, pasture feed 7% poor, 27% fair, 61% good, 5% excellent.

CALIFORNIA: Fieldwork was delayed or halted by rain, wet soils in many areas. Small grain growth was slowed by cool temperatures. Wheat grain harvest continued in the Imperial Valley, was just getting underway in the southern San Joaquin Valley. Corn, cotton, black eye beans were being planted in the San Joaquin, Sacramento valleys where conditions permitted. Between rains, rice was planted, treated for weeds in the Sacramento Valley. Rice planting was three to four weeks behind normal in most growing areas. Earlier planted cotton fields were growing slowly due to the cool, cloudy conditions. Newly planted cotton was developing fungal problems from the wet soils. Some fields will be replanted to corn or black eye beans. Old crop sugarbeet harvest continued on lighter, sandier soils. Many fields of windrowed alfalfa, oat hay suffered serious mold, mildew damage in the San Joaquin Valley. Alfalfa, small grains, winter forages were cut for hay or green chopped where conditions permitted. Continued cool, wet weather delayed maturity in stone fruit, grapes. Growers were concerned about small fruit size and brown rot. Cherry growers were worried about fruit splitting. Sulfur was applied to

grape vineyards for mildew control. Wet weather caused some decay in strawberries. Late varieties of navel oranges were picked. Valencia orange harvest continued, predominately for export. Lemon, grapefruit harvests also continued. Rain, cool weather hampered vegetable growth in California. Head, leaf lettuce harvest continued where possible in central counties. Midweek rainfall delayed harvest of romaine lettuce fields in the Gilroy-Hollister area. Tomato planting continued; schedules were behind normal. Fungicides were applied to tomato fields. Some tomatoes were damaged by hail in Merced County. Cucumber blooms were beginning to develop. Broccoli, cauliflower were harvested in the coastal, San Joaquin valleys. Asparagus harvesting was progressing normally in Monterey County despite the rainfall. Spring melon harvest continued in the Imperial, Coachella valleys. Harvest of sweet corn continued in the desert areas. Siskiyou County potatoes were planted. Potato blight was identified in Kern County. Squash picking in Tulare County, already at least a week behind schedule, was at a standstill. Some losses were anticipated due to over maturity. 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 remained in excellent condition with recent rains. Higher elevation rangeland was still under snow cover. On lower elevations, south facing slopes, annual grasses were maturing, slowly drying. Range animals continued to make good weight gains on abundant, high quality rangeland forage.

COLORADO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.1. Topsoil 3% very short, 24% short, 71% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil 3% very short, 17% short, 78% adequate, 2% surplus. Dry, warm, windy conditions throughout the week. Isolated showers on the eastern plains. Spring barley 95% seeded, 99% 1997, 94% avg.; 85% emerged, 88% 1997, 74% avg.; 4% poor, 26% fair, 53% good, 17% excellent. Oats 85% seeded, 95% 1997, 81% avg.; 64% emerged, 80% 1997, 65% avg.; 6% poor, 13% fair, 71% good, 10% excellent. Dry onions 1% poor, 6% fair, 69% good, 24% excellent. Sugar beets 100% planted, 100% 1997, 99% avg. Summer potatoes 99% planted, 100% 1997, 93% avg.; 23% emerged, 17% 1997, 15% avg. Fall potatoes 65% planted, 75% 1997, 47% avg. Dry beans 1% planted, 3% 1997, 3% avg. Winter wheat 92% jointed, 88% 1997, 76% avg. Spring wheat 81% planted, 91% 1997, 77% avg.; 60% emerged, 69% 1997, 53% avg. Livestock in mostly fair to good condition.

DELAWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.5. Acreage prepared for planting of spring crops 79%. Topsoil 78% adequate, 22% surplus. Subsoil 78% adequate, 22% surplus. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 1% poor, 12% fair, 71% good, 15% excellent; 75% headed, 45% 1997, 48% avg. Corn for grain 65% planted, 52% 1997, 68% avg.; 40% emerged. Soybean planting beginning. Barley 1% very poor, 2% poor, 16% fair, 67% good, 14% excellent; 13% turned, 9% 1997, 5% avg. Sweet corn 49% planted, 40% 1997, 53% avg. Cucumbers 18% planted, 18% 1997, 14% avg. Cantaloupes 44% planted, 25% 1997, 30% avg. Snap beans 30% planted, 20% 1997, 23% avg. Tomatoes 40% planted, 12% 1997, 34% avg. Watermelons 45% planted, 21% 1997, 37% avg. Strawberries 88% bloomed, 77% 1997, 87% avg. Hay supplies 33% short, 67% adequate. Pasture feed 5% poor, 15% fair, 74% good, 6% excellent. Activities: Precipitation received early to mid week hampered most farming activities in the State, monitoring mildew in small grains. Harvest of asparagus continuing; few strawberries picked late in week.

FLORIDA: Topsoil throughout the State mostly very short to short with scattered areas adequate moisture. Sugarcane growth normal. Wheat growers getting ready to start harvest. Dry soil conditions delaying cotton, peanut, soybean planting. Growers starting to cut hay. Field preparation for spring planted crops active. Peanuts planted 64%. Watermelon

picking increasing to meet holiday demand. Major vegetables shipped during week: Snap beans, blueberries, cabbage, carrots, celery, sweet corn, cucumbers, eggplant, endive, escarole, lettuce, okra, parsley, peppers, potatoes, radishes, squash, tomatoes, watermelons. Most citrus groves hot, dry. Caretakers irrigating, some areas several weeks without rain, some groves showing stress. Valencia harvest continues active with most of the fruit going to processors. Seedless grapefruit harvest slowing as good usable supplies limited. More than half of the grapefruit are currently being processed. Caretakers cutting cover crops, herbiciding, spraying. Pasture feed very poor 10%, poor 30%, fair 45%, good 15%. Cattle very poor 5%, poor 10%, fair 60%, good 25%. Pastures under stress, little or no grass growth. Pasture conditions throughout State worsened due to hot, dry, windy conditions. Some central locations have not received rain in six weeks while most other areas have been without rain for two weeks. Ranchers central area, back to feeding hay to supplement poor pastures. Statewide, condition of cattle generally fair to good.

GEORGIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Soil moisture 9% very short, 17% short, 66% adequate, 8% surplus. Corn 10% poor, 25% fair, 58% good, 7% excellent. Cotton 8% poor, 25% fair, 57% good, 10% excellent. Hay 6% poor, 25% fair, 59% good, 10% excellent. Peanuts 3% poor, 20% fair, 64% good, 13% excellent. Sorghum 6% poor, 15% fair, 78% good, 1% excellent; 46% planted, 37% 1997, 49% avg. Soybeans 4% poor, 26% fair, 69% good, 1% excellent. Tobacco 4% poor, 26% fair, 58% good, 12% excellent. Onions 20% poor, 23% fair, 57% good; 52% harvested, 85% 1997, 81% avg. Watermelons 5% poor, 32% fair, 55% good, 8% excellent; 96% planted, 95% 1997, 97% avg. Apples 12% fair, 87% good, 1% excellent. Peaches 33% very poor, 18% poor, 17% fair, 17% good, 15% excellent; 9% harvested, 12% 1997, 9% avg. Excellent weather for agricultural activity. First week of season without rain many areas. Field work progressed well with dry weather. Fields dried rapidly. Rain needed some areas. Nearly 40% of peanuts, cotton planted. Irrigating corn, vegetables. Weed control in corn, cotton, peanut fields. Wheat harvest underway. Hay harvest active. Spraying tobacco for blue mold. Activities: Planting cotton, peanuts, soybeans. Preparing land, applying fungicides, herbicides, fertilizing pastures. Spraying pecan trees, picking vegetables.

HAWAII: Weather fair effect on agriculture. Continued overcast skies, localized showers slowed crop progress. Showers helped recovery of crops in previously dry areas. Papaya, banana orchards made fair to good progress. Showers beneficial. Harvesting to slow in some areas. Disease, insects continue to plague isolated fields. Head cabbage harvesting very active, quality reported good. Overall tomato harvesting will decline. Cucumber harvesting very active. Watermelon harvesting expected to increase to meet Memorial Day demand.

IDAHO: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.4. Topsoil 34% surplus, 64% adequate, 2% short. Heavy rains, cooler temperatures delayed spring planting, slowed crop emergence. Flooding in eastern areas of sugar beet, potato fields, while South central regions of the State reported damage to sugar beet, potato, corn fields. Alfalfa hay 1st cutting 2%, 1997 2%, avg. 1%. Irrigation supply 57% excellent, 43% good. Dry beans planted 10%, 1997 19%, avg. 10%. Dry peas planted 100%, 1997 56%, avg. 53%; emerged 70%, 1997 21%, avg. 29%. Lentils planted 98%, 1997 57%, avg. 48%; emerged 60%, 1997 6%, avg. 20%. Oats planted 85%, 1997 71%, avg. 70%; emerged 64%, 1997 53%, avg. 49%. Corn planted 73%, 1997 83%, avg. 60%; emerged 49%, 1997 50%, avg. 24%. Potatoes planted 71%, 1997 69%, avg. 66%; emerged 11%, 1997 10%, avg. 8%. Barley jointed 14%; booting 3%. Spring wheat jointed 17%; booting 1%. Winter wheat jointed 83%; booting 20%. Sugar beets emerged 78%, 1997 88%, avg. 73%. Activities: Planting potatoes, small grains, dry peas, dry beans, lentils, corn, weed control, irrigation, scouting fields, fencing, moving livestock to spring pasture.

ILLINOIS: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.9. Topsoil 1% short 57% adequate, 42% surplus. Eager to get in their fields, farmers took advantage of the warm and dry conditions last week. Needed break from rain allowed some precious time to be devoted to the corn crop. There are

numerous reports of corn fields being replanted, while other fields are being hoed to improve stands. The wheat crop benefitted from the dry weather last week. Wheat continues to progress well ahead of normal this year. Topsoil improved last week. Other farming activities last week included applying fertilizer, herbicides, cutting and baling hay, preparing fields for planting and hauling manure. Winter wheat filled 15%, 2% 1997, 3% avg. Oats 1% headed, 8% 1997, 6% avg.; 2% poor, 21% fair, 68% good, 9% excellent. Alfalfa hay 1% poor, 14% fair, 65% good, 20% excellent; 1st cut 10%, 6% 1997, 4% avg. Red clover 3% poor, 14% fair, 66% good, 17% excellent; 8% cut, 3% 1997, 3% avg.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.1. Topsoil 1% short, 69% adequate, 30% surplus. Subsoil 1% short, 69% adequate, 30% surplus. Corn planting surged ahead, bringing progress close to average for this date. Soybean planting followed suit, also making rapid progress. The best progress for both crops occurred in the northern two-thirds of the state, as many farmers were still slowed by wet field conditions in the south. Winter wheat 100% jointed, 96% 1997, 90% avg. Range, pasture feed 1% poor, 14% fair, 61% good, 24% excellent. Activities: Planting corn, soybeans; field preparation, caring for livestock.

IOWA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.6. Topsoil very short 1%, short 10%, adequate 74%, surplus 15%. Subsoil short 5%, adequate 77%, surplus 18%. Apart from southeast section of State, rapid planting progress and crop emergence occurred. 1998 row crops: primary seedbed preparation completed (includes fall tillage) 92%, 93% 1997, 81% avg.; fertilizer application completed (includes fall application) 94%, 95% 1997, 85% avg. Corn planted 91%, 92% 1997, 69% avg. Corn acreage emerged 64%, 18% 1997, 21% avg. Soybeans planted 62%, 47% 1997, 29% average. Oats planted 95%, 100% 1997, 90% avg. Oats emerged 85%, 90% 1997, 79% avg. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 7% poor, 28% fair, 47% good, 17% excellent. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 3% poor, 21% fair, 50% good, 25% excellent. Drier weather has improved livestock condition; cows, calves doing well.

KANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.8. Topsoil 8% short, 82% adequate, 10% surplus. Subsoil 6% short, 90% adequate, 4% surplus. Wheat has just begun coloring. Precipitation across the State was spotty with some areas receiving heavy rains, hail. Insect, disease infestations remain light, few reports of tan spot, leaf rust. Corn 17% fair, 76% good, 7% excellent. First 1st alfalfa hay 30%, 19% 1997, 10% avg. Sunflowers planted 5%. Major field activities were seedbed preparation, planting fall crops, spraying, cutting alfalfa. Pasture feed 3% poor, 18% fair, 66% good, 13% excellent. Stock water supplies 4% short, 94% adequate, 2% surplus. Major livestock activities, moving cattle to summer pasture.

KENTUCKY: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.1. Topsoil 76% adequate, 24% surplus. Subsoil 1% short, 70% adequate, 29% surplus. Warm sunny days dominated most of the week allowing farmers to get back into the fields, resume planting of corn, tobacco, soybeans. Burley tobacco acreage set 12% complete, 12% 1997, 10% avg. Dark tobacco 10% set, 12% 1997, 12% avg. Winter wheat 2% very poor, 8% poor, 29% fair, 53% good, 8% excellent. Pasture feed 2% poor, 22% fair, 59% good, 17% excellent. Hay 2% poor, 25% fair, 56% good, 17% excellent. First hay cuttings were underway. Sorghum planting was underway with 1% planted. Fruit reported to be looking good. Strawberry producers reported 53% of the crop as small, 33% as medium, and 14% as large.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.9. Soil moisture 14% very short, 53% short, 33% adequate. Corn 7% poor, 34% fair, 52% good, 7% excellent; 0% silked, 1% 1997, 2% avg. Cotton 73% emerged, 51% 1997, 70% avg. Some cotton has been replanted due to hail damage. Hay 33% 1st cutting, 42% 1997, 32% avg. Peaches 0% harvested, 1% 1997, 1% avg. Rice farmers are busy applying fertilizer, spraying for weeds. Sorghum 3% poor, 54% fair, 43% good; 89% emerged, 65% 1997, 62% avg. Soybeans planting of beans continued, slowed towards the end of the week due to dry conditions. Spring plowing 99% plowing, 92% 1997, 94% avg. Sugarcane 6% poor, 18% fair, 44% good, 32% excellent. Sweet potatoes 17% planted, 11% 1997, 10% avg. Wheat 5% poor, 23% fair,

62% good, 10% excellent; 100% turning color, 83% 1997, 79% avg.; 24% harvested, 7% 1997, 9% avg. Livestock 1% very poor, 6% poor, 33% fair, 51% good, 9% excellent. Vegetables 1% very poor, 8% poor, 41% fair, 44% good, 6% excellent.

MARYLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.9. Acreage that has been prepared for planting of spring crops 71%. Subsoil 59% adequate, 41% surplus. Topsoil 70% adequate, 30% surplus. Winter wheat 2% very poor, 5% poor, 24% fair, 54% good, 15% excellent; 80% headed, 69% 1997, 63% avg. Barley 3% very poor, 5% poor, 31% fair, 37% good, 24% excellent; 30% turned, 7% 1997, 9% avg. Rye 1% poor, 9% fair, 66% good, 24% excellent; 93% headed, 91% 1997, 78% avg. Field corn 57% planted, 75% 1997, 68% avg; 38% emerged. Soybeans 8% planted, 8% 1997, 8% avg. Tobacco transplanted, 9%, 16% 1997, 12% avg. Sweet corn 56% planted, 59% 1997, 57% avg. Green peas 90% planted, 100% 1997, 96% avg. Tomatoes 60% planted, 73% 1997, 67% avg. Cantaloupes 55% planted, 69% 1997, 64% avg. Watermelons 55% planted, 57% 1997, 56% avg. Snap beans 38% planted, 61% 1997, 56% avg. Lima beans 10% planted, 9% 1997, 24% avg. Strawberries 96% bloomed, 86% 1997, 85% avg.; 15% harvested, 31% 1997, 12% avg. Pasture feed 2% poor, 12% fair, 52% good, 34% excellent. Hay supplies 7% very short, 36% short, 56% adequate, 1% surplus. Activities: Corn planting continued, wet weather slowed most farming activities. Small grain maturity continued well ahead of 5-year average; however, reports of mold and mildew spreading on wheat, all small grains turning.

MICHIGAN: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 9% very short, 31% short, 57% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil 6% very short, 14% short, 77% adequate, 3% surplus. Asparagus harvested 55%, 16% 1997, 22% avg. Barley planted 100%, 82% 1997, 74% avg. Potatoes planted 81%, 70% 1997, 55% avg.; emerged 42%, 34% 1997. Warm, mild week with near record high temperatures allowed farmers to accelerate their planting schedule. Temperatures about 10 degrees above normal over entire State. Weather was ideal for pollination of heavy fruit bloom. Some areas north felt effects of soil moisture deficiency. Alfalfa neared maturity most areas as first cuttings reported southeast and west central areas, one to two weeks ahead of normal. Some reports of hay wilting north due to lack of moisture. Most corn planted and emerged plants looked good. First planted soybeans fields beginning to emerge. Wheat in excellent condition, advancing quickly with heading about to begin. Most sugar beets emerged in excellent condition. Weeds controlled through herbicides, cultivations. Many asparagus growers approached half of last year's production as of last Friday, perhaps a record. Plantings mostly on tenth to twelfth harvest, quality excellent due to warm, dry weather. Cabbage plants responded. Growers expecting early marketing. Carrots off to early start. Development ranged from rabbit ear to fourth true leaf stage. Celery transplanting 2 weeks ahead of schedule. Direct-seeded cucumber plantings second leaf stage, transplants set out. Onion plantings continued emerging. Early April sweet corn plantings doing well at fifth to sixth leaf stage. Processing tomato transplanting nearly 30 percent complete. Warm weather and soils favorable for transplanting market tomatoes. Fruit crops look promising, about two weeks ahead of normal. Rain shortages spurred irrigation, particularly on sandy soils. Thinning of apples began south. Codling moth trap counts rose. Fire blight danger high; peach leaf curl visible in more regions. Apple trees had 8-12 mm fruit. Grapes had 6-12 inch shoots. Sweet cherries fruit appeared, tart cherries in petal fall. Peach, plum trees had small green fruit; blueberries in bloom.

MINNESOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.4. Topsoil 6% very short, 12% short, 72% adequate, 10% surplus. Corn 98% planted, 90% 1997, 66% avg.; 77% emerged, 12% 1997, 13% avg. Soybeans 92% ground prepared, 71% 1997, 43% avg.; 79% planted, 52% 1997, 28% avg.; 27% emerged, 1% 1997, 3% avg. Spring wheat 98% planted, 40% 1997, 57% avg.; 81% emerged, 13% 1997, 29% avg. Oats 98% planted, 83% 1997, 83% avg.; 85% emerged, 50% 1997, 53% avg. Barley 96% planted, 36% 1997, 53% avg.; 77% emerged, 8% 1997, 25% avg. Sunflowers 52% planted, 2% 1997, 21% avg. Green peas 83% planted, 75% 1997, 62% avg. Potatoes 83% planted, 44% 1997, 48% avg. Sweet corn 58% planted, 45% 1997, 34% avg. Dry edible beans 48% planted, 11% 1997, 15% avg. Flax 62% planted, 0% 1997, 18% avg. Spring wheat 2% poor, 17% fair, 60% good, 21% excellent. Alfalfa 3% poor, 17% fair, 61% good, 19% excellent. Oats 2% poor, 23% fair, 60% good, 15% excellent.

Barley 1% very poor, 3% poor, 19% fair, 56% good, 21% excellent. Pasture feed 2% very poor, 5% poor, 24% fair, 58% good, 11% excellent.

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Soil moisture 4% very short, 36% short, 50% adequate, 10% surplus; Corn 99% planted, 100% 1997, 95% avg.; 90% emerged, 96% 1997, 89% avg.; 1% very poor, 4% poor, 29% fair, 51% good, 15% excellent. Rice 95% planted, 93% 1997, 85% avg.; 82% emerged, 78% 1997, 72% avg.; 3% poor, 19% fair, 67% good, 11% excellent. Soybeans 68% planted, 58% 1997, 45% avg.; 48% emerged, 37% 1997, 33% avg.; 3% poor, 19% fair, 67% good, 11% excellent. Peanuts 35% planted, 69% 1997, 69% avg. Sweet potatoes 6% planted, 10% 1997, 14% avg. Hay 29% harvested (cool season), 61% 1997, 37% avg.; 1% harvested (warm season) 4% 1997, 10% avg. Wheat 91% heading, 100% 1997, 98% avg.; 6% mature, 9% 1997, 20% avg.; 6% very poor, 5% poor, 20% fair, 64% good, 5% excellent. Watermelons 59% planted, 88% 1997, 86% avg.; 4% poor, 10% fair, 82% good, 4% excellent. Blueberries 9% poor, 32% fair, 57% good, 2% excellent. Cattle 4% poor, 15% fair, 66% good, 15% excellent. Pasture feed 4% poor, 24% fair, 56% good, 16% excellent.

MISSOURI: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.5. Topsoil 2% short, 76% adequate, 22% surplus. Corn planting virtually complete in southwest, southeast districts, least advanced northeast 35%, east central 50%. Single-crop soybean planting ranges from 4% northeast and south-central districts, to 46% northwest district. Wheat heading virtually complete southern third of state, least advanced northwest 28%, northeast 40%. First crop alfalfa cut 15%, 15% 1997, 8% avg. Other hay cut 6%, 3% 1997, 2% avg. Pasture feed 1% poor, 15% fair, 69% good, 15% excellent.

MONTANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Topsoil 41% very short, 47% short, 12% adequate. Subsoil 36% very short, 43% short, 21% adequate. Weekend precipitation was received throughout most of the State. Oats seeded 84%, 65% 1997, 67% avg.; emerged 51%, 33% 1997, 32% avg.; 1% very poor, 15% poor, 52% fair, 29% good, 3% excellent. Corn planted 86%, 77% 1997, 68% avg.; emerged 45%, 7% 1997, 18% avg. Sugar beets planted 99%, 97% 1997, 96% avg.; emerged 92%, 70% 1997, 59% avg. Dry beans planted 39%, 51% 1997, 39% avg.; emerged 8%, 3% 1997, 8% avg. Potatoes planted 19%, 30% 1997, 31% avg.; emerged 1%, 3% 1997, 3% avg. Calving is 98% complete and lambing is 90% complete. Cattle moved to summer ranges 58%, sheep moved 54%.

NEBRASKA: Day suitable for fieldwork 5.6. Topsoil 3% very short, 25% short, 67% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil 3% very short, 13% short, 77% adequate, 7% surplus. Fieldwork activities were in full swing most of last week, with corn producers nearing planting completion, over half done with soybeans. Southwestern wheat fields were in need of moisture. Over one inch of rainfall was recorded in parts of the Southeast over the weekend. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 8% poor, 25% fair, 57% good, 9% excellent; 54% jointed, 40% 1997, 53% avg. Corn 95% planted, 91% 1997, 68% avg.; 49% emerged, 35% 1997, 25% avg. Soybeans 52% planted, 37% 1997, 19% avg. Sorghum 29% planted, 24% 1997, 12% avg. Alfalfa 2% poor, 18% fair, 65% good, 15% excellent. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 4% poor, 24% fair, 63% good, 8% excellent. Activities: Summer fallow tillage, irrigation, limited grain marketing, and working cattle.

NEVADA: Alfalfa hay growth was slowed by the colder weather and weeds continue to flourish due to the rains. Planting was slowed by rains North. Spring wheat, barley planting nearing completion Winnemucca, Lovelock. Potato planting near complete Humboldt County. Calving and lambing continued, well along. Branding, shearing continued. Main farm, ranch activities: Field preparation, fertilizing, planting, working livestock.

NEW ENGLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Topsoil 11% short, 73% adequate, 16% surplus. Subsoil 10% short, 75% adequate, 15% surplus. Pasture feed 10% fair, 59% good, 31% excellent. Maine potatoes 55% planted, <5% 1997, 15% avg.; <5% emerged, condition good. Massachusetts potatoes 85% planted, 70% 1997, 65% avg.; 50% emerged, condition good. Rhode Island potatoes 70% planted, 65% 1997, 55% avg.; 20% emerged, condition good. Oats in Maine 80% planted, 5% 1997, 35% avg.; 45% emerged, condition good to excellent. Barley in

Maine 65% planted, <5% 1997; 45% emerged, condition good to excellent. Field corn: 25% planted, 15% 1997, 20% avg.; 5% emerged, condition good. Sweet corn: 30% planted, 25% 1997, 30% avg.; 10% emerged, condition good to fair. Shade Tobacco: 20% planted, 0% 1997, 10% avg; condition good. First cut hay <5% harvested, 0% 1997, 0% avg; condition good to excellent. Apples: Petal Fall to Full Bloom, condition good. Peaches: Petal Fall, condition good. Pears: Petal Fall, condition good. Strawberries: Full Bloom to Early Bloom, condition good to fair. Cranberries: Bud Stage, condition good. Highbush blueberries: Full Bloom, condition good. Wild blueberries: Full Bloom, condition good. Spring planting in full swing. Major farm activities: Planting; spreading manure; plowing, harrowing, fertilizing, spraying and liming soils.

NEW JERSEY: Days suitable for fieldwork 4. First half of the week was cool, rainy. Second half was just the opposite with above normal temperatures, minor rainfall. Fields are drying out allowing farmers to continue their planting, harvesting, spraying for diseases and pests. Farmers are planting snap beans, sweet corn, tomatoes, peppers, squash, pickles and eggplant. Increasing harvest of endive, escarole, lettuce (all types except iceberg), Chinese cabbage, Swiss chard, asparagus, arugula, radishes, kale, parsley, beets, cilantro, herbs, spinach, turnips, leeks occurring. Peaches and blueberries are sizing. Some thinning of peaches, apples occurring. Increasing harvest of strawberries (under plastic) reported. Wheat, rye, barley are heading up. Cutting of hay occurring in some localities. Farmers are planting field corn. Pastures are in good to excellent condition.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Topsoil 10% very short, 37% short, 52% adequate, 1% excellent. Winter wheat 7% poor, 40% fair, 50% good, 3% excellent; 81% headed, 66% 1997, 81% avg. Cotton plantings advanced rapidly with the hot day weather; 80% planted, 81% 1997, 80% avg.; 2% poor, 38% fair, 41% good, 19% excellent. Corn 1% poor, 22% fair, 73% good, 4% excellent; 86% planted, 82% 1997; 50% emerged. Sorghum plantings got underway last week; 8% planted, 10% 1997, 11% avg. First cutting of alfalfa continued, by the end of last week 56% of the first cut was completed statewide, 34% 1997; 3% poor, 22% fair, 60% good, 15% excellent. Minor wind damage to the chile crop was reported; 30% fair, 53% good, 17% excellent. Lettuce harvest continued, 76% harvested; 18% fair, 28% good, 54% excellent. Onion condition remained good to excellent. Apples also remained in good condition with an average fruit set. Pecans were in good to excellent condition with an average nut set reported. Cattle, sheep were mostly in fair to good condition. Pasture, range feed 1% very poor, 13% poor, 29% fair, 56% good, 1% excellent.

NEW YORK: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.0. Soil moisture 65% adequate, 35% surplus. Pasture feed 6% fair, 57% good, 37% excellent. Wheat 72% good, 28% excellent. Crop maturing quickly. Corn 36% planted, 24% 1997, 26% avg. Oats 85% seeded, 61% 1997, 54% avg. Oat 78% good, 22% excellent. First cuttings of haylage underway. Dry bean, soybean planting gaining momentum, both 20% planted. Potato planting near half finished. Vegetable planting was slowed early in the week by wetness but again was in full swing by the end of the week. Emerged crops showed good stands. Lake Ontario apples continue up to two weeks ahead of normal progress. Frost damage to Yates County vineyards becoming apparent. Hail in Columbia County hurt some cherries, pears.

NORTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.5. Soil moisture 2% short, 71% adequate, 27% surplus. Farmers made good progress this week. Several crops are now ahead of 1997, others have improved significantly. Activities for the week 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 4% very short, 21% short, 63% adequate, 12% surplus. Subsoil 4% very short, 20% short, 65% adequate, 11% surplus. Soil moisture supplies were moderately replenished, but still drier than last year, avg. Rain during later part of week had little effect on planting progress, aided emergence of all crops.

Planting, emergence of all crops ahead of previous year, avg. Durum wheat, 58% planted, 32% 1997, 39% avg.; 27% emerged, 6% 1997, 11% avg. Canola 81% planted, 28% 1997; 45% emerged, 2% 1997. Corn 75% planted, 46% 1997, 35% avg.; 23% emerged, 5% 1997, 6% avg. Dry edible beans 15% planted, 3% 1997, 8% avg.; 1% emerged, 0% 1997, 0% avg. Flaxseed 69% planted, 13% 1997, 17% avg.; 21% emerged, 0% 1997, 3% avg. Potatoes 64% planted, 22% 1997, 33% avg.; 8% emerged, 0% 1997, 1% avg. Soybeans 26% planted, 14% 1997, 18% avg.; 7% emerged, 0% 1997, 1% avg. Sugar beets 99% planted, 71% 1997, 70% avg.; 79% emerged, 16% 1997, 21% avg. Sunflower 15% planted, 2% 1997, 6% avg.; 1% emerged, 0% 1997, 0% avg. Ranchers continued to move cattle to pasture. Rain still needed in western part of the state as pasture conditions declined slightly. Pasture feed, range 84% of roughage requirements. Stockwater supplies rated 0% very short, 4% short, 88% adequate, 8% surplus.

OHIO: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.0. Topsoil 62% adequate, 38% surplus. By 13th, some producers were able to get out into the fields, most producers were in full swing by 14th. Corn planted 9 days behind avg.; emerged 8 points behind avg. Soybeans planted a little more than 7 days behind avg.; emerged 2 points behind avg. Winter wheat 99% jointed, 86% 1997, 76% avg.; headed 9 days ahead avg. Oats planted 4 days ahead of avg.; emerged 5 days ahead of avg.; 1% headed, 0% 1997, 0% avg. Alfalfa hay 7% 1st cutting, 0% 1997, 2% avg. Other hay 5% 1st cutting, 0% 1997, 1% avg. Potatoes 65% planted, 79% 1997, 73% avg. Tobacco 8% transplanted. Processing tomatoes 20% transplanted, 9% 1997, 24% avg. Sugar beets 40% planted. Hay 1% poor, 16% fair, 52% good, 31% excellent. Strawberries 2% poor, 15% fair, 55% good, 28% excellent. Activities: Applying fertilizer, manure, lime, anhydrous ammonia; field tillage; green chopping hay; baling; spraying herbicides, pesticides; buying seed, selling 1997 grain; seeding CRP, hay land; planting sweet corn, garden vegetables; cleaning ditches; repairing, preparing machinery for planting. Northern part: growers are transplanting vegetables, staking tomatoes. Southern part: growers are setting tomatoes, peppers; picking strawberries. Weed pressures: giant ragweed; Canadian thistles; henbit; chickweed; other grass, broadleaf weeds due to the delayed fieldwork. Reported insects: aphids in wheat; corn flea beetle, black cutworm in corn; Alfalfa weevil, potato leafhopper in alfalfa; adult Colorado potato beetles, eggs seen in potatoes. Reported diseases: powdery mildew, septoria, head blight, leaf rust, leaf blotch, wheat spindle streak mosaic virus in wheat; early blight on tomatoes; blue mold on tobacco.

OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.3. Topsoil 6% very short, 28% short, 64% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil 1% very short, 12% short, 86% adequate, 1% surplus. Warm, dry weather accelerated wheat maturity, row crop activity. Wheat 17% soft dough, 18% 1997, 22% avg.; oats 78% heading, 77% 1997, 59% avg.; 34% soft dough, 34% 1997, 17% avg.; corn 8% fair, 91% good, 1% excellent; 99% planted, 83% 1997, 93% avg.; 80% up-to-stand, 70% 1997, 79% avg. Sorghum 61% seedbed prepared, 47% 1997, 64% avg.; 4% up-to-stand, 4% 1997, 8% avg.; Soybeans 77% seedbed prepared, 88% 1997, 74% avg.; 32% planted, 40% 1997, 32% avg.; 9% up-to-stand, 20% 1997, 15% avg. Peanuts 98% seedbed prepared, 85% 1997, 83% avg. Cotton 92% seedbed prepared, 85% 1997, 83% avg.; alfalfa hay 2% poor, 23% fair, 61% good, 14% excellent; 68% 1st cutting, 55% 1997, 46% avg.; other hay 22% 1st cutting, 38% 1997, 35% avg; Livestock 1% poor, 16% fair, 76% good, 7% excellent. Feeder cattle prices unchanged from the preceding week.

OREGON: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.4. Topsoil 5% short, 68% adequate, 27% surplus. Subsoil 2% short, 73% adequate, 25% surplus. Winter wheat 10% fair, 52% good, 38% excellent; headed 5%, 16% 1997, 14% avg. Barley planted 92%, 90% 1997, 80% avg. Spring wheat planted 98%. Range, pasture feed 15% fair, 68% good, 17% excellent. Activities: Fields too wet to work at higher elevations on east side. Most small grains planted. Wheat beginning to head in Mid-Columbia Basin, some early alfalfa cut. Grain crops need warmer weather on west side as maturity slowed. Alfalfa, hay seeding took place in South Willamette Valley. Mint looked good, hay ready for cutting, red clover being cut for silage in mid-valley. North valley grass seeds heading, clover in full bloom. Some clover, grass lodged because of rain. Nurseries, greenhouses slowing down with container movement being the major activity. South coast Easter lily growers roguing plants to purify stands. Spraying started

on Christmas trees. Weather hampered vegetable work throughout western valleys. Sweet corn emerged, all onions seeded, cucumbers started in Rogue River Valley. Processed vegetables growing slowly in Willamette Valley. Snap beans being planted. Some tomatoes, peppers transplanted by market gardeners. Onions, potatoes showing. Most potato planting finished on east side. Onion emergence good in Malheur County. Asparagus harvest continued, potatoes growing well in northeast. Willamette Valley cold, wet weather slowed fruit development. Caneberries still blooming. Codling moth emerged but slowed down due to rain. Rogue River Valley strawberries in bloom. Scab sprays continued between storms, cover sprays expected to start when weather permits. South coast cranberries showing scattered bloom, beekeepers getting ready to place hives for pollination. Hood River Valley cooler temperatures hindered apple thinning efforts. Livestock condition good to excellent. Branding, turnout to pastures, ranges continued in eastern counties; most hay feeding has stopped. Western areas forage growth kept ahead of livestock; grass heading out in some pastures too wet to graze.

PENNSYLVANIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.3. Topsoil 1% short, 36% adequate, 63% surplus. Spring plowing 80% complete, 87% 1997, 78% avg. Fair week for fieldwork. Potatoes planted 38% complete, 58% 1997, 54% avg. Barley 87% heading or headed, 61% 1997, 49% avg. Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures still standing 1% poor, 7% fair, 63% good, 29% excellent. Timothy clover still standing 2% poor, 7% fair, 65% good, 26% excellent. Alfalfa 1st cutting 7% complete, 3% 1997, 3% avg. Quality of alfalfa made 2% poor, 5% fair, 85% good, 8% excellent. Apples 99% pink, 99% 1997, 92% avg.; 97% full bloom or past, 91% 1997, 82% avg. Activities: Planting of oats, corn, soybeans; cutting hay; machinery maintenance; hauling manure; caring for livestock. There was almost no fieldwork completed until 14th due to continued rain.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Soil moisture 3% short, 85% adequate, 12% surplus. Apples 26% fair, 66% good, 8% excellent. Barley 99% headed, 100% 1997, 50% turned color, 77% 1997, 53% avg.; 10% ripe, 37% 1997, 7% avg.; 1% poor, 26% fair, 32% good, 41% excellent. Cantaloupes 92% planted, 98% 1997, 92% avg.; 14% poor, 21% fair, 57% good, 8% excellent. Cucumbers 94% planted, 100% 1997, 91% avg.; 40% fair, 33% good, 27% excellent. Hay 76% harvested, 75% 1997, 67% avg.; 1% poor, 27% fair, 59% good, 13% excellent. Oats 100% headed, 100% 1997, 97% avg.; 61% turned color, 78% 1997, 67% avg.; 25% ripe, 49% 1997, 25% avg.; 1% very poor, 4% poor, 31% fair, 50% good, 14% excellent. Peaches 3% very poor, 7% poor, 18% fair, 41% good, 31% excellent. Rye 99% headed, 100% 1997, 46% turned color, 78% 1997, 65% avg.; 19% ripe, 37% 1997, 24% avg.; 1% very poor, 4% poor, 36% fair, 51% good, 8% excellent. Snap beans 92% planted, 87% 1997, 82% avg.; 5% fair, 69% good, 26% excellent. Sorghum 47% planted, 43% 1997, 30% avg.; 24% fair, 57% good, 19% excellent. Tobacco 100% transplanted, 99% 1997, 99% avg.; 20% fair, 74% good, 6% excellent. Tomatoes 99% planted, 98% 1997, 100% avg.; 15% fair, 42% good, 43% excellent. Watermelons 98% planted, 100% 1997, 94% avg.; 2% very poor, 2% poor, 34% fair, 56% good, 6% excellent.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.4. Topsoil 3% very short, 8% short, 67% adequate, 22% surplus. Subsoil 1% very short, 7% short, 69% adequate, 23% surplus. Small grain seeding is nearly complete, well ahead of the five-year average. Winter wheat 1% poor, 10% fair, 58% good, 31% excellent. Winter wheat 52% boot, 3% headed. Winter Rye 55% boot, 31% headed. Spring wheat 1% poor, 15% fair, 64% good, 20% excellent; 2% boot. Barley 1% poor, 14% fair, 66% good, 19% excellent. Oats 2% poor, 17% fair, 61% good, 20% excellent; 3% boot. Sunflower 21% seeded, 3% avg. Flaxseed 74% seeded, 11% 1997, 18% avg. Soybeans 33% seeded, 12% 1997, 11% avg. Alfalfa 2% poor, 18% fair, 58% good, 22% excellent. Livestock 7% fair, 68% good, 25% excellent. Lambing 93% complete compared to 88% a year ago, calving 93% complete compared to 88% a year ago. Producers have moved 66% of the cattle to pasture. Feed supplies 1% very short, 5% short, 85% adequate, 9% surplus. Stock water 3% short, 79% adequate, 18% surplus. Range, pasture feed 3% poor, 16% fair, 59% good, 22% excellent.

TENNESSEE: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil 83% adequate, 17% surplus. Subsoil 78% adequate, 22% surplus. Corn 83% planted,

94% 1997, 90% avg.; 63% emerged, 5% poor, 25% fair, 57% good, 13% excellent. Tobacco 20% transplanted, 27% 1997, 26% avg. Wheat 17% turning color, 12% 1997, 11% avg.; 2% very poor, 11% poor, 27% fair, 49% good, 11% excellent. Alfalfa 1st cutting 50%, 38% 1997, 37% avg.; 2% poor, 23% fair, 58% good, 17% excellent. Pasture feed 2% very poor, 1% poor, 17% fair, 61% good, 19% excellent. Other hay 1st cutting 30%, 2% poor, 17% fair, 66% good, 15% excellent. Hot, sunny weather gave farmers a golden opportunity last week to continue various field activities. Farmers planted corn, cotton, soybeans hot, heavy last week with 5 days suitable for field work. Alfalfa and other hay producers took advantage of the favorable conditions and were ahead of the five-year average with 50% of the alfalfa 1st cutting complete.

TEXAS: Some areas in High Plains received rain during week; however, remainder state remained dry. Hot temperatures along with drying winds continued deplete soil moisture. Smoke from fires in Mexico caused hazy conditions over large areas. Crop progress continued negatively affected by dry conditions most areas. Planting progress continued despite very dry conditions. Livestock conditions holding; however, supplemental feeding activity increased as grazing conditions declined. Markets off some for week.

Crops: Corn high plains crop up, growing under steady irrigation. The crop most other areas continued show signs stress from dry conditions. Fields central, southern areas began to tassel. Corn 71% normal, 83% 1997; 3% silking, 4% 1997, 6% avg. Cotton planting on irrigated land increased in Plains under dry, open conditions. Producers in Blacklands treating some fields for thrips. Growth slow Central fields as dry conditions continued. Fields continued to square Coastal Bend, along Upper Coast. Many fields showed signs moisture stress. Cotton 58% normal, 75% 1997; 8% squaring, 3% 1997, 6% avg. Grain sorghum planting increased in Plains during week. Growth on newly planted fields slow with some producers waiting for rain to begin planting. Fields across Blacklands, Central need rain as many fields wilted under hot temperatures. Fields continued head out in Coastal Bend, along Upper Coast, Rio Grande Valley. Grain sorghum 62% normal, 86% 1997; 11% heading, 4% 1997, 8% avg. Peanuts planting increased North Central fields. Early planted fields these areas need rain. Planting slowly increased South Central fields, however continued dry conditions limited progress. Most planting to this point been on irrigated land. Rice dry conditions along with high winds continued deplete moisture after heavy flushing. Because rapid drying, many fields have thin stands. Soybeans planting increased in High Plains under dry conditions. Plants setting pods in Northern Blacklands. Fields along Upper Coast have held up good, however rain needed soon. Small grains dryland fields continued need more rain High Plains, although some received showers during week. Fields most other areas drying down rapidly with harvest moving into Blacklands. Harvest continued South, Coastal Bend. 2% harvested, 1% 1997, 1% avg. Other Crops: Oats 22% harvested, 2% 1997, 6% avg. Sunflowers 36% planted, 27% 1997, 25% avg.

Commercial Vegetables: Rio Grande Valley, harvest continued most vegetables. Dry conditions continued cause concerns about irrigation water supply. San Antonio-Winter Garden, watermelon, cantaloup harvest increased during week. East, producers increased irrigation activity as dry conditions continued. Sweet potatoes continued to be set out. High Plains, vegetables made good progress under steady irrigation. Trans Pecos, cantaloup fields putting out runners, blooming. A few fields harvested during week. Peaches harvest got underway early varieties in Hill Country. Rain needed for other varieties to size properly. Pecans producers continued scout for case bearers North Central groves. Some spraying for case bearers occurred in Blacklands, Central. Small nuts continued form these areas with a light set reported many groves.

Range and Livestock: Pastures improved in Plains with rain, however growth, improvement other areas limited. Supplemental feeding activity continued steady. Haying activity occurred only few fields for week. Livestock conditions remained good; however, flies continued a problem.

UTAH: Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Topsoil 5% short, 76% adequate, 19% surplus. Subsoil 5% short, 75% adequate, 20% surplus. Pasture feed, range 22% fair, 70% good, 8% excellent. Spring wheat emerged 96%, 89% 1997, 90% avg. Barley emerged 91%, 91% 1997, 89% avg. Oats planted 83%, 84% 1997, 80% avg.; emerged 54%, 55% 1997, 55% avg. Corn planted 72%, 69% 1997, 65% avg.; emerged 24%. Potatoes

planted 87%, 76% 1997. Alfalfa height 13.5 in., 13 in. 1997, 12 in. avg. Ewes lambled on range 92%, 99% 1997, 92% avg. Sheep moved to summer range 20%, 34% 1997, 28% avg. Cattle/calves moved to summer range 35%, 36% 1997, 31% avg. Major farm, ranch activities: Planting, spraying weeds, irrigating.

VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.9. Topsoil 70% adequate, 30% surplus. Subsoil 59% adequate, 41% surplus. Corn 57% planted, 67% 1997, 72% avg.; 42% emerged; 1% poor, 26% fair, 50% good, 23% excellent. Cotton 80% planted, 86% 1997, 93% avg. Peanuts 55% planted, 69% 1997, 76% avg. Soybeans 5% planted, 6% 1997, 11% avg. Flue-cured tobacco 38% transplanted, 69% 1997, 60% avg. Dark fire cured tobacco 20% transplanted, 43% 1997, 28% avg. Burley tobacco 5% transplanted, 13% 1997, 11% avg. Tobacco greenhouses 4% fair, 36% good, 60% excellent. Tobacco plantbeds 3% very poor, 5% poor, 23% fair, 52% good, 17% excellent. Winter wheat 3% very poor, 7% poor, 18% fair, 51% good, 21% excellent. Barley 2% very poor, 4% poor, 19% fair, 52% good, 23% excellent. Summer potatoes 1% poor, 14% fair, 62% good, 23% excellent. Apples 5% fair, 75% good, 20% excellent. Peaches 21% fair, 55% good, 24% excellent. Pasture feed 1% poor, 10% fair, 57% good, 32% excellent. Alfalfa 1% poor, 11% fair, 52% good, 36% excellent. Other hay 1% poor, 16% fair, 54% good, 29% excellent. Rainy conditions continued to prevail early last week limiting fieldwork to only 2.9 days Statewide. Additional isolated showers were received over the weekend in some localities. Temperatures reached 90 degrees in most localities by the end of the week allowing fields to dry down. Many producers were able to resume field activities making slight progress in corn planting and hay making. Corn planting has now fallen behind both last year and the five year average due to above normal rainfall. Some corn acres will be replanted due to flood damage. Producers are concerned with excessive lodging in wheat and barley fields due to heavy rains. Some small grain producers are now reporting severe damage from earlier frost and are planning to harvest affected acreage for hay. Some drier localities were able to make hay last week with good to excellent yields. The quality of this year's hay crop will be reduced but quantity will be abundant based on initial cuttings. Excessive rainfall has caused rotting in some of State strawberry crop. Other farming activities included vegetable planting in drier localities, fruit thinning, fence repairing.

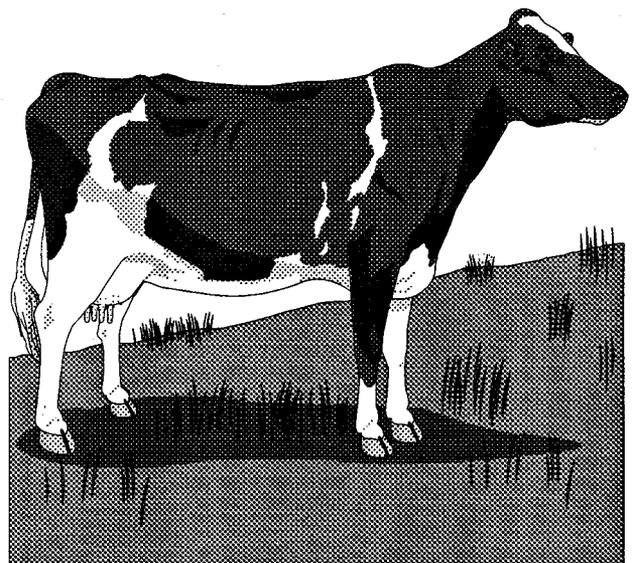
WASHINGTON: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.9. Topsoil 8% short; 80% adequate, 12% surplus. Subsoil 11% short, 86% adequate, 3% surplus. Winter wheat, dryland 19% fair, 61% good, 20% excellent; irrigated 83% good, 17% excellent. Spring wheat 100% planted, 98% 1997, 94% avg.; 98% emerged, 79% 1997, 77% avg. Spring wheat, dryland 18% fair, 80% good, 2% excellent; irrigated 85% good, 15% excellent. Barley 99% planted, 93% 1997, 91% avg.; 95% emerged, 75% 1997, 70% avg. Rainfall received last week dramatically improved crop conditions throughout eastern areas. Precipitation slowed field activities, but greatly aided crops that had started to show higher levels of moisture stress. Some isolated hail damage was reported and wheat farmers continued to report cheat grass problems in fields. Potatoes 99% planted, 96% 1997, 95% avg.; 68% emerged, 53% 1997, 57% avg. Hay, other roughage supplies, 80% adequate, 20% surplus. Green chop continued with dairy operations harvesting the second crop from some fields. Hay swathing was underway in some areas with baling delayed because of the rain. Range, pasture feed 2% poor, 12% fair, 75% good, 11% excellent. Cooler temperatures, precipitation slowed fruit development, increased disease pressures for producers. Growers were busy thinning fruit, managing insects, diseases in orchards. Cranberries, blueberries were in bloom, weed control activities in bogs continued. Vegetable farmers continued planting a wide variety of vegetables including carrots, sweet corn, lettuce, potatoes.

WEST VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.3. Topsoil moisture 2% short, 78% adequate, 20% surplus. Much needed drier weather allowed producers to catch up on field activities. Wheat 4% fair, 43% good, 53% excellent; Wheat headed 74%, 20% 1997. Apple 71% fair, 22% good, 7% excellent. Peach 100% good. Hay 1% poor, 23% fair, 63% good, 13% excellent. Intended acreage prepared for spring planting 85%, 85% 1997, 80% avg. Corn planted 39%, 52% 1997, 51% avg. Oats planted 85%, 84% 1997, 82% avg.; emerged 50%, 55% 1997, 60% avg. Soybeans planted 12%, 10% 1997, 14% avg. Tobacco beds emerged 100%, 99%

1997, 98% avg.; 1% transplanted. Cattle 1% poor, 10% fair, 80% good, 9% excellent; 96% calved. Sheep 9% fair, 84% good, 7% excellent; 97% lambled. Hay, roughage supplies 2% very short, 13% short, 83% adequate, 2% surplus. Feed grain supplies 1% very short, 3% short, 96% adequate. Activities: Field preparation for planting, planting corn, oats, soybeans; general maintenance.

WISCONSIN: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Soil moisture 8% very short, 28% short, 53% adequate, 11% surplus. Spring tillage 88% complete, 85% 1997, 69% avg. Soybeans planted was 31% complete, 30% 1997, 19% avg. Wet field conditions in the southern part of the state put farmers behind in fieldwork compared to the rest of the state. Spring tillage is winding down in the northern, central districts of the State. Farmers had 2.0 days more for fieldwork than the previous week. Spring tillage 88% complete, 85% 1997, 69% avg. Pasture 2% very poor, 6% poor, 19% fair, 52% good, 21% excellent. Pasture conditions in the northwest district 8% very poor, 26% poor, while the North central district's pastures 12% very poor, 10% poor. Most corn was planted, much has emerged in Dunn County, dandelions and yellow rocket were observed in alfalfa fields. Soybeans were emerging in St. Croix County where planting progress was 10 days ahead of schedule. Cranberry acreage in Wood County showed good bud development, may bloom early. Alfalfa was ready for cutting in many areas of the state, including Iowa, Columbia Counties. Winter wheat may be heading out soon in Walworth County if the warm weather continues.

WYOMING: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Topsoil 1% very short, 38% short, 55% adequate, 6% surplus. Winter wheat 17% fair, 48% good, 35% excellent. Winter wheat jointed 55%, 25% 1997, 29% avg. Barley 6% fair, 89% good, 5% excellent. Barley seeded 93%, 94% 1997, 91% avg.; emerged 73%, 78% 1997, 73% avg.; jointed 13%, 9% 1997, 4% avg. Oats seeded 87%, 81% 1997, 79% avg.; emerged 42%, 48% 1997, 48% avg.; jointed 2%, 0% 1997, 1% avg. Spring wheat seeded 92%, 76% 1997, 78% avg.; emerged 53%, 43% 1997, 43% avg.; jointed 5%, 3% 1997, 1% avg. Sugar beets planted 100%, 99% 1997, 99% avg.; emerged 70%, 56% 1997, 57% avg. Corn planted 82%, 77% 1997, 71% avg.; emerged 20%, 10% 1997, 21% avg. Dry beans planted 9%, 7% 1997, 6% avg. Range, pasture feed 1% poor, 25% fair, 59% good, 15% excellent. Range flock ewes lambled 61%, 57% 1997, 57% avg. Range flock sheep shorn 92%, 94% 1997, 92% avg. Precipitation fell across the State, not enough to help farmers in northern, some south central parts of the State where dry conditions persist.



International Weather and Crop Summary

May 10 - 16, 1998

HIGHLIGHTS

FSU-WESTERN: Weather conditions continued to favor summer crop planting in Ukraine and southern Russia.

FSU-NEW LANDS: Widespread rain delayed early spring grain planting in the Urals, Siberia, and Kazakstan.

EUROPE: Warm, dry weather in the northern half of Europe helped summer crop planting and promoted winter grain development.

AUSTRALIA: Winter grain planting progressed.

CANADA: Spring plantings continued to make rapid progress but moisture was needed in parts of the Prairies and Ontario.

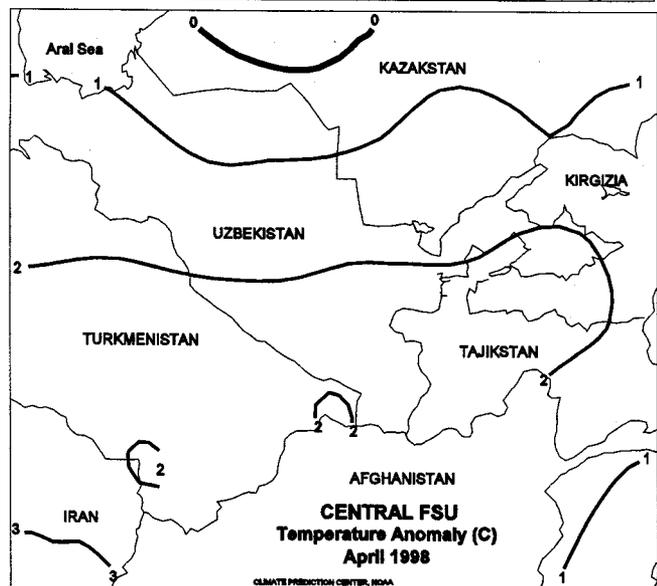
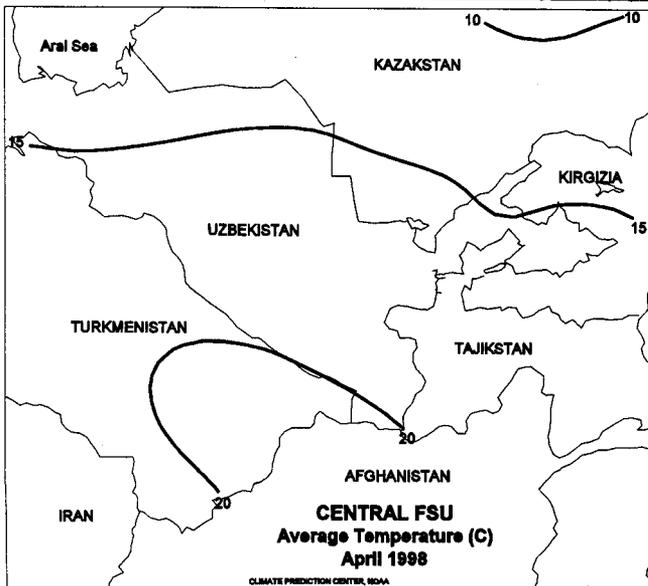
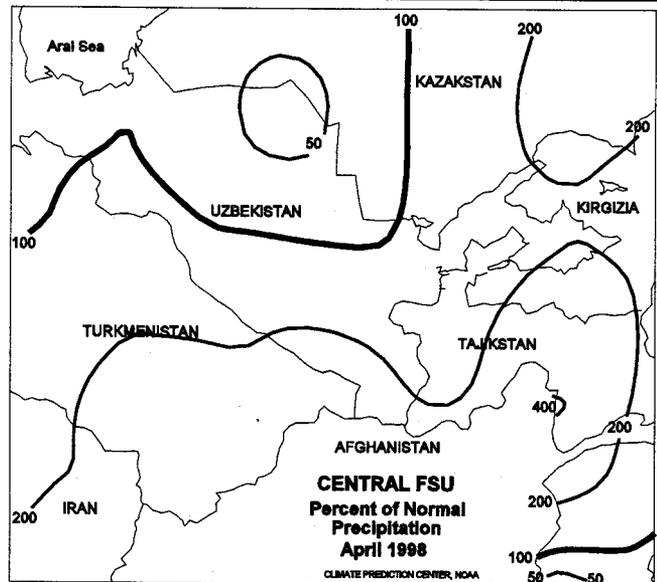
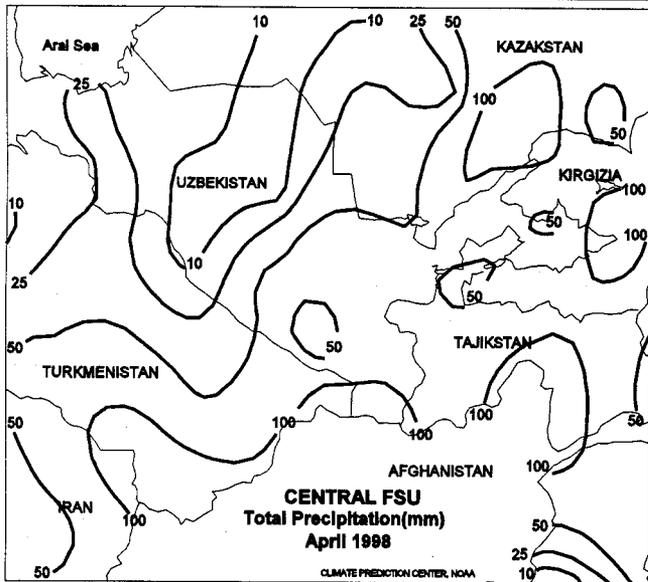
MEXICO: Unseasonably hot, dry weather reduced moisture supplies across most of Mexico and Central America, delaying early fieldwork.

NORTHWESTERN AFRICA: Dry weather continued to help winter grain harvesting in southern Morocco, while light showers in northern Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia slowed harvest activities.

SOUTHEAST ASIA: Showers benefited rice transplanting in Thailand and eased dryness for main-season crops in southern Vietnam and the Philippines.

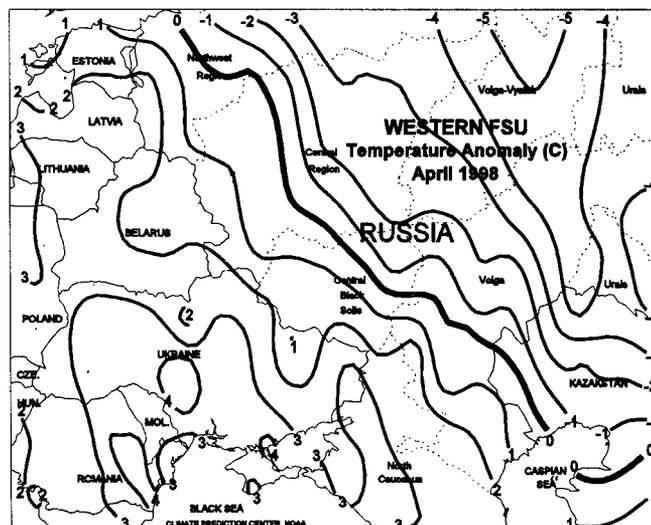
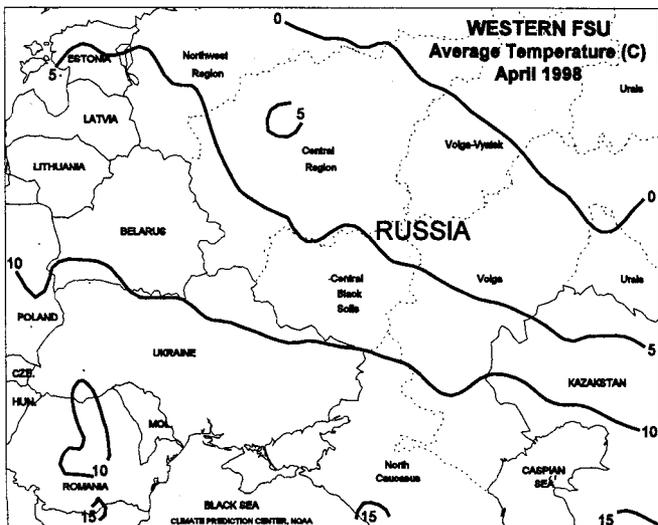
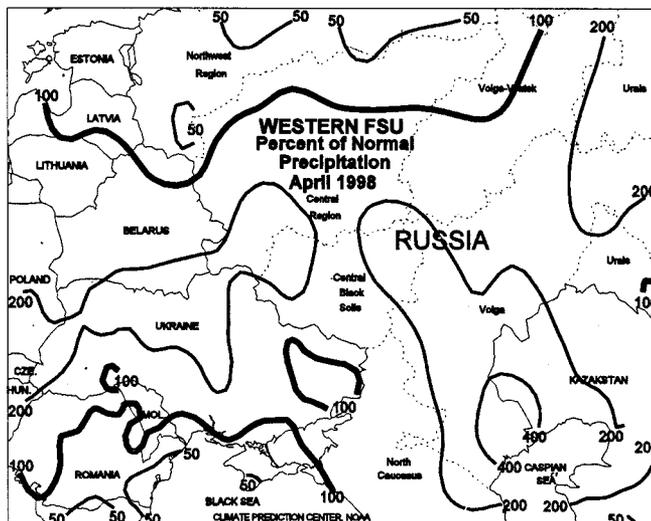
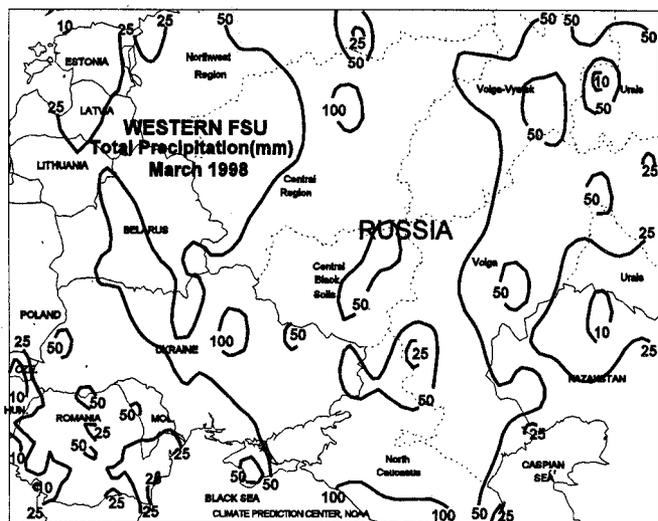
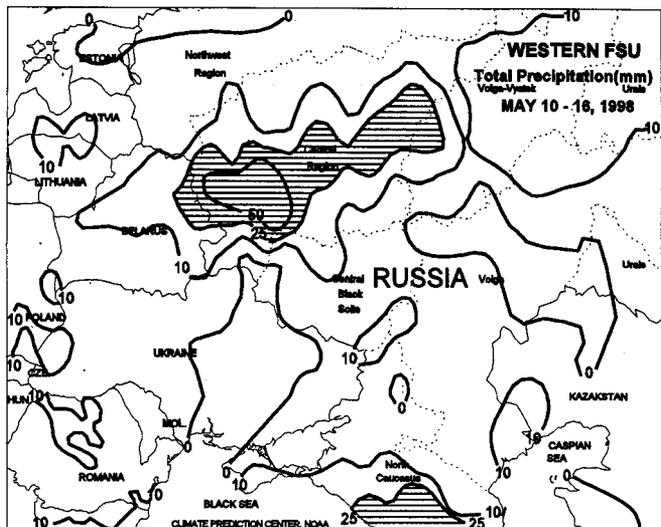
EASTERN ASIA: Rain continued to benefit winter wheat and summer crops across the North China Plain, while dry weather favored summer crop planting in Manchuria.

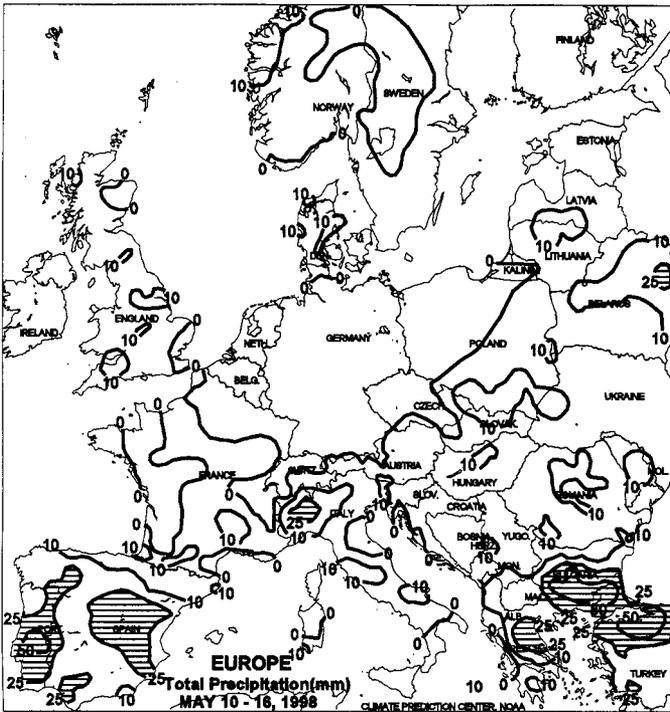
SOUTH AMERICA: Heavy showers returned to southern Paraguay and southern Brazil, exacerbating cotton and soybean harvest delays.



FSU-WESTERN

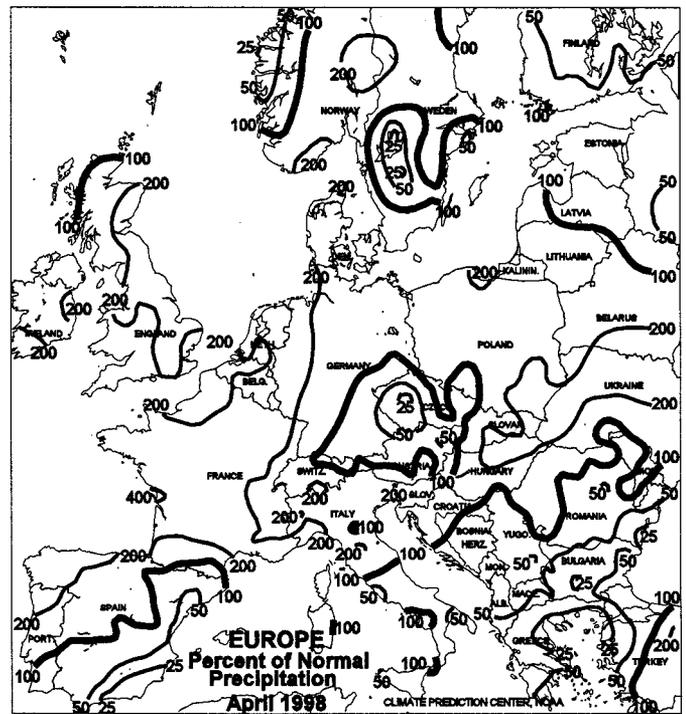
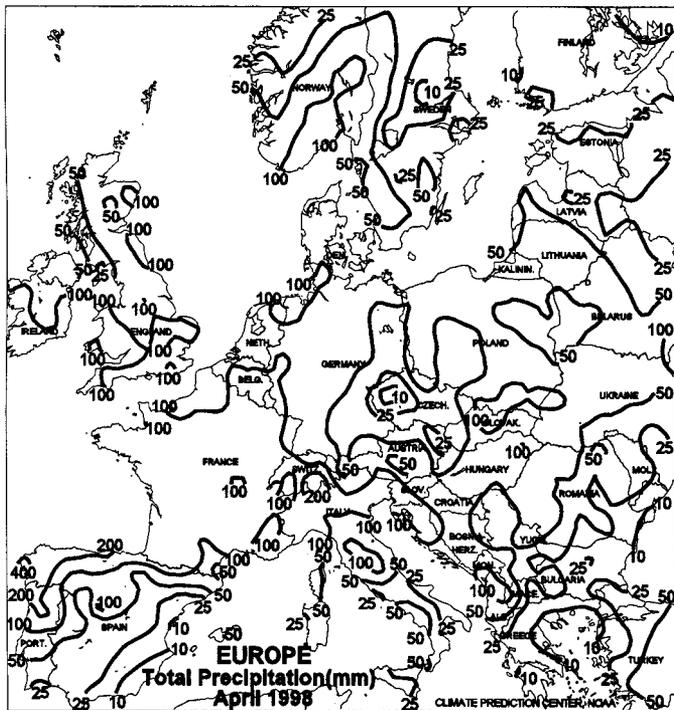
In Ukraine and southern Russia, generally dry weather (precipitation amounts less than 7 mm in most areas) allowed the pace of corn, sunflower, and sugar beet planting to accelerate. Furthermore, near-normal temperatures favored germination of newly-seeded crops. Crop progress for winter wheat ranged from heading in southern Ukraine and the North Caucasus region in Russia to jointing over remaining areas. Farther north, wet weather (10-70 mm) extended across northern Russia (Central Region, Volga Vyatsk, and the upper Volga Valley), hampering spring grain planting. However, the combination of wet weather and near-normal temperatures in northern Russia favored winter grain development. In April, above-normal precipitation fell in Belarus, western and northern Ukraine, and central and eastern Russia (Central Region, Central Black Soils Region, and the Volga Valley). Most of this precipitation fell from April 1 to 20, hampering spring grain and early sugar beet planting. Planting likely began on schedule in southern Ukraine and the North Caucasus region in Russia, helped by generally dry weather. Unseasonably mild weather in April favored greening of winter grains in Ukraine, extreme southern areas in Russia, Belarus, and the Baltics. However, during the first 20 days of the month, unseasonably cold weather prevailed in central and northern Russia, delaying greening in winter grains and spring planting. In late April, mild and generally dry weather in most areas favored winter grain development and spring planting.

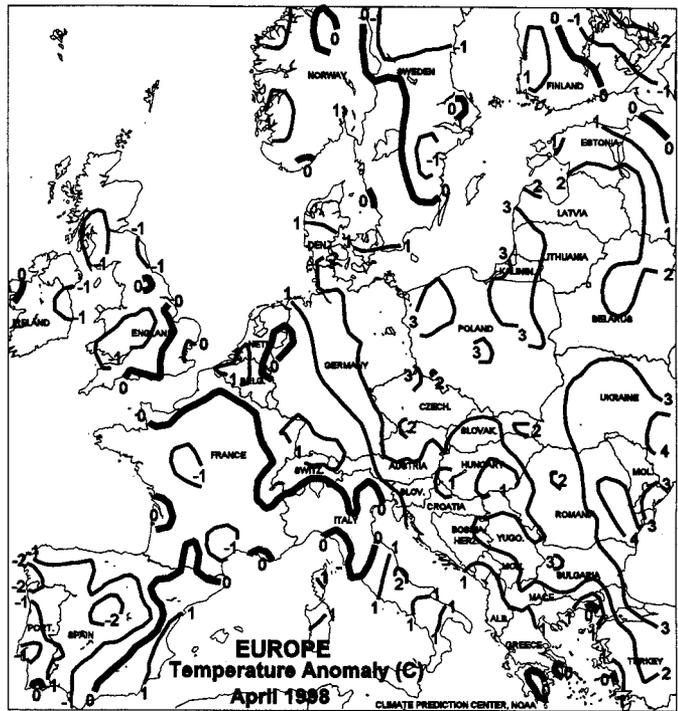




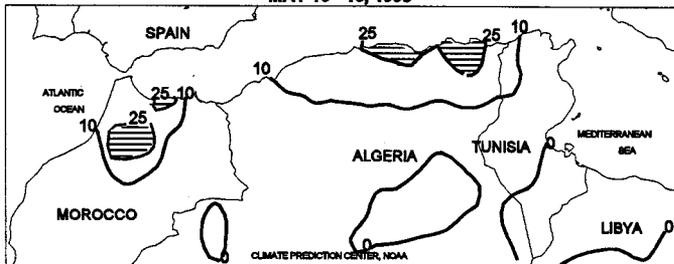
EUROPE

Generally dry weather (precipitation amounts mainly less than 10 mm) and above-normal temperatures stretched from England and France eastward through Germany, Scandinavia, and Poland. The warm, dry weather in these areas allowed spring grain and summer crop planting to progress without delays and promoted winter grain development. In Spain and Portugal, widespread rain (10-40 mm with local amounts in excess of 40 mm) benefited winter grains in the filling stage and summer crops in the vegetative stage. In southeastern Europe, timely showers fell late in the week, benefiting winter grains and newly emerging summer crops. Greatest amounts of precipitation (10-50 mm, with local amounts in excess of 50 mm) fell in Bulgaria and Greece, with lesser amounts (4-12 mm) observed farther north in Romania and Hungary. Weekly temperatures averaged 2 to 6 degrees C above normal in the western half of Europe and 1 to 3 degrees C above normal in the east. In April, above-normal precipitation fell from England and France eastward through Germany into Poland, providing abundant moisture for winter grains in the jointing stage and newly-emerging spring grains and summer crops. Near- to above-normal rainfall from northern Italy eastward into Hungary and Slovakia eased long-term dryness, improving moisture conditions for crop development. Elsewhere, below-normal precipitation in eastern Spain and southeastern Europe continued March's below-normal rainfall pattern, reducing moisture for developing crops.

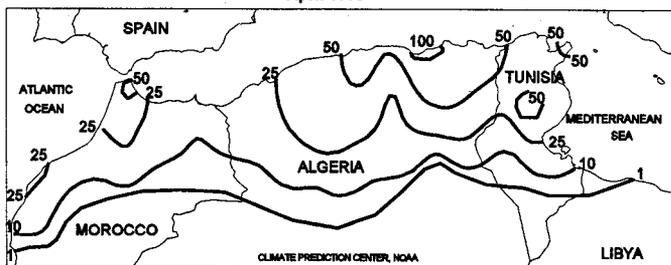




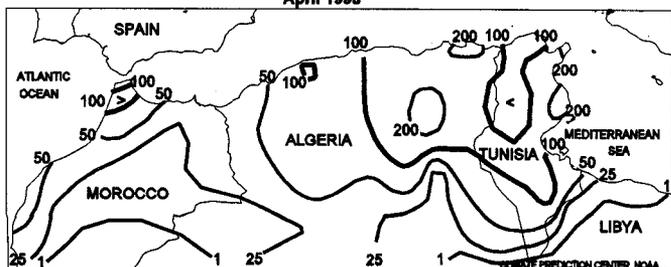
NORTHWEST AFRICA Total Precipitation (mm) MAY 10 - 18, 1998



NORTHWEST AFRICA Total Precipitation (mm) April 1998



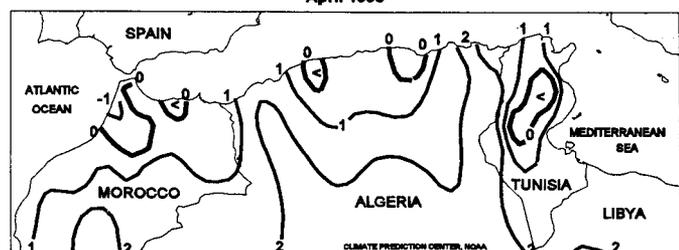
NORTHWEST AFRICA Percent of Normal Precipitation April 1998

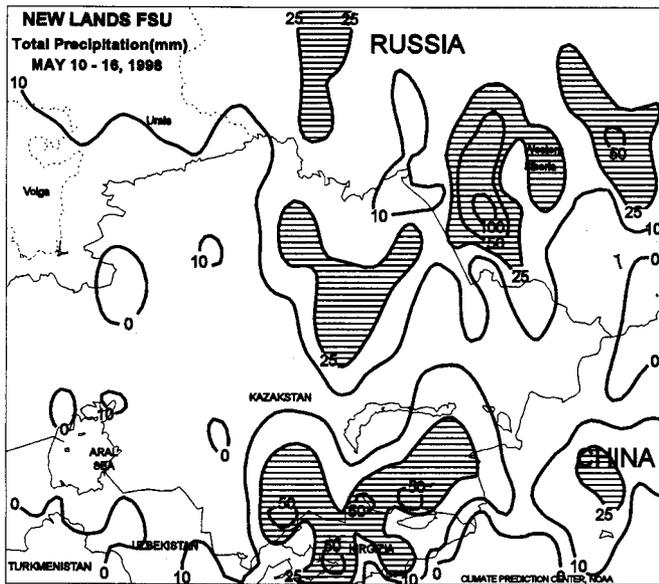


NORTHWESTERN AFRICA

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 southern Morocco favored winter grain maturation and harvesting. Farther east, light to moderate showers (7-25 mm) in Algeria and Tunisia favored immature crops, but slowed crop maturation and early harvest activities. In April, below-normal precipitation in Morocco limited moisture for winter grains in the filling stage, especially in the south. In Algeria and Tunisia, showers during the last 2 weeks in April brought relief to winter grains stressed by previous dryness, stabilizing conditions for crops in the filling stage. Reviewing the season, abundant planting moisture in the fall in Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia favored winter grain emergence and early plant establishment. In Morocco, a drying trend began around February 8 and persisted during the remainder of the growing season, especially in the south, limiting moisture for crop development. In Algeria, a drying trend from January through mid-April placed increasing stress on crops, reducing yield potential. Driest conditions prevailed in western and central areas. In Tunisia, below-normal precipitation since mid-December limited moisture for crop development, especially in southern areas where a majority of the barley crop is grown. Weekly summaries for northwestern Africa will be discontinued until next year's planting season.

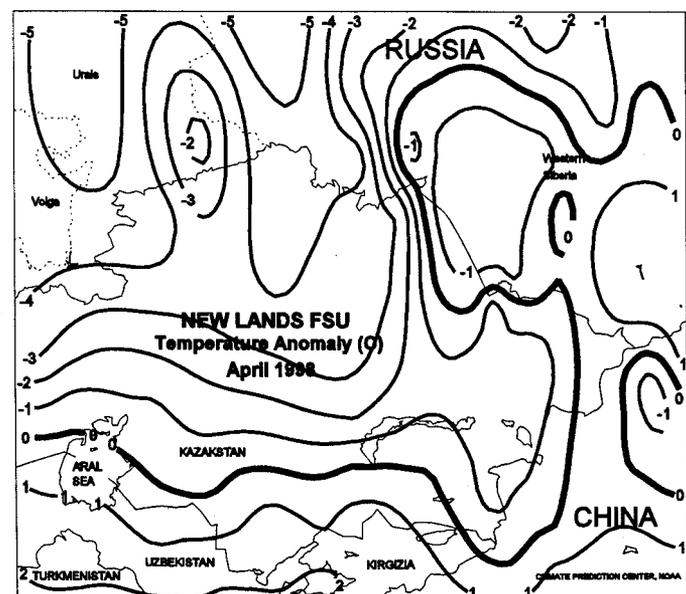
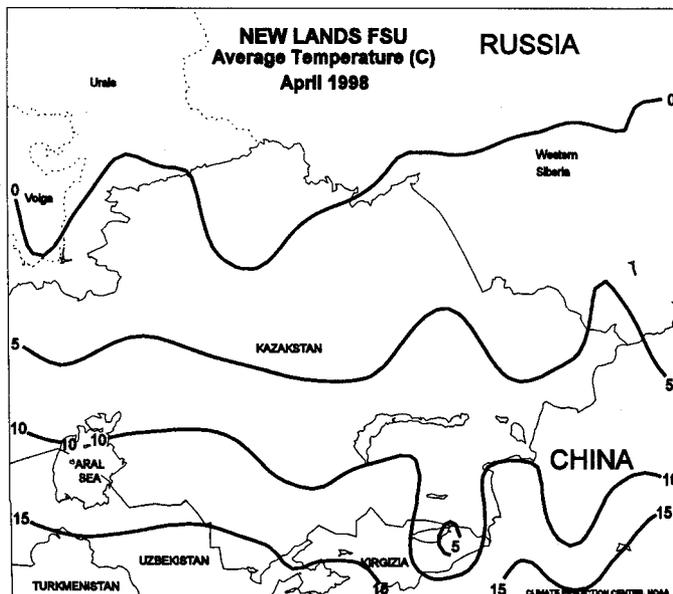
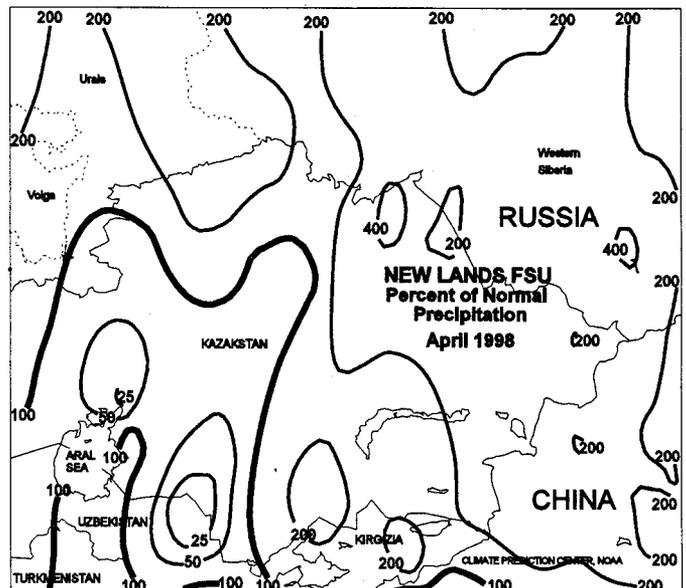
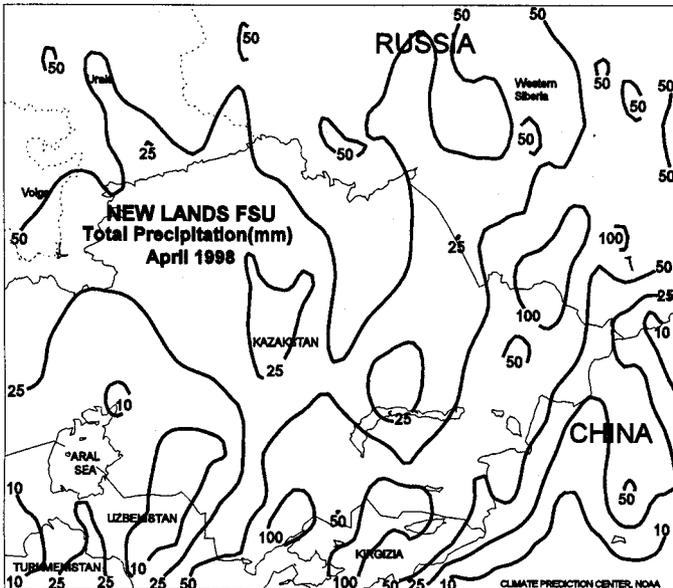
NORTHWEST AFRICA Temperature Anomaly (C) April 1998





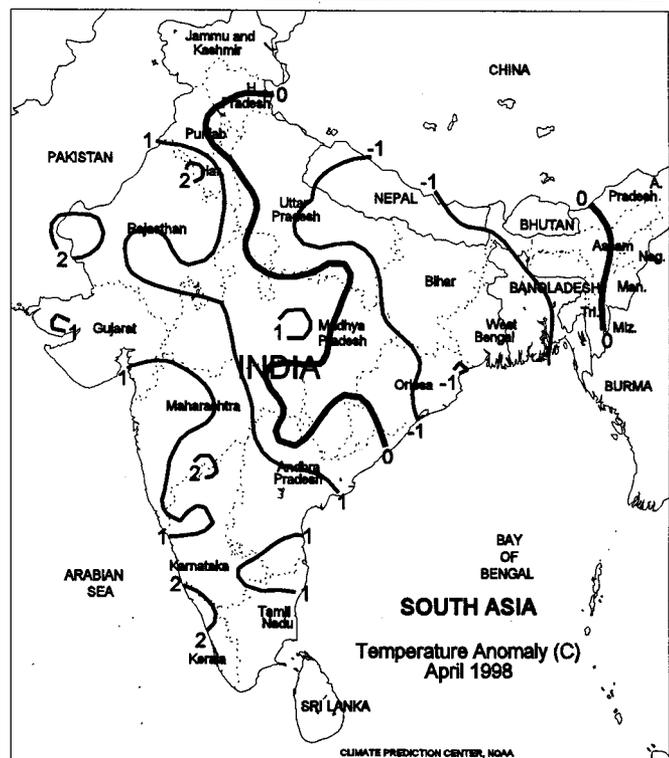
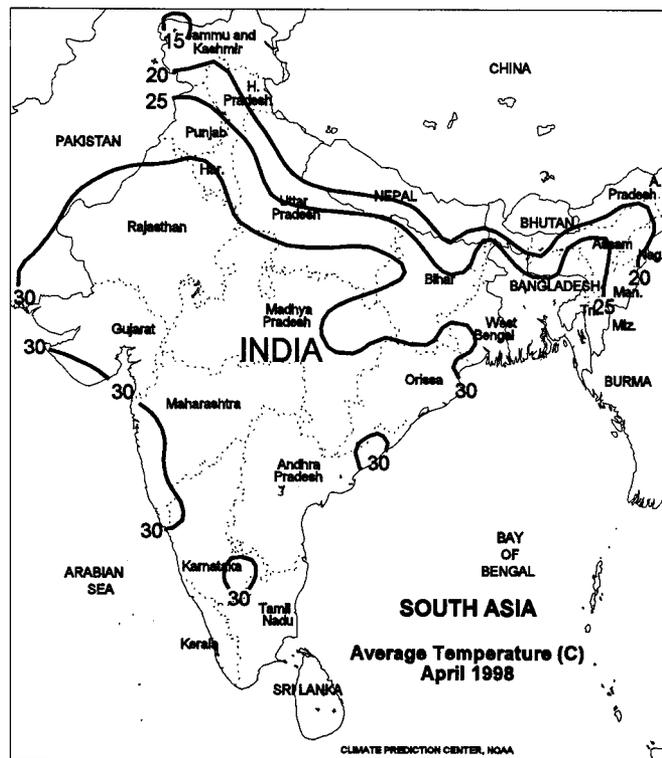
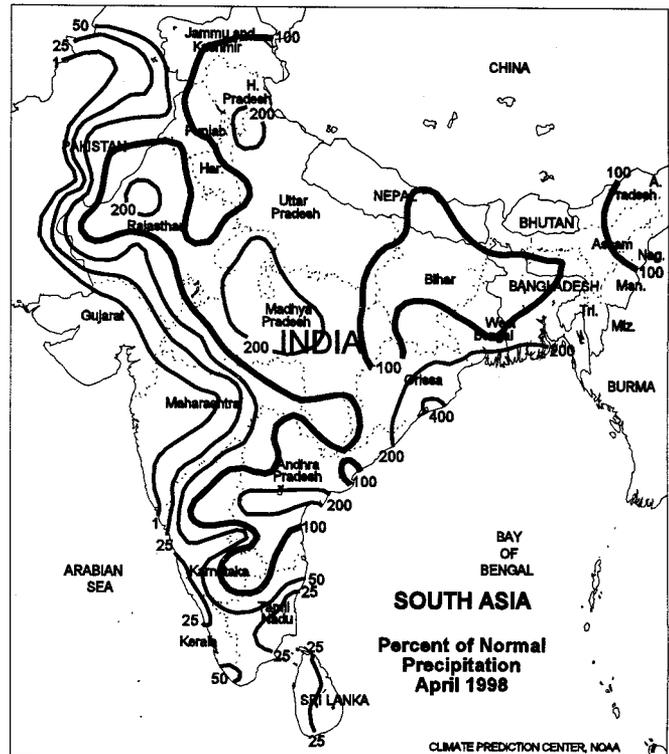
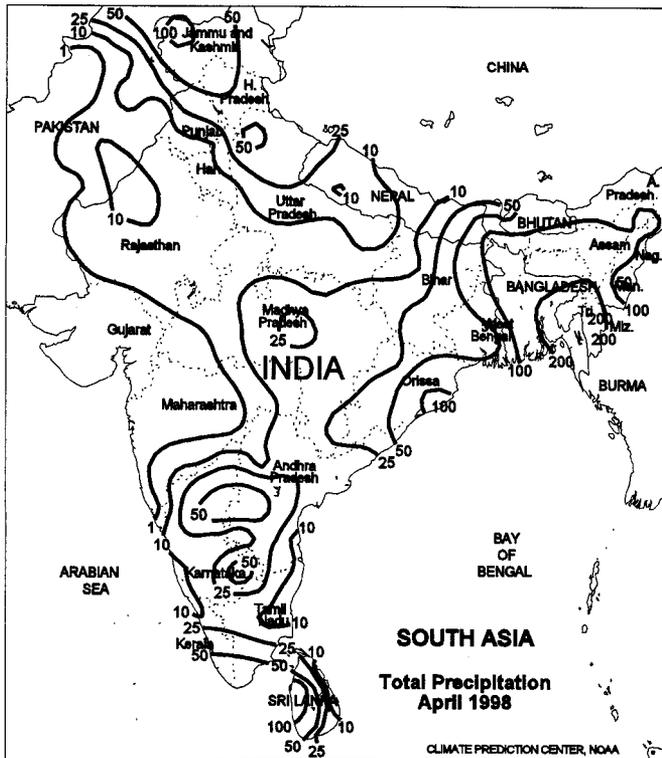
FSU-NEWLANDS

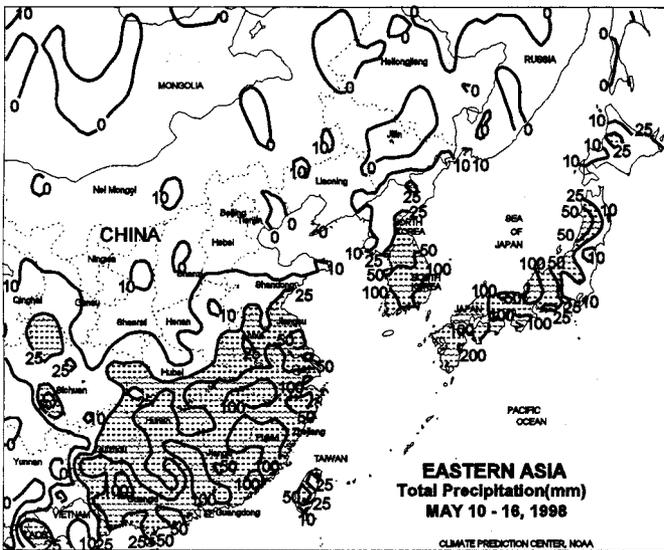
Spring grain planting typically begins in May in Russia and Kazakstan. A late arrival of spring along with recent rain has delayed the start of spring grain planting in many areas. This past week, precipitation amounts ranged from 10 to 50 mm in most of Russia (northern Urals, Western Siberia, and Eastern Siberia) and Kazakstan, worsening conditions for planting. Only light, scattered showers (less than 7 mm) fell in southern Urals and western Kazakstan, allowing some spring fieldwork. Weekly temperatures averaged 1 to 4 degrees C below normal in most of Russia and Kazakstan. In April, unusually cold, wet weather prevailed over major spring wheat producing areas in Kazakstan and Russia, preventing early season fieldwork. Moisture accumulations since last fall have been near to above normal in Russia and Kazakstan, providing adequate to abundant soil moisture conditions for the upcoming growing season. However, warm, dry weather is needed throughout Russia and Kazakstan to improve conditions for planting.



SOUTH ASIA

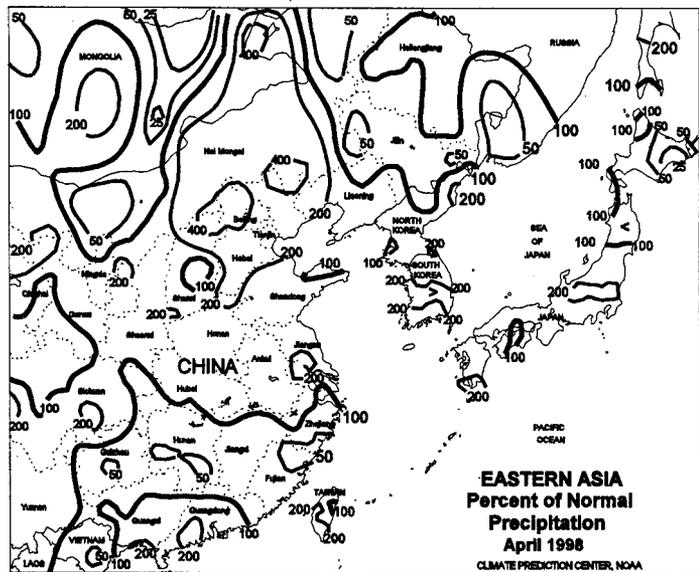
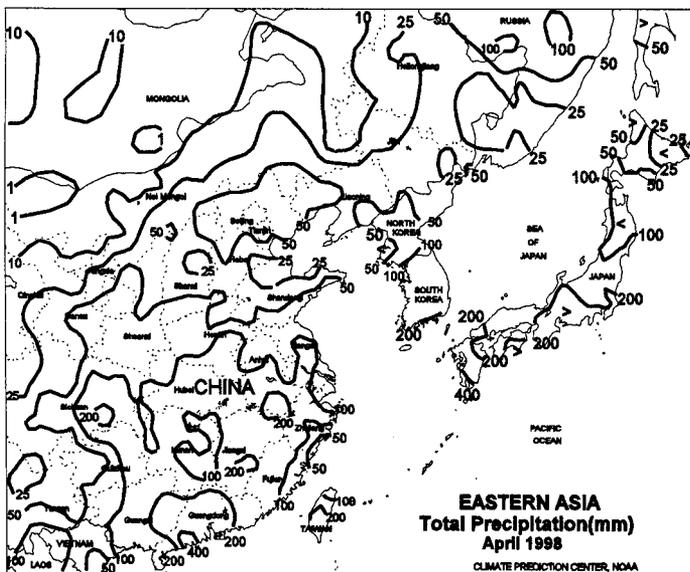
In April and early May, an unusually wet pattern remained entrenched over the region. Rainfall has been especially heavy (50-100 mm or greater) in sections of southern and eastern India and Bangladesh. In the east, the rain and associated severe weather caused some flooding and hampered seasonal rice fieldwork. In southern India, the moisture has been overall favorable for early summer crop plantings. April temperatures averaged below normal in the east and near to above normal elsewhere.

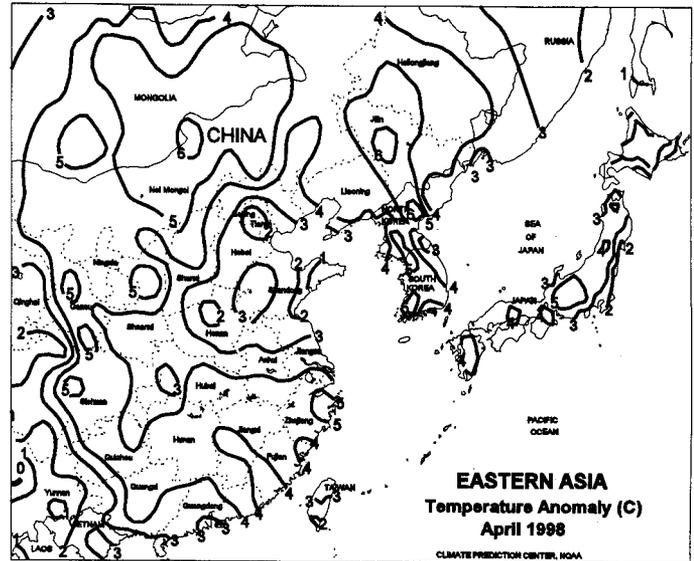
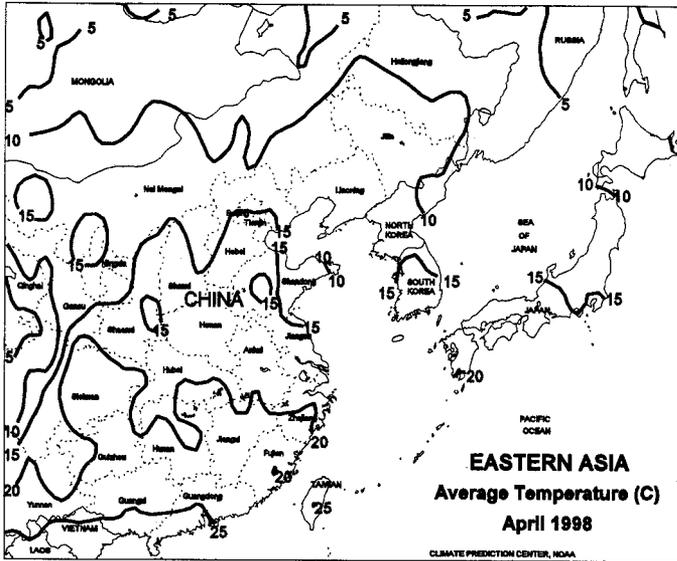




EASTERN ASIA

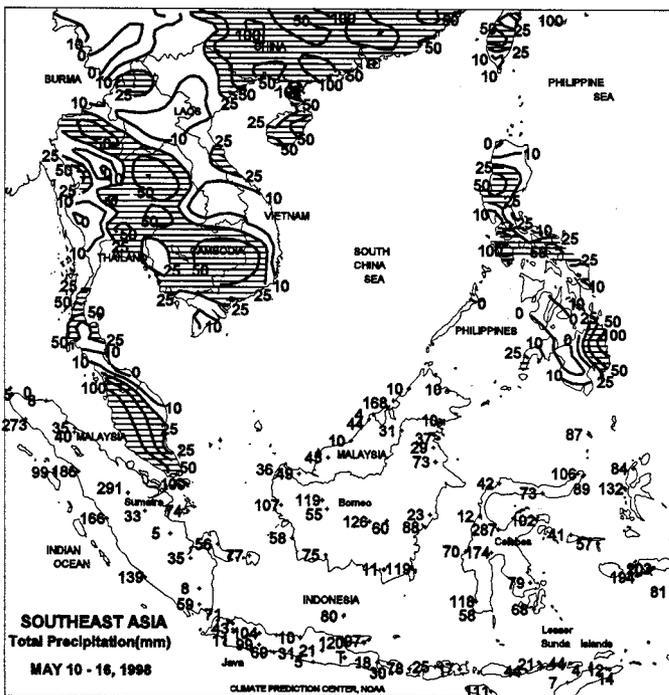
Light to moderate rain (5-25 mm) across the North China Plain benefited reproductive winter wheat and germinating summer crops. In Manchuria, seasonably light rain (less than 10 mm) helped offset warm weather, with highs ranging from 28 to 32 degrees C (4-8 degrees C above normal). Cooler weather is needed across Manchuria since rainfall is typically light (less than 10 mm per week) during May. Moderate rain (25-75 mm) covered central and southern China, maintaining adequate moisture supplies for rice. Cool weather (2-4 degrees C below normal) slowed rice development across the Yangtze Valley. Excessive showers (100-160 mm) likely caused local flooding in southeastern China (Fujian), southern South Korea and southern Japan. During April, rainfall remained above normal across the North China Plain, benefiting winter wheat and germinating summer crops. In Manchuria, April rainfall was adequate for germination. Near- to slightly below-normal rainfall maintained irrigation supplies for rice across southern China. Above-normal April rainfall boosted moisture supplies for corn and rice planting across Japan and the Korean Peninsula.

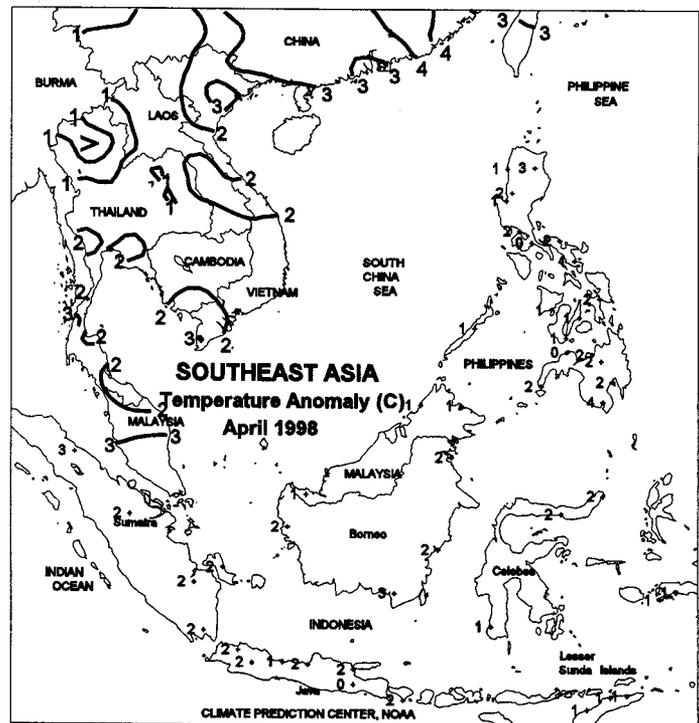
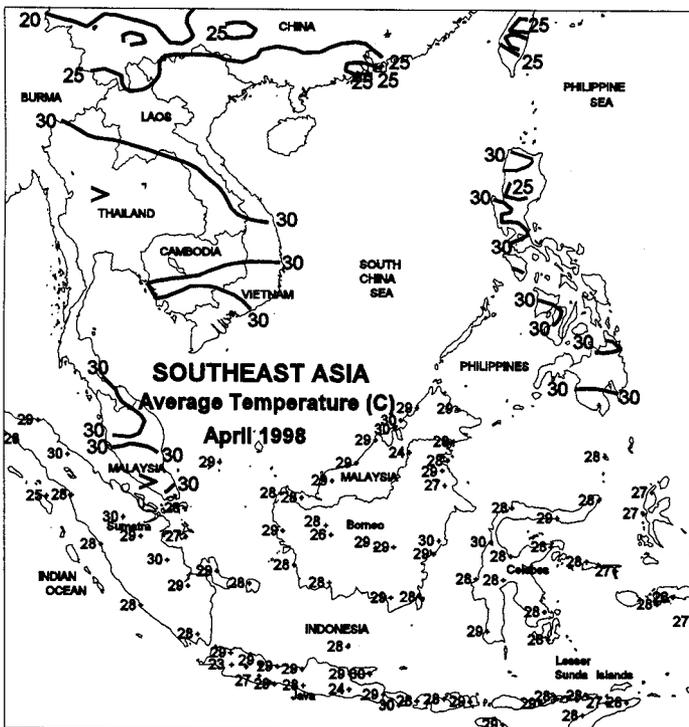
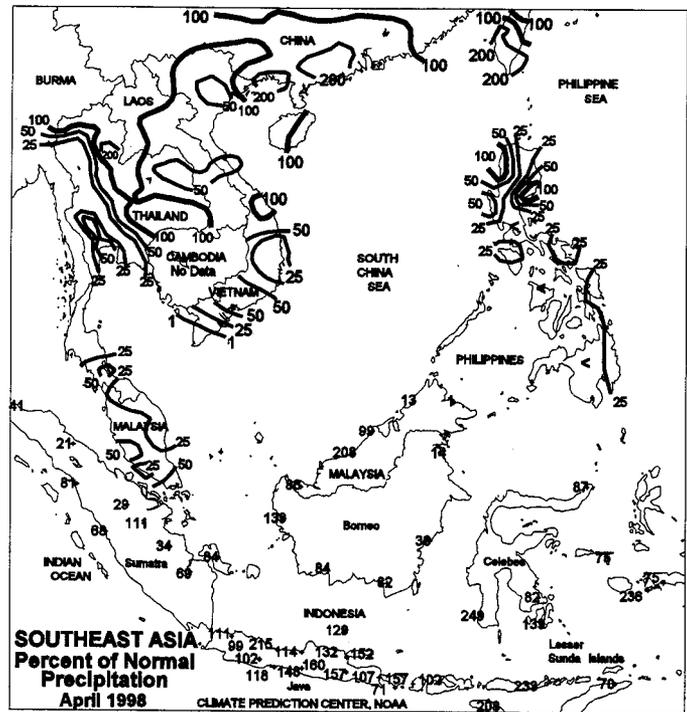
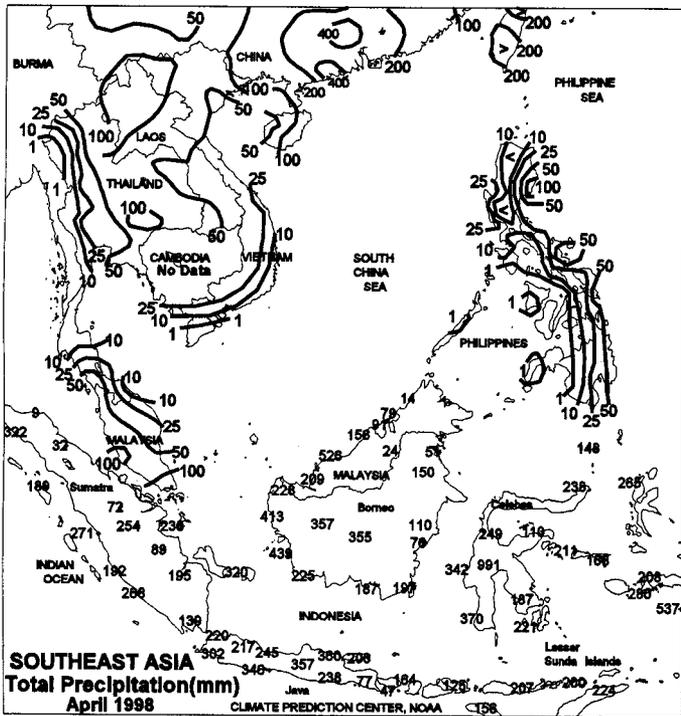


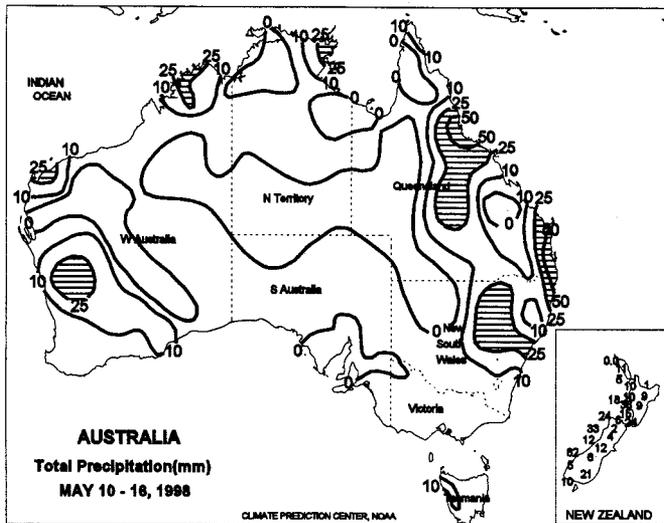


SOUTHEAST ASIA

Light to moderate showers (10-60 mm) covered most of Thailand, signaling the start of the rainy season. Showers (10-60 mm) eased dryness across southern Vietnam and eased drought in the northern and eastern Philippines. Moderate to heavy showers (50-150 mm) prevailed over peninsular Malaysia, favoring oil palm, but flooding was possible along the western coast. In Java and southern Sumatra, showers (10-50 mm) maintained adequate moisture supplies for second-season crops, as early main-season rice harvesting began. During April, near- to above-normal rainfall maintained moisture supplies for main-season rice and second-season crops in southern Sumatra and Java. Drought continued across the eastern Philippines, with only minor relief during early May. Below-normal April rainfall stressed oil palm in peninsular Malaysia and rice and coffee in southern Vietnam. Seasonal showers increased moisture supplies in Thailand.

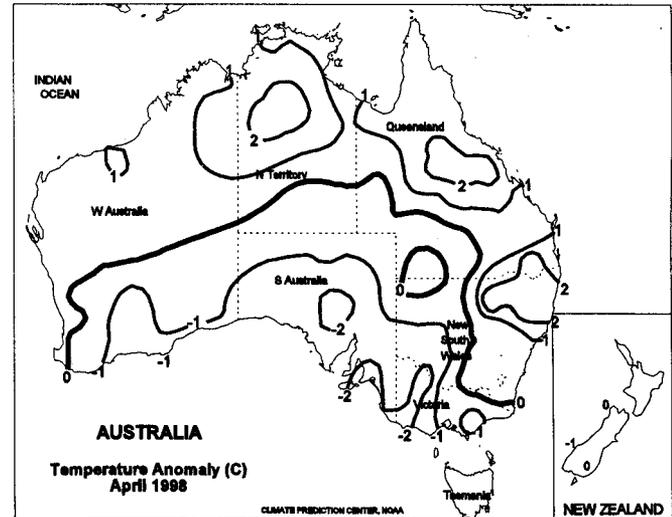
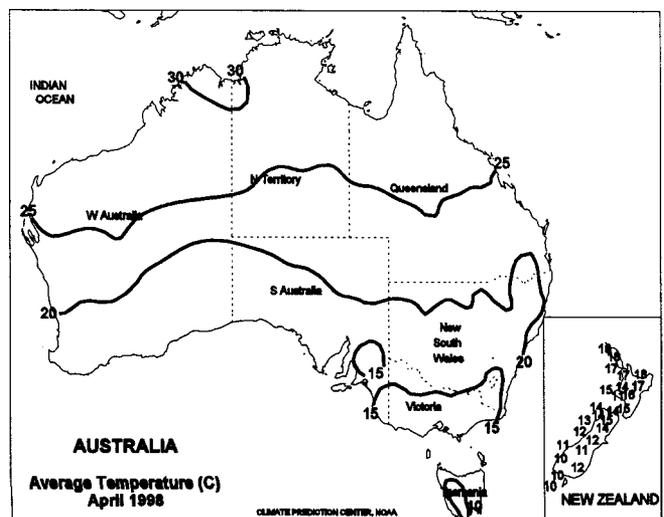
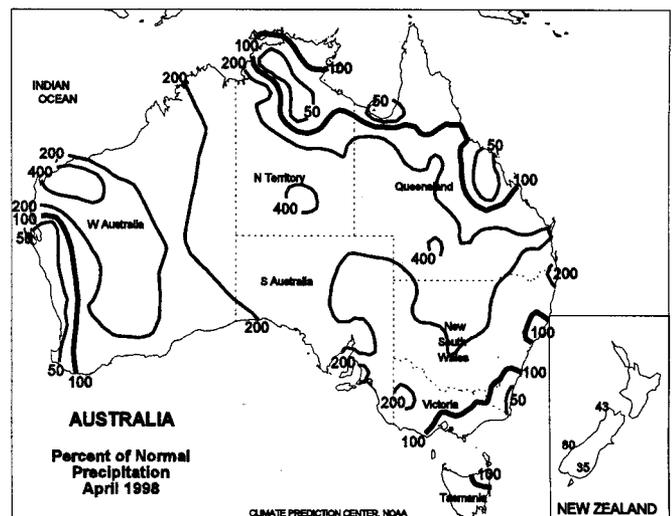
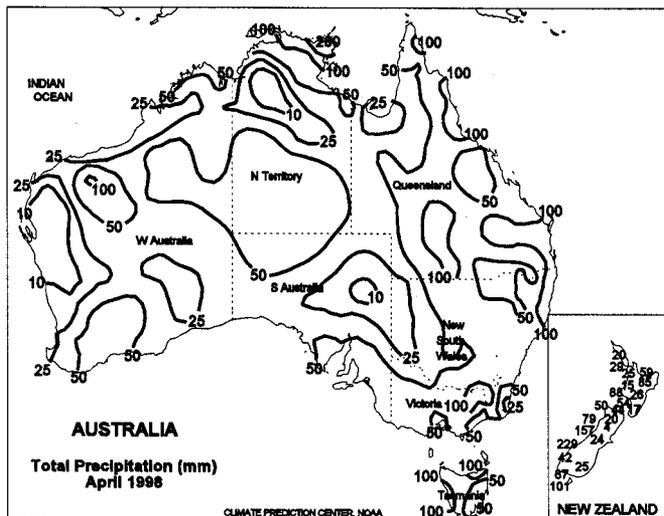


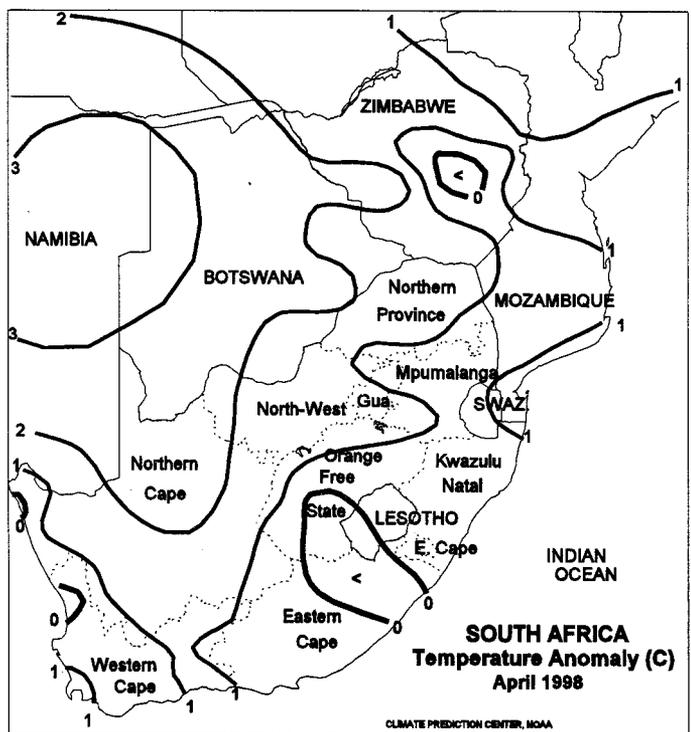
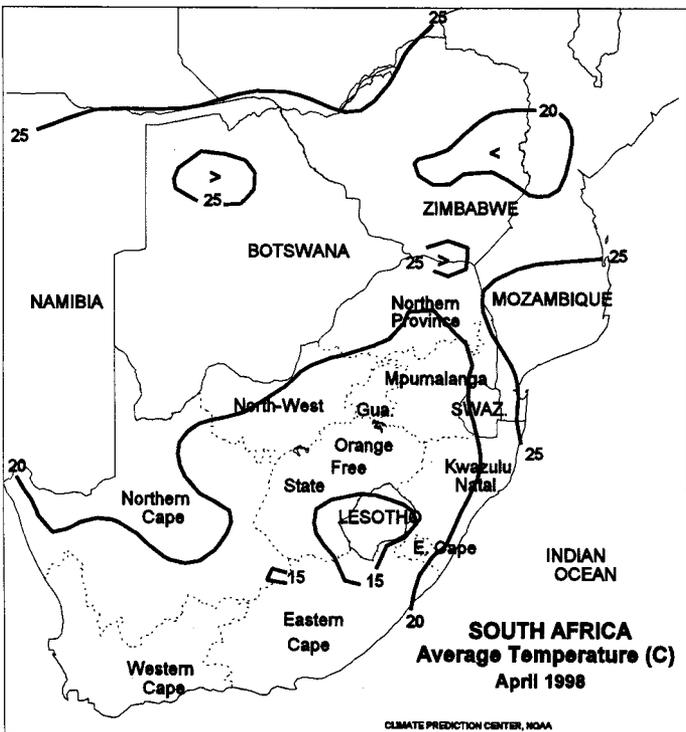
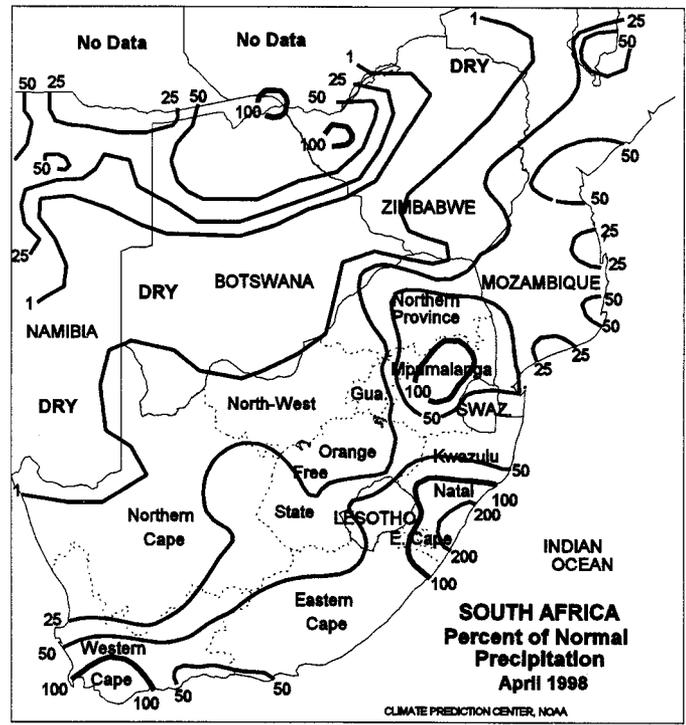
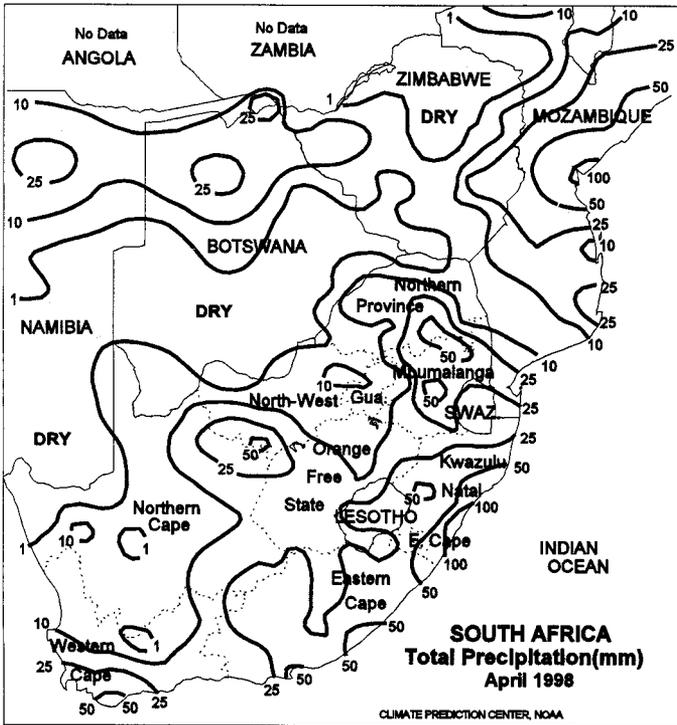


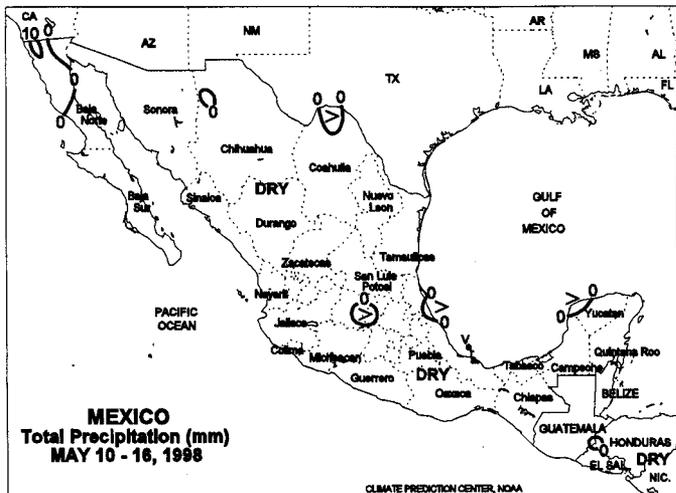


AUSTRALIA

Wheat and barley planting progressed in the east following last week's beneficial rain. Scattered showers (10-25 mm or more), however, brought some late-week delays to Queensland and northern New South Wales. Rain was generally light (10 mm or less) across the west and southeast, although much-needed heavier rain (25 mm or greater) fell in the northern agricultural areas of West Australia. Light to moderate (5-25 mm) showers covered primary pasture and crop areas of New Zealand. During April, near- to above-normal rainfall, evenly distributed during the month, resulted in excellent pre-planting moisture conditions in Australia's main wheat and barley areas. The moisture was also highly beneficial in pasture and grazing areas from western Queensland to South Australia. The only potential harm was to a small percentage of Queensland's cotton that was reportedly unharvested at the time of the heaviest rainfall.

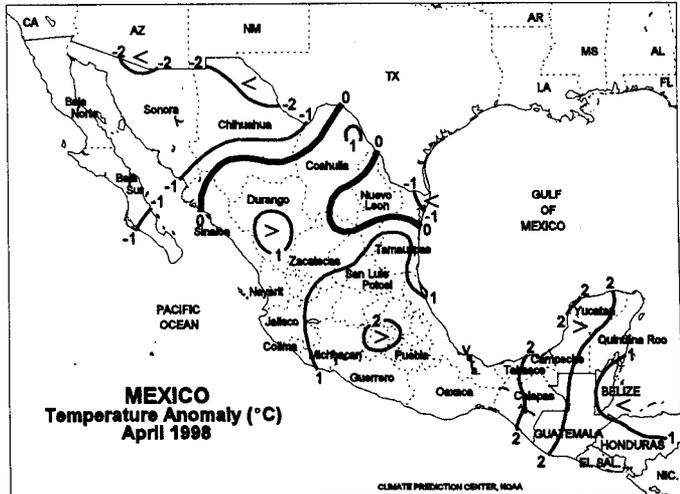
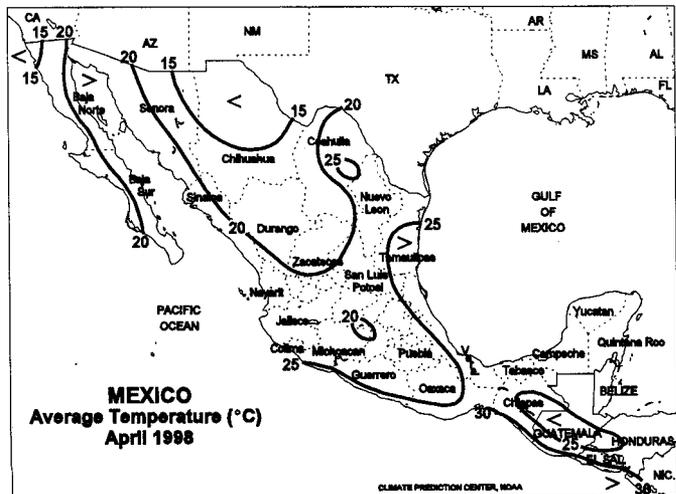
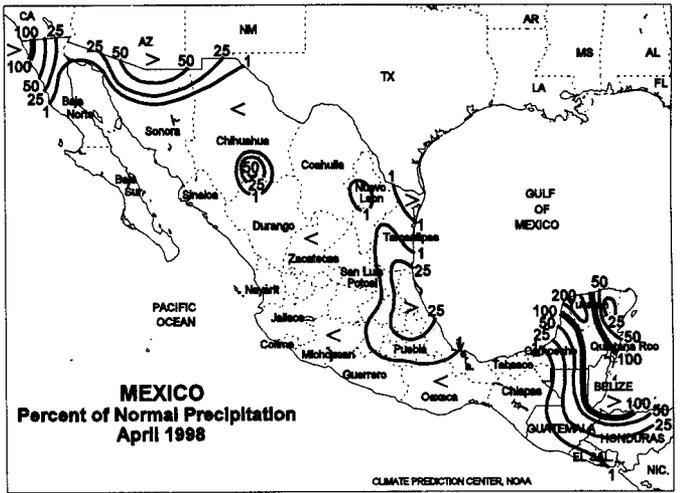
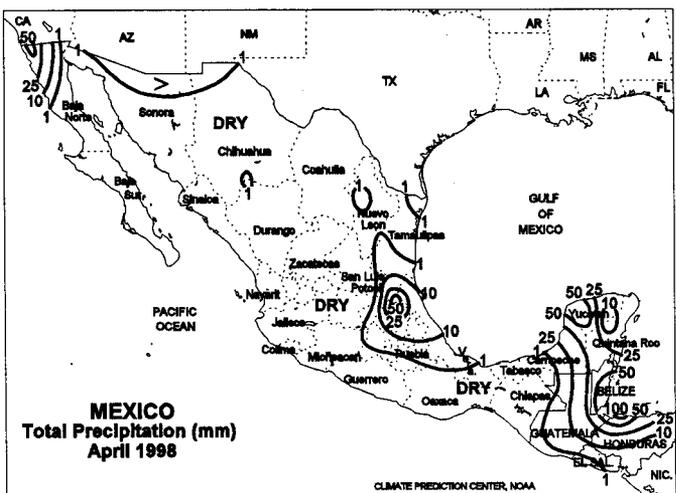


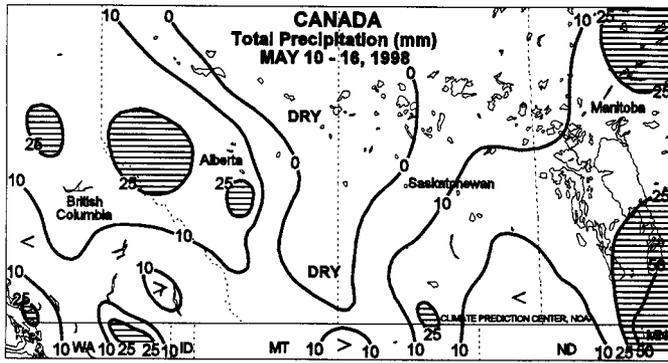




MEXICO

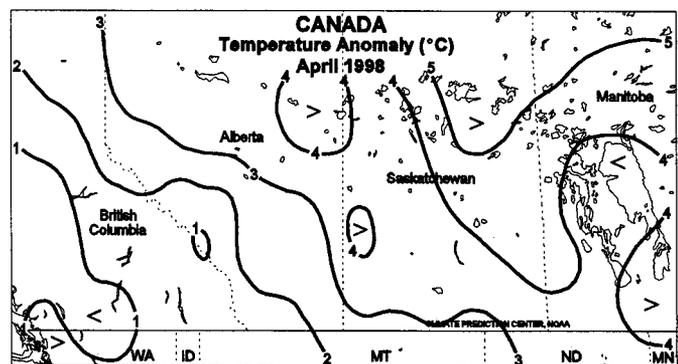
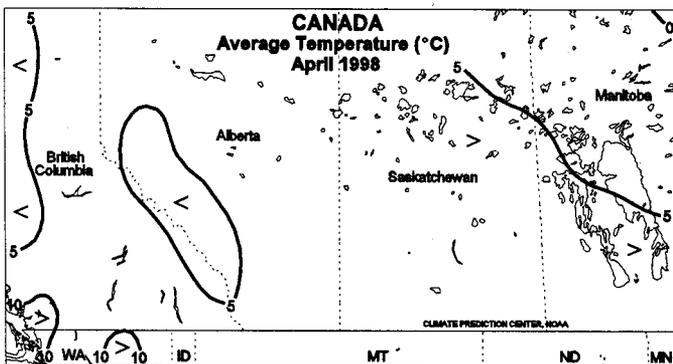
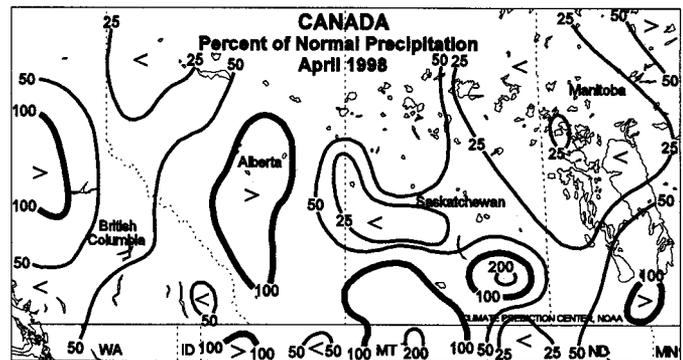
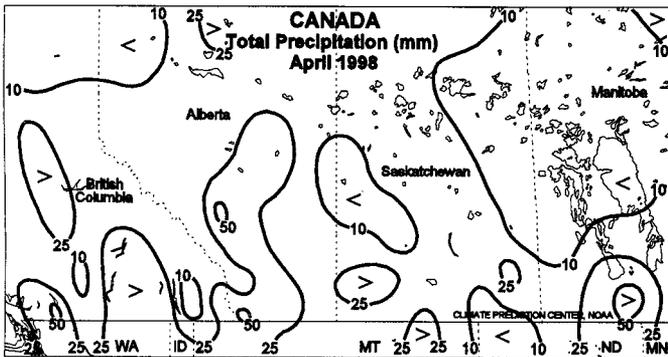
Unseasonably hot, dry weather reduced moisture supplies across eastern and southern Mexico. Temperatures averaged 2 to 6 degrees C above normal with highs ranging from 35 to 40 degrees C. Northwestern Mexico reported temperatures 2 to 3 degrees below normal. The hot, dry weather extended into Central America as far south as Costa Rica. The seasonal rains begin in early May across Central America before moving into southern Mexico. Therefore, continued dryness in Central America signals that the rainy season is further delayed in Mexico. During April, rainfall was below normal across most of Mexico, except for small portions of the Yucatan Peninsula.

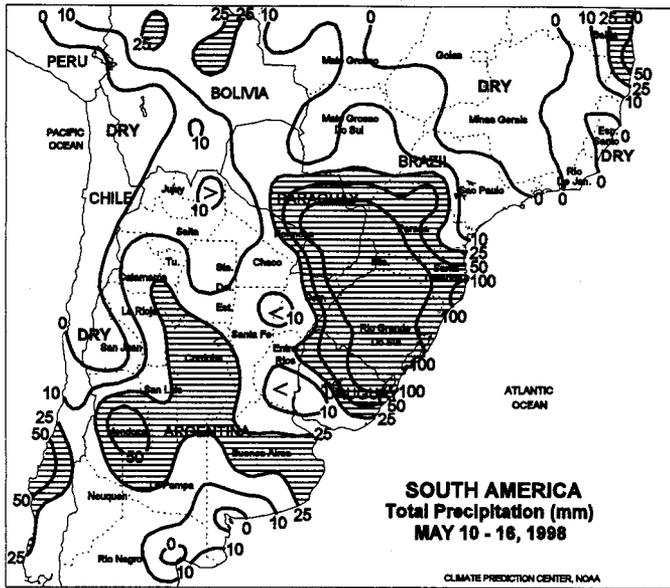




CANADA

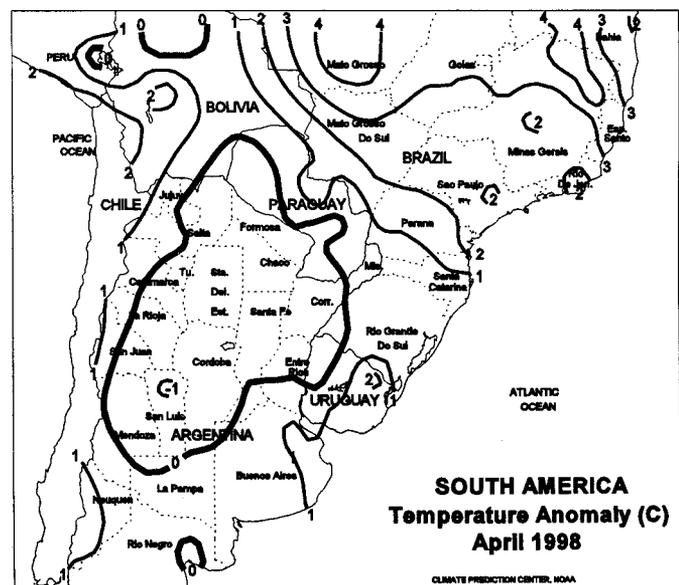
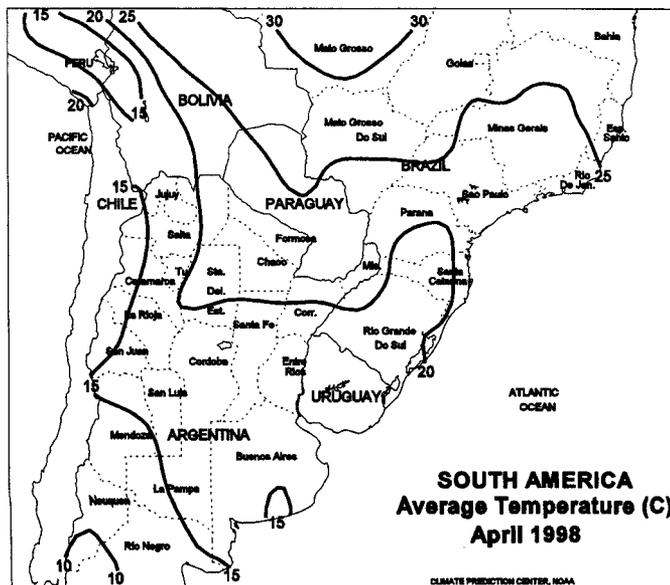
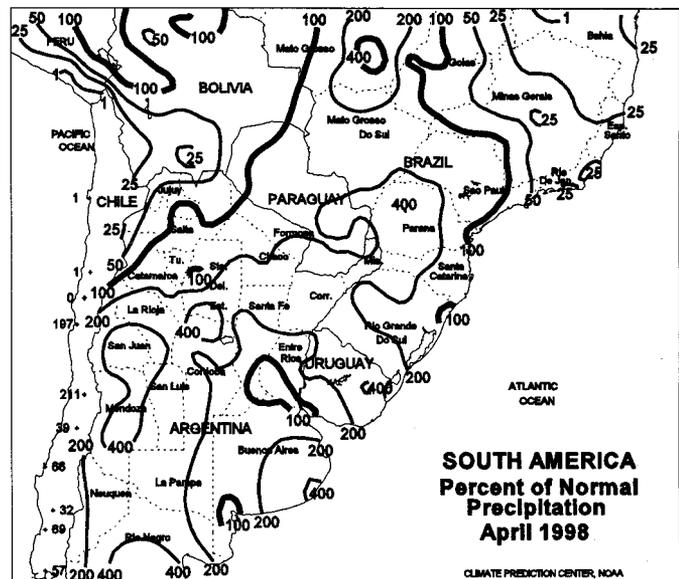
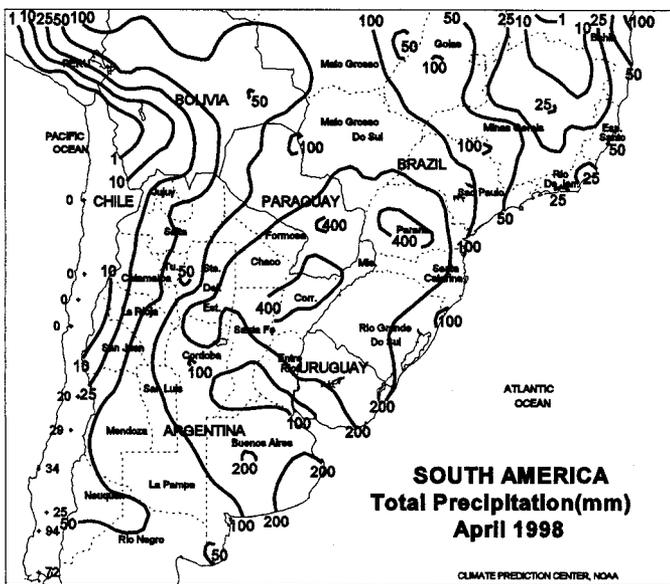
Planting progress of all spring crops continued to be well ahead of normal and last season's pace. Fieldwork has reportedly slowed only in those districts that are short on topsoil moisture. Rain (10-25 mm or more) maintained generally favorable moisture levels for grain and oilseed establishment in Manitoba and improved the situation from south-central to northeastern Saskatchewan. Elsewhere, however, the dryness that was initially beneficial for fieldwork had become a concern for new plantings. Persistent, subfreezing temperatures over most of Alberta and Saskatchewan kept moisture demands low, but a warm-up in Manitoba was spurring germination and early development. In Ontario, unseasonable warmth, accompanied by scattered showers (10-25 mm or more), benefited winter wheat development and corn germination, although dry pockets lingered in northern and western areas. During April, beneficial rainfall (15-50 mm, total accumulation) improved planting prospects over much of Alberta and southern sections of Saskatchewan and Manitoba as Prairie-wide above-normal temperatures warmed topsoils. Precipitation remained below normal from Alberta's northeastern crop areas to Manitoba's Interlake region, exacerbating unfavorable topsoil dryness. In Ontario, April weather was favorable for winter wheat greenup and early field preparations in the main corn and soybean areas.





SOUTH AMERICA

Heavy showers (70-160 mm) returned to southern Paraguay and southern Brazil (Parana, western Santa Catarina, and Rio Grande do Sul), exacerbating flooding, quality, and harvest concerns for soybeans and cotton. Only light rain (5-20 mm), however, fell across northern Argentina, sparing the region from further moisture-related problems. Mostly light rain (less than 20 mm) fell elsewhere across southern Brazil, favoring soybean harvesting and coffee maturation. Moderate rain (15-40 mm) slowed summer crop harvesting across central Argentina, after a week of dry weather. According to reports as of May 8, Argentine cotton, soybean, corn, and sunflowerseed crops were 27, 50, 51, and 93 percent harvested, respectively. Last year at this time, cotton, soybean, corn, and sunflowerseed harvesting was 54, 74, 79, and 99 percent done, respectively. During April, in northern Argentina, southern Paraguay, and southern Brazil, excessive rainfall aggravated flooding and harvest problems for cotton, rice, and soybeans. Above-normal April rainfall slowed soybean and corn harvesting in central Argentina.



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(Continued from page 11)

Winter Wheat Crop Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
AR	1	5	32	55	7
CA	0	0	30	40	30
CO	4	7	13	59	17
GA	2	8	33	52	5
ID	0	0	4	57	39
IL	1	3	18	66	12
IN	1	1	16	56	26
KS	0	4	20	61	15
MI	0	4	19	58	19
MO	1	10	34	47	8
MT	5	22	43	29	1
NE	1	8	25	57	9
NC	1	7	28	60	4
OH	1	2	16	51	30
OK	1	4	20	70	5
OR	0	0	10	52	38
SD	0	1	10	58	31
TX	8	19	37	33	3
WA	0	0	17	63	20
ALL	2	7	23	55	13
Prev Wk	1	7	23	54	15
Prev Yr	5	12	33	40	10

Oats Crop Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
IA	1	3	18	58	20
MI	1	2	20	69	8
MN	0	2	23	60	15
NE	1	2	23	62	12
ND	1	3	22	67	7
OH	0	2	21	56	21
PA	0	1	16	70	13
SD	0	2	17	61	20
WI	0	2	12	67	19
ALL	0	2	19	64	15
Prev Wk	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Prev Yr	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

Barley Crop Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
ID	0	0	5	60	35
MN	1	3	19	56	21
MT	3	12	57	27	1
ND	0	2	17	66	15
SD	0	1	14	66	19
WA	0	0	28	70	2
ALL	1	4	26	55	14
Prev Wk	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Prev Yr	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

Rice Crop Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
AR	0	5	31	46	18
CA	0	0	35	35	30
LA	0	3	26	64	7
MS	0	3	19	67	11
TX	0	0	45	49	6
ALL	0	3	31	50	16
Prev Wk	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Prev Yr	0	7	36	50	7

Spring Wheat Crop Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
ID	0	1	5	54	40
MN	0	2	17	60	21
MT	6	20	41	32	1
ND	1	3	19	63	14
SD	0	1	15	64	20
ALL	2	6	23	55	14
Prev Wk	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Prev Yr	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

VP - Very Poor
P - Poor
F - Fair
G - Good
EX - Excellent

* Revised

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