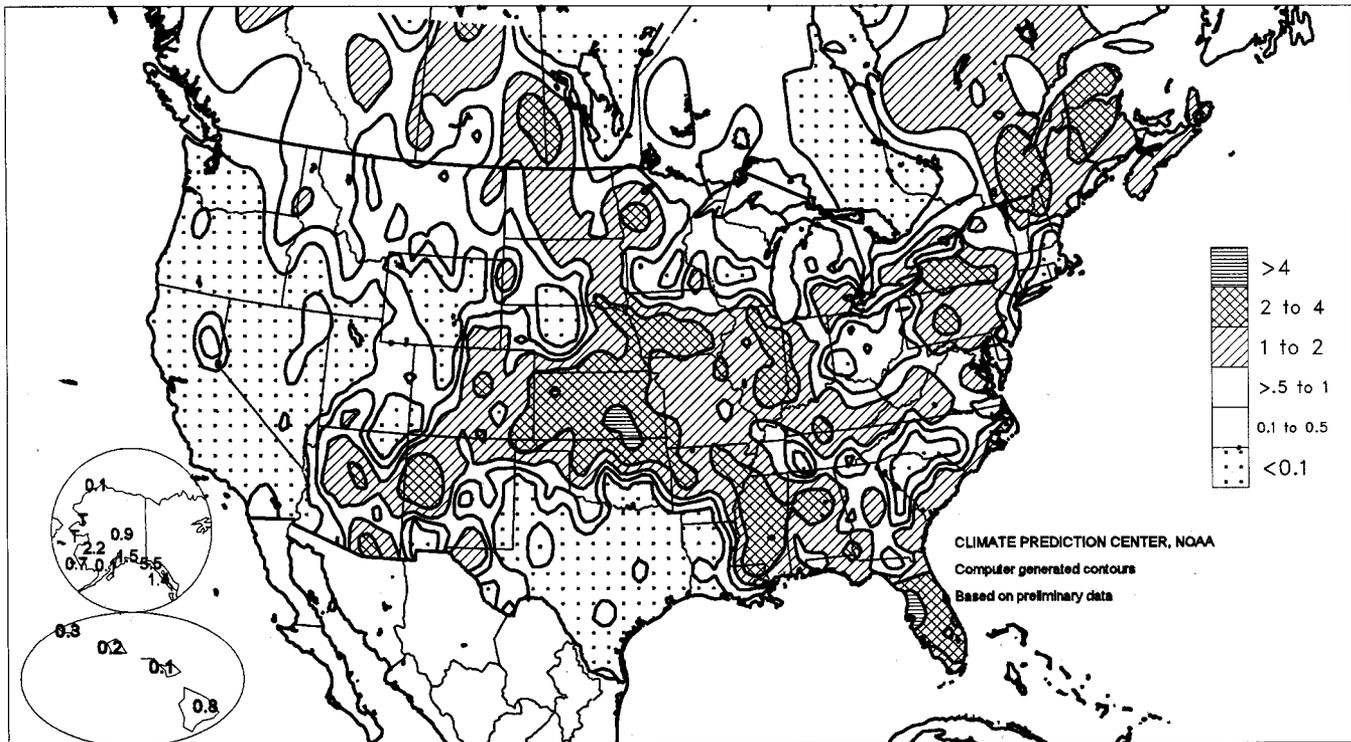


WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

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)
JUL 5 - 11, 1998



HIGHLIGHTS

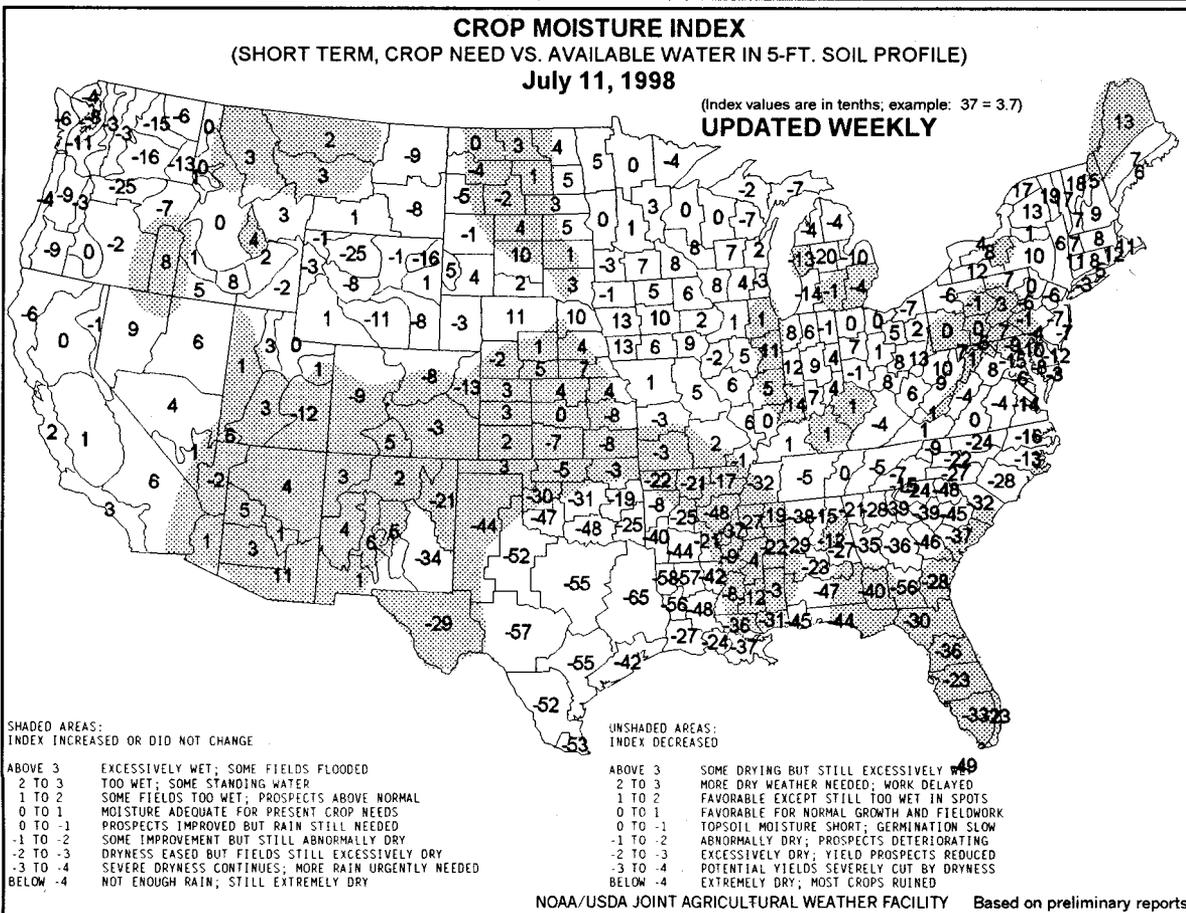
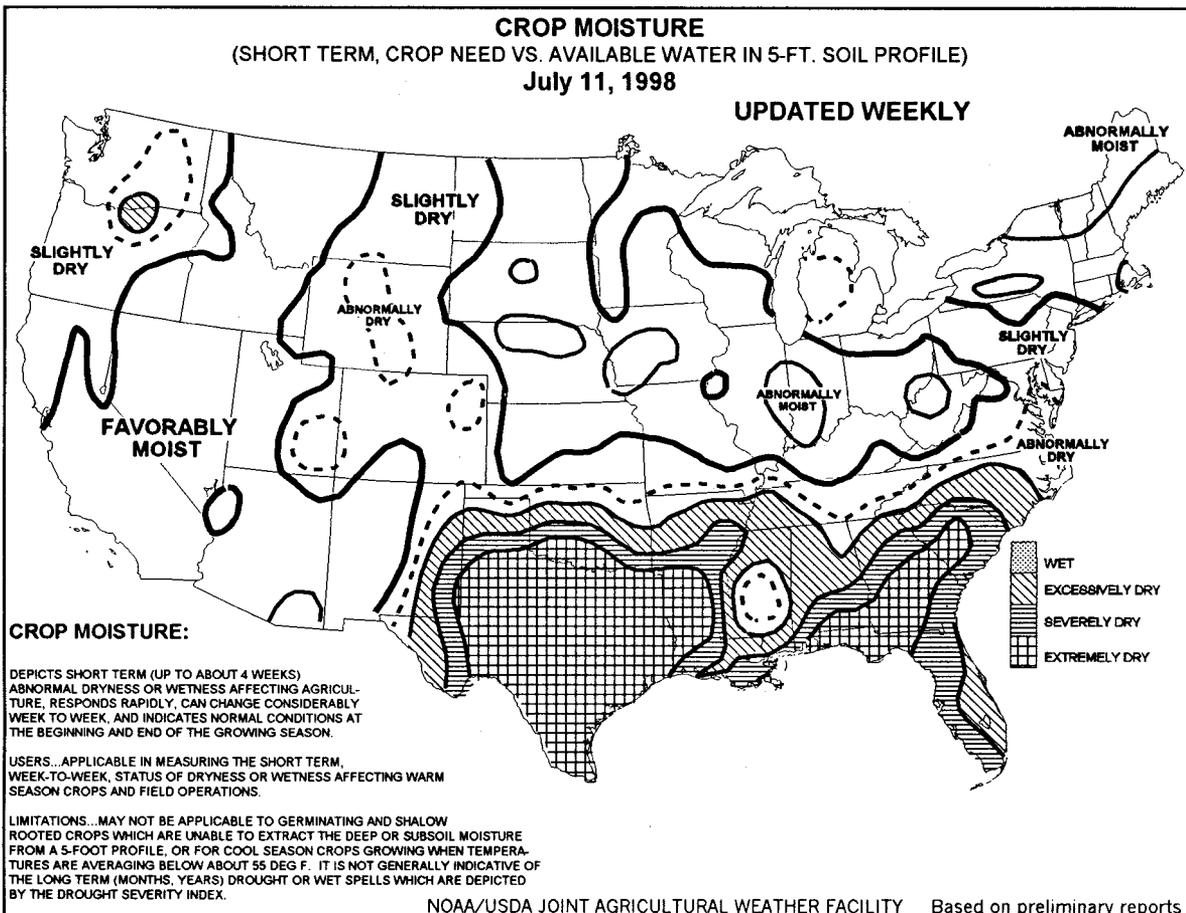
July 5 - 11, 1998

Significant rain fell from the central Plains to the Southern Atlantic Coast, helping to extinguish some of Florida's wildfires and improving soil moisture throughout the region. Extremely hot (weekly temperatures 3 to 9°F above normal), mostly dry weather persisted, however, from eastern New Mexico to Louisiana. Farther north, dry weather followed early-week rainfall in the Corn Belt, allowing soils to dry after a month-long period of above-normal precipitation. Rainfall also diminished on the northern Plains, where temperatures were up to 5°F above normal, but occasional showers kept soils wet in parts of the Northeast, where departures ranged from -2 to -6°F. In California's Central Valley, more than 2 months of cool

(Continued on page 3)

Contents

Crop Moisture Maps	2
U.S. Crop Production Highlights	3
Temperature Departure & Extreme Maximum Temperature Maps	4
Growing Degree Day Maps	5
National Weather Data for Selected Cities	6
National Agricultural Summary	9
Crop Progress and Condition Tables	10
State Agricultural Summaries	13
ENSO Update	19
International Weather and Crop Summary	20
Subscription Information & Pan Evaporation Map	24



U.S. Crop Production Highlights

The following information was released by USDA's Agricultural Statistics Board on July 10, 1998. Forecasts refer to July 1.

Winter wheat production is forecast at 1.90 billion bushels, up 9 percent (%) from last month and 1% higher than last year. The U.S. yield is forecast at a record-high 46.6 bushels per acre. This is up 3.7 bushels from June 1. Grain area, at 40.8 million acres, was not changed from last month.

Hard Red Winter wheat production is up 15% from June, to 1.18 billion bushels, due to dramatically higher yields, particularly in the southern Great Plains. Yields in Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas are at record levels. Soft Red Winter, at 451 million bushels, is down from a month ago. White Winter production is up from last month, to 268 million bushels, due to improved yield prospects in Oregon and Washington.

Other Spring Wheat production is forecast at 498 million bushels, down 11% from 1997. A 20% drop in grain area is the main cause of the decline. The yield is forecast at 33.5 bushels per acre, up 3.6 bushels from last year. Hard Red Spring production is down 11% to 445 million bushels. White Spring production is down about 8% to 53 million bushels.

Durum wheat production is forecast at 126 million bushels, up 46% from 1997. The yield is forecast at 35.1 bushels per acre, up

7.4 bushels from last year. This yield increase, along with a 15% increase in harvested acres, results in the largest crop since 1982.

All wheat production is placed at 2.52 billion bushels, slightly less than 1997, but 10% more than 1996. The yield is forecast at 42.6 bushels per acre, up 2.9 bushels from a year ago to a new record high.

All oranges production for the 1997-98 season is forecast at a record-large 13.9 million tons, down 1% from the June 1 forecast but up 9% from last season's previous record-large production of 12.7 million tons. Florida's production forecast is 244 million boxes (11.0 million tons), down 2% from June 1, but 8% above last season. The Valencia forecast is reduced to 104 million boxes (4.68 million tons), 4% less than last month, but up 13% from a year ago. Harvest is nearly complete with the last major processor scheduled to close soon. Florida's early-midseason forecast is final at 140 million boxes (6.30 million tons), the same as the previous forecast and 4% above last year's utilized production. The all orange forecast for California is 74.0 million boxes (2.78 million tons), unchanged from the previous forecast in April but up 16% from the 1996-97 season.

(Continued from front cover)

weather ended as temperatures approached normal levels. Meanwhile, seasonal showers dotted the **Four Corners region**, and warm weather (as much as 7°F above normal) continued for a second consecutive week in the **interior Northwest**.

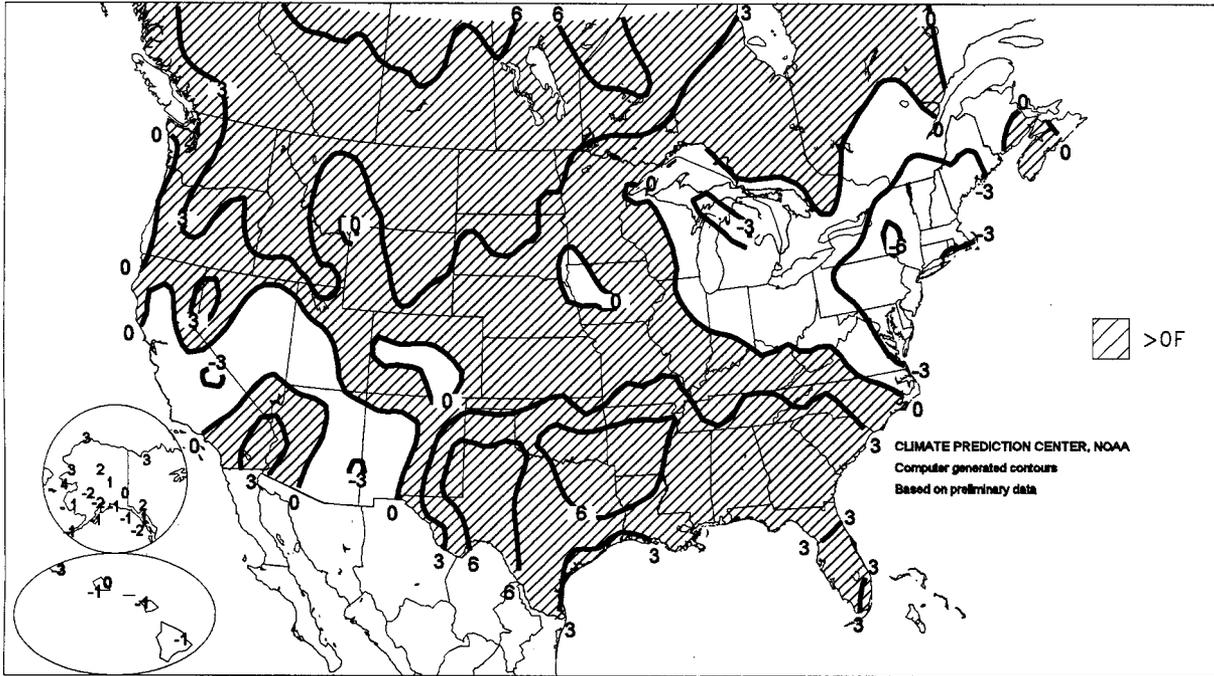
Extreme heat persisted across much of the **South** for the entire week. In **Shreveport, LA**, maxima reached triple digits on all 7 days, including consecutive daily-record highs of 105°F on July 10-11. **Tallahassee, FL** notched another 3 days with highs at or above 100°F (including 101°F on July 5), bringing their yearly total to 16. Their former annual record of 12 days was set in 1931. In **Little Rock, AR**, a maximum of 104°F on Monday was their highest since a 110-degree reading on July 31, 1986. **Little Rock's** highs reached triple digits for the first six times this year from July 5-10--including a high of 106°F on Tuesday--surpassing last year's total of 3 days, but remaining far short of their record-setting years of 1954 (46 days) and 1980 (41 days). In **Memphis, TN**, maxima reached or exceeded 100°F on 3 consecutive days (July 5-7)--including a daily-record-tying high of 102°F on Monday--their first occurrence of more than a single 100-degree day in a year since 1990, when 8 such days were observed. Late-week clouds and rainfall ended **Memphis'** streak of 90-degree days at 31 (June 10 - July 10), well short of their 1980 record of 54 days. In **Texas**, however, little rain fell, as **Houston** marked their driest March 17 - July 11 period on record. This year's 4.52-inch total was less than the previous record total of 5.19 inches that fell during the same 117-day period in 1901.

In **Florida**, heat continued despite scattered showers and thunderstorms. In **Melbourne**, where high temperatures were last below normal on April 25 (above normal on 77 consecutive days), daily-record highs have been set or tied on 28

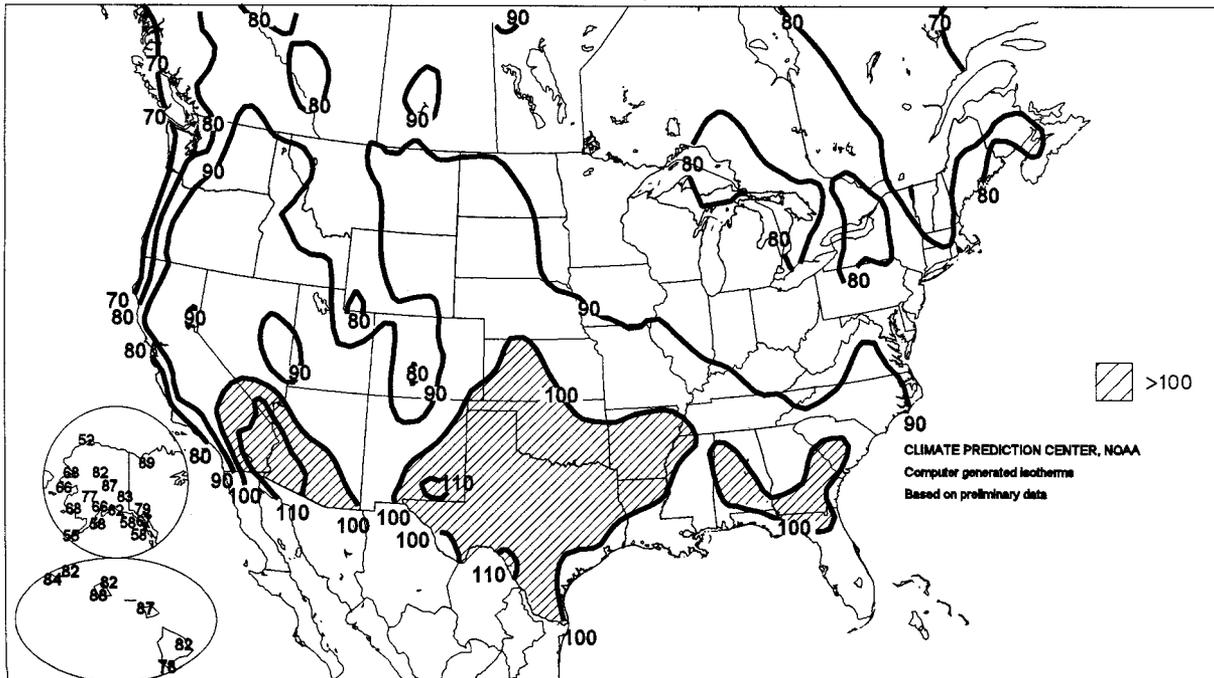
days since June 1. Although **Melbourne's** July 6-11 rainfall totaled 4.22 inches, their March 21 - July 11 (113-day) total was only 6.17 inches (43 percent of normal). In nearby **Orlando**, July 6-11 rainfall was 2.04 inches, boosting their total since March 21 to 3.23 inches (22 percent of normal). More significant relief occurred in **west-central Florida**, where **Tampa's** July 1-11 rainfall reached 9.76 inches. According to the National Interagency Fire Center, the Nation's year-to-date wildfires burned 1.38 million acres (about 2,155 square miles) through July 13, 112 percent of the 10-year average. Of that acreage, nearly 70 percent (0.96 million acres) burned in the Southern Region, comprised of all or parts of 13 States from **Oklahoma and Texas eastward**.

Meanwhile, temperatures again failed to reach triple digits in most of **California's San Joaquin Valley**. Highs peaked at 99°F in **Bakersfield** (on July 8 and 9) and **Fresno** (on July 7 and 8), allowing the cities to mark their latest occurrences of 100-degree heat. The previous records were set on July 5, 1965, and July 6, 1958, respectively. Farther east, significant rain ended by midweek across the **northern Plains and Midwest**. Before then, however, **Des Moines, IA** netted a daily-record total (3.47 inches) on Monday. In the **upper (southern) Red River Valley** and adjoining areas, year-to-date rainfall through July 11 surpassed annual normals in several locations, including **Fargo, ND** (20.09 inches, including 16.20 inches since May 1). In **Vermont**, **Burlington's** monthly rainfall surpassed their July normal by the 8th, reaching 4.85 inches by July 11. May 31 - July 11 (42-day) rainfall in **Burlington** totaled 14.85 inches (307 percent of normal). During a 16-day period ending on July 11, 9.68 inches pelted **Rochester, NY**, fueled by daily-record totals on June 26 (1.65 inches), 30 (1.87 inches), July 4 (2.61 inches), and 8 (1.35 inches).

Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F) JUL 5 - 11, 1998



Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F) JUL 5 - 11, 1998



National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending July 11, 1998

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

STATES AND STATIONS	TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION						RELATIVE HUMIDITY, PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS						
	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL IN, SINCE JAN 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE JAN 1	TOTAL IN, SINCE JAN 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE JAN 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	50 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	TEMP. °F		PRECIP.	
																		01 INCH OR MORE	50 INCH OR MORE		
AL BIRMINGHAM	95	74	99	70	84	6	2.54	1.36	1.88	6.24	112	40.27	129	99	54	6	0	3	2		
AL HUNTSVILLE	93	73	98	69	83	4	0.69	-0.53	0.59	2.46	42	27.87	86	94	47	6	0	1	1		
AL MOBILE	96	76	99	74	86	4	0.86	-0.82	0.28	4.83	66	43.91	129	97	54	7	0	4	0		
AL MONTGOMERY	97	74	100	72	86	4	0.84	-0.55	0.41	5.83	102	30.91	101	94	48	7	0	3	0		
AK ANCHORAGE	82	51	88	47	57	-2	0.07	-0.27	0.04	2.83	169	4.66	86	94	63	0	0	3	0		
AK BARRROW	47	37	52	34	42	3	0.07	-0.12	0.07	0.30	54	0.70	56	97	77	0	0	1	0		
AK FAIRBANKS	73	54	87	48	64	1	0.85	0.45	0.83	2.24	113	2.73	65	91	38	0	0	3	1		
AK JUNEAU	81	52	87	48	58	1	2.55	1.68	1.18	5.56	124	18.40	83	100	77	0	0	7	2		
AK KODIAK	58	48	58	45	52	-1	0.33	-0.50	0.13	10.81	174	58.75	177	95	74	0	0	6	0		
AK NOME	82	48	86	41	55	4	0.02	-0.42	0.02	2.36	133	9.54	189	93	63	0	0	1	0		
AZ FLAGSTAFF	90	52	98	49	66	0	1.00	0.45	0.36	1.00	83	11.11	110	94	34	0	0	4	0		
AZ PHOENIX	104	81	114	73	93	0	0.71	0.55	0.60	0.81	225	5.87	198	86	25	7	0	3	1		
AZ PRESCOTT	88	63	96	59	75	3	1.84	1.03	0.79	1.63	119	8.87	117	88	31	4	0	3	1		
AZ TUCSON	95	73	108	70	84	-3	1.47	1.01	1.29	2.59	276	7.99	217	79	36	5	0	4	1		
AZ YUMA	108	85	114	83	97	4	0.00	-0.03	0.00	0.00	0	1.59	153	58	28	7	0	0	0		
AR FORT SMITH	97	77	103	76	87	6	0.86	0.17	0.43	5.40	121	24.82	112	94	50	6	0	4	0		
AR LITTLE ROCK	101	79	108	76	90	9	0.72	-0.11	0.43	2.84	58	23.56	86	88	40	7	0	4	0		
CA BAKERSFIELD	96	66	99	61	81	-2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.30	273	11.68	305	63	26	6	0	0	0		
CA EUREKA	81	52	85	47	58	0	0.00	-0.02	0.00	1.27	223	31.00	149	100	86	0	0	0	0		
CA FRESNO	96	66	99	60	81	-1	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.93	2757	15.97	230	74	25	7	0	0	0		
CA LOS ANGELES	74	62	74	60	68	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.08	-	23.83	308	95	66	0	0	0	0		
CA REDDING	95	63	99	58	79	-2	0.00	-0.04	0.00	1.71	271	47.24	250	82	23	6	0	0	0		
CA SACRAM/MCCLELL	94	62	99	57	78	-	0.00	-	0.00	0.14	-	24.07	-	79	19	6	0	0	0		
CA SAN DIEGO	73	65	76	63	69	-1	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.10	111	14.07	227	89	63	0	0	0	0		
CA SAN FRANCISCO	67	52	78	48	60	-3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	25	28.58	233	98	64	0	0	0	0		
CO ALAMOSA	78	53	84	47	65	1	0.91	0.66	0.29	1.31	125	2.46	78	95	38	0	0	6	0		
CO CO SPRINGS	82	59	92	56	70	0	1.12	0.50	0.37	2.74	86	7.63	93	90	36	1	0	5	0		
CO DENVER	87	59	96	56	73	0	2.38	1.94	2.36	3.29	133	8.70	98	88	26	2	0	2	1		
CO GRAND JUNCTION	91	64	97	60	78	-1	0.76	0.62	0.48	1.31	182	4.56	107	68	22	4	0	2	0		
CO PUEBLO	91	60	100	54	75	-1	0.20	-0.24	0.08	1.11	58	6.04	111	90	28	5	0	5	0		
CT BRIDGEPORT	78	62	83	60	70	-3	0.21	-0.64	0.16	5.30	110	31.66	140	88	50	0	0	2	0		
CT HARTFORD	78	59	82	54	69	-5	0.42	-0.30	0.28	7.62	156	30.17	130	94	50	0	0	3	0		
DC WASHINGTON	85	67	89	64	76	-4	0.85	0.02	0.65	5.27	113	29.32	149	84	42	0	0	1	1		
DE WILMINGTON	80	61	85	57	70	-6	1.18	0.22	1.18	5.85	116	25.53	118	96	57	0	0	1	1		
FL DAYTONA BEACH	94	75	98	72	84	3	1.98	0.76	0.85	2.87	36	18.72	84	97	58	7	0	5	2		
FL JACKSONVILLE	94	74	97	71	84	3	2.09	0.90	1.02	5.91	78	29.01	117	97	51	7	0	5	2		
FL KEY WEST	92	83	92	81	87	3	0.00	-0.83	0.00	0.87	14	13.16	77	81	60	7	0	0	0		
FL MIAMI	92	78	94	76	85	2	1.89	0.54	1.30	8.74	76	26.40	97	86	58	7	0	4	1		
FL ORLANDO	93	75	96	73	84	1	2.03	0.36	0.97	3.61	36	24.25	102	99	60	6	0	5	2		
FL TAMPA	90	77	94	75	83	1	9.78	8.35	4.46	12.41	182	35.40	177	95	69	4	0	6	4		
FL VALPARAISO/EGLIN	95	77	97	75	86	6	0.88	-1.27	0.35	0.70	8	26.26	83	90	49	7	0	3	0		
FL WEST PALM BEACH	92	75	95	73	84	2	2.11	0.63	1.44	4.26	41	28.79	100	91	55	7	0	3	2		
GA ATHENS	95	73	97	70	84	4	0.98	-0.13	0.98	2.95	52	35.58	125	90	43	7	0	1	1		
GA ATLANTA	93	72	95	69	82	4	0.13	-1.00	0.12	4.15	78	29.74	102	90	46	6	0	2	0		
GA AUGUSTA	99	71	103	68	85	4	0.00	-0.94	0.00	2.31	41	31.46	123	94	35	7	0	0	0		
GA COLUMBUS	99	76	101	73	87	6	0.13	-1.13	0.10	3.90	65	21.16	71	87	39	7	0	2	0		
GA MACON	98	73	99	71	86	5	0.51	-0.45	0.51	4.96	98	29.95	114	94	40	7	0	1	1		
GA SAVANNAH	95	75	99	71	85	3	1.95	0.58	1.01	4.50	58	30.53	120	98	50	7	0	2	2		
HI HILO	81	69	82	67	75	-1	1.61	-0.47	0.47	6.41	69	26.22	38	91	62	0	0	7	0		
HI HONOLULU	85	74	86	71	79	-1	0.04	-0.10	0.03	0.30	41	2.30	20	78	49	0	0	2	0		
HI KAHULUI	85	71	87	69	78	-1	0.18	0.10	0.13	0.16	41	2.58	20	87	50	0	0	3	0		
HI LIHUE	81	71	82	69	76	-3	0.37	-0.12	0.13	1.35	56	8.66	39	92	64	0	0	7	0		
ID BOISE	92	63	98	55	77	4	0.00	-0.09	0.00	1.29	134	11.61	164	69	22	4	0	0	0		
ID LEWISTON	91	63	98	61	77	4	2.43	2.26	1.90	3.58	233	11.56	160	82	30	5	0	5	1		
ID POCATELLO	88	53	93	48	71	1	0.24	0.08	0.24	1.51	119	8.97	128	82	23	1	0	1	0		
IL CHICAGO/OHARE	81	64	87	60	73	0	0.17	-0.63	0.13	3.31	66	18.55	106	90	54	0	0	2	0		
IL MOLINE	85	67	89	57	76	1	0.46	-0.66	0.24	8.18	136	27.13	136	96	60	0	0	4	0		
IL PEORIA	85	68	88	60	77	1	1.23	0.24	0.69	6.42	116	26.89	143	94	62	0	0	3	2		
IL ROCKFORD	81	62	84	55	72	-1	2.47	1.53	1.61	8.95	149	24.40	134	94	60	0	0	3	2		
IL SPRINGFIELD	85	69	89	63	77	0	2.80	1.80	2.17	11.48	245	30.97	168	97	65	0	0	4	1		
IN EVANSVILLE	88	71	92	66	79	1	1.18	0.26	0.58	6.61	134	27.04	112	98	62	1	0	4	2		
IN FORT WAYNE	80	62	84	54	71	-3	0.22	-0.56	0.22	6.78	141	24.34	133	94	58	0	0	1	0		
IN INDIANAPOLIS	83	67	86	63	75	0	0.66	-0.35	0.61	11.83	234	32.03	160	91	55	0	0	2	1		
IN SOUTH BEND	81	63	82	57	72	-1	0.22	-0.86	0.21	5.19	94	20.90	106	93	54	0	0	2	0		
IA BURLINGTON	89	71	92	66	80	4	1.77	0.81	0.64	8.96	161	29.53	163	91	59	4	0	5	3		
IA CEDAR RAPIDS	83	66	87	57	75	1	0.42	-0.53	0.35	8.63	143	24.99	145	99	62	0	0	4	0		
IA DES MOINES	83	69	88	66	76	0	2.18	1.32	1.75	12.17	209	26.26	147	97	64	0	0	2	1		
IA DUBUQUE	82	65	84	54	73	1	1.19	0.31	1.14	9.17	166	26.95	142	96	61	0	0	2	1		
IA SIOUX CITY	85	66	88	64	76	0	1.28	0.50	0.72	7.09	144	21.38	151	100	63	0	0	5	1		
IA WATERLOO	84	65	87	59	74	1	0.22	-0.91	0.20	10.63	170	26.11	147	100	66	0	0	2	0		
KS CONCORDIA	88	70	97	67	79	0	1.84	0.79	1.08	5.55	95	15.65	98	97	65	3	0	6	1		
KS DODGE CITY	92	68	100	67	80	0	1.55	0.81	0.56	3.40	80	10.98	82	96	45	5	0	6	1		
KS GOODLAND	89	64	97	63	77	2	3.59	2.90	2.41	5.27	123	8.79	80	93	43	2	0	3	2		
KS TOPEKA	89	73	95	70	81	3	1.43	0.56	1.21	8.72	125	17.41	92	92	59	4	0	3	1		

Based on 1961-90 normals

Weather Data for the Week Ending July 11, 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 JUN 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE JUN 1	TOTAL IN, SINCE JAN 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE JAN 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	TEMP. °F		PRECIP.	
																		01 INCH OR MORE	50 INCH OR MORE		
KY WICHITA	83	72	101	68	82	2	1.95	1.20	0.80	2.63	47	13.21	83	94	51	6	0	6	2		
JACKSON	82	67	86	82	74	0	0.54	-0.63	0.27	9.31	153	36.66	136	94	82	0	0	3	0		
LEXINGTON	83	66	86	80	74	-1	0.43	-0.69	0.43	11.30	210	33.65	139	92	54	0	0	1	0		
LOUISVILLE	86	72	89	68	79	2	1.89	0.88	1.89	9.04	180	29.15	118	89	52	0	0	1	1		
PADUCAH	89	74	93	70	82	3	0.46	-0.53	0.43	14.15	254	33.13	120	97	82	4	0	3	0		
LA BATON ROUGE	96	77	97	74	87	5	0.02	-1.44	0.02	2.78	41	32.76	102	96	46	7	0	1	0		
LAKE CHARLES	94	77	95	75	86	4	0.00	-1.16	0.00	5.26	77	26.64	98	95	52	7	0	0	0		
NEW ORLEANS	97	79	99	77	88	6	0.15	-1.23	0.15	3.62	46	37.96	115	93	48	7	0	1	0		
SHREVEPORT	103	78	106	78	91	9	0.05	-0.84	0.05	2.27	40	20.52	79	85	28	7	0	0	0		
ME CARIBOU	74	53	80	47	64	-2	3.35	2.49	2.20	7.69	181	23.55	142	97	59	0	0	4	2		
PORTLAND	75	56	78	53	66	-2	0.60	-0.12	0.43	9.99	218	31.96	140	96	55	0	0	2	0		
MD BALTIMORE	83	80	88	55	72	-5	0.91	0.08	0.91	4.15	84	28.24	132	95	46	0	0	1	1		
MA BOSTON	76	63	82	62	70	-3	0.05	-0.58	0.04	11.80	289	36.69	168	88	54	0	0	2	0		
WORCESTER	74	57	75	53	66	-4	0.18	-0.70	0.16	10.20	194	32.99	134	93	55	0	0	3	0		
MI ALPENA	75	54	83	49	65	-2	0.29	-0.34	0.28	3.57	88	19.02	135	96	47	0	0	2	0		
GRAND RAPIDS	80	61	83	53	70	-1	1.22	0.49	0.62	3.80	78	20.81	121	93	46	0	0	3	2		
HOUGHTON LAKE	75	51	82	43	63	-4	0.47	-0.11	0.47	2.87	73	13.41	100	100	49	0	0	1	0		
LANSING	80	56	83	46	68	-3	1.53	0.94	1.46	4.94	106	18.59	122	95	46	0	0	3	1		
MARQUETTE	72	47	81	41	60	-5	0.43	-0.24	0.42	3.47	77	25.58	152	94	53	0	0	3	0		
MUSKEGON	80	59	82	51	70	0	0.13	-0.31	0.13	1.82	60	13.83	93	92	49	0	0	1	0		
MN DULUTH	74	54	84	48	64	-2	0.72	-0.09	0.48	6.94	136	16.87	118	97	56	0	0	3	0		
INT'L FALLS	79	56	89	47	67	1	0.05	-0.80	0.03	4.45	84	11.99	101	96	53	0	0	2	0		
MINNEAPOLIS	83	66	86	62	74	1	0.01	-0.80	0.01	7.11	133	20.07	135	94	56	0	0	1	0		
ROCHESTER	80	62	83	57	71	0	0.67	-0.27	0.64	7.28	140	18.99	130	98	62	0	0	4	1		
ST. CLOUD	82	61	87	56	71	2	0.70	-0.02	0.55	5.26	91	13.40	95	97	54	0	0	3	1		
MS JACKSON	96	74	98	72	85	4	2.29	1.30	1.16	6.70	143	33.06	106	94	53	7	0	5	2		
MERIDIAN	94	73	97	70	84	3	1.42	0.25	0.76	7.74	143	36.27	111	97	55	6	0	4	1		
TUPELO	94	74	100	71	84	4	1.58	0.59	0.77	3.20	59	28.22	88	94	52	6	0	4	2		
MO COLUMBIA	87	73	92	71	80	3	0.48	-0.39	0.32	9.94	175	26.81	128	95	65	1	0	5	0		
KANSAS CITY	88	72	92	69	80	2	0.64	-0.38	0.61	9.75	164	19.14	100	95	63	2	0	3	0		
SAINT LOUIS	89	74	96	69	81	2	0.67	-0.34	0.43	9.07	176	29.13	145	91	55	4	0	2	0		
SPRINGFIELD	91	70	93	68	80	3	0.86	0.14	0.52	5.11	82	25.02	110	95	54	5	0	2	1		
MT BILLINGS	89	59	94	57	74	2	0.24	0.00	0.08	4.08	170	8.79	93	88	30	2	0	4	0		
BUTTE	82	49	86	45	65	3	0.47	0.16	0.24	3.84	144	10.50	147	94	31	0	0	3	0		
GLASGOW	88	62	94	58	75	5	0.67	0.26	0.22	6.33	229	9.92	158	93	38	2	0	4	0		
GREAT FALLS	83	56	89	50	69	2	0.62	0.21	0.33	6.58	228	12.41	132	88	37	0	0	2	0		
KALISPELL	80	54	89	48	67	4	1.30	1.02	0.88	5.28	198	14.25	154	97	42	0	0	6	1		
MILES CITY	92	65	98	61	78	4	0.23	-0.18	0.23	4.78	139	8.02	92	81	31	5	0	1	0		
MISSOULA	82	55	90	51	68	2	1.28	1.06	1.00	6.90	321	15.13	191	92	42	1	0	5	1		
NE GRAND ISLAND	86	69	95	66	77	1	0.89	0.21	0.47	6.15	123	18.63	129	97	59	2	0	4	0		
LINCOLN	87	69	96	68	78	0	1.06	0.32	0.60	6.22	123	19.04	126	97	62	1	0	3	1		
NORFOLK	86	67	90	66	76	1	2.33	1.53	2.10	12.31	214	21.85	146	98	61	1	0	3	1		
NORTH PLATTE	87	65	93	62	76	3	0.37	-0.38	0.16	5.30	116	10.87	91	99	51	3	0	5	0		
OMAHA	85	69	92	66	77	0	3.62	2.81	2.82	12.82	248	27.59	174	99	66	1	0	2	2		
SCOTTSDLUFF	89	62	95	60	76	2	1.67	1.15	1.67	4.65	139	9.98	101	97	35	3	0	1	1		
VALENTINE	86	64	89	59	75	1	0.01	-0.71	0.01	9.50	238	15.08	143	98	50	0	0	1	0		
NV ELY	87	48	91	44	68	1	0.00	-0.17	0.00	1.94	170	7.19	128	66	12	1	0	0	0		
LAS VEGAS	104	80	110	77	92	1	0.09	0.03	0.05	0.12	57	4.48	219	43	16	7	0	2	0		
RENO	91	57	96	51	74	3	0.00	-0.06	0.00	1.39	122	8.69	159	60	14	6	0	0	0		
WINNEMUCCA	93	53	98	43	73	2	0.00	-0.07	0.00	0.90	91	10.26	212	66	18	6	0	0	0		
NH CONCORD	77	54	79	50	66	-3	0.15	-0.57	0.15	8.13	189	24.11	133	95	48	0	0	1	0		
NJ NEWARK	81	65	86	63	73	-5	0.25	-0.74	0.16	6.29	133	32.82	143	83	47	0	0	2	0		
NM ALBUQUERQUE	87	66	95	62	76	-2	0.46	0.18	0.22	1.60	160	5.38	157	82	32	3	0	3	0		
NY ALBANY	75	59	81	53	67	-4	1.48	0.74	1.30	8.53	179	27.14	145	94	53	0	0	4	1		
BINGHAMTON	71	56	76	52	64	-5	1.44	0.64	1.22	7.28	149	28.56	151	100	58	0	0	2	1		
BUFFALO	77	60	79	55	69	-2	2.38	1.72	1.89	6.13	133	24.15	132	94	52	0	0	4	1		
ROCHESTER	76	60	82	53	68	-2	2.36	1.75	1.18	12.20	308	28.11	178	99	53	0	0	4	2		
SYRACUSE	75	60	80	53	67	-3	1.15	0.27	0.48	6.89	133	22.31	117	97	56	0	0	4	0		
NC ASHEVILLE	85	66	88	63	75	3	0.01	-0.99	0.01	4.37	75	35.35	139	98	55	0	0	1	0		
CHARLOTTE	91	71	93	67	81	2	0.00	-0.87	0.00	3.86	81	24.15	104	88	46	4	0	0	0		
GREENSBORO	88	70	92	64	79	2	0.41	-0.61	0.41	3.97	73	29.42	131	86	48	2	0	1	0		
HATTERAS	82	72	84	69	77	-1	5.44	4.38	3.74	10.01	174	40.06	148	96	72	0	0	6	2		
RALEIGH	88	68	94	62	78	0	0.22	-0.67	0.21	5.20	103	32.71	145	98	51	2	0	2	0		
WILMINGTON	88	74	94	70	81	1	1.97	0.16	1.96	7.86	90	38.75	141	93	80	4	0	2	1		
ND BISMARCK	88	63	93	59	78	6	1.50	0.98	0.63	4.40	124	8.31	92	96	51	3	0	3	2		
DICKINSON	87	61	92	60	74	5	0.78	0.25	0.46	7.41	181	13.03	131	98	46	2	0	2	0		
FARGO	83	66	88	63	74	4	1.22	0.59	0.78	8.78	230	18.79	184	98	54	0	0	4	1		
GRAND FORKS	81	63	89	60	72	3	1.56	0.93	1.00	8.26	215	13.61	146	98	57	0	0	3	2		
JAMESTOWN	83	63	88	60	73	2	1.92	1.26	1.82	5.00	123	11.27	120	97	53	0	0	3	1		
WILLISTON	87	61	92	57	74	4	0.24	-0.28	0.19	4.75	154	8.27	103	91	47	2	0	2	0		
OH AKRON-CANTON	79	59	82	53	69	-2	0.54	-0.38	0.29	6.39	139	23.82	124	93	50	0	0	3	0		
CINCINNATI	83	65	88	60	74	0	0.12	-0.84	0.12	10.19	190	34.89	153	93	54	0	0	1	0		
CLEVELAND	79	60	83	52	69	-2	0.26	-0.54	0.17	3.24	66	20.29	109	95	51	0	0	3	0		
COLUMBUS	83	65	86	56	74	1	1.12	0.13	0.75	8.43	151	24.70	121	89	49	0	0	2	1		
DAYTON	81	63	83	55	72	-2	0.12	-0.70	0.12	7.88	154	26.78	133	93	52	0	0	1	0		
MANSFIELD	79	58	82	48	69	-3	0.08	-0.83	0.07	7.47	139	21.66	105	95	52	0	0	2	0		

Based on 1961-90 normals

Weather Data for the Week Ending July 11, 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 JUN 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE JUN 1	TOTAL IN, SINCE JAN 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE JAN 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	TEMP, °F		PRECIP.	
																80 AND ABOVE	82 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
OK TOLEDO	82	61	87	54	72	0	0.28	-0.50	0.22	2.21	46	18.87	111	94	47	0	0	3	0
OK YOUNGSTOWN	79	58	82	49	68	-2	0.12	-0.82	0.08	3.80	66	22.41	116	98	47	0	0	2	0
OK OKLAHOMA CITY	100	76	106	73	88	7	0.02	-0.63	0.02	2.69	50	19.00	101	81	36	6	0	1	0
OK TULSA	95	78	99	73	85	2	1.42	0.68	0.80	5.72	102	23.84	109	87	45	6	0	3	1
OR ASTORIA	63	52	67	47	57	-2	0.04	-0.26	0.02	1.83	63	45.03	128	100	80	0	0	3	0
OR BURNS	86	49	90	46	68	2	0.00	-0.09	0.00	1.11	113	11.56	216	86	23	1	0	0	0
OR EUGENE	81	53	86	49	67	0	0.01	-0.11	0.01	0.80	49	27.83	107	91	38	0	0	1	0
OR MEDFORD	90	59	93	54	75	3	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.67	100	17.96	193	80	28	4	0	0	0
OR PENDLETON	91	59	97	56	75	3	0.05	-0.03	0.02	0.84	108	8.44	127	75	26	5	0	3	0
OR PORTLAND	78	59	84	57	68	1	0.06	-0.09	0.06	2.07	119	24.77	131	92	51	0	0	1	0
OR SALEM	80	58	85	52	68	2	0.05	-0.10	0.03	1.06	66	28.43	139	93	42	0	0	2	0
PA ALLENTOWN	79	58	83	54	68	-5	0.61	-0.30	0.59	5.61	109	26.54	119	93	42	0	0	3	1
PA ERIE	77	63	83	53	70	-1	0.97	0.09	0.83	3.80	68	20.76	106	90	54	0	0	2	1
PA MIDDLETOWN	80	62	85	60	71	-4	1.83	0.80	1.83	7.44	144	31.56	145	90	49	0	0	2	0
PA PHILADELPHIA	81	65	85	63	73	-3	0.98	0.02	0.76	6.14	117	24.13	109	89	48	0	0	3	1
PA PITTSBURGH	80	60	83	53	70	-2	0.70	-0.15	0.55	7.51	149	23.00	114	94	48	0	0	2	1
PA SCRANTON	76	57	80	50	66	-5	0.58	-0.33	0.58	4.89	91	23.77	127	96	53	0	0	2	0
PA WILLIAMSPORT	75	58	82	52	66	-6	0.53	-0.40	0.34	6.13	108	31.59	148	96	57	0	0	2	0
RI PROVIDENCE	78	61	83	58	69	-3	0.51	-0.21	0.51	10.12	227	39.34	165	91	53	0	0	1	1
SC BEAUFORT	96	75	99	71	85	4	1.59	0.21	1.49	4.05	49	31.07	119	96	51	7	0	1	0
SC CHARLESTON	94	75	99	72	85	4	1.52	0.00	1.13	5.90	67	37.80	142	95	51	7	0	3	1
SC COLUMBIA	96	75	101	70	85	5	0.63	-0.56	0.63	2.82	42	28.57	106	86	35	7	0	1	1
SD GREENVILLE	92	72	96	69	82	5	0.10	-0.97	0.10	4.03	62	32.96	115	87	42	6	0	1	0
SD ABERDEEN	85	66	89	61	75	3	0.57	-0.09	0.48	7.08	169	16.10	150	99	56	0	0	3	0
SD HURON	87	67	90	64	77	3	0.43	-0.22	0.32	3.83	87	13.20	109	93	54	2	0	3	0
SD RAPID CITY	86	62	91	59	74	3	0.18	-0.33	0.10	6.04	155	10.64	103	94	48	1	0	2	0
SD SIOUX FALLS	83	63	87	59	73	-1	0.38	-0.25	0.24	5.08	115	15.83	124	99	60	0	0	2	0
TN BRISTOL	84	66	85	62	75	1	0.01	-0.98	0.01	7.89	168	30.98	137	98	58	0	0	1	0
TN CHATTANOOGA	92	73	96	70	82	4	0.05	-1.05	0.05	6.13	117	35.17	119	91	45	7	0	1	0
TN KNOXVILLE	90	71	93	68	80	4	1.27	0.18	1.23	9.40	166	36.39	136	94	46	4	0	2	1
TN MEMPHIS	97	77	102	72	87	5	1.87	1.02	1.03	2.96	60	31.33	109	92	48	6	0	4	2
TN NASHVILLE	89	73	95	70	81	2	0.40	-0.49	0.38	11.44	230	32.85	124	94	54	2	0	2	0
TX ABILENE	101	77	106	75	89	5	0.00	-0.47	0.00	2.06	57	8.17	68	73	30	7	0	0	0
TX AMARILLO	99	68	104	63	84	5	0.54	-0.06	0.29	0.82	18	7.54	74	82	25	7	0	2	0
TX AUSTIN	99	77	101	75	88	4	0.00	-0.52	0.00	2.39	52	12.89	73	93	37	7	0	0	0
TX BEAUMONT	93	75	94	74	84	2	0.00	-1.23	0.00	4.28	57	25.36	90	97	55	7	0	0	0
TX BROWNSVILLE	96	78	99	78	87	3	0.00	-0.44	0.00	0.30	9	3.06	28	93	48	7	0	0	0
TX CORPUS CHRISTI	96	77	98	74	86	3	0.00	-0.55	0.00	0.61	14	6.85	49	96	49	7	0	0	0
TX DEL RIO	104	80	107	79	92	7	0.00	-0.45	0.00	1.37	48	2.91	32	76	25	7	0	0	0
TX EL PASO	96	71	104	69	84	1	0.45	0.13	0.43	1.25	109	1.67	61	79	33	7	0	2	0
TX FORT WORTH	102	81	106	78	92	7	0.00	-0.54	0.00	1.86	48	18.24	98	71	29	7	0	0	0
TX GALVESTON	89	81	91	79	85	2	0.00	-0.83	0.00	9.53	161	24.37	124	87	70	3	0	0	0
TX HOUSTON	100	74	102	72	87	5	0.00	-0.87	0.00	3.00	47	16.98	70	100	40	7	0	0	0
TX LUBBOCK	101	73	103	70	87	7	0.00	-0.55	0.00	1.31	36	4.94	56	65	23	7	0	0	0
TX MIDLAND	102	76	106	75	89	7	0.00	-0.39	0.00	0.30	14	1.48	22	58	22	7	0	0	0
TX SAN ANGELO	101	77	107	75	89	7	0.00	-0.25	0.00	1.28	47	6.11	60	77	24	7	0	0	0
TX SAN ANTONIO	100	76	102	74	88	4	0.00	-0.53	0.00	1.04	22	10.88	66	90	31	7	0	0	0
TX VICTORIA	98	76	100	72	87	4	0.00	-0.83	0.00	0.67	11	8.51	45	96	41	7	0	0	0
TX WACO	103	78	106	77	91	6	0.07	-0.43	0.04	1.30	32	15.30	85	87	32	7	0	2	0
TX WICHITA FALLS	100	77	104	73	88	4	1.50	1.07	1.50	3.75	89	14.17	89	79	33	6	0	1	1
UT SALT LAKE CITY	91	67	94	63	79	2	0.17	-0.02	0.17	4.01	328	16.61	176	57	18	6	0	1	0
VT BURLINGTON	73	58	78	52	65	-5	1.60	0.80	1.01	13.33	282	29.54	182	97	59	0	0	5	2
VA LYNCHBURG	85	64	91	60	74	-1	0.23	-0.70	0.11	3.50	71	32.74	154	97	51	1	0	4	0
VA NORFOLK	81	69	87	66	75	-2	0.42	-0.68	0.32	5.39	97	32.08	137	94	60	0	0	3	0
VA RICHMOND	85	66	88	63	76	-2	1.03	-0.07	0.58	5.73	108	33.12	150	95	50	0	0	5	1
VA ROANOKE	87	67	90	64	77	2	0.17	-0.67	0.13	2.33	52	32.54	156	90	47	1	0	2	0
VA WASH/DULLES	83	61	87	54	72	-3	0.63	-0.15	0.63	6.51	128	30.79	147	97	51	0	0	1	1
WA HANFORD	95	68	101	61	81	-	0.18	-	0.18	1.01	-	4.49	-	56	18	5	0	3	0
WA OLYMPIA	76	54	82	49	65	3	0.00	-0.20	0.00	1.83	83	26.38	101	97	48	0	0	0	0
WA QUILLAYUTE	86	51	73	44	59	1	0.00	-0.60	0.00	1.50	37	46.11	83	99	70	0	0	0	0
WA SEATTLE-TACOMA	75	56	80	55	66	1	0.20	0.01	0.12	1.51	84	18.91	101	91	48	0	0	3	0
WA SPOKANE	87	61	94	55	74	7	0.19	0.02	0.10	1.26	82	10.10	111	79	30	3	0	2	0
WA YAKIMA	91	60	94	51	75	6	0.00	-0.04	0.00	0.57	93	6.73	159	77	28	5	0	0	0
WV BECKLEY	78	62	82	53	70	1	1.14	0.06	0.86	8.72	158	34.39	155	99	62	0	0	3	1
WV CHARLESTON	83	65	86	57	74	-1	0.39	-0.72	0.32	11.41	215	32.52	147	100	56	0	0	3	0
WV ELKINS	80	57	85	48	68	0	0.70	-0.32	0.60	11.18	184	30.39	127	99	53	0	0	4	1
WV HUNTINGTON	84	64	88	59	74	0	0.18	-0.88	0.10	7.20	141	28.83	130	97	55	0	0	3	0
WI EAU CLAIRE	83	62	89	58	73	1	0.80	-0.08	0.50	5.46	98	20.61	132	93	50	0	0	4	1
WI GREEN BAY	78	57	85	49	67	-2	1.80	0.91	1.48	7.84	174	18.67	133	98	55	0	0	3	1
WI MADISON	80	61	84	53	71	0	0.74	0.00	0.72	8.83	183	26.66	178	98	61	0	0	2	1
WI MILWAUKEE	75	61	84	56	68	-2	0.04	-0.73	0.04	3.07	69	18.70	113	91	62	0	0	1	0
WY CASPER	91	56	96	53	73	3	0.00	-0.30	0.00	3.05	156	6.35	82	88	21	5	0	0	0
WY CHEYENNE	84	56	90	53	70	2	0.26	-0.22	0.25	1.95	69	6.44	77	88	33	1	0	2	0
WY LANDER	86	56	91	53	71	1	0.01	-0.20	0.01	3.72	208	9.73	116	75	18	2	0	1	0
WY SHERIDAN	88	55	92	53	72	3	0.31	0.06	0.18	4.61	173	8.57	94	95	37	3	0	2	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

July 6 -12, 1998

HIGHLIGHTS

Extreme heat continued in the southern Plains, Mississippi Delta, and Southeast, further deteriorating crops. In the Corn Belt, crops benefited as seasonable temperatures prevailed and soil moisture supplies were restocked by additional rains. Warm, humid weather sped small

grain and row crop development in the northern Great Plains and Pacific Northwest. Crop growth accelerated in California due to warmer weather. Rain interfered with the winter wheat harvest in the central Great Plains, but improved soil moisture levels.

Corn: Twenty-four percent of the crop has silked, compared with 12 percent normally silked by this date. Silking progress accelerated across most of the Corn Belt and Great Plains, where hot, humid weather promoted rapid growth. Crop conditions generally improved in the Corn Belt, especially on well-drained soils. Plants in low-lying and poorly drained fields continued to exhibit uneven growth due to excessive moisture and lack of nitrogen. In the Ohio Valley and eastern Corn Belt, some fields were under standing water or contending with heavy weed pressures. Rain in the central Great Plains improved soil moisture levels and aided crop growth. In the southern Great Plains and southern Atlantic Coastal Plains, triple-digit temperatures and drought caused crop conditions to decline further.

Soybeans: The Nation's soybean crop continued to develop ahead of normal, with 36 percent of the crop blooming and 5 percent setting pods. The crop was most advanced in the Southeast and Mississippi Delta, but development was hindered in those areas by extreme heat and dry soils. Warm weather, accompanied by adequate soil moisture levels, accelerated development in most of the Corn Belt and central Great Plains States. Farmers replanted previously drowned fields where soils were dry enough and planted double-crop soybeans, following winter wheat, where soil moisture was adequate to germinate seeds.

Winter Wheat: Harvest progress reached 76 percent, well ahead of the 63-percent 5-year average for this date. Combining was nearly complete in the southern Great Plains and the Lower Mississippi Valley. Rain slowed harvest progress in the lower Ohio Valley and prevented farmers in Kansas and Texas from completing their harvest. In the central High Plains, harvest progress was temporarily delayed by isolated thunderstorms, but high temperatures dried soils, which allowed farmers to quickly resume combining. Mostly sunny conditions prevailed in the eastern Corn Belt, allowing half of the crop to be harvested in Ohio and Michigan. Harvest was just beginning in the northern Great Plains and Pacific Northwest.

Cotton: Development continued slightly ahead of normal, with 81 percent squaring and 45 percent setting bolls. Growth improved, with warmer temperatures in the Southwest, but squaring is 1 week behind normal in Arizona and 3 to 4 weeks behind normal in California. In the southern Plains, irrigated fields made good progress setting bolls, while dryland fields continued to drop squares and bolls due to extreme heat and drought. Rain temporarily halted crop deterioration in the Mississippi Delta, but cotton conditions in the Southeast continued to decline due to drought conditions.

Rice: Development remained more than 1 week ahead of normal, with 27 percent headed compared with 15 percent normally headed by this date. Early-seeded paddies were ripening fast in the western Gulf Coast rice-producing region. Heat stress was responsible for some blank heads, but conditions were mostly unchanged from the previous week.

Small grains: Hot, dry weather pushed into the northern Plains, speeding development of small grains. Eighty-seven percent of the spring wheat and 83 percent of the barley had headed. Development of both crops remained well ahead of normal in the northern Plains States and Pacific Northwest due to above-normal temperatures. In Idaho, temperatures were near normal, but development of small grains remained behind normal. Oats headed was 93 percent, more than 1 week ahead of the 5-year average of 81 percent.

Other crops: Grain sorghum was 24 percent headed, slightly behind both last year and the 5-year average. Well over half of the crop was headed in the Lower Mississippi Valley and Texas. Harvest continued along the western Gulf Coast, where hot, dry conditions caused rapid maturing and some lodging. Peanuts pegging, at 61 percent, was slightly ahead of normal. Hot, dry weather continued to stress the crop in the eastern Gulf Coast peanut-producing area. The middle Atlantic Coast peanut-producing region has not suffered from extreme heat and dry weather.

Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending July 12, 1998

Soybeans Percent Blooming

	Jul 12 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	30	13	11	15
AR	26	17	9	16
GA	20	18	20	21
IL	27	7	24	21
IN	28	9	15	19
IA	46	25	30	27
KS	50	27	39	22
KY	7	6	7	14
LA	70	60	41	36
MI	26	20	6	11
MN	49	16	9	20
MS	76	60	39	37
MO	28	11	19	14
NE	25	6	16	17
NC	15	10	12	9
OH	44	17	31	25
SC	25	20	26	15
SD	37	18	19	17
TN	12	5	6	8
ALL	35	17	21	21

These 19 States planted 93% of last year's soybean acreage.

Soybeans Percent Setting Pods

	Jul 12 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	12	NA	0	1
AR	7	NA	2	6
GA	3	NA	4	4
IL	2	NA	1	1
IN	0	NA	0	0
IA	0	NA	0	0
KS	6	NA	11	3
KY	0	NA	0	0
LA	39	NA	15	15
MI	0	NA	0	0
MN	4	NA	0	1
MS	44	NA	0	0
MO	0	NA	0	0
NE	0	NA	0	1
NC	0	NA	0	0
OH	4	NA	1	1
SC	10	NA	NA	NA
SD	11	NA	1	0
TN	0	NA	0	1
ALL	5	NA	1	1

These 19 States planted 93% of last year's soybean acreage.

Winter Wheat Percent Harvested

	Jul 12 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	100	100	94	97
CA	75	50	97	91
CO	69	35	46	34
GA	100	100	99	100
ID	0	0	0	0
IL	92	88	78	81
IN	92	73	41	55
KS	98	97	93	82
MI	60	10	0	3
MO	95	88	87	77
MT	0	0	0	0
NE	36	26	23	29
NC	99	96	99	94
OH	83	30	3	32
OK	100	100	96	97
OR	0	0	3	2
SD	5	2	0	3
TX	98	95	92	93
WA	4	0	0	1
ALL	76	69	66	63

These 19 States planted 92% of last year's winter wheat acreage.

Corn Percent Silking

	Jul 12 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
CO	6	0	1	3
GA	98	97	94	96
IL	31	5	4	11
IN	18	4	1	8
IA	3	0	3	5
KS	50	31	36	34
KY	40	30	17	39
MI	12	0	0	2
MN	38	3	1	5
MO	60	40	31	29
NE	24	1	2	10
NC	70	60	59	76
OH	9	2	1	4
PA	9	1	3	7
SD	0	0	0	2
TX	73	57	58	69
WI	4	0	0	2
ALL	24	8	8	12

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

Cotton Percent Squaring

	Jul 12 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	90	83	58	80
AZ	92	82	99	98
AR	100	96	97	97
CA	25	*20	89	84
GA	90	87	85	93
LA	100	97	90	96
MS	99	96	83	93
MO	100	95	68	90
NM	87	80	79	77
NC	75	65	72	67
OK	60	48	48	54
SC	80	67	75	83
TN	96	90	85	94
TX	79	61	77	73
ALL	81	71	80	82

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

Cotton Percent Setting Bolls

	Jul 12 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	45	28	14	25
AZ	22	18	73	68
AR	71	35	6	33
CA	4	2	19	15
GA	65	40	28	47
LA	88	51	37	61
MS	77	52	42	47
MO	67	30	4	20
NM	19	8	24	25
NC	25	10	9	25
OK	0	0	0	7
SC	30	17	26	33
TN	35	20	8	19
TX	39	21	19	24
ALL	45	28	21	31

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

Spring Wheat Percent Headed

	Jul 12 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	60	34	76	70
MN	97	90	73	81
MT	93	69	74	68
ND	80	60	63	57
SD	98	86	83	85
ALL	87	69	70	67

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

Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending July 12, 1998

Oats Percent Headed				
	Jul 12 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
IA	98	94	100	96
MI	99	97	88	84
MN	98	91	87	90
NE	100	99	99	100
ND	79	57	55	54
OH	100	97	99	98
PA	95	90	93	93
SD	94	84	81	84
WI	100	97	97	82
ALL	93	84	83	81

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

Peanuts Percent Pegging				
	Jul 12 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	65	56	47	50
FL	57	50	84	NA
GA	69	66	61	76
NC	55	45	42	26
OK	73	59	71	50
SC	50	40	53	26
TX	45	26	36	42
VA	70	60	19	NA
ALL	61	52	52	56

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

Barley Percent Headed				
	Jul 12 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	60	33	74	67
MN	96	90	70	80
MT	83	53	66	63
ND	83	53	63	62
SD	95	80	79	82
WA	100	99	99	93
ALL	83	59	69	68

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

Rice Percent Headed				
	Jul 12 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	17	8	0	5
CA	0	0	0	0
LA	58	40	36	41
MS	31	16	22	16
TX	65	50	30	44
ALL	27	17	11	15

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

Sorghum Percent Headed				
	Jul 12 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	58	NA	15	27
CO	0	NA	0	0
IL	2	NA	2	2
KS	9	NA	14	5
LA	61	NA	30	52
MS	68	NA	62	52
MO	20	NA	4	6
NE	0	NA	0	0
NM	0	NA	0	0
OK	6	NA	8	10
SD	0	NA	0	0
TX	54	NA	55	63
ALL	24	NA	25	25

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

Soybeans Crop Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
AL	6	37	32	25	0
AR	7	23	36	28	6
GA	41	25	24	10	0
IL	4	9	31	43	13
IN	3	8	32	43	14
IA	3	8	21	49	19
KS	0	2	17	62	19
KY	0	6	23	52	19
LA	12	25	40	21	2
MI	2	7	24	53	14
MN	2	7	28	47	16
MS	6	16	24	43	11
MO	2	12	36	41	9
NE	2	4	15	63	16
NC	6	12	40	41	1
OH	2	6	27	48	17
SC	11	21	47	21	0
SD	1	3	12	54	30
TN	1	6	29	53	11
ALL	3	9	27	47	14
Prev Wk	3	9	29	48	11
Prev Yr	1	6	27	55	11

Corn Crop Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
CO	0	3	16	56	25
GA	46	19	19	16	0
IL	5	11	25	46	13
IN	3	9	30	42	16
IA	3	8	19	47	23
KS	1	5	19	62	13
KY	1	8	16	53	22
MI	2	9	24	51	14
MN	1	5	21	51	22
MO	1	9	29	46	15
NE	0	4	19	61	16
NC	10	22	35	31	2
OH	2	6	23	50	19
PA	1	3	20	62	14
SD	1	2	8	51	38
TX	23	25	30	20	2
WI	0	2	13	46	39
ALL	3	8	21	49	19
Prev Wk	3	7	24	50	16
Prev Yr	1	4	22	56	17

Cotton Crop Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
AL	12	39	33	15	1
AZ	3	15	35	29	18
AR	2	12	33	42	11
CA	10	50	30	10	0
GA	25	25	28	19	3
LA	2	9	54	33	2
MS	2	8	25	50	15
MO	0	23	24	42	11
NM	0	2	31	54	13
NC	1	5	31	62	1
OK	0	14	31	47	8
SC	6	21	43	30	0
TN	0	6	27	53	14
TX	23	22	32	21	2
ALL	14	21	31	29	5
Prev Wk	14	20	30	30	6
Prev Yr	2	8	30	47	13

Spring Wheat Crop Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
ID	0	0	3	64	33
MN	4	12	29	48	7
MT	2	10	32	48	8
ND	1	4	26	52	17
SD	0	1	15	58	26
ALL	1	6	26	52	15
Prev Wk	1	5	27	52	15
Prev Yr	3	15	32	45	5

Rice Crop Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
AR	1	4	30	51	14
CA	0	0	50	50	0
LA	1	3	36	51	9
MS	1	3	24	65	7
TX	0	3	34	56	7
ALL	1	3	34	53	9
Prev Wk	1	5	33	51	10
Prev Yr	0	3	34	52	11

Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending July 12, 1998

Sorghum Crop Condition by Percent

	VP	P	F	G	EX
AR	4	21	37	34	4
CO	0	6	20	68	6
IL	10	13	29	45	3
KS	1	5	21	65	8
LA	2	23	48	24	3
MS	7	9	33	50	1
MO	0	11	39	44	6
NE	0	2	23	68	7
NM	32	39	19	9	1
OK	3	31	45	20	1
SD	0	1	8	79	12
TX	24	25	36	13	2
ALL	10	14	28	43	5
Prev Wk	8	15	33	40	4
Prev Yr	0	3	22	61	14

Oats Crop Condition by Percent

	VP	P	F	G	EX
IA	0	6	22	50	22
MI	1	16	44	35	4
MN	1	7	24	59	9
NE	3	4	18	46	29
ND	0	3	28	58	11
OH	0	5	25	60	10
PA	1	2	25	60	12
SD	0	2	11	64	23
WI	0	3	18	65	14
ALL	0	4	22	59	15
Prev Wk	0	4	21	60	15
Prev Yr	2	8	31	48	11

Barley Crop Condition by Percent

	VP	P	F	G	EX
ID	0	0	3	58	39
MN	7	15	26	46	6
MT	1	9	36	46	8
ND	1	4	21	55	19
SD	0	2	16	61	21
WA	0	5	33	48	14
ALL	1	6	23	52	18
Prev Wk	1	6	24	52	17
Prev Yr	1	10	27	51	11

Peanuts Crop Condition by Percent

	VP	P	F	G	EX
AL	9	30	53	8	0
FL	0	12	69	19	0
GA	16	24	31	27	2
NC	0	0	2	98	0
OK	0	8	46	45	1
SC	13	30	42	15	0
TX	6	13	37	34	10
VA	0	1	19	73	7
ALL	9	17	36	35	3
Prev Wk	9	20	34	33	4
Prev Yr	0	2	25	63	10

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 6.1. Topsoil 24% very short, 55% short, 18% adequate, 3% surplus. Rainfall was significant enough in some areas to be helpful. Soybeans benefited most, many pastures were reinvigorated. Corn silked 96%, 82% 1997, 85% avg. Peanuts pegging 65%, 47% 1997, 50% avg. Soybeans blooming 30%, 11% 1997, 15% avg. Cotton 12% very poor, 39% poor, 33% fair, 15% good, 1% excellent. Soybean 6% very poor, 37% poor, 32% fair, 25% good. Livestock 2% very poor, 14% poor, 49% fair, 33% good, 2% excellent. Pasture feed 23% very poor, 30% poor, 35% fair, 12% good. Watermelon harvest has begun in some areas, with tomato, cantaloupe harvest under full-swing. Late soybean planting has resumed.

ALASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.0. Topsoil 15% short, 85% adequate. Subsoil 35% short, 65% adequate. Rain fell across much of the State, slowed hay harvest, brought some relief from dry conditions. Daytime high temperatures mostly ranged from the upper 60's to the upper 70's degrees Fahrenheit. Barley crop 20% in boot, 80% headed; 70% poor, 20% fair, 10% good. Oats crop 15% pre-boot, 70% in boot, 15% headed. Average height of grain crops 15.3 in. Commercial potato crop 95% emerged. Average height of potato crop 8.0 in. General crop growth for the week 20% slow, 70% moderate, 10% rapid. Grass hay crop 40% harvested. On July 14, 1998, pasture feed, range 40% poor, 25% fair, 30% good, 5% excellent.

ARIZONA: Cotton progress still lags behind normal. Cotton squaring is about 1 week behind the 1997, avg. As of July 12, 92% of cotton was reported as squaring compared with 99% at this time in 1997, 98% avg.; setting bolls is about 3 weeks behind average and 4 weeks behind 1997; setting bolls 22%, 73% 1997, 68% avg.; 3% very poor, 15% poor, 35% fair, 29% good, 18% excellent. Alfalfa harvest activity was reported as 4% not being harvested, 1% light, 5% moderate, 90% active. Alfalfa condition declined again last week. Condition was reported as 3% poor, 18% fair, 57% good, 22% excellent. Small grains harvested was virtually complete, with only scattered fields remaining to be harvested. This compares with 97% 1997, 98% avg. Grape, melon, and vegetable shipments continued to be shipped by central, western area growers last week. Grape shipments from central area growers consisted of seedless flames, perlettas, Thompsons. Other shipments included a small volume of currants, sweet corn, while melon shipments involved cantaloupe, honeydew, watermelon, a light volume of canary, casaba, orange flesh, santa claus, sharlyn speciality melons. Western area producers harvested an assortment of melons, grapes. Melon shipments included canary, cantaloupe, casaba, honeydew, watermelons. Grape shipments from western areas included seedless flames, perlettas, Thompsons. Central, western area growers continued to ship a small volume of grapefruit last week.

ARKANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 7. Soil moisture 38% very short, 49% short, 13% adequate. Few showers were reported during the week. Main farming activities: Irrigating crops, applying nitrogen to rice, harvesting hay. Corn 2% very poor, 11% poor, 33% fair, 41% good, 13% excellent. Alfalfa 6% poor, 35% fair, 59% good. Other hay 1% very poor, 16% poor, 36% fair, 42% good, 3% excellent. Range, pasture feed 3% very poor, 20% poor, 40% fair, 34% good, 3% excellent.

CALIFORNIA: Field activities progressed normally under warm, sunny conditions in most areas. Grain harvests of wheat, barley and oats were winding down in the San Joaquin Valley. Wheat harvest in the Sacramento Valley continued, remained 2 to 3 weeks behind normal. Imperial Valley wheat harvest was complete. Overall quality and protein content of harvested wheat were below normal in most areas, due to lingering effects from the cool, wet spring. Corn for grain and silage was planted, following small grain harvest, some emerged fields were sprayed for mites. Rice fields were treated for weeds. Cotton growth improved with the warmer weather in the San Joaquin, Sacramento Valleys; some fields were blooming, squaring.

Cotton growers were cultivating, irrigating, spraying fields for aphids, lygus, mites. Seed alfalfa was treated for lygus, mites, stinkbugs. Safflower bloom continued in the San Joaquin Valley, with some fields drying for harvest. Old crop sugar beets were harvested, while new crop fields were still being planted in the northern San Joaquin Valley. Alfalfa, small grains, sudan grass were cut for hay or were green chopped. Warmer weather aided the growth, development of grapes, stone fruit. Grape growers continued to apply sulfur for control of powdery mildew. Other vineyard activities included spraying, discing for weeds, application of insecticides for leafrollers. Table grape growers in the San Joaquin Valley were girdling vines, tipping bunches. Coachella Valley grapes were picked for fresh use. Main varieties harvested were perlette, Thompson seedless. San Joaquin Valley stone fruit growers were picking nectarines, plums, freestone peaches, apricots. Problems with brown rot, mold, split pits continued to cause grower concerns. Strawberry harvest was active, with improved quality. Harvest of lemons in the southern coast area, grapefruit, Valencia oranges remained active. New crop citrus was maturing slowly, due to the earlier cool, spring weather. Harvests of melons, sweet corn were nearly complete in the Imperial Valley. Bell peppers, potatoes, carrots, sweet corn, garlic, red and yellow onions were being harvested in Kern County. Fresh market tomato harvest began in Tulare County. Lettuce in the San Joaquin, coastal valleys was progressing normally. Fresh market, processing tomato growers were treating for insects, weeds, fungal diseases in the San Joaquin, Sacramento Valleys. Insect pressure was high in tomato fields, although the warmer weather slowed the progress of diseases. Fresno County melons were setting fruit, harvest is expected to begin next week. Fresh market tomato harvest began in Merced County, while planting of tomatoes, peppers, melons continued. Late onions were being planted in the Sacramento, San Joaquin Valleys. Vegetable seed growth improved as the weather warmed in the northern Sacramento Valley. Garlic was still being harvested in the San Joaquin Valley. Other crops harvested included snap beans, sweet corn, eggplant, beets, squash, radishes. Pastures, rangeland were in good to fair condition across most of the State, with rangeland grasses drying rapidly. Pasture land was irrigated in some areas. In the north, at higher elevations, rangeland vegetation continued to develop, was staying green longer than normal. Plenty of forage was available, although quantity was reduced by grazing in some areas. Quality was diminishing as temperatures increased. Fire danger was high in low-elevation areas. Fires in Kern County burned 6,500 acres of rangeland. Cattle were being moved to higher elevation ranges. Bees were active in seed alfalfa, melon fields.

COLORADO: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.6. Topsoil 10% very short, 28% short, 59% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil 10% very short, 27% short, 62% adequate 1% surplus. Hot, dry condition favored wheat harvest, development of late-season crops. Some harvest delays from numerous heavy thunderstorms. Spring barley 99% headed, 100% 1997, 90% avg.; 30% turning color, 55% 1997, 34% avg.; 3% harvested, 1% 1997, 1% avg.; 6% poor, 13% fair, 58% good, 23% excellent. Oats 95% headed, 88% 1997, 79% avg.; 45% turning color, 30% 1997, 32% avg.; 12% harvested, 10% 1997, 5% avg.; 6% poor, 14% fair, 66% good, 14% excellent. Dry onions 1% poor, 7% fair, 72% good, 20% excellent. Sugar beets 1% poor, 19% fair, 59% good, 21% excellent. Summer potatoes 4% poor, 14% fair, 49% good, 33% excellent. Fall potatoes 1% poor, 2% fair, 50% good, 47% excellent. Dry beans 6% flowered, 9% 1997, 3% avg.; 1% poor, 7% fair, 44% good, 48% excellent. Alfalfa 100% 1st cutting, 100% 1997, 93% avg.; 19% 2nd cutting, 28% 1997, 27% avg.; 8% poor, 21% fair, 54% good, 17% excellent. Winter wheat 99% turning color, 99% 1997, 92% avg.; 88% ripe, 81% 1997, 69% avg. Spring wheat 83% headed, 94% 1997, 81% avg.; 43% turning color, 25% 1997, 18% avg.; 5% poor, 17% fair, 49% good, 29% excellent. Livestock in mostly fair to good condition.

DELAWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 16% short, 84% adequate. Subsoil 10% short, 90% adequate. Winter wheat 95% harvested, 78% 1997, 82% avg. Barley 99% harvested, 100% 1997, 99% avg. Rye 93% harvested, 50% 1997, 62% avg. Soybeans 90% planted, 86% 1997,

88% avg.; 9% bloomed, 5% 1997, 6% avg.; 11% fair, 68% good, 21% excellent. Apples 1% fair, 78% good, 21% excellent. Peaches 83% good, 17% excellent. Sorghum 5% headed, 2% 1997, 2% avg.; 93% good, 7% excellent. Sweet corn 20% harvested, 11% 1997, 11% avg. Watermelons 3% harvested, 3% 1997, 3% avg. Cucumbers 18% harvested, 18% 1997, 20% avg. Snap beans 11% harvested, 7% 1997, 25% avg. Lima beans 10% harvested, 1% 1997, 2% avg. Tomatoes 5% harvested, 4% 1997, 5% avg. Potatoes 16% harvested, 8% 1997, 13% avg. Field corn 35% silked, 5% 1997, 23% avg.; 5% dough, 1% avg.; 14% fair, 68% good, 18% excellent. Other hay 83%, 2nd cutting harvested 75% 1997, 56% avg.; 50% 3rd cutting harvested, 2% 1997, 1% avg. Alfalfa 80% 2nd cutting harvested, 88% 1997, 78% avg.; 24% 3rd cutting, 3% 1997, 4% avg. Hay supplies 99% adequate, 1% surplus. Pasture feed 8% poor, 16% fair, 74% good, 2% excellent. Activities: Received needed rain. Watermelon, cantaloupe harvesting began.

FLORIDA: Topsoil moisture mostly very short to short, few scattered areas adequate moisture. Rain showers most areas helped, most areas still need rain. Fires slowed but continue a problem. Stressed cotton, peanut crops starting recovery. Pastures improved, more rain needed. Corn for grain being chopped for livestock feed, haying stopped all areas. Peanuts 57% pegging; poor 12%, fair 69%, good 19%. Watermelon growers finishing harvest. Dade County producers harvesting okra. Tomato plantings, fall crop, to start next five to seven days, Quincy area. Picking other vegetables for local market sales continues. Rains, thunderstorms this week, all citrus areas. Some growers discontinued irrigation, well-cared-for groves producing new foliage, non-irrigated groves reflecting stress. Valencia harvest virtually over as all processors finally shut down for season. Very light movement will continue for summer as late bloom, scattered fruit will be picked for fresh squeeze juice operations. Caretakers cutting cover crops, herbiciding, spraying, fertilizing. Some resets in large grove operations being planted. Pasture feed very poor 10%, poor 25%, fair 60%, good 5%. Cattle poor 15%, fair 80%, good 5%. Pastures improved slightly following rainfall, recovering some if not under grazing pressure. Panhandle: some cattle being put into cornfields, some corn being fed green chopped. Ponds very low. Armyworms showing up. North still very dry. Pasture, hayfield losses from drought high. Supplemental feeding still active. Many cattle producers selling stock for lack of feed. Central, southwestern pasture condition mostly unchanged.

GEORGIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Soil moisture 57% very short, 28% short, 13% adequate, 2% surplus. Corn 80% dough, 78% 1997, 80% avg.; 50% dent, 35% 1997, 47% avg.; 10% mature, 10% 1997, 8% avg. Hay 25% very poor, 36% poor, 24% fair, 14% good, 1% excellent. Peanuts 93% blooming, 93% 1997, 96% avg. Sorghum 19% very poor, 33% poor, 27% fair, 21% good; 93% planted, 93% 1997, 96% avg. Soybeans 96% planted, 99% 1997, 99% avg.; 88% emerged. Tobacco 9% very poor, 18% poor, 40% fair, 30% good, 3% excellent; 17% harvested, 36% 1997, 28% avg. Watermelons 19% very poor, 27% poor, 40% fair, 13% good, 1% excellent; 82% harvested, 70% 1997, 72% avg. Apples 1% very poor, 2% poor, 7% fair, 79% good, 11% excellent. Peaches 34% very poor, 25% poor, 24% fair, 17% good; 75% harvested, 84% 1997, 82% avg. Pecans 18% very poor, 35% poor, 30% fair, 15% good, 2% excellent. Hot, dry weather continues to cause crop deterioration. Soil moisture remains mostly very short to short. Scattered showers provided temporary help in some areas. More rain still needed. Severe heat stress remains in most crops and livestock. Pastures, hay crop conditions continue to fall. Cattlemen feeding hay, some herd reduction, early weaning of calves necessary. Most crops suffering from extreme heat, dry conditions. Most non-irrigated corn abandoned. Some salvaged by early silage harvest. Tobacco harvesting continues, yield losses mounting. Cotton shedding leaves, squares, bolls. Irrigating most crops, surface water supplies declining. Insects increasing rapidly in cotton. Activities: Spraying fungicides, herbicides, insecticides to cotton and peanuts, harvesting watermelons, peaches, other vegetables, sidedressing and routine care of livestock.

HAWAII: Showery mornings, evenings were fair for agriculture. Frequent showers hampered farming in some windward areas. Spraying increased for disease prevention. Most leeward areas experienced sunny periods between showers. Banana harvesting active; production meeting market demand. Showers mixed with sunshine and warm weather favorable for banana growth. Papaya orchards in mostly fair condition, some poor. Production variable from steady to heavy, disease hampering yields in some areas.

Watermelon in generally good, with favorable size melons. Harvesting will remain at a steady level. Head cabbage in fair to good condition. Some fields left unharvested due to weak market.

IDAHO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Topsoil 2% surplus, 81% adequate, 16% short, 1% very short. Warm, dry conditions continue. Late blight in Treasure Valley potato fields. Alfalfa hay 1st cutting 85%, 1997 93%, avg. 93%; 2nd cutting 21%, 1997 16%, avg. 13%. Irrigation supply 53% excellent, 46% good, 1% fair. Dry beans emerged 100%, 1997 100%, avg. 99%. Cherries harvested 44%, 1997 95%, avg. 82%. Mint harvested 2%, 1997 3%, avg. 3%. Potatoes 12" high 78%, 1997 89%, avg. 79%; closing middles 36%, 1997 69%, avg. 45%. Barley jointed 97%; booted 85%; turning color 10%. Spring wheat jointed 98%; booted 87%. Winter wheat headed 95%; turning color 40%. Activities: Cultivating row crops, haying, weed control, irrigation, spraying potatoes for late blight, harvesting cherries.

ILLINOIS: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.2. Topsoil 1% short, 53% adequate, 46% surplus. Even though farmers were unable to plant their corn fields as early this year as 1997, weather conditions have accelerated the maturity of the crop. Corn, soybean conditions showed little fluctuation statewide from the previous week. In response to the severe storms that passed through the western portion of the State in late June, some farmers have decided to replant those acres that were affected. In the south, sustained wet conditions have made it difficult for farmers. There are still corn, soybean fields that remain unplanted, while many fields that have been planted are contending with standing water or suffering from weeds. Making hay has been difficult between showers. Other activities last week included harvesting wheat, green beans, potatoes, spraying where possible, cultivating soybeans, mowing roadsides. Corn dough 1%, 0% 1997, 0% avg.; height 59 in., 60 in. 1997, 52 in. avg. Winter wheat ripe 99%, 94% 1997, 96% avg. Oats 1% poor, 21% fair, 64% good, 14% excellent; filled 88%, 87% 1997, 84% avg.; turning yellow 60%, 60% 1997, 53% avg.; ripe 21%, 7% 1997, 18% avg.; harvested 2%, 1% 1997, 4% avg. Alfalfa hay 1% very poor, 4% poor, 24% fair, 57% good, 14% excellent; 2nd cutting 46%, 49% 1997, 45% avg.; 3rd cutting 1%, 1% 1997, 2% avg. Red clover cut 92%, 90% 1997, 92% avg.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.9. Topsoil 1% very short, 4% short, 61% adequate, 34% surplus. Subsoil 4% short, 66% adequate, 30% surplus. Excessive rainfall during the spring, early summer has left crops "uneven" in many areas; however, overall condition is good. Soils remain saturated in the southern region of the State, while some northeast areas are becoming dry. Wheat harvest remains about 2 weeks ahead of average. Farmers are planting double crop soybeans as soil conditions allow. Range, pasture feed 1% very poor, 3% poor, 21% fair, 62% good, 13% excellent. Alfalfa 56% 2nd cutting. Activities: Harvesting winter wheat, cutting alfalfa, planting, replanting soybeans, side-dressing corn, caring for livestock.

IOWA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.5. Topsoil very short 1%, short 3%, adequate 65%, surplus 31%. Subsoil moisture short 4%, adequate 64%, surplus 32%. Past week brought rapid crop development as warm, humid conditions provided plants with ideal growing conditions. Corn on high ground grew rapidly, while fields in low-lying areas continued to be hindered by excess moisture, lack of nitrogen. Grasshopper infestations are beginning to appear in the soybeans and hay. Reporters indicate hay quality is poor, farmers are having trouble getting it up. The 1998 row crops: Corn cultivated 81%, 94% 1997, 81% avg.; tasseled 22%, 2% 1997, 9% avg.; height tallest 76 in; average 62 in. Corn 3% very poor, 8% poor, 19% fair, 47% good, 23% excellent. Soybeans blooming 46%, 30% 1997, 27% avg. Soybean 3% very poor, 8% poor, 21% fair, 49% good, 19% excellent. Oats headed 98%, 99% 1997, 96% avg.; turning color 67%, 65% 1997, 54% avg. Oat 6% poor, 22% fair, 50% good, 22% excellent. Second crop alfalfa harvested 18%, 29% 1997, 21% avg. First-crop clover harvested 85%, 94% 1997, 82% avg. All hay 1% very poor, 4% poor, 28% fair, 52% good, 15% excellent. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 4% poor, 19% fair, 52% good, 24% excellent.

KANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.7. Topsoil 2% very short, 18% short, 68% adequate, 12% surplus. Subsoil moisture 6% very short, 19% short, 74% adequate, 1% surplus. Wet weather delayed wheat harvest in the western half. Wheat harvest is complete in the south-central, northeast, east-central, southeast. Precipitation was welcomed and scattered, with

amounts ranging from 2 to 9 in. Rains improved crop and soil conditions. Corn dough 8%, 22% 1997, 7% avg. Sorghum emerged 99%. Soybeans emerged 99%. Sunflowers planted 96%, 96% 1997; emerged 95%, 94% 1997.; bloom 8%. Sunflowers 3% poor, 22% fair, 70% good, 5% excellent. Alfalfa hay 88% 2nd cutting, 83% 1997, 72% avg.; 3rd cutting 9% complete, 16% 1997, 8% avg. Major field activities were, harvesting wheat, cultivating corn, cutting alfalfa. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 7% poor, 30% fair, 53% good, 9% excellent. Stock water supplies 8% short, 89% adequate, 3% surplus.

KENTUCKY: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.2. Topsoil 2% short, 65% adequate, 33% surplus. Subsoil 2% short, 68% adequate, 30% surplus. Some scattered showers began the week. Dry weather allowed fieldwork to catch up. River bottoms remain flooded. Limited disease, insect problems. Conditions of set tobacco 2% very poor, 10% poor, 31% fair, 46% good, 11% excellent. Tobacco height 52% under 24 in., 34% between 24-36 in., 14% over 36 in. Some resetting of flooded fields continues. Winter wheat harvested 96%, 83% 1997, avg. 94%. Hay 4% poor, 20% fair, 52% good, 24% excellent. Pasture feed 1% poor, 19% fair, 58% good, 22% excellent.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.7. Soil moisture 54% very short, 31% short, 14% adequate, 1% surplus. Corn 21% very poor, 18% poor, 45% fair, 11% good, 5% excellent; 96% dough stage, 78% 1997, 84% avg.; 30% mature, 10% 1997, 15% avg.; 1% harvested, 0% 1997, 0% avg. Cotton irrigation is in full swing because of the severe dry conditions. Hay 97% 1st cutting, 97% 1997, 96% avg.; 11% final cutting, 25% 1997, 14% avg. Peaches 80% harvested, 86% 1997, 68% avg. Rice 3% ripe, 2% 1997, 3% avg. There is panicle blight reported in rice as well as stink bugs, army worms. Sorghum 6% turning color, 3% 1997, 6% avg. Soybeans 99% planted, 99% 1997, 99% avg.; 98% emerged, 97% 1997, 97% avg. Stink bugs are reported in some group IV soybeans. Sugarcane 2% very poor, 5% poor, 32% fair, 42% good, 19% excellent. Sweet potatoes 99% planted, 98% 1997, 94% avg. Livestock 4% very poor, 16% poor, 42% fair, 37% good, 1% excellent. Vegetables 18% very poor, 23% poor, 34% fair, 20% good, 5% excellent. County agents report some cattle producers are selling herds due to poor pasture conditions.

MARYLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 1% very short, 23% short, 76% adequate. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 13% short, 85% adequate, 1% surplus. Winter wheat 91% harvested, 76% 1997, 76% avg. Barley 98% harvested, 99% 1997, 97% avg. Rye 79% harvested, 70% 1997, 64% avg. Field corn 4% poor, 16% fair, 63% good, 17% excellent; 40% silked, 6% dough. Soybeans 2% poor, 20% fair, 69% good, 9% excellent; 95% planted, 86% 1997, 88% avg.; 16% bloomed, 3% 1997, 3% avg. Sorghum 6% fair, 91% good, 3% excellent; 5% headed, 0% 1997, 1% avg. Tobacco 6% poor, 30% fair, 55% good, 9% excellent; 9% bloomed, 5% 1997, 5% avg. Sweet corn 15% harvested, 14% 1997, 13% avg. Snap beans 25% harvested, 23% 1997, 28% avg. Lima beans 75% harvested, 0% 1997, 1% avg. Cucumbers 29% harvested, 30% 1997, 32% avg. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 9% poor, 26% fair, 58% good, 6% excellent. Apples 1% poor, 13% fair, 64% good, 22% excellent. Cantaloupe 11% harvested, 4% 1997, 10% avg. Watermelons 11% harvested, 1% 1997, 4% avg. Potatoes 37% harvested, 10% 1997, 17% avg. Tomatoes 5% harvested, 4% 1997, 6% avg. Peaches 1% poor, 11% fair, 69% good, 19% excellent, 18% harvested, 1% 1997, 5% avg. Other hay 52% 2nd cutting harvested, 39% 1997, 37% avg.; 41% 3rd cutting, 1% 1997, 1% avg. Alfalfa hay 85% 2nd cutting harvested, 74% 1997, 70% avg.; 15% 3rd cutting, 5% 1997, 6% avg. Hay supplies 1% very short, 7% short, 85% adequate, 7% surplus. Activities: Some reports of poor quality hay. Wheat yields, quality are down from last year. Received much-needed rain.

MICHIGAN: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 15% very short, 38% short, 46% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil 15% very short, 47% short, 37% adequate, 1% surplus. All hay 2nd cutting 33%, 23% avg. Corn Height 50 in., 31 in. 1997, 38 in. avg. Drybeans blooming 2%, 4% 1997, Oats turning yellow 65%, 20% 1997, 23% avg. Most rain concentrated in the southeast, southwest, where temperatures were 9 degrees Fahrenheit above normal. Central, thumb areas received up to one-half inch of rain. Crops still benefiting from widespread rains from the previous week. Corn maturity knee high to tasseling, little insect pressure. Wheat harvest accelerated with clear, dry weather. Some mid-maturity soybeans being double cropped behind wheat. Sugar beets, soybeans, dry beans doing very well. Second

alfalfa cutting progressed well, with lower yields in the drier central portion of the State. Potato harvest has started in Thumb. Warm weather continued to push vegetable maturity well ahead of normal. Summer squash, pickling cucumber, celery, cabbage harvest continued. Early plantings of carrots nearing harvest. Pumpkin vines laid down. Early sweet corn harvest started in the south. Onion fields "bulbing." Harvest of light varieties of sweet cherries was in full swing in the northwest. Shaking of tart cherries continued in west-central, began in northwest. Statewide, about one-third of crop harvested. Lodi apples picked southwest. Bluecrop blueberries harvest began. PF-5B, Candor peaches harvested.

MINNESOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.0. Topsoil 1% very short, 6% short, 67% adequate, 26% surplus. Corn 64 in. height, 42 in. 1997, 42 in. avg. Soybeans 18 in. height, 13 in. 1997, 13 in. avg. Spring wheat 21% turning ripe, 2% 1997, 9% avg. Oats 43% turning ripe, 11% 1997, 24% avg. Barley 17% turning ripe, 2% 1997, 10% avg. Rye 4% harvested, 0% 1997, 2% avg. Pasture feed 2% very poor, 10% poor, 23% fair, 52% good, 13% excellent. Sugar beets 6% poor, 21% fair, 50% good, 23% excellent. Corn, soybeans grew rapidly last week due to the above-normal temperatures, high humidity. These conditions are forecasted to continue for much of this week. Farmers are hoping the pollination of corn will not be affected by the warmer weather. There were reports of scab in the small grains from the Northwest district, which has been wetter than other areas of the State.

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Soil moisture 17% very short, 25% short, 56% adequate, 2% surplus. Corn 97% silked, 74% 1997, 85% avg.; 80% dough, 47% 1997, 54% avg.; 53% dent, 17% 1997, 18% avg.; 14% very poor, 23% poor, 29% fair, 30% good, 4% excellent. Rice 31% heading, 22% 1997, 16% avg.; 1% very poor, 3% poor, 24% fair, 65% good, 7% excellent. Soybeans 99% emerged, 90% 1997, 94% avg.; 76% blooming, 39% 1997, 37% avg.; 44% setting pods; 6% very poor, 16% poor, 24% fair, 43% good, 11% excellent. Peanuts, 60% pegging, 51% 1997; 1% very poor, 14% poor, 12% fair, 72% good, 1% excellent. Hay 62% harvested (warm season) 58% 1997, 62% avg.; 10% very poor, 19% poor, 40% fair, 28% good, 3% excellent. Peaches 64% harvested, 50% 1997, 60% avg.; 69% poor, 11% fair, 19% good, 1% excellent. Sweet potatoes 1% very poor, 26% poor, 16% fair, 57% good. Watermelons 39% harvested; 5% very poor, 8% poor, 44% fair, 37% good, 6% excellent. Blueberries 11% very poor, 9% poor, 26% fair, 50% good, 4% excellent. Cattle 1% very poor, 13% poor, 35% fair, 43% good, 8% excellent. Pasture feed 21% very poor, 23% poor, 25% fair, 29% good, 2% excellent. Activities: Most counties received rainfall during the latter part of the week. However, corn conditions continue to decline because of hot weather.

MISSOURI: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.6. Topsoil 3% percent very short, 20% short, 51% adequate, 26% surplus. Mostly dry weather enabled farmers to move toward completion of winter wheat harvest. Row crop development continues ahead of last year and normal. Major row crops are in mostly fair to good condition. Haying activities continue slightly ahead of schedule. Hot, humid weather with regular rain has been favorable to corn growth, some northern counties have uneven corn stands. Few northern counties have poor stands due to heavy rains drowning or washing out recently planted bean fields. Soybeans in the Bootheel are in need of rain. Oats harvested 52%, 32% 1997, 34% avg. Double-crop soybean planting 81%, 69% 1997, 76% avg. Alfalfa 2nd cut 66%, 58% 1997, 53% avg. Other hay cut 81%, 79% 1997, 77% avg. Precipitation past week avg 1.11 in., varying from 0.53 in., southeast, to 1.85 in. southwest. Pasture feed 9% poor, 29% fair, 55% good, 7% excellent.

MONTANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Topsoil 3% very short, 33% short, 61% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil 12% very short, 37% short, 49% adequate, 2% surplus. Heavy thunderstorms in some areas resulted in hail damage to several fields. Weather conditions across the State were warm, sunny. Hay cut this week is much higher due to good weather. Oats boot stage 100%, 94% 1997, 95% avg.; headed 83%, 71% 1997, 67% avg.; 1% very poor, 11% poor, 37% fair, 43% good, 8% excellent. Alfalfa 58% 1st cut, 67% 1997, 65% avg. Other hay 31% 1st cut, 51% 1997, 49% avg.

NEBRASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.8. Topsoil 1% very short, 14% short, 72% adequate, 13% surplus. Subsoil 2% very short, 15% short, 78% adequate, 5% surplus. Temperatures, humidity near normal, with rapid crop development. Lower southwestern, south-central counties continued with

driest conditions; 36% harvested, 23% 1997, 29% avg. Corn 4% poor, 19% fair, 61% good, 16% excellent; silking 24%, 2% 1997, 10% avg. Soybean 2% very poor, 4% poor, 15% fair, 63% good, 16% excellent; 25% blooming, 16% 1997, 17% avg. Sorghum 2% poor, 23% fair, 68% good, 7% excellent. Dry bean 4% poor, 26% fair, 61% good, 9% excellent. Oats 3% very poor, 4% poor, 18% fair, 46% good, 29% excellent. Alfalfa 1% very poor, 5% poor, 25% fair, 60% good, 9% excellent; 35% 2nd cutting, 20% 1997, 30% avg. Wild hay 1% very poor, 8% poor, 21% fair, 60% good, 10% excellent. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 5% poor, 22% fair, 58% good, 14% excellent. Grasses having good growth due to weather conditions. Activities: Weed control, working summer fallow, moving grain to market, livestock care.

NEVADA: Weather conditions were mostly clear, warmer across the Silver State. Temperatures averaged a few degrees above normal in the south, several degrees Fahrenheit above-normal in the northwest, near normal in the northeast. Only light precipitation was received in northern locations, and none was received in the south. Irrigation water supplies remained mostly adequate. Haying accelerated under the warmer, drier conditions. First cutting of alfalfa nearly completed in the north, 2nd cutting was underway in central valleys. Alfalfa crop condition fair to good. Grass hay harvest underway, with good crop condition. Small grains mostly headed, beginning to turn color. Potatoes in good condition. Onions, garlic in good condition. Onion size down a bit due to cool spring, early summer weather. Branding, movement of livestock to summer range generally completed. Main farm, ranch activities: Hay harvest, irrigating, weed control.

NEW ENGLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.2. Topsoil 56% adequate, 44% surplus. Subsoil moisture 61% adequate, 39% surplus. Pasture feed 2% poor, 11% fair, 78% good, 9% excellent. Maine potatoes 100% emerged, condition good. Massachusetts potatoes 100% emerged, condition good. Rhode Island potatoes 100% emerged, condition fair to poor. Oats in Maine 100% emerged, condition good to excellent. Field corn 100% planted, 100% 1997, 100% avg.; 99% emerged, condition good to fair. Sweet corn 99% planted, 99% 1997, 100% avg.; 99% emerged, condition fair to good. Shade tobacco 5% harvested, <5% 1997, <5% avg.; condition good to fair. Broadleaf tobacco condition good. First-cut hay 75% harvested, 85% 1997, 85% avg.; condition fair to good. Second-cut hay 15% harvested, 20% 1997, 15% average; condition good. Apples set average to below average, size average; condition good. Peaches set average, size average; condition good. Pears set average, size average; condition good. Strawberries 99% harvested, 80% 1997, 85% avg.; size average, condition good to fair. Cranberries petal fall, set average, size average, condition good. Highbush blueberries 5% harvested, <5% 1997, <5% avg.; size average to above average; condition good. Wild blueberries set average, size average; condition good. Dry, cool week, allowing farmers to continue fieldwork. Major farm activities included: Harvesting highbush blueberries, shade tobacco, lettuce, peas, summer squash, zucchini, spraying herbicides, pesticides, side dressing corn, applying nitrogen to water-damaged soils.

NEW JERSEY: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Topsoil short to adequate. Farmers are irrigating, harvesting, planting, spraying for disease, pests. Crop progress is at a normal pace for most parts of the State. Feed requirements are average. Increasing volume of all summer vegetables including cantaloupe, cucumbers, peppers, tomatoes, sweet corn, watermelon, Italian eggplant. Good volume of snap, fava beans; green, yellow squash; cabbage. Light to moderate, declining volume of herbs, leeks, parsley, spring greens, spring spinach, escarole, turnips, lettuce (Bib, Boston and Iceberg). Irrigation has been a must for most vegetable fields. Fruits, berries are sizing well and will be harvested ahead of schedule, possibly 2 weeks in certain areas. Apples, peaches are sizing well. Harvest of Red Haven peaches has started. Blueberry harvest is still at peak. Harvesting of wheat, barley is declining. Early soybeans are up to 12" high. Second cutting of hay occurring throughout the State. Early planted corn is waist to shoulder high. Pastures are in good condition.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for fieldwork to 5.3. Rains reduced days suitable. Rainfall also improved topsoil moisture to 19% very short, 34% short, 46% adequate, 1% surplus. Western, northern areas continued to receive rainfall early in the period, with some locations totaling over 2 inches. With the return of hotter, drier weather, temperatures were near normal to 7 degrees Fahrenheit above normal. Winter wheat harvest was winding down;

96% harvested, 80% 1997, 88% avg.; 3% very poor, 14% poor, 25% fair, 57% good, 1% excellent. Warm weather pushed cotton to 2% poor, 31% fair, 54% good, 13% excellent; 87% squaring, 79% 1997, 77% avg.; 19% setting bolls, 24% 1997, 25% avg. Corn 28% fair, 63% good, 9% excellent; 22% silked, 18% 1997, 15% avg. Sorghum planting continued to inch up; 79% planted, 100% 1997, 98% avg.; reduced to 32% very poor, 39% poor, 19% fair, 9% good, 1% excellent. Wet weather slowed alfalfa harvest, 2nd cutting was progressed to only 85% complete, 86% 1997; 3rd cutting 36% complete, 29% 1997; 6% poor, 39% fair, 46% good, 9% excellent. Chile crop continues to look good; 4% poor, 17% fair, 60% good, 19% excellent; pod set 83% avg. Onion harvest reached 58% complete; condition remained good to excellent. Apples, pecans remained in good condition. Cattle, sheep conditions were fair to good. Range, pasture feed condition finally began to improve slightly; 12% very poor, 30% poor, 40% fair, 17% good, 1% excellent.

NEW YORK: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.8. Soil moisture 29% adequate, 71% surplus. Pasture feed 5% poor, 64% good, 26% excellent. Wetness causing poor haying conditions. Some hay being chopped rather than baled. Alfalfa 2nd cutting 25% finished, 12% 1997, 7% avg. Hay 9% poor, 13% fair, 74% good, 4% excellent. Corn 13% fair, 61% good, 26% excellent. Early corn tasseling. Wheat 9% harvested, well ahead of normal. Wet fields delayed completion of dry bean seeding. Vegetable crops in mostly good condition. Sweet corn harvest gaining momentum. Green pea harvest winding down. Peach harvest began. Early varieties of grapes being harvested. Apples sizing nicely.

NORTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Soil moisture 27% very short, 46% short, 26% adequate, 1% surplus. For the fourth consecutive week, statewide temperatures have been above normal while precipitation has been below normal. These conditions are raising concerns about crop damage due to drought, intensifying pest problems. Particularly, late planted soybeans along with corn are really suffering due to the lack of rainfall. Spraying for suckers on tobacco along with pest control for all crops continued this week. Other activities for the week included: Irrigating tobacco; harvesting vegetable crops; transplanting sweet potatoes; tending livestock.

NORTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Excess precipitation continued to raise concerns of crop diseases throughout the State. Crop loss due to flooding, drown out, as well as lodging of small grains, was most common in the Red River Valley region. Topsoil 7% short, 75% adequate, 18% surplus. Subsoil 2% very short, 17% short, 66% adequate, 15% surplus. Small grain, late season crop development remained ahead of average. Durum wheat 59% boot, 49% 1997, 46% avg.; 26% heading, 23% 1997, 19% avg.; 6% milk, 2% 1997, 3% avg. Canola 78% blooming, 42% 1997. Dry edible beans 14% blooming, 5% 1997, 4% avg. Flaxseed 35% blooming, 24% 1997, 11% avg. Potatoes 29% blooming, 7% 1997, 19% avg. Soybeans 2% blooming, 2% 1997, 2% avg. Sunflower 1% blooming, 0% 1997, 0% avg. Durum, oat showed the largest improvements due to showers. Canola, corn, soybean, potato conditions declined. Emerged crop condition: Durum 4% poor, 23% fair, 61% good, 12% excellent; canola 4% poor, 23% fair, 55% good, 18% excellent; corn 5% very poor, 7% poor, 31% fair, 47% good, 10% excellent; dry edible beans 1% very poor, 7% poor, 32% fair, 42% good, 18% excellent; flaxseed 1% very poor, 5% poor, 21% fair, 57% good, 16% excellent; potatoes 1% very poor, 1% poor, 21% fair, 52% good, 25% excellent; soybeans 6% very poor, 16% poor, 36% fair, 35% good, 7% excellent; sugarbeets 1% very poor, 4% poor, 14% fair, 43% good, 38% excellent; sunflower 5% poor, 24% fair, 51% good, 20% excellent. Stock water 7% short, 83% adequate, 10% surplus. Broadleaf, wild oat spraying 93%, 96% complete, respectively. Hay condition rated 65% of normal.

OHIO: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.9. Topsoil 1% very short, 5% short, 78% adequate, 16% surplus. Corn development stage for the State was 11 to 12 leaves; 9 to 10 leaves, 1997. Soybeans blooming 4 days ahead of last year, 7 days avg. Winter wheat 100% ripe, 30% 1997. Oats 42% ripe, 4% 1997; 8% harvested, 1% 1997, 3% avg. Alfalfa hay 100% 2nd cutting, 20% 1997, 32% avg. Other hay 27% 2nd cutting, 8% 1997, 17% avg. Tobacco 100% transplanted. Cucumbers planted 100%. Hay 4% very poor, 6% poor, 20% fair, 54% good, 16% excellent. Farm activities throughout the State include baling hay, straw; applying herbicides; mowing ditches, banks, lanes; applying herbicides; certifying crops at FSA; filing for LDP's; scouting fields;

planting double crop soybeans; cultivating, applying nitrogen; hauling wheat to mills; repairing barns; cleaning up tree damage from storms; hauling manure; moving grain; spraying fence rows; spreading lime; repairing equipment; cultivating tobacco; harvesting peaches, beans, peppers, tomatoes, cucumbers; attending county fairs. Weeds are rampant throughout most of the State with reporters noting problems with common, giant ragweed; Canadian thistles; foxtail; lambsquarters; sourdock; velvetleaf; ironweed; hemp dogbane; broadleaf; Johnsongrass; yellow nutsedge; panicum; pigweed. Reported insects were alfalfa weevil; root worms; aphids; leafhoppers; grasshoppers; armyworms; Japanese beetles; European corn borer. Reported diseases were smut; Phytophthora root rot, white mold in soybeans; target spot, blue mold in tobacco; blight on tomatoes; black rot on grapes; fungus on pumpkins, squash. Although most producers in the State are beginning to recover from the floods, a Guernsey county reporter stated that some fields have been under water for two weeks. In Lorain, Ottawa counties, hail damaged some of the peach, apple crop. Sweet corn is being harvested, sold. Fruit, vegetable crop appears to be mostly good except for some water, hail damage. Most reporters rate pasture conditions as being healthy. Low lying pastures in Monroe, Guernsey, Meigs counties have been damaged from the floods while some areas in Fulton, Williams counties are dry. The majority of cattle, sheep, swine have been recuperating from the heat. However, there were reports of cattle, particularly dairy, being stressed from heat. Reporters continue to mention problems with face flies, potential pinkeye. Animals are being prepped for county, State fairs.

OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Topsoil 28% very short, 39% short, 32% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil 14% very short, 55% short, 31% adequate. Widely scattered showers relieve dry areas. Wheat plowed 60%, 50% 1997, 66% avg. Oats plowed 57%, 40% 1997, 55% avg. Corn 5% poor, 49% fair, 46% good; tasseled 22%, 22% 1997, 56% avg.; milk-to-soft 9%, 11% 1997, 17% avg. Sorghum up-to-stand 91%, 78% 1997, 89% avg. Soybeans 1% very poor, 7% poor, 57% fair, 34% good, 1% excellent; up-to-stand 95%, 89% 1997, 82% avg.; flowering 25%, 22% 1997, 24% avg.; setting pods 5%, 8% 1997, 6% avg. Peanuts setting pods 17%, 46% 1997, 20% avg. Alfalfa hay 3% very poor, 10% poor, 37% fair, 46% good, 4% excellent; 2nd cutting 94%, 89% 1997, 90% avg.; 3rd cutting 38%, 18% 1997, 23% avg. Other hay 1st cutting 84%, 77% 1997, 87% avg.; 2nd cutting 2%, 6% 1997, 22% avg.; Livestock 4% poor, 28% fair, 67% good, 1% excellent. Feeder cattle prices unchanged from the preceding week.

OREGON: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Topsoil 7% short, 92% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil 3% short, 97% adequate. Barley harvested 1%, 3% 1997, 4% avg. Range, pasture feed 11% fair, 60% good, 29% excellent. Activities: Normal temperatures helping Eastside field crops; all looked good. Harvest of barley, winter wheat getting started. Mid-Columbia reported barley stripe rust present throughout area. Outbreak late enough that it isn't likely to cause problems this year. Klamath Basin Sugar beet rows beginning to close, grain fields heading out. Mint fields being irrigated, first crop alfalfa in full swing. Westside, unsettled weather plagued hay growers in some areas. Still a lot of bales in fields. Grass seed fields being cut but threshing hasn't started. Crimson clover combining continued; red clover at pre-bloom stage. Willamette Valley growers cutting grass seed, meadow foam; approximately 50% done. Tall Fescue, Fine Fescue being swathed. Some combining done before rain started. Nurseries, Greenhouse operations are in summer maintenance mode. Some limited material movement to fill orders. Easter lily growers beginning to irrigate fields. Christmas tree work continues with spraying, dead tree removal. Klamath Basin potato rows beginning to close. Due to weather, vegetables in all stages on Westside. Some late corn still being planted in southern areas. Willamette Valley processed vegetables looking better as warm weather continued. Some bean fields have weed problems because of poor planting conditions. Harvesting crook neck squash; potatoes, bush beans blooming in some areas, tomatoes sizing. Vegetable irrigation, pruning continues. Willamette Valley strawberries harvested, Marion variety of blackberries, blueberries, raspberries being harvested. Hazelnuts continued to size. Rogue River Valley fruit set is light but pears, apples look good. South coast cranberries continued to bloom, black vine weevil active in some areas. Hood River Valley cherries being harvested in lower valley. Livestock continued in good to excellent. Eastside reported above normal conditions on high elevation rangelands. Westside dryland pastures staying green longer than usual, but getting drier. Late season rains extended growth.

PENNSYLVANIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.4. Fair week for fieldwork. Soil moisture 2% very short, 14% short, 72% adequate, 12% surplus. Corn height 39 in., 37 in. 1997, 39 in. avg. Barley 99% ripe, 92% 1997, 87% avg.; 95% harvested, 80% 1997, 72% avg. Wheat 85% ripe, 55% 1997, 62% avg.; 55% harvested, 18% 1997, 26% avg. Wheat 2% very poor, 5% poor, 20% fair, 64% good, 9% excellent. Oats 95% heading or headed, 93% 1997, 93% avg.; 63% turning yellow, 46% 1997, 46% avg.; 5% ripe, 9% 1997, 10% avg. Alfalfa 2nd cutting 49% complete, 48% 1997, 43% avg. Timothy clover 1st cutting 86% complete, 84% 1997, 84% avg. Quality of hay made 3% very poor, 13% poor, 37% fair, 37% good, 10% excellent. Peach 5% poor, 25% fair, 55% good, 15% excellent. Apple 2% very poor, 15% poor, 20% fair, 55% good, 8% excellent. Activities: Spraying field crops, fruit trees; cutting hay, haylage; harvesting winter wheat, barley, picking apricots, peaches; machinery maintenance; fixing fences; hauling manure; caring for livestock.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.4. Soil moisture 34% very short, 57% short, 9% adequate. Apples 42% poor, 29% fair, 29% good. Cantaloupes 85% harvested, 86% 1997, 74% avg.; 2% very poor, 26% poor, 62% fair, 9% good, 1% excellent. Corn 96% silked, 97% 1997, 96% avg.; 66% doughed, 66% 1997, 65% avg.; 35% mature, 14% 1997, 21% avg.; 29% very poor, 32% poor, 30% fair, 9% good. Cucumbers 99% harvested, 88% 1997, 82% avg.; 44% poor, 45% fair, 11% good. Peaches 53% harvested, 52% 1997, 46% avg.; 5% very poor, 11% poor, 15% fair, 66% good, 3% excellent. Snap beans 94% harvested, 72% 1997, 64% avg.; 47% poor, 28% fair, 25% good. Sorghum 100% planted, 93% 1997, 91% avg.; 6% poor, 34% fair, 60% good. Sweet potatoes 19% poor, 54% fair, 27% good. Tobacco 81% topped, 89% 1997, 85% avg.; 13% harvested, 11% 1997, 13% avg.; 8% very poor, 21% poor, 45% fair, 26% good. Watermelons 87% harvested, 77% 1997, 70% avg.; 20% very poor, 20% poor, 43% fair, 16% good, 1% excellent.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.6. Topsoil 4% short, 79% adequate, 17% surplus. Subsoil 3% short, 74% adequate, 23% surplus. Warm, humid weather bringing small grain, row crop development along rapidly. Winter wheat 2% poor, 10% fair, 59% good, 29% excellent; 96% turning color, 69% 1997, 78% avg.; 52% ripe, 5% 1997, 17% avg. Winter rye 83% turning color, 38% 1997, 63% avg.; 50% ripe, 11% 1997, 13% avg. Spring wheat 46% turning color, 16% 1997, 20% avg. Oats 98% boot, 93% 1997, 95% avg.; 52% turning color, 17% 1997, 24% avg. Barley 99% boot, 94% 1997, 95% avg.; 60% turning color, 27% 1997, 25% avg. Alfalfa 2% very poor, 5% poor, 24% fair, 54% good, 15% excellent; 94% cut 1st, 94% 1997, 91% avg.; 25% cut 2nd, 8% 1997, 10% avg. Corn 97% cultivated once, 94% 1997, 85% avg.; 75% cultivated twice, 53% 1997, 51% avg. Corn averages 48 inches tall, 33 inches 1997, 32 inches avg. Corn 9% tassled, 1% 1997, 3% avg. Livestock 4% fair, 64% good, 32% excellent. Stock water supplies 2% short, 82% adequate, 16% surplus.

TENNESSEE: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Topsoil 4% very short, 27% short, 62% adequate, 7% surplus. Subsoil 4% very short, 26% short, 64% adequate, 6% surplus. Corn 78% tasseled, 71% 1997, 74% avg.; 3% very poor, 8% poor, 23% fair, 52% good, 14% excellent. Tobacco 3% very poor, 8% poor, 31% fair, 49% good, 9% excellent. Alfalfa hay 68% harvested, 56% 1997, 79% avg. Cattle 0% very poor, 3% poor, 22% fair, 58% good, 17% excellent. Pastures 2% very poor, 8% poor, 27% fair, 52% good, 11% excellent. Six days suitable for fieldwork allowed farmers to cut an additional 24% of the State's summer alfalfa acreage last week. Nearly three weeks of hot, dry weather had begun to take its toll on field crops by week's end, especially corn, pastures. Counties throughout the State, especially in the Southwest had not received significant rainfall in nearly four to five weeks. These weather conditions had caused poor pollination in the corn crop, as well as twisting. Pastures need more rainfall to promote adequate growth. Cattle producers treated for pink eye in certain counties in the State last week.

TEXAS: Few areas of state received rain early week bringing temporary relief dry conditions, however most areas remained stressed for moisture, suffered through another week extremely hot temperatures. Irrigation needs remained high Plains. Harvest operations increased Central, Coastal, Southern areas as well as Rio Grande Valley. Ranges, pastures continued decline under dry conditions. Grasshoppers have also invaded pastures

causing moderate damage. Livestock producers continued sell off light calves.

Crops: Corn: Recent scattered rain showers helped relieve irrigation needs High Plains, however return to very hot temperatures caused irrigation needs increase by end week. Harvest began few fields in Blacklands where yields were expected low. Harvest increased Central, Coastal areas. Aflatoxin levels continued high. Harvest increased along Upper Coast, Rio Grande Valley. 54% doughing, 43% 1997, 52% avg. 47% dented, 22% 1997, 35% avg. 25% mature, 3% 1997, 10% avg. 7% harvested, 0% 1997, 1% avg. Cotton: Dryland fields Plains continued suffer with some acreage being plowed up, replaced with grain sorghum. Irrigated fields made good progress, were setting bolls. Fields Blacklands holding on, however without sufficient rain soon, yields will be low. Defoliation activity increased Rio Grande Valley, Coastal Bend where harvest began. 8% open bolls, 1% 1997, 4% avg. 2% harvested, 0% 1997, 0% avg. Grain Sorghum: Harvest winding down many fields Rio Grande Valley, Coastal Bend with only late planted fields remaining. A few early fields harvested Blacklands as fields matured rapidly. Harvest activity increased along Upper Coast, Central as hot, dry conditions caused rapid maturing. Many fields lodging due dry conditions. Fields continued head Plains with insect problems increasing. Some dryland acreage did not get planted due prolonged dry conditions. Heading continued irrigated fields where progress normal so long as producers kept up with water demands. 46% turning color, 42% 1997, 50% avg. 36% mature, 13% 1997, 30% avg. 23% harvested, 2% 1997, 13% avg. Peanuts: Fields in Plains made good progress under steady irrigation during week. Dryland fields not growing much. Most planting completed Central, Southern areas where rain needed for good start. Rice: Heat stress continued cause many blank heads. Heading continued later fields with harvest soon early planted fields. Soybeans: Dryland fields Plains remained stressed, irrigated fields continued make fair progress under steady watering. Harvest began few early fields Blacklands, other southern areas, yields low. Small Grains: Harvest virtually completed Plains during week. Scattered showers caused few fields to remain.

Commercial Vegetables: Rio Grande Valley, melon harvest winding down. The amount fall acreage to be planted uncertain due lack irrigation water. San Antonio- Winter Garden, watermelon harvest continued some fields. Cantaloup harvest virtually completed. East, production levels remained low under very hot, dry conditions. High Plains, onion harvest increased during week but quality low many fields due hot temperatures. Trans Pecos, cantaloup, onion harvest continued. Peaches: Harvest continued Hill Country, many other areas, sizes continued small but quality good. Supply kept up with demand despite low production. Pecans: Dry conditions continued cause problems most areas with trees having hard time holding nuts. Irrigation remained steady where available. Second generation casebearers began to arrive.

Range and Livestock: The decline ranges, pastures continued most areas last week. Rainfall over Hill Country greened up grass area. Haying operations continued slow most areas. Grasshopper populations increased many areas, were causing damage. Water levels stock tanks have gone down considerably most areas. Cattlemen continued sell off light calves, are cutting back on their cow herd because lack of grass. Feeding supplements, hay continued most areas. Hot temperatures have caused decrease in milk, egg production.

UTAH: Days suitable for fieldwork 7. Topsoil 26% short, 73% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil 18% short, 81% adequate, 1% surplus. Pasture feed, range 1% poor, 17% fair, 66% good, 16% excellent. Irrigation water supplies 3% short, 82% adequate, 15% surplus. Stock water supplies 7% short, 90% adequate, 3% surplus. Spring wheat headed 86%. Oats headed 64%. Oats harvested for hay or silage 35%. Corn height 23 inches, 38 inches 1997, 33 inches avg. Alfalfa hay 1st cutting 96%, 94% 1997, 97% avg. Alfalfa hay 2nd cutting 17%, 16% 1997, 23% avg. Barley headed 76%. Other hay cut 46%, 61% 1997, 54% avg. Sweet cherries picked 41%, 91% 1997. Tart cherries picked 4%, 31% 1997. Good range conditions reported statewide.

VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Topsoil 3% very short, 27% short, 69% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil 21% short, 77% adequate, 2% surplus. Corn 99% emerged; 36% silked; 19% 1997, 30% avg.; 4% poor, 22% fair, 59% good, 15% excellent. Cotton squaring 80%; 5% setting bolls; 15% fair, 74% good, 11% excellent. Soybeans 94% planted, 85% 1997, 90% avg.; 86% emerged; 1% very poor, 7% poor, 22% fair, 56% good, 14% excellent. Flue-cured tobacco 2% poor, 21% fair, 49% good, 28% excellent. Dark fire cured tobacco 21% fair, 59% good, 20% excellent. Burley tobacco

99% transplanted, 100% 1997, 100% avg.; 8% poor, 18% fair, 55% good, 19% excellent. Sun Tobacco 20% fair, 75% good, 5% excellent. Winter wheat 92% harvested, 83% 1997, 84% avg.; 17% poor, 40% fair, 40% good, 3% excellent. Barley 97% harvested, 96% 1997, 96% avg.; 7% poor, 45% fair, 41% good, 7% excellent. Summer potatoes 34% harvested, 39% 1997, 32% avg.; 20% fair, 60% good, 20% excellent. Apples 2% poor, 28% fair, 64% good, 6% excellent. Peaches 21% fair, 71% good, 8% excellent. Pasture 7% poor, 31% fair, 55% good, 7% excellent. Alfalfa 8% poor, 15% fair, 63% good, 14% excellent. Other hay 9% poor, 28% fair, 54% good, 9% excellent. Conditions for most of the state continued to be hot, dry allowing farmers to get caught up on field work. Crop development has been good to date, however, some producers are beginning to be concerned with potential stress damage to crops due to drying conditions. In contrast some localities in Central and Eastern Virginia received up to 3 inches of rain during the middle part of the week. Small grain harvest is nearly complete, producers have been generally disappointed by low yields, quality. Some are reporting test weights that are the lowest in over 20 years. A few tobacco producers were beginning to top fields. Leafhoppers continued to be a problem in alfalfa fields. Some peach producers have begun to harvest their crop two weeks earlier than normal. Other activities this past week included fruit, vegetable harvesting, second cutting of hay, plowing tobacco, baling straw, clipping pastures, herbicide, insecticide application.

WASHINGTON: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Topsoil 5% very short, 48% short; 47% adequate. Subsoil moisture 37% short, 63% adequate. Winter wheat 4% harvested, 0% 1997, 1% avg. Spring wheat 99% headed, 96% 1997, 93% avg. Spring wheat, dryland 4% poor, 30% fair, 55% good, 11% excellent; irrigated 100% good. Barley 100% headed, 99% 1997, 93% avg. Barley dryland, 6% poor, 36% fair, 44% good, 14% excellent; irrigated 90% good, 10% excellent. Potatoes, 10% fair, 90% good. Hot weather ripened wheat quickly. Severe thunderstorms reported in eastern areas. High winds, heavy rains, some hail caused extensive damage to crops in some areas. A considerable amount of winter wheat has lodged. Stripe rust still prevalent on spring wheat and barley, it was projected to have a limited impact on yields. Winter wheat harvest was just getting underway. Hay, other roughage supplies, 3% short, 67% adequate, 30% surplus. Range, pasture feed 5% very poor, 20% poor, 15% fair, 45% good, 15% excellent. Cherry harvest neared completion. Large grape crop required hand thinning, apricot harvest continued. Rain caused a high incidence of molding in raspberries, remaining strawberries in western areas. Blueberry harvest was underway. Sweet corn growth was excellent, warm temperatures resulted in turfgrass growers irrigating around the clock.

WEST VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.8. Topsoil 1% short, 90% adequate, 9% surplus. Open weather improved fields conditions. Wheat harvested 52%, 51% 1997, 38% avg. Apple 15% poor, 77% fair, 8% good. Peach 16% poor, 66% fair, 18% good. Hay 10% poor, 29% fair, 57% good, 4% excellent; 1st cut 87%, 88% 1997, 89% avg.; 2nd cut 14%, 6% 1997, 14% avg. Corn 3% poor, 25% fair, 60% good, 12% excellent; Corn silked 33%, 5% 1997, 8% avg. Oats 53% fair, 33% good, 14% excellent. Oats headed 95%, 100% 1997; 14% harvested, 8% 1997. Soybean 1% poor, 27% fair, 66% good, 6% excellent; planted 96%, 100% 1997, 100% avg.; 10% bloomed, 10% 1997. Tobacco 8% poor, 35% fair, 54% good, 3% excellent. Cattle 17% fair, 76% good, 7% excellent. Sheep 14% fair, 79% good, 7% excellent.

WISCONSIN: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Soil moisture 5% short, 77% adequate, 18% surplus. Soybean 2% poor, 14% fair, 51% good, 33% excellent. Corn height 61 inches, 45 inches 1997, 40 inches avg. Second crop hay harvested 40%, 13% 1997, 10% avg. Moist, warm conditions, statewide, continued to hamper some of the hay harvest, while second crop growth prospered. Drying conditions for second crop hay improved towards the end of the week in several counties and reporters in Oconto, Shawano counties expect good yields. Third crop regrowth of hay is looking good in Richland County. A Pierce County reporter noted that around 50% of corn was tasseling, while in Barron County the figure was estimated at 33%. Corn silked, statewide, was 4 points ahead of last year. Soybeans were blooming in several counties, trouble with root rot and white mold were reported in Waushara County. In Walworth County, some soybeans were beginning to pod. Reporters in Waushara, Walworth, Dodge, and Oconto counties have spotted tassels on early sweet corn. In Portage County potato harvest was already underway. A Waushara County reporter noted that rye is nearly ready for harvest. The winter wheat crop looked good, with fields turning color.

Some areas have already started to combine. Winter wheat harvested 2%, 0% 1997, 1% avg. Pasture feed 2% poor, 18% fair, 62% good, 18% excellent.

WYOMING: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Topsoil 2% very short, 44% short, 54% adequate. Winter wheat turning color 90%, 92% 1997, 80% avg.; mature 30%, 41% 1997, 34% avg. Barley headed 81%, 79% 1997, 83% avg.; turning color 25%, 38% 1997, 30% avg. Oats headed 80%, 78% 1997, 69% avg.; turning color 22%, 19% 1997, 16% avg.; mature 2%, 4% 1997, 4% avg. Spring wheat turning color 39%, 28% 1997, 26% avg.; mature 4%, 9% 1997, 4% avg. Sugar beets thinned 96%, 100% 1997, 98% avg. Corn average height 27 inches, 34 inches 1997, 33 inches avg. Dry beans bloom

11%, 22% 1997, 17% avg. Alfalfa 1st cutting 71%, 79% 1997, 75% avg. Other hay cut 41%, 38% 1997, 36% avg. Winter wheat 1% poor, 18% fair, 81% good. Barley 10% fair, 76% good, 14% excellent. Oats 30% fair, 66% good, 4% excellent. Spring wheat 13% fair, 83% good, 4% excellent. Sugar beet 2% poor, 13% fair, 85% good. Corn 1% poor, 25% fair, 70% good, 4% excellent. Dry bean 5% fair, 81% good, 14% excellent. Range, pasture feed 1% very poor, 6% poor, 32% fair, 55% good, 6% excellent. Above average temperatures drying up topsoil moisture supplies.

ENSO Update, July 9, 1998

Warm/El Niño and cold/La Niña episodes are extremes of what is often referred to as the ENSO (El Niño/Southern Oscillation) cycle. The cycle has an average period of about four years, although in the historical record the period has varied between two and seven years. During El Niño episodes the equatorial sea surface temperatures (SSTs) are abnormally warm from the date line eastward to the South American coast. During the northern winter, and in strong El Niño episodes at other times of the year, enhanced atmospheric convection (clouds and precipitation) spreads eastward over the equatorial eastern Pacific. This shift in the pattern of tropical precipitation affects the large-scale monsoon systems of Australia/Southeast Asia, South America/Central America and Africa. This abnormal rainfall warms the atmosphere across the eastern tropical Pacific, resulting in stronger than normal wintertime jet streams in both hemispheres over the central and eastern Pacific. As El Niño evolves, significant changes occur in the subsurface oceanic temperature pattern. In the early stages of El Niño episodes the oceanic thermocline, which separates the warm upper ocean from the cold deep ocean waters, is deeper than normal in the western and central equatorial Pacific. As El Niño episodes progress to their mature phase, the depth of the thermocline gradually decreases in the central and western equatorial Pacific and increases in the eastern equatorial Pacific. As a result, subsurface temperatures become cooler (warmer) than normal in the western (eastern) equatorial Pacific. In the latter stages of El Niño episodes the depth of the thermocline and subsurface temperatures become less than normal throughout most of the equatorial Pacific. This evolution indicates a depletion of the heat content in the upper ocean and sets the stage for the transition to either a neutral state or to a La Niña episode. The character of this transition depends greatly on the variability of the low-level winds and the subsurface ocean temperature structure.

Similarly, La Niña features colder than normal SSTs and drier than normal conditions in the central equatorial Pacific, weaker wintertime jet streams over the central and eastern Pacific, and enhanced monsoons over Australia/Southeast Asia, South

America/Central America and Africa. In the early stages of La Niña episodes the thermocline is shallower than normal over the central and eastern Pacific. The thermocline gradually deepens in the western Pacific during the mature phase and in the central Pacific during the latter stages of the episode. As a result, the subsurface temperatures gradually become warmer than normal in the western and central equatorial Pacific, resulting in conditions more favorable for a transition to either a neutral state or to an El Niño episode. Once again the critical factors in the transition are the low-level winds and the subsurface temperature structure.

During the last several months the depth of the oceanic thermocline gradually decreased throughout the eastern and central equatorial Pacific as the 1997-98 warm episode progressed through its mature phase. As a result, colder than normal subsurface water spread eastward and warmer than normal waters became increasingly confined to a thin layer near the ocean surface and to the region near the west coast of South America. With the return to near-normal strength of the easterlies in early May, equatorial oceanic upwelling strengthened and SSTs rapidly decreased as colder than normal subsurface waters rose to the ocean surface. These colder than normal waters created strong east-west temperature contrasts along the equator that contributed to maintaining the strength of the easterly winds over the central equatorial Pacific during June.

The latest NCEP coupled model forecasts indicate strengthening cold episode conditions in the tropical Pacific during the remainder of 1998. Other statistical and coupled model forecasts indicate a similar evolution. The consistency among the available predictions together with the evolution of oceanic and atmospheric conditions during May indicate that a cold episode will likely develop during the next six months and continue through the northern 1998-99 winter.

Weekly updates for SST, 850-hPa wind, and OLR are available on the Climate Prediction Center homepage at: <http://nic.fb4.noaa.gov> (ENSO Update).

International Weather and Crop Summary

July 5 - 11, 1998

HIGHLIGHTS

FSU-WESTERN: Hot weather briefly returned to drought-stressed crop areas in Russia's Volga Valley, while cool, wet weather in Ukraine slowed winter wheat harvesting but favored summer crop development.

FSU-NEW LANDS: Hot, dry weather spread into major spring grain areas of Kazakstan and Siberia in Russia, stressing crops in or nearing reproduction.

EUROPE: Dry weather favored winter grain and oilseed harvesting in France, while rain in Germany and most of eastern Europe slowed winter grain harvesting.

AUSTRALIA: Increased shower activity over the southeast boosted moisture reserves for vegetative winter grains.

CANADA: Scattered showers benefited reproductive grains and oilseeds, although a brief heatwave caused some local stress.

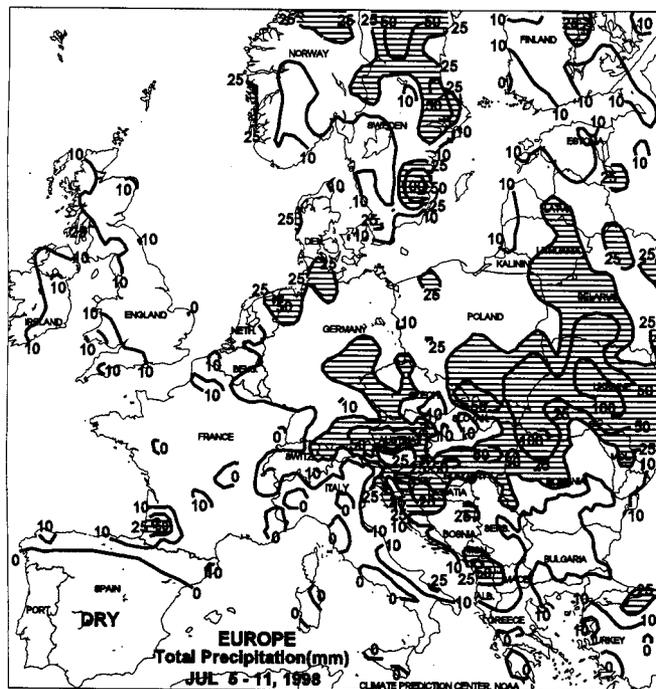
SOUTH ASIA: Locally heavy monsoonal rain continued across western and northern India, raising pre-planting moisture levels.

SOUTHEAST ASIA: Somewhat drier weather eased flooding across Thailand. Rain is needed for rainfed rice in the central and southern Philippines.

EASTERN ASIA: Widespread showers boosted moisture supplies for summer crops in the North China Plain, erasing short-term moisture deficits, but causing some local flooding.

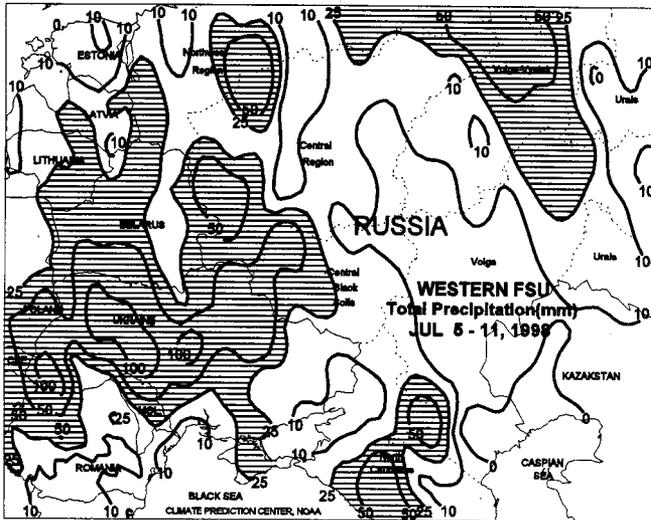
SOUTH AMERICA: In southern Brazil, abundant moisture continued to benefit winter wheat development. In central Argentina, topsoils were becoming dry for wheat germination and establishment.

MEXICO: Showers continued to benefit corn in the eastern Corn Belt, but drier weather prevailed across the west.



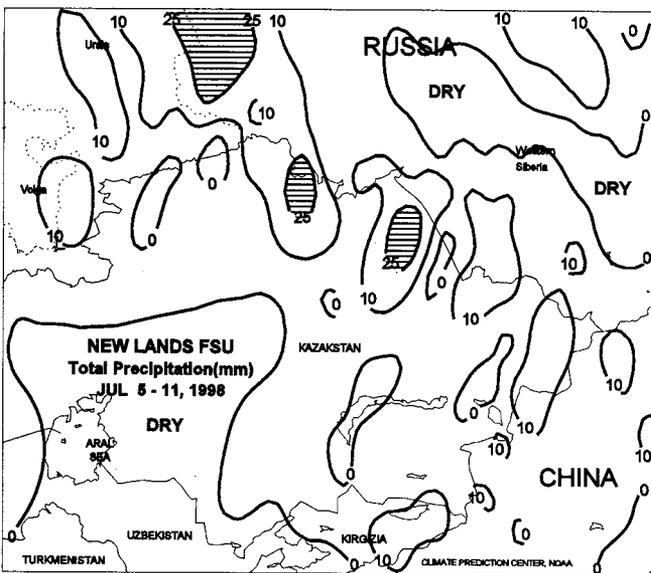
EUROPE

Mostly dry weather in France and Italy's Po Valley favored rapid harvesting of winter grains and oilseeds. Light to moderate showers (10-45 mm) fell in Germany, slowing early winter grain harvesting but providing favorable moisture for spring-sown crops. Farther south, hot, dry weather continued in Spain, stressing dryland crops and increasing irrigation requirements. In eastern Europe, moderate to locally heavy rain (10-50 mm, with local amounts in excess of 50 mm) stretched from Poland southward through Hungary and Romania into Serbia. Although the rain interrupted winter grain harvesting, it provided abundant moisture for summer crop development. Reports indicated that the winter wheat harvest was about half completed in Serbia and in the early stages in Romania and Bulgaria. Weekly temperatures averaged 2 to 4 degrees C below normal in northern and eastern Europe, slowing winter grain maturation and spring-sown crop development.



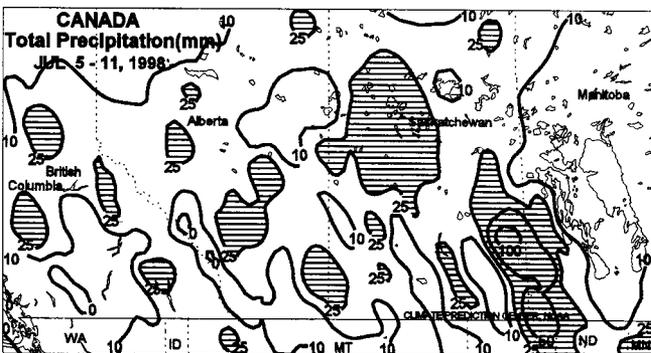
FSU-WESTERN

In Russia, light to moderate showers (6 to more than 25 mm) fell in northern areas (Central Region, western Black Soils Region, and the Volga Vyatsk), maintaining favorable moisture for immature winter rye and spring grains in the filling stage. Only light, scattered showers (2-10 mm or more) fell in parched areas of the Volga Valley and the northern North Caucasus, bringing only limited relief to spring grains and summer crops. However, winter wheat harvest advanced without delays. Furthermore, hot weather (maximum temperatures rose into the lower to middle 30's degrees C) along with breezy conditions briefly returned to these areas on July 9-10, placing further stress on crops. In Ukraine, widespread rain (10-50 mm, with locally higher amounts in excess of 50 mm) and unseasonably cool weather (weekly temperatures averaging 2 to 4 degrees C below normal) hampered winter wheat harvesting but provided abundant moisture for summer crop development. Wet weather also fell farther north in the Baltics and Belarus, benefiting immature winter grains and spring-sown crops.



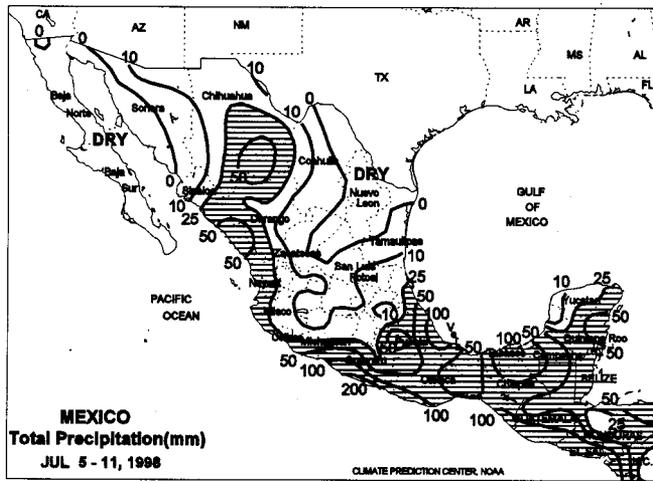
FSU-NEW LANDS

A heat wave spread north- and eastward over spring grain areas in Russia and Kazakhstan. Maximum temperatures ranged from 32 to 39 degrees C in most areas, stressing crops in or nearing reproduction. In Kazakhstan, unfavorably dry weather persisted in minor crop producing areas in the west, and spread farther eastward into major crop producing areas in the central portion of the country. In Russia, although light showers (10-25 mm, with local amounts in excess of 25 mm) fell in the northern Urals, mostly dry weather prevailed farther east in Western Siberia and Eastern Siberia. Weekly temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C above normal in the Urals and western Kazakhstan and 4 to 8 degrees C above normal in Western Siberia and remaining spring grain areas in Kazakhstan. In cotton-growing areas of Central Asia, unusually high temperatures (39-46 degrees C) continued to promote rapid cotton development and increased irrigation requirements.



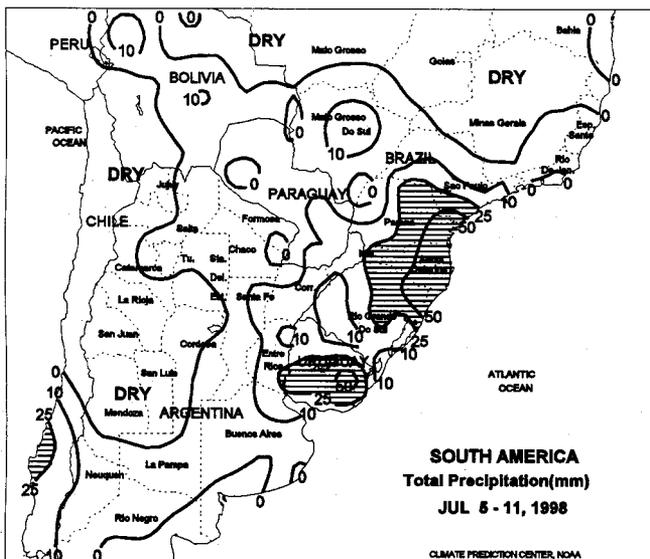
CANADA

Scattered showers (10-50 mm or more) lingered over the Prairies, keeping reproductive grains and oilseeds well watered. Heaviest rainfall (50 mm or more, locally exceeding 100 mm) was recorded along the Manitoba-Saskatchewan border, likely causing some problems with standing water and fostering disease development. A ridge of high pressure over the Great Plains brought unseasonable warmth (temperatures in the low to middle 30's degrees C) to southern Prairie growing areas briefly at week's end. The short-lived but untimely hot spell caused some stress on grains and oilseeds. In eastern Canada, highly beneficial rain (33-53 mm) covered southern Ontario's corn and soybean areas.



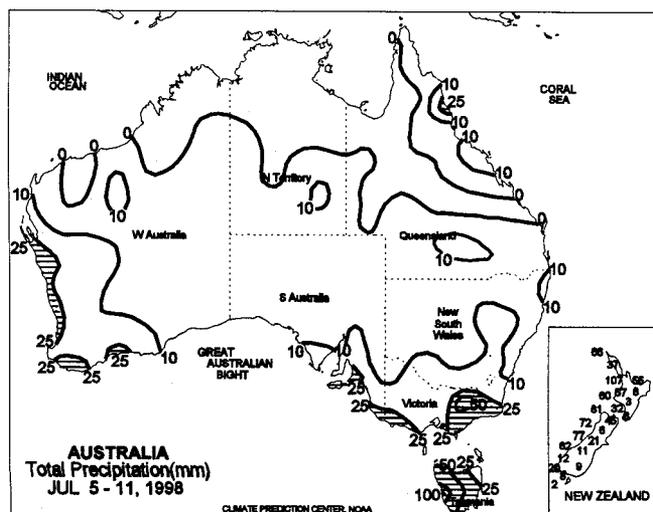
MEXICO

Widespread showers (30-100 mm) again favored corn germination and establishment across the eastern Corn Belt, but drier weather (5-25 mm) prevailed in the west. So far this season, rainfall has been more consistent in the eastern corn belt than the west. Moderate showers (10-55 mm) favored pastures in north-central Mexico. Hot, dry weather continued to stress rainfed summer crops in northeastern Mexico. Temperatures averaged near to slightly above normal across the main corn belt and 2 to 4 degrees C above normal in the northeast.



SOUTH AMERICA

In southern Brazil, widespread rain (10-50 mm) continued to provide abundant moisture for winter wheat development from southern Parana to southern Rio Grande do Sul. According to reports as of July 1, over 95 percent of the wheat crop has been planted. Light rain (less than 5 mm) did not hamper coffee harvesting in Minas Gerais and northern Sao Paulo. In northern Argentina, dry, warm weather favored cotton harvesting. Mostly dry weather (rainfall less than 5 mm) prevailed across central Argentina, favoring wheat planting, but topsoil moisture is becoming limited for wheat germination. According to reports as of July 3, Argentine cotton, soybean, and corn crops were 75, 98, and 89 percent harvested, respectively. Last year at this time, cotton, soybean, and corn crops were 91, 99, and 96 percent harvested, respectively. Winter wheat planting was 48 percent complete, compared with 41 percent last year.

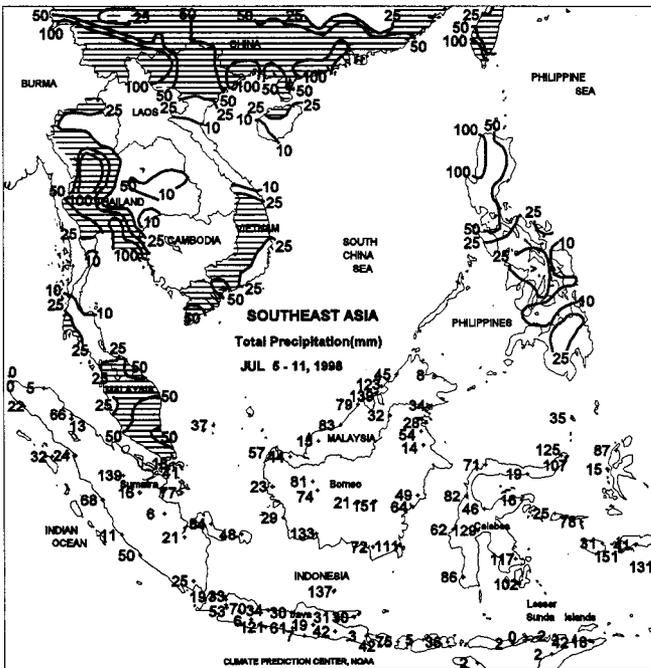


AUSTRALIA

Light to moderate showers (5-25 mm or more) in the southeastern winter grain belt (South Australia, Victoria, and southern New South Wales) boosted topsoil moisture reserves for vegetative to semi-dormant winter grains. The moisture was especially welcomed over a section of the southeast centered over western Victoria that recently had been trending dry. Showers were generally light and scattered elsewhere in the main wheat and barley areas, keeping topsoils moist following weeks of beneficial, locally heavy rainfall. Temperatures in the east averaged near to above normal, while temperatures in the west were 1 to 2 degrees C below normal. Many locations in both regions experienced frosty weather. In New Zealand, mostly dry weather persisted in agricultural areas along the east coast of North and South Islands. Moderate to heavy rainfall (25-50 mm or more), however, continued in important crop producing areas elsewhere.

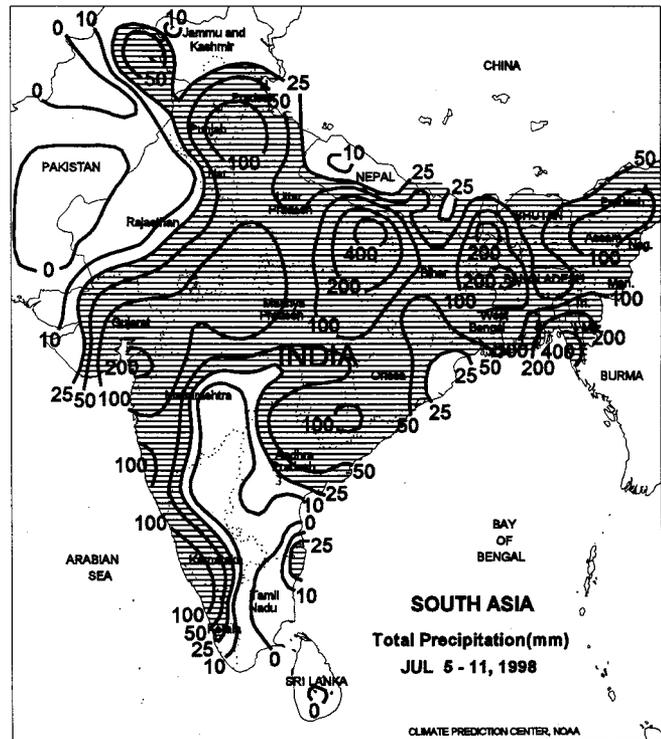
SOUTHEAST ASIA

Somewhat drier weather (10-60 mm) eased flooding across most of Thailand. Moisture supplies remained adequate for rice and sugarcane development. Isolated heavy showers (100-200 mm) caused local flooding in north-central Thailand. Showers (30-80 mm) boosted moisture supplies for transplanted 10th-month rice in northern and southern Vietnam. The moisture, however, slowed winter-spring rice harvesting. Below-normal rainfall (10-30 mm) continued to reduce moisture supplies for rainfed rice and sugarcane across the central and southern Philippines. Moderate to heavy showers (30-60 mm, with isolated amounts greater than 100 mm) prevailed across Luzon, benefiting grain development. Moderate showers (20-80 mm) aided oil palm across peninsular Malaysia. Unseasonably heavy showers (20-60 mm) continued to boost irrigation supplies for second-season crops in Java.



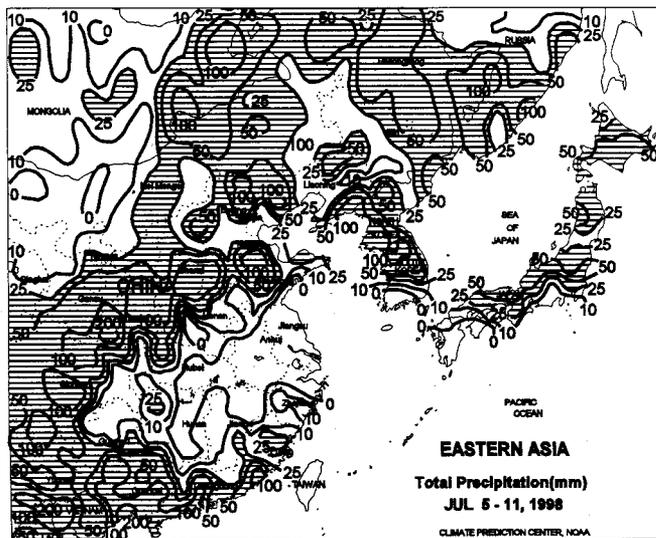
SOUTH ASIA

The monsoon remained very active, bringing widespread, locally heavy showers (25-50 mm or more, exceeding 100 mm in many locations) to much of the region. The additional soil moisture maintained generally favorable prospects for grains, oilseeds, and cotton, but some areas experienced planting delays and flooding. Inundating rain (200-400 mm or more) was recorded at a few locations across India, as well as relatively minor rice areas of southeastern Bangladesh. In contrast, warmer, drier conditions continued over India's southern interior and much of Pakistan. The reduction in rainfall in southern India has been unfavorable for newly sown cotton and oilseeds. In Pakistan, the monsoon was not yet established, although heavy showers (25 mm or more) crossed the Indian border around Lahore.



EASTERN ASIA

Widespread heavy showers (50-125 mm, with scattered amounts greater than 175 mm) erased short-term moisture deficits across the North China Plain and the Sichuan Basin. The showers boosted moisture supplies for corn, soybeans, and cotton, but caused some local flooding. Widespread showers (10-80 mm) also benefited spring wheat and soybeans across Manchuria. Mostly dry, warm weather (less than 10 mm) prevailed across the Yangtze Valley, aiding early rice harvesting and late rice transplanting and easing flooding from previous excessive rainfall. Moderate to heavy showers (25-100 mm) maintained irrigation supplies across extreme southern China. Two weak tropical systems brought heavy rain (125-300 mm) to western Taiwan and coastal China (Fujian), causing local flooding. Temperatures averaged 2 to 3 degrees C above normal across the Yangtze Valley, while near- to slightly below-normal temperatures prevailed elsewhere in China. Moderate to heavy rain (40-110 mm) covered the main crop areas of western North Korea and the northern two-thirds of South Korea, boosting soil moisture for summer crops. In Japan, widespread rain (30-90 mm) also covered the main island of Honshu and the northern island of Hokkaido.



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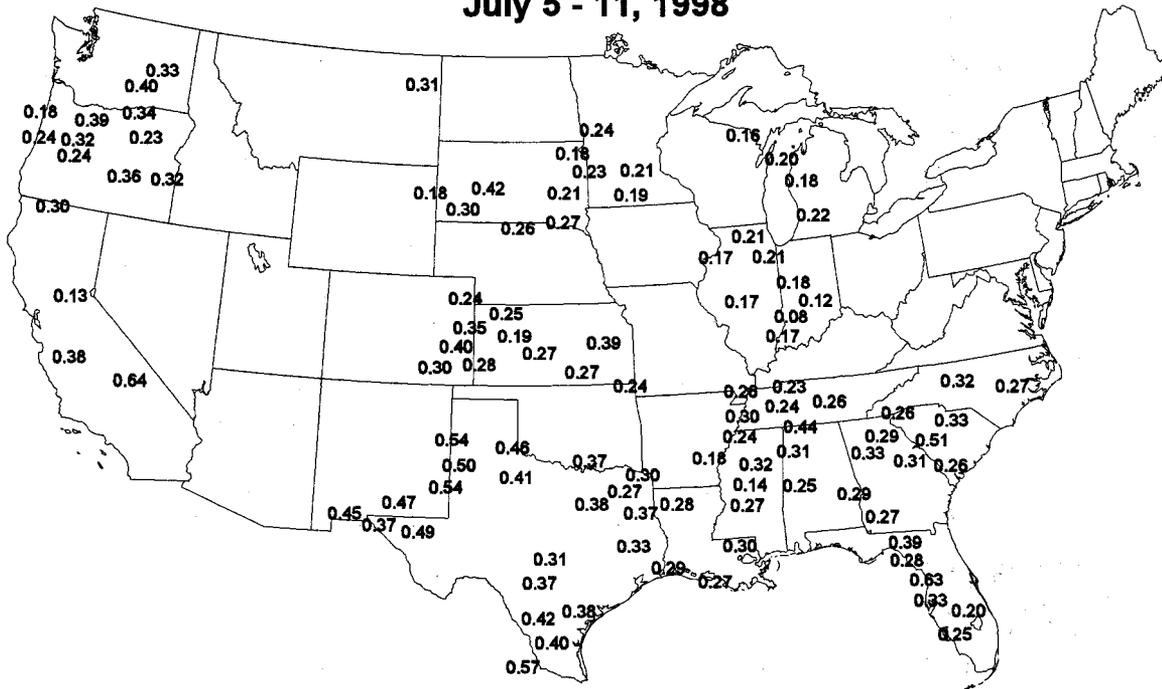
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Average Pan Evaporation (Inches/Day)

July 5 - 11, 1998



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