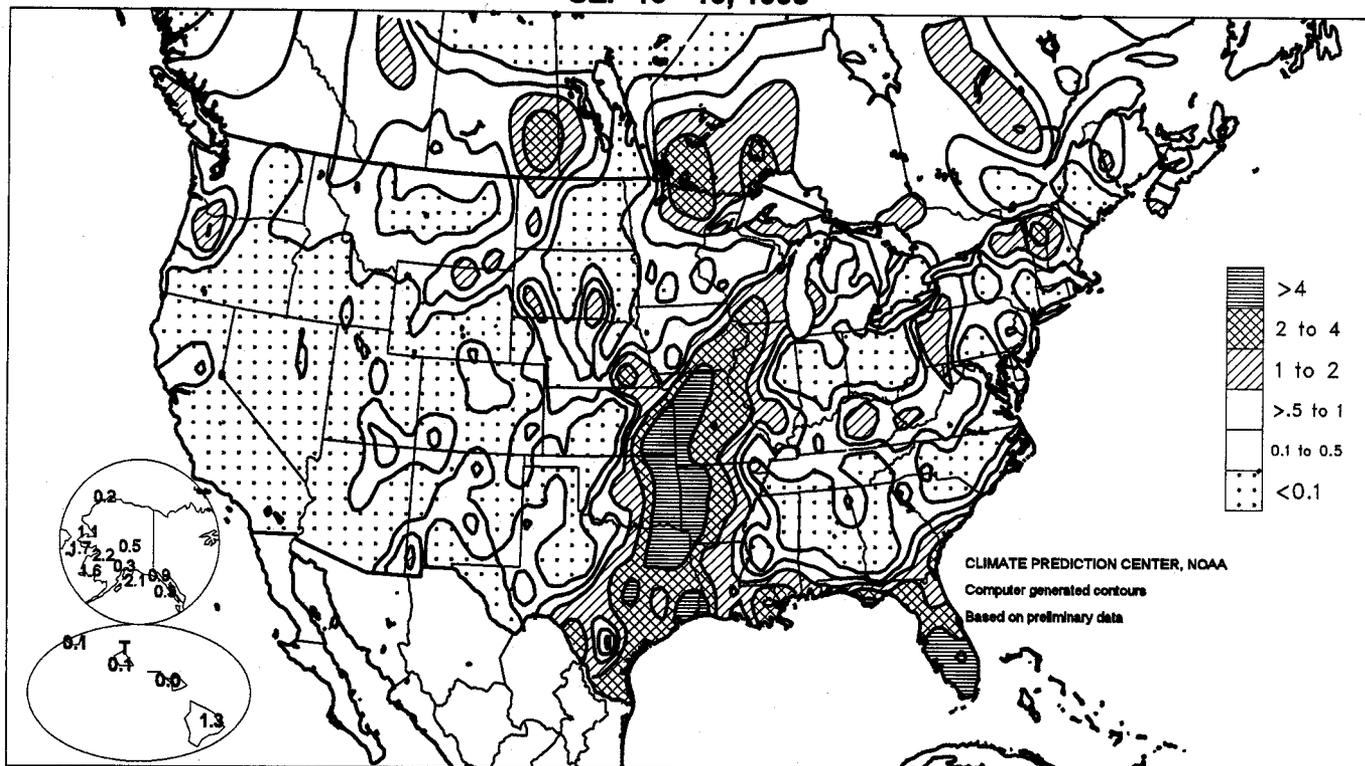


# WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

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)**  
**SEP 13 - 19, 1998**



## HIGHLIGHTS

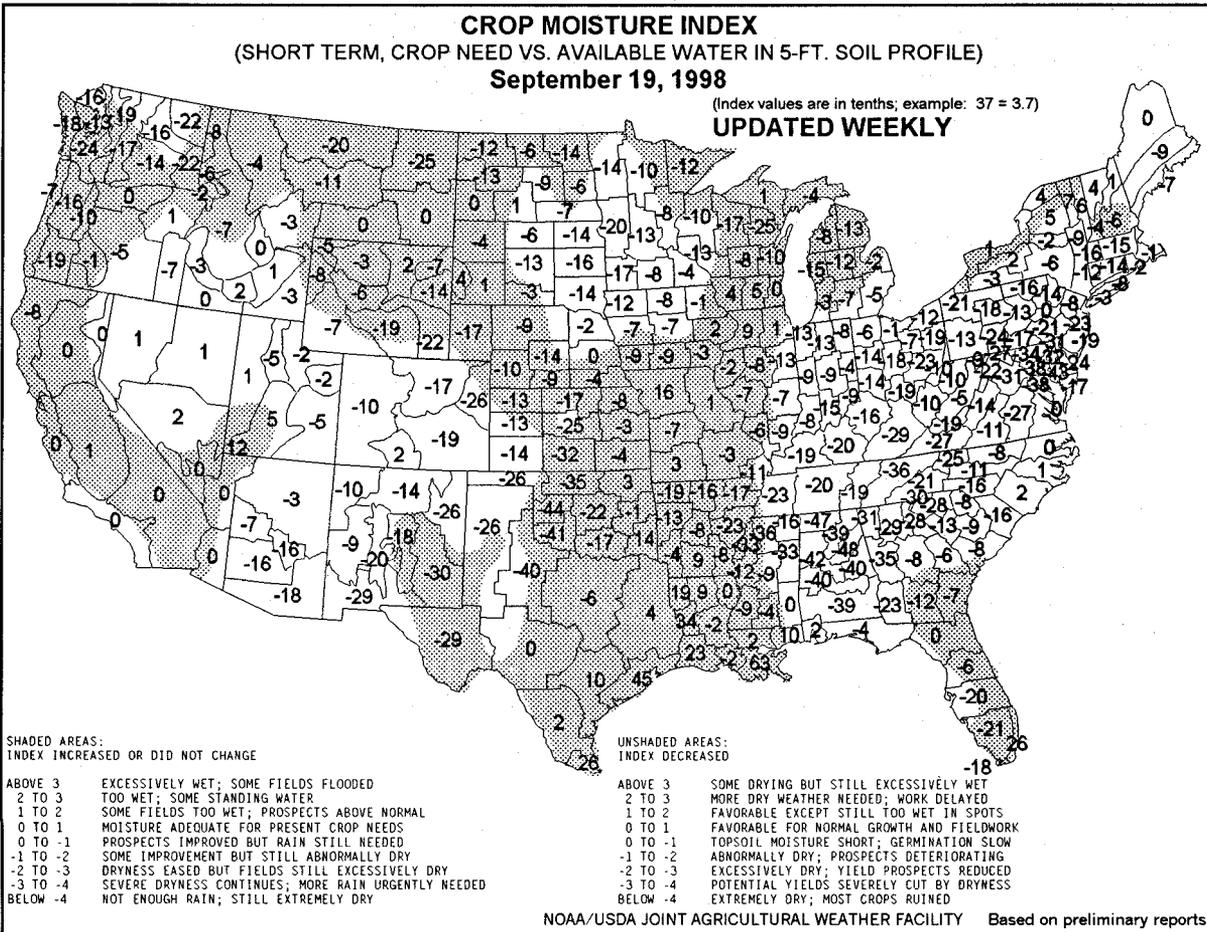
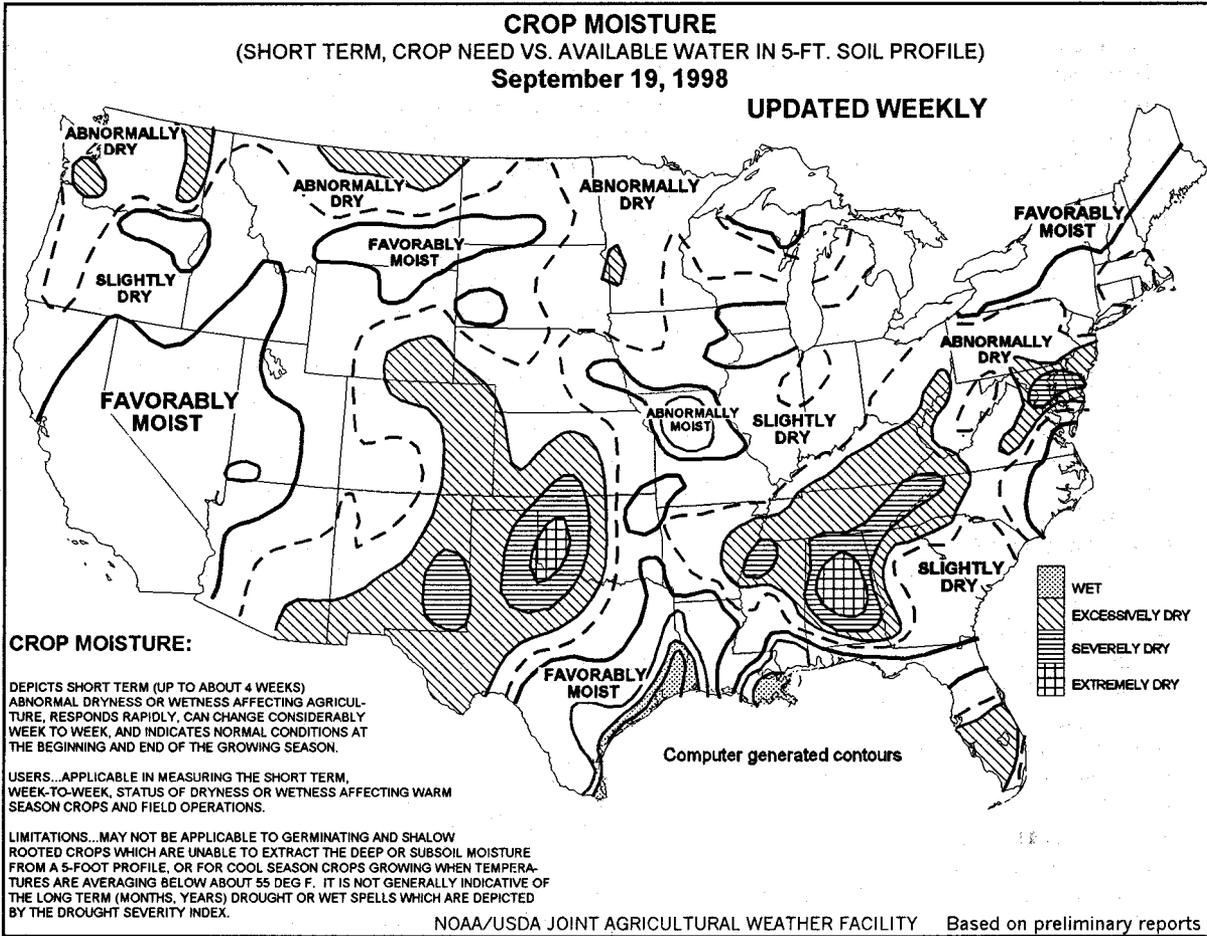
September 13 - 19, 1998

The remnants of Tropical Storm Frances tracked northward through the easternmost Plains, missing major winter wheat areas of the central and southern Plains. Dryness on the Plains slowed winter wheat planting and emergence as growers awaited rain. In contrast, excessive rainfall and localized flooding continued to affect parts of eastern Texas and Louisiana, with the latter receiving additional rains from minimal Tropical Storm Hermine as the week ended. Most of the heavy rain remained west and south of the Delta's cotton area, where bolls were mostly open. Rain then spread northeastward into the Great Lakes region, briefly interrupting early corn and soybean harvesting in the Midwest. Late in the week, cooler air and scattered showers overspread the Northwest, slowing fieldwork but providing beneficial moisture for

*(Continued on page 3)*

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(Continued from front cover)

winter wheat. Tropical Depression Eight formed over the **north-central Gulf of Mexico** on September 17 and became Tropical Storm Hermine during Saturday morning, slowly drifting toward **Louisiana**. After midweek, scattered showers and thunderstorms associated with Hermine dotted areas along the **central and eastern Gulf coast**. Meanwhile, the 1998 Atlantic hurricane season remained active as Georges rapidly strengthened from a minimal tropical storm on Wednesday morning in the **east-central Atlantic** to a dangerous category four hurricane by Saturday night. With its sustained winds of 150 mph, Georges headed toward the **Leeward Islands**.

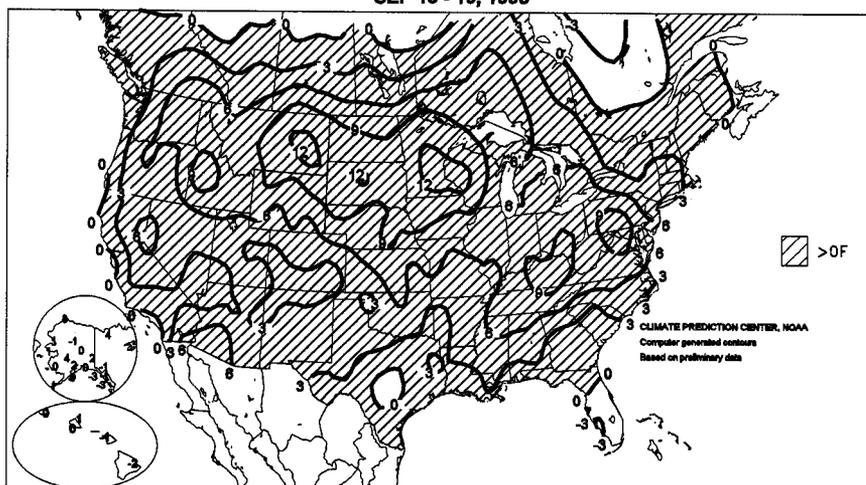
Very warm weather covered much of the **lower 48 States**, with record heat observed in the **upper and middle Missouri Valley** and the **eastern Ohio Valley** and **central Appalachians** that accounted for most of the 75 daily-record highs during the week. Temperatures averaged 6 to 13°F above normal from **eastern Washington and Oregon** eastward to the **western Great Lakes region**, and in the **Ohio and Tennessee Valleys** and the **mid-Atlantic**. Slightly cooler-than-normal conditions were limited to portions along the **California coast**, in **Florida** and **south-central Texas** where clouds and showers kept readings down, and in **southeastern Alaska** and the **eastern Hawaiian Islands**.

The week began with the remnants of Frances stalled over **northeastern Texas**, sweeping tropical moisture northward into the **lower Missouri Valley**. Meanwhile, a slowly advancing cold front inched eastward out of the **northern Plains**, triggering thunderstorms that dropped heavy rains (2 to 6 inches) onto the **easternmost central Great Plains** and **lower Missouri Valley**. Farther east, a strong Bermuda high brought warm southwesterly flow and record maximums to dozens of locations in the **mid-Atlantic and Southeast** during September 13-15. **Bluefield, WV** set four consecutive daily record highs, including a September record of 93°F on Monday. Although the cold front eventually dissipated, the fetch of moist, unstable tropical air from the **Gulf of Mexico** continued moving northward, producing scattered heavy showers from **southeastern Texas** northward into the **central Great Lakes**

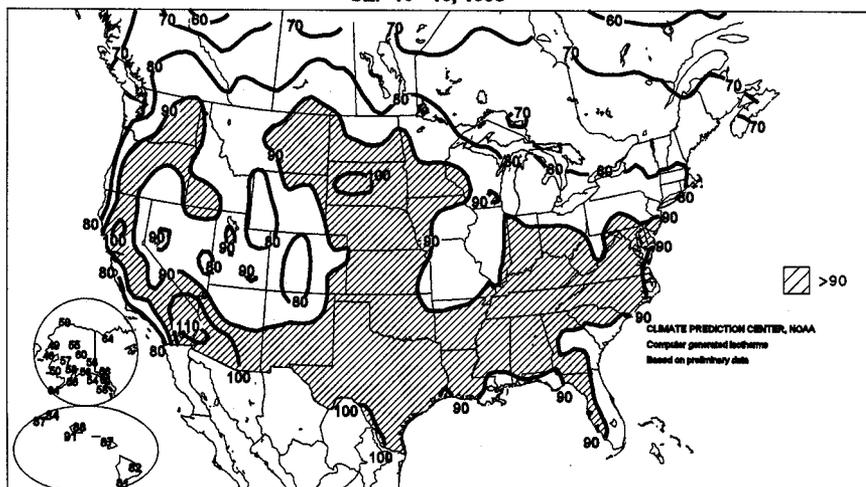
**region**. On Tuesday, **Victoria, TX** measured a record 1.37 inches of rain, its third September day with at least an inch of rain after only 3 such days during January-August 1998. In the **West**, unseasonable warmth enveloped the **Pacific Northwest and northern Rockies** by Tuesday, which spread into the **northern Plains** on Wednesday. The 98°F reported at **Glasgow, MT** on September 16 represented its warmest reading for so late in the season.

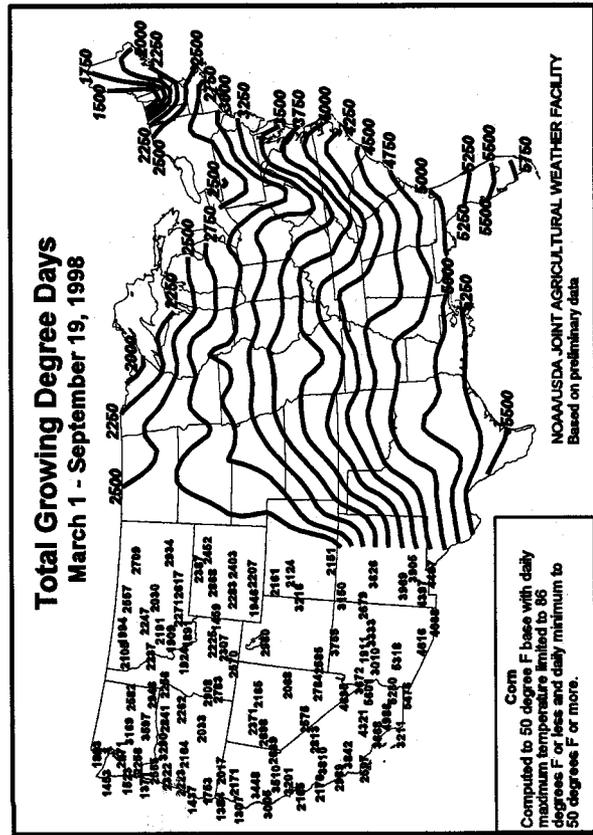
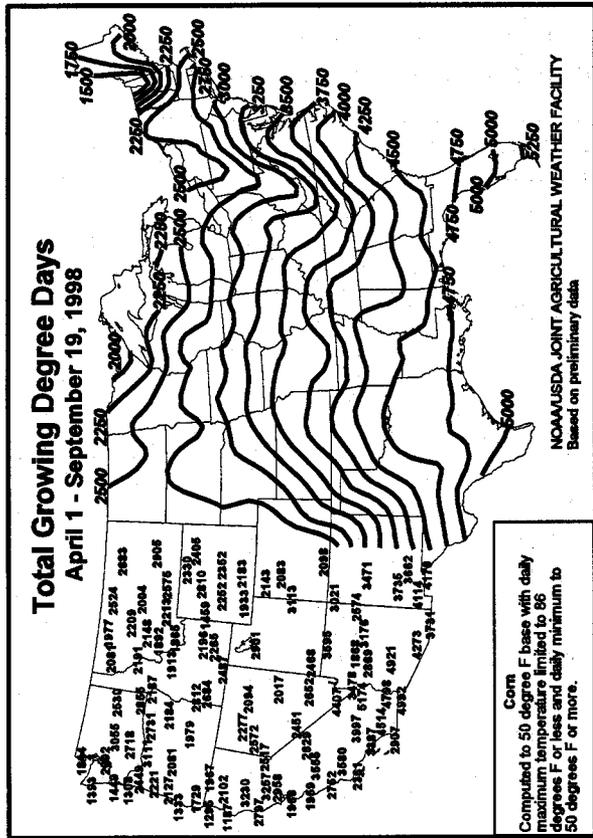
After midweek, a strong cold front surged into the **Northwest**, generating showers to **western Oregon and Washington** that finally ended **Eugene, OR's** longest dry spell (83 days, June 27-September 17) on record. Ahead of the front, record highs continued to be set in the **northern Rockies and Plains**, including 103°F at **Pierre, SD** on Friday. By Saturday, however, the cold front had swept eastward into the **central Plains**, kicking off strong thunderstorms in the **upper Midwest and central Great Plains** and keeping highs in the 60's°F. Meanwhile in the **central Gulf of Mexico**, meandering Tropical Depression Eight slowly strengthened into minimal Tropical Storm Hermine by week's end. Hermine was indirectly responsible for producing scattered showers and thunderstorms along the **central and eastern Gulf coast**, especially in **Florida** that included a 24-hour total of 3.49 inches at **Apalachicola** ending 8 a.m. EDT Friday and 1.20 inches at **New Orleans, LA** a day later.

Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F)  
SEP 13 - 19, 1998



Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F)  
SEP 13 - 19, 1998





# National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending September 19, 1998

Data Provided by Climate Prediction Center (301-763-8000 EXT. 7503) 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 Sep 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Sep 1	TOTAL IN., SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	80 AND ABOVE	82 AND BELOW	0.1 INCH OR MORE		
																		01 INCH OR MORE	50 INCH OR MORE	
AL BIRMINGHAM	91	66	94	58	79	6	0.00	-0.83	0.00	0.00	0	63.96	132	88	38	6	0	0	0	
AL HUNTSVILLE	94	68	97	58	80	8	0.17	-0.79	0.17	0.17	7	32.92	79	86	36	6	0	1	0	
AL MOBILE	87	72	89	70	79	1	0.95	-0.44	0.82	6.85	169	60.72	122	100	68	0	0	4	1	
AL MONTGOMERY	93	68	95	60	81	4	0.00	-0.88	0.00	0.09	3	35.38	88	90	42	6	0	0	0	
AK ANCHORAGE	55	46	58	35	50	2	0.32	-0.31	0.12	0.36	21	8.89	83	93	58	0	0	6	0	
AK BARROW	44	33	50	27	39	8	0.19	0.06	0.06	0.39	95	2.70	81	96	69	0	4	6	0	
AK FAIRBANKS	53	39	60	32	46	0	0.48	0.28	0.18	0.80	119	9.22	114	96	55	0	1	5	0	
AK JUNEAU	57	40	61	33	48	-1	0.83	-0.75	0.72	4.11	101	32.70	95	100	63	0	0	4	1	
AK KODIAK	55	44	58	37	50	0	2.48	0.81	2.33	6.13	143	73.96	165	96	84	0	0	4	1	
AK NOME	47	40	48	33	43	1	1.66	1.09	0.51	2.27	138	19.28	177	97	76	0	0	6	1	
AZ FLAGSTAFF	74	43	77	41	59	1	0.01	-0.46	0.01	4.27	312	21.91	135	91	28	0	0	1	0	
AZ PHOENIX	104	81	107	77	92	7	0.00	-0.19	0.00	0.57	100	8.62	169	45	19	7	0	0	0	
AZ TUCSON	99	72	100	71	85	5	0.01	-0.38	0.01	1.12	99	12.28	141	58	18	7	0	1	0	
AZ YUMA	107	81	109	79	94	7	0.00	-0.07	0.00	2.26	1027	4.38	206	53	16	7	0	0	0	
AR FORT SMITH	83	70	92	69	77	3	4.07	3.31	1.79	4.88	244	31.89	110	98	68	2	0	5	3	
AR LITTLE ROCK	86	71	93	70	79	4	2.05	1.07	1.73	3.17	124	30.69	86	99	63	3	0	4	2	
CA BAKERSFIELD	91	67	97	56	79	2	0.00	-0.03	0.00	0.30	429	11.98	299	67	27	5	0	0	0	
CA EUREKA	67	50	71	47	58	1	0.08	-0.13	0.05	0.10	21	41.15	190	100	74	0	0	2	0	
CA FRESNO	92	65	100	55	79	4	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.10	77	16.07	226	69	25	5	0	0	0	
CA LOS ANGELES	73	63	75	62	68	-2	0.01	-0.07	0.01	0.01	5	23.84	293	98	69	0	0	1	0	
CA REDDING	92	62	102	56	77	3	0.00	-0.20	0.00	0.00	0	47.40	238	64	19	4	0	0	0	
CA SACRAMENTO	89	59	97	54	74	2	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.00	0	23.44	213	84	29	2	0	0	0	
CA SAN DIEGO	73	65	74	63	69	-3	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.01	7	14.28	222	89	67	0	0	0	0	
CA SAN FRANCISCO	72	57	82	55	64	0	0.00	-0.04	0.00	0.00	0	28.58	232	99	67	0	0	0	0	
CO ALAMOSA	78	38	78	37	57	2	0.09	-0.11	0.08	0.75	129	4.71	84	92	22	0	0	2	0	
CO CO SPRINGS	78	50	83	46	64	3	0.00	-0.30	0.00	0.61	62	14.79	105	89	35	0	0	0	0	
CO DENVER	82	53	88	46	68	5	0.23	-0.06	0.18	0.45	58	13.86	111	72	23	0	0	2	0	
CO GRAND JUNCTION	84	54	86	51	69	2	0.00	-0.19	0.00	0.95	183	6.57	109	68	19	0	0	0	0	
CO PUEBLO	87	51	93	47	69	3	0.01	-0.19	0.01	0.15	22	9.11	96	82	22	2	0	1	0	
CT BRIDGEPORT	75	64	81	58	70	4	0.00	-0.72	0.00	1.38	71	35.28	117	88	56	0	0	0	0	
CT HARTFORD	78	58	87	50	68	5	0.28	-0.62	0.20	0.83	35	34.76	111	95	53	0	0	2	0	
DC WASHINGTON	88	71	93	69	79	8	0.11	-0.68	0.09	0.51	24	31.38	111	87	50	4	0	2	0	
DE WILMINGTON	84	67	90	61	75	7	0.00	-0.80	0.00	1.12	50	30.79	103	93	66	1	0	0	0	
FL DAYTONA BEACH	86	73	89	69	80	0	2.45	0.92	1.28	3.21	77	32.16	89	97	67	0	0	5	2	
FL JACKSONVILLE	85	70	88	63	77	-1	1.77	0.10	1.04	4.43	91	47.83	116	98	70	0	0	5	1	
FL KEY WEST	86	77	88	74	82	-2	2.11	0.72	0.91	2.77	73	20.41	72	89	73	0	0	7	2	
FL MIAMI	86	75	88	73	80	-2	8.63	6.83	3.03	12.23	247	53.73	125	89	67	0	0	5	5	
FL ORLANDO	86	73	89	69	79	-2	2.28	0.85	1.67	3.95	96	40.38	103	98	68	0	0	6	1	
FL PENSACOLA	85	74	88	73	80	1	2.34	1.12	2.15	6.01	168	46.29	96	97	70	0	0	4	1	
FL TALLAHASSEE	88	71	91	61	80	1	0.06	-1.24	0.04	6.42	167	48.11	92	99	58	2	0	3	0	
FL TAMPA	86	74	91	71	80	-1	3.34	1.93	1.81	5.97	142	51.11	141	96	68	2	0	5	2	
FL WEST PALM BEACH	86	75	88	73	80	-1	6.71	4.67	3.54	10.34	193	51.57	118	91	88	0	0	6	5	
GA ATHENS	87	65	89	60	78	3	0.01	-0.76	0.01	1.82	85	41.44	111	98	51	0	0	1	0	
GA ATLANTA	85	67	89	61	76	4	0.00	-0.83	0.00	2.68	121	40.39	105	91	49	0	0	0	0	
GA AUGUSTA	86	64	89	59	75	0	0.00	-0.69	0.00	7.41	368	42.75	123	100	59	0	0	0	0	
GA COLUMBUS	89	69	91	60	79	3	0.00	-0.77	0.00	0.28	14	24.38	63	90	45	5	0	0	0	
GA MACON	86	66	89	58	76	1	0.23	-0.42	0.22	5.07	273	37.81	110	100	68	0	0	2	0	
GA SAVANNAH	84	69	88	61	77	0	0.92	-0.10	0.84	3.77	119	43.80	108	100	64	0	0	3	1	
HI HILO	81	67	82	65	74	-2	1.28	-0.69	0.49	3.09	57	40.05	45	96	72	0	0	6	0	
HI HONOLULU	87	74	88	73	81	0	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.05	14	2.28	19	85	55	0	0	0	0	
HI KAHULUI	88	68	87	63	77	-1	0.00	-0.07	0.00	0.34	200	3.40	25	85	52	0	0	0	0	
HI LIHUE	83	75	84	74	79	0	0.13	-0.41	0.04	0.80	61	15.70	58	79	63	0	0	5	0	
ID BOISE	85	59	94	50	72	9	0.00	-0.21	0.00	1.14	224	12.94	158	68	22	3	0	0	0	
ID LEWISTON	84	58	97	51	71	7	0.18	-0.01	0.18	1.19	229	12.56	141	75	28	3	0	2	0	
ID POCATELLO	80	50	90	47	65	6	0.02	-0.17	0.01	1.49	287	10.80	125	83	26	1	0	2	0	
IL CHICAGO/O'HARE	80	61	90	55	71	6	0.02	-0.88	0.02	0.02	1	26.80	100	96	64	1	0	1	0	
IL MOLINE	81	63	91	60	72	8	2.75	1.80	2.33	2.75	105	35.90	120	98	61	1	0	4	1	
IL PEORIA	81	65	90	63	73	7	1.24	0.31	1.06	1.27	51	33.83	125	97	60	1	0	3	1	
IL ROCKFORD	80	60	90	58	70	7	1.81	0.92	1.52	2.12	85	31.62	115	98	66	1	0	3	1	
IL SPRINGFIELD	83	63	88	61	73	6	0.45	-0.34	0.37	0.61	28	37.50	143	97	58	0	0	5	0	
IN EVANSVILLE	85	65	91	56	75	6	0.18	-0.64	0.13	0.18	10	33.82	106	96	54	2	0	4	0	
IN FORT WAYNE	82	60	91	53	71	6	0.28	-0.33	0.28	0.49	28	30.86	120	94	48	2	0	1	0	
IN INDIANAPOLIS	85	67	92	60	76	9	0.07	-0.61	0.06	0.18	10	38.14	129	87	48	2	0	2	0	
IN SOUTH BEND	83	61	91	56	72	8	0.25	-0.60	0.24	1.32	56	29.17	103	98	49	1	0	2	0	
IA BURLINGTON	85	68	90	66	78	11	3.82	-	3.78	5.39	-	37.15	-	92	56	1	0	3	2	
IA CEDAR RAPIDS	79	61	86	57	70	6	2.20	1.27	2.18	2.22	86	33.25	125	98	64	0	0	4	1	
IA DES MOINES	82	65	88	63	73	8	0.25	-0.57	0.18	0.25	11	34.58	132	98	56	0	0	2	0	
IA DUBUQUE	78	62	88	57	70	9	2.72	1.61	2.58	3.07	99	36.70	125	95	60	0	0	3	1	
IA SIOUX CITY	88	59	96	52	73	10	0.28	-0.40	0.28	1.24	66	26.45	126	94	36	3	0	1	0	
IA WATERLOO	83	59	92	54	71	9	0.43	-0.40	0.40	0.61	27	36.90	138	98	45	1	0	3	0	
KS CONCORDIA	88	62	95	59	75	8	0.00	-0.70	0.00	0.09	4	22.57	95	93	39	2	0	0	0	
KS DODGE CITY	89	60	98	56	74	5	0.01	-0.43	0.01	0.01	1	15.26	84	91	34	2	0	1	0	
KS GOODLAND	83	55	89	50	69	5	0.29	-0.08	0.27	0.54	52	14.80	94	88	34	0	0	2	0	
KS TOPEKA	84	65	92	62	74	6	0.51	-0.36	0.47	0.52	21	26.83	97	99	63	1	0	5	0	

Based on 1961-90 normals

Weather Data for the Week Ending September 19, 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 Sep 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Sep 1	TOTAL IN, SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	82 AND BELOW	TEMP, °F		.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
																		90 AND ABOVE	82 AND BELOW		
KY WICHITA	87	67	94	66	77	7	1.67	0.74	1.48	1.57	69	19.30	83	97	44	2	0	3	1		
KY JACKSON	89	67	95	62	78	10	0.13	-0.72	0.13	0.14	6	40.72	111	85	39	2	0	1	0		
KY LEXINGTON	89	66	94	60	78	9	0.00	-0.77	0.00	0.00	0	42.06	125	86	44	3	0	0	0		
KY LOUISVILLE	89	69	93	62	79	9	0.19	-0.55	0.17	0.19	9	39.69	119	86	46	2	0	2	0		
KY PADUCAH	87	66	92	59	76	6	0.09	-0.82	0.07	0.10	5	42.24	117	87	53	3	0	3	0		
LA BATON ROUGE	88	73	92	70	81	2	0.61	-0.52	0.42	6.75	208	45.85	100	97	61	2	0	3	0		
LA LAKE CHARLES	87	74	91	72	81	3	4.64	3.29	2.87	12.59	339	44.64	113	96	68	2	0	5	2		
LA NEW ORLEANS	87	77	90	73	82	3	4.52	3.22	2.72	18.02	483	70.58	150	94	68	1	0	4	2		
LA SHREVEPORT	85	73	92	71	79	3	3.22	2.49	1.89	7.92	421	34.19	106	95	69	2	0	4	2		
ME CARIBOU	84	42	73	36	53	0	0.81	0.01	0.43	2.93	130	29.63	116	96	51	0	0	4	0		
ME PORTLAND	71	51	76	44	61	2	1.35	0.65	1.35	1.92	102	38.79	131	93	57	0	0	2	1		
MD BALTIMORE	86	68	93	64	77	9	0.14	-0.65	0.14	0.68	30	30.33	101	89	51	3	0	1	0		
MA BOSTON	72	58	83	54	65	0	0.63	-0.07	0.63	1.01	52	42.99	149	96	84	0	0	2	1		
MA WORCESTER	73	58	81	51	65	5	0.05	-0.89	0.03	0.90	36	37.52	112	97	52	0	0	2	0		
MI ALPENA	74	49	82	45	61	4	0.14	-0.59	0.11	1.10	53	22.98	107	99	57	0	0	3	0		
MI GRAND RAPIDS	79	59	89	53	69	8	0.84	-0.17	0.53	1.92	70	25.24	99	94	51	0	0	3	1		
MI HOUGHTON LAKE	77	48	84	42	63	5	0.29	-0.52	0.19	0.75	33	15.47	75	100	52	0	0	3	0		
MI LANSING	81	53	89	45	67	6	0.23	-0.82	0.21	0.96	41	22.74	102	97	46	0	0	3	0		
MI MARQUETTE	72	51	78	36	61	8	1.27	0.29	1.04	2.97	115	32.61	133	94	57	0	0	2	1		
MI MUSKEGON	77	57	85	50	67	6	1.71	0.79	1.71	2.74	108	18.94	86	97	56	0	0	2	1		
MN DULUTH	72	54	83	47	63	9	2.61	1.70	2.35	2.63	104	23.37	101	98	59	0	0	3	1		
MN INT'L FALLS	77	48	84	43	63	9	0.21	-0.56	0.21	0.21	11	15.78	82	96	42	0	0	1	0		
MN MINNEAPOLIS	86	61	93	52	74	13	0.59	-0.03	0.59	1.49	82	29.59	131	90	38	2	0	1	1		
MN ROCHESTER	81	59	88	52	70	11	0.25	-0.56	0.24	0.26	11	25.26	101	96	48	0	0	2	0		
MN ST. CLOUD	84	55	92	43	70	12	0.55	-0.19	0.28	1.07	50	20.41	93	93	39	2	0	3	0		
MS JACKSON	90	71	93	69	81	5	0.05	-0.78	0.04	2.35	103	40.43	101	97	48	5	0	2	0		
MS MERIDIAN	90	68	92	64	79	4	0.04	-0.79	0.04	0.56	25	44.19	106	98	48	6	0	1	0		
MS TUPELO	92	69	95	65	81	6	0.00	-0.85	0.00	0.00	0	37.00	92	92	41	7	0	0	0		
MO COLUMBIA	80	64	86	62	72	4	2.49	1.68	0.98	2.99	123	33.20	114	99	85	0	0	5	2		
MO KANSAS CITY	80	66	87	65	73	5	3.69	2.53	2.31	4.36	140	31.55	108	99	86	0	0	3	2		
MO SAINT LOUIS	82	69	88	65	75	5	1.09	0.35	0.49	1.61	80	37.32	136	98	60	0	0	5	0		
MO SPRINGFIELD	80	65	87	62	73	4	2.30	1.20	1.93	2.33	79	36.06	117	98	64	0	0	4	1		
MT BILLINGS	82	56	91	48	69	10	0.46	0.12	0.43	1.68	195	12.44	105	79	31	1	0	2	0		
MT BUTTE	77	43	85	39	60	10	0.14	-0.16	0.08	1.00	118	13.02	130	89	25	0	0	2	0		
MT GLASGOW	83	58	98	51	70	13	0.38	0.15	0.38	1.40	206	10.98	117	72	27	2	0	1	0		
MT GREAT FALLS	81	49	89	43	65	8	0.25	-0.04	0.15	0.80	95	14.72	118	78	23	0	0	2	0		
MT KALISPELL	76	42	89	38	59	6	0.58	0.26	0.31	0.72	86	16.87	131	94	31	0	0	3	0		
MT MILES CITY	88	58	95	50	73	13	0.26	-0.04	0.20	0.39	48	10.52	91	78	23	4	0	2	0		
MT MISSOULA	77	47	89	45	62	6	0.08	-0.18	0.08	1.05	142	17.06	164	92	31	0	0	3	0		
NE GRAND ISLAND	89	60	97	53	74	11	0.01	-0.69	0.01	0.01	1	21.64	104	90	34	3	0	1	0		
NE LINCOLN	87	62	93	68	74	9	1.64	0.71	1.54	1.65	68	27.24	119	93	45	2	0	1	1		
NE NORFOLK	85	58	92	50	71	8	0.27	-0.31	0.24	0.27	17	28.96	138	91	40	2	0	1	0		
NE NORTH PLATTE	83	53	90	48	68	7	0.98	0.59	0.95	0.98	93	19.05	114	92	38	1	0	2	1		
NE OMAHA	87	62	93	57	75	9	0.58	-0.33	0.55	0.58	23	35.17	148	95	43	1	0	1	1		
NE SCOTTSBLUFF	85	52	92	45	68	7	0.00	-0.25	0.00	0.22	33	12.24	95	87	21	2	0	0	0		
NE VALENTINE	86	57	95	48	71	10	0.01	-0.34	0.01	0.01	1	18.50	117	83	31	2	0	1	0		
NV ELY	78	42	82	30	60	4	0.00	-0.25	0.00	0.70	108	9.75	129	81	19	0	1	0	0		
NV LAS VEGAS	96	71	100	66	83	3	0.00	-0.08	0.00	1.36	680	6.43	215	48	17	7	0	0	0		
NV RENO	83	53	89	48	68	8	0.00	-0.08	0.00	1.23	559	9.93	193	81	23	0	0	0	0		
NV WINNEMUCCA	82	45	89	36	63	4	0.01	-0.07	0.01	1.98	900	12.29	217	90	22	0	0	1	0		
NH CONCORD	78	49	79	41	63	4	0.58	-0.05	0.40	1.46	82	28.89	113	96	42	0	0	3	0		
NJ NEWARK	80	66	88	60	73	4	0.02	-0.84	0.01	2.48	104	39.52	122	90	55	0	0	2	0		
NM ALBUQUERQUE	86	62	90	59	74	6	0.00	-0.22	0.00	0.00	0	7.20	107	58	18	1	0	0	0		
NY ALBANY	78	55	79	45	65	4	0.05	-0.65	0.05	1.05	54	31.52	120	94	60	0	0	1	0		
NY BINGHAMTON	77	57	84	48	67	7	0.11	-0.67	0.08	1.68	78	32.11	121	96	48	0	0	2	0		
NY BUFFALO	78	57	83	51	67	6	0.24	-0.57	0.21	1.87	81	29.02	108	95	50	0	0	2	0		
NY ROCHESTER	77	54	85	44	65	4	0.41	-0.28	0.29	2.07	106	36.57	160	95	58	0	0	5	0		
NY SYRACUSE	77	55	82	49	66	4	0.26	-0.63	0.24	2.25	93	30.69	112	94	55	0	0	2	0		
NC ASHEVILLE	85	58	89	54	72	6	0.00	-0.89	0.00	0.28	11	39.09	110	100	42	0	0	0	0		
NC CHARLOTTE	86	64	91	58	75	3	0.01	-0.83	0.01	3.08	136	33.72	107	98	51	1	0	1	0		
NC GREENSBORO	86	65	90	59	75	6	0.00	-0.83	0.00	1.58	89	40.03	127	99	58	1	0	0	0		
NC HATTERAS	82	72	84	68	77	3	1.77	0.55	1.08	9.01	293	56.80	143	97	73	0	0	3	2		
NC RALEIGH	89	65	92	59	77	6	0.00	-0.73	0.00	3.25	156	43.80	140	95	49	3	0	0	0		
NC WILMINGTON	87	70	92	67	79	3	1.22	0.03	1.22	5.38	155	58.45	136	95	58	1	0	2	1		
ND BISMARCK	82	53	89	45	67	11	0.12	-0.23	0.12	1.84	164	19.82	150	93	44	0	0	1	0		
ND DICKINSON	80	54	87	51	67	11	0.71	0.29	0.71	2.28	208	17.42	127	92	40	0	0	1	1		
ND FARGO	84	54	95	43	69	11	0.60	0.14	0.56	0.62	48	23.24	148	83	40	3	0	2	1		
ND GRAND FORKS	82	49	92	39	65	9	0.06	-0.48	0.03	0.12	8	15.88	105	91	39	1	0	3	0		
ND JAMESTOWN	80	52	91	43	68	9	0.34	-0.08	0.25	0.39	34	15.75	110	91	48	1	0	3	0		
ND WILLISTON	83	52	96	44	67	11	0.81	0.49	0.67	0.95	108	12.63	111	83	28	2	0	2	1		
OH AKRON-CANTON	80	60	86	50	70	7	0.00	-0.79	0.00	0.35	16	31.76	116	92	58	0	0	0	0		
OH CINCINNATI	85	65	95	58	75	8	0.26	-0.40	0.22	0.28	15	42.02	137	93	52	2	0	2	0		
OH CLEVELAND	80	60	88	49	70	6	0.39	-0.42	0.24	1.98	88	27.73	104	95	57	0	0	3	0		
OH COLUMBUS	87	68	96	57	77	11	0.00	-0.70	0.00	0.24	12	28.33	98	81	41	3	0	0	0		
OH DAYTON	85	64	94	58	75	9	0.00	-0.58	0.00	0.49	30	31.74	116	85	44	2	0	0	0		
OH MANSFIELD	80	60	88	52	70	6	0.14	-0.86	0.13	0.22	10	31.32	116	92	53	0	0	4	0		

Weather Data for the Week Ending September 19, 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 Sep 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Sep 1	TOTAL IN, SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	92 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE		.50 INCH OR MORE	
																		TEMP. °F	PRECIP.	01 INCH OR MORE	50 INCH OR MORE
OK TOLEDO	81	58	88	53	70	7	0.05	-0.62	0.02	0.73	38	28.04	118	96	51	0	0	4	0		
OK YOUNGSTOWN	81	58	88	48	70	8	0.61	-0.22	0.59	1.72	77	29.18	106	94	51	0	0	2	1		
OK OKLAHOMA CITY	88	70	93	68	79	6	1.61	0.69	1.52	1.67	70	21.16	84	96	52	4	0	3	1		
OK TULSA	88	69	91	87	78	4	2.78	1.63	2.34	2.79	95	30.33	102	96	56	2	0	3	1		
OR ASTORIA	68	52	71	45	59	0	0.37	-0.31	0.27	0.41	26	45.92	119	100	72	0	0	3	0		
OR BURNS	79	42	88	38	80	5	0.00	-0.14	0.00	0.88	227	12.30	185	79	18	0	0	0	0		
OR EUGENE	80	49	90	47	65	2	0.18	-0.20	0.18	0.28	27	28.08	99	91	35	1	0	1	0		
OR MEDFORD	84	53	97	60	89	3	0.00	-0.21	0.00	0.00	0	17.96	172	82	25	3	0	0	0		
OR PENDLETON	82	57	94	54	69	6	0.67	0.53	0.83	0.91	246	9.96	128	78	32	3	0	3	1		
OR PORTLAND	77	56	87	54	67	3	0.86	0.45	0.78	0.86	83	25.88	121	91	38	0	0	3	1		
OR SALEM	78	52	88	48	65	3	0.50	0.14	0.44	0.50	57	29.00	129	90	39	0	0	3	0		
PA ALLENTOWN	79	61	85	50	70	5	1.10	0.18	1.00	2.79	108	32.98	103	98	62	0	0	3	1		
PA ERIE	80	63	90	48	71	7	0.38	-0.68	0.30	1.27	45	25.93	91	95	54	1	0	3	0		
PA MIDDLETOWN	84	67	91	61	78	9	0.00	-0.83	0.00	1.53	68	41.53	141	89	50	1	0	0	0		
PA PHILADELPHIA	84	67	91	62	75	7	0.45	-0.35	0.43	1.60	71	27.56	89	92	53	1	0	2	0		
PA PITTSBURGH	83	62	88	55	73	9	0.00	-0.70	0.00	0.77	40	28.42	103	86	47	0	0	0	0		
PA WILKES-BARRE	79	59	84	48	69	6	0.00	-0.77	0.00	2.05	96	29.56	112	95	55	0	0	0	0		
PA WILLIAMSPORT	80	60	88	48	70	7	0.15	-0.65	0.09	0.88	41	34.83	118	96	55	0	0	3	0		
RI PROVIDENCE	75	59	82	52	67	3	0.13	-0.70	0.13	1.19	53	43.90	138	91	59	0	0	1	0		
SC BEAUFORT	85	70	87	64	78	1	1.03	-0.09	0.82	3.91	80	49.08	117	100	68	0	0	2	1		
SC CHARLESTON	85	69	88	66	77	1	0.96	-0.12	0.88	4.02	122	50.54	122	98	61	0	0	2	1		
SC COLUMBIA	88	66	92	62	77	3	0.10	-0.72	0.09	5.43	215	41.69	108	95	51	1	0	2	0		
SC GREENVILLE	86	65	89	63	76	4	0.00	-0.93	0.00	2.35	98	40.75	107	94	49	0	0	0	0		
SD ABERDEEN	84	53	94	43	68	9	0.05	-0.39	0.05	0.06	6	19.62	124	90	38	2	0	1	0		
SD HURON	86	56	95	44	71	10	0.00	-0.41	0.00	0.58	50	18.52	110	85	33	2	0	0	0		
SD RAPID CITY	85	54	97	48	69	10	0.83	0.55	0.75	0.83	104	13.70	97	88	32	2	0	2	1		
SD SIOUX FALLS	84	58	91	49	71	10	0.91	0.19	0.91	0.96	47	22.18	115	90	38	2	0	1	1		
TN BRISTOL	90	80	97	53	75	7	0.00	-0.77	0.00	0.61	29	35.19	115	97	34	3	0	0	0		
TN CHATTANOOGA	93	65	97	60	79	7	0.01	-0.98	0.01	0.94	35	43.41	111	96	39	7	0	1	0		
TN KNOXVILLE	92	66	97	59	79	9	0.00	-0.72	0.00	0.13	7	42.85	123	88	36	6	0	0	0		
TN MEMPHIS	91	71	96	69	81	7	0.07	-0.76	0.07	0.07	3	42.02	113	93	47	5	0	1	0		
TN NASHVILLE	93	67	96	58	80	8	0.35	-0.47	0.35	0.45	20	40.35	116	96	36	6	0	1	0		
TX ABILENE	90	67	95	65	78	2	0.00	-0.78	0.00	0.07	3	9.93	55	93	43	4	0	0	0		
TX AMARILLO	87	60	94	58	73	4	0.00	-0.45	0.00	1.08	78	9.77	59	87	33	1	0	0	0		
TX AUSTIN	85	74	92	72	80	-1	3.77	2.98	2.10	6.65	334	21.00	92	96	66	2	0	3	2		
TX BEAUMONT	86	75	91	73	81	2	6.06	4.55	2.44	12.78	312	46.31	113	96	72	3	0	5	3		
TX BROWNSVILLE	89	77	94	75	83	1	0.27	-1.21	0.16	7.37	192	11.81	62	97	67	4	0	3	0		
TX CORPUS CHRISTI	89	75	94	75	82	1	4.73	3.38	1.85	7.42	209	18.31	82	98	65	5	0	3	3		
TX DEL RIO	91	72	98	69	81	2	1.48	0.77	1.28	1.56	90	25.37	189	96	53	3	0	4	1		
TX EL PASO	91	68	98	63	79	4	0.00	-0.41	0.00	0.14	12	3.44	53	62	25	4	0	0	0		
TX FORT WORTH	86	72	93	71	79	2	0.42	-0.39	0.21	0.69	34	19.28	78	95	62	2	0	4	0		
TX GALVESTON	86	77	89	76	81	1	1.33	-0.14	0.72	12.03	306	45.47	149	100	81	0	0	4	1		
TX HOUSTON	87	74	92	72	80	2	2.33	1.18	1.14	7.00	229	29.63	91	98	66	3	0	4	2		
TX LUBBOCK	88	61	92	59	75	4	0.00	-0.61	0.00	0.00	0	9.44	65	87	33	3	0	0	0		
TX MIDLAND	92	63	95	61	77	4	0.08	-0.55	0.08	0.78	48	3.80	34	87	30	5	0	1	0		
TX SAN ANGELO	89	65	95	61	77	2	0.04	-0.79	0.03	0.12	8	9.07	61	95	42	4	0	2	0		
TX SAN ANTONIO	85	73	88	70	79	0	0.27	-0.54	0.27	1.87	88	20.50	92	95	62	0	0	1	0		
TX VICTORIA	87	75	91	73	81	1	3.83	2.46	2.29	10.30	291	24.39	89	98	68	3	0	4	2		
TX WACO	85	72	92	71	79	0	2.33	1.48	1.85	4.29	202	20.26	89	99	70	2	0	6	1		
UT WICHITA FALLS	90	70	97	69	80	5	0.02	-0.89	0.01	0.02	1	15.86	73	89	45	4	0	2	0		
UT SALT LAKE CITY	82	56	90	48	69	4	0.00	-0.30	0.00	0.59	77	19.07	165	70	25	1	0	0	0		
VT BURLINGTON	71	50	75	43	61	2	1.81	0.85	1.57	3.58	164	44.57	179	98	57	0	0	3	1		
VA LYNCHBURG	87	62	93	55	75	7	1.08	0.34	1.02	1.21	60	41.36	140	95	44	4	0	3	1		
VA NORFOLK	83	71	87	66	77	5	0.00	-0.91	0.00	2.47	98	46.08	135	94	65	0	0	0	0		
VA RICHMOND	88	67	93	62	78	8	0.12	-0.84	0.12	2.92	135	38.99	122	97	51	2	0	1	0		
VA ROANOKE	88	64	94	60	76	9	0.59	-0.21	0.59	1.44	65	40.71	136	88	43	4	0	1	1		
VA WASH/DULLES	89	68	95	64	79	11	0.63	-0.15	0.63	1.14	52	33.07	113	91	44	4	0	1	1		
WA HANFORD	88	59	94	53	73	-	0.00	-	0.00	0.00	-	4.34	-	59	21	4	0	0	0		
WA OLYMPIA	74	47	81	45	61	3	0.29	-0.23	0.19	0.31	25	26.83	92	100	46	0	0	3	0		
WA QUILLAYUTE	68	49	75	37	58	1	0.28	-0.86	0.24	0.40	16	48.27	78	98	57	0	0	2	0		
WA SEATTLE-TACOMA	72	55	77	53	63	3	0.16	-0.28	0.14	0.16	15	19.35	90	95	51	0	0	2	0		
WA SPOKANE	79	55	82	50	67	8	0.12	-0.03	0.07	0.16	32	10.54	99	75	26	1	0	4	0		
WA YAKIMA	83	49	91	41	66	5	0.01	-0.08	0.01	0.01	4	5.82	118	78	24	2	0	1	0		
WV BECKLEY	84	59	92	52	72	9	0.43	-0.35	0.43	0.85	40	39.07	127	96	44	1	0	1	0		
WV CHARLESTON	87	62	96	54	74	7	0.04	-0.71	0.02	1.33	62	40.45	128	100	47	2	0	2	0		
WV ELKINS	82	55	89	45	68	7	0.13	-0.76	0.09	3.16	128	40.46	120	100	54	0	0	5	0		
WV HUNTINGTON	90	64	97	56	77	9	0.00	-0.70	0.00	0.34	18	35.93	116	94	30	3	0	0	0		
WI EAU CLAIRE	84	59	93	53	72	13	0.37	-0.55	0.36	0.37	14	25.30	100	91	41	1	0	1	0		
WI GREEN BAY	80	54	88	45	67	8	1.08	0.26	1.08	1.42	62	23.12	108	96	54	0	0	1	1		
WI MADISON	79	57	90	51	68	8	1.97	1.18	1.98	1.98	87	34.00	144	100	53	1	0	2	1		
WI MILWAUKEE	78	60	90	53	69	7	1.17	0.38	1.16	1.73	78	27.94	114	97	60	1	0	2	1		
WY CASPER	81	48	88	42	64	7	0.02	-0.20	0.01	0.15	26	8.70	90	82	27	0	0	2	0		
WY CHEYENNE	78	49	85	45	63	6	0.00	-0.28	0.00	0.11	13	8.34	69	81	28	0	0	0	0		
WY LANDER	77	51	83	48	64	6	0.01	-0.25	0.01	0.86	102	11.80	117	73	28	0	0	1	0		
WY SHERIDAN	80	49	89	45	65	8	2.08	1.73	2.02	2.29	273	11.44	102	93	35	0	0	3	1		

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

September 14 - 20, 1998

### HIGHLIGHTS

**Record-high temperatures across the northern Great Plains and along the western and eastern fringes of the Corn Belt promoted rapid crop dry down and assisted early harvest efforts. Above-normal temperatures in the central Corn Belt and Southeastern and Southwestern States also aided**

**crop ripening. Tropical Storm Francis delivered much-needed moisture to areas along a band that extended from eastern Texas to the western Great Lakes, but only briefly delayed fall fieldwork. Rain and cooler weather temporarily relieved heat stress along the Gulf coast.**

**Corn:** Corn in the dent stage or beyond advanced to 97 percent and nearly three-fourths of the crop has reached maturity. Progress in both stages remained more than 1 week ahead of normal and 2 weeks or more in many areas, especially across the northern Corn Belt. In Minnesota and South Dakota, the percentage of mature corn doubled due to the hot weather. Harvest progress, at 14 percent, was also more than 1 week ahead of normal. The most active areas were in the southern Corn Belt, along the Ohio and middle Mississippi River Valleys, but momentum was increasing farther north and in the Great Plains. Many areas, from the southern Great Plains to the Atlantic Coastal Plains, were well over half finished. Rain from Tropical Storm Francis improved conditions in late-developing fields in the central Corn Belt, but caused few harvest delays.

**Soybeans:** The Nation's soybeans ripened quickly due to the hot, dry weather as 65 percent of the crop was dropping leaves, up 27 percentage points from the previous week and well ahead of the 41 percent average pace. Development was particularly rapid in the Corn Belt and Great Plains, while the pace was much slower in the lower Mississippi Valley and Southeastern States. Harvest progress advanced to 7 percent complete, compared with the normal 3 percent. Progress was especially rapid in Minnesota, where dry weather and early-ripening fields allowed the harvest pace to accelerate. Moisture from Tropical Storm Francis delayed harvest in the lower Mississippi Valley early in the week.

**Cotton:** Bolls were opening on 73 percent of the Nation's cotton fields, nearly 1 week ahead of the normal pace of 65 percent. In Oklahoma, fields with bolls opening advanced just 8 percentage points, but remained more than 50 percentage points ahead of normal. Development was aided by seasonable weather in California, but remained far behind the 5-year average. Harvest remained 1 week ahead of the average, at 17 percent, but progress was delayed in cotton-producing areas west of the Mississippi River early in the week due to rain from Tropical Storm Francis. Growers in

many areas continued applying defoliant to prepare fields for harvest.

**Winter wheat:** Dry conditions in the Great Plains from Texas to the Dakotas and westward to the Pacific Northwest allowed field preparations to move forward at a rapid pace. Nationally, 21 percent of the crop has been seeded, compared with 26 percent normally planted by this date. Growers in Colorado, Nebraska, and South Dakota made good progress. However, planting was limited in some States due to dry soils. Warm weather aided crop germination and emergence, where soil moisture was adequate.

**Rice:** Harvest progressed to 60 percent complete, as the activity continued to focus on the Delta rice-producing areas. Progress slowed in the western Gulf Coast States, where the harvest was nearly finished. In California, the harvest pace gained momentum, but was slightly behind the 5-year average. Rain from Tropical Storm Francis aided ratooned fields along the western Gulf coast region.

**Sorghum:** Sorghum turning color reached 96 percent, and 61 percent has reached maturity. Both stages were more than 1 week ahead of the average. Virtually all fields were turning color in the Delta States, while development lagged in New Mexico despite rapid progress. Fields quickly ripened in the central and northern Great Plains due to hot weather. Harvest activity was slow, advancing only 3 percentage points, to 30 percent. The most active harvest progress was in the northern Delta States.

**Peanuts:** The peanut harvest advanced to 12 percent, but remained behind the normal pace. Major peanut-producing States in the Southeast and along the Atlantic coast were dry, allowing the harvest pace to quicken, but progress remained behind normal, especially in Georgia and Alabama. White mold continued to cause crop deterioration in Florida.

# Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending September 20, 1998

## Soybeans Percent Dropping Leaves

	Sep 20 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	48	22	36	29
AR	25	17	13	14
GA	32	29	53	34
IL	50	22	43	40
IN	87	63	57	51
IA	71	34	49	42
KS	86	60	55	46
KY	40	18	28	26
LA	76	65	58	46
MI	68	44	23	36
MN	88	53	63	49
MS	69	55	57	44
MO	46	27	36	26
NE	71	25	55	41
NC	20	15	17	15
OH	76	50	47	57
SC	9	7	12	4
SD	87	62	73	60
TN	35	24	21	25
ALL	65	38	47	41

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

## Soybeans Percent Harvested

	Sep 20 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	2	1	2	1
AR	6	4	4	3
GA	0	0	1	0
IL	5	1	2	4
IN	9	3	1	3
IA	5	0	3	3
KS	9	4	5	3
KY	0	0	0	1
LA	30	25	30	17
MI	3	1	0	1
MN	14	1	2	2
MS	29	17	22	18
MO	3	1	0	1
NE	4	1	2	4
NC	0	0	0	0
OH	6	1	0	3
SC	0	0	0	0
SD	7	1	2	2
TN	0	0	1	1
ALL	7	2	3	3

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

## Winter Wheat Percent Planted

	Sep 20 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	0	0	0	2
CA	0	0	0	0
CO	48	25	59	50
GA	0	0	0	1
ID	14	7	25	22
IL	0	0	1	1
IN	4	1	5	4
KS	10	5	21	19
MI	6	4	11	13
MO	1	0	4	4
MT	23	8	29	15
NE	58	33	56	52
NC	5	0	3	5
OH	0	0	1	2
OK	9	4	17	23
OR	3	1	10	14
SD	50	29	68	61
TX	36	25	32	34
WA	60	55	54	54
ALL	21	13	27	26

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

## Winter Wheat Percent Emerged

	Sep 20 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	0	0	0	0
CA	0	0	0	0
CO	20	0	24	14
GA	0	0	0	0
ID	3	1	9	5
IL	0	0	0	0
IN	1	0	2	0
KS	3	0	5	6
MI	0	0	3	1
MO	0	0	0	0
MT	2	0	6	2
NE	23	3	24	13
NC	0	0	0	0
OH	0	0	0	0
OK	2	0	2	4
OR	0	0	3	2
SD	26	10	24	21
TX	12	6	11	12
WA	30	25	33	32
ALL	8	3	9	8

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

## Cotton Percent Bolls Opening

	Sep 20 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	75	62	42	59
AZ	90	80	98	98
AR	78	65	61	68
CA	35	5	99	89
GA	77	68	54	68
LA	95	91	85	91
MS	100	95	72	86
MO	95	78	76	69
NM	64	51	71	69
NC	85	70	45	70
OK	86	78	35	35
SC	75	60	55	66
TN	90	70	59	81
TX	65	57	48	49
ALL	73	62	59	65

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

## Cotton Percent Harvested

	Sep 20 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	11	4	3	4
AZ	7	4	15	11
AR	4	1	0	4
CA	0	0	4	1
GA	9	7	2	6
LA	12	7	10	11
MS	18	8	5	9
MO	2	0	2	5
NM	0	0	0	0
NC	3	0	0	2
OK	1	1	0	1
SC	13	3	0	4
TN	11	2	1	5
TX	30	26	17	21
ALL	17	12	9	12

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

## Rice Percent Harvested

	Sep 20 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	56	41	38	44
CA	10	1	29	11
LA	95	87	84	82
MS	77	57	53	57
TX	94	89	81	85
ALL	60	48	50	50

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

# Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending September 20, 1998

Corn Percent Dented				
	Sep 20 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
CO	92	79	88	85
GA	100	100	100	100
IL	93	87	94	93
IN	98	85	83	91
IA	98	96	93	88
KS	100	99	99	97
KY	98	95	94	98
MI	94	93	52	69
MN	99	99	90	83
MO	100	100	100	94
NE	100	99	94	92
NC	95	90	99	100
OH	95	87	81	86
PA	74	50	63	72
SD	98	93	85	81
TX	100	100	99	99
WI	96	95	63	69
ALL	97	93	88	88

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

Corn Percent Mature				
	Sep 20 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
CO	41	30	28	22
GA	100	100	100	100
IL	65	45	30	46
IN	73	46	31	44
IA	88	65	51	51
KS	91	83	66	64
KY	82	68	57	71
MI	55	47	7	23
MN	82	41	18	30
MO	86	75	72	64
NE	83	47	27	33
NC	90	85	92	96
OH	41	19	7	21
PA	24	16	24	26
SD	63	35	34	33
TX	96	92	82	87
WI	58	36	9	26
ALL	74	51	35	43

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

Corn Percent Harvested				
	Sep 20 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
CO	0	0	0	1
GA	90	86	88	85
IL	11	3	1	3
IN	8	4	2	4
IA	6	3	1	3
KS	39	21	18	16
KY	56	28	16	22
MI	5	4	0	2
MN	6	1	1	1
MO	35	25	21	19
NE	8	2	1	2
NC	60	50	52	53
OH	5	3	0	2
PA	6	1	6	4
SD	6	1	0	1
TX	77	67	64	69
WI	5	2	0	1
ALL	14	8	6	7

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

Sorghum Percent Coloring				
	Sep 20 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	100	95	99	99
CO	81	72	34	64
IL	74	74	81	81
KS	99	92	91	86
LA	100	100	100	100
MS	100	100	98	99
MO	100	94	94	86
NE	99	92	93	86
NM	59	33	62	59
OK	94	93	87	82
SD	90	86	90	80
TX	95	92	91	93
ALL	96	90	89	87

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

Sorghum Percent Mature				
	Sep 20 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	85	80	83	88
CO	25	18	3	12
IL	21	20	18	28
KS	56	38	36	29
LA	100	100	100	96
MS	95	92	90	92
MO	70	50	48	47
NE	51	29	28	25
NM	4	2	5	7
OK	32	31	21	22
SD	54	32	34	31
TX	78	70	65	76
ALL	61	48	44	46

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

Sorghum Percent Harvested				
	Sep 20 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	67	58	59	61
CO	0	0	1	1
IL	1	1	0	1
KS	15	10	9	7
LA	90	90	92	81
MS	85	70	67	70
MO	26	18	12	16
NE	2	0	0	1
NM	0	0	0	1
OK	16	13	6	7
SD	9	6	1	1
TX	59	57	55	65
ALL	30	27	25	28

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

# Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending September 20, 1998

	Sep 20 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	11	10	37	29
FL	16	10	39	15
GA	14	5	25	25
NC	3	0	3	2
OK	0	0	2	2
SC	15	13	19	18
TX	17	13	10	6
VA	9	1	2	9
<b>ALL</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>16</b>

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

	VP	P	F	G	EX
AL	21	35	21	20	3
AR	11	24	40	21	4
GA	21	26	36	16	1
IL	4	9	26	42	19
IN	3	7	28	48	14
IA	2	5	17	50	26
KS	2	7	28	49	14
KY	4	17	37	32	10
LA	19	24	38	17	2
MI	3	19	39	33	6
MN	0	4	25	53	18
MS	7	19	32	37	5
MO	7	15	32	38	8
NE	0	4	21	58	17
NC	3	12	30	50	5
OH	1	6	24	53	16
SC	9	22	47	22	0
SD	1	3	16	52	28
TN	9	22	36	28	5
<b>ALL</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>16</b>
Prev Wk	4	10	26	44	16
Prev Yr	2	8	31	48	11

	VP	P	F	G	EX
CO	1	3	14	41	41
GA	37	29	23	10	1
IL	3	9	24	50	14
IN	3	6	29	48	14
IA	3	6	20	48	23
KS	0	2	18	63	17
KY	1	6	26	53	14
MI	7	22	34	32	5
MN	0	4	22	49	25
MO	3	14	36	38	9
NE	1	2	14	64	19
NC	17	31	33	18	1
OH	2	6	25	52	15
PA	2	8	29	50	11
SD	0	2	10	53	35
TX	8	13	35	38	6
WI	1	5	21	47	26
<b>ALL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>18</b>
Prev Wk	3	8	24	47	18
Prev Yr	3	8	27	48	14

	VP	P	F	G	EX
AL	5	10	52	30	3
AZ	3	20	30	25	22
AR	4	16	37	35	8
CA	0	0	65	35	0
GA	13	25	35	24	3
LA	12	22	34	27	5
MS	7	15	37	35	6
MO	20	24	39	17	0
NM	0	7	30	37	26
NC	1	12	23	59	5
OK	8	18	29	40	5
SC	9	21	43	27	0
TN	4	14	33	41	8
TX	24	25	31	17	3
<b>ALL</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>4</b>
Prev Wk	12	18	37	28	5
Prev Yr	3	10	31	45	11

	VP	P	F	G	EX
AR	4	19	42	31	4
CO	0	0	18	71	11
IL	8	14	27	46	5
KS	1	5	25	55	14
LA	1	22	43	31	3
MS	0	21	57	22	0
MO	1	10	28	53	8
NE	0	2	13	64	21
NM	13	56	22	9	0
OK	7	7	14	71	1
SD	0	1	19	70	10
TX	18	29	31	20	2
<b>ALL</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>9</b>
Prev Wk	7	15	26	43	9
Prev Yr	0	0	0	0	0

	VP	P	F	G	EX
AL	3	13	54	27	3
FL	0	0	88	12	0
GA	7	14	37	33	9
NC	0	0	15	77	8
OK	5	14	39	41	1
SC	11	32	45	12	0
TX	18	19	30	26	7
VA	1	12	26	60	1
<b>ALL</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>6</b>
Prev Wk	6	12	39	36	7
Prev Yr	4	22	36	30	8

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

## State Agricultural Summaries

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

**ALABAMA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Topsoil 49% very short, 30% short, 19% adequate, 2% surplus. Dry weather dominated across most of the State. Relief was limited to only some of the southernmost counties. Corn harvested 79%, 76% 1997, 68% avg. Cotton bolls opened 75%, 42% 1997, 59% avg. Cotton harvested 11%, 3% 1997, 4% avg. Soybeans dropping leaves 48%, 36% 1997, 29% avg. Soybeans harvested 2%, 2% 1997, 1% avg. Peanuts dug 23%, 51% 1997, 37% avg.; combined 11%, 37% 1997, 29% avg. Cotton 5% very poor, 10% poor, 52% fair, 30% good, 3% excellent. Soybean 21% very poor, 35% poor, 21% fair, 20% good, 3% excellent. Peanut 3% very poor, 13% poor, 54% fair, 27% good, 3% excellent. Livestock 5% very poor, 12% poor, 50% fair, 31% good, 2% excellent. Pasture feed 17% very poor, 36% poor, 37% fair, 10% good. Land was prepared for fall seeding. More cattlemen started to feed hay. Fall vegetable planting continued.

**ALASKA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.5. Topsoil 5% short, 85% adequate, 10% surplus. Subsoil moisture 20% short, 70% adequate, 10% surplus. Scattered shows across the State's agricultural areas slowed the fall harvest. Daytime high temperatures ranged mostly in the upper-50's degrees Fahrenheit. Barley crop 80% harvested. Oats crop 25% harvested. Crop slow to ripen in the Matanuska Valley. Commercial potato crop 75% harvested. Other vegetable harvests winding down. Second crop hay, 55% harvested. Scattered showers caused harvest delays. Livestock condition 5% fair, 85% good, 10% excellent.

**ARIZONA:** Cotton bolls opening 90%, 98% 1997, 98% avg. Cotton condition went down a little from the previous week. Condition 3% very poor, 20% poor, 30% fair, 25% good, 22% excellent. Alfalfa harvest activity was reported as 13% not being harvested, 18% light, 17% moderate, 51% active, 1% finished. Alfalfa condition declined from the previous week. Condition was reported as 3% poor, 17% fair, 61% good, 19% excellent. Range, pasture feed 2% very poor, 9% poor, 27% fair, 51% good, 11% excellent. Central area growers continued harvesting cantaloupes, watermelons, while eastern producers finished shipping gala apples, began harvesting gold, red delicious apples, chili peppers. Lemons continued to be shipped from western citrus groves.

**ARKANSAS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.2. Soil moisture 4% very short, 13% short, 68% adequate, 15% surplus. Slow, steady rainfall early in the week produced significant amounts of precipitation over the State, with the heaviest rainfall occurring in the southwest. Temperatures were cool early in the week, sunshine pushed temperatures above normal readings through the end of the week. Main farming activities included: Seeding, fertilizing pastures; harvesting sorghum, rice and cotton; finishing the corn harvest. Rain showers throughout the week slowed these harvest activities slightly, did provide a relief in the irrigation of late variety soybeans in some areas. Precipitation also alleviated very poor range and pasture conditions. Crops continued the development ahead of the five year average in most categories due to the hot, dry conditions that prevailed during the crop's earlier development stages. Other farm activities included: Defoliating cotton, and spraying soybeans and pastures for insects. In addition, some wheat producers were preparing to start their fall planting. Despite rain shower activity, some cattle producers were still being forced to feed hay to their herds due to less than adequate pasture conditions. Cattle producers continued to wean calves, and were also reported as culling some cows in their herds. Cattle were in fair condition statewide. Alfalfa 10% very poor, 27% poor, 30% fair, 32% good, 1% excellent. Other hay 13% very poor, 32% poor, 40% fair, 15% good. Range, pasture feed 21% very poor, 30% poor, 36% fair, 13% good.

**CALIFORNIA:** Field activities progressed normally under favorable conditions in most areas. Ground preparation for fall seeded small grain and forage crops was ongoing. Harvest of corn for grain and silage was in full swing in the San Joaquin and Sacramento Valleys. Rice harvest was slowly

gathering momentum in the Sacramento Valley. Cotton bolls were opening on approximately one-third of the San Joaquin Valley acreage. Many cotton fields were still being sprayed for aphids, lygus, mites and worms. Desert area cotton fields were being defoliated. Seed alfalfa and sugarbeet harvests continued in the San Joaquin and Imperial Valleys. Safflower harvest was nearing completion in most areas. Sunflower harvest was beginning to wind down in the Sacramento Valley. Alfalfa and sugar beets were treated for armyworms. Planting of new crop sugar beets was active in the Imperial Valley. Blackeye beans were cut and windrowed for drying in the San Joaquin Valley. Alfalfa, sudangrass were cut for hay or greenchopped. San Joaquin Valley flame seedless, red globe, ruby seedless grapes were actively harvested for fresh consumption. French colombard grapes were harvested for wine use. Thompson seedless variety grapes were picked for fresh, raisin, wine uses. Raisin grapes were approximately 75% harvested. Half of the crop was on open trays; 10% had been rolled; 5% had been picked up. Warm, breezy weather was beneficial for grape drying. Growers were concerned about low sugar levels, bunch rot. Late-variety stonefruit picking continued. Gala and Granny Smith variety apple picking was active. The fig harvest continued. Bartlett pears were harvested in Lake and Mendocino counties. Asian pear picking was active in the San Joaquin Valley. Prune harvest continued, although some growers were concerned about quality. Almond and walnut harvests gained momentum. Pistachio harvest began. Valencia orange harvest continued at a slow pace. New crop navel oranges were maturing, fruit size was smaller than normal. Lemon, grapefruit picking continued. Strawberries were planted, blooming was underway. Garlic, carrots, turnips, tomatoes, green onions were being harvested. Worm problems were reported in a few areas. Fall potato harvest was starting. Mint harvest in the Tulelake basin was nearing completion, with excellent yields reported. Late-season cantaloupe harvest was underway. Rind decay was observed in some harvested watermelon fields due to uneven maturity. Honeydew melon, vine-seed harvests continued in the Sacramento Valley. Mosaic virus was reported in some pumpkin fields, but it was not expected to affect harvest. Onion, carrot seed harvests were winding down, with average yields reported. A decay problem was reported in red onions due to untimely rains during harvest. Additional vegetable crops that were harvested included; sweet corn, fresh, processing onions, eggplant, bell peppers, green beans, cucumbers, squash, radishes, sweet potatoes, bittermelon (fruit, leaves) beets. Tomato fields remaining for harvest were sprayed for worms, stink bugs. Pesticides were applied to squash, melon fields to control leaf miner, beetles, loopers, aphids, mildew. Fall lettuce, cabbage, broccoli crops were growing well. Fall cucumbers were blooming, setting fruit. Garlic, carrot, onion, potato, broccoli, cauliflower, lettuce fields were being planted in central, southern areas. Native pasture and rangeland were in good to fair condition, with plenty of dry feed and adequate stock water available. Supplemental feeding was necessary in low-elevation areas. Plenty of irrigation water was available for irrigated pastures. Low-elevation range vegetation was very dry and fire danger was extreme. Livestock were in generally good condition, with milk and egg production increasing as daily temperatures moderated. Feeder lambs were being turned onto harvested alfalfa and sudangrass hay fields. In Fresno County, beekeepers were putting out food for bees pollinating late-season melons.

**COLORADO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Topsoil moisture 14% very short, 40% short, 46% adequate. Subsoil moisture 9% very short, 36% short, 54% adequate 1% surplus. Late-season crops continue to be pushed toward maturity by hot, mostly dry weather. Harvest of other crops is also progressing favorably. Spring barley 97% harvested, 100% 1997, 93% avg. Oats 94% harvested, 99% 1997, 87% avg. Dry onions 77% harvested, 86% 1997, 77% avg. Sugar beets 1% poor, 9% fair, 64% good, 26% excellent. Summer potatoes 82% harvested, 74% 1997, 72% avg. Fall potatoes 30% harvested, 30% 1997, 22% avg.; condition 11% poor, 25% fair, 49% good, 15% excellent. Dry beans 84% cut, 76% 1997, 69% avg.; 62% threshed, 55% 1997, 52% avg.; 1% poor, 24% fair, 52% good, 23% excellent. Alfalfa 70% 3rd cutting, 65% 1997, 62% avg.; 1% very poor, 3% poor, 22% fair, 57% good, 17% excellent. Spring wheat 91% harvested, 70% 1997, 75% avg. Pasture feed, range in mostly fair to good condition.

**DELAWARE:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Topsoil moisture 5% very short, 56% short, 39% adequate. Subsoil 3% very short, 46% short, 51% adequate. Soybeans 85% setting pods, 81% 1997, 93% avg.; 41% turned, 19% 1997, 28% avg.; 10% shedding leaves, 11% 1997, 14% avg.; 10% poor, 27% fair, 63% good. Field corn 91% dent, 84% 1997, 94% avg.; 66% mature, 29% 1997, 59% avg.; 28% combined, 8% 1997, 19% avg.; 4% very poor, 21% poor, 34% fair, 37% good, 4% excellent. Silage 68% harvested, 64% 1997, 75% avg. Apples 59% harvested, 63% 1997, 56% avg.; 2% poor, 14% fair, 76% good, 8% excellent. Sorghum 62% turning color, 47% 1997, 52% avg.; 10% mature, 4% 1997, 19% avg.; 10% poor, 27% fair, 63% good. Sweet corn 86% harvested, 95% 1997, 98% avg. Watermelons 86% harvested, 93% 1997, 97% avg. Snap beans 85% harvested, 84% 1997, 92% avg. Lima beans 68% harvested, 73% 1997, 68% avg. Tomatoes 85% picked, 91% 1997, 96% avg. Alfalfa hay 51% 4th cutting, 61% 1997, 51% avg. Other hay 94% 3rd cutting, 97% 1997, 82% avg.; 38% 4th cutting, 32% 1997, 15% avg. Hay supplies 18% short, 82% adequate. Pasture feed 26% poor, 41% fair, 31% good, 2% excellent. Activities: Showers received Friday morning south of Dover. Corn, lima bean harvest was active, pumpkins being harvested, wheat being seeded as corn was harvested.

**FLORIDA:** Topsoil moisture mostly adequate with scattered areas short or surplus. Haying active. Tobacco marketing active. Fall armyworms serious pest in hay fields, pastures. White mold serious problems in many peanut fields. Sugarcane planting started. Peanut 16% acreage for nuts harvested; fair 88%, good 12%. The rainfall delayed some vegetable field activities; minor flooding reported, Dade County; some plant beds washed out, East Coast region. Rain from tropical depression most areas, some growers recorded 2-5 inches this week. Abundant new citrus growth in all areas. New crop fruit progressing well. Maturity, sizes generally lagging behind last year. Packing houses running limited white and colored grapefruit and some Navels. Caretakers cutting cover crops, pushing, and removing dead trees, discing, plowing wet grove land. Pasture feed fair 35%, good 60%, excellent 5%. Cattle fair 10%, good 85%, excellent 5%. Statewide, pasture condition declined slightly from previous week. Grass growth reported good in central area due to adequate soil moisture. Statewide, cattle, calves mostly in fair to good condition.

**GEORGIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Soil moisture 23% very short, 41% short, 35% adequate, 1% surplus. Corn 90% harvested for grain, 88% 1997, 85% avg. Cotton 13% very poor, 25% poor, 35% fair, 24% good, 3% excellent; 77% bolls open, 54% 1997, 68% avg.; 9% harvested, 2% 1997, 6% avg. Hay 15% very poor, 27% poor, 36% fair, 21% good, 1% excellent. Peanuts 7% very poor, 14% poor, 37% fair, 33% good, 9% excellent; 25% dug, 41% 1997, 41% avg.; 14% threshed, 25% 1997, 25% avg. Rye 8% planted, 5% 1997, 6% avg. Sorghum 12% very poor, 28% poor, 39% fair, 21% good; 53% harvested for grain, 33% 1997, 42% avg. Soybeans 21% very poor, 26% poor, 36% fair, 16% good, 1% excellent; 100% setting pods, 100% 1997, 99% avg.; 32% dropping leaves, 53% 1997, 34% avg. Tobacco 93% harvested, 100% 1997, 99% avg. Apples 11% poor, 66% fair, 23% good; 47% harvested, 50% 1997, 47% avg. Pecans 17% very poor, 29% poor, 33% fair, 21% good. Pasture feed 16% very poor, 26% poor, 37% fair, 20% good, 1% excellent. Hot, dry soils in northern areas delaying planting, preparation for fall crops. Irrigating most major crops, vegetables continue. Spraying continues in most fields for armyworms. Most areas critically in need of rain. Major crops, pasture, hay suffering from extremely dry conditions. Digging peanuts, defoliating cotton active. Other activities include harvesting peanuts, cotton, irrigating vegetables, harvesting hay, caring for livestock.

**HAWAII:** Mixture of sunshine, showers remained mostly fair for agriculture. Parched areas of Hawaii Island received some showers, more needed. Irrigation heavy. Insects, diseases under control for most crops. Banana orchards in good condition. Local harvesting very active. Papaya trees continued good progress under summer conditions. Harvesting increasing in some areas. Head, Chinese cabbage production steady at a heavy level. Harvesting of cucumbers, dry onions slowed.

**IDAHO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Topsoil moisture 1% surplus, 57% adequate, 38% short, 4% very short. South-central areas report rain damage to cut alfalfa, dry beans. Temperatures cool down with little precipitation. Alfalfa hay 3rd cutting 80%, 1997 60%, avg. 58%. Irrigation supply 38%

excellent, 55% good, 7% fair. Dry beans harvested 41%, 1997 61%, avg. 55%. Oats harvested 96%, 1997 82%, avg. 82%. Onions harvested 29%, 1997 50%, avg. 52%. Hops harvested 68%, 1997 92%, avg. 84%. Peaches harvested 80%, 1997 97%, avg. 92%. Prunes and plums harvested 42%, 1997 95%, avg. 83%. Apples harvested 11%, 1997 18%, avg. 16%. Potato vines dead/killed 61%, 1997 79%, avg. 83%; harvested 16%, 1997 17%, avg. 15%. Sweet corn harvested 85%, 1997 89%, avg. 87%. Corn harvested for silage 24%, 1997 38%, avg. 32%. Corn harvested for grain 2%, 1997 4%, avg. 1%. Sugar beets harvested 3%, 1997 5%, avg. 4%. Barley harvested 98%, 1997 89%, avg. 89%. Spring wheat harvested 99%, 1997 91%, avg. 87%. Activities: rolling, killing potato vines, harvesting potatoes, hay, dry beans, oats, onions, hops, sweet corn, early apples, sugar beets.

**ILLINOIS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.1. Topsoil moisture 7% very short, 37% short, 54% adequate, 2% surplus. Warm weather combined with scattered showers helped the corn, soybean crops advance toward maturity quickly last week. Corn harvest picked up across most of the State, is ahead of normal. Soybean condition remains relatively unchanged as harvest is just getting started. Activities: Tending livestock, mowing roadsides, preparing equipment for harvest. Soybeans turning yellow 81%, 79% 1997, 72% avg. Alfalfa 3rd cutting 94%, 93% 1997, 90% avg.

**INDIANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Topsoil moisture 35% very short, 50% short, 15% adequate. Subsoil moisture 24% very short, 47% short, 29% adequate. Corn, soybean harvests gained momentum last week as warm, sunny weather helped crops advance toward maturity. Soil conditions are dry around the State, some areas received scattered showers over the weekend. Tobacco harvest 75% complete, 46% 1997, 68% avg. Range, pasture feed 10% very poor, 29% poor, 37% fair, 20% good, 4% excellent. Activities: Harvesting corn, soybeans, seeding winter wheat, baling alfalfa, harvesting tobacco, mowing lots, roadsides, caring for livestock, preparing equipment, grain bins for fall harvest.

**IOWA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Topsoil moisture very short 10%, short 32%, adequate 53%, surplus 5%. Subsoil moisture very short 8%, short 25%, adequate 62%, surplus 5%. Dry weather continued to push plants to early maturity; some concern about drying down too fast. Harvest begun. Reports of second generation corn borers in southwestern district. Iowa 1998 row crops: Corn dent stage 98%, 93% 1997, 88% avg.; corn acreage mature 88%, 51% 1997, 51% avg.; corn acreage harvested 6%, 1% 1997, 3% avg. Corn 3% very poor, 6% poor, 20% fair, 48% good, 23% excellent. Soybeans leaves turning color 95%, 91% 1997, 77% avg.; soybeans leaves dropping 71%, 49% 1997, 42% avg.; soybean acreage harvested 5%, 3% 1997, 3% avg. Soybean 2% very poor, 5% poor, 17% fair, 50% good, 26% excellent. Third crop alfalfa harvested 88%, 90% 1997, 83% avg. Livestock generally in good condition. Pinkeye subsiding in south-central, southeastern Iowa. Pastures running out in some areas with dry conditions; cattle being fed chopped silage to sustain flesh. Pasture feed 7% very poor, 17% poor, 29% fair, 36% good, 11% excellent.

**KANSAS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Topsoil moisture 16% very short, 47% short, 30% adequate, 7% surplus. Subsoil moisture 8% very short, 35% short, 55% adequate, 2% surplus. Wheat seeding continues but slowly. Fall harvest continues ahead of normal. Eastern third received rain with the heaviest amounts in the southeast. Rain is still needed in the western two-thirds. Sunflowers ray flowers dry 96%; bracts yellow 87%; mature 47%, 42% 1997, NA avg.; harvested 14%, 5% 1997, NA avg. Sunflowers 1% very poor, 3% poor, 18% fair, 68% good, 10% excellent. Alfalfa 4th cutting 78%, 66% 1997, 58% avg. Major field activities: Seeding, preparing for seeding, applying fertilizer, cutting hay, harvesting silage, harvesting grain. Pasture conditions 2% very poor, 13% poor, 36% fair, 44% good, 5% excellent. The rain helped pastures. Stockwater 2% very short, 17% short, 76% adequate, 5% surplus.

**KENTUCKY:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Topsoil moisture 74% very short, 25% short, 1% adequate. Subsoil moisture 59% very short, 34% short, 7% adequate. For the week, above-normal temperatures Statewide, rainfall 0.50 inches below normal. Late tobacco, soybeans still need rain badly. Tobacco condition variable; most early set still expected to have high yields later set tobacco is suffering from heat and dry soils. Burley tobacco cut 85%, 53% 1997, 75% avg. Dark tobacco cut 88%, 69% 1997, 81% avg. Tobacco showing houseburn was 85% none, 13% light, 2% moderate.

Conditions of tobacco in field 22% very poor, 30% poor, 30% fair, 15% good, 3% excellent. Hay 13% very poor, 36% poor, 29% fair, 20% good 2% excellent. Pasture feed 19% very poor, 39% poor, 29% fair, 12% good, 1% excellent. Some feeding hay due to stressed pastures, but concerns of a shortage have been limited due to a very good first cutting of hay.

**LOUISIANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 2.4. Soil moisture 7% short, 57% adequate, 36% surplus. Corn 99% harvested, 100% 1997, 98% avg. Cotton: cloudy humid conditions increased boll rot in cotton. Hay 77% final cutting, 97% 1997, 85% avg. Rice 99% ripe, 97% 1997, 96% avg.; harvest progressed. Soybeans 88% turning color, 77% 1997, 69% avg.; infested with stinkbugs. Sugarcane 6% very poor, 13% poor, 33% fair, 34% good, 14% excellent; 62% planted, 89% 1997, 72% avg. Sweet potatoes 3% very poor, 15% poor, 49% fair, 33% good; 31% harvested, 40% 1997, 39% avg. Livestock 3% very poor, 11% poor, 40% fair, 43% good, 3% excellent. Vegetables 11% very poor, 25% poor, 40% fair, 22% good, 2% excellent. Pastures continued to be plagued with armyworms.

**MARYLAND:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Topsoil moisture 39% very short, 42% short, 19% adequate. Subsoil moisture 36% very short, 47% short, 17% adequate. Field corn 7% very poor, 17% poor, 34% fair, 37% good, 5% excellent; 95% dough, 99% 1997, 98% avg.; 89% dent, 90% 1997, 94% avg.; 64% mature, 39% 1997, 60% avg.; 35% combined, 8% 1997, 19% avg.; 65% harvested for silage, 45% 1997, 61% avg. Soybeans 19% very poor, 45% poor, 21% fair, 13% good, 2% excellent; 34% turned, 32% 1997, 42% avg.; 17% shedding leaves, 12% 1997, 19% avg. Sorghum 5% very poor, 40% poor, 38% fair, 16% good, 1% excellent; 52% turned, 56% 1997, 62% avg.; 10% mature, 4% 1997, 20% avg.; 10% harvested, 2% 1997, 4% avg. Tobacco 89% harvested, 91% 1997, 85% avg. Snap beans 94% harvested, 90% 1997, 94% avg. Lima beans 65% harvested, 46% 1997, 59% avg. Pasture feed 20% very poor, 45% poor, 21% fair, 14% good. Apples 1% poor, 17% fair, 74% good, 8% excellent; 36% harvested, 31% 1997, 38% avg. Other hay 93% 3rd cutting harvested, 68% 1997, 72% avg.; 55% 4th cutting, 15% 1997, 31% avg. Alfalfa hay 70% 4th cutting, 57% 1997, 67% avg. Hay supplies 4% very short, 30% short, 56% adequate, 10% surplus. Activities: Continued dry weather for the week. Continued harvesting of corn, tobacco. Sorghum harvesting started this week.

**MICHIGAN:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil moisture 25% very short, 45% short, 30% adequate. Subsoil moisture 37% very short, 41% short, 22% adequate. Hay third cutting 88%, 69% 1997, 70% avg.; 4th cutting 28%, 16% 1997, 17% avg. Dry beans mature 94%, 54% 1997, 57% avg.; harvested 76%, 8% 1997, 27% avg. Soybeans turning leaves 91%, 60% 1997, 72% avg.; mature 30%, 5% 1997, 12% avg. Silage harvested 66%, 8% 1997, 27% avg. Rain fell over most of State ranging from 1/2 to over 2 inches of rain. Rain helped sugarbeets and added moisture for fall-planted grains. Much more rain is needed to replenish subsoil moisture deficiencies. Crop maturation aided by temperatures 7 to 10 degrees Fahrenheit above normal. Widespread rains aided growth on hay, alfalfa fields. Growth many areas not sufficient for 4th cutting. Winter wheat planting continued, expanded as Hessian fly-free date moved south, some areas still too dry for planting. Early harvest of corn and soybeans will open more land to possibility of planting winter wheat. Recent rains will aid emergence of earlier-planted wheat. Corn harvest gained momentum as relatively warm, dry weather encouraged early maturity. Other corn was chopped for silage. Rain reduced problem of splitting, shattering seeds as dry bean harvest continued. Potato harvest continued, with good quality. Warm weather continued to aid vegetable maturity. Harvesting of processing peppers was over half complete. Fresh pepper harvest continued. Broccoli harvest was underway, carrot harvest continued. Processing varieties of winter squash, processing carrots continued to mature. Harvest is about 2 weeks away in west-central area. Harvest of cucumbers, celery continued. Apple harvest in high gear. Crop in Grand Rapids area about one-third harvested. Growers picked Empires, Jonathans. Labor supply has been adequate. Where there was no irrigation, fruit size was below normal. Concord grape harvest began.

**MINNESOTA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Topsoil moisture 16% very short, 43% short, 41% adequate. Soybeans 98% turning yellow, 91% 1997, 81% avg.; 51% mature, 18% 1997, 14% avg. Sweet corn 98% harvested, 89% 1997, 85% avg. Potatoes 34% harvested, 36% 1997, 31% avg. Dry beans 81% harvested, 54% 1997, 47% avg. Rye 90% seeded, 83% 1997, 68% avg. Flax 76% harvested, 29% 1997, 33% avg. Sugar beets 7%

harvested, 5% 1997, 7% avg. Sunflowers 4% harvested, 0% 1997, 3% avg. Corn 92% silage cut, 34% 1997, 30% avg. Stubble plowed 75%, 58% 1997, 56% avg. Pasture feed 14% very poor, 20% poor, 40% fair, 24% good, 2% excellent. Sugar beets 2% poor, 17% fair, 55% good, 26% excellent. Sunflowers 3% very poor, 9% poor, 48% fair, 38% good, 2% excellent. Another week of warm, dry weather allowed good progress on the corn, soybean harvest across the State. Little precipitation occurred last week over much of the State, causing topsoil moisture conditions to decrease for the third week in a row. Corn has dried down well in the field due to the warm, dry weather. Some farmers are hoping for a hard frost that will finish off the green stems left in the soybean fields.

**MISSISSIPPI:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.3. Soil moisture 17% very short, 30% short, 50% adequate, 3% surplus. Corn 96% harvested, 77% 1997, 69% avg.; 98% silage harvested 99% 1997, 95% avg. Cotton 100% open bolls, 72% 1997, 86% avg.; 18% harvested, 5% 1997, 9% avg.; 7% very poor, 15% poor, 37% fair, 35% good, 6% excellent. Rice 93% mature, 87% 1997, 85% avg.; 77% harvested, 53% 1997, 57% avg.; 5% poor, 28% fair, 52% good, 15% excellent. Sorghum 95% mature, 90% 1997, 92% avg.; 85% harvested, 67% 1997, 70% avg.; 90% silage harvested, 70% 1997, 82% avg.; 21% poor, 57% fair, 22% good. Soybeans 91% turning color, 75% 1997, 68% avg.; 69% shedding leaves, 57% 1997, 44% avg.; 29% harvested, 22% 1997, 18% avg.; 7% very poor, 19% poor, 32% fair, 37% good, 5% excellent. Sweet potatoes 30% harvested, 23% 1997, 39% avg.; 2% very poor, 8% poor, 45% fair, 41% good, 4% excellent. Wheat 10% planted, 2% 1997, 2% avg. Peanuts 16% harvested, 16% 1997, 29% avg.; 1% poor, 35% fair, 60% good, 4% excellent. Hay 100% harvested (warm season) 94% 1997, 98% avg. Cattle 1% very poor, 7% poor, 25% fair, 57% good, 10% excellent. Pasture feed 11% very poor, 20% poor, 33% fair, 31% good, 5% excellent. Activities: Scattered showers were received in some areas of the State. Rice, soybeans harvested are ahead of last year, average.

**MISSOURI:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.7. Topsoil moisture 8% very short, 19% short, 58% adequate, 15% surplus. The most notable shortages continue in southeast, with 77% short to very short, followed by south-central at 59% short to very short, northeast, east-central, southwest at 30% short to very short. Corn mature 86%, 72% 1997, 64% avg. All corn is mature in the southwest, southeast districts, with 89% harvested. The corn crop is least advanced in northeast, with 61% mature due to late planting, while the remaining areas are over 85% mature. Soybean maturity is 3 days ahead of last year and 5 days ahead of normal. Beans in north-central, east-central are most advanced at about 20% mature, 5% harvested. Least advanced beans are south-central, southeast with less than 8% mature. Sorghum in northeast district is least advanced at 29% mature, while most major producing areas have over 75% mature. Sorghum harvesting is 10 days ahead of both last year, 16% normal. Rainfall past week avg 1.70 in., ranging from less than a half an inch in Bootheel to over 1.5 in. in all remaining districts. Pasture feed 4% very poor, 16% poor, 39% fair, 36% good, 5% excellent.

**MONTANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.4. Topsoil moisture 28% very short, 48% short, 24% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 32% very short, 43% short, 25% adequate. Conditions hot at the beginning of the week, cooled off toward the end of the week, with most of the State receiving some amounts of precipitation. Spring wheat harvested 100%, 93% 1997, 81% avg. Barley harvested 99%, 94% 1997, 81% avg. Oats harvested 99%, 95% 1997, 83% avg. Corn harvested for silage 66%, 47% 1997, 47% avg. Dry beans harvested 83%, 69% 1997, 63% avg. Second-cutting alfalfa 96%, 90% 1997, 89% avg. Sugar beets harvested 3%, 5% 1997, 3% avg. Potatoes harvested 2%, 5% 1997, 7% avg. Range, pasture feed mostly fair to poor. Lack of rain still causing a lot of stress to range conditions. Therefore, ranchers are moving cattle, sheep off of pasture at percentages greater than normal.

**NEBRASKA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.7. Topsoil moisture 11% very short, 53% short, 36% adequate. Subsoil moisture 8% very short, 38% short, 54% adequate. Fifth hot, dry week in a row, rapid maturation, drydown of fall crops continuing. Rainfall light except for heavy amounts of up to 3 inches in portions of the southeast over the weekend. Corn 1% very poor, 2% poor, 14% fair, 64% good, 19% excellent; irrigated corn 86% good or excellent; dryland corn 78% good or excellent; mature 83%, 2 weeks ahead of 27% 1997, 33% avg.; harvested 8%, 1% 1997, 2% avg. Stalk rot common

in many fields. Soybean 4% poor, 21% fair, 58% good, 17% excellent; nearly all crop colored; dropping leaves 71%, 55% last year, 41% avg. Harvested 4%, 2% 1997, 4% avg. Sorghum 2% poor, 13% fair, 64% good, 21% excellent; mature 51%, 26% 1997, 25% avg. Dry beans 1% very poor, 7% poor, 28% fair, 53% good, 11% excellent; nearly all the crop was dropping leaves; harvested 55%, 62% 1997, 49% avg. Alfalfa 1% very poor, 8% poor, 28% fair, 55% good, 8% excellent; 4rd cutting 27%, 26% 1997, 26% avg. Wheat seeding 58%, 56% 1997, 52% avg.; emergence 23%, 24% 1997, 13% avg. Pasture feed declined due to the extended dry conditions; 4% very poor, 14% poor, 32% fair, 44% good, 6% excellent. Dusty conditions causing health problems in cattle. Producer activities; corn silage harvest, grain harvest preparations, machinery maintenance, livestock care, marketing.

**NEVADA:** Rain damaged hay from the previous week was raked and baled, although cooler, humid weather slowed hay curing. Third, 4th cuttings of alfalfa were underway in northern valleys. Alfalfa seed harvest continued. Winter wheat, spring wheat, barley harvests were nearly completed in the Winnemucca area. Field preparation for fall grain seeding was underway. Mint harvest continued in Orovada. Harvest of garlic for seed use continued and fields were being prepared for planting of the 1999 crop. Onion harvest continued. Harvesting of corn for silage gained momentum. Potatoes remained in fair condition, with harvest approaching. Pasture, range condition continued to rate mostly good, with drying slowed by recent rains. Cattle movement, calf marketing continued. Main farm, ranch activities: Haying, alfalfa seed harvest, onion harvest, mint harvest, garlic harvest, planting winter grains, fall seeding of alfalfa, irrigating, cattle marketing.

**NEW ENGLAND:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Topsoil moisture 8% very short, 25% short, 58% adequate, 9% surplus. Subsoil moisture 6% very short, 22% short, 69% adequate, 3% surplus. Pasture feed 5% very poor, 9% poor, 37% fair, 48% good, 1% excellent. Maine potatoes 10% harvested, 10% 1997, 20% avg.; condition good to fair. Massachusetts potatoes 70% harvested, 70% 1997, 60% avg.; condition good. Rhode Island potatoes 55% harvested, 70% 1997, 60% avg.; condition good to fair. Oats in Maine 85% harvested, 60% 1997, 80% avg.; condition good to fair. Barley in Maine 90% harvested, 65% 1997; condition good to fair. Field corn 25% harvested, 10% 1997, 20% avg.; condition good. Sweet corn 90% harvested, 90% 1997, 95% avg.; condition good to fair. Broadleaf tobacco 100% harvested, 99% 1997, 99% avg.; condition good to fair. First-cut hay 99% harvested, 99% 1997, 99% avg.; condition fair. Second-cut hay 95% harvested, 80% 1997, 85% avg.; condition good to fair. Third-cut hay 50% harvested, 65% 1997, 55% avg.; condition good to excellent. Apples 35% harvested, 45% 1997, 30% avg., size average; condition good to fair. Peaches 95% harvested, 95% 1997, 95% avg., size average; condition good to fair. Pears 40% harvested, 25% 1997, 55% avg., size average; condition good. Cranberries <5% harvested, 5% 1997, 5% avg.; size average, condition good to excellent. Major farm activities included: Harvested field corn, hay, small grains; planted cover crops; picked apples, peaches, pears, raspberries, an array of late summer, fall vegetables including pumpkins, squash.

**NEW JERSEY:** Days suitable for fieldwork 7. Farmers are irrigating crops, planting cover crops, spraying for disease, pests, harvesting fruits, vegetables, cutting hay. Feed requirements are below average to average. Irrigation water supply is short to adequate. Good volume of green beans, eggplant, peppers, squash. Moderate volume of beets, cabbage, cucumbers, endive, escarole, herbs, leeks, lettuce, spinach, sweet corn, pickles. Tomatoes are moderate, declining in volume. Light supply of okra, parsley, pumpkins, radishes, Indian corn, turnips. Harvesting of sweet potatoes is increasing. Apple harvest is well underway with red delicious, 0 paula red, ginger gold and gala being the main varieties. Peach harvest is complete. Field crops (especially corn) need rain. Harvesting of corn for silage continues with corn for grain starting to be harvested in a couple of locations. Soybeans are dropping their leaves. Fourth cuttings of alfalfa reported. Pastures are in poor to fair condition.

**NEW MEXICO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.9. Topsoil moisture continued to decline, falling to 17% very short, 52% short, 29% adequate, 2% surplus. State experienced another warm, dry week. Wheat producers were still planting last week as apple and green chile harvests continued. Sixty-five percent of the fall wheat crop was in the ground, 62% 1997, 62% avg.; 27% emerged, 23% 1997, 18% avg. Apples 39% picked, 39% 1997; 17% fair,

80% good, 3% excellent. Green chile harvest moved to 60% complete, 76% 1997; 1% poor, 18% fair, 64% good, 17% excellent. Corn silage harvest was moving along quickly with 64% harvested. Overall, corn crop 6% poor, 24% fair, 61% good, 9% excellent; 90% dented, 90% 1997; 39% mature, 42% 1997. Sorghum harvest is about 1 month away, early-season dry weather will reduce the acres to be harvested and production of this year's crop. The fourth, fifth, and sixth cuttings of alfalfa inched forward to 87%, 64%, 15% complete, respectively; 1% very poor, 4% poor, 34% fair, 53% good, 8% excellent. Outlook for the cotton crop remains favorable, there have been no reports of major damage to the crop by weather, insects or disease this year. Lettuce 18% fair, 28% good, 54% excellent. Pecans remained in good condition, with an average drop reported this year. Cattle were in fair to good condition, while sheep remained in mostly fair condition.

**NEW YORK:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Soil moisture 20% short, 65% adequate, 15% surplus. Pasture feed 11% poor, 20% fair, 69% good. Corn 8% fair, 59% good, 33% excellent. Silage harvest 27% finished, 9% 1997, 18% avg. Grain corn harvest underway, 2 weeks ahead of average. Hay 91% good, 9% excellent. Third-cutting alfalfa 76% complete, 74% 1997, 72% avg. Oat harvest finished. Dry beans 30% harvested. Potato harvest in full swing. Upstate crop 50% dug. Fresh apples in short supply in Lake Ontario fruit region as result of hail and high winds during Labor Day storm. Harvest was 30% finished. Concord grape harvest underway in Lake Erie region. Grapes have high sugar levels. Vegetable harvests winding down. Onion digging continues with poor yields in Orange County due to hail damage.

**NORTH CAROLINA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Soil moisture 18% very short, 40% short, 40% adequate, 2% surplus. Another dry week in State allowed farmers to get into the fields as harvest season is in full swing. Dry weather continues to be a concern especially in the western half of the State. Activities for the week included: Harvesting tobacco, corn; cutting hay; planting small grains, tending livestock. Cotton harvest, peanut threshing kicked off this week as well.

**NORTH DAKOTA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Topsoil moisture 10% very short, 38% short, 52% adequate. Subsoil moisture 12% very short, 40% short, 48% adequate. Above-normal temperatures, dry conditions allowed excellent progress on late-season crop harvest. A hard freeze was reported in the northwest, light frost was reported at other stations across the State. Small grain harvest is virtually complete about 3 weeks ahead of average. Warm weather has accelerated corn, sunflower dry down process. Canola 98% combined, 75% 1997. Corn for grain 67% ripe, 33% 1997, 35% avg.; 6% harvested, 0% 1997, 0% avg. Corn for silage 45% chopped, 40% 1997, 33% avg. Dry edible beans 95% cut, 73% 1997, 56% avg.; 86% combined, 51% 1997, 39% avg. Flaxseed 92% combined, 78% 1997, 46% avg. Potatoes 94% vines killed, 86% 1997, 90% avg.; 50% dug, 34% 1997, 39% avg. Soybeans 81% mature leaves dropping, 74% 1997, 65% avg.; 19% harvested, 19% 1997, 11% avg. Sugar beets 6% lifted, 4% 1997, 6% avg. Sunflower 95% bracts turned yellow, 92% 1997, 84% avg.; 57% bracts turned brown, 51% 1997, 44% avg. Most late-season crop conditions remained relatively unchanged. Emerged crop condition: corn for grain 3% very poor, 12% poor, 25% fair, 53% good, 7% excellent; corn for silage 1% very poor, 4% poor, 35% fair, 51% good, 9% excellent; potatoes 2% poor, 12% fair, 51% good, 35% excellent; soybeans 4% very poor, 18% poor, 30% fair, 42% good, 6% excellent; sugar beets 1% very poor, 6% poor, 16% fair, 51% good, 26% excellent; sunflower 3% poor, 22% fair, 60% good, 15% excellent. Stockwater 1% very short, 9% short, 85% adequate, 5% surplus.

**OHIO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Topsoil moisture 25% very short, 42% short, 32% adequate, 1% surplus. Corn dented 95%, 81% 1997, 86% avg.; mature 41%, 7% 1997, 21% avg.; harvested for silage 40%, 9% 1997, 28% avg.; harvested for grain 5%, 0% 1997, 2% avg. Soybeans dropping leaves 76%, 47% 1997, 57% avg.; nine days ahead of 1997; mature 28%, 5% 1997, 18% avg.; harvested 6%, 0% 1997, 3% avg. Alfalfa hay 96% 3rd cutting, 83% 1997, 88% avg.; 49% 4th cutting. Other hay 82% 3rd cutting, 60% 1997, 61% avg. Tobacco 81% cut, 50% 1997. Fall, winter apples 29% harvested, 13% 1997, 13% avg. Hay 4% very poor, 9% poor, 32% fair, 46% good, 9% excellent. Farm activities: Making hay; harvesting corn, soybeans; cutting silage; preparing ground for wheat planting; attending field days; hauling manure; spreading lime, fertilizer; preparing grain bins for storage; mowing ditch lanes; fixing, installing tile; building waterways, ponds; pressing cider; marketing 1997 grain; mending fences; sowing rye cover crops;

cutting, housing tobacco; reporting acres for LDP's; harvesting tomatoes, potatoes, other vegetables. Reported weed pressures were giant foxtail, ragweed; Canadian thistle; goldenrod; velvetleaf; lambsquarter; Johnsongrass; ironweed. Reported insects were Asian tiger mosquito in livestock; worms in sweet corn; barn flies; leafhoppers; bird, animal damage in the corn crop. Reported diseases were white mold, Phytophthora in soybeans; smut in sweet corn; late blight, dry rot in tomatoes; rot, mold in squash; stalk rot in corn. Pumpkin producers are concerned about keeping the early crop fresh until Halloween. Most other vegetables, fruits are in good condition with reporters mentioning a "vintage" grape crop with high sugars. An Ottawa county reporter mentioned damage to the pumpkin, tomato, pepper crops due to excess rain. Pasture, grass condition is rapidly deteriorating as a result of inadequate rainfall. Some farmers are rotating cattle on different pastures, feeding hay as a supplement to poor grass. Hot, dry weather in the southern part of the State has caused some stress on cattle. Mosquitoes, face flies continue to be a problem. Most reporters comment on good cattle conditions.

**OKLAHOMA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Topsoil moisture 42% very short, 42% short, 16% adequate. Subsoil moisture 31% very short, 39% short, 30% adequate. Rain, cooler weather allowed many wheat producers an opportunity to complete final seedbed preparation for planting. Wheat seedbed prepared 73%, 86% 1997, 86% avg.; oats seedbed prepared 60%, 77% 1997, 76% avg.; planted 7%, 4% 1997, 12% avg. Corn 4% very poor, 6% poor, 7% fair, 83% good; mature 98%, 23% 1997, 67% avg.; harvested 74%, 15% 1997, 41% avg. Soybeans 14% very poor, 26% poor, 49% fair, 10% good, 1% excellent; mature 75%, 24% 1997, 41% avg. harvested 27%, 5% 1997, 12% avg. Peanuts mature 48%, 24% 1997, 32% avg. Alfalfa hay 13% very poor, 21% poor, 33% fair, 31% good, 2% excellent; 4th cutting 43%, 75% 1997, 80% avg.; 5th cutting 4%, 10% 1997, 18% avg. Other hay 2nd cutting 22%, 46% 1997, 88% avg. Livestock 3% very poor, 10% poor, 31% fair, 55% good, 1% excellent.

**OREGON:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Topsoil moisture 15% very short, 29% short, 56% adequate. Subsoil moisture 7% very short, 16% short, 77% adequate. Barley harvested 94%, 93% 1997, 89% avg. Winter wheat planted 3%, 10% 1997, 14% avg. Range, pasture feed 3% very poor, 6% poor, 21% fair, 68% good, 2% excellent. Activities: Field preparation for fall seeding continued. Field corn for silage harvest started Willamette Valley. New grass seed fields were being planted, with irrigation needed before, after planting. Barley and winter wheat planting began in east. Mint harvest continued central. Some hay, alfalfa seed was also being harvested. Field preparation for fall planting continues at nurseries, greenhouses. Nurseries are gearing up for bare root digging after leaf drop. Some over-sized trees at nurseries are being identified for disposal. Christmas tree growers have lost young Christmas trees because of the lack of rain this summer. Green bean harvest neared completion west. Sweet corn harvest continued, pumpkins were coloring. Cucumbers were winding down. Onions were being harvested, potatoes were moving to storage northern Willamette Valley. Hot weather east slowed onion, potato harvests. Hazelnuts were dropping, walnuts continued to size Willamette Valley. In the north Willamette Valley, Evergreen blackberry harvest neared end, while caneberry pruning, training continued. Apple harvest was underway. In the south, tree fruit harvest continued. Growers were completing new cranberry beds southern coast; harvest of this year's crop is expected to start next week. Apple harvest delayed by hot weather Milton-Freewater District. Livestock remain mostly good. Fall calving, early weaning continued northeast. Supplemental feeding continued in the Willamette Valley. Ranges, pastures continued dry across the State, rain late in the week should get fall growth started in most regions.

**PENNSYLVANIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Soil moisture 31% very short, 53% short, 16% adequate. Ensilage corn harvested 40% harvested, 24% 1997, 31% avg. Soybean harvest 4% complete, 2% 1997, 1% avg.; 1% very poor, 4% poor, 23% fair, 56% good, 16% excellent. Wheat planted 5% complete, 34% 1997, 24% avg.; emerged 1% complete, 8% 1997, average not available. Barley planted 19% complete, 28% 1997, 24% avg.; emerged 9% complete, 17% 1997, average not available. Tobacco 99% harvested, 87% 1997, 92% avg. Potato harvest 55% complete, 37% 1997, 45% avg. Alfalfa 3rd cutting 85% complete, 84% 1997, 79% avg. Alfalfa 4th cutting 49% complete, 54% 1997, 41% avg. Timothy clover 2nd cutting 90% complete, 95% 1997, 93% avg. Quality of hay made 2% very poor, 6% poor, 20% fair, 58% good, 14% excellent. Apple harvest 39% complete, 37% 1997, 39% avg. Peach harvest 95% complete, 95% 1997, 95% avg. Grape

harvest 30% complete, 19% 1997, 36% avg. Fall plowing 33% complete, 51% 1997, 46% avg. Activities: Fall lambing; fall plowing; cutting hay, haying; harvesting fruit; harvesting vegetables; seeding cover crop in corn fields; clipping pastures; filling silos; machinery maintenance; fixing fences; hauling manure; caring for livestock; attending county fairs.

**SOUTH CAROLINA:** 6.2 Days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture 7% very short, 33% short, 60% adequate. Apples 42% harvested, 65% 1997, 56% avg.; 34% poor, 35% fair, 31% good. Corn 92% harvested, 86% 1997, 80% avg. Grapes 32% fair, 53% good, 15% excellent. Hay 98% cut, 99% 1997, 81% avg. Livestock 5% poor, 34% fair, 58% good, 3% excellent. Pasture feed 7% very poor, 16% poor, 39% fair, 37% good, 1% excellent. Peanuts 98% pegged, 100% 1997, 82% avg.; 15% harvested, 19% 1997, 18% avg.; 11% very poor, 32% poor, 45% fair, 12% good. Pecans 12% harvested, 0% 1997, 0% avg.; 17% poor, 46% fair, 37% good. Sorghum 95% turned color, 91% 1997; 85% matured, 83% 1997; 42% harvested, 56% 1997; 2% very poor, 15% poor, 22% fair, 60% good, 1% excellent. Sweet potatoes 25% harvested, 21% 1997, 17% avg.; 13% fair, 87% good. Tobacco 98% harvested, 98% 1997, 94% avg.; 73% stalks destroyed, 84% 1997, 65% avg. Winter grazings 22% planted, 24% 1997, 20% avg.; 15% emerged, 14% 1997, 11% avg.; 7% poor, 55% fair, 38% good. Winter wheat 12% planted, 2% 1997, 1% avg.

**SOUTH DAKOTA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.4. Topsoil moisture 10% very short, 38% short, 50% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% very short, 30% short, 65% adequate, 3% surplus. Hot, dry weather aided row crop harvest. Flaxseed 98% harvested, 95% 1997, 87% avg. Sunflower weevils remain a problem; 7% poor, 17% fair, 53% good, 23% excellent; 99% ray flowers dry, 95% 1997, 96% avg.; 92% bracts yellow, 75% 1997, 77% avg.; 55% mature, 25% 1997, 31% avg.; 11% harvested, 0% 1997, 1% avg. Sorghum harvested for silage 41%, 28% 1997, 25% avg. Corn harvested for silage 74%, 40% 1997, 30% avg. Dry soil conditions slowed winter rye, winter wheat seeding. Winter rye seeded 62%, 64% 1997, 62% avg.; emerged 36%, 41% 1997, 28% avg. Alfalfa 7% poor, 31% fair, 51% good, 11% excellent; cut three times 80%, 14% 1997, 3% avg. Livestock 1% poor, 9% fair, 69% good, 21% excellent. Stockwater 1% very short, 15% short, 80% adequate, 4% surplus.

**TENNESSEE:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil moisture 50% very short, 43% short, 7% adequate. Subsoil moisture 32% very short, 55% short, 13% adequate. Corn 94% mature, 87% 1997, 87% avg.; 67% harvested, 36% 1997, 39% avg.; silage 93% harvested, 84% 1997, 84% avg. Tobacco 94% topped, 95% 1997, 98% avg.; burley 70% harvested, 72% 1997, 78% avg.; dark-air 78% harvested, 81% 1997, 84% avg.; dark-fire 81% harvested, 71% 1997, 81% avg. Pasture feed 19% very poor, 39% poor, 33% fair, 9% good. Most of middle, parts of west received much-needed rain over the weekend, which should help pastures, late-planted tobacco and soybeans. Corn, tobacco growers used the dry weather during the week to continue harvesting their crops. Cattle producers in the State continued feeding hay in those areas hit hardest by the recent dry spell. Fall seeding of pasture and hay land has also been delayed.

**TEXAS:** Rain continued many areas of State as Tropical Storm Francis moved inland early week. Fieldwork from Blacklands, to Rio Grande Valley slow most week because wet conditions. A return warmer temperatures late week helped improve native pastures, newly planted small grains. Fieldwork in Plains continued much week without major delays. A few light showers in area did not hinder progress. Supplemental feeding livestock slowed with improved pasture condition many areas. Sales some auctions also slowed.

**Crops:** Small grains: Planting activity continued Plains, parts North Central most week. Early-planted fields emerging to stands, rain now needed to get fields off good start. Armyworms increased newly emerged fields. Warmer temperatures late week provided big boost recent planted fields Blacklands, Central. Additional planting activity slow for week. Corn: Harvest continued Plains, where yields below expectations many fields because of extremely hot weather during growing season. Cotton: Additional defoliation occurred in the Plains as harvest neared. Harvest continued few remaining fields North Central; however, many fields plowed up. Bolls continued to open Trans-Pecos. Rainfall along Upper Coast caused regrowth after harvest that will require additional plowing. Grain Sorghum: Harvest continued expand Plains; however, many fields still need additional drying time. Warmer temperatures by late week increased maturing. Peanuts: Harvest began few fields in Plains, most other fields maturing rapidly. Fields South

Central improved with recent rains. Harvest should begin few weeks in area.

Rice: Harvest of first crop winding down along Upper Coast, but rain slowed progress, may cause damage remaining fields. Progress of ratoon crop remained good. Harvest second crop rice will get underway very soon. Soybeans: Fields continued mature rapidly Plains. Harvest winding down Northern Blacklands. Losses expected along Upper Coast due additional rain, high winds.

**Commercial Vegetables:** Rio Grande Valley, producers busy reassessing planting intentions with recent rain, availability of irrigation water. San Antonio-Winter Garden, some planting occurred late week as conditions allowed. East, land preparations slowed by wet conditions most week. Sweetpotato harvest also slow for week. High Plains, cucumber, pepper harvest continued. Pumpkin harvest reaching it's peak many fields. Trans Pecos, land preparation continued during week. Pecans: Harvest should begin South soon. Additional rain should help trees many areas.

**Range and Livestock:** Improvement occurred pastures across State. Prospects for additional hay cutting also improved as fields dry. Armyworms, grasshoppers continued cause damage many areas despite rain. Supplemental feeding slowed some with improvement of pastures. Small grain pastures should begin providing grazing many areas soon.

**UTAH:** Days suitable for field work 6. Topsoil moisture 10% short, 90% adequate. Subsoil moisture 11% short, 89% adequate. Pasture and range condition 4% poor, 23% fair, 66% good, 7% excellent. Irrigation water supplies 17% short, 82% adequate, 1% surplus. Stock water supplies 1% very short, 14% short, 85% adequate. Cattle moved from summer range 17%, 24% 1997, 27% avg. Sheep moved from summer range 13%, 12% 1997, 22% avg. Winter wheat seeded 55%, 53% 1997, 47% avg. Oats harvested for grain 89%, 81% 1997, 89% avg. Corn: in dough stage 82%, 88% 1997, 47% avg; in dent stage 44%, 48% 1997, 48% avg; mature 12%, 29% avg. Corn silage harvested 15%, 26% 1997, 22% avg. Alfalfa hay: 3rd cutting 81%, 60% 1997, 73% avg; 4th cutting 22%, 23% 1997, 16% avg. Alfalfa seed harvested 43%, 35% 1997, 45% avg. Onions harvested 40%, 39% 1997, 43% avg. Dry beans harvested 95%, 43% 1997, 18% avg. Potatoes harvested 10%, 9% 1997, 21% avg. Peaches picked 83%, 89% 1997, 93% avg. Pears picked 67%, 79% 1997, 88% avg. Apples 10% picked, 16% 1997, 23% avg. Overall, recent rain was welcomed, but some county agents reported grain harvest delays and hay damage

**VIRGINIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Topsoil moisture 46% very short, 43% short, 11% adequate. Subsoil moisture 39% very short, 47% short, 14% adequate. Corn 99% dough, 97% 1997, 99% avg; 93% dent, 89% 1997, 92% avg; 80% mature, 69% 1997, 75% avg, 50% harvested, 23% 1997, 32% avg; 80% harvested for silage, 57% 1997, 57% avg; 7% very poor, 29% poor, 38% fair, 21% good, 5% excellent. Cotton 95% bolls opening, 49% 1997, 48% avg; 2% harvested, 0% 1997, 0% avg; 10% poor, 26% fair, 52% good, 12% excellent. Soybeans 96% setting pods, 90% 1997, 96% avg; 18% dropping leaves, 17% 1997, 3% avg; 9% very poor, 25% poor, 27% fair, 32% good, 7% excellent. Winter Wheat 12% seeded, 0% 1997, 3% avg. Flue-cured tobacco 62% harvested, 59% 1997, 71% avg; 6% very poor, 14% poor, 27% fair, 33% good, 20% excellent. Dark fire cured tobacco 89% harvested, 85% 1997, 84% avg; 3% very poor, 12% poor, 31% fair, 42% good, 12% excellent. Burley tobacco 73% harvested, 63% 1997, 66% avg; 6% very poor, 12% poor, 22% fair, 37% good, 23% excellent. Sun tobacco 95% harvested, 89% 1997, 87% avg; 26% poor, 27% fair, 39% good, 8% excellent. Fall apples 25% harvested, 27% 1997, 50% avg. Apples 8% very poor, 17% poor, 34% fair, 35% good, 6% excellent. Pasture 31% very poor, 42% poor, 21% fair, 6% good. Alfalfa 14% very poor, 32% poor, 45% fair, 8% good, 1% excellent. Other hay 27% very poor, 47% poor, 23% fair, 3% good. Dry conditions have persisted throughout the summer, causing row crops to suffer from heat stress. It is now too late for rain to help the summer crops; however, rain is still needed for producers to prepare for and plant fall crops. Rain is also still needed by livestock producers in order to water animals and to help fall forage prospects. Central Virginia did receive limited rainfall on Thursday and Friday, which helped to marginally improve pastures. Producers in other areas have reported that they are already feeding some of the hay that they have stored for winter. Full-season soybeans are nearly ready to harvest, with overall yields expected to be slightly less than 1997. Many cotton producers are in the process of defoliating and some are even beginning to harvest. Peanuts producers are preparing equipment for harvest as well. Producers have reported that a good rain prior to harvest time would be helpful. Other activities for the past week included scouting and spraying of cotton, peanuts, and soybeans, preparing land for planting of fall crops, as well as, other general field work.

**WASHINGTON:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.9. Topsoil moisture 8% very short, 60% short; 32% adequate; subsoil moisture 5% very short, 40% short, 55% adequate. Potatoes 37% harvested, 40% 1997, 36% avg. Potatoes, 10% fair, 90% good. In the central areas, winter wheat seeding was well underway or neared completion. Producers in the eastern areas are still waiting for more moisture to plant wheat. Emerged wheat was in good condition. Potato, and dry bean harvests continued. Hay and other roughage supplies, 8% short, 50% adequate, 42% surplus. Silage harvest continued, fourth cutting alfalfa hay production continued. Range and pasture, 5% very poor, 30% poor, 40% fair, 25% good. Some precipitation fell across the state but much more is needed. Pastures were still very dry with no growth in most areas. Golden Delicious and Granny Smith apple harvests were underway with Red Delicious apple harvest expected to start next week. Blueberry and blackberry harvests continued in western areas and wine and Niagra grapes were being harvested. Vegetable harvests progressed.

**WEST VIRGINIA:** Some areas of the state received some precipitation this past week, but more rain is needed to improve soil moisture and crop conditions throughout the state. Dry weather has begun to hurt fall seeded crops. Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Topsoil moisture 41% very short, 44% short, 15% adequate. Apple condition 22% poor, 74% fair, 4% fair. Apple harvest 53%, 35% 1997. Hay condition 12% very poor, 15% poor, 37% fair, 34% good, 2% excellent; Hay 2nd cut 94%, 95% 1997, 91% 5-yr avg; Hay 3rd cut 66%, 53% 1997, 64% 5-yr avg. Corn condition 13% poor, 38% fair, 49% good; Corn doughing 94%, 95% 1997, 97 5-yr avg; Corn dent 65%, 49% 1997; Corn mature 39%, 13% 1997, 57% 5-yr avg; Corn harvested for grain 3%, 4% 1997, 17% 5-yr avg. Soybean condition 11% poor, 44% fair, 45% good; Soybeans 99% podding, 100% 1997, 100% 5-yr avg; 68% dropping leaves, 62% 1997, 57% 5-yr avg. Tobacco condition 19% poor, 52% fair, 25% good, 4% excellent; topped 99%, 100% 1997, 100% 5yr avg; harvested 59%, 85% 1997, 78% 5yr avg. Wheat planted 18%, 16% 1997. Cattle 1% poor, 21% fair, 74% good, 4% excellent. Sheep 2% poor, 33% fair, 64% good, 1% excellent. Pastures drying up from dry weather. There were reports of pinkeys.

**WISCONSIN:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Soil moisture 19% very short, 24% short, 53% adequate, 4% surplus. Soybeans leaves turning 97%, 88% 1997, 74% avg.; leaves dropping 73%, 36% 1997, 28% avg. Soybean 1% very poor, 2% poor, 13% fair, 58% good, 26% excellent. Third crop hay harvested 93%, 75% 1997, 73% avg.; 4th crop hay harvested 41%. Corn for silage harvested 71%, 11% 1997, 18% avg. Northwestern part of the State was very dry, about 1-2 inches of rain in the central, southern parts of the State helped crops. It has been about 4 weeks since the driest areas of the State received rain. As a result, much of the pasture land is having to be supplemented with hay. Even a good portion of the hay harvested has been short on quantity because of the lack of rainfall. Soybean harvest has started in some areas of the State. Usually, soybean harvest gets underway in October. There were a few comments that corn has dried up so fast that those attempting to harvest corn while it still had high moisture, failed in their efforts. Corn harvested for silage is approximately three weeks ahead of normal. Apple harvest appears to be good overall. However, some orchards were damaged by hail in the southwestern part of the State. Potato, kidney beans continue to be harvested. Tobacco appears to be completely harvested, cranberry harvest will start soon. Pasture feed 7% very poor, 16% poor, 31% fair, 41% good, 5% excellent.

**WYOMING:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Topsoil 13% very short, 38% short, 47% adequate 2% surplus. Winter wheat planted 95%, 90% 1997, 80% avg.; emerged 54%, 64% 1997, 48% avg. Barley harvested 93%, 93% 1997, 94% avg. Oats harvested 94%, 90% 1997, 88% avg. Corn dented 94%, 95% 1997, 82% avg.; mature 59%, 65% 1997, 47% avg. Dry beans windrowed 91%, 99% 1997, 91% avg.; combined 57%, 76% 1997, 59% avg. Alfalfa 3rd cutting 46%, 33% 1997, 44% avg. Range, pasture feed 1% very poor, 11% poor, 27% fair, 54% good, 7% excellent. Dry bean 1% poor, 14% fair, 83% good, 2% excellent. Corn 2% poor, 7% fair, 85% good, 6% excellent. Sugar beet 21% fair, 79% good. Cattle moved from summer ranges 34%. Sheep moved from summer ranges 29%. Scattered showers helped bring down temperatures, improve topsoil moisture supplies. Small grain harvest nearly complete.

# International Weather and Crop Summary

September 13 - 19, 1998

## HIGHLIGHTS

**FSU-WESTERN** Rain slowed fieldwork in western Ukraine, while generally dry weather helped crop harvesting and winter grain planting in eastern Ukraine and most of Russia.

**FSU-NEW LANDS:** Unseasonably warm, dry weather favored rapid spring grain harvesting in Kazakstan, while occasional showers slowed harvest activities in Western Siberia, Russia.

**EUROPE:** Wet weather slowed fieldwork in the north and east.

**AUSTRALIA:** Chronic wetness in eastern winter grain areas heightened concern for crop quality and disease.

**SOUTH ASIA:** Rain provided additional moisture to immature oilseeds in western India but was unfavorable for maturing cotton.

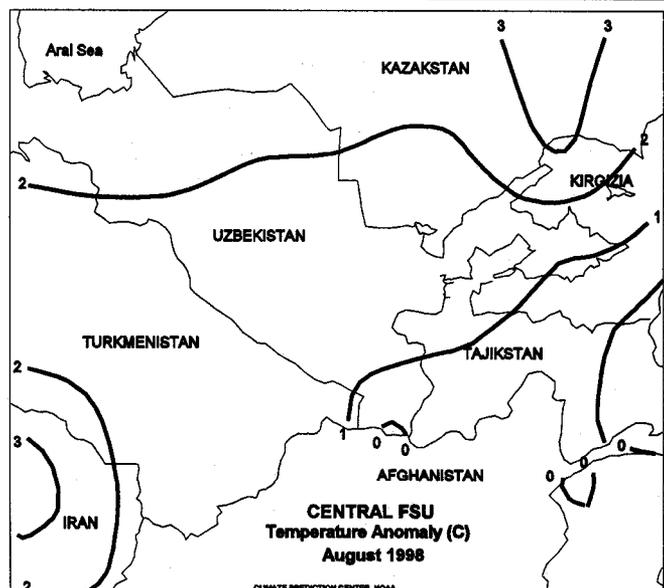
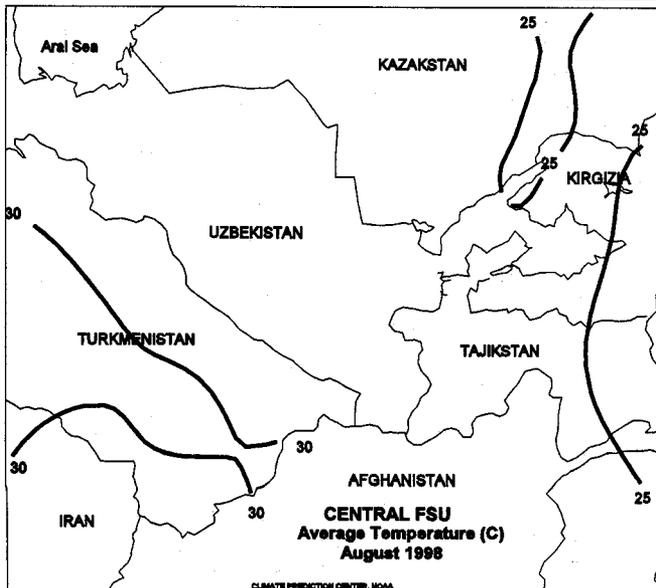
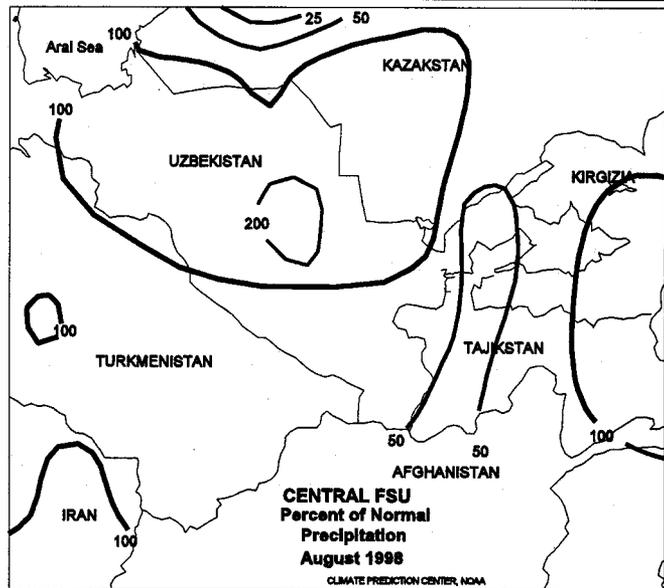
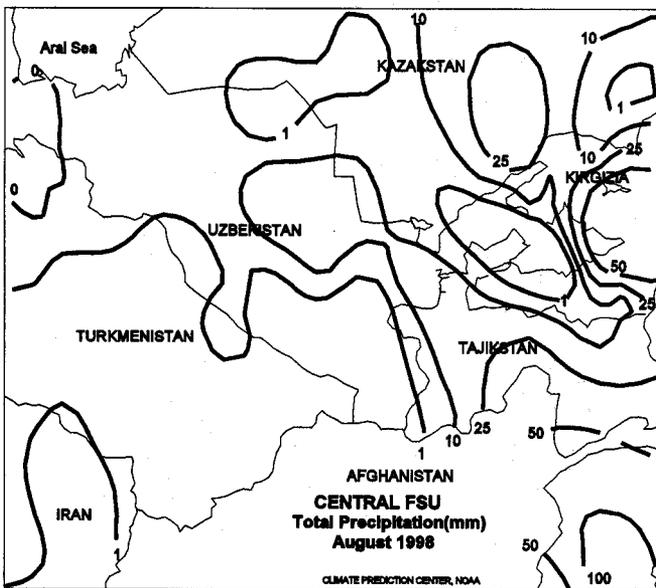
**SOUTHEAST ASIA:** Showers slowed rice harvesting in Vietnam, the northern Philippines, and portions of Thailand.

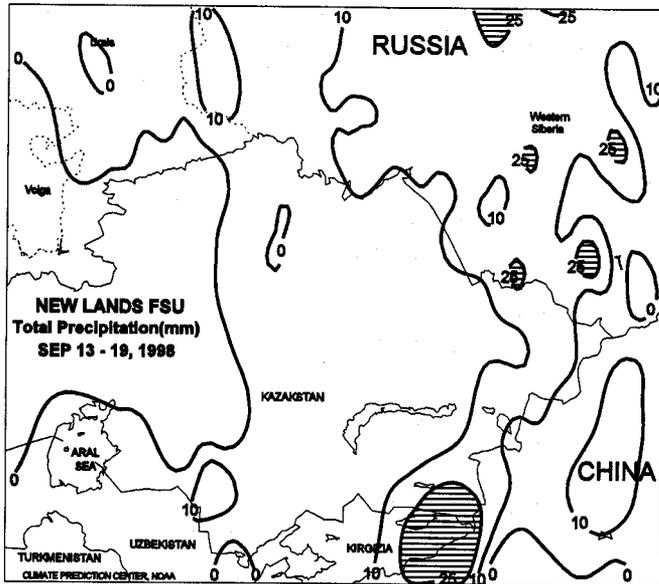
**EASTERN ASIA:** In northern and central Japan, heavy rain caused additional flooding and possibly damaged maturing rice.

**SOUTH AMERICA:** In central Argentina, light rain brought little relief to stressed vegetative winter wheat, and freezing temperatures burned back early growth.

**MEXICO:** Widespread showers brought drought relief to northeastern Mexico and favored filling corn across the Southern Plateau Corn Belt.

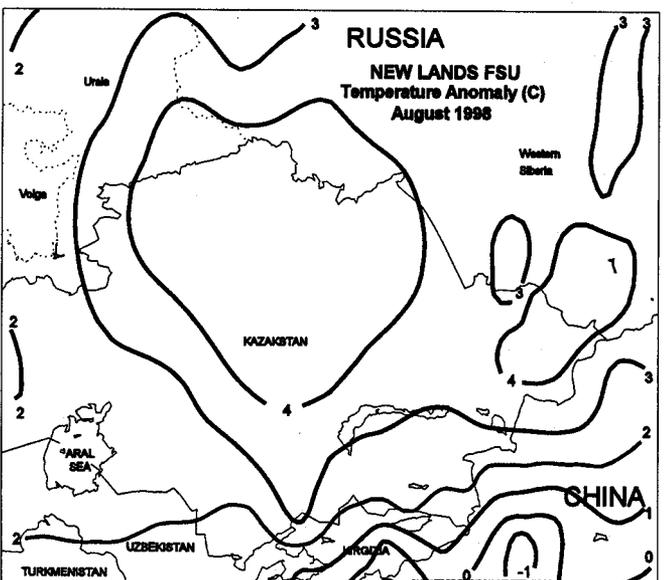
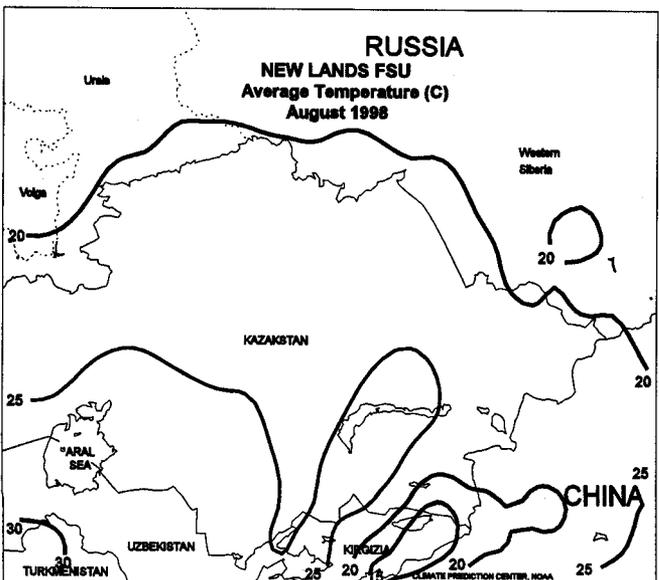
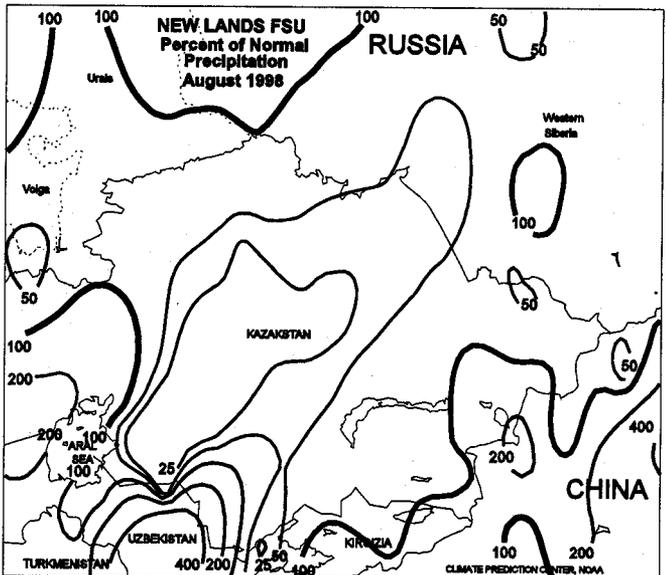
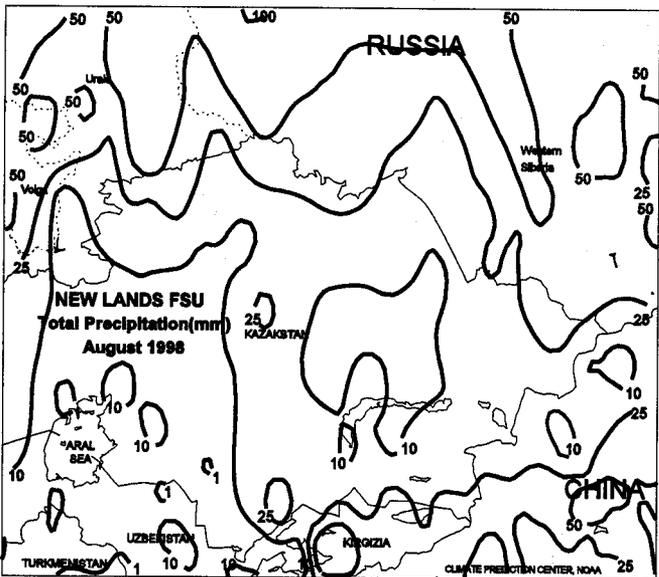
**CANADA:** Showers hampered final Prairie harvests.

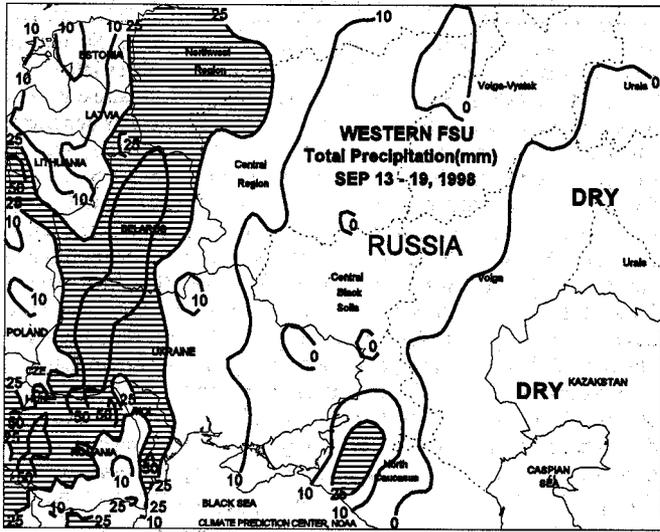




**FSU-NEW LANDS**

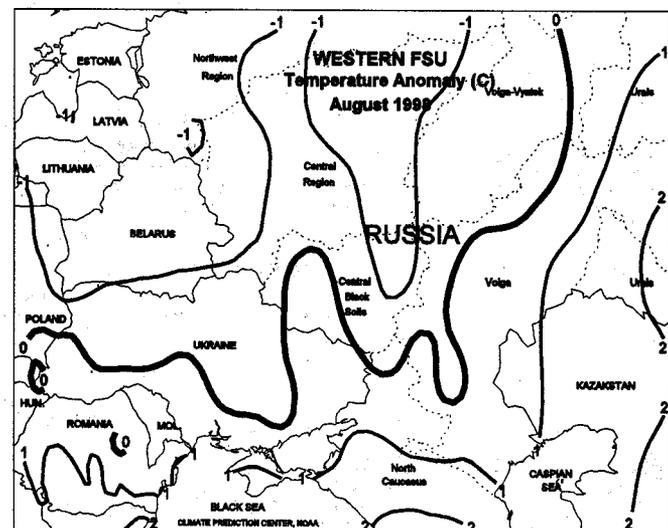
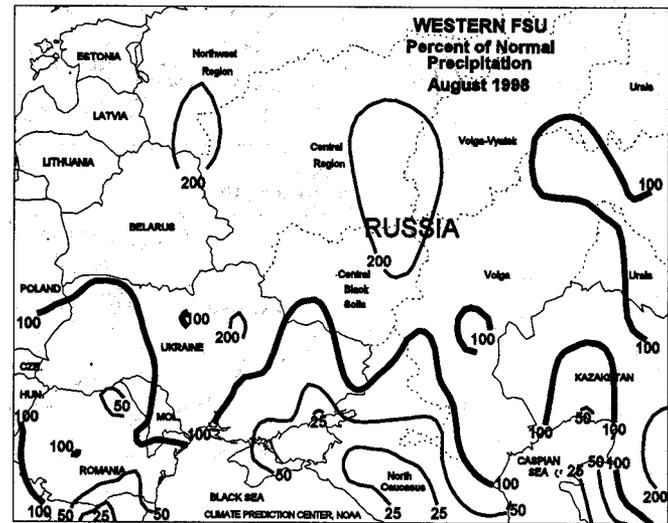
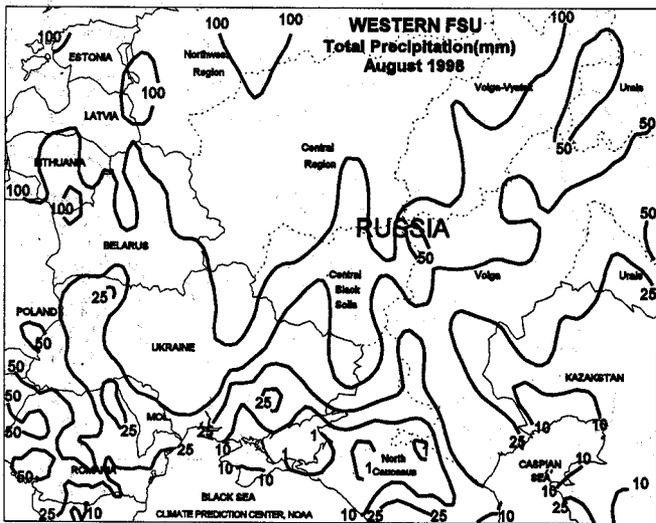
Spring grain harvesting was well underway in Russia and Kazakstan. In Russia, dry weather favored harvesting in the Urals, while occasional showers slowed harvesting farther east in Western Siberia. Reports as of September 14 indicated that small grains and pulses, excluding corn, were about 60 percent harvested compared with about 70 percent last year. In Kazakstan, dry weather continued to favor rapid spring grain harvesting. In cotton-producing areas of Central Asia, dry weather favored cotton harvesting. In August, unfavorably hot, dry weather prevailed in Kazakstan and adjacent areas in Western Siberia, hastening maturity in spring grains and further reducing yield prospects.

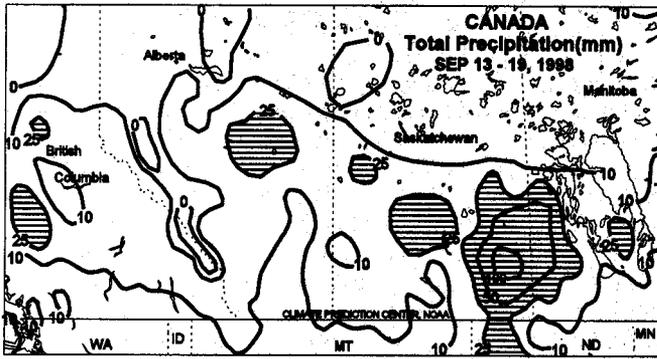




**FSU-WESTERN**

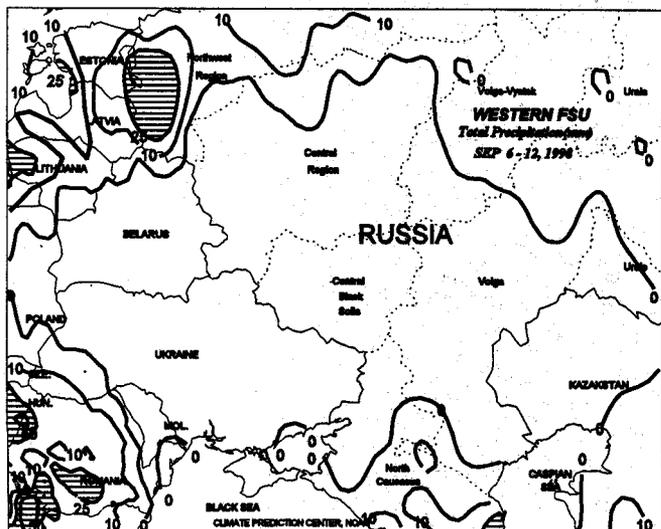
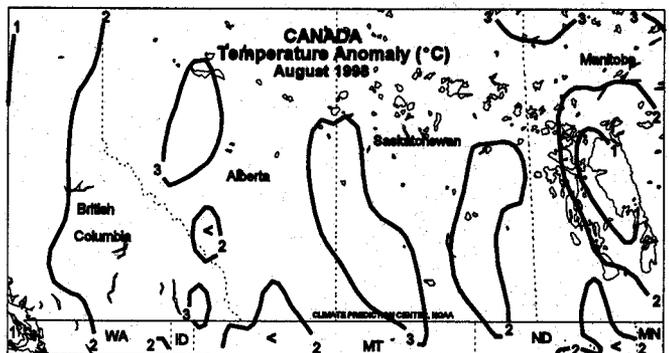
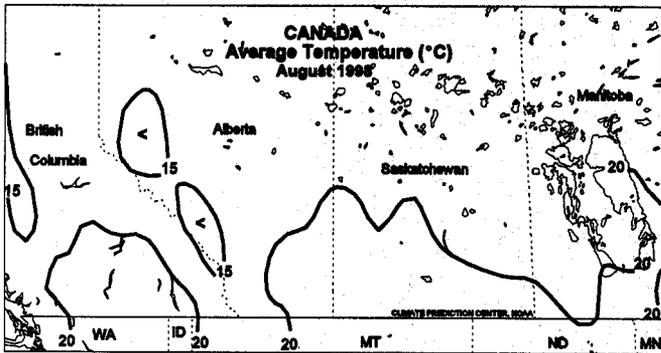
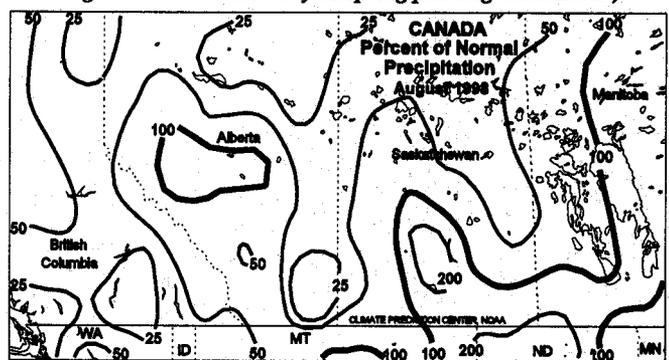
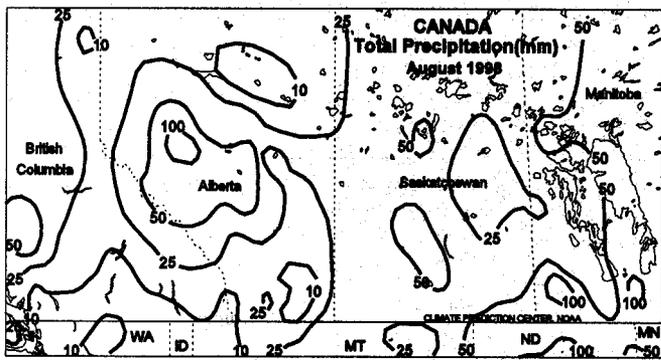
In Russia, dry weather continued to help small grain harvesting in northern areas. Furthermore, the combination of adequate soil moisture and above-normal temperatures favored rapid winter grain emergence and crop establishment. Farther south, generally dry weather favored early summer crop harvesting in Central Black Soils Region, most of North Caucasus, and lower Volga Valley. Localized showers (25-46 mm) fell in western areas of the North Caucasus, providing much-needed topsoil moisture for winter wheat planting. In Ukraine, wet weather (29-69 mm) halted fieldwork in the west, while dry weather helped summer crop harvesting and winter grain planting in the east. Reports as of September 18 indicated that sunflowers in Ukraine were about 33 percent harvested. In August, the combination of frequent showers and unseasonably cool weather in the Baltics, Belarus, and most of northern Russia (Northwest Region, Central Region, Volga Vyatsk, and northern Central Black Soils Region) slowed crop development and harvests. In southern Russia (North Caucasus, lower Volga Valley, and southern Central Black Soils Region), well-below-normal precipitation in August further reduced prospects for corn, sunflowers, and sugar beets in the filling stage of development. In Ukraine, unseasonably warm, dry weather from August 1-22 favored rapid small grain harvest activities but worsened conditions for corn and sunflower development. Light to moderate rain began over Ukraine on August 23 and lasted until month's end, preventing further deterioration of corn and sunflowers.



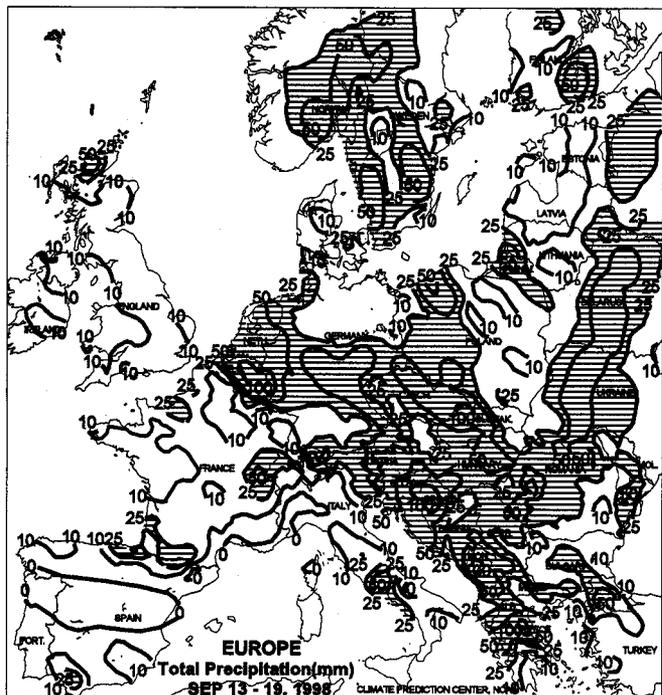


**CANADA**

Widespread, locally heavy rain (10-25 mm, exceeding 50 mm in sections of eastern Saskatchewan) swept across the Prairies late in the week. Fortunately, spring grains and oilseeds had already been harvested, except for sunflower and flax. The moisture was beneficial for winter wheat establishment and autumn field activities, such as tillage and spraying. In eastern Canada, warm, mostly dry weather favored maturing corn and soybeans. Winter wheat planting was likely underway, but moisture was needed in most areas for even germination and establishment. In August, rainfall was near to below normal across the Prairies, with the wettest areas extending from central Saskatchewan to Manitoba. Mostly dry, warm weather developed across the Prairies in late August, creating ideal harvest conditions and allowing fieldwork to progress at a record pace. In eastern Canada, early-August rainfall benefited immature corn and soybeans, but drier, periodically warm conditions the remainder of the month hastened crop development. *(This is the final summary of the 1998 growing season. Coverage will resume next May as spring planting commences.)*

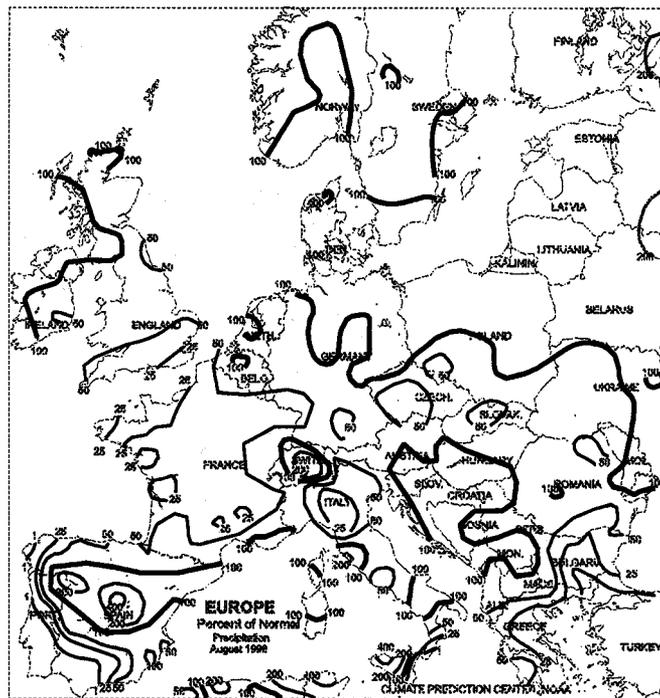
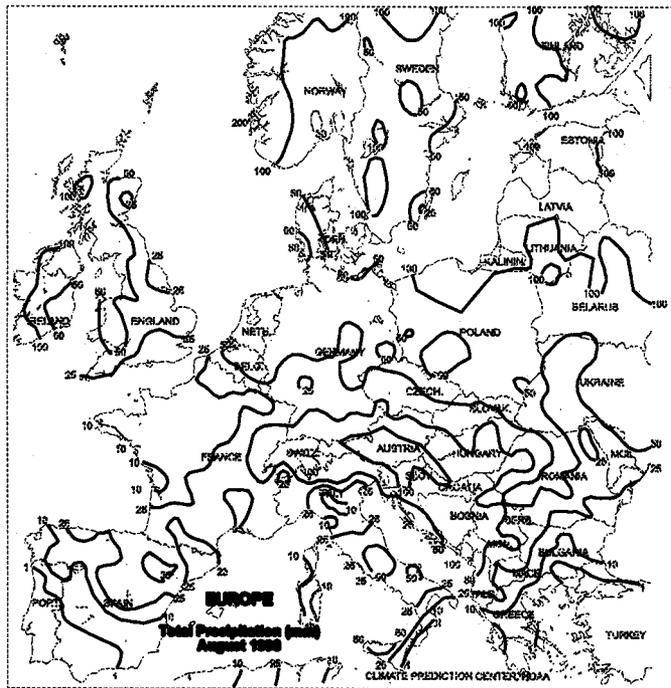


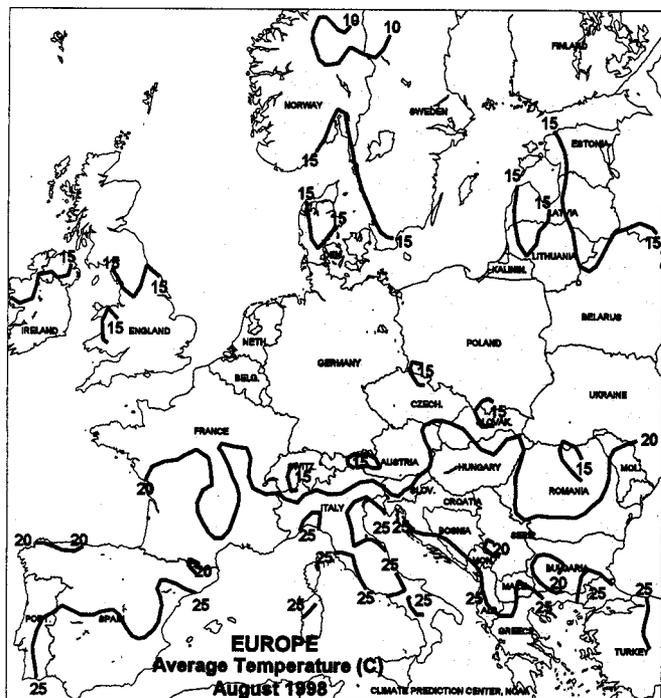
**Correction:** In last week's *Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin*, the incorrect total precipitation map for Western FSU was published. The correct map is shown on the left.



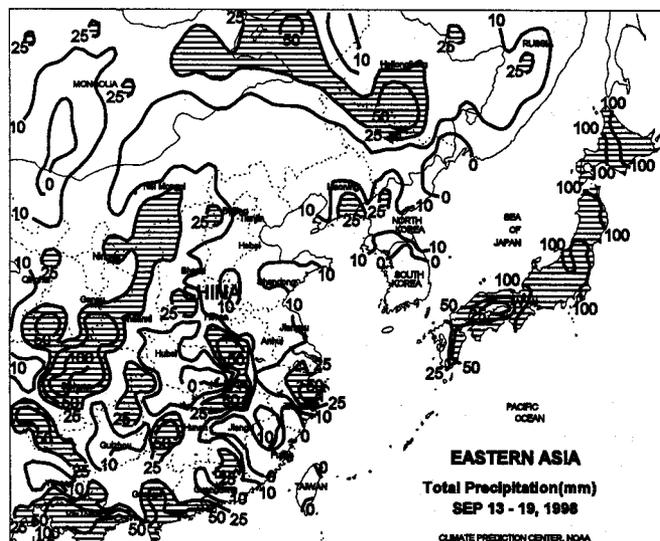
**EUROPE**

Widespread rain spread across Europe during the week, with precipitation diminishing in the west as the week progressed. Greatest amounts of rain (25-50 mm, with local amounts in excess of 50 mm) fell from the Benelux countries eastward through central Germany and western Poland, and southward through the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Slovenia, Bosnia, Serbia, western Romania, Macedonia, and northern Greece. While the precipitation in these areas halted summer crop harvesting and winter crop grain planting, it provided generous amounts of topsoil moisture for germination. In France, light showers early in the week were replaced by dry weather at week's end, helping corn, sunflower, and sugar beet harvesting. In Italy, dry weather in the north allowed corn and oilseed harvests to progress at a rapid pace. Reports as of September 17 indicated that soybeans, corn, and sorghum in Italy were about 50 percent harvested. The sunflower harvest was the most advanced and is expected to be completed around September 25. Elsewhere, light showers (10-34 mm) in southern Romania and Bulgaria likely caused some minor delays in corn and sunflower harvesting. In August, below-normal precipitation prevailed over most of the continent, helping small grain harvesting but limiting moisture for summer crop development. Adverse heat and dryness in southern Romania and Bulgaria reduced prospects for summer crops. In France, a heat wave (maximum temperatures ranging from 35 to 38 degrees C) from August 7-11 placed increased stress on non-irrigated summer crops in the filling stage of development.

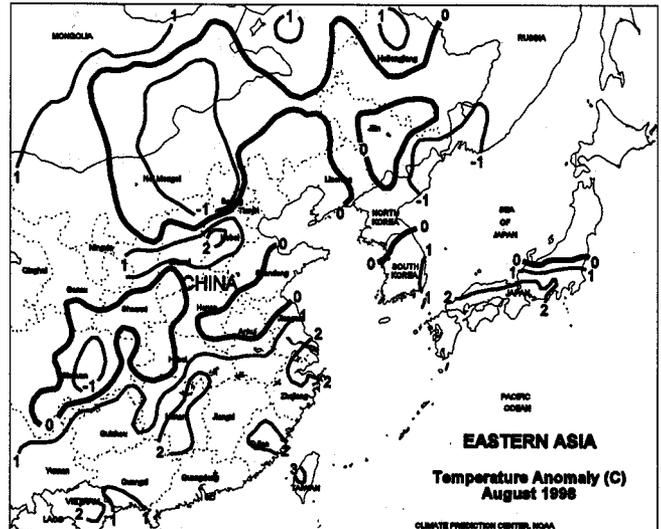
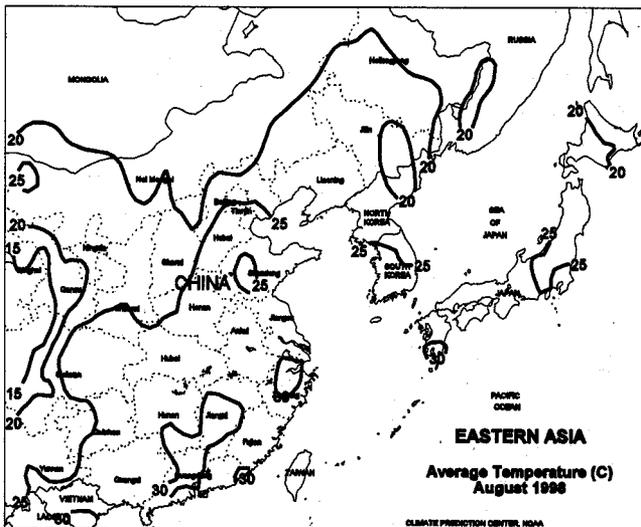
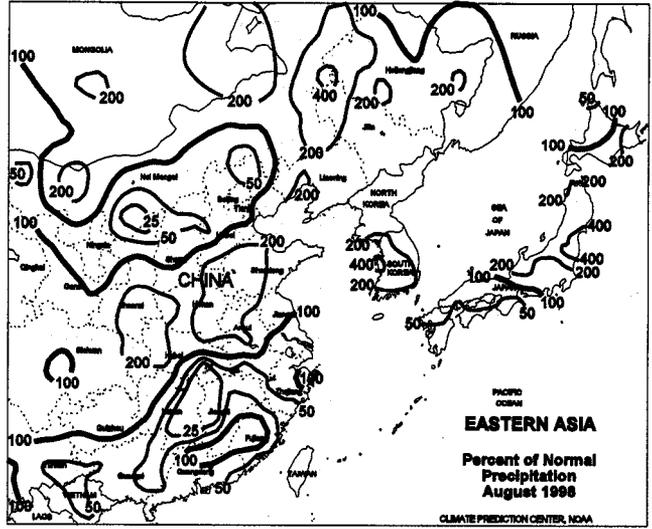
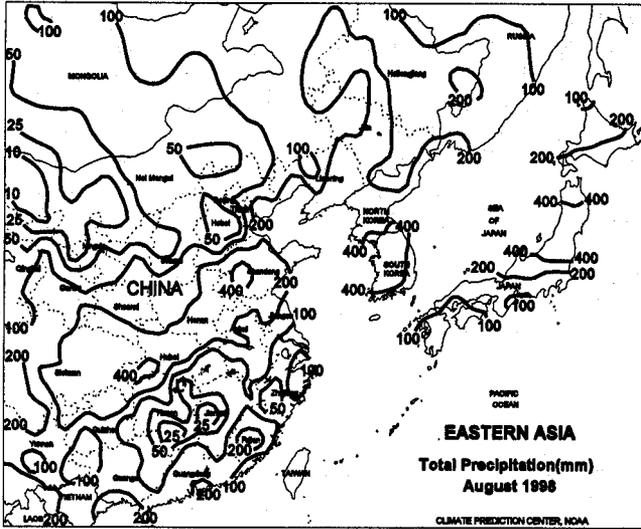


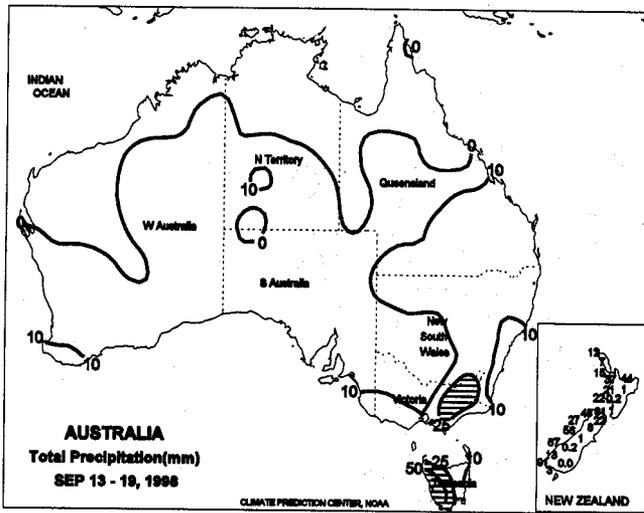


**EASTERN ASIA**



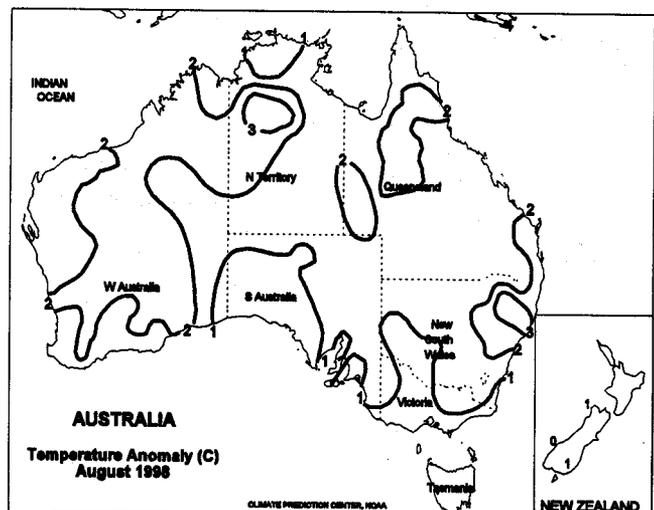
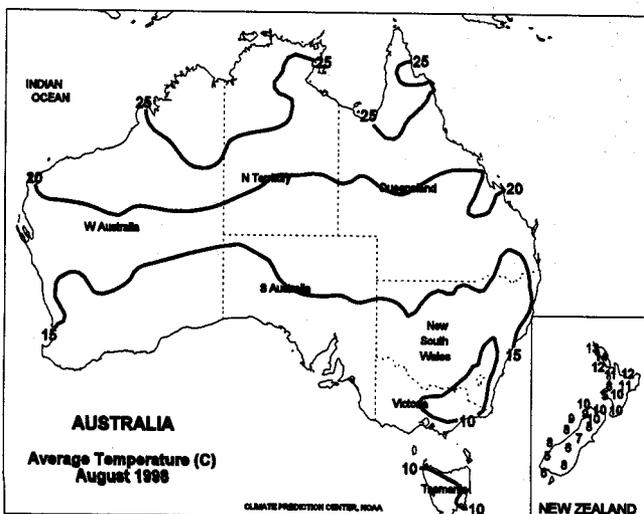
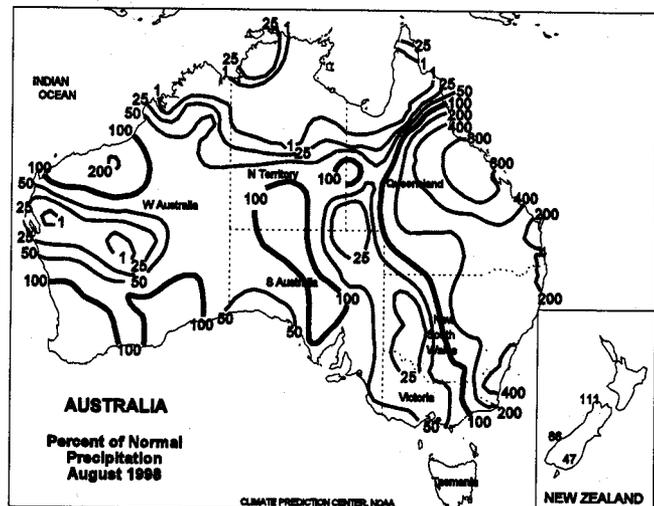
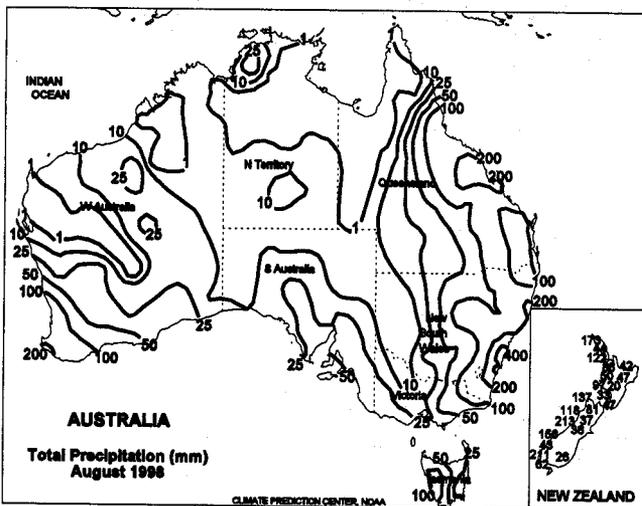
In northern and central Japan, heavy rain (50-160 mm) caused additional flooding, possibly damaged maturing rice, and slowed early harvesting. Temperatures averaged 2 to 4 degrees C above normal across Japan and the Korean Peninsula. Dry weather favored rice maturation and harvesting in South Korea, while light to moderate rain (10-35 mm) slowed harvesting in North Korea. Across most of China, light to moderate rain (5-25 mm, with isolated amounts greater than 75 mm) slowed summer crop harvesting but increased topsoil moisture for the upcoming winter grain and oilseed planting season. Heavier rain fell in the Sichuan Basin (30-100 mm) and Heilongjiang (30-60 mm). Tropical Storm Todd hit Zhejiang on September 20, with sustained winds of 60 knots (69 mph). The storm rapidly dissipated after landfall, producing only moderate rain (40-60 mm). Temperatures averaged 2 to 4 degrees C above-normal across China, favoring summer crop harvesting. During August, above-normal rainfall aggravated flooding across the northern Yangtze Valley. Drier weather favored late rice development across the southern Yangtze Valley and southern China. Above-normal August rainfall favored filling corn and soybeans in the North China Plain, but slowed cotton maturation. Heavy showers also aided summer crops in Manchuria, but river flooding caused local crop damage. Excessive rain caused flooding and possible rice damage in northern South Korea and northern Japan.

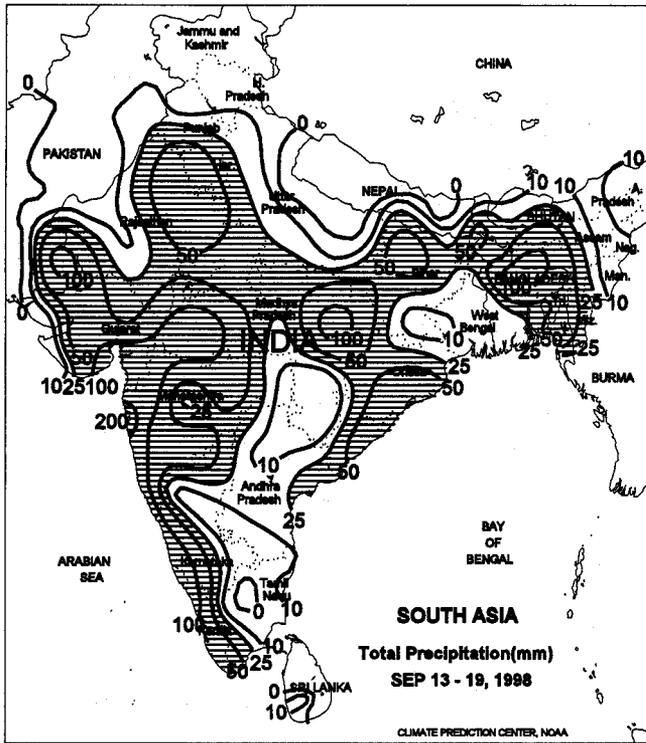




**AUSTRALIA**

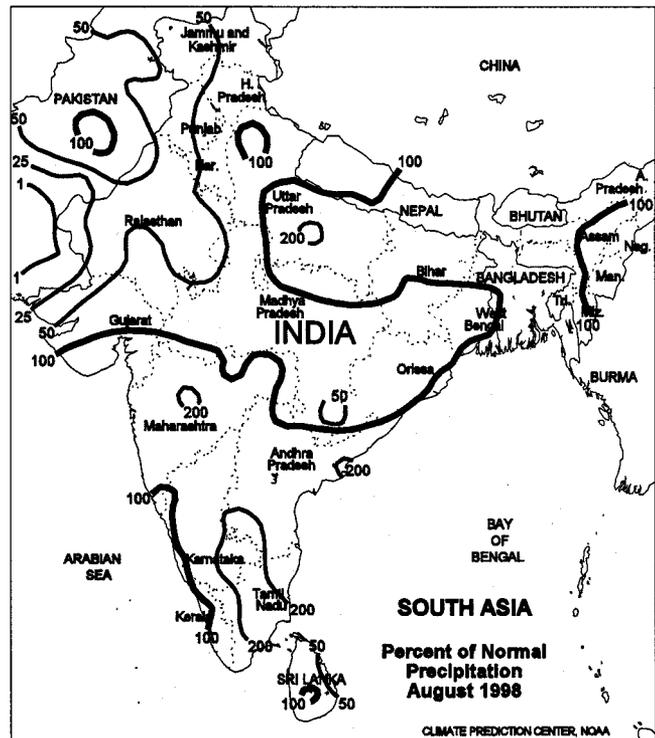
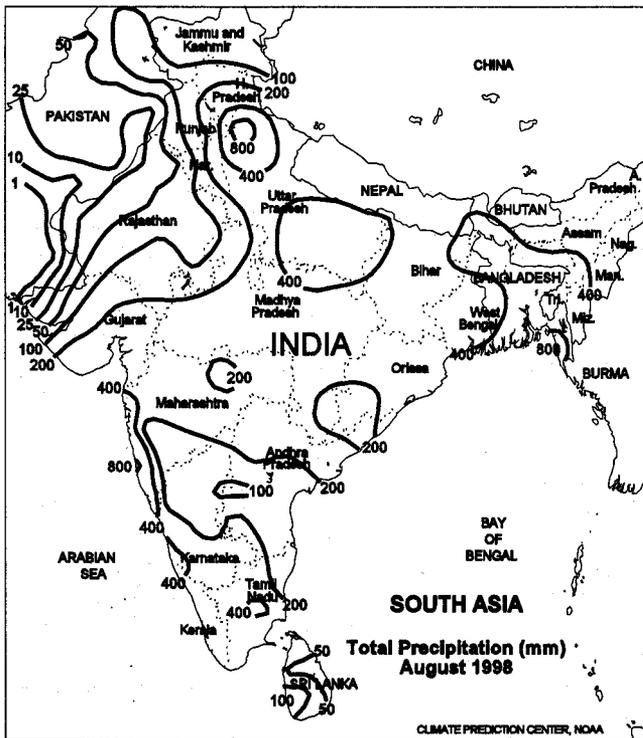
Light to moderate showers (5-25 mm or more) kept winter grains unfavorably wet in eastern Australia's main agricultural districts. The rain also slowed recovery of unharvested sugarcane following weeks of untimely wetness. Wet fields have already caused early delays in the planting of cotton and sorghum. Elsewhere, light rain (10 mm or less) dampened topsoils in the western and southeastern winter grain areas as periodic coolness slowed crop growth rates. In New Zealand, moderate showers (10-25 mm or more) covered pasture areas, except along the east coast of South Island, which was mostly dry. During August, crop areas in Queensland and New South Wales received 2 to 4 times their normal rainfall (50-100 mm or more). While initially beneficial, the gradual trend of increasing wetness was punctuated by heavy downfalls at month's end. In the west and southeast, August rainfall was highly variable, with a pocket of extreme dryness (10 mm or less) centered over western Victoria.

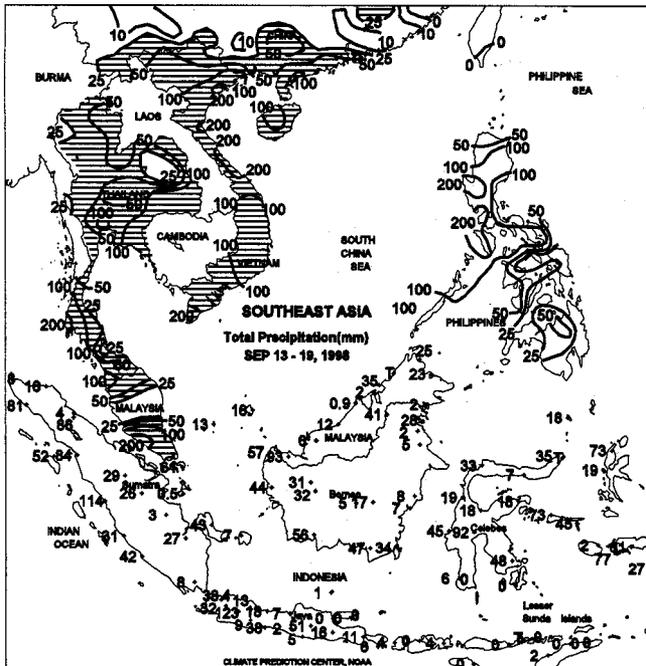
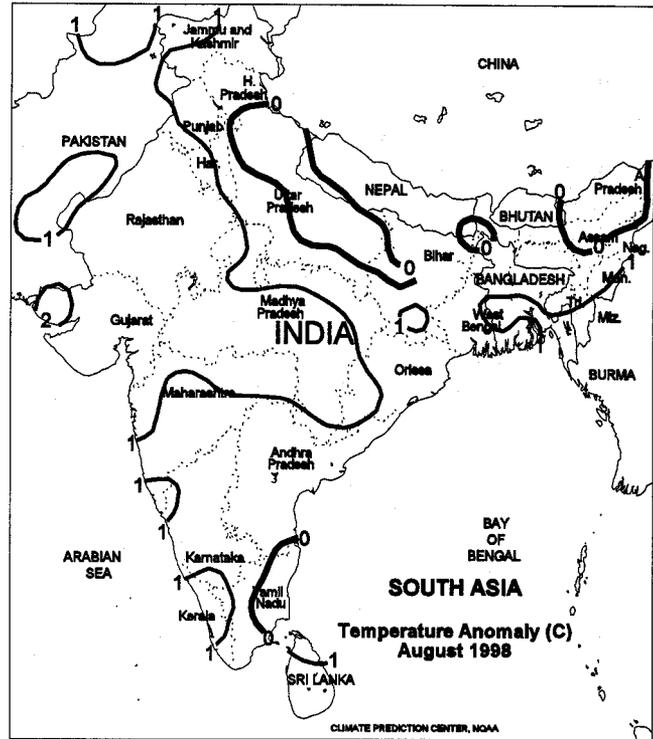
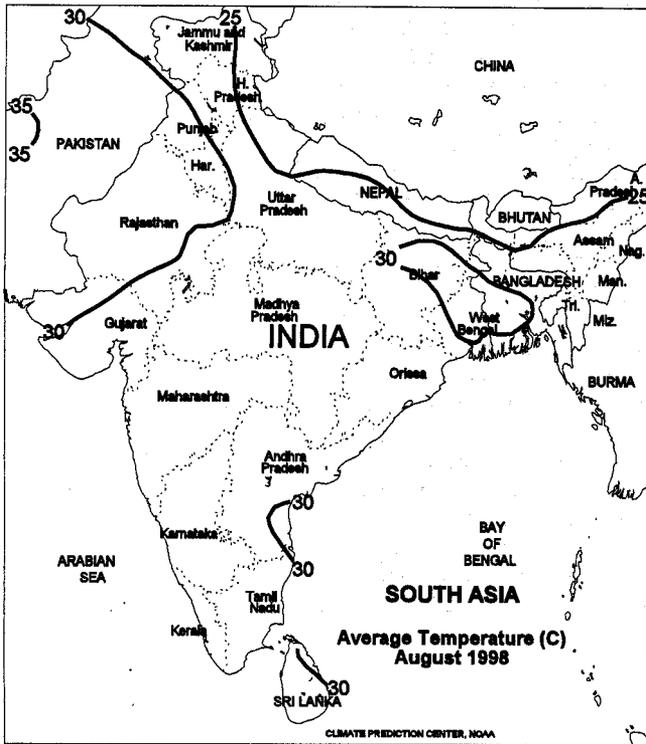




**SOUTH ASIA**

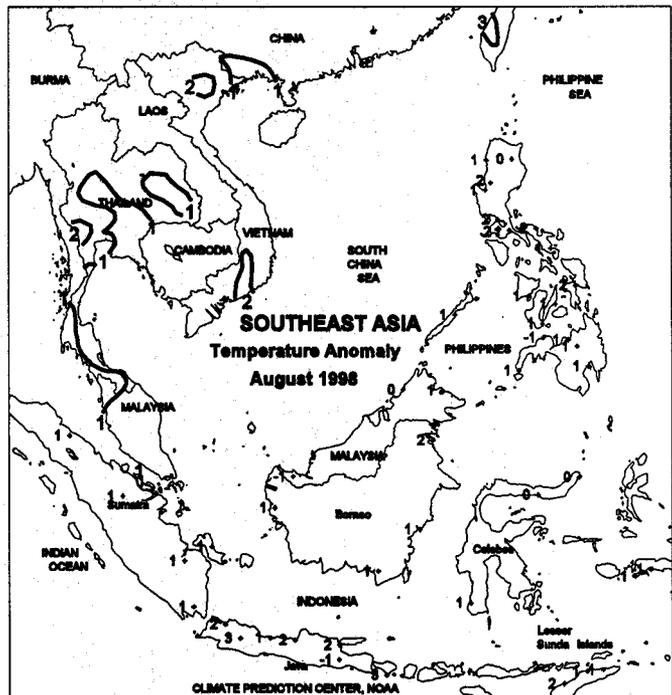
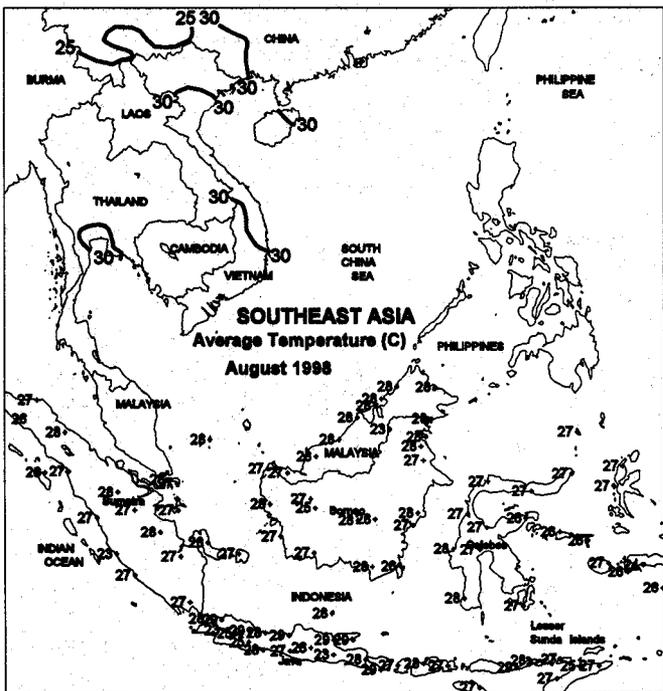
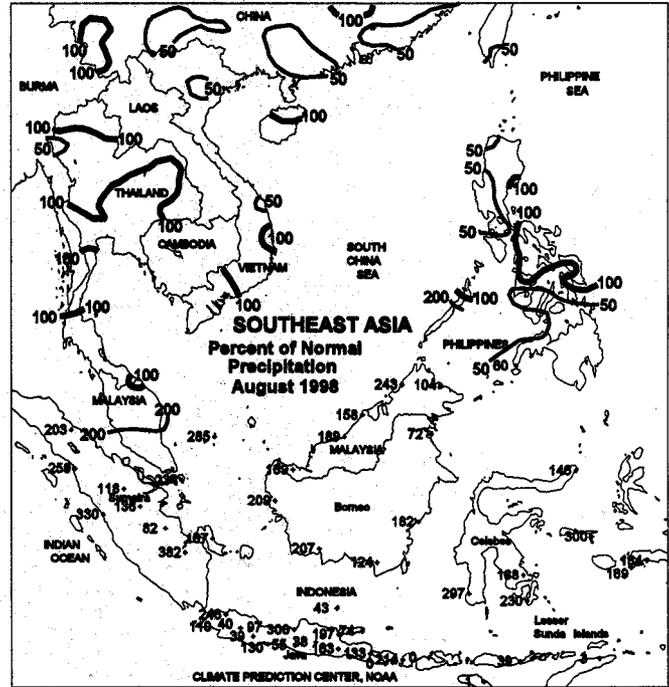
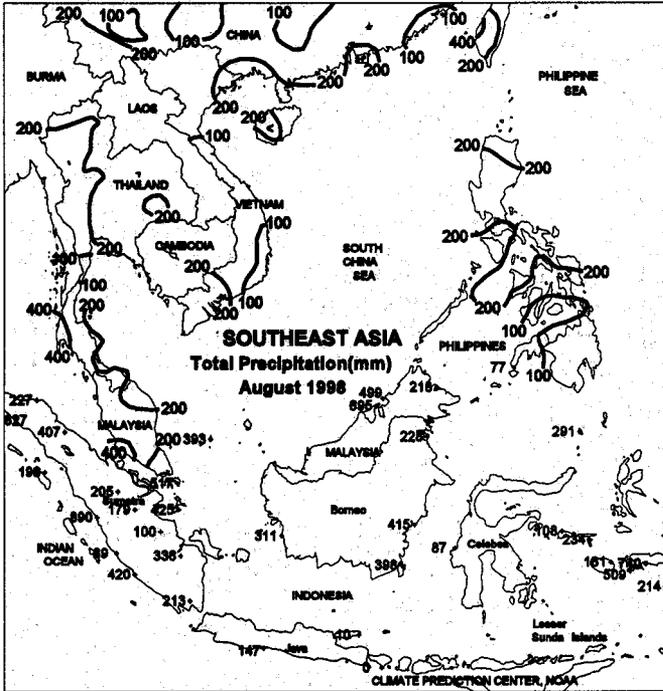
Unseasonably heavy rain (25-50 mm or more, locally exceeding 100 mm) continued over India's western oilseed and cotton areas. Although the rain boosted moisture reserves for immature grains and oilseeds, sunnier skies would have benefited the development of soybeans and other crops. In addition, maturing cotton in north-central India (Punjab and Haryana) may have sustained some damage. Farther east, mostly moderate rainfall (25-50 mm or more) covered rainfed rice areas of east-central India (eastern Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, and Bihar). Scattered showers (25 mm or more) over Bangladesh and far-eastern India slowed the recession of floodwaters. August rainfall was near to above normal in nearly all primary crop areas of India and Bangladesh. In contrast, Pakistan and neighboring locations of India were drier than normal throughout the month. The heaviest rain (400 mm or more) occurred over Bangladesh and in northern India along the Ganges, resulting in locally severe flooding of important rice areas. Elsewhere, rainfall was generally beneficial for grains, oilseeds, and cotton, with near- to above-normal temperatures spurring crop development. The drier-than-normal conditions during the month over Pakistan were favorable for the region's mostly irrigated cotton, which is especially susceptible to disease and pest infestation.

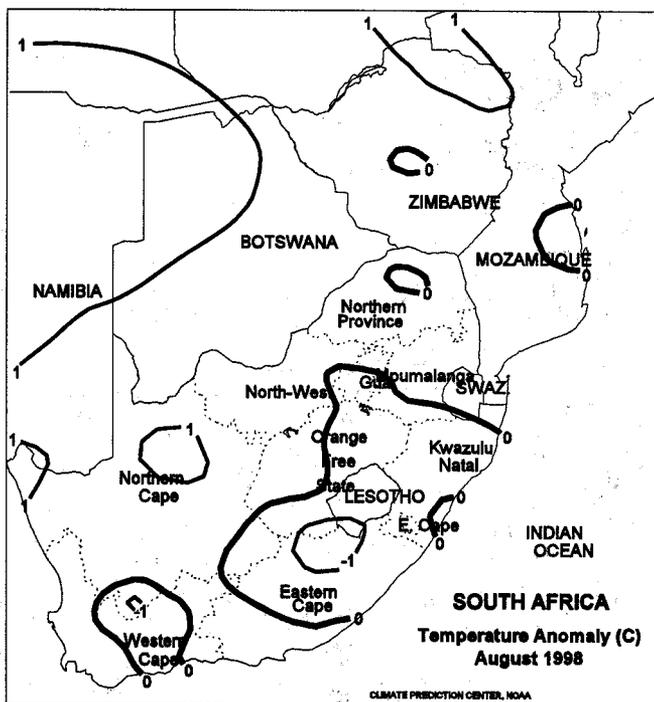
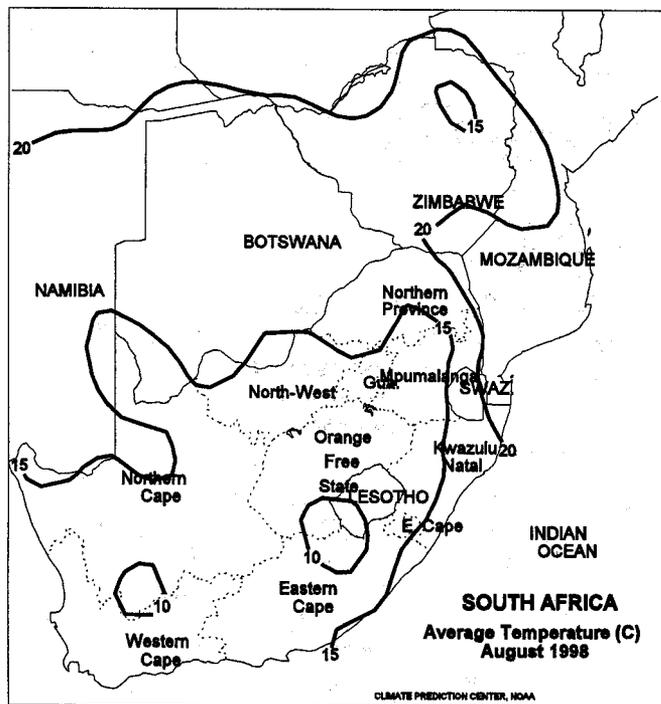
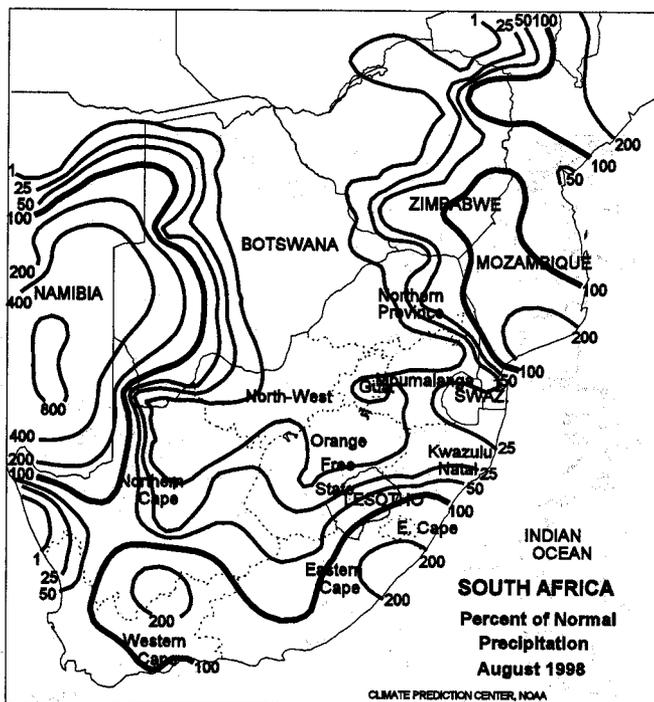
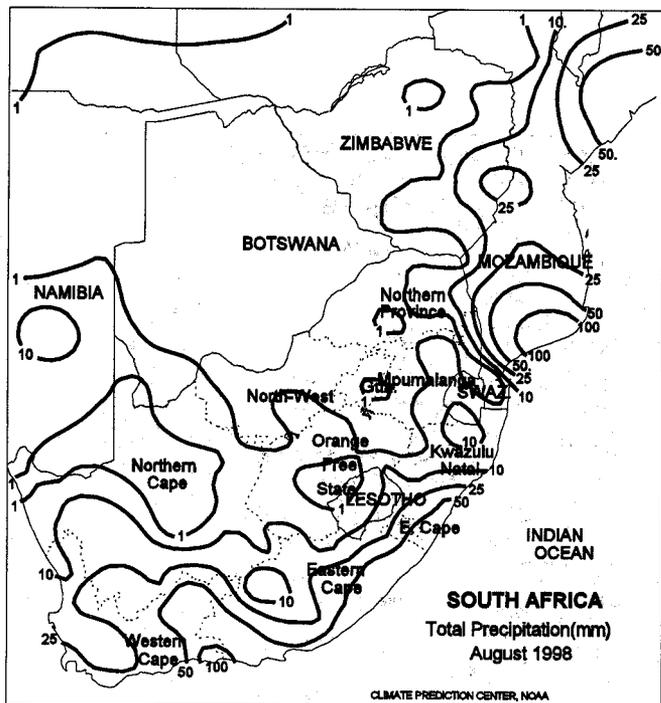


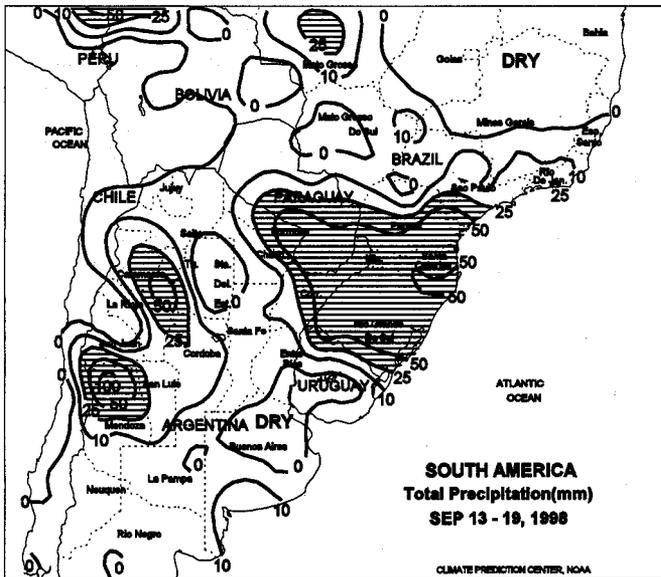


**SOUTHEAST ASIA**

Moderate to heavy showers (20-180 mm) slowed rice maturation and harvesting across Thailand, Vietnam, and the northern and western Philippines. The moisture, however, increased water supplies for winter rice. A weak tropical depression (sustained winds less than 39 mph) hit northern Vietnam on September 16, causing local flooding. Typhoon Vicki meandered off the west coast of Luzon from September 17 to 18 before moving northeastward across Luzon on September 19. Vicki brought torrential rain (200-500 mm) to western Luzon, causing local crop damage. Heavy rain (50-150 mm) fell elsewhere across Luzon and the western Philippines. Showers (20-80 mm) maintained moisture supplies for oil palm across peninsular Malaysia. In Java, drier weather (1-15 mm, with isolated rainfall greater than 25 mm) favored maturing second crop rice and corn. During August, above-normal rainfall favored rainfed grains in Thailand. Below-normal rainfall continued to stress rainfed grains in northern Vietnam. In the Philippines, near- to above-normal August rainfall eased dryness for grains and sugarcane. Near-normal August rainfall continued to favor oil palm in peninsular Malaysia and second-crop rice and corn in Java.

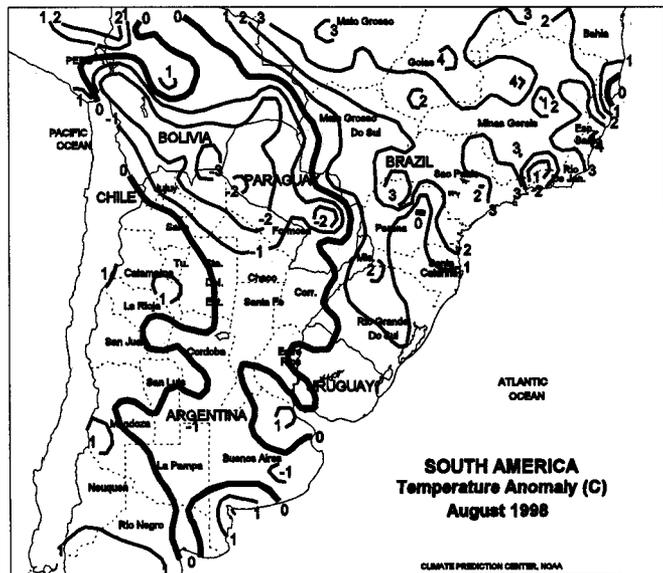
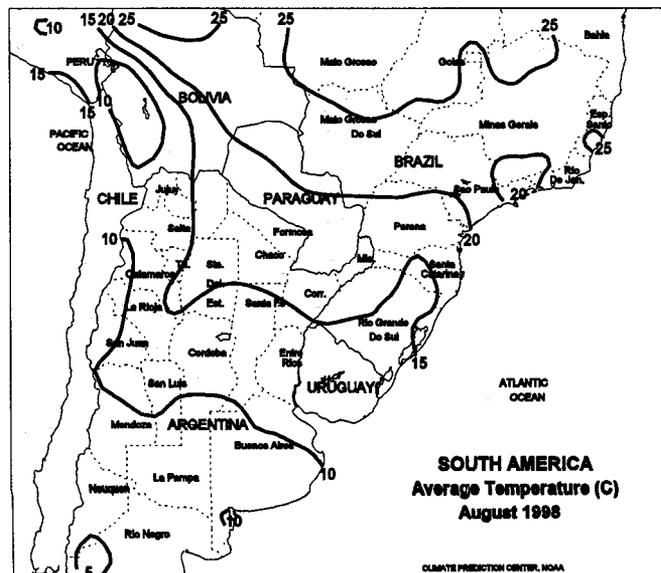
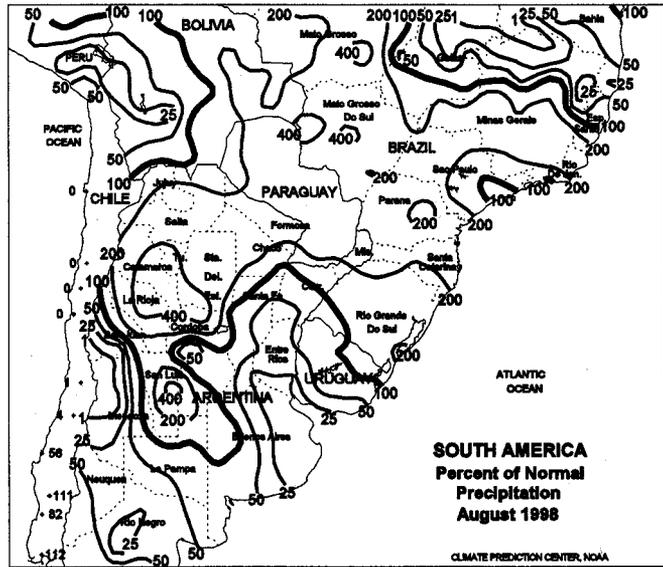
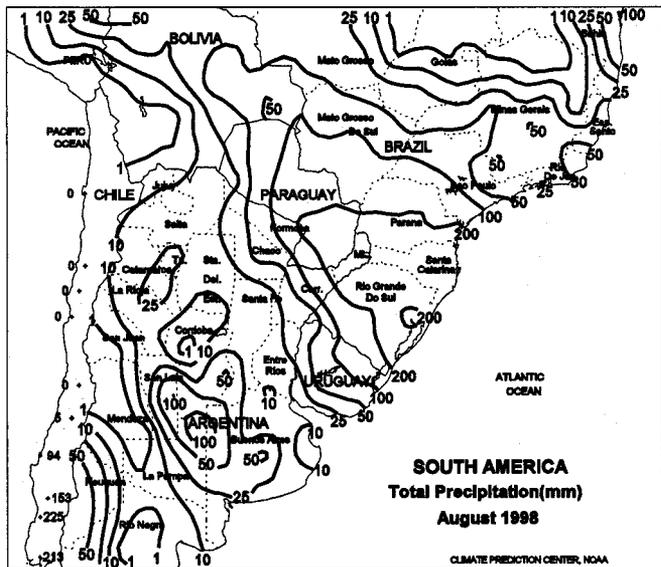


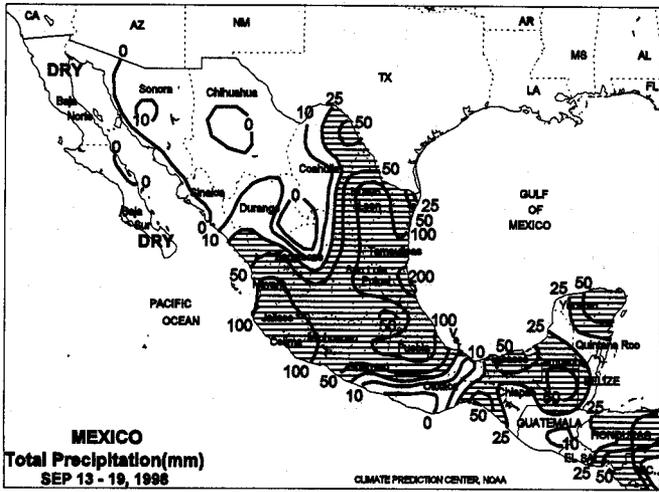




**SOUTH AMERICA**

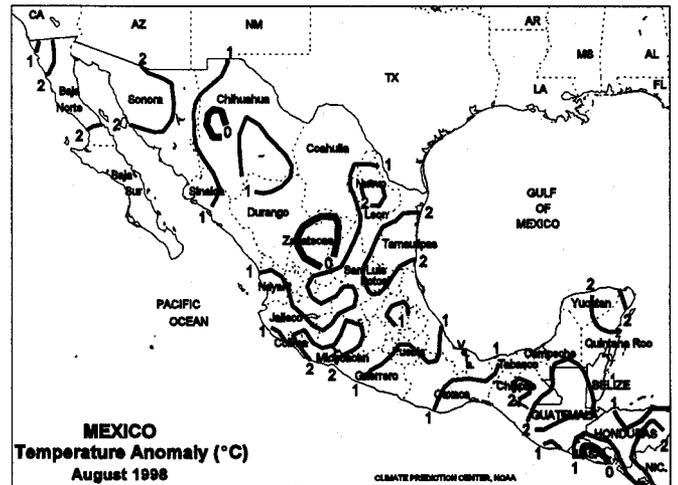
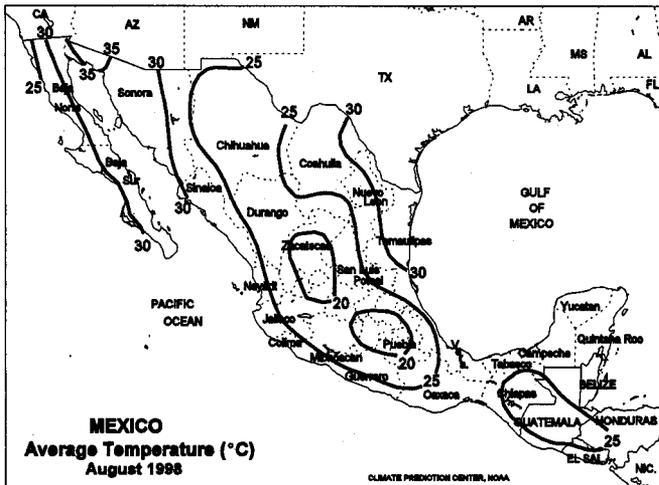
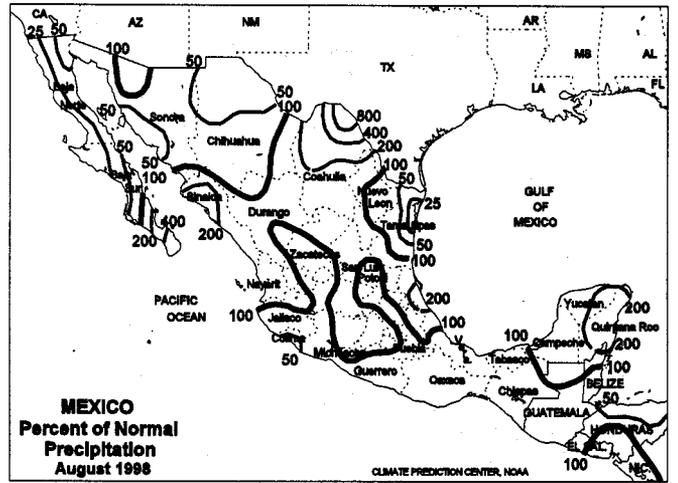
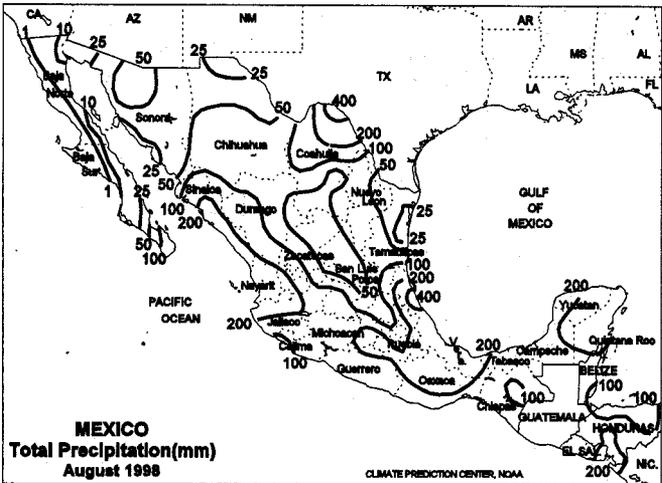
In central Argentina, light rain brought little relief to stressed vegetative winter wheat. Topsoil moisture is also needed for fieldwork preparations for summer crop planting. Freezing temperatures burned back early wheat growth in Buenos Aires. Winter wheat planting in Buenos Aires is nearing completion. In southern Brazil, moderate rain (40-80 mm) raised quality concerns for filling winter wheat in Rio Grande do Sul and slowed harvesting farther north. The moisture also aided fieldwork preparations for summer crop planting. Temperatures averaged 2 to 4 degrees C below normal across Argentina and 2 to 5 degrees C above normal in most of southern Brazil. In August, below-normal rainfall reduced topsoil moisture for winter wheat establishment across central Argentina, especially southern Buenos Aires. In southern Brazil, above-normal rainfall favored reproductive winter wheat in Rio Grande do Sul, but slowed early harvesting elsewhere.





**MEXICO**

Widespread showers (40-125 mm) brought drought relief to northeastern Mexico and favored filling corn across the Southern Plateau Corn Belt. Heavier rain (150-200 mm) caused local flooding in northern Veracruz. Temperatures averaged 1 to 2 degrees C above normal across most of Mexico. During August, near- to above-normal rainfall favored corn across the corn belt. Below-normal rainfall continued across the northeast, while above-normal rainfall eased long-term dryness in Coahuila.



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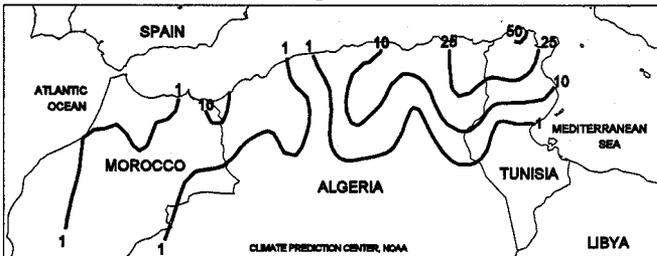
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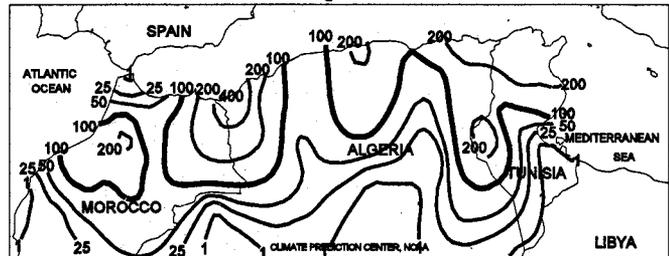
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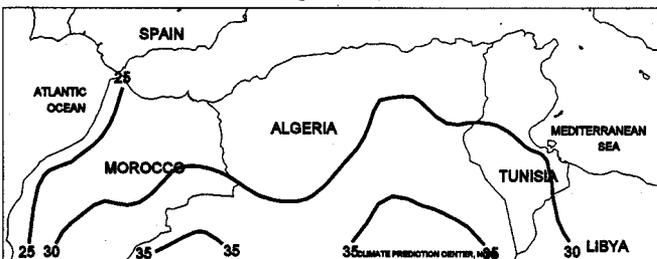
**NORTHWEST AFRICA TOTAL PRECIPITATION (mm)**  
August 1998



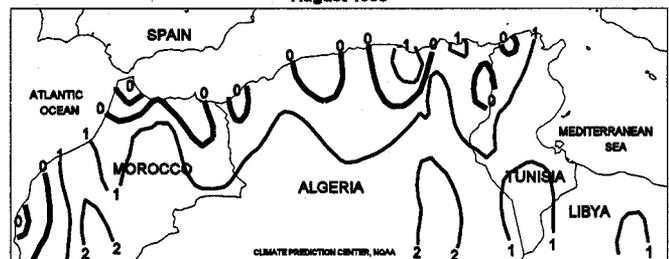
**NORTHWEST AFRICA Percent of Normal Precipitation**  
August 1998



**NORTHWEST AFRICA Average Temperature (C)**  
August 1998



**NORTHWEST AFRICA Temperature Anomaly (C)**  
August 1998



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