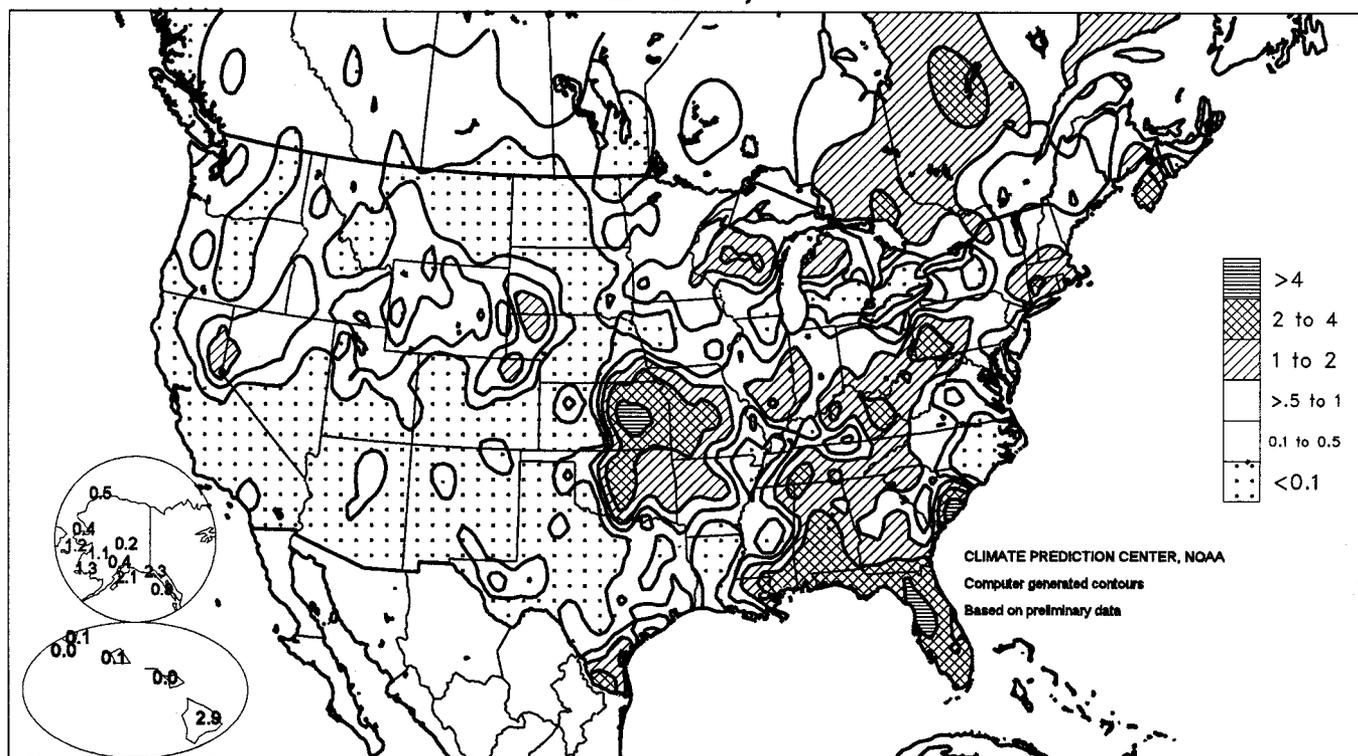


WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

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 20 - 26, 1998



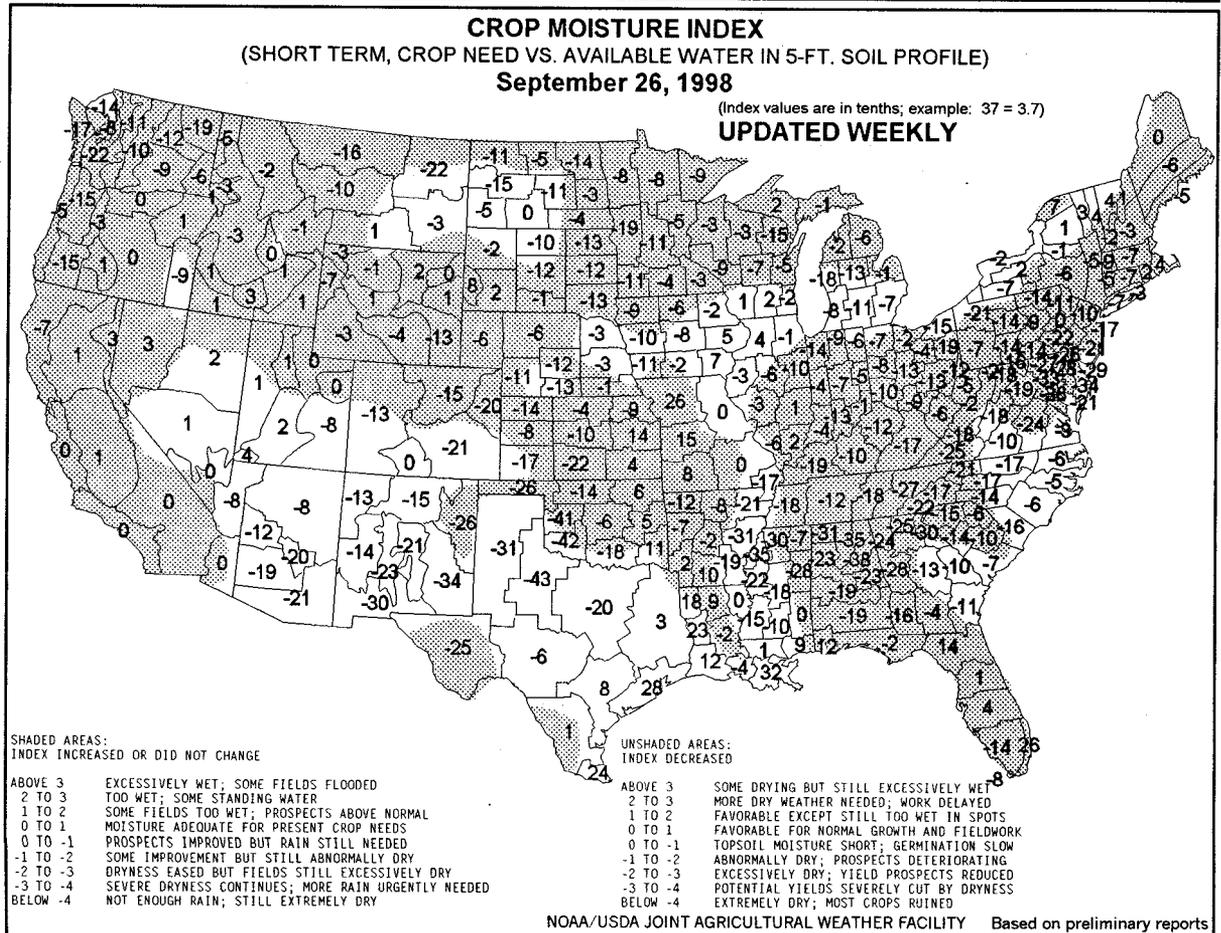
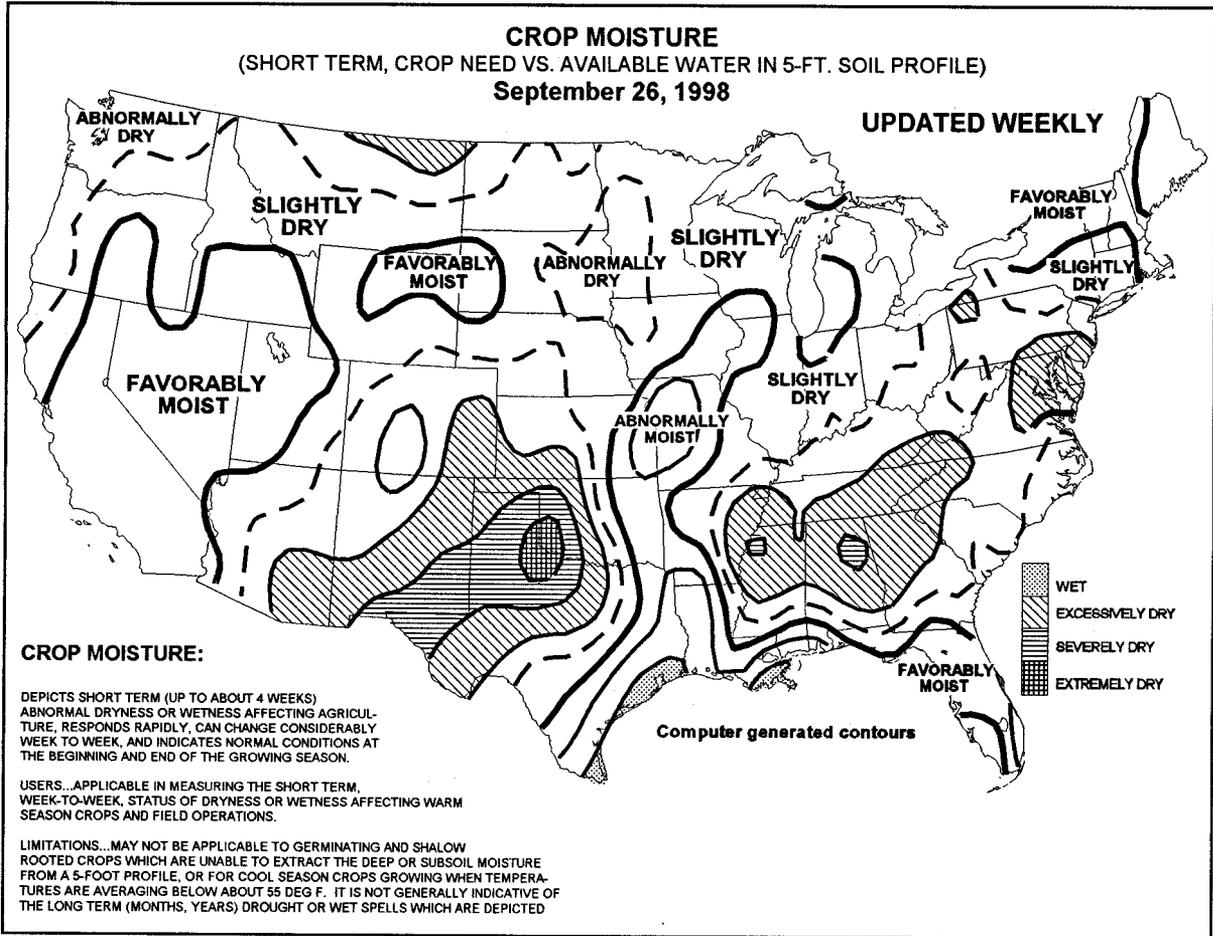
HIGHLIGHTS

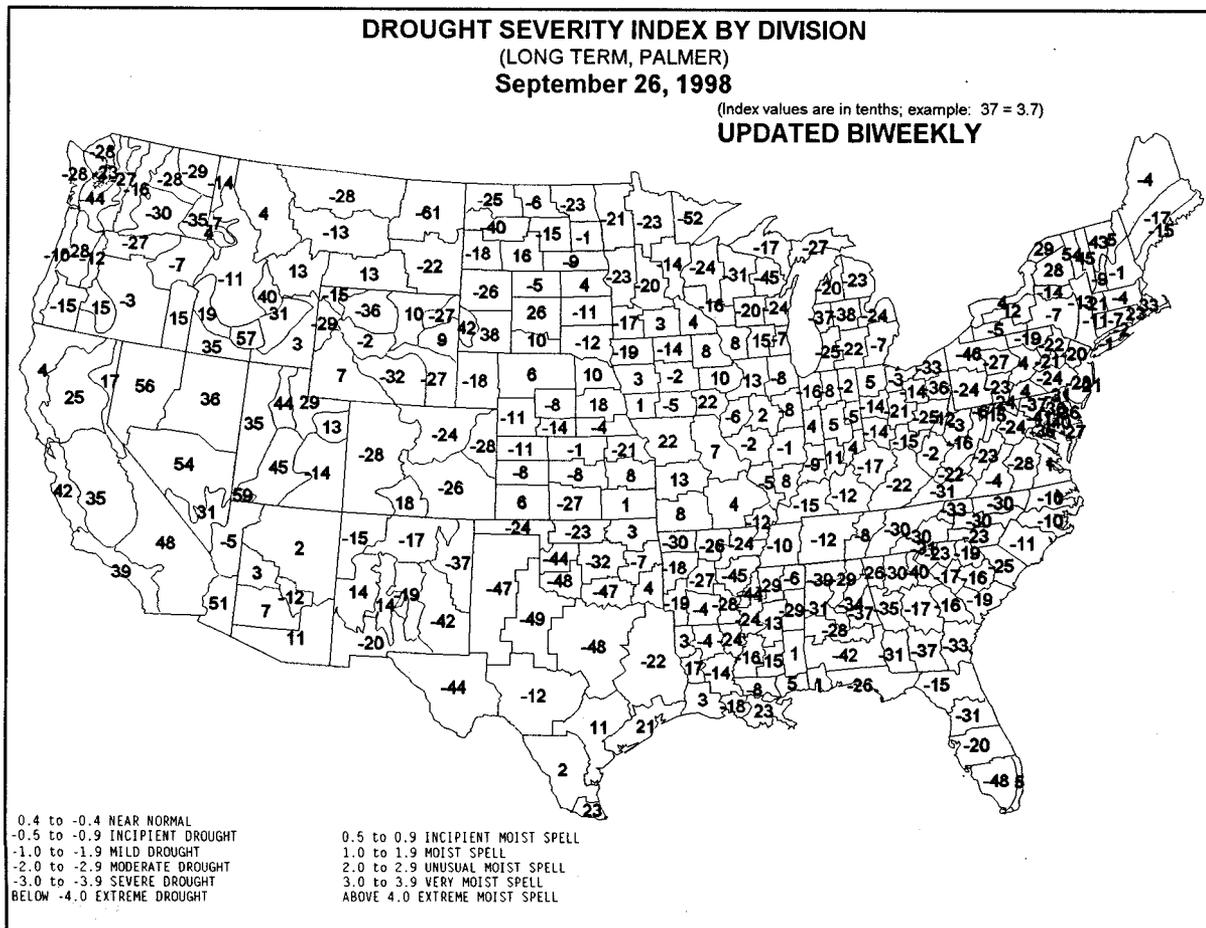
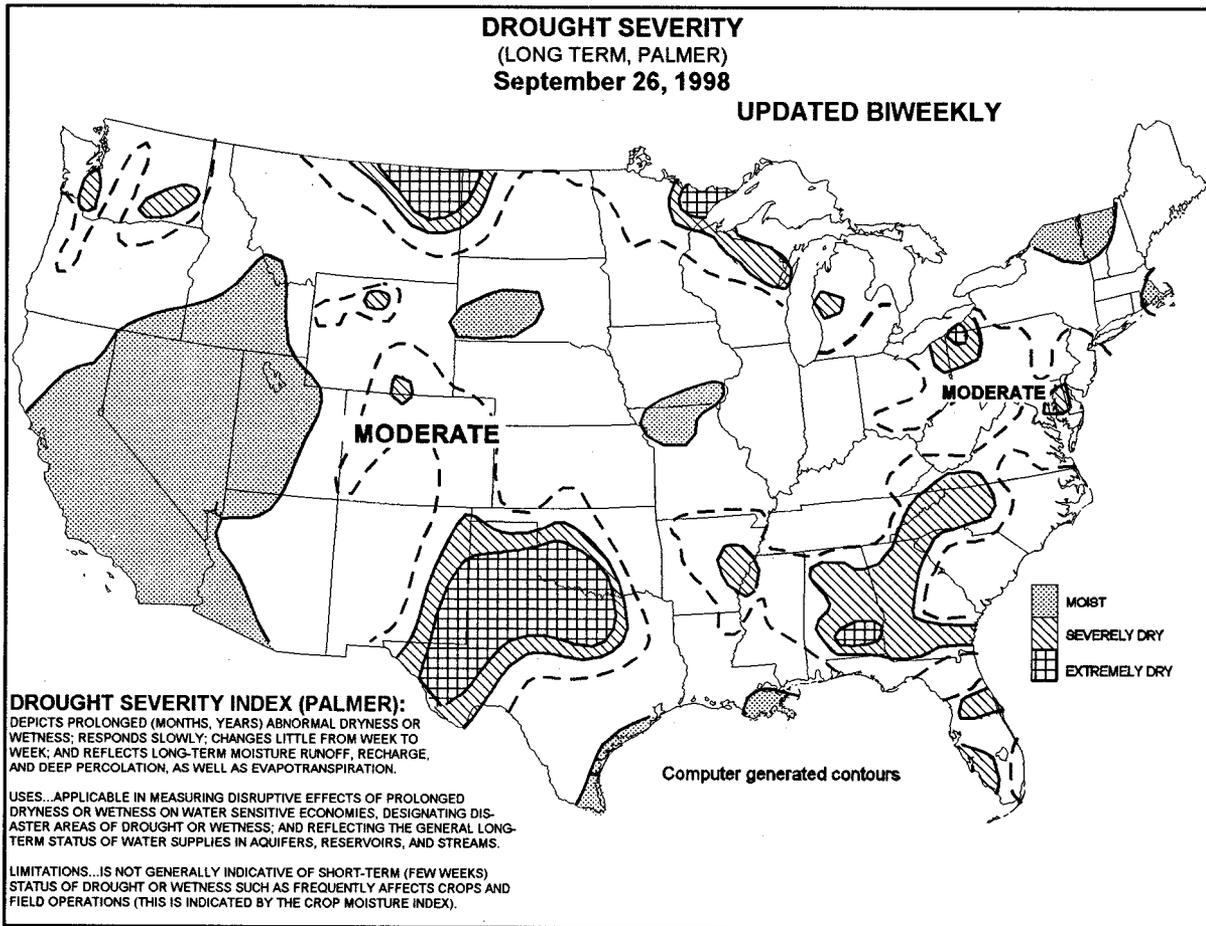
September 20 - 26, 1998

Two tropical systems, Tropical Storm Hermine and Hurricane Georges, and two strong cold fronts that affected the **eastern half of the Nation**, accounted for the majority of this week's rainfall and attention. Before a weakened Georges lashed the **Florida Keys** on Friday and threatened the **eastern Gulf Coast** at week's end, it tore through the **Caribbean** with sustained winds up to 120 mph, devastating the **northern Leeward Islands, Puerto Rico, Hispanola, and eastern Cuba** (*see back cover for track*). Georges caused an estimated several billions of dollars in damage and took at least 300 lives, with **Hispanola and Puerto Rico** particularly hard hit. On the morning of September 20, weak Tropical Storm Hermine made landfall near **Cocodrie in southeastern Louisiana**, but it rapidly dissipated later that day. Its minimal impacts to
(Continued on page 5)

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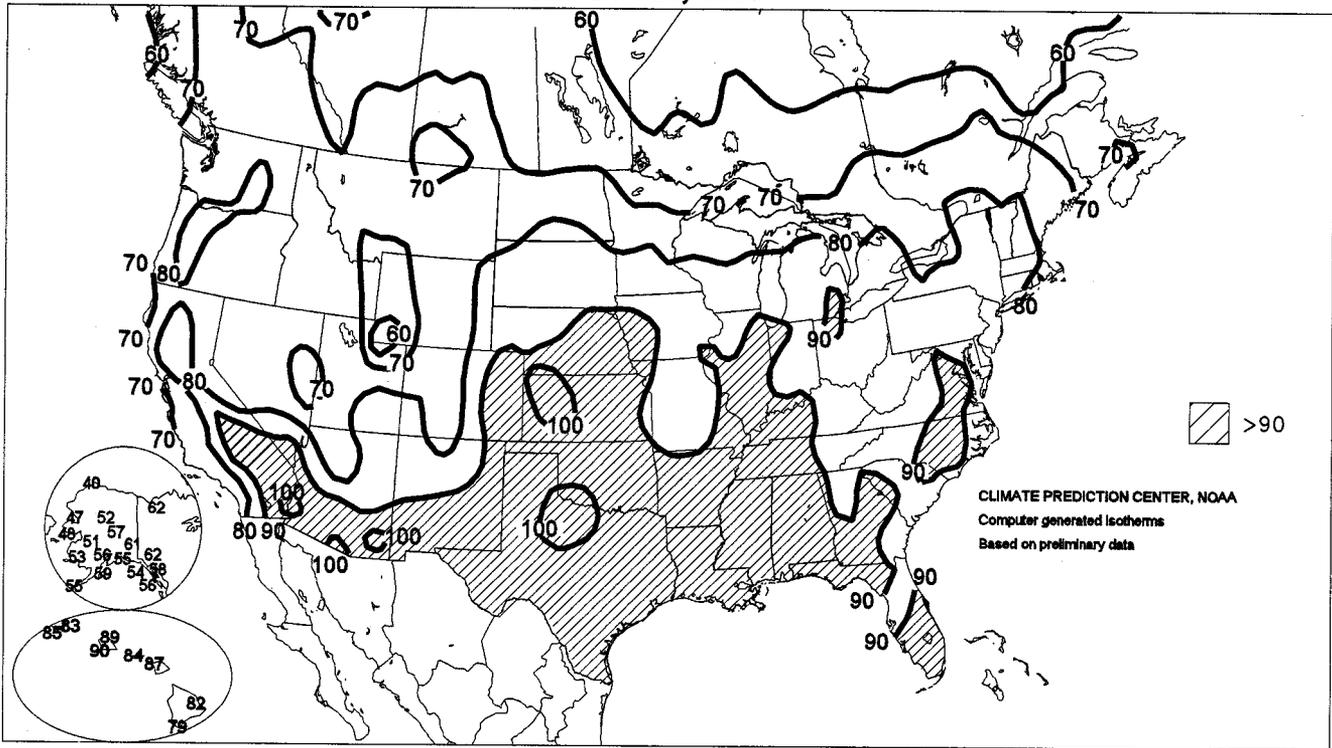
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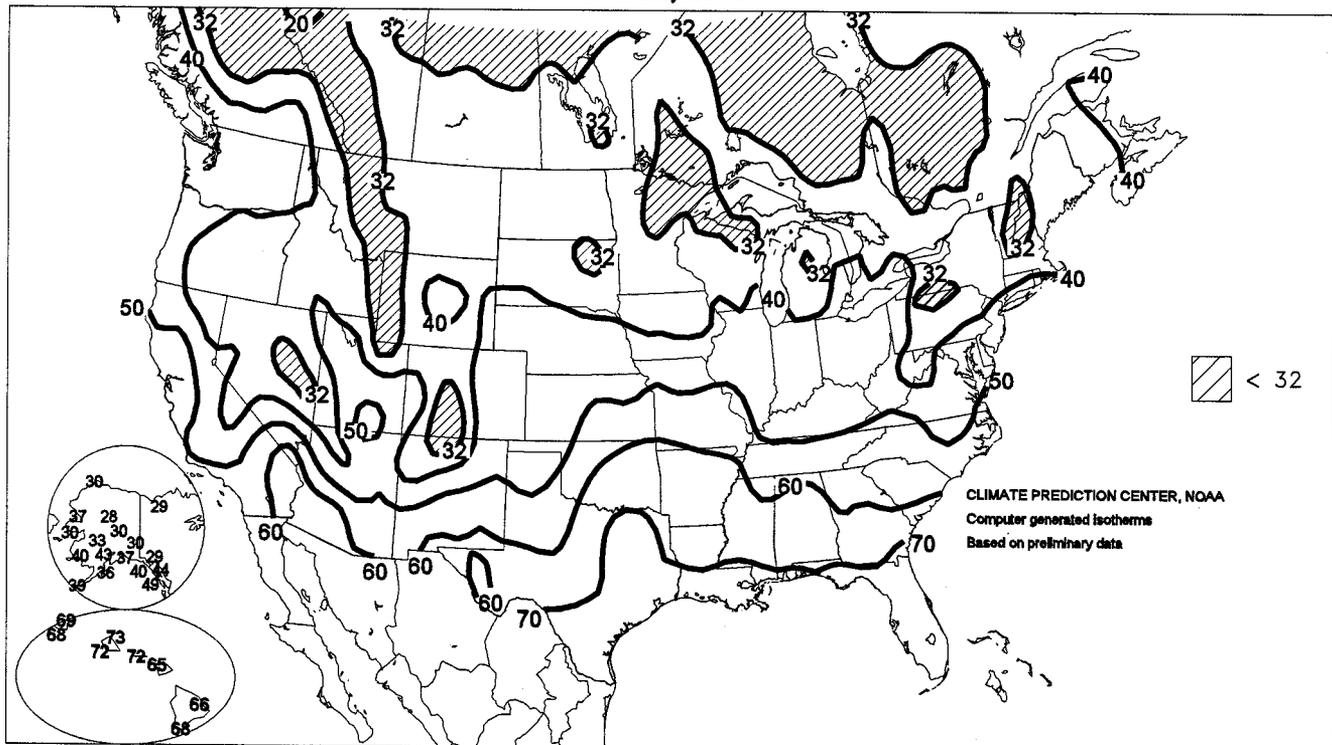
Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F)

SEP 20 - 26, 1998



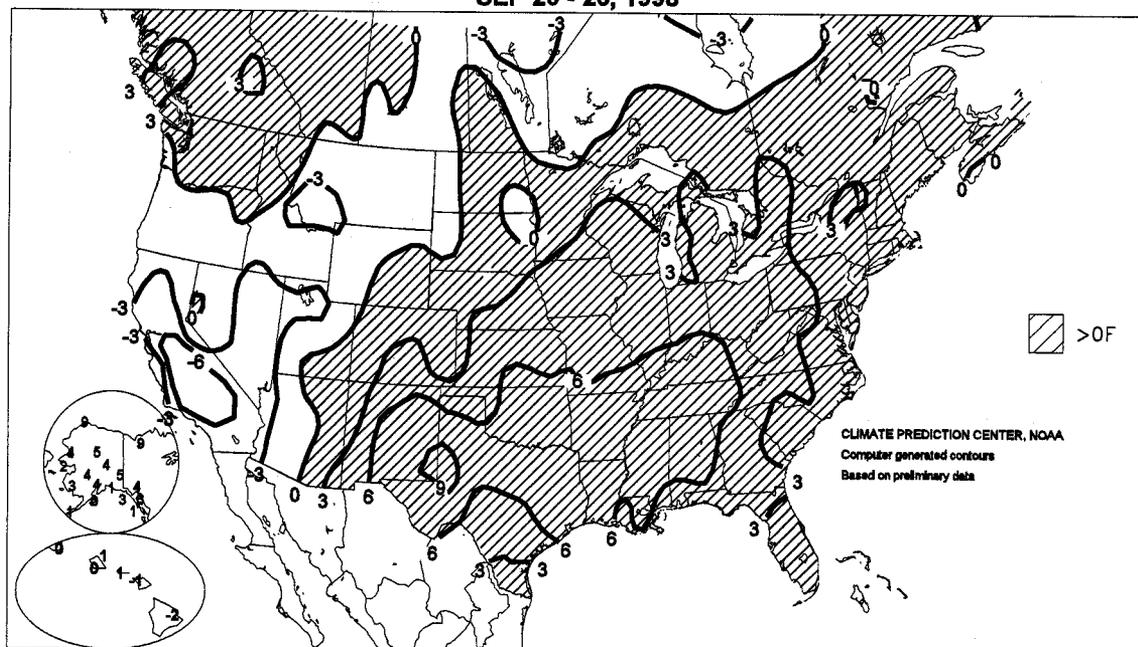
Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)

SEP 20 - 26, 1998



Departure of Average Temperature from Normal(°F)

SEP 20 - 26, 1998

*(Continued from front cover)*

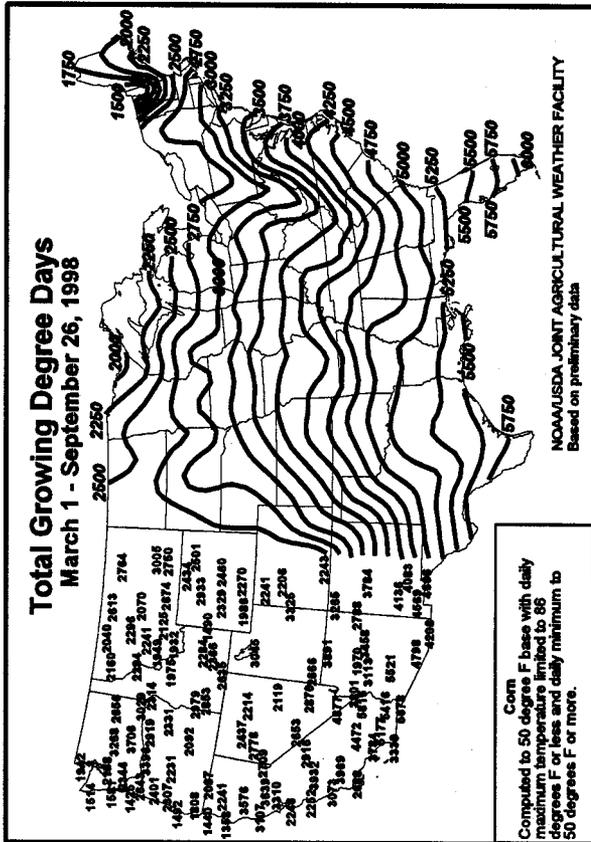
southeastern Louisiana and southern Mississippi included minor flooding from 1 to 3 inches of rain falling on saturated soils caused by Tropical Storm Frances' copious rains a week earlier. Meanwhile, two slow-moving cold fronts, one traversing the northeastern quarter of the Nation during the first half of the week while the second pushed southeastward into the upper Midwest and central Plains by week's end, brought 2 to 4 inches of rain to eastern Kansas, western Missouri, central Oklahoma, and western Arkansas, and lesser amounts to the Tennessee and Ohio Valleys and central Appalachians. The rains missed most of the parched winter wheat areas of the Texas and Oklahoma Panhandles, eastern Colorado, and western Kansas, but favorably dry weather persisted over the northern Delta's cotton area where bolls were open. Farther west, an upper-air low over the Great Basin brought cool, unsettled weather to the Northwest, providing additional moisture for the winter wheat.

Above-normal temperatures persisted across the southern and eastern United States, especially toward the week's end as over 60 daily records were set during Friday and Saturday. Weekly departures between +6°F and +10°F were common from the southern Rockies northeastward into the Tennessee Valley, and warmer-than-normal conditions covered the remainder of the Nation east of the Rockies, and the northern Intermountain West. With an upper-level low settled over the Great Basin, cooler-than-normal weather was observed across much of the West, with the largest negative departures (-3°F to -7°F) in interior California. Most of Alaska recorded a wet and mild week, while Hawaii measured near-to below-normal temperatures.

On Sunday, Hurricane Georges, weakened from its dangerous category four status earlier on Saturday, approached the northern Leeward Islands with sustained winds of 110 mph, while Hermine dissipated harmlessly in eastern Louisiana. Meanwhile, unseasonably warm air ahead of a cold front pushed readings into the 80's°F in northern Michigan, including a record 87°F at Alpena, MI. As the front slowly tracked southeastward and eventually stalled across the central Great Plains, showers and thunderstorms

developed along the stationary front, bringing 2 to 4 inches of rain to the area. The northern portion of the front raced eastward, dropping lesser amounts of rain on the eastern Great Lakes region and Northeast Monday and Tuesday. In the Southeast, moisture from the remnants of Hermine and an old frontal boundary triggered slow-moving thunderstorms that dumped a daily record 10.52 inches of rain on Charleston, SC Monday, eclipsing the former record of 4.84 inches from Hurricane Hugo in 1989. By Tuesday, cloud cover and cool northerly winds kept Dodge City, KS's maximum to a record low 56°F, a huge swing from when it reached 98°F 3 days earlier. As high pressure dropped southward out of Canada, fall-like weather enveloped the North Central States, replacing mid-month's record warmth, with highs in the 60's°F and lows in the 30's°F. By midweek, the cold front had advanced off the East coast and to the eastern Gulf Coast.

After Georges had battered Puerto Rico on Monday, Hispanola on Tuesday, and eastern Cuba on Wednesday, it re-emerged over open waters on Thursday in the Florida Straits and threatened the Florida Keys on Friday as it slowly strengthened. By Friday afternoon, the center of Georges passed near Key West, FL, with sustained winds of 105 mph and heavy rains, but mandatory evacuations kept injuries and fatalities to a minimum. As it tracked to the northwest into the eastern Gulf of Mexico, additional evacuations of low-lying areas along the central and eastern Gulf coast were mandated by week's end. Farther north, southerly flow around the back side of high pressure centered over the Mid-Atlantic and a southward advancing cold front from Canada triggered showers and thunderstorms in the central Great Plains and upper Midwest, including 1.69 inches of rain at Wausau, WI during a 24-hour period ending 8 a.m. EDT Saturday. Summer-like conditions enveloped the southern and central Plains on Friday as nearly three dozen record highs were set, including 100°F at Grand Island, NE, its latest reading of triple-digits, and 98°F (again) at Dodge City, KS, an increase of 42°F from its Tuesday high. The warmth expanded northeastward on Saturday as over 30 more record highs were broken. With so many record highs, the warmth also persisted into the night as nearly two dozen stations established new record high minimums during September 25-26.



National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending September 26, 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	90 AND ABOVE	92 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE		.50 INCH OR MORE	
																		TEMP, °F	PRECIP.		
AL BIRMINGHAM	88	69	93	64	78	7	0.66	-0.23	0.47	0.66	19	54.62	131	89	61	3	0	3	0	0	0
AL HUNTSVILLE	89	66	94	62	77	7	0.34	-0.81	0.21	0.51	14	33.28	78	93	49	2	0	2	0	0	0
AL MOBILE	87	72	91	69	80	4	3.58	2.34	1.28	10.45	198	64.32	126	97	66	2	0	4	0	3	0
AL MONTGOMERY	90	72	93	64	81	6	0.89	-0.22	0.60	0.78	22	36.07	88	90	51	5	0	2	1	0	0
AK ANCHORAGE	53	46	56	43	50	4	0.43	-0.19	0.15	0.79	34	9.32	82	89	59	0	0	6	0	0	0
AK BARROW	38	33	40	30	36	8	0.46	0.34	0.23	0.85	160	3.17	92	98	82	0	1	4	0	0	0
AK FAIRBANKS	53	37	57	30	46	4	0.26	0.06	0.20	1.05	124	9.48	114	93	50	0	1	3	0	0	0
AK JUNEAU	55	47	58	44	51	3	0.94	-0.73	0.31	5.05	88	33.64	93	99	75	0	0	8	0	0	0
AK KODIAK	55	41	59	36	48	0	0.04	-1.66	0.04	5.48	92	74.16	159	95	54	0	0	1	0	0	0
AK NOME	48	37	48	30	41	2	1.23	0.71	0.51	3.50	162	20.51	180	101	68	0	2	6	1	0	0
AZ FLAGSTAFF	86	40	70	35	53	-2	0.14	-0.29	0.14	4.41	245	22.05	133	84	28	0	0	1	0	0	0
AZ PHOENIX	93	71	99	69	82	-1	0.10	-0.09	0.05	0.33	43	8.72	165	53	19	6	0	2	0	0	0
AZ TUCSON	93	65	96	56	79	1	0.03	-0.32	0.03	1.15	78	12.31	136	60	16	7	0	1	0	0	0
AZ YUMA	91	72	97	68	82	-3	0.00	-0.06	0.00	2.28	807	4.38	201	59	24	5	0	0	0	0	0
AR FORT SMITH	90	69	94	67	80	8	1.21	0.43	0.56	5.46	196	33.09	111	94	52	6	0	3	2	0	0
AR LITTLE ROCK	91	70	93	64	80	9	0.05	-0.91	0.03	3.22	92	30.74	84	92	49	6	0	2	0	0	0
CA BAKERSFIELD	79	57	86	50	68	-7	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.14	120	11.98	294	76	36	0	0	0	0	0	0
CA EUREKA	81	51	87	46	56	-1	0.00	-0.24	0.00	0.10	14	41.15	189	98	78	0	0	0	0	0	0
CA FRESNO	77	57	86	56	67	-5	0.16	0.09	0.16	0.26	137	16.23	226	80	33	0	0	1	0	0	0
CA LOS ANGELES	71	63	74	59	67	-2	0.02	-0.06	0.01	0.03	10	23.86	291	87	60	0	0	1	0	0	0
CA REDDING	81	57	86	52	69	-3	0.03	-0.22	0.03	0.03	4	47.43	235	72	28	0	0	1	0	0	0
CA SACRAMENTO	75	58	85	53	65	-5	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.00	0	23.44	211	87	42	0	0	0	0	0	0
CA SAN DIEGO	71	65	72	62	68	-3	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.01	5	14.30	220	79	59	0	0	0	0	0	0
CA SAN FRANCISCO	67	58	70	55	61	-3	0.02	-0.05	0.02	0.02	15	28.60	231	93	63	0	0	1	0	0	0
CO ALAMOSA	76	38	80	29	56	4	0.05	-0.14	0.01	0.61	79	4.76	82	72	14	0	1	1	0	0	0
CO CO SPRINGS	76	48	87	45	62	4	0.10	-0.13	0.08	0.71	59	14.89	104	83	28	0	0	3	0	0	0
CO DENVER	78	47	91	44	61	2	0.33	0.05	0.31	0.78	72	14.19	111	86	27	1	0	2	0	0	0
CO GRAND JUNCTION	78	63	81	51	66	1	0.13	-0.06	0.11	1.08	150	6.70	107	63	18	0	0	2	0	0	0
CO PUEBLO	83	50	96	45	67	4	0.00	-0.16	0.00	0.16	19	9.12	94	80	27	1	0	0	0	0	0
CT BRIDGEPORT	72	56	79	48	64	0	0.20	-0.52	0.19	1.58	59	35.48	115	86	43	0	0	2	0	0	0
CT HARTFORD	74	62	85	38	63	2	1.18	0.30	1.08	2.01	61	35.94	112	95	52	0	0	3	1	0	0
DC WASHINGTON	80	63	92	52	71	3	1.39	0.65	1.23	1.90	86	32.75	113	89	47	1	0	3	1	0	0
DE WILMINGTON	77	57	90	44	67	1	0.78	-0.03	0.51	1.88	62	31.54	102	93	53	1	0	4	1	0	0
FL DAYTONA BEACH	86	76	91	75	81	3	2.43	1.02	1.52	5.84	101	34.36	91	97	75	1	0	6	1	0	0
FL JACKSONVILLE	84	75	88	74	80	3	2.28	0.83	1.05	6.49	103	49.49	116	98	77	0	0	6	2	0	0
FL KEY WEST	87	79	89	74	80	3	-	-	-	-	-	19.95	68	92	73	0	0	6	0	0	0
FL MIAMI	89	78	91	76	84	2	2.44	0.72	0.79	14.67	220	56.17	125	91	66	3	0	6	3	0	0
FL ORLANDO	85	75	90	74	80	0	1.89	0.42	0.54	5.84	105	42.05	104	99	75	1	0	7	1	0	0
FL PENSACOLA	88	75	94	71	82	6	1.09	-0.05	1.00	4.92	105	43.57	88	93	65	2	0	2	1	0	0
FL TALLAHASSEE	87	73	94	71	80	3	1.24	0.09	0.63	4.92	105	49.34	83	96	69	2	0	7	1	0	0
FL TAMPA	87	76	90	72	82	2	2.30	1.10	1.18	8.29	154	53.43	143	98	72	1	0	4	2	0	0
FL WEST PALM BEACH	88	77	89	75	82	1	2.72	0.89	1.83	13.06	176	54.30	118	94	67	0	0	5	2	0	0
GA ATHENS	84	66	92	58	74	4	0.21	-0.56	0.20	2.03	70	41.65	109	96	55	1	0	2	0	0	0
GA ATLANTA	83	68	87	61	75	6	0.84	0.06	0.72	3.58	120	41.23	105	91	56	0	0	2	1	0	0
GA AUGUSTA	84	64	91	54	74	2	0.00	-0.64	0.00	7.41	279	45.32	127	98	66	1	0	0	0	0	0
GA COLUMBUS	87	71	92	65	79	5	0.43	-0.28	0.26	0.85	30	25.78	65	89	56	2	0	2	0	0	0
GA MACON	86	69	91	62	77	4	0.23	-0.36	0.07	5.30	215	38.04	108	97	59	1	0	2	0	0	0
GA SAVANNAH	84	71	87	66	78	3	0.43	-0.43	0.43	4.20	104	44.24	107	99	65	0	0	1	0	0	0
HI HILO	80	68	82	66	74	-2	4.22	2.26	1.90	8.95	121	66.02	71	98	71	0	0	7	3	0	0
HI HONOLULU	87	75	89	73	81	0	0.00	-0.24	0.00	0.12	20	2.74	21	86	55	0	0	0	0	0	0
HI KAHULUI	86	70	87	65	78	-1	0.00	-0.09	0.00	0.34	131	3.40	25	86	51	0	0	0	0	0	0
HI LIHUE	83	75	83	74	79	0	0.02	-0.62	0.01	1.10	57	21.04	77	81	63	0	0	2	0	0	0
ID BOISE	69	49	77	43	59	-1	1.04	0.85	0.51	2.26	328	14.30	170	87	38	0	0	2	1	0	0
ID LEWISTON	72	50	78	47	61	0	0.81	0.62	0.43	1.99	276	13.36	146	90	39	0	0	4	0	0	0
ID POCATELLO	66	41	73	35	53	-3	0.50	0.30	0.18	1.99	276	11.30	128	92	35	0	0	4	0	0	0
IL CHICAGO/OHARE	75	65	90	44	65	3	0.00	-0.81	0.00	0.02	1	26.99	98	91	51	1	0	2	0	0	0
IL MOLINE	75	58	89	41	66	4	0.33	-0.57	0.24	3.08	87	36.24	117	95	54	0	0	2	0	0	0
IL PEORIA	76	68	89	44	67	3	0.49	-0.41	0.47	1.76	52	34.32	123	93	53	0	0	2	0	0	0
IL ROCKFORD	74	62	90	39	63	2	0.23	-0.61	0.20	2.35	70	31.85	112	99	52	1	0	3	0	0	0
IL SPRINGFIELD	80	59	90	46	69	4	0.54	-0.22	0.33	1.15	40	38.04	141	93	49	1	0	3	0	0	0
IN EVANSVILLE	86	61	91	48	74	7	0.37	-0.32	0.28	0.64	25	34.19	105	95	43	2	0	3	0	0	0
IN FORT WAYNE	78	55	91	43	66	4	0.75	0.													

Weather Data for the Week Ending September 26, 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	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE		.50 INCH OR MORE	
																		TEMP. °F	PRECIP.		
KY	WICHITA	85	64	95	56	75	7	0.26	-0.54	0.11	1.83	60	19.56	82	90	55	4	0	5	0	
	JACKSON	80	62	86	49	71	5	1.83	1.00	1.68	1.97	82	42.55	114	85	48	0	0	2	1	
	LEXINGTON	82	62	89	50	72	6	0.58	-0.12	0.58	0.58	21	42.64	125	90	47	0	0	1	1	
	LOUISVILLE	83	66	91	53	74	7	0.85	0.14	0.53	1.04	38	40.44	119	89	44	1	0	3	1	
	PADUCAH	88	62	93	47	75	7	0.03	-0.81	0.03	0.13	5	41.15	112	92	41	3	0	1	0	
LA	BATON ROUGE	90	74	92	71	82	6	1.49	0.44	1.30	8.25	192	46.34	98	98	62	6	0	2	1	
	LAKE CHARLES	92	75	94	74	83	7	0.04	-1.24	0.00	12.63	253	44.68	109	98	57	7	0	1	0	
	NEW ORLEANS	90	77	92	76	84	7	0.46	-0.71	0.43	18.44	378	71.01	148	92	62	4	0	2	0	
	SHREVEPORT	92	72	95	69	82	7	0.00	-0.78	0.00	7.92	298	34.19	102	92	52	7	0	0	0	
ME	CARIBOU	62	44	67	35	53	2	0.13	-0.64	0.11	2.89	89	29.75	113	93	58	0	0	2	0	
	PORTLAND	67	49	72	38	58	1	0.73	-0.02	0.70	2.65	80	39.52	131	98	64	0	0	4	1	
MD	BALTIMORE	78	58	92	43	67	1	0.82	-0.14	0.51	1.30	43	30.95	101	98	51	1	0	0	3	1
MA	BOSTON	71	58	79	47	63	1	1.95	1.23	1.93	2.89	109	45.98	155	93	64	0	0	2	1	
	WORCESTER	69	51	80	40	60	2	0.78	-0.20	0.70	1.24	36	37.64	108	94	57	0	0	3	1	
MI	ALPENA	69	46	86	35	58	3	1.10	0.42	0.98	2.20	80	24.08	109	93	47	0	0	3	1	
	GRAND RAPIDS	73	53	89	39	63	6	0.05	-0.91	0.04	1.97	53	25.29	95	92	46	0	0	2	0	
	HOUGHTON LAKE	69	47	83	27	58	3	1.24	0.49	1.04	1.99	66	16.72	78	95	52	0	2	5	1	
	LANSING	74	50	89	34	62	4	0.21	-0.58	0.06	1.17	37	22.94	99	92	41	0	0	3	0	
	MARQUETTE	63	41	73	30	52	0	0.40	-0.57	0.35	3.37	96	33.01	129	92	55	0	1	3	0	
	MUSKEGON	69	52	79	37	61	2	0.18	-0.72	0.03	2.80	82	26.43	114	94	58	0	0	3	0	
MN	DULUTH	63	45	70	32	54	2	0.33	-0.52	0.31	2.96	87	23.70	99	95	46	0	1	2	0	
	INT'L FALLS	60	39	63	27	49	-2	0.07	-0.63	0.06	0.28	11	15.85	80	97	54	0	2	2	0	
	MINNEAPOLIS	70	51	78	38	61	3	0.57	-0.02	0.28	1.07	45	30.15	130	88	45	0	0	4	0	
	ROCHESTER	71	48	85	38	60	3	0.33	-0.43	0.20	0.57	19	25.57	105	97	47	0	0	3	0	
	ST. CLOUD	69	44	80	32	57	2	0.30	-0.38	0.18	0.88	31	20.70	91	95	43	0	1	4	0	
MS	JACKSON	82	71	96	66	81	8	0.00	-0.83	0.00	2.34	78	40.54	99	92	48	6	0	0	0	
	MERIDIAN	90	69	95	64	80	6	0.38	-0.43	0.17	0.94	31	44.57	104	97	52	4	0	3	0	
	TUPELO	89	67	94	58	78	6	0.08	-0.77	0.08	0.08	3	37.08	91	91	48	2	0	1	0	
MO	COLUMBIA	80	61	87	50	70	5	1.19	0.28	0.88	4.18	125	34.39	115	96	61	0	0	4	1	
	KANSAS CITY	77	62	88	51	69	4	2.43	1.30	1.32	6.77	159	33.23	110	94	60	0	0	4	3	
	SAINT LOUIS	81	65	91	54	73	5	0.28	-0.46	0.20	1.87	69	37.58	134	87	51	2	0	3	0	
	SPRINGFIELD	80	65	87	57	72	6	2.52	1.44	1.22	4.85	121	38.58	121	97	61	0	0	3	2	
MT	BILLINGS	65	46	79	40	56	0	0.25	-0.08	0.09	1.93	162	12.69	104	89	39	0	0	3	0	
	BUTTE	61	34	70	29	48	0	0.05	-0.21	0.04	1.49	125	13.08	127	95	34	0	4	2	0	
	GLASGOW	65	43	70	35	54	0	0.01	-0.20	0.01	0.92	105	10.99	115	88	37	0	0	1	0	
	GREAT FALLS	63	42	72	34	53	-1	0.28	0.02	0.18	1.08	98	15.00	117	83	39	0	0	3	0	
	KALISPELL	65	39	71	32	52	1	0.71	0.44	0.68	1.44	129	16.58	133	98	33	0	2	2	1	
	MILES CITY	70	46	81	45	58	1	0.00	-0.30	0.00	0.39	35	10.52	89	82	29	0	0	0	0	
	MISSOULA	66	40	73	34	53	0	0.14	-0.10	0.12	1.19	121	17.20	162	95	34	0	0	3	0	
NE	GRAND ISLAND	78	54	100	47	66	6	0.00	-0.82	0.00	0.01	1	21.67	101	83	37	2	0	0	0	
	LINCOLN	77	56	93	45	66	4	0.50	-0.27	0.24	2.03	66	27.72	118	90	49	2	0	3	0	
	NORFOLK	76	52	92	44	64	3	0.35	-0.19	0.16	0.82	29	29.31	138	92	40	1	0	3	0	
	NORTH PLATTE	74	51	89	45	62	4	0.18	-0.20	0.13	1.14	81	19.21	113	93	43	0	0	3	0	
	OMAHA	78	55	93	45	67	4	0.32	-0.53	0.22	0.88	27	35.50	144	91	46	2	0	3	0	
	SCOTTSBLUFF	73	47	87	45	60	1	0.25	0.00	0.15	0.47	51	12.49	95	90	36	0	0	2	0	
	VALENTINE	72	47	85	41	59	1	0.84	0.33	0.55	0.65	47	19.14	119	93	45	0	0	4	1	
NV	ELY	64	37	70	30	51	-3	0.08	-0.19	0.02	0.69	78	9.94	127	86	28	0	1	4	0	
	LAS VEGAS	87	66	92	64	76	-1	0.00	-0.06	0.00	1.36	544	6.43	211	45	17	1	0	0	0	
	RENO	69	49	75	46	59	1	0.43	0.35	0.35	1.66	535	10.37	198	82	33	0	0	3	0	
	WINNEMUCCA	68	43	77	33	58	-1	0.35	0.26	0.30	2.33	728	12.64	219	79	32	0	0	2	0	
NH	CONCORD	72	46	83	31	59	2	0.42	-0.21	0.36	1.46	60	28.89	111	97	49	0	1	2	0	
NJ	NEWARK	76	58	86	46	67	1	0.34	-0.48	0.13	2.83	88	39.86	120	90	46	0	0	3	0	
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	86	59	88	52	72	6	0.00	-0.20	0.00	0.00	0	7.31	106	48	17	0	0	0	0	
NY	ALBANY	71	51	82	37	61	2	0.58	-0.08	0.35	1.64	64	32.11	120	93	53	0	0	3	0	
	BINGHAMTON	69	51	79	36	60	2	0.22	-0.55	0.19	1.56	54	32.52	119	93	53	0	0	3	0	
	BUFFALO	70	52	79	43	61	1	0.31	-0.45	0.31	2.18	71	29.33	106	92	82	0	0	1	0	
	ROCHESTER	70	51	80	42	60	1	0.68	0.03	0.34	2.75	105	37.26	158	97	61	0	0	3	0	
	SYRACUSE	72	51	81	39	61	2	0.15	-0.73	0.12	2.40	73	30.84	109	89	53	0	0	2	0	
NC	ASHEVILLE	79	61	84	54	70	6	1.03	0.17	1.02	1.31	39	40.12	110	96	51	0	0	2	1	
	CHARLOTTE	81	62	87	53	72	1	0.52	-0.28	0.49	3.80	118	37.64	116	94	55	0	0	2	0	
	GREENSBORO	80	61	88	54	71	3	0.72	-0.11	0.56	2.28	74	40.75	126	94	56	0	0	2	1	
	HATTERAS	79	67	84	63	73	1	0.00	-1.19	0.00	8.20	178	56.80	139	92	60	0	0	0	0	
	RALEIGH	84	60	91	46	72	3	0.00	-0.70	0.00	3.25	117	43.92	137	95	47	2	0	0	0	
	WILMINGTON	83	65	89	55	74	0	0.00	-1.03	0.00	5.50	122	57.46	130	94	53	0	0	0	0	
ND	BISMARCK	70	40	83	34	55	1	0.00	-0.32	0.00	0.88	67	19.82	146	94	37	0	0	0	0	
	DICKINSON	66	41	76	35	54	0	0.00	-0.38	0.00	2.28	158	20.61	146	93	39	0	0	0	0	
	FARGO	69	42	78	34	55	1	0.54	0.10	0.28	1.16	67	23.78	147	88	41	0	0	4	0	
	GRAND FORKS	67	40	73	33	54	1	0.05	-0.44	0.04	0.17	9	15.73	102	94	43	0	0	2	0	
	JAMESTOWN	66	40	80	34	53	-1	0.12	-0.26	0.10	0.51	33	18.63	126	93	41	0	0	2	0	
	WILLISTON	64	38	71	32	51	-2	0.00	-0.30	0.00	0.86	80	12.83	108	94	41	0	1	0	0	
OH	AKRON-CANTON	73	55	86	43	64	3	0.29	-0.45	0.17	0.64	22	32.05	114	94	54	0	0	4	0	
	CINCINNATI	81	60	88	49	70	5	0.43	-0.23	0.24	0.71	28	42.44	135	93	46	0	0	3	0	
	CLEVELAND	75	58	89	45	68	5	0.08	-0.70	0.08	1.19	40	27.82	102	88	51	0	0	1	0	
	COLUMBUS	79	60	90	47	70	6	0.27	-0.36	0.17	0.51	20	28.77	97	91	46	1	0	1	0	
	DAYTON	79	59	89	45	69	5	0.09	-0.47	0.09	0.58	26									

Weather Data for the Week Ending September 26, 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	TEMP. °F		PRECIP.	
																90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	01 INCH OR MORE	50 INCH OR MORE
OK TOLEDO	77	55	91	40	68	6	0.15	-0.47	0.12	0.88	35	28.19	114	92	36	1	0	4	0
OK YOUNGSTOWN	73	53	86	38	63	3	0.25	-0.54	0.21	1.98	65	29.42	104	93	53	0	0	4	0
OK OKLAHOMA CITY	88	69	97	62	78	8	2.58	1.82	1.34	4.23	127	23.70	90	95	50	5	0	2	2
OK TULSA	86	70	93	63	78	7	2.15	1.02	2.01	4.94	121	32.48	105	91	57	3	0	2	1
OR ASTORIA	84	49	73	42	58	-1	0.37	-0.43	0.24	0.78	33	46.29	117	100	69	0	0	5	0
OR BURNS	86	37	74	33	52	-1	0.17	0.05	0.17	1.03	207	13.03	192	87	24	0	0	1	0
OR EUGENE	73	48	81	39	60	-2	0.18	-0.24	0.17	1.03	207	28.38	99	97	44	0	0	2	0
OR MEDFORD	78	47	85	44	63	0	0.04	-0.18	0.03	0.44	31	18.09	169	87	26	0	0	2	0
OR PENDLETON	71	49	79	45	60	0	0.27	0.13	0.17	0.04	6	10.23	129	92	44	0	0	2	0
OR PORTLAND	72	52	79	51	62	1	0.27	-0.18	0.15	1.13	78	28.15	119	92	42	0	0	2	0
OR SALEM	72	47	79	45	60	0	0.19	-0.23	0.18	0.89	63	29.29	128	94	37	0	0	3	0
PA ALLENTOWN	73	50	82	38	62	-1	0.36	-0.50	0.24	3.15	91	33.34	102	96	58	0	0	4	0
PA ERIE	73	58	88	45	65	3	0.50	-0.51	0.21	1.77	46	26.43	89	92	56	0	0	4	0
PA MIDDLETOWN	75	56	84	43	68	2	0.27	-0.54	0.10	1.80	59	41.80	138	91	50	0	0	3	0
PA PHILADELPHIA	76	59	86	50	68	2	0.20	-0.56	0.10	1.80	60	27.76	88	88	51	0	0	3	0
PA PITTSBURGH	75	55	86	41	65	3	0.36	-0.32	0.16	1.23	47	28.76	102	95	48	0	0	5	0
PA WILKES-BARRE	71	52	83	36	61	1	0.38	-0.39	0.28	2.43	84	31.13	114	95	56	0	0	2	0
PA WILLIAMSPORT	72	52	83	37	62	1	0.52	-0.28	0.32	1.40	47	35.35	117	95	52	0	0	5	0
RI PROVIDENCE	72	54	78	42	63	1	0.99	0.19	0.98	2.30	76	44.89	138	95	59	0	0	2	1
SC BEAUFORT	85	71	89	64	78	3	0.05	-0.92	0.05	4.16	90	49.11	115	89	62	0	0	1	0
SC CHARLESTON	84	69	86	62	76	2	10.55	9.60	10.52	14.55	344	62.89	148	97	60	0	0	2	1
SC COLUMBIA	85	65	90	55	75	3	0.75	0.01	0.75	6.18	190	42.44	106	91	47	1	0	1	1
SC GREENVILLE	81	64	88	58	72	3	0.99	0.05	0.91	3.47	101	41.74	107	94	56	0	0	3	1
SD ABERDEEN	70	40	81	30	55	-1	0.00	-0.42	0.00	0.07	5	19.69	122	92	38	0	1	0	0
SD HURON	74	43	87	32	59	1	0.00	-0.39	0.00	0.00	0	18.52	108	90	37	0	1	0	0
SD RAPID CITY	68	45	84	36	56	-1	0.10	-0.18	0.10	0.85	80	13.93	97	90	41	0	0	1	0
SD SIOUX FALLS	72	45	85	34	59	1	0.15	-0.52	0.14	1.06	40	21.99	111	92	42	0	0	3	0
TN BRISTOL	82	58	88	51	70	4	0.26	-0.50	0.24	0.86	30	35.44	113	98	47	0	0	2	0
TN CHATTANOOGA	86	65	91	59	78	6	0.90	-0.06	0.88	0.90	26	44.31	111	95	49	2	0	3	1
TN KNOXVILLE	85	64	90	59	75	7	0.86	0.16	0.85	0.96	37	43.56	123	91	42	1	0	2	1
TN MEMPHIS	81	69	92	63	80	8	1.42	0.81	1.42	1.49	49	42.17	111	87	47	6	0	1	1
TN NASHVILLE	85	64	90	62	75	5	1.00	0.22	0.79	1.45	48	41.35	116	92	46	1	0	3	1
TX ABILENE	83	69	101	60	81	7	0.00	-0.74	0.00	0.07	2	9.93	52	87	35	5	0	0	0
TX AMARILLO	86	80	97	47	73	6	0.00	-0.40	0.00	1.08	61	9.77	58	82	33	5	0	0	0
TX AUSTIN	92	75	94	73	83	5	0.02	-0.80	0.02	6.67	237	21.02	89	96	56	7	0	1	0
TX BEAUMONT	91	76	93	74	83	6	0.34	-1.10	0.32	13.12	237	46.65	110	96	80	7	0	1	0
TX BROWNSVILLE	90	78	92	74	83	2	0.50	-0.82	0.21	7.87	160	12.31	61	99	68	4	0	5	0
TX CORPUS CHRISTI	88	75	92	74	82	2	1.05	-0.24	0.58	8.47	175	19.36	82	100	72	2	0	2	1
TX DEL RIO	90	74	92	69	82	4	0.08	-0.82	0.08	1.63	67	25.45	180	93	53	5	0	1	0
TX EL PASO	91	70	93	67	81	8	0.14	-0.23	0.13	0.28	19	3.58	52	68	29	5	0	2	0
TX FORT WORTH	93	75	98	71	84	9	0.00	-0.85	0.00	0.69	24	19.28	75	88	46	5	0	0	0
TX GALVESTON	89	81	93	79	85	6	0.83	-0.51	0.83	12.86	244	46.30	145	98	75	3	0	1	1
TX HOUSTON	92	75	94	73	83	7	0.24	-0.94	0.13	10.18	240	29.87	88	97	56	6	0	2	0
TX LUBBOCK	90	64	98	54	77	8	0.00	-0.59	0.00	0.00	0	9.44	62	88	32	5	0	0	0
TX MIDLAND	93	69	100	61	81	10	0.00	-0.83	0.00	0.08	4	3.80	33	83	29	6	0	0	0
TX SAN ANGELO	92	66	96	61	79	6	0.00	-0.82	0.00	0.12	4	9.07	58	93	40	6	0	0	0
TX SAN ANTONIO	90	74	91	71	82	4	0.18	-0.85	0.18	1.58	54	20.88	89	95	54	3	0	1	0
TX VICTORIA	91	78	92	73	83	5	0.07	-1.27	0.03	10.37	212	24.46	85	98	60	7	0	3	0
TX WACO	92	74	95	72	83	6	0.53	-0.38	0.53	4.55	151	20.52	86	97	54	5	0	2	1
TX WICHITA FALLS	94	70	103	64	82	9	0.20	-0.71	0.20	0.33	10	16.22	71	88	37	5	0	1	0
UT SALT LAKE CITY	86	50	74	43	58	-4	0.88	0.55	0.63	1.47	137	18.88	160	87	45	0	0	3	1
VT BURLINGTON	89	50	81	36	60	4	0.48	-0.24	0.33	4.06	140	45.08	176	92	58	0	0	3	0
VA LYNCHBURG	80	55	88	43	68	2	0.56	-0.20	0.56	1.77	64	41.82	138	98	49	0	0	2	1
VA NORFOLK	80	65	86	53	72	2	0.18	-0.68	0.17	2.10	62	46.26	132	89	51	0	0	2	0
VA RICHMOND	81	60	87	48	70	3	0.30	-0.44	0.28	3.22	111	39.29	120	93	46	0	0	2	0
VA ROANOKE	81	59	89	51	70	5	0.07	-0.73	0.06	1.07	36	40.78	133	90	46	0	0	2	0
VA WASHINGTON	80	55	90	40	67	3	0.14	-0.61	0.08	1.28	44	33.21	110	93	47	1	0	4	0
WA HANFORD	77	51	84	45	64	-	0.08	-0.99	0.06	0.06	-	4.40	-	80	32	0	0	1	0
WA OLYMPIA	70	44	79	41	57	1	0.07	-0.54	0.02	0.38	20	26.91	91	99	48	0	0	5	0
WA QUILLAYUTE	66	42	71	36	54	-1	0.17	-1.22	0.14	0.57	14	48.44	76	100	63	0	0	3	0
WA SEATTLE-TACOMA	67	51	75	46	59	0	0.37	-0.12	0.30	0.53	34	20.30	93	89	51	0	0	3	0
WA SPOKANE	70	44	75	38	57	1	0.07	-0.10	0.05	0.21	33	10.61	98	88	31	0	0	2	0
WA YAKIMA	74	44	80	40	59	1	0.06	-0.03	0.05	0.06	17	7.04	140	76	28	0	0	1	0
WV BECKLEY	74	56	82	44	65	4	0.97	0.20	0.40	1.84	63	40.07	127	95	57	0	0	4	0
WV CHARLESTON	77	58	87	43	68	2	0.41	-0.31	0.32	1.74	61	40.86	127	97	55	0	0	2	0
WV ELKINS	73	50	81	36	61	2	0.53	-0.30	0.37	3.69	112	41.08	119	100	58	0	0	3	0
WV HUNTINGTON	79	58	89	42	69	3	0.70	0.05	0.69	0.96	38	39.17	124	91	39	0	0	2	1
WI EAU CLAIRE	72	49	82	38	61	4	0.93	0.09	0.38	1.30	38	28.23	100	93	44	0	0	4	0
WI GREEN BAY	72	49	82	34	61	4	1.92	1.16	1.89	3.34	109	25.04	111	90	51	0	0	3	1
WI MADISON	71	52	85	38	62	5	0.26	-0.46	0.13	2.24	75	34.26	141	93	51	0	0	4	0
WI MILWAUKEE	73	56	88	48	64	5	0.31	-0.44	0.16	1.59	54	28.25	112	87	60	0	0	3	0
WY CASPER	66	45	75	42	58	1	0.65	0.41	0.38	0.80	100	9.35	94	91	45	0	0	3	0
WY CHEYENNE	67	44	82	41	58	1	0.45	0.18	0.23	0.62	55	8.91	71	90	41	0	0	3	0
WY LANDER	63	44	72	41	53	-2	0.75	0.47	0.50	1.41	152	12.54	121	89	42	0	0	4	1
WY SHERIDAN	63	41	75	37	52	-2	0.39	0.06	0.37	2.80	237	13.84	119	97	51	0	0	3	0

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

National Agricultural Summary

September 21 - 27, 1998

HIGHLIGHTS

Crops continued to quickly ripen in the Corn Belt, Great Plains, Delta, and Southeast due to above-normal temperatures that prevailed east of the Rocky Mountains. Most of the Great Plains remained dry, allowing fall tillage operations to continue at a good pace, but dry soils discouraged some growers from

continuing with winter wheat seeding. Dry weather in the Corn Belt and Delta States aided harvest progress, while rain slowed fieldwork along the Gulf Coast and parts of the Southeast. Below-normal temperatures prevailed in the Southwest, but crops continued to ripen and the harvest gained momentum.

Corn: Warm weather continued to quickly ripen the Nation's corn crop, as 89 percent of the crop has reached maturity. Development remained well over 1 week ahead of the normal pace of 62 percent and nearly 2 weeks ahead of the slow 1997 pace. Harvest progress, aided by dry weather across most of the Corn Belt and Great Plains States, steadily advanced to 22 percent. Although many farmers were waiting for mother nature to dry the corn for them, harvest progress remained more than 1 week ahead of the 5-year average.

Soybeans: The Nation's soybeans also quickly ripened due to the hot, dry weather. Eighty percent of the crop was dropping leaves, up 15 percentage points from the previous week, and more than 1 week ahead of the 63 percent average pace. Development rapidly continued in the Corn Belt, especially along the Ohio River Valley and northern Delta region. The pace was much slower in the Southeast and Atlantic Coastal States, where development varied from slightly behind normal to slightly ahead of normal. The harvest pace accelerated, advancing to 20 percent complete, compared with the normal 9 percent.

Cotton: Bolls were opening on 82 percent of the Nation's cotton fields, compared with the 74 percent average for this date. In the Delta region, virtually all fields had bolls opening. In California, progress advanced 25 percentage points despite much cooler weather. Harvest activity continued at a normal pace, advancing to 23 percent, 1 week ahead of the 16 percent average. Growers in many areas continued applying defoliant to prepare fields for harvest.

Winter wheat: Dry conditions continued to prevail in the Great Plains and Pacific Northwest, allowing planting

preparations to rapidly move forward, but hindering seeding operations. Nationally, 33 percent of the crop has been seeded, compared with 39 percent normally planted by this date. Growers made good progress in Colorado, Nebraska, and South Dakota, while seeding progress fell further behind-normal in Kansas, Oklahoma, and the Pacific Northwest. In the Corn Belt, planting was just beginning. Warm weather aided crop germination and emergence, where soil moisture was adequate, but emergence advanced only 7 percentage points, to 15 percent.

Rice: Harvest progressed to 71 percent complete, nearly 1 week ahead of the 62 percent normal pace for this date. Harvest activity continued at a steady rate in the Delta rice-producing areas and accelerated in California. Late-season harvest continued in the western Gulf Coast States, where the harvest was nearly finished.

Sorghum: Seventy-six percent of the crop has matured, compared with 61 percent a week ago and 58 percent normally mature by this date. Harvest slowly continued, advancing just 4 percentage points, to 34 percent, but remained ahead of the 5-year average. Harvest activity continued to focus on the Delta States, while progress lagged in the southern Plains.

Peanuts: The peanut harvest advanced just 7 percentage points, to 19 percent. Normally, 28 percent of the crop would be harvested by this date. Progress fell further behind normal in the major peanut-producing States in the Southeast due to early-week rains from Tropical Storm Hermine. In the southern Plains, the harvest was slow, but remained ahead of the 5-year average.

Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending September 27, 1998

Soybeans Percent Dropping Leaves

	Sep 27 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	58	48	54	40
AR	42	25	22	23
GA	40	32	63	47
IL	77	50	72	65
IN	92	87	81	77
IA	88	71	77	69
KS	90	86	77	67
KY	60	40	34	37
LA	81	76	73	60
MI	81	68	47	59
MN	98	88	92	76
MS	79	69	67	59
MO	60	46	57	45
NE	92	71	87	70
NC	25	20	23	21
OH	90	76	71	78
SC	12	9	16	8
SD	96	87	92	77
TN	55	35	36	39
ALL	80	65	70	63

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

Soybeans Percent Harvested

	Sep 27 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	6	2	3	3
AR	11	6	7	5
GA	1	0	1	1
IL	17	5	10	12
IN	20	9	5	9
IA	24	5	6	9
KS	13	9	6	7
KY	10	0	6	3
LA	47	30	40	25
MI	10	3	3	4
MN	36	14	12	7
MS	49	29	33	26
MO	7	3	4	3
NE	14	4	5	11
NC	0	0	0	0
OH	20	6	3	9
SC	0	0	0	0
SD	21	7	7	7
TN	2	0	2	2
ALL	20	7	8	9

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

Winter Wheat Percent Planted

	Sep 27 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	1	0	1	3
CA	0	0	0	0
CO	76	48	79	71
GA	1	0	1	1
ID	27	14	38	35
IL	1	0	3	3
IN	7	4	10	9
KS	21	10	31	31
MI	24	6	20	20
MO	3	1	7	7
MT	40	23	61	36
NE	80	58	70	70
NC	10	5	7	10
OH	6	0	2	6
OK	17	9	27	37
OR	13	3	22	26
SD	74	50	84	80
TX	45	36	47	47
WA	70	60	75	66
ALL	33	21	39	39

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

Winter Wheat Percent Emerged

	Sep 27 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	0	0	0	0
CA	0	0	0	0
CO	45	20	45	28
GA	0	0	0	0
ID	8	3	15	11
IL	0	0	0	0
IN	1	1	4	1
KS	9	3	14	13
MI	3	0	5	3
MO	0	0	0	0
MT	4	2	30	10
NE	46	23	47	35
NC	0	0	0	0
OH	0	0	0	0
OK	3	2	8	10
OR	2	0	7	8
SD	40	26	50	44
TX	17	12	22	23
WA	55	30	52	46
ALL	15	8	19	17

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

Cotton Percent Bolls Opening

	Sep 27 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	85	75	58	70
AZ	93	90	100	100
AR	86	78	77	80
CA	60	35	100	95
GA	79	77	67	77
LA	100	95	90	95
MS	100	100	83	93
MO	100	95	84	78
NM	74	64	79	78
NC	90	85	63	84
OK	96	86	47	45
SC	85	75	68	76
TN	99	90	80	91
TX	77	65	63	58
ALL	82	73	72	74

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

Cotton Percent Harvested

	Sep 27 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	20	11	6	10
AZ	9	7	24	17
AR	15	4	4	10
CA	0	0	9	4
GA	15	9	5	11
LA	24	12	20	24
MS	35	18	8	18
MO	15	2	5	11
NM	0	0	2	0
NC	10	3	1	5
OK	5	1	0	2
SC	23	13	5	9
TN	22	11	3	11
TX	34	30	20	24
ALL	23	17	12	16

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

Rice Percent Harvested

	Sep 27 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	72	56	56	60
CA	20	10	56	24
LA	99	95	91	89
MS	86	77	65	67
TX	96	94	86	90
ALL	71	60	66	62

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

Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending September 27, 1998

Corn Percent Mature

	Sep 27 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
CO	70	41	58	46
GA	100	100	100	100
IL	85	65	53	68
IN	85	73	49	65
IA	97	88	77	71
KS	93	91	81	79
KY	92	82	64	80
MI	88	55	14	39
MN	97	82	42	52
MO	91	86	87	77
NE	92	83	62	61
NC	95	90	95	99
OH	68	41	16	36
PA	40	24	29	35
SD	88	63	57	55
TX	97	96	91	93
WI	91	58	23	41
ALL	89	74	56	62

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

Corn Percent Harvested

	Sep 27 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
CO	6	0	2	3
GA	95	90	92	91
IL	22	11	4	7
IN	14	8	4	7
IA	13	6	3	5
KS	53	39	23	22
KY	59	56	21	32
MI	11	5	1	5
MN	18	6	2	3
MO	42	35	27	25
NE	21	8	4	5
NC	75	60	63	64
OH	9	5	0	4
PA	7	6	7	7
SD	14	6	2	3
TX	84	77	74	76
WI	10	5	1	4
ALL	22	14	8	10

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

Sorghum Percent Mature

	Sep 27 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	96	85	91	93
CO	30	25	4	18
IL	42	21	35	46
KS	78	56	49	45
LA	100	100	100	98
MS	100	95	92	97
MO	81	70	66	63
NE	89	51	65	51
NM	8	4	8	17
OK	35	32	51	32
SD	76	54	58	52
TX	82	78	76	82
ALL	76	61	60	58

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

Sorghum Percent Harvested

	Sep 27 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	83	67	71	72
CO	1	0	1	2
IL	3	1	1	3
KS	20	15	11	11
LA	98	90	95	88
MS	97	85	75	81
MO	38	26	20	22
NE	5	2	2	4
NM	0	0	0	2
OK	18	16	7	9
SD	15	9	3	3
TX	61	59	58	67
ALL	34	30	28	31

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

Peanuts Percent Harvested

	Sep 27 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	24	11	62	44
FL	22	16	58	21
GA	23	14	47	43
NC	5	3	6	6
OK	5	0	2	5
SC	20	15	32	27
TX	20	17	18	10
VA	15	9	8	20
ALL	19	12	35	28

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

Soybeans Crop Condition by Percent

	VP	P	F	G	EX
AL	5	31	43	17	4
AR	10	24	39	22	5
GA	24	23	34	17	2
IL	4	7	25	48	16
IN	3	6	26	51	14
IA	1	3	19	50	27
KS	2	9	26	50	13
KY	5	15	39	34	7
LA	19	34	30	16	1
MI	3	11	32	41	13
MN	0	6	22	51	21
MS	7	22	29	37	5
MO	8	16	33	34	9
NE	0	2	22	53	23
NC	2	10	28	57	3
OH	1	5	25	51	18
SC	8	21	49	22	0
SD	0	2	14	55	29
TN	9	20	39	27	5
ALL	4	9	26	45	16
Prev Wk	4	10	27	43	16
Prev Yr	2	8	30	49	11

Corn Crop Condition by Percent

	VP	P	F	G	EX
CO	1	2	12	48	37
GA	37	29	23	10	1
IL	4	7	24	51	14
IN	3	6	27	50	14
IA	2	5	19	50	24
KS	1	2	19	60	18
KY	1	6	26	53	14
MI	7	16	35	36	6
MN	1	3	20	50	26
MO	2	14	34	41	9
NE	1	2	16	57	24
NC	12	30	36	22	0
OH	1	6	22	53	18
PA	3	10	34	42	11
SD	0	2	10	54	34
TX	8	13	35	38	6
WI	1	3	17	46	33
ALL	3	6	22	49	20
Prev Wk	3	7	22	50	18
Prev Yr	2	7	26	51	14

Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending September 27, 1998

Cotton Crop Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
AL	6	10	53	29	2
AZ	4	16	47	26	7
AR	3	16	37	36	8
CA	0	0	55	45	0
GA	11	25	35	26	3
LA	17	19	42	17	5
MS	5	12	40	36	7
MO	15	25	41	19	0
NM	0	7	30	37	26
NC	1	12	20	66	1
OK	6	18	28	42	6
SC	8	23	46	22	1
TN	4	12	34	41	9
TX	23	25	31	18	3
ALL	13	19	36	29	4
Prev Wk	14	19	36	27	4
Prev Yr	2	11	33	46	8

Sorghum Crop Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
AR	4	19	42	31	4
CO	0	3	17	60	20
IL	7	11	39	39	4
KS	1	5	26	53	15
LA	1	22	43	31	3
MS	0	21	57	22	0
MO	2	10	29	51	8
NE	0	1	13	67	19
NM	16	49	26	9	0
OK	6	7	16	70	1
SD	0	2	15	73	10
TX	14	31	33	19	3
ALL	6	15	27	43	9
Prev Wk	7	15	26	43	9
Prev Yr	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

Peanuts Crop Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
AL	4	14	53	23	6
FL	0	0	28	72	0
GA	7	17	30	35	11
NC	0	0	5	94	1
OK	5	14	37	44	0
SC	9	28	50	13	0
TX	18	20	30	26	6
VA	3	12	31	54	0
ALL	8	14	31	41	6
Prev Wk	7	13	39	35	6
Prev Yr	5	21	42	27	5

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

Pasture and Range Crop Condition by Percent											
Week Ending Sep 27											
	VP	P	F	G	EX		VP	P	F	G	EX
AL	8	28	48	16	0	NH	0	7	42	43	8
AZ	2	9	27	51	11	NJ	0	40	40	20	0
AR	9	25	43	21	2	NM	14	23	31	29	3
CA	5	10	10	75	0	NY	0	10	35	55	0
CO	2	9	31	50	8	NC	20	32	25	22	1
CT	0	0	65	35	0	ND	7	25	45	22	1
DE	0	28	39	33	0	OH	5	18	37	34	6
FL	0	0	50	45	5	OK	22	27	37	14	0
GA	12	23	36	23	6	OR	3	7	53	19	18
ID	0	9	32	46	13	PA	22	28	35	14	1
IL	4	12	31	46	7	RI	0	0	22	65	13
IN	10	24	40	23	3	SC	8	15	36	40	1
IA	6	17	35	34	8	SD	3	8	29	48	12
KS	1	12	34	47	6	TN	17	38	33	12	0
KY	16	37	34	11	2	TX	18	22	33	23	4
LA	8	20	40	29	3	UT	0	6	23	62	9
ME	3	27	38	32	0	VT	0	0	5	43	52
MD	21	39	21	18	1	VA	36	37	22	5	0
MA	0	48	27	22	3	WA	3	21	49	27	0
MI	35	16	25	20	4	WV	15	12	38	30	5
MN	9	24	40	24	3	WI	3	17	29	44	7
MS	4	26	37	30	3	WY	2	8	39	42	9
MO	2	11	37	42	8	ALL	9	18	34	34	5
MT	14	24	45	17	0	Prev Wk	10	20	32	34	4
NE	6	12	31	48	3	Prev Yr	4	14	34	42	6
NV	0	0	20	72	8						

State Agricultural Summaries

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

ALABAMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.2. Topsoil moisture 17% very short, 38% short, 40% adequate, 5% surplus. Corn harvested 94%, 84% 1997, 77% average. Most areas of the State received some relief from recent dry weather. Rains helped pastures, hayfields, aided fall seeding. Peanut, cotton harvest was slowed or stopped by rainfall. Cotton bolls opened 85%, 58% 1997, 70% avg.; harvested 20%, 6% 1997, 10% avg. Soybeans dropping leaves 58%, 54% 1997, 40% avg.; harvested 6%, 3% 1997, 3% avg. Peanuts dug 31%, 73% 1997, 55% avg.; combined 24%, 62% 1997, 44% avg. Cotton 6% very poor, 10% poor, 53% fair, 29% good, 2% excellent. Soybean 5% very poor, 31% poor, 43% fair, 17% good, 4% excellent. Peanut 4% very poor, 14% poor, 53% fair, 23% good, 6% excellent. Livestock 6% very poor, 7%, poor, 58% fair, 27% good, 2% excellent. Pasture feed 8% very poor, 28% poor, 48% fair, 16% good. Catfish continued to feed well despite lower temperatures. Some livestock producers marketed calves.

ALASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.0. Topsoil moisture 95% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil moisture 15% short, 70% adequate, 15% surplus. Continued wet conditions hampered or stalled fall harvests across the State's agricultural areas. Daytime high temperatures ranged mostly in the mid-50's degree F with a few in the upper-40's. Barley crop 85% harvested. Oats crop 65% harvested. Most harvest progress in the Tanana Valley. Commercial potato crop 85% harvested. Other vegetable harvests winding down. Second crop hay, 55% harvested. Showers stopped harvest, with some producers despairing about harvesting anymore hay because of conditions. Wind, range damage to crops, 45% none, 15% light, 40% moderate. Many acres of cut hay being rained on. Livestock 15% fair, 80% good, 5% excellent.

ARIZONA: Cotton bolls opening 93%, 100% 1997, 100% avg. Cotton harvested 9%, 24% 1997, 17% avg. Cotton went down a little. Condition 4% very poor, 16%, 47% fair, 26% good, 7% excellent. Alfalfa harvest activity 7% not being harvested, 12% light, 40% moderate, 39% active, 2% finished. Alfalfa declined from the previous week. Condition 3% very poor, 4% poor, 29% fair, 51% good, 13% excellent. Range, pasture feed 2% very poor, 9% poor, 27% fair, 51% good, 11% excellent. Central areas growers harvested cantaloupes, green onions, watermelons while eastern producers continued to shipped gold, red delicious apples, chili peppers. Lemons were harvested by western citrus groves.

ARKANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.1. Soil moisture 6% very short, 29% short, 64% adequate, 1% surplus. Scattered showers during the first of the week brought over an inch of rain to isolated areas of west, northwest, north central areas. Rest of the State reported generally less than a half-inch of precipitation. Temperatures continued well above normal. Main farming activities: Harvesting rice, cotton, soybeans; fertilizing, seeding pastures; preparing ground for and planting of wheat. Other farm activities included harvesting the last of the corn crop, defoliating cotton, harvesting hay, treating pastures for armyworms. Crop development continued ahead of the 5-year average in most categories due to hot, dry conditions that prevailed during the crop's earlier development stages. In addition, crop development had progressed nearly a week ahead of last year's crop in most categories. There were isolated reports of soybeans being harvested for hay. Some producers culled non-productive cows to relieve pressure on forages, and some producers were still feeding hay due to less than adequate pastures. Spring calves were being weaned; cattle were treated for worms, flies; good condition statewide. Alfalfa 9% very poor, 24% poor, 42% fair, 23% good, 2% excellent. Other hay 9% very poor, 24% poor, 46% fair, 20% good, 1% excellent. Range, pasture feed 9% very poor, 25% poor, 43% fair, 21% good, 2% excellent.

CALIFORNIA: Field activities continued with cooler weather reported in many areas. Cutting, baling hay, cutting silage corn, spraying crops for insect control were some activities taking place in the Central Valley. Cotton

defoliation began on a limited basis in the San Joaquin Valley. Other cotton fields received their final irrigation for the season. Cotton harvest started in the Imperial Valley. Dry bean harvest was progressing with slower drying due to cooler weather. Safflower harvest continued. Corn for grain fields were being harvested. Sugar beets dug, moved to processors. Seed alfalfa harvest continued with lower yields reported. Rice was also among the crops being harvested. Mint acreage was harvested in the Tulelake basin, with above-average yields reported in some areas. Mint was showing promise as an alternative crop for the North State. Fields were being prepared for fall planting. Some growers were waiting for rainfall, which would allow easier soil preparation. Some old stands of alfalfa were being disced. Grapes for fresh use in the San Joaquin Valley continued to be picked. Flame seedless, red globe, ruby seedless were the major varieties being picked. Grapes for wine were also harvested. Thompson seedless variety grapes were picked for fresh, raisin, wine uses. For raisins, almost all of the crop has been harvested, one-half was on open trays, one-fourth rolled, one-fifth picked up. Late variety stone fruit picking was winding down. Royal gala, fuji, granny Smith, red delicious apple picking was active. Dried figs were picked up. Olive harvest has begun. Bartlett pear harvest was active in Lake, Mendocino Counties. Asian pear picking was also active in the San Joaquin Valley along with pomegranates. Prune harvest continued, with growers concerned about quality. Almond, pistachio, walnut harvests increased intensity. Valencia orange harvest continued at a slow pace. New crop navel oranges maturing, small sized fruit. Lemon, grapefruit picking continued. Fall strawberries were harvested in Fresno County, while in Tulare County new crop strawberry plantings were doing well with warm days, cool nights. Harvest for fall potatoes, fresh, processed tomatoes, garlic, carrot, turnip, green onions progressed well. Late-season cantaloupe, watermelon harvest continued. Honeydew melon, vine-seed harvests continued in the Sacramento Valley. Onion, carrot seed harvests were winding down, with average yields reported. Decay problem continued to be reported in red onions due to untimely rains during harvest. Additional vegetable crops that were harvested include sweet corn, fresh, processing onions, eggplant, bell peppers, green beans, cucumbers, squash, radishes, sweet potatoes, bitter melon (fruit and 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 of the State. Treatment had been done in many areas to control worm problems. Potato growers in the Tulelake basin experienced significant impact from field mice. Pasture, rangeland were in good to fair condition over most of the State, with dry feed, stock water in good supply. Supplemental feeding was necessary in a few regions. Fire hazard was still very high on lower elevation rangeland. Livestock were in generally good condition, with cooler weather relieving heat stress. Cattle on upper-elevation rangeland were being gathered before the onset of fall storms in the high country. Sheep were pastured on harvested alfalfa, sudan grass hay fields.

COLORADO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Topsoil moisture 13% very short, 34% short, 52% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 12% very short, 32% short, 55% adequate 1% surplus. Late-season crops continue to progress toward maturity. Harvest of other crops is also progressing favorably. Dry onions 79% harvested, 90% 1997, 84% avg. Sugar beets 6% harvested, 6% 1997, 3% avg.; 2% poor, 11% fair, 63% good, 24% excellent. Summer potatoes 89% harvested, 82% 1997, 82% avg. Fall potatoes 36% harvested, 63% 1997, 43% avg.; 7% poor, 15% fair, 37% good, 41% excellent. Dry beans 92% cut, 83% 1997, 80% avg.; 79% threshed, 69% 1997, 66% avg. Alfalfa 76% 3rd cutting, 76% 1997, 71% avg.; 11% 4th cutting, 9% 1997, 12% avg.; 1% very poor, 4% poor, 22% fair, 55% good, 18% excellent. Spring wheat 96% harvested, 81% 1997, 83% avg. Pasture feed, range mostly fair to good condition.

DELAWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Topsoil moisture 5% very short, 64% short, 31% adequate. Subsoil moisture 3% very short, 60%

short, 37% adequate. Soybeans 49% turned, 41% 1997, 43% avg.; 22% shedding leaves, 22% 1997, 25% avg.; 1% very poor, 10% poor, 39% fair, 44% good, 6% excellent. Field corn 94% dent, 94% 1997, 98% avg.; 76% mature, 51% 1997, 74% avg.; 40% combined, 20% 1997, 32% avg.; 4% very poor, 22% poor, 36% fair, 34% good, 4% excellent. Silage 84% harvested, 79% 1997, 87% avg. Apples 73% harvested, 75% 1997, 69% avg.; 4% poor, 16% fair, 69% good, 11% excellent. Sorghum 65% turning color, 63% 1997, 64% avg.; 12% mature, 25% 1997, 34% avg.; 5% very poor, 14% poor, 27% fair, 53% good, 1% excellent condition. Sweet corn 91% harvested, 98% 1997, 99% avg. Snap beans 90% harvested, 85% 1997, 94% avg. Lima beans 72% harvested, 76% 1997, 77% avg. Tomatoes 88% picked, 94% 1997, 98% avg. Alfalfa hay 70% 4th cutting, 66% 1997, 65% avg. Other hay 95% 3rd cutting, 98% 1997, 89% avg.; 41% 4th cutting, 54% 1997, 26% avg. Hay supplies 30% short, 70% adequate. Pasture feed 28% poor, 39% fair, 33% good. Activities: Planting of barley began in Sussex County, continued harvesting of corn, sorghum harvesting started.

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. Sixteen percent of peanut acreage for nuts harvested. Peanut condition fair 88%, good 12%. 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 all areas. New crop fruit progressing well. Maturity, sizes generally lagging behind last year. Packing houses running limited white, colored grapefruit, some Navels. Caretakers cutting cover crops, pushing, removing dead trees, discing, plowing wet grove land. Pasture feed fair 35%, good 60%, excellent 5%. Condition of 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 5.3. Soil moisture 10% very short, 31% short, 51% adequate, 8% surplus. Corn 95% harvested for grain, 92% 1997, 91% avg. Cotton 11% very poor, 25% poor, 35% fair, 26% good, 3% excellent; 79% bolls open, 67% 1997, 77% avg.; 15% harvested, 5% 1997, 11% avg. Hay 11% very poor, 26% poor, 39% fair, 22% good, 2% excellent. Peanuts 7% very poor, 17% poor, 30% fair, 35% good, 11% excellent; 35% dug, 63% 1997, 60% avg.; 23% threshed, 47% 1997, 43% avg. Rye 15% planted, 7% 1997, 10% avg. Sorghum 11% very poor, 23% poor, 37% fair, 28% good, 1% excellent; 64% harvested for grain, 37% 1997, 48% avg. Soybeans 24% very poor, 23% poor, 34% fair, 17% good, 2% excellent; 40% dropping leaves, 63% 1997, 47% avg.; 1% harvested, 1% 1997, 1% avg. Tobacco 96% harvested, 100% 1997, 100% avg. Wheat 1% planted, 1% 1997, 1% avg. Other small grains 5% planted, 4% 1997, 6% avg. Apples 7% very poor, 21% poor, 44% fair, 28% good; 58% harvested, 61% 1997, 62% avg. Pecans 17% very poor, 27% poor, 35% fair, 19% good, 2% excellent; 1% harvested, 0% 1997, 0% avg. Pasture feed 12% very poor, 23% poor, 36% fair, 23% good, 6% excellent. Scattered showers throughout the State improved soil moisture levels. Rain is still needed in the northern part of the State. Digging peanuts and preparing for fall planting delayed in some areas. Fall armyworm infestation remains severe. Producers were busy defoliating, picking cotton. Other activities included harvesting peanuts, soybeans, sorghum, corn, cutting, baling hay, fertilizing, overseeding pastures, harvesting fall vegetables, routine care of livestock.

HAWAII: Variable weather conditions remained fair for agriculture. Mostly sunny in northern islands, leeward areas. Mixture of sunshine, showers in windward areas, particularly the southern islands. Banana orchards in mostly good condition. Harvesting very active, slowing in some areas. Papaya orchards in generally good condition. Increased harvesting expected as new acreage matures. Market quality, yields of head cabbage remain good. Plantings made good progress. Cucumber production steady, insects a problem in some areas.

IDAHO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.1. Topsoil moisture 2% surplus, 59% adequate, 38% short, 1% very short. Temperatures continue to cool down. Light rains dampen soil but harvest continues. Alfalfa hay third cutting 86%, 1997 70%, avg. 70%. Irrigation Supply 29% excellent, 63% good, 7% fair, poor 1%. Dry beans harvested 74%, 1997 76%, avg. 72%. Oats harvested 99%, 1997 88%, avg. 88%. Onions harvested 37%, 1997 67%, avg. 66%.

Hops harvested 81%, 1997 100%, avg. 95%. Peaches harvested 88%, 1997 99%, avg. 97%. Prunes, plums harvested 59%, 1997 99%, avg. 94%. Apples harvested 15%, 1997 25%, avg. 26%. Potato vines dead/killed 85%, 1997 91%, avg. 95%; harvested 24%, 1997 26%, avg. 25%. Sweet corn harvested 86%, 1997 94%, avg. 93%. Corn harvested for silage 43%, 1997 55%, avg. 48%. Corn harvested for grain 3%, 1997 5%, avg. 2%. Sugar beets harvested 7%, 1997 9%, avg. 8%. Activities: Working the seedbed, planting winter wheat, harvesting fall crops, moving livestock off of summer range.

ILLINOIS: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Topsoil moisture 5% very short, 32% short, 61% adequate, 2% surplus. Soybean harvest gained momentum last week. Favorable weather has allowed the corn crop to mature quickly this year. Percentage harvested is the largest since 1991. In addition to preparing equipment for winter wheat seeding, farmers are continuing the final cutting of hay. Other activities for last week included chopping silage, hauling grain. Corn dented 98%, 98% 1997, 97% avg. Soybeans turning yellow 90%, 92% 1997, 87% avg. Sorghum coloring 92%, 89% 1997, 87% avg. Alfalfa 3rd cutting 98%, 97% 1997, 94% avg.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Topsoil moisture 25% very short, 51% short, 23% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 22% very short, 45% short, 32% adequate, 1% surplus. Corn, soybean harvest made good progress last week, as continued hot, dry weather allowed crops to dry down rapidly. Some areas received scattered showers. However, soil conditions remain dry across the State. Tobacco harvest 85% complete, 59% 1997, 80% avg. Range, pasture feed 10% very poor, 24% poor, 40% fair, 23% good, 3% 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 5.5. Topsoil moisture very short 6%, short 22%, adequate 69%, surplus 3%. Subsoil moisture very short 4%, short 24%, adequate 70%, surplus 2%. Harvest in full swing across State. Corn, soybeans look excellent; crop maturity in some areas uneven. Crops on higher ground yielding a lot better than those on soils that had too much standing water this summer. Freeze would be welcomed to even up crops, kill weeds. 1998 row crops: Corn acreage mature 97%, 77% 1997, 71% avg.; harvested 13%, 3% 1997, 5% avg.; 2% very poor, 5% poor, 19% fair, 50% good, 24% excellent. Percentage moisture of field corn averaged 24%; percent moisture of harvested corn averaged 20%. Soybeans leaves turning color 99%, 98% 1997, 91% avg.; soybeans leaves dropping 88%, 77% 1997, 69% avg.; soybean acreage harvested 24%, 6% 1997, 9% avg. Soybean 1% very poor, 3% poor, 19% fair, 50% good, 27% excellent. Winter wheat planted 25%, 16% 1997, 21% avg. Third-crop alfalfa harvested 91%, 92% 1997, 90% avg. Livestock in good condition. Still some pinkeye in south-central areas. Some movement of feeder calves into feedlots. Pasture feed 6% very poor, 17% poor, 35% fair, 34% good, 8% excellent.

KANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.7. Topsoil moisture 9% very short, 29% short, 46% adequate, 16% surplus. Subsoil moisture 4% very short, 28% short, 64% adequate, 4% surplus. Wheat seeding, fall harvest continues in the west. Rain fell in the eastern two-thirds, with the heaviest amounts in the east. Fall harvest remained ahead of normal. Sunflowers ray flowers dry 99%; bracts yellow 93%; mature 71%, 67% 1997; harvested 26%, 6% 1997. Sunflowers 3% very poor, 3% poor, 23% fair, 60% good, 11% excellent. Alfalfa 4th cutting 80%, 69% 1997, 64% avg. Major field activities were seeding, preparing for seeding, applying fertilizer, cutting hay, harvesting grain, harvesting silage. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 12% poor, 34% fair, 47% good, 6% excellent. Stockwater supplies 3% very short, 14% short, 79% adequate, 4% surplus.

KENTUCKY: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.6. Topsoil moisture 56% very short, 33% short, 10% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 51% very short, 41% short, 8% adequate. For week, above-normal temperatures Statewide, rainfall 0.13 in. below normal. Conditions are still excessively dry in most areas. Tobacco condition variable; most early set still expected to have high yields, later set tobacco will have much lower yields. Burley tobacco cut 91%, 67% 1997, 84% avg. Dark tobacco cut 89%, 78% 1997, 88% avg. Condition of housed tobacco was reported as 2% very poor, 8% poor, 38% percent fair, 41% percent good, 11% excellent. Pastures feed 16% very poor, 37% poor, 34% fair, 11% good, 2% excellent. Some reports

of improved pasture conditions; however, there are reports of farmers feeding hay in some areas.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Soil moisture 10% short, 72% adequate, 18% surplus. Corn 100% harvested, 100% 1997, 99% avg. Cotton: Cotton harvest continued, but damage has been reported due to high winds from tropical storms. Hay 78% final cutting, 98% 1997, 90% avg. Rice 100% ripe, 99% 1997, 98% avg. Soybeans 94% turning color, 88% 1997, 82% avg. Many soybean fields in the southeast are flooded due to heavy rains from hurricane George. Sugarcane 3% very poor, 14% poor, 36% fair, 34% good, 13% excellent; 73% planted, 94% 1997, 83% avg. Sugarcane planting has stopped due to hurricane George. A lot of cane is down due to high winds. Sweet potatoes 4% very poor, 11% poor, 51% fair, 34% good; 40% harvested, 43% 1997, 49% avg. Wheat 4% planted, 5% 1997, 2% avg. Livestock 4% very poor, 12% poor, 46% fair, 34% good, 4% excellent. Several livestock deaths have been reported due to mosquitoes. Vegetables 5% very poor, 19% poor, 50% fair, 24% good, 2% excellent. Impact of George unknown, still too flooded. Pastures: Armyworms continued to plague pastures in the north.

MARYLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Topsoil moisture 32% very short, 46% short, 22% adequate. Subsoil moisture 31% very short, 48% short, 21% adequate. Field corn 3% very poor, 14% poor, 35% fair, 43% good, 5% excellent; 80% mature, 62% 1997, 75% avg.; 50% combined, 12% 1997, 28% avg.; 80% harvested for silage, 72% 1997, 78% avg. Soybeans 20% very poor, 47% poor, 19% fair, 13% good, 1% excellent; 65% turned, 48% 1997, 58% avg.; 26% shedding leaves, 23% 1997, 31% avg. Sorghum 5% very poor, 44% poor, 39% fair, 12% good; 73% turned, 81% 1997, 80% avg.; 31% mature, 18% 1997, 38% avg.; 15% harvested, 2% 1997, 9% avg. Tobacco 95% harvested, 96% 1997, 94% avg. Pasture feed 21% very poor, 39% poor, 21% fair, 18% good, 1% excellent. Apples 1% poor, 11% fair, 78% good, 10% excellent; 37% harvested, 45% 1997, 47% avg. Other hay 4th cutting 57% harvested, 23% 1997, 38% avg. Alfalfa hay 73% 4th cutting, 65% 1997, 74% avg. Hay supplies 6% very short, 32% short, 53% adequate, 9% surplus. Activities: Dry weather continued to plague eastern shore, slowed planting activities for wheat and barley. Hessian fly activity reported on eastern shore. Some precipitation reported in western areas.

MICHIGAN: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Topsoil moisture 27% very short, 49% short, 24% adequate. Subsoil moisture 31% very short, 49% short, 20% adequate. Hay, 3rd cutting 90%, 75% 1997, 77% avg.; 4th cutting 41%, 22% 1997, 23% avg. Dry beans harvested 94%, 44% 1997, 45% avg. Silage harvested 87%, 24% 1997, 44% avg. Soybeans, turning leaves 95%, 80% 1997, 88% avg.; mature 50%, 12% 1997, 25% avg. Last 22nd killing frost hit Upper Peninsula, scattered areas of northern Lower Peninsula. Significant rain fell only over northern third of Lower Peninsula. Totals there ranged from 1 to 3 inches of rain. Above-normal temperatures continued from previous week, were 2 to 6 degrees above normal, accelerating drying conditions. Fall harvest, tillage season was about 2 to 3 weeks ahead of normal. Some corn was harvested as low as 14% moisture, went directly into storage. Soybean harvest picked up as fields matured. Winter wheat planting continued where the ground not too dry for preparation. Hay harvest continued although the lack of precipitation limited growth. Dry bean harvest almost complete, with some areas so dry that seeds were splitting, shattering. Limited sugarbeet harvest will begin next week. Vegetable yields are higher than expected, in spite of the extremely dry soil conditions this year. Carrot harvest was steady, with a high percentage of jumbos reported in the Southeast. Onion volume was increasing with excellent size and quality. Pumpkins were ripening, vines were dying back. Processing varieties of winter squash, processing carrots continued to mature. Apple harvest continued. Growers picked empire, Jonathan, golden delicious, red delicious varieties. Concord grape harvest, which began September 11, was in high gear. There have been some yield losses from late-season insects, desiccation. Cranberry harvest began.

MINNESOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil moisture 17% very short, 46% short, 37% adequate. Soybeans 87% mature, 55% 1997, 39% avg. Potatoes 44% harvested, 54% 1997, 46% avg. Dry beans 88% harvested, 79% 1997, 62% avg. Rye 98% seeded, 89% 1997, 83% avg. Winter wheat 96% seeded, 92% 1997, 85% avg. Flax 85% harvested, 39% 1997, 52% avg. Sugar beets 10% harvested, 8% 1997, 11% avg. Sunflowers 6% harvested, 0% 1997, 9% avg. Corn 97% silage cut, 68% 1997, 52% avg. Stubble plowed 80%, 68% 1997, 63% avg. Pasture feed

9% very poor, 24% poor, 40% fair, 24% good, 3% excellent. Maturity, harvest of the 1998 row crops continue to be ahead of recent-year normals. Some farmers are hoping for a killing frost to help dry the soybean plants. Only light frosts have occurred to date in major soybean, corn-growing areas.

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Soil moisture 18% very short, 30% short, 45% adequate, 7% surplus. Corn 99% harvested, 89% 1997, 82% avg.; 100% silage harvested 100% 1997, 99% avg. Cotton 35% harvested, 8% 1997, 18% avg.; 5% very poor, 12% poor, 40% fair, 36% good, 7% excellent. Rice 98% mature, 94% 1997, 91% avg.; 86% harvested, 65% 1997, 67% avg. Sorghum 100% mature, 92% 1997, 97% avg.; 97% harvested, 75% 1997, 81% avg.; 100% silage harvested, 72% 1997, 88% avg. Soybeans 94% turning color, 80% 1997, 82% avg.; 79% shedding leaves, 67% 1997, 59% avg.; 49% harvested, 33% 1997, 26% avg.; 7% very poor, 22% poor, 29% fair, 37% good, 5% excellent. Sweet potatoes 35% harvested, 27% 1997, 47% avg.; 1% very poor, 3% poor, 36% fair, 41% good, 19% excellent. Wheat 12% planted, 4% 1997, 4% avg.; 1% very poor, 5% poor, 9% fair, 60% good, 25% excellent. Peanuts 20% harvested, 19% 1997, 44% avg.; 36% fair, 59% good, 5% excellent. Cattle 1% very poor, 10% poor, 35% fair, 45% good, 9% excellent. Pasture feed 4% very poor, 26% poor, 37% fair, 30% good, 3% excellent. Activities: Corn, grain sorghum harvests are virtually complete. Cotton harvest continues to be ahead of 1997 and average.

MISSOURI: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.1. Topsoil moisture 8% very short, 15% short, 62% adequate, 15% surplus. Major row harvesting is 4 days or more ahead of normal despite interruption from wet weather. Rapid progress has resulted from early planting in most areas last spring, earlier-than-normal maturing. Corn harvesting is the most advanced for this date since 1991. Bootheel farmers nearly completed the corn harvest, while northwest, northeast are least advanced just under 20%. Ripening of the bean crop is most advanced in northwest, north-central at 43% mature. Beans in south-central, southeast are least advanced at 50% or less dropping leaves and 20% or less mature. East-central leads the State, with 12% of the beans harvested, followed by north-central, northeast at 10% complete. Sorghum harvesting is most advanced for this date since 1987. Sorghum is most advanced in southwest at 100% mature, 74% harvested, followed by southeast at 89% mature, 65% harvested. Winter wheat most advanced in northern third of the State, ranging from 7% to 10% planted. Rainfall past week avg 1.07 in., ranging from virtually none in Bootheel to over 1.5 in. in west-central, central, southwest. Pasture feed 2% very poor, 11% poor, 37% fair, 42% good, 8% excellent.

MONTANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Topsoil moisture 24% very short, 55% short, 21% adequate. Subsoil moisture 34% very short, 43% short, 23% adequate. Conditions were seasonal with temps in high 70's degrees F, cooled off 25th, 26th when most of the State received some precipitation. Corn harvested for silage 82%, 67% 1997, 68% avg. Dry beans harvested 90%, 87% 1997, 78% avg. Sugar beets harvested 9%, 13% 1997, 8% avg. Potatoes harvested 22%, 11% 1997, 18% avg. Second-cutting alfalfa 99%, 93% 1997, 94% avg. Range, pasture remains in mostly fair to poor condition. Lack of rain causing a lot of stress to range conditions. Ranchers have moved 28% of the cattle, 32% of the sheep off summer pastures 26% avg. of the cattle, 31% of sheep taken off by this time.

NEBRASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Topsoil moisture 10% very short, 40% short, 50% adequate. Subsoil moisture 8% very short, 35% short, 57% adequate. Warm, windy week. Temperatures averaged 3 to 5 degrees F above normal over much of the State, near normal Panhandle. Rainfall from traces to over 2 inches in portions of the Southeast. Corn 1% very poor, 2% poor, 16% fair, 57% good, 24% excellent; irrigated corn 83% good or excellent; dryland corn 79% good or excellent; mature 92%, nearly two weeks ahead of 62% 1997, 61% avg.; harvested 21%, 4% 1997, 5% avg. Producers allowing grain to field dry before combining. Soybean condition 2% poor, 22% fair, 53% good, 23% excellent; dropping leaves 92%, 87% 1997, 70% avg. Harvested 14%, 5% 1997, 11% avg. Pods are dry, stems green, making harvest difficult; frost welcome. Sorghum 1% poor, 13% fair, 67% good, 19% excellent; mature 89%, 65% 1997, 51% avg.; harvested 5%, 2% 1997, 4% avg. Dry beans harvested 73%, 76% 1997, 67% avg. Alfalfa 1% very poor, 7% poor, 23% fair, 60% good, 9% excellent; 4rd cutting 41%, 39% 1997, 42% avg. Wheat seeding 80%, 70% 1997, 70% avg. Wheat emergence 46%, 47% 1997, 35% avg. Stands spotty in some fields due to dry soil conditions. Pasture feed 6% very poor, 12% poor, 31%

fair, 48% good, 3% excellent. Producer activities; millet, potato, hay harvests, weaning calves, livestock care, requesting Load Deficiency Payments at FSA.

NEVADA: Haying continued to be interrupted by rain showers. Third, 4th cuttings of alfalfa were underway in northern valleys. Alfalfa seed harvest slowed down by precipitation. New seeding of alfalfa began. Winter wheat, spring wheat, barley harvests were completed. Field preparation for fall grain seeding continued, with seeding beginning. Mint harvest neared completion 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 was completed. Potato harvest got underway. Pasture and range condition continued to rate mostly good, aided 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 6.1. Topsoil moisture 2% very short, 14% short, 80% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil moisture 4% very short, 18% short, 73% adequate, 5% surplus. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 12% poor, 24% fair, 38% good, 25% excellent. Maine potatoes 40% harvested, 30% 1997, 40% avg.; good to fair. Massachusetts potatoes 75% harvested, 80% 1997, 75% avg.; condition good. Rhode Island potatoes 80% harvested, 90% 1997, 75% avg.; good to fair. Oats in Maine 95% harvested, 80% 1997, 90% avg.; fair to good. Barley in Maine 99% harvested, 85% 1997; fair to good. Field corn 45% harvested, 25% 1997, 35% avg.; condition good. Sweet corn 90% harvested, 95% 1997, 95% avg.; good to fair. First-cut hay 99% harvested, 99% 1997, 99% avg.; condition fair. Second-cut hay 95% harvested, 85% 1997, 90% avg.; good to fair. Third-cut hay 70% harvested, 70% 1997, 70% avg.; condition good. Apples 60% harvested, 60% 1997, 50% avg., size above-average to average; condition good. Peaches 100% harvested, 99% 1997, 95% avg., size average; condition good to fair. Pears 70% harvested, 45% 1997, 70% avg, size average; condition good. Cranberries 10% harvested, 15% 1997, 20% avg.; size average, condition good to excellent. Major farm activities included: Harvested silage corn, small grains, potatoes, fall vegetables including squash, pumpkins, fruits including apples, pears, cranberries.

NEW JERSEY: Days suitable for fieldwork 7. Farmers are irrigating crops, planting cover crops and spraying for disease and pests. Harvesting of fall items (spinach, cabbage, parsley, endive, escarole, Indian corn, beets, turnips and pumpkins) is increasing, while the harvesting of summer items is slowing down. Feed requirements are average. The irrigation water supply is short to adequate. Good volume of green beans, eggplant, peppers, and squash. Moderate volume of beets, cabbage, cucumbers, endive, escarole, herbs, leeks, lettuce, spinach, sweet corn, and pickles. Tomatoes are moderate but declining in volume. Light supply of okra, parsley, pumpkins, radishes, Indian corn and turnips. Apple harvest is well underway with red delicious, Paula red, ginger gold and gala being the main varieties. Harvesting of corn for silage continues with the harvesting of corn for grain increasing. Soybeans are dropping their leaves and nearing harvest. Fourth cuttings of alfalfa reported. Pasture conditions range from poor to good.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for fieldwork 7. Topsoil moisture declined to 23% very short, 52% short, 24% adequate and 1% surplus. With the fall season approaching, temperatures across New Mexico remained unseasonably high. Temperatures averaged 6 degrees above normal for the week, with spotty precipitation falling across the northeast part of the State. Wheat and onion producers were planting last week as hay, apple and chile harvests continued. Over three-fourths of the fall wheat crop was in the ground. Because of a shortage of soil moisture there are already concerns about the dryland wheat crop. Six percent of the fall onion crop was planted by the end of last week. The fourth, fifth and sixth cuttings of alfalfa moved forward to 90%, 79% and 44% complete, respectively; condition 1% very poor, 2% poor, 43% fair, 42% good, 12% excellent. Apples were 60% picked, 65% 1997; condition 17% fair, 75% good and 8% excellent. Green chile harvest moved to 77% complete, 87% 1997; red chile harvest was 4% complete, 3% 1997; as a whole the condition was rated 3% poor, 20% fair, 68% good and 9% excellent. As corn producers prepared for grain harvest last week, silage harvest progressed to 75% complete. The overall condition of the corn crop was rated 8% poor, 30% fair, 57% good, 5% excellent; 59% mature, 59% 1997. Because of dry weather throughout the spring and early to mid summer, the outlook for the sorghum crop remains poor. After a slow

start this season the cotton crop is maturing quickly and is now only slightly behind last year and the 5-year average. Lettuce was rated 18% fair, 28% good, 54% excellent. Pecans remained in good condition, with no reports of any major damage from weather, insects or disease. Cattle and sheep remained in fair to good condition

NEW YORK: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Soil moisture 5% very short, 33% short, 62% adequate. Pasture condition 10% poor, 35% fair, 55% good. Alfalfa third cutting 81% finished, 78% 1997, 79% average. Corn silage 63% harvested, 29% 1997, 33% average. Grain corn 15% harvested, 0% 1997 and average. Potato, dry bean harvests in high gear. Apple harvest in full swing. Condition of crop varies from poor to good, depending on location. Lake Ontario region generally lower condition due to wind and hail damage from Labor Day storm. Cider making in high gear. Grape harvest gained momentum. Orange County onions 80% harvested. Yields low. Harvesting of other crops wound down. Pumpkin harvest ahead of normal. Cabbage harvest continued active.

NORTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.4. Dry weather continued for most of the State, with only scattered rains reported. Harvest activities were aided by the dry weather and above-average temperatures. The western half of the State continues to be extremely dry as 88% of the Mountain Region reported short or very short topsoil moisture. Soil moisture across the State is rated 13% very short, 43% short, 43% adequate and 1% surplus. Activities for the week included: harvesting tobacco, corn, cotton, peanuts, sweet potatoes and sorghum; cutting hay; small grain plantings and tending livestock. As tobacco and corn harvests wind down, farmers are beginning to turn their attention to small grain plantings.

NORTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Another week of mostly dry weather and above-normal temperatures allowed producers to make good progress on late-season crop harvest. Scattered frost was reported across the State but mostly in the north-central district. Topsoil moisture 11% very short, 42% short, 47% adequate, 0% surplus. Subsoil moisture 14% very short, 38% short, 48% adequate, 0% surplus. The late-season crop harvest was in full swing at a pace well ahead of the average except for sugarbeets. Corn for grain 92% ripe, 71% 1997, 55% avg; 21% harvested, 3% 1997, 2% avg. Corn for silage 74% chopped, 70% 1997, 57% avg. Dry edible beans 99% cut, 90% 1997, 73% avg; 94% combined, 75% 1997, 56% avg. Flaxseed 98% combined, 89% 1997, 60% avg. Potatoes 98% vines killed, 96% 1997, 97% avg; 69% dug, 60% 1997, 61% avg. Soybeans 96% mature leaves dropping, 94% 1997, 84% avg; 45% harvested, 52% 1997, 28% avg. Sugarbeets 9% lifted, 7% 1997, 10% avg. Sunflower 98% bracts turned yellow, 98% 1997, 93% avg; 78% bracts turned brown, 76% 1997, 65% avg; 6% harvested, 4% 1997, 2% avg. Most late-season crop conditions remained relatively unchanged. Emerged crop condition: corn for grain 2% very poor, 12% poor, 24% fair, 54% good, 8% excellent; corn for silage 1% very poor, 9% poor, 33% fair, 46% good, 11% excellent; soybeans 3% very poor, 18% poor, 28% fair, 44% good, 7% excellent; sugarbeets 1% very poor, 4% poor, 16% fair, 52% good, 27% excellent; sunflower 1% very poor, 3% poor, 24% fair, 60% good, 12% excellent. Stockwater supplies rated 1% very short, 12% short, 84% adequate, 3% surplus.

OHIO: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Topsoil moisture 14% very short, 37% short, 48% adequate, 1% surplus. Corn mature 68%, 16% 1997, 36% avg. Corn harvested for silage 59%, 20% 1997, 46% avg. Corn harvested for grain 9%, 0% 1997, 4% avg. Soybeans dropping leaves 90%, 71% 1997, 77% avg. Soybeans mature 56%, 16% 1997, 41% avg. Soybeans harvested 20%, 3% 1997, 9% avg. Alfalfa hay 67% 4th cutting. Other hay 88% 3rd cutting, 65% 1997, 72% avg. Tobacco 85% cut, 75% 1997. Fall and winter apples 43% harvested, 23% 1997, 26% avg. Hay 2% very poor, 10% poor, 33% fair, 45% good, 10% excellent. Farmers have been busy with typical fall activities such as combining soybeans; harvesting corn for grain, silage; tilling wheat stubble; sowing wheat, rye; plowing wheat, barley; land leveling; installing tile; cleaning barns, bins; mending fences; mowing weeds, CRP ground; applying lime, fertilizer; hauling manure; moving 1997 grain; 4th, 5th cutting of hay; drying grain; cutting, housing tobacco; vaccinating, weaning cattle, calves; cutting firewood; harvesting peppers, tomatoes, potatoes, pumpkins, gourds. Weeds in soybean fields, other crops are posing a problem at harvesttime as reported weeds include giant, common ragweed, foxtail; Canadian thistle; common grasses; broadleaves; goldenrod; velvetleaf; ironweed; Johnsongrass; cocklebur. The insect population is dying down as reporters only mention army worms, mosquitoes, barn flies as

problems. Reported diseases include apple scale; smut on sweet corn; late blight on tomatoes; mildew on pumpkins; white mold in soybeans, mold in corn. There is concern that storage may be difficult for the potato, apple, pear crop. Peaches also may not store well due to excess late rain in the northwestern part of the State. There is still concern over the early maturing of the pumpkin crop. Prolonged dry weather in most of the State has inhibited regrowth of pastures. Late Sunday night rain should spur improvement from the northwestern districts to the central part of the State. Many livestock producers are feeding hay, particularly in the southern half of the State. Cattle conditions appear to have improved from cooler weather. However, an Athens County reporter mentioned that cattle are stressed by lack of water and flies. Most report good cattle conditions.

OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Topsoil moisture 39% very short, 38% short, 23% adequate. Subsoil moisture 36% very short, 39% short, 25% adequate. Rainfall boosted row crop development, encouraged wheat seedings. Wheat 74% seedbed prepared, 90% 1997, 90% avg; Oats 64% seedbed prepared, 81% 1997, 84% avg; 13% planted, 10% 1997, 18% avg; 4% up-to-stand, 0% 1997, 3% avg; Corn 3% very poor, 6% poor, 7% fair, 84% good; 100% mature, 86% 1997, 86% avg; 90% harvested, 64% 1997, 67% avg; Sorghum 97% milk-to-soft, 93% 1997, 90% avg; Soybeans 16% very poor, 23% poor, 50% fair, 10% good, 1% excellent; 79% mature, 40% 1997, 50% avg; 32% harvested, 11% 1997, 16% avg; Peanuts 56% mature, 27% 1997, 40% avg; Alfalfa Hay 11% very poor, 19% poor, 36% fair, 32% good, 2% excellent; 49% 4th cutting, 83% 1997, 85% avg; 6% fifth cutting, 14% 1997, 22% avg; Other Hay 23% 2nd cutting, 55% 1997, 90% avg; Livestock 4% very poor, 10% poor, 26% fair, 59% good, 1% excellent. Prices for feeder cattle up 50 cents to \$1.00 per cwt.

OREGON: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Topsoil 11% very short, 41% short, 48% adequate. Subsoil 6% very short, 35% short, 59% adequate. Barley harvested 97%, 96% 1997, 94% average; planted 2%, 1% 1997, 7% average. Winter wheat planted 13%, 22% 1997, 26% average; emerged 2%, 7% 1997, 8% average. Range & pasture condition 3% very poor, 7% poor, 53% fair, 19% good, 18% excellent. Activities: Ground preparation continued, late hay cuttings down & fall planting underway. Many growers waiting for moisture or for volunteer grasses to sprout before planting. West side corn silage harvest proceeding with average yields. Field corn harvest started in Malheur County. Nurseries & greenhouses preparing for fall markets. On south coast Easter lily harvest of commercial-size bulbs began. Potato harvest continued on East side. Quality & yield problems reported in northeast & lower yields reported in Malheur County for potatoes & onions. Green bean harvest winding down on Westside, as well as harvest of truck garden crops. Pumpkins gaining color & fall & winter vegetables being planted. Hazelnuts continued to drop in Willamette Valley & apple harvest underway. Pear & Apple harvest continued in Rogue River Valley. On south coast cranberry color improving & harvest nearing. On north coast Gravenstein apples & prune harvest completed. Hood River Valley Gala apples & Anjou pear harvest started in upper valley, & Anjou pear harvest continued in lower & middle valley regions. In Milton-Freewater area apple harvest began. Livestock good. Fall weaning, vaccinations & pregnancy testing continued in northeast. Western pastures started to green up following recent rains. Eastern range has lots of grass under ideal fall weather.

PENNSYLVANIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Soil moisture 20% very short, 45% short, 35% adequate, and 0% surplus. Ensilage corn harvested 60% harvested, 40% 1997, 47% avg. Soybean harvest 5% complete, 3% 1997, 2% avg. Soybean crop condition 2% very poor, 5% poor, 21% fair, 51% good, 21% excellent. Potato harvest 64% complete, 52% 1997, 56% avg. Fall plowing 47% complete, 60% 1997, 54% avg. Wheat planted 13% complete, 39% 1997, 32% avg. Wheat emerged 2% complete, 12% 1997, average not available. Barley planted 35% complete, 43% 1997, 40% avg. Barley emerged 11% complete, 21% 1997, average not available. Alfalfa third cutting 89% complete, 88% 1997, 86% avg. Alfalfa fourth cutting 52% complete, 59 1997, 49% avg. Timothy clover second cutting 92% complete, 97% 1997, 96% avg. Quality of hay made 2% very poor, 5% poor, 28% fair, 47% good, 18% excellent. Grape harvest 38% complete, 29% 1997, 44% avg. Apple harvest 47% complete, 44% 1997, 48% avg. Peach harvest 100% complete, 98% 1997, 98% avg. Activities: fall plowing; cutting hay and haylage; harvesting fruit; harvesting vegetables; seeding cover crop in corn fields; clipping pastures; filling silos; machinery maintenance; fixing fences; hauling manure; and caring for livestock.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Soil moisture 8% very short, 33% short, 48% adequate, 1% surplus. Apples 51% harvested, 75% 1997, 67% avg; 42% poor, 27% fair, 31% good. Corn 96% harvested, 92% 1997, 87% avg. Grapes 46% fair, 39% good, 15% excellent. Hay 99% cut, 100% 1997, 84% avg. Livestock Condition 4% poor, 34% fair, 61% good, 1% excellent. Pasture Condition 7% very poor, 16% poor, 39% fair, 37% good, 1% excellent. Peanuts 20% harvested, 32% 1997, 27% avg; 9% very poor, 28% poor, 50% fair, 13% good. Pecans 13% harvested, 0% 1997, 2% avg; 20% poor, 50% fair, 30% good. Sorghum 72% matured, 93% 1997, n/a avg; 47% harvested, 68% 1997, n/a avg; 12% very poor, 22% poor, 26% fair, 39% good, 1% excellent. Sweetpotatoes 35% harvested, 25% 1997, 22% avg; 2% fair, 98% good. Tobacco 85% stalks destroyed, 88% 1997, 73% avg. Winter Grazings 30% planted, 30% 1997, 27% avg; 22% emerged, 21% 1997, 17% avg; 10% poor, 56% fair, 34% good. Winter Wheat 13% planted, 12% 1997, 5% avg.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Topsoil 10% very short, 46% short, 42% adequate, and 2% surplus. Subsoil 4% very short, 32% short, and 60% adequate, 4% surplus. Cooler temperatures prevailed over the state early in the week, giving way to warmer drier temperatures by week's end. Many areas of the state reported a mild frost early in the week with the western side of the state receiving a trace of snow. Sunflower 1% very poor, 4% poor, 19% fair, 56% good, 20% excellent; 94% bracts yellow, 93% 1997, 91% avg; 68% mature, 52% 1997, 55% avg; 19% harvested, 3% 1997, 4% avg. Sorghum turning color 98%, 97% 1997, 91% avg. Sorghum harvested for silage 48%, 57% 1997, 41% avg. Corn harvested for silage 87%, 70% 1997, 52% avg. Dry soil conditions and lack of precipitation hindered winter rye and winter wheat seeding. Winter rye seeded 74%, 80% 1997, 81% avg. Winter rye emerged 46%, 62% 1997, 52% avg. Alfalfa 1% very poor, 5% poor, 26% fair, 54% good, and 14% excellent. Alfalfa cut three times 84%, 19% 1997, 4% avg. Livestock 1% poor, 11% fair, 70% good, 18% excellent. Stock water supplies 1% very short, 14% short, 79% adequate, 6% surplus.

TENNESSEE: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil moisture 34% very short, 47% short, 19% adequate. Subsoil moisture 30% very short, 53% short, 17% adequate. Corn 97% mature, 91% 1997, 93% avg.; 81% harvested, 52% 1997, 55% avg.; silage 97% harvested, 88% 1997, 91% avg. Burley 85% harvested, 80% 1997, 87% avg.; dark-air 90% harvested, 91% 1997, 92% avg.; dark-fire 89% harvested, 75% 1997, 89% avg. Pastures 17% very poor, 38% poor, 33% fair, 12% good. Above normal temperatures, and below normal rainfall were the story across Tennessee last week. Daytime highs were 7 to 10 degrees above normal with the warmest temperatures occurring at the end of the week across the entire State. Memphis and Bristol both set record highs Sunday, while Nashville and Chattanooga tied records. Scattered thunderstorms brought rain to parts of Middle and East Tennessee last Monday. Pasture land is beginning to respond to the moisture, but more is needed. Corn and Cotton producers used the dry weather to continue harvesting their crop.

TEXAS: Widely scattered showers fell some areas, warmer temperatures ushered in fall. Fieldwork continued without much delay Plains while many fields Southern, Coastal areas remained too wet for fieldwork. Armyworms continued big problem pastures many parts state. Haying activity increased as conditions allowed. Supplemental feeding of livestock slowed as pastures improved from recent rains.

Crops: Small Grains: Recent rains helped emergence, growth on seeded fields in Plains. Planting activity continued during week. Producers in dryer areas North Central were dry seeding fields in hopes of rain. Many producers still waiting for good rain to start. Fertilizer applied to fields parts of Blacklands, Central. Some replanting may be necessary as armyworms have caused heavy damage newly emerged fields parts of state. Corn: Harvest continued wind down in High Plains where yields some fields have suffered from extremely hot temperatures during season. Cotton: Additional defoliating activity occurred in Plains with harvest beginning few fields. Regrowth continued to be problem in Coastal Bend as wet fields prevented plowing. Grain Sorghum: Recent rains helped later maturing fields in Plains while harvest early fields increased during week with low yields reported. Harvest also continued North Central fields where some fields grazed out, baled. Harvest virtually completed other areas. Peanuts: Harvest underway few fields in Plains. Some producers reporting low early yields. Harvest expanded in few more fields South Central. Rice: Harvest virtually completed

on first crop along Upper Coast with some second cutting underway. Soybeans: A few fields left for harvest along Upper Coast by end week. Fields in Plains continued mature rapidly with some harvest beginning by late week.

Commercial Vegetables: Rio Grande Valley, land preparations stalled much week by wet conditions. Recent rains have been a big benefit to citrus crop. San Antonio-Winter Garden, cabbage, carrot, spinach planting resumed, made good progress last week. East, sweetpotato harvest continued. Yields on later fields about same as early fields. High Plains, cucumber, pepper harvest continued. Watermelon harvest also continued. Trans Pecos, land preparation, some planting occurred during week. Pecans: The nuts left on trees across state continued look good. Many nuts shed or blown off by high winds some areas. Recent rainfall benefitted trees. Harvest should begin soon.

Range and Livestock: Recent rains improved pastures, however with better grass, armyworm activity increased dramatically, a shortage of chemicals for spraying occurred. Haying activity increased during week dryer areas. Supplemental feeding activity slowed with better grazing conditions. Stockers begun arriving in Plains as wheat fields near time for grazing.

UTAH: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Topsoil moisture 16% short, 79% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil moisture 14% short, 86% adequate. Pasture and range condition 6% poor, 23% fair, 62% good, 9% excellent. Irrigation water supplies 2% very short, 18% short, 79% adequate, 1% surplus. Stock water supplies 2% very short, 12% short, 86% adequate. Cattle moved from summer range 27%, 29% 1997, 36% avg. Sheep moved from summer range 24%, 24% 1997, 33% avg. Winter wheat: seeded 71%, 68% 1997, 61% avg; emerged 20%, 16% 1997, 28% avg. Oats harvested for grain 98%, 97% 1997, 95% avg. Corn: in dough stage 83%, 98% 1997, 52% avg; in dent stage 52%, 59% 1997, 34% avg; mature 18%, 15% 1997. Corn silage harvested 28%, 40% 1997, 39% avg. Alfalfa hay: 3rd cutting 89%, 67% 1997, 81% avg; 4th cutting 36%, 31% 1997, 28% avg. Alfalfa seed harvested 62%, 46% 1997, 51% avg. Onions harvested 50%, 47% 1997, 52% avg. Potatoes harvested 26%, 31% 1997, 33% avg. Peaches picked 86%, 99% 1997, 98% avg. Pears picked 72%, 97% 1997, 95% avg. Apples 16% picked, 21% 1997, 29% avg. Rainstorms delayed grain harvest and have damaged hay.

VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Topsoil moisture 44% very short, 43% short, 13% adequate. Subsoil moisture 38% very short, 43% short, 19% adequate. Corn 96% dent, 93% 1997, 96% avg; 88% mature, 73% 1997, 83% avg, 55% harvested, 35% 1997, 43% avg; 87% harvested for silage, 72% 1997, 71% avg; 11% very poor, 26% poor, 39% fair, 20% good, 4% excellent. Cotton 5% harvested, 0% 1997, 2% avg; 9% poor, 30% fair, 49% good, 12% excellent. Soybeans 98% setting pods, 94% 1997, 98% avg; 26% dropping leaves, 27% 1997, 5% avg; 2% harvested, 0% 1997, 2% avg; 9% very poor, 24% poor, 32% fair, 30% good, 5% excellent. Winter Wheat 12% seeded, 0% 1997, 4% avg. Barley 2% seeded, 0% 1997, 10% avg. Flue-cured tobacco 67% harvested, 69% 1997, 79% avg. Dark fire cured tobacco 95% harvested, 90% 1997, 94% avg. Burley tobacco 77% harvested, 83% 1997, 82% avg. Sun tobacco 98% harvested, 94% 1997, 95% avg. Fall Apples 39% harvested, 32% 1997, 56% avg. Winter Apples 8% harvested, 0% 1997, 11% avg. Apples 4% very poor, 17% poor, 42% fair, 31% good, 6% excellent. Pasture 36% very poor, 37% poor, 22% fair, 5% good. Alfalfa 15% very poor, 40% poor, 40% fair, 4% good, 1% excellent. Other hay 27% very poor, 42% poor, 27% fair, 4% good. Some isolated areas received scattered rainfall, thunderstorms this past week. The rain was too little too late, however, for many crop, livestock producers. Additional precipitation would be helpful to producers of summer crops such as soybeans, cotton, peanuts which are preparing for harvest. Producers preparing to plant small grains and other fall crops would also benefit from the replenished soil moisture additional rainfall would bring. The lack of topsoil moisture is slowing progress of small grain planting. Rain is also still needed by livestock producers in order to water animals and to help fall forage prospects. Livestock producers around the Commonwealth are currently reporting that poor pasture conditions are forcing them to dip into winter hay stocks. Some producers are baling corn stalks and anything else that may be used to feed livestock. A few soybean producers have reported that yields may potentially be higher than earlier indicated. Other activities for the past week included spraying stop-drop on apples, 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 6.8. Topsoil moisture 11% very short, 50% short; 39% adequate; subsoil moisture 5% very short, 40% short, 55% adequate. Potatoes 45% harvested, 46% 1997, 46% avg. Potatoes, 6% fair, 89% good, 5% excellent. Winter wheat was nearly all planted in central areas with most wheat emerged, seeding was delayed in eastern areas with growers waiting for precipitation. Emerged wheat was in fair condition but precipitation would benefit the new crop greatly. Potato and dry bean harvests continued, mint and alfalfa seed harvests neared completion. Hay and other roughage supplies, 7% short, 68% adequate, 25% surplus. Silage harvest continued, fourth and fifth cutting alfalfa hay production continued. Range and pasture, 3% very poor, 21% poor, 49% fair, 27% good. Precipitation helped pastures in some western areas, most pastures remained very dry. Cooler temperatures aided fruit development and improved fruit color. D'Anjou pear harvest neared completion, whereas grape and apple harvests continued. Apple harvest was projected to continue through October to early November with various varieties being harvested. Cranberry growers were busy preparing for harvest. Sweet corn, onion, and other vegetable harvests continued. Christmas tree growers were busy beginning to prepare fields for harvest.

WEST VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.6. Topsoil moisture 14% very short, 41% short, 45% adequate. Weather conditions were conducive for harvesting, but some areas are still in need of rain. Apple harvest 66%, 40% 1997. Hay condition 5% very poor, 9% poor, 33% fair, 49% good, 4% excellent; Hay 2nd cut 95%, 97% 1997, 95% 5-yr avg; Hay 3rd cut 70%, 55% 1997, 69% 5-yr avg. Corn condition 8% poor, 32% fair, 55% good, 5% excellent; Corn doughing 97%, 100% 1997; Corn dent 74%, 70% 1997; Corn mature 50%, 35% 1997, 68% 5-yr avg; Corn harvested for grain 16%, 8% 1997, 30% 5-yr avg. Soybean condition 4% poor, 32% fair, 59% good, 5% excellent; Soybeans 79% dropping leaves, 80% 1997, 70% 5-yr avg; Soybeans harvested for grain 7%, 2% 1997. Tobacco condition 40% poor, 40% fair, 20% good; Tobacco harvested 75%, 93% 1997, 90% 5-yr avg. Wheat planted 24%, 30% 1997, 15% 5-yr avg. Cattle 1% poor, 23% fair, 70% good, 6% excellent. Sheep 35% fair, 60% good, 5% excellent.

WISCONSIN: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Soil moisture 14% very short, 39% short, 46% adequate, and 1% surplus. Soybeans leaves dropping: 93%, 65% 1997, 51% avg. Soybeans harvested 10%, 0% 1997, 0% avg. Soybean condition: 1% very poor, 1% poor, 10% fair, 52% good, 36% excellent. Fourth crop hay harvested: 53%, n/a 1997, n/a avg. Corn for silage harvested: 87%, 26% 1997, 34% avg. Last week marked the official start of autumn; scattered, light frosts were observed in the north central, central, and southwestern parts of the state. However, there has not been a hard frost and, consequently, no frost-related crop damage. Hay harvest was nearly complete for the state. Many farmers harvested fourth and fifth crops this season, and as a result, supplies are high. Dry weather in some parts of the state also contributed to the declining harvest activity. Many farmers will leave hay remaining in the fields for use as snow cover. Soybeans and corn for grain were in the early stages of being harvested, and corn harvested for silage was nearly complete. Although the consensus among reporters was not unanimous, there was speculation that many will have record yields for corn and soybeans. Potato, apple, and pear harvests continued and were reported to be in good to excellent condition. Winter wheat continued to be planted, and had already emerged in some areas. Pasture feed conditions: 3% very poor, 17% poor, 29% fair, 44% good, 7% excellent.

WYOMING: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.1. Topsoil moisture 2% very short, 58% short, 40% adequate. Subsoil moisture 4% very short, 59% short, 37% adequate. Winter wheat emerged 80%, 81% 1997, 64% avg. Corn mature 82%, 77% 1997, 65% avg.; harvested 2%, 2% 1997, 7% avg. Dry beans combined 73%, 89% 1997, 74% avg. Alfalfa third cutting 64%, 43% 1997, 59% avg. Range and pasture condition 2% very poor, 8% poor, 39% fair, 42% good, 9% excellent. Corn condition 2% poor, 4% fair, 49% good, 45% excellent. Sugarbeet condition 16% fair, 59% good, 25% excellent. Livestock condition 3% fair, 92% good, 5% excellent. Stock water supplies 1% very short, 13% short, 86% adequate. Fall arrived with cooler temperatures but the weather was still mild and, except for some western areas, the State was still looking for the first freezing temperatures.

International Weather and Crop Summary

September 20 - 26, 1998

HIGHLIGHTS

FSU-WESTERN: Warm, dry weather favored summer crop harvesting and winter grain planting in Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, and the Baltics.

FSU-NEW LANDS: Cold, showery weather slowed spring grain harvesting in Russia, while dry weather in Kazakstan continued to favor rapid harvest progress.

EUROPE: Drier weather favored fieldwork in northern Europe, while wet weather in Spain and southeastern Europe hampered fieldwork.

SOUTH ASIA: Persistent, late-season monsoon rain likely damaged cotton in northwestern India.

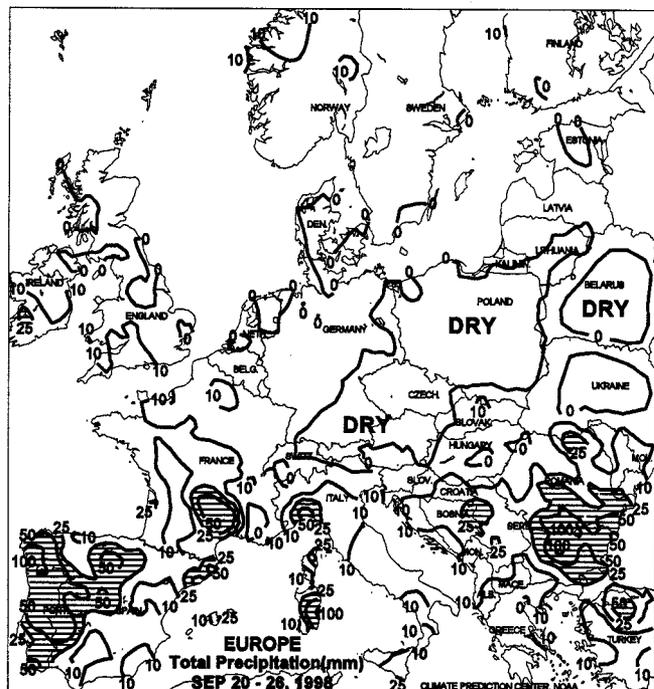
AUSTRALIA: An unusually wet weather pattern continued across eastern Australia.

SOUTHEAST ASIA: Showers hampered rice maturation and harvesting in Vietnam, the Philippines, and Thailand.

SOUTH AMERICA: In central Argentina, rain eased dryness for vegetative winter wheat, while rain continued to raise quality concerns for maturing winter wheat in southern Brazil.

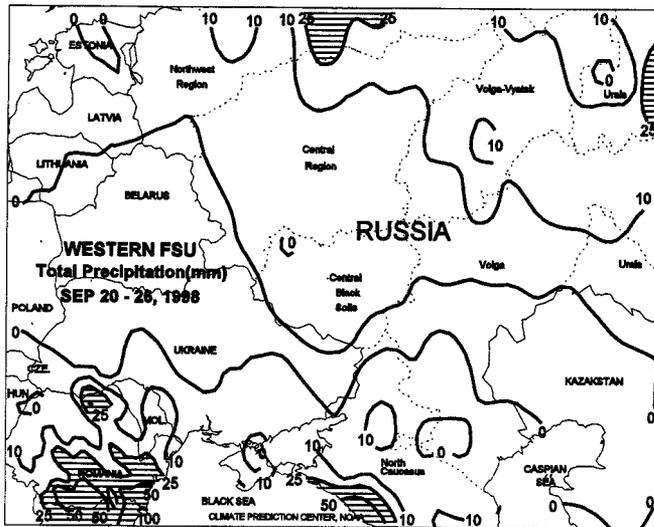
MEXICO: Showers continued to increase reservoir levels in northeastern Mexico and benefit filling corn across the Southern Plateau Corn Belt.

EASTERN ASIA: Mostly dry weather favored summer crop harvesting across the North China Plain, but heavy rain caused flooding and possible rice damage in southern Japan.



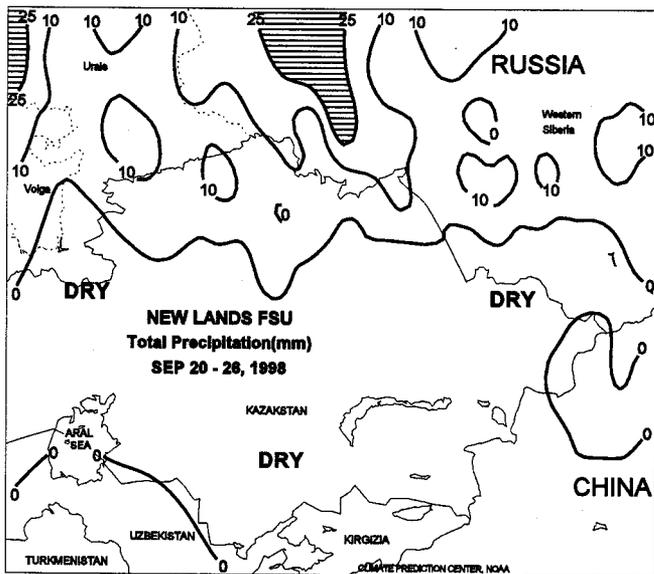
EUROPE

Mild, drier weather (precipitation amounts less than 5 mm) prevailed across northern Europe, helping summer crop harvesting and winter grain planting. Farther south, persistent showers (10-25 mm, with local amounts in excess of 25 mm) occurred in Portugal and Spain, slowing summer crop harvesting. Greatest amounts of rain (50-72 mm) fell in western Spain and northern Portugal. The precipitation in these areas spread northward into southern France at week's end, ending several days of favorable harvest weather. Farther east, light scattered showers (5-12 mm) in Italy caused only brief delays in harvest activities. In eastern Europe, dry weather prevailed in the Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Hungary, helping summer crop harvesting and winter grain planting. Soaking rain (35-73 mm) in southern Romania and Bulgaria halted summer crop harvesting but provided abundant moisture for winter grain germination and establishment.



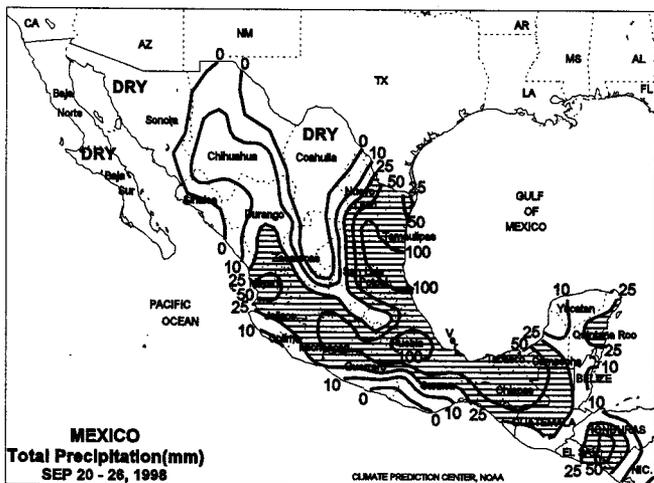
FSU-WESTERN

In Russia and Ukraine, unseasonably warm, dry weather helped corn, sunflower, and sugar beet harvesting to rapidly progress. Furthermore, weekly temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C above normal in these areas, favoring the rapid emergence and establishment of winter grains in areas where topsoil moisture was sufficient. Winter wheat planting likely progressed slowly in southeastern Ukraine and parts of southern Russia (lower Volga Valley and North Caucasus), where the combination of prolonged dryness and unusually high temperatures have reduced topsoil moisture to unfavorably low levels for uniform germination and crop establishment. Based on normal weather conditions, planting after the middle of October in these areas may not ensure that the crop becomes sufficiently established before entering dormancy. Elsewhere, dry weather prevailed in Belarus and the Baltics, helping summer crop harvesting and late winter grain planting.



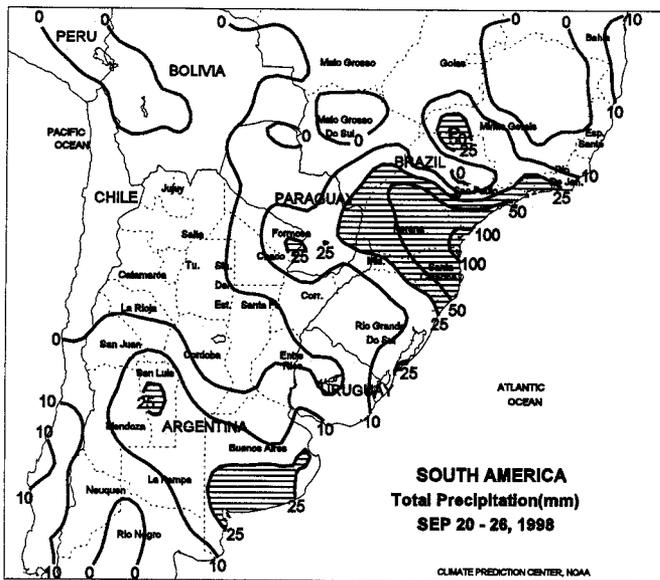
FSU-NEW LANDS

Spring grain harvesting was well underway in Russia and Kazakstan. In Russia, occasional showers (around 10 mm) were accompanied by cold weather, including some snow, hampering spring grain harvesting. Weekly temperatures averaged 1 to 4 degrees C below normal in Russia. Furthermore, extreme minimum temperatures ranging from -1 to -7 degrees C were widespread throughout the region. In Kazakstan, cool but generally dry weather continued to favor rapid spring grain harvesting. In cotton-producing areas of Central Asia, unseasonably warm, dry weather favored boll maturation and harvesting.



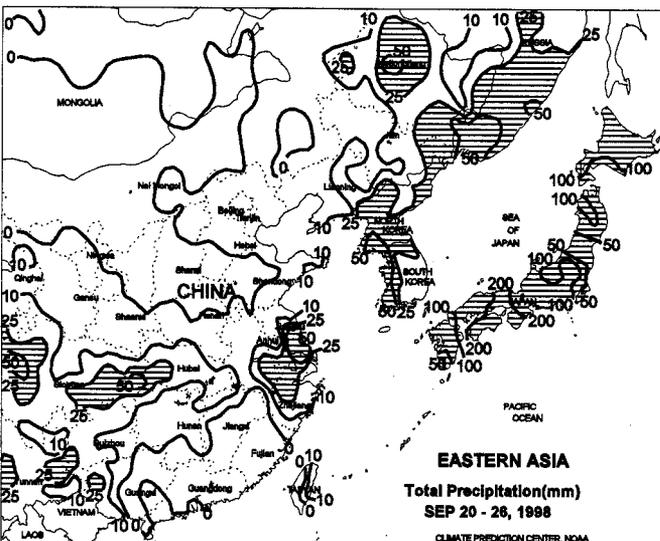
MEXICO

Widespread showers (30-140 mm) continued to bring relief to northeastern Mexico and benefited filling corn across the Southern Plateau Corn Belt. The heavy rain exacerbated flooding in portions of Veracruz. Light to moderate rain (10-40 mm) aided pastures in north-central Mexico (Chihuahua and Durango). Temperatures averaged 1 to 2 degrees C above normal across most of Mexico.



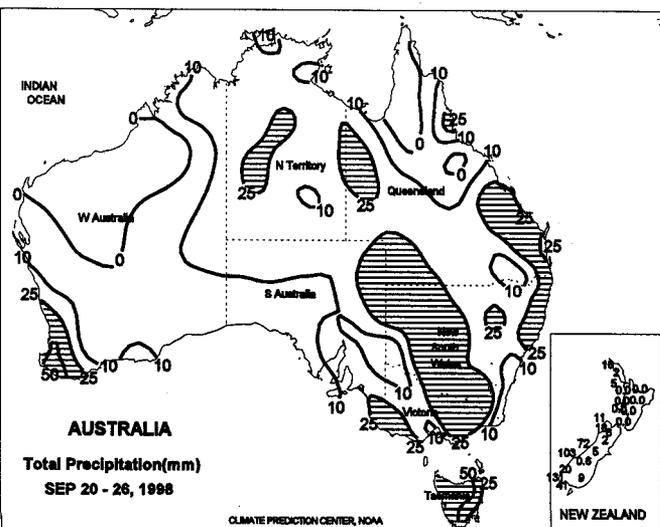
SOUTH AMERICA

In central Argentina, moderate rain (10-50 mm) eased dryness for vegetative winter wheat and fieldwork preparations for summer crop planting in central and southern Buenos Aires. More rain, however, is needed in southern Santa Fe. Light to moderate rain (5-20 mm) favored germinating sunflowerseed in northern Argentina, as planting moves farther south into central Argentina. Temperatures averaged slightly below normal, slowing early wheat growth. In southern Brazil, moderate showers (25-75 mm) continued to raise wheat quality concerns for mature winter wheat in Parana. The wheat crop was less advanced (filling) in Rio Grande do Sul, where light rain fell during for the week. However, on September 27, heavy rain again fell across the state, raising quality concerns (*More details on the rain in next week's report*). Light rain (5-20 mm) boosted soil moisture for coffee and citrus in northern Sao Paulo and southern Minas Gerais. According to reports as of September 21, winter wheat was 32 percent harvested, compared with 26 percent harvested last year.



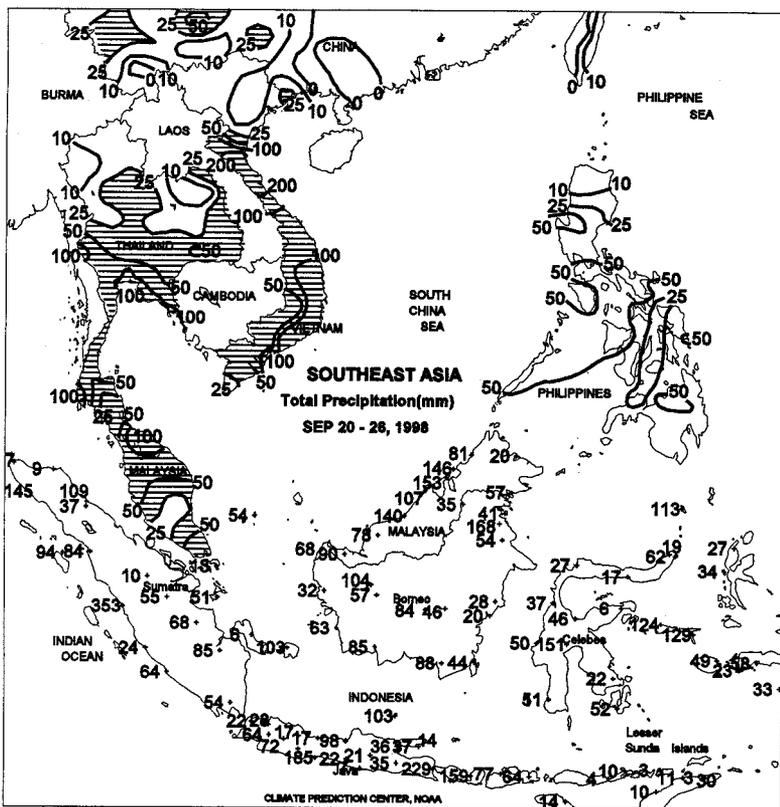
EASTERN ASIA

Mostly dry, warm weather favored summer crop harvesting across the North China Plain, but rain is needed for winter wheat planting. Typically, winter wheat planting begins by mid to late September in the north, near Beijing, and early November along the Yangtze Valley. Light to moderate rain (10-40 mm) slowed summer crop harvesting in Manchuria and the Yangtze Valley. Freezing temperatures signaled the end of the growing season in extreme northern Manchuria (northern Heilongjiang), but damage was limited since both the corn and soybean crops were mostly mature. Mostly dry, sunny weather favored late rice development across southeastern China. Temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C above normal across most of China. Very heavy rain (100-300 mm) caused flooding in southern and south-central Japan, possibly damaging maturing rice. Farther north in Japan, moderate to heavy showers (40-120 mm) continued to worsen rice quality and possibly cause additional rice damage. Moderate showers (40-100 mm) also raised rice quality problems and slowed summer crop harvesting along the eastern Korean Peninsula. Temperatures averaged 2 to 5 degrees C above normal across the Korean Peninsula and Japan.



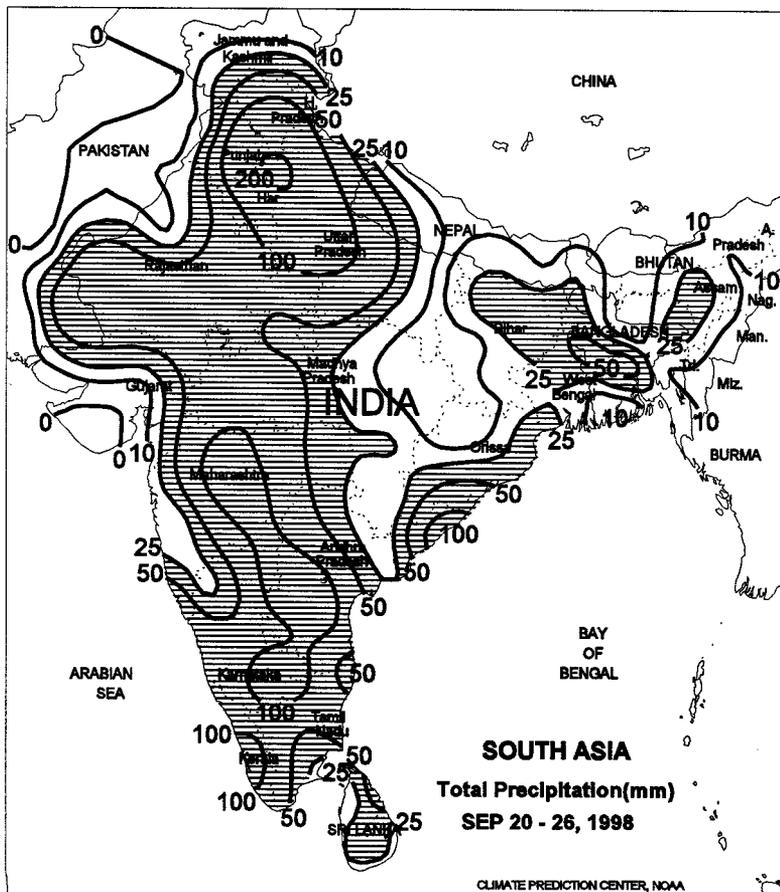
AUSTRALIA

Moderate to heavy rain (10-50 mm or more) swept across the southeast, improving moisture levels for vegetative wheat and barley. Although coverage was very good, dry pockets persisted in northwestern Victoria and western crop areas of South Australia. Farther north, needed dryness covered the Darling Downs area, but showery conditions in southern Queensland kept maturing wheat and barley unfavorably damp. Seasonable temperatures throughout the east favored normal crop development. In Western Australia, cool weather, accompanied by mostly light showers (5-25 mm), benefited winter grain growth. In New Zealand, the main pasture areas were mostly dry.



SOUTHEAST ASIA

Showers hampered rice maturation and harvesting across Thailand, the Philippines, and Vietnam, while boosting moisture supplies for winter rice. Moderate showers (10-80 mm) fell across Thailand and southern Vietnam. Heavier showers (100-210 mm) likely caused flooding in north-central Vietnam, outside of the main rice-producing area. Somewhat drier weather (5-20 mm) prevailed across northern Vietnam, where 10th-month rice harvesting is underway. In the Philippines, showers (20-80 mm) helped to alleviate long-term dryness. Showers (20-60 mm) continued to benefit oil palm in peninsular Malaysia. In Java, unseasonably heavy showers (40-120 mm) possibly caused flooding.



SOUTH ASIA

Widespread, unseasonably heavy rain (50-100 mm or more) persisted over the northwest, well past the usual date for the retreat of the monsoon. The rain likely caused some degree of damage to maturing cotton in north-central India (Punjab and Haryana). Conditions were also unfavorably wet from India's main soybean area (western Madhya Pradesh) to Pakistan's southern cotton and rice fields. Moderate to heavy showers (50-100 mm or more) over India's southern interior boosted moisture for summer grains, oilseeds, and cotton and raised irrigation levels for second-season (rabi) cropping. In the east, showers tapered off throughout rice areas of India and Bangladesh, allowing floodwaters to recede.

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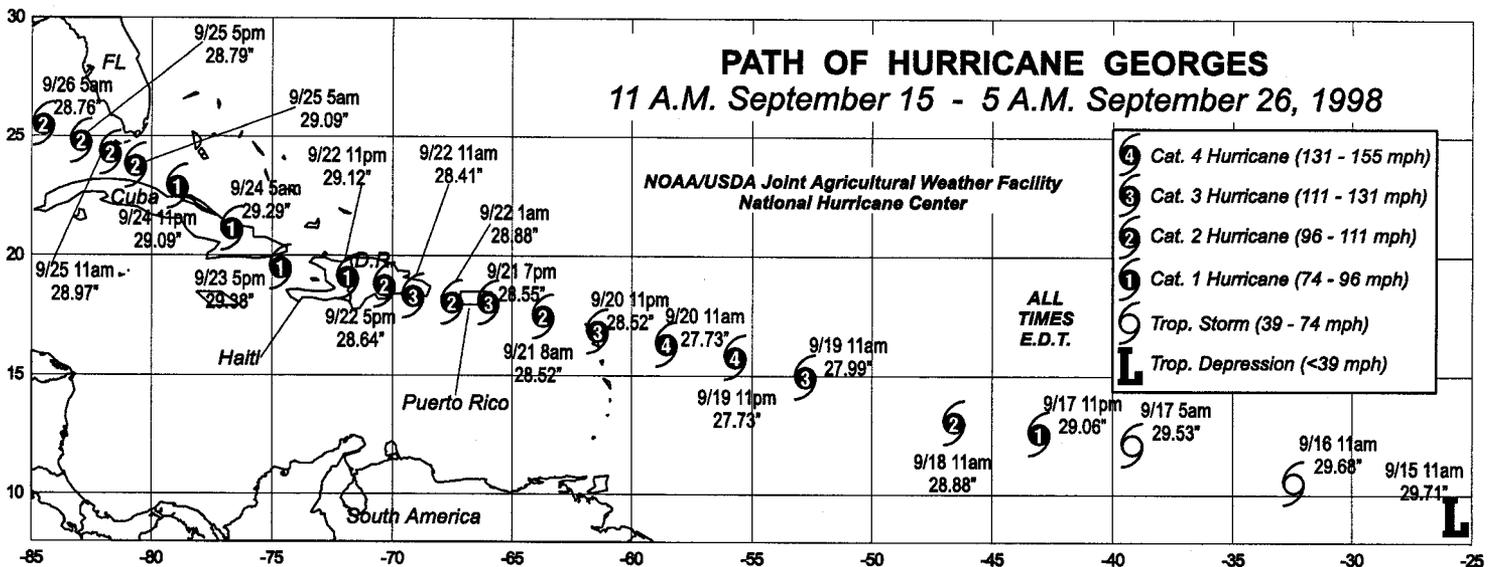
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