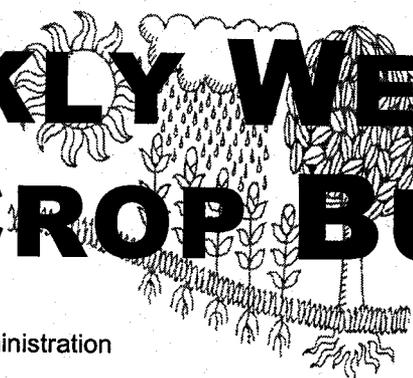


# WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

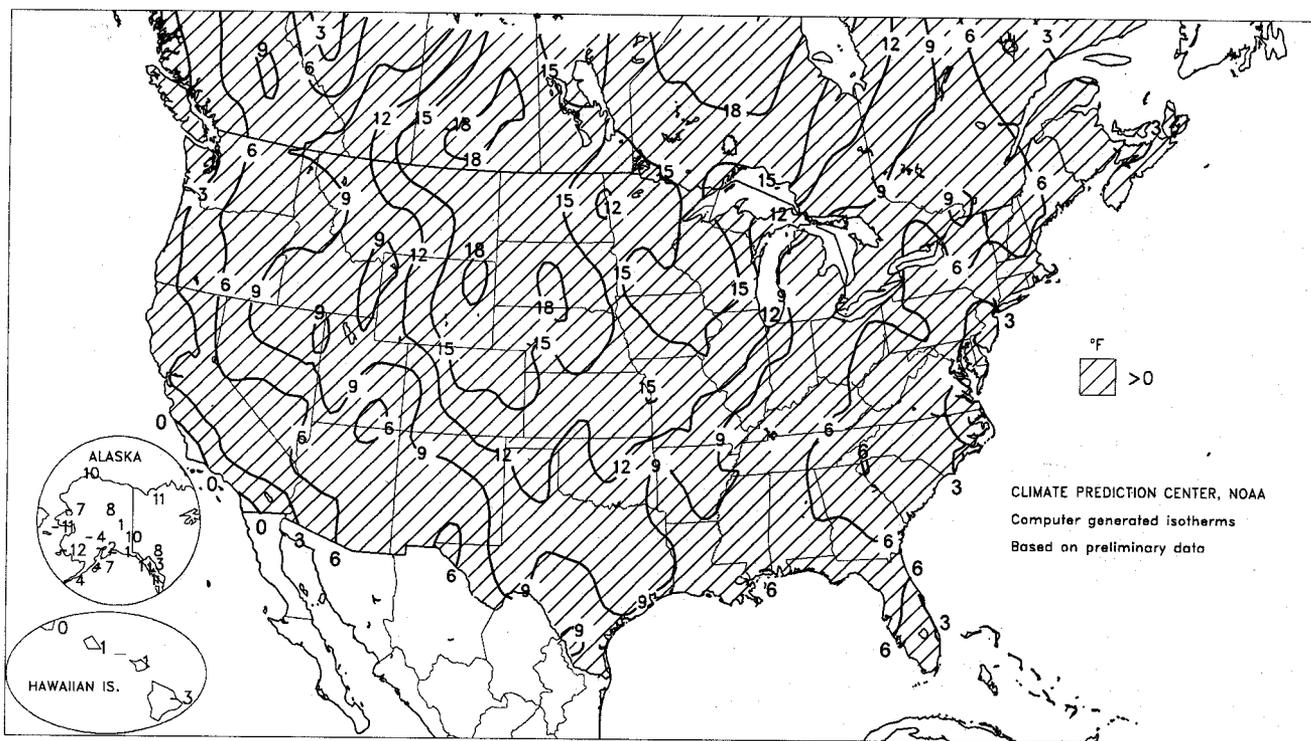


U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
National Weather Service

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

Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F)

NOV 22 - 28, 1998



## HIGHLIGHTS

November 22 - 28, 1998

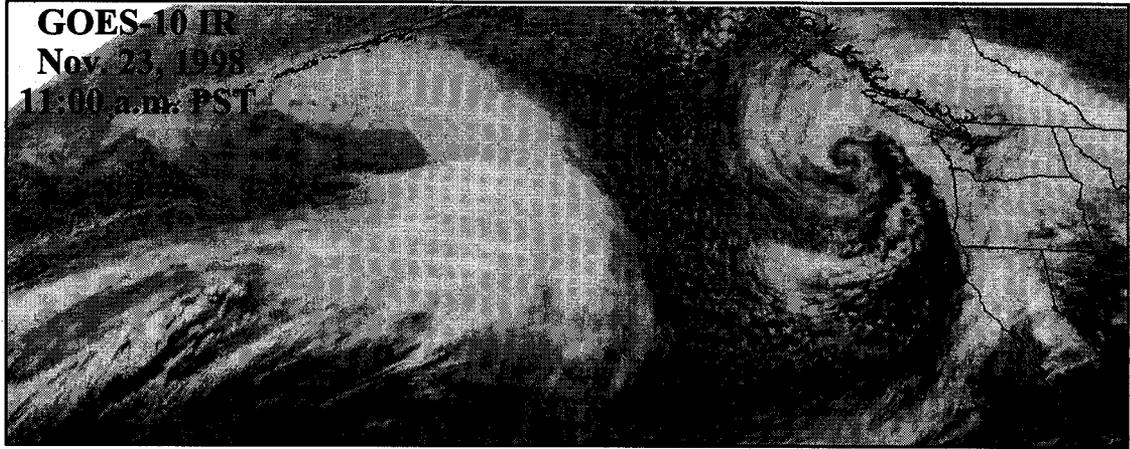
**W**et, windy weather continued in the **Northwest**, but exceptionally mild, mostly dry weather prevailed elsewhere across the Nation. Heavy precipitation caused additional minor flooding **west of the Cascades** through midweek, but rainfall shifted southward thereafter, disrupting already-late cotton harvesting in **California's San Joaquin Valley**. Farther east, weekly temperatures ranged from 10 to 20°F above normal throughout the **Plains** and **western Corn Belt**, promoting final summer crop harvesting and spurring winter wheat development. On the **southern Plains**, however, topsoils turned unfavorably dry

*(Continued on page 2)*

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**GOES-10 IR**  
**Nov. 23, 1998**  
**11:00 a.m. PST**



**Stormy Pacific:** A chain of storms continues to buffet the Pacific Northwest with high winds and heavy precipitation.

*(Continued from front cover)*

following nearly a month without significant rainfall. Meanwhile, drought persisted in the **Mid-Atlantic region** and parts of the **Southeast**, tempered only by midweek showers.

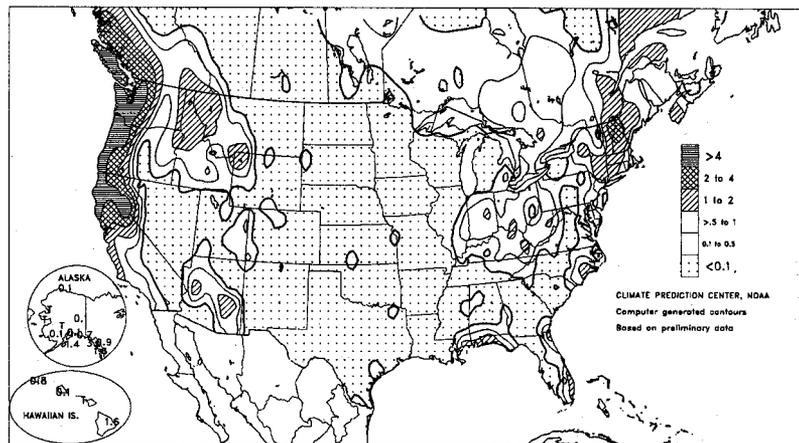
During the week, more than 130 daily-record highs were set or tied nationwide. On Sunday, a surge of warmth onto the **High Plains** pushed highs in **Kansas** to 87°F in **Elkhart** and 85°F in **Liberal**. A day later, warmth quickly expanded into the **East**, where **Blacksburg, VA** registered a daily-record high (69°F) following a low of 21°F. After a brief midweek cool-down, record warmth returned to the **Plains, Midwest, and East**. Thursday marked the first of four consecutive daily-record highs in **Waterloo, IA** (67, 67, 62, and 69°F). **LaCrosse, WI** netted their first of four records (63, 62, 65, and 63°F) on Friday. In **Chicago, IL**, highs exceeded 60°F on five consecutive days (November 26-30) in late November for the first time on record.

Two powerful storms struck the **Pacific Northwest**, the first on Monday and the other on Wednesday. In **Oregon**, Monday's storm lashed **Cape Blanco** with wind gusts of 86 mph. Away from the ocean, gusts reached 68 mph in **Salem, OR** and 72 mph in **Bellingham, WA**. The latter storm battered **Cape Blanco** with gusts as high as 98 mph. A peak gust to 111 mph was reported in **Cannon Beach, OR**. **Astoria, OR** noted their heaviest 24-hour rainfall on Wednesday (5.56 inches), breaking a record that had stood since January 8-9, 1990. November rainfall records were broken by week's end in **Seattle, WA** (10.97 inches, eclipsing their 1990 standard) and **Astoria** (18.70 inches, eclipsing their 1995 mark).

A late-week pattern change gave the **Pacific Northwest** a much-needed break from heavy precipitation and delivered rain and mountain snows to **California** and the **Southwest**. In **southern California**, storm-total (November 27-29) rainfall included 1.91 inches in **Julian** and 1.60 inches on **Mt. Laguna**. **Mt. Lemmon**, near **Tucson, AZ**, netted 2.60 inches of precipitation during the same period. By Sunday morning, **Bellemont, AZ** reported a snow

Total Precipitation (Inches)

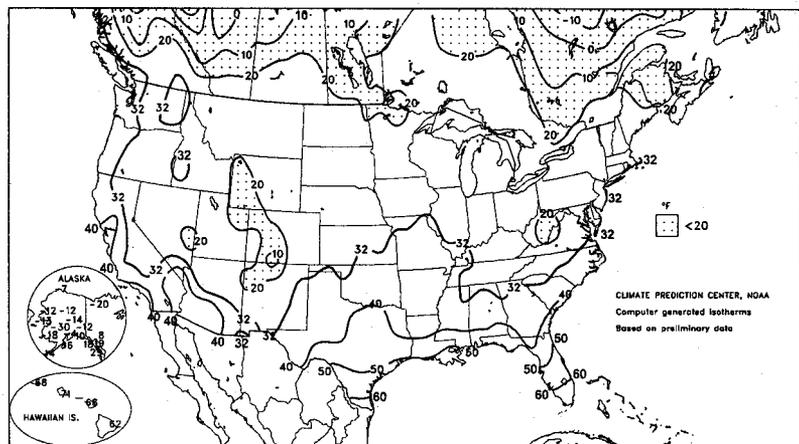
NOV 22 - 28, 1998



CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA  
 Computer generated contours  
 Based on preliminary data

Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)

NOV 22 - 28, 1998



CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA  
 Computer generated isotherms  
 Based on preliminary data

depth of 3 inches. Farther east, dry weather returned to the **Northeast** toward week's end following a brief period of precipitation. Rainfall (and melted snow) totals topped 1 inch in parts of **New England** and **eastern New York**, but were much lower across the **Mid-Atlantic States'** drought region.

Sharply colder air overspread **western Alaska** during the week. Departures ranged from -12°F in western areas to +10°F in far northern and eastern locations. On Monday, **Cold Bay** tallied a daily record-tying low of 13°F. Lows in **interior western Alaska** dipped as low as -30°F (on Friday) in **McGrath**.

# National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending November 28, 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	32 AND BELOW	TEMP. °F		.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
																		90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW		
AL BIRMINGHAM	72	46	75	39	59	9	0.01	-1.11	0.01	6.80	62	80.56	123	87	36	0	0	1	1	0	0
AL HUNTSVILLE	68	41	73	31	55	6	0.01	-1.25	0.01	6.02	51	38.77	76	96	44	0	1	1	1	0	0
AL MOBILE	74	54	79	47	64	7	0.74	-0.34	0.59	30.56	242	84.43	146	100	58	0	0	5	1	1	0
AL MONTGOMERY	73	46	77	37	59	5	0.02	-1.07	0.01	11.18	109	46.47	97	98	48	0	0	2	0	0	0
AK ANCHORAGE	21	11	38	-4	16	-2	0.09	-0.13	0.03	1.48	26	10.01	68	83	72	0	7	3	0	0	0
AK BARROW	8	1	-12	-7	5	10	0.09	0.03	0.01	2.20	172	4.48	107	81	71	0	7	4	0	0	0
AK FAIRBANKS	4	-8	17	-14	-2	1	0.08	-0.11	0.03	1.72	67	10.12	101	86	75	0	7	4	0	0	0
AK JUNEAU	37	27	38	19	32	3	0.87	-0.13	0.30	20.44	107	59.24	120	98	79	0	6	5	0	0	0
AK KODIAK	32	21	41	16	28	-7	1.39	0.01	1.32	33.25	169	101.07	187	84	55	0	7	2	1	0	0
AK NOME	8	-5	16	-13	2	-11	0.01	-0.21	0.01	6.31	133	23.30	168	82	68	0	7	1	0	0	0
AZ FLAGSTAFF	57	23	63	20	40	6	0.24	-0.25	0.20	9.08	167	26.72	132	77	19	0	7	1	0	0	0
AZ PHOENIX	77	51	81	49	64	5	0.18	0.01	0.18	1.90	90	9.95	150	62	20	0	0	1	0	0	0
AZ TUCSON	80	48	84	44	64	8	0.22	0.05	0.18	1.93	58	13.09	120	49	13	0	0	2	0	0	0
AZ YUMA	77	52	79	46	64	3	0.01	-0.05	0.01	2.27	291	4.39	164	55	21	0	0	0	1	0	0
AR FORT SMITH	71	42	77	35	56	9	0.02	-0.88	0.01	13.41	126	40.42	107	97	45	0	0	2	0	0	0
AR LITTLE ROCK	69	44	77	35	57	8	0.00	-1.27	0.00	10.33	82	37.08	81	87	55	0	0	0	0	0	0
CA BAKERSFIELD	64	43	73	37	53	1	0.14	-0.03	0.13	1.04	95	12.71	253	91	50	0	0	2	0	0	0
CA EUREKA	59	47	63	35	53	2	1.88	0.25	1.06	13.69	144	54.75	178	88	66	0	0	6	1	1	0
CA FRESNO	64	46	69	39	55	4	0.09	-0.27	0.08	0.88	43	16.85	187	90	47	0	0	2	0	0	0
CA LOS ANGELES	65	52	72	48	58	-1	0.59	0.12	0.48	1.22	53	25.04	245	98	66	0	0	3	0	0	0
CA REDDING	55	45	57	34	50	2	2.05	0.71	1.15	9.07	114	56.46	206	93	67	0	0	5	2	1	0
CA SACRAMENTO	61	47	65	40	54	4	1.28	0.59	0.54	3.27	82	26.71	180	98	62	0	0	5	1	0	0
CA SAN DIEGO	66	53	71	49	59	-1	0.43	0.04	0.33	0.88	45	15.15	184	92	64	0	0	2	0	0	0
CA SAN FRANCISCO	59	50	65	45	54	1	0.83	0.10	0.47	2.47	61	31.05	190	93	70	0	0	5	0	0	0
CO ALAMOSA	57	15	63	14	36	11	0.00	-0.08	0.00	2.88	146	6.85	97	89	21	0	7	0	0	0	0
CO CO SPRINGS	64	34	73	28	49	14	0.00	-0.11	0.00	2.02	77	16.20	103	58	13	0	2	0	0	0	0
CO DENVER	67	35	73	27	51	15	0.00	-0.19	0.00	2.43	79	15.92	108	55	18	0	3	0	0	0	0
CO GRAND JUNCTION	57	29	80	23	43	7	0.00	-0.14	0.00	3.16	128	8.78	110	72	27	0	6	0	0	0	0
CO PUEBLO	71	28	79	25	50	13	0.00	-0.11	0.00	2.55	134	11.51	107	78	15	0	6	0	0	0	0
CT BRIDGEPORT	52	39	57	33	45	3	0.68	-0.23	0.68	7.11	73	41.01	108	85	52	0	0	1	1	1	0
CT HARTFORD	51	35	57	27	43	5	1.18	0.22	1.18	10.71	96	44.64	112	80	48	0	2	1	1	1	0
DC WASHINGTON	59	40	64	35	50	3	0.43	-0.31	0.39	3.37	36	34.22	97	79	34	0	0	2	0	0	0
DE WILMINGTON	58	36	65	30	46	3	0.88	-0.12	0.68	6.00	64	35.86	96	85	39	0	1	1	1	1	0
FL DAYTONA BEACH	78	61	80	50	69	6	0.84	0.23	0.81	9.09	69	38.96	86	95	80	0	0	3	1	1	0
FL JACKSONVILLE	75	55	78	42	65	6	2.25	1.72	2.01	13.23	110	56.65	117	99	59	0	0	3	1	1	0
FL KEY WEST	81	73	84	70	77	3	0.04	-0.53	0.04	18.70	144	36.34	97	88	68	0	0	1	0	0	0
FL MIAMI	81	71	83	68	76	4	0.76	0.29	0.51	26.87	170	68.37	127	94	68	0	0	2	1	1	0
FL ORLANDO	80	61	83	52	71	5	0.17	-0.38	0.01	7.84	74	44.26	97	99	55	0	0	3	0	0	0
FL PENSACOLA	73	56	79	46	64	6	0.52	-0.32	0.48	21.33	167	61.80	107	93	57	0	0	4	0	0	0
FL TALLAHASSEE	73	64	78	39	64	6	0.12	-0.90	0.10	15.56	129	57.24	96	98	56	0	0	3	0	0	0
FL TAMPA	81	65	84	56	73	7	0.02	-0.43	0.02	9.22	96	54.36	131	97	56	0	0	1	0	0	0
FL WEST PALM BEACH	79	67	82	61	73	2	0.82	-0.10	0.53	22.48	115	63.71	110	92	61	0	0	6	1	1	0
GA ATHENS	68	46	75	36	57	6	0.08	-0.81	0.00	9.39	94	49.00	108	88	38	0	0	1	0	0	0
GA ATLANTA	66	47	72	37	57	7	0.03	-0.92	0.03	6.80	68	44.44	96	83	37	0	0	1	0	0	0
GA AUGUSTA	74	40	78	32	57	4	0.15	-0.45	0.12	9.50	117	46.65	114	89	40	0	1	2	0	0	0
GA COLUMBUS	71	50	76	41	61	7	0.05	-0.91	0.05	6.85	79	31.78	70	93	40	0	0	1	0	0	0
GA MACON	72	45	76	35	58	5	0.09	-0.65	0.08	9.17	123	41.91	106	97	39	0	0	2	0	0	0
GA SAVANNAH	74	49	77	38	61	5	0.18	-0.37	0.09	7.19	81	47.21	102	96	47	0	0	3	0	0	0
HI HILO	76	66	78	62	71	-3	1.81	-1.87	0.89	37.77	124	96.88	83	98	70	0	0	7	1	1	0
HI HONOLULU	82	73	82	71	77	1	0.08	-0.68	0.05	1.26	22	3.87	21	74	51	0	0	3	0	0	0
HI KAHULUI	81	70	82	68	75	0	0.01	-0.67	0.01	2.44	62	5.56	32	80	52	0	0	1	0	0	0
HI LIHUE	79	70	80	68	75	0	0.77	-0.51	0.43	4.47	38	24.20	63	85	63	0	0	5	0	0	0
ID BOISE	53	41	64	36	47	11	0.44	0.08	0.28	3.14	108	15.16	143	80	42	0	0	6	0	0	0
ID LEWISTON	49	39	54	35	44	5	0.88	0.60	0.30	5.51	197	16.88	151	92	63	0	0	5	0	0	0
ID POCATELLO	55	32	63	27	43	12	0.88	0.60	0.29	3.96	140	13.28	121	97	44	0	4	5	0	0	0
IL CHICAGO/O'HARE	60	38	67	32	49	14	0.01	-0.88	0.01	9.26	103	36.04	109	79	38	0	1	1	0	0	0
IL MOLINE	61	35	67	28	48	13	0.00	-0.57	0.00	13.56	146	46.71	127	83	42	0	4	0	0	0	0
IL PEORIA	62	38	65	30	50	13	0.09	-0.54	0.02	8.00	86	40.56	120	79	38	0	1	1	0	0	0
IL ROCKFORD	59	33	65	28	46	13	0.04	-0.53	0.00	9.32	102	38.83	114	86	43	0	3	1	0	0	0
IL SPRINGFIELD	64	37	68	28	50	12	0.00	-0.81	0.00	7.31	88	44.20	137	81	37	0	2	0	0	0	0
IN EVANSVILLE	64	36	69	30	50	7	0.21	-0.70	0.21	6.49	70	40.04	102	94	47	0	2	1	0	0	0
IN FORT WAYNE	57	33	63	27	45	8	0.53	-0.15	0.53	6.88	89	37.26	118	88	44	0	3	1	1	1	0
IN INDIANAPOLIS	60	36	67	28	48	9	0.75	-0.05	0.75	10.15	119	48.24	133	85	40	0	2	1	1	1	0
IN SOUTH BEND	58	36	66	28	47	10	0.02	-0.76	0.02	5.22	53	33.07	93	91	44	0	2	1	0	0	0
IA BURLINGTON	65	40	69	32	52	16	0.00	-0.52	0.00	18.40	201	50.57	149	78	37	0	1	0	0	0	0
IA CEDAR RAPIDS	60	33	66	28	47	14	0.00	-0.45	0.00	12.76	182	44.91	141	85	42	0	4	0	0	0	0
IA DES MOINES	61	36	68	28	49	15	0.00	-0.37	0.00	5.84	72	39.95	128	88	40	0	1	0	0	0	0
IA DUBUQUE	58	35	63	27	47	15	0.00	-0.81	0.00	9.34	94	42.96	119	85	42	0	3	0	0	0	0
IA SIOUX CITY	62	30	73	25	48	15	0.00	-0.21	0.00	5.71	98	30.93	124	87	38	0	6	0	0	0	0
IA WATERLOO	61	31	67	23	46	16	0.00	-0.38	0.00	8.25	106	44.52	138	86	37	0					

Weather Data for the Week Ending November 28, 1998

STATES AND STATIONS	TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY, PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS					
	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL IN., SINCE Sep 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Sep 1	TOTAL IN., SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	92 AND BELOW	TEMP. °F		PRECIP.	
																		01 INCH OR MORE	50 INCH OR MORE		
KY WICHITA	85	41	70	34	53	13	0.00	-0.34	0.00	15.31	213	33.04	118	91	47	0	0	0	0		
KY JACKSON	84	42	70	30	53	8	0.37	-0.67	0.37	6.16	57	46.74	104	72	29	0	1	1	0		
LA LEXINGTON	80	40	67	34	50	8	0.61	-0.26	0.61	4.43	50	45.67	114	82	42	0	0	1	1		
LA LOUISVILLE	85	41	70	31	53	9	0.57	-0.34	0.57	6.01	65	45.41	112	93	41	0	1	1	1		
LA PADUCAH	86	39	71	35	53	8	0.13	-0.96	0.13	9.59	90	51.73	117	90	38	0	0	1	0		
LA BATON ROUGE	76	53	80	45	64	7	0.01	-1.10	0.01	13.82	112	62.82	96	98	60	0	0	1	0		
LA LAKE CHARLES	77	57	80	48	67	9	0.00	-1.06	0.00	21.05	155	53.11	107	98	65	0	0	0	0		
LA NEW ORLEANS	75	58	78	56	67	8	0.03	-1.14	0.01	24.33	193	76.91	138	97	58	0	0	1	0		
ME SHREVEPORT	74	52	79	38	63	10	0.00	-1.05	0.00	17.61	180	43.87	105	98	61	0	0	0	0		
ME CARIBOU	36	25	45	15	30	4	0.63	-0.31	0.32	7.36	76	34.09	103	86	64	0	5	2	0		
ME PORTLAND	48	32	54	26	40	5	0.70	-0.53	0.70	14.88	127	62.91	134	81	47	0	3	1	1		
MD BALTIMORE	58	32	67	28	45	2	0.64	-0.16	0.59	3.53	37	33.19	89	78	33	0	5	2	1		
MA BOSTON	51	39	59	35	45	3	0.37	-0.85	0.37	9.57	93	51.88	139	85	55	0	0	1	0		
MA WORCESTER	48	34	58	29	41	5	0.15	-0.89	0.11	7.83	63	44.44	102	80	45	0	2	1	0		
MI ALPENA	47	32	52	28	39	7	0.17	-0.35	0.12	9.45	130	31.33	118	85	54	0	5	2	0		
MI GRAND RAPIDS	54	34	62	24	44	9	0.08	-0.71	0.09	7.48	74	30.79	93	85	44	0	2	1	0		
MI HOUGHTON LAKE	47	32	58	25	40	8	0.11	-0.41	0.11	8.35	109	23.07	88	82	59	0	4	1	0		
MI LANSING	54	31	64	19	42	8	0.04	-0.59	0.04	5.42	67	27.20	97	85	45	0	4	1	0		
MI MARQUETTE	45	31	53	23	38	13	0.22	-0.41	0.22	8.09	78	37.71	116	83	49	0	3	1	0		
MI MUSKEGON	51	36	58	24	44	8	0.08	-0.86	0.08	9.19	96	26.50	90	87	55	0	2	1	0		
MN DULUTH	47	30	60	25	39	15	0.21	-0.16	0.20	11.02	137	31.76	111	95	56	0	5	2	0		
MN INT'L FALLS	41	24	47	13	32	13	0.01	-0.21	0.01	6.30	102	22.30	95	95	66	0	6	1	0		
MN MINNEAPOLIS	56	29	64	24	43	15	0.00	-0.32	0.00	4.55	71	32.65	120	88	47	0	6	0	0		
MN ROCHESTER	55	33	62	28	44	17	0.00	-0.33	0.00	6.93	95	31.93	112	88	51	0	4	0	0		
MN ST. CLOUD	52	27	58	22	39	15	0.03	-0.21	0.03	4.74	72	24.09	91	84	49	0	6	1	0		
MS JACKSON	74	48	78	36	61	8	0.00	-1.24	0.00	7.85	68	45.72	93	89	60	0	0	0	0		
MS MERIDIAN	74	46	76	35	60	7	0.12	-1.07	0.12	6.79	63	50.43	100	99	47	0	0	1	0		
MS TUPELO	70	43	74	31	56	7	0.04	-1.22	0.04	6.36	55	43.36	88	97	48	0	1	1	0		
MO COLUMBIA	86	41	72	35	54	14	0.00	-0.86	0.00	13.25	135	43.46	119	82	38	0	0	0	0		
MO KANSAS CITY	86	42	71	36	54	15	0.00	-0.39	0.00	18.85	189	46.03	128	87	46	0	0	0	0		
MO SAINT LOUIS	86	41	72	35	54	12	0.03	-0.77	0.03	6.99	79	42.69	125	80	35	0	0	1	0		
MO SPRINGFIELD	86	38	73	32	52	10	0.00	-0.87	0.00	12.78	109	46.50	117	89	43	0	1	0	0		
MT BILLINGS	51	34	66	29	43	12	0.10	-0.09	0.04	3.11	94	13.86	97	80	37	0	3	3	0		
MT BUTTE	44	27	55	19	35	12	0.28	0.17	0.13	2.22	91	14.24	122	89	49	0	6	4	0		
MT GLASGOW	50	32	65	28	41	17	0.00	-0.06	0.00	4.76	255	14.34	136	82	44	0	4	0	0		
MT GREAT FALLS	48	35	63	30	42	12	0.31	0.14	0.23	2.51	95	16.44	115	74	39	0	2	3	0		
MT KALISPELL	43	33	52	29	38	10	0.55	0.20	0.22	3.50	105	18.85	127	97	57	0	4	6	0		
MT MILES CITY	52	33	61	30	42	15	0.09	-0.02	0.00	3.37	126	13.50	101	82	43	0	3	1	0		
MT MISSOULA	41	31	52	29	36	7	1.27	1.06	0.54	4.83	177	20.84	168	96	67	0	5	7	1		
NE GRAND ISLAND	63	33	73	30	48	15	0.00	-0.22	0.00	4.24	82	25.85	107	84	37	0	3	0	0		
NE LINCOLN	63	34	69	28	49	14	0.00	-0.26	0.00	8.33	122	34.02	124	89	37	0	4	0	0		
NE NORFOLK	62	33	73	30	47	16	0.00	-0.20	0.00	6.16	123	34.85	143	83	34	0	5	0	0		
NE NORTH PLATTE	64	26	73	21	45	14	0.00	-0.14	0.00	4.35	136	22.43	119	89	29	0	6	0	0		
NE OMAHA	62	36	67	30	49	14	0.00	-0.30	0.00	4.98	86	39.50	137	88	41	0	1	0	0		
NE SCOTTSBLUFF	64	29	73	22	46	14	0.00	-0.14	0.00	4.44	180	18.46	113	79	24	0	6	0	0		
NE VALENTINE	68	30	76	24	49	19	0.00	-0.12	0.00	5.50	183	23.98	135	76	20	0	5	0	0		
NV ELY	55	30	63	24	43	12	0.01	-0.13	0.00	2.91	114	11.95	126	69	25	0	4	1	0		
NV LAS VEGAS	68	46	73	43	57	6	0.08	-0.03	0.08	1.87	210	8.94	188	55	25	0	0	1	0		
NV RENO	55	36	65	30	46	8	0.45	0.23	0.36	3.45	225	12.15	188	78	26	0	2	3	0		
NV WINNEMUCCA	54	35	63	24	44	10	0.56	0.34	0.20	4.98	268	15.29	209	83	38	0	1	4	0		
NH CONCORD	48	33	55	29	40	7	1.23	0.98	1.22	7.56	80	34.79	105	85	45	0	4	2	1		
NJ NEWARK	55	38	64	35	46	3	0.43	-0.50	0.43	5.46	63	42.50	106	74	40	0	0	1	0		
NM ALBUQUERQUE	63	34	65	28	48	8	0.00	-0.08	0.00	2.26	99	9.46	114	61	22	0	3	0	0		
NY ALBANY	48	33	57	22	40	5	0.77	0.01	0.71	7.96	90	38.11	115	93	67	0	4	2	1		
NY BINGHAMTON	47	32	60	27	40	5	0.44	-0.33	0.41	7.17	77	37.59	111	84	50	0	4	3	0		
NY BUFFALO	50	36	60	28	43	6	0.32	-0.61	0.21	6.06	80	33.20	96	87	49	0	3	3	0		
NY ROCHESTER	51	34	64	27	42	5	0.17	-0.52	0.15	5.97	73	40.47	139	86	48	0	3	3	0		
NY SYRACUSE	50	35	67	31	43	6	0.74	-0.13	0.34	7.40	70	35.84	101	83	49	0	3	4	0		
NC ASHEVILLE	63	35	70	24	49	4	0.08	-0.75	0.08	6.08	57	44.89	103	91	31	0	3	1	0		
NC CHARLOTTE	67	38	74	28	52	3	0.09	-0.87	0.05	7.54	77	37.85	96	87	32	0	2	2	0		
NC GREENSBORO	65	36	69	30	50	4	0.23	-0.46	0.14	4.57	47	43.04	110	86	33	0	2	2	0		
NC HATTERAS	64	47	67	42	55	1	0.20	-0.93	0.20	10.26	69	58.05	113	92	55	0	0	1	0		
NC RALEIGH	67	35	72	30	51	3	0.30	-0.42	0.16	8.83	100	49.28	130	98	35	0	2	2	0		
NC WILMINGTON	71	43	76	38	57	3	0.24	-0.54	0.08	7.87	74	59.83	119	90	39	0	0	4	0		
ND BISMARCK	48	27	59	22	38	14	0.00	-0.11	0.00	5.64	194	23.54	157	87	58	0	7	0	0		
ND DICKINSON	53	32	65	26	43	18	0.06	-0.02	0.00	7.82	249	24.48	156	85	45	0	2	2	0		
ND FARGO	42	25	45	22	34	11	0.02	-0.12	0.												

Weather Data for the Week Ending November 28, 1998

STATES AND STATIONS	TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY, PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS					
	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL IN. SINCE Sep 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Sep 1	TOTAL IN. SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	92 AND BELOW	TEMP. °F		PRECIP.	
																		01 INCH OR MORE	50 INCH OR MORE	01 INCH OR MORE	50 INCH OR MORE
OK	TOLEDO	56	31	63	27	43	7	0.55	-0.15	0.55	4.33	57	31.63	106	83	47	0	6	1	1	
	YOUNGSTOWN	53	34	63	27	44	6	0.43	-0.31	0.40	7.85	87	35.29	103	85	46	0	3	2	0	
	OKLAHOMA CITY	71	46	74	36	58	12	0.00	-0.39	0.00	13.53	161	33.02	104	91	42	0	0	0	0	
	TULSA	70	44	75	35	57	11	0.00	-0.67	0.00	16.60	147	44.14	116	91	41	0	0	0	0	
OR	ASTORIA	51	42	53	32	47	1	8.58	6.05	5.41	26.89	150	72.40	131	97	74	0	1	7	4	
	BURNS	44	32	50	29	38	8	0.91	0.61	0.30	3.36	135	15.16	173	87	52	0	3	6	0	
	EUGENE	52	42	63	36	47	3	3.49	1.34	1.08	12.03	94	39.85	99	95	66	0	0	7	4	
	MEDFORD	53	42	60	38	48	6	2.92	1.49	1.02	9.66	181	27.62	181	91	54	0	0	6	2	
	PENDLETON	53	42	64	34	47	9	0.47	0.07	0.24	4.04	139	13.08	128	86	52	0	0	6	0	
	PORTLAND	52	43	59	34	46	4	4.94	3.55	1.79	13.51	145	38.52	129	95	68	0	0	6	4	
	SALEM	52	42	63	34	47	4	4.21	2.59	1.47	12.82	124	41.32	129	96	71	0	0	7	3	
PA	ALLENTOWN	54	31	62	25	42	3	0.74	-0.20	0.73	9.00	86	39.19	99	89	46	0	5	2	1	
	ERIE	52	38	62	31	45	6	0.30	-0.84	0.16	5.36	45	30.02	80	87	46	0	2	2	0	
	MIDDLETOWN	57	34	69	28	46	6	0.60	-0.23	0.49	5.85	58	45.65	123	90	32	0	5	2	0	
	PHILADELPHIA	55	39	65	34	47	4	0.55	-0.27	0.55	4.87	53	30.84	82	80	39	0	0	1	1	
	PITTSBURGH	56	34	63	27	45	6	0.53	-0.16	0.30	4.96	62	32.50	96	85	35	0	3	3	0	
	WILKES-BARRE	51	33	60	29	42	5	0.44	-0.26	0.41	6.45	72	33.93	101	83	46	0	4	3	0	
	WILLIAMSPORT	54	31	65	26	42	4	0.20	-0.66	0.18	5.40	53	39.35	105	91	43	0	6	2	0	
RI	PROVIDENCE	52	37	58	33	44	4	0.83	-0.44	0.63	9.34	83	51.93	127	89	52	0	0	1	1	
SC	BEAUFORT	75	52	79	44	64	7	0.04	-0.55	0.04	7.38	76	48.92	98	97	54	0	0	1	0	
	CHARLESTON	74	49	79	40	62	8	0.02	-0.69	0.02	17.06	172	63.56	132	96	40	0	0	1	0	
	COLUMBIA	72	42	77	32	57	5	0.04	-0.66	0.03	6.18	87	44.44	96	94	35	0	1	2	0	
	GREENVILLE	65	41	74	31	53	5	0.00	-0.86	0.00	9.55	84	47.83	102	84	32	0	1	0	0	
SD	ABERDEEN	51	29	56	27	40	15	0.00	-0.11	0.00	8.80	249	28.35	157	92	68	0	6	0	0	
	HURON	58	31	67	25	44	17	0.00	-0.13	0.00	6.24	161	24.21	124	88	42	0	5	0	0	
	RAPID CITY	62	31	71	24	47	16	0.00	-0.11	0.00	8.04	280	20.90	130	75	29	0	3	0	0	
	SIOUX FALLS	57	28	63	24	43	16	0.00	-0.22	0.00	9.69	166	30.92	134	89	42	0	5	0	0	
TN	BRISTOL	62	30	67	23	46	2	0.37	-0.36	0.35	4.09	48	38.68	104	93	36	0	4	1	0	
	CHATTANOOGA	68	38	73	31	53	5	0.02	-1.15	0.02	5.34	46	47.81	100	97	38	0	1	1	0	
	KNOXVILLE	62	37	66	28	50	4	0.84	-0.31	0.84	5.25	56	47.97	113	95	41	0	1	1	1	
	MEMPHIS	71	50	76	36	60	11	0.00	-1.32	0.00	6.39	57	48.34	105	88	46	0	0	0	0	
	NASHVILLE	69	38	73	27	54	7	0.20	-0.66	0.20	4.35	44	44.26	104	89	30	0	1	1	0	
TX	ABILENE	75	50	79	39	63	11	0.00	-0.29	0.00	2.68	38	12.64	54	92	38	0	0	0	0	
	AMARILLO	73	38	83	34	56	13	0.00	-0.13	0.00	7.95	198	16.64	87	65	19	0	0	0	0	
	AUSTIN	77	58	82	46	67	10	0.01	-0.47	0.01	23.26	259	37.62	126	96	61	0	0	1	0	
	BEAUMONT	77	58	80	49	67	9	0.02	-1.14	0.01	21.31	141	54.83	105	98	67	0	0	2	0	
	BROWNSVILLE	83	65	85	62	74	7	0.04	-0.28	0.01	15.43	151	19.86	78	99	66	0	0	4	0	
	CORPUS CHRISTI	79	64	82	57	72	9	0.06	-0.25	0.05	19.09	190	29.98	104	99	68	0	0	2	0	
	DEL RIO	72	58	77	51	65	8	0.02	-0.13	0.01	5.00	84	28.81	164	88	68	0	0	2	0	
	EL PASO	72	37	75	30	55	6	0.00	-0.11	0.00	2.81	97	6.11	73	70	31	0	1	0	0	
	FORT WORTH	73	52	78	45	62	10	0.00	-0.48	0.00	10.82	119	29.41	83	97	59	0	0	0	0	
	GALVESTON	74	63	78	53	68	7	0.04	-0.79	0.02	21.10	177	48.30	125	100	63	0	0	3	0	
	HOUSTON	78	58	81	45	68	10	0.01	-0.84	0.01	27.94	220	50.57	119	99	62	0	0	0	0	
	LUBBOCK	74	42	81	32	58	12	0.00	-0.13	0.00	3.08	59	12.52	69	76	25	0	1	0	0	
	MIDLAND	76	44	79	36	60	10	0.01	-0.10	0.01	1.54	31	4.59	32	93	28	0	0	1	0	
	SAN ANGELO	75	47	78	37	61	9	0.01	-0.18	0.01	3.60	53	12.56	64	99	48	0	0	1	0	
	SAN ANTONIO	76	57	79	46	66	9	0.05	-0.48	0.04	23.09	255	41.73	142	97	63	0	0	2	0	
	VICTORIA	77	60	80	49	69	9	0.05	-0.47	0.05	26.68	252	42.76	121	100	70	0	0	1	0	
	WACO	75	54	78	49	65	10	0.02	-0.48	0.01	14.60	159	30.56	102	98	64	0	0	2	0	
	WICHITA FALLS	73	47	77	39	60	11	0.00	-0.31	0.00	3.39	42	19.29	70	88	44	0	0	0	0	
UT	SALT LAKE CITY	60	37	66	30	49	12	0.08	-0.22	0.03	4.23	107	22.70	154	76	25	0	2	2	0	
VT	BURLINGTON	46	35	58	24	41	8	0.22	-0.49	0.20	9.35	103	50.33	158	79	48	0	1	3	0	
VA	LYNCHBURG	62	31	69	21	46	2	0.15	-0.57	0.14	4.15	42	44.29	118	88	30	0	4	2	0	
	NORFOLK	62	40	68	37	51	1	0.49	-0.18	0.48	5.72	59	49.33	120	90	42	0	0	2	0	
	RICHMOND	63	35	69	27	49	3	0.30	-0.42	0.24	5.71	58	41.78	105	85	29	0	2	2	0	
	ROANOKE	63	37	71	25	50	5	0.19	-0.52	0.18	3.11	30	42.98	112	66	26	0	3	2	0	
	WASH/DULLES	61	30	71	23	46	3	0.37	-0.40	0.33	4.01	42	36.94	98	80	30	0	6	2	0	
WA	HANFORD	54	44	65	36	49	-	0.10	-	0.10	1.25	-	5.59	-	78	48	0	0	1	0	
	OLYMPIA	48	37	50	30	43	2	5.73	3.71	3.05	17.27	123	43.79	105	100	86	0	1	6	4	
	QUILLAYUTE	48	40	52	36	44	2	7.70	4.09	2.57	34.37	118	82.24	93	98	81	0	0	7	6	
	SEATTLE-TACOMA	49	42	52	37	45	2	4.67	3.21	2.87	15.27	145	34.46	112	97	73	0	0	6	2	
	SPOKANE	46	36	55	33	41	9	1.55	0.99	0.81	4.44	121	14.65	105	91	65	0	0	6	1	
	YAKIMA	48	35	55	27	42	6	0.20	-0.08	0.16	0.90	50	7.83	120	94	58	0	3	4	0	
WV	BECKLEY	57	31	63	19	44	4	0.80	-0.12	0.31	5.75	64	43.98	117	86	32	0	4	3	0	
	CHARLESTON	62	32	68	22	47	3	0.75	-0.10	0.39	6.19	65	45.31	117	89	33	0	5	2	0	
	ELKINS	58	23	64	14	40	1	0.65	-0.15	0.45	6.80	69	44.15	107	82	31	0	6	3	0	
	HUNTINGTON	62	34	69	22	48	5	0.64	-0.16	0.56	5.52	63	40.90	108	87	37	0	2	2	1	
WI	EAU CLAIRE	58	31	67	26	44	17	0.00	-0.31	0.00	4.10	53	29.03	95	90	44	0	4	0	0	
	GREEN BAY	54	32	60	25	43	14	0.00	-0.48	0.00	6.77	88	28.46	105	86	51	0	4	0	0	
	MADISON	58	35	65	26	47	18	0.00	-0.50	0.00	7.58	101	39.58	137	78	38	0	3	0	0	
	MILWAUKEE	58	38	65	28	48	15	0.06	-0.54	0.00	7.14	87	33.35	109	76	45	0	1	1	0	
WY	CASPER	57	34	64	29	46	16	0.00	-0.17	0.00	5.90	224	14.45	123	51	23	0	3	0	0	
	CHEYENNE	59	36	66	32	47	15	0.00	-0.11	0.00	2.19	87	10.48	75	56	22	0	2	0	0	
	LANDER	52	28	56	21	40	13	0.01	-0.16	0.01	6.07	204	17.20	139	70	31	0	6	1	0	
	SHERIDAN	59	28	70																	

# National Agricultural Summary

November 23 - 29, 1998

## HIGHLIGHTS

**Well-above-normal temperatures in the Great Plains, Corn Belt, Great Lakes region, and lower Mississippi Valley aided winter wheat development. Temperatures also averaged above normal in the Southeast, Rocky Mountains, and along the Pacific and Atlantic coasts. Dry conditions continued to assist late-season harvest efforts and fall tillage operations. However, many**

**fields remained too muddy to resume harvest activities in parts of the northern Plains and upper Mississippi Valley following earlier storms. Flooding and soil erosion continued in areas of the Pacific Northwest due to an unrelenting series of Pacific storms. Precipitation was lighter in the California valleys, allowing harvest activities to proceed with little delay.**

**Winter Wheat:** Emergence advanced to 94 percent, equal to the 5-year average. Germination and emergence of most late-planted fields in the Corn Belt, northern Plains, and Pacific Northwest was aided by substantially above-normal temperatures. Warm weather also promoted rapid germination in the Southeast and Southwest. Above-normal temperatures promoted root development and vegetative growth in most winter wheat-producing States. Conditions improved the most in the southern Plains, Southeast, northern Rocky Mountains, and parts of the Corn Belt.

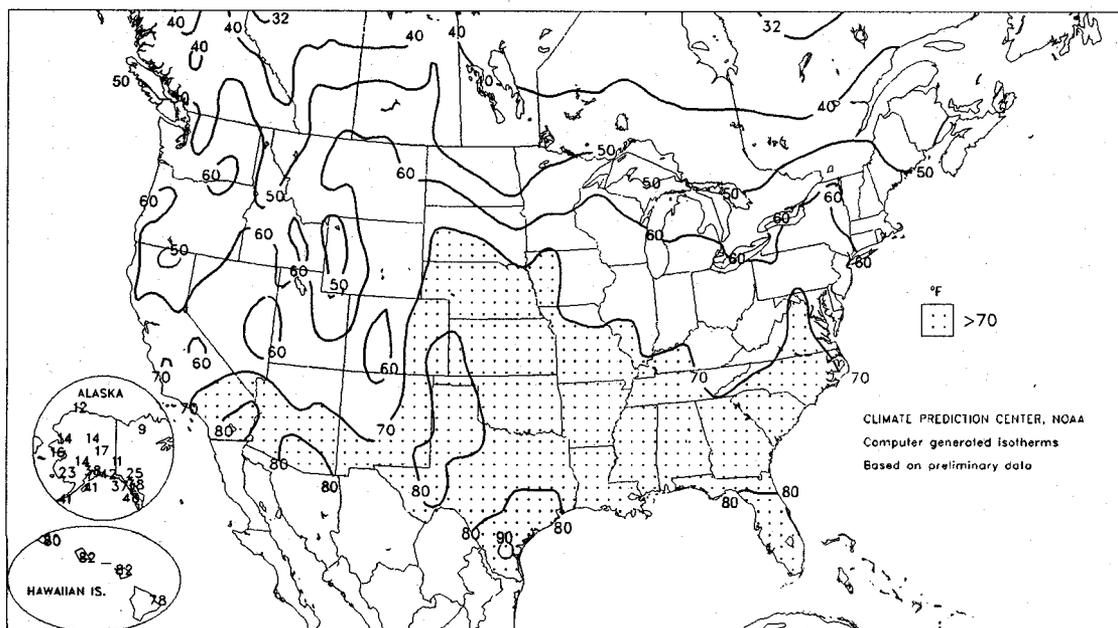
**Cotton:** The Nation's cotton harvest progressed to 90 percent complete, up from 86 percent the previous week and ahead of the 87 percent normally harvested by this date. Dry weather aided the harvest effort in California, but progress remained far behind the normal pace.

Favorable weather also aided harvest progress in New Mexico, but growers in Arizona were hindered by scattered showers. Progress remained several days behind normal in both States. In the southern Great Plains and Southeast, the harvest pace was slower, but dry weather favored harvest efforts of the growers who still had cotton to pick.

**Sorghum:** Harvest advanced to 97 percent complete, slightly behind the 98 percent average. Dry weather aided harvest efforts in the central and southern High Plains. Harvest remained ahead of the normal pace in Colorado and moved ahead of the average in New Mexico, where farmers combined one-fourth of their crop. Progress continued to lag behind the average in Texas. Earlier rains and melting snow kept fields too muddy to resume harvest in parts of South Dakota.

### Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F)

NOV 22 - 28, 1998



# Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending November 29, 1998

Winter Wheat Percent Emerged				
	Nov 29 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	89	83	77	83
CA	30	20	33	30
CO	99	99	100	100
GA	37	18	25	36
ID	97	96	95	95
IL	100	98	100	98
IN	99	96	99	99
KS	98	97	98	98
MI	100	100	100	99
MO	95	86	99	90
MT	95	95	94	93
NE	100	100	100	100
NC	70	65	75	68
OH	100	100	99	99
OK	91	89	93	95
OR	100	95	89	93
SD	100	100	100	99
TX	89	85	92	90
WA	100	100	100	97
ALL	94	92	94	94

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

Cotton Percent Harvested				
	Nov 29 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	99	97	89	93
AZ	83	81	91	90
AR	100	100	97	98
CA	70	60	98	96
GA	85	82	73	84
LA	100	100	100	100
MS	100	100	99	99
MO	99	96	97	97
NM	74	61	89	84
NC	98	95	79	87
OK	87	84	86	75
SC	97	91	84	87
TN	99	99	95	97
TX	87	83	83	79
ALL	90	86	87	87

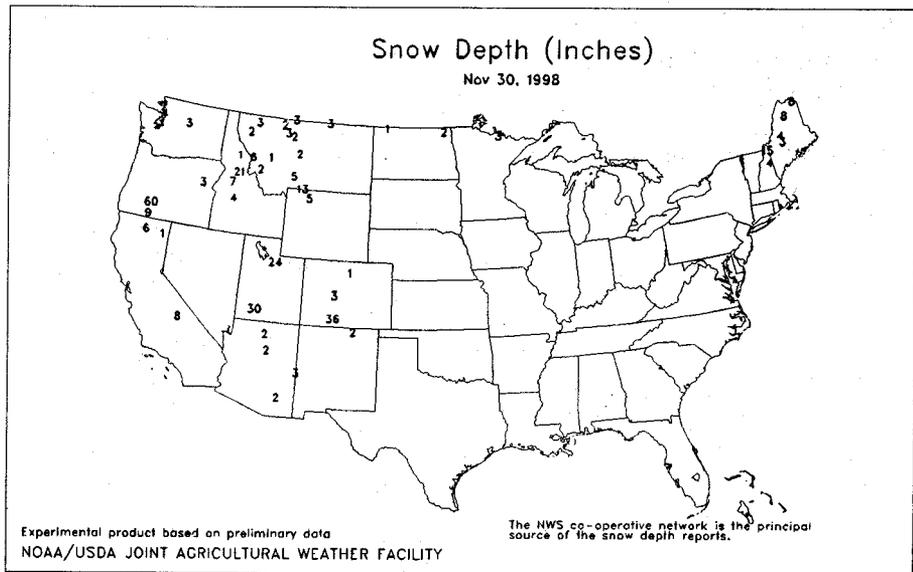
These 14 States harvested 98% of last year's cotton acreage.

Sorghum Percent Harvested				
	Nov 29 1998	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	100	100	100	100
CO	93	80	63	88
IL	100	98	100	99
KS	99	96	97	98
LA	100	100	100	100
MS	100	100	100	100
MO	99	95	99	97
NE	99	98	99	99
NM	97	72	100	91
OK	96	91	85	88
SD	90	89	98	99
TX	94	92	98	99
ALL	97	94	97	98

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

Winter Wheat Crop Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
AR	0	1	30	50	19
CA	0	0	10	50	40
CO	0	1	11	54	34
GA	1	15	43	40	1
ID	0	0	4	84	12
IL	0	5	18	58	19
IN	0	3	19	62	16
KS	1	4	22	56	17
MI	1	4	33	52	10
MO	0	4	34	59	3
MT	0	1	33	65	1
NE	0	1	19	60	20
NC	1	3	23	58	15
OH	0	3	21	56	20
OK	0	1	14	76	9
OR	0	3	23	74	0
SD	0	0	14	60	26
TX	1	10	43	38	8
WA	0	13	47	40	0
ALL	0	4	24	58	14
Prev Wk	0	5	25	59	11
Prev Yr	0	3	24	65	8

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



## State Agricultural Summaries

**Note: The weekly State Agricultural Summaries will be discontinued for the winter after this issue. The December monthly summary will be published on January 5, 1999; the January summary on February 2; the February summary on March 2; and the March summary on March 30. The first weekly narrative for next spring will be published on April 6, 1999.**

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

**ALABAMA:** Dry weather continues to cover the State. Topsoil moisture short to very short. Cotton harvested 99%, 89% 1997, 93% avg.

**ARIZONA:** Cotton harvest slowed last week, but it is still progressing at a normal pace. Alfalfa harvest activity was reported as 63% not being harvested, 13% light, 18% moderate, 6% active. Alfalfa condition was only slightly changed from the previous week. Condition was reported as 2% poor, 9% fair, 83% good, 6% excellent. Sheeping off increased slightly. Small grains planting was very slow last week. As of November 29, 19% of the durum wheat, 38% of other wheat, 18% of the barley, 36% of the other small grains had been planted. Range, pasture feed 8% poor, 33% fair, 45% good, 14% excellent. Last week, central areas growers shipped broccoli, cabbage, cantaloupes, carrots, cauliflower, green onions, head lettuce, honeydew, mixed greens, parsley, spinach, turnips, a light volume of beets, endive, escarole, napa. Eastern producers shipped apples, chile peppers. Western producers shipped broccoli, cantaloupes, cauliflower, celery, escarole, honeydews, kale, parsley, spinach, light volume of bok choy, cilantro, endive, flowering kale. Lettuce shipments included Boston, head, leaf, romaine, specialty leaf, spring mix. Central areas groves shipped fairchild tangerines, grapefruit, lemons, navel oranges, while western citrus groves harvested fairchild tangerines, lemons, navel oranges last week.

**ARKANSAS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Soil moisture 1% very short, 14% short, 79% adequate, 6% surplus. Temperatures were above normal, and precipitation was below normal for the week. Main farming activities included finishing up the soybean harvest and wrapping up winter wheat planting. Other farm activities included applying herbicides to wheat, selecting crop varieties for next year, equipment clean up and maintenance, ground preparation activities for next spring. Cattle producers continued to feed hay, market cattle, wean calves from their herds. Cattle were given vaccinations, were reported in good condition statewide.

**CALIFORNIA:** Fieldwork progressed normally until late-week rainfall halted activity over most of the State. Seeding of small grains, winter forages, new alfalfa continued in the central, coastal valleys and was just getting started in the Imperial Valley. Greenchopping of winter forage began on the earliest planted fields. Cotton harvest was limited to afternoon hours in the San Joaquin Valley, due to wet, foggy conditions. Harvest progress remained behind normal. Some second picking was underway in Fresno County. Plowdown of harvested cotton fields was virtually halted by the wet soils. Dry beans, corn for grain, silage were harvested where conditions permitted. New crop sugarbeets showed good growth in most areas; growers continued to place mylar streamers in fields for bird damage prevention. Imperial Valley alfalfa fields were treated for grasses, broadleaf weeds. Most alfalfa hay fields in the San Joaquin, Sacramento Valleys had entered dormancy for the winter. Growers of almonds, walnuts, stone fruits were irrigating, fertilizing, pruning. Picking of San Joaquin Valley grapes for fresh consumption continued. Emperor, Christmas rose, crimson seedless were the major varieties being picked. Fuji, Granny Smith apple picking was still active. Kiwifruit, persimmon harvests continued. Navel orange picking gathered

momentum as size, maturity improved. Lemon, satsuma harvests continued. Lemon sizes were small, picking has been limited. Lettuce harvesting continued throughout the producing areas. Fall broccoli, cauliflower harvests continued in the San Joaquin, Imperial Valleys. Additional vegetable crops harvested included green beans, cabbage, mustard, turnips, peas, spinach, sweet potatoes, beets. Garlic, carrots, red onion, potato fields were planted in central, southern counties. Spring broccoli, cabbage were planted there as well. Rangeland forage was in fair to good condition across most of the State. Foothill pastures were greening rapidly following recent rains, warm afternoon temperatures. Most stocker cattle were on winter pastures. Some supplemental feeding continued in areas where stocker cattle remained in feedlots or hay lots. Sheep continued to graze alfalfa fields in the Fresno County area.

**COLORADO:** Continued above-normal temperatures and limited moisture prevailed through most of the week. Harvest of corn for grain was virtually complete and more than 90% sorghum grain has been harvested. Some western areas received snow over the weekend, but moisture predictions for eastern areas did not materialize.

**DELAWARE:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil moisture 10% very short, 55% short, 35% adequate. Subsoil moisture 5% very short, 60% short, 35% adequate. Wheat 14% fair, 80% good, 6% excellent; 95% planted, 84% 1997, 93% avg. Soybeans 90% harvested, 68% 1997, 85% avg. Pasture feed 5% poor, 35% fair, 60% good. Activities: Corn harvesting has been completed, soybean harvesting has a little ways to go, some wheat fields have yet to be sown.

**FLORIDA:** Topsoil moisture throughout Panhandle, northern Peninsula short to adequate, areas very short. Southern Peninsula moisture adequate to surplus. Winter wheat for grain being planted. Winter wheat stand poor, some places, because of dry soil. Haying virtually complete. Cotton harvest active. Sugarcane harvest, planting active. One-hundred percent peanut acreage for nuts harvested. Major vegetables shipped: snap beans, sweet corn, cucumbers, eggplant, endive, escarole, lettuce, okra, parsley, peppers, pickles, radishes, squash, tomatoes, watermelons. Warm weather first of week, then cooler all citrus areas. Rain in southern counties Monday, rest of State mostly dry, some irrigation. Fresh fruit harvest increasing. Most processing plants open. Caretakers cutting cover crops, few sprays, fertilizations, dead tree removal, resetting continues. Pasture feed poor 10%, fair 45%, good 50%. Cattle poor 5%, fair 40%, good 55%. Ranchers in Panhandle, north counties planting small grains for winter forage where soil not too dry. Early-planted winter grains, clover coming out. Permanent pastures holding up well. Hay supplies short. Central, pasture condition declined due to dry soil conditions, cooler weather. Southwest; normal winter die back of grass showing. Some low-lying areas still had standing water. Statewide, condition of cattle, calves mostly fair to good.

**GEORGIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Soil moisture 15% very short, 50% short, 34% adequate, 1% surplus. Cotton 10% very poor, 23% poor, 51% fair, 14% good, 2% excellent. Rye 87% planted, 92% 1997, 93% avg. Soybeans 23% very poor, 19% poor, 45% fair, 12%

good, 1% excellent; 85% harvested, 66% 1997, 74% avg. Other small grains 80% planted, 84% 1997, 85% avg. Onions 4% very poor, 25% poor, 13% fair, 58% good; 50% transplanted, 52% 1997, 50% avg. Pecans 18% very poor, 35% poor, 34% fair, 11% good, 2% excellent; 76% harvested, 67% 1997, 69% avg. Pasture feed 5% very poor, 22% poor, 45% fair, 27% good, 1% excellent. Unusually dry weather hampered the planting of small grains in some counties, but hastened harvest for many crops. Cotton remained ahead of last year and the 5-year average, condition decreased. Pecan condition decreased with harvest continuing ahead of 1997, average. Wheat planting surged ahead of the average, with improved condition, while rye, other small grains continued to lag behind. Onion transplanting caught up with the 5-year average, conditions worsened. Other activities included conducting soil test for the following year, mowing cotton stalks, equipment maintenance.

**HAWAII:** Variable weather was fair for agriculture. Overcast skies, isolated showers hampered crop progress in windward areas. Leeward areas sunnier with occasional showers. Gusty trade winds raked State over weekend. Banana orchards in fair to good condition. Harvesting steady. Heavy leaf shredding anticipated from the gusty winds. Papaya orchard conditions varied widely from poor to good. Disease remains serious problem in parts of Hawaii island. Cool weather, overcast skies expected to slow fruit development. Spraying increased due to rainy weather. Head cabbage plantings were in mostly good condition. Crop development slowed due to change in seasons, overall harvesting will be steady. Coffee harvesting expected to be nearly complete on Kauai, Molokai by the end of the year.

**IDAHO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 2.9. Topsoil 5% surplus, 80% adequate, 15% short. Corn harvested for grain 77%, 1997 88%, avg. 88%. Activities: Fall ground preparation, hauling, marketing crops, wrapping up fall harvest, finishing livestock weaning, pregnancy testing, caring for livestock.

**ILLINOIS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 8% short, 84% adequate, 7% surplus. Farmers continued to apply anhydrous, lime to their crop land. The warm weather has pushed the development of the winter wheat crop, increasing concern of winter kill this year. Farmers are also busy finishing fall tillage, hauling grain before storing their equipment for the winter season.

**INDIANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.1. Topsoil moisture 4% very short, 22% short, 68% adequate, 6% surplus. Subsoil moisture 6% very short, 30% short, 63% adequate, 1% surplus. Mild weather has resulted in very few livestock problems, as well as reduced feed requirements for cattle. Winter wheat crop has also benefited from the warm weather, with the majority in very good condition. Activities: Fall tillage, hauling manure, applying fertilizer, lime, caring for livestock.

**IOWA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.9. Another week of beautiful weather allowed wet areas to dry out, wrap up harvest, fall fieldwork. There were more fertilizer applications, tillage than normal this fall. Corn acreage harvested 99%, 100% 1997, 99% avg. Winter wheat planted 99%, 100% 1997, 100% avg. Completion of 1999 row crop fall tillage 65%; fall fertilizer applied 60%. Grain movement rated 21% none, 47% light, 29% moderate, 3% heavy. Availability of hay, roughage supplies 3% short, 86% adequate, 11% surplus; quality of hay, roughage supplies 6% poor, 46% fair, 48% good. Use of stubble fields for grazing 19% none, 20% light, 40% moderate, 21% extensive. Livestock are in good condition, many cattle are still in the fields grazing on cornstalks. There have been several reports of hog producers going out of business.

**KANSAS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Topsoil moisture 2% short, 89% adequate, 9% surplus. Subsoil moisture 4% short, 90% adequate, 6% surplus. Fall harvest is virtually complete. Soybeans harvested 98%, 99% 1997, 98% avg. Sunflowers harvested 98%, 99% 1997.

Pasture feed 3% very poor, 5% poor, 29% fair, 57% good, 6% excellent. Stock water supplies 3% short, 90% adequate, 7% surplus. Producers were weaning calves, moving cattle to crop residue.

**KENTUCKY:** Most days suitable for fieldwork. Topsoil, subsoil moisture remains generally adequate to short statewide. Crop harvests virtually complete. Midweek rain raised humidity levels making conditions good for burley tobacco stripping. Burley markets opened last week. State gross sales 63.5 million pounds, compared with 60.0 million pounds for same period in 1997. Average price \$190.52 per hundredweight versus \$190.46 same period 1997. Strong demand with only 3.3% of gross sales going to Burley Co-Op pool. Fall seeded small grains generally good condition. Limited late-season feed potential from pastures, most producers supplemental feeding livestock.

**LOUISIANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.9. Soil moisture 1% very short, 2% short, 77% adequate, 20% surplus. Cotton: Pecans 76% harvested, 67% 1997, 62% avg. Sugarcane 59% harvested, 57% 1997, 64% avg. Harvest continued. Sweet potatoes harvested, 95% 1997, 96% avg. Harvest was completed. Wheat 2% poor, 15% fair, 79% good, 4% excellent; 98% planted, 87% 1997, 87% avg.; 92% emerged, 77% 1997, 76% avg. Livestock 3% very poor, 7% poor, 40% fair, 48% good, 2% excellent. Vegetables 1% very poor, 13% poor, 30% fair, 52% good, 4% excellent. Pasture feed 4% very poor, 19% poor, 37% fair, 39% good, 1% excellent.

**MARYLAND:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Topsoil moisture 35% very short, 45% short, 20% adequate. Subsoil moisture 40% very short, 50% short, 10% adequate. Pastures 30% very poor, 35% poor, 20% fair, 15% good. Activities: Soybean harvesting completed for State, winter wheat seeding completed, very dry in most of State.

**MICHIGAN:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Late corn harvest continued as very mild conditions carried over from the previous week. Fall tillage made good progress.

**MINNESOTA:** Mild weather occurred throughout the State during the week. The statewide weekly average temperature was nearly 17 degrees F above normal. Very little precipitation, if any, was received last week.

**MISSISSIPPI:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Soil moisture 9% very short, 19% short, 71% adequate, 1% surplus. Cotton 100% harvested, 99% 1997, 99% avg. Soybeans 100% harvested, 97% 1997, 97% avg. Wheat 100% planted, 94% 1997, 97% avg.; 97% emerged, 88% 1997, 90% avg.; 1% very poor, 2% poor, 47% fair, 47% good, 3% excellent. Cattle 1% very poor, 7% poor, 31% fair, 53% good, 8% excellent. Activities: Winter wheat, cattle conditions improved slightly during the past week.

**MISSOURI:** Warm dry weather for most of the week enabled farmers to virtually complete harvesting of row crops. Precipitation averaged 0.22 in., ranging from virtually none in southern half of State to 0.45 in. in northeast district. Temperatures, moisture have been favorable for late growth of winter wheat, pastures.

**MONTANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 2.60. Topsoil moisture 5% very short, 16% short, 68% adequate, 11% excellent. Subsoil moisture 6% very short, 37% short, 55% adequate, 2% surplus. Most areas of the State received varying amounts of snow last week. Recent moisture has been welcomed by winter wheat producers as they have indicated that their crops are doing well. However, some wind damage was reported to young immature winter wheat that is not covered by snow. Winter wheat protectiveness of snow cover 73% very poor, 23% poor, 4% fair. Wind damage to winter wheat 44% none, 38% light, 11% moderate, 7% heavy. Livestock are reported to be in good condition as feed supplies are adequate. Therefore, producers are giving

supplemental feed to livestock for 53% of the cattle, calves; 47% for sheep, lambs. Grazing for livestock 90% is open.

**NEBRASKA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.9. Topsoil moisture 5% short, 94% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% very short, 11% short, 86% adequate, 1% surplus. Corn harvest 97%, 98% 1997, 98% avg. Soybean harvest 99%, 100% 1997, 100% avg. Sorghum harvest 99%, 99% 1997, 99% avg. Wheat 1% poor, 19% fair, 60% good, 20% excellent. Producer activities; recordkeeping, fencing, and livestock care.

**NEVADA:** Warm, windy weather predominated. Light precipitation fell in the south, a limited amount of additional snow fell in northern mountains. Temperatures averaged well above normal statewide. Sod harvest continued south. Row crop harvests complete. Haying continued extreme south. Pasture, range condition good. Livestock working, movement to winter ranges continued. Open cows, off weight cattle marketed. Main farm, ranch activities: Moving, vaccinating, testing cattle, haying, equipment maintenance.

**NEW ENGLAND:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.3. Topsoil moisture 3% short, 55% adequate, 42% surplus.

**NEW JERSEY:** Days suitable for fieldwork 7. Above-normal temperatures have allowed southern area farmers to continue harvesting fall vegetables (beets, cabbage, endive, escarole, leeks, herbs, parsley, spinach, turnips, and winter squash). Harvesting of corn for grain, soybeans is virtually complete. Limited number of farmers reported planting winter wheat for cover. Pasture feed fair condition.

**NEW MEXICO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.4. Topsoil moisture improved again, 8% very short, 29% short, 62% adequate, 1% surplus. Warm, dry weather during the first part of last week provided excellent conditions for harvest. Rain showers toward the end of the week slowed harvest, especially in the southwest. Across the State, producers continued harvesting sorghum, chile, cotton, pecans. Sorghum harvest was winding down last week, with 97% harvested. Nearly three-fourths of the cotton crop was picked. This was far behind the 5-year average and the 89 percent harvested in 1997 at this time. Pecan harvest continued, 27% harvested, 7% 1997; 2% very poor, 5% poor, 25% fair, 52% good and 16% excellent. Red chile 64% crop was in, keeping the crop's progress well behind the 86% harvested at this time 1997; 34% fair, 58% good, 8% excellent. Cattle, sheep ranchers were almost finished moving their livestock to market. Both remained in fair to good condition.

**NEW YORK:** Cooler, windy weather hindered outside activities. Potato, onion, apple growers continued grading, packing, moving crops to market. Wine making very active, cider making slowed. Turkey producers very busy slaughtering birds for holiday. Farmers across the State took time off for Thanksgiving. Many also spent time hunting.

**NORTH CAROLINA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Soil moisture remains a concern in most areas, 15% very short, 40% short, 44% adequate, 1% surplus. Warm, dry week. Weather conditions have been conducive for continued progress in late-season crop harvests. Additionally, warm weather and spotty rains have benefited small grain emergence. Pasture conditions continue to deteriorate. As the crop season wraps up, soybean harvesting and small grain seeding were the major activities for the week. Other activities included: Sorghum harvesting; tending livestock, and cutting, shipping Christmas trees.

**NORTH DAKOTA:** Warm weather throughout the week aided the producers with finishing all outside work. Sugar beets on outside piles began to show damage due to warm temperatures. Freezing temperatures are needed within the week to save some of the sugar beet crop. Some were still weaning calves, vaccinating livestock. Hay

crop was more plentiful than expected in early months. Producers were working on equipment, preparing for next season.

**OHIO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil moisture 3% very short, 25% short, 69% adequate, 3% surplus. Winter wheat 3% poor, 21% fair, 56% good, 20% excellent. Winter wheat 100% emerged. Activities: Fall plowing, chiseling; harvest; spreading lime, fertilizer, manure; equipment repair; winter storage preparations; cutting firewood; harvesting, selling Christmas trees; stripping tobacco; weaning calves.

**OKLAHOMA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Topsoil moisture 8% short, 90% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil moisture 3% very short, 7% short, 89% adequate, 1% surplus. Heavy showers across State will improve growing conditions for wheat, other forage crops. Wheat 16% grazed, 21% 1997, 23% avg. Oats 89% up-to-stand, 81% 1997, 77% avg.; 5% grazed, 12% 1997, 10% avg. Soybeans 88% harvested, 82% 1997, 89% avg. Peanuts 97% harvested, 99% 1997, 99% avg.; 87% combined, 98% 1997, 95% avg. Alfalfa hay 5% poor, 41% fair, 50% good, 4% excellent; 95% 4th cutting, 100% 1997, 100% avg.; 51% 5th cutting, 88% 1997, 89% avg. Other hay 78% 2nd cutting, 98% 1997, 100% avg. Livestock 4% poor, 20% fair, 74% good, 2% excellent. Pasture feed, range 1% very poor, 18% poor, 37% fair, 43% good, 1% excellent. Cattle marketings average.

**OREGON:** Activities: Harvest, fall fieldwork completed. Fall nursery digging, container movement continued. Greenhouses busy with winter plants, preparing for early spring flowers. Christmas tree bailing underway, sales ongoing. Domestic Christmas tree sale in full swing. Rain has slowed farm activities. South coast cranberry growers resanding, pruning, installing drain lines.

**PENNSYLVANIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Soil moisture 41% very short, 43% short, 16% adequate. Ensilage corn harvested 100% harvested, 100% 1997, 100% avg. Soybeans harvested 96% complete, 92% 1997, 91% avg. Fall plowing 90% complete, 90% 1997, 96% avg. Barley emerged 100% complete, 99% 1997. Alfalfa 4th cutting 99% complete, 95% 1997, 96% avg. Apple harvest 100% complete, 100% 1997, 100% avg. Activities: Fall plowing; harvesting corn, soybeans; seeding cover crops; machinery maintenance; fixing fences; spreading lime, manure; chopping, discing, baling corn stalks; marketing corn, fall vegetables, fruit; taking soil samples; caring for livestock.

**SOUTH CAROLINA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.1. Soil moisture 18% very short, 55% short, 27% adequate. Barley 94% emerged, 99% 1997, 81% avg.; 65% fair, 35% good. Livestock 6% poor, 34% fair, 57% good, 3% excellent. Oats 90% planted, 94% 1997, 88% avg.; 79% emerged, 88% 1997, 81% avg.; 2% very poor, 10% poor, 44% fair, 44% good. Pasture feed 7% very poor, 18% poor, 43% fair, 31% good, 1% excellent. Peanuts 100% harvested, 98% 1997, 98% avg. Pecans 68% harvested, 67% 1997, 58% avg.; 16% poor, 52% fair, 31% good, 1% excellent. Rye 93% planted, 96% 1997, 85% avg.; 74% emerged, 88% 1997, 75% avg.; 5% very poor, 19% poor, 46% fair, 30% good. Sorghum 100% harvested, 99% 1997. Winter grazings 94% planted, 98% 1997, 93% avg.; 84% emerged, 90% 1997, 87% avg.; 8% very poor, 15% poor, 39% fair, 37% good, 1% excellent. Winter wheat 56% planted, 59% 1997, 60% avg.; 42% emerged, 39% 1997, 42% avg.; 2% very poor, 17% poor, 47% fair, 34% good.

**SOUTH DAKOTA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.9. Topsoil moisture 1% short, 68% adequate, 31% surplus. Subsoil moisture 70% adequate, 30% surplus. Sunshine, warm temperatures melted the remaining snow, leaving behind muddy fields, making fieldwork difficult. Harvest continued to made little progress this week due to the poor field conditions. Corn 91% harvested, 99% 1997, 97% avg. Sunflower 96% harvested, 100% 1997, 100% avg. Winter rye 24% fair, 53% good, 23% excellent. Winter wheat, winter rye remain in good condition. Livestock remain in good to excellent condition. Livestock 11% fair,

67% good, 22% excellent. Stockwater 2% short, 76% adequate, 22% surplus.

**TENNESSEE:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil moisture 5% very short, 30% short, 65% adequate. Subsoil moisture 5% very short, 30% short, 65% adequate. Burley 80% stripped, 71% 1997, 83% avg. Winter wheat 98% seeded, 94% 1997, 93% avg.; winter wheat 88% emerged; 6% poor, 25% fair, 57% good, 12% excellent. Market preparations for burley tobacco slowed down, compared with the previous week due to continued dry weather. Late-wheat seeds took place last week as a result of unseasonably mild weather conditions.

**TEXAS:** Mild, open conditions dominated weather across State during week. Mornings foggy, damp but cleared by mid-day allowing harvest operations to make good progress in plains, north central areas. Pastures showed increased growth, with unseasonably warm temperatures most week. Additional haying activity occurred some areas. Livestock conditions remained good across State.

**Crops:** Small Grains: Recent rains, unseasonably warm weather allowed good progress, development most areas. Some late planting took place as fields dried. Cotton: Favorable harvest conditions allowed producers to make good progress plains, north central areas. Harvest also moved ahead in Trans-Pecos, western parts Hill Country in afternoons. Grain sorghum: In plains harvest progress good all week, was winding down many fields by late week. Peanuts: Good harvest progress occurred most areas, was nearing completion in the plains. Soybeans: Harvest nearing completion in the plains as progress good during week.

**Commercial Vegetables, Fruit and pecans:** Rio Grande Valley, land preparations, some planting occurred as fields dried out. San Antonio-Winter Garden, cabbage, spinach harvest resumed during week. Trans Pecos, chili pepper harvest continued. Pecans: Harvest moved ahead slowly most areas during week. Many pecan bottoms remained too wet for much harvest activity. Damage reports of losses due flooding, squirrels, crows continued.

**Range and Livestock:** Producers many areas busy with hay cutting, baling under open conditions. Ranges, pastures continued improve. Winter grasses have come out, warmer weather brought on new growth of warm season grasses. Livestock conditions remained good in most areas. Wheat, oats providing some grazing, were improving in most areas.

**UTAH:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Topsoil moisture 100% adequate. Subsoil moisture 75% adequate, 25% surplus. Harvest season is virtually over for this crop year, except for corn for grain, which is 91% harvested. Major farming activities were moving cattle, sheep to winter range, fall field preparation, finishing corn harvest. Weather was good most of the week for farmwork.

**VIRGINIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.4. Topsoil moisture 47% very short, 42% short, 11% adequate. Subsoil moisture 50% very short, 40% short, 10% adequate. Cotton 100% harvested, 84% 1997, 90% avg. Soybeans 84% harvested, 74% 1997, 76% avg. Small grain, grazing crops 4% very poor, 14% poor, 33% fair, 44% good, 5% excellent. Winter wheat 89% seeded, 80% 1997, 88% avg. Barley 100% seeded, 99% 1997, 100% avg. Pasture feed 36% very poor, 40%

poor, 20% fair, 4% good. Livestock 3% very poor, 16% poor, 32% fair, 45% good, 4% excellent. Unseasonably high temperatures combined with lack of significant rainfall caused moisture levels to decrease slightly last week throughout the Commonwealth. The mild temperatures have been good for livestock, with 81% remaining in fair or better condition. However, large scale feeding, watering to sustain livestock herds over the last few weeks have caused serious depletion of hay stocks, farm wells. Eighty-two percent of the small grain crop that has emerged to date is in fair or better condition. The remaining acreage has suffered from the effects of dry soil conditions. A few producers of small grains must decide whether to re-plant their acreage or use the poorly developed crop as a cover for next season. Soybean harvest is progressing somewhat slower than previous reports but is expected to wrap up in 1 to 2 weeks. Producers are reporting highly variable yields, depending on locality and how much precipitation was received throughout the growing season. Other activities for the week included continued marketing of cattle, grading, preparing tobacco for market, harvesting vegetables, cutting firewood, cleaning, repairing, winterizing equipment, applying weed control to small grains, participating in pesticide re-certification classes.

**WASHINGTON:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.4. Topsoil moisture 11% short; 69% adequate, 20% surplus. Subsoil moisture 3% very short, 30% short, 66% adequate, 1% surplus. Considerable precipitation improved subsoil moisture, benefited winter wheat growth, development. Sugar beet, corn harvests were completed in central areas. Corn for grain 90% harvested, 89% 1997, 86% avg. Hay, other roughage supplies, 3% short, 85% adequate, 12% surplus. Livestock were on winter feeding programs. Fruit growers continued with winter activities in orchards including tree pruning. U-Cut Christmas tree farms were in full swing.

**WEST VIRGINIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Topsoil moisture 27% very short, 59% short, 14% adequate. Rain is needed to restore soil moisture, improve wheat condition. Corn harvested for grain 95%, 86% 1997, 88% avg. Wheat 65% poor, 32% fair, 3% good; planted 100%, 100% 1997, 98% avg.; emerged 88%. Cattle 1% poor, 27% fair, 68% good, 4% excellent. Sheep 46% fair, 49% good, 5% excellent.

**WISCONSIN:** Although many areas saw at least a trace amount of precipitation, it was essentially a dry week. Only the northwest district, with 0.10 in. of rainfall, had any measurable precipitation. All three northern districts continue to be behind on cumulative rainfall, with the rest of the State showing a surplus. Most farmers have good hay and grain supplies for winter feeding of livestock.

**WYOMING:** Unusually warm weather, little precipitation continued last week. Topsoil moisture 12% short, 88% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil moisture 3% very short, 10% short, 87% adequate. Corn for grain harvest remained slow as moisture content was high, particularly in the northwest. As of November 29, corn 75% harvested compared with 96% 1997, 95% avg. Winter wheat in good to excellent condition but no snowcover. Livestock in good condition, still able to graze winter ranges. Hay supplies 68% adequate, 26% surplus; shortages in some northeastern areas.

# International Weather and Crop Summary

November 22 - 28, 1998

## HIGHLIGHTS

**FSU-WESTERN:** The third consecutive week of unseasonably cold weather covered dormant winter grains.

**EUROPE:** Unseasonably cold weather prevented winter grain growth in western Europe and kept crops dormant in the east.

**NORTHWESTERN AFRICA:** Persistent dryness delayed winter grain planting in Morocco, while soaking rain provided abundant topsoil moisture for planting in Algeria and Tunisia.

**SOUTH ASIA:** Seasonable dryness favored summer crop harvesting and the planting of winter grown crops.

**SOUTH AMERICA:** Additional rain was needed in Argentina for winter wheat development and in southern Brazil for soybean germination.

**SOUTH AFRICA:** Widespread, soaking rain maintained at favorable moisture levels for corn and other summer crops.

**SOUTHEAST ASIA:** Tropical activity remained high over the western Pacific, with most major rice and plantation crop areas receiving additional heavy rain.

**EASTERN ASIA:** Winter wheat was entering dormancy in the North China Plain.

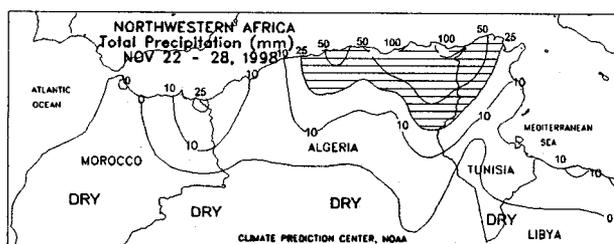
**AUSTRALIA:** Locally heavy rain kept Queensland unfavorably wet for early summer crop development.

**CENTRAL AMERICA:** Heavy showers (locally 30-100 mm) continued to hinder flood recovery in Honduras, especially in northern areas.



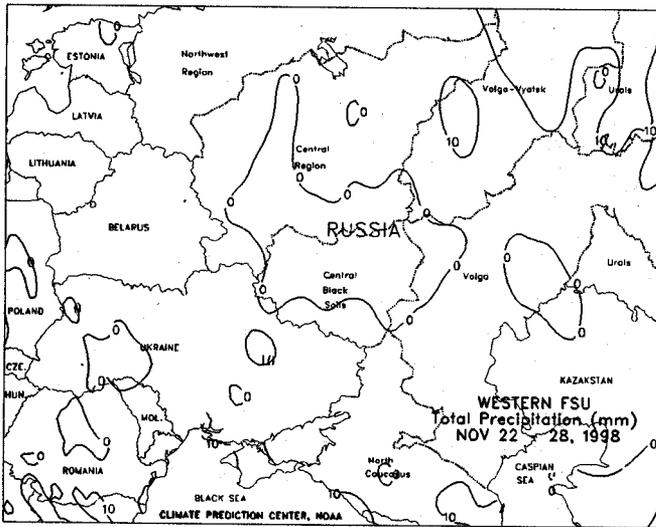
## EUROPE

Unseasonably cold weather continued to prevail across most of Europe, preventing further winter crop growth in the west and maintaining dormancy in winter grains in the east. Weekly temperatures averaged 3 to 6 degrees C below normal in most of Europe, except in Poland, where temperatures averaged 7 to 9 degrees C below normal. Lowest temperatures (-15 to -22 degrees C) prevailed in winter grain areas in eastern Poland, where a light to moderate snow cover provided protection from potential winterkill. Elsewhere, extreme minimum temperatures ranged from -7 to -11 degrees C in France, the Benelux countries, Germany, and the Czech Republic, and from -3 to -7 degrees C in central Spain, northern Italy, Slovenia, and most of southeastern Europe. In Germany, reports indicated that the freezing weather firmed topsoils, helping the corn and sugar beet harvests, previously delayed by wet weather. By week's end, temperatures began to moderate in western Europe, improving conditions for winter grains. However, light showers (around 10 mm) accompanied the warming trend in England and France, slowing late-season fieldwork. Elsewhere, mostly dry weather favored rapid winter grain planting in Spain. Heavy rains (50 to more than 100 mm) in Greece halted late-season fieldwork.



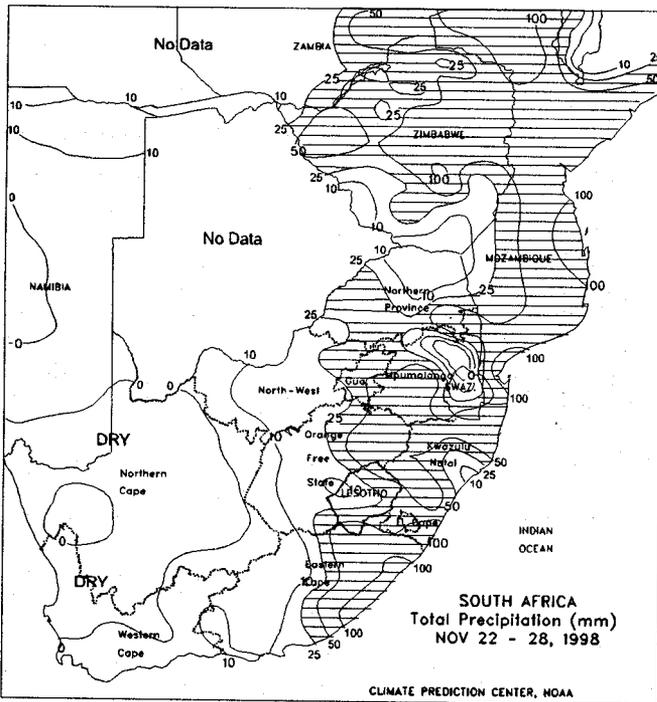
## NORTHWESTERN AFRICA

In Morocco, persistent dryness continued to hamper winter grain planting. Significant rains are needed in Morocco before planting can become widespread. Farther east, showers (10-27 mm) moistened topsoils in western Algeria, while soaking rains (25-92 mm) provided abundant topsoil moisture for winter wheat germination and establishment in central and eastern Algeria and northern Tunisia. However, the wet weather in these areas caused planting delays. Weekly temperatures averaged near normal in Morocco and 1 to 5 degrees C below normal in Algeria and Tunisia.



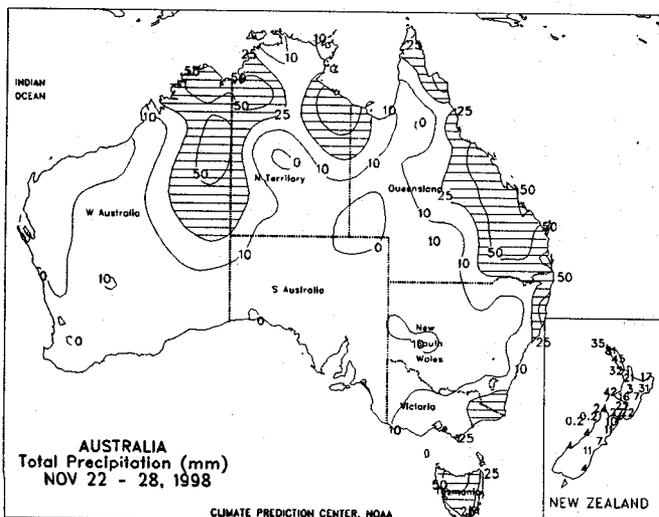
**FSU-WESTERN**

The third consecutive week of unusually cold weather persisted over the region, with weekly temperatures ranging from 4 to 10 degrees C below normal. High pressure predominated over the region during the week, keeping most areas generally dry (precipitation less than 5 mm). An earlier-than-usual snow cover extended as far south as southern Ukraine and the northern tip of the North Caucasus region in Russia, providing protection from bitterly cold weather (extreme minimum temperatures ranging from -15 to -31 degrees C). Although winter wheat areas in extreme southern Ukraine and the southern half of the North Caucasus remained snow-free during the week, temperatures did not fall low enough to threaten dormant crops.



**SOUTH AFRICA**

Widespread, heavy rain (25-50 mm, locally exceeding 100 mm) continued throughout the main summer growing areas. Rainfall increased from west to east, with light to moderate rainfall (25 mm or less) recorded in western corn areas of Free State and North West. Heavier rain (25-50 mm or more) developed over central and eastern sections of the corn belt and sugarcane areas of KwaZulu-Natal. The heavy rain extended as far west as the central growing areas of Eastern Cape. Dryness in Western Cape favored wheat harvesting. Temperatures across the region were generally seasonable, with highs hitting the middle 30's degrees C in the traditionally warmer parts of the western corn belt.

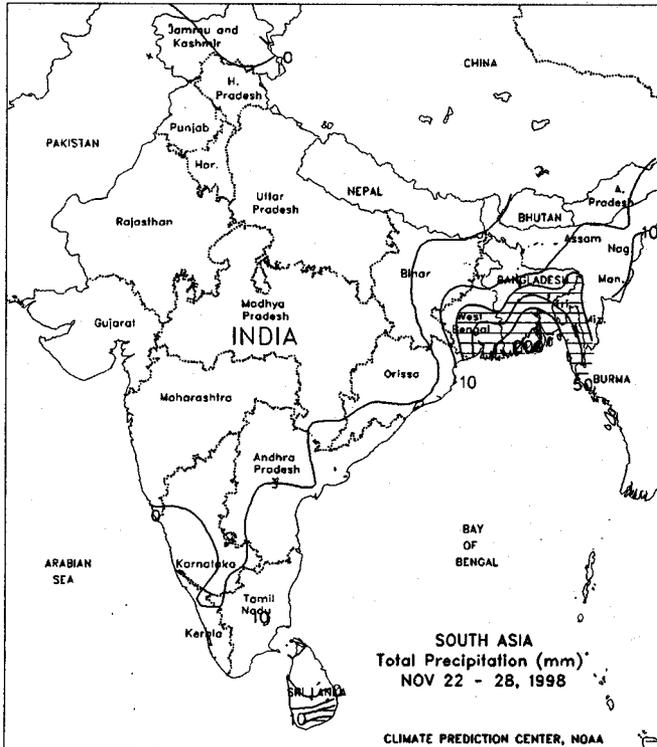


**AUSTRALIA**

Locally heavy rain (25-50 mm or more) soaked Queensland, keeping the main agricultural areas extremely wet. Cloudy, unseasonably cool weather slowed development of sorghum and cotton. Winter grain harvests should be virtually complete in the wettest areas of Queensland and northern New South Wales. Farther south, scattered, mostly light showers (10 mm or less, most locations) caused minor disruptions in winter grain harvesting. Out west, mostly dry, occasionally warm weather favored maturing wheat and barley. In New Zealand, light rain (15 mm or less) covered most agricultural areas, although moderate showers (25 mm or greater) covered northern crop areas of North Island.

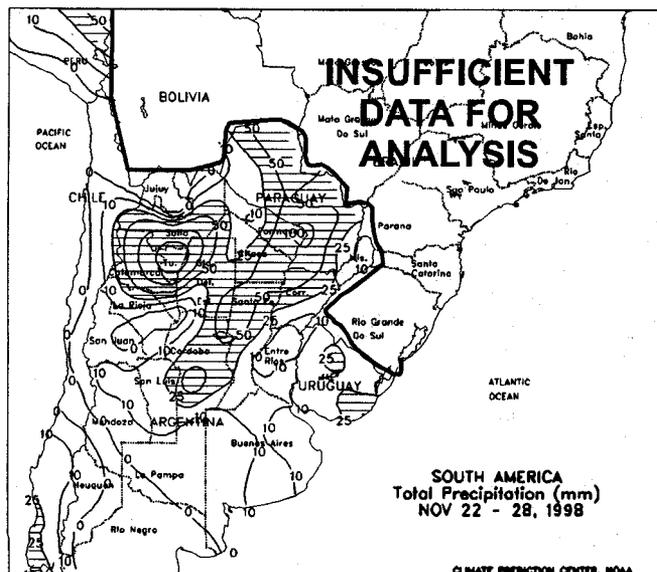
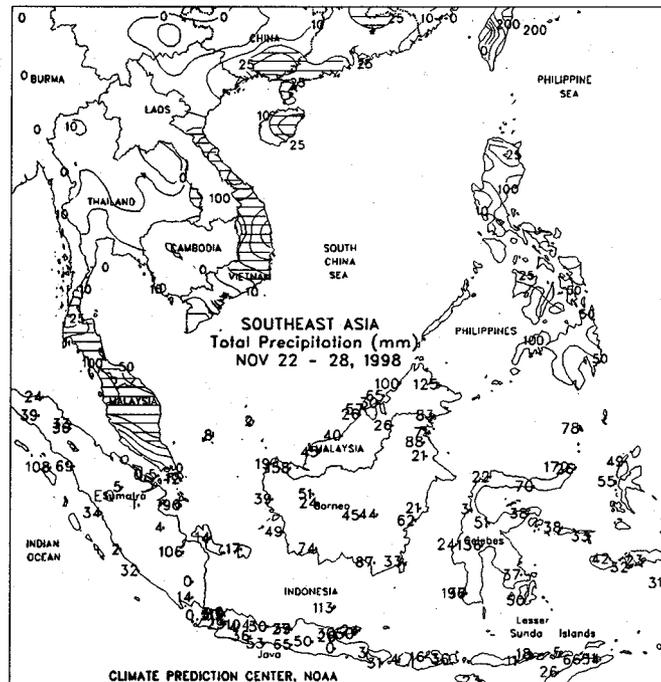
**SOUTH ASIA**

Seasonably dry weather dominated the region, favoring summer crop harvesting and winter crop planting. The exception was Bangladesh and neighboring locations in India, which experienced lingering showers (25-50 mm or more) following last week's storminess. Transitional rice harvesting and transplanting in that area continued to suffer weather-related disruptions. In southern India, activities for the planting of winter-grown (rabi) grains, oilseeds, and cotton progressed with adequate to abundant moisture reserves.



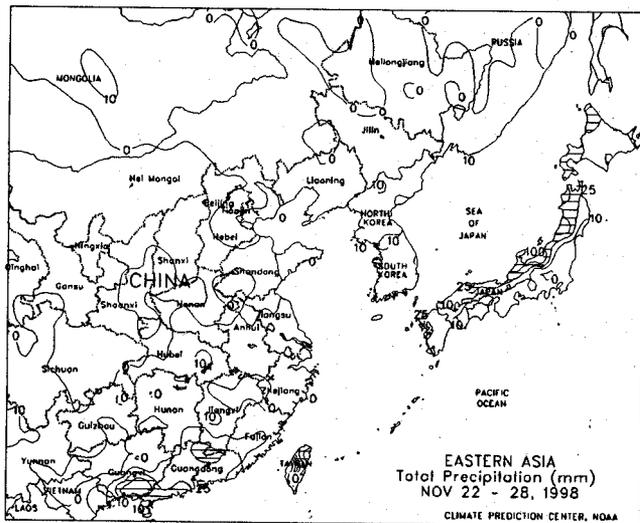
**SOUTHEAST ASIA**

Tropical Storm Elvis rocked central Vietnam, with locally heavy rains (50-100 mm or greater) and sustained winds of about 50 knots. This new storm caused additional disruptions in seasonal rice harvesting and transplanting. In contrast, the main rice areas of southern Vietnam and Thailand were drier than last week, with light, scattered showers (15 mm or less) having a minor impact on fieldwork. Farther south, heavy showers (50-100 mm or more) continued along the Malay Peninsula, although dry pockets developed in southern oil palm areas of western Malaysia. Widespread tropical showers (25-100 mm or more) provided rice and plantation crops in eastern Malaysia and Indonesia with adequate to abundant moisture. In the Philippines, widespread, locally heavy rainfall (25-50 mm, locally exceeding 100 mm) hampered main-season harvests but maintained high early-season moisture reserves for second-season crops.



**SOUTH AMERICA**

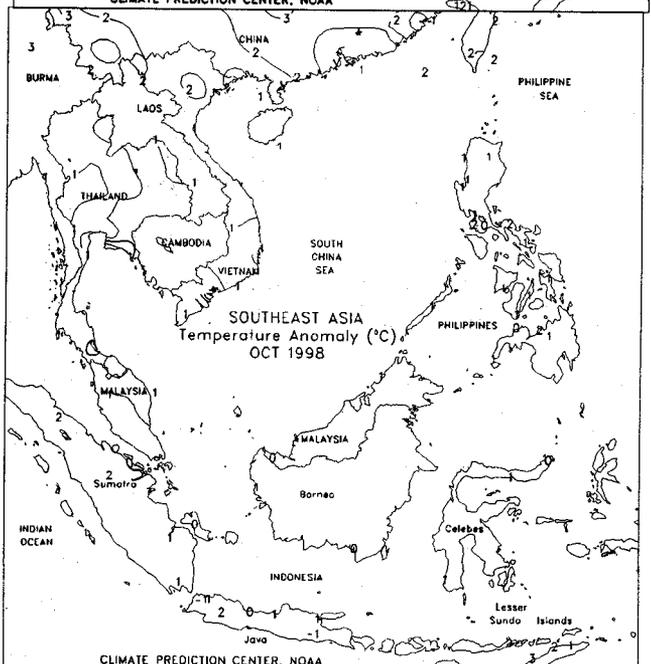
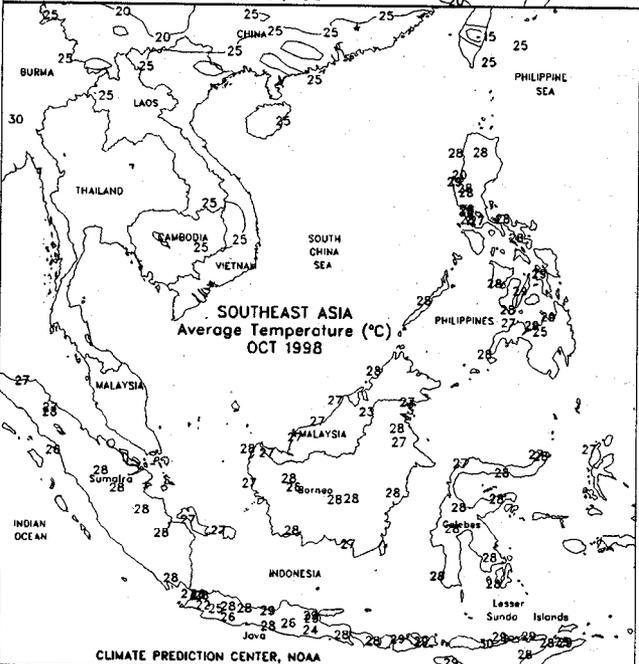
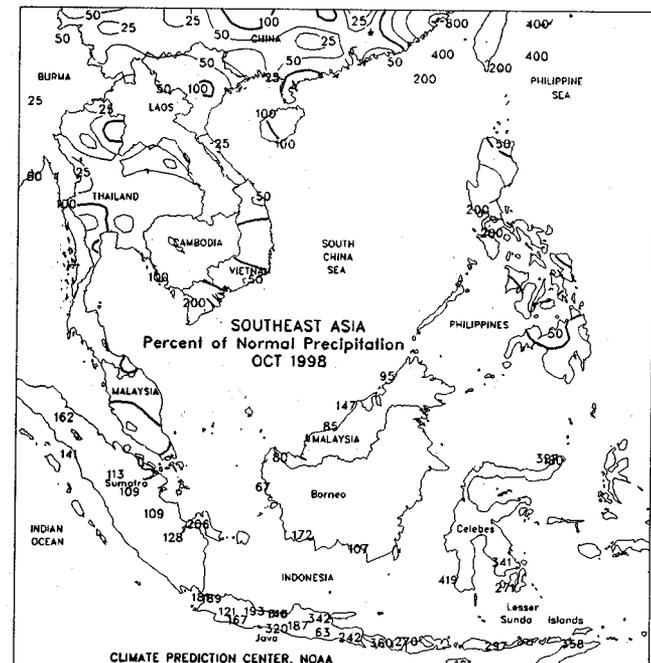
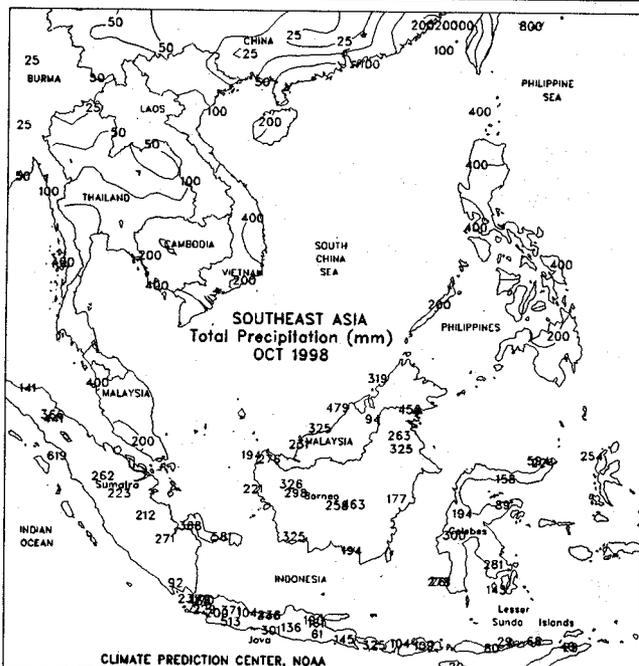
In central Argentina, light rain (15 mm or less) dampened topsoils in primary winter wheat areas of Buenos Aires. Moisture was limited for normal development of immature winter wheat, and rain is needed soon to reduce the potential for stress. Farther north, showers (15-50 mm or more) were unfavorable for maturing wheat but improved moisture reserves for newly planted summer crops. According to reports as of November 20, corn was 73 percent planted versus 77 percent last year, sunseed was 83 percent planted versus 77 percent last year, and soybeans were 32 percent planted versus 39 percent last year. Winter wheat harvests were underway in northern crop areas. In southern Brazil, additional rainfall was needed for establishment of soybeans and other summer crops. Surface observations were missing for much of the period but satellite data suggested that the main soybean areas received only light, scattered showers. Moderate to heavy rain (25-50 mm or more) early in the week favored summer crop development in Minas Gerais. According to reports as of November 27, soybeans were 75 percent planted versus 72 percent last year. However, the planting pace was slightly behind schedule in Rio Grande do Sul (67 percent versus 74 percent last year) due to dryness.



**EASTERN ASIA**

Dry, seasonably cool weather dominated the North China Plain as crops advanced toward dormancy. Sub-freezing temperatures (as low as -10 degrees C) in northern wheat areas helped harden wheat while burning back vegetative growth. Temperatures in the southern half of the Plain were 1 to 3 degrees C above normal and well above the threshold for winter wheat dormancy, but long-term dryness continued to restrict crop establishment. In southern China, late double-crop rice harvesting intensified as warmer, drier weather enveloped the area. Moderate showers (25 mm or greater) were confined to coastal areas centered over Guangdong. Light to moderate showers (10-25 mm or more) hampered late rice harvesting in South Korea and Japan.

*Revised October 1998 maps (plotted data included) for Southeast Asia are shown below.*

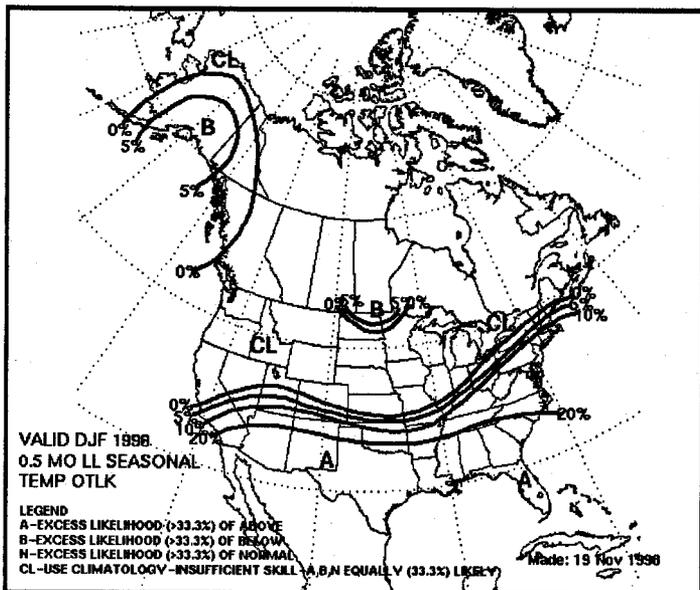


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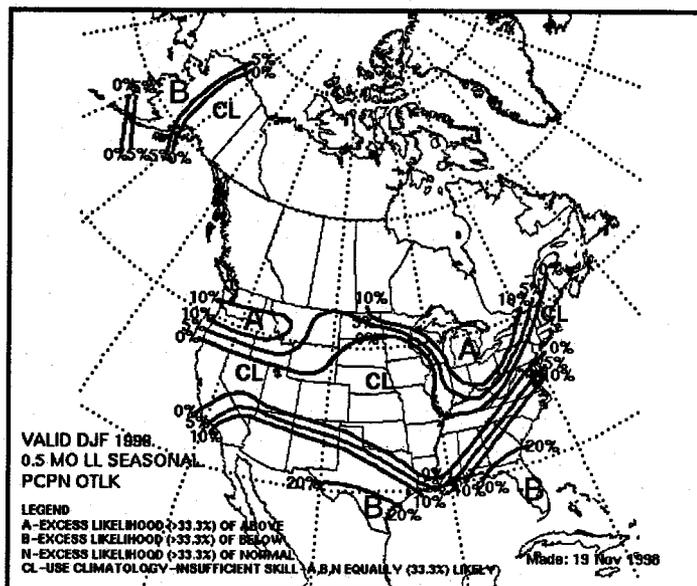
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 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
 National Weather Service/Climate Prediction Center  
 Managing Editor ..... *David Miskus*  
 Meteorologists ..... *Jeff Savadel and Brian Morris*  
 Special Requests ..... (202) 720-7917  
 Subscriptions ..... *John Kopman* (301) 763-8227, ext. 7534  
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**TEMPERATURE: December 1998 - February 1999**



**PRECIPITATION: December 1998 - February 1999**

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