

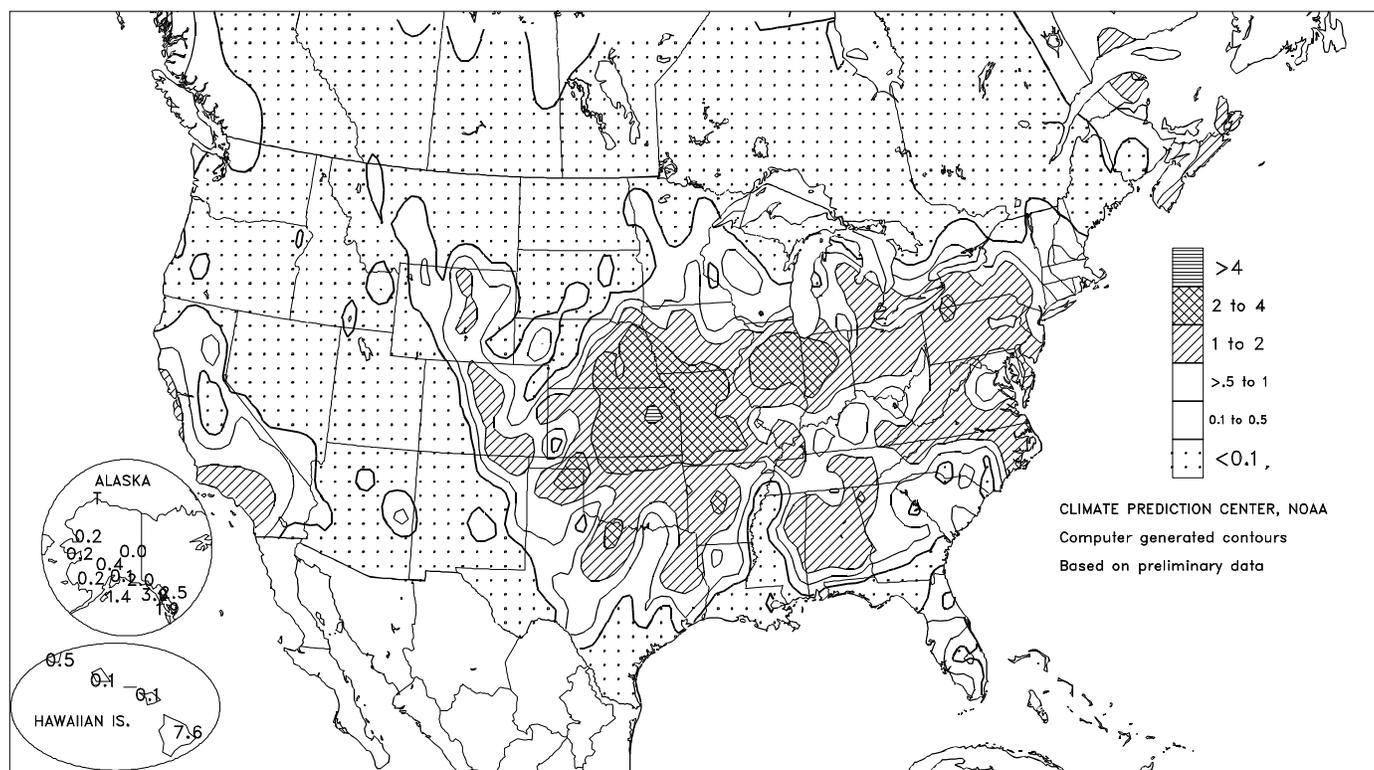
WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

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)

APR 11 - 17, 1999



HIGHLIGHTS

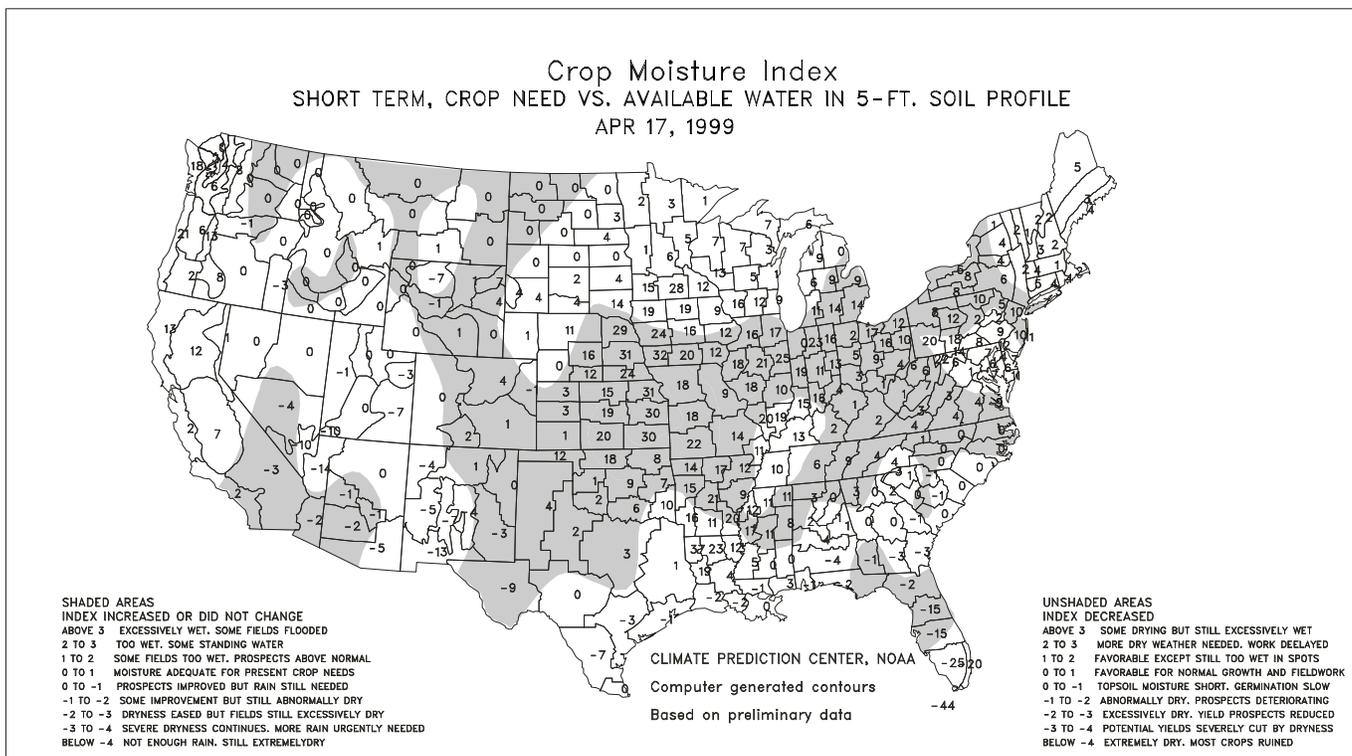
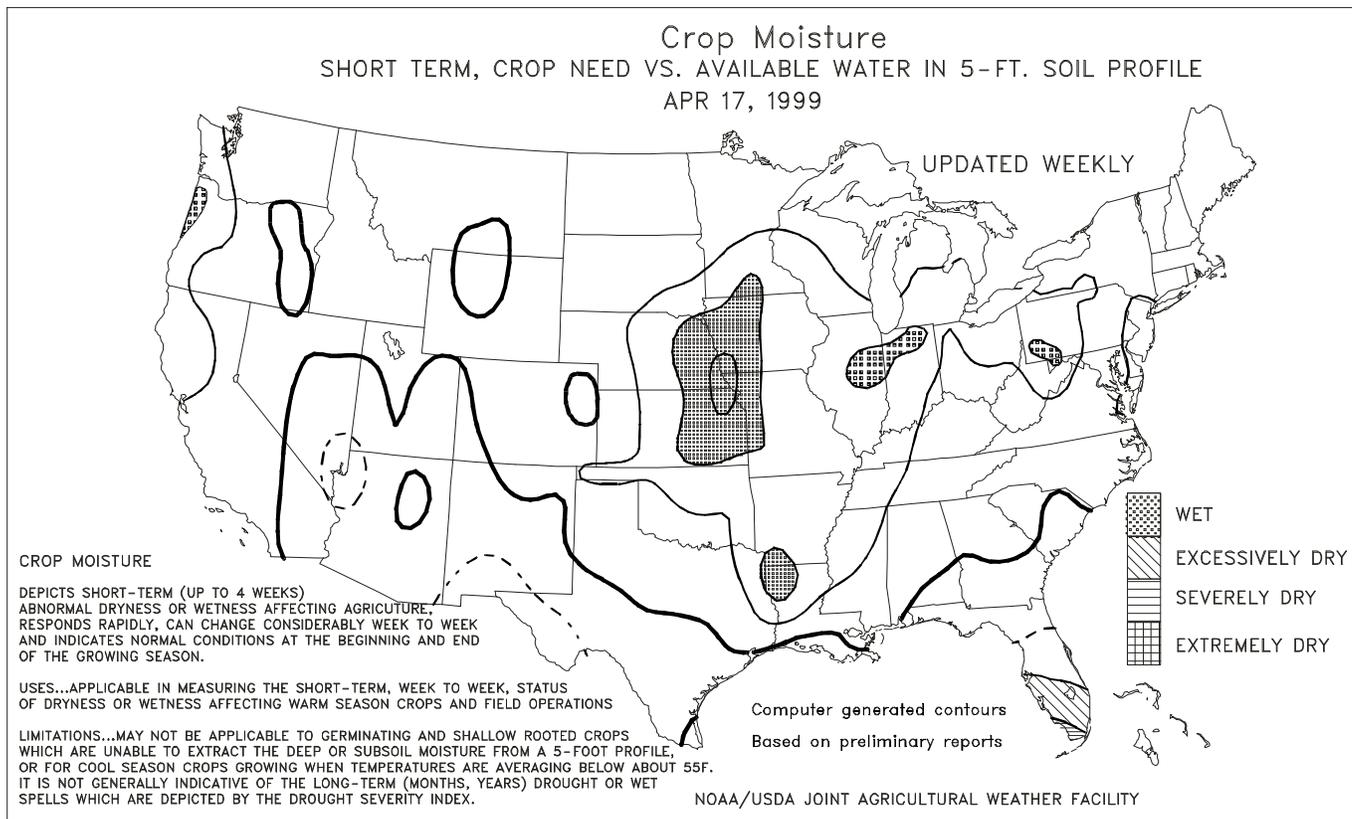
April 11 - 17, 1999

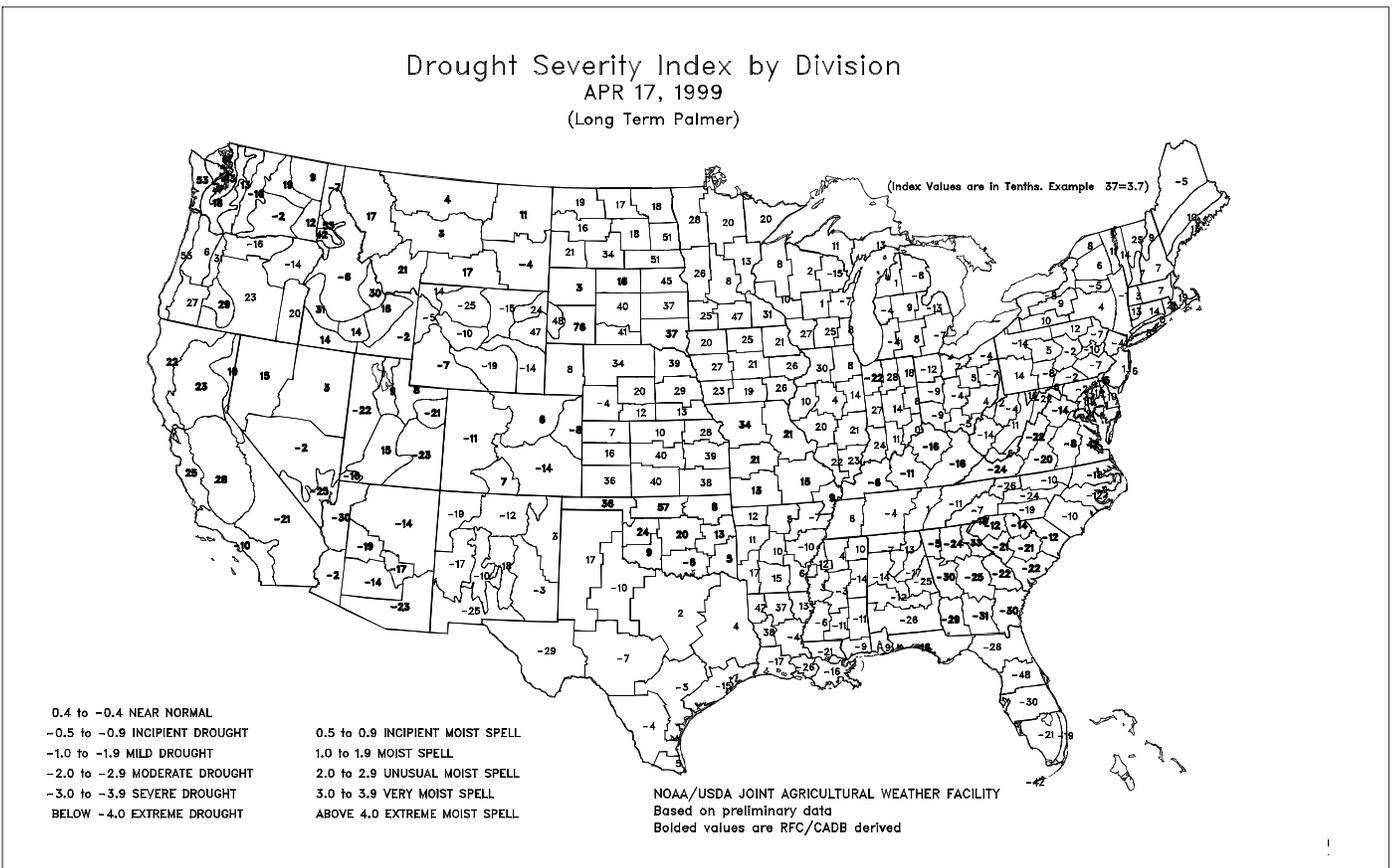
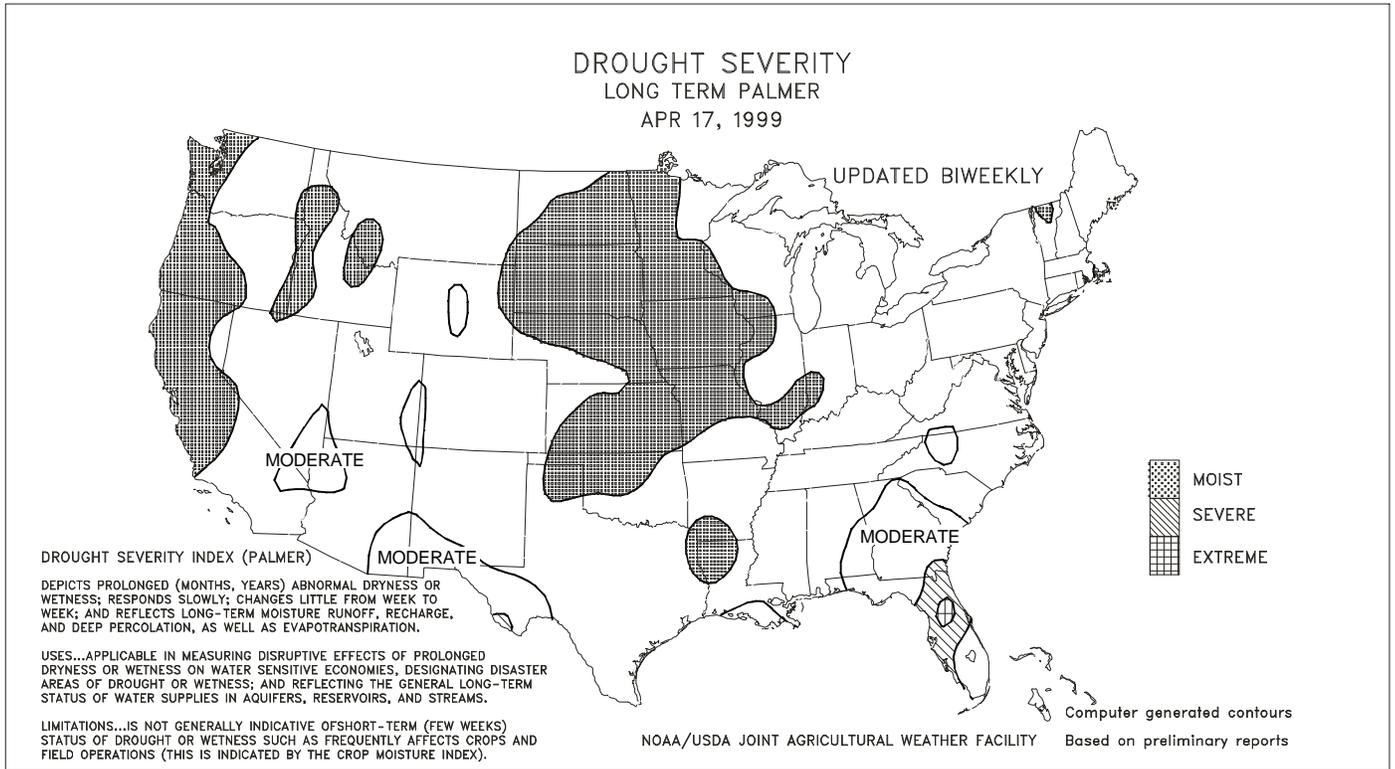
Widespread rainfall continued to slow fieldwork but benefit winter wheat in the **Corn Belt** and **central Plains**. At midweek, showers and thunderstorms spread from the **southern Plains** across the **Southeast**, aiding winter grains and recently planted corn, cotton, sorghum, rice, and peanuts. In **Florida**, however, very warm, breezy, dry weather persisted for much of the week, increasing irrigation requirements and allowing wildfires to flourish. On Saturday, scattered showers delivered only localized and temporary improvement to **Peninsular Florida**. Meanwhile, beneficially warm, dry conditions arrived in the **West**, promoting fieldwork and rapid crop development. Weekly temperatures averaged up to 8°F

(Continued on page 5)

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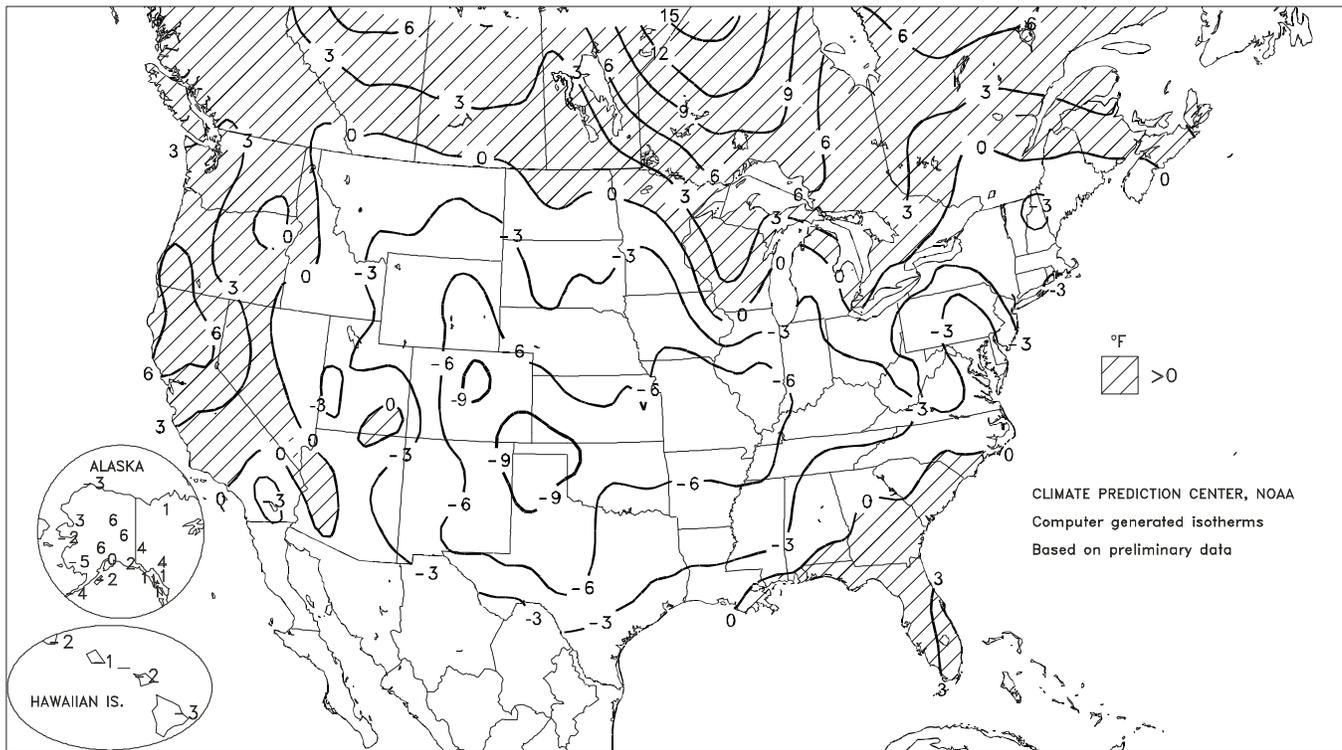
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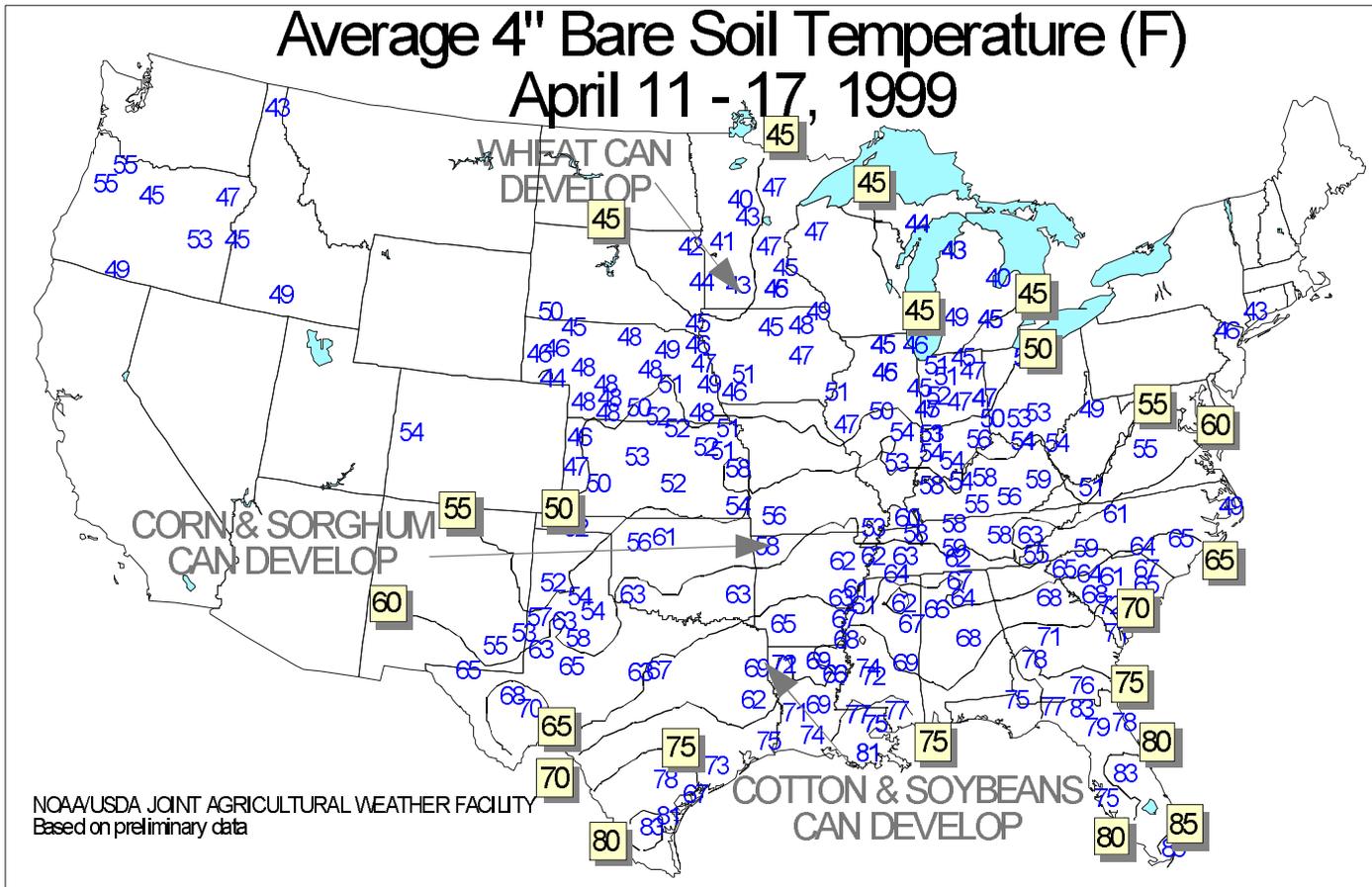


Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F)

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Average 4" Bare Soil Temperature (F) April 11 - 17, 1999



(Continued from front cover)

above normal in **northern California**, but ranged from 4 to 10°F below normal on the **central and southern Plains**. On the mornings of April 16-18, freezes burned back jointing winter wheat on the **central and southern High Plains**. Scattered frost was reported across the **South** at week's end.

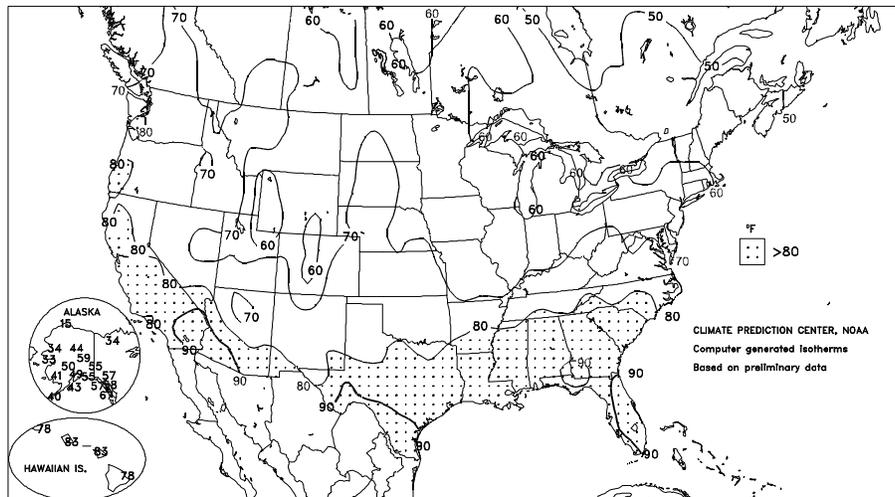
Through midweek, very warm weather (more than two dozen daily-record highs) continued across the **Southeast**, while cool conditions (nearly a dozen daily-record lows) persisted in the **West**. On Sunday, highs reached 93°F in **Ft. Lauderdale, FL** and 92°F in **Florence, SC**. A day later, **Orlando, FL** noted their fourth consecutive (91, 93, 92, and 93°F) daily record. Heat persisted across **Florida** until Saturday, when a cold front's passage brought cooler weather and scattered showers. On Thursday, **Orlando** notched another record (95°F), while **Melbourne** attained 97°F, tying their monthly record set on April 25, 1967. Although **Orlando** collected a daily-record rainfall (0.88 inch) on Saturday, their first measurable precipitation of the month, wildfires to the south forced the closure of I-75 (Alligator Alley) across the **Everglades**.

In **southern California**, heavy rain and very cool weather lingered early in the week. Sunday was the wettest April day on record in **Long Beach** (1.61 inches) and at the **Los Angeles Civic Center** (1.35 inches). On Monday, **Mt. Wilson**, near **Los Angeles**, recorded a maximum snow depth of 17 inches, while **Mt. Palomar**, north-northeast of **San Diego**, noted a high temperature of 37°F. In the **Northwest**, widespread frost and sub-freezing temperatures were reported through midweek. On Wednesday, daily-record lows included 24°F in both **Hermiston, OR** and **Yakima, WA**. Warmer air abruptly arrived thereafter, however, resulting in at least six dozen daily-record highs from April 15-17 in the **West Coast States**. On Thursday, **Crescent City, CA** registered 81°F, breaking their previous record for April 15 by 13°F, while in **southern California**, **El Cajon** (90, 93, and 93°F) and **Escondido** (87, 90, and 92°F) both tallied their first of three consecutive daily-record highs. Friday's high of 85°F in **Florence, OR** was their highest temperature in nearly 3 years. On April 16-17, consecutive daily records were reported at several locations in the **Northwest**, including **Seattle, WA** (74 and 81°F) and **Astoria, OR** (77 and 83°F). **Astoria's** latter reading eclipsed their former record for April 16 by 14°F.

In contrast, sharply colder conditions arrived across the **Plains** and **Intermountain West**, producing nearly three dozen late-week daily-record lows. In **Laramie, WY**, Friday's high of 26°F was followed by a daily-record low of 0°F on Saturday. On Friday, daily records in **New Mexico** included 7°F in **Chama**, 8°F in **Gallup**, and 11°F in **Las Vegas**. Elsewhere, **Grand Junction, CO** registered 19°F, their latest sub-20°F reading on record. A day later in **Texas**, **Austin (Bergstrom Airport)** marked their latest freeze on record with a low of 31°F. **Victoria, TX** (38°F on Saturday) posted their

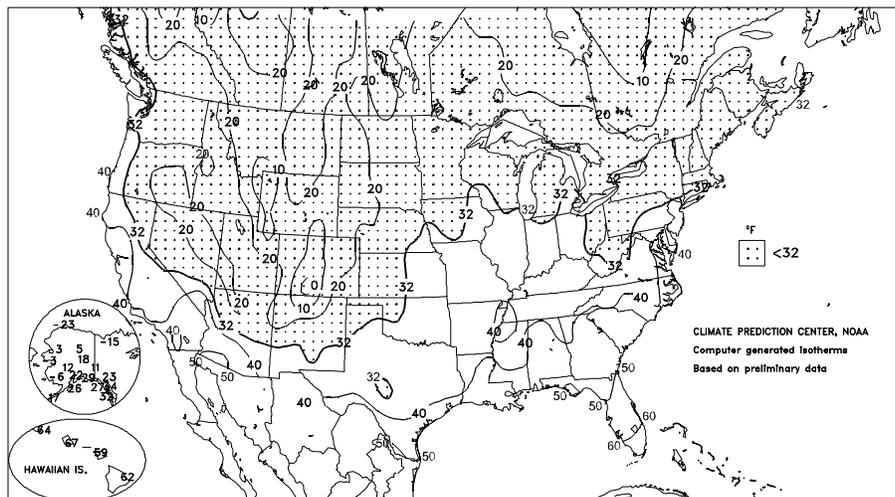
Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F)

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Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)

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latest sub-40°F reading. In **Kansas**, **Garden City** (24°F) and **Liberal** (28°F) notched daily-record lows on Saturday.

A slow-moving storm produced rainfall in excess of 1 inch from the **central Plains** to the **Mid-Atlantic region**. Totals ranged from 2 to 4 inches in a broad area from the **east-central Plains** to parts of **Illinois** and **Indiana**. On Wednesday, **Grand Island, NE** (2.25 inches) and **Springfield, MO** (2.58 inches) received daily-record precipitation. **Grand Island's** total was their greatest single-day amount since May 21, 1998. High winds and the aforementioned cold weather accompanied and followed the storm's trailing cold front. Winds gusted to 60 mph in **Dalhart, TX**, 59 mph in **Childress, TX**, and 58 mph in **Guymon, OK**. Farther west, storm-total snowfall topped 1 foot along parts of the **Colorado Rocky Front Range**.

In **Hawaii**, weekly temperatures averaged 1 to 3°F below normal and heavy rain fell in some windward (east-facing) areas. On Sunday, **Hilo's** high of 68°F accompanied 3.51 inches of rain and was their lowest on record in April, breaking their standard of 70°F set on April 5, 1973. Meanwhile in **Alaska**, weekly temperatures ranged from as much as 5°F below normal in western areas to 6°F above normal in the interior.

Weather Data for Selected Locations in the Delta

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 17, 1999

Data provided by the Mississippi State Delta Research and Extension Center and compiled by USDA/OCE/WAOB's Stoneville Field Office

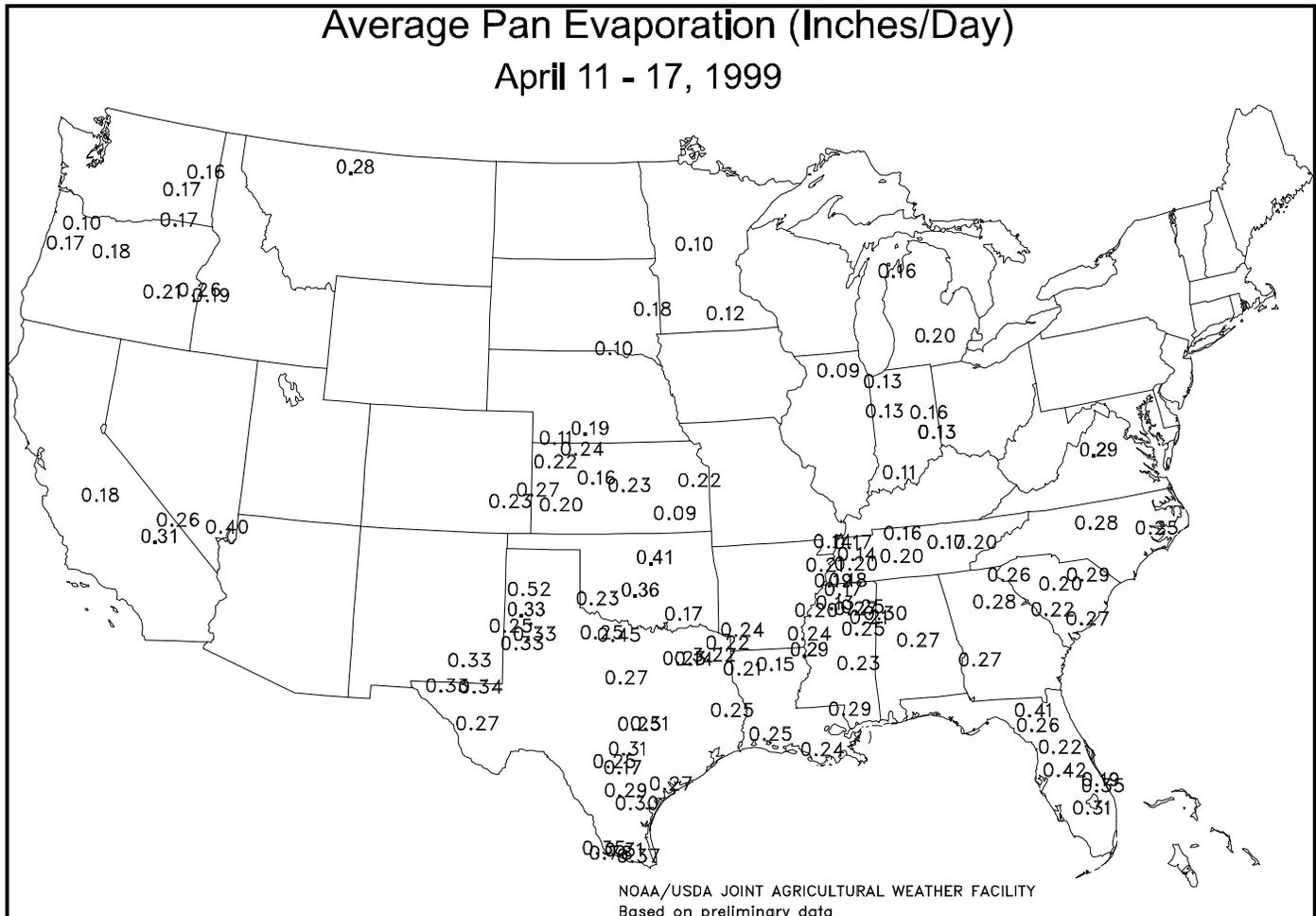
STATES AND STATIONS	TEMPERATURE °F							PRECIPITATION							4-INCH SOIL TEMP, °F		NUMBER OF DAYS			
	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL IN. SINCE Mar 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Mar 1	TOTAL IN. SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	TEMP. °F		PRECIP		
																90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE	
MS INDIANOLA 1S	71	52	82	43	62	--	1.75	--	1.75	9.03	--	20.58	--	68	61	0	0	1	1	
INVERNESS 5E	71	52	83	42	62	--	1.43	--	1.43	8.79	--	--	--	68	64	0	0	1	1	
LYON	69	50	81	42	60	--	0.44	--	0.44	8.06	--	18.77	--	76	59	0	0	1	0	
ONWARD	73	52	84	44	63	--	1.30	--	1.30	11.43	--	20.79	--	66	63	0	0	1	1	
SIDON	70	53	82	44	62	--	1.42	--	1.42	8.40	--	20.57	--	73	63	0	0	1	1	
STONEVILLE *	74	54	84	45	64	0	3.02	1.76	3.02	9.50	116	24.60	139	76	63	0	0	1	1	

* Based on 1964-93 normals.

Delta Weather and Crop Summary: Warm, dry weather dominated the Delta early in the week, benefiting winter wheat and corn. By midweek, however, a strong cold front brought strong winds and heavy rain, halting fieldwork. Some areas received as much as 3 inches of rainfall in a 12-hour period. For the growing season to date, rainfall totals continue to be slightly above normal, maintaining adequate soil moisture. In addition, soil temperatures remain favorable as rice farmers progress with planting and cotton farmers prepare for planting.

Average Pan Evaporation (Inches/Day)

April 11 - 17, 1999



National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 17, 1999

Data Provided by Climate Prediction Center (301-763-8000 EXT. 7503)

STATES AND STATIONS	TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION						RELATIVE HUMIDITY PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS					
	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL IN. SINCE Mar 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Mar 1	TOTAL IN. SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	TEMP. °F		PRECIP.		
																90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE	
AL	BIRMINGHAM	72	49	85	42	61	-1	0.87	-0.28	0.83	7.63	84	18.53	98	81	25	0	0	3	1
	HUNTSVILLE	70	48	83	41	59	-1	0.84	-0.30	0.69	6.79	71	18.78	96	74	29	0	0	2	1
	MOBILE	79	54	88	44	67	-1	0.04	-0.97	0.01	9.49	106	15.78	82	83	36	0	0	4	0
	MONTGOMERY	76	51	86	44	64	-1	1.88	0.83	0.96	9.31	104	14.18	74	80	36	0	0	2	2
AK	ANCHORAGE	40	31	49	22	35	0	0.10	-0.07	0.05	0.86	78	1.50	56	90	61	0	4	4	0
	BARROW	-2	-12	15	-23	-7	-3	0.02	-0.04	0.00	0.23	85	0.39	78	79	69	0	7	1	0
	FAIRBANKS	47	25	59	18	36	6	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.37	65	0.82	56	78	32	0	7	0	0
	JUNEAU	45	36	58	34	40	1	2.48	1.85	1.46	7.15	148	17.88	136	97	71	0	0	6	1
	KODIAK	39	31	43	26	35	-2	1.41	0.46	0.75	6.01	87	17.68	90	89	56	0	4	4	1
	NOME	21	8	33	-3	15	-2	0.16	-0.01	0.08	0.56	60	2.72	117	93	72	0	7	4	0
AZ	FLAGSTAFF	57	25	63	16	41	-1	0.02	-0.33	0.01	2.58	73	3.34	44	68	15	0	7	2	0
	PHOENIX	82	54	89	49	68	-1	0.10	0.05	0.06	1.32	122	1.50	62	49	12	0	0	2	0
	TUCSON	79	47	86	44	63	-2	0.00	-0.07	0.00	1.42	156	1.43	58	48	10	0	0	0	0
	YUMA	83	58	94	50	70	-1	0.17	0.14	0.17	1.15	348	1.75	197	52	19	2	0	1	0
AR	FORT SMITH	65	46	77	36	56	-5	0.60	-0.30	0.49	8.22	135	11.51	108	85	37	0	0	3	0
	LITTLE ROCK	66	48	81	37	57	-5	0.77	-0.52	0.73	6.73	84	15.56	104	84	36	0	0	2	1
CA	BAKERSFIELD	78	48	90	44	63	0	0.24	0.10	0.20	1.11	78	5.49	164	83	31	3	0	2	0
	EUREKA	61	44	73	39	53	3	0.01	-0.68	0.01	10.98	152	25.67	143	90	62	0	0	1	0
	FRESNO	76	51	89	40	63	2	0.12	-0.11	0.12	1.84	73	5.85	93	90	35	0	0	1	0
	LOS ANGELES	65	52	84	45	59	-1	1.54	1.37	1.32	3.68	146	6.09	82	87	53	0	0	2	1
	REDDING	81	49	85	39	65	8	0.13	-0.36	0.13	5.06	88	15.83	97	72	20	0	0	1	0
	SACRAMENTO	78	48	86	42	63	5	0.03	-0.25	0.03	2.29	68	9.69	97	83	34	0	0	1	0
	SAN DIEGO	68	54	83	51	61	-1	0.59	0.40	0.38	2.75	119	4.99	88	85	45	0	0	3	0
	SAN FRANCISCO	68	50	79	45	59	4	0.77	0.43	0.77	4.99	124	12.57	109	88	50	0	0	1	1
CO	ALAMOSA	53	15	67	3	34	-7	0.17	0.06	0.08	0.55	76	0.62	49	79	13	0	7	3	0
	CO SPRINGS	50	27	68	15	39	-7	0.13	-0.13	0.03	0.80	52	0.97	44	74	27	0	6	3	0
	DENVER	52	25	69	16	39	-9	0.70	0.31	0.28	1.30	60	1.85	57	85	30	0	6	4	0
	GRAND JUNCTION	62	34	74	19	48	-4	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.42	31	0.79	33	45	12	0	4	0	0
	PUEBLO	58	29	77	21	44	-8	0.24	0.05	0.07	1.69	136	1.81	97	78	21	0	5	4	0
CT	BRIDGEPORT	55	39	63	35	47	-1	0.60	-0.28	0.32	4.44	75	14.89	123	86	40	0	0	2	0
	HARTFORD	57	35	66	30	46	-2	0.47	-0.42	0.33	4.96	86	13.72	110	75	25	0	1	2	0
DC	WASHINGTON	61	47	70	43	54	-2	0.61	0.00	0.37	5.59	120	13.55	134	75	29	0	0	3	0
DE	WILMINGTON	59	42	68	40	51	-1	0.97	0.19	0.70	6.67	125	15.60	138	88	39	0	0	4	1
FL	DAYTONA BEACH	82	60	94	52	71	2	0.46	-0.04	0.33	1.47	36	8.10	81	91	36	3	0	1	0
	JACKSONVILLE	79	57	90	47	68	1	0.59	-0.04	0.39	2.36	45	8.49	68	90	39	1	0	2	0
	KEY WEST	84	75	86	70	80	3	0.12	-0.26	0.12	0.83	32	4.91	77	92	66	0	0	1	0
	MIAMI	88	71	92	65	79	4	0.00	-0.61	0.00	0.25	7	3.50	45	87	46	4	0	0	0
	ORLANDO	86	61	93	54	73	3	0.90	0.51	0.90	1.46	34	4.72	49	91	29	3	0	1	1
	PENSACOLA	79	57	89	51	68	1	0.00	-0.87	0.00	4.91	62	11.54	64	88	35	0	0	0	0
	TALLAHASSEE	81	54	90	44	68	2	0.07	-0.78	0.00	3.68	43	9.59	51	88	28	1	0	1	0
	TAMPA	80	65	86	54	72	2	0.25	0.02	0.17	0.97	26	4.30	49	90	48	0	0	1	0
	WEST PALM	87	68	91	60	78	4	0.03	-0.59	0.03	0.86	17	9.27	87	88	42	3	0	1	0
GA	ATHENS	72	50	85	40	61	0	0.40	-0.52	0.25	3.74	48	11.89	71	77	30	0	0	2	0
	ATLANTA	71	51	83	43	61	0	0.85	-0.13	0.53	4.28	52	11.58	65	75	26	0	0	3	1
	AUGUSTA	76	49	86	40	62	0	0.48	-0.28	0.48	3.79	58	11.87	80	83	30	0	0	1	0
	COLUMBUS	77	54	86	48	66	1	0.36	-0.64	0.20	3.67	44	9.51	54	70	25	0	0	2	0
	MACON	77	51	86	40	64	0	0.16	-0.64	0.16	3.54	52	11.72	73	82	33	0	0	1	0
	SAVANNAH	77	55	87	43	66	1	0.00	-0.69	0.00	2.20	40	10.27	83	80	34	0	0	0	0
HI	HILO	76	64	78	62	70	-3	7.61	3.95	3.43	26.74	117	62.88	146	94	63	0	0	7	4
	HONOLULU	81	68	83	67	75	-1	0.12	-0.24	0.09	1.03	33	3.89	44	80	46	0	0	2	0
	KAHULUI	81	63	83	59	72	-2	0.10	-0.34	0.00	1.70	44	5.83	53	87	50	0	0	2	0
	LIHUE	77	67	78	64	72	-2	0.52	-0.29	0.30	3.84	62	9.51	62	84	62	0	0	4	0
ID	BOISE	63	34	75	29	49	0	0.00	-0.30	0.00	1.09	54	4.46	98	64	19	0	3	0	0
	LEWISTON	64	36	76	31	50	0	0.01	-0.25	0.00	1.53	91	3.42	88	67	25	0	2	1	0
	POCATELLO	58	25	70	19	42	-3	0.07	-0.21	0.00	1.44	74	4.09	105	69	16	0	7	1	0
IL	CHICAGO/O'HARE	54	39	61	34	47	-2	1.77	0.92	1.00	5.38	114	11.49	151	89	42	0	0	4	2
	MOLINE	56	40	63	34	48	-2	1.70	0.79	1.41	5.09	99	9.14	116	94	52	0	0	3	1
	PEORIA	55	40	63	37	48	-3	2.21	1.33	1.59	3.93	78	8.16	103	95	55	0	0	3	2
	ROCKFORD	55	38	63	32	47	-1	1.85	0.99	1.21	4.58	102	8.86	128	96	46	0	1	2	2
	SPRINGFIELD	54	39	64	34	47	-6	1.72	0.87	1.27	4.56	86	8.65	101	92	58	0	0	3	1
IN	EVANSVILLE	58	42	72	35	50	-6	0.47	-0.44	0.28	6.98	100	14.92	117	87	53	0	0	3	0
	FORT WAYNE	55	38	64	34	46	-2	1.76	0.96	1.13	4.26	89	9.57	112	93	50	0	0	4	1
	INDIANAPOLIS	54	39	64	36	47	-5	1.17	0.32	0.72	3.83	65	13.76	129	92	53	0	0	4	1
	SOUTH BEND	53	37	64	30	45	-3	1.25	0.34	0.89	4.88	92	9.57	102	94	51	0	2	3	1
IA	BURLINGTON	58	42	67	37	50	-1	2.07	1.26	1.70	4.81	100	9.55	133	85	51	0	0	2	1
	CEDAR RAPIDS	55	37	62	33	46	-3	0.81	0.07	0.67	4.19	103	8.06	133	94	54	0	0	3	1
	DES MOINES	53	39	63	31	46	-5	1.51	0.73	1.12	4.21	101	6.43	103	89	57	0	1	3	1
	DUBUQUE	54	40	61	35	47	0	0.82	-0.04	0.46	4.14	84	7.26	97	90	51	0	0	3	0
	SIOUX CITY	53	37	67	31	45	-5	1.48	0.96	1.08	4.55	144	5.69	129	93	57	0	2	4	1
	WATERLOO	55	38	63	33	46	-1	0.31	-0.45	0.21	3.23	80	5.43	92	93	58	0	0	3	0
KS	CONCORDIA	58	39	71	34	49	-4	2.35	1.85	2.31	4.39	129	5.16	110	87	45	0	0	4	1
	DODGE CITY	59	36	73	28	47	-7	1.56	1.10	1.28	5.64	215	7.61	204	87	40	0	2	2	1
	GOODLAND	55	30	72	22	42	-7	1.19	0.93	1.02	2.66	155	3.22	129	87	37	0	6	2	1
	TOPEKA	57	41	70	35	49	-5	3.50	2.80	1.88	5.98	146	8.09	133	89	51	0	0	5	2

Based on 1961-90 normals

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 17, 1999

STATES AND STATIONS	TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS					
	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL IN, SINCE Mar 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Mar 1	TOTAL IN, SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	TEMP. °F		PRECIP.	
																		04 INCH OR MORE	50 INCH OR MORE		
KY WICHITA	60	40	71	34	50	-6	2.37	1.84	1.19	5.78	156	7.52	137	87	42	0	0	3	2		
KY JACKSON	61	43	77	36	52	-4	1.01	0.10	0.56	4.57	65	14.18	97	80	28	0	0	3	1		
KY LEXINGTON	58	40	71	34	49	-5	0.41	-0.47	0.31	4.94	75	13.43	106	96	53	0	0	3	0		
KY LOUISVILLE	59	43	71	37	51	-5	0.42	-0.55	0.25	4.91	70	14.53	110	88	53	0	0	4	0		
KY PADUCAH	59	43	72	37	51	-7	1.35	0.19	0.90	8.70	112	17.07	114	90	50	0	0	2	1		
LA BATON ROUGE	77	54	87	46	66	-3	0.08	-1.19	0.07	5.59	71	12.56	69	87	35	0	0	1	0		
LA LAKE CHARLES	78	56	86	41	67	-1	0.00	-0.73	0.00	3.77	76	10.52	80	89	37	0	0	0	0		
LA NEW ORLEANS	78	60	87	46	69	1	0.30	-0.75	0.25	5.03	67	9.15	49	81	39	0	0	2	0		
LA SHREVEPORT	74	51	83	40	62	-3	1.06	0.21	1.06	12.46	223	25.84	193	82	33	0	0	1	1		
ME CARIBOU	45	31	60	28	38	1	0.15	-0.41	0.09	3.44	91	8.42	104	90	54	0	6	3	0		
ME PORTLAND	50	31	53	28	41	-2	0.10	-0.86	0.10	4.69	78	14.71	114	77	39	0	4	1	0		
MD BALTIMORE	60	41	68	36	50	-3	0.54	-0.18	0.37	5.51	107	12.86	114	83	30	0	0	3	0		
MA BOSTON	53	39	58	34	46	-2	0.32	-0.53	0.28	2.89	50	12.09	93	70	36	0	0	2	0		
MA WORCESTER	52	34	60	29	43	-1	0.34	-0.57	0.22	4.52	73	13.92	105	74	35	0	1	3	0		
MI ALPENA	53	32	66	28	43	2	0.00	-0.52	0.00	2.09	62	5.83	93	74	30	0	3	0	0		
MI GRAND RAPIDS	53	35	64	30	44	-2	0.82	0.02	0.39	4.47	99	9.50	122	88	41	0	3	3	0		
MI HOUGHTON LAKE	52	29	65	22	40	-1	1.07	0.55	0.91	2.34	72	5.49	93	88	35	0	5	3	1		
MI LANSING	53	33	64	26	43	-2	1.12	0.46	0.48	3.94	101	7.26	108	96	55	0	3	4	0		
MI MARQUETTE	47	28	60	22	38	1	0.15	-0.46	0.11	3.10	73	11.18	137	78	40	0	5	1	0		
MI MUSKOGON	51	34	60	26	43	-2	0.58	-0.11	0.43	2.81	67	6.52	81	90	42	0	3	3	0		
MN DULUTH	50	33	61	31	42	4	0.51	0.00	0.44	3.39	109	4.90	95	89	47	0	3	3	0		
MN INT'L FALLS	53	29	64	24	41	3	0.15	-0.21	0.03	3.79	203	4.37	129	83	36	0	6	3	0		
MN MINNEAPOLIS	53	37	65	32	45	-1	1.26	0.71	0.55	4.98	155	8.05	159	91	57	0	1	4	1		
MN ROCHESTER	51	35	61	32	43	-1	0.32	-0.31	0.18	5.35	166	8.43	177	99	62	0	2	2	0		
MN ST. CLOUD	50	33	65	27	42	-1	0.34	-0.20	0.24	3.20	121	4.11	103	93	60	0	4	3	0		
MS JACKSON	74	48	84	38	61	-3	0.71	-0.59	0.71	6.29	70	16.80	89	90	34	0	0	1	1		
MS MERIDIAN	74	45	86	37	60	-4	0.69	-0.60	0.64	6.95	69	14.75	72	97	30	0	0	2	1		
MO TUPELO	69	48	83	39	58	-4	1.34	0.13	1.17	11.41	126	25.88	139	79	32	0	0	2	1		
MO COLUMBIA	54	40	65	34	47	-7	1.81	0.94	0.82	5.39	103	9.99	118	89	60	0	0	4	2		
MO KANSAS CITY	54	40	69	33	47	-7	2.71	2.02	1.73	5.33	130	9.39	149	91	58	0	0	5	1		
MO SAINT LOUIS	55	42	63	37	49	-7	0.82	0.02	0.52	4.63	84	13.25	140	87	57	0	0	4	1		
MO SPRINGFIELD	55	40	67	33	47	-8	3.42	2.46	2.58	7.53	121	13.38	131	90	54	0	0	6	2		
MT BILLINGS	55	28	71	25	42	-3	0.13	-0.26	0.10	1.12	55	2.19	61	69	19	0	6	2	0		
MT BUTTE	54	21	69	13	37	0	0.01	-0.19	0.00	1.24	102	2.15	100	87	17	0	6	1	0		
MT GLASGOW	55	27	68	22	41	-2	0.02	-0.13	0.00	1.13	161	2.52	189	75	19	0	6	1	0		
MT GREAT FALLS	56	27	73	18	41	-2	0.06	-0.25	0.06	0.87	49	1.56	48	74	18	0	5	1	0		
MT KALISPELL	58	21	72	17	40	-3	0.00	-0.24	0.00	0.90	58	3.47	83	86	18	0	7	0	0		
MT MILES CITY	56	29	66	23	43	-3	0.00	-0.31	0.00	1.41	110	2.03	89	73	21	0	5	0	0		
MT MISSOULA	59	24	72	17	41	-3	0.00	-0.21	0.00	0.48	33	2.53	72	78	19	0	6	0	0		
NE GRAND ISLAND	57	35	69	30	46	-4	2.44	1.88	2.27	4.66	147	5.30	121	85	42	0	3	3	1		
NE LINCOLN	57	37	70	30	47	-4	2.89	2.26	2.32	5.67	160	7.30	152	91	47	0	2	4	1		
NE NORFOLK	54	35	67	29	45	-5	2.56	2.05	2.11	5.78	190	6.63	153	92	48	0	2	3	1		
NE NORTH PLATTE	57	29	71	19	43	-5	0.40	-0.04	0.17	2.01	92	2.61	88	88	31	0	5	4	0		
NE OMAHA	56	38	70	33	47	-4	3.27	2.68	2.76	8.74	259	10.73	219	95	53	0	0	4	1		
NE SCOTTSBLUFF	54	27	70	15	41	-5	0.08	-0.27	0.03	2.94	158	3.23	115	88	28	0	4	3	0		
NE VALENTINE	57	31	74	20	44	-2	0.05	-0.32	0.01	2.09	114	2.96	117	84	25	0	3	3	0		
NV ELY	58	20	68	14	39	-2	0.00	-0.22	0.00	0.50	34	1.31	46	69	16	0	7	0	0		
NV LAS VEGAS	76	54	84	47	65	2	0.22	0.16	0.05	0.24	43	0.31	21	33	11	0	0	1	0		
NV RENO	68	36	75	31	52	4	0.01	-0.07	0.01	0.59	64	2.60	87	64	15	0	1	1	0		
NV WINNEMUCCA	66	26	74	20	46	0	0.00	-0.19	0.00	0.64	51	2.69	102	70	18	0	6	0	0		
NH CONCORD	53	30	59	24	42	-2	0.49	-0.19	0.29	3.35	77	11.57	123	78	32	0	4	2	0		
NJ NEWARK	59	42	67	38	50	-1	0.65	-0.23	0.32	4.90	81	14.88	120	70	26	0	0	3	0		
NM ALBUQUERQUE	66	38	76	30	52	-2	0.10	-0.01	0.08	1.30	163	1.41	82	57	10	0	1	2	0		
NY ALBANY	54	33	62	24	44	-2	0.29	-0.40	0.22	4.61	100	10.98	119	82	31	0	2	2	0		
NY BINGHAMTON	47	33	60	26	40	-3	0.84	0.12	0.38	4.19	92	10.50	113	83	36	0	2	4	0		
NY BUFFALO	49	35	61	31	42	-3	0.79	0.13	0.39	3.89	91	10.77	116	91	43	0	3	5	0		
NY ROCHESTER	50	34	59	29	42	-3	0.99	0.38	0.50	4.67	125	9.28	117	85	35	0	3	4	1		
NY SYRACUSE	52	35	59	25	43	-2	0.77	-0.01	0.40	5.02	108	11.78	129	82	31	0	1	3	0		
NC ASHEVILLE	63	46	82	42	55	0	0.74	-0.02	0.51	4.39	67	14.06	103	79	27	0	0	2	1		
NC CHARLOTTE	69	47	79	38	58	-1	0.61	0.02	0.33	2.51	42	8.70	64	81	31	0	0	2	0		
NC GREENSBORO	66	45	75	38	56	-1	0.65	0.02	0.35	3.56	67	10.45	89	85	32	0	0	2	0		
NC HATTERAS	66	55	70	48	61	2	0.08	-0.73	0.08	6.16	97	12.35	79	83	48	0	0	1	0		
NC RALEIGH	70	45	74	36	57	-1	0.74	0.16	0.68	6.00	115	13.74	111	92	34	0	0	2	1		
NC WILMINGTON	74	52	81	43	63	1	0.31	-0.32	0.31	4.03	74	10.83	83	79	33	0	0	1	0		
ND BISMARCK	54	30	74	21	42	0	0.00	-0.39	0.00	1.50	92	3.02	119	86	38	0	3	0	0		
ND DICKINSON	54	27	67	19	41	-1	0.00	-0.43	0.00	1.23	75	2.47	105	85	28	0	6	0	0		
ND FARGO	49	34	66	27	42	-1	0.01	-0.41	0.01	2.80	140	4.15	132	86	49	0	4	1	0		
ND GRAND FORKS	50	32	66	27	41	0	0.34	0.03	0.19	1.85	113	3.07	108	89	56	0	4	5	0		
ND JAMESTOWN	49	31	66	23	40	-2	0.00	-0.36	0.00	1.93	114	3.56	129	88	45	0	4	0	0		
ND WILLISTON	54	26	66	14	40	-2	0.00	-0.29	0.00	0.60	45	2.89	126	82	30	0	6	0	0		
OH AKRON-CANTON	54	37	66	32	45	-3	1.11	0.39	0.40	4.70	93	11.00	116	94	47	0	2	5	0		
OH CINCINNATI	56	40	67	36	48	-5	0.49	-0.36	0.28	3.65	57	12.07	104	92	45	0	0	4	0		
OH CLEVELAND	55	36	63	29	45	-2	1.30	0.58	0.54	4.50	97	10.21	115	98	51	0	2	4	1		
OH COLUMBUS	57	41	70	34	49	-1	0.81	0.07	0.40	4.67	92	10.30	109	93	48	0	0	5	0		
OH DAYTON	56	38	65	35	47	-4	1.33	0.53	0.56	3.91	73	11.80	122	88	47	0	0	5	1		
OH MANSFIELD	54	38	64	34	46	-2	1.26	0.42	0.46	5.37	101	11.67	125	90	52	0	0	5	0		

Based on 1961-90 normals

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 17, 1999

STATES AND STATIONS	TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS			
	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL IN, SINCE Mar 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Mar 1	TOTAL IN, SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	TEMP. °F		PRECIP.	
																90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	0.1 INCH OR MORE	5.0 INCH OR MORE
OK TOLEDO	56	38	66	35	47	0	1.58	0.89	0.64	4.83	112	9.65	124	90	44	0	0	4	1
OK YOUNGSTOWN	53	35	62	29	44	-3	1.41	0.69	0.75	5.57	115	12.98	144	92	50	0	2	5	1
OK OKLAHOMA CITY	65	44	75	34	55	-5	1.12	0.52	0.79	5.00	122	8.02	118	80	37	0	0	3	1
OR TULSA	63	46	75	38	55	-7	1.15	0.32	0.96	4.99	92	9.26	104	82	36	0	0	2	1
OR ASTORIA	64	43	80	33	54	6	0.06	-1.03	0.01	11.05	111	43.11	156	87	38	0	0	4	0
OR BURNS	61	25	73	20	43	1	0.00	-0.14	0.00	1.13	82	4.72	150	85	20	0	7	0	0
OR EUGENE	68	39	78	32	54	3	0.09	-0.64	0.00	5.69	76	23.38	111	89	36	0	1	1	0
OR MEDFORD	76	40	83	32	58	7	0.00	-0.27	0.00	1.21	48	9.18	128	77	20	0	1	0	0
OR PENDLETON	64	34	76	27	49	-1	0.08	-0.17	0.08	1.67	94	3.70	84	74	25	0	3	1	0
OR PORTLAND	68	43	77	36	56	5	0.08	-0.48	0.00	5.05	101	20.39	144	79	27	0	0	1	0
OR SALEM	69	41	81	35	55	6	0.11	-0.45	0.00	6.00	105	27.01	168	86	29	0	0	1	0
PA ALLENTOWN	55	37	65	32	46	-3	0.40	-0.41	0.24	4.65	89	12.74	113	86	38	0	1	3	0
PA ERIE	50	37	61	32	44	-2	1.48	0.73	0.61	5.24	109	12.04	129	89	52	0	1	5	1
PA MIDDLETOWN	60	44	70	39	52	1	0.75	0.01	0.45	4.88	97	11.72	108	81	27	0	0	5	0
PA PHILADELPHIA	58	43	68	41	51	-1	1.04	0.19	0.64	6.58	120	14.42	125	83	35	0	0	4	1
PA PITTSBURGH	55	36	69	30	46	-3	1.19	0.47	0.49	4.52	87	11.80	117	89	38	0	2	5	0
PA WILKES-BARRE	51	37	63	30	44	-3	0.46	-0.22	0.20	4.07	98	10.33	123	78	35	0	1	4	0
PA WILLIAMSPORT	55	38	66	32	47	-2	0.50	-0.24	0.27	5.27	105	12.14	118	80	31	0	1	4	0
RI PROVIDENCE	56	37	66	32	46	-1	0.89	-0.07	0.55	4.44	69	16.59	120	75	33	0	1	4	1
SC BEAUFORT	75	58	87	50	67	1	0.21	-0.43	0.21	1.74	30	6.68	52	81	40	0	0	1	0
SC CHARLESTON	76	56	89	48	66	1	0.95	0.36	0.95	3.39	57	10.36	82	83	33	0	0	1	1
SC COLUMBIA	75	52	86	44	63	1	0.53	-0.23	0.53	3.28	48	9.57	62	83	31	0	0	1	1
SC GREENVILLE	69	49	87	42	59	0	0.25	-0.64	0.25	3.78	49	10.46	65	79	28	0	0	1	0
SD ABERDEEN	53	32	69	24	43	-2	0.13	-0.32	0.12	1.91	80	2.74	85	91	41	0	3	2	0
SD HURON	54	35	70	25	45	-1	0.24	-0.24	0.12	2.52	91	3.15	82	89	48	0	2	4	0
SD RAPID CITY	54	29	68	21	41	-3	0.18	-0.25	0.10	2.17	108	2.43	84	74	27	0	6	2	0
SD SIOUX FALLS	51	34	69	28	43	-4	0.51	-0.08	0.26	5.17	173	5.80	140	94	50	0	4	2	0
TN BRISTOL	62	41	77	31	51	-3	1.13	0.38	0.61	4.04	73	11.94	98	84	26	0	1	3	1
TN CHATTANOOGA	69	49	83	39	59	0	1.01	0.02	0.83	6.11	71	19.67	107	78	26	0	0	2	1
TN KNOXVILLE	64	46	80	38	55	-2	0.50	-0.35	0.43	5.95	82	15.48	100	81	32	0	0	2	1
TN MEMPHIS	66	50	79	40	58	-5	0.45	-0.83	0.45	10.13	119	18.38	111	82	38	0	0	1	0
TN NASHVILLE	64	46	79	41	55	-4	1.03	0.03	0.65	5.89	81	17.44	119	77	39	0	0	2	1
TX ABILENE	68	45	79	37	57	-8	0.65	0.22	0.65	3.57	155	5.50	122	75	31	0	0	1	1
TX AMARILLO	58	36	71	30	47	-9	1.69	1.49	1.14	3.23	227	5.90	234	81	36	0	3	2	2
TX AUSTIN	78	56	88	42	67	-2	0.04	-0.52	0.04	4.41	143	4.64	67	72	30	0	0	1	0
TX BEAUMONT	78	58	85	41	68	-1	0.00	-0.78	0.00	3.61	71	7.83	59	90	43	0	0	0	0
TX BROWNSVILLE	83	65	94	48	74	-1	0.00	-0.34	0.00	3.04	245	4.80	124	90	47	1	0	0	0
TX CORPUS CHRISTI	81	63	92	44	72	0	0.00	-0.37	0.00	2.23	129	3.01	56	87	44	1	0	0	0
TX DEL RIO	81	55	92	43	68	-3	0.51	0.05	0.49	2.48	146	2.52	79	76	35	2	0	2	0
TX EL PASO	71	46	80	38	59	-4	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.43	100	0.52	42	51	17	0	0	0	0
TX FORT WORTH	73	52	80	42	62	-3	0.73	-0.06	0.61	4.65	101	6.57	76	71	31	0	0	2	1
TX GALVESTON	76	66	82	52	71	2	0.05	-0.49	0.01	1.92	55	5.28	59	82	53	0	0	2	0
TX HOUSTON	79	55	87	38	67	-1	0.28	-0.43	0.24	4.42	97	7.33	68	86	35	0	0	1	0
TX LUBBOCK	64	42	74	36	53	-8	0.07	-0.13	0.05	1.22	94	2.57	109	66	27	0	0	2	0
TX MIDLAND	71	44	84	31	58	-7	0.01	-0.16	0.01	1.33	137	1.67	84	59	20	0	1	1	0
TX SAN ANGELO	73	44	84	31	59	-8	0.43	0.06	0.43	2.78	164	3.40	96	78	28	0	2	1	0
TX SAN ANTONIO	77	55	88	37	66	-3	0.14	-0.42	0.12	3.67	134	3.76	60	77	32	0	0	2	0
TX VICTORIA	78	57	88	38	68	-2	0.00	-0.53	0.00	3.41	127	5.98	87	92	43	0	0	0	0
TX WACO	75	50	84	35	63	-4	0.20	-0.52	0.20	4.12	104	6.49	84	85	34	0	0	1	0
TX WICHITA FALLS	68	45	81	34	57	-6	2.75	2.06	1.82	9.35	247	11.91	190	78	34	0	0	2	2
UT SALT LAKE CITY	57	34	66	28	46	-4	0.00	-0.50	0.00	2.10	68	4.35	79	65	25	0	2	0	0
VT BURLINGTON	50	32	57	25	41	-2	0.41	-0.23	0.21	3.11	83	7.75	108	78	40	0	3	2	0
VA LYNCHBURG	63	40	70	34	51	-4	1.06	0.36	0.88	4.67	90	11.84	107	86	30	0	0	3	1
VA NORFOLK	65	49	74	47	57	0	1.52	0.83	1.40	6.11	113	11.96	95	76	37	0	0	2	1
VA RICHMOND	63	44	71	39	54	-3	0.65	-0.01	0.43	5.81	110	11.98	103	81	31	0	0	2	0
VA ROANOKE	63	45	72	42	54	-1	1.30	0.56	0.92	4.76	90	10.60	97	68	22	0	0	4	1
VA WASH/DULLES	60	39	69	34	49	-3	0.64	-0.07	0.49	5.52	114	13.53	130	82	31	0	0	2	0
WA OLYMPIA	67	35	81	29	51	4	0.01	-0.77	0.00	7.36	105	35.12	169	89	26	0	3	1	0
WA QUILLAYUTE	61	36	80	25	49	3	0.38	-1.38	0.28	17.89	111	59.23	137	88	30	0	3	3	0
WA SEATTLE-TACOMA	65	42	80	35	54	5	0.03	-0.52	0.02	4.36	88	18.15	126	70	24	0	0	1	0
WA SPOKANE	60	32	73	27	46	1	0.07	-0.21	0.00	1.13	52	6.24	111	68	23	0	3	1	0
WA YAKIMA	67	30	79	24	49	0	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.24	24	2.95	101	82	23	0	5	0	0
WV BECKLEY	57	40	72	32	48	-3	1.23	0.44	0.71	5.19	98	13.49	121	84	28	0	1	4	1
WV CHARLESTON	64	42	80	33	53	-2	0.70	-0.06	0.34	4.69	86	12.17	107	87	31	0	0	4	0
WV ELKINS	56	35	73	23	45	-3	1.01	0.13	0.36	5.78	97	14.54	121	89	31	0	2	5	0
WV HUNTINGTON	61	42	77	32	52	-3	0.33	-0.45	0.30	4.15	74	11.20	99	85	29	0	1	3	0
WI EAU CLAIRE	55	35	69	29	45	1	1.11	0.46	0.89	4.99	157	7.70	157	93	42	0	1	3	1
WI GREEN BAY	55	33	66	26	44	0	0.04	-0.51	0.04	1.81	54	4.29	77	86	38	0	4	1	0
WI LACROSSE	59	40	70	36	49	2	0.28	-0.39	0.15	4.04	114	7.66	142	87	37	0	0	2	0
WI MADISON	55	37	63	29	46	1	0.06	-0.61	0.04	3.64	97	6.65	113	85	44	0	2	2	0
WI MILWAUKEE	51	36	59	31	43	-1	0.51	-0.32	0.19	4.72	101	10.08	131	89	52	0	1	3	0
WY CASPER	49	21	61	17	35	-7	0.70	0.35	0.38	1.97	113	2.50	87	88	29	0	7	3	0
WY CHEYENNE	47	22	63	15	35	-7	0.11	-0.19	0.04	0.96	56	1.44	58	86	38	0	7	4	0
WY LANDER	51	25	64	18	38	-5	0.12	-0.36	0.12	2.14	96	2.88	87	78	23	0	7	1	0
WY SHERIDAN	51	24	64	20	38	-6	0.36	-0.03	0.26	1.74	95	2.33	72	83	38	0	7	4	0

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

Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending April 18, 1999

Winter Wheat Percent Headed				
	Apr 18 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	43	10	43	27
CA	60	40	57	74
CO	1	0	4	2
GA	78	46	40	62
ID	0	0	0	0
IL	0	0	0	0
IN	0	0	0	0
KS	0	0	0	0
MI	0	0	0	0
MO	1	0	1	1
MT	0	0	0	0
NE	0	0	0	0
NC	23	18	18	17
OH	0	0	0	0
OK	19	7	11	11
OR	0	0	0	0
SD	0	0	0	0
TX	21	16	25	23
WA	0	0	0	0
19 Sts	9	5	8	7

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

Corn Percent Planted				
	Apr 18 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
CO	3	2	2	5
GA	92	83	77	86
IL	6	2	1	4
IN	4	2	0	2
IA	1	0	1	2
KS	9	3	10	9
KY	21	8	25	20
MI	0	0	0	0
MN	0	0	3	2
MO	18	12	13	18
NE	1	0	1	1
NC	50	25	43	50
OH	7	4	2	2
PA	1	0	4	1
SD	0	0	0	0
TX	55	53	58	58
WI	0	0	0	0
17 Sts	6	4	5	6

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

Cotton Percent Planted				
	Apr 18 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	21	6	17	15
AZ	23	15	29	52
AR	0	0	0	2
CA	30	2	9	36
GA	6	3	8	7
LA	3	0	3	5
MS	4	1	2	5
MO	2	0	0	0
NM	9	2	9	17
NC	5	0	7	4
OK	2	0	0	0
SC	8	3	3	5
TN	0	0	0	2
TX	11	10	15	14
14 Sts	10	5	10	12

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

Sorghum Percent Planted				
	Apr 18 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	11	5	28	22
CO	0	0	0	0
IL	0	0	0	0
KS	0	0	0	0
LA	12	5	20	19
MS	17	8	21	33
MO	0	0	0	1
NE	0	0	0	0
NM	0	0	0	0
OK	1	0	2	3
SD	0	0	0	0
TX	39	38	48	50
12 Sts	15	14	19	20

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

Oats Percent Planted				
	Apr 18 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
IA	85	74	20	51
MI	59	37	43	15
MN	15	5	14	8
NE	74	55	35	53
ND	1	1	2	0
OH	71	49	62	41
PA	34	29	47	32
SD	28	25	26	14
WI	30	18	9	10
9 Sts	32	24	19	17

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

Peanuts Percent Planted				
	Apr 18 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	6	NA	5	4
FL	6	NA	1	NA
GA	4	NA	2	6
NC	0	NA	1	0
OK	0	NA	1	0
SC	8	NA	0	6
TX	2	NA	0	1
VA	0	NA	1	1
8 Sts	3	NA	2	3

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

Barley Percent Planted				
	Apr 18 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	28	21	29	36
MN	1	0	3	1
MT	20	11	12	11
ND	0	0	1	1
SD	17	13	26	10
WA	50	35	69	49
6 Sts	15	10	16	14

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

Spring Wheat Percent Planted				
	Apr 18 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	44	30	39	54
MN	5	3	3	3
MT	18	10	14	9
ND	1	1	3	1
SD	31	22	35	13
5 Sts	11	7	11	7

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

Rice Percent Planted				
	Apr 18 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	8	1	33	23
CA	0	0	0	0
LA	70	57	75	61
MS	24	4	34	43
TX	54	46	71	51
5 Sts	24	16	40	31

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

(Continued on page 12)

National Agricultural Summary

April 12 - 18, 1999

HIGHLIGHTS

Cold air pushed southward through the Great Plains late in the week, freezing maturing wheat fields in the southern Great Plains and halting development in the central and northern Great Plains. Hail also caused crop damage in the southern Great Plains, when a line of severe storms passed through during midweek. Persistent showers around a low-pressure area limited fieldwork and prevented row crop planting in most of the Corn Belt. Dry conditions along the Ohio River Valley in the southern Corn Belt and Atlantic Coastal Plains

permitted steady fieldwork and an accelerated planting pace. Dry weather aided fieldwork and small grain seeding, while sunny skies improved wheat development in parts of the northern Great Plains, northern Rocky Mountains, and Pacific Northwest. Warmer weather were needed to dry soils in parts of the northern Great Plains and upper Mississippi Valley, while some areas of the Pacific Northwest needed rain to germinate seeds. Warmer weather encouraged planting and aided crop development in the Southwest.

Winter Wheat: Nine percent of the winter wheat crop was headed, slightly ahead of last year and the 5-year average. Parts of the central and southern Great Plains received beneficial soaking rains, but freezing temperatures and hail damaged some wheat fields in the southern Great Plains. Cloudy, rainy, and cold weather hindered development in the lower Mississippi Valley and southern and central areas of the Corn Belt. In the eastern Corn Belt, lighter showers, more sunshine, and warmer weather aided development. Dry, sunny weather improved crop conditions slightly in the northern Great Plains, despite below-normal temperatures. In the Pacific Northwest, warmer, drier weather promoted healthier development, but more sunshine was needed. Conditions deteriorated in the Southeast due to dry soils.

Mountains. Cool weather and slow-drying soils hindered progress in the northern Great Plains and upper Mississippi Valley.

Other crops: Twenty-four percent of the rice acreage was planted, well behind last year's 40 percent and the normal pace of 31 percent. Drier weather promoted accelerated planting in the inland Mississippi Delta rice-producing areas, but progress remained behind normal. Along the western Gulf Coast, progress continued at a steady pace and remained ahead of normal. Sorghum planting was 15 percent complete, behind the 19 percent pace last year and the 5-year average of 20 percent. Progress accelerated but remained behind normal in the lower Mississippi Valley. Three percent of the peanut crop was planted, slightly ahead of last year, but equal to the 5-year average.

Corn: Six percent of the Nation's corn was planted, up slightly from the previous week and slightly ahead of last year, but equal to the normal pace. Progress accelerated in the Atlantic Coastal Plains and in a narrow strip along the Ohio River Valley in the southern Corn Belt where dry conditions prevailed. Elsewhere in the Corn Belt, persistent showers prevented most planting and field preparations. Dry weather aided modest progress in the central Great Plains, but soil moisture was needed to aid seed germination.

Cotton: Planting advanced 5 percentage points to 10 percent complete, equal to last year's pace but behind the average for this date. Planting in the Southwest rapidly progressed as warmer weather prevailed. Showers in southern California had little impact on planting, and Arizona remained dry. In the Atlantic Coastal Plains, dry weather permitted modest planting progress and active field preparations, but rain was needed to replenish soil moisture and germinate seeds. Midweek rains interrupted planting in the lower Mississippi Valley and adjacent areas of the Southeast.

Small grains: Oat planting, at 32 percent, was more than 1 week ahead of last year and the 5-year average for this date. Cold, rainy weather limited planting in the northern Corn Belt, but progress remained well ahead of normal, especially in Iowa. In the eastern Corn Belt and central Great Plains, drier weather permitted rapid progress. Cool weather and poor drying conditions limited progress in the northern Great Plains. Spring wheat was 11 percent planted, equal to last year's progress, but 1 week ahead of the 7-percent average for this date. Barley planting advanced to 15 percent, compared with 16 percent last year and 14 percent normally seeded by this date. Sowing of spring wheat and barley was aided by dry, sunny weather in the Pacific Northwest and northern Rocky

(Continued from page 11)

Winter Wheat Crop Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
AR	0	1	15	54	30
CA	0	0	10	85	5
CO	3	7	24	54	12
GA	2	11	40	43	4
ID	0	1	10	67	22
IL	2	1	20	68	9
IN	0	2	14	59	25
KS	0	3	19	59	19
MI	0	1	7	52	40
MO	0	4	31	54	11
MT	1	7	38	49	5
NE	0	1	18	71	10
NC	0	4	20	68	8
OH	0	1	10	56	33
OK	0	1	18	73	8
OR	3	11	25	56	5
SD	0	1	11	64	24
TX	8	14	42	30	6
WA	5	9	41	43	2
19 Sts	2	5	24	56	13
Prev Wk	1	4	22	59	14
Prev Yr	0	4	20	58	18

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

State Agricultural Summaries

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

ALABAMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Topsoil 11% very short, 31% short, 46% adequate, 12% surplus. Adverse conditions delayed corn, cotton, peanut planting. Small grains condition was good to excellent. Corn planted 62%, 69% 1998, 65% avg.; emerged 44%. Cotton planted 21%, 17% 1998, 15% avg. Soybeans planted 2%, 2% 1998, 1% avg. Peanuts planted 6%, 5% 1998, 4% avg. Wheat headed 42%, 41% 1998, 43% avg.; 3% poor, 21% fair, 63% good, 13% excellent. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 10% poor, 39% fair, 45% good, 5% excellent. Livestock 1% very poor, 3% poor, 22% fair, 49% good, 25% excellent.

ARIZONA: Cotton planting is about 1 week behind 1998, 2 weeks behind the average. Small grains heading continued to progress last week. As of April 18, 78% of the durum wheat, 83% of other wheat, 83% of the barley, 60% of the other small grains had headed. Alfalfa harvest activity was reported as 63% not being harvested, 4% light, 8% moderate, 25% active. Some fields are being green chopped. Alfalfa 3% poor, 21% fair, 68% good, 8% excellent. Range, pasture feed 7% very poor, 25% poor, 52% fair, 16% good; held steady last week. Central areas producers shipped artichokes, asparagus, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cilantro, dandelion, dill, flowering kale, green onions, kale, leeks, mixed greens, parsley, radicchio, radishes, spinach, swiss chard last week. Lettuce shipments included head lettuce, leaf lettuce, romaine. Eastern areas producers shipped greenhouse tomatoes. Western producers harvested anise, bok choy, broccoflower, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, celery, endive, flowering kale, radicchio, salad savoy, specialty leaf, spinach, swiss chard. Lettuce shipments included Boston, head, leaf, romaine. Central, western areas citrus shipments included grapefruit, lemons, Valencia oranges last week.

ARKANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 4. Topsoil 55% adequate, 45% surplus. Temperatures were below normal for the week, with precipitation varying across the State. Livestock are reported in good condition. Cattle on wheat pasture are continuing to make good gains. Main farm activities: Planting of rice, corn, soybeans and sorghum, fertilizing pastures and wheat. Other activities: Planting of tomatoes, other vegetables, scouting wheat fields for disease, spraying of pastures for weeds, spraying of peach orchards, and other fruit trees for diseases.

CALIFORNIA: Early in the week, field activities were delayed by rain. By midweek, fieldwork had resumed, was quite active, as above-normal temperatures and dry conditions prevailed in most areas. Small grain lodging problems remained prevalent in the San Joaquin Valley, although most fields were expected to recover. Wheat head development began, corn fields were emerging in the Sacramento Valley. Corn for grain, silage continued to be planted in most growing areas. Safflower planting was complete in the Sacramento Valley. Cotton planting quickly gained momentum in the San Joaquin Valley as the week progressed, while planting was just getting underway in the Sacramento Valley. Some earlier seeded fields were re-seeded due to poor germination caused by cool soil temperatures. Sugar beets were thinned, treated for aphids in the Sacramento Valley. Seedbed preparations for planting corn, cotton, dry beans, rice were ongoing. Rice stubble burning was virtually complete. Planting of wild rice began in the Sacramento Valley. Alfalfa hay fields were sprayed for weeds, weevils. Seed alfalfa was mowed in the central San Joaquin Valley. Alfalfa, small grains, winter forages were cut for hay or green chopped. Warm weather enhanced the maturity, growth of grapes, nuts, stone fruit. Growers in the San Joaquin, Sacramento Valleys were still observing orchards, vineyards for frost, hail damage from the previous week's weather. Reports indicate that damage was scattered. Cultural activities included extensive weed control, irrigation of vineyards, orchards. Stone fruit thinning was active. Olive tree bloom was developing. Cherries were in full bloom. Fig and walnut trees were leafing

out. Citrus was picked in southern areas. Strawberries in the Central Valley were blooming and small berries were forming. Planting of tomatoes by seed, transplants continued in the San Joaquin, Sacramento Valleys. Damage to fields from frost was still being assessed. Lettuce harvest peaked in the southern end of the San Joaquin Valley. Quality has been good to excellent. Lettuce growth was expected to accelerate with warmer temperatures. Cantaloupe and sweet corn planting increased as growers moved to take advantage of warming soil temperatures. Spring harvest of Imperial Valley cantaloupe and sweet corn has been delayed due to early April's cool weather. Other crops harvested this week were asparagus, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, carrots, spinach, turnips, potatoes, and various greens. Forage on rangeland pastures was plentiful, in generally fair to good condition. Although March, April rains have been beneficial to forage production, warm temperatures began taking a toll on lower foothill pastures. Many annual grass species were heading out, rapidly maturing. Rangeland at higher elevations was in excellent condition, with a plentiful supply of feed and water. Range livestock remained in good condition, with good weight gains being made. Cattle ranchers expected to begin shipping next week in some south-central areas, since range grass is maturing faster than normal. Spring feeder lambs were being moved off south-central foothill pastures, onto clover or to feedlots.

COLORADO: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.5. Topsoil 6% very short, 31% short, 60% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil 8% very short, 32% short, 57% adequate, 3% surplus. Field activities, crop development slowed by scattered rain, snow showers late in week. Sub-freezing temperatures on 17th, 18th in western valleys, across the eastern Plains caused further damage to fruit crops, burned the upper leaves on winter wheat. Extent of damage not yet determined. Winter wheat 39% jointed, 16% 1998, 14% avg. Spring wheat 51% planted, 36% 1998, 32% avg.; 24% emerged, 19% 1998, 13% avg. Spring barley 52% seeded, 49% 1998, 47% avg.; 25% emerged, 25% 1998, 18% avg. Oats 69% seeded, 40% 1998, 42% avg.; 28% emerged, 24% 1998, 21% avg. Dry onions 86% planted, 75% 1998, 76% avg.; 4% very poor, 9% poor, 23% fair, 46% good, 18% excellent. Sugar beets 61% planted, 49% 1998, 70% avg. Summer potatoes 48% planted, 38% 1998, 46% avg. Livestock in mostly fair to good condition.

DELAWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.3. Topsoil 75% adequate, 25% surplus. Subsoil 97% adequate, 3% surplus. Winter wheat 13% fair, 80% good, 7% excellent. Barley 17% fair, 75% good, 8% excellent; 15% headed, 44% 1998, 12% avg. Potatoes 60% planted, 79% 1998, 56% avg. Green peas 70% planted, 69% 1998, 54% avg. Snap beans 5% planted, 3% 1998, 1% avg. Sweet corn 12% planted, 6% 1998, 5% avg. Apples 30% bloomed, 73% 1998, 23% avg. Peaches 97% bloomed, 97% 1998, 61% avg. Strawberries 30% bloomed, 42% 1998, 22% avg. Hay supplies 17% short, 83% adequate. Pasture feed 5% fair, 70% good, 25% excellent. Activities: Scouting of wheat show problems with cereal leaf beetle activity, powdery mildew. Potato, pea plantings are making major advances.

FLORIDA: Topsoil moisture throughout State very short to short. Tobacco planting winding down. Not quite as warm as previous week but continued dry. Most stations reported less than an inch of rain falling by week's end, all areas still well below normal for season. Wildfires reported, several areas. Temperatures 70's degrees F. Maximum temperatures above 90° F, most parts of State, although Gainesville, some other stations reported maximum in upper 80's degrees F. Most minimum temperatures in 50's degrees F, with some stations reporting minimums below 50° F. Corn planting winding down. Cotton, peanut planting starting. Spring planted crop land preparations active. Sugarcane harvest virtually complete. Peanuts planted 6%. Major vegetables shipped: snap beans,

sweet corn, cucumbers, eggplant, endive, escarole, lettuce, okra, parsley, peppers, pickles, radishes, squash, tomatoes, watermelons. Rain most of 17th citrus area. Dry rest of week. More rain needed. Bloom lagging due to dry conditions. Valencia harvest still active. Grapefruit movement continues strong. Temple, Honey tangerine about over. Caretakers cutting cover crops. Post bloom spraying very active. Pushing and resetting continues. Pasture, feed very poor 20%, poor 65%, fair 15%. Cattle; very poor 5%, poor 40%, fair 50%, good 5%.

GEORGIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Soil moisture 26% very short, 41% short, 32% adequate, 1% surplus. Corn 1% very poor, 11% poor, 33% fair, 51% good, 4% excellent; 87% emerged, 56% 1998. Cotton 1% very poor, 13% poor, 54% fair, 28% good, 4% excellent. Hay 5% very poor, 15% poor, 44% fair, 33% good, 3% excellent. Sorghum 5% poor, 53% fair, 42% good; 16% planted, 4% 1998, 6% avg. Tobacco 2% very poor, 7% poor, 40% fair, 47% good, 4% excellent; 89% transplanted, 55% 1998, 82% avg. Wheat 98% jointing, 88% 1998, 97% avg.; 89% boot, 72% 1998, 87% avg. Onions 4% very poor, 14% poor, 23% fair, 58% good, 1% excellent; 4% harvested, 5% 1998, 8% avg. Watermelons 5% poor, 31% fair, 53% good, 11% excellent; 83% planted, 66% 1998, 79% avg. Apples 1% very poor, 13% poor, 13% fair, 73% good; 48% blooming, 63% 1998, 77% avg. Peaches 10% very poor, 15% poor, 17% fair, 24% good, 34% excellent; 98% blooming, 100% 1998, 100% avg. Pasture feed 5% very poor, 16% poor, 40% fair, 35% good, 4% excellent. Dry conditions were beginning to affect fieldwork, crops. County Extension Officials 67% of the State's topsoil moisture to be short or very short, compared with 61% last week. Corn 92% planted, continued to emerge faster than 1998. Condition decreased. Wheat continued in fair to good condition and continued to head faster than last year and the 5-year average. Cotton planting continued, was mostly in fair condition. Peanut planting continued this week, with 4% of the crop planted. Onion condition continued to be rated good. Harvest was behind 1998, average. Peach condition continued to be good, with 98% of the crop bloomed. Watermelons were mostly in good condition, with 83% planted. Other activities included spraying pastures, pecan trees, irrigating tobacco, vegetables, treating livestock.

HAWAII: Crops made fair to good progress under improved weather conditions. Mostly sunny, dry, except for central, southern sections of State where moderate showers continued to fall. Banana orchards recovering from wind damage inflicted the previous week. Harvesting will be steady. Papaya orchards were in mostly fair condition. Continued showers slowed crop progress. Harvesting remained active. Head cabbage fields were in good condition. Dry onion harvesting continued active. Rains interrupted harvesting of 1998/99 crop.

IDAHO: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.6. Topsoil 7% short, 63% adequate, 30% surplus. Warm, dry conditions across the State boost spring plantings of cereal grains. Calving is 95% complete, lambing 96%. Hay, roughage supplies were reported to be 8% short, 48% adequate, 44% surplus. Irrigation 65% excellent, 35% good. Dry peas planted 27%, 1998 20% avg. 14%; emerged 6%, 1998 6%, avg. 4%. Onions planted 95%, 1998 83%, avg. 90%; emerged 12%, 1998 21%, avg. 31%. Oats planted 1%, 1998 23%, avg. 25%; emerged 1%, 1998 7%, avg. 7%. Lentils planted 0, 1998 5%, avg. 7%. Corn planted 5%, 1998 1%, avg. 2%. Potatoes planted 5%, 1998 6%, avg. 8%. Barley emerged 8%, 1998 10%, avg. 11%. Spring wheat emerged 14%, 1998 15%, avg. 18. Sugar beets planted 34%, 1998 59%, avg. 69%; emerged 2%, 1998 11%, avg. 15%. Winter wheat jointed 4%. Activities: planting spring wheat, barley, potatoes, onions, dry peas, oats, sugar beets, corn, caring for livestock, field preparation, hauling seed potatoes, fencing, applying fertilizer.

ILLINOIS: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.6. Topsoil 2% short, 42% adequate, 56% surplus. Another wet week limited fieldwork. Despite the conditions, farmers were able to make progress planting corn. The recent rains have also made feedlots muddy causing concern for hoof-related diseases. Moisture has, however, promoted excellent development of small grains, legumes. Other activities last week included hauling grain, spring tillage, applying fertilizer, preparing machinery. Oats planted 89%,

43% 1998, 64% avg. Alfalfa 1% very poor, 2% poor, 18% fair, 69% good, 10% excellent.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.5. Topsoil 4% short, 50% adequate, 46% surplus. Subsoil 1% very short, 10% short, 61% adequate, 28% surplus. Corn planting continued, soybean planting underway. Winter wheat 52% jointed, 66% 1998, 28% avg. Wheat condition improved. Field activities made good progress early in the week, before showers halted fieldwork in most areas. Ponding in some fields. Over 2 inches of rain in many areas. Pastures, forage crops improving. Range, pasture 1% very poor, 5% poor, 22% fair, 59% good, 13% excellent. Hay supplies mostly adequate. Feedlots muddy. Activities: Tilling soils, spreading fertilizer, pesticides and anhydrous ammonia, picking up seed, hauling manure, moving grain, calving, lambing, preparing equipment, feeding and caring for livestock.

IOWA: Days suitable for fieldwork 1.1. Topsoil adequate 57%, surplus 43%. Subsoil short 5%, adequate 72%, surplus 23%. Cool weather, scattered showers, snow on the 16th. Corn planted 1%, 1998 1%, avg. 2%. Oats planted 85%, 98 20%, avg. 51%. Winter wheat poor 1%, fair 21%, good 69%, excellent 9%. Fertilizer applied (including fall applications) 75% complete. Seedbed preparation (including fall preparation) 79% complete. Many feedlots muddy, some stress reported with cattle. Range, pasture feed poor 5%, fair 24%, good 56%, excellent 15%.

KANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.3. Topsoil 1% short, 60% adequate, 39% surplus. Subsoil 4% short, 73% adequate, 23% surplus. Temperatures fell below 32° F late last week, raising some concern about freeze damage to the winter wheat crop. The extent of the damage, if any, is uncertain at this time. In addition to the frost, heavy rainfall in many areas of the State left some wheat standing in water. Wheat jointing 78%, 64% 1998, 56% avg. High winds in some areas of the State last week resulted in minor damage to the wheat crop. Wheat wind damage 2% moderate, 14% light, 84% no damage. Spring oats seeding 99%, 86% 1998, 97% avg. Alfalfa weevils continue to be active across the State, with a few reports of army cutworms. Insect infestation 3% severe, 10% moderate, 22% light, 65% with no infestation. Disease infestation remains minimal, with a few reports of wheat streak mosaic, soil borne mosaic, barley yellow dwarf, leaf rust. Before the heavy rainfall last week, major field activities were seedbed preparation, applying fertilizer and herbicides, planting corn, spraying for alfalfa weevils. Pasture feed 2% very poor, 3% poor, 22% fair, 64% good, 9% excellent. Currently, 41% of the roughage requirements for cattle are coming from pasture. Major livestock activities for the week were calving, lambing, working spring calves, selling yearlings, and moving cattle to grass. Some pasture burning took place in the eastern half of the State, but was hampered by the rainfall.

KENTUCKY: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.0. Topsoil 3% very short, 19% short, 60% adequate, 18% surplus. Subsoil 4% very short, 18% short, 63% adequate, 15% surplus. Cool weather returned combined with below-average amounts of rain throughout State. Some roof damage due to strong winds. About 92% of tobacco transplants sown, 94% in 1998, 91% avg. Corn planting slowed by rainy conditions. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 2% poor, 13% fair, 61% good, 23% excellent. Average height of alfalfa 9 inches. Barley 1% poor, 9% fair, 55% good, 35% excellent. Damage to peaches minimal after light frost. Cattle in good shape. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 8% poor, 33% fair, 43% good, 15% excellent.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Soil moisture 1% very short, 26% short, 59% adequate, 14% surplus. Corn 2% poor, 40% fair, 41% good, 17% excellent; 100% planted, 100% 1998, 94% avg.; 79% emerged, 93% 1998, 86% avg. Cotton farmers were getting ready for planting. Hay 7% 1st cutting, 4% 1998, 4% avg. Rice 48% emerged, 56% 1998, 42% avg. Rice farmers continued to plant, fertilize, and spray herbicides. Sorghum 4% emerged, 7% 1998, 7% avg. Soybeans 3% planted, 1% 1998, 1% avg. Soybean producers began planting. Spring plowing 78% plowing, 87% 1998, 79% avg. Sugarcane 1% very poor, 6% poor, 24% fair, 48% good, 21% excellent. Sugarcane growers proceeded

with fertilizing, applying herbicides. Sweet potatoes 1% planted, 1% 1998, 1% avg. Wheat 1% poor 24% fair, 67% good, 8% excellent; 98% headed, 98% 1998, 79% avg.; 3% turning color, 14% 1998, 7% avg. Livestock 4% poor, 32% fair, 53% good, 11% excellent. Vegetables 6% poor, 37% fair, 52% good, 5% excellent. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 8% poor, 32% fair, 48% good, 11% excellent. Cattlemen were marketing heavier calves, culling older cows, fertilizing pastures.

MARYLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.7. Subsoil 2% very short, 3% short, 91% adequate, and 4% surplus. Topsoil 2% short, 83% adequate, 15% surplus. Winter wheat 4% poor, 21% fair, 51% good, 24% excellent. Barley 3% poor, 20% fair, 49% good, 28% excellent; 30% headed, 38% 1998, 10% avg. Rye 2% poor, 21% fair, 67% good, 10% excellent; 12% headed, 29% 1998, 9% avg. Potatoes 76% planted, 97% 1998, 70% avg. Green peas 90% planted, 42% 1998, 52% avg. Field corn 7% planted, 13% 1998, 8% avg. Sweet corn 16% planted, 13% 1998, 12% avg. Snap beans 7% planted, 4% 1998, 4% avg. Tomatoes 10% planted, 13% 1998, 6% avg. Peaches 71% bloomed, 90% 1998, 48% avg. Apples 20% bloomed, 65% 1998, 25% avg. Strawberries 21% bloomed, 32% 1998, 26% avg. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 3% poor, 18% fair, 68% good, 10% excellent. Hay supplies 2% very short, 24% short, 71% adequate, 3% surplus. Activities: Several reports of wheat scouting show problems with cereal leaf beetles and powdery mildew.

MICHIGAN: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.5. Subsoil 12% very short, 34% short, 52% adequate, 2% surplus. Topsoil 27% short, 60% adequate, 13% surplus. Temperatures decreased from the previous week and ranged from normal in the north to 5° below normal in the southwest. Rain in the south, snow in the north from the end of the previous week kept farmers out of their fields over much of the State. Cooler weather reduced the rate of soil drying. Sugar beet plantings were approaching 50 percent, earlier than average. Oat and barley planting continued. Fruit crops were 7 to 10 days ahead of normal, but a week behind development from a year ago. The flower bud crop was expected to be normal to above normal. Fruit activities included spraying and pruning. Asparagus crown digging was almost complete, with good quality. Asparagus fields were being prepared for harvest. Early carrots, cabbage, potatoes, and sweet corn were planted. Pastures were greening up with 4 to 8 inches or more of new growth. Some cattle in the south were being turned out to pasture. Feed supplies were still good to adequate in most areas.

MINNESOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 0.8. Topsoil 1% very short, 1% short, 62% adequate, 36% surplus. Spring wheat 5% planted 3% 1998, 3% avg. Oats 15% planted, 14% 1998, 8% avg. Barley 1% planted, 3% 1998, 1% avg. Corn 5% ground prepared, 9% 1998, 4% avg.; 0% planted, 3% 1998, 2% avg. Soybeans 1% ground prepared, 3% 1998, 1% avg. Green peas 6% planted, 9% 1998, 4% avg. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 14% poor, 35% fair, 46% good, 4% excellent. Alfalfa 5% very poor, 4% poor, 22% fair, 59% good, 10% excellent. Cool, wet conditions during the past week slowed or halted field activity. There was little or no progress during the past week. Warm, dry conditions will be needed before full-scale fieldwork can begin. It will be at least one week in most areas before any major fieldwork can begin.

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.2. Soil moisture 4% very short, 11% short, 49% adequate, 36% surplus. Corn 74% planted, 70% 1998, 78% avg.; 48% emerged, 48% 1998, 51% avg.; 2% very poor 8% poor, 27% fair, 59% good, 4% excellent. Cotton 4% planted, 2% 1998, 5% avg. Rice 24% planted, 34% 1998, 43% avg. Sorghum 17% planted, 21% 1998, 33% avg. Soybeans 10% planted, 11% 1998, 10% avg. Watermelons 41% planted, 23% 1998, 44% avg. Wheat 96% jointing, 86% 1998, 94% avg.; 74% heading, 31% 1998, 43% avg.; 6% poor, 37% fair, 53% good, 4% excellent. Blueberries 8% very poor, 3% poor, 37% fair, 46% good, 6% excellent. very poor, 6% poor, 22% fair, 53% good, 18% excellent. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 7% poor, 32% fair, 48% good, 12% excellent. Drier conditions allowed farmers more planting time in fields during the past week.

MISSOURI: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.5. Topsoil 1% short, 38% adequate, 61% surplus. Saturated field conditions sharply limited tillage, planting activities during the past week. Several creeks were reported near flood stage in northern areas as well as in some central, southeastern counties. Corn 18% planted. Many farmers in the northwest, northeast are still waiting for fields to dry before corn planting can begin. Cotton 2% planted. 2% of winter wheat in Bethel has begun heading, while the crop in all other districts is less advanced. Sorghum planting not begun. Winter wheat 4% poor, 31% fair, 54% good, 11% excellent. Ground worked at least once for spring crops 54%. Temperatures 5 to 9° below normal. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 3% poor, 24% fair, 61% good, 11% excellent. Precipitation 2.21 in.

MONTANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.4. Topsoil 11% very short, 27% short, 59% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil 11% very short, 32% short, 55% adequate, 2% surplus. More producers were able to get into their fields last week as little precipitation was received. However, some indicated difficulty getting into their fields as some fields are too dry and frosts are still occurring at night. Fieldwork in progress 25% none, 43% just started, 32% well underway. At the end of the week, winter wheat emergence was 2% still dormant, 29% greening, 69% green and growing. Wind damage to winter wheat 23% none, 53% light, 21% moderate, 3% heavy. Freeze and drought damage to the winter wheat crop 26% none, 64% light, 8% moderate, and 2% heavy. Sugar beets planted 21%, 28% 1998, 17% avg. Oats planted 6%, 7% 1998, 6% avg. Mild temperatures have resulted in livestock being in good condition as feed supplies remain adequate. Calving, lambing is making good progress as few problems have occurred, death losses are down. Calving completed 82%, 82% 1998, 84% avg. Lambing completed 57%, 68% 1998, 66% avg. Cattle receiving supplemental feed was 88%, sheep receiving supplemental feed was 87%.

NEBRASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.1. Topsoil 3% short, 72% adequate, 25% surplus. Subsoil 6% short, 81% adequate, 12% surplus. Temperatures 2 to 3° F below normals. Rainfall of 1 inch or more limited field activities in the eastern two thirds of the State. Wheat 1% poor, 18% fair, 71% good, 10% excellent. Wheat jointed 3%, 4% behind 1998. Hard freezing temperatures were recorded in many western counties last week, but winter wheat canopy was expected to have limited damage. Corn 1% planted, 1% 1998, 1% avg. Oats 74% seeded, 35% 1998, 53% avg.; 38% emerged, 11% 1998. Calving 85% complete, compared with 88% 1998. Favorable weather conditions have been good for the calving season. Pasture, range feed 3% poor, 18% fair, 69% good, 10% excellent. Hay plentiful. Producer activities: Fence fixing, hauling grain, ordering supplies for field crops, applying fertilizer, herbicide, moving cattle to summer pasture.

NEVADA: Normal temperatures returned to most of the State by the 12th. There was some precipitation in the southern portion of the State. Return of warmer weather helped alfalfa growth as well as range forage growth. Irrigation water remains adequate. Irrigation has begun in much of the State, as well as some field preparation, planting. Calving is over half way completed, shearing and lambing are well underway. Movement of livestock to spring ranges is underway. Main farm and ranch activities: Irrigating, burning ditches, planting, lambing, shearing, calving, branding, vaccinating, movement of livestock.

NEW ENGLAND: Fields continue to dry out from winter precipitation. Dry April thus far, more rain is needed. Farmers tending livestock, assisting spring calving, repairing machinery, preparing fields for spring planting. Fruit growers pruning trees. Manure spreading by dairy farmers continues. Garden centers starting sales of spring plants. Southern part of region beginning to green up.

NEW JERSEY: Days suitable for fieldwork 4. Soil preparation activities for field crops slowed down slightly during the week. Temperatures below normal. Extremes were 69° at several locations on the 16th, 31° at several locations on 15th to 17th. Rainfall was 0.57 in. in the north, 0.28 in. central, 0.27 in. south. The heaviest 24-hour total was 0.73 in. at Belvidere on the

16th and 17th. Estimated soil moisture, in percentage of field capacity, 97% north, 96% central, 93% south. Four-inch soil temperatures averaged 48° north, 50° central, 51° South. Hay, barley and wheat are looking good. Some oats are being planted in northern areas. Potato planting was also slightly delayed. Cabbage, lettuce, spring spinach planting is virtually completed in the south and parts of the central areas, while more than half of the northern crop has already been planted. Winter spinach harvesting continues in the south. Sweet corn planting is still in its early stages and much of it is still under plastic. Asparagus planting also continues and some harvesting is occurring in southern areas. Some harvesting of dandelions was reported in southern counties. Some producers have already started to plant tomatoes. Spraying and pruning of fruit trees is in full swing. Peach trees are in heavy bloom in the south, central areas, some petals have started to fall. Near-freezing temperatures by midweek had little effect on peach trees. Most apple trees are in tight cluster, but some in the north are in the ½-inch green stage. Some strawberries bushes are blooming.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. A slow-moving storm system produced abundant rainfall in the eastern side of the State last week. Accumulated precipitation for the week reached a high of 1.66 in. northeast. Cooler temperatures, 4° F below normal statewide, delayed planting in many areas. In the north, producers reported light to moderate freeze damage to their fruit crops, while in the eastern plains, the wind caused light damage to the wheat and alfalfa crops. Across the State, farmers continued with spring planting, field preparations, irrigating and fertilizing, while ranchers were calving, branding and continuing with supplemental feeding. Corn planting got underway, with 7% in the ground by the end of the week. Cotton planting continued slowly, as producers waited for warmer weather. In southern New Mexico, 85% of the chile crop was planted, as lettuce producers prepared for harvest. Recent precipitation could not overcome the drying effect of the wind, with the soil moisture, range and pasture feed condition ratings falling last week. Cattle, sheep were in mostly fair condition.

NEW YORK: Mild weather promoted outside activities. Maple syrup season wound down. Producers were removing taps, cleaning equipment. Onion planting in Orange County picked up momentum. Plowing became more widespread as fields dried. Fruit producers cleaning orchards, pruning trees. Other major activities: Tending livestock, spreading manure, equipment maintenance.

NORTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.1. Cooler weather prevailed throughout the State. Many areas of the State received rainfall with some isolated areas reporting severe weather. High winds damaged buildings, including hog, turkey houses, scattered debris across cropland. Even with the rains, soil moisture levels are drifting toward short, with present ratings of 2% very short, 27% short, 60% adequate, 11% surplus. Major progress was made in corn planting this week as the estimated percentage planted rose to 50%, double the level for last week. Flue-cured tobacco planting, in the counties near the southern area border, is gathering momentum as the weather becomes more conducive for setting plants. Cabbage planting is all but finished, ahead of the 5-year average. Small gains in wheat heading were reported, along with a couple of reports of cereal leaf blight. However, all small grains look good. Field preparation for corn, cotton, tobacco plantings continued during the week. Other activities included fertilizing, preparing planting equipment, applying pesticides, tending livestock, pasture maintenance.

NORTH DAKOTA: Planting has begun in the southern tier counties, while the rest of the State needs warm, sunny days to dry out seed beds before planting can begin. Mild weather in the beginning of the week helped to dry lots, thus improving conditions for newborn calves. Topsoil 4% short, 83% adequate, 13% surplus. Subsoil 3% short, 85% adequate, 12% surplus. The statewide average starting date for fieldwork is expected to be April 22, April 18 1998, April 26 of the avg. Producers were busy applying anhydrous, lining up spring supplies, cleaning grain, preparing equipment for this year's planting season. Planting of sugar beets has started in some areas. Livestock were mostly in good condition as calving

and lambing seasons near completion. Ninety-one percent of the sheep and 93% of cattle received supplemental feed. Calving 76% complete, up 13% from last week. Lambing was 79% complete and shearing 84% complete. Cattle 1% poor, 14% fair, 78% good, 7% excellent; calf 1% poor, 15% fair, 77% good, 7% excellent; sheep 1% poor, 10% fair, 81% good, 8% excellent; lamb 1% poor, 10% fair, 80% good, 9% excellent. Grain, concentrates 1% very short, 3% short, 89% adequate, 7% surplus. Eighty-four percent of the pastures were still dormant but 77% were open for grazing. Pasture feed 9% very poor, 10% poor, 25% fair, 51% good, 5% excellent.

OHIO: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.1. Topsoil 2% very short, 9% short, 65% adequate, 24% surplus. Corn 7% planted, 2% 1998, 3% avg. Soybeans 4% planted, 0% 1998, 0% avg. Winter wheat jointed 33% complete, 44% 1998, 15% avg. Oats 71% planted, 62% 1998, 41% avg.; 36% emerged, 24% 1998, 12% avg. Tobacco beds 89% seeded, 87% 1998. Tobacco beds having plants up 34%, 50% 1998. Potatoes 30% planted, 15% 1998, 7% avg. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 4% poor, 23% fair, 56% good, 16% excellent. Winter wheat 1% poor, 10% fair, 56% good, 33% excellent. Apples 67% in green tip, 85% 1998. Peaches 70% in green tip, 44% full bloom. Activities throughout the State include top dressing wheat, spreading fertilizer, manure, lime on drier fields; buying supplies for fieldwork, planting; hauling grain; repairing equipment; repairing, laying tile; planting trees; planting sugar beets; seeding CRP acres; clearing, fixing fences; hand planting some vegetable transplants; applying pre-emerge herbicides; burning brush; constructing waterways; tilling ground; seeding grasses, legumes; emptying manure pits; spraying fruit trees; planting cabbage, seeding tobacco trays. Rain was welcomed this past week as reporters commented on pastures greening up. Some pastures were too saturated causing concern over livestock damaging new grass. Reporters continue to comment on good conditions of livestock as calving, lambing are going well. Most livestock have returned to pasture, enjoying cooler temperatures. There was one report of face flies becoming a problem in the south-central district.

OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.3. Subsoil 3% very short, 13% short, 78% adequate, 6% surplus. Topsoil 8% short, 83% adequate, 9% surplus. Strong winds caused soil drying, blowing sand problems. Below-freezing temperatures concern wheat growers. Wheat 94% jointing, 89% 1998, 85% avg. Oats 83% jointing, 66% 1998, 49% avg.; 19% heading, 13% 1998, 7% avg. Corn 92% seedbed prepared, 82% 1998, 89% avg.; 23% planted, 17% 1998, 22% avg.; 7% up-to-stand, 5% 1998, 9% avg. Sorghum 54% seedbed prepared, 26% 1998, 31% avg. Soybeans 46% seedbed prepared, 46% 1998, 47% avg.; 11% planted, 5% 1998, 8% avg. Peanuts 65% seedbed prepared, 56% 1998, 52% avg. Cotton 82% seedbed prepared, 74% 1998, 64% avg. Alfalfa hay 6% 1st cutting, 7% 1998, 6% avg. Other hay 3% 1st cutting, 1% 1998, 5% avg. Pasture feed 2% very poor, 8% poor, 32% fair, 53% good, 5% excellent. Livestock 5% poor, 22% fair, 67% good, 6% excellent. Feeder cattle prices mostly steady.

OREGON: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Topsoil 10% very short, 12% short, 72% adequate, 6% surplus. Subsoil 1% very short, 21% short, 72% adequate, 6% surplus. Barley planted 67%, 73% 1998, 60% avg. Spring wheat planted 84%. Winter wheat 3% very poor, 11% poor, 25% fair, 56% good, 5% excellent. Range and pasture 34% poor, 28% fair, 38% good. Activities: Grain planting continued and alfalfa growing on eastside. Sugar beet planting started in the Klamath Basin. On the westside, spraying and fertilizing of grain and grass seed crops underway. Some grasses being replanted after slow start and some wheat sprayed for weeds. Warm weather finally increased demand for retail bedding plants and movement out of greenhouses increased. Balled and burlapped shrubs and trees moving to retail outlets. Easter lily growers turning under cover crops on fields to be planted this fall. First seeding of sweet corn underway in Rogue River Valley. Onion ground being prepared in Willamette Valley. Potato ground being worked and fertilizer applied on eastside. Willamette Valley Bartlett pears in full bloom, apples leafing out and berries greening up. Strawberries being planted. Spraying for eastern hazelnut blight underway. Rogue River Valley blight and scab sprays being applied on pears and pears in full bloom. South coast blueberries began to bloom and

cranberry development between bud break and early shoot growth. Hood River Valley pears and cherries blooming in lower valley. Upper valley pears at pink stage. Wasco County cherries blooming. Milton-Freewater cherries past full bloom. Calving winding down, branding continued. Some cattle turned out, but most received supplemental hay. Grass growth started to improve.

PENNSYLVANIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.6. Soil moisture 1% very short, 7% short, 79% adequate, 13% surplus. Plowing 42% complete, 48% 1998, 35% avg. Corn 1% complete, 4% 1998, 1% avg. Potatoes planted 14% complete, 4% 1998, 7% avg. Tobacco beds planted 100% complete, 100% 1998, 79% avg. Oat 1% poor, 28% fair, 69% good, 2% excellent. Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures stand 3% poor, 19% fair, 68% good, 10% excellent. Timothy clover stand 1% very poor, 6% poor, 23% fair, 63% good, 7% excellent. Peaches 50% pink, 81% 1998, 35% avg.; 30% full bloom or past, 73% 1998, 19% avg. Cherries 34% pink, 86% 1998, 33% avg.; 12% full bloom or past, 74% 1998, 19% avg. Apples 20% pink, 49% 1998, 21% avg. Activities included: Spring plowing; planting oats, alfalfa, potatoes, tobacco, grass; machinery maintenance; putting up and fixing fences; spreading lime, manure; caring for livestock; installing tile drains; spraying fruit trees, wheat.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Soil moisture 5% very short, 39% short, 56% adequate. Barley 25% headed, 23% 1998, 17% avg.; 21% fair, 39% good, 40% excellent. Cantaloupes 45% planted, 66% 1998, 71% avg. Corn 80% planted, 78% 1998, 85% avg. Cucumbers 67% planted, 59% 1998, 67% avg. Cotton 8% planted, 3% 1998, 5% avg. Hay 22% harvested, 16% 1998, 19% avg. Oats 49% headed, 28% 1998, 47% avg.; 2% poor, 26% fair, 70% good, 2% excellent. Peaches 4% fair, 75% good, 21% excellent. Rye 40% headed, 37% 1998, 31% avg.; 1% poor, 22% fair, 72% good, 5% excellent. Peanuts 8% planted, 6% avg. Sorghum 20% planted, 11% 1998, 6% avg. Snapbeans 56% planted, 56% 1998, 54% avg. Tobacco 52% transplanted, 36% 1998, 50% avg. Tomatoes 70% planted, 67% 1998, 81% avg. Watermelons 83% planted, 75% 1998, 78% avg. Winter wheat 45% headed, 34% 1998, 43% avg.; 27% fair, 71% good, 2% excellent.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 1.8. Subsoil 68% adequate, 32% surplus. Topsoil 64% adequate, 36% surplus. Rain across the State most of the week slowed fieldwork. Winter rye 25% excellent, 59% good, 16% fair. Range, pasture feed 18% excellent, 63% good, 14% fair, 4% poor, 1% very poor. Winter wheat breaking dormancy 97%. Winter rye breaking dormancy 90%. Cattle 23% excellent, 70% good, 7% fair. Sheep 26% excellent, 64% good, 10% fair. Calving 62% completed, 66% 1998. Lambing 70% completed, 70% 1998. Cattle moved to pasture 13%. Newborn calf death losses 28% below normal, 69% normal, 3% above normal. Newborn lamb death losses 27% below normal, 72% normal, 1% above normal. Feed supplies 3% short, 85% adequate, 12% surplus. Stock water supplies 1% short, 71% adequate, 28% surplus.

TENNESSEE: Days suitable for fieldwork 4. Topsoil 9% short, 71% adequate, 20% surplus. Subsoil 7% short, 75% adequate, 18% surplus. Corn 35% planted, 46% 1998, 41% avg. Tobacco 95% seeded, 96% 1998, 95% avg.; 75% plants up, 83% 1998, 76% avg. Wheat 85% jointed, 99% 1998, 83% avg.; 10% headed, 17% 1998, 12% avg.; 3% poor, 17% fair, 58% good, 22% excellent. Apples 90% budding or beyond, 99% 1998, 96% avg.; 62% blooming or beyond, 94% 1998, 80% avg. Peaches 98% blooming or beyond, 99% 1998, 94% avg. Pasture feed 3% very poor, 6% poor, 21% fair, 56% good, 14% excellent. Strawberries 4% poor, 25% fair, 60% good, 11% excellent. Alfalfa 1% very poor, 3% poor, 26% fair, 52% good, 18% excellent. A high pressure system over the State early last week brought mostly dry weather. Farmers took advantage of the good weather, on the 12th to 13th made excellent progress with corn planting. By midweek, most field activities grinded to a halt due to showers and thunderstorms. Temperatures for the week averaged about 5° F below normal in the east, 10° F below normal in the west. Rainfall averaged one-quarter inch below normal across the State for the week. Rainfall was were

generally around 1 inch in west and central, one-half inch in the northeastern part of the State.

TEXAS: Warm conditions through midweek gave way to much cooler weather late week. High winds reported many areas as late season front moved across State. Scattered rain, hail fell some areas, with frontal passage. High winds offset much of rain's benefit. Damage from sub-freezing temperatures in High Plains not readily known. Frost reported in Hill Country, parts of Blacklands, Central late week. Field operations hampered by high winds many areas late week; however, fieldwork active through midweek. Ranges, pastures continued show good progress most areas. Livestock conditions remained mostly good.

Crops: Small Grains: Fields in the central, southern areas continued good progress, with many turning color. Grain prospects good. Scattered rains in High Plains benefited crop; however, freezing temperatures, hail caused some problems. Fields in Blacklands continued good, with high incidents of rust reported some fields. Corn: A few fields planted in the Plains, with majority of planting to begin as fields dry from recent rains. High winds caused problems in many fields in the Blacklands, Central. The crop in these areas were in various stages of growth. Some cultivating took place during week. Early-planted fields in Coastal Bend, Rio Grande Valley beginning to tassel. Late fields also made good progress. Corn 77% normal, 78% 1998; 50% emerged, 44% 1998. Cotton planting continued in the Blacklands, with early fields slowly emerging. Fields in Coastal Bend, Rio Grande Valley made good progress. Replanted fields emerging to good stands. Land preparations completed in the plains, planting should begin on a large scale as soil temperatures continue to warm. Peanuts: Planting increased south-central fields, beginning in the north-central. Two percent planted, 0% 1998, 1% avg. Rice: Good progress continued along Upper Coast. Planting continued as weather allowed during week. 34% emerged, 40% 1998, 28% avg. Sorghum: Planting winding down in many fields in the Blacklands, with fields slowly emerging. Fields in the Central, Coastal Bend made good progress. Early-planted fields in Coastal Bend, Rio Grande Valley continued to head out. Planting should begin soon in the plains. Statewide sorghum condition rated 76% normal, compared with 77% last year. Soybeans: Fields continued to emerge to good stands in northern Blacklands. Planting continued along Upper Coast as conditions allowed. Other Crops: Sunflowers 3% planted, 0% 1998, 0% avg.

Commercial Vegetables: Rio Grande Valley, onion harvest continued, despite early week rains. Melons continued to make good progress. San Antonio-Winter Garden, watermelons, onions continued make good progress. East, planted crops made good progress during week. Late-week cold weather caught producers by surprise, some damage may have occurred. High Plains, onion planting continued as weather conditions permitted. Trans Pecos: land preparations continued. Greenhouse tomatoes continued to make good progress. Peaches: Trees in many areas have not leafed out well due to a lack of chill hours. Fruit continued to size on low-chill varieties. Pecans: Trees continued to leaf out, with good catkin development reported in many Central, Blackland groves. Zinc spraying continued as conditions allowed.

Range and Livestock: Ranges, pastures continued to show good progress in most areas. Rainfall during the week will work to further benefit. Some hay cut early week. Additional fertilizing occurred before high winds arrived late week. Livestock conditions remained good in most areas. Hornflies continued to increase in many areas. Producers marking new lambs, kids in Hill Country.

UTAH: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Topsoil 21% short, 79% adequate. Subsoil 19% short, 74% adequate, 7% surplus. Winter wheat 2% poor, 27% fair, 56% good, 15% excellent; freeze damage 80% none, 20% light. Fall barley 1% very poor, 1% poor, 15% fair, 71% good, 12% excellent; freeze damage 79% none, 19% light, 1% moderate, 1% severe. Pasture, range feed 1% very poor, 15% poor, 42% fair, 41% good, 1% excellent. Spring wheat planted 78%; 41% emerged. Barley planted 77%; emerged 40%. Oats planted 37%; 11% emerged. Sweet cherries full bloom or past 22%. Tart cherries full bloom or past 9%. Pears full bloom or past 5%. Cows calved 82%, 79% 1998, 80% avg. Ewes lambled: on farm 91%, 77% 1998, 81% avg.; on range 49%, 47% 1998, 49% avg. Sheep sheared on farm 86%, 76% 1998, 77% avg.; on range 61%, 58% 1998,

58% avg. Major farm/ranch activities included: Spring planting, spring tillage, spraying fruit, pruning fruit trees, shearing sheep, lambing, calving.

VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.6. Topsoil 1% very short, 16% short, 68% adequate, 15% surplus. Subsoil 2% very short, 26% short, 62% adequate, 10% surplus. Range, pasture feed 1% very poor, 8% poor, 29% fair, 51% good, 11% excellent. Livestock 1% very poor, 6% poor, 17% fair, 64% good, 12% excellent. Hay, other 1% very poor, 7% poor, 34% fair, 43% good, 15% excellent. Hay, alfalfa 1% poor, 30% fair, 48% good, 21% excellent. Corn for grain 20% planted, 19% 1998, 16% avg. Winter wheat 2% very poor, 5% poor, 19% fair, 59% good, 15% excellent. Barley 1% very poor, 6% poor, 21% fair, 58% good, 14% excellent. Tobacco, greenhouse 1% poor, 2% fair, 63% good, 34% excellent. Tobacco, plantbeds 2% very poor, 8% poor, 14% fair, 76% good. Peanuts 0% planted, 1% 1998, 1% avg. Cotton 1% planted, 2% 1998, 5% avg. Potatoes, Summer 96% planted, 97% 1998, 93% avg. Apples, All 9% fair, 85% good, 6% excellent. Peaches 1% poor, 16% fair, 76% good, 7% excellent. Cooler-than-normal weather swept across the Commonwealth this past week. Fieldwork was limited by precipitation in some localities, particularly in Southeastern areas. While this rainfall kept producers out of the field, most have been able to remain on normal schedule for land preparation and planting. Many southwestern localities experienced the opposite effect. Limited precipitation, windy conditions have caused topsoil to dry up. An early spring, combined with below-average year-to-date rainfall, has caused some concern among producers. Rapid progress has been made with respect to corn planting. Twenty percent has been planted to date, slightly ahead of previous year and the 5-year average. Small grain conditions improved slightly over the previous week. Producers continue to scout for cereal leaf beetles, aphids, powdery mildew. Pastures in most areas continue to show improvement. Livestock producers are taking full advantage of the weather, are beginning to turn out their herds to graze. Other activities for the week included laying plastic for vegetable production, transplanting vegetables, some early tobacco, spraying fruit trees, applying herbicides, fertilizer, lime, de-worming, marketing cattle, as well as, preparing land for corn, cotton, peanut planting.

WASHINGTON: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Topsoil 5% very short, 24% short, 65% adequate, 6% surplus. Subsoil 2% very short, 16% short, 80% adequate, 2% surplus. Winter wheat dryland 5% very poor, 10% poor, 45% fair, 38% good, 2% excellent; irrigated 100% good. Some of the winter wheat crop is still in poor condition due to the cold nightly temperatures and little sun-induced growing conditions. Estimates of re-seeding has increased in major winter wheat counties in eastern Washington.

Spring wheat, dryland 6% poor, 84% fair, 10% good; irrigated 100% good. Planted 65%, 72% 1998; 35% emerged, 43% 1998. A warming trend toward the end of the week helped emergence of spring wheat and barley, although, more moisture would be beneficial. Barley, dryland 1% poor, 89% fair and 10% good; irrigated, 5% fair, 95% good. Planted 50%, 69% 1998; 20% emerged, 23% 1998. Hay, other roughage supplies were 5% short, 70% adequate, 25% surplus. Range, pasture feed 2% very poor, 11% poor, 41% fair, 46% good. Sunshine, warmer weather in western areas help planting progress, fieldwork. A wide variety of vegetables were being planted across the State, including onions, carrots, broccoli, sweet corn. Fruit growers were still concerned with frost protection. They were also thinning apples, irrigating. Tulip flower development is the latest it has been in years.

WEST VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.7. Topsoil 1% very short, 21% short, 72% adequate, 6% surplus. Cool weather slowed germination of early-seeded crops. Rain improved crop, pasture conditions. Wheat 15% fair, 71% good, 14% excellent. Hay 11% poor, 45% fair, 40% good, 4% excellent. Intended acreage prepared for spring planting 62%, 50% 1998, 51% avg. Corn planted 10%, 5% 1998, 8% avg. Oats planted 41%, 23% 1998, 39% avg.; emerged 17%, 13% 1998, 18% avg. Tobacco beds seeded 75%, 74% 1998, 80% avg.; beds emerged 13%, 32% 1998, 44% avg. Apples, peaches 16% fair, 84% good. Cattle 2% poor, 21% fair, 73% good, 4% excellent; 90% calved. Sheep 21% fair, 74% good, 5% excellent; 82% lambled. Feed grain supplies 5% short, 95% adequate.

Hay, roughage supplies 15% short, 79% adequate, 6% surplus. Activities: Field preparation, planting, calving, lambing, general maintenance.

WISCONSIN: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.8. Soil moisture: 0% very short, 5% short, 72% adequate, 23% surplus. Spring tillage completed 19% 1999, 11% 1998, 9% avg. Most reporters stated that the fields were still too wet, soil too cold for most activities. Last week, most parts of the State received some precipitation, but it was the carryover moisture from the previous week that was keeping things wet for the most part. Most of last week's precipitation was rain, but some snow fell in the northern two-thirds of the State. In addition, the southern part of the State experienced a little pea-sized hail. The week ended with most of the State's farmers hoping for warmer weather and sunshine. The only farmers hoping for more precipitation are in the northeast and North, Central districts. Those districts received the least precipitation last week, have the greatest moisture shortages. The moisture shortage in the northeast is the worst, and, as a result, fieldwork there advanced well ahead of the other northern districts because those farmers could get into their fields. Winter wheat, hay, and pastures were generally reported to be greening up nicely. Oats have started to emerge in the southern third of the State, where oats planted is at least 50% complete. Oats planting is just getting started in the northern districts. Reporters noted that winter wheat survived the winter in very good condition. The West Central and Central districts had the greatest amount of moderate to severe damage. Pasture feed 2% very poor; 7% poor; 26% fair; 53% good; 12% excellent.

WYOMING: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.2. Topsoil 13% short, 79% adequate, 8% surplus. Temperatures below normal all areas. Accumulated precipitation below normal in most areas. Reservoir storage generally above average. Winter wheat 17% fair, 72% good, 11% excellent. Barley seeded 68%, 57% 1998, 67% avg.; emerged 21%, 11% 1998, 16% avg. Oats seeded 34%, 15% 1998, 25% avg.; emerged 5%, 2% 1998, 3% avg. Spring wheat seeded 39%, 35% 1998, 30% avg.; emerged 15%, 7% 1998, 4% avg. Sugar beets planted 35%, 11% 1998, 35% avg. Spring calving 79%, 80% 1998, 80% avg. Calf losses 30% light, 69% normal, 1% heavy. Farm flock ewes lambled 88%, 89% 1998, 88% avg. Farm flock sheep shorn 86%, 87% 1998, 88% avg. Range flock lambled 17%, 26% 1998, 19% avg. Range flock sheep shorn 45%, 44% 1998, 49% avg. Lamb losses 24% light, 75% normal, 1% heavy. Cattle 5% fair, 92% good, 3% excellent. Calf 1% poor, 12% fair, 80% good, 7% excellent. Sheep 16% fair, 80% good, 4% excellent. Lamb 12% fair, 84% good, 4% excellent. Range, pasture feed 2% very poor, 7% poor, 23% fair, 57% good, 11% excellent.

International Weather and Crop Summary

April 11- 17, 1999

HIGHLIGHTS

FSU-WESTERN: Unseasonably mild, showery weather spurred rapid greening of winter grains in northern Russia and caused only brief delays in spring grain planting in Ukraine and southern Russia.

EUROPE: Cold, wet weather in western Europe slowed winter grain development and summer crop planting, while drought persisted in southern Spain.

NORTHWESTERN AFRICA: Persistent dryness in Morocco and western Algeria reduced prospects for winter grains, advancing through reproduction.

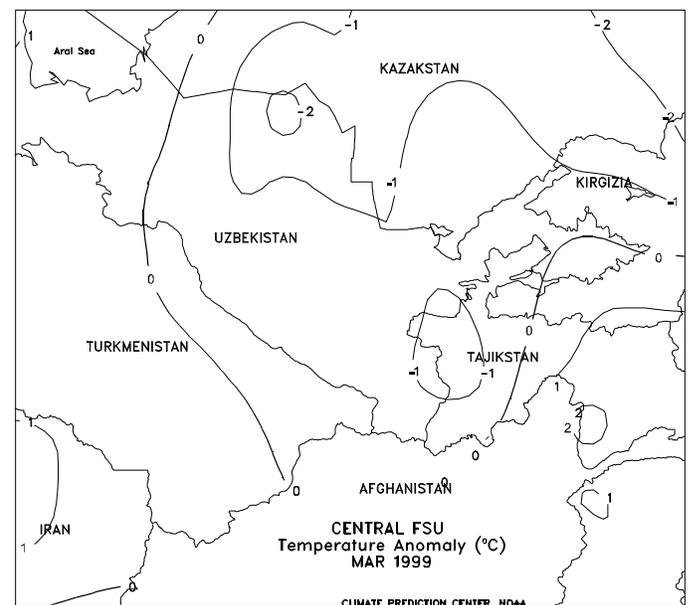
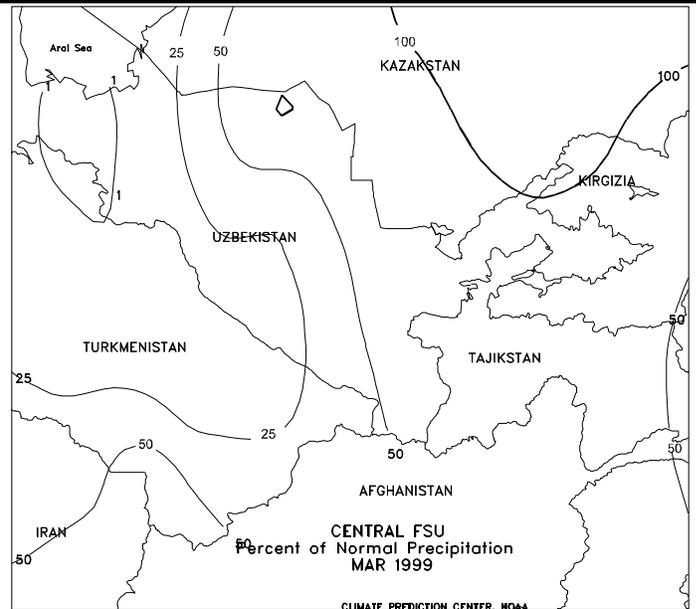
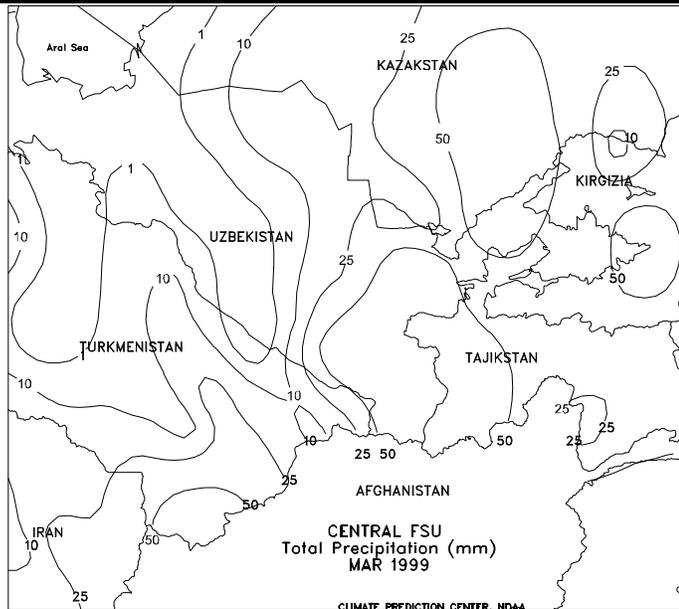
AUSTRALIA: Drier weather benefited unharvested cotton following last week's excessive rain.

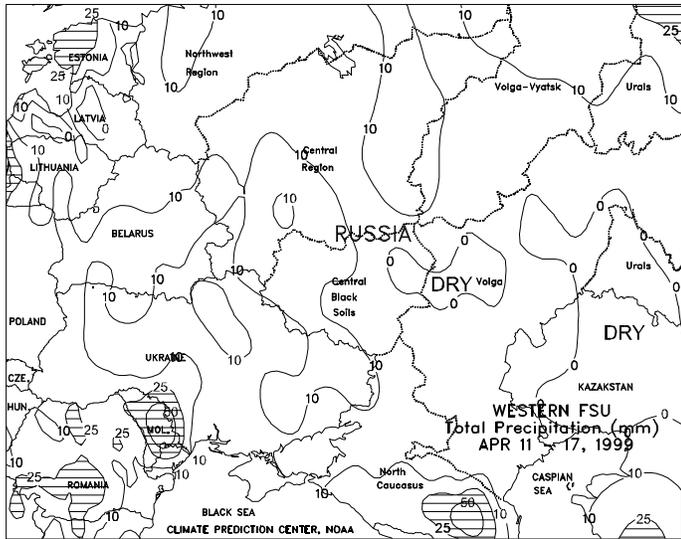
SOUTH AFRICA: Unseasonable warmth and dryness continued to favor maturation and dry down of corn and other summer crops.

SOUTHEAST ASIA: Showers benefited rice in Thailand and Vietnam while slowing harvesting in the Philippines and Java, Indonesia.

EASTERN ASIA: Across the Yangtze Valley, heavy showers possibly damaged winter oilseeds and wheat, but boosted moisture supplies for early rice.

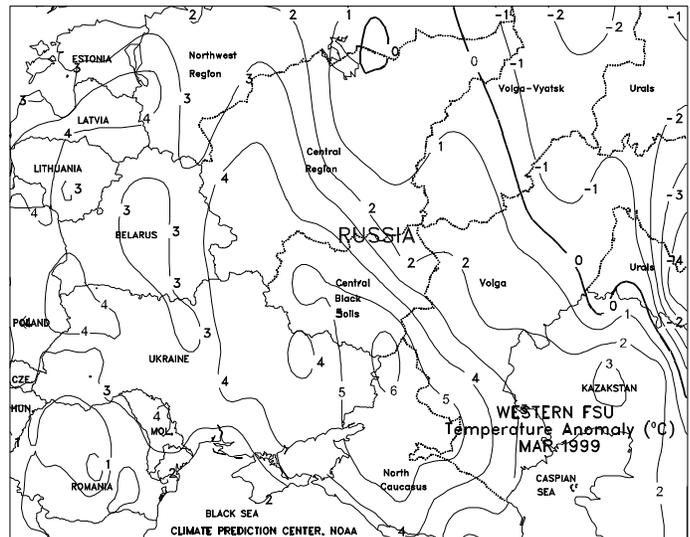
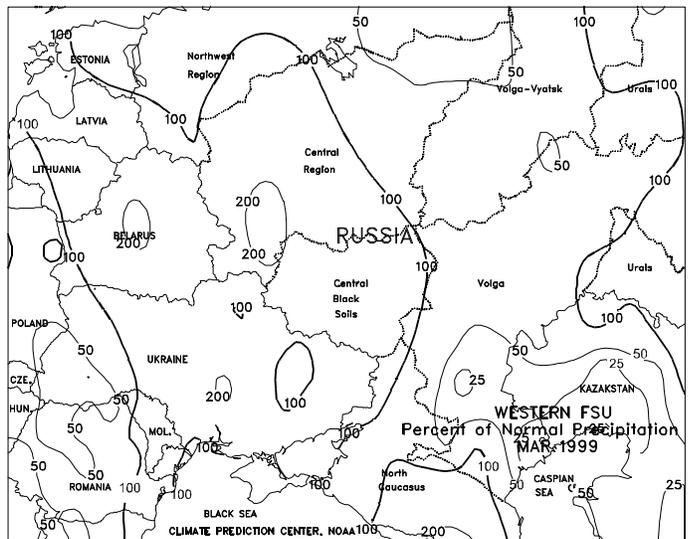
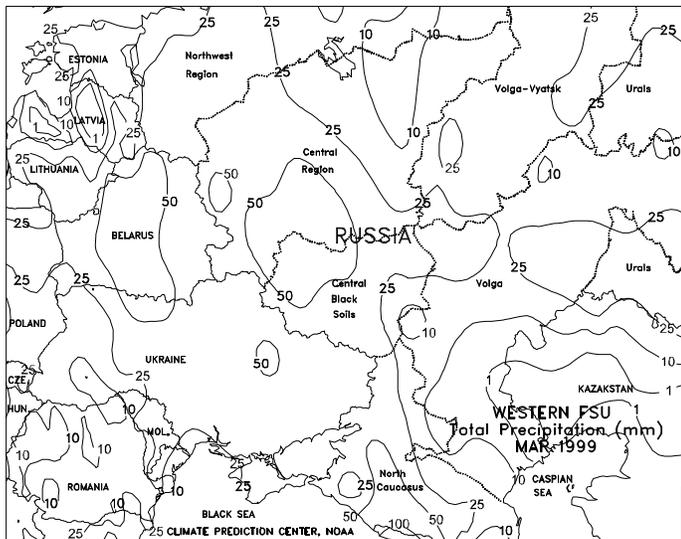
SOUTH AMERICA: Localized freezing temperatures caused minimal damage to late-filling soybeans in central Argentina and southern Brazil.

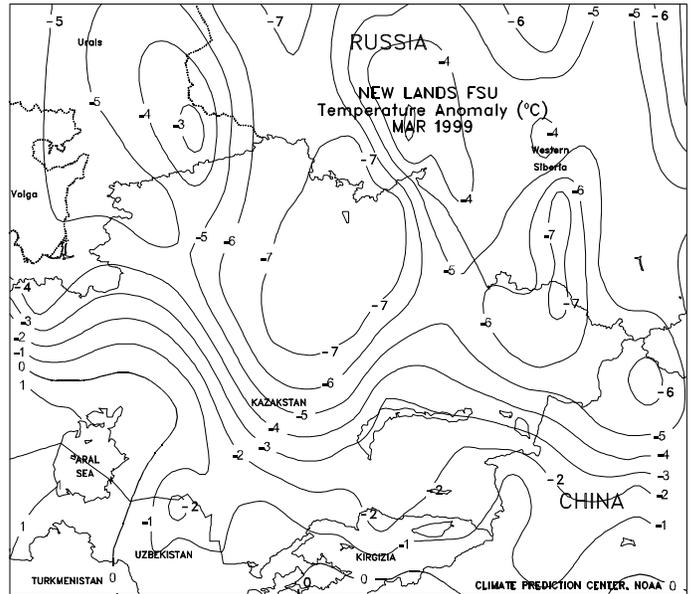
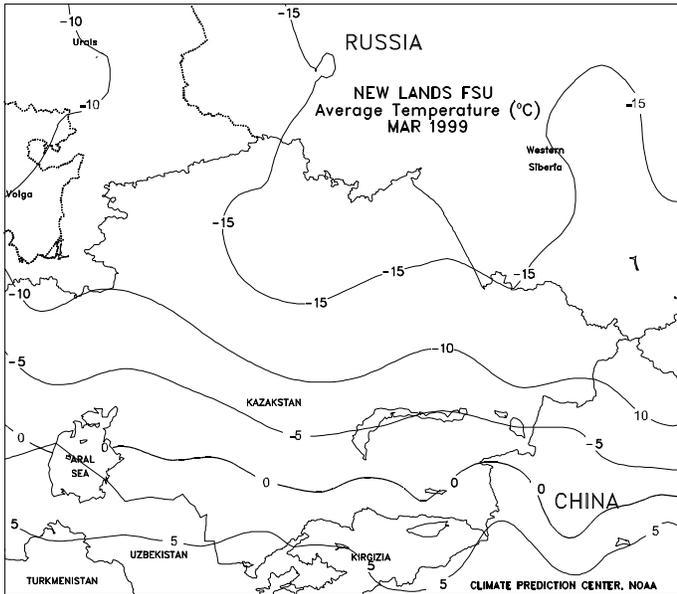
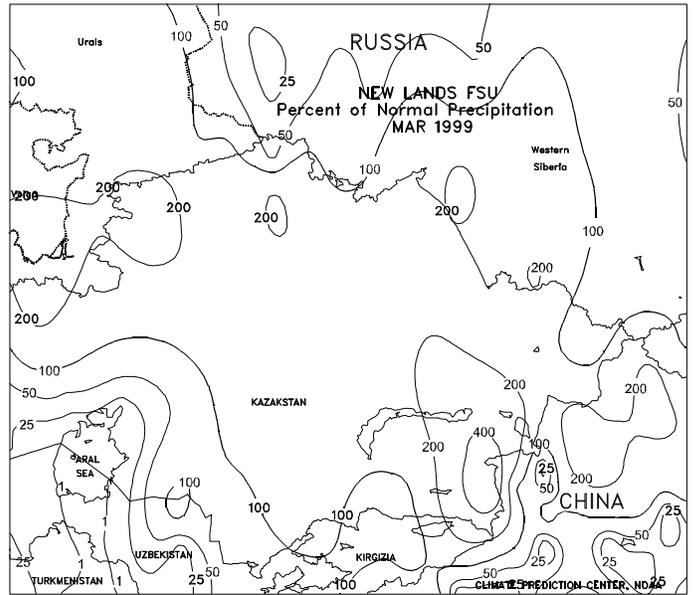
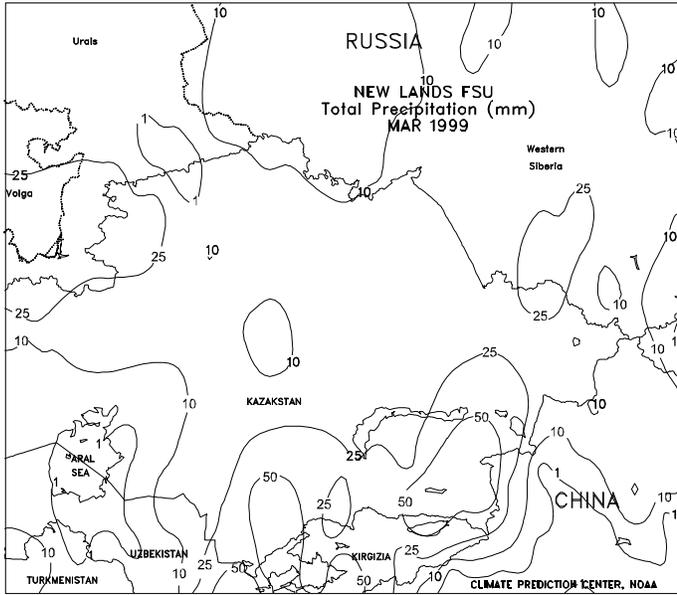




WESTERN FSU

The fourth consecutive week of unseasonably warm weather prevailed over Ukraine, Russia, Belarus, and the Baltics, promoting rapid growth of winter grains. Winter grains were breaking dormancy in northern Russia, about 1 week earlier than usual. Weekly temperatures averaged 4 to 8 degrees C above normal in most areas. Highest weekly temperatures ranged from 20 to 25 degrees C in most areas, except in the upper Volga Valley and Volga Vyatsk, where temperatures ranged from 15 to 20 degrees C. Winter grains likely advanced into the jointing stage of development in Moldova, Ukraine, and the North Caucasus. Furthermore, spring grain planting rapidly progressed northward, with light, scattered showers (3-15 mm) causing only brief delays in fieldwork. In March, unseasonably mild weather prevailed over Russia, Ukraine, the Baltics, and Belarus. The mild weather pattern melted the unusually deep snow cover in northern Russia and raised soil temperatures to high enough levels for early-spring grain planting in southern Ukraine and the North Caucasus region in Russia. Reports indicated that spring grain planting began about 2 weeks earlier than usual in these areas. Near- to above-normal precipitation fell in Ukraine, North Caucasus, Belarus, and Lithuania, increasing topsoil moisture for spring grain emergence. Below-normal precipitation fell in the Volga Valley and Volga Vyatsk regions in Russia. In cotton-producing areas of Central Asia, early planting was typically underway. Unseasonably warm, dry weather favored cotton planting in most areas. Typically, most of the cotton crop is planted from mid-April through May.

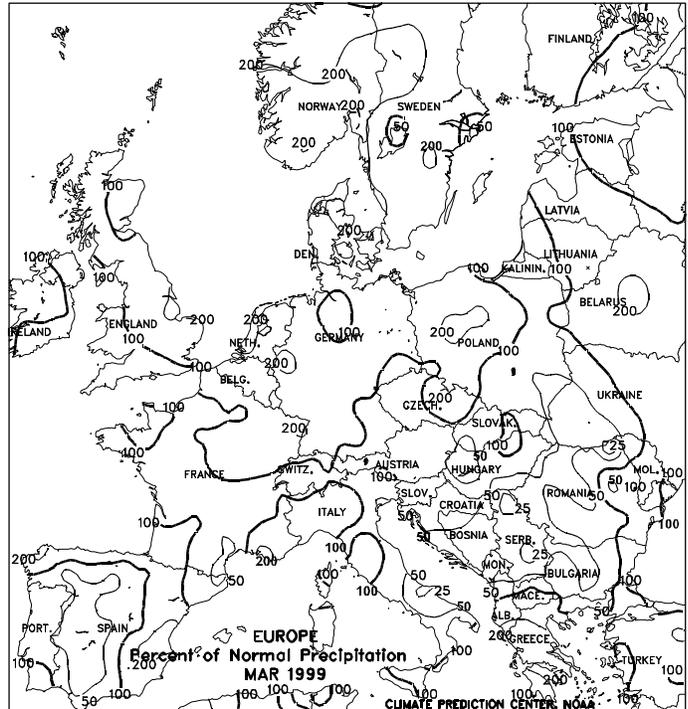
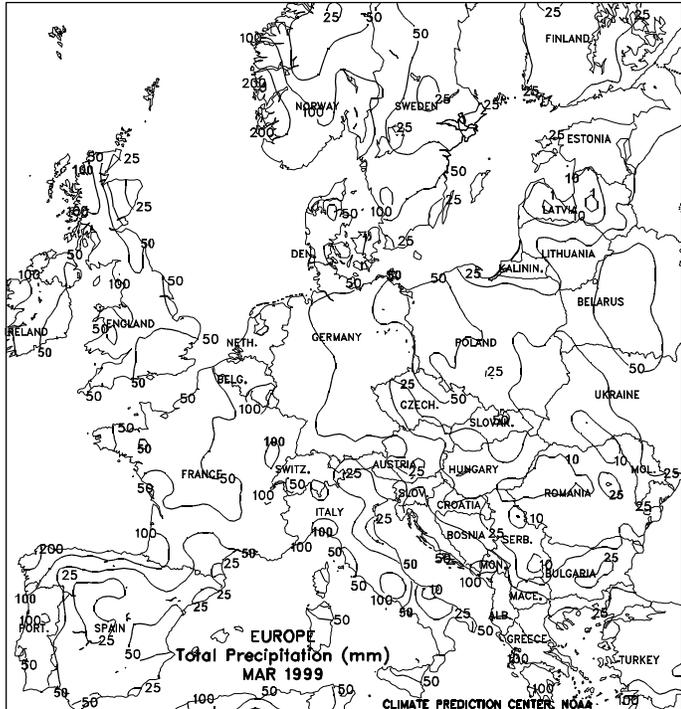


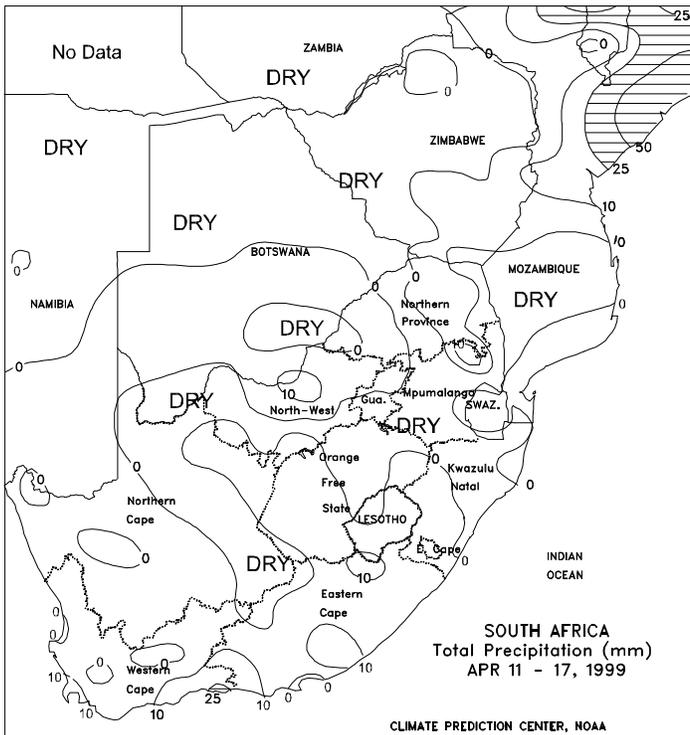
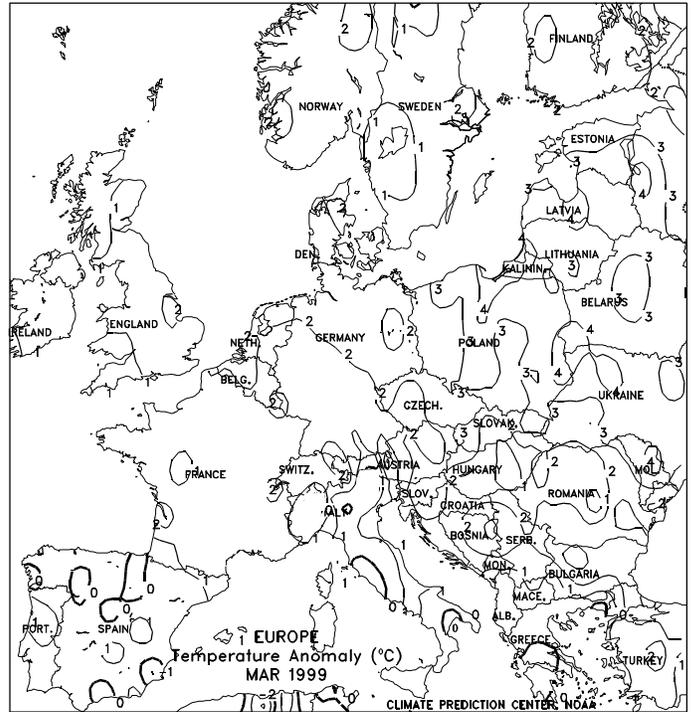




EUROPE

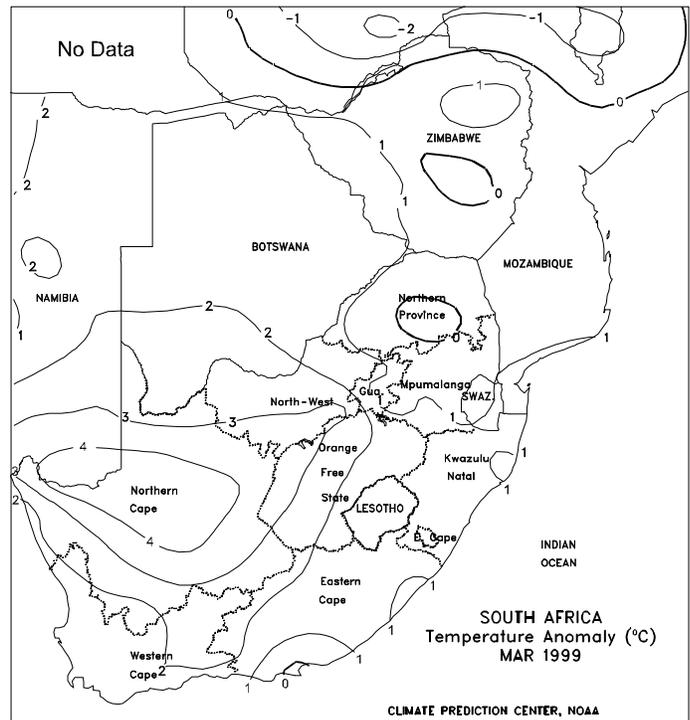
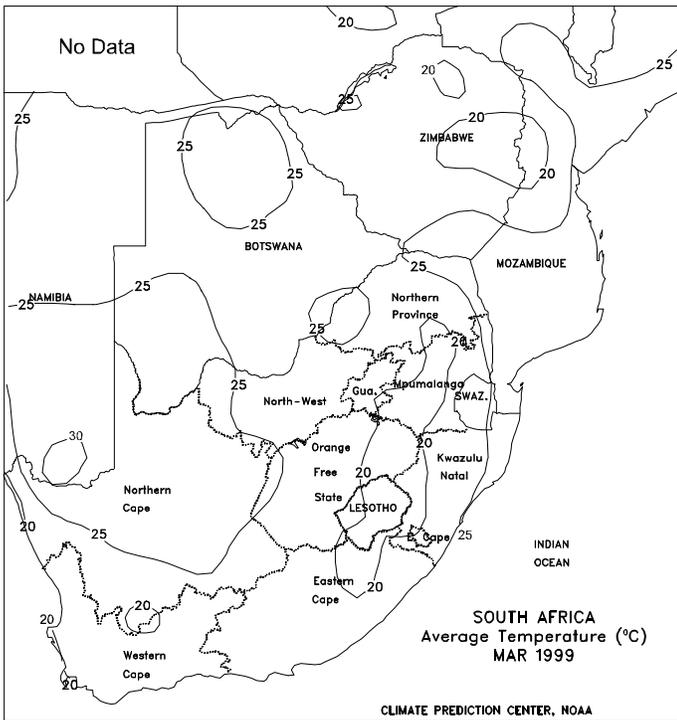
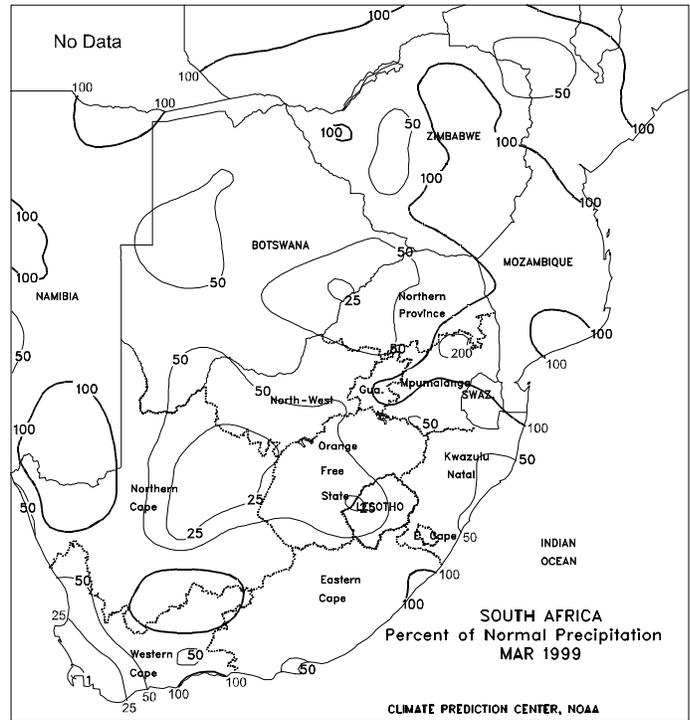
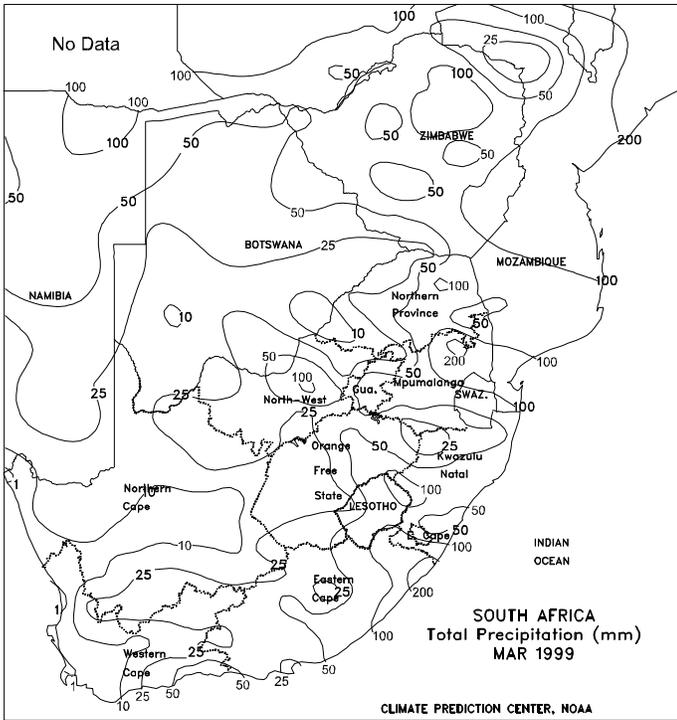
Unseasonably cold, rainy weather prevailed in England, France, the Netherlands, northern Italy, and Germany, slowing crop development and disrupting fieldwork. Precipitation amounts ranged from 10 to 25 mm in England and Germany, with 20 to more than 50 mm of rain falling in France and northern Italy. Extreme minimum temperatures at many locations in these areas fell at or slightly below freezing (0 to -3 degrees C), creating the potential for some damage to newly emerging summer crops and winter oilseeds. In eastern Europe, widespread showers (10-47 mm) and unseasonably mild weather stretched from Poland southward through Hungary into Bulgaria. Although the mild, showery weather pattern favored winter grain development, it caused some interruptions in fieldwork for spring and summer crop planting. In Spain, drought conditions worsened in the south, reducing prospects for dryland crops. Weekly temperatures averaged 2 to 4 degrees C below normal in western and central Europe and 2 to 4 degrees C above normal in the east. In March, above-normal temperatures promoted the rapid development of winter grains and oilseeds throughout most of the continent and raised soil temperatures for spring grain planting. In Spain, unfavorable dryness spread into northern crop areas, increasing stress on winter grains and newly sown summer crops. Elsewhere, above-normal precipitation in northern Italy boosted soil moisture, following winter dryness. Drier-than-normal weather eased flooding in Hungary and northwestern Romania, and helped early spring fieldwork in the Balkans.

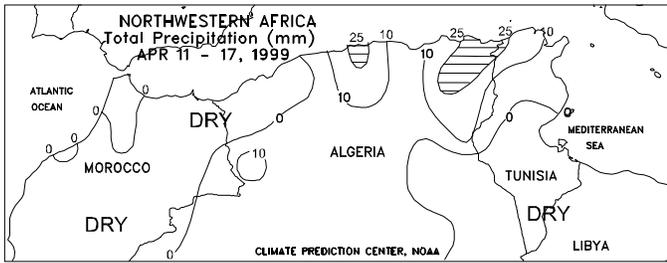




SOUTH AFRICA

Unseasonably dry, warm weather continued to dominate the region. Temperatures averaged 2 to 4 degrees C above normal across the corn belt, hastening summer crop maturation and dry down, and minimum temperatures remained well above freezing. The harvesting pace of corn and other summer crops should be increasing, although fieldwork does not typically peak until June. Elsewhere, dry weather also favored early sugarcane harvesting in KwaZulu-Natal. Farther south, scattered, mostly light showers (10 mm or less, in most areas, with locally heavy showers along the coast) covered orchards and vineyards in Western and Eastern Cape Provinces. Above-normal temperatures, with highs in the middle to upper 30's degrees C, maintained high irrigation demands. During March, an early-month heat wave (highs ranging from the low to middle 30's degrees C) exacerbated the effects of a 6-week dry spell on filling corn and other summer crops. Ensuing outbreaks of scattered showers stabilized immature crops but came too late to prevent significant declines in yield potential. Rainfall was also below normal in most sugarcane areas of KwaZulu-Natal, but timely, locally heavy showers helped irrigation reserves. In Western Cape, unseasonable warmth and dryness raised irrigation demands of orchards and vineyards.

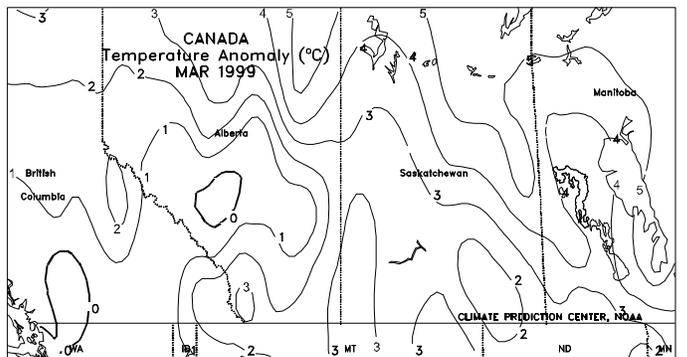
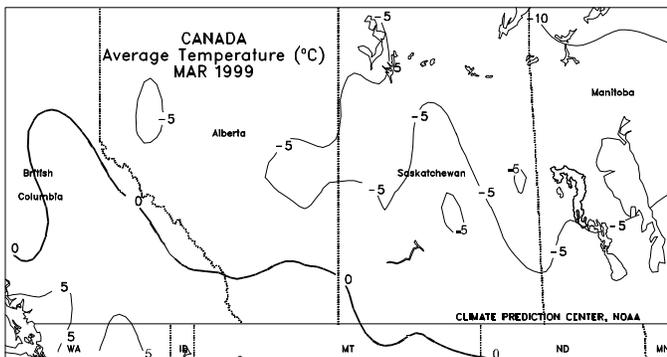
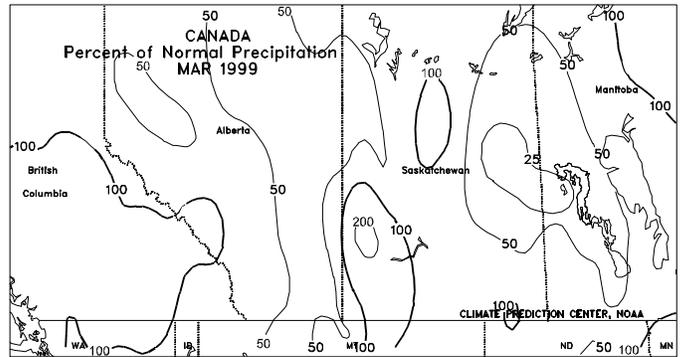
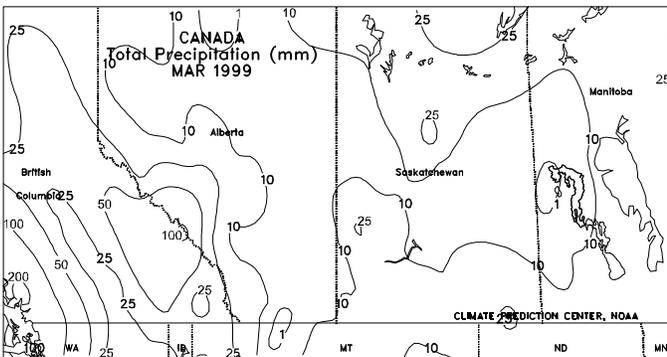
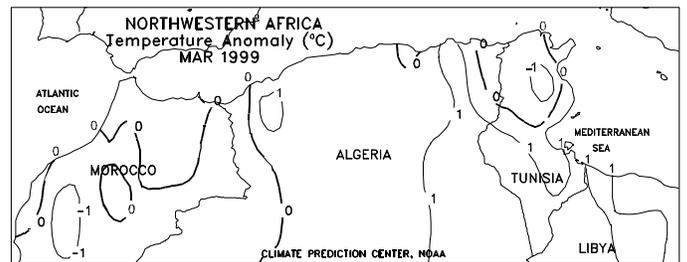
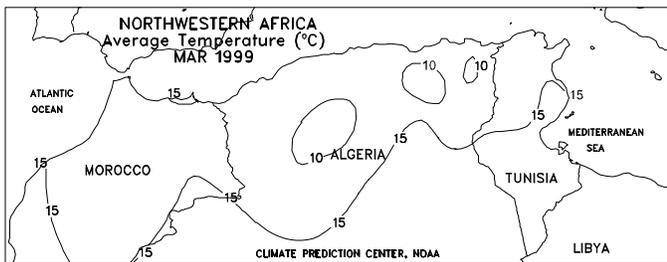
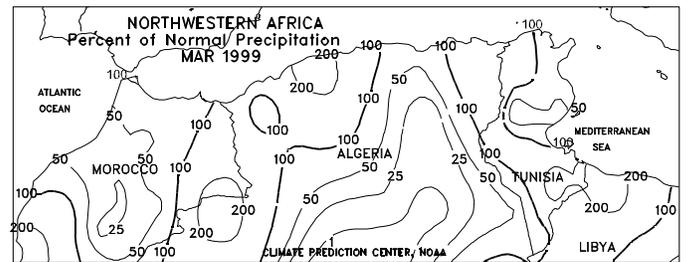
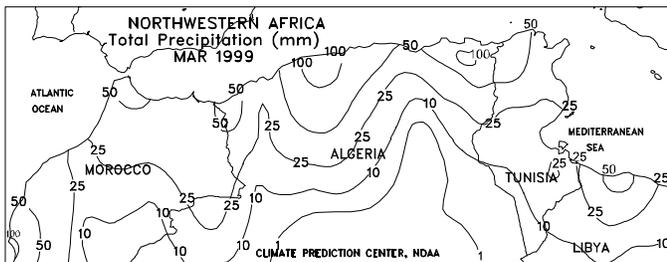


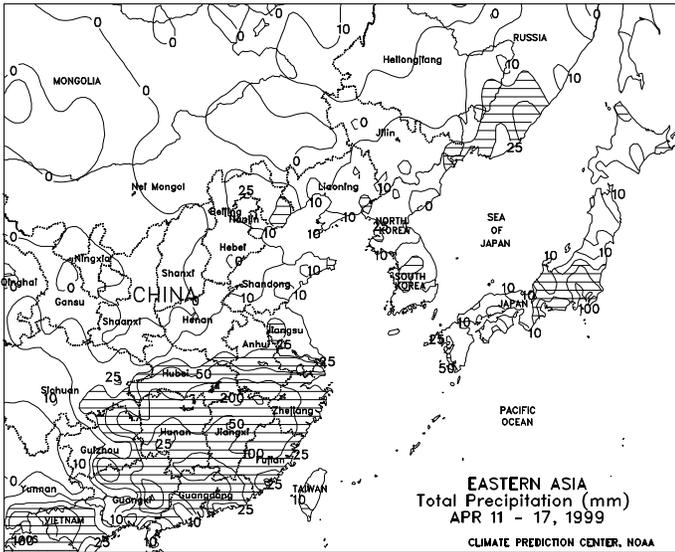


NORTHWESTERN AFRICA

Winter grains were likely filling in most areas. The fourth consecutive week of unfavorably dry weather prevailed over winter grain areas in Morocco and western Algeria, reducing crop prospects. Rain is needed soon to stabilize crop conditions and prevent further declines in crop conditions. Farther east, light showers (6-30 mm) and continued cool weather prevailed in central and eastern Algeria and northern Tunisia, maintaining generally favorable conditions for crop development. Weekly temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C above normal in Morocco and western Algeria and 1 to 3 degrees C below normal in eastern Algeria and Tunisia. In March, highly variable

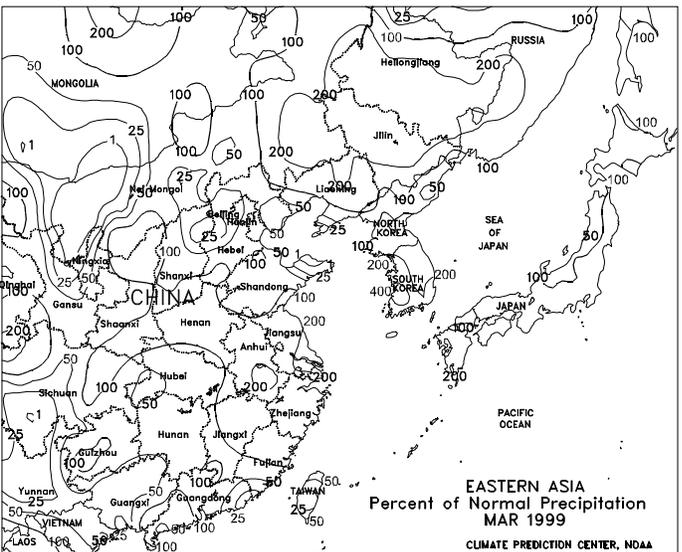
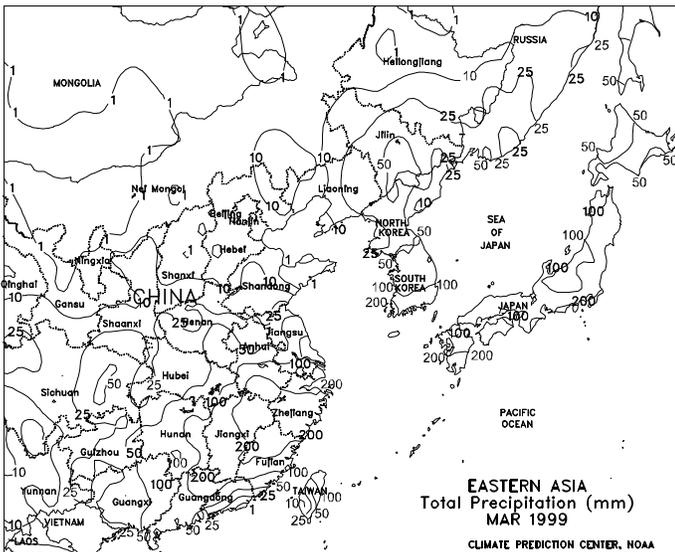
amounts of precipitation were observed in Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia. In Morocco and western Algeria, significant rain fell in winter grain areas, benefiting crops in or nearing the heading stage. However, dry weather began on March 16 and persisted through this past week, reducing crop prospects. In eastern Algeria and Tunisia, generally dry weather in early March was followed by periodic showers during the latter half of the month, providing adequate moisture for crop development.

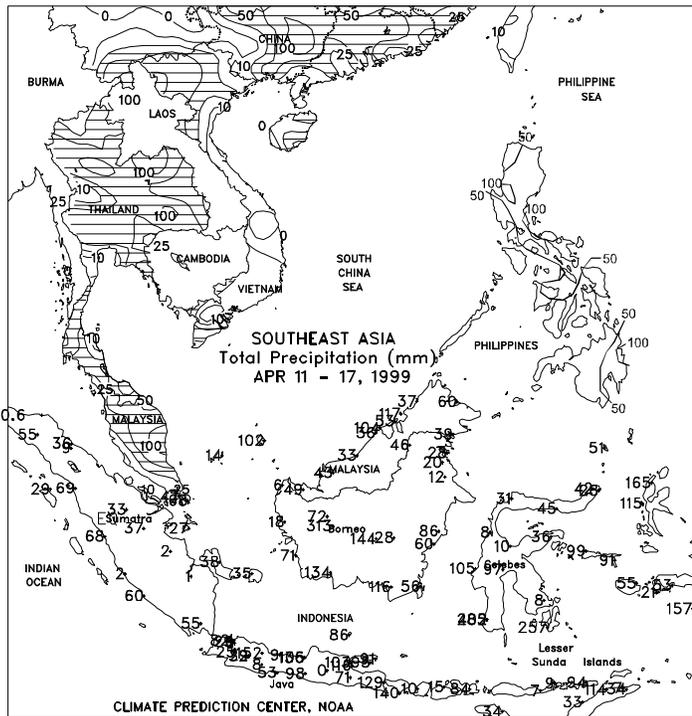
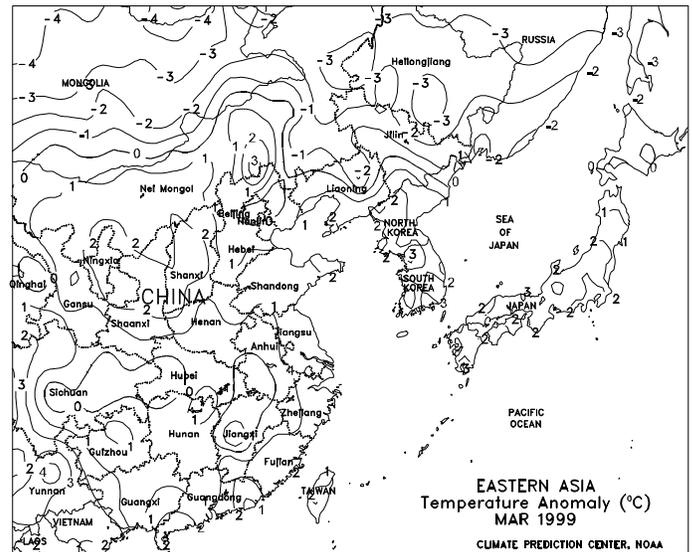
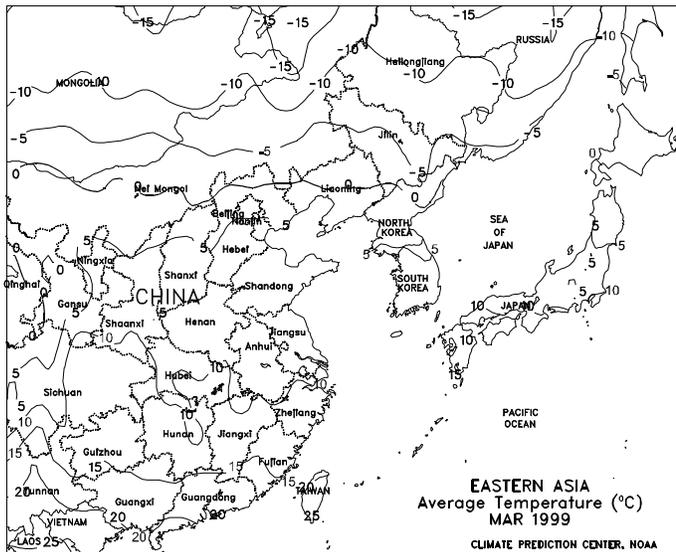




EASTERN ASIA

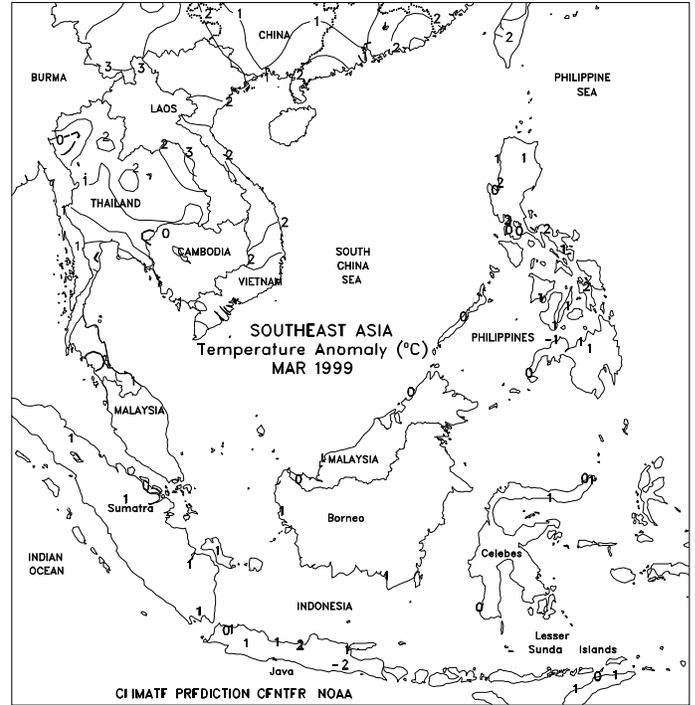
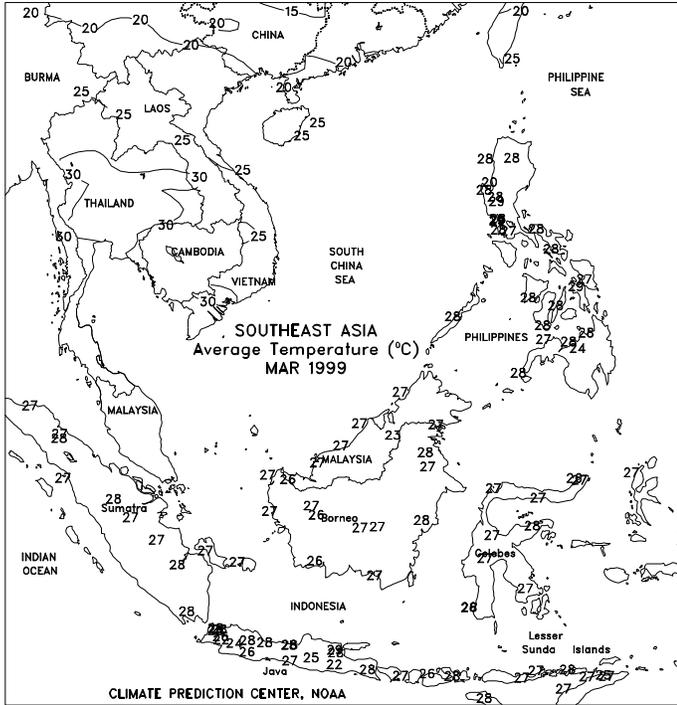
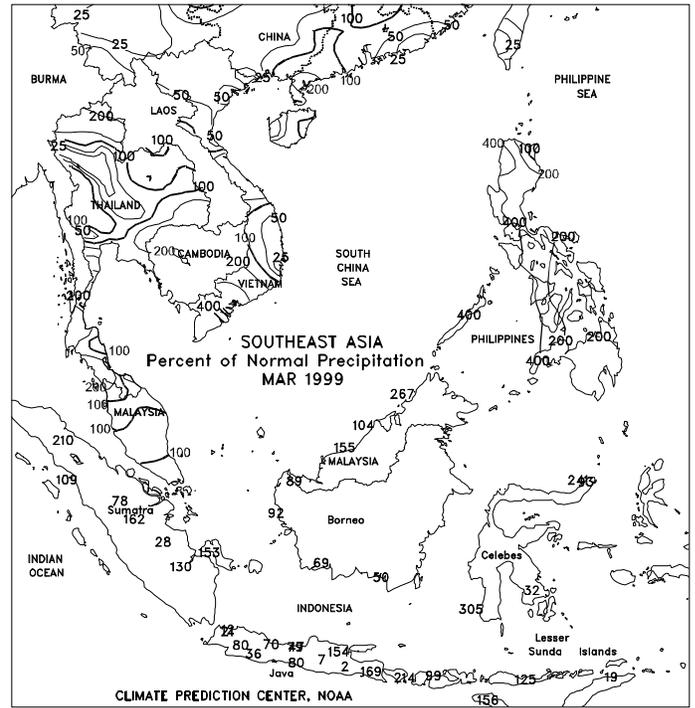
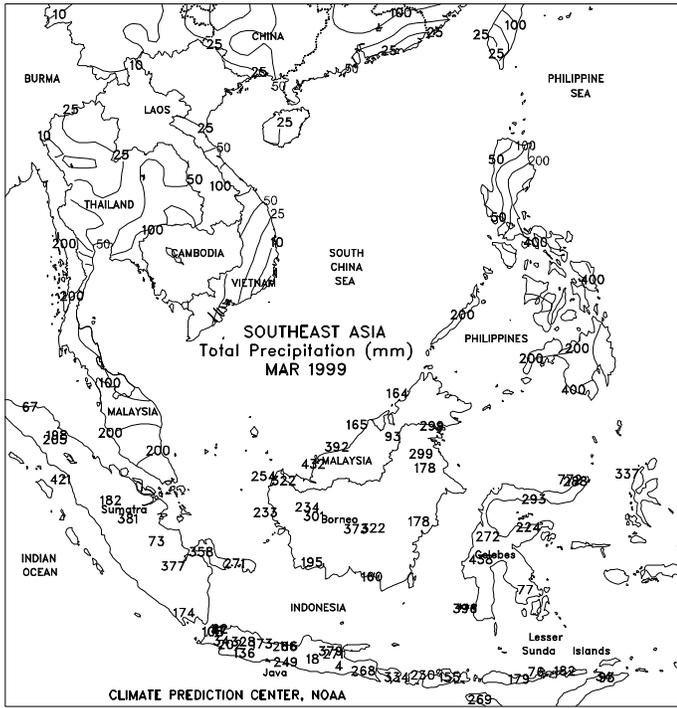
In the North China Plain, early-week rain (5-20 mm) benefited vegetative winter wheat. Drier, warmer weather later in the week favored pre-planting fieldwork for summer crops. More moisture is needed as winter wheat enters reproduction during the next few weeks. In Manchuria, seasonably warmer weather and light rain (5-20 mm) favored early spring wheat planting to commence. Across the Yangtze Valley, widespread heavy showers (50-175 mm) boosted irrigation supplies for early rice development but possibly damaged winter oilseeds and wheat. Moderate showers (25-75 mm) benefited early rice across southern China, where rainfall had been tending below normal. Temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C above normal across northern and central China and 3 to 5 degrees C above normal across the south. Much-needed precipitation fell across the North China Plain during mid-March, benefiting vegetative winter wheat. Near- to above-normal March rainfall provided adequate moisture across the Yangtze Valley and southeastern China for early rice transplanting and winter oilseeds.





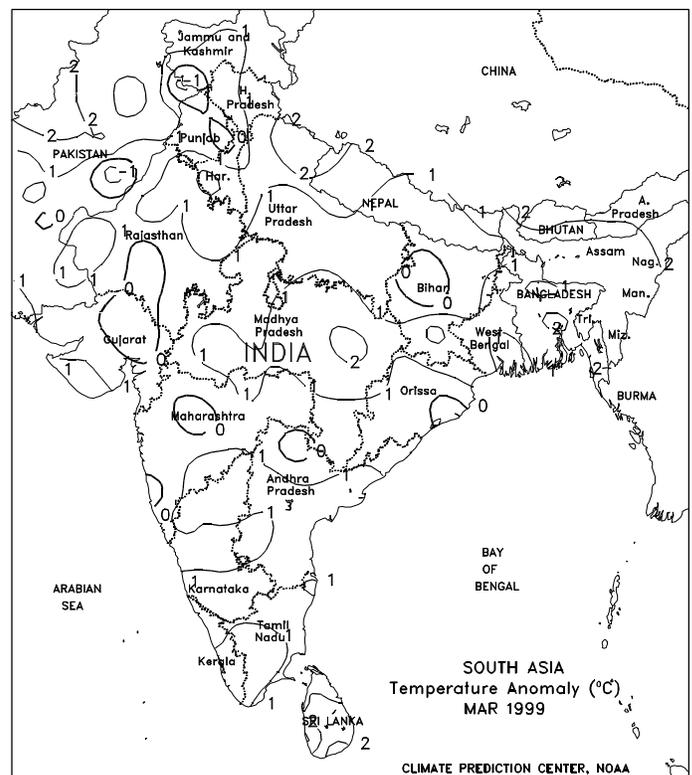
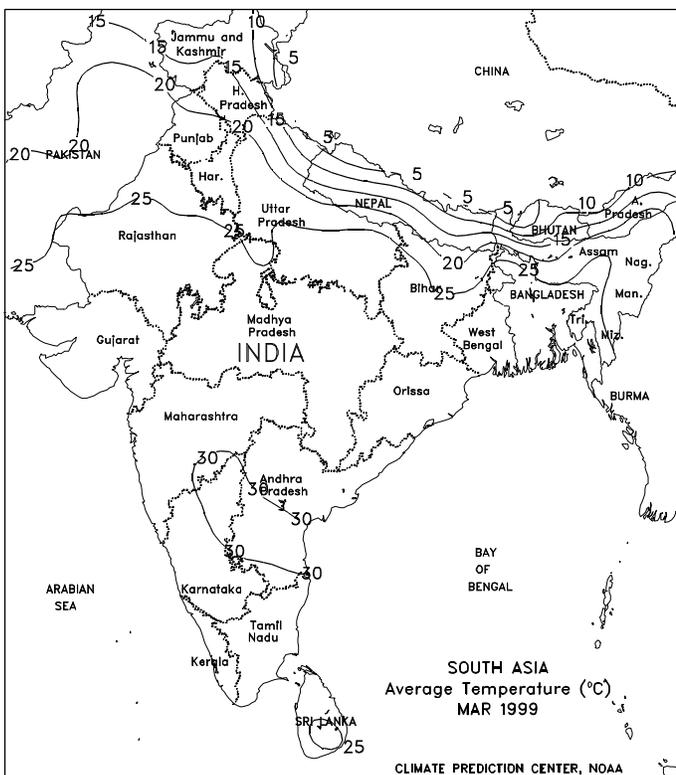
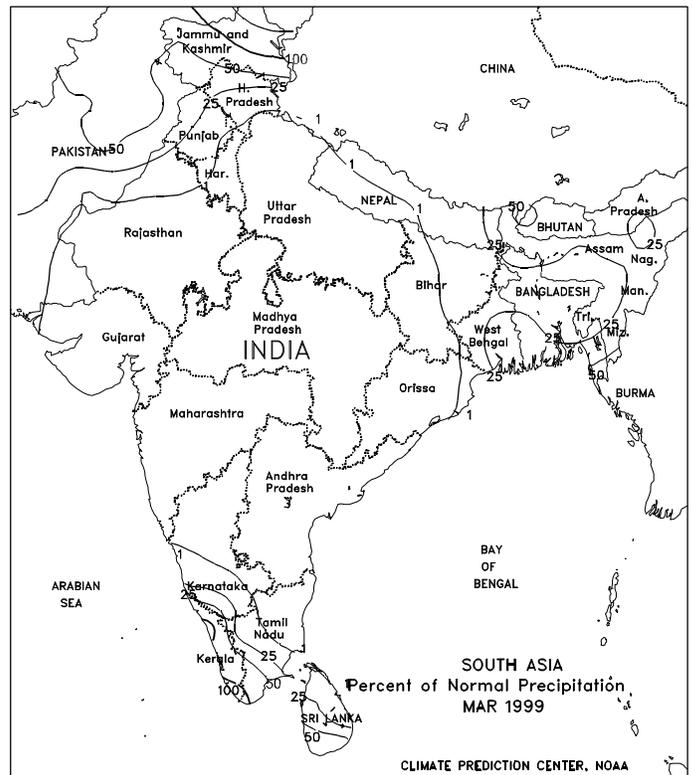
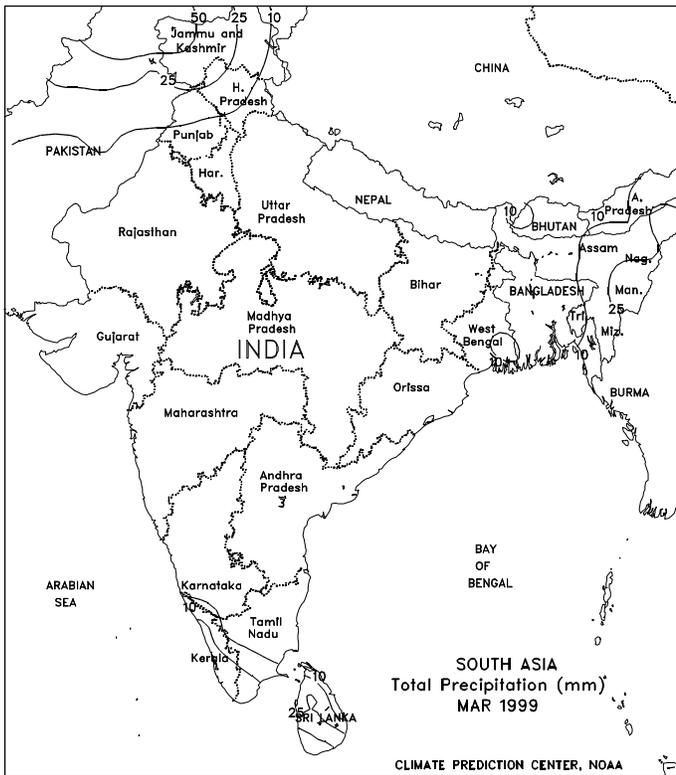
SOUTHEAST ASIA

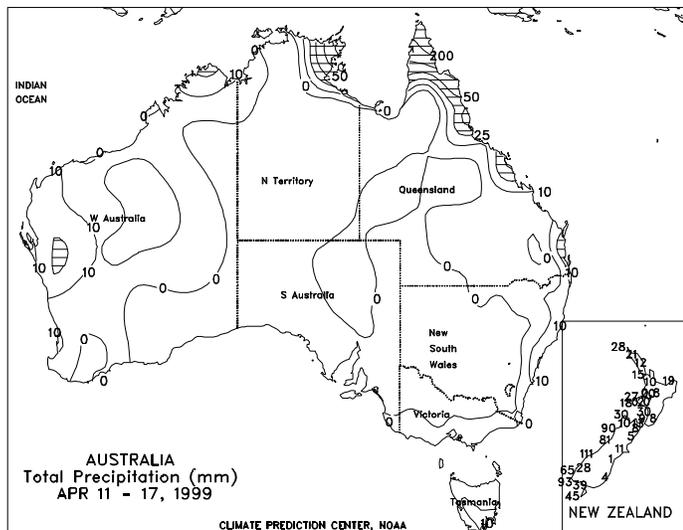
Widespread showers (30-80 mm) continued to boost irrigation supplies for second-season rice throughout Thailand. In Vietnam, moderate showers (10-40 mm) also favored winter-spring rice in the major rice areas of the Red River Delta in the north and Mekong River Delta in the south. In the Philippines, heavy showers (40-175 mm) slowed second-crop grain harvesting and exacerbated flooding in eastern and southern Luzon. Moderate showers (20-50 mm, with isolated amounts greater than 100 mm) favored oil palm in peninsular Malaysia. In Java, Indonesia, moderate to heavy showers (25-150 mm) slowed main-season rice harvesting. Late-March and early-April rainfall increased moisture supplies for rice in eastern Thailand and Vietnam. Above-normal March showers continued to slow second-crop grain harvesting and caused flooding along the eastern Philippines. Near- to above-normal monthly rainfall maintained moisture supplies for oil palm across peninsular Malaysia. Below-normal March rainfall aided main-season rice harvesting in Java, Indonesia.



SOUTH ASIA

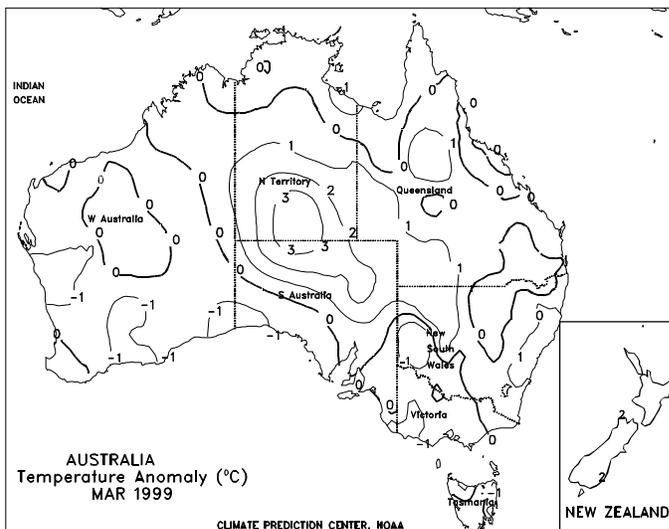
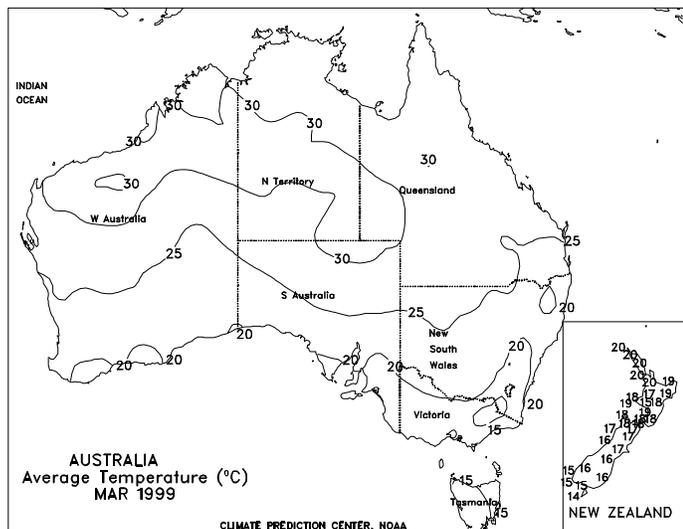
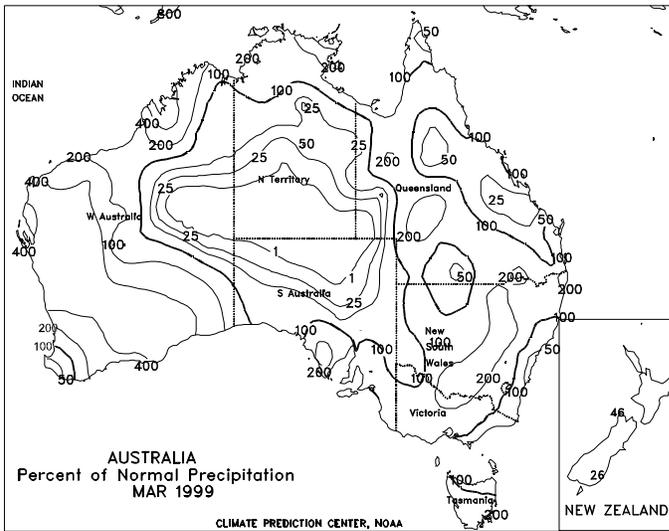
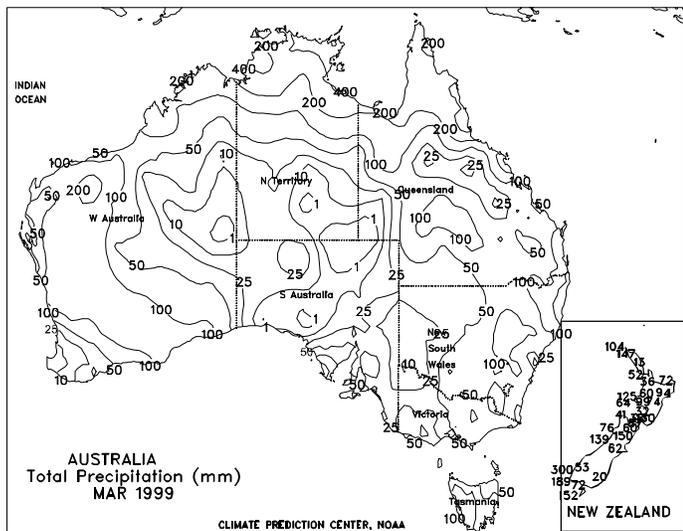
During March, seasonable dryness benefited maturing winter grains and oilseeds across India. Scattered showers (10-25 mm) across Pakistan's northern crop areas boosted moisture for immature rainfed winter crops, while somewhat heavier rain farther north increased irrigation reserves in the Indus Valley. Below-normal March rainfall in Bangladesh and India's eastern States has reportedly led to moisture shortages for winter-grown rice.

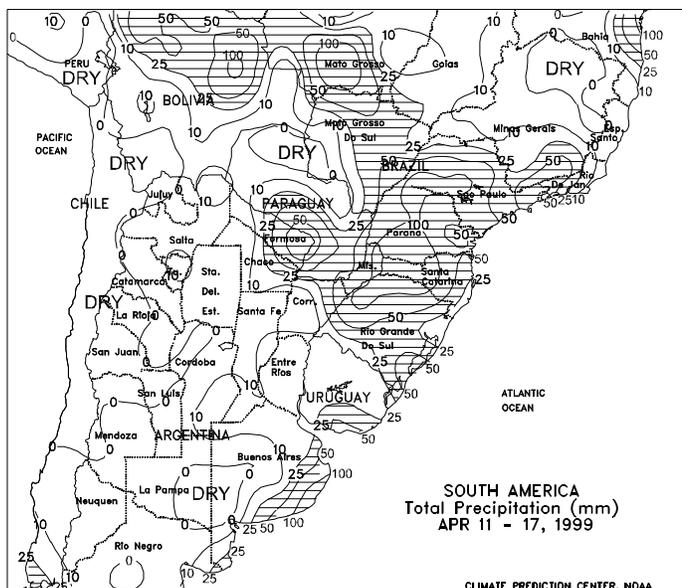




AUSTRALIA

Following last week's unusually heavy rain, favorably dry weather brought much-needed relief to unharvested cotton in New South Wales. The continuation of dryness in Queensland allowed sorghum and cotton harvests to advance. Moderate to heavy rainfall (25-50 mm or more) in coastal sugarcane areas was confined to Queensland's northernmost crop areas. The air mass dominating the east was generally mild, with temperatures averaging 2 to 3 degrees C below normal in southern Queensland and generally near normal elsewhere. Dry, somewhat warmer weather covered the western and southeastern winter grain belts. Highs at or approaching 30 degrees C dried topsoils and increased evaporative losses from grazing lands and other areas of agricultural importance. Rain will be needed in upcoming weeks in drought-stricken areas of South Australia and Victoria as field preparations begin for wheat and barley planting. In New Zealand, scattered showers (5-25 mm or more) benefited pastures and small grains in most farming areas. During March, near- to above-normal rainfall kept maturing summer crops unfavorably wet in southern Queensland and New South Wales. However, much of Queensland's rainfall came early in the month, and warmer, drier conditions by month's end had resulted in favorable fieldwork conditions. Heavy rain soaked winter grain areas of Western Australia in mid-March, improving long-term moisture reserves for grain development. Dry pockets persisted in western Victoria.

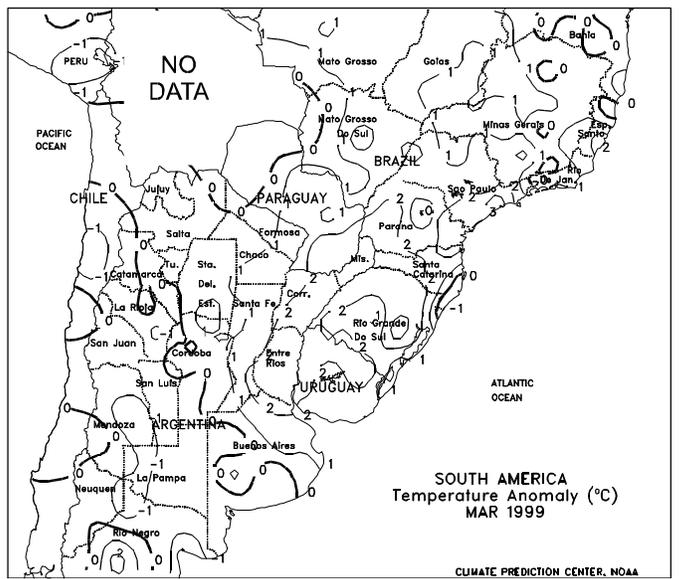
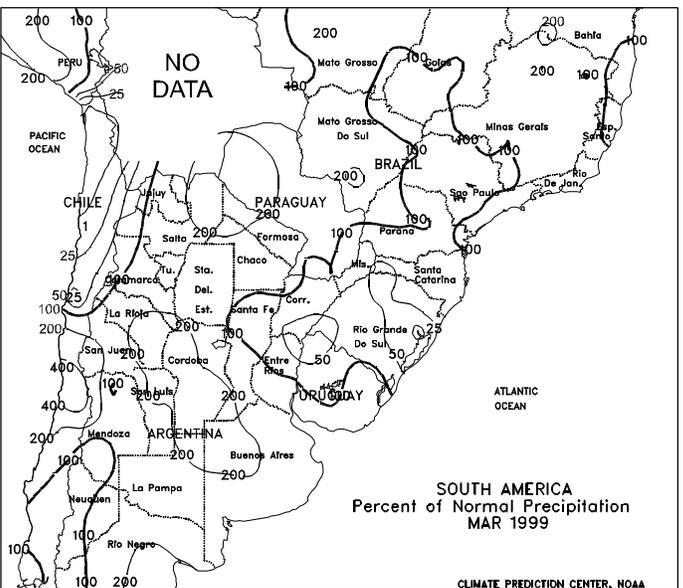
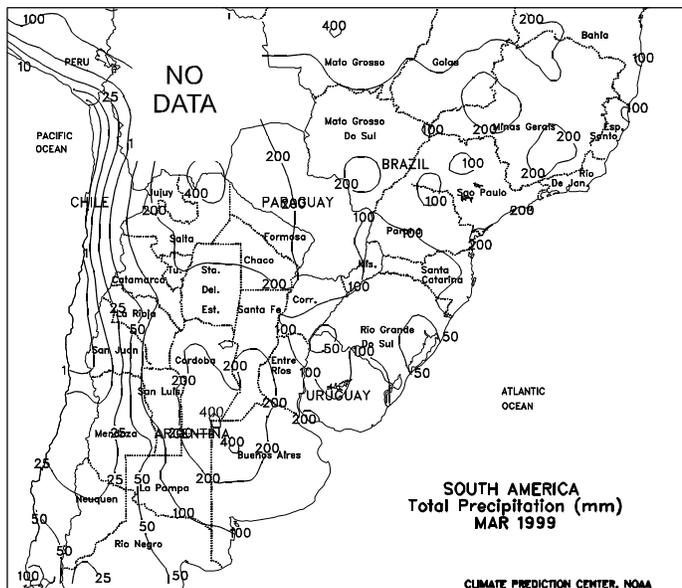




SOUTH AMERICA

In central Argentina, localized freezing temperatures caused minimal damage to filling second-crop soybeans. Scattered light rain (5-15 mm, with an isolated amount of 25 mm) did not hamper summer crop harvesting activities in central Argentina. Heavy rain (100-180 mm) fell in northern Argentina, slowing cotton harvesting and possibly causing some crop damage and quality reductions. According to reports as of April 9, Argentine corn was 29 percent harvested, compared with 39 percent last year, sunflower was 85 percent harvested, compared with 88 percent last year, soybeans were 6 percent harvested, compared with 13 percent last year, and cotton was 10 percent harvested, compared with 13 percent last year. In southern Brazil, freezing temperatures were confined to the Brazilian state of Parana, where damage was also minimal. Heavy showers (70-175 mm) slowed soybean harvesting in Rio Grande do Sul and western Santa Catarina. Scattered heavy rains (greater than 100 mm) also slowed soybean harvesting in portions of Sao Paulo and southern Mato Grosso. Temperatures averaged 2 to 3 degrees C below normal across central Argentina and northward into southern Parana, Brazil and 1 to 2 degrees C above normal elsewhere in southern Brazil. In central Argentina, widespread, above-normal March showers favored second-crop soybeans, but slowed corn and sunflower harvesting. Heavy showers possibly caused some crop damage to summer crops in southern Cordoba

and northern Argentina. Below-normal March rainfall stressed filling soybeans in Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil. Early April showers, however, alleviated the dryness. Heavy showers slowed soybean harvesting in Mato Grosso, Brazil, but drier weather during late March and early April favored fieldwork.



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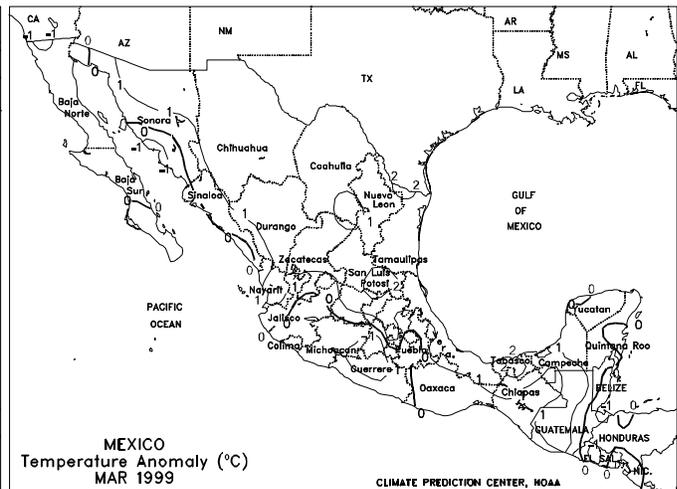
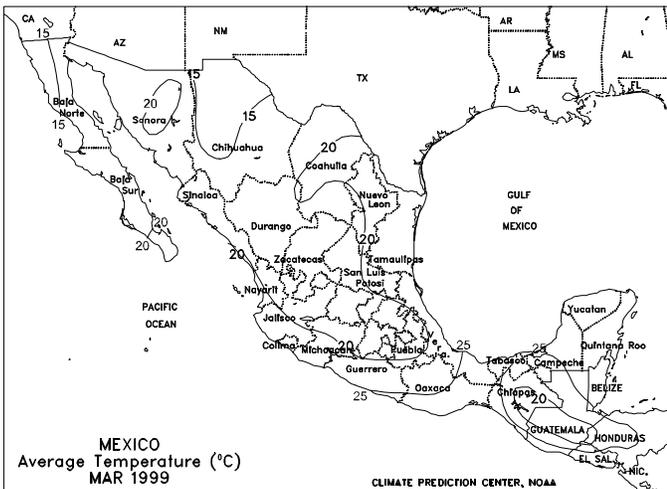
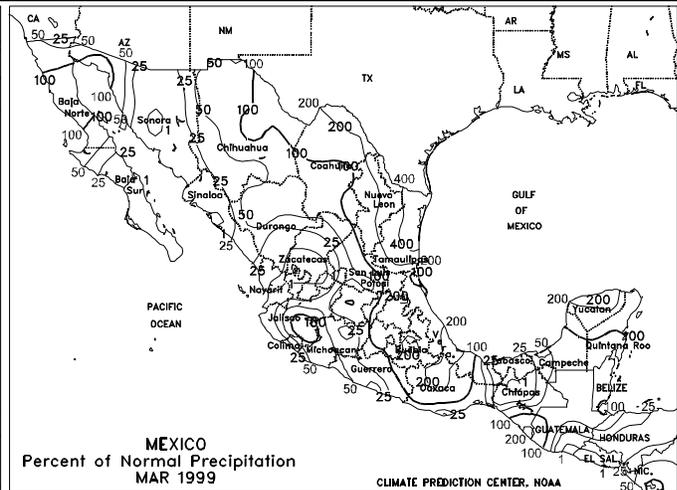
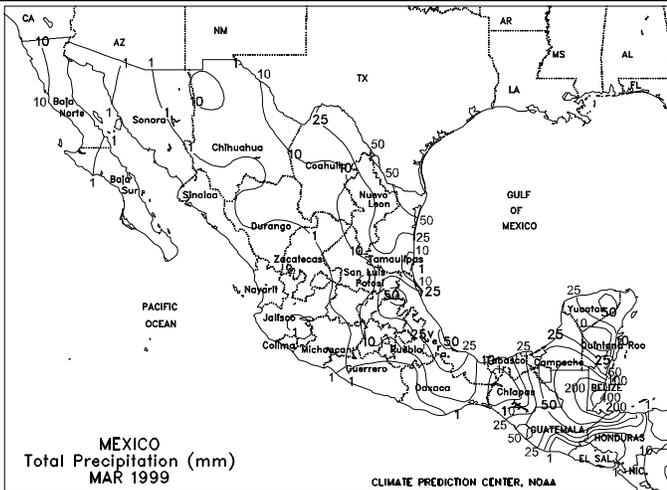
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