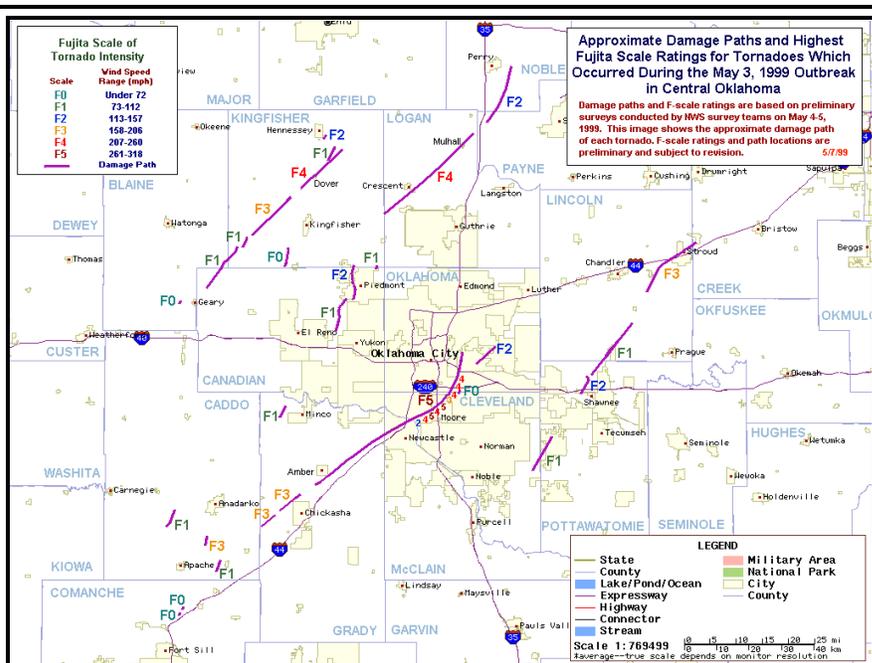
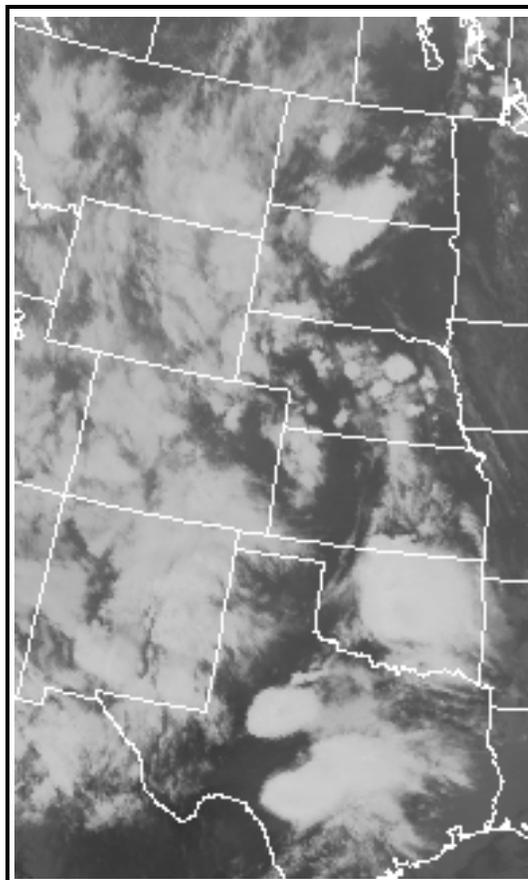
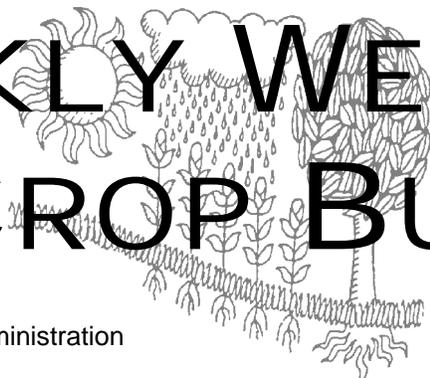


WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

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



In the satellite image to the left (GOES-8 IR, May 3, 1999, 7:15 p.m. CDT), clusters of thunderstorms develop on the Plains. The thunderstorm complex in Oklahoma spawned at least two dozen tornadoes, including an F5-intensity storm that struck the southern portion of Oklahoma City. A preliminary map of tornado tracks in the vicinity of Oklahoma City,

HIGHLIGHTS

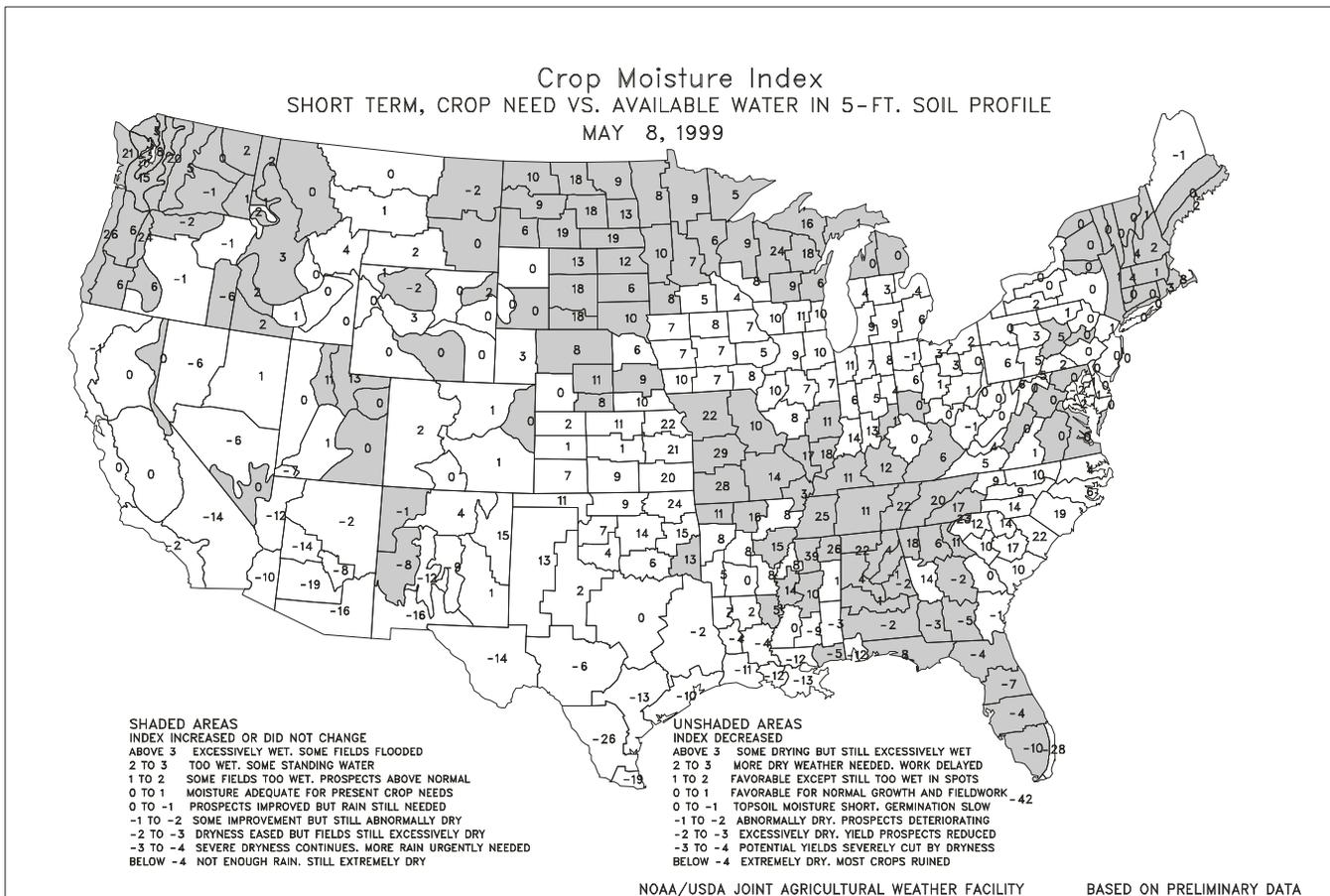
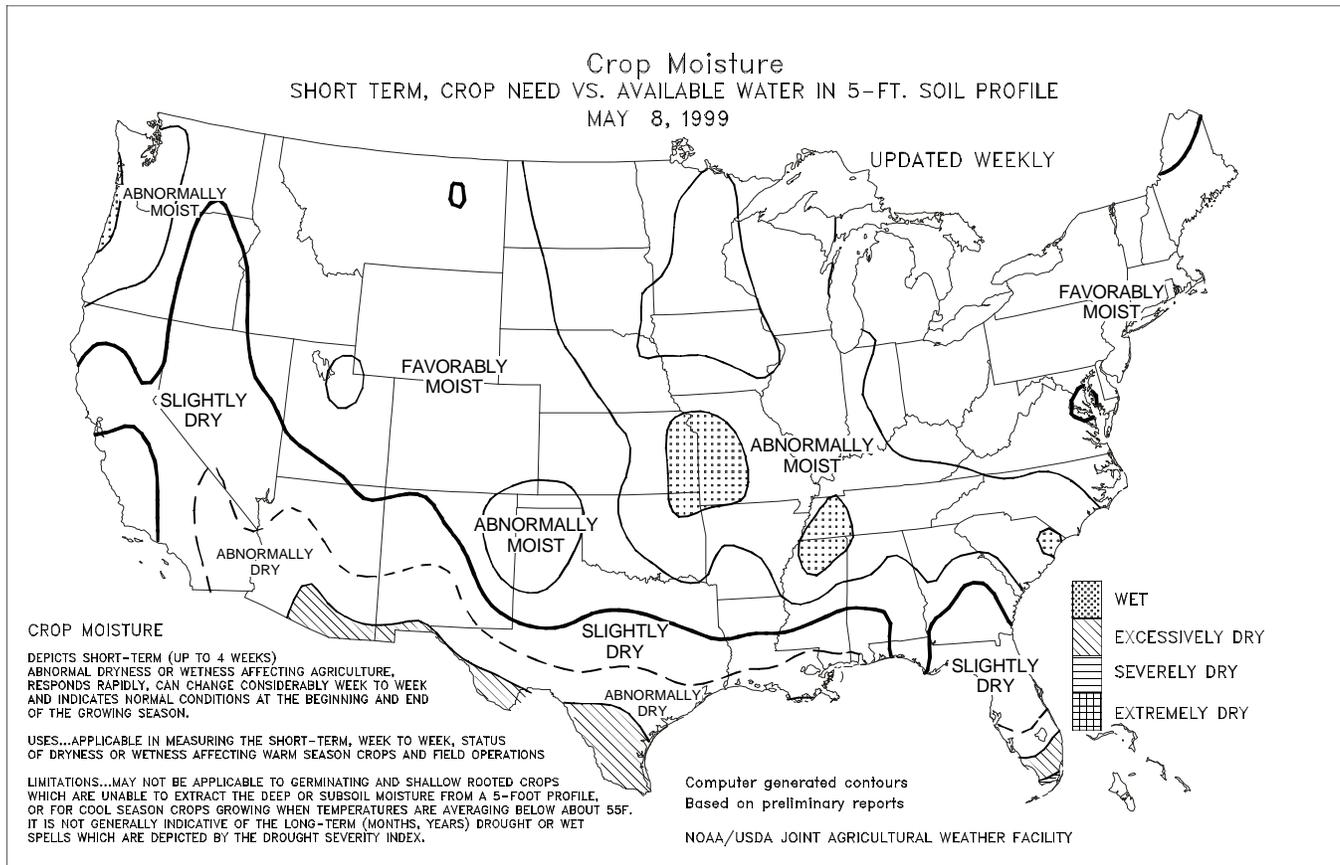
May 2 - 8, 1999

Very wet weather prevailed in the **eastern Plains**, **western Corn Belt**, and **Southeast**, aiding winter wheat and spring-sown crops, but causing additional planting delays. In the **eastern Corn Belt**, however, warm weather and only scattered showers promoted a rapid planting pace. From May 3-5, severe thunderstorms tore across parts of the **Plains** and **Southeast**, resulting in at least 100 tornadoes and more than four dozen fatalities. Late in the week, scattered showers and thunderstorms developed across **Florida** and adjacent areas, easing crop stress and providing localized relief from dry topsoils. Extreme dryness persisted, however, across **southern Texas**, where temperatures occasionally exceeded 100°F.

(Continued on page 5)

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Weather Data for Selected Locations in the Delta

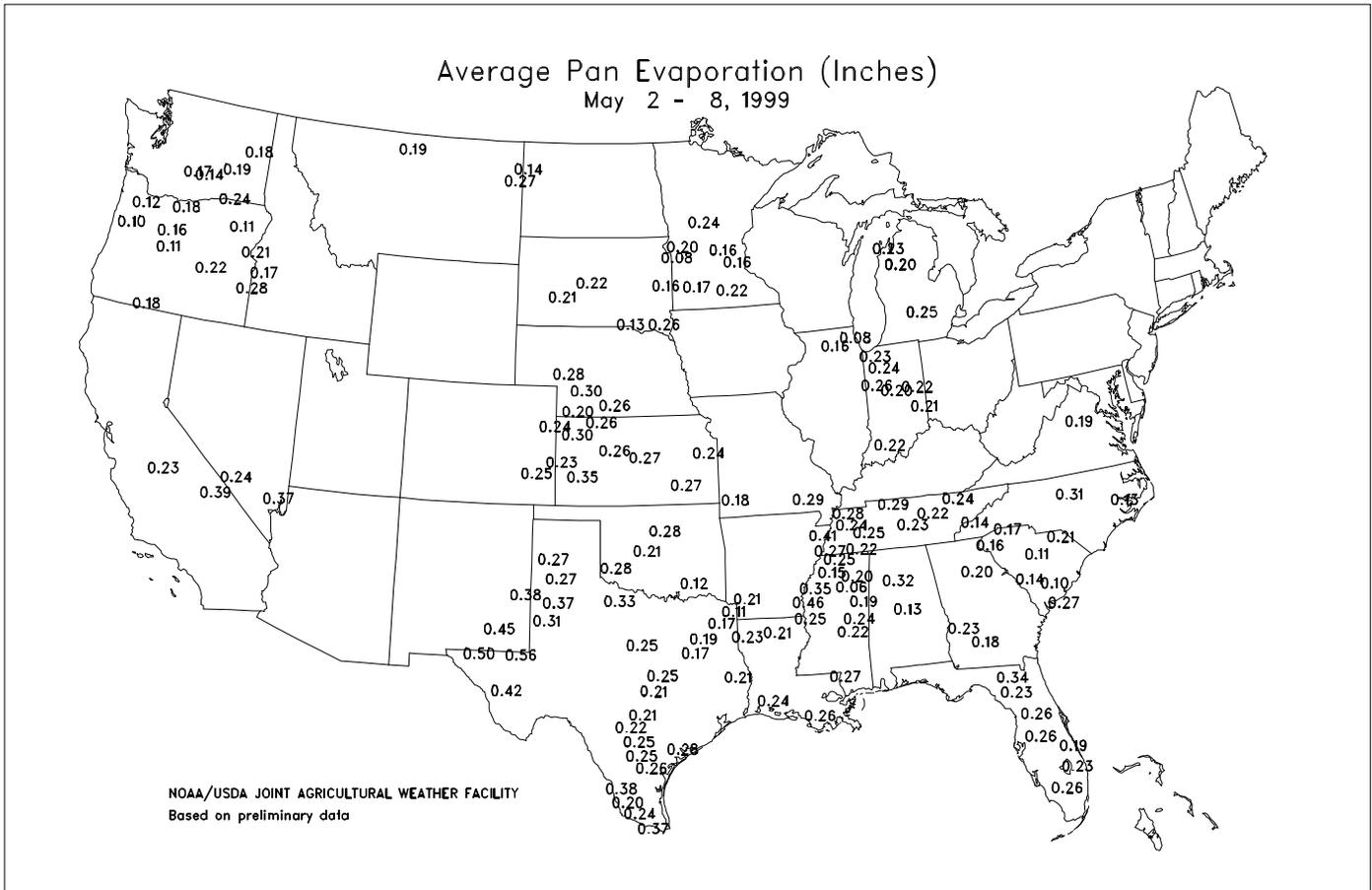
Weather Data for the Week Ending May 8, 1999

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	82	61	87	54	72	--	2.92	--	1.53	12.62	--	24.17	--	75	67	0	0	3	2	
INVERNESS 5E	81	61	88	54	71	--	0.95	--	0.52	10.89	--	--	--	71	67	0	0	2	1	
LYON	82	59	87	52	71	--	2.06	--	1.19	11.91	--	22.23	--	--	--	0	0	2	2	
ONWARD	82	59	89	50	71	--	2.16	--	1.99	14.43	--	23.79	--	69	67	0	0	2	1	
SIDON	81	60	90	55	71	--	1.03	--	0.97	10.18	--	22.35	--	79	69	1	0	2	1	
STONEVILLE *	81	59	86	54	70	1	2.07	0.81	1.23	12.38	102	27.48	127	80	68	0	0	3	2	

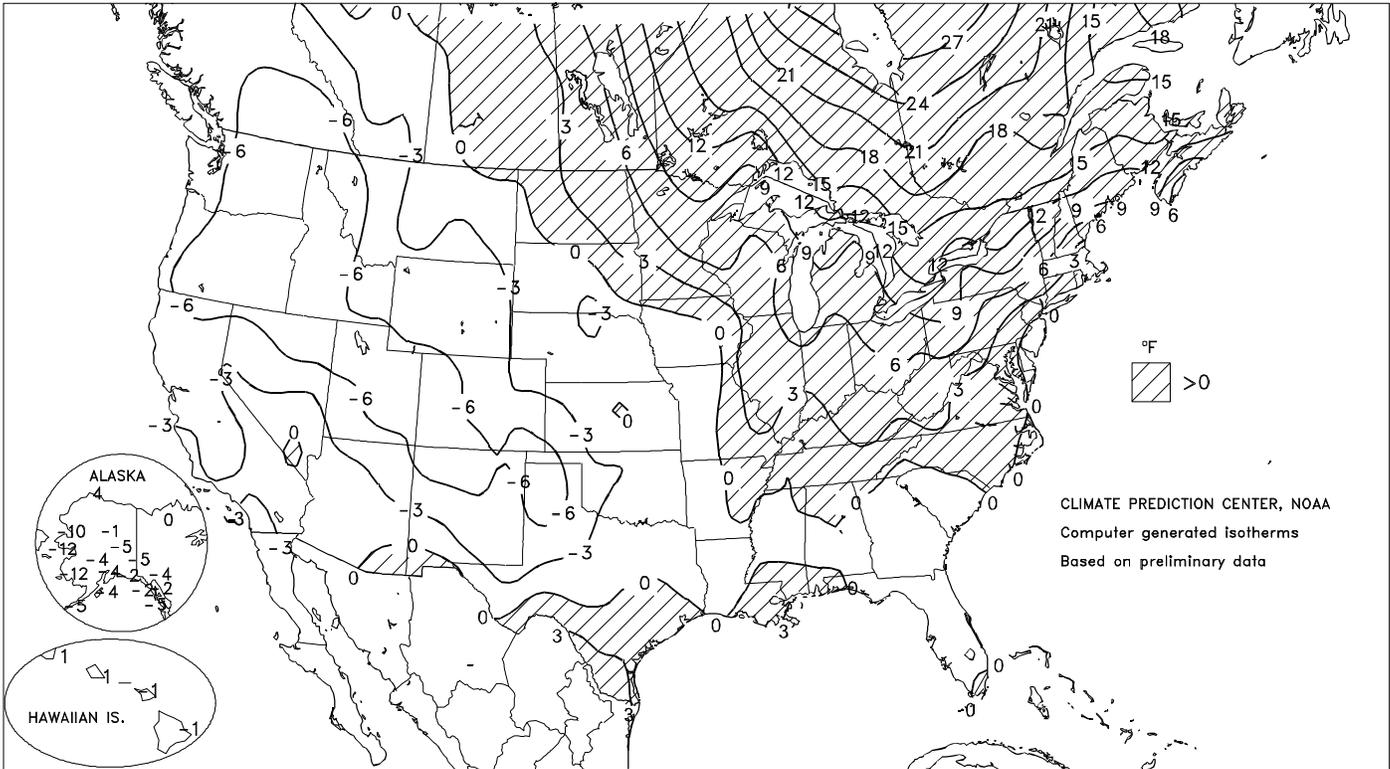
* Based on 1964-93 normals.

Delta Weather and Crop Summary: Fieldwork was halted at midweek as thunderstorms, accompanied by heavy rains and strong winds, swept across the Delta. Some minor crop damage occurred in Mississippi due to hail and gusty winds. Nevertheless, the rain improved soil moisture. Near- to above-normal temperatures led to the emergence of early-planted cotton, rice, and soybeans.



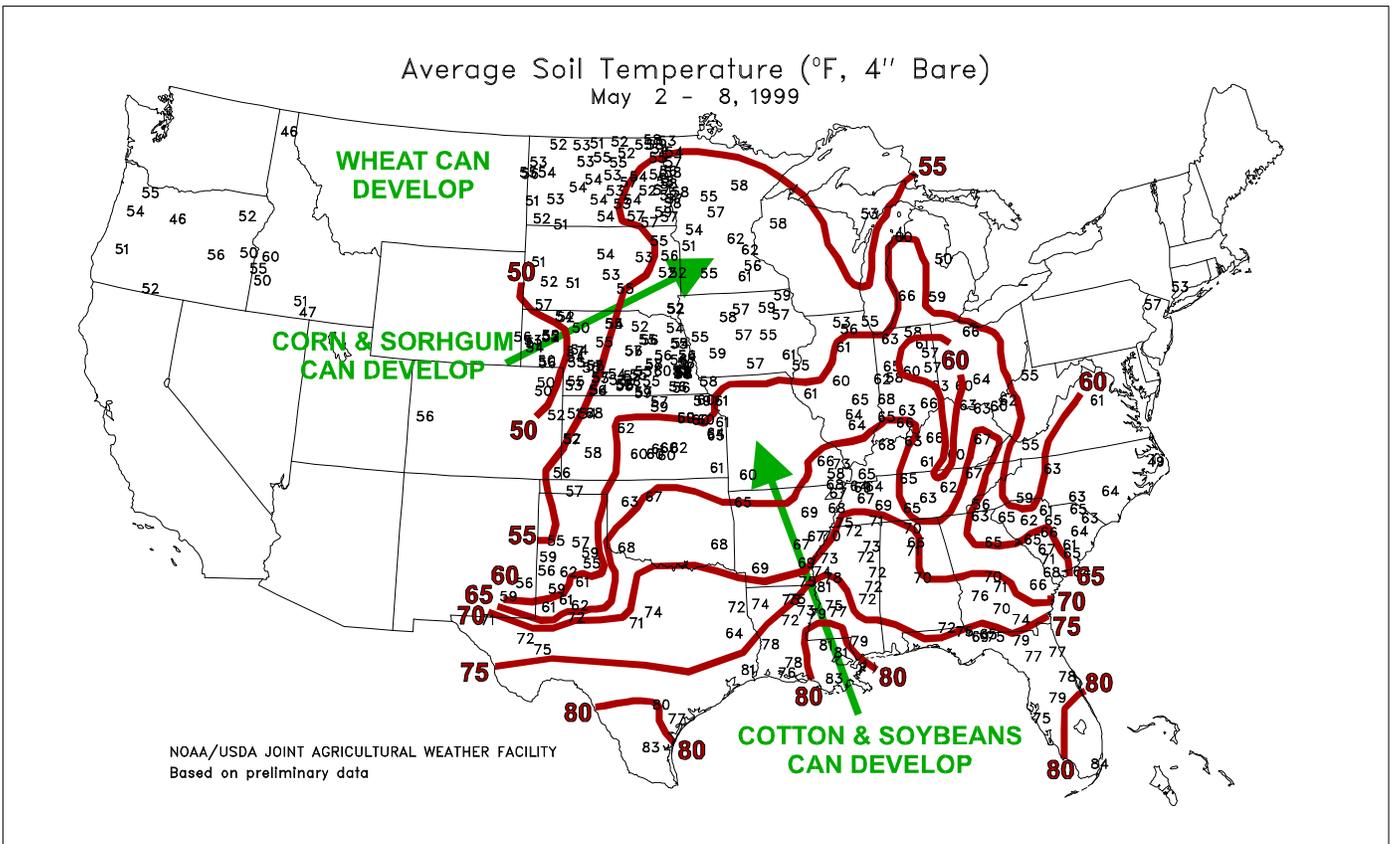
Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F)

MAY 2 - 8, 1999



Average Soil Temperature (°F, 4" Bare)

May 2 - 8, 1999



(Continued from front cover)

On the **High Plains**, favorably drier weather prevailed following last week's heavy rains. Meanwhile, beneficial showers overspread the **Northwest**, but very cool conditions, including scattered late-week frost, burned back small grains and increased concerns about possible adverse effects on blooming fruit trees. Weekly temperatures averaged as much as 8°F below normal in the **Northwest** and **Great Basin**, and as much as 5°F below normal in **California**. In contrast, temperatures averaged up to 5°F above normal in **southern Texas**, as much as 10°F above normal in the **Great Lakes region**, and nearly 20°F above normal across **northern New England**. Near-normal readings prevailed in the **Southeast** and **Desert Southwest**.

More than 2 inches of rain fell in a broad arc from the **Dakotas** into the **Southeast** in conjunction with a very slow-moving weather system. On Tuesday, daily-record rains were measured in locations such as **Springfield, MO** (2.45 inches) and **Kearney, NE** (1.95 inches). A day earlier (May 3), tornadic thunderstorms erupted across the **Plains**, striking hardest near **Oklahoma City, OK** and **Wichita, KS**. Preliminary surveys indicated that 26 tornadoes struck in or near **Oklahoma City**, the strongest of which briefly attained F5 status (winds in excess of 260 mph) in **Moore, OK**, killing 38 people. (The last time that an **Oklahoma** tornado outbreak claimed more lives was on April 9, 1947, when the State's deadliest storms on record killed 116 people in **Woodward**.) Another powerful tornado struck **Haysville, KS**, packing an F4 (207 to 260 mph) intensity and resulting in five deaths. Two days later, on May 5, an F4 tornado swept through **Linden, TN**, leaving three people dead.

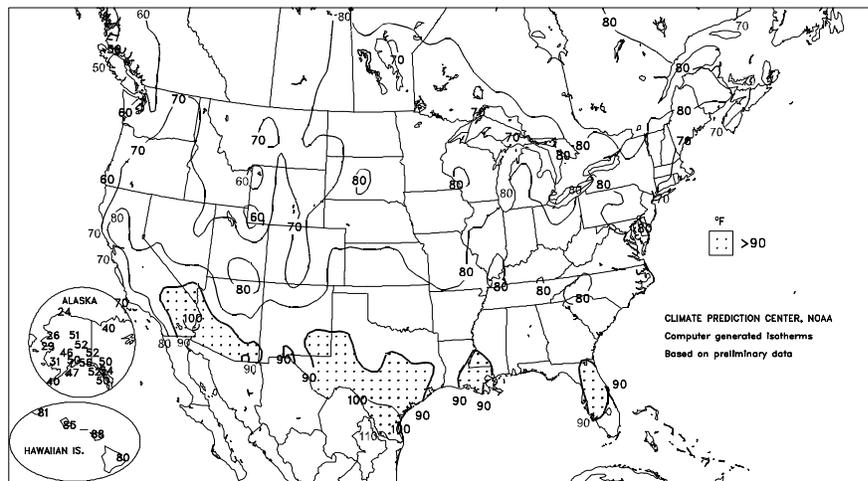
Areas that benefited from the heavy rain included the **northern portions of Wisconsin and Michigan**. In **northern Lower Michigan**, both **Traverse City** and **Gaylord** reported measurable rainfall on Wednesday for the first time since April 10, ending 24-day (April 11 to May 4) dry spells. May 5-8 rainfall totaled 0.89 inch in **Gaylord**, and exceeded 2 inches across most of **northern Wisconsin**. As the storm responsible for the rainfall shifted eastward, **Rapid City, SD** clocked a May-record wind gust to 68 mph on Thursday. Two days earlier, strong westerly winds lifted dust from the **Southwest**. Peak wind gusts in **western Texas** reached 59 mph in **Lubbock** and 57 mph in **El Paso**.

In advance of the storm system, extreme heat gripped **southernmost Texas** on May 4-5, further depleting soil moisture. Highs in **McAllen** soared to 110 and 106°F. On the latter date, **Brownsville** posted a high temperature of 102°F, their highest reading since June 8, 1989 (also 102°F). Record warmth was also noted in the **Great Lakes and Northeastern States**. In **northern Maine**, **Caribou** logged four consecutive daily-record highs (81, 85, 82, and 81°F) from May 3-6.

In contrast, cool weather lingered in the **Southeast** early in the

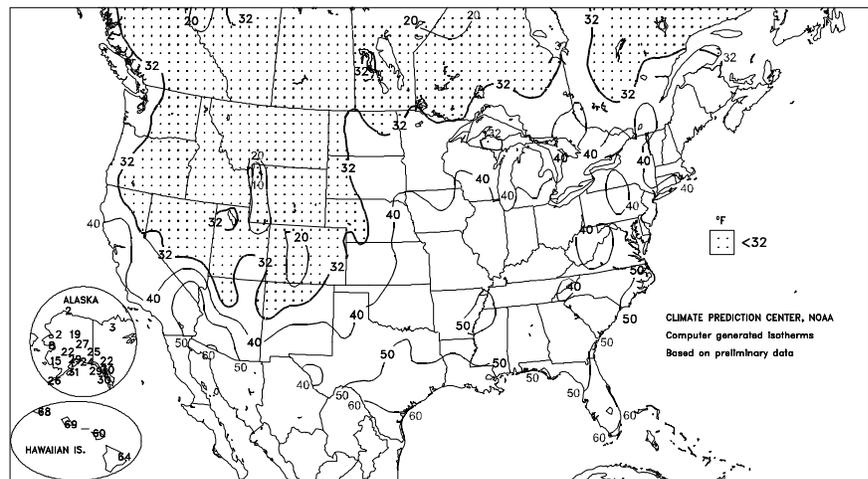
Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F)

MAY 2 - 8, 1999



Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)

MAY 2 - 8, 1999



week, producing more than a dozen daily-record lows. On Sunday in **Florida**, **St. Petersburg's** low of 56°F tied their May record. A day later, **Augusta, GA** noted 41°F. A more impressive cool snap affected the **West** during the mid- to late-week period. **Klamath Falls, OR** notched daily record-tying lows on Wednesday (23°F) and Friday (24°F). On Saturday, sub-freezing, daily-record lows were tallied in locations such as **Yakima, WA** (25°F) and **Boise, ID** (31°F). Showers accompanied the cool weather in the **Northwest**, and in **Spokane, WA**, snow accumulated twice during the first 9 days of May, including 0.3 inch on May 9. During the previous 118 years (1881-1998), measurable snow fell in **Spokane** during May on only 5 days.

Very cool weather prevailed in **Alaska**, particularly in western areas, where weekly temperatures averaged as much as 12°F below normal. On May 1-2, snow fell in **interior Alaska**, totaling 7 inches in **Northway** and 6 inches in **Delta Junction**. Only 0.4 inch accumulated in **Fairbanks**, boosting their seasonal total to 31.0 inches (the third-lowest seasonal amount during the 95-year period of record).

National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending May 8, 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	80	55	82	45	67	1	4.06	2.91	1.88	12.80	103	23.70	106	87	38	0	0	3	2	
AL HUNTSVILLE	80	55	83	48	67	2	2.98	1.81	2.67	11.65	90	23.64	103	94	36	0	0	4	1	
AL MOBILE	84	61	88	50	72	0	0.29	-0.96	0.15	9.81	80	16.10	72	94	46	0	0	3	0	
AL MONTGOMERY	81	55	84	46	68	-1	1.40	0.49	1.16	10.34	88	15.21	69	94	49	0	0	3	1	
AK ANCHORAGE	46	32	50	29	39	-4	0.47	0.33	0.47	1.43	91	2.07	66	75	39	0	5	1	0	
AK BARRROW	21	11	24	2	16	4	0.02	-0.01	0.00	0.29	71	0.45	70	90	76	0	7	1	0	
AK FAIRBANKS	45	30	52	27	38	-5	0.10	0.01	0.00	0.50	60	0.94	54	83	47	0	6	2	0	
AK JUNEAU	49	36	54	30	43	-2	0.40	-0.35	0.19	10.86	157	21.59	142	95	50	0	1	6	0	
AK KODIAK	42	33	47	31	38	-4	0.16	-1.03	0.07	7.26	71	18.93	83	72	43	0	4	4	0	
AK NOME	24	12	29	8	18	-12	0.02	-0.12	0.00	1.11	80	3.28	118	92	69	0	7	1	0	
AZ FLAGSTAFF	61	30	70	27	45	-2	0.00	-0.23	0.00	3.67	86	4.43	53	75	23	0	5	0	0	
AZ PHOENIX	87	61	99	55	74	-1	0.00	-0.03	0.00	1.24	108	1.42	57	41	15	3	0	0	0	
AZ TUCSON	85	55	94	47	70	-1	0.00	-0.06	0.00	1.33	124	1.34	51	34	11	2	0	0	0	
AZ YUMA	89	61	98	53	75	-1	0.00	-0.03	0.00	1.17	285	1.77	182	56	24	4	0	0	0	
AR FORT SMITH	78	53	88	47	65	-1	1.22	0.03	1.20	11.33	122	14.62	106	90	44	0	0	2	1	
AR LITTLE ROCK	79	55	86	49	67	0	1.70	0.44	1.35	12.67	107	21.49	114	95	43	0	0	2	1	
CA BAKERSFIELD	74	48	87	43	61	-7	0.00	-0.06	0.00	1.04	62	5.42	151	78	29	0	0	0	0	
CA EUREKA	56	43	61	39	50	-2	1.20	0.78	0.64	12.09	139	26.78	138	90	69	0	0	4	1	
CA FRESNO	75	50	88	46	63	-3	0.03	-0.07	0.03	1.75	59	5.76	86	73	26	0	0	1	0	
CA LOS ANGELES	68	56	72	52	62	0	0.00	-0.06	0.00	3.77	136	6.18	81	85	59	0	0	0	0	
CA REDDING	73	46	85	36	59	-4	0.16	-0.18	0.16	5.34	78	16.11	93	80	24	0	0	1	0	
CA SACRAMENTO	73	45	82	41	59	-4	0.12	0.02	0.04	2.52	65	9.92	95	91	30	0	0	2	0	
CA SAN DIEGO	63	55	70	52	59	-4	0.00	-0.07	0.00	2.74	104	4.98	83	87	66	0	0	0	0	
CA SAN FRANCISCO	61	47	73	45	54	-3	0.12	0.03	0.05	5.15	113	12.73	105	88	52	0	0	2	0	
CO ALAMOSA	56	26	73	22	41	-6	0.40	0.26	0.24	2.09	190	2.17	132	91	27	0	6	5	0	
CO CO SPRINGS	61	35	74	24	48	-4	0.25	-0.19	0.25	8.89	339	9.06	275	68	22	0	3	1	0	
CO DENVER	63	37	78	30	50	-4	0.05	-0.49	0.05	6.53	182	7.08	152	75	22	0	3	1	0	
CO GRAND JUNCTION	63	38	83	30	51	-7	0.20	0.01	0.20	2.29	122	2.66	91	76	24	0	1	1	0	
CO PUEBLO	69	37	82	31	53	-5	0.05	-0.22	0.04	6.93	352	7.05	272	82	20	0	2	2	0	
CT BRIDGEPORT	60	50	64	43	55	0	0.38	-0.53	0.15	5.44	63	15.88	107	99	75	0	0	4	0	
CT HARTFORD	67	52	74	36	59	3	0.88	-0.05	0.41	6.26	73	15.02	99	93	62	0	0	5	0	
DC WASHINGTON	73	55	78	48	64	1	0.27	-0.52	0.17	6.23	92	14.19	116	89	53	0	0	3	0	
DE WILMINGTON	67	52	78	44	59	1	0.11	-0.74	0.09	7.44	95	16.37	119	87	46	0	0	3	0	
FL DAYTONA BEACH	84	60	92	50	72	-1	0.92	0.32	0.61	3.44	59	10.07	86	93	50	2	0	3	1	
FL JACKSONVILLE	82	57	92	49	70	-1	0.14	-0.53	0.08	2.45	34	8.58	59	97	46	1	0	3	0	
FL KEY WEST	83	74	87	65	79	-1	0.00	-0.61	0.00	1.95	47	6.03	76	88	70	0	0	0	0	
FL MIAMI	85	71	87	60	78	0	0.01	-1.06	0.01	1.72	27	4.98	47	81	53	0	0	1	0	
FL ORLANDO	86	61	94	53	73	-2	1.30	0.76	1.22	4.26	76	7.52	69	93	44	1	0	3	1	
FL PENSACOLA	80	63	86	52	72	0	0.93	0.10	0.53	6.50	63	13.13	64	95	53	0	0	4	1	
FL TALLAHASSEE	83	58	88	44	70	-1	4.33	3.41	3.98	8.47	77	14.38	67	95	41	0	0	4	1	
FL TAMPA	85	65	89	52	75	0	0.17	-0.32	0.16	1.30	28	4.63	47	86	51	0	0	2	0	
GA WEST PALM	84	67	88	55	76	-1	0.00	-1.10	0.00	1.08	14	9.50	71	87	53	0	0	0	0	
GA ATHENS	76	55	83	45	65	-1	0.93	-0.05	0.46	6.17	58	14.31	73	95	48	0	0	4	0	
GA ATLANTA	76	56	81	48	66	0	2.82	1.83	1.38	7.30	65	14.59	70	87	45	0	0	4	2	
GA AUGUSTA	80	51	84	41	65	-2	0.61	-0.19	0.39	5.40	61	13.48	78	99	42	0	0	2	0	
GA COLUMBUS	81	58	86	50	70	0	1.72	0.77	0.58	6.97	62	12.81	62	91	41	0	0	3	3	
GA MACON	81	54	85	43	68	-2	0.75	-0.05	0.51	4.76	52	12.94	70	98	39	0	0	3	1	
GA SAVANNAH	81	56	88	47	69	-2	1.09	0.29	1.03	4.43	57	12.50	86	97	42	0	0	4	1	
HI HILO	78	66	80	64	72	-1	1.00	-1.71	0.37	29.39	91	65.54	125	93	64	0	0	6	0	
HI HONOLULU	83	71	85	69	77	0	0.04	-0.26	0.00	1.29	32	4.15	42	76	51	0	0	1	0	
HI KAHULUI	86	63	88	60	74	-1	0.00	-0.25	0.00	1.91	39	6.05	51	87	45	0	0	0	0	
HI LIHUE	81	71	81	68	76	1	0.01	-0.78	0.01	4.82	56	10.49	59	85	64	0	0	1	0	
ID BOISE	57	37	73	31	47	-7	0.84	0.58	0.44	2.33	82	5.70	107	82	36	0	2	3	0	
ID LEWISTON	58	39	78	34	48	-7	0.43	0.15	0.23	2.22	88	4.11	87	79	36	0	0	3	0	
ID POCATELLO	55	35	64	29	45	-6	0.43	0.13	0.35	2.90	103	5.55	116	81	36	0	2	2	0	
IL CHICAGO/O'HARE	70	51	81	42	61	5	0.43	-0.32	0.33	9.67	135	15.78	157	84	46	0	0	3	0	
IL MOLINE	69	52	79	42	61	3	0.25	-0.71	0.13	8.78	110	12.83	119	88	50	0	0	2	0	
IL PEORIA	70	55	79	47	62	4	0.64	-0.19	0.34	5.89	77	10.12	96	82	45	0	0	4	0	
IL ROCKFORD	69	51	81	39	60	5	1.13	0.33	1.03	10.03	143	14.31	151	91	49	0	0	3	1	
IL SPRINGFIELD	73	53	81	43	63	3	0.80	-0.03	0.40	6.37	81	10.46	94	82	42	0	0	3	0	
IN EVANSVILLE	76	53	81	45	64	2	1.35	0.27	1.15	11.80	118	19.74	125	90	41	0	0	3	1	
IN FORT WAYNE	73	50	81	43	61	5	0.28	-0.49	0.24	7.84	109	13.15	120	87	43	0	0	3	0	
IN INDIANAPOLIS	74	53	80	47	63	4	0.36	-0.55	0.26	6.16	72	16.08	121	83	40	0	0	2	0	
IN SOUTH BEND	72	52	81	40	62	7	0.20	-0.53	0.16	8.86	114	13.56	114	83	42	0	0	2	0	
IA BURLINGTON	71	55	81	49	63	4	0.46	-0.37	0.40	8.04	110	12.78	132	76	48	0	0	3	0	
IA CEDAR RAPIDS	64	50	76	41	57	0	0.97	0.19	0.78	7.49	117	11.36	135	88	56	0	0	4	1	
IA DES MOINES	63	51	75	44	57	-1	0.44	-0.34	0.20	6.68	102	8.90	103	87	58	0	0	5	0	
IA DUBUQUE	66	50	78	45	58	3	0.71	-0.23	0.30	8.28	108	11.41	111	90	55	0	0	4	0	
IA SIOUX CITY	64	49	77	44	56	-2	1.28	0.53	1.03	6.83	133	7.98	125	95	63	0	0	6	1	
IA WATERLOO	65	51	80	41	58	2	0.73	-0.14	0.39	6.95	105	9.15	108	86	56	0	0	4	0	
KS CONCORDIA	68	50	79	42	59	0	0.74	-0.11	0.38	7.18	131	7.95	117	83	48	0	0	3	0	
KS DODGE CITY	72	45	84	38	59	-2	0.63	0.00	0.63	7.05	163	9.02	166	76	30	0	0	1	1	
KS GOODLAND	68	39	82	33	54	-2	0.12	-0.56	0.07	5.01	156	5.58	140	78	29	0	0	2	0	
KS TOPEKA	69	53	76	45	61	0	1.77	0.89	1.54	11.45	175	13.56	159	82	52	0	0	2	1	

Based on 1961-90 normals

Weather Data for the Week Ending May 8, 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
KY WICHITA	73	50	81	40	62	-1	1.16	0.40	0.87	9.10	160	10.84	146	91	42	0	0	3	1
KY JACKSON	77	55	82	51	66	4	0.98	-0.05	0.65	7.59	77	17.20	98	80	35	0	0	3	1
KY LEXINGTON	76	52	80	45	64	3	0.84	-0.18	0.40	6.92	73	15.41	99	82	42	0	0	2	1
LA LOUISVILLE	77	56	82	49	67	4	1.75	0.68	1.40	10.01	99	19.63	121	85	38	0	0	3	1
LA PADUCAH	76	53	80	44	65	1	2.37	1.21	1.63	12.06	108	20.43	111	92	41	0	0	3	2
LA BATON ROUGE	85	61	90	51	73	0	0.04	-1.13	0.04	6.07	53	13.04	59	92	37	2	0	1	0
LA LAKE CHARLES	84	61	91	50	72	0	0.02	-1.17	0.02	4.14	52	10.89	68	97	46	1	0	1	0
LA NEW ORLEANS	84	66	88	58	75	2	0.10	-0.87	0.08	5.00	48	9.12	42	89	44	0	0	2	0
LA SHREVEPORT	81	57	88	49	69	-1	0.59	-0.54	0.39	13.57	157	26.96	164	92	49	0	0	4	0
ME CARIBOU	79	47	85	39	63	16	0.00	-0.67	0.00	3.76	67	8.73	87	82	31	0	0	0	0
ME PORTLAND	60	46	65	35	53	3	2.82	1.97	1.80	7.63	87	17.65	113	96	68	0	0	5	2
MD BALTIMORE	70	52	80	46	61	1	0.23	-0.58	0.04	5.97	81	13.32	98	94	50	0	0	3	0
MA BOSTON	56	48	60	44	52	-2	0.99	0.23	0.34	4.34	53	13.54	88	96	77	0	0	5	0
MA WORCESTER	61	50	66	44	55	4	0.82	-0.15	0.28	5.83	65	15.23	94	94	49	0	0	6	0
MI ALPENA	69	40	73	32	54	6	0.23	-0.35	0.12	2.35	47	6.09	77	93	37	0	1	2	0
MI GRAND RAPIDS	71	50	81	43	61	7	0.30	-0.40	0.14	7.95	117	12.98	129	83	39	0	0	3	0
MI HOUGHTON LAKE	72	44	81	33	58	8	0.43	-0.11	0.28	2.87	59	6.02	80	88	37	0	0	3	0
MI LANSING	72	47	78	37	60	7	0.28	-0.30	0.16	6.97	121	10.28	120	89	51	0	0	2	0
MI MARQUETTE	65	49	76	31	57	11	0.95	0.34	0.78	4.23	69	12.31	122	70	44	0	1	3	1
MI MUSKOGON	72	51	84	42	61	9	0.42	-0.19	0.28	5.55	91	9.26	93	81	44	0	0	4	0
MN DULUTH	65	46	74	38	55	8	1.46	0.85	1.03	6.06	125	7.57	110	82	48	0	0	3	1
MN INT'L FALLS	69	46	83	28	58	9	1.03	0.58	0.49	4.88	155	5.46	117	83	42	0	1	4	0
MN MINNEAPOLIS	67	52	79	44	60	5	1.03	0.34	0.44	6.32	123	9.39	135	87	52	0	0	4	0
MN ROCHESTER	64	48	76	38	56	3	0.20	-0.53	0.09	7.48	140	10.55	154	90	61	0	0	3	0
MN ST. CLOUD	68	50	80	41	59	7	1.28	0.67	0.60	4.51	101	5.42	93	86	48	0	0	5	1
MS JACKSON	83	55	89	47	69	0	0.38	-0.87	0.21	7.13	56	17.64	78	95	39	0	0	3	0
MS MERIDIAN	83	53	89	44	68	-1	0.40	-0.69	0.31	7.94	59	15.74	65	96	37	0	0	3	0
MO TUPELO	80	56	84	48	68	1	2.27	0.93	2.14	17.58	137	32.05	143	89	41	0	0	3	1
MO COLUMBIA	72	51	78	46	61	1	2.24	1.14	2.20	8.88	108	13.48	117	86	50	0	0	3	1
MO KANSAS CITY	68	51	75	48	60	-1	1.81	0.76	1.39	11.73	172	15.79	175	85	56	0	0	3	1
MO SAINT LOUIS	76	56	83	48	66	4	0.82	-0.06	0.72	6.94	86	15.56	130	80	38	0	0	5	1
MO SPRINGFIELD	71	49	77	42	60	-1	2.49	1.55	2.46	12.74	140	18.59	142	89	44	0	0	2	1
MT BILLINGS	59	38	71	32	49	-3	0.26	-0.30	0.14	2.91	82	3.98	78	74	29	0	1	3	0
MT BUTTE	51	28	65	20	40	-4	0.24	-0.11	0.14	2.93	140	3.84	127	89	39	0	4	3	0
MT GLASGOW	61	40	69	30	51	-1	0.50	0.17	0.29	2.16	147	3.55	169	79	28	0	1	2	0
MT GREAT FALLS	58	34	68	23	46	-4	0.03	-0.48	0.01	1.96	64	2.65	58	74	25	0	3	1	0
MT KALISPELL	53	28	65	21	41	-8	0.43	0.07	0.26	1.78	71	4.35	85	90	33	0	5	3	0
MT MILES CITY	62	42	73	31	52	-1	0.34	-0.10	0.17	3.01	121	3.63	105	76	31	0	1	3	0
NE MISSOULA	54	30	69	21	42	-7	0.13	-0.22	0.13	0.82	35	2.87	66	81	27	0	5	1	0
NE GRAND ISLAND	64	47	77	36	55	-2	1.16	0.38	0.53	6.95	132	7.59	117	90	49	0	0	4	1
NE LINCOLN	65	48	80	39	57	-2	1.18	0.36	0.74	7.25	125	8.88	126	92	58	0	0	5	1
NE NORFOLK	63	48	77	41	55	-2	1.09	0.37	0.47	7.12	143	7.97	128	92	57	0	0	4	0
NE NORTH PLATTE	65	41	77	28	53	-2	0.34	-0.36	0.19	3.87	97	4.47	93	81	34	0	1	3	0
NE OMAHA	64	50	76	44	57	-2	1.22	0.28	0.60	11.00	191	12.99	178	89	64	0	0	5	1
NE SCOTTSBLUFF	64	37	77	28	51	-2	0.08	-0.49	0.02	4.70	142	4.99	117	82	31	0	1	3	0
NE VALENTINE	63	40	79	30	52	-2	1.32	0.67	0.84	4.87	142	5.74	139	91	38	0	1	4	1
NV ELY	59	32	71	26	46	-1	0.20	-0.06	0.12	1.22	55	2.04	56	88	32	0	2	2	0
NV LAS VEGAS	82	59	92	54	71	1	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.73	100	0.81	49	41	14	1	0	0	0
NV RENO	65	40	76	36	52	-1	0.00	-0.14	0.00	0.68	55	2.69	81	58	21	0	0	0	0
NV WINNEMUCCA	62	31	77	19	47	-6	0.26	0.07	0.12	1.20	66	3.25	102	84	25	0	4	2	0
NH CONCORD	66	49	74	34	57	6	0.77	0.08	0.33	4.43	69	12.65	110	95	58	0	0	4	0
NJ NEWARK	65	53	73	46	59	0	0.75	-0.21	0.47	6.28	71	16.26	107	90	60	0	0	5	0
NM ALBUQUERQUE	68	43	82	38	55	-5	0.00	-0.11	0.00	1.69	150	1.81	88	48	13	0	0	0	0
NY ALBANY	70	51	77	42	61	7	0.86	0.12	0.55	5.62	83	11.99	105	91	48	0	0	4	1
NY BINGHAMTON	70	51	77	42	60	8	0.39	-0.35	0.28	5.49	81	11.80	102	86	49	0	0	3	0
NY BUFFALO	75	53	82	45	64	12	0.89	0.21	0.68	5.53	87	12.41	109	78	41	0	0	2	1
NY ROCHESTER	73	51	79	40	62	9	1.38	0.77	0.87	6.72	120	11.33	116	96	49	0	0	2	2
NY SYRACUSE	75	52	79	43	64	11	0.08	-0.64	0.08	5.62	81	12.38	108	80	40	0	0	1	0
NC ASHEVILLE	72	47	77	37	60	-1	1.25	0.31	0.62	6.50	72	16.18	100	97	47	0	0	4	1
NC CHARLOTTE	76	53	80	44	65	0	0.23	-0.58	0.12	5.66	71	11.85	76	88	49	0	0	3	0
NC GREENSBORO	76	53	81	46	65	2	0.05	-0.80	0.05	6.38	85	13.27	95	85	40	0	0	1	0
NC HATTERAS	65	56	77	50	61	-4	0.90	0.03	0.85	12.29	139	18.48	101	97	78	0	0	3	1
NC RALEIGH	78	53	84	45	66	2	0.01	-0.80	0.01	7.23	99	14.96	103	86	46	0	0	1	0
NC WILMINGTON	79	59	89	52	69	1	0.38	-0.48	0.37	12.88	167	19.68	129	91	52	0	0	2	0
ND BISMARCK	62	45	74	33	53	2	2.81	2.37	1.06	4.67	158	6.19	161	92	58	0	0	4	3
ND DICKINSON	60	42	70	33	51	1	1.19	0.67	0.40	2.91	92	4.15	107	89	45	0	0	4	0
ND FARGO	65	50	79	34	57	5	2.08	1.57	0.71	4.96	143	6.31	137	86	57	0	0	4	3
ND GRAND FORKS	64	47	77	31	55	5	1.27	0.87	0.48	4.21	154	5.43	138	89	60	0	1	4	0
ND JAMESTOWN	63	47	77	31	55	4	3.66	3.30	2.06	5.75	204	7.38	189	92	63	0	1	5	2
ND WILLISTON	60	41	74	30	51	-1	0.68	0.28	0.34	1.40	58	3.69	109	88	46	0	2	5	0
OH AKRON-CANTON	75	51	79	44	63	7	0.15	-0.69	0.15	5.37	72	11.67	99	80	35	0	0	1	0
OH CINCINNATI	75	50	81	46	63	3	0.38	-0.57	0.34	5.15	57	13.57	95	83	39	0	0	2	0
OH CLEVELAND	75	48	81	41	62	8	0.14	-0.62	0.14	5.68	82	11.39	102	91	38	0	0	1	0
OH COLUMBUS	77	53	81	49	65	7	0.25	-0.59	0.24	6.78	91	12.41	105	79	33	0	0	2	0
OH DAYTON	75	52	80	47	63	5	0.15	-0.70	0.13	5.30	67	13.19	109	73	37	0	0	3	0
OH MANSFIELD	75	48	79	45	61	6	0.16	-0.80	0.16	7.06	88	13.36	111	77	31	0	0	1	0

Based on 1961-90 normals

Weather Data for the Week Ending May 8, 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	76	49	82	42	62	8	0.03	-0.60	0.03	6.34	100	11.16	114	87	34	0	0	1	0
OK YOUNGSTOWN	77	49	81	43	63	9	0.35	-0.40	0.32	7.09	100	14.50	129	84	29	0	0	3	0
OK OKLAHOMA CITY	76	51	85	45	64	-2	1.09	0.02	0.75	11.51	172	14.52	155	88	43	0	0	4	1
OR TULSA	77	54	87	48	66	-1	2.68	1.48	2.33	13.44	157	17.71	147	85	39	0	0	3	1
OR ASTORIA	53	42	63	38	48	-3	2.87	2.11	0.95	15.51	124	47.58	158	97	63	0	0	6	2
OR BURNS	53	27	74	22	40	-8	0.28	0.08	0.20	1.34	71	4.93	135	91	33	0	6	2	0
OR EUGENE	55	38	66	34	47	-7	1.17	0.63	0.32	7.00	76	24.69	108	97	60	0	0	6	0
OR MEDFORD	60	39	74	34	50	-6	0.35	0.10	0.29	1.65	50	9.62	122	90	34	0	0	2	0
OR PENDLETON	59	37	81	33	48	-7	0.79	0.54	0.38	2.05	81	4.08	79	86	38	0	0	3	0
OR PORTLAND	57	42	66	39	50	-5	0.87	0.37	0.28	6.53	100	21.88	139	98	54	0	0	6	0
OR SALEM	56	40	65	36	48	-4	0.96	0.50	0.28	7.47	105	28.48	162	94	57	0	0	5	0
PA ALLENTOWN	67	49	78	39	58	1	0.52	-0.41	0.43	5.00	64	13.09	94	98	50	0	0	3	0
PA ERIE	74	52	84	45	63	10	0.43	-0.31	0.30	6.38	90	13.18	114	77	35	0	0	2	0
PA MIDDLETOWN	71	54	79	45	63	4	0.36	-0.56	0.33	6.10	81	12.94	97	91	52	0	0	3	0
PA PHILADELPHIA	68	53	80	48	61	1	0.10	-0.75	0.07	7.43	92	15.27	109	87	55	0	0	2	0
PA PITTSBURGH	76	49	83	44	63	7	0.41	-0.37	0.41	5.83	78	13.11	106	85	29	0	0	1	0
PA WILKES-BARRE	70	51	80	42	60	5	1.33	0.55	1.09	6.23	97	12.49	117	84	47	0	0	5	1
PA WILLIAMSPORT	71	50	80	39	61	4	1.05	0.24	0.51	6.96	94	13.83	109	94	51	0	0	4	1
RI PROVIDENCE	63	50	72	40	57	3	0.82	-0.06	0.37	5.70	62	17.85	107	95	66	0	0	4	0
SC BEAUFORT	80	59	84	49	70	-1	0.49	-0.25	0.27	7.65	98	12.58	85	96	48	0	0	2	0
SC CHARLESTON	81	58	85	49	69	-1	0.14	-0.58	0.12	5.46	70	12.44	86	95	47	0	0	2	0
SC COLUMBIA	80	55	85	44	68	-1	0.61	-0.15	0.45	7.05	79	13.34	76	97	47	0	0	2	0
SC GREENVILLE	75	54	80	44	65	0	0.94	0.00	0.32	7.22	70	13.90	74	91	48	0	0	4	0
SD ABERDEEN	64	49	76	38	56	3	1.81	1.32	0.87	4.50	117	5.32	114	95	64	0	0	6	1
SD HURON	61	48	75	41	55	1	1.93	1.34	1.00	5.43	123	6.06	110	95	68	0	0	6	2
SD RAPID CITY	61	39	69	33	50	-2	0.12	-0.42	0.07	3.32	94	3.57	81	81	37	0	0	2	0
SD SIOUX FALLS	62	49	72	38	56	1	1.40	0.76	0.65	6.87	140	7.50	124	96	64	0	0	6	1
TN BRISTOL	76	48	81	39	62	2	1.47	0.62	0.80	6.34	79	14.24	97	93	42	0	0	3	2
TN CHATTANOOGA	78	54	84	45	66	2	3.14	2.12	1.84	11.31	98	24.87	117	96	39	0	0	3	2
TN KNOXVILLE	76	52	82	44	64	1	3.25	2.34	1.46	11.50	117	21.03	116	97	43	0	0	4	3
TN MEMPHIS	79	57	83	52	68	0	4.22	3.01	3.50	19.74	161	27.98	137	84	46	0	0	3	2
TN NASHVILLE	78	53	82	46	66	1	1.93	0.80	1.46	8.31	79	19.87	111	88	40	0	0	2	1
TX ABILENE	81	54	88	41	67	-3	1.15	0.54	0.91	5.56	141	7.49	122	82	30	0	0	3	1
TX AMARILLO	70	42	86	38	56	-6	0.07	-0.35	0.05	9.22	381	11.89	337	83	29	0	0	3	0
TX AUSTIN	86	65	94	59	76	2	0.12	-0.88	0.01	5.04	91	5.27	56	82	38	3	0	1	0
TX BEAUMONT	84	63	89	54	74	1	0.01	-1.16	0.01	4.20	52	8.42	52	93	49	0	0	1	0
TX BROWNSVILLE	90	72	10	64	81	3	0.00	-0.60	0.00	3.15	113	4.91	91	93	53	2	0	0	0
TX CORPUS CHRISTI	87	68	10	62	78	1	0.00	-0.66	0.00	3.08	90	3.86	55	91	49	2	0	0	0
TX DEL RIO	89	64	96	55	77	1	0.02	-0.45	0.01	5.08	159	5.12	109	81	33	4	0	2	0
TX EL PASO	83	55	92	49	69	0	0.00	-0.04	0.00	0.04	7	0.14	10	32	17	1	0	0	0
TX FORT WORTH	80	60	86	54	70	0	1.56	0.46	0.71	7.22	96	9.14	79	81	38	0	0	3	2
TX GALVESTON	82	70	85	65	76	3	0.01	-0.70	0.01	2.20	40	5.56	51	85	58	0	0	1	0
TX HOUSTON	87	61	92	53	74	2	0.14	-0.94	0.05	4.65	63	7.56	56	89	42	2	0	2	0
TX LUBBOCK	74	47	90	40	61	-6	0.00	-0.44	0.00	4.78	207	6.13	181	73	23	1	0	0	0
TX MIDLAND	84	51	94	41	68	-2	0.00	-0.41	0.00	1.43	76	1.76	60	70	12	1	0	0	0
TX SAN ANGELO	85	57	89	45	71	0	0.08	-0.55	0.08	4.25	129	4.87	94	80	23	0	0	1	0
TX SAN ANTONIO	85	62	91	53	74	1	0.34	-0.53	0.24	4.73	94	4.82	56	86	39	2	0	3	0
TX VICTORIA	87	63	94	53	75	1	0.04	-0.84	0.03	3.78	76	6.35	70	93	43	2	0	2	0
TX WACO	84	58	91	46	71	-1	0.07	-0.94	0.06	5.28	79	7.65	74	93	39	1	0	2	0
TX WICHITA FALLS	80	55	88	47	67	-1	0.53	-0.35	0.43	10.65	171	13.21	152	85	36	0	0	3	0
UT SALT LAKE CITY	57	40	69	34	49	-7	1.44	0.98	1.09	5.33	117	7.58	110	82	40	0	0	5	1
VT BURLINGTON	76	51	80	41	64	11	0.59	-0.09	0.44	3.55	62	8.19	89	81	40	0	0	3	0
VA LYNCHBURG	77	47	83	38	62	1	0.16	-0.70	0.12	5.22	69	12.39	92	92	37	0	0	2	0
VA NORFOLK	71	57	85	50	64	2	1.74	0.92	1.50	8.80	114	14.64	98	99	67	0	0	4	1
VA RICHMOND	76	54	85	43	65	2	0.05	-0.78	0.03	6.69	89	12.86	92	93	48	0	0	2	0
VA ROANOKE	78	50	84	38	64	3	0.24	-0.65	0.20	5.72	74	11.57	86	92	39	0	0	2	0
VA WASH/DULLES	72	51	78	42	62	3	1.05	0.19	0.58	7.18	99	15.19	119	95	51	0	0	3	1
WA OLYMPIA	55	38	66	34	47	-5	0.22	-0.32	0.19	8.67	98	36.43	161	92	53	0	0	2	0
WA QUILLAYUTE	53	37	57	34	45	-4	2.52	1.13	0.93	21.90	106	63.24	133	10	65	0	0	7	1
WA SEATTLE-TACOMA	53	40	61	36	46	-6	0.70	0.29	0.21	5.83	92	19.61	125	90	51	0	0	4	0
WA SPOKANE	53	34	73	27	43	-8	0.44	0.14	0.13	1.69	56	6.81	105	87	37	0	2	5	0
WA YAKIMA	59	38	67	25	48	-6	0.16	0.05	0.16	0.45	34	3.16	97	74	28	0	1	1	0
WV BECKLEY	74	50	80	39	62	5	0.41	-0.47	0.23	7.09	91	15.39	113	80	26	0	0	4	0
WV CHARLESTON	79	48	87	39	64	3	0.25	-0.62	0.23	6.08	77	13.56	98	98	32	0	0	2	0
WV ELKINS	76	38	88	30	57	3	0.07	-0.83	0.04	6.66	77	15.43	105	98	27	0	2	2	0
WV HUNTINGTON	76	52	84	43	64	3	0.38	-0.57	0.28	5.81	71	12.86	92	90	33	0	0	3	0
WI EAU CLAIRE	69	50	83	40	59	6	1.20	0.40	0.51	7.06	130	9.77	137	81	45	0	0	5	1
WI GREEN BAY	68	47	77	36	58	6	1.40	0.81	0.93	3.67	72	6.15	84	85	50	0	0	4	1
WI LACROSSE	70	52	82	42	61	5	0.29	-0.40	0.19	7.12	126	10.74	143	83	49	0	0	3	0
WI MADISON	69	49	80	40	59	6	0.96	0.28	0.82	8.34	144	11.35	143	88	48	0	0	4	1
WI MILWAUKEE	65	49	72	41	57	6	0.64	-0.03	0.57	8.13	117	13.50	135	86	54	0	0	3	1
WY CASPER	57	34	68	27	45	-4	0.38	-0.10	0.35	2.35	77	2.89	69	85	33	0	3	2	0
WY CHEYENNE	56	34	74	29	45	-4	0.47	-0.03	0.41	6.11	206	6.59	176	83	34	0	3	4	0
WY LANDER	58	34	72	27	46	-4	0.37	-0.18	0.16	7.52	195	8.26	168	81	27	0	3	3	0
WY SHERIDAN	54	35	66	27	45	-5	0.63	0.12	0.38	4.94	151	5.54	119	86	45	0	3	3	0

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

April Weather Summary

Weather

A persistent, high-amplitude jet stream pattern promoted cool conditions in the West and warm weather in the East. Numerous storm systems took a similar path across the Intermountain West, central and southern Plains and Corn Belt, contributing to heavy precipitation and fieldwork delays. Heavy snow occasionally blanketed the northern Plains and Rocky Mountain States, and April-record rainfall soaked parts of the east-central Plains and upper Midwest. Late in the month, beneficial rain fell across the Southeast, including Florida, locally improving topsoil moisture and curbing the threat of wildfires. While the Southeast's rain aided winter grains and spring-sown crops (corn, cotton, soybeans, sorghum, peanuts, and rice), long-term moisture deficits persisted across Florida, southern Georgia, and southeastern Alabama. Unfavorably dry weather stressed spring-sown crops in southern Texas, where significant rain last fell in late March. Drier-than-normal weather accompanied cool conditions in California and the Northwest, promoting spring planting but resulting in a slow start to the growing season. In the Southwest, early-month storms provided short-term relief from La Niña-driven winter dryness, but failed to significantly dent long-term moisture deficits.

Monthly precipitation totaled more than 200 percent of normal in a broad swath from Arizona and southern California northeastward to the upper Midwest. Totals topped 400 percent of normal on parts of the central and southern High Plains and the Desert Southwest. More than 8 inches of rain fell in a band from northern Oklahoma to western Iowa, and in a few areas near southern Lake Michigan. In contrast, less than half the normal monthly precipitation dampened New England, the Northwest, and parts of Florida. Despite late-month showers, monthly totals were also less than 50 percent of normal across the southern portions of Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Georgia.

Monthly temperatures averaged as much as 6°F below normal in several areas from southern California to the central Rockies, and as much as 4°F below normal on the High Plains. East of the Mississippi River and along the western Gulf Coast, however, readings ranged from 0 to 5°F above normal.

Across the Southwest, the weather took a brief but sudden turn toward wetter conditions in early April. For example, Tucson, AZ netted 1.17 inches of rain on April 1, ending a 115-day period (December 7 to March 31) during which measurable rain fell only once (0.01 inch on January 26). Furthermore, Tucson's total was their highest daily amount since 1.61 inches fell on October 26, 1996, and became their wettest April day on record (formerly 1.03 inches on April 8, 1919). Another storm—on April 11 in southern California—produced the heaviest 1-day April rainfalls on record in Los Angeles (1.35 inches) and Long Beach (1.61 inches).

Despite the April rainfall, Tucson's total since October 1, 1998—the beginning of the water year—stood at just 2.70 inches (50 percent of normal). Similarly, Las Vegas, NV recorded 0.73 inch (348 percent of normal) during April, improving their year-to-date total to 0.81 inch (51 percent). April precipitation of 7.50 inches in Colorado Springs, CO, 5.86 inches in Denver, CO, 3.18 inches in Riverton, WY also

accounted for more than 89 percent of their respective year-to-date totals.

As April ended and May began, several days of heavy rain caused lowland flooding and left rivers running high across the central and southern High Plains. In western and northern Texas, April 28 - May 2 rainfall reached 6.16 inches in Seminole and 5.04 inches in Amarillo. In Colorado, daily-rainfall records were set on 3 consecutive days (April 29 - May 1) in Colorado Springs (1.75, 2.63, and 0.82 inches) and Pueblo (0.81, 2.00, and 1.02 inches). Downstream from Pueblo, the Arkansas River crested on May 2 at more than 4 feet above flood stage near North La Junta, submerging approximately three-fourths of the town.

Significant snowfall accompanied the heavy precipitation across portions of the Intermountain West. In Lander, WY, where April is typically the snowiest month (normal is 20.3 inches), the parade of storms dropped 12.0 inches of snow on March 31 and another 70.4 inches during April. An astounding 46.2 inches blanketed Lander on April 22-23. Elsewhere in the Intermountain West, April snowfall reached 20.8 inches in Casper, WY, 17.6 inches (fourth-snowiest April) in Colorado Springs, CO, and 16.6 inches (second-snowiest April) in Elko, NV. One early-month storm produced heavy snow as far east as the Dakotas, where Bismarck, ND received 12.7 inches from April 1-3. In Arizona, Flagstaff netted 34.3 inches during April—nearly all of which fell during the first week of the month—more than doubling their October-April total (64.0 inches). Maximum snow depths reached 48 inches (on April 3) on Mt. Lemmon, near Tucson, and 17 inches (on April 12) on southern California's Mt. Wilson.

As storm systems emerged from the West, wet conditions and occasional severe thunderstorms frequented the Plains and the Midwest. In Indiana, precipitation was reported on 22 days during April at Indianapolis. Omaha (Eppley Airfield), NE collected a monthly total of 8.48 inches (319 percent of normal). Record or near-record April precipitation totals included:

Record-High April Precipitation (Inches)

<u>Location</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Normal</u>	<u>Former Record/Year</u>
Iowa (average)	6.27	n/a	5.78 in 1991
Rochester, MN	6.47	2.73	6.47 in 1990
Juneau, AK	7.48	2.77	5.32 in 1980
Co. Springs, CO	7.50	1.19	6.78 in 1900
Topeka, KS	8.70	3.08	8.65 in 1944

Wettest April Since...

<u>Location</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Normal</u>	<u>Wettest (Inches) Since...</u>
Grand Jct., CO	2.06	0.75	2.15 in 1997
Amarillo, TX	6.30	0.99	6.45 in 1997
Milwaukee, WI	6.14	3.50	7.31 in 1973
Madison, WI	6.91	2.86	7.11 in 1973
Pueblo, CO	5.30	0.88	6.17 in 1942

On April 8-9, an especially dynamic system buffeted the Plains and Intermountain West with high winds, then sparked a severe thunderstorm outbreak across the Midwest. Occasional wind gusts above 100 mph were reported along the Front Range of the Colorado Rockies. According to preliminary data from the Storm Prediction Center, the April 8-9 outbreak caused nine deaths and accounted for nearly half of the month's 152 tornadoes. F4 tornadoes (winds estimated at 207 to 260 mph) were responsible for seven fatalities apiece in Blue Ash, OH (before dawn on April 9), in Benton, LA (on April 3).

Persistently cool weather accompanied the heavy rainfall as far east as the Plains and western Corn Belt. In Omaha, the warmest day of the month occurred on April 1 (82°F), the only day during the month that the temperature reached 80°F. At mid-month, April's sharpest cold outbreak trailed a storm into the Intermountain West and the Plains, burning back some winter wheat in the latter region. On the 16th, temperatures dipped into the single digits as far south as northern New Mexico, where Chama reported 7°F and Gallup noted 8°F. 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 April 17) posted their latest sub-40°F reading. In Florida, Tallahassee notched consecutive daily records on April 18-19, with lows of 32 and 35°F.

Although the West Coast States were extremely cool for most of the month, a short-lived warm spell produced more than 100 daily-record highs from April 15-19. On the 15th in Oregon, Florence (85°F) experienced their warmest day since the summer of 1996, just 1 day after daily-record lows were set in locations such as Meacham (18°F) and The Dalles (30°F). Elsewhere in Oregon, Astoria's high of 83°F on April 16 eclipsed their former daily record by 14°F. In southern California, El Cajon logged four consecutive daily-record highs (90, 93, 93, and 94°F) from April 15-18. Thermal, CA posted a record high of 104°F on April 19, just 9 days after a daily-record low of 33°F.

During the same period, hot weather also affected Florida, where Melbourne tallied an April record-tying high (97°F on April 15). Cooler air returned quickly to Florida, too, as Melbourne collected a daily-record low (50°F) on April 20. Farther north, widespread frost and sub-freezing temperatures were reported across the Great Lakes and Northeastern States on April 25 and several mornings thereafter. Lows on the 25th included 28°F at both Mansfield, OH and Williamsport, PA. A late-month chill also affected the Northwest, where Yakima, WA tallied consecutive daily-record lows (25 and 27°F) on April 27-28.

Nationwide, nearly 400,000 acres (more than 600 square miles) burned during April, raising the year-to-date acreage to almost 600,000 acres (about 930 square miles). A single fire in the Florida Everglades peaked around mid-month and accounted for more than 40 percent of the Nation's charred April acreage. Thereafter, scattered showers brought gradual improvement from extremely dry conditions across parts of Florida. More than 85 percent of Orlando's monthly rainfall fell on 2 days, April 17 (0.88 inch) and April 28 (1.23 inches). The showers

bypassed some areas in Florida and along the Gulf Coast, however, resulting in record or near-record dryness. Very dry conditions also developed in parts of the Northeast:

Record-Low April Precipitation (Inches)

<u>Location</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Normal</u>	<u>Former Record/Year</u>
Mobile, AL	0.08	4.48	0.14 in 1915
Boston, MA	0.83	3.60	0.93 in 1892

Driest April Since...

<u>Location</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Normal</u>	<u>Driest (Inches) Since...</u>
Albany, NY	0.60	2.99	0.56 in 1892
Pensacola, FL	0.66	3.77	0.38 in 1987

Dry weather ended abruptly across the northern Corn Belt. In Grand Rapids, MI, a 24-day spell (March 10 - April 2) without measurable precipitation ended early in the month. Heavy rain thereafter boosted Grand Rapids' April total to 6.69 inches (198 percent of normal). Parts of the upper Great Lakes region, including northern Lower Michigan, remained dry, however. In Traverse City and Gaylord, MI, no measurable rain fell after April 10.

Variable amounts of rain dampened Hawaii during April. While near-normal rainfall (more than 16 inches) fell in Hilo, below-normal totals were observed at other major reporting sites. During the 16-month period ending on April 30, Honolulu's rainfall totaled 8.63 inches (27 percent of normal).

Wet weather continued across south-central and southeastern Alaska, continuing a season-long trend. Juneau easily attained their wettest April on record (7.48 inches, or 270 percent of normal), exceeding the 1980 record of 5.32 inches. Season-to-date snowfall through mid-April reached record proportions in locations such as Whittier (413.8 inches, breaking the 1987-88 record of 344.5 inches), Seward (214.0 inches, breaking the 1973-74 record of 163.9 inches), and Homer (130.0 inches, breaking the 1974-75 record of 119.2 inches). At all three sites, records have been kept for approximately a half-century. In the Aleutians, Cold Bay (149.8 inches through April) also set their seasonal snowfall standard (formerly 115.9 inches in 1983-84) during the 50-year period of record. In the interior, however, Fairbanks' season-to-date snowfall through April--30.6 inches--was less than 45 percent of normal and their third-lowest seasonal total on record. Alaskan temperatures averaged within 3°F of normal statewide during April, but during a mid-month warm spell, Fairbanks (68°F on April 18) experienced their earliest high temperature on record at or above 68°F.

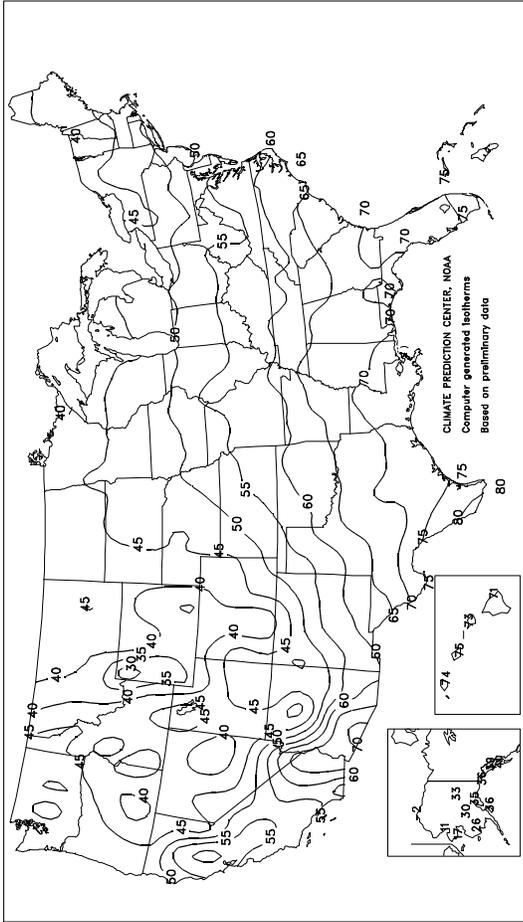
Fieldwork

The month began with heavy rains that halted fieldwork and eroded hillsides in the lower Mississippi Valley and adjacent areas of the southern Great Plains and middle Mississippi Valley. Rain in the Southwest and several inches of snow in the northern Great Plains eased moisture shortages, but soils remained abnormally dry in many areas of both regions. Light rainfall moistened soils and temporarily delayed spring tillage

(Continued on page 14)

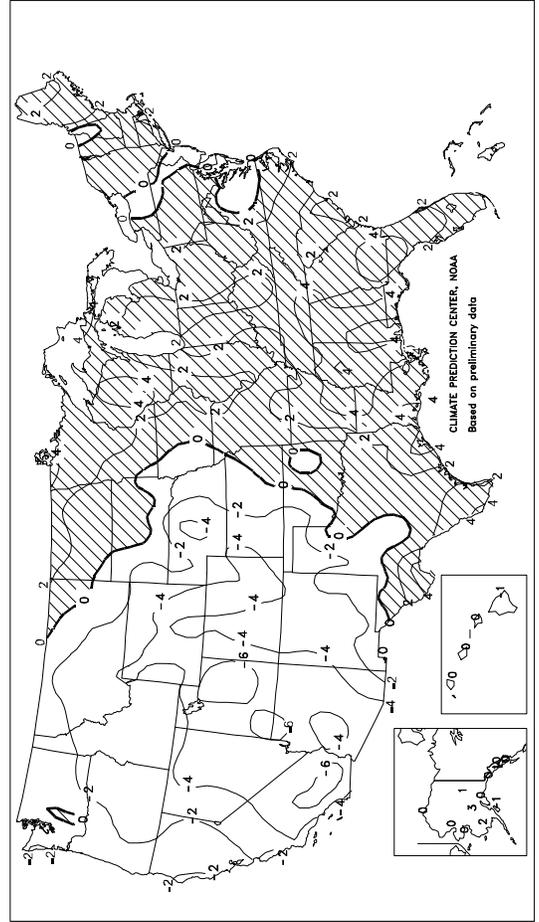
Average Temperature (°F)

APR 1999



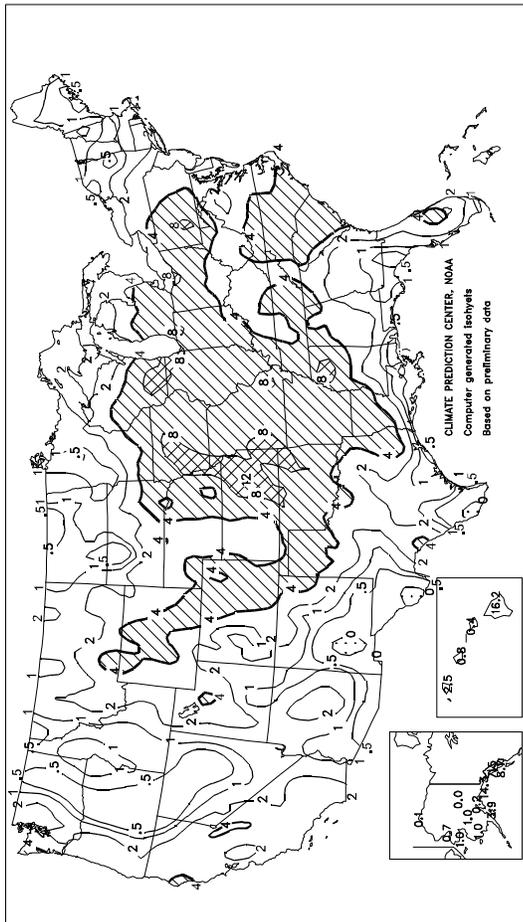
Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F)

APR 1999



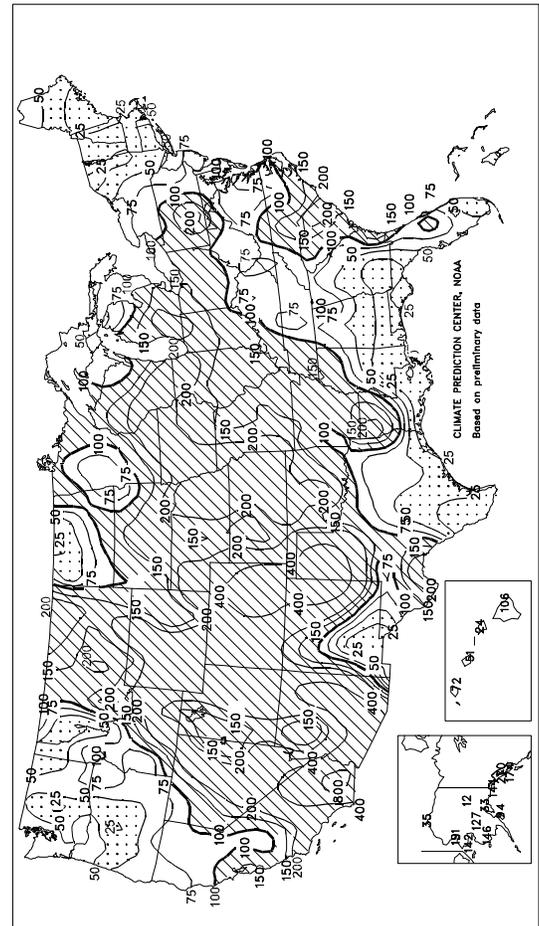
Total Precipitation (inches)

APR 1999



Percent Of Normal Precipitation

APR 1999



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION SUMMARY

April 1999

STATES AND STATIONS	TEMP., °F		PRECIP.		STATES AND STATIONS	TEMP., °F		PRECIP.		STATES AND STATIONS	TEMP., °F		PRECIP.	
	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE	TOTAL	DEPARTURE		AVERAGE	DEPARTURE	TOTAL	DEPARTURE		AVERAGE	DEPARTURE	TOTAL	DEPARTURE
AL BIRMINGHAM	67	5	2.03	-2.93	ME CARIBOU	39	1	1.46	-0.99	RI WILKES-BARRE	48	0	2.17	-0.80
AL HUNTSVILLE	66	5	3.53	-1.39	ME PORTLAND	44	1	0.28	-3.81	RI WILLIAMSPORT	49	0	2.44	-0.81
AL MOBILE	71	3	0.08	-4.39	MD BALTIMORE	53	-1	2.27	-0.83	RI PROVIDENCE	49	2	1.55	-2.55
AL MONTGOMERY	68	4	1.56	-2.93	MA BOSTON	48	0	0.83	-2.76	RI BEAUFORT	68	2	5.30	2.45
AK ANCHORAGE	35	-1	0.22	-0.49	MA WORCESTER	46	2	0.92	-3.01	RI CHARLESTON	67	2	2.63	-0.04
AK BARROW	-2	0	0.07	-0.17	MI ALPENA	43	2	1.39	-0.85	RI COLUMBIA	66	3	3.96	0.67
AK FAIRBANKS	33	3	0.04	-0.31	MI GRAND RAPIDS	48	2	6.69	-3.32	RI GREENVILLE	63	3	3.95	0.09
AK JUNEAU	39	0	7.48	4.70	MI HOUGHTON LAKE	44	2	2.04	-0.18	SD ABERDEEN	46	1	1.76	-0.18
AK KODIAK	36	-2	3.94	-0.26	MI LANSING	47	1	5.79	2.98	SD HURON	47	1	3.24	1.15
AK NOME	17	0	0.97	0.26	MI MARQUETTE	38	1	2.21	-0.42	SD RAPID CITY	42	-3	2.27	0.38
AZ FLAGSTAFF	38	-5	2.87	1.42	MI MUSKEGON	48	3	4.53	1.62	SD SIOUX FALLS	46	-1	4.32	1.80
AZ PHOENIX	66	-4	1.13	0.91	MN DULUTH	41	3	2.96	0.72	TN BRISTOL	58	3	2.47	-0.83
AZ TUCSON	62	-4	1.33	1.02	MN INT'L FALLS	42	3	1.82	0.24	TN CHATTANOOGA	64	5	4.18	-0.13
AZ YUMA	67	-4	1.12	0.99	MN MINNEAPOLIS	49	3	3.43	1.01	TN KNOXVILLE	61	3	3.40	-0.32
AR FORT SMITH	63	2	5.33	1.35	MO ROCHESTER	47	2	6.47	3.74	TX MEMPHIS	67	4	8.92	3.45
AR LITTLE ROCK	66	3	6.26	0.76	MO ST. CLOUD	45	2	2.29	-0.06	TX NASHVILLE	63	3	2.29	-2.08
CA BAKERSFIELD	58	-5	0.83	0.26	MS JACKSON	69	5	2.09	-3.48	TX ABILENE	65	0	1.49	-0.41
CA EUREKA	49	-1	1.79	-1.09	MS MERIDIAN	68	4	1.42	-4.04	TX AMARILLO	55	-2	6.30	5.32
CA FRESNO	58	-3	0.93	-0.03	MO TUPELO	67	4	7.02	1.76	TX AUSTIN	72	2	0.79	-1.78
CA LOS ANGELES	58	-2	2.53	1.81	MO COLUMBIA	56	2	4.15	0.32	TX BEAUMONT	72	3	0.74	-2.77
CA REDDING	59	1	1.73	-0.35	MO KANSAS CITY	54	0	8.43	5.31	TX BROWNVILLE	78	2	0.14	-1.42
CA SACRAMENTO	57	-1	0.94	-0.22	MO SAINT LOUIS	59	2	3.72	0.23	TX CORPUS CHRISTI	75	2	0.88	-0.84
CA SAN DIEGO	59	-3	1.65	0.86	MO SPRINGFIELD	57	1	7.20	3.03	TX DEL RIO	73	2	3.17	1.19
CA SAN FRANCISCO	54	-1	2.23	0.85	MT BILLINGS	43	-2	2.23	0.49	TX EL PASO	63	0	0.00	-0.24
CO ALAMOSA	38	-3	1.15	0.67	MT BUTTE	37	-1	1.92	1.00	TX FORT WORTH	68	2	2.74	-0.76
CO CO SPRINGS	42	-4	7.50	6.32	MO GLASGOW	44	0	1.38	0.69	TX GALVESTON	73	4	0.32	-2.11
CO DENVER	43	-6	6.26	4.56	MO GREAT FALLS	40	-4	1.43	0.02	TX HOUSTON	73	5	1.06	-2.14
CO GRAND JUNCTION	48	-5	2.06	1.33	MO KALISPELL	42	-1	0.52	-0.58	TX LUBBOCK	60	-1	3.56	2.59
CO PUEBLO	48	-4	5.30	4.41	MO MILES CITY	46	0	2.54	1.18	TX MIDLAND	65	0	0.19	-0.64
CT BRIDGEPORT	49	1	1.81	-1.97	MO MISSOULA	41	-3	0.23	-0.73	TX SAN ANGELO	67	0	1.85	0.18
CT HARTFORD	49	0	1.10	-2.76	NE GRAND ISLAND	49	-2	4.98	2.48	TX SAN ANTONIO	71	2	0.91	-1.59
DC WASHINGTON	56	0	2.09	-0.61	NE LINCOLN	51	-1	4.55	1.79	TX VICTORIA	71	1	0.33	-2.08
DE WILMINGTON	53	1	3.37	-0.01	NE NORFOLK	49	-1	5.35	3.05	TX WACO	69	2	2.04	-1.15
FL DAYTONA BEACH	72	3	1.48	-0.74	NE NORTH PLATTE	45	-3	2.83	0.84	TX WICHITA FALLS	63	0	3.78	0.78
FL JACKSONVILLE	70	3	1.91	-0.87	NE OMAHA	51	0	8.47	5.81	UT SALT LAKE CITY	45	-4	3.09	0.97
FL KEY WEST	78	1	1.24	-0.50	NE SCOTTSBLUFF	44	-3	3.48	1.91	VT BURLINGTON	44	0	0.73	-2.03
FL MIAMI	77	2	1.46	-1.39	NE VALENTINE	45	-1	3.12	1.45	VA LYNCHBURG	56	0	2.35	-0.74
FL ORLANDO	74	3	2.40	0.60	NV ELY	37	-4	0.80	-0.19	VA NORFOLK	58	1	3.66	0.61
FL PENSACOLA	71	3	0.66	-3.10	NV LAS VEGAS	61	-3	0.73	0.49	VA RICHMOND	57	0	2.60	-0.36
FL TALLAHASSEE	70	4	0.91	-2.83	NV RENO	47	-2	0.55	0.17	VA ROANOKE	58	2	2.71	-0.55
FL TAMPA	74	3	0.40	-0.75	NH WINNEMUCCA	43	-3	0.84	0.01	VA WASH/DULLES	52	0	2.68	-0.42
FL WEST PALM	76	2	0.53	-2.38	NH CONCORD	44	0	0.83	-2.08	WA OLYMPIA	46	-1	1.42	-1.88
GA ATHENS	64	3	2.51	-1.47	NJ NEWARK	53	1	1.90	-1.93	WA QUILLAYUTE	43	-3	3.91	-3.59
GA ATLANTA	65	3	1.16	-3.11	NM ALBUQUERQUE	54	-2	0.59	0.09	WA SEATTLE-TACOMA	49	-1	1.38	-0.95
GA AUGUSTA	66	3	2.02	-1.30	NY ALBANY	46	0	0.60	-2.39	WA SPOKANE	45	-1	0.44	-0.75
GA COLUMBUS	69	4	1.94	-2.36	NY BINGHAMTON	45	0	2.53	-0.59	WA YAKIMA	47	-2	0.14	-0.36
GA MACON	67	2	0.90	-2.56	NY BUFFALO	46	0	2.21	-0.67	WV BECKLEY	54	3	3.57	0.15
GA SAVANNAH	68	2	1.68	-1.36	NY ROCHESTER	45	-1	2.07	-0.54	WV CHARLESTON	58	3	2.20	-1.11
HI HILO	71	-2	16.18	0.92	NY SYRACUSE	46	0	1.75	-1.60	WV ELKINS	50	2	2.94	-0.86
HI HONOLULU	75	0	0.79	-0.75	NC ASHEVILLE	58	3	2.44	-0.91	WV HUNTINGTON	58	3	2.15	-1.27
HI KAHULUI	73	-1	0.43	-1.41	NC CHARLOTTE	62	3	4.12	1.44	WI EAU CLAIRE	48	3	5.20	2.37
HI LIHUE	74	0	2.52	-0.98	NC GREENSBORO	60	2	4.37	1.54	WI GREEN BAY	46	2	2.11	-0.29
ID BOISE	47	-2	0.61	-0.63	NC HATTERAS	60	1	4.06	0.54	WI LACROSSE	51	4	6.02	3.14
ID LEWISTON	49	-2	0.71	-0.41	NC RALEIGH	61	2	3.53	0.94	WI MADISON	48	3	6.91	4.05
ID POCATELLO	42	-3	1.84	0.65	NC WILMINGTON	65	3	4.60	1.73	WI MILWAUKEE	46	2	6.14	2.64
IL CHICAGO/O'HARE	50	1	7.51	3.89	ND BISMARCK	43	0	1.61	-0.06	WY CASPER	39	-4	1.52	-0.04
IL MOLINE	52	2	6.97	3.07	ND DICKINSON	43	1	1.67	-0.21	WY CHEYENNE	38	-4	5.02	3.65
IL PEORIA	54	2	4.31	0.53	ND FARGO	45	2	1.04	-0.78	WY LANDER	37	-6	6.44	4.36
IL ROCKFORD	50	2	7.75	4.10	ND GRAND FORKS	44	2	1.90	0.55	WY SHERIDAN	41	-3	3.70	1.98
IL SPRINGFIELD	55	2	4.61	0.96	ND JAMESTOWN	42	0	1.79	0.25					
IN EVANSVILLE	58	2	6.15	2.14	ND WILLISTON	44	0	0.32	-0.96					
IN FORT WAYNE	51	2	6.37	2.99	OH AKRON-CANTON	51	2	3.07	-0.08					
IN INDIANAPOLIS	54	2	4.09	0.40	OH CINCINNATI	55	1	2.88	-0.86					
IN SOUTH BEND	51	2	7.48	3.66	OH CLEVELAND	50	2	3.89	0.75					
IA BURLINGTON	56	5	6.20	2.71	OH COLUMBUS	54	4	4.65	1.43					
IA CEDAR RAPIDS	50	1	5.23	2.04	OH DAYTON	53	2	3.53	0.07					
IA DES MOINES	51	0	5.02	1.67	OH MANSFIELD	51	2	5.34	1.70					
IA DUBUQUE	50	2	6.66	2.94	OH TOLEDO	50	3	4.89	1.94					
IA SIOUX CITY	49	-1	4.66	2.32	OH YOUNGSTOWN	50	2	4.55	1.47					
IA WATERLOO	50	2	5.26	1.96	OK OKLAHOMA CITY	61	1	6.92	4.14					
KS CONCORDIA	52	0	5.55	3.24	OK TULSA	61	0	7.20	3.49					
KS DODGE CITY	53	-2	3.34	1.29	OR ASTORIA	47	-1	2.62	-1.98					
KS GOODLAND	46	-4	3.17	1.88	OR BURNS	41	-2	0.32	-0.32					
KS TOPEKA	55	0	8.70	5.62	OR EUGENE	49	-1	0.77	-2.34					
KS WICHITA	56	0	6.02	3.63	OR MEDFORD	50	-1	0.44	-0.73					
KY JACKSON	59	2	3.44	-0.52	OR PENDLETON	47	-3	0.50	-0.56					
KY LEXINGTON	56	1	2.27	-1.61	OR PORTLAND	51	0	1.55	-0.84					
KY LOUISVILLE	59	3	4.43	0.21	OR SALEM	49	0	1.35	-1.07					
KY PADUCAH	60	2	6.60	1.64	PA ALLENTOWN	49	-1	1.41	-2.11					
LA BATON ROUGE	72	3	0.64	-4.73	PA ERIE	47	1	4.09	0.85					
LA LAKE CHARLES	72	4	0.40	-2.92	PA MIDDLETOWN	54	2	3.19	-0.05					
LA NEW ORLEANS	73	5	0.30	-4.20	PA PHILADELPHIA	53	1	3.31	-0.31					
LA SHREVEPORT	69	4	7.88	4.13	PA PITTSBURGH	51	2	4.19	1.05					

Based on 1961-90 normals.

(Continued from page 11)

and fertilizing in parts of the Southeast, lower Ohio Valley, Corn Belt, and Southwest. Below-normal temperatures hindered crop development in the central and northern High Plains and California. Coastal areas of the Pacific Northwest remained cold and rainy, hindering crop conditions and promoting diseases. A combination of heat and dry weather triggered wildfires in Florida.

During the second week of the month, strong thunderstorms delivered soaking rains, spawned tornadoes, and halted fieldwork in the western Corn Belt. Adjacent areas of the Great Plains, eastern Corn Belt, and Great Lakes received lighter showers that moistened soils and temporarily delayed spring tillage. Warm weather in the southern Plains, lower Mississippi Valley, and Southeast promoted rapid development of winter wheat and early row crops. In the lower Mississippi Valley, wet soils and additional showers continued to limit fieldwork and planting. The Southeast, Atlantic Coastal Plains, and most of the Great Plains were dry, promoting tillage and fertilizing operations, but discouraging planting. Cold weather hindered crop development and delayed planting along the Pacific Coast, especially in California.

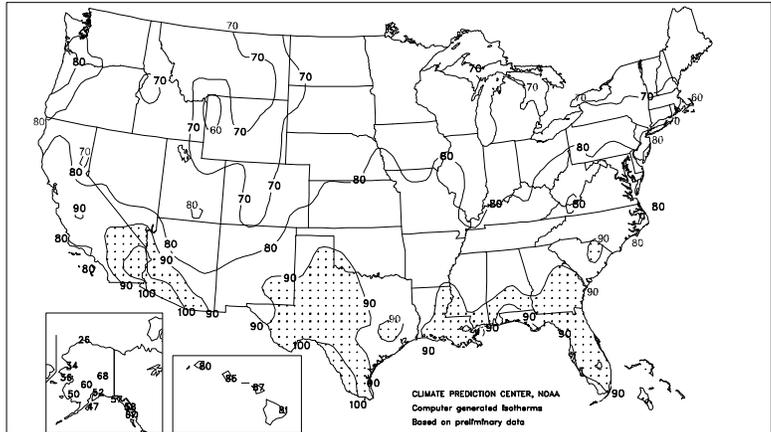
A mid-month cold front pushed southward through the Great Plains, freezing maturing wheat fields in the southern Great Plains and halting development in the central and northern Great Plains. Hail associated with a line of severe storms also caused crop damage in the southern Great Plains. Persistent showers 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 accelerated planting. 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. Soils remained wet in North Dakota and western Minnesota due to poor drying conditions, while some areas of the Pacific Northwest needed rain to germinate seeds. Warmer weather encouraged planting and aided crop development in the Southwest.

Later in the month, heavy rains halted fieldwork in the northern Corn Belt, and lighter rainfall limited progress in other areas of the Corn Belt. In the southern Great Plains, a line of thunderstorms delivered brief downpours that increased soil moisture levels and aided crop development. Hail and isolated flooding associated with the thunderstorms damaged some wheat in Oklahoma. In the Southeast and Atlantic Coastal Plains, continued dry weather aided fieldwork, but discouraged planting and hindered crop emergence. Planting and field preparations accelerated in the lower Mississippi Valley, as warm, windy weather rapidly dried wet soils. Dry, sunny weather assisted fieldwork and small grain seeding in the northern Great Plains. Dry soils stressed winter wheat in the Pacific Northwest, while warm, dry weather in California promoted crop development, and field activities rapidly progressed. A slow-moving upper-level low pressure system over the Great Basin produced a mixture of precipitation that replenished topsoil moisture in parts of the central High Plains and Rockies.

As the end of the month approached, heavy rains halted fieldwork and planting in the High Plains, parts of eastern Kansas and Oklahoma, and adjacent areas of southern Missouri. Heavy rains

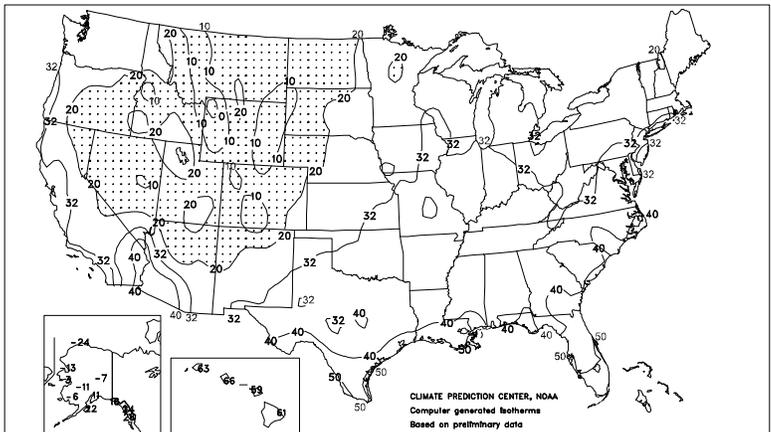
Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F)

April 1999



Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)

April 1999



ended excessive dryness in parts of the Atlantic Coastal Plains and eased drought conditions in southern Florida. Lighter precipitation hampered field activities in the southern Appalachians and the Tennessee, lower Ohio, and middle Mississippi Valleys. Dry conditions aided planting in the eastern and northern Corn Belt, northern Great Plains, and Southwest. Excessive dryness delayed planting and hindered emergence and growth in parts of the Gulf Coast and adjacent inland areas of the Southeast and lower Mississippi Valley. Below-normal temperatures hindered winter wheat development and emergence of other small grains and row crops in the central and southern Great Plains and most of the Corn Belt. Above-normal temperatures promoted crop emergence and development in the northern Great Plains and Great Lakes States, but dry soils hindered crop emergence. In California, cool weather, scattered showers, and strong winds caused minor planting delays.

When the month ended, planting of most major field crops was behind normal. One-fifth of the corn acreage was planted, compared with nearly one-third for the 5-year average. Cotton, sorghum, and peanut planting was several days behind normal, while soybean and rice planting was slightly behind the average. Seeding of small grains was well ahead of normal as the month ended and emergence was slightly ahead of normal. Winter wheat development was also ahead of the normal as the month ended, with more one-fourth of the crop headed. Harvesting began in southern Texas, and fields were rapidly maturing in central and eastern Texas.

National Agricultural Summary

May 3 - 9, 1999

HIGHLIGHTS

Planters rolled across fields in the Corn Belt nearly non-stop, as warmer, drier weather prevailed most of the week. Thunderstorms struck eastern Oklahoma and adjacent areas of Kansas and Missouri with locally damaging hail, severe tornadoes, and heavy rains that eroded soils and flooded small streams. The Tennessee Valley and adjacent areas of the Southeast and lower Mississippi Valley also received heavy rains that halted fieldwork and delayed planting. In the Atlantic Coastal Plains, planting

progress lagged most of the week due to excessively dry soils. Late-week showers eased moisture shortages in some areas of Georgia and South Carolina, but muddy fields prevented planting at the end of the week. Interior areas of the Pacific Northwest remained unfavorably dry, while coastal areas received significant showers. Crops steadily developed in California, despite a resumption of below-normal temperatures, and fieldwork was active as dry conditions prevailed.

Corn: Acreage planted rapidly advanced to 55 percent complete, more than double the 21 percent completed a week earlier. The record-setting pace in most of the Corn Belt pushed progress ahead of the 5-year average for the first time this spring. Warmer, drier weather combined with gusty winds, rapidly removed excess moisture from soggy soils and allowed growers in the Corn Belt to run planters nearly non-stop in some areas. Illinois and Iowa planted half of their total acreage, and Indiana, Ohio, and Wisconsin planted nearly half of their acreage. The planting pace rapidly accelerated in Michigan and remained active in Minnesota. Persistent showers hampered planting along the western border of the Corn Belt and adjacent areas of the central and northern Great Plains. Eleven percent of the acreage was emerged, compared with 15 percent a year ago and remained behind normal in the western Corn Belt, where soil crusting hindered emergence in some fields.

Winter Wheat: Forty-three percent of the winter wheat was headed, a few days ahead of last year's 37 percent and the normal 36 percent. Some fields were flattened by strong winds in Oklahoma and Kansas. In other areas of the Great Plains, soils were favorably dry except in southeastern Nebraska and the eastern half of South Dakota, where soil moisture levels were excessively high. Below-normal temperatures and dry soils stressed wheat fields in the Pacific Northwest.

Cotton: The Nation's cotton acreage was 35 percent planted, up 13 percentage points from last week, but continued to lag slightly behind last year and the 5-year average for this date. Dry soils hindered progress in the Atlantic Coastal Plains early in the week. Late-week rains halted planting in parts of the Southeast. Planting rapidly progressed in the lower Mississippi Valley despite midweek showers in Mississippi. Soil crusting hindered emergence in some areas following heavy rains.

Soybeans: Planting was 12 percent complete, compared with 14 percent a year ago and the normal of 11 percent. Weather conditions significantly improved in the Corn Belt and were nearly ideal for planting east of the Mississippi River, but

progress was slow, as growers concentrated their efforts on planting corn. Progress was faster in the eastern Corn Belt, especially in Ohio, where the weather was warmer and drier than the western Corn Belt. The advanced corn planting allowed Ohio growers to accelerate soybean drilling. Growers delayed planting in the Southeast and Atlantic Coastal Plains due to dry soils. Progress accelerated in the lower Mississippi Valley, but heavy, midweek rain temporarily halted progress in Mississippi. Planters began returning to fields near the end of the week.

Small grains: Oat planting advanced to 69 percent complete, ahead of the 62 percent average for this date, but behind the rapid 84 percent pace of a year ago. Forty-seven percent was emerged, compared to 52 percent last year. Spring wheat was 56 percent planted and 28 percent emerged. Planting and emergence were 10 percentage points ahead of the average, but well behind 1998, when 79 percent was planted and 44 percent was emerged. Barley planting, at 52 percent, and emergence, at 27 percent, were also slightly ahead of normal, but well behind last year's pace. Small grain planting was interrupted by persistent showers in the northern Great Plains. Drier weather aided planting farther west in the High Plains and northern Rockies. Emergence was aided by near-normal temperatures and adequate soil moisture supplies.

Other crops: The rice crop was 74 percent planted and 46 percent emerged. Planting was slightly ahead of last year and the average, but emergence lagged slightly behind 1998 and the average. Sorghum planting was 21 percent complete, behind the 28 percent pace last year and the 5-year average of 29 percent. Rapid progress in the lower Mississippi Valley was aided by dry weather early in the week. Twenty-five percent of the peanut crop was planted, behind last year's 28 percent and well behind the 5-year average in the larger peanut-producing states. Progress was hindered by dry soils in the Southeast early in the week. Rain late in the week provided desperately needed moisture, but as the week ended, fields remained too muddy to plant.

Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending May 9, 1999

Winter Wheat Percent Headed				
	May 9 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	97	91	97	92
CA	98	95	99	98
CO	3	3	4	3
GA	96	94	98	98
ID	0	0	0	0
IL	29	3	41	16
IN	23	3	33	15
KS	38	12	21	24
MI	0	0	0	0
MO	35	13	45	28
MT	0	0	0	0
NE	1	0	0	0
NC	97	80	91	90
OH	1	0	4	1
OK	86	68	79	80
OR	0	0	1	2
SD	0	0	0	0
TX	80	62	67	67
WA	0	0	5	2
19 Sts	43	29	37	36

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

Soybeans Percent Planted				
	May 9 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	10	6	13	13
AR	10	7	19	13
GA	8	5	5	8
IL	6	0	3	9
IN	21	4	3	11
IA	5	0	13	11
KS	4	0	12	7
KY	10	2	1	3
LA	30	19	44	24
MI	8	0	9	4
MN	17	3	48	16
MS	43	29	38	36
MO	3	1	4	4
NE	1	0	10	5
NC	7	0	12	12
OH	41	13	4	14
SC	13	11	18	9
SD	2	0	12	3
TN	6	2	3	3
19 Sts	12	3	14	11

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

Corn Percent Planted				
	May 9 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
CO	26	11	72	60
GA	100	98	90	96
IL	58	8	38	51
IN	57	10	13	32
IA	66	14	71	63
KS	47	26	87	69
KY	78	65	37	48
MI	41	7	46	28
MN	79	41	92	58
MO	39	31	52	55
NE	27	14	77	56
NC	85	75	74	89
OH	71	24	13	38
PA	42	13	27	28
SD	20	7	53	23
TX	81	74	90	88
WI	53	11	47	33
17 Sts	55	21	58	52

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

Corn Percent Emerged				
	May 9 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
CO	3	2	15	10
GA	97	96	84	NA
IL	9	3	10	NA
IN	9	2	3	NA
IA	2	0	7	6
KS	16	5	34	NA
KY	54	33	22	35
MI	3	0	19	4
MN	8	1	37	9
MO	27	0	0	NA
NE	2	0	7	5
NC	72	60	64	NA
OH	16	5	4	6
PA	3	0	4	1
SD	0	0	9	2
TX	67	58	72	NA
WI	1	0	1	NA
17 Sts	11	5	15	NA

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

Cotton Percent Planted				
	May 9 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	53	38	63	60
AZ	77	63	87	92
AR	37	7	34	37
CA	90	70	58	82
GA	28	20	35	52
LA	71	28	60	67
MS	46	23	38	53
MO	40	7	14	21
NM	64	51	68	68
NC	40	15	39	45
OK	9	7	11	7
SC	33	20	35	54
TN	32	12	10	36
TX	20	16	32	29
14 Sts	35	22	37	42

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

Sorghum Percent Planted				
	May 9 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	60	38	71	66
CO	2	0	1	5
IL	0	0	0	1
KS	2	0	6	6
LA	66	49	71	60
MS	83	48	53	67
MO	6	0	6	10
NE	0	0	8	3
NM	0	0	1	1
OK	3	2	7	9
SD	0	0	23	5
TX	47	44	58	63
12 Sts	21	18	28	29

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

Peanuts Percent Planted				
	May 9 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	32	14	45	44
FL	33	16	35	NA
GA	22	11	29	54
NC	38	2	14	22
OK	10	4	32	15
SC	46	35	28	53
TX	16	4	20	11
VA	52	7	28	39
8 Sts	25	9	28	NA

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

Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending May 9, 1999

Oats Percent Planted				
	May 9 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
IA	99	96	91	92
MI	90	77	91	71
MN	76	52	94	74
NE	98	96	100	97
ND	20	15	60	24
OH	97	87	89	84
PA	86	73	81	78
SD	71	54	94	55
WI	93	77	93	72
9 Sts	69	58	84	62

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

Oats Percent Emerged				
	May 9 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
IA	88	77	62	68
MI	64	52	61	28
MN	49	12	67	33
NE	90	90	74	45
ND	8	1	23	6
OH	89	70	75	59
PA	53	39	53	31
SD	38	21	63	31
WI	59	27	55	NA
9 Sts	47	30	52	NA

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

Rice Percent Planted				
	May 9 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	70	50	76	75
CA	50	20	3	23
LA	89	85	96	88
MS	85	74	85	89
TX	93	89	95	83
5 Sts	74	58	71	72

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

Rice Percent Emerged				
	May 9 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	35	12	48	46
CA	10	1	0	5
LA	82	70	85	75
MS	47	31	62	69
TX	82	73	84	63
5 Sts	46	29	52	49

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

Barley Percent Planted				
	May 9 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	70	56	83	76
MN	42	25	87	37
MT	75	58	82	62
ND	20	14	62	27
SD	69	51	93	49
WA	94	88	97	88
6 Sts	52	41	77	51

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

Barley Percent Emerged				
	May 9 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	43	28	48	48
MN	19	4	43	12
MT	30	14	45	20
ND	6	1	24	7
SD	36	16	64	26
WA	76	61	82	68
6 Sts	27	15	41	24

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

Spring Wheat Percent Planted				
	May 9 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	84	79	88	85
MN	64	37	90	40
MT	74	54	81	65
ND	33	25	69	29
SD	82	73	96	60
5 Sts	56	42	79	46

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

Spring Wheat Percent Emerged				
	May 9 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	58	43	55	62
MN	30	8	50	16
MT	28	11	47	21
ND	16	3	33	9
SD	56	31	70	30
5 Sts	28	11	44	18

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

Winter Wheat Crop Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
AR	0	3	15	51	31
CA	0	0	15	80	5
CO	2	4	15	51	28
GA	11	22	36	28	3
ID	0	1	19	62	18
IL	1	3	17	64	15
IN	0	1	12	63	24
KS	0	4	15	59	22
MI	1	2	14	61	22
MO	1	5	34	52	8
MT	5	11	34	47	3
NE	0	2	16	67	15
NC	0	1	19	69	11
OH	0	1	8	56	35
OK	0	2	16	73	9
OR	4	19	35	35	7
SD	0	1	13	58	28
TX	4	11	35	39	11
WA	5	8	32	51	4
19 Sts	1	5	21	57	16
Prev Wk	1	5	21	58	15
Prev Yr	1	7	23	54	15

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 4.5. Topsoil 5% very short, 7% short, 55% adequate, 33% surplus. Most areas of the State received some rainfall, especially the southeast region, where rain has been scarce in recent weeks. This is the second week the average days suitable for fieldwork fell below 5. Most field preparation and planting lags behind average. Corn 92% planted, 93% 1998, 93% avg.; 78% emerged, 78% 1998. Cotton 53% planted, 63% 1998, 60% avg. Soybeans 10% planted, 13% 1998, 13% avg. Peanuts 32% planted, 45% 1998, 44% avg. Wheat 88% headed, 93% 1998, 87% avg.; 3% very poor, 8% poor, 19% fair, 56% good, 14% excellent. Pasture feed 8% very poor, 11% poor, 26% fair, 45% good, 10% excellent. Livestock 1% very poor, 5% poor, 23% fair, 57% good, 14% excellent. First peach harvest is expected within a week. Some cotton, corn replanting is expected due to poor stands caused by earlier dry weather.

ALASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.5. Topsoil 5% short, 85% adequate, 10% surplus. Subsoil 15% short, 65% adequate, 20% surplus. Cool conditions kept soil temperatures below normal and discouraged fieldwork in the Matanuska Valley. Fieldwork in much of the Tanana Valley was hindered by rain, snow. Daytime high temperatures were mostly in the 50's degrees F. Lows remained mostly in the 20's degrees F. Progress of farmwork, 1 day late in the north to 7 to 10 days late in the south. Some small grain fields were worked and planted, but most fields were left idle during the week. Early season commercial vegetable planting in Matanuska Valley continued. Livestock 5% poor, 10% fair, 55% good, 30% excellent.

ARIZONA: Cotton planting is still behind schedule. Sporadic unseasonably cool weather has both delayed planting, forced farmers to replant some areas. Small grain heading continued to progress last week. As of May 9, virtually all of the durum wheat, other wheat, barley, other small grains had headed. Alfalfa harvest activity was reported as 57% not being harvested, 3% light, 5% moderate, 35% active. Alfalfa 4% poor, 20% fair, 66% good, 10% excellent. Range, pasture feed 20% very poor, 23% poor, 31% fair, 25% good, 1% excellent. Central area producers shipped artichokes, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cilantro, kale, mixed greens, parsley, potatoes, radicchio. Eastern areas producers shipped greenhouse tomatoes. Western producers harvested cabbage, dry onions, flowering kale, salad savoy, Swiss chard. Central, western areas citrus shipments included grapefruit, lemons, Valencia oranges last week.

ARKANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 4. Topsoil 2% short, 61% adequate, 37% surplus. Temperatures again slightly below normal for the week with rainfall during the first part of the week and the remainder of the week remaining dry. Cotton 37% planted, rice 70% planted 35% emerged, soybeans 10% planted, corn 95% planted 75% emerged, sorghum 60% planted, wheat 97% headed, oats 82% headed. Livestock are reported in good condition. Main farm activities: Planting of rice, corn, cotton, soybeans, sorghum, fertilizing wheat, corn, harvesting hay. Other activities: Planting spring forages, stringing of tomatoes, harvesting strawberries, spraying wheat fields for armyworms, spraying of pastures for weeds, flushing of rice fields, deworming cattle, weaning calves, cleaning poultry houses.

CALIFORNIA: Field activities were in full swing under favorable conditions in most areas. Small grains were rapidly maturing with the warmer weather. Two infestations of Russian Wheat Aphid were found in Glenn County wheat fields. Control measures were underway. Corn, black eye beans were planted following winter forage, oat hay harvests. Cotton planting continued in the San Joaquin Valley. Early seeded fields were emerging, growth was aided by the warmer weather. Sacramento Valley cotton fields were sprayed for aphids, thrips. Old crop sugar beet harvest was active in the Imperial Valley, was just underway in the Sacramento Valley. New crop sugar beets were thriving; some fields were thinned. Seed alfalfa was hand weeded. Garbanzo beans were off to a good start in the San Joaquin Valley. Flooding, fertilizing, planting of rice fields gained momentum in the Sacramento Valley. Emerged rice fields were treated for weeds, water weevils. Corn for grain,

silage was sprayed for weeds. Cool weather in the coastal valleys slowed the growth of alfalfa hay fields. First cutting was 6 weeks behind normal. Alfalfa, small grains, winter forages were cut for hay or green chopped. Grape growers applied sulfur, fungicides for powdery mildew control. Other cultural activities included extensive weed control, irrigating vineyards, orchards. Stone fruit thinning was active. Fruit maturity was 1 to 2 weeks behind normal due to the cool spring weather. Almond growers applied fungicides, miticides. Olive trees were pushing bloom buds. Walnut trees were treated for blight. Citrus fruit was picked in southern areas. Strawberry picking in the central valleys continued. Favorable weather conditions prompted good progress in vegetable crops throughout the State, allowed for extensive fieldwork. Some transplanting of processing tomatoes continued in the Sacramento, San Joaquin Valleys. A few San Joaquin Valley processing tomato fields were treated with fungicides. Planting of peppers, sweet potatoes, melons continued in the central valleys. Spring lettuce harvest in the San Joaquin Valley gained momentum. Harvest of sweet corn, onions, carrots continued in the Imperial Valley. Other crops harvested this week were asparagus, artichokes, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, cilantro, leeks, spinach, turnips, potatoes, various greens. Rangeland pastures were in mainly fair to good condition. Livestock were in good condition. Pastures were drying rapidly, especially in south-central areas, where large numbers of cattle were being shipped from foothill pastures. In spite of mild weather, north winds were causing pastures to mature rapidly in central, northern areas. Cattle were being moved to summer pastures.

COLORADO: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.2. Topsoil 1% very short, 5% short, 85% adequate, 9% surplus. Subsoil 3% very short, 10% short, 79% adequate, 8% surplus. Rain, snow showers became more localized during the week allowing for limited fieldwork in some areas, while soils remained too wet in other areas for any activities. Winter wheat 88% jointed, 82% 1998, 65% avg. Spring wheat 83% planted, 69% 1998, 66% avg.; 54% emerged, 52% 1998, 43% avg.; 1% very poor, 13% poor, 26% fair, 36% good, 24% excellent. Spring barley 89% seeded, 89% 1998, 85% avg.; 62% emerged, 78% 1998, 65% avg. Oats 90% seeded, 72% 1998, 75% avg.; 66% emerged, 49% 1998, 51% avg.; 1% very poor, 2% poor, 15% fair, 63% good, 19% excellent. Dry onions 3% very poor, 6% poor, 17% fair, 56% good, 18% excellent. Sugar beets 37% up to stand, 0% 1998, 0% avg. Summer potatoes 83% planted, 92% 1998, 87% avg.; 30% emerged, 13% 1998, 7% avg. Fall potatoes 28% planted, 38% 1998, 22% avg. Pasture, range feed in mostly good condition.

DELAWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Topsoil 14% short, 86% adequate. Subsoil 4% short, 94% adequate, 2% surplus. Winter wheat 16% fair, 76% good, 8% excellent; 11% headed, 16% 1998, 6% avg. Barley 17% fair, 72% good, 11% excellent; 64% headed, 86% 1998, 69% avg. Field corn 39% planted, 38% 1998, 33% avg.; 10% emerged. Sweet corn 27% planted, 27% 1998, 27% avg. Snap beans 21% planted, 14% 1998, 6% avg. Green peas 90% planted, 81% 1998, 87% avg. Tomatoes 17% planted, 11% 1998, 7% avg. Cantaloupes 5% planted, 24% 1998, 9% avg. Cucumbers 5% planted, 13% 1998, 5% avg. Watermelons 5% planted, 28% 1998, 9% avg. Clover and other hay 1st cutting 5% harvested, 2% 1998, 1% avg. Alfalfa hay 1st cutting 5% harvested, 1% 1998, 1% avg. Apples 89% bloomed, 91% 1998, 71% avg. Strawberries 40% bloomed, 67% 1998, 58% avg. Hay 17% short, 83% adequate. Pasture feed 3% poor, 8% fair, 66% good, 23% excellent. Activities: Cutting, harvesting of haylage, scouting for diseases in small grains, planting activity well underway due to dry weather.

FLORIDA: Topsoil moisture, Panhandle short to adequate, scattered areas very short, surplus moisture. Peninsula moisture very short to short, scattered areas adequate. Warm during week with showers during latter part of week. Heavy rains fell, some areas of Panhandle, northern, central Peninsula starting May 6, through weekend. Some areas got trace of rain, other areas reported 5 inches or more. Maximum temperatures during week in low 90's degrees F. Low temperatures during week mostly in 60's degrees F. Tobacco stressed by hot, dry weather. Rain allowed growers to start

planting peanuts, cotton. Spring planted crop land preparations active where moisture available. Hay growth coming back, areas that received rain. Peanuts 33% planted. Rain most vegetable areas this past week. Amount ranged heavy to light. Hot weather lowering quality of some crops. Some tomato growers not making third picks due to low market. Major vegetables shipped: Snap beans, sweet corn, cucumbers, eggplant, endive, escarole, lettuce, okra, parsley, peppers, pickles, radishes, squash, tomatoes, watermelons. Hot, dry first of week, then scattered showers started in all citrus areas. More rain needed, irrigation continues. Some new growth starting, bloom continues. Valencia harvest continues, seedless grapefruit harvest slowing as supplies running low. Temple, Honey tangerine harvest about over. Caretakers cutting cover crops, spraying, herbiciding, pushing dead, abandoned trees, limited burning with permits now allowed. Pasture feed 15% very poor, poor 50%, fair 25%, good 10%. Cattle; very poor 5%, poor 10%, fair 80%, good 5%. Pastures in most of State received some rain late week. Amounts varied widely by location. Lakes, ponds still down in Panhandle, west-central areas. North; fires reported with increasing frequency. Central area; rain spotty, drought still severe in many locations. West-central; cattle condition worsened, pastures, water holes drying up. Statewide; condition of cattle, calves improved slightly, mostly fair.

GEORGIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.1. Soil moisture 8% very short, 23% short, 56% adequate, 13% surplus. Corn 6% very poor, 11% poor, 36% fair, 41% good, 6% excellent. Cotton 2% very poor, 13% poor, 49% fair, 34% good, 2% excellent. Hay 4% very poor, 12% poor, 43% fair, 38% good, 3% excellent. Peanuts 4% very poor, 8% poor, 41% fair, 41% good, 6% excellent. Sorghum 2% very poor, 15% poor, 44% fair, 38% good, 1% excellent; 48% planted, 16% 1998, 33% avg. Soybeans 3% emerged, 0% 1998, N/A avg. Tobacco 2% very poor, 13% poor, 43% fair, 35% good, 7% excellent. Onions 3% very poor, 10% poor, 18% fair, 63% good, 6% excellent; 39% harvested, 46% 1998, 57% avg. Watermelons 2% very poor, 11% poor, 38% fair, 43% good, 6% excellent; 96% planted, 92% 1998, 95% avg. Apples 4% poor, 13% fair, 74% good, 9% excellent; 100% blooming, 99% 1998, 100% avg. Peaches 12% very poor, 10% poor, 17% fair, 30% good, 31% excellent; 3% harvested, 2% 1998, 5% avg. Beneficial rains provided much-needed moisture over much of the State. Corn planting was virtually complete. Corn condition improved from the previous week. Cotton, peanut plantings continue to lag behind the 5-year average, plantings are expected to be very active this week. Tobacco condition remained stable from the previous week, some of the crop is suffering from TSWV, blue mold. Onion harvest continues at a normal pace. Quality of the crop continues to be good. Peach crop condition improved from the previous week. Harvest was active for early-planted commercial vegetables.

HAWAII: Fair skies, light winds, scattered showers, warm weather were beneficial for agriculture. Banana orchards were in mostly good condition. Harvesting is expected to remain steady. Papaya fields were in good condition. Stable weather helped keep disease under control. Harvesting expected to increase in some areas. Watermelon plantings continue, harvesting expected to increase in coming months. Head, Chinese cabbage crop in good condition. Harvesting will be steady. Sweet corn planting in fair condition. Harvesting to increase as major plantings near harvest. Ginger root plantings made favorable progress. Harvesting of remaining 1998/99 crop continued.

IDAHO: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.4. Topsoil 2% short, 72% adequate, 26% surplus. Frost advisories were in effect for valley areas. Potato, sugar beet emergence has been delayed by the cool temperatures. Hay, roughage supplies 7% short, 59% adequate, 34% surplus. Irrigation supply 1% fair, 24% good, 75% excellent. Dry peas 71% planted, 90% 1998, 51% avg.; 20% emerged, 34% 1998, 26% avg. Onions 100% emerged, 97% 1998, 93% avg. Oats 56% planted, 77% 1998, 65% avg.; 30% emerged, 48% 1998, 39% avg. Lentils 64% planted, 81% 1998, 40% avg.; 9% emerged, 23% 1998, 15% avg. Corn 46% planted, 67% 1998, 46% avg.; 7% emerged, 20% 1998, 8% avg. Potatoes 38% planted, 1998 53%, avg. 52%; emerged 2%, 1998 3%, avg. 3%. Barley 43% emerged, 48% 1998, 48% avg.; 8% jointed. Spring wheat 58% emerged, 55% 1998, 62% avg.; 11% jointed. Sugar beets 96% planted, 98% 1998, 98% avg.; 52% emerged, 69% 1998, 63% avg. Winter wheat 41% jointed; 2% booted. Activities: Planting small grains, potatoes, dry peas, dry beans, lentils, sugar beets, corn, field preparation, cultivating, fertilizing, moving livestock to early pasture.

ILLINOIS: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.8. Topsoil 1% short, 54% adequate, 45% surplus. Farmers took advantage of the warm dry weather early, late in the week, planted corn at a record pace last week. East district made the most progress last week. Progress was also made planting soybeans, especially in the northwest district. Wheat crop also benefited from the warm weather. Other activities last week included hauling grain, tillage, applying fertilizer. Winter wheat 1% filled, 1% 1998, 0% avg. Oats 98% planted, 93% 1998, 94% avg.; 2% poor, 14% fair, 65% good, 19% excellent. Alfalfa 1% 1st cut, 1% 1998, 1% avg.; 1% poor, 13% fair, 69% good, 17% excellent. Red clover 2% poor, 17% fair, 65% good, 16% excellent.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil 5% short, 70% adequate, 25% surplus. Subsoil 6% short, 78% adequate, 16% surplus. Corn planted 57%, 13% 1998, 32% avg. Soybean planted 21%, 3% 1998, 11% avg. Winter wheat 97% jointed, 98% 1998, 80% avg.; 87% good to excellent. Sunshine, warm weather prevailed most of the week allowing fieldwork to progress well ahead of last year and the average. Range, pasture feed 2% poor, 18% fair, 64% good, 16% excellent. Hay supplies adequate to surplus. Activities: Planting corn, soybeans.

IOWA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.9. Topsoil 1% short, 61% adequate, 38% surplus. Subsoil 1% short, 71% adequate, 28% surplus. Warm, dry early week, allowed planting, rains in latter week. Corn 66% planted, 71% 1998, 63% avg.; 2% emerged, 7% 1998, 6% avg. Oats 99% planted, 91% 1998, 92% avg.; 87% emerged, 62% 1998, 68% avg. Soybean 5% planted, 13% 1998, 11% avg. Winter wheat 1% poor, 14% fair, 72% good, 13% excellent. Fertilizer applied (including fall applications) 92% complete. Seedbed preparation (including fall preparation) 88% complete. No major livestock problems. Range, pasture feed 2% poor, 17% fair, 59% good, 22% excellent.

KANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.5. Topsoil 66% adequate, 34% surplus. Subsoil 2% short, 82% adequate, 16% surplus. Rainy conditions continued across most of the State early in the week, causing planting of fall crops to be delayed. In some areas, farmers are becoming concerned about getting the corn crop planted in time. Wheat 98% jointing, 98% 1998, 95% avg. Alfalfa weevils, aphids remain a problem. Insect infestation 2% severe, 5% moderate, 17% light, 76% with no infestation. Disease infestation minimal, with a few reports of wheat streak mosaic, barley yellow dwarf, soil borne mosaic, spindle streak mosaic. Nitrogen deficiency continues to show in many wheat fields. Alfalfa 4% 1st cutting, 11% 1998, 4% avg. Major activities: Planting corn, soybeans, sorghum, cutting alfalfa. Pasture feed 1% poor, 17% fair, 65% good, 17% excellent. Livestock producers are finishing up spring calving, continue to move cattle to pastures. Due to the cool, wet weather, pastures in some areas of the State are slow to grow, green up.

KENTUCKY: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.6. Topsoil 3% very short, 17% short, 51% adequate, 29% surplus. Subsoil 2% very short, 21% short, 56% adequate, 18% surplus. Heavy rains during midweek stopped most fieldwork in a large part of the State. Tobacco plant size in beds 35% less than 2 in., 38% 2 to 4 in., 27% larger than 4 in. Burley tobacco acreage set 5% complete. Dark type tobacco setting 3% complete. Ninety-seven percent report adequate tobacco plants for setting, while 3% report a short supply. Winter wheat 2% poor, 16% fair, 59% good, 23% excellent. About 82% of the winter wheat crop is heading or has headed. Several comments of lodging of wheat due primarily to high winds associated with the midweek storms were reported. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 3% poor, 27% fair, 54% good, 15% excellent. Hay 1% very poor, 4% poor, 30% fair, 53% good, 12% excellent.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Soil moisture 26% very short, 42% short, 28% adequate, 4% surplus. Corn 1% very poor, 10% poor, 27% fair, 55% good, 7% excellent; 1% silked, 0% 1998, 0% avg. Cotton 42% emerged, 29% 1998, 41% avg. Farmers planted cotton. Hay 47% 1st cutting, 25% 1998, 21% avg. Rice 1% poor, 19% fair, 68% good, 12% excellent. Rice looked good, needs rain to continue doing well. Sorghum 42% emerged, 54% 1998, 49% avg. Soybeans 20% emerged, 28% 1998, 15% avg. Soybean planting slowed due to dry conditions. Spring plowing 97% plowing, 98% 1998, 94% avg. Sugarcane 2% poor, 26% fair, 53% good, 19% excellent. Sweet potatoes 5% planted, 6% 1998, 5% avg.

Wheat 3% very poor, 14% poor, 25% fair, 51% good, 7% excellent; 99% headed, 100% 1998, 98% avg.; 85% turning color, 90% 1998, 60% avg.; 3% harvested, 11% 1998, 3% avg. Livestock 6% poor, 30% fair, 55% good, 9% excellent. Vegetables 1% very poor, 12% poor, 34% fair, 47% good, 6% excellent. Vegetable producers harvested cabbage, tomatoes, and squash. Pastures continued to show signs of stress due to the lack of rain.

MARYLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Subsoil 3% very short, 30% short, 66% adequate, 1% surplus. Topsoil 4% very short, 46% short, 49% adequate, 1% surplus. Winter wheat 3% poor, 17% fair, 70% good, 10% excellent; 40% headed, 50% 1998, 37% avg. Barley 3% poor, 21% fair, 67% good, 9% excellent; 85% headed, 99% 1998, 87% avg. Rye 2% poor, 19% fair, 70% good, 9% excellent; 72% headed, 83% 1998, 66% avg. Field corn 55% planted, 49% 1998, 50% avg.; 15% emerged, 5% 1998. Soybeans 6% planted, 4% 1998, 4% avg. Sorghum 5% planted, 0% 1998, 0% avg. Sweet corn 58% planted, 49% 1998, 41% avg. Snap beans 26% planted, 26% 1998, 37% avg. Tomatoes 41% planted, 50% 1998, 56% avg. Cucumbers 21% planted, 27% 1998, 35% avg. Cantaloupes 50% planted, 37% 1998, 48% avg. Watermelons 38% planted, 35% 1998, 40% avg. Apples 92% bloomed, 97% 1998, 85% avg. Strawberries 80% bloomed, 77% 1998, 73% avg.; 5% harvested, 4% 1998, 0% avg. Clover, other hays 1st cutting 19% harvested, 9% 1998, 8% avg. Alfalfa 1st cutting 12% harvested, 5% 1998, 3% avg. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 6% poor, 19% fair, 67% good, 7% excellent. Hay supplies 1% very short, 24% short, 73% adequate, 2% surplus. Activities: Need precipitation, continued problems with geese, diseases in small grains, continued planting of corn, soybean planting started up.

MICHIGAN: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 12% very short, 29% short, 58% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil 13% very short, 31% short, 55% adequate, 1% surplus. Asparagus 15% harvested, 41% 1998, 13% avg. Barley 88% planted, 93% 1998, 60% avg.; emerged 61%, 71% 1998, 20% avg. Potatoes 48% planted, 67% 1998, 40% avg. Potatoes 7% emerged, 13% 1998, 6% avg. Mild, sunny over State most of week. Thursday brought widespread light rains. Temperatures 6 to 10° above normal. Mild, warm weather, low precipitation created ideal spring planting conditions. Sugar beet planting nearly complete. Up to 20% of crop being replanted due to seed disease, soil crusting from earlier rains. Wheat reached Feekes growth stage 7 most areas, powdery mildew observed in many areas on lower leaves in spite of warm, dry conditions. Some wheat north was turning yellow from lack of moisture. Slow alfalfa growth north was result of short rain 1998 and this spring. Alfalfa south making excellent progress with some fields almost 1 foot tall. Corn, soybeans planted across State. Asparagus harvest continued. Some large first pickings were reported. Cabbage looked good, was growing well. Carrots were mostly planted, many of the early fields had emerged. First planting of cucumbers was complete. Early onions continued to emerge. Early planted sweet corn was at the third leaf. Warm weather rapidly advanced bloom in most fruit crops. Growers continued planting trees, small fruits. Apples in king bloom south, pink bloom north. Redbanded leafroller trap catches have been high. Peaches in petal fall south, full bloom north. Concord grapes had 1 to 2 inch shoots. Strawberry leaves emerged from crown, some flower trusses emerged. Sweet cherries, tart cherries in full bloom. Tart cherry crop potential looks good in the southwest. Bluecrop blueberries were in pink bud.

MINNESOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.2. Topsoil 4% short, 71% adequate, 25% surplus. Corn 90% ground prepared, 97% 1998, 70% avg. Soybeans 42% ground prepared, 71% 1998, 31% avg. Potatoes 43% planted, 59% 1998, 34% avg. Sugar beets 76% planted, 99% 1998, 53% avg. Sunflowers 4% planted, 24% 1998, 6% avg. Sweet corn 26% planted, 38% 1998, 23% avg. Green peas 54% planted, 69% 1998, 54% avg. Flax 8% planted, 48% 1998, 11% avg. Dry beans 9% planted, 20% 1998, 6% avg. Winter wheat 3% poor, 42% fair, 43% good, 12% excellent. Alfalfa 1% poor, 22% fair, 55% good, 22% excellent. Rye 17% fair, 68% good, 15% excellent. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 6% poor, 30% fair, 52% good, 11% excellent. Some timely rain was received statewide during the week, ending a period of warm, dry weather during which much of the spring fieldwork was completed. The precipitation was welcome for sprouting seeds, speeding growth of hay, pasture, activating weed control chemicals. Sunny weather returned at the end of the week, drying most fields enough for fieldwork to resume quickly.

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.9. Soil moisture 4% very short, 19% short, 37% adequate, 40% surplus. Corn 98% planted, 89% 1998, 95% avg.; 90% emerged, 83% 1998, 88% avg.; 1% very poor, 4% poor, 32% fair, 53% good, 10% excellent. Cotton 46% planted, 38% 1998, 53% avg.; 21% emerged, 13% 1998, 32% avg. Rice 85% planted, 85% 1998, 89% avg.; 47% emerged, 62% 1998, 69% avg.; 1% very poor, 3% poor, 34% fair, 57% good, 5% excellent. Sorghum 83% planted, 53% 1998, 67% avg.; 57% emerged, 49% 1998, 54% avg.; 1% poor, 24% fair, 65% good, 10% excellent. Soybeans 43% planted, 38% 1998, 36% avg.; 28% emerged, 25% 1998, 25% avg. Sweet potatoes 3% planted, 1% 1998, 11% avg. Hay (cool season) 33% harvested, 17% 1998, 26% avg. Watermelons 72% planted, 50% 1998, 78% avg.; 1% poor, 14% fair, 62% good, 23% excellent. Wheat 100% jointing, 100% 1998, 100% avg.; 98% heading, 83% 1998, 95% avg.; 5% mature, 2% 1998, 7% avg.; 3% poor, 31% fair, 57% good, 9% excellent. Blueberries 24% fair, 66% good, 10% excellent. Cattle 1% very poor, 6% poor, 20% fair, 61% good, 12% excellent. Pasture feed 3% very poor, 7% poor, 30% fair, 53% good, 7% excellent. Some areas of the State experienced heavy rains during the past week. Large rainfall amounts may cause some replanting in certain areas of the Delta.

MISSOURI: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.2. Topsoil 1% short, 51% adequate, 48% surplus. Precipitation for week ending May 9, 1999 avg. 1.94 in. Corn planting nearing completion in the Bethel but less than 20% in northern third of State. Cotton planting well ahead of normal. Winter wheat heading varies from just beginning in the northern counties to 92% in Bethel. Wheat mostly fair to good condition in all districts. Sorghum planting 19% in Bethel, just beginning elsewhere. Ground worked at least once for spring crops 65%, 62% 1998, 72% avg. Pasture feed 2% poor, 20% fair, 60% good, 18% excellent, above avg. for this date.

MONTANA: Days suitable for fieldwork. Topsoil 5% very short, 22% short, 71% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil 5% very short, 34% short, 60% adequate, 1% surplus. Many areas of the State received much-needed additional precipitation during the weekend, which prevented some producers from getting into their fields. However, good progress was made in the seeding of crops during the week. Sugar beets planted 98%, 99% 1998, 87% avg. Sugar beets emerged 83%, 80% 1998, 35% avg. Oats 65% planted, 67% 1998, 48% avg.; 29% emerged, 30% 1998, 16% avg. Corn 30% planted, 52% 1998, 48% avg.; 6% emerged, 29% 1998, 13% avg. Potatoes planted 10%, 11% 1998, 15% avg. Mild weather has 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 94% completed, 96% 1998, 95% avg. Lambing 74% completed, 87% 1998, 82% avg. Cattle, calves being moved to summer ranges 31%, 39% 1998, 30% avg. Sheep, lambs being moved to summer ranges 26%, 41% 1998, 24% avg.

NEBRASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.6. Topsoil 2% short, 64% adequate, 34% surplus. Subsoil 5% short, 81% adequate, 14% surplus. Temperatures 5 to 9° below normals across the State. Precipitation varied from 0.20 in. northwest to 1.70 in. east central. Wheat 1% poor, 20% fair, 69% good, 10% excellent; 31% jointed, 32% 1994, 36% avg. Corn 3% planted, 29% 1994, 20% avg. Oats 62% planted, 99% 1994, 88% avg. Pasture, range mostly good. Calving 92% complete. Scours in some young calves continued.

NEVADA: The week started out cool, with below-normal temperatures. During the midweek, the State experienced warmer weather with the southern portion of the State seeing a high of 93 degrees F on Thursday. The week finished with below-average temperatures and slight precipitation in the eastern portions of the State. While temperatures are warming, the below-normal temperatures thus far have slowed plant growth, germination. Alfalfa is short for this time of year. Range conditions have remained good throughout the majority of the State. Planting is wrapping up, while irrigation, fertilizing, spraying continue. Calving, lambing are nearing completion, branding, vaccinating, movement of livestock to spring/ summer ranges continues. Main farm, ranch activities: irrigating, planting, spraying, fertilizing, branding, vaccinating, working livestock, movement of livestock to spring/summer ranges.

NEW ENGLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Topsoil 9% very short, 49% short, 42% adequate. Subsoil 18% very short, 30% short, 51%

adequate, 1% surplus. Pasture feed 4% very poor, 10% poor, 47% fair, 35% good, 4% excellent. Maine potatoes 20% planted, 10% 1998, 5% avg.; condition fair. Massachusetts potatoes 65% planted, 80% 1998, 50% avg.; condition good to fair. Rhode Island potatoes 90% planted, 50% 1998, 40% avg.; 5% emerged, condition good to fair. Oats in Maine 40% planted, 20% 1998, 15% avg.; 10% emerged, condition fair. Barley in Maine 40% planted, 20% 1998; 15% emerged, condition fair. Field corn 25% planted, 5% 1998, 10% avg.; <5% emerged, condition good. Sweet corn 25% planted, 20% 1998, 20% avg.; 10% emerged, condition good to fair. Hay 1st cut; condition good to fair. Apples early bloom to bud stage, condition good to fair. Peaches petal fall to full bloom, condition fair. Pears full bloom, condition good to fair. Strawberries bud stage to early bloom, condition good to fair. Cranberries bud stage, condition good to excellent. Highbush blueberries bud stage, condition good. Wild blueberries early bloom, condition fair to good. Much-needed showers fell in region, more rain is needed. Above-normal temperatures for the week. Major farm activities: Plowing, tilling soils; planting vegetables, corn, potatoes; moving livestock to pastures, assisting spring calving, performing general maintenance; manure spreading, applying fertilizers.

NEW JERSEY: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Temperatures near normal. Extremes 37° at Woodstown on the 10th; 85° at Pemberton on the 9th. Rainfall 0.63 in. north, 0.31 in. central, 0.09 in. South. Heaviest 24-hour total was 0.37 in. at Flemington on the 8th to the 9th. Estimated soil moisture in percentage of field capacity 77% north, 70% central, 56% south. Four-inch soil temperatures 57° north, 56° central, 56° south. Field preparation activities for field crops continued. Corn planting continued in the southern, central areas of the State, has already started in the north. Newly planted vegetable fields in southern areas are being heavily irrigated due to the lack of rain in that area. Moisture in northern area is better but still somewhat short. Cabbage planting is complete. Tomato planting is in full swing in most areas of the State. Sweet potato planting is about to start in southern areas. Asparagus, lettuce, spinach and herbs harvesting is progressing a little slower than usual. Peach trees are moving into the shuck split stage in southern areas, some trees have started to set fruits. Thinning is needed in some orchards in northern area. Some apple trees have entered the petal fall stage but most remain in the full bloom stage. Strawberries, blueberries are now past bloom. Some harvesting of early strawberry varieties have been reported.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.1. Cool, dry weather with below-normal temperatures were predominate last week. Temperatures 3° below normal, rainfall that was received was scattered across the northwest part of the State. Farmers took advantage of the dry weather to get into the fields, continue with spring planting, harvesting lettuce, cutting hay. Corn planting advanced to 64% complete last week, while cotton planting neared the two-thirds mark. Lettuce harvest jumped to 45% complete, far above the 18% harvested in 1998. Alfalfa harvest was also moving along rapidly, 31% of 1st cutting was completed by the end of last week. Ranchers were branding, supplemental feeding livestock, hauling water in some places. Range, pasture feed conditions for this time of the year were rated mostly fair. Cattle mostly good condition, while sheep were mostly fair condition.

NEW YORK: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Soil moisture 2% very short, 58% short, 40% adequate. Pasture feed 10% poor, 54% fair, 36% good. Wheat 6% fair, 78% good, 16% excellent. Oats 84% seeded, 77% 1998, 51% avg.; Condition of emerged oats 22% fair, 72% good, 6% excellent. Corn 38% planted, 13% 1998, 22% avg. Upstate potato planting continued. Producers prepared fields for dry bean, soybean planting and were top dressing wheat. Vegetable planting gained momentum. Irrigation required in some areas. Onions 50% planted. Fruit in good condition. Pollination excellent as sunny, dry conditions prevailed. Finger Lakes grapes at bud burst stage, very little winter injury. Wayne County peaches in full bloom, sweet cherries reaching petal fall stage. Livestock being turned out to pasture. Animals in good health. Feed supplies remain adequate

NORTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.5. Soil moisture 10% short, 80% adequate, 10% surplus. Cool weather prevailed in State as isolated areas of the State received good rainfall. Lingering moisture from the previous week coupled with additional rain this week limited days suitable for fieldwork. Major gains were made in planting cotton, tobacco, peanuts as each are at levels near the 5-year average. Corn plantings are nearing

completion, just shy of the 5-year average. All small grains still look mostly good, wheat headings are at 97%. Farmers continue to spend significant time preparing fields as the 1999 crop season is in full swing. Harvesting of small grain green chop or silage continued along with first cuttings of hay. Other activities included fertilizing, cultivating planted crops, applying pesticides (pre and post emergence), tending livestock, pasture maintenance. In some areas germination was slowed due to the cool, wet weather. However, forecasts are indicating warm, dry weather this week, which should prove favorable for crop emergence.

NORTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 1. Topsoil 56% adequate, 44% surplus. Subsoil 69% adequate, 31% surplus. Rain across the State saturated soil, slowed planting progress. Some localized flooding was reported in north-central district. Durum wheat 12% planted, 34% 1998, 16% avg.; 3% emerged, 8% 1998, 2% avg. Canola 19% planted, 61% 1998. Corn 30% planted, 60% 1998, 21% avg. Dry edible beans 0% planted, 2% 1998, 1% avg. Flaxseed 12% planted, 37% 1998, 9% avg. Potatoes 23% planted, 46% 1998, 15% avg. Soybeans 0% planted, 18% 1998, 4% avg. Sugar beets 69% planted, 99% 1998, 47% avg.; emerged 32%, 32% 1998, 8% avg. Sunflowers 0% planted, 4% 1998, 1% avg. Pasture conditions improved during the week. Wet, muddy conditions were causing concern for young calves. Calving 94% complete; whereas, lambing was 92% complete. Supplemental feeds were fed to 48% of the sheep and 50% of the cattle. Hay, forage 3% very short, 14% short, 80% adequate, 3% surplus. Grain, concentrates 1% very short, 3% short, 88% adequate, 8% surplus.

OHIO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Topsoil 4% very short, 28% short, 64% adequate, 4% surplus. Corn 71% planted, 13% 1998, 38% avg.; 16% emerged, 4% 1998, 6% avg. Soybeans 41% planted, 4% 1998, 14% avg. Winter wheat jointed 98% complete, 91% 1998, 63% avg.; 1% headed, 2% 1998. Oats 97% planted, 89% 1998, 84% avg.; 89% emerged, 75% 1998, 59% avg. Tobacco beds having plants up 99%, 100% 1998. Potatoes 80% planted, 45% 1998, 51% avg. Alfalfa 3% 1st cutting; other hay 2% 1st cutting. Pasture feed 3% poor, 20% fair, 55% good, 22% excellent. Winter wheat 1% poor, 8% fair, 56% good, 35% excellent. Sugar beets 90% planted, 2 weeks ahead of 1998. Another week of fair weather allowed producers to progress rapidly with spring plantings, fieldwork. Many respondents report that last week's low humidity, breezes with no rainfall has dried up the soil, leaving ground in need of moisture. Some farmers are contemplating replanting corn due to dry weather. Other activities include hauling manure; spreading fertilizer; spraying herbicides; chopping rye; spraying apples, peaches; repairing tile; prepping machinery for cutting hay; cutting hay; digging nursery crops; seeding alfalfa; plowing tobacco ground; rotating livestock between pastures; painting buildings; fencing out woods, streams. Flowers are being shipped; tomatoes, sweet corn are being planted; sweet corn, tomatoes, cabbage are being irrigated. Reporters indicate that some pastures, grasses have stopped growing due to lack of rain while others report good to excellent conditions, especially where rotational grazing is used. Temperatures have been good for livestock as very few problems are reported with the exception of face flies with warmer temperatures.

OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.0. Subsoil 1% very short, 9% short, 82% adequate, 8% surplus. Topsoil 2% short, 80% adequate, 18% surplus. Tornadoes kill more than 40, cause an estimated \$1 billion damage. Farm structures, fields in path of storm receive brunt of damage. Wheat 21% soft dough, 3% 1998, 8% avg. Oats 86% heading, 61% 1998, 48% avg.; 17% soft dough, 5% 1998, 8% avg. Corn 96% planted, 96% 1998, 81% avg.; 14% up-to-stand, 30% 1998, 49% avg. Sorghum 56% seedbed prepared, 54% 1998, 56% avg.; 1% up-to-stand, 2% 1998, 4% avg. Soybeans 79% seedbed prepared, 72% 1998, 75% avg.; 22% planted, 26% 1998, 25% avg.; 9% up-to-stand, 7% 1998, 10% avg. Peanuts 72% seedbed prepared, 95% 1998, 81% avg. Cotton 89% seedbed prepared, 89% 1998, 79% avg. Alfalfa hay 36% 1st cutting, 47% 1998, 34% avg.; Other hay 24% 1st cutting, 9% 1998, 21% avg.; Livestock 2% poor, 16% fair, 74% good, 8% excellent. Feeder cattle prices down \$1 per cwt. from last week.

OREGON: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Topsoil 7% very short, 20% short, 69% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil 21% short, 74% adequate, 5% surplus. Barley planted 78%, 85% 1998, 74% avg. Spring wheat planted 95%, 97% 1998. Winter wheat 4% very poor, 19% poor, 35% fair, 35% good, 7% excellent. Range, pasture feed 11% poor, 41% fair, 46% good, 2%

excellent. Activities: On east side cool weather holding back field crop growth, some frost damage to sugar beets. Work continued in wheat, barley fields. Alfalfa growth slowed. On westside fieldwork on hold due to rain; fertilizing, spraying continued. Crimson clover showing blooms. Movement of balled, burlapped trees, containers to out of State markets continued. Fertilizing, spraying weeds in Christmas trees nearing end, buds breaking. Cool weather held back vegetable crops. Some cool weather crop planting done. Some snap bean, sweet corn has been planted in Willamette Valley, other areas waiting for soil to warm up. Northeast onions, early potatoes emerging, asparagus harvest continued. Willamette Valley strawberries blooming, harvest 2-3 weeks behind normal. Bee activity almost non-existent due to cold, wet weather. Caneberries nearing full leaf, sweet cherries setting fruit, apples, pears full bloom. Hazelnut trees fully leafed out. Rogue River, Valley petal fall, scab sprays being applied on fruit trees. South coast cranberry growth ranged early shoot to hook stage, north coast fruit trees blooming. Livestock good to excellent. Pastures, grass growth 2 to 4 weeks behind normal one east side. Hay stocks getting low. Cattle branding continued. Heavy tick infestations causing problems in southern Umatilla County.

PENNSYLVANIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Soil moisture 3% very short, 51% short, 45% adequate, 1% surplus. Plowing 79% complete, 73% 1998, 72% avg. Corn planted 42% complete, 27% 1998, 28% avg. Soybeans planted 7% complete, 2% 1998, 4% avg. Oats planted 86% complete, 81% 1998, 78% avg. Potatoes planted 43% complete, 27% 1998, 35% avg. Barley heading or headed 42% complete, 78% 1998, 36% avg. Wheat heading or headed 14% complete, 22% 1998, 9% avg.; 3% poor, 20% fair, 71% good, 6% excellent. Oat 23% fair, 65% good, 12% excellent. Alfalfa, alfalfa mixtures stand 1% very poor, 3% poor, 19% fair, 66% good, 11% excellent. Timothy clover stand 2% very poor, 3% poor, 27% fair, 61% good, 7% excellent. Alfalfa 1st cutting 5% complete, 3% 1998, 1% avg. Apples 87% pink, 98% 1998, 79% avg.; 76% full bloom or past, 90% 1998, 61% avg. Activities included: Spring plowing; planting oats, alfalfa, potatoes, soybeans, grass and corn; machinery maintenance; fixing fences; hauling manure; spreading fertilizers; caring for livestock; cutting alfalfa; making haylage; harvesting rye; spraying fruit trees.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Soil moisture 2% short, 72% adequate and 26% surplus. Barley 70% headed, 91% 1998, 59% avg.; 29% turned color, 2% ripe, 1% avg.; 13% 1998, 30% avg.; 28% fair, 60% good, 12% excellent. Cantaloupes 96% planted, 90% 1998, 89% avg.; 13% poor, 45% fair, 37% good, 5% excellent. Corn 99% planted, 97% 1998, 99% avg. Cucumbers 98% planted, 83% 1998, 86% avg. Cotton 33% planted, 35% 1998, 54% avg. Hay 53% harvested, 42% 1998, 51% avg. Oats 97% headed, 96% 1998, 95% avg.; 5% poor, 27% fair, 62% good, 6% excellent. Peaches 2% poor, 9% fair, 57% good, 32% excellent. Rye 97% headed, 97% 1998, 59% avg.; 34% turned color, 30% 1998, 42% avg.; 1% ripe, 3% 1998, 10% avg.; 2% poor, 28% fair, 64% good, 6% excellent. Peanuts 46% planted, 28% 1998, 53% avg. Sorghum 52% planted, 35% 1998, 27% avg. Snapbeans 81% planted, 81% 1998, 77% avg. Tobacco 98% transplanted, 98% 1998, 96% avg. Tomatoes 100% planted, 91% 1998, 97% avg. Watermelons 96% planted, 96% 1998, 93% avg. Winter wheat 97% headed, 94% 1998, 97% avg.; 26% turning color, 25% 1998, 33% avg.; 1% ripe, 2% 1998, 6% avg.; 2% poor, 27% fair, 67% good, 4% excellent.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 1.6. Subsoil 53% adequate, 47% surplus. Topsoil 1% short, 43% adequate, 56% surplus. Heavy rain throughout the week halted fieldwork, corn planting progress for many areas of the State. Barley 15% excellent, 74% good, 11% fair. Oats 20% excellent, 69% good, 10% fair, 1% poor. Spring wheat 19% excellent, 66% good, 15% fair. Winter rye 15% excellent, 55% good, 30% fair. Alfalfa 30% excellent, 57% good, 12% fair, 1% poor. Winter wheat 50% in boot stage, 38% 1998, 9% avg. Winter rye 19% in boot, 35% 1998, 9% avg. Flaxseed 24% seeded, 67% 1998, 19% avg. Cattle 25% excellent, 66% good, 9% fair. Sheep 29% excellent, 64% good, 7% fair. Calving 87% completed, 90% 1998. Lambing 86% completed, 88% 1998. Cattle moved to pasture 45%. Feed supplies 4% short, 83% adequate, 13% surplus. Stockwater supplies 1% short, 61% adequate, 38% surplus.

TENNESSEE: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.0. Topsoil 1% short, 61% adequate, 38% surplus. Subsoil 3% short, 72% adequate, 25% surplus. Corn 93% planted, 72% 1998, 81% avg.; 70% emerged, 52% 1998, 24%

fair, 63% good, 13% excellent. Tobacco 9% transplanted, 3% 1998, 10% avg. Wheat 96% headed, 94% 1998, 87% avg.; 4% poor, 18% fair, 59% good, 19% excellent. Pasture feed 3% poor, 25% fair, 59% good, 13% excellent. Alfalfa 20% harvested, 8% 1998, 14% avg.; 1% very poor, 2% poor, 22% fair, 58% good, 17% excellent. Other hay 5% poor, 30% fair, 57% good, 8% excellent. Farmers continued planting crops, harvesting hay during the first half of last week, heavy rains on 5th put a stop to most field activities. Wet weather also hampered tobacco transplanting, it is still on schedule for this time of year. The State's wheat crop continues to look good with 96% headed. Producers report some early signs of disease, but no major problems have been encountered thus far. Hay producers are harvesting their fields when weather permits.

TEXAS: Central, southern areas continued mostly dry, while most areas of Plains, north-central began dry out from previous week's rain. High winds, sand storms caused problems in Plains. Cooler weather slowed growth on planted fields. Fieldwork limited in Plains due wet soils. Fieldwork in Blacklands, Central, South moved ahead most week. Crops in these areas need rain soon. Pastures in most areas looked good. Livestock conditions remained good across much of State. Crops: Small Grains: Rain was big benefit in Plains. High winds, scattered hail caused minor damage some fields. Most fields have begun to head out. Many fields in North Central continued to be baled. Harvest got underway in Blacklands, continued to expand Central, South; 2% harvested, 1% 1998, 0% avg. Corn: Planting progress slowed during week in Plains due wet conditions. Cool weather slowed emergence on early-planted fields. Fields in Blacklands made good progress during week. Fields Central, along Upper Coast beginning to silk. Most fields could use a rain. Fields continued to silk in Coastal Bend, Rio Grande Valley. Statewide corn 73% normal compared 73% 1998; 7% silked, 1% 1998, 1% avg. Cotton: Previous week's rains provided much-needed moisture in Plains where planting pace should rapidly increase as fields dry. Cool weather slowed emergence on early planted fields. Blacklands, most planting completed, fields making good progress. Producers cultivating fields as conditions allowed. Fields continued to square in Coastal Bend, Rio Grande Valley. Progress slow along Upper Coast due to lack of moisture, cool weather; 3% squaring, 3% 1998, 2% avg. Peanuts: Planting operations on irrigated fields underway North Central; however, wet fields kept progress to a minimum last week. Planting continued active South Central. Rice: Weed control activity continued along Upper Coast as conditions allowed. Producers were still flooding some fields. Progress good in most fields; however, cool weather slowed emergence in some fields. Statewide rice condition rated 89% normal, compared 80% 1998. Sorghum: Recent rain provided much-needed planting moisture in the Plains, where planting will begin soon on irrigated acreage. Emergence on newly planted fields was slow in the North Central due to cool weather. Fields continued to head Central, Coastal Bend, Rio Grande Valley. Rainfall in these areas would be big benefit. Statewide sorghum condition rated 82% of normal, compared to 65% 1998. Soybeans: Planting will begin in Plains as fields dry out. Fields along Upper Coast blooming, making good growth. Other Crops: Sunflowers 19% planted, 26% 1998, 15% avg.

Commercial Vegetables: Rio Grande Valley, harvest activities continued without delays during week. San Antonio-Winter Garden, a few fields cabbage still remain for harvest. Other vegetables making good progress. Onion harvest increased during week. East, additional sweet potato planting occurred as conditions allowed. Scattered rain beneficial. High Plains, onions, potatoes made good progress. Trans Pecos: onions, melons continued make good progress. Peaches: Late varieties continued leaf out. Early varieties remained varied stages in Hill Country. Pecans: Producers increased scouting activity for casebearers, some have been found Central, Blacklands. Producers will begin spraying soon. Nut sets have been good many areas. Rainfall needed in Central, South. Irrigation where available, active.

Range and Livestock: Ranges, pastures continued to show good progress in most areas. Haying activity increased. Spraying programs also continued. Livestock conditions remained good across most areas. Hornflies continued a big problem many herds.

UTAH: Days suitable for fieldwork 4. Topsoil 4% short, 82% adequate, 14% surplus. Subsoil 5% short, 70% adequate, 25% surplus. Pasture, range feed 2% poor, 24% fair, 65% good, 9% excellent. Spring wheat 91% planted, 100% 1998, 98% avg.; 82% emerged, 76% 1998, 80% avg. Barley 91% planted, 99% 1998, 96% avg.; 82% emerged, 68% 1998, 76% avg. Oats 70% planted, 67% 1998, 69% avg.; 46% emerged, 42% 1998, 45% avg. Corn 13% planted, 40% 1998, 44% avg.; 2% emerged, 3% 1998, 1%

avg. Alfalfa hay 9 in. high (first crop only), 10 in. 1998, 9 in. avg. Tart cherries full bloom or past 100%, 90% 1998, 96% avg. Pears full bloom or past 100%, 100% 1998, 98% avg. Apples full bloom or past 87%, 96% 1998, 72% avg. Potatoes planted 46%, 54% 1998, 34% avg. Cattle 1% poor, 17% fair, 76% good, 6% excellent. Ewes lambing on range 86%, 85% 1998, 83% avg. Cattle moved to summer range 13%, 11% 1998, 9% avg. Sheep sheared on range 93%, 90% 1998, 89% avg. Sheep 2% very poor, 2% poor, 15% fair, 71% good, 10% excellent. Sheep moved to summer range 12%, 7% 1998, 10% avg. Major activities included moving cattle, sheep to summer ranges, spraying for weeds, insects, soil preparation, irrigation, planting. Many farmers still had trouble getting into fields due to continued wet conditions.

VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 15% very short, 36% short, 48% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil 15% very short, 33% short, 49% adequate, 3% surplus. Pasture feed 3% very poor, 19% poor, 43% fair, 32% good, 3% excellent. Livestock 5% poor, 24% fair, 59% good, 12% excellent. Hay, Other 4% very poor, 20% poor, 41% fair, 32% good, 3% excellent. Hay, Alfalfa 2% very poor, 4% poor, 33% fair, 48% good, 13% excellent. Corn for Grain 66% planted, 53% 1998, 56% avg. Soybeans 4% planted, 3% 1998, 5% avg. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 4% poor, 26% fair, 54% good, 15% excellent. Barley 3% very poor, 6% poor, 32% fair, 50% good, 9% excellent. Tobacco, flue cured 30% planted, 18% 1998, 20% avg. Tobacco, burley 5% planted, 0% 1998, 1% avg. Tobacco, dark fire cured 9% planted, 5% 1998, 5% avg. Tobacco, sun cured 4% planted, 0% 1998, 3% avg. Peanuts 52% planted, 28% 1998, 39% avg. Cotton 76% planted, 55% 1998, 66% avg. Apples, All 3% poor, 17% fair, 79% good, 1% excellent. Peaches 3% poor, 10% fair, 83% good, 4% excellent. Weather conditions for the Commonwealth reversed from the previous week. Above-normal temperatures combined with only limited precipitation allowed 6 days suitable for fieldwork. Slow pasture growth has made it necessary for some livestock producers to graze their herds on small grain crops or hay acres. Hay production is in full swing, with many producers realizing reduced yields due to dry conditions. Hay yields were also affected by cooler-than-normal Spring weather. More than 60% of small grain acres are in fair or better condition. This is due in part to low occurrence of disease, insects. Planting of corn, cotton, peanuts, soybeans, and tobacco continues at a fast pace due to warm, dry conditions. While conditions have been nearly ideal for machine work such as planting, disking, rain is still a necessity in order for proper germination and maturity to occur. Fruit producers are beginning the thinning process as trees complete blooms. Pick-your-own strawberry farms are opening across the Commonwealth. Other activities for the week included transplanting vegetables, scouting, spraying crops for disease, insects, spreading of manure, poultry litter.

WASHINGTON: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.1. Topsoil 11% very short, 20% short, 60% adequate, 9% surplus. Subsoil 3% very short, 19% short, 78% adequate. Cool weather across the State continued to impede crop development. Winter wheat, dryland 6% very poor, 9% poor, 35% fair, 46% good, 4% excellent; irrigated 1% fair, 99% good. Spring wheat, dryland 2% poor, 85% fair, 13% good; irrigated 1% fair, 99% good. Planted 97%, 98% 1998, 89% avg.; 81% emerged, 91% 1998, 75% avg. Barley, dryland 97% fair, 3% good; irrigated, 100% good. Planted 94%, 97% 1998, 88% avg.; 76% emerged, 82% 1998, 68% avg. Scattered precipitation benefited field crops, but many areas remained dry with a serious shortage of topsoil moisture. Spring crops were emerging well, but most crops are 2-3 weeks behind normal in development. Hay, other roughage supplies 4% very short, 7% short, 75% adequate, 14% surplus. Range, pasture feed 6% very poor, 17% poor, 38% fair, 32% good, 7% excellent. Green chop fields were growing very slowly. Apple bloom began to peak in some areas, with thinning, weed control activities continuing in orchards. Cool weather slowed fruit development, frost protection was necessary in most areas throughout the week. Asparagus, rhubarb harvests continued, carrots planting continued. Wind damage was reported in onion fields in central areas.

WEST VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.1. Topsoil 5% very short, 46% short, 48% adequate, 1% surplus. Continued dry, open conditions allowed planting of corn, oats, soybeans to be ahead of 1998; rain is needed to improve hay, pasture condition. Wheat 2% poor, 10% fair, 68% good, 20% excellent; Wheat headed 25%, 43% 1998, 21% avg. Hay 2% very poor, 14% poor, 34% fair, 43% good, 7% excellent. Intended Acreage Prepared for Spring Planting 89%, 69% 1998, 73% avg. Corn planted 60%, 18% 1998, 36% avg. Oats planted 89%, 69% 1998, 76% avg.; 52% emerged,

32% 1998, 45% avg. Soybeans planted 22%, 3% 1998, 8% avg. Tobacco beds seeded 99%, 100% 1998, 100% avg. Tobacco beds emerged 89%, 92% 1998, 94% avg. Apples 15% fair, 85% good. Peaches 16% fair, 84% good. Cattle 17% fair, 79% good, 4% excellent; 98% calved. Sheep 20% fair, 75% good, 5% excellent; 96% lambing. Feed grain supplies 5% short, 58% adequate, 37% surplus. Hay, roughage supplies 1% very short, 16% short, 77% adequate, 6% surplus. Activities: Planting, calving, lambing, general maintenance.

WISCONSIN: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.6. Soil moisture 5% very short, 13% short, 67% adequate, 15% surplus. Soybeans planted 9% 1999, 8% 1998, 6% avg. Spring tillage completed 78% 1999, 73% 1998, 59% avg. Farmers in the northern part of the State breathed a sigh of relief last week, when some much-needed rain fell. Although some are still concerned about inadequate subsoil moisture, topsoil moisture has been replenished, at least for the present. So far for this growing season, all districts have received at least 0.50 in. of precipitation above their respective cumulative 30-year normal rainfalls. The Northeast, east-central districts have the smallest precipitation surplus at 0.50 in. above normal. Southwest district has been the wettest, with 5.50 in. of rain above normal. Last week, farmers made much progress in planting corn. Along with comments regarding last week's rains, the other most common response from our reporters was regarding the rapid progress of corn planting. In a few scattered places, corn is even starting to emerge. Farmers also used their time for planting soybeans, wrapping up the planting of oats. Potato planting is almost complete in the southern two-thirds of the State, just getting started in the northern districts. Statewide, most apple, pear, cherry trees are now in full bloom. According to one Rock County reporter, tobacco planting has started. Pasture feed 1% very poor; 5% poor; 15% fair; 52% good; 27% excellent.

WYOMING: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.7. Topsoil 76% adequate, 24% surplus. Subsoil 3% short, 85% adequate, 12% surplus. Winter wheat jointed 19%, 24% 1998, 8% avg. Barley seeded 82%, 86% 1998, 86% avg.; emerged 63%, 63% 1998, 63% avg.; jointed 3%, 8% 1998, 3% avg. Oats seeded 61%, 63% 1998, 66% avg.; emerged 25%, 23% 1998, 27% avg. Spring wheat seeded 60%, 82% 1998, 67% avg.; emerged 38%, 42% 1998, 32% avg. Sugar beets planted 94%, 98% 1998, 96% avg.; emerged 50%, 38% 1998, 34% avg. Corn planted 36%, 61% 1998, 49% avg.; emerged 2%, 5% 1998, 5% avg. Spring calving 94%, 95% 1998, 97% avg. Calf losses 29% light, 68% normal, 3% heavy. Farm flock ewes lambing 96%, 100% 1998, 99% avg. Farm flock sheep shorn 92%, 100% 1998, 99% avg. Range flock lambing 46%, 48% 1998, 44% avg. Range flock sheep shorn 73%, 85% 1998, 84% avg. Lamb losses 13% light, 85% normal, 2% heavy. Range, pasture feed 8% poor, 25% fair, 52% good, 15% excellent. Cool, wet conditions continued to hamper spring work activities.

International Weather and Crop Summary

May 2 - 8, 1999

HIGHLIGHTS

FSU-WESTERN: Unseasonably cold weather halted planting activities, with sub-freezing temperatures observed as far south as Ukraine and southern crop areas in Russia.

EUROPE: Mild, generally dry weather favored fieldwork in the northwest, while unseasonably cold weather slowed summer crop planting and emergence in the east.

NORTHWESTERN AFRICA: Unseasonably warm, dry weather in Morocco and western Algeria favored winter grain maturation and early-harvest activities.

AUSTRALIA: Sorghum and cotton harvest was winding down as winter grain planting increased.

CANADA: Beneficial rain improved planting prospects in the eastern Prairies.

SOUTHEAST ASIA: The rainy season began across Indochina, while drier weather aided grain harvesting in the Philippines.

EASTERN ASIA: Warm, dry weather stressed winter wheat and slowed summer crop planting in the northern North China Plain.

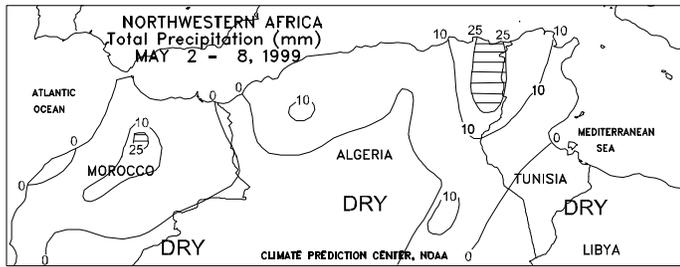
SOUTH AMERICA: Isolated heavy showers returned to portions of central Argentina, slowing summer crop harvesting. Showers slowed late soybean harvesting in southern Brazil.

MEXICO: Seasonably dry weather prevailed across Mexico.



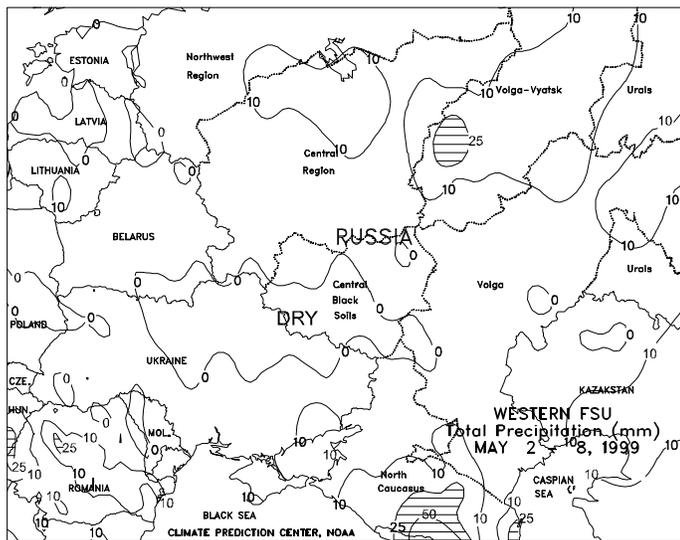
EUROPE

Unseasonably mild weather accompanied several days of dryness in England, northern France, and Germany, helping summer crop planting and spurring rapid development of winter grains and spring-sown crops. Weekly temperatures averaged 2 to 4 degrees C above normal in these areas. Winter grains were likely in or nearing the heading stage in France and were jointing throughout the remainder of northern Europe. Farther south, light to moderate showers (15-60 mm or more) in southwestern France delayed corn planting. The rain extended southward into northern Spain and Portugal. Dry weather returned to southern Spain, where long-term moisture deficits persist. In eastern Europe, unseasonably cold weather prevailed over the region, slowing the development of winter grains and spring-sown crops. Winter grains were jointing in eastern Europe. Although weekly temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C below normal, sub-freezing temperatures (-1 to -4 degrees C) were confined to eastern Poland and higher elevations in Romania. Significant rain (10-25 mm) fell in Hungary, boosting soil moisture but interrupting fieldwork. Generally dry weather (precipitation amounts less than 7 mm) prevailed over the remainder of eastern Europe. In Scandinavia, unseasonably cold weather (weekly temperatures averaging 2 to 4 degrees C below normal) slowed winter grain development and spring crop emergence.



NORTHWEST AFRICA

Winter grains ranged from filling to maturing over the region. Harvest activities were likely underway in southern crop areas. Unseasonably warm, dry weather prevailed over Morocco and western Algeria, favoring winter grain maturation and early harvesting. Farther east, light showers (5-28 mm) in northeastern Algeria and northern Tunisia favored immature crops. Weekly temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C above normal in Morocco and 2 to 4 degrees C above normal in Algeria and Tunisia.



FSU-WESTERN

Unseasonably cold weather pushed southward over the region, halting fieldwork and slowing crop development. Weekly temperatures averaged 4 to 8 degrees C below normal from south to north, respectively. Minimum temperatures fell below freezing as far south as southern Ukraine and the northern tip of the North Caucasus region in Russia on several days during the week. Lowest weekly temperatures ranged from -2 to -6 degrees C in these areas. Overall, temperatures did not fall low enough to threaten winter grains in the jointing stage. However, summer crop planting in Ukraine and southern Russia began about a week earlier than usual due to unseasonably mild weather in April. As a result, the freeze likely caused some damage to newly emerged summer crops, especially in the central Black Soils Region in Russia and the northeastern Ukraine, where nighttime lows ranged from -4 to -6 degrees C. Some replanting of summer crops will likely be necessary in these areas. Precipitation amounts ranged from 10 to 40 mm in extreme northern and southern areas in Russia (northern portion of the Central Region, Volga Vyatsk, and southern North Caucasus region). Snow, heavy at times, fell over northernmost crop areas in Russia. Light, if any, precipitation (less than 7 mm) was observed in the remainder of Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, and the Baltics. Soils remain unfavorably dry in the northern North Caucasus region, Volga Valley, and the eastern portion of the Central Black Soils region, where dry weather has persisted for the past 8 weeks.

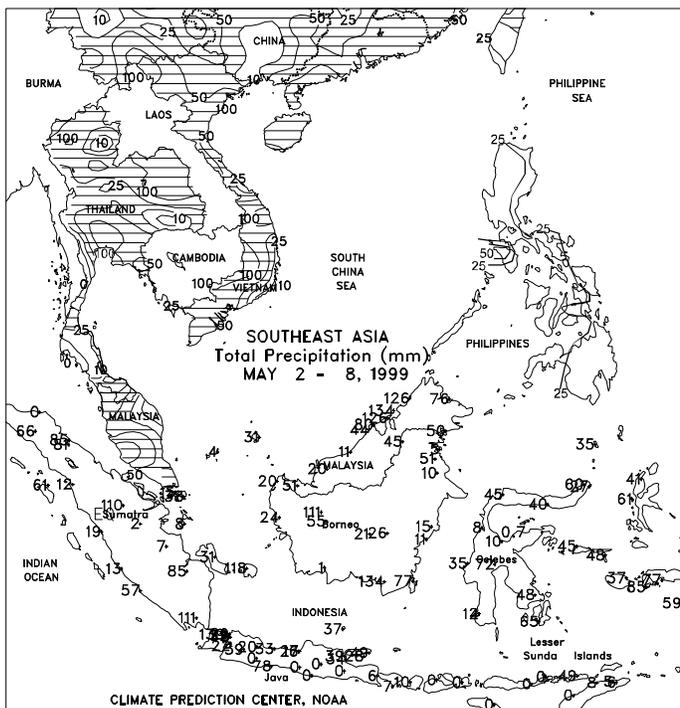


EASTERN ASIA

In the northern North China Plain (southern Hebei and northern Shandong), warm, dry weather stressed rainfed reproductive winter wheat and slowed summer crop planting. Rain will also be needed for irrigated wheat since moisture supplies may be running short due to the dry winter. Farther south in Henan and northern Anhui and Jiangsu, light to moderate rain (5-25 mm) boosted topsoil moisture for germinating summer crops and reproductive winter wheat. Temperatures across the North China Plain averaged 1 to 2 degrees C above normal, with maximum temperatures ranging from the upper 20's to lower 30's degrees C. In Manchuria, light rain (1-8 mm) slightly boosted topsoil moisture, but more rain will be needed to provide adequate moisture for germinating summer crops. Temperatures averaged near normal across Manchuria. Moderate rain (10-40 mm) covered the Yangtze Valley, favoring early rice and filling winter wheat and oilseeds. Heavier rain (40-70 mm) benefited early rice in southern China. Temperatures averaged 1 to 2 degrees C above normal across the Yangtze Valley and 1 to 2 degrees C below normal across southern China.

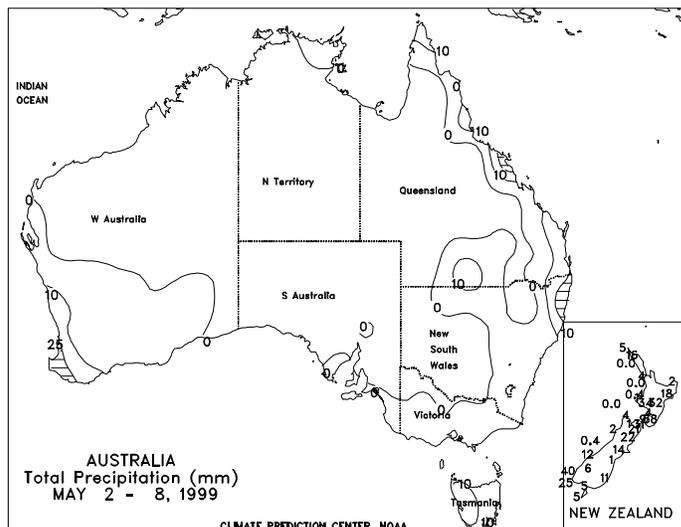
SOUTHEAST ASIA

After a few weeks of widespread showers, the rainy season began across Indochina. Moderate to heavy showers (25-100 mm) covered most of Thailand. The moisture slowed second-season rice harvesting, but boosted moisture supplies for the upcoming main-season rice crop. Heavier showers (100-200 mm) possibly caused flooding in south-central Thailand (near Bangkok) and northeastern Thailand. Widespread showers (30-90 mm) also boosted moisture supplies in northern and southern rice areas of Vietnam. Drier weather (10-40 mm) prevailed across most of the Philippines, easing wetness and favoring second-crop grain harvesting. In peninsular Malaysia, variable showers (30-200 mm) favored oil palm, but possibly caused some local flooding. In Java, Indonesia, scattered showers (5-30 mm) did not hamper main-season rice harvesting.



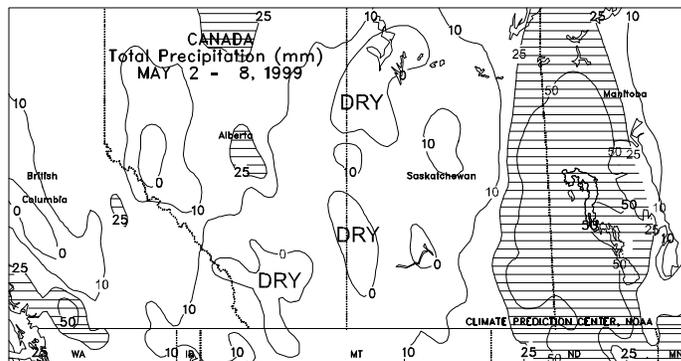
AUSTRALIA

Dry weather again dominated Australia's main crop areas. In the east, sorghum and cotton harvest was likely winding down due to the continuation of generally favorable weather. Winter grain planting, typically just beginning in Queensland and New South Wales, was reportedly off to a very good start and should enjoy favorable moisture reserves. Near- to slightly-below-normal temperatures and a lack of frost aided germination. Dry weather continued across the southeast, with above-normal temperatures exacerbating topsoil dryness in South Australia and western Victoria. Moisture will be needed in these areas before winter grain planting begins in earnest. In Western Australia, scattered light showers kept topsoils moist for autumn fieldwork. Temperatures averaged 1 to 2 degrees C above normal in the west. In New Zealand, scattered, light to moderate showers (5-25 mm or more) covered agricultural districts from central South Island to central North Island. Rainfall was very light elsewhere, including plantation areas north of Auckland that had recently been very wet.



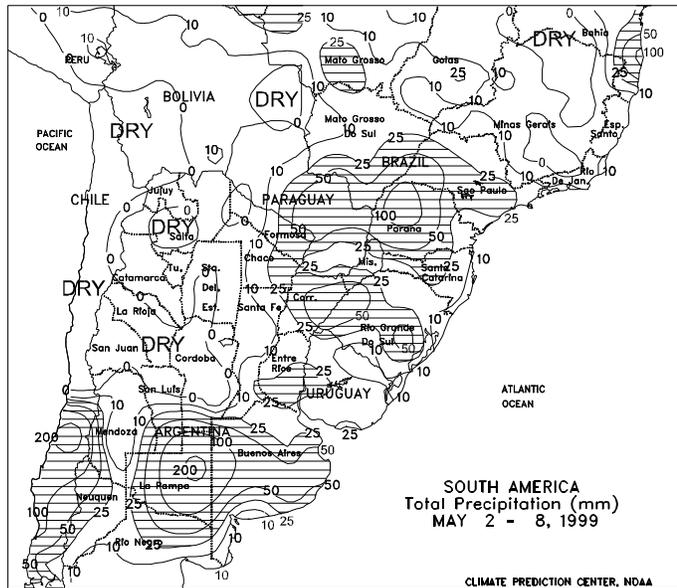
CANADA

Beneficial, soaking rain (25-50 mm or more) improved planting prospects throughout summer crop areas of Manitoba and eastern Saskatchewan. Near- to above-normal temperatures in the eastern Prairies warmed topsoils for spring fieldwork but sub-freezing lows limited early grain and oilseed development. Drier weather in the western Prairies favored planting, following last week's beneficial rain. However, temperatures averaging 1 to 2 degrees C below normal slowed germination in Alberta. Most Prairie crop areas have received significant rainfall since late April, and seasonal warming over the next few weeks should boost the planting pace. In eastern Canada, warm, dry weather dominated the main crop areas of Ontario and Quebec, accelerating winter wheat development and warming topsoils for corn and soybean germination.



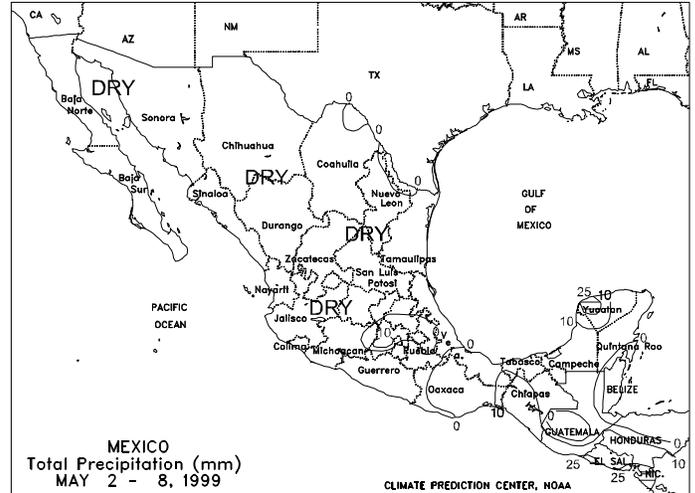
SOUTH AMERICA

In central Argentina, moderate to heavy showers (30-75 mm) slowed summer crop harvesting in central Buenos Aires. Localized heavy rain (100-200 mm) caused flooding and possible crop damage in northern La Pampa. In southern Cordoba and Santa Fe, mostly dry weather (less than 10 mm) eased wetness and allowed harvesting to slowly resume. Warm weather (temperatures 2-4 degrees C above normal) also helped to dry out fields from the heavy rain of April 24-26. Light to moderate rain (10-50 mm) slowed cotton harvesting in northern Argentina. According to reports as of April 30, Argentine corn was 51 percent harvested, compared with 45 percent last year, sunflower was 99 percent harvested, compared with 92 percent last year, soybeans were 33 percent harvested, compared with 31 percent last year, and cotton was 21 percent harvested, the same as last year. In southern Brazil, moderate to heavy rain (25-110 mm) slowed soybean harvesting in Rio Grande do Sul and Parana. Elsewhere, scattered showers (10-50 mm) did not significantly slow fieldwork. Temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C above normal across southern Brazil.



MEXICO

Seasonably dry weather prevailed across most of Mexico. Light rain (5-15 mm) fell across southeastern Mexico (Chiapas and the Yucatan Peninsula), where rainfall typically averages about 10 mm per week during early May. Temperatures averaged 2 to 5 degrees C above normal across northern and central Mexico.



The *Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin* (ISSN 0043-1974) is published weekly and jointly prepared by the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Publication began in 1872 as the *Weekly Weather Chronicle*. It is issued under general authority of the Act of January 12, 1895 (44-USC 213), 53rd Congress, 3rd Session. NOAA is responsible for managing, printing, and distributing the bulletin. The contents may be reprinted freely, with proper credit.

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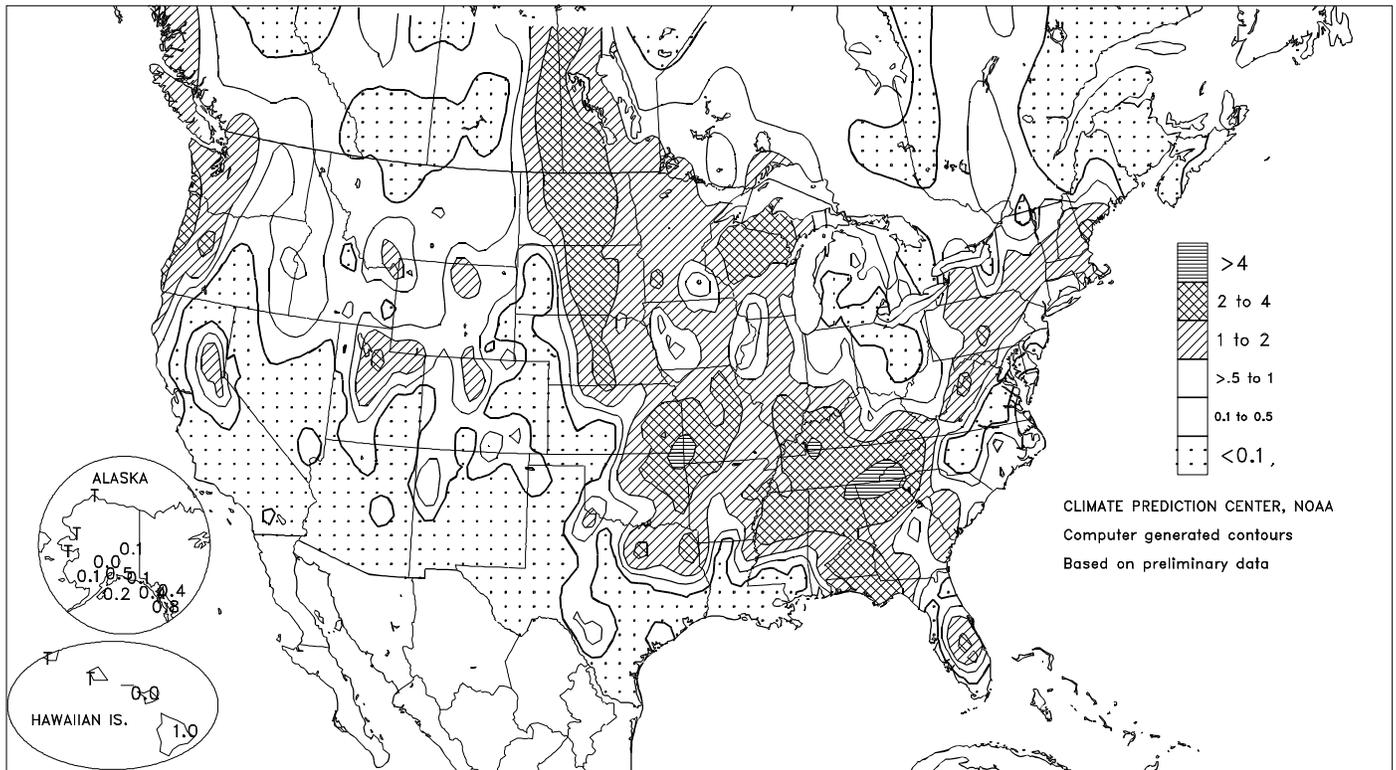
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Total Precipitation (Inches)

MAY 2 - 8, 1999



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