

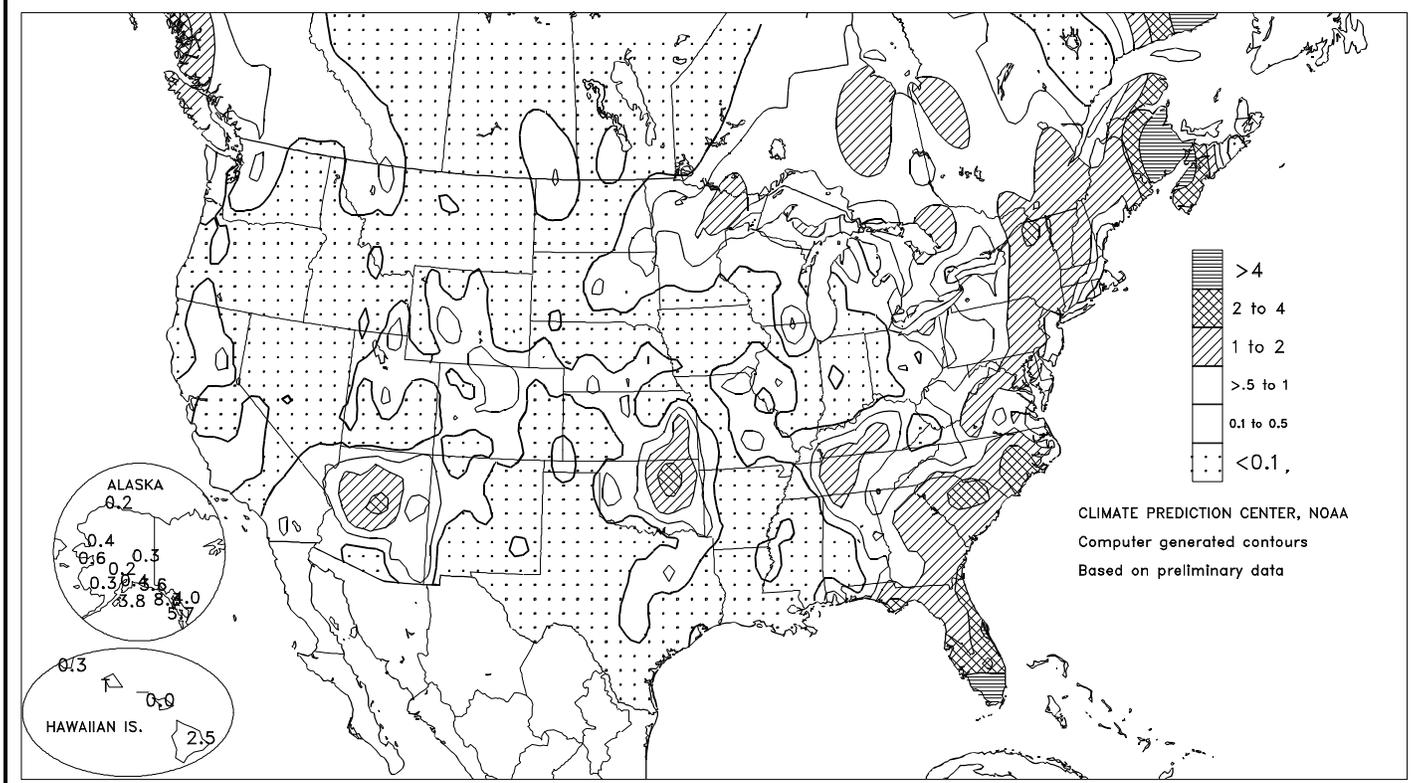
# WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

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

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

Total Precipitation (Inches)

SEP 19 - 25, 1999



## HIGHLIGHTS

September 19 - 25, 1999

Scattered showers brought limited relief from the 14-month drought in the **Tennessee Valley**, but topsoils remained extremely dry in many areas from the **middle and lower Ohio River Valley** southward to the **Gulf Coast**. More significant rain (as much as 1 to 3 inches) eased dryness across **Georgia** and the **western Carolinas**, but hampered flood recovery efforts in **eastern North Carolina**. On Tuesday, disorganized Tropical Storm Harvey crossed **southern Florida**, preceded by widespread showers that maintained adequate to locally surplus soil moisture for fall-sown crops. Meanwhile, mostly dry weather prevailed in the **Plains** and the **Midwest**, favoring summer crop maturation and harvesting. Scattered frost and

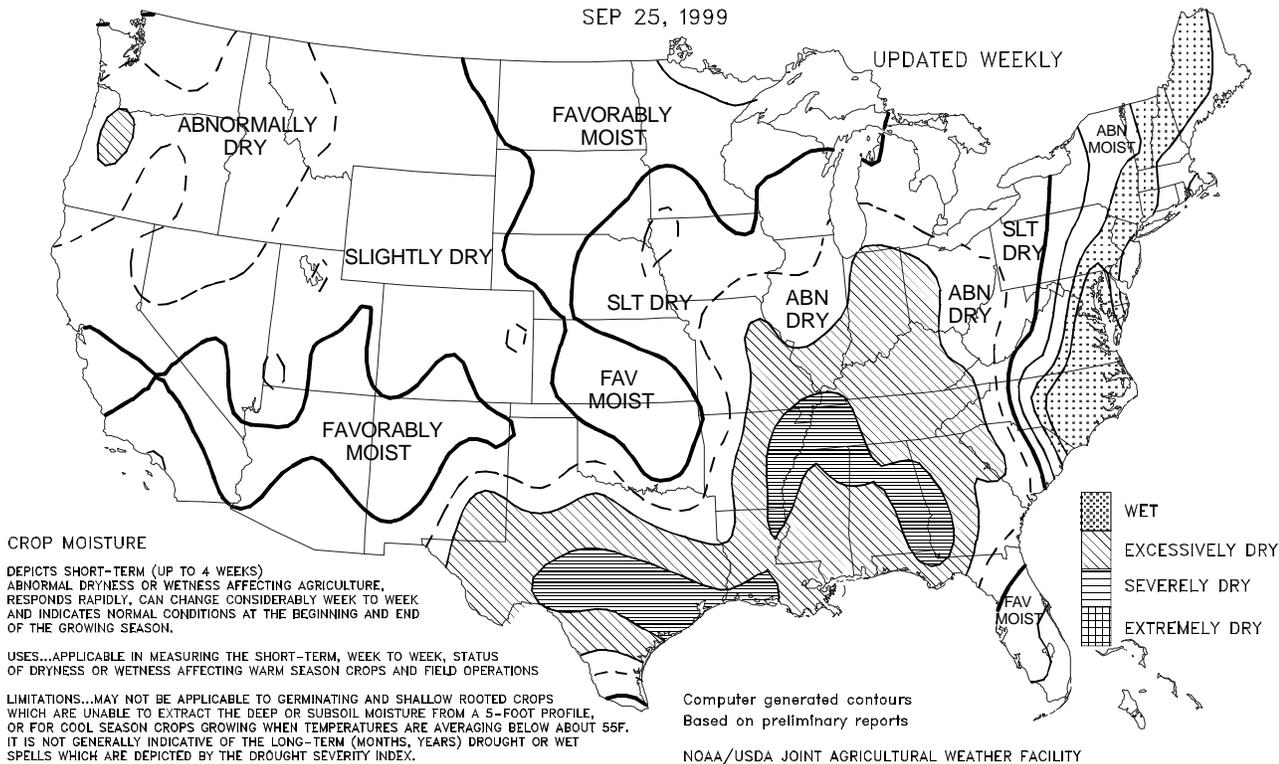
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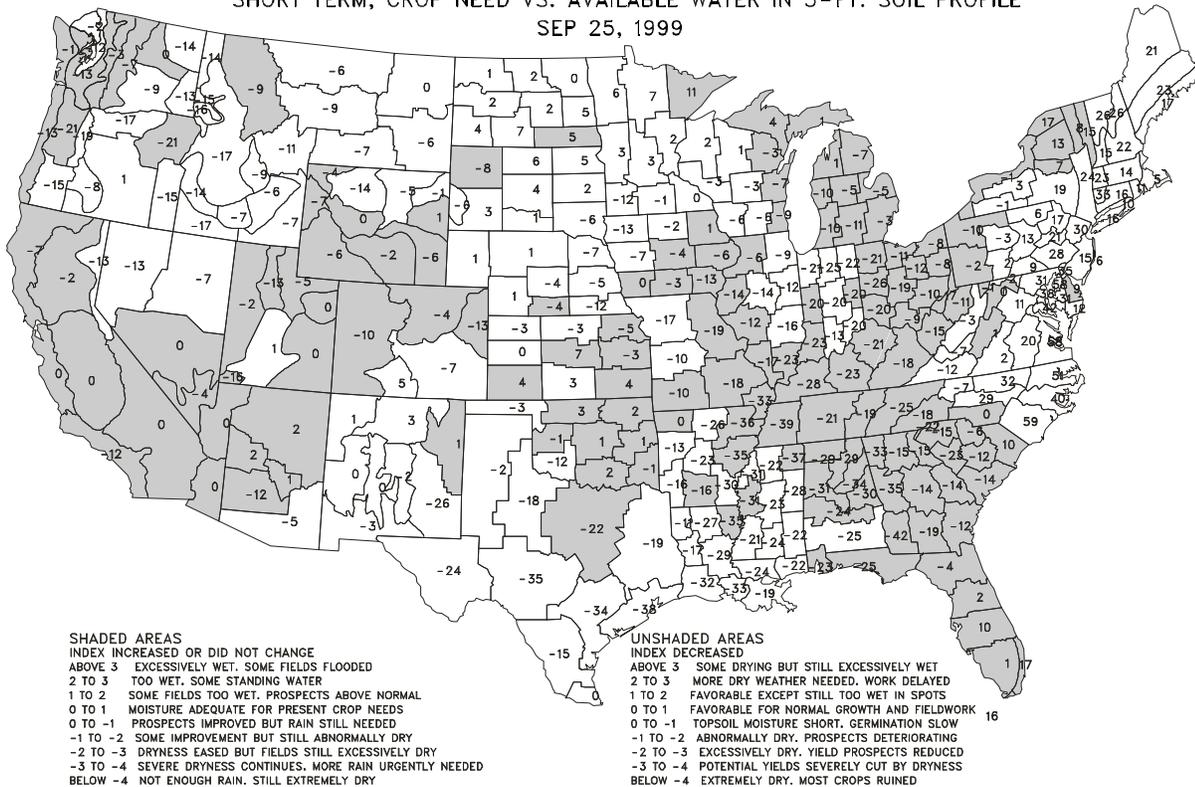
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Crop Moisture  
SHORT TERM, CROP NEED VS. AVAILABLE WATER IN 5-FT. SOIL PROFILE  
SEP 25, 1999

UPDATED WEEKLY



Crop Moisture Index  
SHORT TERM, CROP NEED VS. AVAILABLE WATER IN 5-FT. SOIL PROFILE  
SEP 25, 1999



## Weather Data for Selected Locations in the Delta

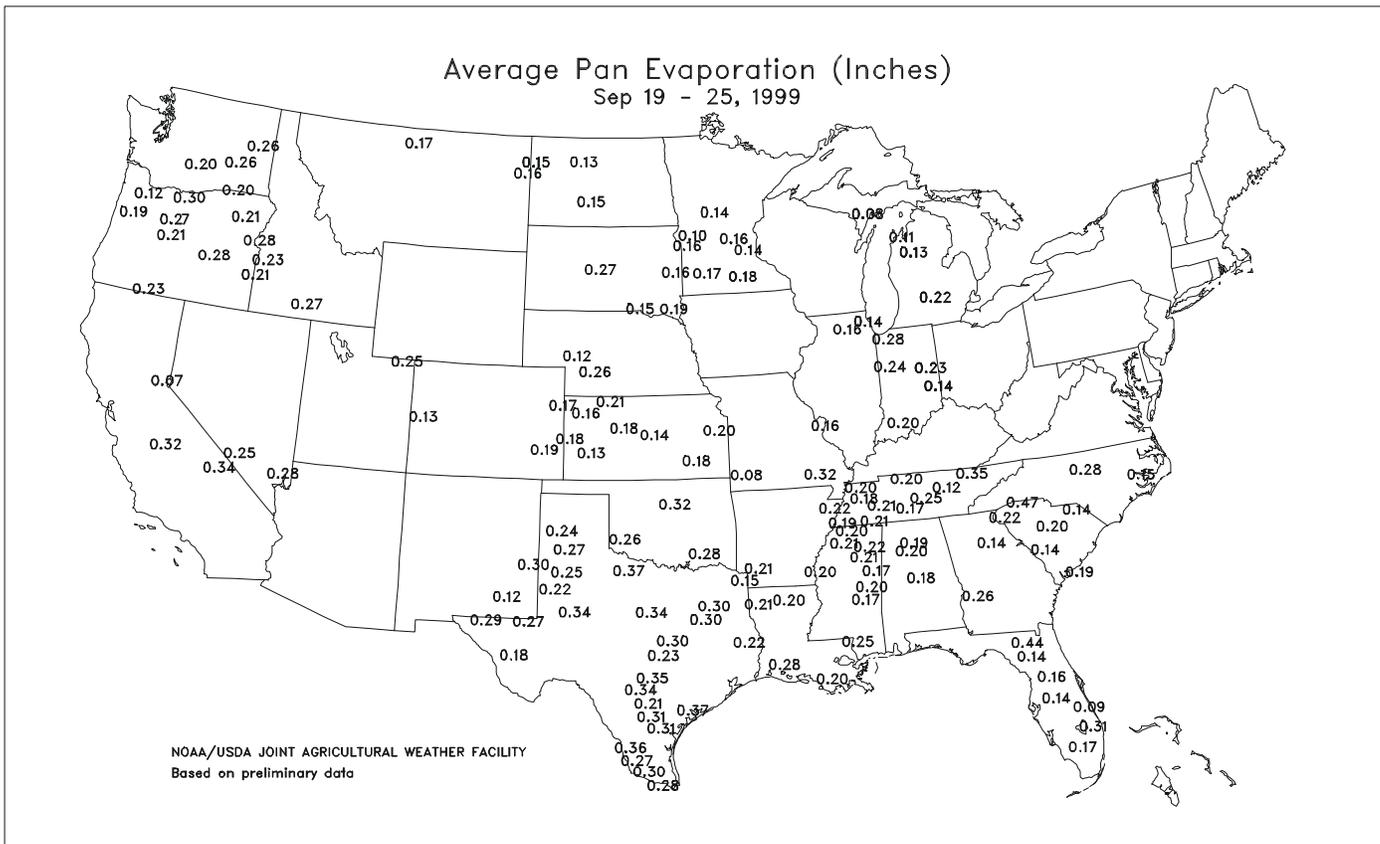
### Weather Data for the Week Ending September 25, 1999

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 Sep 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Sep 1	TOTAL IN, SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	TEMP. °F		PRECIP	
																90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
MS BATESVILLE	86	50	92	40	68	-2	0.00	-0.86	0.00	0.62	24	--	--	--	--	2	0	0	0
BELZONI	86	51	93	41	69	-5	0.00	-0.61	0.00	0.35	14	--	--	--	--	3	0	0	0
CLARKSDALE	84	55	91	44	70	-2	0.00	-0.63	0.00	0.04	2	--	--	--	--	1	0	0	0
CLEVELAND	85	51	91	45	68	-4	0.07	-0.49	0.07	0.23	12	--	--	--	--	2	0	1	0
GREENVILLE	84	55	91	48	70	-3	0.00	-0.59	0.00	1.01	46	--	--	--	--	2	0	0	0
GREENWOOD	84	50	92	40	67	-6	0.02	-0.66	0.02	0.20	9	--	--	--	--	1	0	1	0
INDIANOLA 1S	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
INVERNESS 5E	85	57	94	45	71	--	0.02	--	0.02	0.49	--	31.51	--	84	73	2	0	1	0
LYON	85	52	94	43	69	--	0.00	--	0.00	0.32	--	--	--	--	--	2	0	0	0
MOORHEAD	86	58	94	49	72	-2	0.00	-0.77	0.00	0.28	11	--	--	--	--	2	0	0	0
ONWARD	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
ROLLING FORK	85	52	93	43	69	-4	0.00	-0.56	0.00	0.19	8	--	--	--	--	2	0	0	0
SIDON	85	56	94	45	71	--	0.02	--	0.02	1.06	--	--	--	85	76	2	0	1	0
TUNICA	82	54	90	47	68	-3	0.05	-0.55	0.05	0.05	3	--	--	--	--	1	0	1	0
VICKSBURG	83	53	90	47	68	-7	0.08	-0.53	0.08	0.90	35	--	--	--	--	2	0	1	0
YAZOO CITY	84	55	91	48	70	-5	0.00	-0.52	0.00	1.60	70	--	--	--	--	2	0	0	0
STONEVILLE *	86	54	93	45	70	-2	0.06	-0.68	0.06	1.29	46	36.56	97	85	71	2	0	1	0

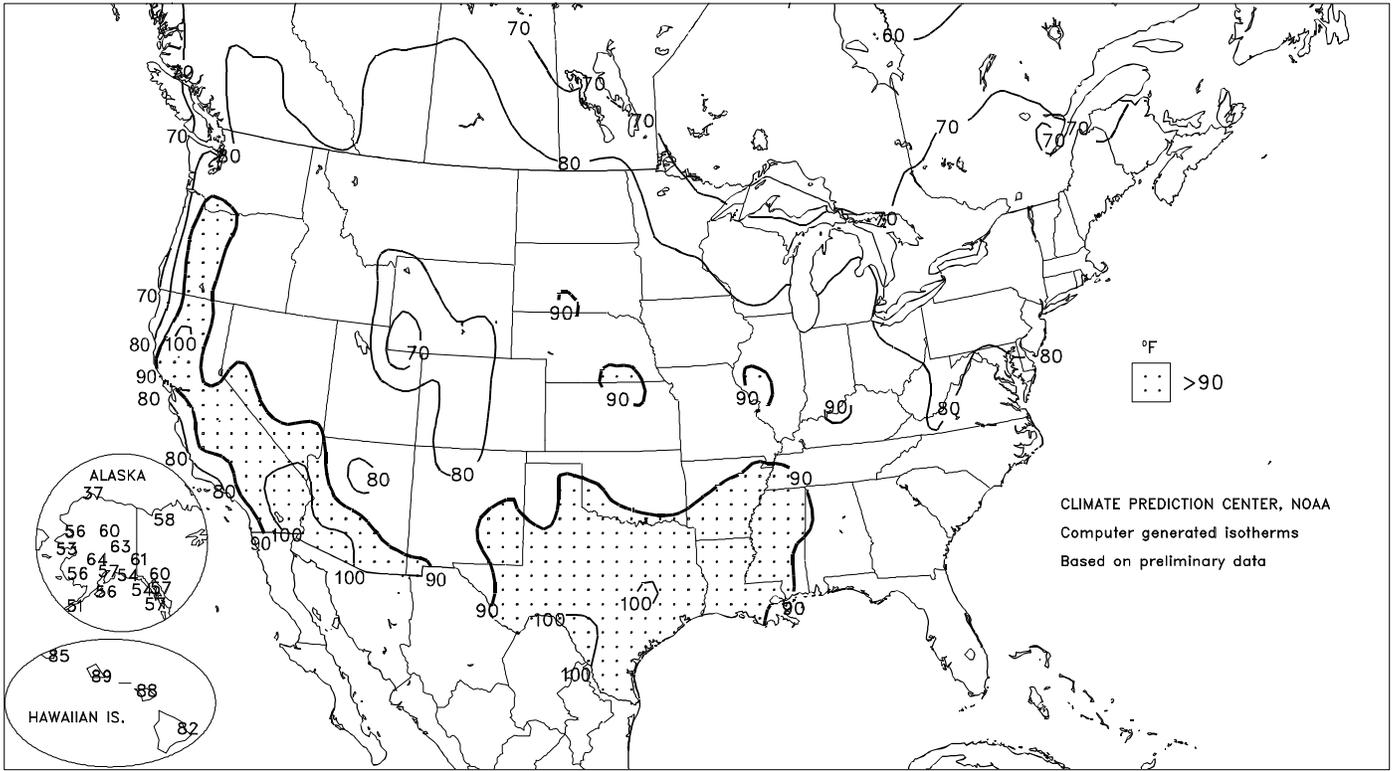
\* Based on 1964-93 normals.

**Delta Weather and Crop Summary:** In the wake of a cold front's passage, temperatures remained below normal. As a result, some late-planted crops were not receiving the necessary warmth typically received at this stage of the growing season. Fieldwork was only briefly slowed by light midweek rainfall. Windy conditions continued to cause problems with chemical spraying for cotton defoliation.



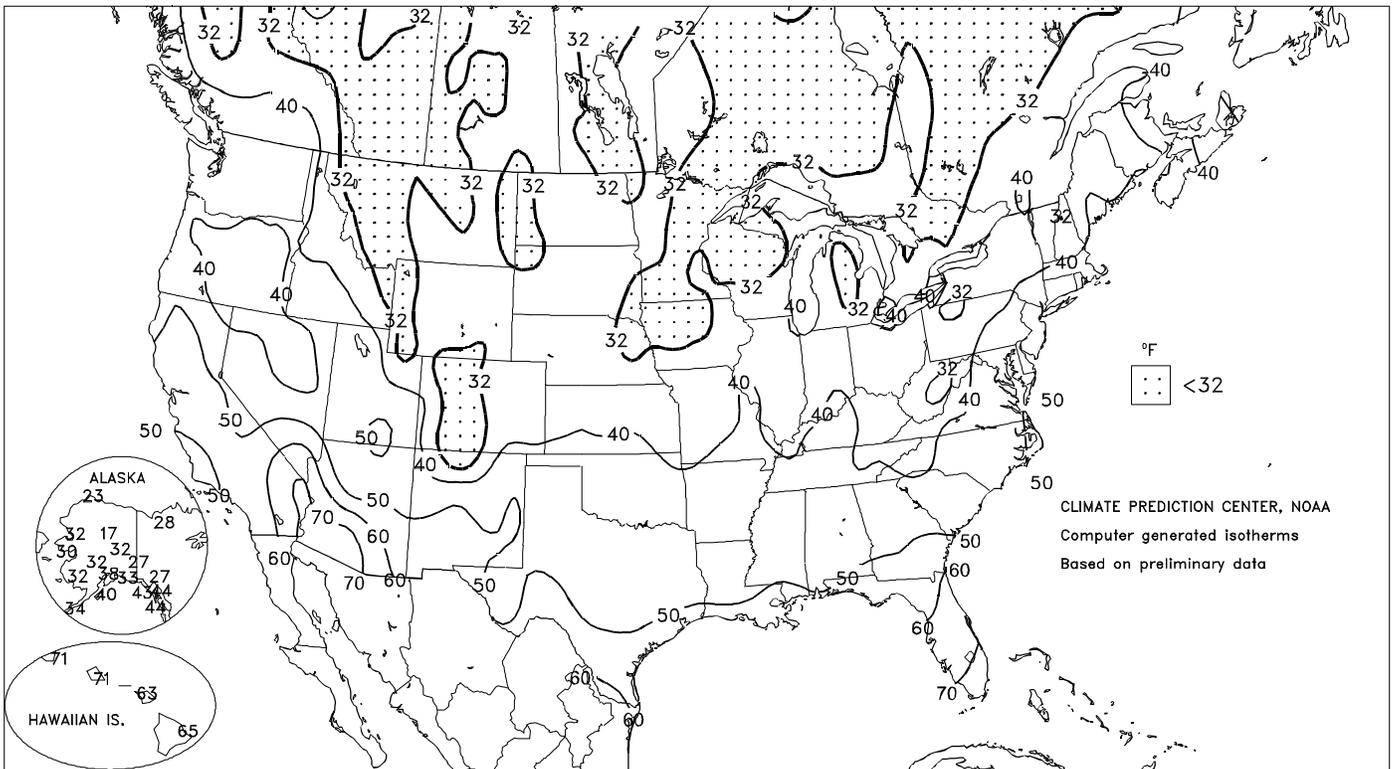
Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F)

SEP 19 - 25, 1999



Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)

SEP 19 - 25, 1999



(Continued from front cover)

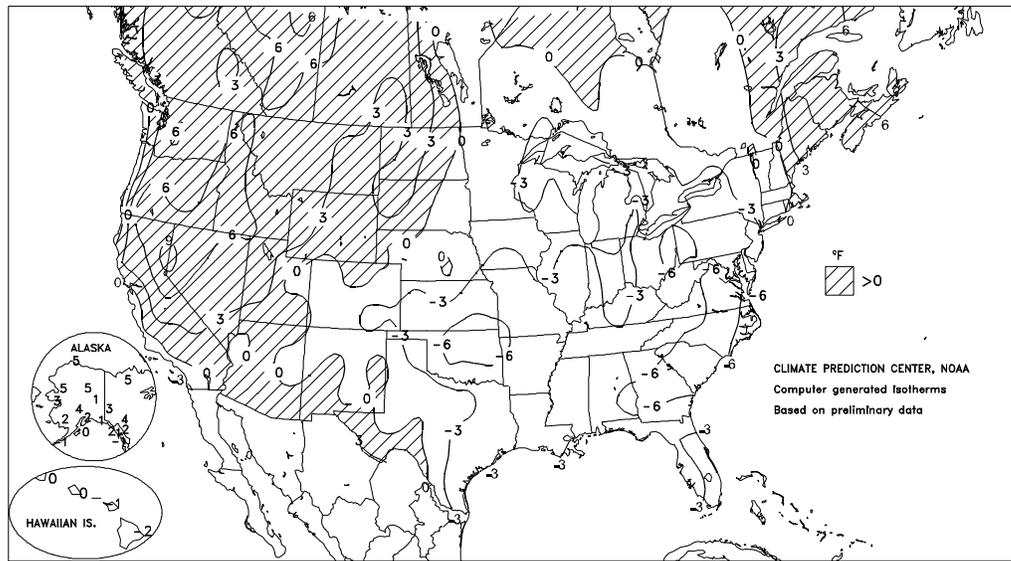
near-freezing temperatures, most prevalent across the **northern Plains** and **northwestern Corn Belt** early in the week, had few adverse effects on nearly mature summer crops. A few showers on the **east-central Plains** further boosted soil moisture for winter wheat, although cool weather (as much as 7°F below normal) slowed emergence. Weekly temperatures also averaged as much as 7°F below normal in the **Southeast**. In contrast, very warm weather continued in the **West**, where readings averaged up to 9°F above normal. Showers associated with the remnants of the eastern Pacific Hurricane Hilary spread northward into **California** and the **Southwest**, briefly slowing fieldwork.

Early in the week, Tropical Storm Harvey meandered toward **Florida** before crossing the southernmost part of the peninsula on Tuesday afternoon. Maximum sustained winds at landfall, near **Everglades City, FL**, were near 50 mph, mainly in squalls well to the southeast of the center. Wind gusts associated with Harvey were clocked to 41 mph in **Miami** and 36 mph in **Sarasota**. Weekly rainfall topped 4 inches in most areas south of **Lake Okeechobee** and along **Florida's east coast**, although significant rain fell both before and after Harvey's passage. On Saturday, **Melbourne, FL** netted 7.98 inches, a daily-record total, boosting their September 1-25 sum to 16.38 inches (293 percent of normal). Farther north, midweek rainfall about 1 inch lifted September 1-25 totals to 21.82 inches in **Wilmington, NC**, 16.33 inches in **Raleigh-Durham, NC**, and 14.54 inches in **Richmond, VA**. Month-to-date rainfall reached 8.55 inches in **Washington, DC**, their wettest September since 1975, and 10.31 inches in **Baltimore, MD**, their wettest since 1934. In **New York, Albany's** month-to-date total, 9.89 inches, represented their highest September rainfall since 1871. Farther north, September rainfall records have already been established in locations such as **Burlington, VT** (9.80 inches) and **Caribou, ME** (8.59 inches).

Rivers finally crested during the week in the coastal plain of **southeastern Virginia** and **eastern North Carolina**. The **Blackwater River** at **Franklin, VA** crested on September 20, an estimated 3 to 4 feet above the 1940 high-water mark and 17 to 18 feet above flood stage. In **North Carolina**, the **Tar River** at **Rocky Mount** surpassed the previous record (set in September 1996 after Hurricane Fran's passage) by 5.8 feet, cresting about 16.7 feet above flood stage. Similarly, the **Waccamaw River** at **Freeland, NC** surpassed Fran's record crest by 2.3 feet. In the **Neuse River basin**, **Contentnea Creek** near **Lucama, NC** peaked 4.5 feet above Hurricane Fran's flood level and about 3.0 feet above the 1987 record crest. On the mainstem **Neuse River** near **Clayton, NC**, runoff from Hurricane Floyd's rainfall pushed the crest about 11.6 feet

Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F)

SEP 19 - 25, 1999

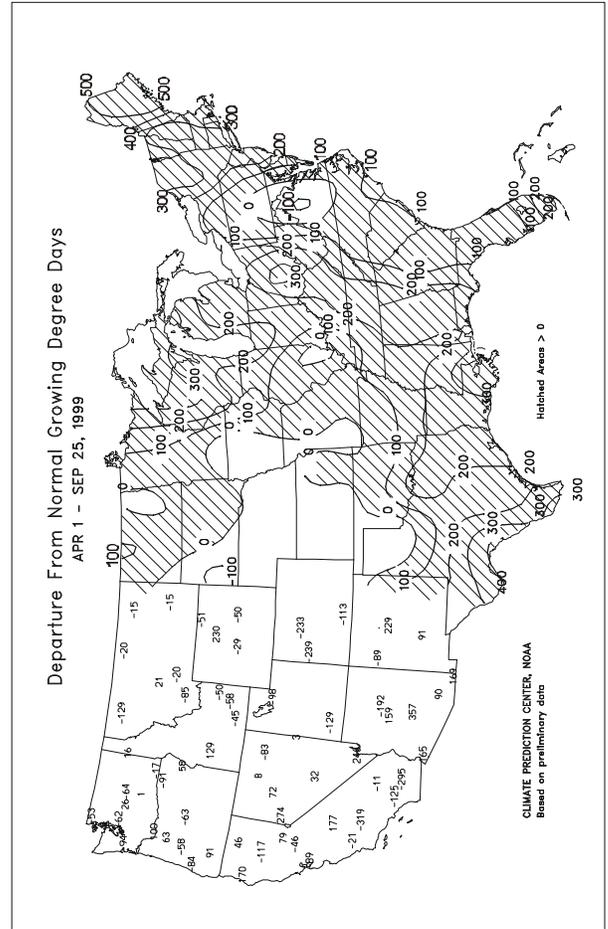
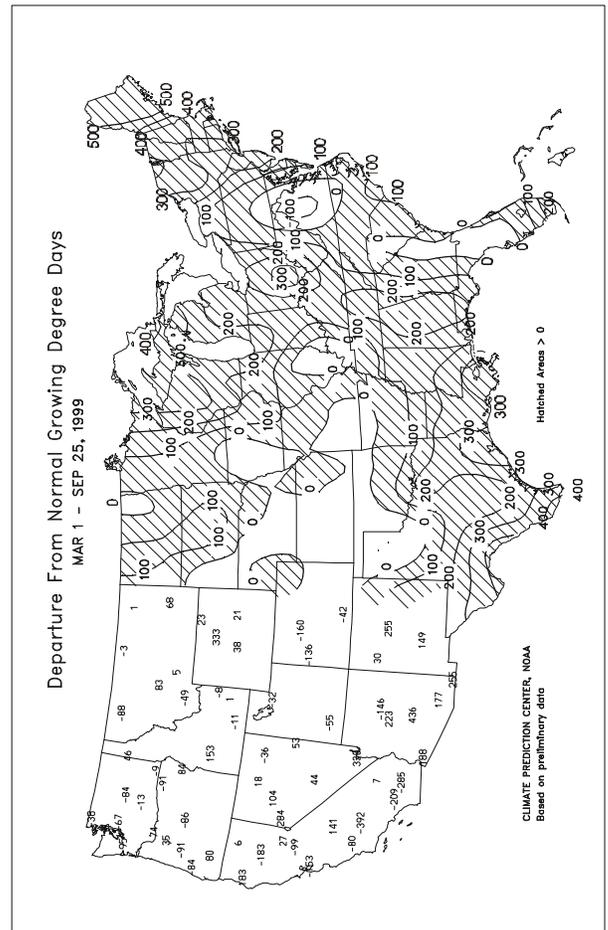
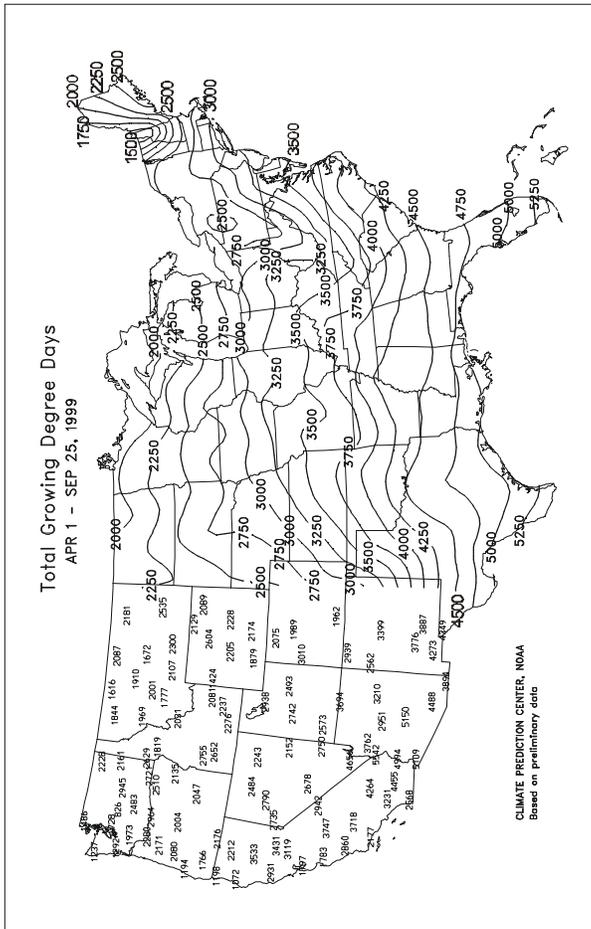
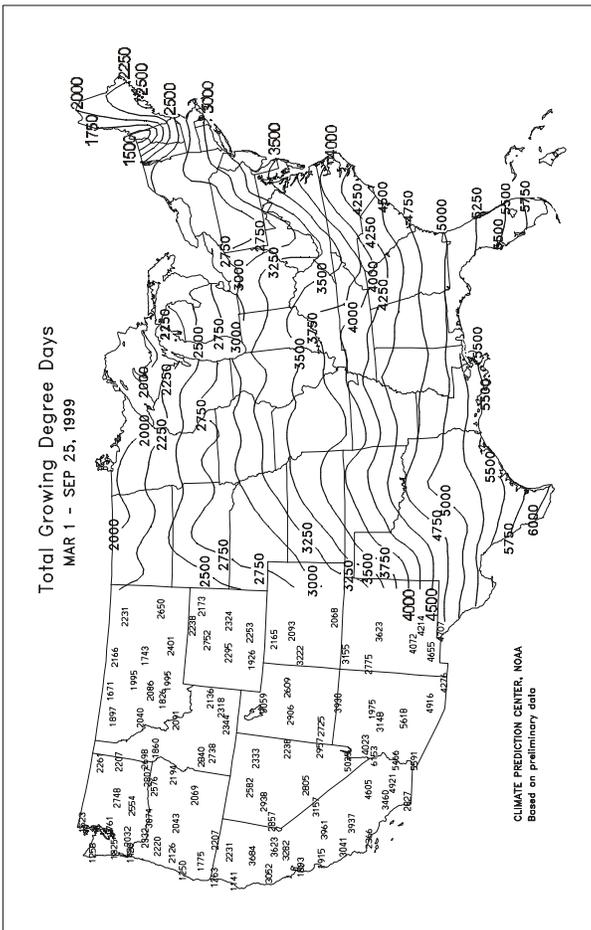


above flood stage, 0.5 foot above the previous record in September 1996. Farther west, however, month-to-date precipitation remained below a quarter-inch in locations such as **Tupelo, MS** (a trace), **Asheville, NC** (0.04 inch), **Louisville, KY** (0.23 inch), and **Chattanooga, TN** (0.24 inch).

More than four dozen daily-record lows were set or tied from the **Midwest** into the **Southeast**, primarily from September 21-23. On Tuesday, the growing season ended a few days earlier than normal in parts of the **western Corn Belt**, where lows dipped to 28°F in **Spencer, IA**, 29°F in **Norfolk, NE**. Sub-freezing minima were reported as far south as **St. Joseph, MO** (31°F). A day later in **Lower Michigan**, lows included 28°F in **Lansing** and 30°F in **Flint**. On Thursday, temperatures fell below 40°F to daily-record levels as far south as **Pinson, AL** (39°F), **Charlotte, NC** (39°F), and **Jackson, TN** (38°F). In **Houston, TX**, a daily-record low on Thursday (49°F) came only 62 hours after the temperature stood at 99°F, a daily-record high for Monday.

Rapid warming occurred across the **Midwest** at week's end in advance of a strong cold front. **Burlington, IA** posted a daily-record high (92°F) on September 25. Farther west, however, gusty winds caused blowing dust in the **interior Northwest**, where a 7-month drought continues. Peak gusts on Saturday reached 53 mph in **Pendleton, OR** and 44 mph in **Lewiston, ID**.

Earlier in the week, showers associated with the remnants of Hurricane Hilary spread as far north as **California**. On Tuesday, **Bakersfield, CA** (0.05 inch) measured their heaviest rainfall on record for September 21. As much as 1 to 3 inches of rain soaked **central Arizona**. Farther north, weekly temperatures averaged up to 5°F above normal in **Alaska**. Nevertheless, **Fairbanks, AK** noted their first freeze (32°F on September 20), ending their third-longest growing season at 131 days (May 12 - September 19). **Fairbanks'** longest growing season on record was 144 days in 1974, also the year of their latest freeze (September 27).



## National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending September 25, 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 Sep 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Sep 1	TOTAL IN. SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	TEMP. °F		PRECIP.		
																90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE	
AL	BIRMINGHAM	81	55	85	42	68	-4	0.12	-0.78	0.10	0.20	6	38.16	91	87	39	0	0	2	0
	HUNTSVILLE	80	53	87	42	67	-3	0.52	-0.43	0.44	0.65	19	36.61	86	90	35	0	0	2	0
	MOBILE	82	59	85	51	71	-6	0.69	-0.57	0.39	3.84	75	39.11	77	96	52	0	0	2	0
	MONTGOMERY	80	56	85	43	68	-7	1.25	0.32	1.25	1.25	36	32.96	80	92	45	0	0	1	1
AK	ANCHORAGE	53	43	57	38	48	2	0.36	-0.26	0.25	2.65	118	12.98	115	92	57	0	0	3	0
	BARROW	35	30	37	23	33	5	0.14	0.02	0.06	0.30	59	3.22	94	94	73	0	6	4	0
	FAIRBANKS	52	35	63	32	43	1	0.30	0.11	0.11	1.05	127	7.60	92	93	46	0	2	4	0
	JUNEAU	53	47	57	44	50	2	4.01	2.35	1.91	9.69	177	49.72	139	98	83	0	0	7	3
	KODIAK	53	43	56	40	48	0	3.76	2.06	2.46	11.94	207	51.94	112	84	59	0	0	4	2
	NOME	48	38	53	30	43	3	0.64	0.11	0.38	3.36	161	14.11	124	94	64	0	2	5	0
AZ	FLAGSTAFF	69	44	72	39	56	1	1.59	1.16	1.45	4.58	258	15.87	96	97	35	0	0	4	1
	PHOENIX	95	75	100	71	85	2	1.16	0.97	1.06	1.33	180	6.64	126	76	28	7	0	2	1
	TUCSON	92	70	96	67	81	2	0.41	0.05	0.22	1.01	71	9.72	108	79	29	6	0	3	0
	YUMA	97	77	101	74	87	2	0.35	0.29	0.35	0.35	130	4.69	218	74	34	7	0	1	0
AR	FORT SMITH	81	55	89	45	68	-3	0.09	-0.69	0.08	3.76	141	34.01	115	88	36	0	0	2	0
	LITTLE ROCK	83	55	89	48	69	-3	0.00	-0.96	0.00	1.51	45	28.07	77	84	33	0	0	0	0
CA	BAKERSFIELD	88	64	92	56	76	1	0.09	0.04	0.08	0.10	83	5.52	136	74	34	3	0	2	0
	EUREKA	60	50	61	47	55	-2	0.19	-0.06	0.16	0.20	30	27.73	125	93	80	0	0	3	0
	FRESNO	90	65	94	59	78	5	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.00	0	5.97	83	75	28	4	0	0	0
	LOS ANGELES	73	63	85	60	68	-1	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.01	3	7.19	88	87	60	0	0	0	0
	REDDING	95	59	102	56	77	4	0.00	-0.24	0.00	0.00	0	17.16	85	77	20	7	0	0	0
	SACRAMENTO	88	57	94	54	73	2	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.00	0	9.91	89	86	33	3	0	0	0
	SAN DIEGO	72	63	80	59	68	-3	0.02	-0.04	0.01	0.02	10	5.10	79	90	67	0	0	2	0
	SAN FRANCISCO	69	55	74	53	62	-2	0.12	0.05	0.11	0.31	258	13.20	107	93	63	0	0	2	0
CO	ALAMOSA	68	35	77	28	52	-1	0.10	-0.09	0.06	1.13	151	7.34	127	95	29	0	2	4	0
	CO SPRINGS	69	44	86	37	57	-2	0.15	-0.09	0.11	0.28	24	22.67	158	79	30	0	0	2	0
	DENVER	73	48	86	42	60	0	0.29	0.01	0.19	0.56	53	19.31	152	76	26	0	0	3	0
	GRAND JUNCTION	76	49	85	43	62	-2	0.31	0.12	0.27	1.05	152	7.53	121	81	24	0	0	3	0
	PUEBLO	77	44	93	37	60	-3	0.17	0.00	0.13	0.38	47	13.23	137	85	25	1	0	2	0
CT	BRIDGEPORT	71	53	77	46	62	-2	0.82	0.10	0.79	6.43	251	31.80	103	88	56	0	0	3	1
	HARTFORD	70	49	77	45	60	-2	0.63	-0.25	0.55	7.41	235	30.78	96	96	51	0	0	3	1
DC	WASHINGTON	74	54	82	48	64	-5	1.10	0.36	0.92	8.59	307	32.09	111	89	53	0	0	3	1
DE	WILMINGTON	71	51	78	47	61	-5	2.33	1.54	2.09	5.85	202	32.46	106	95	56	0	0	3	1
FL	DAYTONA BEACH	82	70	87	65	76	-2	2.21	0.78	1.03	3.94	73	30.71	82	96	68	0	0	5	2
	JACKSONVILLE	79	66	84	58	73	-4	3.16	1.66	2.37	8.53	139	32.21	76	100	71	0	0	4	2
	KEY WEST	86	78	88	76	82	-1	1.63	0.27	0.43	6.40	130	32.58	111	88	71	0	0	5	0
	MIAMI	84	74	87	73	79	-3	2.43	0.69	1.14	6.88	107	45.61	102	99	71	0	0	5	1
	ORLANDO	85	71	87	66	78	-2	2.12	0.83	0.81	4.25	81	39.40	97	98	63	0	0	4	2
	PENSACOLA	82	63	87	57	73	-5	0.41	-0.73	0.34	0.77	17	38.83	79	87	48	0	0	2	0
	TALLAHASSEE	83	63	88	52	73	-4	0.48	-0.69	0.46	3.03	63	40.88	77	95	50	0	0	2	0
	TAMPA	84	71	88	66	77	-3	2.27	1.04	1.29	5.99	114	28.61	77	98	76	0	0	4	2
	WEST PALM BEACH	86	74	89	70	80	-1	1.64	-0.40	0.79	4.83	68	43.88	96	95	65	0	0	5	2
GA	ATHENS	77	54	82	46	66	-5	1.13	0.36	0.75	2.00	71	31.09	81	96	48	0	0	2	1
	ATLANTA	76	57	81	52	67	-4	2.30	1.52	1.86	2.38	83	29.12	75	79	43	0	0	2	1
	AUGUSTA	78	53	83	42	66	-7	1.08	0.43	0.89	2.21	86	28.62	81	98	50	0	0	3	1
	COLUMBUS	79	59	85	49	69	-6	0.25	-0.47	0.24	0.26	9	21.39	54	85	42	0	0	2	0
	MACON	78	55	83	46	67	-7	0.48	-0.12	0.22	2.10	89	28.15	80	99	54	0	0	3	0
	SAVANNAH	78	61	85	50	70	-5	1.11	0.23	0.58	2.78	71	42.03	102	95	62	0	0	5	2
HI	HILO	81	67	82	65	74	-2	2.48	0.52	0.72	5.79	81	88.52	97	95	63	0	0	7	1
	HONOLULU	87	74	89	71	80	0	0.02	-0.21	0.02	0.21	37	7.28	57	79	52	0	0	1	0
	KAHULUI	86	70	88	63	78	-1	0.00	-0.09	0.00	0.02	8	6.92	50	79	49	0	0	0	0
	LIHUE	84	74	85	71	79	0	0.31	-0.32	0.12	1.50	81	21.44	78	81	58	0	0	5	0
ID	BOISE	82	54	89	50	68	8	0.00	-0.19	0.00	0.00	0	6.58	79	52	19	0	0	0	0
	LEWISTON	82	53	90	49	68	6	0.00	-0.19	0.00	0.00	0	7.69	85	42	15	1	0	0	0
	POCATELLO	78	43	84	37	61	4	0.00	-0.19	0.00	0.02	3	9.48	108	69	16	0	0	0	0
IL	CHICAGO/O'HARE	72	47	80	41	59	-3	0.27	-0.56	0.17	0.27	8	31.06	113	88	38	0	0	2	0
	MOLINE	75	46	88	37	61	-2	0.25	-0.66	0.25	0.37	11	26.30	85	92	37	0	0	1	0
	PEORIA	73	48	88	38	61	-3	0.16	-0.74	0.16	0.61	19	25.22	90	88	38	0	0	1	0
	ROCKFORD	73	44	83	36	58	-3	0.88	0.03	0.88	1.06	33	29.95	106	91	37	0	0	1	1
	SPRINGFIELD	75	46	90	36	60	-5	0.34	-0.42	0.33	0.62	22	22.86	85	90	34	1	0	2	0
IN	EVANSVILLE	79	48	88	37	64	-3	0.10	-0.59	0.08	0.20	8	30.73	95	87	26	0	0	2	0
	FORT WAYNE	75	44	83	37	59	-4	0.00	-0.59	0.00	0.14	6	22.19	85	88	29	0	0	0	0
	INDIANAPOLIS	76	49	87	37	63	-2	0.05	-0.59	0.03	0.07	3	26.57	88	85	32	0	0	2	0
	SOUTH BEND	74	45	84	38	59	-3	0.00	-0.83	0.00	0.12	4	24.24	84	87	32	0	0	0	0
IA	BURLINGTON	78	50	92	39	64	0	0.33	-0.61	0.33	0.46	13	28.36	101	81	33	1	0	1	0
	CEDAR RAPIDS	73	43	85	33	58	-3	0.00	-0.87	0.00	0.18	5	27.51	101	93	40	0	0	0	0
	DES MOINES	72	48	84	36	60	-3	0.17	-0.61	0.17	1.13	38	27.97	104	86	41	0	0	1	0
	DUBUQUE	71	45	83	38	58	-2	0.00	-1.04	0.00	0.46	12	31.06	103	90	40	0	0	0	0
	SIOUX CITY	77	42	87	29	60	-1	0.01	-0.64	0.01	0.57	23	28.33	131	90	33	0	1	1	0
	WATERLOO	74	43	87	32	58	-1	0.00	-0.80	0.00	0.18	6	40.28	147	88	36	0	1	0	0
KS	CONCORDIA	77	50	90	36	64	-1	0.12	-0.55	0.11	0.45	18	22.98	94	89	40	1	0	2	0
	DODGE CITY	76	50	86	43	63	-4	0.02	-0.39	0.01	2.06	126	20.13	109	93	46	0	0	2	0
	GOODLAND	75	45	87	40	60	-2	0.17	-0.18	0.10	0.18	13	19.16	121	82	33	0	0	2	0
	TOPEKA	75	47	88	36	61	-4	0.41	-0.46	0.39	1.22	38	27.20	96	93	45	0	0	2	0

Based on 1961

Weather Data for the Week Ending September 25, 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 Sep 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Sep 1	TOTAL IN. SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	TEMP. °F		PRECIP.	
																90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	0.1 INCH OR MORE	5.0 INCH OR MORE
KY WICHITA	75	50	86	42	63	-5	0.51	-0.29	0.30	2.32	78	31.41	132	94	50	0	0	2	0
KY JACKSON	75	52	84	40	63	-3	0.25	-0.58	0.24	0.29	9	30.98	83	81	38	0	0	2	0
KY LEXINGTON	78	50	86	41	64	-2	0.33	-0.37	0.24	0.57	21	25.10	74	80	33	0	0	3	0
KY LOUISVILLE	81	53	90	45	67	0	0.11	-0.60	0.10	0.13	5	30.57	90	79	28	1	0	2	0
KY PADUCAH	81	48	90	38	64	-4	0.24	-0.61	0.22	0.31	10	31.87	87	92	26	1	0	2	0
LA BATON ROUGE	84	58	92	48	71	-6	0.06	-1.00	0.06	1.65	40	33.16	71	92	38	2	0	1	0
LA LAKE CHARLES	87	59	97	50	73	-3	0.00	-1.30	0.00	1.39	29	30.03	74	92	36	2	0	0	0
LA NEW ORLEANS	83	66	89	55	75	-2	0.00	-1.19	0.00	2.80	59	36.65	76	84	45	0	0	0	0
LA SHREVEPORT	83	57	92	47	70	-5	0.01	-0.76	0.01	4.86	191	47.43	142	87	33	2	0	1	0
ME CARIBOU	64	46	70	34	55	4	1.11	0.34	0.45	8.62	295	29.59	113	99	60	0	0	4	0
ME PORTLAND	69	48	73	39	59	2	0.16	-0.58	0.08	8.43	332	32.33	107	97	60	0	0	4	0
MD BALTIMORE	73	50	81	45	61	-5	1.08	0.32	0.97	10.12	351	35.17	115	96	54	0	0	3	1
MA BOSTON	71	54	77	50	62	0	0.25	-0.47	0.15	9.28	363	29.37	100	93	56	0	0	4	0
MA WORCESTER	67	50	73	44	58	0	0.29	-0.66	0.12	7.66	231	30.69	90	92	61	0	0	4	0
MI ALPENA	66	37	81	30	52	-3	0.03	-0.66	0.01	0.24	9	14.48	66	87	40	0	3	3	0
MI GRAND RAPIDS	71	44	81	36	57	-1	0.34	-0.63	0.28	0.62	17	25.67	97	95	37	0	0	3	0
MI HOUGHTON LAKE	65	35	77	28	50	-5	0.64	-0.12	0.25	1.24	43	21.93	103	99	46	0	3	3	0
MI LANSING	71	39	82	28	55	-3	0.24	-0.56	0.12	0.44	14	22.66	98	96	43	0	2	3	0
MI MARQUETTE	58	39	70	31	49	-3	1.95	0.99	0.93	2.78	82	30.03	118	91	50	0	1	3	2
MI MUSKEGON	68	43	77	36	56	-4	0.48	-0.41	0.28	1.07	33	24.40	106	97	49	0	0	2	0
MN DULUTH	60	39	73	32	50	-2	0.65	-0.20	0.54	4.47	137	34.31	144	93	52	0	1	2	1
MN INT'L FALLS	61	36	70	28	49	-2	0.21	-0.50	0.20	5.49	205	27.90	140	95	47	0	2	2	0
MN MINNEAPOLIS	69	45	84	37	57	-1	0.37	-0.22	0.37	2.71	117	28.52	124	83	36	0	0	1	0
MN ROCHESTER	67	42	80	32	55	-2	0.00	-0.77	0.00	0.50	17	34.86	144	89	44	0	1	0	0
MS ST. CLOUD	67	39	79	29	53	-2	0.62	-0.07	0.37	2.36	87	24.06	106	91	40	0	1	2	0
MS JACKSON	84	54	93	44	69	-5	0.02	-0.79	0.02	0.96	32	31.34	77	87	32	1	0	1	0
MS MERIDIAN	83	52	88	40	68	-6	0.00	-0.81	0.00	0.95	32	27.78	65	95	35	0	0	0	0
MS TUPELO	83	53	90	44	68	-4	0.00	-0.85	0.00	0.00	0	42.55	104	85	32	1	0	0	0
MO COLUMBIA	76	48	88	37	62	-4	0.07	-0.84	0.06	0.30	9	21.44	72	92	37	0	0	2	0
MO KANSAS CITY	74	48	85	37	61	-4	0.02	-1.11	0.02	5.2	52	32.47	108	90	47	0	0	1	0
MO SAINT LOUIS	77	53	90	43	65	-3	0.21	-0.52	0.20	0.56	21	28.89	103	82	32	1	0	2	0
MO SPRINGFIELD	73	48	86	37	61	-6	0.29	-0.80	0.25	1.52	39	31.24	98	96	46	0	0	2	0
MT BILLINGS	76	46	86	36	61	4	0.00	-0.33	0.00	1.70	149	10.87	90	62	20	0	0	0	0
MT BUTTE	72	35	80	27	54	5	0.00	-0.28	0.00	0.43	39	10.84	105	79	22	0	2	0	0
MT GLASGOW	73	42	86	36	57	3	0.01	-0.21	0.01	1.38	160	13.65	143	83	27	0	0	1	0
MT GREAT FALLS	74	43	86	29	59	4	0.00	-0.27	0.00	1.52	142	10.86	85	62	17	0	1	0	0
MT KALISPELL	73	34	86	26	54	3	0.06	-0.22	0.06	0.18	17	9.66	78	86	17	0	4	1	0
MT MILES CITY	76	43	89	37	60	3	0.00	-0.30	0.00	0.88	81	10.46	89	75	23	0	0	0	0
MT MISSOULA	75	39	84	31	57	4	0.01	-0.24	0.01	0.33	35	8.85	83	70	18	0	1	1	0
NE GRAND ISLAND	77	46	88	36	62	0	0.21	-0.42	0.00	0.49	20	25.02	117	93	34	0	0	1	0
NE LINCOLN	77	46	89	32	62	-1	0.17	-0.61	0.16	1.06	36	25.59	109	94	40	0	1	2	0
NE NORFOLK	77	43	89	29	60	-1	0.02	-0.53	0.02	0.48	23	23.11	108	90	33	0	1	1	0
NE NORTH PLATTE	76	40	86	33	58	-1	0.19	-0.17	0.14	1.13	84	18.86	111	97	32	0	0	2	0
NE OMAHA	75	48	84	34	62	-1	0.23	-0.62	0.12	1.54	49	36.91	151	95	45	0	0	2	0
NE SCOTTSBLUFF	75	40	86	33	58	-1	0.23	-0.02	0.11	1.26	148	15.23	117	91	26	0	0	2	0
NE VALENTINE	77	41	91	34	59	0	0.06	-0.26	0.06	3.34	253	19.09	119	95	29	1	0	1	0
NV ELY	77	41	82	38	59	5	0.10	-0.15	0.10	0.40	51	6.09	80	86	22	0	0	1	0
NV LAS VEGAS	91	68	97	66	79	1	0.28	0.22	0.28	0.38	158	3.76	124	68	23	5	0	1	0
NV RENO	85	51	91	49	68	10	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.08	27	3.95	76	72	18	1	0	0	0
NV WINNEMUCCA	86	44	89	39	65	8	0.00	-0.09	0.00	0.12	40	4.85	84	65	20	0	0	0	0
NH CONCORD	70	45	78	37	57	1	1.35	0.71	0.79	8.68	373	33.07	128	97	54	0	0	3	1
NJ NEWARK	72	54	78	48	63	-4	0.53	-0.30	0.40	8.82	285	35.48	108	94	56	0	0	3	0
NM ALBUQUERQUE	80	54	86	52	67	0	0.20	-0.01	0.17	0.57	67	8.02	117	79	26	0	0	2	0
NY ALBANY	67	48	75	40	58	-2	1.39	0.73	0.67	9.91	400	31.55	118	94	55	0	0	4	1
NY BINGHAMTON	64	45	72	38	54	-3	1.35	0.59	0.57	6.10	218	26.01	95	96	58	0	0	4	2
NY BUFFALO	65	47	75	41	56	-4	0.84	0.07	0.56	2.98	101	24.63	90	95	49	0	0	2	1
NY ROCHESTER	66	48	75	44	57	-3	0.45	-0.20	0.35	2.58	102	25.29	108	94	52	0	0	2	0
NY SYRACUSE	67	45	78	38	56	-3	0.92	0.04	0.45	4.48	140	22.96	81	95	51	0	0	3	0
NC ASHEVILLE	75	45	79	36	60	-5	0.04	-0.83	0.04	0.06	2	29.13	80	96	36	0	0	1	0
NC CHARLOTTE	77	49	82	39	63	-7	1.05	0.25	1.05	2.80	96	24.75	76	99	46	0	0	1	1
NC GREENSBORO	75	50	82	42	62	-5	0.17	-0.66	0.17	5.75	194	33.36	104	93	44	0	0	1	0
NC HATTERAS	74	64	82	58	73	-4	1.03	-0.16	0.51	5.80	136	41.87	103	89	60	0	0	3	1
NC RALEIGH	77	49	85	41	63	-6	1.26	0.56	1.26	16.81	623	39.69	124	99	46	0	0	1	1
NC WILMINGTON	79	57	85	46	68	-6	0.88	-0.17	0.51	22.09	505	61.27	139	94	54	0	0	3	1
ND BISMARCK	71	44	85	39	57	3	0.10	-0.23	0.10	1.32	103	25.71	192	92	40	0	0	1	0
ND DICKINSON	72	42	83	35	57	3	0.11	-0.28	0.11	2.61	184	17.47	124	90	35	0	0	1	0
ND FARGO	69	41	82	34	55	0	0.27	-0.17	0.27	5.86	349	19.68	122	90	38	0	0	1	0
ND GRAND FORKS	68	38	84	29	53	-1	0.37	-0.13	0.37	1.58	83	20.31	132	91	37	0	2	1	0
ND JAMESTOWN	68	42	82	38	55	1	0.07	-0.32	0.07	2.64	174	21.91	149	91	39	0	0	1	0
ND WILLISTON	72	38	88	30	55	1	0.15	-0.15	0.15	1.65	145	14.78	127	96	35	0	1	1	0
OH AKRON-CANTON	67	44	76	38	55	-6	0.38	-0.37	0.22	1.37	49	25.82	92	96	54	0	0	2	0
OH CINCINNATI	78	47	87	36	63	-3	0.01	-0.65	0.01	0.02	1	24.13	77	79	26	0	0	1	0
OH CLEVELAND	69	47	78	40	58	-4	0.54	-0.24	0.37	0.65	22	21.33	78	89	39	0	0	3	0
OH COLUMBUS	75	48	83	40	62	-2	0.32	-0.32	0.20	0.49	19	20.52	70	93	33	0	0	2	0
OH DAYTON	75	48	85	38	62	-2	0.12	-0.45	0.12	0.15	7	23.49	85	83	28	0	0	1	0
OH MANSFIELD	69	42	79	35	56	-6	0.40	-0.33	0.25	0.49	17	25.70	85	92	40	0	0	4	0

Based on 1961-90 normals

Weather Data for the Week Ending September 25, 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 Sep 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Sep 1	TOTAL IN, SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	PRECIP	
																		0.1 INCH OR MORE	5.0 INCH OR MORE
OK TOLEDO	73	45	81	36	59	-2	0.08	-0.55	0.08	0.62	26	22.92	93	88	28	0	0	1	0
OK YOUNGSTOWN	65	41	75	32	53	-7	0.38	-0.42	0.26	1.42	48	30.25	107	95	43	0	1	2	0
OK OKLAHOMA CITY	79	53	88	46	66	-5	0.41	-0.53	0.31	4.84	152	33.22	127	85	41	0	0	3	0
OK TULSA	74	53	85	43	64	-7	2.40	1.27	1.44	9.04	231	39.36	128	94	45	0	0	4	2
OR ASTORIA	65	49	73	43	57	-1	0.14	-0.64	0.06	0.27	12	55.46	141	99	70	0	0	5	0
OR BURNS	79	38	85	33	59	6	0.00	-0.14	0.00	0.00	0	5.92	87	59	13	0	0	0	0
OR EUGENE	83	46	90	38	64	3	0.00	-0.43	0.00	0.01	1	28.21	98	94	25	1	0	0	0
OR MEDFORD	88	54	94	52	71	7	0.00	-0.22	0.00	0.00	0	11.95	112	74	18	4	0	0	0
OR PENDLETON	82	52	91	47	67	6	0.01	-0.13	0.01	0.01	2	5.61	71	56	19	1	0	1	0
OR PORTLAND	79	53	92	45	66	5	0.13	-0.31	0.12	0.14	10	26.03	119	93	28	1	0	2	0
OR SALEM	82	48	92	39	65	5	0.09	-0.32	0.08	0.09	7	31.67	139	93	27	2	0	2	0
PA ALLENTOWN	70	46	76	42	58	-4	0.61	-0.26	0.35	10.00	294	29.21	90	97	51	0	0	3	0
PA ERIE	64	50	74	46	57	-5	1.25	0.23	0.96	1.83	50	25.98	88	92	49	0	0	2	1
PA MIDDLETOWN	74	51	80	47	62	-2	0.60	-0.21	0.27	5.40	184	28.30	94	84	47	0	0	3	0
PA PHILADELPHIA	72	53	78	48	63	-4	1.66	0.90	1.46	12.25	422	38.82	123	95	57	0	0	3	1
PA PITTSBURGH	68	44	77	37	56	-6	0.51	-0.16	0.42	1.11	44	28.07	99	94	41	0	0	3	0
PA WILKES-BARRE	67	45	75	38	56	-5	1.25	0.49	0.49	8.80	315	29.30	107	98	52	0	0	3	0
PA WILLIAMSPORT	67	48	75	40	57	-4	0.54	-0.26	0.31	8.61	302	34.06	113	92	46	0	0	3	0
RI PROVIDENCE	72	53	75	48	62	0	0.10	-0.70	0.09	6.23	216	31.84	98	93	55	0	0	2	0
SC BEAUFORT	77	61	84	47	69	-6	1.11	0.12	0.68	2.70	62	39.46	92	95	61	0	0	3	1
SC CHARLESTON	78	59	85	46	69	-6	0.76	-0.20	0.40	5.17	126	27.74	66	94	59	0	0	4	0
SC COLUMBIA	78	54	82	43	66	-6	2.19	1.44	1.06	3.45	109	25.59	64	93	44	0	0	4	2
SC GREENVILLE	79	52	83	43	66	-4	0.76	-0.18	0.76	1.28	39	23.01	59	92	36	0	0	1	1
SD ABERDEEN	70	43	80	36	57	0	0.62	0.21	0.61	4.22	265	21.92	136	92	40	0	0	2	1
SD HURON	73	42	81	37	58	0	0.54	0.15	0.44	2.12	147	15.98	93	94	44	0	0	4	0
SD RAPID CITY	77	44	87	34	61	3	0.12	-0.16	0.12	1.02	98	17.81	125	77	24	0	0	1	0
SD SIOUX FALLS	74	40	86	29	57	-1	0.07	-0.61	0.07	0.86	33	21.35	108	94	34	0	1	1	0
TN BRISTOL	77	44	83	35	61	-5	0.00	-0.75	0.00	0.53	19	27.79	89	95	34	0	0	0	0
TN CHATTANOOGA	82	53	87	44	67	-3	0.17	-0.79	0.16	0.25	7	37.25	94	92	36	0	0	2	0
TN KNOXVILLE	78	49	85	40	64	-5	0.24	-0.48	0.24	0.26	10	42.05	118	95	38	0	0	1	0
TN MEMPHIS	84	57	92	48	71	-2	0.01	-0.80	0.01	0.46	15	36.24	96	74	30	1	0	1	0
TN NASHVILLE	80	53	88	44	66	-3	1.19	0.41	0.86	1.42	48	33.31	94	89	42	0	0	3	1
TX ABILENE	85	60	95	46	73	-2	0.00	-0.74	0.00	1.33	49	14.50	77	63	26	3	0	0	0
TX AMARILLO	78	51	87	44	64	-3	0.00	-0.40	0.00	2.53	147	25.67	153	91	38	0	0	0	0
TX AUSTIN	91	57	100	45	74	-5	0.16	-0.66	0.16	0.24	9	22.13	94	87	28	4	0	1	0
TX BEAUMONT	88	61	97	52	74	-3	0.00	-1.45	0.00	0.11	2	24.44	58	89	34	2	0	0	0
TX BROWNSVILLE	90	65	94	58	77	-3	0.00	-1.43	0.00	2.76	55	18.03	90	93	46	4	0	0	0
TX CORPUS CHRISTI	89	63	95	56	76	-4	0.00	-1.30	0.00	0.64	14	23.37	100	92	44	3	0	0	0
TX DEL RIO	92	67	100	62	80	1	0.00	-0.70	0.00	0.00	0	14.92	106	72	31	4	0	0	0
TX EL PASO	85	62	88	59	74	1	0.08	-0.30	0.08	1.96	134	6.98	102	78	34	0	0	1	0
TX FORT WORTH	87	62	95	51	75	-1	1.02	0.18	1.02	2.30	83	18.47	73	71	28	3	0	1	1
TX GALVESTON	86	70	95	66	78	-1	0.00	-1.35	0.00	1.52	30	20.78	66	78	40	2	0	0	0
TX HOUSTON	89	56	99	49	73	-4	0.09	-1.10	0.00	0.37	9	22.81	68	91	32	2	0	1	0
TX LUBBOCK	80	54	89	48	67	-2	0.04	-0.55	0.04	3.27	149	18.55	123	85	34	0	0	1	0
TX MIDLAND	85	58	97	48	71	0	0.00	-0.63	0.00	0.96	44	7.33	63	69	23	3	0	0	0
TX SAN ANGELO	88	60	96	48	74	1	0.00	-0.83	0.00	0.79	28	12.52	80	67	25	3	0	0	0
TX SAN ANTONIO	90	62	99	49	76	-1	0.00	-0.83	0.00	0.03	1	14.74	64	76	23	4	0	0	0
TX VICTORIA	90	59	98	50	75	-3	0.00	-1.35	0.00	3.43	73	24.17	85	93	33	4	0	0	0
TX WACO	89	59	99	45	74	-3	0.12	-0.77	0.12	0.13	5	15.09	64	76	28	3	0	1	0
TX WICHITA FALLS	86	57	97	45	72	-2	0.00	-0.91	0.00	0.62	19	24.10	106	73	27	2	0	0	0
UT SALT LAKE CITY	79	54	82	50	66	4	0.05	-0.27	0.05	0.45	43	10.89	92	67	23	0	0	1	0
VT BURLINGTON	65	47	74	40	56	0	1.78	1.05	0.79	9.86	352	26.03	102	92	59	0	0	4	2
VA LYNCHBURG	74	46	82	39	60	-6	0.48	-0.28	0.45	6.37	239	28.05	93	91	42	0	0	4	0
VA NORFOLK	76	58	84	54	67	-3	0.07	-0.80	0.02	12.20	367	43.08	124	86	50	0	0	3	0
VA RICHMOND	75	50	84	43	62	-6	0.95	0.21	0.95	14.53	519	41.15	126	97	51	0	0	1	1
VA ROANOKE	74	50	81	45	62	-4	0.72	-0.08	0.60	4.97	171	28.02	92	94	53	0	0	2	1
VA WASH/DULLES	73	48	81	40	61	-4	1.67	0.91	1.34	7.30	258	34.61	115	96	51	0	0	3	1
WA OLYMPIA	75	44	86	40	60	3	0.08	-0.51	0.03	0.20	11	40.01	135	95	34	0	0	4	0
WA QUILLAYUTE	65	41	77	38	53	-2	0.93	-0.42	0.56	1.84	49	75.85	120	100	69	0	0	4	1
WA SEATTLE-TACOMA	72	52	82	49	62	3	0.15	-0.34	0.07	0.18	12	25.10	115	94	40	0	0	3	0
WA SPOKANE	77	47	87	40	62	6	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.00	0	9.57	88	58	19	0	0	0	0
WA YAKIMA	80	45	88	40	62	4	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.00	0	4.80	95	80	22	0	0	0	0
WV BECKLEY	69	47	78	39	58	-3	0.29	-0.48	0.27	2.31	82	27.41	87	87	46	0	0	2	0
WV CHARLESTON	74	46	84	38	60	-6	0.45	-0.27	0.45	1.18	43	25.90	80	100	44	0	0	1	0
WV ELKINS	70	38	79	30	54	-6	0.26	-0.58	0.15	1.41	44	26.05	76	100	40	0	2	2	0
WV HUNTINGTON	74	48	85	41	61	-5	0.36	-0.29	0.35	0.46	19	23.24	74	93	39	0	0	2	0
WI EAU CLAIRE	68	38	78	30	53	-4	0.16	-0.69	0.16	0.83	25	26.93	103	93	39	0	1	1	0
WI GREEN BAY	68	38	79	31	53	-4	0.42	-0.35	0.42	0.48	16	19.96	89	94	45	0	1	1	0
WI LACROSSE	70	44	79	36	57	-2	0.00	-0.84	0.00	1.71	53	29.52	119	89	41	0	0	0	0
WI MADISON	71	42	80	35	56	-1	0.00	-0.73	0.00	0.09	3	27.52	113	92	43	0	0	0	0
WI MILWAUKEE	70	49	83	43	59	0	0.39	-0.37	0.39	0.61	21	31.43	125	87	45	0	0	1	0
WY CASPER	72	43	80	39	57	2	0.34	0.11	0.34	1.18	153	8.12	82	72	22	0	0	1	0
WY CHEYENNE	69	42	81	38	56	0	0.42	0.15	0.38	1.98	182	15.27	122	82	28	0	0	2	0
WY LANDER	70	45	78	40	58	2	0.77	0.49	0.77	1.64	184	12.27	119	76	22	0	0	1	1
WY SHERIDAN	75	38	85	31	57	2	0.03	-0.30	0.02	2.97	263	11.94	103	82	25	0	1	2	0

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

## National Agricultural Summary

September 20 - 26, 1999

### HIGHLIGHTS

Freezing temperatures halted crop development in the upper Mississippi Valley, and frost nipped the tops of green soybeans in parts of the northern Corn Belt, but crop damage was minimal. Dry weather prevailed over most of the Nation, providing nearly ideal harvest conditions in the Corn Belt, Great Plains, and lower Mississippi Valley. In the Great Plains and Pacific Northwest, field tillage and winter wheat seeding also benefited from dry weather.

Moisture supplies remained mostly adequate for germinating seeds, even though rainfall was below normal in most areas. A pocket of showers improved soil moisture levels in eastern Oklahoma. Additional rain and lingering wetness stressed crops and hindered harvest progress along the Atlantic Coastal Plains. A heat wave accelerated crop development in California, but ripening and harvest progress continued to lag behind normal.

**Corn:** Eighty-five percent of the acreage was mature and 19 percent was harvested. Both stages were slightly behind of last year's pace, but about 1 week ahead of the 5-year average. Ripening accelerated in the northern and western Corn Belt and Great Plains. In Nebraska, acreage mature advanced 40 percentage points, nearly double the previous week. More than 30 percent of the crop reached maturity in Minnesota and Wisconsin, as freezing overnight lows ended crop development in many areas. In other areas of the Corn Belt and Great Plains, plant growth was halted by near-freezing temperatures. Acreage mature advanced more than 20 percentage points in Michigan, South Dakota, and Colorado. Harvest rapidly advanced in the southern and eastern Corn Belt, as dry weather provided nearly ideal harvest conditions. Progress was far ahead of normal in Kentucky due to a combination of early ripening and excellent harvest weather. In the western and northern Corn Belt, harvest was less advanced, but gained momentum as fields rapidly matured.

**Soybeans:** Seventy-six percent of the acreage was dropping leaves, behind last year's 78-percent pace, but ahead of the 67-percent average for this date. Fields rapidly approached maturity in the western Corn Belt, especially in Iowa and Nebraska where acreage dropping leaves advanced 40 percentage points. Fifteen percent of the acreage was harvested, behind last year's 18 percent, but ahead of the 11-percent average. The harvest rapidly advanced in the eastern Corn Belt, as progress more than doubled in Ohio, Indiana, and Kentucky. Harvest progress was less advanced in the western Corn Belt, but activity accelerated as fields quickly ripened. Conditions continued to deteriorate in North Carolina due to lingering effects of Hurricane Floyd and additional rainfall.

**Cotton:** Bolls opening advanced to 80 percent, slightly behind last year's 81-percent progress, but 7 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Hot weather accelerated ripening in California, where bolls opening advanced 30 percentage points. A late-week warming trend helped ripen fields in the southern Great Plains and Atlantic Coastal Plains. Harvest progressed to 19 percent complete, compared with 21 percent last year and the 15-percent average for this date. Picking rapidly advanced in the Mississippi Valley. Muddy fields significantly limited progress in the Atlantic Coastal Plains. In the Southwest, harvest progress lagged due to late crop development.

**Winter Wheat:** Winter wheat seeding advanced to 37 percent, 6 percentage points ahead of last year and moved ahead of the 5-year average for the first time this season. Planting rapidly accelerated in the central and northern Great Plains, where rain delays were minimal. In eastern Oklahoma, soaking rains limited progress. Fourteen percent of the acreage was emerged, equal to a year ago and the average for this date. Although rainfall was below normal, soil moisture supplies remained adequate for germinating seeds in most areas of the Great Plains. Emergence advanced about 25 percentage points in Colorado and Nebraska. Scattered light showers aided emergence in parts of Texas, while some growers irrigated fields to germinate seeds. Precipitation improved soil moisture in northeastern Oklahoma, but southwestern areas of the State were too dry.

**Other small grains:** The spring wheat and barley crops were 93 and 96 percent harvested, respectively, behind last year, when virtually all acreage was harvested by this date. Normally, 98 percent of both crops are harvested by this date. Dry weather aided progress in Minnesota, North Dakota, Montana, and Idaho.

**Rice:** Seventy-two percent of the acreage was harvested, compared with 71 percent last year and the average 67-percent pace. Progress was aided by dry weather in the lower Mississippi Valley, but slipped farther behind normal in California, where slow-ripening fields hindered momentum.

**Sorghum:** Ninety-five percent of the sorghum acreage was at or beyond the coloring stage, compared with 98 percent last year and the 94-percent average. Sixty-four percent of the crop was mature, 10 percentage points behind last year's rapid development, but slightly ahead of the average for this date. Fields quickly ripened in the Corn Belt, as cool weather halted plant growth. Thirty-six percent of the acreage was harvested, ahead of last year's 33-percent progress and more than 1 week ahead of the average. Dry weather aided progress in the lower Mississippi Valley and adjacent areas of the Corn Belt.

**Peanuts:** Twenty-eight percent of the peanut acreage was harvested, 9 percentage points ahead of last year, and slightly ahead of the 26-percent average for this date. Dry weather aided digging in Alabama and Georgia, but lingering wetness from Hurricane Floyd significantly limited progress in the Atlantic Coastal Plains. In Virginia, conditions improved where flood waters receded and sandy soils dried.

# Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending September 26, 1999

Winter Wheat Percent Planted				
	Sep 26 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	1	0	1	3
CA	0	0	0	0
CO	81	56	72	69
GA	1	0	1	1
ID	24	11	25	33
IL	2	0	1	2
IN	6	2	7	8
KS	32	13	19	26
MI	15	10	21	19
MO	7	1	3	6
MT	54	22	38	35
NE	80	52	77	69
NC	9	3	9	9
OH	7	1	5	5
OK	34	18	16	28
OR	0	0	12	16
SD	62	41	71	74
TX	40	28	44	45
WA	67	59	69	64
19 Sts	37	22	31	34
These 19 States planted 91% of last year's winter wheat acreage.				

Winter Wheat Percent Emerged				
	Sep 26 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	0	0	0	0
CA	0	0	0	0
CO	43	17	41	30
GA	0	0	0	0
ID	5	2	7	10
IL	0	0	0	0
IN	0	0	1	1
KS	9	4	8	11
MI	0	0	3	2
MO	0	0	0	0
MT	12	0	4	9
NE	36	*12	43	36
NC	0	0	0	0
OH	0	0	0	0
OK	9	3	3	5
OR	0	0	2	4
SD	19	12	38	39
TX	21	10	16	21
WA	39	25	51	45
19 Sts	14	6	14	14
These 19 States planted 91% of last year's winter wheat acreage.				

Soybeans Percent Dropping Leaves				
	Sep 26 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	51	43	57	44
AR	39	24	40	26
GA	44	30	39	45
IL	80	58	73	65
IN	98	85	91	78
IA	77	36	86	76
KS	68	45	89	71
KY	77	74	57	40
LA	85	63	80	63
MI	94	62	79	61
MN	89	50	97	88
MS	86	78	78	66
MO	58	41	58	47
NE	75	35	89	72
NC	22	17	24	21
OH	95	84	88	76
SC	12	11	12	8
SD	78	49	95	86
TN	60	45	52	41
19 Sts	76	52	78	67
These 19 States planted 93% of last year's soybean acreage.				

Soybeans Percent Harvested				
	Sep 26 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	15	11	5	3
AR	13	8	10	7
GA	3	0	1	1
IL	14	5	15	13
IN	28	12	18	11
IA	8	1	21	12
KS	5	2	12	8
KY	24	10	9	4
LA	50	35	45	30
MI	16	4	9	5
MN	9	1	33	13
MS	48	42	46	33
MO	9	3	6	4
NE	8	1	13	11
NC	0	0	0	0
OH	28	13	18	10
SC	1	1	0	0
SD	8	1	19	10
TN	14	7	3	2
19 Sts	15	6	18	11
These 19 States planted 93% of last year's soybean acreage.				

Corn Percent Mature				
	Sep 26 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
CO	50	28	66	50
GA	100	100	100	100
IL	93	83	82	71
IN	95	83	83	67
IA	95	79	96	81
KS	78	65	93	80
KY	100	97	91	80
MI	86	64	83	49
MN	79	48	95	68
MO	94	88	90	82
NE	84	44	91	66
NC	96	90	94	98
OH	80	65	64	37
PA	41	29	38	38
SD	56	33	84	65
TX	96	91	97	94
WI	80	49	86	53
17 Sts	85	66	87	69
These 17 States planted 90% of last year's corn acreage.				

Corn Percent Harvested				
	Sep 26 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
CO	2	0	5	4
GA	95	89	94	91
IL	28	13	20	9
IN	27	14	13	9
IA	9	4	12	6
KS	31	21	51	26
KY	87	63	59	36
MI	9	6	10	7
MN	3	1	16	6
MO	50	40	41	29
NE	9	4	19	8
NC	59	43	73	64
OH	16	7	8	4
PA	12	11	7	7
SD	5	2	13	5
TX	74	67	83	77
WI	9	3	9	5
17 Sts	19	12	21	12
These 17 States planted 90% of last year's corn acreage.				

# Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending September 26, 1999

Sorghum Percent Coloring				
	Sep 26 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	100	100	100	100
CO	90	86	91	80
IL	98	97	89	86
KS	97	93	100	94
LA	100	100	100	100
MS	100	100	100	100
MO	100	94	100	94
NE	95	87	100	96
NM	84	82	63	68
OK	94	79	97	91
SD	97	92	97	95
TX	92	88	97	96
12 Sts	95	90	98	94
These 12 States planted 99% of last year's sorghum acreage.				

Sorghum Percent Mature				
	Sep 26 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	99	97	94	94
CO	23	16	29	17
IL	72	51	39	43
KS	51	38	75	52
LA	100	100	100	99
MS	100	100	99	98
MO	73	60	79	66
NE	55	21	84	59
NM	6	4	7	14
OK	50	18	35	32
SD	52	30	73	59
TX	81	78	81	81
12 Sts	64	52	74	63
These 12 States planted 99% of last year's sorghum acreage.				

Sorghum Percent Harvested				
	Sep 26 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	91	82	81	76
CO	7	0	1	1
IL	12	3	3	3
KS	14	9	19	13
LA	98	91	97	91
MS	98	95	95	86
MO	42	29	36	25
NE	5	0	5	4
NM	0	0	0	2
OK	12	6	18	10
SD	6	3	14	6
TX	78	73	61	65
12 Sts	36	31	33	30
These 12 States planted 99% of last year's sorghum acreage.				

Cotton Percent Bolls Opening				
	Sep 26 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	85	79	84	70
AZ	95	89	93	98
AR	91	85	85	81
CA	70	40	56	86
GA	79	74	79	74
LA	98	94	99	96
MS	99	97	100	94
MO	100	93	99	81
NM	60	58	73	78
NC	70	60	89	82
OK	82	72	95	51
SC	72	58	84	73
TN	100	98	98	92
TX	74	63	75	60
14 Sts	80	71	81	73
These 14 States planted 98% of last year's cotton acreage.				

Cotton Percent Harvested				
	Sep 26 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	25	14	19	12
AZ	5	1	9	13
AR	20	7	13	10
CA	0	0	0	3
GA	12	7	14	11
LA	50	30	22	23
MS	36	23	33	22
MO	42	32	13	11
NM	0	0	0	0
NC	0	0	9	4
OK	3	0	4	2
SC	8	5	22	10
TN	28	13	20	12
TX	19	16	33	24
14 Sts	19	13	21	15
These 14 States planted 98% of last year's cotton acreage.				

Peanuts Percent Harvested				
	Sep 26 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	45	31	22	41
FL	48	45	21	25
GA	38	26	22	40
NC	8	6	5	5
OK	1	0	4	5
SC	13	7	19	26
TX	16	12	20	12
VA	3	0	14	18
8 Sts	28	20	19	26
These 8 States planted 99% of last year's peanut acreage.				

Rice Percent Harvested				
	Sep 26 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	76	56	70	65
CA	7	5	19	23
LA	98	91	98	90
MS	71	61	85	76
TX	99	98	96	93
5 Sts	72	59	71	67
These 5 States planted 96% of last year's rice acreage.				

Spring Wheat Percent Harvested				
	Sep 26 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	96	91	100	97
MN	96	88	99	99
MT	91	83	100	97
ND	90	76	100	97
SD	100	100	100	100
5 Sts	93	83	100	98
These 5 States planted 96% of last year's spring wheat acreage.				

Barley Percent Harvested				
	Sep 26 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	93	88	99	96
MN	97	91	99	99
MT	96	86	100	95
ND	95	85	100	99
SD	100	100	100	100
WA	100	99	100	100
6 Sts	96	88	100	98
These 6 States planted 83% of last year's barley acreage.				

# Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending September 26, 1999

Soybeans Crop Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
AL	55	18	15	11	1
AR	11	19	30	29	11
GA	30	25	31	14	0
IL	6	12	38	37	7
IN	12	22	43	21	2
IA	2	7	26	48	17
KS	4	17	42	35	2
KY	25	36	27	11	1
LA	9	28	37	23	3
MI	2	9	27	47	15
MN	3	8	31	48	10
MS	15	20	33	27	5
MO	28	31	27	13	1
NE	4	11	32	40	13
NC	8	20	34	36	2
OH	7	16	36	35	6
SC	8	33	41	18	0
SD	1	4	17	58	20
TN	44	38	16	2	0
19 Sts	9	15	32	35	9
Prev Wk	9	15	32	36	8
Prev Yr	4	9	26	45	16

Sorghum Crop Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
AR	1	15	38	36	10
CO	0	2	14	50	34
IL	7	8	19	66	0
KS	1	5	27	60	7
LA	0	5	32	58	5
MS	5	8	22	46	19
MO	15	25	44	15	1
NE	1	9	32	46	12
NM	0	0	40	59	1
OK	0	4	17	74	5
SD	0	0	18	65	17
TX	3	18	31	36	12
12 Sts	2	11	29	48	10
Prev Wk	2	11	31	46	10
Prev Yr	6	15	27	43	9

Corn Crop Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
CO	1	2	13	58	26
GA	13	18	31	33	5
IL	5	13	39	38	5
IN	9	19	43	26	3
IA	2	6	23	51	18
KS	1	4	28	59	8
KY	10	15	29	38	8
MI	3	10	22	47	18
MN	3	5	29	51	12
MO	24	21	25	24	6
NE	2	5	25	48	20
NC	2	33	37	25	3
OH	9	15	38	32	6
PA	18	27	34	20	1
SD	1	2	15	56	26
TX	0	2	15	59	24
WI	0	2	12	51	35
17 Sts	5	9	28	44	14
Prev Wk	5	10	27	45	13
Prev Yr	3	6	22	49	20

Peanuts Crop Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
AL	12	24	37	21	6
FL	4	8	60	27	1
GA	12	19	38	26	5
NC	20	20	30	30	0
OK	1	10	22	43	24
SC	1	12	48	27	12
TX	3	9	21	47	20
VA	1	1	59	33	6
8 Sts	9	15	35	32	9
Prev Wk	8	15	37	32	8
Prev Yr	8	14	31	41	6

Cotton Crop Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
AL	15	31	25	27	2
AZ	1	7	35	45	12
AR	1	10	41	35	13
CA	0	0	10	75	15
GA	16	24	35	21	4
LA	4	16	35	38	7
MS	5	16	42	33	4
MO	19	23	23	33	2
NM	0	4	20	66	10
NC	10	20	40	30	0
OK	4	19	27	26	24
SC	11	32	37	18	2
TN	18	38	35	9	0
TX	10	23	31	28	8
14 Sts	9	20	33	31	7
Prev Wk	8	19	35	31	7
Prev Yr	13	19	36	28	4

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/occe/waob/jawf>.*

**ALABAMA:** Recent rainfall slightly improved crop conditions. Topsoil moisture 65% very short, 25% short, 10% adequate and 0% surplus. Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Corn mature 93%, 100% 1998, 100% average. Corn harvested 76%, 92% 1998, 80% average. Cotton bolls opening 85%, 84% 1998, 70% average. Cotton harvested 25%, 19% 1998, 12% average. Soybeans blooming 92%, 100% 1998, 100% average. Soybeans setting pods 89%, 100% 1998, 99% average. Soybeans dropping leaves 51%, 57% 1998, 44% average. Soybean condition 55% very poor, 18% poor, 15% fair, 11% good, 1% excellent. Pasture condition 31% very poor, 27% poor, 28% fair, 13% good, 1% excellent. Livestock condition 9% very poor, 26% poor, 40% fair, 19% good, 6% excellent.

**ALASKA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.2. Cool, cloudy, and damp conditions continued to hinder the fall hay harvest. The end of the week brought the first widespread frost to the Palmer area and light snow to the Tanana Valley. Daytime high temperatures were mostly in the fifties with nighttime lows mostly in the thirties. Topsoil moisture supplies, 95% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies, 100% adequate. Oats, 85% harvested. Barley, 90% harvested. Second cutting hay harvest, 60% complete. Winter hay supplies 10% short, 85% adequate, 5% surplus. Wind damage to crops, 70% none, 15% light, 10% moderate, 5% severe. Livestock condition, 5% poor, 40% fair, 40% good, 15% excellent. Commercial storage potato harvest, 85% complete. Major activities included: cutting hay, harvesting vegetables, grains, hay, silage, and potatoes, and machinery repair.

**ARIZONA:** Cotton harvest has begun throughout most of Arizona. Alfalfa harvest activity was reported as 21% not being harvested, 3% light, 32% moderate, and 44% active. Alfalfa condition was reported as 6% poor, 25% fair, 62% good, and 7% excellent. Last week central Arizona producers shipped a light volume of green onions.

**ARKANSAS:** Temperatures were cooler, but with a lack of moisture. Beneficial rainfall continues to elude the state with only scattered showers reported last week. Most of the state is in dire need of rainfall. The lack of rainfall continues to further aggravate our drought like conditions. Days suitable for fieldwork: 7. Topsoil moisture 39% very short, 49% short, 12% adequate, 0% surplus. Livestock were reported in fair condition. Many farmers were feeding supplemental hay early this year because of the drought. The main farm activities were: harvesting rice, sorghum, cotton, and corn and defoliating cotton. Other activities included finishing hay harvesting, preparing land for planting of annual forages such as rye, and ryegrass, liming pastures, and planning for fall pastures. Other activities: irrigating soybeans for the last time, spraying fields for insects and weeds, continued pea, harvesting, started wheat planting, treating crop lands for armyworms, fields were being subsoiled and plowed, tree fruit and small fruit harvesting, dusting and ear tagging cattle for external parasites, fall calving, giving vaccinations, pregnancy checking spring bred cows, selling cull cows, and weaning calves. Corn 95% harvest; Cotton 91% opening bolls, 20% harvested, condition 1% very poor 10% poor 41% fair 35% good 13% excellent; Soybeans 100% setting pods, 39% shedding, 13% harvested, condition 11% very poor 19% poor 30% fair 29% good 11% excellent; Sorghum 100% turning color, 99% mature, 91% harvested, condition 1% very poor 15% poor 38% fair 36% good 10% excellent; Alfalfa condition 5% very poor 34% poor 37% fair 24% good 0% excellent; Other Hay condition 15% very poor 33% poor 40% fair 12% good 0% excellent; Range and pastures condition 18% very poor 32% poor 38% fair 12% good 0% excellent.

**CALIFORNIA:** Field activities progressed normally despite light rain in some southern counties. Seedbed preparations for fall-seeded small grains and forage crops continued. Winter forage planting was ongoing, and small grain seeding was barely underway. Most wheat and barley growers were planning to begin planting following the first fall rains. Rice harvest was still slow to gain momentum; fields were late maturing. Blanking was evident in some rice heads and was attributed to cool temperatures during pollination. Cotton development continued to improve with the warm late summer weather, although most fields were still approximately ten days behind normal. Defoliation activity slowly increased in the San Joaquin Valley; most

growers expected to wait until after October 1. Blackeye bean harvest was in full swing, while harvest of other dry bean varieties was winding down. Harvest of alfalfa seed and bermuda grass seed neared completion in the Imperial Valley. Sugarbeet harvest was ongoing in the San Joaquin Valley, while planting of new crop sugarbeets began in the Imperial Valley. Corn for grain and silage was harvested in the San Joaquin and Sacramento valleys. Sunflower harvest was rapidly winding down in the Sacramento Valley. Alfalfa and sudangrass were cut for hay or greenchopped. The harvest of grapes for fresh consumption continued in the San Joaquin Valley. Varieties picked included Red Globe and Thompson Seedless. Harvesting grapes for raisins was active; approximately 25 percent were on open trays, 50 percent rolled, and 25 percent picked up. Picking of wine grapes continued. The stone fruit harvest was winding down. Fig harvesting continued. Picking of apples was active. The olive harvest began. Bartlett pear harvest was virtually complete. Asian pear harvest was active in the San Joaquin Valley. The prune harvest was making progress. Harvest of almonds and walnuts continued. Pistachio harvest was active. Valencia oranges and lemons were picked in southern California. New crop navel oranges were maturing well. Newly planted strawberry plants were enjoying excellent growing conditions. Strawberry growers were weeding and irrigating fields; plants were starting to bloom and fruit was forming. Processing tomatoes continued to be harvested. Several tomato fields were sprayed for worms. Insect pressure was still isolated and light in the Sacramento Valley. The summer vegetable season, which had been extended by the mild weather, was now gradually declining. Cucumber picking continued in late-planted fields. Honeydew melon harvest was in the last few weeks; quality was good. Fall planting of beets, carrots, radishes, broccoli, cauliflower, spinach, Chinese cabbage, endive and lettuce was progressing under ideal weather. Developing fall melons were receiving occasional treatments for whitefly and mildew. Some fields of peppers, lettuce and broccoli were sprayed to control worms. Among the crops harvested were zucchini, Italian squash, watermelon, sweet corn, peppers, green beans, cucumbers, garlic, mint, snap peas, sugar peas, onions, okra, radishes, eggplant and sweet potatoes. The summer pasture season was winding down, with mountain pastures in poor to fair condition. Irrigated valley pastures were in fair to good condition. Sheep and beef cattle were moving from higher elevations to foothill pastures in central and northern California. Some livestock were receiving supplemental feed, mainly hay. Beef cows were calving in central and northern areas. Light rain fell in some areas, but not enough to stimulate early grass growth on foothill pastures. There was concern about the threat of rangeland fires with lightning strikes. Fire danger remained high due to continued hot weather.

**COLORADO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Topsoil moisture 7% very short, 23% short, 67% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil moisture 5% very short, 27% short, 63% adequate, 5% surplus. Warm and mostly dry conditions prevailed during the week, pushing crops towards maturity and harvest. Spring wheat 84% harvested, 95% 1998, 88% avg. Corn 94% dented, 98% 1998, 95% avg. Corn silage 79% harvested, 81% 1998, 75% avg. Dry onions 74% harvested, 79% 1998, 85% avg. Sugar beets 5% harvested, 5% 1998, 3% avg; condition 3% poor, 11% fair, 64% good, 22% excellent. Dry beans 91% cut, 91% 1998, 83% avg; 66% harvested, 77% 1998, 68% avg. Summer potatoes 88% harvested, 88% 1998, 84% avg.

**DELAWARE:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.8. Topsoil moisture 75% adequate, 25% surplus. Subsoil moisture 85% adequate, 15% surplus. Field corn 16% very poor, 19% poor, 36% fair, 28% good, 1% excellent; 95% dented, 94% 1998, 97% avg; 75% mature, 75% 1998, 71% avg; 40% harvested for grain, 38% 1998, 30% avg; 75% harvested for silage, 82% 1998, 83% avg. Soybeans 8% very poor, 10% poor, 46% fair, 36% good; 35% turned, 48% 1998, 42% avg; 12% shedding leaves, 20% 1998, 23% avg. Sorghum 20% poor, 72% fair, 8% good; 57% turned, 65% 1998, 66% avg; 32% mature, 12% 1998, 31% avg. Sweet corn 95% harvested, 90% 1998, 97% avg. Snap beans 88% harvested, 89% 1998, 92% avg. Lima beans 85% harvested, 71% 1998, 74% avg. Tomatoes 95% harvested, 88% 1998, 95% avg. Apples 9% poor, 18% fair, 73% good; 70% harvested, 71% 1998, 69% avg. Clover and other hay 92% 3<sup>rd</sup> cutting, 95% 1998, 92% avg. Alfalfa hay 58% 4<sup>th</sup> cutting, 67% 1998, 66% avg. Hay supplies 3% very short, 43% short and 54% adequate. Pasture 5% very poor, 10% poor, 52% fair, 33% good. Activities: Corn harvest slowed, barley and wheat being seeded, apple harvest active. potatoes 46% harvested, 35% 1998, 39% avg;

condition 4% poor, 14% fair, 48% good, 34% excellent. Alfalfa 73% 3rd cutting, 75% 1998, 73% avg; 15% 4th cutting, 9% 1998, 11% avg; condition 1% very poor, 7% poor, 19% fair, 58% good, 15% excellent. Pasture and range feed in mostly good condition.

**FLORIDA:** Tropical Storm Harvey brought significant rain to Dade county, some southwestern localities. Dade County reported sustained winds 50 mph, some gusts higher as Harvey passed. A tropical system passing from south to north over Peninsula brought more rain, end of week, and Sunday, September 26 with some flooding reported in coastal communities, low lying areas. Immokalee area received from 6.50 to 10.00 in. 19<sup>h</sup> through 25<sup>h</sup>; Homestead, 3.00 to about 4.25 in.; Palmetto-Ruskin region, about 0.50 to 2.00 in.; major stations, from about 0.50 in. at Tallahassee, Pensacola to over 3.00 in. at Jacksonville. Cloud cover kept temperatures 1 to 5 degrees below normal. Daytime highs 70s, 80s; nighttime lows 60s, 70s, with Pierson, Jacksonville, Tallahassee, Pensacola recording at least one low 50s. Topsoil moisture throughout State mostly short to adequate. Tobacco marketing delayed by Hurricane Floyd. Soybean, sugarcane condition normal. Haying active. Cotton harvest starting. Forty-eight percent peanuts harvested. Peanut condition: fair 36%, good 63%, and excellent 1%. Watermelon harvesting underway Quincy, Palmetto-Ruskin. Pickle picking starting Zellwood. Cherry tomato picking beginning Palmetto-Ruskin. Tropical Storm Harvey delayed some vegetable fieldwork southern Peninsula and brought rain to southern most part of citrus belt Monday night, Tuesday. Grove moisture adequate to surplus. Abundant new growth. New crop fruit in good condition. Fresh fruit packing houses shipping white, colored grapefruit, Navels, Ambersweet oranges, some Fallglo. Caretakers cutting cover crops, spraying, fertilizing, pushing out dead trees, planting new trees. Pasture feed: very poor 5%, poor 5%, fair 40%, good 50%. Condition of cattle: fair 20%, good 80%. Panhandle, haying operations active. Pastures in many locations in fair condition as no rain received from recent weather systems. General pasture condition declined due to dry conditions. Central: Some pastures showing damage from armyworms but infestation level nothing like last year's. West central: Pasture grass growth slowing seasonally, ranchers spraying for armyworms. Southeast: Lots temporarily flooded due to Tropical Storm Harvey, some still underwater one week later. Statewide, cattle mostly good condition.

**GEORGIA:** Days suitable for field work 5.7. Soil moisture 29% very short, 36% short, 33% adequate, 2% surplus. Hay 22% very poor, 34% poor, 34% fair, 10% good. Peanuts 55% dug, 34% 1998, 55% avg. Rye 10% planted, 14% 1998, 11% avg. Sorghum 65% harvested for grain, 62% 1998, 49% avg. Other small grains 9% planted, 4% 1998, 5% avg. Apples 4% very poor, 19% poor, 37% fair, 38% good, 2% excellent; 46% harvested, 56% 1998, 59% avg. Pecans 8% very poor, 15% poor, 32% fair, 39% good, 6% excellent; 0% harvested, 1% 1998, 1% avg. Scattered rains fell over the State last week. Most were less than 1 1/2 inch but there were reports of up to 5 inches. Top soil moisture increased. Fall tilling, small grain planting and pasture overseeding were encouraged in areas that received rain. Soil moisture continued short in those areas that have been missed by the rain. Streams have been drying up and the situation has become critical. Cattlemen continued to feed their livestock and cull herds. Harvest of fall crops continued active. Some farmers will get another cutting of hay because of the rains. Pecans have not received timely or enough rain to fill the nuts. Peanut and cotton quality have been affected by the drought. There have been reports of white mold in peanuts. Cotton lint was not stringing from the open bolls which is making harvest difficult. The rains improved pasture conditions.

**HAWAII:** Variable weather conditions were fair for agriculture. Windward areas received a generally favorable mixture of sunshine and light to moderate showers. Areas sheltered from the trade winds were generally dry, although moderate showers occurred in spots over the weekend. Banana orchards made fair to good progress. Harvesting will be steady and of moderate to heavy volume. Papaya orchards were in fair to good condition. Most orchards received a good mixture of sunshine and showers. A few orchards were in need of additional rain. Harvesting will be steady. Harvesting of head cabbage, Chinese cabbage, sweet corn, cucumbers, and tomatoes will be active. Crop progress was good with moderate to heavy irrigation. Condition of other vegetables were fair to good.

**IDAHO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Topsoil 12% very short, 43% short, 44% adequate, and 1% surplus. Conditions dry. Harvest progressing steadily. Irrigation supply 53% excellent, 42% good, 5% fair. Alfalfa hay 3<sup>rd</sup> cutting 88%, 1998 85%, avg. 75%. Oats harvested for grain 95%, 1998 99%, avg. 91%. Mint harvested 91%, 1998 99%, avg. 98%. Dry Beans harvested 84%, 1998 69%, avg. 72%. Corn harvested for silage 51%, 1998 40%, avg. 48%. Corn harvested for grain 4%, 1998 3%, avg. 2%. Sweet

Corn harvested 88%, 1998 86%, avg. 91%. Onions harvested 69%, 1998 36%, avg. 60%. Peaches harvested 96%, 1998 87%, avg. 95%. Prunes & plums harvested 72%, 1998 57%, avg. 86%. Apples harvested 15%, 1998 14%, avg. 24%. Hops harvested 88%, 1998 79%, avg. 91%. Potatoes with vines dead/kill 88%, 1998 82%, avg. 92%; harvested 22%, 1998 23%, avg. 24%. Sugarbeets harvested 7%, 1998 6%, avg. 8%. Winter wheat planted 24%, 1998 25%, avg. 33%; emerged 5%, 1998 7%, avg. 10%. Activities: preparing seedbeds and fertilizing for fall planted grains, digging early sugarbeets, and harvesting potatoes, onions, silage corn, apples and grapes.

**ILLINOIS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.7. Topsoil moisture 42% very short, 47% short, 11% adequate. Corn harvest continued at a rapid pace last week. Harvest is nearest completion in the Southern districts, due to dry conditions. Farmers have begun seeding wheat but progress has been slow due to the continued dry conditions. Other activities last week included hauling grain, fall tillage and caring for livestock. Soybeans turning yellow 96%, 89% 1998, 86% avg. Alfalfa third cut 99%, 97% 1998, 96% avg.

**INDIANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Topsoil 75% very short, 22% short, 3% adequate, 0% surplus. Subsoil 70% very short, 26% short, 4% adequate, 0% surplus. Corn, soybean harvest in full swing. Corn harvest 17 days ahead of average. Soybean harvest 7 days ahead of average. Harvested corn moisture averaging around 18%, soybeans 11% moisture content. Virtually no precipitation during week. Fire major concern of farmers. Topsoil and subsoil extremely dry. Corn condition 29% good to excellent. Soybean condition 23% good to excellent. Pastures dried up. Range, pasture 57% very poor, 31% poor, 11% fair, 1% good. Feeding hay necessary. Tobacco harvest 91% complete, 84% 1998, 79% avg. Activities: seeding winter wheat, tillage of soils, chopping stalks, cleaning grain bins, hauling grain, purchasing wheat seed, harvesting tobacco, feeding hay, caring for livestock.

**IOWA:** Days suitable for field work 6.9. Topsoil moisture: very short 23%; short 44%, adequate 33%. Subsoil moisture: very short 14%; short 38%, adequate 47%, surplus 1%. Harvest well underway across Iowa. In some areas, seed corn harvest moving to completion. Dry weather continued this week, causing plants to mature and dry down at a fast rate. Frost reported across much of Iowa, severely damaging or killing some plants in north central and west central Iowa; other sections of state only experienced minor damage to crops. Corn: mature stage 95%, 1998 96%, avg. 81%; harvested 9%, 1998 12%, avg. 6%. Percent moisture of all field corn averaged 26%; harvested corn averaged 21%. Corn condition: very poor 2%, poor 6%, fair 23%, good 51%, excellent 18%. Soybeans: leaves changing color 97%, 1998 98%, avg. 95%; leaves dropping 77%, 1998 86%, avg. 76%; harvested 8%, 1998 21%, avg. 12%. Soybean condition: very poor 2%, poor 7%, fair 26%, good 48%, excellent 17%. Winter wheat planted 22%, 23% 1998, 21% avg. Livestock generally in good condition. Pastures short due to lack of rain; supplemental feeding begun in some parts of state. Flies, pinkeye continue to be a problem in south central district. Dust affecting cattle in feedlots and weaned calves in south east. Range, pasture condition: very poor 11%, poor 19%, fair 39%, good 26%, excellent 5%. Third cutting of alfalfa 94%, 1998 91%, avg. 93%.

**KANSAS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Wheat seeding made good progress across the State last week. Topsoil moisture 9% very short, 35% short, 54% adequate, and 2% surplus. Subsoil moisture 8% very short, 30% short, 61% adequate, and 1% surplus. Sunflower condition 1% poor, 18% fair, 66% good, and 15% excellent. Ray flowers dry 96%, 99% 1998, NA average. Bracts turning yellow 80%, 92% 1998, NA average. Sunflowers mature 37%, 68% 1998, NA average. Sunflowers harvested 7%, 24% 1998, NA average. Fourth cutting alfalfa 86%, 80% 1998, 69% average. Hay and forage supplies 5% short, 87% adequate and 8% surplus. Stock water supplies 2% very short, 13% short, 84% adequate, and 1% surplus. Cattle continue to move from pastures to feedlots. In some areas, cattle are being moved to row crop stubble. Ranchers are busy fall calving, preconditioning and weaning calves, pregnancy checking cows, and selling calves and yearlings.

**KENTUCKY:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.6. Topsoil moisture 83% very short, 16% short, 1% adequate. Subsoil moisture 88% very short and 12% short. Temperatures were mixed during the week starting out below normal then moderating to warm, summer-like conditions. Small amounts of rainfall were reported Statewide, however drought still grips the state. Corn harvest was in full swing while the soybean harvest gained momentum. Burley cut 95%, 90% 1998, 84% avg. Dark tobacco cut 95%, 89% 1998, 88% avg. Housed tobacco 6% very poor, 19% poor, 37% fair, 33% good and 5% excellent. Pasture condition 60% poor, 29% poor, 9% fair, 2% good. Hay

being fed and water for livestock is being hauled. Livestock sales volume continued to be high due to short supplies of hay and water.

**LOUISIANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.9. Soil moisture 41% very short, 32% short, 27% adequate, 0% surplus. Cotton harvest was in full swing. Hay 86% final cutting, 77% 1998, 87% avg. Soybeans 99% leaves turning, 92% 1998, 83% avg. Late soybeans were shedding leaves. Sugarcane 3% poor, 20% fair, 55% good, 22% excellent; 99% planted, 71% 1998, 79% avg. Sugarcane planting was almost complete. Sweet potatoes 2% very poor, 12% poor, 26% fair, 56% good, 4% excellent; 41% harvested, 39% 1998, 46% avg. Wheat 3% planted, 10% 1998, 3% avg. Livestock 2% very poor, 11% poor, 35% fair, 44% good, 8% excellent. Vegetables 7% very poor, 24% poor, 39% fair, 25% good, 5% excellent.

**MARYLAND:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.1. Subsoil moisture 12% very short, 21% short, 60% adequate, 7% surplus. Topsoil moisture 11% short, 81% adequate, 8% surplus. Corn 15% very poor, 26% poor, 35% fair, 21% good, 3% excellent; 92% dent, 98% 1998, 97% avg; 72% mature, 78% 1998, 73% avg; 32% harvested for grain, 48% 1998, 31% avg; 80% harvested for silage, 78% 1998, 70% avg. Soybeans 6% very poor, 11% poor, 29% fair, 44% good, 10% excellent; 42% turned, 61% 1998, 57% avg; 26% shedding leaves, 25% 1998, 30% avg. Sorghum 13% poor, 45% fair, 40% good, 2% excellent; 80% turning color, 70% 1998, 77% avg; 28% mature, 28% 1998, 35% avg; 25% harvested, 14% 1998, 11% avg. Tobacco 90% harvested, 94% 1998, 96% avg. Snap beans 95% harvested, 97% 1998, 97% avg. Lima beans 95% harvested, 91% 1998, 73% avg. Apples 15% fair, 85% good; 40% harvested, 37% 1998, 44% avg. Clover and other hays 89% 3<sup>rd</sup> cutting, 95% 1998, 82% avg; 61% 4<sup>th</sup> cutting, 57% 1998, 42% avg. Alfalfa 49% 4<sup>th</sup> cutting, 73% 1998, 73% avg. Pasture condition 2% very poor, 12% poor, 30% fair, 45% good, 11% excellent. Hay supplies 9% very short, 54% short, 36% adequate, 1% surplus. Activities: Harvesting of corn, hay and vegetables.

**MICHIGAN:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 44% very short, 39% short, 17% adequate, 0% surplus; subsoil 38% very short, 46% short, 16% adequate, 0% surplus. Hay 5% very poor, 15% poor, 26% fair, 35% good, 19% excellent. Hay third cutting 95%, 90% 1998, 82% avg. Hay fourth cutting 41%, 39% 1998, 26% avg. Dry beans harvested 83%, 91% 1998, 55% avg. Silage harvested 86%, 84% 1998, 53% avg. Soybeans mature 75%, 47% 1998, 30% avg. Rain fell on most of the State but not enough to make a significant difference. Temperatures stayed on cool side for second straight week. A first frost has now occurred in most parts of the State. Corn harvest continuing but most farmers waiting for moisture to come down. Corn silage harvest in overdrive trying to get that finished up. Early soybean harvest continued this past week with beans having a low moisture content. Dry bean harvest continued as yield looked good, but dry weather caused some splitting problems. Rain can still help sugarbeet fields as lack of rain has caused yield potential to go down. Third cutting of hay coming to a close as some farms will not be having a fourth cutting this year. Planting of winter wheat started but many fields need rain to help germinate crop. Harvest of Empire, Golden Delicious, and Jonathan apples was in high gear; Red Delicious and Jonagold were spot picked. Harvest of Concord grapes will continue for another 10 days. Cantaloupe harvest continued. Carrot harvest continued with no problems reported. Celery yields good. Cucumber harvest winding down. Onion harvest progressed. Pumpkin harvest accelerating with smaller fruit reported but better yields than previously expected. Sweet corn harvest nearing completion. Processing tomato harvest winding down with about 85 percent of the harvest complete.

**MINNESOTA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Topsoil 2% very short, 12% short, 69% adequate, 17% surplus. Soybeans 97% turning yellow, 99% 1998, 97% avg.; 53% mature, 82% 1998, 51% avg. Corn 86% silage cut, 96% 1998, 66% avg. Winter wheat 73% seeded, 95% 1998, 91% avg. Rye 87% seeded, 97% 1998, 87% avg. Dry beans 41% harvested, 87% 1998, 69% avg. Sugarbeets 9% harvested, 10% 1998, 9% avg. Sunflowers 0% harvested, 6% 1998, 9% avg. Potatoes 41% harvested, 43% 1998, 44% avg. Grain/Hay stubble plowed 69%, 79% 1998, 70% avg. Pasture feed 4% very poor, 17% poor, 25% fair, 44% good, 10% excellent. Sugarbeets 3% very poor, 5% poor, 23% fair, 53% good, 16% excellent. Sunflowers 3% very poor, 14% poor, 35% fair, 41% good, 7% excellent. Dry beans 7% very poor, 13% poor, 40% fair, 34% good, 6% excellent. The first widespread occurrence of freezing temperatures, and the sunny days that followed, have resulted in an increase in harvesting activity. Most soybeans were mature enough that the frost was helpful in drying stems for easier combining. In fields where maturity was less advanced, frost may have been a damaging factor. The persistent rainy pattern in the Northwest District eased enough

for most remaining fields of small grains to be combined.

**MISSISSIPPI:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Soil moisture, 53% very short, 38% short, 9% adequate. Corn 98% harvested, 99% 1998, 88% avg. Cotton 99% open bolls, 100% 1998, 94% avg.; 36% harvested, 33% 1998, 22% avg.; 5% very poor, 16% poor, 42% fair, 33% good, 4% excellent. Rice 95% mature, 97% 1998, 96% avg.; 71% harvested, 85% 1998, 76% avg. Sorghum 98% harvested, 95% 1998, 86% avg.; 99% silage harvested, 93% 1998, 88% avg. Soybeans 95% turning color, 94% 1998, 86% avg.; 86% shedding leaves, 78% 1998, 66% avg.; 48% harvested, 46% 1998, 33% avg.; 15% very poor, 20% poor, 33% fair, 27% good, 5% excellent. Sweet potatoes 45% harvested, 34% 1998, 42% avg.; 2% very poor, 11% poor, 25% fair, 60% good, 2% excellent. Hay (warm-season) 93% harvested, 100% 1998, 99% avg. Cattle, 3% very poor, 11% poor, 36% fair, 46% good, 4% excellent. Pasture 25% very poor, 31% poor, 32% fair, 11% good, 1% excellent. Dry conditions continue to prevail across the state. Many farmers are waiting for precipitation before beginning fall fieldwork and fall planting of wheat and ryegrass.

**MISSOURI:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. The topsoil moisture supply was rated at 70% very short, 23% short, and 7% adequate. Although even the latest maturing soybeans and sorghum are too advanced to gain significant benefit from additional moisture at this time, rainfall is urgently needed for fall pasture growth, winter wheat seedings, and restoring the water level in stock ponds. Missouri farmers made rapid progress with row crop harvesting during the past week as the dry weather continued. Ninety-four percent of the corn is mature, about two weeks ahead of normal for this date. Fifty percent of the corn is harvested, about a week ahead of last year and two weeks ahead of the 32% normal. Corn harvest in the Bootheel is virtually complete with 96% of the crop harvested. Eighty-five percent of all soybeans were turning color, 58% were dropping leaves and 30% have reached maturity. The maturing process is similar to last year but about 4 days ahead of average. Nine percent of the crop is harvested, 2 days ahead of last year and 5 days ahead of the 5-year average. Seventy-three percent of the sorghum crop was mature, 3 days behind last year but 5 days ahead of normal. Forty-two percent of the crop is harvested, seven days ahead of last year and about two weeks ahead of the 25% normal. Harvesting is most advanced in the Bootheel with 81% complete, while progress in the northern two-thirds of the State averages less than 10% complete. Virtually all the cotton has open bolls, about the same as last year, but over two weeks ahead of the five-year average of 81%. Forty-two percent of the cotton was harvested, nearly 2 weeks ahead of both last year's 13% and the 5-year average of 11%. Winter wheat seeding for next year's crop has begun with 7% in the ground. Progress is virtually the same as the past two years for this date. Pasture and range condition was rated at 52% very poor, 24% poor, 16% fair, and 8% good. A high proportion of the pastures in the northeast, central, south-central, and southeast districts were reported in very poor condition. Precipitation for week ending September 26, 1999 avg. 0.24 in.

**MONTANA:** There were 6.2 days suitable for fieldwork. The week was again warm with fairly little precipitation across much of the state. Topsoil moisture 20% very short, 36% short, 44% adequate, and 0% surplus. Subsoil moisture 24% very short, 39% short, 37% adequate, and 0% surplus. Sugar beets harvested 16%, 8% 1998, 8% avg. Oats harvested 94%, 100% 1998, 97% avg. Corn for silage harvested 64%, 80% 1998, 70% avg. Potatoes harvested 12%, 19% 1998, 18% avg. Dry beans harvested 83%, 89% 1998, 87% avg. Alfalfa second cutting 94%, 99% 1998, 96% avg. Cattle and calves moved from summer ranges 41%, 27% 1998, 26% avg. Sheep and lambs moved from summer ranges 44%, 31% 1998, 30% avg. Ideal weather conditions allowed farmers to get out into their fields and make progress in harvesting crops and seeding winter wheat. However, late seedings of small grains in the spring in the north central, central, and northeast parts of the state delayed harvest as crops are not yet mature. Some fields are still green or too wet to harvest.

**NEBRASKA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Dry, clear conditions again last week, pushing ahead harvest activities. Statewide, temperatures averaged from normal to two degrees below normal. Frost evident in portions of Nebraska early in week. Hard freezing temperatures had not ended growing season Statewide. Precipitation was light. Topsoil moisture condition declined and rated 14% very short, 36% short, 48% adequate, 2% surplus; subsoil moisture condition also moved lower and rated 11% very short, 32% short, 57% adequate, 0% surplus. Corn condition rated 2% very poor, 5% poor, 25% fair, 48% good, and 20% excellent; dryland corn rated 60% and irrigated corn rated 74% in good and excellent. Corn mature 84%, behind 91% last year, but well ahead of 66% avg. Harvest for grain 9%, 19% last year, 8% avg. Soybean conditions rated 4% very poor, 11% poor,

32% fair, 40 good, and 13% excellent; dropping leaves 75%, 89% last year, 72% average; harvested 8%, 13% last year and 11% avg. Sorghum turning color 95%, compared to 100% last year, 96% avg.; sorghum mature 55%, behind 84% last year and 59% average; harvest 5%, 5% 1998, 4% avg; sorghum condition 1% very poor, 9% poor, 32% fair, 46% good and 12% excellent. Dry bean harvest 75%, ahead of 70% 1998, 71% avg. Millet harvested 63%. Alfalfa condition 2% very poor, 8% poor, 40% fair, 44% good, and 6% excellent; alfalfa fourth cutting 57%, ahead of 39% 1998, 42% avg. Wheat seeded 80%, 77% 1998, 69% avg; emerged 36%, 43% 1998, 36% avg. Limited sugar beet harvest. Pasture and range conditions rated 7% very poor, 16% poor, 30% fair, 40% good, 7% excellent. Supplemental cattle feeding underway in driest regions of the State. Producer activities included moving grain, harvest preparation and livestock care.

**NEVADA:** Temperatures in Northern Nevada were well above normal with cooling on Sunday that left most regions three to nine degrees below normal. Southern Nevada dipped into below normal temperatures on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Las Vegas was the only station in the State to report precipitation, which was .25 inches. Harvest of third cutting alfalfa was near completion. Fourth cutting of alfalfa hay continued. Harvest of alfalfa seed reached beyond the half way point and was reported to be in good condition. Oat harvest continued, and most other grain crop harvest had been completed. Potato digging was in full force. More livestock movement was observed due to burned range lands. Cattle were being worked and preparations for weaning had begun. Preparations were being made to move cattle to winter range.

**NEW ENGLAND:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Topsoil 8% short, 68% adequate, 24% surplus. Subsoil 6% very short, 29% short, 64% adequate, 1% surplus. Pasture feed 4% very poor, 15% poor, 43% fair, 20% good, 18% excellent. Maine potatoes 30% harvested, 40% 1998, 35% average; condition excellent to good. Massachusetts potatoes 70% harvested, 75% 1998, 70% average; condition good to fair. Rhode Island potatoes 70% harvested, 75% 1998, 75% average; condition fair to poor. Oats in Maine 95% harvested, 95% 1998, 90% average; condition good to excellent. Barley in Maine 99% harvested, 95% 1998; condition good to excellent. Field corn 70% harvested, 40% 1998, 35% average; condition good to fair. Sweet corn 99% harvested, 90% 1998, 95% average; condition good to fair. Shade Tobacco 100% harvested, 100% 1998, 100% average, condition good. Broadleaf Tobacco 100% harvested, 100% 1998, 100% average; condition good. Second cut hay 95% harvested, 90% 1998, 90% average; condition good to fair. Third cut hay 70% harvested, 65% 1998, 70% average; condition fair. Apples 60% harvested, 60% 1998, 55% average; size average to below average, condition good. Peaches 99% harvested, 99% 1998, 99% average; size average to below average, condition fair. Pears 40% harvested, 65% 1998, 70% average; size below average, condition fair to poor. Cranberries 15% harvested, 10% 1998, 15% average, size average, condition good. Highbush blueberries 100% harvested, 100% 1998, 100% average, size average, condition good to fair. Major farm activities included: harvesting tree fruits, potatoes, and late season vegetables; chopping silage corn; cutting hay; spreading manure and disking harvested fields.

**NEW JERSEY:** Temperatures averaged near normal. Extremes were 81 at Toms River and Woodstown on the 26<sup>th</sup> and 38 degrees at Charlotteburg on the 26<sup>th</sup>. Weekly rainfall averaged 0.45 inches North, 0.40 inches Central, and 0.36 inches South. The heaviest 24 hour total was 0.50 inches at Pemberton on the 20<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup>. Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 95 percent North, 87 percent Central and 83 percent South. Four inch soil temperatures averaged 61 degrees North, 63 degrees Central and 64 degrees South. Days suitable for field work averaged five days. Irrigation water supply is between adequate and surplus in most areas. Planting of small grains and cover crops continued across the state. Harvest of grain corn started earlier than normal. Well below average corn yields have been reported. Harvest of corn silage is near completion in Central and South Jersey with low tonnage per acre and poor quality being reported. Early planted soybeans are in poor condition in most areas of the state while the late planted crop is between fair and good condition. Soybean plants in South Jersey have started to drop leaves. Many soybean farmers are concerned about the consequences of having an early frost because the progress of the crop was significantly delayed during the dry summer months. The third cutting of alfalfa and other hay is underway and the crop has been rated between good and fair. Harvest of summer vegetables such as tomatoes, peppers, snap beans, eggplant and escarole continued. Harvest of fall cabbage, lettuce and spinach is also underway. Excess moisture has caused disease problems in the remaining tomato and pepper fields across South and Central Jersey. The condition of the fall vegetables is between good and fair, however, some insect problems have been reported in cabbage and lettuce fields. Several late planted spinach fields were washed out by the recent heavy rains. Sweet potato harvest is underway and

the overall quality is good, although some farmers have reported smaller than usual sizes. Harvest of apples is in full swing. Good quality, but somewhat smaller sizes have been reported.

**NEW MEXICO:** The week began with temperatures well below normal in many areas, then ended with temperatures near record-breaking high levels. Consequently, the average temperature for the week was within a few degrees of normal at most locations, and the statewide average was one degree above normal. On the 26<sup>th</sup>, many locations below 5000 feet hit 90 degrees, and Carlsbad reached 101°. Hit and miss showers reached slightly less than half the reporting locations during the week. Most precipitation totals were very light. Days suitable for field work averaged 6.7 days. Alfalfa farmers continued land preparation and planting new fields as harvest began to slow with most operators making their final cut of the season. Chile and corn silage harvest remained very active. Boll weevil control in cotton continuing. Sorghum and wheat conditions declined slightly with very little moisture received on dryland crops. Ranchers continued to monitor herd condition and prepare for marketing and shipping of livestock. Pasture and Range feed conditions were reported at 1% very poor, 5% poor, 31% fair, 54% good and 9% excellent. Cattle and sheep conditions remained in mostly good to excellent condition.

**NEW YORK:** Days suitable: 4.2. Soil moisture 27% short, 50% adequate, 23% surplus. Pasture condition 14% poor, 31% fair, 55% good. Alfalfa third cutting 94% complete, 80% 1998, 79% average. Silage corn 73% harvested, 58% 1998, 37% average. Dry bean harvest gained momentum. Potato harvest progressed. Soybeans yellowing and beginning to drop leaves. Winter wheat and rye seedings underway. Vegetable harvesting wound down. Only late season crops remain. Grape harvest continued. Concord grapes 45% picked in Lake Erie region, 30% in Finger Lakes region. Apple crop in excellent condition as harvest picks up. Muddy pastures from hurricane lingered.

**NORTH CAROLINA:** Statewide, 5.0 days were suitable for fieldwork compared to 4.8 last week. Once again the extremes of wet weather in the east and dry weather in the west continue to dominate the farming activities in North Carolina. Farmers in the east were still busy assessing damage, repairing equipment and generally trying to recover from Hurricane Floyd when 1 - 4 more inches of rain fell. Very few of the crops in the field escaped some kind of damage from the hurricane, although the extent of the damage is still not known. As fields dried out, some farmers were able to harvest tobacco, corn and sweetpotatoes that were not damaged. Meanwhile farmers in the western part of the State were still experiencing dry weather that has plagued them all year. This lack of soil moisture has slowed down small grain plantings in some parts of the west and has resulted in some early feeding of livestock. Soil moisture levels are rated 12% very short, 15% short, 33% adequate, and 40% surplus. The major activities of the week were hurricane clean-up, tobacco harvesting and marketing, harvesting of sweetpotatoes, corn for grain and silage harvest. Other tasks included baling hay, harvesting apples and vegetables, tending livestock and land preparation and planting of small grains.

**NORTH DAKOTA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Warmer temperatures and clear skies the beginning of last week allowed producers to make good progress on the small grain, dry edible bean and potato harvests. However, rain showers by Friday and Saturday again halted most harvest progress. The harvest for all crops remain behind the 5-year average, except sugarbeets. Topsoil 0% very short, 8% short, 81% adequate, 11% surplus. Subsoil 0% very short, 7% short, 79% adequate, 14% surplus. Durum wheat 69% combined, 100% 1998, 91% avg. Canola 85% combined, 100% 1998. Corn for grain 38% ripe, 88% 1998, 68% avg. Corn for silage 36% chopped, 70% 1998, 58% avg. Dry edible beans 67% cut, 98% 1998, 82% avg; 50% combined, 93% 1998, 67% avg. Flaxseed 61% combined, 97% 1998, 72% avg. Potatoes 85% vines killed, 97% 1998, 95% avg; 47% dug, 66% 1998, 58% avg. Soybeans 59% mature, 94% 1998, 92% avg; 5% harvested, 41% 1998, 33% avg. Sugarbeets 10% lifted, 9% 1998, 9% avg. Sunflowers 78% bracts turned yellow, 98% 1998, 97% avg; 39% bracts turned brown, 75% 1998, 70% avg. Condition ratings for row crops improved from last week. Emerged crop condition: durum 4% very poor, 18% poor, 38% fair, 38% good, 2% excellent; corn for grain 2% very poor, 5% poor, 19% fair, 63% good, 11% excellent; corn for silage 0% very poor, 4% poor, 25% fair, 58% good, 13% excellent; dry edible beans 2% very poor, 5% poor, 24% fair, 53% good, 16% excellent; flaxseed 1% very poor, 6% poor, 29% fair, 52% good, 12% excellent; potatoes 0% very poor, 1% poor, 11% fair, 46% good, 42% excellent; soybeans 3% very poor, 7% poor, 20% fair, 60% good, 10% excellent; sugarbeets 1% very poor, 1% poor, 10% fair, 58% good, 30% excellent; sunflower 1% very poor, 7% poor, 25% fair, 53% good, 14%

excellent. Stockwater supplies rated 0% very short, 2% short, 91% adequate, 7% surplus.

**OHIO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.4. Topsoil moisture 55% very short, 36% short, 9% adequate, 0% surplus. Soybeans dropping leaves 95%, 88% 1998, 75% avg. Soybeans mature 69%, 52% 1998, 39% avg. Soybeans harvested 28%, 18% 1998, 10% avg. Alfalfa hay 4<sup>th</sup> cutting 76%, 64% 1998. Other hay 3<sup>rd</sup> cutting 90%, 87% 1998, 74% avg. Corn mature 80%, 64% 1998, 36% avg. Corn harvested for silage, 78%, 56% 1998, 42% avg. Corn harvested for grain 16%, 8% 1998, 4% avg. Winter wheat planted 7%, 5% 1998, 6% avg. Fall and winter apples harvested, 49%, 41% 1998, 29% avg. Grapes harvested 60%, 47% 1998. Tobacco harvested, 81%, 84% 1998. Processing tomatoes harvested 90%, 83% 1998, 74% avg. Potatoes harvested 78%, 80% 1998, 61% avg. Pasture 26% very poor, 36% poor, 30% fair, 8% good, 0% excellent. Corn 9% very poor, 15% poor, 38% fair, 32% good, 6% excellent. Soybeans 7% very poor, 16% poor, 36% fair, 35% good, 6% excellent. Activities for the week include harvesting corn, soybeans; mowing; baling hay; sowing wheat; plowing; chopping silage; hauling grain; spraying Christmas trees; picking pumpkins, squash; planting barley, rye; cutting firewood; scouting new water sources; spreading manure, lime, fertilizer; fixing fences, clipping pastures. Reported weed pressures include yellow foxtail, pigweed, velvetleaf, lambs quarters, Canadian thistle, giant ragweed, Johnson grass, chickweed, mare's tail. Reported insects include spider mites on soybeans; leaf hoppers in potatoes; corn borers; stink bugs on pumpkins, squash; beetles in soybeans, corn. Reported diseases include sudden death syndrome, white mold in soybeans; gray leaf spot, aflatoxin, fungus on corn; brown stem rot; Stewart's wilt in corn; mildew on vegetables. The fruit, vegetable harvest is in full swing as producers are trying to beat the frost. Producers are busy picking grapes, apples, pears, broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, carrots, potatoes. Frost was reported in Sandusky county, low yields due to the drought were reported in Fulton county. Reporters continue to comment on poor pasture conditions with very little to no real signs of improvement. Cool weather has reduced stress on cattle. A Wayne county reporter mentioned milk production has risen slightly. A Harrison county reporter mentioned cattle lack conditioning, some calves are being weaned early. Lack of water is still a problem.

**OKLAHOMA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Subsoil moisture 10% very short, 26% short, 64% adequate. Topsoil moisture 9% very short, 25% short, 65% adequate, 1% surplus. Mild temperatures, dry weather allow peanut, cotton harvest to begin. Wheat 90% seedbed prepared, 74% 1998, 86% avg; Oats 89% seedbed prepared, 63% 1998, 78% avg; 14% planted, 12% 1998, 14% avg; Corn 98% mature, 100% 1998, 83% avg; 64% harvested, 88% 1998, 64% avg; Soybeans 1% very poor, 18% poor, 44% fair, 35% good, 2% excellent; 91% setting pods, 98% 1998, 98% avg; 47% mature, 78% 1998, 56% avg; 18% harvested, 31% 1998, 20% avg; Peanuts 27% mature, 55% 1998, 41% avg; Alfalfa Hay 3% very poor, 10% poor, 37% fair, 48% good, 2% excellent; 73% 4<sup>th</sup> cutting, 48% 1998, 77% avg; 18% 5<sup>th</sup> cutting, 6% 1998, 18% avg; Other Hay 70% 2<sup>nd</sup> cutting, 23% 1998, 75% avg; Livestock 3% poor, 27% fair, 65% good, 5% excellent. Feeder steer price \$1 to \$1.50 below last week.

**OREGON:** Days suitable for fieldwork 7. Topsoil 48% very short, 48% short, 4% adequate. Subsoil 46% very short, 45% short, 9% adequate. Barley harvested 83%, 97% 1998, 96% average. Barley Planted 12%, 2% 1998, 2% average. Range & pasture 7% very poor, 25% poor, 32% fair, 35% good, 1% excellent. Activities: Eastern Oregon producers continued planting fall crop. Much of the crop may be "dusted in" or seeding delayed until rainfall is received. Northeast continued harvest of small grains. Western Oregon reported field preparations continued, as well as some haying operations. Willamette Valley silage corn cutting was underway & red clover seed harvest winding down. Irrigation continued at nurseries along with repotting & field planting of new nursery stock. On southern Oregon coast Easter Lily growers still transplanting bulbs & a few growers starting to dig commercial bulbs. Christmas tree growers flagging trees for harvest. Northeast potato harvest started & Klamath Basin reported 99% potatoes knocked down, 1% harvested. Late season potato harvest started in Northeast while onion harvest continued. Western Oregon reported sweet corn, onions, potatoes & other vegetable crops harvested. Weather been too warm for early cauliflower crop in Willamette Valley, but good for drying onions. Carrot & beet crops nearing harvest. Willamette Valley, evergreen blackberry harvest continued & other berry fields being prepared for winter. Pear & apple harvest continued & prune & plum harvest underway. Hazelnuts continued to drop. Rogue River Valley, pear & apple harvest continued. Grapes doing well. The crop may be shorter, but quality should be good. Milton-Freewater apple harvest continued. On south coast cranberry growers hand weeding. Hood River Valley, Anjou pears being harvested in all but highest elevation orchards. Gala apples being picked in mid valley orchards. Grass growth on ranges & pastures finished by hot

weather during September, except at highest elevations in eastern mountains. Supplemental feeding started in most Willamette Valley counties. Livestock condition mostly good to fair. Cattle gathered off range in the northeast. Weaning, vaccinating, pregnancy checking & preconditioning started around the state.

**PENNSYLVANIA:** Fair week for field work. Days suitable for field work 4.3. Soil moisture 10% very short, 27% short, 54% adequate, 9% surplus. Corn dough 99% complete, 100% 1998, 99% avg. Corn dent 75% complete, 88% 1998, 83% avg. Corn mature 41% harvested, 38% 1998, 38% avg. Corn harvested 12% complete, 7% 1998, 7% avg. Ensilage corn harvested 65% complete, 57% 1998, 48% avg. Soybean crop condition 14% very poor, 26% poor, 37% fair, 20% good, 3% excellent. Wheat planted 13% complete, 12% 1998, 26% avg. Wheat emerged 6% complete, 2% 1998, avg. not available. Barley planted 49% complete, 33% 1998, 35% avg. Barley emerged 30% complete, 11% 1998, average not available. Tobacco harvest 80% complete, 100% 1998, 98% avg. Potato harvest 52% complete, 63% 1998, 55% avg. Alfalfa 3<sup>rd</sup> cutting 88% complete, 88% 1998, 85% avg. Alfalfa 4<sup>th</sup> cutting 55% complete, 52% 1998, 48% avg. Timothy clover 2<sup>nd</sup> cutting 91% complete, 92% 1998, 94% avg. Quality of hay made 8% very poor, 11% poor, 21% fair, 42% good, 18% excellent. Apple harvest 40% complete, 46% 1998, 46% avg. Apple condition 3% poor, 16% fair, 67% good, 14% excellent. Grape harvest 32% complete, 37% 1998, 40% avg. Fall plowing 42% complete, 45% 1998, 50% avg. Activities include harvesting corn, soybeans, fruits, vegetables, potatoes, corn silage and tobacco; planting barley, wheat and cover crops; machinery maintenance; filling silos; fixing fences; hauling, pumping and spreading manure; spreading lime; caring for livestock; cutting hay; and plowing for the fall.

**SOUTH CAROLINA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Soil moisture 8% very short, 30% short, 45% adequate, 17% surplus. Apples 63% harvested, 50% 1998, 64% avg.; 28% poor, 63% fair, 9% good. Corn 98% harvested, 95% 1998, 89% avg. Livestock 1% very poor, 9% poor, 39% fair, 41% good, 10% excellent. Grapes 30% poor, 50% fair, 20% good. Pasture feed 16% very poor, 32% poor, 41% fair, 11% good. Sorghum 98% turned color, 99% 1998, NA avg.; 72% matured, 71% 1998, NA avg.; 50% harvested, 46% 1998, 51% avg.; 20% very poor, 40% poor, 36% fair, 4% good. Sweet Potatoes 20% harvested, 34% 1998, 23% avg.; 28% poor, 55% fair, 13% good. Tobacco 99% harvested, 100% 1998, 99% avg; 80% stalks destroyed, 83% 1998, 78% avg. Winter Grazings 20% planted, 29% 1998, 25% avg.; 9% emerged, 21% 1998, 16% avg. Winter Wheat 8% planted, 13% 1998, NA avg.; 1% emerged, N/A 1998, N/A avg. Barley 7% planted, NA 1998, NA avg. Oats 5% planted, 6% 1998, NA avg. Rye 11% planted, 10% 1998, NA avg. Farmers in eastern, coastal counties are trying to recover from Hurricane Floyd. Western, mountain counties receive little or no rain and continue to suffer from the severe, extended drought.

**SOUTH DAKOTA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Topsoil moisture 4% very short, 12% short, 72% adequate and 12% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% very short, 10% short, 75% adequate and 13% surplus. Alfalfa is 2% very poor, 3% poor, 16% fair, 55% good, 24% excellent; third cutting complete 81%, 83% 1998, avg. unavailable. Sorghum harvested for silage 37%, 47% 1998, 42% avg. Soybeans mature 40%, 74% 1998, 52% avg. Sunflower condition is 2% poor, 19% fair, 56% good, 23% excellent; ray flowers dry 93%, 100% 1998, 99% avg.; bracts yellow 77%, 94% 1998, 92% avg.; mature 33%, 66% 1998, 56% avg.; harvested 2%, 18% 1998, 7% avg. Flaxseed harvested 93%, 100% 1998, 97% avg. Corn dented 97%, 100% 1998, 96% avg., harvested for silage 81%, 85% 1998, 62% avg. Winter rye seeded 58%, 72% 1998, 78% avg.; emerged 33%, 45% 1998, 50% avg. Stock water supplies 5% short, 81% adequate and 14% surplus. Cattle condition is 1% poor, 6% fair, 62% good, 31% excellent. Sheep condition is 6% fair, 56% good, 38% excellent.

**TENNESSEE:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil moisture 67% very short, 26% short, 7% adequate. Subsoil moisture 68% very short, 26% short, 6% adequate. Corn 95% harvested for grain, 79% 1998, 62% avg. Burley 92% harvested, 83% 1998, 86% avg. Dark Fire-Cured 92% harvested, 88% 1998, 88% avg. Pasture 57% very poor, 32% poor, 10% fair, 1% good. Winter wheat 1% seeded, 4% 1998, 7% avg. Hay stocks 16% very short, 34% short, 46% adequate, and 4% surplus. Drought conditions persisted last week with well below normal rainfall amounts across most of State. The only exception was over portions of Middle Tennessee where rainfall actually averaged slightly above normal. With pastures rated in mostly very poor to poor condition, many cattle producers have been forced to feed hay and haul water to their herds. Producers, who are concerned they will run short of hay this winter, are moving light weight calves and some cows to auction markets. Last week's rains helped pastures some what, but more will be needed to keep forage supplies ahead of cattle needs this fall.

Farmers continued making good progress with cotton, soybean, and tobacco harvest; while corn harvest was virtually completed last week. The dry conditions are also causing delays in this year's seeding of winter wheat and the overseeding of pastures and hay fields.

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**TEXAS :** DATA NOT AVAILABLE

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**UTAH:** Days suitable for field work 7. Top soil moisture 12% very short, 21% short, 67% adequate. Subsoil moisture 10% very short, 22% short, 68% adequate. Pasture, range condition 1% very poor, 10% poor, 33% fair, 48% good, 8% excellent. Corn: in dough stage 86%, 83% 1998, 68% avg; in dent stage 50%, 51% 1998, 43% avg; mature 19%, 17% 1998, 32% avg. Corn silage harvested 31%, 26% 1998, 35% avg. Winter wheat planted 49%, 69% 1998, 59% avg; emerged 5%, 17% 1998, 21% avg. Alfalfa hay: third cutting 91%, 88% 1998, 83% avg; fourth cutting 28%, 34% 1998, 30% avg. Alfalfa seed harvested 31%, 59% 1998, 46% avg. Peaches picked 82%, 87% 1998, 96% avg. Pears picked 86%, 71% 1998, 88% avg. Apples picked 22%, 15% 1998, 29% avg. Potatoes harvested 20%, 24% 1998, 31% avg. Onions harvested 51%, 49% 1998, 50% avg. Dry beans harvested 82%, 99% 1998, 79% avg. Cattle moved from summer range 28%, 26% 1998, 34% avg. Sheep moved from summer range 24%, 22% 1998, 30% avg. Irrigation water supply 2% very short, 16% short, 75% adequate, 7% surplus. Stock water supplies 2% very short, 17% short, 79% adequate, 2% surplus. Major activities included harvesting hay and corn silage and moving livestock to winter ranges.

**VIRGINIA:** suitable for fieldwork 5.2. Topsoil moisture 10% very short, 15% short, 50% adequate, 25% surplus. Subsoil moisture 17% very short, 25% short, 44% adequate, 14% surplus. Pastures 10% very poor, 17% poor, 31% fair, 37% good, 5% excellent. Livestock 7% poor, 35% fair, 51% good, 7% excellent. Corn for Grain 94% dented, 96% 1998, 95% avg; 77% mature, 87% 1998, 80% avg; 42% harvested, 54% 1998, 42% avg; 13% very poor, 27% poor, 32% fair, 24% good, 4% excellent. Corn for Silage 83% harvested, 86% 1998, 72% avg. Soybeans 97% setting pods, 98% 1998, 97% avg; 20% dropping leaves, 25% 1998, 10% avg; 4% very poor, 12% poor, 23% fair, 51% good, 10% excellent. Winter Wheat 2% seeded, 12% 1998, 6% avg. Barley 6% seeded, 2% 1998, 7% avg. Tobacco, Flue Cured 70% harvested, 66% 1998, 76% avg. Tobacco, Burley 89% harvested, 76% 1998, 80% avg. Tobacco, Dark Fire Cured 92% harvested, 94% 1998, 94% avg. Peanuts 3% dug, 14% 1998, 18% avg; 0% combined, 3% 1998, 8% avg; 1% very poor, 1% poor, 59% fair, 33% good, 6% excellent. Cotton 52% bolls opening, 58% 1998, 65% avg; 0% harvested, 5% 1998, 2% avg; 1% poor, 70% fair, 21% good, 8% excellent. Apples, All 2% very poor, 10% poor, 38% fair, 42% good, 8% excellent. Apples, Fall 38% harvested, 37% 1998, 46% avg. Apples, Winter 10% harvested, 7% 1998, 11% avg. Many producers were able to resume field activities as drier weather conditions prevailed during the past week. However, field activities in many southeastern and eastern localities were limited by saturated fields and impassable roads. In spite of wet soil conditions, corn producers resumed harvest resulting in major ruts and soil compaction. Fall tillage for small grain seeding in these localities is expected to be difficult and delayed. Many vegetable crops, including pumpkins, are expected to be a total loss as a result of heavy rains, flooding and wind damage. Wet field conditions continue to delay harvest of field crops such as corn, tobacco, and peanuts causing reduced quality and yield. Pastures and hayfields in some localities received beneficial rains from Tropical Storm Dennis and Hurricane Floyd. Recent rains have helped green-up pastures and promote growth eliminating hay feeding in some localities. Some western localities remain dry despite recent rainfall received as water tables and streams remain below normal. Other field activities during the week included harvesting tomatoes and other vegetables, defoliating cotton, cutting hay, marketing cattle, and accessing crop damage.

**WASHINGTON:** Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Topsoil moisture was 28% very short, 49% short, 23% adequate; Subsoil moisture 13% very short, 69% short, 18% adequate. Winter wheat 67% planted, 69% 1998, 64% avg.; 39% emerged, 51% 1998, 45% avg. Winter wheat continued to be planted. Those fields that had been planted were emerging, however, many producers were waiting for additional moisture to finish seeding fields. Spring wheat 100% harvested, 100% 1998, 100% avg. Barley 100% harvested, 100% 1998, 100% avg. Potatoes 45% harvested, 44% 1998, 43% avg. Potatoes 10% fair, 35% good, 55% excellent. Hay, other roughage supplies were 5% short, 70% adequate, 25% surplus. Range, pasture 20% very poor, 45% poor, 25% fair, 9% good, 1% excellent. Harvest was completed for cereal grains such as spring wheat, barley. Harvest for sugar beets are expected to start within the next week, onion harvest was well on its way to being completed. Pumpkin farms were preparing fields to start u-pick harvest around the 1<sup>st</sup> of October. Strong demand for noble fir Christmas trees continues. Strong winds Saturday night damaged fruit in Central Areas by

knocking the fruit off of the trees. Apple, pear harvest continues in full swing as advertisements for experienced pickers were sent out. Blueberry harvest was coming to a close. Sweet corn was still being harvested. Both grass, corn silage harvest continued, livestock growers were spraying for Canadian Thistle.

**WEST VIRGINIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Topsoil moisture 40% very short, 41% short, 19% adequate. Crop harvest continues across the State. Livestock producers continue to cull cattle, feed hay, haul water as drought conditions persist. Hay condition 25% very poor, 44% poor, 27% fair, 4% good; Hay 2<sup>nd</sup> cut 86%, 95% 1998, 94% 5-yr avg; 3<sup>rd</sup> cut 52%, 70% 1998, 65% 5-yr avg. Corn 17% very poor, 50% poor, 31% fair, 2% good; Corn dent 74%, 65% 1998; Corn 62% mature, 50% 1998, 58% 5-yr avg; Corn 13% harvested, 16% 1998, 23% 5-yr avg. Soybeans 7% very poor, 23% poor, 46% fair, 24% good; Dropping leaves 70%, 79% 1998, 72% 5-yr avg.; 9% harvested, 7% 1998. Tobacco 19% very poor, 14% poor, 18% fair, 49% good; Tobacco 58% harvested, 75% 1998, 87% 5-yr avg. Apples 8% very poor, 24% poor, 52% fair, 16% good. Apples 40% harvest, 66% 1998. Cattle 3% very poor, 16% poor, 50% fair, 31% good. Sheep 1% very poor, 8% poor, 59% fair, 29% good, 3% excellent.

**WISCONSIN:** Days suitable for fieldwork: 6.4. Soil Moisture 19% very short, 35% short, 45% adequate, 1% surplus. Northern areas of Areas experienced the first killing frost of the season this past week. Frost signals the beginning of fall, the end of most home gardens. Maturity of crops were aided by the cold snap, causing corn to dry down, Soybeans to shed their leaves. Harvest of high moisture corn had begun last week in many areas with reports of good yields. Corn silage harvest progressed quickly last week due to the dry conditions. Southern areas of the state were finishing up silage harvest, while northern areas will be pushed to finish due to killing frost. Soybean harvest in the southern areas had started with soybean moisture varying, but many fields have been near 13%. Soybean 85% dropping leaves, 1999, 90% 1998, 59% avg. Soybeans 13% harvested 1999, 8% 1998, 2% avg. Soybean 0% very poor, 2% poor, 11% fair, 52% good, 35% excellent. Hay harvest continued last week with the 4th crop reduced due to the lack of rainfall. Haying in many areas will be quickly coming to an end. Fourth crop hay harvested 46% 1999. Winter wheat seeding continued last week, the crop is in need of rain for germination. Snapbean harvest in the north went at a feverish pace early in the week to get the crop harvested before frost damaged the crop. Dark red kidney bean harvest continued in Dunn County last week. Cranberry harvest of early varieties should begin by the end of this week. Reporters expect cranberry yields to meet or exceed 1998 crop. Cooler weather is now needed to add color to the berries. Pasture feed conditions 2% very poor, 17% poor, 42% fair, 33% good, 6% excellent.

**WYOMING:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil moisture 2% very short, 31% short, 67% adequate. Subsoil moisture 3% very short, 38% short, 59% adequate. Spring wheat 98% harvested, 98% 1998, 99% avg. Barley 97% harvested, 96% 1998, 98% avg. Oats 92% harvested, 97% 1998, 96% avg. Corn 90% dented, 98% 1998, 97% avg.; 64% mature, 79% 1998, 75% avg. Corn 83% harvested for silage, 79% 1998; 78% avg. Dry beans 94% windrowed, 99% 1998, 98% avg.; 73% combined, 71% 1998, 78% avg. Sugarbeets 16% harvested, 2% 1998, 5% avg. Alfalfa 56% 3rd cutting, 61% 1998, 59% avg. Winter wheat 96% planted, 98% 1998, 94% avg.; 81% emerged, 76% 1998, 71% avg. Range, pasture feed 1% poor, 20% fair, 70% good, 9% excellent. Stock water supplies 11% short, 87% adequate, 2% surplus. Temperatures were generally warmer than normal with light precipitation.

# International Weather and Crop Summary

September 19 - 25, 1999

## HIGHLIGHTS

**FSU-WESTERN:** Dry weather in Ukraine, southern Russia, and Belarus continued to favor fieldwork for summer crop harvesting and winter grain planting.

**FSU-NEW LANDS:** Drier weather in Russia helped spring grain harvesting, while continued dryness in Kazakhstan allowed the harvest to advance without delays.

**EUROPE:** Wet weather delayed summer crop harvesting and winter grain planting in western and central Europe, while dry weather in eastern Europe allowed harvesting and planting to continue.

**EASTERN ASIA:** A freeze in northern Manchuria possibly damaged immature corn. Tropical systems saturated southern Japan and South Korea, causing flooding and some rice damage.

**AUSTRALIA:** Rain is needed in sections of the southeast for normal development of vegetative winter crops.

**SOUTH ASIA:** Scattered showers over southern India benefited late-developing summer crops.

**SOUTHEAST ASIA:** Heavy showers possibly damaged immature rice and slowed early rice harvesting across northern Thailand and western Luzon, Philippines.

**SOUTH AMERICA:** Widespread rain boosted soil moisture for winter wheat in central Argentina. In portions of southern Brazil, beneficial rain aided early soybean planting and coffee flowering.

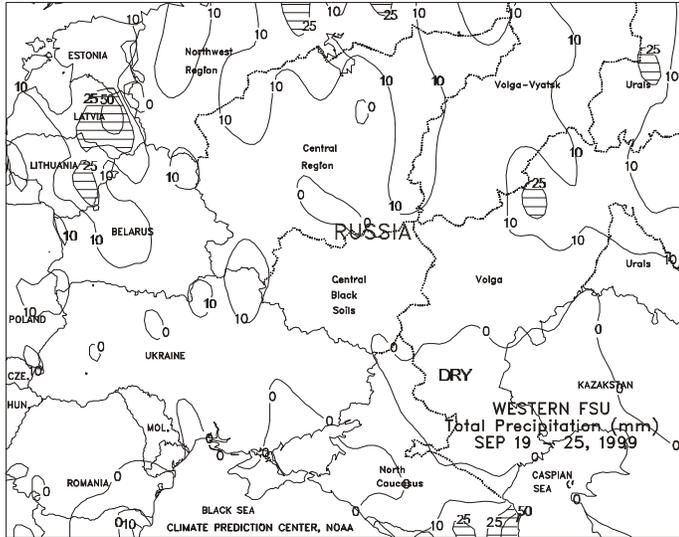
**MEXICO:** Dry weather continued to aid maturing corn across the Southern Plateau.

**CANADA:** Harvesting of spring grains and oilseeds progressed across the Prairies.



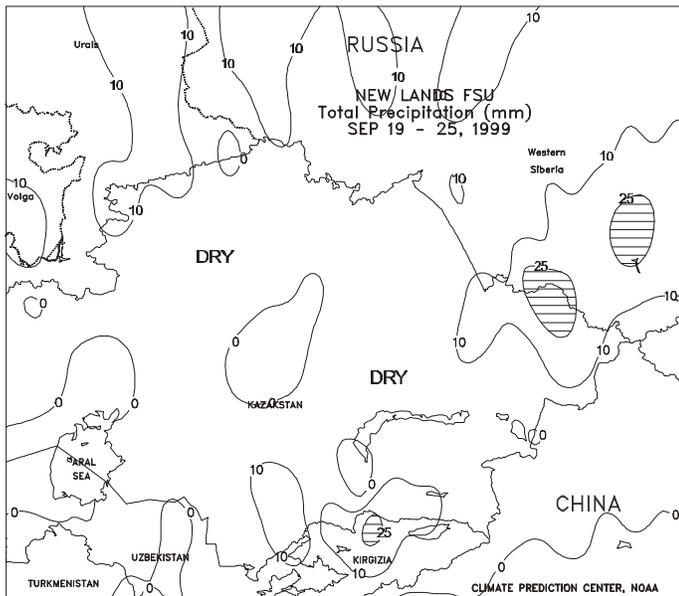
## EUROPE

Moderate to heavy rain (25-75 mm, locally near 100 mm) slowed summer crop harvesting and winter grain planting across much of western Europe, but provided abundant moisture for germinating winter grains. In England, France, the Iberian peninsula, and northern Italy, rainfall delayed corn, sugar beet, and sunflowerseed harvesting. In drought-plagued southern Spain and Portugal, the rain came much too late to help maturing, nonirrigated summer crops, but increased topsoil moisture for winter wheat, typically planted in October and November. Significantly more rain is needed in this area, however, to alleviate the drought. In central Europe, lighter rain (10-40 mm, with locally heavier amounts) fell across major crop-producing regions in Scandinavia, the Benelux countries, Germany, western Poland, Austria, the Czech republic, and the north Balkans. This rain benefited newly planted winter grains, typically sown during September and October in these countries. Although temporarily delayed by showers, the corn harvest was reportedly 20 percent complete in Austria, and had just begun in Germany as of September 23. Farther east, primarily dry weather (less than 10 mm of rain) prevailed from eastern Poland southward through Greece, allowing summer crop harvesting and winter grain planting to continue uninterrupted. Unseasonably warm weather continued in Europe, with temperatures running between 2 to 6 degrees C above normal across most of the continent. The only cool spots were Spain, Portugal, and southern Greece, where temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C below normal.



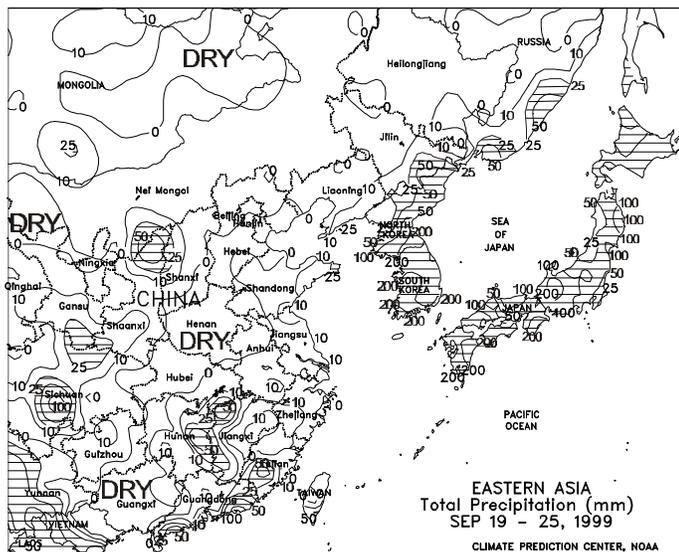
**FSU-WESTERN**

In Ukraine and southern Russia (southern portion of the Central Black Soils Region, lower Volga Valley, and North Caucasus), dry weather helped fieldwork for corn, sunflower, and sugar beet harvesting and winter wheat planting. Mostly dry weather has prevailed in eastern Ukraine and southern Russia since winter wheat planting began in early September, diminishing topsoil moisture for germination and early crop establishment. As a result, planting may be progressing slowly in some areas as growers wait for significant rains to boost soil moisture. Based on normal weather conditions, planting after the middle of October in these areas may not ensure that the crop becomes sufficiently established before entering dormancy. Elsewhere, continued dry weather favored harvest activities in Belarus, but limited topsoil moisture for winter grain establishment. Weekly temperatures averaged 2 to 5 degrees C above normal in the western half of Ukraine, Belarus, and the Baltics, favoring the rapid emergence and establishment of winter grains in areas where topsoil moisture was sufficient. Weekly temperatures averaged near to slightly below normal in most of Russia and eastern Ukraine.



**FSU-NEWLANDS**

Spring grain harvesting was well underway in Russia and Kazakhstan. In Russia, light to moderate showers (5-10 mm, with local amounts in excess of 10 mm) caused only brief harvest delays. Greatest delays likely occurred in parts of the northern Urals and the Altay Kray region of Western Siberia, where precipitation amounts ranged from 10 to 32 mm. In Russia, reports as of September 20 indicated that the harvest of small grains and pulses, excluding corn, advanced to 87 percent completion. In Kazakhstan, mostly dry weather allowed harvest to progress without delays. In Kazakhstan, reports as of September 23 indicated that the grain harvest was about 64 percent complete, compared with 97 percent for the same date last year. The grain harvest was virtually completed in western and southern growing areas and was well underway in primary spring grain-producing areas in north-central Kazakhstan. Weekly temperatures averaged 1 to 4 degrees C below normal in Kazakhstan, slowing spring grain maturation. In cotton-producing areas of Central Asia, mild, dry weather favored boll maturation and harvesting. In Uzbekistan, reports as of September 24 indicated that the cotton harvest was about 22 percent complete, compared with about 19 percent for the same date last year. Furthermore, the cotton harvest was progressing ahead of schedule due to favorable weather conditions.

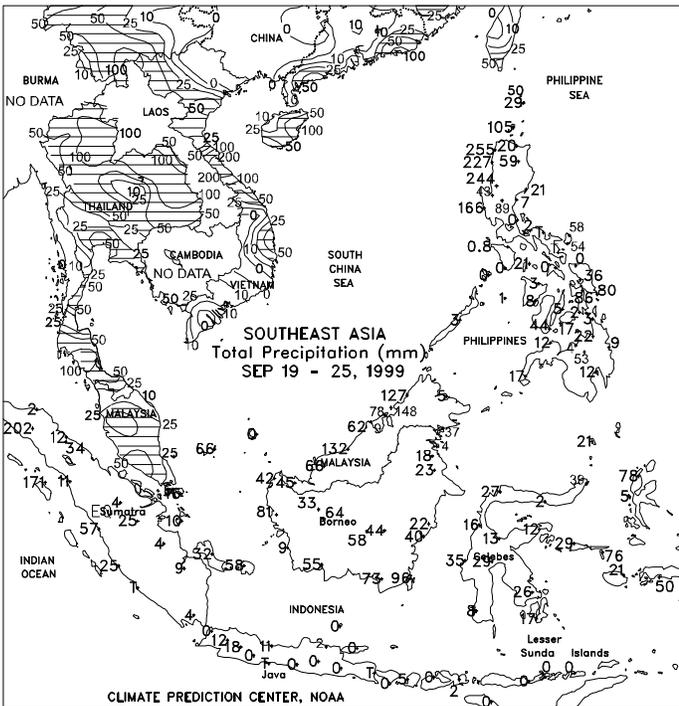
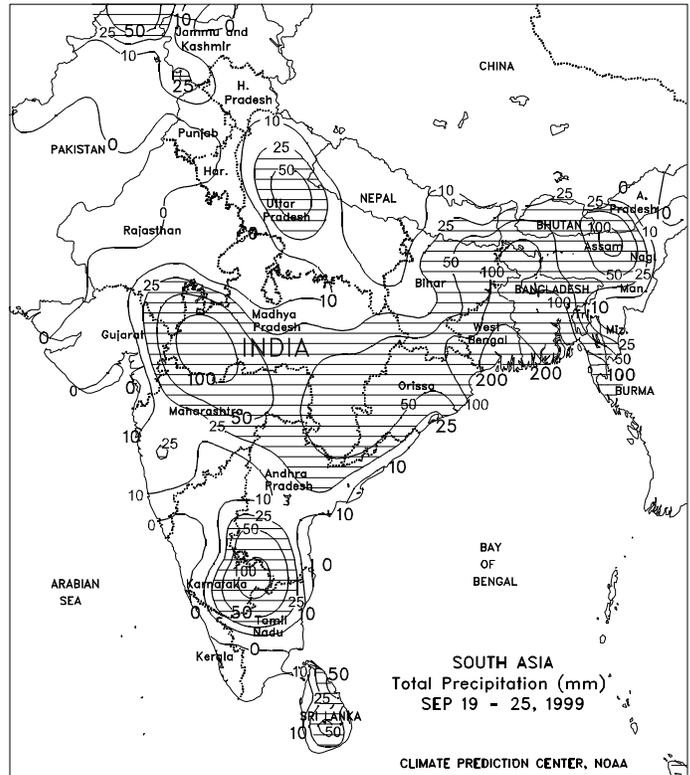


**EASTERN ASIA**

Freezing temperatures ended the growing season across northern Manchuria (Heilongjiang), possibly damaging immature corn. Scattered frost also prevailed across Jilin. Typically, the first autumn freeze occurs about October 1. Across China, mostly dry weather favored summer crop maturation and harvesting from Manchuria to southern China. Temperatures averaged 1 to 2 degrees C below normal across Manchuria and the North China Plain. Tropical Storm Ann made landfall in southwestern South Korea on September 20, with sustained winds of 35 knots (40 mph). Typhoon Bart made landfall in southwestern Japan (Kyushu Island) on September 23, with sustained winds of 110 knots (126 mph). Widespread heavy rain (100-200 mm) from these two storms saturated South Korea and southern Japan, causing flooding and some rice damage. South Korea has experienced several heavy rain events during the past month, possibly reducing rice yield prospects. Temperatures averaged 1 to 4 degrees C above normal across Japan and the Korean Peninsula, favoring maturing summer crops.

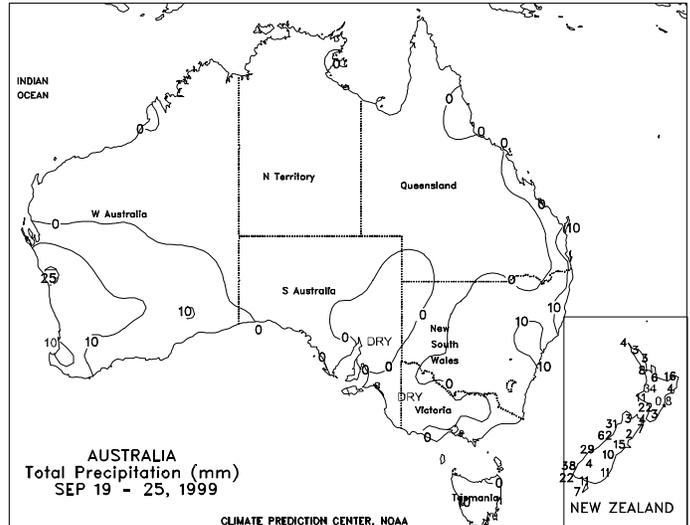
**SOUTH ASIA**

Beneficial late-season showers (10-50 mm or more) brought some relief to summer crops in southern India. The moisture was especially welcomed for cotton and oilseeds in Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra. Winter crop production in southern India may help compensate for reductions in summer production caused by the drought in western India (Gujarat). Locally heavy rain (50-100 mm or more) likely caused isolated flooding and potential crop damage in prime soybean areas of western Madhya Pradesh. Elsewhere, widespread, locally heavy showers (25-100 mm or more) maintained mostly favorable moisture levels for rice in central and eastern India and Bangladesh, although flooding was likely near the Mouths of the Ganges. Heavy rain (50 mm or more) in far northern Pakistan will eventually reach farmland in the Indus River Valley, but warm, dry weather dominated the remainder of Pakistan and neighboring sections of northwest India. Current conditions favor dry down of rice and cotton, but irrigation reserves may become limited for upcoming planting of winter wheat and rapeseed. The monsoon has apparently begun its seasonal withdrawal from the northwest.



**SOUTHEAST ASIA**

Seasonably heavy showers (50-200 mm) fell across northern Thailand and western Luzon, Philippines, possibly damaging immature rice and slowing early rice harvesting. Elsewhere in Indochina and the Philippines, drier, sunnier weather prevailed (less than 25 mm), aiding maturing rice. Moderate showers (10-50 mm) maintained moisture supplies for oil palm across peninsular Malaysia. Sunny, dry weather continued across Java, Indonesia, aiding second-crop rice maturation and harvesting.

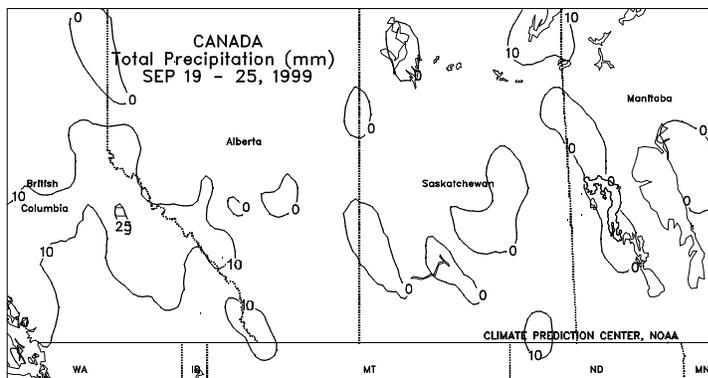


**AUSTRALIA**

Dry weather dominated the east. Temperatures averaged near to slightly above normal in the southeast (South Australia to southern New South Wales), with highs reaching the middle to upper 20's degrees C in most areas. Topsoils have become unfavorably dry in South Australia for normal development of vegetative to reproductive winter grains, and rain is needed to prevent significant declines in yield potential. Elsewhere in the southeast, subsoil moisture reserves are short, but timely spring rains have sustained winter crop development. Moisture levels are generally favorable for normal crop development in central and northern New South Wales, while farther north, winter grain and oilseed harvests advanced in Queensland. Fieldwork continued in the main cotton and sorghum areas, although farmers are likely awaiting the start of the summer rainy season to sow on nonirrigated acreage. Dry weather along the coast favored sugarcane harvests. In Western Australia, scattered, mostly light showers (15 mm or less) and seasonably mild temperatures maintained favorable conditions for winter grain development. In New Zealand, showers (5-25 mm) moistened topsoils for development of small grains and pastures.

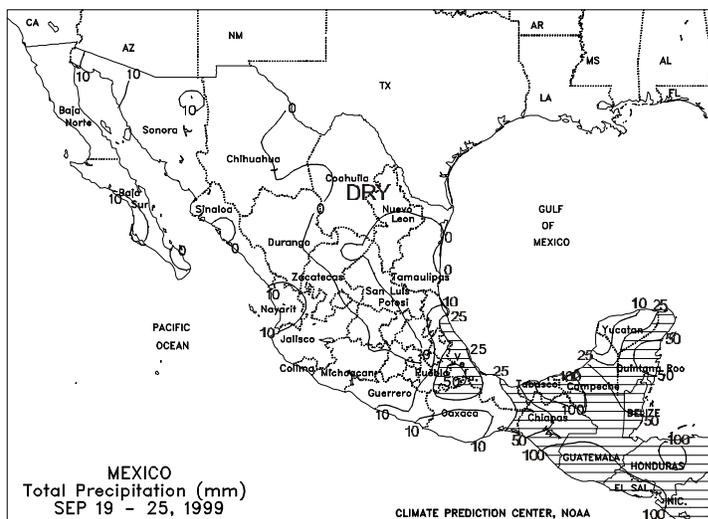
**CANADA**

Sub-freezing temperatures lingered over the Prairies early in the week, reaching eastern Manitoba and the Interlake Region for the first time this season. Some crop damage, mainly in the form of quality reductions, may have been experienced by late-planted grains and oilseeds. Saskatchewan's northeastern crop areas and sections of southwestern Manitoba are the only areas of agricultural significance that have not had a killing freeze yet this season. As the week progressed, much warmer weather pushed northward into the Prairies, with highs in the lower 30's degrees C reported in western and southern growing areas by week's end. Dry weather throughout the week favored harvest activities and brought some relief to unfavorably wet stands and windrows in Manitoba. Autumn fieldwork is reportedly behind schedule across the Prairies, mainly due to the lateness in spring planting. In eastern Canada, mostly dry, frosty weather covered much of Ontario, favoring maturing corn and soybeans. Rain (10-25 mm or more) benefited immature crops in Quebec.



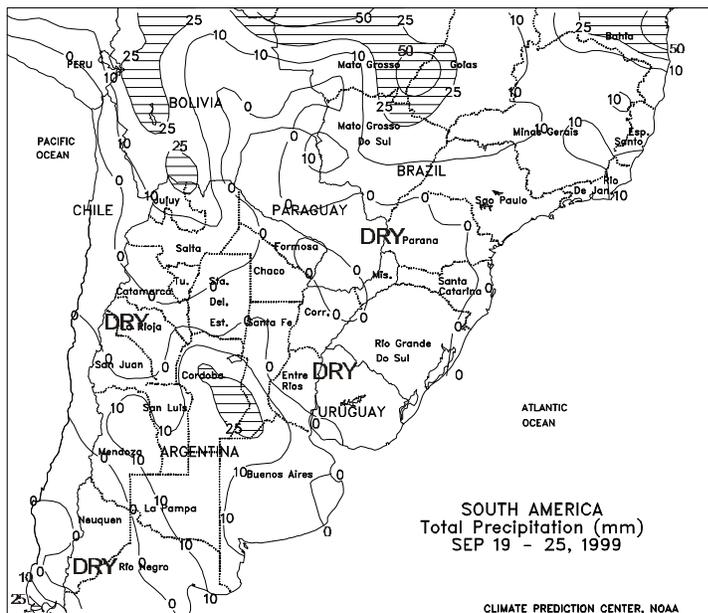
**MEXICO**

Mostly dry weather continued to aid maturing corn across the Southern Plateau. Due to normal rainfall during the summer, soil moisture is adequate for late-filling corn. Typically, rainfall rapidly diminishes across the region during early October. Variable showers (10-100 mm) favored reproductive to filling corn across southeastern Mexico (Yucatan Peninsula and Chiapas). Light to moderate rain (3-15 mm) fell across North and South Baja California, Sonora, and Chihuahua, due to the remnants of Tropical Storm Hilary. Temperatures averaged near to slightly above normal across the Southern Plateau and 1 to 3 degrees C above normal across northern Mexico.



**SOUTH AMERICA**

In central Argentina, weekend rain (5-50 mm) increased topsoil moisture for vegetative winter wheat. The moisture was especially welcomed in southern Cordoba and southern Santa Fe. In southern Brazil, beneficial early-season showers (10-40 mm) increased topsoil moisture for pre-planting fieldwork and early soybean planting in the west-central states of Mato Grosso and Goias. The rain also benefited flowering coffee in southwestern Minas Gerais and northern Sao Paulo. Dry weather prevailed across the southern states of Rio Grande do Sul and Parana, where rainfall the past few weeks boosted topsoil moisture for pre-planting fieldwork. Temperatures averaged 2 to 6 degrees C above normal in central Argentina. Temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C above normal across most of southern Brazil, although near- to below-normal temperatures were recorded in San Paulo, Goias, and Minas Gerais.



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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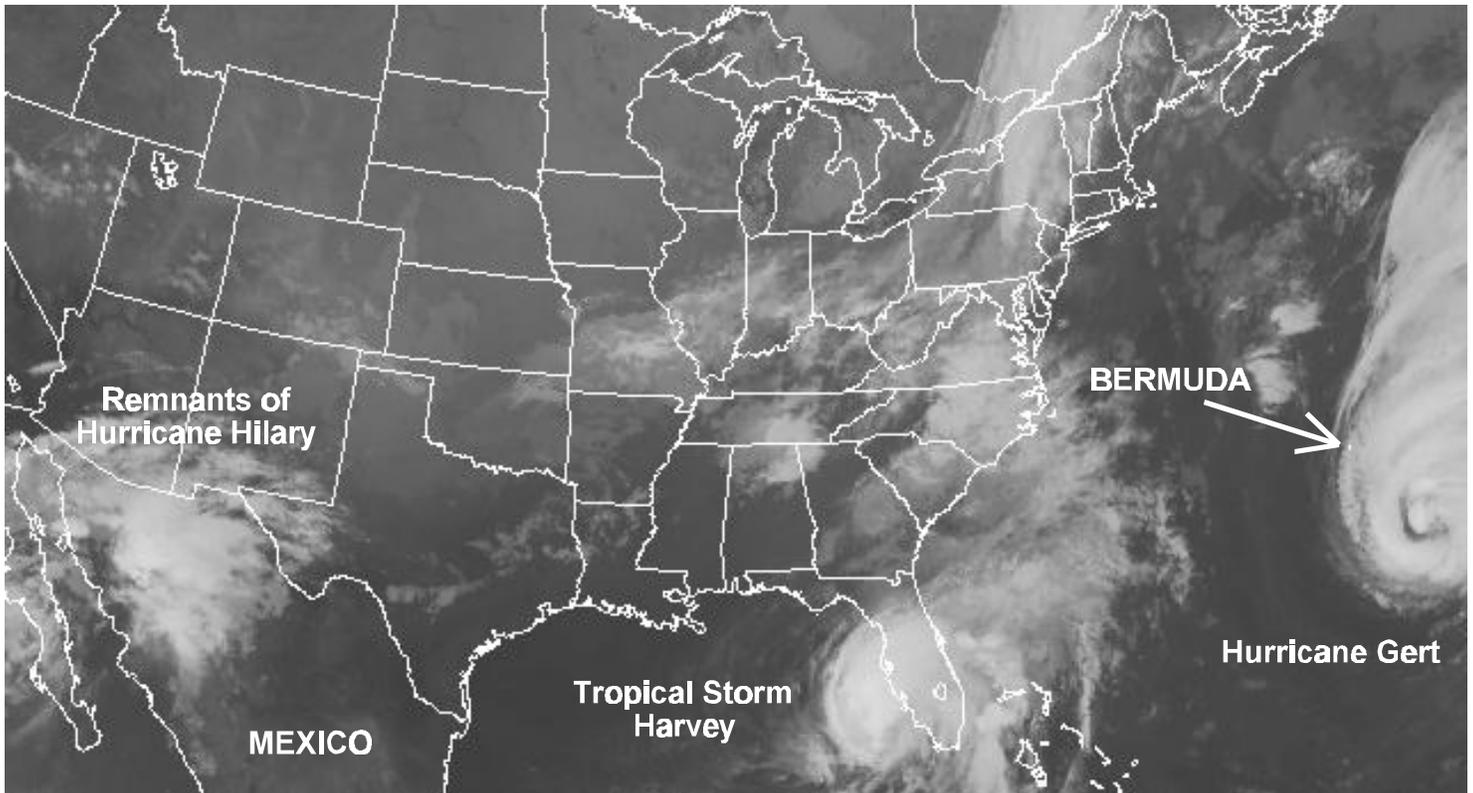
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**GOES-8 IR**

**September 20, 1999**

**10:45 p.m. EDT**



**Active Tropics:** In the Atlantic Basin, Hurricane Gert churns northward, passing just east of Bermuda, while minimal Tropical Storm Harvey heads toward southern Florida. Rainfall in eastern North Carolina and southeastern Virginia, associated with an approaching cold front interacting with tropical moisture, aggravates severe to record flooding. Meanwhile, remnant moisture from the former eastern Pacific Hurricane Hilary spreads across northwestern Mexico and into the Southwest.

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