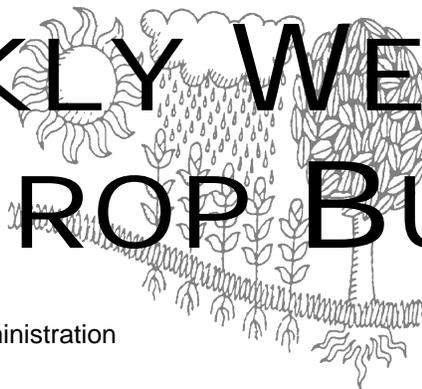


WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

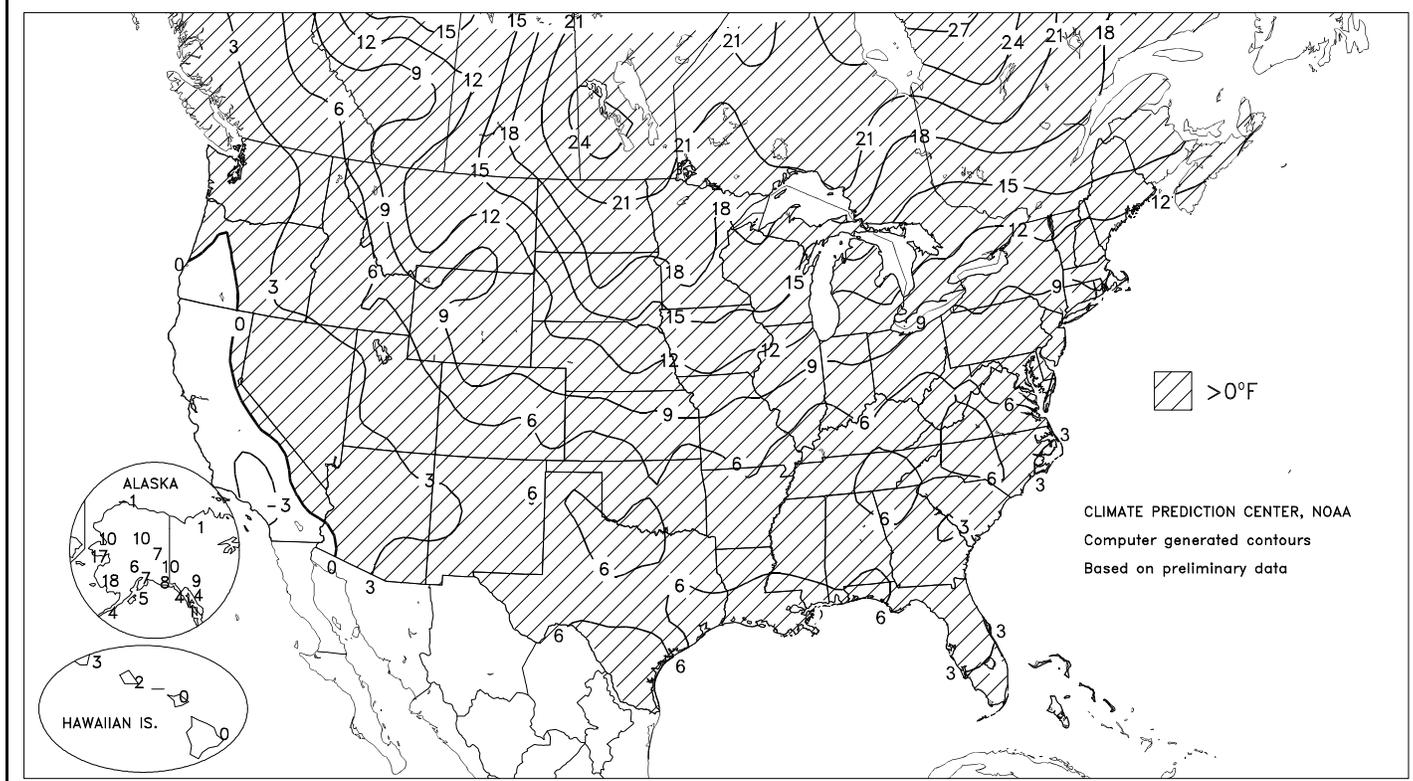
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service

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



Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F)

FEB 27 - MAR 4, 2000



HIGHLIGHTS

February 27 - March 4, 2000

Wet conditions prevailed in much of **California** for the eighth consecutive week, further improving soil moisture reserves, high-elevation snow packs, and spring runoff prospects, but hampering spring fieldwork operations. Cool weather (as much as 5°F below normal) also prevailed in **California**, but exceptionally mild conditions dominated the remainder of the country. From the **Rockies eastward**, weekly temperatures ranged from 5 to 21°F above normal across the **North** and 3 to 9°F above normal in the **South**. In the latter region, the warm weather favored fieldwork and early summer-crop planting, but stressed winter grains and further depleted already

(Continued on page 2)

Contents

Total Precipitation, Extreme Maximum & Minimum Temperature Maps	2
National Weather Data for Selected Cities	3
February Weather and Crop Summary	6
February Precipitation & Temperature Maps	8
February Weather Data for Selected Cities	9
National Agricultural Summary & Soil Temperature Map	10
International Weather and Crop Summary & February Temperature/Precipitation Table	11
Subscription Information & Weather Data for the Delta	16

(Continued from front cover)

limited topsoil moisture supplies. In areas, where soil moisture has recently improved, including the **Ohio Valley** and the **central and southern Plains** (excluding **West Texas**), the warmth promoted rapid winter wheat development. Despite two episodes of scattered showers in the **Southeast**, the threat of wildfires remained high and irrigation requirements continued to increase, especially in **Florida** and **southern Georgia**. Meanwhile, a mid- to late-week storm system provided most of **Kansas, Oklahoma**, and **extreme northern Texas** with at least an inch of precipitation, further improving the region's winter wheat prospects. At week's end, a major storm system approached **southern California** and the **Southwest** (more details will appear in next week's *Bulletin*).

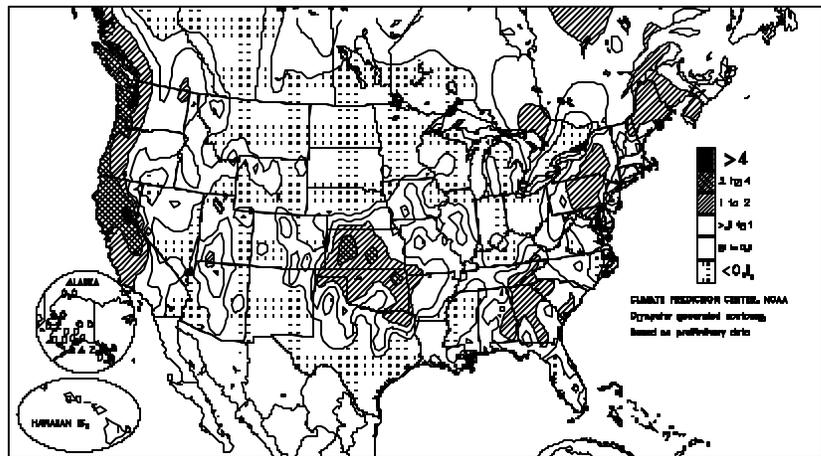
For the fifth consecutive week, nearly coast-to-coast warmth prevailed, resulting in more than 100 daily-record highs. **California** and adjacent areas, cool for the third time in 4 weeks, were again the exception. **Simi Valley, CA** (43°F) reported a daily-record low on Tuesday. Two days later in **California's Sacramento Valley**, **Redding's** high of 49°F was 13°F below normal. Meanwhile in **Wisconsin**, **Wausau** tallied a high of 59°F on Tuesday, tying their February record set just 3 days earlier. **International Falls, MN** posted four daily-record highs during the week, including a maximum of 60°F on March 3. That reading represented **International Falls'** earliest occurrence of 60-degree warmth (formerly 60°F on March 6, 1987). Unusual warmth was not confined to the **North**, as **McAlester, OK** registered a record high of 78°F on February 29. A day later, record highs reached 81°F in **New Orleans, LA** and **Mobile, AL**.

California's Department of Water Resources indicated that the water equivalent of the high-elevation **Sierra Nevada** snow pack surged to 27 inches (about 110 percent of normal) by early March, up by 2 feet in less than 8 weeks. Meanwhile, heavy rain periodically fell at lower elevations. On Sunday, **Fresno, CA** logged their highest calendar-day rainfall (1.87 inches) in February, contributing to their wettest February (6.11 inches) on record. During February, downtown **San Francisco, CA** noted 21 days with measurable rainfall, breaking their record of 20 days set in 1915 and 1998.

Meanwhile in the **Southwest**, midweek precipitation spread as far south as **northern Arizona**. On March 1, **Flagstaff, AZ** received 8.8 inches of snow, boosting their seasonal total to 32.2 inches. **Flagstaff's** normal seasonal snowfall (through week's end) is 74.4 inches. Farther east, significant precipitation arrived across the **central and southern Plains** on the night of March 1-2. **Dodge City, KS** received 1.62 inches of precipitation (ending as 1.1 inches of snow) on March 2, their highest 24-hour total since 2.01 inches fell during the 15.7-inch snow storm of March 12-13, 1999. However, showers provided only temporary relief from topsoil dryness in **western Texas**, where storm-total rainfall reached 0.26 inch in **Amarillo** and 0.24 inch in both **Lubbock** and **Midland**. Similarly, showers in the **Southeast** provided only limited relief from long-term drought and topsoil dryness. In **Macon, GA**, rainfall totaled 0.82 inch during the first 4 days of March, following only 0.37 inch (8 percent of normal) in February.

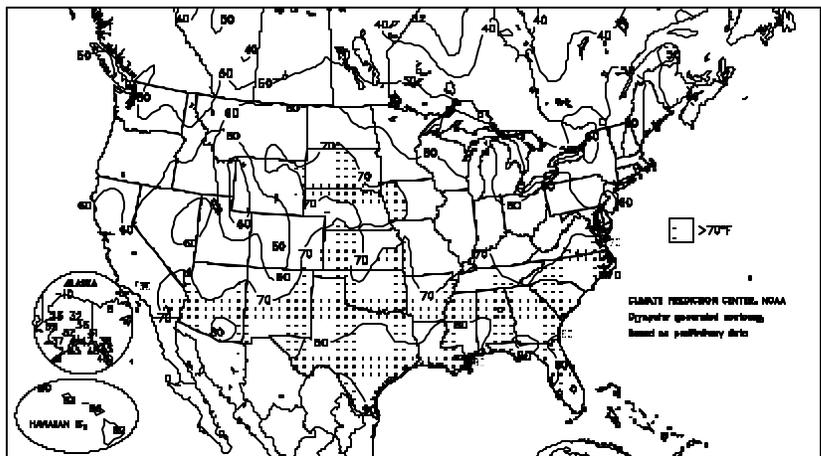
Total Precipitation (inches)

FEB 27 - MAR 4, 2000



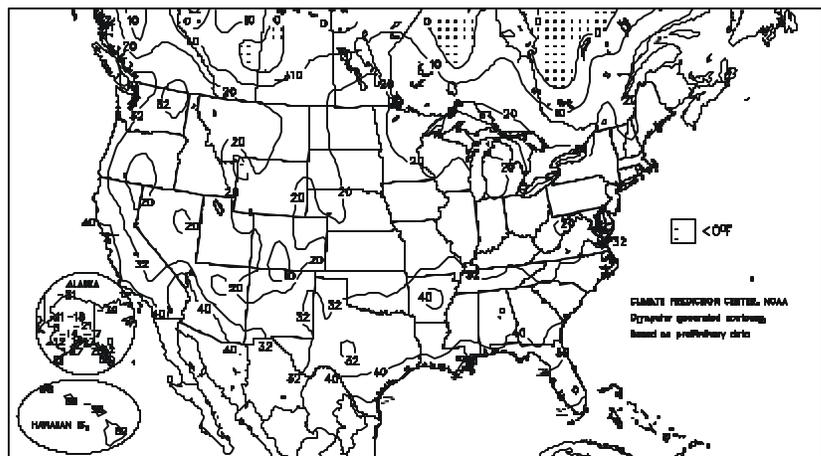
Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F)

FEB 27 - MAR 4, 2000



Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)

FEB 27 - MAR 4, 2000



Mostly dry weather persisted for a sixth consecutive week in **Hawaii**, accompanied by near- to above-normal temperatures. As a result, agricultural drought continued to gradually intensify across primarily leeward portions of the **central and eastern Hawaiian islands**. Meanwhile in **Alaska**, above-normal temperatures prevailed for the seventh week in a row across interior sections (up to 10°F above normal), and for the fourth consecutive week in western areas (up to 18°F above normal).

National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending March 4, 2000

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

STATES AND STATIONS	TEMPERATURE EF						PRECIPITATION						RELATIVE HUMIDITY PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS					
	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL IN, SINCE Mar 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Mar 1	TOTAL IN, SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	TEMP. EF		PRECIP		
																90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	0.1 INCH OR MORE	50 INCH OR MORE	
AL	BIRMINGHAM	69	44	79	36	56	6	1.68	0.35	1.30	0.38	49	8.27	78	89	37	0	0	2	1
	HUNTSVILLE	66	42	73	36	54	6	0.89	-0.54	0.75	0.14	17	6.99	64	91	38	0	0	2	1
	MOBILE	74	50	81	42	62	5	0.58	-0.91	0.57	0.01	1	3.98	36	95	44	0	0	2	1
	MONTGOMERY	72	44	78	38	58	4	0.96	-0.49	0.84	0.12	15	6.04	55	92	35	0	0	2	1
AK	ANCHORAGE	35	24	41	18	29	7	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.00	0	2.12	128	80	54	0	7	0	0
	BARROW	-13	-24	-10	-31	-19	-1	0.00	-0.03	0.00	0.00	0	0.44	129	79	70	0	7	0	0
	FAIRBANKS	26	-5	36	-21	10	7	0.00	-0.09	0.00	0.00	0	1.97	214	86	53	0	7	0	0
	JUNEAU	39	30	43	22	35	4	0.77	-0.04	0.39	0.72	160	7.10	81	98	75	0	3	6	0
	KODIAK	40	32	45	27	36	4	2.42	1.30	0.96	0.86	137	9.03	68	96	75	0	3	6	2
	NOME	28	17	32	8	23	17	0.25	0.13	0.20	0.05	83	3.55	245	86	61	0	7	3	0
AZ	FLAGSTAFF	49	20	60	10	34	1	0.73	0.15	0.35	0.65	197	2.58	58	92	26	0	7	4	0
	PHOENIX	73	50	80	45	62	2	0.00	-0.21	0.00	0.00	0	0.01	1	50	17	0	0	0	0
	TUCSON	76	44	85	39	60	4	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.00	0	0.29	17	41	10	0	0	0	0
	YUMA	73	51	77	46	62	-1	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.00	0	0.09	15	62	21	0	0	0	0
AR	FORT SMITH	64	42	77	36	53	6	0.58	-0.23	0.46	0.58	126	3.58	72	86	32	0	0	2	0
	LITTLE ROCK	63	45	72	39	54	5	0.42	-0.58	0.35	0.35	61	4.37	58	86	42	0	0	2	0
CA	BAKERSFIELD	57	45	63	42	51	-5	0.72	0.46	0.38	0.42	300	2.99	145	94	57	0	0	6	0
	EUREKA	54	44	56	36	49	-1	1.30	0.07	0.39	0.73	103	17.44	152	81	72	0	0	5	0
	FRESNO	58	43	62	38	51	-2	1.43	0.98	1.07	0.06	24	9.34	233	99	57	0	0	6	1
	LOS ANGELES	61	50	66	45	55	-3	0.47	-0.08	0.29	0.30	100	5.92	114	89	59	0	0	3	0
	REDDING	57	42	72	34	50	-1	1.91	0.84	1.02	1.40	230	18.35	165	98	52	0	0	5	1
	SACRAMENTO	59	43	63	37	51	-1	1.14	0.49	0.67	0.05	14	16.18	232	98	57	0	0	4	1
	SAN DIEGO	61	52	64	48	56	-3	0.11	-0.30	0.04	0.09	38	3.95	111	95	64	0	0	5	0
	SAN FRANCISCO	58	47	62	43	53	0	1.86	1.12	0.72	0.79	184	15.17	191	91	64	0	0	4	2
CO	ALAMOSA	52	14	59	4	33	5	0.01	-0.07	0.01	0.01	20	0.26	43	83	22	0	7	1	0
	CO SPRINGS	55	27	64	22	41	7	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.00	0	0.91	115	79	20	0	6	0	0
	DENVER	58	29	68	22	44	8	0.10	-0.12	0.10	0.10	77	0.60	50	73	21	0	6	1	0
	GRAND JUNCTION	57	32	65	25	44	4	0.00	-0.18	0.00	0.00	0	2.05	178	77	29	0	5	0	0
	PUEBLO	61	24	71	15	43	5	0.29	0.16	0.29	0.29	363	0.67	94	80	20	0	6	1	0
CT	BRIDGEPORT	49	34	53	30	42	8	0.25	-0.55	0.20	0.00	0	4.05	60	83	38	0	3	2	0
	HARTFORD	49	32	53	27	41	9	0.20	-0.60	0.17	0.00	0	4.43	62	76	35	0	5	2	0
DC	WASHINGTON	60	39	64	35	50	8	0.80	0.09	0.68	0.00	0	5.07	87	71	33	0	0	2	1
DE	WILMINGTON	54	34	58	29	44	6	0.20	-0.55	0.17	0.00	0	5.68	89	80	38	0	3	2	0
FL	DAYTONA BEACH	79	54	83	50	66	4	0.36	-0.37	0.36	0.00	0	2.45	39	99	40	0	0	1	0
	JACKSONVILLE	78	48	81	44	63	5	0.40	-0.53	0.40	0.00	0	3.94	51	99	35	0	0	1	0
	KEY WEST	79	63	81	59	71	-1	0.00	-0.42	0.00	0.00	0	1.16	29	89	52	0	0	0	0
	MIAMI	81	64	83	61	73	3	0.02	-0.51	0.02	0.00	0	1.77	40	90	47	0	0	1	0
	ORLANDO	82	56	85	51	69	5	0.26	-0.55	0.25	0.01	2	1.60	28	10	38	0	0	2	0
	PENSACOLA	74	52	78	45	63	6	0.61	-0.76	0.58	0.02	3	4.33	40	97	46	0	0	4	1
	TALLAHASSEE	77	46	83	39	61	4	0.09	-1.40	0.09	0.00	0	3.92	35	98	40	0	0	1	0
	TAMPA	79	60	81	54	70	6	0.00	-0.80	0.00	0.00	0	2.25	41	92	53	0	0	0	0
	WEST PALM	81	60	84	58	71	3	0.00	-0.80	0.00	0.00	0	1.76	30	95	43	0	0	0	0
GA	ATHENS	68	44	73	40	56	6	1.08	-0.14	0.72	0.75	107	7.14	73	89	41	0	0	3	1
	ATLANTA	67	46	73	41	56	7	1.29	-0.01	0.71	0.87	118	7.02	68	87	41	0	0	3	1
	AUGUSTA	71	38	75	30	54	2	0.76	-0.33	0.32	0.44	71	8.10	91	98	37	0	1	3	0
	COLUMBUS	71	46	77	41	58	5	0.97	-0.34	0.49	0.50	67	5.69	56	92	38	0	0	3	0
	MACON	70	40	76	35	55	2	1.02	-0.13	0.82	0.83	128	6.41	64	99	41	0	0	3	1
	SAVANNAH	74	44	79	38	59	3	2.34	1.49	0.98	1.36	278	5.64	77	10	39	0	0	3	3
HI	HILO	81	63	82	62	72	0	0.96	-1.87	0.51	0.95	59	19.39	89	91	60	0	0	5	1
	HONOLULU	83	69	83	65	76	2	0.00	-0.50	0.00	0.00	0	1.34	22	84	57	0	0	0	0
	KAHULUI	83	62	86	58	73	0	0.01	-0.63	0.01	0.01	3	1.08	15	90	48	0	0	1	0
	LIHUE	79	71	80	68	75	3	0.04	-0.82	0.02	0.02	4	2.54	26	86	62	0	0	2	0
ID	BOISE	52	35	66	30	43	3	0.40	0.12	0.32	0.00	0	3.57	133	89	49	0	1	2	0
	LEWISTON	52	40	56	37	46	4	0.27	0.05	0.23	0.00	0	3.12	136	91	56	0	0	3	0
	POCATELLO	49	29	60	23	39	6	0.09	-0.17	0.07	0.07	47	3.02	143	91	49	0	5	3	0
IL	CHICAGO/O'HARE	54	33	64	26	44	13	0.05	-0.41	0.05	0.05	19	3.37	107	82	38	0	4	1	0
	MOLINE	55	31	65	25	43	12	0.29	-0.21	0.24	0.05	17	4.75	155	87	39	0	5	2	0
	PEORIA	55	33	67	26	44	11	0.47	-0.04	0.47	0.00	0	2.63	81	84	39	0	4	1	0
	ROCKFORD	53	29	64	20	41	12	0.15	-0.26	0.13	0.13	54	3.59	135	91	41	0	5	2	0
	SPRINGFIELD	55	31	68	22	43	8	0.16	-0.45	0.16	0.00	0	1.81	50	86	38	0	5	1	0
IN	EVANSVILLE	56	36	69	30	46	6	0.20	-0.78	0.20	0.20	35	11.81	186	89	41	0	1	1	0
	FORT WAYNE	52	31	60	23	42	10	0.11	-0.46	0.09	0.02	6	2.84	69	87	48	0	4	2	0
	INDIANAPOLIS	55	33	67	27	44	8	0.03	-0.73	0.02	0.02	5	4.95	95	87	41	0	4	2	0
	SOUTH BEND	54	32	63	21	43	11	0.06	-0.51	0.04	0.04	12	4.07	91	81	35	0	4	2	0
IA	BURLINGTON	54	32	63	26	43	10	0.39	-0.09	0.35	0.04	14	3.50	130	84	41	0	4	2	0
	CEDAR RAPIDS	55	29	68	23	42	13	0.18	-0.21	0.18	0.00	0	2.56	113	93	38	0	6	1	0
	DES MOINES	56	33	69	26	45	14	0.40	0.00	0.40	0.00	0	2.66	116	82	37	0	4	1	0
	DUBUQUE	53	29	65	21	41	14	0.06	-0.44	0.06	0.00	0	2.83	98	87	42	0	6	1	0
	SIoux CITY	60	26	74	19	43	13	0.00	-0.33	0.00	0.00	0	1.16	79	82	28	0	6	0	0
	WATERLOO	55	28	68	19	42	15	0.17	-0.23	0.14	0.03	13	2.10	100	89	36	0	6	2	0
KS	CONCORDIA	59	33	68	29	46	10	0.84	0.45	0.47	0.84	350	2.92	186	86	40	0	4	2	0
	DODGE CITY	59	31	70	26	45	6	1.62	1.36	1.62	1.62	101	2.28	180	86	32	0	6	1	1
	GOODLAND	58	30	74	22	44	9	0.40	0.20	0.37	0.37	285	1.35	145	84	28	0	5	2	0
	TOPEKA	60	34	70	28	47	9	0.57	0.14	0.33	0.56	215	2.75	122	84	37	0	2	3	0

Weather Data for the Week Ending March 4, 2000

STATES AND STATIONS	TEMPERATURE EF						PRECIPITATION						RELATIVE HUMIDITY, PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS				
	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL IN, SINCE Mar 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Mar 1	TOTAL IN, SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	TEMP. EF		PRECIP	
																90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
KY WICHITA	60	34	69	28	47	7	0.78	0.34	0.66	0.78	289	4.42	219	90	40	0	4	2	1
KY JACKSON	60	37	69	32	49	7	0.35	-0.71	0.30	0.05	8	6.21	76	80	30	0	1	2	0
KY LEXINGTON	57	35	66	32	46	6	0.28	-0.66	0.25	0.03	6	8.24	125	83	39	0	3	2	0
KY LOUISVILLE	59	38	70	34	48	7	0.37	-0.61	0.25	0.12	21	12.25	182	88	38	0	0	2	0
LA PADUCAH	59	36	70	30	48	6	0.26	-0.80	0.24	0.24	40	11.81	152	91	36	0	1	2	0
LA BATON ROUGE	76	50	82	40	63	6	0.00	-1.18	0.00	0.00	0	3.43	31	97	43	0	0	0	0
LA LAKE CHARLES	76	51	83	41	64	7	0.02	-0.77	0.02	0.02	5	2.33	27	98	43	0	0	1	0
LA NEW ORLEANS	74	55	81	46	64	6	0.08	-1.20	0.08	0.00	0	4.06	35	93	53	0	0	1	0
ME SHREVEPORT	70	47	75	38	58	4	0.08	-0.79	0.05	0.03	6	4.94	60	90	43	0	0	2	0
ME CARIBOU	38	31	49	28	35	17	0.80	0.29	0.36	0.44	147	6.26	135	97	73	0	5	4	0
ME PORTLAND	44	34	49	32	39	11	0.38	-0.42	0.24	0.13	29	6.43	88	92	65	0	1	3	0
MD BALTIMORE	58	35	62	29	46	6	0.78	0.00	0.66	0.00	0	5.65	85	81	35	0	3	2	1
MA BOSTON	51	36	61	33	44	10	0.25	-0.60	0.24	0.01	2	5.33	62	49	0	0	2	0	0
MA WORCESTER	46	31	52	28	39	10	0.24	-0.63	0.23	0.00	0	5.71	75	85	54	0	5	2	0
MI ALPENA	48	26	55	22	37	14	0.23	-0.18	0.18	0.18	75	4.08	129	93	43	0	7	3	0
MI GRAND RAPIDS	50	29	58	20	39	10	0.07	-0.39	0.03	0.03	11	2.58	73	85	45	0	6	3	0
MI HOUGHTON LAKE	48	25	56	16	37	14	0.16	-0.22	0.11	0.11	50	3.03	105	93	45	0	7	3	0
MI LANSING	52	26	60	16	39	11	0.17	-0.26	0.12	0.02	8	2.09	67	92	50	0	6	3	0
MI MUSKEGON	49	29	63	19	39	11	0.15	-0.31	0.10	0.10	37	2.20	54	89	45	0	5	2	0
MI TRAVERSE CITY	49	28	64	19	38	14	0.07	-0.26	0.03	0.02	11	2.85	79	85	43	0	6	3	0
MN DULUTH	47	26	56	18	36	18	0.00	-0.32	0.00	0.00	0	1.92	86	87	42	0	6	0	0
MN INT'L FALLS	46	21	60	11	33	18	0.00	-0.19	0.00	0.00	0	0.83	51	90	44	0	7	0	0
MN MINNEAPOLIS	53	30	61	23	42	18	0.00	-0.33	0.00	0.00	0	1.96	97	81	36	0	5	0	0
MN ROCHESTER	50	29	61	21	39	16	0.02	-0.27	0.02	0.00	0	2.75	163	87	50	0	5	1	0
MN ST. CLOUD	51	27	59	18	39	18	0.00	-0.23	0.00	0.00	0	1.79	119	88	39	0	6	0	0
MS JACKSON	72	44	81	37	58	5	0.00	-1.24	0.00	0.00	0	3.17	30	91	34	0	0	0	0
MS MERIDIAN	72	42	80	34	57	4	0.24	-1.25	0.24	0.00	0	4.57	40	95	36	0	0	1	0
MO TUPELO	67	42	73	35	54	5	0.13	-1.18	0.13	0.13	17	7.15	69	87	35	0	0	1	0
MO COLUMBIA	57	35	68	28	46	8	0.21	-0.39	0.16	0.17	49	4.33	119	85	33	0	3	3	0
MO KANSAS CITY	58	35	69	29	46	9	0.66	0.22	0.24	0.42	162	3.09	126	87	40	0	2	3	0
MO SAINT LOUIS	58	36	68	28	47	7	0.24	-0.47	0.24	0.24	59	4.58	106	86	44	0	1	1	0
MO SPRINGFIELD	58	36	69	32	47	6	0.94	0.20	0.63	0.94	219	3.79	86	88	39	0	1	2	1
MT BILLINGS	54	30	68	24	42	10	0.00	-0.20	0.00	0.00	0	2.81	169	74	32	0	5	0	0
MT BUTTE	49	25	55	20	37	12	0.00	-0.13	0.00	0.00	0	0.90	90	90	40	0	7	0	0
MT GLASGOW	54	26	64	21	40	17	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.00	0	0.23	33	87	32	0	7	0	0
MT GREAT FALLS	56	30	64	24	43	13	0.00	-0.19	0.00	0.00	0	1.03	64	74	30	0	6	0	0
MT KALISPELL	43	29	48	25	36	6	0.20	-0.04	0.20	0.20	154	1.82	66	96	59	0	5	1	0
MT MILES CITY	51	26	65	18	38	10	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.00	0	1.05	99	91	48	0	7	0	0
MT MISSOULA	51	29	62	23	40	7	0.12	-0.09	0.12	0.00	0	1.73	80	92	43	0	5	1	0
NE GRAND ISLAND	58	30	70	24	44	12	0.14	-0.18	0.14	0.00	0	1.60	117	88	39	0	6	1	0
NE LINCOLN	59	29	71	23	44	11	0.60	0.26	0.60	0.00	0	1.65	112	90	33	0	4	1	1
NE NORFOLK	60	29	72	23	44	14	0.00	-0.33	0.00	0.00	0	1.32	89	81	28	0	5	0	0
NE NORTH PLATTE	58	25	69	17	42	10	0.20	0.01	0.19	0.20	182	0.97	108	90	31	0	7	2	0
NE OMAHA	58	31	71	27	45	12	0.47	0.13	0.47	0.00	0	2.12	123	92	36	0	4	1	0
NE SCOTTSBLUFF	60	26	71	22	43	10	0.00	-0.19	0.00	0.00	0	1.15	106	87	26	0	7	0	0
NE VALENTINE	60	26	72	19	43	14	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.00	0	1.39	170	87	29	0	6	0	0
NV ELY	45	23	57	20	34	2	0.10	-0.09	0.09	0.00	0	2.27	155	93	49	0	7	2	0
NV LAS VEGAS	64	44	69	41	54	0	0.01	-0.10	0.01	0.00	0	1.59	156	77	32	0	0	1	0
NV RENO	52	31	65	24	42	1	0.26	0.06	0.13	0.13	118	3.25	150	80	31	0	4	3	0
NV WINNEMUCCA	51	28	65	23	39	1	0.27	0.10	0.20	0.00	0	2.90	200	95	44	0	7	2	0
NH CONCORD	46	30	50	23	38	11	0.17	-0.45	0.16	0.01	3	5.10	95	83	44	0	6	2	0
NJ NEWARK	54	36	59	33	45	7	0.12	-0.70	0.08	0.01	2	4.94	72	84	37	0	0	3	0
NM ALBUQUERQUE	61	33	68	29	47	3	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.00	0	0.60	63	56	18	0	3	0	0
NY ALBANY	47	30	51	24	39	10	0.53	-0.09	0.52	0.00	0	6.26	126	82	43	0	5	2	1
NY BINGHAMTON	43	27	54	22	35	8	1.17	0.57	0.79	0.25	74	6.56	129	94	46	0	6	4	1
NY BUFFALO	46	29	64	23	38	9	0.13	-0.45	0.08	0.10	30	4.50	84	88	46	0	5	3	0
NY ROCHESTER	48	30	66	25	39	10	0.64	0.13	0.49	0.55	196	5.50	123	93	47	0	5	3	0
NY SYRACUSE	47	30	64	23	38	9	0.69	0.13	0.55	0.07	22	5.25	109	90	47	0	5	5	1
NC ASHEVILLE	61	37	71	28	49	6	0.51	-0.56	0.50	0.01	2	5.44	70	86	34	0	1	2	1
NC CHARLOTTE	66	40	75	30	53	6	0.51	-0.53	0.31	0.20	33	6.86	84	91	35	0	1	2	0
NC GREENSBORO	65	40	72	32	52	8	0.03	-0.83	0.03	0.00	0	5.50	79	77	28	0	1	1	0
NC HATTERAS	59	41	66	38	50	2	1.24	0.25	0.83	0.02	4	9.71	97	90	52	0	0	3	1
NC RALEIGH	63	39	73	30	51	5	0.40	-0.52	0.40	0.00	0	8.23	107	91	33	0	1	1	0
NC WILMINGTON	70	43	77	39	56	5	0.54	-0.38	0.31	0.22	42	6.19	77	89	35	0	0	3	0
ND BISMARCK	53	26	69	23	40	18	0.00	-0.12	0.00	0.00	0	2.13	227	92	45	0	6	0	0
ND DICKINSON	54	28	68	18	41	17	0.00	-0.09	0.00	0.00	0	1.22	156	86	38	0	6	0	0
ND FARGO	48	29	61	23	39	20	0.00	-0.16	0.00	0.00	0	1.34	111	90	57	0	5	0	0
ND GRAND FORKS	46	28	58	23	37	20	0.00	-0.16	0.00	0.00	0	1.77	136	93	61	0	6	0	0
ND JAMESTOWN	49	28	60	25	38	18	0.00	-0.14	0.00	0.00	0	2.41	206	92	53	0	7	0	0
ND WILLISTON	54	24	65	14	39	17	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.00	0	0.84	83	87	34	0	6	0	0
OH AKRON-CANTON	52	29	63	21	40	7	0.15	-0.53	0.14	0.14	35	5.11	107	89	45	0	5	2	0
OH CINCINNATI	55	32	65	26	44	6	0.19	-0.67	0.17	0.02	4	10.18	176	80	34	0	4	2	0
OH CLEVELAND	52	28	65	21	40	8	0.04	-0.57	0.03	0.01	3	4.69	102	82	36	0	5	2	0
OH COLUMBUS	56	31	65	23	44	9	0.09	-0.58	0.08	0.01	3	6.33	132	85	33	0	5	2	0
OH DAYTON	54	30	62	24	42	7	0.31	-0.37	0.31	0.00	0	5.35	114	82	36	0	5	1	0
OH MANSFIELD	51	27	63	18	39	7	0.20	-0.44	0.16	0.16	43	5.77	132	86	39	0	5	2	0

Based on 1961-90 normals

*** Not Available

Weather Data for the Week Ending March 4, 2000

STATES AND STATIONS	TEMPERATURE EF						PRECIPITATION						RELATIVE HUMIDITY, PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS				
	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL IN, SINCE Mar 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Mar 1	TOTAL IN, SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	TEMP. EF		PRECIP	
																90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
OK TOLEDO	53	30	60	25	42	11	0.31	-0.21	0.31	0.00	0	2.78	77	37	0	5	1	0	
OK YOUNGSTOWN	50	28	61	22	39	8	0.15	-0.48	0.14	0.14	38	4.28	94	86	37	0	5	2	0
OK OKLAHOMA CITY	63	39	73	31	51	5	0.53	-0.01	0.44	0.53	166	2.75	91	88	35	0	1	2	0
OK TULSA	62	40	74	32	51	6	1.06	0.39	0.67	1.06	272	3.28	84	87	33	0	1	2	1
OR ASTORIA	52	42	55	37	47	2	2.46	0.74	0.77	1.14	116	17.91	96	99	73	0	0	7	2
OR BURNS	47	28	54	22	38	5	0.27	0.05	0.15	0.03	23	3.55	189	95	51	0	7	5	0
OR EUGENE	53	38	56	31	45	-1	1.80	0.48	0.77	1.01	133	16.56	116	99	64	0	1	6	1
OR MEDFORD	51	38	56	32	44	-1	1.14	0.70	0.43	0.63	252	8.39	172	99	61	0	1	5	0
OR PENDLETON	52	37	57	30	44	2	0.91	0.64	0.34	0.41	273	5.40	193	96	60	0	1	4	0
OR PORTLAND	51	40	55	35	45	-1	2.22	1.36	0.75	1.33	271	11.50	119	98	65	0	0	6	1
PA SALEM	51	38	56	33	44	0	2.14	1.11	0.95	1.38	238	15.36	140	10	65	0	0	6	1
PA ALLENTOWN	51	32	55	26	42	8	0.55	-0.18	0.44	0.01	2	4.75	73	84	38	0	3	3	0
PA ERIE	48	30	63	24	39	8	0.43	-0.20	0.31	0.31	89	4.74	98	88	45	0	5	2	0
PA MIDDLETOWN	55	35	59	30	45	9	0.69	-0.05	0.63	0.01	2	4.35	70	78	36	0	2	3	1
PA PHILADELPHIA	57	37	64	31	47	9	0.21	-0.52	0.13	0.00	0	5.26	82	81	35	0	2	2	0
PA PITTSBURGH	53	30	63	22	42	8	0.48	-0.22	0.32	0.16	39	4.39	82	85	31	0	5	2	0
PA WILKES-BARRE	48	31	55	28	40	8	0.66	0.11	0.45	0.05	16	4.53	99	81	42	0	5	3	0
PA WILLIAMSPORT	51	32	55	26	42	9	0.74	0.04	0.61	0.12	31	4.50	79	86	39	0	4	3	1
RI PROVIDENCE	52	36	60	32	44	11	0.20	-0.70	0.20	0.00	0	6.93	87	76	34	0	1	1	0
SC BEAUFORT	72	46	76	40	59	4	0.21	-0.70	0.09	0.08	15	3.01	40	98	36	0	0	2	0
SC CHARLESTON	73	45	77	37	59	4	0.68	-0.28	0.67	0.67	120	6.72	92	94	37	0	0	2	1
SC COLUMBIA	69	40	77	32	54	3	0.37	-0.73	0.22	0.22	35	10.28	112	96	32	0	1	2	0
SD GREENVILLE	66	43	72	35	54	6	0.24	-0.98	0.23	0.01	1	5.60	61	87	38	0	0	2	0
SD ABERDEEN	56	26	68	23	41	18	0.00	-0.21	0.00	0.00	0	0.96	99	89	34	0	7	0	0
SD HURON	59	26	69	21	43	17	0.00	-0.29	0.00	0.00	0	0.78	62	90	32	0	6	0	0
SD RAPID CITY	58	25	71	20	42	12	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.00	0	0.53	53	79	29	0	6	0	0
SD SIOUX FALLS	57	25	67	20	41	15	0.00	-0.26	0.00	0.00	0	1.72	132	88	30	0	6	0	0
TN BRISTOL	60	33	66	27	47	4	0.43	-0.43	0.40	0.03	6	5.52	77	89	37	0	4	3	0
TN CHATTANOOGA	68	41	77	33	55	9	1.30	-0.05	0.91	0.39	50	7.90	75	90	35	0	0	3	1
TN KNOXVILLE	63	39	71	32	51	6	0.81	-0.32	0.38	0.46	71	9.02	102	93	42	0	1	3	0
TN MEMPHIS	64	43	72	37	54	5	0.10	-1.07	0.10	0.10	15	6.84	78	84	38	0	0	1	0
TX NASHVILLE	63	40	72	32	51	5	0.25	-0.81	0.24	0.01	2	7.28	91	83	36	0	1	2	0
TX ABILENE	72	44	79	30	58	6	0.31	0.03	0.31	0.31	194	0.92	39	70	15	0	1	1	0
TX AMARILLO	65	34	72	30	50	7	0.26	0.06	0.26	0.26	236	0.54	44	68	26	0	3	1	0
TX AUSTIN	75	47	81	31	61	4	0.00	-0.46	0.00	0.00	0	4.97	120	96	44	0	1	0	0
TX BEAUMONT	76	53	82	41	64	6	0.00	-0.75	0.00	0.00	0	2.40	28	95	46	0	0	0	0
TX BROWNSVILLE	81	63	85	50	72	6	0.00	-0.13	0.00	0.00	0	1.14	43	96	50	0	0	0	0
TX CORPUS CHRISTI	79	59	84	49	69	7	0.00	-0.30	0.00	0.00	0	1.12	29	90	49	0	0	0	0
TX DEL RIO	79	54	88	40	67	8	0.00	-0.15	0.00	0.00	0	0.98	62	66	18	0	0	0	0
TX EL PASO	72	40	78	30	56	4	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.00	0	0.03	3	38	16	0	1	0	0
TX FORT WORTH	71	48	82	40	60	8	0.31	-0.27	0.31	0.31	94	5.20	120	82	31	0	0	1	0
TX GALVESTON	73	59	80	50	66	8	0.02	-0.48	0.01	0.02	7	3.47	60	91	58	0	0	2	0
TX HOUSTON	77	50	83	38	64	7	0.01	-0.67	0.01	0.01	3	3.58	54	97	45	0	0	1	0
TX LUBBOCK	68	36	74	30	52	5	0.24	0.05	0.24	0.24	218	0.29	25	68	20	0	2	1	0
TX MIDLAND	71	41	77	36	56	4	0.24	0.09	0.24	0.24	300	0.85	77	60	11	0	0	1	0
TX SAN ANGELO	75	42	81	31	58	5	0.00	-0.21	0.00	0.00	0	0.31	16	63	15	0	2	0	0
TX SAN ANTONIO	76	53	84	39	65	7	0.01	-0.34	0.01	0.01	5	3.61	97	85	35	0	0	1	0
TX VICTORIA	77	54	82	41	66	6	0.00	-0.38	0.00	0.00	0	4.42	101	94	43	0	0	0	0
TX WACO	72	48	83	39	60	6	0.37	-0.14	0.35	0.36	129	6.95	173	96	44	0	0	3	0
TX WICHITA FALLS	70	42	78	32	56	7	0.23	-0.20	0.23	0.23	96	2.16	79	88	28	0	1	1	0
UT SALT LAKE CITY	52	34	60	29	43	5	0.13	-0.24	0.13	0.00	0	3.97	155	85	41	0	3	1	0
VT BURLINGTON	44	29	57	24	36	12	0.92	0.48	0.45	0.09	36	4.66	126	89	49	0	6	5	0
VA LYNCHBURG	63	32	73	25	47	5	0.30	-0.48	0.28	0.02	5	5.19	82	82	28	0	5	2	0
VA NORFOLK	62	41	75	35	51	6	0.35	-0.51	0.35	0.00	0	6.20	80	79	32	0	0	1	0
VA RICHMOND	63	35	70	27	49	6	0.36	-0.46	0.20	0.00	0	5.59	81	88	35	0	2	2	0
VA ROANOKE	63	37	70	30	50	8	0.20	-0.59	0.20	0.00	0	3.77	62	83	31	0	1	1	0
VA WASH/DULLES	58	34	64	24	46	7	0.77	0.06	0.67	0.02	5	3.71	63	79	35	0	4	3	1
WA OLYMPIA	49	39	54	34	44	1	3.20	1.96	0.86	1.91	277	15.91	110	10	72	0	0	7	4
WA QUILLAYUTE	48	38	54	34	43	0	4.85	1.99	1.78	2.32	145	24.27	85	10	77	0	0	7	3
WA SEATTLE-TACOMA	49	41	52	37	45	0	2.18	1.31	0.71	1.22	249	10.24	104	10	71	0	0	6	2
WA SPOKANE	45	35	47	30	40	4	0.64	0.28	0.25	0.30	150	3.81	104	97	71	0	1	6	0
WA YAKIMA	50	33	52	25	41	1	0.46	0.29	0.20	0.22	244	3.09	151	96	60	0	2	5	0
WV BECKLEY	54	32	63	24	43	6	0.58	-0.17	0.51	0.07	16	4.61	73	85	36	0	4	3	1
WV CHARLESTON	59	33	67	24	46	5	0.27	-0.54	0.25	0.02	4	5.68	89	86	31	0	2	2	0
WV ELKINS	55	25	64	14	40	5	0.51	-0.30	0.45	0.06	13	5.88	90	93	30	0	6	2	0
WV HUNTINGTON	58	35	68	27	47	6	0.24	-0.56	0.21	0.03	7	7.35	119	80	29	0	2	2	0
WI EAU CLAIRE	53	26	63	17	39	16	0.00	-0.26	0.00	0.00	0	2.75	148	84	34	0	6	0	0
WI GREEN BAY	49	29	59	19	39	15	0.09	-0.28	0.07	0.02	9	1.93	80	83	41	0	5	2	0
WI LA CROSSE	54	29	64	22	42	16	0.00	-0.33	0.00	0.00	0	2.37	117	85	36	0	5	0	0
WI MADISON	52	28	61	18	40	14	0.08	-0.30	0.08	0.00	0	2.80	118	84	36	0	6	1	0
WI MILWAUKEE	50	31	61	22	41	13	0.16	-0.32	0.13	0.03	11	2.89	87	80	38	0	4	2	0
WI CASPER	56	27	65	20	42	12	0.00	-0.14	0.00	0.00	0	1.02	82	73	25	0	5	0	0
WI CHEYENNE	54	26	63	24	40	9	0.03	-0.14	0.03	0.03	27	0.97	108	78	24	0	7	1	0
WI LANDER	53	26	63	22	40	10	0.00	-0.19	0.00	0.00	0	0.27	23	70	26	0	7	0	0
WI SHERIDAN	51	24	69	17	38	8	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.00	0	2.13	146	87	39	0	7	0	0

Based on 1961-90 normals

*** Not Available

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

February Weather and Crop Summary

Weather

A very active and persistent storm track provided drought relief to many areas, including the western Corn Belt and Ohio Valley, but failed to drive significant moisture into the South. As a result, dryness--exacerbated by persistent warmth--intensified in areas from southern Arizona to the southern Atlantic Coast, including the southern High Plains. Although the South's warm, dry weather favored pre-planting fieldwork and early summer-crop planting, pastures and dryland winter grains remained drought-stressed. In addition, the continuing dryness increased irrigation requirements and heightened the risk of wildfires, especially across Florida and southern Georgia. Meanwhile, frequent late-month precipitation on the central and southeastern Plains improved soil moisture for winter wheat, which began to break dormancy due to unusually warm conditions. Continuing a trend that developed in mid-January, unsettled, showery conditions prevailed in most of the West, further improving moisture reserves, high-elevation snow packs, and spring runoff prospects. Some of the heaviest precipitation fell in California, where spring fieldwork was delayed by cool, wet weather.

Cold weather eased across the South and East early in the month, then made a brief mid-month appearance on the northern Plains. Otherwise, unusually mild weather prevailed nearly nationwide, capped by a spell of warmth that produced about two dozen monthly record high temperatures from February 22-29. Monthly temperatures averaged at least 4°F above normal in nearly all areas from the Intermountain West to the East Coast. Departures peaked around +12°F in the upper Midwest and across southern Texas. Exceptions to the warm pattern included California and northern New England, where temperatures averaged within 3°F of normal.

Due to 7 weeks of heavy precipitation, the high-elevation Sierra Nevada snow pack continued its remarkable climb from early January's anemic levels. According to the California Department of Water Resources, the snow pack's water equivalent reached 27 inches (110 percent of normal) by March 1, up an astounding 2 feet from the 3-inch measurement (20 percent) on January 10. Persistent rainfall pounded California's lower elevations, including the Central Valley and coastal regions. Downtown San Francisco received measurable rainfall on 21 days during the month, totaling 8.97 inches (304 percent of normal), breaking their record of 20 days that was set in 1915 and tied in 1998. In 1998, however, San Francisco's rainfall totaled a February-record 14.89 inches. Meanwhile in Fresno, CA, monthly rainfall reached 6.11 inches (339 percent of normal), breaking their February record of 5.97 inches, set in 1962. The total was aided by Fresno's wettest February day on record, as 1.87 inches drenched the city on February 27. Sacramento, CA netted 8.93 inches in February, following a 7.20-inch total in January. Their January-February total, 16.13 inches, was their fifth-highest 2-month total on record.

While wet season precipitation in northern and central California approached or exceeded normal levels by the end of February, seasonal totals in southern California remained behind average, despite significant rainfall. San Diego collected 3.68 inches (241 percent of normal) during February, leaving their total since July 1, 1999, at 4.24 inches (60 percent). Similarly, downtown Los Angeles received 5.54 inches (180 percent of normal), boosting their seasonal sum to 7.26 inches (66 percent). Heavy precipitation spread as far east and south as southern Nevada, where Las Vegas collected 1.59 inches (331 percent of normal) during the month, following a near-record 140-day spell

(September 23, 1999 - February 9, 2000) without measurable rain. Farther south, however, moisture again bypassed areas from southern Arizona eastward. In Phoenix, AZ, only a trace of rain fell during the month, leaving their October-February total at 0.01 inch (3.65 inches below normal). Phoenix's previous record for the 5-month period was 0.65 inch in 1920-21. For the entire Salt and Verde River watersheds, which includes Phoenix, October-February precipitation totaled 0.82 inch (9 percent of normal), lower than the previous record of 1.19 inches, set in 1903-04.

According to the National Interagency Fire Center, U.S. wildfires burned more than 300,000 acres (nearly 500 square miles) through early March. More than 60 percent of this year-to-date acreage burned in the Southern Region, which is comprised of all or part of 13 States from Texas and Oklahoma to the East Coast States from Virginia to Florida. Only 0.10 inch of rain (4 percent of normal) dampened Ft. Myers, FL, their driest February since 0.08 inch fell in 1950. Tampa, FL experienced their sixth-driest February with 0.30 inch (10 percent of normal), though less rain fell just last year (0.29 inch). Meanwhile in Georgia, monthly totals were as low as 0.37 inch (8 percent of normal) in Macon and 1.01 inch (23 percent) in Augusta. In South Carolina, Greenville-Spartanburg's February total was 1.87 inches (42 percent of normal), leaving their 20-month (July 1998 - February 2000) precipitation at 60.73 inches (72 percent) and deficit at 23.33 inches. Despite the generally dry conditions, a severe thunderstorm outbreak on the night of February 13-14 spawned three deadly tornadoes that claimed 18 lives in southwestern Georgia.

Farther west, Baton Rouge, LA had their lowest February rainfall on record (0.65 inch, or 12 percent of normal), breaking a 1962 standard. Measurable precipitation was nearly non-existent across West Texas, where totals reached 0.05 inch (7 percent of normal) in Lubbock, 0.04 inch (7 percent) in Amarillo, and a trace in Midland. Although Houston, TX (2.32 inches, or 78 percent of normal) had their highest monthly rainfall since July 1999, their 14-month deficit grew to 20.67 inches. Houston's August-February rainfall, 9.73 inches, was their second-lowest on record for that 7-month period, behind only 8.17 inches in 1917-18.

In contrast, monthly precipitation topped 200 percent of normal from northern and central California to the Great Basin and interior Northwest, and from the east-central Plains to the Ohio Valley. Unusually heavy precipitation also fell on parts of the northern Plains, where Bismarck, ND received a February-record amount (1.74 inches, or 405 percent of normal). Indianapolis, IN netted 2.86 inches (116 percent of normal) during February, their first month with above-normal precipitation since April 1999. Aided by their greatest calendar-day precipitation on record in February (3.38 inches on the 18th), Evansville, IN collected 7.26 inches (233 percent of normal) during the month. Heavy rain also fell elsewhere in the middle and lower Ohio Valley, causing flooding on several tributaries, including Kentucky's Licking River.

Outside of the West, significant snowfall was confined to the North, primarily around mid-month. In Montana, precipitation associated with the mid-February cold outbreak contributed to monthly snowfall totals of 13.2 inches in Billings and Great Falls. Nearly half of Great Falls' snow, 6.2 inches, fell on February 14. In northern Illinois, monthly snowfall reached 11.8 inches in Rockford and 11.6 inches in Chicago, although February temperatures averaged more than 8°F above normal. Monthly snowfall in New York included 27.4 inches in Syracuse and 21.4 inches in Binghamton. Albany, NY received 12.4 inches, 10.2 inches of which fell in 24 hours on February 18-19. In northern

Maine, 32.5 inches (13.1 inches above normal) blanketed Caribou, aided by a single-day, February-record total of 18.3 inches on February 14.

Warmth was especially persistent across the south-central United States, but more than two dozen February-record highs were set or tied from the northern Plains to the Great Lakes States and Ohio Valley during the last 8 days of the month. In addition to the monthly records, more than 250 daily-record highs were established nationwide during February. In Texas, Del Rio (monthly departure of +8.4°F) and San Angelo (+9.2°F) experienced February-record warmth. Elsewhere in Texas, Brownsville had their warmest February (+8.0°F) since 1962, while Dallas-Ft. Worth (+9.4°F) and Lubbock (+7.8°F) both had their warmest since 1976. Brownsville noted 18 days with highs at or above 80°F during the month (including a daily record of 89°F on February 13), tying their February 1962 record. For the entire meteorological winter (December-February), Dallas-Ft. Worth's temperatures averaged 53.1°F (7.1°F above normal), breaking their 1906-07 record. Corpus Christi, TX, 4.9°F above normal during the winter, had their mildest December-February period since 1970-71.

Farther north, the winter's lowest temperature in Duluth, MN was -17°F on January 21, marking the first time since 1963-64 that their winter readings remained above -20°F. Another measure of the mild winter was observed in Sioux Falls, SD, where the lowest maximum temperature was 11°F on December 20. The only other winter during which Sioux Falls experienced a milder lowest maximum temperature was in 1930-31, when the "low max" was 17°F on January 14. And representative of the spate of mild winters in recent years, Glasgow, MT noted their warmest three consecutive winters on record (December 1997 - February 1998 to December 1999 - February 2000), with an average temperature of 21.3°F. Glasgow's previous 3-year standard, 19.4°F, was established from 1943-44 to 1945-46.

The last 8 days of February featured remarkable warmth across much of the Nation, particularly in an area centered on the Great Lakes States. The parade of monthly records started on February 22 with highs of 58°F in International Falls, MN and 67°F in Grand Forks, ND. February records from last year's warm spell (February 11, 1999) were eclipsed in several locations, including Indianapolis, IN (76°F on February 25) and Mansfield, OH (71°F on February 26). In Wisconsin, February records that had remained on the books since February 21, 1930, were erased in Green Bay (61°F on February 26) and Wausau (59°F on February 26 and 29).

Prior to mid-month, however, cold air had lingered across the eastern half of the Nation. In northern Florida, lows on February 6 fell to 21°F in Tallahassee and 24°F in Gainesville. Farther north, lows dipped to -28°F in Saranac Lake, NY (on February 8) and Embarrass, MN (on February 11). In Pennsylvania, Philadelphia's 21 consecutive days (January 21 - February 10) with at least 1 inch of snow on the ground was their longest such streak since February 1978.

A warming, drying trend affected Hawaii during February, resulting in a gradual intensification of agricultural drought across primarily leeward portions of the central and eastern islands. Monthly rainfall was less than 10 percent of normal in many locations, including the major airport stations of Lihue, Kauai (0.33 inch, or 10 percent of normal); Hilo, Hawaii (0.52 inch, or 5 percent); Honolulu, Oahu (0.07 inch, or 3 percent); and Kahului, Maui (0.06 inch, or 2 percent). Meanwhile in Alaska, cold air disappeared from western areas, while unseasonably mild conditions continued in interior sections, reversing a trend that dominated the State from late October into January. Monthly temperatures averaged nearly 20°F above normal at a

few western locations. Nome (17.7°F above normal) had their second-warmest February, behind only 1989 (18.8°F above normal). In the Aleutians, Cold Bay experienced their first month with above-normal temperatures since July 1998. Stormy conditions were confined mostly to western Alaska. In the interior, Fairbanks' trace of precipitation represented their lowest February total since only a trace fell in 1919.

Fieldwork

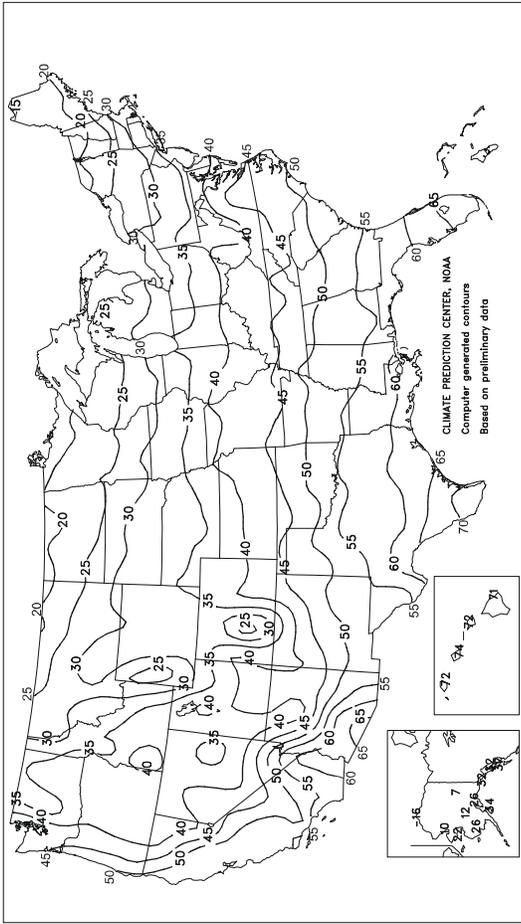
Dry weather prevailed in the Great Plains early in the month, with near-drought conditions developing in many areas from Texas to North Dakota. Light, scattered precipitation eased moisture shortages in parts of the central and southern Great Plains, but most of the northern and southern Great Plains received little or no precipitation until the second half of the month. A narrow band of heavy precipitation eased drought conditions in eastern Texas late in the month. However, in the Texas High Plains, wheat conditions steadily deteriorated and fieldwork slowed due to dry weather and wind erosion. In the central and northern Great Plains, above-normal temperatures and late-month rains reduced, and in many areas eliminated, protective snow cover. However, damage to winter wheat due to cold weather was minimal and the late-month rains improved soil moisture supplies. Rain and warm weather stimulated winter wheat growth in Oklahoma and Kansas late in the month, as most wheat fields broke dormancy. In the soft red winter wheat areas of the eastern Corn Belt and Ohio River Valley, near- to below-normal temperatures prevailed at the beginning of the month. However, adequate snow cover, especially near the Great Lakes, protected wheat fields from the cold weather. Above-normal temperatures prevailed thereafter, and shortly after mid-month, a band of rain centered over the Ohio River Valley boosted soil moisture supplies in the eastern and southern Corn Belt.

Rainfall was significantly below normal in the lower Mississippi Valley, Southeast, and in the Atlantic Coastal Plain, even though winter storms delivered a mixture of rain and freezing precipitation to most areas during the month. Below-normal temperatures during the first half of the month provided beneficial chill hours for fruit trees in the Southeast. In Florida, overnight lows briefly dipped below freezing in northern areas of the State and some citrus groves experienced frost, but tree and fruit damage was minimal. However, dry weather forced citrus growers to irrigate groves most of the month to maintain good tree health. By the end of the month, most well-cared-for trees were putting on new growth and developing bloom buds. Field activities continued with few delays along the Gulf Coast from Texas to Florida. Corn planting began in southeastern Texas early in the month, and cotton planting began in the Coastal Bend near the end of the month.

A stormy pattern prevailed along the Pacific Coast. In northern California, small grains, winter forages, new alfalfa, and emerging sugarbeets improved due to early-month rainfall. Also, dryland grain and oat fields germinated and emerged. Above-normal temperatures and improved moisture supplies stimulated growth of emerged crops. However, some low-lying wheat fields were temporarily flooded due to heavy rainfall. Rain periodically delayed field and orchard work in central and northern California and eased dry conditions along the southern coast. However, inland areas of the Southwest remained excessively dry, though fieldwork was mostly uninterrupted. In the southern San Joaquin Valley, growers planted corn for grain and silage, and prepared cotton, safflower, and sunflower fields for spring planting. The grapefruit and lemon harvests remained active in southern California, and navel orange picking continued in the San Joaquin Valley. Almonds and stone fruits began blooming.

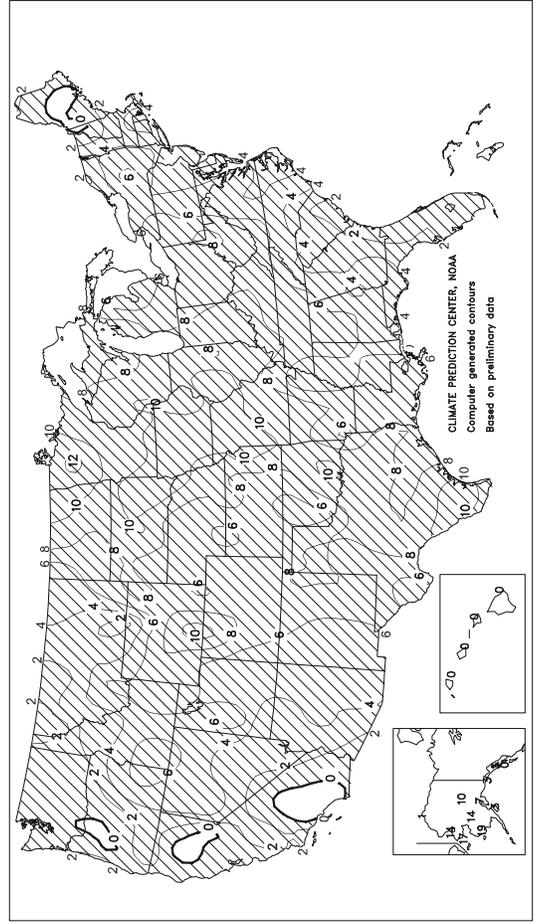
Average Temperature (°F)

FEB 2000



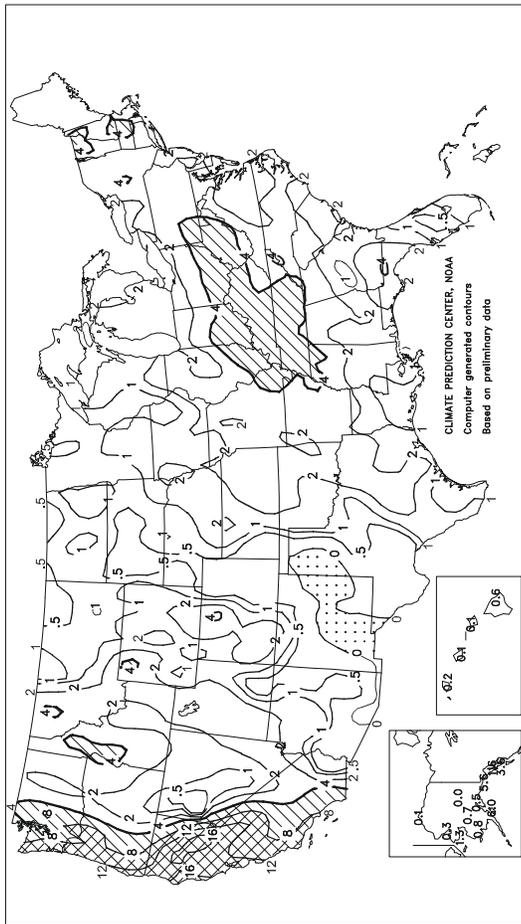
Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F)

FEB 2000



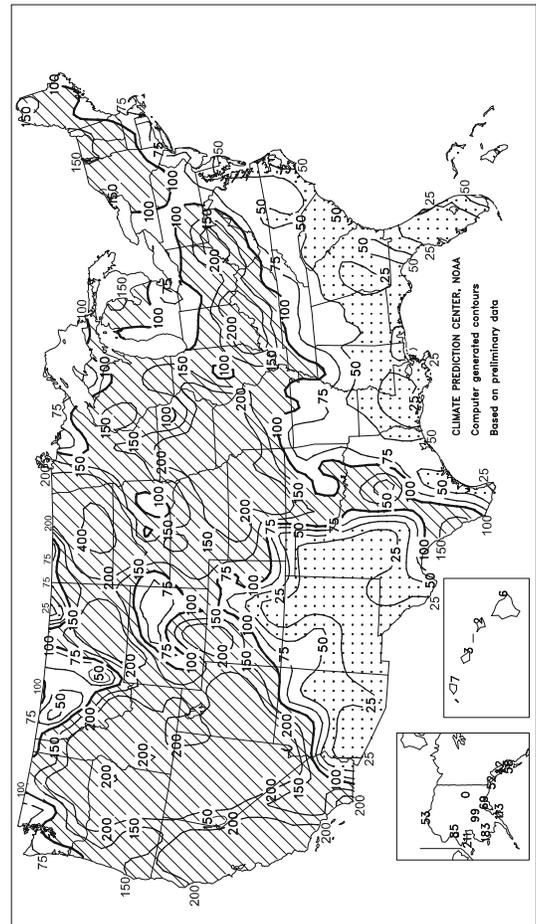
Total Precipitation (Inches)

FEB 2000



Percent Of Normal Precipitation

FEB 2000



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION SUMMARY

February 2000

STATES AND STATIONS	TEMP, EF		PRECIP.		STATES AND STATIONS	TEMP, EF		PRECIP.		STATES AND STATIONS	TEMP, EF		PRECIP.	
	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE	TOTAL	DEPARTURE		AVERAGE	DEPARTURE	TOTAL	DEPARTURE		AVERAGE	DEPARTURE	TOTAL	DEPARTURE
AL BIRMINGHAM	52	6	2.17	-2.55	LEXINGTON	43	8	4.81	1.60	COLUMBUS	37	7	2.79	0.55
AL HUNTSVILLE	50	7	2.61	-2.26	LONDON-CORBIN	43	6	3.44	-0.14	DAYTON	37	8	2.15	-0.02
AL MOBILE	58	5	1.30	-4.16	LOUISVILLE	45	9	6.62	3.32	MANSFIELD	34	7	2.58	0.56
AL MONTGOMERY	54	4	1.88	-3.60	PADUCAH	45	8	5.21	1.31	TOLEDO	33	8	1.23	-0.50
AK ANCHORAGE	26	7	0.54	-0.24	LA BATON ROUGE	60	7	0.65	-4.87	YOUNGSTOWN	33	7	1.82	-0.21
AK BARROW	-16	2	0.08	-0.07	LA LAKE CHARLES	61	7	0.74	-2.85	OK OKLAHOMA CITY	49	8	1.47	-0.09
AK COLD BAY	33	6	7.54	5.27	LA NEW ORLEANS	60	6	1.81	-4.20	OK TULSA	48	8	1.33	-0.64
AK FAIRBANKS	7	11	0.00	-0.40	LA SHREVEPORT	57	8	2.31	-1.61	OR ASTORIA	46	2	5.10	-2.49
AK JUNEAU	32	4	1.56	-2.19	ME BANGOR	19	-1	3.28	0.39	OR BURNS	35	6	1.89	1.13
AK KING SALMON	30	15	0.34	-0.47	ME CARIBOU	14	2	2.88	0.96	OR EUGENE	44	0	5.98	0.34
AK KODIAK	34	3	5.99	0.71	ME PORTLAND	26	3	2.89	-0.44	OR MEDFORD	46	3	2.76	0.83
AK NOME	22	18	1.26	0.66	MD BALTIMORE	38	3	2.01	-1.11	OR PENDELTON	39	0	2.98	1.84
AZ FLAGSTAFF	36	5	1.61	-0.48	MA BOSTON	34	4	2.55	-1.07	OR PORTLAND	44	0	4.51	0.66
AZ PHOENIX	61	3	0.00	-0.68	MA WORCESTER	30	5	2.60	-0.86	PA SALEM	44	1	6.93	2.43
AZ TUCSON	58	4	0.19	-0.51	MI ALPENA	24	6	2.21	0.92	PA ALLENTOWN	31	2	1.84	-1.11
AR FORT SMITH	50	8	1.12	-1.48	MI DETROIT	32	7	0.84	-0.90	PA ERIE	33	7	1.95	-0.33
AR LITTLE ROCK	52	8	2.79	-0.82	MI FLINT	29	5	1.00	-0.28	PA MIDDLETOWN	35	4	2.33	-0.60
CA BAKERSFIELD	55	2	1.62	0.56	MI GRAND RAPIDS	31	7	1.56	0.14	PA PHILADELPHIA	37	4	2.01	-0.78
CA EUREKA	51	2	7.00	2.27	MI HOUGHTON LAKE	25	7	1.54	0.38	PA PITTSBURGH	36	7	2.53	0.14
CA FRESNO	54	3	6.11	4.31	MI LANSING	30	7	1.00	-0.36	PA WILKES-BARRE	31	4	2.40	0.25
CA LOS ANGELES	58	0	4.71	2.20	MI MUSKEGON	32	8	1.03	-0.46	PA WILLIAMSPORT	32	4	2.45	-0.31
CA REDDING	49	-2	9.28	4.83	MI TRAVERSE CITY	29	9	1.16	-0.21	PR SAN JUAN	77	0	1.01	-1.11
CA SACRAMENTO	52	1	8.93	6.06	MN DULUTH	22	10	1.15	0.35	RI PROVIDENCE	34	4	2.74	-0.87
CA SAN DIEGO	59	0	3.68	2.15	MN INT'L FALLS	19	11	0.23	-0.40	SC CHARLESTON	53	2	2.01	-1.29
CA SAN FRANCISCO	54	2	8.66	5.49	MN MINNEAPOLIS	28	10	1.08	0.20	SC COLUMBIA	50	3	1.18	-2.94
CA STOCKTON	52	1	5.04	3.07	MN ROCHESTER	26	9	0.99	0.25	SC FLORENCE	50	3	1.18	-2.06
CO ALAMOSA	29	7	0.02	-0.27	MN ST. CLOUD	22	8	1.03	0.40	SC GREENVILLE	49	6	1.87	-2.54
CO CO SPRINGS	39	7	0.23	-0.17	MS JACKSON	55	7	1.29	-3.41	SD MYRTLE BEACH	50	***	0.63	*****
CO DENVER	40	7	0.22	-0.35	MS MERIDIAN	54	5	1.46	-3.97	SD ABERDEEN	26	9	0.69	0.22
CO GRAND JUNCTION	40	5	0.70	0.22	MS TUPELO	51	7	3.67	-1.05	SD HURON	31	12	0.56	-0.12
CO PUEBLO	41	6	0.04	-0.27	MO COLUMBIA	42	10	3.39	1.55	SD RAPID CITY	33	6	0.31	-0.21
CT BRIDGEPORT	34	4	1.82	-1.19	MO JOPLIN	46	9	1.86	-0.25	SD SIOUX FALLS	31	11	1.04	0.40
CT HARTFORD	31	3	2.22	-1.01	MO KANSAS CITY	41	10	2.21	1.11	TN BRISTOL	43	6	1.87	-1.57
DC WASHINGTON	42	4	2.06	-0.65	MO SPRINGFIELD	44	8	1.69	-0.48	TN CHATTANOOGA	49	7	2.43	-2.38
DE WILMINGTON	37	4	1.95	-0.96	MO ST JOSEPH	40	10	1.65	0.68	TN JACKSON	47	6	4.01	-0.38
FL DAYTONA BEACH	60	1	0.65	-2.46	MO ST LOUIS	43	9	3.11	0.99	TN KNOXVILLE	46	6	3.42	-0.64
FL FT LAUDERDALE	70	2	1.52	-1.30	MT BILLINGS	31	2	1.33	0.69	TN MEMPHIS	50	6	5.37	1.02
FL FT MYERS	65	0	0.10	-2.13	MT BUTTE	30	8	0.50	0.13	TN NASHVILLE	47	7	3.75	-0.06
FL JACKSONVILLE	56	1	1.17	-2.76	MT GLASGOW	22	4	0.00	-0.27	TX ABILENE	56	9	0.44	-0.72
FL KEY WEST	71	0	0.66	-1.14	MT GREAT FALLS	28	1	0.69	0.12	TX AMARILLO	47	8	0.04	-0.57
FL MELBOURNE	63	1	0.34	-2.47	MT HELENA	29	3	0.32	-0.09	TX AUSTIN	60	7	1.28	-0.89
FL MIAMI	69	0	1.24	-0.84	MT KALISPELL	27	0	0.14	-0.96	TX BEAUMONT	62	8	0.72	-2.66
FL ORLANDO	62	1	0.36	-2.66	MT MILES CITY	28	5	1.03	0.58	TX BROWNSVILLE	70	8	0.23	-0.83
FL PENSACOLA	58	4	1.25	-4.15	MT MISSOULA	31	2	1.33	0.54	TX COLLEGE STATION	60	8	0.91	-1.71
FL ST PETERSBURG	64	2	0.19	-2.95	NE GRAND ISLAND	35	8	1.35	0.63	TX CORPUS CHRISTI	67	9	0.61	-1.35
FL TALLAHASSEE	56	3	1.34	-4.22	NE HASTINGS	36	9	1.73	1.01	TX DALLAS/FT WORTH	57	9	3.30	1.12
FL TAMPA	64	2	0.30	-2.78	NE LINCOLN	36	9	1.59	0.87	TX DEL RIO	64	9	0.95	0.00
FL WEST PALM BEACH	67	1	0.59	-2.10	NE MCCOOK	36	5	0.87	0.38	TX EL PASO	54	6	0.03	-0.38
GA ATHENS	49	3	1.99	-2.43	NE NORFOLK	34	10	1.16	0.39	TX GALVESTON	63	8	1.71	-0.55
GA ATLANTA	51	6	1.26	-3.55	NE NORTH PLATTE	34	6	0.46	0.03	TX HOUSTON	62	8	2.32	-0.64
GA AUGUSTA	50	3	1.01	-3.26	NE OMAHA/EPPLEY	36	9	1.95	1.18	TX LUBBOCK	51	8	0.05	-0.63
GA COLUMBUS	54	5	1.20	-3.65	NE SCOTTSBLUFF	36	6	0.63	0.16	TX MIDLAND	55	8	0.00	-0.62
GA MACON	52	3	0.37	-4.37	NE VALENTINE	33	8	1.16	0.73	TX SAN ANGELO	58	10	0.23	-0.84
GA SAVANNAH	53	1	1.56	-1.66	NV ELKO	36	5	2.32	1.52	TX SAN ANTONIO	63	10	2.20	0.39
HI HILO	71	-1	0.52	-9.77	NV ELY	33	4	1.65	1.00	TX VICTORIA	65	9	0.69	-1.31
HI HONOLULU	74	1	0.07	-2.14	NV LAS VEGAS	54	3	1.59	1.11	TX WACO	58	9	4.54	2.45
HI KAHULUI	72	0	0.06	-2.81	NV RENO	41	3	0.98	-0.01	TX WICHITA FALLS	53	8	1.20	-0.26
HI LIHUE	72	0	0.50	-2.83	NV WINNEMUCCA	40	4	1.59	0.97	UT SALT LAKE CITY	40	6	1.80	0.57
ID BOISE	42	6	2.06	0.99	NH CONCORD	25	3	2.83	0.30	VT BURLINGTON	22	4	2.52	0.89
ID LEWISTON	41	2	2.23	1.34	NJ ATLANTIC CITY	37	4	2.22	-0.84	VA LYNCHBURG	41	4	1.84	-1.20
ID POCATELLO	37	8	1.50	0.58	NJ NEWARK	37	4	1.58	-1.46	VA NORFOLK	45	4	1.13	-2.34
IL CHICAGO/O'HARE	34	9	1.97	0.61	NM ALBUQUERQUE	45	5	0.30	-0.16	VA RICHMOND	43	4	1.63	-1.53
IL MOLINE	34	9	3.30	2.07	NY ALBANY	28	4	2.83	0.56	VA ROANOKE	43	6	1.69	-1.35
IL PEORIA	37	11	1.83	0.41	NY BINGHAMTON	27	4	3.37	1.04	VA WASH/DULLES	39	5	1.92	-0.89
IL ROCKFORD	31	8	2.05	0.91	NY BUFFALO	30	6	1.75	-0.56	WA OLYMPIA	42	1	5.85	0.08
IL SPRINGFIELD	39	10	1.27	-0.50	NY ROCHESTER	30	5	1.97	-0.13	WA QUILLAYUTE	42	0	9.43	-3.16
IN EVANSVILLE	43	9	7.26	4.14	NY SYRACUSE	29	5	2.46	0.31	WA SEATTLE-TACOMA	44	0	5.25	1.26
IN FORT WAYNE	33	7	1.57	-0.34	NC ASHEVILLE	43	4	2.33	-1.58	WA SPOKANE	34	1	1.61	0.12
IN INDIANAPOLIS	38	8	2.86	0.40	NC CHARLOTTE	47	5	2.59	-1.25	WA YAKIMA	37	1	1.22	0.48
IN SOUTH BEND	35	9	1.63	-0.27	NC GREENSBORO	45	5	1.53	-1.79	WV BECKLEY	39	7	2.74	-0.20
IA BURLINGTON	37	10	2.26	1.10	NC HATTERAS	48	2	3.81	-0.31	WV CHARLESTON	43	8	4.25	1.21
IA CEDAR RAPIDS	32	9	1.41	0.39	NC RALEIGH	46	4	2.20	-1.49	WV ELKINS	36	6	4.19	1.19
IA DES MOINES	37	12	2.18	1.07	NC WILMINGTON	52	5	1.31	-2.39	WV HUNTINGTON	43	8	5.40	2.50
IA DUBUQUE	31	10	1.44	0.12	ND BISMARCK	23	7	1.74	1.31	WI EAU CLAIRE	26	10	1.17	0.45
IA SIOUX CITY	33	9	0.76	0.05	ND DICKINSON	27	8	1.02	0.67	WI GREEN BAY	25	7	1.04	0.01
IA WATERLOO	31	11	0.99	-0.09	ND FARGO	22	10	1.01	0.56	WI LA CROSSE	31	11	0.91	0.01
KS CONCORDIA	39	8	2.02	1.27	ND GRAND FORKS	23	13	1.70	1.21	WI MADISON	30	9	1.95	0.87
KS DODGE CITY	42	7	0.16	-0.46	ND JAMESTOWN	21	7	2.12	1.65	WI MILWAUKEE	32	9	1.66	0.21
KS GOODLAND	39	7	0.72	0.33	ND MINOT	24	9	0.80	0.22	WI WAUSAU	26	9	1.07	0.20
KS HILL CITY	39	7	1.83	1.23	ND WILLISTON	21	5	0.46	0.04	WY CASPER	34	8	0.55	-0.05
KS TOPEKA	42	10	2.00	0.96	OH AKRON-CANTON	33	6	2.46	0.23	WY CHEYENNE	35	6	0.59	0.20
KS WICHITA	42	7	2.72	1.76	OH CINCINNATI	40	8	5.71	3.02	WY LANDER	33	8	0.25	-0.32
KY JACKSON	44	7	3.53	-0.29	OH CLEVELAND	34	7	2.05	-0.14	WY SHERIDAN	28	2	0.65	0.01

Based on 1961-90 normals.

(Note: 24 new stations added for December 1999 table)

*** Not Available.

National Agricultural Summary

February 28 - March 5, 2000

HIGHLIGHTS

Temperatures averaging well above normal stimulated winter wheat development in the Great Plains and Corn Belt. Precipitation also aided wheat growth and improved conditions in Kansas and Oklahoma. Some wheat fields germinated and emerged in Kansas, while most fields reached the jointing stage in Oklahoma. In the Corn Belt, rainfall was light and scattered, but soil moisture supplies were adequate to support soft red winter wheat development as it broke dormancy along the Ohio and Missouri River Valleys. Wheat conditions improved in eastern Texas due to improved soil moisture supplies, but dry soils continued to stress wheat fields in the High Plains. Corn planting continued in southern Texas and advanced northward into portions of the North Central region. Recent rain showers aided emergence in both areas. Cotton planting expanded in the Coastal Bend and South Texas regions. Rice planting began along the Gulf Coast, but progress was limited due to water shortages. Growers also planted sorghum and soybeans along the Gulf Coast and inland regions of southern Texas.

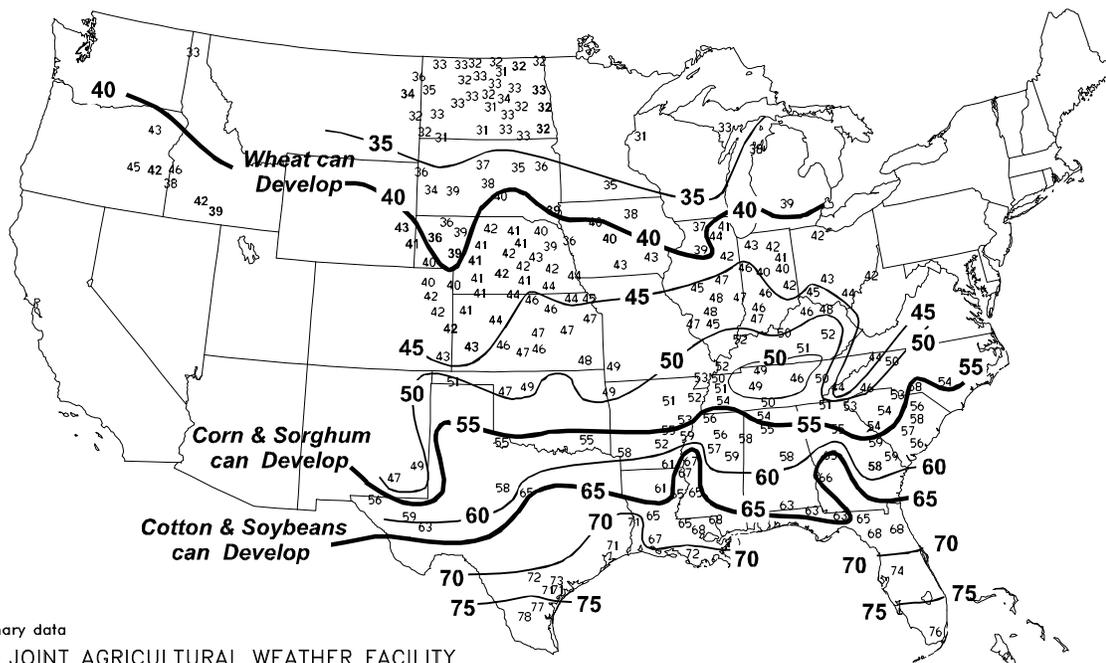
Coast from central California to the Canadian border. In California, most fieldwork was halted by muddy conditions. Irrigated and dryland grain, oat hay, and winter forages continued to progress well in most areas with ample soil moisture. However, plants standing in water in low areas were beginning to yellow. In more mature grain fields, plants lodged due to excessive rain and strong winds. Growth of winter forages and recently planted corn fields was slow in some areas due to below-normal temperatures. Other fields that were prepared for corn planting remained idle, while growers waited for drier soil conditions. Orchard activities, including fruit harvest, were delayed by rain in some areas, but remained active in southern California.

In the Southeast, rain boosted soil moisture supplies, especially in the southern Appalachians and adjacent Piedmont. Dry conditions continued along the Coastal Plains, Gulf Coast, and lower Mississippi Valley. In Florida, sugarcane harvest neared completion and growers prepared fields for spring crops. Citrus growers continued irrigating groves, as trees produced new growth and bloom

A wet weather pattern continued along the Pacific

Average Soil Temperature (°F, 4" Bare)

FEB 27 - MAR 4, 2000



Based on preliminary data

NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY

International Weather and Crop Summary

February 27 - March 4, 2000

HIGHLIGHTS

EUROPE: Dry, unseasonably warm weather continued in Spain and Portugal, stressing vegetative winter grains.

FSU-WESTERN: A warming trend followed bitterly cold weather early in the week, improving overwintering conditions for winter grains but diminishing protective snow cover in the west and south.

NORTHWESTERN AFRICA: Conditions worsened throughout the winter grain-producing areas.

SOUTH AFRICA: Scattered showers and seasonable warmth aided development of filling corn and other summer crops.

AUSTRALIA: Weather conditions favored maturing cotton and sorghum in the east.

SOUTH AMERICA: Widespread showers aided summer crops in central Argentina and southern Brazil, but heavy showers slowed early soybean harvesting in Mato Grosso and Goias, Brazil.

EASTERN ASIA: Across the North China Plain, warmer weather caused winter wheat to begin losing winter hardiness.

SOUTHEAST ASIA: In Java, Indonesia, light showers continued to reduce moisture supplies for main-season rice, while heavy showers caused flooding in the east-central Philippines and eastern peninsular Malaysia.

February 2000

MONTHLY DATA FROM SELECTED FOREIGN CITIES
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER-NCEP-NWS-NOAA
*** DATA NOT AVAILABLE

COUNTRY CITY	TEMPERATURE (C)					PRECIPITATION (MM)		
	AVG MAX	AVG MIN	HI MAX	LO MIN	AVG	DPART F/NRM	TOTAL	DPART F/NRM
NORWAY OSLO	1	-6	8	-14	-3	4.5	39	-10
SWEDEN STOCKHOLM	3	-3	7	-11	0	2.7	0	-26
FINLAN HELSINKI	-1	-5	4	-21	-3	3.6	51	20
UKINGD ABERDEEN	8	2	15	-4	5	1.8	21	-30
MANCHESTER	9	4	12	-3	7	2.5	82	32
NOTTINGHAM	9	3	13	-2	6	2.1	56	11
SOUTHAMPTON	11	6	15	0	8	3.2	77	-5
IRELAN DUBLIN	9	3	14	-1	5	-0.3	40	-11
ICELAN REYKJAVIK	1	-3	6	-9	-1	-1.2	34	-38
DENMAR COPENHAGEN	5	1	9	-7	3	3.1	19	-20
LUXEMB LUXEMBOURG	7	2	13	-3	4	2.9	78	9
SWITZE ZURICH	7	2	16	-3	4	3.3	119	46
GENEVA	9	1	16	-4	5	2.7	67	-14
FRANCE PARIS/LEBOURG	10	5	18	-2	7	3.2	48	3
STRASBOURG	10	2	17	-4	6	3.7	39	6
BOURGES	11	3	20	-3	7	2.4	64	7
BORDEAUX	14	6	20	-1	10	2.8	79	-1
TOULOUSE	13	5	20	-1	9	2.4	47	-3
MARSEILLE	14	5	18	-1	10	2.1	3	-52
SPAIN VALLADOLID	14	3	19	-1	9	2.7	2	-39
MADRID	17	2	20	-1	9	2.9	0	-50
SEVILLE	22	9	25	5	15	3.2	0	-63
PORTUG LISBON	17	10	22	8	14	1.9	21	-79
GERMAN HAMBURG	8	3	13	-6	5	3.9	88	47
BERLIN	7	2	18	-3	5	4.0	61	27
DUSSELDORF	9	3	13	-4	6	3.7	100	47
LEIPZIG	8	2	16	-4	5	4.3	48	16
DRESDEN	7	2	15	-6	4	4.8	62	26
STUTT GART	8	1	18	-5	5	3.8	60	14
NURNBERG	7	1	17	-6	4	3.7	47	8
AUGSBURG	7	0	18	-4	4	3.9	48	-1
AUSTRI VIENNA	9	1	15	-5	5	4.4	46	16
INNSBRUCK	7	-1	14	-7	3	2.0	45	3
CZECHR PRAGUE	6	1	13	-6	3	4.1	20	-2
POLAND WARSAW	5	0	13	-8	3	4.5	35	14
LODZ	5	0	13	-7	2	4.1	39	8
KATOWICE	6	0	13	-6	3	4.9	59	23
PRZEMYSL	5	0	11	-5	2	3.9	35	6
HUNGAR BUDAPEST	8	0	13	-6	4	2.6	15	-17
YUGOSL BELGRADE	9	2	17	-2	6	2.9	27	-16
ROMANI BUCHAREST	7	-2	14	-9	2	2.8	34	-4
BULGAR SOFIA	5	-2	12	-10	2	0.5	33	-4
ITALY MILAN	12	2	16	-3	7	3.5	1	-60
VERONA	9	0	14	-5	5	0.2	0	-48
VENICE	9	1	15	-3	5	0.4	5	-47
GENOA	15	9	20	5	12	3.0	3	-88
ROME	14	4	16	-1	9	0.2	17	-56
NAPLES	14	5	16	-1	9	0.2	28	-69
GREECE THESSALONIKA	11	4	17	-3	7	0.7	36	-6
LARISSA	12	1	20	-5	7	-0.2	39	0
ATHENS	14	7	20	2	11	0.2	11	-23
TURKEY ISTANBUL	9	4	14	1	7	1.1	97	27
ANKARA	1	-7	6	-15	-3	-3.5	41	11
CYPRUS LARNACA	17	6	20	3	12	-0.3	16	-45
ESTONI TALLINN	1	-3	5	-9	-1	4.7	39	11
RUSSIA ST.PETERSBURG	0	-5	6	-15	-2	4.3	19	-11
LITHUA KAUNAS	3	-1	9	-10	1	5.2	37	11
BELARU MINSK	2	-2	8	-10	0	5.4	46	14
RUSSIA KAZAN	-4	-9	2	-25	-7	4.8	31	3
MOSCOW	-1	-5	5	-18	-3	4.8	56	20
YEKATERINBURG	-4	-10	4	-19	-7	5.2	16	-4
OMSK	-7	-14	0	-23	-11	6.1	19	4
KRASNOYARSK	-7	-13	4	-29	-10	***	15	**
NOVOSIBIRSK	-7	-12	-3	-24	-10	7.9	33	18
BARNAUL	-6	-14	0	-27	-10	4.6	19	-5
KHABAROVSK	-12	-22	-9	-30	-16	0.6	0	-11
VLADIVOSTOK	-7	-13	-3	-17	-10	0.1	4	-15
UKRAIN KIEV	2	-2	8	-9	0	4.0	37	-10
LVOV	4	-1	11	-7	1	4.2	39	-6
KIROVOGRAD	1	-4	5	-12	-1	3.4	26	-5

Based on Preliminary Reports

Note: Several stations were added or removed for the February 2000 table

February 2000

COUNTRY CITY	TEMPERATURE (C)					PRECIPITATION (MM)			COUNTRY CITY	TEMPERATURE (C)					PRECIPITATION (MM)		
	AVG MAX	AVG MIN	HI MAX	LO MIN	AVG	DPART F/NRM	TOTAL	DPART F/NRM		AVG MAX	AVG MIN	HI MAX	LO MIN	AVG	DPART F/NRM	TOTAL	DPART F/NRM
ODESSA	4	-1	10	-5	2	2.5	40	-1	ETHIOP ADDIS ABABA	23	10	26	3	16	-0.5	0	-37
YALTA	8	3	17	-1	5	0.9	39	-21	KENYA NAIROBI	29	12	32	9	20	0.3	0	-48
RUSSIA VORONEZH	-1	-5	3	-18	-3	***	34	**	TANZAN DAR ES SALAAM	32	24	35	20	28	0.3	3	-54
SARATOV	-2	-6	2	-18	-5	5.7	32	9	GABON LIBREVILLE	31	24	33	23	28	0.4	112	-160
VOLGOGRAD	1	-4	6	-18	-2	6.8	19	-9	TOGO LOME	33	24	36	21	29	0.7	0	-32
UKRAIN ZDANOV	3	-2	8	-8	0	5.3	32	4	BURKIN OUAGADOUGOU	33	18	39	15	26	-2.3	0	0
RUSSIA ASTRAKHAN	6	-2	14	-10	1	6.3	3	-6	COTE D ABIDJAN	32	24	34	20	28	0.5	45	-3
KRASNODAR	6	-1	18	-10	3	2.7	43	-11	MOZAMB MAPUTO	29	23	35	20	26	0.2	556	423
KAZAKS ATBASAR	-8	-16	0	-25	-12	5.8	23	10	MALAWI CHILEKA	28	21	32	18	24	0.7	230	52
RUSSIA ORENBURG	-3	-10	1	-25	-6	6.6	25	4	ZIMBAB HARARE	25	17	30	16	21	1.1	192	45
KAZAKS KARAGANDA	-7	-14	-1	-25	-11	2.6	26	6	S AFRI PRETORIA	26	18	31	14	22	0.1	247	170
GEORGI TBILISI	9	1	16	-4	5	1.6	13	-14	KROONSTAD	26	16	31	11	21	***	43	**
UZBEKI TASHKENT	9	-1	18	-6	4	1.1	24	-22	JOHANNESBURG	22	14	28	10	18	-1.2	263	169
TURKME ASHKHABAD	11	2	23	-3	7	2.6	10	-16	BETHAL	23	14	29	9	18	-0.7	140	41
SYRIA DAMASCUS	15	1	18	-5	8	-0.2	2	-27	DURBAN	29	22	31	19	26	1.9	156	43
ISRAEL JERUSALEM	13	4	17	1	8	-0.9	61	-73	CAPE TOWN	27	17	32	5	22	1.4	0	-16
INDIA AMRITSAR	20	6	24	3	13	-1.3	15	-18	CANADA TORONTO	1	-7	15	-18	-3	2.9	49	4
NEW DELHI	22	9	28	7	16	-1.4	61	42	MONTREAL	-2	-12	11	-21	-7	1.8	65	8
AHMEDABAD	30	13	37	10	22	-0.9	0	-2	WINNIPEG	-4	-14	9	-33	-9	6.3	28	13
INDORE	28	11	36	7	19	-0.9	1	-2	REGINA	-5	-17	7	-34	-11	1.8	9	-4
CALCUTTA	27	17	30	12	22	-1.0	36	24	SASKATOON	-5	-17	5	-32	-11	2.8	16	3
VERAVAL	29	17	35	14	23	0.9	0	-2	LETHBRIDGE	1	-12	13	-27	-5	-0.5	24	10
BOMBAY	30	18	37	14	24	-0.2	0	-1	CALGARY	-1	-12	9	-23	-6	-0.3	21	11
POONA	31	12	33	9	22	-0.6	0	-2	EDMONTON	-2	-13	6	-22	-7	1.4	3	-14
BEGAMPET	31	19	34	16	25	0.5	81	73	VANCOUVER	9	2	12	-3	5	0.4	68	-54
KAKINADA	30	23	32	20	27	1.3	13	1	MEXICO GUADALAJARA	28	8	34	3	18	1.1	0	-7
MADRAS	31	23	34	18	27	0.8	74	60	MEXICO CITY	23	10	27	4	16	2.5	0	-6
MANGALORE	33	22	36	20	27	0.3	0	-2	ACAPULCO	31	21	33	18	26	-0.3	0	0
HONGKO KINGS PEAK	18	13	23	8	15	***	27	**	BERMUD ST. GEORGES	21	16	23	13	18	0.4	157	50
N KORE NAMPO	-1	-7	5	-12	-4	-0.2	4	-8	BAHAMA NASSAU	25	18	28	12	22	0.3	86	47
S KORE SEOUL	3	-6	8	-12	-1	0.5	2	-19	CUBA HAVANA/MARTI	27	16	30	9	21	-1.2	0	-50
JAPAN SAPPORO	-1	-7	2	-12	-4	-0.1	94	0	JAMAIC KINGSTON	30	22	32	21	26	0.6	1	-17
NAGOYA	8	0	13	-4	4	-0.7	35	-31	P RICO SAN JUAN	28	21	30	20	25	-0.3	26	-28
TOKYO	10	3	15	0	6	0.7	5	-56	GUADEL RAIZET	29	21	30	16	25	0.7	46	-3
YOKOHAMA	10	2	14	0	6	0.6	4	-68	MARTIN LAMENTIN	28	23	29	18	25	1.0	190	52
KYOTO	8	1	13	-2	4	-0.4	29	-38	BARBAD BRIDGETOWN	28	22	30	20	25	-0.1	76	35
OSAKA	9	2	12	0	5	-0.2	37	-24	TRINID PORT OF SPAIN	29	23	32	20	26	0.7	38	2
THAILA PHITSANULOK	32	21	36	14	26	-1.1	14	3	COLOMB BOGOTA	19	8	22	0	13	0.0	109	70
BANGKOK	34	24	36	19	29	0.7	40	16	F GUIA CAYENNE	28	23	30	21	26	-0.1	473	167
MALAYS KUALA LUMPUR	33	24	35	22	28	1.6	113	-44	BRAZIL FORTALEZA/PINT	32	25	33	23	28	-0.1	129	-108
VIETNA HANOI	19	15	26	9	17	-0.6	33	5	RECIFE	30	23	32	21	27	-0.1	89	-41
CHINA HARBIN	-9	-20	-5	-25	-15	1.2	5	0	BELO HORIZONTE	28	20	31	17	24	0.2	195	0
HAMI	4	-11	8	-22	-3	1.1	0	-1	CAMPO GRANDE	30	22	35	21	26	1.5	253	54
LANCHOW	5	-7	12	-13	-1	1.2	6	4	FRANCA	26	19	31	16	23	4.2	426	198
BEIJING	4	-6	11	-13	-1	0.6	0	-6	RESENDE	29	20	33	16	24	0.4	263	13
TIENTSIN	4	-7	11	-12	-1	0.0	1	-5	LONDRINA	28	20	32	15	24	-0.3	229	50
LHASA	8	-5	14	-8	2	0.4	0	0	SANTA MARIA	29	19	37	15	24	0.2	90	-40
KUNMING	17	6	24	0	12	2.0	23	9	PORTO ALEGRE	30	21	39	18	26	1.3	0	-104
CHENGCHOW	8	-2	17	-10	3	0.9	2	-12	PERU LIMA	26	20	28	17	23	-0.4	2	2
YEHCHANG	10	4	16	-2	7	0.8	8	-21	BOLIVI LA PAZ	15	4	33	2	9	0.6	76	-28
HANKOW	10	4	16	-3	7	1.9	29	-29	CHILE SANTIAGO	28	11	31	8	20	-0.1	7	7
NEIJIANG	12	6	16	1	9	-0.7	9	-5	ARGENT FORMOSA	32	22	38	17	27	-0.1	242	133
CHIHKIANG	8	4	13	-2	6	0.0	38	-9	POSADAS	32	21	37	16	27	0.7	124	-36
NANJING	8	1	14	-5	4	0.6	34	-15	CERES	30	18	37	12	24	-1.1	110	-9
HANGZHOU	8	2	13	-4	5	-0.5	88	0	CORDOBA	26	16	32	11	21	-1.2	162	47
NANCHANG	8	4	13	-3	6	-0.2	72	-30	RIO CUARTO	27	17	32	10	22	-0.2	62	-25
TAIPEI	18	15	26	11	16	1.1	336	200	ROSARIO	30	18	38	12	24	0.9	185	67
CANTON	18	11	24	5	14	0.2	26	-39	BUENOS AIRES	30	18	35	9	24	1.7	53	-50
NANNING	15	10	24	1	12	-1.1	58	12	SANTA ROSA	28	15	34	7	21	-1.2	132	62
CANARY LAS PALMAS	21	17	24	14	19	1.3	9	-9	TRES ARROYOS	27	15	34	8	21	0.6	154	87
MOROCC CASABLANCA	19	11	25	8	15	1.4	0	-54	SAMOA PAGO PAGO	32	26	34	24	29	1.3	345	21
MARRAKECH	25	10	28	7	17	3.8	0	-36	TAHITI PAPEETE	32	24	33	22	28	1.0	80	-150
ALGERI ALGER	19	5	23	0	12	0.4	6	-69	NZEALA AUCKLAND	23	17	25	14	20	***	1	**
BATNA	15	0	23	-5	7	1.2	9	-21	WELLINGTON	20	15	23	11	18	***	21	**
TUNISI TUNIS	17	9	22	5	13	1.1	14	-44	AUSTRA DARWIN	30	25	33	24	27	-0.7	646	303
NIGER NIAMEY	32	17	39	12	24	-2.9	0	0	GOONDIWINDI	31	18	35	15	24	-2.0	75	20
MALI TIMBUKTU	30	16	36	11	23	-1.2	0	0	BRISBANE	26	21	29	16	24	-1.3	96	-52
BAMAKO	33	21	39	12	27	-1.1	0	0	PERTH	31	18	40	12	25	-0.1	0	-14
MAURIT NOUAKCHOTT	30	19	34	15	24	1.5	1	1	CEDUNA	30	19	43	15	25	2.9	25	11
SENEGA DAKAR	25	19	33	18	22	1.5	0	-1	ADELAIDE	30	20	40	13	25	3.1	42	-1
CHAGOS DIEGO GARCIA	29	25	32	24	27	-0.2	326	45	MELBOURNE	28	17	38	10	22	2.2	21	-25
LIBYA TRIPOLI	17	6	22	3	12	-1.4	61	26	WAGGA	31	19	37	12	25	1.2	32	-2
BENGHAZI	16	10	19	8	13	-0.4	29	-14	CANBERRA	28	15	34	9	21	1.0	113	55
EGYPT CAIRO	19	10	22	7	14	-1.1	0	-3	INDON BANDUNG	27	21	29	18	24	1.6	107	-80
ASWAN	23	11	27	9	17	-0.8	0	0	PHILIP MANILA	31	25	33	22	28	0.9	45	37

Based on Preliminary Reports

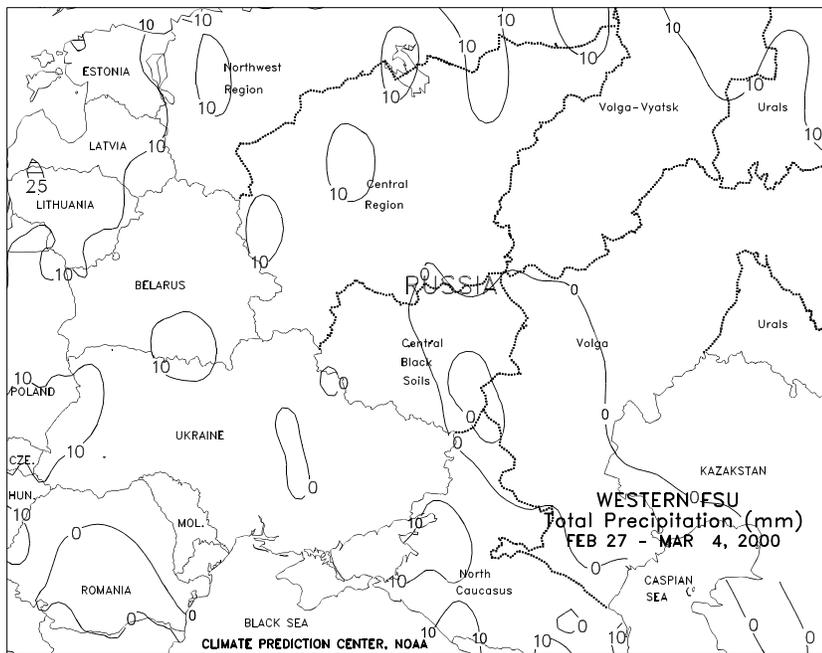
Note: Several stations were added or removed for the February 2000 table



EUROPE

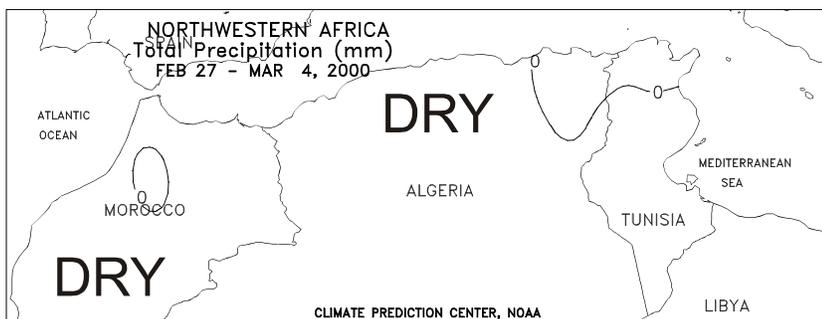
In England, France, the Benelux countries, Denmark, and western Germany, widespread precipitation (15-55 mm or more) maintained adequate soil moisture for vegetative winter grains and oilseeds. In contrast, dry weather continued in Spain and Portugal, stressing winter wheat and barley. Winter grains are primarily in the jointing stage of development in this region, but are approaching reproduction in southern areas. Soil moisture reserves are low across much of this region, therefore timely rainfall will be needed during reproduction to maintain crop yield potentials. In eastern Europe, scattered rain and snow (5-25 mm) fell from Sweden, eastern Germany, and Italy eastward. The precipitation maintained adequate moisture reserves for dormant and semi-dormant winter grains in most areas. In Italy, more rainfall is needed to increase soil moisture after 3 months of below-normal precipitation. Temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C above normal in western Europe and 2 to 5 degrees C above normal in northeastern Europe. In southeastern Europe, seasonably cool weather prevailed.

FSU-WESTERN

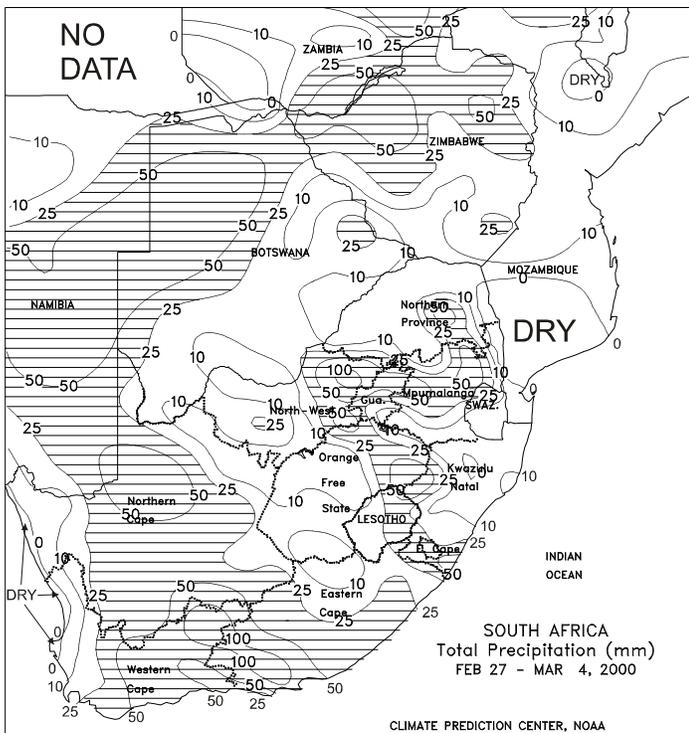


A brief cold snap occurred early in the week, dropping temperatures below the threshold for potential winterkill as far south as eastern Ukraine and the northern tip of the North Caucasus region in Russia. Lowest temperatures were observed on February 28, when minimum temperatures fell to as low as -22 degrees C in northeastern Ukraine. Minimum temperatures in northern Russia ranged from -20 to -25 degrees C. The combination of the short duration of extreme cold along with a protective snow cover in most areas reduced the likelihood for significant winterkill. Furthermore, rapid warming began on February 29 and continued until week's end, improving overwintering conditions. However, temperatures rose above freezing in most areas, melting protective snow cover. At week's end, most of Ukraine, southern Russia, Belarus, and the Baltics had little if any snow cover. Reports indicated that early-spring fieldwork in preparation for spring grain planting was underway in southern Ukraine, helped mostly by dry weather. Weekly temperatures averaged 2 to 7 degrees C above normal in most areas, despite the bitterly cold weather early in the week.

NORTHWESTERN AFRICA



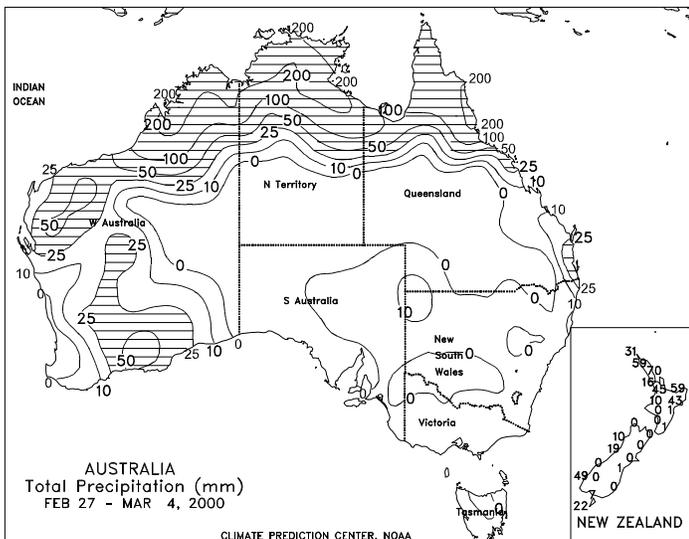
High pressure dominated the region, maintaining unfavorably warm, dry conditions throughout winter grain areas. Drought conditions worsened in Morocco and Algeria and were beginning to spread eastward into Tunisia, where crop conditions continued to decline. Winter grains throughout the region were approaching the highly weather-sensitive heading stage of development. As a result, significant rainfall is needed soon to prevent serious declines in yield prospects.



SOUTH AFRICA

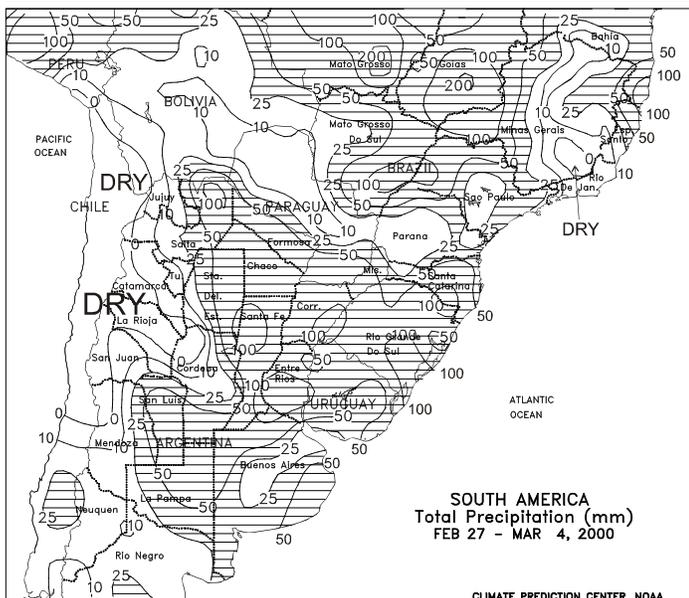
Scattered, light to moderate showers (5-25 mm, locally exceeding 75 mm) covered the corn belt, maintaining generally favorable moisture levels for filling summer crops. Temperatures averaged near to above normal, with highs ranging from the upper 20's to lower 30's degrees C. Light rain (5-20 mm) covered northern sugarcane areas of KwaZulu-Natal, however, moderate to locally heavy rain (20-40 mm or more) fell across extreme southern sugarcane areas. Unseasonably heavy rain (25-50 mm or more) increased irrigation reserves in orchards and vineyards of Western and Eastern Cape Provinces.

AUSTRALIA

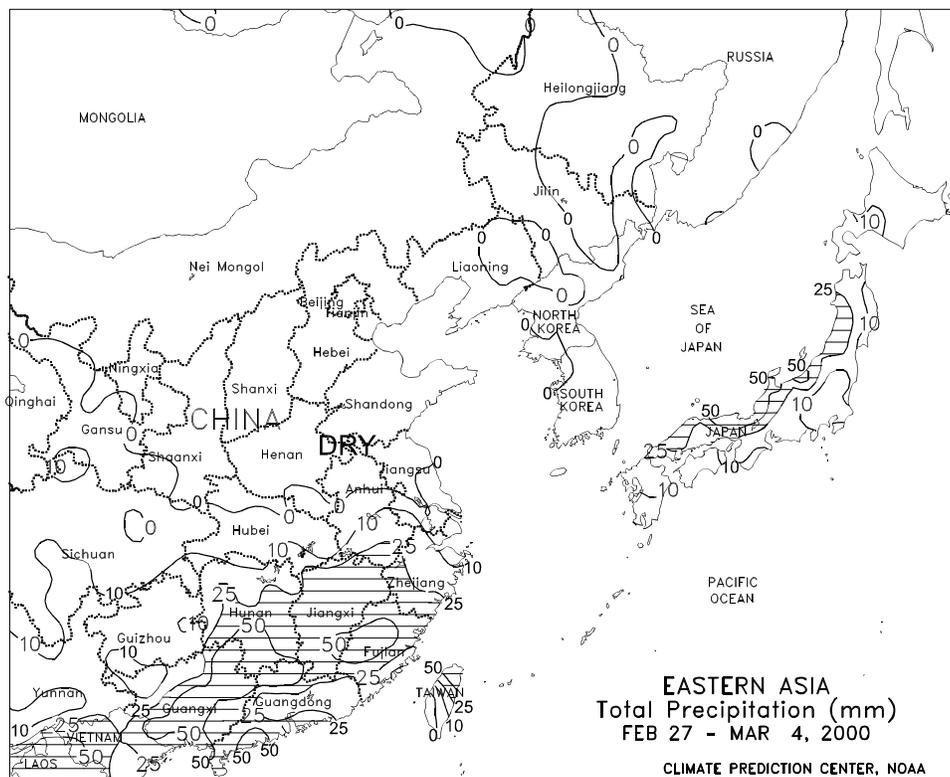


Warm, dry weather benefited maturing cotton and sorghum in southern Queensland and northern New South Wales. In addition, highs in the low to middle 30's degrees C aided dry down and late development in the main interior summer crop areas. Locally excessive tropical rains (100 mm or greater) and flooding continued in Queensland's northernmost sugarcane areas, but showers were generally light (25 mm or less) in southern growing areas. Hot, dry weather returned to the southeast (South Australia to southern New South Wales), following last week's heavy rains. In Western Australia, light to moderate rain (10-25 mm or more) boosted moisture reserves in eastern and northern winter grain areas. In New Zealand, light to moderate showers (1-45 mm or more) were observed in North Island, while dry weather and near-normal temperatures prevailed over the main agricultural districts of South Island.

SOUTH AMERICA

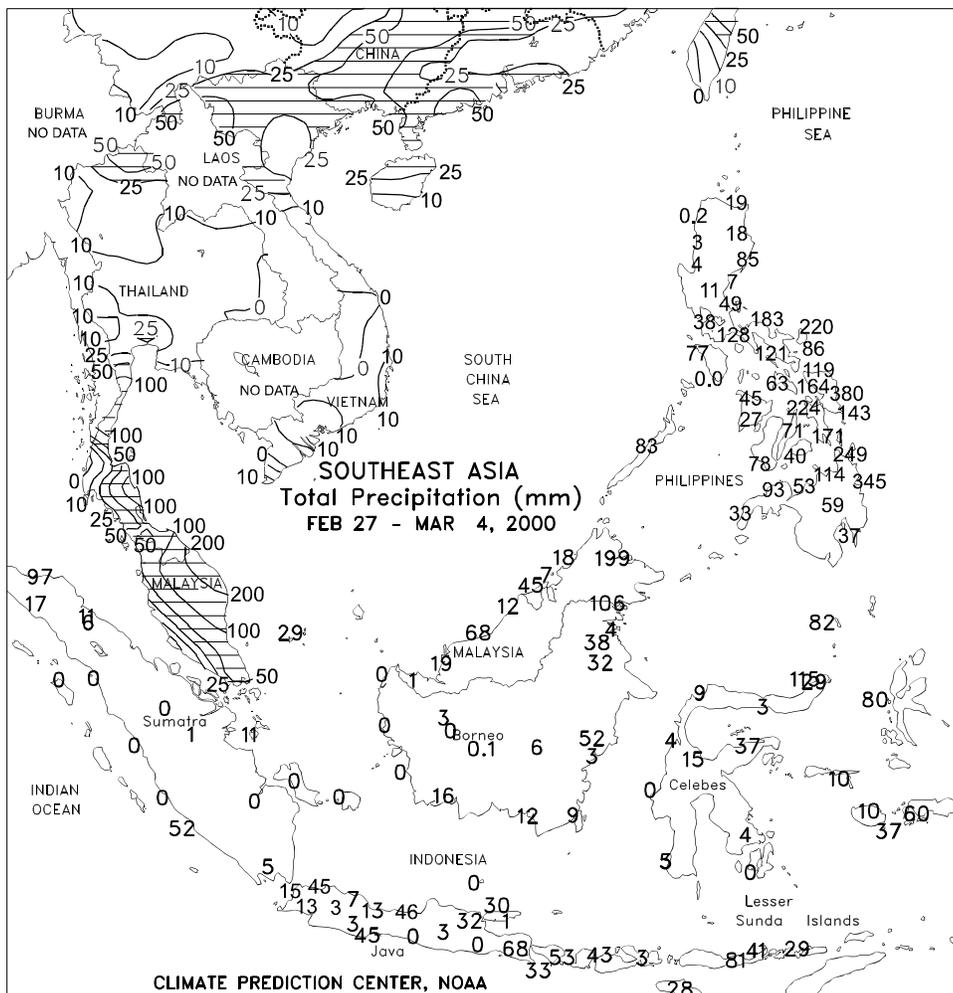


In Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, widespread showers (35-100 mm) favored filling soybeans and second-crop corn planting. Drier weather (less than 25 mm) prevailed in Parana, with adequate soil moisture for summer crops. Heavier showers (50-200 mm or more) boosted soil moisture supplies in Mato Grosso and Goias, likely slowing early soybean harvesting. Temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C above normal across southern Brazil. Moderate showers (30-60 mm) benefited cotton and soybeans in southern Paraguay. In central Argentina, widespread showers (50-150 mm) aided reproductive to filling soybeans and corn. The heavier rainfall, however, slowed sunflower and early corn harvesting. In northern Argentina, moderate to heavy rain (30-75 mm) aided filling cotton, but slowed early harvesting. Temperatures averaged near to slightly below normal across Argentina. According to reports as of March 3, Argentine sunflower harvesting was 25 percent complete and corn was 6 percent harvested.



EASTERN ASIA

In the North China Plain, warmer weather caused winter wheat to begin losing winter hardiness. Across the region, temperatures averaged 2 to 4 degrees C above normal and no significant rainfall was reported. Across southern China, widespread showers (25-55 mm) boosted moisture supplies for sugarcane development and upcoming early rice transplanting. In the south (Guizhou, Guangxi, and Guangdong), temperatures averaged 2 to 4 degrees C below normal, slowing crop development.



SOUTHEAST ASIA

In Java, Indonesia, light showers (5-30 mm) continued to reduce moisture supplies for main-season rice. Heavy showers (100-200 mm) boosted moisture supplies for oil palm, but caused flooding across eastern peninsular Malaysia. Heavy showers (100-250 mm or more) returned to east-central Philippines, causing additional flooding. Mostly light, scattered showers (5-20 mm) prevailed across Thailand and Vietnam. Temperatures averaged 2 to 5 degrees C below normal across Indochina.

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Weather Data for Selected Locations in the Delta

Weather Data for the Week Ending March 4, 2000

Data provided by the Mississippi State Delta Research and Extension Center (DREC) and the Southern Regional Climate Center (SRCC).

STATES AND STATIONS	TEMPERATURE EF						PRECIPITATION						4-INCH SOIL TEMP, °F		NUMBER OF DAYS				
	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL IN. SINCE Mar 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Mar 1	TOTAL IN. SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	TEMP. EF		PRECIP.	
																30 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	0.1 INCH OR MORE	50 INCH OR MORE
MS BATESVILLE *	64	42	71	33	53	5	0.00	-1.39	0.00	0.00	0	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	0
BELZONI *	70	46	76	40	58	6	0.00	-1.42	0.00	0.00	0	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	0
CLARKSDALE *	65	46	70	38	56	8	0.60	-0.71	0.50	0.60	79	-	-	-	-	0	0	2	1
CLEVELAND *	68	44	71	40	56	6	0.12	-1.49	0.10	0.12	13	5.83	53	-	-	0	0	2	0
GREENVILLE *	70	45	74	40	58	6	0.00	-1.40	0.00	0.00	0	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	0
GREENWOOD *	68	44	73	35	56	4	0.01	-1.23	0.01	0.00	0	4.32	46	-	-	0	0	1	0
INDIANOLA 1S	66	45	75	40	56	-	0.00	-	0.00	0.00	-	-	-	57	54	0	0	0	0
INVERNESS 5E	67	49	76	44	58	-	0.03	-	0.03	0.00	-	4.24	-	-	-	0	0	1	0
LYON	64	43	71	38	54	-	0.11	-	0.11	0.11	-	4.78	-	-	-	0	0	1	0
MOORHEAD *	68	48	76	43	58	6	0.02	-1.27	0.02	0.00	0	2.12	21	-	-	0	0	1	0
ONWARD	69	45	80	39	57	-	0.00	-	0.00	0.00	-	-	-	67	53	0	0	0	0
ROLLING FORK *	74	44	81	38	58	7	0.00	-1.29	0.00	0.00	0	3.14	30	-	-	0	0	0	0
SIDON	69	47	74	42	58	-	0.13	-	0.13	0.00	-	4.43	-	-	-	0	0	1	0
TUNICA *	63	44	69	38	54	6	0.20	-0.92	0.20	0.20	31	2.59	29	-	-	0	0	1	0
VICKSBURG *	74	48	80	43	61	6	0.00	-1.35	0.00	0.00	0	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	0
YAZOO CITY *	74	44	81	36	59	6	0.00	-1.43	0.00	0.00	0	2.46	21	-	-	0	0	0	0
STONEVILLE *	70	45	75	40	58	8	1.07	-0.08	1.04	0.03	4	5.15	45	67	54	0	0	2	1

Compiled by USDA/OCE/WAOB's Stoneville Field Office.

* Based on 1964-93 normals.

x Based on 1961-90 normals.

Delta Weather and Crop Summary: For the fourth consecutive week, weekly temperatures in the Mississippi Delta remained above normal. Scattered rain showers aided wheat growth by adding much-needed moisture to the dry soils. Some farmers continued to prepare land for planting, while others planted corn. Fertilizers and burn-down chemicals continued to be applied.

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