

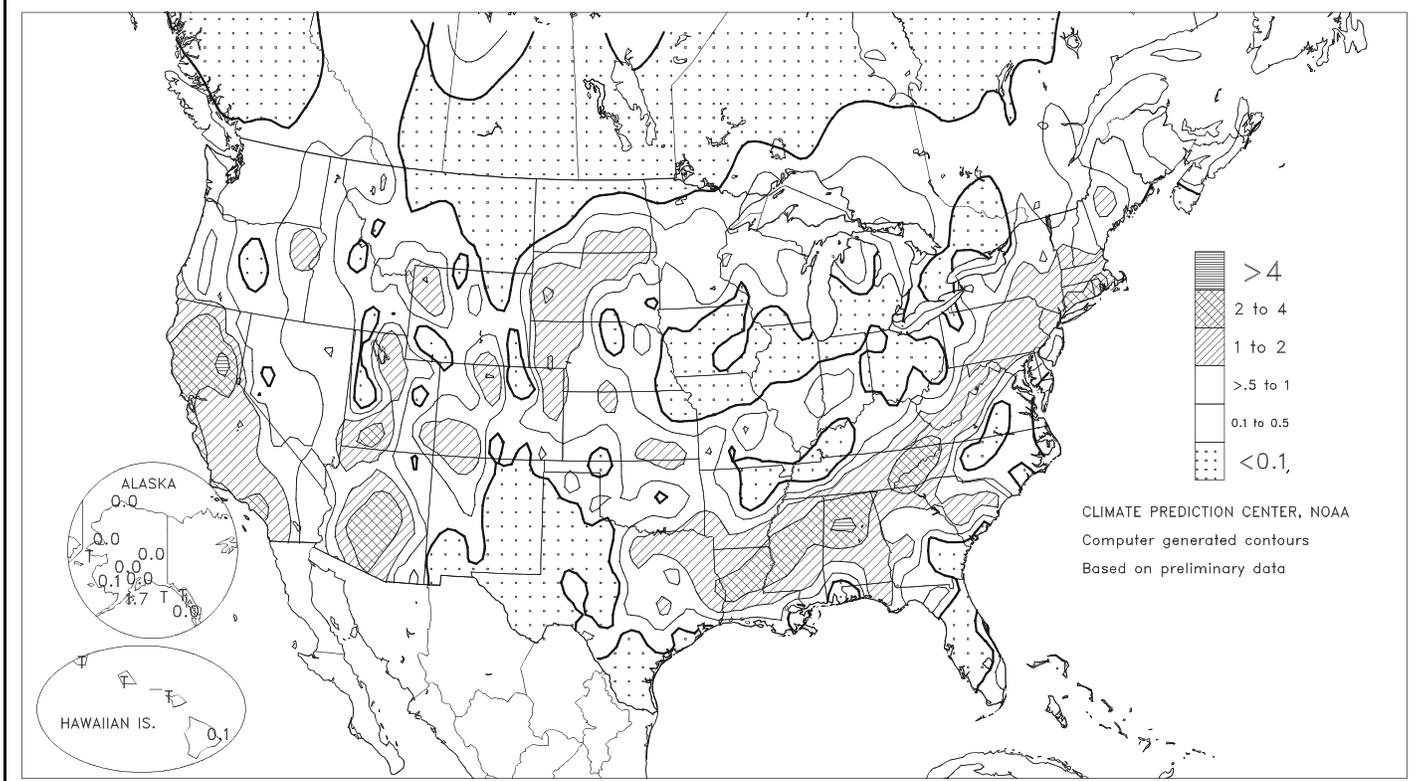
WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

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)

MAR 5 - 11, 2000



HIGHLIGHTS

March 5 - 11, 2000

A weather pattern change late in the week ended **northern and central California's** 9-week wet spell, halted a 3-week regime of record-setting warmth **east of the Rockies**, and brought much-needed precipitation to parts of the **South**, including **Arizona** and the **lower Mississippi Valley**. From the **central and southern Plains** to the **Middle and Southern Atlantic Coast**, the cooler conditions slowed winter development that had accelerated during the recent warm spell. A late-week storm blanketed areas from the **central Plains** into the **Northeast** with snow, and provided drought relief (more than 1 inch of rain) from

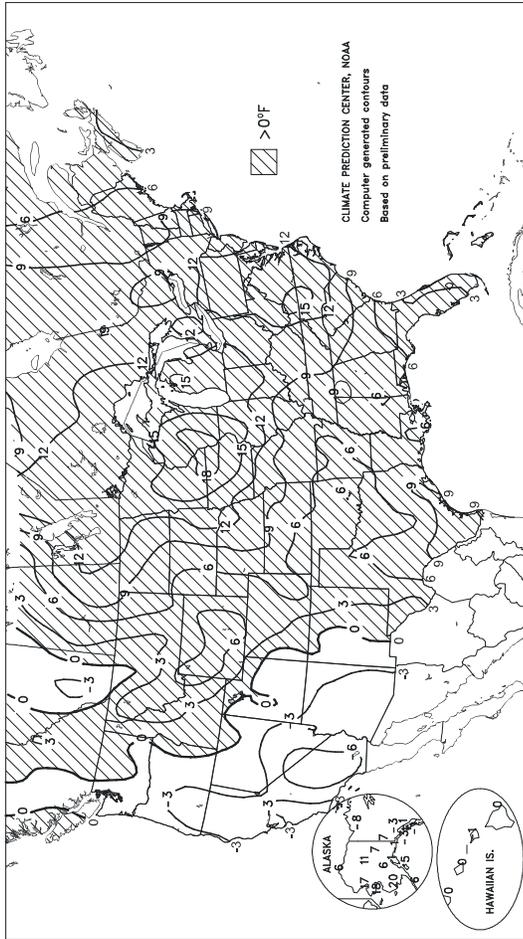
(Continued on page 3)

Contents

Weekly Temperature Maps	2
Satellite Images of Central U.S. Storm & Temperature Record Tables	3
Weather Data for the Delta & U.S. Crop Production Highlights	4
National Weather Data for Selected Cities	5
National Agricultural Summary & Soil Temperature Map	8
Winter Weather Review	9
Winter Precipitation & Temperature Maps	10
Winter Weather Data for Selected Cities	11
Western Water Supply Outlook	12
International Weather and Crop Summary & February Temperature/Precipitation Maps	14
Subscription Information	28

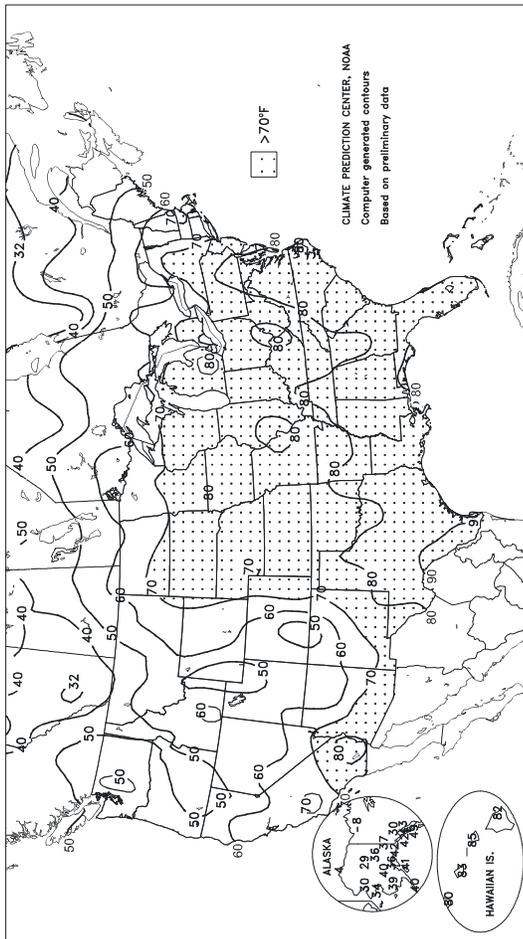
Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F)

MAR 5 - 11, 2000



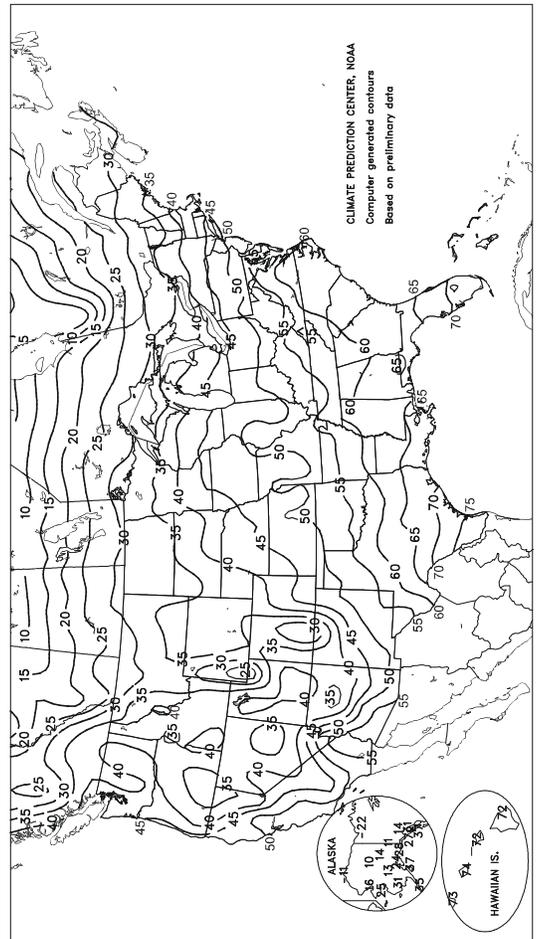
Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F)

MAR 5 - 11, 2000



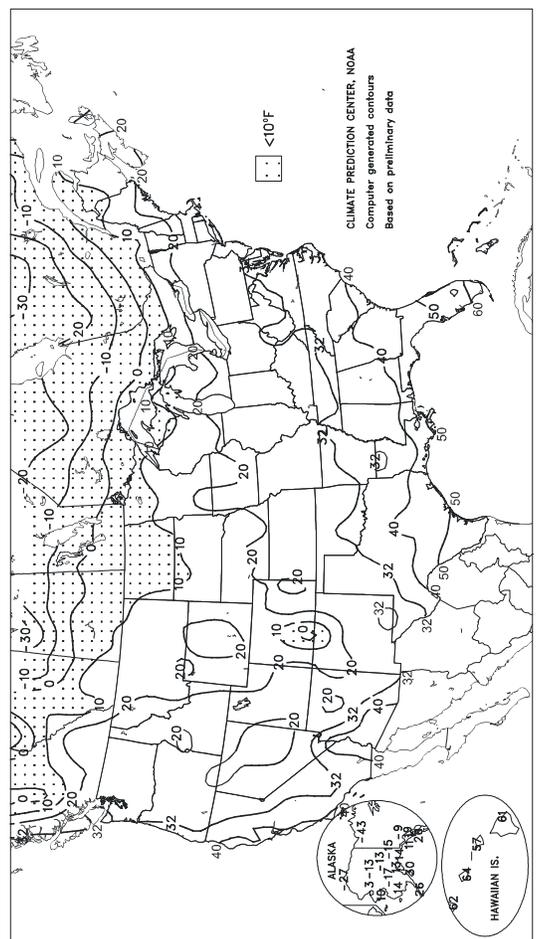
Average Temperature (°F)

MAR 5 - 11, 2000



Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)

MAR 5 - 11, 2000



(Continued from front cover)

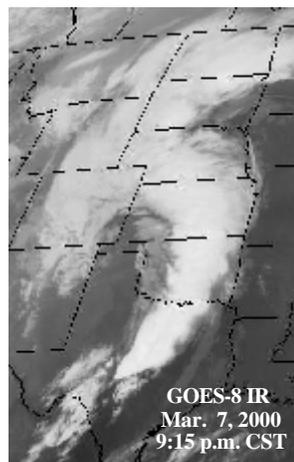
northeastern Texas to the **southern Appalachians**. However, irrigation requirements continued to increase across most of **southern Georgia** and **Peninsular Florida**, despite scattered late-week showers. Farther west, showers lingered across **California** early in the week, while much-needed precipitation eased the **Southwest's** 5-month dry spell. At midweek, a powerful storm system tracked from the **Four Corners region** to the **northern Plains** and **western Great Lakes region**, delivering heavy precipitation and high winds. Blizzard or near-blizzard conditions briefly engulfed areas from **western South Dakota** to **northern Minnesota**, while locally severe thunderstorms swept across the **Plains, Midwest, and South**. However, significant rainfall again bypassed drought-stressed winter wheat on the **southern High Plains**. **Southern Texas** also remained extremely dry, placing stress on emerging summer crops. Despite the sharply colder air that trailed the storm system, weekly temperatures averaged 7 to 19°F above normal in the **Midwest**, and were well above normal elsewhere **east of the Rockies**. Likewise, temperatures averaged as much as 8°F below normal in **southern California**, despite a gradual late-week warming trend.

Well over 250 daily-record highs and several March-record highs were set or tied during the week, mostly from March 5-9. **Marquette, MI** set six consecutive daily-record highs from March 3-8, and posted a March-record high of 71°F on Wednesday. **Marquette's** previous earliest observance of a high at or above 70°F had been on April 5, 1991. March 8 featured a fifth consecutive day of daily-record warmth in **Rochester, MN** and **LaCrosse, WI**. The warmth peaked at both locations on March 7, with highs of 75°F in **Rochester** and 82°F in **LaCrosse**. **Rochester** had previously never observed a high at or above 75°F before March 22, while **LaCrosse** had never witnessed a high above 80°F before March 23. Elsewhere on March 8, **Flint, MI** (80°F) tallied a March-record high and earliest incidence of 80-degree warmth (previously first observed on April 2, 1963). **Minneapolis, MN** experienced their shortest stretch on record--113 days--between the last day of 70-degree warmth in the autumn (November 13) and the first in the spring (March 6). **Minneapolis'** previous record, 131 days, was set in 1893-94, and their normal period without 70-degree warmth is 175 days.

Record warmth was not confined to the **Great Lakes region**, as **Del Rio, TX** (91°F on Tuesday) registered a daily record. Record-setting temperatures reached the **East Coast** by midweek, where **Washington, DC** (85°F on March 8) had their earliest high at or above 85°F (previously 89°F on March 12, 1990). In contrast, several daily-record lows were noted in **California**. **Simi Valley, CA** logged record lows of 37°F on Monday and Wednesday.

Meanwhile, showery weather lingered across **northern and central California**. **Fresno, CA** registered a daily-record rainfall of 1.04 inches on March 5. Three days later, **Fresno's** year-to-date rainfall reached 10.61 inches, exceeding their normal annual precipitation of 10.60 inches. The only time **Fresno's** annual normal was eclipsed on an earlier date was in 1969, when their January 1 - February 19 total reached 10.66 inches. While

showers lingered along the **West Coast**, the most significant precipitation of the season overspread the **Southwest**. In **southern California**, daily-record rainfalls on March 5 included 2.62 inches in **Pasadena** and 1.60 inches in **Torrance**. By the morning of March 6, **southern California** snow depths reached 16 inches at **Big Bear Lake**, 11 inches in **Idyllwild**, and 9 inches on **Mt. Laguna**. Farther east, **Phoenix, AZ** received 1.53 inches of rain on March 6, their second-wettest March day on record behind 1.98 inches on March 3, 1983. **Phoenix's** storm-total (March 4-7) rainfall reached 2.77 inches. Elsewhere in **Arizona**, the storm boosted **Flagstaff's** March 1-11 snowfall to 37.1 inches, and



left **Mt. Lemmon**, near **Tucson**, with a 36-inch snow depth on March 7.



As the storm system tracked northeastward, high winds and locally heavy precipitation overspread portions of the **Plains**. On March 7, the Storm Prediction Center indicated that there were six tornadoes in **Oklahoma**, and more than 175 reports of large hail or strong winds from **Texas** northward into **southern South Dakota**. Meanwhile, 4.0 inches of snow fell on March 8 in **Rapid City, SD**, driven by northwesterly wind gusts that reached 62 mph. Farther south, a wind gust to 96 mph was clocked in **Boulder, CO**.

Late in the week, another storm emerged from the **West**, producing beneficial rainfall across the **South** and a stripe of snow from the **central Plains** into the **Northeast**. **Birmingham, AL** received 4.69 inches of rain on March 10 and a 2-day total of 5.21 inches. In **Georgia**, the storm boosted **Macon's** month-to-date rainfall to 1.84 inches, following a record-dry February (0.37 inch). Meanwhile, storm-total snowfall included 3.2 inches in **Wichita, KS**, 7.4 inches in **Columbia, MO**, 8.1 inches in **Indianapolis, IN**, and 8.8 inches in **Ft. Wayne, IN**. Farther east, heavy snow developed across **northern New England** at week's end, while 2 to locally more than 4 inches of rain soaked **southern New England**.

Mostly dry weather persisted in **Hawaii** for the seventh consecutive week, resulting in further drought intensification across primarily leeward portions of the **central and eastern islands**. Meanwhile in **Alaska**, mild weather continued for the fifth consecutive week in western areas and the eighth week in a row across the interior. Weekly temperatures averaged as much as 20°F above normal in **western Alaska**.

Record-High March Temperatures (°F)

Location	High/Date	Former Record/Date*
Marquette, MI	68 on March 7	68 on March 27, 1987
Flint, MI	80 on March 8	79 on March 30, 1998
Marquette, MI	71 on March 8	68 on March 7, 2000

* In some cases, former records were also observed on earlier dates.

Earliest Occurrence of a High Temperature at or Above 70°F

Location	High/Date	Former Record/Date
Minneapolis, MN	72 on March 5	73 on March 7, 1987
Eau Claire, WI	70 on March 5	72 on March 7, 1987
Duluth, MN	70 on March 7	72 on March 22, 1945
Binghamton, NY	70 on March 8	71 on March 12, 1990
Marquette, MI	71 on March 8	77 on April 5, 1991

Earliest Occurrence of a High Temperature at or Above 75°F

Location	High/Date	Former Record/Date
Milwaukee, WI	77 on March 7	76 on March 12, 1990
Madison, WI	77 on March 7	75 on March 12, 1990
Rochester, MN	75 on March 7	77 on March 22, 1938
Rochester, NY	75 on March 8	80 on March 14, 1990

Earliest Occurrence of a High Temperature at or Above 80°F

Location	High/Date	Former Record/Date
LaCrosse, WI	82 on March 7	83 on March 23, 1910
Sioux Falls, SD	80 on March 7	80 on March 17, 1894
Pittsburgh, PA	80 on March 8	80 on March 11, 1876
Flint, MI	80 on March 8	80 on April 2, 1963

Earliest Occurrence of a High Temperature at or Above 85°F

Location	High/Date	Former Record/Date
Washington, DC	85 on March 8	89 on March 12, 1990

Weather Data for Selected Locations in the Delta

Weather Data for the Week Ending March 11, 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.	
																90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
MS BATESVILLE *	75	49	80	33	62	12	0.66	-0.71	0.41	0.66	30	-	-	-	-	0	0	2	0
BELZONI *	74	48	84	37	61	8	0.10	-1.38	0.10	0.10	4	-	-	-	-	0	0	1	0
CLARKSDALE *	69	50	81	39	60	10	1.08	-0.20	0.56	1.68	82	-	-	-	-	0	0	3	1
CLEVELAND *	71	45	81	34	58	7	0.80	-0.64	0.57	0.92	39	6.63	53	-	-	0	0	2	1
GREENVILLE *	73	48	82	35	61	8	1.30	-0.06	1.20	1.30	60	-	-	-	-	0	0	2	1
GREENWOOD *	74	48	81	34	61	8	2.49	1.19	2.03	2.49	123	6.81	63	-	-	0	0	3	1
INDIANOLA 1S	73	48	82	35	61	-	1.37	-	1.12	1.37	-	-	-	59	55	0	0	2	1
INVERNESS 5E	74	49	82	37	62	-	2.01	-	1.67	2.01	-	6.25	-	-	0	0	2	1	
LYON	71	47	80	33	59	-	1.14	-	0.61	1.25	-	5.92	-	-	0	0	3	1	
MOORHEAD *	75	51	83	38	63	9	1.48	0.18	1.45	1.48	72	3.60	32	-	-	0	0	2	1
ONWARD	76	48	84	34	62	-	1.30	-	0.85	1.30	-	-	-	69	56	0	0	2	1
ROLLING FORK *	76	49	85	34	63	11	0.20	-1.09	0.19	0.20	10	3.34	28	-	-	0	0	2	0
SIDON	79	53	83	39	66	-	0.89	-	0.88	0.89	-	5.32	-	-	-	0	0	2	1
TUNICA *	69	47	79	33	58	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	-	-
VICKSBURG *	75	50	82	35	63	7	2.00	0.60	2.00	2.00	92	-	-	-	-	0	0	1	1
YAZOO CITY *	76	48	83	36	62	7	2.27	0.80	2.27	2.27	99	4.73	36	-	-	0	0	1	1
STONEVILLE *	73	50	83	35	62	10	1.36	0.17	1.30	1.39	75	6.51	57	69	55	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: Although severe thunderstorms crossed the Mississippi Delta late in the week and were followed by cooler weather, temperatures averaged above normal for the fifth consecutive week. Farmers continued to prepare seedbeds for planting until the late-week showers. The rain halted fieldwork, including preparations for row-crop planting.

U.S. Crop Production Highlights

The following information was released by USDA's Agricultural Statistics Board on March 10, 2000. Forecasts refer to March 1.

The **all orange** production forecast for 1999-2000 is 12.8 million tons, up 3 percent from last month's forecast and up 29 percent from last season's freeze-damaged crop. Florida's all orange forecast is 226 million boxes (10.17 million tons), 3 percent higher than the February 1 forecast and 22 percent higher than the 186 million boxes (8.36 million tons) utilized last season. Early and midseason varieties in Florida are forecast at 134 million boxes (6.03 million tons), 6 percent higher than a month ago and 20 percent higher than last season. Florida's Valencia forecast of 92 million boxes (4.14 million tons) remains unchanged and is 25 percent higher than last season's final utilization. Droppage remains well below average, while

fruit sizes are above average. However, the growth rate has leveled off as the fruit approaches maturity.

Texas orange production is forecast at 1.70 million boxes (73,000 tons), up 9 percent from last month and 19 percent from last season. If realized, it will be Texas' largest orange crop since the 1988-89 season, when 1.85 million boxes were utilized. California's all orange production forecast of 67 million boxes (2.51 million tons) is carried forward from January and is 76 percent higher than last season's freeze-damaged crop. The Arizona orange forecast, also carried forward from January, is 1.05 million boxes (40,000 tons), down 9 percent from last season's final utilization.

National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending March 11, 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	5.0 INCH OR MORE
AL BIRMINGHAM	73	47	80	37	60	8	5.53	4.13	5.01	5.91	272	13.80	115	95	43	0	0	2	2
HUNTSVILLE	73	43	81	35	58	8	1.37	-0.13	1.21	1.51	65	8.36	68	94	37	0	0	2	1
MOBILE	78	52	82	42	65	6	0.30	-1.19	0.28	0.31	13	4.28	34	98	46	0	0	3	0
AK MONTGOMERY	77	47	81	39	62	6	0.24	-1.22	0.22	0.36	16	6.28	50	95	36	0	0	2	0
ANCHORAGE	32	17	36	13	25	1	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.00	0	2.12	116	86	52	0	7	0	0
BARROW	-6	-15	4	-27	-11	6	0.00	-0.03	0.00	0.00	0	0.44	122	82	70	0	7	0	0
FAIRBANKS	28	0	36	-13	14	7	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.00	0	1.97	197	77	44	0	7	0	0
JUNEAU	40	21	43	19	31	0	0.01	-0.76	0.01	0.73	60	7.11	75	99	48	0	7	1	0
KODIAK	39	34	41	30	37	5	1.72	0.65	0.57	2.58	152	10.75	75	94	74	0	1	7	2
NOME	28	22	34	10	25	18	0.02	-0.09	0.02	0.07	41	3.57	229	87	67	0	7	1	0
AZ FLAGSTAFF	39	22	53	11	30	-4	1.81	1.20	0.81	2.61	278	4.54	90	95	46	0	7	5	2
PHOENIX	64	47	78	43	55	-6	3.50	3.28	1.61	3.54	101	3.55	209	89	41	0	0	3	2
TUCSON	64	39	79	35	51	-6	0.86	0.69	0.74	0.87	335	1.16	63	89	26	0	0	3	1
YUMA	69	50	82	43	60	-4	0.12	0.06	0.12	0.30	333	0.39	59	75	32	0	0	1	0
AR FORT SMITH	69	43	84	32	56	7	0.35	-0.52	0.26	0.93	70	3.93	67	88	37	0	1	3	0
LITTLE ROCK	68	45	81	34	57	6	0.29	-0.77	0.24	0.64	39	4.66	54	93	44	0	0	2	0
CA BAKERSFIELD	59	42	66	37	51	-5	0.85	0.60	0.55	1.27	326	3.84	166	92	52	0	0	3	1
EUREKA	**	**	**	**	**	**	0.16	-0.92	0.16	0.89	50	17.60	141	78	61	**	**	1	0
FRESNO	60	42	68	39	51	-3	0.92	0.48	0.63	0.98	142	10.26	231	96	47	0	0	4	1
LOS ANGELES	61	48	74	44	54	-4	1.26	0.76	0.88	1.56	193	7.18	126	89	55	0	0	4	1
REDDING	52	43	62	38	47	-4	2.68	1.62	0.98	4.08	244	21.03	173	98	67	0	0	6	3
SACRAMENTO	57	45	63	38	51	-2	1.75	1.12	0.74	1.80	182	17.93	236	96	63	0	0	5	2
SAN DIEGO	62	49	73	45	56	-3	0.83	0.42	0.65	0.92	142	4.78	120	89	51	0	0	4	1
SAN FRANCISCO	56	46	61	41	51	-2	0.98	0.24	0.37	1.77	151	16.15	186	92	61	0	0	5	0
CO ALAMOSA	47	15	50	2	31	1	0.00	-0.10	0.00	0.01	7	0.26	37	81	23	0	7	0	0
CO SPRINGS	53	28	60	20	40	4	0.42	0.23	0.41	0.42	145	1.33	136	85	23	0	6	2	0
DENVER	56	28	70	21	42	5	0.28	0.02	0.23	0.38	97	0.89	61	79	23	0	4	4	0
GRAND JUNCTION	50	31	56	20	41	0	0.67	0.48	0.26	0.67	223	2.72	203	91	42	0	2	5	0
PUEBLO	61	29	71	23	45	5	0.87	0.70	0.74	1.16	483	1.54	177	79	19	0	5	3	1
CT BRIDGEPORT	52	37	58	31	44	7	1.96	1.13	1.79	1.96	153	6.01	80	85	48	0	1	3	1
HARTFORD	57	35	72	27	46	11	1.48	0.68	1.39	1.48	118	5.91	75	87	34	0	2	3	1
DC WASHINGTON	70	46	85	38	58	13	0.10	-0.62	0.10	0.10	9	5.17	79	74	28	0	0	1	0
DE WILMINGTON	65	39	81	31	52	12	0.91	0.15	0.91	0.91	76	6.59	92	83	41	0	2	1	1
FL DAYTONA BEACH	77	52	83	49	65	2	0.00	-0.69	0.00	0.00	0	2.45	35	10	46	0	0	0	0
JACKSONVILLE	79	50	85	44	64	4	0.00	-0.87	0.00	0.00	0	3.94	46	99	41	0	0	0	0
KEY WEST	81	69	84	65	75	2	0.05	-0.34	0.05	0.05	8	1.21	27	84	63	0	0	1	0
MIAMI	81	66	83	61	73	2	0.06	-0.47	0.06	0.06	7	1.83	37	82	51	0	0	1	0
ORLANDO	81	56	85	52	68	2	0.00	-0.78	0.00	0.01	1	1.60	24	99	37	0	0	0	0
PENSACOLA	75	53	79	44	64	5	0.06	-1.28	0.03	0.08	4	4.39	36	98	50	0	0	4	0
TALLAHASSEE	81	47	83	40	64	5	0.09	-1.39	0.08	0.09	4	4.01	32	98	39	0	0	2	0
TAMPA	79	59	82	53	69	3	0.00	-0.76	0.00	0.00	0	2.25	36	90	47	0	0	0	0
WEST PALM	79	63	80	58	71	2	0.60	-0.25	0.60	0.60	46	2.36	35	91	51	0	0	1	1
GA ATHENS	76	47	80	40	62	10	0.53	-0.73	0.53	1.28	65	7.67	70	97	50	0	0	1	1
ATLANTA	73	49	78	38	61	10	0.42	-0.91	0.28	1.29	62	7.44	64	84	43	0	0	2	0
AUGUSTA	79	45	83	37	62	8	0.56	-0.53	0.55	1.00	58	8.66	86	97	36	0	0	2	1
COLUMBUS	76	48	80	41	62	7	0.45	-0.88	0.42	0.95	46	6.14	53	95	44	0	0	2	0
MACON	76	46	79	40	61	6	0.72	-0.41	0.72	1.55	87	7.13	64	10	48	0	0	1	1
SAVANNAH	79	49	82	43	64	6	0.08	-0.79	0.08	1.44	106	5.72	70	99	36	0	0	1	0
HI HILO	80	63	82	61	72	0	0.13	-2.85	0.09	1.08	24	19.47	79	91	59	0	0	3	0
HONOLULU	81	67	83	64	74	0	0.01	-0.51	0.01	0.01	1	1.35	21	85	59	0	0	1	0
KAHULUI	83	62	85	57	72	-1	0.02	-0.61	0.02	0.03	3	1.09	14	88	49	0	0	1	0
LIHUE	80	65	80	62	73	1	0.01	-0.92	0.01	0.03	2	2.64	25	86	57	0	0	1	0
ID BOISE	50	34	60	28	42	1	1.42	1.14	0.58	1.42	323	4.99	169	92	46	0	1	4	1
LEWISTON	49	36	55	32	42	-1	0.29	0.05	0.15	0.33	89	3.45	136	91	60	0	1	2	0
POCATELLO	47	30	58	25	39	4	0.32	0.04	0.20	0.39	91	3.34	140	88	41	0	5	2	0
IL CHICAGO/O'HARE	61	36	78	24	49	15	0.02	-0.52	0.01	0.07	9	3.39	92	81	39	0	4	2	0
MOLINE	62	39	79	30	51	17	0.00	-0.60	0.00	0.05	6	4.75	129	81	37	0	2	0	0
PEORIA	63	40	78	30	51	15	0.00	-0.59	0.00	0.00	0	2.63	69	78	33	0	2	0	0
ROCKFORD	61	34	78	24	48	16	0.13	-0.35	0.13	0.26	36	3.72	118	88	39	0	4	1	0
SPRINGFIELD	62	37	81	17	50	12	0.10	-0.58	0.10	0.10	10	1.91	44	77	37	0	3	1	0
IN EVANSVILLE	65	37	78	28	51	8	0.43	-0.62	0.43	0.63	39	12.24	165	92	45	0	3	1	0
FORT WAYNE	60	35	79	26	47	12	0.38	-0.23	0.38	0.40	43	3.22	68	86	49	0	3	1	0
INDIANAPOLIS	64	39	79	26	51	12	0.42	-0.41	0.42	0.44	35	5.37	89	78	42	0	1	1	0
SOUTH BEND	62	39	80	28	50	15	0.00	-0.64	0.00	0.04	4	4.07	80	78	42	0	3	0	0
IA BURLINGTON	62	40	79	30	51	15	0.00	-0.58	0.00	0.04	5	3.50	107	77	38	0	2	0	0
CEDAR RAPIDS	60	36	78	19	48	16	0.00	-0.46	0.00	0.00	0	2.56	94	88	40	0	3	0	0
DES MOINES	60	38	79	21	49	15	0.00	-0.46	0.00	0.00	0	2.66	96	80	39	0	3	0	0
DUBUQUE	59	37	77	23	48	17	0.00	-0.58	0.00	0.00	0	2.83	82	85	40	0	3	0	0
SIoux CITY	58	32	77	15	45	12	0.14	-0.27	0.14	0.14	23	1.30	70	86	38	0	4	1	0
WATERLOO	61	36	79	17	48	17	0.02	-0.44	0.01	0.05	7	2.12	82	86	39	0	3	2	0
KS CONCORDIA	58	36	76	21	47	8	0.30	-0.17	0.29	1.14	163	3.21	158	87	42	0	3	2	0
DODGE CITY	59	35	77	27	47	6	0.43	0.12	0.40	2.05	436	2.71	172	92	40	0	3	3	0
GOODLAND	56	30	73	20	43	6	0.78	0.52	0.65	1.15	303	2.13	181	91	41	0	5	4	1
TOPEKA	60	38	76	26	49	8	0.02	-0.48	0.02	0.58	76	2.77	101	80	41	0	3	1	0

Based on 1961-90 normals

Weather Data for the Week Ending March 11, 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	39	73	30	50	7	0.51	-0.01	0.30	1.29	163	4.93	194	90	49	0	3	2	0
	JACKSON	71	45	81	32	58	13	0.54	-0.55	0.38	0.59	35	6.75	73	76	33	0	1	2	0
	LEXINGTON	66	39	76	29	53	10	0.45	-0.53	0.40	0.48	32	8.69	114	80	40	0	2	2	0
	LOUISVILLE	69	42	81	31	55	11	0.32	-0.72	0.32	0.44	28	12.57	162	84	41	0	1	1	0
LA	PADUCAH	67	39	80	26	53	8	0.49	-0.60	0.48	0.73	43	12.30	139	91	41	0	2	2	0
	BATON ROUGE	77	52	83	39	65	6	0.31	-0.78	0.31	0.31	18	3.74	31	99	48	0	0	1	0
	LAKE CHARLES	77	57	81	42	67	8	0.16	-0.60	0.16	0.18	15	2.49	27	10	59	0	0	1	0
	NEW ORLEANS	77	56	83	48	67	7	0.02	-1.14	0.02	0.02	1	4.08	32	98	59	0	0	1	0
	SHREVEPORT	76	51	85	34	64	8	0.88	0.05	0.88	0.91	70	5.82	64	97	47	0	0	1	1
ME	CARIBOU	35	18	46	7	27	6	1.05	-0.39	0.09	0.59	71	6.41	124	88	52	0	7	2	0
	PORTLAND	47	29	54	22	38	7	0.51	-0.29	0.39	0.64	51	6.94	86	89	43	0	6	2	0
MD	BALTIMORE	69	42	83	29	55	13	0.28	-0.49	0.28	0.28	23	5.93	80	81	29	0	2	1	0
MA	BOSTON	54	37	72	33	46	9	1.05	0.22	1.04	1.06	82	6.38	75	71	37	0	0	2	1
	WORCESTER	52	33	74	29	42	11	0.92	0.04	0.83	0.92	67	6.63	78	81	35	0	4	2	1
MI	ALPENA	55	20	80	10	37	12	0.14	-0.31	0.13	0.32	46	4.22	117	92	38	0	6	2	0
	GRAND RAPIDS	59	33	78	21	46	14	0.04	-0.49	0.04	0.07	9	2.62	65	87	47	0	4	1	0
	HOUGHTON LAKE	54	25	74	11	39	14	0.74	0.31	0.41	0.85	131	3.77	114	91	42	0	5	3	0
	LANSING	58	30	79	16	44	13	0.03	-0.45	0.03	0.05	7	2.12	59	90	53	0	5	1	0
	MUSKEGON	55	34	73	24	44	13	0.02	-0.50	0.01	0.12	15	2.22	48	86	46	0	4	2	0
	TRAVERSE CITY	56	31	77	19	43	16	0.63	0.27	0.61	0.65	118	3.48	87	87	43	0	5	2	1
MN	DULUTH	45	23	70	13	34	13	0.62	0.23	0.56	0.62	105	2.54	97	89	41	0	6	2	1
	INT'L FALLS	48	20	67	7	34	16	0.13	-0.08	0.08	0.13	41	0.96	52	81	37	0	7	3	0
	MINNEAPOLIS	57	33	73	20	45	18	0.34	-0.06	0.34	0.34	57	2.30	95	85	43	0	3	1	0
	ROCHESTER	55	32	75	18	44	18	0.16	-0.19	0.16	0.16	31	2.91	143	89	52	0	3	1	0
	ST. CLOUD	53	27	72	16	40	16	1.01	0.74	1.00	1.01	253	2.80	158	87	36	0	5	2	1
MS	JACKSON	76	48	82	34	62	7	1.26	-0.03	1.26	1.26	63	4.43	37	98	46	0	0	1	1
	MERIDIAN	76	46	82	34	61	6	0.76	-0.77	0.59	0.76	32	5.33	41	10	48	0	0	2	1
	TUPELO	74	46	81	34	60	9	0.66	-0.71	0.35	0.79	37	7.81	67	94	43	0	0	3	0
MO	COLUMBIA	61	37	81	26	49	9	0.16	-0.51	0.16	0.33	32	4.49	104	82	36	0	4	1	0
	KANSAS CITY	60	39	78	25	50	10	0.03	-0.49	0.03	0.45	57	3.12	105	81	43	0	3	1	0
	SAINT LOUIS	65	39	83	29	52	10	0.34	-0.44	0.34	0.58	49	4.92	96	87	45	0	2	1	0
	SPRINGFIELD	61	40	79	26	50	6	0.46	-0.37	0.37	1.40	111	4.25	81	86	43	0	3	3	0
MT	BILLINGS	46	27	61	20	36	2	0.08	-0.15	0.06	0.08	23	2.89	153	87	50	0	5	2	0
	BUTTE	44	23	55	12	34	8	0.15	-0.02	0.14	0.15	63	1.05	91	90	39	0	7	2	0
	GLASGOW	42	22	61	13	32	6	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.00	0	0.23	30	81	45	0	7	0	0
	GREAT FALLS	38	21	46	15	30	-1	0.20	-0.03	0.11	0.20	57	1.23	67	96	62	0	7	3	0
	KALISPELL	44	30	48	25	37	5	0.01	-0.21	0.01	0.21	60	1.83	61	91	50	0	6	1	0
	MILES CITY	49	26	67	20	38	7	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.00	0	1.05	90	89	42	0	6	0	0
	MISSOULA	49	33	55	30	41	7	0.02	-0.20	0.02	0.02	6	1.75	74	83	43	0	3	1	0
NE	GRAND ISLAND	57	32	74	17	45	10	0.49	0.11	0.31	0.49	86	2.09	119	94	47	0	4	3	0
	LINCOLN	60	35	76	20	47	11	0.09	-0.33	0.08	0.09	14	1.74	92	85	37	0	4	2	0
	NORFOLK	57	33	74	17	45	12	0.32	-0.06	0.32	0.32	55	1.64	88	87	41	0	4	1	0
	NORTH PLATTE	56	30	72	15	43	9	0.72	0.49	0.71	0.92	263	1.69	148	92	37	0	5	2	1
	OMAHA	59	34	76	19	47	11	0.09	-0.32	0.09	0.09	15	2.21	104	87	40	0	4	1	0
	SCOTTSBLUFF	52	27	72	18	40	6	0.73	0.51	0.64	0.73	221	1.88	145	88	44	0	6	3	1
	VALENTINE	57	26	75	16	41	10	0.64	0.44	0.40	0.64	206	2.03	197	93	38	0	6	3	0
NV	ELY	40	21	52	9	31	-2	0.61	0.40	0.43	0.61	191	2.88	172	94	48	0	7	4	0
	LAS VEGAS	60	42	69	38	51	-4	0.23	0.12	0.12	0.23	135	1.82	161	81	33	0	0	3	0
	RENO	51	31	59	24	41	-1	0.25	0.07	0.17	0.38	131	3.50	149	82	28	0	3	2	0
	WINNEMUCCA	45	27	54	20	36	-3	0.51	0.34	0.23	0.51	196	3.41	210	95	56	0	6	6	0
NH	CONCORD	51	29	67	21	40	10	0.99	0.38	0.87	1.00	105	6.09	102	84	30	0	6	2	1
NJ	NEWARK	61	42	74	35	52	12	0.99	0.14	0.99	1.00	76	5.93	77	84	45	0	0	1	1
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	56	33	61	26	45	0	0.03	-0.08	0.03	0.03	18	0.63	59	65	20	0	4	1	0
NY	ALBANY	54	31	68	24	43	11	1.00	0.35	0.75	1.00	100	7.26	129	88	43	0	4	2	1
	BINGHAMTON	53	33	70	25	43	13	1.03	0.42	0.61	1.28	135	7.59	134	87	52	0	5	4	1
	BUFFALO	49	31	68	24	40	9	0.76	0.17	0.43	0.86	93	5.26	89	89	52	0	5	2	0
	ROCHESTER	53	32	75	24	42	10	0.60	0.10	0.43	1.15	147	6.10	123	89	51	0	3	2	0
	SYRACUSE	52	29	78	23	40	9	0.36	-0.23	0.21	0.43	47	5.61	104	92	49	0	5	2	0
NC	ASHEVILLE	72	37	78	31	54	9	1.00	-0.07	1.00	1.01	60	6.44	73	90	32	0	1	1	1
	CHARLOTTE	77	48	81	36	63	14	0.31	-0.74	0.31	0.51	31	7.17	78	85	37	0	0	1	0
	GREENSBORO	76	48	83	36	62	15	0.11	-0.74	0.11	0.11	8	5.61	72	78	29	0	0	1	0
	HATTERAS	66	54	73	43	60	10	0.01	-0.98	0.01	0.03	2	9.72	89	86	56	0	0	1	0
	RALEIGH	77	46	84	30	61	13	0.00	-0.90	0.00	0.00	0	8.23	96	90	32	0	1	0	0
	WILMINGTON	79	52	86	37	66	13	0.09	-0.82	0.09	0.31	22	6.28	70	86	35	0	0	1	0
ND	BISMARCK	45	21	72	9	33	8	0.99	0.85	0.83	0.99	495	3.12	289	91	56	0	6	2	1
	DICKINSON	48	22	71	9	35	8	0.06	-0.05	0.04	0.06	35	1.28	142	90	41	0	6	2	0
	FARGO	46	23	67	10	34	12	0.77	0.57	0.69	0.77	257	2.11	149	90	55	0	5	2	1
	GRAND FORKS	45	20	62	9	33	13	0.00	-0.19	0.00	0.00	0	1.77	119	91	47	0	7	0	0
	JAMESTOWN	44	22	66	7	33	10	0.49	0.32	0.29	0.49	204	2.90	218	93	60	0	6	2	0
	WILLISTON	45	21	70	9	33	8	0.08	-0.05	0.08	0.08	40	0.92	80	86	37	0	6	1	0
OH	AKRON-CANTON	60	35	77	27	48	13	0.31	-0.42	0.31	0.45	40	5.42	98	83	50	0	3	1	0
	CINCINNATI	64	38	77	27	51	11	0.58	-0.36	0.58	0.60	42	10.76	160	83	38	0	2	1	1
	CLEVELAND	58	35	79	27	46	11	0.52	-0.11	0.39	0.53	54	5.21	100	86	46	0	5	3	0
	COLUMBUS	63	36	78	30	49	11	0.28	-0.44	0.28	0.29	26	6.61	120	83	41	0	3	1	0
	DAYTON	62	38	77	27	50	12	0.02	-0.72	0.02	0.02	2	5.37	99	75	41	0	2	1	0
	MANSFIELD	59	36	78</																

Weather Data for the Week Ending March 11, 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	59	34	79	25	47	14	0.17	-0.40	0.13	0.17	20	2.95	68	86	42	0	3	2	0
OK YOUNGSTOWN	58	34	77	25	46	12	0.26	-0.42	0.26	0.40	38	4.54	87	87	45	0	4	1	0
OK OKLAHOMA CITY	64	43	78	32	53	5	0.41	-0.18	0.41	0.94	103	3.16	88	88	47	0	1	1	0
OK TULSA	63	43	78	31	53	5	0.43	-0.31	0.17	1.49	131	3.71	80	82	41	0	2	4	0
OR ASTORIA	52	36	55	33	44	-1	0.47	-1.20	0.27	2.37	89	19.14	95	97	57	0	0	5	0
OR BURNS	43	26	47	21	35	0	0.70	0.46	0.19	0.74	200	4.26	201	95	52	0	6	6	0
OR EUGENE	51	35	55	32	43	-4	0.36	-0.96	0.18	1.48	71	17.03	109	97	58	0	2	5	0
OR MEDFORD	50	35	56	33	42	-4	0.30	-0.14	0.24	0.93	135	8.69	164	92	46	0	0	4	0
OR PENDLETON	48	33	56	29	41	-3	1.04	0.76	0.48	1.47	342	6.46	210	94	59	0	2	4	0
OR PORTLAND	52	36	56	31	44	-3	0.50	-0.34	0.22	1.83	138	12.00	114	98	55	0	2	4	0
OR SALEM	52	34	56	29	43	-2	0.56	-0.44	0.37	2.14	135	16.12	134	10	56	0	2	4	0
PA ALLENTOWN	62	35	79	27	49	12	1.34	0.62	1.26	1.35	119	6.09	84	84	43	0	3	2	1
PA ERIE	54	35	74	25	45	12	0.57	-0.08	0.33	0.88	88	5.31	97	88	47	0	4	2	0
PA MIDDLETOWN	66	38	84	30	52	13	1.43	0.69	1.39	1.44	124	5.78	83	81	34	0	3	2	1
PA PHILADELPHIA	65	40	80	33	52	12	0.67	-0.09	0.67	0.67	57	5.93	83	89	44	0	0	1	1
PA PITTSBURGH	62	38	80	29	50	13	0.49	-0.27	0.45	0.65	56	4.88	80	72	34	0	2	2	0
PA WILKES-BARRE	58	36	74	27	47	13	0.87	0.32	0.85	0.92	107	5.40	106	76	42	0	2	2	1
PA WILLIAMSPORT	63	35	81	28	49	13	0.81	0.09	0.77	0.93	84	5.31	83	91	40	0	3	2	1
RI PROVIDENCE	55	35	65	26	45	10	1.92	1.02	1.89	1.92	137	8.85	100	74	30	0	2	2	1
SC BEAUFORT	76	52	82	43	64	7	0.11	-0.85	0.11	0.19	13	3.12	37	96	44	0	0	1	0
SC CHARLESTON	79	50	83	41	65	9	0.13	-0.89	0.12	0.80	51	6.85	82	97	35	0	0	2	0
SC COLUMBIA	79	49	83	36	64	11	0.43	-0.70	0.43	0.65	37	10.71	104	93	35	0	0	1	0
SC GREENVILLE	76	48	81	41	62	12	0.69	-0.56	0.60	0.70	36	6.29	60	88	41	0	0	2	1
SD ABERDEEN	48	20	74	10	34	8	0.86	0.60	0.79	0.86	221	1.82	148	92	54	0	6	2	1
SD HURON	56	25	75	14	41	12	0.14	-0.20	0.14	0.14	27	0.92	57	91	41	0	5	1	0
SD RAPID CITY	48	23	76	16	36	4	2.52	2.32	2.46	2.52	869	3.05	254	91	56	0	6	3	1
SD SIOUX FALLS	56	28	80	12	42	13	0.30	-0.02	0.30	0.30	64	2.02	125	86	41	0	5	1	0
TN BRISTOL	70	36	78	26	53	8	1.16	0.31	1.15	1.19	89	6.68	84	95	39	0	2	2	1
TN CHATTANOOGA	75	43	82	36	59	11	1.61	0.22	1.11	2.00	92	9.51	80	96	37	0	0	2	2
TN KNOXVILLE	72	42	77	33	57	10	0.89	-0.28	0.70	1.35	74	9.91	99	97	44	0	0	2	1
TN MEMPHIS	71	47	79	32	59	8	1.04	-0.16	0.87	1.14	62	7.88	79	90	41	0	1	3	1
TX NASHVILLE	71	41	81	31	56	8	0.49	-0.60	0.33	0.50	30	7.77	86	86	32	0	3	2	0
TX ABILENE	74	46	84	32	60	6	0.25	-0.04	0.24	0.56	127	1.17	44	73	28	0	1	2	0
TX AMARILLO	67	34	76	23	51	6	0.12	-0.10	0.12	0.38	115	0.66	46	77	21	0	3	1	0
TX AUSTIN	78	52	85	36	65	5	0.16	-0.25	0.16	0.16	24	5.13	113	94	42	0	0	1	0
TX BEAUMONT	76	59	82	47	68	8	0.77	0.03	0.77	0.77	66	3.17	34	98	62	0	0	1	1
TX BROWNSVILLE	84	68	88	57	76	9	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.00	0	1.14	41	93	53	0	0	0	0
TX CORPUS CHRISTI	81	66	87	53	74	10	0.00	-0.22	0.00	0.00	0	1.12	28	94	56	0	0	0	0
TX DEL RIO	83	57	91	48	70	9	0.04	-0.07	0.03	0.04	22	1.02	60	79	26	2	0	2	0
TX EL PASO	67	41	73	34	54	1	0.08	0.00	0.08	0.08	62	0.11	12	57	19	0	0	1	0
TX FORT WORTH	71	50	80	37	60	5	0.49	-0.10	0.47	0.80	87	5.69	115	82	41	0	0	2	0
TX GALVESTON	74	63	78	51	68	8	0.10	-0.40	0.09	0.12	15	3.57	57	97	72	0	0	2	0
TX HOUSTON	80	58	88	42	69	10	0.05	-0.61	0.03	0.06	6	3.63	50	98	53	0	0	3	0
TX LUBBOCK	71	37	79	25	54	5	0.08	-0.11	0.08	0.32	107	0.37	27	73	18	0	2	1	0
TX MIDLAND	75	45	81	32	60	6	0.12	-0.02	0.12	0.36	164	0.97	78	63	15	0	1	1	0
TX SAN ANGELO	78	47	85	37	63	7	0.04	-0.15	0.04	0.04	13	0.35	16	61	23	0	0	1	0
TX SAN ANTONIO	77	59	84	45	68	8	0.00	-0.33	0.00	0.01	2	3.61	89	92	39	0	0	0	0
TX VICTORIA	81	61	87	45	71	9	0.20	-0.14	0.20	0.20	37	4.62	98	99	52	0	0	1	0
TX WACO	74	52	82	39	63	7	0.43	-0.07	0.43	0.79	101	7.38	163	97	45	0	0	1	0
TX WICHITA FALLS	69	44	79	31	57	6	0.21	-0.25	0.21	0.44	63	2.37	74	90	40	0	1	1	0
UT SALT LAKE CITY	49	34	53	29	41	1	0.22	-0.19	0.12	0.22	35	4.19	142	84	46	0	3	3	0
VT BURLINGTON	45	26	66	17	35	7	0.35	-0.12	0.18	0.44	61	5.01	120	89	49	0	7	3	0
VA LYNCHBURG	74	42	84	31	58	14	0.55	-0.25	0.55	0.57	46	5.74	80	86	38	0	1	1	1
VA NORFOLK	73	47	82	36	60	13	0.16	-0.69	0.16	0.16	12	6.36	74	80	34	0	0	1	0
VA RICHMOND	76	44	85	35	60	14	0.72	-0.11	0.72	0.72	55	6.31	82	82	35	0	0	1	1
VA ROANOKE	74	49	83	40	62	17	0.63	-0.16	0.63	0.63	51	4.40	64	77	33	0	0	1	1
VA WASH/DULLES	69	39	84	27	54	13	0.47	-0.25	0.47	0.49	44	4.18	63	86	32	0	3	1	0
WA OLYMPIA	51	33	55	26	42	-1	0.67	-0.51	0.21	2.93	157	16.93	108	99	52	0	3	6	0
WA QUILLAYUTE	51	33	56	26	42	-1	0.78	-1.96	0.31	3.10	72	25.07	80	10	56	0	3	4	0
WA SEATTLE-TACOMA	50	37	56	32	44	-1	0.29	-0.55	0.12	1.80	135	10.82	101	99	60	0	1	4	0
WA SPOKANE	45	31	50	27	38	1	1.16	0.81	0.33	1.56	279	5.07	126	99	63	0	6	4	0
WA YAKIMA	51	31	54	23	41	-1	0.24	0.07	0.14	0.46	177	3.33	151	92	44	0	4	4	0
WV BECKLEY	67	42	76	31	54	14	1.05	0.29	1.01	1.12	94	5.66	80	74	34	0	1	2	1
WV CHARLESTON	70	40	82	34	55	11	0.93	0.11	0.85	0.95	74	6.61	91	83	33	0	0	2	1
WV ELKINS	66	32	77	22	49	12	1.04	0.20	0.88	1.10	84	6.92	94	87	34	0	3	2	1
WV HUNTINGTON	66	40	81	33	53	9	1.02	0.20	0.94	1.05	82	8.37	119	81	29	0	0	2	1
WI EAU CLAIRE	58	28	78	14	43	17	0.11	-0.21	0.07	0.11	23	2.86	131	88	37	0	5	2	0
WI GREEN BAY	57	29	78	15	43	16	0.17	-0.26	0.12	0.19	30	2.10	74	90	45	0	5	2	0
WI LA CROSSE	61	35	82	20	48	19	0.00	-0.39	0.00	0.00	0	2.37	98	87	35	0	3	0	0
WI MADISON	59	31	77	15	45	16	0.22	-0.22	0.21	0.22	33	3.02	107	92	38	0	5	2	0
WI MILWAUKEE	57	34	77	23	45	14	0.07	-0.47	0.04	0.10	12	2.96	77	87	46	0	5	3	0
WI CASPER	50	29	68	22	39	7	0.24	0.05	0.16	0.24	86	1.26	88	82	41	0	5	2	0
WI CHEYENNE	47	26	64	19	37	5	0.11	-0.10	0.04	0.14	45	1.08	98	84	38	0	6	4	0
WI LANDER	49	27	59	20	38	6	0.13	-0.08	0.07	0.13	41	0.40	29	82	32	0	6	3	0
WI SHERIDAN	48	25	66	20	36	4	0.22	0.03	0.12	0.22	79	2.35	142	88	47	0	7	3	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.

National Agricultural Summary

March 6 - 12, 2000

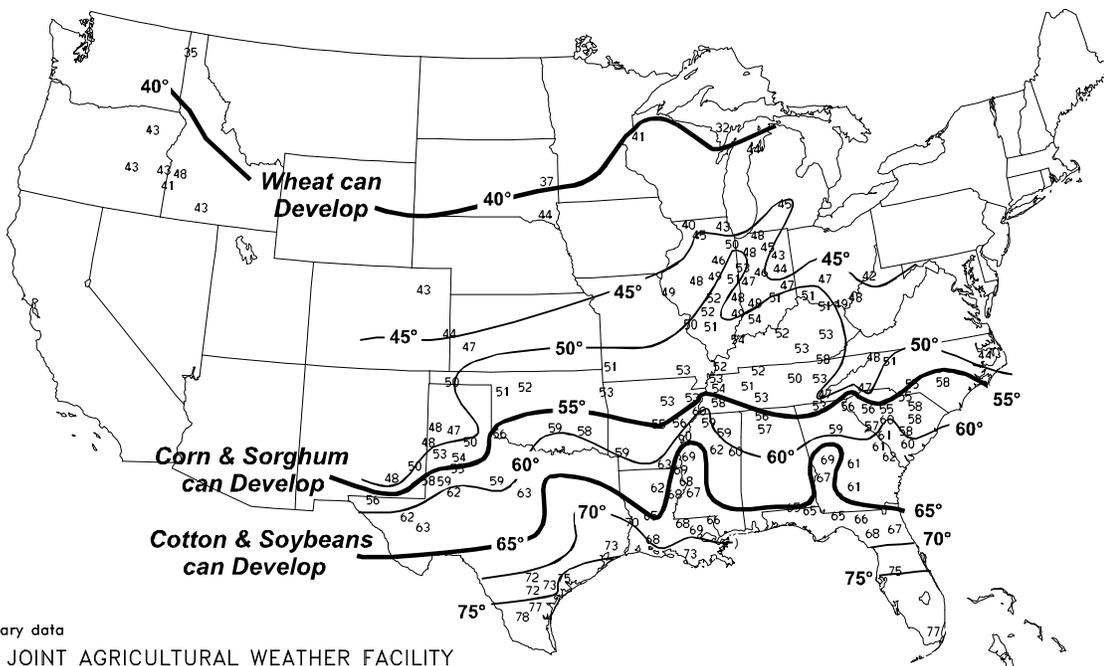
HIGHLIGHTS

Winter wheat conditions improved in the central Great Plains, where warm weather and adequate moisture supplies stimulated development. Light, but widespread, showers maintained moisture levels and aided wheat development in Oklahoma. A midweek storm produced some isolated small hail in Colorado and gusty winds in Kansas, but damage to winter wheat was minimal. Rain eased moisture shortages and boosted wheat conditions in eastern Texas, but continued dryness stressed wheat fields in northern Texas. Along the western Gulf Coast, scattered light showers provided little moisture for emerged and germinating corn, cotton, sorghum, and soybean fields. Fieldwork and planting of spring row crops were limited by dry soils, and rice seeding was delayed due to lack of flood water.

Planting and field preparations were delayed by rain in parts of the lower Mississippi Valley and Southeast, although areas near the Gulf Coast and most of the Atlantic Coastal Plains remained too dry. In the Corn Belt, dry weather and above-normal temperatures encouraged isolated early field tillage, and farmers began applying fertilizer and herbicides. Rain relieved drought conditions in southern California and the interior Southwest, but fieldwork was delayed in northern California, where soils were saturated due to excessive rainfall. In Florida, new growth was abundant in well-cared-for citrus groves, and trees were in various stages of bloom, from pin head buds to open flowers.

Average Soil Temperature (°F, 4" Bare)

MAR 5 - 11, 2000



Based on preliminary data

NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY

Winter Weather Review

Highlights: The second half of winter featured very stormy weather in much of the West, particularly from northern and central California eastward to Utah. In accordance with the ongoing La Niña regime, however, most of the precipitation bypassed the Southwest. The remainder of the South was also unfavorably dry, allowing further intensification of drought that had begun to take hold during the second half of 1999. During February, storms provided much-needed moisture to most of the Plains and Midwest.

Bitterly cold weather made only fleeting appearances during the winter and was primarily confined to the Nation's northern tier. Winter made its strongest push across the Midwest, South, and East in late January, when sustained cold weather was accompanied by widespread snow and ice accumulations. Nevertheless, winter temperatures averaged above normal virtually nationwide. Departures reached +10°F in the Dakotas and Minnesota.

December: The continuation of warm, dry weather across the South further reduced soil moisture, increased irrigation requirements, and stressed dryland crops, including pastures, vegetative winter grains, and cold-season vegetables. Although winter wheat remained dormant farther north, unfavorably dry conditions persisted in the western Corn Belt and on the Plains as far south as western Kansas. In contrast, beneficial precipitation fell across the southeastern Plains and in Texas' northern panhandle. Widespread precipitation also boosted soil moisture from the middle Mississippi and lower Ohio Valleys southward to the central Gulf Coast. Storminess abated after mid-month in the Pacific Northwest but returned in early January. The remainder of the West received little moisture, raising concerns about possibly inadequate spring runoff due to meager snow packs. Near- to above-normal temperatures prevailed nationwide, except at a few locations in the Southwest. Monthly readings averaged up to 15°F above normal on the northern Plains, and as much as 6°F above normal from the Midwest to New England.

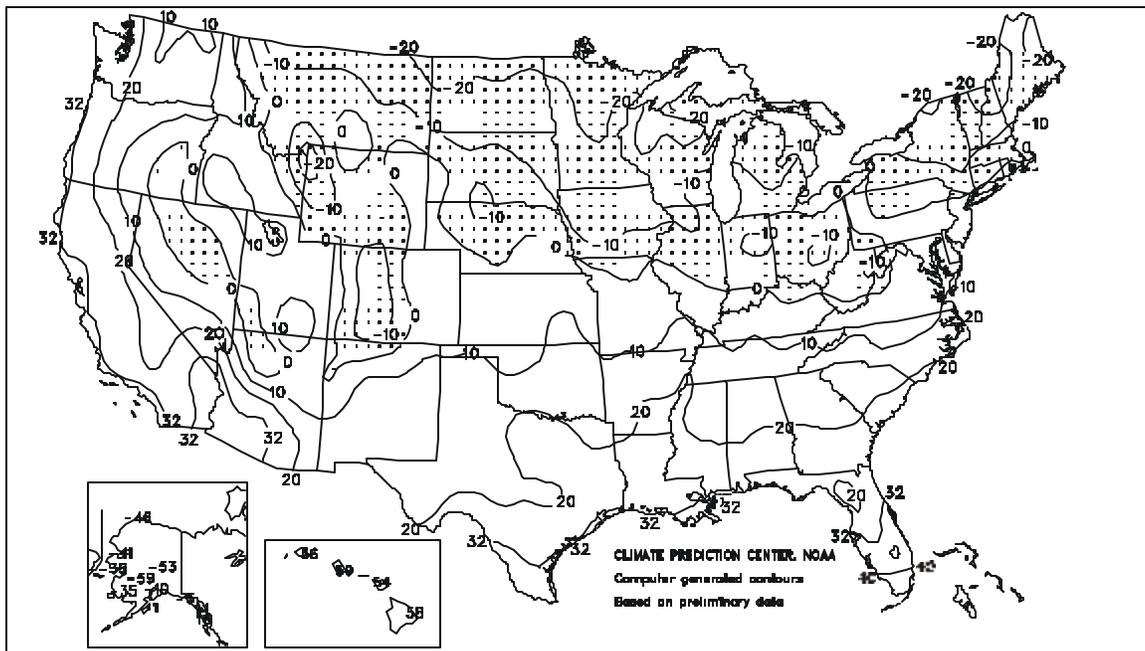
January: Beneficial precipitation eased long-term drought in several areas, including the Ohio Valley and Southeast. In the

West, much-needed precipitation fell from northern and central California to the central Rockies. Farther south, however, areas from southern California to western Texas remained extremely dry, resulting in further declines in range, pasture, and dryland crop conditions. Unfavorably dry conditions also persisted throughout most of the Plains, western Corn Belt, and lower Mississippi Valley, raising concerns about a lack of moisture for winter grains and the availability of moisture during the upcoming planting season. In central Florida, a late-month cold snap dropped temperatures to near or slightly below 32°F, but had few adverse effects on citrus and cool-season vegetables. Farther north, a substantial snow cover protected the eastern Corn Belt's winter wheat from occasional bitter cold. Despite the increasingly cold weather across the South and East, monthly temperatures averaged generally 2 to 6°F above normal in the Mississippi Valley and were within 2°F of normal along the East Coast. Monthly readings were as much as 10°F above normal in the Intermountain West.

February: A very active and persistent storm track provided drought relief to the western Corn Belt and Ohio Valley. Frequent late-month precipitation on the central and southeastern Plains improved soil moisture for winter wheat, which broke dormancy and began to develop due to unusually warm conditions. Meanwhile, drought intensified across the South, including the southern High Plains, due to very warm, dry weather that favored pre-planting fieldwork and early summer crop planting, but stressed pastures and dryland winter grains. The South's dryness also aided the spread of wildfires and increased irrigation requirements. Wet weather continued in much of the West, further improving soil moisture reserves, high-elevation snow packs, and spring runoff prospects. Especially heavy precipitation fell in California, where spring fieldwork was delayed by the cool, wet conditions. Beneficial precipitation in early March eased the Southwest's 5-month dry spell, but significant moisture again bypassed the southern High Plains. Monthly temperatures averaged at least 4°F above normal in nearly all areas from the Intermountain West to the East Coast, peaking at 12°F above normal in a few areas in the upper Midwest and across southern Texas.

Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)

DEC 1999 - FEB 2000

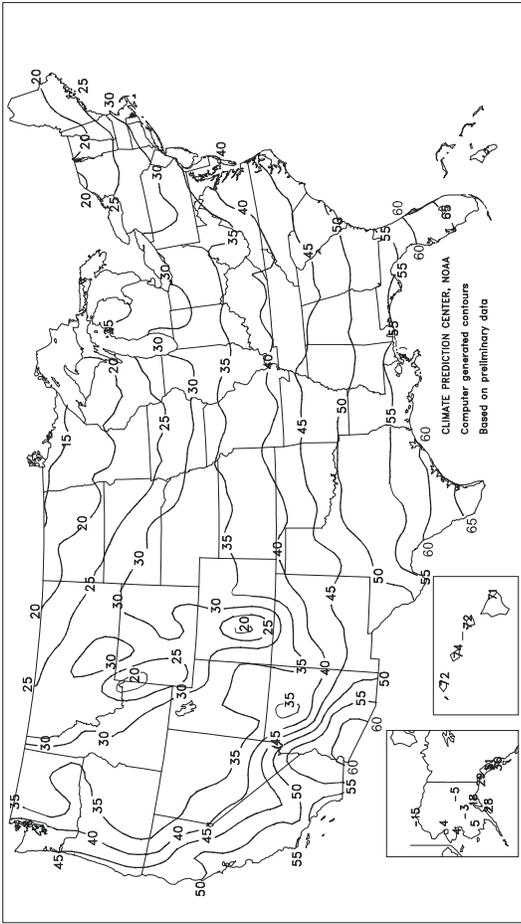


In South Dakota, Rapid City's lowest reading during the winter of 1999-2000 was 2°F, on January 4. By the end of February, Rapid City's stretch of days without a sub-zero reading reached 421 days, easily surpassing their former record of 362 days, set in 1982-83. The winter's lowest reading in Duluth, MN was -17°F on January 21, their first winter that temperatures remained above -20°F since 1963-64. The season's coldest air reached Florida on January 27, producing lows of 32°F as far south as Tampa and Ft. Pierce.

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

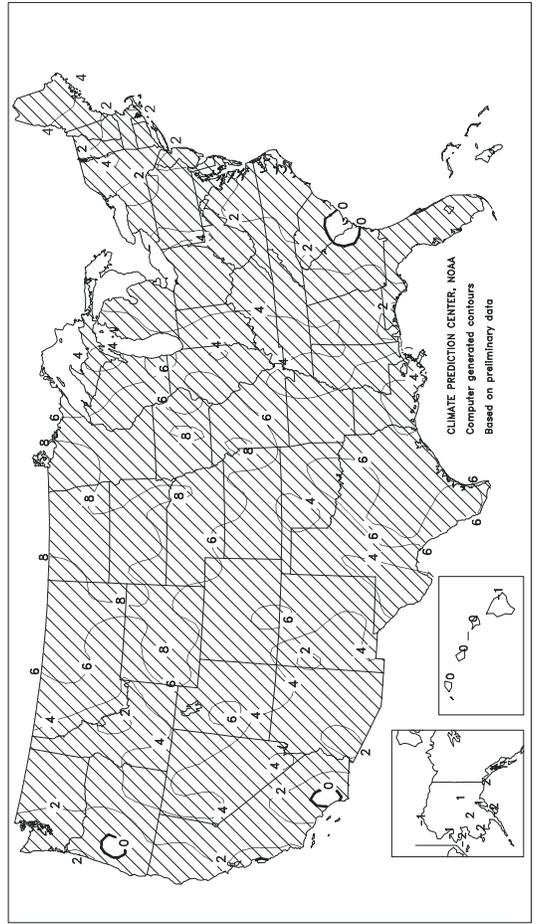
Average Temperature (°F)

DEC 1999 - FEB 2000



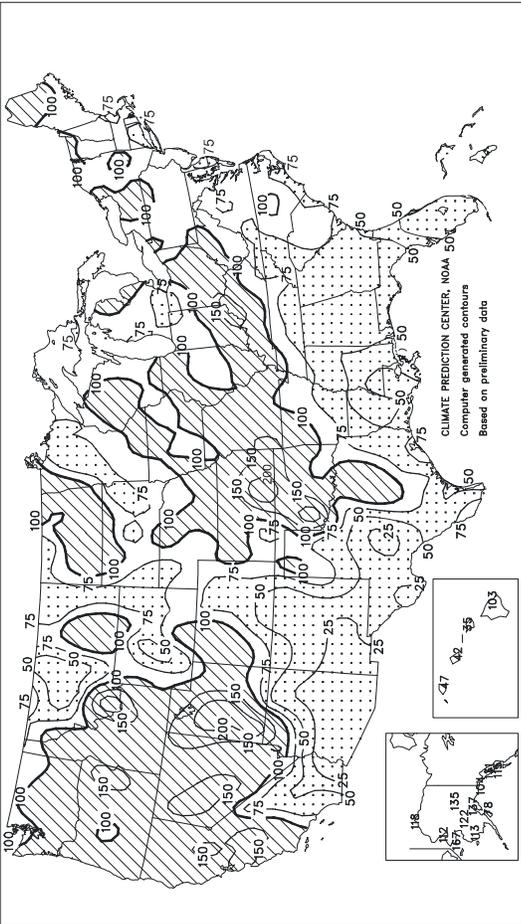
Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F)

DEC 1999 - FEB 2000



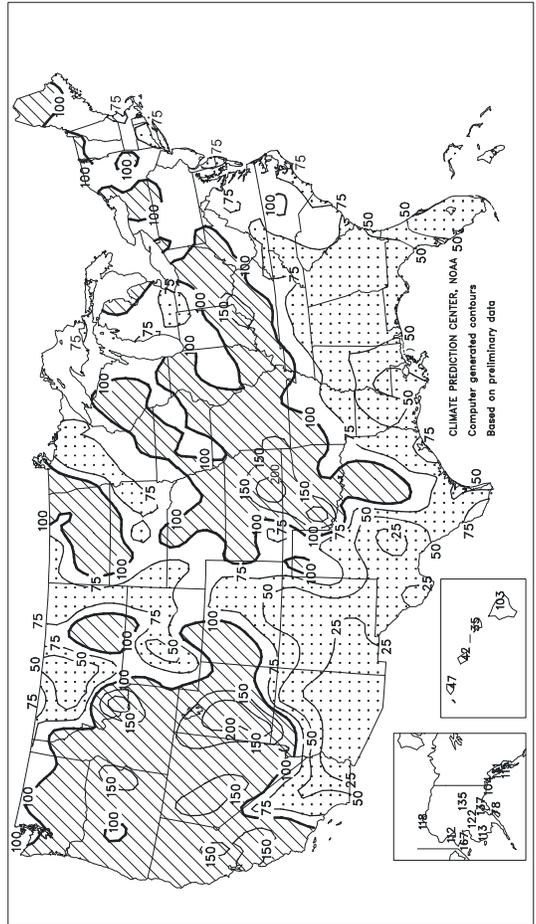
Percent Of Normal Precipitation

DEC 1999 - FEB 2000



Percent Of Normal Precipitation

DEC 1999 - FEB 2000



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION SUMMARY

Winter 1999-2000

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	47	3	10.82	-4.12	LEXINGTON	37	3	10.91	0.86	COLUMBUS	33	4	9.00	1.72
HUNTSVILLE	45	3	10.25	-5.66	LONDON-CORBIN	38	2	9.00	-2.24	DAYTON	32	3	7.91	0.68
MOBILE	54	2	7.40	-8.13	LOUISVILLE	39	4	17.77	7.97	MANSFIELD	30	3	8.31	1.24
MONTGOMERY	50	2	9.30	-6.06	PADUCAH	40	4	15.61	3.76	TOLEDO	29	4	4.60	-1.81
AK ANCHORAGE	19	2	3.67	0.98	LA BATON ROUGE	55	3	8.70	-7.26	YOUNGSTOWN	30	4	6.51	-0.58
BARROW	-15	-1	0.57	0.09	LAKE CHARLES	56	4	6.79	-6.37	OK OKLAHOMA CITY	44	5	5.93	1.84
COLD BAY	25	-4	12.92	4.14	NEW ORLEANS	57	4	7.92	-8.89	TULSA	44	6	7.33	1.66
FAIRBANKS	-5	2	2.32	0.60	SHREVEPORT	52	5	8.73	-3.17	OR ASTORIA	46	3	29.63	1.49
JUNEAU	31	4	16.68	3.95	ME BANGOR	22	2	9.50	-0.33	BURNS	30	4	4.09	1.19
KING SALMON	12	-3	2.97	-0.26	CARIBOU	16	4	8.62	1.06	EUGENE	41	-1	19.20	-2.96
KODIAK	28	-2	15.19	-4.28	PORTLAND	27	3	8.30	-3.11	MEDFORD	41	2	8.65	0.71
NOME	4	-2	3.71	1.49	MD BALTIMORE	36	2	8.61	-0.97	PENDELTON	38	2	6.00	1.72
AZ FLAGSTAFF	33	3	1.93	-4.60	MA BOSTON	33	2	6.84	-4.38	PORTLAND	42	1	13.79	-1.54
PHOENIX	58	3	0.01	-2.34	Worcester	29	4	8.26	-2.93	SALEM	42	1	19.36	2.14
TUCSON	55	3	0.29	-2.35	MI ALPENA	23	3	5.46	0.50	PA ALLENTOWN	31	2	7.19	-2.41
AR FORT SMITH	46	6	8.01	0.48	DETROIT	29	4	4.24	-2.08	ERIE	32	4	8.27	0.18
CA BAKERSFIELD	47	5	9.26	-2.60	FLINT	27	3	3.86	-0.92	MIDDLETOWN	34	3	6.91	-2.10
EUREKA	49	0	19.73	2.96	GRAND RAPIDS	28	4	4.86	-1.24	PHILADELPHIA	36	3	8.25	-1.13
FRESNO	50	3	9.31	4.13	HOUGHTON LAKE	23	4	4.55	-0.06	PITTSBURGH	32	3	6.47	-1.38
LOS ANGELES	58	1	6.02	-0.55	LANSING	26	3	3.91	-1.27	WILKES-BARRE	29	2	5.72	-1.04
REDDING	47	0	17.58	1.56	MUSKEGON	30	5	4.46	-2.40	WILLIAMSPORT	30	2	6.74	-1.59
SACRAMENTO	49	2	16.16	7.05	TRAVERSE CITY	27	5	4.67	-0.92	PR SAN JUAN	76	-1	9.52	0.21
SAN DIEGO	58	0	4.18	-0.72	MN DULUTH	17	6	2.15	-1.11	RI PROVIDENCE	33	3	9.32	-2.55
SAN FRANCISCO	52	2	14.85	4.24	INT'L FALLS	14	9	1.01	-1.34	SC CHARLESTON	50	0	8.59	-1.31
STOCKTON	49	2	9.06	2.14	MINNEAPOLIS	23	7	2.29	-0.62	COLUMBIA	46	0	11.48	-0.65
CO ALAMOSA	25	7	0.28	-0.71	ROCHESTER	22	7	3.24	0.69	FLORENCE	46	0	7.16	-2.75
CO SPRINGS	35	5	1.11	-0.04	ST. CLOUD	19	7	2.01	-0.19	GREENVILLE	45	3	8.21	-4.44
DENVER	35	4	0.79	-0.92	MS JACKSON	51	4	5.93	-9.92	MYRTLE BEACH	47	***	7.48	*****
GRAND JUNCTION	34	5	2.31	0.66	MERIDIAN	50	3	8.15	-8.50	SD ABERDEEN	22	8	1.11	-0.14
PUEBLO	36	4	0.43	-0.62	TUPELO	46	3	10.05	-5.72	HURON	26	9	0.88	-0.68
CT BRIDGEPORT	33	2	6.43	-3.32	MO COLUMBIA	37	6	7.53	1.77	RAPID CITY	31	7	0.70	-0.68
HARTFORD	30	3	6.70	-3.85	JOPLIN	41	6	10.64	4.49	SIoux FALLS	24	7	1.89	0.04
DC WASHINGTON	40	3	7.56	-0.99	KANSAS CITY	36	7	4.85	1.08	TN BRISTOL	38	2	6.94	-3.12
DE WILMINGTON	35	2	7.53	-1.89	SPRINGFIELD	39	5	9.84	2.72	CHATTANOOGA	45	5	9.34	-5.53
FL DAYTONA BEACH	59	0	4.01	-4.44	ST JOSEPH	35	7	2.70	-0.60	JACKSON	43	3	10.91	-2.80
FT LAUDERDALE	69	1	3.66	-3.49	ST LOUIS	38	6	6.18	-0.78	KNOXVILLE	42	3	10.26	-2.51
FT MYERS	64	-1	2.85	-2.75	MT BILLINGS	32	6	3.01	0.68	MEMPHIS	46	3	11.47	-2.35
JACKSONVILLE	55	1	4.83	-5.13	BUTTE	25	6	1.44	0.08	NASHVILLE	43	4	9.77	-2.23
KEY WEST	71	0	1.81	-4.02	GLASGOW	23	9	0.43	-0.59	TX ABILENE	51	6	0.96	-2.26
MELBOURNE	63	1	5.09	-1.99	GREAT FALLS	30	6	1.06	-1.27	AMARILLO	41	4	1.21	-0.33
MIAMI	69	1	4.45	-1.47	HELENA	28	6	0.55	-1.08	AUSTIN	55	4	5.66	-0.10
ORLANDO	61	0	4.24	-3.23	KALISPELL	27	4	2.71	-1.65	BEAUMONT	58	5	6.43	-6.53
PENSACOLA	55	2	8.22	-6.15	MILES CITY	29	10	1.29	-0.35	BROWNSVILLE	66	5	1.46	-2.41
ST PETERSBURG	64	2	3.05	-4.72	MISSOULA	29	4	2.21	-0.98	COLLEGE STATION	55	4	5.59	-2.51
TALLAHASSEE	53	1	6.47	-8.89	NE GRAND ISLAND	32	7	1.87	-0.02	CORPUS CHRISTI	63	6	1.37	-3.56
TAMPA	62	1	3.27	-3.95	HASTINGS	33	8	2.23	0.17	DALLAS/FT WORTH	53	7	7.44	1.59
WEST PALM BEACH	67	1	3.21	-4.77	LINCOLN	32	8	2.22	0.08	DEL RIO	58	6	0.99	-1.13
GA ATHENS	46	2	8.63	-4.48	MCCOOK	34	6	1.18	-0.27	EL PASO	49	4	0.66	-0.72
ATLANTA	47	4	8.36	-5.53	NORFOLK	30	8	1.52	-0.51	GALVESTON	60	5	9.26	0.24
AUGUSTA	47	1	8.63	-3.09	NORTH PLATTE	31	7	0.82	-0.44	HOUSTON	57	4	5.77	-3.93
COLUMBUS	50	2	6.91	-7.50	OMAHA/EPPLEY	31	7	2.69	0.16	LUBBOCK	45	4	1.10	-0.50
MACON	48	0	7.38	-6.23	SCOTTSBLUFF	33	6	1.28	-0.25	MIDLAND	49	4	0.61	-0.97
SAVANNAH	50	-1	6.22	-3.55	VALENTINE	30	8	1.50	0.41	SAN ANGELO	52	6	0.40	-2.26
HI HILO	71	-1	33.19	0.98	NV ELKO	31	4	3.87	0.99	SAN ANTONIO	57	5	4.12	-0.91
HONOLULU	73	0	3.99	-5.57	ELY	31	5	2.32	0.27	VICTORIA	60	5	5.44	-0.76
KAHULUI	72	0	3.61	-6.67	LAS VEGAS	51	4	1.59	0.25	WACO	53	5	9.40	3.80
LIHUE	72	0	6.70	-7.67	RENO	38	4	3.19	0.14	WICHITA FALLS	48	6	2.65	-1.14
ID BOISE	36	4	4.47	0.59	WINNEMUCCA	34	2	2.98	0.74	UT SALT LAKE CITY	35	5	5.81	2.07
LEWISTON	38	2	4.26	0.89	NH CONCORD	25	3	6.44	-1.76	VT BURLINGTON	23	4	5.69	-0.18
POCATELLO	31	5	3.22	0.15	NJ ATLANTIC CITY	36	3	9.72	-0.12	VA LYNCHBURG	38	1	7.53	-1.60
IL CHICAGO/O'HARE	30	6	6.09	0.73	NEWARK	36	3	7.88	-2.00	NORFOLK	44	3	7.91	-2.57
MOLINE	29	6	6.97	1.97	NM ALBUQUERQUE	40	4	0.63	-0.77	RICHMOND	40	2	7.31	-2.35
PEORIA	31	6	5.18	-0.19	NY ALBANY	26	2	7.68	0.12	ROANOKE	40	3	6.23	-2.40
ROCKFORD	26	4	5.40	0.93	BINGHAMTON	26	3	7.96	0.23	WASH/DULLES	37	4	6.36	-2.37
SPRINGFIELD	33	5	4.01	-2.00	BUFFALO	29	3	6.60	-2.08	WA OLYMPIA	40	1	23.95	2.05
IN EVANSVILLE	38	5	16.74	7.29	ROCHESTER	29	3	7.01	0.10	QUILLAYUTE	41	0	43.60	1.18
FORT WAYNE	29	3	4.77	-1.90	SYRACUSE	27	2	6.53	-1.16	SEATTLE-TACOMA	42	1	14.08	-1.20
INDIANAPOLIS	33	4	7.54	-0.58	NC ASHEVILLE	40	2	7.41	-3.27	SPOKANE	31	2	5.77	-0.12
SOUTH BEND	31	5	6.69	-0.74	CHARLOTTE	43	2	8.40	-2.63	YAKIMA	34	2	3.15	-0.21
IA BURLINGTON	31	6	5.98	1.60	GREENSBORO	41	2	7.55	-2.30	WV BECKLEY	35	3	6.35	-2.74
CEDAR RAPIDS	26	5	3.31	-0.31	HATTERAS	47	1	14.26	0.30	CHARLESTON	38	3	8.21	-1.13
DES MOINES	31	8	3.01	-0.38	RALEIGH	42	1	10.55	0.14	ELKINS	32	2	9.10	-0.46
DUBUQUE	26	6	3.69	-0.85	WILMINGTON	49	2	7.38	-3.82	HUNTINGTON	37	2	10.05	0.96
SIoux CITY	28	7	1.51	-0.53	ND BISMARCK	21	8	2.36	0.97	WI EAU CLAIRE	21	6	3.12	0.32
WATERLOO	26	8	2.65	-0.53	DICKINSON	25	8	1.43	0.31	GREEN BAY	22	4	2.74	-0.97
CONCORDIA	35	6	2.50	0.33	FARGO	18	8	1.79	0.02	LA CROSSE	25	7	3.02	-0.08
DODGE CITY	37	5	0.97	-0.79	GRAND FORKS	17	9	2.12	0.27	MADISON	26	7	3.66	-0.33
GOODLAND	35	5	1.29	0.08	JAMESTOWN	19	8	2.46	0.89	MILWAUKEE	28	6	4.12	-1.26
HILL CITY	35	5	2.31	0.77	MINOT	22	10	1.07	-0.99	WAUSAU	22	6	3.40	0.16
TOPEKA	37	7	3.95	0.53	WILLISTON	20	7	1.14	-0.39	WY CASPER	30	6	1.12	-0.69
WICHITA	38	6	7.70	4.75	OH AKRON-CANTON	30	2	6.84	-0.50	CHEYENNE	32	4	1.13	-0.08
KY JACKSON	39	3	8.72	-3.24	CINCINNATI	34	3	13.76	5.33	LANDER	30	8	0.42	-1.21
					CLEVELAND	31	3	7.38	0.06	SHERIDAN	28	5	2.76	0.69

Based on 1961-90 normals.

(Note: This new table is modeled after the monthly U.S. table)

*** Not Available.

Water Supply Forecast for the Western United States

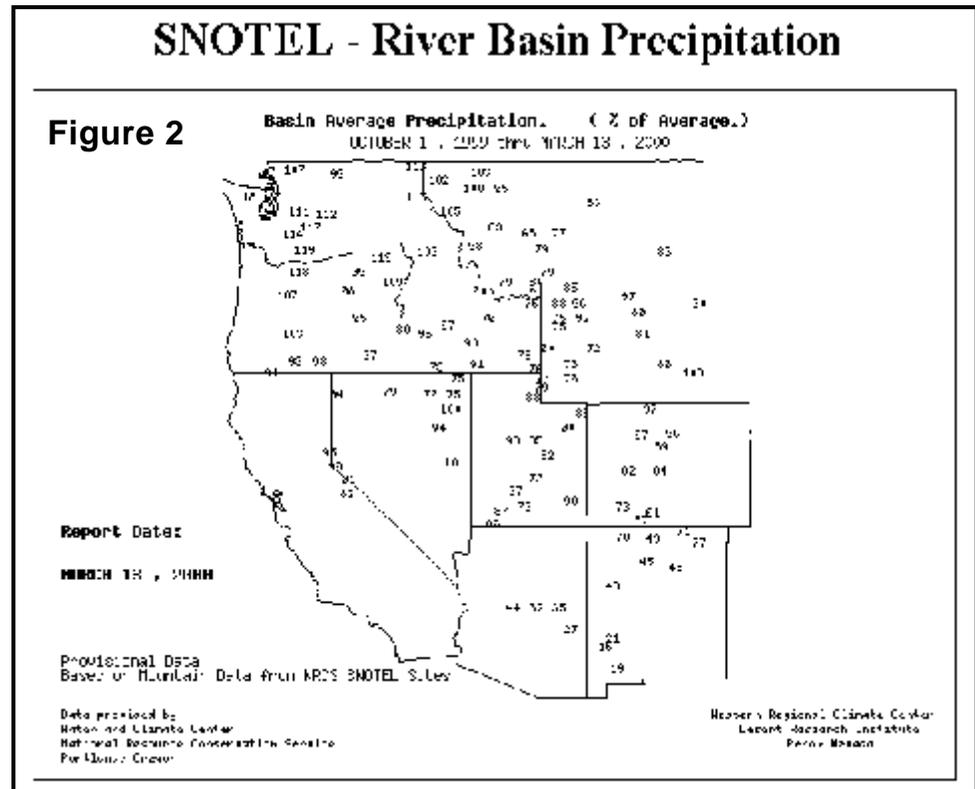
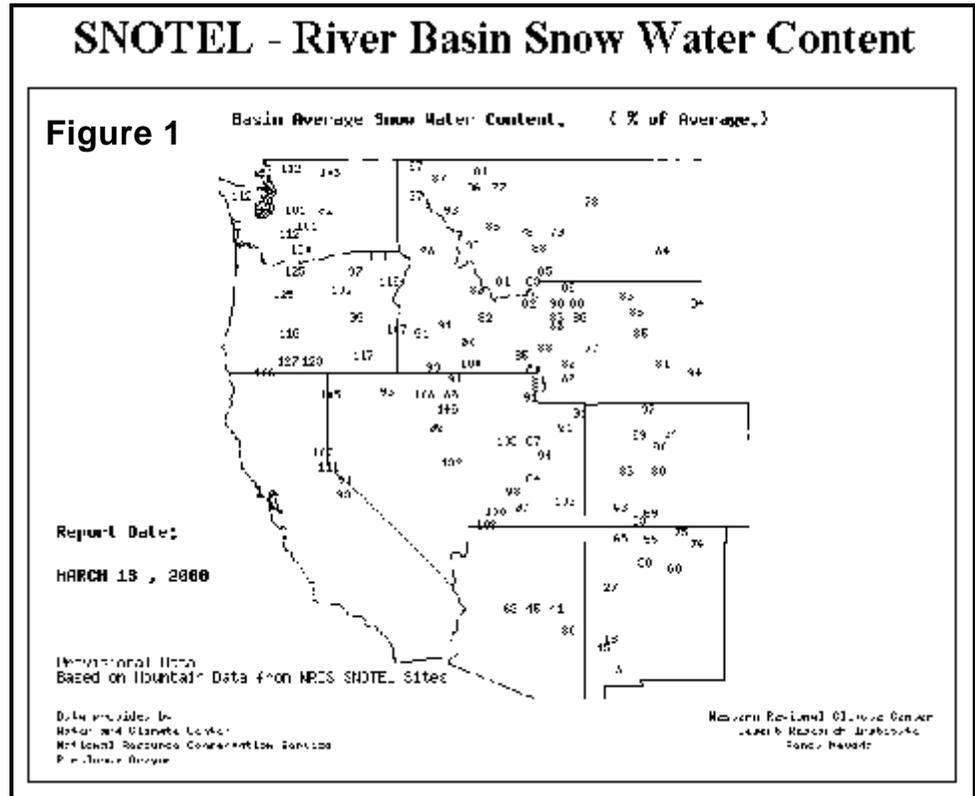
Snowpack and Precipitation

As of March 13, 2000, western snowpack conditions continue to show the effects of the current La Niña regime (fig. 1). However, snowpacks have improved significantly during the last month in central California, most of Nevada, and Utah. The number of Western States reporting snowpacks less than 70 percent (%) of average has been reduced in the past month and now includes only Arizona, New Mexico, and southern Colorado. Nearly all other Western basins are reporting snowpacks between 90 and 110% of average. The Oregon and southern Washington Cascades are reporting well-above-average snowpacks.

As of March 13, 2000, western precipitation conditions mirror snowpacks in most areas (fig. 2). The La Niña conditions have created warm, dry conditions in the southern portion of the West. Sporadic precipitation events in early March did not completely alleviate concerns of continuing precipitation deficits for dryland farmers in these areas.

Spring and Summer Streamflow Forecasts

As of March 1, 2000, conditions continue to look favorable for supplying above-average spring and summer streamflow in most of Oregon and the southwestern and northeastern parts of Washington (fig. 3). Average streamflow is expected in central and northern Idaho, northwestern Montana, parts of Nevada, and northern Colorado. Slightly below-average streamflows are forecast for parts of southern Idaho, parts of south-



western Montana, western Wyoming, northern Utah, and southern Colorado. Well-below-average spring and summer streamflows are forecast for parts of central Wyoming, southwestern and extreme northern Montana, southern Colorado, southern Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico.

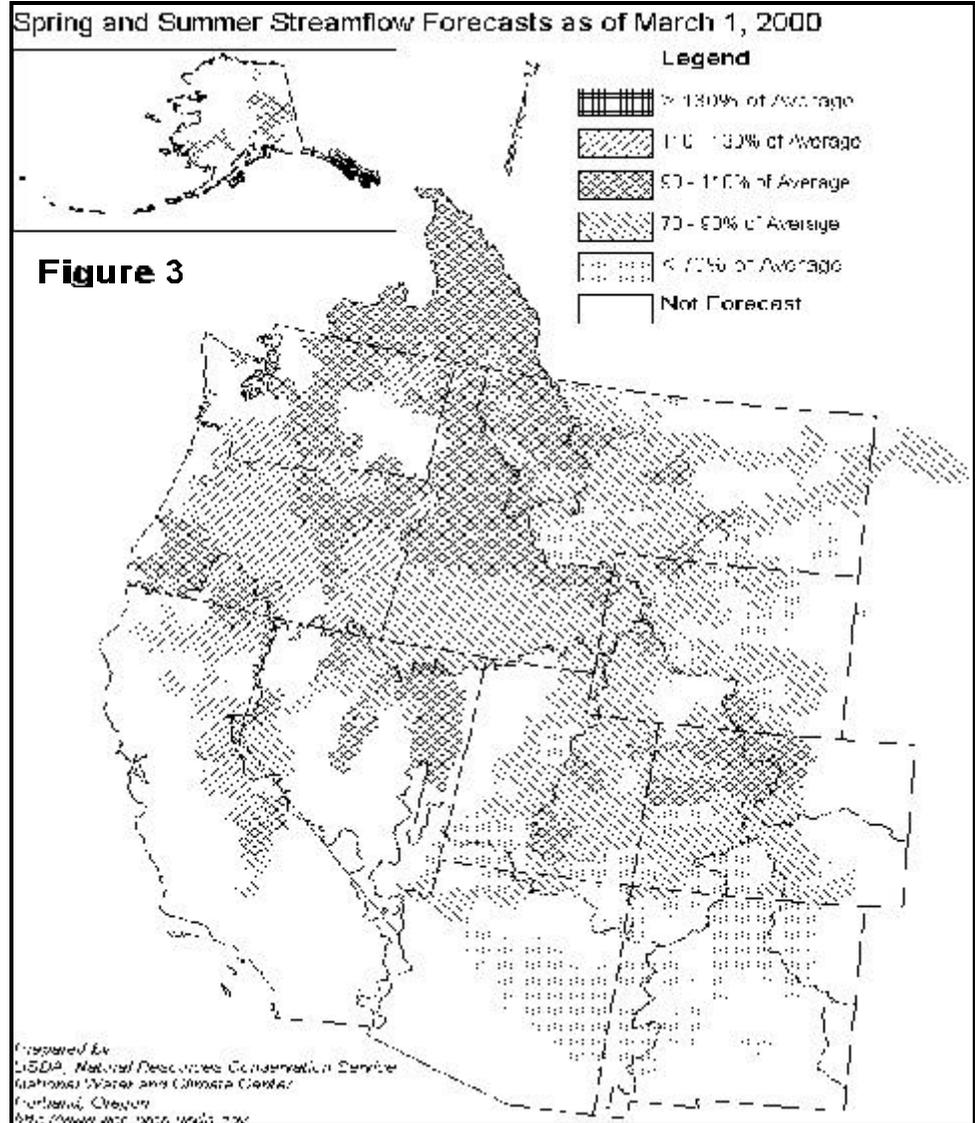
Reservoir Storage

As of March 1, 2000, major Western storage reservoirs are generally near or above average for this time of year (fig. 4). Arizona and Montana continue to report slightly below-average storage levels. Reservoirs in southern Colorado, New Mexico, and Arizona continue to benefit from previously wet conditions during the spring and summer of 1999, and precipitation events during February 2000.

For More Information

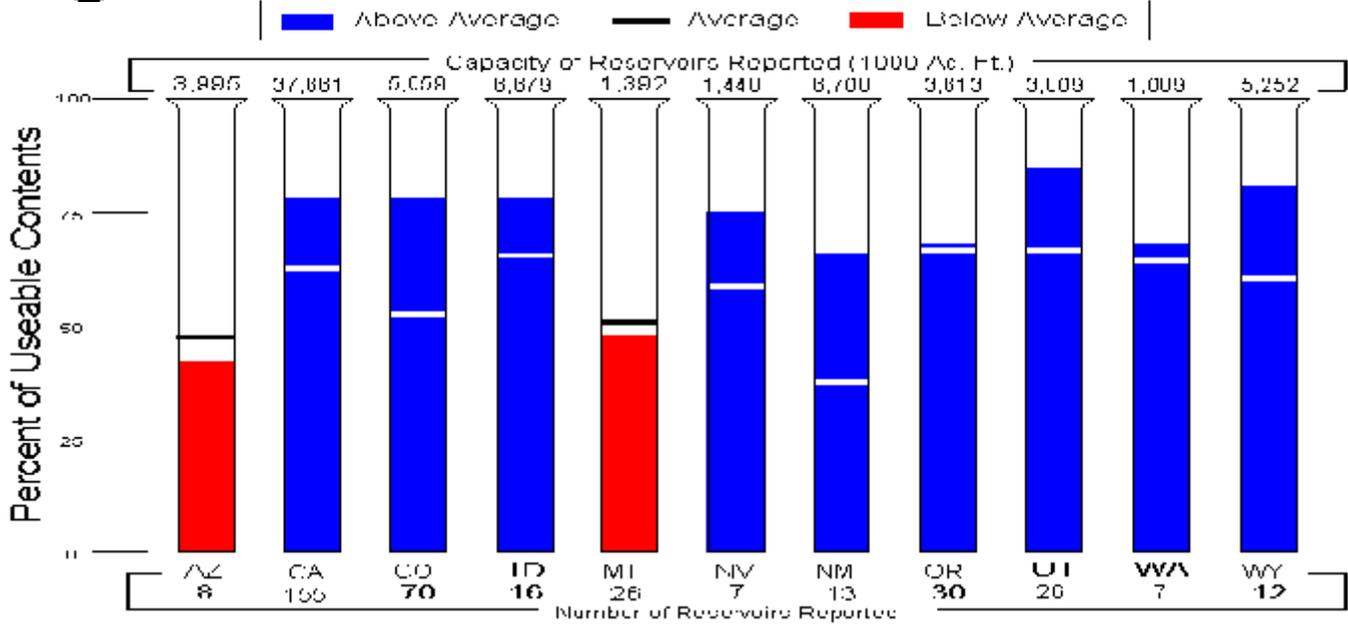
The National Water and Climate Center Homepage provides the latest available snowpack and water supply information. Please visit:

<http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov>



Reservoir Storage as of March 1, 2000

Figure 4



International Weather and Crop Summary

March 5 - 11, 2000

HIGHLIGHTS

FSU-WESTERN: Light to moderate rain and above-normal temperatures favored dormant winter wheat in Ukraine and southern Russia.

EUROPE: Dry weather in western Europe helped spring grain planting in the north, but continued to hamper winter grain development in Spain and Portugal.

NORTHWESTERN AFRICA: Drought conditions continued to worsen with above-normal temperatures.

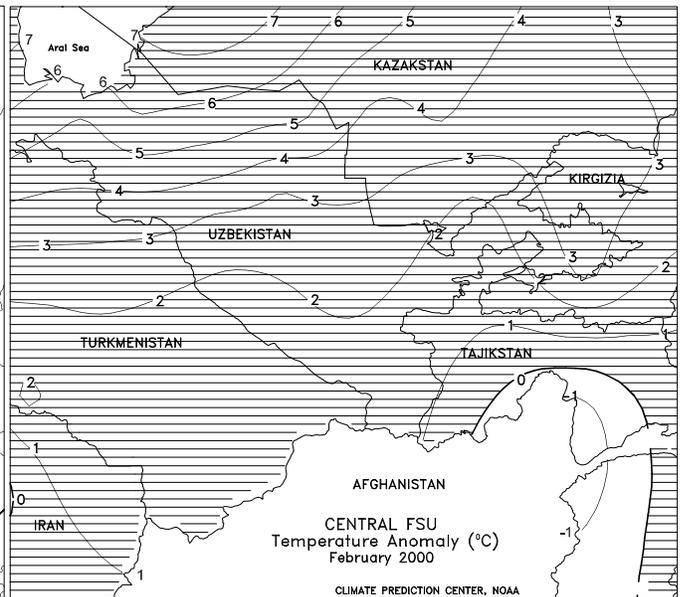
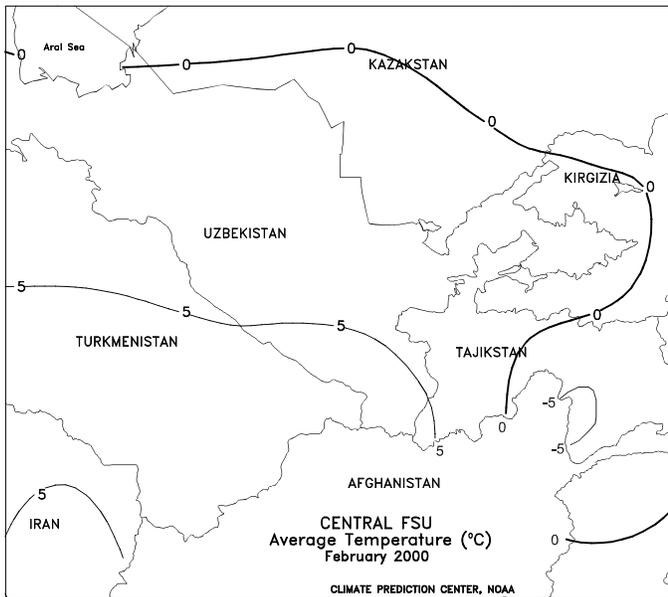
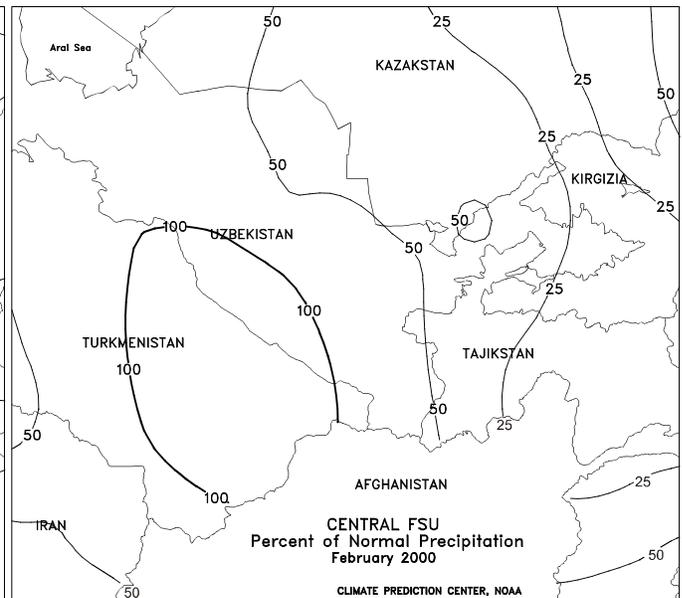
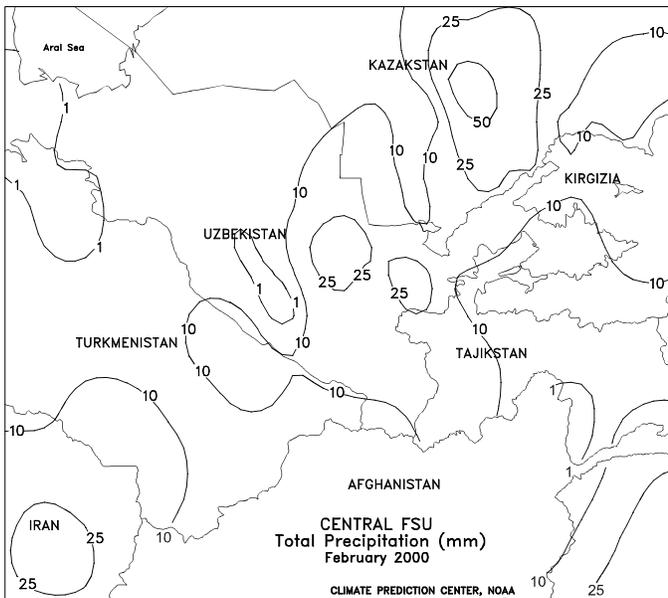
AUSTRALIA: Locally heavy rain hampered cotton and sorghum harvesting.

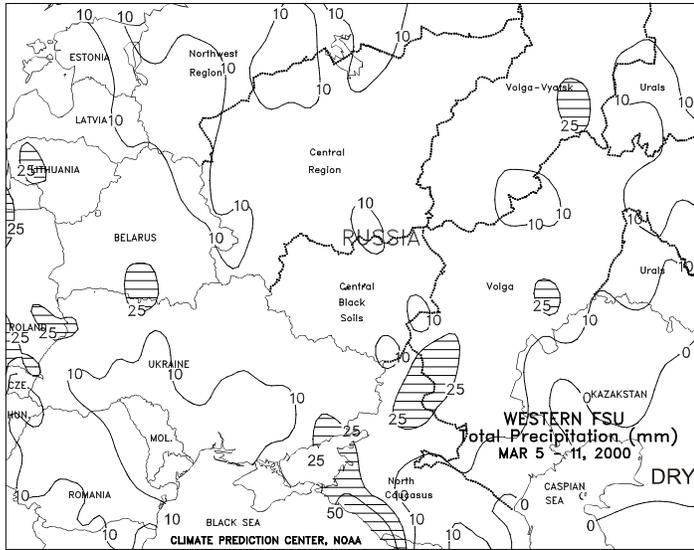
SOUTH AFRICA: Warm, dry weather aided development of filling to maturing summer crops.

SOUTHEAST ASIA: In Java, Indonesia, drier, sunnier weather aided filling to maturing main-season rice.

EASTERN ASIA: Across the North China Plain, winter wheat began to break dormancy.

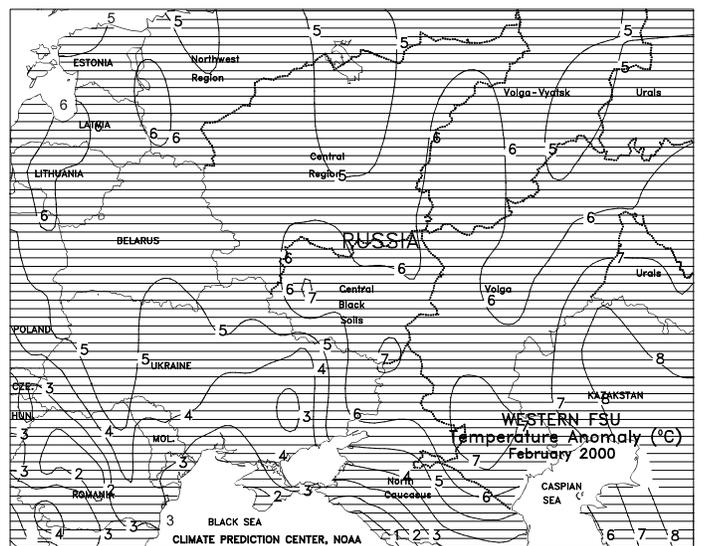
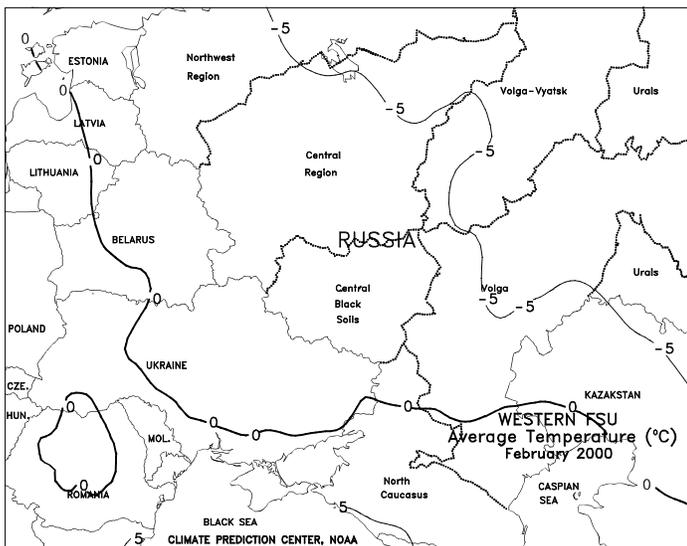
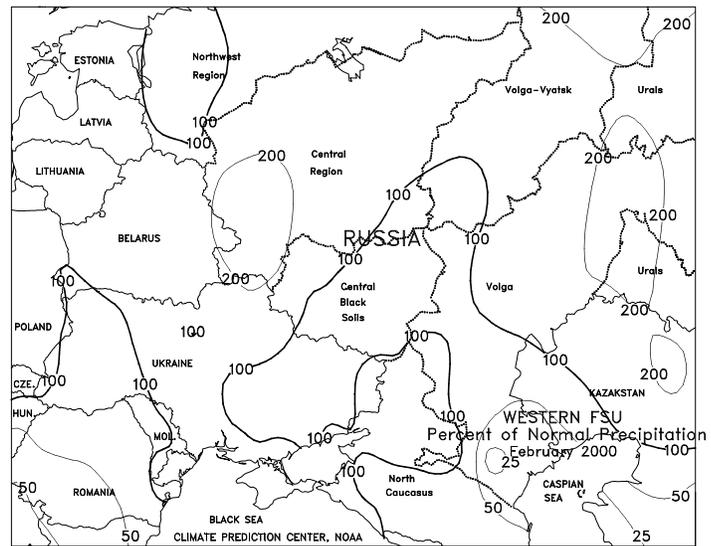
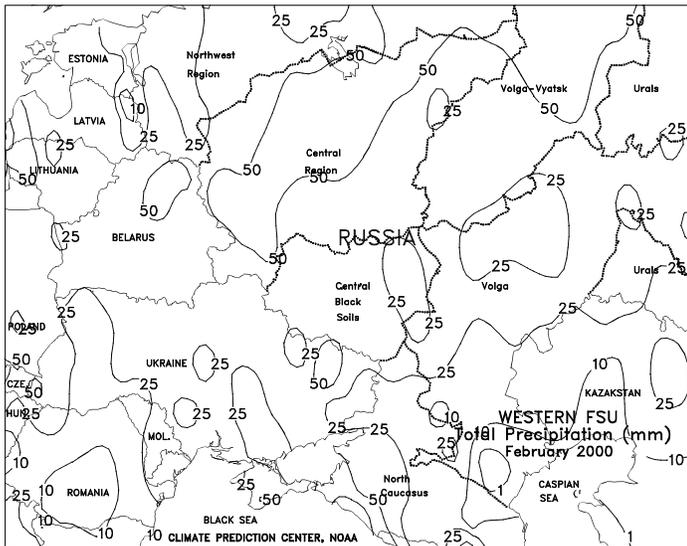
SOUTH AMERICA: In central Argentina, drier weather favored early-maturing summer crops, while variable showers aided filling soybeans in southern Brazil.

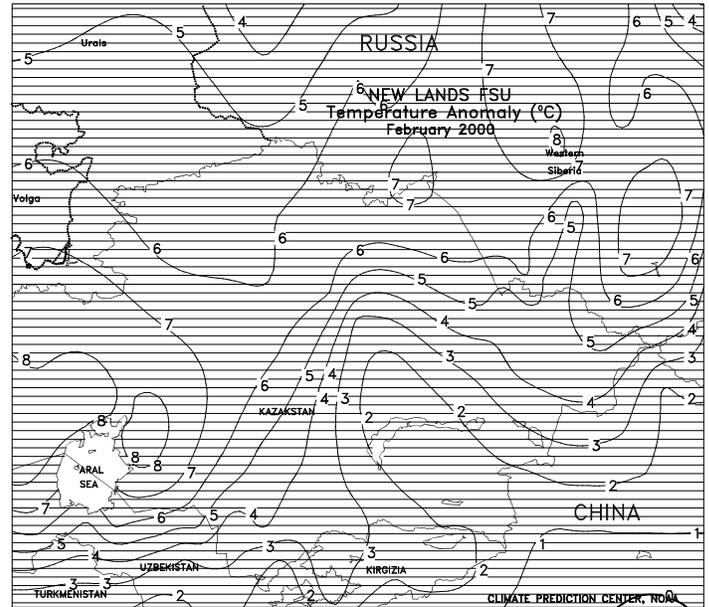
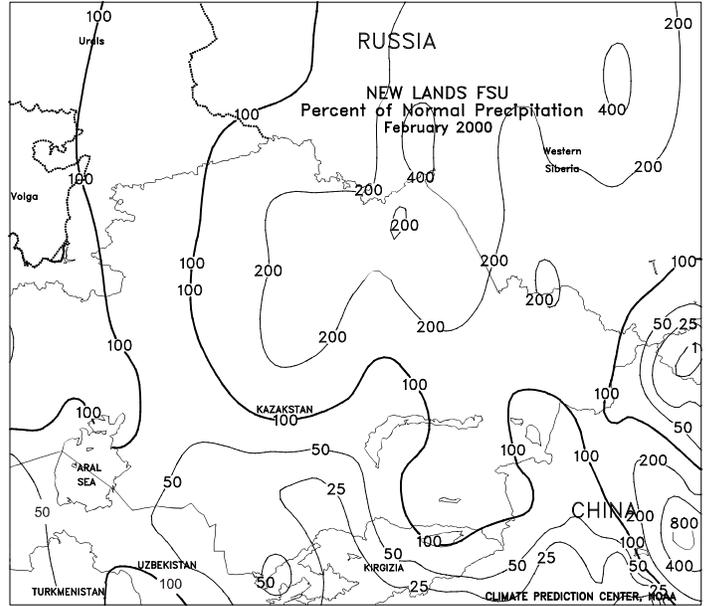
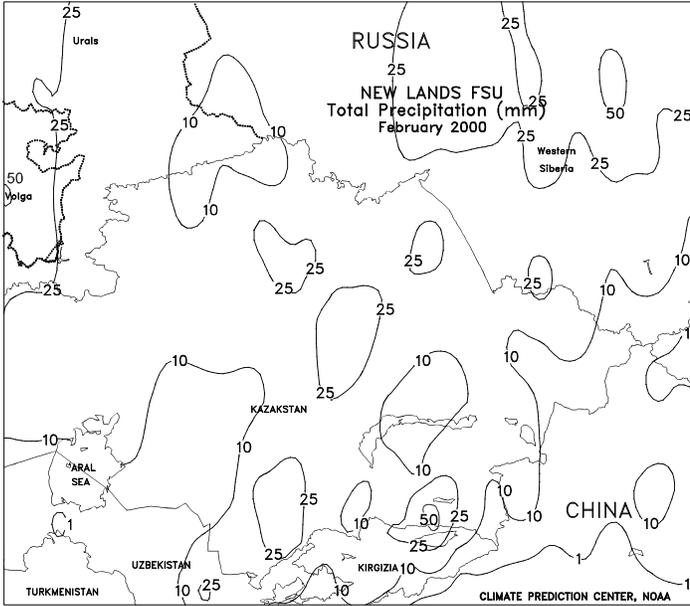




WESTERN FSU

An area of low pressure brought rain and snow to most of the region. Weekly precipitation amounts ranged from 5 to 25 mm in most winter wheat areas, with highest amounts (10-48 mm) observed in southern Russia (North Caucasus and lower Volga Valley). The precipitation fell mainly in the form of rain in Ukraine and North Caucasus, with a mixture of rain and snow falling farther north in Belarus and northern Russia (Northwest Region, Central Region, and Volga Vyatsk). Weekly temperatures averaged 3 to 5 degrees C above normal in Ukraine, Belarus, and the Baltics, and 3 to 7 degrees C above normal in Russia. The mild weather caused further melting of protective snow cover in northern Russia. In February, overwintering conditions continued mostly favorable for winter grains in Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, and the Baltics. Near- to above-normal precipitation in these areas boosted potential moisture reserves, while unseasonably mild weather favored overwintering crops. Temperatures in February averaged 2 to 6 degrees C above normal in Ukraine, Belarus, and the Baltics, and 4 to 8 degrees C above normal in Russia. Well-above-normal temperatures with persistently deep snow cover in northeastern Russia increased the likelihood of fungal development. Despite the mild weather, a brief episode of bitter cold occurred in late February. On February 28, temperatures dropped to as low as -22 degrees C as far south as northeastern Ukraine. Snow preceded the cold snap in most areas, providing a fresh protective snow cover. The short duration of extreme cold with the protective snow cover reduced the likelihood of significant winterkill.



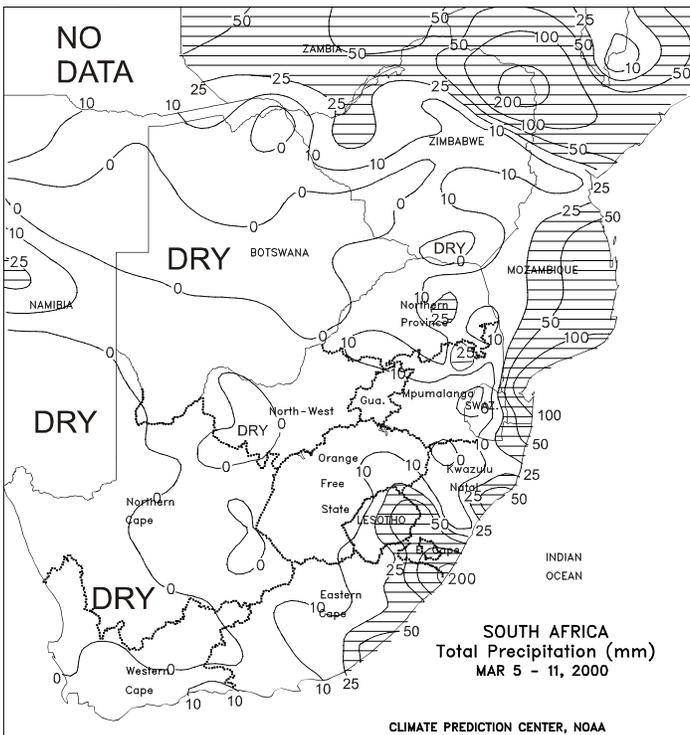
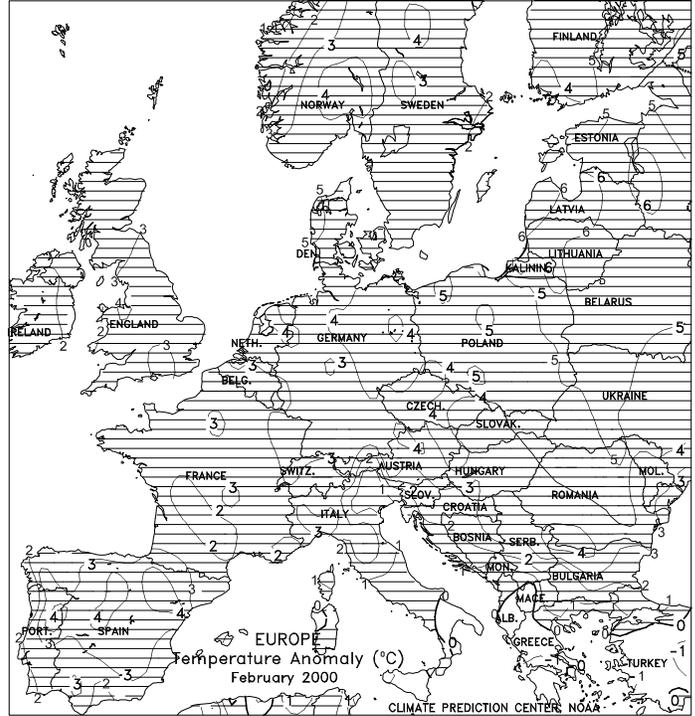




EUROPE

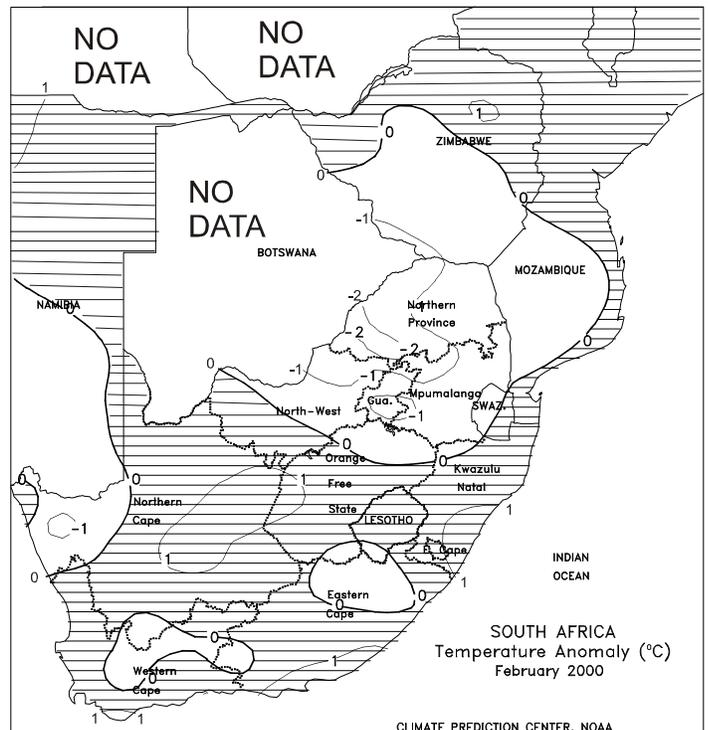
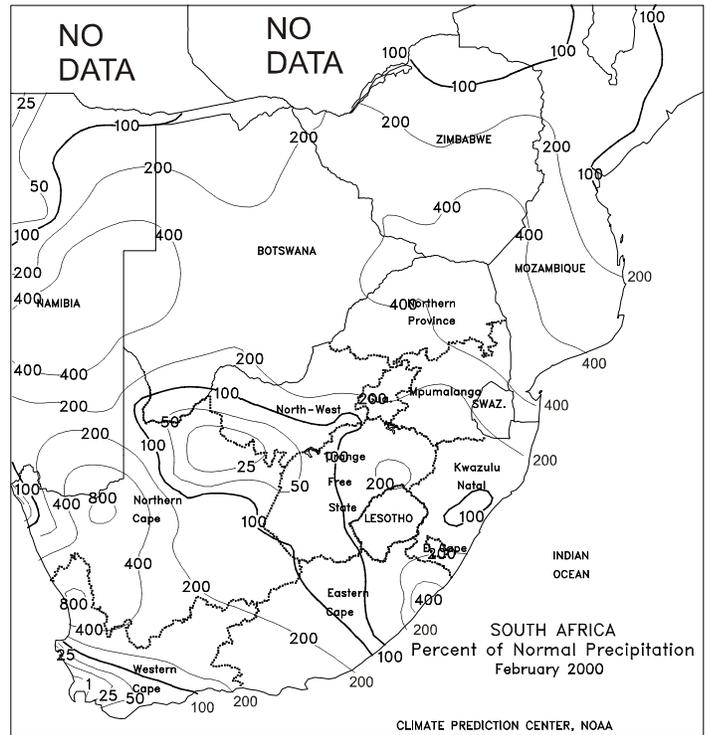
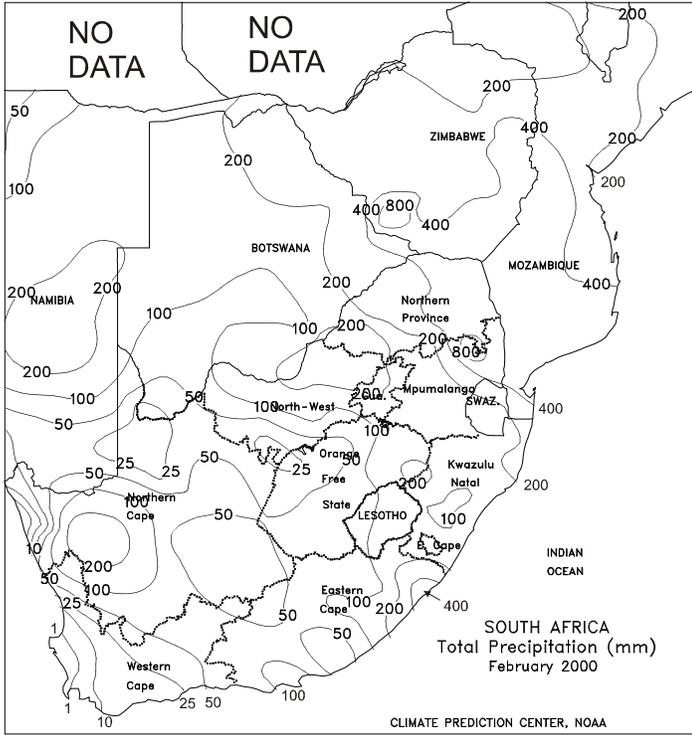
Dry weather continued in Spain and Portugal, stressing jointing winter wheat and barley and further advancing developing drought. Dry weather continued across Italy as well, reducing moisture supplies for jointing winter grains. In contrast, moisture supplies remained adequate for vegetative winter grains in southern England, France, and southern Germany, where dry weather helped spring grain planting. In northern England, the Netherlands, northern Germany, and southern Scandinavia, scattered showers (8-30 mm) slowed fieldwork. In northeastern Europe, widespread precipitation (13-40 mm, with locally higher amounts) maintained soil moisture for dormant and semi-dormant winter grains in Poland, Austria, the Czech Republic, and Slovakia. Farther south, light showers (7-27 mm) fell across parts of Romania, Serbia, and Bulgaria. Elsewhere across southeastern Europe, dry weather prevailed, helping early-spring fieldwork. Temperatures across Europe averaged between 1 and 4 degrees C above normal, except in the Iberian peninsula and England, where temperatures averaged 3 to 6 degrees C above normal. In February, unseasonably warm, dry weather stressed vegetative winter grains in Spain and Portugal. Despite good planting weather during September and October, February was the 4th consecutive month with below-normal rainfall, causing declines in crop conditions. Across the remainder of southern Europe, below-normal rainfall reduced moisture supplies for dormant and semi-dormant winter grains from Italy eastward. Farther north, near- to above-normal rainfall in northern Europe maintained adequate moisture supplies for winter grains and oilseeds. Unseasonably mild weather caused winter grains to break dormancy in northwestern Europe, and provided favorable overwintering conditions for crops in northeastern Europe.

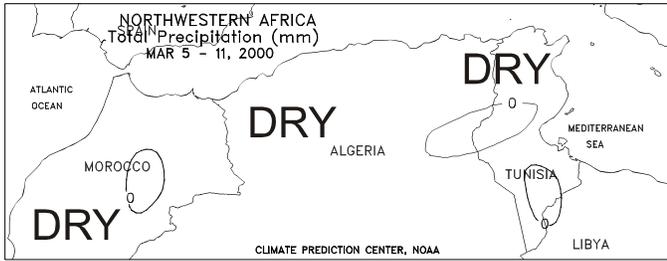




SOUTH AFRICA

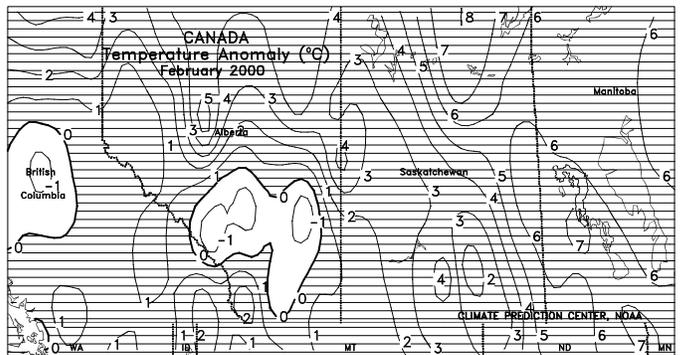
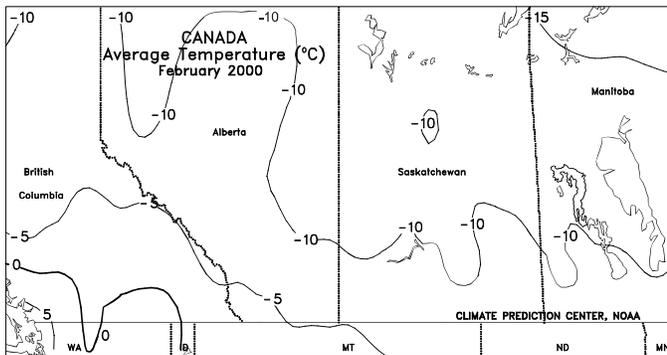
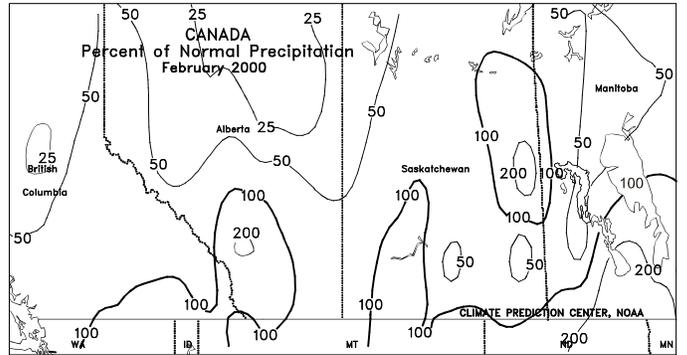
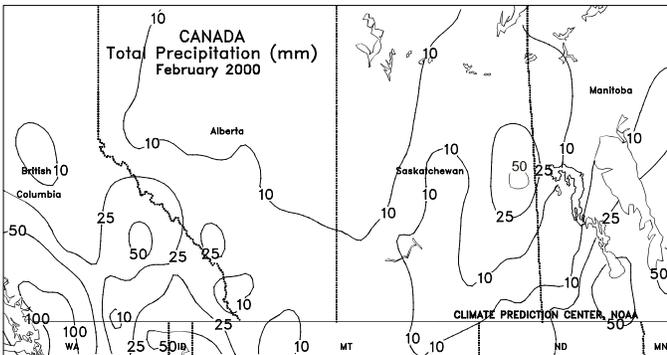
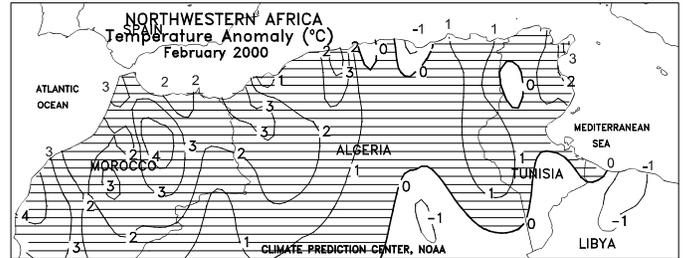
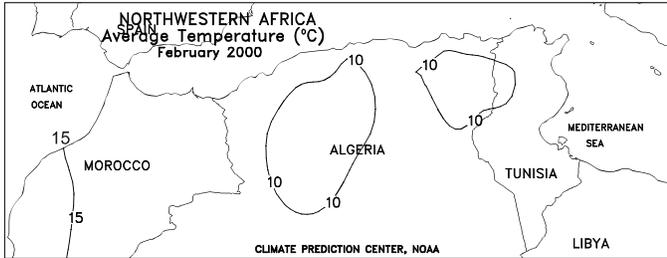
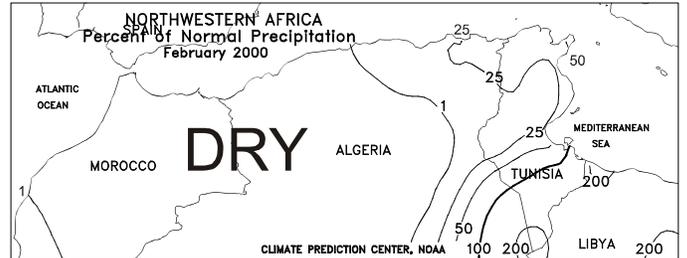
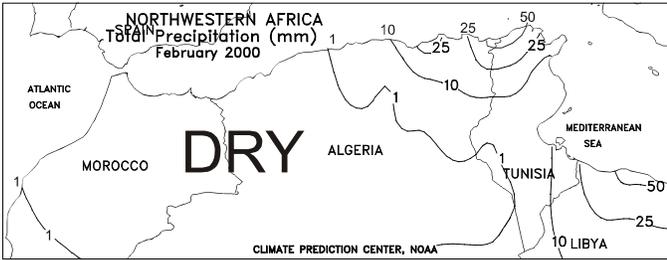
Mostly dry, seasonably warm weather dominated the corn belt, aiding maturing summer crops. The highs ranged from the upper 20's degrees C in the east to the lower 30's in western sections of the corn belt. Scattered showers (10-50 mm, locally exceeding 100 mm) maintained generally favorable irrigation reserves for sugarcane in KwaZulu-Natal and neighboring crop areas of Eastern Cape. Dry, seasonably warm weather dominated crop areas in Western Cape. During February, mild, showery weather aided reproductive corn and other summer crops, including sugarcane in coastal areas. However, a few pockets of below-normal rainfall continued in far western sections of the corn belt. Temperatures averaged near to below normal across the corn belt, reducing crop moisture demands and lowering the potential for stressful heat. The devastating flooding that hit the region in late February and early March stayed well north of the commercial corn areas.

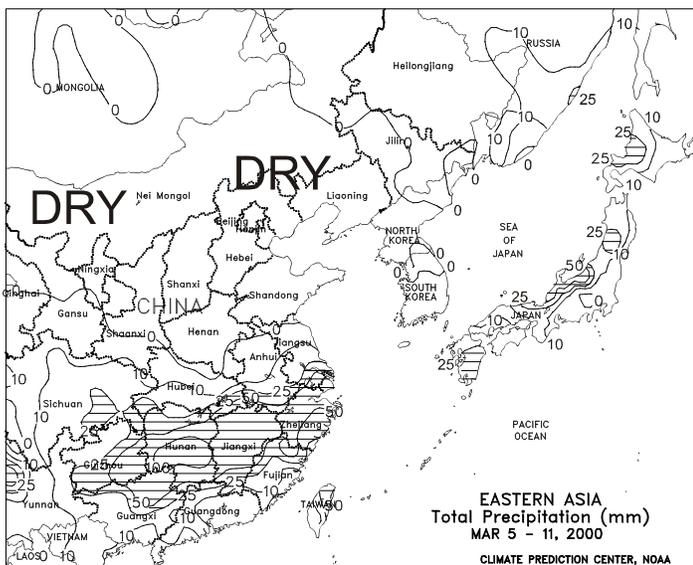




NORTHWESTERN AFRICA

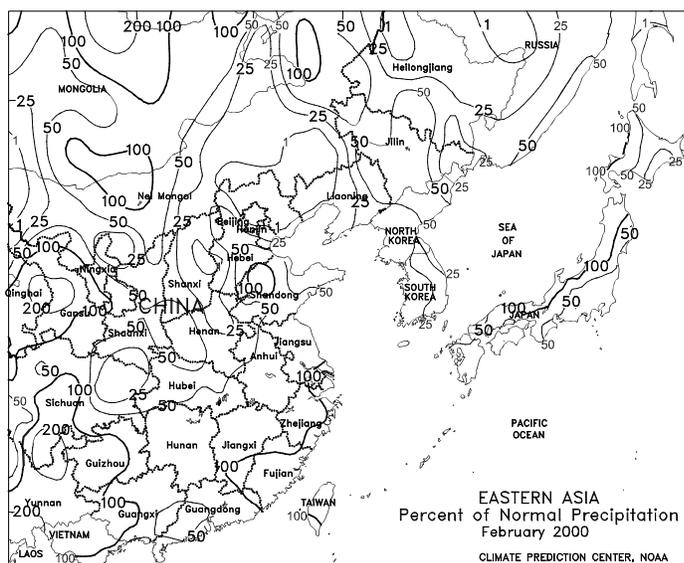
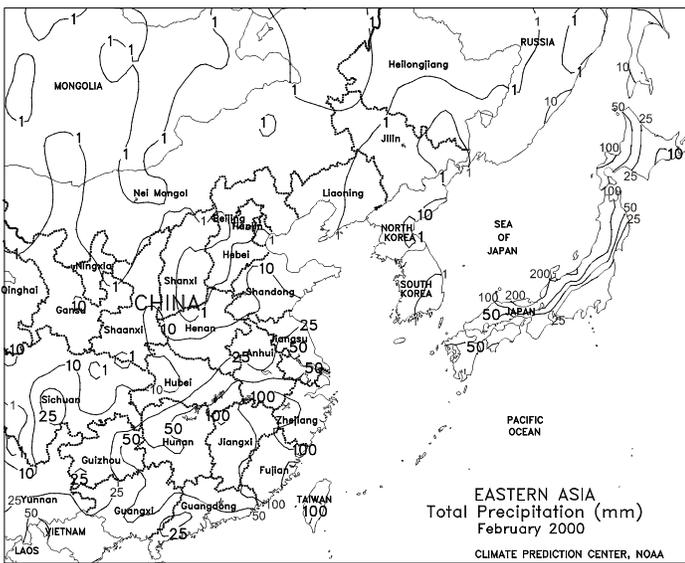
Drought continued to worsen conditions for winter grains throughout Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia. Weekly temperatures averaged 2 to 13 degrees C above normal, exacerbating the dryness and placing increased stress on winter grains in or nearing the highly weather-sensitive reproductive phase. Extreme maximum temperatures for the week ranged from 30 to 35 degrees C in Morocco. Rain is needed soon to stabilize crop conditions and prevent further declines in yield prospects.

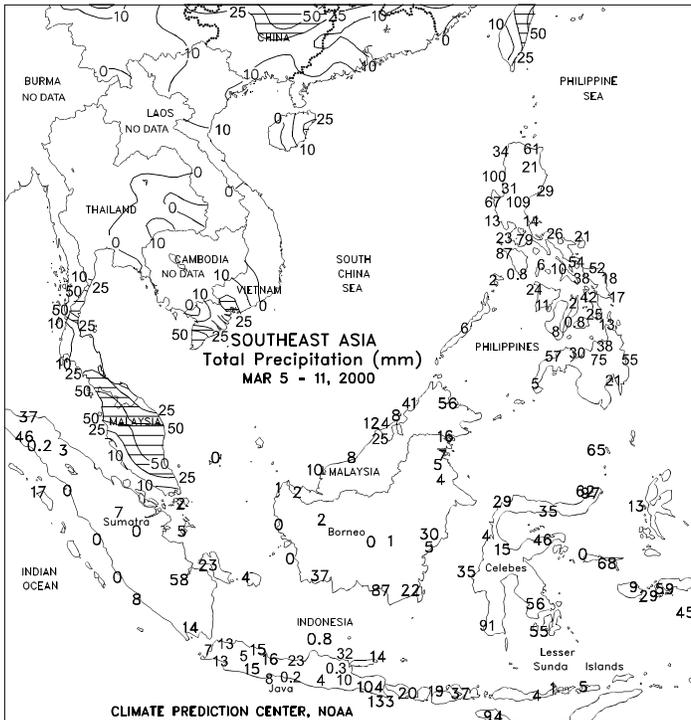
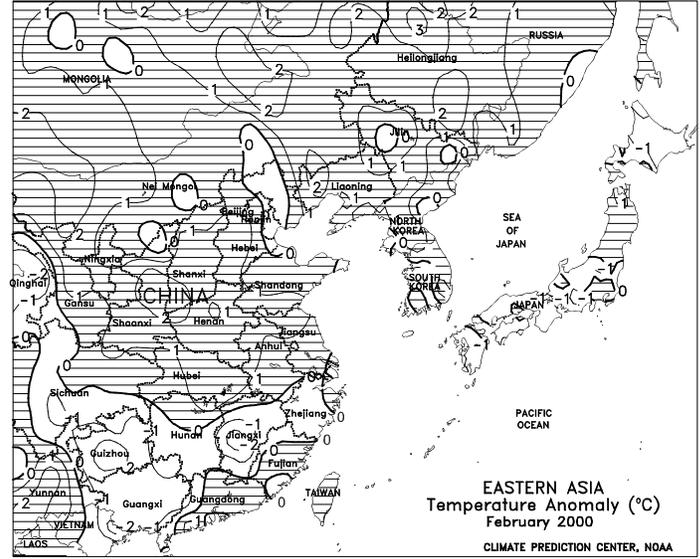
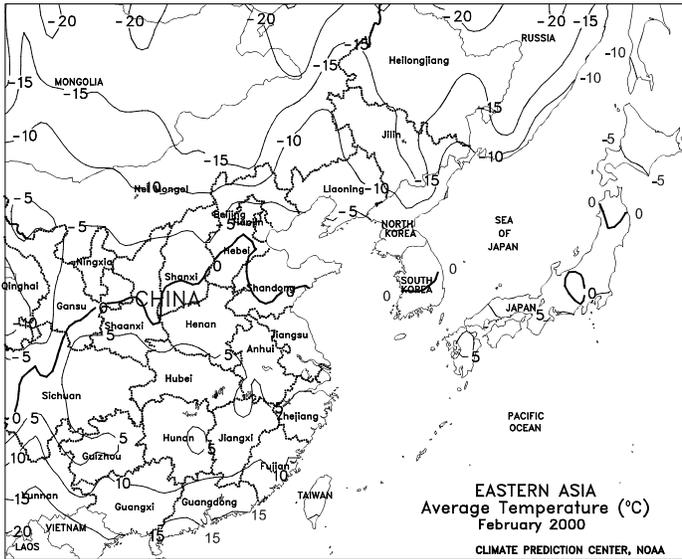




EASTERN ASIA

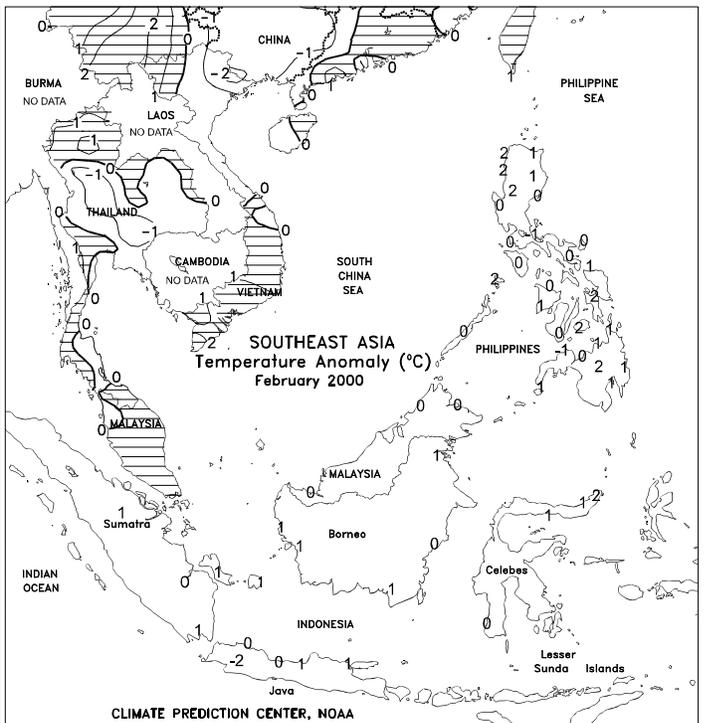
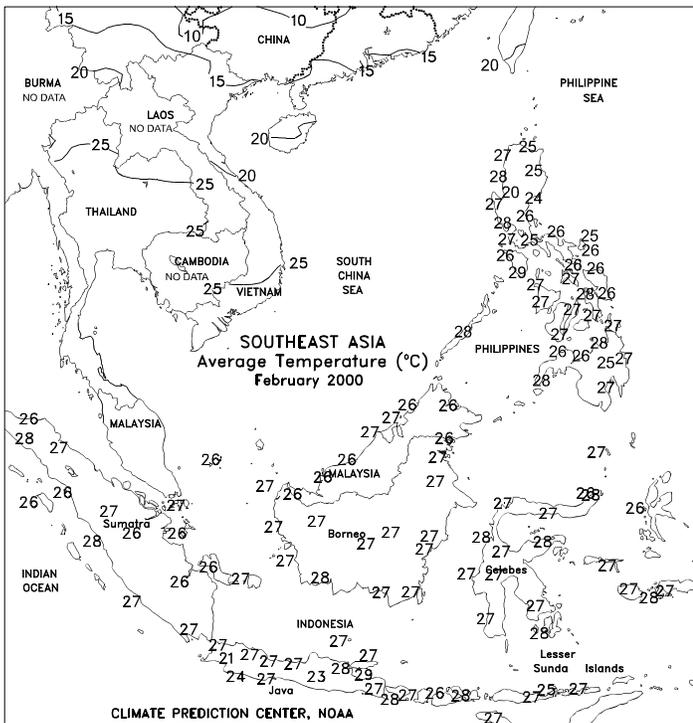
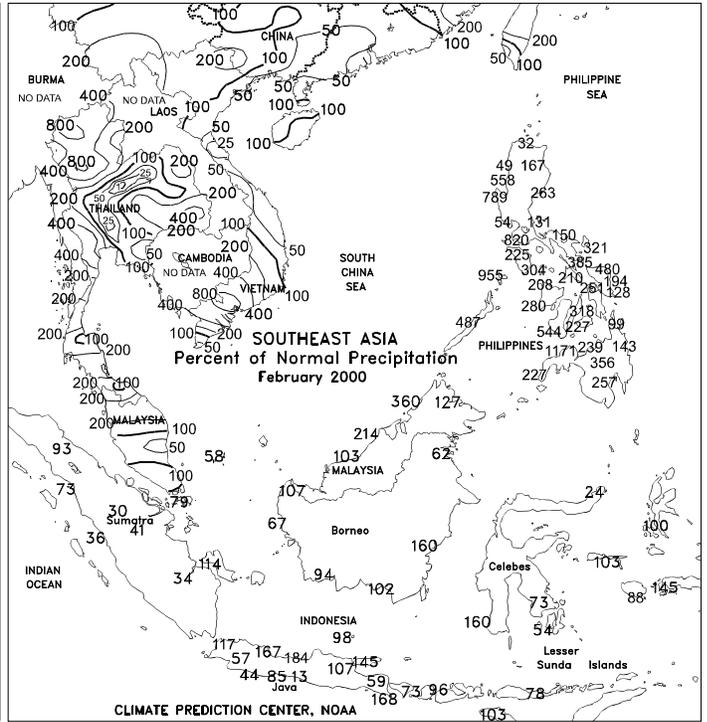
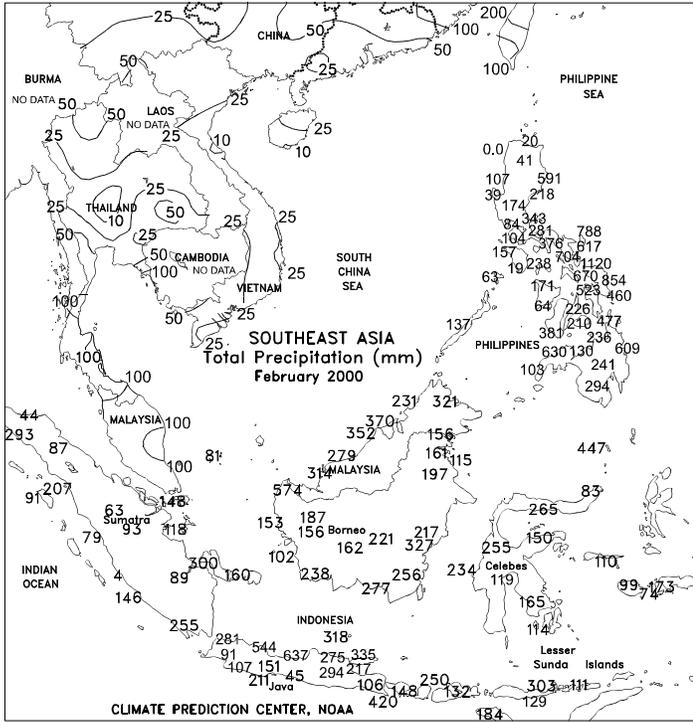
In the North China Plain, warmer weather caused winter wheat to begin breaking dormancy. Temperatures averaged 2 to 4 degrees C above normal across the region. Supplemental irrigation will be needed for the wheat crop since seasonably dry weather continued across the region. Across southern China, widespread showers (25-80 mm or more) continued to boost moisture supplies for early rice transplanting. The heaviest showers (100-114 mm) fell in southern Hunan. Lighter rain (less than 20 mm) fell across Guangdong, Fujian, and southern Guangxi. Temperatures averaged near to slightly above normal across southern China. During February, winter wheat in the North China Plain remained dormant throughout the month. Below-normal February rainfall reduced moisture supplies for winter rapeseed and wheat across the Yangtze Valley. Across southeastern China, near-normal rainfall increased moisture supplies for sugarcane development and upcoming early rice transplanting.





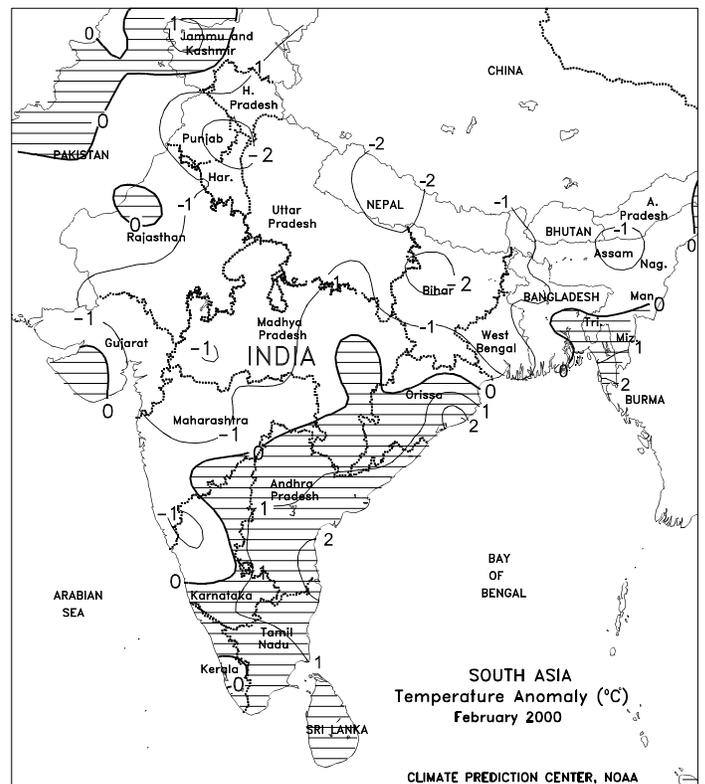
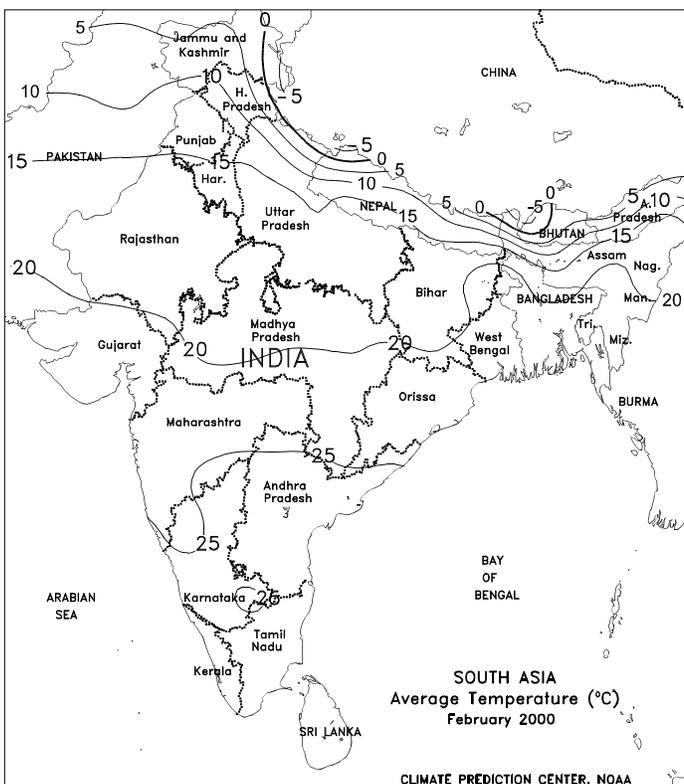
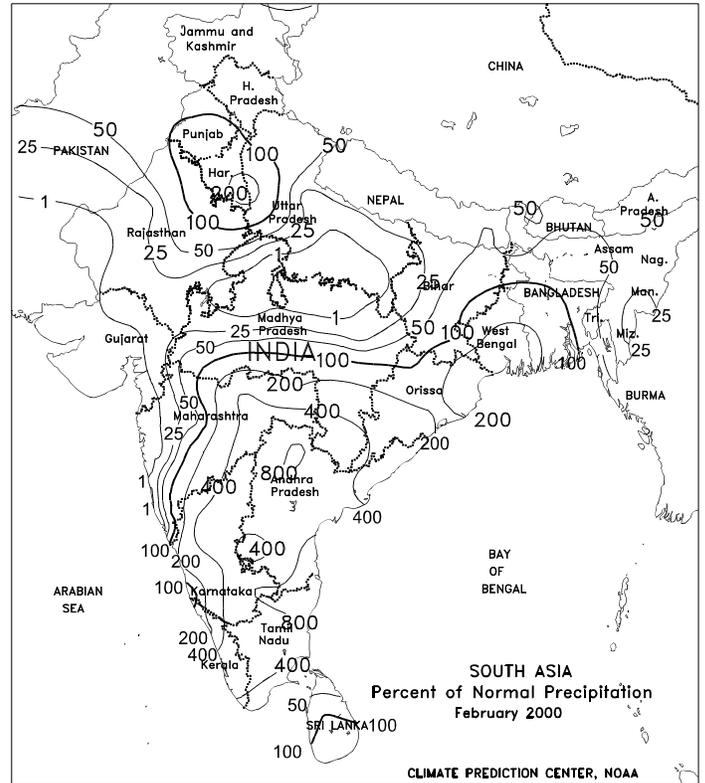
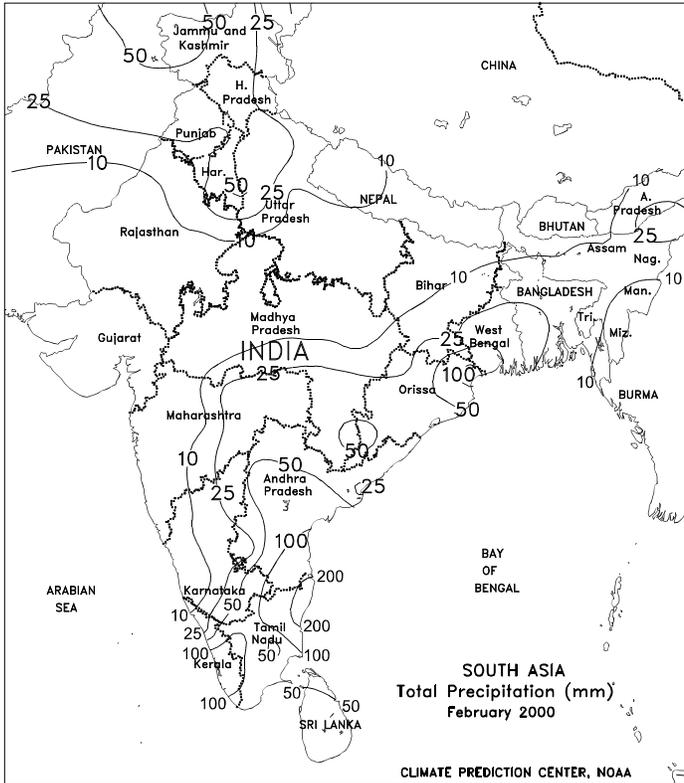
SOUTHEAST ASIA

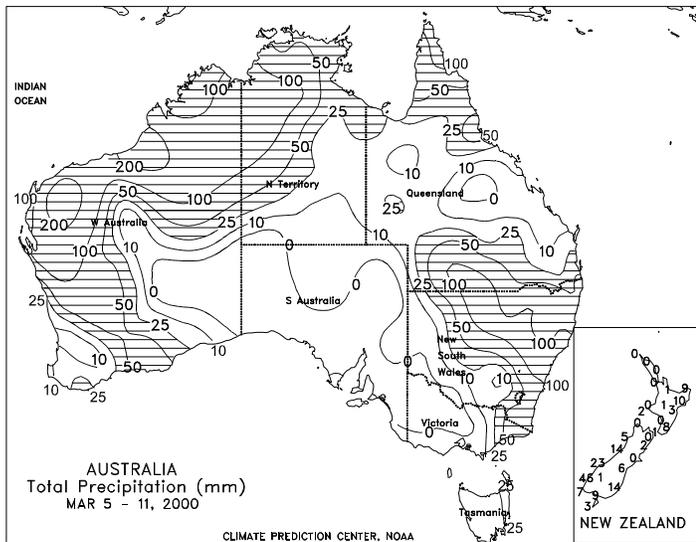
Across most of Java, Indonesia, light showers (5-25 mm) and drier, sunnier weather aided filling to maturing main-season rice. Adequate moisture supplies still exist, despite recent below-normal rainfall. Heavier showers (75-130 mm) fell across extreme eastern Java. Moderate showers (20-75 mm) favored oil palm across peninsular Malaysia. Drier weather (10-60 mm) prevailed across the east-central Philippines, easing wetness. Dry, sunny weather aided second-crop rice development across Thailand, while showers increased moisture supplies for winter rice in southern Vietnam. Below-normal February rainfall reduced moisture supplies for main-season rice in Java, Indonesia and oil palm in Sumatra. Near- to above-normal rainfall aided oil palm throughout most of peninsular Malaysia. Scattered showers favored winter rice in Thailand and Vietnam. Widespread above-normal rainfall boosted moisture supplies for second-season crops in the Philippines, but likely caused some flooding, especially in the east-central islands.



SOUTH ASIA

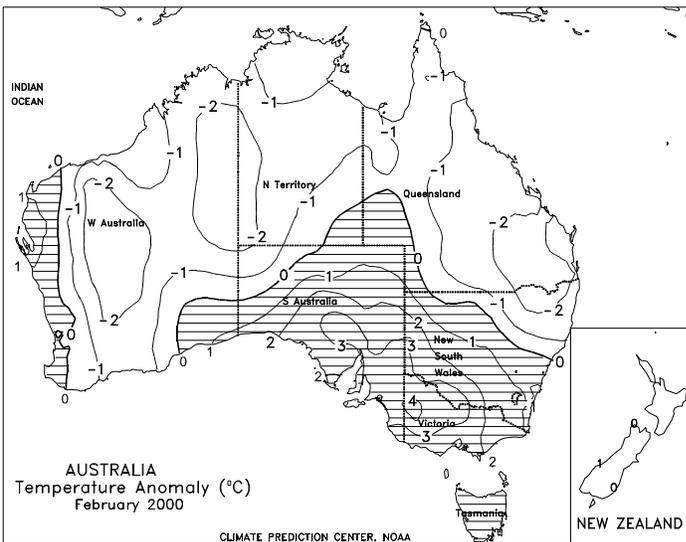
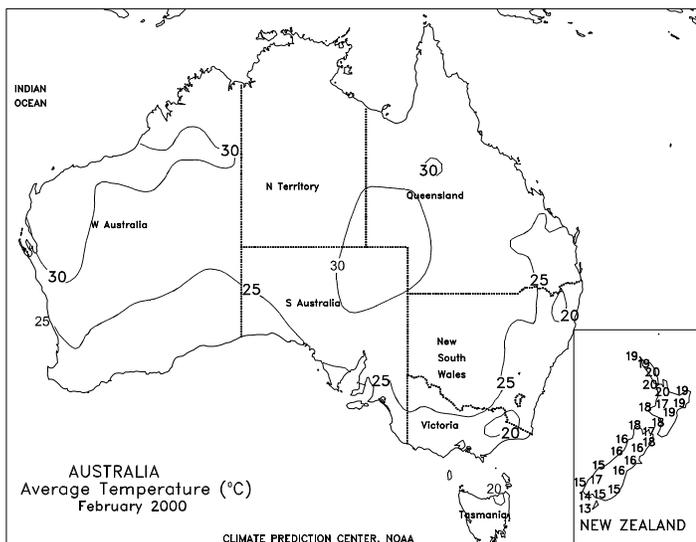
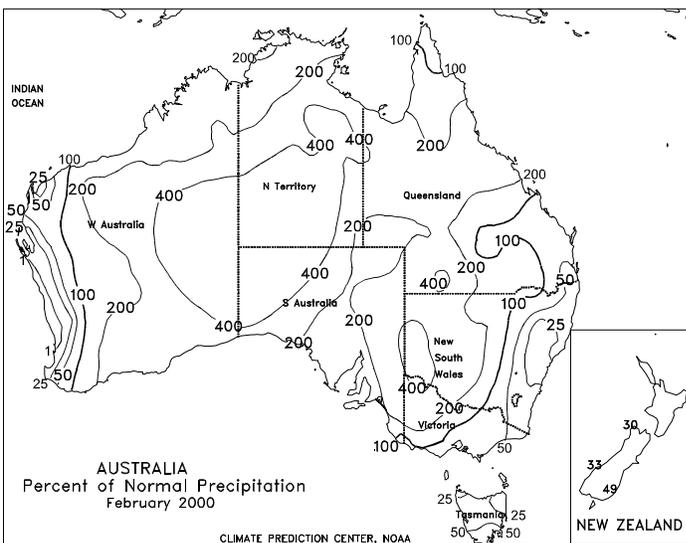
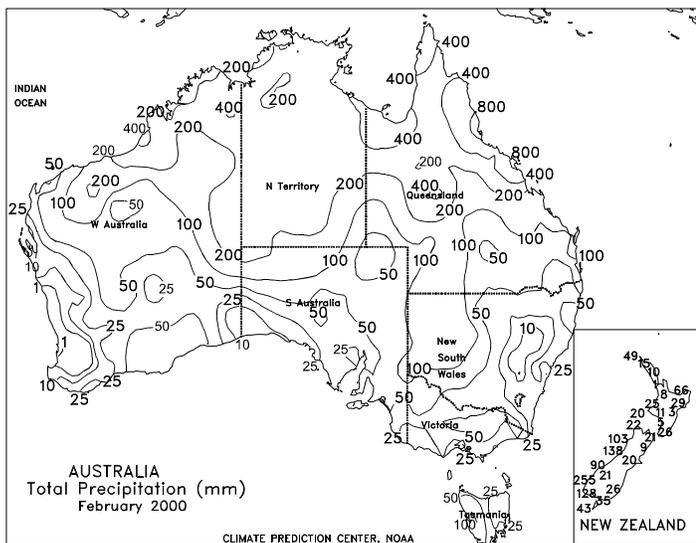
In February, unseasonably heavy rain increased irrigation reserves for rice in southern and eastern India and Bangladesh. Local cotton harvests were reportedly disrupted in the south. Showers also benefited winter wheat and oilseeds in north-central India, but rainfall was below normal elsewhere.





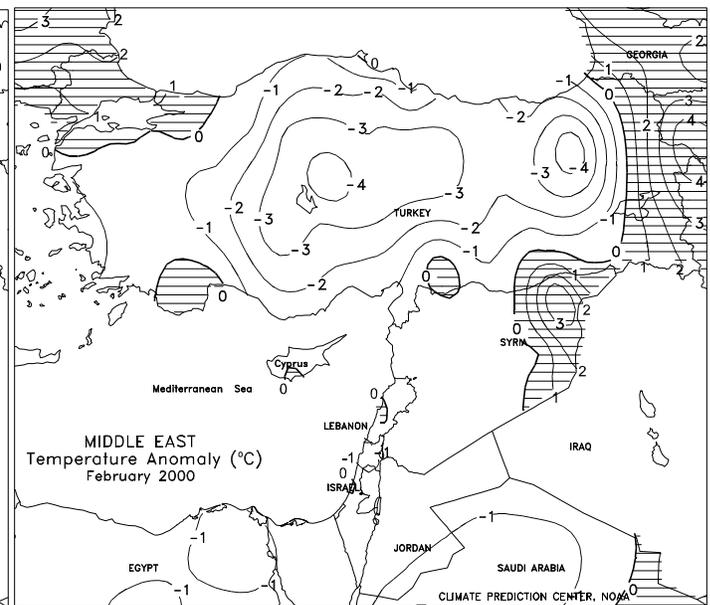
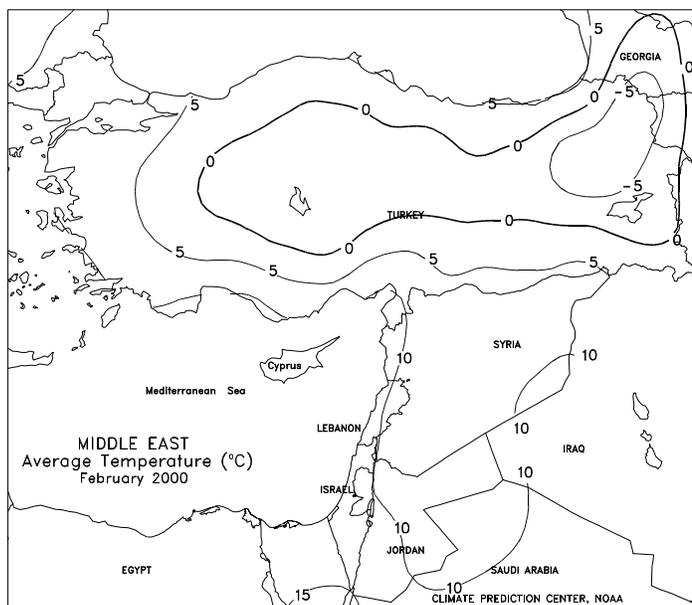
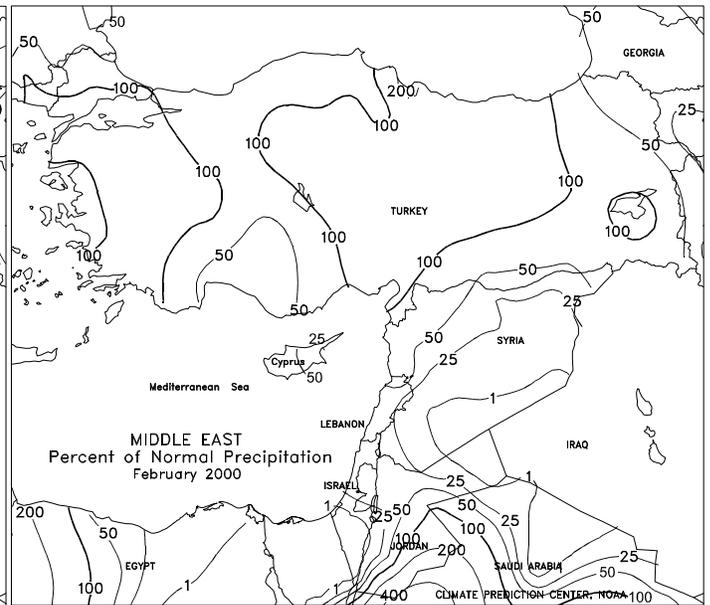
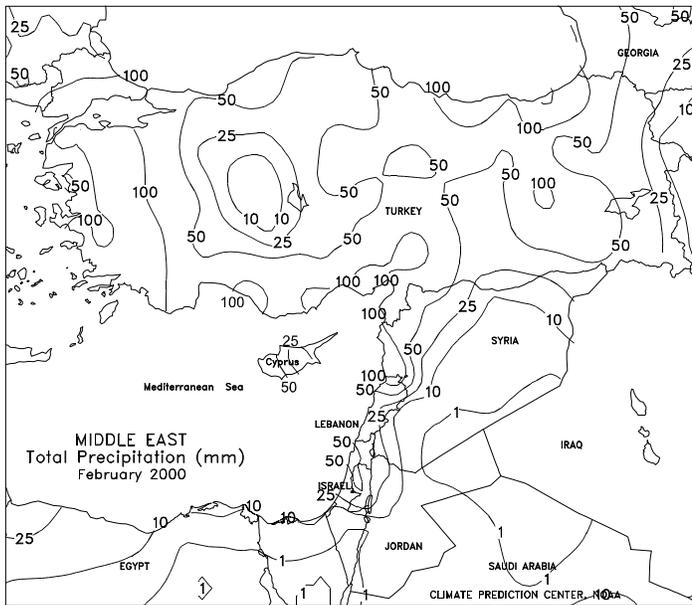
AUSTRALIA

Widespread, locally heavy showers (25-100 mm or more) covered a broad section of northern and eastern New South Wales and adjacent sections of southern Queensland. The rainfall disrupted summer crop harvesting and was overall unfavorable for maturing cotton and sorghum. Heavy rain (50-100 mm or more) extended along the coast of New South Wales, including its sugarcane areas, but Queensland's coastal crop areas were mostly dry. Temperatures throughout the east averaged near to below normal, although early-week highs in the middle 30's degrees C in east-central summer crop areas favored maturation ahead of the rains. In the southeast, dry weather continued but temperatures returned to more seasonable levels. Unseasonable rain (10-50 mm or more) continued over Western Australia's northern and eastern winter grain areas. In New Zealand, dry, seasonably warm weather dominated the islands. During February, near-to above-normal rainfall soaked Queensland's maturing cotton and sorghum, with most rain coming at mid-month. Favorably drier weather covered summer crop areas of New South Wales. Along the coast, heavy rain and local flooding hit Queensland's northern sugarcane areas, but rainfall was near to below normal elsewhere. Temperatures continued to average below normal in cotton and sorghum areas of Queensland and northern New South Wales, slowing summer crop development. In the southeast, periodic heat helped to deplete soil moisture reserves, but heavy showers improved the local drought situation in late-February.



MIDDLE EAST AND TURKEY

In February, near-normal precipitation benefited most Turkish winter grain areas. Temperatures averaged 1 to 4 degrees C below normal over the Anatolian Plateau but were not low enough to harm dormant winter wheat. Farther south, rainfall was near to below normal along the eastern Mediterranean Coast, but locally heavy rain (100-200 mm) occurred in western Syria. Elsewhere, drier-than-normal conditions persisted from eastern Syria through Iran, although scattered showers (10-25 mm or more) brought some relief to winter grains in western Iran. Heavier showers (25-50 mm or more) fell along the southern coast of the Caspian Sea. Winter grains are usually in or nearing reproduction in the traditionally warmer areas of Syria and dormant to vegetative elsewhere, although recent below-normal temperatures likely delayed crop development over much of the region.



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.

Annual subscriptions: domestic first class \$45, foreign \$55 (in U.S. funds by international money order or check drawn on U.S. bank) payable to U.S. Department of Commerce, NOAA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: **Climate Prediction Center, W/NP52, Attn: *Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin*, Room 605, WWBG, 5200 Auth Road, Camp Springs, MD 20746-4304.** Order subscriptions from the office and address listed above. First-class postage paid at Washington, DC, and other mailing offices. Correspondence to the meteorologists should be directed to: **Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin, NOAA/USDA, Joint Agricultural Weather Facility, USDA South Building, Room 5844, Washington, DC 20250.** Internet URL: <http://www.usda.gov/oce/waob/jawf>; E-mail address: wwcb@jawsrv.wwb.noaa.gov

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service/Climate Prediction Center

Managing Editor **David Miskus** (202) 720-7919
Meteorologists **Eric Luebehusen, Brad Pugh,**
. and **Chester Schmitt**
Subscriptions . . . **John Kopman** (301) 763-8000 ext 7534
. fax: (301) 763-8125

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Economic Research Service

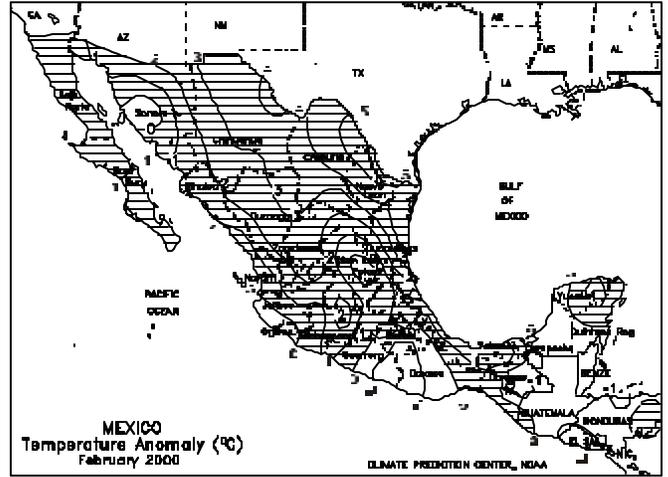
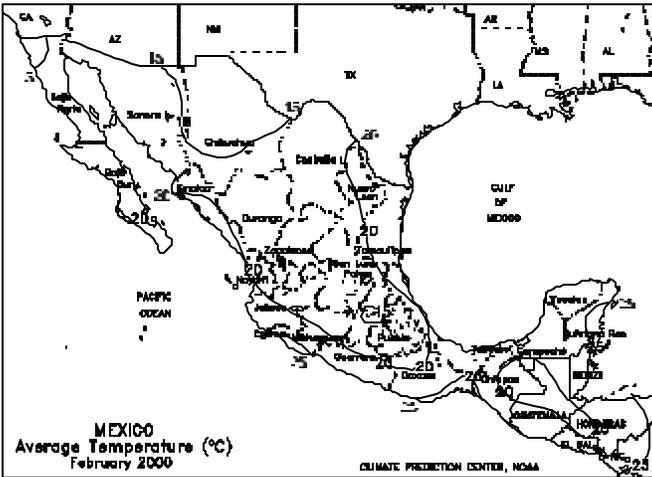
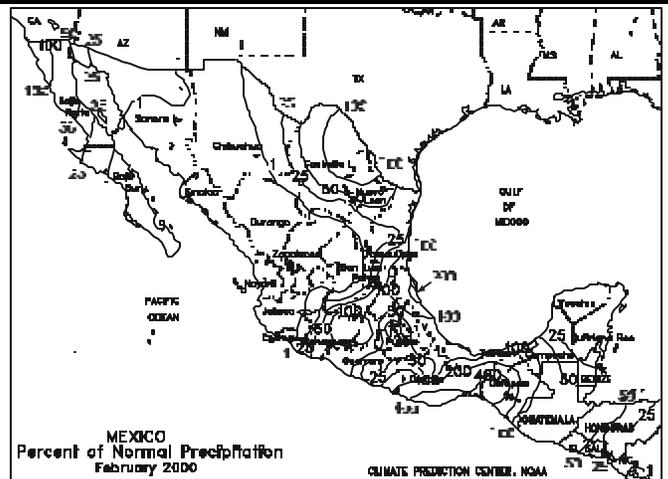
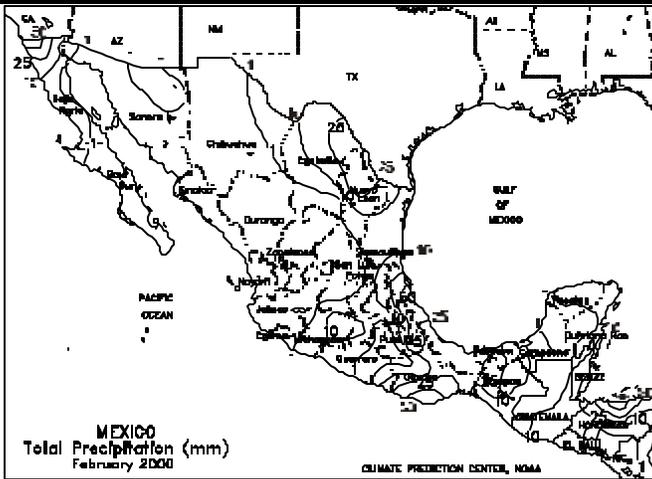
E.R.S. Editor **Sharon Lee**

National Agricultural Statistics Service

Agricultural Statistician **Mark Miller** (202) 720-7621
State Summaries Editor **Delores Thomas** (202) 720-8033

World Agricultural Outlook Board

International Editor **Tom Puterbaugh**
U.S. Editor **Brad Rippey** (202) 720-2397
Agricultural Weather Analysts **Mark Brusberg**
. **Bob Stefanski, Brian Morris, and Harlan Shannon**
Stoneville **Michael Toth and Elizabeth Lord**



Climate Prediction Center, W/NP52
Attn: *Weekly Weather & Crop Bulletin*
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC
5200 Auth Road
WWB, Room 605
Camp Springs, MD 20746-4304

**WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN
FIRST CLASS**

FIRST CLASS MAIL
POSTAGE & FEES PAID
NOAA
PERMIT NO. G-19

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300