

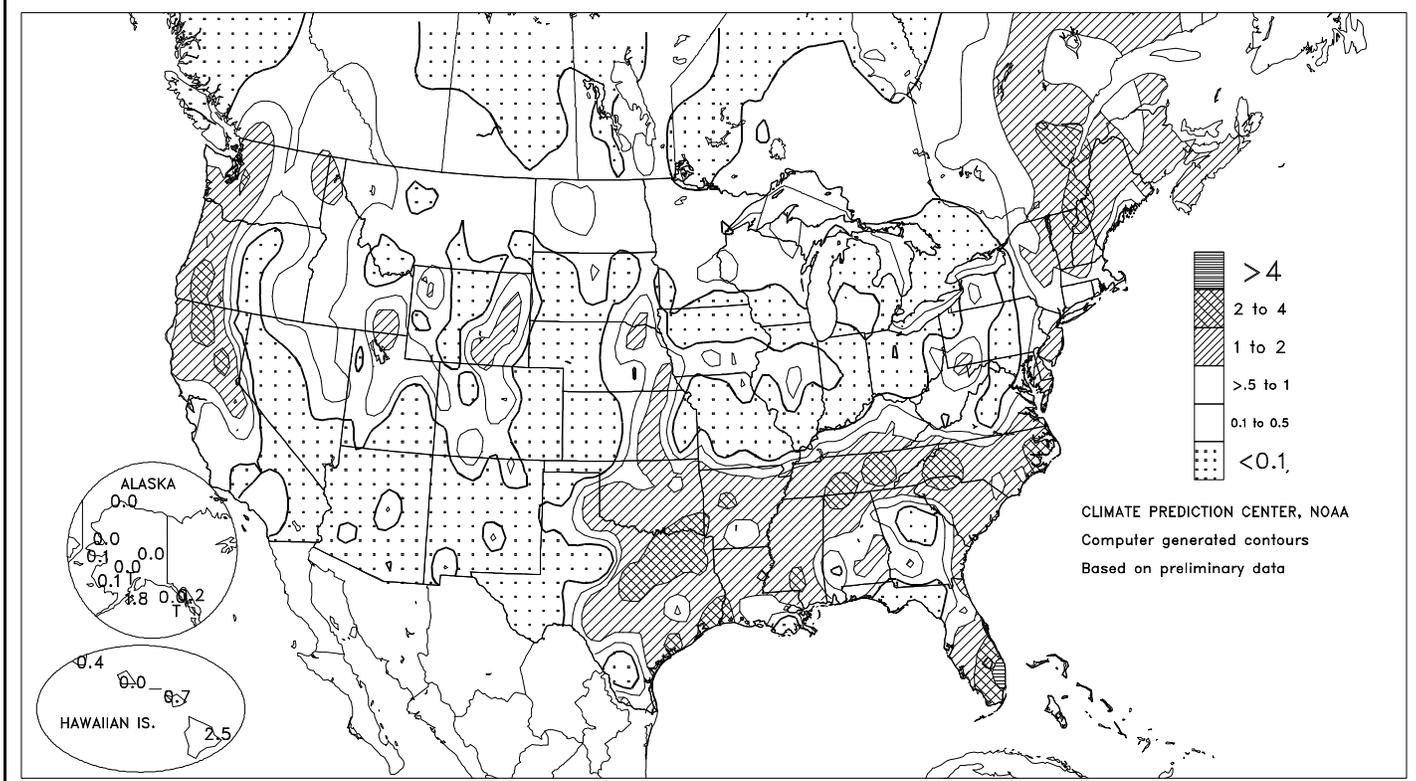
# WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

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

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

Total Precipitation (Inches)

APR 9 - 15, 2000



## HIGHLIGHTS

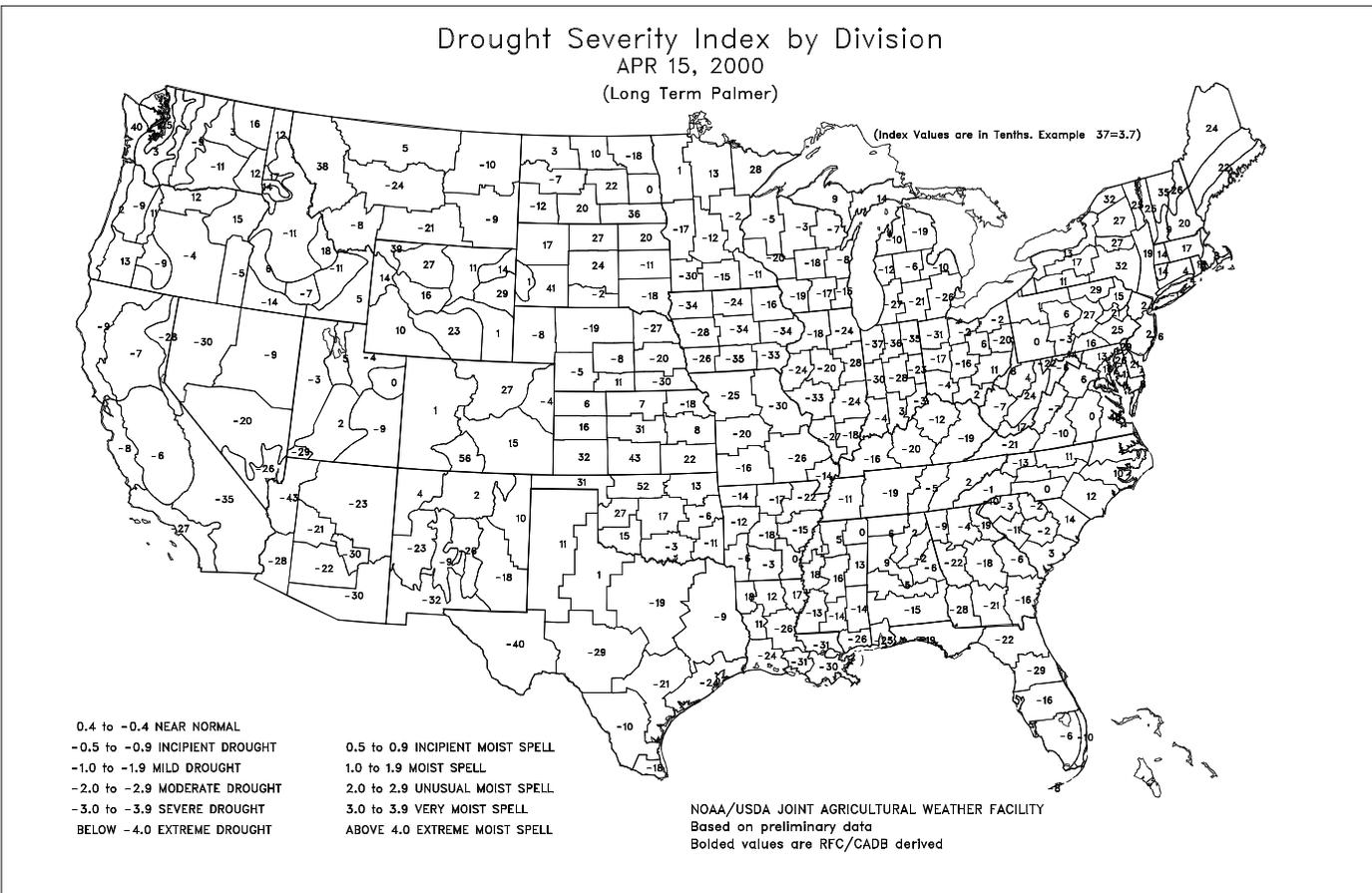
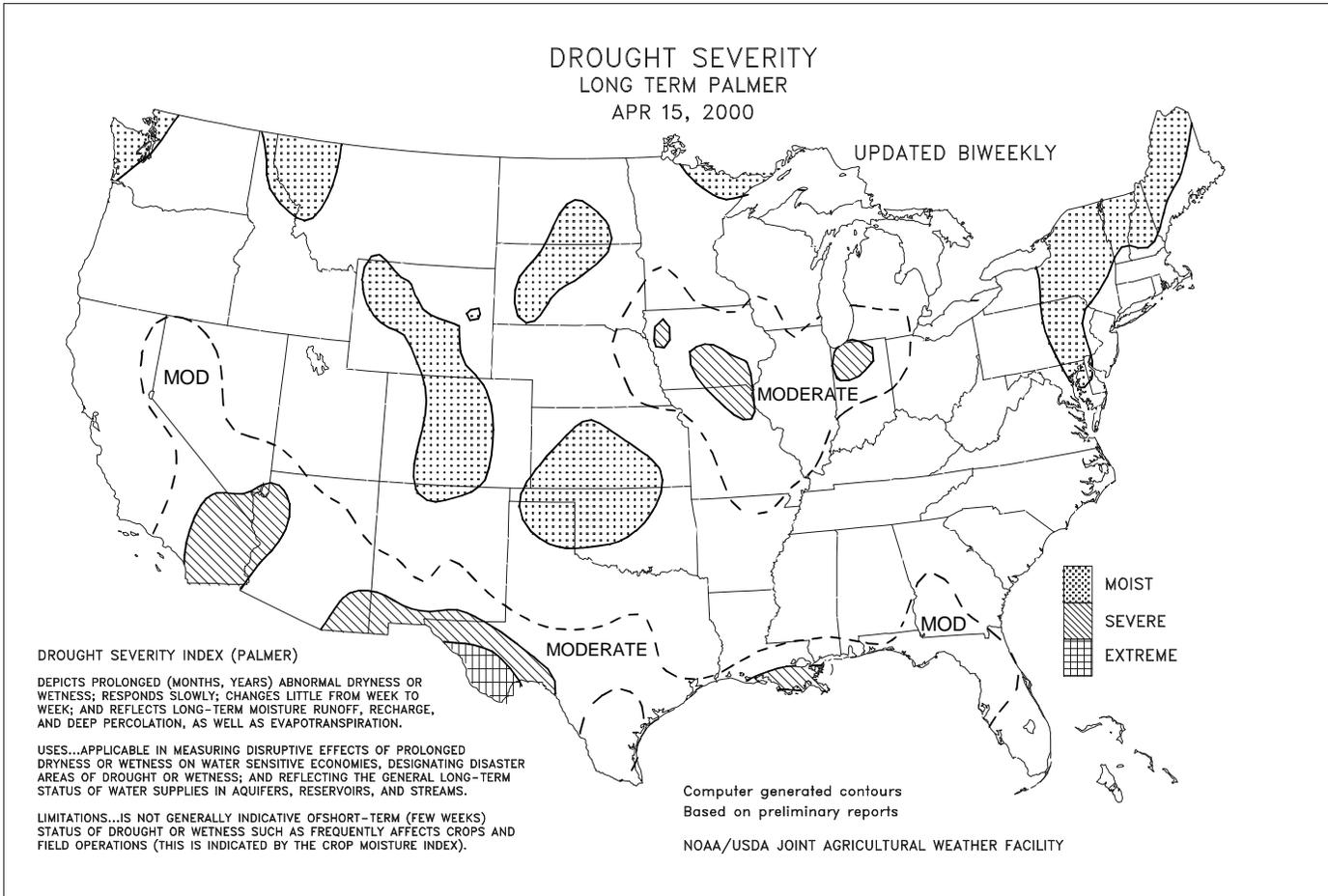
April 9 - 15, 2000

Significant rain fell across large parts of the **South** for the sixth consecutive week, further easing long-term drought and benefiting recently planted summer crops, including corn, cotton, sorghum, and rice. Some fields in the **lower Mississippi Valley** and adjacent areas remained too wet for fieldwork, but unfavorable dryness persisted in portions of **western and southern Texas**, the **central Gulf Coast region**, and the **lower Southeast** (including **northern Florida** and **southern Georgia**). Across **central and southern Florida**, widespread showers eased the wildfire threat and reduced irrigation requirements. Farther north, scattered precipitation overspread the **western Corn Belt** at week's end, boosting topsoil moisture but failing to dent long-term drought. Drought also remained a concern elsewhere in the **Corn Belt**, despite recent improvements in topsoil moisture. Meanwhile, generally beneficial rain returned to **northern and central California**, following

(Continued on page 13)

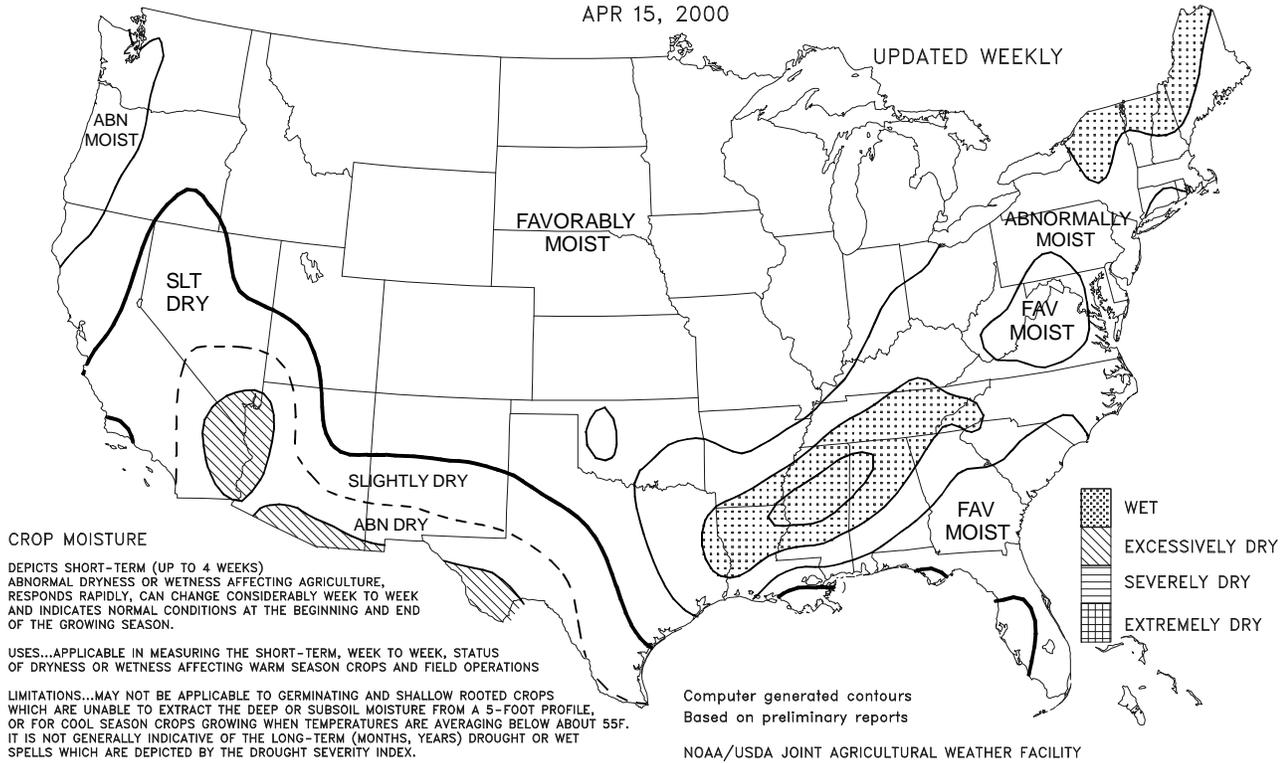
## Contents

Palmer Drought Maps .....	2
Crop Moisture Maps .....	3
April 11 Drought Monitor Map .....	4
Extreme Maximum & Minimum Temperature Maps .....	5
Temperature Departure & Soil Temperature Maps .....	6
Weather Data for the Delta & Pan Evaporation Map .....	7
National Weather Data for Selected Cities .....	8
National Agricultural Summary .....	11
Crop Progress and Condition Tables .....	12
State Agricultural Summaries .....	14
International Weather and Crop Summary & March Temperature/Precipitation Maps .....	20
April 13 La Niña Update .....	35
Subscription Information & May and May-July Outlooks .....	36

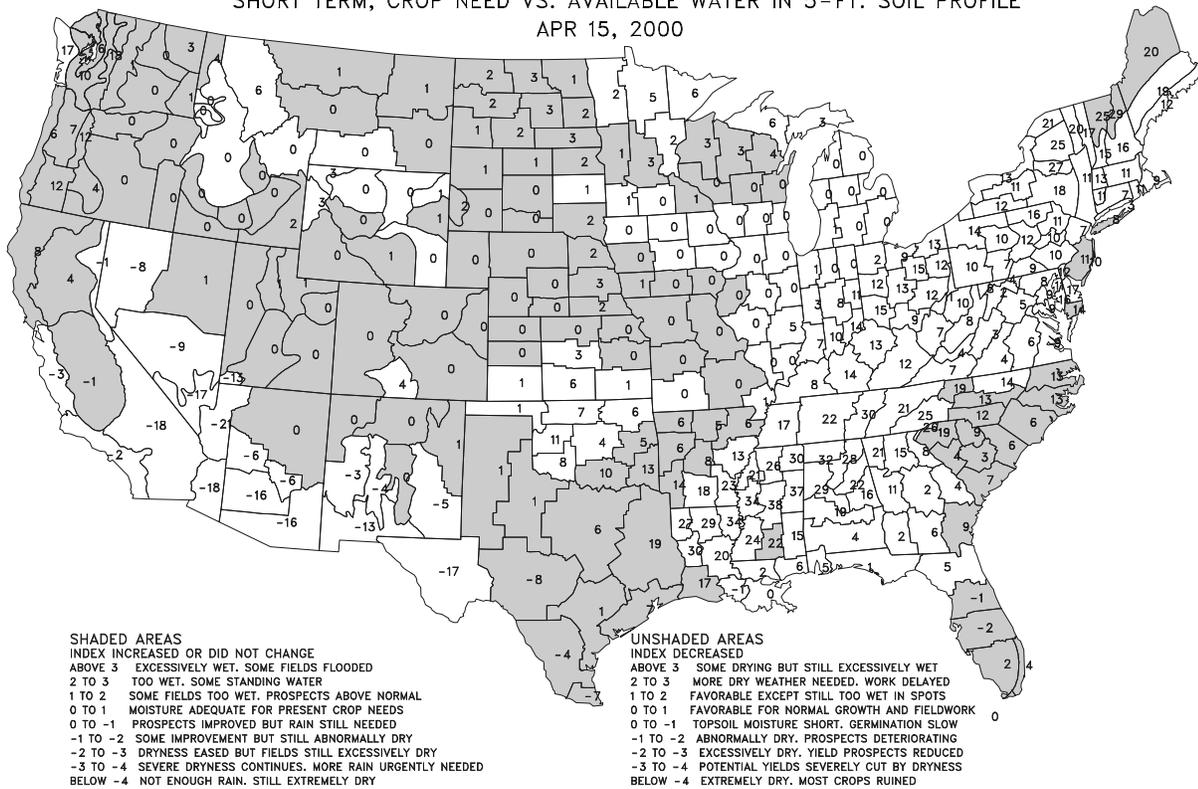


Crop Moisture  
SHORT TERM, CROP NEED VS. AVAILABLE WATER IN 5-F.T. SOIL PROFILE  
APR 15, 2000

UPDATED WEEKLY

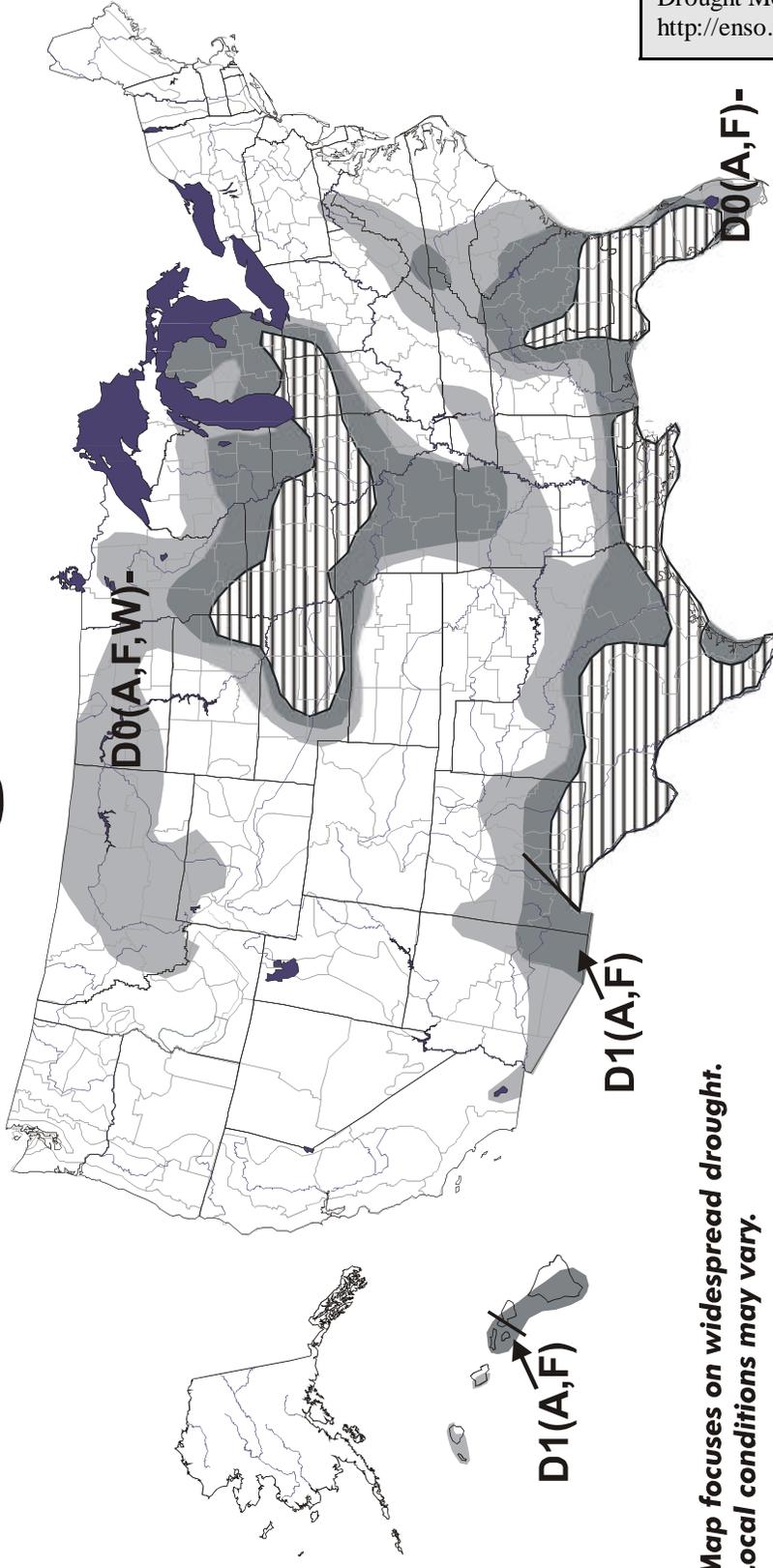


Crop Moisture Index  
SHORT TERM, CROP NEED VS. AVAILABLE WATER IN 5-F.T. SOIL PROFILE  
APR 15, 2000



April 11, 2000 Valid 7 a.m. EST

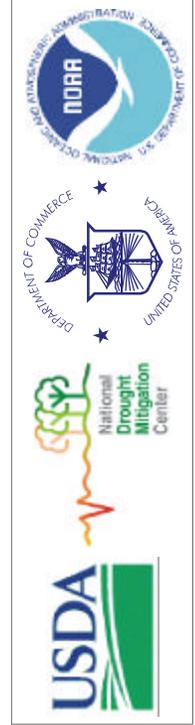
# U.S. Drought Monitor



Drought Monitor Site:  
<http://enso.unl.edu/monitor/monitor.html>

**Map focuses on widespread drought. Local conditions may vary.**

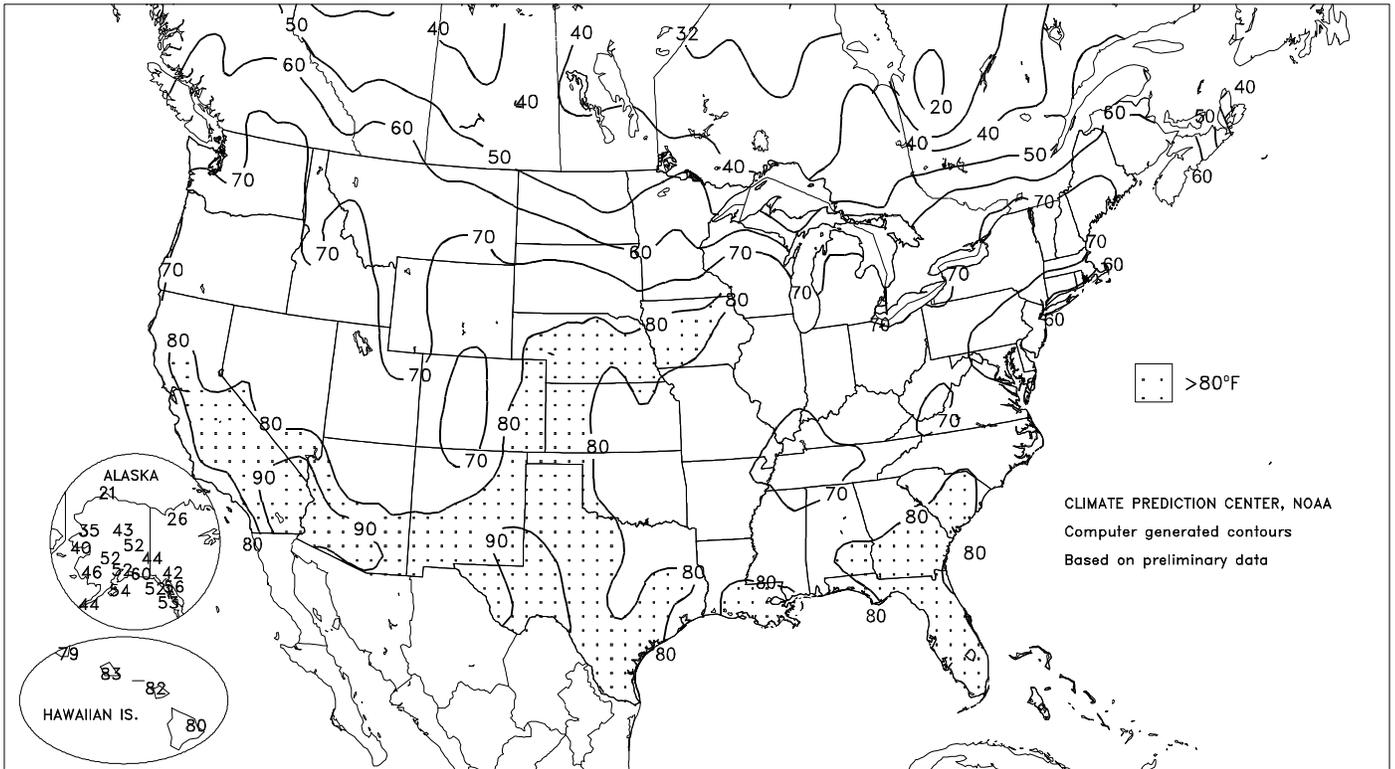
- D0 Abnormally Dry
  - D1 Drought—First Stage
  - D2 Drought—Severe
  - D3 Drought—Extreme
  - D4 Drought—Exceptional
  - ⊞ Delineates Overlapping Areas
- Drought type: used only when impacts differ
- A = Agriculture  
 W = Water  
 F = Wildfire danger



- Released Thursday, April 13, 2000
- Plus (+) = Forecast to intensify next two weeks
- Minus (-) = Forecast to diminish next two weeks
- No sign = No change in drought classification forecast

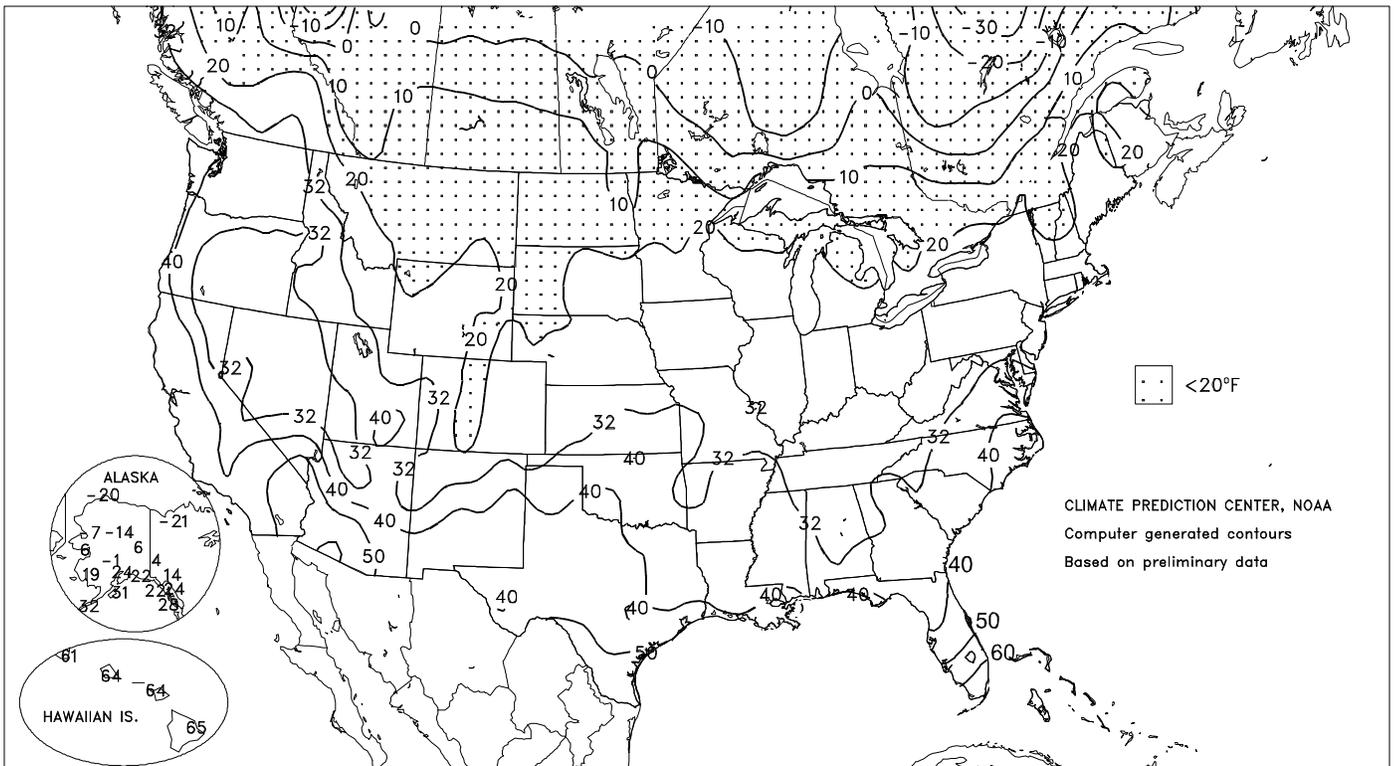
Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F)

APR 9 - 15, 2000



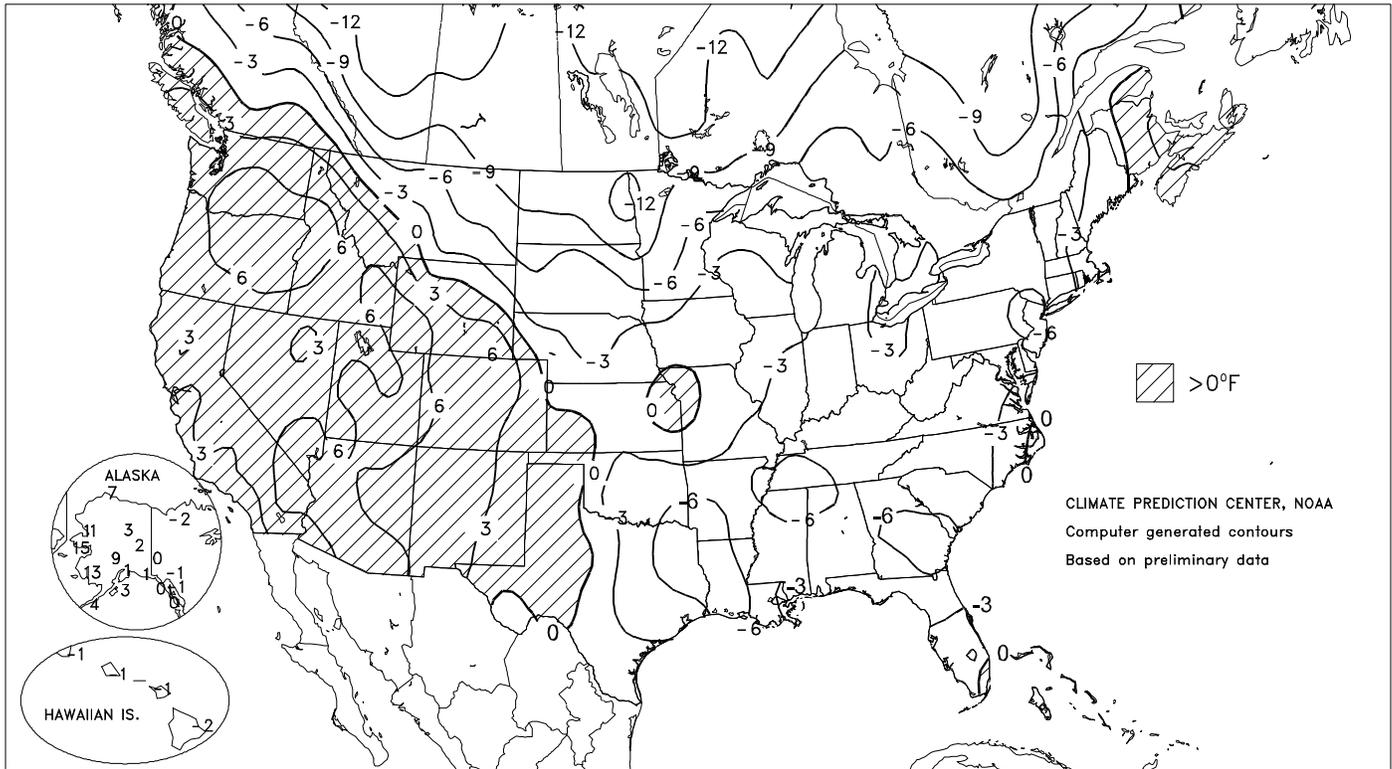
Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)

APR 9 - 15, 2000



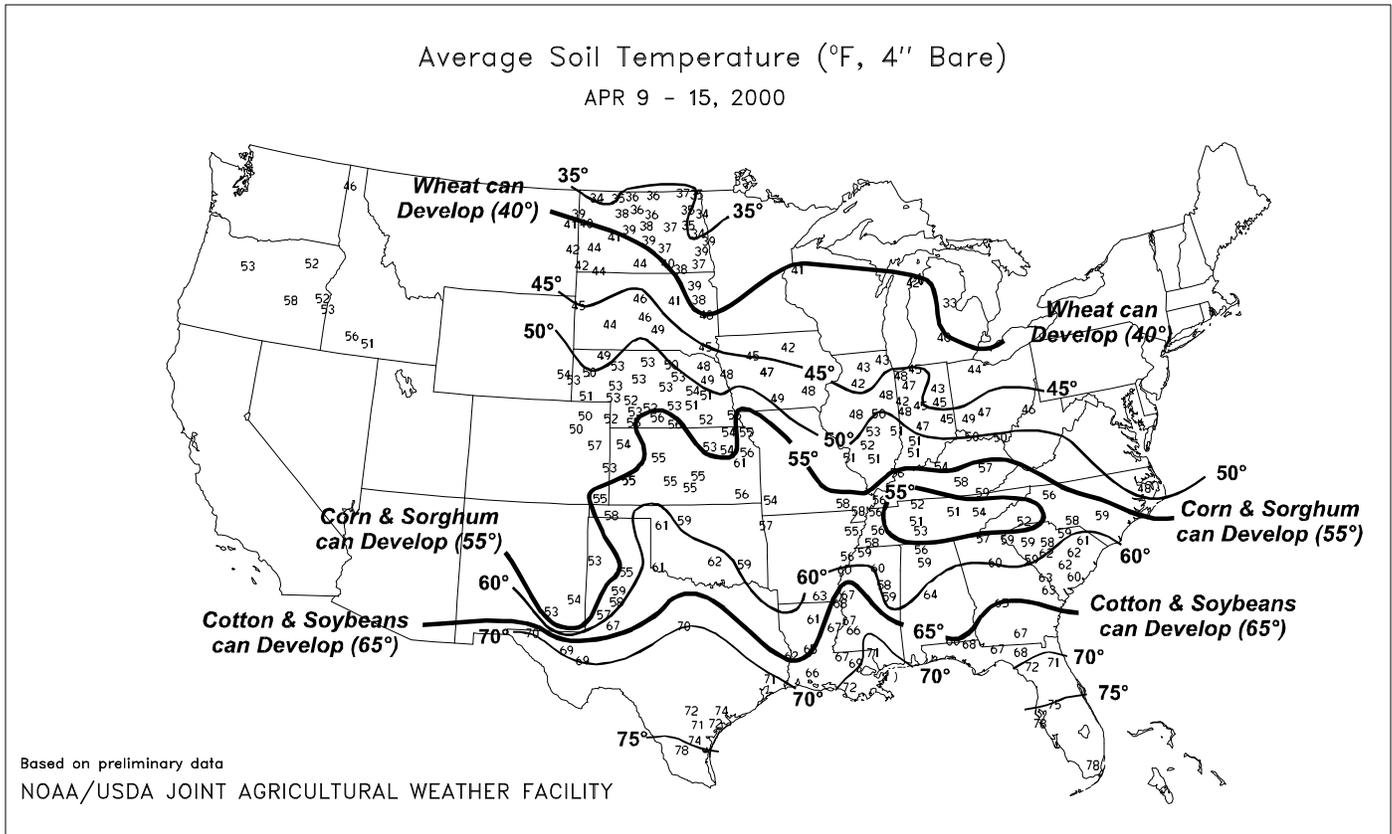
Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F)

APR 9 - 15, 2000



Average Soil Temperature (°F, 4" Bare)

APR 9 - 15, 2000



## Weather Data for Selected Locations in the Delta

### Weather Data for the Week Ending April 15, 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 *	64	49	70	37	57	-3	0.32	-0.90	0.32	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	1	0
BELZONI *	67	47	72	40	57	-6	0.90	-0.43	0.87	15.95	187	-	-	-	-	0	0	2	1
CLARKSDALE *	64	48	70	37	56	-5	0.31	-0.85	0.31	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	1	0
CLEVELAND *	62	47	76	39	55	-6	0.69	-0.34	0.50	11.41	171	17.12	109	-	-	0	0	4	1
GREENVILLE *	64	48	75	38	56	-8	1.47	0.20	1.08	16.84	249	-	-	-	-	0	0	3	1
GREENWOOD *	67	49	73	34	58	-5	0.58	-0.73	0.46	15.56	233	19.88	140	-	-	0	0	3	0
INDIANOLA 1S	65	51	74	41	58	-	0.79	-	0.69	-	-	-	-	60	56	0	0	3	1
INVERNESS 5E	67	51	74	40	59	-	1.17	-	1.01	16.91	-	21.15	-	-	-	0	0	3	1
LYON	64	49	70	37	57	-	0.77	-	0.34	10.09	-	14.76	-	-	-	0	0	3	0
MOORHEAD *	67	52	75	41	60	-4	1.35	0.07	1.21	18.96	271	21.08	133	-	-	0	0	4	1
ONWARD	67	52	75	38	60	-	0.82	-	0.72	-	-	-	-	66	58	0	0	3	1
ROLLING FORK *	65	48	73	38	57	-5	0.73	-0.41	0.70	10.59	150	13.81	85	-	-	0	0	2	1
SIDON	67	51	73	40	59	-	0.95	-	0.67	14.19	-	18.63	-	-	-	0	0	4	1
TUNICA *	62	48	70	37	55	-6	1.52	0.16	0.77	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	4	1
VICKSBURG *	65	50	76	37	58	-6	0.35	-1.05	0.33	15.64	165	-	-	-	-	0	0	2	0
YAZOO CITY *	67	49	74	35	58	-6	0.82	-0.52	0.77	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	3	1
STONEVILLE *	63	48	75	39	56	-7	1.34	0.10	1.02	18.20	232	23.32	144	66	54	0	0	4	1

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

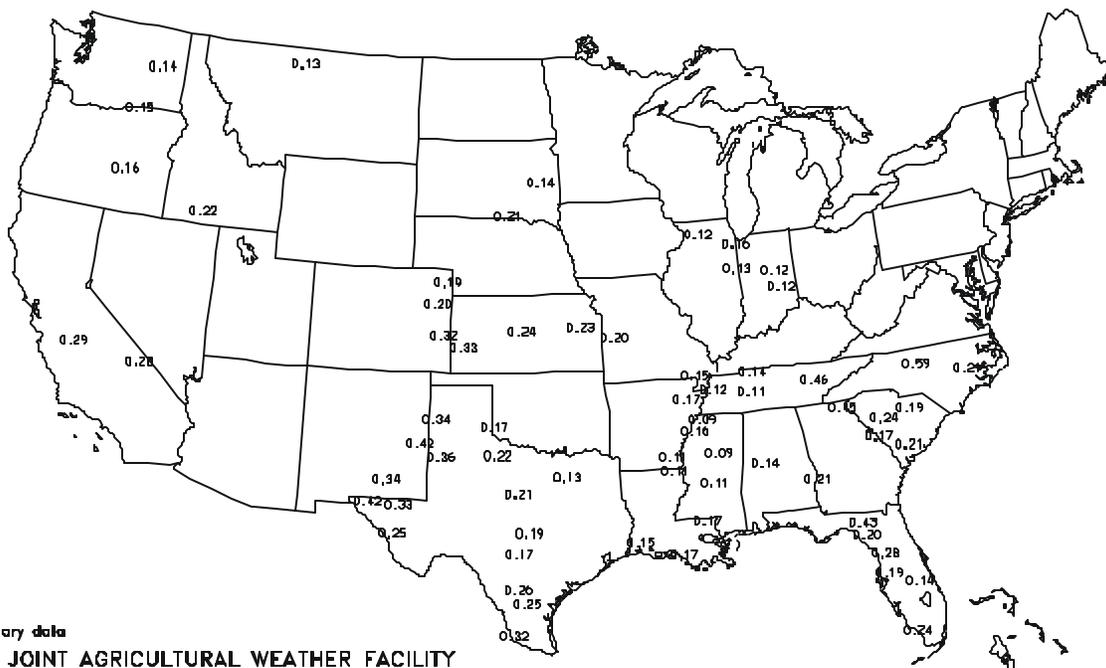
\* Based on 1964-93 normals.

x Based on 1961-90 normals.

**Delta Weather and Crop Summary:** More rain soaked the Mississippi Delta, causing additional fieldwork delays. Most winter wheat was heading and corn was generally 4 to 8 inches tall. Some fertilizers were still being applied to cotton land. When soils dry, farmers will begin to plant soybeans, rice, and cotton in the southern part of the Mississippi Delta.

### Average Pan Evaporation (Inches)

APR 9 - 15, 2000



Based on preliminary data

NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY

National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 15, 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	66	47	72	30	57	-4	1.51	0.35	0.58	19.64	224	27.53	148	94	52	0	1	4	1
	HUNTSVILLE	63	46	70	32	54	-6	1.93	0.78	1.03	15.14	165	21.99	114	94	78	0	1	5	1
	MOBILE	74	51	81	35	63	-4	0.51	-0.51	0.46	8.17	94	12.14	64	94	60	0	0	3	0
	MONTGOMERY	71	47	81	31	59	-5	0.51	-0.55	0.51	5.05	58	10.97	58	93	46	0	1	1	1
AK	ANCHORAGE	45	28	52	24	36	1	0.01	-0.16	0.01	0.89	86	3.01	115	85	64	0	7	1	0
	BARROW	10	-6	21	-20	2	6	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.07	24	0.51	84	86	81	0	7	0	0
	FAIRBANKS	44	19	52	6	31	2	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.02	4	1.99	140	66	48	0	7	0	0
	JUNEAU	48	29	56	24	39	0	0.15	-0.48	0.15	7.25	156	13.63	105	89	62	0	5	1	0
	KODIAK	44	36	54	31	40	3	1.81	0.87	0.90	9.09	137	17.26	89	92	81	0	1	6	2
	NOME	36	26	40	6	31	15	0.07	-0.10	0.05	0.28	31	3.78	166	84	70	0	5	2	0
AZ	FLAGSTAFF	63	29	68	25	46	4	0.05	-0.31	0.05	3.22	94	5.15	68	75	16	0	6	1	0
	PHOENIX	88	63	94	57	75	6	0.00	-0.06	0.00	2.98	287	2.99	125	32	18	3	0	0	0
	TUCSON	86	57	92	52	72	7	0.00	-0.07	0.00	0.93	102	1.22	49	28	15	2	0	0	0
	YUMA	89	64	96	57	77	6	0.00	-0.03	0.00	0.40	143	0.50	59	39	23	5	0	0	0
AR	FORT SMITH	68	47	74	31	57	-4	0.73	-0.16	0.70	3.88	66	6.88	66	88	50	0	1	2	1
	LITTLE ROCK	65	49	72	35	57	-4	1.11	-0.18	0.85	6.35	83	10.37	71	94	60	0	0	3	1
CA	BAKERSFIELD	77	49	90	44	63	1	0.00	-0.14	0.00	1.29	93	3.86	117	69	49	1	0	0	0
	FRESNO	78	52	89	48	65	4	0.18	-0.06	0.17	1.53	62	10.81	174	82	50	0	0	2	0
	LOS ANGELES	66	54	70	53	60	0	0.01	-0.18	0.01	2.41	98	7.95	108	92	75	0	0	1	0
	REDDING	71	50	82	44	60	3	1.94	1.44	1.54	6.18	110	23.13	143	87	65	0	0	4	1
	SACRAMENTO	73	49	82	42	61	3	0.29	0.00	0.25	2.55	78	18.68	189	91	38	0	0	2	0
	SAN DIEGO	67	58	71	56	62	0	0.04	-0.16	0.04	1.04	46	4.90	88	89	70	0	0	1	0
	SAN FRANCISCO	65	52	72	49	59	4	0.42	0.07	0.25	2.16	55	16.54	144	85	69	0	0	3	0
	STOCKTON	75	48	83	43	61	2	0.08	-0.19	0.08	0.85	30	9.61	126	85	52	0	0	1	0
CO	ALAMOSA	62	27	69	22	45	5	0.16	0.05	0.16	0.61	88	0.86	69	66	30	0	7	1	0
	CO SPRINGS	63	36	74	28	49	3	0.11	-0.15	0.07	2.26	155	3.17	147	68	18	0	2	2	0
	DENVER	66	36	78	26	51	3	0.01	-0.37	0.01	1.86	90	2.37	76	68	21	0	2	1	0
	GRAND JUNCTION	72	46	79	40	59	8	0.32	0.15	0.32	1.58	124	3.63	157	46	25	0	0	1	0
	PUEBLO	72	36	84	28	54	3	0.00	-0.19	0.00	3.18	267	3.56	196	69	29	0	3	0	0
CT	BRIDGEPORT	50	34	53	30	42	-5	0.61	-0.27	0.36	4.98	88	9.03	76	77	47	0	3	4	0
	HARTFORD	54	32	69	29	43	-5	0.92	0.03	0.80	5.13	93	9.56	79	76	47	0	6	4	1
DC	WASHINGTON	59	43	66	34	51	-5	0.26	-0.35	0.18	5.59	125	10.66	108	82	41	0	0	3	0
DE	WILMINGTON	56	37	62	30	47	-4	0.70	-0.07	0.44	10.37	204	16.05	146	87	38	0	2	3	0
FL	DAYTONA BEACH	75	57	83	44	66	-3	0.93	0.43	0.37	9.42	236	11.87	121	93	51	0	0	4	0
	JACKSONVILLE	73	48	81	37	60	-6	1.02	0.39	1.02	3.10	61	7.04	57	95	54	0	0	1	1
	KEY WEST	80	71	84	68	76	-1	0.26	-0.11	0.26	3.72	150	4.88	78	82	66	0	0	1	0
	MIAMI	79	69	85	63	74	-1	2.56	1.96	2.34	2.96	82	4.73	62	85	60	0	0	3	1
	ORLANDO	79	57	85	45	68	-3	1.07	0.68	0.58	1.52	37	3.11	33	90	54	0	0	3	1
	PENSACOLA	72	52	75	39	62	-5	0.89	0.01	0.84	5.07	66	9.38	53	91	59	0	0	3	1
	TALLAHASSEE	77	47	83	34	62	-4	0.00	-0.86	0.00	3.47	42	7.39	40	89	50	0	0	0	0
	TAMPA	80	60	85	45	70	-1	0.32	0.09	0.32	0.87	24	3.12	36	83	47	0	0	1	0
	WEST PALM	77	67	81	61	72	-1	3.43	2.82	2.71	5.43	109	7.19	69	87	71	0	0	2	2
GA	ATHENS	68	44	76	32	56	-5	0.02	-0.90	0.02	5.03	67	11.42	69	87	55	0	1	1	0
	ATLANTA	66	45	73	32	56	-5	0.04	-0.95	0.03	6.40	80	12.55	72	84	62	0	1	2	0
	AUGUSTA	69	44	81	30	57	-5	0.72	-0.04	0.56	3.84	60	11.50	78	93	59	0	2	2	1
	COLUMBUS	71	47	81	34	59	-5	0.64	-0.37	0.43	8.26	103	13.45	77	91	42	0	0	2	0
	MACON	70	44	82	32	57	-7	0.37	-0.44	0.36	5.66	86	11.24	71	96	55	0	2	2	0
	SAVANNAH	70	46	82	36	58	-7	1.26	0.57	0.82	5.77	109	10.05	83	97	62	0	0	3	1
HI	HILO	76	66	80	65	71	-2	2.52	-1.16	1.40	10.51	48	28.90	69	94	83	0	0	5	2
	HONOLULU	81	68	83	64	75	-1	0.00	-0.37	0.00	0.79	26	2.13	24	76	69	0	0	0	0
	KAHULUI	80	67	82	64	73	-1	0.67	0.22	0.63	1.56	41	2.62	24	83	74	0	0	3	1
	LIHUE	77	68	79	61	72	-2	0.36	-0.46	0.31	3.70	62	6.32	42	77	65	0	0	4	0
ID	BOISE	66	44	75	37	55	7	0.63	0.33	0.25	2.34	121	5.91	133	77	47	0	0	4	0
	LEWISTON	66	46	76	40	56	6	0.73	0.48	0.39	1.70	104	4.82	127	80	59	0	0	4	0
	POCATELLO	65	37	77	29	51	7	0.31	0.03	0.29	1.12	61	4.07	107	73	45	0	1	2	0
IL	CHICAGO/O'HARE	57	34	76	29	45	-3	0.00	-0.85	0.00	1.18	26	4.50	61	78	50	0	3	0	0
	MOLINE	61	37	78	25	49	0	0.28	-0.62	0.28	1.37	28	6.07	79	82	45	0	2	1	0
	PEORIA	62	37	77	29	50	-1	0.17	-0.71	0.16	2.21	46	4.84	63	79	36	0	2	2	0
	ROCKFORD	58	33	77	23	45	-2	0.07	-0.78	0.07	1.59	38	5.05	76	86	54	0	4	1	0
	SPRINGFIELD	65	37	78	30	51	-1	0.09	-0.76	0.08	3.34	66	5.15	62	83	46	0	3	2	0
IN	EVANSVILLE	65	39	70	28	52	-3	0.00	-0.91	0.00	4.71	70	16.32	131	87	49	0	1	0	0
	FORT WAYNE	57	34	75	25	45	-3	0.04	-0.75	0.03	2.64	58	5.46	65	93	52	0	4	2	0
	INDIANAPOLIS	60	36	71	25	48	-3	0.13	-0.72	0.13	3.96	70	8.89	85	86	50	0	3	1	0
	SOUTH BEND	56	32	75	27	44	-4	0.06	-0.85	0.05	2.84	56	6.87	75	85	52	0	5	2	0
IA	BURLINGTON	63	38	77	25	50	-1	0.14	-0.67	0.13	1.22	27	4.68	67	75	35	0	1	2	0
	CEDAR RAPIDS	60	35	77	22	47	-1	0.28	-0.46	0.07	1.20	31	3.76	64	87	40	0	2	1	0
	DES MOINES	60	38	80	28	49	-1	0.85	0.07	0.85	1.66	42	4.32	72	79	48	0	1	1	1
	DUBUQUE	57	35	76	27	46	-1	0.13	-0.72	0.13	1.41	30	4.24	58	81	49	0	3	1	0
	SIoux CITY	61	36	83	28	48	-1	0.10	-0.42	0.09	0.94	31	2.10	49	76	45	0	3	2	0
	WATERLOO	58	35	80	21	47	0	0.02	-0.74	0.02	1.93	50	4.00	70	75	46	0	2	1	0
KS	CONCORDIA	64	38	77	28	51	-1	0.42	-0.08	0.42	3.76	116	5.82	128	85	50	0	1	1	0
	DODGE CITY	69	40	81	30	54	0	0.03	-0.43	0.03	5.00	200	5.66	157	84	42	0	1	1	0
	GOODLAND	66	31	86	24	49	0	0.01	-0.24	0.01	2.39	143	3.37	136	81	36	0	5	1	0
	TOPEKA	68	42	78	32	55	1	0.00	-0.69	0.00	2.66	68	4.85	82	78	48	0	1	0	0

Based on 1961-90 normals

(Note: Eureka, CA replaced with Stockton,

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 15, 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	66	43	74	37	54	-2	0.35	-0.18	0.01	6.46	181	10.10	190	88	60	0	0	1	0
	JACKSON	63	42	76	28	53	-3	0.63	-0.28	0.62	4.69	69	10.85	76	84	39	0	1	2	1
	LEXINGTON	62	39	73	25	50	-4	0.52	-0.37	0.52	7.20	114	15.41	124	87	61	0	1	1	1
	LOUISVILLE	65	41	74	30	53	-3	0.06	-0.91	0.06	6.06	90	18.19	141	84	48	0	1	1	0
LA	PADUCAH	64	41	69	27	53	-4	0.52	-0.64	0.52	5.75	78	17.32	119	86	47	0	1	1	1
	BATON ROUGE	73	52	82	35	63	-5	0.29	-0.98	0.28	4.25	57	7.68	43	99	56	0	0	2	0
	LAKE CHARLES	71	52	80	38	61	-7	0.04	-0.68	0.04	5.85	123	8.16	63	98	64	0	0	1	0
	NEW ORLEANS	74	57	82	45	66	-2	0.06	-0.99	0.05	3.09	43	7.15	39	88	64	0	0	2	0
	SHREVEPORT	67	48	77	36	57	-8	1.58	0.74	1.00	11.75	220	16.66	127	96	67	0	0	2	2
ME	CARIBOU	42	25	60	19	34	-3	1.28	0.73	0.47	4.29	119	10.11	127	87	48	0	6	6	0
	PORTLAND	53	30	71	24	41	-2	0.51	-0.45	0.39	5.14	90	11.44	91	77	44	0	6	3	0
MD	BALTIMORE	57	38	63	32	47	-6	0.33	-0.39	0.16	6.00	122	11.65	105	88	50	0	2	3	0
MA	BOSTON	55	36	70	34	46	-1	0.60	-0.25	0.51	4.64	84	9.96	78	74	41	0	0	3	1
	WORCESTER	52	31	69	26	41	-3	1.51	0.60	1.45	6.05	103	11.76	90	85	39	0	6	3	1
MI	ALPENA	48	27	74	15	38	-2	0.12	-0.40	0.05	1.25	39	5.15	84	84	40	0	5	4	0
	GRAND RAPIDS	52	32	73	25	42	-3	0.18	-0.62	0.12	2.20	51	4.75	63	89	48	0	5	3	0
	HOUGHTON LAKE	47	27	70	17	37	-4	0.02	-0.50	0.01	1.56	50	4.48	78	85	47	0	5	2	0
	LANSING	53	28	73	20	41	-4	0.19	-0.47	0.16	2.02	54	4.09	62	88	68	0	5	2	0
	MUSKEGON	50	33	68	26	41	-3	0.27	-0.42	0.09	1.99	50	4.09	52	86	62	0	4	4	0
	TRAVERSE CITY	50	29	74	21	39	-3	0.01	-0.52	0.01	1.27	45	4.10	65	82	38	0	5	1	0
MN	DULUTH	40	24	54	17	32	-6	0.11	-0.40	0.05	3.35	112	5.27	105	89	60	0	7	4	0
	INT'L FALLS	40	21	55	14	31	-7	0.08	-0.27	0.04	1.95	110	2.78	85	84	39	0	7	3	0
	MINNEAPOLIS	50	34	63	28	42	-3	0.33	-0.21	0.16	1.49	49	3.45	70	84	37	0	3	4	0
	ROCHESTER	52	32	80	23	42	-2	0.18	-0.44	0.11	1.06	35	3.81	83	79	49	0	3	2	0
	ST. CLOUD	46	27	63	18	37	-5	0.25	-0.29	0.13	1.87	75	3.66	95	83	39	0	7	4	0
MS	JACKSON	69	51	76	33	60	-4	1.06	-0.25	0.96	11.84	137	15.01	81	96	64	0	0	3	1
	MERIDIAN	70	49	77	30	59	-4	0.34	-0.96	0.19	7.73	80	12.30	61	96	63	0	1	2	0
	TUPELO	63	47	68	32	55	-7	0.97	-0.24	0.31	12.38	142	19.40	106	94	70	0	1	5	0
MO	COLUMBIA	67	38	77	32	53	-1	0.05	-0.82	0.03	2.53	51	6.69	81	83	36	0	2	2	0
	KANSAS CITY	68	42	77	32	55	1	0.01	-0.68	0.01	2.96	76	5.63	92	79	45	0	1	1	0
	SAINT LOUIS	67	41	78	34	54	-2	0.02	-0.78	0.02	2.78	52	7.12	77	83	52	0	0	1	0
	SPRINGFIELD	67	40	75	29	54	-1	0.06	-0.90	0.04	3.10	52	5.95	60	82	50	0	1	2	0
MT	BILLINGS	51	28	70	16	40	-5	0.12	-0.27	0.12	1.08	56	3.89	112	76	48	0	4	1	0
	BUTTE	59	29	67	22	44	7	0.19	-0.01	0.19	0.84	73	1.74	84	83	25	0	5	1	0
	GLASGOW	46	24	61	18	35	-8	0.53	0.39	0.25	1.31	196	1.54	118	86	57	0	6	3	0
	GREAT FALLS	52	25	65	12	39	-4	0.13	-0.17	0.12	0.92	54	1.95	61	92	40	0	5	2	0
	KALISPELL	55	28	68	18	42	-1	0.27	0.03	0.20	1.37	91	2.99	72	83	56	0	5	3	0
	MILES CITY	53	28	71	19	40	-5	0.34	0.04	0.20	0.90	75	1.95	89	82	38	0	5	2	0
	MISSOULA	62	34	70	28	48	4	0.68	0.48	0.47	1.06	76	3.52	103	82	46	0	2	4	0
NE	GRAND ISLAND	61	33	81	26	47	-3	0.02	-0.54	0.02	1.35	45	2.95	70	85	48	0	5	1	0
	LINCOLN	63	33	83	24	48	-3	0.00	-0.62	0.00	0.97	29	2.62	57	85	45	0	4	0	0
	NORFOLK	60	32	80	28	46	-3	0.32	-0.19	0.32	1.46	50	2.78	66	79	44	0	5	1	0
	NORTH PLATTE	63	29	84	23	46	-1	0.02	-0.41	0.02	1.24	60	2.01	71	82	37	0	4	1	0
	OMAHA	61	38	80	30	49	-2	0.34	-0.24	0.31	1.27	40	3.39	72	86	50	0	1	2	0
	SCOTTSBLUFF	64	29	81	21	47	1	0.00	-0.34	0.00	1.08	61	2.23	81	69	37	0	5	0	0
	VALENTINE	58	28	79	20	43	-2	0.15	-0.21	0.08	1.01	58	2.40	98	81	46	0	5	2	0
NV	ELY	61	32	69	25	47	6	0.61	0.39	0.57	1.23	86	3.50	126	68	35	0	5	2	1
	LAS VEGAS	82	61	89	51	71	8	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.21	39	1.80	120	31	21	0	0	0	0
	RENO	66	39	76	33	53	5	0.14	0.06	0.14	0.52	58	3.64	123	63	34	0	0	1	0
	WINNEMUCCA	67	35	77	29	51	6	0.24	0.05	0.16	1.12	94	4.02	158	80	42	0	3	4	0
NH	CONCORD	57	28	80	23	43	0	1.09	0.42	0.96	6.22	150	11.31	123	82	33	0	6	3	1
NJ	NEWARK	53	38	60	30	45	-6	0.59	-0.29	0.33	4.45	77	9.38	77	79	45	0	1	3	0
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	71	46	78	40	59	4	0.00	-0.11	0.00	1.27	159	1.87	110	49	18	0	0	0	0
NY	ALBANY	49	31	75	26	40	-5	0.45	-0.24	0.39	5.14	117	11.40	126	76	41	0	5	4	0
	BINGHAMTON	47	29	72	21	38	-5	0.17	-0.55	0.11	7.74	178	14.05	155	83	51	0	5	3	0
	BUFFALO	48	32	70	26	40	-4	0.25	-0.41	0.20	4.90	120	9.30	102	86	48	0	5	2	0
	ROCHESTER	51	33	78	28	42	-3	0.34	-0.27	0.28	5.14	144	10.09	130	84	50	0	6	3	0
	SYRACUSE	50	31	78	25	41	-4	0.34	-0.44	0.19	4.82	109	10.00	112	86	41	0	6	4	0
NC	ASHEVILLE	61	40	70	30	50	-5	0.99	0.23	0.47	7.08	112	12.51	93	85	57	0	2	3	0
	CHARLOTTE	64	44	75	36	54	-5	2.64	2.04	1.02	7.58	131	14.24	107	85	52	0	0	3	3
	GREENSBORO	63	43	75	37	53	-4	1.42	0.79	0.63	5.89	115	11.39	98	82	50	0	0	3	2
	HATTERAS	66	56	70	45	61	3	1.04	0.23	0.64	4.12	68	13.81	89	85	65	0	0	3	1
	RALEIGH	65	45	76	38	55	-3	0.90	0.32	0.38	3.44	68	11.67	95	86	61	0	0	3	0
	WILMINGTON	70	50	82	41	60	-2	2.16	1.53	1.85	5.21	99	11.18	87	93	53	0	0	2	1
ND	BISMARCK	46	23	61	17	34	-8	0.58	0.20	0.40	2.00	131	4.13	171	87	60	0	7	4	0
	DICKINSON	48	20	64	11	34	-7	0.41	-0.01	0.35	1.27	82	2.49	110	87	43	0	7	2	0
	FARGO	39	19	53	7	29	-13	0.27	-0.14	0.20	2.28	121	3.62	120	93	61	0	7	3	0
	GRAND FORKS	37	16	47	6	27	-13	0.05	-0.25	0.03	0.92	59	2.69	97	93	52	0	7	2	0
	JAMESTOWN	37	19	52	13	28	-13	0.39	0.04	0.23	1.33	83	3.74	139	96	57	0	7	4	0
	WILLISTON	41	21	55	16	31	-11	0.37	0.09	0.29	1.63	130	2.47	112	82	59	0	6	2	0
OH	AKRON-CANTON	54	33	75	26	44	-4	0.11	-0.61	0.06	6.31	130	11.28	122	84	56	0	5	2	0
	CINCINNATI	61	37	75	23	49	-3	0.06	-0.80	0.06	6.35	104	16.51	145	80	48	0	1	1	0
	CLEVELAND	54	35	75	28	44	-3	0.08	-0.64	0.05	4.48	101	9.16	106	84	50	0	4	2	0
	COLUMBUS	59	36	76	27	47	-3	0.09	-0.65	0.09	5.94	123	12.26	132	79	51	0	4	1	0
	DAYTON	59	36	75	25	47	-3	0.09	-0.71	0.07	5.52	108	10.87	115	81	48	0	3	2	0
	MANSFIELD																			

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 15, 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	56	33	77	27	45	-2	0.07	-0.62	0.05	2.43	59	5.21	68	84	51	0	5	2	0
OK YOUNGSTOWN	54	33	76	26	43	-3	0.07	-0.65	0.06	5.80	125	9.94	113	81	50	0	5	2	0
OK OKLAHOMA CITY	66	48	75	36	57	-3	0.77	0.18	0.39	4.37	111	6.59	100	92	63	0	0	3	0
OR TULSA	67	48	72	39	58	-3	0.43	-0.39	0.27	4.22	82	6.44	74	76	53	0	0	2	0
OR ASTORIA	61	46	72	41	53	5	1.52	0.41	0.67	8.57	89	25.34	93	98	79	0	0	4	2
OR BURNS	62	35	73	29	48	6	0.71	0.57	0.34	1.70	128	5.22	169	91	60	0	3	4	0
OR EUGENE	63	43	72	35	53	3	1.60	0.86	1.04	3.97	55	19.52	94	94	78	0	0	4	1
OR MEDFORD	67	46	79	37	56	5	1.66	1.38	0.59	3.46	141	11.22	159	92	52	0	0	3	3
OR PENDLETON	69	44	79	38	57	7	0.22	-0.03	0.12	2.64	156	7.63	176	81	51	0	0	3	0
OR PORTLAND	66	48	76	43	57	7	1.07	0.51	0.62	4.74	98	14.91	106	94	70	0	0	4	1
PA SALEM	63	44	74	35	54	5	0.89	0.32	0.36	3.87	70	17.85	112	92	75	0	0	4	0
PA ALLENTOWN	52	33	61	27	43	-6	0.31	-0.49	0.15	6.26	126	11.00	99	85	51	0	5	3	0
PA ERIE	49	36	70	28	43	-2	0.15	-0.59	0.12	5.74	125	10.17	112	79	54	0	5	2	0
PA MIDDLETOWN	56	36	63	29	46	-5	0.08	-0.65	0.06	6.82	141	11.16	105	88	33	0	3	3	0
PA PHILADELPHIA	57	38	62	31	48	-3	0.65	-0.20	0.31	7.48	142	12.74	113	85	45	0	1	3	0
PA PITTSBURGH	56	33	77	25	45	-4	0.13	-0.59	0.12	4.45	89	8.68	88	82	37	0	4	2	0
PA WILKES-BARRE	53	32	70	25	42	-5	0.13	-0.55	0.12	4.54	114	9.02	110	80	37	0	5	2	0
PA WILLIAMSPORT	55	33	72	26	44	-4	0.00	-0.74	0.00	6.17	129	10.55	105	70	38	0	3	0	0
RI PROVIDENCE	54	34	63	31	44	-3	0.54	-0.42	0.47	6.30	103	13.23	97	74	45	0	3	3	0
SC BEAUFORT	70	48	82	38	59	-6	0.75	0.10	0.47	6.11	110	9.04	72	90	53	0	0	3	0
SC CHARLESTON	71	49	82	38	60	-4	0.51	-0.09	0.30	4.46	78	10.51	84	93	53	0	0	3	0
SC COLUMBIA	69	46	80	34	58	-4	0.63	-0.13	0.38	4.88	75	14.94	99	86	52	0	0	2	0
SD GREENVILLE	64	44	75	31	54	-5	2.17	1.28	0.94	7.46	101	13.05	82	86	52	0	1	4	2
SD ABERDEEN	47	26	63	22	37	-7	0.06	-0.38	0.04	1.49	66	2.45	79	85	55	0	7	2	0
SD HURON	55	29	73	24	42	-3	0.06	-0.41	0.06	0.71	27	1.49	40	82	42	0	4	1	0
SD RAPID CITY	54	25	73	19	39	-5	0.32	-0.11	0.22	1.72	91	2.25	81	83	41	0	6	2	0
SD SIOUX FALLS	52	32	69	27	42	-4	0.28	-0.30	0.28	1.93	68	3.65	91	80	55	0	4	1	0
TN BRISTOL	61	40	70	30	51	-4	0.49	-0.26	0.16	6.02	113	11.51	96	90	47	0	2	5	0
TN CHATTANOOGA	67	46	72	32	57	-1	1.20	0.20	1.05	11.71	141	19.22	107	90	54	0	1	4	1
TN KNOXVILLE	63	44	71	30	54	-3	1.09	0.23	0.81	8.88	127	17.44	114	88	53	0	1	5	1
TN MEMPHIS	64	49	71	32	56	-6	0.64	-0.64	0.58	8.20	100	14.94	92	89	55	0	1	3	1
TX NASHVILLE	62	44	68	28	53	-6	0.89	-0.11	0.64	5.67	81	12.94	90	92	52	0	1	3	1
TX ABILENE	78	51	89	41	65	0	0.02	-0.40	0.02	1.41	64	2.02	46	81	49	0	0	1	0
TX AMARILLO	72	43	87	34	57	1	0.18	-0.02	0.16	4.51	332	4.79	194	81	38	0	0	2	0
TX AUSTIN	75	53	81	34	64	-5	0.84	0.30	0.82	2.71	92	7.68	113	89	70	0	0	3	1
TX BEAUMONT	72	56	78	44	64	-4	0.75	4.98	5.75	11.68	242	14.08	109	92	61	0	0	1	1
TX BROWNSVILLE	82	63	85	52	73	-2	0.35	0.02	0.34	3.28	288	4.42	118	90	59	0	0	2	0
TX CORPUS CHRISTI	79	63	84	56	71	-1	0.93	0.57	0.93	4.70	288	5.82	110	91	68	0	0	1	1
TX DEL RIO	82	59	89	50	71	0	0.91	0.45	0.71	1.20	75	2.18	70	79	57	0	0	2	1
TX EL PASO	80	54	88	47	67	4	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.36	88	0.39	32	39	20	0	0	0	0
TX FORT WORTH	71	53	80	41	62	-3	2.14	1.36	1.02	5.26	120	10.15	121	84	60	0	0	3	2
TX GALVESTON	72	61	77	55	67	-2	1.16	0.62	1.14	4.18	124	7.63	86	81	64	0	0	2	1
TX HOUSTON	74	53	79	38	63	-5	1.18	0.48	1.17	6.84	157	10.41	98	93	66	0	0	2	1
TX LUBBOCK	77	48	87	44	62	1	0.52	0.32	0.52	4.01	313	4.06	173	71	35	0	0	1	1
TX MIDLAND	80	53	90	47	66	2	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.95	107	1.56	82	71	32	1	0	0	0
TX SAN ANGELO	79	54	87	44	67	1	0.45	0.09	0.36	1.31	82	1.62	47	77	49	0	0	2	0
TX SAN ANTONIO	77	58	83	44	68	-1	0.13	-0.41	0.12	2.15	83	5.75	94	88	58	0	0	2	0
TX VICTORIA	77	57	84	46	67	-3	1.84	1.32	1.76	5.17	202	9.59	143	93	68	0	0	5	1
TX WACO	72	53	79	41	62	-5	1.05	0.34	1.05	3.53	94	10.12	135	92	75	0	0	1	1
TX WICHITA FALLS	72	50	84	40	61	-2	1.09	0.41	0.97	4.11	114	6.04	99	86	64	0	0	2	1
UT SALT LAKE CITY	66	43	78	39	55	6	0.56	0.06	0.55	1.40	47	5.37	101	72	37	0	0	2	1
VT BURLINGTON	47	29	77	20	38	-5	1.28	0.64	1.00	4.17	117	8.74	125	85	47	0	6	3	1
VA LYNCHBURG	61	41	74	34	51	-4	0.09	-0.61	0.05	3.69	74	8.86	81	77	43	0	0	2	0
VA NORFOLK	63	48	76	40	55	-1	1.09	0.40	1.01	4.12	79	10.32	83	82	58	0	0	4	1
VA RICHMOND	64	44	77	38	54	-3	0.34	-0.32	0.31	4.99	99	10.58	92	79	48	0	0	3	0
VA ROANOKE	59	43	73	33	51	-4	0.20	-0.54	0.10	3.83	76	7.60	71	70	55	0	0	4	0
VA WASH/DULLES	59	37	65	31	48	-4	0.15	-0.55	0.11	5.20	112	8.89	87	90	48	0	4	3	0
WA OLYMPIA	63	43	72	36	53	6	1.12	0.33	0.78	7.28	108	21.28	104	91	68	0	0	3	1
WA QUILLAYUTE	60	42	73	37	51	5	1.47	-0.32	0.74	12.75	82	34.72	82	97	76	0	0	3	1
WA SEATTLE-TACOMA	60	46	68	42	53	4	0.65	0.09	0.34	3.63	75	12.65	89	94	77	0	0	3	0
WA SPOKANE	62	39	70	32	51	6	1.75	1.47	1.11	3.55	171	7.06	127	84	48	0	1	2	2
WA YAKIMA	69	41	77	33	55	6	0.47	0.36	0.47	1.07	115	3.94	137	74	49	0	0	1	0
WV BECKLEY	56	37	67	26	46	-5	0.20	-0.59	0.17	4.17	82	8.71	80	75	55	0	3	3	0
WV CHARLESTON	63	40	75	31	51	-3	0.26	-0.49	0.26	4.82	92	10.48	93	86	44	0	2	1	0
WV ELKINS	59	33	71	25	46	-1	0.21	-0.67	0.08	5.22	91	11.04	94	93	48	0	4	3	0
WV HUNTINGTON	63	39	76	30	51	-4	0.49	-0.29	0.49	5.05	95	12.37	112	88	44	0	1	1	0
WI EAU CLAIRE	53	31	81	22	42	-2	0.39	-0.25	0.27	1.27	42	4.02	86	81	35	0	4	2	0
WI GREEN BAY	50	29	75	21	39	-4	0.36	-0.19	0.12	1.51	47	3.42	63	87	43	0	5	4	0
WI LA CROSSE	56	36	82	25	46	-1	0.00	-0.67	0.00	1.38	41	3.75	72	71	29	0	2	0	0
WI MADISON	54	33	75	27	44	0	0.05	-0.61	0.03	1.57	44	4.37	77	76	49	0	4	2	0
WI MILWAUKEE	52	35	75	30	43	-1	0.08	-0.75	0.05	1.70	38	4.56	61	81	55	0	3	2	0
WI CASPER	58	28	76	19	43	1	0.44	0.09	0.32	1.27	77	2.29	82	77	42	0	6	2	0
WI CHEYENNE	60	32	74	22	46	4	0.00	-0.30	0.00	1.60	99	2.54	105	67	37	0	4	0	0
WI LANDER	61	34	75	28	48	5	0.11	-0.37	0.07	1.07	50	1.34	42	62	32	0	5	2	0
WI SHERIDAN	55	28	72	21	42	-1	0.04	-0.35	0.04	1.02	59	3.15	101	80	52	0	6	1	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

April 10 - 16, 2000

### HIGHLIGHTS

**Below-normal temperatures slowed winter wheat development and hindered emergence of other small grains in the Great Plains and eastern Corn Belt. Fieldwork was delayed by snow and rain in parts of the northern Great Plains and upper Mississippi Valley, but the precipitation improved soil moisture supplies. Despite the cold weather, fieldwork and planting gained momentum in the Corn Belt, especially along and near the Ohio and Missouri River**

**Valleys. Planting also gained momentum in the lower Mississippi Valley, although scattered showers limited progress in some areas. Planting was delayed by cool weather and showers in the Southeast. Above-normal temperatures stimulated crop development in the Southwest and Pacific Northwest. Rain limited fieldwork along the northern Pacific Coast, but dry weather aided field preparations and planting in California.**

**Winter Wheat:** Thirteen percent of the Nation's winter wheat crop was at the heading stage or beyond, 5 percentage points ahead of this date last year and 1 week ahead of the 6-percent normal for this date. Above-normal temperatures accelerated development in the Southwest and Pacific Northwest. Acreage at or beyond the heading stage nearly doubled in California, to 85 percent, 40 percentage points above the previous week. Wheat rapidly progressed to the heading stage in the southern Great Plains, lower Mississippi Valley, and Southeast, despite below-normal temperatures. Acreage heading advanced 17 percentage points in Texas and Oklahoma, and was 1 week ahead of the 5-year average in both States. Acreage at or beyond the heading stage doubled in North Carolina and more than doubled in Arkansas, to 40 and 50 percent, respectively, also 1 week ahead of normal.

**Corn:** Nine percent of the corn acreage was planted, 4 percentage points ahead of last year and the 5-year average. Dry weather aided progress in the Great Plains, southern Corn Belt, and Tennessee Valley, while cold weather deterred progress across the northern Corn Belt. Fifty-three percent of the corn was planted in Missouri, more than 3 weeks ahead of last year and the 5-year average, and was the most advanced progress on record for this date. Planting also rapidly advanced in Kansas, Kentucky, and Tennessee, although cool weather and scattered showers limited progress. In Illinois, planting accelerated, especially in the southern half of the State, and was 1 week ahead of normal. Planting slowly gained momentum in Iowa, Indiana, Nebraska, and Ohio. In North Carolina, growers planted one-fourth of their corn acreage during the week, despite rain delays in parts of the State. Planting remained active in northern Texas, while some early-planted fields in southern regions of the State progressed to the reproductive stage.

**Cotton:** Planting advanced to 11 percent complete, slightly ahead of last year's 8-percent pace and the 9-percent average for this date. Warm, dry weather provided ideal planting conditions in the Southwest. Planting advanced 30 percentage points in California, to 65 percent, and was nearly 2 weeks ahead of the normal pace. Planting was also active in Arizona, and progressed to the 40-percent average for this date. Below-normal temperatures hindered progress in the southern Great Plains, lower Mississippi

Valley, and Southeast. However, growers in the Missouri Bootheel rapidly planted 19 percent of their cotton acreage.

**Rice:** Twenty-six percent of the riceacreage was planted, equal to the normal progress and 5-percent points ahead of last year. Sixteen percent of the crop was emerged, well ahead of normal along the western Gulf Coast. Planting rapidly progressed in Louisiana and remained active in Texas. Progress remained well ahead of normal in both States. Cool weather and wet soils hindered planting in inland areas of the Mississippi Delta for most of the week. In Mississippi, only 3 percent of the acreage was planted, compared with the 34-percent average for this date.

**Spring Wheat:** Planting was 19 percent complete, a week ahead of last year's 13-percent pace, and more than 1 week ahead of the 8-percent normal for this date. Warm, dry weather aided progress in Idaho and Washington. Planting was 50 percentage points ahead of the average in South Dakota. Four percent of the acreage was emerged. Warm weather and adequate moisture aided germination in Washington and Idaho.

**Oats:** Seeding advanced to 40 percent of intended acreage, well ahead of last year's rapid progress, and 25 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Dry weather aided progress in the Corn Belt, but a winter storm limited progress in North Dakota. In Wisconsin, planting was 48 percent complete, the fastest pace on record. Nine percent of the crop was emerged, ahead of normal in Nebraska and Ohio, despite below-normal temperatures.

**Barley:** The barley acreage was 21 percent seeded, 5 percentage points ahead of last year's pace, and 1 week ahead of the 5-year average of 12 percent. Dry weather aided rapid progress in Washington and Idaho, where planting was 51 and 47 percent complete, respectively. Four percent of the crop was emerged, compared with 3 percent for both last year and the 5-year average for this date. Warm weather and adequate moisture supplies aided emergence in Washington and Idaho.

**Sorghum:** Fifteen percent of the sorghum acreage was planted, slightly ahead of this date last year, but behind the 5-year average of 16 percent. Planting accelerated in Louisiana and steadily advanced in Arkansas.

# Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending April 16, 2000

Winter Wheat Percent Headed				
	Apr 16 2000	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	50	23	34	26
CA	85	45	54	66
CO	0	0	1	0
ID	0	0	0	0
IL	0	0	0	0
IN	0	0	0	0
KS	0	0	0	0
MI	0	0	0	0
MO	1	0	1	0
MT	0	0	0	0
NE	0	0	0	0
NC	40	20	22	13
OH	0	0	0	0
OK	27	10	16	10
OR	0	0	0	0
SD	0	0	0	0
TX	37	20	20	19
WA	0	0	0	0
18 Sts	13	6	8	6
These 18 States planted 90% of last year's winter wheat acreage.				

Corn Percent Planted				
	Apr 16 2000	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
CO	1	0	3	3
IL	13	4	5	4
IN	5	1	3	2
IA	2	0	1	0
KS	20	3	7	7
KY	28	13	17	19
MI	0	0	0	0
MN	2	0	0	0
MO	53	26	16	17
NE	4	0	1	0
NC	40	15	43	43
ND	0	0	0	0
OH	2	1	6	3
PA	2	0	1	1
SD	0	0	0	0
TN	35	25	28	41
TX	61	55	54	54
WI	0	0	0	0
18 Sts	9	4	5	5
These 18 States planted 92% of last year's corn acreage.				

Oats Percent Planted				
	Apr 16 2000	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
IA	89	79	82	44
MN	36	26	12	5
NE	91	83	69	46
ND	3	1	1	0
OH	53	38	65	46
PA	28	21	33	33
SD	51	32	27	11
WI	48	24	27	8
8 Sts	40	29	28	15
These 8 States planted 52% of last year's oat acreage.				

Spring Wheat Percent Planted				
	Apr 16 2000	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	57	39	40	45
MN	12	10	4	1
MT	12	7	16	7
ND	4	2	1	1
SD	63	45	28	13
WA	67	47	62	53
6 Sts	19	13	13	8
These 6 States planted 98% of last year's spring wheat acreage.				

Cotton Percent Planted				
	Apr 16 2000	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	5	2	17	13
AZ	40	28	21	40
AR	0	0	0	1
CA	65	35	22	27
GA	4	2	5	5
LA	1	0	2	3
MS	0	0	3	3
MO	19	0	1	0
NC	2	0	4	3
OK	0	0	1	0
SC	7	5	7	4
TN	0	0	3	1
TX	13	11	10	12
VA	0	0	1	1
14 Sts	11	8	8	9
These 14 States planted 99% of last year's cotton acreage.				

Sorghum Percent Planted				
	Apr 16 2000	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	16	11	9	18
CO	0	0	0	0
IL	0	0	0	0
KS	0	0	0	0
LA	12	4	10	16
MO	0	0	0	0
NE	0	0	0	0
NM	0	0	0	0
OK	3	1	1	2
SD	0	0	0	0
TX	42	40	39	44
11 Sts	15	14	14	16
These 11 States planted 98% of last year's sorghum acreage.				

Rice Percent Planted				
	Apr 16 2000	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	10	5	6	17
CA	5	1	0	0
LA	82	54	66	61
MS	3	2	18	34
TX	68	59	52	47
5 Sts	26	17	21	26
These 5 States planted 95% of last year's rice acreage.				

Oats Percent Emerged				
	Apr 16 2000	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
IA	29	NA	NA	NA
MN	4	NA	0	0
NE	39	NA	31	12
ND	0	NA	0	0
OH	26	NA	28	14
PA	11	NA	13	NA
SD	8	NA	NA	NA
WI	1	NA	NA	NA
8 Sts	9	NA	NA	NA
These 8 States planted 52% of last year's oat acreage.				

Barley Percent Planted				
	Apr 16 2000	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	47	22	26	28
MN	13	10	1	0
MT	15	11	17	7
ND	2	1	0	0
WA	51	31	46	41
5 Sts	21	12	16	12
These 5 States planted 78% of last year's barley acreage.				

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

# Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending April 16, 2000

Barley Percent Emerged				
	Apr 16 2000	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	10	NA	7	8
MN	1	NA	0	0
MT	1	NA	0	0
ND	0	NA	0	0
WA	15	NA	16	16
5 Sts	4	NA	3	3
These 5 States planted 78% of last year's barley acreage.				

Spring Wheat Percent Emerged				
	Apr 16 2000	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	16	NA	12	13
MN	1	NA	0	0
MT	0	NA	0	0
ND	0	NA	0	0
SD	13	NA	NA	NA
WA	31	NA	29	27
6 Sts	4	NA	NA	NA
These 6 States planted 98% of last year's spring wheat acreage.				

Winter Wheat Crop Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
AR	1	5	25	47	22
CA	0	0	20	70	10
CO	1	3	16	58	22
ID	0	2	15	67	16
IL	0	3	23	57	17
IN	1	3	21	57	18
KS	2	7	31	48	12
MI	0	2	15	50	33
MO	0	4	33	49	14
MT	2	6	32	56	4
NE	4	12	31	49	4
NC	1	1	13	73	12
OH	0	1	14	51	34
OK	2	3	18	65	12
OR	0	0	33	58	9
SD	0	4	26	57	13
TX	30	27	27	14	2
WA	0	0	10	71	19
18 Sts	6	8	24	50	12
Prev Wk	5	9	25	49	12
Prev Yr	2	5	24	56	13

Rice Percent Emerged				
	Apr 16 2000	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	0	NA	NA	NA
CA	0	NA	0	0
LA	63	NA	44	42
MS	0	NA	NA	NA
TX	53	NA	32	28
5 Sts	16	NA	NA	NA
These 5 States planted 95% of last year's rice acreage.				

(Continued from front cover)

4 weeks of favorably dry and often warm weather that promoted fieldwork and initial summer crop planting. Showers also overspread the **Northwest**, aiding small grains following recent warmth. Despite the increasingly showery weather in parts of the **West**, weekly temperatures were generally 4 to 8°F above normal. In contrast, cooler-than-normal weather prevailed **east of the Rockies**. Temperatures averaged as much as 14°F below normal in **North Dakota** and ranged from 2 to 8°F below normal across much of the **South**. Occasionally snowy, breezy conditions accompanied the cold weather across the **northern Plains** and **upper Midwest**, stressing livestock.

On Sunday morning, widespread frost and near-freezing temperatures were reported across the **interior Southeast**, resulting in localized adverse effects on fruit, vegetables, and winter wheat, and burning back pastures and emerging corn. Lows of 27°F in **Jackson, TN**, 30°F in **Meridian, MS**, and 32°F in **Macon, GA** were among nearly 20 daily-record lows. Meanwhile, a spring storm blanketed the **interior Northeast** with heavy snow. **Albany, NY** (13.0 inches on April 9) and **Burlington, VT** (14.3 inches on April 9) experienced their second-heaviest, single-storm April totals, behind 17.7 inches on April 6-7, 1982, in **Albany**, and 15.6 inches on April 16-17, 1983, in the latter location. More than 1 inch of snow was reported as far south as **northern Maryland**. Additional snow fell across the **interior Northeast** through midweek, boosting April 9-12 snowfall as high as 31.7 inches in **Eden, VT**, and 25.0 inches on **Jay Peak, VT** and in **Malone, NY**. **Burlington's** total of 19.1 inches during the first half of the month represented their second-greatest April total (tied with 1924), behind only 21.3 inches in 1983.

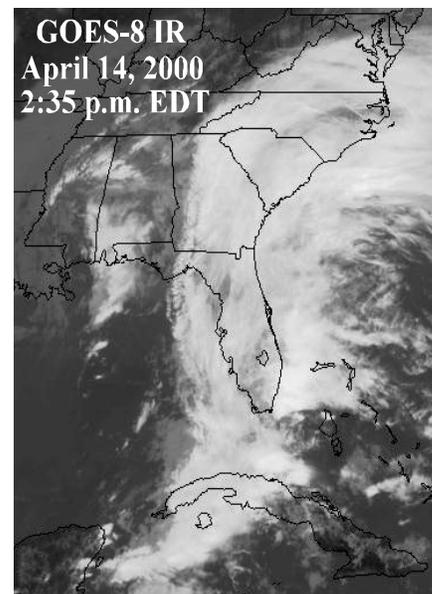
Meanwhile, record warmth developed in the **West Coast States**, where **Simi Valley, CA** noted consecutive daily-record highs (90 and 91°F) on April 11-12. Farthernorth, **The Dalles, OR** (82°F) posted a daily record on the latter date. The warmth shifted eastward at midweek, however, as showers moved ashore. **Redding, CA** received 1.99 inches of rain during the first half of the month, including a daily-record total (1.26 inches) on April 13. Heavy rain soaked **Spokane, WA** on April 13-14, resulting in their highest 24-hour rainfall on record (1.53 inches) during April. The previous record of 1.41 inches was established in 1997.

Warmth briefly spread **east of the Rockies** after midweek. On Friday, daily-record highs included 86°F in **Goodland, KS** and 82°F in **LaCrosse, WI**. Following consecutive daily-record lows (16 and 19°F) in **April**

13-14, warmth also fleetingly visited the **Northeast**. On Saturday, daily-record highs included 77°F in **Burlington, VT** and **Bangor, ME**. Meanwhile, sharply colder air returned to the **Plains**, where **Goodland** noted a high of 29°F on April 15, just 1 day after their daily-record high. In **North Dakota**, record lows on Saturday included 6°F in **Grand Forks** and 11°F in **Devils Lake**. Occasional snowfall accompanied the cold weather across the **North**, boosting month-to-date snowfall to 8.4 inches in **Glasgow, MT**, 6.2 inches in **Fargo, ND**, 5.3 inches in **Wausau, WI**, and 4.9 inches in **Flint, MI**.

Farther south, additional showers during the week lifted April 1-16 rainfall to 7.46 inches (245 percent of normal) in **Jackson, MS** and 7.24 inches (266 percent) in **Birmingham, AL**. April 1-16 totals of 5.47 inches in **Houston, TX** and 5.43 inches in **Lake Charles, LA** accounted for more than half of the stations' year-to-date precipitation. Similarly in **Florida**, month-to-date rainfall of 2.22 inches in **Orlando** and 3.36 inches in **Miami** accounted for more than half of the January 1 - April 16 totals. However, a few areas from near the **central Gulf Coast** to the **lower Southeast** remained extremely dry, leaving year-to-date rainfall as low as 7.68 inches (42 percent of normal) in **Baton Rouge, LA**, 7.15 inches (39 percent) in **New Orleans, LA**, and 3.10 inches (35 percent) in **Tampa, FL**.

Following a 2-week cool snap, much milder air overspread **Alaska**. Weekly temperatures averaged up to 15°F above normal across western areas. Meanwhile, drier weather returned to most of **Hawaii**, following 2 weeks of beneficial, drought-easing showers. The most consistent rainfall was generally confined to windward portions of the **Hawaiian islands**.



An upper-air low over the central Gulf Coast triggered welcomed thunderstorms across Florida on April 14-16. Two to four inches of rain eased wildfires and reduced irrigation requirements, with some locations measuring over half their year-to-date rain.

## State Agricultural Summaries

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

**ALABAMA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.9. Topsoil 4% very short, 14% short, 45% adequate, 37% surplus. Corn 52% planted, 58% 1999, 63% avg. Corn 35% emerged, 38% 1999. Wheat 37% headed, 38% 1999, 40% avg. Wheat 1% very poor, 3% poor, 25% fair, 66% good, 5% excellent. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 7% poor, 32% fair, 46% good, 14% excellent. Livestock 1% very poor, 3% poor, 23% fair, 65% good, 8% excellent. Warmer weather, much needed precipitation benefitted pastures, winter wheat, newly planted summer crops.

**ARIZONA:** Area continued to record well above average temperatures with no precipitation for the second week in a row. Warm weather helped to advance small grains heading, while the lack of rain has little impact on vegetables due to irrigation. Livestock was reported to be in fair condition for. Stock Water was reported as short to adequate, while Soil Moisture was reported as short. Insect damage was reported as none to light.

**ARKANSAS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.0. Soil moisture 12% short, 58% adequate, 30% surplus. Rice 10% planted, 6% 1999, 17% 5 yr. avg. Sorghum 16% planted, 9% 1999, 18% 5 yr. avg. Corn 84% planted, 39% 1999, 65% 5 yr avg. Wheat 50% headed, 34% 1999, 26% 5 yr. avg.; 1% very poor, 5% poor, 25% fair, 47% good, 22% excellent. Other Hay 4% very poor, 8% poor, 33% fair, 50% good, 5% excellent. Pasture, Range 1% very poor, 6% poor, 30% fair, 53% good, 10% excellent. Livestock good condition. The main farm activities: Row crop ground preparation, planting corn, rice, sorghum, spraying for wheat disease (stripe rust), fertilizing wheat fields, pastures, vaccinating cattle.

**CALIFORNIA:** Cotton planting was very active, early planted fields were emerging. Recent weeks of warm, sunny conditions have been optimal for cotton planting, emergence. Growers applied granular systemic insecticides at planting to protect young seedlings from aphid, lygus, mites. Many fields of alfalfa hay were cut and baled. The late week rain could create potential for mold. Alfalfa seed fields were irrigated. Field inspections for seed certification were underway. Some fields of other grain hay developed light aphid problems. Fields of sugar beets showed good growth, some early fields were harvested. Dryland wheat began to stress from a lack of moisture, but the rain should help. The last irrigation on heavy ground was starting in some irrigated wheat fields. Corn planting continued in many areas. A few corn fields were still being prepared for planting. Pre-plant field preparation of rice continued. Applications of fertilizer were expected to begin this week, water applied by the end of the week. Planting of safflower, sunflower continued in many areas. Weed control, fungicide applications continued in stone fruit, almond orchards. Nut trees, stone fruit trees, grape vines were leafing. Some early varieties of peaches, nectarines, apricots were undergoing fruit thinning. Grape growers were applying sulfur to control mildew and irrigating. Picking of grapefruit and lemon crops was active in southern area. The harvest of valencia oranges was active in the desert areas and just beginning in the San Joaquin Valley. Picking of navel oranges continued. Beehives were moved into citrus groves in preparation for new crop citrus bloom. Minnesota tangelos were picked. Avocado set has benefitted from warmer temperatures. Strawberry picking was active. Planting of summer vegetables, melons was well under way. Harvest of leaf lettuce, broccoli, spinach, asparagus in the Stockton-Delta area remained strong. The head lettuce harvest continued. Growers were still putting in tomato, eggplant transplants. Seeded tomato fields were thriving. Onion, garlic fields were irrigated. Melon fields were planted. In some fields the seed had germinated, the seedlings had emerged. Transplanting of tomatoes, melons, watermelons,

peppers continued in Kern County. Carrots were planted. Some aphid, blight problems were reported in a few areas. The following vegetables were harvested this week: green, Napa cabbage, cauliflower, cilantro, zucchini, scallop squash, collard, mustard greens, green, red leaf lettuce, mushrooms, parsley, snap beans, peas, green onions, radishes, turnips. Livestock operators were looking to the skies in hopes of additional rain to improve grasses. Range, pasture were drying. Cows were calving. Sheep were doing well. Bees were active in apple orchards.

**COLORADO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 2% very short, 19% short, 78% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 7% very short, 20% short, 72% adequate, 1% surplus. The Eastern Plains experienced low temperatures in the mid-twenties during the weekend. Otherwise, temperatures were seasonal for the remainder of the week in most areas of the state. Any additional moisture was limited to the mountain, front range areas. Spring barley 52% seeded, 51% 1999, 47% avg.; 19% emerged, 24% 1999, 19% avg. Dry onions 85% seeded, 81% 1999, 74% avg.; 1% very poor, 2% poor, 11% fair, 57% good, 29% excellent. Sugar beets 57% planted, 56% 1999, 64% avg. Summer potatoes 57% planted, 42% 1999, 35% avg. Spring wheat 35% planted, 50% 1999, 37% avg.; 24% emerged, 23% 1999, 15% avg. Cows 76% calved, 78% 1999, 80% avg. Ewes 80% lambled, 73% 1999, 75% avg.

**DELAWARE:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.7. Topsoil 87% adequate, 13% surplus. Subsoil moisture 81% adequate, 19% surplus. Percent of acreage prepared for planting of spring 61% crops. Winter wheat 1% poor, 9% fair, 77% good, 13% excellent. Barley 3% poor, 13% fair, 74% good, 10% excellent; 25% headed, 11% 1999, 9% avg. Potatoes 63% planted, 52% 1999, 58% avg. Green peas 60% planted, 61% 1999, 55% avg. Snap Beans 11% planted, 4% 1999, 1% avg. Sweet corn 12% planted, 11% 1999, 8% avg. Field Corn 12% planted, 10% 1999, 5% avg. Peaches 88% bloomed, 92% 1999, 68% avg. Strawberries 53% bloomed, 29% 1999, 23% avg. Pasture feed 22% fair, 70% good, 8% excellent. Hay supplies 8% very short, 38% short, 54% adequate. Activities: Orchards being inspected for Plum Pox Virus, planting continues.

**FLORIDA:** Cool temperatures persisted with averages 1 to 6 ° below normal, major stations. Daytime highs 70s, 80s; nighttime lows 40s, 50s, 60%. Alachua, Hastings, Jacksonville, Ocklawaha, Okahumpka, Pensacola, Pierson, Tallahassee, Umatilla recorded at least one low in 30s. Low pressure systems crossing over southeastern States brought much needed moisture to many localities. Rainfall ranged from about 0.33 in. at Tampa to almost 3.50 in. at West Palm Beach with almost all localities recording measurable amounts. Moisture throughout State very short to short with scattered areas of adequate moisture. Frost in Panhandle and northern Peninsula burned corn, hayfields, pastures early in week. Sugarcane grinding complete. Field corn planting active. Farmers starting to plant cotton, peanuts. Tobacco transplanting active. Lack of rain, freezing temperature in north have increased wild fire index in some areas. Tomato, eggplant, blueberry picking started, West Central vegetable area. Strawberry picking nearly done, Plant city area. Major vegetables harvested: Potatoes, tomatoes, peppers, endive, escarole, blueberries, cabbage, celery, cucumbers, lettuce, radishes, snap beans, squash, strawberries, sweet corn, eggplant, watermelon. Irrigation continued citrus areas, rain began Friday and lasted through weekend. Bloom over, harvest of Valencia oranges, grapefruit, Temples, Honey tangerines underway. Pasture feed 50% poor, 45% fair, 5% good. Cattle 15% poor, 80% fair, 5% good. Statewide, pasture poor to fair. Cattle mostly fair. Panhandle: pastures poor to fair, dry conditions, cool temperature holding back grass growth, cattle condition fair to

good. Cold snap burned Bermuda hayfields, pastures. North: small grain forage season about done; frosts nipped warm season forage. Central: poor range, grass condition due to dry soil condition. Southwest: brush fires bad; ranchers feeding supplemental hay.

**GEORGIA:** Days suitable for field work 5.3. Soil moisture 7% very short, 31% short, 55% adequate, 7% surplus. Corn 1% very poor, 6% poor, 36% fair, 53% good, 4% excellent; 82% emerged, 83% 1999, N/A avg. Hay 1% very poor, 7% poor, 45% fair, 44% good, 3% excellent. Peanuts 0% planted, 3% 1999, 4% avg. Sorghum 17% planted, 13% 1999, 6% avg. Tobacco 2% poor, 27% fair, 63% good, 8% excellent; 75% transplanted, 84% 1999, 79% avg. Wheat 96% jointing, 97% 1999, 96% avg.; 88% boot, 87% 1999, 82% avg.; 66% headed, 69% 1999, 53% avg. Onions 3% poor, 19% fair, 72% good, 6% excellent; 6% harvested, 3% 1999, 6% avg. Watermelons 3% very poor, 19% poor, 42% fair, 32% good, 4% excellent; 76% planted, 80% 1999, 75% avg. Apples 8% poor, 42% fair, 47% good, 3% excellent; 64% blooming, 42% 1999, 66% avg. Peaches 23% fair, 45% good, 32% excellent; 91% blooming, 97% 1999, 99% avg. Despite scattered showers that occurred late last week, soils became drier. Land preparation for spring planting continued. Some newly transplanted tobacco was sandblasted from the storms on April 8, but their buds remained intact. The Tomato Spotted Wilt Virus Index, cool soil temperatures delayed peanut planting. Wheat approached a critical stage where it needs rain. Some cereal leaf beetles were appearing in wheat. There was concern about fruit blotch on watermelons coming out of greenhouses. The April 8 storm brought frost, wind damage that diminished watermelon condition. The cool nights caused slight damage to apples, peaches. Some areas reported that pastures are doing well, while others reported declining pastures. Rye was being laid down for straw, cut for silage last week. Other activities included: Irrigating, side dressing tobacco.

**HAWAII:** Improved weather conditions were fair to good for agriculture during the week. Crops generally benefitted from partly cloudy to sunny skies. Rainfall was mainly light to moderate, limited to windward areas. Mandatory was restrictions lifted for Upcountry areas of Maui island. Lighter winds also favored agriculture. Banana harvesting steady. Spraying increased after previous wet weather. Papaya harvesting also steady. Fields in fair to good condition. Head cabbage harvesting steady. Overall crop quality is good. Dry onion harvesting very active on islands of Maui, Oahu. Ginger root harvesting, planting activity interrupted early in the week due to heavy rains.

**IDAHO:** Days suitable for field work 5.2. Topsoil 3% very short, 24% short, 62% adequate, 11% surplus. Temperatures in the mid to high 70's have allowed for rapid spring planting. Thunderstorms were reported towards the end of the week across most of the state. Field work in Northern Area was interrupted by thunderstorms, a snow storm towards the end of the week. Calving is 96% complete, 95% lambing. Hay, roughage supplies 12% very short, 14% short, 70% adequate, 4% surplus. Irrigation supply 45% excellent, 38% good, 16% fair, 1% poor. Onions 75% planted, 94% 1999, 87% avg.; 28% emerged, 9% 1999, 19% avg. Dry peas 21% planted, 24% 1999, 15% avg. Oats 15% planted, 15% 1999, 19% avg. Lentils 7% planted, 0 1999, 2% avg. Potatoes 7% planted, 4% 1999, 5% avg. Sugar beets 83% planted, 31% 1999, 52% avg.; 6% emerged, 2% 1999, 8% avg. Spring barley 10% emerged, 7% 1999, 8% avg. Spring wheat 16% emerged, 12% 1999, 13% avg. Activities: Planting sugar beets, spring wheat, spring barley, onions, potatoes, dry peas, lentils, oats, branding cattle, soil preparation, moving cattle, sheep to early spring pasture, applying fertilizer, irrigating.

**ILLINOIS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Topsoil 29% very short, 42% short, 28% adequate, 1% surplus. Oats 87% planted, 88% 1999, 64% avg. Alfalfa 5% poor, 32% fair, 55% good, 8% excellent. Pasture 5% very poor, 9% poor, 37% fair, 42% good, 7% excellent. Dry weather across the state allowed farmers to set a new record for corn planted at this time of year. Planting progress varied widely across the state from 40% in the West Southwest district to two percent in the Northeast. Some farmers were reported to be finished

with their corn planting, beginning to plant a few acres of soybeans while others were still waiting for warmer soils, moisture before planting any corn. Dry soils continue to be a concern. It was reported by one respondent that "a farmer was heard to say the other day that the seed bag instructed him to store in a dry, cool place" .....so he planted it. Other farmers stated that it is drier now than it was in 1983 with some older farmers saying this weather pattern is very similar to 1954! Other activities last week consisted: Hauling water, preparing equipment for planting, replanting vegetable crops in the north where some were frozen.

**INDIANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.5. Topsoil 16% very short, 33% short, 45% adequate, 6% surplus. Subsoil 32% very short, 42% short, 24% adequate, 2% surplus. Some areas received precipitation. Central, southern counties received the most. However, soils remain dry over most of the state. Farmers are planting corn earlier than normal because of the concern over possible drought. Preparation of fields for planting corn, soybeans continued. Corn fields planted are mostly in the southwest, central regions. A few soybean fields are planted. Application of fertilizer, nitrogen, chemicals continued. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 3% poor, 21% fair, 57% good, 18% excellent. Winter wheat 65% jointed, 44% 1999, 31% avg. Pastures continue to improve. Range, pasture 5% very poor, 19% poor, 38% fair, 35% good, 3% excellent. Hay supplies 6% very short, 20% short, 66% adequate, 8% surplus. Farmers continue to purchase supplies. Livestock are in mostly good condition. Calving, lambing remain active. Major activities: Tillage of soils, preparing equipment, selling grain, ditching, seeding oats, hauling manure, feeding, caring for livestock.

**IOWA:** Days suitable for field work 4.8. Topsoil very short 34%, short 42%, adequate 24%, surplus 0%. Subsoil moisture 42% very short, 43% short, 15% adequate, 0% surplus. Cool temps., scattered showers, snow mixed with rain. Corn 2% planted, 1% 1999, 0% avg. Oats 89% planted, 82% 99, 44% avg. Winter wheat 0% very poor, 9% poor, 32% fair, 50% good, 9% excellent. Fertilizer applied (including fall applications) 80% complete. Seedbed preparation (including fall preparation) 73% complete. Range, Pasture feed, 6% very poor, 31% poor, 40% fair, 22% good, 1% excellent.

**KANSAS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Topsoil 2% very short, 22% short, 73% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% very short, 15% short, 81% adequate, 2% surplus. Winter wheat across the State is rated in mostly good condition. Wheat 2% very poor, 10% poor, 38% fair, 42% good, 8% excellent. Wheat jointing 81%, 72% 1999, 56% avg. Wheat freeze damage 2% moderate, 9% light, 89% no damage. Wheat wind damage 1% moderate, 10% light, 89% no damage. Greenbugs, Army cutworms, aphids continue to be reported, with some spraying necessary. Disease pressure remains minimal with reports of tan spot, wheat streak mosaic, barley yellow dwarf. Corn 20% planting, 7% 1999, 7% avg. Corn 2% emerged, 0% 1999, 0% avg. Spring oat 100% seedings, 99% 1999, 96% avg. Range, pasture feed 1% very poor, 5% poor, 33% fair, 52% good, 9% excellent. Producers move cattle, calves to summer range with adequate growth. Range burning continues as weather permits.

**KENTUCKY:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.0. Topsoil 3% short, 84% adequate, 13% surplus. Subsoil moisture 4% very short, 18% short, 71% adequate, 7% surplus. Near normal temperatures of 55 ° s combined with light rain throughout State. About 92% of tobacco transplants sown, 90% in 1999, 89% avg. Tobacco 68% emerged, 63% 1999, 56% avg. Corn planting slowed by cooler, damp conditions. Winter wheat 1% poor, 13% fair, 60% good, 26% excellent. Average height of alfalfa 11 inches. Barley 1% v. poor, 1% poor, 31% fair, 50% good, 17% excellent. Damage to peaches moderate after frost. Cattle in good shape. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 5% poor, 26% fair, 53% good, 15% excellent.

**LOUISIANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.9. Soil moisture 8% short, 64% adequate, 28% surplus. Corn 1% very poor, 26% poor, 30% fair, 39% good, 4% excellent; 96% planted, 92% 1999, 92% avg.; 79% emerged, 75% 1999, 80% avg. Corn planting edged closer to

completion. Hay 3% 1st cutting, 5% 1999, 4% avg. Rice emerged made good progress. Soybeans 3% planted, 3% 1999, 2% avg. Sorghum 10% emerged, 3% 1999, 5% avg. Spring plowing 83% plowing, 78% 1999, 78% avg. Sugarcane 1% poor, 20% fair, 45% good, 34% excellent. Wheat 9% poor, 31% fair, 53% good, 7% excellent; 96% headed, 97% 1999, 81% avg.; 33% turning color, 2% 1999, 5% avg. Livestock 1% very poor, 4% poor, 37% fair, 51% good, 7% excellent. Vegetables 1% very poor, 5% poor, 44% fair, 47% good, 3% excellent. Pastures 2% very poor, 8% poor, 31% fair, 55% good, 4% excellent.

**MARYLAND:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.3. Topsoil 3% short, 69% adequate, 28% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 13% short, 74% adequate, 12% surplus. Percent of acreage prepared for planting of 42% spring crops. Winter wheat 15% fair, 63% good, 22% excellent. Barley 2% poor, 15% fair, 59% good, 24% excellent; 24% headed. Rye 1% poor, 16% fair, 70% good, 13% excellent; 5% headed. Potatoes 85% planted, 73% 1999, 79% avg. Green peas 84% planted, 81% 1999, 55% avg. Tomatoes 7% planted, 9% 1999, 6% avg. Sweet corn 16% planted, 15% 1999, 13% avg. Field Corn 6% planted, 7% 1999, 8% avg. Apples 42% bloomed, 18% 1999, 25% avg. Peaches 74% bloomed, 65% 1999, 53% avg. Strawberries 52% bloomed, 21% 1999, 26% avg. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 2% poor, 20% fair, 60% good, 17% excellent. Hay supplies 5% very short, 30% short, 65% adequate. Activities: Wet, rainy conditions throughout the state, planting continues.

**MICHIGAN:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil 0% very short, 20% short, 80% adequate, 0% surplus. Subsoil moisture 30% very short, 50% short, 20% adequate, 0% surplus. Temperatures ranged from 2 to 7° below normal across the State. Precipitation amounts ranged from one-tenth to seven-tenths inches with the heaviest rain in the Upper Peninsula. Planting of oats, alfalfa, sugar beets continued. The earlier frosts inflicted injury to buds. Tested buds showed partial bud damage mainly on sweet, tart cherries. Buds were taken at 5 feet from the ground. The latest warm weather "re-started" the vegetation growth, about 2 weeks ahead of normal. Other activities included: Broadcasting fertilizer, hauling manure, spraying, tillage.

**MINNESOTA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.3. Topsoil 17% very short, 43% short, 34% adequate, 6% surplus. Corn 26% ground prepared, 4% 1999, 2% avg. Soybeans 8% ground prepared, 1% 1999, 1% avg. Green peas 18% planted, 5% 1999, 2% avg. Potatoes 4% planted, 4% 1999, 2% avg. Winter wheat 0% very poor, 13% poor, 36% fair, 46% good, 5% exc. Alfalfa 1% very poor, 8% poor, 43% fair, 40% good, 8% exc. Planting was slowed by the low soil temperatures and long awaited precipitation. Temperatures statewide averaged 5.9 degrees below normal for the week. Precipitation was received in most areas of the state, however the moisture content was sparse and not adequate to affect subsoil moisture. Statewide average precipitation was 0.44 inch, 0.10 inch below normal. The low soil temperatures and dry conditions prompted a large number of producers to wait until the crop insurance coverage dates before planting.

**MISSISSIPPI:** Days suitable for fieldwork 1.7. Soil moisture 2% very short, 7% short, 54% adequate, 37% surplus. Corn 81% planted, 68% 1999, 75% avg.; 68% emerged, 43% 1999, 46% avg. Cotton 0% planted, 3% 1999, 3% avg. Rice 3% planted, 18% 1999, 34% avg. Sorghum 12% planted, 14% 1999, 24% avg. Soybeans 2% planted, 8% 1999, 9% avg. Wheat 99% jointing, 93% 1999, 92% avg.; 87% heading, 62% 1999, 43% avg.; 3% poor, 20% fair, 57% good, 20% excellent. Watermelons 47% planted, 37% 1999, 41% avg. Blueberries 2% very poor, 4% poor, 34% fair, 49% good, 11% excellent. Cattle 1% very poor, 7% poor, 20% fair, 60% good, 10% excellent. Pasture 1% very poor, 8% poor, 28% fair, 51% good, 12% excellent. Cold, wet conditions across most of the state continue to delay spring planting.

**MISSOURI:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. The Bootheel had the least amount of days with 4.9. Topsoil moisture supplies were rated at 29% very short, 40% short, 31% adequate. By the end of the week 75% of the ground had been worked at least once for spring crops. Planting corn was the main farming activity throughout the State, excluding no-till, compared with 61 normally. The northern third of the state was the driest with 80% or more in very short to short. The highest ratings were in the Bootheel with 98% adequate to surplus. Fifty-three percent of the corn was planted, ahead of the 16% 1999, three weeks ahead of normal. The Bootheel, southwest districts reported over 80% planted. Winter wheat 4% poor, 33% fair, 49% good, 14% excellent. The west-central, east-central, southwest, Bootheel districts reported the best conditions with nearly 70% or more in the good to excellent category. Pasture, range 10% very poor, 30% poor, 38% fair, 21% good, 1% excellent. The weekly precipitation averaged 0.27 inch.

**MONTANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.7. Topsoil 14% very short, 36% short, 48% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil moisture 24% very short, 48% short, 28% adequate, 0% surplus. The weather was cooperative for fieldwork at the beginning of the week. However, many areas of the state received rain, snow showers toward the end of the week which halted all types of fieldwork. In these cases, producers won't be able to get into their fields for a few days but the moisture was very much needed, welcomed. Fieldwork in progress 37% none, 37% just started, 26% well underway. Winter wheat emergence was 1% still dormant, 18% greening, 81% green, growing. Wind damage to winter wheat 64% none, 28% light, 7% moderate, 1% heavy. Freeze, drought damage to the winter wheat crop is minimal 59% none, 30% light, 11% moderate, 0% heavy. Oats 12% planted, 5% 1999, 3% avg. Oats 1% emerged, 0% 1999, 0% avg. Sugar beets 28% planted, 17% 1999, 10% avg. Corn 6% planted, 0% 1999, 0% avg. Dry 5% beans, 0% 1999, 0% avg. There are reports of cutworms being found, becoming a problem, but the extent has not yet been determined. As a result of the continued fairly mild conditions, livestock is reported to be in very good condition. Calving, lambing is making good progress as few problems have occurred and death losses are minimal. Calving 80% completed, 80% 1999, 81% avg. Lambing 67% completed, 56% 1999, 60% avg. Producers are continuing to give supplemental feed to meet nutritional needs. At the end of the week, 90% of the cattle, calves. 80% of the sheep, lambs were receiving supplemental feed. There is a concern of a shortage of water for livestock as a result of below normal precipitation. There are some reports of ponds, reservoirs being either low or empty due to a lack of snowfall, runoff.

**NEBRASKA:** Topsoil moisture supplies, as well as subsoil moisture supplies, were mostly short to very short. Temperatures across the State averaged near normals in the Panhandle, 2° below normals for the remainder of the State. Precipitation ranged from traces to 1 inch, 69 hundredths at Orchard. Winter Wheat 4% very poor, 12% poor, 31% fair, 49% good, 4% excellent; 14% jointed, 2% 1999, 2% avg. Oat seedings were 91% complete, compared to 69% 1999, 46% avg.; 39% emerged, 31% 1999, 12% avg.; 2% very poor, 24% poor, 57% good, 16% good, 1% excellent. Corn planting 4% complete, 1% 1999, none avg. Pasture, range 21% very poor, 26% poor, 40% fair, 12% good, 1% excellent. Calving was 88% complete, ahead of 1999 85%. Producer activities included: Crop planting preparations, livestock care.

**NEVADA:** Temperatures cooled somewhat with the arrival of widespread rains, but remained near or slightly above normal. Over one-half inch of precipitation fell in the East, with rain in the valleys, snow in the mountains. Mountain snowpack was at or slightly above normal East, but still well below normal West. Irrigation water supplies remained mostly adequate. Small grain planting progressed, was approaching completion in some areas. Additional field preparation, cultivation was undertaken. Spring wheat, barley emergence became more evident. Potato planting was underway. Mint root seeding continued. Weed control efforts remained intense. Pasture, range prospect improved in response to the timely rains. Calving, lambing continued. Branding, movement to Spring range continued. Main

farm, ranch activities: Field preparation, grain planting, potato planting, mint seeding, weed control, branding, working cattle.

**NEW ENGLAND:** Temperatures were below normal for the week. Wet April thus far. Farmers tending livestock, assisting spring calving, repairing machinery, preparing fields for spring planting. Fruit growers pruning trees. Manure spreading by dairy farmers continues. Garden centers starting sales of spring plants.

**NEW JERSEY:** Temperatures averaged below normal. Weekly rainfall averaged 0.53 inches North, 0.87 inches Central, 1.24 inches South. Cumulative rainfall for the year 2000 continue to show below average rainfall amounts. In the past 30 days, recent rains have pushed southern areas to above normal precipitation levels. Peach trees are past bloom, in between petal fall stage, shuck split stage. In Southern Area apple trees are starting to bloom. Harvesting of asparagus, cilantro, kale, arugula, leeks, parsley, radishes, spinach, dandelions, swiss chard. Some harvesting of boston lettuce reported. Planting continues for potatoes, cabbage, endive, escarole. Planting under plastic of tomatoes, peppers, squash.

**NEW MEXICO:** Days suitable for field work 6.7. Topsoil 39% very short, 27% short, 34% adequate, 0% surplus. Temperatures for the week averaged near normal across the eastern plains, in the far west, while readings in the northern mountains, in the central areas along the Rio Grande, into south central areas of the state were 3 to 6° warmer than normal. Several periods of showers were noted across the northern mountains, northeast plains, while most other areas remained dry. Main farm activities during the week were: Planting chile, cotton, corn. Planting of oats, potatoes were evident in Northwest. Land preparation for spring planting continued where actual planting had not begun. Some crop damage was reported due to rabbits, quail caused by the lack of vegetation in non irrigated areas. Onions remained in mostly good to excellent condition. Chile was 84% planted, was in fair to excellent condition. Irrigated wheat was in fair to good condition, while the dryland wheat was mostly poor to fair. Supplemental feeding of cattle continued. Cattle continued in fair to good condition, while sheep were in poor to good condition. Pasture, range feed conditions were 16% very poor, 25% poor, 42% fair, 17% good.

**NEW YORK:** Days suitable 4.5. Soil moisture 50% adequate, 50% surplus. Pasture feed poor, beginning to green up. Spring plowing active as conditions permit. Major farm activities included: Repairing fences, machinery maintenance, caring for livestock, pruning fruit trees.

**NORTH CAROLINA:** Days suitable for field work were 4.3 compared to 5.0 last week. Heading into the middle of April, The State had another week of widespread precipitation. This makes five consecutive weeks of Statewide rainfall. The moisture continues to leave the soil in good shape for the planting season with the current rating of 0% very short, 8% short, 74% adequate, 18% surplus. Despite the rain, farmers were able to make large gains in corn planting as percent planted jumped from 15% to 40%. Between rains, farmers continue to prepare fields for cotton, now peanuts, sweetpotatoes. Other activities included applying: Herbicides, fertilizer, scouting for pests, equipment maintenance, tending livestock. Cereal leaf blight continues to be a nuisance in wheat.

**NORTH DAKOTA:** The average starting date for fieldwork is expected to be April 17<sup>th</sup>. This compares to 1999, start of April 22<sup>nd</sup> and the five-year average of April 27<sup>th</sup>. A winter storm over most of the state last week slowed fieldwork. Topsoil 4% very short, 18% short, 73% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil moisture was 4% very short, 19% short, 72% adequate, 5% surplus. Up to 10 inches of snow was reported in some areas. 1% of the durum wheat crop was planted, compared to 0% 1999, a five year average of 0%. Cattle 0% very poor, 1% poor, 16% fair, 73% good, 10% excellent. Calf 0% very poor, 0% poor, 16% fair, 74% good, 10% excellent. Calving 78% complete. 95% of the cattle were receiving supplemental feed.

Sheep 0% very poor, 0% poor, 13% fair, 74% good, 13% excellent. Lamb 0% very poor, 1% poor, 14% fair, 73% good, 12% excellent. Lambing was 83% complete, shearing was 90% complete. 84% of the sheep were receiving supplemental feed. Hay, roughage supplies were 0% very short, 3% short, 85% adequate, 12% surplus. Grain, concentrate supplies were 0% very short, 3% short, 88% adequate, 9% surplus. Pasture, range 4% very poor, 11% poor, 38% fair, 42% good, 5% excellent. Pasture, ranges 78% open and 86% dormant.

**OHIO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 1.5. Topsoil 1% very short, 6% short, 73% adequate, 20% surplus. Corn 2% planted, 6% 1999, 3% avg. Oats 53% planted; 65% 1999; 46% avg. Oats 26% emerged; 28% 1999, 14% avg. Potatoes 12% planted, 27% 1999, 11% avg. Sugar beets 9% planted. Tobacco beds seeded 69%, 82% 1999. Tobacco beds having plants up 25%; 31% 1999. Winter wheat jointed 36%, 29% 1999, 17% avg. Apples green tip 75%; 67% 1999. Apples in full bloom 19%. Peaches in green tip 72%, 70% 1999. Peaches in full bloom 44%; 44% in 1999. Pasture 2% very poor, 8% poor, 30% fair, 47% good, 13% excellent. Winter wheat 0% very poor, 1% poor, 14% fair, 51% good, 34% excellent. Apples 4% very poor, 5% poor, 19% fair, 61% good, 11% excellent. Peaches 5% very poor, 12% poor, 21% fair, 52% good, 10% excellent. Hay 1% very poor, 8% poor, 28% fair, 50% good, 13% excellent. Activities throughout the state include applying: Anhydrous ammonia, fertilizer, lime; hauling manure, plowing, chiseling, discing, applying pre-emergence herbicides, burning brush, clearing fence rows, equipment maintenance, preparation, installing tile, moving grain, sowing oats, alfalfa seedings, planting grasses, legumes, marketing grain, top dressing wheat, seeding peppers, culling unproductive livestock, buying seed. Recent rains have helped pastures recover. However, growth is still slow in many areas due to cold temperatures. Poor pasture conditions were reported in some central counties. Frost damage was reported in apple, peach orchards in southern portions of the state. Maple syrup producers in some northern areas suffered an estimated 75% reduction in sap yields. Livestock are reported in good to excellent condition, although hay supplies are running low in some areas. Calving, lambing are progressing normally throughout the state. Routine livestock activities such as tagging, selling calves were reported throughout the state.

**OKLAHOMA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.4. Topsoil 1% very short, 8% short, 85% adequate, 6% surplus. Subsoil moisture 3% very short, 22% short, 70% adequate, 5% surplus. Wheat 2% very poor, 3% poor, 18% fair, 65% good, 12% excellent; 96% jointing, 92% 1999, 85% avg.; 27% headed, 16% 1999, 10% avg. Oats 2% very poor, 5% poor, 26% fair, 61% good, 6% excellent; 100% planted, 100% 1999, 100% avg.; 75% jointing, 80% 1999, 54% avg.; 13% headed, 16% 1999, 8% avg. Corn 78% seedbed prepared, 89% 1999, 88% avg.; 30% planted, 22% 1999, 19% avg. Sorghum 34% seedbed prepared, 48% 1999, 34% avg.; 3% planted, 1% 1999, 2% avg. Soybeans 60% seedbed prepared, 43% 1999, 44% avg.; 9% planted, 9% 1999, 6% avg. Peanuts 48% seedbed prepared, 62% 1999, 50% avg. Cotton 71% seedbed prepared, 82% 1999, 64% avg. Pasture 1% very poor, 8% poor, 27% fair, 56% good, 8% excellent; Livestock 3% poor, 21% fair, 66% good, 10% excellent; Cattle marketings steady to \$1.00 per cwt. higher.

**OREGON:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Topsoil 1% very short, 18% short, 78% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil 11% short, 76% adequate, 13% surplus. Barley 89% planted, 65% 1999, 62% avg. Barley 60% fair, 37% good, 3% excellent. Spring wheat 81% planted, 71% 1999. Winter wheat 33% fair, 58% good, 9% excellent. Range, pasture 25% fair, 64% good, 11% excellent. Activities: Winter wheat looks good, barley is fair to good condition across state. In Umatilla County cereal crops under irrigation look good but dryland fields beginning to look water stressed. Some mildew seen on grass seed crops. Conditions excellent for planting, field preparations. A heavier than normal insect pressure anticipated due to mild winter. In Mid-Columbia basin, Northeast spring grains being planted. In Kalamath basin spring field work, planting continued. Sugar beets 2% planted. In Willamette Valley most field tillage stopped mid-week by rain. Clover growing rapidly, grains doing well. Grass seed sprayed for broad leaf control.

Wholesale nurseries active in moving containers, balled, burlapped material into trade channels. Greenhouses moving bedding plants to retail outlets for spring planning. Retail outlets selling Easter Lilies. Local tulip growers having open houses to look at blooming tulips, to sell bulb orders for next fall. Some fields in western areas of the state still too wet for vegetable planting, others in high-gear early in week. Rhubarb growth well underway, some counties reporting near harvest; leeks also in harvest stage. Sweet peas, garlic doing well in Washington County. In eastern area potato planting season reported in every stage from field preparation in Baker County to planting winding down in Umatilla County, all stages in between. Malheur County seed potatoes being cut, prepared for planting next week; onions emerged, looked good. In Klamath County, vegetable fields being fumigated. Asparagus harvest very good in Umatilla County due to low wind damage this year. Fruit: Tree fruit, berry crops put on a spurt of growth with warmer temperatures prior to rain. Most fruit orchards in mid to full bloom. Early strawberries beginning to bloom. Hazelnuts leafing, catkins gone. Blackberries leafing out, buds forming. Cranberries in various stages of early development from cabbage head to roughneck depending on age of bed, cultivar. A few cranberry beds being planted. Livestock in excellent condition with calving winding down. Eastern ranchers branding calves, starting to turn cattle out onto lower level pastures. Western ranchers finishing up lambing, also working with young calves. All parts of state report pastures in excellent condition, dry enough to turn cattle out to graze. Most Eastern pastures received welcome rain last week.

**PENNSYLVANIA:** Days suitable for field work 2.8. Soil moisture 1% very short, 7% short, 76% adequate, 16% surplus. Plowing 44% complete, 40% 1999, 38% avg. Oats 28% planted, 33% 1999, 33% avg. Oats 11% emerged, 13% 1999, average not available. Wheat crop 2% poor, 15% fair, 66% good, 17% excellent. Oat crop 5% very poor, 6% poor, 41% fair, 43% good, 5% excellent. Alfalfa, alfalfa mixtures stand 2% very poor, 4% poor, 23% fair, 58% good, 13% excellent. Timothy clover stand 6% very poor, 3% poor, 18% fair, 64% good, 9% excellent. Peaches 84% pink, 44% 1999, 37% avg.; 72% full bloom or past, 12% 1999, 19% avg. Cherries 62% pink, 30% 1999, 33% avg.; 15% full bloom or past, 12% 1999, 19% avg. Apples 11% pink, 20% 1999, 19% avg. Activities include: Spring plowing; Planting oats, alfalfa, sweet corn, tobacco; fixing fences; machinery maintenance; ordering supplies; spreading lime, fertilizers; hauling manure; caring for livestock; spraying herbicides, pruning trees.

**SOUTH CAROLINA:** Days suitable for field work 5.1. Soil moisture 26% short, 73% adequate, 1% surplus. Apples 20% fair, 60% good, 20% excellent. Barley 30% headed, 21% 1999, 20% avg.; 10% turned color, 1% 1999; 7% fair, 51% good, 42% excellent. Cantaloupes 69% planted, 40% 1999, 60% avg.; 2% poor, 38% fair, 60% good. Corn 92% planted 76% 1999, 80% avg.; 43% emerged, 53% 1999; 17% fair, 82% good, 1% excellent. Cotton 7% planted, 7% 1999, 4% avg. Cucumbers 73% planted, 64% 1999, 65% avg.; 14% fair, 86% good. Grain Hay 19% harvested, 20% 1999, 17% avg. Hay 1% poor, 23% fair, 62% good, 14% excellent. Oats 56% headed, 44% 1999, 41% avg.; 12% turned color, 4% 1999, 1% avg.; 19% fair, 70% good, 11% excellent. Peanuts 7% planted, 6% 1999, 5% avg. Peaches 18% fair, 42% good, 40% excellent. Rye 55% headed, 38% 1999, 36% avg.; 8% turned color, 4% 1999, 3% avg.; 1% poor, 24% fair, 70% good, 5% excellent. Snap beans 65% planted, 51% 1999, 52% avg.; 100% good. Sorghum 20% planted, 18% 1999, 8% avg. Soybeans 5% planted. Sweet potatoes 8% planted, 3% 1999, 3% avg. Tobacco 30% transplanted, 44% 1999, 43% avg. Tomatoes 82% planted, 60% 1999, 72% avg; 100% good. Watermelons 85% planted, 78% 1999, 73% avg; 7% poor, 40% fair, 53% good. Winter grazings 1% poor, 31% fair, 57% good, 11% excellent. Winter wheat 45% headed, 38% 1999, 35% avg.; 3% turning color, 2% 1999, 1% avg.; 3% poor, 18% fair, 71% good, 8% excellent.

**SOUTH DAKOTA:** Days suitable for field work 4.8. Winter Wheat boot 0%, NA% 1999, NA% avg. Winter rye 5% poor, 21% fair, 56%

good, 18% excellent; boot 0%, NA% 1999, NA% avg. Range, pasture 1% very poor, 7% poor, 28% fair, 55% good, 9% excellent. Stock water supplies 2% very short, 17% short, 73% adequate, 8% surplus. Cattle 5% fair, 71% good, 24% excellent; moved to pasture 11%. Sheep 3% fair, 61% good, 36% excellent. Lambing 71%. Calving 63%. Calf deaths 45% below avg.; 54% avg.; 1% above avg. Sheep, lamb deaths 48% below avg.; 52% avg. Strong winds mid-week followed by cold, wet weather Thursday through Sunday brought fieldwork to a halt. Areas received precipitation in the form of rain, hail, sleet, snow, freezing rain this week. Soil conditions are still too dry for germination, delaying planting in many areas.

**TENNESSEE:** Days suitable for fieldwork 2. Topsoil 3% short, 65% adequate, 32% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 20% short, 61% adequate, 18% surplus. Tobacco 92% seeded, 92% 1999, 94% avg.; 82% plants up, 71% 1999, 74% avg. Wheat 95% jointed, 80% 1999, 85% avg.; 13% headed, 10% 1999, 10% avg.; 2% poor, 13% fair, 54% good, 31% excellent. Apples 89% blooming or beyond, 57% 1999, 77% avg. Peaches 98% blooming or beyond, 94% 1999, 93% avg. Pastures 1% very poor, 7% poor, 31% fair, 53% good, 8% excellent. Strawberries 3% very poor, 4% poor, 38% fair, 48% good, 7% excellent. Alfalfa 1% very poor, 4% poor, 27% fair, 57% good, 11% excellent. Rain showers moved across the area last week bringing most field activities to a standstill. The moisture was a welcome sight to many areas still recovering from last summer's drought. Corn planting was delayed due to wet field conditions, cotton growers continued to wait for warmer soil temperatures. Many wheat growers are concerned that last week's soggy conditions could lead to disease problems in the coming weeks. Fungicides are currently being applied. Some disease problems in tobacco plants have been reported, growers are taking corrective measures. Other field activities last week included: Fertilizing, spraying herbicides on pastures, applying burn-down chemicals, plowing under winter cover crops.

**TEXAS:** Cool temperatures continued to slow crop development across the state, land preparation remained slow as light to moderate rain showers fell in many locations. Some areas were still void of any moisture while streams overflowed their banks in portions of East Area. Cattle movement continued, supplemental feeding remained necessary in the drier areas, water available for livestock stock remained critical in these same areas. Land preparation continued in most areas, some growers began watering to help prevent the soil from blowing. In areas where rains continued, supplemental feeding continued to decline, available stock water began to return to more normal levels. Some hay fields were being baled in a few areas. In the Rio Grande Valley, Winter Garden areas, vegetables continued to make good progress. Field Crops: Conditions for small grains remained varied across the state. Many remaining fields of wheat, oats were being baled for hay where the weather permitted. Heading continued on the Plains, however in many cases the only grain that will be combined will come from fields where irrigation was possible. Statewide wheat 39% of normal compared with 63% 1999. Corn Planting remained active on the Plains, North Central. Some planting was on hold in the High Plains as growers were waiting for drying conditions. Cultivation continued in southern areas, the Rio Grande Valley where some early corn was beginning to tassel. Statewide corn 79% of normal compared with 77% 1999. Emerged, 54% Published, 49% 1999, Average NA. Cotton: Some early cotton reached the pinhead square stage in southern areas while some replanted cotton was emerging. Good stands occurred in areas where soil moisture, temperature were adequate. Moisture will be needed in a few areas before planting can begin while some other areas need to dry before planting can begin. Rice: Most fields were off to a good start as the stand counts were favorable with the aid of recent rains, flushing, however growth was slowed due to the continued cool weather. Rice 74% of normal. Sorghum: Planting continued to move northward as weather conditions allowed. A few fields have headed in southern areas. Cultivation continued where necessary, however some progress was slowed due to wet fields. Statewide sorghum condition was rated at 80% of normal compared with 76% 1999. Peanuts: Land preparation continued in the growing areas, planting has started in South. Planted 2% Published, 2% 1999, 1% Average. Soybeans: Land

preparation remained active where possible, and planting continued along the upper Coast and South Central Texas. Most stands remained favorable. Published 35%, 1999 22%, Average 18%. Commercial Vegetables Fruit and Pecans: Rio Grande Valley, harvest continued for greens, carrots, onions, cabbage, began for beans, peas, potatoes. Available soil moisture was a concern to some growers, insect pressure continued to increase in most areas. San Antonio-Winter Garden, melon planting remained active, re-planting was winding down in areas where earlier storm damage occurred. Harvest continued active for cabbage, carrots, broccoli. Planting of green beans, peas, chili peppers remained active. East Area, growth progress was slowed in most areas as the temperature remained cool wet. Some insect pressure occurred, harvest continued for broccoli, onions, cauliflower. High Plains, land preparation remained active with the aid of recent rainfall. Home gardens were making good progress. Peaches: the first sprays were beginning in parts of the Plains, fruit setting continued in central, southern areas. Some potential fruit loads appeared less than normal possibly the result of the lack chill hours. Pecans: Bud break continued to move northward, applications of zinc continued to be applied by producers in southern areas. Range and Livestock: Green-up of range, pasture continued in most areas of the state, however in the Trans Pecos area almost nothing is green. Some producers in these areas that have held on to livestock are now considering liquidation. Planting of new grass continued in other locations where soil moisture, temperature was adequate. Supplemental feeding continued to decline and virtually stopped in the wetter areas. In a few areas grasshopper populations were continuing to expand.

**UTAH:** Days suitable for field work 6. Topsoil 1% very short, 25% short, 71% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil moisture 15% short, 81% adequate, 4% surplus. Winter wheat 2% very poor, 4% poor, 16% fair, 77% good, 1% excellent; freeze damage 88% none, 9% light, 3% moderate. Fall barley 4% very poor, 9% poor, 18% fair, 58% good, 11% excellent; freeze damage 80% none, 14% light, 6% moderate. Pasture, range 8% poor, 33% fair, 54% good, 5% excellent. Spring wheat 70% planted, 73% 1999, 75% avg.; 30% emerged, 37% 1999, 35% avg. Barley 70% planted, 74% 1999, 74% avg.; 32% emerged, 37% 1999, 36% avg. Oats 31% planted, 34% 1999, 31% avg.; 6% emerged, 10% 1999, 16% avg. Sweet cherries full bloom or past 62%, 20% 1999, 34% avg. Tart cherries full bloom or past 53%, 6% 1999, 9% avg. Peaches full bloom or past 75%, 50% avg. Apples full bloom or past 22%, 5% avg. Pears full bloom or past 32%, 4% 1999, 29% avg. Cows calved 79%, 80% 1999, 78% avg. Ewes lambed: on farm 81%, 87% 1999, 80% avg.; on range 42%, 45% 1999, 43% avg. Sheep sheared on farm 75%, 79% 1999, 74% avg.; on range 50%, 56% 1999, 54% avg. Major farm, ranch activities included: Spring planting, spring tillage, spraying fruit, shearing sheep, finishing lambing, calving. Some counties reported that dry weather is beginning to effect some crops.

**VIRGINIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.1. Topsoils 17% short, 71% adequate, 12% surplus. Subsoil moisture 3% very short, 36% short, 57% adequate, 4% excellent. Pastures 1% very poor, 5% poor, 31% fair, 57% good, 6% excellent. Livestock 3% poor, 14% fair, 69% good, 14% excellent. Other Hay 1% very poor, 3% poor, 33% fair, 52% good, 11% excellent. Alfalfa Hay 1% very poor, 2% poor, 21% fair, 57% good, 19% excellent. Corn for Grain 18% planted, 19% 1999, 15% avg. Winter Wheat 3% poor, 19% fair, 61% good, 17% excellent. Barley 2% poor, 21% fair, 57% good, 20% excellent. Tobacco greenhouse 17% fair, 66% good, 17% excellent. Tobacco plantbeds 6% very poor, 7% poor, 31% fair, 56% good. Apples 19% fair, 44% good, 37% excellent. Peaches 9% very poor, 3% poor, 21% fair, 56% good, 11% excellent. Statewide average temperatures were below normal last week. Precipitation across the Commonwealth was slightly less than normal for the week, but variable for each locality. Rains helped pastures, hay fields green up but warmer weather is needed for growth. Many producers are moving their livestock to pasture which is early for this time of year. Many farmers are still concerned about depleted ground water supplies going into the growing season. Land preparation continues, while planting of corn, vegetables remains a major activity. Other activities for the week included: Cultivation, herbicide application to potatoes, bedding sweetpotatoes, scouting fields for cereal leaf beetles, diseases, laying plastic mulch for vegetables.

**WASHINGTON:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.67. Topsoil 8% short, 75% adequate, 17% surplus. Subsoil moisture 10% short, 89% adequate, 1% surplus. Winter wheat dryland 11% fair, 68% good, 21% excellent; irrigated 100% good. Precipitation was beneficial for the winter wheat crop. Reports of physiologic leaf spot, barley yellow dwarf virus were

showing up in some fields in far eastern area. However, growers did not expect them to cause severe problems because of the good condition of the crop. Spring wheat dryland 1% poor, 73% fair, 26% good; irrigated 100% good. Planted 67%, 62% 1999, 53% avg.; emerged 31%, 29% 1999, 27% avg. Barley, dryland 1% poor, 69% fair, 30% good; irrigated 100% good. Planted 51%, 46% 1999, 41% avg.; emerged 15%, 16% 1999, 16% avg. A continuation of the warm weather enabled growers to plant both cereal grains last week. Showers late in the week were also beneficial for topsoil moisture. Potatoes 10% fair, 90% good. Planted 58%, 31% 1999, 33% avg.; emerged 25%, 0% 1999, 6% avg. Hay, roughage 100% adequate. Range, pasture 18% poor, 29% fair, 53% good. Spring planting continued across the State. First cutting of asparagus of the season was being cut, while hybrid poplars, pome fruits were leafing out. Apple growers were applying scab sprays, grafting trees while blueberry growers were applying fungicides. Daffodil, ulip flowers were in bloom with reports of daffodil yields being higher than average. Pastures were improving due to the warm weather, cattle were grazing spring ranges.

**WEST VIRGINIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.2. Topsoil 1% very short, 18% short, 79% adequate, 2% surplus. Producers took advantage of the mostly open weather to continue planting, field activities. Wheat 9% fair, 72% good, 19% excellent. Hay 2% very poor, 12% poor, 52% fair, 34% good. Intended Acreage Prepared for Spring Planting 57%, 62% 1999, 57% 5-yr avg. Corn 7%, planted, 10% 1999, 8% 5-yr avg. Oats 60% Planted, 41% 1999, 37% 5-yr avg. Oats 18% emerged, 17% 1999, 17% 5-yr avg. Tobacco beds 94% seeded, 75% 1999, 75% 5-yr avg. Tobacco beds 46% emerged, 13% 1999, 42% 5-yr avg. Cattle 5% poor, 23% fair, 70% good, 2% excellent; 85% calved. Sheep 1% poor, 11% fair, 84% good, 4% excellent; 93% lambed. Feed grain supplies 6% very short, 16% short, 70% adequate, 8% surplus. Hay, roughage supplies 20% very short, 36% short, 44% adequate. Activities: Field preparation, planting, calving, lambing, general maintenance.

**WISCONSIN:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.8. Soil moisture 15% very short, 55% short, 29% adequate, 1% surplus. Spring tillage 37% 2000, 18% 1999, 8% 5-year avg. Dry conditions allowed field cultivation to progress quickly. Some were waiting to finish soil preparation just prior to planting to conserve soil moisture. Alfalfa, winter wheat continued to green up, but need warm weather, more moisture to promote growth. A few reporters noted that a little corn planting has started in southern areas. Many producers are hoping to start in the next week or two, if the weather is favorable. Potato planting has started in most of the central sands areas. Some farmers have started planting peas, sweet corn. Cranberries look good in Wood County, but are still dormant. Many farmers continued to haul manure, apply nitrogen and fertilizer.

**WYOMING:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.8. Topsoil 6% very short, 52% short, 42% adequate. Barley 58% planted, 67% 1999, 64% avg.; 20% emerged, 18% 1999, 10% avg. Oats 30% planted, 32% 1999, 23% avg.; 0% emerged, 4% 1999, 2% avg. Spring wheat 33% planted, 38% 1999, 31% avg.; 3% emerged, 13% 1999, 5% avg. Sugar beets 57% planted, 29% 1999, 24% avg. Winter wheat in mostly fair to good condition with some light wind damage and no freeze damage. Spring calves 80% born, 77% 1999, 78% avg. Farm flock ewes lambed 81%, 84% 1999, 86% avg. Farm flock sheep 80% shorn, 84% 1999, 86% avg. Range flock ewes 30% lambed, 16% 1999, 17% avg. Range flock 52% sheep shorn, 44% 1999, 45% avg. Calf, lamb losses light to normal. Livestock in mostly good to excellent condition. Range, pasture 1% very poor, 6% poor, 48% fair, 41% good, 4% excellent. Hay, roughage supplies 1% short, 57% adequate, 42% surplus.

# International Weather and Crop Summary

April 9 - 15, 2000

## HIGHLIGHTS

**FSU-WESTERN:** Early-week rain slowed spring grain planting in southern Russia, while mostly dry weather in Ukraine allowed spring grain planting to rapidly advance northward.

**EUROPE:** Showers across the Iberian peninsula improved topsoil moisture for jointing to reproducing winter grains.

**NORTHWESTERN AFRICA:** Showers provided limited relief for winter grains stressed by several weeks of drought.

**AUSTRALIA:** Cotton and sorghum harvests progressed, while beneficial rain fell in winter grain and livestock areas south and west of the main summer crop areas.

**SOUTH ASIA:** Near-normal temperatures in March aided winter wheat and oilseed development across India and Pakistan.

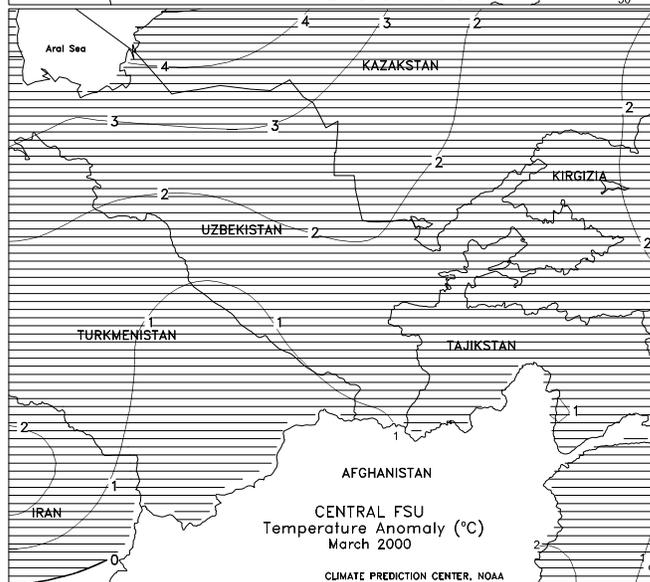
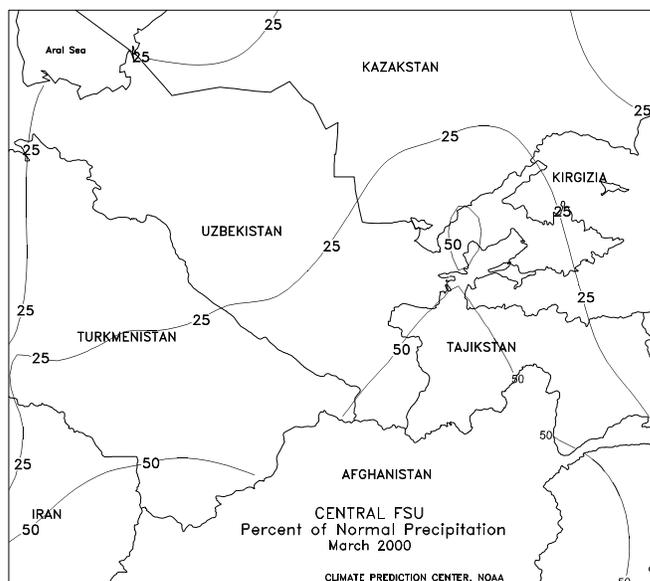
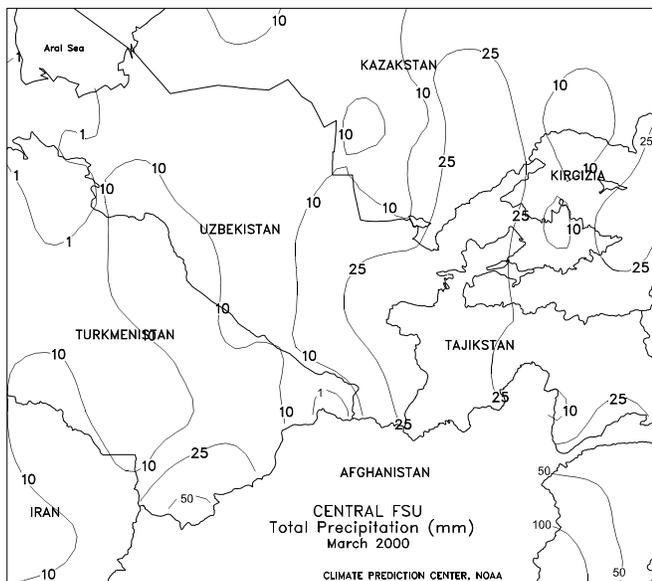
**SOUTH AFRICA:** Dry, seasonably mild weather aided summer crop drydown and maturation.

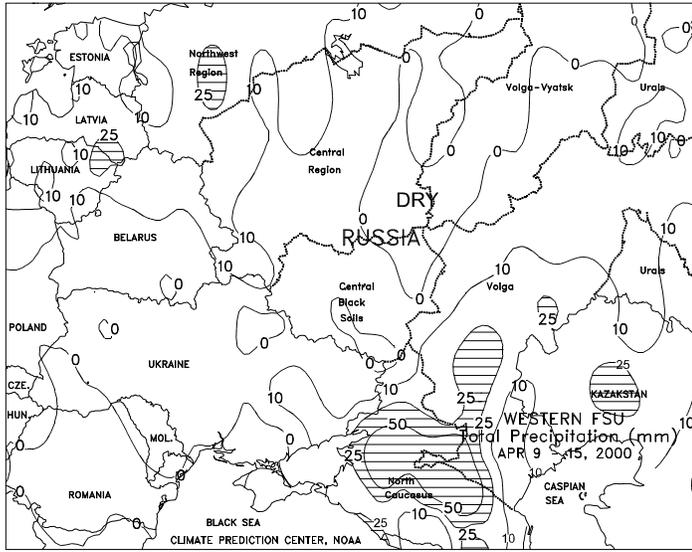
**SOUTHEAST ASIA:** Widespread showers boosted moisture supplies across Thailand, while drier weather aided main-season rice harvesting in Java.

**EASTERN ASIA:** Rain increased topsoil moisture for winter wheat in central China, while cold weather burned back newly planted spring wheat and slowed planting in Manchuria.

**SOUTH AMERICA:** Mostly dry weather aided summer crop harvesting, except for early-week showers in central Argentina.

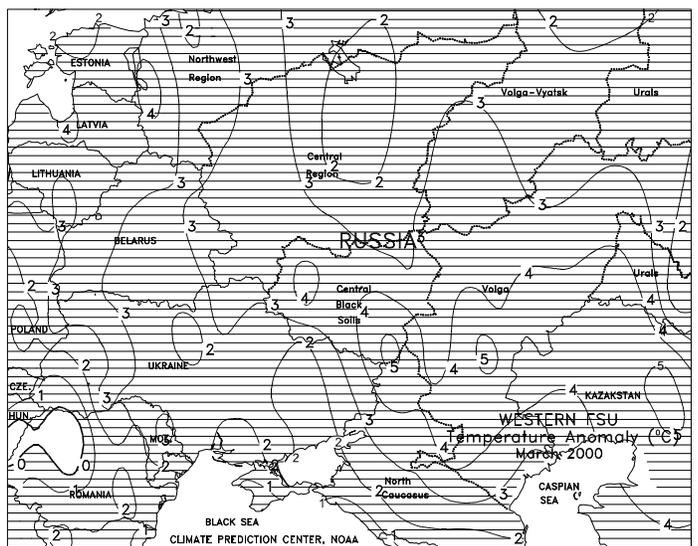
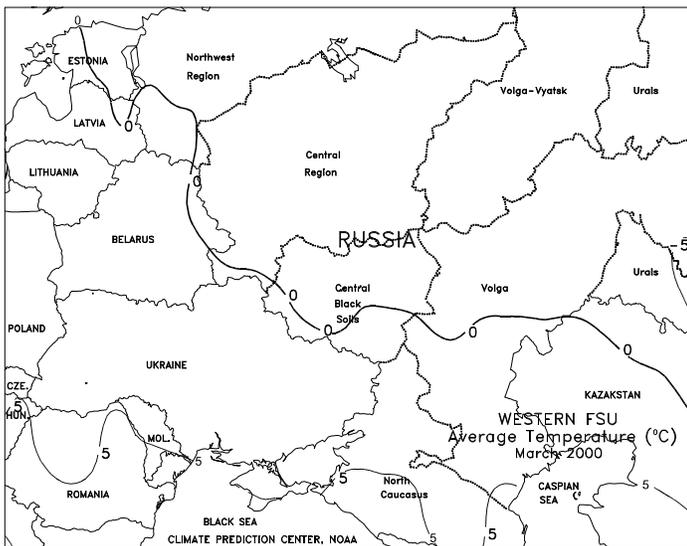
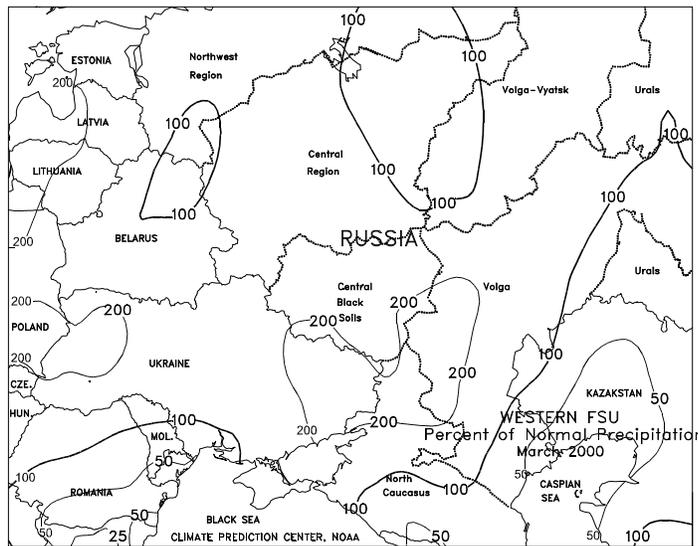
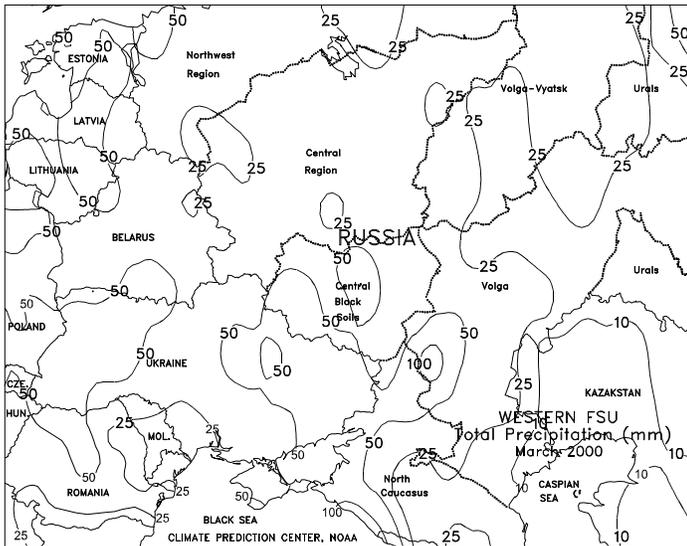
**MIDDLE EAST AND TURKEY:** In March, timely showers brought localized relief to crops in west-central Iran, but failed to improve long-term prospects.

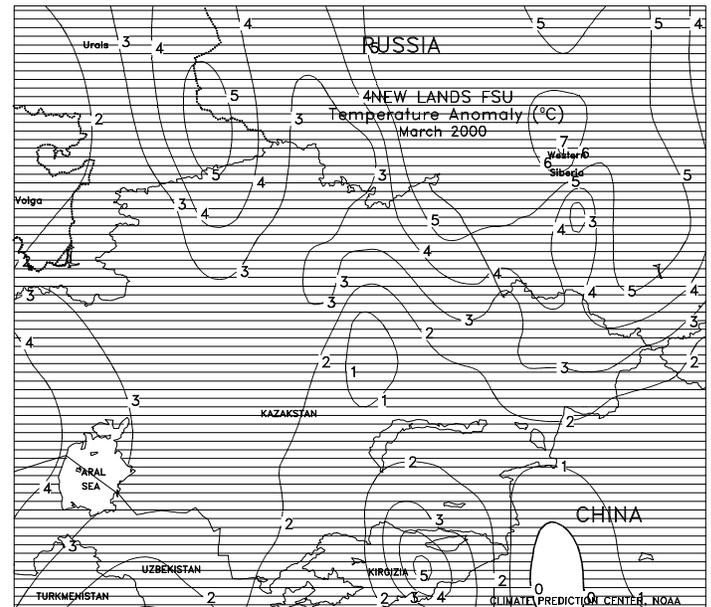
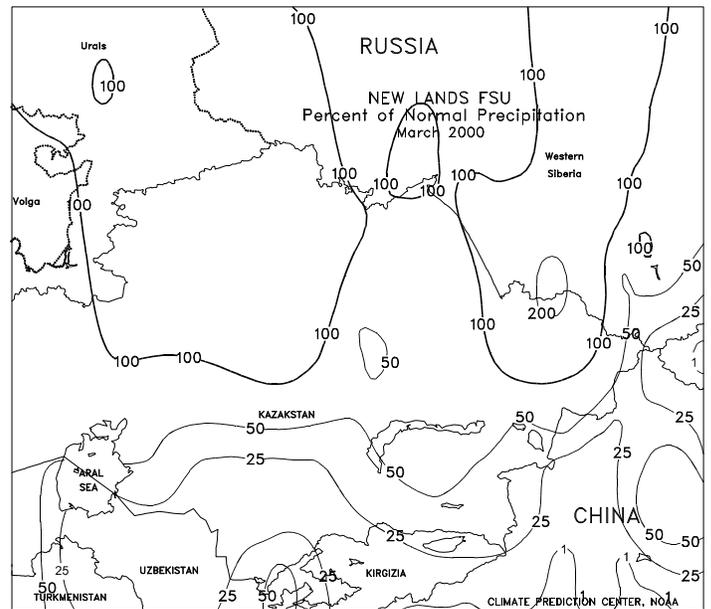
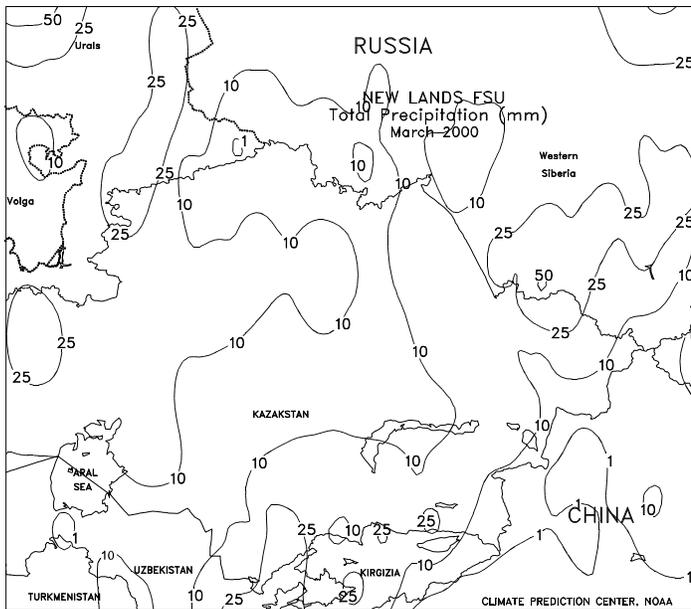


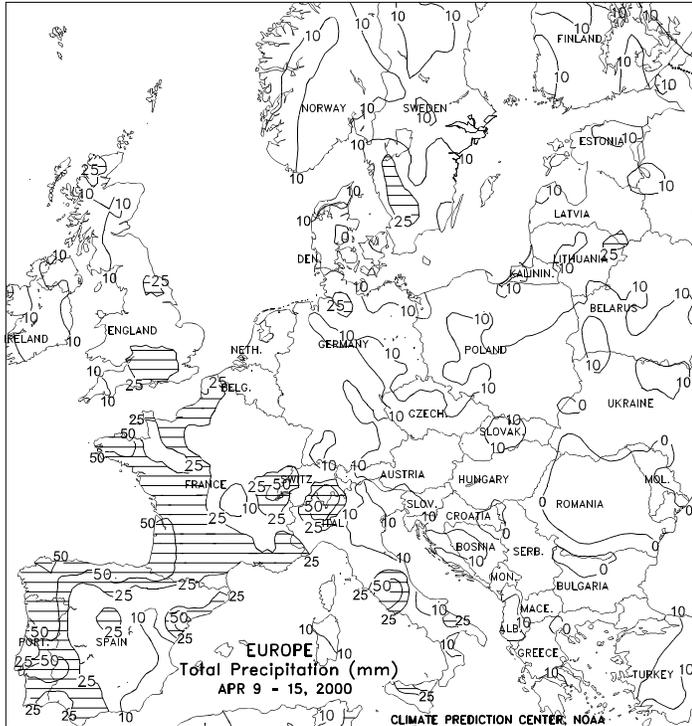


**FSU-WESTERN**

In the south of Russia (North Caucasus and lower Volga Valley), wet weather (12-50 mm or more) early in the week slowed spring grain, sugar beet, and sunflower planting, but provided generous topsoil moisture for winter grains in the vegetative stage. Farther north, unseasonably mild weather (weekly temperatures averaged 3-6 degrees C above normal) melted most remaining snow cover in northern Russia and prompted greening of winter grains as far north as the southern portion of the Central Region and the upper Volga Valley. In Ukraine, unseasonably warm and mostly dry weather spurred rapid growth of winter grains and allowed spring grain planting to rapidly progress northward. Reports indicated sugar beet and sunflower planting were just beginning in southern areas. Weekly temperatures averaged 2 to 4 degrees C above normal in Ukraine. In March, several storm systems brought above-normal precipitation to Ukraine, southern Russia (North Caucasus, Central Black Soils Region, and lower Volga Valley), and the Baltics. The precipitation fell as a rain and snow mixture, increasing moisture reserves but hampering early-spring fieldwork. Monthly temperatures averaged slightly above normal in Ukraine and up to 5 degrees C above normal in Russia and the Baltics. Winter grains remained dormant in most areas during the month, with greening confined to crop areas along the Black Sea coast. Although winter grains in northern Russia continued to overwinter under a moderate to deep snow cover, daytime highs frequently ranged from 1 to 5 degrees C, causing some gradual snow melt.

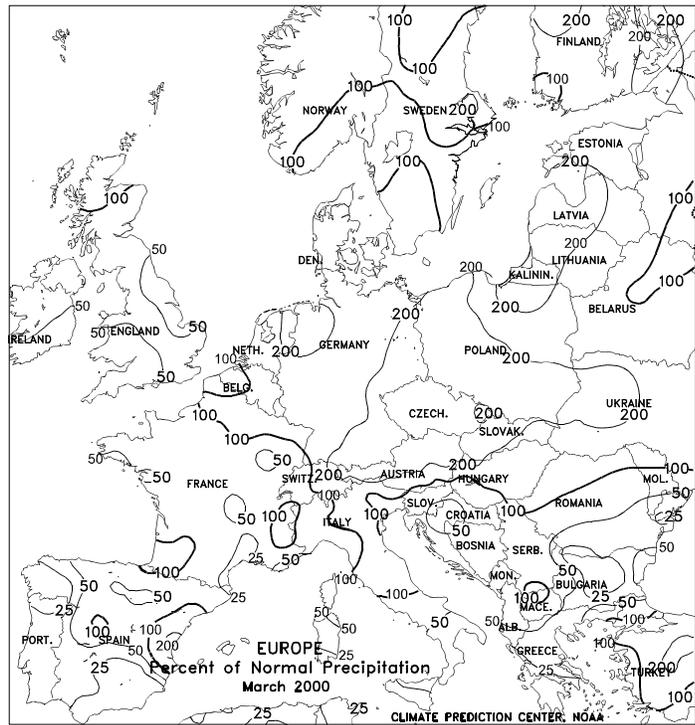
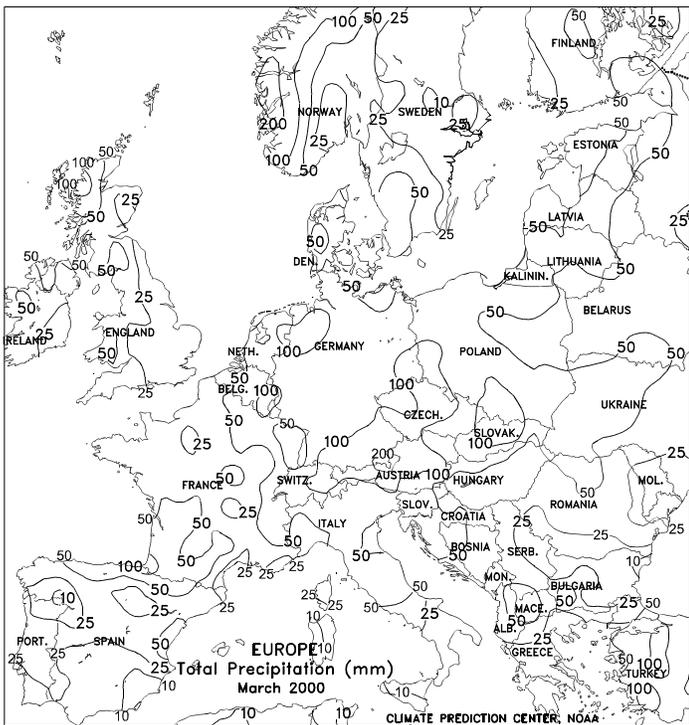


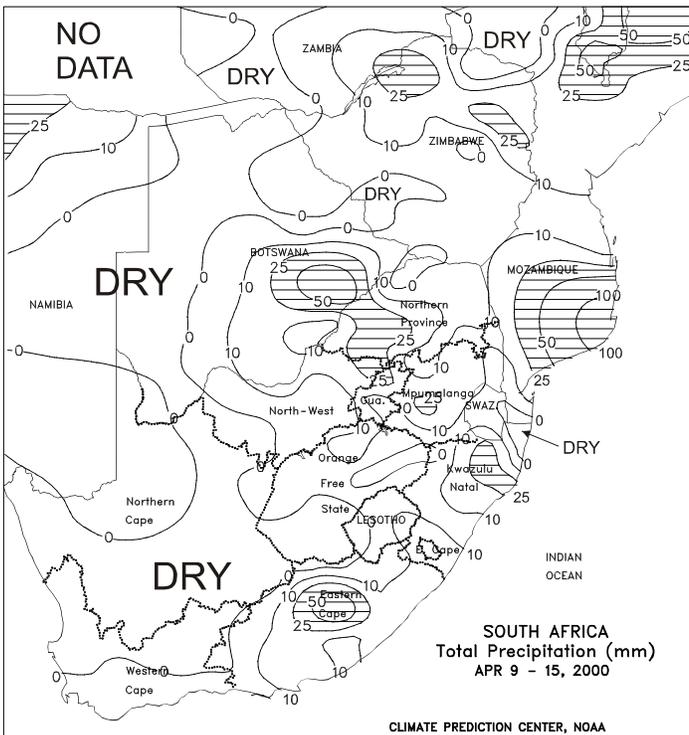
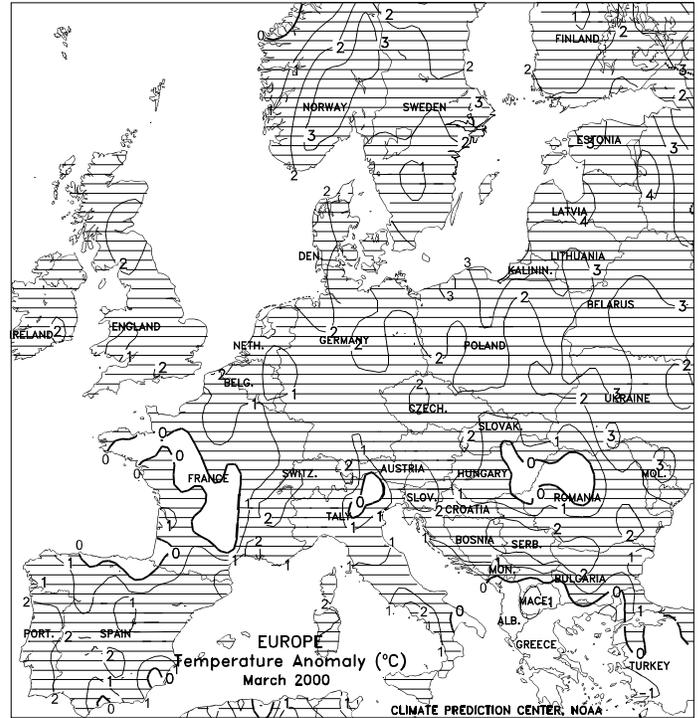




**EUROPE**

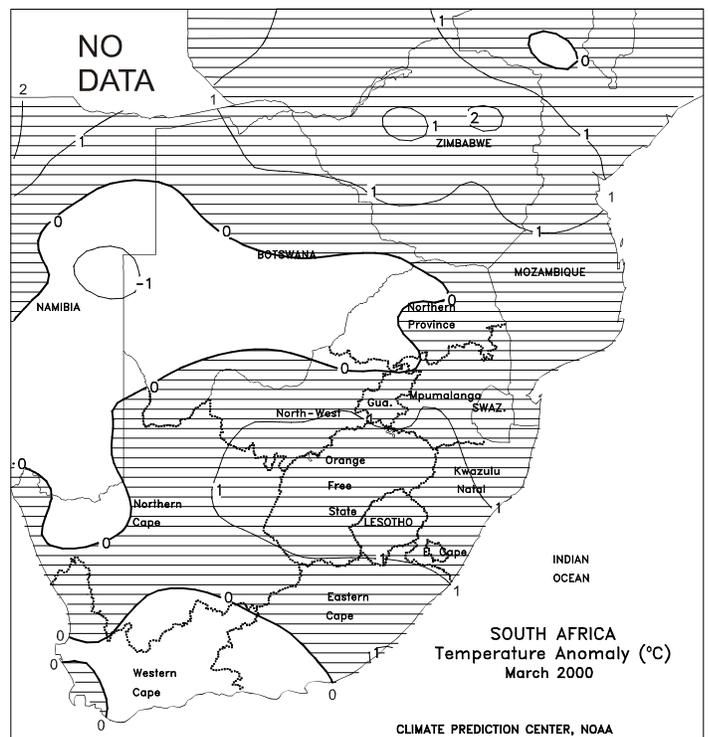
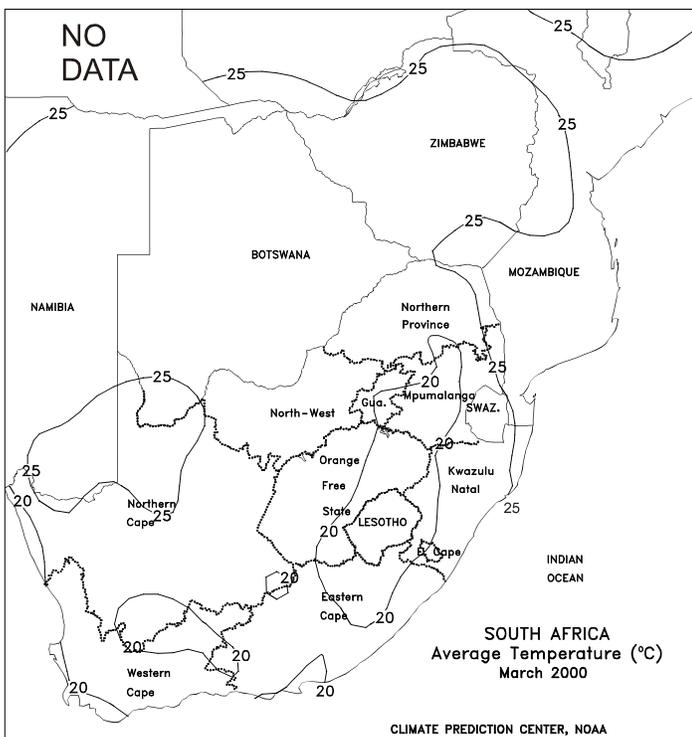
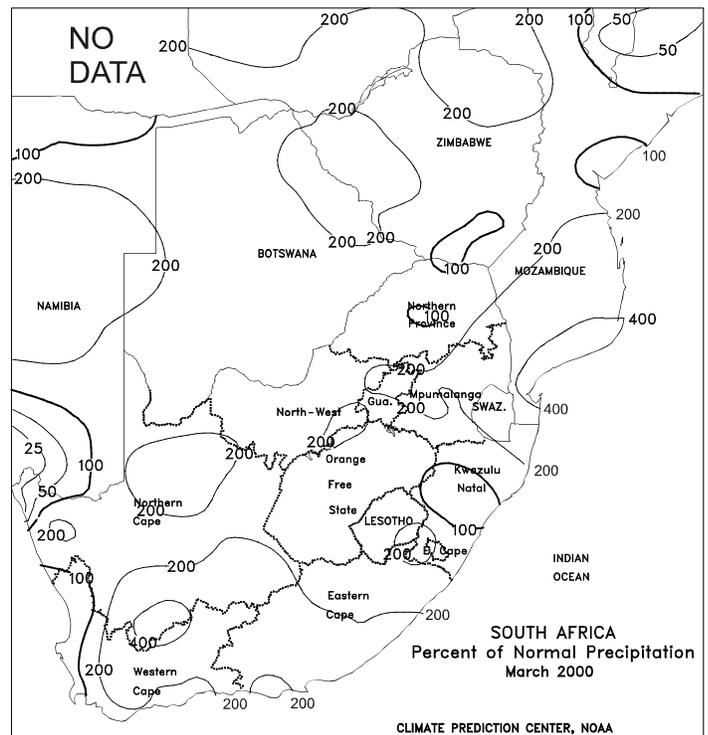
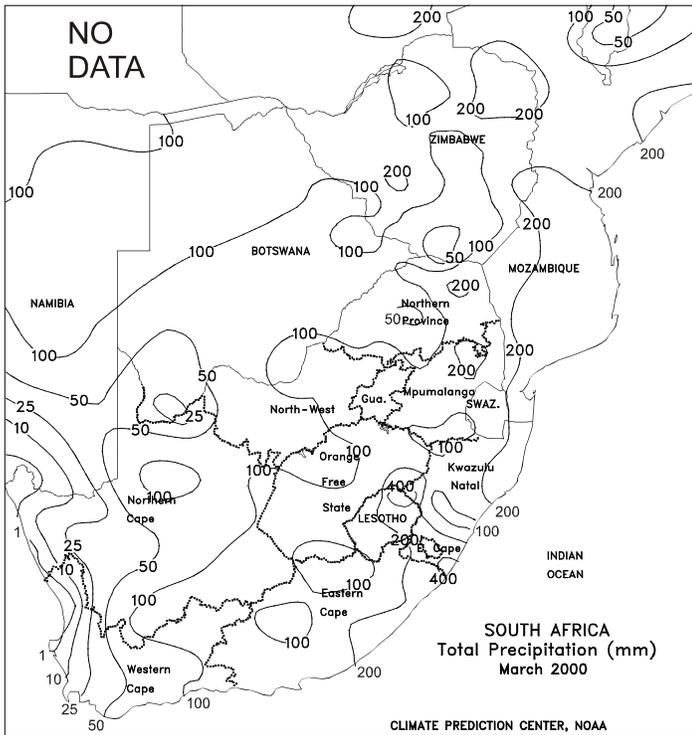
In England and France, widespread showers (14-38 mm) benefited jointing winter grains and germinating to emerging spring-sown crops. Similarly, moderate to locally heavy showers (17-76 mm) fell across the Iberian peninsula, improving winter grain prospects in northern and central areas. Farther east, scattered showers (6-52 mm) in Italy slowed corn, rice, and soybean planting, but helped jointing winter wheat and barley. In contrast, dry weather (less than 10 mm) overspread the Balkans, Romania, Bulgaria, and Greece, where winter grains are entering the jointing stages of development. In northern Europe, light showers (4-12 mm) fell from the Benelux countries, Germany, and southern Scandinavia eastward, maintaining adequate moisture supplies for jointing winter grains in the west and tillering winter grains in the east. Unseasonably warm weather (temperatures 1-3 degrees C above normal) continued across eastern Europe, while unseasonably cool weather prevailed across extreme northwestern and extreme southwestern Europe. During March, sporadic showers favored spring grain planting and early development in England and France. In Spain, Portugal, and Italy, timely rainfall improved soil moisture for jointing winter grains, but additional rain was needed to improve moisture reserves. Drier-than-normal weather persisted across southeastern Europe, further reducing moisture supplies as winter grains broke dormancy. Abundant precipitation maintained moisture supplies for winter grains from Germany and Austria eastward, but frequently delayed fieldwork.

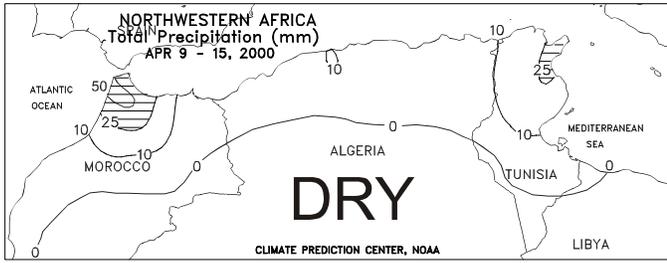




**SOUTH AFRICA**

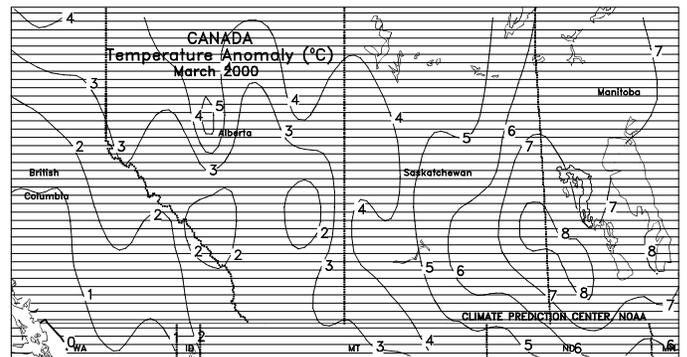
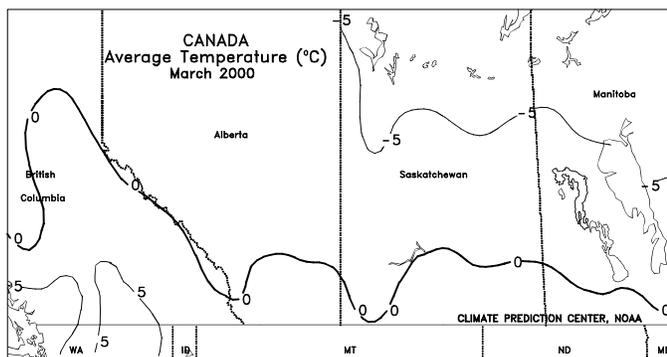
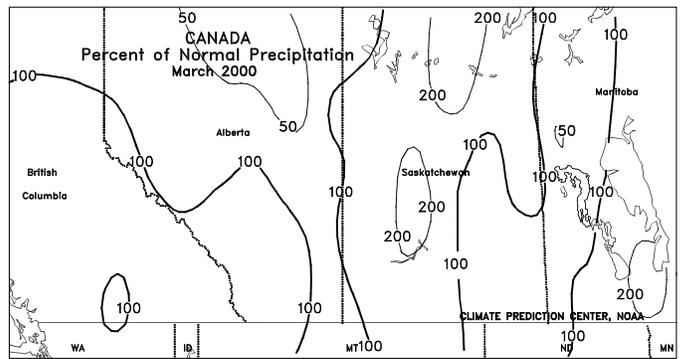
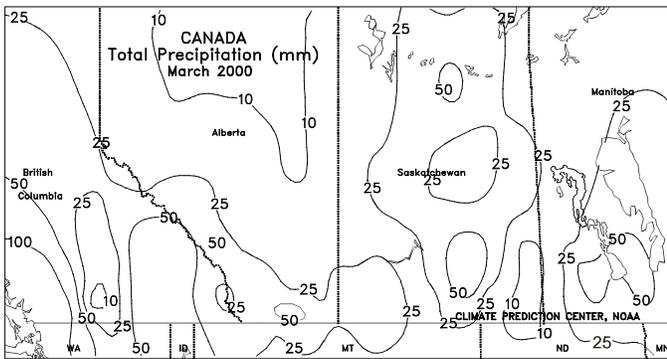
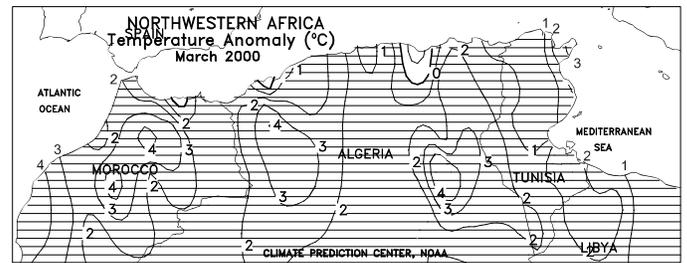
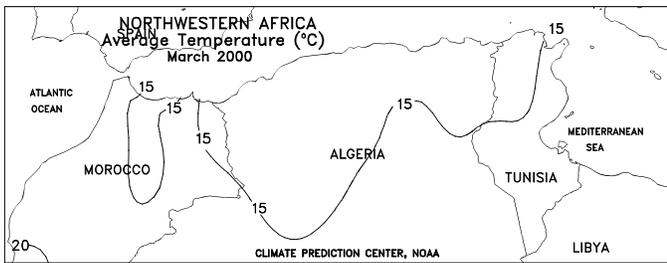
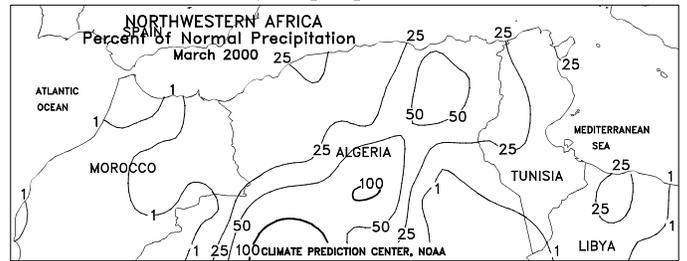
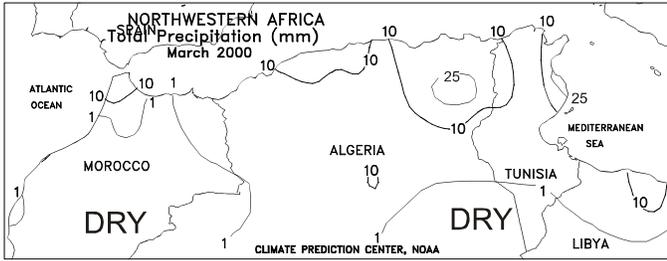
Mostly dry, generally warm weather benefited corn and other maturing summer crops across the nation's mid-section. Moderate showers (10-25 mm or more) were confined to northeastern sections of the corn belt. Temperatures fell below 5 degrees C in eastern sections of the corn belt, but widespread frost was unlikely. In Eastern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal, scattered showers (5-25 mm or more) maintained moisture levels for late crop development. Mostly dry, seasonably mild weather in Western Cape favored autumn fieldwork, including preparations for wheat planting. During March, rainfall was above normal across the corn belt, keeping filling summer crops well watered. Rainfall was also above normal in the Cape Provinces and most sugarcane areas of KwaZulu-Natal. Although localized ponding and stream flooding was likely, the catastrophic flooding that struck Mozambique and Zimbabwe stayed well north of the main commercial growing areas. Slightly above-normal temperatures were favorable for crops that had fallen behind in development during the cooler-than-normal summer months.

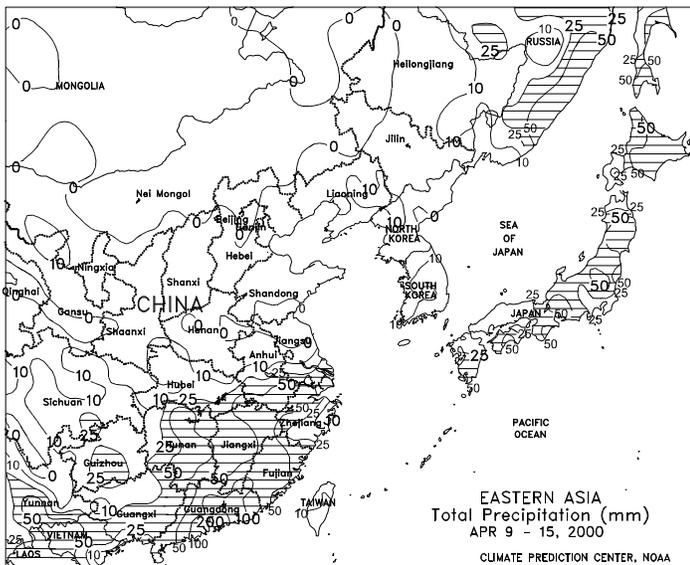




**NORTHWESTERN AFRICA**

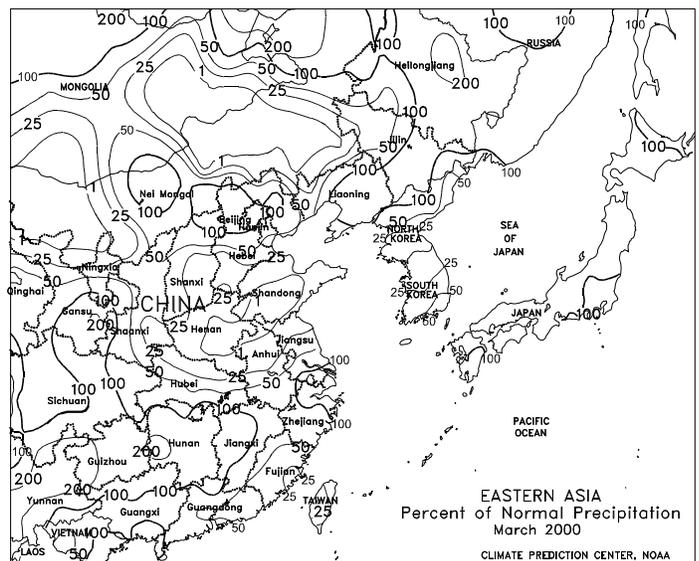
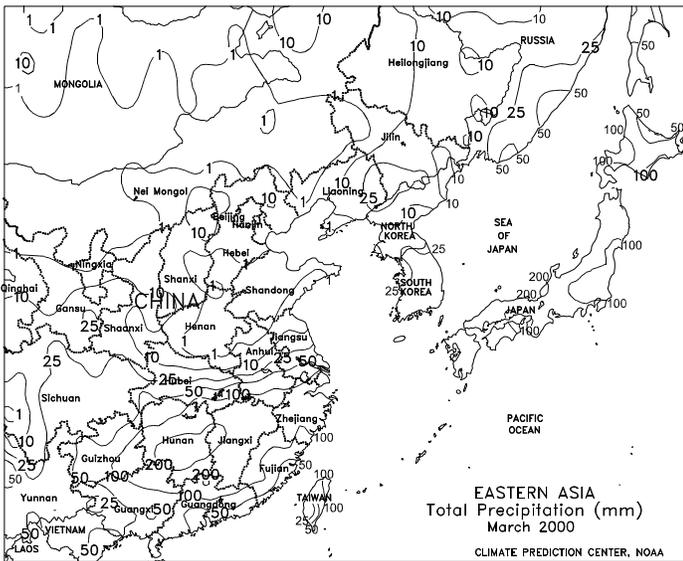
Early-week showers provided moderate rainfall (10-50 mm) for winter grains in northern Morocco and Tunisia. Algeria, however, received only light showers (2-12 mm), providing little relief to severely stressed crops. For March, most eastern growing areas received less than 50 percent of normal precipitation. Morocco and most of western Algeria received less than 25 percent of normal precipitation. Temperatures continued to be 1 to 4 degrees C above normal for the month. Despite recent rainfall, winter grains in the filling stage of development remained under duress from over 12 weeks of drought. Rainfall in northern Morocco and Tunisia helped to stabilize winter grains, while crops in southern Morocco and Algeria require more rain to maintain their current yield prospects.

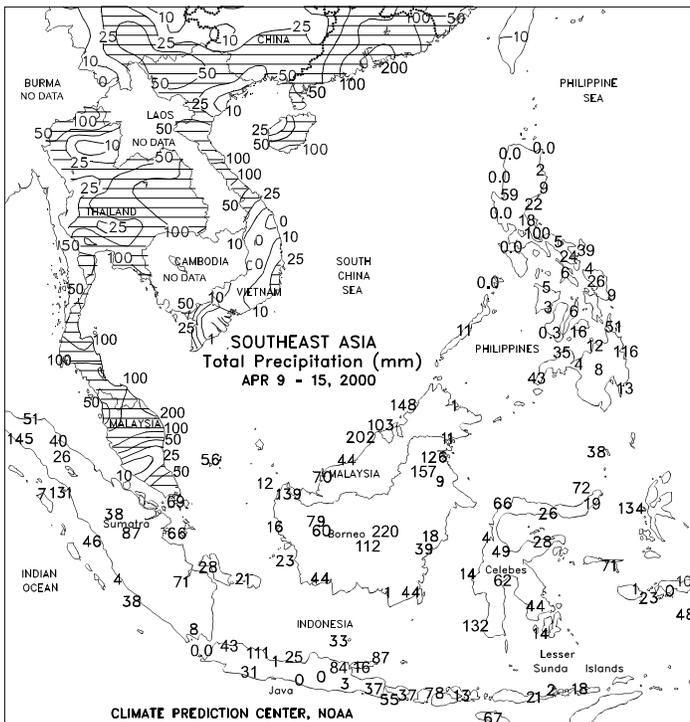
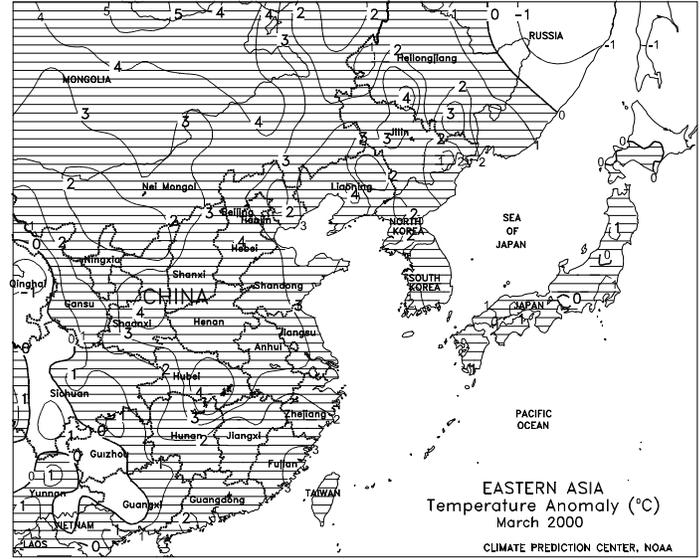
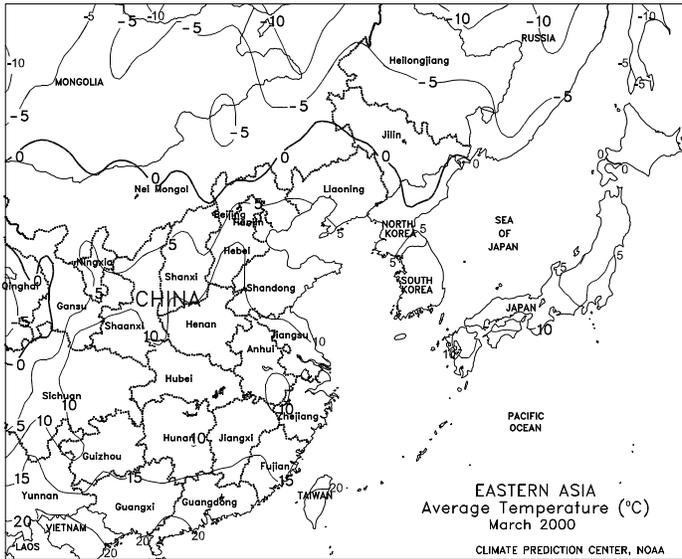




**EASTERN ASIA**

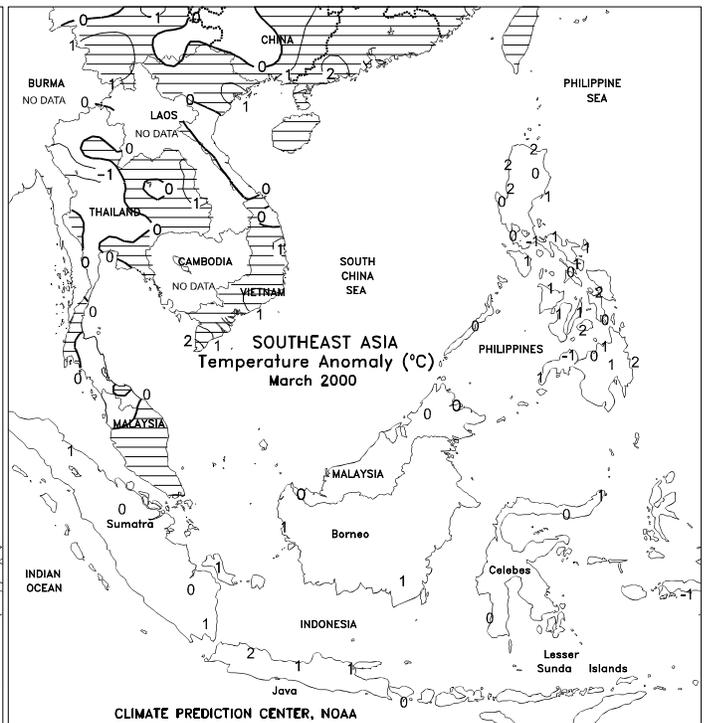
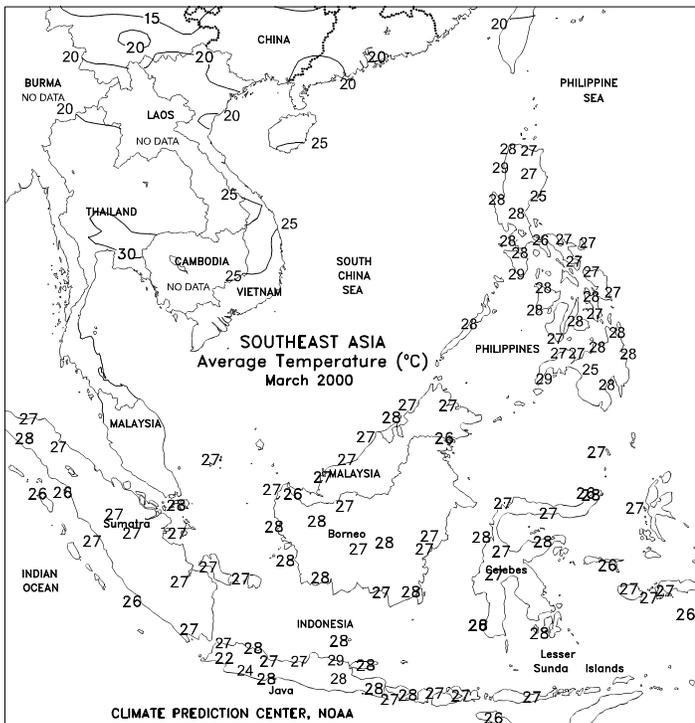
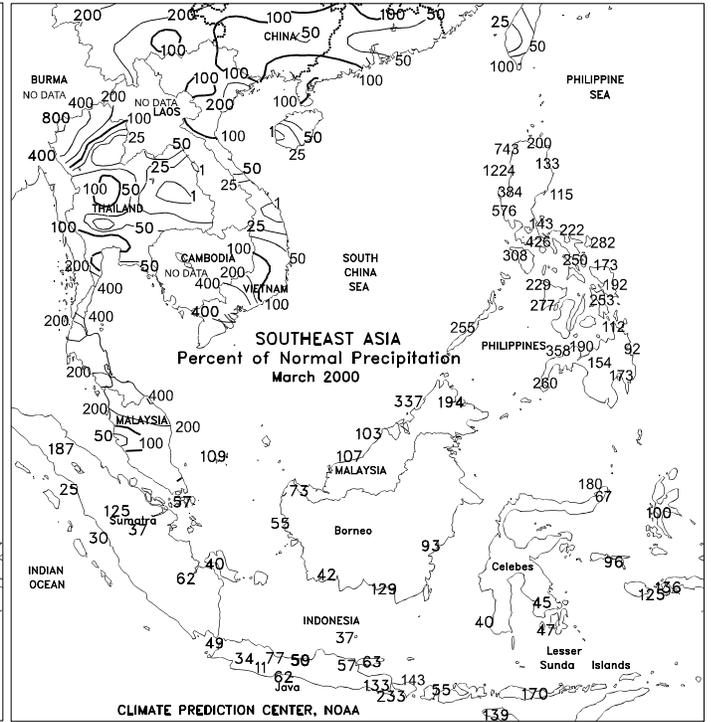
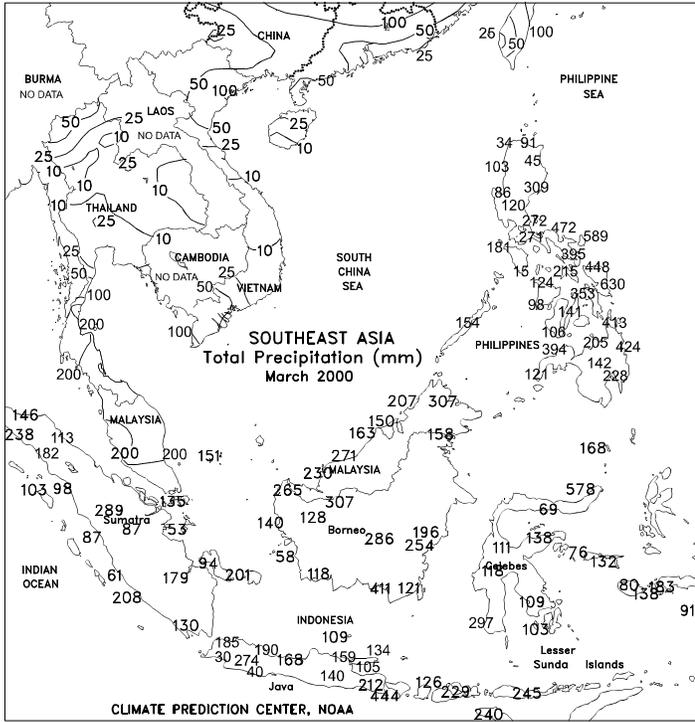
In the North China Plain, mostly dry weather (rain less than 5 mm) continued to increase irrigation use for vegetative winter wheat, but favored corn planting. Farther south in Hubei, southern Anhui, and Jiangsu, light to moderate rain (10-25 mm or more) brought relief to winter crops, but more rain is needed. In Manchuria, light to moderate rain (5-25 mm) increased topsoil moisture for spring wheat planting in Liaoning and Jilin. Cold weather (minimum temperatures -2 to -8 degrees C) across the region burned back newly emerged spring wheat and slowed planting. The southern half of China received widespread rain (30-75 mm), boosting moisture supplies for early double-cropper transplanting and reproductive to filling winter grains. Heavy rain (100-200 mm) near Hong Kong possibly caused some flooding. Temperatures averaged 1 to 2 degrees C below normal across Manchuria and 1 to 3 degrees C above normal in central and southern China. In the North China Plain, above-normal March temperatures favored greening wheat, but increased irrigation demands. By late March and early April, spring wheat planting commenced across southern and central Manchuria. Across central China (Hubei, southern Anhui, and Jiangsu), below-normal March rainfall reduced moisture for vegetative winter wheat and rapeseed. Near- to above-normal March rainfall boosted moisture supplies for winter crops and early rice transplanting across Sichuan and interior southern China. Mostly below-normal rainfall prevailed across the extreme southern coastal provinces.





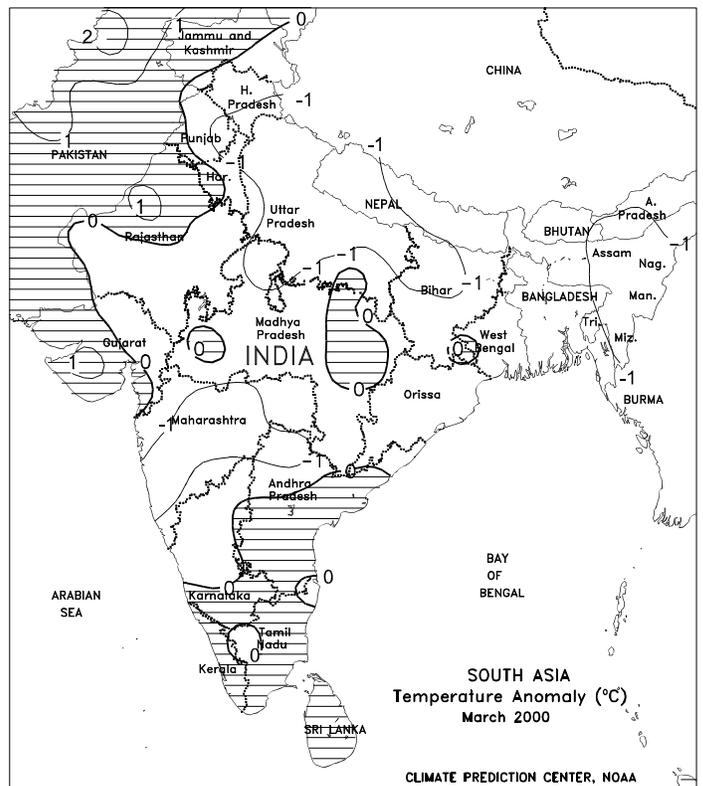
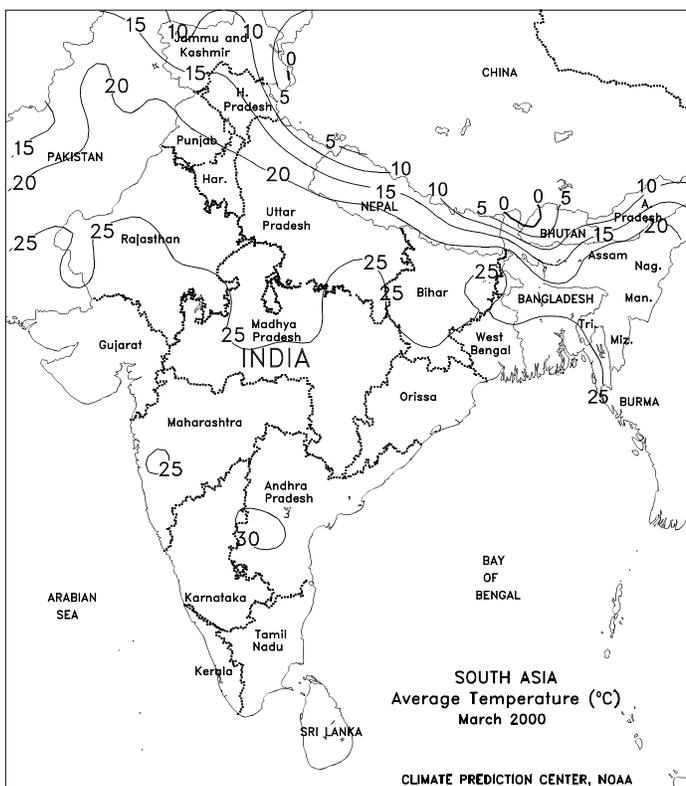
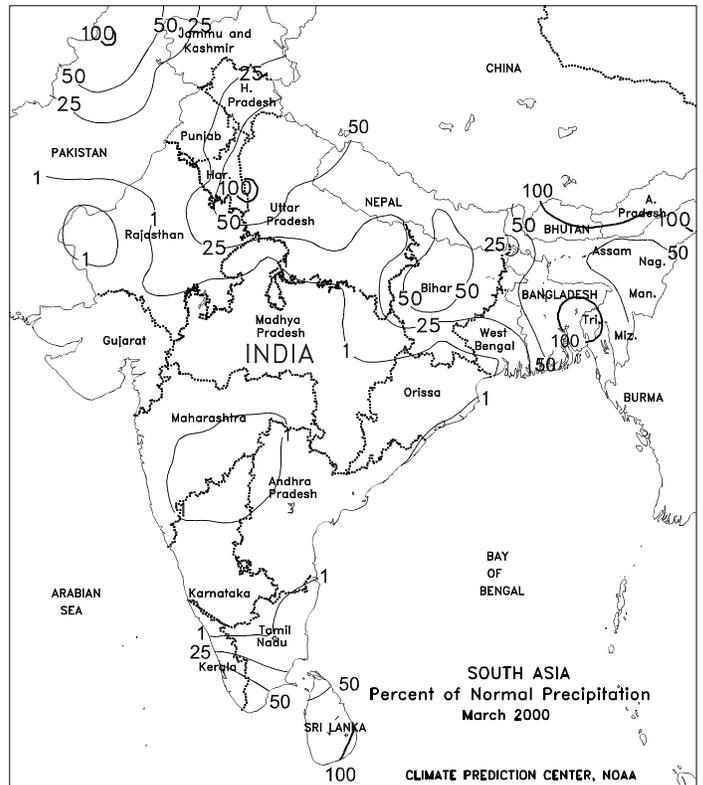
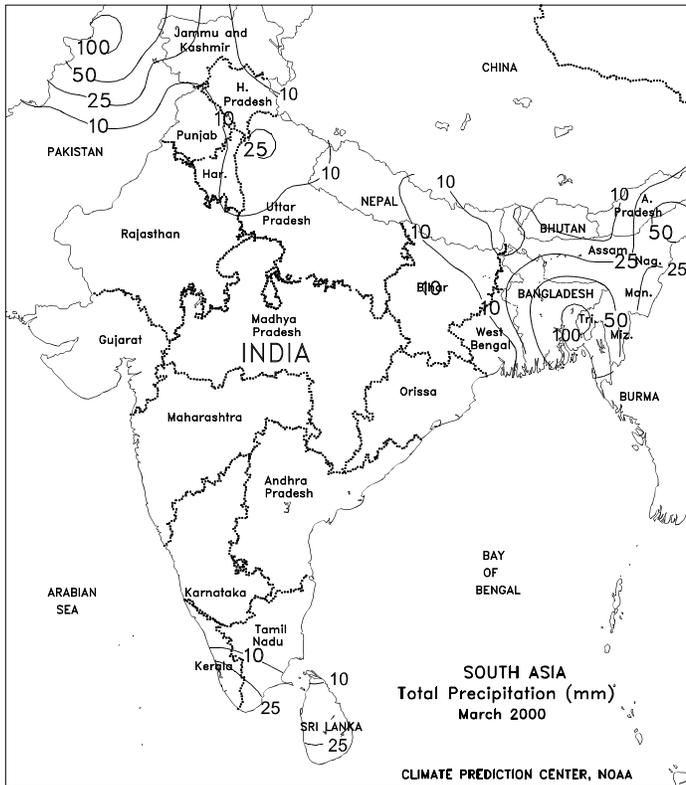
**SOUTHEAST ASIA**

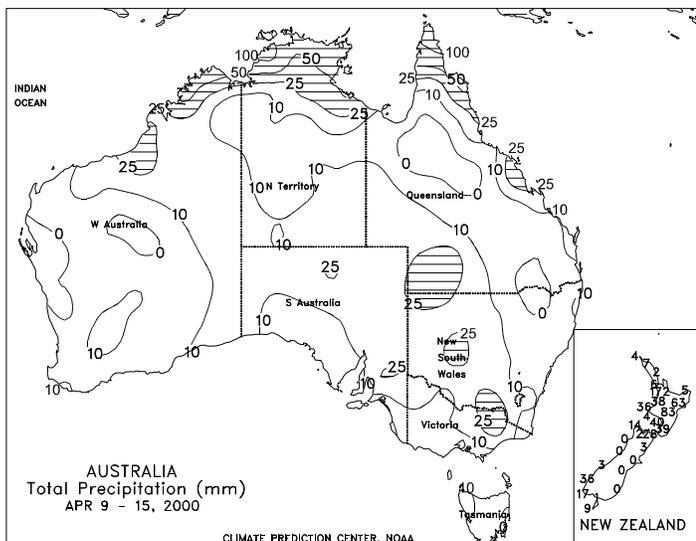
In Java, Indonesia, scattered showers (10-50 mm or more) allowed main-season rice harvesting to progress without major delays. Heavy showers (60-150 mm) fell across peninsular Thailand and northern peninsular Malaysia, causing local flooding and slowing fieldwork. Widespread heavy showers (30-150 mm) covered Thailand, boosting moisture supplies for main-season ricetransplanting. Light showers (5-25 mm) covered rice areas of northern and southern Vietnam. Heavier showers (50-100 mm) were reported in north-central Vietnam. In the Philippines, drier weather (5-30 mm) favored second-crop grain harvesting across southern Luzon and east-central islands. During March, near- to slightly below-normal monthly rainfall favored rice maturation and harvesting across Java, Indonesia. However, below-normal March rainfall reduced moisture supplies for oil palm across interior Sumatra. Near-normal monthly rainfall maintained moisture supplies for oil palm across peninsular Malaysia. Above- to much-above-normal rainfall slowed fieldwork and caused local flooding across peninsular Thailand and most of the Philippines. Seasonably light showers prevailed across the rest of Thailand, but heavier showers fell across the extreme northwest. March showers increased moisture supplies for winter rice in northern and southern Vietnam.



**SOUTH ASIA**

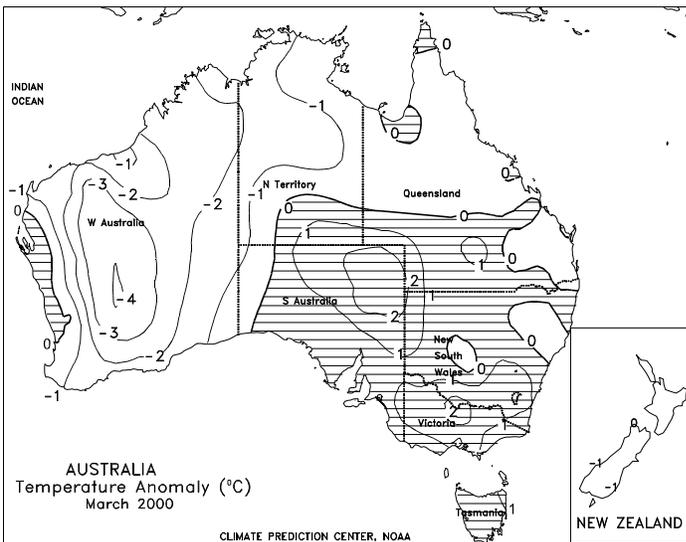
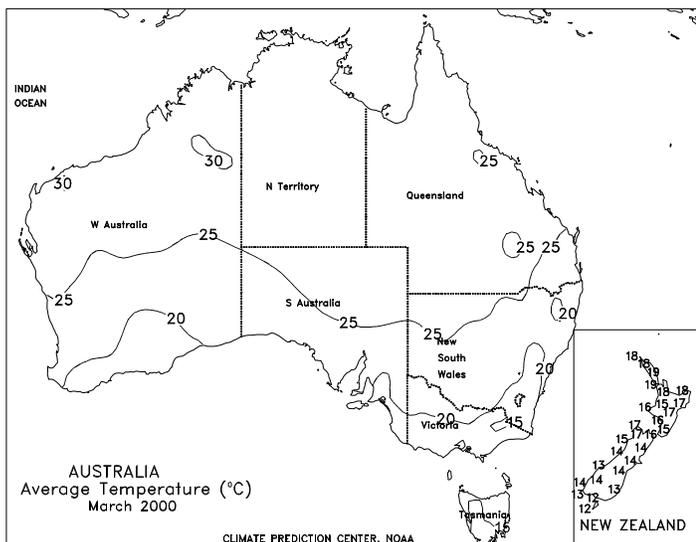
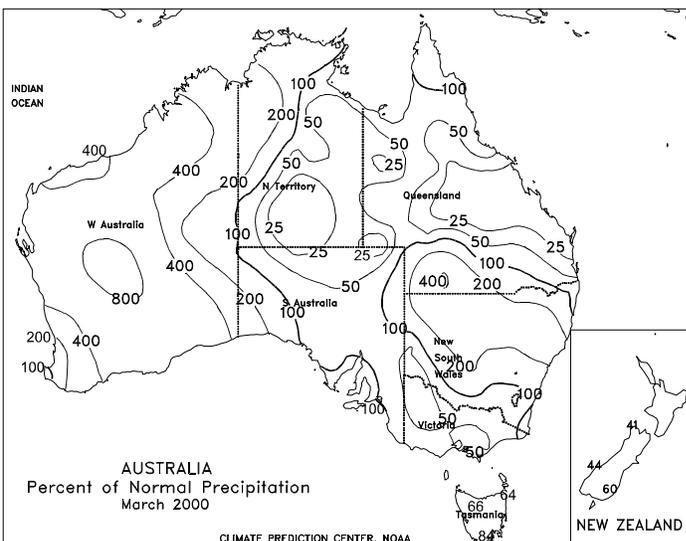
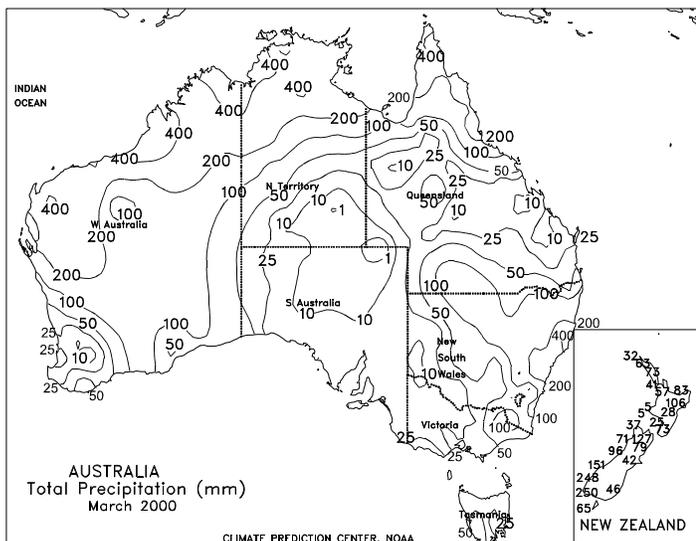
During March, near-normal temperatures aided winter wheat and oilseed development across Pakistan and India. Scattered, mostly light showers benefited crops in north-central India. Locally heavy rain in Bangladesh increased irrigation reserves for rice.

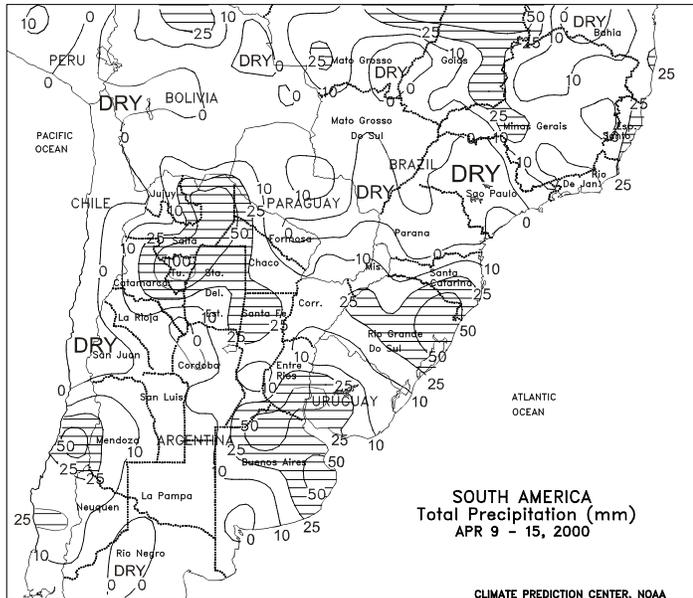




**AUSTRALIA**

Cotton and sorghum harvests progressed across southern Queensland and northern New South Wales, although scattered showers (10-22 mm) slowed fieldwork in westernmost growing areas. Light to moderate showers (10-45 mm or more) increased moisture reserves from grazing lands of western Queensland southward to South Australia and western Victoria. Scattered showers fell in the main sugarcane areas along Queensland's coast, with moderate amounts (50 mm or greater) keeping northernmost crop areas unfavorably wet. Light showers (1-15 mm) and seasonable warmth favored autumn fieldwork in Western Australia. In New Zealand, moderate to heavy rain (25-50 mm or more) covered crop areas of central and southern North Island. Mostly dry weather persisted elsewhere. During March, rainfall was near to above normal in the main summer crop areas of New South Wales and neighboring sections of southern Queensland, mainly due to an episode of soaking rain early in the month that halted cotton and sorghum harvesting. Conditions gradually improved by month's end, although lingering showers slowed recovery in New South Wales. However, near-normal temperatures favored late summer crop development. Early-month, locally heavy rain caused some flooding in Queensland's far northern sugarcane areas. In the southeast, warmer- and drier-than-normal weather exacerbated moisture losses in pastures as well as the winter grain belt. In contrast, above-normal rainfall in Western Australia improved long-term moisture levels for the next winter grain crop.

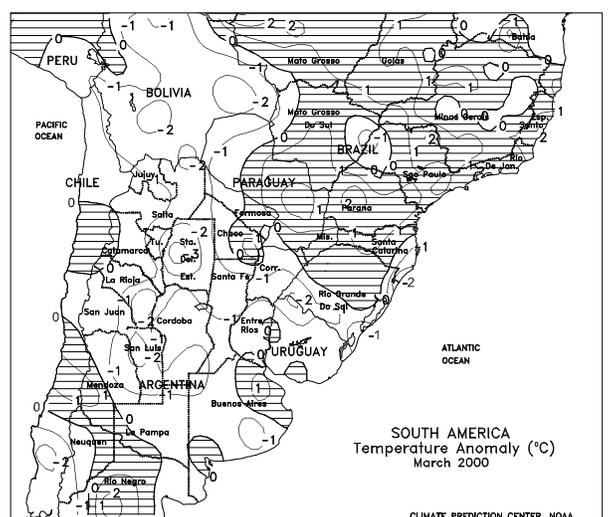
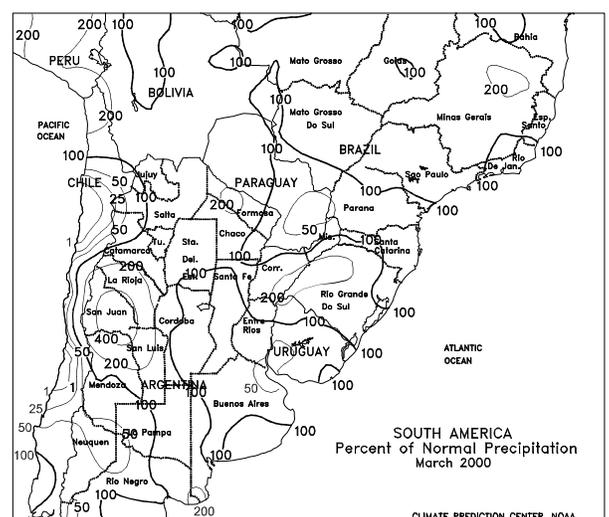




**SOUTH AMERICA**

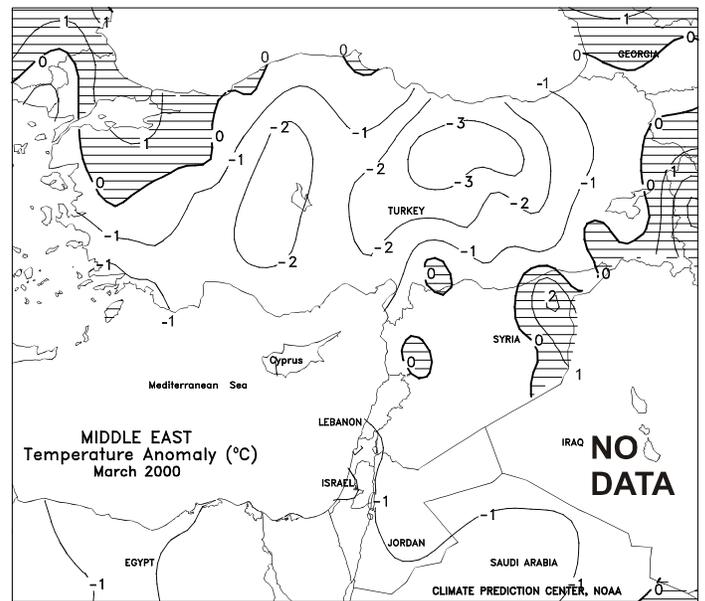
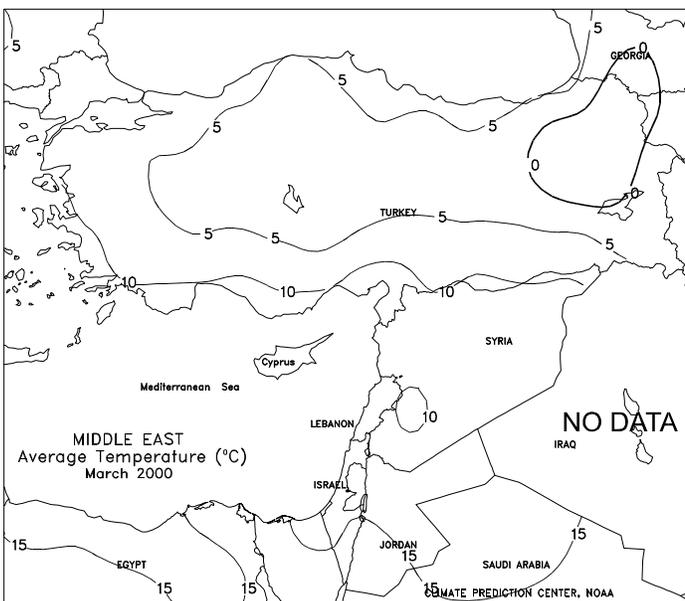
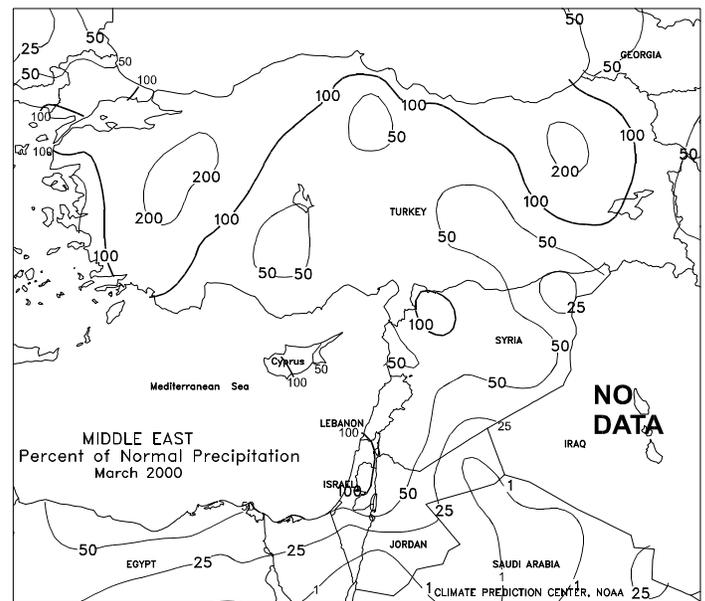
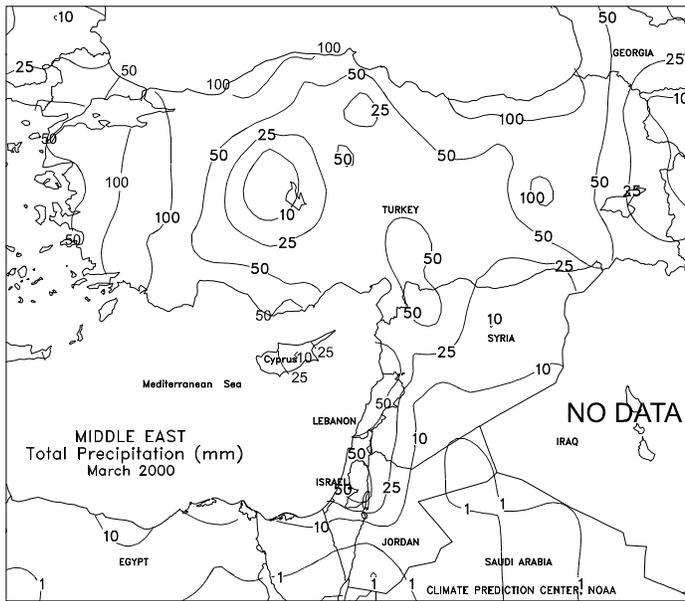
In central Argentina, early-week moderate showers (20-60 mm) covered northern and eastern Buenos Aires, maintaining favorable moisture supplies for second-crop soybeans. While this moisture slowed summer crop harvesting, drier weather later in the week favored fieldwork. Elsewhere in central and northern Argentina, light showers (5-15 mm) did not hamper harvesting. Heavy showers (50-110 mm) possibly caused local flooding in northwestern Argentina (Tucuman and Salta). Slightly above-normal temperatures favored summer crop maturation and harvesting. Light frost in southern Buenos Aires did not damage summer crops. According to reports as of April 14, national Argentine sunflower, corn, and rice were 97, 38, and 39 percent harvested, respectively. Corn was 89 percent harvested in Entre Rios, 82 percent in Santa Fe, 40 percent in Buenos Aires, and 28 percent in Cordoba. Sorghum was 18 percent harvested. Soybeans were 16 percent harvested (entirely first-crop soybeans), compared with 11 percent harvested last year. In the north, cotton was 40 percent harvested in Formosa, 21 percent in Chaco, and 5 percent in Santa Fe. In southern Brazil, mostly dry weather continued across Parana, Sao Paulo, and Mato Grosso do Sul, aiding soybean harvesting. Light to moderate showers (10-40 mm) fell across Rio Grande do Sul and Mato Grosso, but did not hamper harvesting. Moderate rain (15-65 mm) fell across eastern Santa Catarina and Rio Grande do Sul, boosting soil moisture for upcoming winter wheat planting. Temperatures averaged 2 to 4 degrees C above normal across southern Paraguay and southern Brazil. During late March and early April, drier weather favored soybean harvesting in the northern soybean-producing areas of southern Brazil. Heavy rain slowed early harvesting in Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil during late March, but benefited late-maturing soybeans. In central Argentina, slightly below-normal rainfall provided sufficient moisture for second-crop soybeans, but did not hamper corn and first-crop soybean harvesting.

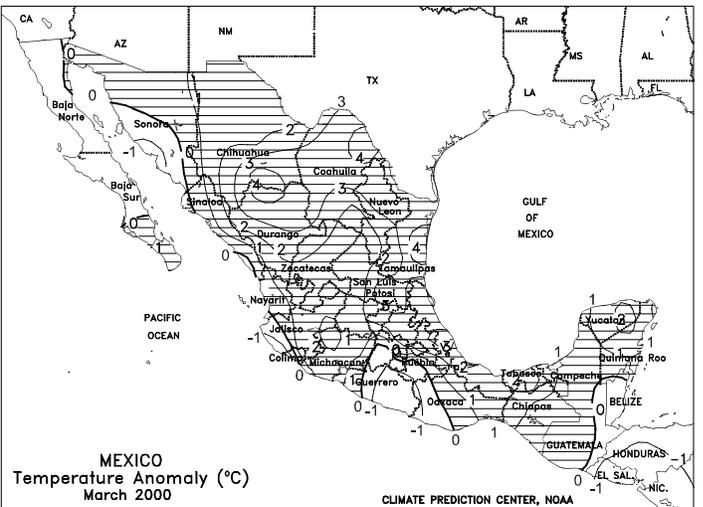
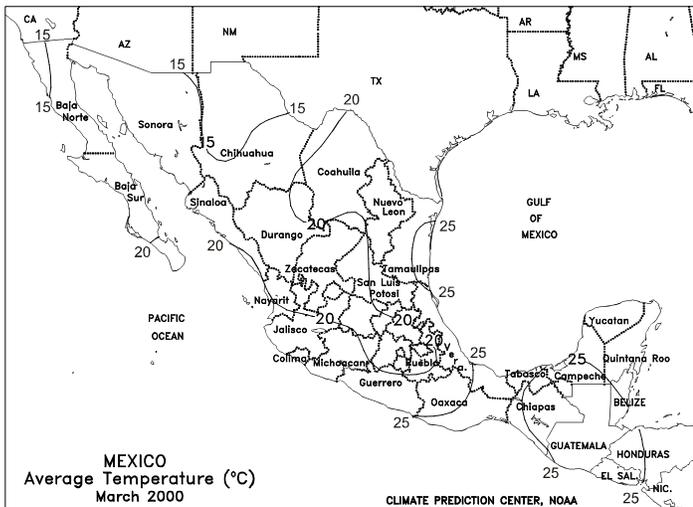
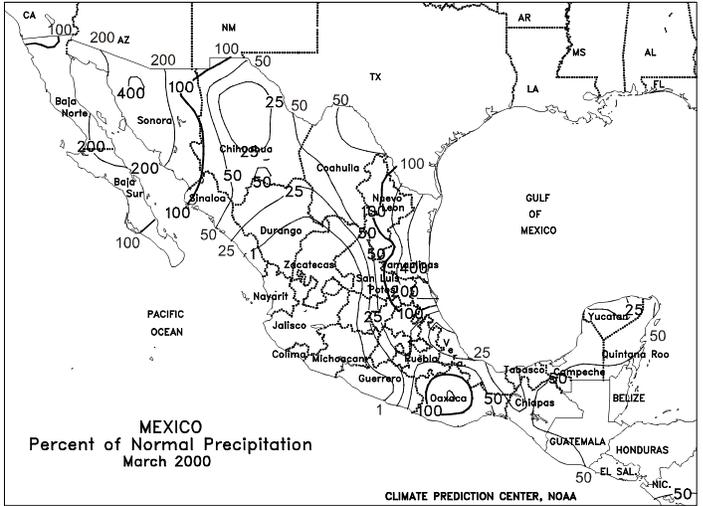
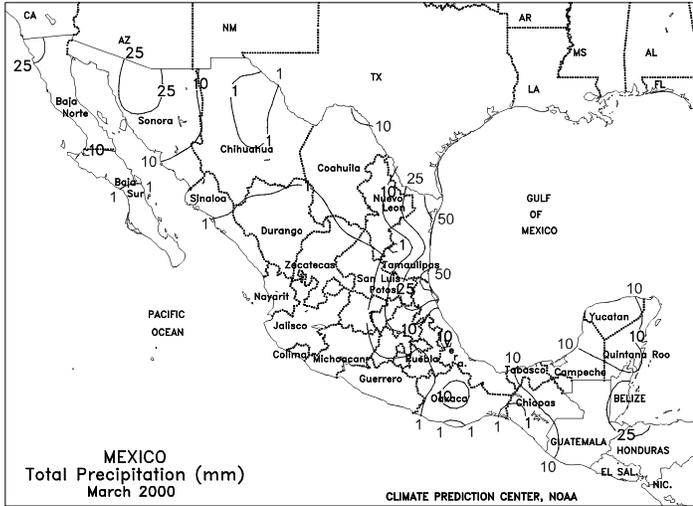
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MIDDLE EAST AND TURKEY

During March, precipitation continued to be below normal over most winter grain areas from eastern Syria through Iran, limiting moisture for vegetative to reproductive wheat and barley. Timely showers (greater than 25 mm) brought localized relief to crops in west-central Iran, but failed to improve long-term prospects. Heavier rain (50-100 mm or more) along the Caspian coast, out of the main winter grain areas, improved prospects for rice and other summer-grown crops. By month's end, a warming trend was accelerating crop growth rates and moisture demands across the Middle East. In Turkey, the main winter grain areas were also drier than normal, but near- to below-normal temperatures reduced crop moisture demands. Near- to above-normal precipitation increased irrigation reserves west of the Anatolian Plateau and in the eastern watersheds.





# La Niña Update: April 13, 2000

The following is derived from the ENSO Advisory 2000/4 issued by the Climate Prediction Center/National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) on April 13, 2000.

The large-scale oceanic and atmospheric circulation patterns continued to reflect mature cold episode (La Niña) conditions in the tropical Pacific during March. Consistent cold episode-related oceanic features include: below normal SSTs (negative anomalies greater than -1°C) in the western and central Pacific, and above- (below-) normal subsurface temperatures in the western (eastern) equatorial Pacific. Related atmospheric features include: stronger-than-normal low-level easterly winds over the western tropical Pacific, above-normal precipitation over Indonesia and the eastern Indian Ocean, suppressed rainfall over the western equatorial Pacific, and a strongly positive value of the SOI (+1.0).

Despite the persistence of many cold-episode related features, SST anomalies have been increasing during recent weeks throughout most of the eastern equatorial Pacific (Fig. 1), which has resulted in substantial increases in the Niño 3.4, Niño 3, and Niño 1+2 indices since mid-February 2000 (Fig. 2) and in the appearance of positive SST anomalies between 90°W and 130°W (Fig. 1). In this region low-level westerly wind anomalies were observed during March. This local warming of the SSTs is likely to be short-lived, as the large-scale

subsurface thermal structure does not favor the development of a warm episode at this time.

The most recent NCEP coupled model forecasts and statistical model forecasts, as well as other available forecasts, exhibit considerable spread in the evolution of the SSTs over the next 3-9 months. The NCEP coupled model forecast indicates that cold episode conditions will weaken during the next 3 months, followed by near-normal conditions during July-September and by slightly warmer-than-normal conditions later in the year. The NCEP statistical model forecast shows a similar evolution. Other available coupled model and statistical predictions indicate the continuation of cold episode conditions through the end of 2000. The lack of any rapid evolution in the subsurface thermal structure and the persistence of low-level easterly anomalies over the central and western equatorial Pacific continues to support a slower decay of the cold episode conditions than is shown by either the NCEP coupled model or the NCEP statistical model. Thus, it is likely that cold episode conditions will gradually weaken over the next 6 months and that near-normal or slightly cooler than normal conditions will be present in the tropical Pacific at the end of the year.

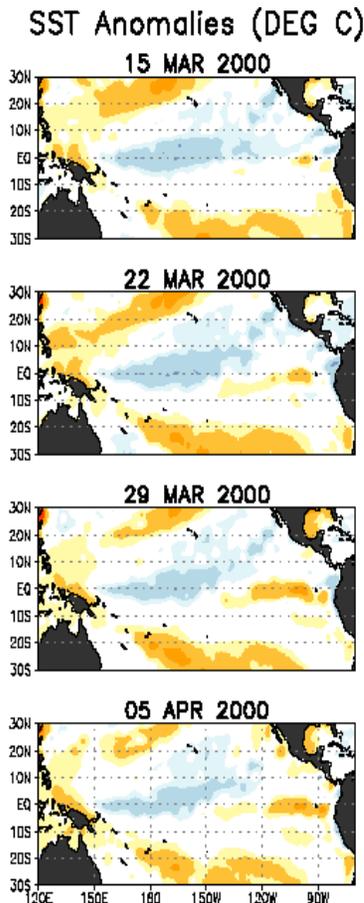
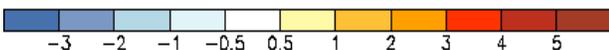
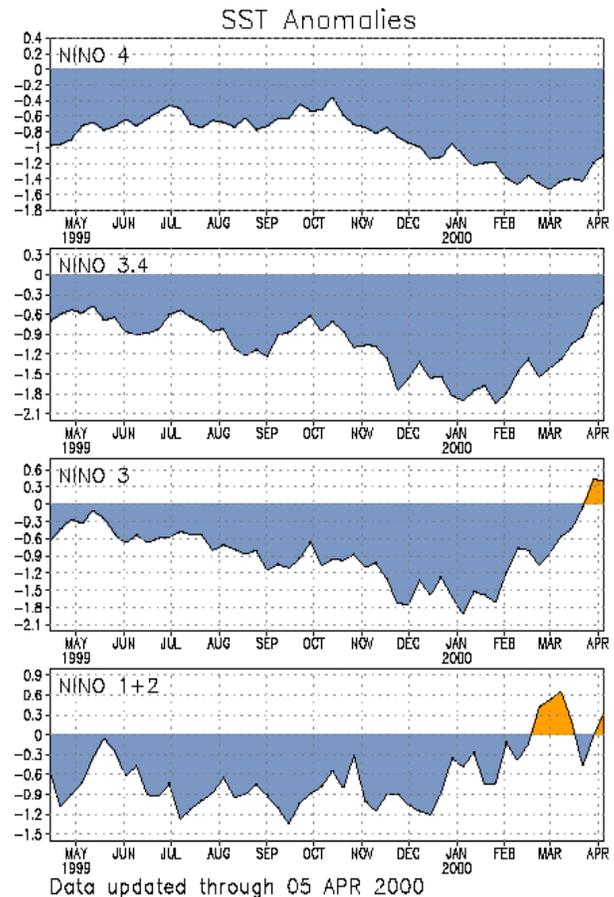


Figure 1



Figure 2



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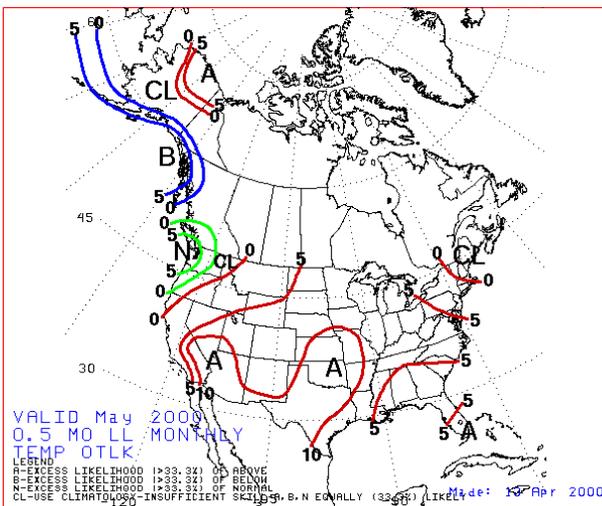
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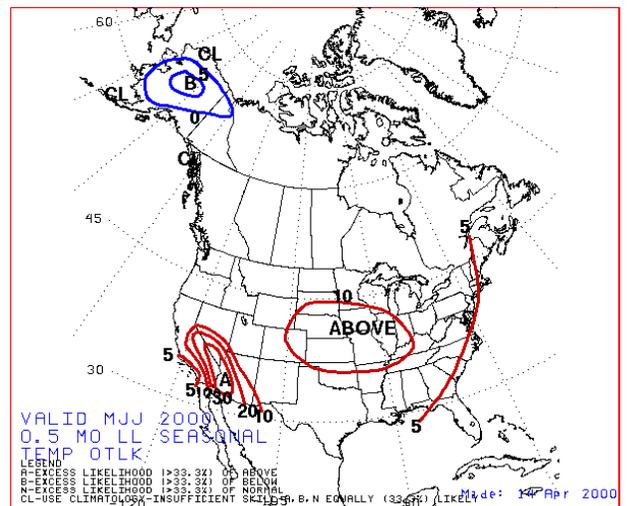
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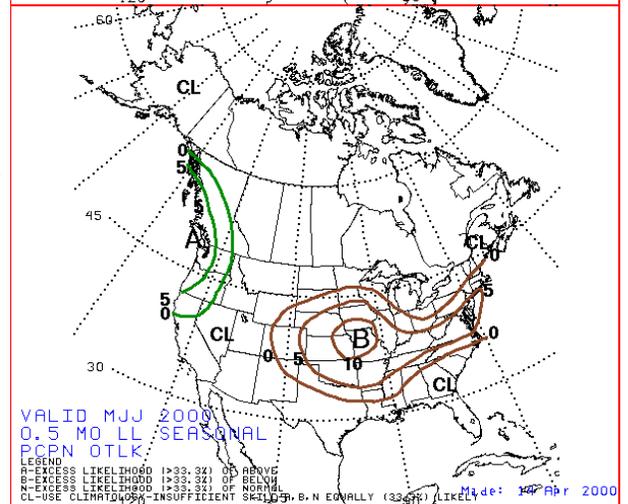


**May 2000  
Temperature (top)  
and Precipitation  
(bottom) Outlook**



**3-Month (May-July  
2000) Temperature  
(top) and  
Precipitation  
(bottom) Outlook**

(from Climate Prediction Center, NCEP, NWS, NOAA)



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