

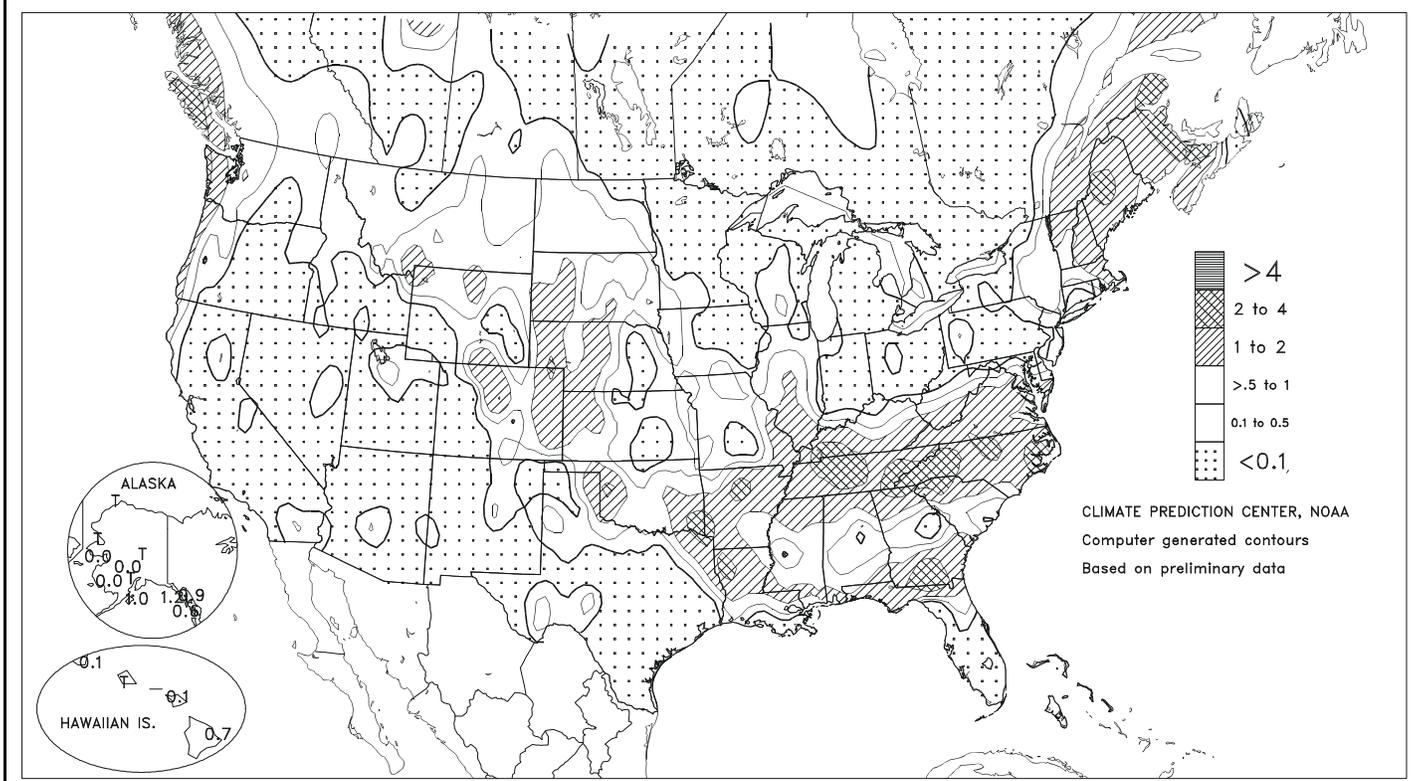
WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

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 23 - 29, 2000



HIGHLIGHTS

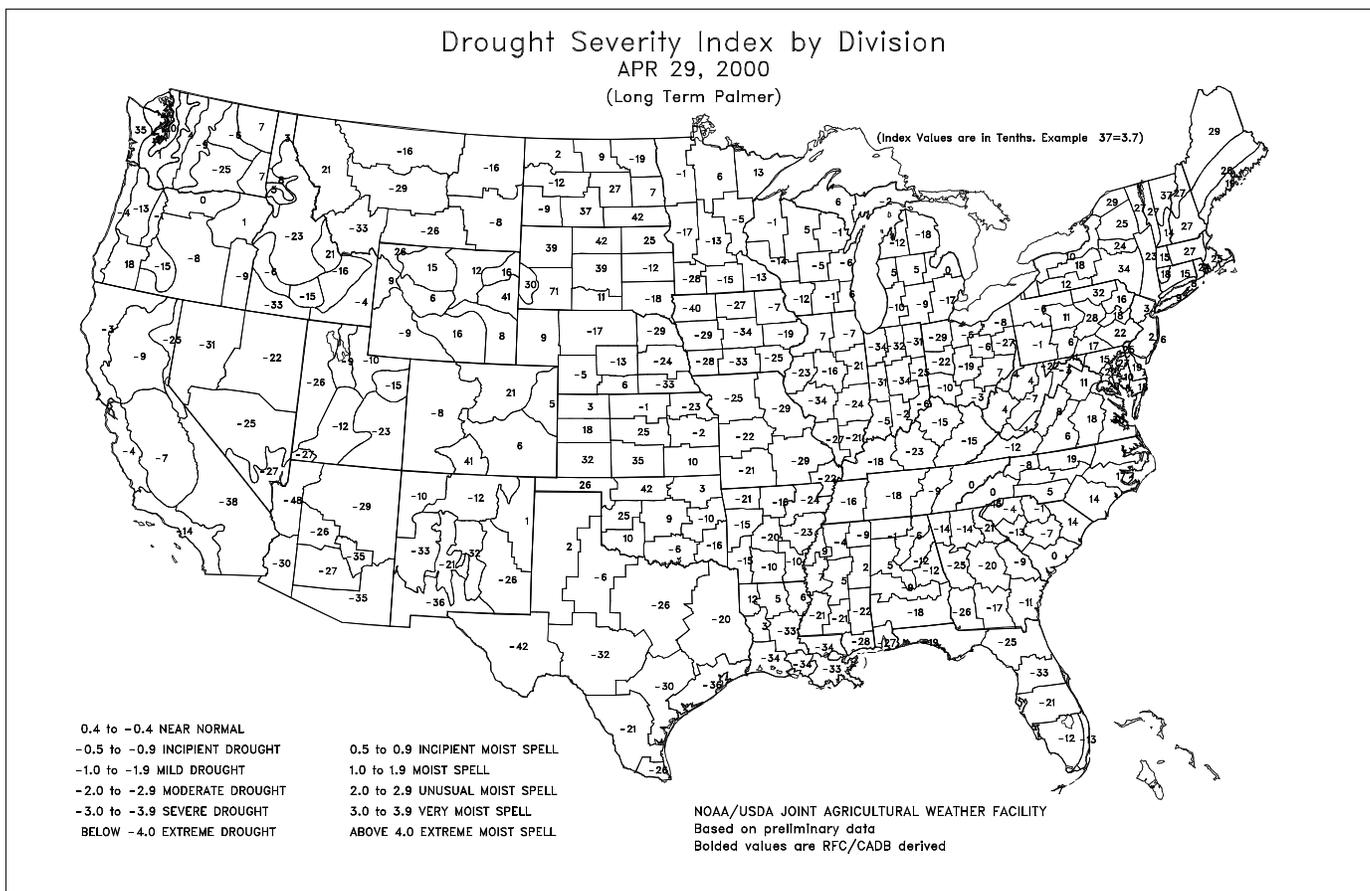
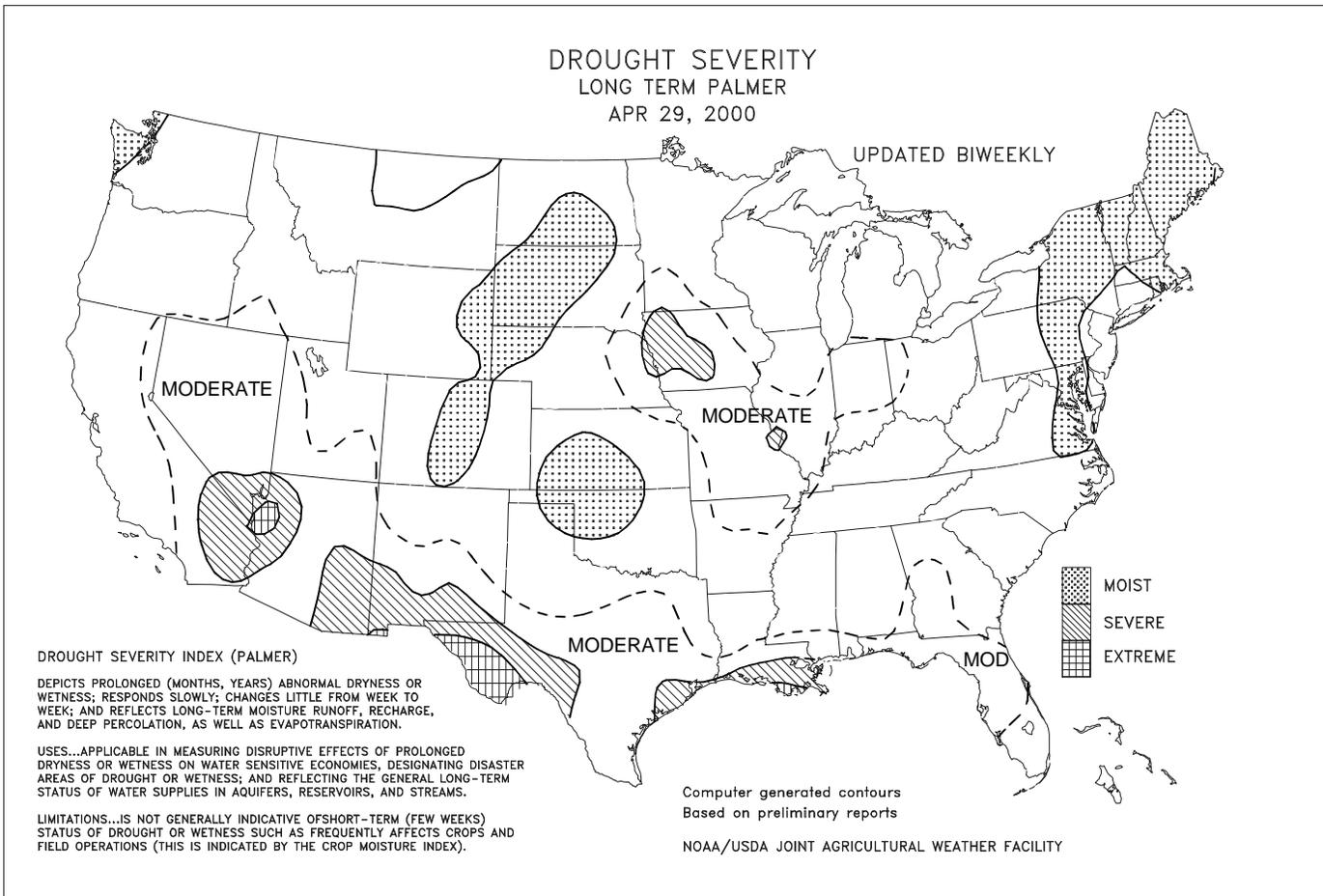
April 23 - 29, 2000

Mostly dry weather favored fieldwork in the **Corn Belt** following the previous week's significant rainfall, while widespread showers aided winter wheat on the **High Plains** and summer crops in the **Southeast**. Heavy precipitation, including some wet snow, fell in **northern New England**. Several areas remained unfavorably dry, however, including **southern and western Texas, southern Florida**, much of the **western Corn Belt, the middle Mississippi and lower Missouri Valleys**, and areas along and near the **central Gulf Coast**. Heat intensified across the **Southwest**, boosting weekly temperatures as much as 11°F above normal. Warm

(Continued on page 5)

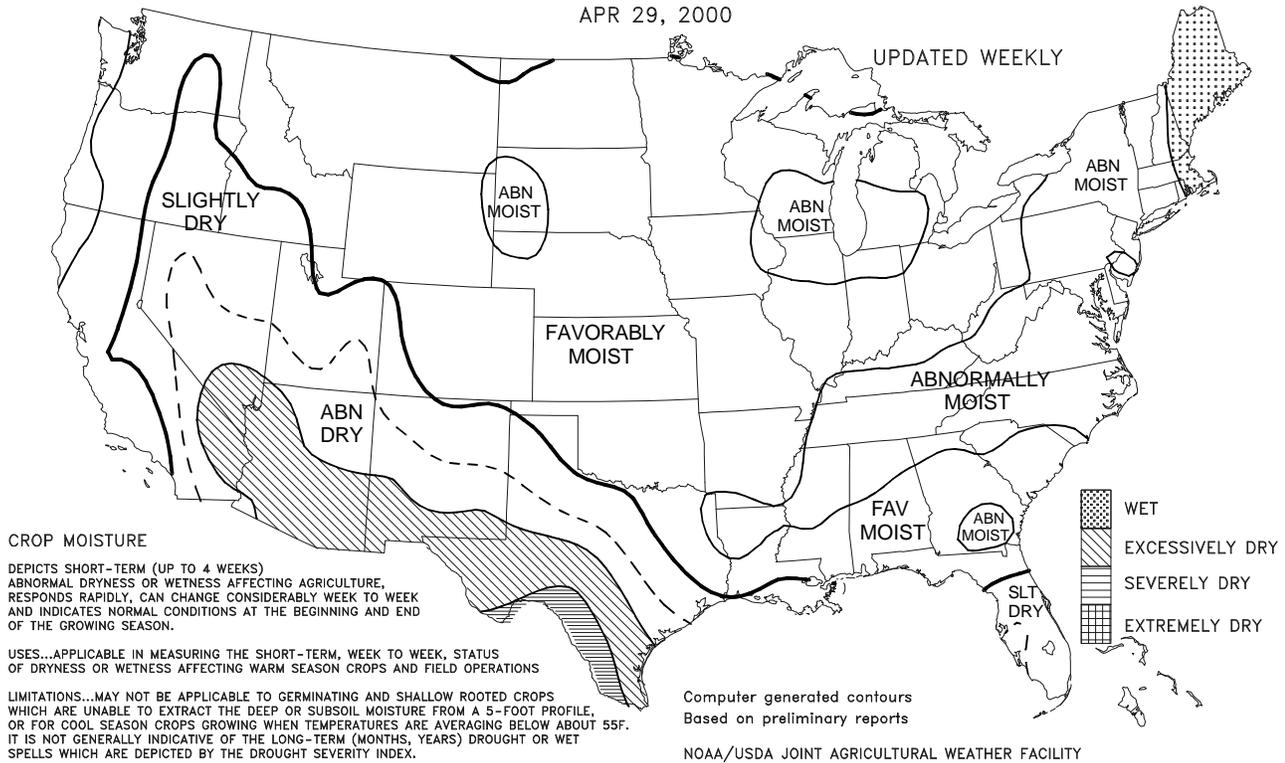
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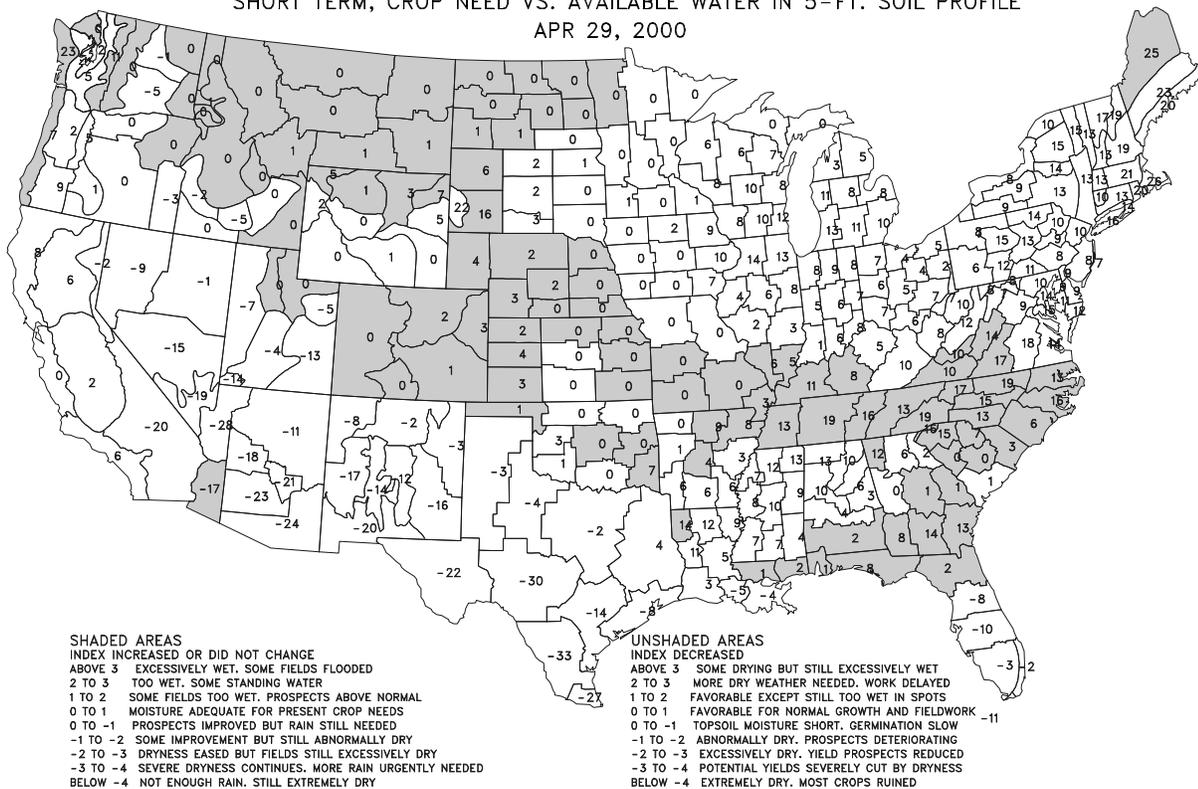


Crop Moisture
SHORT TERM, CROP NEED VS. AVAILABLE WATER IN 5-FT. SOIL PROFILE
APR 29, 2000

UPDATED WEEKLY

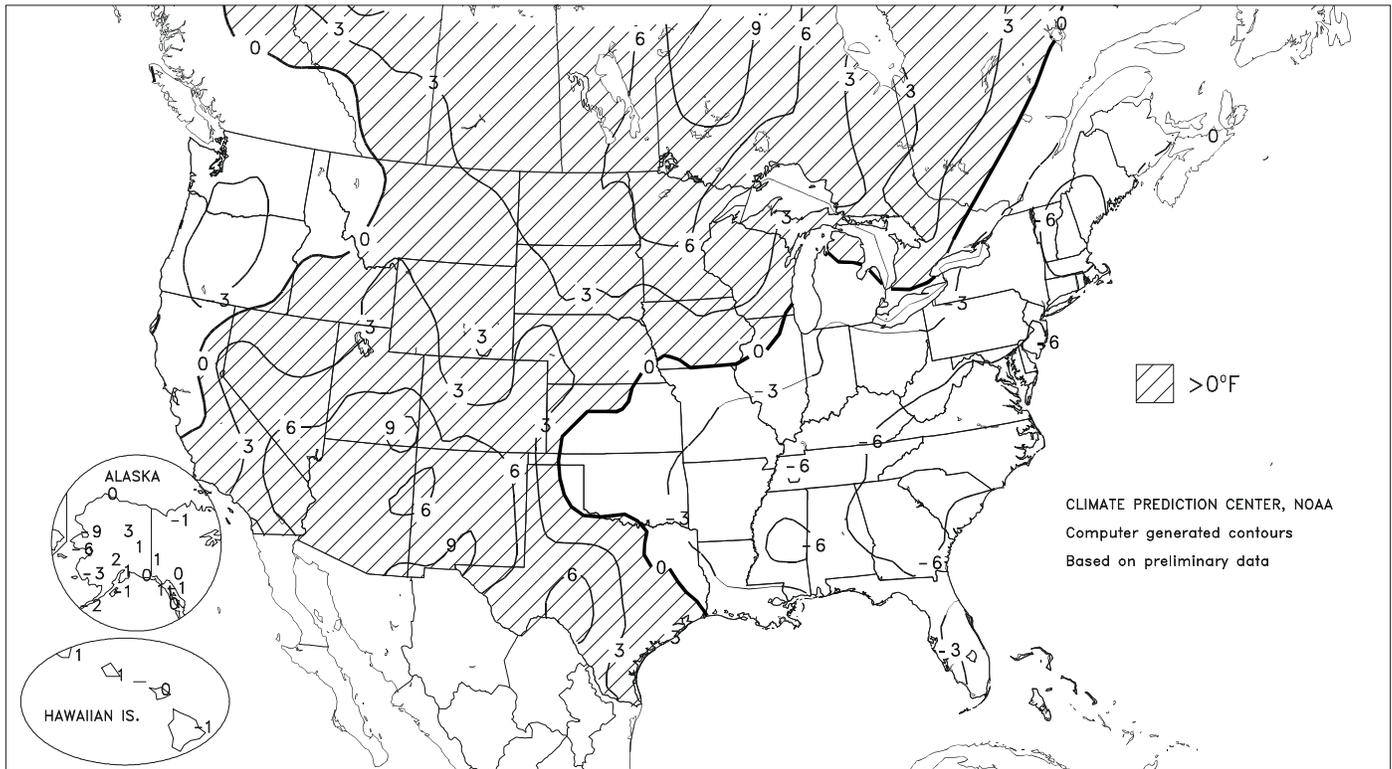


Crop Moisture Index
SHORT TERM, CROP NEED VS. AVAILABLE WATER IN 5-FT. SOIL PROFILE
APR 29, 2000



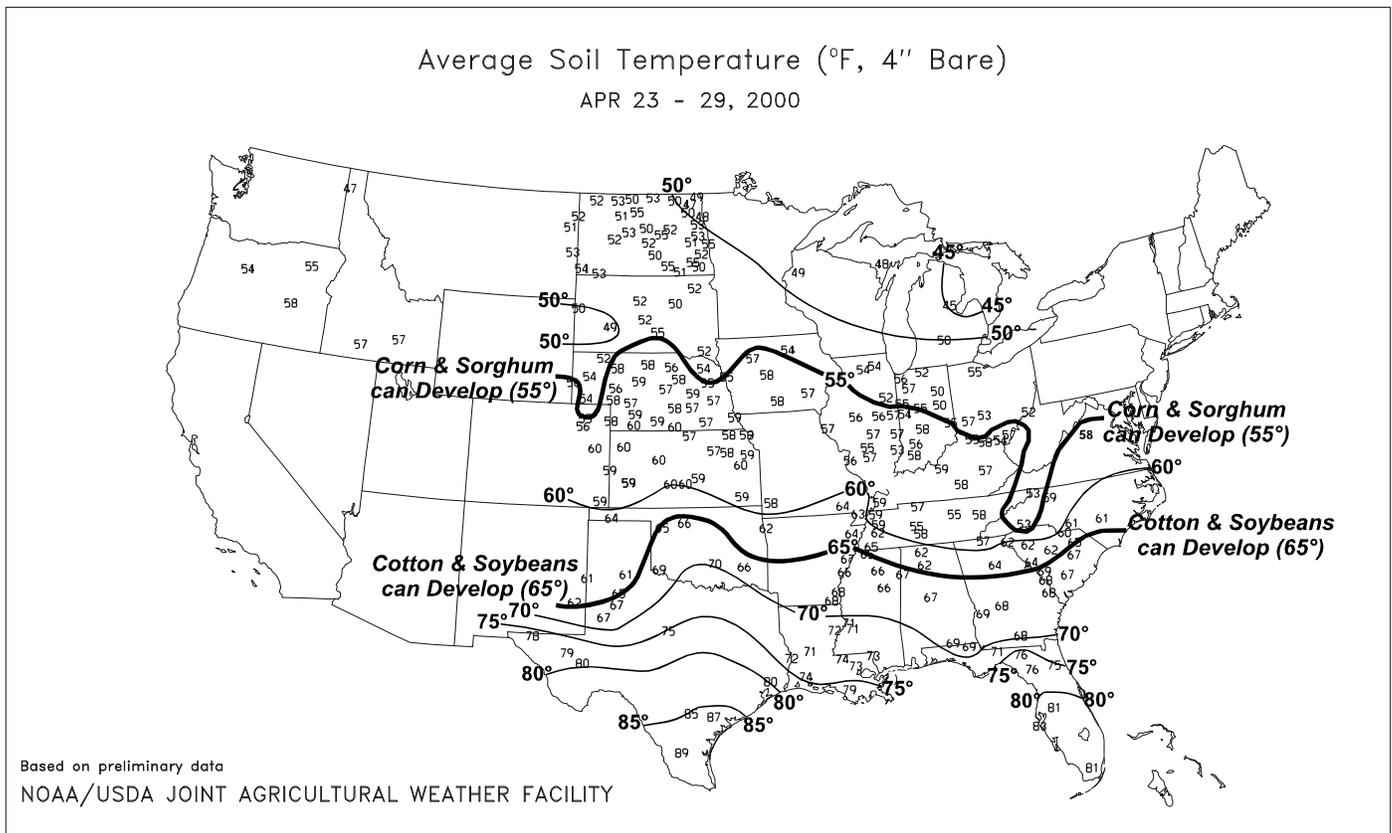
Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F)

APR 23 - 29, 2000



Average Soil Temperature (°F, 4" Bare)

APR 23 - 29, 2000



(Continued from front cover)

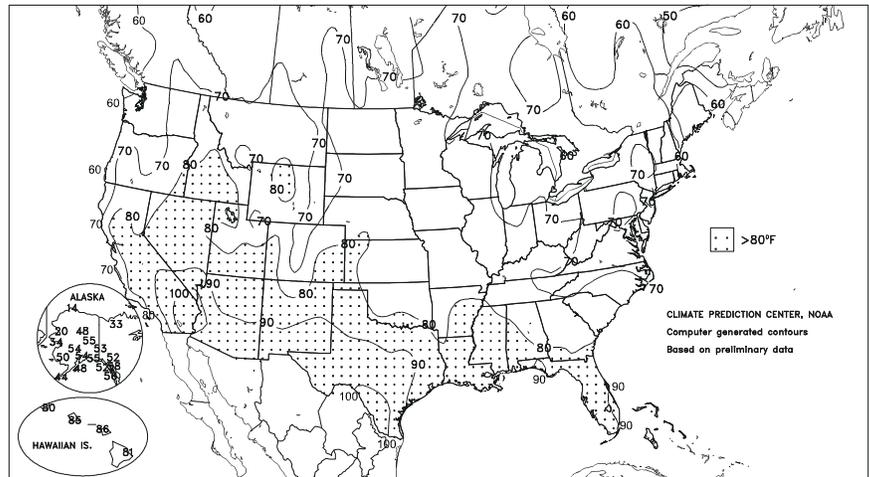
weather (up to 7°F above normal) favored small grain development on the **northern Plains**. Dry weather and near-normal temperatures in **California's Central Valley** and the **Northwest** promoted fieldwork and crop development. In contrast, cool weather (as much as 9°F below normal) slowed winter grain development from the **Ohio Valley** into the **East** and summer crop growth across the **South**.

The last full week in April featured the continuation of cool weather across the **South** and **East**. In **Indiana**, **Indianapolis'** highest temperature during the month, 75°F on April 20 and 30, was lower than their highest temperatures in February (76°F on the 25th) and March (79°F on the 8th). Meanwhile, **Indianapolis'** April rainfall of 3.80 inches (103 percent of normal) left their 10-month (July 1999 - April 2000) total at 20.70 inches (64 percent). Farther south, monthly rainfall totaled 1.06 inches (25 percent of normal) in **Springfield, MO**, completing their driest January-April period (6.83 inches) since only 4.29 inches fell in 1963. In **Florida**, **Tampa** concluded their third consecutive month with less than one-half inch of rain for the first time since December 1949 - February 1950. In **Arizona**, October-April precipitation was only 8 percent of normal in **Douglas** and **Safford**. Finally, preliminary data for **Iowa** indicated that the State's September-April precipitation was 9.53 inches, their lowest since a record-low 9.15 inches fell in 1955-56.

Early in the week, a cold front's passage briefly ended a hot spell across **Texas**. Prior to the front's arrival, highs on Sunday reached daily-record levels in locations such as **Del Rio** (99°F) and **San Antonio** (98°F). **Cotulla, TX** recorded a high of 103°F. The hottest weather shifted into the **Southwest** thereafter, resulting in more than 40 daily-record highs from April 26-28. In **Utah**, **Zion National Park** noted record highs on all 3 days (92, 95, and 93°F). **Phoenix, AZ** registered their first day of the year with triple-digit heat (100°F) on Wednesday, followed by a high of 101°F the next day. Record warmth briefly overspread **southern California**, where **Pasadena** posted a high of 95°F on April 26.

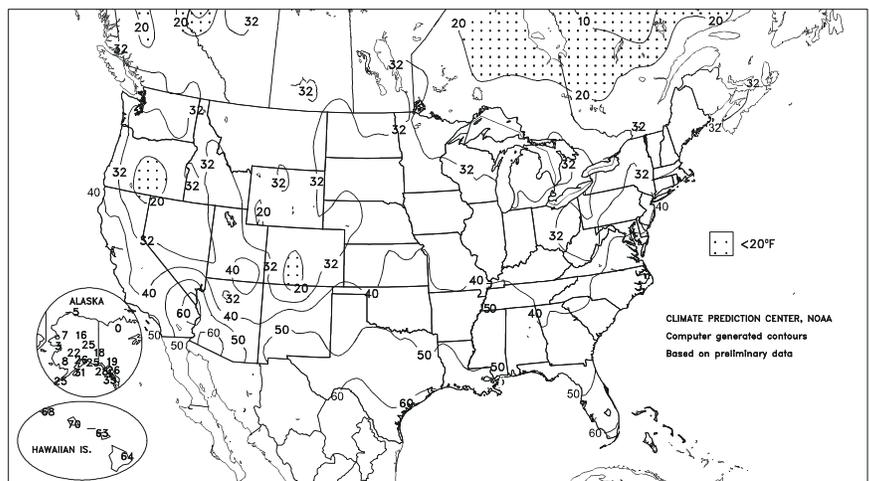
Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F)

APR 23 - 29, 2000



Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)

APR 23 - 29, 2000



Farther north, warmer weather replaced an early-week chill in the **Northwest**. On Tuesday, daily-record lows were reported in locations such as **Redmond, OR** (16°F), **Yakima, WA** (24°F), and **LaGrande, OR** (28°F). Meanwhile, persistently cool weather affected the **East**. On April 26, **Flint, MI** (26°F) tallied a daily-record low, followed a day later by a record in **Jackson, TN** (38°F). Wet conditions accompanied the cool weather in **New England**. **Bangor, ME** received a daily-record rainfall (1.39 inches) on April 23, lifting their 2-day total to 2.90 inches. In **Milton (Blue Hill Observatory), MA**, snowfall totaled 0.9 inch on April 26. A day later, a daily-record total of 2.8 inches blanketed **Caribou, ME**.

Only light showers fell across **Hawaii**, following recent beneficial rainfall. Meanwhile in **Alaska**, cold weather (as much as 9°F below normal) overspread western areas, while mild conditions prevailed elsewhere. Less stormy weather returned to **southeastern Alaska** following last week's heavy precipitation.

Weather Data for Selected Locations in the Delta

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 29, 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 * BELZONI X CLARKSDALE X CLEVELAND X GREENVILLE X GREENWOOD X INDIANOLA 1S INVERNESS 5E LYON MOORHEAD X ONWARD ROLLING FORK X SIDON TUNICA X VICKSBURG X YAZOO CITY X STONEVILLE *	77 78 74 73 75 74 74 75 75 74 74 74 74 74 73 72 75	52 50 51 49 53 50 53 54 52 53 53 55 53 53 52 51 53	83 88 81 79 78 81 82 82 83 82 81 81 83 83 77 77 80	48 46 44 47 50 44 48 49 48 50 48 48 48 48 49 45 45 48	65 64 63 61 64 62 64 65 64 64 65 65 64 64 63 62 64	2 -3 -2 -4 -3 -5 - - -3 - - -1 - 0 -5 -6 -2	1.05 0.18 0.44 0.68 0.10 0.13 0.32 0.28 0.86 0.38 0.12 0.35 0.48 0.68 0.55 0.56 0.56	-0.26 -1.20 -0.75 -0.98 -1.12 -0.96 - - -0.65 -0.86 - -1.10 - -0.64 -0.78 -0.75 -0.77	1.05 0.18 0.42 0.59 0.10 0.13 0.31 0.26 0.65 0.36 0.12 0.35 0.28 0.66 0.55 0.56 0.53	- 16.13 - 12.09 17.16 15.69 - 17.19 10.95 19.34 - 10.94 14.67 10.42 14.67 16.19 18.18 18.76	- 143 - 125 166 154 - - 187 - 105 - 100 - 144 161 179	- - - 17.80 - 20.01 - 21.43 15.62 21.46 - 14.16 19.11 15.99 - 21.99 23.88	- - - 91 - 107 - - - 110 - 71 - 86 - 101 120	- - - - - 65 - - - - 74 - - - - - 75	- - - - - 60 - - - - 61 - - - - - 61	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	1 1 2 2 1 1 2 2 3 2 1 1 3 2 1 1 2	1 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 1

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

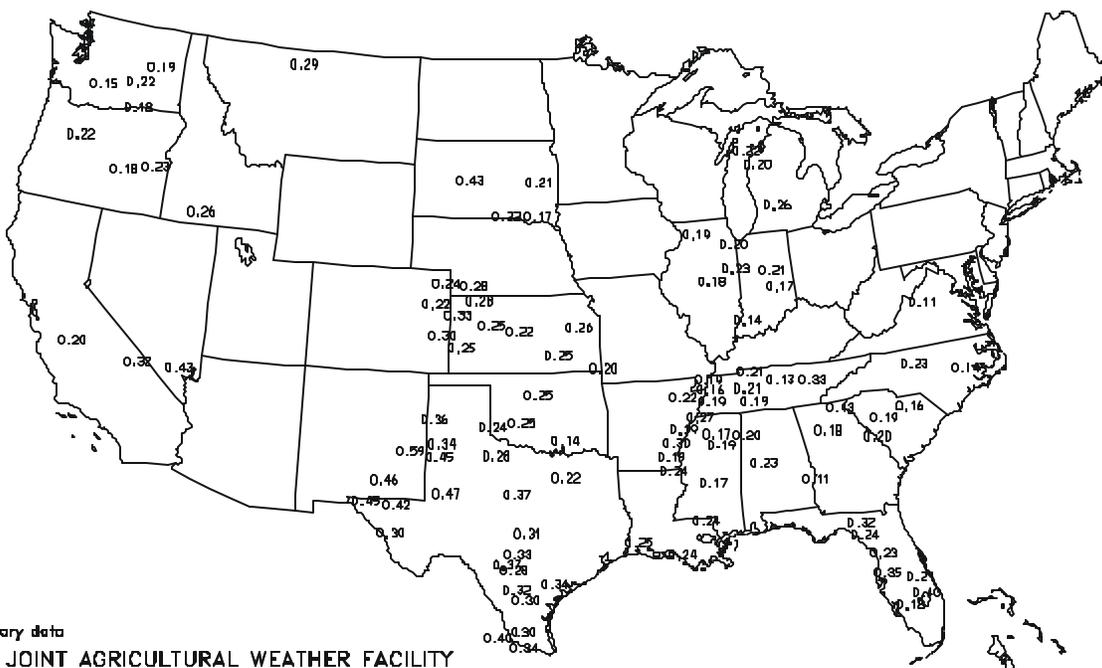
* Based on 1964-93 normals.

X Based on 1961-90 normals.

Delta Weather and Crop Summary: Fieldwork accelerated throughout the Mississippi Delta. Although showers moved through during the first part of the week, farmers continued to prepare and plant fields. Cotton, rice, and soybeans emerged in some places, while corn averaged 8 to 10 inches in height. Wheat was fully headed and continued to mature.

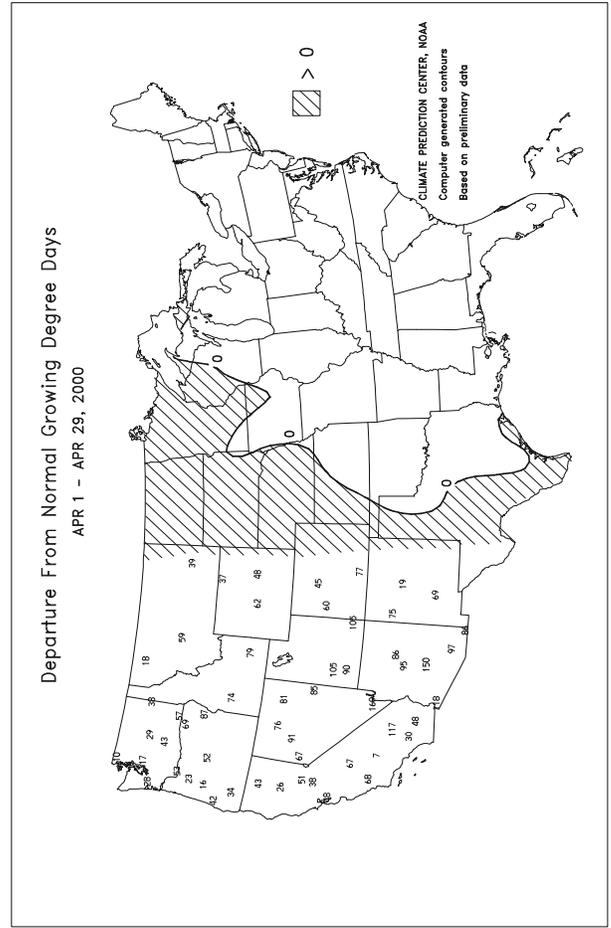
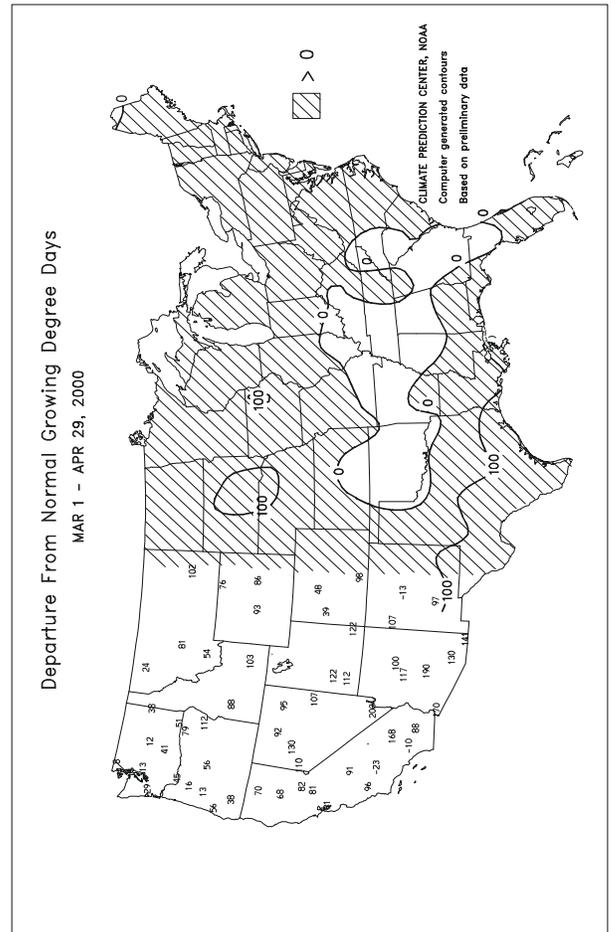
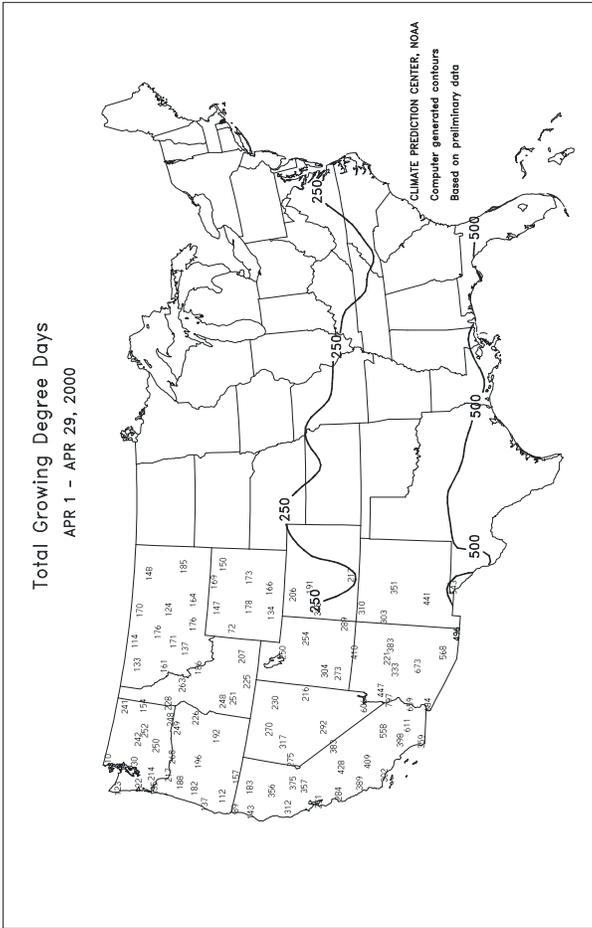
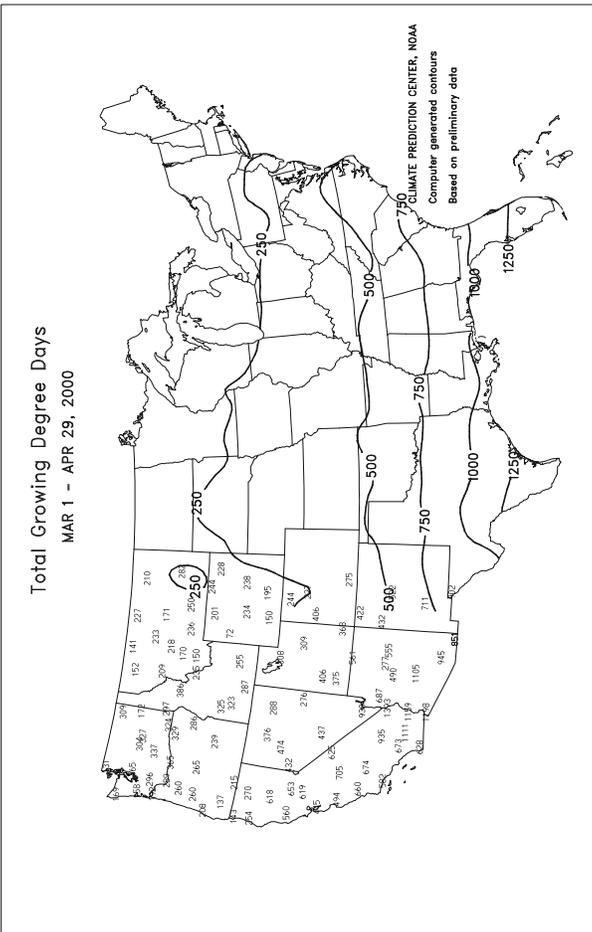
Average Pan Evaporation (Inches)

APR 23 - 29, 2000



Based on preliminary data

NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY



National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 29, 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	72	47	76	42	59	-6	0.82	-0.28	0.54	20.61	188	28.50	137	98	41	0	0	4	1
	HUNTSVILLE	72	48	76	43	60	-4	1.21	0.14	0.45	16.95	149	23.80	111	95	59	0	0	4	0
	MOBILE	78	51	81	48	65	-6	1.21	0.17	0.63	9.41	88	13.38	64	92	44	0	0	5	1
	MONTOMERY	75	47	80	43	61	-6	0.32	-0.61	0.16	5.38	51	11.30	55	92	42	0	0	4	0
AK	ANCHORAGE	50	32	54	26	41	1	0.01	-0.16	0.01	0.92	67	3.04	103	72	53	0	4	1	0
	BARROW	10	1	14	-5	5	0	0.01	-0.05	0.01	0.09	23	0.53	74	88	81	0	7	1	0
	FAIRBANKS	49	30	55	25	40	2	0.01	-0.07	0.01	0.03	4	2.00	127	78	54	0	4	1	0
	JUNEAU	51	33	58	26	42	-1	0.93	0.26	0.56	9.88	166	16.26	114	94	73	0	4	4	1
	KODIAK	45	34	48	31	39	-1	1.02	-0.04	0.47	11.67	134	19.84	93	79	65	0	2	4	0
	NOME	24	12	34	3	18	-6	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.33	27	3.83	146	75	65	0	7	0	0
AZ	FLAGSTAFF	71	31	78	27	51	6	0.00	-0.25	0.00	3.31	83	5.24	65	68	13	0	5	0	0
	PHOENIX	94	66	101	61	80	7	0.00	-0.02	0.00	2.98	273	2.99	123	31	16	5	0	0	0
	TUCSON	93	59	99	53	76	7	0.00	-0.05	0.00	0.93	92	1.22	47	27	14	5	0	0	0
	YUMA	95	66	102	59	81	7	0.00	-0.03	0.00	0.40	118	0.50	55	39	29	6	0	0	0
AR	FORT SMITH	75	50	78	47	63	-2	1.09	0.07	1.08	5.10	65	8.10	66	92	39	0	0	2	1
	LITTLE ROCK	75	52	81	49	64	-1	0.51	-0.79	0.50	6.94	68	10.96	63	89	38	0	0	2	1
CA	BAKERSFIELD	76	50	87	44	63	-3	0.00	-0.09	0.00	1.86	118	4.43	127	69	45	0	0	0	0
	FRESNO	76	50	85	45	63	-1	0.00	-0.15	0.00	2.51	89	11.79	179	83	51	0	0	0	0
	LOS ANGELES	69	56	80	54	63	2	0.01	-0.07	0.01	4.30	162	9.84	130	85	67	0	0	1	0
	REDDING	72	47	81	42	59	-2	0.00	-0.34	0.00	7.76	122	24.71	146	71	41	0	0	0	0
	SACRAMENTO	75	46	83	40	60	-1	0.00	-0.16	0.00	3.65	99	19.78	193	86	28	0	0	0	0
	SAN DIEGO	69	59	78	57	64	1	0.00	-0.10	0.00	1.55	62	5.41	92	85	71	0	0	0	0
	SAN FRANCISCO	64	49	69	47	57	0	0.00	-0.18	0.00	3.03	69	17.41	147	80	62	0	0	0	0
	STOCKTON	75	46	85	43	61	-1	0.00	-0.15	0.00	1.23	38	9.99	125	76	51	0	0	0	0
CO	ALAMOSA	71	30	76	19	51	6	0.00	-0.12	0.00	0.61	66	0.86	59	66	24	0	5	0	0
	CO SPRINGS	69	39	77	35	54	4	0.31	-0.03	0.31	2.57	123	3.48	125	80	21	0	0	1	0
	DENVER	70	37	82	27	54	2	0.24	-0.22	0.17	2.21	75	2.72	68	78	23	0	1	2	0
	GRAND JUNCTION	77	45	86	35	61	5	0.00	-0.17	0.00	1.58	99	3.63	138	45	18	0	0	0	0
	PUEBLO	76	39	86	31	58	2	0.22	-0.01	0.18	3.45	210	3.83	169	82	37	0	1	3	0
CT	BRIDGEPORT	54	41	67	38	48	-4	0.02	-0.86	0.01	9.19	124	13.24	97	84	62	0	0	2	0
	HARTFORD	56	37	69	33	47	-6	0.26	-0.67	0.22	8.01	109	12.44	89	89	55	0	0	2	0
DC	WASHINGTON	61	46	70	41	54	-6	1.01	0.34	1.00	9.14	158	14.21	127	93	59	0	0	2	1
DE	WILMINGTON	59	42	71	35	50	-6	0.15	-0.66	0.06	12.76	190	18.44	146	89	49	0	0	3	0
FL	DAYTONA BEACH	81	57	88	52	69	-2	0.23	-0.32	0.23	9.65	191	12.10	111	92	37	0	0	1	0
	JACKSONVILLE	78	52	84	44	65	-4	1.29	0.65	0.91	4.39	69	8.33	61	98	46	0	0	2	1
	KEY WEST	82	68	86	61	75	-3	0.00	-0.50	0.00	3.72	109	4.88	68	82	59	0	0	0	0
	MIAMI	86	65	89	60	76	-1	0.00	-0.86	0.00	2.96	57	4.73	51	85	44	0	0	0	0
	ORLANDO	84	58	89	53	71	-2	0.00	-0.44	0.00	2.67	54	4.26	42	88	41	0	0	0	0
	PENSACOLA	79	55	84	52	67	-3	0.81	0.01	0.56	5.92	64	10.23	53	87	42	0	0	4	1
	TALLAHASSEE	80	50	83	42	65	-4	0.89	0.08	0.69	4.36	44	8.28	41	92	46	0	0	2	1
	TAMPA	81	63	83	59	72	-2	0.00	-0.30	0.00	0.87	21	3.12	34	85	47	0	0	0	0
	WEST PALM	85	63	91	58	74	-1	0.00	-0.83	0.00	5.45	84	7.21	60	87	46	2	0	0	0
GA	ATHENS	70	47	75	41	58	-7	0.62	-0.27	0.19	5.67	61	12.06	66	92	50	0	0	5	0
	ATLANTA	69	48	75	45	58	-7	0.35	-0.59	0.22	6.75	68	12.90	66	92	60	0	0	2	0
	AUGUSTA	73	45	79	38	59	-7	0.67	-0.07	0.30	4.52	58	12.18	75	97	54	0	0	5	0
	COLUMBUS	74	50	79	45	62	-6	0.42	-0.51	0.29	8.69	88	13.88	72	94	37	0	0	5	0
	MACON	73	45	79	41	59	-8	0.23	-0.53	0.18	5.90	73	11.48	66	98	48	0	0	3	0
	SAVANNAH	75	51	78	45	63	-6	1.11	0.38	0.83	6.89	103	11.17	83	95	51	0	0	3	1
HI	HILO	79	66	81	64	73	0	0.66	-2.63	0.24	11.96	42	30.35	62	89	78	0	0	7	0
	HONOLULU	84	71	85	70	77	1	0.01	-0.30	0.01	0.84	23	2.18	23	77	71	0	0	1	0
	KAHULUI	83	67	86	63	75	0	0.07	-0.26	0.05	1.64	37	2.70	23	85	73	0	0	2	0
	LIHUE	80	70	80	68	75	0	0.12	-0.65	0.06	4.20	56	6.82	41	81	74	0	0	4	0
ID	BOISE	66	41	87	33	53	1	0.07	-0.21	0.07	2.74	110	6.31	126	70	45	0	0	1	0
	LEWISTON	63	40	84	35	51	-2	0.07	-0.21	0.05	2.07	95	5.19	119	71	49	0	0	3	0
	POCATELLO	66	38	84	33	52	4	0.00	-0.28	0.00	1.55	64	4.50	103	64	35	0	0	0	0
IL	CHICAGO/O'HARE	62	39	70	37	51	-2	0.00	-0.85	0.00	3.23	52	6.55	72	76	39	0	0	0	0
	MOLINE	67	44	72	36	55	0	0.33	-0.63	0.19	5.08	75	9.78	103	81	47	0	0	4	0
	PEORIA	67	44	73	37	56	0	0.26	-0.65	0.22	4.19	64	6.82	72	77	35	0	0	3	0
	ROCKFORD	66	40	72	35	53	1	0.19	-0.69	0.16	5.06	84	8.52	101	83	46	0	0	3	0
	SPRINGFIELD	66	42	72	35	54	-4	0.69	-0.16	0.48	4.78	71	6.59	66	83	50	0	0	4	0
IN	EVANSVILLE	68	44	72	38	56	-4	0.58	-0.37	0.45	5.59	65	17.20	120	89	45	0	0	3	0
	FORT WAYNE	65	38	71	33	52	-1	0.02	-0.78	0.02	4.55	74	7.37	74	85	38	0	0	1	0
	INDIANAPOLIS	67	41	70	35	54	-3	0.07	-0.81	0.07	5.44	74	10.37	85	74	36	0	0	1	0
	SOUTH BEND	63	36	69	31	49	-4	0.09	-0.78	0.09	5.50	81	9.53	87	77	40	0	3	1	0
IA	BURLINGTON	67	45	74	36	56	0	0.11	-0.74	0.08	3.46	56	6.92	80	86	34	0	0	3	0
	CEDAR RAPIDS	67	44	71	38	55	1	0.03	-0.77	0.03	2.78	51	5.34	72	84	36	0	0	1	0
	DES MOINES	71	46	76	40	58	2	0.69	-0.14	0.64	3.50	63	6.16	81	74	43	0	0	2	1
	DUBUQUE	66	42	71	36	54	2	0.12	-0.81	0.10	4.16	64	6.99	77	78	44	0	0	2	0
	SIoux CITY	70	43	80	38	56	1	0.52	-0.11	0.28	2.40	57	3.56	65	87	51	0	0	3	0
	WATERLOO	70	42	75	36	56	3	0.00	-0.85	0.00	4.15	75	6.22	84	81	34	0	0	0	0
KS	CONCORDIA	69	45	75	39	57	0	0.14	-0.52	0.12	4.28	96	6.34	110	89	55	0	0	2	0
	DODGE CITY	72	43	75	37	57	-2	0.32	-0.24	0.31	5.60	158	6.26	134	90	42	0	0	2	0
	GOODLAND	73	40	82	34	56	3	0.22	-0.22	0.17	2.85	117	3.83	118	87	42	0	0	2	0
	TOPEKA	71	46	77	41	59	0	0.39	-0.42	0.37	3.50	64	5.69	76	93	48	0	0	2	0

Based on 1961-90 normals

(Note: Eureka, CA

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 29, 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	71	48	75	42	59	-1	0.10	-0.53	0.10	7.73	163	11.37	175	89	53	0	0	1	0
	JACKSON	65	44	70	37	54	-6	0.95	0.02	0.81	6.93	81	13.09	81	88	35	0	0	2	1
	LEXINGTON	65	42	70	37	54	-4	0.13	-0.79	0.13	8.43	104	16.64	117	86	49	0	0	1	0
	LOUISVILLE	68	45	72	38	56	-4	0.18	-0.81	0.16	6.52	75	18.65	125	83	47	0	0	2	0
LA	PADUCAH	69	45	75	39	57	-5	1.92	0.76	1.26	8.89	91	20.46	121	92	37	0	0	2	2
	BATON ROUGE	80	54	83	49	67	-5	0.66	-0.60	0.63	4.91	49	8.34	41	98	42	0	0	3	1
	LAKE CHARLES	83	57	87	53	70	-1	0.06	-0.87	0.04	5.92	91	8.23	56	98	50	0	0	2	0
	NEW ORLEANS	82	60	85	56	71	0	0.46	-0.57	0.41	3.55	38	7.61	37	83	44	0	0	2	0
	SHREVEPORT	77	55	81	50	66	-2	1.72	0.74	0.98	13.55	187	18.46	123	96	51	0	0	3	2
ME	CARIBOU	46	29	64	25	38	-5	1.63	1.02	0.93	6.49	135	12.31	135	96	62	0	6	5	1
	PORTLAND	49	35	60	29	42	-5	0.72	-0.22	0.51	9.03	119	15.33	106	88	66	0	3	5	1
MD	BALTIMORE	59	42	70	36	51	-6	0.70	-0.05	0.66	9.54	150	15.19	121	90	59	0	0	2	1
MA	BOSTON	49	39	53	35	44	-8	0.65	-0.16	0.42	7.74	108	13.06	91	90	67	0	0	2	0
	WORCESTER	49	36	61	32	42	-7	0.76	-0.18	0.43	10.64	137	16.35	110	93	62	0	1	2	0
MI	ALPENA	61	31	67	27	46	0	0.00	-0.55	0.00	2.42	57	6.32	88	79	24	0	5	0	0
	GRAND RAPIDS	65	37	69	35	51	0	0.00	-0.79	0.00	5.24	89	7.79	85	77	37	0	0	0	0
	HOUGHTON LAKE	66	30	70	27	48	1	0.00	-0.54	0.00	2.56	61	5.48	80	86	26	0	6	0	0
	LANSING	63	32	67	27	47	-3	0.00	-0.65	0.00	4.57	91	6.64	84	84	45	0	4	0	0
	MUSKOGON	64	36	69	33	50	0	0.00	-0.67	0.00	5.80	109	7.90	86	75	36	0	0	0	0
	TRAVERSE CITY	61	29	66	27	45	-2	0.00	-0.55	0.00	2.21	56	5.04	68	91	30	0	7	0	0
MN	DULUTH	61	36	72	29	48	4	0.06	-0.51	0.06	3.50	86	5.42	89	74	41	0	2	1	0
	INT'L FALLS	67	35	75	26	51	6	0.09	-0.34	0.07	2.16	83	2.99	73	82	35	0	3	2	0
	MINNEAPOLIS	69	45	74	38	57	5	0.02	-0.61	0.02	2.23	52	4.19	68	80	28	0	0	1	0
	ROCHESTER	68	41	74	34	54	4	0.00	-0.71	0.00	1.73	39	4.48	75	72	41	0	0	0	0
	ST. CLOUD	70	39	74	33	55	6	0.00	-0.62	0.00	2.52	68	4.31	85	79	25	0	0	0	0
MS	JACKSON	73	49	80	43	61	-7	0.36	-0.91	0.33	12.20	109	15.37	73	94	47	0	0	2	0
	MERIDIAN	74	47	80	41	61	-6	0.48	-0.67	0.35	8.21	68	12.78	57	97	46	0	0	3	0
	TUPELO	73	50	79	43	62	-4	1.09	-0.13	0.51	13.49	121	20.51	99	90	50	0	0	4	1
MO	COLUMBIA	68	45	73	37	56	-3	0.41	-0.58	0.29	3.24	47	7.40	73	85	39	0	0	3	0
	KANSAS CITY	68	47	74	42	58	-1	0.13	-0.74	0.05	3.44	62	6.11	79	91	46	0	0	5	0
	SAINT LOUIS	67	47	74	40	57	-4	0.73	-0.10	0.32	3.74	54	8.08	74	92	59	0	0	4	0
	SPRINGFIELD	69	43	75	36	56	-3	0.28	-0.71	0.24	3.67	46	6.52	55	89	43	0	0	2	0
MT	BILLINGS	62	39	77	34	51	2	0.77	0.29	0.28	2.13	75	4.94	113	78	34	0	0	5	0
	BUTTE	57	31	71	25	44	2	0.12	-0.16	0.11	1.18	71	2.08	81	80	23	0	4	2	0
	GLASGOW	64	40	74	32	52	3	0.32	0.08	0.17	1.63	150	1.86	108	74	34	0	1	2	0
	GREAT FALLS	62	33	73	27	47	-1	0.07	-0.34	0.06	1.06	43	2.09	53	73	19	0	3	2	0
	KALISPELL	57	31	75	23	44	-3	0.12	-0.19	0.12	1.73	83	3.35	71	80	46	0	4	1	0
	MILES CITY	64	41	75	32	52	1	0.16	-0.24	0.09	1.06	54	2.11	72	86	31	0	1	4	0
	MISSOULA	59	30	80	27	45	-2	0.07	-0.20	0.05	1.23	65	3.69	94	80	40	0	5	3	0
NE	GRAND ISLAND	69	43	76	40	56	1	0.31	-0.38	0.25	2.08	48	3.68	67	91	54	0	0	2	0
	LINCOLN	70	44	75	36	57	1	0.17	-0.57	0.17	2.15	45	3.80	63	82	48	0	0	1	0
	NORFOLK	68	44	79	37	56	1	0.14	-0.49	0.14	2.24	55	3.56	66	80	47	0	0	1	0
	NORTH PLATTE	71	38	76	31	55	3	0.86	0.27	0.83	2.10	67	2.87	73	91	35	0	1	2	1
	OMAHA	69	46	74	39	58	2	0.27	-0.49	0.16	2.77	60	4.89	80	87	63	0	0	2	0
	SCOTTSBLUFF	68	38	72	31	53	3	0.63	0.17	0.63	3.83	146	4.98	138	81	44	0	2	1	1
	VALENTINE	69	40	76	30	54	3	1.02	0.51	0.75	2.73	102	4.12	122	82	55	0	1	3	1
NV	ELY	68	31	78	21	49	4	0.18	-0.07	0.16	1.72	90	3.99	122	70	25	0	3	2	0
	LAS VEGAS	89	64	99	59	76	8	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.21	32	1.80	112	28	17	3	0	0	0
	RENO	71	39	82	31	55	4	0.00	-0.10	0.00	0.72	67	3.84	123	52	25	0	1	0	0
	WINNEMUCCA	68	33	85	24	50	1	0.03	-0.16	0.03	1.96	124	4.86	165	75	36	0	3	1	0
NH	CONCORD	53	33	69	28	43	-5	1.19	0.49	0.53	9.09	164	14.18	134	98	53	0	3	4	1
NJ	NEWARK	58	44	70	39	51	-5	0.01	-0.90	0.01	7.04	93	11.97	86	75	55	0	0	1	0
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	81	51	86	49	66	7	0.00	-0.11	0.00	1.27	125	1.87	97	48	19	0	0	0	0
NY	ALBANY	55	36	71	31	46	-5	0.45	-0.27	0.24	6.91	119	13.17	126	96	53	0	1	4	0
	BINGHAMTON	53	35	66	33	44	-5	0.16	-0.58	0.09	9.61	165	15.92	151	84	65	0	0	2	0
	BUFFALO	57	37	67	33	47	-3	0.01	-0.68	0.01	6.19	113	10.59	101	81	41	0	0	1	0
	ROCHESTER	56	37	67	34	46	-4	0.04	-0.59	0.04	6.40	133	11.35	126	81	56	0	0	1	0
	SYRACUSE	57	36	70	31	46	-4	0.04	-0.76	0.04	7.02	117	12.20	116	89	46	0	1	1	0
NC	ASHEVILLE	61	40	68	32	51	-7	1.49	0.70	0.87	9.13	116	14.56	97	95	57	0	1	5	1
	CHARLOTTE	66	43	71	36	54	-9	1.15	0.52	0.46	9.09	130	15.75	108	99	57	0	0	4	0
	GREENSBORO	62	44	70	40	53	-8	1.33	0.63	0.90	7.58	117	13.08	101	94	58	0	0	5	1
	HATTERAS	62	49	66	44	56	-6	0.42	-0.40	0.26	5.05	66	14.74	86	92	64	0	0	3	0
	RALEIGH	64	44	70	37	54	-8	2.31	1.67	0.98	6.42	102	14.65	109	99	70	0	0	6	2
	WILMINGTON	69	50	72	45	60	-5	1.09	0.38	0.43	7.27	109	13.24	93	96	56	0	0	5	0
ND	BISMARCK	68	38	72	31	53	5	0.59	0.14	0.31	2.67	111	4.80	146	89	55	0	1	2	0
	DICKINSON	64	42	74	35	53	6	0.58	0.06	0.39	1.86	73	3.08	94	89	35	0	0	4	0
	FARGO	70	42	74	34	56	7	0.14	-0.35	0.13	2.61	92	3.95	100	75	29	0	0	2	0
	GRAND FORKS	68	36	74	33	52	4	0.05	-0.32	0.05	0.99	44	2.76	80	85	28	0	0	1	0
	JAMESTOWN	66	38	71	33	52	4	0.74	0.35	0.45	2.17	92	4.58	132	93	39	0	0	2	0
	WILLISTON	65	40	72	35	53	5	0.56	0.19	0.28	2.19	113	3.03	105	81	41	0	0	4	0
OH	AKRON-CANTON	62	37	69	32	49	-4	0.00	-0.76	0.00	7.20	113	12.17	113	74	46	0	1	0	0
	CINCINNATI	66	39	70	34	53	-4	0.02	-0.86	0.01	7.43	95	17.59	134	79	45	0	0	2	0
	CLEVELAND	58	37	66	30	47	-5	0.00	-0.76	0.00	6.23	105	10.91	107	89	46	0	1	0	0
	COLUMBUS	66	41	71	34	53	-2	0.00	-0.78	0.00	6.81	107	13.13	122	76	43	0	0	0	0
	DAYTON	65	39	70	35	52	-3	0.00	-0.83	0.00	6.69	99	12.04	109	74	32	0	0	0	0
	M																			

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 29, 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	64	38	73	36	51	-1	0.00	-0.69	0.00	5.39	98	8.17	91	71	34	0	0	0	0
OK YOUNGSTOWN	62	37	69	31	49	-2	0.00	-0.73	0.00	6.47	106	10.61	104	72	42	0	1	0	0
OK OKLAHOMA CITY	74	52	78	47	63	-1	0.44	-0.37	0.42	4.84	89	7.06	87	88	45	0	0	3	0
OK TULSA	74	51	77	47	62	-3	0.13	-0.87	0.10	4.68	66	6.90	65	87	48	0	0	2	0
OR ASTORIA	58	42	67	35	50	0	1.71	0.84	0.46	10.64	93	27.41	94	97	76	0	0	6	0
OR BURNS	59	29	73	19	44	-2	0.00	-0.16	0.00	1.82	112	5.34	158	78	38	0	5	0	0
OR EUGENE	58	36	69	31	47	-5	0.37	-0.20	0.11	4.81	57	20.36	92	94	77	0	1	5	0
OR MEDFORD	64	39	76	33	52	-2	0.11	-0.13	0.05	5.94	202	13.70	181	87	48	0	0	3	0
OR PENDLETON	63	38	70	34	51	-2	0.20	-0.05	0.18	3.03	138	8.02	166	73	46	0	0	2	0
OR PORTLAND	60	41	69	33	51	-2	0.72	0.22	0.20	5.64	96	15.81	105	92	67	0	0	5	0
PA SALEM	59	38	68	30	48	-3	0.36	-0.10	0.10	4.45	69	18.43	109	91	72	0	1	5	0
PA ALLENTOWN	57	40	67	33	48	-6	0.06	-0.81	0.03	8.62	129	13.36	104	84	65	0	0	3	0
PA ERIE	56	36	63	31	46	-4	0.14	-0.63	0.14	7.25	118	11.68	110	85	54	0	2	1	0
PA MIDDLETOWN	61	44	72	39	52	-4	0.08	-0.74	0.01	8.19	128	12.53	103	85	48	0	0	2	0
PA PHILADELPHIA	60	44	70	42	52	-4	0.06	-0.79	0.04	9.41	135	14.67	113	77	53	0	0	3	0
PA PITTSBURGH	64	39	70	31	51	-3	0.00	-0.74	0.00	5.44	84	9.67	85	70	28	0	1	0	0
PA WILKES-BARRE	58	39	70	36	49	-3	0.04	-0.71	0.04	5.78	106	10.26	106	83	42	0	0	1	0
PA WILLIAMSPORT	62	40	72	37	51	-2	0.02	-0.77	0.01	8.49	134	12.87	111	80	44	0	0	2	0
RI PROVIDENCE	52	38	61	35	45	-6	0.34	-0.60	0.28	10.15	127	17.08	110	84	62	0	0	2	0
SC BEAUFORT	77	55	83	49	66	-3	0.47	-0.19	0.47	6.58	96	9.51	69	89	43	0	0	1	0
SC CHARLESTON	73	52	78	45	63	-5	0.75	0.14	0.31	5.46	79	11.51	84	92	46	0	0	3	0
SC COLUMBIA	70	49	76	41	60	-6	0.25	-0.47	0.16	5.45	68	15.51	94	83	52	0	0	2	0
SC GREENVILLE	66	46	71	41	56	-7	1.59	0.73	0.82	9.06	100	14.65	83	99	50	0	0	5	1
SD ABERDEEN	68	41	72	36	54	4	0.11	-0.39	0.09	3.14	97	4.10	101	88	45	0	0	2	0
SD HURON	68	41	75	34	55	4	0.21	-0.33	0.18	1.92	52	2.70	56	88	48	0	0	2	0
SD RAPID CITY	61	39	67	35	50	1	1.97	1.45	0.84	8.36	291	8.89	235	84	45	0	0	3	3
SD SIOUX FALLS	67	39	73	35	53	1	0.56	-0.09	0.45	3.26	80	4.98	95	89	52	0	0	2	0
TN BRISTOL	62	40	69	32	51	-7	1.04	0.25	0.60	7.39	107	12.88	95	96	43	0	2	2	1
TN CHATTANOOGA	70	48	75	41	59	-3	1.25	0.31	1.07	13.06	128	20.57	103	96	49	0	0	3	1
TN KNOXVILLE	64	45	68	38	54	-7	1.58	0.75	0.93	11.08	128	19.64	116	98	50	0	0	4	1
TN MEMPHIS	73	52	80	48	63	-3	0.56	-0.69	0.35	8.82	83	15.56	83	80	44	0	0	2	0
TX NASHVILLE	69	46	73	40	57	-6	3.09	2.05	2.39	9.10	100	16.37	99	91	41	0	0	5	2
TX ABILENE	86	60	91	53	73	5	0.00	-0.53	0.00	1.54	48	2.15	40	65	34	2	0	0	0
TX AMARILLO	76	48	85	45	62	2	0.00	-0.31	0.00	4.51	235	4.79	158	79	34	0	0	0	0
TX AUSTIN	88	60	97	51	74	2	0.00	-0.78	0.00	2.71	62	7.68	93	83	40	1	0	0	0
TX BEAUMONT	83	61	86	57	72	0	0.03	-0.94	0.01	11.74	177	14.14	96	97	45	0	0	3	0
TX BROWNSVILLE	88	69	93	64	78	1	0.01	-0.49	0.01	3.29	160	4.43	95	91	58	2	0	1	0
TX CORPUS CHRISTI	87	65	96	62	76	1	0.00	-0.54	0.00	4.70	179	5.82	92	94	57	2	0	0	0
TX DEL RIO	94	68	99	63	81	7	0.00	-0.52	0.00	1.21	46	2.19	53	74	33	6	0	0	0
TX EL PASO	91	62	95	60	76	9	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.36	69	0.39	29	46	21	5	0	0	0
TX FORT WORTH	82	59	88	53	70	2	0.13	-0.81	0.08	5.58	90	10.47	103	84	39	0	0	2	0
TX GALVESTON	81	69	85	66	75	3	0.00	-0.64	0.00	4.20	92	7.65	76	90	57	0	0	0	0
TX HOUSTON	85	60	87	55	73	2	0.05	-0.84	0.05	6.91	115	10.48	85	94	53	0	0	1	0
TX LUBBOCK	80	51	87	46	65	0	0.48	0.17	0.28	4.49	245	4.54	157	72	41	0	0	2	0
TX MIDLAND	88	59	93	50	73	5	0.00	-0.28	0.00	0.95	68	1.56	65	56	34	2	0	0	0
TX SAN ANGELO	90	62	96	57	76	6	0.00	-0.51	0.00	1.31	52	1.62	37	68	36	4	0	0	0
TX SAN ANTONIO	90	65	98	60	78	6	0.00	-0.74	0.00	2.15	54	5.75	77	83	33	3	0	0	0
TX VICTORIA	87	63	91	59	75	2	0.01	-0.72	0.01	5.26	135	9.68	120	97	51	1	0	1	0
TX WACO	85	59	94	53	72	2	0.00	-0.87	0.00	3.53	65	10.12	110	86	44	1	0	0	0
TX WICHITA FALLS	80	54	85	48	67	0	0.51	-0.29	0.48	5.02	98	6.95	91	85	51	0	0	3	0
UT SALT LAKE CITY	70	46	85	41	58	5	0.29	-0.20	0.15	1.71	43	5.68	90	75	31	0	0	4	0
VT BURLINGTON	52	34	71	28	43	-6	1.21	0.52	0.83	6.59	134	11.16	133	92	53	0	3	5	1
VA LYNCHBURG	59	43	65	39	51	-8	1.02	0.26	0.67	5.99	93	11.16	90	94	67	0	0	5	1
VA NORFOLK	60	46	63	41	53	-7	0.64	-0.09	0.55	6.11	92	12.31	89	88	62	0	0	4	1
VA RICHMOND	61	44	67	41	53	-8	0.95	0.23	0.57	6.73	104	12.32	96	90	66	0	0	4	1
VA ROANOKE	60	43	67	39	51	-8	1.21	0.41	0.44	8.61	130	12.38	101	92	67	0	0	5	0
VA WASH/DULLES	60	43	69	38	51	-5	0.20	-0.58	0.20	7.72	125	11.41	98	93	67	0	0	1	0
WA OLYMPIA	57	36	62	27	46	-4	0.70	0.07	0.28	8.43	104	22.43	102	93	65	0	1	5	0
WA QUILLAYUTE	55	39	60	33	47	-1	3.52	2.04	1.15	17.53	94	39.50	87	98	73	0	0	7	3
WA SEATTLE-TACOMA	56	41	62	35	48	-3	0.74	0.28	0.34	4.52	78	13.54	89	92	68	0	0	5	0
WA SPOKANE	57	35	74	30	46	-3	0.50	0.22	0.28	4.10	156	7.61	125	82	41	0	3	3	0
WA YAKIMA	62	33	66	24	47	-5	0.00	-0.11	0.00	1.13	98	4.00	129	75	40	0	4	0	0
WV BECKLEY	57	39	64	32	48	-7	1.21	0.38	0.79	6.63	99	11.17	89	86	57	0	1	3	1
WV CHARLESTON	65	40	72	32	52	-6	0.64	-0.16	0.37	7.34	107	13.00	102	97	45	0	1	2	0
WV ELKINS	60	32	67	24	46	-6	0.05	-0.86	0.03	7.37	98	13.19	97	91	36	0	4	2	0
WV HUNTINGTON	65	41	72	32	53	-6	0.41	-0.43	0.31	5.99	86	13.31	105	86	37	0	1	2	0
WI EAU CLAIRE	71	38	78	33	55	5	0.00	-0.76	0.00	2.94	66	5.69	92	83	23	0	0	0	0
WI GREEN BAY	63	35	70	30	49	0	0.00	-0.59	0.00	3.11	71	5.02	77	80	36	0	2	0	0
WI LA CROSSE	71	43	77	37	57	4	0.00	-0.72	0.00	1.55	32	3.92	59	77	26	0	0	0	0
WI MADISON	65	36	73	32	51	1	1.12	0.42	0.99	4.28	87	7.08	100	81	42	0	2	2	1
WI MILWAUKEE	57	40	66	36	48	-1	0.33	-0.47	0.31	4.41	73	7.27	80	76	47	0	0	2	0
WI CASPER	64	33	80	28	49	2	0.04	-0.39	0.02	1.75	71	2.77	77	83	37	0	5	2	0
WI CHEYENNE	62	36	68	33	49	3	0.41	0.02	0.37	2.09	89	3.03	96	80	46	0	0	2	0
WI LANDER	65	35	81	28	50	3	0.18	-0.36	0.16	2.51	79	2.78	66	69	45	0	1	2	0
WI SHERIDAN	60	34	77	28	47	0	0.76	0.28	0.55	2.41	91	4.54	113	87	55	0	3	4	1

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 24 - 30, 2000

HIGHLIGHTS

Planting rapidly progressed in the western Corn Belt, Great Plains, lower Mississippi Valley, and parts of the Southeast. Lingering wetness and cool weather hindered planting progress in parts of the eastern Corn Belt and Atlantic Coastal Plains. Cold soil temperatures delayed seed germination and emergence in the eastern Corn Belt. Winter wheat

rapidly progressed to the heading stage in the lower Mississippi Valley and southern Great Plains, despite below-normal temperatures. In the upper Mississippi Valley and northern Great Plains, dry weather aided small grain seeding and above-normal temperatures promoted germination and growth where topsoil moisture supplies were adequate.

Winter Wheat: Thirty-three percent of the winter wheat crop was at the heading stage or beyond, compared with last year's 26-percent progress, and nearly 1 week ahead of the 21-percent average. Development rapidly continued, despite below-normal temperatures in the lower Mississippi Valley and Southeast. In Missouri, North Carolina, and Oklahoma, wheat headed advanced 22, 28, and 30 percentage points, respectively. Nearly all of the crop was headed in Arkansas. Wheat fields in the Corn Belt and central Great Plains also quickly progressed to the heading stage, jumping 13 percentage points in Illinois and Indiana, and 12 percentage points in Kansas. Warm weather promoted maturing in California. In the northern Great Plains, above-normal temperatures promoted rapid development, but no fields were heading.

Corn: Planting rapidly advanced to 49 percent of the intended acreage, more than 1 week ahead of last year's 17-percent pace and more than double the 5-year average of 23 percent. With most of the pre-planting field preparations complete, growers in the western Corn Belt spent most of the week planting corn. Acreage planted jumped 55 percentage points in Iowa and 65 percentage points in Minnesota. Progress was more modest in the central and eastern Corn Belt. Growers in Illinois and Indiana planted about a quarter of their corn acreage, but progress was very slow in Michigan and Ohio due to cool weather and lingering wetness. Nine percent of the crop was emerged, 4 percentage points ahead of the same date last year. Emergence rapidly progressed along the Missouri, Mississippi, and Ohio River Valleys in the southern Corn Belt, but cold soil temperatures delayed germination in other areas of the Corn Belt. About one-fourth of the crop was emerged in Kentucky and Kansas, 40 percent was emerged in Tennessee, and over half of the acreage was emerged in Missouri.

Soybeans: Eight percent of the intended acreage was planted, 5 percentage points ahead of last year and the 5-year average. Planting was most advanced in the Mississippi Delta, with about one-fourth of the crop planted in Louisiana and Mississippi.

Cotton: Planting was 23 percent complete, 4 percentage points ahead of this date last year and 2 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Planting rapidly progressed in the Mississippi Delta, advancing 30 percentage points or more in Louisiana and Missouri. Rain and lingering wetness delayed planting on the Atlantic Coastal Plains, as progress fell well behind the 5-year average in North Carolina and Virginia. In the Southeast, planting accelerated, but remained slightly behind normal in Alabama and Georgia.

Rice: Fifty-eight percent of the rice acreage was planted, 5 percentage points ahead of a year ago and 4 percentage points ahead of the normal progress for this date. Planting accelerated in Arkansas and Mississippi, but remained well behind normal in Mississippi due to lingering wetness and below-normal temperatures. The planting pace slowed in Louisiana and Texas, as progress neared completion. Thirty-one percent of the crop was emerged, ahead of last year's

25-percent progress and 2 percentage points ahead of the average for this date.

Spring Wheat: Planting was 57 percent complete, 18 percentage points ahead of last year's pace, and nearly double the 29-percent normal for this date. Planting rapidly progressed, as dry weather prevailed in the upper Mississippi Valley and most of the northern Great Plains. In Minnesota, growers planted 39 percent of their acreage during the week. Planting advanced nearly 30 percentage points in Montana and North Dakota. Rain limited progress in South Dakota, but delays were isolated and brief. Nineteen percent was emerged, compared with 11 percent last year and the 9-percent normal for this date. Warm weather promoted rapid emergence, especially in Idaho and South Dakota. Dry soils hindered emergence in Montana.

Oats: Seeding advanced to 68 percent of intended acreage, 1 week ahead of last year's 51-percent pace, and nearly 2 weeks ahead of the 41-percent average for this date. Warm, dry weather aided planting in Minnesota and North Dakota. Planting accelerated in Ohio and Pennsylvania, as surplus moisture supplies gradually diminished. Planting steadily progressed in South Dakota and Wisconsin and was nearly complete in Iowa and Nebraska. Thirty-eight percent of the crop was emerged, 13 percentage points ahead of a year ago. Rapid emergence in Iowa, Minnesota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin was aided by warm weather. However, increasing moisture shortages limited progress in Iowa and Minnesota.

Barley: The crop was 56-percent seeded, 15 percentage points ahead of last year's pace, and more than 1 week ahead of the 5-year average of 34 percent. Progress was aided by dry weather, especially in Minnesota, where planting advanced 39 percentage points. In Montana and North Dakota, seeding progressed 25 and 21 percentage points, respectively. Twenty-one percent of the crop was emerged, compared with 15 percent last year and 13 percent normally emerged by this date. Above-normal temperatures aided emergence and growth in Idaho and Minnesota. In Washington, fields rapidly emerged, despite cooler-than-normal temperatures. Emergence was hindered by dry soils in Montana.

Sorghum: Twenty-three percent of the sorghum acreage has been planted, 1 week ahead of a year ago, and slightly ahead of the 21-percent average for this date. Planting accelerated in the Mississippi Delta and southern Corn Belt, advancing 24 and 23 percentage points in Arkansas and Louisiana, respectively. In Missouri, planting was about 3 weeks ahead of normal and the most advanced progress for this date on record. Planting began in Illinois and the central Great Plains.

Other crops: Seventy percent of the sugar beets and 6 percent of the peanuts were planted. Beet planting rapidly progressed in Minnesota and North Dakota. Peanut planting lagged behind normal in Alabama and Georgia due to moisture shortages and below-normal temperatures. In North Carolina and Virginia, wet soils delayed planting.

Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending April 30, 2000

Winter Wheat Percent Headed				
	Apr 30 2000	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	96	85	86	77
CA	97	95	91	95
CO	3	3	2	1
ID	0	0	0	0
IL	14	1	2	2
IN	13	0	2	3
KS	14	2	9	4
MI	0	0	0	0
MO	34	12	10	12
MT	0	0	0	0
NE	0	0	0	0
NC	80	52	71	60
OH	0	0	0	0
OK	76	46	59	49
OR	0	0	0	0
SD	0	0	0	0
TX	64	46	55	49
WA	0	0	0	0
18 Sts	33	20	26	21

These 18 States planted 90% of last year's winter wheat acreage.

Corn Percent Planted				
	Apr 30 2000	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
CO	20	9	10	26
IL	58	31	8	25
IN	35	11	9	14
IA	65	10	11	19
KS	73	40	24	41
KY	57	45	59	44
MI	5	4	5	7
MN	72	7	31	26
MO	91	77	30	39
NE	40	12	12	20
NC	72	65	74	77
ND	20	0	17	10
OH	7	4	20	18
PA	8	3	10	11
SD	24	3	5	6
TN	70	57	76	74
TX	80	68	71	73
WI	18	0	8	7
18 Sts	49	19	17	23

These 18 States planted 92% of last year's corn acreage.

Soybeans Percent Planted				
	Apr 30 2000	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	9	NA	6	8
IL	6	NA	0	2
IN	10	NA	3	4
IA	9	NA	0	1
KS	11	NA	0	1
KY	6	NA	2	2
LA	26	NA	16	12
MI	1	NA	0	1
MN	10	NA	2	3
MS	24	NA	26	24
MO	19	NA	1	1
NE	7	NA	0	0
NC	0	NA	0	3
ND	0	NA	0	0
OH	3	NA	11	7
SD	0	NA	0	0
TN	0	NA	3	1
WI	0	NA	0	0
18 Sts	8	NA	3	3

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

Cotton Percent Planted				
	Apr 30 2000	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	32	15	34	37
AZ	65	56	56	74
AR	7	2	6	7
CA	93	90	61	62
GA	17	10	18	23
LA	47	14	25	18
MS	19	5	19	16
MO	37	7	6	5
NC	7	6	14	17
OK	3	0	6	4
SC	13	10	19	21
TN	6	1	10	8
TX	18	14	15	18
VA	6	5	29	27
14 Sts	23	16	19	21

These 14 States planted 99% of last year's cotton acreage.

Corn Percent Emerged				
	Apr 30 2000	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
CO	2	NA	1	0
IL	11	NA	3	NA
IN	0	NA	1	NA
IA	2	NA	0	0
KS	26	NA	4	NA
KY	24	NA	27	26
MI	0	NA	0	0
MN	0	NA	0	0
MO	*57	NA	*18	NA
NE	5	NA	0	0
NC	50	NA	53	NA
ND	0	NA	0	NA
OH	0	NA	4	1
PA	0	NA	0	NA
SD	1	NA	5	NA
TN	40	NA	36	NA
TX	64	NA	56	NA
WI	0	NA	0	NA
18 Sts	9	NA	5	NA

These 18 States planted 92% of last year's corn acreage.

Spring Wheat Percent Planted				
	Apr 30 2000	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	88	77	73	73
MN	61	22	30	20
MT	54	25	46	38
ND	44	16	20	13
SD	83	72	68	41
WA	91	84	87	74
6 Sts	57	31	39	29

These 6 States planted 98% of last year's spring wheat acreage.

Spring Wheat Percent Emerged				
	Apr 30 2000	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	61	34	38	41
MN	17	3	6	4
MT	6	3	8	7
ND	10	0	2	2
SD	47	25	26	13
WA	63	48	61	52
6 Sts	19	8	11	9

These 6 States planted 98% of last year's spring wheat acreage.

Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending April 30, 2000

Oats Percent Planted				
	Apr 30 2000	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
IA	99	96	95	80
MN	74	49	43	39
NE	99	98	93	85
ND	36	12	12	9
OH	79	64	84	71
PA	61	48	67	62
SD	75	63	49	36
WI	80	62	66	44
8 Sts	68	51	51	41

These 8 States planted 52% of last year's oat acreage.

Oats Percent Emerged				
	Apr 30 2000	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
IA	83	57	73	35
MN	38	12	10	9
NE	80	70	80	46
ND	9	0	1	1
OH	53	39	67	44
PA	37	26	34	NA
SD	43	19	17	12
WI	33	13	19	NA
8 Sts	38	20	25	NA

These 8 States planted 52% of last year's oat acreage.

Barley Percent Planted				
	Apr 30 2000	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	84	69	52	56
MN	58	19	19	16
MT	55	30	53	38
ND	30	9	11	8
WA	87	76	84	67
5 Sts	56	35	41	34

These 5 States planted 78% of last year's barley acreage.

Barley Percent Emerged				
	Apr 30 2000	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	60	31	25	27
MN	16	4	3	2
MT	8	3	12	8
ND	4	0	1	2
WA	50	28	55	40
5 Sts	21	10	15	13

These 5 States planted 78% of last year's barley acreage.

Rice Percent Planted				
	Apr 30 2000	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	56	36	45	54
CA	20	8	15	9
LA	95	86	84	78
MS	36	20	71	73
TX	91	80	86	72
5 Sts	58	43	53	54

These 5 States planted 95% of last year's rice acreage.

Rice Percent Emerged				
	Apr 30 2000	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	19	5	9	19
CA	5	0	1	1
LA	76	71	69	64
MS	9	0	26	36
TX	83	65	68	52
5 Sts	31	20	25	29

These 5 States planted 95% of last year's rice acreage.

Peanuts Percent Planted				
	Apr 30 2000	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	8	4	13	17
FL	16	15	16	13
GA	6	2	10	22
NC	1	0	1	4
OK	3	0	3	5
TX	4	3	4	4
VA	0	0	6	12
7 Sts	6	3	8	13

These 7 States planted 98% of last year's peanut acreage.

Sugar Beets Percent Planted				
	Apr 30 2000	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	94	91	82	90
MI	52	48	NA	NA
MN	85	*24	50	31
ND	78	*23	42	27
4 Sts	79	40	NA	NA

These 4 States planted 73% of last year's sugar beet acreage.

Sorghum Percent Planted				
	Apr 30 2000	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	62	38	35	46
CO	1	1	0	0
IL	8	0	0	0
KS	9	0	0	1
LA	43	20	48	41
MO	24	9	0	4
NE	1	0	0	0
NM	0	0	0	0
OK	7	5	2	5
SD	0	0	0	1
TX	46	43	43	52
11 Sts	23	17	17	21

These 11 States planted 98% of last year's sorghum acreage.

Winter Wheat Crop Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
AR	1	3	23	51	22
CA	0	0	10	50	40
CO	1	2	15	55	27
ID	0	1	11	72	16
IL	1	6	19	58	16
IN	1	5	19	53	22
KS	2	9	26	49	14
MI	1	1	22	55	21
MO	1	4	30	52	13
MT	2	16	42	36	4
NE	5	11	28	54	2
NC	0	2	12	74	12
OH	0	1	11	49	39
OK	1	4	19	59	17
OR	0	1	24	66	9
SD	0	3	21	62	14
TX	23	31	35	10	1
WA	0	2	13	69	16
18 Sts	5	10	24	47	14
Prev Wk	6	8	25	49	12
Prev Yr	1	5	21	58	15

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 5.1. Topsoil 6% very short, 22% short, 58% adequate, 14% surplus. Corn 71% planted, 82% 1999, 84% average. Corn 57% emerged, 66% 1999. Wheat 89% headed, 75% 1999, 75% average. Wheat 3% very poor, 4% poor, 24% fair, 63% good, 6% excellent. Pasture 1% very poor, 8% poor, 26% fair, 51% good, 14% excellent. Livestock 1% very poor, 2% poor, 19% fair, 68% good, 10% excellent. Row crop planting is underway. Wheat headed is ahead of normal. Conditions are favorable for planting in most areas. There was damage from frost in many peach orchards in the lower elevations, but overall the crop condition remains good.

ALASKA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

ARIZONA: Area continued to record well above average temperatures for the fourth week in a row. No precipitation was reported during the week of April 30. Weather conditions have helped small grains, cotton planting. Lack of precipitation has adversely affected the range, pasture feeds, but has had minimal impact on crop, vegetable production due to irrigation. Livestock was reported to be in fair condition. 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: 5.0. Soil moisture 1% very short, 16% short, 73% adequate, 10% surplus. Rice 56% planted, 45% 1999, 54% 5 yr. avg.; 19% emerged, 9% 1999, 19% 5 yr avg.; Sorghum 62% planted, 35% 1999, 46% 5 yr. avg.; 35% emerged; Cotton 7% planted, 6% 1999, 7% 5 yr avg. Soybean 9% planted, 6% 1999, 8% 5 yr avg. Corn 97% planted, 84% 1999, 91% 5yr avg.; 81% emerged, 29% 1999, 47% 5 year avg. Wheat 96% headed, 86% 1999, 77% 5 yr. avg. Wheat 1% very poor, 3% poor, 23% fair, 51% good, 22% excellent. Alfalfa Hay 1% very poor, 4% poor, 29% fair, 62% good, 4% excellent; Other Hay 2% very poor, 7% poor, 34% fair, 48% good, 9% excellent. Pasture, Range 1% very poor, 6% poor, 30% fair, 50% good, 13% excellent. Livestock good condition. The main farm activities: Row crop ground preparation; soybean, rice, sorghum planting; spraying for wheat disease (stripe rust), monitoring armyworms in wheat fields; spraying pastures for weed control; vaccinating cattle. Corn emerged progress is a 2-year average instead of a 5-year average.

CALIFORNIA: Although recent rainfall was welcome, it caused grain growers some concerns related to grain lodging. Most cotton has been planted, many fields were germinating well. However, in areas receiving rainfall recently some cotton may need replanting due to soil crusting, low soil temperatures. Field corn growth returned to normal following the cool weather that had slowed its progress. Weed control activities began in corn, cotton fields. Seasonable temperatures allowed winter wheat, barley to mature. Oat hay was cut, baled. Winter forage was also cut. Alfalfa hay was in all stages of production, progressing well. Growers were noting damage where prior week's rains fell on the cut, windrowed alfalfa hay. Fortunately, only a small amount of alfalfa was on the ground at that time. New alfalfa fields were progressing well. Several seed alfalfa fields were treated to control weeds. Sugarbeet harvest was in full swing in many areas. Pre-plant field preparation of rice continued. Aerial seeding of rice was underway. A week of sunshine allowed fruit and nut crops to make good progress. Harvest of early varieties of cherries continued. Weed control, fungicide applications, irrigation activities continued. Growers applied sulfur to grape vines for mildew control. Harvest was active in some early variety peaches, nectarines; later varieties were thinned. Picking of grapefruit, lemon crops was active in southern areas. The harvest of Valencia oranges was active in the desert areas, beginning in the San Joaquin Valley. Picking of navel oranges continued. Growers remained concerned about puff, crease, soft fruit. Minneola tangelos were also picked. Strawberry picking was active in the central valley. Harvest of asparagus continued in the Stockton Delta area. Bell pepper, tomato planting continued. Tomato fields were being weeded with some fields beginning to bloom. A few tomato transplants were still being planted. Fresno County lettuce harvest was complete.

Onion, garlic fields were irrigated. Sweet corn was weeded, thinned, irrigated. Planting of summer vegetables continued. Onions, garlic were progressing very well. Cucumber vines were growing rapidly, blooming. Watermelon, cantaloupe planting continued. Previously planted melons were emerging, despite soil crusting caused by the earlier rains. Some growers were working the ground to break the crust. Carrot, onion fields were being prepared for planting in Kern County. Spring melons were reaching maturity. Sweet corn and onions were being harvested in southern areas. Vegetables also harvested this week included: Artichokes, beets, cabbage, cauliflower, cilantro, chard, carrots, garlic, squash, greens, okra, parsley, radishes, spinach, turnips. Recent rains, followed by sunny skies, have spurred grass growth on range, pasture. These conditions extended the lower elevation rangeland season. Although the grasses were drying, stock ponds were full. Beef cows were calving in some areas. Warm days, cool nights were providing optimum conditions for milk production. Bee hives were being moved to orange groves.

COLORADO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 4% very short, 20% short, 74% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil moisture 4% very short, 22% short, 73% adequate, 1% surplus. State experienced warm, dry weather for most of the week with the highs in the 70's. On Saturday, Sunday most of the state received some much needed moisture. Severe thunderstorms that passed through the state brought rain, snow, some large localized hail. Spring barley 84% seeded, 84% 1999, 75% avg.; 45% emerged, 40% 1999, 43% avg. Dry onions 94% seeded, 99% 1999, 92% avg.; 1% very poor, 2% poor, 12% fair, 62% good, 23% excellent. Sugar beets 90% planted, 89% 1999, 91% avg.; 3% up to stand, 8% 1999, 2% avg. Summer potatoes 80% planted, 74% 1999, 70% avg.; 4% emerged, 16% 1999, 4% avg. Fall potatoes 5% planted, 9% 1999, 4% avg. Spring wheat 63% planted, 66% 1999, 55% avg.; 33% emerged, 51% 1999, 32% avg. Cows 84% calved, 88% 1999, 89% avg. Ewes 93% lambled, 87% 1999, 88% avg.

DELAWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.5. Topsoil 68% adequate, 32% surplus. Subsoil moisture 69% adequate, 31% surplus. Percent of acreage prepared for planting of spring crops 70%. Winter wheat 11% fair, 77% good, 12% excellent; 10% headed, 11% 1999, 7% avg. Barley 3% poor, 15% fair, 71% good, 11% excellent; 72% headed, 63% 1999, 62% avg. Potatoes 80% planted, 90% 1999, 86% avg. Green peas 82% planted, 87% 1999, 87% avg. Snap Beans 38% planted, 20% 1999, 8% avg. Sweet corn 29% planted, 26% 1999, 24% avg. Field Corn 18% planted, 35% 1999, 25% avg. Cucumbers 8% planted, 4% 1999, 5% avg. Tomatoes 9% planted, 16% 1999, 8% avg. Watermelons 5% planted, 4% 1999, 9% avg. Peaches 91% bloomed, 99% 1999, 92% avg. Strawberries 72% bloomed, 39% 1999, 51% avg. Apples 78% bloomed, 79% 1999, 70% avg. Pasture feed 11% fair, 82% good, 7% excellent. Hay supplies 8% very short, 40% short, 52% adequate. Activities: Aerial spraying in wheat for fungus diseases; field prep continues.

FLORIDA: Scattered showers dampened many areas during week of April 23 through 29, but also missed many localities. Rain totaled less than an inch and a quarter, most stations, with heavier amounts falling in western Panhandle, northern localities. Immokalee, Homestead, some west central areas recorded no rain for week. Temperatures averaged 1 to 4° below normal at major stations. Most highs in 70s, 80s while most lows in 40s, 50s, 60s. Moisture in Panhandle mostly adequate, rest of State mostly very short to short. Heavy rainfall in some areas of Panhandle with washing in peanut fields. Farmers will be actively planting cotton, peanuts after fields dry out. Tobacco, corn in good condition. Some wild fires central Peninsula area due to lack of rainfall. Peanuts 16% planted. Harvesting most vegetable crops continues to slow seasonally in Dade County. Major vegetables being harvested include: Potatoes, tomatoes, peppers, blueberries, cabbage, cucumbers, okra, snap beans, squash, sweet corn, eggplant, watermelon. No rain citrus areas, still very dry, irrigation continues, some wells low and a few have some salt water intrusion. Valencia harvest very active. Grapefruit, Honey tangerine movement slowing as supplies low. Temple harvest

almost over. Caretakers cutting cover crops, spraying, hedging, topping. Pasture feed 10% very poor, 20% poor, 65% fair, 5% good. Condition of cattle 10% poor, 80% fair, 10% good. Statewide, pasture, cattle condition worse due to continued drought. Panhandle: pasture mostly fair, cattle condition fair to excellent. Pasture, hay fields not yet recovered from previous dry weeks. North: fire hazard increasing daily from dry, cool, windy weather. Central: pasture very poor to poor due to dry, windy weather. West-Central: pastures short, ranchers rotating grazing, cattle mostly fair condition. South: range condition remains fair, low lying areas better than others.

GEORGIA: Days suitable for field work 5.5. Soil moisture 8% very short, 31% short, 57% adequate, 4% surplus. Corn 5% poor, 35% fair, 55% good, 5% excellent. Cotton 1% very poor, 5% poor, 49% fair, 43% good, 2% excellent. Hay 3% very poor, 10% poor, 44% fair, 40% good, 3% excellent. Sorghum 2% very poor, 5% poor, 28% fair, 62% good, 3% excellent; 25% planted, 25% 1999, 18% avg. Tobacco 1% very poor, 5% poor, 34% fair, 51% good, 9% excellent; 98% transplanted, 99% 1999, 94% avg. Wheat 96% boot, 97% 1999, 96% avg. Onions 3% very poor, 3% poor, 17% fair, 71% good, 6% excellent; 26% harvested, 30% 1999, 26% avg. Watermelons 12% poor, 44% fair, 37% good, 7% excellent; 90% planted, 92% 1999, 91% avg. Apples 1% very poor, 11% poor, 37% fair, 44% good, 7% excellent; 98% blooming, 83% 1999, 93% avg. Peaches 1% poor, 20% fair, 46% good, 33% excellent; 0% harvested, 0% 1999, 1% avg. Soils remained dry despite scattered rains falling across the State. Crops that received rain benefitted. The dry soils started to adversely affect pastures and small grains, as well as delay planting in those areas that did not receive rain. Aphid populations increased in wheat fields. Barley Yellow Dwarf Virus, which can be transmitted by aphids, appeared. Powdery mildew also showed up. Land, equipment preparation for planting major field crops continued. There was concern about cool soil temperatures resulting in less than ideal planting conditions. Hay cutting occurred. Weed control in pastures, hayfields took place. Onion harvesting was slowed due to early week rains. Peaches were sizing. Other activities included: Picking squash, the routine care of livestock.

HAWAII: Variable weather conditions were fair for agriculture. Leeward areas mostly sunny, dry. Windward areas partly cloudy with moderate rainfall at midweek. Overall, crops were in fair to good condition. Insect pressure was increasing on most islands. Harvesting of banana was steady. Most fields in fair to good condition. Harvesting expected to increase seasonally in the coming weeks. Papaya harvesting steady. Crop conditions ranged from mostly fair to a few in poor. Head cabbage fields remained in mostly good condition. Harvesting will be active in the major areas. Dry onions were in good condition. Harvesting was very active. Watermelon plantings continue. Ginger root harvesting was active. Planting of next season's crop continued.

IDAHO: Days suitable for field work 5.9. Topsoil 3% very short, 23% short, 68% adequate, 6% surplus. Warm temperatures throughout the week have allowed planting, emergence of crops to progress rapidly across much of the state. Temperatures during the day varied from 68 to 90°, 23 to 36° at night. Strong winds were reported to have blown some sugarbeet plantings in Power county, replanting may be necessary. Hay, roughage supplies 12% very short, 11% short, 71% adequate, 6% surplus. Irrigation supply 28% excellent, 58% good, 13% fair, 1% poor. Onions 100% planted, 100% 1999, 99% avg.; 80% emerged, 83 1999, 66% avg. Dry peas 76% planted, 41% 1999, 34% avg.; 21% emerged, 13% 1999, 12% avg. Oats 45% planted, 40% 1999, 46% avg.; 17% emerged, 15% 1999, 17% avg. Lentils 36% planted, 25% 1999, 17% avg. Corn 18% planted, 25% 1999, 21% avg. Potatoes 39% planted, 26% 1999, 27% avg. Sugar beets 94% planted, 82% 1999, 90% avg.; 56% emerged, 19% 1999, 27% avg. Winter wheat 42% jointed. Spring wheat 5% jointed. Spring barley 6% jointed. Activities: Planting small grains, Sugar beets, onions, potatoes, dry peas, lentils, corn, field preparation, moving cattle, sheep to early spring pasture, caring for livestock, spraying weeds, irrigating.

ILLINOIS: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.5. Topsoil 5% very short, 27% short, 63% adequate, 5% surplus. Oats 97% planted, 93% 1999, 86% avg. Alfalfa 2% 1st cutting, 0% 1999, 0% avg. Alfalfa 4% poor, 22% fair, 61% good, 13% excellent. Red clover 4% poor, 23% fair, 62% good, 11% excellent. Pasture 1% very poor, 5% poor, 27% fair, 58% good, 9% excellent. Rain across the state early last week kept farmers out of the field for a few days. However, drier weather later in the week allowed

farmers to continue planting corn at a record pace. The moisture has allowed some early corn to emerge. With farmers wrapping up corn planting, they have begun to prepare the ground for soybeans. The winter wheat, alfalfa hay conditions remain stable with the rain, normal temperatures. Other activities for last week included: Applying fertilizer, herbicides, caring for livestock.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.3. Topsoil 6% very short, 18% short, 67% adequate, 9% surplus. Subsoil 16% very short, 39% short, 41% adequate, 4% surplus. Field activities slow early in period. Temperatures averaged mostly 3 to 5 below normal. Very little precipitation. Southern areas received the most rain. Subsoil moisture shortage remains major concern for farmers. Corn, soybean planting in full swing, most areas of state. Only a few scattered corn fields are emerged, mostly in the southwestern areas. Application of fertilizer, nitrogen, chemicals continued. Winter wheat 98% jointed, 87% 1999, 71% avg. Pastures improving, but need more rain. Range, pasture 4% very poor, 10% poor, 32% fair, 46% good, 8% excellent. Hay supplies 4% very short, 18% short, 73% adequate, 5% surplus. Alfalfa weevil active in some fields. Livestock remain in mostly good condition. Calving remains active. Major activities: Tillage of soils, picking upseed, supplies, ditching, hauling manure, feeding, caring for livestock.

IOWA: Days suitable for field work 5.7. Topsoil very 23% short, 39% short, 38% adequate. Subsoil moisture 35% very short, 47% short, 18% adequate. Corn 65% planted, 11% 1999, 19% avg. Corn 2% emerged, 0% 1999, 0% avg. Soybeans 9% planted, 4% 1999, 2% avg. Oats 99% planted, 95% 1999, 80% avg. Oats 83% emerged, 73% 1999, 35% avg. Winter wheat 2 headed. Winter wheat 10% poor, 37% fair, 44% good, 9% excellent. Fertilizer applied (including fall applications) 93% complete. Seedbed preparation (including fall preparation) 89% complete. Range, Pasture feed very 7% poor, 21% poor, 44% fair, 25% good, 3% excellent.

KANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Topsoil 2% very short, 28% short, 70% adequate. Subsoil moisture 5% very short, 21% short, 73% adequate, 1% surplus. Wheat 2% very poor, 9% poor, 26% fair, 49% good, 14% excellent. Wheat jointing 96%, 92% 1999, 86% avg. Wheat headed 14%, 9% 1999, 4% avg. Wheat wind damage 86% none, 11% light, 3% moderate. Wheat freeze damage 86% none, 11% light, 3% moderate. Range, Pasture 1% very poor, 6% poor, 30% fair, 55% good, 8% excellent. Corn 73% planted, 24% 1999, 41% avg. Corn 26% emerged, 4% 1999. Sorghum 9% planted, 0% 1999, 1% avg. Soybeans 11% planted, 0% 1999, 1% avg.

KENTUCKY: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.3. Topsoil 7% short, 74% adequate, 19% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% very short, 18% short, 73% adequate, 7% surplus. Below normal temperatures of 55° combined with light rain throughout State. About 2% of burley tobacco has been set in the field. Only 1% of Dark Tobacco has been set. Tobacco transplants were 50% less than 2 inches, 35% were between 2 to 4 inches, 15% were larger than 4 inches. Emerged corn 1% very poor, 6% poor, 30% fair, 56% good, 7% excellent. As of April 30, 6% of soybeans have been seeded. Winter wheat 48% headed, 41% 1999, 33% avg. Winter wheat 4% poor, 24% fair, 52% good, 20% excellent. Pasture feeds 1% very poor, 5% poor, 29% fair, 49% good, 16% excellent. Hay 1% very poor, 6% poor, 33% fair, 48% good, 12% excellent.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Soil moisture 6% very short, 21% short, 68% adequate, 5% surplus. Corn 1% very poor, 5% poor, 29% fair, 64% good, 1% excellent; 100% planted, 100% 1999, 98% avg.; 100% emerged, 98% 1999, 97% avg. Cotton 18% emerged, 10% 1999, 7% avg. Cotton planting made excellent progress. Hay 24% first cutting, 28% 1999, 14% avg. Rice 10% poor, 33% fair, 56% good, 1% excellent. Rice planting made good progress. Soybeans 17% emerged, 7% 1999, 5% avg. Soybean producers were busy planting. Sorghum 23% emerged, 28% 1999, 27% avg. Spring plowing 91% plowing, 95% 1999, 90% avg. Sugarcane 1% poor, 18% fair, 44% good, 37% excellent. Sweetpotatoes 2% planted, 2% 1999, 2% avg. Wheat 1% very poor, 9% poor, 37% fair, 50% good, 3% excellent; 99% headed, 98% 1999, 97% avg.; 77% turning color, 49% 1999, 31% avg. Livestock 1% very poor, 4% poor, 30% fair, 51% good, 14% excellent. Vegetables 2% very poor, 7% poor, 36% fair, 51% good, 4% excellent. Pastures 3% very poor, 12% poor, 28% fair, 49% good, 8% excellent.

MARYLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.2. Topsoil 63% adequate, 37% surplus. Subsoil moisture 8% short, 70% adequate, 22% surplus. Percent of acreage prepared for planting of spring crops 54%. Winter wheat 1% poor, 21% fair, 63% good, 15% excellent; 15% headed, 13% 1999, 10% avg. Barley 4% poor, 15% fair, 63% good, 18% excellent; 76% headed, 61% 1999, 62% avg. Rye 2% poor, 22% fair, 66% good, 10% excellent; 50% headed, 47% 1999, 43% avg. Potatoes 92% planted, 96% 1999, 95% avg. Green peas 85% planted, 98% 1999, 78% avg. Tomatoes 10% planted, 29% 1999, 39% avg. Sweet corn 21% planted, 37% 1999, 33% avg. Field Corn 7% planted, 28% 1999, 29% avg. Cucumbers 7% planted, 10% 1999, 13% avg. Snap Beans 9% planted, 21% 1999, 18% avg. Cantaloupes 9% planted, 31% 1999, 28% avg. Apples 79% bloomed, 64% 1999, 66% avg. Peaches 85% bloomed, 95% 1999, 86% avg. Strawberries 77% bloomed, 58% 1999, 57% avg. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 4% poor, 15% fair, 57% good, 23% excellent. Hay supplies 3% very short, 29% short, 67% adequate, 1% surplus. Percent of 1st cutting hay crop harvest; clover, other hays 5% cut, 3% 1999, 3% avg. Activities: Wet, cool weather has delayed planting throughout the state, 1st cutting of hay has begun.

MICHIGAN: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 10% very short, 17% short, 63% adequate, 10% surplus. Subsoil 23% very short, 38% short, 38% adequate, 1% surplus. Range, Pasture 3% very poor, 16% poor, 33% fair, 39% good, 9% excellent. Asparagus 7% harvested, 1% 1999, 1% avg. Barley 45% planted, 79% 1999, 46% avg. Barley 25% emerged, 49% 1999, 17% avg. Oats 75% planted, 76% 1999, 55% avg. Oats 54% emerged, 43% 1999, 15% avg. Potatoes 22% planted, 21% 1999, 21% avg. Potatoes 1% emerged, 1% 1999, 0% avg. Fair, dry weather predominated through week. Scattered light rains fell some areas others saw none. Wet soil from previous week kept some farmers out of field early week. Subsoil moisture remains short. Temperatures showed little departure from normal. Growing degree days well below last year, below normal except eastern portion of Upper Peninsula, northeast Lower Peninsula. Field preparation for planting resumed this week as fields dried. Corn planting has just begun southern part of State, Thumb. Pace will pick up substantially this week. Some Sugar beets may have to be replanted due to soil crusting, frost damage. Winter wheat little damage from winterkill but annual weeds may be a problem. Recent rains beneficial but more needed to replenish subsoil moisture. Asparagus harvest Southwest, West-Central regions slowed by cold frosty nights; volume will increase. Cabbage growing well and carrot planting continues. Potatoes planted at a slow pace but increasing next week. Sweet corn planting continued, some emerged. Fruit tree maturity continues about two weeks ahead of normal. Tree planting, fertilization, preparing equipment main activities. Moisture is needed most fruit growing areas. Apples, tart cherries full bloom southwest. Sweet cherries had reached shuck split stage. Other stone fruits petal fall. Blueberries early pink bud. Strawberry trusses had emerged. Fall raspberry canes had reached 2 inches. Summer raspberry leaves unfolding. Concord grapes had reached bud burst while white varieties had reached late bud swell.

MINNESOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Topsoil 13% very short, 40% short, 44% adequate, 3% surplus. Corn 86% ground prepared, 48% 1999, 39% avg. Soybeans 34% ground prepared, 11% 1999, 11% avg. Green peas 49% planted, 24% 1999, 23% avg. Potatoes 25% planted, 28% 1999, 20% avg. Sweet corn 12% planted, 6% 1999, 6% avg. Dry beans 1% planted, 2% 1999, 2% avg. Pasture feed 5% very poor, 12% poor, 48% fair, 32% good, 3% exc. Alfalfa 4% very poor, 5% poor, 44% fair, 42% good, 5% exc. Rye 1% very poor, 2% poor, 56% fair, 35% good, 6% excellent. Winter Wheat 1% very poor, 5% poor, 27% fair, 57% good, 10% excellent. Corn ground preparation is 2 weeks ahead of the 5-year average. Warm days throughout the week allowed producers to make a 65 point gain in corn planted.

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5 Soil moisture, 2% very short, 12% short, 77% adequate and 9% surplus. Corn 95% planted, 95% 1999, 91% avg.; 83% emerged, 78% 1999, 76% avg.; 11% poor, 29% fair, 52% good, 8% excellent. Cotton 19% planted, 19% 1999, 16% avg.; 3% emerged, 7% 1999, 5% avg. Rice 36% planted, 71% 1999, 73% avg.; 9% emerged, 26% 1999, 36% avg.; 1% poor, 39% fair, 59% good, 1% excellent. Sorghum 53% planted, 43% 1999, 50% avg.; 24% emerged, 16% 1999, 30% avg.; 1% poor, 18% fair, 78% good, 3% excellent. Soybeans 24% planted, 26% 1999, 24% avg.; 7% emerged, 13% 1999, 12% avg. Wheat 98% heading, 94% 1999, 81% avg.; 1% mature, 0% 1999, 1% avg.; 2% poor, 19% fair, 63% good, 16% excellent.

Watermelons 61% planted, 69% 1999, 65% avg.; 4% poor, 25% fair, 63% good, 8% excellent. Blueberries 1% very poor, 4% poor, 18% fair, 62% good, 15% excellent. Cattle, 8% poor, 20% fair, 59% good, 13% excellent. Pasture 10% poor, 23% fair, 54% good, 13% excellent. Corn harvest is nearing completion in most parts of the state. Planting of all other spring row crop progressed rapidly in many parts of the state due to the over all dry weather conditions.

MISSOURI: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Topsoil 28% very short, 47% short, 25% adequate. Record progress was achieved in row crop planting throughout the State. By the end of the week 89% of the ground had been worked at least once for spring crops, excluding no-till, compared with 73 normally. The highest ratings were in the Bootheel with 54% adequate. Ninety-one percent of the corn was planted, a month ahead of both last year's 30% 5-yr avg of 39%. Corn planting is the most advanced progress for this date on record. Bootheel leads the state with 98% in the ground. Nineteen percent of the soybean crop was planted, the most on record for this date. Bean planting is 3 wks ahead of both 1999, normal. Northern third of the state is most advanced with over 20% of the beans in the ground. Twenty-four percent of the grain sorghum was planted, about 3 wks ahead of both 1999, normal. Sorghum planting is the most advanced for this date on record. Thirty-seven percent of the cotton was planted, a week ahead of 1999, 12 days ahead of normal. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 4% poor, 30% fair, 52% good, 13% excellent. Thirty-four percent of the wheat crop has reached the heading stage, about 9 days ahead of both 1999, normal. Heading is the most advanced for this date since 1981. Pasture, range feeds 17% very poor, 35% poor, 36% fair, 11% good, 1% excellent. The weekly precipitation averaged 0.38 inch. Precipitation for the month of April averaged 1.32 inches, the lowest in the last 15 yrs.

MONTANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Topsoil 21% very short, 41% short, 37% adequate, 1% surplus. Topsoil moisture declined, is now rated at short or very short for a majority of the state. Subsoil moisture 33% very short, 43% short, 24% adequate, 0% surplus. The weather was cooperative for fieldwork, planting progress was very good for the week. However, Oats 40% planted, 28% 1999, 19% avg. Oats 10% emerged, 3% 1999, 3% avg. Sugar beets 91% planted, 79% 1999, 60% avg. Sugar beets 16% emerged, 38% 1999, 17% avg. Corn 8% planted, 19% 1999, 17% avg. Dry 17% beans, 0% 1999, 1% avg. There are some reports of aphids in the winter wheat. Producers are spraying for aphids, weeds. Calving, lambing is making good progress as few problems have occurred, death losses are minimal. Calving 92% completed, 89% 1999, 91% avg. Lambing 78% completed, 70% 1999, 75% avg. Cattle, calves moved to summer ranges is 26% complete. Sheep, lambs moved to summer ranges is 17% complete. Pastures are starting to green but without rain there may be less forage. Heavy rains will be needed to fill reservoirs to normal levels.

NEBRASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Topsoil moisture supplies rated short. Subsoil moisture supplies short to very short. Temperatures across the State averaged 1 to 3° above normals for the week. Precipitation from less than .10 inch in the Southeast to over 2 inches in the lower Panhandle. Corn 40% planted, 12% 1999, 20% avg.; 5% emerged, ahead of 0% 1999, avg. Soybeans 7% planted, ahead of 0% 1999, avg. Winter Wheat 5% very poor, 11% poor, 28% fair, 54% good, 2% excellent; 47% jointed, 46% 1999, 26% avg. Wheat streak mosaic, Russian aphids a concern in the southern Panhandle, greenbugs in portions of the Southwest. Oat 80% emerged, 80% 1999, 46% avg.; 2% very poor, 10% poor, 47% good, 40% good, 1% excellent. Pasture, range 13% very poor, 28% poor, 43% fair, 15% good, 1% excellent. Calving near completion. Scours, pneumonia reported in young calves. Other producer activities included: Moving grain, moving cattle to spring pasture, livestock care. Farm ponds remained dry or very low in many counties.

NEVADA: Temperatures averaged much above normal for the week, reaching 99° in Las Vegas. Rainfall was nil at most locations. High temperatures accelerated melting of the mountain snow pack. Irrigation water supplies remained mostly adequate, although spot shortages are beginning to occur. Planting activities resumed with spring grain planting well along. Warmer weather promoted emergence in seeded fields. Potato planting was in full swing. Onion planting continued. Spraying, cultivation for weed control was active. Pasture, range improved in response to the rains of the previous week. Calving, lambing continued and was nearing completion. Branding, movement to Spring range

continued. Main farm, ranch activities: Field preparation, grain planting, potato planting, onion planting, weed control, branding, working cattle.

NEW ENGLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork: 3.5. Topsoil 4% very short, 1% short, 31% adequate, 64% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 3% short, 46% adequate, 50% surplus. Pasture feed 7% very poor, 18% poor, 55% fair, 16% good, 4% excellent. Massachusetts potatoes 45% planted, 30% 1999, 30% avg. Sweet corn 5% planted, 5% 1999, 5% avg, condition fair to poor. First crop hay condition fair to poor. Apples Dormant Stage to Bud Stage, condition good to fair. Peaches Early Bloom Stage, condition good. Pears Dormant Stage to Bud Stage, condition good. Strawberries Dormant Stage to Bud Stage, condition good. Cranberries Bud Stage to Dormant Stage, condition good to fair. Highbush blueberries Bud Stage, condition good to fair. Wild Blueberries Bud Stage, condition excellent to good. Wet spring thus far, warmer weather is needed. Major farm activities: Planting vegetables, corn, potatoes; tending livestock, mending fences; manure spreading, applying fertilizers.

NEW JERSEY: Soil moisture supplies remained adequate in most localities despite clear weather this past week. Greenhouses were forced to run heaters to eliminate mold caused by recent wet weather. Sweet corn is two to three inches tall in some areas, one foot in others. Growers were concerned about cool weather limiting bee pollination of blueberry blooms. Weekly rainfall amounts varied from none to 0.05 inch in northern locations, none to 0.03 inch in central, none to 0.58 inch in the south. Low temperatures for the week ranged from 28 to 42° Fahrenheit. High temperatures ranged from 68 to 73° Fahrenheit.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for field work 6.5. Topsoil 38% very short, 32% short, 30% adequate, 0% surplus. Temperatures were close to normal over a very small portion of extreme northeast, but well above normal elsewhere. The statewide average was 6° above normal, positive anomalies were as great as plus 13 at Las Cruces, plus 12 at Animas. The storm system that affected areas Friday through Sunday produced some spotty rainfall from thunderstorms, high mountain snows, but mainly just over the northeast quarter. Greatest totals included .56" at Des Moines/Capulin, .46" at Red River. Spring planting continued to be the main farm activity during the week. Lettuce harvest, the 1st cutting of alfalfa was progressing in the southern part of the State. Both crops were in fair to excellent condition. Onions, chile were in mostly good to excellent condition. Irrigated wheat remained in fair to good condition, while the dryland wheat was reported in poor to fair condition. Supplemental feeding of cattle increased during the week due to drought conditions. Cattle, sheep conditions remained mostly fair to good; however, more sheep were falling into the poor to very poor condition than in previous weeks. Pasture, range feed 17% very poor, 30% poor, 45% fair, 8% good, 0% excellent.

NEW YORK: Days suitable 3.6. Soil moisture 49% adequate, 51% surplus. Pasture feed 14% fair, 61% good, 25% excellent. Oat seedlings were coming slowly. Oats seedlings 15% complete, 76% 1999, 50% avg. Oat acreage 27% fair, 73% good. Winter wheat 9% fair, 83% good, 8% excellent. Corn planting was just beginning with 2% complete. Extremely wet field conditions kept most farmers out of the field again last week as a slow planting season continued. Tillage, plantings were behind normal for this time of year. Farmers were waiting for land to dry up before jumping full swing into spring planting. Cattle are moving out into the pastures that have greened up the earliest, dried out the fastest, most pastures need more drying, growing time. Cold, rainy weather throughout the state continued to delay vegetable planting. Orange County muck onions were 90% planted. Onion growth slow due to cold weather. Lake Ontario region fruit growers reported frost, bud damage unknown. Wayne County apples, peaches, pear buds at half-inch green to pink while sweet cherries in full bloom. Monroe County fruit growers concerned there may be yield impacts due to rain, inability to get into fields to fertilize, and pollination problems.

NORTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for field work to 2.8. compared with 3.8 last week. Continued rainfall was again the focus this week for state agriculture. The unreasonably cool temperatures brought consecutive days of frost to areas in the Mountains, however no damage was reported. The trend of wet weather has pushed Statewide soil moisture levels to the current 0% very short, 1% short, 47% adequate, 52% surplus. Saturated fields prohibited farmers from doing many outdoor

activities have left corn planting, tobacco setting behind by about a week. In areas that were dry enough, land preparation, pesticide application were among activities conducted by farmers. At week's end Areas wheat crop was 80% headed, looking good despite scattered reports of cereal leaf beetle.

NORTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for field work 5. Topsoil 4% very short, 19% short, 74% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil moisture 3% very short, 21% short, 72% adequate, 4% surplus. Some light rain delayed planting progress slightly during the week. Still, planting remains ahead of schedule. Durum wheat 14% planted, 5% 1999, 4% avg.; 2% emerged, 1% 1999, 1% avg. Canola 31% planted, 8% 1999. Dry Edible Beans 0% planted, 0% 1999, 0% avg. Flaxseed 11% planted, 4% 1999, 4% avg. Potatoes 20% planted, 10% 1999, 5% avg. Soybeans 0% planted, 0% 1999, 0% avg. Sunflower 0% planted, 0% 1999, 0% avg. Calving 91% complete. 75% of the cattle were receiving supplemental feed. Lambing 92%, shearing 95% complete. 69% of the sheep were receiving supplemental feed. Hay, roughage supplies 0% very short, 2% short, 87% adequate, 11% surplus. Grain, concentrate 0% very short, 1% short, 90% adequate, 9% surplus. Pastures, range feeds were 3% very poor, 10% poor, 40% fair, 43% good, 4% excellent.

OHIO: Days suitable for fieldwork, 3.7 days. Topsoil 0% very short, 4% short, 81% adequate, 15% surplus. Corn 7% planted, 20% 1999; 18% avg. Oats 79% planted, 84% 1999, 71% avg. Oats 53% emerged, 67% 1999, 44% avg. Potatoes 28% planted, 53% 1999, 29% avg. Soybeans 3% planted, 11% 1999, 7% avg. Sugar beets 25% planted. Tobacco beds 99% seeded, 100% 1999. Tobacco beds having plants up 57%; 77% 1999. Winter wheat 83% jointed, 71% 1999, 47% avg. Apples green tip 87%. Apples in full bloom 69%. Peaches in green tip 85%; 100% 1999. Peaches in full bloom 71%; 86% in 1999. Pasture 1% very poor, 5% poor, 24% fair, 51% good, 19% excellent. Winter wheat 0% very poor, 1% poor, 11% fair, 49% good, 39% excellent. Apples 4% very poor, 8% poor, 22% fair, 52% good, 14% excellent. Peaches 4% very poor, 11% poor, 25% fair, 45% good, 15% excellent. Hay 0% very poor, 7% poor, 22% fair, 52% good, 19% excellent. Activities throughout the state include: Applying anhydrous ammonia, fertilizer, lime; drilling soybeans, planting corn, soybeans, oats; hauling manure, plowing, chiseling, discing, applying pre-emergence herbicides, burning brush, clearing fence rows, equipment maintenance, preparation, installing tile, moving grain, sowing oats, alfalfa seedlings, planting sweet corn, setting tomatoes, planting grasses, legumes, marketing grain, top dressing wheat, seeding peppers, buying seed, harvesting greenhouse vegetables, planting raspberries. Alfalfa weevil damage was reported in many parts of central, southern area. Reporters also observed bagworms, powdery mildew in wheat, chick weed, purple dead nettle. Pasture was reported in mostly good condition, but warm weather is still needed to accelerate pasture, hay growth. Livestock conditions are mostly good throughout the state. Calving is still taking place in several areas. Some livestock producers in southern area are selling cattle in order to take advantage of higher prices. Moderate problems with mastitis, pneumonia in cattle were reported.

OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.1. Topsoil 2% very short, 12% short, 75% adequate, 11% surplus. Subsoil moisture 4% very short, 21% short, 70% adequate, 5% surplus. Wheat 99% jointing, 98% last week, 100% 1999, 98% avg.; 12% soft dough, n/a last week, 6% 1999, 3% avg. Oats 1% very poor, 5% poor, 29% fair, 56% good, 9% excellent, 99% jointing, 81% last week, 89% 1999, 72% avg.; 42% headed, 31% last week, 59% 1999, 36% avg, 11% soft dough, n/a last week, 6% 1999, 4% avg. Corn 93% seedbed prepared, 86 % last week, 98% 1999, 99% avg.; 69% planted, 51% last week, 81% 1999, 56% avg.; 20% emerged, n/a last week, 9% 1999, 18% avg. Sorghum 53% seedbed prepared, 44% last week, 55% 1999, 45% avg. Soybeans 69% seedbed prepared, 61% last week, 56% 1999, 62% avg.; 25% planted, 14% last week, 12% 1999, 17% avg.; 15% emerged, n/a last week, 3% 1999, 6% avg. Peanuts 61% seedbed prepared, 60% last week, 69% 1999, 68% avg. Cotton 80% seedbed prepared, 77% last week, 83% 1999, 72% avg. Alfalfa Hay 2% poor, 23% fair, 61% good, 14% excellent; 42% 1st cutting, 25% last week, 15% 1999, 15% avg. Other Hay 4% poor, 30% fair, 59% good, 7% excellent; 17% 1st cutting, 10% last week, 11% 1999, 9% avg. Pasture 1% very poor, 5% poor, 25% fair, 61% good, 8% excellent. Livestock 2% poor, 18% fair, 67% good, 13% excellent. Cattle marketings average.

OREGON: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Topsoil 11% short, 86% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil 11% short, 83% adequate, 6% surplus. Barley 72% planted 1999, 70% avg.; 84% emerged, 56% fair, 42% good, 2% excellent. Spring wheat 89% planted, 92% 1999. Winter wheat 1% poor, 24% fair, 66% good, 9% excellent. Range, pasture 12% fair, 80% good, 8% excellent. Activities: Willamette Valley field crops reported looking good with significant growth during week; fields need rain. Fertilizing, weed spraying ongoing. Red, crimson clover past bloom stage, alfalfa nearing 1st cutting. Orchard grass, fine fescue, early tall fescue reported heading out. Marion County reported rust showing up in a few fine fescue fields, in some perennial ryegrass. Northern Willamette valley reported orchards in either full bloom or past bloom. Pollination weather overall been favorable but Yamhill county reported poor pollination due to heavy rains, Washington county reported some frost damage. Washington reported early strawberry blooms. Southern coastal areas reported cranberry frost protection implementation with improved conditions where fruit tree bloom is complete. In Willamette Valley, field preparation for processed green beans, sweet corn continued. Sugar beets for seed, cabbage showed good growth; early planted salad crops doing well, more planting being done. Green peas reported in early bud stage, doing well. Clackamas County rhubarb harvest underway. In other areas of State, potato growers busy with all phases from field preparation in Klamath County to planting nearly complete in Malheur County. Wholesale nurseries still very active in shipping out plant material to East, Northeast states & beginning to field plant new material. Greenhouses continue to move bedding plants to retail outlets for spring planning. Christmas trees starting to bud out, new growth looks excellent. Dahlia growers working fields, getting ready to plant tubers. Livestock in excellent condition with calving winding down. Branding of calves continued along with cattle turn out onto pastures. All parts of state report that pastures are in excellent condition, dry enough to turn cattle out to graze. All indications look like grazing conditions will be excellent during spring, early summer.

PENNSYLVANIA: Days suitable for field work 3.7. Soil moisture 5% short, 75% adequate, 20% surplus. Spring 51% plowing, 61% 1999, 59% avg. Oats 61% planted, 67% 1999, 62% avg.; 37% emerged, 34% 1999, average not available. Potatoes 11% planted, 24% 1999, 21% avg. Barley 40% heading or headed, 8% 1999, 19% avg. Wheat 2% poor, 12% fair, 69% good, 17% excellent. Oat crop 1% poor, 15% fair, 78% good, 6% excellent. Alfalfa, alfalfa mixtures stand 1% very poor, 5% poor, 21% fair, 58% good, 15% excellent. Timothy clover stand 5% very poor, 2% poor, 30% fair, 52% good, 11% excellent. Peaches 98% full bloom or past, 86% 1999, 58% avg. Cherries 98% full bloom or past, 81% 1999, 61% avg. Apples 96% pink, 64% 1999, 57% avg.; 96% full bloom or past, 47% 1999, 35% avg. Activities include: Spring plowing; planting oats, potatoes, field corn, sweet corn; 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 5.5. Soil moisture 25% short, 74% adequate, 1% surplus. Apples 43% fair, 56% good, 1% excellent. Barley 65% headed, 51% 1999, 53% avg.; 35% turned color, 11% 1999; 6% fair, 50% good, 44% excellent. Cantalopes 81% planted, 90% 1999, 87% avg.; 4% poor, 35% fair, 55% good, 6% excellent. Corn 99% planted, 97% 1999, 96% avg.; 85% emerged, 80% 1999; 16% fair, 76% good, 8% excellent. Cotton 13% planted, 19% 1999, 21% avg. Cucumbers 97% planted, 86% 1999, 79% avg.; 14% fair, 56% good, 30% excellent. Grain Hay 39% harvested, 41% 1999, 35% avg. Hay 16% fair, 71% good, 13% excellent. Oats 93% headed, 84% 1999, 84% avg.; 31% turned color, 20% 1999, 19% avg.; 1% poor, 15% fair, 71% good, 13% excellent. Peaches 5% very poor, 5% poor, 8% fair, 60% good, 22% excellent. Peanuts 27% planted, 31% 1999, 24% avg.; 25% fair, 73% good, 2% excellent. Rye 87% headed, 79% 1999, 66% avg.; 26% turned color, 15% 1999, 18% avg.; 2% poor, 19% fair, 76% good, 3% excellent. Snap beans 90% planted, 66% 1999, 68% avg.; 100% good. Sorghum 60% planted, 41% 1999, 22% avg.; 100% good. Soybeans 8% planted, 11% 1999. Sweetpotatoes 25% planted, 14% 1999, 13% avg. Tobacco 82% transplanted, 92% 1999, 86% avg.; 8% fair, 88% good, 4% excellent. Tomatoes 96% planted, 98% 1999, 90% avg.; 45% good, 55% excellent. Watermelons 95% planted, 94% 1999, 91% avg.; 5% poor, 34% fair, 58% good, 3% excellent. Winter grazings 9% poor, 31% fair, 53% good, 7% excellent. Winter wheat 91% headed, 89% 1999, 83% avg.; 19% turning color, 14% 1999, 13% avg; 2% poor, 14% fair, 76% good, 8% excellent.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for field work 4.1. Topsoil 4% very short, 19% short, 72% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil moisture 9% very short, 27% short, 59% adequate, 5% surplus. Feed supplies 3% short, 89% adequate, 8% surplus. Stock water 1% very short, 8% short, 83% adequate, 8% surplus. Winter rye 7% poor, 18% fair, 55% good, 20% excellent. Winter rye boot 1%, 6% 1999, 2% avg. Winter wheat boot 6%, 46% 1999, NA% avg. Cattle 7% fair, 73% good, 20% excellent. Cattle moved to pasture 19% complete. Calving 81% complete. Sheep 3% fair, 75% good, 22% excellent. Lambing 83% complete. Range, pasture 1% very poor, 4% poor, 30% fair, 52% good, 13% excellent.

TENNESSEE: Days suitable for fieldwork 4. Topsoil 2% short, 84% adequate, 14% surplus. Subsoil moisture 11% short, 80% adequate, 9% surplus. Tobacco 98% plants up, 93% 1999, 94% avg. Wheat 73% headed, 61% 1999, 58% avg.; 1% poor, 16% fair, 54% good, 29% excellent. Pastures 4% poor, 24% fair, 56% good, 16% excellent. Alfalfa 3% poor, 25% fair, 57% good, 15% excellent. Disease pressure in wheat has been fairly light for most of the Spring, but growers have recently encountered more problems because of the recent cool, wet conditions. At this time, yield expectations remain good, but only time will tell what affects these diseases will have on final production. Virtually all the State's tobacco plants are up. Growers are busy treating for disease, preparing for transplanting, which should begin within the next few weeks. Temperatures averaged around 5° below normal last week with some locations reporting a light frost Thursday morning. Most areas of the State received between 1 to 2 inches of rain.

TEXAS: Fieldwork continued across the state, but was slowed at times on the Plains by severe storms accompanied by hail, variable amounts of moisture. Elsewhere only trace amounts were received, blowing dust remained a problem in several areas. The high winds continued to deplete soil moisture for crops, pasture, further delay improvement in these areas. In the drier areas herd reduction, dispersal continued. Hauling water to remaining livestock, shade trees around homes continued in some locations. Haying operations continued to expand in some areas with baling of alfalfa, oats. Some roadside areas were also being bailed in an attempt to rebuild hay reserves. In the Rio Grande Valley, Winter Garden areas, vegetables continued to make progress but rains were needed. Field Crops: Small Grains: Remaining dryland small grains continued to be in generally poor condition across the state. Many fields of wheat, oats were being baled for hay where possible and others continued to be grazed out. Rust continued to be a problem in some areas. Statewide wheat 40% of normal compared with 72% 1999. Wheat Harvested Published 0%, 1999 1%, Avg 0%. Corn: Planting remained active on the Plains, but winding down or completed in other areas. Cultivation continued in most planted areas, early corn continued to tassel in southern areas. In a few areas high winds, hail again caused some damage. Statewide corn 85% of normal compared with 79% 1999. Corn Silked Published 3%, 1999 1%, Avg 0%. Cotton: Cotton planting continued to move northward. Squaring continued in early cotton in southern areas. Good stands were occurring in areas with adequate moisture, in other areas rain was needed as young plants were suffering. Some replanting was necessary for various reasons, in some areas there was not enough moisture available to plant. Cotton Squaring Published 0%, 1999 1%, Avg 0%. Rice: Some fields continued to be flushed to establish a stand, early planted fields were being flooded. Stand counts remained generally favorable. State wide rice 87% of normal compared with 85% 1999. Sorghum: Planting continued to move northward as weather conditions allowed, however sorghum planting will be delayed some areas while growers wait on more favorable conditions. A few fields have headed in southern areas, cultivation continued where necessary. Statewide sorghum 75% of normal compared with 74% 1999. Peanuts: Land preparation continued in the growing areas, planting began in areas of the Plains, continued in Central, South Areas. Soybeans: Land preparation remained active where possible, planting continued along the upper Coast, South Central Areas. Planting was delayed in some areas where conditions were too wet and in others because it was too dry. Emergence of earlier planting's continued to be favorable. Published 57%, 1999 42%, Average 41%. Commercial Vegetables, Fruit and Pecans: Rio Grande Valley, melon harvest began, harvest continued for greens, carrots, beans, peas, potatoes. Onion harvest continued to wind down, lack of moisture was again causing stress to some crops as the hot, dry weather continued. San Antonio-Winter Garden, harvest of cabbage, carrots continued and melons, green beans, peas, onions made good progress. East Area, growth progress increased as the temperatures warmed. Planting continued for peas, cucumbers, peppers, egg plants, but slowed as conditions were to wet in some locations. Some

vegetables were damaged by weather conditions associated with tornado activity. Insect pressure continued to increase, harvest continued for broccoli, onions, cauliflower. High Plains, carrot planting began, land preparation remained active but slowed at times as high winds, blowing dust caused delays. Peaches: the first sprays continued in parts of the Plains, fruit setting continued in central, southern areas. Harvest began with early varieties in a few locations. Pecans: Bud break continued to move northward, applications of zinc continued to be applied by producers in southern, central areas. Nutlet appearance continued in some areas, large numbers of pecan nut casebearers were present in some locations. Range and Livestock: high winds, warm temperatures continued to slow recovery, add stress to range, pasture in many locations. In areas where green-up has been slow supplemental feeding, herd reduction continued. Death of some range trees, brush species continued as a result of the dry conditions, further pushed some producers to herd liquidation. Planting of new grass continued in other locations where soil moisture was adequate. Supplemental feeding continued to decline in the wetter areas and haying operations continued to expand. Some road sides were being cut and baled for hay in varied locations.

UTAH: Days suitable for field work 7. Topsoil 2% very short, 26% short, 70% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 19% short, 79% adequate, 1% surplus. Sheep 1% very poor, 2% poor, 25% fair, 67% good, 5% excellent. Pasture, range feed 1% very short, 6% poor, 33% fair, 57% good, 3% excellent. Average alfalfa height 7 inches, 5 inches 1999, 6 inches avg. Corn 24% planted, 14% 1999, 16% avg. Spring wheat 93% planted, 89% 1999, 91% avg.; 69% emerged, 67% 1999, 64% avg. Barley 93% planted, 86% 1999, 87% avg.; 69% emerged, 66% 1999, 62% avg. Oats 67% planted, 61% 1999, 53% avg.; 33% emerged, 31% 1999, 27% avg. Apples full bloom or past 99%, 30% 1999, 30% avg. Pears full bloom or past 99%, 76% 1999, 78% avg. Potatoes 38%, planted, 9% 1999, 9% avg. Cows calved 91%, 92% 1999, 91% avg. Ewes lambing on range 70%, 76% 1999, 70% avg. Sheep sheared: on farm 94%, 98% 1999, 93% avg.; on range 85%, 86% 1999, 80% avg. Major farm, ranch activities included: Spring tillage, spraying fruit, shearing sheep, baiting grasshoppers, crickets. Most counties are in need of a significant amount of rain to raise soil moisture.

VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.4. Topsoils 2% short, 60% adequate, 38% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% very short, 14% short, 64% adequate, 20% surplus. Pastures 5% poor, 19% fair, 60% good, 16% excellent. Livestock 2% poor, 17% fair, 64% good, 17% excellent. Other Hay 4% poor, 26% fair, 58% good, 12% excellent. Alfalfa Hay 3% poor, 18% fair, 63% good, 16% excellent. Corn for Grain 33% planted, 41% 1999, 36% 5-yr avg. Winter Wheat 4% poor, 17% fair, 64% good, 15% excellent. Barley 2% poor, 16% fair, 57% good, 25% excellent. Tobacco greenhouse 1% poor, 14% fair, 48% good, 37% excellent. Tobacco plantbeds 2% very poor, 10% poor, 23% fair, 55% good, 10% excellent. Cotton 6% planted, 29% 1999, 27% 5-yr avg. Apples 30% fair, 65% good, 5% excellent. Peaches 15% very poor, 5% poor, 30% fair, 50% good. Temperatures across the Commonwealth averaged 5 to 10% below normal during the past week. Many areas received above average amounts of rainfall. Wet soil conditions reduced the number of days available for fieldwork. Farmers were unable to prepare soil for planting of this year's field crops. Planting of corn, soybeans, cotton, peanuts lagged behind the previous year, 5-year avg. The majority of tobacco farmers have not begun to transplant their plants from the greenhouse at this time. Crop producers are concerned that persistent cool, wet field conditions may cause fungal and mildew problems. The increased rainfall helped to keep pastures in mostly good to excellent condition. Farm activities for the week included: Preparing machinery for hay harvest, crop planting, spreading poultry litter, animal wastes, chemical burn-down of weeds, general care of livestock.

WASHINGTON: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.4. Topsoil 1% very short, 18% short, 76% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil moisture 22% short, 77% adequate, 1% surplus. Winter wheat dryland 2% poor, 14% fair, 66% good, 18% excellent; irrigated 100% good. Winter wheat showed vitality

and growth in response to warmer weather. Spring wheat dryland 71% fair, 29% good; irrigated 100% good. Planted 91%, 87% 1999; emerged 63%, 61% 1999. Barley, dryland 55% fair, 45% good; irrigated 100% good. Planted 87%, 84% 1999; emerged 50%, 55% 1999. Spring cereal crops were being planted, emerging without problems. Planting was expected to be finished next week in many areas. Potatoes 8% fair, 92% good, 88%, Planted, 79% 1999; emerged 50%, 24% 1999. Hay, roughage 1% short, 89% adequate, 10% surplus. Range, Pasture 5% poor, 30% fair, 55% good, 10% excellent. Spring crop planting was in full swing. Potatoes, field corn were being planted. Asparagus was being harvested with good quality reported. Early vegetable seed crops were blooming. Turfgrass growers applied fertilizer, mowing continued. Christmas tree growers were finishing fertilizer applications, monitoring Douglas fir plantations for cooley spruce gall adelgids. A hard frost in areas of western caught some fruit, nursery producers off guard with some damage reported in blueberries, newly germinated plants. Peas, seed spinach, seed beets were being planted. Apple growers in eastern state were thinning, Red Delicious varieties reached full bloom.

WEST VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.6. Topsoil 11% short, 87% adequate, 2% surplus. Producers took advantage of the mostly open weather to continue planting, field activities. Rain is needed to promote hay, pasture growth. Wheat 11% fair, 69% good, 20% excellent; Wheat headed 1%, 3% 1999, 7% 5-yr avg. Hay 1% very poor, 8% poor, 37% fair, 52% good, 2% excellent. Intended Acreage Prepared for Spring Planting 63%, 80% 1999, 71% 5-yr avg. Corn 24% planted, 32% 1999, 21% 5-yr avg. Oats 73% Planted, 73% 1999, 67% 5-yr avg. Oats 30% emerged, 33% 1999, 35% 5-yr avg. Tobacco beds seeded 99%, 96% 1999, 98% 5-yr avg. Tobacco beds 94% emerged, 78% 1999, 79% 5-yr avg. Apple 8% poor, 68% fair, 24% good. Peach 8% poor, 67% fair, 25% good. Cattle 4% poor, 20% fair, 73% good, 3% excellent; 89% calved. Sheep 1% poor, 14% fair, 80% good, 5% excellent; 95% lambing. Feed grain supplies 6% very short, 13% short, 61% adequate, 20% surplus. Hay, roughage supplies 16% very short, 37% short, 47% adequate.

WISCONSIN: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Soil moisture 4% very short, 32% short, 62% adequate, 2% surplus. Farmers in all areas of the state were busy with fieldwork during the past week. Corn planting was one of the major field activities. Warmer temperatures returned after the previous week's showers, which helped increase soil temperatures. There were some scattered showers during the early part of last week, with most precipitation in the southern areas of the state. Spring tillage 66% 2000, 44% 1999, 34% 5-year avg. Spring tillage was 11 days ahead of the 5-year avg. Farmers worked over the weekend tilling, spraying, fertilizing fields to prepare them for planting. Alfalfa looks very good in most areas. Alfalfa winter freeze damage 73% no damage, 22% light damage, 5% moderate damage. Alfalfa, winter wheat grew quickly last week with the warmer temperatures. Vegetable, potato planting continued last week.

WYOMING: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Topsoil 3% very short, 36% short, 61% adequate. Barley 81% planted, 77% 1999, 78% avg.; 52% emerged, 53% 1999, 43% avg. Oats 57% planted, 48% 1999, 45% avg.; 26% emerged, 18% 1999, 9% avg. Spring wheat 50% planted, 45% 1999, 48% avg.; 16% emerged, 29% 1999, 16% avg. Sugar beets 96% planted, 79% 1999, 76% avg.; 20% emerged, 5% 1999, 7% avg. Corn 26% planted, 5% 1999, 13% avg. Winter wheat in fair to mostly good condition. Spring calves 92% born, 90% 1999, 91% avg. Farm flock ewes lambing 90%, 93% 1999, 95% avg. Farm flock sheep shorn 89%, 88% 1999, 92% avg. Range flock ewes lambing 44%, 33% 1999, 31% avg. Range flock sheep shorn 70%, 65% 1999, 66% avg. Calf, lamb losses light to normal. Livestock in mostly good condition. Range, pasture feed 1% poor, 35% fair, 61% good, 3% excellent. Hay, roughage supplies 66% adequate, 34% surplus.

International Weather and Crop Summary

April 23 - 29, 2000

HIGHLIGHTS

SOUTH AMERICA: Showers slowed summer crop harvesting across central Argentina, but dry weather aided late soybean harvesting.

FSU-WESTERN: Periodic showers caused only brief delays in spring grain, sugar beet, and sunflower planting in Russia and Ukraine, while unseasonably mild weather promoted rapid winter grain development.

EUROPE: Showers in western Europe continued to hamper fieldwork, while dry, warm weather in northeastern Europe aided summer crop planting.

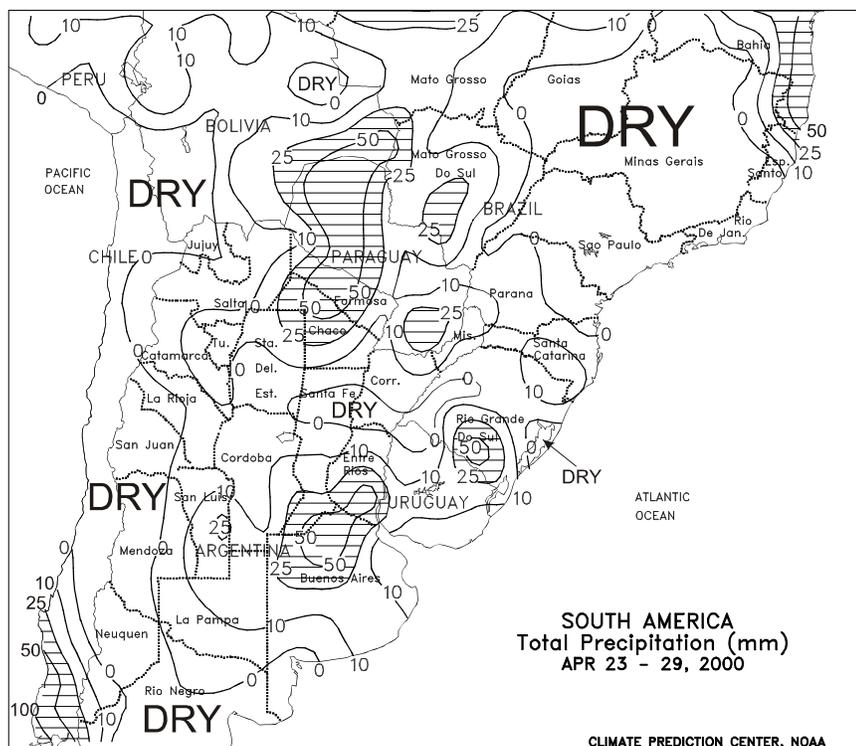
SOUTHEAST ASIA: In Thailand, showers continued to boost moisture supplies for upcoming main-season rice transplanting.

EASTERN ASIA: Across the North China Plain, mostly warm, dry weather started to stress vegetative to reproductive rainfed winter wheat.

AUSTRALIA: Mostly dry weather supported summer crop harvesting.

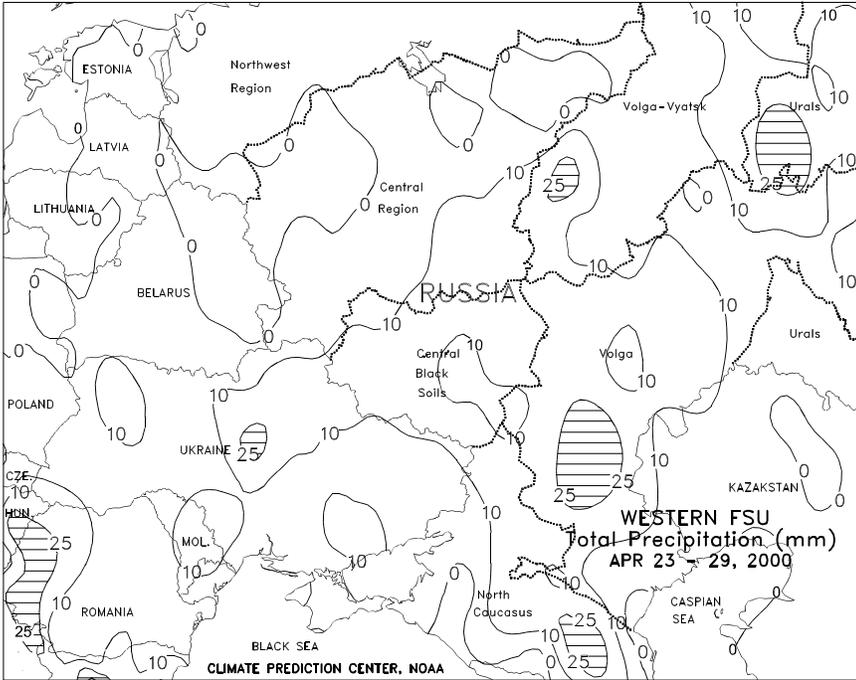
NORTHWESTERN AFRICA: Northern Morocco continued to receive stabilizing rains, while light showers over the remainder of the region provided little relief from long-term drought.

SOUTH AFRICA: Dry, seasonably mild weather benefited filling to maturing summer crops.



SOUTH AMERICA

In central Argentina, moderate showers (20-70 mm) slowed summer crop harvesting across Santa Fe, northern Buenos Aires, and northern La Pampa. Elsewhere, light showers (less than 15) caused only minor fieldwork delays. In northern Argentina, mostly dry weather favored cotton harvesting, except for moderate showers in western and central Formosa. Scattered thunderstorms (10-80 mm) prevailed across southern Paraguay, causing minor fieldwork delays. Temperatures averaged 2 to 5 degrees C above normal across central Argentina and most of southern Brazil, aiding fieldwork and summer crop maturation. According to reports as of April 20, national Argentine sunflower, corn, and rice were 98, 45, and 43 percent harvested, respectively. Corn was 93 percent harvested in Entre Rios, 83 percent in Santa Fe, 57 percent in Buenos Aires, and 29 percent in Cordoba. Sorghum was 24 percent harvested. Soybeans were 24 percent harvested, compared with 27 percent harvested last year and second-crop soybeans were just beginning to be harvested in Buenos Aires. In the north, cotton was 7 percent harvested in Santa Fe. In southern Brazil, mostly dry weather aided the ending stages of soybean harvesting and winter wheat planting. Only southern Mato Grosso do Sul received significant showers (10-30 mm), causing minor disruptions in fieldwork. According to reports as of April 28, Brazilian soybeans were 85 percent harvested, compared with the 5-year average of 90 percent. In Parana, soybeans were 93 percent harvested, compared with the 5-year average of 97 percent. In Rio Grande do Sul, soybean harvesting increased by 19 percentage points, to 63 percent complete. This compared with the 5-year average of 80 percent harvested.



FSU-WESTERN

Periodic showers caused only brief planting delays in Ukraine and Russia, while dry weather allowed planting to rapidly progress in Belarus and the Baltics. Precipitation amounts generally ranged from 2 to 25 mm in Ukraine and most of Russia, with local amounts in excess of 25 mm. Reports as of April 25 from Russia indicated that planting of spring grains had advanced to about 12 percent completion, while sugar beets and sunflowers were about 31 and 9 percent planted, respectively. In Ukraine, reports as of the end of April indicated that spring grains, sugar beets, and sunflowers, were about 67, 91, and 58 percent planted, respectively. The reports from both countries indicated that planting was lagging behind last year's unusually early start. Unseasonably mild weather (temperatures averaging 4-9 degrees C above normal) continued to prevail over the entire region, promoting rapid germination of spring-planted crops and spurring winter grain development. Winter grains were likely jointing throughout most areas. In cotton-producing areas of Central Asia, unseasonably hot, dry weather continued to prevail over the region, favoring rapid cotton planting and seed germination. Significant precipitation (10 mm or more) was confined to a couple of locations in eastern Uzbekistan.

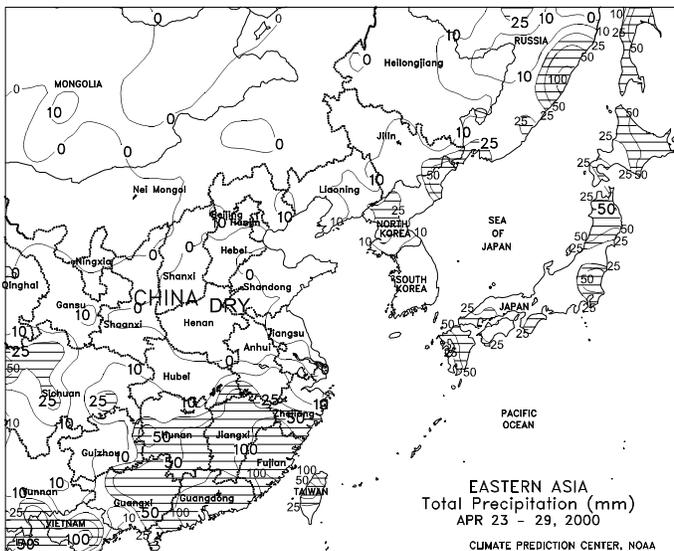
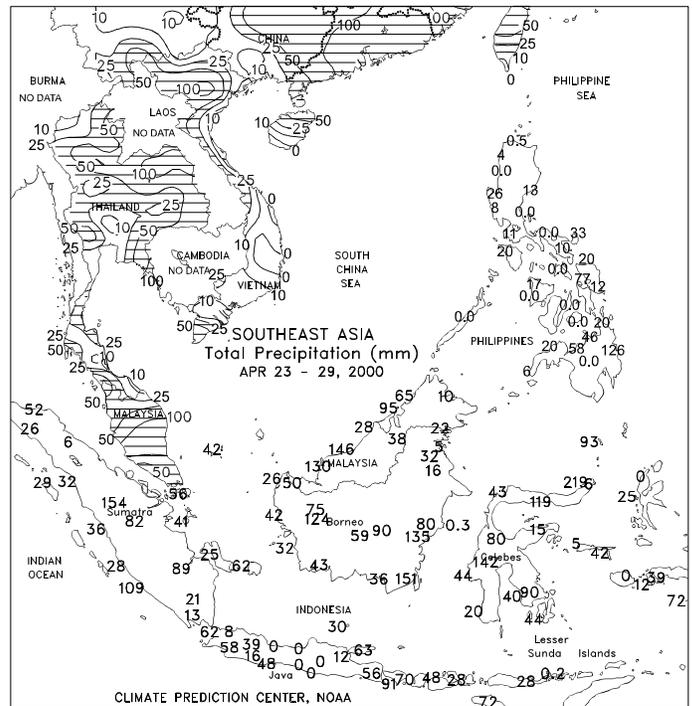


EUROPE

Widespread showers (10-60 mm, locally more than 80 mm) across England, France, the Benelux countries, and the Iberian peninsula continued to hamper fieldwork, but maintained adequate to excessive topsoil moisture for winter grains and oilseeds and emerging spring-sown crops. Winter grains are primarily in the jointing stage of development across England, France, and the Benelux countries. Farther south, winter grains are heading across the northern Iberian peninsula, but are mostly filling across southern areas. Widespread showers (15-70 mm) fell across northern Italy as well, helping emerging corn, rice, and soybeans, and jointing to reproductive winter wheat. Similarly, scattered showers (5-35 mm, locally 70 mm) favored durum wheat development in southern Italy and jointing winter grains in southeastern Europe. These showers were mostly concentrated in Bulgaria, where a trend of drier-than-normal weather has been developing in recent months. In contrast, mainly dry weather covered northeastern Europe, favoring fieldwork and helping to alleviate river flooding in eastern Hungary. Unseasonably warm weather remained in place across most of Europe, accelerating crop development. Temperatures averaged about 4 to 9 degrees C above normal in north-central and northeastern Europe, with weekly maximum temperatures approaching or exceeding 25 degrees C as far north as southern Sweden. Unseasonably cool weather was confined to the Iberian peninsula, where temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C below normal.

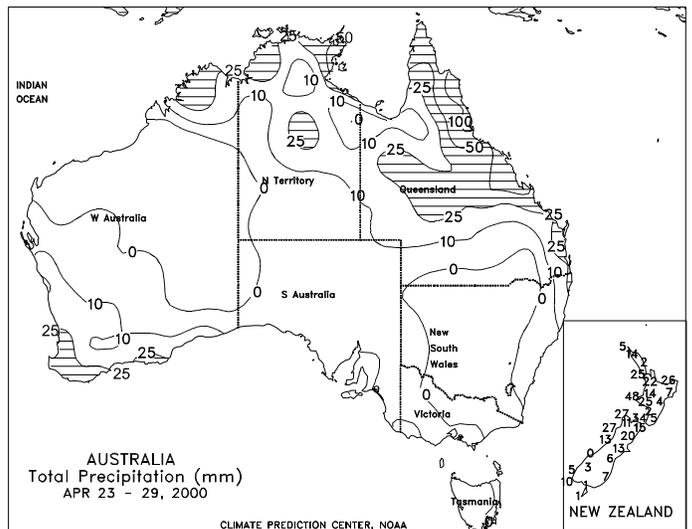
SOUTHEAST ASIA

In Thailand, widespread showers (10-75 mm or more) boosted moisture supplies for upcoming main-season rice transplanting. Moderate to heavy showers (25-100 mm or more) boosted moisture supplies for vegetative winter-spring rice in northern Vietnam. Light showers (less than 20 mm) fell across southern Vietnam. In the Philippines, mostly dry weather prevailed across Luzon, favoring second-crop grain harvesting. Seasonable showers (10-70 mm) fell across the east-central islands. In Java, Indonesia, scattered showers (10-50 mm) allowed main-season rice harvesting to progress without major delays. Showers (60-150 mm) maintained moisture supplies for oil palm across peninsular Malaysia.



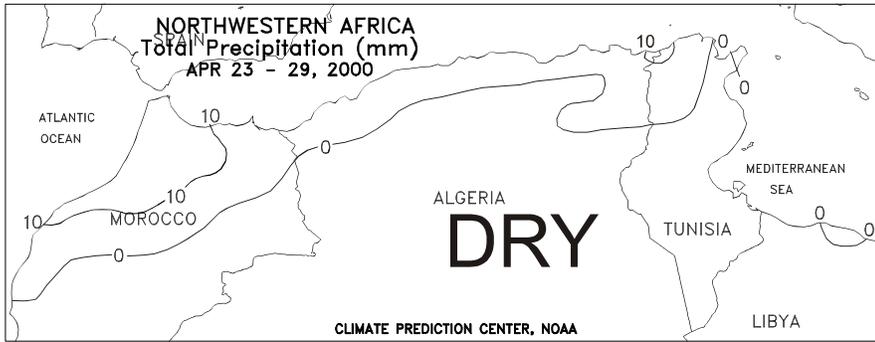
EASTERN ASIA

Mostly warm, dry weather returned to the North China Plain, where dryness is beginning to stress vegetative to reproductive rainfed winter wheat. During the past 4 weeks, rainfall averaged from 15 to 40 percent of normal across Hubei, northern Anhui and Jiangsu, Henan, Shandong, and southern Hebei. Rain is needed during the next 3 to 4 weeks to ensure adequate moisture for rainfed winter wheat as it advances through reproduction. A significant system of labor-intensive irrigation typically helps to mitigate dryness for a majority of the winter wheat across the North China Plain. Temperatures averaged 2 to 4 degrees C above normal across the North China Plain, with highs ranging from 25 to 29 degrees C. In Manchuria, light to moderate rain (5-20 mm) increased topsoil moisture for spring wheat germination. Across southern China, widespread showers (25-75 mm) benefited vegetative early rice. However, heavy showers (100-170 mm) likely caused some flooding in Guangdong. Temperatures averaged near normal across Manchuria and slightly below normal across southern China.



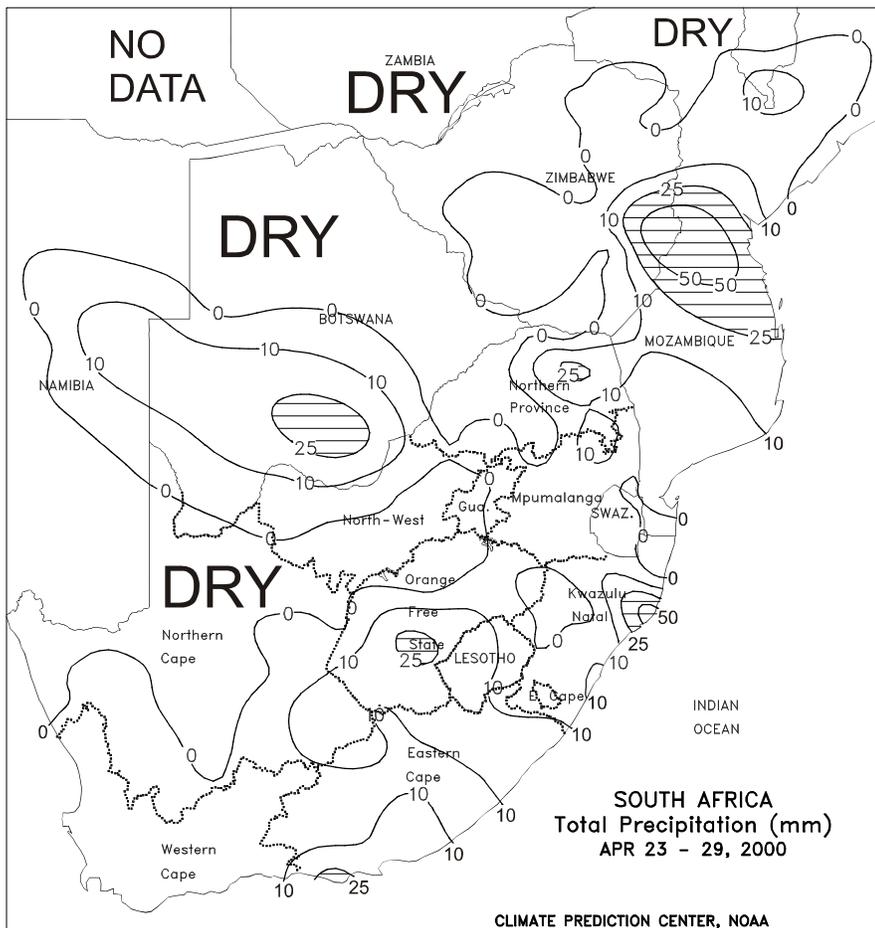
AUSTRALIA

Drier weather returned to northern New South Wales and much of southern Queensland, promoting cotton and sorghum harvesting. Scattered showers (10-25 mm) may have caused minor fieldwork disruptions in Queensland's northernmost field crop areas, but the moisture was favorable for winter grain germination. Along the coast, locally heavy rain (25-100 mm, locally exceeding 200 mm) maintained excessively wet conditions in the northern sugarcane areas. Elsewhere, light rain (3-21 mm) across Western Australia's winter grain belt improved topsoil moisture for pre-planting fieldwork. Somewhat warmer, drier weather continued in the southeast. In New Zealand, seasonably cool weather was accompanied by generally light showers (25 mm or less) in the main agricultural areas.



NORTHWESTERN AFRICA

After experiencing several weeks of drought, northern Morocco continued to receive beneficial showers (12-20 mm). These showers, along with cooler weather, helped to stabilize conditions for immature winter grains. In southern Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia, light showers (up to 6 mm) provided little relief from long-term drought.



SOUTH AFRICA

Dry, seasonably mild weather dominated the corn belt, favoring late-summer crop development and aiding dry down of mature crops. Temperatures fell below 5 degrees C at many locations, but sub-freezing temperatures were confined to outlying crop areas, reducing the potential for significant frost damage. Rainfall was mostly light (15 mm or less) in KwaZulu-Natal and Western and Eastern Cape Provinces, aiding harvests and autumn fieldwork.

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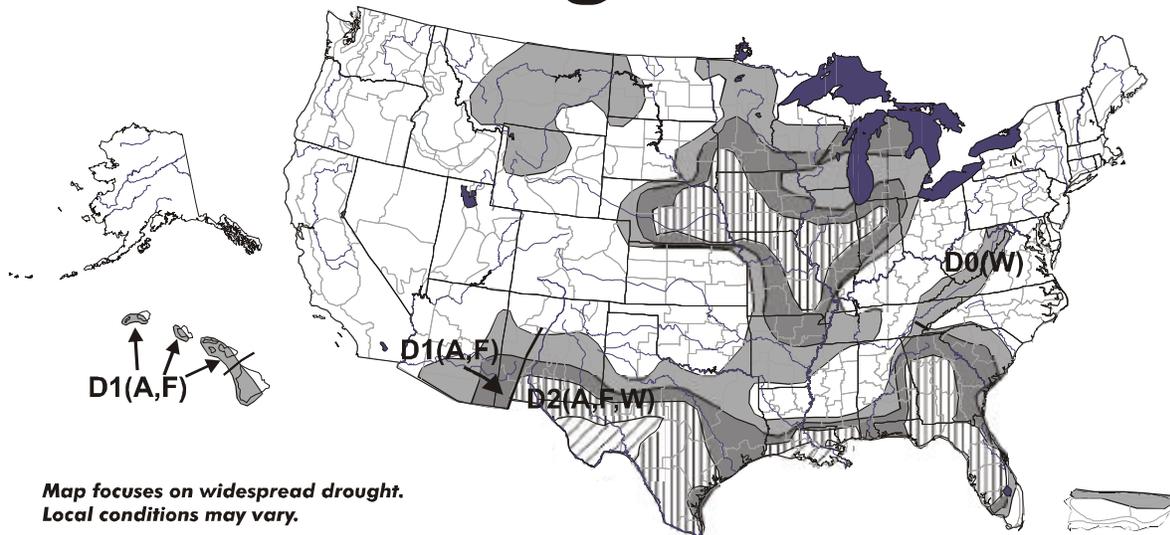
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April 25, 2000 Valid 7 a.m. EST

U.S. Drought Monitor



Map focuses on widespread drought.
Local conditions may vary.

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



Plus (+) = Forecast to intensify next two weeks
Minus (-) = Forecast to diminish next two weeks
No sign = No change in drought classification forecast

● Released Thursday, April 27, 2000 ●
Drought Monitor Web Site:
<http://enso.unl.edu/monitor/monitor.html>

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