

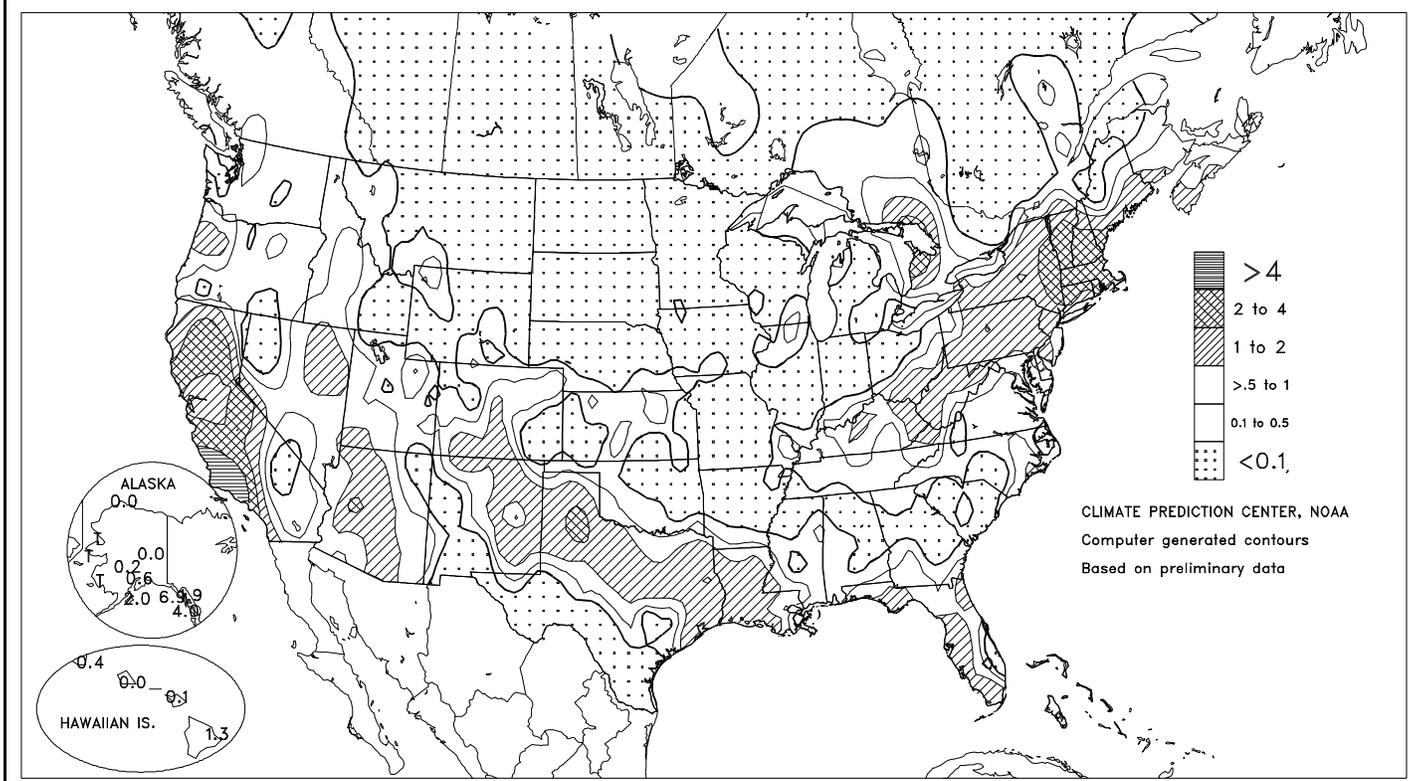
WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

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

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

Total Precipitation (Inches)

MAR 4 - 10, 2001



HIGHLIGHTS

March 4 - 10, 2001

Highlights provided by USDA/WAOB

Significant precipitation continued to ease summer water-supply concerns in **California**, but only light amounts fell in the snowpack-deficient **Northwest**. By week's end, the water equivalent of the **Sierra Nevada** snowpack topped 20 inches (about 85 percent of normal), while water equivalents ranged from 45 to 65 percent of normal in most areas from the **Cascades** to the **northern Rockies**. Farther east, mild conditions (weekly temperatures up to 9°F above normal) melted most of the **northern Plains'** remaining snow cover, while warmer weather spurred winter wheat development on the **southern Plains**. A pair of storm systems crossed the **Plains** after

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Weather Data for Selected Locations in the Delta and the Bootheel

Weather Data for the Week Ending March 10, 2001

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

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 *	53	34	61	30	44	-5	0.95	-0.43	0.95	0.95	48	15.78	146	-	-	0	3	1	1
MS BELZONI *	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MS CLARKSDALE *	58	36	64	30	47	-3	0.02	-1.28	0.02	0.87	47	17.80	165	-	-	0	1	1	0
MS CLEVELAND *	58	37	64	30	48	-3	0.55	-0.94	0.50	0.97	44	15.27	127	-	-	0	1	2	1
MS GREENVILLE *	58	39	68	31	49	-4	0.32	-1.05	0.32	1.62	82	16.55	148	-	-	0	1	1	0
MS GREENWOOD *	58	35	66	30	47	-6	0.13	-1.17	0.08	1.81	98	16.95	163	-	-	0	2	2	0
MS INDIANOLA 1S	57	39	66	33	48	-	0.23	-	0.15	1.47	-	14.52	-	57	46	0	0	2	0
MS INVERNESS 5E	57	41	66	34	49	-	0.26	-	0.16	2.19	-	14.21	-	-	-	0	0	2	0
MS LYON	55	36	61	30	46	-	0.02	-	0.02	0.77	-	14.22	-	-	-	0	1	1	0
MS MOORHEAD *	59	40	67	35	50	-3	0.47	-0.84	0.34	1.70	91	14.35	132	-	-	0	0	2	0
MS ONWARD	59	40	68	34	50	-	0.57	-	0.56	2.82	-	16.24	-	56	49	0	0	2	1
MS ROLLING FORK *	60	38	73	31	49	-3	1.48	0.18	0.93	3.79	203	18.08	159	-	-	0	1	3	1
MS SIDON	58	40	66	36	49	-	0.50	-	0.21	1.77	-	14.52	-	-	-	0	0	3	0
MS TUNICA *	53	35	60	32	44	-5	1.30	0.18	1.20	1.33	83	14.57	147	-	-	0	1	2	1
MS TUNICA 1W	53	35	59	29	44	-	0.10	-	0.10	0.98	-	14.34	-	51	46	0	1	1	0
MS VANCE	55	37	62	31	46	-	0.06	-	0.03	0.68	-	15.40	-	49	46	0	1	2	0
MS VICKSBURG *	60	41	70	35	51	-5	0.77	-0.64	0.32	5.33	269	16.19	132	-	-	0	0	3	0
MS YAZOO CITY *	58	38	69	34	48	-7	0.94	-0.53	0.58	3.73	178	19.44	157	-	-	0	0	2	1
MS STONEVILLE *	58	38	68	32	48	-3	0.57	-0.62	0.33	1.77	105	16.84	153	61	46	0	1	2	0
MO CARDWELL	54	32	58	29	42	-5	0.68	-0.56	0.68	1.09	61	9.83	109	-	-	0	3	1	1
MO CHARLESTON	50	27	55	24	38	-6	0.65	-0.26	0.65	0.73	56	6.70	82	-	-	0	7	1	1
MO CLARKTON	53	30	58	26	40	-5	0.73	-0.18	0.73	0.89	73	8.83	119	-	-	0	5	1	1
MO DELTA	51	28	56	24	38	-6	0.76	-0.25	0.76	0.76	52	5.07	57	-	-	0	6	1	1
MO GLENNONVILLE	53	30	57	27	40	-5	0.67	-0.24	0.67	0.96	79	8.45	114	-	-	0	5	1	1
MO PORTAGEVILLE #1	51	31	57	28	40	-5	1.00	-0.13	1.00	1.12	72	8.71	100	-	-	0	5	1	1
MO PORTAGEVILLE #2	52	30	57	25	40	-5	0.91	-0.22	0.91	1.07	69	8.10	93	-	-	0	5	1	1
MO STEELE	52	32	58	30	41	-4	0.87	-0.36	0.87	1.33	78	11.01	119	-	-	0	4	1	1

Compiled by USDA/OCE/WAOB's Stoneville Field Office. * Based on 1964-93 normals. x Based on 1961-90 normals.

Delta and Bootheel Weather and Crop Summary: Temperatures averaged below normal throughout the Delta and the Bootheel. Precipitation was also below normal in most locations. Several dry days in the Delta permitted limited fieldwork in preparation for corn planting during upcoming weeks. Note: Data from Belzoni, MS will be unavailable for several weeks.

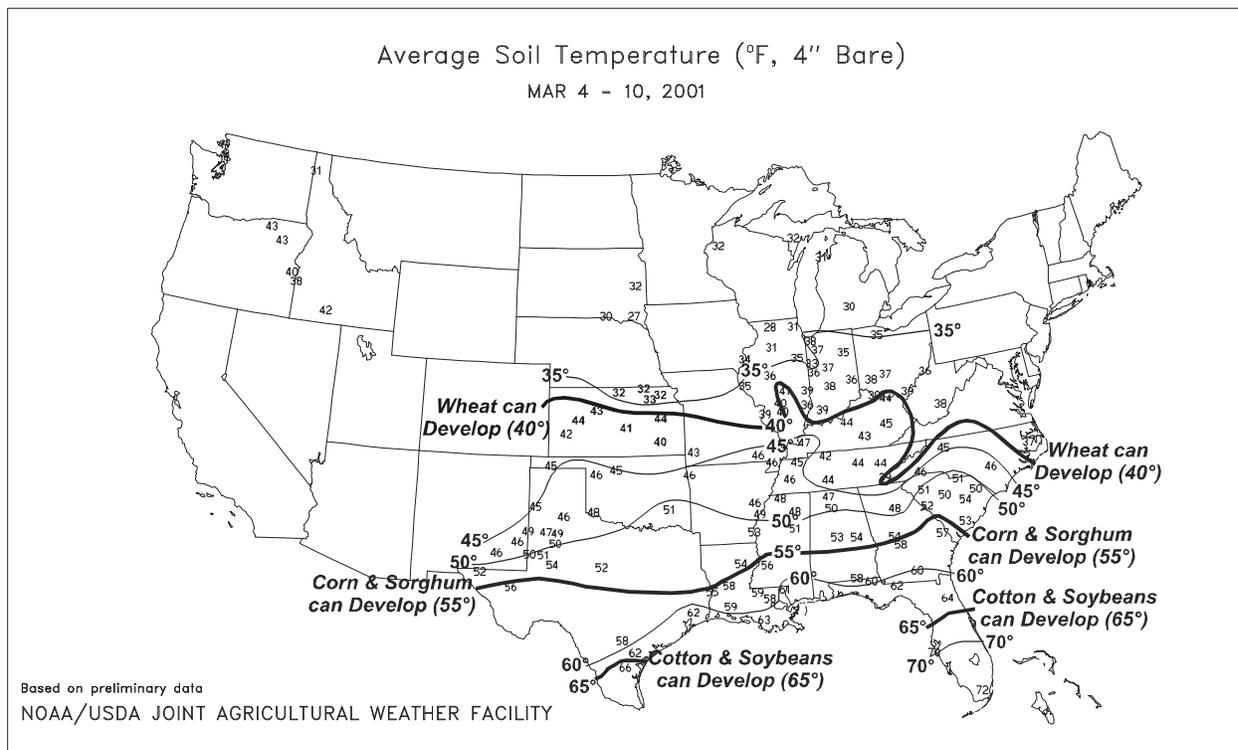
U.S. Crop Production Highlights

The following information was released by USDA's Agricultural Statistics Board on March 8, 2001. Forecasts refer to March 1.

The **all orange** forecast of the 2000-01 crop is 12.4 million tons, unchanged from February's forecast, but 6 percent lower than last season's final utilization. Florida's all orange forecast is 223 million boxes (10.0 million tons), the same as last month but 4 percent below the 1999-2000 final utilization. The early and midseason orange forecast remains at 127 million boxes (5.72 million tons), 5 percent lower than the previous season. Harvest is nearing completion and is expected to be finished by the end of March. Florida's Valencia forecast, at 96 million boxes (4.32 million tons), is unchanged from February but is 3 percent lower than last season's final utilization. The Valencia growth rate during February was near the average, but fruit size continues below average. Loss from droppage remains below the 10-season average. The Valencia harvest has just begun, with only a small percentage of rows picked. Arizona, California, and Texas orange production forecasts were carried forward from the February forecasts.



East Coast Blast: A multi-day storm hammered the Northeast with high winds and heavy snow, the region's second such event since early February. Farther south, dry, breezy weather returned to Florida's peninsula on March 5, a day after brief but beneficial showers temporarily eased citrus irrigation requirements.



(Continued from front cover)

midweek. The first system produced more than 1 inch of rain in **northern and eastern Texas** on March 8-9; the second blanketed the **central High Plains** with wet snow at week's end. Cool weather prevailed from the **eastern Plains** to the **East Coast**, including the deeply snow-covered **northwestern Corn Belt**, where temperatures averaged as much as 10°F below normal. Meanwhile, the first half of the week featured a major **East Coast** snow storm (1 to 3 feet of new snow) in **New England** and the **northern Mid-Atlantic region**. A second storm struck the same areas toward week's end, depositing an additional foot or more of snow in some locations. The **East Coast** storm drew cold air deep into the **South**, resulting in a widespread freeze on March 8 as far south as **central Georgia**, and scattered near-freezing temperatures in **northern Florida**. On March 4, widespread showers preceded the arrival of cool air across drought-stricken **Peninsular Florida**, temporarily easing citrus irrigation requirements.

Early in the week, heavy precipitation fell in **California** and the **East**. On Sunday, **Red Bluff, CA** measured a daily-record rainfall total (1.64 inches), accompanied by a peak wind gust to 59 mph. A day later, **Oxnard, CA** (2.69 inches) also posted a daily-record total. Elsewhere on March 5, daily snowfall records were established in locations such as **Burlington, VT** (14.8 inches) and **Marquette, MI** (15.8 inches). **Burlington's** March 5-6 total reached 22.9 inches, their third-greatest, single-storm snowfall on record. Elsewhere, storm-total snowfall reached 40 inches in **Nottingham, NH**, 37 inches on **Jay Peak, VT**, and 35 inches in **Lake Placid, NY**. During the event, wind gusts peaked at 55 mph in **Nantucket, MA** and 64 mph on **Monhegan Island, ME**. Offshore wave heights reached 27 feet at the **Caches Ledge Buoy**, near **Portland, ME**.

The late-week storm boosted March 1-10 snowfall to 38.0 inches in **Syracuse, NY**, 30.6 inches in **Worcester, MA**, and 26.6 inches in **Burlington, VT**. This time, however, significant snow fell farther north in **Maine**. For example, **Bangor, ME** received 2.0 inches from the first storm, then netted 14.0 inches on Saturday. **Syracuse's** season-to-date snowfall climbed to 184.3 inches by week's end, second only to a 192.1-inch total in 1992-93. Similarly, the seasonal snowfall through March 10 rose to 254.5 inches in **Marquette, MI**, approaching their record total of 272.2

inches, set in 1996-97.

Meanwhile in **Florida**, March 4 rainfall totals of 0.93 inch in **Ft. Myers** and 0.65 inch in **Key West** easily surpassed the stations' January 1 - March 3 accumulations of 0.08 and 0.42 inch, respectively. **Key West's** January-February rainfall, 0.42 inch, represented their driest start to a year since only 0.27 inch fell during the first 2 months of 1928. One of **Florida's** best-soaked areas, **Tampa**, collected 1.59 inches on March 4, but received just 3.89 inches (62 percent of normal) for the year-to-date through March 10. Farther south, the average surface elevation of **Lake Okeechobee** fell to 10.41 feet by week's end, approximately 4.40 feet below the 1979-95 average for March 10.

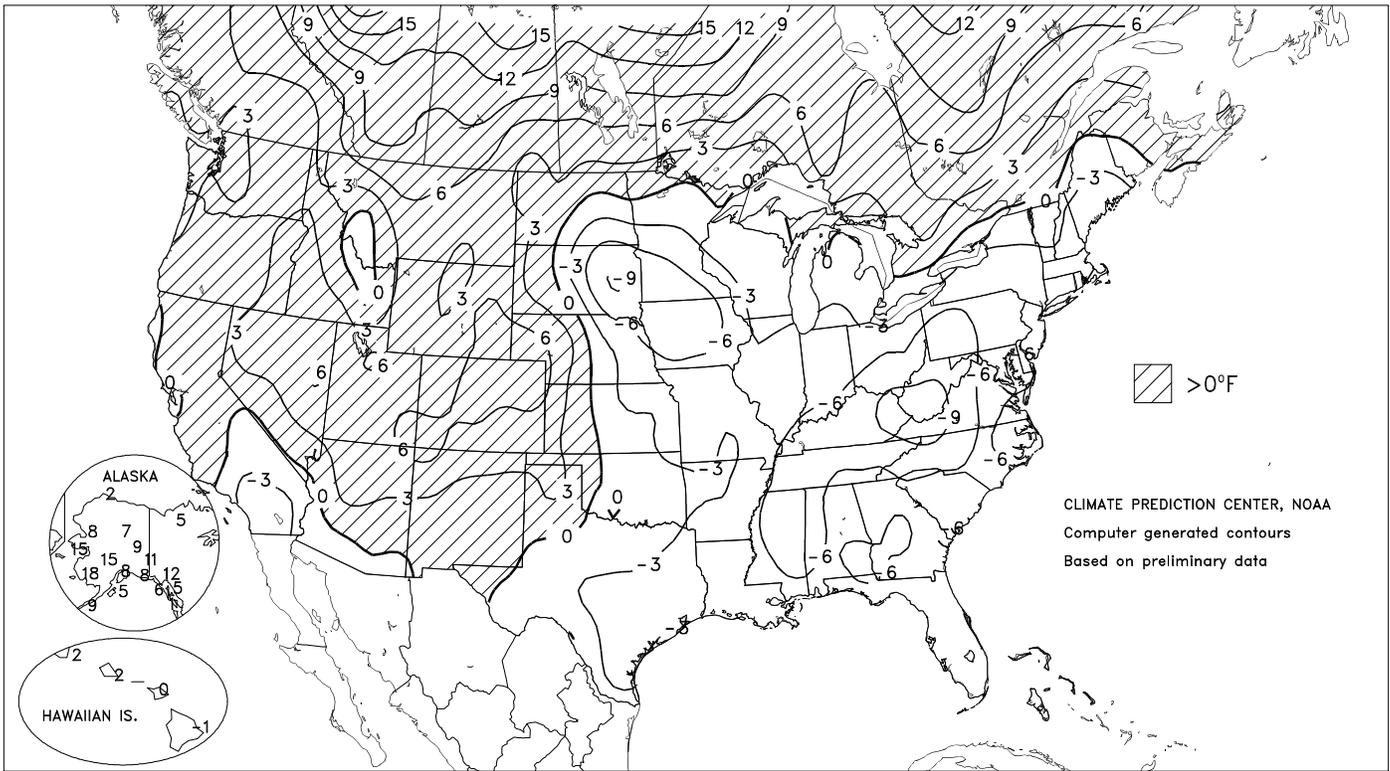
Farther west, record warmth preceded the arrival of a weak storm system in the **Northwest**, resulting in at least 20 daily-record highs. Consecutive daily records were established on March 6-7 in locations such as **Salem, OR** (72 and 71°F) and **Quillayute, WA** (69 and 65°F). Warm air also overspread the **northern High Plains**, where **Cut Bank, MT** notched a record high (60°F) on Thursday. In contrast, sharply cooler weather invaded the **Southeast**. On March 8, lows included 28°F in **Macon, GA** and 29°F in **Tallahassee, FL**. Farther south, **Hollywood, FL** (44°F) tallied a daily-record low.

In **eastern Washington**, the warmer weather melted **Spokane's** remaining snow, ending their record-setting spell (November 9 to March 5) with at least 1 inch on the ground at 117 days. Their previous record of 113 days was set in 1992-93. Meanwhile, snow remained on the ground through week's end (December 11 to March 10) in **Des Moines, IA**, tying their 1977-78 record of 90 days with at least 1 inch of cover.

Cold weather remained conspicuously absent from **Alaska**, where weekly temperatures averaged as much as 18°F above normal across the southwestern part of the mainland. Heavy precipitation fell in **southeastern Alaska**, boosting March 1-10 totals to 8.49 inches in **Yakutat** and 1.84 inches in **Juneau**. Meanwhile in **Hawaii**, generally light showers accompanied warm weather (up to 2°F above normal).

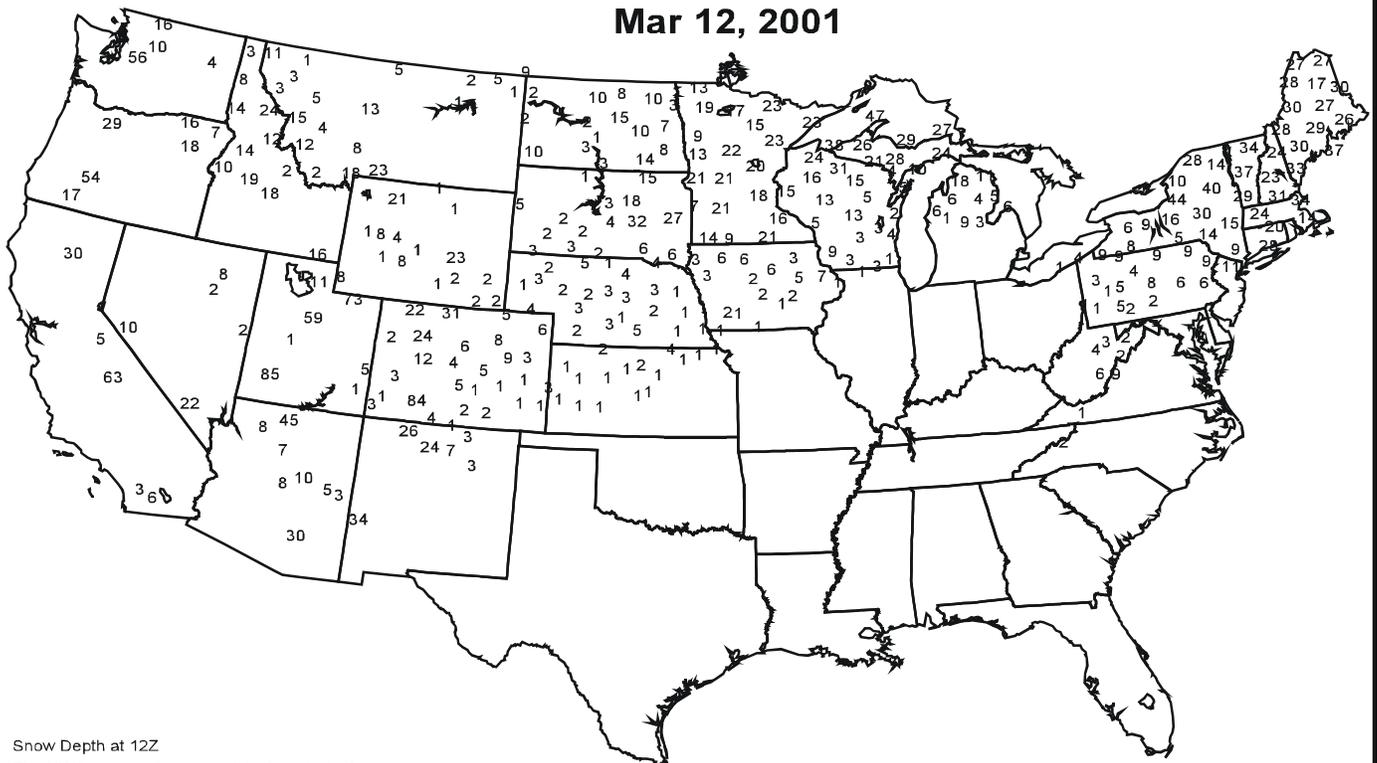
Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F)

MAR 4 - 10, 2001



Snow Depth (Inches)

Mar 12, 2001



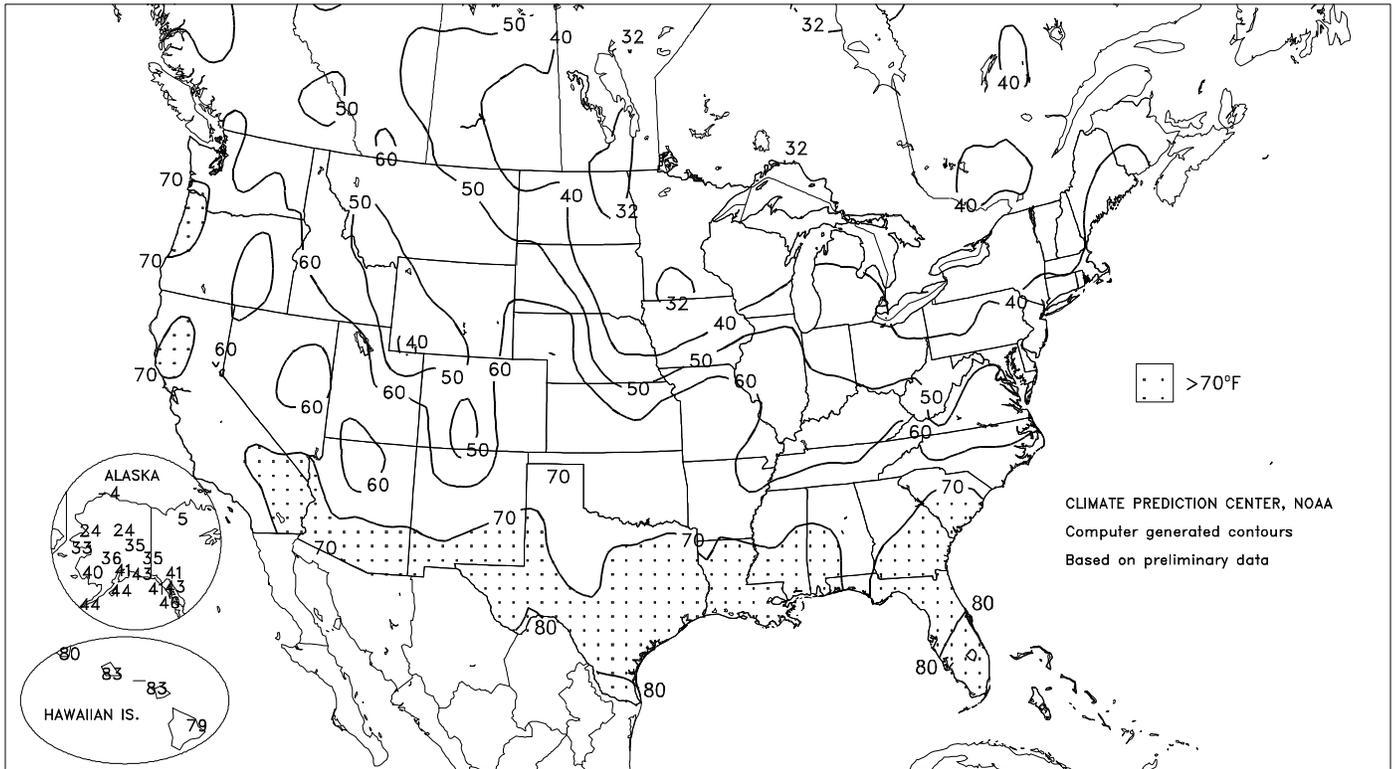
Snow Depth at 12Z

The NWS cooperative network is the principal source of the snow depth reports

NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY

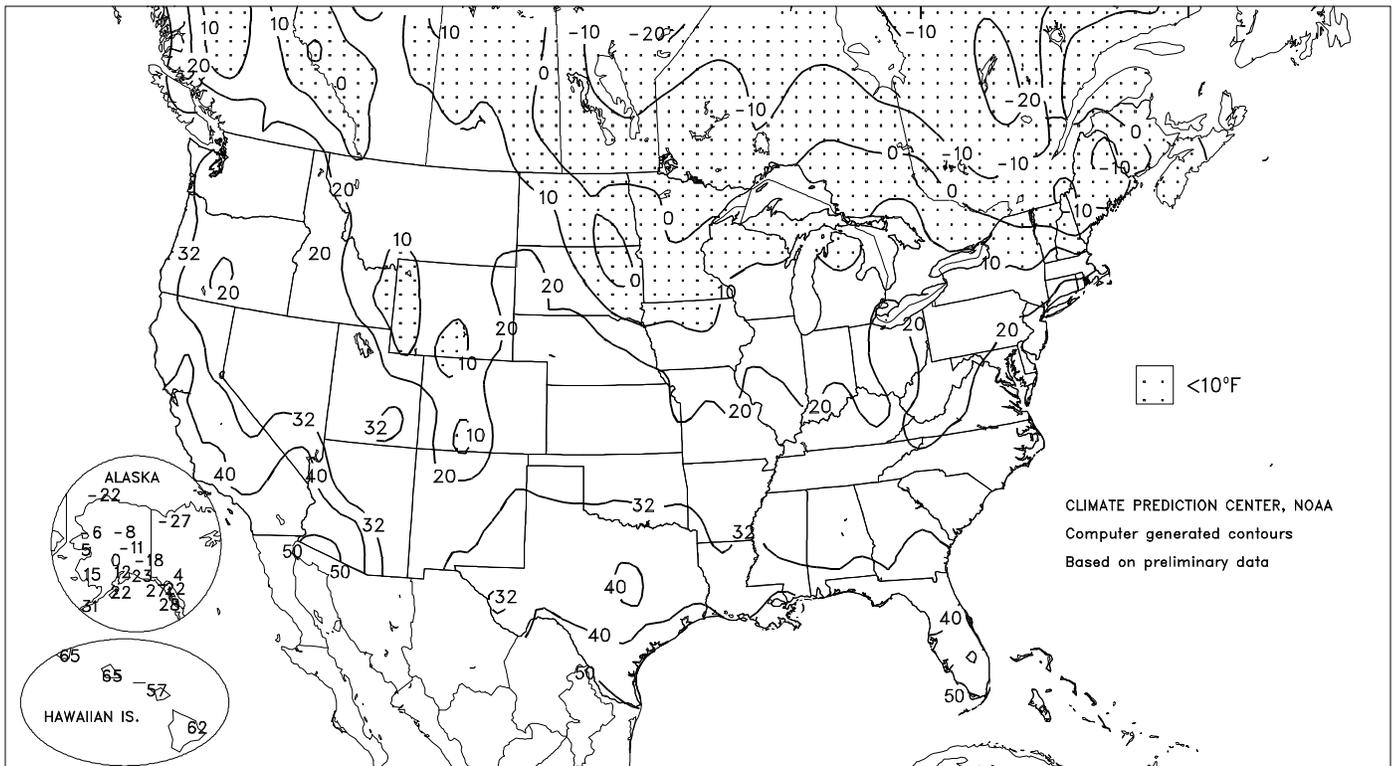
Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F)

MAR 4 - 10, 2001



Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)

MAR 4 - 10, 2001



National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending March 10, 2001

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	58	33	68	26	46	-6	0.06	-1.33	0.05	1.36	69	10.88	92	79	36	0	4	2	0
AL HUNTSVILLE	56	30	67	25	43	-6	0.13	-1.36	0.13	0.46	22	10.63	88	81	49	0	6	1	0
AL MOBILE	64	40	72	35	52	-6	0.24	-1.25	0.24	5.18	244	11.96	97	87	45	0	0	1	0
AL MONTGOMERY	61	36	70	30	49	-6	0.01	-1.44	0.01	4.15	200	12.01	98	79	31	0	1	1	0
AK ANCHORAGE	36	26	41	12	31	8	0.59	0.42	0.42	0.66	275	3.23	178	87	77	0	7	3	0
AK BARROW	-11	-19	-4	-22	-15	2	0.00	-0.03	0.00	0.00	0	0.72	200	79	74	0	7	0	0
AK FAIRBANKS	30	0	35	-11	15	9	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.00	0	1.06	107	81	71	0	7	0	0
AK JUNEAU	40	32	43	22	36	5	1.84	1.06	0.67	1.86	166	13.49	143	95	89	0	2	6	1
AK KODIAK	41	33	44	22	37	5	2.00	0.92	0.78	2.23	143	20.02	141	98	92	0	2	6	2
AK NOME	28	15	33	5	21	14	0.02	-0.09	0.01	0.03	19	2.72	175	76	65	0	7	2	0
AZ FLAGSTAFF	47	27	54	20	37	3	1.23	0.63	0.68	1.28	151	5.56	112	94	46	0	6	5	1
AZ PHOENIX	69	53	76	47	61	0	1.03	0.81	0.71	1.03	332	3.66	220	74	51	0	0	4	1
AZ TUCSON	68	46	76	37	57	0	0.72	0.55	0.70	0.72	300	2.42	134	72	41	0	0	2	1
AZ YUMA	71	53	76	50	62	-1	1.63	1.57	1.41	1.82	227	2.72	418	***	***	0	0	2	1
AR FORT SMITH	61	35	66	30	48	-1	0.01	-0.84	0.01	0.03	3	9.53	167	82	32	0	2	1	0
AR LITTLE ROCK	58	37	64	29	47	-3	0.17	-0.87	0.17	1.29	88	12.48	147	88	39	0	1	1	0
CA BAKERSFIELD	64	50	71	45	57	1	0.24	-0.01	0.12	0.24	69	4.04	178	84	59	0	0	4	0
CA FRESNO	62	46	68	41	54	0	0.95	0.51	0.60	0.97	154	5.85	133	90	76	0	0	3	1
CA LOS ANGELES	61	52	63	47	57	-1	1.44	0.93	1.20	1.44	195	15.90	281	84	70	0	0	5	1
CA REDDING	65	44	77	41	55	4	2.07	1.00	1.60	3.02	197	16.82	140	83	67	0	0	3	1
CA SACRAMENTO	63	47	66	42	55	2	1.04	0.41	0.53	1.67	184	9.99	133	94	55	0	0	4	1
CA SAN DIEGO	62	53	65	50	57	-2	0.65	0.24	0.56	0.65	110	6.33	161	91	73	0	0	2	1
CA SAN FRANCISCO	60	49	64	46	54	1	0.48	-0.26	0.40	0.89	84	10.86	127	89	78	0	0	3	0
CA STOCKTON	63	45	68	38	54	1	0.84	0.32	0.55	1.39	190	6.56	118	90	73	0	0	3	1
CO ALAMOSA	47	24	52	14	35	5	0.44	0.35	0.38	0.44	338	1.36	200	94	59	0	7	3	0
CO CO SPRINGS	54	29	62	22	41	6	0.32	0.13	0.32	0.32	123	1.41	148	81	26	0	5	1	0
CO DENVER	56	32	63	26	44	7	0.39	0.14	0.39	0.39	115	1.85	131	77	25	0	4	1	0
CO GRAND JUNCTION	58	35	62	26	47	6	0.11	-0.08	0.10	0.14	52	1.24	95	75	43	0	2	2	0
CO PUEBLO	59	27	67	19	43	4	0.04	-0.12	0.03	0.04	18	1.01	119	74	38	0	6	2	0
CT BRIDGEPORT	36	28	44	21	32	-4	1.00	0.19	0.41	1.02	89	5.25	71	87	76	0	7	4	0
CT HARTFORD	35	25	40	22	30	-4	1.08	0.28	0.59	1.10	97	5.35	69	90	69	0	7	4	1
DC WASHINGTON	46	31	51	25	39	-5	0.35	-0.37	0.31	0.35	34	4.40	68	78	43	0	4	2	0
DE WILMINGTON	42	28	47	21	35	-5	0.91	0.15	0.65	0.91	85	6.80	97	88	48	0	6	3	1
FL DAYTONA BEACH	69	47	77	38	58	-5	0.66	-0.04	0.63	0.68	68	1.94	28	79	31	0	0	2	1
FL JACKSONVILLE	66	42	73	32	54	-5	1.59	0.71	1.31	1.82	143	3.41	40	81	38	0	1	2	1
FL KEY WEST	75	63	83	54	69	-4	0.67	0.28	0.67	0.67	118	1.09	25	85	65	0	0	1	1
FL MIAMI	78	56	88	50	67	-4	0.68	0.16	0.63	0.68	91	1.33	27	83	38	0	0	2	1
FL ORLANDO	72	50	80	42	61	-4	0.56	-0.23	0.55	0.56	50	1.44	22	75	34	0	0	2	1
FL PENSACOLA	65	43	67	38	54	-4	0.88	-0.47	0.88	3.39	176	8.95	75	80	41	0	0	1	1
FL TALLAHASSEE	67	40	75	29	54	-4	1.16	-0.33	0.73	1.97	93	5.01	40	82	37	0	1	2	1
FL TAMPA	67	53	75	46	60	-5	1.68	0.91	1.59	1.68	151	3.89	63	76	50	0	0	2	1
FL WEST PALM	76	55	89	45	66	-3	0.02	-0.82	0.02	0.03	3	1.59	24	81	37	0	0	1	0
GA ATHENS	59	34	69	27	46	-5	0.02	-1.23	0.02	1.76	99	7.52	70	69	35	0	4	1	0
GA ATLANTA	56	35	65	30	46	-5	0.01	-1.31	0.01	1.79	96	8.17	71	71	45	0	3	1	0
GA AUGUSTA	62	35	75	27	49	-4	0.12	-0.98	0.12	2.33	149	6.95	70	72	38	0	4	1	0
GA COLUMBUS	61	39	68	33	50	-5	0.09	-1.23	0.09	5.26	280	8.70	77	82	29	0	0	1	0
GA MACON	60	36	68	28	48	-6	0.15	-0.98	0.12	3.71	230	7.45	68	78	32	0	2	3	0
GA SAVANNAH	62	39	75	27	51	-6	0.41	-0.45	0.39	1.14	93	3.45	43	77	40	0	2	2	0
HI HILO	77	64	79	62	71	-1	1.29	-1.63	0.71	1.36	33	16.11	66	86	66	0	0	5	1
HI HONOLULU	82	69	83	65	76	2	0.00	-0.52	0.00	0.02	3	0.77	12	81	72	0	0	0	0
HI KAHULUI	81	64	83	57	73	0	0.08	-0.55	0.07	0.14	15	1.18	15	83	71	0	0	2	0
HI LIHUE	79	69	80	65	74	2	0.36	-0.55	0.24	0.41	32	5.21	50	86	75	0	0	4	0
ID BOISE	57	35	62	29	46	5	0.29	0.01	0.16	0.44	113	1.93	66	76	55	0	2	2	0
ID LEWISTON	55	36	62	30	46	4	0.17	-0.07	0.08	0.17	52	1.59	64	86	70	0	1	4	0
IL POCATELLO	44	21	50	8	33	-1	0.12	-0.16	0.10	0.36	92	2.16	92	72	0	7	3	0	
IL CHICAGO/O'HARE	38	22	50	18	30	-4	0.05	-0.46	0.04	0.05	7	3.74	104	75	51	0	7	2	0
IL MOLINE	40	22	57	20	31	-2	0.21	-0.36	0.21	0.22	28	5.65	159	83	49	0	7	1	0
IL PEORIA	41	23	56	20	32	-3	0.00	-0.56	0.00	0.00	0	6.11	165	82	44	0	7	0	0
IL ROCKFORD	37	21	51	18	29	-2	1.45	0.99	1.26	1.45	230	6.78	222	88	57	0	7	3	1
IL SPRINGFIELD	42	23	55	20	33	-4	0.00	-0.66	0.00	0.00	0	5.07	121	83	54	0	7	0	0
IN EVANSVILLE	46	27	53	21	36	-7	0.68	-0.35	0.68	0.71	49	5.26	73	82	53	0	6	1	1
IN FORT WAYNE	38	24	46	19	31	-3	0.01	-0.59	0.01	0.01	1	3.48	75	84	56	0	7	1	0
IN INDIANAPOLIS	41	23	51	18	32	-6	0.00	-0.81	0.00	0.00	0	2.70	46	81	45	0	7	0	0
IN SOUTH BEND	36	24	46	20	30	-4	0.06	-0.56	0.03	0.06	7	4.33	87	86	67	0	7	3	0
IA BURLINGTON	41	23	58	19	32	-3	0.07	-0.49	0.07	0.08	11	5.63	178	83	49	0	7	1	0
IA CEDAR RAPIDS	32	19	47	12	26	-5	0.14	-0.30	0.14	0.16	26	4.81	182	89	64	0	7	1	0
IA DES MOINES	33	22	42	15	27	-6	0.02	-0.42	0.02	0.02	3	3.74	140	82	67	0	7	1	0
IA DUBUQUE	32	20	42	16	26	-4	0.04	-0.52	0.04	0.04	5	4.52	135	77	64	0	7	1	0
IA SIOUX CITY	30	18	34	10	24	-8	0.00	-0.39	0.00	0.01	2	2.34	131	93	79	0	7	0	0
IA WATERLOO	30	17	36	9	23	-7	0.07	-0.37	0.07	0.07	11	1.89	76	86	71	0	7	1	0
KS CONCORDIA	42	27	53	24	35	-3	0.06	-0.39	0.06	0.06	10	2.71	139	91	75	0	7	1	0
KS DODGE CITY	56	28	65	24	42	1	0.00	-0.30	0.00	0.00	0	3.12	205	95	47	0	7	0	0
KS GOODLAND	55	30	66	26	42	6	0.03	-0.21	0.03	0.03	9	1.48	131	93	63	0	5	1	0
KS TOPEKA	49	27	63	24	38	-2	0.01	-0.47	0.01	0.01	1	4.13	155	86	52	0	6	1	0

Based on 1961-90 normals

*** Not Available

Weather Data for the Week Ending March 10, 2001

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	52	30	63	25	41	-1	0.02	-0.48	0.02	0.12	17	5.46	223	87	55	0	6	1	0
	JACKSON	43	26	55	21	34	-10	0.43	-0.64	0.39	0.61	40	6.83	75	85	51	0	6	3	0
	LEXINGTON	44	26	51	21	35	-7	0.95	-0.02	0.95	1.10	80	7.36	99	79	56	0	6	1	1
	LOUISVILLE	46	28	54	26	37	-6	1.12	0.10	1.12	1.22	85	6.40	84	82	48	0	6	1	1
	PADUCAH	49	26	55	22	38	-6	0.58	-0.49	0.58	0.63	41	7.11	82	87	41	0	7	1	1
LA	BATON ROUGE	66	41	73	36	53	-6	0.78	-0.31	0.77	3.20	204	9.03	75	93	34	0	0	2	1
	LAKE CHARLES	68	42	71	38	55	-3	1.23	0.46	1.04	3.81	346	10.33	112	94	42	0	0	2	1
	NEW ORLEANS	65	47	71	41	56	-3	0.29	-0.89	0.29	3.76	221	8.40	66	78	49	0	0	1	0
	SHREVEPORT	65	40	71	35	53	-2	1.34	0.51	0.79	3.83	322	16.11	179	92	36	0	0	2	2
ME	CARIBOU	33	12	37	-11	22	1	0.02	-0.51	0.02	0.02	3	3.49	69	84	53	0	7	1	0
	PORTLAND	35	18	41	2	26	-4	0.67	-0.13	0.25	0.68	60	4.59	57	84	52	0	7	4	0
MD	BALTIMORE	46	29	51	23	37	-4	0.42	-0.35	0.32	0.42	38	5.24	72	83	54	0	5	3	0
MA	BOSTON	35	27	42	22	31	-5	0.51	-0.32	0.27	0.51	43	3.57	43	95	69	0	7	4	0
	WORCESTER	32	22	38	17	27	-4	1.47	0.60	1.03	1.54	124	6.25	75	95	64	0	7	5	1
MI	ALPENA	32	17	42	6	25	1	0.25	-0.19	0.13	0.25	41	2.40	68	91	63	0	7	2	0
	GRAND RAPIDS	34	22	41	17	28	-3	0.15	-0.37	0.12	0.15	21	3.56	90	95	66	0	7	2	0
	HOUGHTON LAKE	31	17	38	6	24	0	0.10	-0.31	0.08	0.10	17	2.29	71	85	67	0	7	3	0
	LANSING	35	20	44	14	27	-3	0.02	-0.44	0.02	0.02	3	3.46	99	91	70	0	7	1	0
	MUSKEGON	35	23	43	18	29	-1	0.09	-0.41	0.08	0.09	13	4.07	90	87	67	0	7	2	0
	TRAVERSE CITY	32	20	40	10	26	0	0.32	-0.03	0.20	0.32	65	2.99	76	90	58	0	7	4	0
MN	DULUTH	31	10	36	2	21	1	0.00	-0.38	0.00	0.00	0	3.01	119	88	62	0	7	0	0
	INTL FALLS	31	2	37	-7	17	0	0.01	-0.19	0.01	0.01	3	0.44	24	87	51	0	7	1	0
	MINNEAPOLIS	30	15	34	10	23	-4	0.00	-0.38	0.00	0.00	0	2.53	107	85	63	0	7	0	0
	ROCHESTER	27	12	32	8	19	-7	0.00	-0.33	0.00	0.01	2	1.98	101	85	72	0	7	0	0
	ST. CLOUD	29	9	34	2	19	-4	0.00	-0.26	0.00	0.00	0	2.24	130	88	61	0	7	0	0
MS	JACKSON	62	36	71	32	49	-5	0.28	-0.99	0.28	5.35	297	14.60	124	91	36	0	1	1	0
	MERIDIAN	62	34	72	27	48	-6	0.18	-1.34	0.18	4.50	209	14.71	116	94	48	0	3	1	0
	TUPELO	57	32	68	27	45	-6	0.06	-1.29	0.06	0.86	45	14.63	127	79	45	0	5	1	0
MO	COLUMBIA	50	25	65	19	37	-3	0.00	-0.65	0.00	0.01	1	7.11	170	82	36	0	7	0	0
	KANSAS CITY	47	25	63	17	36	-3	0.00	-0.46	0.04	0.04	6	5.37	186	86	46	0	6	1	0
	SAINT LOUIS	48	26	60	22	37	-5	0.00	-0.76	0.00	0.01	1	3.61	72	78	46	0	7	0	0
	SPRINGFIELD	53	26	64	21	39	-4	0.00	-0.80	0.00	0.01	1	7.23	142	81	39	0	7	0	0
MT	BILLINGS	50	28	62	23	39	6	0.16	-0.06	0.08	0.25	81	1.15	62	90	48	0	6	2	0
	BUTTE	42	12	46	6	27	1	0.07	-0.09	0.07	0.07	32	0.72	63	89	51	0	7	1	0
	GLASGOW	38	21	44	16	29	4	0.02	-0.06	0.02	0.02	17	0.34	45	94	85	0	7	1	0
	GREAT FALLS	50	25	61	16	38	7	0.10	-0.12	0.10	0.10	33	1.14	64	90	39	0	7	1	0
	KALISPELL	45	24	50	16	34	3	0.00	-0.22	0.00	0.00	0	1.44	49	87	64	0	6	0	0
	MILES CITY	46	25	55	21	35	5	0.02	-0.09	0.02	0.02	13	0.43	37	97	58	0	7	1	0
	MISSOULA	45	26	47	18	35	1	0.13	-0.09	0.13	0.14	45	1.50	64	91	79	0	6	1	0
NE	GRAND ISLAND	37	26	42	23	32	-2	0.00	-0.37	0.00	0.00	0	2.24	133	92	82	0	7	0	0
	LINCOLN	39	24	43	20	32	-3	0.03	-0.37	0.03	0.04	7	2.75	152	88	69	0	7	1	0
	NORFOLK	35	23	40	19	29	-3	0.00	-0.37	0.00	0.00	0	1.50	83	92	78	0	7	0	0
	NORTH PLATTE	49	25	60	23	37	4	0.05	-0.17	0.05	0.05	17	0.93	85	98	57	0	7	1	0
	OMAHA	35	23	39	19	30	-5	0.00	-0.39	0.00	0.00	0	3.14	153	89	78	0	7	0	0
	SCOTTSBLUFF	57	24	66	22	41	7	0.10	-0.11	0.10	0.10	34	0.78	62	89	48	0	7	1	0
NV	VALENTINE	46	26	66	21	36	6	0.00	-0.20	0.00	0.00	0	0.71	72	88	63	0	7	0	0
	ELY	49	30	56	24	39	6	0.28	0.08	0.14	0.39	139	0.97	60	86	57	0	6	2	0
	LAS VEGAS	62	48	69	44	55	0	0.17	0.06	0.11	0.17	106	3.25	290	81	58	0	0	3	0
	RENO	55	34	65	32	44	3	0.12	-0.07	0.08	0.42	156	0.91	39	79	53	0	4	3	0
	WINNEMUCCA	57	30	65	25	43	4	0.03	-0.14	0.02	0.19	79	1.46	91	85	60	0	4	2	0
NH	CONCORD	34	20	38	9	27	-2	0.98	0.37	0.40	0.98	114	5.00	85	90	55	0	7	4	0
NJ	NEWARK	41	31	47	25	36	-3	1.00	0.16	0.38	1.04	87	5.40	71	80	65	0	5	4	0
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	57	36	63	29	47	2	0.23	0.12	0.16	0.23	144	0.78	74	73	38	0	1	2	0
NY	ALBANY	33	21	38	12	27	-4	1.21	0.57	0.48	1.22	136	4.07	74	90	63	0	7	5	0
	BINGHAMTON	30	19	35	14	25	-4	1.24	0.63	0.44	1.33	156	3.84	69	90	76	0	7	4	0
	BUFFALO	32	22	35	19	27	-4	0.93	0.35	0.29	1.05	128	5.53	95	93	76	0	7	5	0
	ROCHESTER	34	20	39	14	27	-4	0.82	0.32	0.30	1.21	170	5.42	111	90	68	0	7	5	0
	SYRACUSE	33	20	40	4	27	-4	1.26	0.68	0.46	1.75	216	5.04	95	89	69	0	7	5	0
NC	ASHEVILLE	49	28	57	21	38	-7	0.09	-0.98	0.09	0.51	33	5.87	68	74	46	0	6	1	0
	CHARLOTTE	54	32	60	22	43	-5	0.26	-0.79	0.18	1.03	69	5.09	56	75	38	0	4	2	0
	GREENSBORO	49	29	55	23	39	-7	0.45	-0.40	0.33	0.83	68	5.87	76	76	41	0	5	2	0
	HATTERAS	53	36	67	30	44	-6	0.30	-0.69	0.30	0.36	26	4.23	39	88	64	0	4	1	0
	RALEIGH	52	32	58	25	42	-6	0.63	-0.28	0.51	1.13	87	4.77	56	76	45	0	5	2	1
	WILMINGTON	56	38	65	32	47	-5	0.64	-0.27	0.54	1.25	96	4.21	47	84	48	0	2	2	1
ND	BISMARCK	32	15	38	2	24	0	0.12	-0.01	0.12	0.12	67	1.02	96	91	79	0	7	1	0
	DICKINSON	38	23	50	19	30	4	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.00	0	0.51	59	95	68	0	7	0	0
	FARGO	27	11	32	2	19	-2	0.00	-0.19	0.00	0.00	0	0.94	68	88	69	0	7	0	0
	GRAND FORKS	28	13	32	2	21	2	0.00	-0.18	0.00	0.00	0	0.54	37	90	68	0	7	0	0
	JAMESTOWN	28	10	33	1	19	-3	0.00	-0.16	0.00	0.00	0	0.09	7	97	75	0	7	0	0
	WILLISTON	34	19	40	13	27	3	0.00	-0.13	0.00	0.00	0	0.40	36	93	80	0	7	0	0
OH	AKRON-CANTON	33	23	39	19	28	-7	0.44	-0.28	0.14	0.44	44	3.47	64	94	72	0	7	4	0
	CINCINNATI	42	24	50	18	33	-7	0.41	-0.51	0.41	0.41	32	3.55	54	83	54	0	6	1	0
	CLEVELAND	33	26	38	22	30	-4	0.92	0.30	0.45	0.92	105	4.14	81	91	72	0	7	5	0
	COLUMBUS	37	25	45	21	31	-7	0.30	-0.40	0.25	0.30	30	2.98	55	86	60	0	7	4	0
	DAYTON	39	25	47	21	32	-5	0.00	-0.72	0.00	0.00	0	2.53	48	86	53	0	7	0	0
	MANSFIELD	32	23	40	20	28	-6	0.05	-0.64	0.02	0.05	5	2.89							

Weather Data for the Week Ending March 10, 2001

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	38	24	46	20	31	-2	0.00	-0.56	0.00	0.00	0	3.08	72	82	55	0	7	0	0
OK YOUNGSTOWN	33	22	38	15	27	-6	0.42	-0.25	0.16	0.42	45	3.14	62	89	72	0	7	6	0
OK OKLAHOMA CITY	58	35	63	30	47	0	0.16	-0.42	0.16	0.16	20	4.64	133	86	49	0	1	1	0
OR TULSA	58	32	65	28	45	-2	0.00	-0.72	0.00	0.00	0	4.71	104	89	47	0	5	0	0
OR ASTORIA	57	39	70	32	48	3	0.52	-1.17	0.44	1.53	63	9.81	49	93	77	0	1	5	0
OR BURNS	45	28	55	25	36	2	0.03	-0.20	0.03	0.29	88	1.01	49	89	71	0	6	1	0
OR EUGENE	58	36	71	31	47	0	0.16	-1.16	0.15	0.56	30	3.71	24	97	80	0	2	2	0
OR MEDFORD	60	36	71	30	48	2	0.06	-0.38	0.04	0.44	70	2.26	43	90	55	0	2	2	0
OR PENDLETON	53	33	59	30	43	0	0.34	0.06	0.31	0.36	92	1.93	63	92	75	0	4	2	0
OR PORTLAND	58	38	69	33	48	2	0.27	-0.58	0.12	0.59	48	3.35	32	94	72	0	0	4	0
PA SALEM	59	36	72	31	47	2	0.25	-0.76	0.11	0.86	59	3.89	33	97	77	0	2	3	0
PA ALLENTOWN	39	26	43	22	32	-4	0.51	-0.21	0.24	0.53	52	5.55	78	76	59	0	7	3	0
PA ERIE	34	25	40	19	29	-4	0.14	-0.50	0.08	0.19	21	4.30	80	86	73	0	7	3	0
PA MIDDLETOWN	40	27	46	21	34	-4	0.83	0.09	0.67	0.83	79	4.75	70	86	53	0	7	3	1
PA PHILADELPHIA	42	30	48	23	36	-4	0.97	0.22	0.65	0.97	92	6.78	96	83	61	0	6	3	1
PA PITTSBURGH	35	23	40	17	29	-7	0.77	0.03	0.69	0.77	74	3.21	54	91	65	0	7	2	1
PA WILKES-BARRE	34	22	38	18	28	-6	0.81	0.26	0.36	1.29	165	3.56	71	87	61	0	7	4	0
PA WILLIAMSPORT	38	26	44	19	32	-3	0.83	0.12	0.48	0.92	92	3.29	52	82	60	0	7	4	0
RI PROVIDENCE	36	26	42	19	31	-4	1.82	0.93	1.52	1.83	144	6.24	71	93	71	0	7	5	1
SC BEAUFORT	61	41	74	28	51	-6	0.13	-0.82	0.13	0.37	28	3.39	41	86	41	0	1	1	0
SC CHARLESTON	60	40	70	31	50	-6	0.23	-0.78	0.23	0.68	48	4.06	50	79	39	0	1	1	0
SC COLUMBIA	59	36	76	27	48	-5	0.27	-0.85	0.27	1.43	90	5.20	51	72	40	0	2	1	0
SD GREENVILLE	55	33	60	27	44	-5	0.13	-1.11	0.12	0.91	52	6.23	61	72	36	0	4	2	0
SD ABERDEEN	29	7	35	-7	18	-7	0.00	-0.24	0.00	0.11	33	1.40	120	92	81	0	7	0	0
SD HURON	27	7	35	-1	17	-11	0.00	-0.33	0.00	0.00	0	3.68	239	94	79	0	7	0	0
SD RAPID CITY	45	23	57	22	34	3	0.00	-0.19	0.00	0.00	0	0.69	59	91	63	0	7	0	0
SD SIOUX FALLS	29	13	34	4	21	-7	0.00	-0.30	0.00	0.00	0	2.15	138	91	78	0	7	0	0
TN BRISTOL	47	24	70	19	36	-8	0.42	-0.43	0.27	0.59	49	7.73	98	85	46	0	6	3	0
TN CHATTANOOGA	56	33	64	28	45	-3	0.08	-1.30	0.08	0.53	27	10.65	91	76	41	0	4	1	0
TN KNOXVILLE	52	31	68	27	41	-5	0.34	-0.83	0.33	0.57	35	11.77	119	79	44	0	6	2	0
TN MEMPHIS	54	35	61	32	45	-5	0.20	-0.98	0.20	1.05	63	11.26	115	75	38	0	1	1	0
TX NASHVILLE	51	30	60	26	41	-6	0.48	-0.60	0.48	0.60	39	12.34	138	78	44	0	6	1	0
TX ABILENE	62	43	68	37	53	0	0.81	0.53	0.79	0.82	205	4.59	177	89	63	0	0	2	1
TX AMARILLO	60	35	69	32	47	3	1.23	1.01	1.17	1.36	453	3.96	281	93	50	0	1	3	1
TX AUSTIN	68	38	71	36	53	-6	0.08	-0.34	0.07	1.35	221	5.10	114	90	58	0	0	2	0
TX BEAUMONT	67	44	70	42	56	-3	1.20	0.46	1.19	1.80	170	9.29	101	93	46	0	0	2	1
TX BROWNSVILLE	77	53	81	49	65	-2	0.01	-0.10	0.01	0.05	31	1.96	71	95	51	0	0	1	0
TX CORPUS CHRISTI	74	49	78	43	62	-1	0.05	-0.18	0.05	1.00	286	3.46	86	94	55	0	0	1	0
TX DEL RIO	73	50	80	41	61	0	0.01	-0.10	0.01	0.34	200	1.97	117	84	53	0	0	1	0
TX EL PASO	68	42	75	36	55	2	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.41	342	0.71	76	66	25	0	0	0	0
TX FORT WORTH	63	41	70	36	52	-2	0.63	0.04	0.63	0.91	110	9.52	197	90	49	0	0	1	1
TX GALVESTON	67	51	69	46	59	-1	0.41	-0.09	0.41	1.03	145	7.70	124	88	51	0	0	1	0
TX HOUSTON	68	42	72	38	55	-3	1.20	0.54	1.20	3.12	332	8.19	114	99	57	0	0	1	1
TX LUBBOCK	61	38	69	33	50	1	1.34	1.15	1.34	1.40	500	3.37	250	91	69	0	0	1	1
TX MIDLAND	64	41	70	36	53	0	0.09	-0.05	0.09	0.09	45	2.21	181	86	55	0	0	1	0
TX SAN ANGELO	63	41	68	34	52	-3	0.37	0.18	0.37	0.42	150	3.88	180	93	65	0	0	1	0
TX SAN ANTONIO	68	45	72	40	56	-3	0.09	-0.24	0.09	1.13	240	4.68	117	90	54	0	0	1	0
TX VICTORIA	70	46	74	42	58	-3	0.41	0.06	0.41	1.54	308	4.59	98	97	60	0	0	1	0
TX WACO	64	41	70	39	53	-2	1.39	0.89	1.37	2.75	387	8.18	184	94	59	0	0	3	1
TX WICHITA FALLS	62	39	68	35	51	0	0.63	0.18	0.63	0.67	106	5.54	177	90	60	0	0	1	1
UT SALT LAKE CITY	57	35	60	28	46	6	0.13	-0.27	0.12	0.24	43	2.52	87	77	46	0	3	2	0
VT BURLINGTON	32	16	39	2	24	-3	1.70	1.24	0.98	1.70	262	4.22	103	93	62	0	7	3	1
VA LYNCHBURG	48	26	54	20	37	-7	0.26	-0.53	0.23	0.26	23	4.38	62	72	39	0	6	2	0
VA NORFOLK	46	35	50	26	41	-5	0.40	-0.45	0.34	0.41	34	4.03	48	81	50	0	2	3	0
VA RICHMOND	49	31	54	25	40	-5	0.38	-0.45	0.30	0.48	41	5.09	67	75	47	0	5	2	0
VA ROANOKE	46	28	54	23	37	-7	0.30	-0.48	0.27	0.39	35	3.08	45	78	52	0	6	3	0
VA WASH/DULLES	45	28	51	23	36	-4	0.55	-0.17	0.45	0.55	54	4.76	73	79	54	0	6	3	0
WA OLYMPIA	58	31	69	21	44	1	0.03	-1.16	0.01	0.63	37	6.72	43	96	80	0	4	3	0
WA QUILLAYUTE	57	35	69	26	46	3	0.10	-2.66	0.04	1.52	38	16.33	53	95	73	0	1	5	0
WA SEATTLE-TACOMA	56	40	66	33	48	3	0.33	-0.52	0.14	0.56	46	5.33	50	88	75	0	0	3	0
WA SPOKANE	48	30	55	23	39	2	0.27	-0.09	0.27	0.52	102	1.81	45	89	65	0	6	1	0
WA YAKIMA	58	31	64	27	44	3	0.10	-0.07	0.09	0.10	42	0.98	45	87	63	0	5	2	0
WV BECKLEY	36	21	49	16	28	-11	0.29	-0.46	0.22	0.41	38	4.61	67	93	71	0	7	4	0
WV CHARLESTON	42	26	57	22	34	-9	0.76	-0.05	0.60	0.79	68	5.12	72	94	57	0	6	4	1
WV ELKINS	36	20	47	9	28	-9	0.54	-0.29	0.30	0.54	46	5.80	80	90	63	0	6	6	0
WV HUNTINGTON	42	26	52	20	34	-9	1.16	0.35	1.15	1.18	103	4.90	71	89	54	0	7	2	1
WI EAU CLAIRE	31	14	34	9	22	-3	0.00	-0.30	0.00	0.00	0	1.61	76	89	56	0	7	0	0
WI GREEN BAY	33	19	37	12	26	0	0.14	-0.27	0.10	0.14	25	2.59	94	83	59	0	7	2	0
WI LA CROSSE	31	18	35	13	25	-4	0.00	-0.37	0.00	0.00	0	2.18	93	81	57	0	7	0	0
WI MADISON	34	21	42	15	27	-2	0.08	-0.34	0.08	0.08	14	3.71	136	77	57	0	7	1	0
WI MILWAUKEE	37	23	48	15	30	0	0.12	-0.40	0.12	0.12	17	4.71	125	78	55	0	7	1	0
WY CASPER	50	25	56	14	38	7	0.02	-0.16	0.02	0.02	8	0.72	51	82	51	0	7	1	0
WY CHEYENNE	51	25	59	18	38	6	0.31	0.11	0.23	0.31	111	1.05	98	77	41	0	6	2	0
WY LANDER	46	24	53	16	35	4	0.06	-0.14	0.06	0.06	21	0.74	56	83	71	0	7	1	0
WY SHERIDAN	44	20	50	8	32	1	0.11	-0.07	0.11	0.11	44	1.35	83	86	66	0	7	1	0

Based on 1961-90 normals

*** Not Available

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

Winter Weather Review

Review provided by USDA/WAOB

Highlights: Winter temperatures averaged below normal nearly nationwide. Above-normal readings were confined to relatively small areas each month: the Southwest in December; the North-Central States in January; and the South and East in February. The western Corn Belt bore the brunt of wintry conditions, combining an extensive and persistent snow cover with 3-month temperatures that averaged as much as 6°F below normal. Winter's primary storm trajectory bypassed the Northwest, instead crossing southern California and the Southwest en route to the Nation's mid-section. The consistency of the storm track was apparent across the South, where winter precipitation surpassed 20 inches in some areas from northeastern Texas to north-central Mississippi, then trailed off to less than 1 inch in parts of southern Florida.

December: Heavy snow and gusty winds frequently accompanied cold weather in the northern Plains and Midwest, stressing livestock and hampering rural transportation. Major winter storms struck the South just 2 weeks apart, causing electrical and travel disruptions due to heavy snow and ice accumulations. As the cold weather regime deepened, temperatures fell below 32 degrees F in Florida's northern citrus areas on December 20 and 31. Cold weather allowed winter wheat to remain dormant or enter dormancy throughout the Plains, Midwest, and Northwest. An extensive snow cover insulated most of the winter wheat crop from harsh conditions. Meanwhile, cool, damp weather slowed or halted winter grain development across the South. In contrast, mild weather prevailed in California and the Southwest, where dry weather stressed some pastures and winter grains. Unusually dry weather also brought renewed drought concerns to the Southeast. Monthly temperatures ranged from 8 to 14°F below normal in the Midwest and generally 4 to 12°F below normal on the Plains, but averaged up to 5°F above normal in portions of California and the Southwest.

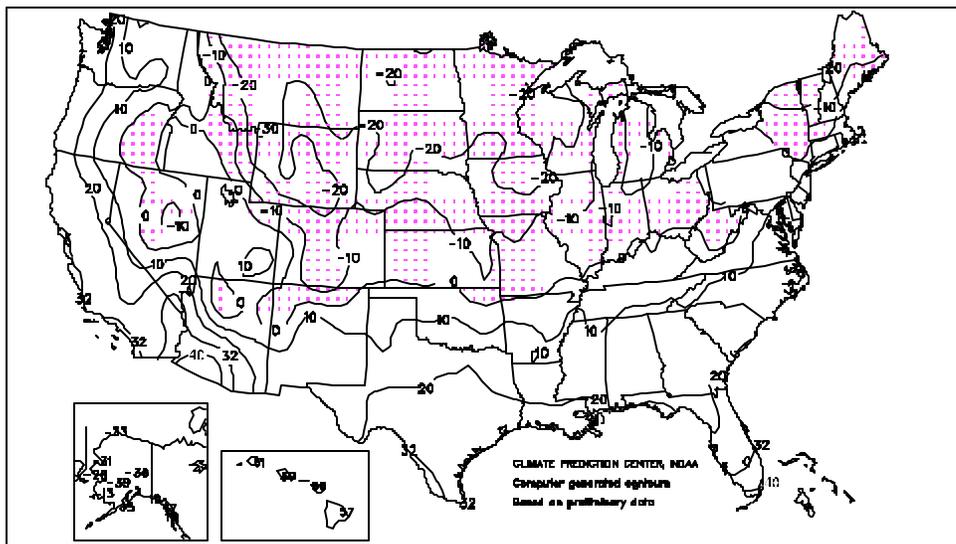
January: Unusually dry weather persisted in northern California and the Northwest, raising concerns about spring runoff prospects and summer water supplies. Meanwhile, beneficial precipitation

returned to the Southwest after a dry December. Farther east, mild, mostly dry weather prevailed for most of the month in the Plains and Corn Belt, providing a respite from December's harsh conditions. Toward month's end, however, a strong winter storm produced heavy rain, freezing rain, and snow across the nation's mid-section, stressing livestock and leaving many fields and feedlots muddy. Across the South, occasional heavy rain also left fields muddy, primarily from the Delta westward. In contrast, only light showers fell across drought-affected Peninsular Florida, reducing water supplies and maintaining heavy citrus irrigation demands. A persistently cool weather pattern affected Florida, culminating in a significant freeze on January 5 that adversely affected some citrus fruits and winter vegetables as far south as the Everglades. Toward month's end, warmer weather across southern Texas promoted fieldwork and crop development. Monthly temperatures averaged 4 to 14°F above normal in the North-Central States, but as much as 5°F below normal in Florida.

February: Storm systems continued to bypass the snow-deficient Northwest, instead crossing southern California and the Southwest. Spring runoff and summer water-supply prospects improved in the Sierra Nevada but worsened from the Cascades to the northern Rockies. Farther east, wet weather prevailed from the central and southern Plains to the Great Lakes region, causing lowland flooding and leaving standing water in some winter wheat fields. Heavy rain fell as far east as the Tennessee and lower Mississippi Valleys, but dry conditions prevailed just to the south, including areas from southern Texas to the southern Atlantic region. Drought-stricken Florida remained especially dry, maintaining heavy citrus irrigation requirements. Meanwhile, the return of bitterly cold weather increased livestock stress across the northern Plains and deeply snow-covered western Corn Belt. Cool weather also prevailed in California, combining with frequent showers to slow spring fieldwork and winter crop development. In contrast, warm weather (temperatures 2 to 8°F above normal) across the South spurred pasture and winter grain growth. Monthly temperatures ranged from 4 to 12°F below normal in the northern and central Plains and western Corn Belt, and as much as 4°F below normal in California.

Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)

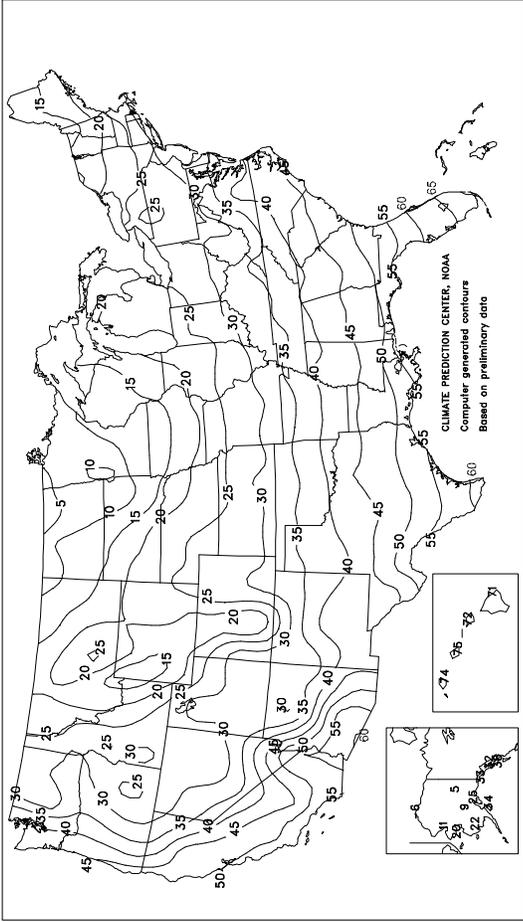
DEC 2000 - FEB 2001



Despite winter's consistent chill in many areas, extreme minimum temperatures were not especially impressive. For example, winter (December-February) temperatures in Albany, NY never fell below 0°F (the lowest was 1°F on January 2), their first such winter since 1936-37. However, Albany also recorded their second-longest stretch with high temperatures below 40°F (43 days from December 18 - January 29). Cold air made its deepest push into the Southeast on January 5, when low temperatures in Florida included 26°F in Daytona Beach and 39°F in Miami. Farther west, Wichita, KS recorded a winter average temperature of 29.9°F, their lowest since 1983-84.

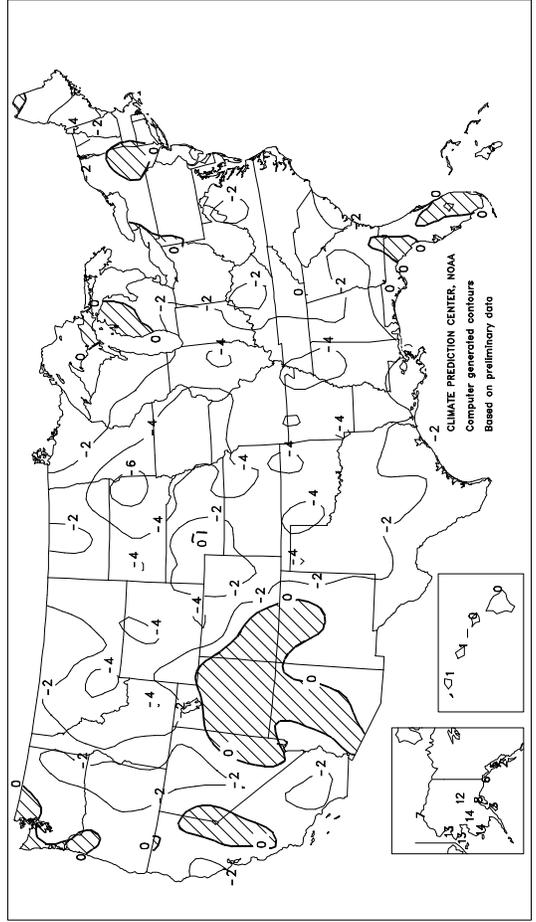
Average Temperature (°F)

DEC 2000 - FEB 2001



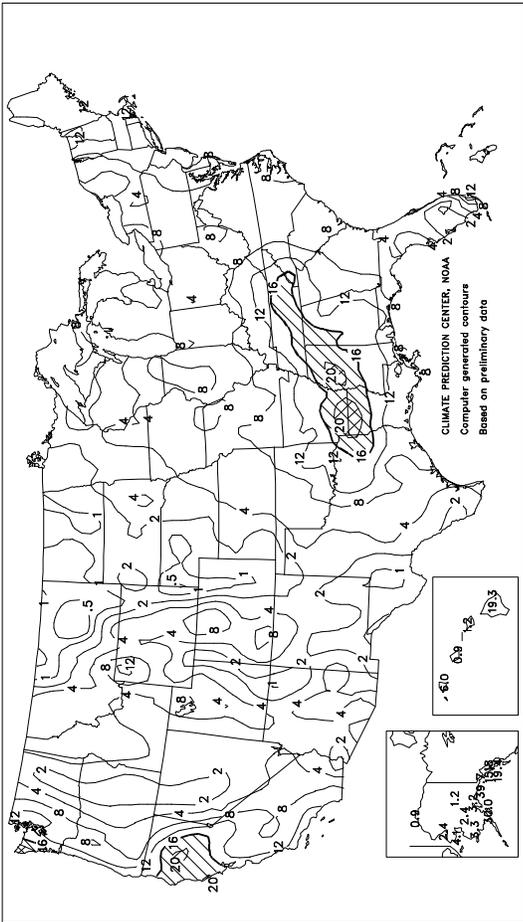
Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F)

DEC 2000 - FEB 2001



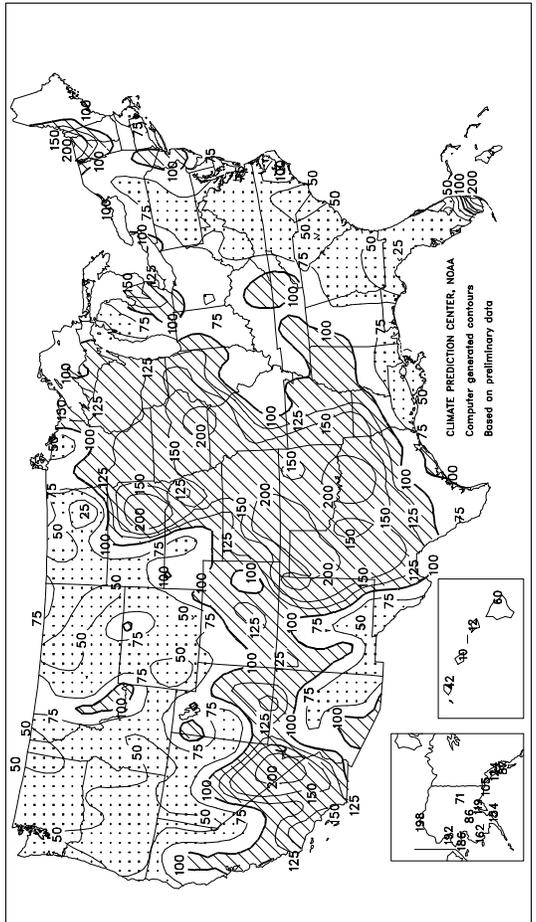
Total Precipitation (inches)

DEC 2000 - FEB 2001



Percent Of Normal Precipitation

DEC 2000 - FEB 2001



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION SUMMARY

Winter 2000-2001

STATES AND STATIONS	TEMP, EF		PRECIP.		STATES AND STATIONS	TEMP, EF		PRECIP.		STATES AND STATIONS	TEMP, EF		PRECIP.	
	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE	TOTAL	DEPARTURE		AVERAGE	DEPARTURE	TOTAL	DEPARTURE		AVERAGE	DEPARTURE	TOTAL	DEPARTURE
AL BIRMINGHAM	43	-1	11.36	-3.58	LEXINGTON	32	-2	10.01	-0.04	COLUMBUS	29	0	6.27	-1.01
HUNTSVILLE	39	-3	13.80	-2.11	LONDON-CORBIN	28	-2	12.16	0.92	DAYTON	28	-1	4.94	-2.29
MOBILE	50	-2	10.58	-4.95	LOUISVILLE	34	-2	8.90	-0.90	MANSFIELD	26	-1	5.96	-1.11
MONTGOMERY	46	-2	12.87	-2.49	PADUCAH	33	-3	9.32	-2.53	TOLEDO	25	0	6.41	0.00
AK ANCHORAGE	25	8	3.20	0.51	LA BATON ROUGE	50	-2	8.56	-7.40	YOUNGSTOWN	27	1	5.94	-1.15
BARROW	-6	8	0.95	0.47	LAKE CHARLES	51	-1	8.52	-4.64	OK OKLAHOMA CITY	36	-3	6.78	2.69
COLD BAY	33	4	22.96	14.18	NEW ORLEANS	53	0	7.34	-9.47	TULSA	35	-3	6.33	0.66
FAIRBANKS	5	12	1.22	-0.50	SHREVEPORT	45	-2	19.63	7.73	OR ASTORIA	44	1	14.09	-14.0
JUNEAU	32	5	15.80	3.07	ME BANGOR	18	-2	7.40	-2.43	BURNS	23	-3	1.19	-1.71
KING SALMON	29	14	3.42	0.19	CARIBOU	13	1	7.20	-0.36	EUGENE	40	-2	7.13	-15.0
KODIAK	34	4	30.02	10.55	PORTLAND	23	-1	8.40	-3.01	MEDFORD	40	1	2.80	-5.14
NOME	20	14	4.13	1.91	MD BALTIMORE	33	-1	7.13	-2.45	PENDLETON	33	-3	2.14	-2.14
AZ FLAGSTAFF	31	1	4.49	-2.04	MA BOSTON	30	-1	7.87	-3.35	PORTLAND	41	0	6.23	-9.10
PHOENIX	56	1	2.63	0.28	WORCESTER	25	0	8.33	-2.86	SALEM	41	0	6.68	-10.5
TUCSON	52	0	1.70	-0.94	MI ALPENA	20	0	2.82	-2.14	PA ALLENTOWN	28	-1	9.27	-0.33
AR FORT SMITH	37	-3	12.69	5.16	DETROIT	25	0	6.20	-0.12	ERIE	28	0	8.97	0.88
CA BAKERSFIELD	49	0	14.73	2.87	FLINT	23	-1	8.15	3.37	MIDDLETOWN	28	-3	7.91	-1.10
EUREKA	47	-2	9.37	-7.40	GRAND RAPIDS	24	0	5.48	-0.62	PHILADELPHIA	33	0	8.61	-0.77
FRESNO	47	0	4.95	-0.23	HOUGHTON LAKE	20	1	2.79	-1.82	PITTSBURGH	29	0	5.08	-2.77
LOS ANGELES	56	-1	14.46	7.89	LANSING	22	-1	4.50	-0.68	WILKES-BARRE	27	0	5.04	-1.72
REDDING	46	-1	15.69	-0.33	MUSKEGON	26	1	4.78	-2.08	WILLIAMSPORT	28	0	5.05	-3.28
SACRAMENTO	47	0	9.98	0.87	TRAVERSE CITY	23	1	3.45	-2.14	PR SAN JUAN	78	1	9.15	-0.16
SAN DIEGO	58	0	5.69	0.79	MN DULUTH	10	-1	3.94	0.68	RI PROVIDENCE	30	0	8.76	-3.11
SAN FRANCISCO	51	1	10.41	-0.20	INT'L FALLS	6	1	0.63	-1.72	SC CHARLESTON	47	-3	6.03	-3.87
STOCKTON	47	0	5.55	-1.37	MINNEAPOLIS	13	-3	3.75	0.84	COLUMBIA	44	-2	4.74	-7.39
CO ALAMOSA	20	2	1.03	0.04	ROCHESTER	12	-3	3.61	1.06	FLORENCE	45	-1	4.31	-5.60
CO SPRINGS	29	-1	1.34	0.19	ST. CLOUD	9	-3	2.79	0.59	GREENVILLE	42	0	7.27	-5.38
DENVER	29	-2	1.73	0.02	MS JACKSON	44	-3	13.12	-2.73	MYRTLE BEACH	45	***	5.31	***
GRAND JUNCTION	32	3	1.28	-0.37	MERIDIAN	44	-3	14.25	-2.40	SD ABERDEEN	8	-6	1.87	0.42
PUEBLO	29	-3	1.18	0.13	TUPELO	39	-4	19.20	3.43	HURON	11	-6	4.00	2.44
CT BRIDGEPORT	31	0	6.98	-2.77	MO COLUMBIA	27	-4	7.97	2.21	RAPID CITY	21	-3	0.80	-0.58
HARTFORD	26	-1	7.58	-2.97	JOPLIN	32	-3	9.38	3.23	SIoux FALLS	13	-4	2.50	0.65
DC WASHINGTON	36	-1	6.06	-2.49	KANSAS CITY	26	-3	6.14	2.37	TN BRISTOL	35	-1	8.83	-1.23
DE WILMINGTON	32	-1	8.69	-0.73	SPRINGFIELD	30	-4	8.82	1.70	CHATTANOOGA	40	0	12.21	-2.66
FL DAYTONA BEACH	58	-1	2.06	-6.39	ST JOSEPH	24	-4	5.58	2.28	JACKSON	36	-4	12.21	-1.50
FT LAUDERDALE	68	0	7.38	0.23	ST LOUIS	29	-3	4.95	-2.01	KNOXVILLE	38	-1	13.65	0.88
FT MYERS	64	-1	0.53	-5.07	MT BILLINGS	24	-2	1.24	-1.09	MEMPHIS	39	-4	12.67	-1.15
JACKSONVILLE	53	-1	2.96	-7.00	BUTTE	15	-4	1.09	-0.27	NASHVILLE	37	-2	15.18	3.18
KEY WEST	69	-2	2.38	-3.45	GLASGOW	12	-2	0.69	-0.33	TX ABILENE	43	-2	4.69	1.47
MELBOURNE	61	-1	1.80	-5.28	GREAT FALLS	23	-1	1.23	-1.10	AMARILLO	36	-1	4.07	2.53
MIAMI	68	0	6.80	0.88	HELENA	18	-4	0.66	-0.97	AUSTIN	48	-3	6.72	0.96
ORLANDO	61	0	2.46	-5.01	KALISPELL	21	-2	2.24	-2.12	BEAUMONT	52	-1	9.47	-3.49
PENSACOLA	51	-2	8.52	-5.85	MILES CITY	16	-3	0.61	-1.03	BROWNSVILLE	61	0	3.01	-0.86
ST PETERSBURG	61	-1	4.43	-3.34	MISSOULA	22	-3	2.38	-0.81	COLLEGE STATION	50	-1	7.64	-0.46
TALLAHASSEE	52	0	5.72	-9.64	NE GRAND ISLAND	22	-3	2.84	0.95	CORPUS CHRISTI	57	0	4.14	-0.79
TAMPA	61	0	3.60	-3.62	HASTINGS	22	-3	3.03	0.97	DALLAS/FT WORTH	44	-2	12.18	6.33
WEST PALM BEACH	66	0	3.90	-4.08	LINCOLN	21	-3	3.33	1.19	DEL RIO	52	0	2.15	0.03
GA ATHENS	43	-1	9.22	-3.89	MCCOOK	28	0	1.67	0.22	EL PASO	45	0	0.72	-0.66
ATLANTA	43	0	9.00	-4.89	NORFOLK	20	-2	1.67	-0.36	GALVESTON	54	-1	9.21	0.19
AUGUSTA	45	-1	6.02	-5.70	NORTH PLATTE	24	0	0.92	-0.34	HOUSTON	52	-1	7.74	-1.96
COLUMBUS	47	-1	7.37	-7.04	OMAHA/EPPLEY	21	-3	4.09	1.56	LUBBOCK	38	-3	2.89	1.29
MACON	45	-3	6.84	-6.77	SCOTTSBLUFF	27	0	0.77	-0.76	MIDLAND	45	0	2.70	1.12
SAVANNAH	48	-3	5.12	-4.65	VALENTINE	24	2	0.89	-0.20	SAN ANGELO	45	-1	4.06	1.40
HI HILO	71	-1	19.28	-12.9	NV ELKO	25	-2	1.73	-1.15	SAN ANTONIO	51	-1	5.12	0.09
HONOLULU	75	2	0.92	-8.64	ELY	28	2	0.68	-1.37	VICTORIA	54	-1	4.98	-1.22
KAHULUI	72	0	1.22	-9.06	LAS VEGAS	49	2	3.12	1.78	WACO	46	-2	8.08	2.48
LIHUE	74	2	6.00	-8.37	RENO	35	1	0.89	-2.16	WICHITA FALLS	40	-2	6.14	2.35
ID BOISE	31	-1	2.29	-1.59	WINNEMUCCA	30	-2	1.58	-0.66	UT SALT LAKE CITY	31	1	3.46	-0.28
LEWISTON	35	-1	2.14	-1.23	NH CONCORD	22	0	7.61	-0.59	VT BURLINGTON	20	1	5.91	0.04
POCATELLO	22	-4	2.22	-0.85	NJ ATLANTIC CITY	32	-1	8.57	-1.27	VA LYNCHBURG	35	-2	5.63	-3.50
IL CHICAGO/O'HARE	22	-2	5.80	0.44	NEWARK	33	0	7.60	-2.28	NORFOLK	40	-1	4.59	-5.89
MOLINE	20	-3	7.68	2.68	NM ALBUQUERQUE	38	2	0.79	-0.61	RICHMOND	37	-1	6.99	-2.67
PEORIA	23	-2	7.07	1.70	NY ALBANY	24	0	7.23	-0.33	ROANOKE	37	0	4.37	-4.26
ROCKFORD	19	-3	7.26	2.79	BINGHAMTON	23	0	4.74	-2.99	WASH/DULLES	32	-1	6.27	-2.46
SPRINGFIELD	25	-3	5.98	-0.03	BUFFALO	26	0	8.24	-0.44	WA OLYMPIA	38	-1	9.97	-11.9
IN EVANSVILLE	31	-2	8.66	-0.79	ROCHESTER	26	0	6.66	-0.25	QUILLAYUTE	40	-1	21.62	-20.0
FORT WAYNE	24	-2	6.01	-0.66	SYRACUSE	25	0	5.65	-2.04	SEATTLE-TACOMA	41	0	7.28	-8.08
INDIANAPOLIS	27	-2	5.46	-2.66	NC ASHEVILLE	38	0	7.73	-2.95	SPOKANE	26	-3	2.22	-3.67
SOUTH BEND	23	-3	6.56	-0.87	CHARLOTTE	41	0	5.13	-5.90	YAKIMA	32	0	1.60	-1.76
IA BURLINGTON	21	-4	7.30	2.92	GREENSBORO	38	-1	6.19	-3.66	WV BECKLEY	31	-1	5.67	-3.42
CEDAR RAPIDS	17	-4	6.63	3.01	HATTERAS	45	-1	7.20	-6.76	CHARLESTON	34	-1	6.43	-2.91
DES MOINES	19	-4	5.72	2.33	RALEIGH	41	0	5.16	-5.25	ELKINS	29	-1	7.13	-2.43
DUBUQUE	16	-4	6.23	2.09	WILMINGTON	46	-1	4.60	-6.60	HUNTINGTON	33	-2	7.06	-2.03
SIoux CITY	17	-4	3.02	0.98	ND BISMARCK	11	-2	1.14	-0.25	WI EAU CLAIRE	12	-3	2.61	-0.19
WATERLOO	15	-3	3.80	0.62	DICKINSON	14	-3	0.76	-0.36	GREEN BAY	17	-1	3.61	-0.10
KS CONCORDIA	25	-4	3.11	0.94	FARGO	6	-4	1.63	-0.14	LA CROSSE	15	-3	4.08	0.98
DODGE CITY	30	-2	3.58	1.82	GRAND FORKS	6	-2	1.07	-0.78	MADISON	18	-1	5.02	1.03
GOODLAND	28	-2	1.56	0.35	JAMESTOWN	7	-4	0.12	-1.45	MILWAUKEE	22	0	7.00	1.62
HILL CITY	28	-2	1.89	0.35	MINOT	12	0	0.39	-1.67	WAUSAU	15	-1	3.25	0.01
TOPEKA	27	-3	4.47	1.05	WILLISTON	10	-3	0.92	-0.61	WY CASPER	22	-2	1.06	-0.75
WICHITA	30	-2	5.70	2.75	OH AKRON-CANTON	26	-2	6.10	-1.24	CHEYENNE	27	-1	1.49	0.28
KY JACKSON	34	-2	10.57	-1.39	CINCINNATI	30	-1	6.32	-2.11	LANDER	18	-4	0.91	-0.72
					CLEVELAND	28	0	5.97	-1.35	SHERIDAN	20	-3	2.32	0.25

Based on 1961-90 normals.

*** Not Available.

National Agricultural Summary

March 5 - 11, 2001

Weekly National Agricultural Summary provided by USDA/NASS

HIGHLIGHTS

Significant precipitation temporarily eased drought conditions in parts of Florida, but moisture reserves remained very low across most of the State. Excessive wetness continued through a large portion of northern and eastern Texas, while dry weather prevailed in southern regions of the State. A stormy weather pattern continued in California, reducing irrigation needs and increasing the snowpack accumulation. Most areas of the Pacific Northwest received precipitation, but

amounts were too light to break the abnormally dry weather pattern. Favorably dry weather prevailed in the Corn Belt, while the Atlantic Coastal Plains and northern Great Plains remained unfavorably dry. Warmer-than-normal weather stimulated growth of winter grains and forages in the southern High Plains, but cooler-than-normal weather limited development in other parts of the southern Great Plains. Cool weather also limited growth in the lower Mississippi Valley and Southeast.

In Texas, winter wheat, oats, and forages benefited from mild temperatures and ample moisture supplies, especially on the High Plains. Excessive wetness curtailed field preparations in northern and eastern areas of the State, while mostly dry conditions aided fieldwork in southern regions. Corn, cotton, and sorghum planting continued in the Coastal Bend, lower Valley, and portions of South Texas. Although temperatures averaged below normal, daily highs were warm enough to germinate seeds and promote emergence of recently planted fields. Peach and pecan buds were swelling and blooms were opening on early varieties in southern Texas.

receiving much-needed rainfall. Growth of winter forages and grains remained very slow due to moisture shortages and cool weather that included near-freezing temperatures in the northern half of the State. Citrus caretakers irrigated groves until late-week rains arrived. Some citrus trees were dropping petals and developing pin-size fruit.

In California, fieldwork and orchard activities were hampered by rain. Seasonal temperatures aided development of sugar beets, small grains, and forage crops. Fruit and nut trees were blooming.

In Florida, moisture supplies were adequate in the Panhandle, but remained very short across the Peninsula, despite

Corrected - Last Week's National Agricultural Summary

February 26 - March 4, 2001

Weekly National Agricultural Summary provided by USDA/NASS

HIGHLIGHTS

A powerful storm produced heavy rainfall and halted fieldwork in eastern Texas, most of the lower Mississippi Valley, and a large portion of the Southeast. Northern Florida received beneficial precipitation, but most of the State remained drought stricken. Another storm system entered California that delivered heavy rainfall in the valleys and large accumulations of snow in the Sierra Nevada. Precipitation was light and scattered in the Pacific

Northwest, northern Great Plains, upper Mississippi Valley, and Corn Belt. Below-normal temperatures hindered vegetative growth in the southern Great Plains and Southwest. Exposed winter wheat fields were susceptible to cold weather in the central and northern Great Plains. Above-normal temperatures stimulated growth of winter grains and forages in the Southeast.

In Texas, field preparations and early planting were halted in most central and eastern locations due to wet weather. Some low-lying areas were flooded in portions of East Texas, while drier conditions prevailed in the Lower Valley and Coastal Bend areas. Corn, cotton, and sorghum planting progressed slowly in southern regions of the State. Winter wheat growth was hampered by cold over-night temperatures in the northern regions.

of irrigation water that could be applied. Fruit, vegetable, and sugarcane harvests continued without delays.

In Florida's citrus groves, new growth and bloom buds progressed well due to the recent warm weather. Caretakers continued irrigating groves where adequate usable water was available. However, in some groves, salt water intrusion limited the amount

In California, field preparations continued, but progress was hampered by rain and muddy fields. A few cotton fields were fumigated and others were treated with herbicides. Corn fields were prepared and planting will resume when warmer weather returns. Sugar beets and alfalfa fields produced good growth. Most wheat, oat, and barley fields responded well to soil moisture provided by recent rains, but cold morning temperatures hindered growth in some fields.

International Weather and Crop Summary

March 4 - 10, 2001

International Weather and Crop Highlights and Summaries provided by USDA/WAOB

HIGHLIGHTS

FSU-WESTERN: Unusually mild weather caused winter grains to lose cold hardiness in Ukraine and southern Russia, and melted some of the deep snow cover in northern Russia.

MIDDLE EAST: Light to moderate rain benefited vegetative winter wheat throughout the region.

EUROPE: Unseasonably mild weather returned to the continent, causing crops to green in the west and lose winter hardiness in the east.

EASTERN ASIA: Across the North China Plain, seasonably warmer weather caused winter wheat to break dormancy.

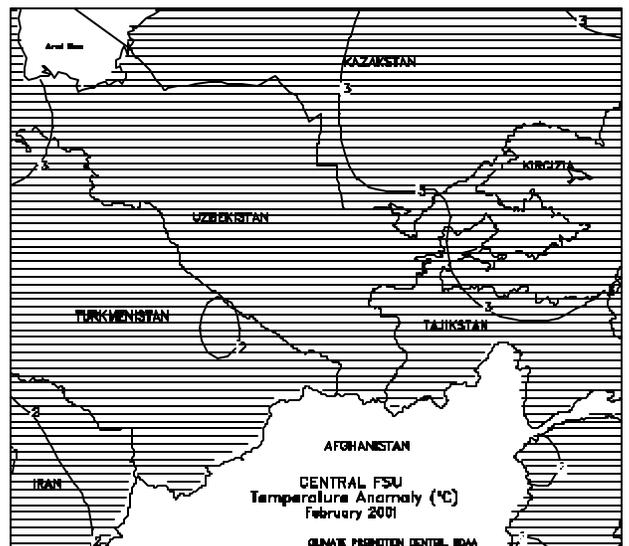
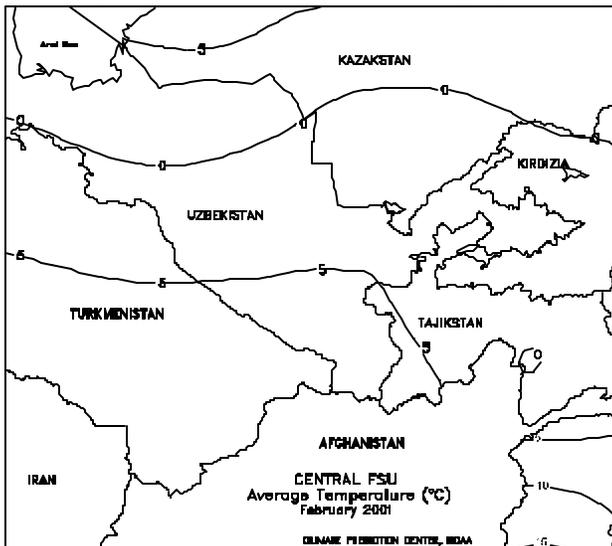
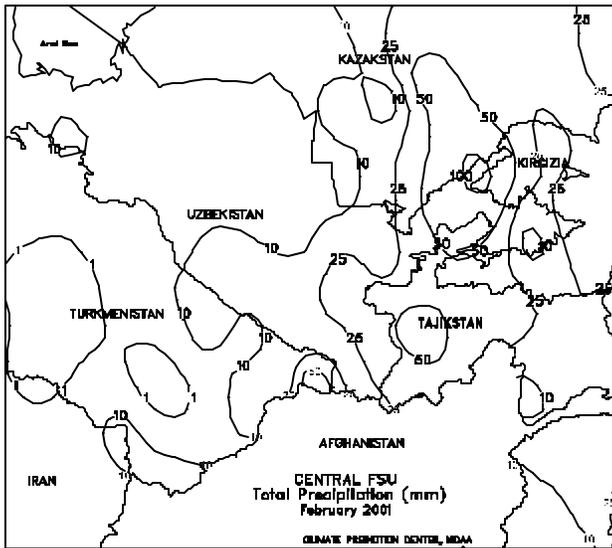
AUSTRALIA: A coastal storm brought heavy rain and flooding to sugarcane areas of New South Wales.

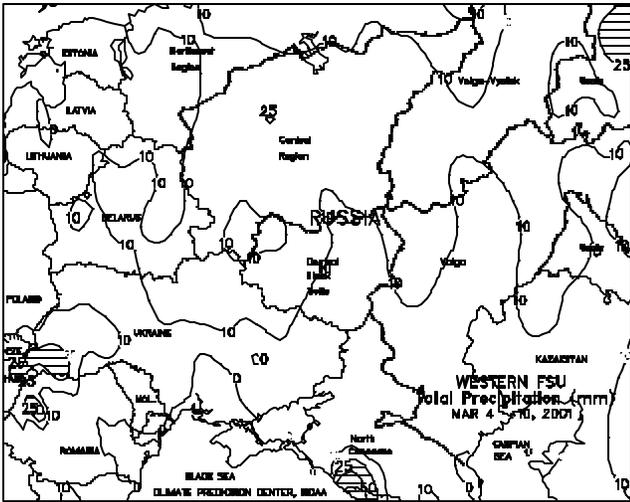
SOUTHEAST ASIA: Unseasonably heavy showers covered Indochina, peninsular Malaysia, and the Philippines, disrupting seasonal fieldwork but increasing moisture supplies.

SOUTH AFRICA: Dry weather aided development of filling summer crops.

SOUTH AMERICA: In central Argentina, showers continued to increase soil moisture for summer crops, while in southern Brazil, showers slowed soybean harvesting but benefited coffee, cocoa, and sugarcane.

NORTHWESTERN AFRICA: Chronic dryness in southern Morocco continued to worsen conditions for winter grains in or nearing the heading stage.



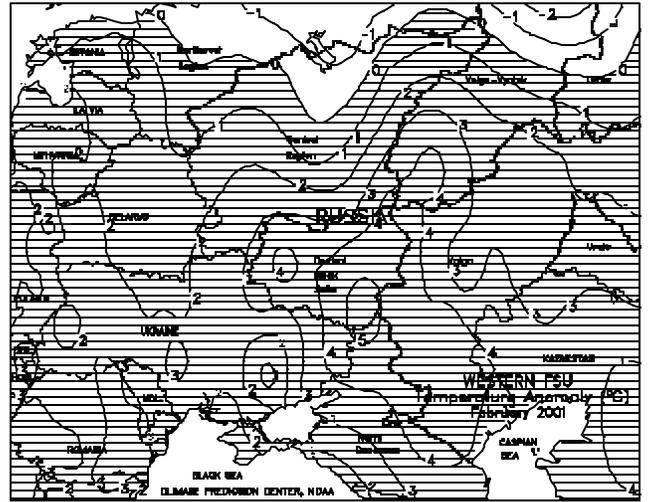
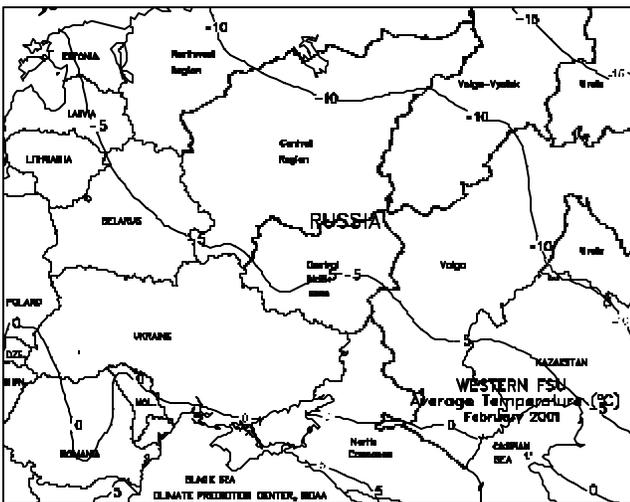
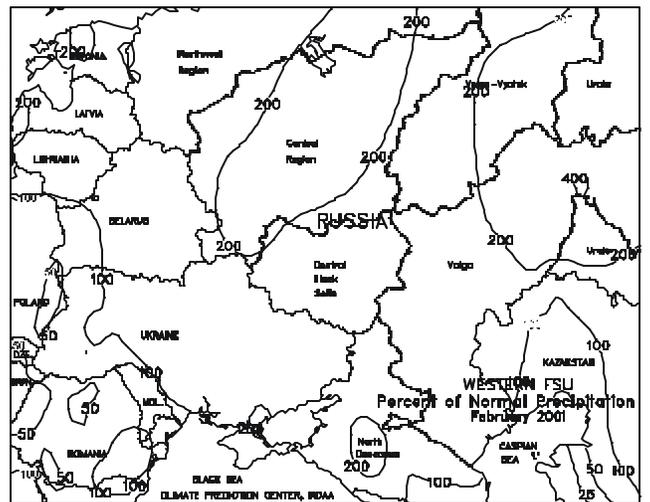
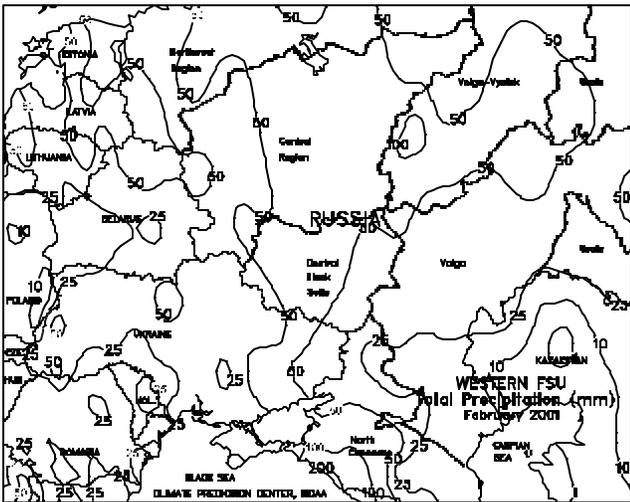


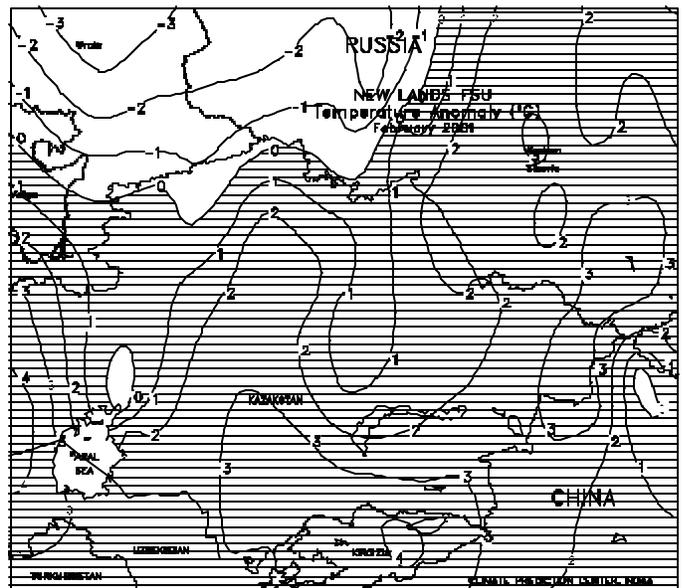
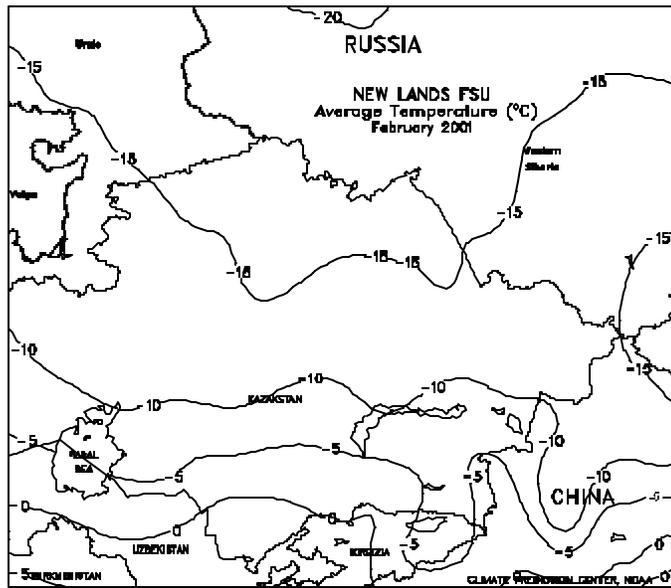
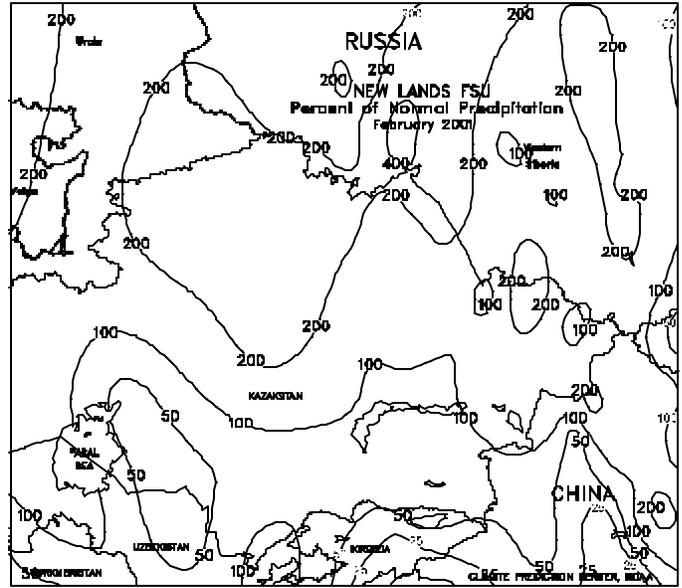
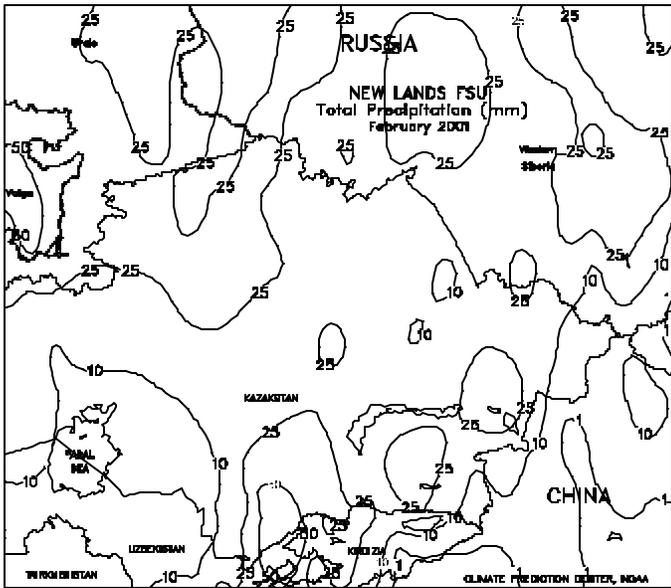
FSU-WESTERN

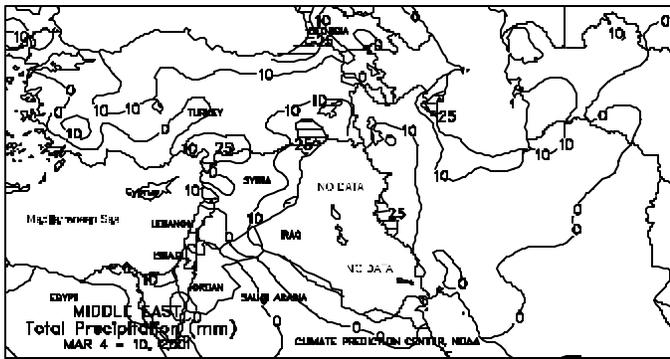
Unseasonably warm weather (weekly temperatures averaging 4 to 8 degrees C above normal) prevailed across Ukraine and southern Russia (North Caucasus, lower Volga Valley, and the central Black Soils region), diminishing most of the remaining snow cover and causing winter wheat to lose cold hardiness. Temperatures remained low enough to keep winter grains dormant in most areas. However, some crops may have greened in areas along the Black Sea Coast, where weekly temperatures have averaged 5 to 10 degrees C for the past 2 weeks. Mostly dry weather stretched from southern Ukraine eastward across the North Caucasus region in Russia, likely prompting some early spring fieldwork, including early spring planting and fertilizer applications. Although locally heavy rain (25 mm or more) in extreme southwestern Ukraine reportedly caused some flooding, it occurred outside of the primary crop-growing areas. In northern Russia, unseasonably mild weather early in the week (maximum temperatures ranging from 1 to 4 degrees C) was followed by much

colder weather by week's end. Lowest temperatures were observed on March 9, when minimum temperatures dropped to as low as -20 degrees C across the Central Region. A deep snow cover provided adequate protection from extreme cold. In February, overwintering conditions continued mostly favorable for winter grains in Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, and the Baltics. Above-normal precipitation was observed in most areas, boosting potential moisture reserves. Especially beneficial precipitation in Ukraine and southern Russia helped to ease long-term dryness that had persisted since last fall. More than twice the normal amount of precipitation fell in parts of northern Russia, providing an unusually deep snow cover. Temperatures in February averaged 2 to 4 degrees C above normal in Ukraine, 3 to 5 degrees C above normal in southern Russia, and slightly above normal in northern Russia, Belarus, and the Baltics. Despite the mild weather, a couple of brief episodes of bitter cold overspread winter grain areas on February 3-6 and February 25-27. In both cases, the short duration of extreme cold along with an adequate snow cover minimized the threat for

significant damage to winter grains.

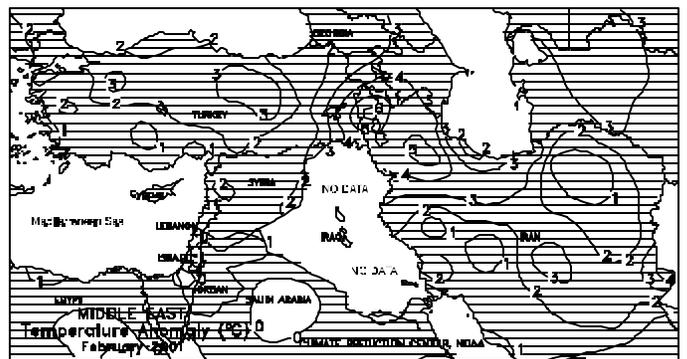
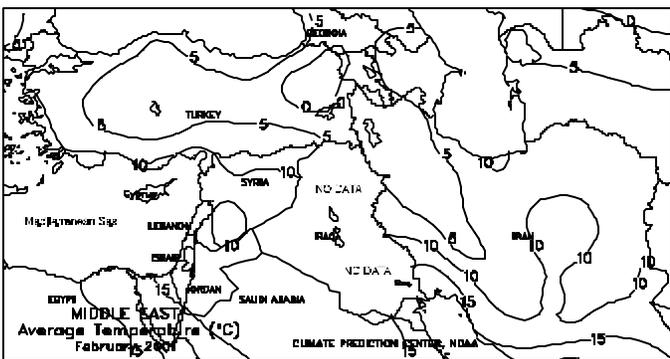
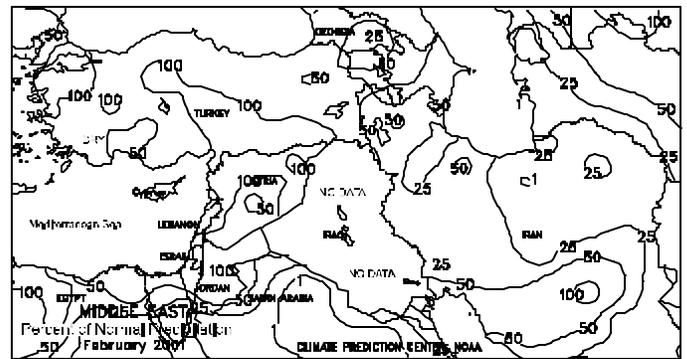
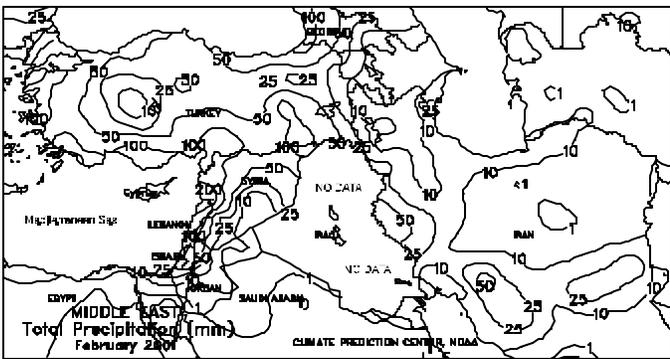






MIDDLE EAST

Light showers (25 mm or less) swept across Turkey, increasing topsoil moisture for vegetative winter wheat. However, temperatures averaging 4 to 7 degrees C above normal increased evaporation rates and crop moisture demands. Farther south, mostly dry, warm weather covered Israel and western Syria. Beneficial rain (5-25 mm) extended from eastern Syria to western Iran, increasing moisture reserves for winter wheat development. Temperatures averaged 3 to 8 degrees C above normal throughout this area, but sub-freezing temperatures were still recorded in sections of western Iran. During February, warmer-than-normal weather dominated the region, eliminating snow cover in winter wheat areas of central Turkey and western Iran and inducing crops to break dormancy earlier than usual. Rainfall was near to above normal from southeastern Turkey to Israel, increasing long-term irrigation potential in local reservoirs and along the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers. Below-normal precipitation elsewhere raised concern for spring development of winter wheat, especially in Turkey's Anatolian Plateau, which has been drier than normal for much of the season, and Iran, which had until recently been exhibiting a favorable growing season following 2 years of drought.

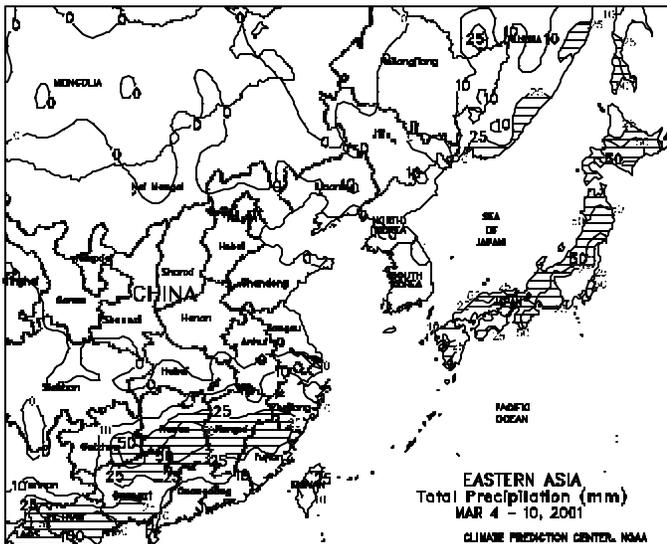
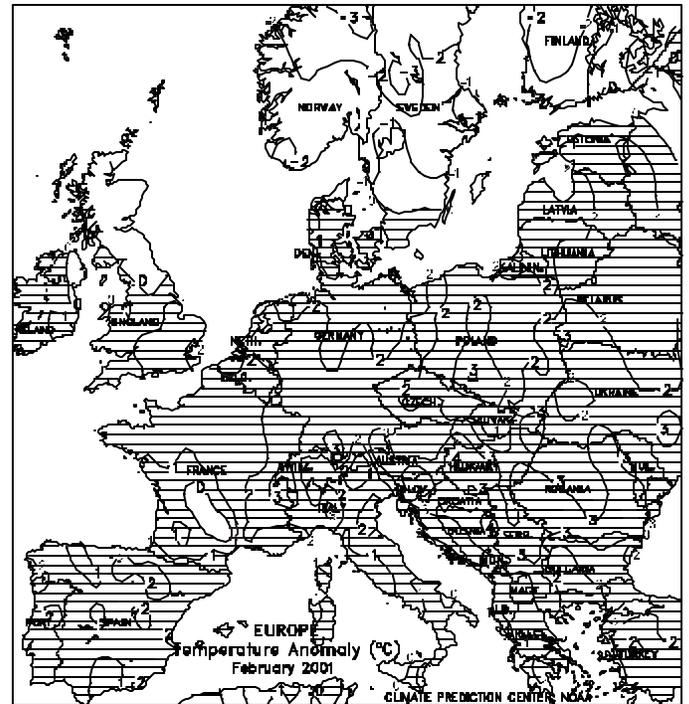




EUROPE

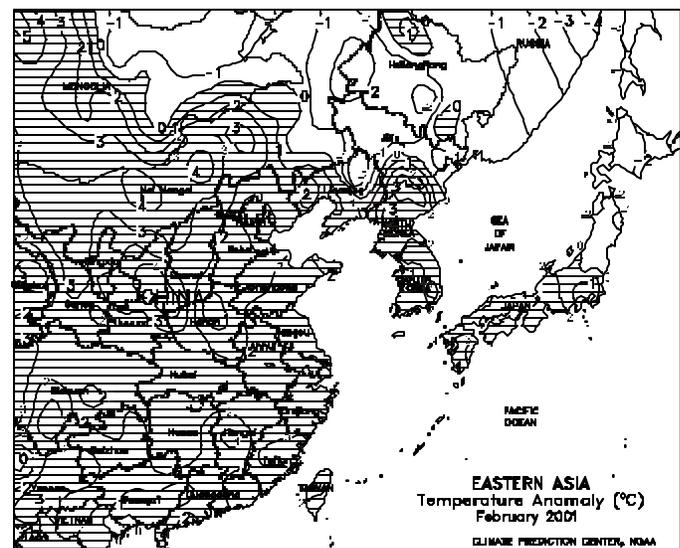
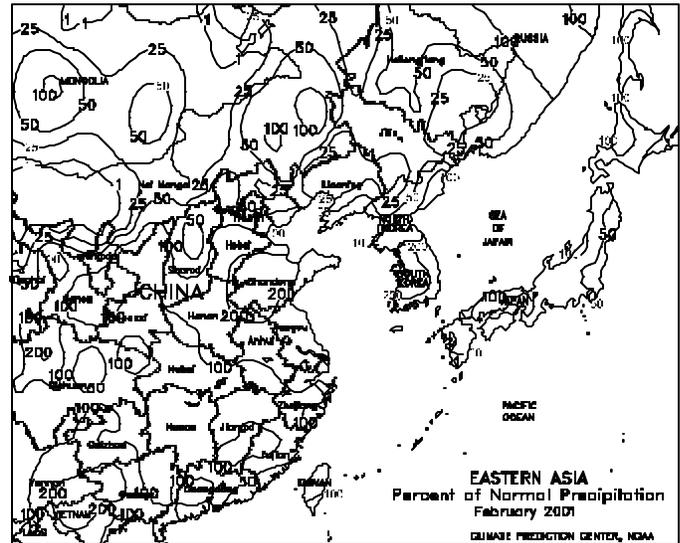
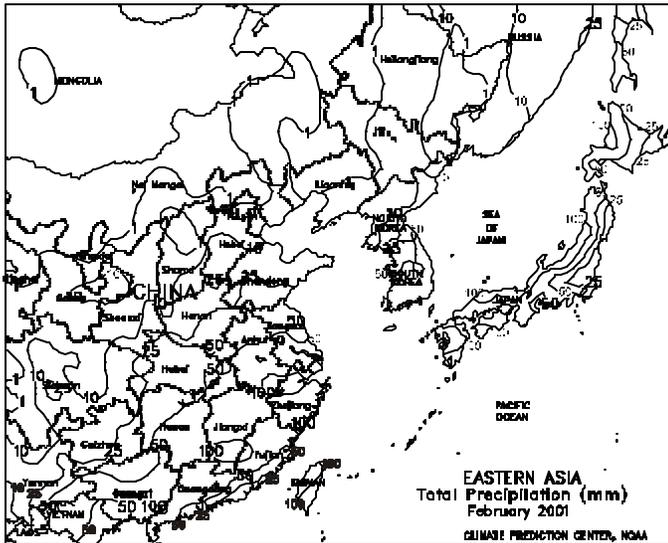
After a week of relatively cool weather, unseasonably mild weather returned to Europe. In northern Europe, temperatures averaged 1 to 4 degrees C above normal, causing crops to green in the west and eliminating the remaining snow cover in the east. In southern Europe, temperatures averaged 3 to 7 degrees C above normal, spurring winter grain development in the Iberian peninsula and causing winter grains to lose winter hardiness elsewhere. Wet weather persisted in western Europe. In Spain and Portugal, moderate to locally heavy rain (15-100 mm or more) continued to improve reservoir levels, but delayed corn and sunflower planting, which typically begins during March. Similarly, rain (10-50 mm) kept topsoils wet in northwestern Europe, hampering preparations for spring planting. In northeastern Europe, showers (5-15 mm, with a few higher amounts) maintained adequate moisture supplies for dormant winter grains and oilseeds. In contrast, dry weather maintained soil moisture deficits in southeastern Europe. In February, unseasonably mild weather maintained favorable overwintering conditions for dormant winter grains. Although cold weather occasionally spread over northeastern Europe, snow cover protected winter grains from potential winterkill. In the western Iberian peninsula, frequent rainfall increased reservoir levels, but hampered fieldwork and caused flooding. Above-normal precipitation kept topsoils too wet in southern England and the Benelux countries, while moisture supplies remained adequate elsewhere in northern Europe. Precipitation in southeastern Europe locally improved moisture supplies, but widespread rain was still needed to end long-term drought.

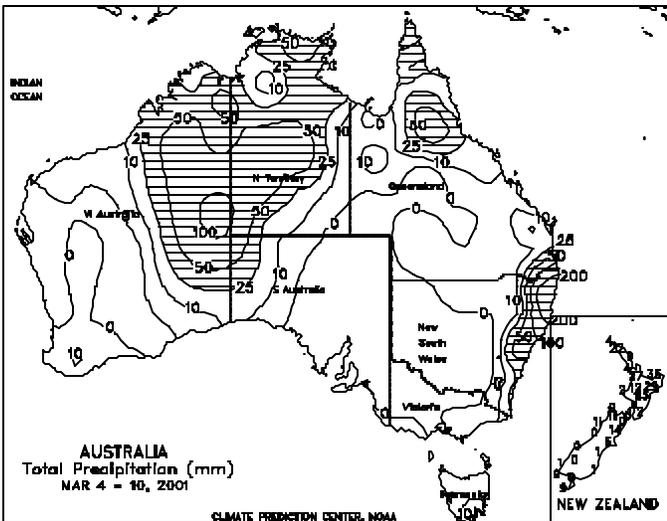




EASTERN ASIA

Across the North China Plain, seasonably warmer weather caused winter wheat to break dormancy. Dry weather prevailed across northern and central China, but irrigation supplies are adequate due to above-normal winter rainfall. Across Manchuria, temperatures averaged 2 to 5 degrees C below normal. Typically in Manchuria, spring wheat planting starts during late March and early April. In southern China, widespread rain (10-60 mm) extended from Guizhou to Fujian, increasing moisture supplies for sugarcane and rice cultivation and seed bed preparations. In the Sichuan Basin, rainfall has averaged about 50 to 60 percent of normal during the past 4 weeks, but typically during early March, rainfall only averages about 5 to 8 mm per week. During February, above-normal precipitation continued to boost moisture supplies for winter crops across the North China Plain. In this region, warmer weather caused winter wheat to begin losing winter hardiness by late February. Across the Yangtze Valley and southern China, scattered rainfall provided some moisture for winter crops and sugarcane, but more rain will be needed as the growing season progresses.

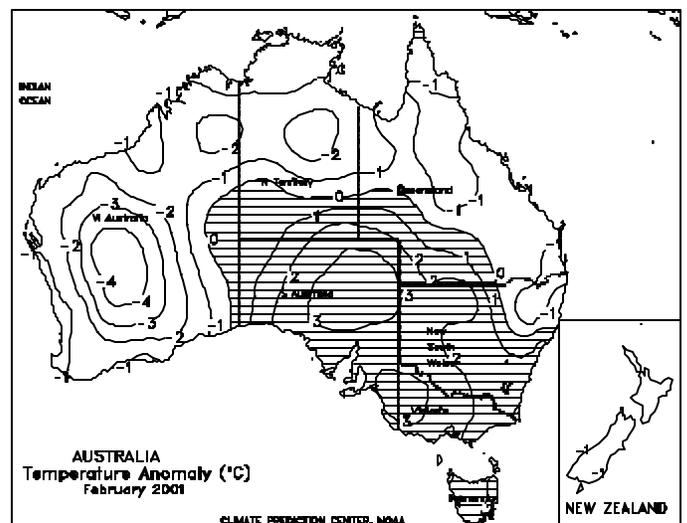
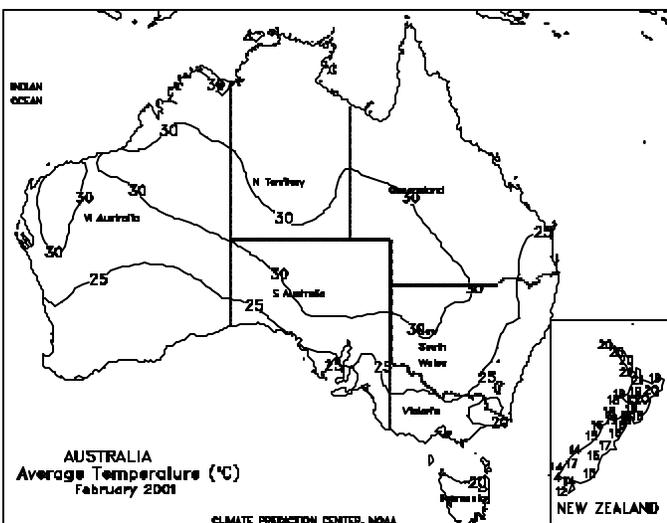
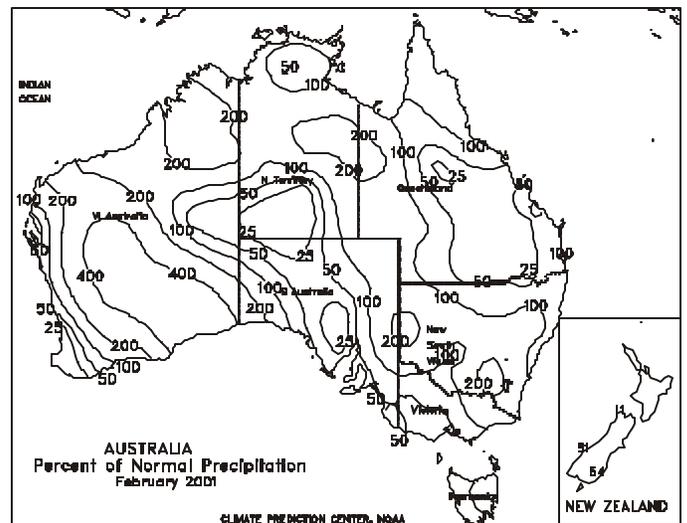
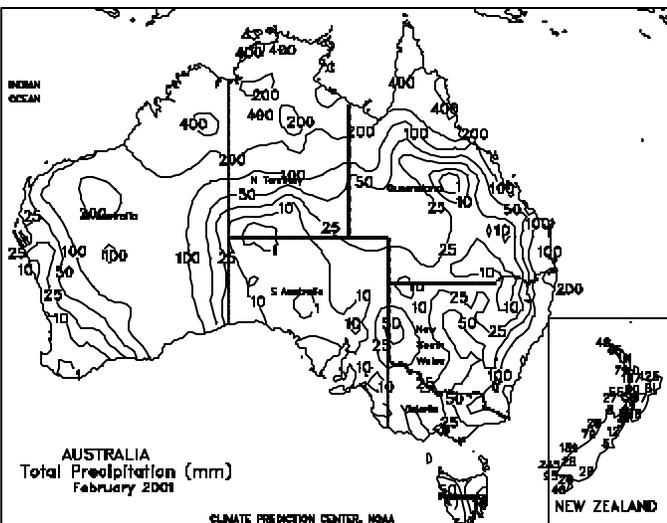


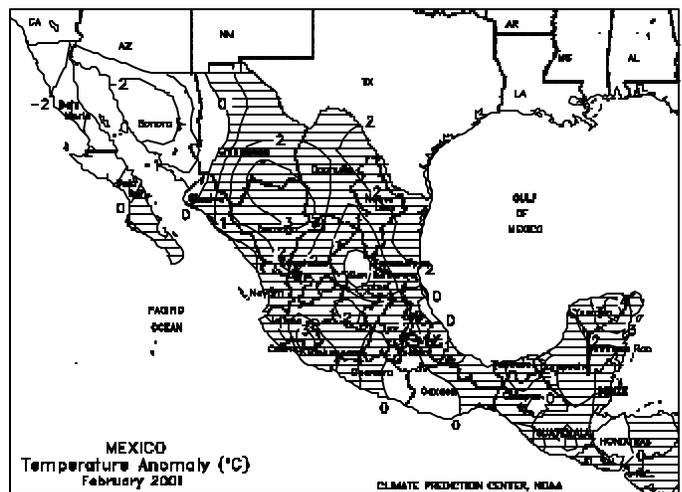
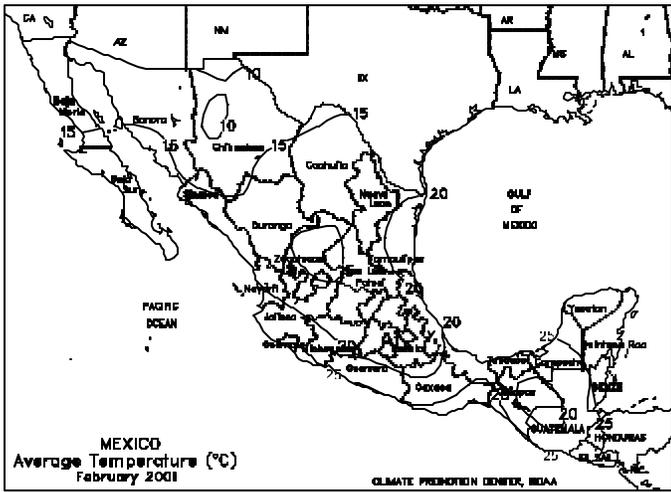
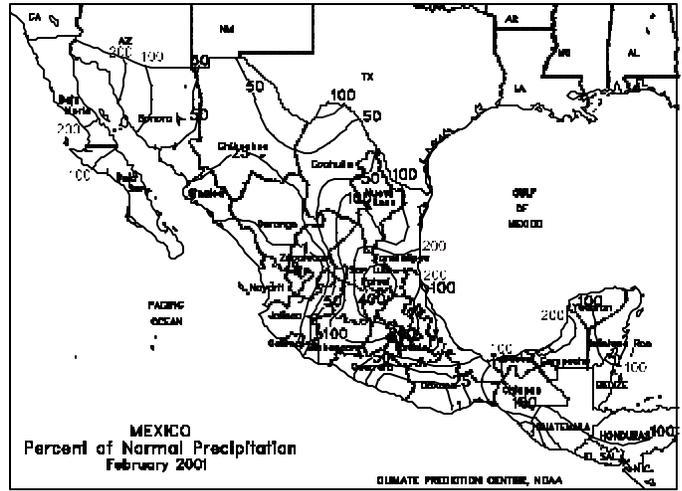
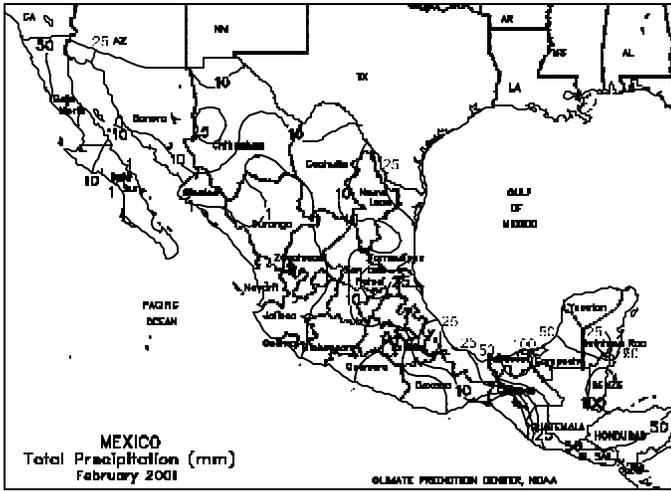


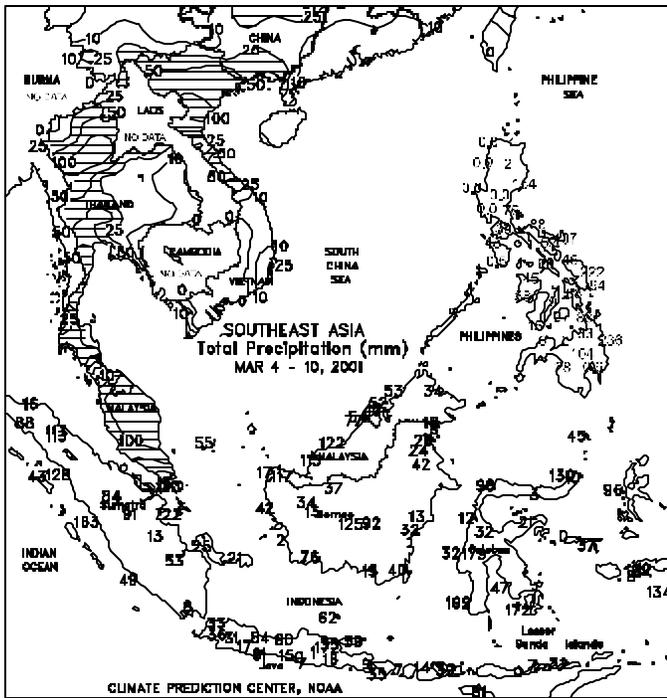
AUSTRALIA

A coastal storm system generated very heavy rain (100-200 mm or more) along the northern coast of New South Wales, causing flooding and possible damage to sugarcane. The heaviest rain stayed east of the Great Dividing Range, but moderate showers (10-25 mm) eventually developed over interior summer crop areas, keeping maturing cotton somewhat damp. In Queensland, scattered, mostly light showers (10 mm or less) likely caused minor disruptions in early summer crop harvesting. Showers were also light in Queensland's primary sugarcane areas. Elsewhere, warm, dry weather continued in Western Australia and the southeast, favoring summer crop maturation but increasing moisture demands of livestock and pastures. In New Zealand, moderate rain (25 mm or more) covered the northeastern corner of North Island, but light rain fell throughout the remaining agricultural districts. During February, below-normal rainfall and seasonable warmth hastened crop drydown in the cotton and sorghum region of southern Queensland and northern New South Wales. Rainfall was also below normal along the eastern coast, reducing

moisture for sugarcane development. Warmer- and drier-than-normal weather dominated South Australia and Victoria, but early-month showers improved grazing conditions in western and southern sections of New South Wales. In Western Australia, unusually heavy tropical rain (25-100 mm or more) increased long-term moisture reserves in northern and eastern agricultural districts, but the southwest corner remained dry.

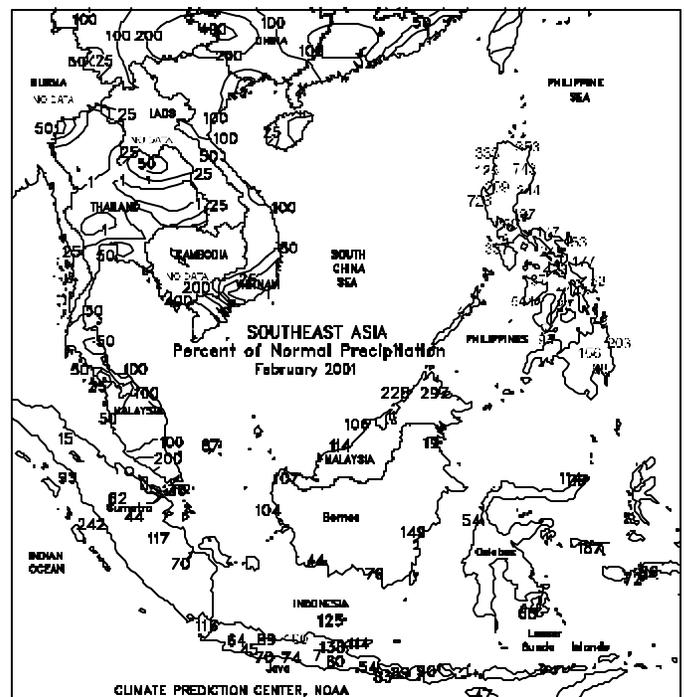
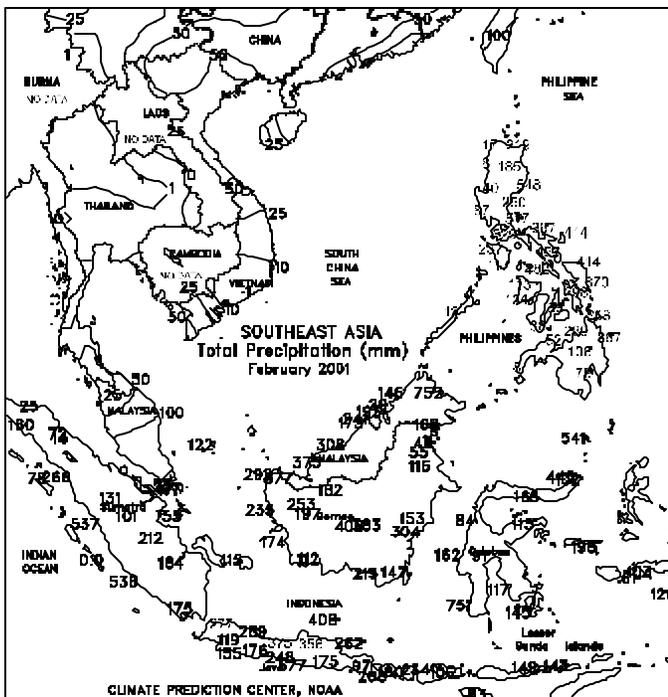


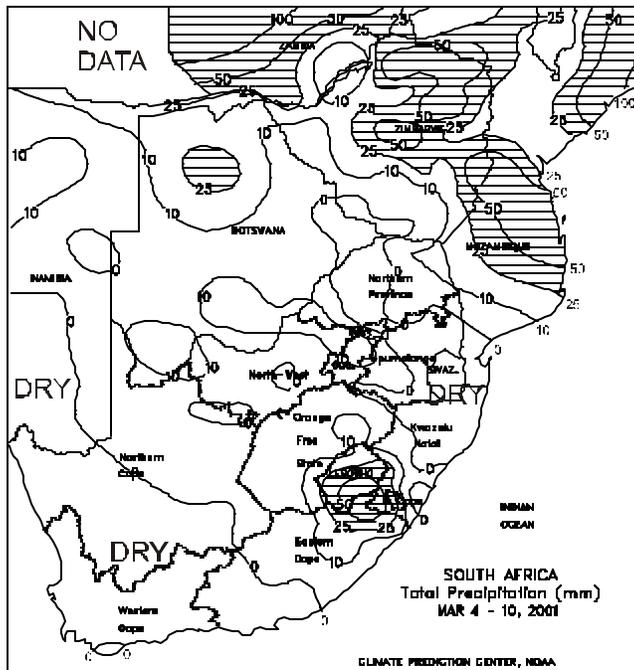
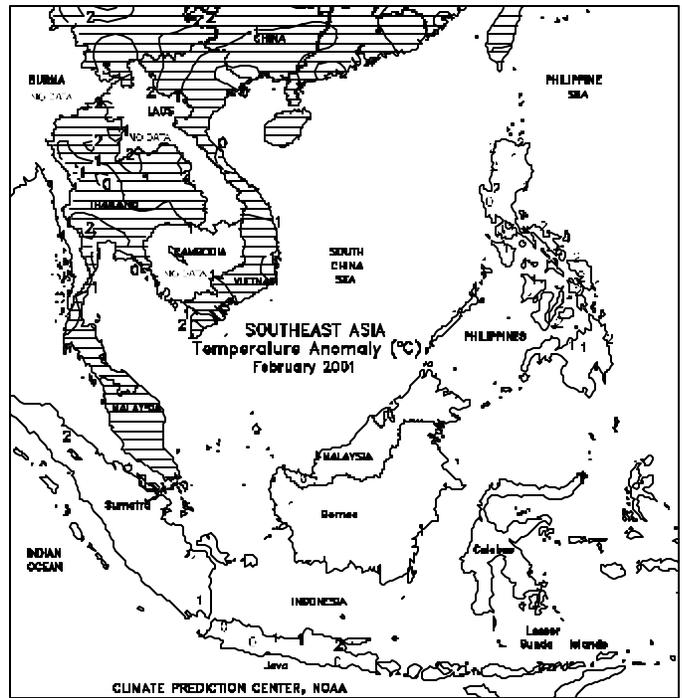
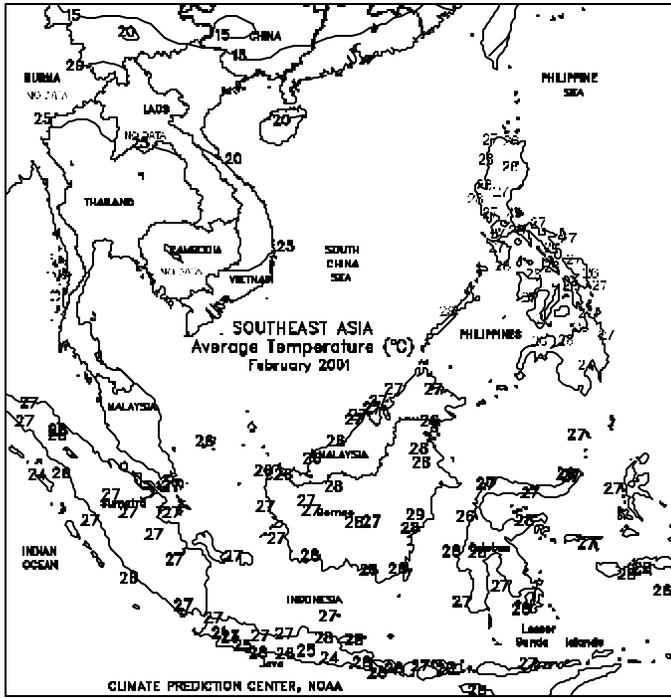




SOUTHEAST ASIA

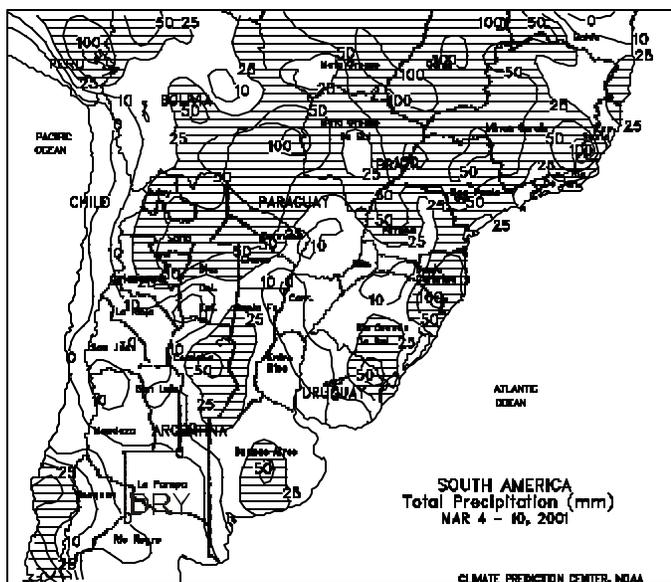
Unseasonably heavy showers (50-150 mm or more) fell in northern Vietnam and western Thailand southward into peninsular Malaysia, disrupting seasonal fieldwork, but boosting moisture supplies. In Java, Indonesia, showers (20-100 mm) continued to increase moisture supplies for main-season rice. The showers were not as intense as they were last week, easing flooding concerns. Across most of the Philippines, abundant showers (50-200 mm) continued to provide moisture, but disrupted fieldwork. Central and northern Luzon were dry, with coastal eastern Luzon receiving light to moderate showers (15-75 mm). In February, seasonably warm, dry weather continued in Thailand, while cooler, wetter conditions prevailed in Vietnam. Flooding remained problematic throughout the eastern Philippines, with above-normal rainfall. Java, Indonesia received near- to below-normal precipitation, reducing available moisture for rice. Near- to above-normal rainfall benefited oil palm in peninsular Malaysia.





SOUTH AFRICA

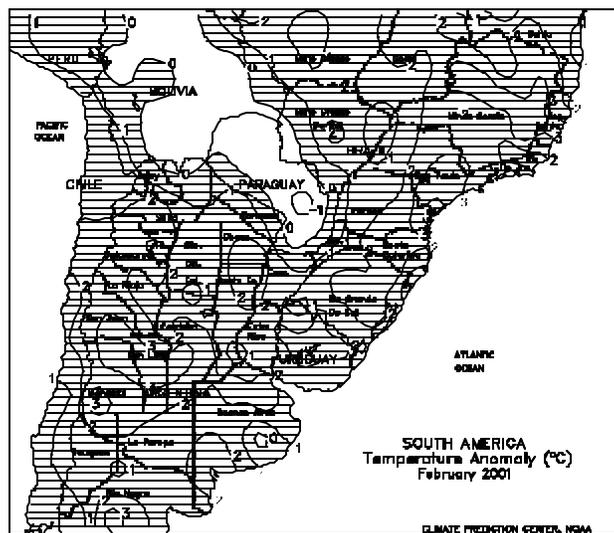
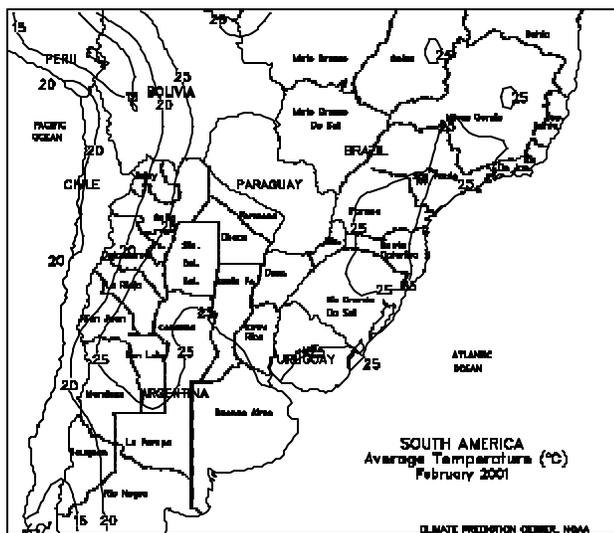
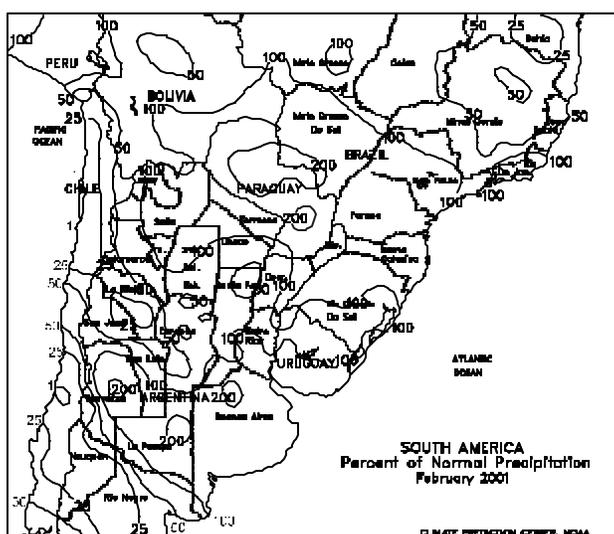
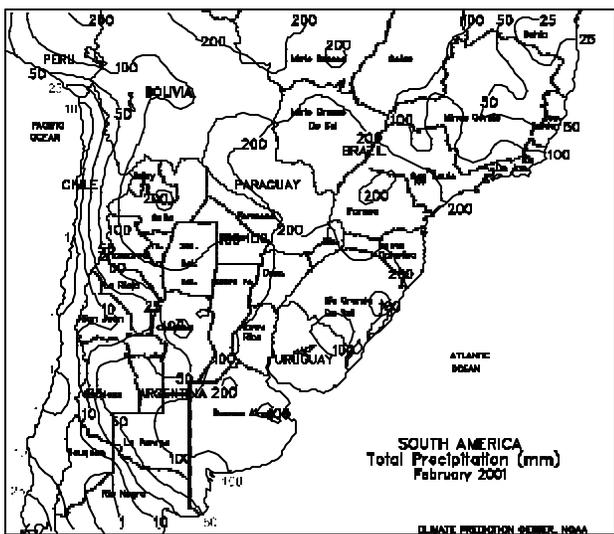
Warmer, drier weather covered the corn belt, following 2 weeks of highly beneficial rainfall. The resultant sunny skies favored development of filling corn and other summer crops. Dry weather also covered the coastal sugarcane belt of KwaZulu-Natal and the fruit and vegetable areas of Western and Eastern Cape Provinces, increasing irrigation demands. However, moderate showers (25-50 mm or more) in the southern Drakensburg range south and east of Lesotho improved local irrigation reserves. In February, unfavorable warmth and dryness lingered into the early part of the month across the corn belt, stressing reproductive summer crops. Beneficial rain reached the region by mid-month, stabilizing crop conditions. Monthly rainfall was near to below normal in sugarcane areas of KwaZulu-Natal and below normal in Western and Eastern Cape Province, with above-normal temperatures maintaining high irrigation demands in vineyards and orchards of the southwest.



SOUTH AMERICA

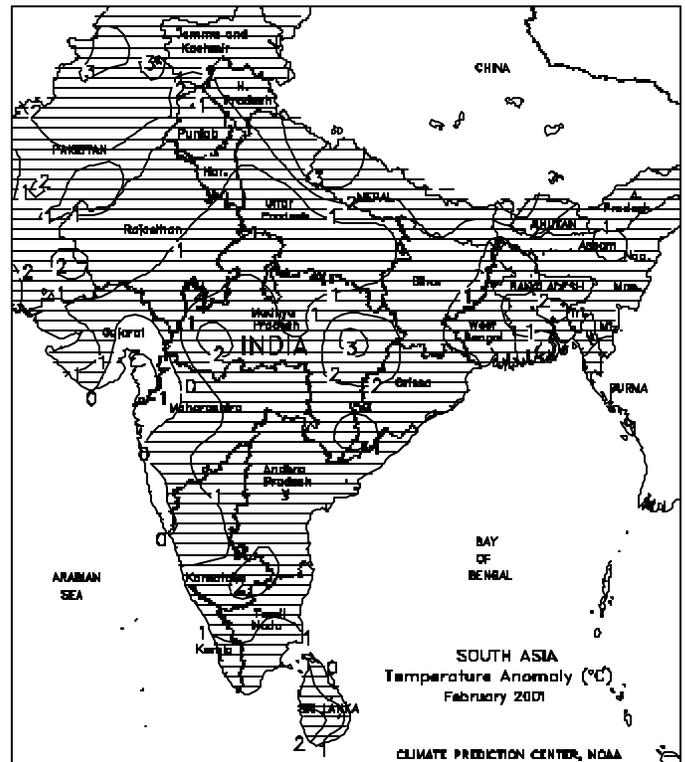
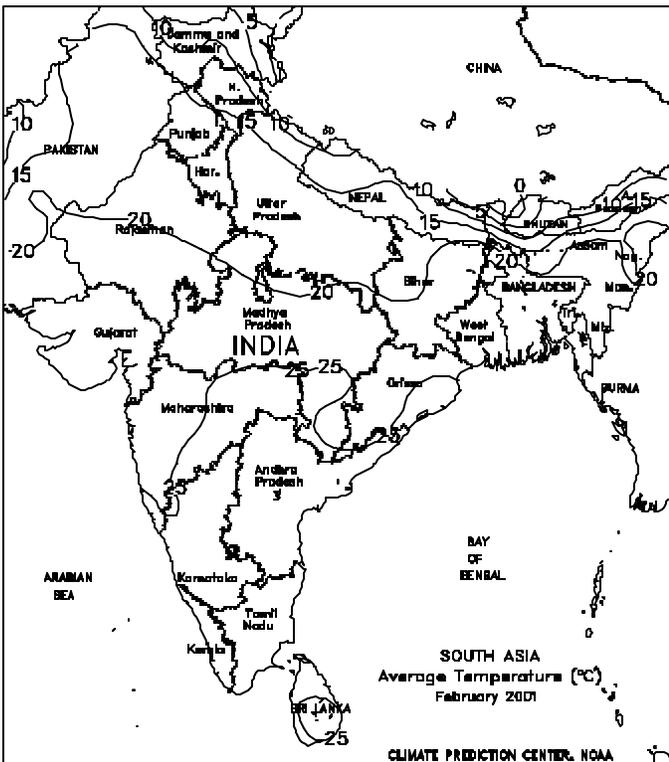
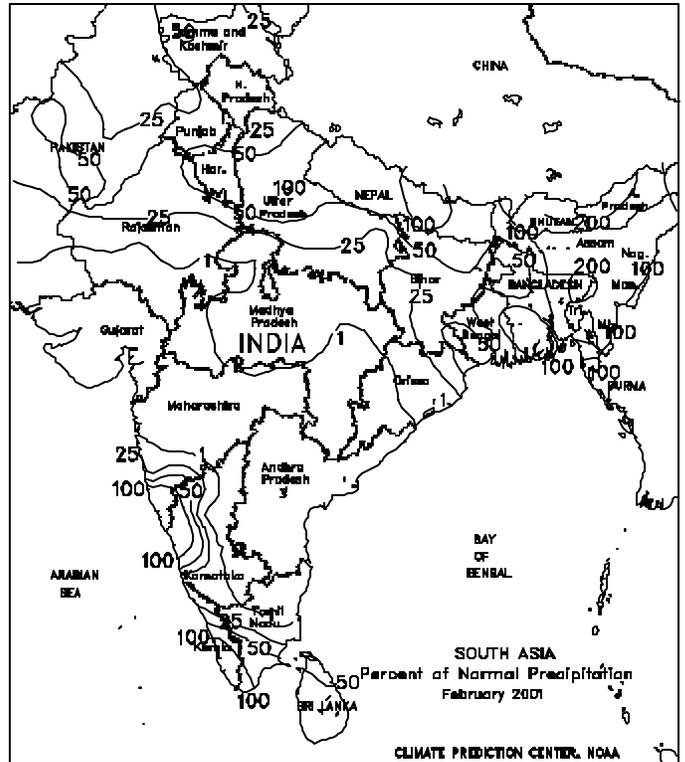
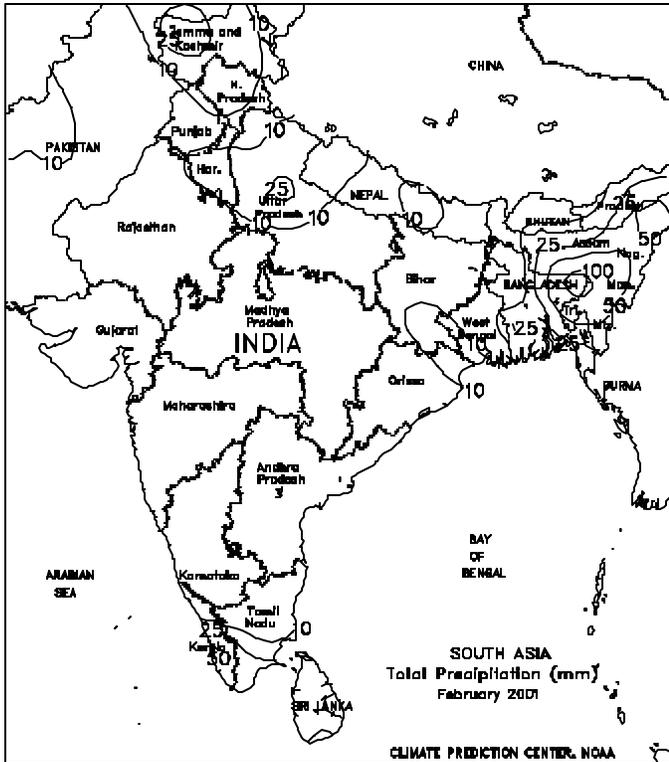
Across central Argentina, early-week showers (15-50 mm) continued to increase soil moisture for filling to maturing corn and first-crop soybeans and reproductive to filling second-crop soybeans. Dry weather continued across most of northern Argentina, while the heavier showers (25-80 mm) fell in central and western Formosa. The dry weather favored early-planted cotton (early to late November), estimated in the filling to maturing stage. However, the dryness may stress late-planted cotton (early to mid December), estimated in the reproductive to filling stage. Temperatures averaged 3 to 5 degrees C above normal across Argentina. According to Argentine Agricultural Secretariat as of March 2, corn was 3 percent harvested nationwide. In Entre Rios, corn was 34 percent harvested, and harvesting was beginning in northern Santa Fe. Sunflower was 17 percent harvested nationwide, compared with 25 percent last year. In southern Brazil, moderate to heavy showers (30-100 mm or more) fell across Mato Grosso, Goias, most of Minas Gerais, and Sao Paulo, slowing soybean and corn harvesting. This moisture, however, benefited coffee and sugarcane in Minas Gerais and Sao Paulo and cocoa in coastal Bahia. Farther south, drier weather favored soybean maturation and corn

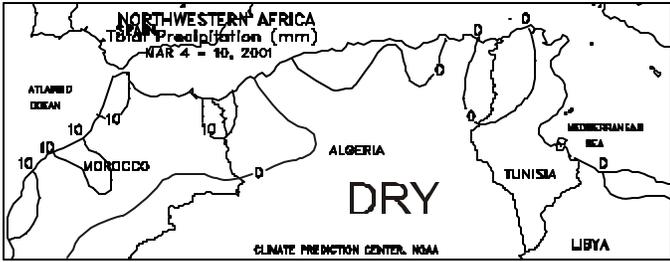
harvesting in southern Parana to northern Rio Grande do Sul. Dry weather during mid- to late-February in central Argentina reduced topsoil moisture for summer crops, but subsoil moisture was adequate due to plentiful January and early-February rainfall. The dryness was alleviated by widespread early-March rainfall. In southern Cordoba, below-normal rainfall reduced soil moisture for filling corn. In southern Brazil, near- to above-normal February rainfall maintained favorable soil moisture for filling soybeans across the major growing areas. However, below-normal February rainfall across most of Minas Gerais and Bahia reduced moisture supplies for summer crops, coffee, and cocoa.



SOUTH ASIA

In February, scattered showers benefited local pockets of winter wheat and oilseeds in northern sections of India but were not widespread enough to significantly help the region's rainfed crops. Showers in Bangladesh and eastern India boosted irrigation levels for winter-grown rice.

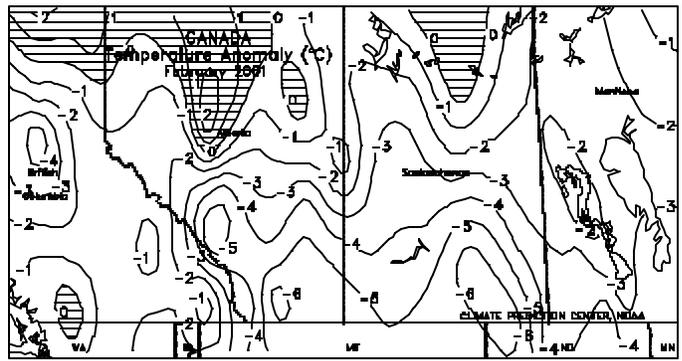
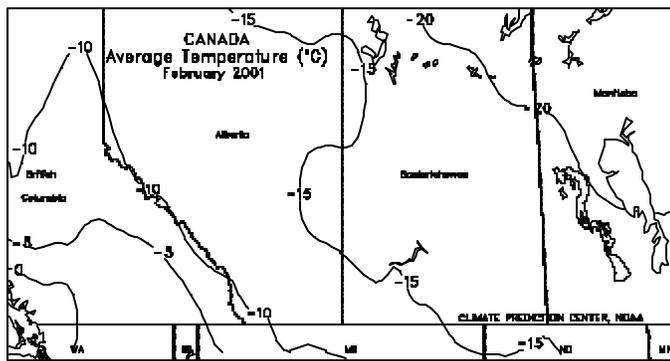
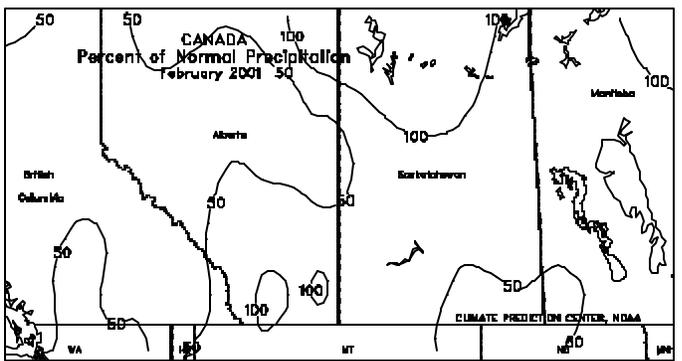
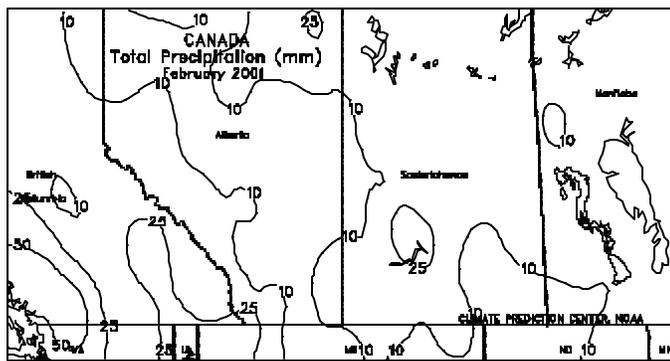
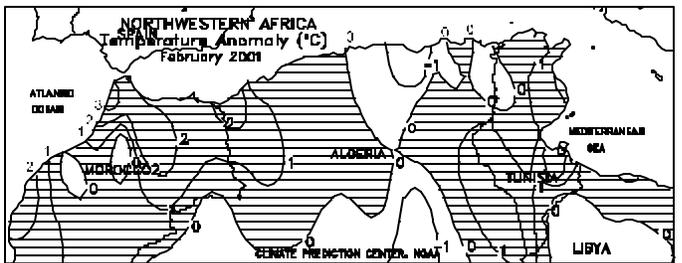
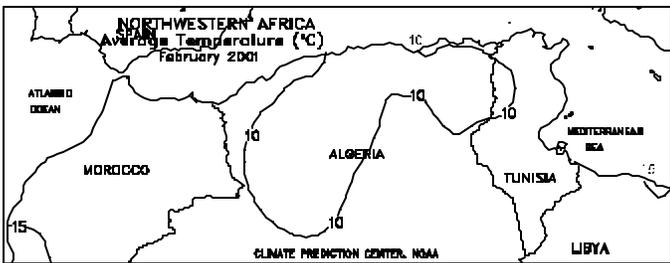
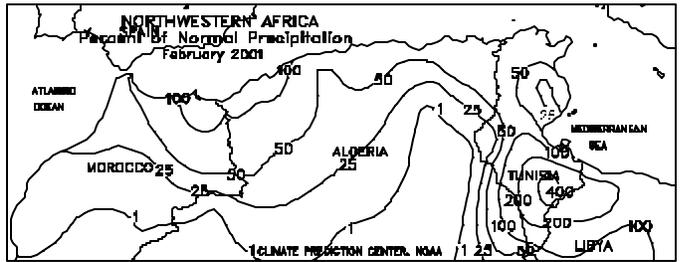
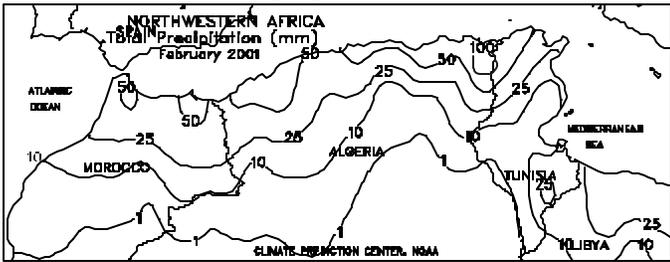




NORTHWESTERN AFRICA

Chronic dryness continued to prevail over winter grain areas in Morocco, especially in southern growing areas. Unusually high temperatures accompanied the dryness, increasing stress on winter grains. Maximum temperatures ranged from 29 degrees C in northern Morocco to as high as 33 degrees C in southern Morocco. Winter grains in Morocco are approaching the heading stage, when moisture conditions become most critical in determining yield prospects. As a result, rain is needed soon to prevent potential declines in yield

prospects. Farther east, the second consecutive week of dryness limited moisture for winter grain development in Algeria and Tunisia. In February, well-below-normal precipitation was observed in Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia, and crops had to rely on subsoil moisture reserves to meet increasing crop-water requirements. As a result, soil moisture reserves continued to decline during the month. At present, subsoil moisture reserves are likely limited throughout Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia, necessitating timely rains during the remainder of the growing season to prevent significant declines in yield prospects.



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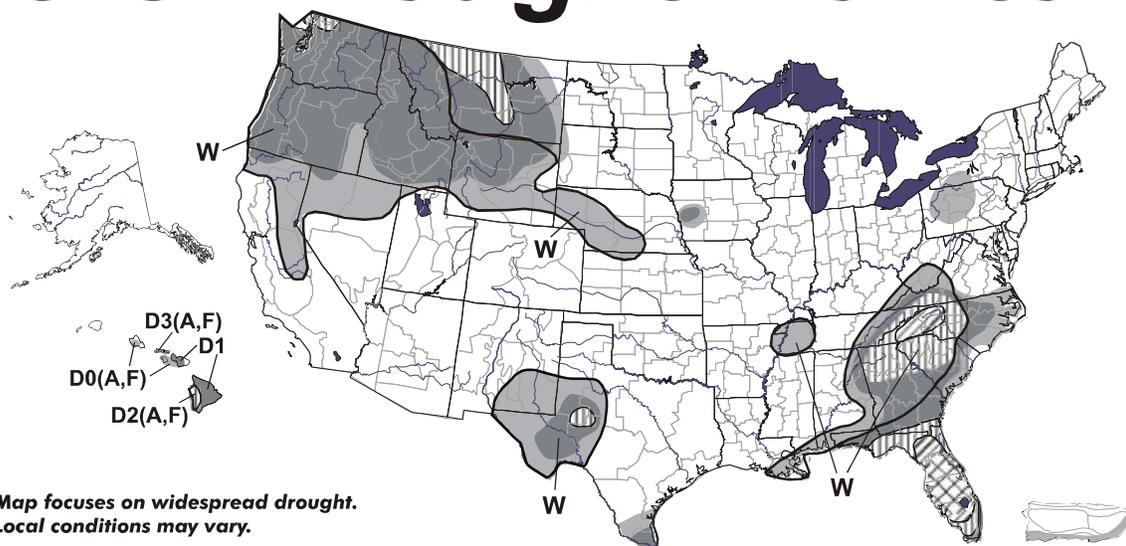
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March 6, 2001 Valid 7 a.m. EST

U.S. Drought Monitor



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

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Drought-First Stage
- ▨ D2 Drought-Severe
- ▨ D3 Drought-Extreme
- ⊗ D4 Drought-Exceptional
- Delineates Overlapping Areas

Drought type: used only when impacts differ

- A = Agriculture
- W = Water
- F = Wildfire danger



See accompanying text summary for forecast statements
<http://enso.unl.edu/monitor/monitor.html>

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