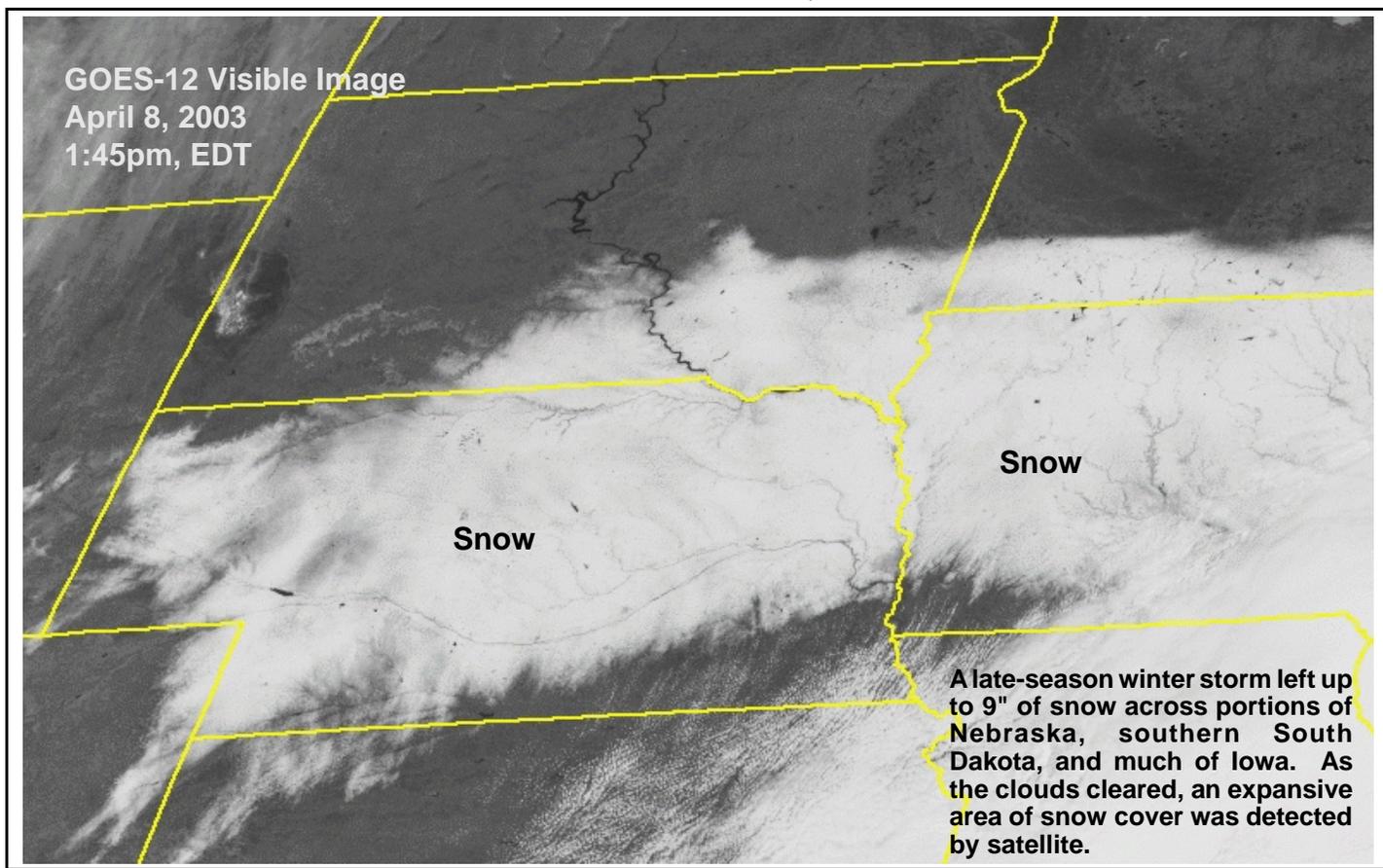


# WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

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



## HIGHLIGHTS

April 6 - 12, 2003

*Highlights provided by USDA/WAOB*

**A** slow-moving storm system tracked across the **central Plains** and parts of the **Midwest**, producing beneficial showers and late-season snowfall, then crept across the **South** and **East**. Weekly temperatures averaged as much as 10°F below normal from the **Carolinas to southern New England**, and were well below normal elsewhere throughout the **Midwest, South, and East**. Very heavy rain (4 inches or more in many locations) halted fieldwork and caused lowland flooding from the **central Gulf Coast region to the southern Atlantic States**, excluding **southern Florida**. Farther north and west, rain and snow boosted topsoil moisture in preparation for

*(Continued on page 15)*

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# Water Supply Forecast for the Western United States

## Highlights

As of April 1, 2003, Western streamflow forecasts showed improvement in the Southwest, the central and northern Rockies, and Columbia Basin, due to a very stormy March. However, because of a drier-than-normal autumn and winter, spring and summer water-supply forecasts for most Western basins still ranged from 50 to 90 percent of average. However, the March storminess bypassed much of the Intermountain West, where spring and summer streamflows are forecast to be less than 50 percent of average.

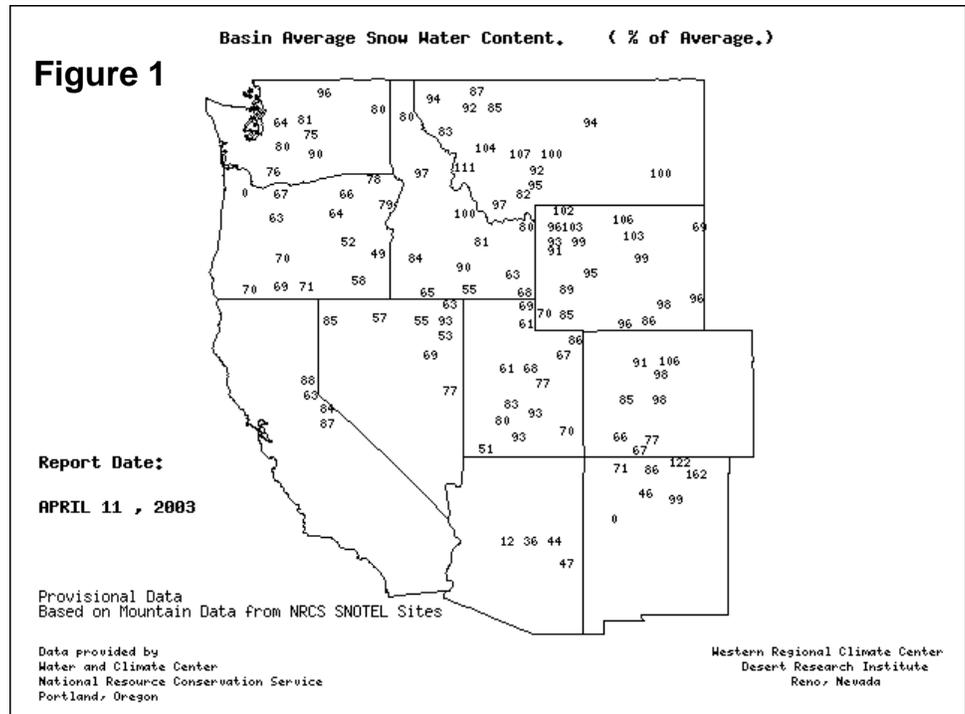
This year's water-supply forecasts come on the heels of last year's record- to near-record-low runoff in the Southwest, Intermountain West, and southern Rockies. In many of these areas, this year's snowpack is resting on very dry soils, which typically results in reduced snowmelt runoff.

## Snowpack and Precipitation

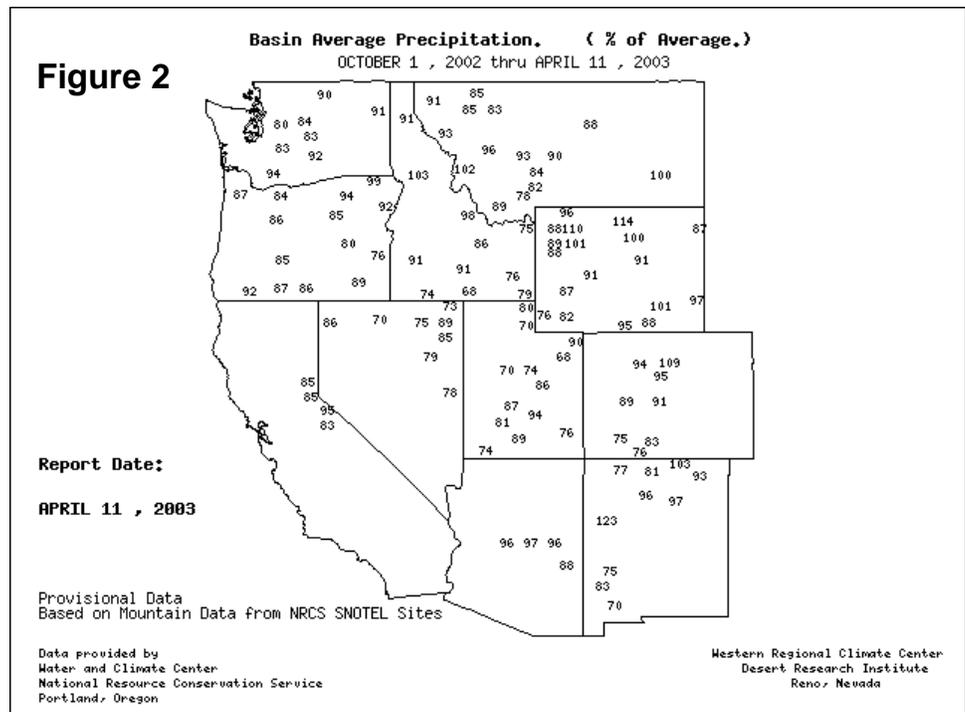
On April 11, 2003, the snowpack map (fig. 1) reflected below-average snowpacks in the Intermountain West and Oregon due to a warmer-than-average winter. Significantly below-average snowpacks (less than 50 percent) were reported in parts of eastern Oregon and across Arizona, where snowpacks have largely melted at elevations below 8,000 feet. In contrast, snowpacks improved during March on the eastern slopes of the Rockies in Colorado and Wyoming, and the Rockies of Idaho and Montana. Several basin snowpacks in Wyoming, Colorado, and Idaho edged upward to near or slightly above average.

Season-to-date precipitation (October 1, 2002, to April 11, 2003)

## SNOTEL – River Basin Snow Water Content



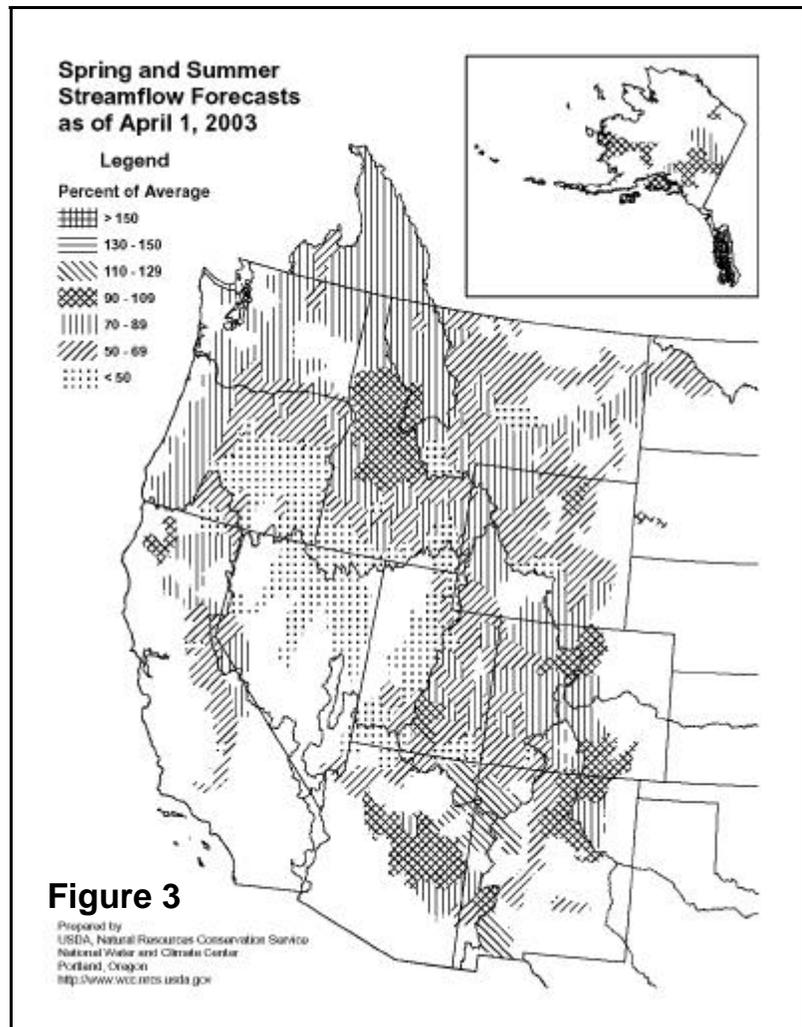
## SNOTEL – River Basin Precipitation



generally improved during March along the eastern slopes of the Rockies and in the northern Rockies. Areas benefiting the most included eastern portions of Colorado and Wyoming, most of Montana, central and northern Idaho, and eastern Washington. Many basins in these areas reported seasonal precipitation totals ranging from 90 to 110 percent of average (fig. 2). In contrast, season-to-date totals generally ranged from 70 to 90 percent of average across the Intermountain West.

### Spring and Summer Streamflow Forecasts

As of April 1, 2003, the Intermountain West continued to expect significantly below-average spring and summer volume forecasts (fig. 3). Much of central Utah, Nevada, southeastern Idaho, and eastern Oregon are forecast to receive less than 50 percent of average spring and summer streamflows. Volume forecasts improved following recent storminess across the Rockies and Southwest, and are forecast to generally range from 50 to 90 percent of average. In these regions, forecasts of below-normal streamflows follow extremely low runoff during the 2002 water year. Meanwhile, the Four Corners region is now forecast to receive slightly above-average spring and summer streamflow (110 to 130 percent).



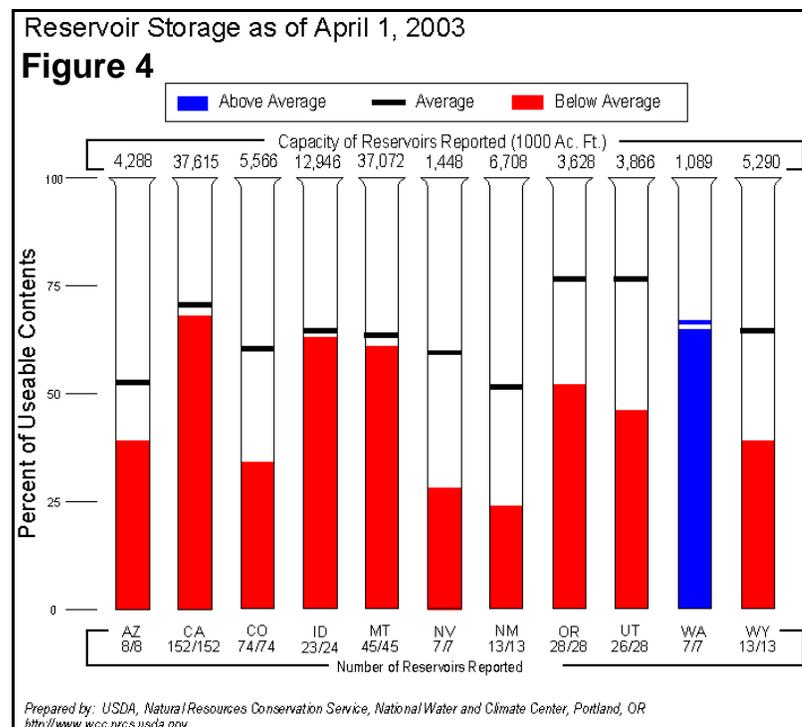
### Reservoir Storage

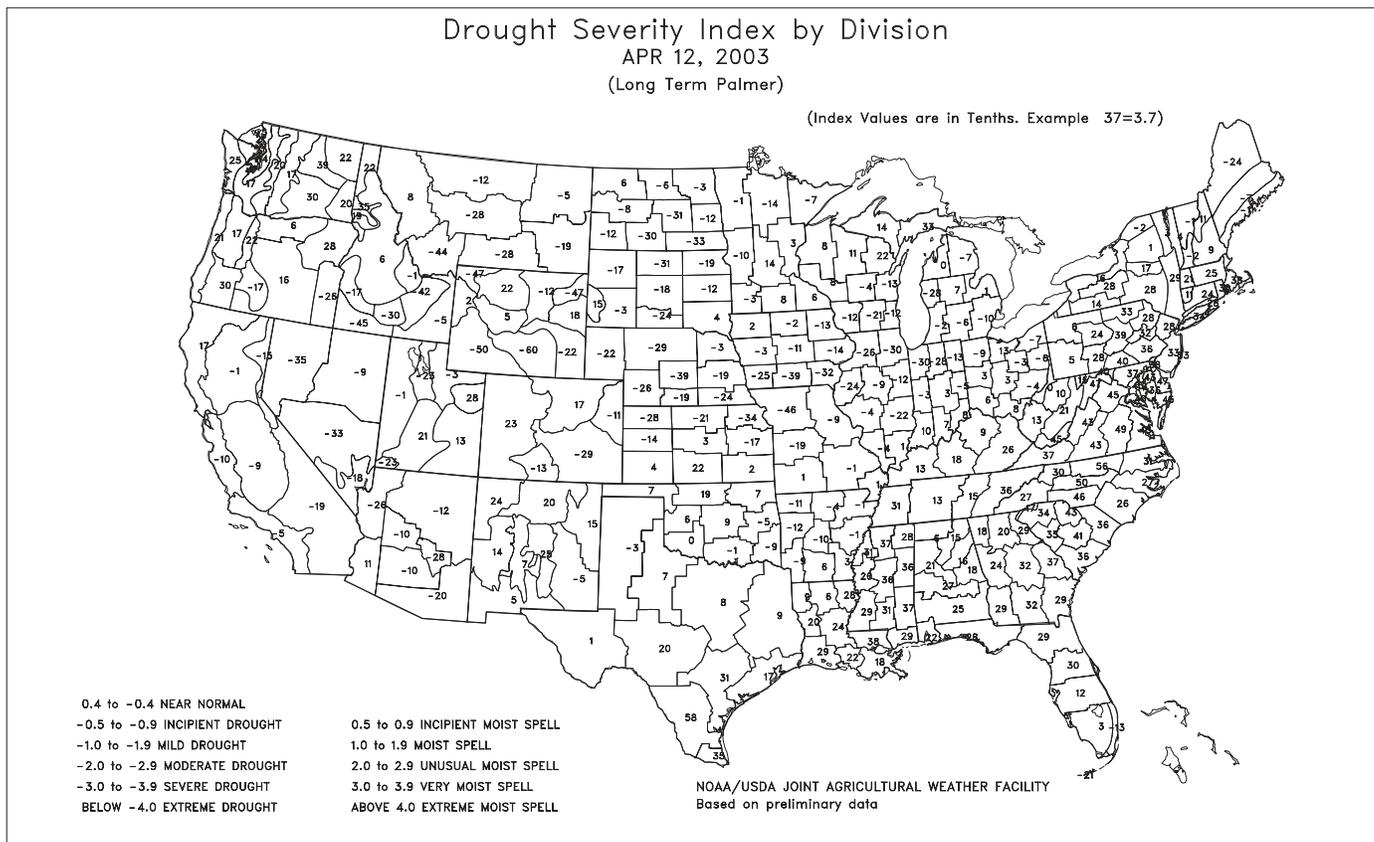
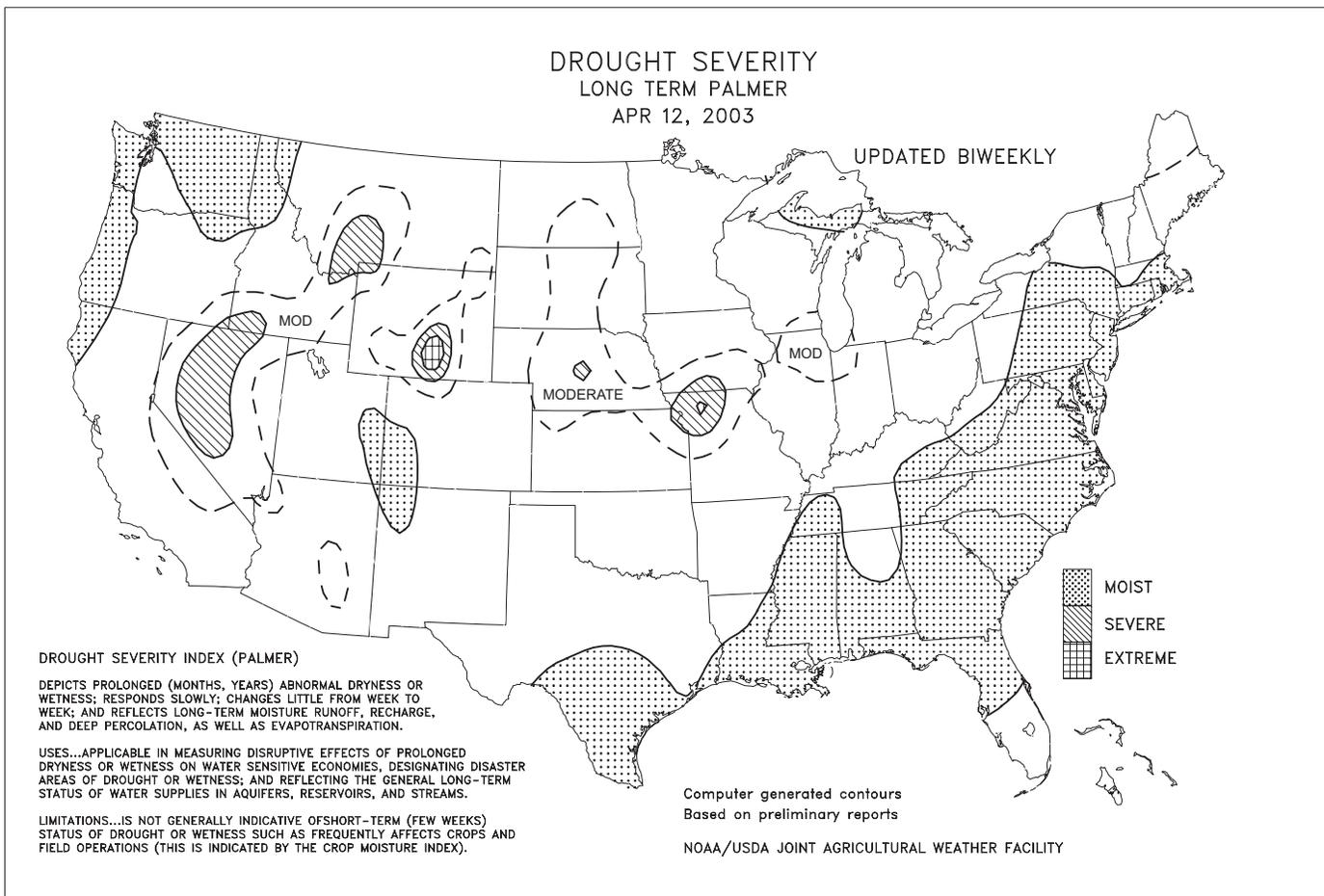
In the last month, reservoir storage improved to near-average levels in California, Idaho, Montana, and Washington (fig. 4). Idaho and Washington posted the greatest improvement in response to significantly above-average March precipitation. All other Western States reported below-average reservoir storage for this time of year. Low reservoir storage in the Rockies and Southwest reflects carryover dryness from last year's drought.

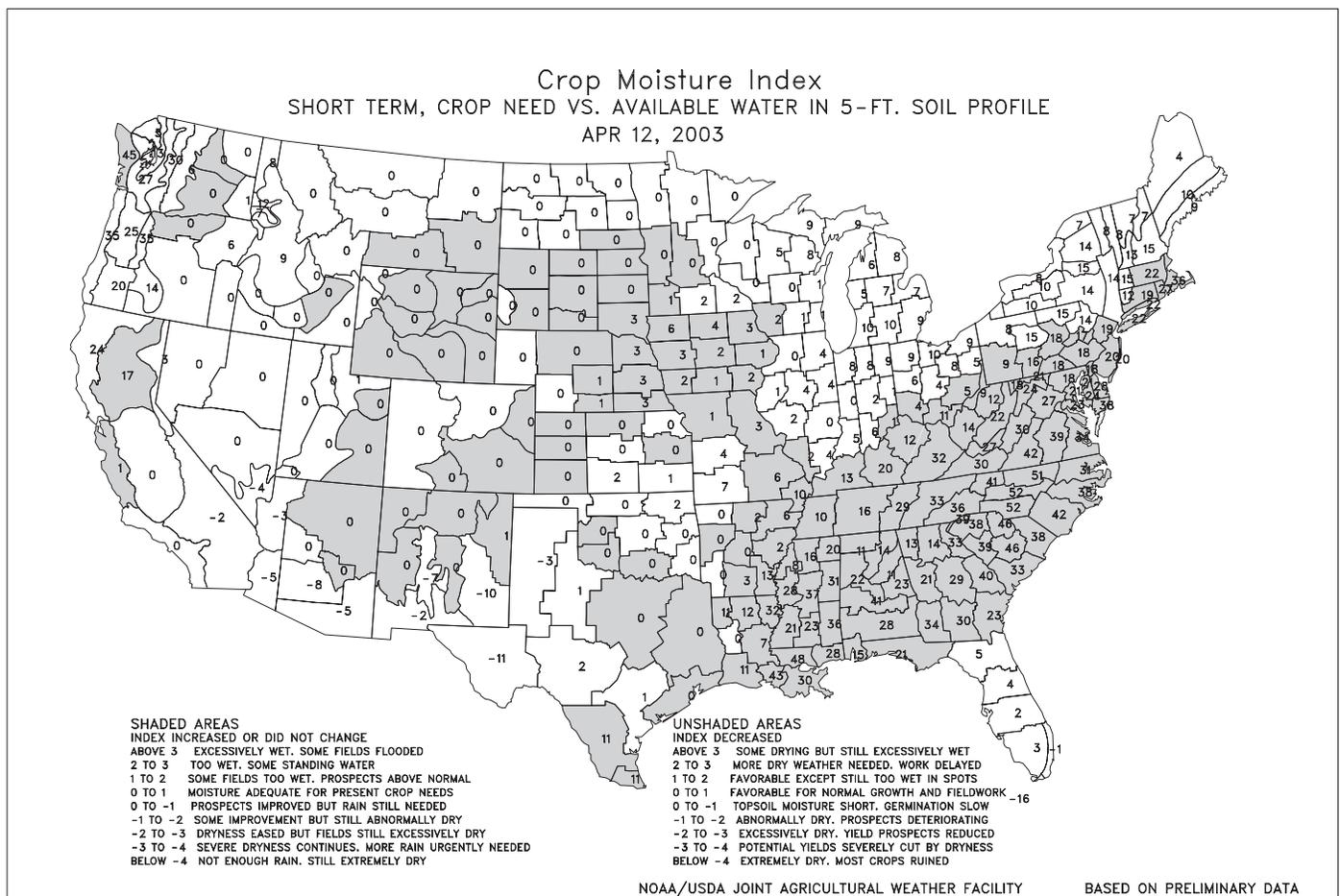
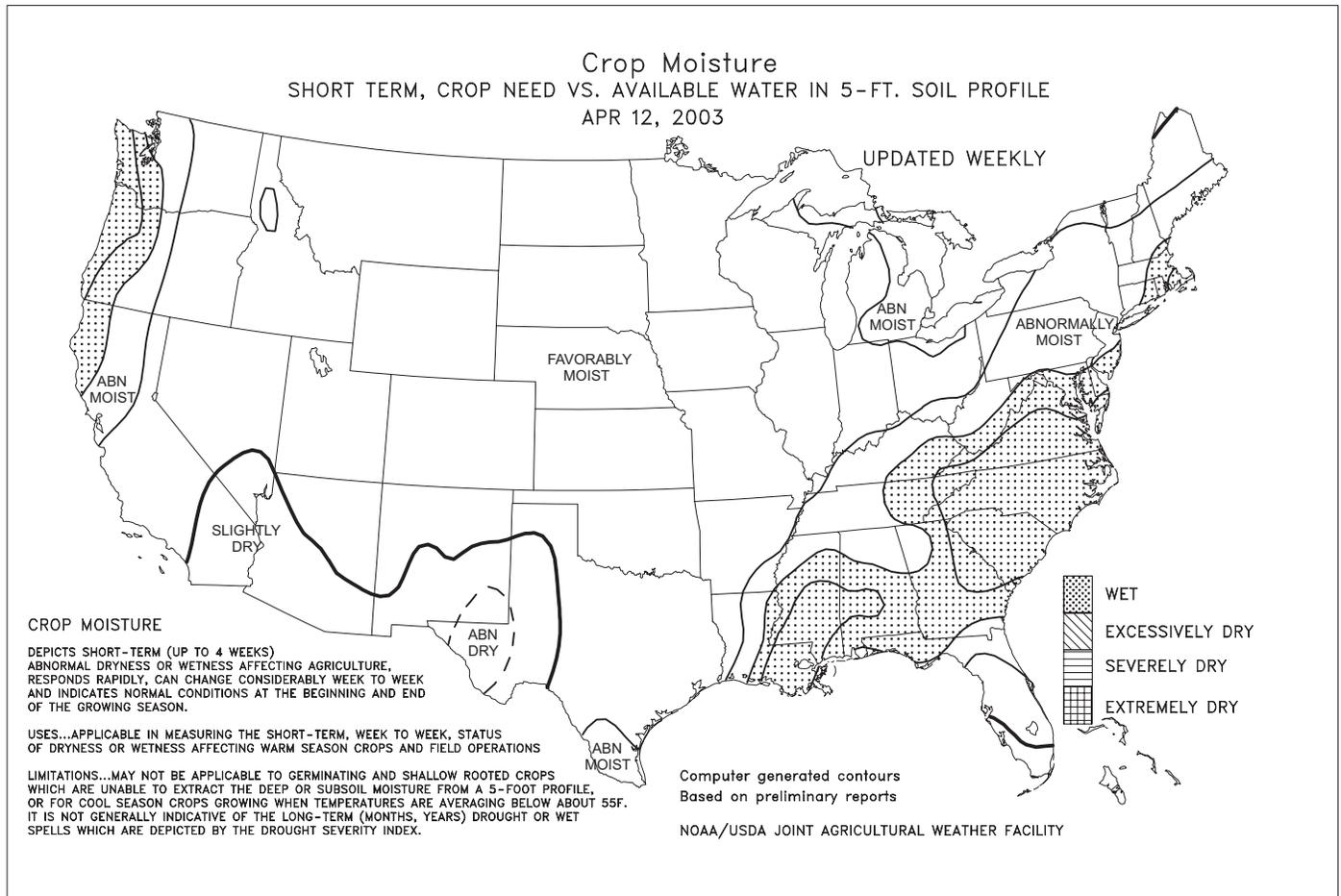
### For More Information

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

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



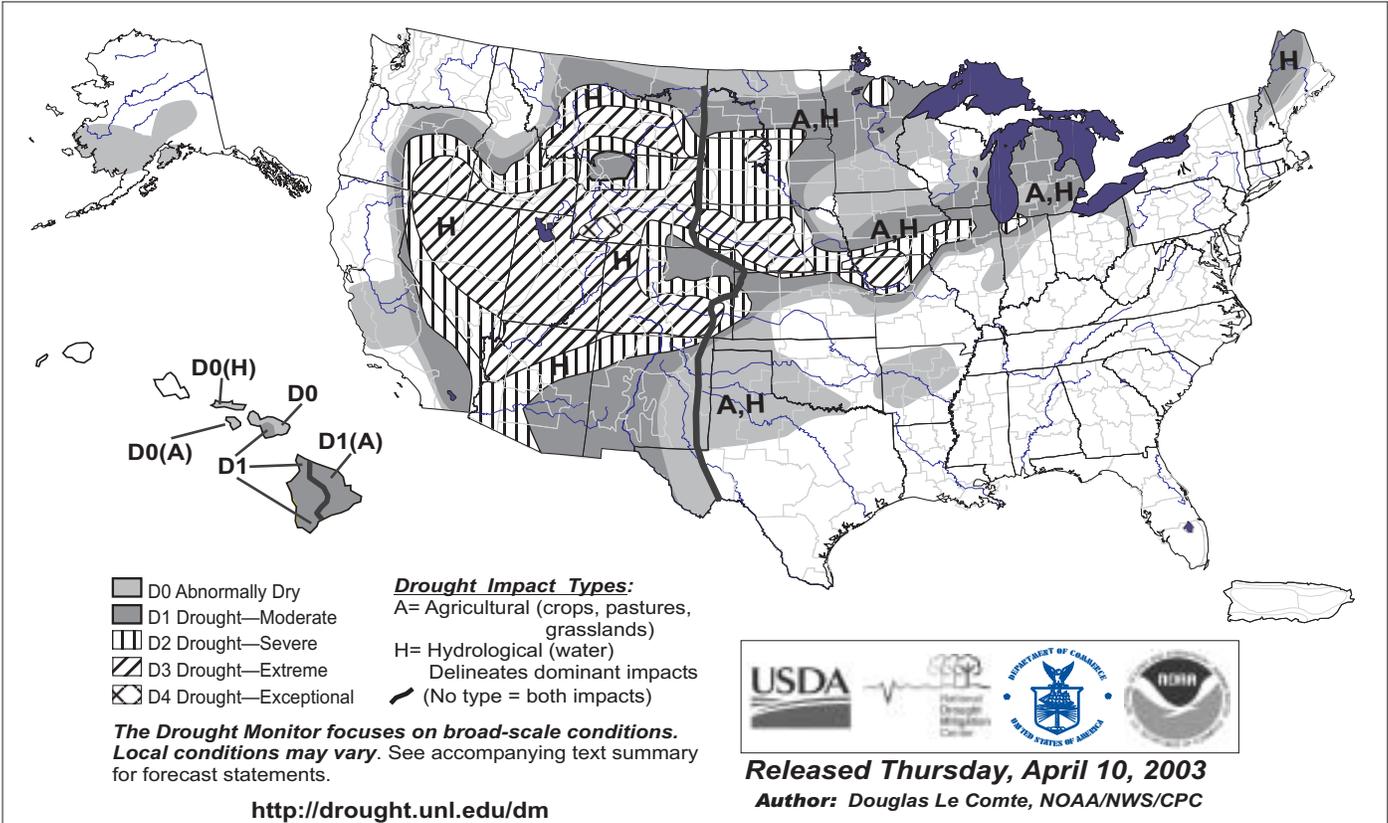




# U.S. Drought Monitor

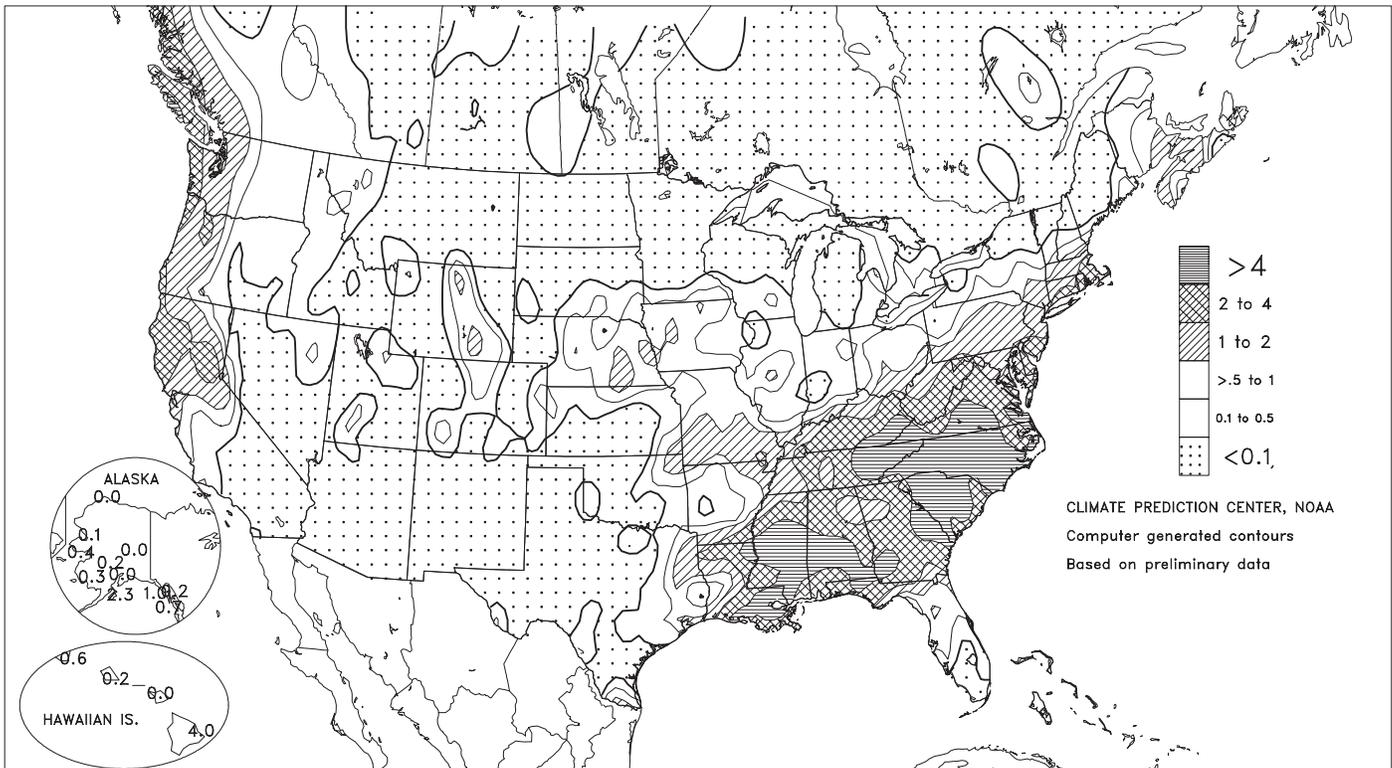
April 8, 2003

Valid 8 a.m. EDT



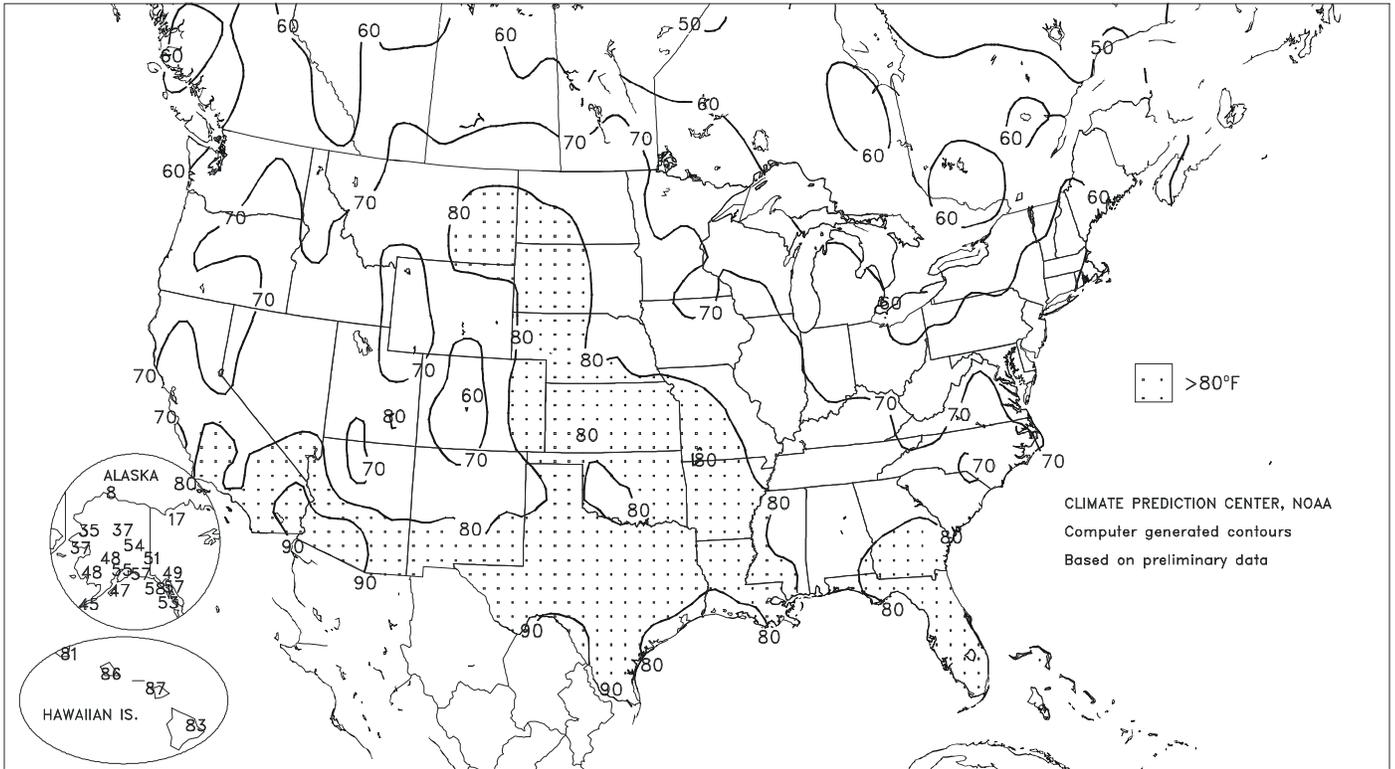
## Total Precipitation (Inches)

APR 6 - 12, 2003



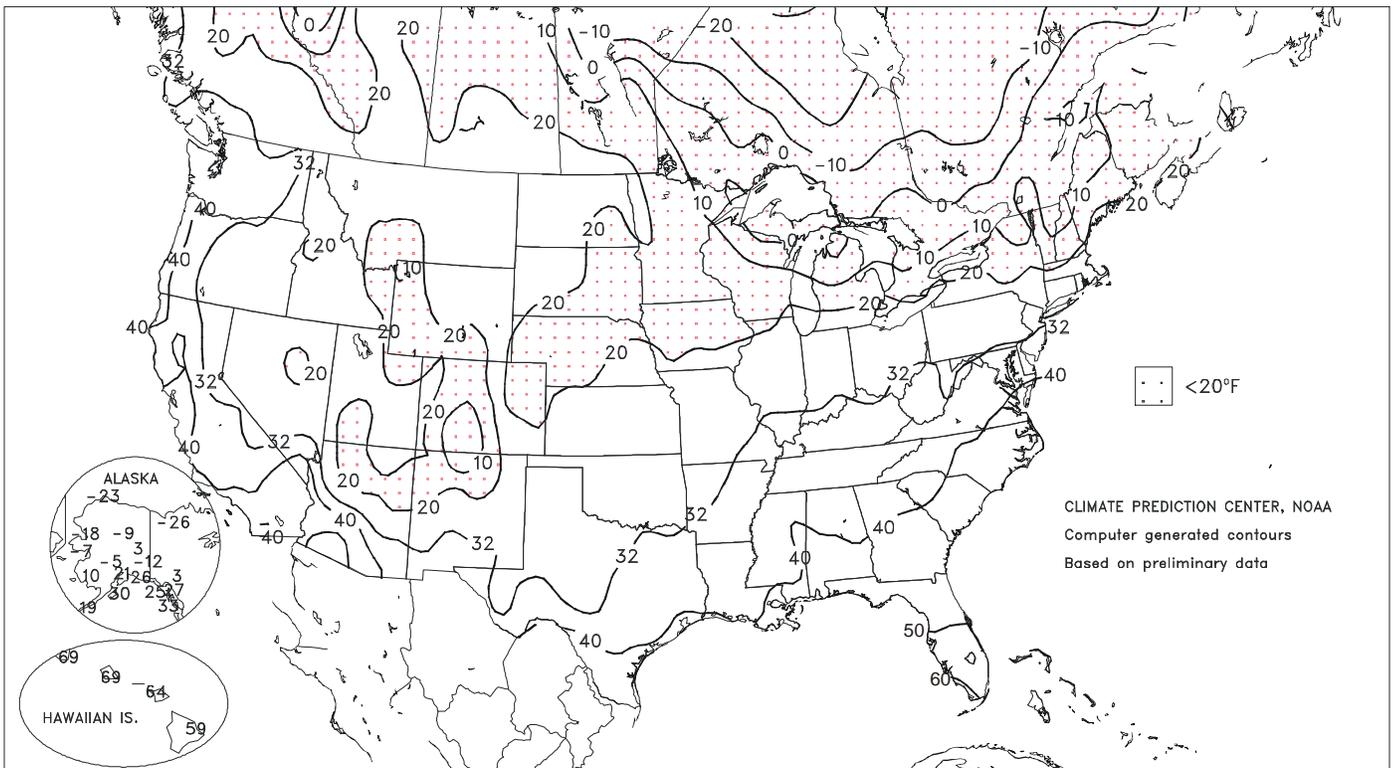
Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F)

APR 6 - 12, 2003



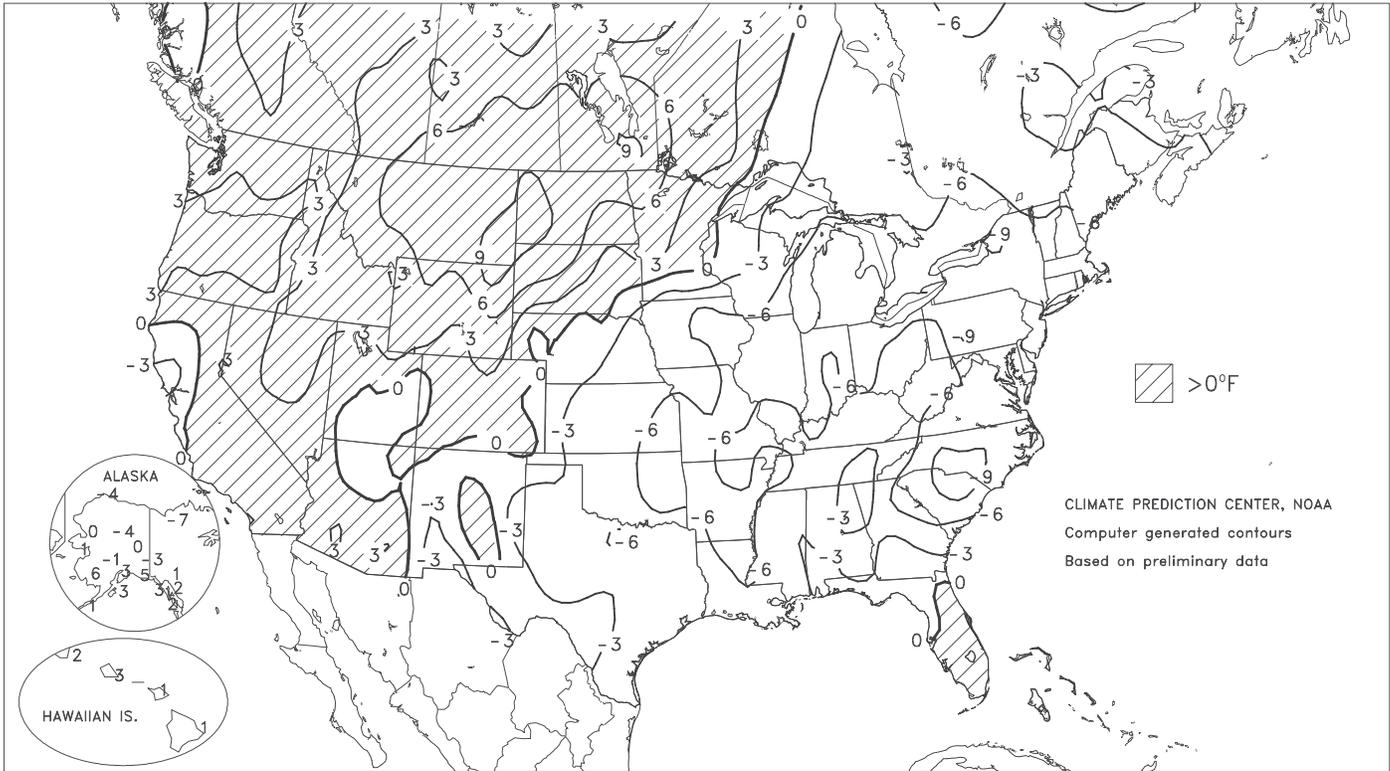
Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)

APR 6 - 12, 2003



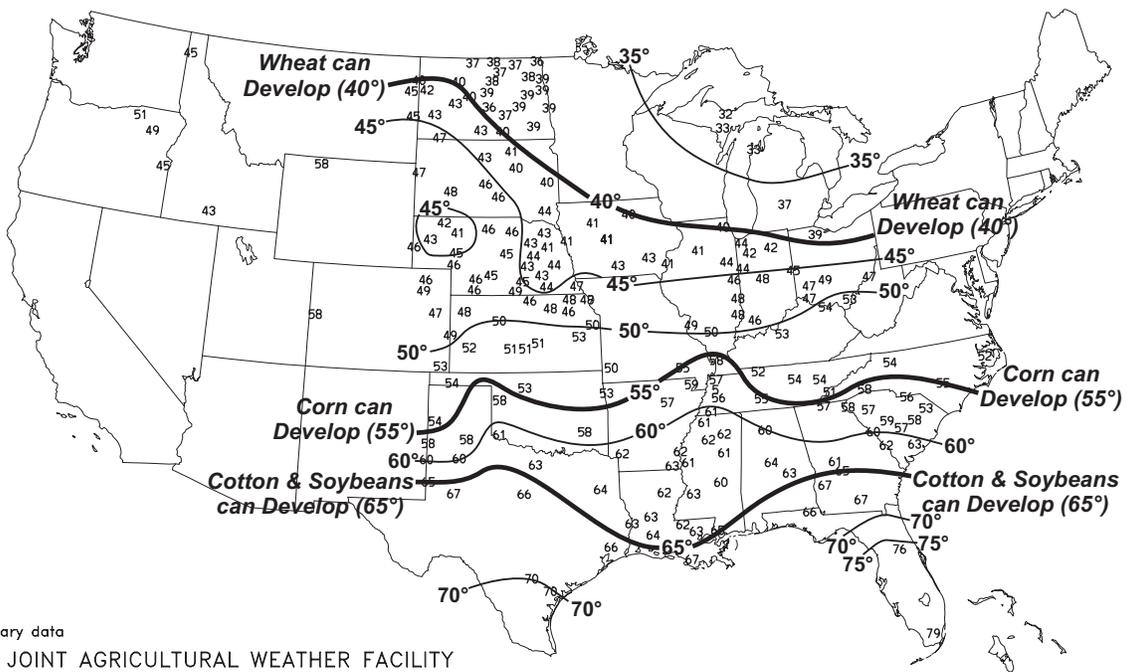
Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F)

APR 6 - 12, 2003



Average Soil Temperature (°F, 4" Bare)

APR 6 - 12, 2003



## Weather Data for Mississippi and the Missouri Bootheel

### Weather Data for the Week Ending April 12, 2003

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 °F						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. °F		PRECIP.	
																90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
MS BATESVILLE <sup>x</sup>	65	46	74	36	55	-4	1.65	0.42	1.65	4.57	57	14.40	84	-	-	0	0	1	1
BELZONI <sup>x</sup>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CLARKSDALE <sup>x</sup>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CLEVELAND <sup>x</sup>	66	45	74	38	56	-6	2.03	0.68	2.03	4.70	56	13.95	79	-	-	0	0	1	1
GREENVILLE <sup>x</sup>	68	46	76	39	57	-5	1.93	0.67	1.93	3.16	40	-	-	-	-	0	0	1	1
GREENWOOD <sup>x</sup>	68	47	80	38	57	-5	4.02	2.69	4.02	5.63	70	14.45	82	-	-	0	0	1	1
INDIANOLA 1S	67	46	82	39	57	-	2.70	-	2.70	5.07	-	12.51	-	64	57	0	0	1	1
INVERNESS 5E	67	47	80	39	57	-	2.22	-	2.22	4.09	-	12.74	-	65	58	0	0	1	1
LYON	65	45	83	39	55	-	0.92	-	0.91	3.56	-	9.65	-	64	51	0	0	2	1
MACON	68	49	79	42	58	-	3.42	-	3.09	6.63	-	16.98	-	65	56	0	0	2	1
MOORHEAD <sup>x</sup>	66	47	78	39	57	-6	3.54	2.21	3.52	5.39	65	16.24	89	-	-	0	0	3	1
ONWARD	66	47	80	39	57	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	65	58	0	0	2	0
PERTSHIRE	65	44	83	38	54	-	0.78	-	0.78	2.68	-	9.34	-	65	52	0	0	1	1
ROLLING FORK <sup>x</sup>	67	48	77	38	57	-5	3.07	1.74	3.07	5.30	62	15.32	81	-	-	0	0	1	1
SCOTT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SIDON	67	48	82	41	58	-	3.32	-	3.32	4.81	-	12.58	-	69	55	0	0	1	1
STARKVILLE	67	48	79	41	58	-3	3.08	1.75	2.91	6.70	80	18.09	95	66	55	0	0	4	1
TUNICA <sup>x</sup>	62	44	74	39	53	-7	0.60	-0.76	0.60	4.29	54	4.29	26	-	-	0	0	1	1
TUNICA 1W	64	43	82	38	53	-	0.61	-	0.61	0.63	-	2.98	-	61	53	0	0	1	1
VANCE	65	44	81	37	55	-	1.01	-	1.01	3.99	-	9.99	-	58	53	0	0	1	1
VERONA	68	47	79	40	57	-	2.44	-	2.31	5.51	-	13.83	-	67	54	0	0	4	1
VICKSBURG <sup>x</sup>	68	50	78	40	59	-5	8.36	7.03	8.31	11.04	126	22.22	112	-	-	0	0	3	1
YAZOO CITY <sup>x</sup>	66	49	78	38	57	-6	5.00	3.57	5.00	6.60	71	15.60	75	-	-	0	0	1	1
STONEVILLE <sup>x</sup>	67	47	78	38	57	-3	2.32	0.99	2.31	4.86	58	13.91	73	67	56	0	0	2	1
MO DELTA	61	39	79	36	50	-5	0.98	0.14	0.95	2.56	39	6.19	44	57	43	0	0	3	1
STEELE	62	41	80	38	51	-4	0.86	-0.07	0.85	3.03	44	10.39	72	58	48	0	0	2	1
GLENNONVILLE	62	40	79	37	50	-6	1.65	0.81	1.64	3.18	51	8.39	67	59	46	0	0	2	1
PORTAGEVILLE LF	61	41	80	37	50	-6	1.07	-0.01	1.05	3.09	46	9.84	71	60	46	0	0	2	1
CLARKTON	62	40	79	37	51	-5	2.28	1.44	2.23	3.79	61	9.73	78	59	46	0	0	2	1
CARDWELL	63	41	82	38	51	-6	0.69	-0.21	0.66	4.06	59	10.75	76	59	48	0	0	2	1
CHARLESTON	61	40	77	36	50	-5	1.51	0.69	1.50	3.97	64	9.80	75	59	47	0	0	2	1
PORTAGEVILLE DC	61	42	79	37	51	-5	1.13	0.05	1.13	3.36	50	9.70	70	59	47	0	0	1	1

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

<sup>x</sup> Based on 1971-2000 normals.

- Sufficient data not available.

**Weather and Crop Summary:** Heavy rain on April 6 halted fieldwork. In particular, the southern Delta took a pounding, as shown by the 24-hour rainfall of 8.31 inches in Vicksburg. Rainfall was significantly lighter across the northern Delta, ranging from 1 to 2 inches. Following the rain, a cool spell increased concerns about a frost, but a lingering cloud deck helped to keep temperatures mostly in the upper 30's. Fields started to dry by week's end due to sunshine and warmer weather, allowing soybean planting to resume. Other crops sown were rice, some late-planted corn, and early-planted cotton. Some corn and soybeans were replanted due to soil impaction caused by heavy rain.

## U.S. Crop Production Highlights

*The following information was released by USDA's Agricultural Statistics Board on April 10, 2003. Forecasts refer to April 1.*

The **all orange** forecast for the 2002-03 crop is 11.3 million tons, virtually unchanged from the March forecast but down 9 percent from last season's revised final utilization. Florida's all orange forecast, at 198 million boxes (8.91 million tons), is down 1 percent from the previous forecast and 14 percent below last season. Early and midseason varieties in Florida are forecast at 112 million boxes (5.04 million tons), 1 percent below the previous forecast and 12 percent lower than last season's final utilization. Harvest is complete. Florida's Valencia forecast is unchanged at 86.0 million boxes (3.87 million tons), 16 percent below the previous season.

The all orange forecast for California, at 62.0 million boxes, is unchanged from the previous forecast but 14 percent above the previous season's revised utilization. Navel and Valencia oranges are unchanged at 40.0 million boxes (1.50 million tons) and 22.0 million boxes (825,000 tons), respectively. The Texas all orange forecast is 1.58 million boxes (68,000 tons), down 100,000 boxes from the January forecast and 160,000 boxes fewer than last season's utilized production. Arizona's all orange utilization is forecast at 400,000 boxes (16,000 tons), a decrease of 50,000 boxes from the previous forecast and 120,000 boxes below the 2001-02 utilization. If realized, this will be the sixth consecutive season of declining utilization for Arizona.

National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 12, 2003

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

STATES AND STATIONS	TEMPERATURE °F						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. °F			
																90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	0.1 INCH OR MORE	5.0 INCH OR MORE
AL BIRMINGHAM	67	48	77	39	57	-3	1.72	0.62	0.77	6.55	81	14.57	82	96	62	0	0	5	2
AL HUNTSVILLE	66	45	77	38	56	-3	0.91	-0.16	0.71	3.03	35	12.31	65	90	71	0	0	4	1
AL MOBILE	73	50	80	41	62	-3	1.98	0.79	1.21	6.51	70	12.63	63	86	55	0	0	2	2
AL MONTGOMERY	68	51	79	41	59	-4	4.65	3.60	4.55	8.54	103	13.33	71	99	73	0	0	2	1
AK ANCHORAGE	45	28	55	21	37	3	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.34	40	1.48	65	63	53	0	5	0	0
AK BARROW	0	-18	8	-23	-9	-4	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	11	0.21	64	84	79	0	7	0	0
AK FAIRBANKS	41	14	54	3	28	1	0.00	-0.03	0.00	0.02	6	1.09	87	61	49	0	7	0	0
AK JUNEAU	50	32	57	27	41	2	0.23	-0.42	0.08	3.79	82	10.91	81	91	68	0	4	4	0
AK KODIAK	42	34	47	30	38	2	2.25	1.03	0.89	8.56	118	32.01	151	86	70	0	3	7	2
AK NOME	28	5	37	-7	17	1	0.36	0.22	0.36	0.97	115	2.27	90	74	62	0	7	1	0
AZ FLAGSTAFF	59	23	65	12	41	0	0.00	-0.31	0.00	1.14	36	4.03	51	59	14	0	7	0	0
AZ PHOENIX	86	57	92	48	71	3	0.00	-0.07	0.00	0.51	42	4.25	151	29	13	2	0	0	0
AZ TUCSON	82	49	89	40	66	2	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.51	56	1.61	58	23	15	0	0	0	0
AZ YUMA	85	57	91	46	71	0	0.00	-0.02	0.00	0.24	77	1.35	139	40	28	1	0	0	0
AR FORT SMITH	67	39	84	31	53	-6	2.00	-0.59	0.25	2.24	42	5.94	57	90	43	0	1	1	0
AR LITTLE ROCK	66	42	84	37	54	-6	0.29	-0.98	0.28	2.13	30	7.84	56	85	43	0	0	2	0
CA BAKERSFIELD	77	48	86	39	63	2	0.00	-0.13	0.00	0.61	37	2.26	56	71	50	0	0	0	0
CA FRESNO	76	49	84	42	63	4	0.00	-0.22	0.00	1.43	54	3.08	45	81	50	0	0	0	0
CA LOS ANGELES	71	53	83	47	62	2	0.01	-0.18	0.01	1.80	65	6.62	75	93	62	0	0	1	0
CA REDDING	67	45	74	43	56	0	0.36	-0.29	0.17	4.40	69	13.41	73	88	69	0	0	2	0
CA SACRAMENTO	69	46	76	41	57	0	0.53	0.25	0.25	2.79	83	5.46	51	94	48	0	0	1	1
CA SAN DIEGO	70	55	80	50	63	1	0.00	-0.23	0.00	1.36	50	6.24	89	83	63	0	0	0	0
CA SAN FRANCISCO	63	49	69	47	56	0	1.31	0.97	1.31	3.32	84	7.22	58	86	71	0	0	1	1
CA STOCKTON	71	46	78	41	59	0	0.29	0.03	0.29	1.89	68	3.57	45	88	64	0	0	1	0
CO ALAMOSA	60	17	70	4	38	-1	0.02	-0.09	0.02	0.53	82	0.82	74	72	28	0	7	1	0
CO CO SPRINGS	62	31	76	23	47	4	0.02	-0.31	0.02	1.16	72	1.75	78	77	22	0	4	1	0
CO DENVER INTL	63	34	78	22	48	4	0.04	-0.10	0.04	3.11	275	3.61	227	64	27	0	3	1	0
CO GRAND JUNCTION	66	35	76	27	51	2	0.00	-0.19	0.00	0.87	66	2.02	83	54	24	0	3	0	0
CO PUEBLO	69	34	83	26	52	4	0.18	-0.10	0.18	0.99	69	1.81	90	70	39	0	3	1	0
CT BRIDGEPORT	45	34	66	29	40	-7	2.07	1.14	0.76	6.32	110	11.87	96	82	60	0	3	5	2
CT HARTFORD	45	31	67	26	38	-8	1.00	0.12	0.63	4.99	92	10.55	86	88	61	0	5	5	1
DC WASHINGTON	52	40	70	37	46	-8	1.44	0.83	0.68	5.64	121	13.49	128	86	63	0	0	5	1
DE WILMINGTON	48	37	68	32	43	-7	1.74	0.98	0.75	6.52	123	13.56	118	90	57	0	1	4	1
FL DAYTONA BEACH	78	60	87	47	69	1	0.51	-0.15	0.42	11.08	219	16.76	153	93	49	0	0	3	0
FL JACKSONVILLE	75	56	88	47	65	0	1.35	0.57	0.70	12.08	228	16.83	139	93	60	0	0	3	2
FL KEY WEST	80	70	84	63	75	-1	0.00	-0.47	0.00	3.11	117	4.90	77	88	68	0	0	0	0
FL MIAMI	82	68	86	58	75	0	0.02	-0.75	0.02	3.91	101	5.17	66	84	55	0	0	1	0
FL ORLANDO	80	60	88	49	70	0	0.14	-0.47	0.14	5.42	116	7.79	83	94	53	0	0	1	0
FL PENSACOLA	71	54	80	44	62	-3	2.10	1.11	1.07	8.94	108	14.84	81	88	63	0	0	3	2
FL TALLAHASSEE	72	54	86	43	63	-2	0.89	-0.02	0.63	8.43	103	15.62	86	94	75	0	0	2	1
FL TAMPA	78	64	87	57	71	1	0.44	0.01	0.33	4.38	121	7.40	86	85	53	0	0	3	0
FL WEST PALM	81	66	87	54	74	1	0.09	-0.76	0.09	7.18	139	9.11	79	83	57	0	0	1	0
GA ATHENS	59	45	77	39	52	-7	1.41	0.61	0.56	7.25	113	13.53	87	96	88	0	0	6	1
GA ATLANTA	62	46	76	40	54	-6	1.12	0.27	0.76	8.37	121	13.91	84	94	78	0	0	5	1
GA AUGUSTA	62	47	78	40	55	-6	4.15	3.39	2.03	11.39	190	17.12	117	95	84	0	0	5	3
GA COLUMBUS	68	52	80	43	60	-3	1.96	1.02	1.43	8.27	111	16.09	96	97	64	0	0	3	1
GA MACON	66	50	80	42	58	-3	2.71	1.93	1.62	10.82	172	17.45	110	93	71	0	0	6	2
GA SAVANNAH	70	53	83	43	61	-3	2.28	1.45	0.93	10.19	200	14.26	119	94	71	0	0	5	2
HI HILO	79	66	83	59	73	1	3.96	0.76	2.35	6.59	33	13.29	34	89	79	0	0	7	2
HI HONOLULU	84	72	86	69	78	3	0.24	-0.02	0.13	2.65	112	4.96	67	83	73	0	0	3	0
HI KAHULUI	83	66	87	64	75	1	0.00	-0.46	0.00	1.02	32	8.78	95	87	74	0	0	0	0
HI LIHUE	80	71	81	69	76	2	0.61	-0.08	0.16	8.38	175	14.89	118	85	78	0	0	7	0
ID BOISE	65	41	77	30	53	4	0.24	-0.04	0.24	1.91	101	4.39	99	69	45	0	2	1	0
ID LEWISTON	63	41	74	31	52	3	0.25	-0.03	0.15	2.59	163	6.28	171	83	64	0	2	4	0
ID POCATELLO	63	31	76	23	47	3	0.02	-0.23	0.02	0.86	47	2.29	58	68	39	0	5	1	0
IL CHICAGO/O'HARE	46	31	70	26	38	-8	0.16	-0.71	0.16	3.72	91	4.26	57	80	62	0	6	1	0
IL MOLINE	54	29	77	22	42	-6	0.24	-0.64	0.14	2.20	50	3.10	41	83	53	0	6	2	0
IL PEORIA	52	32	74	26	42	-7	0.48	-0.29	0.26	3.47	84	5.07	70	86	49	0	4	2	0
IL ROCKFORD	51	27	74	19	39	-6	0.10	-0.72	0.10	2.26	60	2.76	42	81	54	0	6	1	0
IL SPRINGFIELD	54	32	73	27	43	-8	0.70	-0.04	0.52	2.90	65	4.80	61	88	60	0	4	3	1
IN EVANSVILLE	58	38	73	32	48	-5	0.96	-0.04	0.49	3.64	61	9.70	81	86	60	0	1	3	0
IN FORT WAYNE	48	31	68	27	39	-7	0.82	0.01	0.49	4.86	115	7.55	92	87	56	0	6	2	0
IN INDIANAPOLIS	53	35	68	30	44	-6	0.17	-0.63	0.09	4.21	88	8.92	92	83	55	0	2	2	0
IN SOUTH BEND	49	27	66	24	38	-8	0.25	-0.60	0.25	3.82	88	5.95	69	84	59	0	7	1	0
IA BURLINGTON	53	31	76	26	42	-8	0.52	-0.27	0.42	2.17	50	3.83	54	88	46	0	5	2	0
IA CEDAR RAPIDS	53	28	76	18	40	-6	0.10	-0.62	0.09	0.76	22	1.66	30	87	42	0	5	2	0
IA DES MOINES	53	31	76	22	42	-6	0.35	-0.44	0.25	1.56	44	3.72	65	78	57	0	5	2	0
IA DUBUQUE	50	25	72	13	38	-7	0.24	-0.54	0.24	1.28	33	1.95	30	81	60	0	5	1	0
IA SIOUX CITY	54	27	76	16	40	-7	0.40	-0.19	0.38	2.07	69	3.25	77	86	59	0	5	3	0
IA WATERLOO	53	25	75	11	39	-6	0.30	-0.41	0.28	2.00	60	2.85	55	83	55	0	6	2	0
KS CONCORDIA	60	33	80	24	47	-4	0.51	0.01	0.51	2.78	87	4.00	87	82	57	0	3	1	1
KS DODGE CITY	65	31	80	23	48	-4	0.00	-0.50	0.00	2.31	86	3.69	93	72	29	0	4	0	0
KS GOODLAND	61	31	81	22	46	-1	0.17	-0.09	0.17	1.39	85	2.24	90	73	48	0	4	1	0
KS TOPEKA	61	33	85	23	47	-5	0.32	-0.35	0.32	1.26	34	3.14	54	87	56	0	3	1	0

Based on 1971-2000 normals

\*\*\* Not Available

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 12, 2003

STATES AND STATIONS	TEMPERATURE °F						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. °F		PRECIP		
																90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	0.1 INCH OR MORE	5.0 INCH OR MORE	
KY	WICHITA	64	35	80	25	49	-4	0.20	-0.36	0.20	3.73	101	5.79	105	84	54	0	3	1	0
	JACKSON	58	42	71	35	50	-5	2.89	2.06	0.68	4.78	82	14.75	113	98	66	0	0	6	4
	LEXINGTON	57	38	70	31	48	-5	1.16	0.35	0.45	4.04	69	9.84	79	90	73	0	1	5	0
	LOUISVILLE	59	39	72	35	49	-5	1.02	0.17	0.51	3.41	58	8.67	70	90	56	0	0	5	1
	PADUCAH	61	40	78	36	50	-5	1.45	0.35	1.37	3.63	59	11.38	84	89	49	0	0	3	1
LA	BATON ROUGE	71	50	83	38	60	-5	2.09	0.81	1.05	5.22	72	13.00	70	95	53	0	0	2	2
	LAKE CHARLES	73	50	81	37	62	-4	0.37	-0.40	0.31	4.16	86	10.72	78	98	51	0	0	4	0
	NEW ORLEANS	72	54	82	44	63	-4	4.12	2.89	2.21	9.76	133	14.52	78	83	64	0	0	2	2
	SHREVEPORT	72	47	82	34	60	-3	1.90	0.92	1.90	4.11	70	12.20	83	88	43	0	0	1	1
ME	CARIBOU	42	18	55	8	30	-5	0.07	-0.51	0.07	2.72	76	6.82	79	71	30	0	7	1	0
	PORTLAND	44	26	61	19	35	-6	0.02	-0.99	0.02	4.07	69	8.55	65	84	41	0	6	1	0
MD	BALTIMORE	51	39	70	35	45	-6	1.40	0.73	0.66	5.57	109	14.87	128	86	68	0	0	5	1
MA	BOSTON	42	33	61	29	37	-9	1.83	0.96	1.67	6.43	120	12.33	98	89	58	0	4	5	1
	WORCESTER	40	28	61	23	34	-8	1.14	0.23	0.74	6.04	104	12.83	99	95	52	0	6	6	1
MI	ALPENA	43	14	61	-7	29	-8	0.00	-0.52	0.00	2.68	88	3.18	52	79	38	0	7	0	0
	GRAND RAPIDS	47	25	67	18	36	-8	0.01	-0.79	0.01	2.37	60	3.88	52	90	53	0	6	1	0
	HOUGHTON LAKE	47	17	65	2	32	-7	0.01	-0.53	0.01	2.11	71	2.46	42	89	50	0	7	1	0
	LANSING	46	23	69	13	35	-8	0.08	-0.66	0.08	3.42	95	3.98	60	88	63	0	7	1	0
	MUSKEGON	47	25	66	16	36	-6	0.00	-0.66	0.00	1.84	53	2.36	32	86	58	0	6	0	0
	TRAVERSE CITY	44	21	61	4	33	-7	0.00	-0.66	0.00	2.48	80	3.18	40	84	34	0	6	0	0
MN	DULUTH	47	25	65	11	36	0	0.00	-0.47	0.00	1.10	44	1.53	34	75	44	0	5	0	0
	INT'L FALLS	56	25	71	10	41	5	0.00	-0.30	0.00	0.55	38	0.74	25	70	31	0	5	0	0
	MINNEAPOLIS	56	32	69	22	44	1	0.00	-0.52	0.00	1.45	53	2.23	49	65	40	0	4	0	0
	ROCHESTER	49	27	67	19	38	-4	0.11	-0.56	0.11	2.42	81	3.38	72	81	50	0	4	1	0
	ST. CLOUD	57	26	73	16	42	2	0.00	-0.50	0.00	1.49	63	2.25	61	81	26	0	4	0	0
MS	JACKSON	68	47	80	37	58	-4	8.53	7.12	7.31	12.70	156	23.12	126	96	54	0	0	3	2
	MERIDIAN	69	47	80	38	58	-4	4.95	3.61	2.72	8.83	95	17.20	84	94	62	0	0	3	2
	TUPELO	68	47	80	40	58	-1	2.41	1.27	2.28	5.70	69	14.94	82	93	58	0	0	4	1
MO	COLUMBIA	57	36	80	29	46	-6	0.79	-0.10	0.78	3.61	77	5.88	68	80	51	0	3	2	1
	KANSAS CITY	58	35	82	24	47	-5	0.36	-0.29	0.36	1.78	51	2.99	50	83	48	0	2	1	0
	SAINT LOUIS	57	37	75	33	47	-7	0.66	-0.17	0.59	3.56	71	6.50	69	89	59	0	0	2	1
	SPRINGFIELD	58	34	78	26	46	-8	1.09	0.08	1.09	3.94	71	7.98	80	88	63	0	4	1	1
MT	BILLINGS	68	38	80	29	53	9	0.00	-0.35	0.00	0.88	52	2.09	68	59	24	0	2	0	0
	BUTTE	58	25	69	16	42	5	0.01	-0.18	0.01	1.10	95	2.65	123	88	24	0	7	1	0
	GLASGOW	68	33	81	22	50	8	0.17	0.04	0.17	0.74	109	1.14	88	76	53	0	3	1	0
	GREAT FALLS	66	33	76	20	49	8	0.03	-0.24	0.02	0.87	60	1.60	60	75	20	0	3	2	0
	HAVRE	68	31	78	19	50	8	0.00	-0.15	0.00	0.26	27	0.62	35	73	43	0	4	0	0
	KALISPELL	58	32	66	26	45	4	0.17	-0.08	0.16	1.97	128	3.04	73	88	62	0	4	2	0
	MISSOULA	63	32	72	24	47	3	0.23	0.02	0.23	2.11	161	4.75	151	80	56	0	4	1	0
NE	GRAND ISLAND	56	30	80	21	43	-4	0.58	0.04	0.58	1.32	45	2.96	71	92	66	0	4	1	1
	LINCOLN	56	30	78	21	43	-6	0.81	0.21	0.77	1.79	56	3.82	84	86	58	0	5	2	1
	NORFOLK	56	31	78	20	43	-4	0.32	-0.23	0.32	1.05	36	2.16	51	83	58	0	4	1	0
	NORTH PLATTE	59	29	81	11	44	-2	0.29	-0.08	0.26	1.79	97	2.63	96	88	47	0	5	1	0
	OMAHA	55	32	77	25	43	-6	0.91	0.32	0.67	1.69	54	3.36	71	85	58	0	4	3	1
	SCOTTSBLUFF	60	28	81	16	44	0	0.16	-0.20	0.16	1.49	85	2.20	77	87	66	0	4	1	0
	VALENTINE	60	27	85	9	44	1	0.18	-0.19	0.17	1.35	79	1.93	78	82	55	0	4	2	0
NV	ELY	60	27	69	18	43	2	0.01	-0.17	0.01	0.87	64	1.57	55	66	39	0	6	1	0
	LAS VEGAS	77	54	84	44	66	2	0.00	-0.02	0.00	0.33	52	2.46	128	30	18	0	0	0	0
	RENO	66	36	73	29	51	4	0.14	0.08	0.14	0.49	49	0.88	28	68	32	0	1	1	0
NH	WINNEMUCCA	67	29	75	21	48	3	0.05	-0.13	0.05	0.76	65	2.65	101	75	44	0	6	1	0
NJ	CONCORD	44	23	66	8	33	-9	0.60	-0.09	0.47	5.07	120	10.97	115	93	42	0	6	4	0
NJ	NEWARK	47	36	70	31	42	-8	1.68	0.80	0.49	5.85	102	12.71	100	89	64	0	2	4	0
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	66	41	77	34	54	0	0.00	-0.11	0.00	1.45	181	2.47	143	39	15	0	0	0	0
NY	ALBANY	44	30	67	22	37	-7	0.14	-0.63	0.07	3.81	86	9.42	104	90	56	0	5	4	0
	BINGHAMTON	40	28	57	20	34	-7	0.33	-0.47	0.20	3.63	84	8.35	89	87	74	0	5	3	0
	BUFFALO	42	27	60	20	35	-8	0.12	-0.60	0.12	3.41	81	8.38	86	93	56	0	7	1	0
	ROCHESTER	42	26	57	22	34	-9	0.32	-0.33	0.32	3.13	85	7.12	88	89	67	0	7	1	0
	SYRACUSE	43	28	56	21	35	-8	0.13	-0.64	0.07	4.94	114	8.98	99	91	52	0	6	3	0
NC	ASHEVILLE	54	40	68	32	47	-5	3.07	2.25	1.70	7.77	128	13.42	96	96	77	0	1	6	2
	CHARLOTTE	57	43	75	39	50	-9	5.59	4.89	1.84	12.84	227	18.42	140	98	70	0	0	6	5
	GREENSBORO	55	42	76	40	49	-7	4.60	3.83	1.74	11.55	223	18.82	159	92	67	0	0	5	4
	HATTERAS	58	49	69	46	54	-4	4.24	3.43	1.54	10.16	158	15.71	97	98	82	0	0	6	4
	RALEIGH	54	42	75	40	48	-9	3.66	3.03	1.07	9.00	175	15.53	123	94	85	0	0	6	4
	WILMINGTON	62	47	75	42	54	-7	4.89	4.24	1.51	10.25	190	15.97	118	99	70	0	0	6	4
ND	BISMARCK	67	29	82	22	48	8	0.00	-0.29	0.00	0.44	33	0.94	41	67	33	0	5	0	0
	DICKINSON	64	33	80	26	49	9	0.00	-0.38	0.00	2.13	164	2.28	109	73	26	0	3	0	0
	FARGO	62	27	74	23	45	5	0.00	-0.28	0.00	0.70	43	1.16	39	71	20	0	6	0	0
	GRAND FORKS	59	28	73	19	44	6	0.00	-0.25	0.00	0.64	49	1.04	41	84	33	0	5	0	0
	JAMESTOWN	63	25	76	18	44	5	0.00	-0.28	0.00	0.26	19	0.41	17	86	23	0	7	0	0
	WILLISTON	65	33	80	27	49	10	0.11	-0.09	0.10	2.52	236	3.48	174	78	49	0	5	2	0
OH	AKRON-CANTON	48	32	58	28	40	-6	0.51	-0.23	0.50	4.22	96	7.93	86	90	77	0	5	2	1
	CINCINNATI	53	35	67	32	44	-8	0.40	-0.51	0.21	3.23	59	8.48	76	92	69	0	1	4	0
	CLEVELAND	43	31	56	28	37	-8	0.56	-0.21	0.56	4.46	105	9.18	102	93	70	0	6	1	1
	COLUMBUS	53	35	63	30	44	-6	0.63	-0.09	0.63	3.54	86	8.15	92	82	63	0	1	1	1
	DAYTON	51	33	64	27	42	-6	0.37	-0.56	0.37	3.46	71	6.75	69	88	62	0	4	1	0
	MANSFIELD	46	30	60	27															

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 12, 2003

STATES AND STATIONS	TEMPERATURE °F						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. °F		PRECIP.		
																90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	0.1 INCH OR MORE	5.0 INCH OR MORE	
OK	TOLEDO	47	30	69	27	39	-7	0.03	-0.74	0.03	3.72	95	6.89	89	85	55	0	5	1	0
	YOUNGSTOWN	48	32	60	26	40	-5	0.37	-0.40	0.37	3.73	85	7.66	88	88	69	0	3	1	0
	OKLAHOMA CITY	66	38	78	29	52	-6	0.33	-0.26	0.33	2.66	68	3.53	52	79	30	0	2	1	0
	TULSA	64	37	84	27	51	-8	1.18	0.37	1.18	4.43	89	6.35	75	92	56	0	3	1	1
OR	ASTORIA	57	44	62	41	50	2	1.42	0.14	0.47	16.73	174	34.24	126	94	74	0	0	7	0
	BURNS	59	30	70	21	45	4	0.27	0.08	0.23	2.29	146	3.64	94	91	63	0	5	3	0
	EUGENE	61	46	69	38	54	5	1.55	0.62	0.99	8.36	112	17.82	83	91	75	0	0	6	1
	MEDFORD	63	42	72	38	53	3	0.68	0.38	0.24	3.84	161	8.06	116	94	58	0	0	4	0
	PENDLETON	65	43	75	32	54	4	0.39	0.14	0.17	2.40	142	6.39	147	79	58	0	1	3	0
	PORTLAND	61	46	68	42	53	3	1.37	0.74	0.41	7.81	162	18.17	129	93	80	0	0	7	0
	SALEM	62	45	68	39	53	4	1.81	1.14	1.11	7.92	148	18.08	111	94	77	0	0	7	1
PA	ALLENTOWN	47	35	68	29	41	-6	0.81	0.04	0.38	4.72	97	9.23	83	87	64	0	2	4	0
	ERIE	41	28	56	25	34	-10	0.23	-0.58	0.23	4.12	91	10.01	107	92	81	0	7	1	0
	MIDDLETOWN	48	36	69	31	42	-7	1.25	0.56	0.67	5.94	133	12.48	122	93	58	0	2	4	1
	PHILADELPHIA	49	38	70	33	44	-7	1.65	0.87	0.52	5.88	114	12.85	112	91	69	0	0	4	1
	PITTSBURGH	51	36	63	30	44	-4	0.72	0.04	0.52	3.15	72	8.18	87	88	56	0	1	3	1
	WILKES-BARRE	46	33	64	26	40	-6	0.48	-0.25	0.28	3.29	84	6.32	75	84	48	0	3	3	0
	WILLIAMSPORT	48	35	68	30	41	-5	1.23	0.43	0.80	4.97	109	9.98	99	89	79	0	3	2	1
RI	PROVIDENCE	45	32	62	29	38	-8	1.80	0.79	1.20	7.38	119	13.18	94	88	62	0	5	5	1
SC	BEAUFORT	65	52	76	45	58	-5	2.06	1.27	0.70	5.79	114	9.81	80	99	72	0	0	5	3
	CHARLESTON	65	50	77	45	57	-6	3.78	3.08	1.42	11.01	209	14.49	116	96	71	0	0	5	3
	COLUMBIA	59	47	77	42	53	-8	4.08	3.30	1.15	11.53	192	16.49	114	96	87	0	0	6	4
	GREENVILLE	57	43	76	35	50	-7	3.73	2.92	1.04	11.02	163	16.97	110	95	70	0	0	6	4
SD	ABERDEEN	62	25	78	13	44	2	0.00	-0.41	0.00	0.57	28	1.26	42	77	43	0	7	0	0
	HURON	62	27	78	14	44	1	0.01	-0.49	0.01	0.30	12	1.56	44	82	30	0	5	1	0
	RAPID CITY	64	31	86	20	48	6	0.08	-0.29	0.07	1.20	74	1.74	71	83	37	0	4	2	0
	SIoux FALLS	53	26	74	11	40	-3	0.80	0.22	0.42	1.04	37	2.00	52	87	54	0	5	2	0
TN	BRISTOL	59	41	71	35	50	-3	3.53	2.84	2.18	6.74	132	15.53	129	97	62	0	0	6	2
	CHATTANOOGA	65	46	77	40	55	-3	2.73	1.71	0.89	7.42	92	17.83	97	93	67	0	0	5	2
	KNOXVILLE	60	45	73	38	53	-3	3.77	2.86	1.20	6.28	93	18.16	118	99	74	0	0	6	4
	MEMPHIS	65	45	81	40	55	-5	0.84	-0.51	0.83	3.79	48	12.91	79	88	56	0	0	2	1
	NASHVILLE	63	42	78	35	52	-5	1.94	1.07	1.52	4.97	78	15.01	107	94	53	0	0	4	1
TX	ABILENE	73	43	82	27	58	-5	0.00	-0.35	0.00	0.48	24	1.62	40	66	39	0	1	0	0
	AMARILLO	69	33	79	26	51	-3	0.00	-0.28	0.00	0.88	55	1.12	40	69	20	0	3	0	0
	AUSTIN	77	45	85	33	61	-6	0.05	-0.40	0.04	0.61	21	6.17	91	76	46	0	0	2	0
	BEAUMONT	73	52	79	39	63	-4	1.24	0.39	0.70	3.23	62	10.65	75	96	47	0	0	2	2
	BROWNSVILLE	79	60	89	47	69	-4	0.37	-0.04	0.22	0.93	58	2.19	53	94	59	0	0	3	0
	CORPUS CHRISTI	78	56	85	41	67	-3	0.05	-0.36	0.03	1.34	56	3.70	63	84	65	0	0	2	0
	DEL RIO	82	54	91	38	68	-1	0.03	-0.30	0.03	0.74	50	1.51	50	65	36	1	0	1	0
	EL PASO	74	45	86	38	60	-3	0.00	-0.03	0.00	0.18	58	1.55	135	35	17	0	0	0	0
	FORT WORTH	73	45	82	34	59	-4	0.02	-0.60	0.02	1.55	38	4.86	58	79	30	0	0	1	0
	GALVESTON	71	57	75	45	64	-5	0.03	-0.54	0.03	0.68	18	3.57	34	92	58	0	0	1	0
	HOUSTON	75	54	82	40	64	-3	0.04	-0.76	0.03	2.11	45	8.28	73	84	50	0	0	2	0
	LUBBOCK	72	37	81	30	54	-4	0.00	-0.25	0.00	0.25	22	0.35	15	52	25	0	2	0	0
	MIDLAND	76	41	85	31	58	-4	0.00	-0.09	0.00	0.17	31	1.17	70	47	25	0	1	0	0
	SAN ANGELO	78	41	85	28	60	-3	0.00	-0.28	0.00	1.25	87	3.14	92	64	33	0	1	0	0
	SAN ANTONIO	79	53	86	37	66	-1	0.04	-0.46	0.04	0.82	30	3.96	65	82	36	0	0	1	0
	VICTORIA	75	52	81	38	64	-4	0.17	-0.42	0.11	1.27	39	4.97	65	87	63	0	0	2	0
	WACO	76	43	88	32	60	-4	0.01	-0.56	0.01	1.39	41	4.54	59	84	42	0	1	1	0
	WICHITA FALLS	73	40	81	29	56	-5	0.00	-0.56	0.00	0.52	16	1.43	24	75	35	0	2	0	0
UT	SALT LAKE CITY	65	39	76	30	52	4	0.24	-0.20	0.17	2.13	80	3.82	71	71	29	0	2	2	0
VT	BURLINGTON	43	26	59	17	35	-6	0.06	-0.58	0.04	2.49	73	4.46	61	87	48	0	6	2	0
VA	LYNCHBURG	54	39	73	37	47	-6	3.46	2.69	1.09	7.69	149	14.96	127	87	65	0	0	4	3
	NORFOLK	53	45	71	43	49	-6	4.90	4.12	1.90	7.92	145	15.49	122	96	77	0	0	6	4
	RICHMOND	52	41	73	38	47	-8	3.71	2.99	1.95	9.68	180	16.06	135	95	83	0	0	5	3
	ROANOKE	54	41	72	38	47	-7	3.29	2.49	1.21	6.98	133	14.23	123	87	71	0	0	6	3
	WASH/DULLES	51	39	70	35	45	-6	1.57	0.85	0.68	5.31	111	13.13	124	85	71	0	0	5	1
WA	OLYMPIA	58	40	64	37	49	3	1.06	0.14	0.37	10.07	146	21.85	106	95	79	0	0	7	0
	QUILLAYUTE	53	42	61	37	47	1	4.60	2.75	1.90	21.59	152	38.78	96	96	80	0	0	7	2
	SEATTLE-TACOMA	57	44	64	40	51	2	0.74	0.08	0.24	7.87	160	17.62	124	92	76	0	0	7	0
	SPOKANE	58	37	67	30	47	2	2.22	-0.06	0.11	2.74	137	6.65	125	84	47	0	2	5	0
	YAKIMA	64	39	70	36	52	5	0.07	-0.05	0.05	0.43	47	2.91	101	72	48	0	0	3	0
WV	BECKLEY	51	37	63	34	44	-5	2.97	2.24	1.01	4.69	96	11.54	104	96	75	0	0	6	3
	CHARLESTON	57	41	69	36	49	-3	1.24	0.52	0.52	3.22	63	12.49	108	99	63	0	0	5	1
	ELKINS	55	37	66	31	46	-1	2.46	1.69	1.11	5.11	97	11.68	98	96	52	0	1	6	1
	HUNTINGTON	57	41	71	33	49	-4	2.07	1.35	0.78	3.94	77	11.13	98	93	59	0	0	6	1
WI	EAU CLAIRE	55	25	71	14	40	-2	0.00	-0.65	0.00	2.31	78	3.27	68	74	24	0	7	0	0
	GREEN BAY	45	25	64	12	35	-6	0.00	-0.61	0.00	2.41	78	3.56	67	85	51	0	6	0	0
	LA CROSSE	54	28	73	19	41	-4	0.11	-0.66	0.11	2.68	82	3.77	69	82	29	0	5	1	0
	MADISON	49	22	71	10	35	-8	0.33	-0.45	0.32	2.42	67	3.27	53	85	55	0	6	2	0
	MILWAUKEE	44	29	62	23	36	-7	0.13	-0.77	0.12	2.42	59	3.21	42	76	62	0	5	2	0
WY	CASPER	61	28	74	19	44	3	0.66	0.39	0.54	1.63	123	2.25	88	76	47	0	6	2	1
	CHEYENNE	57	30	72	22	43	3	0.52	0.23	0.52	1.24	81	1.53	63	68	46	0	4	1	1
	LANDER	64	32	74	26	48	6	0.05	-0.37	0.04	1.00	52	2.41	81	60	33	0	4	2	0
	SHERIDAN	67	30	79	24	48	6	0.07	-0.29	0.06	1.51	95	2.68	91	74	38	0	5	2	0

## National Agricultural Summary

April 7 - 13, 2003

*Weekly National Agricultural Summary provided by USDA/NASS*

### HIGHLIGHTS

The cool, wet weather in the Southeast and Tennessee Valley hindered fieldwork and planting. Heavy rainfall caused flooding in some areas. Fieldwork and planting progressed with few interruptions in the Great Plains and Rocky Mountains. Early-week rains in the central and eastern Corn Belt improved soil moisture conditions but prevented planting across most of the area until late in the week.

During the week, below-normal temperatures interrupted winter grain development across the eastern half of the Nation. Planting gained momentum along the Pacific Coast and in the Pacific Northwest Region. Crop emergence and growth were slow in the Delta States due to cool weather. Also, saturated soils hindered germination in many parts of the Delta and Southeast.

**Corn:** Planting was 5 percent complete, 1 percentage point ahead of this time last year and the 5-year average. Planting was active in the central and southern Great Plains, middle Mississippi Valley, and along the lower Ohio Valley. A few fields were planted in Illinois, Indiana, and Nebraska, but rain and cool soil temperatures prevented widespread progress across much of the Corn Belt. Planting also began in Colorado. Heavy showers delayed planting on the Atlantic Coastal Plain, where North Carolina growers were 14 percentage points behind last year's pace.

**Winter Wheat:** Four percent of the Nation's winter wheat was headed, the same as last year but behind the 5-year average of 6 percent. Below-normal temperatures hindered growth across the eastern half of the Nation. In the Great Plains, below-freezing temperatures were recorded as far south as central Texas. Some frost damage may have occurred in Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Texas. Fields are heading slightly behind normal in Oklahoma and Texas and well behind the normal in Arkansas. In Kansas, fields entered the jointing stage slightly behind average. In Montana, 3 percent of the fields were dormant, compared with 41 percent last year.

**Cotton:** Planting advanced to 8 percent complete, 1 percentage point behind last year but the same as the 5-year average. In California and Arizona, planting resumed in many areas as weather returned to normal and emergence of new cotton plants was reported in a few locations. Planting was completed in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas. However, a midweek storm damaged some cotton in that area. Land preparations continued in the Panhandle as producers pre-watered and applied herbicides. Rain prevented planting in most of the Southeast and Delta States.

**Small grains:** Spring wheat planting progressed to 13 percent, ahead of last year's 5 percent and the 8-percent average for this date. Planting accelerated in South Dakota and remained active in Idaho and Washington. Planting progress remained behind normal in Minnesota and Montana.

The barley crop was 13-percent seeded, compared with last year's 9 percent and the 5-year average of 11 percent. Warm weather supported planting in the Pacific Northwest, as Washington growers seeded about one-fifth of their acreage, despite scattered rain delays. Above-normal temperatures also encouraged the start of barley planting in the northern Great Plains.

Oat seeding advanced to 16 percent, the same as last year's progress but behind the 18-percent average for this date. Planting remained very active in the middle Missouri Valley. Meanwhile, rain prevented planting in Pennsylvania. In Ohio, progress lagged almost 2 weeks behind the 5-year average. Planting began in the upper Mississippi Valley and northern Great Plains.

**Rice:** Twenty-six percent of the crop has been planted, and 9 percent has emerged. Planting was 5 percentage points ahead of last year and the 5-year average. Emergence was 2 percentage points behind normal. Planting was very active in Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas, with Louisiana planting one-fifth of their crop. In Mississippi, planting progress was limited as producers waited for soggy fields to dry. Below-normal temperatures slowed germination and emergence in Louisiana and Texas.

**Sorghum:** Planting advanced to 15 percent complete, the same as last year, but slightly behind the 5-year average of 14 percent. Planting began in Missouri and Oklahoma. Favorable weather conditions accelerated planting in Arkansas. In Texas, planting progressed at a near-normal pace. Some areas reported possible damage to emerged fields from the cold weather.

**Other crops:** Sugar beet planting progressed to 15-percent planted in the four major sugar beet-producing States. Planting was ahead of last year and the average for this date of 9 and 10 percent, respectively. Aided by warm, dry weather, Idaho growers planted 22 percent of their acreage. A few fields were planted in Minnesota and North Dakota.

# Crop Progress and Condition

## Week Ending April 13, 2003

Weekly U.S. Crop Progress and Condition Tables provided by USDA/NASS

Winter Wheat Percent Headed				
	Apr 13 2003	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	2	NA	2	18
CA	66	NA	56	51
CO	0	NA	0	0
ID	0	NA	0	0
IL	0	NA	0	0
IN	0	NA	0	0
KS	0	NA	0	0
MI	0	NA	0	0
MO	0	NA	0	0
MT	0	NA	0	0
NE	0	NA	0	0
NC	7	NA	15	17
OH	0	NA	0	5
OK	6	NA	3	8
OR	0	NA	0	0
SD	0	NA	0	0
TX	13	NA	13	18
WA	0	NA	0	0
18 Sts	4	NA	4	6
These 18 States planted 90% of last year's winter wheat acreage.				

Corn Percent Planted				
	Apr 13 2003	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
CO	1	NA	1	1
IL	3	NA	1	4
IN	1	NA	0	2
IA	0	NA	1	0
KS	16	NA	10	8
KY	22	NA	15	17
MI	0	NA	0	0
MN	0	NA	0	0
MO	30	NA	24	19
NE	1	NA	1	1
NC	16	NA	30	30
ND	0	NA	0	0
OH	0	NA	2	2
PA	0	NA	1	1
SD	0	NA	0	0
TN	36	NA	22	27
TX	63	NA	59	52
WI	0	NA	0	0
18 Sts	5	NA	4	4
These 18 States planted 92% of last year's corn acreage.				

Cotton Percent Planted				
	Apr 13 2003	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	5	2	8	7
AZ	17	7	34	27
AR	0	0	0	0
CA	17	12	32	26
GA	1	1	6	4
LA	0	0	0	1
MS	0	0	0	1
MO	1	0	1	0
NC	0	0	3	2
OK	0	0	0	0
SC	1	1	4	3
TN	0	0	0	0
TX	15	11	13	12
VA	0	0	0	0
14 Sts	8	5	9	8
These 14 States planted 98% of last year's cotton acreage.				

Sorghum Percent Planted				
	Apr 13 2003	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	21	8	16	16
CO	0	0	0	0
IL	0	0	0	0
KS	0	0	0	0
LA	9	2	7	8
MO	1	0	0	0
NE	0	0	0	0
NM	0	0	0	0
OK	3	0	2	1
SD	0	0	0	0
TX	41	33	43	40
11 Sts	15	12	15	14
These 11 States planted 97% of last year's sorghum acreage.				

Oats Percent Planted				
	Apr 13 2003	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
IA	50	35	57	46
MN	2	0	8	10
NE	47	28	57	49
ND	1	0	1	1
OH	13	6	12	41
PA	10	10	32	26
SD	32	10	7	18
WI	5	2	5	14
8 Sts	16	8	16	18
These 8 States planted 53% of last year's oat acreage.				

Barley Percent Planted				
	Apr 13 2003	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	37	26	27	27
MN	1	0	0	2
MT	9	4	4	9
ND	2	0	0	0
WA	36	18	38	39
5 Sts	13	7	9	11
These 5 States planted 81% of last year's barley acreage.				

Spring Wheat Percent Planted				
	Apr 13 2003	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	48	31	28	34
MN	1	0	0	3
MT	4	1	1	7
ND	9	1	1	1
SD	37	11	8	22
WA	57	39	55	55
6 Sts	13	5	5	8
These 6 States planted 99% of last year's spring wheat acreage.				

Rice Percent Planted				
	Apr 13 2003	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	22	9	9	11
CA	0	0	1	1
LA	63	43	67	64
MS	11	6	3	14
MO	2	0	2	1
TX	60	45	82	63
6 Sts	26	15	21	21
These 6 States planted 100% of last year's rice acreage.				

Rice Percent Emerged				
	Apr 13 2003	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	1	0	0	1
CA	0	0	0	0
LA	41	20	48	46
MS	2	0	0	3
MO	0	0	0	0
TX	29	17	56	39
6 Sts	9	4	12	11
These 6 States planted 100% of last year's rice acreage.				

# Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending April 13, 2003

Weekly U.S. Crop Progress and Condition Tables provided by USDA/NASS

Sugar Beets Percent Planted				
	Apr 13 2003	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	61	39	44	43
MI	0	0	2	16
MN	7	0	0	0
ND	5	0	1	0
4 Sts	15	7	9	10
These 4 States planted 81% of last year's sugar beet acreage.				

(Continued from page 1)

spring planting from **Nebraska to Ohio**, but failed to significantly reduce long-term **Midwestern** precipitation deficits. In addition, unfavorably dry conditions persisted across the **upper Midwest**. Meanwhile, cool weather lingered on the **southern Plains**, but warm conditions (up to 10°F above normal) fostered winter wheat development across the **northern Plains**. However, long-term drought and subsoil moisture shortages remained a concern on the **northern and central Plains**, while short-term dryness and topsoil moisture depletion increased stress on winter wheat and emerging summer crops across much of **Oklahoma and northern Texas**. In the **West**, showery weather was confined to **northern California, the Pacific Northwest, and the northern Rockies**. Elsewhere from the **Rockies westward**, mild, dry weather favored fieldwork, although water-supply concerns existed due to below-normal reservoir levels and prospects for below-normal spring and summer runoff in most watersheds.

Winter Wheat Crop Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
AR	1	8	30	50	11
CA	0	0	5	55	40
CO	6	12	31	47	4
ID	0	1	14	71	14
IL	0	2	20	62	16
IN	0	3	21	60	16
KS	5	16	39	33	7
MI	2	26	28	43	1
MO	0	5	32	51	12
MT	1	6	43	42	8
NE	5	15	37	40	3
NC	2	15	37	44	2
OH	0	2	18	57	23
OK	2	7	23	50	18
OR	0	13	67	18	2
SD	6	10	37	38	9
TX	7	18	38	32	5
WA	2	7	30	53	8
18 Sts	4	12	33	42	9
Prev Wk	3	11	35	41	10
Prev Yr	15	18	33	30	4

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

National crop conditions for selected States are weighted based upon the year 2002 planted acres.

Early in the week, late-season snowfall affected areas from the **central Plains and western Corn Belt eastward into the northern Mid-Atlantic region**. April 6 snowfall in **Nebraska** included 9.4 inches in **Kearney** (breaking its April daily record of 8.0 inches set on April 18, 1944) and 7.3 inches in **Grand Island** (its third-greatest daily snowfall in April). **Sioux City, IA**, received 9.5 inches on April 6-7, breaking daily snowfall records on both days (6.3 and 3.2 inches, respectively). On April 7, snow spread into the **Northeast**, where daily records included 4.0 inches in **New York's Central Park** and 4.4 inches in **Newark, NJ**. It was **Central Park's** greatest daily snowfall in April since 9.6 inches fell on April 6, 1982. Elsewhere, snow also fell along the track of the primary storm system, resulting in a trace of snow on April 9 as far south as **Little Rock, AR** (the first April snowfall there since April 19, 1983). In **western North Carolina**, April 10-11 snowfall included 22.0 inches atop **Mount Mitchell**, 14.7 inches on **Flat Top Mountain**, and 4.0 inches in **Asheville**. The storm was also responsible for excessive rainfall and flooding across the **South**. In fact, **Jackson, MS** (7.38 inches on April 6), experienced its wettest day on record, eclipsing the 6.97-inch standard set on October 4, 1964. Record flooding ensued in a few **Mississippi** basins, including the **Chunky River near Chunky** and the **Chickasawhay River at Enterprise**. The April 7 crest near **Chunky** exceeded the March 4, 1979, record by 0.68 foot, while the crest in **Enterprise** edged the February 25, 1964, standard by 0.19 foot. Month-to-date rainfall reached 8.64 inches in **Jackson**, while farther east, April 1-12 totals included 5.78 inches in **Charlotte, NC**, and 5.26 inches in **Savannah, GA**.

Very cold weather accompanied and trailed the storm system responsible for the rain and snow. On April 6 in **Michigan**, monthly record lows included -9°F in **Marquette** (previously, -5°F on April 1, 1964) and -7°F in **Alpena** (previously, -6°F on April 1, 1923). A day later in **New England**, daily-record lows fell to 8°F in **Concord, NH**, and 9°F in **Montpelier, VT**. Farther west, a fresh snow cover in **Nebraska** helped to lower temperatures to daily-record levels on April 8 in locations such as **Alliance (3°F)** and **North Platte (11°F)**. Farther south, **Jackson, MS**, noted a high temperature of 46°F on Wednesday, its lowest on record during April. Elsewhere on April 9, **Waco, TX (32°F)**, marked its sixth-latest freeze on record, while **McAlester, OK**, notched its first of two daily-record lows (26 and 28°F). By week's end, however, record warmth developed across the **Intermountain West** and spread onto the **northern and central Plains**. Daily-record highs on April 12 included 86°F in **Rapid City, SD**, 85°F in **Chadron, NE**, and 83°F in **Miles City, MT**.

At week's end, wet weather returned to **California** and the **Northwest**. Daily-record airport totals in **California** on April 12 included 1.31 inches in **San Francisco** and 0.79 inch in **Sacramento**. **San Francisco's** total also exceeded its April normal of 1.18 inches. Meanwhile, more than 3 feet of snow blanketed parts of the **Sierra Nevada**. Farther north, measurable rainfall dampened **Portland, OR**, on each of the first 13 days of the month, tying its April 1958 record.

Locally heavy showers accompanied warm weather (1 to 3°F above normal) in **Hawaii**. In **Wainiha, Kauai**, weekly rainfall totaled 9.80 inches, including 4.94 inches in a 24-hour period on April 12-13. Heavy rain spread as far east as **Maui** on April 10, when 12-hour totals reached 4.24 inches in **West Wailuaiki** and 2.92 inches at the **Hana Airport**. Meanwhile in **Alaska**, mild weather replaced an early-week chill. Weekly temperatures ranged from 4°F below normal in parts of **northern Alaska** to as much as 6°F above normal in **southwestern parts of the State**. Some snow accompanied the warming trend, totaling 6.2 inches in **Bethel** and 5.4 inches in **Kodiak** during the first 12 days of April. By week's end, however, warmth arrived in **southern and interior Alaska**, breaking daily-record highs for April 12 in locations such as **Juneau (56°F)** and **Northway (51°F)**.

## 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 2.2. Corn 42% planted, 44% 2002, 48% avg. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 4% poor, 23% fair, 67% good, 5% excellent. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 3% poor, 27% fair, 59% good, 10% excellent. Livestock condition 2% very poor, 7% poor, 22% fair, 61% good, 8% excellent. Fields across the state were too wet to work or plant. Activities: Ground preparation for planting in, fertilizing, spraying pastures, general care of livestock, poultry, catfish.

**ALASKA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE**

**ARIZONA:** Temperatures for the majority of the stations were above normal for the week. Alfalfa conditions ranged from fair to mostly good. Small Grains is heading at about 30%. Range, Pasture feeds are still improving due to the past precipitation. No precipitation was reported at any of the 17 stations.

**ARKANSAS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Soil 3% very short, 17% short, 70% adequate, 10% surplus. Sorghum 21% planted, 16% 2002, 16% 5 yr. Avg. Corn 80% planted, 36% 2002, 55% 5 year avg.; 36% emerged, 0% 2002, 0% 5 yr avg. Soybeans 3% planted, 2% 2002, 1% 5 yr. Avg. Cotton 0% planted, 0% 2002, 0% 5 yr. avg. Rice 22% planted, 9% 2002, 11% 5 yr. avg.; 1% emerged, 0% 2002, 1% 5 year avg. Winter Wheat 2% headed, 2% 2002, 18% 5 yr. avg.; 1% very poor, 8% poor, 30% fair, 50% good, 11% excellent Pasture, Range feed 1% very poor, 6% poor, 40% fair, 49% good, 4% excellent. Revisions: none FIELD CROPS: A late frost slowed most field work through out the state early in the week delayed emergence in those crops already planted. Near the end of the week, planting was back in high gear. In the eastern part of the state, row crops are being planted, and fields are being prepped for cotton. Aphids in seedling corn are reported to be a problem in the east central portion of the state. Fertilizer applications are being given to pastures, winter wheat across the state. Stripe rust has continued to be a problem in some wheat counties, producers have been urged to monitor their crops. High winds, wet fields delayed tomato transplanting, but planting was planned to resume as the cold front dissipated. LIVESTOCK, PASTURE, RANGE: Livestock were reported to be in generally good condition. Most producers halting hay feeding with adequate pasture growth available. Bangs vaccination, general cattle work is being done.

**CALIFORNIA:** Cotton planting resumed in many areas as weather conditions during the week returned to normal. Planting progressed slowly though due to cool soil temperatures. Emergence of new cotton plants was reported in a few locations. Steady crop development continued in fields of wheat, barley, oats, although, development has been slowed by the recent cool weather. Problems with lodging, rust were reported in some wheat fields. Grains planted for silage were green-chopped in a few locations. Winter forage was cut, windrowed, drying, or green-chopped for feed. Pre-planting irrigation, cultivation, herbicide applications were underway in fields being prepared for planting of various row crops. Corn fields planted earlier began to emerge, were growing rapidly as weather warmed. A small number of corn fields were replanted due to small hail, heavy rains in isolated areas. Fields of alfalfa for hay, seed continued to grow well. Many alfalfa hay fields continued to be cut, windrowed, baled. A number of seed alfalfa fields were mowed or grazed by sheep to promote crown growth, uniform blooming. Sugar beets continued to prosper, with harvesting ongoing in a few fields. Some sugar beet fields were treated to control insect pests. Sweet potato field fumigations continued. Several rice fields were treated for weeds. Grape vineyards, tree fruit orchards were cultivated, treated to control weeds, diseases, insect pests. Dry soil moisture prompted growers to increase irrigation. Recent winds, slushy hail had little effect on stone fruit orchards in most

locations. Orchards were well leafed out and loaded with developing fruit. Growers continued to thin fruit in orchards where necessary. Quince orchards were treated with copper for bacterial diseases such as fire blight. Cherry, apple bloom was winding down, had ended in some locations. Raisin, wine, and table grape vineyards were rapidly pushing out new growth and showing flower clusters in a few varieties. Thinning and training of vines commenced. Vineyard removal and planting of new tree fruit orchards continued. Strawberries were harvested for the fresh market. Good berry development continued in most fields. Avocado, olive bloom continued to develop on schedule. Olive pruning was winding down. Bloom in orange orchards was well underway in most areas. Puff and rind breakdown continued to be a problem in most orange lots. Navel, Valencia oranges, late-season tangerines, grapefruit, and lemons were picked and packed. Lemons continued to exhibit excellent color, quality, with only a slight amount of wind scarring present. Orchards were irrigated, treated to control diseases, insect pests. Bloom in early walnut varieties was ending, while late-season varieties were just beginning their bloom period. Blight sprays continued. A storm during the week blew over a few almond trees in Fresno county. A good fruit set was reported by almond, pistachio growers. Growth of young vegetable plants in open fields continued to be slowed by cool, wet weather conditions. Sugar pea bloom was progressing slowly due to cold weather. Most plantings of squash, tomato and eggplants were still under their hot caps and experienced little or no wind or hail damage. Red leaf lettuce and basil varieties continued to be transplanted to local hot houses. New tomato and watermelon fields were planted using transplants. Previously planted tomato, onion, garlic fields were thriving. Irrigation, cultivation, and weed control applications were underway in some maturing fields. Warm weather vegetables growing under hot caps continued showing good progress. Bloom, fruit set were being observed on eggplants. Broccoli, lettuce harvesting continued in the San Joaquin Valley. Harvesting of asparagus continued to be light due to the cool weather. The following vegetables were also harvested: artichokes, bok choy, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, celery, cilantro, green onions, mustard greens, parsley, parsnips, peas, radicchio, radishes, spinach. Rain late in the period was beneficial to foothill pastures in the north, north central valley, higher elevation pastures. Rain was not as beneficial to some central foothill areas where grass had started to dry. Livestock were in good condition.

Cattle weight gains were reported to be good to excellent. Spring lambs were shipping to market or to other areas for further feeding. Due to good feed conditions, some lambs will not ship for a few weeks. Bees were active in blooming orange orchards in central state.

**COLORADO:** Days suitable for field work 6.0. Topsoil 6% very short, 24% short, 69% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil 28% very short, 54% short, 18% adequate, 0% surplus. Temperatures were above average for the week with scattered moisture throughout the state. Fieldwork and planting activities increasing as daytime temperatures warm and fields dry out from the heavy amounts of snow received in some areas. Spring barley 38% seeded, 46% 2002, 43% avg.; 11% emerged, 13% 2002, 16% avg.; 1% very poor, 1% poor, 10% fair, 34% good, 54% excellent. Dry onions 64% planted, 43% 2002, 63% avg.; 1% very poor, 3% poor, 16% fair, 59% good, 21% excellent. Sugar beets 28% planted, 35% 2002, 35% avg. Summer potatoes 20% planted, 40% 2002, 31% avg. Corn 1% planted, 1% 2002, 1% avg. Spring wheat 30% planted, 24% 2002, 31% avg.; 7% emerged, 4% 2002, 13% avg.; 26% fair, 59% good, 15% excellent. Winter wheat 8% jointed, 9% 2002, 19% avg.

**DELAWARE:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3. Topsoil 7% adequate, 93% surplus. Subsoil 17% adequate, 83% surplus. Corn 1% planted, 5% 2002, 6% avg. Barley 2% very poor, 18% poor, 44% fair, 33% good, 3% excellent. Winter wheat 2% very poor, 19% poor, 47% fair, 30% good, 2%

excellent. Strawberries 3% bloomed, 10% 2002, 26% avg. Apples 9% bloomed, 21% 2002, 34% avg. Peaches 50% bloomed, 50% 2002, 67% avg. Snap beans 5% planted, 6% 2002, 6% avg. Sweet 2% corn planted, 5% 2002, 8% avg. Green peas 33% planted, 52% 2002, 46% avg. Potatoes 16% planted, 46%, 2002, 41% avg. Hay supplies 40% very short, 32% short, 28% adequate. Acreage prepared for spring planting 28%. Pasture feed 23% poor, 27% fair, 50% good. Cold, wet weather delayed field work, planting this week. Small grains remain in fair to good condition. Hay supplies are becoming very short, but pastures remain in fair to mostly good condition. Fruit crops are slightly delayed by cold, wet conditions.

**FLORIDA:** Topsoil 1% very short, 8% short, 80% adequate, 11% surplus. Subsoil 4% short, 93% adequate, 3% surplus. Temperature average 3° below normal to 1° above. Daytime highs: mostly 80s, some 90s. Nighttime lows: mostly 40s, 50s, some 60s. Rainfall range: traces most of State to over 4 in. some northern counties. Tomato harvest continuing, moving northward. Watermelon finished planting, northern counties. Vegetables: Cabbage, carrots, celery, cucumbers, sweet corn, eggplant, peppers, potatoes, radishes, squash, tomatoes; light supplies of endive, escarole, lettuce, okra. Warm first of week citrus areas, rain, high winds mid week, cooler temperatures, ideal weather during the weekend. Most groves very good condition, some irrigation on the high sand hills. Valencia harvest very active. Grapefruit movement slowing as supplies are running low in some areas. Few Honey tangerines, Temples still being picked for fresh, processing. Caretakers cutting cover crops, pushing out and burning dead trees, spraying, herbiciding, fertilizing young trees. Pasture feed 20% fair, 70% good, 10% excellent. Cattle condition 25% fair, 75% good. Panhandle, north: most pasture in fair condition. Unseasonable cold, flooding limiting permanent pasture grass growth. Hay at premium, winter small grain grazing fair to strong. Central: pasture, cattle condition fair to excellent. South: cattle, pasture feeds fair to good. Statewide, most cattle in good condition.

**GEORGIA:** Days suitable for field work 2.1. Soil 1% short, 41% adequate, 58% surplus. Corn 2% poor, 33% fair, 59% good, 6% excellent; 40% emerged, 77% 2002, 66% avg. Hay 1% very poor, 4% poor, 31% fair, 56% good, 8% excellent. Peanuts 0% planted, 0% 2002, 1% avg. Sorghum 1% planted, 6% 2002, 7% avg. Tobacco 36% fair, 59% good, 5% excellent; 24% transplanted, 80% 2002, 63% avg. Wheat 96% jointing, 92% 2002, 92% avg.; 81% boot, 75% 2002, 77% avg. Onions 4% poor, 27% fair, 57% good 12% excellent; 1% harvested, 4% 2002, 3% avg. Watermelons 2% very poor, 11% poor, 48% fair, 30% good, 9% excellent; 62% planted 76% 2002, 67% avg. Apples 27% fair, 53% good, 20% excellent; 54% blooming, 47% 2002, 49% avg. Peaches 20% fair, 80% good; 98% blooming, 100% 2002, 97% avg. Rain continued last week. Some areas received as much as 7 inches of rain. Heavy rains, cold weather delayed field activity, corn germination. Warmer weather needed to cut hay, plant peanuts, tobacco, watermelons, cotton. Disease continued to spread, in wheat. Vineyard growers were unable to spray fungicide, perform weed control due to rain. Grub worms were found in pastures in some areas. Small grains appeared in good condition. Activities: Applying fertilizer, spraying pastures, hayfields for weeds, planting vegetables weather permitting.

**HAWAII:** A high pressure system north of the State brought variable weather during the past week. East state banana harvest was active. Lower Pena papaya orchards were in fair condition with low production. Vegetables remained in mostly fair to good condition with beneficial showers, heavy irrigation.

**IDAHO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil 5% very short, 19% short, 65% adequate, 11% surplus. Irrigation Water Supply is 3% very poor, 31% poor, 43% fair, 22% good, 1% excellent. Planting progress this past week occurred mostly in Southwest, Southcentral state. However, spring planting is gaining momentum in Eastern state. Abundant moisture continues to delay planting, fieldwork in North state, some Eastern areas. Hay, Roughage Supply is 1% very short, 3% short, 69% adequate, 27% surplus. Lambing 91% complete, calving is 92% complete. Sugarbeets 11% Emerged, 4% 2002, 6% avg. Oats 9% Emerged, 0% 2002, 1% avg.

Onions 94% Planted, 91% 2002, 80% avg.; 36% Emerged, 19% 2002, 19% avg. Dry Peas 9% Planted, 13% 2002, 15% avg.; 1% Emerged, 0% 2002, 1% avg. Lentils 0% Planted, 4%, 2002, 2% avg. Potatoes 5% Planted, 5% 2002, 4% avg. Winter Wheat 6% Jointed, 4% 2002, 4% avg. Activities: Setting up irrigation equipment, spreading fertilizer, branding, caring for livestock, field preparation, planting spring wheat, barley, oats, sugarbeets, potatoes, onions, dry peas.

**ILLINOIS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.0. Topsoil 5% very short, 27% short, 62% adequate, 6% surplus. Oats 65% seeded, 46% 2002, 59% avg. Alfalfa hay 2% poor, 32% fair, 59% good, 7% excellent. Pasture 4% poor, 38% fair, 53% good, 5% excellent. Fieldwork remained slow during the early part of last week due to below normal temperatures, wet fields. Average temperature departure for the week ranged from 4° below normal to almost 6° below normal with light precipitation. Alfalfa has broken dormancy, pastures are showing signs of improvement. Activities: Field preparation, applying anhydrous, spreading fertilizers, other chemicals, cutting brush, building fences, taking care of livestock.

**INDIANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 2.9. Topsoil 2% very short, 6% short, 73% adequate, 19% surplus. Subsoil 7% very short, 17% short, 66% adequate, 10% surplus. Wet, cold soils limited fieldwork early in the week. Best progress was late in the week as soils became progressively drier. Unseasonably cold weather early in the period. Many farmers waiting for warmer weather, higher soil temperatures before planting. Temperatures averaged 3° to 11° below normal for the week. Precipitation averaged 0.08 to 1.31 inches. Dry subsoil conditions remain in some northwestern areas. Tillage of soils made good progress after mid-week. Fertilizer, anhydrous ammonia were being applied on many fields. Farmers were spraying chemicals, preparing equipment for planting. Corn planting made the best progress in the west central, southwestern areas. Winter wheat 76% good to excellent compared with 57% last year. Wheat 26% jointed, 23% 2002, 36% avg. Wheat growth, development improving. Hay supplies 23% very short, 43% short, 32% adequate, 2% surplus. Hay prices remain high. Livestock are in mostly good condition. Cows are thin on some farms. Spring calving, lambing active. Pastures are improving. Pastures 3% very poor, 15% poor, 41% fair, 38% good, 3% excellent. Activities: Selling grain, hauling manure, preparing machinery, purchasing supplies, cleaning fence rows, tiling fields, spreading lime, taking care of livestock.

**IOWA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 1.7. Topsoil 8% very short, 29% short, 58% adequate, 5% surplus. The recent precipitation improved topsoil moisture although dry soils are still a concern across southern state. Precipitation at the beginning of the week (April 7) delayed the progression of fieldwork. Oat 50% plantings complete, behind 2001, 57% completion but ahead of the 46% 5-yr avg. Overall, fieldwork is slightly behind schedule compared to last year and the five-year average.

**KANSAS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Topsoil 8% very short, 37% short, 53% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil 26% very short, 39% short, 35% adequate. Subsoil moisture very low in Western, North Central, Central state. Warm temperatures, shortage of soil moisture are beginning to stress wheat in some areas. Wheat 5% very poor, 16% poor, 39% fair, 33% good, 7% excellent. Wheat jointed is 38%, 22% prev., 44% avg. Corn 16% planted, 10% prev., 8% avg. Range, pasture feeds 21% very poor, 29% poor, 32% fair, 17% good, 1% excellent. Stockwater supplies 17% very short, 33% short, 50% adequate. Hay, forage supplies 13% very short, 34% short, 52% adequate, 1% surplus. Feed grain supplies 5% very short, 22% short, 72% adequate, 1% surplus.

**KENTUCKY:** Days suitable for fieldwork 1.8. Topsoil 1% short, 52% adequate, 47% surplus. Subsoil 2% short, 65% adequate, 33% surplus. Rain, cooler weather interpreted most farm activities last week. For the week, temperatures averaged 52°, 3° below normal. Rainfall Statewide was 1.65 in. A week of cool, damp, and windy conditions hampered farmers planting, spraying efforts. Tobacco transplants 85% seeded, 87% 2002, 86% 5 yr. avg. Tobacco transplants 49% emerged, 60% 2002, 54% 5 yr. avg. Some tobacco float systems are having trouble with spiral root.

Fruit trees budding or in bloom 78%. Wheat avg height 10 in. Wheat 4% poor, 20% fair, 55% good, 21% excellent. Barley 3% poor, 26% fair, 52% good, 19% excellent. Pasture feed 5% poor, 23% fair, 53% good, 19% excellent. Activities: Preparing equipment for corn planting, tending livestock, fertilizing fields.

**LOUISIANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.7. Soil 6% short, 52% adequate, 42% surplus. Cotton 0% planted, 0% last week, 0% 2002, 1% avg. Cotton producers were gearing up to begin planting in the next week or so. Rice 63% planted, 43% last week, 67% 2002, 64% avg.; 41% emerged, 20% last week, 48% 2002, 46% avg. Rice producers continued planting but recent cool conditions were slowing growth, emergence. Sorghum 9% planted, 2% last week, 7% 2002, 8% avg.

**MARYLAND:** Days suitable for fieldwork 1.6. Topsoil 37% adequate, 63% surplus. Subsoil 1% short, 71% adequate, 28% surplus. Pasture feed 9% poor, 31% fair, 51% good, 9% excellent. Corn 1% planted, 8% 2002, 6% avg. Strawberries 27% bloomed, 29% 2002, 27% avg. Apples 9% bloomed, 21% 2002, 25% avg. Peaches 30% bloomed, 63% 2002, 56% avg. Sweet Corn 7% planted, 13% 2002, 12% avg. Green peas 58% planted, 57% 2002, 51% avg. Potatoes 20% planted, 50% 2002, 59% avg. Barley 2% very poor, 8% poor, 38% fair, 45% good, 7% excellent. Tomatoes 1% planted, 9% 2002, 9% avg. Hay supplies 27% very short, 33% short, 40% adequate. Acreage prepared for spring 22% planting. Winter Wheat 5% very poor, 11% poor, 37% fair, 42% good, 5% excellent. Rain soaked the region last week and delayed spring plantings. Small grains continue to be in fair to good condition. Pastures remain in fair to good condition, hay supplies are short. Fruit crops such as peaches, strawberries are beginning to bloom. A few farmers were able to topdress small grains.

**MICHIGAN:** Subsoil moisture levels remain low even with spring rain, snow melt. Wet, chilly weather early last week largely prevented field work. A few farms in the southern Lower Peninsula ran primary tillage equipment on their lighter soils in anticipation of planting. Some operations made fertilizer applications. Wheat fields began to green. Fruit buds began to swell in orchards. Grape growers continued to trim and tie grapes in the southwest Lower Peninsula. Farmers continued to ready equipment for planting. Hay sales were brisk as pastures aren't yet ready for livestock.

**MINNESOTA:** Conditions for the week have been relatively warm. Farmers had the chance to begin spring fieldwork around midweek. Corn, spring wheat planting have begun on a small scale throughout parts of the state. Barley, oat planting are also underway. There is some concern about dryness across the state. There have been several wild fires in the southwestern portion of the state.

**MISSISSIPPI:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.0. Soil 55% adequate, 45% surplus. Corn 84% planted, 58% 2002, 65% avg.; 56% emerged, 37% 2002, 44% avg. Rice 11% planted, 3% 2002, 14% avg.; 2% emerged, NA 2002, 3% avg. Sorghum 7% planted, 3% 2002, 12% avg.; 1% emerged, NA 2002, NA avg. Soybeans 15% planted, NA 2002, 9% avg.; 6% emerged, NA 2002, 3% avg. Wheat 90% jointing, 75% 2002, 85% avg.; 5% heading, 15% 2002, 35% avg.; 1% very poor, 7% poor, 40% fair, 48% good, 4% excellent. Hay 20% harvested (cool season), NA 2002, NA avg. Cattle 2% very poor, 8% poor, 24% fair, 54% good, 12% excellent. Pasture 2% very poor, 14% poor, 32% fair, 44% good, 8% excellent. Watermelons 56% planted, 53% 2002, 41% avg. The corn crop progress has jumped ahead of historical averages, but early week precipitation halted fieldwork for most of the week.

**MISSOURI:** Days suitable for fieldwork, 5.2. Topsoil 10% very short, 26% short, 61% adequate, 3% surplus. Tillage, planting activities moved ahead at a good pace over the State. Ground worked at least once for spring crops 54%, 53% 2002, 51% avg. Corn planting ranges from 9% northeast, 14% northwest, to 65% west-central, southeast districts. Cotton, rice, sorghum planting just beginning. Pastures still limited by cool weather, moisture supply. Pasture feed 9% very poor, 19% poor, 37% fair,

31% good, 4% excellent. Rainfall for the week averaged 0.26 inch, with a majority of counties reporting no precipitation.

**MONTANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil 5% very short, 26% short, 62% adequate, 7% surplus. Subsoil 23% very short, 34% short, 42% adequate, 1% surplus. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 6% poor, 43% fair, 42% good, 8% excellent; Winter wheat is breaking dormancy, 3% still dormant, 30% greening, 67% green, growing. Barley 9% planted, 4% 2002, 9% 5-yr avg. Corn 1% planted, 1% 5-yr avg. Oats 2% plantings, 4% 5-yr avg. Spring wheat 4% planted, 1% 2002, 7% 5-yr avg. Sugar beets 10% planted, 15% planting 2002, 12% 5-yr avg. Livestock grazing 81% open, 6% difficult, 13% closed, with range, pasture feed 17% very poor, 20% poor, 36% fair, 26% good, 1% excellent. Currently, 90% of the cattle, 92% of the sheep are receiving supplemental feed compared to last year when 93% of cattle, 95% of the sheep were receiving supplemental feed. Calving, lambing are at 78%, 52% complete, compared to 78%, 51% 2002.

**NEBRASKA:** Days suitable for fieldwork last week numbered 2.8. Topsoil 11% very short, 36% short, 53% adequate. Subsoil supplies remained at last fall levels with 89% short, very short. Sugar beets 9% planted, 25% 2002. Wheat 2% jointed, 1% 2002, 3% avg. Alfalfa 3% very poor, 13% poor, 44% fair, 38% good, 2% excellent. Pasture, range feed 31% very poor, 31% poor, 25% fair, 13% good. Activities: Fertilizer applications, livestock care.

**NEVADA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE**

**NEW ENGLAND:** Last week's temperatures were below average across the six states. Snow fell in the south, while the northern states received less than normal precipitation levels throughout the week. Maple sugaring activities are winding down region-wide. Activities: Nursery/greenhouse work, tending livestock, tapping maple trees, performing general maintenance, continuing to make preparations for the spring planting season.

**NEW JERSEY:** Days suitable for field work 2.5. Top soil 30% adequate, 70% surplus. Wet weather, snow stopped most field activities during the week. There was more than one inch of rain for the week, temperatures were below normal in most parts of the state. Wet conditions, cold weather slowed growth of winter wheat, barley, hay. Vegetable producers were tending greenhouses, transplanting cabbages. Peppers, tomatoes were seeded in greenhouses. Asparagus, peas were starting to come up. Planting of spinach, sweet corn, lettuce continued. Potato planting is delayed in some parts of the state. Strawberries were blooming, some fields were covered to prevent frost damage. Peaches, blueberries have opened bud scales revealing green tissue which should not be susceptible to frost above 28°. Pastures were muddy, animals are back in confinement.

**NEW MEXICO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Topsoil 25% very short, 46% short, 28% adequate, 1% surplus. State experienced a dry week with temperatures close to normal. After a chilly start, temperatures warmed during the week, reaching 91° at Carlsbad, 90° at Roswell on the 13<sup>th</sup>. The week also began with windy conditions, but the winds subsided quite a bit during the second half of the week. Wind damage was 18% light, 5% moderate, with damage reported to alfalfa, pasture. Freeze damage 7% light, 6% moderate, 3% severe, affecting fruit trees, hay crops. Farmers spent the week cleaning ditches, irrigating, fertilizing corn ground, planting chile, cotton, corn, potatoes. Alfalfa 8% very poor, 15% poor, 46% fair, 28% good, 3% excellent. A few farmers had started on their first alfalfa cutting. Total wheat conditions dropped to 15% very poor, 35% poor, 33% fair, 15% good, 2% excellent. Some fields were being cut for wheat silage, hay. Chile, lettuce continued to be listed as fair to excellent. Chile 78% planted. Cotton 14% planted. Corn 9% planted. Onion conditions improved to 76% good, 24% excellent. Ranchers were busy calving, lambing, branding, mending fences. Supplemental feeding, watering continued. Livestock conditions declined, with cattle 6% very poor, 14% poor, 45% fair, 33% good, and 2% excellent. Sheep

were reported as 7% very poor, 24% poor, 54% fair, 14% good, 1% excellent. Range, pasture feeds as 22% very poor, 30% poor, 40% fair, 8% good.

**NEW YORK:** Spring weather finally arrived. Conditions still not conducive for good maple sap flow. Lake Ontario stone fruit growers assessing tree damage as a result of previous week's ice storms. Widespread power outages hindered clean up efforts. Most fields still to wet to allow spring land preparation to commence. Activities: Storm clean-up, caring for livestock, packing, grading apples, onions.

**NORTH CAROLINA:** Days suitable for field work 0.9. Soil 0% very short, short, 13% adequate, 87% surplus. A deluge of precipitation blanketed the State, restored cumulative annual rainfall to normal or above normal for most areas. Heavy snow caused limited power outages in some mountain counties, causing concern for tobacco transplant greenhouse operators. Creeks, rivers, bottom lands flooded across state, newly plowed fields eroded as fields once again became supersaturated, inaccessible for work. The wet conditions prevented fumigation of tobacco acreage which may result in higher than average disease, nematode losses later in the season. Some greenhouse tobacco transplants are yellowing slightly due to lack of sunlight. Activities: Tending livestock, final tax preparation, record keeping, equipment maintenance, complaining about the rain.

**NORTH DAKOTA:** Topsoil 14% very short, 26% short, 55% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil 17% very short, 28% short, 54% adequate, 1% surplus. Above average temperatures coupled with strong winds at the end of last week dried out fields, increased soil temperatures. The average date for starting field work was expected to be April 16. Two percent of the durum wheat, 5 percent of the sugarbeet crop had been planted. Hay, forage 7% very short, 22% short, 69% adequate, 2% surplus. Grain, concentrate 2% very short, 7% short, 86% adequate, and 5% surplus. Cattle conditions were rated 1% very poor, 4% poor, 27% fair, 61% good, 7% excellent. Calf 0% very poor, 2% poor, 21% fair, 66% good, and 11% excellent, calving 68% complete. Sheep 1% very poor, 3% poor, 27% fair, 59% good, 10% excellent. Lamb 1% very poor, 3% poor, 21% fair, 65% good, 10% excellent. Lambing 81%, shearing 88% complete. Seventy-two percent of the pastures, ranges were still dormant.

**OHIO:** Day suitable for fieldwork 1.4. Topsoil 0% very short, 2% short, 55% adequate, 43% surplus. Sugarbeets 1%, NA% 2002, NA avg. Oats 13% planted, 12% 2002, 41% avg.; 1% emerged, 2% 2002, 12% avg. Tobacco beds 50% seeded, 49% 2002, 66% avg.; 16% having plants up, 25% 2002, 29% avg. Winter Wheat 15% jointed, 12% 2002, 22% avg. Potatoes 4% planted, 4% 2002, 11% avg. Livestock 0% very poor, 2% poor, 17% fair, 70% good, 11% excellent. Pasture feeds 3% very poor, 8% poor, 32% fair, 49% good, 8% excellent. Winter wheat 0% very poor, 2% poor, 18% fair, 57% good, 23% excellent. Hay 2% very poor, 4% poor, 24% fair, 60% good, 10% excellent. Apple 0% very poor, 3% poor, 22% fair, 67% good, 8% excellent. Peach 0% very poor, 3% poor, 19% fair, 68% good, 10%. Wet, unseasonably cold weather continues to make field work very difficult across much of state. Conditions in southern state are reported to be better than most of the state. Respondents indicated producers planted vegetables in these locations. Farmers are optimistic warmer temperatures this week will improve field conditions enough to allow for tillage, planting activities. Producers across the state of state are hoping to avoid a repeat of the 2002 spring planting season. In some locations Christmas tree growers sprayed for the white pine weevil. Greenhouse work continues as the nurseries gear up for spring, summer sales. Apple producers continued spraying, fertilizing their orchards. In southern state cherries are in full bloom.

**OKLAHOMA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.4. Topsoil 14% very short, 42% short, 44% adequate, 0% surplus. Subsoil 11% very short, 27% short, 62% adequate, 0% surplus. Winter Wheat 91% jointing, 78% last week, 67% 2002, 77% avg. Rye 2% very poor, 6% poor, 22% fair, 60% good, 10% excellent. Oats 2% very poor, 7% poor, 32% fair, 55% good, 4% excellent; 50% jointing, 30% last week, 25% 2002, 51% avg. Corn 70% seedbed prepared, 66% last week, 70% 2002, 76% avg.; 23% planted, 21% last week, 29% 2002, 23% avg. Sorghum 40% seedbed

prepared, 35% last week, 30% 2002, 32% avg. Soybeans 38% seedbed prepared, 34% last week, 37% 2002, 45% avg. Peanuts 49% seedbed prepared, 36% last week, 56% 2002, 51% avg. Cotton 75% seedbed prepared, 65% last week, 63% 2002, 69% avg. Livestock 1% very poor, 5% poor, 27% fair, 57% good, 10% excellent; Pasture, Range 4% very poor, 10% poor, 40% fair, 39% good, 7% excellent; Livestock: Livestock conditions were rated mostly fair to good. Livestock insect activities were rated as none to light. Cattle auctions reported marketings were average. The price for feeder steers less than 800 pounds decreased from last week, averaged \$83.35 per cwt. The average price for feeder heifers less than 800 pounds also decreased from last week, averaged \$76.88 per cwt.

**OREGON:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.2. Topsoil 1% very short, 16% short, 71% adequate, 12% surplus. Subsoil 11% very short, 29% short, 53% adequate, 7% surplus. Barley 59% planted, 27% previous week, 69% 2002, 73% 5 yr avg.; 28% emerged, 7% previous week, 41% 2002, 0% very poor, 3% poor, 70% fair, 23% good, 4% excellent. Spring wheat 78% planted, 49% previous week, 84% 2002, 48% emerged, 14% previous week, 45% 2002. Winter wheat 0% very poor, 13% poor, 67% fair, 18% good, 2% excellent. Range, Pasture 2% very poor, 11% poor, 43% fair, 39% good, 5% excellent. Activities: Increase in precipitation occurred in much of State, with some thunderstorms reported in eastern state. Warmer temperatures have promoted good grass growth on pastures. Temperatures in Willamette Valley as high as 8° above normal in Corvallis, with precipitation ranging from 0.57 to 1.53 inches above normal. Coastal weather stations reported highs in 60's, precipitation as much as 0.51 inches above normal. Continued spring rainfall may reduce effects of low snowpack in mountains. Spring planting continues Statewide. In eastern state, continued precipitation helped improve winter wheat conditions. Excellent spring rains needed to generate an average year. In Malheur County, sugarbeet planting winding down. In Klamath County, precipitation slowed ground preparation work. In western state, fall seed grains need some sunshine. Fieldwork on hold while waiting for breaks in rain. In Marion County, reports of powdery mildew in some wheat fields. Growers finishing up with fertilization of wheat fields, getting broadleaf herbicide applications on wheat, grass seed fields. Precipitation slowed or halted ground preparation in some areas as soil still too wet to plow. Jackson County reported onions, early peas, carrots as well as some potatoes in fields. In Lane County, spring vegetables, potatoes, garlic, leeks, leafy vegetables sold at Farmers Markets. Klamath County growers preparing fields for planting potatoes. Onion planting winding down in Malheur County. Nursery shipping of bareroot plants slowing down because digging completed. However, shipping of containers, balled plant material still very active in eastern markets. Greenhouses shipping bedding plants to retail outlets. Many firms having spring bulb festivals to sell their products. Spring plant sales starting. Christmas tree growers planting seedlings. Willamette Valley fruit trees in various stages of bloom. Berry crops leafing out in most of valley, with some berries in bloom. Yamhill County sweet cherries in full bloom on Valley floor. In lower Hood River Valley, d'Anjou pears in full bloom; Red Delicious apples at first to full pink; cherries in full bloom; Pinot noir grapes continued in doeskin. Intermittent showers have resulted in sporadic pear, apple scab infections throughout valley. Most fruit trees reached full boom in Wasco County. Weather pattern adversely affected some cherry pollination. Apricot, peaches nearly done with bloom in Jackson County. Some spraying activity intermingled with rain showers. Some killing frosts reported in Josephine County. Southern coast blueberry bloom continued. Cranberry bud development varied; most Stevens variety in white bud to bud break. In western state, pasture growth off to good start, but would benefit from some warmer days. Animals turned out in Coos, Curry counties had to be returned, due to bottom ground flooding. Stored feed supplies dwindling there. In eastern Oregon, pastures primarily in fair to good condition with sustained moisture needed. Supplemental feed continued, but more cattle being turned out to pasture across State. Calving, lambing season winding down, with good results. Some ranchers beginning to mark, vaccinate their calves.

**PENNSYLVANIA:** Days suitable for field work 1.0. Soil 44% adequate, 56% surplus. Spring 8% plowing, 45% 2002, 34% avg. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 6% poor, 21% fair, 58% good, 14% excellent. Oats 10%

planted, 32% 2002, 26% avg.; 5% emerged, 11% 2002, 7% avg.; 8% very poor, 32% poor, 10% fair, 31% good, 19% excellent. Pasture feeds 7% very poor, 15% poor, 38% fair, 31% good, 9% excellent. Activities: Hauling, spreading manure; caring for livestock; preparing machinery for tillage, planting; applying fertilizer; fixing fences; attending farm meetings; completing tax returns.

**SOUTH CAROLINA:** Days suitable for field work 2.0. Soil 28% adequate, 72% surplus. Corn 35 % planted, 87% 2002, 76% avg.; 5% emerged, 57% 2002, 44% avg.; 4% poor, 56% fair, 40% good. Sorghum 3% planted, 14% 2002, 12% avg. Cotton 1% planted, 4% 2002, 3% avg. Winter wheat 25% headed, 50% 2002, 33% avg.; 3% poor, 23% fair, 73% good, 1% excellent. Barley 20% headed, 40% 2002, 21% avg.; 1% poor, 18% fair, 79% good, 2% excellent. Pastures 1% poor, 14% fair, 67% good, 18% excellent. Rye 40% headed, 63% 2002, 43% avg.; 3% poor, 17% fair, 78% good, 2% excellent. Oats 35% headed, 56% 2002, 37% avg.; 19 % fair, 80% good, 1% excellent. Tobacco 10% transplanted, 46% 2002, 30% avg. Grain Hay 3% harvested, 15% 2002, 15% avg.; 13% fair, 76% good, 11% excellent. Peaches 6% fair, 64% good, 30% excellent. Apples 100% good. Snapbeans 45% planted, 54% 2002, 52% avg.; 20% fair, 80% good. Cucumbers 55% planted, 80% 2002, 66% avg.; 20% fair, 80% good. Watermelons 40% planted, 70% 2002, 72% avg.; 60% fair, 40% good. Tomatoes 66% planted, 79% 2002, 68% avg.; 6% fair, 94% good. Cantaloups 35% planted, 57% 2002, 54% avg.; 73% fair, 37% good. Livestock 1% poor, 14% fair, 67% good, 18% excellent.

**SOUTH DAKOTA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.3. Topsoil 21% very short, 35% short, 44% adequate. Subsoil 33% very short, 35% short, 31% adequate, 1% surplus. Feed supplies 26% very short, 32% short, 40% adequate, 2% surplus. Stock water supplies 21% very short, 33% short, 45% adequate, 1% surplus. Winter Rye 2% very poor, 17% poor, 35% fair, 36% good, 10% excellent. Winter Wheat breaking dormancy 93%, 59% 2002, NA% avg. Winter Rye breaking dormancy 79%, 31% 2002, NA% avg. Cattle% poor, 23% fair, 58% good, 15% excellent. Sheep 1% very poor, 3% poor, 24% fair, 61% good, 11% excellent. Range, Pasture 23% very poor, 36% poor, 24% fair, 14% good, 3% excellent. Calving 57% complete. Lambing 68% complete. Cattle moved to pasture 6% complete. Calf deaths 30% below avg.;, 68% avg.; 2% above avg. Sheep, lamb deaths 26% below avg.; 74% avg. Snowfall early in the week brought welcomed moisture to some areas, caused some farmers to stay out of the fields for most of the week. Temperatures, however, averaged 5 ° above normal for the week. Activities: Caring for newborn livestock, spring grain seeding, fertilizer application, disking.

**TENNESSEE:** Days suitable for fieldwork 2.0. Topsoil 1% short, 63% adequate, 36% surplus. Subsoil 78% adequate, 22% surplus. Wheat 70% jointed, 73% 2002, 82% avg.; 4 poor, 18% fair, 60% good, 18% excellent. Apples 83% budding or beyond, 82% 2002, 89% avg.; 62% blooming or beyond, 47% 2002, 63% avg. Peaches 96% budding or beyond, 96% 2002, 98% avg.; 77% blooming or beyond, 72% 2002, 87% avg. Pastures 2% poor, 23% fair, 59% good, 16% excellent. Several fronts passed through the state last week bringing rain, cooler temperatures, hindering most spring field activities. Wet conditions delayed planting of the State's corn crop last week, but producers are still ahead of schedule. Planting should resume this coming week, as clear skies, warmer temperatures return. Most of the State's winter wheat crop has been top-dressed with no major insect or disease problems being reported. Activities: Setting tomatoes, fertilizing hay, pastures, preparing fields for planting cotton. Some growers were busy digging nursery crops. Temperatures averaged below normal statewide last week, while rainfall averaged below normal in the West but above normal in the Middle, Eastern part of the state. Development of both the apple, peach crops continued to make good progress. There were a few reports of damage to the State's peach crop as a result of last week's cold weather.

**TEXAS:** Agricultural Summary: If you don't like the weather in state, just wait a minute and it will change. That was what many people were saying last week as the state experienced a wide variety of weather conditions. The Panhandle received trace amounts of rain in some areas, but a majority recorded no rainfall. A mid-week cold front pushed through,

dropped low temperatures down into the 20's and 30's. North Central, East state experienced hail storms, at least one reported tornado. There was locally severe damage to crops from the hail, a few cattle deaths. Also in those areas, freezing temperatures from the cold front had an affect on late boot and heading wheat as well as emerging summer crops. The extent of the damage remained to be seen. Most rain fell in East, Southeast regions with typical gauge readings ranging 1 to 2 inches, but some locations received up to 5 inches. The Trans-Pecos, Edwards Plateau areas received little or no rain, experienced freeze damage on some crops. The Rio Grande Valley had a major storm blow through at mid-week. A super cell, spurred on by a stalled cold front, started at Falcon Reservoir, moved east along the Rio Grande, spanning about a mile on each side on the river. Before moving out to the Gulf, it caused severe damage to onions, cotton, melons, citrus, sorghum with baseball sized hail, 60 mph winds and torrential downpours. Soil moisture continued to decline in the Panhandle and Low Plains and many producers were pre-watering spring crop acreage. More rain is needed in the Panhandle to fill the soil profile. Small grains continued to be stressed from a lack of moisture. Planting of spring crops continued at a rapid pace. Lice and flies were a problem on cattle in some areas. Supplemental feeding of livestock was decreasing in most regions. Small Grains: Lack of moisture was becoming critical in some dryland wheat. Fields needed rain in order to make a grain crop. The cold front that moved through the state caused damage to maturing wheat from the Panhandle on down to Central Texas. The severity of frost damage remained to be seen. There was hail damage in North Central areas. Russian Wheat Aphids and Brown Wheat Mites were showing up in some fields. Wheat was booting and heading out in Central and some North Central locations. Irrigated wheat producers were still contending with high fuel prices. Statewide, wheat condition was rated at 62 percent of normal compared with 44 percent last year. Corn: Pre-watering of corn fields continued in the Panhandle and some planting began. Planting was completed in Central Texas and the Upper Coast. Earlier planted fields were emerging with good stands. Some locations in Central and North Central Texas suffered freeze damage and producers were assessing the damage. There was hail damage on fields in North Central locations. Cotton: Land preparations continued in the Panhandle as producers pre-watered and applied herbicides. Planting was completed in the Rio Grande Valley and was finishing up on the Coastal Bend. Cotton was severely damaged when the storm blew through the Valley. Planting began in Central Texas and the Upper Coast. Sorghum: Land preparations continued in the Panhandle. Planting began in Central and North Central Texas. There were some fields that suffered freeze damage. Planting was nearly complete on the Coastal Bend. Sorghum fields were damaged by the storm in the Rio Grande Valley. Peanuts: Land preparations and field work were active. Preparations were interrupted by high winds and rain in a few areas. Rice: Planting progressed as conditions improved. There were some delays as rain fell in more eastern areas. Some earlier planted fields began to emerge. Soybeans: Land preparation and pre-watering continued in the Panhandle. Planting continued in the Upper Coast and East Texas. Commercial Vegetables, Fruit and Pecans In the Rio Grande Valley, producers continued harvesting spring onions. Watermelons, cantaloupes, and onions were severely damaged or destroyed by the storm. Sugarcane, cabbage, carrots, greens, and citrus harvest continued. In the San Antonio-Winter Garden Region, producers were experiencing severe freeze damage to watermelons and cantaloupes from the previous week's cold front. Carrot, onion, and cabbage harvest continued. In Trans Pecos Region, pecan trees were budding out. Fall onions were beginning to bulb. Wine grapes were in full leaf and growing rapidly. High winds depleted soil moisture. In East Texas, producers monitored fruit trees and vegetables burnt back by frost. Spring vegetable planting continued but was delayed by cold weather. Damage of blueberries and peaches were being evaluated. Some transplanted watermelons were lost to the freeze. Range and Livestock: Cattle were grazing out wheat pasture in the Panhandle. Range and pasture conditions continued to decline in the area as no significant moisture fell. Additional supplemental feeding was required in locations where dry native grasses were the only grazing. In more eastern areas of the state, supplemental feeding was winding down as spring grasses emerged. Spring roundup was beginning as calves were marked, branded, and vaccinated. Lice and flies were a problem in many areas. Green pastures were available in Central, South, and East Texas, but moisture was decreasing in some locations.

**UTAH:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Topsoil 3% very short, 20% short, 73% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil 9% very short, 31% short, 58% adequate, and 2% surplus. Apples full bloom or past 10%, 3% 2002, 4% avg. Barley planted 80%, 48% 2002, 61% avg. Barley emerged 40%, 19% 2002, 27% avg. Cattle/Calves cows calved 78%, 77% 2002, 76% avg. Ewes Lambled on Farm ewes lambled on farm 82%, 72% 2002, 73% avg. Ewes Lambled on Range ewes lambled on range 48%, 48% 2002, 40% avg. Oats planted 53%, 30% 2002, 27% avg. Oats emerged 35%, 19% 2002, 14% avg. Peaches full bloom or past 87%, 45% 2002, 28% avg. Pears full bloom or past 66%, 38% 2002, 19% avg. Sheep Sheared on Farm 75%, 74% 2002, 68% avg. Sheep Sheared on Range sheep sheared on range 57%, 57% 2002, 50% avg. Spring Wheat planted 80%, 60% 2002, 66% avg. Spring Wheat emerged 45%, 25% 2002, 30% avg. Sweet Cherries full bloom or past 66%, 23% 2002, 24% avg. Tart Cherries full bloom or past 55%, 30% 2002, 16% avg. Farmers spent an average of 6.3 days in the field last week. Major farm activities included burning irrigation ditches, planting small grains, spraying for pests and tending to livestock. Warm, dry weather was the norm throughout Utah last week. High temperatures ranged from the upper 60's to low 80's while lows were between the upper 30's and mid 50's. Pest control was a major concern for farmers last week. As a result, time was spent spraying and laying traps for codling moth, meadow voles, army cutworms, grasshoppers, and Mormon crickets. Growers continued planting oats, spring wheat and barley. Windy conditions eroded topsoil in parts of Utah and there has been damage reported to emerging grains due to blowing soil and sand. Livestock are in good condition and are enjoying the warm, sunny weather. New growth in pastures provided forage for cattle and sheep. Ranchers continued lambing and calving activities as well as shearing sheep.

**VIRGINIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork .8. Pasture 3% very poor, 8% poor, 35% fair, 46% good, 8% excellent. Topsoil moisture 55% adequate, 45% surplus. Subsoil moisture 5% short, 62% adequate, 33% surplus. Livestock 1% very poor, 6% poor, 25% fair, 61% good, 7% excellent. Other Hay 1% very poor, 10% poor, 27% fair, 58% good, 4% excellent. Alfalfa Hay 2% poor, 23% fair, 66% good, 9% excellent. Corn 8% planted, 25% 2002, 18% 5-yr avg. Winter Wheat 5% very poor, 15% poor, 37% fair, 38% good, 5% excellent. Winter Wheat 1% headed, 5% 2002, 1% 5-yr avg. Barley 2% very poor, 11% poor, 37% fair, 45% good, 5% excellent. Greenhouse Tobacco 2% very poor, 2% poor, 15% fair, 51% good, 30% excellent. Tobacco Plantbeds 4% very poor, 4% poor, 37% fair, 55% good. Summer Potatoes 5% very poor, 10% poor, 35% fair, 40% good, 10% excellent. Summer Potatoes 70% planted, 99% 2002, 97% 5-yr avg. Apples 1% poor, 68% fair, 27% good, 4% excellent. Peaches 3% very poor, 7% poor, 46% fair, 39% good, 5% excellent. Virginia experienced heavy rainfall throughout most of the week. Most areas reported 3 to 5 inches of rain. A few locations reported snow fall. Some areas reported flooding and water damage. Days suitable for fieldwork were 0.8. The cold and wet weather delayed spring activities. Some farmers spent this time for record keeping, taxes, and equipment maintenance. Some farmers discontinued feeding hay to livestock. Other farm activities included scouting for cereal leaf beetles, preparation for rye harvest and greenhouse seeding.

**WASHINGTON:** Days suitable for fieldwork averaged 4.9. Topsoil moisture was 10% short, 87% adequate, and 3% surplus. Subsoil moisture was 18% short, 80% adequate, and 2% surplus. Irrigation water supplies were 5% short and 95% adequate. The highest temperature in the state was 80 degrees in Pasco. The lowest temperature in the state was 28 degrees in Stampede Pass and Deer Park. Fieldwork was interrupted by occasional showers, but farmers made good progress in seeding spring wheat and barley. Winter wheat condition was 2% very poor, 7% poor, 30% fair, 53% good, and 8% excellent. Spring wheat was 57% planted and 15% emerged. Spring wheat condition was 44% fair and 56% good. Barley was 36% planted and 6% emerged. Bluegrass acreage torn out due to drought last fall were reported to be higher than expected in the Northeast. Potato planting continued in Franklin and Benton Counties. Potatoes were 32% planted and 7% emerged. Corn was 15% planted. Dry peas were 5% planted. Processing green peas were 14% planted.

Hay and other roughage supplies were 8% short and 92% adequate. Range and pasture conditions were 8% poor, 75% fair, and 17% good. Favorable conditions in Stevens County have put grass growth approximately thirty days ahead of last spring. The fruit tree blossom period was well underway in central Washington. Bloom numbers were reported to be about normal in the Yakima Valley. The cherry crop in the north was estimated to have sustained about fifteen percent frost damage. Asparagus harvest continued in central Washington, while onions, carrots, sweet corn, and vegetable seed crops were also being planted.

**WEST VIRGINIA:** Days suitable for field work 3.0. Topsoil 4% short, 75% adequate, and 21% surplus compared to 2% very short, 18% short, 66% adequate, 14% surplus last year. Intended acreage prepared for Spring planting 27%, 53% in 2002, 43% 5-yr avg. Hay and roughage supplies were 10% very short, 52% short, 37% adequate and 1% surplus. Feed grain supplies were reported as 2% very short, 15% short, and 83% adequate. Corn 2% planted compared to 5% last year, 3% 5-yr avg. Winter Wheat condition 18% fair, and 82% good. Oats 30% planted, 64% 2002, 29% 5-yr avg; 4% emerged, 20% 2002, 8% 5-yr avg. Tobacco beds seeded 92% , 87% 2002, 76% 5-yr avg; 16% emerged, 40% 2002, 22% 5-yr avg. Hay 3% poor, 58% fair, 35% good, 4% excellent. Pasture 15% poor, 50% fair, 34% good, 1% excellent. Apples 46% fair, 54 % good. Peaches 50% fair, 50% good. Cattle and calves 11% poor, 33% fair, 53% good, and 3% excellent; percent calved 79%, 86% 2002, 80% 5-yr avg. Sheep and Lambs 18% poor, 35% fair, 45% good, and 2% excellent; percent lambled 86%, 84% 2002, 81% 5-yr avg. A week of cool temperatures and nearly double the average precipitation in many parts of the state slowed most field work. More seasonal temperatures and dryer weather was prevalent over the weekend. Some problems associated with wet weather and mud were reported. Farm activities included calving, lambing, feeding livestock, purchasing and moving of hay, fertilizing, cleaning debris from early spring storms and other early spring activities.

**WISCONSIN:** Days suitable for fieldwork 2.4. Soil 2% very short, 19% short, 66% adequate, 13% surplus. State saw a wide variety of weather conditions for the past week. Freezing temperatures at night were common statewide. Southern Wisconsin experienced a snowstorm with some icy conditions early in the week. The end of the week saw temperatures in the high 60's. Temperatures for the week averaged 2 to 8 degrees cooler than normal, which kept plant growth behind schedule. The snowfall in the southern part of the state helped to bring some needed moisture to that part of the state. Total precipitation for the week remained behind normal, with little to no precipitation in the north, and under .5 inch in the remainder of the state. Rainfall totals are .5 inch to 1.5 inch below normal for the season so far, and 1.5 inches to 4.5 inches below average year-to-date levels. Pasture condition was rated as 27% very poor, 16% poor, 23% fair, 30% good, and 4% excellent.

**WYOMING:** Days suitable for field work 6.2. Condition of winter wheat 1 % very poor, 14% poor, 57% fair, 28% good. Barley planted 59%, 2002 48%, 5-year average 53%. Barley emerged 9%, 2002 4%, 5-year average 9%. Oats planted 11%, 2002 7%, 5-year average 16%. Oats emerged 1%, 2002 1%, 5-year average 1%. Spring wheat planted 14%, 2002 13%, 5-year average 24%. Sugarbeets planted 14%, 2002 13%, 5-year average 20%. Corn planted 1%, 2002 2%, 5-year average 0%. Topsoil moisture supplies 8% very short, 50% short, 41% adequate, 1% surplus. Irrigation water supplies 22% very short, 32% short, 46% adequate. Range and pasture condition 20% very poor, 35% poor, 35% fair, 10% good. Spring calves born 73%, 2002 74%, 5-year average 75%. Calf losses 20% light, 77% normal, 3% heavy. Farm flock sheep shorn 75%, 2002 74%, 5-year average 79%. Farm flock ewes lambled 73%, 2002 75%, 5-year average 79%. Range flock sheep shorn 44%, 2002 41%, 5-year average 40%. Range flock ewes lambled 15%, 2002 23%, 5-year average 20%. Lamb losses 25% light, 75% normal. Weekly temperatures averaged above normal in most of the State. All stations, except those in the Southeast, had below normal precipitation. The heaviest moisture fell in Casper with 0.66 inch. Yearly precipitation totals remained above normal in eastern areas and an inch or less below normal in most other areas. Fieldwork becoming more general.

## April 10 ENSO Update

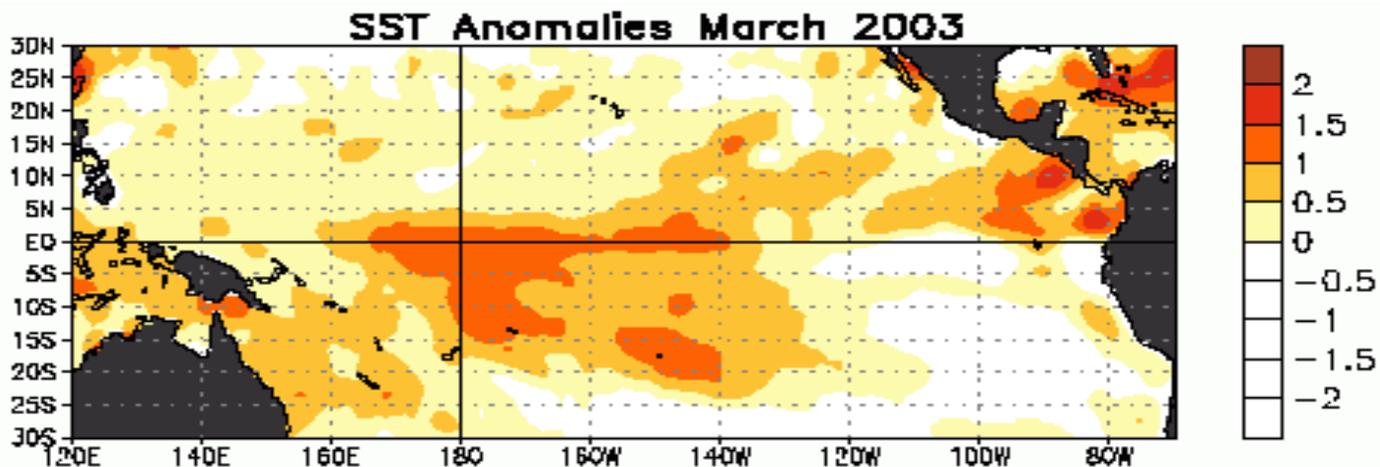


Figure 1. Sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies during March 2003. Departures from average are computed based on the 1971-2000 base period means. Image has been altered to only show positive anomalies for easier viewing. Units are  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

Warm-episode (El Niño) conditions continued to weaken during March 2003, as the equatorial easterlies strengthened and SST anomalies decreased throughout the eastern and central equatorial Pacific. Since December, SST anomalies have decreased by more than  $2^{\circ}\text{C}$  in the eastern equatorial Pacific between  $130^{\circ}\text{W}$  and the South American coast (Fig. 1). This decrease has resulted in near- to slightly below-normal SSTs in the region east of  $120^{\circ}\text{W}$  since February. During the same period, there has also been a steady decrease in the magnitude and extent of the positive subsurface temperature anomalies, indicating a depletion of the excess warmth in the upper ocean of the equatorial Pacific (Fig. 2). This evolution is typical during the decay phases of warm episodes.

In spite of these trends, significant positive SST anomalies remained in the central equatorial Pacific during March 2003, with anomalies greater than  $+1^{\circ}\text{C}$  extending from  $170^{\circ}\text{E}$  to  $140^{\circ}\text{W}$  (Fig. 1). Greater-than-average precipitation and cloudiness were found over the western portion of this region, although the departures from average and the spatial coverage have decreased substantially during the last two months. The Tahiti-Darwin SOI remained negative ( $-1.0$ ) for the 13th consecutive month, while the equatorial SOI was near zero.

A comparison of the 2002-03 El Niño episode with previous events in the last 50 years indicates that for the equatorial Pacific as a whole the 2002-2003 event was moderate in intensity. The SST departures associated with the event were greatest in the central equatorial Pacific (Niño 4 and Niño 3.4 regions) and least in the eastern equatorial Pacific (e.g., Niño 3 and especially Niño 1+2). This pattern of anomalous warming, combined with the rapid weakening of the event, had a generally weaker than expected influence on the atmospheric circulation and hence precipitation and temperature patterns over North and South America during January - March 2003.

Consistent with current conditions and recent observed trends, a majority of the coupled model and statistical model forecasts indicate that near-normal conditions will prevail through September 2003. However, there is uncertainty in this forecast as some forecasts indicate the possibility of continued weak El Niño conditions, while others indicate the development of La Niña conditions during the second half of 2003.

This discussion is a team effort of NOAA and its funded institutions. Updates of SST, 850-hPa wind, OLR, and the equatorial subsurface temperature structure are available on the Climate Prediction Center (CPC) web page at <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov> (Weekly Update). Forecasts for the evolution of El Niño/La Niña are updated monthly in CPC's Climate Diagnostics Bulletin Forecast Forum.

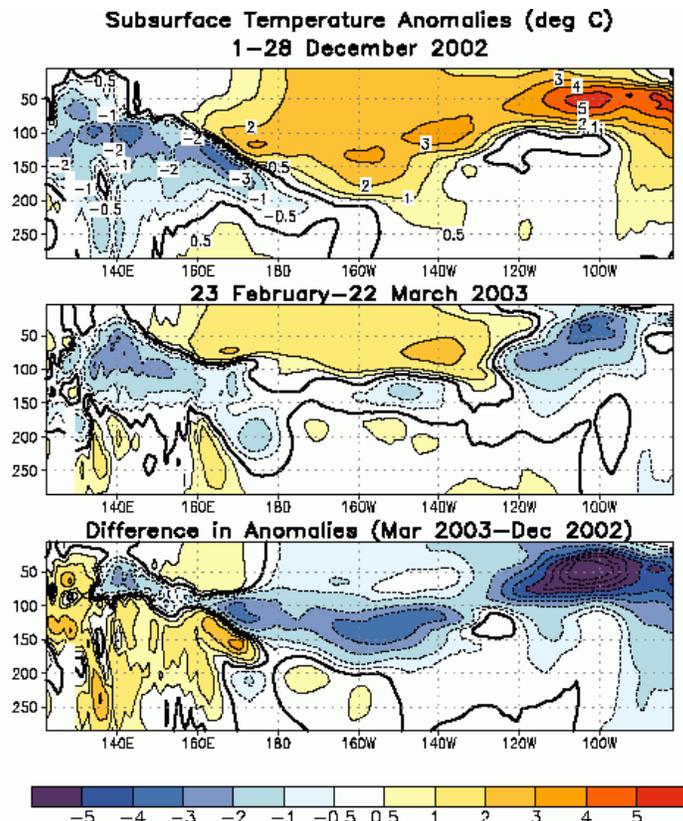


Figure 2. Equatorial depth-longitude cross section of ocean temperature anomalies for December 2002 (top panel), March 2003 (middle panel), and the difference between the 2 months (bottom panel). Dashed contours indicate negative anomalies.

# International Weather and Crop Summary

April 6 - 12, 2003

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

## HIGHLIGHTS

**EUROPE:** Vegetative winter crops and germinating spring and summer crops were stressed by limited topsoil moisture and a hard freeze in France and Germany, while widespread precipitation favored crops across Italy and eastern Europe.

**FSU-WESTERN:** Unseasonably cold, wet weather kept winter grains dormant and halted spring fieldwork in Ukraine, while warmer, drier weather prevailed in southern Russia, helping to condition topsoils for spring grain planting.

**MIDDLE EAST:** In central Turkey, cool weather slowed winter grain development, while in western Iran, light rain provided limited relief to rain-fed winter grains as unseasonably warm weather greatly increased crop water use.

**NORTHWESTERN AFRICA:** Beneficially drier weather aided winter grain development across central Algeria and Tunisia, while rain benefited reproductive winter grains across most of Morocco.

**SOUTH AFRICA:** Mostly dry, warm weather favored summer crop maturation in the corn belt and winter wheat planting in Western Cape.

**EASTERN ASIA:** Dry weather continued on the North China Plain, reducing moisture available to vegetative winter wheat.

**SOUTHEAST ASIA:** Dry weather prevailed throughout Indochina and the Philippines, benefiting harvest activities, while showers in Java, Indonesia, continued to slow rice harvesting.

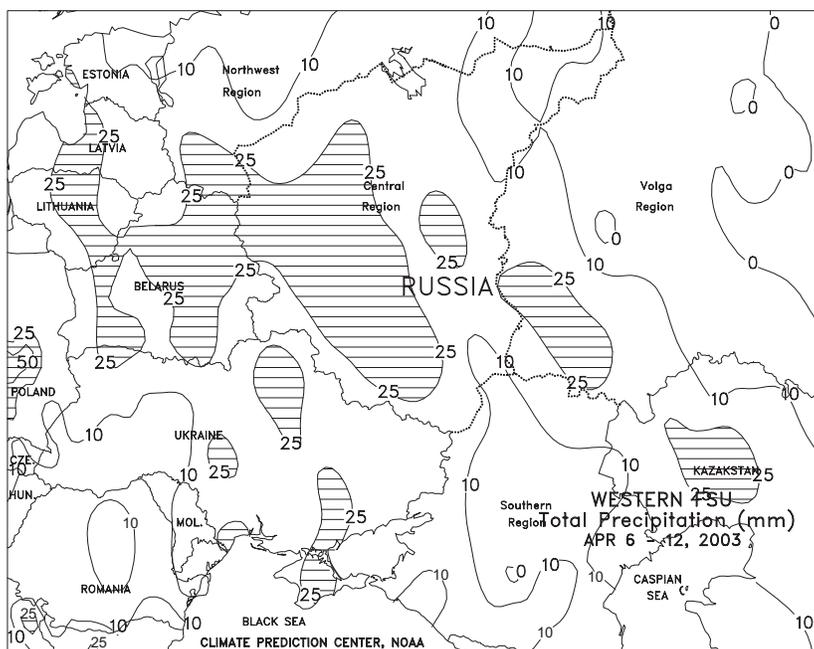
**AUSTRALIA:** Extreme drought continued to grip southern New South Wales, while showers brought additional drought relief to Western Australia. In the east, summer crop harvesting increased.

**SOUTH AMERICA:** Mostly favorable harvest weather promoted fieldwork throughout Argentina and Brazil.



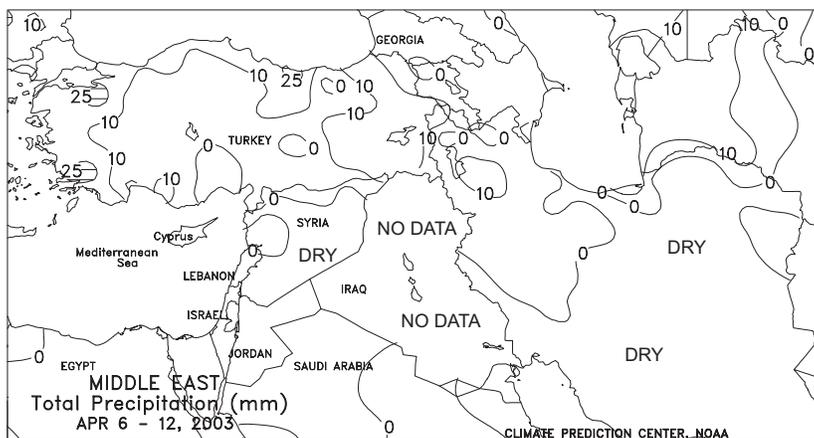
### EUROPE

Across England, France, the Low Countries, and Germany, mostly dry weather favored spring and summer crop fieldwork and planting. In France, however, limited topsoil moisture stressed germinating spring and summer crops, and vegetative winter crops to a lesser extent. Widespread rain was needed across northwestern Europe to boost topsoil moisture. Across most of Europe, unseasonably cold weather (3-7 degrees C below normal) stressed germinating spring and summer crops in Germany and vegetative winter grains and vegetative to early flowering winter oilseeds in France. Minimum temperatures reached -7 to -5 degrees C in eastern France and -9 to -6 degrees C across most of Germany. Across most of eastern Europe, the unseasonably cold weather helped to produce widespread snow, boosting topsoil moisture but slowing summer crop fieldwork. Most of the snow melted by week's end. In eastern Europe, the cold weather also slowed winter grain development already delayed by the colder-than-normal late winter and early spring. Across Italy, widespread rain (10-35 mm) continued to ease moisture deficits in the Po Valley and provide favorable soil moisture for durum wheat development in central and southern areas. Across the Iberian Peninsula, temperatures remained near to slightly above normal, while light to moderate rain (5-25 mm) covered the western half of the peninsula.



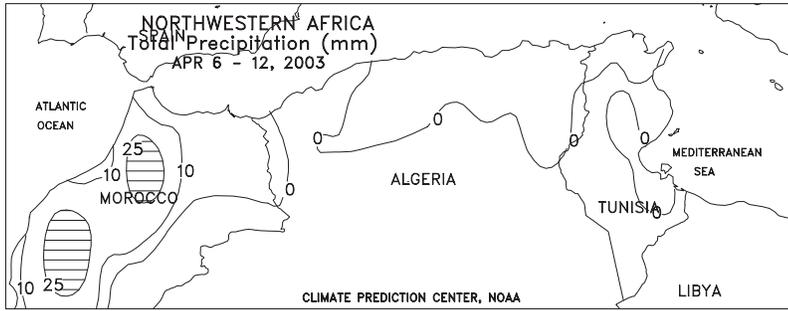
**FSU-WESTERN**

Early in the week, another surge of unseasonably cold air changed rain to snow across most of the region. By midweek, most of the Baltics, Belarus, Moldova, western two-thirds of Ukraine, and northern Russia were covered by an extensive snowpack. Precipitation amounts ranged from 6 to 34 mm in Ukraine, 10 to 32 mm in Belarus and the Baltics, and 10 to 40 mm or more in the central and lower Volga Regions in Russia. Generally dry weather prevailed across the Southern Region in Russia. Extreme minimum temperatures ranged from -5 to 0 degrees C or lower at most locations. Weekly temperatures averaged 3 to 7 degrees C below normal in Ukraine, Belarus, and the Baltics, keeping winter grains dormant in most areas and causing further delays in spring planting activities. In the Southern Region in Russia, although weekly temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C below normal, some greening of winter grains likely occurred. Furthermore, the combination of generally dry weather along with an increase in temperatures helped to condition topsoils for spring grain planting. At week's end, milder air overspread the region, quickly melting snow cover. By April 12, most crop areas were snow-free, with a patchy snow cover confined to northern Russia.



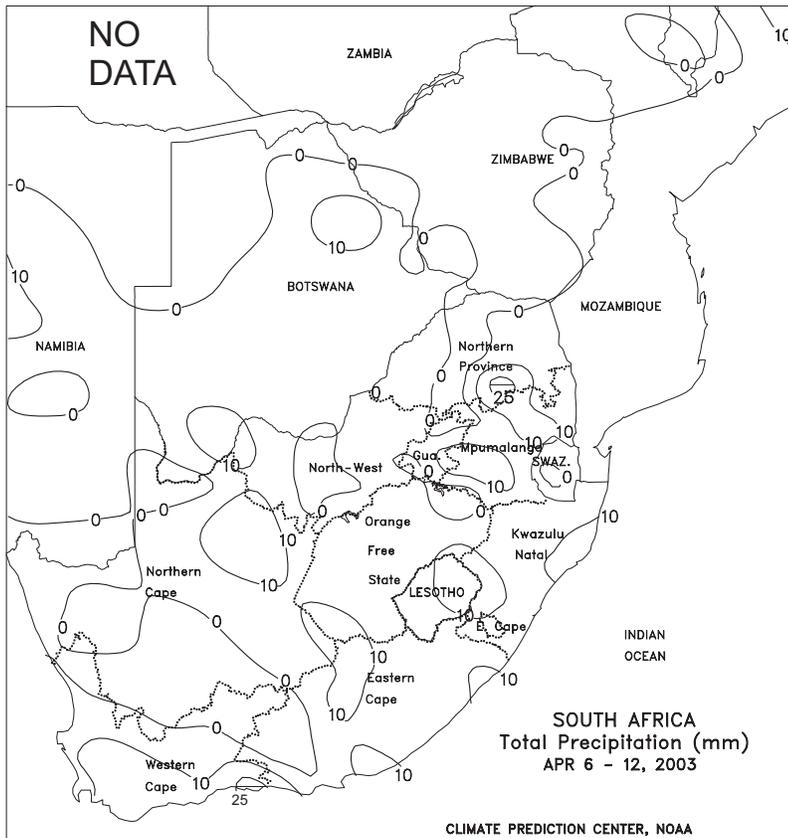
**MIDDLE EAST**

Across the main wheat areas of central Turkey and the eastern Mediterranean, mostly dry weather favored winter grain development. Adequate moisture supplies existed across these regions. However, colder weather (minimum temperatures -5 to -2 degrees C) prevailed across central Turkey by midweek, slowing winter grain development. In the cotton areas of western Turkey, light to moderate rain (10-25 mm) increased topsoil moisture for fieldwork preparations for upcoming cotton planting. In western Iran, very warm weather (5-8 degrees C above normal with highs exceeding 25 degrees C) greatly increased crop water use for rainfed winter grains. Light rain (3-15 mm) provided some topsoil moisture for vegetative winter grains, but wetter, cooler weather was needed to maintain favorable yield prospects for winter grains. Based on weather reports from neighboring countries, light rain possibly fell across northern Iraq. Temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C below normal across western Turkey and 1 to 2 degrees above normal across eastern Turkey and the eastern Mediterranean.



**NORTHWESTERN AFRICA**

Across most of Morocco, widespread rain (10-60 mm or more) favored reproductive winter grains, especially across southern Morocco. However, mostly dry weather prevailed across the extreme northeast coast of Morocco and into western Algeria. While western Algeria received little or no rain during the past 2 weeks, adequate soil moisture reserves existed for reproductive winter grains. Mostly dry weather (less than 5 mm) covered the rest of Algeria and Tunisia, providing much-needed dry weather for crop development after last week's widespread rain with locally heavy showers. Temperatures averaged near to slightly above normal across the region.



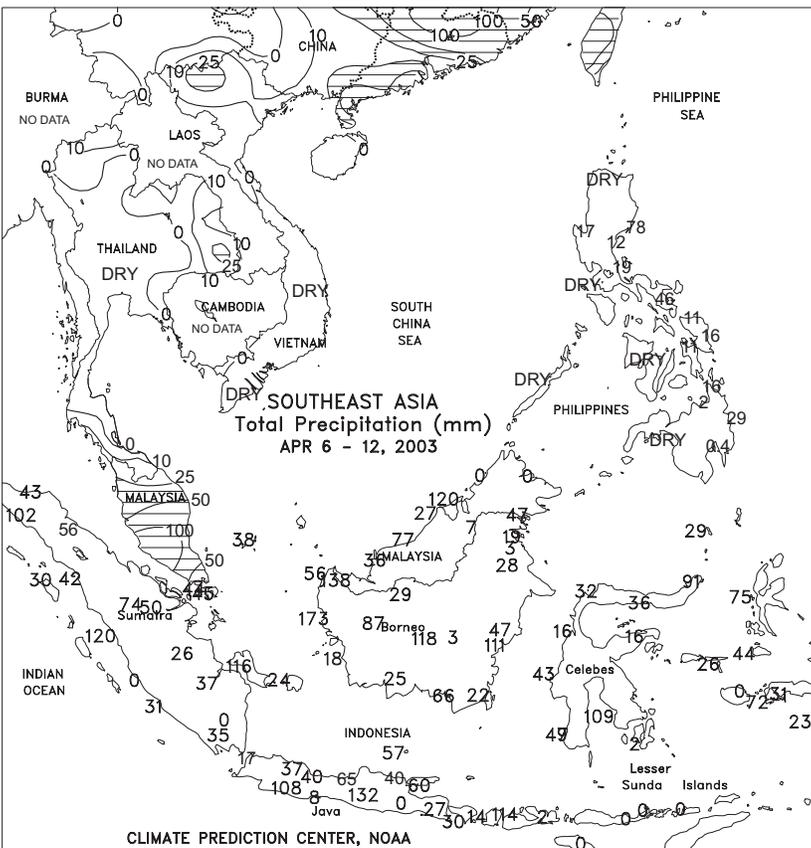
**SOUTH AFRICA**

For the 3rd consecutive week, mostly dry weather (less than 5 mm) dominated the corn belt. As a result, soil moisture continued to decline across the region. Most crops were maturing, however, and thus benefiting from the drier weather. Unseasonably warm weather (averaging 2-4 degrees C above normal) favored summer crop drying as well. Farther south in Western Cape, mostly dry weather spurred fieldwork, including winter wheat planting. Temperatures in the south were generally seasonable, favoring early crop development.



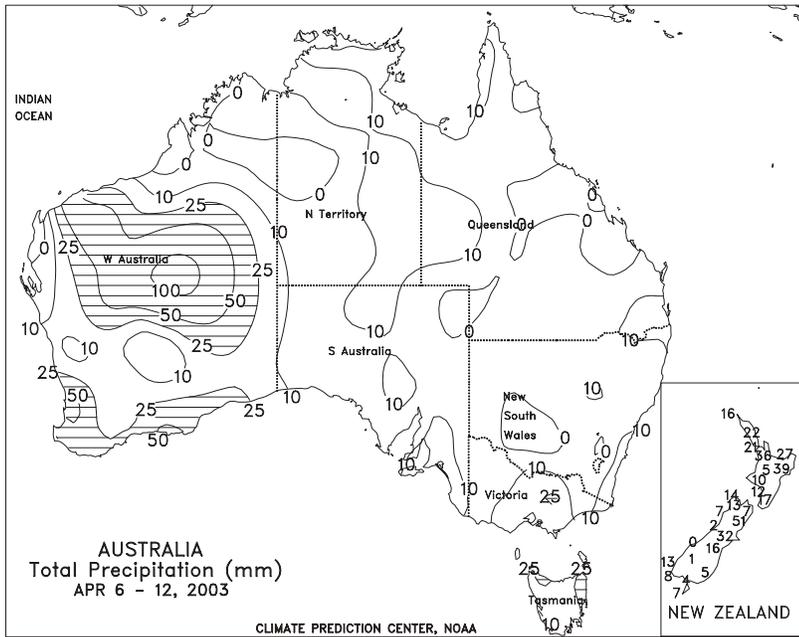
**EASTERN ASIA**

Mostly dry weather continued on the North China Plain, raising concern for winter wheat in major production areas (Henan, Shandong, and Hebei) as crops neared the heading stage. However, highs hovered in the middle to upper teens for most of the week, temporarily lowering crop moisture demands. Since spring shower activity typically increases at this time of year, reaching 10 to 15 mm per week by the end of April, the current dry spell is regarded as unseasonable. Light showers (5-10 mm or more) maintained generally favorable crop prospects in the more westerly and southerly winter wheat areas, although warm weather (highs in the lower to middle 20s degrees C) increased moisture demands of crops nearing or advancing through reproduction. Moderate to heavy rain (25-100 mm or more) continued throughout China's southern interior, increasing moisture reserves for rice and other summer crops. Widespread showers (25-50 mm, locally exceeding 100 mm) also increased irrigation reserves across South Korea and much of Japan. Dry weather continued to dominate most of North Korea and Manchuria, although rain (10 mm or greater) and seasonal warming helped to condition fields for spring planting in Heilongjiang and southern sections of North Korea.



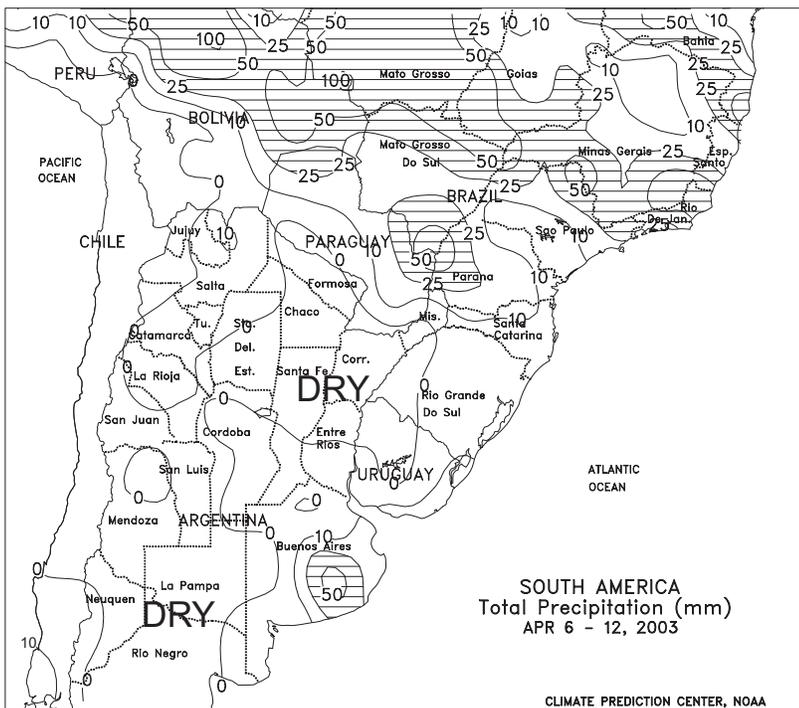
**SOUTHEAST ASIA**

Wet weather continued to slow main-season rice harvesting in Java, Indonesia. Mostly dry weather prevailed in the western Philippines, favoring harvest activities, while light showers (10-25 mm) were confined to the eastern coast. In Vietnam, warm, dry weather benefited winter-spring rice harvesting in the south while favoring maturing rice in the north. Showers subsided in Thailand, allowing second-season rice harvesting to continue unabated. Farmers in Thailand were awaiting the start of the monsoon before beginning main-season crop planting. Monsoon showers (25-100 mm) boosted moisture supplies for oil palm in peninsular Malaysia and Sumatra.



**AUSTRALIA**

Drier weather (generally less than 10 mm) returned to Queensland and northern New South Wales, allowing the sorghum and cotton harvesting pace to increase following recent rain. Although the drier weather aided harvesting, more rain would be welcome to continue to improve soil moisture and reservoir levels following months of severe drought. In winter grain-producing areas of southern New South Wales, significant rain has not fallen in the past 7 weeks. Light showers (3-16 mm) fell across South Australia and Victoria during the past week, however, improving topsoil moisture. Despite these showers, soaking rainfall was still needed throughout most of southeastern Australia to break the extreme drought and encourage winter grain planting. Farther west, for the 3rd consecutive week, widespread showers (5-27 mm) continued to improve moisture supplies in Western Australia. The recent rain helped condition topsoils for winter grain planting, but continued rain is necessary to recharge drought-depleted subsoil moisture supplies. Temperatures in Western Australia, southern Queensland, and northern New South Wales were generally seasonable, while unseasonably warm weather (2-3 degrees C above normal) maintained above-normal evaporation rates in southeastern Australia.



**SOUTH AMERICA**

Dry weather dominated most major crop areas in Argentina, allowing summer crop harvesting to progress following last week's untimely wetness. However, temperatures averaging 1 to 2 degrees C below normal slowed the drying process, with patches of frost scattered across La Pampa and Buenos Aires. Moderate rain (10-50 mm or more) increased moisture reserves in southern Buenos Aires for winter wheat germination. In the far north (Chaco and Formosa), temperatures stayed in the upper 20s degrees C for most of the week, aiding cotton drydown. According to independent sources from Argentina, corn, soybeans, and sunflowers were 50, 35, and 83 percent harvested, respectively, as of April 13. In Brazil, drier, although cool weather (averaging 1-3 degrees C below normal) spurred summer crop harvesting throughout much of the center-south region. However, rain (25-50 mm or more) lingered in southern Mato Grosso do Sul and western Parana, which lies in the heart of the soybean belt. Temperatures fell below 5 degrees C in Santa Catarina and southern Parana, but frost if any was patchy and occurred well to the south of the coffee and citrus areas. Farther north, moderate to heavy showers (25-50 mm or more) continued in Mato Grosso and spread eastward into previously dry sections of Bahia and Minas Gerais. Conditions remained favorable for summer grains and oilseeds in Brazil's northeastern interior. According to independent sources from with Brazil, soybeans were 48 percent harvested as of April 11, compared with 71 percent last year.

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