

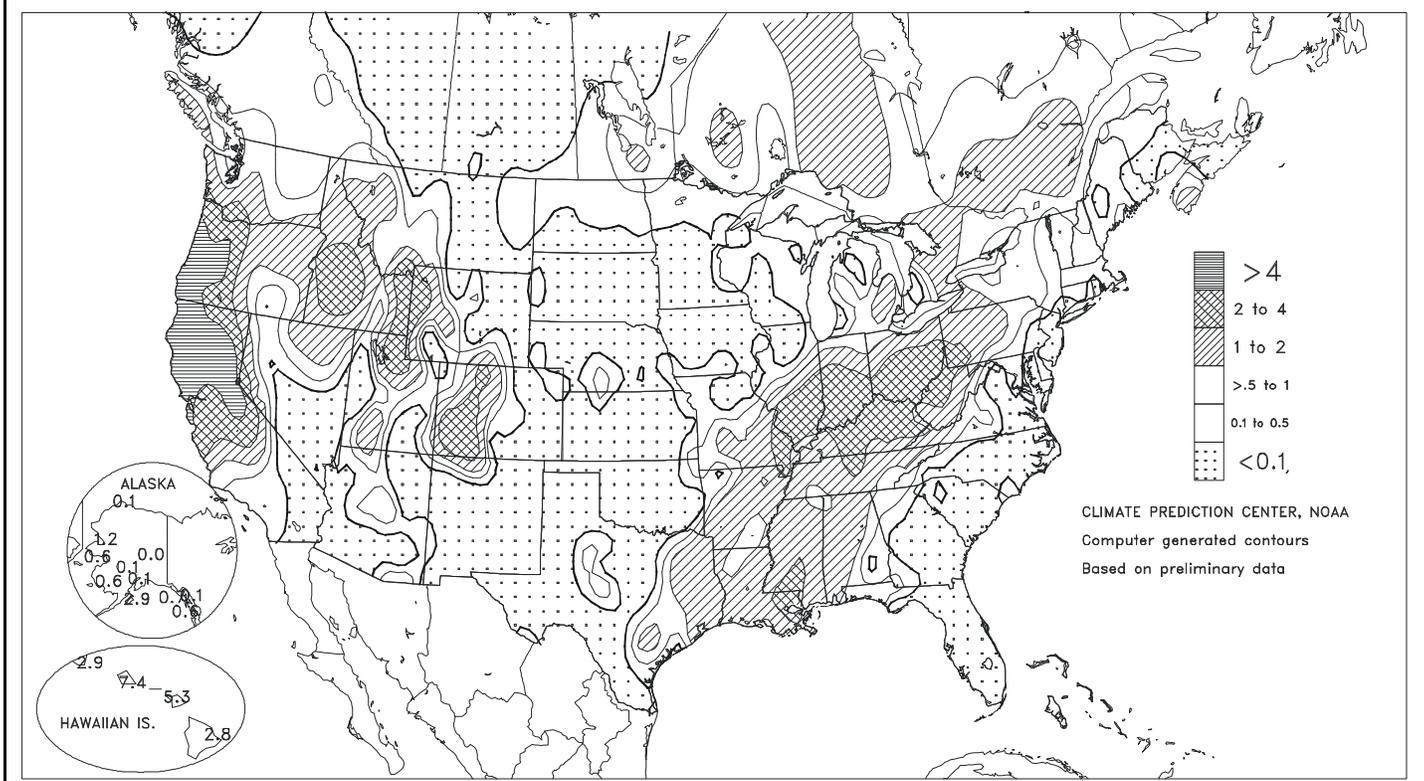
WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

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

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

Total Precipitation (Inches)

DEC 28, 2003 - JAN 3, 2004



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

HIGHLIGHTS

December 28, 2003 - January 3, 2004

Highlights provided by USDA/WAOB

Storminess intensified across the **West**, accompanied by several surges of cold air. As a result, snow fell at very low elevations in the **Pacific Northwest**, causing holiday travel disruptions. Farther inland, heavy snow blanketed **Northwestern** winter grains, providing the crop with insulation from increasingly cold weather. Meanwhile, heavy, high-elevation snowfall improved spring runoff prospects throughout **California**, the **Northwest**, and the **Intermountain West** as far south as **Utah** and **western Colorado**. Farther east, wheat across the **northern half of the Plains** benefited from the passage of two winter storms. The first, early in the week, dumped

(Continued on page 3)

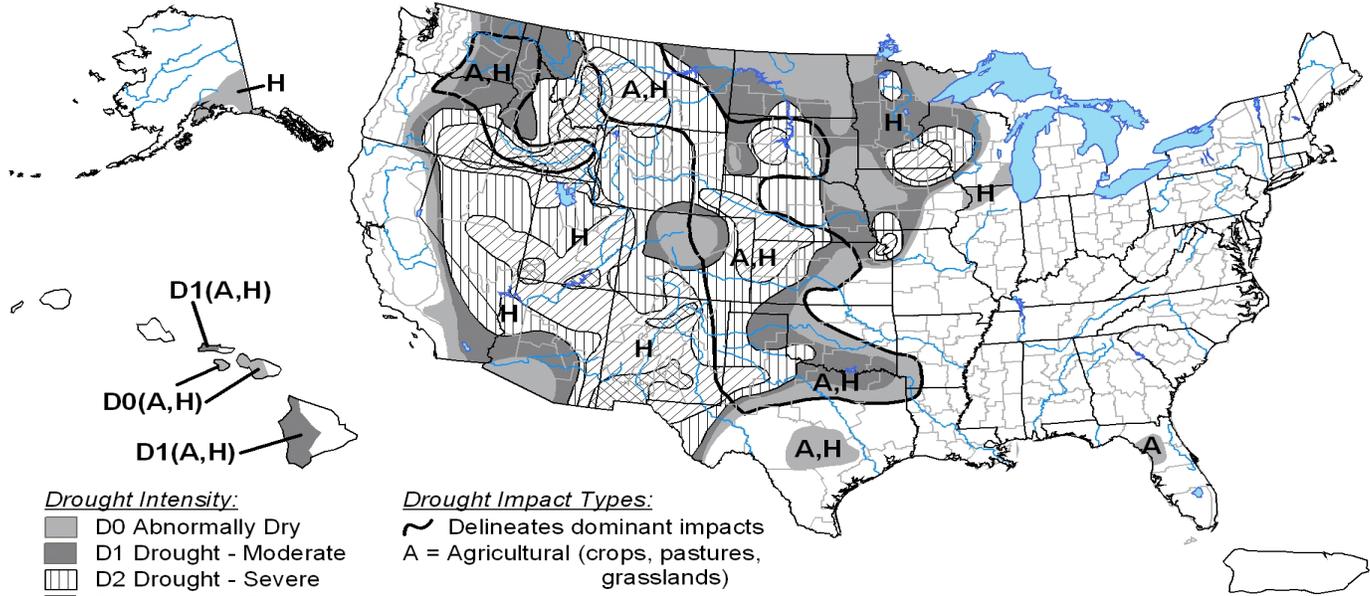
Contents

December 30 Drought Monitor & Temperature Departure Map	2
Extreme Minimum Temperature Map	3
Weather Data for Mississippi and the Missouri Bootheel & 2003 Precipitation Records	4
National Weather Data for Selected Cities	5
National Agricultural Summary & Snow Cover Map ..	8
December State Agricultural Summaries	9
International Weather and Crop Summary & December Temperature/Precipitation Table ...	14
Subscription Information	20

U.S. Drought Monitor

December 30, 2003

Valid 7 a.m. EST



Drought Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Drought - Moderate
- D2 Drought - Severe
- D3 Drought - Extreme
- D4 Drought - Exceptional

Drought Impact Types:

- Delineates dominant impacts
- A = Agricultural (crops, pastures, grasslands)
- H = Hydrological (water)
- (No type = Both impacts)

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

<http://drought.unl.edu/dm>

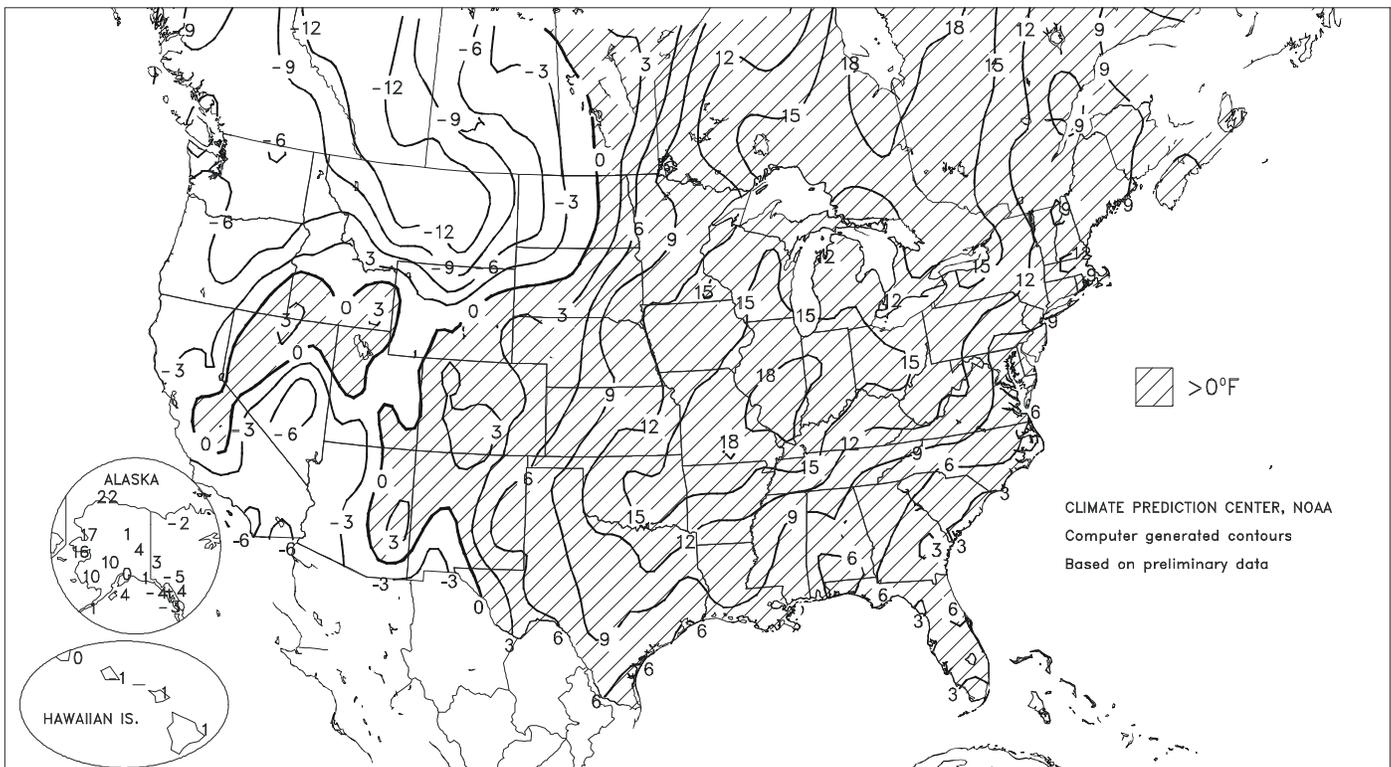


Released Thursday, December 31, 2003

Author: Rich Tinker, NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC

Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F)

DEC 28, 2003 - JAN 3, 2004



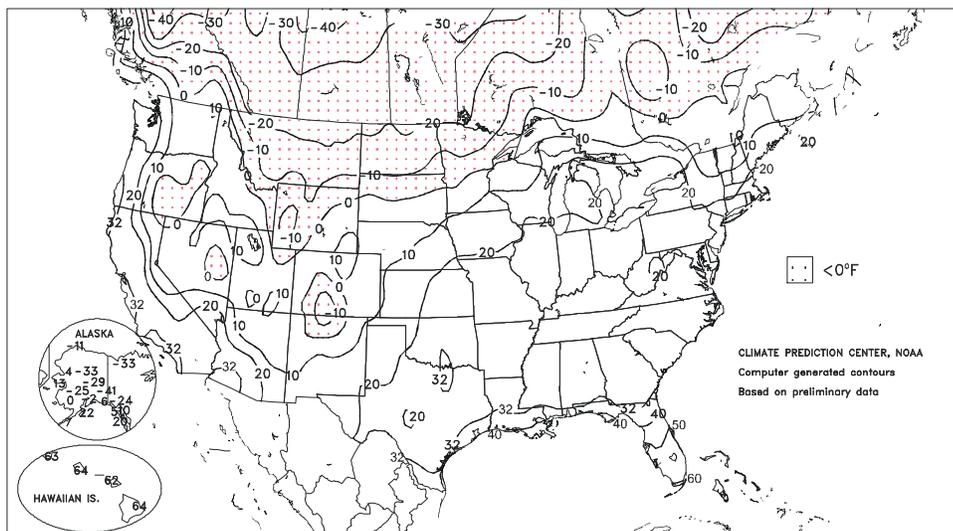
heavy snow in parts of **Montana**, where weekly temperatures averaged as much as 16°F below normal. Later in the week, a second storm system produced a stripe of snow east-northeastward from **western Nebraska** and **northeastern Colorado**. By week's end, however, some wheat in **South Dakota** remained vulnerable to bitterly cold weather due to a patchy, shallow snow cover. Sharply colder air arrived across the **southern half of the Plains** early in the new year, replacing a 2-week warm spell. On the **southern Plains**, cold weather reduced winter wheat's moisture requirements, although the crop remained in need of precipitation. Mostly dry weather also persisted across the **upper Midwest**, where a late-week cold outbreak increased livestock stress. Meanwhile, heavy rain developed in the **Ohio Valley** late in the week, causing some flooding in lowlands planted to winter wheat. Prior to the rain's arrival, record warmth boosted weekly temperatures 14 to 20°F above normal across the **southern and eastern Corn Belt**. Unusually warm weather also prevailed for much of the week across the **South and East**, where temperatures generally ranged from 4 to 16°F above normal. Locally heavy showers in the **Delta** and adjacent areas aided winter wheat and cool-season pastures.

Early in the week, the coldest air in several years settled across parts of the **Southwest**. On December 28, daily-record lows included 13°F in **Sedona, AZ**, and 24°F in **Thermal, CA**. The chilly conditions necessitated protective measures for some winter agricultural interests from **southern California to the lower Colorado Valley**. **Phoenix, AZ**, reported low temperatures of 32°F on December 28 and 29, marking its first freeze since January 3, 2000, and first consecutive readings at or below the freezing mark since February 15-16, 1990. Elsewhere in **Arizona**, **Tucson** (20°F on December 28 and 19°F on December 29) registered its lowest reading since December 24, 1974, and experienced consecutive days with temperatures of 20°F or lower for the first time since January 7-8, 1971. In **western Texas**, **El Paso** (13°F on December 29) had its coldest day since January 8, 1997, when the low was 10°F.

Widespread storminess trailed the cold air across the **West**. **San Francisco Airport, CA**, collected daily-record rainfall totals on December 29 (2.60 inches) and January 1 (2.16 inches). In **Oregon**, **Pendleton's** 9.5-inch snowfall on December 28-29 represented its third-highest 24-hour total on record, behind 16.1 inches in February 1994 and 11.1 inches in January 1950. Elsewhere in **Oregon**, storm-total snowfall reached 15 inches in **Condon** and 18 inches in **Meacham**, while **Timberline** (in the **Cascades**) recorded about 4 feet of snow to boost its depth above 150 inches. By the morning of December 30, snow was reported as far south as the **Las Vegas Valley**, where **McCarran Airport** received 1.3 inches. It was **Las Vegas' heaviest snowfall** since February 19, 1990, when 1.4 inches fell. Farther inland, snowfall in **Utah** during the final 7 days of 2003 reached 103 inches in **Farmington Canyon (Davis County)** and 87 inches in **Alta (Salt Lake County)**. **Salt Lake City, UT**, measured 21.9 inches of snow during the last 7 days of the year, capping its fifth-snowiest (31.2 inches), second-wettest (3.97 inches) December on record. Heavy precipitation even reached the **northern Plains**, where **Glasgow, MT**, noted its snowiest December on record (18.8 inches; previously, 16.5 inches in 1929). Most of **Glasgow's** snow was observed from December 26-28, when 14.4 inches fell. High winds accompanied the precipitation throughout

Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)

DEC 28, 2003 - JAN 3, 2004



the **West**, including **California**, where December 30 gusts included 53 m.p.h. in **Sacramento** and 56 m.p.h. in **Marysville**. Two days later, New Year's Day featured a peak gust to 114 m.p.h. on **Utah's Little Cottonwood Ridgeline**.

In contrast, the **upper Midwest** remained dry. **Green Bay, WI**, received only 2.9 inches of snow during the second half of the year, its seventh-lowest total on record through December 31. Farther south, heavy rain began to develop toward week's end along a front draped across the **Ohio Valley**. On January 2, **London, KY**, collected a daily-record total of 2.73 inches. Meanwhile, 2004 began on a mild note across the **Midwest, South, and East**, featuring more than six dozen daily-record highs. The winter thaw belied that fact that **Mt. Mansfield, VT**, set December records for precipitation (13.52 inches) and snowfall (91.0 inches), while nearby **Burlington's** monthly snowfall of 53.6 inches was second only to a 56.7-inch total in December 1970. However, consecutive daily-record highs were set on January 2-3 in locations such as **Tulsa, OK** (76 and 75°F), and **Grand Rapids, MI** (58 and 59°F). In addition, records for the highest monthly minimum temperature were established on January 3 in locations such as **McAlester, OK** (65°F), and **Fayetteville, AR** (63°F). In sharp contrast, highs in **Montana** on January 3 included -10°F in **Cut Bank** (its lowest maximum temperature since January 11, 1998) and -6°F in **Great Falls** (lowest maximum since December 20, 1998).

Mild, mostly dry weather prevailed in **Alaska**. Weekly temperatures averaged at least 10 to 20°F above normal across **western parts of the State**, although colder air overspread **southeastern Alaska** (as much as 4°F below normal). Precipitation was mostly confined to **western Alaska**, where early-week precipitation boosted December snowfall to 22.2 inches in **Nome** and 23.8 inches in **Cold Bay**. Farther south, heavy rainfall pounded parts of **Hawaii**, especially across **Honolulu and Maui Counties** from January 1-3. On **Maui**, **Kahului** recorded 6.49 inches of rain during the first 3 days of 2004. On **Oahu**, **Honolulu** netted 1.73 inches in a 24-hour period on December 30-31, then received 5.30 inches during the first 3 days of January. Elsewhere, **Oahu's Wilson Tunnel** recorded weekly rainfall totaling 13.54 inches, including 9.09 inches in a 48-hour period from January 1-3. During the same 48 hours, totals included 11.71 inches in **Mahinahina, Maui**, 13.34 inches in **Lanai City, Lanai**, and 16.34 inches at a station in **Molokai's interior**, east-southeast of the airport. Occasionally heavy showers were also observed on the other islands, including **Kauai** and the **Big Island**.

Weather Data for Mississippi and the Missouri Bootheel

Weather Data for the Week Ending January 3, 2004

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 Dec 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Dec 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	
MS INDIANOLA 1S	63	44	72	31	53	-	1.56	-	1.46	3.05	-	0.09	-	52	48	0	2	3	1	
MS INVERNESS 5E	64	45	74	33	55	-	1.36	-	1.20	2.57	-	0.16	-	56	46	0	0	2	1	
MS LYON	63	42	70	30	53	-	0.84	-	0.83	2.39	-	0.01	-	52	46	0	2	2	1	
MS MACON	63	41	73	29	52	-	1.31	-	1.31	3.59	-	0.00	-	54	47	0	1	1	1	
MS ONWARD	67	44	76	30	56	-	1.30	-	1.29	3.26	-	0.00	-	55	49	0	2	2	1	
MS PERTHSHIRE	61	42	70	29	52	-	0.89	-	0.89	2.81	-	0.00	-	52	46	0	2	1	1	
MS SCOTT	64	45	72	31	55	-	1.00	-	0.94	3.23	-	0.06	-	52	48	0	2	2	1	
MS SIDON	66	45	75	32	55	-	1.23	-	1.08	2.89	-	0.15	-	57	45	0	0	2	1	
MS STARKVILLE	64	38	73	28	51	9	0.83	-0.41	0.83	2.71	48	0.00	0	53	45	0	3	1	1	
MS TUNICA 1W	62	41	70	27	52	-	0.60	-	0.58	2.40	-	0.02	-	51	45	0	2	2	1	
MS VANCE	61	41	69	28	51	-	1.18	-	1.08	2.98	-	0.10	-	50	46	0	2	2	1	
MS VERONA	61	39	69	27	50	-	0.70	-	0.63	2.82	-	0.07	-	53	43	0	3	2	1	
MS STONEVILLE X	61	41	70	31	51	9	1.81	0.55	1.42	3.33	56	0.02	4	55	45	0	2	3	1	
MO DELTA	57	39	68	26	48	14	1.31	0.46	0.51	2.39	50	0.41	110	49	42	0	2	5	1	
MO STEELE	59	44	70	32	52	16	1.31	0.62	0.82	3.04	58	0.19	68	51	44	0	1	4	1	
MO GLENNONVILLE	58	44	69	29	51	15	1.48	0.58	0.62	3.01	68	0.35	89	50	44	0	1	5	2	
MO PORTAGEVILLE LF	59	45	71	32	52	17	1.43	0.63	0.95	2.77	58	0.34	109	52	44	0	1	3	1	
MO CLARKTON	59	43	70	29	51	15	1.53	0.63	0.69	3.2	72	0.44	112	49	44	0	2	5	1	
MO CARDWELL	60	43	71	30	51	15	1.45	0.56	0.87	3.15	61	0.09	26	52	46	0	2	4	1	
MO CHARLESTON	58	42	68	28	51	17	1.92	1.09	0.98	3.38	70	0.62	155	51	43	0	2	5	1	
MO PORTAGEVILLE DC	59	45	70	32	52	17	1.24	0.44	0.95	2.3	48	0.18	58	52	44	0	1	4	1	

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

X Based on 1971-2000 normals.

- Sufficient data not available.

Weather and Crop Summary: The Delta experienced another warm winter week with temperatures reaching the 70's once again. The warm air mass aided moisture amounts significantly with most areas receiving at least an inch of precipitation and near 2 inches in the Missouri Bootheel. Moisture levels in the fields have been more evident by standing water, but no significant stress has been done to pastures or winter grains.

2003 Precipitation Records

Record-High Annual Precipitation (Inches)

<u>Location</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Normal</u>	<u>Previous Record/Year</u>
Dulles Airport (IAD), VA	65.71	41.80	59.05 in 1972
Bristol (TRI), TN	65.65	41.33	54.50 in 1950
Baltimore (BWI), MD	62.66	41.94	62.35 in 1889
Greensboro (GSO), NC	62.32	43.14	57.95 in 1901
Charleston (CRW), WV	61.01	44.05	60.40 in 1950
Scranton (AVP), PA	49.93	37.56	48.99 in 1996

Lubbock and El Paso, Texas: Driest Years on Record *

<u>Lubbock, Texas</u>			<u>El Paso, Texas</u>		
<u>Rank</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Year</u>
1.	8.73	1917	1.	2.22	1891
2.	8.83	2003	2.	2.73	1934
3.	9.45	1924	3.	4.03	1910
4.	9.59	1927	4.	4.21	2003
5.	9.72	1934	5.	4.24	1894

* Lubbock's 1971-2000 normal annual precipitation is 18.69 inches; El Paso's is 9.43 inches. Lubbock experienced major dust storms on April 15 and December 15, 2003. The April dust storm was also severe in El Paso, where 2003 featured 38 days with visibility restrictions due to blowing dust.

National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending January 3, 2004

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 Dec 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Dec 1	TOTAL IN, SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	OF INCH OR MORE		
																		0.1 INCH OR MORE	5.0 INCH OR MORE	
AL	BIRMINGHAM	64	41	72	31	53	10	1.23	0.12	1.22	3.31	67	0.00	0	***	***	0	1	2	1
	HUNTSVILLE	61	38	70	27	49	9	0.69	-0.55	0.69	3.19	52	0.00	0	86	62	0	4	1	1
	MOBILE	71	47	78	34	59	9	1.21	0.12	1.19	3.81	74	0.02	4	88	60	0	0	2	1
	MONTGOMERY	67	38	77	29	53	6	0.66	-0.37	0.66	3.96	73	0.00	0	99	54	0	3	1	1
AK	ANCHORAGE	24	9	33	-2	16	0	0.08	-0.11	0.08	1.89	169	0.00	0	88	69	0	7	1	0
	BARROW	17	1	29	-11	9	22	0.13	0.13	0.04	0.21	175	0.06	600	88	85	0	7	5	0
	FAIRBANKS	5	-15	24	-29	-5	4	0.00	-0.14	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0	83	75	0	7	0	0
	JUNEAU	28	18	36	10	23	-4	0.07	-1.12	0.03	5.95	101	0.00	0	87	76	0	7	3	0
	KODIAK	37	30	42	22	34	4	2.87	1.01	1.56	10.51	125	0.00	0	68	54	0	6	3	2
	NOME	27	17	30	13	22	16	0.57	0.38	0.30	1.22	112	0.01	13	96	89	0	7	3	0
AZ	FLAGSTAFF	35	15	39	1	25	-4	0.27	-0.15	0.19	1.43	71	0.27	150	84	41	0	7	2	0
	PHOENIX	62	43	68	32	53	0	0.00	-0.22	0.00	0.28	28	0.00	0	54	40	0	2	0	0
	TUCSON	61	35	66	19	48	-3	0.06	-0.19	0.06	0.20	18	0.00	0	58	35	0	2	1	0
	YUMA	61	42	65	35	52	-5	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0	61	40	0	0	0	0
AR	FORT SMITH	65	42	75	26	53	15	0.56	0.00	0.54	1.86	51	0.01	4	92	54	0	3	3	1
	LITTLE ROCK	64	44	76	27	54	14	1.59	0.74	1.30	3.53	70	0.07	19	95	50	0	2	4	1
CA	BAKERSFIELD	56	41	63	34	48	2	0.39	0.18	0.35	1.68	198	0.37	411	79	60	0	0	5	0
	FRESNO	53	41	61	30	47	3	0.35	-0.04	0.22	3.03	201	0.07	41	90	79	0	1	4	0
	LOS ANGELES	61	45	65	39	53	-4	0.47	-0.04	0.47	1.67	83	0.47	204	86	52	0	0	1	0
	REDDING	45	33	53	25	39	-6	4.12	2.86	3.10	11.48	220	0.29	52	96	88	0	3	6	2
	SACRAMENTO	51	39	55	29	45	0	2.38	1.71	1.21	5.45	198	1.17	390	98	71	0	2	4	2
	SAN DIEGO	61	45	64	40	53	-4	0.13	-0.27	0.08	0.76	51	0.13	72	70	45	0	0	2	0
	SAN FRANCISCO	53	43	57	38	48	0	5.04	4.25	2.60	8.81	272	2.42	691	92	80	0	0	4	2
	STOCKTON	51	39	56	28	45	1	1.82	1.34	1.18	4.37	215	1.33	633	97	84	0	2	3	1
CO	ALAMOSA	35	5	42	-11	20	6	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.06	17	0.00	0	85	52	0	7	0	0
	CO SPRINGS	44	18	61	4	31	3	0.18	0.10	0.18	0.22	48	0.18	450	59	25	0	7	1	0
	DENVER INTL	44	19	54	15	31	3	0.01	-0.06	0.01	0.13	37	0.01	25	61	33	0	7	1	0
	GRAND JUNCTION	34	20	42	14	27	1	0.66	0.53	0.49	1.18	203	0.62	1033	87	77	0	7	4	0
	PUEBLO	49	17	61	0	33	4	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.05	12	0.00	0	46	31	0	7	0	0
CT	BRIDGEPORT	47	30	52	23	38	7	0.10	-0.72	0.04	3.35	88	0.06	17	88	63	0	5	3	0
	HARTFORD	46	27	56	22	37	10	0.29	-0.54	0.12	3.61	91	0.21	58	91	62	0	7	3	0
DC	WASHINGTON	55	35	68	29	45	9	0.19	-0.53	0.16	4.54	135	0.16	52	82	46	0	2	2	0
DE	WILMINGTON	50	30	54	24	40	7	0.10	-0.68	0.06	4.87	131	0.06	18	95	48	0	5	2	0
FL	DAYTONA BEACH	76	54	79	46	65	6	0.02	-0.63	0.01	1.57	53	0.01	4	100	60	0	0	2	0
	JACKSONVILLE	72	43	79	30	57	4	0.00	-0.69	0.00	1.20	41	0.00	0	96	54	0	1	0	0
	KEY WEST	78	68	79	64	73	2	0.10	-0.41	0.08	1.14	48	0.10	45	86	64	0	0	3	0
	MIAMI	79	65	81	62	72	3	0.00	-0.41	0.00	1.28	54	0.00	0	88	60	0	0	0	0
	ORLANDO	79	56	81	48	67	6	0.00	-0.50	0.00	1.58	62	0.00	0	99	52	0	0	0	0
	PENSACOLA	68	47	73	37	57	5	0.51	-0.52	0.48	3.66	83	0.03	7	95	66	0	0	3	0
	TALLAHASSEE	71	40	77	29	56	4	0.26	-0.84	0.25	2.04	45	0.01	2	94	60	0	1	2	0
	TAMPA	77	59	81	51	68	6	0.00	-0.47	0.00	1.30	52	0.00	0	89	51	0	0	0	0
	WEST PALM	79	61	81	57	70	3	0.01	-0.64	0.01	4.35	127	0.01	3	87	57	0	0	1	0
GA	ATHENS	64	36	72	27	50	8	0.05	-0.88	0.05	2.31	56	0.00	0	78	41	0	3	1	0
	ATLANTA	63	41	68	35	52	9	0.21	-0.72	0.18	2.71	64	0.01	2	77	48	0	0	3	0
	AUGUSTA	67	29	74	23	48	3	0.02	-0.87	0.02	2.03	58	0.00	0	96	44	0	5	1	0
	COLUMBUS	67	38	70	31	52	5	0.16	-0.85	0.13	2.94	61	0.01	2	89	40	0	2	3	0
	MACON	68	34	71	27	51	5	0.09	-0.90	0.04	4.90	112	0.02	5	93	40	0	4	6	0
	SAVANNAH	69	37	78	30	53	4	0.01	-0.79	0.01	1.50	47	0.00	0	96	50	0	2	1	0
HI	HILO	77	67	80	64	72	0	2.77	0.80	1.21	10.41	92	0.43	51	90	81	0	0	6	2
	HONOLULU	78	68	82	64	73	-1	7.43	6.78	3.32	10.28	329	5.33	1974	90	81	0	0	6	3
	KAHULUI	78	68	85	62	73	1	5.28	4.47	3.23	7.37	215	5.04	1440	89	79	0	0	5	3
	LIHUE	78	66	82	63	72	0	2.94	1.85	1.29	6.71	128	1.50	319	94	85	0	0	7	2
ID	BOISE	36	25	43	16	30	1	0.87	0.58	0.24	2.01	133	0.36	277	88	74	0	7	7	0
	LEWISTON	33	22	42	9	27	-6	0.36	0.14	0.13	2.07	182	0.21	233	96	78	0	7	5	0
	POCATELLO	30	18	36	10	24	0	0.06	-0.19	0.02	1.22	101	0.04	36	86	75	0	7	2	0
IL	CHICAGO/O'HARE	49	29	61	21	39	16	0.15	-0.28	0.15	1.82	70	0.00	0	82	57	0	5	1	0
	MOLINE	50	27	62	20	38	16	0.20	-0.20	0.14	2.92	123	0.14	82	85	57	0	6	2	0
	PEORIA	51	31	65	21	41	17	0.17	-0.22	0.14	1.80	70	0.03	19	89	57	0	5	2	0
	ROCKFORD	45	26	55	21	35	15	0.16	-0.18	0.16	3.23	147	0.00	0	87	68	0	6	1	0
	SPRINGFIELD	54	33	68	23	44	18	0.33	-0.11	0.19	1.78	65	0.27	142	88	67	0	5	4	0
IN	EVANSVILLE	59	38	66	26	48	16	1.75	1.11	0.81	2.26	59	1.56	578	84	64	0	3	4	1
	FORT WAYNE	50	32	61	24	41	16	0.64	0.13	0.34	2.71	91	0.30	143	90	70	0	4	3	0
	INDIANAPOLIS	56	35	63	27	45	17	1.41	0.84	0.63	4.39	134	0.95	396	87	59	0	3	4	1
	SOUTH BEND	50	32	61	22	41	16	0.37	-0.20	0.17	1.48	44	0.04	17	83	68	0	4	3	0
IA	BURLINGTON	50	29	65	21	40	16	0.07	-0.27	0.06	4.14	185	0.01	7	92	57	0	5	2	0
	CEDAR RAPIDS	43	23	52	16	33	14	0.01	-0.22	0.01	1.80	115	0.00	0	93	63	0	7	1	0
	DES MOINES	44	24	60	19	34	13	0.00	-0.22	0.00	0.93	65	0.00	0	83	67	0	7	0	0
	DUBUQUE	41	24	49	18	32	14	0.04	-0.24	0.02	1.70	94	0.01	8	85	70	0	7	3	0
	SIoux CITY	41	18	59	12	29	10	0.00	-0.12	0.00	0.24	33	0.00	0	79	62	0	7	0	0
	WATERLOO	41	21	49	14	31	14	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.47	40	0.00	0	84	65	0	7	0	0
KS	CONCORDIA	47	26	57	21	37	10	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.27	29	0.00	0	74	45	0	7	0	0
	DODGE CITY	51	26	64	17	39	9	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.27	32	0.00	0	61	30	0	5	0	0
	GOODLAND	48	18	62	11	33	5	0.00	-0.09	0.00	0.17	38	0.00	0	59	30	0	7	0	0
	TOPEKA	53	29	63	26	41	13	0.00	-0.23	0.00	2.22	147	0.00	0	80	44	0	6	0	0

Weather Data for the Week Ending January 3, 2004

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 Dec 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Dec 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	54	32	63	23	43	12	0.00	-0.25	0.00	0.89	61	0.00	0	71	45	0	5	0	0
	JACKSON	59	38	69	29	48	13	2.07	1.23	1.39	5.35	116	1.54	440	86	44	0	2	4	1
	LEXINGTON	57	38	65	26	47	14	1.83	0.99	0.91	5.12	117	1.22	349	82	62	0	2	5	2
	LOUISVILLE	60	40	69	31	50	16	1.69	0.94	0.74	4.10	102	0.95	297	82	49	0	3	4	1
	PADUCAH	59	44	69	26	52	19	1.58	0.81	0.91	2.30	49	0.67	209	92	57	0	2	3	1
LA	BATON ROUGE	72	47	79	31	60	10	1.31	0.06	1.31	2.19	38	0.00	0	99	58	0	1	1	1
	LAKE CHARLES	70	50	77	33	60	9	1.31	0.16	1.28	3.32	65	0.00	0	100	73	0	0	2	1
	NEW ORLEANS	71	51	78	39	61	8	0.89	-0.20	0.89	1.96	35	0.00	0	93	73	0	0	1	1
	SHREVEPORT	66	45	77	27	56	10	1.65	0.66	1.57	3.64	73	0.00	0	93	57	0	2	2	1
ME	CARIBOU	30	15	44	5	23	12	0.19	-0.53	0.16	3.12	89	0.16	52	88	59	0	6	2	0
	PORTLAND	43	25	52	20	34	11	0.13	-0.81	0.08	3.85	83	0.13	33	83	53	0	6	2	0
MD	BALTIMORE	54	30	59	24	42	9	0.27	-0.51	0.17	4.88	132	0.17	50	89	50	0	5	2	0
MA	BOSTON	49	34	58	27	41	10	0.23	-0.61	0.17	4.03	98	0.23	62	74	50	0	2	2	0
	WORCESTER	44	31	53	26	37	12	0.28	-0.62	0.15	4.32	103	0.22	56	78	49	0	5	3	0
MI	ALPENA	39	27	44	24	34	14	0.28	-0.13	0.24	1.68	84	0.28	156	93	60	0	6	2	0
	GRAND RAPIDS	48	31	59	20	39	15	0.24	-0.23	0.08	1.06	37	0.12	60	92	64	0	4	6	0
	HOUGHTON LAKE	39	26	44	15	32	12	0.53	0.17	0.49	1.72	91	0.52	347	92	71	0	6	3	0
	LANSING	48	29	58	17	38	15	0.55	0.19	0.29	1.59	69	0.15	100	79	66	0	4	5	0
	MUSKOGON	47	32	57	21	40	15	0.15	-0.37	0.09	1.66	58	0.09	41	83	64	0	4	2	0
	TRAVERSE CITY	42	28	46	19	35	12	0.60	-0.03	0.44	2.08	71	0.49	181	88	58	0	5	4	0
MN	DULUTH	28	11	40	-4	20	11	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.10	10	0.00	0	88	73	0	7	0	0
	INT'L FALLS	24	4	39	-17	14	11	0.23	0.09	0.07	0.48	63	0.09	150	92	81	0	7	5	0
	MINNEAPOLIS	31	16	41	9	24	10	0.01	-0.19	0.01	0.63	58	0.00	0	81	65	0	7	1	0
	ROCHESTER	34	19	44	11	27	14	0.01	-0.16	0.01	0.44	40	0.01	14	84	71	0	7	1	0
	ST. CLOUD	27	10	38	1	18	8	0.02	-0.12	0.02	0.13	17	0.00	0	89	69	0	7	1	0
MS	JACKSON	68	43	78	26	55	10	1.55	0.33	1.55	3.33	57	0.00	0	95	57	0	2	1	1
	MERIDIAN	66	39	74	25	52	6	0.79	-0.44	0.79	2.65	45	0.00	0	99	68	0	3	1	1
	TUPELO	60	38	70	25	49	8	0.76	-0.54	0.70	3.28	49	0.06	11	94	70	0	3	2	1
MO	COLUMBIA	55	34	71	25	45	16	0.28	-0.11	0.16	3.60	137	0.12	75	90	53	0	3	3	0
	KANSAS CITY	53	31	64	25	42	14	0.00	-0.28	0.00	1.97	112	0.00	0	86	48	0	5	0	0
	SAINT LOUIS	59	39	71	29	49	19	0.36	-0.13	0.15	2.50	82	0.14	70	92	64	0	1	4	0
	SPRINGFIELD	59	37	72	24	48	16	0.67	0.21	0.36	4.39	131	0.44	232	83	58	0	2	4	0
MT	BILLINGS	21	7	31	-7	14	-10	0.04	-0.13	0.03	0.80	108	0.01	14	84	65	0	7	2	0
	BUTTE	24	-2	32	-17	11	-6	0.06	-0.05	0.04	0.39	67	0.01	20	89	57	0	7	3	0
	GLASGOW	9	-8	26	-17	1	-11	0.05	-0.03	0.03	0.56	137	0.02	50	88	81	0	7	3	0
	GREAT FALLS	18	0	32	-16	9	-13	0.15	-0.02	0.08	0.19	26	0.09	129	86	61	0	7	3	0
	HAVRE	10	-8	20	-22	1	-15	0.06	-0.05	0.03	0.29	52	0.04	80	86	78	0	7	4	0
	KALISPELL	20	3	28	-13	12	-9	0.42	0.09	0.19	1.54	86	0.15	107	89	81	0	7	6	0
	MISSOULA	24	8	29	-6	16	-6	0.41	0.16	0.19	1.07	85	0.20	182	92	82	0	7	4	0
NE	GRAND ISLAND	46	20	64	13	33	10	0.04	-0.07	0.04	0.06	8	0.04	80	78	45	0	7	1	0
	LINCOLN	46	21	63	15	34	11	0.00	-0.15	0.00	0.16	17	0.00	0	76	53	0	7	0	0
	NORFOLK	43	18	60	11	30	9	0.00	-0.10	0.00	0.11	16	0.00	0	73	50	0	7	0	0
	NORTH PLATTE	45	12	59	5	28	5	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0	84	31	0	7	0	0
	OMAHA	43	24	58	17	33	11	0.00	-0.15	0.00	0.85	86	0.00	0	75	56	0	7	0	0
	SCOTTSBLUFF	43	15	52	9	29	5	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.50	82	0.00	0	80	51	0	7	0	0
	VALENTINE	39	13	51	6	26	5	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.24	69	0.00	0	73	53	0	7	0	0
NV	ELY	28	8	33	-9	18	-7	0.02	-0.12	0.02	1.19	213	0.00	0	79	69	0	7	1	0
	LAS VEGAS	50	37	56	29	43	-3	0.25	0.16	0.25	0.97	216	0.00	0	77	51	0	3	1	0
	RENO	40	27	46	16	34	2	0.43	0.24	0.36	1.67	174	0.37	463	83	62	0	5	3	0
	WINNEMUCCA	36	24	45	10	30	2	0.66	0.48	0.29	1.87	210	0.11	138	94	69	0	7	5	0
NH	CONCORD	44	24	58	16	34	12	0.22	-0.42	0.16	4.35	134	0.22	79	85	51	0	6	2	0
NJ	NEWARK	51	34	55	30	43	10	0.04	-0.79	0.03	5.33	135	0.03	8	77	51	0	3	2	0
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	45	25	56	11	35	0	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.11	20	0.00	0	56	29	0	5	0	0
NY	ALBANY	43	28	49	19	36	12	0.27	-0.28	0.11	4.24	146	0.20	83	90	57	0	4	3	0
	BINGHAMTON	45	28	54	18	37	13	0.53	-0.04	0.24	3.25	99	0.33	138	87	66	0	6	3	0
	BUFFALO	48	33	56	25	41	15	0.84	0.08	0.38	3.99	97	0.35	109	88	57	0	4	4	0
	ROCHESTER	51	34	61	23	42	16	0.48	-0.06	0.25	2.77	94	0.29	132	81	57	0	3	3	0
	SYRACUSE	50	30	61	20	40	15	0.93	0.35	0.45	3.41	101	0.48	192	91	54	0	5	3	0
NC	ASHEVILLE	61	27	73	20	44	8	0.11	-0.69	0.08	2.66	71	0.00	0	90	42	0	5	2	0
	CHARLOTTE	63	32	74	26	48	6	0.03	-0.78	0.03	2.40	68	0.00	0	90	35	0	5	1	0
	GREENSBORO	62	32	72	26	47	9	0.11	-0.62	0.11	2.38	70	0.00	0	76	35	0	5	1	0
	HATTERAS	58	44	64	39	51	4	0.02	-1.22	0.01	4.81	94	0.00	0	93	62	0	0	2	0
	RALEIGH	64	32	73	25	48	8	0.01	-0.78	0.01	3.53	104	0.00	0	86	35	0	4	1	0
	WILMINGTON	66	35	75	28	50	4	0.01	-0.92	0.01	4.96	118	0.01	2	98	49	0	2	1	0
ND	BISMARCK	18	0	26	-19	9	-2	0.11	0.03	0.07	0.35	73	0.00	0	81	75	0	7	2	0
	DICKINSON	16	-4	28	-17	6	-9	0.09	0.03	0.09	0.21	58	0.00	0	92	71	0	7	1	0
	FARGO	23	5	36	-10	14	6	0.02	-0.13	0.01	0.30	47	0.00	0	87	72	0	7	2	0
	GRAND FORKS	17	1	35	-13	9	2	0.03	-0.10	0.03	0.31	51	0.00	0	93	76	0	7	1	0
	JAMESTOWN	18	2	32	-18	10	0	0.04	-0.07	0.03	0.47	96	0.00	0	93	78	0	7	2	0
	WILLISTON	13	-7	25	-21	3	-6	0.37	0.26	0.17	0.73	118	0.15	300	86	80	0	7	4	0
OH	AKRON-CANTON	51	32	60	24	41	14	1.02	0.44	0.29	3.68	114	0.52	208	80	65	0	4	5	0
	CINCINNATI	56	36	67	28	46	15	1.63	0.94	0.58	3.24	91	1.05	350	81	55	0	3	4	1
	CLEVELAND	51	33	61	23	42	15	0.77	0.20	0.40	4.19	124	0.21	88	82	55	0	4	5	0
	COLUMBUS	53	34	60	26	44	14	2.46	1.89	1.44	4.71	149	1.92	800	89	62	0	4	5	1
	DAYTON	52	34	60	27	43	15	1.64	1.03	0.69	3.41	102	0.99	381	86	56	0	4	4	2
	MANSFIELD	50	33	59	23	41	15	1.40</												

Weather Data for the Week Ending January 3, 2004

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 Dec 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Dec 1	TOTAL IN, SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	TEMP. °F		PRECIP	
																		01 INCH OR MORE	50 INCH OR MORE		
OK	50	32	60	20	41	16	0.69	0.22	0.51	3.28	115	0.18	90	82	63	0	4	4	1	1	
OK	51	32	60	24	42	15	1.23	0.68	0.32	3.45	108	0.76	330	79	63	0	4	5	0	0	
OK	62	40	75	27	51	14	0.00	-0.37	0.00	1.15	56	0.00	0	70	28	0	2	0	0	0	
OR	63	43	76	29	53	16	0.02	-0.38	0.02	2.21	85	0.02	12	68	48	0	1	1	0	0	
OR	41	32	44	26	37	-5	1.57	-0.59	0.52	10.67	94	0.89	97	95	86	0	3	6	2	2	
OR	30	12	38	-11	21	-3	0.85	0.57	0.34	2.04	144	0.31	258	96	89	0	7	7	0	0	
OR	39	32	44	25	36	-3	4.20	2.51	1.27	12.44	138	1.69	235	97	91	0	4	7	3	3	
OR	39	32	44	27	36	-2	2.19	1.63	0.72	5.87	187	1.09	454	98	86	0	2	7	2	2	
OR	32	17	40	7	25	-8	0.84	0.54	0.36	2.61	162	0.05	38	88	75	0	7	5	0	0	
OR	39	32	43	27	36	-3	1.33	0.17	0.39	8.42	136	0.49	98	93	84	0	4	7	0	0	
PA	38	30	44	20	34	-5	1.44	0.14	0.67	10.02	143	0.50	89	95	91	0	4	6	1	1	
PA	49	28	56	21	39	10	0.14	-0.62	0.07	4.22	113	0.07	21	83	55	0	6	3	0	0	
PA	52	34	61	24	43	14	0.85	0.18	0.33	2.59	65	0.36	129	75	61	0	4	5	0	0	
PA	48	30	53	22	39	9	0.26	-0.36	0.11	3.56	102	0.15	58	87	47	0	5	3	0	0	
PA	51	33	54	27	42	8	0.04	-0.73	0.02	5.30	146	0.02	6	90	53	0	4	2	0	0	
PA	54	31	61	22	43	14	1.45	0.87	0.72	3.36	108	1.15	460	89	52	0	4	5	1	1	
PA	47	31	53	22	39	11	0.47	-0.03	0.24	4.24	154	0.23	110	85	56	0	4	3	0	0	
PA	45	29	48	21	37	10	0.86	0.28	0.30	4.65	146	0.57	228	91	75	0	5	3	0	0	
RI	50	31	58	25	40	10	0.28	-0.66	0.14	5.79	127	0.23	56	81	49	0	4	3	0	0	
SC	64	37	75	30	50	1	0.00	-0.72	0.00	***	***	0.00	0	94	50	0	1	0	0	0	
SC	68	35	76	28	51	3	0.01	-0.84	0.01	1.86	52	0.00	0	90	40	0	3	1	0	0	
SD	65	32	71	24	49	4	0.01	-0.92	0.01	2.14	56	0.00	0	87	36	0	5	1	0	0	
SD	62	36	71	27	49	8	0.09	-0.85	0.08	2.69	63	0.00	0	91	36	0	3	2	0	0	
SD	25	4	34	-6	15	3	0.01	-0.09	0.01	0.20	47	0.00	0	85	75	0	7	1	0	0	
SD	33	12	52	3	23	8	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.17	40	0.00	0	86	62	0	7	0	0	0	
SD	36	13	50	2	24	1	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.25	57	0.00	0	78	48	0	7	0	0	0	
SD	36	14	54	7	25	10	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.34	61	0.00	0	78	60	0	7	0	0	0	
TN	57	28	65	21	43	9	0.48	-0.26	0.25	3.46	93	0.17	53	94	46	0	5	5	0	0	
TN	61	35	71	26	48	8	0.67	-0.43	0.66	4.40	83	0.01	2	91	51	0	4	2	1	1	
TN	58	34	70	24	46	8	0.10	-0.92	0.10	2.64	54	0.00	0	88	44	0	5	1	0	0	
TN	63	45	71	29	54	14	0.89	-0.13	0.85	3.13	51	0.04	9	84	54	0	1	2	1	1	
TX	61	39	73	26	50	13	1.26	0.33	0.75	3.72	75	0.51	131	85	44	0	3	2	2	2	
TX	66	43	79	22	54	11	0.00	-0.27	0.00	0.01	1	0.00	0	59	45	0	1	0	0	0	
TX	58	29	70	12	44	9	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.09	13	0.00	0	45	17	0	5	0	0	0	
TX	70	45	81	21	58	8	0.33	-0.18	0.32	0.73	28	0.01	5	81	55	0	2	2	0	0	
TX	68	50	75	33	59	7	0.90	-0.38	0.82	3.19	55	0.00	0	99	69	0	0	2	1	1	
TX	75	55	82	37	65	6	0.18	-0.04	0.13	0.36	30	0.01	11	94	66	0	0	3	0	0	
TX	74	53	82	31	63	7	0.09	-0.28	0.06	0.57	30	0.00	0	90	65	0	1	3	0	0	
TX	68	45	77	27	57	6	0.01	-0.10	0.01	0.05	6	0.01	20	62	50	0	2	1	0	0	
TX	56	27	70	13	42	-2	0.00	-0.13	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0	52	20	0	6	0	0	0	
TX	66	48	78	34	57	13	0.14	-0.40	0.14	0.98	35	0.00	0	80	48	0	0	1	0	0	
TX	66	55	72	44	60	4	0.76	-0.07	0.57	5.72	147	0.00	0	97	68	0	0	2	1	1	
TX	70	51	78	34	60	8	0.56	-0.26	0.52	3.01	75	0.02	6	93	65	0	0	3	1	1	
TX	63	28	76	13	45	7	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0	47	23	0	4	0	0	0	
TX	63	35	78	25	49	6	0.00	-0.13	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0	55	30	0	3	0	0	0	
TX	66	40	80	22	53	8	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.08	8	0.00	0	66	43	0	3	0	0	0	
TX	70	49	80	27	59	9	0.04	-0.36	0.04	0.17	8	0.04	24	86	42	0	1	1	0	0	
TX	71	51	78	32	61	8	0.69	0.14	0.65	2.13	79	0.02	8	99	68	0	1	4	1	1	
TX	68	46	77	28	57	11	0.05	-0.46	0.03	0.51	17	0.02	10	82	60	0	2	2	0	0	
TX	68	39	80	27	53	12	0.01	-0.31	0.01	0.02	1	0.01	8	66	41	0	4	1	0	0	
UT	36	23	42	15	30	1	0.43	0.15	0.18	4.11	304	0.22	183	86	61	0	6	4	0	0	
VT	41	24	47	8	33	13	0.28	-0.17	0.13	4.52	187	0.18	90	86	57	0	5	3	0	0	
VA	59	30	71	21	44	9	0.35	-0.40	0.26	3.62	102	0.26	79	78	35	0	5	2	0	0	
VA	62	38	76	29	50	9	0.01	-0.79	0.01	5.78	171	0.00	0	78	47	0	2	1	0	0	
VA	59	33	73	26	46	9	0.15	-0.63	0.13	3.62	105	0.13	38	95	50	0	5	2	0	0	
VA	60	34	74	26	47	11	0.39	-0.26	0.29	2.98	95	0.29	104	72	43	0	4	2	0	0	
WA	55	28	63	22	42	10	0.22	-0.45	0.19	4.61	137	0.19	66	91	57	0	5	2	0	0	
WA	37	27	41	21	32	-5	0.70	-0.94	0.34	6.50	76	0.24	34	94	84	0	7	5	0	0	
WA	38	27	41	22	33	-7	1.81	-1.23	0.91	13.96	88	0.28	22	95	82	0	7	7	1	1	
WA	37	29	39	24	33	-7	0.64	-0.50	0.30	4.50	74	0.33	69	93	82	0	7	5	0	0	
WA	26	14	30	7	20	-6	0.37	-0.06	0.24	2.77	114	0.29	161	96	81	0	7	5	0	0	
WA	29	14	35	3	21	-7	0.64	0.36	0.30	2.59	173	0.55	458	93	80	0	7	3	0	0	
WV	56	35	64	24	46	14	1.06	0.37	0.83	3.24	96	0.84	280	72	52	0	3	3	1	1	
WV	61	33	70	23	47	13	1.51	0.82	1.13	4.08	113	1.17	390	89	40	0	5	3	1	1	
WV	55	27	65	15	41	11	0.72	-0.02	0.44	3.23	86	0.45	141	94	45	0	5	3	0	0	
WI	60	35	70	24	47	13	1.41	0.69	0.85	3.95	107	1.11	358	92	48	0	4	5	1	1	

National Agricultural Summary

December 29, 2003 - January 4, 2004

Weekly National Agricultural Summary provided by USDA/NASS

HIGHLIGHTS

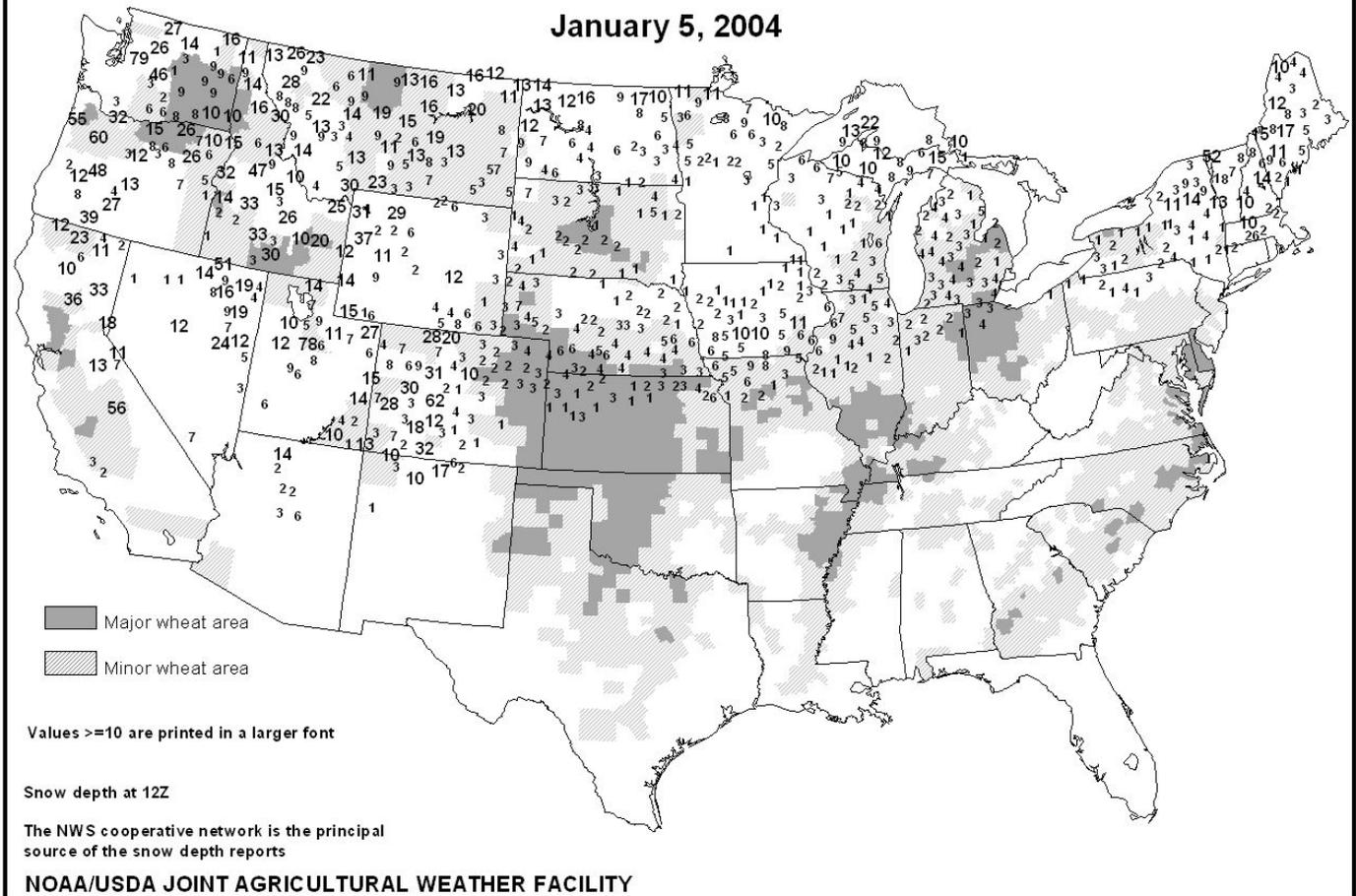
Temperatures were well above normal across the eastern half of the Nation, with average temperatures up to 15 degrees Fahrenheit above normal across the southern Corn Belt and 9 degrees or more above normal in the Northeast and Ohio Valley, most of the Delta, and portions of the Great Plains. However, temperatures were below normal in the Pacific Northwest, Southwest, and northern Rocky Mountains. Heavy precipitation fell on the Pacific Coast, while moderate to heavy rain fell in the southern Corn Belt and Ohio Valley. The Mississippi Delta and adjacent areas of the Southeast had moderate rainfall. Conditions

were mostly dry on the Atlantic Coast and across the Great Plains. Heavy snowfall in the northern and central Rocky Mountains replenished snow cover in the region, which had experienced some recent melt.

In California, the rains benefited most crops but hindered fieldwork. The Arizona cotton crop was reported at 100 percent harvested, while harvest of vegetable and citrus crops was active. In Hawaii, bananas and papayas were in fair to good condition, while rains hindered harvest of vegetables.

Snow Depth (Inches)

January 5, 2004



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: Temperatures across the state were unseasonable warm during latter part of December 2003. Soil moisture across state was mostly adequate to surplus. Counties continue to see good to excellent growth from wheat, pastures. Farmers are applying lime to fields. Also growers are renewing chemical licences, taking soil samples. Cotton harvest is completed except for some scattered fields in south state. No insect pressure reported at this time. Cattle look good to excellent.

ALASKA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

ARIZONA: Temperatures for the State were above normal for the week. Cotton harvested 100%, ahead of 2003, 99% 5- yr avg. Alfalfa conditions remain good to excellent, with harvest progressing at a normal rate. Precipitation was reported at 12 of the 17 reporting stations.

ARKANSAS: Winter wheat is in generally good condition statewide, despite delayed dormancy due to warmer weather. Cattle remain in good condition. Pastures have received adequate moisture, are also in good condition for this time of year, despite below normal precipitation levels. December temperatures were above normal. The average temperature for December was 46.2°, 2.8° above normal. The highest temperature for the month was 66°, the lowest was 29°. There were 11 days with high temperatures in the 60s, only one day with a high temperature less than 40°. Temperatures averaged above normal on 17 days during the month. Precipitation during the month totaled 3.98 inches, more than a half inch below normal. Rainfall was below normal, making December 2003 the driest December since 2000.

CALIFORNIA: Soil moisture was greatly improved by late December rainfall. Cotton harvesting neared completion as the month began, was largely over by the third week of the month. Harvested fields were shredded, disced to comply with pink bollworm plow-down requirements. In general, rainfall did little to hinder plowdown activity or harvesting of remaining fields. Second pickings were made in a few cotton fields as conditions allowed. Planting of winter forage, oats, barley, winter wheat continued throughout the month. Earlier planted fields of winter forage, other grains showed good emergence overall. Irrigation, fertilization, weed control treatments took place as needed. The alfalfa hay season wound down in early December. A few fields were disced out for planting to other crops. Planting of the new alfalfa crop was essentially complete. Sugar beet harvesting continued, but was winding down by mid-month. The new sugar beet crop showed good growth overall. Reflective tape, hazing were employed in order to protect the fields from birds. Grape, kiwifruit harvesting was completed by mid-month. Persimmon, pomegranate harvesting ended approximately one week later. Orchard, vineyard removal continued. Brush, stumps were piled for burning or recycling. Ripping, leveling, cultivation, and soil fumigation took place in previously removed orchards, vineyards. Strawberry nursery stock digging commenced. Fungicides were applied to citrus groves to control rot. Ground was prepared for new blueberry plantings in the Selma district. Valencia orange harvesting was completed. The last of the Valencia crop was mostly used for juice straight from the field. Picking, packing of Navel

oranges, Mandarins continued. Mid-December rains aided the sizing of the Navel crop, but also slowed harvesting activity somewhat. Some Navel growers applied fruit growth regulators early in the month, in order to delay fruit maturity. Grapefruit, avocados were picked, packed. Pruning, weed control, fumigation treatments continued in walnut, almond, pistachio orchards. Older, unhealthy trees were removed in some almond orchards. Walnut orchards were gleaned. Pecan harvesting continued. Onions were planted in many areas using transplants. Hothouses, greenhouses were prepared for the winter season. Previously planted broccoli, onions, garlic were thriving. Weed control activities took place in many vegetable fields. Lettuce planted for winter harvesting continued to show good development. Broccoli, cauliflower were harvested by size in the Central Valley. Red, leafy, green lettuce, baby bok choy, daikon, Napa cabbage were being harvested for the domestic market. The following vegetables were also harvested: Basil, beets, celery, chayote, eggplant, gai choy, kabocha, long beans, mo qua, okra, ong choy, green onions, radicchio, sugar, snow peas, Asian pumpkins, radishes, tatsoi, turnips, water cress. In general, pasture and range conditions were best in the northern part of the Central Valley, but were improving throughout the State due to increased soil moisture. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued, particularly in areas where pasture feeds remained poor. Sheep grazed in alfalfa, fallow fields. Out of state bees were moved into Central state.

COLORADO: Temperatures in state were above average for December. The month was extremely dry with most areas receiving below normal levels of precipitation. The mountain snowpack is 96% of normal, which is much higher than this time last year. Winter wheat is variable across the state, ranging from poor along and south of the I-70 corridor to good in the Northern regions. Major activities continue to center around care, feeding of livestock in preparation for the upcoming calving, lambing season.

DELAWARE: Wet weather is a concern for small grain farmers. On average, farmers received 2 inches of precipitation more than normal for state. Fields in low-lying areas have standing water. Many farmers are concerned about their wheat, barley stands if the rain continues. Hay supplies are adequate, but good quality hay is limited. Activities: Taking care of livestock, poultry, attending conferences, other educational programs, equipment maintenance.

FLORIDA: Dry conditions continued during most of December prompting producers to irrigate in drier areas of the central, southern Peninsula. Some citrus growers returned to irrigation on an irregular basis while others stopped irrigation to induce light tree stress to protect from any later cold weather. Drought slowed grass growth in central areas. Producers finished most winter pasture planting before mid-month. Cooler temperatures during the month aided strawberry development around Plant City but brought most Panhandle and northern Peninsula harvesting to an end by early December. Tomato harvesting in the Palmetto-Ruskin, Immokalee, East Coast remained active during December. Cabbage cutting, broccoli harvesting continued in the Hastings area during December. By mid-December northern growers started land preparations for the planting of spring crop watermelons. Heavy rains in some central, southern Peninsula localities near mid-

month slowed planting, lowered the quality of the more tender vegetable crops. On several mornings about mid-month temperatures reached the high 20's, low 30's for very short durations. This caused light frosts, freezes in some central, southern Peninsula localities. Heavy frost in the Panhandle, northern Peninsula ended permanent pasture production with livestock producers increasing the feeding of supplemental hay, opening small grain pastures. Citrus caretakers reported no damage or loss from these cold temperatures. The cooler temperatures brought fall crop okra harvesting to an end in Miami-Dade County as snap bean picking got underway. Celery cutting became active in the Everglades area during late December. Throughout the month, citrus growers conducted typical winter cultural practices including weed and cover crop control, dead tree removal, replacement, hedging in southern areas. Temperatures warmed during the last few days of the month which spurred winter crop vegetable growth, development. Citrus trees, crops were making excellent progress with no major problems reported by the end of the month, all fresh fruit packing houses were running Navel, Hamlin, Pineapple oranges, Temples, white, colored grapefruit, Sunburst, Honey tangerines. Fruit sizes were good to excellent. By the end of the month, all citrus processors were open to receive packing house eliminations, field run early oranges.

GEORGIA: The State experienced cooler temperatures, scattered rain the first part of December. The rains slowed field activities. Temperatures fell, produced a heavy frost on several mornings. Cool weather limited winter grazing, small grain growth. Hay feeding continued to increase due to declining pasture conditions. Growers continued to harvest soybeans, cotton. Peanut harvest was virtually complete for the 2003 crop year. Overall pecan poundage was good, but quality was poor. The State experienced frequent showers over the month. Fertilizer was applied to small grains for grazing. Small grain growth was stimulated by the unseasonably warm late December temperatures. Activities: Routine care of livestock, poultry, harvesting vegetables, mowing, cultivating cotton stalk.

HAWAII: A low pressure system southwest of the State brought showers to all islands. Rains were steady, became heavy at times, disrupting some field activities. Banana orchards were in mostly fair to good condition with ample moisture. Spraying was increased to control diseases. Papaya orchards were making fair progress, but increased spraying was needed to control diseases. Vegetable crops were in mostly fair condition.

IDAHO: Topsoil 1% very short, 29% short, 69% adequate, 1% surplus. Winter Wheat condition 1% poor, 42% fair, 52% good, 5% excellent. Hay, Roughage supply 75% adequate, 25% surplus. Recent snow showers have improved soil moisture, but have created the need for operations to start feeding hay to sheep, cattle.

ILLINOIS: Topsoil 8% short, 72% adequate, 20% surplus. December ended with unseasonably warm temperatures, several showers. These conditions were ideal for livestock but have winter wheat producers a little concerned about this year's crop. The lack of snow cover has not damaged the wheat to date. Activities: Hauling grain, repairing fences, vehicles, machinery, leasing crop land, signing up for 2004 farm programs.

INDIANA: Temperatures averaged above normal for December with unusually warm weather during the end of the month. Precipitation consisted mostly in the form of rain with very little snow during December. Soil moisture was deficient early in a few northern counties, but recent rain has occurred in most regions of the state causing some

ponding, flooding. Fieldwork was still being accomplished early in the month. Scattered fields of corn, a few soybean fields are still not harvested in the eastern, southern regions. Farmers were applying fertilizer, NH₃ in fields dry enough to support heavy equipment. Winter wheat is in mostly good condition, remains green in most fields. Tobacco sales, stripping continued. Pastures have lasted longer than normal, but are now muddy. Hay supplies are adequate. Livestock are in mostly good condition, but respiratory problems exist in some herds. Farmers are re-signing into the DCP program at FSA offices. Growing concern about the cattle market. Lambing underway. Activities: Moving grain to market, hauling manure, tax preparation, attending meetings, FSA offices, purchasing supplies, cleaning up, repairing equipment, soil testing, taking care of livestock.

IOWA: Soil 9% very short, 38% short, 50% adequate, 3% surplus. Fluctuating temperatures, much-needed precipitation arrived in state during December. At the end of December, the average depth of snow cover across state was 2 inches, compared to zero inches at the same time last year. While melted snow from an early December storm aided in replenishing soil moisture supplies, much of the state could use more before spring. Field Crops Report: Grain movement from farm to elevator 25% none, 39% light, 33% moderate, 3% heavy. Livestock, Pasture, Range Report: Hog, pig losses in December were higher than last year at 18% below average, 79% average, 3% above average. Cattle, calf losses were also higher than last year at 29% below average, 69% average, 2% above average. Temperature swings negatively affected livestock health. Cattle were still feeding on stalks during December, which has helped conserve winter feed.

KANSAS: Topsoil 14% very short, 38% short, 42% adequate, 6% surplus. Dry, open weather in most of the State. Some precipitation in the Southeast. Wheat condition 4% very poor, 17% poor, 26% fair, 46% good, 7% excellent. Wheat wind damage is 80% none, 15% light, 4% moderate, 1% severe. Wheat freeze damage is 81% none, 13% light, 6% moderate. Feed grain supplies 3% very short, 11% short, 84% adequate, 2% surplus. Hay, forage supplies 3% very short, 13% short, 81% adequate, 3% surplus. Cattle remained on crop residue, wheat pasture in some areas last month.

KENTUCKY: December had near normal temperatures, below normal precipitation. High pressure dominated the beginning of the first week of December, which allowed for temperatures to remain below normal. A cold front moved across the State mid-week, but rain, clouds lingered. Some light snow was observed but there was no accumulation. The week ended with mostly clear skies, near normal temperatures. Precipitation totals were below average for the first time in four weeks. Temperatures averaged 39^o, 1^o below normal. Precipitation (liq. equ.) totaled 0.47 in. statewide, 0.48 in. below normal. Precipitation totals ranged from a low of 0.17 in. at Mayfield to a high of 0.90 in. at Jackson. The second week began under high pressure with southerly winds, allowing temperatures to be above normal as highs reached the 50's and 60's. A front moved through mid-week bringing rain across the State. Temperatures cooled off significantly behind the front as temperatures stayed in the 20's and 30's through the weekend. The first significant winter storm over the weekend brought rain, freezing rain, sleet, snow. After the storm passed, 1-3 in. of snow was recorded across Central, Bluegrass, Eastern state.. Temperatures averaged 37^o, 0^o from normal, 2^o cooler than the previous week. Precipitation (liq. equ.) totaled 0.85 in. statewide, 0.10 in. below normal. Precipitation totals ranged from a low of 0.10 in. at Mayfield to a high of 1.50 in. at Bardstown. Skies were generally overcast as several storm systems crossed the State during the third week of the month. Skies cleared for the weekend, bringing the lowest temperatures of the season.

However, high temperatures on the 21st were above normal due to southerly flow ahead of another storm system. Temperatures averaged 35^o, 0^o from normal, 2^o cooler than the previous week. Precipitation (liq. equ.) totaled 0.50 in. statewide, 0.45 in. below normal. Precipitation totals ranged from a low of 0.20 in. at Paducah to a high of 1.06 in. at Quicksand. Temperatures averaged 39^o across the State the fourth week which was 6^o above normal. High temperatures averaged from 50 in the West to 47 in the East. Precipitation (liq. equ.) totaled 0.56 in. statewide which was 0.40 in. below normal. Precipitation totals ranged from a low of 0.00 in. at Hardinsburg to a high of 0.94 in. at Louisville. The last 3 days of the month continued the warm wet pattern to close out the month. Livestock remained in good condition throughout the month. Winter wheat experienced no major weather problems, is in mostly good condition. Farmers were busy moving grain, tobacco to market. Burley tobacco auction sales have recessed for the Christmas holidays, contract centers did the same at the close of business, December 19th. Both resume sales on Monday, January 5, 2004. Total Belt-wide Auction sales through December totaled 45,624,960 lbs, averaging \$196.40 per cwt. Total Contract sales totaled 147,525,986 lbs., averaging \$198.85 per cwt. Total burley belt sales totaled 193,150,946 lbs., averaging \$198.27 per cwt. Following nineteen auction days in 2002, 59.1 million gross pounds had averaged \$196.14. After twenty-six contract sales days last year, 154.1 million pounds returned \$198.56. Resales totaled 1,310,125 pounds for the season. The Burley Cooperatives received 25,746,036 pounds, or 56.4% of the auction sales for the season.

LOUISIANA: Harvesting of sugarcane was finished by the 3rd week of December. Sugarcane produced were approximately two weeks ahead due to excellent harvesting conditions. The state averaged only 2.06 inches of rain over the last 4 weeks. Citrus producers were spraying to control diseases. Strawberries were being harvested. Livestock producers were fertilizing winter pastures, feeding hay. Crawfish producers were putting out traps. Early reports have indicated that this will be a very good year for crawfish producers. Activities: Repairing, cleaning equipment.

MARYLAND: Rain, snow during the month of December has caused concern for small grain crops. Some areas of the state have received up to 4 inches of precipitation above the normal amount. On the Eastern Shores, fields in low-lying areas have standing water. Small grains are in fair to good condition. Livestock, poultry conditions are normal for this time of year. Hay supplies are adequate, but good quality hay is limited. Activities: Equipment maintenance, livestock, poultry feeding, attending conferences, other educational meetings, record keeping.

MICHIGAN: December weather was highly variable. Most farmers reported receiving adequate to surplus moisture in the form of rain or snow over the month. As the ground remained unfrozen for most of the month in the primary crop producing districts, the precipitation was able to soak in. This helped replenish subsoil moisture levels. Most regions reported minimal to no snow cover. Temperatures were mild for most of the month. Cattle did well during the periods of moderate temperatures. Some producers were concerned about respiratory problems developing with the recent temperature fluctuations. A few growers were wrapping up their corn harvest, but fields were too muddy to make much progress. Activities: Trimming fruit trees, hauling manure, limited fall tillage, repair of buildings, machinery, planning for next year. Farmers reported some hay shortages, upward price pressure on stocks. Many operators expressed concern over the recent BSE issue. Cattle prices to producers were off substantially. The winter wheat crop looked good across much of the State. Growers hoped for more snow cover before any sustained cold period to help protect the crop.

MINNESOTA: Topsoil, subsoil moisture levels are still relatively low due to lack of precipitation in the fall. Precipitation averaged near normal in the state for the month. December temperatures were above normal throughout the state, except the second week, when temperatures were below normal. Not very much snow cover was present at the end of December. Livestock throughout the state is said to be in good condition. Producers are reporting that hay supplies are low.

MISSISSIPPI: Soil moisture 8% short, 42% adequate, 50% surplus. Hay supply 88% adequate, 12% surplus. Feed Grain 6% short, 90% adequate, 4% surplus. In general, the December temperatures ran less than average, but winter wheat still thrived. Although states to our west are experiencing very dry conditions, State has generally received sufficient rainfall. Overall, cattle are in good condition Statewide, both hay, ryegrass supplies remain adequate.

MISSOURI: Mild weather prevailed during most of December, enabling farmers to haul hay, care for livestock normally. The snow cover of the third week of December disappeared within 2 or 3 days but the absence of significantly cold temperatures permitted the winter wheat crop to adjust to winter weather, gradually reach dormancy without problems. The crop is mostly in fair to good condition. The moisture supply remains short in most of the northwestern counties, while reserves are better across central, southern counties.

MONTANA: Soil 14% very short, 44% short, 41% adequate, 1% surplus compared to last year which 37% very short, 44% short, 19% adequate, 0% surplus. Subsoil 43% very short, 46% short, 11% adequate, 0% surplus compared to last year during which subsoil moisture 40% very short, 46% short, 14% adequate, 0% surplus. During the month of December, weather conditions in State have been cold, snow falling throughout the state. Winter wheat 8% very poor, 15% poor, 43% fair, 33% good, 1% excellent. This year's winter wheat crop conditions are below last year's crop because of drier conditions during this year's planting season. Wind damage to the winter wheat 57% none, 26% light, 13% moderate, 4% heavy. Freeze, drought damage 54% none, 24% light, 21% moderate, 1% heavy. Snow cover for winter wheat 1% very poor, 6% poor, 19% fair, 38% good, 36% excellent. Snow fall has closed much of the pastures available for grazing. Livestock grazing 12% open, 28% difficult, 60% closed, compared to last year when 89% open, 8% difficult, 3% closed. Currently, all the cattle, sheep are receiving supplemental feed.

NEBRASKA: December temperatures averaged above normals the first, third, fourth weeks but below normals the second week of the month. Wheat 11% very poor, 17% poor, 36% fair, 35% good, 1% excellent. Hay, forage supplies were mostly adequate to surplus. Cattle were in mostly good condition. Stalk fields provided excellent grazing potential, with limited supplemental feeding occurring. Activities: Farm maintenance, livestock care.

NEVADA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

NEW ENGLAND: The six state region was hit by two Nor'easters at the beginning of December. Most areas received as much as 24 inches of snow. The last two weeks of the month brought rain, above normal temperatures. Christmas tree sales were brisk throughout the first half of the month.

NEW JERSEY: Temperatures were below normal the beginning of December across most of the state. There was 2.5 inches of snow in Atlantic City on December 5, 2003 to December 6, 2003. Temperatures rose to above normal by the third week of December, remained there through the end of the month. There were measurable amounts of rainfall across most of the state for the month of December. Temperatures remained above normal the beginning of January across most of the state. By the end of the week, temperatures were 10 to 25° above normal in parts of the state. There were measurable amounts of rainfall in some areas of the state towards the end of the week.

NEW MEXICO: Experienced many weather problems in 2003. The storms that have hit the state have only caused erosion from wind, rain, due to the lack of cover crop. With dry, cold weather, pecan farmers are making their way through harvest, nearing completion. Onions were reported to be progressing normally, most of the cotton fields are being plowed under. The hay, wheat fields are being grazed.

NEW YORK: Heavy snows came to state during a 2 day period mid-month. The rest of the month was relatively wet with mild temperatures. Activities: Finishing up grain corn harvest, tending livestock, machinery repair, maintenance, grading, packing onions, apples, attending grower meetings, making plans for the 2004 crop year.

NORTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for field work 5. Soil at 0% very short, 6% short, 80% adequate, 14% surplus. The year ended with abnormal warm temperatures for the latter part of December. The highs for the week of December 29th ranged from 61 to 69°. Small grain crop conditions are mostly rated good, with 3% or less being rated poor. Soybean, sorghum harvest are near completion at 97% and 99% complete respectively. Activities: Stripping burley tobacco, general farm maintenance.

NORTH DAKOTA: Mild temperatures, above average snowfall provided adequate crop protection. Average snow cover was 7.4 inches on January 4. This compares to 3.2 inches a year ago. County, secondary roads 83% open, 11% difficult, 6% closed. Snow cover protection for alfalfa 14% poor, 67% adequate, 19% excellent. Cattle conditions 0% very poor, 3% poor, 21% fair, 66% good, 10% excellent. Sheep conditions 0% very poor, 2% poor, 16% fair, 71% good, 11% excellent. Hay, forage supplies 1% very short, 7% short, 85% adequate, 7% surplus. Some insect infestations, heating of stored grain were reported.

OHIO: The average temperature for December 2003 was 0.8° above normal across the state of state. Precipitation averaged 2.84 inches, 0.08 inches below normal for the month of December. Winter wheat is reported to be on good to excellent condition, with some standing water reported in the fields. Livestock are reported to be in good condition.

OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Topsoil 30% very short, 39% short, 30% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil 28% very short, 34% short, 38% adequate, 0% surplus. Winter Wheat 11% very poor, 15% poor, 29% fair, 38% good, 7% excellent; Rye 10% very poor, 12% poor, 22% fair, 50% good, 6% excellent. Oats 16% very poor, 24% poor, 29% fair, 26% good, 5% excellent. Wheat Grazed 40% this year, 48% last year, 35% avg. Rye Grazed 68% this year, 60% last year, 29% avg. Oats Grazed 25% this year, 35% last year, 30 avg. Livestock 3% very poor, 5% poor, 31% fair, 56% good, 5% excellent. Pasture, Range 9% very poor, 26% poor, 45% fair, 17% good, 3% excellent; Livestock ranged from mostly good to fair condition. The milder weather

has helped livestock conditions. The death loss of cattle has been light. Hay supplies are rated as mostly average.

OREGON: Activities: Winter care of livestock ongoing across State, supplemental feeding continued. Nurseries are preparing for the upcoming shipping season. Christmas tree harvest went well with no major problems. Since October 1, Statewide precipitation levels stood at roughly 70% of average, compared to 38% a year ago at this time, according to the State Department of Agriculture. As of early December, Statewide snowpack levels stood at 102% of average, compared to 70% last year. Snowpack levels in the Mt. Hood, Willamette River basin areas were above 100% of normal, while snowpack levels in Southeast state did not fare as well, ranging from 54 to 62% of average. A trade mission from China toured several Willamette Valley nurseries.

PENNSYLVANIA: Much of the Commonwealth received significant snow fall during the first week in December. While temperatures have been mild to normal, State continued to receive precipitation in addition above normal levels for the year. Strong damaging winds coupled with continued rainfall extended, complicated harvest throughout the state. Activities: Finishing harvesting corn, beans, feeding, caring for livestock, storing machinery for the winter, hunting, attending organizational meetings.

SOUTH CAROLINA: The first week of December began with mild conditions with afternoon temperatures reaching the 70's. A front arrived by midweek bringing cloudy, cold weather to the state with rain, some traces of sleet, snow, freezing rain mainly in the upstate. Cold, wintery temperatures were prevalent throughout the rest of the week. The second week ended with strong winds, cool temperatures. Clear skies, cool temperatures began the third week with a warm front passing through midweek. Scattered showers were prevalent during the week. The week ended with freezing temperatures throughout much of the state. Freezing temperatures continued, marked the start of winter. During the fourth week, cold weather continued on Christmas Day with lows in the 20's and highs in the 40's. Cool temperatures hung around the rest of the week. The month ended with mild temperatures. Farmers were busy tending to livestock, winter grazing pastures. Some early plowing, land preparation is occurring in areas around the state. Small grains were all in mostly good condition.

SOUTH DAKOTA: The month of December brought an average of 0.29 inch of precipitation from snow fall, above average temperatures statewide. As of January 4th, the average snow depth for the state was 1.1 inches. Statewide soil temperatures averaged 0.4° cooler than normal. The lack of snow cover on winter wheat, rye has become a concern. Winter wheat condition 14% very poor, 24 % poor, 27 % fair, 30 % good, 4 % excellent; rye condition 7 % poor, 77 % fair, 16 % good. Mild winter weather for December has allowed cattle to graze in fields longer and save on feed supplies. Cattle, sheep remained in mostly fair to good condition. Activities: Marketing grain, tending to livestock, repairing machinery, fixing fence. In general, the county, township roads are open for travel with only a small percent difficult or closed for travel.

TENNESSEE: During the first half of December, temperatures were below normal statewide, while precipitation averaged slightly below to slightly above normal. By month's end, high pressure brought dry, well above seasonable weather to the state. Temperatures averaged near normal in the east, above normal in middle, western parts of the state. Producers have made good progress seeding winter wheat, the mild

temperatures have provided excellent growing conditions. Activities: Taking place were stripping tobacco, feeding hay. Livestock are reported in mostly good condition with hay supplies adequate.

TEXAS: High winds, wide temperature variations, lack of rainfall characterized the weather during the month of December. A vast majority of the rainfall stayed east of the I-35 corridor, with rainfall amounts ranging from a trace to over 2 inches accumulation. Extreme southeast state, some locations in the northeast did record precipitation amounts approaching 4 inches. West of those regions, however, received very little if any rain. The air lacked adequate moisture for the multiple cold fronts to activate much rainfall. In the latter half of the month, up to 3 inches of snow accumulated in the northern counties of the Panhandle but melted quickly as temperatures rebounded. Extreme drought worsened on the South Plains as a severe dust storm blew through Lubbock. Temperatures were generally above average across the state as cold fronts only had a temporary cooling effect. Freezing temperatures got just north of the Coastal Bend during one of the strongest cold fronts. Soil moisture was depleted across many areas as high winds took their toll. Small grains, winter pastures were showing increased signs of drought stress. Some fields had not emerged, others were too poor to graze cattle. Irrigated wheat fared better but still was in need of precipitation. Harvest of remaining cotton, sorghum, peanuts were completed by month's end. Greenbug, aphid populations were present in some areas due to the limited time span of freezing temperatures. Field work for the next crop year was active on the Coastal Bend, the Rio Grande Valley. Winter vegetables made good progress, especially under irrigation. Citrus harvest was ongoing. Supplemental feeding of livestock steadily increased with the colder, drier conditions. Cattle continued to graze, to be placed on small grains where adequate pastures were available.

UTAH: Above average snowfall has been welcomed in much of central, northern state in December. Cache, Uintah counties reported that they are at 120% of normal for moisture this water year. Farmers are hoping this trend continues into the next calendar year. Growers are expecting fall grains, which did not grow well in the dry soil during fall, to recover under the blanket of snow currently on most fields. Livestock are doing well, calving has begun. The biggest concern for state producers is what the BSE scare in Washington State will do to beef prices.

VIRGINIA: Pasture 1% very poor, 15% poor, 26% fair, 48% good, 10% excellent. Livestock 2% poor, 18% fair, 66% good, 14% excellent. Small grain, winter grazing crops 3% very poor, 11% poor, 35% fair, 42% good, 9% excellent. December brought plenty of precipitation, seasonal temperatures to state. Some parts of the state reported adequate amounts of snowfall during the month. Muddy conditions hampered most farming activities, field work during a large portion of December. There were several reports of standing water in some low-lying fields, pastures. Late fall grazing was good in most parts of the state, but many farmers began at least supplemental feeding due to the rainfall and snow. The hay supply is fairly abundant, but quality is less than desired. Due to some delayed corn, soybean harvests, a small portion of small grain seeding was planted late, only had moderate growth entering the winter season. Some farmers treated small grains for aphids, applied herbicides when they were able to get into their fields. Some additional nitrogen was applied to small grains to replace what was washed away, promote tillering. Activities: Feeding livestock, taking soil samples, liming for spring crops, planning, purchasing seed for the 2004 season, attending pesticide recertification

training, attending grower meetings, marketing grains, preparing for tax season, cleaning, putting up equipment, repairing fences, facilities, hunting, vacationing. Temperatures for the month of December were seasonal, for the most part, with fluctuations in different areas of state. Rainfall continued to be plentiful with several reports of snowfall in parts of the state during the month.

WASHINGTON: Snow fell across many areas of the State during December. Many producers repaired equipment, did book work during the cold weather. Areas of western state reported damage to buildings, fields with trees down due to a storm with high winds. There was potential for areas of winter damage to the winter wheat crop depending on the available snow cover. Abundant rainfall, cold temperatures made less than ideal Christmas tree harvest conditions. However, strong demand commanded good tree prices. Raspberry growers pruned, trellised canes. Other orchardists also pruned their orchards during December. Cover crops that were inter-seeded with corn were doing well in western state. Abundant hay supplies in most areas of the State caused hay prices to be soft. Livestock producers fed supplemental hay to compensate for cold temperatures. Gravity springs for livestock water saw reduced flow rates due to extended dry conditions in northeastern state. Dairy producers tried to keep pipes, milking equipment from freezing in western state. Many livestock producers expressed concern over the confirmation of an isolated case of BSE in State.

WEST VIRGINIA: Topsoil 52% adequate, 48% surplus. Winter wheat 48% fair, 46% good, 6% excellent. Cattle, calves 3% poor, 32% fair, 59% good, 6% excellent. Sheep, lambs 4% poor, 31% fair, 60% good, 5% excellent. Hay, roughage supplies 5% short, 86% adequate, 9% surplus. Feed grain supplies 9% short, 86% adequate, 5% surplus. December was characterized by extremely wet conditions, both rainfall, snowfall, fluctuations in temperatures from single digits into the sixties. A warm dry spell was welcomed during the holidays. Some concerns remain for hay quality, livestock problems related to wet, muddy conditions.

WISCONSIN: Temperatures averaged 5 to 7% above normal for the month of December. Temperatures ranged from lows slightly below zero to highs in the mid-50's. Precipitation was mainly in the form of rain, varied widely across the state. The eastern side of the state received as much as 2.5 inches, while western state reported as little as 0.5 inches. The state experienced little snowfall until very late in the month.

WYOMING: Topsoil 13% very short, 37% short, 49% adequate, 1% surplus. Last year at this time, 85% of the State was rated short or very short. Subsoil moisture 23% very short, 49% short, 28% adequate. Last year at this time, 92% of the State was rated short or very short. Average depth of snow cover 4.60 inches. Winter wheat condition 57% fair, 43% good. This compares to 43% good as of December 1, 35% good last year at this time. Winter wheat wind damage 53% none, 35% light, 11% moderate, 1% severe. Winter wheat freeze damage 95% none, 4% light, 1% moderate. Cattle condition 78% good to excellent. Sheep condition 66% good to excellent. Stock water 19% very short, 28% short, 53% adequate. Hay, roughage 8% short, 86% adequate, 6% surplus, better than last year at this time when only 39% of the State had adequate supplies. Temperatures averaged above normal for the month, while precipitation during the month averaged above normal for a little over half the State.

International Weather and Crop Summary

December 28, 2003 - January 3, 2004

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

HIGHLIGHTS

EUROPE: Seasonably cold, wet weather provided generally favorable overwintering conditions for most winter crops.

FSU-WESTERN: Above-normal temperatures continued to provide favorable overwintering conditions for dormant winter grains, although major winter wheat areas in southern and eastern Ukraine and the Southern Region in Russia continued to lack a protective snow cover.

MIDDLE EAST: Milder weather favored dormant winter crops across central Turkey and western Iran, while widespread precipitation boosted moisture supplies for spring growth in western Iran.

NORTHWESTERN AFRICA: Widespread rain continued to favor winter grain establishment in Tunisia and eastern Algeria, while lighter, scattered rain fell in Morocco and western Algeria.

SOUTH AFRICA: Conditions remained generally unfavorable for corn and other summer crops in major commercial production areas.

EASTERN ASIA: Unseasonably mild weather favored overwintering Chinese crops.

SOUTHEAST ASIA: Showers increased moisture supplies for rice and corn in Indonesia.

AUSTRALIA: Mostly dry weather favored winter wheat harvesting and maintained quality but provided no additional drought relief for summer crops.

SOUTH AMERICA: Sunny skies favored summer crop development in Argentina, while in Brazil, abundant rain benefited soybeans and other summer crops.

December 2003

MONTHLY DATA FROM SELECTED FOREIGN CITIES CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER-NCEP-NWS-NOAA

*** DATA NOT AVAILABLE

COUNTRY	CITY	TEMPERATURE (C)					PRECIPITATION (MM)		
		AVG MAX	AVG MIN	HI MAX	LO MIN	AVG	DPART F/NRM	TOTAL	DPART F/NRM
NORWAY	OSLO	1	-4	7	-15	-1	3.2	70	7
SWEDEN	UPPSALA	***	***	7	-20	***	***	***	***
FINLAN	HELSINKI	1	-3	5	-18	-1	2.2	73	16
UKINGD	ABERDEEN	7	2	15	-9	4	0.1	69	-8
	MANCHESTER	8	2	12	-6	5	-0.1	71	-10
	CARDIFF	9	5	13	0	7	0.1	106	-14
	LONDON	9	4	14	-3	6	0.4	55	0
IRELAN	DUBLIN	8	3	14	-5	6	-0.4	58	-18
ICELAN	REYKJAVIK	2	-1	8	-10	0	0.4	72	-10
DENMAR	COPENHAGEN	5	2	8	-7	3	1.5	43	-2
LUXEMB	LUXEMBOURG	4	1	11	-5	3	0.9	54	-32
SWITZE	ZURICH	4	-1	12	-9	2	0.1	37	-42
	GENEVA	6	0	11	-7	3	0.5	30	-56
FRANCE	PARIS/ORLY	7	3	13	-4	5	0.0	47	-11
	STRASBOURG	6	0	13	-7	3	0.2	11	-36
	BOURGES	7	3	13	-4	5	0.4	74	10
	BORDEAUX	11	5	16	-1	8	1.2	79	-27
	TOULOUSE	10	5	15	-2	8	1.0	93	43
	MARSEILLE	13	5	19	-3	9	1.3	97	46
SPAIN	VALLADOLID	8	2	13	-2	5	0.2	27	-26
	MADRID	10	2	16	-3	6	-0.6	35	-12
	SEVILLE	16	8	20	5	12	-0.1	156	56
PORTUG	LISBON	14	9	17	6	11	-0.3	89	-10
GERMAN	HAMBURG	5	1	11	-7	3	0.8	65	-12
	BERLIN	5	1	11	-6	3	1.1	50	-5
	DUSSELDORF	7	2	14	-7	4	0.2	58	-18
	LEIPZIG	4	0	12	-10	2	0.3	37	-4
	DRESDEN	4	0	12	-9	2	0.3	40	-4
	STUTTGART	5	-2	12	-10	2	-0.1	21	-34
	NURNBERG	4	-1	11	-11	2	0.4	29	-23
	AUGSBURG	3	-2	10	-14	1	-0.3	31	-22
AUSTRI	VIENNA	4	-2	9	-15	1	0.2	25	-15
	INNSBRUCK	5	-4	16	-16	1	1.1	32	-23
CZECHR	PRAGUE	3	-2	9	-14	0	0.0	21	-5
POLAND	WARSAW	3	-1	7	-12	1	1.2	43	7
	LODZ	3	-1	8	-10	1	1.5	56	12
	KATOWICE	4	-2	11	-15	1	0.9	63	15
HUNGAR	BUDAPEST	4	-1	10	-10	1	0.4	5	-32
YUGOSL	BELGRADE	6	1	13	-6	4	0.7	38	-14
ROMANI	BUCHAREST	3	-4	11	-12	0	-0.6	60	21
BULGAR	SOFIA	4	-3	13	-9	1	-0.2	35	-5
ITALY	MILAN	9	3	15	-6	6	2.9	40	-13
	VERONA	9	2	17	-7	6	2.5	46	-6
	VENICE	10	2	14	-6	6	1.9	64	15
	GENOA	12	7	17	1	10	-0.2	278	194
	ROME	14	5	20	-4	10	0.0	40	-43
	NAPLES	14	6	19	0	10	-0.3	82	-26
GREECE	THESSALONIKA	10	4	15	-1	7	0.2	77	29
	LARISSA	10	4	15	-5	7	0.4	54	7
	ATHENS	14	9	19	1	11	-0.3	75	18
TURKEY	ISTANBUL	10	6	14	-1	8	-0.3	62	-30
	ANKARA	5	-3	13	-10	1	-0.4	72	26
CYPRUS	LARNACA	19	11	22	5	15	1.4	170	98
ESTONI	TALLINN	2	-1	6	-13	1	2.4	93	31
RUSSIA	ST.PETERSBURG	1	-2	4	-15	-1	3.0	87	39
LITHUA	KAUNAS	2	-1	6	-7	1	2.2	53	6
BELARU	MINSK	0	-3	4	-9	-1	2.3	48	-4
RUSSIA	KAZAN	-3	-6	3	-18	-4	4.1	69	32
	MOSCOW	-1	-3	3	-11	-2	3.4	45	-4
	YEKATERINBURG	-4	-7	2	-16	-6	5.1	40	15
	OMSK	-7	-12	2	-25	-9	4.2	31	1
KAZAKH	KUSTANAY	-5	-10	3	-22	-7	4.7	10	-15
RUSSIA	BARNAUL	-8	-14	4	-34	-11	1.6	26	-2
	KHABAROVSK	-14	-22	-9	-29	-18	-0.4	5	-12
	VLADIVOSTOK	-5	-10	4	-15	-7	1.8	9	-5
UKRAIN	KIEV	2	-3	6	-13	0	1.4	32	-8
	LVOV	3	-2	8	-12	0	1.8	29	-21
	KIROVOGRAD	1	-2	8	-8	-1	1.9	20	-12
	ODESSA	5	1	10	-6	3	1.5	27	-10
	YALTA	9	5	13	-1	7	0.6	12	-64

Based on Preliminary Reports

December 2003

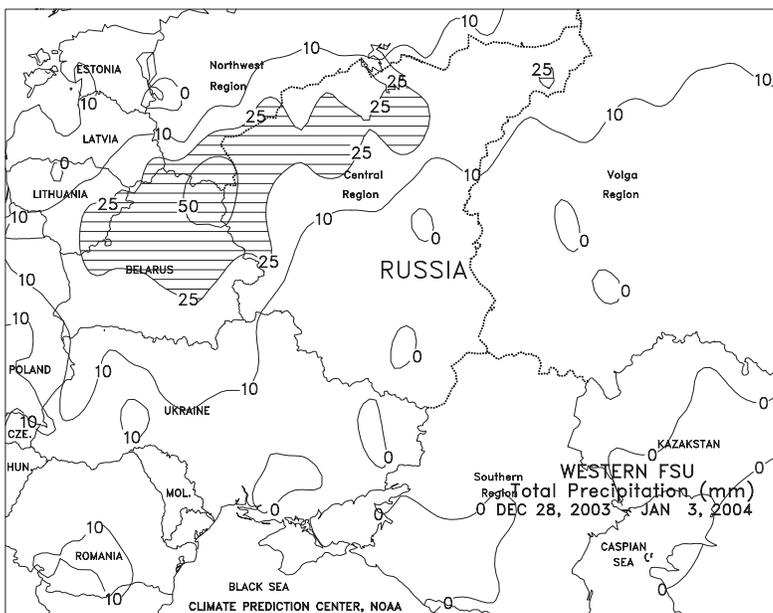
COUNTRY CITY	TEMPERATURE (C)					PRECIPITATION (MM)		COUNTRY CITY	TEMPERATURE (C)					PRECIPITATION (MM)			
	AVG MAX	AVG MIN	HI MAX	LO MIN	AVG	DPART F/NRM	TOTAL		DPART F/NRM	AVG MAX	AVG MIN	HI MAX	LO MIN	AVG	DPART F/NRM	TOTAL	DPART F/NRM
RUSSIA SARATOV	-2	-5	2	-12	-4	3.6	28	-6	TANZAN DAR ES SALAAM	33	25	35	22	29	1.7	24	-78
UKRAIN KHARKOV	1	-3	6	-12	-1	1.8	37	0	GABON LIBREVILLE	30	25	31	22	27	0.9	319	-16
RUSSIA VOLGOGRAD	-1	-4	6	-12	-3	2.2	26	-12	TOGO LOME	33	25	35	20	29	2.0	21	12
ASTRAKHAN	2	-3	9	-9	-1	1.6	10	-4	BURKIN OUAGADOUGOU	34	18	37	14	26	0.6	0	-1
KRASNODAR	5	-1	16	-9	2	0.5	75	7	COTE D ABIDJAN	32	25	33	20	28	1.2	112	36
ORENBURG	-3	-7	4	-19	-5	4.4	23	-11	MOZAMB MAPUTO	31	***	41	18	***	***	20	-72
KAZAKH TSELINOGRAD	-7	-13	3	-23	-10	2.3	31	10	ZAMBIA LUSAKA	27	***	33	16	***	***	173	22
KARAGANDA	-6	-13	3	-20	-10	1.3	35	12	ZIMBAB KADOMA	***	***	32	14	***	***	***	***
GEORGI TBILISI	9	1	16	-5	5	0.9	7	-22	S AFRI PRETORIA	32	20	37	15	26	3.8	52	-60
UZBEKI TASHKENT	8	0	18	-12	4	0.1	37	-15	JOHANNESBURG	28	15	31	8	21	2.3	45	-70
TURKME ASHKHABAD	11	1	24	-7	6	1.2	27	5	DURBAN	27	20	33	13	23	0.2	97	-18
SYRIA DAMASCUS	13	4	18	-2	9	1.3	71	26	CAPE TOWN	24	15	33	9	20	-0.3	23	3
ISRAEL JERUSALEM	14	8	20	4	11	1.2	132	6	CANADA TORONTO	3	-3	9	-11	0	2.6	62	1
PAKIST KARACHI	28	15	33	10	21	1.4	0	-4	MONTREAL	-1	-9	7	-16	-5	1.3	163	85
INDIA AMRITSAR	20	4	27	-1	12	-1.1	24	11	WINNIPEG	-5	-15	4	-32	-10	4.6	65	48
NEW DELHI	21	10	28	5	15	-0.3	35	26	REGINA	-6	-16	4	-28	-11	2.4	5	-11
AHMEDABAD	29	13	34	7	21	-0.1	0	-2	SASKATOON	-3	-14	5	-25	-9	5.5	5	-11
INDORE	28	12	32	6	20	1.2	0	-4	LETHBRIDGE	4	-8	14	-24	-2	4.1	6	-13
CALCUTTA	26	15	28	11	20	-0.2	20	8	CALGARY	1	-11	13	-21	-5	2.3	1	-11
VERAVAL	30	17	34	11	24	-0.1	0	***	EDMONTON	-3	-12	6	-22	-7	2.0	4	-15
BOMBAY	33	18	35	13	25	0.0	0	***	VANCOUVER	7	1	12	-6	4	0.8	113	-61
POONA	30	11	32	9	21	0.8	0	-7	MEXICO GUADALAJARA	23	6	27	-1	14	-1.3	0	-17
BEGAMPET	28	15	31	12	21	-0.1	4	0	TLAXCALA	19	5	24	-2	12	-1.3	0	-5
VISHAKHAPATNAM	28	20	30	18	24	-0.4	83	75	ORIZABA	19	13	29	7	16	-0.1	44	1
MADRAS	29	21	33	19	25	0.3	40	-143	BERMUD ST GEORGES	22	17	25	13	20	0.1	126	17
MANGALORE	33	20	34	18	27	-0.6	0	-15	BAHAMA NASSAU	25	20	29	15	23	0.2	27	-30
HONGKONG HONG KONG INT	21	14	24	9	18	-0.4	4	-21	CUBA HAVANA	25	17	29	8	21	-1.3	33	-18
N KORE PYONGYANG	2	-5	8	-12	-2	0.7	2	-16	JAMAIC KINGSTON	31	24	33	21	28	0.9	75	39
S KORE SEOUL	4	-2	12	-8	1	0.3	7	-16	P RICO SAN JUAN	29	23	30	21	26	0.1	131	14
JAPAN SAPPORO	3	-3	7	-7	0	0.8	88	-18	GUADEL RAIZET	29	22	30	18	26	0.6	93	-44
NAGOYA	11	4	19	-2	8	0.9	35	-3	MARTIN LAMENTIN	30	23	31	20	27	1.3	57	-113
TOKYO	13	6	19	1	10	1.1	56	16	BARBAD BRIDGETOWN	30	25	31	22	27	1.1	20	-84
YOKOHAMA	13	6	19	1	10	0.9	67	19	TRINID PORT OF SPAIN	31	23	34	21	27	1.3	176	40
KYOTO	12	4	16	0	8	0.5	37	-10	COLOMB BOGOTA	19	8	21	1	13	0.3	63	16
OSAKA	13	6	17	1	9	1.0	19	-19	VENEZU CARACAS	31	24	33	21	28	2.1	25	-19
THAILA PHITSANULOK	31	18	33	14	24	-0.1	0	-6	F GUIA CAYENNE	31	23	32	22	27	0.9	275	-60
BANGKOK	32	22	35	18	27	1.2	0	-5	BRAZIL FORTALEZA	31	26	32	23	29	0.1	6	-30
MALAYS KUALA LUMPUR	32	24	34	23	28	1.8	285	38	RECIFE	31	27	33	25	29	-0.3	24	-16
VIETNA HANOI	23	16	29	12	19	0.2	6	-7	CAMPO GRANDE	33	24	36	20	28	2.8	155	-56
CHINA HARBIN	-9	-17	-2	-23	-13	1.0	4	-2	FRANCA	28	20	32	17	24	1.1	235	-10
HAMI	-1	-14	4	-17	-7	-0.2	0	-1	RIO DE JANEIRO	31	24	40	21	27	1.0	89	-48
LANCHOW	4	-6	6	-10	-2	2.0	0	-1	LONDRINA	31	20	36	16	25	1.9	171	-76
BEIJING	5	-4	12	-9	1	1.4	0	-3	SANTA MARIA	27	17	33	11	22	-1.9	357	240
TIENTSIN	5	-5	12	-8	0	0.8	0	-4	TORRES	26	19	31	13	22	-2.3	175	84
LHASA	9	-6	15	-10	2	2.0	0	***	PERU LIMA	24	19	26	18	21	0.0	0	0
KUNMING	16	6	20	3	11	2.3	34	19	BOLIVI LA PAZ	16	4	20	2	10	0.6	163	13
CHENGCHOW	8	0	17	-5	4	1.9	16	6	CHILE SANTIAGO	28	10	33	8	19	-0.5	0	-3
YECHANG	9	5	15	-1	7	-0.6	27	10	ARGENT IGUAZU	29	19	33	13	24	-1.2	503	318
HANKOW	9	3	16	-1	6	-0.6	21	-4	FORMOSA	31	21	37	15	26	-0.7	290	132
CHUNGKING	11	8	15	5	10	0.3	24	1	CERES	29	16	36	9	23	-1.8	118	-32
CHIHKIANG	11	4	18	-2	8	-0.2	34	5	CORDOBA	27	16	38	8	21	-1.6	144	-19
WU HU	10	2	18	-4	6	0.2	27	-8	RIO CUARTO	27	15	35	8	21	-1.2	186	30
SHANGHAI	10	3	17	-2	7	-1.1	23	-15	ROSARIO	28	15	33	8	21	-1.8	153	44
NANCHANG	12	5	19	0	8	0.2	17	-24	BUENOS AIRES	27	15	33	8	21	-1.3	93	7
TAIPEI	20	16	26	12	18	0.0	2	-69	SANTA ROSA	30	15	40	5	22	-0.2	78	-24
CANTON	21	10	26	5	16	0.1	2	-30	TRES ARROYOS	26	13	37	6	20	-0.1	102	10
NANNING	20	8	26	1	14	-1.1	7	-17	MARSHA MAJURO	29	27	30	25	28	1.1	408	126
CANARY LAS PALMAS	22	16	26	14	19	0.3	11	-18	NEW CA NOUMEA	29	23	34	20	26	1.2	129	50
MOROCC CASABLANCA	17	***	22	8	***	***	63	-15	FUJI NAUSORI	30	24	31	21	27	1.1	321	61
MARRAKECH	19	8	24	4	13	0.6	18	-4	SAMOA PAGO PAGO	31	26	32	24	28	0.5	429	89
ALGERI ALGER	17	7	23	1	12	0.4	95	6	TAHITI PAPEETE	31	25	32	24	28	1.1	103	-235
BATNA	11	1	17	-5	6	-0.5	143	112	PNEWGU 30	***	33	24	***	***	91.0	-31	***
TUNISI TUNIS	16	9	22	4	13	-0.1	170	107	NZEALA AUCKLAND	22	16	27	11	19	***	82	***
NIGER NIAMEY	33	18	38	13	26	0.8	0	0	WELLINGTON	20	14	23	10	17	***	44	***
MALI TIMBUKTU	30	16	36	11	23	1.2	0	0	AUSTRA DARWIN	32	26	34	23	29	-0.1	630	355
BAMAKO	33	17	37	9	25	-0.5	0	-1	BRISBANE	27	21	31	16	24	0.0	217	99
MAURIT NOUAKCHOTT	31	18	37	14	25	2.6	0	-3	PERTH	30	15	39	8	22	0.1	3	-5
SENEGA DAKAR	29	22	33	19	26	2.7	0	-5	CEDUNA	28	16	39	7	22	0.8	21	4
CHAGOS DIEGO GARCIA	30	25	35	24	28	-0.1	423	128	ADELAIDE	26	16	38	10	21	0.9	4	-20
LIBYA TRIPOLI	18	***	30	3	***	***	56	16	MELBOURNE	27	13	41	8	20	2.2	39	-8
BENGHAZI	18	11	23	7	***	***	90	18	WAGGA	32	16	39	9	24	2.3	33	-17
EGYPT CAIRO	20	11	26	7	16	0.3	10	5	ADELAIDE	27	13	35	7	20	1.4	89	43
ASWAN	24	11	33	6	18	0.4	0	0	INDONE SERANG	30	24	33	22	27	0.0	298	102
ETHIOP ***	***	21	6	***	***	***	***	***	PHILIP MANILA	29	24	32	22	27	-0.1	18	-45
KENYA NAIROBI	26	14	28	9	20	0.7	28	-45									

Based on Preliminary Reports



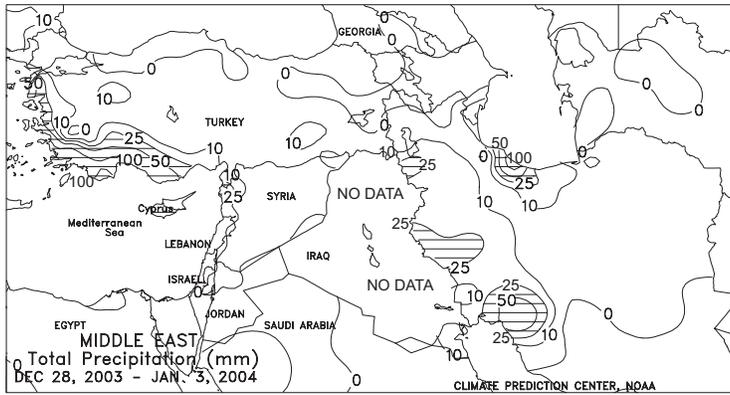
EUROPE

Seasonably cold, wet weather provided generally favorable overwintering conditions for winter crops. Across most of northern Europe (from eastern France and the Low Countries to Poland), cold weather was accompanied by snow (5-20 mm of water equivalent), providing a protective snow cover for dormant winter grains and oilseeds. The snow cover protected winter crops from minimum temperatures ranging from -13 to -8 degrees C, which are still above the threshold for winterkill (-17 degrees C). Across England, northern and western France, and most of Spain and Italy, widespread rain (10-35 mm) with snow in the higher elevations boosted moisture supplies for semi-dormant to dormant winter crops. The heaviest amounts (50-100 mm) fell in extreme northern Spain and extreme southwestern France. In southeastern Europe, colder, wetter weather by week's end maintained a protective snow cover diminished by early-week warmth. Temperatures averaged 1 to 4 degrees C below normal across England, France, and Germany and near to slightly above normal across the Iberian Peninsula and southeastern Europe.



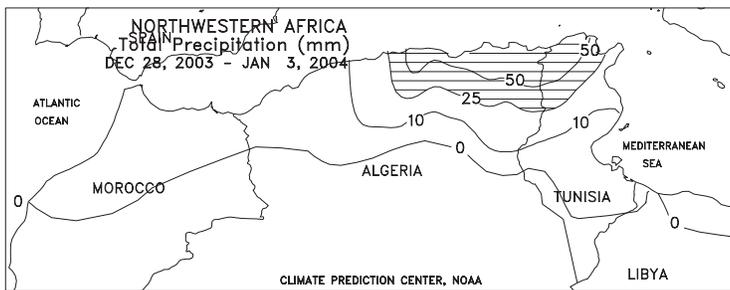
FSU-WESTERN

Above-normal temperatures continued to provide favorable overwintering conditions for dormant winter grains across most of the region. Weekly temperatures averaged 1 to 4 degrees C above normal in Ukraine, the Southern Region in Russia, Belarus, and the Baltics and 4 to 8 degrees C above normal in the Central and Volga Regions in Russia. From January 1-3, a band of heavy snow (10-50 mm or more of liquid equivalent) fell from eastern Lithuania and Belarus, northeastward into the northern portion of the Central Region in Russia, providing a fresh protective snow cover. Light, if any, precipitation fell over the remainder of the region. Major winter wheat areas in southern and eastern Ukraine and the Southern Region in Russia remained snow-free during the week, leaving crops exposed to potential weather extremes.



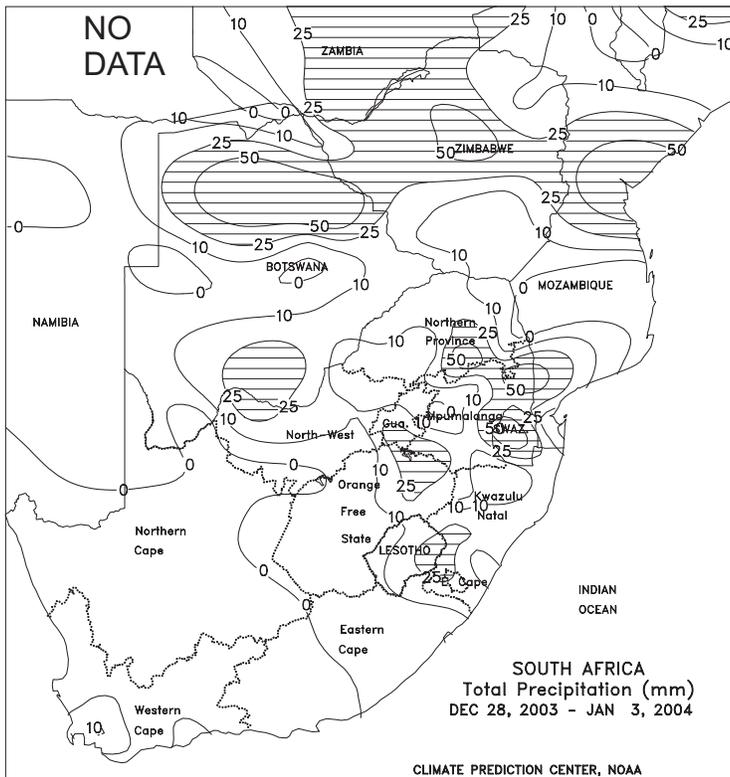
MIDDLE EAST

Across the main winter grain areas of central Turkey and western Iran, winter grains remained dormant despite milder weather. Across most of Turkey, only light precipitation (2-10 mm) was reported. Moderate to heavy rain (25-100 mm) fell across the western Turkish coast, causing some flooding, but this is not a major winter crop area. In western Iran, widespread precipitation (10-25 mm) boosted moisture supplies for spring growth of winter grains. Later in the week, snow fell across higher elevations of western Iran, producing a protective snow cover. Light rain (5-20 mm) favored winter crop development across the eastern Mediterranean. Temperatures averaged near to slightly above normal across Turkey and 1 to 4 degrees C above normal across western Iran.



NORTHWESTERN AFRICA

Across Tunisia and eastern Algeria, moderate rain (10-50 mm) continued to favor winter grain germination and early establishment. Scattered light rain (1-8 mm) fell across Morocco and western Algeria, maintaining mostly adequate soil moisture levels for early winter grain development. Temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C below normal across Tunisia and eastern Algeria and slightly above normal elsewhere.



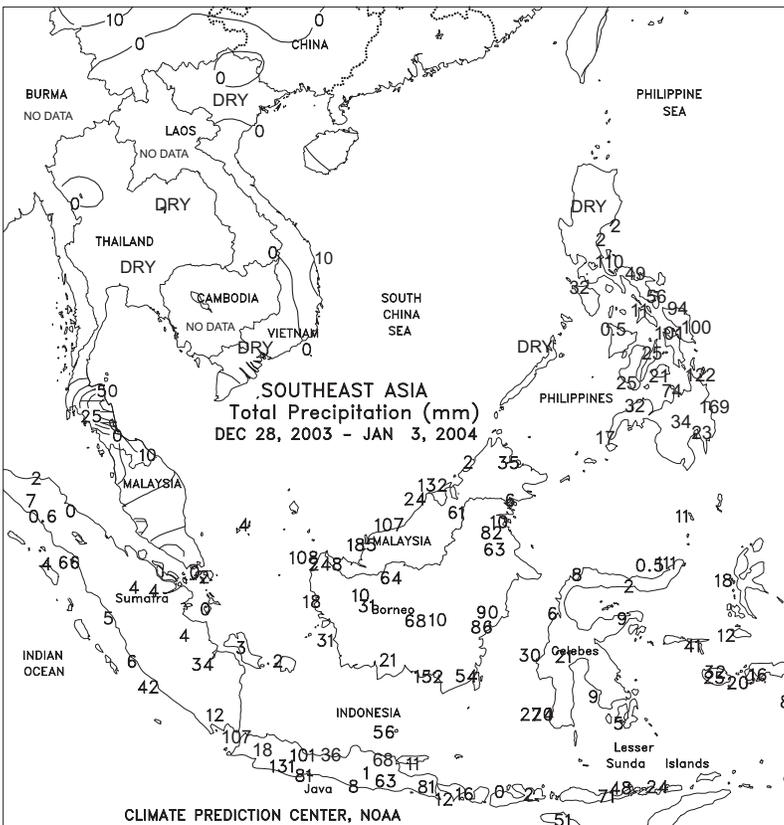
SOUTH AFRICA

Unseasonable warmth and dryness continued across the corn belt, hampering early development of corn and other summer crops. Scattered showers (10-25 mm or more) brought local relief to vegetative crops in eastern sections of the corn belt (eastern Free State and southern Mpumalanga), but near- to above-normal temperatures (highs from the middle 20s to lower 30s degrees C) maintained seasonably high moisture demands. In addition, rainfall was too low to overcome seasonal moisture deficits. Warm (highs in the lower and middle 30s degrees C), mostly dry weather maintained stressful growing conditions in white corn areas of North West and central Free State. Corn typically advances through reproduction from mid-January to mid-February, but rain is needed immediately in most locations following the poor start to the growing season. In the Cape Provinces, mostly dry, seasonably warm weather maintained moisture demands for vegetative to reproductive summer crops, including fruits and vegetables. In contrast, scattered showers (5-25 mm or more) boosted moisture reserves for sugarcane in and around KwaZulu-Natal and Swaziland.



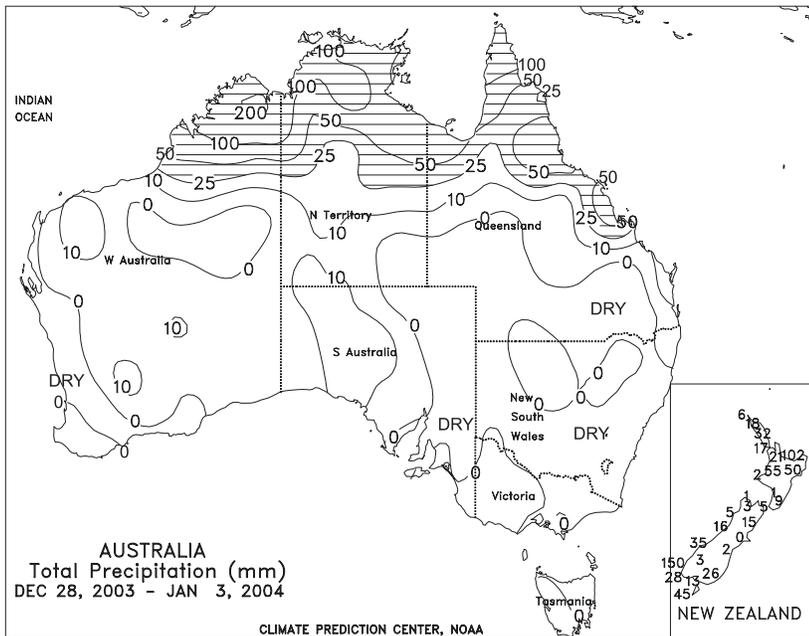
EASTERN ASIA

Mostly dry, warmer-than-normal weather (temperatures averaging 2-5 degrees C above normal) dominated winter grain and oilseed areas of central China, reducing the potential for cold weather stress and winterkill. Bitterly cold weather (lows of -15 degrees C or lower) stayed north of the winter wheat belt, which lacked a protective snow cover. However, temperatures continued to average 5 degrees C or lower over most of the North China Plain, keeping winter wheat in a semi-dormant to dormant state. Farther south, generally mild weather favored germination and early development of newly planted winter rapeseed, despite brief outbreaks of frost or freezing temperatures (lows ranging from -4 to 2 degrees C). Elsewhere, dry weather dominated the Korean Peninsula, but warm, showery weather (10-25 mm or more) continued in parts of central and northern Japan.



SOUTHEAST ASIA

Heavy showers (50-100 mm) boosted moisture supplies for rice and corn in Java, Indonesia. Seasonal showers (50-100 mm) fell along the east-central and southern Philippines. Warm weather (1-3 degrees C above normal) returned to Vietnam, spurring winter-spring rice development. Mostly dry weather reduced moisture supplies for oil palm in peninsular Malaysia and Sumatra.



AUSTRALIA

Seasonably warm, dry weather in Western Australia spurred winter wheat harvesting and maintained grain quality, reportedly considered good throughout much of the state. Farther south, unseasonably warm (temperatures averaging 3-6 degrees C above normal), mostly dry (generally less than 5 mm) weather prevailed in major winter grain-producing areas in South Australia, Victoria, and southern New South Wales. The dry weather was most welcomed in southern parts of the region, where winter wheat collection was delayed by widespread rain the previous week. Similarly, seasonably warm, dry weather covered major summer crop-producing areas in northern New South Wales and southern Queensland, favoring fieldwork. Although recent rainfall has brought some drought relief to the region, timely rainfall will be needed throughout the growing season to maintain summer crop prospects because irrigation supplies remain low and subsoil moisture is recovering very slowly.



SOUTH AMERICA

In Argentina, dry, sunny weather spurred summer crop development in the main wheat, summer grain, and oilseed regions (Cordoba and southern Santa Fe southward), following the previous week's beneficial rainfall. However, temperatures averaging 1 to 4 degrees C below normal slowed growth rates. Conditions were especially favorable for winter wheat harvesting. Scattered showers (10-25 mm or more) continued in the more northerly growing areas, including most major cotton areas. According to the Buenos Aires Cereals Exchange, corn and soybeans were 94 and 95 percent planted, respectively, as of January 3. Sunflower planting was reportedly complete. In addition, winter wheat was 83 percent harvested. In Brazil, widespread, locally heavy rain (25-100 mm or more) covered most major summer crop areas, except for Rio Grande do Sul and northern portions of Mato Grosso do Sul, where lighter rain (less than 25 mm) fell. The rain was especially welcomed for soybeans, coffee, and citrus in recently dry crop areas in Goias and Sao Paulo. Temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C below normal in southern growing areas and near to above normal elsewhere, with highs generally ranging in the lower to upper 30s degrees C.

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Correspondence to the meteorologists should be directed to: **Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin, NOAA/USDA, Joint Agricultural Weather Facility, USDA South Building, Room 4443B, Washington, DC 20250**. Internet URL: <http://www.usda.gov/oce/waob/jawf>; E-mail address: jawfweb@oce.usda.gov

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service/Climate Prediction Center
Managing Editor **David Miskus** (202) 720-7919
Meteorologists **Eric Luebehusen,**
..... **Brad Pugh, and Chester Schmitt**

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