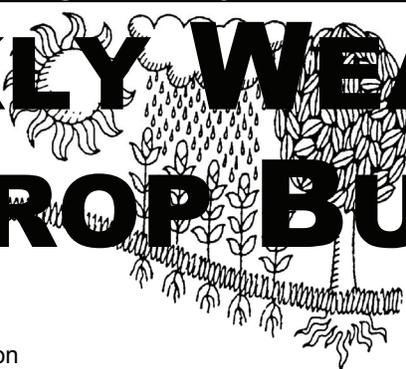


WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

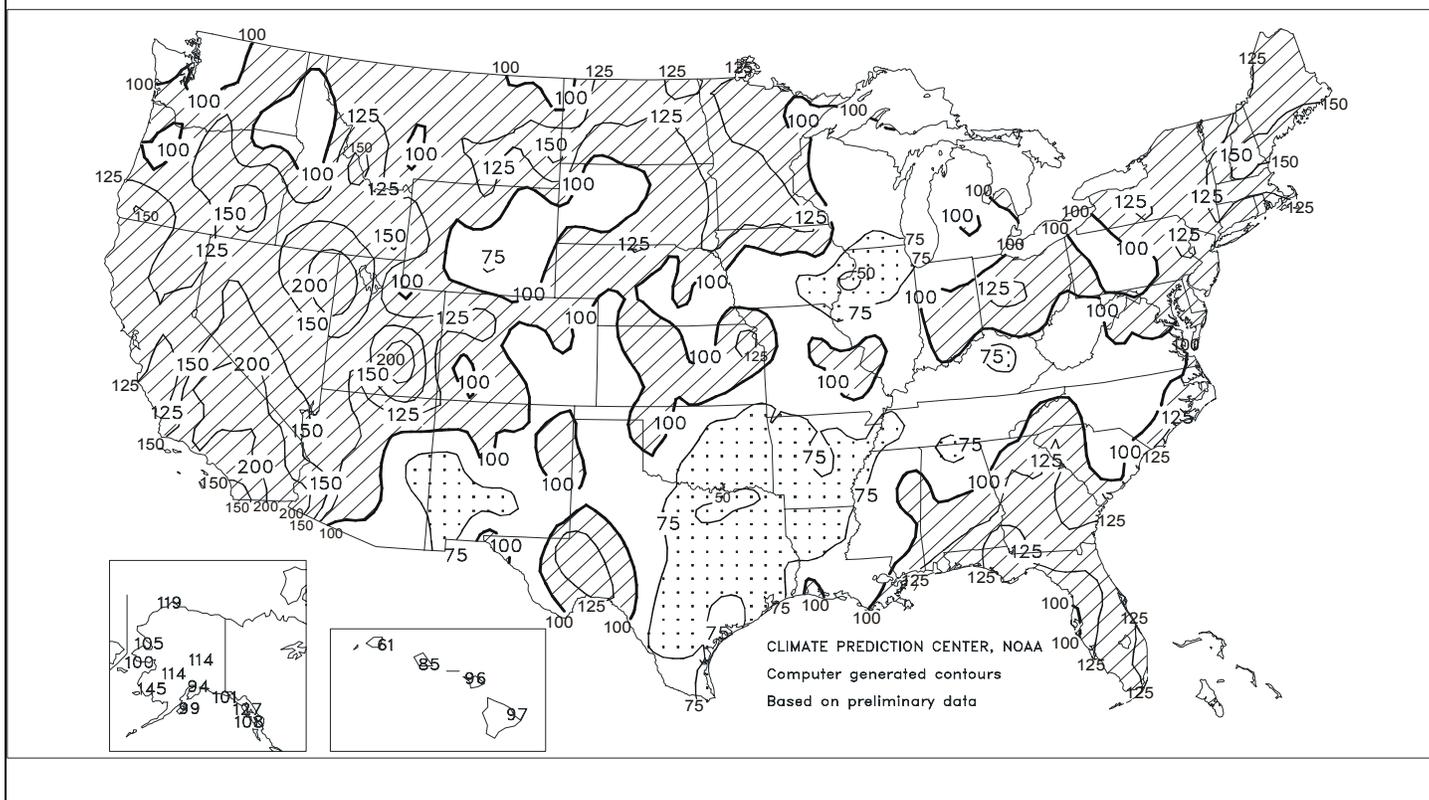


U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service

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

Percent Of Normal Precipitation

JAN - DEC 2005



HIGHLIGHTS

January 8 - 14, 2006

Highlights provided by USDAWAOB

Persistent storminess across the **Northwest** contrasted with extremely dry conditions in the **Southwest**. In between, previously flood-affected areas of **California** and the **western Great Basin** received only light precipitation until week's end, when heavier rain and snow arrived. Farther east, warm, windy, mostly dry weather continued on the **southern Plains**, maintaining the threat of wildfires and severely stressing drought-stricken pastures and winter grains. Only light precipitation fell across the **northern and central Plains**, where conditions remained mostly favorable for wheat despite recent soil moisture reductions and a gradual loss of the crop's winter hardiness. Weekly temperatures generally averaged 12 to 22°F above normal across the **northern Plains** and the **Corn Belt**,

(Continued on page 9)

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Water Supply Forecast for the Western United States

Highlights

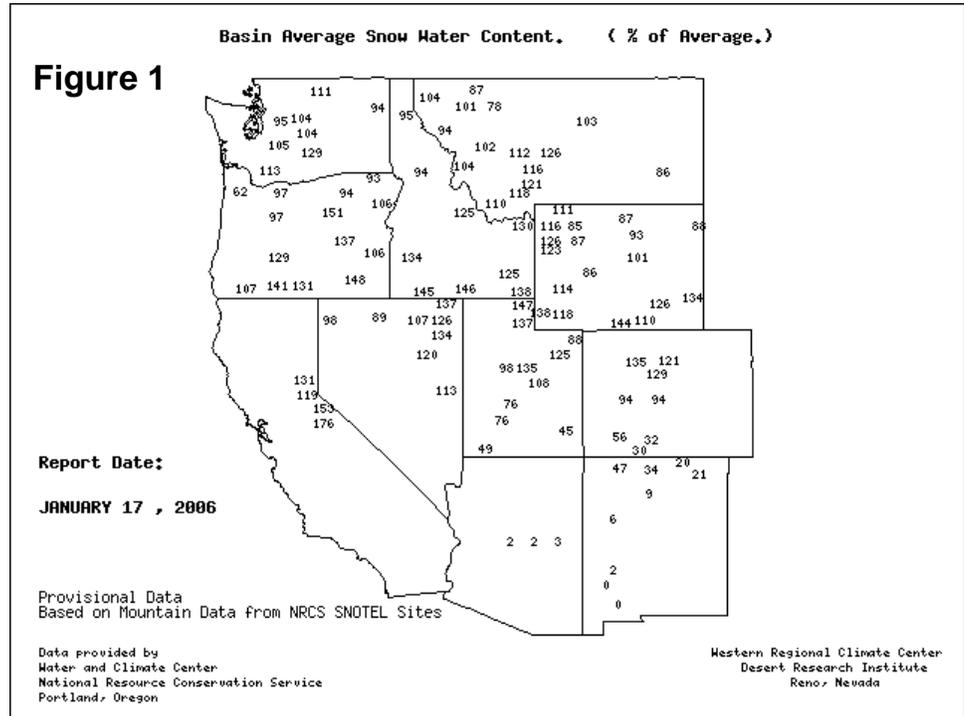
In a complete reversal of last year's record-high precipitation and snowpack, the Southwest is experiencing record-low snowpacks and below-normal precipitation. In a parallel twist, last year's record-low snowpacks in the Pacific Northwest have been replaced with above-average snowpacks and well-above-average precipitation in many river basins. Northwestern wetness is in response to a series of warm, subtropical storms that have moved through the region starting in September and October 2005. The West has also experienced a warm fall and winter, with temperatures ranging from 2 to 5°F above average throughout the region.

Seasonal runoff forecasts for most Southwestern basins are for well-below-normal streamflows due to record-low snowpacks and a lack of precipitation. In contrast, spring and summer runoff is expected to be above average in many areas farther north. Meanwhile, reservoir storage is slightly below historic averages in all Western States except Arizona and California.

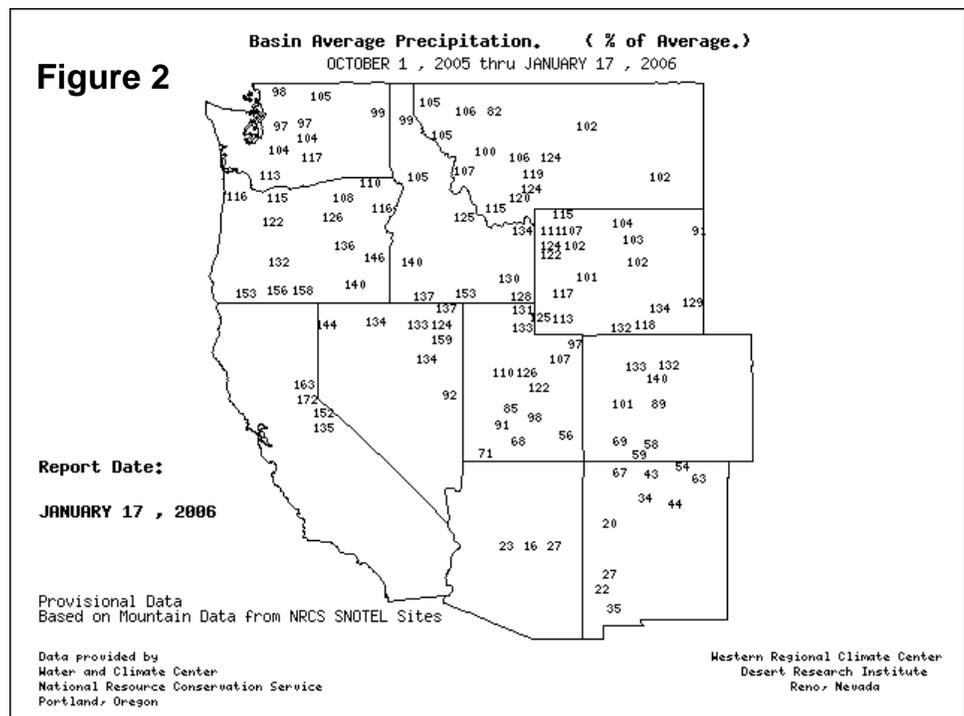
Snowpack and Precipitation

On January 17, 2006, the snowpack map reflected extremely low (less than 50 percent of average) snowpacks in Arizona, New Mexico, and southern portions of Colorado and Utah (figure 1). The scarcity of early-season winter storms in the Southwest was the primary reason for the extremely low snowpacks.

SNOTEL – River Basin Snow Water Content



SNOTEL – River Basin Precipitation



In parts of the Pacific Northwest, however, below-average snowpacks were due to unusually warm weather. A series of strong winter storms resulted in season-to-date basin snowpacks greater than 150 percent of normal in parts of Oregon and California.

Season-to-date precipitation (October 1, 2005 - January 17, 2006) also showed below-average totals in the Southwest and near- to above-average amounts elsewhere (figure 2). Totals were less than 50 percent of average in Arizona and much of New Mexico, but were greater than 150 percent of average in some basins across California, Oregon, and northern Nevada.

Spring and Summer Streamflow Forecasts

As of January 1, 2006, a majority of river basins in the Southwest were forecast to experience well-below-average spring and summer streamflows (figure 3). Above-average streamflow is forecast for basins in central Oregon, southern Idaho, northern Nevada, western Colorado, eastern Utah, southern Wyoming, part of southwestern Montana, and the Sierra Nevada of central California. Near- to slightly below-average streamflow is forecast for western Oregon, most of Washington, northern Idaho, western Montana, northern Wyoming, southern Utah, and southwestern Colorado.

Reservoir Storage

As of January 1, 2006, reservoir storage for all Western States was slightly below historic averages, except in Arizona and California (figure 4). In those two States, storage was above average.

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>

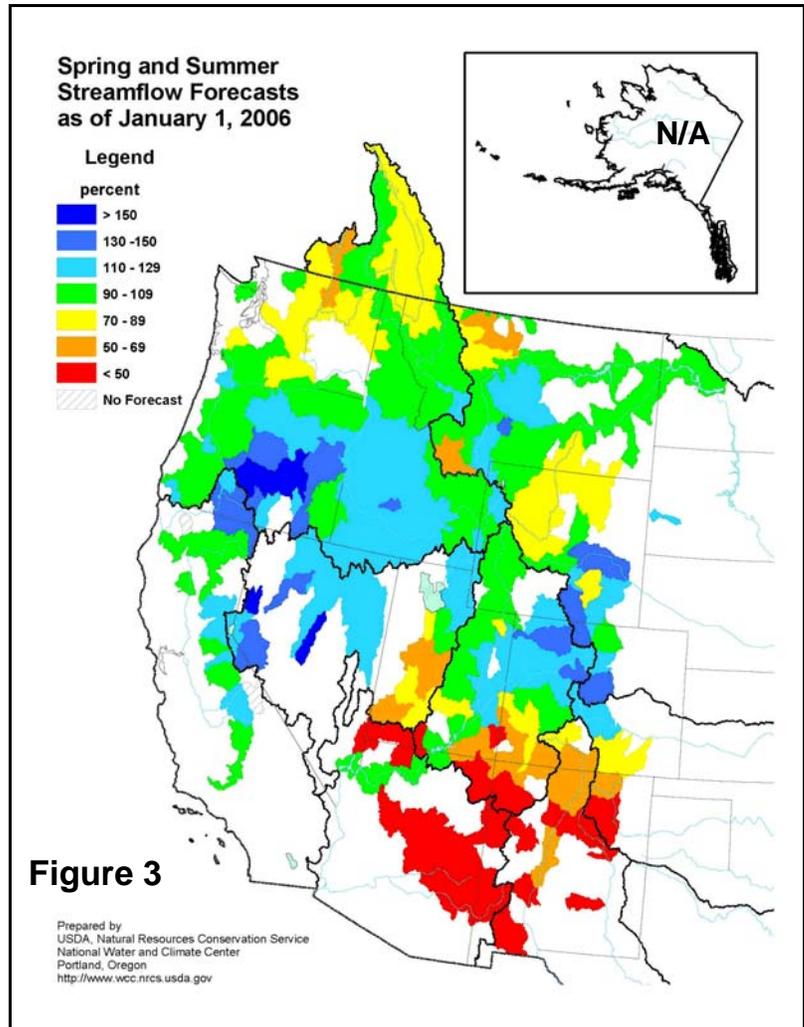


Figure 3

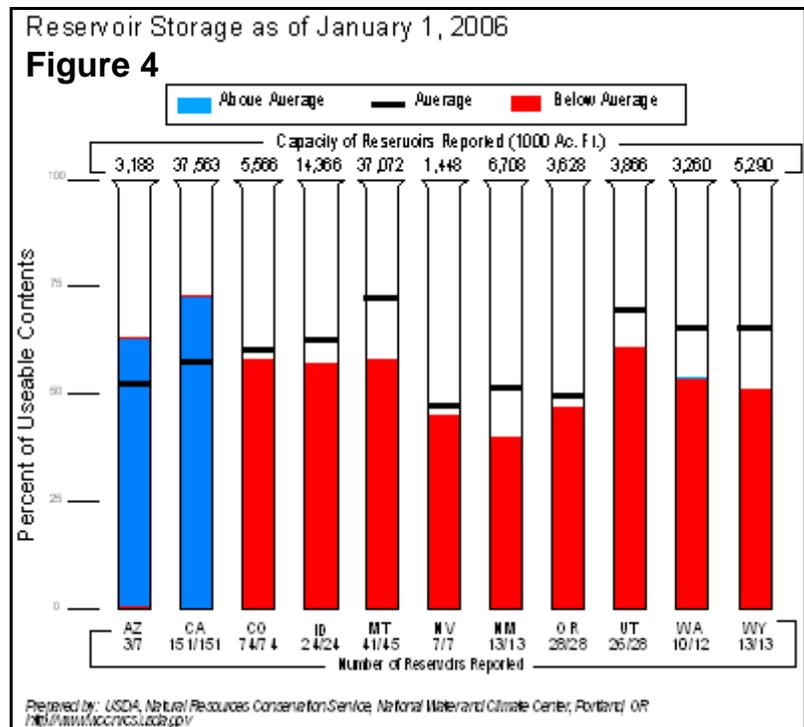


Figure 4

National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending January 14, 2006

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 DEC01	PCT. NORMAL SINCE DEC01	TOTAL, IN, SINCE JAN01	PCT. NORMAL SINCE JAN01	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	TEMP. °F		PRECIP	
																90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
AL BIRMINGHAM	63	42	73	31	53	11	1.55	0.29	1.06	6.68	97	2.05	84	87	39	0	1	3	1
HUNTSVILLE	59	39	70	30	49	10	1.47	0.20	0.77	6.83	84	1.90	75	89	69	0	2	2	2
MOBILE	68	44	71	37	56	6	0.72	-0.57	0.50	4.39	62	0.80	33	87	56	0	0	4	1
MONTGOMERY	68	42	75	32	55	9	0.69	-0.40	0.55	3.53	50	1.04	49	90	46	0	1	3	1
AK ANCHORAGE	22	14	32	3	18	2	0.00	-0.14	0.00	0.90	66	0.00	0	83	77	0	7	0	0
BARROW	-2	-12	1	-24	-7	6	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.24	200	0.01	100	85	81	0	7	1	0
FAIRBANKS	-3	-19	6	-26	-11	-1	0.00	-0.12	0.00	0.13	13	0.00	0	81	77	0	7	0	0
JUNEAU	36	29	41	18	32	6	0.58	-0.52	0.24	8.03	105	1.29	57	94	87	0	4	5	0
KODIAK	36	28	40	13	32	2	0.83	-1.06	0.45	16.15	141	1.90	50	85	75	0	3	4	0
NOME	3	-12	21	-24	-5	-11	0.02	-0.17	0.01	0.90	64	0.18	46	82	73	0	7	2	0
AZ FLAGSTAFF	50	14	53	4	32	3	0.01	-0.45	0.01	0.05	2	0.01	1	54	13	0	7	1	0
PHOENIX	73	44	78	43	59	6	0.00	-0.19	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0	33	17	0	0	0	0
TUCSON	74	41	78	37	58	7	0.00	-0.22	0.00	0.01	1	0.00	0	25	13	0	0	0	0
YUMA	73	48	75	45	60	3	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0	32	22	0	0	0	0
AR FORT SMITH	60	32	71	27	46	9	0.60	0.08	0.28	0.99	22	0.60	57	78	47	0	3	3	0
LITTLE ROCK	61	38	74	27	50	10	0.73	-0.07	0.41	1.43	23	0.73	45	81	44	0	1	4	0
CA BAKERSFIELD	59	42	68	37	51	4	0.01	-0.24	0.01	1.86	150	0.75	156	93	84	0	0	1	0
FRESNO	57	43	68	37	50	5	0.16	-0.30	0.16	5.00	225	3.00	341	94	84	0	0	1	0
LOS ANGELES	68	48	78	46	58	1	0.11	-0.51	0.11	2.38	80	1.42	121	97	72	0	0	1	0
REDDING	53	40	58	31	47	2	2.35	0.90	1.62	19.47	261	5.57	200	98	86	0	1	4	1
SACRAMENTO	56	40	58	34	48	3	0.50	-0.32	0.31	11.32	284	2.34	152	97	67	0	0	3	0
SAN DIEGO	66	49	76	47	58	1	0.00	-0.50	0.00	0.62	28	0.37	39	79	62	0	0	0	0
SAN FRANCISCO	59	46	65	41	52	3	0.65	-0.31	0.51	11.39	242	2.05	113	89	80	0	0	3	1
STOCKTON	58	42	60	35	50	5	0.62	0.04	0.42	6.82	234	2.64	240	91	81	0	0	5	0
CO ALAMOSA	44	0	53	-5	22	8	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.05	11	0.01	9	57	30	0	7	0	0
CO SPRINGS	52	22	66	13	37	9	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.30	54	0.00	0	63	16	0	6	0	0
DENVER INTL	55	26	61	12	40	12	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.35	80	0.00	0	50	18	0	6	0	0
GRAND JUNCTION	42	19	45	15	30	5	0.00	-0.14	0.00	0.79	99	0.04	14	72	45	0	7	0	0
PUEBLO	54	20	67	10	37	8	0.26	0.18	0.15	0.50	89	0.26	153	65	39	0	6	2	0
CT BRIDGEPORT	50	32	56	29	41	11	1.27	0.42	0.96	6.53	127	2.85	169	91	71	0	4	3	1
HARTFORD	46	27	56	20	37	11	2.27	1.39	1.40	6.65	125	2.98	173	94	68	0	7	4	2
DC WASHINGTON	56	37	63	30	47	12	0.75	0.01	0.55	4.57	101	1.23	83	88	60	0	2	2	1
DE WILMINGTON	53	34	58	32	43	11	0.81	0.01	0.44	5.38	108	2.12	133	94	60	0	3	2	0
FL DAYTONA BEACH	73	47	79	33	60	2	0.01	-0.69	0.01	1.92	47	0.07	5	90	42	0	0	1	0
JACKSONVILLE	72	43	81	31	58	5	0.07	-0.74	0.07	9.21	220	1.83	118	92	48	0	1	1	0
KEY WEST	75	64	79	53	70	0	0.00	-0.51	0.00	0.12	4	0.07	7	88	63	0	0	0	0
MIAMI	79	61	92	46	70	2	0.04	-0.35	0.04	1.04	35	0.04	5	85	52	1	0	1	0
ORLANDO	75	49	81	34	62	1	0.04	-0.50	0.03	2.08	62	0.04	4	94	58	0	0	2	0
PENSACOLA	70	50	75	40	60	8	0.52	-0.68	0.46	5.71	91	1.04	45	89	55	0	0	2	0
TALLAHASSEE	72	45	77	31	59	8	0.06	-1.17	0.06	6.12	94	0.76	32	85	59	0	1	1	0
TAMPA	72	52	78	39	62	1	0.01	-0.46	0.01	1.31	40	0.04	4	86	54	0	0	1	0
WEST PALM BEACH	76	57	82	38	67	1	1.45	0.62	1.45	4.15	88	1.45	94	86	53	0	0	1	1
GA ATHENS	63	41	70	31	52	10	0.74	-0.30	0.37	6.45	113	1.89	94	88	64	0	2	3	0
ATLANTA	62	43	70	31	52	10	0.90	-0.20	0.77	6.18	105	2.51	120	86	65	0	1	3	1
AUGUSTA	68	41	73	28	54	10	0.56	-0.44	0.29	5.91	117	1.95	101	89	64	0	1	2	0
COLUMBUS	66	45	72	31	56	10	0.47	-0.60	0.29	3.70	57	1.32	63	88	46	0	1	3	0
MACON	67	42	74	30	55	10	0.37	-0.74	0.37	5.07	84	1.31	61	90	49	0	1	1	0
SAVANNAH	69	42	76	29	56	7	0.39	-0.51	0.39	4.21	93	1.49	86	91	55	0	1	1	0
HI HILO	79	64	81	63	71	0	2.05	-0.12	0.65	7.53	51	2.29	55	86	76	0	0	6	2
HONOLULU	81	70	82	67	75	2	0.15	-0.46	0.15	0.70	17	0.33	27	74	68	0	0	1	0
KAHULUI	82	69	86	63	76	4	0.07	-0.78	0.04	0.27	6	0.13	8	78	70	0	0	4	0
LIHUE	82	72	83	69	77	5	0.09	-0.98	0.06	0.35	5	0.27	13	74	64	0	0	3	0
ID BOISE	47	34	52	27	40	11	0.16	-0.14	0.10	4.02	202	0.62	102	74	53	0	3	4	0
LEWISTON	48	38	53	34	43	10	0.68	0.43	0.48	2.64	173	1.00	208	79	62	0	0	6	0
POCATELLO	41	24	48	18	33	9	0.32	0.07	0.22	3.07	192	0.70	140	85	64	0	7	4	0
IL CHICAGO/O'HARE	44	31	57	20	38	16	0.77	0.38	0.67	2.55	79	1.19	151	87	68	0	4	3	1
MOLINE	43	27	56	16	35	14	0.38	0.03	0.18	1.84	63	0.80	108	88	69	0	4	3	1
PEORIA	46	31	57	25	39	17	0.88	0.55	0.60	3.46	112	2.15	312	87	62	0	3	3	1
ROCKFORD	42	27	54	19	35	16	0.24	-0.06	0.09	2.05	76	1.05	169	87	76	0	7	3	0
SPRINGFIELD	49	33	61	26	41	16	0.43	0.06	0.28	2.51	76	1.04	133	83	68	0	2	3	0
IN EVANSVILLE	55	34	65	28	44	13	2.30	1.67	1.02	4.77	99	3.01	237	84	66	0	1	4	3
FORT WAYNE	46	31	54	25	39	15	1.30	0.85	0.81	3.71	100	1.56	166	88	70	0	3	3	1
INDIANAPOLIS	50	33	59	26	42	16	1.42	0.87	0.75	4.39	106	1.70	153	89	64	0	2	4	2
SOUTH BEND	44	30	55	23	37	14	0.68	0.18	0.59	2.85	69	1.06	102	89	72	0	4	3	1
IA BURLINGTON	45	30	58	23	37	14	0.46	0.17	0.44	2.02	75	1.01	168	86	57	0	4	2	0
CEDAR RAPIDS	40	22	53	9	31	13	0.00	-0.22	0.00	2.21	115	0.88	200	94	61	0	7	0	0
DES MOINES	43	24	52	15	33	13	0.00	-0.22	0.00	1.46	82	0.51	116	81	56	0	6	0	0
DUBUQUE																			

Weather Data for the Week Ending January 14, 2006

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 DEC01	PCT. NORMAL SINCE DEC01	TOTAL IN., SINCE JAN01	PCT. NORMAL SINCE JAN01	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	TEMP. °F		PRECIP		
																90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE	
KY WICHITA	54	29	66	23	42	12	0.03	-0.17	0.01	0.62	35	0.03	7	78	45	0	5	3	0	
KY JACKSON	58	37	65	32	48	14	0.68	-0.11	0.24	5.63	96	2.45	153	79	41	0	1	4	0	
KY LEXINGTON	55	33	64	27	44	12	0.71	-0.05	0.24	3.56	64	1.16	74	83	63	0	3	4	0	
KY LOUISVILLE	56	35	66	29	45	12	1.46	0.72	0.99	3.83	74	1.79	120	85	54	0	1	4	1	
KY PADUCAH	56	35	65	25	46	14	4.06	3.34	1.89	6.22	107	4.76	326	84	51	0	2	4	4	
LA BATON ROUGE	70	46	78	37	58	8	0.18	-1.19	0.18	4.56	58	0.31	12	85	41	0	0	1	0	
LA LAKE CHARLES	69	44	76	33	56	5	0.04	-1.24	0.04	3.96	56	0.04	2	89	43	0	0	1	0	
LA NEW ORLEANS	70	51	77	44	60	8	0.47	-0.77	0.47	4.60	62	1.28	54	85	54	0	0	1	0	
LA SHREVEPORT	70	44	76	29	57	11	0.41	-0.60	0.31	1.66	25	0.42	21	77	35	0	1	3	0	
ME CARIBOU	31	18	50	-9	25	15	2.48	1.79	1.16	10.63	231	4.12	292	93	77	0	6	6	1	
ME PORTLAND	42	24	52	10	33	11	1.29	0.35	0.71	6.83	112	1.53	82	96	63	0	6	5	2	
MD BALTIMORE	56	34	62	31	45	13	0.77	-0.03	0.51	5.23	106	1.33	84	89	71	0	1	2	1	
MA BOSTON	50	34	59	26	42	13	1.59	0.71	0.98	5.36	98	2.48	143	90	65	0	2	6	1	
MA WORCESTER	46	30	57	17	38	14	1.41	0.47	0.69	6.01	106	2.27	122	94	65	0	4	4	2	
MI ALPENA	37	22	44	8	30	12	0.64	0.23	0.35	2.78	105	1.16	141	95	72	0	6	4	0	
MI GRAND RAPIDS	42	30	53	22	36	13	0.81	0.37	0.76	4.47	125	2.04	229	92	68	0	5	3	1	
MI HOUGHTON LAKE	36	25	46	13	30	12	0.40	0.04	0.15	2.42	98	0.92	128	92	80	0	6	5	0	
MI LANSING	42	30	53	20	36	14	0.90	0.57	0.75	3.82	134	1.91	281	91	73	0	5	3	1	
MI MUSKOGON	42	31	53	25	36	12	0.57	0.07	0.35	4.39	120	1.45	144	89	72	0	5	3	0	
MI TRAVERSE CITY	39	29	50	23	34	13	0.18	-0.49	0.11	1.60	40	0.57	43	90	63	0	6	3	0	
MN DULUTH	31	19	37	14	25	17	0.04	-0.19	0.03	2.69	198	0.15	36	83	74	0	7	2	0	
MN INT'L FALLS	27	12	34	-4	19	17	0.16	-0.01	0.07	0.78	77	0.17	55	91	75	0	7	3	0	
MN MINNEAPOLIS	35	22	44	16	28	15	0.03	-0.19	0.03	1.22	85	0.25	58	84	65	0	7	1	0	
MN ROCHESTER	34	20	41	11	27	16	0.00	-0.19	0.00	0.65	47	0.06	16	86	74	0	7	0	0	
MN ST. CLOUD	32	16	39	10	24	16	0.02	-0.15	0.02	1.03	103	0.02	6	89	67	0	7	1	0	
MS JACKSON	67	41	76	32	54	9	1.68	0.40	0.75	6.56	83	1.68	66	89	39	0	1	3	2	
MS MERIDIAN	68	40	76	31	54	8	0.85	-0.48	0.51	4.27	54	0.87	34	89	52	0	2	3	1	
MS TUPELO	62	38	73	31	50	10	2.30	1.11	0.94	7.98	93	2.30	94	85	63	0	1	4	3	
MO COLUMBIA	50	32	65	23	41	13	0.89	0.53	0.57	2.02	63	1.07	149	86	49	0	4	5	1	
MO KANSAS CITY	49	31	58	24	40	13	0.14	-0.11	0.14	1.88	87	0.14	27	74	49	0	5	1	0	
MO SAINT LOUIS	54	34	71	26	44	15	0.79	0.32	0.43	2.36	62	1.14	121	83	69	0	2	4	0	
MO SPRINGFIELD	54	31	68	21	42	11	0.92	0.48	0.76	1.55	38	0.93	104	80	54	0	5	3	1	
MT BILLINGS	48	31	59	23	40	16	0.01	-0.18	0.01	0.49	48	0.05	14	64	37	0	4	1	0	
MT BUTTE	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	1.11	154	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
MT CUT BANK	45	28	53	24	37	18	0.02	-0.06	0.01	0.06	12	0.05	29	82	48	0	7	2	0	
MT GLASGOW	40	24	47	18	32	22	0.06	-0.02	0.06	0.45	83	0.08	47	88	76	0	7	1	0	
MT GREAT FALLS	47	31	57	27	39	18	0.15	-0.01	0.15	0.45	45	0.16	48	67	39	0	5	1	0	
MT HAVRE	47	27	56	24	37	23	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.56	77	0.14	64	75	64	0	7	0	0	
MT MISSOULA	42	31	49	24	37	14	0.66	0.42	0.22	1.96	120	0.79	161	83	64	0	5	5	0	
NE GRAND ISLAND	49	26	62	21	38	16	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.48	55	0.01	5	77	56	0	7	0	0	
NE LINCOLN	48	20	62	16	34	12	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.74	62	0.22	67	85	54	0	7	0	0	
NE NORFOLK	46	25	64	20	36	16	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.51	59	0.02	9	82	62	0	6	0	0	
NE NORTH PLATTE	54	22	68	19	38	15	0.02	-0.06	0.02	0.42	74	0.18	106	81	36	0	7	1	0	
NE OMAHA	45	24	56	20	34	13	0.00	-0.17	0.00	1.09	87	0.28	85	85	62	0	7	0	0	
NE SCOTTSBLUFF	49	21	60	12	35	11	0.59	0.48	0.33	0.74	95	0.60	273	79	49	0	6	2	0	
NE VALENTINE	52	26	71	17	39	19	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.42	95	0.19	173	79	48	0	7	0	0	
NV ELY	45	17	52	9	31	6	0.10	-0.07	0.05	1.08	133	0.43	139	76	47	0	7	2	0	
NV LAS VEGAS	61	39	66	35	50	4	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.05	8	0.03	14	41	26	0	0	0	0	
NV RENO	54	31	62	26	43	10	0.04	-0.18	0.04	5.25	404	1.37	326	77	58	0	4	1	0	
NV WINNEMUCCA	48	26	58	21	37	8	0.13	-0.06	0.13	3.34	278	1.06	272	80	59	0	7	1	0	
NH CONCORD	44	20	56	10	32	12	1.00	0.34	0.50	5.93	139	1.38	105	97	69	0	7	4	1	
NJ NEWARK	54	36	62	30	45	14	1.04	0.12	0.84	6.41	120	2.76	154	82	64	0	2	2	1	
NM ALBUQUERQUE	51	25	58	20	38	3	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.10	14	0.00	0	33	15	0	7	0	0	
NY ALBANY	47	26	56	23	37	15	0.64	0.09	0.45	4.12	109	1.17	106	90	64	0	7	3	0	
NY BINGHAMTON	45	30	53	16	38	16	0.31	-0.24	0.18	3.15	76	1.13	102	87	66	0	3	3	0	
NY BUFFALO	48	33	60	19	40	15	0.68	-0.04	0.39	3.74	71	1.38	95	88	63	0	3	5	0	
NY ROCHESTER	51	33	63	20	42	18	0.88	0.36	0.47	2.52	67	1.15	110	77	62	0	3	2	1	
NY SYRACUSE	50	29	60	19	40	17	0.69	0.11	0.41	3.85	90	1.29	111	86	57	0	5	3	0	
NC ASHEVILLE	60	32	68	21	46	10	0.77	-0.12	0.50	4.98	97	1.47	85	88	60	0	4	2	1	
NC CHARLOTTE	63	41	70	30	52	11	1.08	0.18	0.83	7.09	144	1.84	105	90	55	0	1	2	1	
NC GREENSBORO	61	41	67	28	51	14	0.79	0.00	0.47	5.74	125	1.53	99	91	60	0	1	2	0	
NC HATTERAS	61	48	64	39	54	8	1.58	0.21	1.02	7.05	98	2.25	84	98	73	0	0	3	2	
NC RALEIGH	64	43	69	28	53	14	0.29	-0.61	0.17	5.03	105	0.79	45	88	66	0	1	2	0	
NC WILMINGTON	68	45	73	32	57	11	0.14	-0.88	0.14	5.23	91	1.08	54	89	54	0	1	1	0	
ND BISMARCK	37	20	44	5	29	19	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.88	144	0.04	24	85	73	0	7	0	0	
ND DICKINSON	39	23	50	10	31	17	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.25	56	0.11	100	90	67	0	7	0	0	
ND FARGO	31	14	36	6	23	17	0.03	-0.14	0.02	1.37	152	0.05	15	88	75	0	7	2	0	
ND GRAND FORKS	30	13	36	-3	22	17	0.03	-0.11	0.03	0.53	64	0.03	11	99	81	0	7	1	0	
ND JAMESTOWN	34	21	42	14	28	20	0.00	-0.13	0.00	0.31	46	0.00	0	92	73	0	7	0	0	
ND WILLISTON	41	20	52	14	30	23	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.25	32	0.02	9	89	75	0	7	0	0	
OH AKRON-CANTON	50	35	61	23	42	17	0.70	0.15	0.53	3.06	74	1.71	151	80	59	0	2	3	1	
OH CINCINNATI	53	35	62	29	44	14	1.23	0.57	0.88	4.20	91	2.39	180	84	61	0	2	4	1	
OH CLEVELAND	51	36	60	27	44	18	0.44	-0.11	0.16	3.14	74	1.08	97	83	55	0	2	4	0	
OH COLUMBUS	42	35	62	27	44	16	0.65	0.10	0.27	2.76	68	1.07	96	82	58	0	2	4	0	
OH DAYTON	49	33	55	26	41	15	0.66	0.08	0.25	2.85	67	0.97	82	90	62	0	2	3	0	
OH MANSFIELD	51	32	59	18	42	18	0.46	-0.12	0.19	2.72	61	1.37	115	91	61	0	3	4	0	

Based on 1971-2000 normals

*** Not Available

Weather Data for the Week Ending January 14, 2006

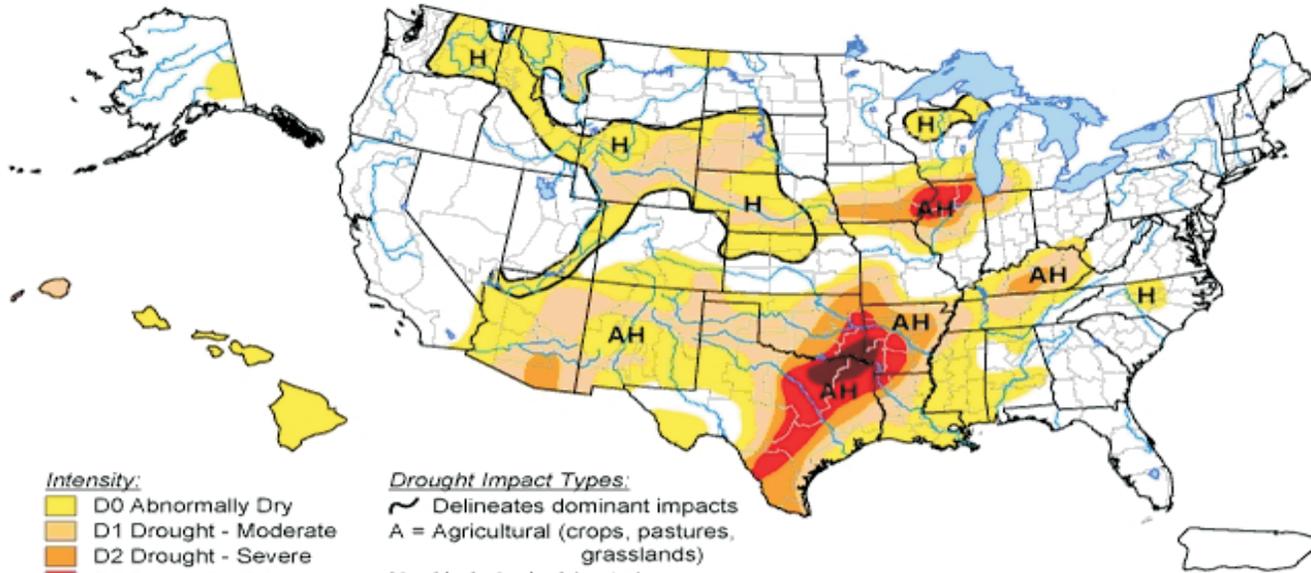
STATES AND STATIONS	TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS			
	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL IN. SINCE DEC01	PCT. NORMAL SINCE DEC01	TOTAL IN. SINCE JAN01	PCT. NORMAL SINCE JAN01	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	TEMP. °F		PRECIP	
																90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
OK TOLEDO	45	31	54	24	38	14	0.40	-0.01	0.23	4.35	124	1.18	137	87	72	0	3	4	0
OK YOUNGSTOWN	52	34	63	21	43	18	0.36	-0.16	0.23	2.67	66	1.26	119	80	62	0	2	3	0
OK OKLAHOMA CITY	60	32	72	25	46	10	0.01	-0.29	0.01	0.29	11	0.01	2	79	29	0	4	1	0
OR TULSA	60	36	74	28	48	12	0.23	-0.13	0.14	0.75	24	0.23	31	69	43	0	3	2	0
OR ASTORIA	51	43	54	38	47	5	6.60	4.44	2.43	25.78	175	11.30	262	94	86	0	0	7	4
OR BURNS	38	23	42	13	30	6	0.42	0.17	0.20	5.15	281	0.70	132	90	78	0	6	6	0
OR EUGENE	50	43	55	36	47	8	3.35	1.64	1.63	16.23	139	5.53	163	94	87	0	0	7	1
OR MEDFORD	48	37	55	33	42	4	1.49	0.94	0.53	9.65	241	2.58	235	96	81	0	0	5	2
OR PENDLETON	52	39	59	35	45	12	1.21	0.91	0.68	4.21	201	1.64	269	76	61	0	0	6	1
OR PORTLAND	51	44	57	39	47	8	3.26	2.13	1.30	13.34	167	5.82	256	92	85	0	0	7	3
OR SALEM	50	43	56	34	47	7	3.74	2.45	1.54	18.14	201	6.62	258	91	83	0	0	7	3
PA ALLENTOWN	52	29	60	27	40	13	1.26	0.46	0.91	6.16	124	2.58	164	88	70	0	7	2	1
PA ERIE	52	36	62	23	44	17	1.00	0.43	0.79	4.59	93	1.63	137	81	61	0	2	4	1
PA MIDDLETOWN	53	31	61	29	42	13	0.69	0.08	0.42	4.34	98	1.62	134	93	57	0	4	2	0
PA PHILADELPHIA	55	35	60	32	45	13	0.90	0.10	0.52	5.24	107	2.27	143	87	66	0	1	3	1
PA PITTSBURGH	54	34	66	23	44	16	0.58	-0.03	0.36	3.79	94	2.06	173	89	49	0	2	3	0
PA WILKES-BARRE	51	32	59	22	41	15	1.26	0.72	0.70	4.78	133	2.02	192	87	56	0	4	2	2
PA WILLIAMSPORT	51	31	57	24	41	15	0.89	0.28	0.57	4.14	100	1.87	157	86	62	0	4	3	1
RI PROVIDENCE	52	30	57	23	41	12	1.51	0.52	1.30	6.97	114	2.63	135	90	70	0	5	4	1
SC BEAUFORT	68	44	74	35	56	8	0.37	-0.56	0.32	2.87	62	***	***	92	52	0	0	3	0
SC CHARLESTON	70	45	77	32	57	9	0.11	-0.83	0.11	5.00	99	1.75	96	89	44	0	1	1	0
SC COLUMBIA	67	43	72	32	55	11	0.38	-0.67	0.33	5.53	102	1.44	71	88	64	0	1	2	0
SD GREENVILLE	63	43	70	32	53	12	1.27	0.28	0.92	7.20	124	2.38	121	84	52	0	1	2	1
SD ABERDEEN	34	21	39	11	28	18	0.03	-0.08	0.02	1.15	192	0.04	18	87	79	0	7	2	0
SD HURON	36	26	44	22	31	17	0.01	-0.10	0.01	0.59	102	0.01	5	93	77	0	7	1	0
SD RAPID CITY	53	26	69	20	40	18	0.02	-0.06	0.02	0.38	67	0.13	76	71	34	0	6	1	0
SD SIOUX FALLS	38	25	46	20	32	18	0.04	-0.07	0.04	1.26	175	0.23	115	86	71	0	7	1	0
TN BRISTOL	59	31	66	22	45	11	0.39	-0.38	0.22	3.69	75	0.98	64	95	43	0	5	4	0
TN CHATTANOOGA	59	37	69	28	48	9	1.15	-0.06	0.64	5.40	75	1.55	66	91	63	0	3	3	1
TN KNOXVILLE	58	38	65	30	48	11	0.79	-0.26	0.53	4.11	63	1.28	62	89	53	0	3	2	1
TN MEMPHIS	61	40	71	33	51	12	1.35	0.42	0.98	3.26	43	1.35	71	79	50	0	0	3	1
TN NASHVILLE	59	37	69	29	48	12	1.14	0.24	0.76	3.63	57	1.17	65	80	47	0	2	2	1
TX ABILENE	67	35	80	27	51	8	0.00	-0.21	0.00	0.11	6	0.00	0	60	30	0	3	0	0
TX AMARILLO	57	24	69	15	40	5	0.03	-0.11	0.03	0.06	7	0.03	10	68	20	0	6	1	0
TX AUSTIN	73	36	81	24	55	5	0.00	-0.43	0.00	0.09	3	0.00	0	65	38	0	3	0	0
TX BEAUMONT	70	45	77	32	57	5	0.13	-1.21	0.08	2.29	29	0.13	5	92	40	0	1	2	0
TX BROWNSVILLE	76	52	81	43	64	5	0.48	0.22	0.48	1.99	124	0.49	98	91	53	0	0	1	0
TX CORPUS CHRISTI	76	48	82	34	62	6	0.03	-0.30	0.03	0.39	16	0.03	4	80	39	0	0	1	0
TX DEL RIO	71	38	83	30	55	4	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.06	6	0.00	0	62	36	0	1	0	0
TX EL PASO	63	33	72	20	48	4	0.00	-0.09	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0	31	11	0	2	0	0
TX FORT WORTH	69	40	82	30	55	11	0.00	-0.43	0.00	0.33	9	0.00	0	63	24	0	1	0	0
TX GALVESTON	67	53	73	44	60	4	0.01	-0.92	0.01	2.37	44	0.01	1	88	53	0	0	1	0
TX HOUSTON	71	46	79	33	59	8	0.17	-0.66	0.17	6.54	122	0.17	10	78	47	0	0	1	0
TX LUBBOCK	62	27	75	17	45	7	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0	52	17	0	6	0	0
TX MIDLAND	65	30	79	20	47	4	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.11	13	0.00	0	55	20	0	5	0	0
TX SAN ANGELO	71	34	82	22	52	8	0.00	-0.15	0.00	0.02	2	0.00	0	63	22	0	4	0	0
TX SAN ANTONIO	73	41	79	32	57	7	0.00	-0.36	0.00	0.10	4	0.00	0	69	24	0	1	0	0
TX VICTORIA	72	40	80	30	56	3	0.03	-0.52	0.03	0.52	15	0.03	3	84	44	0	1	1	0
TX WACO	72	39	82	26	56	10	0.00	-0.41	0.00	0.43	12	0.00	0	70	32	0	2	0	0
TX WICHITA FALLS	66	36	80	30	51	11	0.00	-0.24	0.00	0.18	8	0.00	0	62	28	0	3	0	0
UT SALT LAKE CITY	46	26	58	21	36	7	0.17	-0.13	0.15	1.60	88	0.34	58	85	39	0	6	2	0
VT BURLINGTON	43	26	55	18	35	17	0.63	0.13	0.41	3.20	101	0.99	103	86	68	0	7	4	0
VA LYNCHBURG	57	34	66	24	45	11	0.98	0.18	0.67	4.79	100	1.76	112	82	58	0	4	2	1
VA NORFOLK	64	42	69	31	53	13	0.41	-0.48	0.41	5.82	123	1.52	88	93	59	0	2	1	0
VA RICHMOND	62	40	69	27	51	15	0.85	0.02	0.70	7.52	158	1.71	105	87	67	0	1	2	1
VA ROANOKE	57	36	66	31	47	12	2.14	1.44	1.68	4.72	112	2.36	172	76	59	0	1	2	1
WA WASH/DULLES	57	34	63	28	46	14	0.64	-0.05	0.39	3.99	90	1.05	77	86	67	0	3	2	0
WA OLYMPIA	49	41	53	36	45	7	5.34	3.67	1.85	16.51	147	7.62	230	92	85	0	0	7	5
WA QUILLAYUTE	50	40	52	34	45	5	8.95	5.92	3.25	22.63	110	13.35	220	93	90	0	0	7	4
WA SEATTLE-TACOMA	50	43	55	38	47	7	4.26	3.12	1.16	13.61	172	6.76	298	87	79	0	0	7	5
WA SPOKANE	43	33	50	31	38	11	2.25	1.84	0.91	6.27	204	3.31	404	99	81	0	3	6	1
WA YAKIMA	47	30	57	25	38	10	0.46	0.20	0.25	3.29	171	0.90	167	91	78	0	5	4	0
WV BECKLEY	56	30	62	22	43	13	0.56	-0.16	0.35	3.64	81	0.92	64	86	58	0	4	3	0
WV CHARLESTON	61	33	69	29	47	14	0.72	0.00	0.51	3.74	79	1.09	77	84	42	0	4	4	1
WV ELKINS	59	29	64	23	44	15	0.69	-0.08	0.45	4.54	92	1.96	129	85	40	0	5	3	0
WV HUNTINGTON	58	34	66	31	46	14	0.45	-0.27	0.27	3.27	68	0.90	63	83	44	0	4	4	0
WI EAU CLAIRE	36	21	42	14	29	18	0.00	-0.22	0.00	0.85	59	0.48	114	88	58	0	7	0	0
WI GREEN BAY	36	25	46	19	31	16	0.01	-0.25	0.01	1.56	82	0.52	104	87	66	0	7	1	0
WI LA CROSSE	39	23	48	16	31	15	0.03	-0.21	0.03	0.73	43	0.17	37	87	54	0	7	1	0
WI MADISON	39	24	50	14	32	15	0.03	-0.22	0.02	1.75	81	0.76	152	88	69	0	7	2	0
WI MILWAUKEE	40	28	54	19	34	13	0.41	0.02	0.14	2.60	87	1.42	184	86	69	0	6	3	0
WY CASPER	40	22	50	12	31	9	0.42	0.31	0.20	0.74	88	0.45	205	70	55	0	6	3	0
WY CHEYENNE	48	26	59	18	37	11	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.32	51	0.04	24	47	32	0	5	0	0
WY LANDER	40	18	51	7	29	9	0.14	0.03	0.14	0.53	64	0.14	64	73	53	0	7	1	0
WY SHERIDAN	51	26	63	18	38	17	0.01	-0.16	0.01	0.49	49	0.01	3	73	51	0	6	1	0

Based on 1971-2000 normals

*** Not Available

U.S. Drought Monitor

January 10, 2006
Valid 7 a.m. EST



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)

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

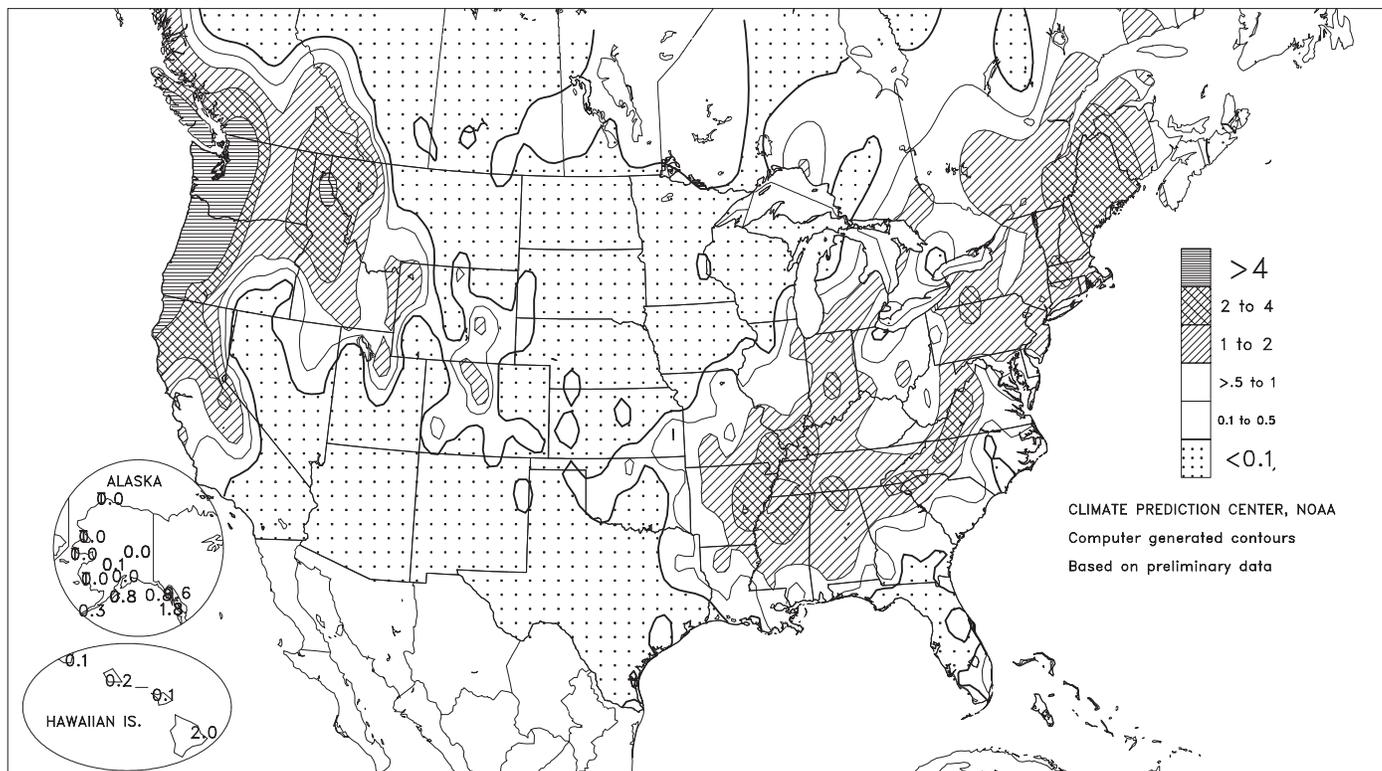
<http://drought.unl.edu/dm>



Released Thursday, January 12, 2006
Author: Douglas Le Comte, CPC/NOAA

Total Precipitation (Inches)

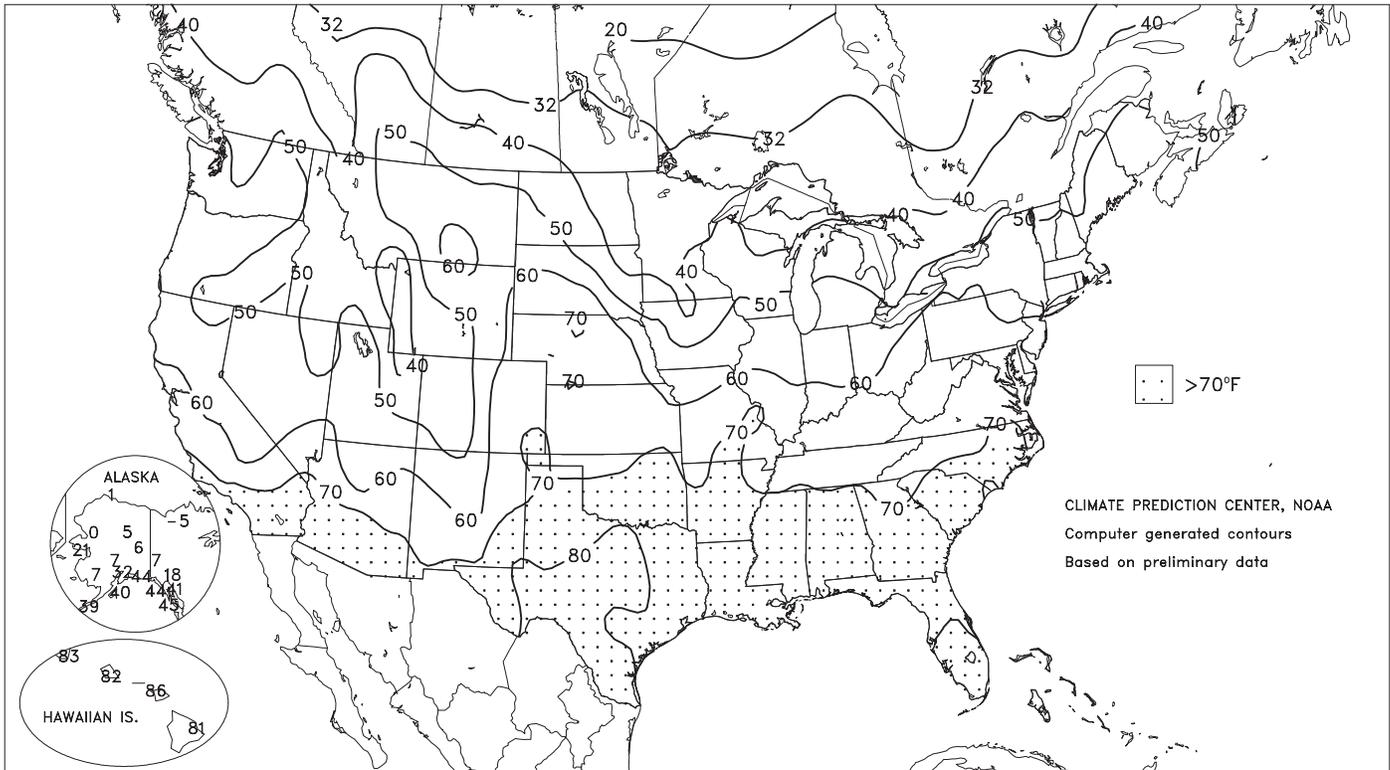
JAN 8 - 14, 2006



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

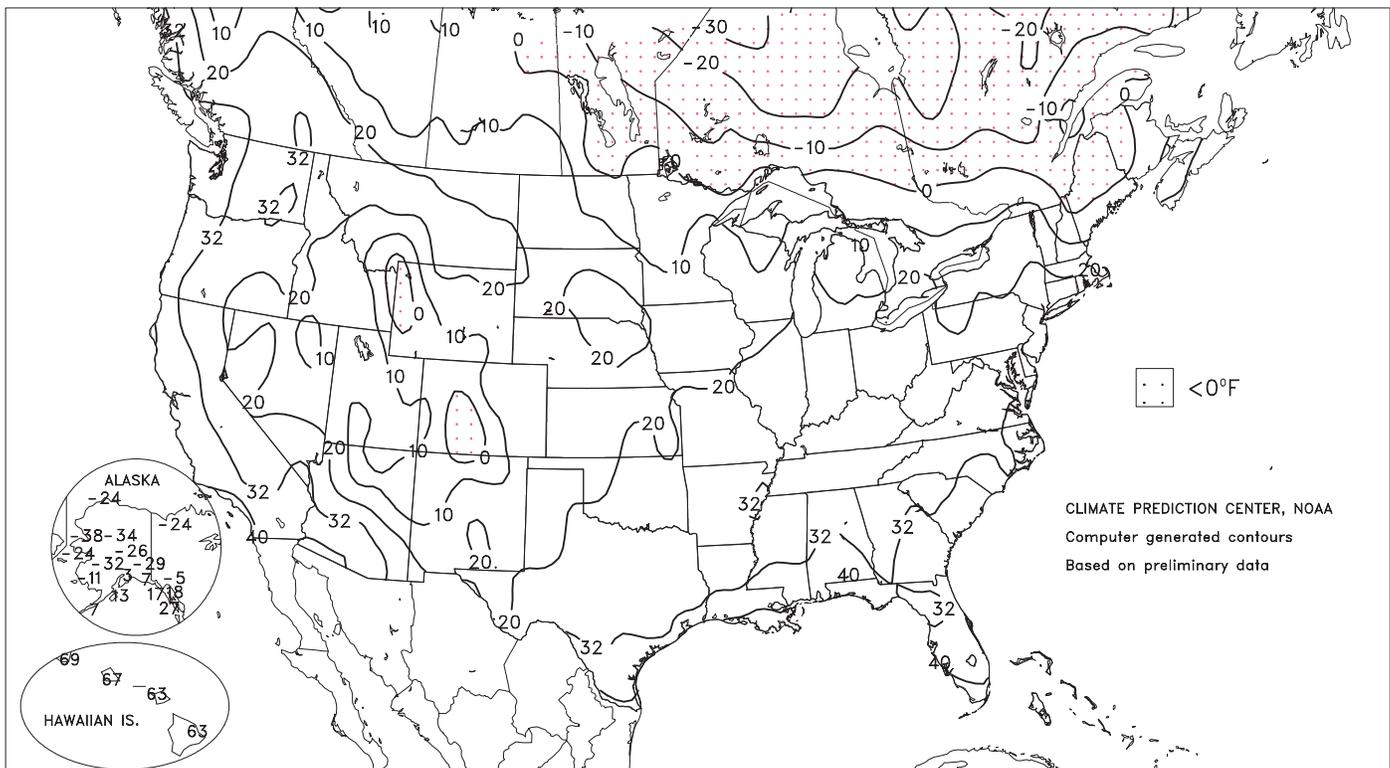
Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F)

JAN 8 - 14, 2006



Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)

JAN 8 - 14, 2006



(Continued from front cover)

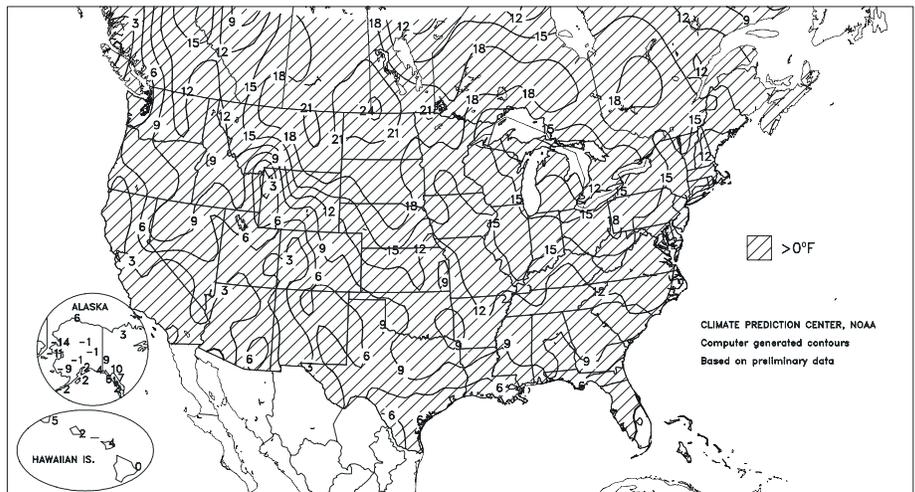
and were above normal for the third consecutive week nearly nationwide. Meanwhile, significant precipitation (mostly rain) from the **middle Mississippi Valley eastward** aggravated muddy conditions for some **Midwestern** and **Northeastern** livestock. Elsewhere, two rounds of showers and thunderstorms swept across the **South**, although only light precipitation fell in most drought-affected areas **west of the Delta**. In the **Southeast**, thunderstorms maintained generally favorable soil moisture reserves but caused local wind and hail damage. At week's end, rain changed to snow from the **Appalachians into the Northeast**.

Unusually warm weather continued in many areas for a third consecutive week, resulting in more than 100 additional daily-record highs. On January 8, **Waco, TX** (82°F), posted its fifth daily-record high since the start of the year. In contrast, lingering cool weather in **Florida** produced a record low for January 8 in **Vero Beach** (30°F). A day later, however, daily-record warmth returned to **Eastern** locations such as **Asheville, NC** (68°F), and **Roanoke, VA** (66°F). A new surge of warmth reached the **West Coast** on January 10 and migrated to the **Plains** by midweek. In the **Pacific Northwest**, records for January 10 included 59°F in **Pendleton, OR**, and 50°F in **Spokane, WA**. The following day, highs soared to daily-record levels in **Lubbock, TX** (75°F), and **Goodland, KS** (70°F). On January 12, record highs were scattered across **Southern, Midwestern, and Eastern** locations such as **Wichita Falls, TX** (80°F), **New Bern, NC** (74°F), and **Dubuque, IA** (51°F). **Atlantic City, NJ** (61°F), also collected a record high for January 12, followed by a 4.7-inch snowfall and wind gusts as high as 48 m.p.h. on January 14-15. Toward week's end, warmth made yet another push across the **West**, contributing record highs for January 13 in **Tucson, AZ** (78°F), and **Reno, NV** (62°F). On January 14, **Valentine, NE**, came within 1°F of its monthly record high (72°F on January 12, 1987), while daily records were set or tied at about three dozen locations from the **Plains westward**, including **Rapid City, SD** (69°F), and **McCook, NE** (70°F). The period from December 21 - January 15 was the warmest such period on record in **Billings, MT**, where the 26-day average temperature of 40.5°F supplanted its 1980-81 standard of 37.0°F.

Billings received snowfall totaling just 0.1 inch during the 26-day warm spell second only to a trace from December 21, 1954 to January 15, 1955. In the **West Glacier region of northwestern Montana**, however, 24-hour snowfall totals on January 14-15 reached 3 feet at **Grave Creek** and **Flattop Mountain**, while 23.5 inches fell at nearby **Cool Creek, ID**. Farther west, **Olympia, WA**, observed at least 29 consecutive days (December 18 - January 15) with measurable precipitation, totaling 15.78 inches. **Olympia's** longest such spell was 33 straight days of rain from January 6 - February 7, 1953. Elsewhere in **Washington**, **Seattle's** streak of 27 consecutive days (December 19 - January 14) with measurable rain ended on January 15. Nevertheless, **Seattle** experienced its wettest 25-day period on record, netting 12.80 inches from December 20 - January 13 (previously, 12.16 inches from November 19 - December 13, 1998). Across the remainder of the Nation, selected daily-record totals included 2.64 inches (on January 10) in **Crescent City, CA**; 2.17 inches (on January 14) in **Bangor, ME**; and 1.09 inches (on January 13)

Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F)

JAN 8 - 14, 2006



in **Greenwood, MS**. From January 13 into the early hours of the following day, more than a dozen tornadoes were observed from **southern Alabama and western Florida into southeastern Virginia**. Two tornado-related fatalities were reported—one near **Belleville, in Conecuh County, AL**, and the other near **Baker, in Okaloosa County, FL**. Farther north, late-week (January 14-15) wind gusts locally topped 60 m.p.h., while storm-total snowfall exceeded 10 inches at a few locations across the **interior Northeast**, including parts of **western Massachusetts**. National Weather Service offices in **Mt. Holly, NJ**, and **Upton, NY**, received 5.5 and 4.1 inches of snow, respectively.

In contrast, storminess barely dented impressive precipitation deficits across the **southern Plains** and the **Southwest**. On January 9-10, snowfall locally in excess of 4 inches blanketed parts of **northern and western Oklahoma**. Later in the week, **Flagstaff, AZ**, finally received its first measurable snowfall of the season (0.1 inch) on January 15, more than 1 week after breaking its all-time record of January 7, 1930. Meanwhile, the streak of days without a drop of rain reached 89 days (October 19 - January 15) in **Phoenix, AZ**, approaching its September 1999 - January 2000 all-time record of 101 days. In **western Texas**, **Lubbock's** spell without measurable precipitation climbed to 80 days (October 28 - January 15), nearing its October 1921 - January 1922 all-time mark of 85 days. During the first 15 days of the year, wildfires charred more than 500,000 acres (approximately 790 square miles) of vegetation nationwide. Most of the fires flared across the **South Central United States**, although a 5,500-acre blaze was reported in the **Nebraska National Forest** near **Halsey, NE**.

Much of **Hawaii** continued to experience warm, drier-than-normal weather. On **Kauai, Lihue** noted a daily record-tying high of 82°F on January 12. However, month-to-date rainfall through January 15 was less than 15 percent of normal in locations such as **Kahului, Maui** (0.13 inch, or 7 percent of normal), and **Lihue** (0.25 inch, or 11 percent). Mostly dry weather also prevailed in **Alaska**, although bitterly cold air overspread **western parts of the State**. Weekly temperatures averaged 14°F below normal in **Kotzebue**, aided by a low of -38°F on January 10. Meanwhile, January 1-15 **Alaskan** precipitation totals were less than one-tenth of an inch in **McGrath** (0.07 inch, or 0.49 inch below normal) and **Fairbanks** (a trace, or 0.30 inch below normal).

National Agricultural Summary

January 9 - 15, 2006

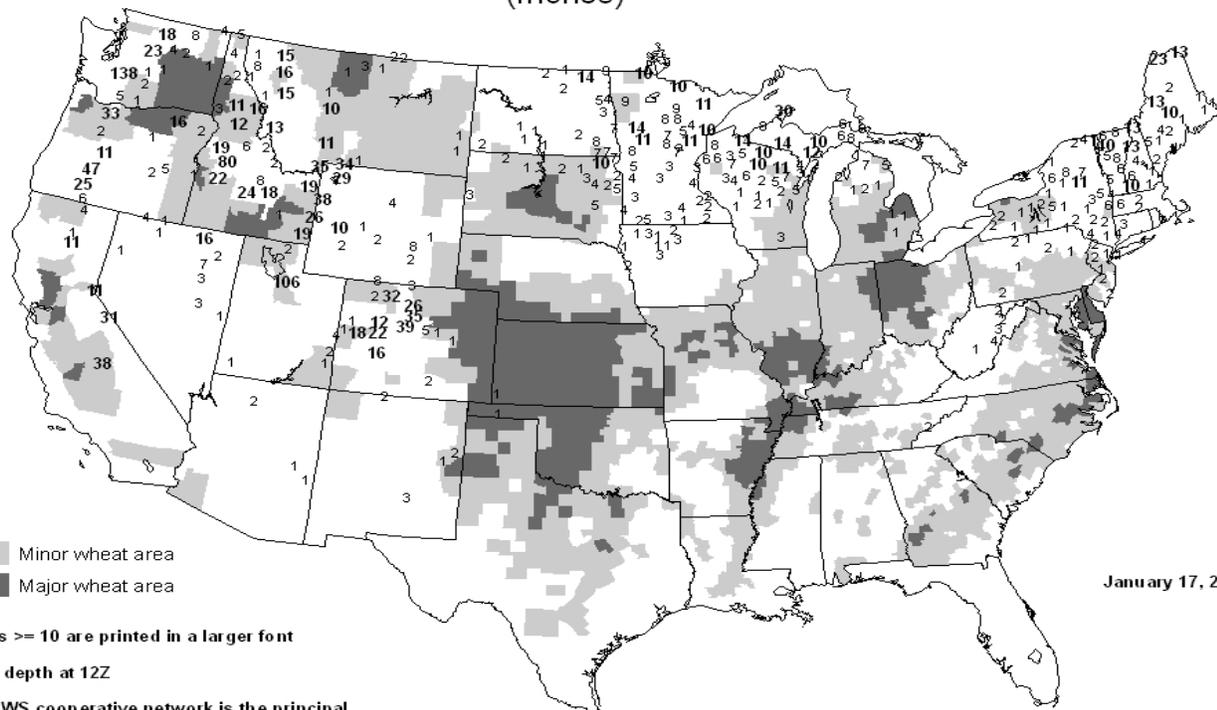
Weekly National Agricultural Summary provided by USDA/NASS

HIGHLIGHTS

For the third consecutive week, above-normal temperatures prevailed nationwide. Throughout the northern Great Plains and most of the Corn Belt and Ohio Valley, average temperatures exceeded the normal by over 15 degrees Fahrenheit, causing further depletion of protective snow cover in these regions. Dry conditions persisted in the Great Plains and Southwest, further depleting soil moisture. However, moderate precipitation in the upper Delta and eastern Corn Belt was beneficial for winter wheat in those areas. Moderate to heavy precipitation in the Pacific Northwest improved soil moisture in the inland crop producing areas while increasing snowpack in the higher elevations. An outbreak of severe weather across the Southeast and middle Atlantic Coast spawned several reports of tornadoes, hail, and high winds.

Warm weather in California has deterred dormancy in fruit trees and caused blooming in some orchards, while lingering wet conditions in some areas caused worsened small grain condition and delayed vegetable harvest. In Texas, winter wheat condition was rated mostly poor to very poor due to extremely warm temperatures and dry, windy conditions. Planting of other small grains was slowed by extremely dry soils. Warm weather in Georgia increased insect activity and the spread of disease in pastures but improved small grain conditions. In Florida, recent cool temperatures slowed vegetable development, but mostly dry weather over the central and southern Peninsula encouraged planting and harvesting.

United States Snow Depth
(Inches)



January 17, 2006

Minor wheat area
Major wheat area

Values >= 10 are printed in a larger font

Snow depth at 12Z

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

2005 U.S. Weather Review

Annual "Weather Review" provided by Douglas Le Comte, NOAA/CPC; annual national rankings provided by NCDC

The extraordinary Atlantic tropical storm season featured four land-falling hurricanes along the Gulf of Mexico, including Katrina, the costliest storm ever and deadliest since 1928. The final tally for this unprecedented season had reached 27 named storms and 14 hurricanes by the end of the year. Moisture from storm remnants provided needed rains to parts of the Corn Belt during the growing season, although severe drought persisted from spring to the end of the year in Illinois and Iowa. Summer drought also parched Missouri, and dryness that began in the spring over the southern Plains and lower Mississippi Valley affected the region through much of the remainder of the year, despite temporary respite from hurricane rains. Prolific rain and snow finally relieved the 5-year drought in the Southwest and Colorado River Basin during the 2004-05 wet season, although contrasting dryness affected the Pacific Northwest.

Winter (December 2004 - February 2005)

The Pacific storm system continued to pound the West Coast into early January, with a second major storm from January 7-11. Impressive rains fell in the valleys from southern California to southern Utah, while mountain snows accumulated in the Sierra Nevada and across the Southwest. Five to 10 inches of rain hit southern California, and up to 2 feet of rain pelted the San Gabriel Mountains north of Los Angeles. The 15 days ending on January 10 saw the wettest 15 days on record for Los Angeles; the 17 inches of rain during this period exceeded the average for an entire year.

Huge snowfalls hit the Sierra, especially in the Lake Tahoe area, with 5 to 8 feet common. Ski resorts reported as much as 20 feet of snow on the ground by January 11. The rains in southern California triggered flooding and mudslides, including the slide

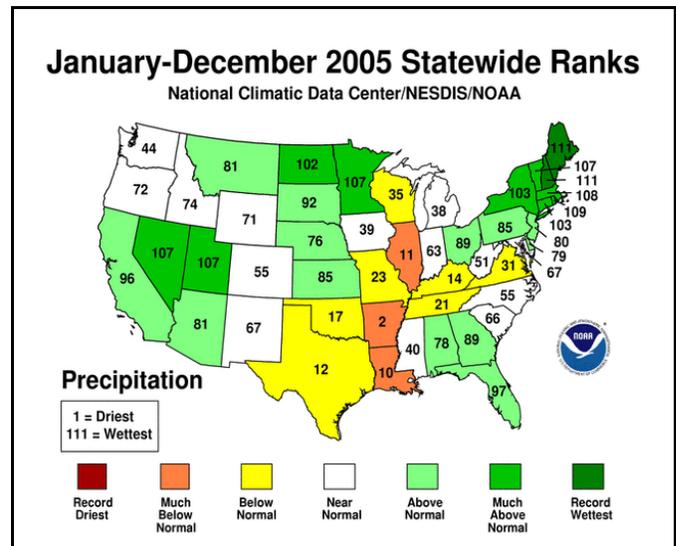
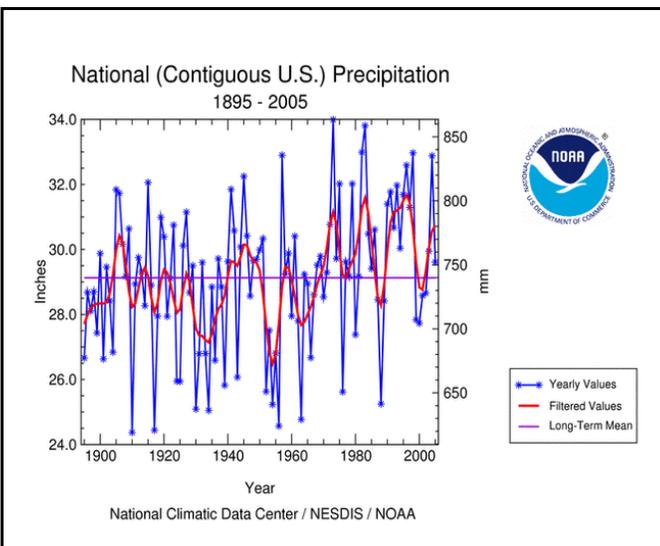
that took 10 lives northwest of Los Angeles on January 10. Flooding in southern Utah caused houses to collapse into raging rivers.

The associated storm system traveled eastward, bringing additional rains to areas in the Ohio Valley already suffering from flooding due to earlier storms and snow melt. On January 10, the Ohio River rose to 4 feet above flood stage in Cairo, IL, while rivers topped their banks from Arkansas to Ohio. Arctic air invaded the Central States behind the cold front, sending thermometer readings down to as low as -44°F on January 17 in International Falls, MN.

An "Alberta Clipper" triggered an historic January snowstorm in the East. Initially, over one-half foot of snow spread across the Midwest on January 21, and a second low developed along the East Coast the next day, rapidly deepening into a major nor'easter. The "Blizzard of 2005" blasted southern New England and southeastern New York on January 22-23 with near-hurricane force winds and 1 to 2 feet of snow. Boston's 22.5-inch total on January 22-23 was the city's second greatest 2-day snowfall on record, second only to the historic 27.1 inches that buried the city on February 6-7, 1978.

Also notable in January was a major ice storm that spread treacherous conditions from northeast Alabama to northern and central Georgia on January 28-31, when downed tree limbs and power lines left 400,000 customers without electricity.

February saw more Pacific storms strike the West Coast and hammer the Great Basin and Southwest. Heavy rain and snow on February 11-12 brought flooding to southern California and Arizona, while an even bigger storm unleashed mudslides,



flooding, and tornadoes over California on February 17-23. Heavy rains also drenched Hawaii, with over 5 inches launching floods on Oahu during February 2.

The Southwest ended winter with its second-wettest season in over 100 years, but much drier weather led to drought farther north. December-February cumulative precipitation totaled just 50 percent (%) of normal from Washington through Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, and into the western Dakotas and Nebraska. A number of high-elevation sites in Idaho, Montana, and Washington were snow-free in early March for the first time in decades.

Despite some wild temperature swings, December-February averaged abnormally mild for the country, as nearly every State saw above-normal temperatures. Readings averaged 4°F or more above normal from the Rockies to the Midwest and as much as 8°F above normal in the upper Midwest.

Spring (March - May)

A winter that arguably resulted in the Northwest's lowest snowfall since the drought of 1976-77 raised serious water supply concerns. However, the weather pattern changed drastically in mid-March, as a stormier pattern took hold from the Northwest into the High Plains. Persistently damp weather affected the West and northern Plains, as well as the Southeast and New England, while abnormally cool air covered the East. March-May precipitation totaled 150 to 200% of normal for the Northwest and most of the Great Basin.

Winter lingered over the eastern one-third of the Nation. A spring snowstorm on April 2-3 brought 6.4 inches of snow to Cleveland, while an even later snowstorm on April 24-25 boosted the seasonal total to a record 117.9 inches.

In early April, heavy rain and snowmelt led to major flooding in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and New York, with flood stages reaching the second- to fourth-highest levels on record in this region and the worst flooding since 1955 along Pennsylvania's Susquehanna River.

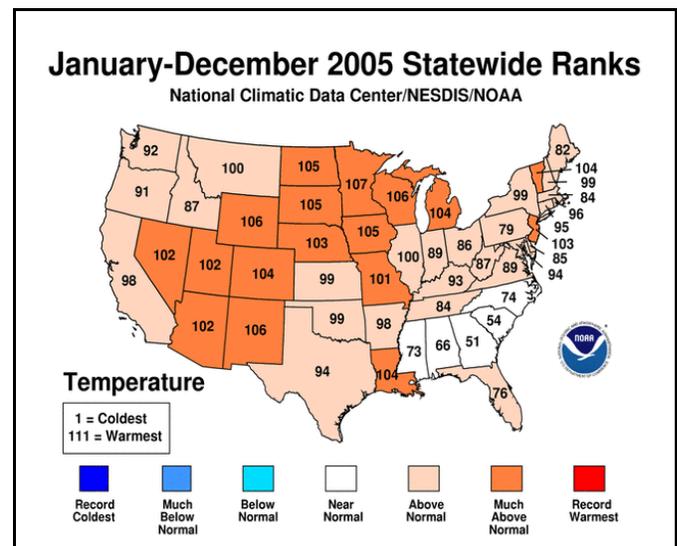
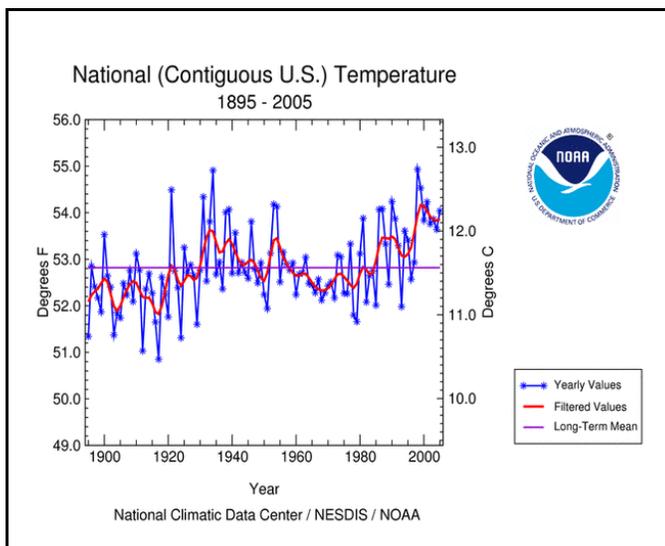
Late April and early-May freezes struck jointing-to heading-stage winter wheat from South Dakota into Oklahoma. The freezes even threatened the small portion of the corn crop that had already emerged in the Midwest.

Another storm brought heavy rain and snow to the West and Plains from May 9-12. In Grand Island, NE, 9.25 inches of rain on May 11-12 triggered flash flooding. Up to 2 feet of snow blanketed the mountains of Wyoming.

In California, still more snow added to this winter's amazing Sierra Nevada snowpack during May. The 18 inches that fell on Mammoth Mountain brought the seasonal snowfall total to 607 inches (over 50 feet). Near-record snowpacks also accumulated in Utah, with streamflows this season reaching above-normal levels in the Colorado River Basin for the first time since 1999. Although the moisture greatly benefited the water supply situation across the region, Powell and Mead reservoir storage remained below normal and a continuing concern.

Winter finally exited by mid-May, as an impressive heat wave covered the West from around May 16-24. In southern Utah, daily highs approached 100°F from May 20-25, and hundreds of daily-record high temperature records fell across the Southwest starting on May 19.

Spring also saw the beginnings of a drought that would periodically plague a region extending from the Great Lakes to the southern Plains and lower Mississippi Valley for the rest of



the year. Illinois and Michigan experienced their third driest spring on record. In contrast, Idaho and Nevada saw their second wettest spring and Oregon its third wettest.

Summer (June - August)

The dry spring transitioned into a dry summer for much of the area from Michigan and Wisconsin through Missouri, Arkansas, and eastern Texas. June weather, in particular, exacerbated drought, as rainfall totaled less than one-half of normal in and around Illinois and also in eastern Texas and adjacent States. Temperatures running 2 to 4°F above normal further aggravated drought. By early July, severe drought had spread across much of this region, threatening crops in the heart of the Corn Belt.

Although the drought persisted in northern Illinois and eastern Iowa, timely rains in July and August—some of which came from hurricane remnants—kept the drought's impacts from being as bad as feared.

Much of the country endured an unusually hot, humid summer. The most notable heat wave seared the West starting in mid-July and later expanded to the Central States. Denver reached 100°F or higher for 5 consecutive days during July 19-23, and its reading of 105°F on the 20th tied their all-time highest temperature. Death Valley, CA, notched highs of at least 125°F each day from July 14 to 20. Farther east, Goodland, KS, experienced its hottest day in 58 years (109°F on July 20) and, in Illinois, Peoria's reading of 104°F on July 24 was its hottest since 1988.

June-August temperatures averaged 2 to 4°F above normal from the Midwest into the Northeast. New Jersey recorded its hottest summer on record, and 17 other states, mostly in the eastern half of the country, experienced one of their 10 hottest summers.

This was an extraordinary tropical storm season. The storms this year targeted the entire Gulf of Mexico coast. Each of the four hurricanes that made landfall in the United States this year—Dennis, Katrina, Rita, and Wilma—tracked through the Gulf of Mexico. Two tropical storms, Arlene and Cindy, were also Gulf storms, while the third tropical storm, Tammy, hit the northeast coast of Florida. Hurricane Ophelia's eyewall reached the North Carolina coast but did not technically make landfall. Hurricane Dennis moved inland near Pensacola, FL, on July 10, less than 5 days after Tropical Storm Cindy struck southeastern Louisiana. Hurricane Emily made her second Mexican landfall on July 20 south of Brownsville, TX, bringing heavy rain to the south Texas drought area.

Hurricane Katrina hit southeast Louisiana on August 29 as a category 3 storm and made landfall again in southwestern Mississippi. A storm surge exceeding 25 feet devastated coastal Mississippi, and breaks in New Orleans' levees ultimately submerged some 80% of the city. The approximate direct death toll of 1,200 people made this the deadliest storm since 1928, and the estimated cost of \$75 billion far exceeded the cost of any other storm on record.

Autumn (September - November)

Rita made landfall as a category 3 hurricane on September 24 just east of the Texas-Louisiana border, causing major storm surge flooding and wind damage in southwestern Louisiana and adjacent Texas. The storm's heavy rains alleviated drought from eastern Texas into Arkansas and western Louisiana. Wilma struck the southwest coast of Florida also as a category 3 storm on October 24, leaving some 3.2 million homes and businesses without power and causing extensive crop damage while tracking northeastward across the southern peninsula.

Many Atlantic Basin records fell by the wayside during this historic storm season, including the greatest number of named storms (27), the most hurricanes (14), the most category 5 storms (3), lowest pressure (Hurricane Wilma, October 19, 882 millibars), and the greatest total cost (estimated \$125 billion).

With the hurricane storm tracks staying to the west, this was one of the driest Septembers ever for much of the Eastern Seaboard, as meager rainfall totals extended from New England to Florida. Washington, DC's, monthly total of 0.11 inch broke a record that had stood since 1884. The dryness continued into the first week of October, raising drought concerns over a large area.

Conditions completely reversed in October. Tropical Storm Tammy struck the eastern coast of Florida on October 5 and eventually dissipated near the Florida Panhandle. Although Tammy was an unremarkable storm, she helped to funnel enormous amounts of tropical moisture northward. An upper air trough and a cold front focused the ensuing rainfall in a zone stretching more than 1,000 miles. The resulting deluge from October 6-9 brought 3 to 7 inches of rain from the Carolinas to New England, with isolated totals of 1 foot, eradicating drought conditions nearly everywhere across the region.

Only a few days later, heavy rain returned to the Northeast, where New York City's Central Park set an October 12 record with 4.26 inches. Overflowing lakes and streams forced hundreds of people from their homes in New Jersey and New Hampshire. Still another storm hit the region late in the month, accompanied by rain and snow, ensuring the Northeast's wettest all-time October. Some cities recorded more than 15 inches of rain, and New Hampshire's Mt. Washington measured 78.9 inches of snow.

November was remarkable for its outbreaks of severe weather. The deadliest twister of the year struck the Evansville, IN, area on the November 6, destroying or severely damaging over 100 buildings and leaving 23 people dead. Five killer tornadoes this month caused a total of 27 fatalities.

Autumn rainfall under 50% of normal worsened drought in the southern Plains, especially in east Texas and southeastern Oklahoma, while temperatures averaging 3 to 4°F above normal aggravated the dry conditions. Nearly the entire Nation outside of the West Coast, Alaska, and Hawaii was abnormally mild.

In contrast, an impressive cold snap dominated Alaska in November, with Fairbanks experiencing its coldest November since 1989.

outbreak of grass fires in Oklahoma and northern Texas that scorched thousands of acres by the end of the month and burned more than 100 homes.

Below-normal rainfall maintained drought in the northern Illinois-eastern Iowa drought area, as both Chicago and Rockford notched their driest March-November on record.

Increasingly intense drought left the vegetation tinder dry in the southern Plains as the New Year began, stressing pastures and winter grains and raising fire danger to critical levels. A large area from northern Texas into Oklahoma and extending into Arkansas and Louisiana ended the year in extreme (D3) to exceptional (D4) drought, as rated by the U.S. Drought Monitor. In Texas, both San Antonio and Dallas-Fort Worth ended 2005 with their driest year since 1956.

December

A wintry pattern developed by early December, and frigid Canadian air plunged southward into the Plains early in the month and eventually encompassed much of the Nation. The cold shattered numerous low temperature records. Alliance, NE, for example, attained a record daily low of -23°F on the December 8, breaking the old record by 10°F.

Widespread snow swept across the Central and Eastern States during December 7-9, including a nor'easter that featured thunder snow in New England on the 9th, along with 70-m.p.h. wind gusts on Cape Cod and adjacent islands.

On December 15, freezing rain left a layer of ice up to three-fourths of an inch thick from Georgia to the Carolinas, causing 683,000 customers to lose power.

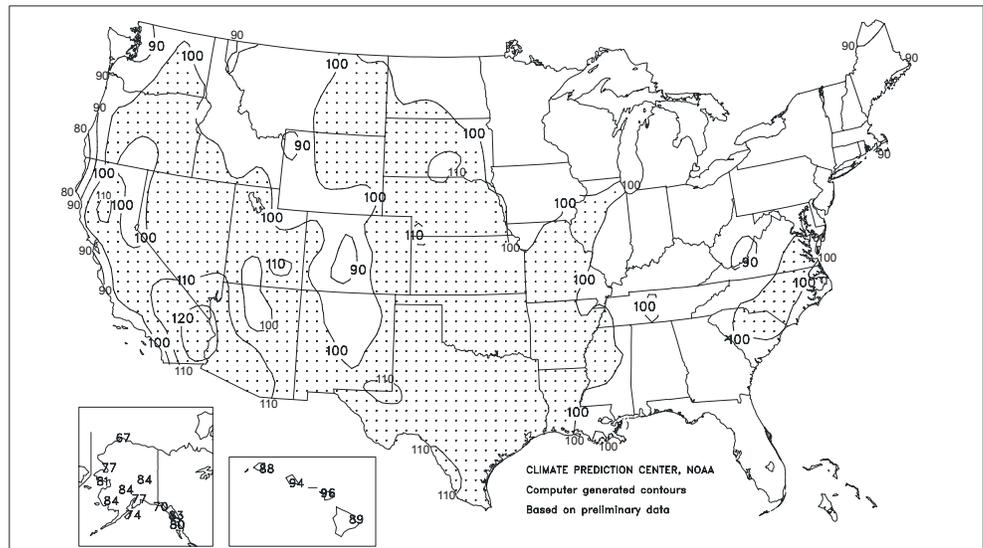
On the West Coast, a parade of Pacific storms began to batter the region during the second half of December. Heavy rains, flooding, high winds, heavy mountain snows, and mudslides affected the region from central California into Washington. In northern California, 4 to 9 inches of rain falling in 24 hours on December 30-31 sent the Napa and other rivers in wine country to flood stage.

The change in the jet stream pattern allowed milder Pacific air to overrun much of the Nation. The last third of the month was abnormally mild, in sharp contrast to the wintry start.

The storms bypassed most of the Southwest, as well as the increasingly dry areas on the southern Plains. The combination of high winds; warm and dry air; and extreme drought contributed to an

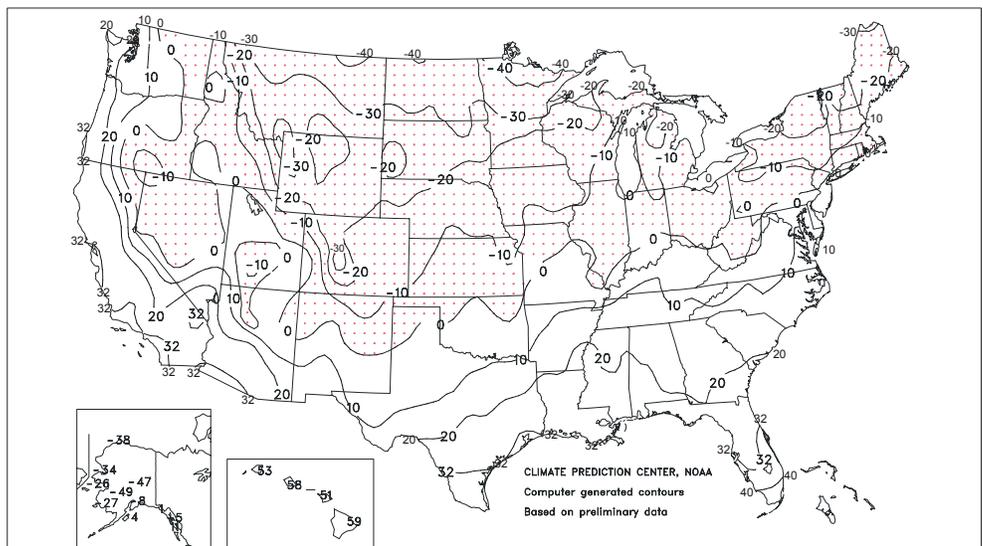
Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F)

JAN - DEC 2005



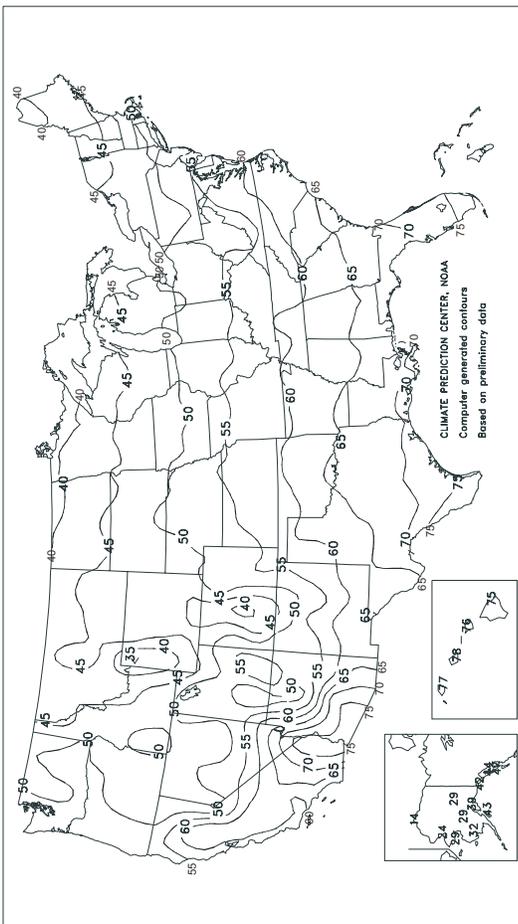
Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)

JAN - DEC 2005



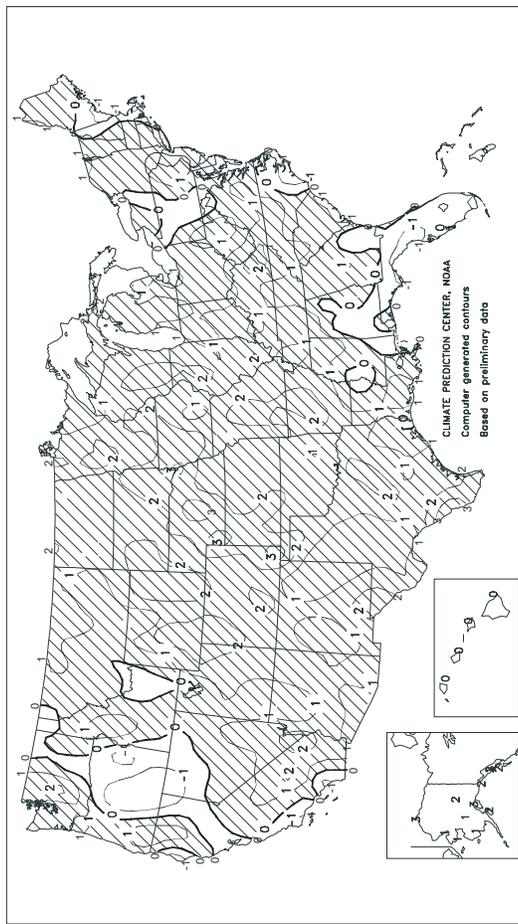
Average Temperature (°F)

JAN - DEC 2005



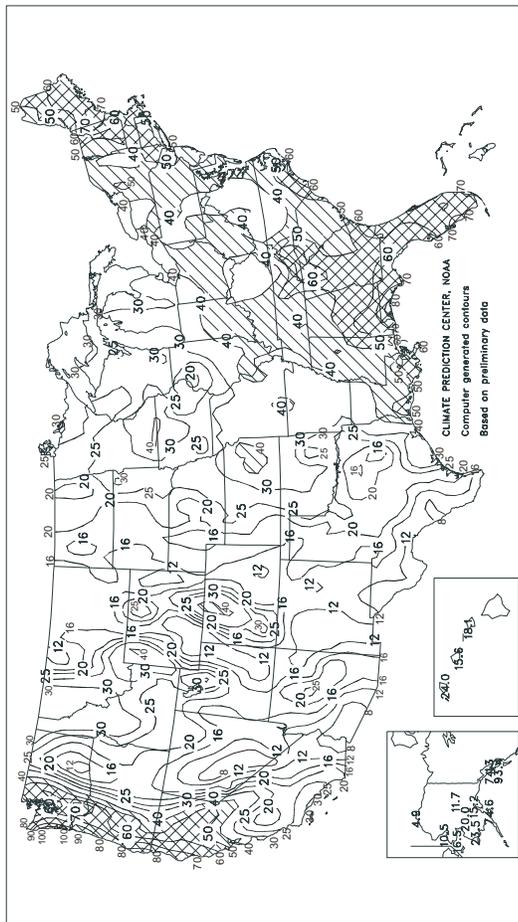
Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F)

JAN - DEC 2005



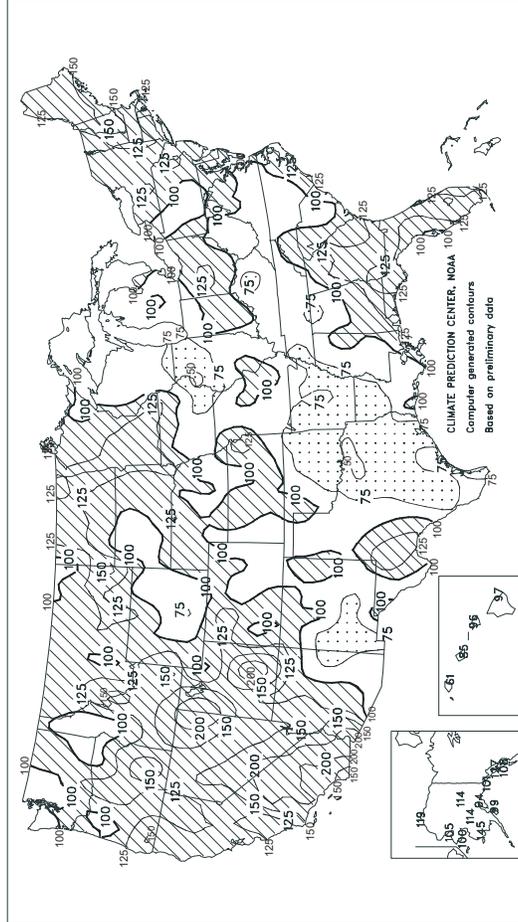
Total Precipitation (inches)

JAN - DEC 2005



Percent of Normal Precipitation

JAN - DEC 2005



2005 U.S. Fieldwork Highlights

Fieldwork highlights provided by USDA/NASS

April: Above-normal temperatures through most of the month gave way to cooler weather in the final week. Mostly dry conditions in the Great Plains and Corn Belt allowed rapid planting of corn and small grains. By month's end, growers had planted 52 percent of the corn crop, 7 percentage points ahead of normal. Oat, barley, and spring wheat planting was 79, 52, and 61 percent complete, respectively, on May 1. However, soybean producers, focusing on their corn crop, had planted just 8 percent of their acreage, 1 point behind normal. Meanwhile, heavy rainfall in the Southeast severely hampered seeding of the cotton and peanut crops, but drier conditions and rapid planting in the southern Great Plains nearly compensated for the lack of progress in the Southeast. Rice planting was hindered early in the month by soggy conditions in most growing areas, but drier weather toward month's end allowed growers to catch up to their normal planting pace of 65 percent. Winter wheat heading advanced to 30 percent, slightly behind normal. Eighteen percent of the sorghum crop was planted by month's end. After an exceptionally dry winter in the Pacific Northwest, heavy rainfall helped replenish soil moisture but caused some planting delays.

May: Dry conditions in the Corn Belt allowed corn planting to continue ahead of the normal pace, reaching 95 percent complete by May 22. However, depletion of soil moisture caused the condition of summer crops in the region to decline. Similarly dry conditions in the central Great Plains caused sharp declines in winter wheat condition. In the Southeast, excessively wet weather in April and early May gave way to drier conditions, and cotton and peanut planting progressed steadily. Cotton planting was 83 percent complete at month's end, 2 points ahead of normal, while peanut planting, also at 83 percent, was 3 points behind the 5-year average. Soybean growers, taking advantage of the dry conditions in the Corn Belt, planted nearly three-fourths of their acreage during the month, advancing to 81 percent complete, 10 points ahead of normal. Planting and emergence of the rice crop progressed at a near-normal pace, with 97 percent of the crop planted by May 29. Seeding of the sorghum crop continued to trail the normal pace, reaching 51 percent complete by month's end. Planting and emergence of small grains continued to outpace the 5-year average, despite planting delays in the Pacific Northwest due to soggy conditions. By month's end, 95 percent of the oat acreage, 85 percent of the barley acreage, and 88 percent of the spring wheat acreage had emerged. Winter wheat heading progressed at the normal pace, but dry weather in the Great Plains caused a decline in crop condition. Sunflower growers seeded their acreage at the normal pace, while sugarbeet planting, at 98 percent complete on May 8, was 19 points ahead of normal.

June: Warm, dry weather across the Mississippi Delta, Corn Belt, and Ohio Valley caused rapid deterioration of crop conditions, particularly corn and soybeans. Emergence and development of the crops, however, progressed at or ahead of the normal pace due to the rapid planting pace earlier in the season. Ninety-five percent of the Nation's corn crop had emerged by June 5. Silking, at 11 percent by month's end, was the same as the 5-year average. Soybean emergence reached 96 percent complete on June 26, and by month's end, blooming, at 21 percent, was 6 points ahead of normal. Cotton planting progressed at a near-normal pace, but cool weather in most growing areas hindered development of the crop. By month's end, 55 percent of the crop was at the squaring stage or beyond, 10 points behind normal. Peanut pegging also trailed well behind normal, reaching just 32 percent by month's end, compared with 41 percent for the 5-year average. Sorghum planting progressed steadily, overtaking the normal pace by month's end, but heading, at 15 percent, was slightly behind normal. Winter wheat harvest began slowly as rainfall in the Great Plains hindered fieldwork. However, harvest progressed rapidly as drier conditions prevailed, reaching 62 percent complete by month's end. Emergence and heading of other small grains continued to progress ahead of normal. The rice crop, however, trailed behind normal, reaching just 7 percent headed, compared with the 5-year average of 13 percent.

July: Corn and soybean conditions continued to decline as dry weather further depleted soil moisture in the Corn Belt, particularly in Illinois. However, crop development continued to progress well under the dry conditions. Corn acreage silking advanced from 11 percent on July 3 to 92 percent on July 31. Acreage in the dough stage, at 27 percent by month's end, was 4 points ahead of normal. Sorghum heading, behind normal early in the month, progressed rapidly toward month's end and overtook the normal pace, while acreage turning color, at 19 percent, was 2 points behind normal. The winter wheat harvest progressed ahead of normal, reaching 90 percent complete by month's end. Oat growers had harvested 51 percent of their acreage by July 31, while barley and spring wheat harvest was well underway in most States. Rice heading continued to progress behind the normal pace, reaching just 45 percent by month's end. Soybean blooming advanced rapidly during the month, reaching 91 percent on July 31, nine points ahead of normal. Peanut and cotton development continued to lag behind normal due to late planting and delayed early-season progress. At month's end, just 69 percent of the cotton acreage was setting bolls, compared with 75 percent for the 5-year average.

August: Hurricane Katrina damaged some to cotton in the Mississippi Delta, but rainfall associated with its remnants as it moved inland benefited crops in the Corn Belt and Ohio Valley. The corn crop developed rapidly during the month, with acreage at or beyond the dough stage reaching 91 percent by August 28 and acreage dented at 61 percent. Sorghum heading continued to progress ahead of normal, but the percentage of the crop turning color, at 48 percent by month's end, was 7 points behind normal. The winter wheat harvest advanced to 96 percent complete by midmonth, the same as the 5-year average. Oat, barley, and spring wheat growers had harvested 98, 78, and 76 percent of their acreage, respectively, by August 28. Heading of the rice crop progressed rapidly under warm conditions, overtaking the normal pace, but harvest trailed behind normal. The soybean crop continued to progress ahead of normal, with 97 percent of the acreage setting pods by month's end. Peanut pegging neared completion by midmonth but still trailed slightly behind normal. The cotton crop continued to trail behind normal, with bolls opening a week behind the normal pace.

September: Hurricane Rita came ashore on September 24 near the Louisiana-Texas border, packing 120 mile-per-hour winds, a 10-foot storm surge, and heavy rainfall. The rice crop in the area was already harvested, but sugarcane fields were battered and flooded with salt water. Elsewhere, above-normal temperatures in the eastern two-thirds of the Nation promoted crop development and maturation. Corn acreage in the dent stage reached 96 percent by September 18, and 90 percent of the crop was mature by month's end, 6 points ahead of normal. Harvest, at 26 percent complete, was at the normal pace. Crop condition stabilized during the month and improved slightly as rain from the remnants of Hurricane Rita replenished soil moisture in the Corn Belt. The soybean condition also improved with rainfall from Rita's remnants, while leaf-dropping and harvest progressed ahead of normal. By month's end, 93 percent of the acreage was dropping leaves or beyond, 8 points ahead of normal, while harvest was 36 percent complete. Cotton condition declined in the Delta due to wind and rain damage from Rita and in the Southeast due to dry conditions. Development and harvest continued to lag behind normal. Winter wheat growers began sowing next year's crop, reaching 54 percent planted by month's end, while emergence progressed at a near-normal pace. Harvest of small grains in northern growing areas continued to progress ahead of normal. On September 11, 95 percent of the barley crop and 96 percent of the spring wheat crop had been harvested. The rice harvest, delayed by wet conditions across most growing areas, was 72 percent complete, 5 points behind normal. Harvest of sorghum, sunflower, peanuts, and sugarbeets also trailed behind their respective normal paces.

October: Hurricane Wilma cut across the Florida peninsula on October 24, with high winds damaging sugarcane, citrus, and vegetable crops. Elsewhere, dry conditions in the Great Plains and Corn Belt favored summer crop maturation and harvest as well as winter wheat planting, while above-normal temperatures aided winter wheat emergence. Corn producers had harvested 80 percent of their acreage by October 30, 6 points ahead of normal. The soybean harvest also progressed ahead of normal, reaching 92 percent complete by month's end, compared with 86 percent for the 5-year average. Winter wheat emergence, at 76 percent, was 3 points ahead of the normal pace. Rice harvest accelerated during the month, reaching 97 percent complete by October 23, 2 points ahead of normal. Sorghum producers, however, continued to trail behind the normal harvest pace, advancing to 71 percent complete by month's end (3 points behind normal). Cotton development and harvest also continued to trail the normal pace. By the end of the month, 53 percent of the acreage had been picked, compared with 55 percent for the normal. The sunflower harvest accelerated toward month's end, pulling slightly ahead of normal, to 69 percent complete. Sugarbeet growers also picked up the pace as cooler weather permitted piling, but harvest remained slightly behind normal. The peanut harvest advanced to 78 percent complete by month's end, 3 points behind normal.

November: Above-normal temperatures across most of the Nation favored summer crop harvesting and winter wheat emergence, while moderate precipitation in the Corn Belt did not deter final corn and soybean harvests. The corn harvest continued to progress ahead of normal, reaching 95 percent complete by midmonth. Sorghum growers, who had trailed behind their normal harvest pace throughout most of the season, had harvested 96 percent of their acreage by November 27, compared with 93 percent for the 5-year average. Winter wheat planting and emergence progressed ahead of the normal pace, with acreage emerged reaching 94 percent by month's end. A lack of rainfall in the southern Great Plains, however, caused the condition of the crop to deteriorate. On November 6, 96 percent of the soybean crop had been harvested, 5 points ahead of normal. The cotton harvest trailed normal early in the month but advanced rapidly as dry conditions promoted fieldwork and pushed progress to 84 percent complete by month's end (3 points ahead of normal). Sunflower growers had harvested 97 percent of their acreage by month's end, 4 points ahead of normal. Even the peanut crop, which had trailed behind normal throughout the year, was harvested ahead of the normal pace. The peanut harvest reached 98 percent complete by November 20, compared with 95 percent for the 5-year average.

2005 U.S. Crop Production Highlights

Highlights, released on January 12, 2006, were provided by USDA/NASS.

Corn: Grain production is estimated at 11.1 billion bushels, up 1 percent from the November forecast but down 6 percent from 2004. The average grain yield is estimated at 147.9 bushels per acre, 0.5 bushel below the November forecast and down 12.5 bushels from 2004. The 2005 production and yield estimates are the second largest on record, behind last year. Record yields were realized across the northern tier States, including Idaho, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, New York, North Dakota, Washington, and Wisconsin, while yields in the central and southern Corn Belt and southern Great Plains were down from last year's record highs.

Planted area totaled 81.8 million acres, up 1 percent from last year. With the exceptions of Minnesota and South Dakota, planted area was up in the Corn Belt and central and southern Great Plains. Illinois producers planted a record-high 12.1 million acres. Area harvested for grain, at 75.1 million acres, is up 2 percent from 2004.

Sorghum: Grain production is estimated at 394 million bushels, up 2 percent from the November forecast but 13 percent below 2004. Area harvested for grain is estimated at 5.74 million acres, down 12 percent from 2004. Average grain yield, at 68.7 bushels per acre, is up 0.5 bushel from the previous forecast but 0.9 bushel below the 2004 average yield. Grain yields are up from the previous forecast in Colorado, Missouri, and Texas. Kansas led the Nation in area planted for grain production.

Oats: Production of oats is estimated at 115 million bushels, down fractionally from the Small Grains 2005 Summary and down less than 1 percent from last year. The estimated yield is 63.0 bushels per acre, down 0.1 bushel from September and down 1.7 bushels from the previous year. Area planted to oats is estimated at 4.25 million acres, up fractionally from September and up 4 percent from 2004. Harvested area is 1.82 million acres, 2 percent above last year. These revisions to acreage and production estimates are based on updated survey and administrative data received after the Small Grains 2005 Summary was published on September 30, 2005.

Barley: Production totaled 212 million bushels in 2005, down fractionally from the Small Grains 2005 Summary and 24 percent below 2004. Average yield per acre, at 64.8 bushels, is unchanged from September but down 4.8 bushels from the previous year. Area harvested for grain, at 3.27 million acres, is down fractionally from the September estimate and 19 percent below a year ago. Growers planted 3.88 million acres, 1 percent below the September estimate and 14 percent less than in 2004. These changes to acreage and production estimates are based on updated survey and administrative data received after the Small Grains 2005 Summary was published. States with estimate changes for the 2005 crop year are Arizona, Maine, and Montana.

All Wheat: Production totaled 2.10 billion bushels in 2005, up fractionally from the Small Grains 2005 Summary but 2 percent below 2004. Area harvested for grain, at 50.1 million acres, is fractionally above the Small Grains 2005 Summary and last year. The yield is 42.0 bushels per acre, unchanged from the Small Grains 2005 Summary but down 1.2 bushels from a year ago. These changes to acreage and production estimates are based on updated survey and administrative data received after the Small

Grains 2005 Summary was published. States with estimate changes are: Arizona, California, Florida, Montana, South Dakota, and Utah.

The 2005 winter wheat production is estimated at 1.50 billion bushels, up fractionally from the Small Grains 2005 Summary but down fractionally from last year. The yield is 44.4 bushels per acre, 0.9 bushel above last year. Acreage for grain is estimated at 33.8 million acres, fractionally above the Small Grains 2005 Summary but 2 percent below the previous year.

Hard Red Winter (HRW) harvested acreage is down from last year in the southern portion of the Great Plains States due to fewer planted acres. In Texas, harvested acres were lost partly because of severe weather in the Panhandle during June. Yields are up for all States in the central and southern portion of the Great Plains except Oklahoma. In the Dakotas, yields are down from last year. Overall, HRW production totals 930 million bushels, up 9 percent from last year. Farther west, record-high State yields were set in Montana, Idaho, and Nevada.

Soft Red Winter (SRW) harvested acreage is below last year because excessively wet conditions last fall resulted in dramatically reduced planted acreage. Yields in the SRW growing area are up in all States except Florida and the Delta region. Record-high State yields were set in Indiana, Kentucky, North Carolina, and South Carolina. Tennessee's yield tied the 1999 record high. Overall, SRW production is 309 million bushels, down 19 percent from last year.

White Winter production, at 260 million bushels, is down 1 percent from last year. Yields in the Pacific Northwest States (Idaho, Oregon, and Washington) are at or above last year's level. In Idaho, excellent irrigated winter wheat yields, combined with good dryland yields, resulted in the highest winter wheat yield on record.

Other Spring Wheat production is estimated at 504 million bushels. This is unchanged from the Small Grains 2005 Summary but down 11 percent from last year. Harvested area is 13.6 million acres, up 3 percent from 2004. The yield is 37.1 bushels per acre, down 6.1 bushels from the record high yield in 2004.

Durum Wheat production for 2005 totaled 101 million bushels, up 1 percent from the Small Grains 2005 Summary and 12 percent above last year. Grain area harvested totaled 2.72 million acres, up 1 percent from the Small Grains 2005 Summary and up 15 percent from 2004. The yield is estimated at 37.2 bushels per acre, 0.8 bushel below 2004. Production is down from last year in all States except North Dakota.

Rice: Production of rice in 2005 totaled 223 million cwt, down 4 percent from last year's record crop but up 1 percent from the November forecast. Area for harvest, at 3.36 million acres, is up 1 percent from 2004. The average yield for all rice is estimated at 6,636 pounds per acre, 352 pounds below the 2004 yield. Louisiana established a record-high yield as early-season weather conditions were nearly ideal. Most producers in southern Louisiana had completed the first harvest of the crop before the arrival of Hurricane

Rita. The average yield for all rice was down 1,220 pounds from last year's record-high yield in California, where windy, cool, wet conditions during planting hampered seedling growth.

Peanuts: Production of peanuts in 2005 totaled 4.82 billion pounds, up 12 percent from last year's crop and up 4 percent from the November 1 forecast. Planted area, at 1.66 million acres, is up 16 percent from 2004. Area for harvest totaled 1.63 million acres, up 17 percent from last year. The yield averaged 2,960 pounds per acre, down 116 pounds from 2004.

Sunflowers: Sunflower production totaled 4.02 billion pounds, up 96 percent from 2004 and 51 percent above 2003. The average yield per acre increased 342 pounds from 2004 to a record-high 1,540 pounds. Planted area, at 2.71 million acres, is 45 percent above last year and the highest area since 2000. Acreage harvested increased 53 percent from last year to 2.61 million acres, the highest acreage since 2000. Production in North Dakota, the leading State, is estimated at 1.75 billion pounds, up 121 percent from 2004. North Dakota's yield per acre is a record high, at 1,586 pounds, up 584 pounds from last year.

Soybeans: Production in 2005 totaled 3.09 billion bushels, the second-largest soybean crop on record. This is up 1 percent from the November forecast but 1 percent below the record-setting 2004 crop. The average yield per acre is estimated at a record-high 43.3 bushels, 0.6 bushel above the November forecast and 1.1 bushels above the 2004 final yield. Planted area, at 72.1 million acres, is down 4 percent from 2004. Soybean growers harvested a total of 71.4 million acres, also down 4 percent from last year. Yields are up dramatically from last year across most of the northern third of the soybean-growing area, reaching record highs in five States. From Illinois southwest to Texas, soybeans suffered from a lack of moisture in July and early August. The Missouri average yield is down 8 bushels per acre from the 2004 record-high yield.

Cotton: Upland cotton production is estimated a record-high 23.1 million bales, up fractionally from the December 1 forecast and 2 percent above last year's production. The yield for upland cotton is

estimated at 824 pounds per acre, unchanged from last month but 19 pounds less than last year's record-high yield. Harvested area, at 13.4 million acres, increased marginally from last month and is 5 percent above 2004. Upland planted acreage is estimated at 13.9 million acres, 4 percent above last year.

American-Pima production is estimated at 655,000 bales, down 3 percent from last month and 12 percent from last year. The Pima yield is estimated at 1,171 pounds per acre, down 50 pounds from last month and 272 pounds from last year. Producers planted 270,400 acres of Pima cotton, up 8 percent from last year. Harvested area is estimated at 268,600 acres, up 3,600 acres from last month and up 8 percent from last year.

Sugarbeets: Production is estimated at 27.7 million tons, 1 percent above the November 1 forecast but 8 percent below last year's production. Growers in the 12 sugarbeet-producing States harvested 1.24 million acres, 5 percent less than last year's 1.31 million acre. Yield is estimated at 22.3 tons per acre, 0.3 ton above November but 0.7 ton below the 2004 yield.

Sugarcane: Production of sugarcane for sugar and seed is estimated at 27.9 million tons, 3 percent above the December forecast but 4 percent below last year's 29.0 million tons. Area harvested and to be harvested for sugar and seed is estimated at 922,900 acres for the 2005 crop year, unchanged from the December forecast but down 2 percent from 2004. Yield is estimated at 30.2 tons per acre, 1.0 ton above last month, but 0.7 ton below last year's yield. Three major hurricanes impacted the sugarcane crop during 2005: Katrina and Rita in Louisiana and Wilma in Florida. Significant acreage was lost to wind damage and storm surge, while yield was depressed on the remaining acreage in the hurricanes' paths. Louisiana's yield of 23.0 tons per acre is an improvement over previous assessments of hurricane damage to the 2005 crop but is still the lowest yield since 1993. At 33.1 tons per acre, unchanged from December, Florida's sugarcane yield is the lowest since 1996. Due to poor yields in the two top-producing States, the yield fell to its lowest level since the 1934 estimate, the first to include Hawaii's high-yielding crop.

Monthly U.S. Crop Production Highlights

The following information was released by USDA's Agricultural Statistics Board on January 12. Forecasts refer to January 1.

The **all orange** forecast for the 2005-06 season is 9.22 million tons, down 2 percent from the December forecast but 1 percent above last season's final utilization of 9.11 million tons. Florida's all orange forecast, at 158 million boxes (7.11 million tons), is down 2 percent from the previous forecast but up 6 percent from the 2004-05 crop. Early, midseason, and navel varieties are forecast at 80.0 million boxes (3.60 million tons), unchanged from the previous forecast but 1 percent above last season's final utilization. The Florida Valencia forecast is reduced by 4 million boxes to 78.0 million boxes (3.51 million tons), down 5 percent from the previous forecast but up 11 percent from last season's final utilization. For both Valencia and early-midseason crops, projected fruit sizes will be smaller than any of the previous 10 years, and fruit drop will be above average.

The all orange forecast for California, at 54.0 million boxes (2.03 million tons), is down 2 percent from the October forecast and 11 percent lower than last season's final utilization. The navel orange forecast is unchanged from October, at 42.0 million boxes (1.58 million tons), but is 2 percent lower than last season.

California's navel harvest is well underway but there were some delays in picking due to rain and fog. Fruit maturity is good but sizes are reported smaller than the last several seasons' averages. California's Valencia orange forecast is lowered 1.0 million boxes to 12.0 million boxes (450 thousand tons), down 8 percent from the October forecast and 33 percent lower than last season's final estimate. The Valencia crop is developing normally but acreage reductions due to market pressures continue. The all orange forecast for Texas, at 1.53 million boxes (65,000 tons), is unchanged from the October 1 forecast but down 14 percent from the 2004-05 season. The Texas early-midseason orange forecast is 1.3 million boxes (55,000 tons), down 13 percent from last season. The Texas Valencia orange forecast, at 230,000 boxes (10,000 tons), is down 15 percent from last season. Arizona's all orange forecast is lowered 20,000 boxes from the October forecast, to 450,000 boxes (17,000 tons). Arizona's Navel oranges are forecast at 250,000 boxes (9,000 tons), down 7 percent from the previous forecast but 4 percent higher than last season. The Arizona Valencia forecast is 200,000 boxes (8,000 tons), up 5 percent from the previous season.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION SUMMARY Annual 2005

STATES AND STATIONS	TEMP., °F		PRECIP.		STATES AND STATIONS	TEMP., °F		PRECIP.		STATES AND STATIONS	TEMP., °F		PRECIP.	
	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE	TOTAL	DEPARTURE		AVERAGE	DEPARTURE	TOTAL	DEPARTURE		AVERAGE	DEPARTURE	TOTAL	DEPARTURE
AL BIRMINGHAM	63	1	49.40	-4.58	LEXINGTON	56	1	33.53	-12.37	COLUMBUS	53	0	40.31	1.81
AL HUNTSVILLE	62	1	39.65	-17.86	LONDON-CORBIN	57	1	36.95	-10.46	DAYTON	52	0	45.28	5.70
AL MOBILE	68	1	73.85	7.56	LOUISVILLE	58	1	39.87	-4.66	MANSFIELD	50	1	37.85	-5.38
AL MONTGOMERY	65	0	52.09	-2.68	PADUCAH	58	1	37.24	-12.00	TOLEDO	51	1	31.24	-1.97
AK ANCHORAGE	39	3	15.17	-0.89	LA BATON ROUGE	69	2	48.51	-14.56	YOUNGSTOWN	49	0	40.41	2.39
AK BARROW	14	3	4.92	0.77	LAKE CHARLES	69	1	58.13	0.95	OK OKLAHOMA CITY	62	2	21.95	-13.90
AK COLD BAY	41	3	36.10	-4.18	NEW ORLEANS	70	1	60.98	-3.18	TULSA	62	1	28.41	-14.01
AK FAIRBANKS	29	2	11.74	1.41	SHREVEPORT	68	2	32.98	-18.32	OR ASTORIA	52	1	70.15	3.02
AK JUNEAU	44	2	74.33	16.00	ME BANGOR	45	0	57.41	17.84	BURNS	45	1	16.37	5.80
AK KING SALMON	37	2	21.27	1.86	CARIBOU	40	1	54.35	16.92	EUGENE	53	1	34.82	-16.09
AK KODIAK	43	2	74.63	-0.72	PORTLAND	46	0	67.14	21.31	MEDFORD	56	2	23.60	5.23
AK NOME	29	2	16.50	-0.06	MD BALTIMORE	55	0	49.12	7.18	PENDLETON	52	0	12.00	-0.76
AZ FLAGSTAFF	47	1	24.09	1.18	MA BOSTON	51	-1	45.13	2.60	PORTLAND	55	1	36.15	-0.92
AZ PHOENIX	76	3	7.04	-1.25	WORCESTER	48	1	59.91	10.86	SALEM	53	0	38.24	-1.76
AZ TUCSON	71	2	9.69	-2.48	MI ALPENA	44	1	26.13	-2.27	PA ALLENTOWN	52	1	51.37	6.20
AR FORT SMITH	63	2	30.87	-13.00	DETROIT	51	1	28.52	-4.38	ERIE	50	0	40.56	-2.21
AR LITTLE ROCK	64	2	38.93	-12.00	FLINT	48	1	29.01	-2.60	MIDDLETOWN	54	1	39.24	-1.26
CA BAKERSFIELD	66	1	8.00	1.52	GRAND RAPIDS	49	1	34.81	-2.31	PHILADELPHIA	56	1	42.34	0.30
CA EUREKA	51	-2	50.08	11.98	HOUGHTON LAKE	44	1	25.91	-2.53	PITTSBURGH	51	0	41.22	3.37
CA FRESNO	65	2	11.26	0.03	LANSING	49	2	32.57	1.04	WILKES-BARRE	50	0	36.92	-0.63
CA LOS ANGELES	63	0	18.91	5.76	MUSKEGON	49	2	29.65	-3.22	WILLIAMSPORT	51	1	47.66	6.07
CA REDDING	63	1	39.28	5.76	TRAVERSE CITY	47	1	24.37	-9.10	PR SAN JUAN	81	1	76.52	25.76
CA SACRAMENTO	62	1	22.16	4.23	MN DULUTH	41	2	32.38	1.38	RI PROVIDENCE	51	0	57.94	11.48
CA SAN DIEGO	64	0	14.12	3.35	INTL FALLS	38	0	28.13	4.19	SC CHARLESTON	66	1	46.10	-5.43
CA SAN FRANCISCO	59	2	27.00	6.90	MINNEAPOLIS	48	3	33.40	3.99	COLUMBIA	64	0	46.26	-2.01
CA STOCKTON	63	1	16.35	2.51	ROCHESTER	46	2	33.52	2.11	FLORENCE	64	0	44.09	-0.67
CO ALAMOSA	44	3	7.96	0.71	ST. CLOUD	45	3	33.74	6.61	GREENVILLE	61	1	53.30	3.08
CO CO SPRINGS	50	2	11.85	-5.54	MS JACKSON	65	1	52.11	-3.83	MYRTLE BEACH	64	0	46.08	0.37
CO DENVER	52	3	12.80	-0.82	MERIDIAN	65	0	57.31	-1.34	SD ABERDEEN	45	1	19.25	-0.97
CO GRAND JUNCTION	54	2	11.79	2.81	TUPELO	64	3	52.11	-3.75	HURON	48	3	25.91	5.02
CO PUEBLO	53	1	11.17	-1.22	MO COLUMBIA	56	2	41.23	0.95	RAPID CITY	49	2	14.64	-1.99
CT BRIDGEPORT	53	1	46.04	1.89	JOPLIN	59	1	32.87	-13.20	SIOUX FALLS	48	3	31.73	7.04
CT HARTFORD	50	0	57.27	11.11	KANSAS CITY	56	2	47.72	9.73	TN BRISTOL	56	1	37.55	-3.77
DC WASHINGTON	58	0	44.38	5.03	SPRINGFIELD	58	2	35.44	-9.53	CHATTANOOGA	61	1	46.29	-8.23
DE WILMINGTON	55	1	39.68	-3.13	ST JOSEPH	54	0	39.77	4.53	JACKSON	60	0	40.14	-14.64
FL DAYTONA BEACH	71	0	65.90	16.61	ST LOUIS	58	2	37.86	-0.89	KNOXVILLE	60	2	38.44	-9.78
FL FT LAUDERDALE	76	0	61.39	-2.81	MT BILLINGS	49	2	15.31	0.55	MEMPHIS	65	3	40.01	-14.64
FL FT MYERS	74	-1	74.47	20.28	BUTTE	40	0	13.47	0.69	NASHVILLE	61	1	39.33	-8.78
FL JACKSONVILLE	68	0	64.01	11.67	CUT BANK	42	1	13.68	1.17	TX ABILENE	65	1	19.66	-4.11
FL KEY WEST	77	-1	50.46	11.52	GLASGOW	44	1	11.10	-0.13	AMARILLO	58	1	14.95	-4.77
FL MELBOURNE	72	0	59.86	11.57	GREAT FALLS	45	1	15.66	0.77	AUSTIN	69	0	22.35	-11.30
FL MIAMI	76	-1	66.98	8.45	HELENA	46	2	12.17	0.85	BEAUMONT	70	1	44.01	-15.88
FL ORLANDO	73	0	60.39	12.04	MILES CITY	47	1	15.00	1.51	BROWNSVILLE	76	3	14.57	-12.98
FL PENSACOLA	69	1	87.70	23.42	MISSOULA	45	0	15.05	1.23	COLLEGE STATION	70	1	26.55	-13.12
FL ST PETERSBURG	75	1	45.01	-4.57	NE GRAND ISLAND	52	2	29.06	3.17	CORPUS CHRISTI	73	1	25.33	-6.92
FL TALLAHASSEE	68	0	68.67	5.47	HASTINGS	53	2	25.32	-2.62	DALLAS/FT WORTH	68	2	18.97	-15.76
FL TAMPA	73	0	38.97	-5.79	LINCOLN	53	2	24.59	-3.78	DEL RIO	71	1	20.93	2.70
FL WEST PALM BEACH	75	0	64.41	3.02	MCCOOK	53	2	23.20	1.58	EL PASO	66	1	12.87	3.44
GA ATHENS	62	0	58.52	10.70	NORFOLK	52	3	26.20	-0.46	GALVESTON	72	1	28.25	-15.59
GA ATLANTA	62	0	56.43	6.24	NORTH PLATTE	50	1	18.79	-0.87	HOUSTON	70	1	41.21	-6.63
GA AUGUSTA	64	1	47.71	3.12	OMAHA/EPPLEY	53	2	23.52	-6.70	LUBBOCK	61	1	15.15	-3.53
GA COLUMBUS	66	1	62.52	13.95	SCOTTSBLUFF	49	1	17.68	1.35	MIDLAND	64	0	18.03	3.23
GA MACON	65	1	47.54	2.55	VALENTINE	49	2	26.24	6.72	SAN ANGELO	65	0	20.37	-0.53
GA SAVANNAH	66	0	46.16	-3.42	NV ELKO	46	0	15.44	5.85	SAN ANTONIO	70	1	16.56	-16.36
HI HILO	75	1	122.88	-3.39	ELY	46	1	13.04	3.07	VICTORIA	71	1	34.52	-5.58
HI HONOLULU	78	1	15.61	-2.67	LAS VEGAS	70	2	7.80	3.31	WACO	68	1	23.91	-9.43
HI KAHULUI	76	0	18.12	-0.68	RENO	54	3	9.41	1.93	WICHITA FALLS	65	2	24.25	-4.56
HI LIHUE	76	0	24.02	-15.54	WINNEMUCCA	46	-1	10.23	1.90	UT SALT LAKE CITY	53	1	17.00	0.50
ID BOISE	53	1	13.68	1.48	NH CONCORD	48	0	57.12	19.52	VT BURLINGTON	46	1	39.54	3.49
ID LEWISTON	54	1	11.82	-0.90	NJ ATLANTIC CITY	54	0	44.00	3.41	VA LYNCHBURG	56	1	37.83	-5.48
ID POCATELLO	46	-1	16.10	3.51	NEWARK	55	0	44.37	-1.89	NORFOLK	60	0	45.97	0.23
IL CHICAGO/O'HARE	51	2	24.13	-12.15	NM ALBUQUERQUE	59	2	11.42	1.96	RICHMOND	60	2	41.26	-2.64
IL MOLINE	53	3	17.71	-20.33	NY ALBANY	49	1	47.73	9.67	ROANOKE	58	2	37.94	-4.54
IL PEORIA	53	2	25.44	-10.58	BINGHAMTON	47	1	41.39	2.74	WASH/DULLES	56	2	44.81	3.00
IL ROCKFORD	50	2	23.62	-12.99	BUFFALO	49	1	39.09	-1.45	WA OLYMPIA	51	1	49.01	-1.78
IL SPRINGFIELD	54	1	31.64	-3.92	ROCHESTER	48	0	35.47	1.51	QUILLAYUTE	50	1	93.49	-8.23
IN EVANSVILLE	57	1	41.99	-2.28	SYRACUSE	49	1	40.15	0.11	SEATTLE-TACOMA	53	1	35.65	-1.41
IN FORT WAYNE	51	1	32.03	-4.52	NC ASHEVILLE	56	1	47.27	0.23	SPOKANE	48	1	17.50	0.83
IN INDIANAPOLIS	54	1	43.72	2.78	CHARLOTTE	60	-1	41.88	-1.64	YAKIMA	50	1	8.33	0.07
IN SOUTH BEND	50	0	27.31	-12.39	GREENSBORO	60	2	33.84	-9.29	WV BECKLEY	52	0	33.98	-7.64
IA BURLINGTON	54	2	25.32	-12.62	HATTERAS	62	-1	66.78	9.03	CHARLESTON	56	1	41.72	-2.32
IA CEDAR RAPIDS	49	0	26.81	-6.60	RALEIGH	61	1	37.76	-5.29	ELKINS	52	2	42.43	-3.66
IA DES MOINES	52	2	27.90	-6.82	WILMINGTON	64	0	71.64	14.57	HUNTINGTON	57	2	37.81	-4.50
IA DUBUQUE	48	1	25.33	-10.18	ND BISMARCK	45	3	19.20	2.36	WI EAU CLAIRE	46	2	26.24	-5.88
IA SIOUX CITY	51	3	28.41	2.42	DICKINSON	43	0	21.43	5.08	GREEN BAY	46	1	26.17	-3.02
IA WATERLOO	48	1	30.67	-2.47	FARGO	44	2	30.43	9.24	LA CROSSE	49	2	30.31	-2.05
KS CONCORDIA	55	1	26.80	-1.63	GRAND FORKS	40	0	24.97	5.37	MADISON	48	2	24.68	-8.27
KS DODGE CITY	57	2	21.28	-1.07	JAMESTOWN	43	1	21.31	2.82	MILWAUKEE	49	1	25.92	-8.89
KS GOODLAND	53	2	15.89	-3.87	MINOT	43	1	21.01	2.57	WAUSAU	45	1	25.65	-7.71
KS HILL CITY	55	2	26.46	3.57	WILLISTON	43	2	13.74	-0.42	WY CASPER	47	2	11.06	-1.97
KS TOPEKA	56	2	46.94	11.30	OH AKRON-CANTON	50	0	41.24	2.77	CHEYENNE	48	3	14.64	-0.81
KS WICHITA	58	2	36.72	6.34	CINCINNATI	55	1	39.41	-3.20	LANDER	47	2	11.82	-1.60
KY JACKSON	58	2	40.32	-9.07	CLEVELAND	51	1	39.93	1.23	SHERIDAN	46	1	17.80	3.08

International Weather and Crop Summary

January 8 - 14, 2006

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

HIGHLIGHTS

EUROPE: The coldest weather of the season overspread eastern growing areas, while seasonable temperatures accompanied scattered showers in western Europe.

FSU-WESTERN: A warming trend improved overwintering conditions for winter grains in northern Russia, while a shallow snow cover protected winter wheat from intermittent cold weather in western Ukraine and the Southern Region in Russia.

MIDDLE EAST: Much-needed rain and snow fell in Iran and Syria, while lighter showers moistened topsoils in eastern Turkey.

AUSTRALIA: Scattered showers in eastern Australia maintained local moisture supplies for cotton and sorghum.

NORTHWEST AFRICA: Showers maintained favorable conditions for winter wheat development across most growing areas.

SOUTH AFRICA: Unseasonable warmth and dryness dominated the southern soybean belt, limiting moisture for normal development of reproductive summer crops.

EASTERN ASIA: Mild weather continued across winter growing areas.

SOUTHEAST ASIA: Monsoon showers maintained abundant moisture supplies for vegetative rice in Java.

BRAZIL: Unseasonable warmth and dryness dominated the southern soybean belt, limiting moisture for normal development of reproductive summer crops.

ARGENTINA: Much-needed, locally heavy rain overspread central Argentina, bringing relief from stressful heat and dryness.



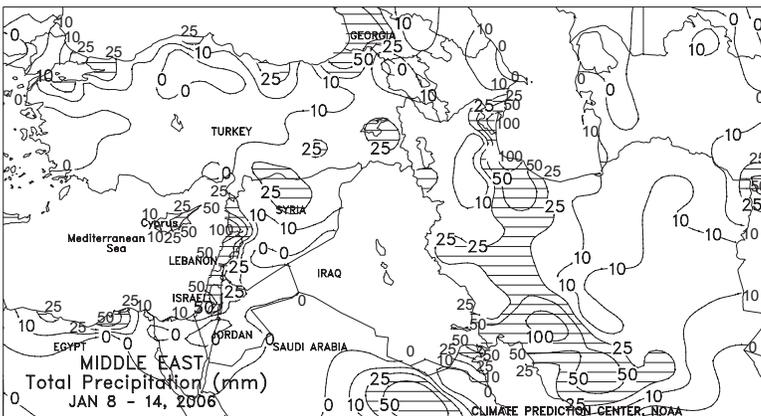
EUROPE

The coldest weather of the season overspread eastern Europe, while scattered showers accompanied seasonable temperatures in western growing areas. A strong area of high pressure centered over the Baltics brought dry, cold weather (3-8 degrees C below normal) to central and eastern Europe. In Poland, a sufficient snowpack (4-20 cm) protected winter grains from temperatures below -15 degrees C in central and southern growing areas. Farther west, nighttime lows (-10 to -2 degrees C) in Germany and France were insufficient to damage dormant winter wheat, although much of the region remained devoid of snow cover. Meanwhile, a slow moving cold front triggered light to moderate showers (5-35 mm) in western France, eastern Spain, and the Benelux countries, providing topsoil moisture for winter grains. However, dry weather across the remainder of the Iberian Peninsula maintained concerns about recurring drought. In particular, southwestern Spain and southern Portugal have received below-normal precipitation since December, increasing irrigation demands and taxing already depleted reservoirs following last winter's record dryness. Elsewhere, dry weather reduced topsoil moisture for dormant winter grains in southeast England while allowing saturated fields to dry in the Balkans.



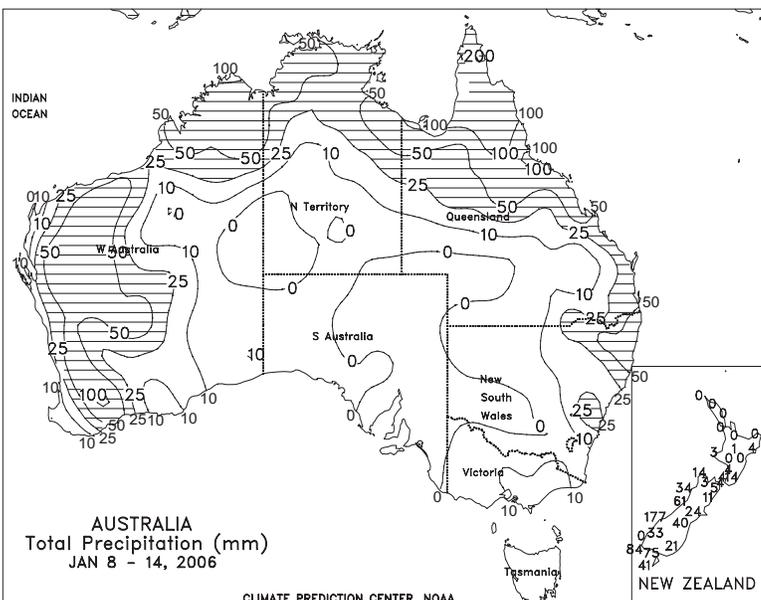
FSU-WESTERN

A warming trend followed the coldest weather so far this season in winter grain areas of northern Russia (Central and Volga Regions), improving overwintering conditions for crops. Weekly temperatures averaged 2 to 8 degrees C above normal across northern Russia. Farther south, intermittent cold prevailed across major winter wheat areas in Ukraine and the Southern Region in Russia. Lowest temperatures (-21 to -10 degrees C) were observed in western Ukraine and the Southern Region in Russia on January 8 and 12. Elsewhere in Ukraine, extreme minimum temperatures ranged from -10 to -7 degrees C. A shallow protective snow cover provided protection in areas that experienced lowest temperatures. Weekly temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C below normal in western and southern Ukraine and 3 to 6 degrees C below normal in the Southern Region in Russia. Dry weather prevailed throughout most of the region during the week, with light snow (1-10 mm of liquid equivalent) confined to the Volga Region in Russia, boosting the protective snow cover.



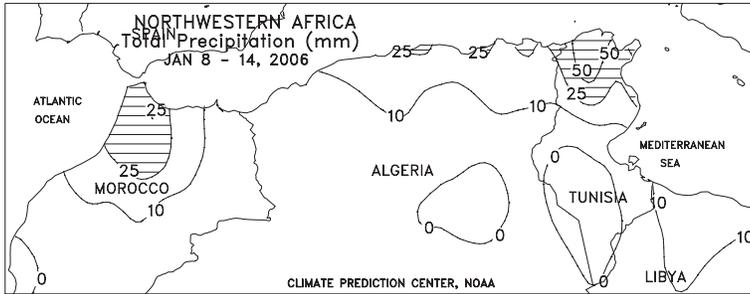
MIDDLE EAST

Much-needed rain and snow benefited winter grains in Iran and Syria, while lighter showers moistened topsoils in eastern Turkey. In eastern growing areas, the first significant storm in over 2 months brought rain and snow to drought-afflicted portions of northern and eastern Syria and northwest Iran. In Syria, moderate to heavy rain (15-45 mm) provided the first substantial moisture of the winter growing season to eastern and northern growing areas. In Iran, the storm marked the first widespread occurrence of precipitation (10-30 mm regionwide) since early November. In addition, much of northwestern Iran's winter grain areas received a blanket of protective snow cover, easing concerns about potential winterkill. In addition, locally heavy rain (25-100 mm) along the eastern Mediterranean coast boosted moisture reserves, while lighter showers (10-30 mm) in southeastern Turkey benefited winter grains. Elsewhere in Turkey, dry weather reduced topsoil moisture for semi-dormant winter grains along the southern coast, with rainfall deficits of 130 mm (45 percent of normal) since early December. Temperatures remained 1 to 5 degrees C above normal from central Turkey to southern Iran, reducing winter grain cold-hardiness.



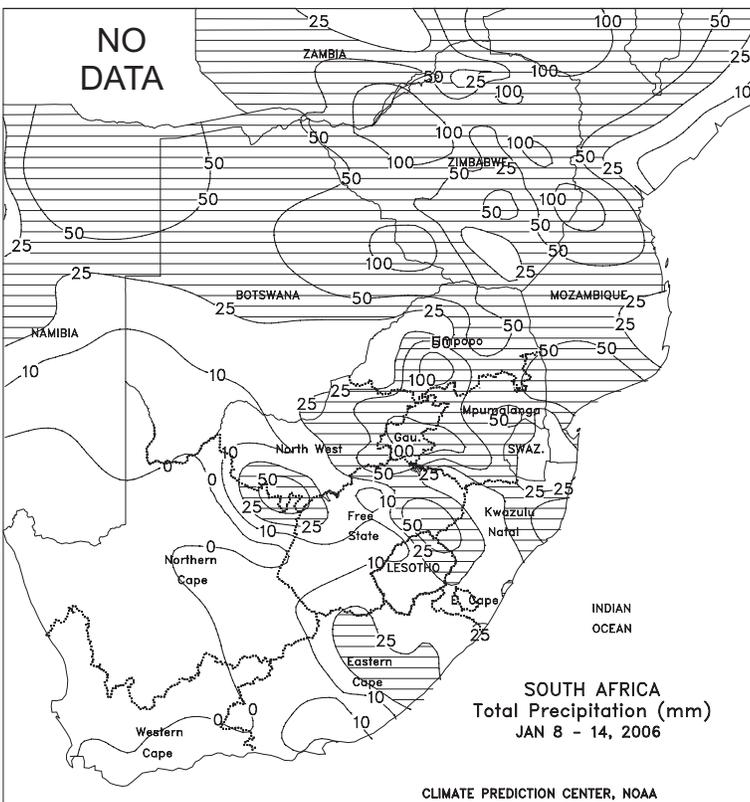
AUSTRALIA

Scattered showers (10-40 mm) overspread southern Queensland and northern New South Wales, maintaining local moisture supplies for cotton and sorghum, while cooler but still unseasonably warm weather continued. Temperatures in this region averaged about 2 degrees C above normal, with maximum temperatures generally in the lower to middle 30s degrees C. Elsewhere in Australia, light showers (3-10 mm) in the southeast had little impact on final winter grain harvesting, while widespread rain (25-100 mm or more) in Western Australia maintained soil moisture for next season's winter grain crop.



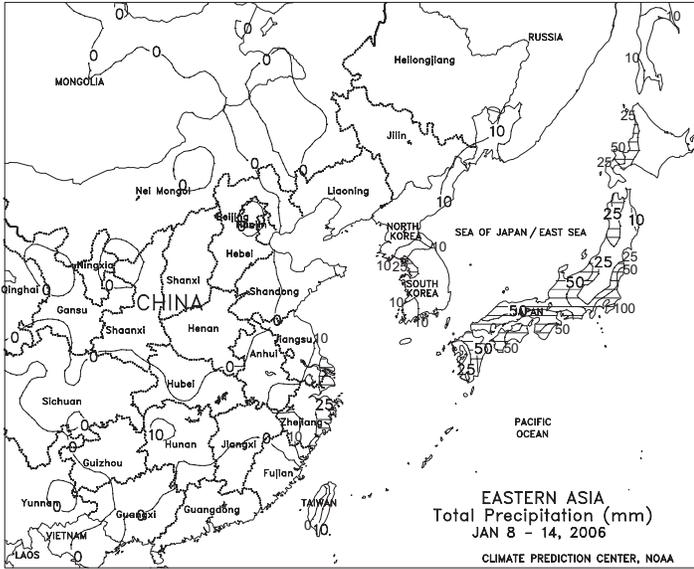
NORTHWEST AFRICA

Showers maintained favorable conditions for winter wheat development across much of the region. An upper-air disturbance triggered light to moderate showers (10-45 mm) in northern Morocco, boosting moisture reserves for vegetative winter grains. Farther east, scattered light showers (less than 10 mm) in western Algeria contrasted with heavier rain (15-40 mm) in central and eastern Algeria. In northern Tunisia, moderate to locally heavy rain (15-70 mm) boosted topsoil moisture for vegetative winter wheat. Temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C below normal in most growing areas, although no damaging freezes were reported.



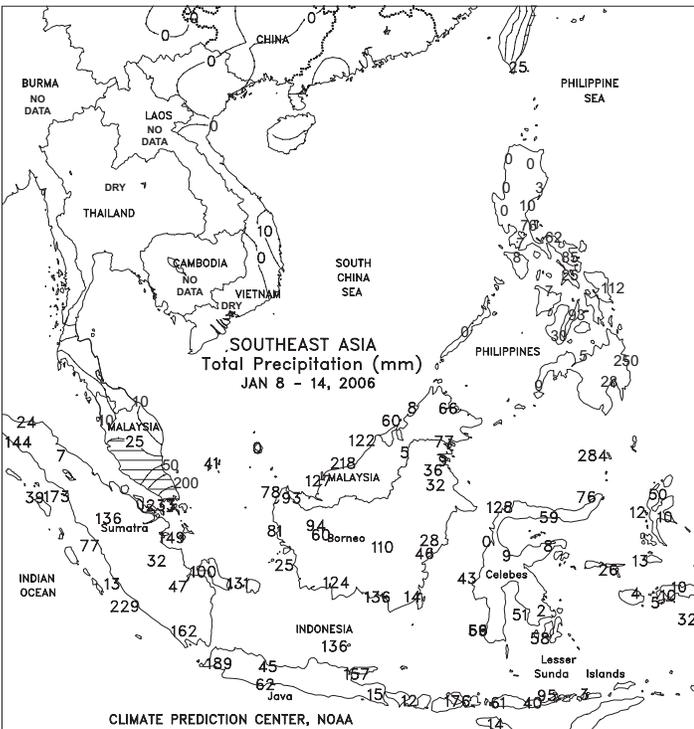
SOUTH AFRICA

Mild, showery weather (temperatures averaging near to slightly below normal, rainfall totaling 10-50 mm or more) continued across the corn belt and major summer crop areas of KwaZulu-Natal and eastern Cape, maintaining generally favorable moisture levels for summer crops in or nearing reproduction. In the western corn belt, moderate rain (10-25 mm or more) aided establishment of recently planted crops, while in the east, heavier showers (25-50 mm, locally exceeding 100 mm) benefited reproductive to filling corn. Additional rain will be needed in western growing areas into February as corn advances through reproduction. Elsewhere, mostly dry, seasonably mild weather dominated predominately irrigated farmland in Western and Northern Cape Provinces.



EASTERN ASIA

Seasonably dry weather prevailed across China, with light showers (less than 10 mm) confined to the Yangtze Valley. More rain would be welcomed in southern China for sugarcane. Temperatures remained 1 to 3 degrees C above normal throughout winter growing areas, providing favorable conditions to overwintering wheat and rapeseed. Snow cover remained absent in most areas, but temperatures have not been cold enough to cause freeze damage to dormant winter wheat or winter rapeseed.



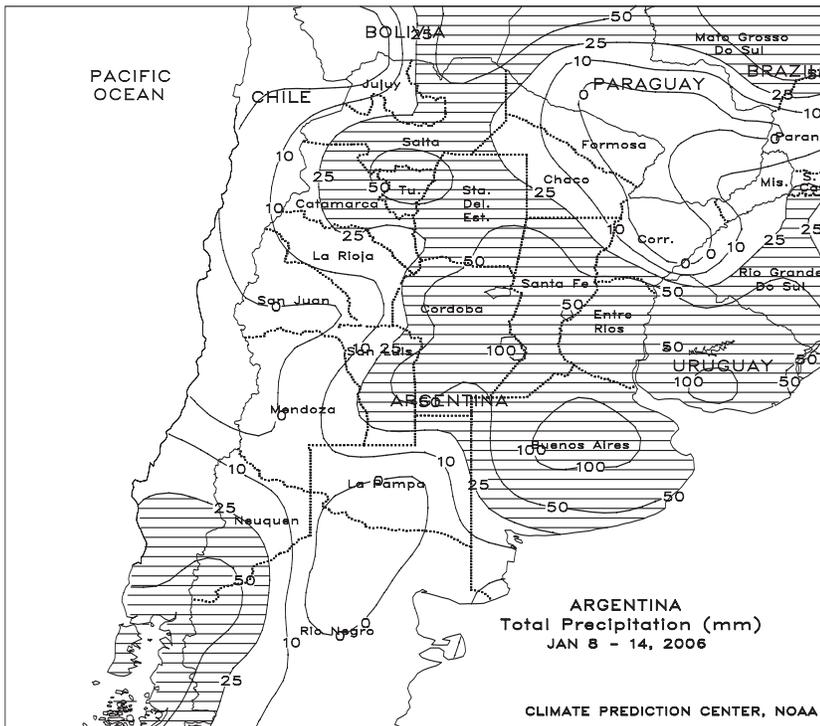
SOUTHEAST ASIA

Monsoon showers (25-100 mm locally more) maintained moisture supplies for vegetative to reproductive rice in Java. Heavy rain (50-200 mm) in Sumatra continued to delay oil palm harvesting, while more seasonable showers in Malaysia eased excessive wetness. Heavy showers (50-100 mm) prevailed along east-central and southeastern parts of the Philippines, while seasonably dry weather continued in Indochina.



BRAZIL

Mostly dry, warmer-than-normal weather (temperatures averaging 2-4 degrees C above normal, with highs in the lower and middle 30s degrees C) returned to major agricultural areas in the south and southeast (Rio Grande do Sul to Minas Gerais), limiting moisture for normal development of soybeans and corn and maintaining high moisture demands of other crops, including citrus and coffee. January and February are critical months for summer crop development, as most soybeans and corn advance through their respective reproductive and filling stages of development. An immediate return to normal weather conditions is vital for the realization of current yield prospects. This is especially true for Parana, Brazil's second largest producer of soybeans, where conditions are worse than this time last year. Elsewhere, beneficial rain (25-100 mm or more) continued in key soybean areas of the center-west (Mato Grosso, Goias, and Mato Grosso do Sul) and much of the northeastern interior, including Tocantins. However, mostly dry weather dominated Bahia and other states along the northeastern coast, maintaining high moisture requirements of cocoa, sugarcane, and coffee.



ARGENTINA

Widespread, locally heavy rain (25-100 mm or more) brought needed relief to summer grains and oilseeds in central Argentina after a week-long heat wave. Highs above 40 degrees C maintained stress on reproductive crops until January 9, with temperatures falling to more seasonable levels by midweek. The heat wave was especially hard on the corn crop, a portion of which advanced through silking when temperatures were at their highest (35 to 42 degrees C). However, soybeans are better suited for recovery as long as rainfall and temperatures continue at seasonable levels. Elsewhere, showers were generally scattered and light (less than 25 mm) in portions of La Pampa and southwestern growing areas of Buenos Aires. Farther north, beneficial rain covered cotton areas of Santiago del Estero and northern Santa Fe but had not yet reached Chaco and Formosa. Temperatures averaged 2 to 5 degrees C above normal in the north, maintaining high moisture requirements for crops and livestock. According to Argentina's Agricultural Secretariat, corn and soybeans were 95 and 92 percent planted, respectively, as of January 12, still slightly behind last season's planting pace for both crops. Cotton planting was also nearing completion at 98 percent. In addition, winter wheat was 91 percent harvested, compared with 100 percent this time last year.

January 12 ENSO Update

Average SST Anomalies 11 DEC – 7 JAN 2006

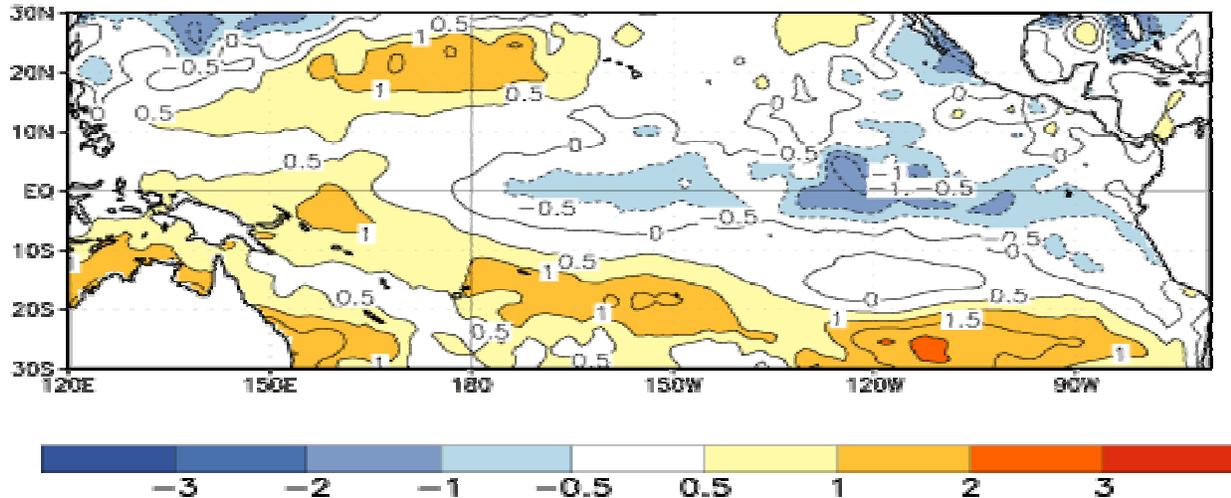


Figure 1. Average Sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies ($^{\circ}\text{C}$) for the four week period 11 December 2005 – 7 January 2006. The SST anomalies are computed with respect to the 1971–2000 base period means (Smith and Reynolds, 1998, *J. Climate*, 11, 3320–3323).

Synopsis: Developing La Niña conditions are expected to continue during the next 3–6 months.

Equatorial SST anomalies greater than $+0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ were restricted to the region between Indonesia and 165°E during December, while negative anomalies less than -0.5°C were observed at most locations between the date line and the South American coast (Fig. 1). By the end of the month the SST departures were negative in all of the Niño regions (Fig. 2). During the last several months surface and subsurface temperature anomalies have decreased in the region between 180°W and the South American coast. During the same period persistent stronger-than-average low-level equatorial easterly winds were observed over the central Pacific. Since early November there has been a persistent pattern of enhanced tropical convection near 130°E (Indonesia) and suppressed convection near the date line (180°W). Collectively, the present oceanic and atmospheric anomalies are consistent with the development of La Niña conditions in the tropical Pacific.

Over the past several months most of the statistical and coupled model forecasts have trended towards

cooler conditions in the tropical Pacific through mid-2006. The spread of the most recent statistical and coupled model forecasts (weak La Niña to ENSO-neutral) indicates some uncertainty in the outlooks. However, current conditions (stronger-than-average easterly winds over the central equatorial Pacific) and recent cooling trends in observed oceanic conditions support the continuation of La Niña conditions in the tropical Pacific during the next 3–6 months.

Based on current conditions in the tropical Pacific, the most recent SST predictions, and on results from historical studies on the effects of cold episodes, we expect wetter-than-normal (drier-than-normal) conditions to prevail over Indonesia (central equatorial Pacific) during the remainder of the NH winter. That pattern of tropical precipitation favors a northward shift in the position of the jet stream over the eastern North Pacific during winter, which is usually accompanied by drier-than-normal conditions over southern California and Arizona. However, given the late onset of La Niña there is

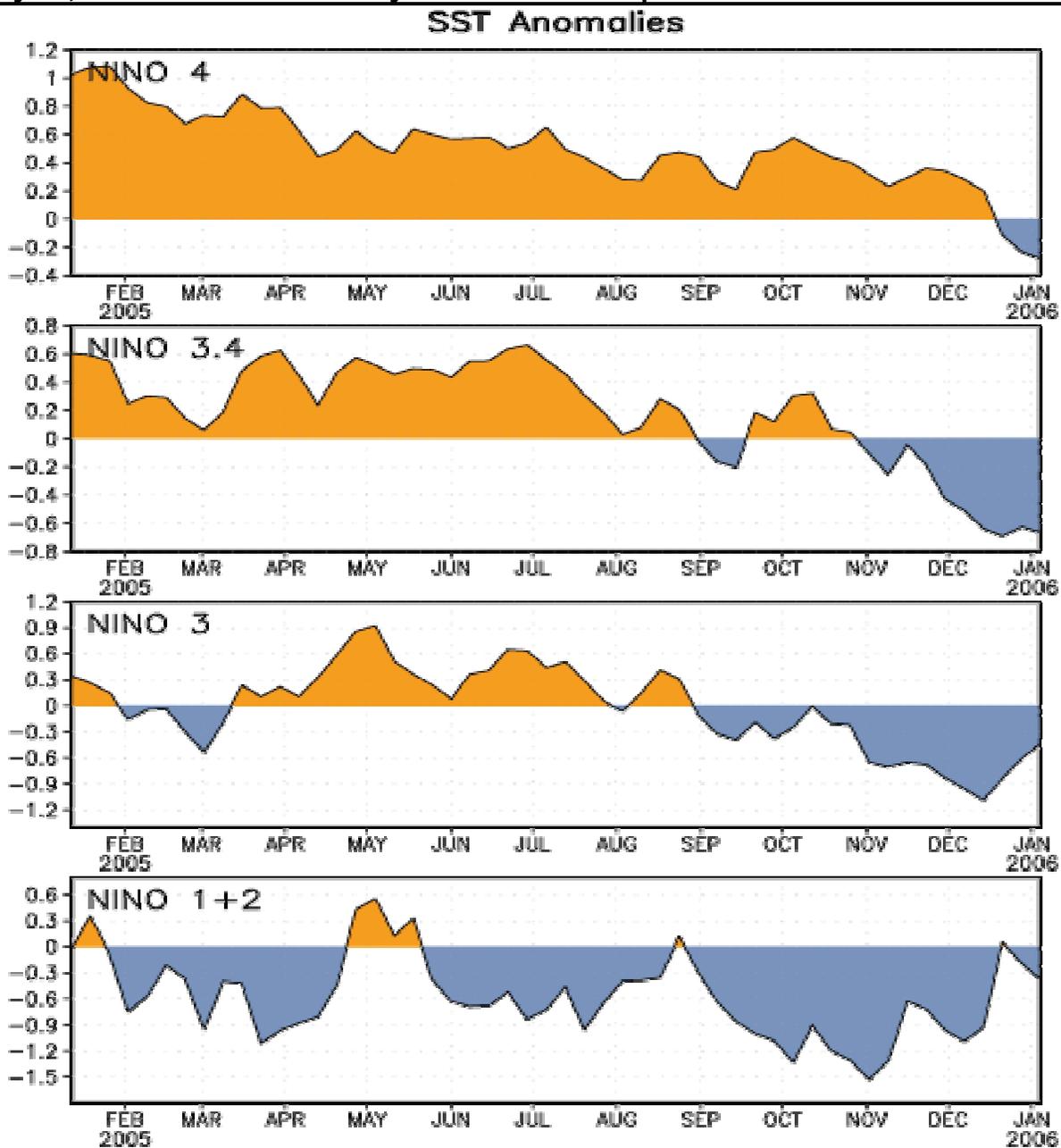


Figure 2. Time series of SST departures (°C) for the Niño regions. The SST departures are computed with respect to the 1971-2000 base period means (Smith and Reynolds, 1998, J. Climate, 11, 3320-3323).

considerable uncertainty as to whether or not typical La Niña impacts will be experienced in the West during the remainder of NH winter.

This discussion is a consolidated effort of NOAA and its funded institutions. Weekly updates for SST, 850-hPa wind, OLR and features of the equatorial subsurface thermal structure are available on the Climate Prediction Center web page at <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov> (Weekly Update).

Forecasts for the evolution of El Niño/La Niña are updated monthly in the Forecast Forum section of CPC's Climate Diagnostics Bulletin. The next ENSO Diagnostics Discussion is scheduled for 9 February 2006. To receive an e-mail notification when the monthly ENSO Diagnostic Discussions are released, please send an e-mail message: ncep.list.enso-update@noaa.gov.

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