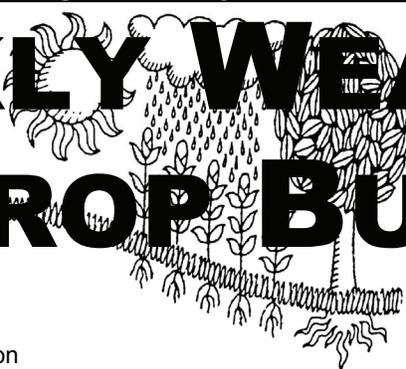
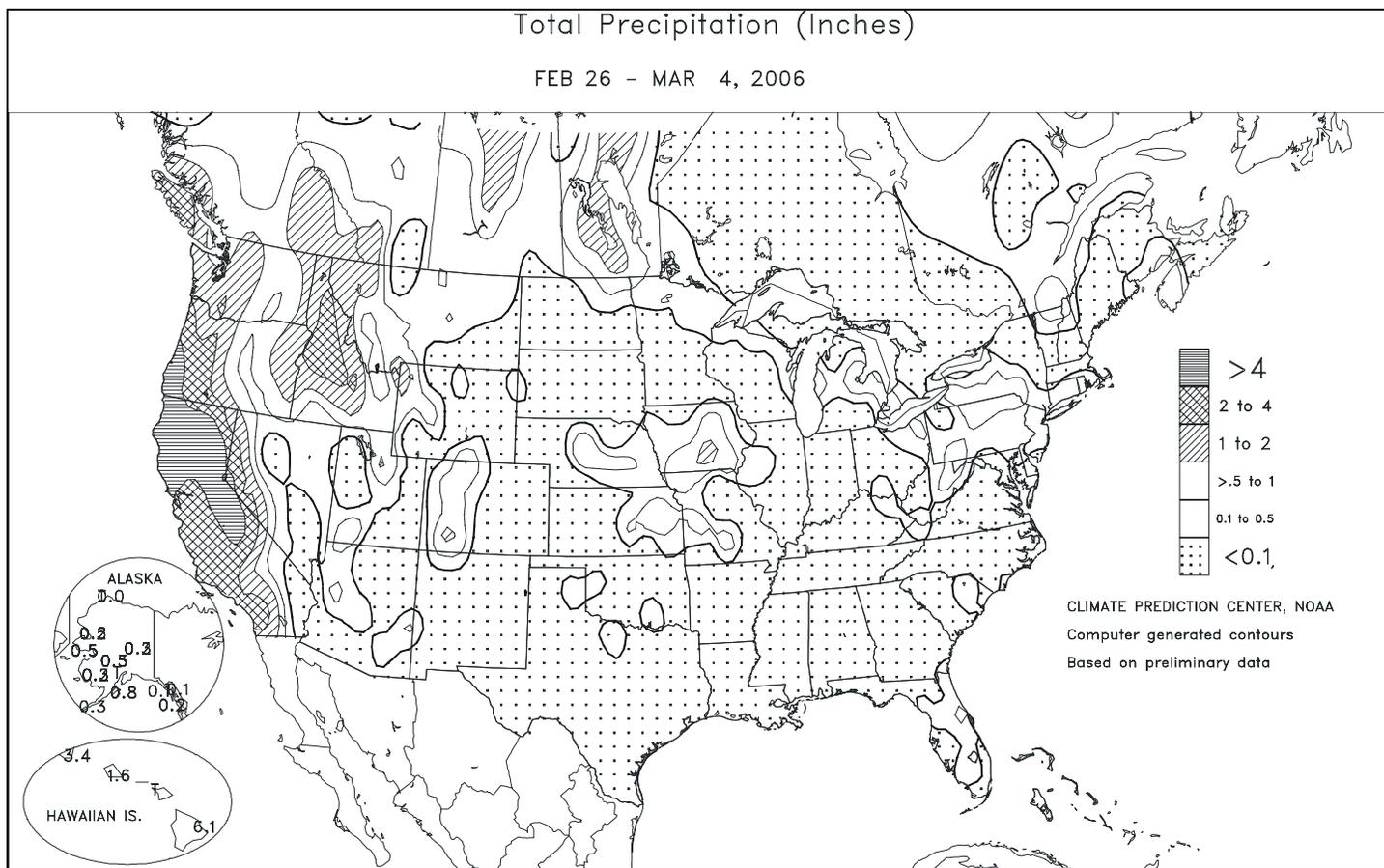


# WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN



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

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



## HIGHLIGHTS

**February 26 - March 4, 2006**

*Highlights provided by USDAWAOB*

**R**ecord warmth returned to the **Plains**, maintaining severe stress on pastures and winter grains in **Oklahoma** and **Texas** and further reducing soil moisture reserves as far north as **South Dakota**. Weekly temperatures averaged at least 10°F above normal on the **central and southern Plains**, where some locations reported highs above 90°F, but averaged as much as 15°F below normal in the **Northeast**. Meanwhile, stormy weather returned to **California** and the **Northwest**, maintaining abundant soil moisture reserves for pastures

*(Continued on page 7)*

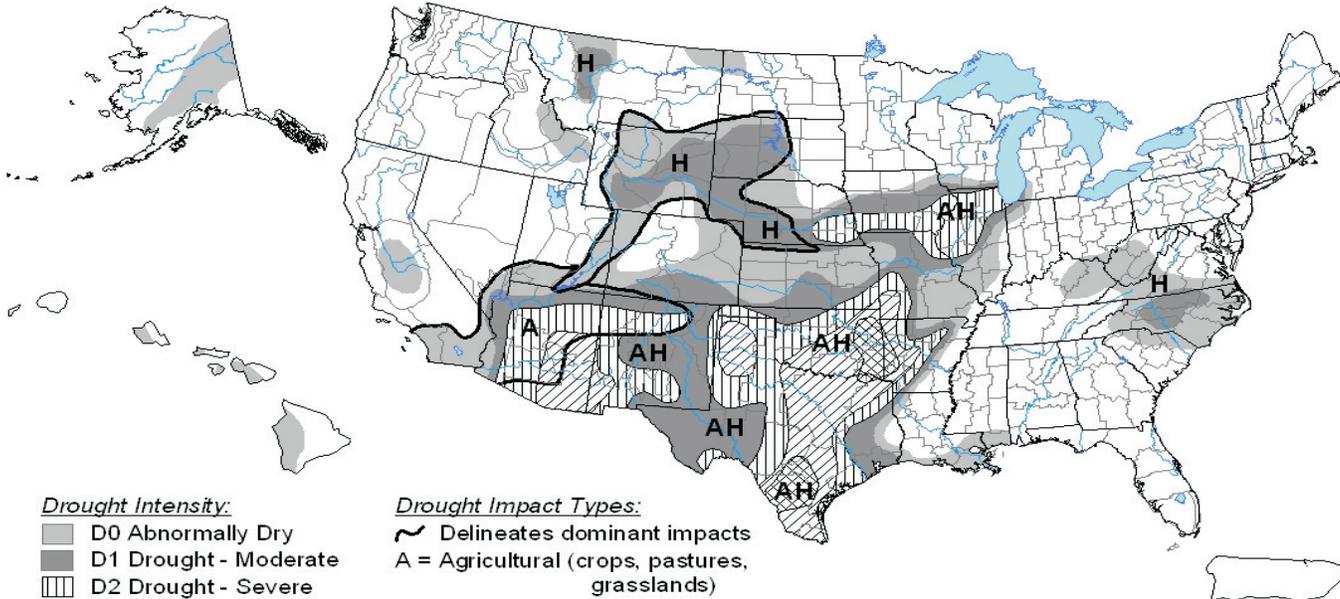
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# U.S. Drought Monitor

## February 28, 2006

Valid 7 a.m. EST



### Drought Intensity:

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

### Drought Impact Types:

- Delineates dominant impacts
- A = Agricultural (crops, pastures, grasslands)
- H = Hydrological (water)

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



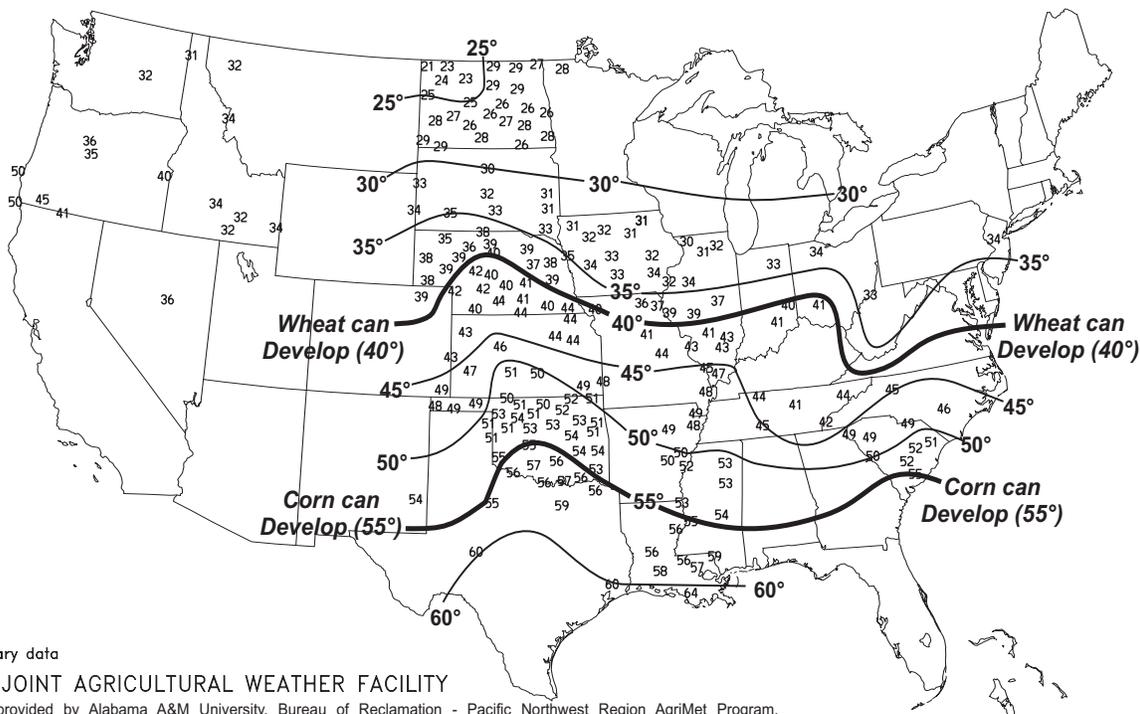
Released Thursday, March 2, 2006

Author: Brian Fuchs, National Drought Mitigation Center

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

## Average Soil Temperature (°F, 4" Bare)

FEB 26 - MAR 4, 2006



Based on preliminary data

NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY

Supplemental data provided by Alabama A&M University, Bureau of Reclamation - Pacific Northwest Region AgriMet Program, High Plains Regional Climate Center, Illinois State Water Survey, Iowa State University, Louisiana Agrilimatic Information System, Mississippi State University, Oklahoma Mesonet, Purdue University, University of Missouri, and USDA/NRCS Soil Climate Analysis Network

National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending March 4, 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 MAR01	PCT. NORMAL SINCE MAR01	TOTAL, IN, SINCE JAN01	PCT. NORMAL SINCE JAN01	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	TEMP. °F		PRECIP	
																		.01 INCH OF MORE	.50 INCH OF MORE	.01 INCH OF MORE	.50 INCH OF MORE
AL BIRMINGHAM	65	40	77	27	53	2	0.00	-1.21	0.00	0.00	0	16.07	155	76	27	0	3	0	0	0	0
HUNTSVILLE	64	36	78	24	50	2	0.00	-1.46	0.00	0.00	0	8.59	76	79	43	0	3	0	0	0	0
MOBILE	71	45	82	32	58	1	0.00	-1.50	0.00	0.00	0	7.84	67	81	35	0	1	0	0	0	0
MONTGOMERY	68	39	78	27	54	0	0.03	-1.46	0.02	0.03	3	10.30	91	78	30	0	1	2	0	0	0
AK ANCHORAGE	20	7	30	1	14	-8	0.02	-0.15	0.02	0.02	22	1.43	95	73	62	0	7	1	0	0	0
BARROW	-13	-27	2	-44	-20	-4	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	100	0.69	288	80	75	0	7	1	0	0	0
FAIRBANKS	9	-17	20	-37	-4	-7	0.24	0.18	0.20	0.01	33	1.07	113	83	81	0	7	4	0	0	0
JUNEAU	33	14	40	7	24	-7	0.01	-0.92	0.01	0.01	2	5.03	54	78	66	0	7	1	0	0	0
KODIAK	33	23	37	17	28	-3	0.81	-0.41	0.41	0.58	84	7.38	51	78	67	0	7	4	0	0	0
NOME	9	-2	19	-17	4	-3	0.48	0.34	0.26	0.48	600	2.53	145	84	72	0	7	4	0	0	0
AZ FLAGSTAFF	53	25	60	19	39	5	0.09	-0.60	0.09	0.00	0	0.34	7	68	22	0	6	1	0	0	0
PHOENIX	79	54	84	51	67	7	0.00	-0.25	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0	35	20	0	0	0	0	0	0
TUCSON	78	47	83	42	63	6	0.00	-0.22	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0	33	18	0	0	0	0	0	0
YUMA	77	54	84	48	65	1	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0	47	28	0	0	0	0	0	0
AR FORT SMITH	71	41	86	29	56	8	0.02	-0.78	0.02	0.02	4	3.75	69	70	25	0	2	1	0	0	0
LITTLE ROCK	68	44	82	33	56	7	0.01	-0.91	0.01	0.01	2	5.78	77	70	29	0	0	1	0	0	0
CA BAKERSFIELD	66	45	79	39	56	0	0.38	0.05	0.24	0.25	132	1.31	51	72	50	0	0	4	0	0	0
FRESNO	62	43	71	33	53	-1	0.58	0.04	0.44	0.45	145	4.44	97	80	64	0	0	5	0	0	0
LOS ANGELES	64	50	72	44	57	-1	1.77	1.07	1.05	0.17	43	3.66	56	82	54	0	0	3	2	0	0
REDDING	55	41	61	34	48	-3	4.00	2.70	2.68	0.89	120	12.59	99	88	75	0	0	6	2	0	0
SACRAMENTO	58	42	63	36	50	-3	1.95	1.18	1.11	0.32	74	4.95	63	94	50	0	0	6	1	0	0
SAN DIEGO	65	52	75	50	59	0	0.82	0.30	0.69	0.05	17	1.55	34	79	50	0	0	3	1	0	0
SAN FRANCISCO	58	46	64	39	52	-1	2.50	1.62	1.15	0.93	186	5.68	63	88	66	0	0	7	2	0	0
STOCKTON	61	43	65	34	52	-1	1.21	0.63	0.47	0.37	112	4.87	89	86	64	0	0	6	0	0	0
CO ALAMOSA	58	17	64	-1	38	10	0.06	-0.01	0.03	0.06	150	0.25	50	55	26	0	7	2	0	0	0
CO SPRINGS	63	30	74	16	46	11	0.00	-0.15	0.00	0.00	0	0.31	43	56	13	0	4	0	0	0	0
DENVER INTL	67	30	77	22	48	13	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.00	0	0.44	79	52	14	0	5	0	0	0	0
GRAND JUNCTION	62	34	68	28	48	9	0.09	-0.09	0.05	0.05	45	0.49	40	47	26	0	3	2	0	0	0
PUEBLO	71	25	79	11	48	10	0.00	-0.13	0.00	0.00	0	0.52	78	57	23	0	7	0	0	0	0
CT BRIDGEPORT	33	19	40	13	26	-9	0.63	-0.17	0.63	0.63	137	7.90	111	63	37	0	7	1	1	0	0
HARTFORD	30	13	36	7	22	-11	0.22	-0.54	0.22	0.22	50	7.76	107	65	37	0	7	1	0	0	0
DC WASHINGTON	45	29	50	21	37	-5	0.03	-0.74	0.03	0.03	7	5.77	92	65	36	0	5	1	0	0	0
DE WILMINGTON	39	24	47	18	32	-6	0.17	-0.65	0.17	0.17	35	5.64	84	73	36	0	7	1	0	0	0
FL DAYTONA BEACH	73	49	83	44	61	-1	0.72	-0.05	0.72	0.00	0	5.44	86	89	39	0	0	1	1	0	0
JACKSONVILLE	73	43	82	36	58	-1	0.49	-0.31	0.49	0.00	0	6.22	85	94	34	0	0	1	0	0	0
KEY WEST	78	65	81	63	71	-1	0.17	-0.17	0.17	0.00	0	0.94	24	79	54	0	0	1	0	0	0
MIAMI	79	60	84	57	69	-2	0.09	-0.38	0.09	0.00	0	3.79	90	82	50	0	0	1	0	0	0
ORLANDO	77	51	85	45	64	-1	0.55	-0.15	0.55	0.00	0	3.21	62	94	46	0	0	1	1	0	0
PENSACOLA	71	48	82	37	60	2	0.00	-1.34	0.00	0.00	0	6.78	63	79	33	0	0	0	0	0	0
TALLAHASSEE	75	44	83	32	60	2	0.00	-1.38	0.00	0.00	0	9.74	90	87	34	0	1	0	0	0	0
TAMPA	74	53	79	46	63	-2	0.40	-0.29	0.40	0.00	0	9.81	184	87	45	0	0	1	0	0	0
WEST PALM BEACH	78	58	84	51	68	-1	0.02	-0.59	0.02	0.00	0	4.41	66	87	48	0	0	1	0	0	0
GA ATHENS	65	42	76	28	53	3	0.00	-1.15	0.00	0.00	0	8.66	89	66	44	0	1	0	0	0	0
ATLANTA	61	39	71	28	50	-1	0.00	-1.24	0.00	0.00	0	10.80	104	65	45	0	3	0	0	0	0
AUGUSTA	67	37	78	25	52	0	0.07	-0.98	0.07	0.00	0	6.47	70	79	34	0	3	1	0	0	0
COLUMBUS	67	40	76	30	54	0	0.00	-1.27	0.00	0.00	0	7.53	75	78	27	0	1	0	0	0	0
MACON	68	38	77	25	53	1	0.01	-1.13	0.01	0.00	0	6.52	64	81	30	0	2	1	0	0	0
SAVANNAH	69	40	77	30	55	-1	0.05	-0.65	0.05	0.00	0	6.88	95	83	43	0	1	1	0	0	0
HI HILO	74	66	78	64	70	-2	6.10	3.49	1.76	3.89	253	23.58	117	92	79	0	0	7	5	0	0
HONOLULU	78	69	81	68	74	0	1.62	1.09	0.59	1.21	403	5.20	97	85	75	0	0	6	1	0	0
KAHULUI	82	67	88	63	75	3	0.03	-0.47	0.03	0.00	0	1.45	23	81	68	0	0	1	0	0	0
LIHUE	76	69	79	67	72	0	3.40	2.60	2.47	3.10	674	13.60	164	88	78	0	0	7	1	0	0
ID BOISE	54	36	61	32	45	4	0.42	0.14	0.22	0.20	118	2.50	93	77	48	0	2	3	0	0	0
LEWISTON	54	37	59	32	46	4	0.20	-0.02	0.09	0.00	0	1.45	65	80	60	0	1	3	0	0	0
POCATELLO	51	26	57	20	39	5	0.58	0.29	0.47	0.10	59	2.15	93	81	56	0	6	3	0	0	0
IL CHICAGO/O'HARE	38	24	41	16	31	-1	0.00	-0.43	0.00	0.00	0	4.62	127	70	41	0	7	0	0	0	0
MOLINE	45	24	54	11	34	1	0.00	-0.47	0.00	0.00	0	3.81	113	75	42	0	6	0	0	0	0
PEORIA	49	26	61	14	37	3	0.00	-0.52	0.00	0.00	0	3.96	114	74	37	0	6	0	0	0	0
ROCKFORD	40	21	47	10	30	0	0.00	-0.36	0.00	0.00	0	3.68	124	73	44	0	7	0	0	0	0
SPRINGFIELD	53	26	69	11	40	4	0.00	-0.59	0.00	0.00	0	2.90	77	73	44	0	5	0	0	0	0
IN EVANSVILLE	57	32	74	22	45	4	0.01	-0.87	0.01	0.00	0	6.33	97	74	45	0	4	1	0	0	0
FORT WAYNE	39	23	43	16	31	-1	0.01	-0.51	0.01	0.01	3	4.68	109	76	45	0	7	1	0	0	0
INDIANAPOLIS	48	27	56	15	37	1	0.00	-0.69	0.00	0.00	0	5.07	96	75	42	0	5	0	0	0	0
SOUTH BEND	37	23	42	15	30	-2	0.01	-0.50	0.01	0.01	3	3.83	84	71	50	0	7	1	0	0	0
IA BURLINGTON	50	27	66	13	39	5	0.00	-0.52	0.00	0.00	0	3.02	96	73	35	0	5	0	0	0	0
CEDAR RAPIDS	43	20	53	6	32	1	0.00	-0.33	0.00	0.00	0	1.80	77	84	40	0	7	0	0	0	0
DES MOINES	48	27	62	14	38	6	0.25	-0.08	0.25	0.25	125	1.25	52	73	47	0	6	1	0	0	0
DUBUQUE	38	20	44	3	29	0	0.00	-0.42	0.00	0.00	0	1.67	57	75	53	0	7	0	0	0	0
SIOUX CITY	52	23	65	12	38	7	0.00	-0.28	0.00	0.00	0	0.69	50	78	51	0	6	0	0	0	0
WATERLOO	44	20	53	5	32	3	0.01	-0.31	0.01	0.01	5	0.97	47	80	44	0	7	1	0	0	0
KS CONCORDIA	64	30	80	14	47	10	0.08	-0.31	0.04	0.08	33	0.18	11	73	33	0	4	2	0	0	0

Weather Data for the Week Ending March 4, 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 MAR01	PCT. NORMAL SINCE MAR01	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	67	36	83	24	52	11	0.16	-0.31	0.08	0.16	57	0.27	13	71	32	0	3	2	0
JACKSON	55	35	73	24	45	3	0.01	-1.01	0.01	0.01	2	8.00	102	64	29	0	4	1	0
LEXINGTON	54	31	71	19	42	1	0.00	-0.97	0.00	0.00	0	8.03	112	69	42	0	4	0	0
LOUISVILLE	57	34	74	22	45	3	0.00	-0.96	0.00	0.00	0	6.42	91	66	34	0	3	0	0
PADUCAH	60	34	77	24	47	4	0.00	-0.96	0.00	0.00	0	9.08	114	78	33	0	4	0	0
LA BATON ROUGE	74	45	80	33	60	3	0.00	-1.11	0.00	0.00	0	6.45	54	85	32	0	0	0	0
LAKE CHARLES	72	48	78	38	60	2	0.00	-0.71	0.00	0.00	0	4.66	51	88	42	0	0	0	0
NEW ORLEANS	73	51	81	43	62	3	0.00	-1.17	0.00	0.00	0	6.11	51	76	43	0	0	0	0
SHREVEPORT	73	46	82	33	60	5	0.00	-0.98	0.00	0.00	0	10.28	110	74	33	0	0	0	0
ME CARIBOU	15	-1	31	-13	7	-11	0.12	-0.40	0.04	0.06	20	5.99	112	81	56	0	7	5	0
PORTLAND	27	10	39	1	19	-10	0.01	-0.79	0.01	0.00	0	6.11	79	61	35	0	7	1	0
MD BALTIMORE	43	27	52	17	35	-4	0.16	-0.70	0.16	0.16	32	6.28	90	64	36	0	6	1	0
MA BOSTON	30	17	40	7	23	-12	0.01	-0.79	0.01	0.00	0	6.26	82	58	31	0	7	1	0
WORCESTER	25	11	34	2	18	-12	0.00	-0.83	0.00	0.00	0	8.12	106	71	34	0	7	0	0
MI ALPENA	27	4	38	-4	16	-7	0.01	-0.37	0.01	0.00	0	4.24	127	86	50	0	7	1	0
GRAND RAPIDS	32	18	37	14	25	-4	0.18	-0.22	0.11	0.14	61	6.81	180	78	50	0	7	4	0
HOUGHTON LAKE	28	5	35	-2	16	-8	0.19	-0.15	0.18	0.19	95	4.13	135	81	56	0	7	2	0
LANSING	31	16	36	8	23	-6	0.22	-0.14	0.13	0.15	71	6.05	185	81	57	0	7	4	0
MUSKEGON	32	19	36	11	26	-3	0.12	-0.27	0.10	0.11	48	5.86	145	79	57	0	7	3	0
TRAVERSE CITY	27	15	33	2	21	-5	0.04	-0.28	0.02	0.04	22	3.25	66	81	52	0	7	2	0
MN DULUTH	27	9	31	-8	18	-2	0.25	0.02	0.17	0.24	171	2.24	107	84	57	0	7	3	0
INT'L FALLS	25	1	33	-20	13	-4	0.01	-0.13	0.01	0.00	0	1.54	99	73	47	0	7	1	0
MINNEAPOLIS	38	23	44	11	30	4	0.00	-0.25	0.00	0.00	0	1.02	52	72	49	0	7	0	0
ROCHESTER	38	21	43	6	29	5	0.03	-0.20	0.02	0.03	21	0.78	43	81	59	0	7	2	0
ST. CLOUD	34	15	38	-4	24	2	0.20	0.03	0.10	0.20	200	0.92	63	77	55	0	7	2	0
MS JACKSON	69	41	80	29	55	2	0.00	-1.13	0.00	0.00	0	15.28	141	82	32	0	1	0	0
MERIDIAN	71	43	81	36	57	3	0.01	-1.25	0.01	0.01	1	12.90	106	78	51	0	0	1	0
TUPELO	67	40	79	28	53	4	0.00	-1.38	0.00	0.00	0	12.31	116	79	37	0	3	0	0
MO COLUMBIA	59	31	77	19	45	6	0.00	-0.63	0.00	0.00	0	2.10	49	70	36	0	5	0	0
KANSAS CITY	61	34	78	23	48	9	0.33	-0.13	0.27	0.33	122	1.49	55	68	33	0	3	2	0
SAINT LOUIS	59	32	76	20	45	4	0.00	-0.69	0.00	0.00	0	2.10	43	65	46	0	4	0	0
SPRINGFIELD	63	36	83	19	49	7	0.04	-0.63	0.04	0.04	10	1.99	42	67	39	0	2	1	0
MT BILLINGS	51	25	69	13	38	4	0.02	-0.15	0.01	0.01	10	0.30	20	76	38	0	5	2	0
BUTTE	45	23	51	12	34	8	0.06	-0.08	0.06	0.00	0	0.63	58	78	40	0	7	1	0
CUT BANK	34	11	52	4	22	-5	0.06	-0.02	0.06	0.00	0	0.30	42	90	66	0	7	1	0
GLASGOW	28	11	38	2	20	-5	0.72	0.65	0.65	0.07	140	1.37	208	88	76	0	7	2	1
GREAT FALLS	41	18	63	9	30	0	0.29	0.13	0.15	0.14	156	1.35	105	89	51	0	6	3	0
HAVRE	24	7	36	-4	15	-13	0.20	0.08	0.10	0.10	143	0.79	88	85	76	0	7	3	0
MISSOULA	49	28	60	22	38	5	0.62	0.43	0.39	0.56	509	2.23	115	87	64	0	6	4	0
NE GRAND ISLAND	62	28	79	17	45	12	0.10	-0.21	0.10	0.10	53	0.40	28	72	39	0	5	1	0
LINCOLN	59	24	76	9	42	9	0.08	-0.24	0.04	0.08	40	1.06	69	76	44	0	5	2	0
NORFOLK	57	26	69	15	42	10	0.00	-0.30	0.00	0.00	0	0.57	38	72	41	0	5	0	0
NORTH PLATTE	65	23	76	12	44	10	0.00	-0.20	0.00	0.00	0	0.38	37	77	22	0	5	0	0
OMAHA	56	27	75	15	42	9	0.06	-0.26	0.04	0.06	30	0.80	45	70	50	0	5	2	0
SCOTTSBLUFF	64	24	74	16	44	10	0.00	-0.18	0.00	0.00	0	1.13	92	73	32	0	6	0	0
VALENTINE	59	23	76	14	41	10	0.00	-0.18	0.00	0.00	0	0.43	48	81	40	0	6	0	0
NV ELY	48	21	54	5	35	2	0.37	0.15	0.26	0.09	69	1.78	110	73	49	0	6	3	0
LAS VEGAS	68	48	75	43	58	3	0.04	-0.13	0.04	0.00	0	0.09	7	37	23	0	0	1	0
RENO	51	33	64	24	42	1	0.91	0.67	0.52	0.18	129	2.91	129	76	47	0	3	5	1
WINNEMUCCA	52	26	62	16	39	0	0.15	-0.01	0.06	0.06	67	2.16	140	65	42	0	6	3	0
NH CONCORD	25	7	34	0	16	-12	0.00	-0.60	0.00	0.00	0	5.93	104	69	36	0	7	0	0
NJ NEWARK	36	23	44	17	29	-9	0.49	-0.33	0.49	0.49	102	7.99	108	58	34	0	7	1	0
NM ALBUQUERQUE	67	40	73	32	54	9	0.01	-0.10	0.01	0.01	17	0.05	5	56	19	0	1	1	0
NY ALBANY	26	11	34	3	19	-11	0.00	-0.58	0.00	0.00	0	5.73	115	70	40	0	7	0	0
BINGHAMTON	22	11	28	1	16	-12	0.41	-0.20	0.33	0.36	103	4.92	91	86	57	0	7	6	0
BUFFALO	27	15	35	10	21	-9	0.29	-0.30	0.22	0.23	68	6.37	108	82	57	0	7	4	0
ROCHESTER	28	15	37	5	21	-8	0.04	-0.46	0.03	0.00	0	3.80	81	75	56	0	7	2	0
SYRACUSE	24	11	31	-1	18	-10	0.30	-0.25	0.14	0.06	19	4.79	95	82	56	0	7	6	0
NC ASHEVILLE	60	31	76	18	46	4	0.00	-1.01	0.00	0.00	0	6.16	73	69	36	0	5	0	0
CHARLOTTE	64	36	77	19	50	1	0.00	-0.98	0.00	0.00	0	4.41	54	63	28	0	4	0	0
GREENSBORO	62	36	77	20	49	4	0.00	-0.83	0.00	0.00	0	3.93	55	60	26	0	3	0	0
HATTERAS	53	39	63	31	46	-3	0.02	-1.01	0.02	0.00	0	6.37	61	75	50	0	2	1	0
RALEIGH	64	35	79	20	49	3	0.00	-0.93	0.00	0.00	0	3.72	46	59	31	0	3	0	0
WILMINGTON	63	39	79	24	51	0	0.55	-0.41	0.55	0.00	0	5.24	60	78	29	0	3	1	1
ND BISMARCK	32	12	44	4	22	-2	0.09	-0.05	0.09	0.09	113	0.47	45	89	75	0	7	1	0
DICKINSON	40	14	59	7	27	1	0.01	-0.05	0.01	0.01	33	0.27	33	93	50	0	7	1	0
FARGO	27	15	36	4	21	0	0.02	-0.16	0.01	0.02	18	0.98	67	82	65	0	7	2	0
GRAND FORKS	23	10	34	-11	17	-2	0.14	0.00	0.13	0.14	175	1.46	109	88	67	0	7	2	0
JAMESTOWN	28	15	34	2	22	0	0.06	-0.08	0.06	0.06	75	0.28	23	86	66	0	7	1	0
WILLISTON	29	8	42	-2	19	-4	0.09	-0.02	0.06	0.06	100	0.54	55	86	74	0	7	2	0
OH AKRON-CANTON	31	18	38	10	24	-9	0.38	-0.26	0.22	0.13	35	5.51	107	81	64	0	7	4	0
CINCINNATI	49	28	62	19	39	0	0.00	-0.78	0.00	0.00	0	5.47	89	64	40	0	5	0	0
CLEVELAND	31	21	34	10	26	-7	0.43	-0.15	0.25	0.25	76	4.99	98	78	57	0	7	2	0
COLUMBUS	40	25	50	17	33	-4	0.01	-0.56	0.01	0.00	0	4.04	80	69	42	0	7	1	0
DAYTON	43	23	53	14	33	-2	0.00	-0.60	0.00	0.00	0	4.47	85	77	38	0	7	0	0
MANSFIELD	33	19	41	14	26	-6	0.15	-0.43	0.10	0.10	29	4.70	91	83	54	0	7	2	0

Based on 1971-2000 normals

\*\*\* Not Available

Weather Data for the Week Ending March 4, 2006

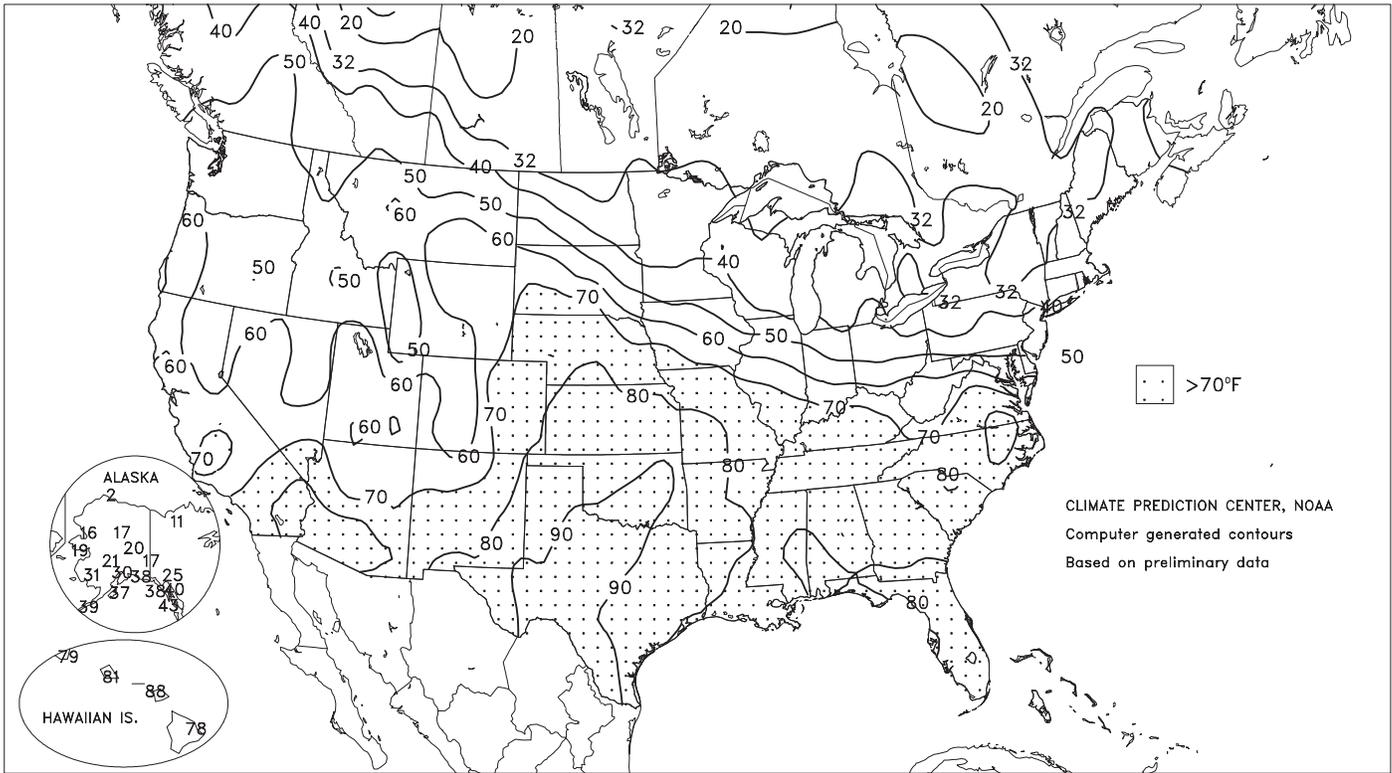
STATES AND STATIONS	TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS					
	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL IN. SINCE MAR01	PCT. NORMAL SINCE MAR01	TOTAL IN. SINCE JAN01	PCT. NORMAL SINCE JAN01	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	TEMP. °F		PRECIP	
																		01 INCH OR MORE	50 INCH OR MORE		
OK	34	20	40	16	27	-5	0.04	-0.43	0.04	0.04	15	4.67	114	72	47	0	7	1	0		
OK	30	15	37	9	23	-9	0.64	0.08	0.38	0.39	118	5.09	108	85	62	0	7	4	0		
OK	73	44	92	27	58	11	0.01	-0.58	0.01	0.01	3	0.36	11	68	24	1	1	1	0		
OR	71	43	93	25	57	10	0.05	-0.64	0.05	0.05	12	1.12	28	63	35	1	2	1	0		
OR	53	37	57	31	45	0	0.96	-0.83	0.46	0.26	25	28.53	154	91	67	0	1	7	0		
OR	43	28	48	23	35	1	0.41	0.11	0.19	0.15	88	2.70	110	85	69	0	6	3	0		
OR	53	37	61	30	45	0	2.04	0.60	1.15	0.23	28	16.00	108	94	74	0	1	6	2		
OR	55	37	67	31	46	0	1.24	0.77	0.63	0.18	67	7.84	162	88	44	0	2	5	1		
OR	54	32	60	27	43	1	0.15	-0.13	0.12	0.00	0	2.57	91	73	56	0	3	2	0		
OR	53	38	58	31	45	0	1.01	0.08	0.66	0.04	8	13.19	135	84	66	0	1	6	1		
OR	54	37	62	29	46	1	1.10	-0.01	0.54	0.13	21	15.65	135	90	65	0	1	5	1		
PA	35	18	43	12	27	-7	0.35	-0.37	0.34	0.34	81	7.40	111	64	39	0	7	2	0		
PA	28	21	30	19	24	-8	0.23	-0.36	0.17	0.17	49	4.28	83	75	59	0	7	2	0		
PA	37	25	47	20	31	-5	0.20	-0.54	0.18	0.18	42	6.79	110	71	36	0	7	2	0		
PA	38	25	46	18	31	-8	0.19	-0.57	0.19	0.19	43	5.82	87	53	36	0	7	1	0		
PA	33	18	41	12	25	-10	0.24	-0.40	0.17	0.17	46	5.23	96	85	54	0	7	2	0		
PA	29	17	38	12	23	-10	0.45	-0.05	0.44	0.44	152	5.93	123	77	42	0	7	2	0		
PA	34	19	43	12	26	-7	0.50	-0.13	0.49	0.49	136	7.62	131	74	49	0	7	2	0		
RI	31	16	38	11	24	-10	0.33	-0.54	0.33	0.33	66	8.24	99	58	35	0	7	1	0		
SC	67	41	77	30	54	0	0.11	-0.60	0.11	0.00	0	4.42	58	87	32	0	1	1	0		
SC	67	41	80	28	54	0	0.32	-0.49	0.32	0.00	0	6.24	82	80	30	0	2	1	0		
SC	65	38	79	23	52	1	0.04	-0.94	0.04	0.00	0	6.13	68	70	29	0	3	1	0		
SD	64	39	77	26	51	3	0.00	-1.22	0.00	0.00	0	5.06	54	58	24	0	3	0	0		
SD	37	18	47	10	27	2	0.02	-0.16	0.01	0.01	9	0.62	58	86	66	0	7	2	0		
SD	45	21	52	11	33	6	0.00	-0.23	0.00	0.00	0	0.43	36	89	49	0	7	0	0		
SD	60	25	73	15	42	11	0.00	-0.15	0.00	0.00	0	0.38	41	74	29	0	7	0	0		
SD	46	23	55	14	35	8	0.00	-0.22	0.00	0.00	0	0.91	79	81	53	0	6	0	0		
TN	55	31	71	16	43	1	0.01	-0.90	0.01	0.01	2	5.91	79	77	29	0	4	1	0		
TN	63	37	77	24	50	3	0.00	-1.34	0.00	0.00	0	7.26	66	73	41	0	3	0	0		
TN	60	35	74	21	47	2	0.00	-1.13	0.00	0.00	0	6.56	71	72	32	0	3	0	0		
TN	64	43	77	31	54	5	0.00	-1.17	0.00	0.00	0	10.83	117	69	34	0	2	0	0		
TX	61	36	74	23	48	2	0.00	-1.07	0.00	0.00	0	9.27	112	66	30	0	3	0	0		
TX	77	50	95	32	63	10	0.00	-0.30	0.00	0.00	0	1.70	75	61	35	1	1	0	0		
TX	69	35	83	19	52	8	0.24	0.06	0.22	0.24	218	0.35	27	68	24	0	3	2	0		
TX	80	46	88	34	63	5	0.01	-0.54	0.01	0.01	3	2.90	69	81	48	0	0	1	0		
TX	75	50	81	38	63	4	0.00	-0.74	0.00	0.00	0	3.69	39	90	39	0	0	0	0		
TX	81	58	85	50	69	3	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.00	0	0.85	32	92	51	0	0	0	0		
TX	80	55	86	47	67	4	0.00	-0.43	0.00	0.00	0	0.33	9	92	60	0	0	0	0		
TX	81	55	91	45	68	8	0.00	-0.22	0.00	0.00	0	0.29	17	77	51	2	0	0	0		
TX	78	49	83	41	63	9	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.00	0	0.31	35	57	17	0	0	0	0		
TX	76	50	93	36	63	9	0.00	-0.74	0.00	0.00	0	6.12	130	70	30	1	0	0	0		
TX	72	57	76	49	64	3	0.00	-0.56	0.00	0.00	0	1.24	18	90	54	0	0	0	0		
TX	76	51	82	39	64	5	0.00	-0.72	0.00	0.00	0	3.96	56	90	53	0	0	0	0		
TX	74	40	89	25	57	10	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.00	0	0.17	13	64	36	0	1	0	0		
TX	74	47	89	34	61	9	0.00	-0.13	0.00	0.00	0	1.00	85	67	44	0	0	0	0		
TX	78	49	95	37	64	11	0.00	-0.27	0.00	0.00	0	0.86	40	66	39	1	0	0	0		
TX	81	52	88	44	67	9	0.00	-0.44	0.00	0.00	0	0.98	27	90	37	0	0	0	0		
TX	79	49	86	39	64	4	0.01	-0.49	0.01	0.01	4	2.13	45	96	56	0	0	1	0		
TX	76	50	86	40	63	8	0.00	-0.65	0.00	0.00	0	3.87	82	79	48	0	0	0	0		
TX	78	47	98	28	62	12	0.00	-0.48	0.00	0.00	0	0.81	27	64	29	1	1	0	0		
UT	60	35	67	30	48	9	0.14	-0.24	0.14	0.00	0	2.56	88	70	21	0	3	1	0		
VT	22	9	31	-4	15	-10	0.24	-0.17	0.12	0.24	100	5.41	131	75	40	0	7	2	0		
VA	57	28	76	21	42	1	0.00	-0.83	0.00	0.00	0	5.22	73	56	29	0	5	0	0		
VA	52	34	78	25	43	-2	0.06	-0.82	0.06	0.06	12	3.39	44	69	31	0	3	1	0		
VA	54	30	78	16	42	-1	0.00	-0.87	0.00	0.00	0	4.37	62	66	30	0	3	0	0		
VA	56	34	76	25	45	2	0.00	-0.82	0.00	0.00	0	5.13	76	52	33	0	4	0	0		
WA	45	26	53	15	35	-4	0.01	-0.75	0.01	0.01	2	4.53	72	66	37	0	6	1	0		
WA	53	34	59	26	43	1	0.83	-0.50	0.40	0.10	13	19.46	135	92	67	0	3	5	0		
WA	50	36	52	30	43	0	1.23	-1.62	0.59	0.46	29	28.22	102	89	75	0	1	6	1		
WA	52	38	58	34	45	0	0.85	-0.07	0.47	0.03	6	14.39	146	92	68	0	0	5	0		
WA	46	31	50	26	38	2	0.92	0.56	0.42	0.00	0	5.89	167	95	70	0	5	3	0		
WA	51	28	55	23	40	1	0.95	0.78	0.56	0.00	0	2.84	138	80	60	0	7	2	1		
WV	46	27	66	18	37	-1	0.01	-0.79	0.01	0.01	2	3.79	57	75	53	0	4	1	0		
WV	49	29	70	21	39	-2	0.02	-0.85	0.02	0.02	4	5.06	73	67	31	0	4	1	0		
WV	42	26	63	20	34	-1	0.26	-0.61	0.18	0.19	38	4.52	63	79	41	0	6	3	0		
WV	51	29	69	18	40	-1	0.03	-0.84	0.03	0.03	6	4.77	70	71	30	0	4	1	0		
WI	36	16	40	-1	26	1	0.02	-0.21	0.02	0.00	0	1.47	74	80	38	0	7	1	0		
WI	29	9	35	-3	19	-7	0.16	-0.14	0.09	0.16	89	3.04	127	83	53	0	7	2	0		
WI	39	20	42	4	29	0	0.00	-0.24	0.00	0.00	0	1.17	50	78	43	0	7	0	0		
WI	33	14	38	-1	23	-5	0.07	-0.27	0.05	0.07	35	2.85	104	81	58	0	7	2	0		
WI	33	21	36	13	27	-3	0.06	-0.33	0.05	0.06	26	3.89	104	75	55	0	7	2	0		
WY	54	28	61	18	41	10	0.00	-0.18	0.00	0.00	0	1.70	128	60	35	0	5	0	0		
WY	58	28	66	21	43	11	0.01	-0.15	0.01	0.01	10	0.31	31	53	28	0	5	1	0		
WY	51	26	57	17	38	7	0.06	-0.12	0.06	0.00	0	1.29	110	67	48	0	6	1	0		
WY	55	27	68	20	41	10	0.00	-0.12	0.00	0.00	0	0.46	32	72	59	0	4	0	0		

Based on 1971-2000 normals

\*\*\* Not Available

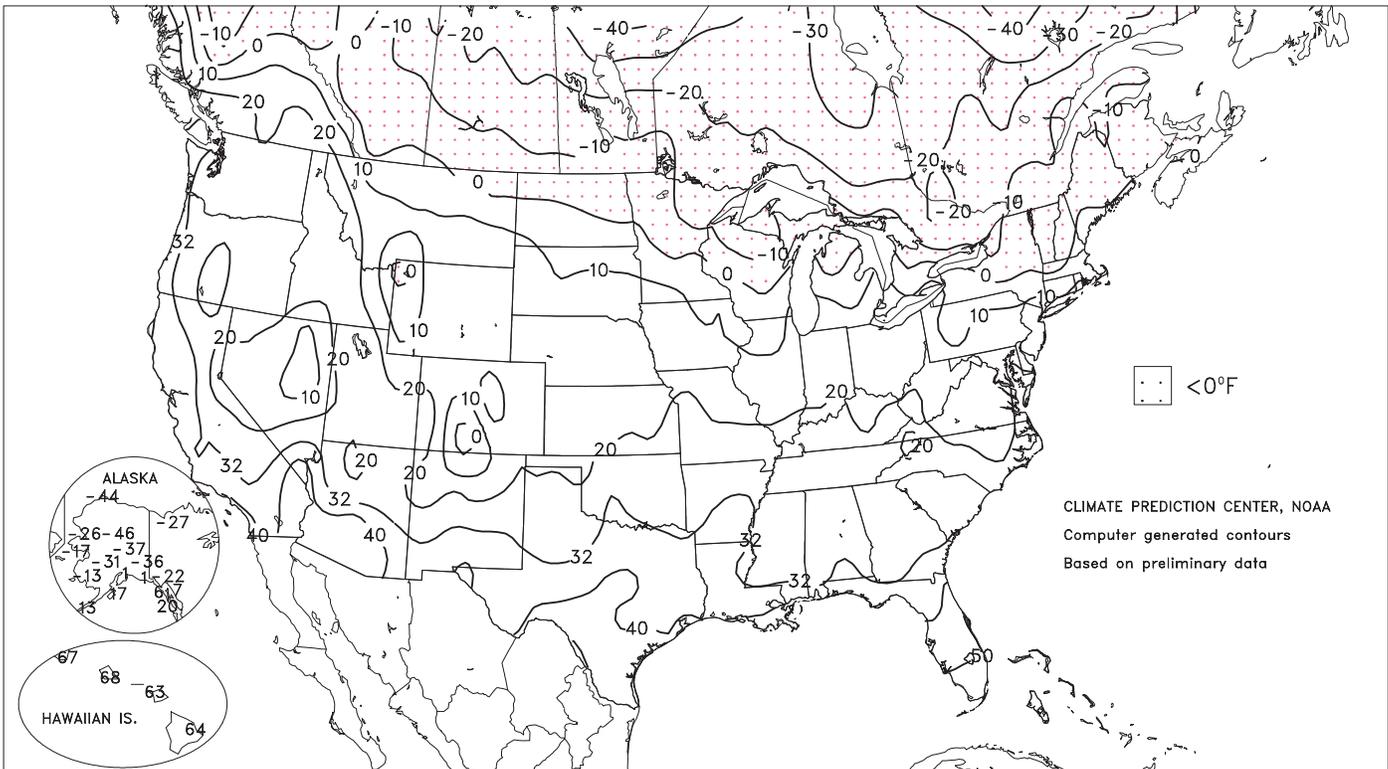
Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F)

FEB 26 - MAR 4, 2006



Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)

FEB 26 - MAR 4, 2006



(Continued from front cover)

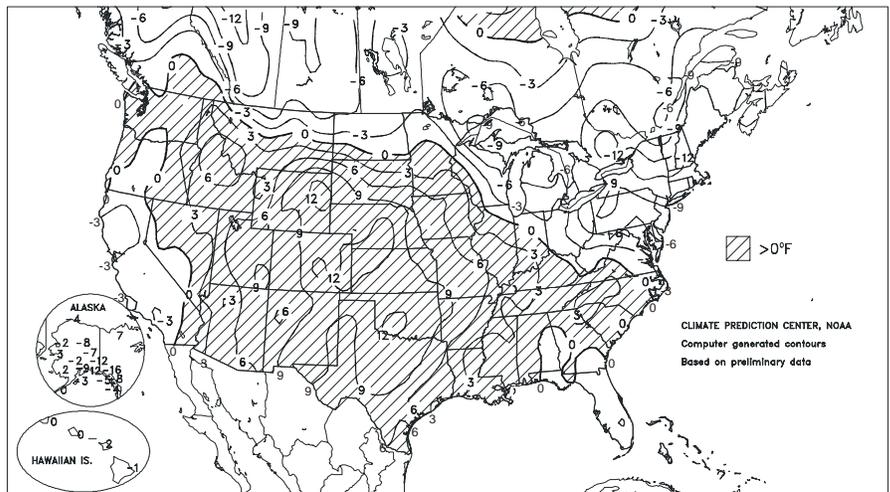
and winter grains. However, heavy rain caused local flooding in **northern and central California**, including some areas previously affected by the New Year's flood. In contrast, little or no precipitation fell in **Arizona** and **New Mexico**, resulting in further deterioration of pastures and rangeland. Similarly, the **southern Plains'** pastures and winter grains were in desperate need of rain, while crop stress became more apparent elsewhere across the **Nation's mid-section** due to warm, dry, windy weather and diminishing moisture reserves. Among the **Plains'** winter wheat areas, only **Montana** remained cool and retained some protective snow. Farther east, **Midwestern** conditions varied, ranging from warm (as much as 10°F above normal) in the **middle Missouri Valley** to cold (as much as 10°F below normal) in the **Great Lakes region**, where frozen precipitation (snow, sleet, and freezing rain) increased livestock stress and caused travel disruptions. Elsewhere, mild, dry weather across the **South** promoted spring fieldwork and the development of winter grains and fruit trees, but left those crops vulnerable to potential spring cold outbreaks.

In late February, record warmth developed from the **Plains westward**. **Alliance, NE** (75°F), posted a daily-record high on February 28, just 1 week after its last of five consecutive daily-record lows (-30, -36, -16, -16, and -9°F from February 17-21). More than 100 daily-record highs were established from February 27 - March 1, and several monthly records were tied on the last day of February. **Denver, CO** (77°F), tied a record originally set on February 4, 1890, while **Lubbock, TX** (89°F), matched a reading attained on February 24, 1918. In **Kansas**, monthly record-tying temperatures on February 28 included 86°F in **Hill City** (previously set on February 29, 1972) and 81°F in **Goodland** (previously set on February 17, 1970). A day later in **Texas**, record highs for March 1 soared to 98°F in **Wichita Falls**, 95°F in **Abilene**, and 93°F in **Dallas-Ft. Worth**. March 1 highs also topped 90°F in **Oklahoma** locations such as **Tulsa** (93°F) and **Oklahoma City** (92°F). Cooler weather arrived on the Plains in early March, but warmth briefly lingered in the **Southeast**. On March 2, **Southeastern** daily-record highs included 82°F in both **Mobile, AL**, and **Pensacola, FL**. At week's end, record warmth returned to the **Southwest** in advance of an approaching storm. **Gateway, CO** (70°F), collected a daily-record high on March 3, followed the next day by a record in **Roswell, NM** (82°F).

Stormy, windy weather arrived along the **West Coast** in late February and again in early March. In **California**, daily-record precipitation totals for February 27 reached 3.56 inches in **Crescent City** and 1.53 inches in **Burbank**. In **California's Central Valley**, February 27 wind gusts topped 50 m.p.h. in locations such as **Sacramento** (53 m.p.h.) and **Stockton** (51 m.p.h.). Farther inland, **Reno, NV** (0.55 inch), and **Stanley, ID** (0.36 inch), also measured

Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F)

FEB 26 - MAR 4, 2006



record totals for February 27. The last day of February featured additional record totals in locations such as **North Bend, OR** (1.90 inches), **Glasgow, MT** (0.64 inch), and **Yakima, WA** (0.52 inch). Farther east, snow developed after midweek across the **Great Lakes and Northeastern States**. Daily-record snowfall totals for March 2 included 8.5 inches in **Saginaw, MI**, 7.2 inches in **Binghamton, NY**, and 5.0 inches in **Rhineland, WI**. Additional snow blanketed parts of the **Northeast** on March 3-4, when **Burlington, VT**, received 14.2 inches. At week's end, light precipitation developed across the **Plains and Midwest**. In **Amarillo, TX**, a 0.22-inch rainfall on March 4 exceeded its total of 0.13 inch during the preceding 96 days (November 28 - March 3). Meanwhile, March 4-5 precipitation in **Iowa** totaled more than 1 inch in locations such as **Ottumwa** (1.47 inches) and **Lamoni** (1.19 inches). Elsewhere in **Iowa**, **Waterloo** and **Mason City** netted 2.0 inches of snow on March 4. Farther north, daily-record snowfall totals in **Montana** for March 4 included 10.0 inches in **Harlem** and 7.0 inches in **Lewistown**.

Extremely heavy rain fell across parts of **Hawaii**, causing local flooding. At **Kaupo Gap, Maui**, where the normal March rainfall is 11.80 inches, precipitation totaled 10.76 inches in a 24-hour period on March 2-3. **Punaluu, Oahu**, received 22.40 inches in a 48-hour period from March 1-3, easily exceeding its normal March rainfall of 9.10 inches. Farther west, weekly rainfall reached 38.77 inches on **Kauai's Mt. Waialeale**, where March rainfall typically totals 34.70 inches. Warm weather prevailed, however, in areas of **Hawaii** that remained mostly dry. For example, weekly rainfall totaled just 0.03 inch in **Kahului, Maui**, where daily-record highs climbed to 88°F on both March 2 and 3. In contrast, near- to below-normal temperatures prevailed in **Alaska**. Chilly weather was most pronounced across the **eastern half of Alaska**, where weekly temperatures ranged from 4 to 12°F below normal. Meanwhile, locally heavy precipitation overspread **western Alaska**, where March 1-5 snowfall totaled 19.3 inches in **Nome** and 13.1 inches in **McGrath**. On March 1, **Nome's** 13.2-inch total eclipsed its March daily record (previously, 8.0 inches on March 13 and 29, 1940).

# National Agricultural Summary

February 27 - March 5, 2006

Weekly National Agricultural Summary provided by USDA/NASS

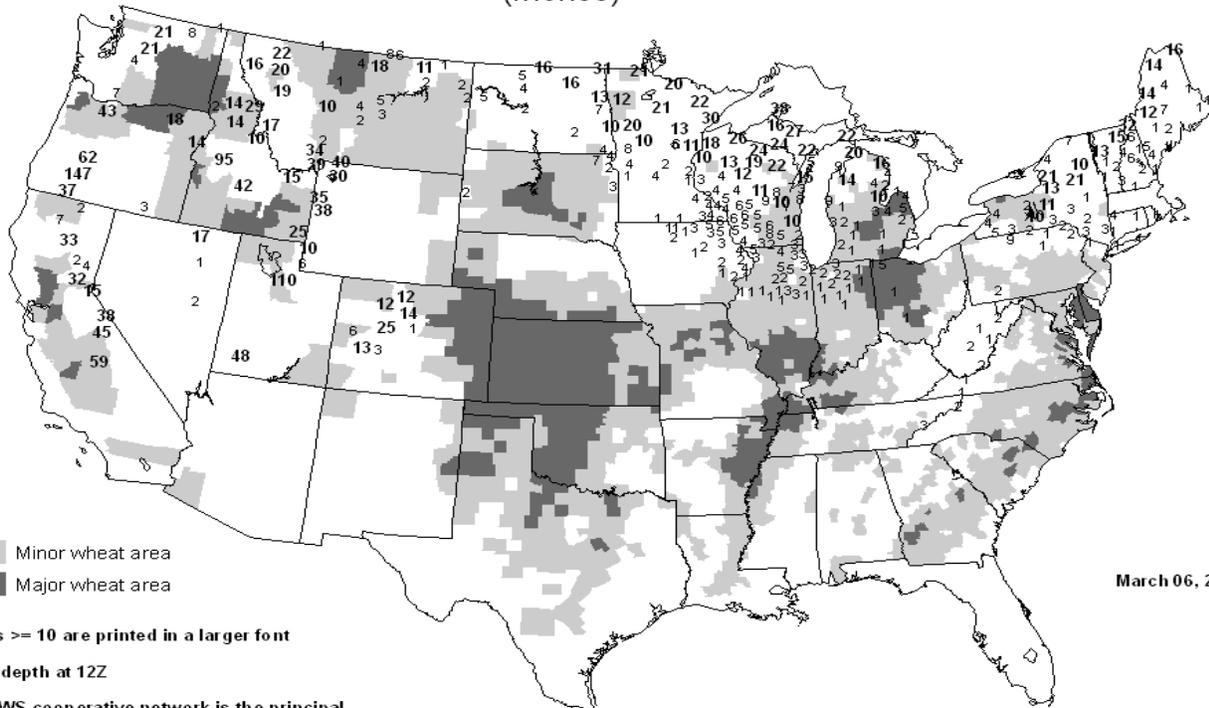
## HIGHLIGHTS

Warm weather returned, with above-normal temperatures prevailing nearly nationwide. Across the central and southern Great Plains, average temperatures were at least 9°F above normal. Only in the northern Corn Belt, Ohio River Valley, middle and northern Atlantic Coast, the Florida peninsula, parts of the Pacific Coast, and the far northern edge of the Great Plains were temperatures below normal. Along the Pacific Coast, however, moderate to heavy rain fell, with the heaviest precipitation in northern California. East of the Rocky Mountains, however, only light precipitation was recorded, with most areas receiving no measurable precipitation. After a week of moderate rainfall, the southern Great Plains returned to mostly dry conditions, causing further stress to winter grains. Meanwhile, an ongoing lack of snow cover and developing soil moisture

shortages were concerns for winter wheat growers in the northern and central Great Plains. Dry weather also prevailed across the Mississippi Delta and Southeast. In the Corn Belt, only Iowa and western Missouri escaped the dry weather experienced elsewhere in the region.

Recent rainfall in California boosted growth in grain fields and benefited pastures. In Texas, planting of corn, cotton, and sorghum was underway in southern parts of the State, while winter wheat and oat condition remained mostly very poor. Mild temperatures and dry weather in Florida allowed fieldwork to progress on schedule. In Georgia, corn planting was underway, while pasture fertilization was common, despite muddy conditions.

## United States Snow Depth (Inches)



March 06, 2006

Minor wheat area  
 Major wheat area

Values  $\geq 10$  are printed in a larger font  
 Snow depth at 12Z

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

## February State Agricultural Summaries

*These summaries, issued weekly through the summer growing season, provide brief descriptions of crop and weather conditions important on a national scale. More detailed data are available in Weather and Crop Bulletins published each Monday by NASS State Statistical Offices in cooperation with the National Weather Service. The crop weather reports are also available on the Internet through the NASS Home Page on the World Wide Web at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/> or from JAWF at <http://www.usda.gov/oce/waob/jawf>.*

**ALABAMA:** Darrell Rankins, Extension Specialist, Auburn University: The recent warm weather has certainly jump-started the forage growth on most beef cattle farms across the state. In the southern portion of the state winter annuals are in peak production, the northern part of the state has seen fescue begin to really grow. One of the biggest problems for forage production on beef farms continues to be the high prices for N fertilizer. Ha consumption is beginning to decline a good bit, in a few more weeks many producers will be finished with the hay feeding season. Cattle prices continue to be good, moisture levels are adequate across most of the state. Daniel Porch, Commercial Horticulture Regional Extension Agent, Alabama Cooperative Extension System: Annual hill strawberry producers across the area have started fertilizing the crop and are spraying preventative fungicides and applying freeze protection on the low temperature nights. Crops are beginning to bloom, warm weather will accelerate bloom. Peach orchards in northeast Alabama are in good shape (buds still tight). No freeze damage reported. Fruit growers are fertilizing, pruning orchards. Field preparation got underway in some areas. Pasture fertilization underway on cool season grasses. Doug Chapman, Regional Extension Agent-Commercial Horticulture, Alabama Cooperative Extension System: Peach, plum trees are in the early stage of bloom in most areas of Northwest Alabama. Strawberries are beginning to grow, most vegetable growers have started vegetable transplants of cool season crops. Nurserymen are still digging field stock. Soil moisture is optimum, some cultivation has begun for spring planting. James D. Miles, Commercial Horticulture Regional Extension Agent, Alabama Cooperative Extension System: The vegetable, row crop farmers are preparing the soil for planting. Row crop farmers are preparing the soil. Peaches, blueberries are blooming. Gary Gray, Regional Extension Agent, Commercial Horticulture Alabama Cooperative Extension System: Chilton County peaches, plums, nectarines are blooming. Many 650 chill hour varieties have been in bloom for the past week. Growers continue pruning their orchards, have finished up their delayed dormant oil sprays for scale control on the late blooming, high chilling varieties. Copper sprays are being applied for bacterial spot control on varieties from pink-bud to 5% bloom, again between petal fall, 1% shuck split. In 2005 growers lost a good portion of their crop to what was considered the worst bacterial spot infection in recent history, due to high rainfall, fog and humidity during the spring and early summer.

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**ALASKA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE**

**ARIZONA:** Temperatures for the State were mostly above normal for the week ending March 5. Precipitation was reported at 4 of the 22 reporting stations. Canyon De Chelly received the most precipitation at 0.10 inches and Grand Canyon received the least at 0.03 inches. Only 11 of the 22 reporting stations have reported precipitation January 1 to date. All of the 22 reporting stations are at below normal precipitation levels at this time. Alfalfa condition remains mostly good. Range, pasture conditions are very poor to poor.

**ARKANSAS:** Warm temperatures, below average rainfall were scattered throughout the month. According to the National Weather Service, the winter of 2005-2006 was the 7<sup>th</sup> warmest winter on record since 1978 as well as the 6<sup>th</sup> driest winter on record. It was the third straight winter with above normal temperatures. The warm temperatures have some of the flowers, trees budding and flowering. Despite the record setting dry, warm conditions, there was some winter weather to report. The second week ended with some scattered snowfall throughout much of the state. Warm ground temperatures prevented accumulation. The following week ended with an ice storm throughout much of the state. Cold temperatures allowed the ice to stay visible for several days. The month ended with warm, mild conditions. Farm activity is underway in several counties with farmers putting out fertilizer on small grains, getting the land ready to plant crops. High fertilizer, fuel prices have decreased the normal rate of farm activity for this time of year. Small grain crops are in mostly fair condition.

Pastures throughout much of the state are in poor condition making hay a valuable commodity.

**CALIFORNIA:** Warm weather encouraged growth of small grains. Sugar beets were growing well, as were forage crops, wheat, oat and barley crops. Safflower fields were emerging in the San Joaquin Valley. Applications of herbicides occurred in many fields. Field work continued in preparation for spring planting. Citrus harvest continued with good yields. Growers made applications to control fungus. Citrus growers ran water and wind machines when temperatures dropped below freezing. Buds were swelling in many orchards and some trees were blooming. Maintenance activities were underway in many vineyards. Many almond trees began to bloom. Wind machines and sprinklers were utilized to combat frost in almond orchards. Bees were beginning to pollinate almond trees, though the cool temperatures slowed their progress. Ground preparation began in vegetable fields. Late winter vegetables were harvested, as were cool season Asian vegetables. Onions for processing were planted as were tomato transplants. Winter radicchio harvest was complete. Squash did not appear to be damaged by the cooler temperatures. Pasture conditions were excellent. Stocking of foothill pastures with cattle was complete, though some supplemental feeding of cattle was necessary in some locations. Branding of fall calves was winding down. Dairies were drying out. Ewes with lambs were grazing on retired crop land. Many sellers were retaining ownership of lambs due to poor market conditions.

**COLORADO:** Temperatures along the Front Range were again above average for February. Precipitation levels continue to be below normal for the month. Although winter wheat is maintaining a good stand, high winds and lack of moisture are beginning to take its toll throughout the Eastern Plains. The mountain snowpack is reported above normal for February. Snowpack levels for the central, northern sections of the Rockies continue to be above normal, while the southern section continue to fall behind. After seeing record levels of snow in early winter, Colorado is beginning to return to normal levels of snow fall in the mountains, however the Eastern Plains continue to stay relatively dry. Lambing, calving is progressing under good conditions with death losses being rated at below average for both. Activities center around care, feeding of livestock and planting spring crops.

**DELAWARE:** The area received a large amount of snow during the month of February, but so far it's been a mild winter. Small grains are in good condition. Livestock are in fair condition. Activities Included: Snow removal, feeding livestock, working on farm equipment. Farming activities include: Spreading manure, going to winter meetings, and repairing equipment.

**FLORIDA:** Timely rains fell over the Panhandle and across the Peninsula at the beginning of February. Growers in Gadsden County prepared land for spring crop plantings. Suwannee County producers prepared land for spring crop watermelons. Record cool temperatures by mid-month slowed crop development over the central and southern Peninsula. Several areas experienced heavy frost as well as hard freezes. Some vegetable producers either covered plants with freeze cloths or ran overhead sprinklers for cold protection. The record low temperatures burned the snap beans and sweet corn as well as turned the leaves brown around Okeechobee and Palm Beach. Strong winds in some areas blew sand over drier fields causing some loss of fruit quality. Pine tree planting was active in Taylor County. Warmer temperatures, by the end of the month, increased crop growth and fruit development in all vegetable areas. Mostly clear conditions in the central and southern Peninsula allowed planting and picking to remain on schedule. Producers began to till land for field crop plantings in Washington and Jackson county. Pears, plums, azaleas, Japanese magnolias and camellias were beginning to bloom in Jefferson County with growers hoping to escape a late hard freeze. Harvesting of sugarcane in the Everglades region was active throughout February. Producers marketed snap beans, celery, cucumbers, eggplant, endive

escarole, lettuce, parsley, peppers, radishes, squash, strawberries, sweet corn and tomatoes throughout the month. The month of February was brought in by much needed rainfall in citrus producing areas. Monthly rain totals were over six inches in the north, and at least two and a half inches in the rest the State. Cooler than normal seasonal temperatures were recorded during the month, dropping down to 29 degrees in four of the seven routinely monitored areas. Other reports recorded lows of 24 to 29 degrees in the Immokalee area (Hendry and Collier counties), and temperatures on the Ridge (including Polk, Highlands, Hardee and DeSoto counties), as low as 25 degrees but mostly between 29-32. Durations below 28 were mostly only a few hours in a few spots. No fruit damage was reported from the cold weather. Trees began to form small bloom buds close to the end of the month in all areas. Growers increased fertilizing frequency, brush removal, and hedging and topping after harvest. Maturity levels in all varieties lagged behind normal for the month. Limited Valencia harvesting was conducted, with the main focus being on the early-midseason fruit. Grapefruit harvesting continued to be around six-hundred thousand boxes weekly, with a larger percentage going to processing. Honey tangerine harvest gained some momentum, reaching close to one-hundred fifty thousand boxes the last week, while Temple harvest was nominal. All major citrus processing plants that had plans to be opened finally did so during the month. Range, pasture mostly fair throughout February. Heavy frost, cold weather, slowed small grain forage growth in north, Panhandle. Southwest range condition poor to good due to drought. Supplemental hay feeding active Panhandle, north, central areas. Cattle condition fair to good throughout February.

**GEORGIA:** Soil moisture levels were reported high at the beginning of the month, fell moderately in the middle, then rose again as the rain returned toward the end of the month. Variable temperatures, rainfall characterized the month of February, according to the USDA, NASS, Georgia Field Office. Average temperatures ranged from the high 30's to low 50's. Although February was considerably dryer than January, most areas of the state still received about a day of measurable precipitation each week. Wet field conditions continued to be the main cause of concern for most farmers. Wet field conditions limited work in the fields, and mud in the pastures presented a problem at many dairy, beef cattle farms. Wet soil also delayed field preparation in some areas. Pasture conditions improved slightly during the second half of February, in light of the colder temperatures helping combat insect infestations. Small grain conditions continued improvement. Growers of small grains began topdressing in earnest, though the temperature drop slowed plant growth. Heavy hay feeding to livestock continued. Some hay producers reported their supplies running short, due to the increase of hay feeding to livestock this winter. Most fieldwork this month consisted of applying lime, chicken litter to pastures, hayfields, and sampling soil in preparation for upcoming crops. Activities Included: Harrowing fields, preparation for spring vegetable crops, the completion of vineyard pruning, Vidalia onion harvest, cabbage transplanting, turning cotton stalks, preparation for corn planting, the routine care of poultry and livestock continued. Overall, County Extension Agents reported an average of 4.5 days suitable for fieldwork for the month of February.

**HAWAII: DATA NOT AVAILABLE**

**IDAHO:** Topsoil 4% short, 70% adequate, 26% surplus. During the past week, temperatures recorded for the state were above average, most weather stations received precipitation. Winter wheat condition 10% fair, 86% good, 4% excellent. Hay, roughage supply 4% short, 94% adequate, 2% surplus. Lambing 25% complete. Calving 33% complete 2006. In some eastern areas of the state, heavy showers combined with above average daytime temperatures caused flooding. Creeks are flowing and producers are watching for flooding in other parts of the state. Calving, lambing are underway throughout the state as livestock are reported in good condition.

**ILLINOIS:** Topsoil 20% very short, 47% short, 32% adequate, 1% surplus. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 7% poor, 18% fair, 63% good, 11% excellent. February temperatures averaged near normal for the state, while precipitation averaged 1.93 inches, nearly an inch below normal for the month. The biggest concern around the state was the lack of subsoil moisture. Many farmers are hauling water for livestock and wells since farm ponds are very low and tiles are not running. More rainfall will be needed this spring to improve subsoil moisture

conditions. Farmers have started applying fertilizer, anhydrous, doing other spring tillage work in some parts of the state. There was some concern that the very cold conditions during the middle of the month may have caused some damage to the winter wheat. Livestock are in good shape, mainly due to the dry conditions, as calving season is nearing full swing. Activities Included: Hauling grain, spreading manure, completing income taxes, machinery preparation, fixing fence, and visiting the FSA office.

**INDIANA:** Winter wheat is reported to be in mostly good condition. However, there is some concern over possible damage caused by a brief cold snap earlier in February with no snow cover to protect the wheat. The wheat has not broken dormancy yet in most parts of the state. Nitrogen has been applied to some winter wheat fields. Livestock are in mostly good condition. Calving, lambing are active on many livestock operations. Feedlots, pastures are in good condition with the drier weather. Hay supplies are mostly adequate due to the mild weather conditions during most of January and February. The average state temperature during February was 31.1E which was .7E above normal. The average precipitation was 1.74 inches which was .54 inches below normal. Some farmers are concerned about the very dry conditions. Activities Included: Tax preparation, ordering supplies, hauling grain to market, attending farm meetings, cleaning fence rows, spreading fertilizer, some tilling, financial planning, cleaning, repairing equipment, and taking care of livestock.

**IOWA:** Agricultural Summary: Soil 25% very short, 38% short, 35% adequate, 2% surplus. Movement of grain for the state 24% none, 43% light, 30% moderate, 3% heavy. Availability of hay, roughage supplies 7% short, 72% adequate, 21% surplus. Most areas of Iowa reported above average temperatures with below normal precipitation during February. Consequently, concerns about future pest populations remain. Lack of moisture remains a concern with Spring arriving soon. Some reports of manure hauling were received. Corn continues to move, especially to local ethanol plants. Warm, Dry Conditions. At the end of February, the average depth of snow cover across Iowa was visibly zero inches, equivalent to the same time last year. The average depth of frost penetration for the state was 4 inches, compared to last year's 7 inches. Quality of hay, roughage supplies 5% poor, 36% fair, 59% good. Utilization of stubble fields for grazing 32% none, 25% limited, 28% moderate, 15% extensive. Hog, pig losses in January were about the same as last year's state averages at 25 percent below average, 69 percent average, and 6% above average. Cattle, calf losses were below last year's state averages at 32% below avg.; 65% avg.; 3% above average. Generally, the warm, dry weather has been favorable for livestock producers.

**KANSAS:** Topsoil 50% very short, 45% short, 5% adequate. The State experienced normal to above normal temperatures most of February. Precipitation was very light throughout the State during the month. . Wheat condition 7% very poor, 20% poor, 46% fair, 24% good, 3% excellent; wind damage 79% none, 17% light, 4% moderate, freeze damage 81% none, 14% light, 5% moderate. Hay, forage supplies 3% very short, 15% short, 79% adequate, 3% surplus. Feed grain supplies 1% very short, 5% short, 90% adequate, 4% surplus.

**KENTUCKY:** After a very mild January, February 2006 weather was back to reality with several weekends of very cold weather, several weeks with above normal temperatures during the workweek and all but one Saturday with snowfall. Except for the first week of February, which received above normal temperatures, most weeks' average temperatures were below normal. Yet, daily high temperatures soared into the 60s and low 70s several times throughout the month. Extreme high temperatures were in the low 70s and extreme low temperatures were in the single digits. For the entire State, only 63% of normal precipitation (liquid equiv.) was received. Temperatures for February 2006 averaged 35.6° across the State which was 1.6° below normal. High temperatures averaged from 47 in the West to 46 in the East. Departure from normal high temperatures ranged from 4° below normal in the West to 2° above normal in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 28° in the West to 29° in the East. Departure from normal low temperatures ranged from 1° above normal in the West to 2° above normal in the East. Precipitation (liquid equiv.) for the period totaled 2.36 in. statewide, 1.38 in. below normal. Precipitation totals by climate division, West 2.84 in., Central 2.92 in., Bluegrass 1.83 in. and East 1.96 in., which was 1.20, 1.20, 1.60 and 1.51 in. respectively below normal. Precipitation totals ranged from a low of 0.80 in. at Cape Girardeau to a high of 2.70 in. at

Nashville. Snowfall totals ranged from Paducah 7.3, Louisville 3.1, Bowling Green 8.3, Lexington 8.1, and Jackson 9.4 in. Below normal temperatures with wide swings in temperature extremes caused some livestock stress but most herds were in good condition. Below normal precipitation improved the muddy pasture condition and allowed farmers to complete routine chores. Drier condition at months end had producers thinking about preparing fields for corn planting in southern portions of the State. Producers continued to take grains and tobacco to market. Farmers attended the many winter commodity meetings and the National Farm Machinery Show.

**LOUISIANA:** Has received a total of 9.33 inches of rain during the first 2 months of 2006, which was just short of the state average of 10.23 inches. Field crop producers were beginning to prepare land for spring planting. Producers were also getting equipment ready for the upcoming season. Strawberry producers continued harvesting, selling their crop. Due to lack of rain, hurricane damage, this year's crawfish production will be lower than previous years. Livestock producers were fertilizing winter pastures and feeding hay.

**MARYLAND:** The area received a significant snow in February, but in general it's been a mild winter. Small grains are in good condition. Livestock are in fair condition. Activities Included: Snow removal, feeding livestock, working on farm equipment. Farmers are purchasing seed, fertilizer, chemicals and are finalizing decisions on what to plant.

**MICHIGAN:** February temperatures were above normal, normal, below normal at various times of the month. Winter did return to most of the State with snow still on the ground by month's end. Mid-Michigan was hit by an ice storm during the middle of the month with an icy coating to the snow on the ground. There were some reports concerning the lack of snow cover, rain could hurt soil moisture conditions this spring and summer. Other reports mentioned adequate rainfall, which were soaking into the soil due to a lack of frost. Still other areas were seeing pooling of water on the fields from too much rain. Overall, reports from around the State were generally positive that there will be minimal winter damage to winter wheat and alfalfa stands, but it may be too early to properly assess if there was any damage. Lambing was in full swing for many sheep farms. There were reports that the big changes in temperature brought on some health problems in smaller cattle. Activities Included: Hauling manure, hauling crops to market, mending fences, trimming fruit trees, caring for livestock, lambing, calving, and preparing taxes.

**MINNESOTA:** Above average temperatures, below average precipitation, in February, left snow cover inconsistent throughout most of the state. Northern areas reported coverage of 12 inches or more, while central, southern areas reported very little snow cover. Farmers continue to make preparations for the 2006 growing season. Some farmers are concerned about harvesting the last few fields of corn, the ability for alfalfa to survive the frost. The weather, however, has helped the livestock producers. Some producers are still grazing corn stubble, feed availability is good. Livestock conditions are generally good leading into the Spring calving season.

**MISSISSIPPI:** Soil 3% short, 85% adequate, 12% surplus. Hay supply 32% short, 66% adequate, 2% surplus. Feed grain 1% short, 99% adequate. On average, February temperatures were about four degrees below normal. State rainfall averages were approximately one inch above normal, with rainfall of over two inches above average in east-central parts of the state. Coastal areas of the state were about 3 inches below normal. Soil moisture improved due to rainfall, and pre-planting activities such as burn-down applications continue. Farmers will begin spring planting within a month or two, are hopeful that conditions will be favorable for timely planting. Winter wheat conditions, grass growth improved during the month. The demand for hay showed a slight decline over the previous month's report due to additional grass growth and increased grazing time. Winter wheat is reported to be in the early stages of jointing in some fields.

**MISSOURI:** Weather during February was dry in nearly all areas with precipitation averaging 0.50 inch, well below the 30-year normal of 1.90 inches. Pastures are particularly in need of rain to begin spring growth, many stock ponds have low water levels or are dry, particularly in the west-central and southern counties. Some farmers in the driest areas have been culling their cattle herds more than usual due to shortages of both hay and water. The

wheat crop appears to be in good condition in the Bootheel, mostly fair to good elsewhere although more moisture is also needed in most areas to stimulate growth. Farmers have been spreading fertilizer, doing early tillage in preparation for spring planting. Planting is expected to begin earlier than normal in the southeastern counties if warm, dry conditions continue.

**MONTANA:** Topsoil 2% surplus, 1% 2005, 50% adequate, 14% 2005, 38% short, 32% 2005, 10% very short, 53% 2005. Subsoil 1% surplus, For the month of February, Montana experienced light to moderate precipitation, in the form of rain, snow. Roundup, Billings, and Rapelje tied for the high temperature of 69 degrees. Wisdom had the low temperature of -43 degrees. West Glacier received the most moisture at 2.43 inches. 0% 2005, 34% adequate, 9% 2005, 44% short, 30% 2005, 21% very short, 61% 2005. Winter wheat condition 0% very poor, 1% 2005, 12% poor, 11% 2005, 50% fair, 40% 2005, 32% good, 45% 2005, 6% excellent, 3% 2005. Winter wheat wind damage is 42% none, 39% 2005, 44% light, 35% 2005, 12% moderate, 22% 2005, 2% heavy, 4% 2005. Freeze, drought damage is 49% none, 31% 2005, 26% light, 46% 2005, 24% moderate, 20% 2005, 1% heavy, 3% 2005, wheat spring stages are 96% still dormant, 67% 2005, 4% greening, 33% 2005, 0% green, growing, 0% 2005, protectiveness of snow cover is 58% very poor, 91% 2005, 25% poor, 8% 2005, 5% fair, 1% 2005, 12% good, 0% 2005, 0% excellent, 0% 2005. Ranchers are providing supplemental feed to 97% of cattle, calves, 97% 2005, 5 96% of sheep, lambs, 96% 2005. Livestock grazing is 65% open, 82% 2005, 14% difficult, 10% 2005, 21% closed, 8% 2005. Calving, lambing are under way with calving at 29%, 34% 2005, and lambing at 19%, 18% 2005.

**NEBRASKA:** For the month of February 2006, precipitation averaged less than 50% of normal with the exception of the Northwest which was near normal. Temperatures dipped below zero at mid-month, but ended well above normal. Wheat conditions declined during the month as concerns grew about soil moisture levels. Soil temperatures were well above normal, signaling an early green-up. Early calving was going well in most areas, with some losses reported in the Northwest due to heavy snow, below zero temperatures during mid-month. Producers were marketing grain, preparing for spring planting, in some parts of the state applying fertilizer. At the end of February, snow was absent from the majority of the state, with only the northern Panhandle counties reporting snow cover. February precipitation was light with an exception of a heavy snowstorm in the northern Panhandle. Since September 1, accumulated precipitation is below normal for all districts. Wheat conditions were below month ago levels 4% very poor, 9% 45 fair, 40%, 2 excellent. This is also below last year's condition of 60% good or excellent. Declines from last month were noted in all major growing districts with poorest conditions in the Southwest. Hay, forage supplies rated as adequate or surplus across the majority of the state. Cattle, Calves condition 8% fair, 73% good, 19% excellent, equal to year ago levels. Calving has progressed to 32% complete with calf losses reported as average or below.

**NEVADA:** The weather was mild early in the month, but stormy weather arrived at mid-month. Snow fell in the mountains and rain in the valleys. Accumulated mountain snow pack exceeded normal in most watersheds. River, stream levels rose significantly toward the end of the month, but no widespread flooding was noted. Southern Nevada remained mostly dry. Calving was underway in the lower elevations. Good soil moisture supplies benefitted early range conditions, greening was beginning. Fall seeded crops were overwintering well. Activities: Equipment maintenance, livestock care, fence repairs, crop, livestock marketing, industry meetings.

**NEW ENGLAND:** The month of February started the way January ended, with warmer than normal temperatures and heavy rains which caused flooding along low lying riverbeds. On the 12<sup>th</sup>, a Nor'easter dumped up to 20 inches of snow along the coastal region of Massachusetts. On the 17<sup>th</sup>, winds as high as 56 mph were reported in parts of the region that caused damage, outages. At month's end, temperatures dipped into single digits during the evenings. The month provided unfavorable sap flow conditions for northern maple sugar producers. However, southern maple sugar producers have started boiling. Activities Included: Nursery, greenhouse work, tending livestock, and preparing for the spring planting season.

**NEW JERSEY:** Temperatures were up to 20° above normal the first week of February in most state localities. During mid-February temperatures became variable, falling to below normal, rising to above normal again, across most of the state. By the end of February, temperatures fell to below normal in most areas. There were measurable amounts of precipitation in many areas during the month. Total precipitation for the month was below normal in most localities. The Atlantic City weather station reported a little over 4.0 inches of snow on February 12, 2006. There was no measurable snowfall for the month in many parts of the state. Agricultural producers continued field preparation for spring crops as weather permitted. Activities Included: Greenhouse work, equipment repair, and feeding stored hay to livestock.

**NEW MEXICO:** The month began and continued to be dry until the final week in February. A weak, but slow-moving storm system trekked across northern Mexico, southern New Mexico, bringing some locations over southern New Mexico their first measurable precipitation in months. Carlsbad broke a string of 115 consecutive days without measurable precipitation. Meanwhile, no precipitation was reported over the northern half of the state. Temperatures for the week were generally near normal to a few degrees above normal. Farmers were continuing ground preparation for spring planting. The onion crop has emerged, appeared in good condition. Some alfalfa fertilization had started as did some early irrigation to combat the dryness. Dryland wheat was reported in extremely poor condition with some farmers stating that even a good rain may be too late to salvage the crop. Ranchers are well into calving, supplemental feeding was reported as heavy due to pastures being dry and short.

**NEW YORK:** Above average temperatures were recorded in the Capital Region. Moderate snow fall totals were recorded for the Eastern region but heavier snow fall totals for the Western region. A mid-month snow storm blanketed the southeast region, marked the weather highlight of the month. Farmers were busy attending producer association meetings, repairing machinery, grading, packing onions, potatoes, and apples. Activities Included: Orchard clean-up, and preparing facilities for the upcoming growing season.

**NORTH CAROLINA:** Days suitable for field work 5.9. Soil 2% very short, 25% short, 69% adequate, 4% surplus. February brought dry weather to North Carolina. As of February 28, current year precipitation totals are below normal with ranges from -.13 to -3.12 inches. Warmer weather was experienced in most areas with highs ranging from 61-75° for the month of February. Currently, small grain crop conditions are rated mostly fair to good. Activities Included: Feeding, tending livestock, tax preparation, topdressing small grains, crop planning and winter farm maintenance.

**NORTH DAKOTA:** Weather conditions during February were colder than January, but near normal levels. Average statewide snow cover was 6.0 inches on March 5, compared to 0.9 inches a year ago. The northeast, east central districts had the most snow cover with 15.7 and 13.8 inches, respectively. The south central district had no snow cover and only 0.1 inch was in the southwest. Hay, forage supplies 0% very short, 6% short, 82% adequate, 12% surplus. Snow cover protection for alfalfa 68% poor, 25% adequate, 7% excellent. Calving was 12% complete with lambing 20% complete. Shearing was 43% complete. Cattle conditions 0% very poor, 1% poor, 16% fair, 69% good, 14% excellent. Sheep conditions 0% very poor, 1% poor, 12% fair, 74% good, 13% excellent. Percent of feed obtained from pasture, range s 5% for cattle, 4% for sheep. County, secondary roads 82% open, 14% difficult, 4% closed. Road conditions 12% drifted, 23% icy, 4% muddy, 61% dry.

**OHIO:** The February 2006 average temperature for Ohio was 30.9°, 0.9° above normal. Precipitation for the state averaged 2.26 inches, 0.57 inches below normal. Several winter wheat producing counties reported current winter wheat conditions are good to excellent. Cattle conditions are excellent because of the mild temperatures. Hay inventories for cattle operations seem fine for overwintering cattle.

**OKLAHOMA:** Topsoil 87% very short, 12% short, 1% adequate. Subsoil 73% very short, 25% short, 2% adequate. Wheat 35% very poor, 35% poor, 26% fair, 4% good; Rye 34% very poor, 39% poor, 27% fair; Oats 60% very poor, 36% poor, 4% fair; Livestock 10% very poor, 40% poor, 38% fair, 10% good, 2% excellent; Pasture, range 45% very poor, 30% poor,

20% fair, 5% good. Livestock conditions also declined in response to the poor wheat, pasture conditions. Ponds remained dry across the State. Some producers were selling cattle as feed supplies were depleted. Other producers had to move cattle off of wheat pasture as wheat conditions worsened. Livestock conditions 10% very poor, 40% poor, 38% fair, 10% good, 2% excellent. The death loss of cattle was mostly light to average. Hay supplies were rated as mostly below average.

**OREGON:** All stations received precipitation during the month of February. Areas along the coast received more than five inches of rainfall last month, while six additional stations reported rainfall in excess of three inches. Those stations include Astoria/Clatsop, Bandon, Eugene, Grants Pass, Parkdale, & Roseburg. High temperatures were very similar to January highs, mainly in the 50's & 60's, while overnight lows ranged from -9° Fahrenheit in Joseph (northeast) to 25° Fahrenheit in North Bend (coastal area). A high temperature of 70° was recorded in Medford, which is located in the southwestern part of the State. There were five cranberry frost events recorded at Bandon during the week ending February 19<sup>th</sup>, seven events were recorded during the week ending February 26<sup>th</sup>. Farmers in the Willamette Valley continue to struggle with standing water, soaked fields. Some potato growers were purchasing seed for the upcoming year, while onion growers are preparing for the upcoming planting season, which is what most producers are doing at this point. The Oregon Department of Agriculture's Story the first of February introduced a new value added pear project that was expected to begin the production phase in the near future. The new product is an alternative to the canned pear. The peel remains on the finished product of the fruit, will be packaged in a glass container as opposed to a can.

**PENNSYLVANIA:** Principal farm activities for the month of February included milking cows, tax preparation, and planning for this year's crop season. February started where January left off as the final week of nationwide warmth maintained significantly above-normal temperatures. An abundance of rain fell early in the month, which maintained soggy conditions for some livestock. The rain, however, changed to snow, ending a 6-week spell of mild but frequently rainy weather. For the first time since mid-December, cooler-than-normal weather prevailed. The Erie area was hit hard with snow during the second first week of February. Heavier snow arrived across Pennsylvania on February 11-12. Snow accumulation differed in many parts of the state. Some reported less than 5 inches of snow while other areas, such as Allentown and Philadelphia, received up to 10 inches and more on the ground. Winter wheat, oat conditions remain very poor for the most part. High winds have been reported throughout the state. Several areas of the state were without power and heat after extremely high winds blew over telephone poles. These winds were reported up to 60 mph and higher. On February 17-18, temperatures plunged threatening unprotected winter wheat. Overall, after a warm beginning for the month of February, Pennsylvania went back to normal temperatures and even cooler in other parts of the state.

**SOUTH CAROLINA:** Temperatures averaged as much as 10 to 12° above normal during the first week of February. The second week temperatures averaged almost 10° below normal during the daylight hours, scattered showers were reported throughout the State on Tuesday. Temperatures continued cooler than normal until the end of the third week when winds brought unseasonably warm weather to the area. By the end of the month temperatures had returned to normal. 3.18 inches of rain were reported throughout the State. The high temperatures for the period was 73° the low was 24 degrees. Farmers are busy in preparation for the upcoming planting season by servicing their equipment and tilling the land. The high fuel prices may encourage some farmers to pursue the option of no-till planting this year. Farmers are also using winter grazing pastures to supplement their winter hay supply.

**SOUTH DAKOTA:** Feed supplies 2% very short, 4% short, 86% adequate, 8% surplus. Stock water supplies 16% very short, 16% short, 66% adequate, 2% surplus. Winter wheat condition 5% very poor, 16% poor, 42% fair, 34% good, 3% excellent. Cattle condition 1% poor, 11% fair, 70% good, 18% excellent. Sheep condition 10% fair, 68% good, 22% excellent. Accessible Livestock feed supplies 98% readily available, 2% difficult. Accessible stock water supplies 90% readily available, 7% difficult, 3% inaccessible. Road conditions, county 99% open, 1% difficult. Road conditions, township 97% open, 3% difficult. Average snow depth 0.5

inch. Alfalfa snow cover 93% poor, 6% adequate, 1% excellent. Winter wheat snow cover 99% poor, 1% adequate. Calf deaths since February 1<sup>st</sup> 34% below average, 65% average, 1% above average. Sheep, lamb deaths since February 1<sup>st</sup> 40% below avg.; 59% avg.; 1% above average. Cattle death losses since February 1<sup>st</sup> 38% below normal, 61% normal, 1% above normal. Calving 13% complete, 11% complete 2005. Lambing 20% complete, 26% complete 2005. A few February cold snaps brought temperatures down closer to average for the month, with precipitation totals remaining below average for the majority of the state. Continued lack of snow cover has left crops vulnerable to winter conditions, yet livestock have benefitted from the mild weather as conditions remain similar to the previous month. With minimal snow to deal with, major farm activities during February included routine chores, tending to livestock, repairing machinery, spreading fertilizer, fencing, and calving and lambing.

**TENNESSEE:** Temperatures across the state averaged mostly below normal throughout the month of February with highs reaching the low 70s, lows dipping into the teens. Rainfall averages were above normal for the first week of the month, but fell below normal for the remainder of February. The State's winter wheat crop was rated in mostly good condition with insect, disease pressure rated light to none. Generally dry weather allowed producers to make good progress with field activities which included fertilizing wheat, pasture spraying, fruit tree maintenance. Pastures were rated in mostly fair-to-good condition. The mild, late winter conditions helped to ease the stress on livestock producers with dwindling hay stocks. Overall, hay stock levels were mostly adequate-to-short. Cattle conditions were rated as mostly good-to-fair.

**TEXAS:** In the month of February, the drought continued in Texas. It was not until the last week of the month that any considerable rainfall accumulations were recorded. Most of the precipitation fell in North Central and East Texas. Rain gauge readings ranged from ½ to 3 inches for the month. The heaviest of that rain was in an area stretching from around Fort Worth to Texarkana. In other regions, accumulations were light with totals generally under ½ inch. Temperatures were well above normal early in the month and in late month with many regions reporting highs in the 90's. A mid-month cold front blew through, dropping temperatures into the single digits on the Plains and into the 30's in coastal areas. Wildfires burned thousands of acres of grasslands that have been left bone dry after several months of drought. The winter wheat crop was in bad shape. Most dryland fields have been grazed out on the Plains and mostly only irrigated fields remained. By the end of the month, fields in areas that received rain were coming out of dormancy. Many fields in drier locations were showing very poor stands and the possibility of a grain crop was looking doubtful. Cotton growers were preparing fields for planting. Pre-watering along with fertilizer and herbicide applications was active. Planting had begun in the Rio Grande Valley. Producers on the Blacklands took advantage of the rainfall late in the month and began to plant corn. Corn and Sorghum was also being planted in the Rio Grande Valley, Coastal Bend, Upper Coast, and South Texas. Rice growers along the Upper Coast were concerned with irrigation costs and high salinity levels. Spinach and cabbage was harvested in the Winter Garden area. Citrus was picked in the Rio Grande Valley. In East Texas, vegetables were planted and sweet potato fields were plowed. Range and pasture was in very poor condition, especially in drought stricken western areas. Eastern regions that received moisture had begun to green-up a little by late month. Hay supplies were very short statewide and were being imported from neighboring states. Cattle body conditions were showing signs of poor grazing opportunities. Due to the lack of adequate forage, many cattlemen were thinning out herds at a rapid pace. Auctions were very active.

**UTAH:** Temperatures have been seasonably warm this time of year, snow pack in the mountains is at 50%-70% of normal. A few snow storms moved through during the middle of the month and dropped a large amount of snow, but most producers are looking forward to more. Livestock are in good condition with farm activities have been limited to feeding livestock. Crop Summary Northern counties have enjoyed a rather mild winter, but have adequate snow in the mountains. There is currently very little snow on the ground in the eastern and southern counties which could benefit from a few strong storms. The weather has been near normal thus far. There are some concerns of winter kill in the spring when plants break dormancy, due to cold temperatures, lack of adequate snow cover in the valley. Growers

are still very concerned about the price of fuel, fertilizer. No major agricultural activities reported. Livestock Summary Lambing, calving have started in farm flocks, both are doing well. Some sheep producers are also shearing at the current time. Sheep producers in the higher elevations will be bringing their sheep off of the winter ranges soon to continue lambing activities.

**VIRGINIA:** February was more like winter for the Commonwealth of Virginia than the previous month. Most areas have experienced dry conditions in spite of the occasional snow, ice. Small grain, cover crops are doing well, but could use more moisture. Dry conditions have allowed farmers to do some field work such as top-dressing, applying herbicides. The lack of rain has also contributed to lower pasture reserves, increased feeding rates for livestock. Due to extreme changes in temperatures from one day to the next, some producers have experienced cases of pneumonia in cattle, thus raising concerns about the health of Virginia livestock. However, fall calves are doing well, spring calving is almost finished. Activities Included: Fixing fences, attending winter meetings, and soil sampling. Virginia experienced a cold, dry February. Most areas experienced some snow, ice this month, but did not get the needed moisture for fields. Temperatures ranged from one extreme to another from day to day, with snow, ice one day to unseasonably warm temperatures the next. While colder temperatures, lack of moisture have affected livestock feeding and health, the warm periods have improved small grain stands. The warmer days have allowed farmers to prepare their fields for spring activity.

**WASHINGTON:** Heavy rain was reported throughout the state. Mild to moderate flooding occurred in the western part of the state along the Chehalis, Black, Nisqually Rivers due to the excessive moisture. Temperatures were warmer than usual in eastern Washington, some wind was reported throughout the state. Winter wheat, fall vegetable seed crop damage was reported in Grant county due to extremely low temperatures. Christmas tree growers took advantage of a few nice days to plant trees.

**WEST VIRGINIA:** Topsoil 19% short, 77% adequate, 4% surplus compared with 1% short, 49% adequate, 50% surplus last year. Hay, roughage supplies 1% very short, 10% short, 86% adequate, 3% surplus. Feed grain supplies 1% very short, 4% short, 94% adequate, 1% surplus. Winter Wheat conditions 18% fair, 82% good. Cattle, calves 2% poor, 22% fair, 72% good, 4% excellent. Calving 31% complete, compared to 41% last year. Sheep, lambs 2% poor, 14% fair, 81% good, 3% excellent. Lambing 31% complete, compared to 40% last year. Activities Included: Calving, lambing, feeding, plowing, and working on equipment.

**WISCONSIN:** Temperatures averaged 2° below to 1° above normal during February. Average high temperatures ranged from the upper 20s to low 30s. Low temperatures averaged from 10 to 20 degrees. Precipitation in northern areas was between 0.37 inches in Eau Claire, 1.24 inches in Green Bay. Southern parts of the state received 0.70 inches in La Crosse to 0.91 inches in Milwaukee. Many areas are experiencing below normal precipitation for the winter season. Snow cover was present in northern counties during most of February. Storms during the middle of February brought snow cover to central and southern counties.

**WYOMING:** Topsoil 10% very short, 43% short, 38% adequate, 9% surplus. Subsoil 22% very short, 35% short, 37% adequate, 6% surplus. Temperatures during the four weeks ending Friday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, turned frigid mid-month driving averages below normal across all stations. Averages ranged from 1.1° below normal in Laramie and Riverton to 8.1° below normal in Afton. The high temperature was 73° in Torrington, the low was minus 41 in Redbird. Precipitation was mostly below normal. The most precipitation was reported in Chugwater with 0.94 inches, Lander with 0.89 inches, and Afton with 0.75 inches. The average depth of snow cover 1.6 inches. A few Western counties averaged 9 inches of snow while most counties had no snowcover. Winter wheat condition 1% very poor, 8% poor, 46% fair, 45% good; damage 21% none, 61% light, 14% moderate, 4% severe, freeze damage 79% none, 19% light, 1% moderate, 1% severe. Spring calves born 26%, 2005 21%, 5-year average 23%. Farm flock ewes lambed 35%, 2005 26%, 5-year average 29%. Farm flock sheep shorn 39%, 2005 29%, 5-year average 31%. Cattle condition 1% poor, 18% fair, 74% good, 7% excellent. Sheep condition 3% poor, 18% fair, 77% good, 2% excellent. Calf, lamb losses mostly normal with reports of heavy losses in two Southeast counties. Hay, roughage supplies 2% short, 79% adequate, 19% surplus. Stock water supplies 7% very short, 23% short, 70% adequate.

## International Weather and Crop Summary

February 26 - March 4, 2006

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

### HIGHLIGHTS

**EUROPE:** Cold, stormy weather further eased moisture shortages in central and western Europe.

**FSU-WESTERN:** Widespread, moderate to heavy snow boosted the snowpack in most winter grain areas.

**MIDDLE EAST:** Above-normal temperatures accelerated crop development in southern growing areas while easing winter grains out of dormancy across the north.

**AUSTRALIA:** Widespread showers slowed summer crop maturation and early harvesting but maintained moisture supplies for immature cotton and sorghum.

**NORTHWEST AFRICA:** Showers maintained abundant moisture supplies for winter grain development in Morocco and Algeria.

**SOUTH AFRICA:** Mild, showery weather prevailed across the corn belt, although warmer weather is desirable for crop development.

**EASTERN ASIA:** Cooler weather returned, slowing greening of winter wheat.

**SOUTHEAST ASIA:** Heavy rainfall in Java continued to provide unfavorable conditions to reproductive rice nearing maturity.

**BRAZIL:** Locally heavy rain hampered soybean harvesting in the Center-West region.

**ARGENTINA:** Continuing showers improved soybean prospects in central Argentina.

## February 2006

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

\*\*\* DATA NOT AVAILABLE

COUNTRY CITY	TEMPERATURE (C)					PRECIPITATION (MM)		
	AVG MAX	AVG MIN	HI MAX	LO MIN	AVG	F/NRM	TOTAL	DPART F/NRM
NORWAY OSLO	-2	-8	7	-18	-5	0.4	67	22
FINLAN HELSINKI	-7	-12	0	-25	-9	-3.3	11	-22
UKINGD ABERDEEN	7	2	12	-6	4	0.4	45	-9
CARDIFF	7	3	11	-2	5	-0.9	42	-29
LONDON	7	3	12	-3	5	-0.5	41	5
IRELAN DUBLIN	8	3	14	-3	5	-0.4	37	-14
ICELAN REYKJAVIK	5	2	10	-7	4	3.5	58	-28
DENMAR COPENHAGEN	2	-1	5	-8	0	-0.4	21	-4
LUXEMB LUXEMBOURG	3	-1	7	-9	1	-0.7	49	-18
SWITZE ZURICH	3	-2	9	-7	0	-1	56	-13
GENEVA	5	-2	13	-7	2	-1	74	2
FRANCE PARIS/ORLY	6	1	12	-6	4	-1	60	20
STRASBOURG	4	-1	11	-7	2	-1	23	-9
BOURGES	6	1	11	-4	3	-1.3	57	1
BORDEAUX	9	2	14	-5	5	-1.7	99	24
TOULOUSE	9	1	16	-5	5	-1.7	16	-31
MARSEILLE	12	3	17	-3	7	-0.7	20	-23
SPAIN VALLADOLID	9	0	14	-5	4	-2	33	0
MADRID	13	0	18	-4	6	-0.9	36	11
SEVILLE	17	7	22	2	12	-0.9	45	5
PORTUG LISBON	15	8	20	4	11	-1.1	69	-15
GERMAN HAMBURG	3	-1	7	-7	1	-0.3	42	0
BERLIN	2	-2	8	-10	0	-1.1	35	2
DUSSELDORF	5	1	10	-6	3	-0.8	62	11
LEIPZIG	2	-3	8	-12	-1	-0.6	21	-10
DRESDEN	1	-3	7	-13	-1	-1.3	42	6
STUTT GART	3	-3	10	-11	0	-0.9	27	-9
NURNBERG	3	-3	9	-12	0	-1.1	26	-8
AUGSBURG	2	-5	9	-13	-1	-1.3	30	-8
AUSTRI VIENNA	2	-3	12	-13	-1	-1.5	22	-11
INNSBRUCK	3	-5	9	-14	-1	-1.4	37	-6
CZECHR PRAGUE	1	-5	8	-17	-2	-1.6	18	-2
POLAND WARSAW	-1	-6	6	-16	-3	-2.1	31	10
LODZ	0	-5	6	-21	-3	-2.1	35	5
KATOWICE	0	-5	8	-20	-3	-2.4	48	12
HUNGAR BUDAPEST	3	-3	15	-14	0	-1.6	41	16
YUGOSL BELGRADE	5	0	19	-10	2	-1	64	26
ROMANI BUCHAREST	5	-5	17	-16	0	-0.8	46	16
BULGAR SOFIA	5	-4	14	-19	0	-1.5	42	9
ITALY MILAN	9	1	13	-3	5	0.2	33	-16
VERONA	9	0	15	-5	5	0.3	40	-3
VENICE	9	0	17	-4	4	-0.3	15	-29
GENOA	13	7	19	2	10	0.6	41	-5
ROME	13	4	19	-4	8	-0.6	74	8
NAPLES	13	5	18	-3	9	0.2	68	-18
GREECE THESSALONIKA	10	2	19	-6	6	-1.1	23	-17
LARISSA	11	0	21	-8	6	-0.8	38	0
ATHENS	13	7	18	-1	10	-0.2	44	9
TURKEY ISTANBUL	8	3	16	-5	5	-0.3	92	33
ANKARA	3	-6	12	-24	-2	-1.8	71	38
CYPRUS LARNACA	18	8	21	2	13	1.1	17	-27
ESTONI TALLINN	-5	-10	2	-21	-7	-3	21	-15
RUSSIA ST.PETERSBURG	-8	-13	1	-23	11	-4.9	13	-17
LITHUA KAUNAS	-4	-9	2	-22	-7	-3.6	17	-14
BELARU MINSK	-6	-11	2	-24	-8	-3.7	29	-5
RUSSIA KAZAN	-12	-18	-1	-31	15	-4.3	37	6
MOSCOW	-10	-17	1	-28	13	-6.6	38	1
YEKATERINBURG	-8	-16	3	-25	12	-0.3	26	7
OMSK	-10	-20	-1	-29	15	0.6	7	-9
KAZAKH KUSTANAY	-9	-18	-1	-29	13	1.5	10	-4
RUSSIA BARNAIL	-8	-20	2	-29	14	0	18	-2
KHABAROVSK	-13	-22	3	-29	18	-1.7	4	-7
VLADIVOSTOK	-6	-11	4	-21	-8	0.8	71	55
UKRAIN KIEV	-3	-8	8	-22	-6	-2.6	32	-7
LVOV	-1	-8	11	-20	-4	-2.2	37	-5
KIROVOGRAD	-3	-9	7	-24	-6	-2.8	31	5
ODESSA	0	-5	8	-15	-3	-2.3	22	-12
RUSSIA SARATOV	-10	-15	1	-27	13	-3	43	17
UKRAIN KHARKOV	-6	-12	4	-28	-9	-4.6	36	2
RUSSIA VOLGOGRAD	-7	-13	3	-30	10	-3	47	24

Based on Preliminary Reports

February 2006

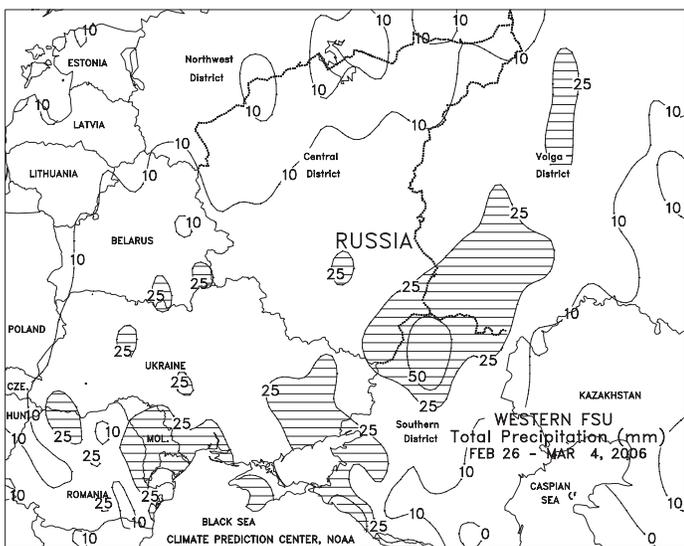
COUNTRY CITY	TEMPERATURE (C)					PRECIPITATION (MM)			COUNTRY CITY	TEMPERATURE (C)					PRECIPITATION (MM)		
	AVG MAX	AVG MIN	HI MAX	LO MIN	AVG	F/NRM	TOTAL	F/NRM		AVG MAX	AVG MIN	HI MAX	LO MIN	AVG	F/NRM	TOTAL	F/NRM
ASTRAKHAN	0	-7	11	-17	-4	0.8	9	1	MOZAMB MAPUTO	32	24	36	22	28	1.5	123	8
KRASnodAR	1	-6	10	-19	-2	-3.0	96	52	ZAMBIA LUSAKA	26	***	29	17	***	***	127	-62
ORENBURG	-6	-16	-1	-30	11	1.4	27	8	ZIMBAB KADOMA	28	18	31	16	23	-0.2	98	-65
KAZAKH TSELINOGRAD	-7	-15	1	-28	11	3.6	19	7	S AFRI PRETORIA	27	18	31	15	23	0.3	170	69
KARAGANDA	-5	-13	3	-22	-9	4.2	39	20	JOHANNESBURG	25	15	28	13	20	0.9	187	78
UZBEKI TASHKENT	14	4	24	-6	9	6.4	34	-22	BETHAL	***	***	27	11	***	***	***	***
TURKME ASHKHABAD	16	4	29	-1	10	5.2	13	-16	DURBAN	29	22	33	20	25	1.6	244	113
SYRIA DAMASCUS	15	4	24	-2	10	1.9	29	5	CAPE TOWN	28	17	34	11	22	1.4	13	-1
ISRAEL JERUSALEM	14	9	22	2	11	2.9	74	-78	CANADA TORONTO	0	-7	7	-15	-4	1.7	75	34
PAKIST KARACHI	31	19	34	14	25	4.4	0	-10	MONTREAL	-3	-10	4	-19	-7	1.5	65	5
INDIA AMRITSAR	27	9	29	5	18	3.9	9	-26	WINNIPEG	-10	-22	-2	-34	16	-2.5	5	-8
NEW DELHI	30	14	34	9	22	4.8	0	-21	REGINA	-6	-17	4	-33	12	0.2	6	-6
AHMEDABAD	34	16	37	12	25	2.8	0	***	SASKATOON	-7	-18	5	-33	13	0.1	12	1
INDORE	34	15	38	10	24	4.0	0	-4	LETHBRIDGE	3	-12	15	-32	-4	0.0	16	3
CALCUTTA	33	18	37	14	26	2.9	0	-25	CALGARY	1	-12	14	-30	-6	0.2	20	11
VERAVAL	32	19	37	17	26	3.0	0	-1	EDMONTON	-1	-11	12	-28	-6	1.9	8	-6
BOMBAY	34	19	38	15	27	1.9	0	***	VANCOUVER	8	1	12	-5	4	-0.5	58	-63
POONA	34	13	37	9	23	1.4	0	-2	MEXICO GUADALAJARA	26	15	31	9	20	3.7	0	-7
BEGAMPET	34	16	37	12	25	-0.2	0	-9	TLAXCALA	23	7	28	3	15	0.4	0	-5
VISHAKHAPATNAM	30	21	33	18	25	-0.7	0	-13	ORIZABA	22	12	28	5	17	1.2	27	-6
MADRAS	32	21	35	18	27	0.2	0	-15	BERMUD ST GEORGES	19	15	22	8	17	-1.1	107	-4
MANGALORE	34	21	37	19	28	0.1	0	-3	BAHAMA NASSAU	25	18	29	13	21	-0.3	13	-29
HONGKO HONG KONG INT	22	17	27	12	19	2.5	33	-10	CUBA HAVANA	26	15	30	7	21	-1.1	0	-40
N KORE PYONGYANG	2	-7	13	-19	-3	-0.1	15	1	JAMAIC KINGSTON	30	23	32	21	27	0.8	18	-5
S KORE SEOUL	4	-3	12	-14	0	0.1	14	-12	P RICO SAN JUAN	28	21	31	19	25	-0.2	45	-13
JAPAN SAPPORO	0	-6	8	-11	-3	0.4	91	-5	GUADEL RAIZET	29	21	30	18	25	0.3	35	-32
NAGOYA	10	2	19	-3	6	1.3	127	60	MARTIN LAMENTIN	29	23	30	21	26	1.3	79	-71
TOKYO	10	4	20	-2	7	0.9	115	54	BARBAD BRIDGETOWN	29	23	30	21	26	0.4	52	11
YOKOHAMA	10	4	19	-2	7	0.6	131	62	TRINID PORT OF SPAIN	31	22	33	19	26	0.5	80	44
KYOTO	10	3	18	-3	6	0.8	99	17	COLOMB BOGOTA	***	***	22	4	***	***	***	***
OSAKA	10	4	17	-2	7	1.2	105	45	VENEZU CARACAS	29	24	31	22	26	1.2	137	126
THAILA PHITSANULOK	33	22	36	19	28	0.2	20	9	F GUIA CAYENNE	29	24	31	21	26	0.7	258	-61
BANGKOK	34	26	36	22	30	1.6	39	21	BRAZIL FORTALEZA	31	27	32	25	29	0.9	74	-139
MALAYS KUALA LUMPUR	33	23	35	22	28	1.0	447	270	RECIFE	33	26	34	23	29	0.3	15	-86
VIETNA HANOI	21	17	28	13	19	0.8	26	-2	CAMPO GRANDE	33	23	36	20	28	2.3	236	68
CHINA HARBIN	-7	-18	5	-29	12	0.1	1	-4	FRANCA	27	20	31	17	24	0.5	334	105
HAMI	3	-8	8	-16	-3	1.1	1	0	RIO DE JANEIRO	33	24	38	23	28	0.6	189	64
LANCHOW	***	***	***	2	***	***	***	***	LONDRINA	31	20	36	15	25	1.0	371	187
BEIJING	4	-5	13	-15	-1	-0.5	6	1	SANTA MARIA	31	19	37	16	25	0.5	45	-86
TIENTSIN	4	-5	14	-14	-1	-0.8	4	0	TORRES	28	21	32	17	25	-1.9	159	6
LHASA	14	-3	20	-7	6	3.9	0	-1	PERU LIMA	27	21	30	19	24	1.0	0	0
KUNMING	20	8	24	5	14	3.6	3	-15	BOLIVI LA PAZ	15	4	19	0	9	0.6	65	-37
CHENGCHOW	9	0	19	-6	5	1.4	18	6	CHILE SANTIAGO	***	***	31	10	***	***	***	***
YEHCHANG	9	4	17	-1	7	-0.3	68	36	ARGENT IGUAZU	32	20	37	16	26	0.7	113	-90
HANKOW	9	4	18	-1	6	-0.4	90	31	FORMOSA	35	21	40	15	28	1.1	22	-108
CHUNGKING	11	7	16	4	9	-0.7	55	34	CERES	33	18	40	13	26	1.6	44	-92
CHIHKIANG	9	4	23	-1	7	-0.1	108	58	CORDOBA	28	17	34	10	22	0.1	95	-33
WU HU	8	2	20	-3	5	0.3	98	37	RIO CUARTO	27	17	34	7	22	0.2	110	7
SHANGHAI	8	3	21	-2	6	-0.2	79	18	ROSARIO	29	18	36	13	23	0.4	126	1
NANCHANG	9	5	25	-1	7	-0.2	93	-8	BUENOS AIRES	28	17	35	10	23	0.4	122	23
TAIPEI	20	16	28	13	18	1.8	73	-130	SANTA ROSA	30	16	39	8	23	0.6	134	56
CANTON	22	15	28	9	18	3.7	104	35	TRES ARROYOS	27	15	36	10	21	0.6	150	69
NANNING	17	12	28	8	15	0.8	66	23	MARSHA MAJURO	30	27	30	24	28	0.9	157	-22
CANARY LAS PALMAS	20	14	23	12	17	-0.8	41	21	NEW CA NOUMEA	28	23	31	22	26	-0.2	183	59
MOROCC CASABLANCA	17	10	24	6	13	-0.3	97	56	FUJI NAUSORI	31	24	33	21	27	0.8	322	61
MARRAKECH	17	8	23	3	13	-1.4	33	1	SAMOA PAGO PAGO	30	26	31	25	28	0.2	809	501
ALGERI ALGER	16	5	22	0	11	-0.7	88	21	TAHITI PAPEETE	31	25	34	23	28	0.6	245	28
BATNA	12	1	17	-4	7	0.2	42	18	PNEWGU PORT MORESBY	31	24	32	22	27	0.5	148	-50
TUNISI TUNIS	16	8	21	4	12	0.3	49	-9	NZEALA AUCKLAND	25	17	28	11	21	***	6	***
NIGER NIAMEY	36	21	40	17	28	1.2	0	-1	WELLINGTON	21	15	24	11	18	***	66	***
MALI TIMBUKTU	***	***	36	13	***	***	***	***	AUSTRA DARWIN	32	25	34	23	29	0.5	349	11
BAMAKO	***	***	40	18	***	***	***	***	BRISBANE	29	22	31	18	26	0.9	98	-73
MAURIT NOUAKCHOTT	***	***	34	14	***	***	***	***	PERTH	32	17	40	10	25	-0.2	23	5
SENEGA DAKAR	***	***	27	16	***	***	***	***	CEDUNA	24	14	38	6	19	-2.9	4	-7
LIBYA TRIPOLI	17	8	24	4	12	-0.4	39	5	ADELAIDE	25	16	34	12	20	-2.1	5	-36
BENGHAZI	17	9	24	4	***	***	33	-12	MELBOURNE	25	14	38	7	19	-0.7	42	-2
EGYPT CAIRO	21	11	31	7	16	1.1	5	2	WAGGA	34	16	42	6	25	1.0	2	-38
ASWAN	27	12	39	7	20	2.3	0	0	CANBERRA	31	15	38	6	23	2.4	24	-32
ETHIOP ADDIS ABABA	24	11	27	8	18	0.8	37	0	INDONE SERANG	31	24	33	23	28	0.3	219	-5
KENYA NAIROBI	29	15	33	9	22	1.4	38	-9	PHILIP MANILA	31	25	33	23	28	0.3	19	6
TANZAN DAR ES SALAAM	33	25	37	23	29	1.2	44	-14									
GABON LIBREVILLE	30	24	32	21	27	0.1	394	123									
TOGO LOME	***	***	35	25	***	***	***	***									
BURKIN OUAGADOUGOU	36	23	40	21	***	***	0	-1									
COTE D ABIDJAN	***	***	33	25	***	***	***	***									

Based on Preliminary Reports



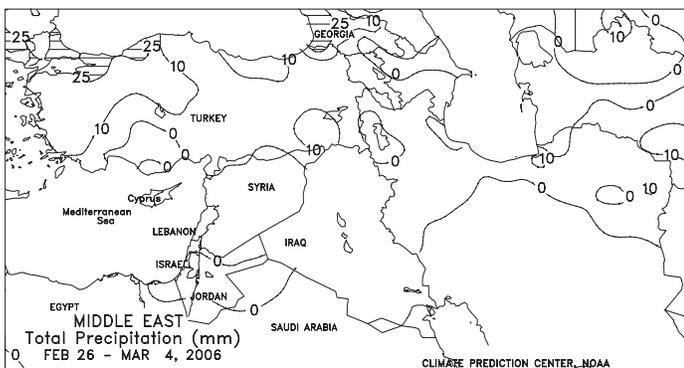
**EUROPE**

Cold, stormy weather further eased moisture shortages in central and western Europe while maintaining adequate moisture supplies in southeastern growing areas. A slow-moving storm brought widespread rain and snow (10-70 mm of liquid equivalent) to France, southern Germany, and the Iberian Peninsula, providing much-needed topsoil moisture for dormant to vegetative winter grains. Despite the recent rainfall, more rain will be needed in Spain and Portugal over the upcoming weeks as crops begin to enter the more moisture-sensitive heading stage. Farther north, light precipitation (5-20 mm) improved prospects for semi-dormant to vegetative winter grains in England and the Benelux Countries. In the Balkans, light-to-moderate rain and snow (5-25 mm of liquid equivalent) maintained adequate topsoil moisture for winter grains, which have begun to break dormancy. Elsewhere, light snow (1-10 mm of liquid equivalent) in Slovakia, Poland, and the Baltic boosted the region's protective snow cover, reducing potential impacts of early-week bitter cold (-20 to -15 degrees C) on dormant winter crops. Dry cool weather in northern Italy eased winter grains out of dormancy, while widespread showers (10-90 mm) across central and southern Italy slowed citrus harvesting.



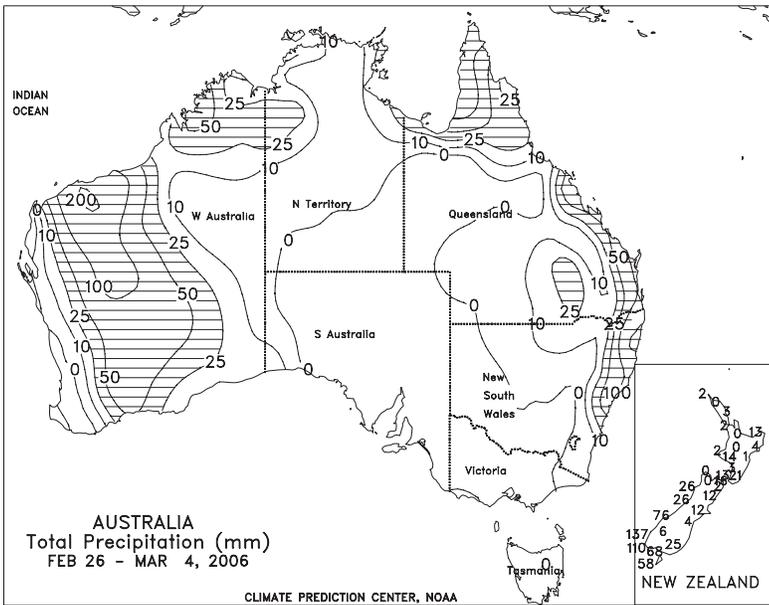
**FSU-WESTERN**

A series of storm systems brought widespread precipitation (10-25 mm or more of liquid equivalent) to most winter grain areas. Most of the precipitation fell in the form of snow or a mixture of rain and snow, boosting the already moderate to deep snowpack in most areas. The storm systems ushered in a return of bitterly cold weather to some areas. The axis of bitterly cold air stretched from western Ukraine northeastward through Belarus and the Central District in Russia, where lowest temperatures ranged from -25 to -15 degrees C at most locations. However, a fresh protective snow cover shielded grains from potential freeze damage. Elsewhere, lowest temperatures ranged from -14 to -1 degrees C. Weekly temperatures averaged 1 to 4 degrees C below normal in Ukraine, Belarus, and the Central District in Russia and 1 to 4 degrees C above normal in the Southern and Volga Districts in Russia.



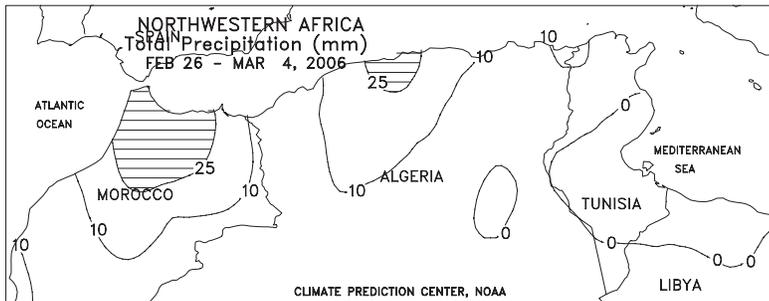
**MIDDLE EAST**

Mild, showery conditions in Turkey contrasted with continued unseasonable warmth in Iran. Light rain (5-25 mm of liquid equivalent) coupled with temperatures up to 4 degrees C above normal eased winter grains out of dormancy in central and western Turkey. Mostly dry, unseasonably warm weather (3 to 6 degrees C above normal) in southeastern Turkey and along the eastern Mediterranean coast accelerated winter grain development. Several weeks of dryness in the eastern Mediterranean have heightened the need for rain during the upcoming weeks as wheat enters the more moisture-sensitive heading stage of development. Dry, warm weather (4-8 degrees C above normal) in northern Iraq and western Iran ushered winter grains out of dormancy, with daytime highs of 15 to 22 degrees C, likely causing rapid greening of winter crops.



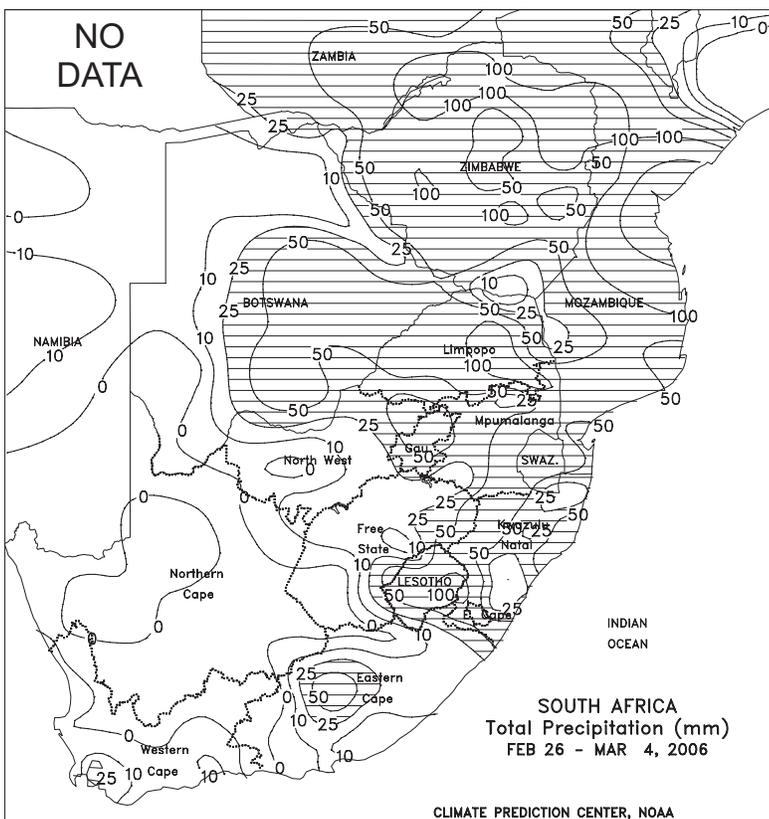
**AUSTRALIA**

In northern New South Wales and southern Queensland, widespread showers (10-55 mm) slowed the maturation and early harvesting of cotton and sorghum. The rainfall eased irrigation requirements for immature cotton and maintained moisture supplies for dryland crops. Temperatures in eastern Australia averaged about 1 to 2 degrees C below normal, ending a nearly 3-month period during which temperatures averaged above normal each week.



**NORTHWESTERN AFRICA**

Showers continued across much of the region, continuing a much wetter-than-average rainy season. A cold front triggered widespread rain (5-50 mm) in Morocco and Algeria, maintaining adequate to abundant moisture reserves for vegetative to heading winter grains. Farther east, light showers (3-10 mm) in northeast Algeria and northern Tunisia maintained favorable prospects for vegetative winter wheat and barley. Temperatures up to 3 degrees C below normal in Algeria and Morocco slowed crop development, although no widespread freezes were reported.



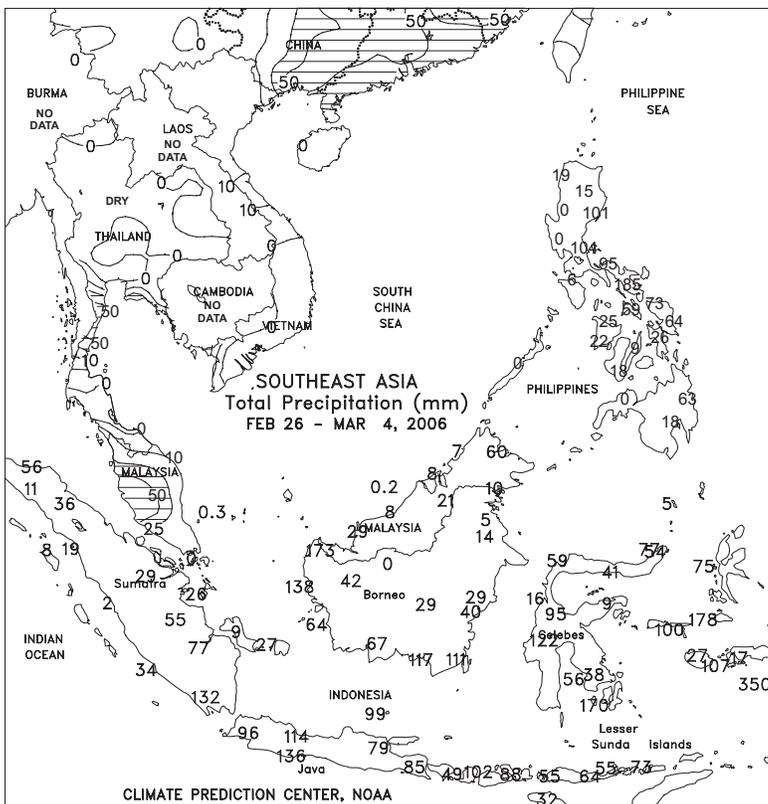
**SOUTH AFRICA**

Locally heavy rain (25-50 mm or more) kept immature summer crops well watered in major growing areas of the north and east, including Limpopo, sugarcane areas of KwaZulu-Natal, and most of the eastern corn belt (Gauteng, Mpumalanga, and eastern Free State). Lighter rain (less than 25 mm) fell in the western corn belt, and the increase in sunny weather aided development of late-planted summer crops. However, unseasonably mild weather (near- to below-normal temperatures, with highs generally in the middle and upper 20s degrees C) prevailed throughout the corn belt, lowering crop moisture demands but also slowing development of reproductive to filling corn in the west.



**EASTERN ASIA**

Cooler-than-normal weather prevailed in China after 2 weeks of above-normal temperatures. Winter wheat had begun breaking dormancy in southern areas of the North China Plain, but below-freezing temperatures limited greening of vegetation. Freezing temperatures extended well into southern China, slowing rice planting. Showers (25-100 mm) in southern China, though, increased moisture supplies for areas warm enough for planting to continue. Showers were heavy (50-100 mm) in southern Japan, resulting in flooding.



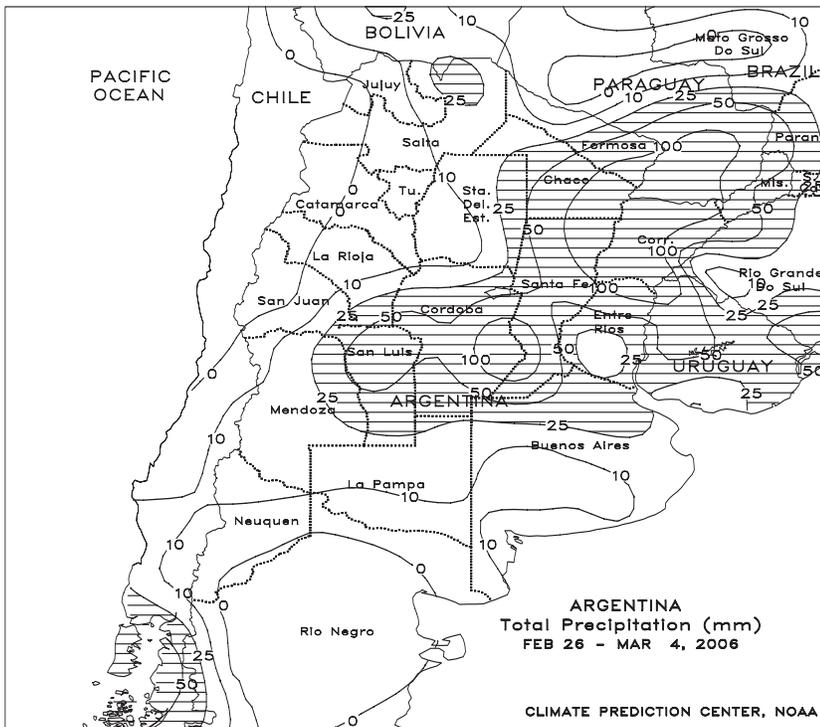
**SOUTHEAST ASIA**

Heavy monsoon showers (50-100 mm, locally more) continued throughout Indonesia. The heavy rain was generally unfavorable for reproductive to ripening rice in Java and oil palm harvesting in southern Sumatra. In the Philippines, showers were mostly confined to the eastern coast, allowing flood waters to recede inland. Seasonable dry weather prevailed in Indochina, with below-normal temperatures in Vietnam.



**BRAZIL**

Locally heavy showers (greater than 50 mm) hampered harvesting in some soybean areas of the Center-West region, notably southern Goias and Mato Grosso, but drier weather (rainfall less than 25 mm) promoted fieldwork in Mato Grosso do Sul and northern Parana. Late-week showers (greater than 25 mm) boosted moisture for immature soybeans in western Bahia and much of the south (southern Parana to Rio Grande do Sul), where crops can still benefit from additional rainfall. According to private analyst Safras e Mercados, soybeans were 17 percent harvested nationally as of March 3, up just 4 percentage points from the previous week. Soybeans were over 30 percent harvested in Mato Grosso and Goias, Brazil's number 1 and 4 soybean producers, respectively, in recent years.



**ARGENTINA**

Scattered showers (10-25 mm, locally exceeding 50 mm) continued in major soybean areas of central Argentina (Cordoba, Santa Fe, Entre Rios, and northern Buenos Aires), further improving conditions for immature soybeans after the short-lived dry spell of several weeks ago. Elsewhere, showers were mostly scattered and light (less than 10 mm), although locally heavy rain developed in cotton areas of Chaco and Formosa. Temperatures averaged near to below normal, with highs ranging from the upper 20s in the more southerly summer crop areas to the upper 30s in the northern cotton belt. According to the Ministry of Agriculture, sunflowers were 28 percent harvested as of March 2. Sunseed was 66 percent harvested in Entre Rios and was underway in several delegations of Buenos Aires, Argentina's largest producer. Harvesting of other summer crops, including corn and soybeans, was also underway, but fieldwork usually goes into full swing in April.

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