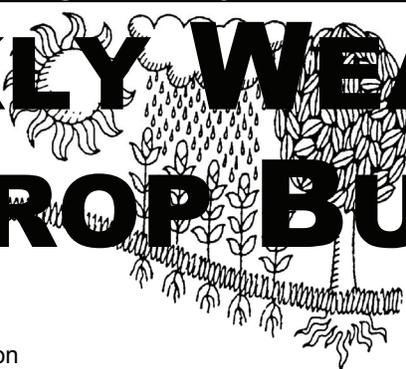
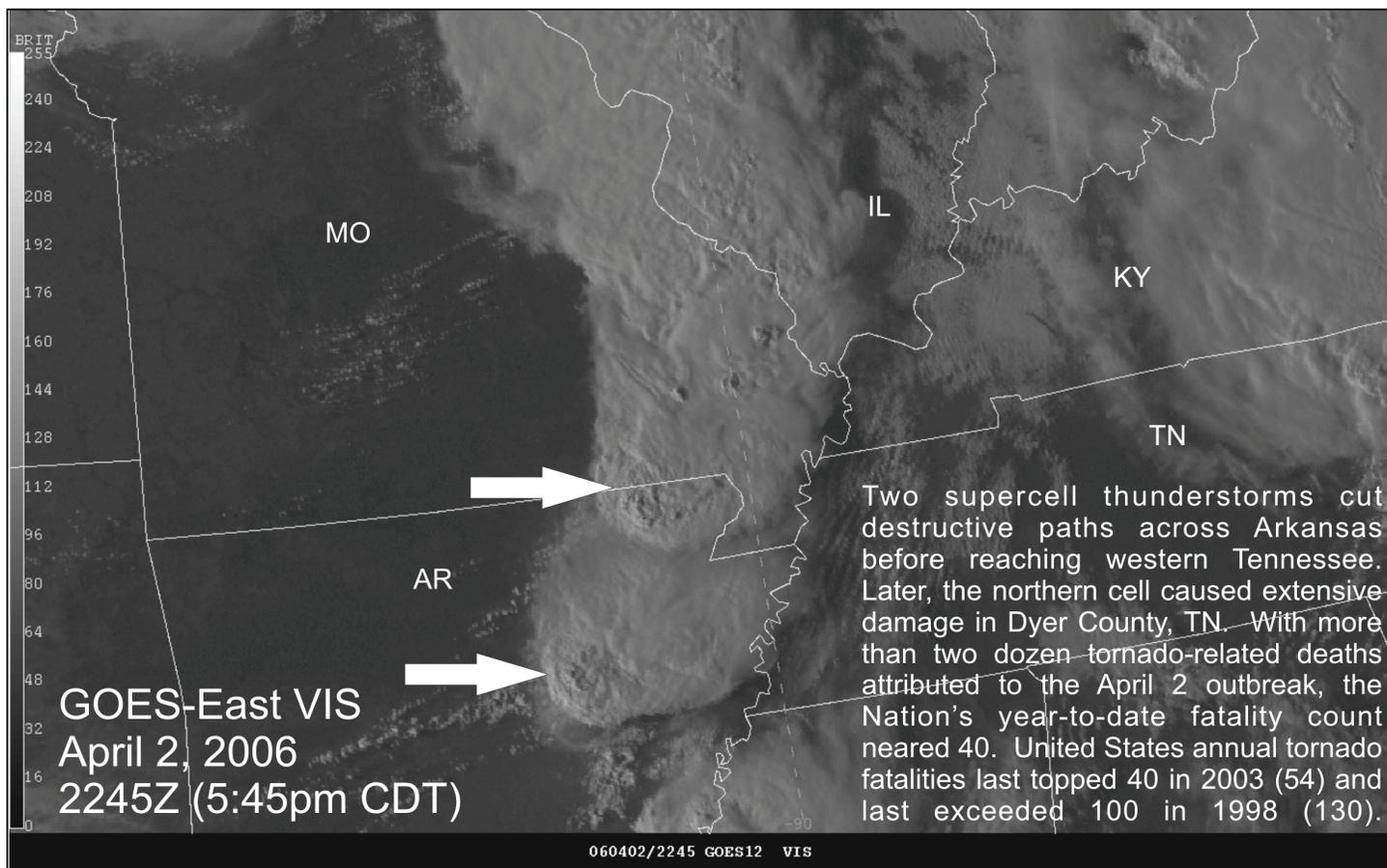


WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN



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

March 26 - April 1, 2006

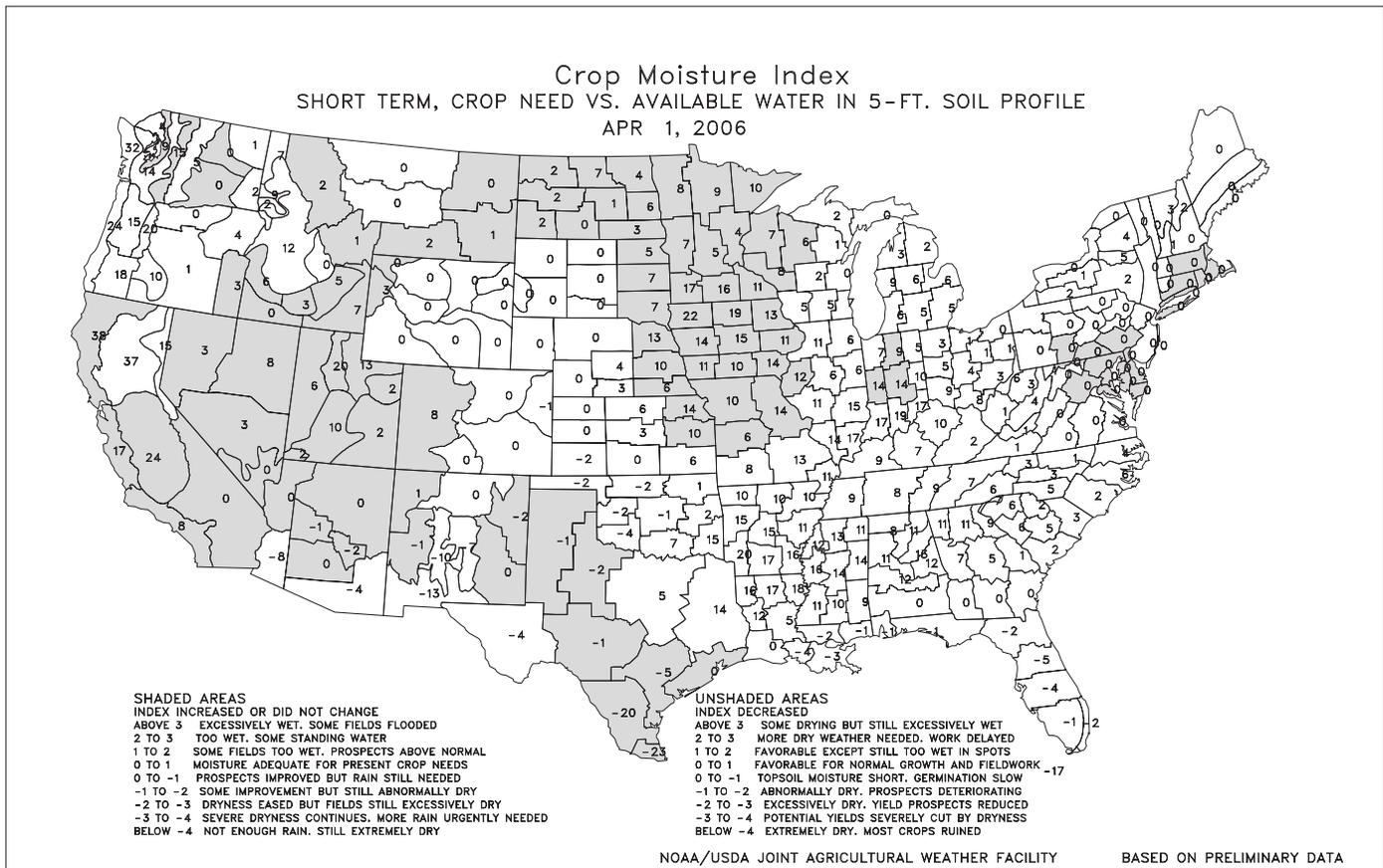
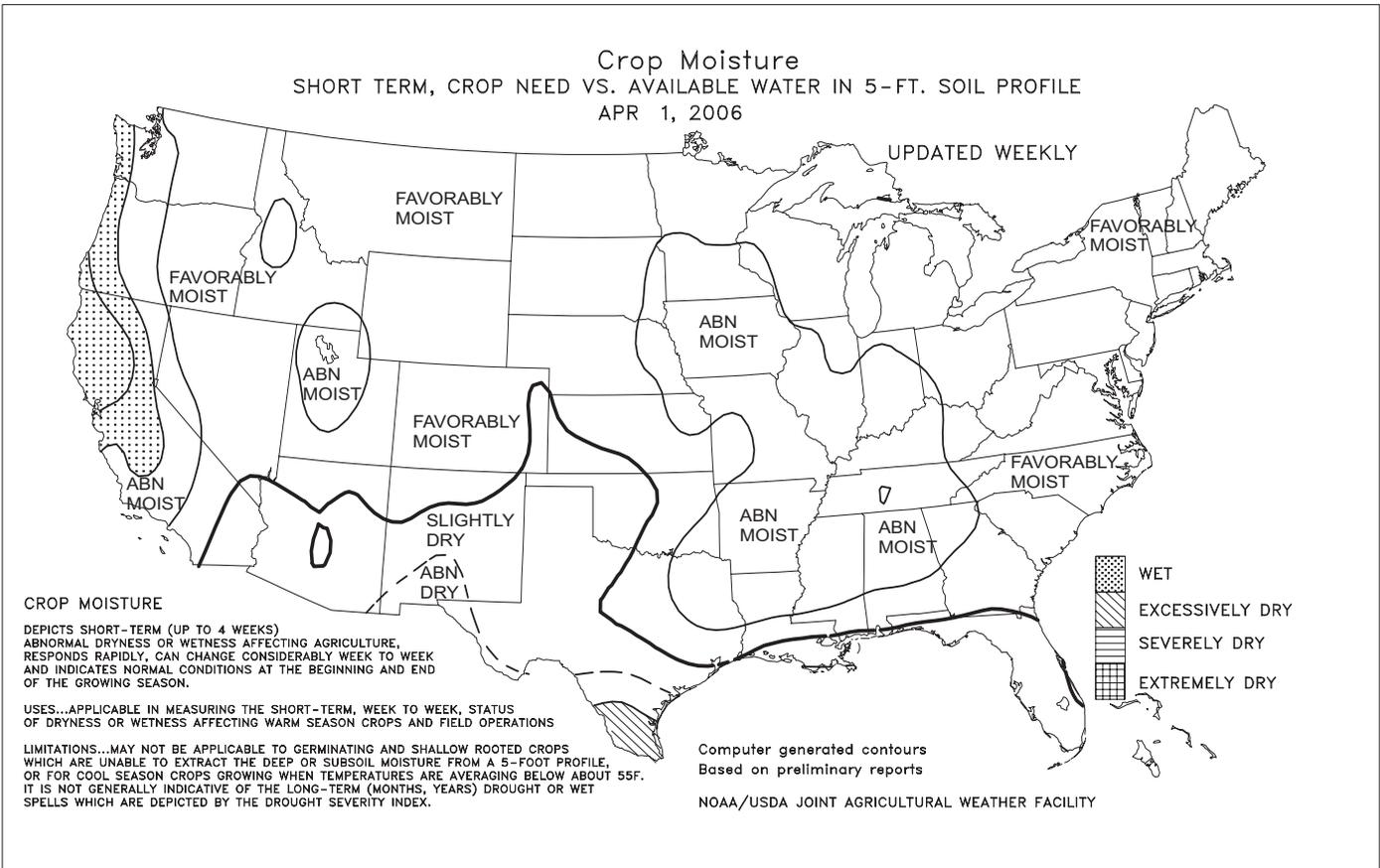
Highlights provided by USDAWAOB

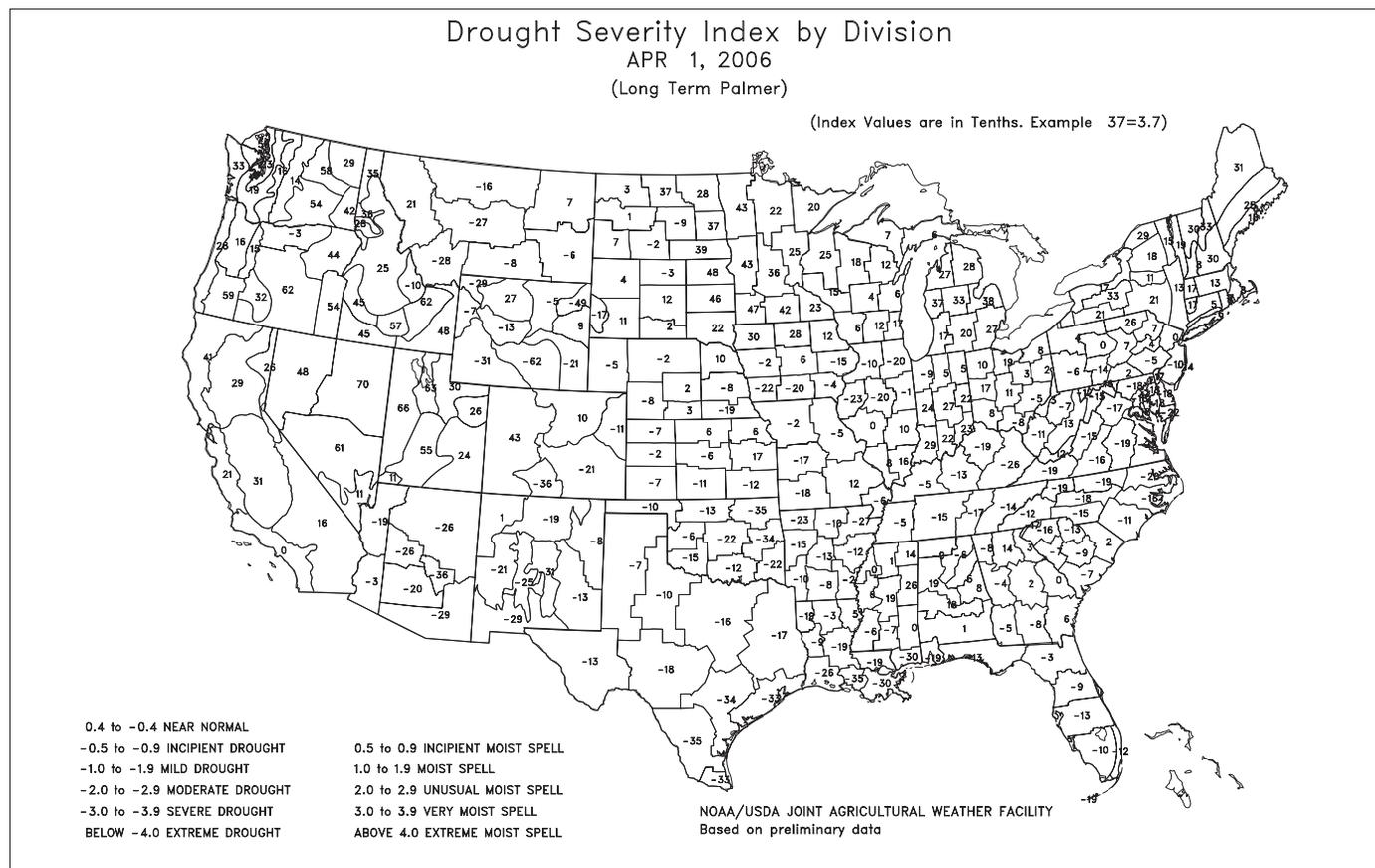
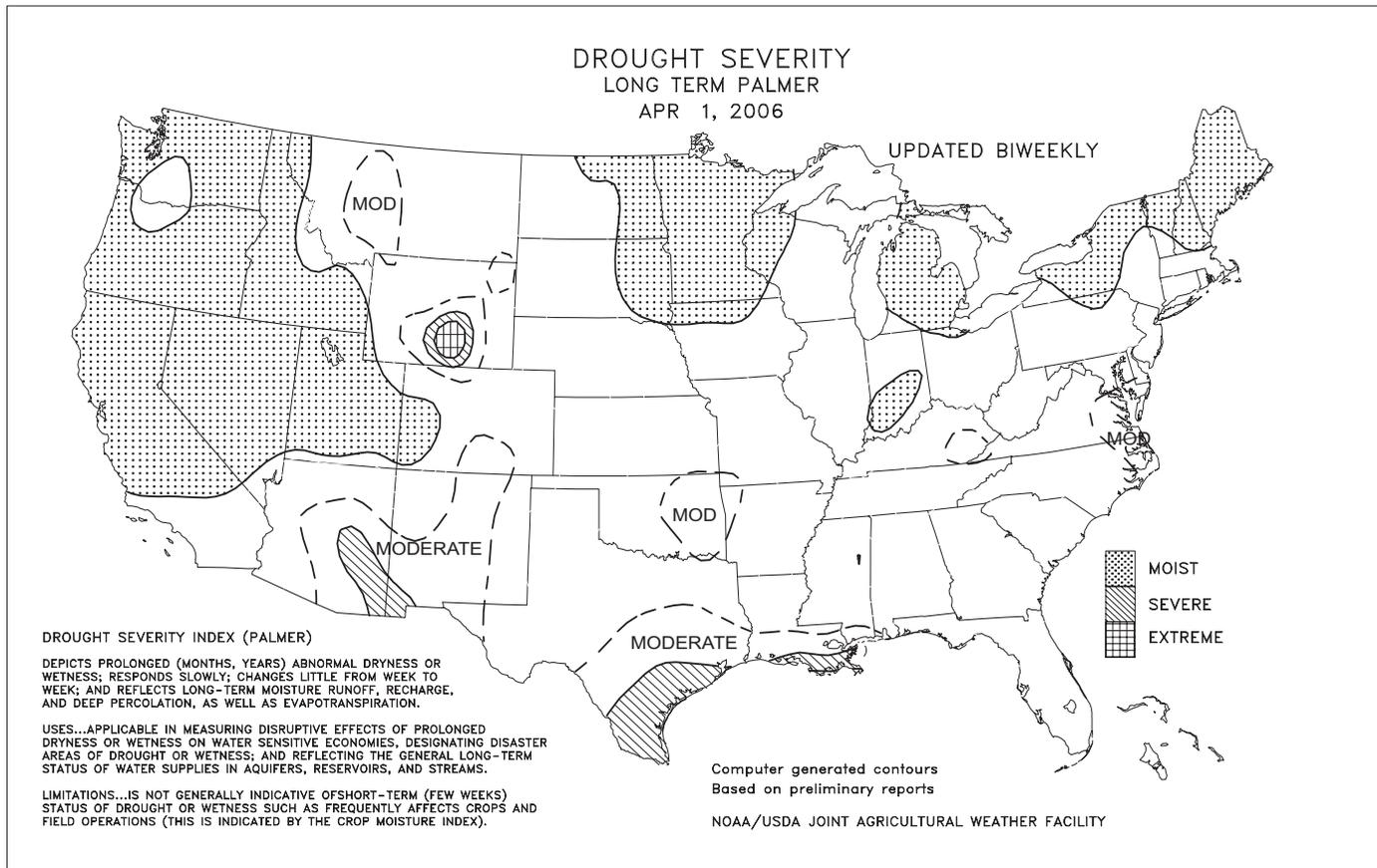
Chilly weather lingered in **California**, where weekly temperatures averaged as much as 5°F below normal, but warm air expanded across the remainder of the Nation. Readings were at least 5°F above normal on the **central and southern Plains** and averaged as much as 10°F above normal in **New England**. Below-normal temperatures lingered early in the week, however, in the **Southeast**, where frost was reported through March 27 as far south as **northern Florida**. **California** also experienced another week of wet weather, further delaying spring fieldwork and crop development. Farther inland, locally heavy rain and snow fell across the **Intermountain West**, maintaining favorable spring and summer runoff prospects. However, only light precipitation fell in drought-affected areas

(Continued on page 5)

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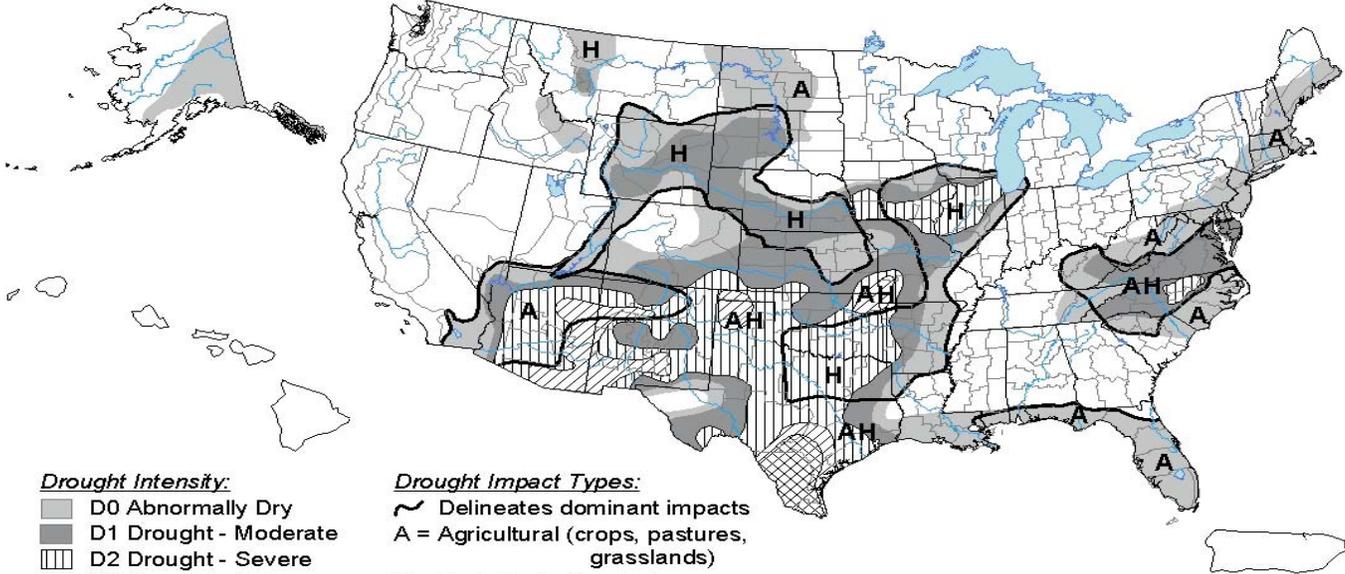
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U.S. Drought Monitor

March 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.

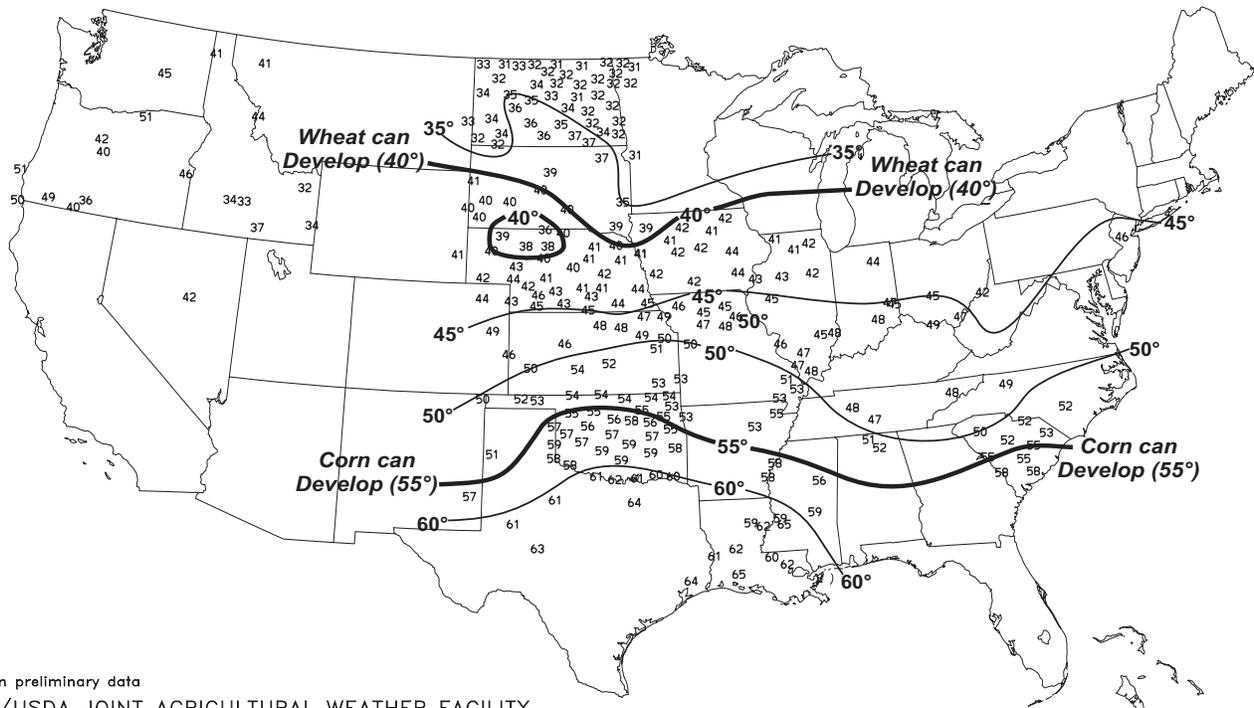


Released Thursday, March 30, 2006

<http://drought.unl.edu/dm> Author: C. Tankersley and L. Love-Brotak, NOAA/NESDIS/NCDC

Average Soil Temperature (°F, 4" Bare)

MAR 26 - APR 1, 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 Agrilivier Program, High Plains Regional Climate Center, Illinois State Water Survey, Iowa State University, Louisiana Agricultural Information System, Mississippi State University, Oklahoma Ivesonnet, Purdue University, University of Missouri, and USDA/NRCS Soil Climate Analysis Network.

(Continued from front cover)

of **Arizona** and **New Mexico**. Farther east, showers and thunderstorms erupted after midweek across the **eastern Plains** and **Midwest**. On March 30-31, more than two dozen tornadoes were reported across the **east-central Plains** and the **Midwest**. (A more significant severe weather outbreak struck the **Midwest** and **interior South** on April 2, when as many as five dozen tornadoes across eight States caused more than 25 deaths.) Aside from local destruction caused by severe thunderstorms, rain aided pastures and winter wheat across the **northern and eastern Plains** and the **southern and eastern Corn Belt**. However, only light rain fell on the **southern High Plains**, where warm, windy weather caused renewed crop deterioration. Increasingly dry conditions were also a concern on the **central High Plains**. Meanwhile, locally heavy rain subsided early in the week in the **western Gulf Coast region**, followed by some late-week showers across the **interior South**. Elsewhere in the **South**, dry weather and a warming trend spurred fieldwork and crop development, including corn emergence.

Early in the week, **Georgia** locations such as **Macon** (32, 28, 29°F) and **Valdosta** (32, 31, and 32°F) reported their last of three consecutive freezes on March 27. **Tallahassee, FL**, also noted three consecutive freezes (32, 31, and 29°F) from March 25-27. **Augusta, GA** (27°F), posted a daily-record low on March 26, followed the next day by a record in **Gainesville, FL** (31°F). Meanwhile, high winds developed across the **West** in advance of a **Pacific** storm. On March 26, winds were clocked to 58 m.p.h. in **Pueblo, CO**, and 80 m.p.h. near **Independence, CA**. Two days later, heavy rain spread across **California** and erupted in the **western Gulf Coast region**. With a 3.26-inch total on March 28, **Austin (Camp Mabry), TX**, reported its wettest March day on record (previously, 3.00 inches on March 14, 1900). Elsewhere in **Texas**, **College Station** (2.87 inches) received a daily-record sum. Meanwhile in **California**, daily-record totals for March 28 included 1.05 inches in **Fresno** and 1.75 inches in **Los Angeles (LAX)**. By March 29, locally heavy showers dampened drought-affected **Deep South Texas**, where **Harlingen** (1.82 inches) netted a daily-record total. Farther north, **Billings, MT** (1.13 inches on March 29), observed its wettest March day on record (previously, 0.95 inch on March 22, 1973).

More than two dozen tornadoes were spotted from the **east-central Plains into the Midwest** on March 30-31, boosting the preliminary monthly tally to 226. That total, if verified, will exceed the cumulative March tornado count during the preceding 3 years (147 March tornadoes from 2003-05). It was also the deadliest March, in terms of tornado-related fatalities, since 1998. Ten people died in **Missouri** during the March 11-12 tornado outbreak, compared with March 1998 fatalities in **Georgia** (14), **North Carolina** (2), and **Minnesota** (2). Elsewhere after midweek, daily-record rainfall totals for March 30 included 2.08 inches in **Mason City, IA**, and 1.20 inches in **Miles City, MT**. It was **Miles City's** second-highest total for any March day behind a 1.40-inch sum on March 24, 1942. Farther east, the **Red River at Fargo, ND**, climbed above the 18-foot flood stage on March 30, followed by a daily-record rainfall (0.41 inch) in that location on March 31. The **Red River at Fargo** continued to rise rapidly in early April due to runoff and melting snow, surging more than 18 feet above flood stage by late April 3. Similarly, the **Red River at East Grand Forks, MN**, rose above the 28-foot flood stage on March 31 and edged above 46 feet on April 3. However, the **Red River** remained well below the April 1997 record crests in **Fargo** (39.57 feet) and **East Grand Forks** (54.35 feet). At week's end, warmth overspread areas from the **Plains eastward** in advance of another **Pacific** storm and severe weather outbreak. **McAlester, OK**, noted consecutive daily-record highs (83 and 87°F) on April 1-2.

Hawaii completed one of its wettest months on record. On **Kauai**,

March 2006 was comparably wet to March 1951, when former March rainfall records were established at **Lihue** (14.54 inches) and **Mt. Waialeale** (81.95 inches). March rainfall totaled 35.95 inches (1,004 percent of normal) in **Lihue** and 93.71 inches (270 percent) on **Mt. Waialeale**, erasing records for any month (22.91 inches in December 1968 and 90.07 inches in April 1971, respectively). Elsewhere in **Hawaii**, March records were broken in locations such as **Punaluu, Oahu** (37.55 inches; previously, 35.21 inches in 1920), and **Pahala**, on the **Big Island** (30.14 inches; previously, 28.93 in 1980). Meanwhile, mostly dry weather prevailed in **Alaska**, although above-normal temperatures along the west coast contrasted with readings as much as 8°F below normal across the northern and eastern mainland. Although the month ended with near-normal temperatures in **southeastern Alaska, Juneau** (27.8°F, or 5.9°F below normal) completed its fifth-coldest March on record. Similarly, **Fairbanks** (3.0°F, or 8.1°F below normal) noted its coldest March since 1972. **Alaskan** monthly precipitation was less than half of normal in locations such as **Valdez** (1.73 inches, or 39 percent of normal) and **Annette Island** (3.39 inches, or 43 percent).

U.S. Prospective Planting Highlights

The following information was released by USDA's Agricultural Statistics Board on March 31, 2006.

Corn growers intend to plant 78.0 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2006, down 5 percent from 2005 and 4 percent below 2004. If realized, this will be the lowest corn acreage since 2001, when 75.7 million acres were planted for all purposes. Expected acreage is down from last year in most States, as producers intend to switch to other, less input-intensive crops, due to high fertilizer and fuel costs. Dry conditions also contributed to lower corn planting intentions on the southern Great Plains.

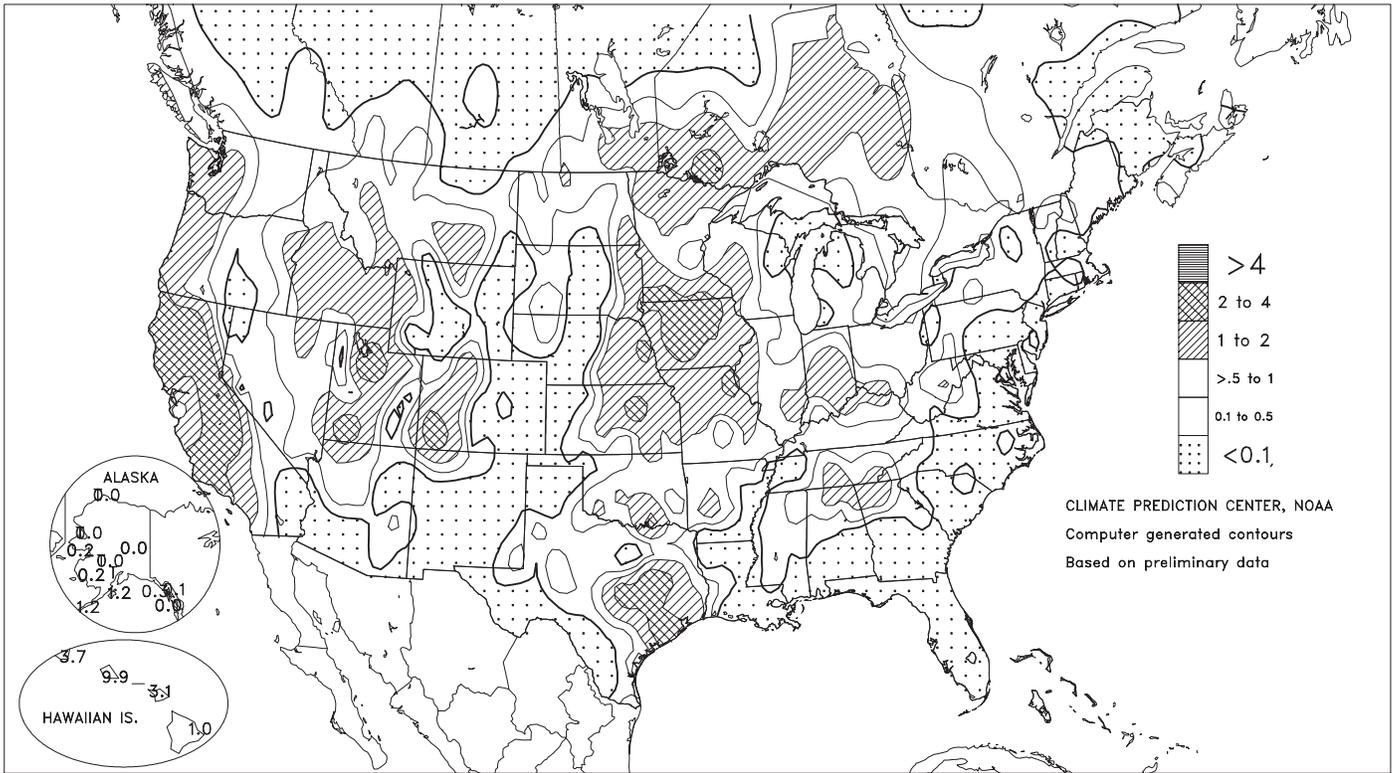
Soybean producers intend to plant 76.9 million acres in 2006, up 7 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the largest planted area on record. Acreage increases are expected in all growing areas, except the central and southern Atlantic Coast States and the southern Great Plains. The largest acreage increase is in North Dakota, where record-high soybean yields last year and high input costs have some farmers shifting acreage from other crops to soybeans. Large increases in soybean acreage are also expected across the Corn Belt, including 600,000 more acres in Illinois and 500,000 more acres in Indiana.

All wheat planted area is expected to total 57.1 million acres, down slightly from 2005. If realized, this will be the lowest all wheat acreage since 1972. Winter wheat planted area for the 2006 crop is 41.4 million acres, up 2 percent from last year. Of the total, about 29.8 million acres are Hard Red Winter, 7.42 million acres are Soft Red Winter, and 4.22 million acres are White Winter. The 2006 other spring wheat planted acreage is expected to total 13.9 million, down 1 percent from 2005. Of the total, about 13.2 million acres are Hard Red Spring wheat. Intended Durum wheat planted area is 1.83 million acres, down 34 percent from the previous year. If realized, this will be the lowest Durum wheat acreage since 1961.

All cotton plantings for 2006 are expected to total 14.6 million acres, 3 percent above last year. Upland acreage is expected to total 14.3 million, also up 3 percent. Growers intend to increase acreage in all the cotton-producing States except Alabama and South Carolina, where expected acreage is down slightly from 2005. American-Pima cotton growers intend to increase their plantings 24 percent from 2005, to a record-high 334,000 acres. California producers expect to plant 290,000 acres, up 26 percent from last year.

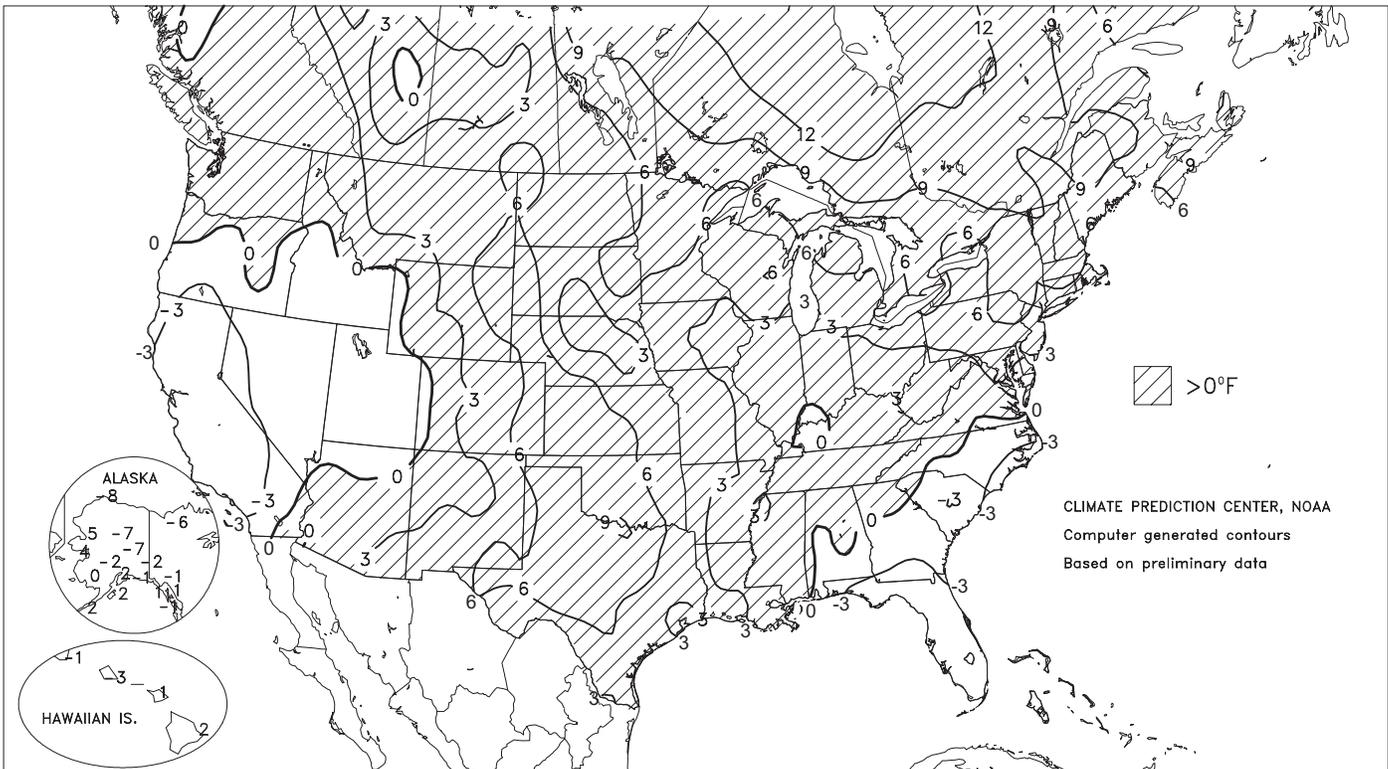
Total Precipitation (Inches)

MAR 26 - APR 1, 2006



Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F)

MAR 26 - APR 1, 2006



National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 1, 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	TEMP. °F			
																90 AND ABOVE	82 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
AL BIRMINGHAM	72	47	81	29	60	3	0.36	-0.95	0.23	4.80	76	19.47	122	84	37	0	1	4	0
AL HUNTSVILLE	71	44	80	26	57	1	1.06	-0.27	0.62	2.81	41	11.23	65	84	43	0	2	2	1
AL MOBILE	75	51	83	36	63	0	0.00	-1.49	0.00	0.24	3	7.35	40	87	45	0	0	0	0
AL MONTGOMERY	74	46	83	29	60	0	0.10	-1.16	0.03	3.67	56	13.35	78	87	41	0	1	6	0
AK ANCHORAGE	38	25	42	20	31	1	0.04	-0.07	0.04	0.40	60	1.48	71	79	63	0	7	1	0
AK BARROW	-11	-25	0	-34	-18	-8	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.22	244	0.70	212	82	74	0	7	1	0
AK FAIRBANKS	29	-4	43	-16	12	-7	0.00	-0.04	0.00	0.21	75	1.19	99	71	62	0	7	0	0
AK JUNEAU	45	30	49	24	37	1	0.06	-0.61	0.04	1.51	42	6.51	52	91	77	0	5	2	0
AK KODIAK	42	30	44	25	36	2	1.18	0.02	0.74	3.07	57	9.87	51	89	71	0	5	3	1
AK NOME	24	7	31	-9	16	4	0.20	0.07	0.14	0.74	119	2.84	124	81	67	0	7	2	0
AZ FLAGSTAFF	49	29	58	20	39	0	0.66	0.22	0.38	2.19	82	2.53	34	89	43	0	6	3	0
AZ PHOENIX	78	61	83	57	69	4	0.00	-0.16	0.00	1.71	157	1.71	64	38	28	0	0	0	0
AZ TUCSON	77	55	83	49	66	4	0.01	-0.08	0.01	0.42	51	0.42	16	39	24	0	0	1	0
AZ YUMA	78	59	85	53	69	0	0.00	-0.03	0.00	0.22	81	0.22	24	45	33	0	0	0	0
AR FORT SMITH	75	47	85	36	61	5	0.22	-0.65	0.12	4.95	122	8.68	96	82	42	0	0	2	0
CA LITTLE ROCK	70	48	80	33	59	2	0.23	-0.99	0.17	4.57	90	10.39	87	90	47	0	0	2	0
CA BAKERSFIELD	65	47	69	41	56	-3	0.60	0.36	0.23	2.08	144	3.13	82	82	62	0	0	5	0
CA FRESNO	62	45	66	40	53	-4	2.54	2.17	1.28	4.85	216	8.79	135	89	75	0	0	5	2
CA LOS ANGELES	61	52	65	50	57	-2	2.05	1.71	1.76	2.71	111	6.16	72	87	66	0	0	5	1
CA REDDING	57	42	65	35	50	-4	1.56	0.63	0.67	8.24	156	19.84	115	85	70	0	0	6	1
CA SACRAMENTO	60	44	64	39	52	-4	1.23	0.78	0.55	5.62	197	10.24	100	93	56	0	0	5	1
CA SAN DIEGO	64	56	66	54	60	-1	0.44	0.03	0.35	2.00	87	3.47	52	74	56	0	0	4	0
CA SAN FRANCISCO	59	47	63	44	53	-2	0.97	0.43	0.43	6.43	193	11.18	95	84	71	0	0	6	0
CA STOCKTON	64	43	66	39	53	-4	0.70	0.31	0.28	4.17	179	8.64	115	88	70	0	0	6	0
CO ALAMOSA	56	23	61	9	40	4	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.61	127	0.80	85	69	29	0	7	0	0
CO CO SPRINGS	61	32	67	24	47	6	0.00	-0.29	0.00	0.25	23	0.53	31	67	16	0	4	0	0
CO DENVER INTL	64	31	72	22	48	7	0.00	-0.15	0.00	0.74	81	1.17	85	69	18	0	4	0	0
CO GRAND JUNCTION	58	34	63	25	46	0	0.58	0.37	0.21	1.38	134	1.81	85	68	42	0	2	5	0
CO PUEBLO	69	31	76	22	50	5	0.00	-0.25	0.00	0.65	64	1.17	73	60	34	0	4	0	0
CT BRIDGEPORT	58	39	63	32	49	6	0.06	-0.92	0.06	0.91	21	8.96	82	73	42	0	1	1	0
CT HARTFORD	63	34	73	26	49	7	0.16	-0.75	0.16	0.96	24	9.45	87	66	29	0	4	1	0
DC WASHINGTON	66	44	78	35	55	4	0.02	-0.70	0.01	0.07	2	5.78	61	73	35	0	0	2	0
DE WILMINGTON	63	40	74	33	52	5	0.03	-0.82	0.03	0.33	8	6.86	66	76	32	0	0	1	0
FL DAYTONA BEACH	75	50	85	39	62	-4	0.00	-0.83	0.00	0.15	4	4.72	48	86	37	0	0	0	0
FL JACKSONVILLE	75	46	85	34	61	-3	0.00	-0.88	0.00	0.68	17	6.90	63	90	35	0	0	0	0
FL KEY WEST	76	66	79	60	71	-4	0.01	-0.45	0.01	0.05	3	0.99	17	74	54	0	0	1	0
FL MIAMI	77	61	81	52	69	-5	0.00	-0.69	0.00	1.10	41	4.89	74	69	43	0	0	0	0
FL ORLANDO	79	52	86	43	66	-3	0.00	-0.77	0.00	0.02	1	2.81	33	93	37	0	0	0	0
FL PENSACOLA	72	53	80	43	63	0	0.00	-1.32	0.00	0.24	4	6.99	42	83	55	0	0	0	0
FL TALLAHASSEE	76	44	83	29	60	-3	0.00	-1.28	0.00	0.31	5	10.02	60	89	40	0	2	0	0
FL TAMPA	77	56	84	44	66	-3	0.00	-0.53	0.00	0.00	0	9.79	125	80	35	0	0	0	0
FL WEST PALM BEACH	76	59	80	47	68	-4	0.00	-0.93	0.00	1.78	47	6.19	61	71	45	0	0	0	0
GA ATHENS	70	44	81	30	57	0	0.34	-0.64	0.14	3.12	61	10.97	77	87	51	0	2	3	0
GA ATLANTA	68	47	80	30	57	0	0.29	-0.76	0.17	3.97	72	14.57	96	85	51	0	1	4	0
GA AUGUSTA	72	42	82	27	57	-2	0.20	-0.74	0.19	3.54	75	9.90	74	91	52	0	2	2	0
GA COLUMBUS	73	48	81	35	61	1	0.01	-1.15	0.01	4.42	75	11.85	78	80	34	0	0	1	0
GA MACON	73	43	81	28	58	-1	0.03	-0.93	0.01	1.73	34	7.57	52	92	37	0	2	3	0
GA SAVANNAH	72	45	82	30	59	-3	0.00	-0.88	0.00	0.32	8	7.17	67	90	39	0	1	0	0
HI HILO	81	67	85	64	74	2	0.99	-2.51	0.92	26.43	178	46.32	139	85	74	0	0	3	1
HI HONOLULU	76	67	79	64	72	-3	9.95	9.64	3.25	17.03	882	21.18	302	93	86	0	0	7	5
HI KAHULUI	81	68	85	64	74	1	3.11	2.59	1.16	5.47	226	6.90	81	92	80	0	0	6	3
HI LIHUE	77	68	80	66	72	-1	3.74	2.98	1.13	23.24	630	33.76	293	92	80	0	0	7	2
ID BOISE	54	39	61	32	46	-1	1.46	1.16	0.65	2.53	174	4.69	118	76	59	0	1	6	2
ID LEWISTON	57	40	62	32	49	2	0.40	0.15	0.36	1.31	113	2.68	82	80	59	0	1	3	0
ID POCATELLO	48	30	54	23	39	-2	0.86	0.58	0.41	2.38	168	4.47	125	85	68	0	5	5	0
IL CHICAGO/O'HARE	54	35	70	25	45	3	0.34	-0.42	0.14	2.93	106	7.50	122	86	61	0	2	4	0
IL MOLINE	53	38	67	27	46	2	1.03	0.23	0.51	4.33	142	8.12	132	85	64	0	1	3	1
IL PEORIA	55	39	71	25	47	2	0.43	-0.27	0.20	3.33	114	7.30	120	86	54	0	1	4	0
IL ROCKFORD	53	34	66	26	44	3	0.68	-0.03	0.37	4.11	164	7.74	147	85	64	0	3	4	0
IL SPRINGFIELD	56	40	72	25	48	2	0.33	-0.41	0.15	4.68	144	7.33	110	83	61	0	1	3	0
IN EVANSVILLE	62	39	78	27	51	1	0.53	-0.46	0.44	9.98	225	16.26	156	87	57	0	2	3	0
IN FORT WAYNE	54	35	70	22	45	2	0.64	-0.10	0.38	1.74	59	6.41	92	88	56	0	3	4	0
IN INDIANAPOLIS	58	40	73	27	49	3	1.78	0.98	1.42	7.19	203	12.38	147	91	56	0	2	4	1
IN SOUTH BEND	54	35	72	21	45	3	0.34	-0.43	0.11	4.37	146	8.19	113	86	56	0	2	5	0
IA BURLINGTON	54	40	69	27	47	2	0.88	0.14	0.48	3.89	127	6.91	117	86	58	0	1	2	0
IA CEDAR RAPIDS	52	34	65	22	43	1	0.83	0.19	0.50	4.30	185	6.24	140	95	61	0	2	2	1
IA DES MOINES	56	38	70	29	47	3	2.02	1.37	1.32	4.15	180	5.13	113	86	65	0	1	3	2
IA DUBUQUE	51	35	62	24	43	3	1.18	0.48	0.89	3.57	134	5.24	98	85	70	0	3	3	1
IA SIOUX CITY	55	34	66	21	44	2	1.16	0.62	1.03	2.91	140	3.53	107	91	75	0	2	4	1
IA WATERLOO	53	35	69	17	44	4	1.25	0.64	0.74	3.19	144	4.09	100	88	65	0	1	3	1
KS CONCORDIA	65	37	76	28	51	4	1.12	0.59	0.59	2.50	103	2.59	68	82	58	0	2	3	1
KS DODGE CITY	72	40	84	31	56	8	0.43	-0.04	0.41	1.47	77	1.63	51	79	29	0	1	3	0
KS GOODLAND	64	34	77	27	49	6	0.08	-0.17	0.08	2.02	163	2.61	124	77	44	0	4	1	0
KS TOPEKA	65	40	76	29	53	4	0.63	0.00	0.24	2.68	101	3.18	67	79	55	0	1	3	0

Based on 1971-2000 normals

*** Not Available

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 1, 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	71	43	83	32	57	7	0.05	-0.56	0.03	2.40	86	2.51	54	70	46	0	1	2	0	
KY JACKSON	65	44	77	33	55	4	0.30	-0.58	0.27	3.13	70	10.55	90	79	34	0	0	2	0	
LEXINGTON	61	39	73	26	50	0	0.79	-0.12	0.72	4.51	99	12.00	108	85	54	0	2	4	1	
LOUISVILLE	62	41	77	30	52	1	1.61	0.69	1.55	5.64	124	11.99	108	86	44	0	2	3	1	
LA PADUCAH	66	39	78	23	53	1	0.01	-0.99	0.01	5.81	131	14.81	125	90	40	0	2	1	0	
LA BATON ROUGE	78	54	86	36	66	3	0.06	-1.15	0.03	0.31	6	6.42	39	91	45	0	0	4	0	
LA LAKE CHARLES	77	58	82	42	68	4	0.08	-0.72	0.08	0.20	5	4.85	39	87	53	0	0	1	0	
LA NEW ORLEANS	77	59	83	48	68	3	0.03	-1.20	0.03	0.67	12	6.78	40	80	48	0	0	1	0	
LA SHREVEPORT	76	54	85	40	65	4	0.13	-0.80	0.09	5.10	118	15.37	117	86	52	0	0	3	0	
ME CARIBOU	50	30	59	23	40	10	0.10	-0.48	0.10	1.06	40	6.97	91	74	38	0	5	1	0	
ME PORTLAND	57	30	65	25	43	5	0.21	-0.79	0.21	1.21	28	7.66	66	77	34	0	6	1	0	
MD BALTIMORE	65	39	78	33	52	4	0.01	-0.78	0.01	0.19	5	6.31	60	71	34	0	0	1	0	
MA BOSTON	59	39	73	34	49	6	0.06	-0.82	0.06	0.62	16	7.84	70	63	33	0	0	1	0	
MA WORCESTER	59	37	70	31	48	10	0.21	-0.76	0.21	0.72	16	9.51	82	63	27	0	2	1	0	
MI ALPENA	54	26	64	19	40	7	0.23	-0.29	0.20	2.20	100	6.81	128	91	40	0	6	2	0	
MI GRAND RAPIDS	55	33	71	22	44	5	0.20	-0.52	0.16	3.36	124	10.05	161	89	48	0	3	4	0	
MI HOUGHTON LAKE	54	26	63	20	40	6	0.10	-0.42	0.10	2.52	119	6.57	132	90	46	0	6	1	0	
MI LANSING	54	34	69	24	44	5	0.15	-0.53	0.12	2.73	112	8.59	156	87	55	0	3	3	0	
MI MUSKOGON	53	31	66	21	42	4	0.22	-0.41	0.13	5.76	235	11.55	185	88	55	0	4	5	0	
MI TRAVERSE CITY	55	29	68	22	42	6	0.07	-0.51	0.07	1.44	70	4.52	66	88	39	0	5	1	0	
MN DULUTH	45	29	51	17	37	6	0.74	0.28	0.31	1.61	91	3.03	82	89	69	0	5	3	0	
MN INT'L FALLS	45	29	53	14	37	7	1.69	1.43	0.94	2.19	219	3.72	150	90	62	0	4	3	2	
MN MINNEAPOLIS	50	35	55	27	43	5	0.24	-0.28	0.15	1.75	91	2.78	74	84	65	0	2	4	0	
MN ROCHESTER	49	35	57	26	42	6	0.96	0.39	0.54	2.58	131	3.31	90	89	76	0	1	4	1	
MN ST. CLOUD	49	34	57	26	42	8	0.34	-0.12	0.29	1.15	73	1.70	58	91	65	0	3	3	0	
MS JACKSON	73	50	83	32	62	2	0.38	-1.02	0.38	4.76	80	18.52	115	88	50	0	1	1	0	
MS MERIDIAN	74	48	85	30	61	1	0.13	-1.37	0.09	5.63	79	17.49	95	93	47	0	2	5	0	
MS TUPELO	73	45	81	28	59	3	0.15	-1.15	0.13	3.72	57	15.22	93	81	47	0	1	2	0	
MO COLUMBIA	64	41	79	29	53	4	1.27	0.47	0.49	3.75	113	5.77	79	84	44	0	1	3	0	
MO KANSAS CITY	65	43	74	33	54	6	0.80	0.23	0.30	2.15	85	3.30	66	76	46	0	0	3	0	
MO SAINT LOUIS	62	42	80	27	52	2	0.57	-0.26	0.31	3.47	93	5.56	68	83	51	0	1	3	0	
MO SPRINGFIELD	69	41	77	31	55	5	0.27	-0.71	0.18	2.72	69	4.58	55	76	49	0	1	4	0	
MT BILLINGS	58	32	67	27	45	5	1.97	1.67	1.02	2.75	237	2.95	116	81	40	0	3	3	2	
MT BUTTE	48	27	56	17	38	4	0.89	0.70	0.58	1.12	130	1.77	95	87	40	0	5	4	1	
MT CUT BANK	50	29	58	24	39	4	0.24	0.10	0.24	0.25	44	0.46	37	88	37	0	6	1	0	
MT GLASGOW	54	31	65	24	42	6	0.06	-0.05	0.05	0.30	61	1.56	142	84	57	0	5	2	0	
MT GREAT FALLS	54	32	61	24	43	6	0.92	0.67	0.39	2.51	239	3.65	163	83	34	0	3	4	0	
MT HAVRE	56	30	63	21	43	6	0.42	0.28	0.42	0.59	82	1.27	82	84	54	0	5	1	0	
MT MISSOULA	52	31	58	22	42	1	0.49	0.30	0.38	1.63	165	3.24	115	88	61	0	4	2	0	
NE GRAND ISLAND	57	35	72	25	46	3	0.64	0.12	0.48	3.23	153	3.49	105	87	73	0	3	3	0	
NE LINCOLN	60	37	75	29	49	4	1.53	0.96	0.99	3.72	162	4.70	130	85	68	0	2	5	1	
NE NORFOLK	56	35	73	24	46	4	1.02	0.51	0.91	3.54	174	4.06	120	85	70	0	2	4	1	
NE NORTH PLATTE	62	31	75	21	47	5	0.19	-0.12	0.10	0.84	65	1.18	54	88	41	0	3	2	0	
NE OMAHA	59	36	70	23	48	3	1.14	0.59	0.83	3.05	138	3.79	100	88	68	0	2	5	1	
NE SCOTTSBLUFF	60	31	69	28	45	4	0.31	0.01	0.23	1.06	88	2.10	91	86	50	0	5	3	0	
NE VALENTINE	52	28	68	15	40	1	0.07	-0.22	0.04	1.62	141	2.04	106	87	64	0	4	2	0	
NV ELY	47	26	57	20	36	-2	0.34	0.14	0.20	1.83	169	3.50	136	82	60	0	5	3	0	
NV LAS VEGAS	68	52	74	46	60	-1	0.05	-0.01	0.05	0.19	32	0.28	15	42	27	0	0	1	0	
NV RENO	55	32	64	27	44	-1	0.37	0.25	0.27	0.97	110	3.60	120	67	42	0	4	3	0	
NV WINNEMUCCA	53	29	64	21	41	-2	1.21	1.02	0.51	1.62	182	3.64	156	82	52	0	5	5	1	
NH CONCORD	63	27	74	22	45	7	0.03	-0.69	0.03	1.34	43	7.54	89	80	24	0	6	1	0	
NJ NEWARK	63	41	75	33	52	6	0.01	-0.93	0.01	0.80	18	7.97	71	60	31	0	0	1	0	
NM ALBUQUERQUE	66	42	70	37	54	3	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.14	22	0.18	12	50	17	0	0	0	0	
NY ALBANY	61	31	75	26	46	6	0.27	-0.48	0.26	1.44	45	7.21	92	78	32	0	4	2	0	
NY BINGHAMTON	56	33	73	27	44	7	0.10	-0.63	0.08	1.73	56	6.27	77	68	43	0	4	2	0	
NY BUFFALO	58	34	77	26	46	7	0.50	-0.22	0.34	2.49	81	8.61	99	79	39	0	4	2	0	
NY ROCHESTER	59	32	80	27	46	7	0.21	-0.42	0.16	1.73	65	6.28	89	77	39	0	5	2	0	
NY SYRACUSE	59	31	79	26	45	7	0.41	-0.35	0.40	2.21	71	6.84	87	83	38	0	5	2	0	
NC ASHEVILLE	64	37	79	23	50	0	0.06	-0.89	0.04	0.97	21	7.11	56	90	40	0	2	2	0	
NC CHARLOTTE	67	40	82	26	53	-3	0.06	-0.81	0.04	1.37	30	5.76	48	83	38	0	2	2	0	
NC GREENSBORO	66	42	82	30	54	1	0.13	-0.68	0.13	1.11	28	5.05	48	83	38	0	2	1	0	
NC HATTERAS	59	45	70	36	52	-3	0.00	-1.04	0.00	1.07	21	7.56	51	90	58	0	0	0	0	
NC RALEIGH	67	40	82	29	53	-1	0.09	-0.68	0.09	1.35	33	5.07	44	87	40	0	2	1	0	
NC WILMINGTON	68	41	78	31	55	-3	0.01	-0.80	0.01	1.30	30	6.53	52	89	33	0	1	1	0	
ND BISMARCK	55	28	65	22	42	7	0.25	0.02	0.16	0.62	70	1.01	55	89	64	0	6	4	0	
ND DICKINSON	50	29	65	25	39	4	0.65	0.38	0.55	0.80	110	1.26	82	95	56	0	6	3	1	
ND FARGO	44	33	53	28	39	5	0.47	0.19	0.41	0.80	66	1.63	64	89	73	0	3	3	0	
ND GRAND FORKS	41	29	46	26	35	3	0.90	0.68	0.46	1.35	147	2.53	116	96	78	0	6	3	0	
ND JAMESTOWN	47	29	58	25	38	4	0.26	0.02	0.15	0.42	45	0.63	30	99	72	0	5	4	0	
ND WILLISTON	51	30	64	24	41	7	1.18	1.00	1.03	1.52	197	1.96	115	86	57	0	5	2	1	
OH AKRON-CANTON	57	36	72	24	46	4	0.21	-0.51	0.15	2.34	72	7.80	97	76	55	0	2	3	0	
OH CINCINNATI	57	39	72	25	48	0	1.10	0.19	0.92	6.83	169	12.38	128	87	63	0	2	3	1	
OH CLEVELAND	57	36	72	27	46	4	0.38	-0.35	0.33	1.75	57	6.47	83	82	44	0	3	2	0	
OH COLUMBUS	57	38	71	25	48	2	0.39	-0.30	0.23	3.51	117	7.54	98	84	55	0	2	2	0	
OH DAYTON	55	39	68	28	47	2	0.37	-0.48	0.19	3.59	105	8.22	99	90	53	0	2	2	0	
OH MANSFIELD	55	35	68	24	45	4	0.40	-0.49	0.30	3.26	93	8.46	102	90	50	0	3	2	0	

Based on 1971-2000 normals

*** Not Available

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 1, 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
OK TOLEDO	56	35	69	23	45	3	0.16	-0.54	0.11	2.46	90	7.25	111	87	54	0	3	3	0
OK YOUNGSTOWN	59	35	75	23	47	6	0.03	-0.71	0.03	1.74	55	6.42	85	76	49	0	4	1	0
OK OKLAHOMA CITY	74	50	84	42	62	7	0.76	0.15	0.68	3.33	112	3.68	63	85	33	0	0	3	1
OR TULSA	74	47	84	35	60	5	0.48	-0.32	0.47	3.25	88	4.32	60	74	51	0	0	2	0
OR ASTORIA	56	43	63	39	50	3	0.85	-0.64	0.29	6.31	83	34.32	137	88	68	0	0	5	0
OR BURNS	50	32	59	26	41	2	0.61	0.39	0.22	1.39	109	3.88	109	82	63	0	4	5	0
OR EUGENE	56	38	62	33	47	0	1.26	0.13	0.47	4.66	78	20.36	102	93	78	0	0	5	0
OR MEDFORD	59	38	64	35	48	-1	0.74	0.39	0.28	2.36	124	9.42	146	91	44	0	0	5	0
OR PENDLETON	58	39	63	33	48	0	0.35	0.09	0.21	2.39	184	4.94	124	82	57	0	0	4	0
OR PORTLAND	59	42	66	38	51	2	0.76	0.04	0.31	3.60	94	16.68	128	88	67	0	0	4	0
OR SALEM	57	39	63	34	48	0	1.07	0.29	0.48	4.43	104	19.92	131	92	71	0	0	5	0
PA ALLENTOWN	64	36	74	30	50	7	0.07	-0.73	0.04	0.96	26	8.55	86	75	35	0	2	2	0
PA ERIE	55	36	76	24	45	4	0.27	-0.52	0.22	2.15	66	7.11	88	75	48	0	2	4	0
PA MIDDLETOWN	63	40	75	34	51	5	0.09	-0.60	0.09	0.77	23	7.38	81	76	33	0	0	1	0
PA PHILADELPHIA	63	41	75	36	52	5	0.12	-0.72	0.11	0.93	24	6.78	67	70	36	0	0	2	0
PA PITTSBURGH	57	36	74	23	47	3	0.13	-0.59	0.12	2.03	62	7.51	90	88	45	0	3	2	0
PA WILKES-BARRE	60	36	77	30	48	6	0.07	-0.61	0.05	1.36	49	6.84	93	75	32	0	4	3	0
PA WILLIAMSPORT	62	35	74	30	48	6	0.01	-0.77	0.01	1.17	35	8.30	95	75	34	0	5	1	0
RI PROVIDENCE	60	36	69	30	48	5	0.00	-1.05	0.00	0.57	12	8.43	68	71	31	0	2	0	0
SC BEAUFORT	71	47	81	34	59	-1	0.01	-0.87	0.00	0.22	6	6.02	55	91	42	0	0	1	0
SC CHARLESTON	72	46	82	33	59	-1	0.00	-0.87	0.00	0.45	11	6.68	59	86	36	0	0	0	0
SC COLUMBIA	69	43	81	28	56	-3	0.01	-0.96	0.01	0.89	19	7.02	53	88	48	0	2	1	0
SC GREENVILLE	67	44	82	29	55	0	0.04	-0.97	0.04	1.38	25	6.44	46	85	37	0	2	1	0
SD ABERDEEN	55	32	70	22	44	8	0.23	-0.14	0.21	0.69	49	1.24	53	91	74	0	3	3	0
SD HURON	56	32	68	24	44	6	0.27	-0.19	0.20	1.17	67	1.60	57	94	58	0	3	3	0
SD RAPID CITY	59	33	74	25	46	7	0.15	-0.14	0.07	1.38	129	1.75	92	81	40	0	3	7	0
SD SIOUX FALLS	50	34	63	25	42	4	1.85	1.32	1.22	2.83	150	3.74	129	92	79	0	2	5	1
TN BRISTOL	64	35	75	23	50	0	0.32	-0.45	0.26	2.95	73	8.83	81	92	36	0	3	2	0
TN CHATTANOOGA	70	41	82	28	56	1	1.52	0.26	1.13	3.15	50	10.39	63	86	39	0	2	3	1
TN KNOXVILLE	68	41	80	26	55	2	0.38	-0.68	0.38	3.25	61	9.80	71	83	32	0	2	1	0
TN MEMPHIS	72	49	83	30	60	3	0.20	-1.11	0.20	4.00	69	14.94	104	83	39	0	1	1	0
TN NASHVILLE	69	43	81	28	56	2	0.31	-0.69	0.31	2.90	58	12.16	96	83	33	0	2	1	0
TX ABILENE	78	56	85	47	67	7	0.11	-0.20	0.11	2.64	181	4.34	122	80	48	0	0	1	0
TX AMARILLO	72	42	81	33	57	6	0.00	-0.28	0.00	1.50	128	1.59	68	75	21	0	0	0	0
TX AUSTIN	79	58	88	31	69	4	1.94	1.53	1.86	3.15	143	6.00	99	87	65	0	1	3	1
TX BEAUMONT	77	60	82	43	69	4	1.15	0.28	0.72	1.43	37	5.12	40	92	58	0	0	2	1
TX BROWNSVILLE	83	68	90	58	76	5	0.23	-0.06	0.23	0.42	43	1.26	36	86	59	1	0	1	0
TX CORPUS CHRISTI	81	65	86	48	73	5	0.25	-0.11	0.21	0.34	19	0.66	13	90	67	0	0	3	0
TX DEL RIO	79	63	87	50	71	4	0.03	-0.21	0.03	0.16	16	0.45	18	85	68	0	0	1	0
TX EL PASO	78	52	82	42	65	5	0.00	-0.03	0.00	0.00	0	0.30	27	39	15	0	0	0	0
TX FORT WORTH	79	58	89	43	68	8	0.02	-0.57	0.02	4.41	140	10.52	142	80	44	0	0	1	0
TX GALVESTON	75	64	79	55	70	3	1.22	0.61	1.08	1.35	47	2.59	27	88	65	0	0	2	1
TX HOUSTON	76	59	84	41	68	3	0.85	0.07	0.73	2.38	69	6.34	63	88	66	0	0	3	1
TX LUBBOCK	76	49	83	42	63	8	0.19	0.00	0.18	1.63	206	1.81	91	70	34	0	0	2	0
TX MIDLAND	77	54	85	48	66	7	0.70	0.64	0.68	1.78	414	2.76	179	82	36	0	0	2	1
TX SAN ANGELO	78	57	83	49	68	8	0.83	0.63	0.83	1.98	194	2.83	94	80	57	0	0	1	1
TX SAN ANTONIO	80	62	91	42	71	6	0.43	0.01	0.28	1.37	70	2.33	43	92	55	1	0	2	0
TX VICTORIA	79	60	84	37	70	4	0.38	-0.13	0.30	0.46	20	2.57	38	92	63	0	0	2	0
TX WACO	78	59	85	40	68	7	1.44	0.96	1.19	3.27	128	7.13	104	87	69	0	0	3	1
TX WICHITA FALLS	80	53	88	43	67	9	0.14	-0.38	0.14	2.45	105	3.25	65	74	42	0	0	1	0
UT SALT LAKE CITY	54	36	60	30	45	-1	0.96	0.54	0.42	3.10	157	5.68	122	81	42	0	1	4	0
VT BURLINGTON	59	29	74	23	44	8	0.27	-0.32	0.27	1.32	55	6.66	106	80	32	0	5	1	0
VA LYNCHBURG	65	35	81	24	50	0	0.15	-0.66	0.15	0.76	19	5.98	57	82	36	0	2	1	0
VA NORFOLK	65	42	81	36	53	1	0.06	-0.81	0.05	0.58	14	3.91	34	88	40	0	0	2	0
VA RICHMOND	68	40	82	32	54	2	0.09	-0.75	0.06	0.23	5	4.59	43	73	33	0	1	1	0
VA ROANOKE	66	40	80	29	53	2	0.05	-0.79	0.05	0.35	9	5.47	53	77	36	0	1	1	0
WA WASH/DULLES	66	39	79	30	52	5	0.03	-0.74	0.03	0.08	2	4.86	51	72	34	0	1	1	0
WA OLYMPIA	56	38	62	36	47	2	1.00	-0.06	0.47	3.73	69	23.03	120	95	73	0	0	6	0
WA QUILLAYUTE	53	39	58	32	46	1	1.87	-0.25	0.97	12.84	114	43.23	116	92	77	0	1	6	1
WA SEATTLE-TACOMA	55	42	62	39	49	2	0.74	-0.02	0.29	2.73	71	16.93	129	88	71	0	0	6	0
WA SPOKANE	52	35	57	29	43	1	0.25	-0.05	0.18	1.37	87	7.04	144	87	56	0	2	3	0
WA YAKIMA	59	34	65	29	47	2	0.39	0.25	0.24	0.72	100	3.18	118	84	57	0	3	5	0
WV BECKLEY	58	38	73	25	48	2	0.44	-0.32	0.15	1.86	50	5.98	60	90	57	0	2	4	0
WV CHARLESTON	62	39	79	31	51	2	0.49	-0.30	0.21	2.02	50	7.07	68	89	47	0	2	4	0
WV ELKINS	56	31	75	22	44	0	0.50	-0.32	0.22	1.81	45	6.15	58	94	48	0	5	5	0
WV HUNTINGTON	64	43	79	27	53	3	0.81	0.03	0.32	4.30	109	9.06	88	80	42	0	2	3	0
WI EAU CLAIRE	53	31	57	24	42	6	0.95	0.38	0.54	3.28	168	4.81	127	90	50	0	4	4	1
WI GREEN BAY	53	31	64	24	42	6	0.16	-0.41	0.13	1.19	56	4.17	96	90	51	0	5	3	0
WI LA CROSSE	53	35	58	24	44	4	1.22	0.58	0.83	2.44	116	3.62	85	90	52	0	3	3	1
WI MADISON	52	32	66	24	42	3	0.18	-0.50	0.12	2.38	100	5.15	105	85	60	0	4	3	0
WI MILWAUKEE	51	33	64	24	42	3	0.19	-0.58	0.13	3.75	138	7.58	122	87	58	0	3	4	0
WY CASPER	56	29	64	22	43	5	0.20	0.00	0.20	1.06	114	2.44	113	70	43	0	5	1	0
WY CHEYENNE	55	31	64	26	43	6	0.11	-0.14	0.09	1.11	102	1.67	84	69	35	0	4	3	0
WY LANDER	55	29	61	21	42	3	0.00	-0.34	0.00	1.09	84	2.12	90	68	39	0	5	0	0
WY SHERIDAN	58	30	70	21	44	5	0.35	0.06	0.17	0.97	93	1.49	63	82	49	0	4	4	0

Based on 1971-2000 normals

*** Not Available

National Agricultural Summary

March 27 - April 2, 2006

Weekly National Agricultural Summary provided by USDA/NASS

HIGHLIGHTS

Above-normal temperatures returned to most of the Nation, with the exception of the southern Atlantic Coast States, California, and the northern and central Intermountain region. Rainfall in the eastern areas of the Great Plains eased soil moisture shortages, while more westerly areas of the region remained mostly dry. In the Corn Belt, moderate rainfall accompanied severe weather, including tornadoes, high winds, and hail. Fieldwork was limited 1 or 2 days

across much of the region. Meanwhile, dry conditions prevailed along the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts, where soil moisture is mostly short. Storms in the West dropped moderate precipitation along the Pacific Coast and in the northern and central Rocky Mountains. However, the Southwest remained mostly dry, while only light rain fell in the Great Basin and interior areas of the Pacific Northwest.

Winter Wheat: Thirty-eight percent of the crop was rated as in good to excellent condition, compared with 68 percent a year ago and 52 percent for November 27, 2005, the last available estimate for the current crop. Over the winter months, dry conditions on the Great Plains caused condition to decline rapidly, particularly on the southern Great Plains. In the northern and central Great Plains, lack of protective snow cover left the crop exposed to cold weather. In contrast, conditions improved over the winter in the Pacific Northwest with adequate precipitation and snow cover.

Rice: Growers had planted 11 percent of their acreage, 6 percentage points ahead of last year and 2 points ahead of normal. Planting was most advanced in Texas, at 58 percent, and Louisiana, at 40 percent. Arkansas producers, in the beginning stages, had planted just 2 percent of their acreage, while planting had not yet begun in California, Mississippi, and Missouri.

Sorghum: Fifteen percent of the crop had been planted, compared with 10 percent last year and 11 percent for the 5-year average. Texas growers led the way with 45 percent of their acreage sown, with Arkansas and Louisiana producers on the board with

8 and 7 percent, respectively. Progress was ahead of normal in all 3 States but had not begun elsewhere.

Small Grains: Spring planting was 2 percent complete, 2 points behind last year and 1 point behind normal. Barley planting, at 3 percent complete, was 5 points behind last year and 3 points behind the 5-year average. Planting was well underway in the Pacific Northwest, with Washington growers having seeded 32 percent of their spring wheat acreage and 26 percent of their barley acreage. Elsewhere, however, planting progress was limited to 5 percent or less, and planting had not yet begun in Minnesota and North Dakota.

Twenty-seven percent of the Nation's oat crop had been planted, compared with 30 percent last year and 28 percent for the 5-year average. Except Texas, where most of the crop is planted in the fall, planting was most advanced in Pennsylvania, at 24 percent, 19 points ahead of normal. Meanwhile, Nebraska growers, with just 13 percent of their acreage planted, were 11 points behind normal. As with the other small grains, planting had not yet begun in Minnesota and North Dakota.

Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending April 2, 2006

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

Rice Percent Planted				
	Apr 2 2006	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	2	NA	1	3
CA	0	NA	0	0
LA	40	NA	17	35
MS	0	NA	0	2
MO	0	NA	0	0
TX	58	NA	23	34
6 Sts	11	NA	5	9
These 6 States planted 100% of last year's rice acreage.				

Oats Percent Planted				
	Apr 2 2006	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
IA	6	NA	28	15
MN	0	NA	0	1
NE	13	NA	39	24
ND	0	NA	0	0
OH	5	NA	2	5
PA	24	NA	4	5
SD	1	NA	9	5
TX	100	NA	100	100
WI	0	NA	3	2
9 Sts	27	NA	30	28
These 9 States planted 67% of last year's oat acreage.				

Winter Wheat Crop Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
AR	0	5	28	57	10
CA	0	0	5	35	60
CO	6	16	31	39	8
ID	0	0	9	86	5
IL	0	1	23	67	9
IN	1	3	21	62	13
KS	7	16	39	34	4
MI	1	3	25	57	14
MO	0	2	29	54	15
MT	1	8	49	36	6
NE	3	7	35	50	5
NC	0	5	25	63	7
OH	0	4	23	57	16
OK	29	33	27	11	0
OR	0	1	43	55	1
SD	4	17	43	34	2
TX	50	26	17	6	1
WA	1	1	24	62	12
18 Sts	15	16	31	33	5
Prev Wk	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Prev Yr	1	5	26	52	16

Barley Percent Planted				
	Apr 2 2006	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	1	NA	16	13
MN	0	NA	0	0
MT	5	NA	9	5
ND	0	NA	0	0
WA	26	NA	31	21
5 Sts	3	NA	8	6
These 5 States planted 79% of last year's barley acreage.				

Sorghum Percent Planted				
	Apr 2 2006	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	8	NA	1	3
CO	0	NA	0	0
IL	0	NA	0	0
KS	0	NA	0	0
LA	7	NA	2	3
MO	0	NA	0	0
NE	0	NA	0	0
NM	0	NA	0	0
OK	0	NA	1	0
SD	0	NA	0	0
TX	45	NA	31	33
11 Sts	15	NA	10	11
These 11 States planted 97% of last year's sorghum acreage.				

Spring Wheat Percent Planted				
	Apr 2 2006	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	2	NA	26	17
MN	0	NA	0	0
MT	1	NA	2	1
ND	0	NA	0	0
SD	5	NA	10	7
WA	32	NA	61	39
6 Sts	2	NA	4	3
These 6 States planted 99% of last year's spring wheat acreage.				

VP - Very Poor

P - Poor

F - Fair

G - Good

EX - Excellent

NA - Not Available

* - Revised

National crop conditions for selected States are weighted based on the year 2005 planted acres.

State Agricultural Summaries

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

ALABAMA: Days suitable for fieldwork was 6.0. Topsoil 6% very short, 21% short, 71% adequate, 2% surplus. Corn 30% planted, 26% 2005, 19% avg. Winter wheat condition 0% very poor, 2% poor, 31% fair, 64% good, 3% excellent. Pasture condition 6% very poor, 13% poor, 43% fair, 35% good, 3% excellent. Livestock condition 0% very poor, 2% poor, 20% fair, 67% good, 11% excellent. Soil conditions were dry with rainfall late in the week in most areas. Farmers spent much of the week planting corn, burning-down cover crops ahead of cotton planting. Early planted corn that was up the previous week has been burned back to the ground due to freezing temperatures. Cattle are still consuming hay, but consumption has decreased as spring weather conditions approached. Many winter annuals, rye, oats, and wheat are beginning to mature and head out.

ALASKA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

ARIZONA: Temperatures for the State were mostly above normal for the week ending April 2. Precipitation was reported at 10 of the 22 reporting stations. Flagstaff received the most precipitation at 0.66 inches, Tucson received the least at 0.01 inches. Alfalfa condition remains mostly good to fair. Range, pasture conditions are poor to very poor.

ARKANSAS: Days suitable for field work 5.4. Soil 2% very short, 20% short, 67% adequate, 11% surplus. Corn 49% planted, 24% previous week, 40% previous year, 33% 5-yr avg.; 20% emerged, n/a previous week, 8% previous year, 6% 5-year average. Soybeans 1% planted, n/a previous week, 0% previous year, 1% 5-year average. Sorghum 8% planted, 6% previous week, 1% previous year, 3% 5-year average. Rice 2% planted, 1% previous week, 1% previous year, 3% 5-year average. Winter wheat 5% headed, 1% previous week, 1% previous year, 0% 5-year average. Hay-alfalfa: 0% very poor, 0% poor, 72% fair, 28% good, 0% excellent. Hay-other 0% very poor, 7% poor, 61% fair, 29% good, 3% excellent. Pasture, range 4% very poor, 20% poor, 46% fair, 29% good, 1% excellent. Winter wheat 0% very poor, 5% poor, 28% fair, 57% good, 10% excellent. The week began with warm and mild conditions for the first full week of spring. Cooler temperatures were still observed at night. The week ended with some much needed rain showers. This weather system also produced some strong winds, tornadoes in the northeast part of the state. There were also several reports of hail from these storms. Damage is still being assessed. Livestock was rated in mostly fair condition. Cattlemen are still feeding hay in some of the dryer areas of the state. They are also busy fertilizing pastures.

CALIFORNIA: Rains delayed the planting of corn, cotton, and beans, though a few growers were able to plant corn in Tulare County. Small grains, forage crops were growing well, but alfalfa growers delayed their first cutting to bale. Alfalfa weevil spraying, herbicide applications continued. Sugar beets were growing well. The rains have laid some of the crops down in Stanislaus County. Sweet potato field fumigations continued. Herbicide applications for pre-emergent weeds, clean-up were ongoing in orchards; irrigation had started in some orchards as well. Despite the rain throughout the state, peach, nectarine, apple trees were beginning to bloom Cherry, prune bloom continued. Various late variety apricot, plum orchards bloomed sporadically, while most early varieties continued to leaf. Strawberries were blooming rapidly. Apricot bloom was complete. Many vineyards were leafing out, irrigation began. Many vineyards were also sprayed with copper and sulfur. Growers began applying fungicide during the recent rains, new tree fruit orchards were still being planted. New fields of blueberries were planted. In some areas field conditions of blooming trees were too wet to enter. Some nectarine orchards were treated for thrips to prevent fruit scarring. Rains slowed pollination on almonds. Fungicides were applied to almond orchards to fight disease in some areas. Almond trees that did not pollinate dropped buds. Walnuts were getting closer to the catkins stage in Tulare County. Exports of pistachios to the United Kingdom, South Africa continued. Weed control, fungicide spraying were ongoing in onion, lettuce, garlic, transplant tomato fields. Some growers had to pump their fields each time they tried to plant tomatoes as a result of the heavy rains. Onions had to be fertilized by air instead of through irrigation as fields were to wet to enter. As a result of wet weather, lettuce, broccoli, asparagus harvesting slowed. Transplant tomato, eggplant, pepper plants under hot caps were growing well. Carrots were growing very slow due to the cold weather. In some areas, vegetables planted in greenhouses were showing significant progress due to slightly warmer temperatures. Several fields of melons have been planted with plastic overlay to the rows. Asparagus continued to be harvested. Packing, shipping of radicchio continued. Harvest of cool season Asian vegetables such as cauliflower, bok choy, daikon, gai choy, napa cabbage, sugar pea leaf, snow pea leaf, yu choy continued. Continued rain was a mixed blessing for California's foothill pastures. In northern California, a record number of rainy days in March and a lack of sunny weather was beginning to negatively impact cattle weight

gains. Due to the amount of moisture in the grass and low nutrient content, some cattle were losing condition. In central California, rain was much more beneficial to foothill pastures, cattle, sheep were in good condition. Spring calving of beef cows continued. Muddy conditions at dairies were not favorable for milk production. Old crop lamb shipments continued from the Imperial Valley. In central California, ewes, lambs were grazing on foothill pastures. New crop lambs were beginning to ship to other areas for further feeding. Bee activity in almond, stone fruit and orange orchards continued to be slowed by wet and windy weather. Some beehives were being moved out of almond orchards.

COLORADO: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil 9% very short, 25% short, 64% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil 20% very short, 40% short, 40% adequate, 0% surplus. Colorado experienced relatively cool temperatures last week which helped slow soil moisture losses caused by high winds across the Front Range and Eastern Plains. Colorado needs more rain or snow next week or reporters suggest that the winds will begin to dry cropland out significantly. Evidence of wheat mite infestation has been reported in areas around the state which has producers considering treatment options. Spring barley 18% seeded, 28% 2005, 21% avg; 3% emerged, 8% 2006, 5% avg. Dry onions 26% planted, 44% 2005, 37% avg. Sugar beets 2% planted, 14% 2005, 13% avg. Spring wheat 9% seeded, 15% 2005, 13% avg; 1% emerged, 3% 2005, 2% avg. Winter wheat 6% jointed, 5% 2005, 3% avg. Cows calved 62% 2006, 64% 2005, 62% avg. Ewes lambled 55% 2006, 52% 2005, 54% avg.

DELAWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 7. Topsoil 69% very short, 31% short. Subsoil 25% very short, 40% short, 35% adequate. Barley condition 14% very poor, 9% poor, 31% fair, 42% good, 4% excellent. Winter wheat condition 13% very poor, 8% poor, 30% fair, 45% good, 4% excellent. Pasture condition 15% very poor, 8% poor, 34% fair, 39% good, 4% excellent. Strawberries 5% bloomed, 0% 2005, 1% avg. Apples 16% bloomed, 0% 2005, 2% avg. Peaches 30% bloomed, 0% 2005, 7% avg. Green peas 35% planted, 15% 2005, 17% avg. Potatoes 40% planted, 8% 2005, 11% avg. Hay supplies 17% very short, 32% short, 51% adequate. Drier than normal conditions have promoted field work, but lack of moisture has affected stands of small grains, plantings of early season vegetables. Warm early season temperatures have pushed fruit blooms ahead of average.

FLORIDA: Topsoil 30% very short, 55% short, 15% adequate. Subsoil 27% very short, 30% short, 43% adequate. Rainfall range: none, virtually all localities, except 0.04 in., Ft. Lauderdale. Temperature average: major cities, normal to 5° below. Daytime highs: 70s; most localities reported at least one high in 80s. Nighttime lows: 40s, 50s, 60s; several reports of at least one low in 30s; at least one low at 29°, Tallahassee, Alachua, Brooksville. Conditions favorable for wild fire outbreaks increased; at end of week, National Interagency Coordination Center reported two forest fires, one in Santa Rosa County, another in Miami-Dade County. Cold temperatures at beginning of week gave way to hot days, mid nights by end of week. Washington County: field work stopped; germination, plant growth slowed by frost, drought. Jackson County: producers prepared fields for cotton, peanuts; planting to begin over next 2 weeks, barring cold weather. Jefferson County: small grains need rain. Sugarcane harvesting virtually done, Lake Okeechobee. Soil moisture supplies, southern Peninsula, mostly short to adequate; elsewhere, short to mostly adequate. Very short soil moisture: Washington, Gadsden, Baker, Marion, St. Lucie, Palm Beach, Lee counties. Planting, harvesting vegetables active, central, southern Peninsula; growers started to satisfy mid-April holiday demand. Hastings: potato planting active; some acreage double cropped following cabbage harvest. Jefferson County: watermelon planting finished. Immokalee: no major vegetable damage from recent storms, cold weather. Palmetto-Ruskin: tomatoes suffered no significant damage from recent cold; picking to get underway by mid-April. Blueberry harvesting underway, central Peninsula; very light volume available. Other vegetables: Non-citrus fruit harvested: snap beans, cabbage, celery, cucumbers, eggplant, endive, escarole, lettuce, potatoes, peppers, radishes, squash, strawberries, sweet corn, tomatoes. Citrus daytime temperatures warmer throughout week; all areas reached mid-80s by weekend. No rainfall recorded. Lack of rainfall past several weeks caused some growers to increase irrigation. Grove activity included spraying, herbiciding, discing, chopping, mowing cover crops. All varieties reached full bloom; some beginning petal drop, forming of pea-sized fruit. Early midseason harvest relatively over for season. Valencia harvesting now main effort. About ten processing plants open. Grapefruit harvest fairly strong; majority of colored, white going to processing. Honey tangerine utilization between 100,000 and 150,000 boxes a week, primarily for fresh market; large majority of Temples picked going to processing. Panhandle, north, central: pastures greening up but very little growth; most cattlemen continue to feed hay. Panhandle: growth of clover overseeded in pastures way behind, calving season mid-way on beef cow/calf operations; high quality feed in demand; winter small grains/ryegrass pasture needs rain; permanent pasture

slow to emerge due to frost last week, drought. Big Bend: Pasture poor to fair. Southwest: cattle very poor to good, most in fair condition; pasture is poor to fair due to drought. Statewide: cattle poor to good, most in poor condition. Pasture feed: 50% poor, 45% fair, 5% good. Cattle condition 5% very poor, 5% poor, 50% fair, 40% good.

GEORGIA: Days suitable for field work 6.4. Soil 10% very short, 37% short, 50% adequate, 3% surplus. Corn 4% poor, 55% fair, 39% good, 2% excellent; 53% planted, 36% 2005, 43% avg.; 26% emerged, 28% 2005, 29% avg. Sorghum 0% planted, 1% 2005, 2% avg. Wheat 74% jointing, 69% 2005, 74% avg.; 34% boot, 23% 2005, 40% avg.; 6% headed, 5% 2005, 12% avg. Pasture 4% very poor, 17% poor, 41% fair, 34% good, 4% excellent. Apples 79% fair, 21% good; 4% blooming, 4% 2005, 5% avg. Hay 5% very poor, 20% poor, 46% fair, 28% good, 1% excellent. Onions 2% poor, 12% fair, 47% good, 39% excellent; 0% harvested, 0% 2005, 0% avg. Peaches 4% poor, 23% fair, 73% good; 85% blooming, 65% 2005, 74% avg. Tobacco 8% poor, 45% fair, 47% good; 10% transplanted, 3% 2005, 12% avg. Watermelons 2% very poor, 5% poor, 40% fair, 53% good; 30% planted, 24% 2005, 26% avg. The last week of March began cool, ended with unseasonably warm temperatures. The state experienced an average low in the upper 40's and an average high in the mid 70's. Many areas reported freezing overnight temperatures early in the week and this was a concern for vegetable growers. Most of the state received no rain during the week, with very few counties reporting measurable amounts. Growers reported slight freeze damage to vegetables, tobacco, watermelon after the week's cool start. Hay feeding for livestock, corn planting continued. Land for peanuts, cotton was being prepared and pre-plant chemicals were being applied. Many counties reported a need for rain, especially for newly planted, emerging crops. The dry weather slowed pasture growth. Activities Included: Fertilizing pastures, hayfields, pasture weed control, setting out peppers, planting tomatoes on plastic, crop irrigation, routine care of poultry and livestock. Highbush blueberries were approximately three weeks from harvest. Onion digging has begun.

HAWAII: The week ending April 2, 2006 is the 6th week of rainy weather across the State, mainly over the northwestern islands. The series of storm systems west of the Hawaiian Islands continued to influence weather patterns producing moderate to heavy rains, thunderstorms, set new monthly rainfall records. The prolonged wet weather has created extensive flooding, landslides, road damage, closures of highways, dam, sewage spills in Oahu and Kauai counties. Agricultural crops in affected areas were in poor condition. The weather service forecasted that the heavy rains that hammered Oahu on Thursday and Friday may be the beginning of the end of the lingering wet weather patterns. Some improvement of the weather was seen during daytime hours over the weekend. Late Sunday night brought heavy rains causing flooding in windward Oahu.

IDAHO: Days Suitable for fieldwork 1.5. Topsoil 3% short, 54% adequate, 43% surplus. Sugar beets 1% planted, 16% 2005, 20% average. Oats 3% planted, 15% 2005, 13% average. Onions 4% planted, 21% 2005, 41% average. Dry peas 2% planted, 10% 2005, 10% average. Hay, roughage supply 8% very short, 11% short, 80% adequate, 1% surplus. Lambing 84%, 83% 2005, 84% average. Calving 88%, 82% 2005, 84% average. Irrigation water supply 1% very poor, 1% poor, 1% fair, 36% good, 61% excellent. Precipitation is up to an inch above average in Southwest Idaho for the week, with similar wet conditions across Idaho substantially delaying spring planting.

ILLINOIS: Days suitable for fieldwork 1.7. Topsoil 5% very short, 16% short, 60% adequate, 19% surplus. Temperatures across the state last week were one to three degrees above normal, precipitation was slightly below normal. Rains that fell were scattered throughout the week which did not allow soils to dry. Days suitable for fieldwork last week ranged from less than one to three depending on where you were in the state. A few farmers in northern part of the state were able to complete some limited fieldwork between showers including applying anhydrous, spreading dry fertilizer, seeding oats. Southern Illinois farmers were cleaning drainage ditches trying to get excess water off their fields. Corn planting has yet to begin, oat seeding continued on a limited basis last week. Oats 21% planted, compared to 28% last year, the 23% five-year average. Condition of the wheat crop continues to improve with the warmer temperatures and rain showers. Alfalfa, pastures are still slowly coming out of dormancy. Activities Included: Hauling grain, tending calves, attending auctions, preparing equipment for spring and fixing fence.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.3. Topsoil 0% very short, 4% short, 61% adequate, 35% surplus. Subsoil 1% very short, 9% short, 74% adequate, 16% surplus. Some fieldwork was completed early in the week on soils dry enough to support heavy equipment. Fieldwork will temporarily be put on hold as many areas received rain over the weekend. Several cases of wind damage have been reported. Winter wheat 5% jointed, 3% 2005, 5% avg.; 75% good to excellent compared with 69% last year at this time. Hay supplies 6% short, 81% adequate, 13% surplus. Pastures 2% very poor, 10% poor, 29% fair, 54% good, 5% excellent. Temperatures ranged from 2E below normal to 5E above normal. Precipitation averaged from .1 to 1.92 inches. Livestock remain in mostly good condition. Calving, lambing continue on some livestock operations. Activities Included: Tax preparation, ordering supplies, preparing planting equipment, hauling grain to market, top dressing winter wheat, cleaning ditches, financial planning, and taking care of livestock.

IOWA: Day suitable for fieldwork 1. Topsoil 3% very short, 9% short, 69% adequate, 19% surplus across the state. Subsoil 9% very short, 30% short, 55% adequate, 6% surplus. The subsoil moisture rating is slightly drier than reported a year ago. Spring has Arrived with Rain. Agricultural Summary: The last few weeks of precipitation made it difficult for Iowa farmers to accomplish any fieldwork. While most areas remain too wet for field activities, a few farmers have begun applying lime, fertilizer, tilling, planting oats, applying nitrogen. There were a few reports of tiles running throughout the state. Field Crops Report: Oats 6% seedings, well below last year's progress at 28%, 15% five-year average. No significant corn planting was reported in the state. Primary seedbed preparations were 24% complete compared to 29% last year, 26% for the five-year average. Fertilizer applications, at 53%, were 5 percentage points ahead of last year, 6 percentage points ahead of the five-year average. Livestock, pasture, range report: Calving season is off to a good start even with the wet conditions. The wet, muddy conditions increase concerns for both calving, lambing, and other newborns. Pasture, range condition 10% very poor, 15% poor, 35% fair, 37% good, 3% excellent. The rainfall has made it difficult for farmers to access their feedlots and pastures.

KANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.7. Topsoil 4% very short, 28% short, 64% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil 17% very short, 47% short, 36% adequate. Corn 3% planted, 3% 2005, 2% avg. Oats 65% planted, 60% 2005, 68% avg. Wheat 21% jointing, 25% 2005, 17% avg.; condition 7% very poor, 16% poor, 39% fair, 34% good, 4% excellent; wind damage 77% none, 15% light, 7% moderate, 1% severe, freeze damage was 84% none, 14% light, 2% moderate. Pasture feed 9% very poor, 20% poor, 44% fair, 26% good, 1% excellent. Hay, forage supplies 3% very short, 18% short, 75% adequate, 4% surplus. Feed grain supplies 1% very short, 6% short, 90% adequate, 3% surplus. Stock water supplies 11% very short, 25% short, 64% adequate.

KENTUCKY: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.5. Topsoil 2% very short, 14% short, 71% adequate, 13% surplus. Subsoil 4% very short, 16% short, 70% adequate, 10% surplus. For the week temperatures averaged 5^o, 5^o d above normal. Precipitation statewide was 0.51 in., 0.51 in. below normal. Land prepared for planting corn, soybeans, tobacco 28%. Nitrogen fertilizer supplies available to meet anticipated needs 97%. Tobacco transplants were 67% seeded. Roughage requirements livestock getting from pastures 25%. Winter hay supply still on hand 23%. Winter damage to legume stand: Alfalfa 4%, Red Clover 5%. Fall seeded small grain acreage lost to winter kill: Wheat 2%, Barley 1%. Winter wheat condition 2% poor, 15% fair, 58% good, 25% excellent. Pasture condition 2% very poor, 16% poor, 35% fair, 41% good, 6% excellent.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Soil 13% very short, 26% short, 46% adequate, 15% surplus. Spring plowing 63% plowed, 41% last week, 35% 2005, 50% avg. Corn 65% planted, 45% last week, 54% in 2005, 59% avg.; 30% emerged, 11% last week, 12% in 2005, 24% avg. Rice 7% emerged, 5% in 2005, 11% avg. Winter wheat 52% headed, 35% last week, 13% in 2005, 20% avg.; 3% poor, 20% fair, 68% good, 9% excellent. Sugarcane 9% very poor, 19% poor, 48% fair, 20% good, 4% excellent. Livestock 1% very poor, 8% poor, 38% fair, 50% good, 3% excellent. Vegetable 1% very poor, 17% poor, 37% fair, 42% good, 3% excellent. Range, pasture 5% very poor, 18% poor, 32% fair, 44% good, 1% excellent.

MARYLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 7. Topsoil 68% very short, 32% short. Subsoil 21% very short, 56% short, 23% adequate. Corn 0% planted, 3% 2005, 1% avg. Barley condition 13% poor, 36% fair, 44% good, 7% excellent. Winter wheat condition 3% very poor, 13% poor, 41% fair, 38% good, 5% excellent. Peaches 12% bloomed, 0% 2005, 7% avg. Pasture condition 2% very poor, 26% poor, 30% fair, 37% good, 5% excellent. Watermelons 5%, 0% 2005, 0% avg. Strawberries 10% bloomed, 11% 2005, 6% avg. Sweet corn 7% planted, 3% 2005, 4% avg. Green peas 16% planted, 22% 2005, 26% avg. Potatoes 16% planted, 18% 2005, 13% avg. Tomatoes 8% planted, 4% 2005, 2% avg. Hay supplies 13% very short, 24% short, 63% adequate. Dry, early spring weather has allowed significant field work, but some growers are hesitant to proceed with early planting until more moisture is received. Activities Included: Spring tillage, planting of early season vegetable crops.

MICHIGAN: Days suitable for fieldwork 4. Precipitation amounts ranged from 0.21 inches eastern Upper Peninsula to 0.97 inches northeast Lower Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 5 degrees above normal southeast Lower Peninsula to 8^o above normal eastern Upper Peninsula, northwest, northeast, central Lower Peninsula. This still a little early for fieldwork Upper Peninsula, northern part of Lower Peninsula. Farmers able to plant some oats, sugarbeets Thumb area. Some field work and planting possible on lighter soils southern part of State. Fruit trees northwest still dormant with operators pruning, fertilizing crop. In southwest, fruit buds swollen fruit trees, blueberries. Grapes still dormant. Activities: Pruning, fertilizing, hauling manure, preparing machinery for field work, and calving.

MINNESOTA: Snow cover across the northern one third of the state, ranges from zero to 4" while the southern two-thirds is reported to be zero. Precipitation for the week ranged from 0-2.7 inches of rain across the state. Average temperatures during the week were as low as 19^o while the highs were up to 60 degrees. The average temperature for the week was 4^o above normal. Producers are purchasing seed for spring planting, preparing machinery. Livestock has

wintered well. Feed supplies have been sufficient. Calving and lambing continues.

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Soil 5% very short, 18% short, 70% adequate, 7% surplus. Corn 60% planted, 41% 2005, 46% avg.; 26% emerged, 16% 2005, 14% avg. Sorghum 1% planted, NA 2005, 3% avg. Soybeans 13% planted, 5% 2005 7% avg. Wheat 77% jointing, 75% 2005, 65% avg.; 7% heading, 2% 2005, 3% avg.; 5% poor, 41% fair, 46% good, 8% excellent. Watermelons 30% planted, 19% 2005, 26% avg. Blueberries, 2% poor, 32% fair, 54% good, 12% excellent. Cattle 3% very poor, 15% poor, 40% fair, 35% good, 7% excellent. Pasture 13% poor, 32% 46% good, 9% excellent. Warmer weather last week helped with planting and crop progress. Rice planting should begin within the week, sorghum planting is in the early stages. Blueberry growers are pleased with the crop and progress is currently ahead of schedule. Weed control applications in pastures are occurring as ryegrass growth has perked up.

MISSOURI: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.3. Topsoil 8% very short, 21% short, 67% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil 18% very short, 41% short, 41% adequate, 0% surplus. In what has become a near weekly event in early spring, Missouri again experienced severe storms in all parts of the state, with damaging winds, hail, a few reports of tornados. This has created good conditions for upcoming row crop germination, as corn planting has begun in scattered areas of the state, particularly in the Bootheel. It has also been good for winter wheat growth. Pastures have greened up, but have been slow to grow due to recent, cool temperatures, lingering effects of drought.

MONTANA: Days suitable for field work 2. Topsoil 6% surplus, 5% last year, 70% adequate, 33% last year, 20% short, 34% last year, 4% very short, 28% last year. Subsoil 1% surplus, 1% last year, 48% adequate, 16% last year, 37% short, 30% last year, 14% very short, 53% last year. For the week ending April 2, Montana experienced heavy precipitation, higher than normal temperatures. Hardin experienced the high temperature of 72 degrees. Wisdom experienced the low temperature of 3 degrees. Billings received the most moisture last week with 1.94 inches. On March 27th, Great Falls tied its 1972 daily precipitation record of 0.41 inches, and Bozeman tied its 1999 daily precipitation record of 0.33 inches. On March 29th, Billings set a daily precipitation record with 1.13 inches. Miles City broke its 1967 high for daily precipitation on March 31st of 0.47, with 1.20 inches. On April 2, Butte broke its 1935 daily precipitation record of 0.5 inches with 0.58 inches. Winter wheat condition 1% very poor, 4% last year, 8% poor, 9% last year, 49% fair, 45% last year, 36% good, 34% last year, 6% excellent, 8% last year, wheat spring stages are 49% still dormant, 18% last year, 42% greening, 62% last year, 9% green, growing, 20% last year. Spring wheat 1% planted. Barley 5% planted. Oats 1% planted. Ranchers are providing supplemental feed to 90% of cattle and calves, 91% last year, 93% of sheep, lambs, 85% last year. Livestock grazing is 81% open, 85% last year, 10% difficult, 7% last year, 9% closed, 8% last year. Calving is 62% complete, 63% last year, lambing is 44% complete, 50% last year. Range, pasture feed conditions are 4% excellent, 24% good, 55% fair, 15% poor, and 2% very poor. Field tillage work in progress is 87% not started, 78% last year, 7% just started, 14% last year, 6% well underway, 8% last year.

NEBRASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 1.5. Topsoil 1% very short, 11% short, 82% adequate, 6% surplus. Subsoil 13% very short, 40% short, 47% adequate, 0% surplus. Temperatures averaged three to four degrees above normal. Soil temperatures increased ten degrees during the week, averaged in the mid forties. Oats 13% planted, 39% 2005, 24% avg.; 1% emerged, 5% 2005, 2% avg. Sugar beets 6% planted, 8% 2005. Cattle, calves condition 0% very poor, 2% poor, 17% fair, 69% good, 12% excellent; calving 74% complete; calf losses average to below average.

NEVADA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

NEW ENGLAND: The week began cool, but warmer weather arrived mid-week, remained through the weekend. On Saturday, rain fell throughout the region. Maple syrup producers continue to collect sap as the season winds down. Other farmers stayed busy tending livestock, nursery/greenhouse work, and preparing for spring planting.

NEW JERSEY: Days suitable for field work 7.0. Topsoil 60% very short, 30% short, 10% adequate. Temperatures averaged much above normal across the state. There were measurable amounts of precipitation in some localities for the week. There was no measurable snowfall for the week in most parts of the state. Agricultural producers continued field preparation for spring crops as weather permitted. Activities Included: Irrigating, greenhouse work, transplanting vegetable crops, equipment repair, feeding stored hay to livestock. Apples are showing some green tip. Peaches are primarily in pre-pink with a few in pink. Apricots, some plums, and a few pears, are in bloom.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for field work 6.7. Topsoil 55% very short, 36% short, 9% adequate. A couple of minor storm systems brushed New Mexico during the week, mainly the northern half, also the eastern border counties with Texas. Red River, the wettest location in the state during March, continued to catch the brunt of the storms, with 1.27 inches of moisture. Chama, Farmington also measured over half an inch of moisture. Temperatures for the week were within a few degrees of normal just about everywhere. Farmers spent the week

irrigating with limited water, fertilizing, pre-irrigating cotton, tilling fields, fighting off alfalfa weevil, pea aphids. The wind combined with the dry conditions continued to increase the risk of wild fires throughout the state. One fire in Union county destroyed over 20,000 acres. Wind damage was 27% light, 12% moderate, 1% severe. Freeze damage 18% light, there were reports of hail damage as well. Alfalfa was reported in mostly fair to good condition. Total wheat 34% very poor, 36% poor, 25% fair, 5% good. Only 4% of wheat pasture was being grazed compared to 13% last week, 35% last year. Lettuce, onions were in fair to excellent condition. Chile 75% planted, cotton growers were waiting for soil temperatures to rise before planting. Ranchers were supplementing feed. There were reports of hay stocks running short, trouble with loco weed. Cattle 2% very poor, 15% poor, 32% fair, 50% good, 1% excellent. Sheep 7% very poor, 11% poor, 47% fair, 28% good, 7% excellent. Range, pasture conditions 23% very poor, 31% poor, 33% fair, and 13% good.

NEW YORK: Spring fieldwork underway with the help of warm, dry weather. Moisture over the last two weeks was sparse, most areas lag normal precipitation. Plowing, manure spreading progressed. Onion planting in southern regions going full forced. Maple syrup continued with good sap flow due to some cold nights, warm daytime temperatures, boiling into the early morning hours. Activities Included: Spring pruning fruit trees, tending livestock, mending damaged fencing and machinery equipment.

NORTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for field work 6.3. Soil 16% very short, 44% short, 38% adequate, 2% surplus. Activities Included: Feeding, tending livestock, fertilizing of pastures, preparation for spring planting. Trace amounts of rain were experienced in most of the State. Abnormally dry conditions continue for most of North Carolina, with calendar year rainfall amounts ranging from .1 to -7.5 inches departure from normal.

NORTH DAKOTA: Topsoil 2% very short, 9% short, 70% adequate, 19% surplus. Subsoil 3% very short, 14% short, 71% adequate, 12% surplus. Rapid snow melt and precipitation caused flooding of some fields, rivers, particularly in the eastern districts. Some county, township roads in these areas were flooded. Fields in the central, western districts ranged from mostly wet to needing additional moisture. Starting date for fieldwork is expected to be April 18, 4 days later than last year. The expected starting dates ranged from April 7 in the south central to April 27 in the northeast. Hay, forage supplies 1% very short, 6% short, 83% adequate, 10% surplus. Grain, concentrate supplies 0% very short, 1% short, 90% adequate, 9% surplus. Calving 49% complete with lambing 66% complete. Shearing was 84% complete. Cow conditions 0% very poor, 1% poor, 9% fair, 71% good, 19% excellent. Calf conditions 0% very poor, 0% poor, 8% fair, 76% good, 16% excellent. Sheep conditions 0% very poor, 2% poor, 8% fair, 70% good, 20% excellent. Lamb conditions 0% very poor, 1% poor, 8% fair, 70% good, 21% excellent. Pasture, ranges 98% still dormant, 2% growing.

OHIO: Days suitable for field work 3.3. Topsoil 0% very short, 11% short, 75% adequate, 14% surplus. Winter wheat 3% jointed, 2% 2005, 3% avg. Oats 5% planted, 2% 2005, 5% avg. Pasture condition 3% very poor, 11% poor, 30% fair, 48% good, 8% excellent. Winter wheat condition 0% very poor, 4% poor, 23% fair, 57% good, 16% excellent. Livestock condition 1% very poor, 2% poor, 17% fair, 67% good, 13% excellent. Soil conditions have been favorable for producers to start plowing, tillage operations in most areas of the State. Some regions are concerned about the lack of soil moisture as they begin the planting season. Activities Included: Top dressing wheat, spreading lime, fertilizer, manure, obtaining seed, other inputs for the upcoming season, working on machinery. The State's maple syrup season is quickly coming to an end as the night time temperatures begin to warm up. Planting of sweet corn has started in Meigs county.

OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.1 Topsoil 18% very short, 28% short, 53% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil 43% very short, 40% short, 17% adequate. Wheat jointing 67% this week, 43% last week, 71% last year, 57% average. Rye 19% very poor, 32% poor, 44% fair, 5% good; jointing 33% this week, 30% last week, 83% last year, 34% average. Oats 52% very poor, 33% poor, 15% fair; planted 84% this week, 77% last week, 95% last year, 92% average; jointing 15% this week, 17% last year, 18% average. Corn seedbed prepared 49% this week, 36% last week, 65% last year, 56% avg.; 18% planted this week, 6% last week, 22% last year, 16% average. Soybeans seedbed prepared 38% this week, 20% last year, 29% last week, 28% average. Peanuts seedbed prepared 20% this week, 12% last week, 33% last year, 31% average. Cotton seedbed prepared 40% this week, 33% last week, 51% last year, 50% average. Livestock 14% very poor, 44% poor, 29% fair, 13% good; Pasture, range 31% very poor, 35% poor, 28% fair, 6% good. Livestock: Cattle remained rated in mostly poor to fair condition. Hay supplies were rated below average in all Agricultural Reporting Districts. Additional moisture is needed to increase stock pond levels. Marketing of cattle was running near average across the state. Prices for feeder steers less than 800 pounds averaged \$111 per cwt. Prices for feeder heifers less than 800 pounds averaged nearly \$101.50 per cwt. Insect activity was mostly light but some moderate parasite infestations were observed in areas of southern and eastern Oklahoma.

OREGON: Precipitation was reported for each weather station last week. Areas along the coast including Crescent City, Florence received the most rainfall, at 2.65 & 1.73 inches respectively, while several areas in the Willamette Valley received over an inch of rain. Those areas include Salem, Detroit Lake,

Eugene. High temperatures were mostly in the 50's & 60's. The highest temperatures recorded last week was 66° in Florence, Aurora, Portland, McMinnville, Salem. Low temperatures ranged from 17° in Rome to 40° in Crescent City. Cool, wet weather continued to delay fieldwork in many areas of the State. In western Oregon, crop development in many small grain, grass seed fields has been hindered by cool temperatures, excessive precipitation. Conditions were similar in much of central, eastern Oregon. Winter wheat, emerging spring wheat need some warmer weather to promote growth. As conditions allowed, producers were busy tilling, fertilizing, preparing ground for the upcoming season. Growers were spraying their fields in preparation of the vegetable season. Small acreage producers began vegetable starts to be transplanted later this spring. Jackson County reported early plantings of onions, peas, carrots, other spring vegetables. Cherries, plums began to bloom in the Willamette Valley amid cool, wet conditions. A recent hail storm in Yamhill County may cause spotty damage to cherries, plums that were in bloom. There were some reports of early peach losses to freezing conditions in February. Unsettled conditions prevailed in Hood River County. Some fair weather allowed growers to apply delayed dormant sprays. Isolated hail storms caused some damage to more advanced blossom clusters. In the lower Hood River Valley, d'Anjou pears were at WSU stages 2 & 3; Red Delicious apples were at green tip (WSU stage 2); Bing cherries were at green tip (WSU stage 3); & Pinot Noir grapes were at Eichhorn-Lorenz stage. Wasco County orchardists were starting to apply their first fruit tree sprays of the season. Apricots, peaches were coming in bloom in southern Oregon, but more sun, warm days are needed for good pollination. Pears were also starting to show some bloom, but were also quite slow. New cherry acres were being planted in Sherman County. Grape pruning should be complete in Douglas County. Nurseries were in their busiest time of the year. Operations were finishing digging of bare root plants, digging, balling smaller plants & shrubs, moving container plants. All nurseries were shipping plant material to east-coast markets. Greenhouses were very busy with flower, vegetable starts, shipping early-plant material to retail outlets. Pastures, range land needed warmer weather to take off in most areas of the State. Adequate moisture was available but the cool spring weather has slowed growth. The wet winter, spring should greatly help range grasses once warmer weather arrives. Late spring pasture growth, along with wet, muddy conditions, forced many producers to delay turning livestock out. This has resulted in some running very short on feed. Producers were busy with spring calving & lambing.

PENNSYLVANIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Soil 20% very short, 41% short, 38% adequate, 1% surplus. Spring plowing 36% complete, 3% 2005, 11% avg. Corn 1% planted, 0% 2004, 0% avg. Sorghum 1% planted, 0% 2005, 0% avg. Winter crop conditions 1% very poor, 3% poor, 36% fair, 55% good, 5% excellent. Oats 24% planted, 4% 2005, 5% avg.; 1% emerged, 0% 2005, 1% avg.; conditions 54% very poor, 0% poor, 8% fair, 38% good. Potatoes 2% planted, 0% 2005, 1% avg. Pasture conditions 15% very poor, 21% poor, 46% fair, 16% good, 2% excellent. Activities included: Plowing, hauling, spreading manure, lime, repairing fences, farm equipment, planting corn, sorghum, oats, and potatoes.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for field work 6.4. Soil 50% adequate, 45% short, 5% very short. Corn 40% planted, 30% 2005, 33% avg.; 2% poor, 56% fair, 41% good, 1% excellent. Pastures 9% poor, 50% fair, 39% good, 2% excellent. Rye 1% headed, 13% 2005, 20% avg.; 2% poor, 39% fair, 55% good, 4% excellent. Oats 2% headed, 10% 2005, 12% avg.; 1% poor, 44% fair, 52% good, 3% excellent. Peaches 1% very poor, 18% poor, 39% fair, 36% good, 6% excellent. Snap beans 30% planted, 23% 2005, 27% avg.; 100% good. Cucumbers 20% planted, 28% 2005, 33% avg.; 100% good. Watermelons 35% planted, 32% 2005, 29% avg.; 100% fair. Tomatoes 40% planted, 27% 2005, 37% avg.; 50% fair, 50% good. Cantaloups 30% planted, 23% 2005, 21% avg.; 50% fair, 50% good. Livestock 1% poor, 27% fair, 66% good, 6% excellent. Tobacco 7% transplanted, 0% 2005, 3% avg.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 1.3. Topsoil 3% very short, 7% short, 73% adequate, 17% surplus. Subsoil 12% very short, 18% short, 59% adequate, 11% surplus. Feed supplies 5% short, 89% adequate, 6% surplus. Stock water supplies 11% very short, 16% short, 67% adequate, 6% surplus. Winter wheat breaking dormancy 49%, 79% 2005, 57% avg. Barley seeded 1%, 3% 2005, 2% avg. Oats 1% seeded, 9% 2005, 5% avg. Spring wheat 5% seeded, 10% 2005, 7% avg. Cattle condition 9% fair, 76% good, 15% excellent. Sheep condition 8% fair, 72% good, 20% excellent. Range, pasture 3% very poor, 16% poor, 32% fair, 45% good, 4% excellent. Calving 50% complete. Lambing 55% complete. Cattle moved to pasture 4% complete. Calf deaths 23% below avg.; 73% avg.; 4% above average. Sheep, lamb deaths 27% below avg.; 72% avg.; 1% above average. Expected date to start spring field work April 5th. Temperatures averaged around 6° above normal last week, while precipitation was received in most areas of the state. Fields in some areas remain too wet to begin fieldwork, however some producers have begun seeding small grains. Mild weather has benefitted calving, lambing, while the rains towards the end of the week have added to the wet conditions in feedlots, calving yards. Activities included: Routine chores, tending to livestock, calving, lambing, repairing machinery, preparing for spring fieldwork, and small grain seeding.

TENNESSEE: Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Topsoil 12% short, 83% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil 1% very short, 15% short, 79% adequate, 5% surplus. Wheat 47% jointed, 47% 2005, 42% average; top dressed 88%, 83% 2005, 89% avg; 1% very poor, 2% poor, 28% fair, 50% good, 19% excellent.

Apples 68% budding and beyond, 65% 2005, 62% avg; 30% blooming and beyond, 24% 2005, 27% avg; 2% very poor, 10% poor, 28% fair, 56% good, 4% excellent. Peaches 88% budding and beyond, 83% 2005, 83% avg; 70% blooming and beyond, 59% 2005, 53% avg. Pastures 2% very poor, 16% poor, 41% fair, 35% good, 6% excellent. Cattle 2% very poor, 8% poor, 28% fair, 54% good, 8% excellent. Wheat damage from insects or disease was rated none-to-light. The peach crop was developing ahead of schedule; however, a short burst of cool weather caused bud loss in a few areas. Nurseries were busy with planting activities as well as digging and shipping. Hay producers used last week to make herbicide and fertilizer applications. Hay stocks in mostly short-to-adequate supply. As of Friday, Temperatures across Tennessee last week averaged several degrees below normal for the first part of the week, but quickly rebounded to above normal by the middle of the week. Rainfall averaged below normal for the week over far northeastern portions of the State, but above normal elsewhere.

TEXAS: Agricultural Summary: Scattered showers occurred in many areas of the state as drought stricken regions were given some relief. However, long term effects from the drought were still apparent, some locations worsened. The Upper Coast, Central, East Texas reported rainfall amounts ranging from ½ to 2 inches. Isolated locations in those regions received up to 5 inches of rain. Rain gauges along portions of the Red River in North Central Texas recorded rain amounts from ½ to 3 inches. Other districts reporting moisture included the South Plains, Edwards Plateau, South Texas, Coastal Bend, the Rio Grande Valley. Totals in those regions ranged from a trace to over 1 inch. Springtime temperatures were in effect as highs in the 80's were common in all areas with some 90's reported in southern locations. Freeze damage from the previous week was noticed in some wheat fields that had headed out, in newly emerged corn, sorghum. Summer crop seeding as well as land preparations were ongoing as conditions permitted. Pasture green-up progressed northward as temperatures rose. Supplemental feeding decreased for the most part as forages began to grow, especially in eastern locations that have been receiving rain for the past few weeks. Stock tanks were filled where downpours occurred, easing pressure on cattle. Irrigation remained active where available. Effects of the long term drought remained, a pattern of increased precipitation would have to be established to break the dry weather cycle across the state. Small Grains: Wheat fields were beginning to green-up on the Panhandle but there was still not much production expected from dryland. Insurance adjusters were busy disastering failed wheat in the area. Some grazing was ongoing on irrigated land. For those fields still standing for grain harvest, crop dusters were spraying for greenbugs. In North Central Texas, the Blacklands, freeze damage was reported in headed fields. The effect on yield potential remained to be seen. Wheat condition was rated mostly poor to very poor. Oat condition was rated mostly very poor. Cotton: Rain in the Rio Grande Valley, Coastal Bend was very well received by cotton growers. For many fields, it was the first rain since before planting. Much more moisture will be needed to give the cotton crop a good start this season. Planting continued on the Blacklands. Preparations were ongoing on the South Plains, other northern regions. Irrigation was heavy in parts of South Texas. Corn: Corn fields on the Blacklands were hurt by the freeze received the previous week. Most fields were expected to recover, but there was acreage that needed to be replanted. Planting progressed northward as field preparation was active on the Panhandle. Corn in southern regions was 4 to 5 inches tall in early planted fields. Irrigation in those regions was active where available. Statewide, corn condition was rated mostly fair to good. Sorghum: Fields were burned back by the freeze. Most should recover but some replanting was necessary. Growers in the Rio Grande Valley, Coastal Bend welcomed the much needed rain. Much more would be needed for adequate crop stands. Irrigation was active where possible. Rice: Planting continued on the Upper Coast. Fields were emerging, more growers were flooding fields. Soybeans: Planting was ongoing but there were delays along the Upper Coast, Blacklands, Northeast Texas due to rain. Commercial Vegetables, Fruit and Pecans. In the Rio Grande Valley, rain was beneficial to all agriculture. Spring onion harvest gained momentum. Producers continued to harvest sugarcane, vegetables, citrus. In the San Antonio-Winter Garden, potato development was good, harvest was expected in the next few weeks. Cabbage harvest continued. In East Texas, there was some freeze damage in early planted watermelons, but they were expected to recover. Pecans, peaches that budded out, bloomed were damaged by the freeze. The full effect on yield was unknown. A hail storm in the Trans Pecos damaged pecan orchards. Grape vineyards on the Trans Pecos, Edwards Plateau were hurt by the previous week's freeze. Most of the damage occurred on the top vines. Livestock, Range, Pasture Report: Pastures continued to green-up, were beginning to provide more grazing opportunities for cattle. Drought stricken rangeland in South Texas responded well with the first significant rain in quite some time. Supplemental feeding decreased somewhat but was still necessary in most areas. Hay was still very scarce and expensive as importation continued. Cattle body condition was rated slightly better with the improvement of forages but still behind where it should be. Most calves were on the ground as spring cattle work continued. Horn flies were an increasing problem in most regions. Sheep producers continued to shear and sell fall lambs.

UTAH: Days suitable for field work 3. Subsoil 0% very short, 0% short, 90% adequate, 10% surplus. Irrigation water supplies 0% very short, 1% short, 92% adequate, 7% surplus. Winter wheat condition 0% very poor, 6% poor, 34% fair, 56% good, 4% excellent; freeze damage 72% none, 17% light, 11% moderate, 0% severe. Spring wheat 16% planted, 30% 2005, 37% avg.; 7% emerged, 0% 2005, 8% avg. Barley 16% planted, 19% 2005, 31% avg.; 6% emerged, 0%

2005, 7% avg. Oats 15% planted, 21% 2005, 20% avg. Cows calved 64%, 67% 2005, 62% avg. Cattle, calves condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 12% fair, 66% good, 21% excellent. Sheep condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 15% fair, 73% good, 11% excellent. Range, pasture 3% very poor, 2% poor, 23% fair, 62% good, 10% excellent. Stock water supplies 0% very short, 0% short, 92% adequate, 8% surplus. Sheep sheared on farm, Sheared on farm 54%, 37% 2005, 43% avg. Sheep sheared on range, Sheep sheared on range 25%, 26% 2005, 27% avg. Ewes lamb on farm, Ewes lamb on farm 68%, 69% 2005, 58% avg. Ewes lamb on range, Ewes lamb on range 24%, 25% 2005, 25% avg. Apples full bloom or past 0%, 0% 2005, 0% avg. Apricots full bloom or past 11%, 28% 2005, 46% avg. Sweet cherries full bloom or past 7%, 0% 2005, 1% avg. Tart cherries full bloom or past 9%, 0% 2005, 0% avg. Peaches full bloom or past 4%, 20% 2005, 10% avg. Pears full bloom or past 0%, 57% 2005, 19% avg. Heavy rains, some snow over the past week have hampered spring planting activities, but have improved the subsoil moisture condition. There was very little farm activities last week while fields tried to dry out. Calving, lambing continued with very little sickness. Little or no spring wheat or barley has been planted in the Northern counties. Onion planting has begun, but has been limited by wet conditions. Northern county fruit trees began to bud and apricots are close to blooming. Eastern counties are reporting very good valley moisture over the past few weeks with mountain snowpack drainage above normal. The drainage is expected to improve ground quality during the upcoming grazing and growing seasons. Field activities throughout the state should begin with warmer and dryer weather. Livestock were in excellent condition last week. Cattle producers in Eastern counties are reporting a good calving season with better than normal spring weather. Calving and lambing should continue in the coming weeks.

VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Topsoil 52% very short, 35% short, 13% adequate. Subsoil 26% very short, 52% short, 22% adequate. The Commonwealth experienced mild weather conditions this week with very little rainfall. All areas are very dry. Average rainfall for the state was 0.12 inches, the average temperature was 51 degrees. Dry conditions have slowed the development of hay fields and small grains. Some corn has been planted, while some producers are waiting for moisture levels to improve. Despite the lack of moisture, livestock appear to be healthy. Pasture, hay are falling behind in spring growth, feed conditions are becoming a concern for livestock producers. Producers took advantage of the mild temperatures to complete field work, prepare for planting. Vegetable growers have been busy in the greenhouses, tobacco farmers were busy this week bedding tobacco fields for the upcoming season. Activities Included: Calving, lambing, fence building, repair, litter, fertilizer spreading, preparing for soybean planting.

WASHINGTON: Days suitable for field work 4.4. Topsoil 1% short, 78% adequate, 21% surplus. Good moisture was reported throughout the state. Winter wheat is in fair to excellent condition overall, but the crop was reported to be lacking in nitrogen due to the large amount of moisture. Producers were busy planting potatoes, small grains, vegetables and dry peas. Fruit trees were leafing out, blooming in warmer areas. There is still some pruning taking place in the later season areas. Range, pasture conditions 1% very poor, 5% poor, 10%

fair, 76% good, 8% excellent. Spring calving, lambing continued, pasture growth is increasing. Supplemental feeding continued and livestock was being moved to drier pastures.

WEST VIRGINIA: Days suitable for field work 5.0. Topsoil 8% very short, 31% short, 59% adequate, 2% surplus compared with 34% adequate, 66% surplus last year. Intended acreage prepared for spring planting was 32%, 12% in 2005, 19% for the 5-yr avg. Hay, roughage supplies 2% very short, 14% short, 80% adequate, 4% surplus compared with 5% short, 81% adequate, 14% surplus in 2005. Feed grain supplies 2% very short, 5% short, 93% adequate compared to 99% adequate, 1% surplus this time last year. Apple conditions 8% poor, 33% fair, 51% good, 8% excellent. Peach conditions 7% poor, 28% fair, 58% good, 7% excellent. Hay 10% very poor, 22% poor, 25% fair, 42% good, 1% excellent. Winter Wheat conditions 2% poor, 15% fair, 83% good. Oats 17% planted, 1% 2005, 11% 5-yr avg. Cattle, calves 1% very poor, 2% poor, 22% fair, 70% good, 5% excellent. Calving 74% complete, compared to 73% last year, 76% 5-year average. Sheep, lambs 2% poor, 31% fair, 64% good, 3% excellent. Lambing 85% complete, compared to 73% last year, 75% for the 5-year average. Activities Included: Calving, lambing, plowing, feeding and maintenance of equipment.

WISCONSIN: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.5. Soil 10% short, 75% adequate, 15% surplus. Wisconsin's 2006 growing season is starting slowly. Rain, cold nights limited field activity during the week. Average temperatures were 3 to 6° above normal. High temperatures were in the 50s in most locations. Average low temperatures were in the 30s across the state. Rainfall totals last week ranged from 0.16 in Green Bay to 1.22 inches in La Crosse.

WYOMING: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.0. Topsoil 8% very short, 38% short, 50% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil 21% very short, 43% short, 34% adequate, 2% surplus. Temperatures during the week ending Friday, March 31st, were above normal across the State except for a few stations in the West. Averages ranged from 5.8° above normal in Kaycee to 3.5° below normal in Afton. The high temperature was 72 in Redbird and the low was 5 in Afton. Precipitation was below normal except for some widely scattered areas. The most precipitation was reported in Riverton with 1.00 inch, Deaver with 0.64 inches, Kaycee with 0.53 inches. Barley 48% planted, 49% 2005, 35% 5-year average. Oats 0% planted, 10% 2005, 6% 5-year average. Spring wheat 8% planted, 9% 2005, 6% 5-year average. Sugarbeets 2% planted, 1% 2005, 2% 5-year average. Winter wheat condition 1% very poor, 2% poor, 34% fair, 63% good. Spring calves born 58%, 54% 2005, 58% 5-year average. Farm flock ewes lambed 60%, 63% 2005, 63% 5-year average. Farm flock sheep shorn 59%, 66% 2005, 65% 5-year average. Range flock ewes lambed 9%, 11% 2005, 10% 5-year average. Range flock sheep shorn 17%, 26% 2005, 24% 5-year average. Calf, lamb losses light to mostly normal with reports of heavy losses in three southeast counties. Cattle, sheep in mostly good condition. Range, pasture conditions 6% very poor, 9% poor, 54% fair, 30% good, 1% excellent. Hay, roughage supplies 3% short, 87% adequate, and 10% surplus.

International Weather and Crop Summary

March 26 - April 1, 2006

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

HIGHLIGHTS

EUROPE: Warmer weather returned to northern and eastern Europe, while heavy rain caused flooding in central growing areas.

FSU-WESTERN: Unseasonably mild weather prevailed in Ukraine and southern Russia, prompting greening of winter grains and raising soil temperatures to favorable levels for early spring grain planting.

MIDDLE EAST: Warm, showery weather promoted winter grain development across most of the region, while much-needed rain returned to the eastern Mediterranean.

AUSTRALIA: Mostly dry weather in southern Queensland favored cotton and sorghum harvesting, while widespread showers in northern New South Wales caused periodic delays in summer crop collection.

NORTHWEST AFRICA: Warm, dry weather promoted winter grain development after a favorably wet winter.

SOUTH AFRICA: Drier, albeit unseasonably cool weather benefited corn and other maturing summer crops.

EASTERN ASIA: Warm weather increased growth rates and moisture demands of winter wheat on the North China Plain.

SOUTHEAST ASIA: Heavy rain caused flooding in Indochina and harvesting delays in Indonesia.

BRAZIL: Locally heavy showers caused additional delays in the soybean harvest.

ARGENTINA: Dry weather favored maturation and harvesting in most major summer crop areas.

March 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	-1	-11	9	-20	-6	-4.5	50	-8
FINLAN HELSINKI	-3	-11	5	-18	-7	-4.6	9	-26
UKINGD ABERDEEN	5	1	14	-4	3	-1.9	122	62
CARDIFF	9	4	15	-2	6	-1.4	92	18
LONDON	9	3	15	-4	6	-1.6	42	1
IRELAN DUBLIN	9	3	14	-5	6	-1	68	13
ICELAN REYKJAVIK	3	-1	10	-8	1	0.8	32	-51
DENMAR COPENHAGEN	3	-3	11	-9	0	-3.2	25	-11
LUXEMB LUXEMBOURG	7	0	15	-8	3	-1.5	94	28
SWITZE ZURICH	7	0	21	-7	4	-1.7	168	100
GENEVA	9	2	23	-9	5	-0.6	140	75
FRANCE PARIS/ORLY	10	3	19	-5	6	-1.7	77	34
STRASBOURG	9	1	22	-5	5	-1.2	65	29
BOURGES	11	3	23	-5	7	0.2	121	68
BORDEAUX	15	7	25	-1	11	1.7	186	116
TOULOUSE	15	6	23	-2	11	1.8	118	64
MARSEILLE	15	7	23	-3	11	0.5	6	-38
SPAIN VALLADOLID	15	5	22	-4	10	1.2	33	9
MADRID	17	5	24	-3	11	0.6	26	9
SEVILLE	21	11	27	6	16	0	61	34
PORTUG LISBON	17	11	23	6	14	0.1	128	47
GERMAN HAMBURG	4	-2	19	-15	1	-3.4	64	1
BERLIN	5	-1	19	-11	2	-3	33	-9
DUSSELDORF	8	1	19	-9	4	-2.7	66	-2
LEIPZIG	5	-1	19	-11	2	-2.3	51	15
DRESDEN	4	-1	20	-10	1	-3	50	9
STUTT GART	7	-1	21	-8	3	-2.2	68	25
NURNBERG	6	-2	20	-11	2	-2.4	50	6
AUGSBURG	5	-2	21	-17	2	-2.9	103	62
AUSTRI VIENNA	7	0	22	-6	4	-2	51	11
INNSBRUCK	9	-2	24	-11	3	-1.7	49	-11
CZECHR PRAGUE	5	-2	20	-11	2	-2.1	43	14
POLAND WARSAW	3	-5	17	-17	-1	-3.3	13	-17
LODZ	3	-4	15	-18	-1	-3.6	24	-13
KATOWICE	4	-3	16	-13	0	-3.2	68	24
HUNGAR BUDAPEST	9	1	21	-7	5	-1.3	28	1
YUGOSL BELGRADE	11	4	24	-5	7	-0.5	105	58
ROMANI BUCHAREST	11	0	23	-9	5	-0.2	67	29
BULGAR SOFIA	11	1	23	-11	6	0.7	74	40
ITALY MILAN	14	5	21	-1	9	0.6	19	-45
VERONA	13	3	22	-2	8	-0.3	24	-28
VENICE	11	3	18	-3	7	-1.1	24	-25
GENOA	13	8	16	2	11	-1.1	47	-38
ROME	14	6	19	0	10	-0.8	28	-32
NAPLES	15	7	20	-1	11	-0.2	94	16
GREECE THESSALONIKA	14	6	20	-1	10	0.3	36	-4
LARISSA	16	5	25	-2	10	0.8	42	5
ATHENS	16	9	20	3	13	0.6	40	-15
TURKEY ISTANBUL	12	5	20	-2	8	0.8	90	34
ANKARA	12	0	22	-7	6	2.4	33	-7
CYPRUS LARNACA	20	9	22	5	14	0.7	25	-17
ESTONI TALLINN	-2	-9	8	-20	-5	-3.8	39	4
RUSSIA ST.PETERSBURG	-2	-10	7	-18	-6	-4.6	34	1
LITHUA KAUNAS	1	-7	11	-18	-3	-3.2	22	-15
BELARU MINSK	1	-7	10	-19	-3	-2.5	43	0
RUSSIA KAZAN	-2	-9	5	-17	-5	-0.7	68	45
MOSCOW	1	-8	10	-18	-4	-2.1	48	15
YEKATERINBURG	0	-6	8	-12	-3	1.1	41	25
OMSK	0	-8	8	-18	-4	4.3	21	7
KAZAKH KUSTANAY	3	-6	13	-21	-1	6.8	14	-1
RUSSIA BARNAIL	0	-10	9	-20	-5	2.5	14	-2
KHABAROVSK	-4	-13	3	-21	-9	-1.9	68	50
VLADIVOSTOK	1	-5	11	-13	-2	0.1	34	11
UKRAIN KIEV	3	-3	15	-11	0	-1.2	59	24
LVOV	3	-4	17	-18	0	-2.1	83	45
KIROVOGRAD	4	-2	14	-14	1	-0.3	61	27
ODESSA	5	1	16	-7	3	-0.1	79	51
RUSSIA SARATOV	0	-6	7	-12	-3	1.4	60	39
UKRAIN KHARKOV	2	-3	14	-19	0	-0.4	48	19
RUSSIA VOLGOGRAD	6	-3	16	-14	1	2.1	17	-6

Based on Preliminary Reports

March 2006

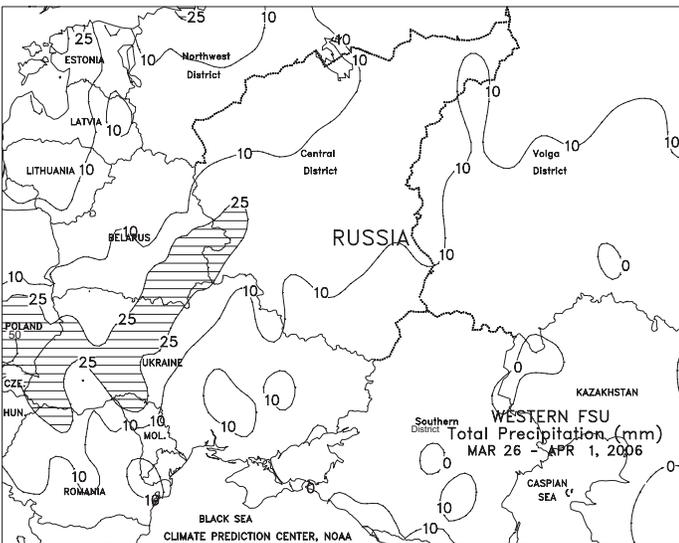
COUNTRY CITY	TEMPERATURE (C)					PRECIPITATION (MM)			COUNTRY CITY	TEMPERATURE (C)					PRECIPITATION (MM)		
	AVG MAX	AVG MIN	HI MAX	LO MIN	AVG	F/NRM	TOTAL	F/NRM		AVG MAX	AVG MIN	HI MAX	LO MIN	AVG	F/NRM	TOTAL	F/NRM
ASTRAKHAN	9	-1	17	-5	4	2.6	17	1	MOZAMB MAPUTO	30	21	36	18	25	-0.4	73	-25
KRASnodAR	13	2	21	-4	7	2.4	15	-26	ZAMBIA LUSAKA	25	18	30	13	***	***	113	-30
ORENBURG	3	-5	15	-13	-1	4.7	24	4	ZIMBAB KADOMA	28	16	31	12	22	-1.9	60	-32
KAZAKH TSELINOGRAD	2	-5	10	-16	-1	7.1	17	-12	S AFRI PRETORIA	26	16	30	12	21	-0.5	51	-43
KARAGANDA	4	-4	14	-11	0	7.0	9	-8	JOHANNESBURG	22	13	26	8	17	-0.8	144	43
UZBEKI TASHKENT	17	8	28	2	12	4.0	58	-6	BETHAL	23	***	28	7	***	***	107	16
TURKME ASHKHABAD	18	7	34	1	12	2.8	34	-8	DURBAN	27	19	33	16	23	-1.0	79	-47
SYRIA DAMASCUS	21	6	28	-1	13	2.2	3	-18	CAPE TOWN	26	14	36	6	20	0.4	5	-15
ISRAEL JERUSALEM	18	10	29	6	***	***	7	-88	CANADA TORONTO	6	-3	18	-11	1	1.6	49	-7
PAKIST KARACHI	32	20	36	14	26	1.2	0	-11	MONTREAL	4	-5	22	-17	-1	1.6	29	-40
INDIA AMRITSAR	26	11	34	8	19	0.0	59	20	WINNIPEG	-2	-11	5	-25	-6	-0.2	37	14
NEW DELHI	30	15	35	10	23	0.2	30	15	REGINA	-1	-11	12	-26	-6	-0.8	18	0
AHMEDABAD	35	19	38	14	27	-0.9	5	***	SASKATOON	-3	-12	6	-25	-8	-2.0	38	23
INDORE	33	16	39	13	25	-0.7	25	24	LETHBRIDGE	5	-8	15	-19	-2	-1.5	29	4
CALCUTTA	34	22	40	15	28	0.7	18	-24	CALGARY	0	-9	11	-21	-4	-2.6	7	-10
VERAVAL	32	20	40	17	26	0.6	1	***	EDMONTON	-1	-9	9	-19	-5	-2.7	22	7
BOMBAY	32	21	38	16	27	-0.2	13	***	VANCOUVER	10	3	16	-3	7	-0.1	92	-21
POONA	34	17	38	11	25	-0.3	5	4	MEXICO GUADALAJARA	28	14	32	9	21	2.0	0	-6
BEGAMPET	34	21	38	17	28	-1.0	40	26	TLAXCALA	25	7	30	4	16	0.1	4	-1
VISHAKHAPATNAM	32	24	33	22	28	0.2	19	9	ORIZABA	25	14	31	8	20	1.6	33	0
MADRAS	34	24	39	22	29	0.8	27	22	BERMUD ST GEORGES	19	14	23	11	17	-1.8	102	-4
MANGALORE	34	24	35	21	29	-0.1	0	-5	BAHAMA NASSAU	26	19	30	13	23	0.2	22	-27
HONGKO HONG KONG INT	23	17	28	8	20	1.0	69	-7	CUBA HAVANA	28	16	32	9	22	-0.7	0	-48
N KORE PYONGYANG	8	-2	15	-8	3	-0.3	16	-13	JAMAIC KINGSTON	31	23	34	21	27	0.7	1	-23
S KORE SEOUL	10	1	17	-7	6	-0.4	15	-36	P RICO SAN JUAN	29	23	33	21	26	0.6	22	-33
JAPAN SAPPORO	4	-1	9	-6	2	1.4	121	41	GUADEL RAIZET	29	21	30	19	25	-0.1	113	46
NAGOYA	13	4	20	-1	9	0.2	123	8	MARTIN LAMENTIN	30	23	32	21	26	1.4	49	-29
TOKYO	14	6	19	2	10	1.3	82	-33	BARBAD BRIDGETOWN	30	24	30	22	27	1.0	35	-2
YOKOHAMA	14	6	19	2	10	1.1	106	-42	TRINID PORT OF SPAIN	31	23	33	21	27	0.7	115	84
KYOTO	12	4	19	-1	8	-0.7	128	6	COLOMB BOGOTA	***	***	21	6	***	***	82	23
OSAKA	13	6	20	0	9	0.0	120	20	VENEZU CARACAS	29	24	32	23	26	1.1	4	-9
THAILA PHITSANULOK	36	25	38	21	30	0.6	47	18	F GUIA CAYENNE	29	24	31	22	27	0.9	265	-77
BANGKOK	35	27	37	23	31	1.1	75	44	BRAZIL FORTALEZA	31	26	32	24	29	1.3	144	-166
MALAYS KUALA LUMPUR	33	24	35	24	29	1.6	254	19	RECIFE	33	27	34	23	30	0.5	151	-47
VIETNA HANOI	23	19	29	12	21	0.3	32	-13	CAMPO GRANDE	33	24	37	21	28	2.6	105	-43
CHINA HARBIN	3	-8	11	-15	-3	0.4	4	-5	FRANCA	27	20	30	17	23	0.8	157	-50
HAMI	13	-1	23	-10	6	1.4	0	-1	RIO DE JANEIRO	33	24	38	22	28	1.7	46	-89
LANCHOW	***	***	13	4	***	***	***	***	LONDRINA	32	20	35	17	26	2.3	64	-84
BEIJING	14	2	23	-5	8	2.0	0	-8	SANTA MARIA	30	18	38	10	24	1.3	65	-75
TIENTSIN	14	2	22	-5	8	1.5	0	-7	TORRES	28	21	34	13	24	-1.6	89	-19
LHASA	13	0	18	-4	6	1.0	1	-2	PERU LIMA	26	20	30	17	23	0.3	0	0
KUNMING	22	11	25	2	16	2.9	10	-8	BOLIVI LA PAZ	14	4	20	1	9	0.3	106	-3
CHENGCHOW	18	6	26	-1	12	3.8	5	-23	CHILE SANTIAGO	27	9	31	5	18	0.3	0	-5
YEHCHANG	19	9	26	0	14	3.4	43	-16	ARGENT IGUAZU	30	20	34	14	25	0.6	225	95
HANKOW	18	9	26	-1	13	3.0	24	-65	FORMOSA	32	22	38	14	27	1.3	397	244
CHUNGKING	17	11	24	4	14	0.6	84	46	CERES	28	17	34	9	22	-0.2	119	-21
CHIHKIANG	17	9	26	0	13	2.3	70	-8	CORDOBA	26	15	34	8	21	0.2	50	-72
WU HU	17	7	26	-1	12	2.9	34	-60	RIO CUARTO	26	14	32	8	20	-0.1	100	-14
SHANGHAI	16	7	23	0	12	2.6	57	-30	ROSARIO	26	14	33	5	20	-0.9	120	-12
NANCHANG	17	10	26	-1	13	2.3	89	-86	BUENOS AIRES	25	13	32	6	19	-1.6	109	15
TAIPEI	22	17	31	11	19	0.4	157	-39	SANTA ROSA	26	12	32	3	19	-0.5	108	21
CANTON	22	15	29	7	19	0.8	99	13	TRES ARROYOS	25	11	30	4	18	0.0	19	-62
NANNING	22	15	29	5	18	0.7	38	-19	MARSHA MAJURO	29	26	30	24	28	0.3	171	-32
CANARY LAS PALMAS	21	15	28	13	18	-0.6	3	-13	NEW CA NOUMEA	28	24	34	22	26	0.4	82	-67
MOROCC CASABLANCA	19	12	31	7	15	0.5	41	1	FUJI NAUSORI	32	24	33	22	28	1.5	248	-141
MARRAKECH	24	11	35	6	17	1.1	0	-40	SAMOA PAGO PAGO	31	26	32	25	29	1.0	216	-67
ALGERI ALGER	21	8	29	2	14	1.0	27	-33	TAHITI PAPEETE	32	25	33	24	29	1.2	98	-79
BATNA	19	3	28	-4	11	1.9	5	-56	PNEWGU PORT MRESBY	31	24	33	24	27	0.7	259	71
TUNISI TUNIS	20	10	29	4	15	1.2	33	-8	NZEALA AUCKLAND	23	15	25	9	19	***	64	***
NIGER NIAMEY	40	24	43	19	32	0.8	0	-3	WELLINGTON	18	12	22	6	15	***	90	***
MALI TIMBUKTU	36	21	42	16	28	1.2	0	0	AUSTRA DARWIN	30	25	34	24	28	-0.3	507	133
BAMAKO	38	24	42	19	31	0.2	0	-3	BRISBANE	27	20	29	16	23	-0.5	146	23
MAURIT NOUAKCHOTT	35	21	43	15	28	3.5	0	-1	PERTH	31	16	38	8	23	0.4	18	4
SENEGA DAKAR	26	18	33	16	22	1.3	0	0	CEDUNA	27	14	41	8	21	0.6	23	9
LIBYA TRIPOLI	22	11	36	4	17	1.4	0	-33	ADELAIDE	26	16	36	10	21	0.8	6	-16
BENGHAZI	20	11	34	5	***	***	81	58	MELBOURNE	25	13	39	8	19	1.2	15	-16
EGYPT CAIRO	25	14	35	10	19	1.8	13	7	WAGGA	30	14	38	7	22	1.4	11	-30
ASWAN	31	16	38	9	23	1.7	0	0	CANBERRA	27	12	34	7	20	2.0	34	-16
ETHIOP ADDIS ABABA	24	13	27	9	18	0.3	98	31	INDONE SERANG	31	24	34	22	27	0.1	334	149
KENYA NAIROBI	28	16	29	10	22	0.9	110	45	PHILIP MANILA	32	26	34	24	29	0.4	61	43
TANZAN DAR ES SALAAM	31	24	33	22	27	0.3	279	146									
GABON LIBREVILLE	31	24	39	21	28	0.4	280	-126									
TOGO LOME	33	26	34	23	30	1.6	137	67									
BURKIN OUAGADOUGOU	40	24	43	20	32	1.0	0	-5									
COTE D ABIDJAN	33	26	34	21	29	1.3	122	29									

Based on Preliminary Reports



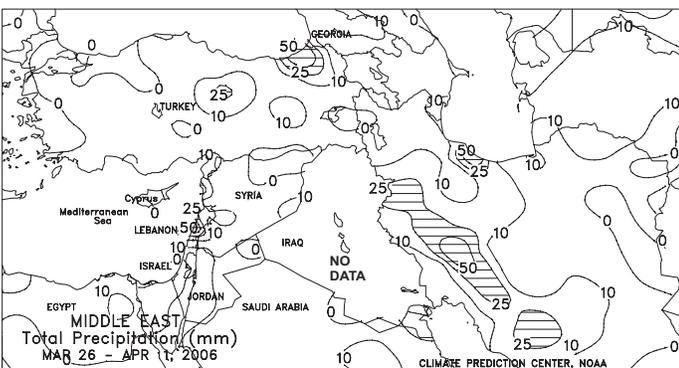
EUROPE

Warmer weather returned to northern and eastern Europe, while heavy rain caused flooding in central growing areas. After an unseasonably cold March, temperatures up to 5 degrees C above normal overspread most of northern and eastern Europe. In Poland and the Baltics, the warmer conditions coupled with widespread rain (10-25 mm in northern areas, 25-60 mm in southern Poland) melted the region's snow cover and allowed winter grains to begin breaking dormancy. Farther west, heavy rain (25-110 mm) and melting snow caused flooding and fieldwork delays in Germany and the Czech Republic, although the precipitation eased lingering long-term moisture deficits. In France, England, and the Low Countries, showers (15-60 mm) maintained adequate topsoil moisture for vegetative winter grains. On the Iberian Peninsula, moderate to heavy rain (10-110 mm) in northern growing areas contrasted with dry, warm conditions elsewhere. Elsewhere, light showers (2-10 mm) in northern Italy as well as northern portions of the Balkans maintained adequate topsoil moisture for vegetative winter grains, while drier conditions along the central and eastern Mediterranean coast favored summer crop planting and citrus harvesting.



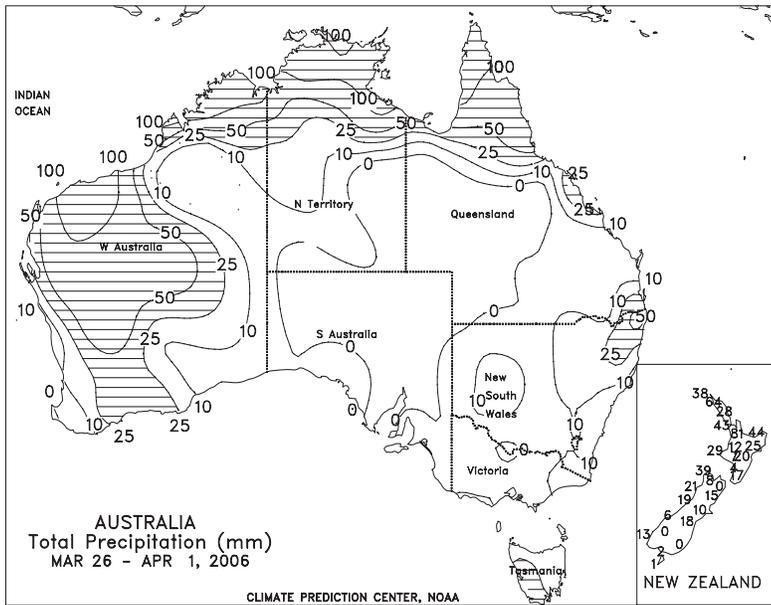
FSU-WESTERN

Unseasonably mild weather (weekly temperatures averaging 1 to 4 degrees C above normal) prevailed over most of Ukraine and the Southern District in Russia, prompting greening of winter grains at near normal dates and raising soil temperatures to favorable levels for spring grain planting. Extreme maximum temperatures ranged from 12 to 22 degrees C at most locations. Reports from Ukraine indicated that spring grain planting was underway in southern areas. However, planting activities were progressing slower than last year. Farther north, weekly temperatures averaged near to slightly below normal in northern Russia. Maximum temperatures rose above freezing on most days during the week, continuing to melt the moderate to deep snow cover that existed over dormant winter grains. A storm system tracked from western Ukraine northeastward into the Central District in Russia, producing light to moderate rainfall (10-25 mm or more). Elsewhere in Ukraine and Russia, precipitation (less than 10 mm) was light and scattered.



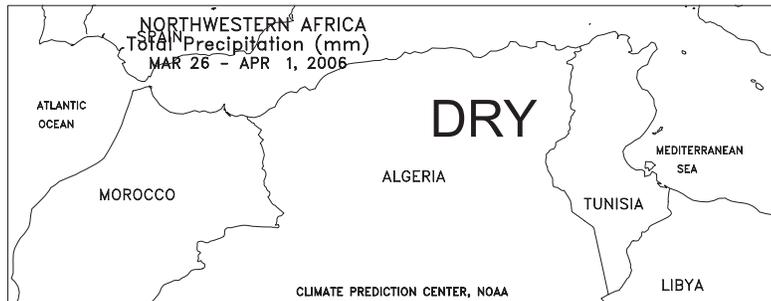
MIDDLE EAST

Warm, showery weather promoted winter grain development across most of the region, while much-needed rain returned to the eastern Mediterranean. A slow-moving storm brought moderate to locally heavy rain (10-80 mm) to the eastern Mediterranean coast, breaking a 4-week dry spell and providing topsoil moisture for heading to reproductive winter grains. Farther north, occasional light showers (less than 10 mm) and temperatures up to 2 degrees C above normal maintained favorable conditions for vegetative to heading winter grains across much of Turkey. However, a second week of dry weather in western Turkey facilitated cotton planting after a wetter-than-normal March. In western Iran, widespread moderate to heavy rain (10-60 mm) in southern areas favored heading winter grains, while dry conditions in northwestern Iran reduced topsoil moisture for vegetative winter grains.



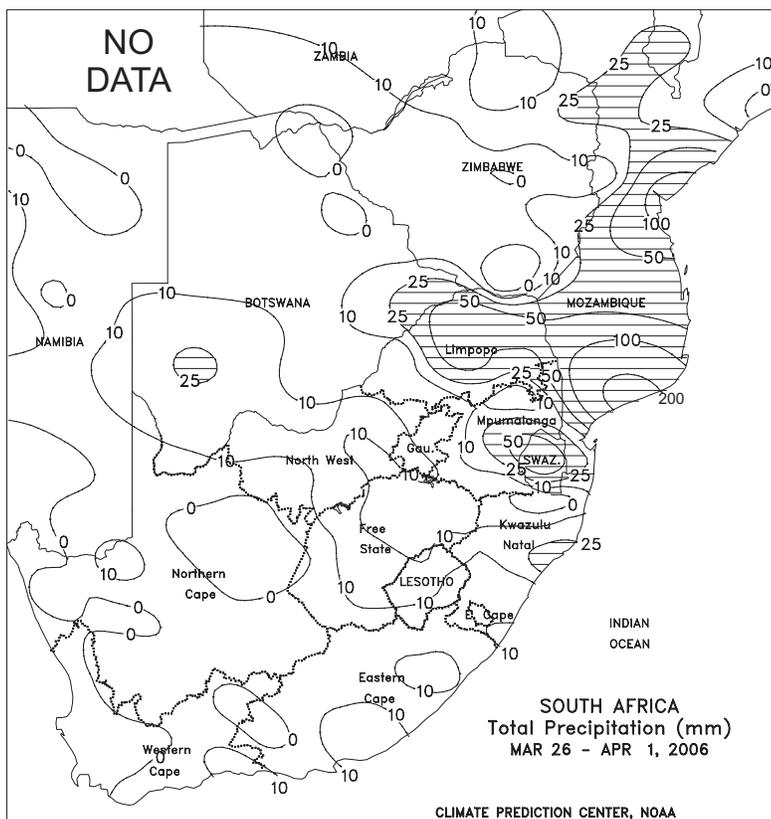
AUSTRALIA

Mostly dry weather (generally less than 5 mm) in southern Queensland favored cotton and sorghum harvesting, while widespread showers (about 5-25 mm) in northern New South Wales caused periodic delays in summer crop collection. Temperatures in major summer crop areas were generally seasonable, favoring crop development. In southeastern Australia, widely scattered showers (3-13 mm) maintained local moisture supplies for autumn winter grain planting. In Western Australia, the remnants of Tropical Cyclone Glenda swept across major winter grain areas late in the week. The soaking rains (9-45 mm) associated with this storm boosted soil moisture for upcoming winter wheat and barley planting. Most winter grains are typically planted during May, June, and July in Australia.



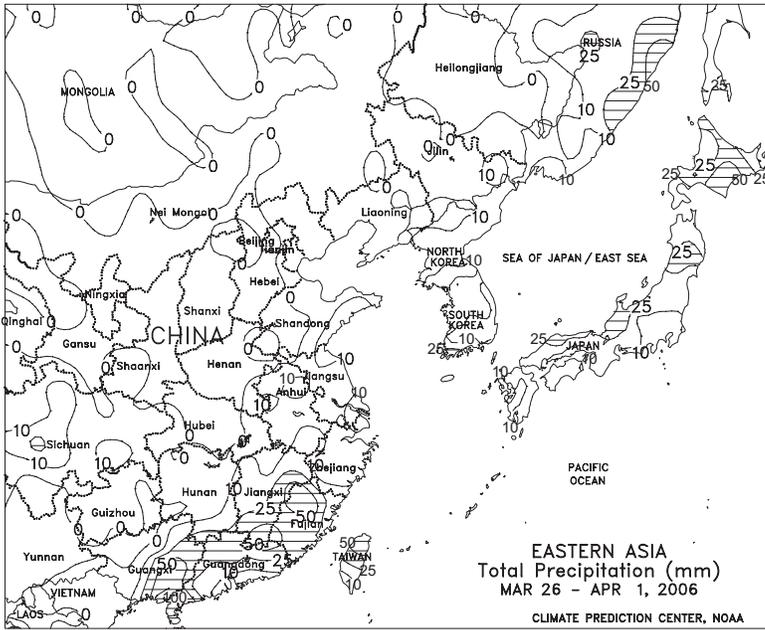
NORTHWESTERN AFRICA

Temperatures up to 8 degrees C above normal coupled with dry, sunny weather accelerated winter grain development in Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia. Winter grains across most areas have entered the moisture and temperature sensitive heading or flowering stage. However, daytime highs (25-30 degrees C in northern areas, 30-35 degrees C farther inland) were likely insufficient to adversely impact crops. In addition, sub-soil moisture and irrigation reserves remain adequate following a wetter-than-normal winter, further mitigating the impacts of the recent heat.



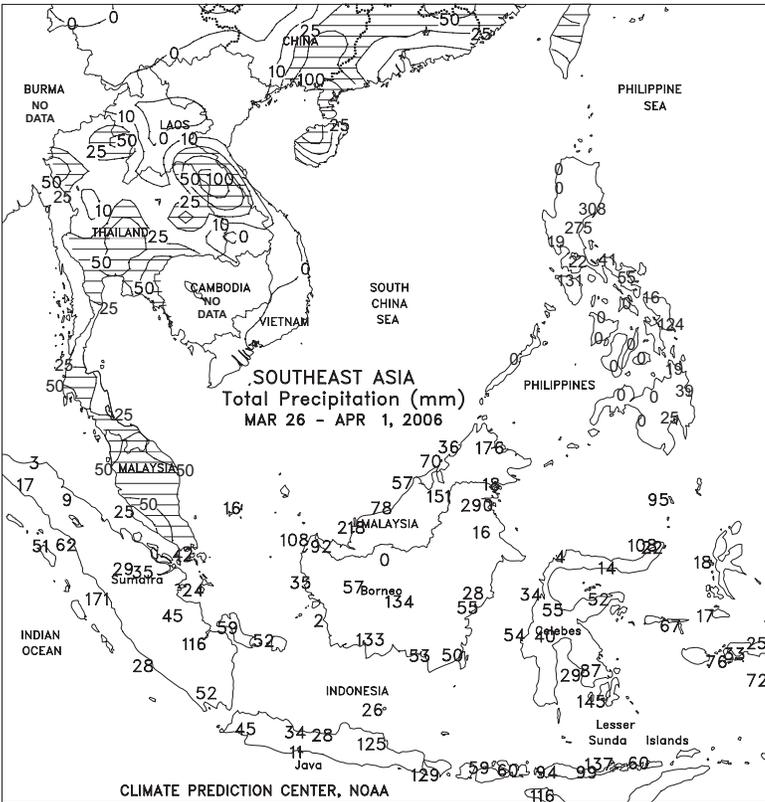
SOUTH AFRICA

Mostly dry weather favored maturation and drydown of summer crops across the corn belt, following last week's heavy rain. Significant rainfall (greater than 25 mm) was generally confined to outlying agricultural areas of Limpopo and Mpumalanga, although locally heavy showers were recorded in coastal sugarcane areas of KwaZulu-Natal. Although temperatures averaged 1 to 2 degrees C below normal in these areas, highs reaching the middle and upper 20s degrees C, combined with the increase in sunshine, aided summer crop maturation and late-season development of sugarcane and late-planted corn. In Western Cape, warm (highs in the middle 30s degrees C), dry weather supported fruit and vegetable harvesting but soil moisture remained limited for winter wheat germination.



EASTERN ASIA

Mostly dry, warmer-than-normal weather (up to 3 degrees C above normal, with highs in the middle 20s degrees C) dominated the North China Plain, increasing growth rates and subsequent moisture demands of winter wheat. Additional rain will be needed in upcoming weeks as crops enter the heading stage of development. Farther south, scattered, mostly light showers (less than 10 mm) covered the lower Yangtze River Valley. Heavier rain (10-50 mm or more) closer to the southeastern coast, however, increased topsoil moisture for rice and sugarcane but kept some areas excessively wet for seasonal fieldwork. Elsewhere, light to moderate precipitation (10-25 mm or more) swept across the Korean Peninsula and Japan, while dry, unseasonably cold weather (temperatures averaging 2-4 degrees C below normal, with lows of about -15 to -5 degrees C) remained entrenched over Manchuria.



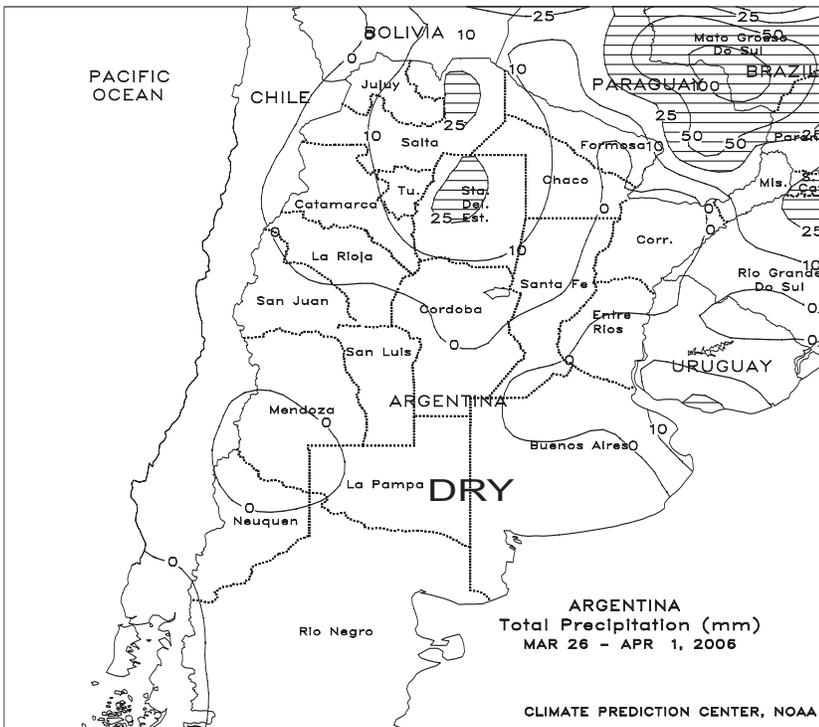
SOUTHEAST ASIA

Heavy rain caused flooding in Indochina and harvesting delays in Indonesia. Monsoon moisture continued spreading northward, triggering moderate to locally heavy showers (25-150 mm) from Java, Indonesia to northern Malaysia and peninsular Thailand. The rain slowed rice harvesting in Java as well as oil palm harvesting in Sumatra and Malaysia. Farther north, locally heavy rain (50-100 mm) across central and northern Thailand caused flooding but alleviated short-term moisture deficits after a drier-than-normal March. Meanwhile, locally heavy rain returned to the eastern Philippines after last week's respite, renewing flooding concerns.



BRAZIL

Scattered showers (25-50 mm, locally exceeding 100 mm) continued to hamper soybean harvesting in key growing areas of the Center-West and northeastern regions. Heavy rain (greater than 50 mm) also covered soybean areas of south-central Mato Grosso do Sul but in general, lighter showers (less than 25 mm) and near-to above-normal temperatures (highs in the lower 30s degrees C) were favorable for soybean maturation in southern Brazil after last week's soaking rain. According to private analyst Safras e Mercados, soybeans were 49 percent harvested nationally as of March 31, still slightly behind last season's pace. Harvest progress ranged from 80 percent in Mato Grosso, Brazil's leading soybean producer, to 2 percent in Santa Catarina. Fieldwork lagged the 5-year average pace by at least 10 points in Goias (47 percent harvested) and Bahia (7 percent harvested). Elsewhere, beneficial rain (25-50 mm or more) continued in coffee, sugarcane, and cocoa areas along the northeastern coast, although local delays in seasonal fieldwork may have resulted.



ARGENTINA

Dry weather dominated most major summer crop areas, including previously wet farmland in the northern cotton belt. Temperatures averaged near to below normal throughout the region, although abundant sunshine and highs from the middle 20s to lower 30s degrees C favored crop maturation and dry down. According to the Ministry of Agriculture, sunflowers were 81 percent harvested as of March 30, compared with 85 percent last year. Soybeans were 19 percent harvested, similar to last year's pace, but corn harvesting lagged last season's pace by nearly 20 points (19 percent versus 38 percent last year). Winter wheat planting will begin next month in central Argentina, but could be underway soon in minor growing areas farther north.

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