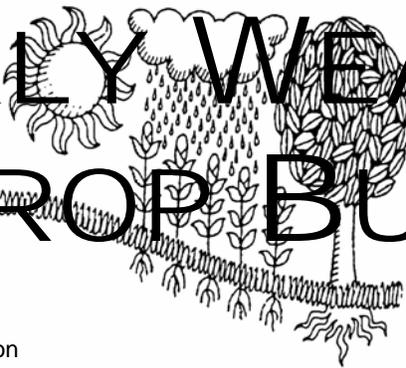
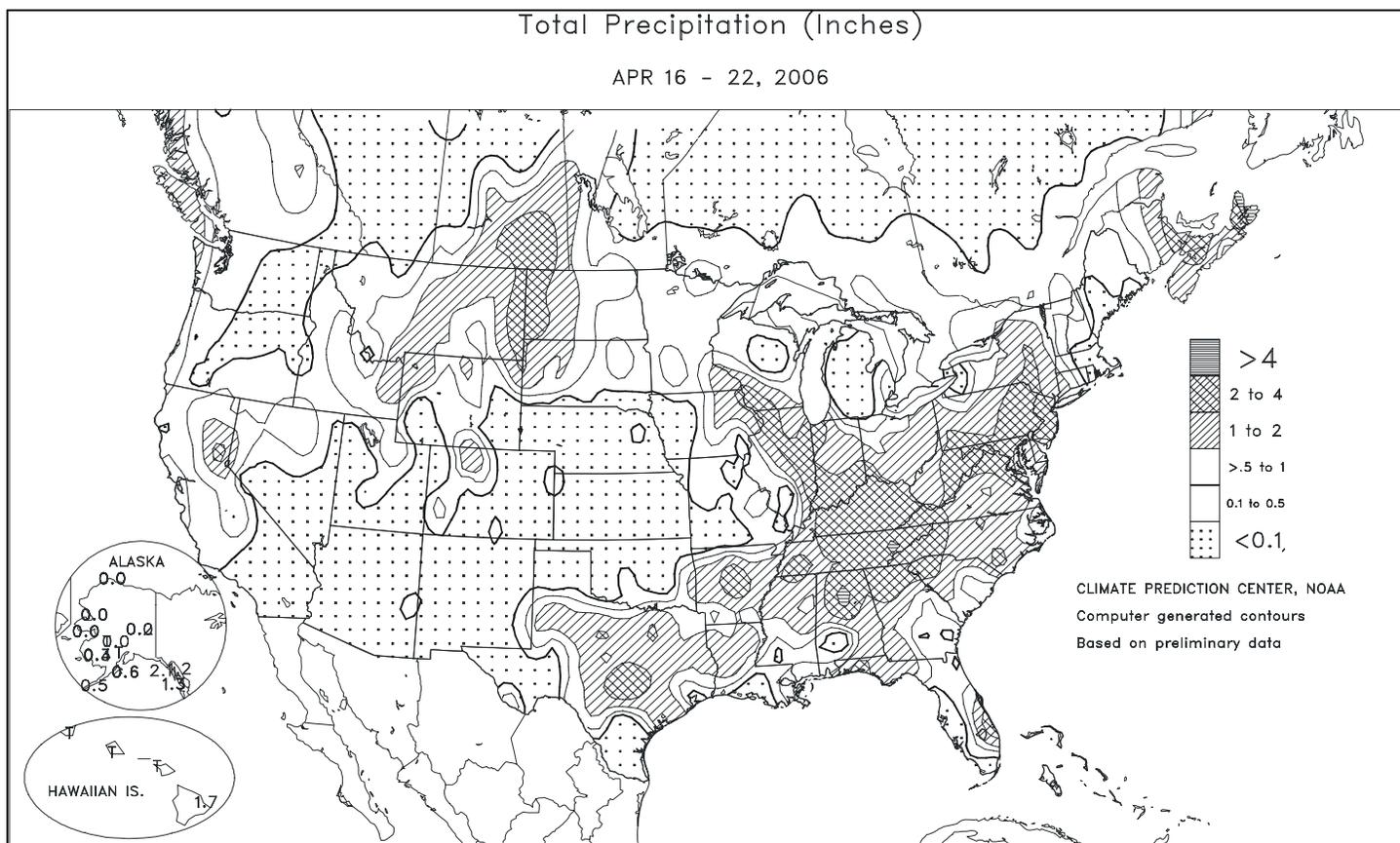


# WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN



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

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



## HIGHLIGHTS

### April 16 - 22, 2006

*Highlights provided by USDA/WAOB*

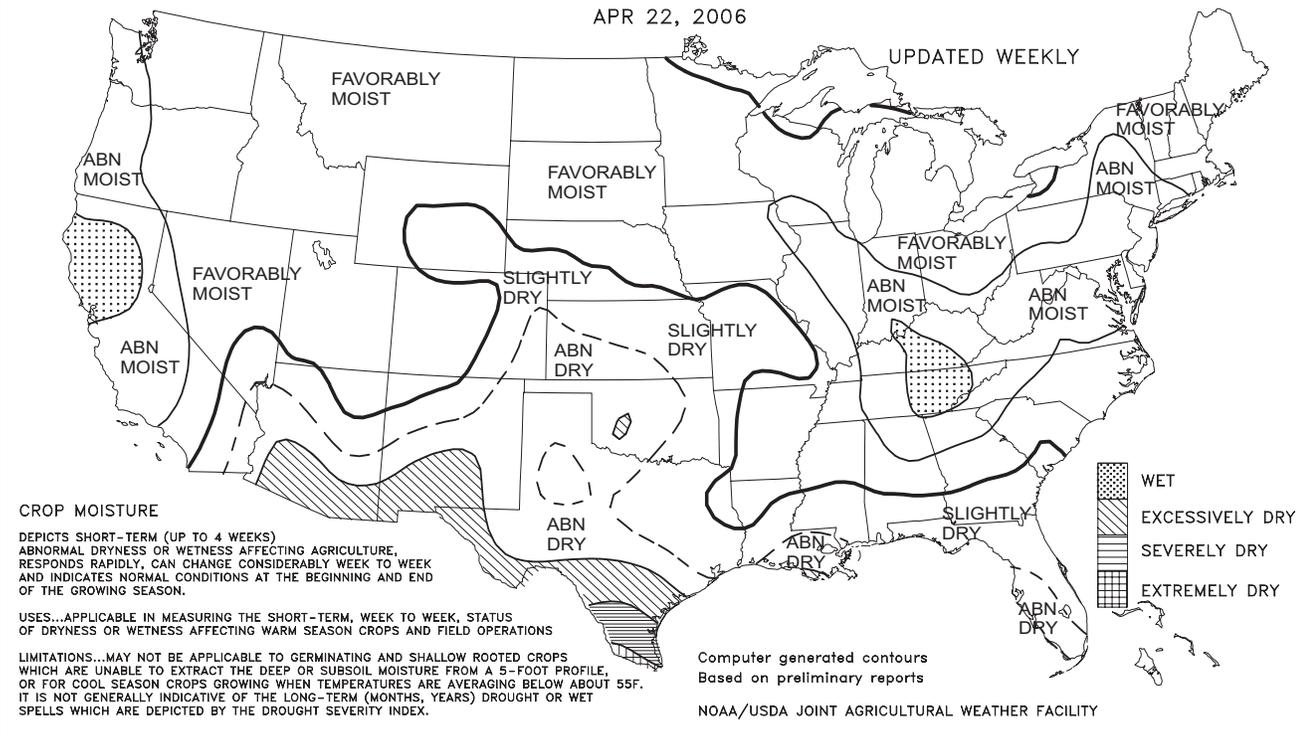
Cool weather lingered in **California** for the ninth consecutive week, but hot weather intensified from the **central and southern Plains into the Southeast**. **California's** persistent cool spell held weekly temperatures as much as 5°F below normal, further slowing spring fieldwork and threatening the quality of fruits and vegetables, while readings averaged at least 10°F above normal from the **southeastern Plains to the southern Appalachians**. Although drier weather finally arrived in **northern and central California**, soggy fields and cool soils continued to hamper summer crop planting and emergence. Favorably dry weather also overspread the **Northwest**, followed by a late-week warming trend. Elsewhere in the **West**, dry,

*(Continued on page 5)*

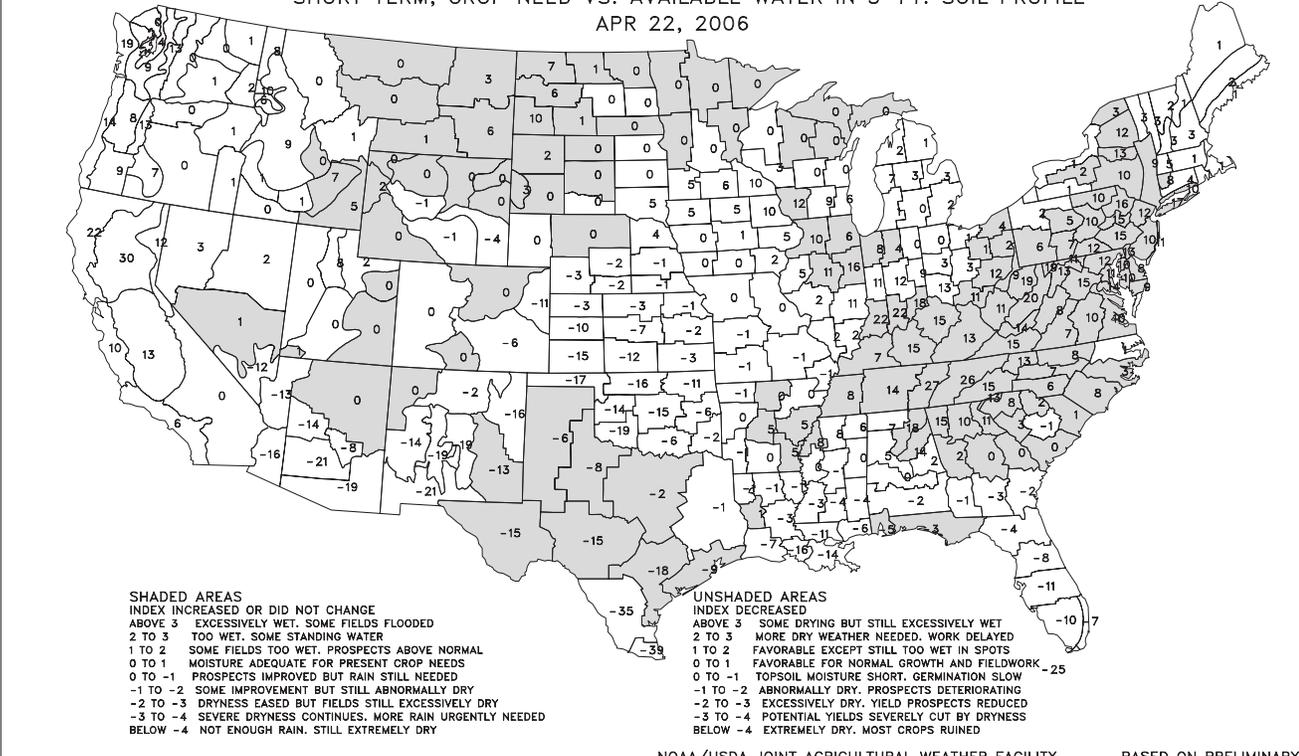
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Crop Moisture  
SHORT TERM, CROP NEED VS. AVAILABLE WATER IN 5-FT. SOIL PROFILE  
APR 22, 2006

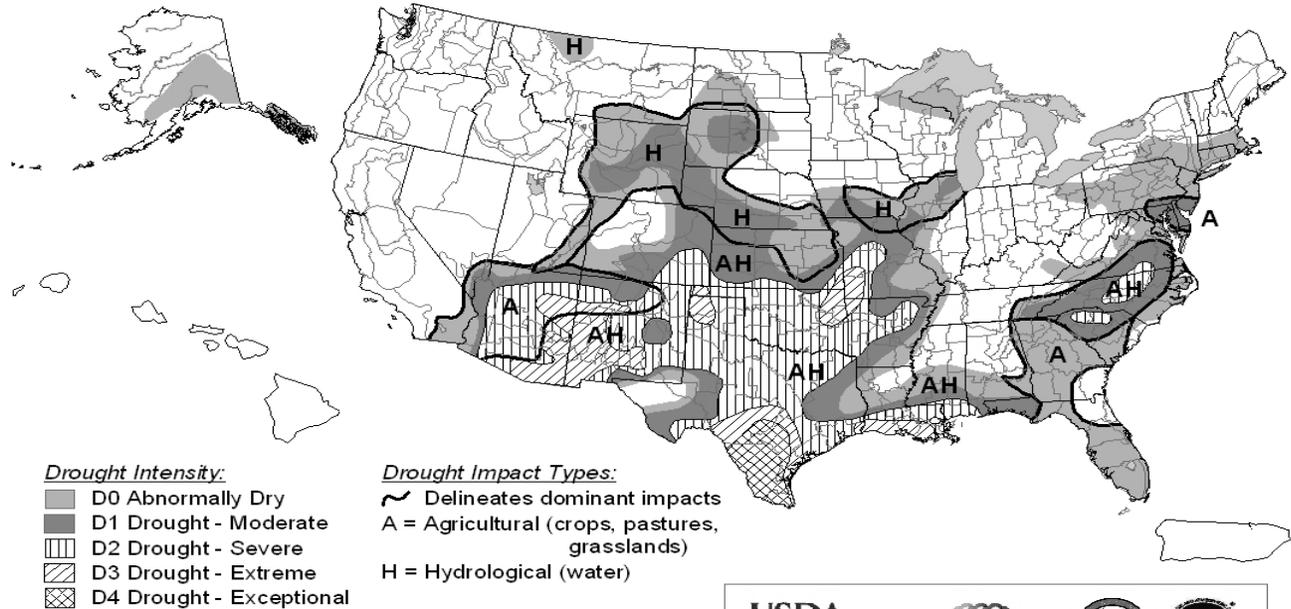


Crop Moisture Index  
SHORT TERM, CROP NEED VS. AVAILABLE WATER IN 5-FT. SOIL PROFILE  
APR 22, 2006



# U.S. Drought Monitor

April 18, 2006  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



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

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

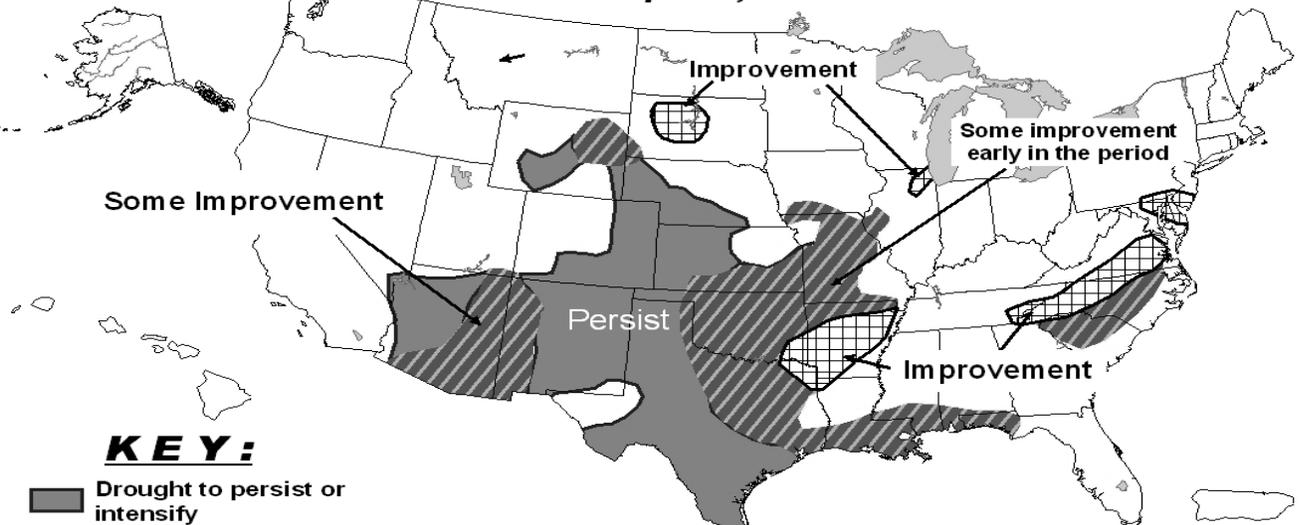


Released Thursday, April 20, 2006  
Author: Rich Tinker, CPC/NCEP/NWS/NOAA



## U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook Through July 2006

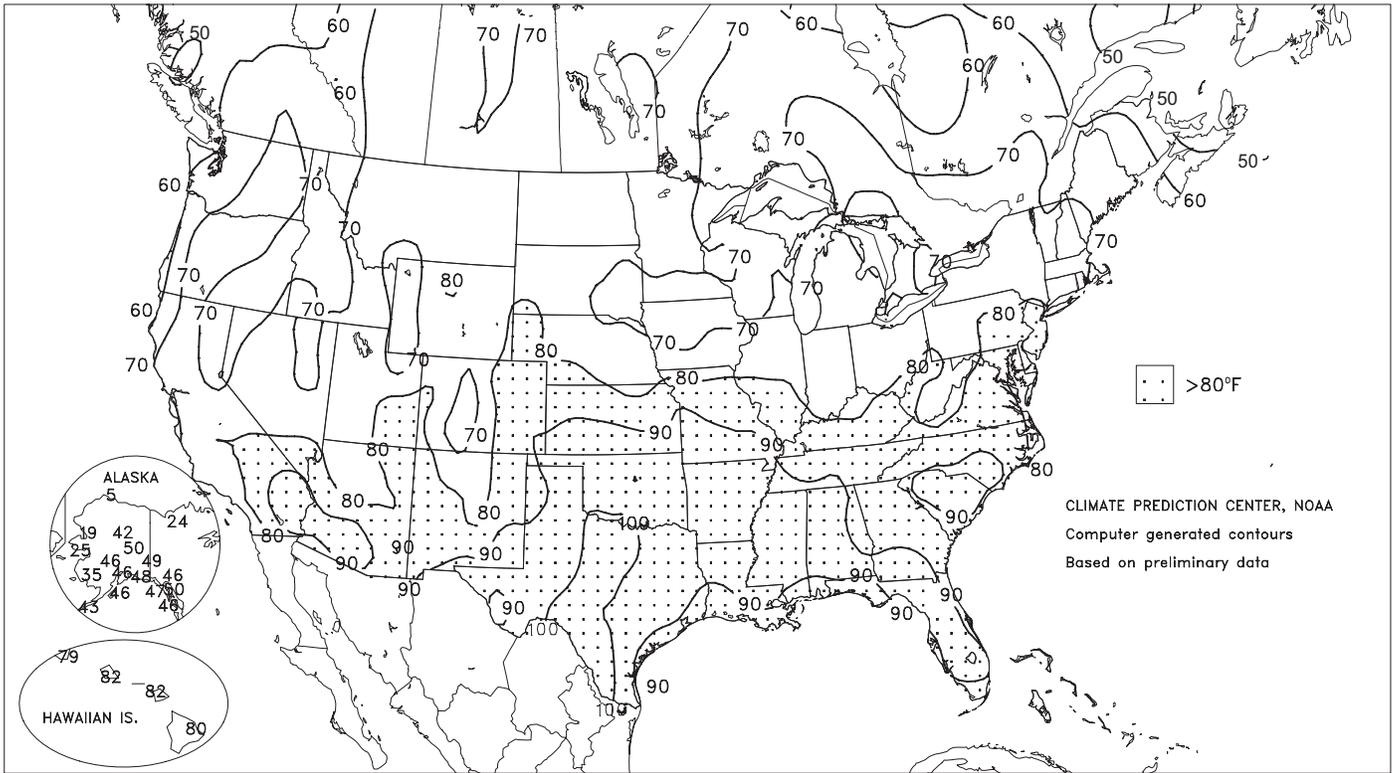
Released April 20, 2006



Depicts general, large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by numerous indicators, including short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Short-term events – such as individual storms – cannot be accurately forecast more than a few days in advance, so use caution if using this outlook for applications – such as crops – that can be affected by such events. "Ongoing" drought areas are approximated from the Drought Monitor (D1 to D4). For weekly drought updates, see the latest Drought Monitor map and text. NOTE: the green improvement areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels, but do not necessarily imply drought elimination.

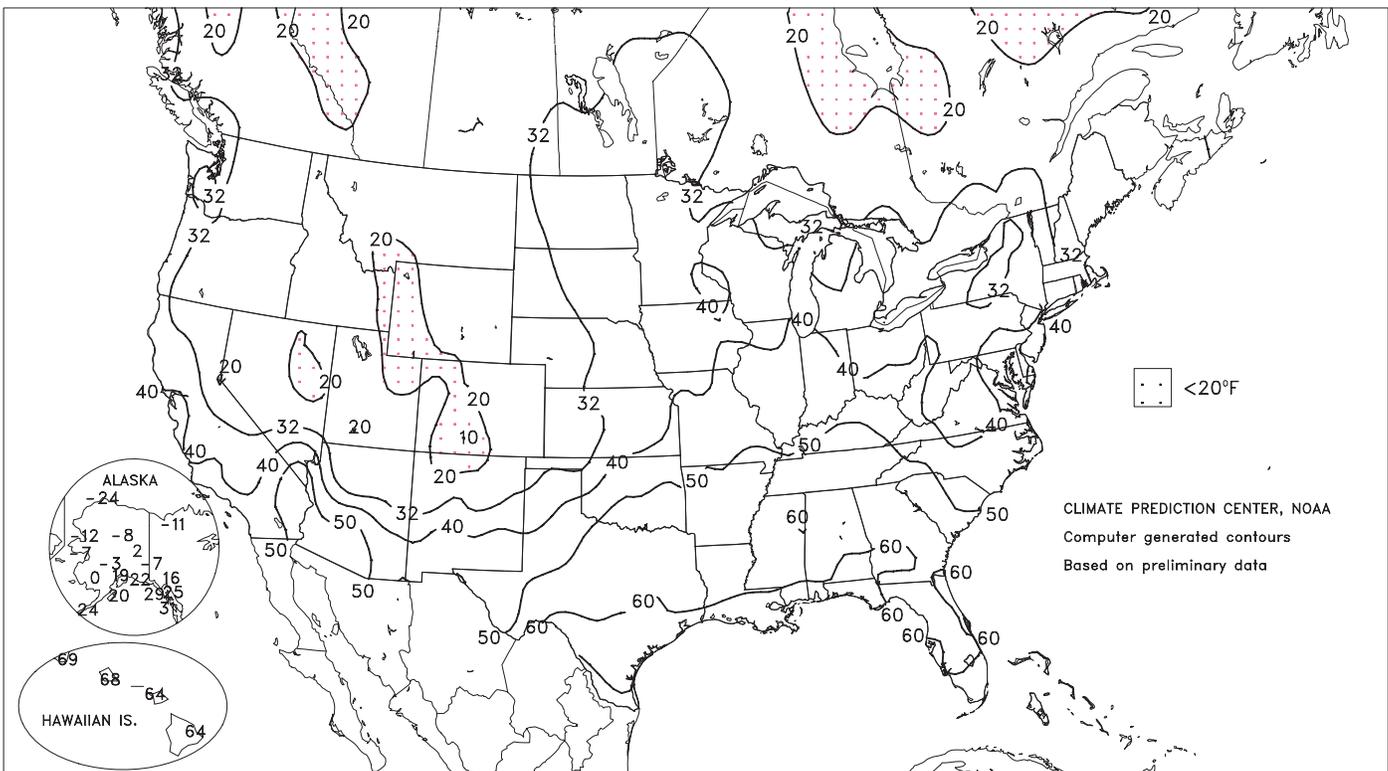
Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F)

APR 16 - 22, 2006



Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)

APR 16 - 22, 2006



(Continued from front cover)

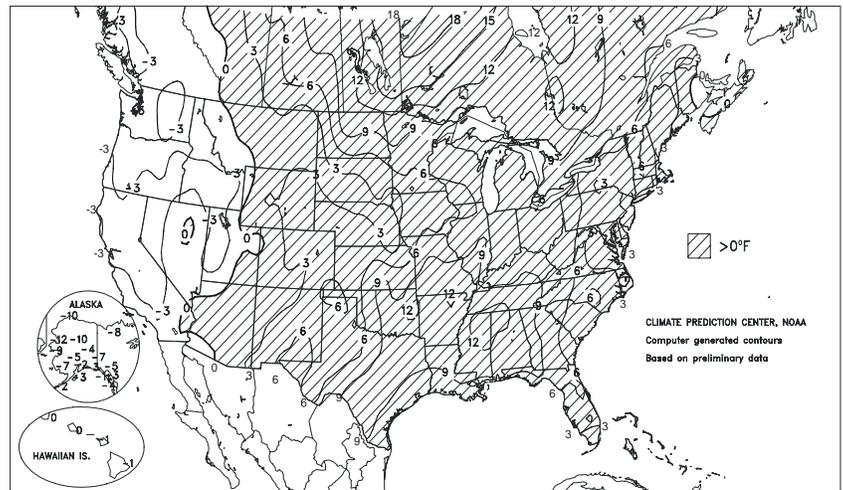
breezy weather maintained severe stress on **Southwestern** pastures and rangeland. Farther east, much of **Texas** (excluding the northern panhandle and the far south) received some showers, although the rain's beneficial aspects were partially offset by temperatures near 100°F. Meanwhile, unusually warm weather aggravated the effects of dry conditions on winter wheat from **Oklahoma northward into Kansas and eastern Colorado**. In contrast, a winter-like storm severely stressed livestock and produced blizzard conditions in the **Black Hills** and adjacent **High Plains**. Corn planting rapidly advanced across the **southwestern Corn Belt**, but occasional showers and muddy fields slowed **Midwestern** fieldwork from the **Dakotas southeastward to the Ohio Valley**. Locally heavy rain also fell from the **Tennessee Valley and the southern Appalachians into the Mid-Atlantic States**, aiding pastures, winter grains, and newly planted summer crops. However, unfavorably dry conditions persisted along and near the **Gulf and southern Atlantic Coasts**.

Early in the week, cool, stormy weather in the **West** contrasted with hot conditions across the **south-central United States**. **Pocatello, ID**, measured precipitation totaling 0.86 inch on April 16-17, including a daily-record snowfall of 5.5 inches on the latter date. Much heavier snow fell early in the week in some **Western** mountain locations, including more than 3 feet at elevations above 8,500 feet in the **Sierra Nevada**. Approximately 18 inches of snow blanketed **Alta, UT**, leaving its April 18 snow depth at 179 inches. Farther north, **Helena** was among many sites in **Montana** reporting near-record precipitation totals for April. **Helena's** April 1-22 sum of 2.90 inches was just shy of its April 1975 standard of 3.00 inches. As stormy weather gradually expanded across the **northern Plains and upper Midwest**, blizzard conditions developed in the **Black Hills**. From April 17-20, **Lead, SD**, received 64.9 inches of snow and 5.73 inches of liquid equivalent, but nearby **Rapid City** noted just 1.0 inch of snow and 0.72 inch of liquid. Elsewhere, storm-total snowfall reached 11.0 inches in **Lander, WY**, and 30.0 inches in **Ekalaka, MT**. High winds accompanied the storm, with gusts reaching 60 m.p.h. or higher in locations such as **North Platte, NE** (60 m.p.h. on April 19), **Meeker, CO** (65 m.p.h. on April 17), and **East Rapid City, SD** (69 m.p.h. on April 19).

**Southern** heat peaked on April 17-18 in advance of the **Western** storm. On April 17, monthly record highs were established in locations such as **Dallas-Ft. Worth, TX** (101°F; previously, 100°F on April 18, 1925), **McAlester, OK** (95°F; previously, 94°F on April 18, 1987), and **Fayetteville, AR** (93°F; previously, 90°F on April 6, 1960, and April 12, 1972). For **Dallas-Ft. Worth**, it was the third-earliest triple-digit reading on record behind highs of 100°F on March 9, 1911, and March 21, 1916. Triple-digit temperatures were also observed in several other **Texas**

Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F)

APR 16 - 22, 2006



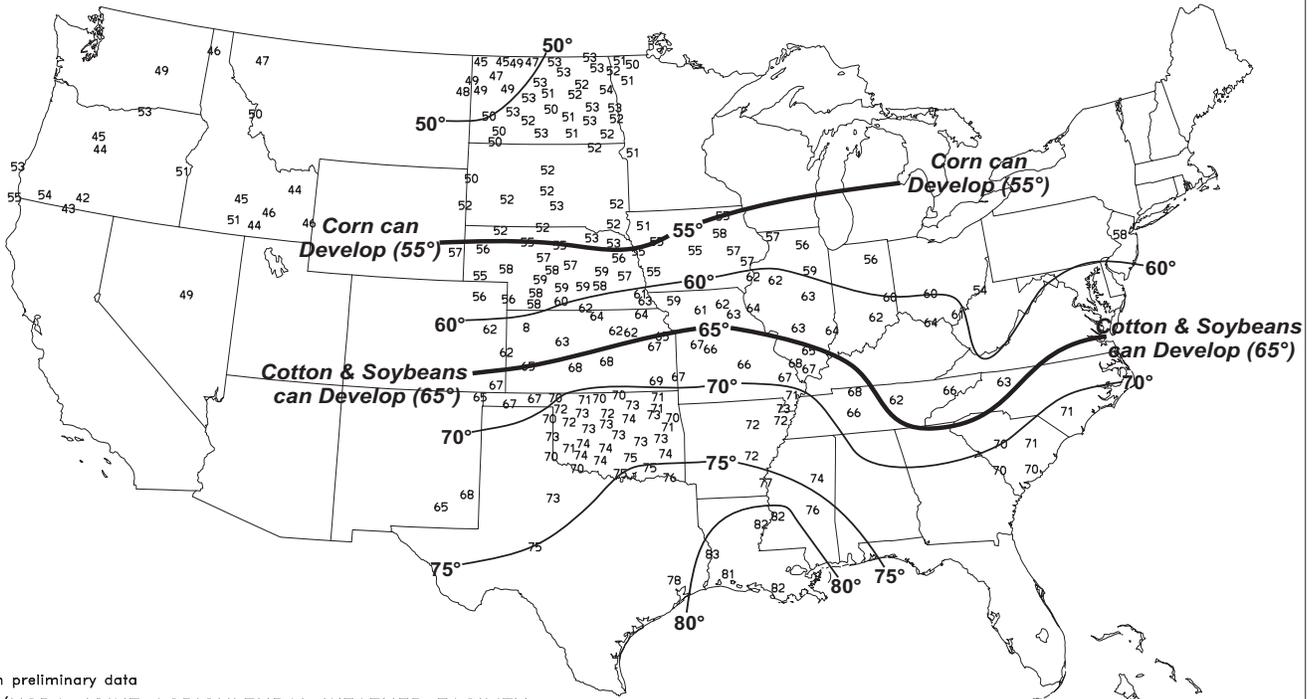
cities, including **Del Rio** (101, 101, and 104°F from April 16-18), **Wichita Falls** (101°F on April 17), and **San Antonio** (100°F on April 18). On April 18, **Mississippi** highs of 93°F in **Hattiesburg** and 91°F in **Vicksburg** were both 1°F shy of monthly record highs (94°F on April 29, 1955, and 92°F on April 28, 2002, respectively). Farther east, **Greenville-Spartanburg, SC** (92°F on April 17), also missed its monthly record (93°F on April 27, 1986) by 1°F.

In contrast, the temperature in **Spokane, WA**, reached 60°F for the first time this year on April 19. The average date for **Spokane's** first 60-degree reading is March 21, but later observances were noted on April 22, 1917, and April 20, 1993. The **Northwest** also experienced local freezes and observed several daily-record lows, including 30°F (on April 16) in **Wenatchee, WA**, and 29°F (on April 22) in **Pendleton, OR**. In **Utah**, **Randolph** posted consecutive daily-record lows (11 and 13°F) on April 19-20. Farther east, chilly conditions briefly spread across the **Plains**, where **Gage, OK**, collected a daily-record low (31°F on April 19) just 2 days after a high of 99°F. Similarly, **Lamar, CO**, reported a low of 25°F on April 19, only 2 days after the high reached 91°F. Elsewhere, **Midwestern** and **Southern** daily-rainfall records included 1.21 inches (on April 16) in **Fort Wayne, IN**; 1.75 inches (on April 19) in **Abilene, TX**; and 1.76 inches (on April 19) in **Chattanooga, TN**. Heavy rain developed across the **Mid-Atlantic region** on April 22, when daily records reached 2.88 inches at **Virginia's Dulles Airport** and 2.13 inches in **Wilmington, DE**.

**Hawaii** continued to experience relatively quiet weather in the wake of March downpours. Through April 22, month-to-date rainfall at major observing stations included 0.14 inch (10 percent of normal) in **Kahului, Maui**; 1.02 inches (46 percent) in **Lihue, Kauai**; and 6.57 inches (68 percent) in **Hilo**, on the **Big Island**. Meanwhile, cold, mostly dry weather prevailed across most of the **Alaskan mainland**, where weekly temperatures averaged up to 12°F below normal. **McGrath, AK**, noted consecutive sub-zero readings (-2 and -3°F) on April 15-16. In **southwestern Alaska**, **Bethel** received 7.4 inches of snow on April 16, boosting its month-to-date total to 27.6 inches.

Average Soil Temperature (°F, 4" Bare)

APR 16 - 22, 2006



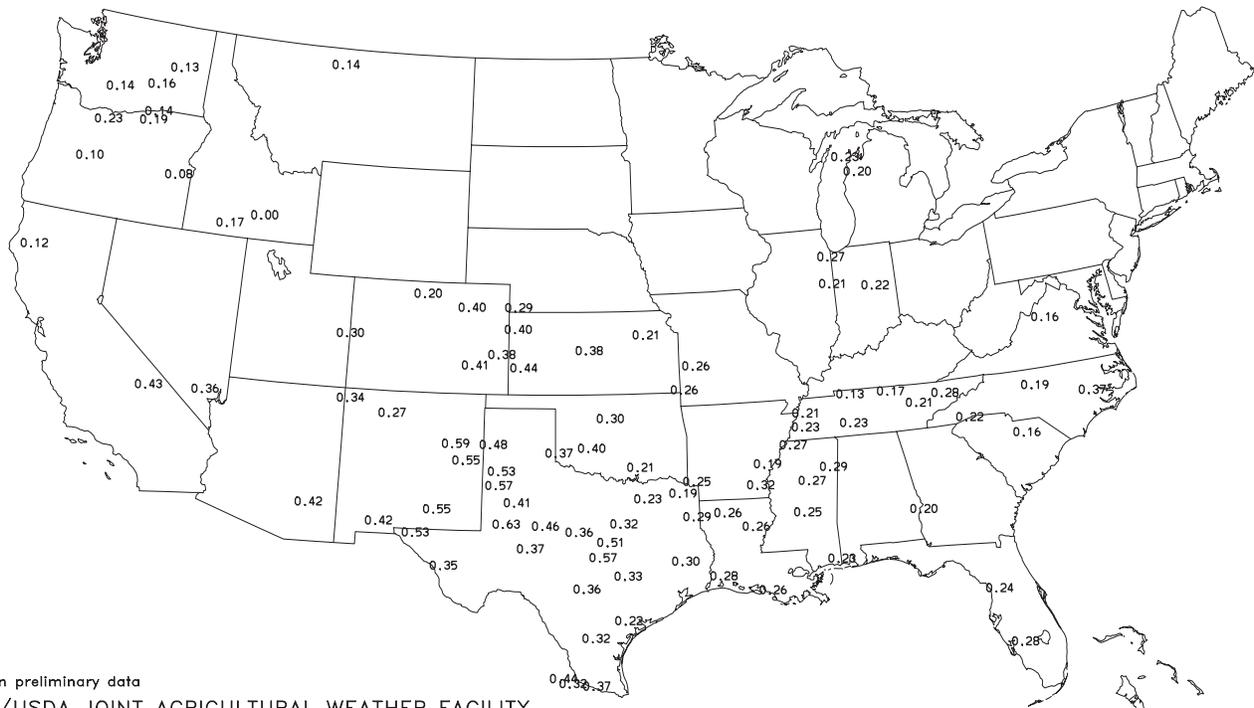
Based on preliminary data

NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY

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

Average Pan Evaporation (Inches/Day)

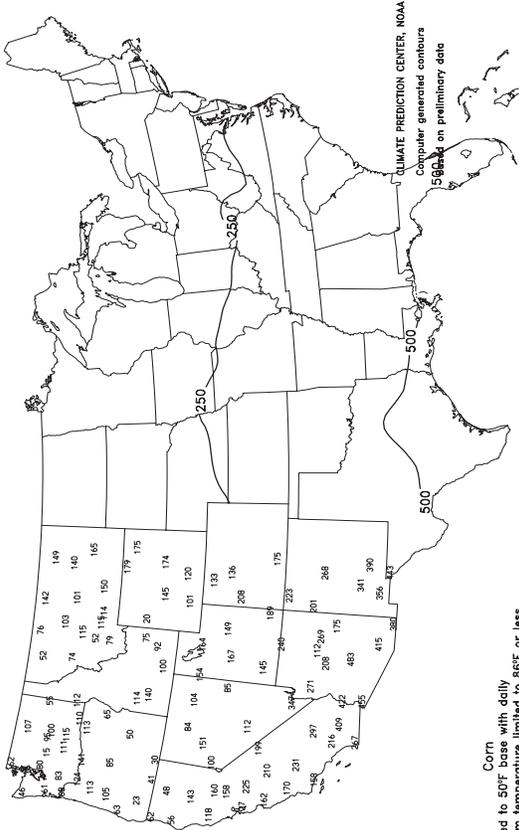
APR 16 - 22, 2006



Based on preliminary data

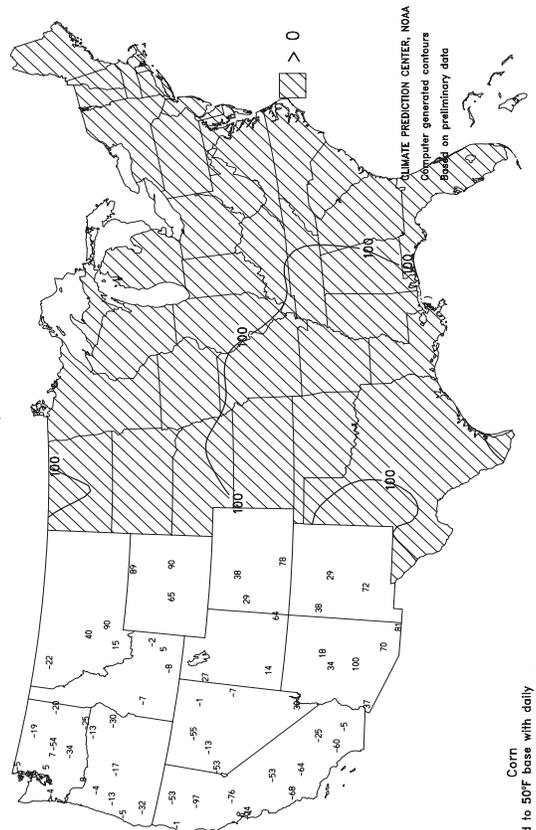
NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY

Total Growing Degree Days  
APR 1 - APR 22, 2006



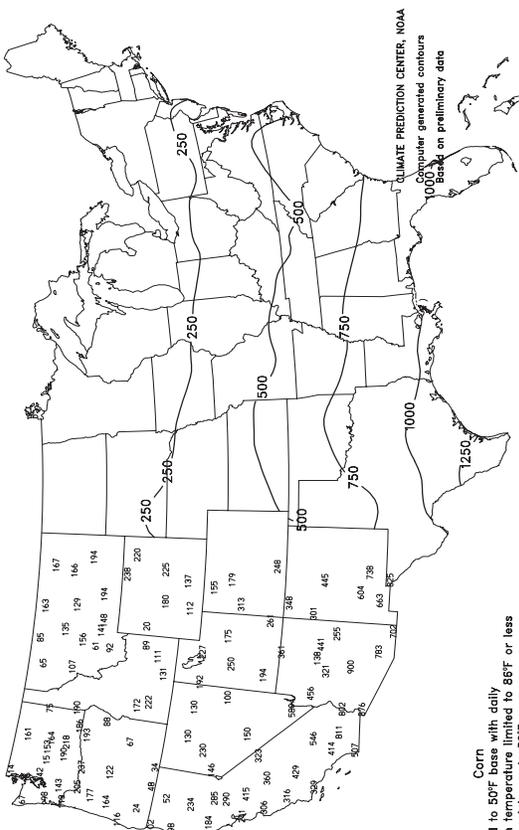
Corn  
Computed to 50°F base with daily  
maximum temperature limited to 86°F or less  
and daily minimum to 50°F or more.

Departure From Normal Growing Degree Days  
APR 1 - APR 22, 2006



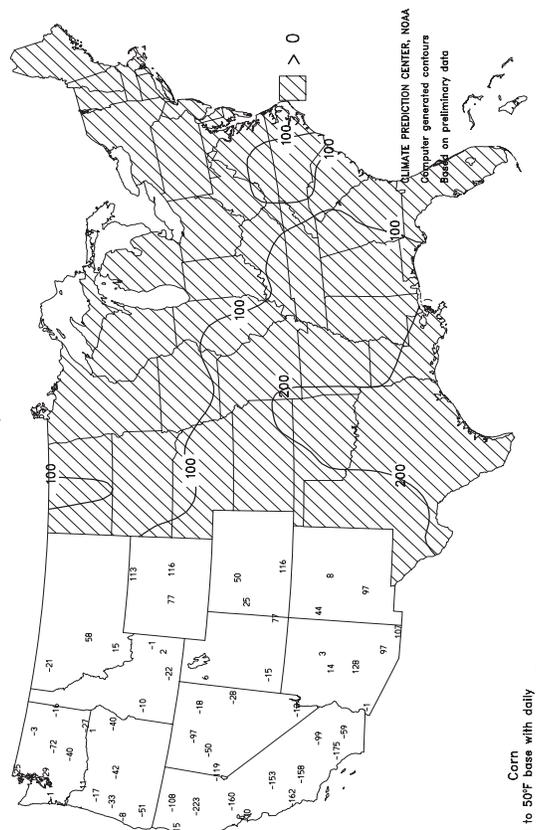
Corn  
Computed to 50°F base with daily  
maximum temperature limited to 86°F or less  
and daily minimum to 50°F or more.

Total Growing Degree Days  
MAR 1 - APR 22, 2006



Corn  
Computed to 50°F base with daily  
maximum temperature limited to 86°F or less  
and daily minimum to 50°F or more.

Departure From Normal Growing Degree Days  
MAR 1 - APR 22, 2006



Corn  
Computed to 50°F base with daily  
maximum temperature limited to 86°F or less  
and daily minimum to 50°F or more.

National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 22, 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	85	64	91	57	74	12	5.51	4.49	3.58	13.02	136	27.70	144	92	44	2	0	3	3
HUNTSVILLE	85	63	91	59	74	13	1.69	0.73	1.24	6.29	63	14.71	72	88	54	3	0	3	1
MOBILE	86	66	90	61	76	9	0.63	-0.45	0.62	1.23	11	8.33	38	90	51	1	0	2	1
AK MONTGOMERY	86	63	91	56	74	9	0.40	-0.55	0.24	4.66	48	14.34	71	91	47	1	0	7	0
ANCHORAGE	43	28	46	19	35	-3	0.02	-0.09	0.02	1.16	116	2.24	93	78	62	0	7	1	0
BARROW	-2	-15	5	-24	-8	-10	0.00	-0.03	0.00	0.28	215	0.77	208	86	79	0	7	0	0
FAIRBANKS	42	18	50	2	30	-4	0.00	-0.03	0.00	0.31	84	1.29	100	65	50	0	7	0	0
JUNEAU	45	32	50	25	39	-3	1.24	0.56	0.66	3.99	72	8.99	62	93	73	0	3	4	1
KODIAK	41	29	46	20	35	-3	0.59	-0.70	0.19	4.27	47	11.06	48	89	73	0	5	6	0
NOME	19	5	25	-7	12	-9	0.00	-0.14	0.00	1.11	108	3.21	119	60	53	0	7	0	0
AZ FLAGSTAFF	62	28	66	23	45	1	0.00	-0.26	0.00	2.92	82	3.26	39	66	16	0	6	0	0
PHOENIX	88	61	94	58	75	4	0.00	-0.02	0.00	1.57	126	1.57	55	29	14	2	0	0	0
TUCSON	87	54	91	50	70	3	0.00	-0.05	0.00	0.41	42	0.41	14	25	14	2	0	0	0
YUMA	85	59	91	55	72	-1	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	65	0.20	21	36	20	2	0	0	0
AR FORT SMITH	86	61	96	51	74	12	1.08	0.18	1.08	7.26	109	10.99	95	84	37	3	0	1	1
LITTLE ROCK	84	64	94	55	74	12	4.64	3.37	2.75	9.05	102	14.87	94	87	44	2	0	2	2
CA BAKERSFIELD	72	50	82	43	61	-3	0.32	0.26	0.31	3.85	219	4.90	118	78	52	0	0	2	0
FRESNO	70	49	79	42	60	-2	0.09	-0.02	0.06	7.67	271	11.61	163	85	57	0	0	2	0
LOS ANGELES	67	54	72	51	61	0	0.02	-0.07	0.02	4.15	142	7.60	84	82	54	0	0	1	0
REDDING	68	44	75	34	56	-2	0.14	-0.31	0.14	13.79	196	25.39	133	81	59	0	0	1	0
SACRAMENTO	67	45	75	38	56	-3	0.36	0.19	0.34	8.57	237	13.19	120	88	43	0	0	2	0
SAN DIEGO	68	58	72	53	63	0	0.00	-0.10	0.00	2.19	76	3.66	51	73	52	0	0	0	0
SAN FRANCISCO	62	48	65	43	55	-1	0.74	0.55	0.62	10.18	241	14.93	118	83	68	0	0	2	1
STOCKTON	69	44	78	39	56	-5	0.19	0.02	0.18	6.51	214	10.98	134	88	61	0	0	2	0
CO ALAMOSA	67	21	77	15	44	2	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.62	77	0.81	64	56	15	0	7	0	0
CO SPRINGS	70	34	79	28	52	6	0.00	-0.38	0.00	0.26	12	0.54	19	40	8	0	3	0	0
DENVER INTL	70	35	83	23	53	7	0.00	-0.24	0.00	0.91	63	1.34	70	52	13	0	3	0	0
GRAND JUNCTION	69	36	84	26	53	1	0.00	-0.18	0.00	1.55	99	1.98	74	48	26	0	3	0	0
PUEBLO	75	35	86	22	55	4	0.00	-0.28	0.00	0.62	34	1.14	47	37	18	0	3	0	0
CT BRIDGEPORT	64	45	75	42	55	5	0.46	-0.44	0.46	3.50	50	11.55	84	68	41	0	0	1	0
HARTFORD	66	43	80	38	54	4	0.21	-0.67	0.21	1.89	28	10.38	77	60	36	0	0	1	0
DC WASHINGTON	71	52	82	47	61	4	1.84	1.23	1.08	3.15	57	8.86	78	82	46	0	0	4	1
DE WILMINGTON	70	47	82	43	59	6	2.36	1.60	2.09	4.27	67	10.80	86	80	39	0	0	2	1
FL DAYTONA BEACH	86	65	89	58	75	6	0.09	-0.41	0.09	1.19	21	5.76	49	91	48	0	0	1	0
JACKSONVILLE	84	62	89	59	73	6	0.06	-0.61	0.06	1.85	29	8.07	62	94	51	0	0	1	0
KEY WEST	83	71	84	66	77	0	0.00	-0.47	0.00	0.06	2	1.00	14	84	60	0	0	0	0
MIAMI	87	69	90	65	78	2	0.00	-0.77	0.00	1.28	26	5.07	57	82	47	2	0	0	0
ORLANDO	90	66	93	56	78	6	0.79	0.30	0.42	1.33	25	4.12	41	98	49	3	0	3	0
PENSACOLA	85	69	88	67	77	9	1.47	0.69	1.30	2.04	22	8.79	45	88	60	0	0	2	1
TALLAHASSEE	89	65	93	53	77	10	1.03	0.33	0.92	1.34	15	11.05	58	97	47	5	0	2	1
TAMPA	85	70	88	67	77	5	0.00	-0.37	0.00	1.05	25	10.84	119	89	53	0	0	0	0
GA WEST PALM BEACH	87	68	92	62	78	4	2.42	1.64	2.42	5.45	87	9.86	78	91	48	1	0	1	1
ATHENS	80	59	89	57	69	7	1.79	1.07	1.39	4.89	66	12.75	77	89	66	0	0	4	1
ATLANTA	80	61	85	59	70	8	1.53	0.76	0.95	5.32	66	15.92	90	90	60	0	0	4	1
AUGUSTA	81	57	89	52	69	6	1.08	0.48	0.64	5.50	80	11.86	77	88	61	0	0	3	1
COLUMBUS	84	66	89	62	75	10	0.76	-0.05	0.53	5.53	64	12.96	72	87	46	0	0	5	1
MACON	83	62	88	56	73	10	1.26	0.60	0.66	3.68	51	9.52	57	89	49	0	0	2	2
SAVANNAH	80	60	88	50	70	4	0.26	-0.46	0.23	1.51	25	8.36	64	90	64	0	0	3	0
HI HILO	78	65	80	64	72	0	1.66	-1.11	0.55	33.44	139	53.33	125	89	76	0	0	7	1
HONOLULU	81	70	82	68	75	-1	0.02	-0.21	0.01	17.42	645	21.57	277	71	64	0	0	2	0
KAHULUI	81	66	82	64	74	0	0.03	-0.34	0.02	4.37	118	5.80	59	80	73	0	0	2	0
LIHUE	78	70	79	69	74	0	0.03	-0.63	0.02	37.16	646	47.68	351	74	69	0	0	2	0
ID BOISE	60	37	72	29	49	-2	0.05	-0.23	0.05	3.82	166	5.98	124	72	49	0	2	1	0
LEWISTON	63	41	74	34	52	0	0.00	-0.30	0.00	2.87	143	4.24	103	68	48	0	0	0	0
POCATELLO	56	31	75	25	44	-3	0.87	0.62	0.57	3.96	182	6.05	139	87	54	0	5	2	1
IL CHICAGO/O'HARE	67	47	75	42	57	8	1.16	0.29	0.88	5.25	98	9.83	113	77	42	0	0	6	1
MOLINE	70	46	73	40	58	6	1.06	0.18	0.98	7.17	127	10.96	125	79	49	0	0	2	1
PEORIA	71	48	74	44	59	6	0.97	0.13	0.80	6.86	129	10.82	128	80	41	0	0	4	1
ROCKFORD	67	44	74	39	55	6	1.71	0.86	1.71	7.34	147	10.97	142	81	46	0	0	1	1
SPRINGFIELD	75	50	80	46	62	8	0.90	0.13	0.63	8.30	150	10.95	122	85	42	0	0	3	1
IN EVANSVILLE	75	54	80	47	65	8	2.32	1.28	1.44	12.21	163	18.49	137	90	71	0	0	6	1
FORT WAYNE	70	44	77	39	57	7	1.50	0.67	1.24	5.77	107	10.43	111	88	39	0	0	2	1
INDIANAPOLIS	73	52	78	45	62	9	0.44	-0.39	0.28	10.68	178	15.87	146	85	47	0	0	4	0
SOUTH BEND	69	45	74	41	57	7	1.04	0.20	1.02	4.80	87	8.62	88	75	40	0	0	3	1
IA BURLINGTON	74	50	79	44	62	8	0.04	-0.80	0.02	6.76	123	9.78	117	77	30	0	0	2	0
CEDAR RAPIDS	67	44	70	39	55	4	0.16	-0.59	0.16	6.47	143	8.42	126	85	42	0	0	1	0
DES MOINES	68	46	70	40	57	5	0.34	-0.51	0.17	6.08	129	7.05	101	81	49	0	0	2	0
DUBUQUE	64	44	68	38	54	5	1.35	0.53	1.35	7.26	144	8.93	115	79	49	0	0	1	1
SIOUX CITY	64	42	71	35	53	2	0.01	-0.63	0.01	3.60	92	4.22	83	82	56	0	0	1	0
WATERLOO	65	44	70	39	54	5	1.15	0.39	0.98	6.55	149	7.45	118	83	50	0	0	3	1
KS CONCORDIA	75	43	80	36	59	5	0.01	-0.54	0.01	2.92	73	3.01	56	80	41	0	0	1	0
DODGE CITY	79	42	92	30	61	6	0.00	-0.52	0.00	1.50	44	1.67	36	59	17	2	1	0	0
GOODLAND	74	34	86	29	54	4	0.00	-0.35	0.00	2.45	116	3.03	102	72	30	0	4	0	0
TOPEKA	77	47	83	41	62	6	0.00	-0.73	0.00	4.57	97	5.07	74	81	46	0	0	0	0

Based on 1971-2000 normals

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 22, 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	82	50	92	40	66	10	0.00	-0.57	0.00	2.36	53	2.47	39	68	28	2	0	0	0
	JACKSON	76	56	84	48	66	9	1.53	0.67	0.43	7.12	101	14.54	102	87	38	0	0	7	0
	LEXINGTON	71	54	78	45	63	7	2.21	1.39	0.80	7.73	110	15.22	112	90	59	0	0	6	1
	LOUISVILLE	73	55	79	48	64	6	4.40	3.51	1.11	11.48	161	17.83	130	91	54	0	0	6	5
	PADUCAH	78	57	86	49	68	10	0.60	-0.58	0.35	7.35	94	16.35	108	90	52	0	0	3	0
LA	BATON ROUGE	88	68	93	61	78	11	0.21	-1.09	0.21	0.53	6	6.64	33	91	43	4	0	1	0
	LAKE CHARLES	85	67	86	61	76	8	0.37	-0.46	0.37	0.56	9	5.21	35	89	51	0	0	1	0
	NEW ORLEANS	87	68	91	66	78	9	0.46	-0.68	0.46	1.09	12	7.20	35	87	55	1	0	1	0
	SHREVEPORT	87	65	93	54	76	10	0.91	-0.13	0.70	5.98	82	16.25	101	86	49	3	0	2	1
ME	CARIBOU	54	34	65	27	44	4	0.18	-0.43	0.12	2.60	59	8.52	90	75	41	0	2	2	0
	PORTLAND	61	39	71	29	50	5	0.00	-0.97	0.00	3.57	49	10.02	69	74	35	0	1	0	0
MD	BALTIMORE	71	49	83	45	60	6	1.02	0.36	0.71	2.82	47	8.94	71	70	45	0	0	3	1
MA	BOSTON	59	44	73	39	51	1	0.16	-0.65	0.14	1.66	25	8.87	65	74	37	0	0	3	0
	WORCESTER	62	43	74	38	52	6	0.05	-0.83	0.05	2.21	31	11.00	77	74	25	0	0	1	0
MI	ALPENA	60	35	68	28	47	5	0.24	-0.28	0.19	3.35	89	7.96	116	90	42	0	4	2	0
	GRAND RAPIDS	68	42	75	37	55	7	0.01	-0.80	0.01	6.22	122	12.91	149	81	36	0	0	1	0
	HOUGHTON LAKE	67	35	74	31	51	8	0.05	-0.47	0.05	4.29	115	8.34	127	86	36	0	1	1	0
	LANSING	68	40	75	34	54	7	0.00	-0.71	0.00	5.27	114	11.13	145	78	39	0	0	0	0
	MUSKOGON	67	41	76	36	54	8	0.05	-0.61	0.03	8.45	191	14.24	173	74	41	0	0	2	0
	TRAVERSE CITY	67	35	75	28	51	7	0.10	-0.53	0.10	2.67	67	5.75	66	85	29	0	2	1	0
MN	DULUTH	58	39	63	34	48	7	0.42	-0.05	0.20	2.33	74	3.75	73	84	56	0	0	4	0
	INT'L FALLS	64	37	73	32	51	10	0.76	0.45	0.42	3.16	167	4.69	139	82	41	0	1	4	0
	MINNEAPOLIS	65	46	71	42	56	8	0.36	-0.16	0.28	6.32	180	7.35	138	68	43	0	0	3	0
	ROCHESTER	61	43	68	41	52	6	1.63	0.92	1.20	7.72	193	8.45	149	83	56	0	0	5	1
	ST. CLOUD	64	40	74	34	52	7	0.24	-0.24	0.10	2.23	73	2.78	63	85	38	0	0	4	0
MS	JACKSON	86	63	90	58	74	10	0.90	-0.48	0.90	6.08	60	19.84	98	90	48	2	0	1	1
	MERIDIAN	87	62	92	55	75	10	1.58	0.33	1.44	7.80	70	19.66	88	92	49	2	0	7	1
	TUPELO	86	66	93	60	76	14	0.91	-0.19	0.68	7.22	73	18.71	95	84	54	2	0	3	1
MO	COLUMBIA	76	52	85	48	64	9	0.26	-0.73	0.26	4.86	80	6.88	69	75	40	0	0	1	0
	KANSAS CITY	77	52	91	44	64	9	0.01	-0.80	0.01	3.46	75	4.61	65	69	36	1	0	1	0
	SAINT LOUIS	77	55	87	51	66	8	0.17	-0.68	0.17	4.62	74	6.71	63	75	42	0	0	1	0
	SPRINGFIELD	82	51	92	45	67	10	0.01	-0.98	0.01	3.25	47	5.11	45	73	39	1	0	1	0
MT	BILLINGS	61	37	76	32	49	2	0.93	0.52	0.76	4.00	177	4.20	115	77	33	0	1	2	1
	BUTTE	53	27	68	18	40	0	0.57	0.34	0.44	3.61	244	4.25	171	86	32	0	7	4	0
	CUT BANK	58	29	75	25	43	1	0.09	-0.11	0.09	0.73	67	0.94	53	72	26	0	5	1	0
	GLASGOW	59	38	73	31	48	2	0.80	0.63	0.42	1.21	133	2.48	163	85	61	0	1	3	0
	GREAT FALLS	59	31	75	26	45	1	0.59	0.27	0.28	4.45	233	5.60	181	85	28	0	5	3	0
	HAVRE	62	31	78	23	47	1	0.50	0.31	0.18	1.43	117	2.11	103	87	42	0	4	3	0
	MISSOULA	56	32	73	25	44	-2	0.14	-0.11	0.07	4.21	255	5.82	167	86	55	0	3	2	0
NE	GRAND ISLAND	69	43	76	34	56	5	0.01	-0.60	0.01	4.52	119	4.77	95	81	49	0	0	1	0
	LINCOLN	69	41	77	33	55	2	0.00	-0.68	0.00	4.49	108	5.47	99	83	50	0	0	0	0
	NORFOLK	63	42	73	37	53	3	0.33	-0.27	0.29	5.08	136	5.60	110	84	61	0	0	2	0
	NORTH PLATTE	69	38	79	27	54	5	0.00	-0.47	0.00	2.09	84	2.43	71	83	33	0	1	0	0
	OMAHA	67	46	75	39	56	3	0.00	-0.70	0.00	4.04	99	4.78	84	79	63	0	0	0	0
	SCOTTSBLUFF	69	35	84	26	52	5	0.00	-0.43	0.00	1.61	69	2.65	77	73	33	0	2	0	0
	VALENTINE	62	38	75	29	50	3	0.12	-0.36	0.04	3.97	168	4.39	140	93	59	0	2	3	0
NV	ELY	59	25	68	13	42	-1	0.01	-0.18	0.01	2.88	176	4.55	145	79	34	0	5	1	0
	LAS VEGAS	77	55	84	50	66	-1	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.19	29	0.28	15	29	18	0	0	0	0
	RENO	60	35	75	28	48	-1	0.67	0.61	0.28	2.40	226	5.04	158	67	40	0	3	4	0
	WINNEMUCCA	58	31	71	21	45	-2	0.52	0.33	0.37	4.49	312	6.51	225	88	48	0	4	3	0
NH	CONCORD	64	38	79	29	51	5	0.13	-0.56	0.13	2.99	57	9.19	87	79	26	0	3	1	0
NJ	NEWARK	68	48	83	44	58	5	1.32	0.43	1.32	3.71	53	10.89	78	62	34	0	0	1	1
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	75	46	84	40	61	5	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.14	15	0.18	10	23	8	0	0	0	0
NY	ALBANY	65	44	76	40	55	7	1.14	0.40	1.13	4.32	79	10.09	99	69	30	0	0	2	1
	BINGHAMTON	61	41	71	35	51	6	1.19	0.36	1.17	3.88	71	8.42	80	72	45	0	0	2	1
	BUFFALO	65	42	78	37	54	7	0.13	-0.56	0.07	3.88	74	10.00	93	80	38	0	0	2	0
	ROCHESTER	63	41	77	38	52	5	0.71	0.08	0.60	3.77	82	8.32	93	75	46	0	0	2	1
	SYRACUSE	65	39	75	34	52	5	1.27	0.50	1.27	5.67	104	10.29	101	81	40	0	0	1	1
NC	ASHEVILLE	75	50	87	47	63	8	3.02	2.26	1.51	4.46	63	10.60	71	89	53	0	0	4	3
	CHARLOTTE	79	53	89	47	66	4	1.41	0.79	0.90	3.02	46	7.42	53	87	44	0	0	2	2
	GREENSBORO	75	53	87	39	64	6	0.63	-0.15	0.42	2.29	36	6.23	48	94	54	0	0	2	0
	HATTERAS	68	53	72	44	61	0	0.76	0.09	0.75	3.26	44	9.74	57	91	63	0	0	2	1
	RALEIGH	79	53	89	43	66	6	2.03	1.43	1.83	4.40	73	8.12	60	87	47	0	0	2	1
	WILMINGTON	81	56	90	49	68	4	1.35	0.72	0.76	3.11	49	8.34	58	89	40	1	0	2	2
ND	BISMARCK	64	42	80	35	53	8	0.71	0.36	0.42	1.26	70	1.64	59	88	64	0	0	3	0
	DICKINSON	59	37	79	32	48	4	2.15	1.72	1.00	3.11	163	3.57	132	94	54	0	1	3	2
	FARGO	66	44	77	37	55	9	0.28	-0.02	0.21	1.51	73	2.34	68	83	43	0	0	3	0
	GRAND FORKS	67	42	73	35	54	10	0.53	0.25	0.36	1.99	118	3.17	107	91	38	0	0	3	0
	JAMESTOWN	64	40	76	35	52	7	0.29	-0.02	0.12	0.67	37	0.88	30	94	48	0	0	3	0
	WILLISTON	59	36	78	30	48	4	2.92	2.68	2.20	4.24	301	4.68	200	90	65	0	1	4	2
OH	AKRON-CANTON	70	45	77	36	58	9	0.72	-0.07	0.71	3.78	68	9.24	90	78	39	0	0	2	1
	CINCINNATI	73	52	79	45	63	8	1.08	0.17	0.56	11.56	171	17.11	138	80	54	0	0	4	1
	CLEVELAND	65	46	76	40	56	7	1.03	0.26	1.02	3.47	65	8.19	81	84	37	0	0	2	1
	COLUMBUS	72	51	78	44	62	9	0.87	0.11	0.44	7.19	139	11.22	113	77	41	0	0	4	0
	DAYTON	70	48	77	38	59	7	1.93	0.99	0.93	7.46	121	12.09	109	86	45	0	0	4	2
	MANSFIELD	69																		

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 22, 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	69	45	77	38	57	7	0.03	-0.72	0.03	3.70	74	8.49	96	83	36	0	0	1	0
OK YOUNGSTOWN	70	43	78	37	57	8	0.65	-0.12	0.41	3.32	61	8.00	81	80	40	0	0	2	0
OK OKLAHOMA CITY	85	55	98	52	70	9	0.00	-0.69	0.00	3.53	73	3.88	50	69	22	2	0	0	0
OR TULSA	86	55	95	46	71	9	0.00	-0.92	0.00	3.43	55	4.50	46	71	31	3	0	0	0
OR ASTORIA	55	39	61	34	47	-2	0.63	-0.43	0.34	9.13	82	37.14	129	92	69	0	0	4	0
OR BURNS	54	29	68	21	42	-2	0.16	-0.01	0.15	2.34	130	4.83	118	83	50	0	5	2	0
OR EUGENE	60	37	68	33	48	-2	0.17	-0.61	0.10	6.62	77	22.32	99	91	75	0	0	2	0
OR MEDFORD	64	39	75	30	52	0	0.09	-0.19	0.08	3.67	132	10.73	146	83	40	0	1	2	0
OR PENDLETON	62	36	74	29	49	-3	0.00	-0.25	0.00	3.48	171	6.03	128	69	45	0	2	0	0
OR PORTLAND	62	41	70	37	52	0	0.42	-0.16	0.17	5.49	97	18.57	125	85	63	0	0	5	0
OR SALEM	62	38	70	32	50	0	0.39	-0.20	0.19	7.04	113	22.53	131	87	63	0	1	3	0
PA ALLENTOWN	68	43	83	36	56	6	1.41	0.61	1.35	3.74	62	11.34	92	64	46	0	0	2	1
PA ERIE	62	42	73	34	52	4	0.52	-0.25	0.37	4.46	79	9.43	90	78	55	0	0	2	0
PA MIDDLETOWN	69	46	82	41	58	5	1.55	0.80	1.20	3.57	65	10.18	90	76	36	0	0	2	1
PA PHILADELPHIA	70	49	83	45	60	6	1.83	1.05	1.66	3.94	63	9.79	78	65	39	0	0	2	1
PA PITTSBURGH	70	48	79	40	59	8	1.02	0.34	0.72	4.28	81	9.76	94	72	37	0	0	2	1
PA WILKES-BARRE	66	41	79	33	54	4	1.21	0.44	1.18	3.87	77	9.35	98	72	34	0	0	2	1
PA WILLIAMSPORT	69	41	83	33	55	5	1.37	0.57	1.19	3.44	60	10.57	95	76	37	0	0	2	1
RI PROVIDENCE	64	44	73	37	54	4	0.01	-0.92	0.01	2.25	30	10.11	66	58	37	0	0	1	0
SC BEAUFORT	80	60	89	53	70	5	0.49	-0.13	0.42	2.74	46	8.54	65	92	51	0	0	2	0
SC CHARLESTON	80	58	90	50	69	4	0.44	-0.12	0.18	2.11	35	8.34	63	90	47	1	0	3	0
SC COLUMBIA	82	58	92	51	70	6	0.37	-0.24	0.31	1.66	24	7.78	51	85	50	2	0	2	0
SC GREENVILLE	79	57	92	53	68	8	2.20	1.45	0.98	4.27	54	9.33	57	84	46	1	0	4	2
SD ABERDEEN	62	40	72	34	51	4	0.60	0.19	0.33	2.49	95	3.04	85	91	65	0	0	3	0
SD HURON	60	41	69	33	51	3	0.54	0.01	0.22	2.26	69	2.69	62	95	66	0	0	4	0
SD RAPID CITY	60	36	79	29	48	2	0.75	0.30	0.31	2.96	132	3.32	108	90	51	0	1	5	0
SD SIOUX FALLS	58	42	68	35	50	3	0.55	-0.06	0.39	7.26	198	8.17	175	89	67	0	0	4	0
TN BRISTOL	75	51	85	48	63	8	2.48	1.75	0.86	7.50	122	13.38	102	94	49	0	0	6	3
TN CHATTANOOGA	80	60	88	57	70	10	2.84	1.75	1.76	7.17	77	14.41	74	89	61	0	0	4	2
TN KNOXVILLE	78	60	84	57	69	10	4.58	3.70	3.69	9.86	123	16.41	99	87	55	0	0	4	1
TN MEMPHIS	84	64	92	54	74	11	1.86	0.51	1.08	6.67	68	17.61	96	86	50	2	0	2	2
TN NASHVILLE	80	62	88	57	71	12	1.50	0.63	0.80	6.19	81	15.45	101	84	50	0	0	2	2
TX ABILENE	85	57	98	52	72	7	2.30	1.91	1.75	4.93	194	6.63	143	57	37	3	0	2	2
TX AMARILLO	79	43	88	33	61	4	0.07	-0.23	0.07	1.66	82	1.75	55	55	17	0	0	1	0
TX AUSTIN	92	65	100	57	78	9	1.33	0.73	0.76	8.87	239	11.73	155	88	54	5	0	3	1
TX BEAUMONT	86	66	89	62	76	7	0.49	-0.38	0.49	1.93	30	5.62	36	92	52	0	0	1	0
TX BROWNSVILLE	91	74	92	72	82	8	0.00	-0.48	0.00	0.42	19	1.26	26	90	54	7	0	0	0
TX CORPUS CHRISTI	88	72	91	68	80	8	0.00	-0.49	0.00	0.34	11	0.66	10	91	58	4	0	0	0
TX DEL RIO	93	69	104	66	81	10	0.28	-0.14	0.24	0.44	21	0.73	20	83	54	5	0	2	0
TX EL PASO	86	58	94	52	72	7	0.00	-0.05	0.00	0.01	3	0.31	26	26	7	1	0	0	0
TX FORT WORTH	88	64	101	60	76	10	1.25	0.49	1.08	5.69	110	11.79	125	86	39	3	0	3	1
TX GALVESTON	82	71	85	64	76	5	0.51	-0.05	0.51	1.86	41	3.10	28	90	65	0	0	1	1
TX HOUSTON	88	68	92	61	78	9	0.75	-0.08	0.75	3.11	53	7.07	56	90	52	2	0	1	1
TX LUBBOCK	81	49	94	44	65	4	0.66	0.35	0.66	2.28	143	2.46	88	47	25	2	0	1	1
TX MIDLAND	84	55	94	50	69	4	0.17	-0.01	0.17	1.95	247	2.93	154	52	36	3	0	1	0
TX SAN ANGELO	88	57	99	51	73	7	0.79	0.40	0.79	2.71	138	3.56	90	67	46	3	0	1	1
TX SAN ANTONIO	93	68	100	62	80	11	0.85	0.22	0.63	2.21	62	3.18	45	92	38	5	0	3	1
TX VICTORIA	87	67	91	62	77	7	0.71	0.00	0.71	1.18	28	3.29	38	94	63	2	0	1	1
TX WACO	89	66	98	57	78	11	1.17	0.43	0.67	4.52	102	8.38	96	83	50	3	0	2	2
TX WICHITA FALLS	87	57	101	53	72	9	0.17	-0.44	0.17	2.91	71	3.71	55	63	31	3	0	1	0
UT SALT LAKE CITY	63	38	80	31	50	-1	0.54	0.08	0.44	5.70	173	8.28	138	73	29	0	3	2	0
VT BURLINGTON	60	41	70	37	51	6	0.24	-0.43	0.24	4.04	93	9.38	114	77	37	0	0	1	0
VA LYNCHBURG	72	47	83	33	60	4	1.60	0.82	1.20	3.15	50	8.37	65	90	54	0	0	5	1
VA NORFOLK	70	53	78	45	61	3	0.51	-0.23	0.29	2.70	41	6.03	44	89	51	0	0	3	0
VA RICHMOND	72	49	85	37	61	3	1.00	0.31	0.66	2.12	33	6.48	50	81	58	0	0	3	1
VA ROANOKE	72	50	82	40	61	4	1.23	0.41	0.85	3.22	50	8.34	66	87	57	0	0	3	1
WA WASH/DULLES	70	46	81	41	58	4	3.50	2.78	2.88	4.76	82	9.54	82	84	49	0	0	4	1
WA OLYMPIA	59	33	65	28	46	-2	0.31	-0.46	0.25	5.25	65	24.56	113	91	61	0	3	3	0
WA QUILLAYUTE	52	38	61	32	45	-2	2.19	0.55	0.86	18.63	112	49.02	115	90	70	0	1	5	2
WA SEATTLE-TACOMA	58	40	63	36	49	-2	0.48	-0.07	0.37	4.36	76	18.56	123	85	59	0	0	3	0
WA SPOKANE	57	34	69	27	45	-2	0.02	-0.26	0.02	2.55	106	8.22	143	76	35	0	4	1	0
WA YAKIMA	62	32	72	25	47	-2	0.01	-0.10	0.01	1.06	98	3.51	115	76	38	0	4	1	0
WV BECKLEY	71	48	77	35	60	7	1.12	0.33	0.65	6.38	106	10.50	86	72	54	0	0	3	1
WV CHARLESTON	76	50	83	43	63	8	1.22	0.49	0.60	5.29	85	10.34	82	89	40	0	0	4	1
WV ELKINS	70	40	79	34	55	5	1.91	1.11	0.88	5.69	89	10.03	77	98	43	0	0	3	2
WV HUNTINGTON	76	53	83	44	65	9	1.40	0.64	0.69	6.74	110	11.49	92	81	40	0	0	3	2
WI EAU CLAIRE	66	44	72	38	55	8	0.61	-0.08	0.27	4.63	118	6.17	107	76	30	0	0	5	0
WI GREEN BAY	62	42	73	35	52	6	0.16	-0.42	0.14	2.75	70	5.73	93	84	42	0	0	3	0
WI LA CROSSE	65	47	70	41	56	6	0.71	-0.09	0.54	7.57	171	8.75	133	74	37	0	0	3	1
WI MADISON	64	42	71	37	53	6	1.59	0.80	0.83	6.74	143	9.51	131	83	47	0	0	5	1
WI MILWAUKEE	61	45	74	39	53	7	0.80	-0.09	0.44	7.12	133	10.95	123	79	51	0	0	5	0
WY CASPER	63	32	77	25	48	5	0.46	0.09	0.37	1.43	78	2.82	92	76	32	0	5	2	0
WY CHEYENNE	63	34	76	27	49	7	0.00	-0.37	0.00	1.91	93	2.47	84	52	23	0	4	0	0
WY LANDER	61	32	77	24	47	2	0.69	0.19	0.48	1.57	60	2.60	71	61	27	0	4	2	0
WY SHERIDAN	62	34	78	27	48	3	0.28	-0.15	0.24	1.59	73	2.11	60	76	40	0	3	2	0

Based on 1971-2000 normals

\*\*\* Not Available

## National Agricultural Summary

April 17 - 23, 2006

Weekly National Agricultural Summary provided by USDA/NASS

### HIGHLIGHTS

**Above-normal temperatures prevailed across the eastern three-fourths of the Nation, averaging over 9 degrees F above normal across the Mississippi Delta and neighboring areas of the Southeast, Corn Belt, and southern Great Plains. Warm weather in these areas encouraged rapid emergence of summer crops and winter wheat heading. Also, planting progress accelerated in these areas, despite moderate rainfall, as fields dried quickly in the warmth. On the northern Great Plains, planting progress was halted around midweek by rain and snow but resumed by week's end. After rainfall early in the week, drier**

**conditions prevailed in the Corn Belt and were favorable for planting summer crops, while in the lower Ohio River and Tennessee River Valleys, planting advanced rapidly despite moderate to heavy rainfall. Storminess along the Atlantic Coast brought much-needed relief from dry conditions. Cool, dry weather in the Pacific Coast States and the northern and central Rocky Mountains encouraged planting, but progress remained well behind normal due to continued wet field conditions from previous weeks' precipitation.**

**Corn:** Growers had planted 25 percent of their acreage, compared with 28 percent last year and 22 percent for the 5-year average. With the onset of planting in Michigan, Minnesota, and the Dakotas, planting had begun in all States. Despite moderate rainfall, planting progress accelerated in the Corn Belt and lower Ohio Valley, advancing 41 percentage points in Kentucky and 25 points in Illinois and Missouri. Planting progress continued to trail the normal pace in the eastern Corn Belt and northern Great Plains but was ahead of normal elsewhere.

**Winter Wheat:** Heading advanced to 26 percent, 10 percentage points ahead of last year and 12 points ahead of normal. Warm dry weather promoted rapid development in the southern Great Plains and Mississippi Delta, where heading advanced 38 points in Arkansas and 36 points in Oklahoma. Both States were well ahead of their respective 5-year averages. In North Carolina, 43 percent of the crop entered the heading stage, pushing progress to 36 points ahead of the normal pace. Heading was at or ahead of normal in all States, except California and Indiana.

**Cotton:** Twenty-three percent of the crop had been planted, 6 points ahead of last year and 7 points ahead of the average. In the Delta, planting progressed well despite moderate rainfall. Producers in Arkansas and Louisiana seeded one-fifth of their acreage during the week, while planting advanced 25 points in Mississippi. California growers planted their acreage rapidly under mostly dry conditions, advancing 30 points, but remained well behind normal due to wet-weather delays earlier in the season. Planting had begun in all States, except Kansas, and was ahead of the normal pace except in California and Arizona.

**Rice:** Producers had seeded 67 percent of their acreage compared with 43 percent last year and 49 percent for the 5-year average. Planting progressed rapidly in the Delta under warm conditions, advancing 32 points in Arkansas, 29 points in Mississippi, and 31 points in Missouri. However, Texas and Louisiana growers remained the most advanced, with 89 and 82 percent of their acreage sown, respectively. Progress was ahead of normal in all States, except California, where planting had not yet begun due to excessive wetness. Emergence, at 34 percent, was 16 points ahead of last year and 11 points ahead of normal. The most rapid emergence was in Mississippi, where 31 percent of the crop emerged during the week. Except for California, emergence was ahead of normal nationwide.

**Sorghum:** Planting advanced to 25 percent complete, compared with 18 percent last year and 17 percent for the 5-year average. Seeding progressed rapidly in the Delta, with Arkansas growers planting 19 percent of their crop and Louisiana producers planting 29 percent of their acreage during the week. Planting had not yet begun Nebraska, New Mexico, and South Dakota, but with the exception of Illinois, all other States were ahead of the normal planting pace.

**Small Grains:** Twenty percent of the spring wheat crop had been sown, 17 points behind last year and 7 points behind normal. Planting progressed rapidly in South Dakota despite cool, wet conditions toward midweek. Planting there advanced 27 points to 62 percent complete, slightly ahead of normal. However, progress trailed the normal pace in all other States, particularly in the Pacific Northwest, where several weeks of cool, wet weather have hampered fieldwork.

Barley planting, at 18 percent complete, was 14 points behind last year and 10 points behind the 5-year average. Seeding was most advanced in Washington, at 43 percent, but remained well behind normal due to wet conditions in earlier weeks. Only Minnesota growers were ahead of the normal planting pace.

Oat growers had planted 63 percent of their acreage, compared with 65 percent last year and 55 percent for the 5-year average. Spring planting progressed rapidly, with all States, except Nebraska and North Dakota, advancing 20 points or more during the week. Progress was at or ahead of normal in all States, with Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin over 20 points ahead of normal. Thirty-three percent of the crop had emerged, 5 points behind last year and 1 point behind normal. Despite rapid planting progress nationwide, emergence trailed behind normal in Iowa, Nebraska, Wisconsin, and the Dakotas.

**Other Crops:** Sugarbeet planting advanced to 27 percent complete, 17 points behind last year and 10 points behind the average. Planting finally began in the Red River Valley, with Minnesota and North Dakota growers planting 14 and 3 percent of their acreage, respectively. Meanwhile, planting progressed rapidly in Michigan, advancing 54 points under dry conditions.

## Crop Progress and Condition

### Week Ending April 23, 2006

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

Winter Wheat Percent Headed				
	Apr 23 2006	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	81	43	45	45
CA	73	50	95	87
CO	1	0	5	1
ID	0	0	0	0
IL	3	0	1	1
IN	0	0	1	1
KS	20	6	3	2
MI	0	0	0	0
MO	30	2	5	6
MT	0	0	0	0
NE	0	0	0	0
NC	69	26	25	33
OH	0	0	0	0
OK	78	*42	52	39
OR	0	0	0	0
SD	0	0	0	0
TX	38	27	30	33
WA	1	0	3	1
18 Sts	26	*13	16	14
These 18 States planted 92% of last year's winter wheat acreage.				

Corn Percent Planted				
	Apr 23 2006	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
CO	14	3	14	8
IL	33	8	60	39
IN	9	3	33	20
IA	26	3	15	16
KS	50	23	38	35
KY	70	29	54	52
MI	8	0	23	8
MN	12	0	3	9
MO	75	50	60	54
NE	16	3	8	11
NC	83	61	62	61
ND	2	0	9	7
OH	9	2	48	17
PA	15	4	14	7
SD	3	0	6	4
TN	79	57	58	70
TX	72	68	71	66
WI	5	0	7	3
18 Sts	25	9	28	22
These 18 States planted 93% of last year's corn acreage.				

Cotton Percent Planted				
	Apr 23 2006	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	30	9	27	24
AZ	35	23	52	51
AR	28	8	6	7
CA	44	14	41	56
GA	10	3	4	8
KS	0	0	1	0
LA	35	15	27	20
MS	36	11	15	14
MO	19	3	11	11
NC	15	4	3	5
OK	4	3	0	2
SC	8	4	5	6
TN	7	0	6	5
TX	23	20	21	18
VA	18	10	8	10
15 Sts	23	13	17	16
These 15 States planted 99% of last year's cotton acreage.				

Sorghum Percent Planted				
	Apr 23 2006	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	59	40	46	50
CO	1	0	1	0
IL	1	0	6	2
KS	4	2	2	1
LA	72	43	45	34
MO	19	6	6	8
NE	0	0	0	0
NM	0	0	0	0
OK	11	8	5	7
SD	0	0	0	0
TX	64	63	47	45
11 Sts	25	23	18	17
These 11 States planted 97% of last year's sorghum acreage.				

Oats Percent Planted				
	Apr 23 2006	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
IA	85	55	91	80
MN	44	17	28	29
NE	87	73	90	80
ND	15	3	25	12
OH	76	44	76	54
PA	72	52	74	46
SD	54	32	73	51
TX	100	100	100	100
WI	56	14	48	35
9 Sts	63	44	65	55
These 9 States planted 67% of last year's oat acreage.				

Oats Percent Emerged				
	Apr 23 2006	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
IA	30	5	56	34
MN	6	0	8	5
NE	35	14	54	40
ND	0	0	1	1
OH	25	5	18	19
PA	27	14	18	14
SD	14	7	26	16
TX	100	100	100	100
WI	3	0	9	6
9 Sts	33	27	38	34
These 9 States planted 67% of last year's oat acreage.				

Spring Wheat Percent Planted				
	Apr 23 2006	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	29	17	65	59
MN	16	2	12	18
MT	14	9	35	23
ND	10	3	26	17
SD	62	35	84	60
WA	53	45	92	82
6 Sts	20	10	37	27
These 6 States planted 99% of last year's spring wheat acreage.				

**Crop Progress and Condition**

**Week Ending April 23, 2006**

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

Rice Percent Planted				
	Apr 23	Prev	Prev	5-Yr
	2006	Week	Year	Avg
AR	78	46	46	56
CA	0	0	2	5
LA	82	75	70	75
MS	73	44	50	41
MO	75	44	19	24
TX	89	83	77	81
6 Sts	67	45	43	49
These 6 States planted 100% of last year's rice acreage.				

Rice Percent Emerged				
	Apr 23	Prev	Prev	5-Yr
	2006	Week	Year	Avg
AR	29	6	10	17
CA	0	0	0	0
LA	67	54	50	59
MS	38	7	15	16
MO	23	4	2	4
TX	82	73	62	67
6 Sts	34	17	18	23
These 6 States planted 100% of last year's rice acreage.				

Barley Percent Planted				
	Apr 23	Prev	Prev	5-Yr
	2006	Week	Year	Avg
ID	23	13	36	46
MN	19	7	12	11
MT	22	12	40	31
ND	7	2	20	11
WA	43	30	70	68
5 Sts	18	9	32	28
These 5 States planted 79% of last year's barley acreage.				

Sugarbeets Percent Planted				
	Apr 23	Prev	Prev	5-Yr
	2006	Week	Year	Avg
ID	65	36	88	82
MI	66	12	97	65
MN	14	0	21	23
ND	3	0	29	18
4 Sts	27	7	44	37
These 4 States planted 82% of last year's sugarbeet acreage.				

Winter Wheat Crop Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
AR	0	5	23	54	18
CA	0	0	2	25	73
CO	6	16	32	40	6
ID	0	2	9	83	6
IL	0	2	19	56	23
IN	1	2	17	63	17
KS	10	21	39	28	2
MI	0	1	17	58	24
MO	3	13	29	47	8
MT	1	5	25	51	18
NE	4	8	34	48	6
NC	1	11	41	42	5
OH	0	3	15	59	23
OK	34	38	23	5	0
OR	0	0	30	66	4
SD	1	9	30	51	9
TX	51	26	18	5	0
WA	1	3	15	66	15
18 Sts	16	18	27	33	6
Prev Wk	15	17	29	32	7
Prev Yr	1	6	25	51	17

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 2004 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 6.1. Topsoil 21% very short, 36% short, 42% adequate, 1% surplus. Corn 85% planted, 65% 2005, 65% avg.; 52% emerged, 29% 2005, 28% avg. Soybeans 18% planted, 3% 2005, 2% avg. Winter wheat condition 4% very poor, 12% poor, 17% fair, 65% good, 2% excellent. Pasture condition 7% very poor, 23% poor, 39% fair, 28% good, 3% excellent. Livestock condition 0% very poor, 8% poor, 34% fair, 53% good, 5% excellent. Alabama was dry at the beginning of the week but some locations received rain showers mid week which has helped with soil moisture. Planting of crops have slowed due to the limited moisture supplies. Peach crop conditions in central Alabama are still being assessed from hail that occurred mid-week. Reports of damage range from none to heavy. Full extent and amount of acreage affected is not known at this time.

**ALASKA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE**

**ARIZONA:** Temperatures for the State were mostly above normal for the week ending April 23. No precipitation was reported at any of the 22 reporting stations. All of the reporting stations are at below normal precipitation for the year to date. Alfalfa condition remains mostly fair to good. Range and pasture conditions are very poor to poor.

**ARKANSAS:** Days suitable for field work 6.0. Soil 6% very short, 39% short, 50% adequate, 5% surplus. Corn 96% planted, 91% previous week, 83% previous year, 86% 5-yr avg.; 84% emerged, 61% previous week, 54% previous year, 58% 5-year average. Soybeans 24% planted, 14% previous week, 15% previous year, 13% 5-year average. Sorghum 59% planted, 40% previous week, 46% previous year, 50% 5-yr avg.; 32% planted, n/a previous week, 17% previous year, 10% 5-year average. Cotton 28% planted, 8% previous week, 6% previous year, 7% 5-year average. Rice: 78% planted, 46% previous week, 46% previous year, 56% 5-yr avg.; 29% emerged, 6% previous week, 10% previous year, 17% 5-year average. Winter wheat 81% headed, 43% previous week, 45% previous year, 45% 5-year average. Corn 0% very poor, 1% poor, 34% fair, 51% good, 14% excellent. Hay-alfalfa 0% very poor, 0% poor, 60% fair, 40% good, 0% excellent. Hay-other 0% very poor, 9% poor, 59% fair, 31% good, 1% excellent. Pasture, range 4% very poor, 21% poor, 45% fair, 28% good, 2% excellent. Winter wheat 0% very poor, 5% poor, 23% fair, 54% good, 18% excellent. Corn planting was nearly complete. There were reports of corn being replanted in Clay county. The crop was in fair to mostly good condition with 84% reported emerged. Soybean planting remained ahead of normal with almost one-fourth of the crop planted. Sorghum planting was 59% complete with nearly one-third of the crop emerged. Cotton planting was 28% complete. Rice planting was 78% complete with crop emergence at 29%. Despite recent rains, rice farmers were still flushing rice fields. Winter wheat heading was still well ahead of the normal rate with 81% of the crop headed. Livestock were still in mostly good condition. Baling hay, fertilizing pastures, working cattle were some of the activities of cattlemen last week. Hay crops, pastures remained in mostly fair to good condition.

**CALIFORNIA:** Grain fields continued to head out. Some rust was reported in winter wheat and barley fields in the Central Valley. The first cutting of alfalfa hay was finally underway in the Central Valley, after a delay due to wet conditions. Cotton planting began, where field conditions allowed. Rice fields were being prepared for planting. Most corn growers were waiting for drier conditions to plant. Sugar beet fields were progressing well in the San Joaquin Valley, and new fields were being prepared and planted. Field work was underway as weather conditions allowed, including thinning of stone fruits, applying fungicides and herbicides in tree fruit orchards, and girdling plum trees to increase fruit size. The plum bloom for dried plums was winding down, apples were in full bloom, and pomegranates continued to leaf out. Some cherry orchards continued to bloom in the San Joaquin Valley, while other orchards were nearly ready for harvest. Many growers were expecting a light cherry crop this season due to rains and wind during the pollination period. Grape vines were also leafing out, with shoots reaching six inches in length. Some growers were mowing cover crops in vineyards since the wet weather continued to enhance growth. Sulfur was applied to the vines for mildew control. Strawberries were in full bloom in the San Joaquin Valley, and some growers were beginning to harvest. In some locations, strawberry fruit and bloom were seriously affected by the recent soaking rains. The harvesting of all citrus once again resumed after being slowed due to wet soil and rainy conditions. Navel and Valencia oranges and lemons were harvested. The quality of Navels and pack outs continued to decline as rain caused more rind damage. Valencia harvest was picking up as maturity increased. Lemon prices were strong, fueling increased harvesting. Citrus growers were applying nutrient foliar sprays as citrus trees began blooming. Nut formation in almond orchards continued. Field work included fungicide applications, mowing, and weed control. Walnut trees were pruned, brush was shredded, and herbicide applications were made for weed control. Many walnut blocks were leafing out and showing catkins. Pistachio trees were in the early bloom stage. Growers were several weeks behind schedule as a result of the inclement weather earlier this spring. The planting of fresh market and processing tomatoes continued. Field planting of mixed summer vegetables continued as weather permitted. The warmer weather caused onion transplants to grow rapidly and some fields were treated with fungicides. Cucumber and eggplant were growing slower than normal. Spring broccoli harvest was complete in some areas. Harvesting continued for asparagus, broccoli, spinach, spring lettuce, and zucchini squash. The harvest of cool season Asian vegetables such as Asian celery, basil, bok choy, curly mustard greens, daikon, gai choy, napa cabbage, sugar and snow pea leaf continued. Sunny and warmer temperatures most of the period boosted grass growth on foothills in central and northern California. Foothill

pastures were in very good to excellent condition. Nutrient value of grass was improving which was positive for cattle weight gains. Supplemental feeding was unnecessary in most areas with the improved weather. Spring calving of beef cows was winding down. Mild temperatures and sunny weather were positive for milk production. Muddy conditions at dairies without free stall barns, however, were not favorable for milk production. In central California, ewes and lambs were grazing on foothill pastures. New crop lamb movement has been delayed in some areas due to ample grass and poor market conditions. More new crop lamb producers were considering retaining ownership of lambs to feedlots out-of-state rather than accept sharply lower bids. Beehives have been removed from orchards in central California. Bees were in dried plum orchards in the Sacramento Valley.

**COLORADO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.9. Top soil 15% very short, 38% short, 47% adequate, 0% surplus. Subsoil 16% very short, 49% short, 35% adequate, 0% surplus. Temperatures in Colorado remained well above average across the state last week with some areas 2 to 7° above normal. Moisture was scarce across the State with most areas receiving little, if any, measurable precipitation. Spring wheat 32% seeded, 55% 2005, 45% avg.; 15% emerged, 21% 2005, 15% avg. Spring barley 56% seeded, 64% 2005, 62% avg.; 22% emerged, 31% 2006, 22% avg.; condition 5% poor, 58% fair, 32% good, 5% excellent. Dry onions 84% planted, 85% 2005, 81% avg. Winter wheat 44% jointed, 43% 2005, 32% avg.; condition 6% very poor, 16% poor, 32% fair, 40% good, 6% excellent. Summer potato 34% planted, 23% 2005, 43% avg. Sugarbeets 49% planted, 60% 2005, 59% avg. Cows calved 82% 2006, 83% 2005, 80% avg. Ewes lambed 85% 2006, 85% 2005, 82% avg.

**DELAWARE:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Topsoil 41% short, 55% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil 17% very short, 27% short, 53% adequate, 3% surplus. Corn 21% planted, 10% 2005, 13% avg. Barley condition 12% very poor, 11% poor, 36% fair, 34% good, 7% excellent; 35% headed, 26% 2005, 24% avg. Winter wheat condition 11% very poor, 10% poor, 30% fair, 43% good, 6% excellent, 15% headed, 3% 2005, 3% avg. Pasture condition 12% very poor, 10% poor, 43% fair, 32% good, 3% excellent. Strawberries 39% bloomed, 10% 2005, 24% avg.

Apples 67% bloomed, 33% 2005, 50% avg. Peaches 93% bloomed, 85% 2005, 70% avg. Watermelons 5% planted, 1% 2005, 3% avg. Snap beans 11% planted, 12% 2005, 13% avg. Sweet corn 18% planted, 20% 2005, 16% avg. Green peas 82% planted, 61% 2005, 69% avg. Potatoes 94% planted, 47% 2005, 54% avg. Hay supplies 18% very short, 32% short, 50% adequate. Much needed rains helped improve topsoil moisture and planting conditions.

**FLORIDA:** Topsoil 51% very short, 26% short, 23% adequate. Subsoil 37% very short, 40% short, 5% adequate, 18% surplus. Temperature average: 4 to 10 deg. above normal. Daytime highs: 80s, 90s. Nighttime lows: 50s, 60s. Rainfall: none Hillsborough to nearly 2.50 in. West Palm Beach, Jackson, Jefferson, Santa Rosa over 1.00 in. Several areas, northern, central Peninsula received over 1.00 to 2.00 in. Dry conditions halted most planting, fieldwork, Panhandle, northern Peninsula. Land preparation underway, Jackson County. Rains over weekend, allowed peanut, cotton growers to begin planting this week, Santa Rosa. Tobacco transplanting completed, northern Peninsula. Growers plan to begin planting peanuts next week, Hamilton County. Warm temperatures throughout week helped harvesting progress on schedule. Rains, end of week, central, southern Peninsula areas slowed some fieldwork. Potato growers plan to begin digging next week, Hastings area. Some watermelons started setting fruit, Jefferson County. Producers marketed snap beans, blueberries, cabbage, celery, sweet corn, cucumbers, eggplant, endive, escarole, lettuce, okra, peppers, potatoes, radishes, squash, tomatoes. Isolated showers brought just over 1.50 in. rain to northern citrus areas, just over 1.00 in. eastern citrus region. Other totals between no rain, 0.5 in. Temperatures in all citrus areas, except Ft. Pierce, at least 90 degrees; highest in Sebring at 95 degrees. Continued dry weather, warm temperatures forcing growers to continue irrigation. Trees in good condition; many showing new growth, varying amounts of new fruit making good progress. Caretakers are hedging, discing, chopping, mowing cover crops, applying post bloom, nutritional sprays. Valencia harvest in full motion. Grapefruit slowing down significantly, majority going to processing. Honey tangerine utilization about 150,000 boxes a week, primarily for the fresh market. Temple harvest relatively over for season. Pasture Feed: 15% very poor, 60% poor, 24% fair, 1% good. Cattle condition 10% very poor, 5% poor, 65% fair, 20% good. Panhandle: pasture very poor to good with most pasture in fair condition. Some ryegrass hay being harvested for immediate sale to livestock owners needing feed. North: most pasture condition very poor. Hay of livestock renewed, pasture suffering from drought, warmer than average temperatures, wind. Cattle condition very poor to fair. Central: pasture condition poor to fair. Southwest: pasture condition very poor to fair most in poor condition due to drought. Statewide: cattle condition very poor to good, most in fair condition.

**GEORGIA:** Days suitable for field work 5.8. Soil 15% very short, 38% short, 43% adequate, 4% surplus. Corn 1% poor, 39% fair, 55% good, 5% excellent; 80% emerged, 61% 2005, 73% avg. Sorghum 67% fair, 32% good, 1% excellent; 10% planted, 13% 2005, 9% avg. Wheat 88% boot, 89% 2005, 90% avg. Pasture 7% very poor, 17% poor, 41% fair, 32% good, 3% excellent. Apples 4% poor, 28% fair, 48% good, 20% excellent; 57% blooming, 67% 2005, 76% avg. Hay 6% very poor, 16% poor, 43% fair, 33% good, 2% excellent. Onions 4% poor, 13% fair, 55% good, 28% excellent; 17% harvested, 2% 2005, 9% avg. Peaches 3% poor, 25% fair, 72% good. Peanuts 1% planted, 1% 2005, 2% avg. Tobacco 2% poor, 35% fair, 63% good; 79%

transplanted, 54% 2005, 75% avg. Watermelons 3% poor, 41% fair, 52% good, 4% excellent; 79% planted, 75% 2005, 80% avg. During the past week, dry conditions were eased with weekend rain. The weekend front brought thunder, lightning, heavy rain to many areas of the state, with some stations reporting as much as 1.5 inches on Saturday. Temperatures were well above normal during the beginning of the week, but returned to near normal with rain. The state experienced highs in the low 80's and lows near 60. While the weekend rain alleviated drought stress in some fields, lack of rain continued to be a concern for growers. Some cotton growers were waiting for more rain to begin planting, while others began the process despite dry soil. Still, the percentage of cotton planted is ahead of the five year average for this week. Corn growers have begun early irrigation and reported skips in emerging plants. The unseasonably warm temperatures have become a problem for peach growers. The warm weather has caused extended bloom, creating many sizes on trees and a problem for harvest activities. Many hayfields were fertilized as they continue to green-up. Hay feeding continued for livestock and corn planting will wrap up soon. Hail damage was reported for cucumbers, watermelons, and cabbage after last week's storms. The bell pepper crop was reported to look good while the recently transplanted tobacco needs rain. Other activities included spraying pecans with fungicide, pasture weed control, and routine care of poultry and livestock.

**HAWAII:** Trade wind weather was generally favorable for crops during the week. As typical of trade wind weather, skies were generally sunny in leeward areas, partly cloudy in windward areas. Showers were also generally light in leeward areas, heavier in windward areas, again typical of a trade wind weather pattern. Winds were light to moderate with the higher gusts limiting spraying activities, some forms of irrigation. Field activity was high as farmers continue to catch up on planting, maintenance chores delayed by the recent prolonged period of wet weather. Production of most vegetables was lower than normal as weather-related losses are beginning to appear. Banana and papaya fields were in poor to fair condition. Pastures were in good condition as grass has made good growth.

**IDAHO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4. Topsoil 1% short, 56% adequate, 43% surplus. Winter wheat 8% jointed, 11% 2005, 12% average. Oats 25% planted, 46% 2005, 42% average. Onions 55% planted, 100% 2005, 99% average. Potatoes 15% planted, 6% 2005, 12% average. Dry peas 14% planted, 69% 2005, 41% average. Hay, roughage supply 21% very short, 19% short, 59% adequate, 1% surplus. Irrigation water supply 2% fair, 33% good, 65% excellent. Late planting is underway throughout Idaho.

**ILLINOIS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil 5% very short, 21% short, 63% adequate and 11% surplus. Corn 5% emerged, 14% 2005, 7% average. Soybeans 1% planted, 2% 2005, 1% average. Oats 86% planted, 95% 2005, 89% average. Alfalfa condition 2% poor, 16% fair, 66% good, 16% excellent. Red clover condition 2% poor, 14% fair, 63% good, 21% excellent. Pasture condition 1% very poor, 2% poor, 21% fair, 62% good, 14% excellent. Warm, sunny weather during the week allowed farmers across much of the state to make good corn planting progress. Many farmers in the eastern district received heavy rains early in the week though and fieldwork there was limited to about two days. In contrast areas like Mason county where irrigation is common fields were being irrigated in an effort to provide enough moisture to sprout the corn. Temperatures averaged 4-6 degrees warmer than normal during the week throughout the state. Where corn planting is the most advanced, in western Illinois, some farmers are wrapping up corn planting and switching to soybeans. Farmers were also busy last week spraying herbicides, applying fertilizer, hauling grain and tending livestock.

**INDIANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.1. Topsoil 0% very short, 3% short, 66% adequate, 31% surplus. Subsoil 1% very short, 6% short, 71% adequate, 22% surplus. Planting of corn made good progress late in the week. Corn planting is 5 days behind the average pace, 8 days behind last year. Corn 9% planted, 33% 2005, 20% avg. Some of the early planted fields have now emerged. Only a few fields of soybeans have been planted. Winter wheat 54% jointed, 60% 2005, 61% avg.; 80% good to excellent compared with 72% last year at this time. Pastures 1% very poor, 2% poor, 20% fair, 64% good, 13% excellent. Temperatures ranged from 6E to 10E above normal with the high of 82E. Precipitation averaged from .36 inches to 5.36 inches. Livestock remain in mostly good condition. Feeding of hay has slowed down because of improving pasture conditions. Activities Included: Soil preparation, applying fertilizer, preparing planting equipment, hauling grain to market, hauling, applying manure, spraying, fixing tile, and taking care of livestock.

**IOWA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil 5% very short, 14% short, 72% adequate, 9% surplus. Subsoil 9% very short, 21% short, 62% adequate, 8% surplus. Soil moisture levels were nearly identical to this time last year. Agricultural Summary: As fields dried towards the end of the week, fieldwork kicked into high gear. Some farmers have completed their corn planting already, while others have just gotten started. Scattered reports of soybean planting were received. Farmers are avoiding any unnecessary fieldwork due to high fuel and input costs. Field Crops Report: Oats 85% seedings, 30% emerged, behind last year's progress of 91% seeded, 56% emerged, 34% 5-yr average emerged. Corn 26% planted, compared to 15% last year, 16% 5-yr average. Twenty-three percent of the state's corn crop was planted during the week last week. Southwest, Southeast Iowa planted over one-third of their corn acreage. Primary seedbed preparations were 63% complete compared to 68% last year, 64% 5-yr average. Fertilizer applications 82%, matched last year, 6 percentage points ahead of the five-year average. Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture, range condition 3% very poor, 7% poor, 38% fair, 43% good, 9% excellent. Many cows have now been turned out on pastures as they greened up rapidly. Some pasture condition concerns remain due to aftereffects of last year's dry weather.

**KANSAS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.7. Topsoil 27% very short, 43% short, 30% adequate. Subsoil 24% very short, 49% short, 27% adequate. Spring planting was the major activity. Corn 50% planted, 38% 2005, 35% avg.; 17% emerged, 9% 2005, 8% avg. Oats 91% planted, 86% 2005, 92% avg. Wheat 91% jointing, 86% 2005, 69% avg.; wind damage was 80% none, 13% light, 6% moderate, 1% severe, freeze

damage was 89% none, 9% light, 2% moderate, insect infestation 70% none, 21% light, 7% moderate, 2% severe, disease infestation 77% none, 20% light, 3% moderate. Pasture Feed 10% very poor, 22% poor, 43% fair, and 25% good. Feed grain supplies 1% very short, 6% short, 91% adequate, 2% surplus. There were reports of feed grain supplies dwindling in the southern portions of the State. Hay, forage supplies 5% very short, 21% short, 72% adequate, 2% surplus. Stock water supplies were 16% very short, 28% short, and 56% adequate.

**KENTUCKY:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.9. Topsoil 1% very short, 9% short, 71% adequate, 19% surplus. Subsoil 2% very short, 16% short, 70% adequate, 12% surplus. For the week temperatures averaged 65°, which was 6° above normal. Precipitation statewide was 1.47 in., 0.48 in. above normal. Corn acres 70% planted, 54% 2005, 52% avg.; 32% emerged. Soybeans 5% planted. Winter wheat 25% headed. Corn condition 1% poor, 11% fair, 59% good, 29% excellent. Winter wheat condition 2% poor, 16% fair, 52% good, 30% excellent. Strawberry condition 3% poor, 23% fair, 63% good, 11% excellent. Tobacco height less than 2 in. 54%, 2-4 in. 28%, larger than 4 in. 18%. Tobacco plants in conventional beds 4% with 96% in greenhouses. Expected date of first alfalfa cutting is May 8. Pasture condition 1% very poor, 4% poor, 30% fair, 52% good, 13% excellent.

**LOUISIANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.1. Soil 29% very short, 39% short, 32% adequate, 0% surplus. Spring plowing 90% plowed, 83% last week, 85% 2005, 84% avg. Corn 0% very poor, 3% poor, 27% fair, 66% good, 4% excellent; 100% planted, 96% last week, 100% in 2005, 99% avg.; 98% emerged, 86% last week, 90% 2005, 86% avg. Soybeans 31% planted, 8% last week, 19% in 2005, 16% avg.; 23% emerged, 0% last week, 5% in 2005, 5% avg. Sorghum 54% emerged, 28% last week, 31% 2005, 16% avg. Rice 0% very poor, 0% poor, 23% fair, 73% good, 4% excellent. Cotton 21% emerged, 0% last week, 5% in 2005, 4% avg. Hay 1st cutting 18%, 9% last week, 4% in 2005, 7% avg. Wheat 2% very poor, 7% poor, 20% fair, 61% good, 10% excellent; 99% headed, 90% last week, 88% 2005, 84% avg; 42% turning color, 0% last week, 6% in 2005, 6% avg. Sugarcane 12% very poor, 23% poor, 44% fair, 18% good, 3% excellent. Livestock 4% very poor, 12% poor, 39% fair, 42% good, 3% excellent. Vegetable 8% very poor, 14% poor, 39% fair, 37% good, 2% excellent. Range, pasture 15% very poor, 17% poor, 41% fair, 26% good, 1% excellent.

**MARYLAND:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Topsoil 58% short, 38% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil 48% short, 51% adequate, 1% surplus. Corn 17% planted, 15% 2005, 14% avg. Barley condition 1% very poor, 8% poor, 21% fair, 62% good, 8% excellent; 22% headed, 15% avg. Winter wheat condition 3% very poor, 12% poor, 19% fair, 63% good, 3% excellent; 5% headed, 1% 2005, 3% avg. Pasture condition 1% very poor, 12% poor, 43% fair, 38% good, 6% excellent. Strawberries 41% bloomed, 45% 2005, 45% avg. Apples 44% bloomed, 14% 2005, 31% avg. Peaches 56% bloomed, 29% 2005, 56% avg. Watermelons 42% planted, 9% 2005, 8% avg. Cucumbers 31% planted, 5% 2005, 6% avg. Snap beans 10% planted, 3% 2005, 5% avg. Sweet corn 24% planted, 17% 2005, 19% avg. Green peas 50% planted, 59% 2005, 67% avg. Potatoes 49% planted, 58% 2005, 51% avg. Tomatoes 38% planted, 26% 2005, 23% avg. Cantaloupes 19% planted, 12% 2005, 11% avg. Hay supplies 10% very short, 18% short, 70% adequate, 2% surplus. Much needed rain at weeks end will help spur hay and small grain development.

**MICHIGAN:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Subsoil 1% very short, 14% short, 78% adequate, 7% surplus. Range, pasture 1% very poor, 4% poor, 34% fair, 45% good, 16% excellent. Oats 55% planted, 68% 2005, 41% avg.; 12% emerged, 11% 2005, 10% avg. Potatoes 17% planted, 14% 2005. Barley 45% planted, 46% 2005, 23% avg. Asparagus 3% harvested. Precipitation amounts ranged from 0.04 inches in the southwest Lower Peninsula to 0.53 inches in the eastern Upper Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 3 degrees above normal in the east central, southwest, south central Lower Peninsula to 8 degrees above normal in the eastern Upper Peninsula. Tillage was in full swing across the State. Operators in the southern, central parts were busy planting while operators in northern parts were waiting another week before planting. There were reports from the northwest Lower Peninsula that the apples were at tight cluster stage, sweet cherries were at early white tip stage, tart cherries at bud burst stage. In the southwest, peaches, plums, sweet cherries, tart cherries were in full bloom. Apple blooms began to open. Grapes, blueberry buds have burst. Asparagus harvest has begun in the southwest. Celery, onion planting were on schedule. Activities: Hauling manure, fieldwork, planting, lambing and calving.

**MINNESOTA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.6. Topsoil 2% very short, 6% short, 69% adequate, 23% surplus. Corn 23% land prepared, 10% 2005, 18% avg. Soybeans 7% land prepared, 3% 2005, 5% avg. Soybeans 0% planted, 0% 2005, 0% avg. Spring Wheat 2% emerged, 4% 2005, 3% avg. Barley 4% emerged, 3% 2005, 1% avg. Canola 0% planted, 0% 2005, 0% avg. Green Peas 19% planted, 0% 2005, 10% avg. Potatoes 25% planted, 19% 2005, 14% avg. Fieldwork, planting progress was ahead of the five year average, as warm temperatures dominated the week's weather. Producers worked around wet areas to continue field

preparation, fertilizer applications. Topsoil moisture supplies in the Northwest, Southwest, South Central areas of the state were still rated mostly surplus. The average temperature for the week was 51.9°, 6.5° above normal.

**MISSISSIPPI:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Soil 10% very short, 36% short, 50% adequate, 4% surplus. Corn 98% planted, 84% 2005, 90% avg.; 87% emerged, 68% 2005, 74% avg.; 1% poor, 19% fair, 60% good, 20% excellent. Cotton 36% planted, 15% 2005, 14% avg.; 16% emerged, NA 2005, 3% avg. Rice 73% planted, 50% 2005, 41% avg.; 38% emerged, 15% 2005, 16% avg. Sorghum 60% planted, 47% 2005, 36% avg.; 37% emerged, 8% 2005, 14% avg. Soybeans 77% planted, 37% 2005, 38% avg.; 58% emerged, 15% 2005, 21% avg.; 1% poor, 16% fair, 58% good, 25% excellent. Wheat 99% jointing, 97% 2005, 96% avg.; 88% heading, 62% 2005, 63% avg.; 3% poor, 27% fair, 54% good, 16% excellent. Hay 13% (Harvested Cool) 15% 2005, 21% avg. Watermelons 50% planted, 71% 2005, 71% avg. Blueberries 1% poor, 41% fair, 46% good, 12% excellent. Cattle 1% very poor, 9% poor, 34% fair, 42% good, 14% excellent. Pasture 5% very poor, 9% poor, 39% fair, 43% good, 4% excellent.

**MISSOURI:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.4. Topsoil 21% very short, 44% short, 34% adequate, 1% surplus. Farmers made considerable progress in field work, with planting, emergence of spring crops several days ahead of normal. However, dry, windy conditions have sapped topsoil moisture, putting a stop to planting in some areas for the time being. The wheat crop is heading out much earlier than normal. Barley yellow dwarf has appeared in some Bootheel wheat fields, but overall, the crop there is in mostly good condition. Grasses are well behind in growth and are heading out, generating concern about hay supplies this year. Pasture condition 15% very poor, 28% poor, 39% fair, 17% good, 1% excellent. The southwest district remains in extreme drought, with a few reports of producers reducing cattle herds in response to poor pastures, hay shortages, minimal stock water supplies. Rainfall averaged 0.44 inches for the week. Temperatures were much above average statewide. Some locations in the Bootheel recorded highs in the mid-90's.

**MONTANA:** Days suitable for field work 3.6. Topsoil 18% surplus, 6% last year, 73% adequate, 61% last year, 9% short, 25% last year, 0% very short, 8% last year. Subsoil 9% surplus, 2% last year, 63% adequate, 31% last year, 22% short, 37% last year, 6% very short, 30% last year. Heavy, wet snow blizzards occurred across many locations in Montana last week. Southeast, northeast Montana were hit the hardest by the snow, several cities experienced downed power lines, dangerous road conditions. Nine locations across central, southwest Montana reported accumulating enough moisture, as of last week, to make this April the wettest on record for those areas. As of last week, twelve other locations are at their second wettest April on record. Great Falls has experienced its wettest water year since 1966, its third wettest water year on record. Bozeman has accumulated enough moisture to make 2006 the third wettest water year on record. Ekalaka was the wet spot of the state last week with 3.63 inches of precipitation. Fort Benton experienced the high temperature last week of 80 degrees. West Yellowstone was the cold spot of the state at 9 degrees. Winter wheat condition 1% very poor, 1% last year, 5% poor, 4% last year, 25% fair, 27% last year, 51% good, 46% last year, 18% excellent, 22% last year, spring stages are 1% still dormant, 0% last year, 11% greening, 9% last year, 88% green and growing, 91% last year. Spring wheat 14% planted, 35% last year. Durum wheat is 3% planted, 16% last year. Barley is 22% planted, 40% last year. Oats 12% planted, 35% last year. Ranchers are providing supplemental feed to 71% of cattle and calves, 75% last year, 75% of sheep and lambs, 76% last year. Livestock grazing is 84% open, 81% last year, 9% difficult, 9% last year, 7% closed, 10% last year. Calving is 87% complete, 87% last year, and lambing is 69% complete, 70% last year. Range and pasture feed conditions are 13% excellent, 2% last year, 39% good, 15% last year, 39% fair, 38% last year, 7% poor, 28% last year, and 2% very poor, 17% last year. Field tillage work in progress is 44% not started, 23% last year, 22% just started, 23% last year, 34% well underway, 54% last year.

**NEBRASKA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Topsoil 6% very short, 31% short, 63% adequate, 0% surplus. Subsoil 15% very short, 31% short, 54% adequate, 0% surplus. Temperatures for the week averaged from 2° below normal to 4° above, but mostly above. It was a dry week for the state with virtually zero precipitation. Wheat 22% jointed, 38% 2005, 21% avg. Oats 87% planted, 90% 2005, 80% avg.; 35% emerged, 54% 2005, 40% avg. Sugarbeets 49% planted, 42% 2005. Alfalfa conditions 0% very poor, 2% poor, 25% fair, 55% good, 18% excellent. Pasture, range conditions 1% very poor, 6% poor, 36% fair, 51% good, 6% excellent. Cattle, calves condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 13% fair, 69% good, 17% excellent; calving 93% complete; calf losses average to below average. Activities Included: Planting corn, applying fertilizer, chemicals, discing, fixing fences, getting ready to move livestock to pasture.

**NEVADA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE**

**NEW ENGLAND:** Temperatures were above normal for the beginning of the week. Most areas in the region were dry, as precipitation levels were below normal for this time of year, fire danger was elevated to extreme. Cooler conditions, heavy rain dominated the weekend. In the southwest areas of New England, over three inches of rain fell during the weekend, daily maximum rainfall records were set in southern regions. In Connecticut, water rose above flood levels in streams and rivers, causing minor flooding. Activities Included: Fencing, working in greenhouse, spreading fertilizer/manure, plowing, harrowing fields, pruning trees, working on equipment, packing apples, putting in sprinklers in cranberry bogs.

**NEW JERSEY:** Days suitable for field work 6.0. Topsoil 5% very short, 65% short, 30% adequate. Temperatures were variable for the week across the state. There were measurable amounts of precipitation in most localities for the week. Saturday, April 22, 2006, many localities received one to two inches of rain. Agricultural producers continued field preparation for spring crops as weather permitted. Activities Included: Planting, greenhouse work, transplanting vegetable crops, topdressing fertilizer, spraying herbicide. Asparagus harvest began in the south. Condition of small grains, hay crops were fair to good. There was a report of spraying for weevils in some southern alfalfa fields. Apple trees were in full bloom, peach trees were in petal fall, in the south. Blueberry bushes were sprayed for mummy berry.

**NEW MEXICO:** Days suitable for field work 6.7. Topsoil 63% very short, 25% short, 12% adequate. The week was relatively warm, dry. A few thunderstorms produced some rainfall at isolated locations over the far eastern counties, along with gusty wind, hail. Tatum (.50") measured the greatest rainfall total. Temperatures for the week averaged about 6° above normal for the state, with afternoon readings hitting 90° at many of the lower elevation stations in the south, east. Wind damage 33% light, 13% moderate, 2% severe, damaging crops, buildings, equipment, causing some chile farmers to have to re-seed two or three times. Wildfires are still a major concern across the state. Freeze damage was 10% light and was concentrated in the northern counties. Farmers were busy preparing fields, planting crops, baling alfalfa. Producers were irrigating their crops, but with increasing concerns about their water supply. Alfalfa 10% poor, 25% fair, 43% good, 22% excellent. The 1<sup>st</sup> cutting was 46% harvested. Irrigated winter wheat 6% poor, 77% good, 16% good, 1% excellent, with 29% being grazed. Dryland winter wheat 89% very poor, 6% poor, 5% fair, with 10%

being grazed. Some wheat was being cut for silage. Lettuce, onions, chile were all in fair to excellent condition. Chile 94% planted. Cotton 39% planted. Corn 15% planted. Ranchers were supplementing feed, hauling water, d finishing up branding. Many are looking at culling their herds. Cattle 3% very poor, 36% poor, 34% fair, 27% good. Sheep 12% very poor, 23% poor, 48% fair, 17% good. Range, pasture conditions 32% very poor, 37% poor, 25% fair, and 6% good.

**NEW YORK:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Soil 6% very short, 20% short, 64% adequate, 10% surplus. Pasture conditions 12% poor, 36% fair, 50% good, 2% excellent. Dry conditions allowed farmers to get on fields and begin work. Across the State, growers were finishing fertilizer applications and pruning apple trees. Vegetable crops were being planted, but heavy rainfall over the weekend halted field activities. Orange County onion planting reached about 85% complete.

**NORTH CAROLINA:** Days suitable for field work 5.8. Soil 12% very short, 29% short, 54% adequate, 5% surplus. Activities Included: Planting corn, cotton, sorghum, transplanting tobacco. The State received much needed rainfall with amounts ranging from .54 to 3.42 inches. Temperatures were above normal by 2 to 9 degrees.

**NORTH DAKOTA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 2.8. Topsoil 0% very short, 7% short, 79% adequate, 14% surplus. Subsoil 3% very short, 9% short, 77% adequate, 11% surplus. A wet, wintry storm last week halted fieldwork in the western districts. In the north central, northeast districts, warm weather helped to dry fields, though they were still too wet for fieldwork. Durum wheat 4% planted, 14% 2005, 7% avg.; 0% emerged, 2% 2005, 1% average. Canola 1% planted, 12% 2005, 6% average. Dry edible peas 5% planted, 19% 2005, average not available. Flaxseed 0% planted, 4% 2005, 2% average. Potatoes 1% planted, 3% 2005, 4% average. Hay, forage supplies 1% very short, 3% short, 84% adequate, 12% surplus. Grain, concentrate supplies 0% very short, 1% short, 89% adequate, 10% surplus. Calving 83% complete. Lambing 90% complete. Shearing 96% complete. Pasture, ranges 26% still dormant, 74% growing.

**OHIO:** Days suitable for field work 4.2. Topsoil 1% very short, 8% short, 78% adequate, 13% surplus. Winter wheat 47% jointed, 42% 2005, 37% avg. Corn 9% planted, 48% 2005, 17% avg. Oats 76% planted, 76% 2005, 54% avg.; 25% emerged, 18% 2005, 19% avg. Potatoes 23% planted, 50% 2005, 24% avg. Apples in green tip and beyond 89%, 85% 2005, 83% avg.; full bloom 31%, 20% 2005, 23% avg. Peaches in green tip and beyond 83%, 82% 2005, 81% avg.; full bloom 58%, 27% 2005, 40% avg. Apple condition 0% very poor, 2% poor, 10% fair, 68% good, 20% excellent. Hay condition 0% very poor, 2% poor, 23% fair, 58% good, 17% excellent. Livestock condition 0% very poor, 2% poor, 14% fair, 68% good, 16% excellent. Pasture condition 1% very poor, 4% poor, 26% fair, 53% good, 16% excellent. Peach condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 13% fair, 67% good, 19% excellent. Winter wheat condition 0% very poor, 3% poor, 15% fair, 59% good, 23% excellent. Operators have taken advantage of the warm, dry field conditions to plant field crops: corn, soybeans and oats. Vegetable farmers have started to put out tomatoes and plant cabbage and sweetcorn. Livestock operators have moved livestock on to pasture fields. Activities: Besides planting, for last week were farm equipment maintenance, repair, spreading fertilizer, lime, knifing in manure, hauling grain, cleaning out bins, repayment of commodity loans, tillage to plant corn, beans, and other crops including ridging for vegetable crops.

**OKLAHOMA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Topsoil 62% very short, 34% short, 4% adequate. Subsoil 59% very short, 34% short, 7% adequate. Wheat jointing 96% this week, 92% last week, 96% last year, 92% average; soft dough 10% this week, N/A last week, N/A last year, 2% average. Rye 31% very poor, 40% poor, 29% fair; jointing 60% this week, 48% last week, 97% last year, 38% average; headed 35% this week, N/A last week, N/A last year, 14% average; soft dough 17% this week, N/A last week, N/A last year, N/A average. Oats 57% very poor, 28% poor, 14% fair, 1% good; 95% planted this week, 92% last week, 100% last year, 97% average; jointing 40% this week, 32% last week, 62% last year, 61% average; headed 15% this week, N/A last week, N/A last year, 11% average; soft dough 6% this week, N/A last week, N/A last year, N/A average. Corn seedbed prepared 89% this week, 84% last week, 95% last year, 90% average; planted 45% this week, 36% last week, 46% last year, 49% average; Emerged 29% this week, N/A last week, 24% last year, 22% average. Sorghum seedbed prepared 51% this week, 48% last week, 51% last year, 47% average; Soybeans seedbed prepared 64% this week, 59% last week, 51% last year, 58% average; planted 18% this week, 10% last week, 8% last year, 15% average; Peanuts seedbed prepared 52% this week, 43% last week, 76% last year, 72% average; planted 4% this week, 2% last week, 6% last year, 5% average; Cotton seedbed prepared 74% this week, 66% last week, 75% last year, 79% average. Alfalfa 11% very poor, 29% poor, 42% fair, 16% good, 2% excellent; 1<sup>st</sup> Cutting 16% this week, N/A last week, 23% last year, 18% average. Other Hay 31% very poor, 41% poor, 24% fair, 4% good; 1<sup>st</sup> Cutting 12% this week, N/A last week, 10% last year, 6% average. Watermelon planted 25% this week, N/A last week, N/A last year, 6% average. Livestock 2% very poor, 35% poor, 42% fair, 21% good; Pasture & Range 27% very poor, 33% poor, 32% fair, 8% good. Livestock: Livestock conditions were mostly poor-to-fair. Marketings were average. Livestock insect activities were mostly none-to-light. Death loss of cattle was mostly light. Prices for feeder steers less than 800 pounds averaged \$111.09 per cwt. Prices for feeder heifers less than 800 pounds averaged \$102.36 per cwt. Ponds continued to dry up causing producers to move cattle to other areas or to sell them.

**OREGON:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Topsoil 0% short, 68% adequate, 29% surplus. Subsoil 5% short, 72% adequate, 23% surplus. Barley 52% planted, 84% 2005, 68% avg.; 39% emerged, 68% 2005, 55% avg. Spring wheat 66% planted, 87% 2005, 90% avg.; 31% emerged, 64% 2005, 66% avg. Winter wheat 30% fair, 66% good, 4% excellent. Range, pasture 12% poor, 27% fair, 41% good, 20% excellent. Conditions across the State were a bit drier, warmer last week. Most weather stations reported precipitation last week, but the amounts were much smaller than the previous weeks. Eight weather stations did not receive any precipitation this past week. Those stations were mostly in the north, south central areas of the State, but also included La Grande, Union, Ontario. High temperatures ranged from 58 in Crescent City to 75 in

Aurora, the Southwest Valleys, The Dalles. Low temperatures ranged from only 16 in Christmas Valley to 39 in Bandon. A few days of warm, dry weather promoted crop development across the State. Seventy percent of the winter wheat crop was rated in good to excellent condition. Producers were busy tilling, seeding, spraying, as field conditions allowed. Alfalfa, clover crops put on a lot of growth last week. Spring planting progress was still lagging behind average. By April 23, 66 percent of the spring wheat had been planted, compared to the five-year average of 90 percent. The warmer, drier weather allowed vegetable growers to prepare seed beds for planting. Rhubarb was being harvested in Washington County, was nearing harvest stage in Wasco County. Onions were getting a good start in southern Oregon. Fruit trees, bees benefitted from some warmth, sunshine over the weekend. Northern Willamette Valley sweet, tart cherries were in full bloom, while prunes were nearing petal fall. Hazelnut growers applied their third Eastern Filbert Blight spray of the season. Grape vines were leafing out. Southern Willamette Valley blueberry buds were opening, blooming; strawberries were showing buds. Rain has affected cherry bloom, but improved weather should make a difference. Prunes, plums, peaches were done blooming. Asian pears were nearly done with bloom, while apples were just starting. Other pears have begun to set fruit. Douglas County growers were unable to do fieldwork until Thursday. Cold, wet weather up until this past week has made plum pollination a complete failure there. Cherry pollination may also be negatively impacted by weather. Apples, pears should pollinate with more recent good weather. Abundant mason bees reported in Garden Valley helped pollinate fruit trees where the honey bees are in short supply. Wine grapes were just starting to break bud, which is about two weeks later than last year. Orchard crops have not received many fungicide treatments due to excess rains. Cool, showery weather early in the week in Hood River County gave way to warm, dry conditions for the second half. Clear skies, cold temperatures required frost protection on several nights. At week's end, crop development in the lower Hood River Valley was as follows: d'Anjou pear at full bloom (WSU stage 7); Red Delicious apple at first bloom to full bloom (WSU stages 7 & 8); Bing cherry at first bloom to full bloom (WSU stage 7 & 8); Pinot noir grapes at wool stage to bud burst (Eichhorn-Lorenz stages 3 & 5). Sherman County U-pick cherry orchards along the Columbia River were in bloom. Planting of 120 new sweet cherry acres was complete. Cherry orchards in The Dalles area were still in full bloom, while the eight mile, Dufur Valley were just getting underway. Some sweet cherry blossoms received slight damage from frost, but should not affect yield. A few frost fans were operated several nights early in the week. Overall, weather during bloom was excellent, with mild temperatures, very little wind. Strawberry plants were about 10 percent in bloom. Southern Oregon plums, pears, apples continued in bloom. Better weather has aided bees in pollination, allowed growers to apply spring sprays. Greenhouses, nurseries were still very busy shipping plant material to retail outlets. Nursery operations were rotating container plants, digging, balling smaller plants, planting new field stock. Greenhouses were very busy with flower, vegetable starts, shipping of plant material. Local plant sales were underway, drew large crowds to purchase plants. Warmer weather helped to improve pasture growth in many areas. Conditions improved, but continued warm, dry conditions were needed, especially in many of the rangeland areas. Producers continued to turn livestock out into spring pastures, the lower rangeland. Supplemental feeding continued with some producers running very low in hay stocks. Livestock were reported in good condition with producers branding & vaccinating calves, shearing sheep.

**PENNSYLVANIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Soil 16% very short, 21% short, 58% adequate, 5% surplus. Spring 75% plowing, 64% 2005, 46% avg. Corn 15% planted, 14% 2005, 7% avg. Barley 10% heading, 13% 2005, 10% avg. Winter wheat 5% heading, 3% 2005, 3% avg.; condition 2% poor, 23% fair, 60% good, 15% excellent. Oats 72% planted, 74% 2005, 46% avg.; 27% emerged, 18% 2005, 14% avg.; condition 1% poor, 28% fair, 60% good, 11% excellent. Potatoes 12% planted, 25% 2005, 10% avg. Tobacco beds 50% planted, 78% 2005, 85% avg. Pasture conditions 3% very poor, 24% poor, 37% fair, 30% good, 6% 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 6.0. Soil 19% very short, 33% short, 48% adequate. Crop conditions were improved as the State received rainfall that ranged from as little as two tenths of an inch in Florence to as much as two inches in Greer. Barley 48% headed, 45% 2005, 49% avg.; 2% turned color, 6% 2005, 6% avg.; 7% poor, 46% fair, 45% good, 2% excellent. Corn 90% planted, 85% 2005, 84% avg.; 68% emerged, 65% 2005, 64% avg.; 3% poor, 48% fair, 48% good, 1% excellent. Soybeans 3% planted, 6% 2005, 5% avg. Oats 70% headed, 65% 2005, 69% avg.; 3% turned color, 8% 2005, 8% avg.; 8% poor, 48% fair, 43% good, 1% excellent. Peanuts 5% planted, 6% 2005, 7% avg. Rye 73% headed, 76% 2005, 77% avg.; 4% turned color, 8% 2005, 8% avg.; 4% poor, 47% fair, 48% good, 1% excellent. Sorghum 20% planted, 23% 2005, 24% avg. Cotton 8% planted, 5% 2005, 6% avg. Winter wheat 68% headed, 62% 2005, 68% avg.; 2% turned color, 4% 2005, 5% avg.; 8% poor, 42% fair, 47% good, 3% excellent. Tobacco 70% transplanted, 61% 2005, 64% avg.; 6% poor, 41% fair, 52% good, 1% excellent. Grain Hay 20% harvested, 20% 2005, 21% avg. Peaches 1% very poor, 4% poor, 49% fair, 39% good, 7% excellent. Apples 30% fair, 70% good. Snap beans 70% planted, 72% 2005, 70% avg; 40% fair, 60% good. Cucumbers 77% planted, 86% 2005, 87% avg.; 45% fair, 50% good, 5% excellent. Watermelons 81% planted, 76% 2005, 81% avg.; 50% fair, 50% good. Tomatoes 90% planted, 89% 2005, 90% avg.; 22% fair, 58% good, 20% excellent. Cantaloupes 78% planted, 68% 2005, 72% avg.; 47% fair, 53% good. Livestock 2% poor, 33% fair, 60% good, 5% excellent. Pastures 1% very poor, 18% poor, 50% fair, 29% good, 2% excellent.

**SOUTH DAKOTA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.3. Topsoil 2% very short, 9% short, 78% adequate, 11% surplus. Subsoil 6% very short, 20% short, 66% adequate, 8% surplus. Feed supplies 1% very short, 5% short, 89% adequate, 5% surplus. Stock water supplies 6% very short, 19% short, 68% adequate, 7% surplus. Winter wheat breaking dormancy 99%, 100% 2005, 90% avg.; boot 0%, 1% 2005, 0% avg. Cattle condition 1% poor, 9% fair, 70% good, 20% excellent. Sheep condition 11% fair, 70% good, 19% excellent. Range, pasture 1% very poor, 12% poor, 32% fair, 47% good, 8% excellent. Calving 81% complete. Lambing 78% complete. Cattle moved to pasture

19% complete. Calf deaths 19% below avg.; 76% avg.; 5% above average. Sheep, lamb deaths 19% below avg.; 78% avg.; 3% above average. With the western side of the state receiving a winter snow storm early in the week, several other areas receiving scattered precipitation, many farmers, ranchers were kept out of fields, keeping small grain seeding progress behind that of last year. Many producers reported that last week's cold snap may have caused some livestock losses, yet it has provided moisture to some areas that were experiencing shortages. Activities Included: Caring for livestock, calving, lambing, repairing fences, fertilizing, small grain seeding, and preparing for row crop planting.

**TENNESSEE:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Topsoil 1% very short, 8% short, 9% adequate, 21% surplus. Subsoil 4% very short, 15% short, 72% adequate, 9% surplus. Wheat 98% jointed, 94% 2005, 92% avg.; 47% headed, 24% 2005, 22% avg.; top dressed 100%, 99% 2005, 100% avg.; 2% very poor, 4% poor, 17% fair, 55% good, 22% excellent. Apples 90% blooming and beyond, 73% 2005, 80% avg. Peaches 99% blooming and beyond, 91% 2005, 90% avg. Pastures 5% poor, 32% fair, 53% good, 10% excellent. Nearly all of the State's winter wheat acreage had reached the jointing stage while nearly half was headed, about five days ahead of the normal pace. Strawberries were making good progress, with 80 percent of the crop rated in good-to-excellent condition. Pastures improved from the week earlier, but most areas could use more rainfall. Apples, peaches were blooming ahead of schedule with no major problems reported. Temperatures averaged above normal across the entire State last week. Average highs ranged from the middle 70s to middle 80s, while average lows ranged from the low 50s to low 60s. Rainfall across the Middle, West portions of the State averaged slightly above normal to well above normal in the East.

**TEXAS:** Agricultural Summary: The heat was in full force early in the week as temperatures surpassed the century mark in numerous locations of the state. By late week, severe weather had replaced the heat across areas of the Blacklands, Edwards Plateau, Upper Coast, Central, East Texas. High winds, hail caused significant property, crop damage in the hardest hit locations. Welcomed rainfall amounts ranging from 1/2 to almost 3 inches occurred in these regions. Other areas that experienced precipitation were the Low Rolling Plains, western portions of South Texas. Generally these regions reported anywhere from 1/2 to 1 inch accumulations with isolated locations recording up to 3 inches. Not much more than trace amounts of moisture were realized on the Panhandle, Trans Pecos. No rain occurred in the Rio Grande Valley or Coastal Bend. For those areas of the state that missed the rain, the extreme heat did further damage to already drought stressed fields. Hail and winds damaged small grain crops, emerging summer crops on the Blacklands. The increased precipitation was very helpful to pasture growth as supplemental feeding decreased in some locations. Despite the moisture that was received, the entire state remained in a drought, a pattern of increased rainfall would have to be established for conditions to improve. Small Grains: Irrigation continued in wheat fields on the Panhandle with a good amount being harvested for silage. Very little dryland wheat remained in the region. Fields began to head as far north as the South Plains, early grain harvest began in southern districts. There were reports of hail damage, lodging in fields on the Blacklands. Producers continued to cut wheat for hay in many areas. Wheat condition was mostly rated very poor to poor. Oats condition statewide was mostly rated very poor to poor. Cotton: Planting dates were quickly approaching on the South Plains as producers were completing their preparations. Rain showers were very well received across the region. A few fields on the Blacklands were lost to hail, will have to be replanted. Dryland fields on the Coastal Bend, Rio Grande Valley continued to suffer from drought and relief would be needed soon in order to make a decent crop. Irrigation was heavy in South Texas where available. Corn: Growers continued planting on the Panhandle. There were many fields on the Blacklands that were heavily damaged by hail, wind. Some of them may recover but others will have to be disastered. Plants were wilted in the 100° heat early in the week. Dryland fields on the Coastal Bend, Rio Grande Valley were deteriorating quickly without adequate moisture. Where irrigation was possible, producers watered corn fields extensively. The corn condition statewide was mostly rated fair to good. Sorghum: Planting preparations continued on the Panhandle, South Plains. The increased moisture was most welcomed. Hail damage was reported on the Blacklands. In southern regions, fields were suffering from drought stress. More rain was needed in all areas. The condition was mostly rated very poor to fair statewide. Rice: Rice fields continued to develop. The increased rainfall should help replenish water lost to evaporation. The condition of rice was mostly rated fair to good statewide. Soybeans: Planting continued on the Blacklands, Upper Coast. Rain was helpful where received but many emerged fields were wilting in the afternoon sun. More moisture will be needed. Statewide, the condition was mostly rated fair to good. Commercial Vegetables, Fruit and Pecans In the Rio Grande Valley, onion harvest was wrapping up. Sugarcane, Valencia orange harvest continued under hot, dry conditions. In the San Antonio-Winter Garden, producers began digging potatoes. Insect problems were reported in cabbage fields. Pecans were leafing out in many areas and growers were keeping an eye on possible pecan nut casebearer problems. Irrigation was ongoing. Livestock, Range and pasture report: Pastures should respond well with the increased moisture in many locations. The weed population was expected to increase in drier locations as native grasses will need more rain to sustain growth. Supplemental feeding was slowing down for the most part but was still at a much higher rate than normal for this time of year. Cattle were in decent shape in most regions except South Texas, where resources such as feed, water were woefully short at most ranches and grazing remained inadequate. Hay continued to be trucked in from other parts of the country at a premium price. Herd liquidation continued. Sheep, angora goat shearing was ongoing. Producers were shipping lambs.

**UTAH:** Days suitable for field work 6. Subsoil 0% very short, 4% short, 87% adequate, 9% surplus. Irrigation water supplies 0% very short, 1% short, 94% adequate, 5% surplus. Winter wheat condition 0% very poor, 4% poor, 27% fair, 63% good, 6% excellent; freeze damage 80% none, 13% light, 5% moderate, 2% severe. Spring wheat 53% planted, 55% 2005, 78% avg.; 18% emerged, 11% 2005, 42% avg. Barley 45% planted, 43% 2005, 71% avg.; 7% emerged, 10% 2005, 37% avg. Oats 33% planted, 47% 2005, 56% avg.; 12% emerged, 6% 2005, 26% avg. Corn 1% planted, 1% 2005, 6% avg. Alfalfa height 5%, 4% 2005, 6% avg. Cows calved 86%, 89% 2005, 87% avg. Cattle, calves condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 8% fair, 68%

good, 23% excellent. Sheep condition 0% very poor, 0% poor, 13% fair, 79% good, 8% excellent. Range, pasture 0% very poor, 0% poor, 13% fair, 68% good, 19% excellent. Stock water supplies 0% very short, 0% short, 96% adequate, 4% surplus. Sheared on farm 83%, 72% 2005, 80% avg. Sheep sheared on range 73%, 50% 2005, 64% avg. Ewes lamb on farm 91%, 89% 2005, 86% avg. Ewes lamb on range 54%, 46% 2005, 57% avg. Apples full bloom or past 90%, 59% 2005, 50% avg. Apricots full bloom or past 88%, 97% 2005, 99% avg. Sweet cherries full bloom or past 84%, 64% 2005, 85% avg. Tart cherries full bloom or past 76%, 65% 2005, 85% avg. Peaches full bloom or past 84%, 91% 2005, 87% avg. Pears full bloom or past 85%, 93% 2005, 76% avg. Farm activity continued with a strong surge. Ranchers report that calving season has almost come to an end and sheep shearing is almost complete. The majority of producers around the state were thrilled with amount of field activity this week. Most activities this week consisted of spreading fertilizer, drilling grain fields, and planting spring crops. However, Box Elder still reports that onion growers were not able to plant and corn planting for this year has still been delayed due to wet field conditions. Fruit trees around the state are in full bloom, and only a few problems have been identified due to last week's freeze. Water supplies for this season are looking very good. The outlook as a whole looks good for livestock. Producers this week have begun branding and docking their livestock. All reports indicate that the pastures are greening up due to the warmer weather; no problems due to insects have been reported. Range sheep continue to be sheared as the weather permits.

**VIRGINIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.7. Topsoil 22% very short, 37% short, 31% adequate, 10% surplus. Subsoil 17% very short, 44% short, 38% adequate, 1% surplus. The Commonwealth welcomed some much needed rain this week. Average rainfall for the week was 1.4 inches, the average temperature was 60 degrees. Widespread rainfall was beneficial to pastures, hay fields, and emerging crops. Small grains, affected the most by March's dry conditions, are short, heading early. Pasture growth is slow but improving with moisture. Livestock producers still face feeding concerns with little remaining stored hay, a grim outlook for this year's crop. Corn is emerging nicely as planting continues. Tobacco producers have delayed planting due to dry soil, but should start planting in the week ahead. Grape producers sustained some damage from early bud development due to warm winter temperatures followed by freezing temperatures in March. Strawberry producers are getting ready for harvest. Activities Included: Shearing sheep, vaccinating cattle, fertilizing, seeding, and fencing.

**WASHINGTON:** Days suitable for field work 6.0. Topsoil 84% adequate, 16% surplus. Winter wheat, spring wheat conditions were mostly fair to excellent. Douglas County reported that snow mold damage to winter wheat is becoming apparent as the weather warms up. Potato planting continued. Oyster harvesting was in full swing with lower production reported in certain areas of Willapa Bay. Fruit is in bloom, including apples, raspberries, strawberries, cherries, pears, and blueberries. Asparagus harvest was in full swing and Daffodil and Tulip harvest continued. Range, pasture conditions 1% poor, 60% fair, 36% good, 3% excellent. Pastures continued to green up but some were still too wet to use. Availability of hay is scarce causing some producers to release cattle to pastures before they are ready. Supplemental feeding continued as hay stocks declined.

**WEST VIRGINIA:** Days suitable for field work 4.0. Topsoil 7% short, 86% adequate, 7% surplus compared with 9% short, 83% adequate, 8% surplus last year. Intended acreage prepared for spring 61% planting, 61% 2005, 54% 5-yr avg. Hay, roughage supplies 3% very short, 24% short, 70% adequate, 3% surplus compared with 1% very short, 4% short, 86% adequate, 9% surplus 2005. Feed grain supplies 2% very short, 5% short, 93% adequate compared to 2% short, 97% adequate, 1% surplus this time last year. Apple conditions 10% poor, 40% fair, 40% good, 10% excellent. Peach conditions 10% poor, 40% fair, 40% good, 10% excellent. Hay 11% very poor, 12% poor, 34% fair, 42% good, 1% excellent. Winter Wheat conditions 2% poor, 26% fair, 72% good; 2% headed, 1% 2005, 1% 5-yr avg. Oats 41% planted, 54% 2005, 47% 5-yr avg.; 27% emerged, 19% 2005, 19% 5-yr avg. Corn 12% planted, 14% 2005, 9% 5-yr

avg. Cattle, calves 1% very poor, 2% poor, 14% fair, 79% good, 4% excellent. Calving 88% complete, compared to 89% last year, 89% 5-year average. Sheep, lambs 1% poor, 13% fair, 83% good, 3% excellent. Lambing 95% complete, compared to 87% last year, 90% 5-year average. Activities Included: Debris clean up, equipment repair, feeding livestock, planting, fertilizing, cultivating fields. Planting has slowed in some parts of the state due to wet field conditions.

**WISCONSIN:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Soil 4% very short, 25% short, 64% adequate, 7% surplus. Corn 5% planted, compared to last year's 6%, 2% 5-year average. Mild weather continued during the week, creating good field conditions for oat planting, spring tillage. Average temperatures were 6 to 8° above normal. Temperatures reached the 70s during the week, while average high temperatures were in the 60s. Average low temperatures were in the 40s across the state. Rainfall totals last week ranged from 0.16 in Green Bay to 1.59 inches in Madison. Farmers across the state took advantage of the warm weather to get some corn in the ground. Rains in southwestern counties have slowed planting progress. Northern producers have been able to plant on lighter soils. Soil temperatures have been slow to warm, causing concern for some growers. Planting progress is expected to intensify this week. Oats 56% planted complete, above last year's average of 48%, 35% 5-yr avg.; 3% emerged below last year's 9% and the 5-year average of 5 percent. Assisted by mild weather, oat seeding progress advanced rapidly during the week. Early-planted oats are beginning to emerge in central, southern areas of the state. Spring tillage 27% complete, compared to last year's 34% 23% 5-year average. Tillage progress increased 18 percent this week. Substantial progress was made in the northern districts during the week. Minimal rainfall in this area has allowed many farmers to get equipment into fields. Alfalfa, winter wheat look good with no evidence of significant winterkill damage. Alfalfa seeding has been completed in many parts of the state. Pasture feed conditions 2% very poor, 13% poor, 35% fair, 39% good, 11% excellent. As conditions improve, additional cattle are being pastured. Potatoes were being planted in central, west central counties. Planting progress has advanced rapidly, with many areas ahead of schedule. There were reports of some sweet corn being planted last week. Peas, carrots were planted in central, eastern areas. Cranberry producers had a frost watch during the week.

**WYOMING:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.1. Topsoil 5% very short, 42% short, 51% adequate, and 2% surplus. Temperatures during the week ending Friday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, were above normal across the State with exceptions in the Southwest. Averages ranged from 2.4 degrees below normal in Evanston to 6.9 degrees above normal in Wheatland. The high temperature was 80 in Newcastle, Redbird, and Wheatland while the low was 12 in Big Piney. Precipitation varied across the State with only scattered stations reporting above normal precipitation mostly in the Northeast which had heavy snow. The most precipitation was reported in Sundance with 2.65 inches, Newcastle with 1.70 inches, and Lander with 0.69 inches. Many stations in the southeast reported only a trace to no precipitation at all. Irrigation water supplies 7% very short, 10% short, 76% adequate, and 7% surplus. Barley planted 69%, 2005 72%, 5-year average 72%. Barley emerged 30%, 2005 23%, 5-year average 27%. Oats planted 28%, 2005 44%, 5-year average 33%. Oats emerged 6%, 2005 11%, 5-year average 8%. Spring wheat planted 23%, 2005 39%, 5-year average 37%. Spring wheat emerged 2%, 2005 7%, 5-year average 8%. Winter wheat jointed 3%, 2005 2%, 5-year average 2%. Corn planted 1%, 2005 0%, 5-year average 5%. Sugarbeets planted 67%, 2005 71%, 5-year average 51%. Sugarbeets emerged 2%, 2005 1%, 5-year average 2%. Winter wheat condition 2% poor, 27% fair, and 71% good. Spring calves born 83%, 2005 83%, 5-year average 83%. Farm flock ewes lambed 82%, 2005 87%, 5-year average 86%. Farm flock sheep shorn 84%, 2005 90%, 5-year average 86%. Range flock ewes lambed 25%, 2005 28%, 5-year average 25%. Range flock sheep shorn 50%, 2005 59%, 5-year average 56%. Calf and lamb losses light to mostly normal. Range and pasture conditions 2% very poor, 11% poor, 45% fair, and 42% good

# International Weather and Crop Summary

April 16 - 22, 2006

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

## HIGHLIGHTS

**FSU-WESTERN:** Above-normal temperatures were accompanied by generally dry weather in most of Ukraine and Russia, helping fieldwork and spurring winter grain growth.

**EUROPE:** Early-week rain exacerbated flooding in central and southeastern Europe, while locally heavy showers boosted topsoil moisture for vegetative winter grains in northern Germany.

**EASTERN ASIA:** Light showers prevailed in the Yangtze Valley, but more rain is needed on the North China Plain.

**SOUTHEAST ASIA:** Monsoon activity remained concentrated over Sumatra and the rest of Indonesia, while Indochina awaits the start of their rainy season.

**NORTHWESTERN AFRICA:** Scattered light showers returned to the region, although moisture arrived too late to benefit maturing winter grains.

**SOUTH AFRICA:** Showers kept maturing corn unfavorably wet in the western corn belt, but rainfall was overall favorable for the upcoming winter wheat crop.

**CANADA:** Across the Prairies, preparations were underway for spring grain and oilseed planting.

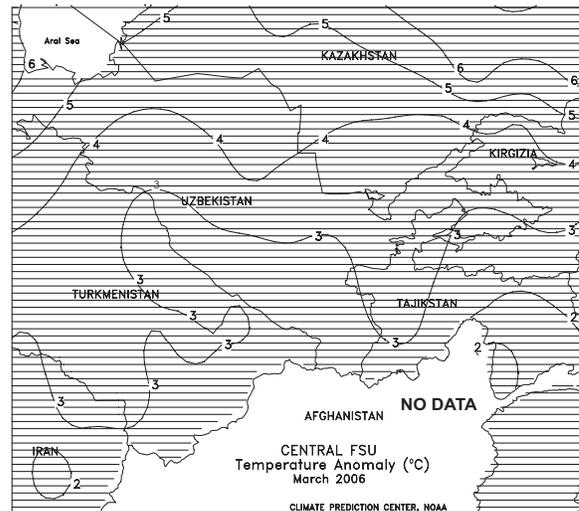
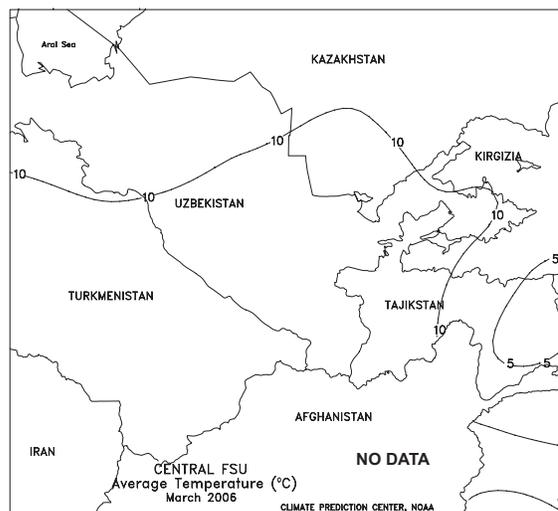
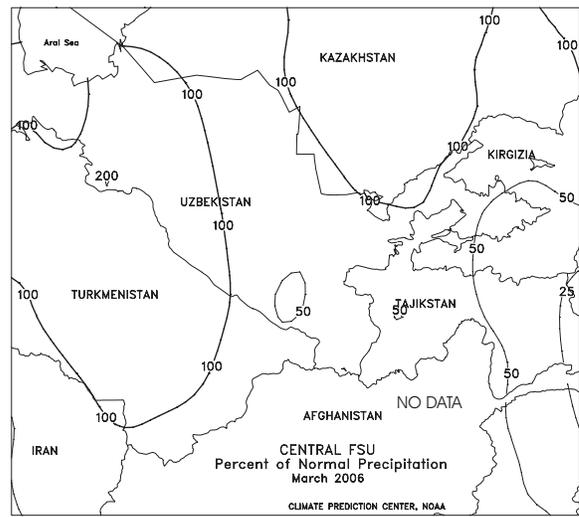
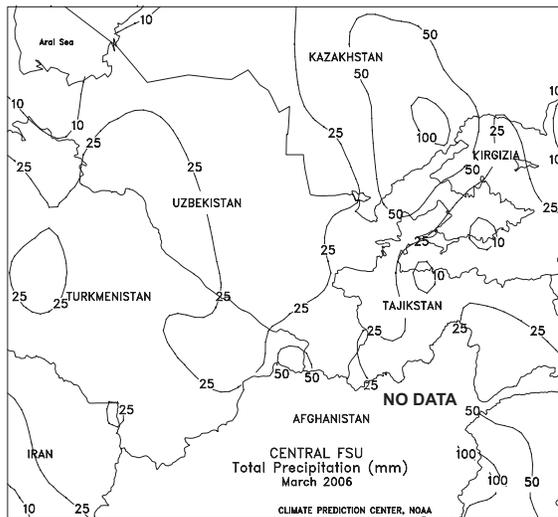
**MEXICO:** Warmth and dryness promoted the maturation and harvest of winter grains.

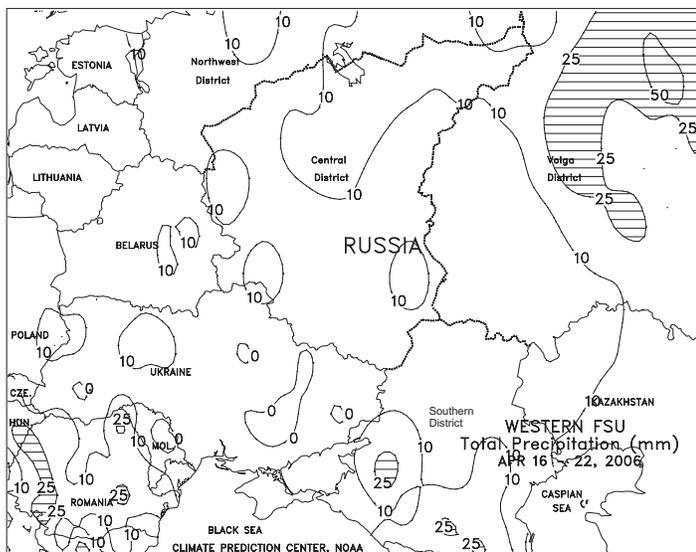
**AUSTRALIA:** Scattered, light showers caused only brief delays in summer crop harvesting, but provided little additional topsoil moisture for upcoming winter grain planting.

**MIDDLE EAST:** Widespread showers favored vegetative to reproductive winter grains in eastern growing areas.

**BRAZIL:** Mostly dry weather promoted soybean harvesting in the center-south.

**ARGENTINA:** Dry weather aided summer crop harvesting.



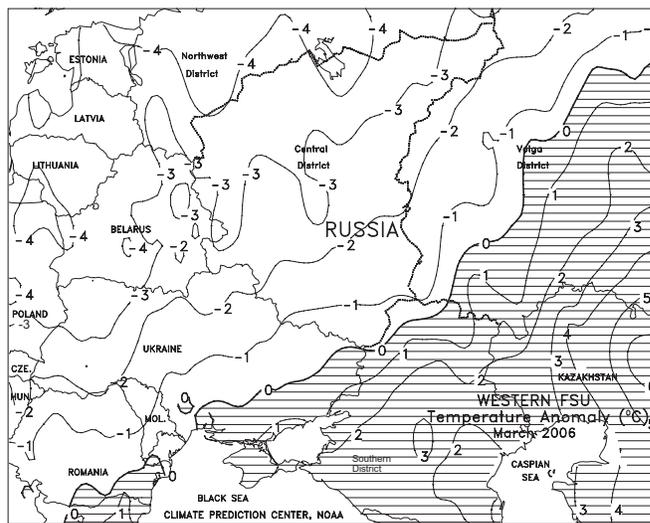
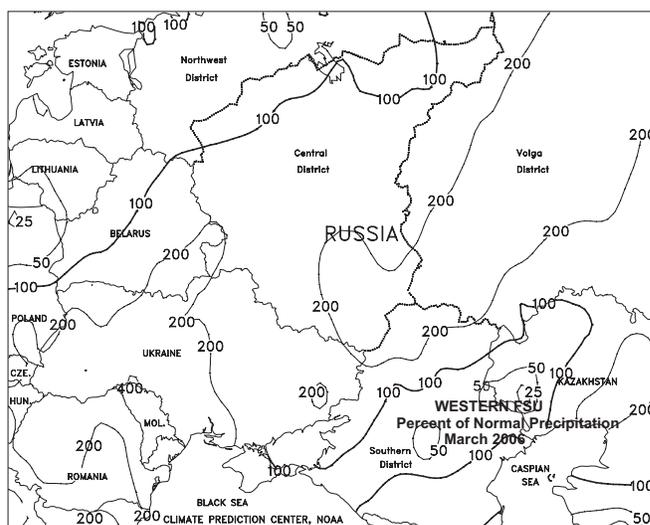


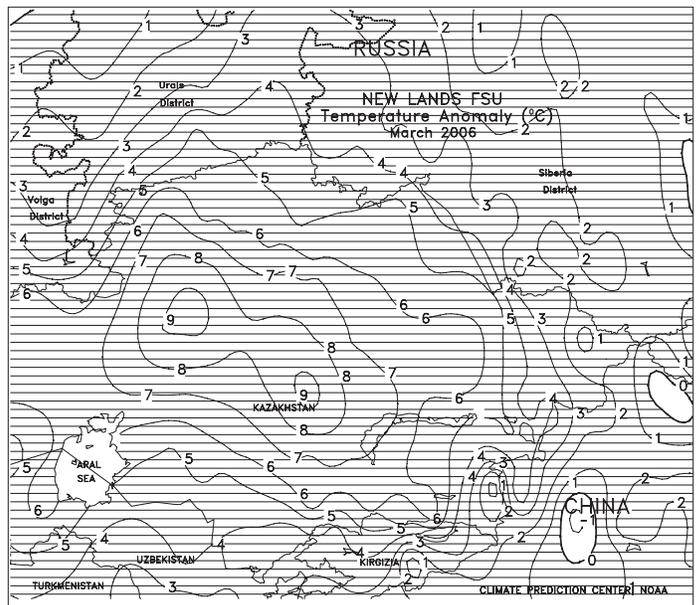
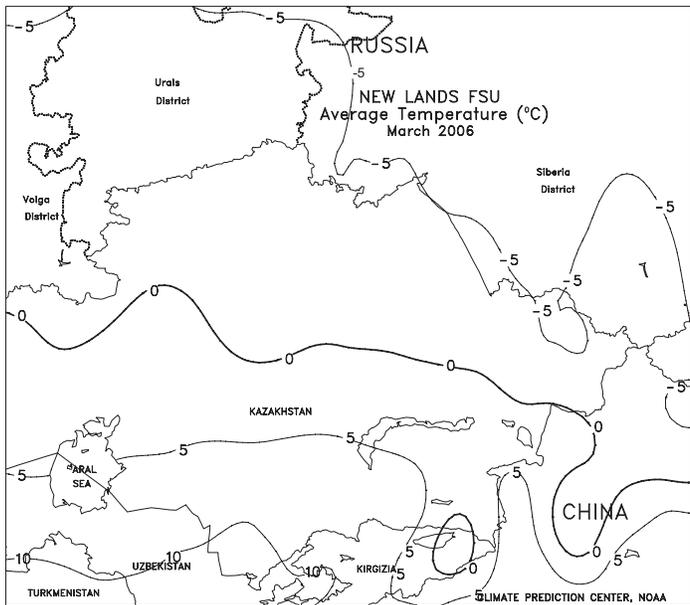
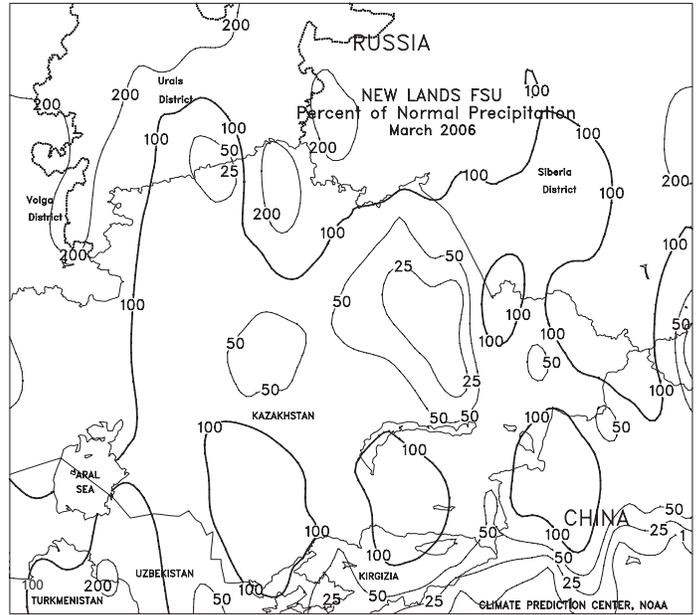
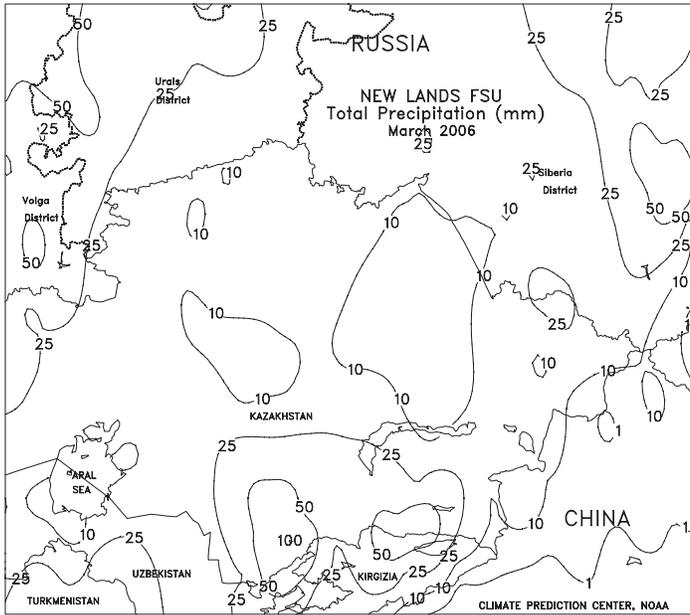
**FSU-WESTERN**

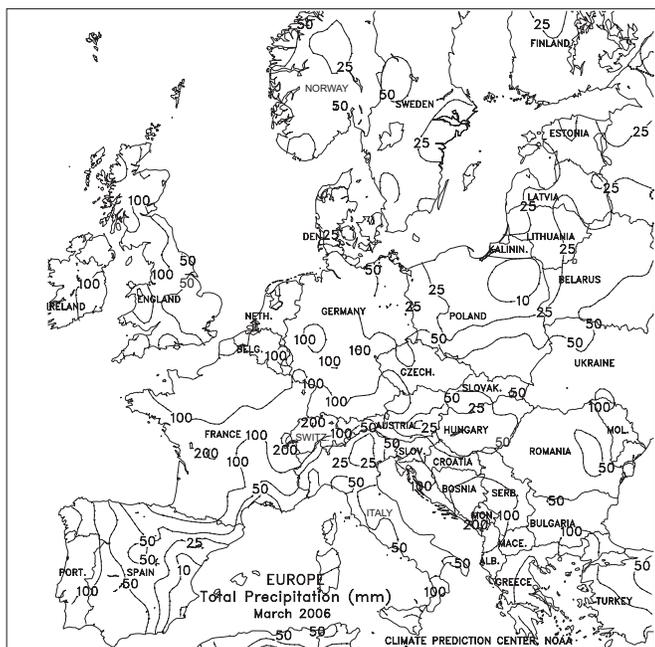
Above-normal temperatures were accompanied by several days of dryness in Ukraine and the Southern District in Russia, helping fieldwork for spring grain, sugar beet, and sunflower planting. Weekly temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C above normal across most of the region, spurring winter grain growth. Winter grains were mostly jointing in Ukraine and the Southern District in Russia and were greening across most of northern Russia. Most locations recorded daytime highs that ranged from 15 to 20 degrees C on several days during the week. In major cotton growing areas of Central Asia, seasonable temperatures and mostly dry weather favored cotton planting.

In March, several storm systems brought above-normal precipitation to Ukraine and the Central and Volga Districts in Russia. More than twice the normal amount of precipitation was recorded in the western half of Ukraine and the Volga District in Russia. In Ukraine, snow was accompanied by unseasonably cold weather during the first half of the month, maintaining snow cover later than usual and delaying early spring fieldwork. A gradual warming trend overspread Ukraine during the second half of the month, melting most of the snow cover and raising

soil temperatures in southernmost areas to favorable levels for spring grain planting. Winter grains remained dormant throughout most of Ukraine during the month. In Russia, unseasonably mild weather prevailed throughout most of the Southern District in March. Monthly temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C above normal, prompting greening of winter grains at near-normal dates and raising soil temperatures to favorable levels for spring grain planting. Furthermore, periods of dry weather favored fieldwork. Farther north, winter grains in northern Russia (Central and Volga Districts) continued to overwinter under a moderate to deep snow cover. Although monthly temperatures averaged 1 to 4 degrees C below normal across northern Russia, daytime highs frequently ranged above freezing during the second half of the month, causing some gradual snow melt.







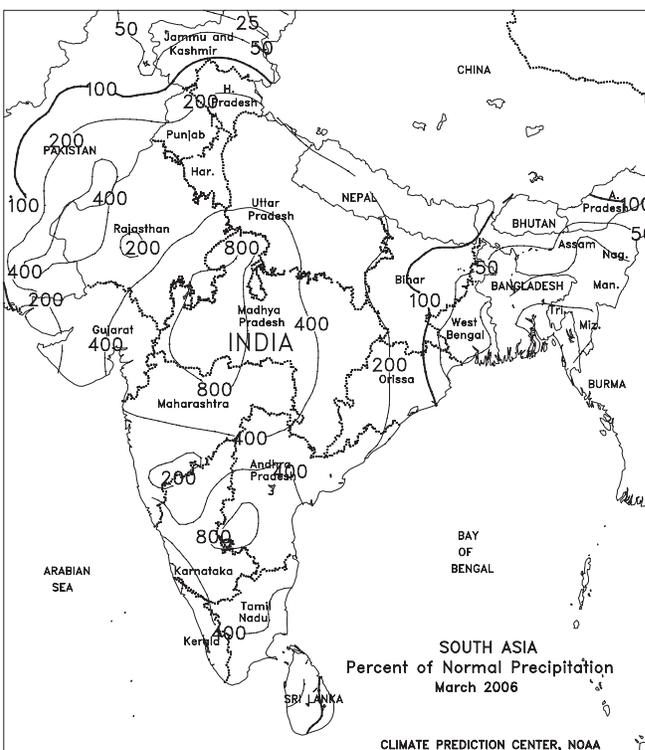
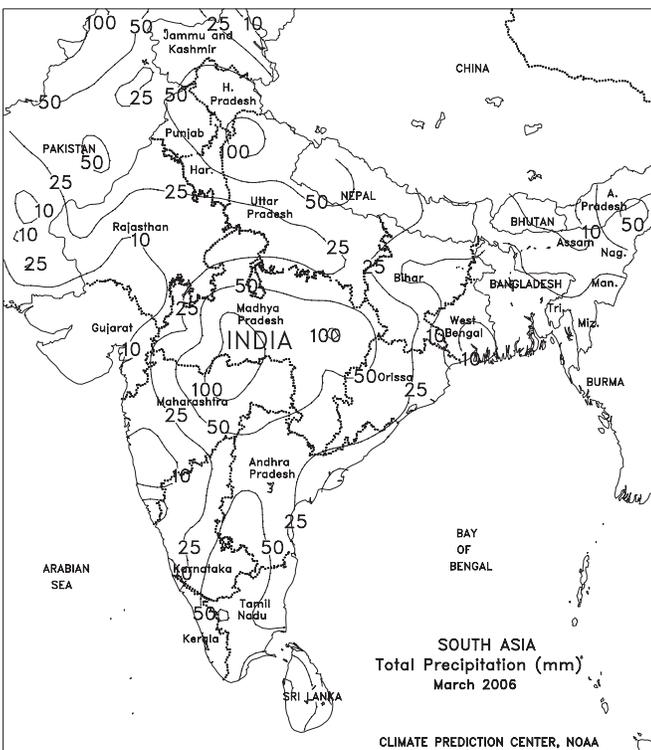
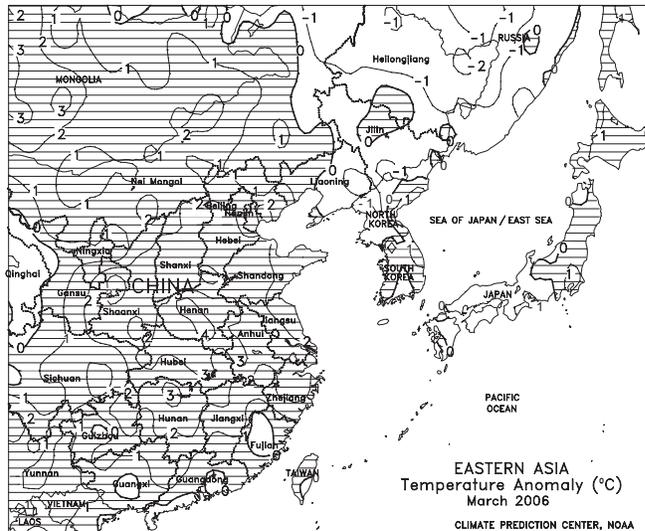
EUROPE

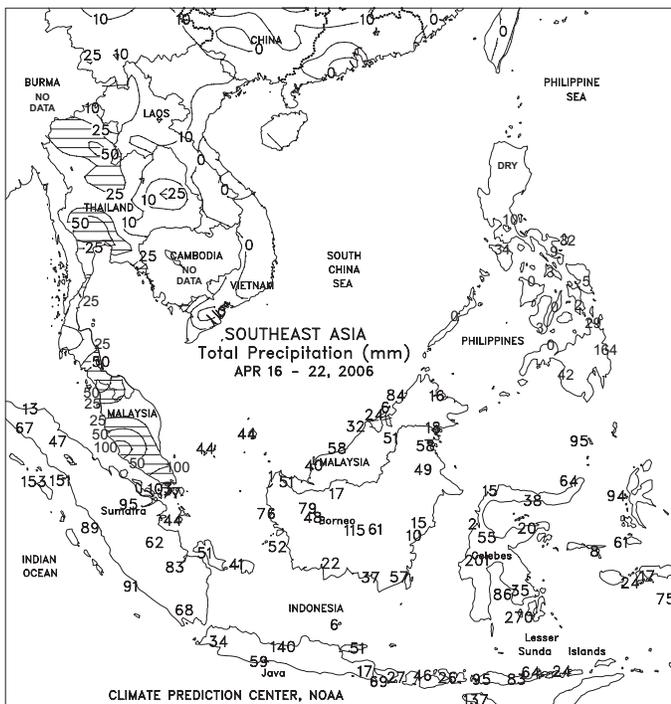
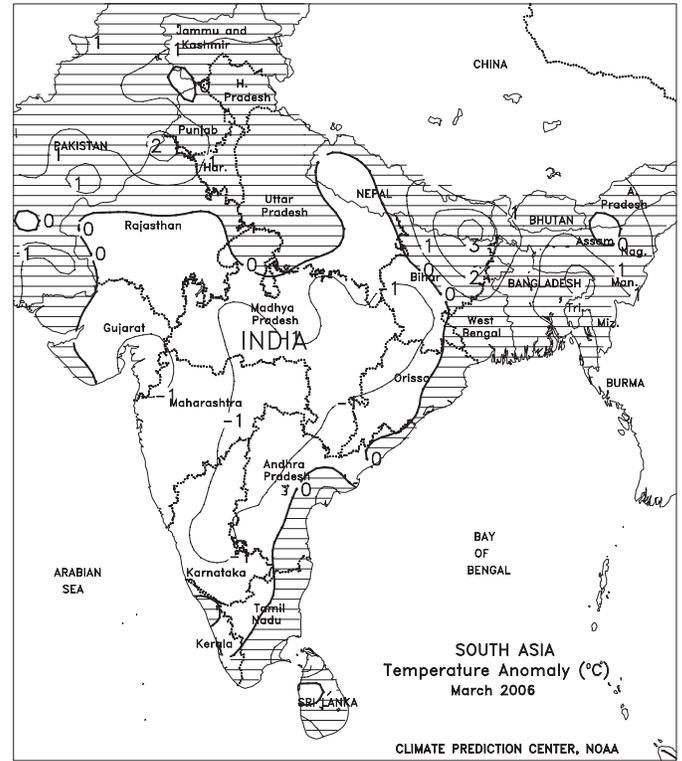
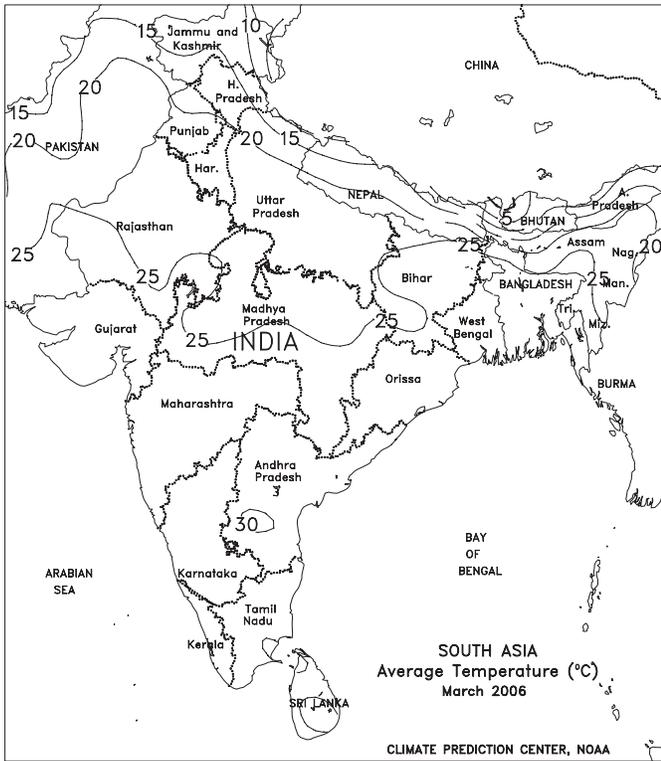
Widespread showers accompanied increasing warmth across much of Europe. In the Balkans, moderate to heavy rain (10-50 mm) maintained widespread flooding along the Danube River and its tributaries, submerging fields and damaging infrastructure. However, a much-needed respite by week's end allowed river levels to recede and flood-recovery efforts to begin, especially in the hardest-hit areas of Romania, Serbia, and Bulgaria. Farther north, scattered light showers (1-10 mm) in northeastern Europe did little to alleviate increasing moisture shortages. In the Baltics, precipitation deficits since September 1 have reached 175 mm (50 to 66 percent of normal), highlighting the need for rain during the upcoming weeks for vegetative winter grains. In contrast, locally heavy rain (10-40 mm) in northern Germany and the Low Countries slowed summer crop planting but maintained favorable moisture supplies for vegetative to heading winter grains. Dry weather in southern England and western France promoted summer crop planting, while widespread showers (5-60 mm) on the Iberian Peninsula maintained favorable prospects for vegetative to reproductive winter grains.

In March, above-normal precipitation across much of the continent maintained adequate to abundant moisture supplies for winter grains, although a band of persistent heavy rain from central France eastward into southeastern Europe delayed fieldwork and caused local flooding. However, dry weather in Poland and the Baltics reduced topsoil moisture for winter grains, which remained dormant later than normal due to a persistent deep snow pack. In fact, unseasonably cold weather slowed crop development across much of central and eastern Europe, with near- to above-normal temperatures confined to the Iberian Peninsula.





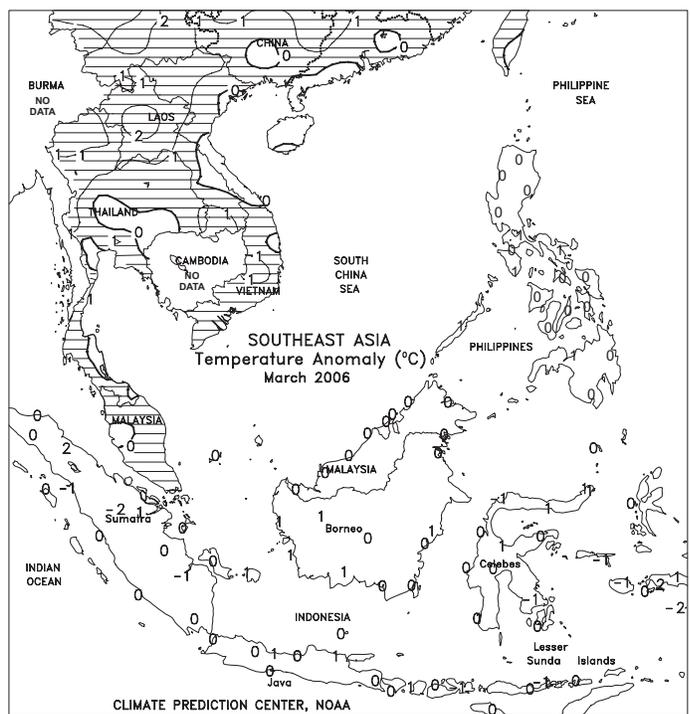
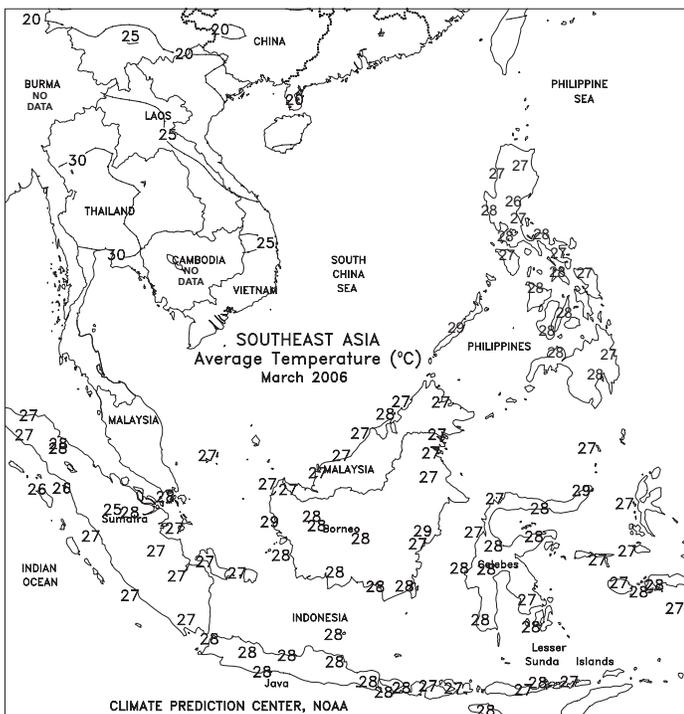
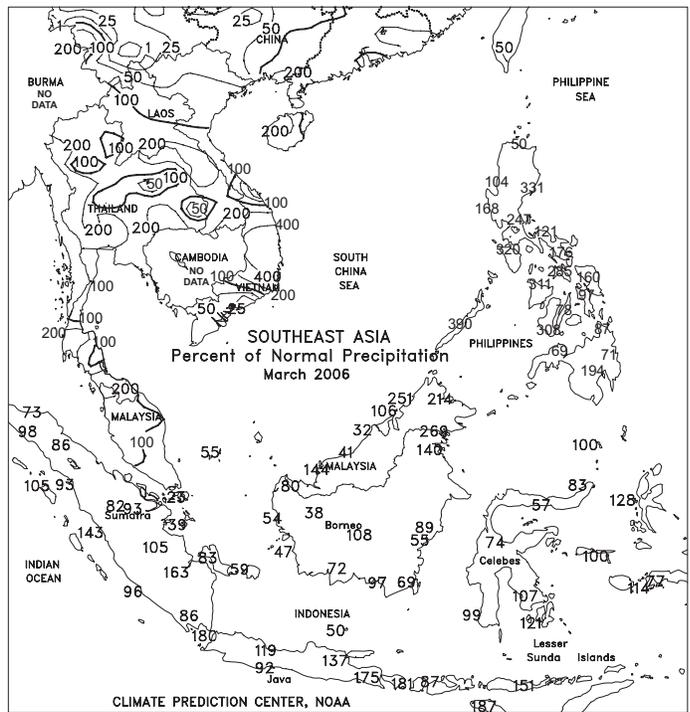
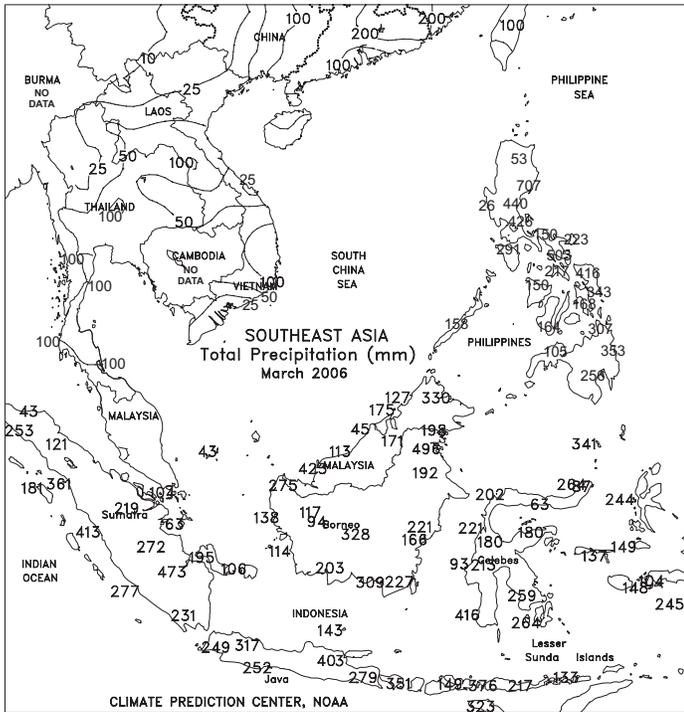


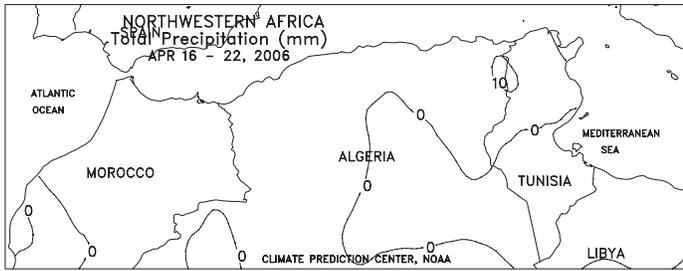


**SOUTHEAST ASIA**

Monsoon showers continued to be centered over Sumatra, bringing totals between 50-100 mm. The showers slowed oil palm harvesting and likely hampered the reproductive cycle of the trees. Rainfall (25-100 mm) continued to linger in Java, slowing the ongoing main-season rice harvest. Pre-monsoon showers (10-50 mm) continued in western Thailand, increasing soil moisture for corn planting. Seasonably dry pre-monsoon weather continued in Vietnam, where rainfall typically begins in May. Dry weather prevailed in the Philippines with showers confined to Mindanao.

In March, seasonably heavy showers in Java benefited reproductive rice but hampered ripening by month's end. Above-normal precipitation caused flooding as well as oil palm harvesting delays in Sumatra and Malaysia. In the Philippines, heavy showers caused flooding throughout the east and south. Monsoon showers arrived in southern Thailand by the end of the month.

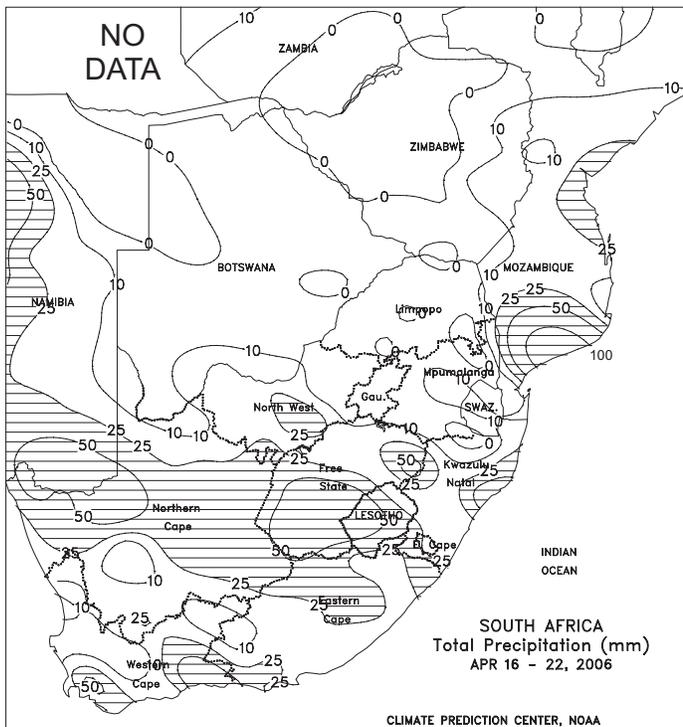
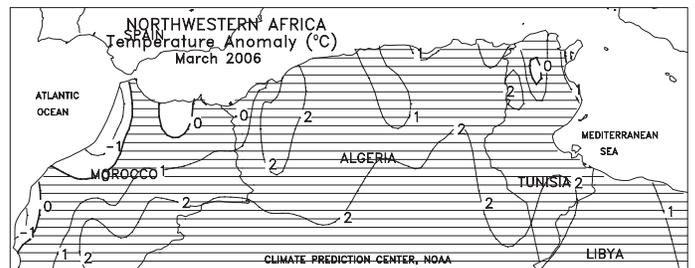
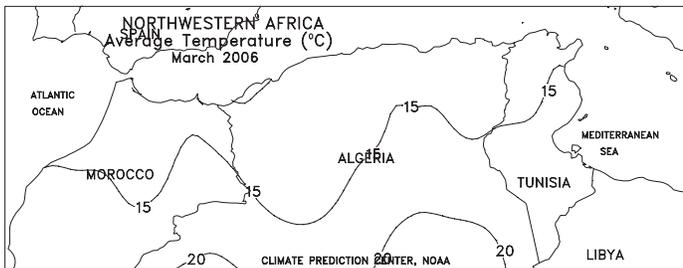
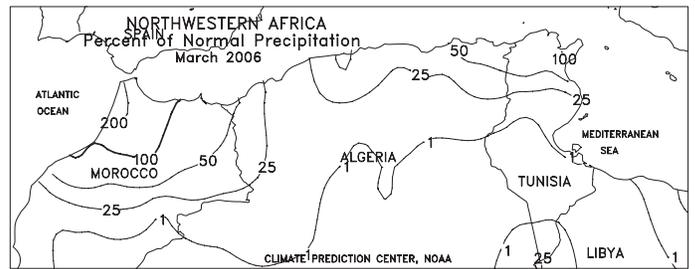
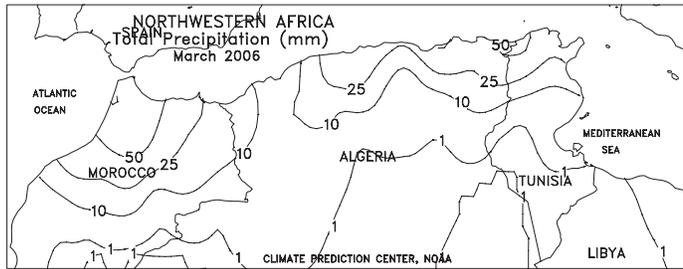




**NORTHWESTERN AFRICA**

Scattered light showers signaled an end of the recent spell of unfavorable dryness. An upper air disturbance west of the Iberian Peninsula drifted south, triggering light showers (less than 10 mm) over central Morocco. However, most winter grains have reached maturity in Morocco, minimizing the benefit of the late-season rain. Farther east, where crops are slightly behind in development due to a cooler-than-normal winter, light to moderate showers (2-15 mm) provided beneficial moisture for filling winter grains. By April 24, rain intensity had increased across much of the region as the storm system stalled (*more information will appear in next week's Bulletin*).

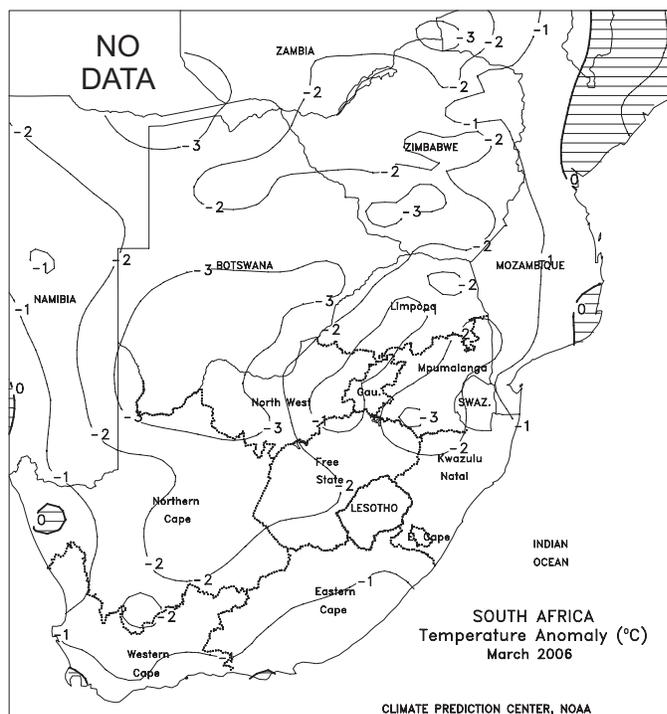
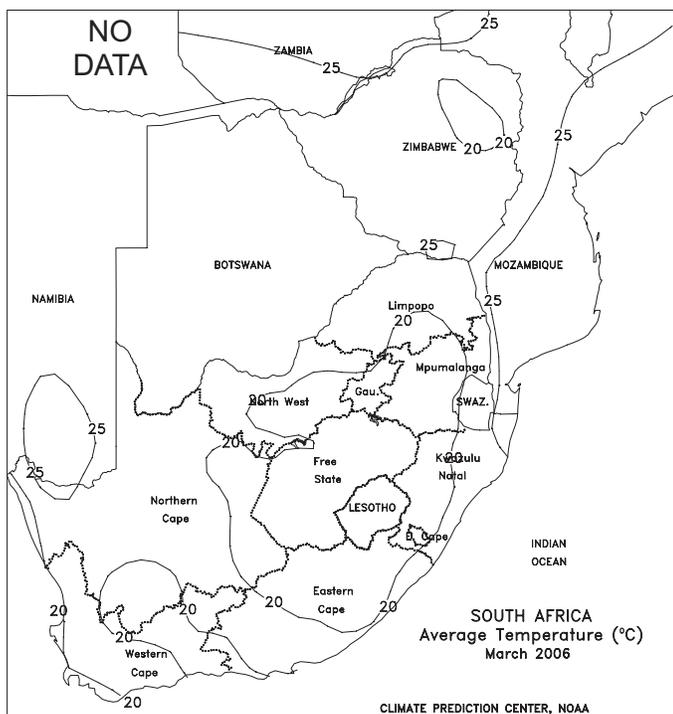
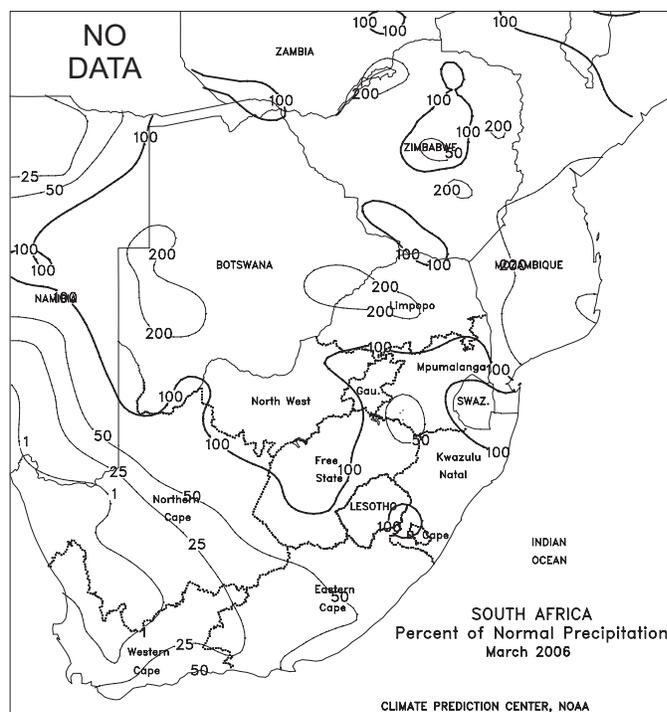
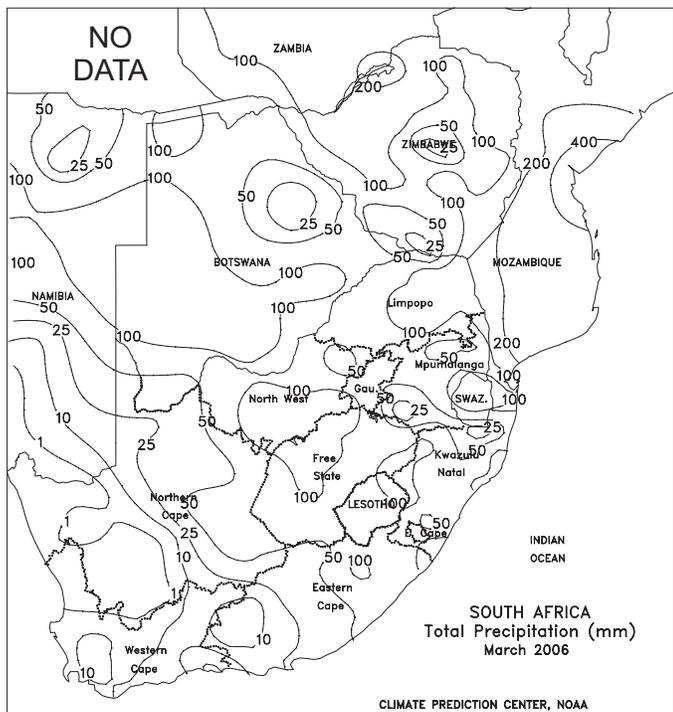
After a favorably wet winter, drier-than-normal weather in March stressed reproductive winter grains across Tunisia, Algeria, and the southern two-thirds of Morocco. In contrast, above-normal rainfall in northern Morocco maintained adequate topsoil moisture for reproductive winter grains. A brief excursion of heat further stressed winter grains in southern Morocco and northern portions of Algeria and Tunisia, although the duration of the event was confined to two days or less in most areas. Despite the unfavorable dry weather in March, winter grains prospects remain well ahead of last year's drought and heat afflicted crop.

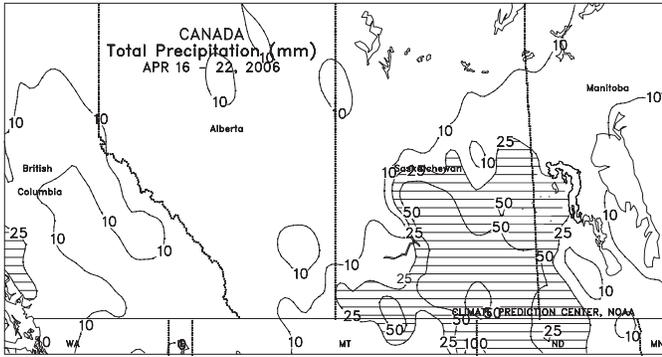


**SOUTH AFRICA**

Showers (10-55 mm) kept maturing summer crops wet in western and southern sections of the corn belt but drier weather dominated key northern and eastern areas (including Guteng, Mpumalanga, and neighboring locations of North West and Free State). Near-normal temperatures (highs in the lower and middle 20s degrees C, with lows from the high single digits to the low teens) fostered late-season crop development across the region. Although cloudy skies continued to slow maturation of late-planted summer crops in western growing areas, this region typically does not experience the first autumn freeze until the latter part of May, so damage from an early autumn freeze remains relatively low. Elsewhere, scattered showers (10-25 mm or more) slowed autumn fieldwork in KwaZulu-Natal and large sections of Eastern and Northern Cape. In Western Cape, late-season rain (10-20 mm or more) provided much-needed moisture for germination and establishment of winter wheat.

In March, wet weather kept late-planted summer crops well watered in western sections of the corn belt, but the continuation of below-normal temperatures (1-3 degrees C below normal) compounded delays in crop development. March weather was overall favorable for filling to maturing summer crops elsewhere.

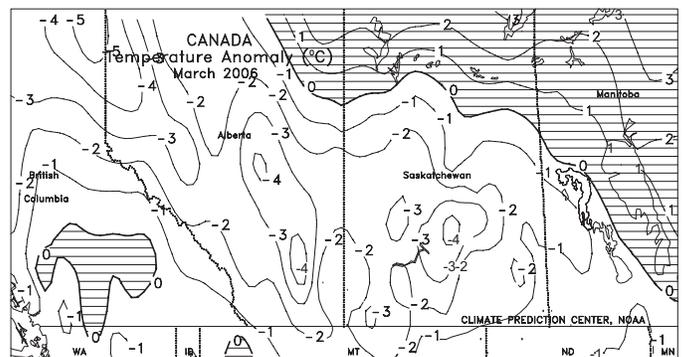
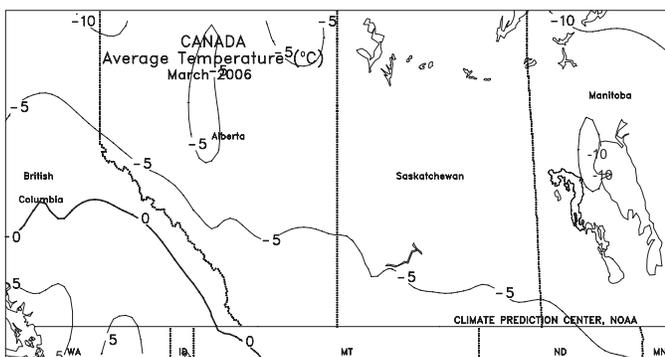
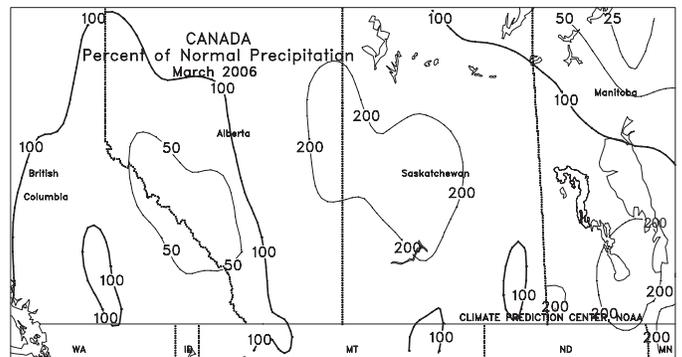
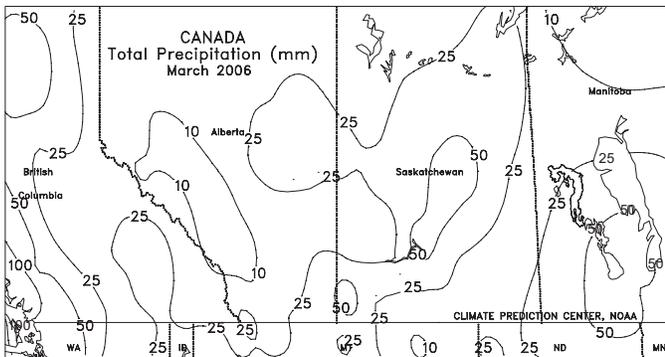




**CANADA**

On the Prairies, rain (10-25 mm or more) covered much of Saskatchewan, increasing moisture for germination of spring grains and oilseeds but hampering spring fieldwork. Mostly dry weather prevailed elsewhere, however, enabling some early field preparations ahead of planting. Above-normal temperatures (3-5 degrees C, with highs reaching the middle 20s degrees C and lows generally staying above freezing) helped to warm topsoils for early-sown crops in Manitoba, while drier weather allowed stream levels to subside in the Red River Valley. Nearly all Prairie crop areas are free of snow cover, with recent mild conditions fostering growth of pastures and winter grains. In eastern Canada, late-week showers (5-10 mm, locally more) boosted topsoil moisture for winter wheat, which is easing out of dormancy in Ontario.

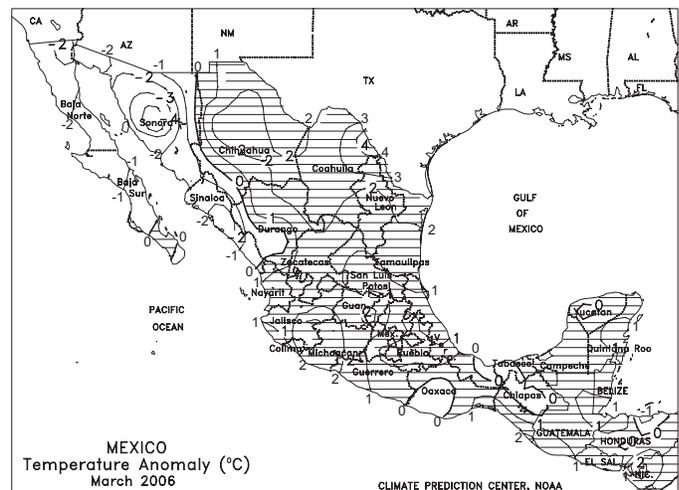
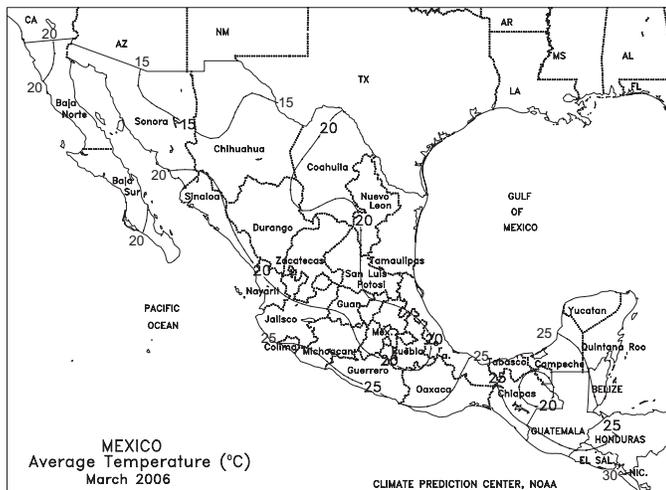
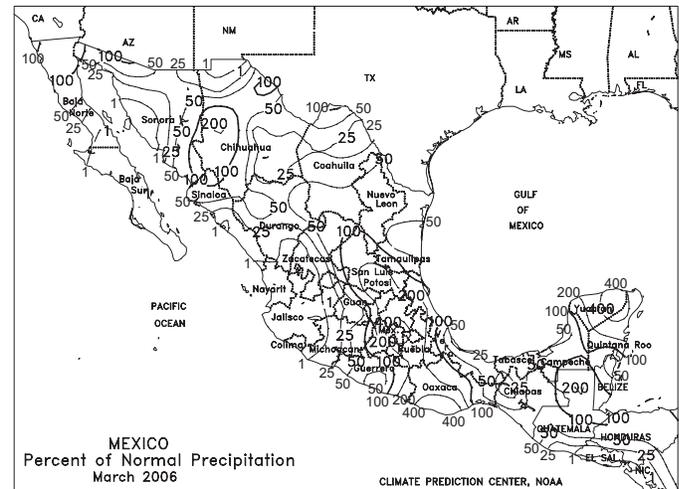
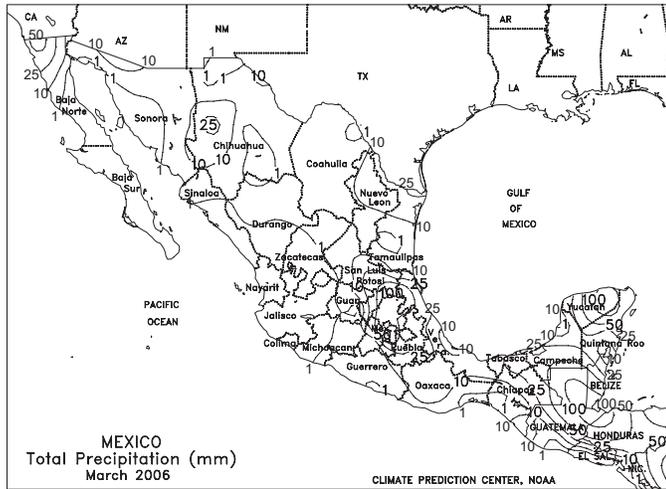
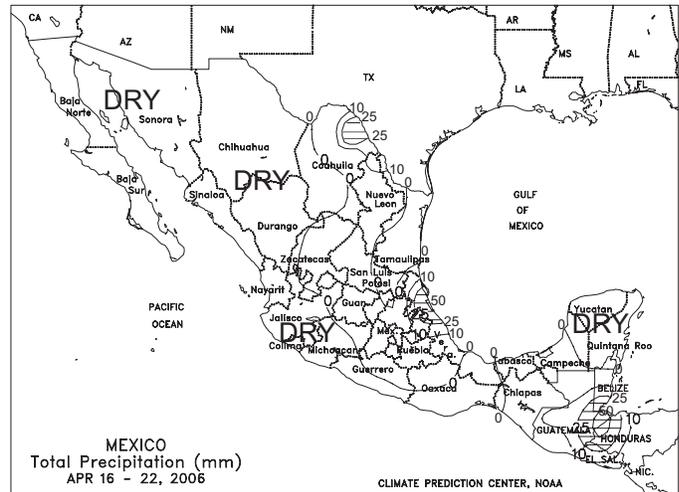
During March, near- to above-normal precipitation helped to increase Prairie topsoil moisture reserves, although high river flows raised concern for potential flooding in the east. Temperatures averaged near to below normal for the month. Farther east, mild, showery weather favored dormant winter wheat.

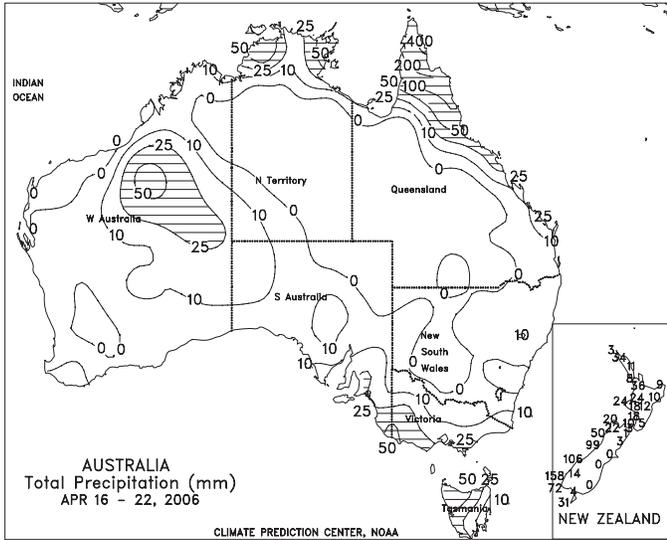


MEXICO

Mostly dry, warmer-than-normal weather (temperatures averaging 3-5 degrees above normal, with highs in the 30s degrees C) fostered maturation and harvesting of winter wheat, sorghum, and corn in all major growing areas. Winter grain harvesting typically peaks in May and June.

During March, scattered showers increased moisture for non-irrigated crops in the northwest (in and around northern Sinaloa) and sections of the east (Oaxaca to Nuevo Leon, with rainfall exceeding 25 mm over a broad area between Guanajuato and Veracruz), but dry, unseasonably warm weather maintained high crop moisture demands elsewhere.

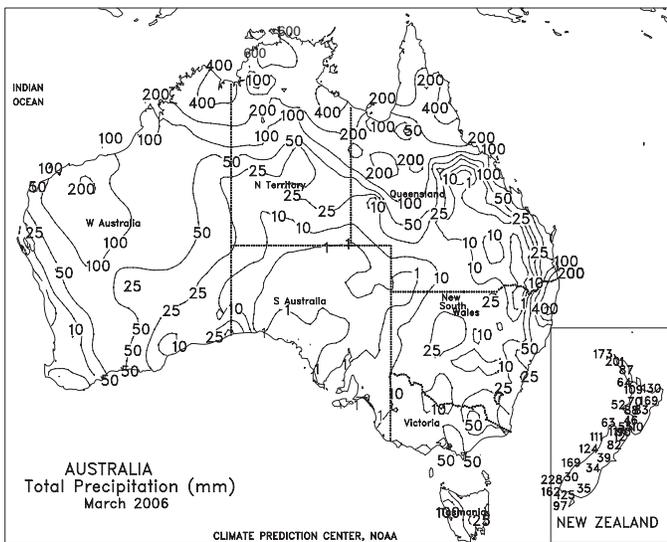


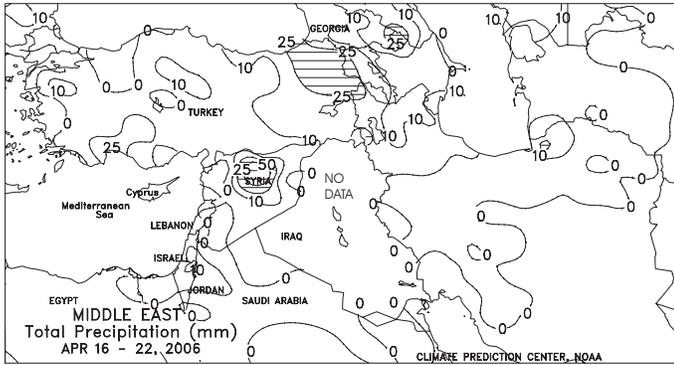


**AUSTRALIA**

For the second consecutive week, scattered, light showers (generally less than 5 mm) in southern Queensland and northern New South Wales caused only brief delays in cotton and sorghum harvesting, but provided little additional topsoil moisture for winter grain planting. Similarly, scattered, mostly light showers (generally less than 5 mm, locally more) in southern New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, and Western Australia favored fieldwork, but limited topsoil moisture for upcoming winter wheat and barley planting. Most winter grain planting is typically accomplished in May, June, and early July in Australia. Temperatures in western and southeastern Australia averaged about 1 to 3 degrees C below normal, while unseasonably warm weather (temperatures about 2 degrees C above normal) in major summer crop areas maintained crop quality.

In March, below-normal rainfall and seasonably warm weather favored summer crop maturation and harvesting in northern New South Wales and southern Queensland. On March 20, severe Tropical Cyclone Larry made landfall in northern Queensland, causing significant local damage to sugarcane and banana trees.

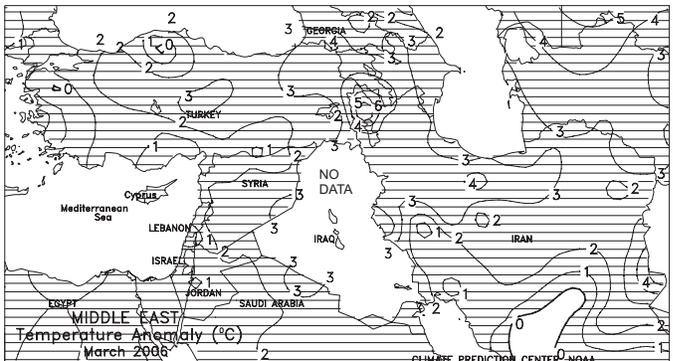
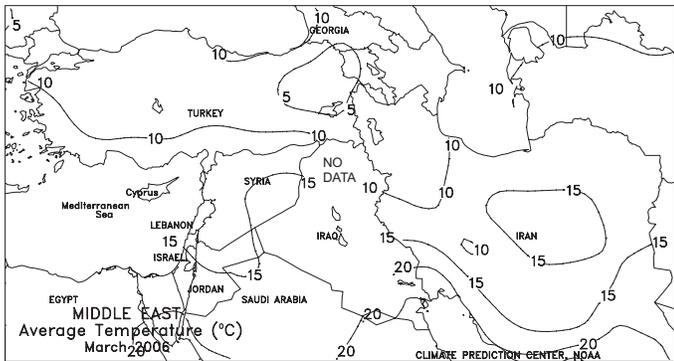
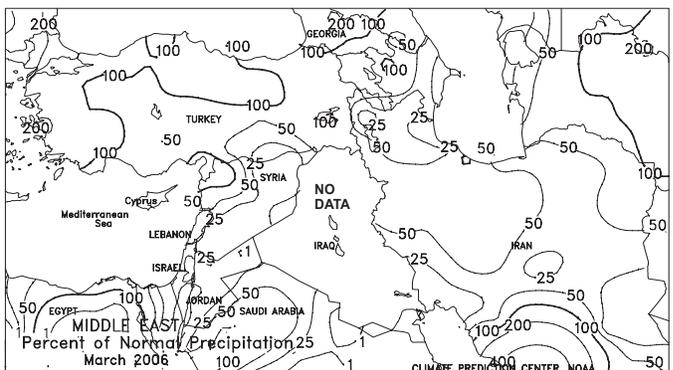
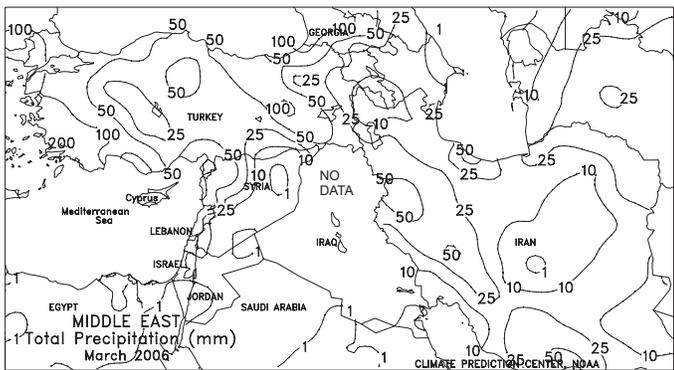




**MIDDLE EAST**

Widespread showers persisted in eastern growing areas, while mostly dry weather returned elsewhere. A series of upper air disturbances triggered widespread showers and thunderstorms (10-50 mm, locally heavier amounts estimated by satellite imagery) in eastern Syria, northern Iraq, and western Iran. The rainfall benefited vegetative to heading winter grains, but slowed cotton planting. Farther west, mostly dry weather across western Turkey and along the eastern Mediterranean coast favored cotton planting but reduced moisture for vegetative to heading winter grains.

In March, unfavorably dry weather in the eastern half of the region depleted moisture reserves and stressed vegetative to reproductive winter grains. Above-normal rainfall in western and northern Turkey benefited winter grains but caused local flooding in western-most growing areas. Warmer-than-normal conditions across much of the region accelerated winter grain development.



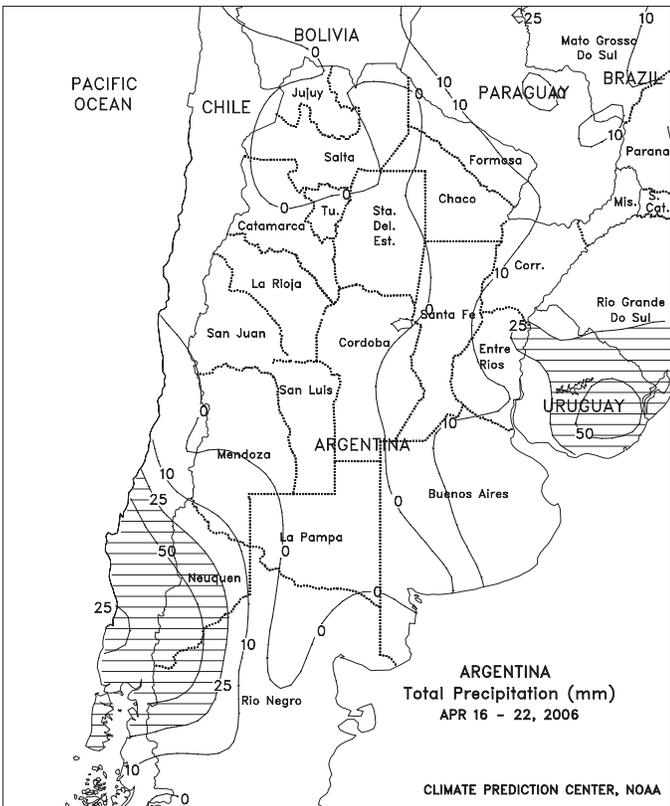


**BRAZIL**

Mostly dry weather aided harvesting of soybeans and other summer crops in Brazil's center-west and southern regions, although late-week showers (10 mm or greater) disrupted fieldwork from Mato Grosso to Rio Grande do Sul. Elsewhere, locally heavy showers (25-50 mm, locally exceeding 100 mm) increased moisture for immature crops in the northeastern interior and scattered, lighter rain (10-25 mm) continued in coffee, sugarcane, and cocoa areas along the eastern coast. According to private analyst Safras e Mercados, soybeans were 79 percent harvested as of April 21, compared with 86 percent last year and the 5-year average pace of 82 percent.

During March, heavy rain hampered soybean harvesting in Brazil's center-west region, but showers during the latter half of March increased moisture for immature soybeans in the south and northeast. Beneficial rain fell in previously dry coffee, sugarcane, and cocoa regions along Brazil's northeast coast.

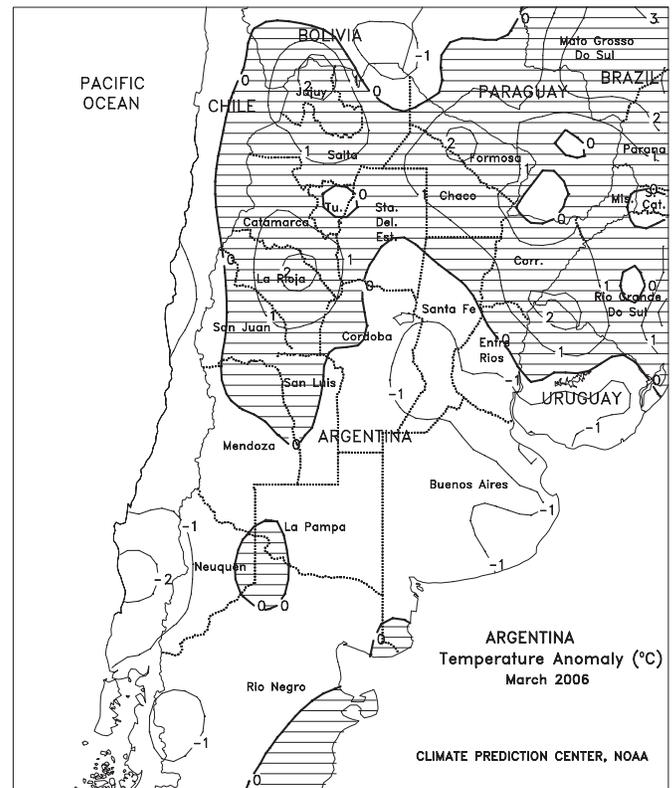
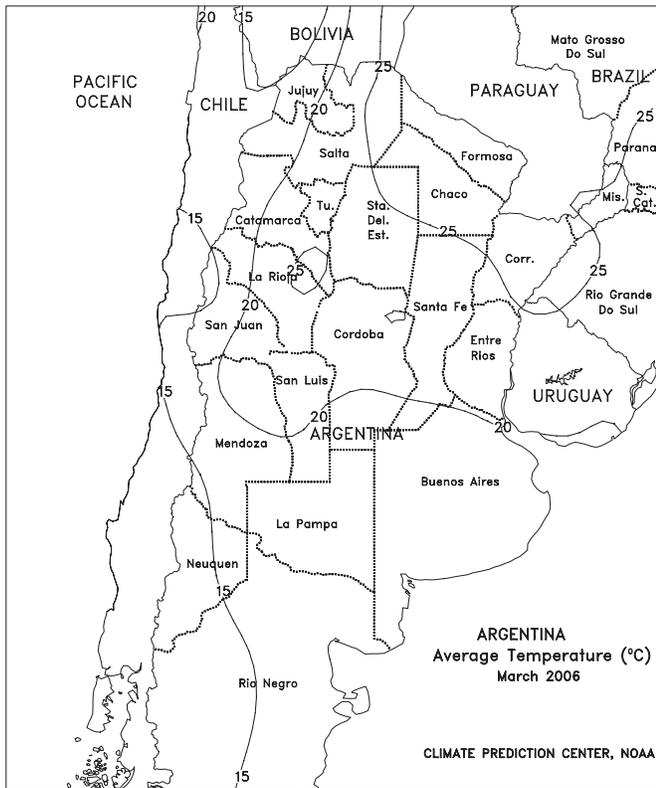
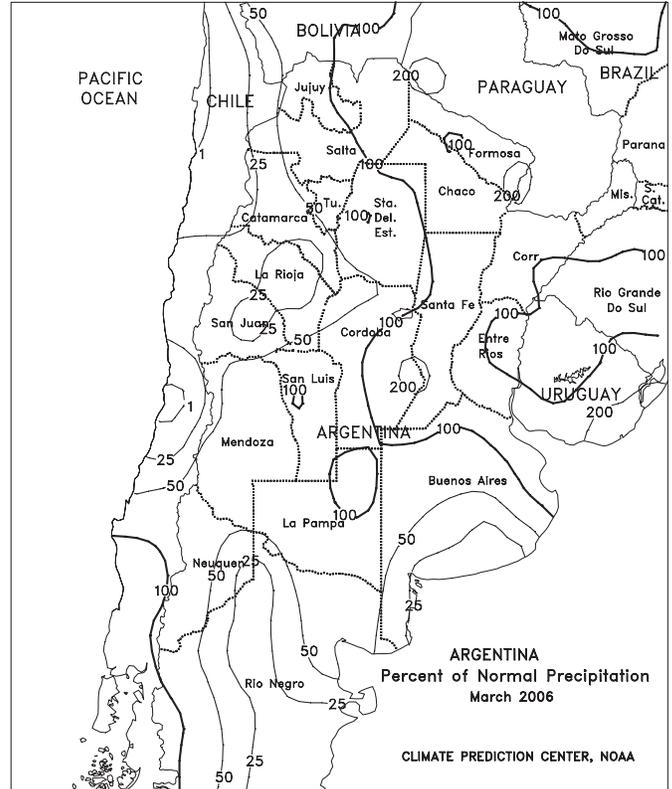
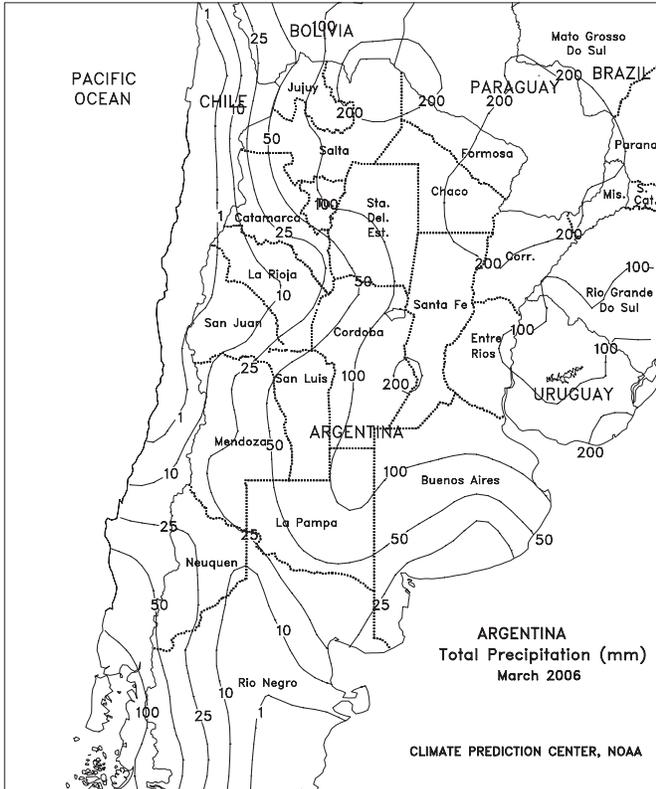




**ARGENTINA**

Dry weather promoted harvesting of summer grains and oilseeds throughout central Argentina for much of the week. Temperatures averaged near to slightly below normal, with freezing temperatures hastening dry down and maturation in parts of La Pampa and Buenos Aires. According to Argentina's Ministry of Agriculture, corn was 34 percent harvested as of April 21, compared with 54 percent last year. Soybean harvesting was running just a few percentage points behind last year (51 versus 53 percent). Sunflower harvesting was winding down (97 percent harvested versus 98 percent last year). Dry weather also brought some relief from wetness to the northern cotton region. Rain also returned to southern Paraguay, keeping maturing cotton and soybeans unfavorably wet.

In March, scattered showers maintained favorable moisture levels for immature second crop soybeans but locally disrupted harvesting of summer grains, oilseeds, and cotton.



The *Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin* (ISSN 0043-1974) is published weekly and is jointly prepared by the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Publication began in 1872 as the *Weekly Weather Chronicle*. It is issued under general authority of the Act of January 12, 1895 (44-USC 213), 53rd Congress, 3rd Session. NOAA and IMC are responsible for managing, printing, and distributing the bulletin. The contents may be reprinted freely, with proper credit.

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