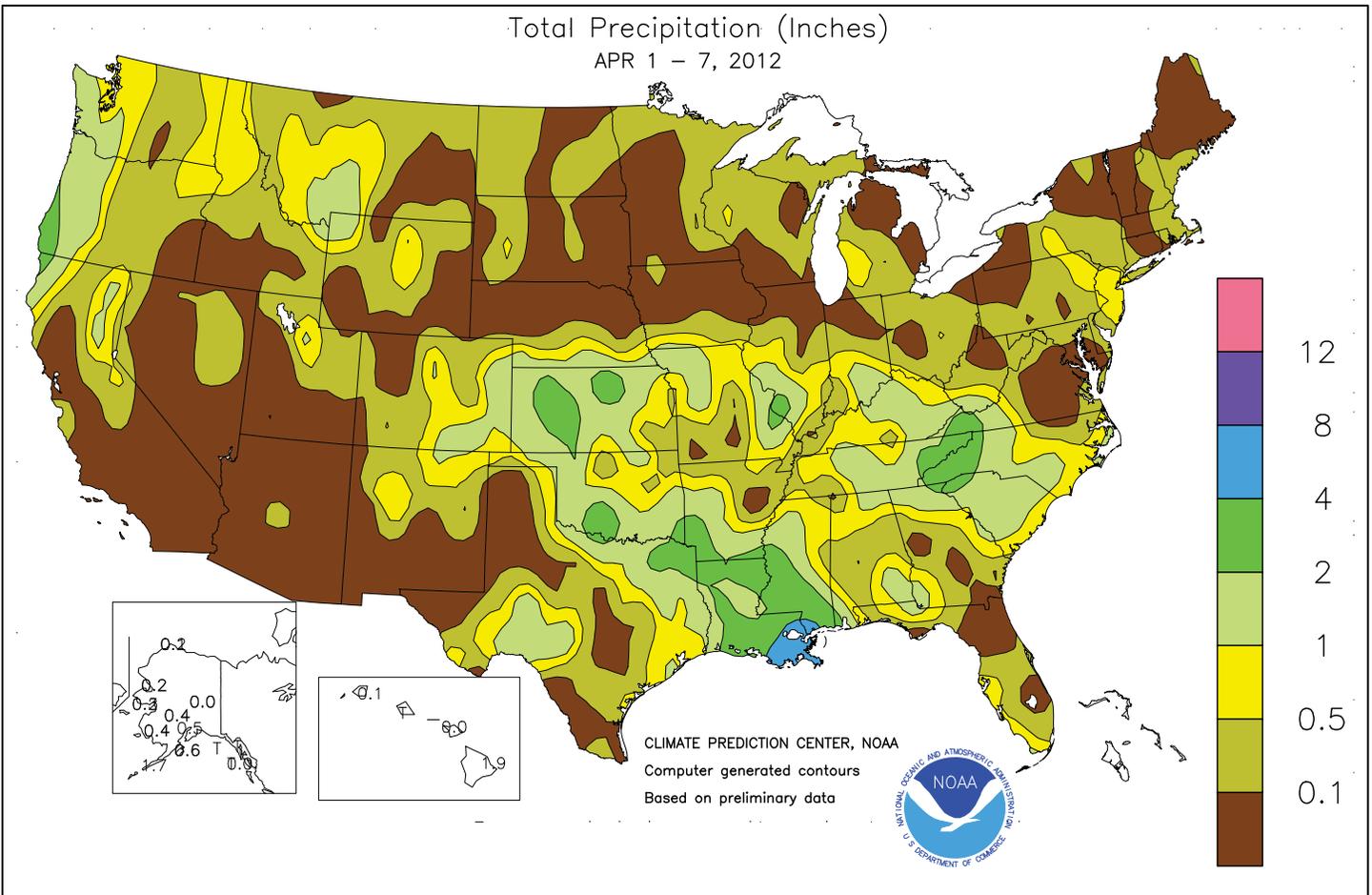


# WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN



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 1 - 7, 2012**

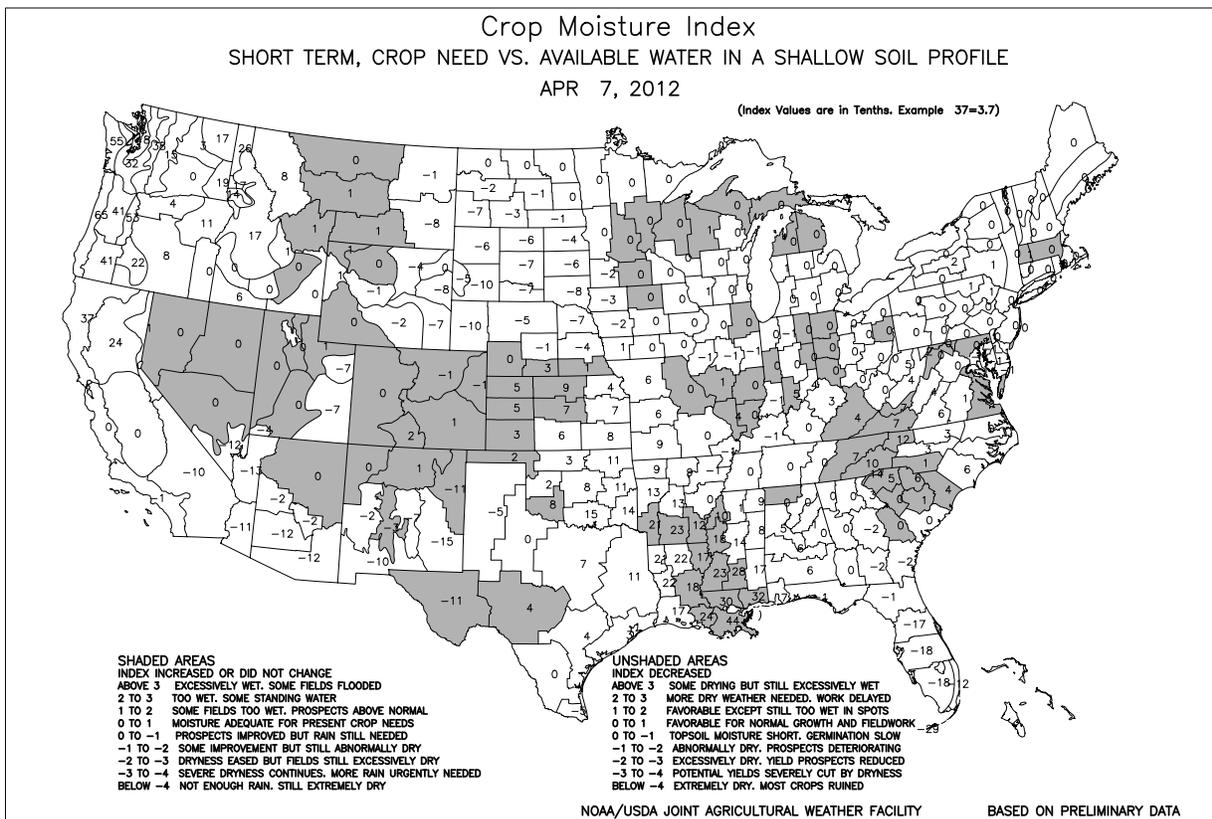
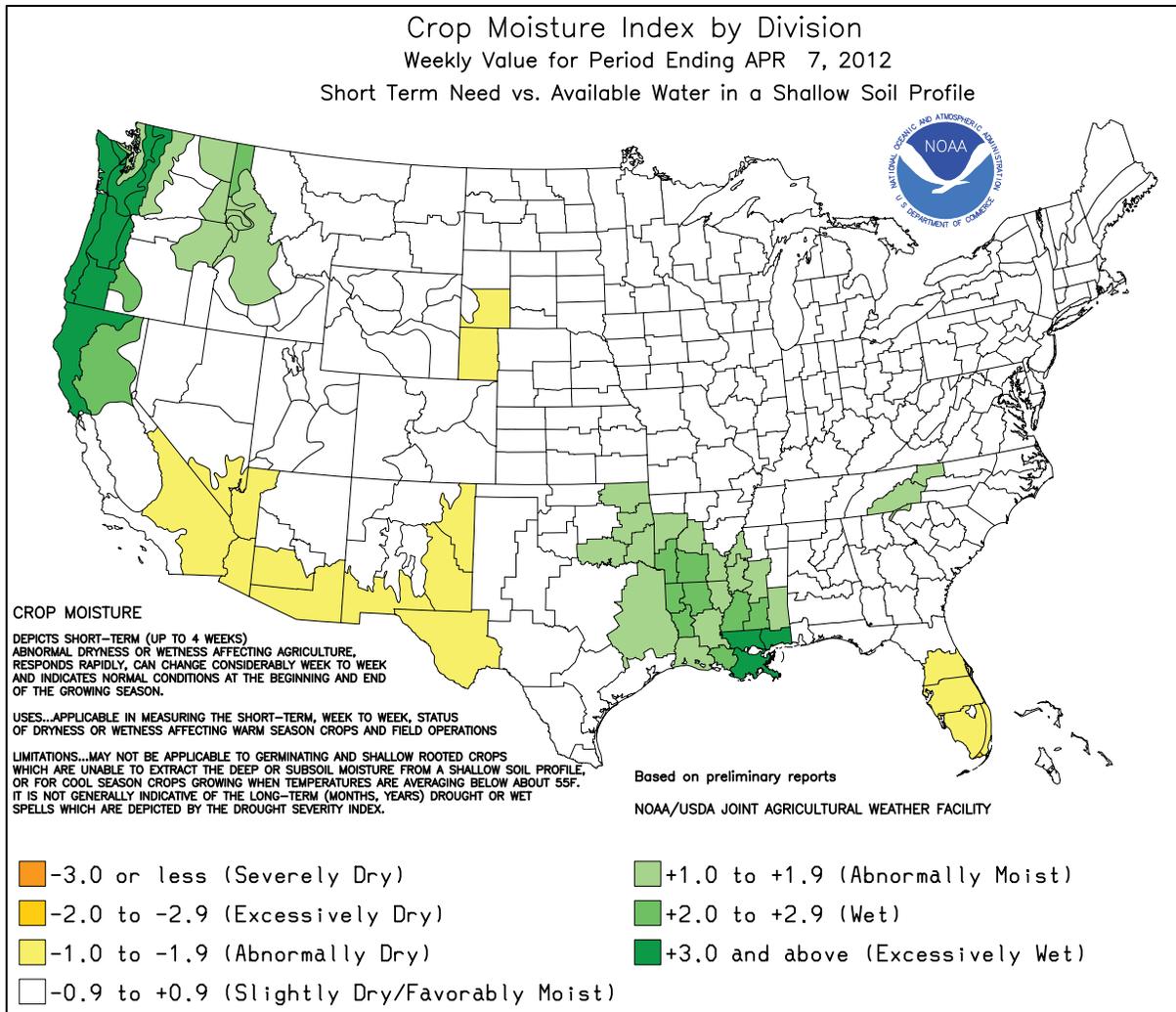
*Highlights provided by USDA/WAOB*

A slow-moving storm produced widespread rain and locally severe thunderstorms from the **central and southern Plains into the Southeast**, although significant precipitation bypassed the drought-affected **southern High Plains** and **lower Southeast**. Rain inched as far north as the **middle Mississippi and lower Ohio Valleys**, but the majority of the **Midwest** remained dry. However, persistent warmth across the **southern and western Corn Belt** contrasted with cool conditions in the **lower Great Lakes region**. In fact, producers from the **lower Great**

*(Continued on page 5)*

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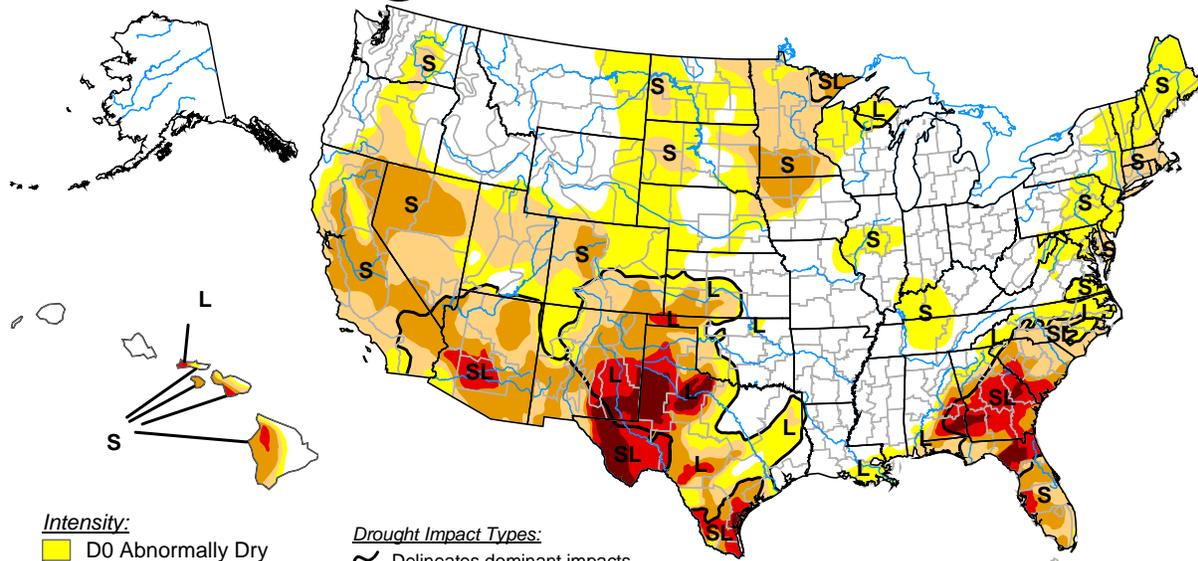
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# U.S. Drought Monitor

April 3, 2012

Valid 7 a.m. EDT



**Intensity:**

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

**Drought Impact Types:**

- Delineates dominant impacts
- S = Short-Term, typically <6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)
- L = Long-Term, typically >6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)

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



Released Thursday, April 5, 2012

Author: Brian Fuchs, National Drought Mitigation Center

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

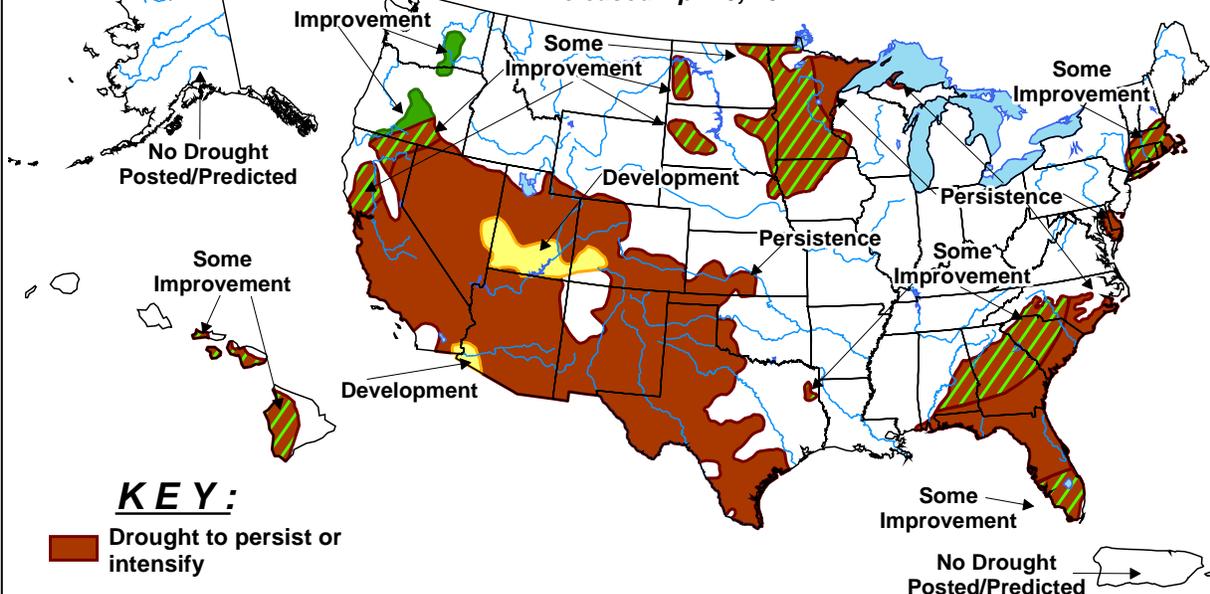


## U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

### Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for April 5 - June 30, 2012

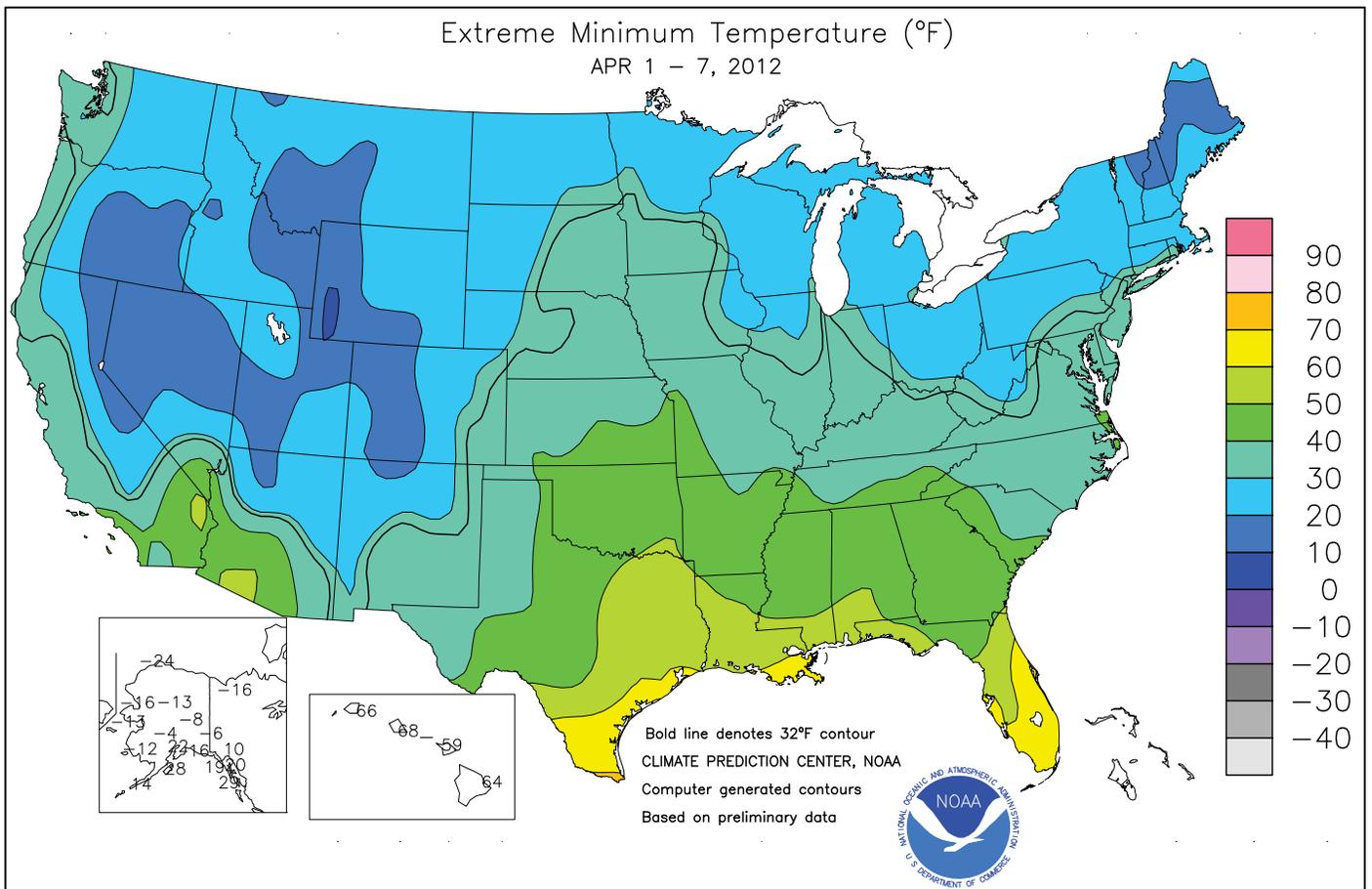
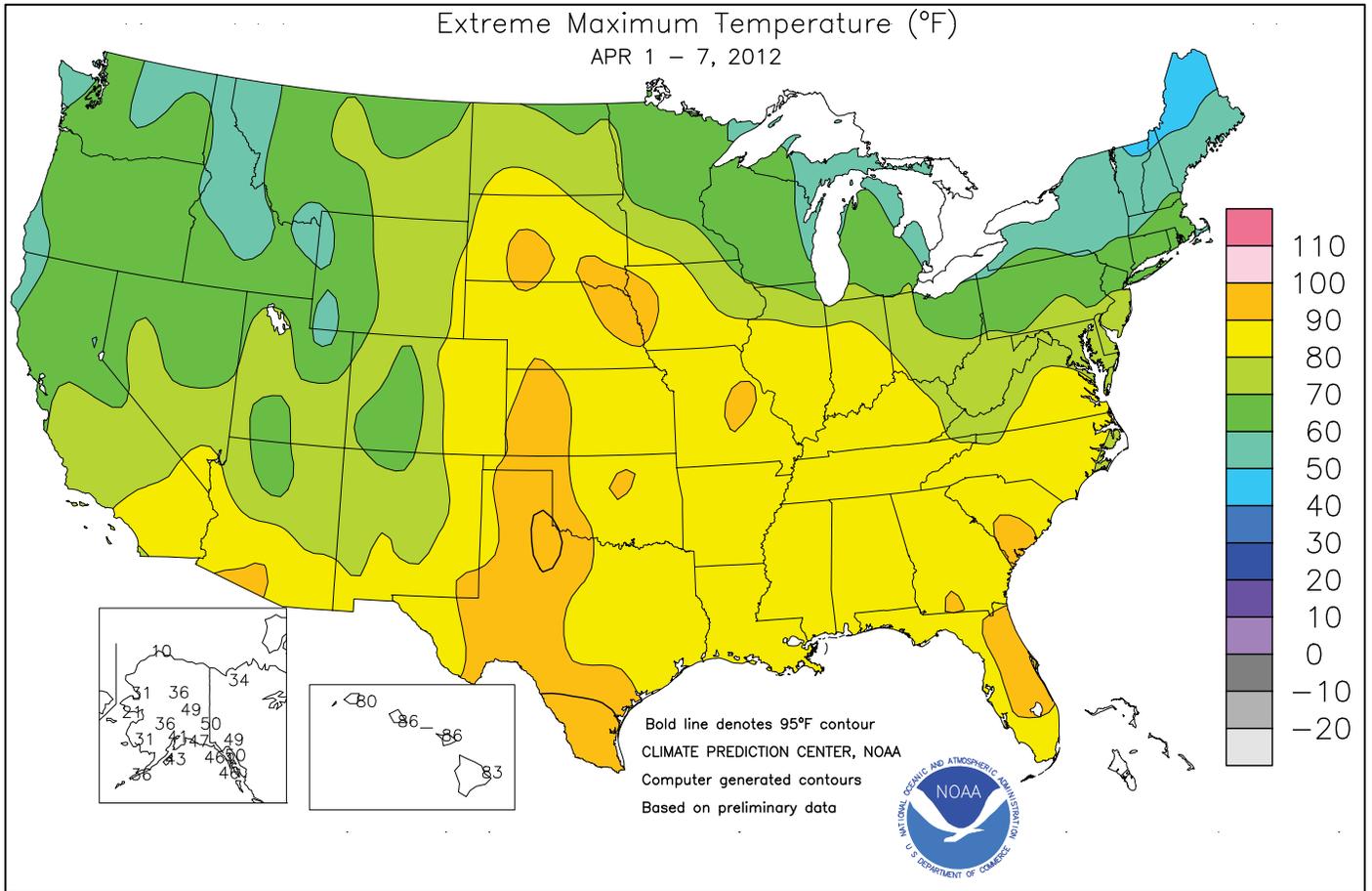
Released April 5, 2012



**KEY:**

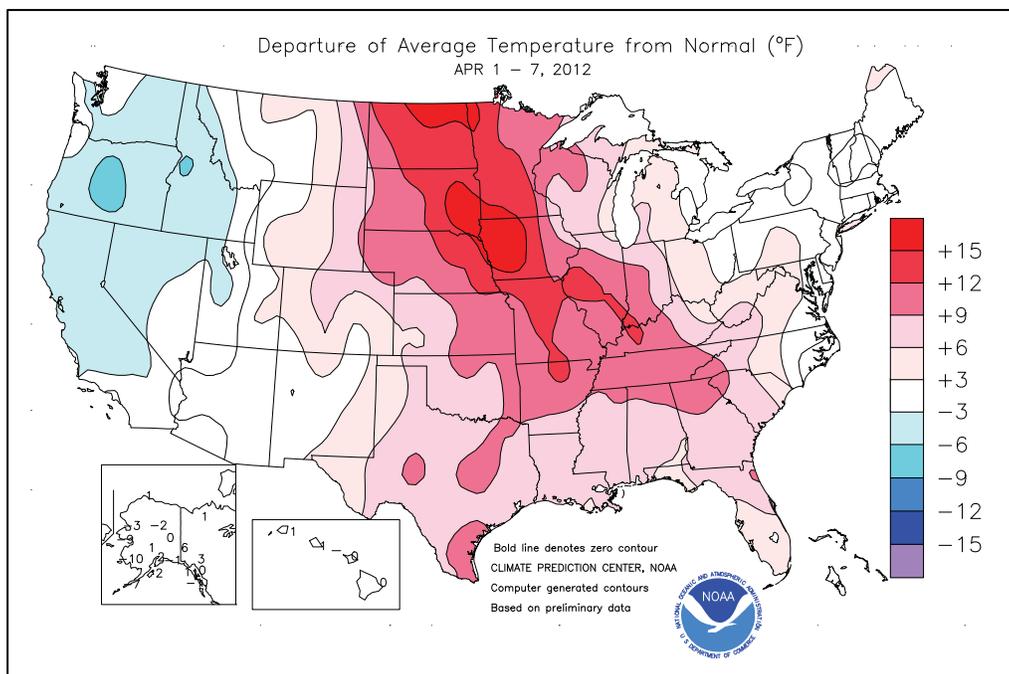
- Drought to persist or intensify
- Drought ongoing, some improvement
- Drought likely to improve, impacts ease
- Drought development likely

Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by 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. Use caution for applications -- such as crops -- that can be affected by such events. "Ongoing" drought areas are approximated from the Drought Monitor (D1 to D4 intensity). For weekly drought updates, see the latest U.S. Drought Monitor. 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.



(Continued from front cover)

**Lakes region into the northern Mid-Atlantic States** continued to monitor the effects of occasional freezes on early-blooming fruits and other temperature-sensitive crops. Farther west, generally warm conditions across the **nation's mid-section** promoted a rapid pace of winter wheat growth. However, snow briefly blanketed **Montana's High Plains**, providing much-needed moisture for winter wheat. Elsewhere, chilly conditions lingered **west of the Rockies**, limiting crop growth. In addition, occasional showers slowed spring fieldwork across the **Northwest**.



Early in the week, record-breaking warmth dominated the **nation's mid-section**. On the first day of April, highs soared above the 90-degree mark in locations such as **Sioux City, IA** (93°F); **Garden City, KS** (93°F); **Borger, TX** (93°F); **Mitchell, SD** (92°F); **Norfolk, NE** (92°F); and **Ponca City, OK** (91°F). **Sioux City** posted its earliest consecutive 90-degree days on record; the high had reached 90°F on March 31. By April 2, warmth lingered in the **Midwest** but began to shift into the **South** and **East**. **Sioux City** notched its third consecutive 90-degree reading, posting a high of 92°F on April 2. Farther east, **Charleston, SC** (91°F on April 2), registered its earliest reading above 90°F, previously set with a high of 93°F on April 3, 1946. Other record-setting highs for April 2 included 92°F in **Tallahassee, FL**, and 89°F in **St. Louis, MO**. Highs continued to top 90°F in parts of **Florida** for much of the week. In **Lakeland, FL**, for example, readings of 92°F on April 3 and 4 set daily-record highs for both dates. **Vero Beach, FL**, also collected a daily-record high of 92°F on April 4. Meanwhile in **southern Texas**, **Corpus Christi** (97°F on April 5) tallied a daily-record high. In contrast, cold air invaded the **West** during the second half of the week. Both **Redmond, OR** (13 and 16°F), and **Sacramento, CA** (35 and 34°F), notched consecutive daily-record lows on April 5-6. Elsewhere in **California**, daily-record lows for April 6 dipped to 20°F in **Bishop** and 29°F in **Redding** and **Paso Robles**. **Western** daily-record lows for April 7 included -1°F in **Stanley, ID**; 25°F in **Lancaster, CA**; and 31°F in **Portland, OR**.

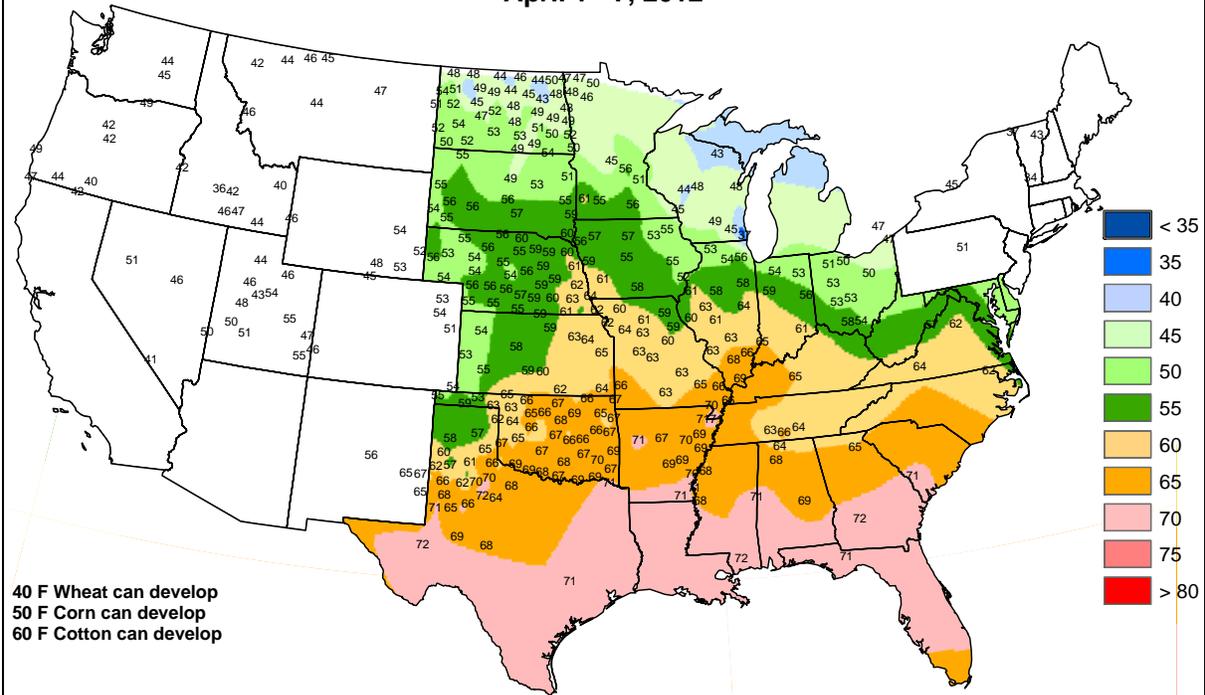
In early April, widespread and significant precipitation developed across the **central and southern Plains** and adjacent **Rockies**. Storm-total rainfall topped 2 inches in numerous locations from **Kansas, Oklahoma**, and **northern Texas** eastward into the **southern**

**Appalachians**. Totals exceeded 4 inches in the **Mississippi Delta**, where **New Orleans, LA**, received 5.44 inches from April 2-5. **Dodge City, KS**, received an April 2-3 total of 1.56 inches, aided by a daily-record amount of 1.04 inches on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. On April 3, daily-record totals included 1.84 inches in **Wichita Falls, TX**, and 1.33 inches in **Bristol, TN**. Also on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, more than a dozen tornadoes raked **northeastern Texas**, including the **Dallas-Ft. Worth** area. Precipitation lingered through mid-week on the **central Plains**, where **Concordia, KS** (2.25 inches on April 4), collected a daily-record rainfall. On the storm's western fringe, early- to mid-week snowfall totals of 1 to 2 feet were common in the **Rockies**, with 20 inches reported near **Red River, NM**, at the **Taos Ski Area**. Meanwhile, a winter-like storm moved into the **Northwest**. In **Oregon**, April 3-4 snowfall totals reached 6.5 inches in **Joseph** and 4.5 inches in **John Day**. Later, April 6 snowfall totaled 5.5 inches in **Great Falls, MT**.

Near-normal temperatures covered most of **Alaska**, although cold conditions prevailed across the southwestern part of the state. **Bethel**, in **southwestern Alaska**, received 3.7 inches of snow on April 4-5, followed by a low of -12°F on April 6. Daily snowfall records for April 5 included 3.2 inches in **King Salmon** and 2.5 inches in **Cold Bay**. In addition, **Cold Bay's** season-to-date snowfall reached 117.4 inches, eclipsing its 1983-84 standard of 115.9 inches. Farther south, most of **Hawaii** remained in a tranquil weather pattern, continuing a trend that developed in the wake of early-March downpours. On the **Big Island**, **Hilo** netted 1.66 inches during the first 7 days of April, but normal rainfall during the period is 3.04 inches. **Kauai's** notoriously wet **Mt. Waialeale** recorded a weekly total of 6.70 inches, but typically during April more than an inch of rain falls per day.

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

April 1 - 7, 2012



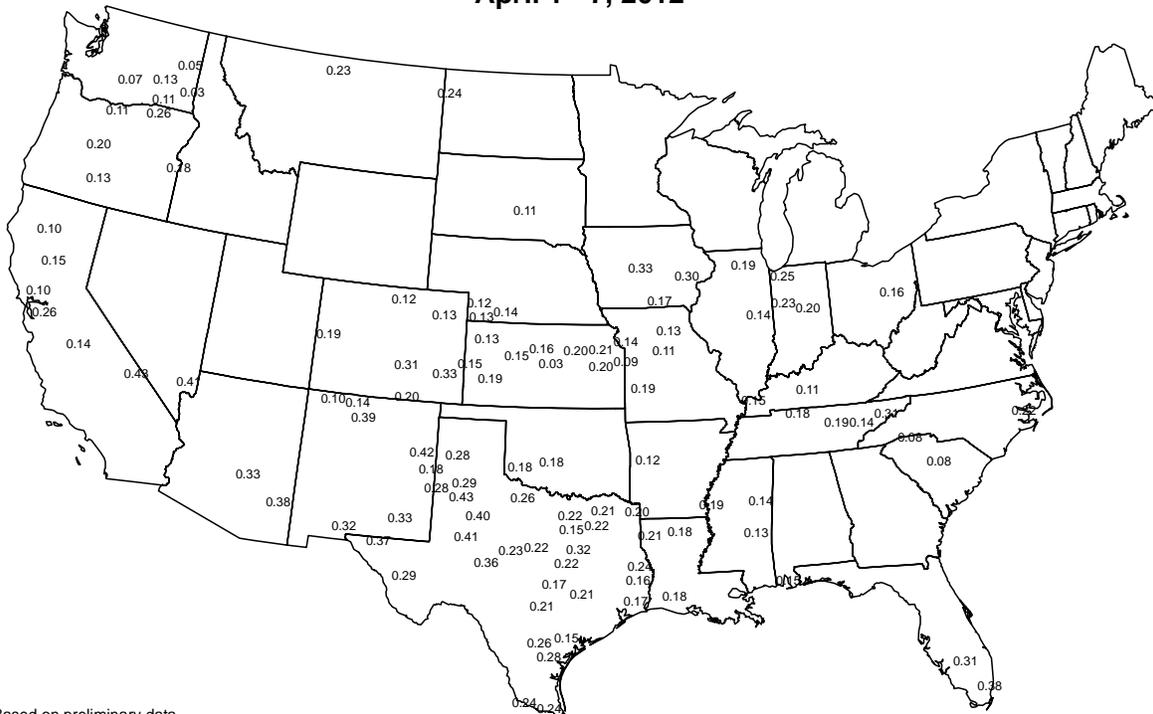
Based on preliminary data

NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY

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

### Average Pan Evaporation (inches/day)

April 1 - 7, 2012



Based on preliminary data

USDA Agricultural Weather Assessments

Data obtained from the NWS Cooperative Observer Network.

National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 7, 2012

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 MAR 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE MAR 1	TOTAL, IN., SINCE JAN 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE JAN 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	TEMP. °F			
																90 AND ABOVE	82 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
AL BIRMINGHAM	80	57	86	50	69	11	0.22	-1.00	0.22	4.93	67	13.79	81	92	42	0	0	1	0
HUNTSVILLE	79	54	85	44	67	10	1.75	0.54	1.29	6.07	77	17.42	95	89	54	0	0	2	1
MOBILE	80	61	86	54	71	7	1.21	-0.12	0.46	7.90	93	17.39	90	92	59	0	0	4	0
AK MONTGOMERY	80	58	86	50	69	8	0.56	-0.59	0.56	4.36	58	12.39	69	93	50	0	0	1	1
ANCHORAGE	39	28	41	22	33	1	0.53	0.42	0.28	1.16	153	4.25	195	84	72	0	5	3	0
BARROW	-1	-14	10	-24	-8	0	0.15	0.15	0.08	0.16	178	0.57	173	83	73	0	7	4	0
FAIRBANKS	35	11	49	-8	23	0	0.00	-0.03	0.00	0.74	239	1.85	150	81	60	0	7	0	0
JUNEAU	48	27	50	20	38	1	0.02	-0.63	0.02	2.84	68	12.37	95	95	70	0	7	1	0
KODIAK	41	32	43	28	36	1	0.59	-0.59	0.55	3.92	61	16.04	79	82	70	0	4	3	1
NOME	14	-4	21	-13	5	-9	0.17	0.03	0.14	0.49	66	1.76	73	84	74	0	7	3	0
AZ FLAGSTAFF	57	26	62	20	41	1	0.00	-0.38	0.00	1.81	60	3.22	42	61	15	0	7	0	0
PHOENIX	82	58	90	52	70	3	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.25	21	0.25	9	26	13	1	0	0	0
PRESCOTT	65	35	74	30	50	3	0.00	-0.22	0.00	2.07	97	2.56	46	47	11	0	2	0	0
TUCSON	80	49	89	42	64	1	0.00	-0.07	0.00	0.34	39	0.56	20	27	13	0	0	0	0
AR FORT SMITH	80	59	90	53	70	12	0.85	0.00	0.84	8.91	186	15.51	159	81	46	1	0	2	1
LITTLE ROCK	78	58	86	47	68	10	0.44	-0.81	0.39	8.49	138	15.08	115	89	46	0	0	2	1
CA BAKERSFIELD	68	43	79	38	56	-4	0.01	-0.18	0.01	1.28	80	2.01	50	67	44	0	0	1	0
FRESNO	66	44	76	38	55	-3	0.11	-0.20	0.11	2.54	101	4.67	69	75	50	0	0	1	0
LOS ANGELES	70	51	82	50	61	1	0.00	-0.27	0.00	1.78	67	3.09	35	68	39	0	0	0	0
REDDING	62	36	70	29	49	-6	0.22	-0.58	0.18	6.67	112	13.91	78	85	45	0	2	2	0
SACRAMENTO	65	39	69	34	52	-4	0.05	-0.32	0.03	4.11	130	7.46	71	87	30	0	0	2	0
SAN DIEGO	69	53	76	51	61	-1	0.05	-0.28	0.05	1.02	39	2.61	38	68	50	0	0	1	0
SAN FRANCISCO	60	45	64	41	52	-3	0.11	-0.34	0.08	4.87	131	7.69	63	73	57	0	0	2	0
STOCKTON	65	40	72	34	52	-5	0.00	-0.33	0.00	2.23	85	4.31	55	82	53	0	0	0	0
CO ALAMOSA	61	26	71	20	44	7	0.12	0.01	0.12	0.22	39	0.56	54	63	33	0	6	1	0
CO SPRINGS	61	34	81	27	48	6	0.01	-0.30	0.01	0.07	5	0.38	19	74	26	0	3	1	0
DENVER INTL	64	35	84	24	50	8	0.47	0.33	0.45	0.50	49	1.66	111	74	36	0	2	2	0
GRAND JUNCTION	66	36	77	25	51	3	0.05	-0.14	0.05	0.25	21	1.05	46	52	23	0	2	1	0
PUEBLO	64	35	87	31	50	4	0.45	0.19	0.38	0.56	46	1.19	65	77	46	0	4	2	0
CT BRIDGEPORT	59	39	69	34	49	4	0.27	-0.69	0.27	1.31	26	5.87	50	51	25	0	0	1	0
HARTFORD	56	33	64	30	45	1	0.15	-0.75	0.15	1.67	35	6.10	53	53	27	0	4	1	0
DC WASHINGTON	66	46	76	42	56	4	0.15	-0.51	0.12	1.17	27	5.69	56	63	28	0	0	2	0
DE WILMINGTON	63	38	72	32	51	3	0.33	-0.47	0.27	1.25	26	5.88	53	76	28	0	1	2	0
FL DAYTONA BEACH	86	64	91	61	75	8	0.02	-0.74	0.01	2.03	44	3.83	37	91	39	2	0	2	0
JACKSONVILLE	85	59	90	45	72	8	0.13	-0.70	0.13	2.30	48	3.53	30	97	40	1	0	1	0
KEY WEST	83	74	85	72	78	2	0.50	0.03	0.30	1.29	55	7.29	120	82	67	0	0	2	0
MIAMI	87	70	89	67	79	5	0.18	-0.56	0.17	5.14	156	8.73	120	87	46	0	0	2	0
ORLANDO	88	64	91	61	76	6	0.16	-0.55	0.08	0.97	23	4.24	47	90	51	2	0	2	0
PENSACOLA	79	63	84	55	71	7	0.40	-0.78	0.35	4.35	57	12.59	72	86	59	0	0	5	0
TALLAHASSEE	84	60	92	48	72	8	0.92	-0.19	0.60	5.06	67	11.21	64	90	50	2	0	3	1
TAMPA	85	67	86	61	76	6	0.25	-0.24	0.25	1.22	37	4.19	51	85	47	0	0	1	0
WEST PALM BEACH	86	68	88	66	77	5	0.51	-0.39	0.35	2.80	61	7.00	64	87	56	0	0	3	0
GA ATHENS	80	53	87	42	67	9	0.60	-0.29	0.60	3.77	64	8.59	57	91	46	0	0	1	1
ATLANTA	79	58	87	48	68	10	0.01	-0.94	0.01	3.53	56	10.90	68	82	54	0	0	1	0
AUGUSTA	81	54	89	38	68	8	1.26	0.40	0.56	3.54	65	6.06	43	94	46	0	0	3	2
COLUMBUS	79	58	86	48	69	8	0.18	-0.88	0.18	4.06	60	13.16	82	93	45	0	0	1	0
MACON	81	54	89	40	68	8	0.36	-0.52	0.35	2.20	38	7.92	52	97	43	0	0	2	0
SAVANNAH	82	58	90	43	70	7	0.21	-0.66	0.20	4.76	106	8.86	78	91	48	1	0	2	0
HI HILO	79	65	83	64	72	0	1.92	-1.49	0.79	17.55	99	33.14	91	91	81	0	0	6	2
HONOLULU	83	70	86	68	76	1	0.04	-0.25	0.04	5.54	254	7.23	100	77	65	0	0	1	0
KAHULUI	84	64	86	59	74	0	0.00	-0.50	0.00	2.61	92	2.69	30	79	66	0	0	0	0
LIHUE	78	71	80	66	75	2	0.10	-0.63	0.10	18.27	424	31.50	259	82	75	0	0	1	0
ID BOISE	56	34	67	28	45	-3	0.00	-0.30	0.00	2.23	130	5.62	133	67	40	0	4	0	0
LEWISTON	54	35	67	30	45	-3	0.48	0.21	0.40	4.07	293	6.67	192	83	59	0	2	3	0
POCATELLO	54	26	62	19	40	-3	0.09	-0.17	0.09	1.25	76	3.51	92	68	36	0	5	1	0
IL CHICAGO/O'HARE	59	41	70	33	50	7	0.06	-0.75	0.06	2.74	79	6.24	91	72	49	0	0	1	0
MOLINE	69	42	78	29	56	10	0.00	-0.84	0.00	1.65	44	4.30	63	77	49	0	2	0	0
PEORIA	71	45	85	34	58	11	0.71	-0.02	0.51	2.22	62	5.16	77	81	40	0	0	2	1
ROCKFORD	63	39	72	30	51	8	0.14	-0.63	0.14	2.22	70	4.76	81	74	46	0	1	1	0
SPRINGFIELD	75	46	88	32	61	13	0.12	-0.62	0.10	1.80	46	4.87	67	84	32	0	1	2	0
IN EVANSVILLE	76	51	86	36	63	11	0.25	-0.74	0.18	2.76	52	7.90	70	85	57	0	0	2	0
FORT WAYNE	65	37	78	30	51	7	0.04	-0.74	0.02	2.94	81	8.04	105	82	39	0	2	3	0
INDIANAPOLIS	69	46	84	36	57	9	0.70	-0.10	0.63	4.84	114	9.70	106	75	41	0	0	2	1
SOUTH BEND	65	38	79	30	52	8	0.03	-0.78	0.02	1.70	46	6.97	88	77	46	0	3	2	0
IA BURLINGTON	73	46	86	34	60	12	0.00	-0.76	0.00	1.04	28	2.71	41	81	34	0	0	0	0
CEDAR RAPIDS	66	42	75	31	54	10	0.12	-0.57	0.11	2.56	88	4.11	81	84	43	0	1	2	0
DES MOINES	72	50	86	38	61	15	0.14	-0.58	0.14	1.87	64	4.06	79	73	51	0	0	1	0
DUBUQUE	62	40	69	29	51	9	0.07	-0.67	0.07	2.79	84	5.35	89	78	53	0	1	1	0
SIOUX CITY	73	44	93	34	59	15	0.00	-0.57	0.00	0.70	27	3.46	92	67	35	2	0	0	0
WATERLOO	65	40	74	27	52	9	0.04	-0.62	0.04	1.31	47	3.78	81	83	54	0	1	1	0
KS CONCORDIA	70	47	86	38	59	10	2.25	1.74	2.25	3.86	135	6.46	152	90	61	0	0	1	1
DODGE CITY	64	47	89	39	55	5	1.56	1.08	0.99	4.23	182	5.26	146	92	56	0	0	2	2
GOODLAND	62	41	89	33	52	7	1.56	1.31	1.17	2.16	149	2.67	115	84	58	0	0	2	1
TOPEKA	74	50	90	37	62	12	0.51	-0.13	0.43	3.97	124	6.71	126	92	64	1	0	2	0

Based on 1971-20

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 7, 2012

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 MAR 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE MAR 1	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
WICHITA	71	52	85	41	61	10	0.92	0.33	0.64	4.95	150	8.58	166	93	71	0	0	3	1
KY JACKSON	71	47	84	36	59	6	0.93	0.09	0.58	5.00	96	13.76	110	85	38	0	0	4	1
LEXINGTON	69	45	83	34	57	6	1.20	0.35	0.85	4.51	86	11.14	94	83	60	0	0	3	1
LOUISVILLE	73	50	85	38	61	8	1.61	0.73	1.23	7.83	148	13.66	116	74	43	0	0	3	1
PADUCAH	76	53	86	36	64	11	0.02	-1.02	0.02	4.02	76	9.76	77	91	46	0	0	1	0
LA BATON ROUGE	83	61	87	54	72	8	1.61	0.37	1.59	8.03	127	21.34	121	98	50	0	0	2	1
LAKE CHARLES	82	63	85	57	72	8	1.07	0.29	0.63	8.53	197	25.34	193	95	60	0	0	3	1
NEW ORLEANS	82	65	86	64	74	8	5.44	4.20	3.40	13.54	209	20.06	113	86	61	0	0	4	2
SHREVEPORT	81	60	86	52	71	9	1.65	0.71	0.85	9.59	187	16.34	117	94	54	0	0	4	2
ME CARIBOU	43	27	48	21	35	3	0.10	-0.48	0.10	1.69	54	7.65	94	72	39	0	7	1	0
ME PORTLAND	52	29	58	23	41	2	0.14	-0.88	0.08	2.19	42	7.95	64	73	29	0	6	2	0
MD BALTIMORE	66	40	75	32	53	4	0.06	-0.67	0.06	1.82	39	6.78	61	61	36	0	1	1	0
MA BOSTON	55	38	64	34	46	2	0.24	-0.64	0.23	1.45	31	5.12	43	65	28	0	0	2	0
MA WORCESTER	52	32	59	30	42	2	0.21	-0.73	0.19	1.87	36	6.32	51	74	27	0	6	2	0
MI ALPENA	52	27	58	22	39	4	0.01	-0.51	0.01	1.89	71	5.37	93	87	38	0	7	1	0
MI GRAND RAPIDS	60	36	65	30	48	7	0.67	-0.10	0.67	3.81	113	9.01	130	83	41	0	2	1	1
MI HOUGHTON LAKE	57	30	65	24	44	8	0.01	-0.53	0.01	2.98	115	7.60	139	84	41	0	4	1	0
MI LANSING	57	32	64	26	45	4	0.18	-0.54	0.18	2.96	97	6.57	108	83	50	0	4	1	0
MI MUSKOGON	59	36	64	30	48	8	0.62	-0.03	0.59	4.01	133	8.98	132	79	44	0	3	2	1
MI TRAVERSE CITY	54	28	65	24	41	3	0.13	-0.50	0.09	3.79	145	6.55	89	88	37	0	7	2	0
MN DULUTH	54	34	62	28	44	11	0.56	0.09	0.23	2.18	101	3.96	96	83	48	0	2	3	0
MN INT'L FALLS	54	28	63	20	41	9	0.15	-0.13	0.11	2.96	239	4.50	165	89	42	0	6	3	0
MN MINNEAPOLIS	63	44	70	37	53	13	0.64	0.12	0.47	2.04	86	4.11	98	75	41	0	0	2	0
MN ROCHESTER	63	39	71	30	51	12	0.05	-0.56	0.05	1.29	52	3.49	83	75	50	0	1	1	0
MN ST. CLOUD	63	39	67	30	51	14	0.03	-0.46	0.03	1.18	59	2.99	90	77	28	0	2	1	0
MS JACKSON	80	57	85	47	69	8	1.81	0.40	0.76	8.87	124	21.17	122	94	49	0	0	4	2
MS MERIDIAN	79	55	87	44	67	6	0.35	-1.08	0.27	9.32	111	21.65	110	97	58	0	0	3	0
MS TUPELO	79	55	86	43	67	9	0.21	-1.01	0.21	7.92	105	17.28	100	90	53	0	0	1	0
MO COLUMBIA	72	51	89	37	61	11	0.74	-0.09	0.51	4.95	123	8.36	105	88	48	0	0	4	1
MO KANSAS CITY	70	52	86	42	61	11	0.08	-0.51	0.06	4.64	153	7.83	143	86	51	0	0	3	0
MO SAINT LOUIS	74	53	89	39	64	12	1.75	0.92	0.73	5.08	115	9.42	106	83	55	0	0	3	2
MO SPRINGFIELD	73	52	86	40	62	10	0.29	-0.70	0.28	3.02	63	6.33	69	88	60	0	0	2	0
MT BILLINGS	57	35	72	27	46	4	0.16	-0.15	0.14	0.86	60	1.71	61	68	34	0	3	2	0
MT BUTTE	46	21	62	4	33	-2	0.13	-0.06	0.07	1.33	130	1.60	79	89	35	0	7	2	0
MT CUT BANK	52	26	68	22	39	2	0.00	-0.14	0.00	0.33	48	0.85	63	75	27	0	7	0	0
MT GLASGOW	56	35	68	29	46	7	0.16	0.05	0.16	0.57	98	1.46	123	74	46	0	4	1	0
MT GREAT FALLS	54	30	71	22	42	3	1.30	1.05	0.64	2.40	190	3.01	123	70	31	0	5	5	1
MT HAVRE	56	31	74	23	44	5	0.39	0.25	0.23	2.30	274	2.85	171	82	55	0	5	2	0
MT MISSOULA	49	28	61	24	39	-3	0.08	-0.11	0.05	1.25	109	3.72	125	81	48	0	7	3	0
NE GRAND ISLAND	68	47	88	40	57	12	0.32	-0.20	0.21	1.15	45	2.35	62	82	50	0	0	2	0
NE LINCOLN	73	48	90	35	60	13	0.00	-0.58	0.00	0.89	32	3.14	76	83	45	1	0	0	0
NE NORFOLK	70	45	92	31	58	14	0.01	-0.51	0.01	0.59	24	2.50	65	71	35	1	1	1	0
NE NORTH PLATTE	63	42	88	30	53	9	0.14	-0.19	0.14	0.96	61	2.31	94	88	46	0	1	1	0
NE OMAHA	73	50	91	40	62	15	0.38	-0.18	0.37	1.50	56	3.85	90	78	43	2	0	2	0
NE SCOTTSBLUFF	68	38	88	24	53	11	0.00	-0.32	0.00	0.00	0	1.02	39	67	33	0	1	0	0
NE VALENTINE	66	40	91	33	53	12	0.02	-0.29	0.02	0.33	23	2.79	127	76	41	1	0	1	0
NV ELY	56	21	68	9	39	0	0.35	0.16	0.24	1.19	96	3.08	113	66	34	0	6	3	0
NV LAS VEGAS	73	51	82	46	62	0	0.00	-0.04	0.00	0.18	29	0.24	13	23	14	0	0	0	0
NV RENO	57	30	71	21	44	-2	0.00	-0.09	0.00	0.11	12	2.25	73	55	25	0	4	0	0
NV WINNEMUCCA	54	25	67	16	39	-5	0.00	-0.19	0.00	1.00	95	2.29	92	66	33	0	6	0	0
NH CONCORD	53	25	59	22	39	-1	0.08	-0.63	0.07	1.72	46	5.96	66	77	24	0	7	2	0
NJ NEWARK	62	41	71	38	52	4	0.37	-0.54	0.37	1.41	28	5.63	47	49	26	0	0	1	0
NM ALBUQUERQUE	67	42	81	32	55	3	0.81	0.70	0.57	1.01	140	1.67	101	60	25	0	1	2	1
NY ALBANY	54	34	58	30	44	2	0.13	-0.64	0.12	1.67	43	4.93	58	72	31	0	3	2	0
NY BINGHAMTON	48	31	56	28	40	1	0.42	-0.34	0.42	2.10	56	6.39	73	76	45	0	5	1	0
NY BUFFALO	50	33	55	31	41	0	0.37	-0.35	0.37	2.23	60	8.37	90	82	40	0	5	1	0
NY ROCHESTER	50	31	57	28	41	1	0.22	-0.42	0.22	1.50	47	6.95	91	77	43	0	5	1	0
NY SYRACUSE	50	30	56	27	40	0	0.14	-0.63	0.14	2.10	55	7.39	87	79	38	0	6	1	0
NC ASHEVILLE	74	47	81	35	60	9	1.76	0.87	1.30	4.48	82	9.92	74	95	60	0	0	4	1
NC CHARLOTTE	75	50	84	37	63	5	0.79	0.01	0.28	4.68	91	8.26	65	91	43	0	0	5	0
NC GREENSBORO	73	49	83	40	61	7	0.64	-0.15	0.34	3.56	77	7.23	64	86	39	0	0	5	0
NC HATTERAS	64	49	73	40	57	0	1.14	0.20	0.81	5.27	89	13.73	88	85	51	0	0	4	1
NC RALEIGH	71	45	85	37	58	2	0.85	0.15	0.62	6.21	131	10.11	83	83	44	0	0	3	1
NC WILMINGTON	72	48	84	37	60	0	0.37	-0.36	0.33	3.95	80	7.88	60	94	43	0	0	2	0
ND BISMARCK	64	38	79	28	51	14	0.03	-0.23	0.02	0.55	50	1.33	64	76	45	0	2	2	0
ND DICKINSON	63	32	78	22	48	11	0.39	0.06	0.39	0.43	42	0.86	47	81	29	0	4	1	0
ND FARGO	64	39	73	27	52	16	0.00	-0.28	0.00	0.78	54	2.31	83	66	28	0	2	0	0
ND GRAND FORKS	62	35	73	27	49	14	0.35	0.12	0.34	2.14	191	3.04	128	83	34	0	2	2	0
ND JAMESTOWN	62	37	70	29	50	14	0.27	0.02	0.27	0.69	61	1.13	50	82	35	0	1	1	0
ND WILLISTON	63	34	75	21	49	13	0.00	-0.19	0.00	0.10	11	0.50	27	74	42	0	3	0	0
OH AKRON-CANTON	60	33	65	28	47	3	0.30	-0.42	0.22	3.23	83	9.06	105	76	42	0	3	2	0
OH CINCINNATI	69	44	84	35	56	6	0.15	-0.76	0.10	3.01	63	9.94	95	74	47	0	0	2	0
OH CLEVELAND	55	35	63	27	45	2	0.05	-0.71	0.03	3.93	106	9.40	111	81	42	0	2	2	0
OH COLUMBUS	64	40	72	31	52	4	0.52	-0.17	0.32	5.44	152	11.15	134	75	50	0	1	2	0
OH DAYTON	65	39	73	32	52	6	0.00	-0.89	0.00	2.66	64	8.66	95	78	35	0	2	0	0
OH MANSFIELD	59	34	67	27	47	4	0.15	-0.78	0.15	3.29	77	9.42	104	88	39	0	2	1	0

Based on 1971-2000 normals

\*\*\* Not Available

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 7, 2012

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 MAR 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE MAR 1	TOTAL IN., SINCE JAN 01	PCT. NORMAL SINCE JAN 01	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	TEMP. °F		PRECIP	
																		01 INCH OR MORE	50 INCH OR MORE		
OK TOLEDO	60	35	69	30	47	3	0.29	-0.45	0.29	4.13	123	8.33	116	80	47	0	2	1	0		
OK YOUNGSTOWN	57	31	63	28	44	1	0.06	-0.70	0.06	2.42	64	10.14	124	79	39	0	4	1	0		
OK OKLAHOMA CITY	73	55	88	48	64	8	0.83	0.25	0.82	5.86	168	8.95	142	92	62	0	0	2	1		
OR TULSA	74	57	90	48	65	8	0.14	-0.66	0.14	6.38	146	8.60	109	88	64	1	0	1	0		
OR ASTORIA	52	37	62	35	45	-2	1.62	0.22	0.87	15.75	180	33.35	127	93	77	0	0	5	1		
OR BURNS	50	21	67	18	36	-4	0.20	0.00	0.20	1.34	93	3.85	103	85	46	0	7	1	0		
OR EUGENE	53	36	66	33	45	-3	1.00	-0.04	0.36	10.93	160	23.10	111	91	74	0	0	4	0		
OR MEDFORD	55	36	66	34	46	-3	0.19	-0.13	0.07	3.91	180	8.86	131	90	47	0	0	4	0		
OR PENDLETON	57	33	71	27	45	-3	0.33	0.08	0.27	2.26	150	5.19	124	82	46	0	3	3	0		
OR PORTLAND	54	39	63	31	47	-2	0.86	0.18	0.37	8.75	199	18.40	135	88	69	0	1	5	0		
OR SALEM	54	37	64	31	45	-3	0.78	0.05	0.27	10.75	219	25.21	159	89	77	0	2	4	0		
PA ALLENTOWN	60	36	69	31	48	3	0.27	-0.51	0.27	1.27	29	5.34	50	59	37	0	2	1	0		
PA ERIE	50	30	54	27	40	-2	0.02	-0.79	0.01	2.22	56	8.51	97	79	56	0	7	2	0		
PA MIDDLETOWN	63	40	72	33	51	4	0.15	-0.54	0.15	1.89	48	7.17	74	69	25	0	0	1	0		
PA PHILADELPHIA	62	41	71	37	52	3	0.33	-0.48	0.25	1.12	24	5.55	51	56	31	0	0	2	0		
PA PITTSBURGH	62	36	68	32	49	3	0.15	-0.55	0.15	3.44	89	9.53	107	72	27	0	2	1	0		
PA WILKES-BARRE	55	34	63	28	44	0	0.30	-0.40	0.30	2.75	81	5.68	72	69	31	0	3	1	0		
PA WILLIAMSPORT	60	35	69	30	48	4	0.10	-0.70	0.10	1.29	32	6.05	64	68	34	0	3	1	0		
RI PROVIDENCE	56	36	64	30	46	2	0.17	-0.87	0.15	1.48	27	6.37	48	59	30	0	1	2	0		
SC BEAUFORT	80	58	91	43	69	8	0.29	-0.57	0.10	8.01	176	11.37	97	93	44	1	0	5	0		
SC CHARLESTON	79	57	91	41	68	7	0.94	0.14	0.63	6.45	134	9.37	78	92	46	1	0	5	1		
SC COLUMBIA	81	54	91	39	68	8	0.30	-0.59	0.28	2.51	46	6.73	48	88	45	1	0	2	0		
SC GREENVILLE	78	52	88	43	65	9	0.98	0.07	0.59	4.49	72	9.58	64	92	45	0	0	4	1		
SD ABERDEEN	65	40	77	31	53	14	0.02	-0.37	0.02	0.40	23	1.97	73	74	44	0	2	1	0		
SD HURON	69	43	91	35	56	16	0.00	-0.48	0.00	0.99	46	3.78	118	72	32	1	0	0	0		
SD RAPID CITY	67	36	87	30	51	11	0.41	0.09	0.41	0.46	34	1.15	53	69	26	0	3	1	0		
SD SIOUX FALLS	70	43	89	35	56	16	0.00	-0.56	0.00	0.77	32	3.95	117	73	40	0	0	0	0		
TN BRISTOL	73	46	82	33	60	9	2.21	1.48	1.33	4.79	103	13.10	113	96	46	0	0	5	1		
TN CHATTANOOGA	80	56	88	48	68	12	0.48	-0.67	0.48	5.88	80	15.23	87	90	50	0	0	1	0		
TN KNOXVILLE	77	53	83	43	65	11	2.78	1.80	2.15	8.84	144	18.60	126	91	48	0	0	3	2		
TN MEMPHIS	78	58	86	47	68	10	0.43	-0.89	0.21	4.78	69	9.54	62	86	51	0	0	3	0		
TN NASHVILLE	80	53	87	41	66	11	1.36	0.43	1.12	4.47	77	12.41	92	87	41	0	0	2	1		
TX ABILENE	84	55	94	46	70	9	0.42	0.09	0.38	1.63	94	6.10	159	82	42	1	0	2	0		
TX AMARILLO	73	42	91	35	58	5	0.03	-0.25	0.03	1.19	84	1.87	72	76	27	1	0	1	0		
TX AUSTIN	85	60	87	52	73	7	0.07	-0.34	0.07	5.18	203	16.34	254	87	52	0	0	1	0		
TX BEAUMONT	81	65	86	59	73	7	0.47	-0.38	0.43	7.99	174	22.16	162	96	56	0	0	5	0		
TX BROWNSVILLE	91	73	96	71	82	10	0.00	-0.35	0.00	0.51	40	5.08	133	93	57	3	0	0	0		
TX CORPUS CHRISTI	89	70	97	64	80	11	0.41	0.04	0.41	1.76	84	6.30	113	91	57	3	0	1	0		
TX DEL RIO	89	62	93	51	75	7	0.00	-0.28	0.00	1.31	106	3.01	109	62	37	3	0	0	0		
TX EL PASO	79	51	86	41	65	4	0.00	-0.03	0.00	0.08	28	0.76	67	27	9	0	0	0	0		
TX FORT WORTH	80	60	85	54	70	8	1.43	0.85	1.43	7.17	197	15.23	193	91	54	0	0	1	1		
TX GALVESTON	81	70	86	65	75	7	0.54	-0.05	0.47	5.50	164	15.83	158	94	66	0	0	3	0		
TX HOUSTON	84	66	86	60	75	9	0.21	-0.59	0.21	7.35	177	18.40	170	90	60	0	0	1	0		
TX LUBBOCK	79	47	91	37	63	7	0.00	-0.21	0.00	0.71	73	1.29	59	60	28	1	0	0	0		
TX MIDLAND	86	52	93	39	69	9	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.11	23	1.30	82	56	18	4	0	0	0		
TX SAN ANGELO	88	54	93	40	71	9	0.12	-0.10	0.12	1.61	133	7.61	238	69	31	4	0	1	0		
TX SAN ANTONIO	86	61	91	53	74	8	0.00	-0.45	0.00	3.24	138	12.86	224	91	45	1	0	0	0		
TX VICTORIA	85	66	91	61	76	9	0.10	-0.44	0.09	3.39	122	8.41	116	96	65	1	0	2	0		
TX WACO	82	60	88	53	71	8	0.97	0.46	0.96	9.30	311	16.33	223	93	63	0	0	2	1		
TX WICHITA FALLS	76	55	91	48	66	7	1.84	1.31	1.84	5.33	190	8.17	149	93	69	1	0	1	1		
UT SALT LAKE CITY	59	33	74	26	46	-1	0.16	-0.26	0.11	0.74	32	3.65	73	70	28	0	3	2	0		
VT BURLINGTON	49	32	54	25	40	2	0.04	-0.58	0.02	1.02	35	3.87	57	70	31	0	4	2	0		
VA LYNCHBURG	71	43	83	33	57	5	0.02	-0.77	0.01	5.80	126	10.63	94	78	30	0	0	2	0		
VA NORFOLK	67	49	80	44	58	4	0.33	-0.50	0.25	2.95	60	7.42	61	72	37	0	0	2	0		
VA RICHMOND	70	43	86	38	57	4	0.01	-0.77	0.01	2.52	52	7.47	66	71	33	0	0	1	0		
VA ROANOKE	74	46	81	34	60	7	0.09	-0.73	0.09	3.61	77	7.51	68	71	40	0	0	1	0		
VA WASH/DULLES	66	38	77	30	52	3	0.17	-0.58	0.15	1.69	39	5.78	57	70	40	0	2	2	0		
WA OLYMPIA	54	34	62	28	44	-1	0.74	-0.26	0.27	9.31	148	23.04	115	94	72	0	3	5	0		
WA QUILLAYUTE	52	35	58	29	44	-1	3.14	1.15	2.13	24.14	186	51.13	131	96	78	0	1	5	1		
WA SEATTLE-TACOMA	54	38	62	35	46	-2	0.32	-0.40	0.18	7.52	168	17.98	130	84	67	0	0	4	0		
WA SPOKANE	48	31	61	26	39	-4	0.50	0.22	0.28	5.06	280	8.55	166	91	54	0	4	3	0		
WA YAKIMA	56	33	60	26	44	-2	0.09	-0.05	0.08	1.53	182	3.48	124	82	50	0	3	2	0		
WV BECKLEY	67	40	78	29	54	7	0.57	-0.17	0.27	4.61	105	11.81	112	77	45	0	1	4	0		
WV CHARLESTON	71	42	80	31	57	6	0.08	-0.67	0.07	3.45	74	8.80	79	78	27	0	1	2	0		
WV ELKINS	65	33	75	24	49	4	0.06	-0.73	0.02	4.14	88	9.55	84	88	22	0	4	5	0		
WV HUNTINGTON	70	43	81	35	57	6	0.33	-0.42	0.17	2.95	64	7.50	69	80	34	0	0	4	0		
WI EAU CLAIRE	62	35	68	27	49	10	1.20	0.59	1.14	2.74	111	5.12	119	86	31	0	3	2	1		
WI GREEN BAY	56	34	63	27	45	6	0.18	-0.41	0.14	2.39	90	4.91	101	88	49	0	3	3	0		
WI LA CROSSE	63	38	70	31	50	8	0.06	-0.65	0.06	1.58	58	4.10	84	82	36	0	1	1	0		
WI MADISON	61	35	64	26	48	7	0.02	-0.72	0.02	2.63	87	5.06	91	84	47	0	2	1	0		
WI MILWAUKEE	50	37	60	32	44	3	0.00	-0.84	0.00	3.19	93	6.04	87	81	69	0	1	0	0		
WY CASPER	60	29	75	22	45	6	0.26	0.03	0.26	0.59	52	2.14	91	67	30	0	5	1	0		
WY CHEYENNE	59	32	76	28	46	8	0.02	-0.25	0.02	0.02	2	1.05	48	72	41	0	4	1	0		
WY LANDER	58	32	69	27	45	4	0.42	0.05	0.33	0.78	48	2.09	78	74	26	0	5	2	0		
WY SHERIDAN	58	29	72	22	44	4	0.17	-0.15	0.12	0.71	54	2.00	75	84	52	0	5	3	0		

Based on 1971-2000 normals

\*\*\* Not Available

## March Weather and Crop Summary

### Weather

Weather summary provided by USDA/WAOB

**Highlights:** The contiguous United States experienced its warmest March, breaking a record set more than a century ago—in 1910. Warmth was especially dominant east of the Rockies, where every state experienced a top-ten March average temperature. In fact, record-setting March warmth affected 25 states from the Plains to the East Coast, including all of the Midwest (figure 1). Monthly temperatures averaged at least 15°F above normal at numerous Midwestern locations, while below-normal readings were mostly confined to the Pacific Coast States.

Although the nation as a whole noted its wettest March since 1998, little or no precipitation fell in a broad area stretching from the Southwest to eastern Montana and the western Dakotas. Unusually dry weather also prevailed in the Northeast and across Florida's peninsula. In the latter region, producers utilized irrigation to limit drought stress on blooming citrus and other crops.

In contrast, March storminess approximately doubled the water content of the high-elevation Sierra Nevada snow pack, slightly improving California's water-supply prospects. Across the remainder of the West, the water-supply outlook was mixed; the Northwest had abundant snow packs and favorable reservoir levels, while the Southwest suffered from mostly below-average snow packs and reservoir holdings.

East of the Rockies, winter wheat and fruit crops developed several weeks ahead of the normal pace, leaving many commodities vulnerable to spring freezes. By March 26-27, the first of several cool snaps arrived in the lower Great Lakes region and the Northeastern States, requiring producers to monitor fruit crops for signs of freeze injury. Meanwhile, unusual warmth persisted through month's end from the Plains into the Southeast.

Elsewhere, March wetness chipped away at long-term drought across the south-central United States, while showers provided some beneficial moisture in the Southeast. However, drought-related concerns persisted in several areas, including the southern High Plains and the lower Southeast.

**Historical Perspective:** The nation's average temperature of 51.1°F was 8.6°F above the 20<sup>th</sup>-century mean and eclipsed the 1910 standard of 50.6°F. Dropping to third place on the all-time list was 2007, with a March average temperature of 48.5°F. Cool conditions were limited to the Pacific Coast States, where Washington recorded its 35<sup>th</sup>-coolest March.

Meanwhile, the average monthly precipitation of 2.73 inches (114 percent of the long-term mean) represented the 25<sup>th</sup>-wettest March during the 118-year period of record. State rankings ranged from the driest March on record in Colorado to the second-wettest March in Oregon (figure 2). Top-ten values for March dryness were also observed in Wyoming, South Dakota, Delaware, New Jersey, and three of the six New England States. In contrast, top-ten values for March wetness were noted in Washington, Idaho, Texas, Oklahoma, and Louisiana.

Figure 1

### March 2012 Statewide Ranks

National Climatic Data Center/NESDIS/NOAA

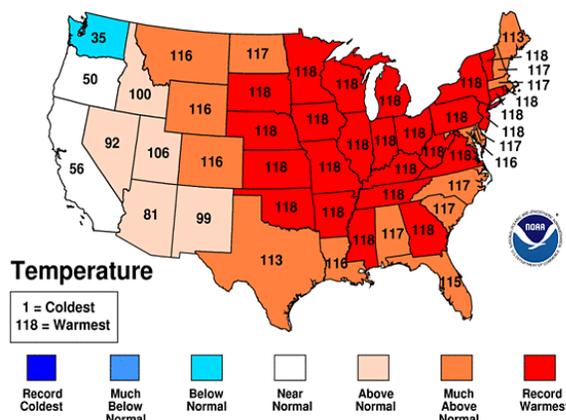
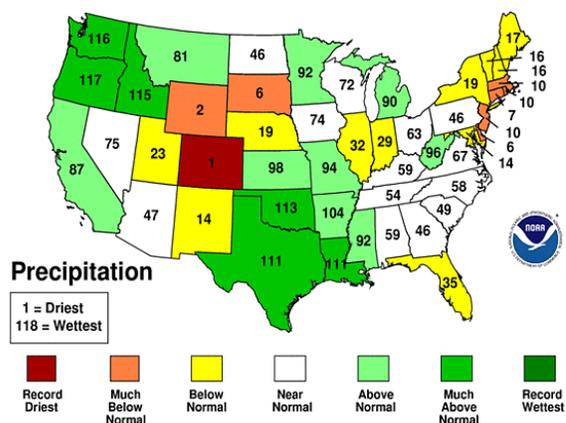


Figure 2

### March 2012 Statewide Ranks

National Climatic Data Center/NESDIS/NOAA



**Summary:** As February ended and March began, an impressive storm moved into the western U.S. High-elevation snowfall in late February and early March reached 2 to 3 feet in numerous locations from the Pacific Northwest to the Intermountain West. In Oregon, Santiam Pass received 36 inches of snow from February 28 - March 1. Farther inland, Alta, UT, reported 24 inches from February 29 - March 2. Farther east, however, the storm left an indelible mark on the Ohio Valley and the interior Southeast in the form of deadly tornadoes. The vicious severe weather outbreak, on March 2-3, spawned dozens of tornadoes and caused widespread wind and hail damage. Among the hardest-hit communities on March 2 was Henryville, Clark County, IN. In all, more than 150 tornadoes were reported on March 2-3, according to preliminary counts. Nine of the tornadoes resulted in a total of 40 fatalities, with 22 in Kentucky, 13 in Indiana, four in Ohio, and one in Alabama. The Henryville tornado, an EF-4, also crossed portions of Indiana's Washington, Scott, and Jefferson Counties, resulting in a total of 11 deaths. In advance of the early-March storm, record-setting warmth prevailed. March opened with consecutive daily-record highs in locations such as Vicksburg, MS (83°F both days), and

Monroe, LA (86 and 84°F). In contrast, chilly conditions settled across the West. Record lows for March 2 dipped to 2°F in both Eureka, NV, and Klamath Falls, OR.

Soon, however, warmth returned to the Pacific Coast States. Daily-record highs for March 4 included 91°F in Long Beach, CA, and 63°F in Ephrata, WA. Escondido, CA (89 and 85°F), posted consecutive daily-record highs on March 4-5. Farther east, Sidney, NE (73 and 74°F) noted consecutive daily-record highs on March 5-6. Other record highs for March 6 included 79°F in Colby, KS, and 74°F in Des Moines, IA. Meanwhile, sharply colder air arrived in the Northwest, where Redmond, OR (14 and 11°F), notched consecutive daily-record lows on March 6-7. Elsewhere in the Northwest, daily-record lows for March 7 dipped to 19°F in Whitman Mission, WA, and 20°F in Pendleton, OR. Cool air also returned to California, where Lancaster (21 and 24°F) tallied consecutive daily-record lows on March 8-9. Once again, however, Western temperatures quickly recovered, as Redmond (70°F) registered a daily-record high on March 8. Similarly, Camarillo, CA (86°F on March 9), collected a daily-record high, just a day after posting a daily-record low of 35°F. Meanwhile, an impressive spell of early-season warmth overspread the North. In Montana, Glasgow (65 and 69°F) tallied consecutive daily-record highs on March 9-10. Elsewhere in Montana, Miles City (74°F on March 9) experienced its warmest weather so early in the year; previously, the earliest observance of a high of 74°F or greater had occurred on March 12, 2007. Miles City's reading contrasted with a March 9 high of just 45°F in Del Rio, TX. Among a flurry of Northern daily-record highs on March 10 were readings of 72°F in Sioux Falls, SD, and Bismarck, ND.

Across the lower Southeast, drought-easing rainfall lingered into March 4. Rainfall totals on March 3-4 reached 4.28 inches in Alma, GA, and 3.43 inches in Charleston, SC. Farther north, a band of late-season snow spread across the Ohio Valley and southern Mid-Atlantic States on March 4-5. In Kentucky, snowfall totals reached 4.5 inches in Jackson and 3.5 inches in Louisville. Later, a new storm system began to emerge from the West. Daily-record rainfall totals for March 8 included 3.72 inches in Russellville, AR, and 3.03 inches in Lufkin, TX. For Russellville, it was also the wettest March day on record, tying March 29, 1945. Heavy showers lingered for several more days in parts of Texas, where College Station (1.74 inches on March 10) netted a daily-record total. Eventually, heavy rain spread into the western and central Gulf Coast regions. Daily-record amounts for March 11 included 3.04 inches in Monroe, LA, and 2.81 inches in Houston, TX. Through March 17, Houston's year-to-date precipitation totaled 15.79 inches (186 percent of normal). In 2011, Houston's precipitation did not reach 15.79 inches until November 8. Later, March 12-13 rainfall locally topped 8 inches at a few locations in Louisiana, especially in St. Martin and Lafayette Parishes. Farther west, snow gradually ended across the southern Rockies and the Southwest, where Albuquerque, NM (1.9 inches on March 11), received its highest single-day snowfall since December 15, 2008, when 2.2 inches fell. Farther north, heavy precipitation and high winds arrived in the Northwest. On March 12-13 along the Oregon coast, gusts reached 87 mph in Pacific City and 81 mph at Cape Foulweather. In the Washington Cascades, Holden Village twice received more than a foot of snow in a 24-hour period—15 inches on March 12-13 and 14 inches on March 14-15. Elsewhere in Washington, Spokane experienced its wettest March day on record (1.18 inches on March 15), eclipsing the 0.96-inch standard from March 9, 1989. Unofficial March 11-17

snowfall totals of 4 to 6 feet were noted in the Sierra Nevada, with 70 inches reported at Squaw Valley, CA. Closer to the Pacific Coast, isolated 15- to 20-inch rainfall totals were noted in the Santa Cruz Mountains, near San Francisco. Ben Lomond, CA, netted rainfall totaling 16.31 inches during the week ending March 17. Meanwhile, heavy precipitation spread into southern California and the Southwest. Fresno, CA, received a March 16-18 total of 1.78 inches, and—with a 1.51-inch sum on the 17<sup>th</sup>—experienced its wettest day since March 20, 2011, when 1.82 inches fell. In Flagstaff, AZ, where snow began to fall late in the day on March 17, more than one-quarter (26.4 of 92.5 inches) of the season-to-date total occurred on March 18-19. Farther north, windy conditions prevailed across the northern High Plains. Cut Bank, MT, clocked winds to 55 mph or greater on 6 days during the first half of the month, including a gust to 63 mph on March 13.

From March 14-18, Chicago, IL, reeled off a string of 5 days with highs of 80°F or greater. Previously, Chicago's earliest observance of five consecutive days of 80-degree warmth occurred more than a month later in the year—from April 23-27, 1915. Chicago also set a record with eight 80-degree days in March, previously set with 2 days in 1986. A multitude of Midwestern locations reached or exceeded 80°F earlier than ever before. Among them: Sioux City, IA (81°F on March 13); Traverse City, MI (81°F on March 14); Grand Rapids, MI (80°F on March 14); Moline, IL (81°F on March 15); Rockford, IL (82°F on March 15); Madison, WI (82°F on March 15); Mason City, IA (81°F on March 16); Sioux Falls, SD (82°F on March 16); Rochester, MN (81°F on March 17); and Oshkosh, WI (80°F on March 17). South Bend, IN (81°F on both March 14-15), posted consecutive 80-degree days in March for the first time since March 28-29, 1910. All-time high temperature records for March were tied or broken in locations such as Marquette, MI (75°F on March 17; previously, 71°F on March 8, 2000); International Falls, MN (77°F on March 17; previously, 76°F on March 27, 1946); Traverse City, MI (82°F on March 17; tied 82°F on March 29, 1910); Chadron, NE (83°F on March 16; tied 83°F on March 12, 2007, and earlier dates); and Bismarck, ND (81°F on March 16; tied 81°F on March 25, 2007, and earlier dates). Hundreds of daily-record highs were established from the Plains to the East Coast, with readings of 88°F noted in Greensburg, KS (on March 13); Columbia, SC (on March 15); Borger, TX (on March 16); and Colby, KS (on March 17). In Florida, Sarasota-Bradenton notched a daily-record high of 89°F on March 15.

From the Plains to the East Coast, stunning warmth continued through much of a second week. For example, Pittsburgh, PA, reached or exceeded 70°F on 11 consecutive days from March 13-23, breaking its March record of 5 days set from March 12-16, 1990. In Ohio, there were 10 consecutive days of 70-degree warmth from March 14-23 in locations such as Cleveland and Akron-Canton. Cleveland's record had been 7 consecutive days in 1945, while Akron-Canton's had been 8 days in 1910. Similarly, La Crosse, WI, reached or topped 70°F on 9 consecutive days from March 14-22, edging the record originally set from March 23-29, 1910. Chicago, IL, set daily-record highs (81, 81, 82, 82, 81, 78, 85, 87, and 83°F) on 9 consecutive days from March 14-22. Fort Wayne, IN, also attained daily-record highs on 9 days in a row, toppling its all-time mark of seven consecutive daily-record highs from July 8-14, 1936. In New Hampshire, Concord (five consecutive daily-record highs from March 18-22) set a mark for consecutive record highs, previously established from July 19-21, 1977.

Reaching the 80-degree mark earlier than ever before were locations such as Bangor, ME (83°F on March 21; previously, April 11, 1945); Burlington, VT (80°F on March 20; previously, March 29, 1945); and Milwaukee, WI (83°F on March 20; previously, March 26, 2007). Bangor (84°F on March 22), Burlington (81°F on March 21 and 22), and Milwaukee (84°F on March 21) all went on to later record higher readings. Setting all-time records for March warmth were dozens of additional locations from the Midwest into the Northeast, including Pierre, SD (88°F on March 18); Ft. Wayne, IN (87°F on March 21); Detroit, MI (86°F on March 22); Columbus, OH (85°F on March 21 and 22); Bangor, ME (84°F on March 22); Milwaukee, WI (84°F on March 21); and International Falls, MN (79°F on March 18). However, heat began to shift westward by March 24, when daily-record highs climbed to 91°F in Midland, TX, and 82°F in Pueblo, CO.

Nearly lost amid the warmth was the heavy rain that unfolded across the South—along with snow across the northern High Plains and parts of the West. In Montana, Havre received 11.9 inches of snow (1.76 inches of liquid) on March 19, accounting for more than half of its October 1 - March 24 precipitation total of 3.25 inches. Elsewhere in Montana, Great Falls received 5.2 inches of snow on March 18-19 and 4.8 inches on March 23-24, for a two-storm sum of 10.0 inches. Through March 24, Great Falls' season-to-date snowfall stood at just 29.3 inches (60 percent of normal), while Havre's total was just 17.4 inches (54 percent). Farther south, Waco, TX, set a 24-hour rainfall record for March. Waco netted 6.17 inches in a 24-hour period on March 19-20, shattering the record of 4.22 inches set on March 29-30, 2007. Farther north, 5.09 inches of rain pelted Little Rock, AR, in a 24-hour period on March 20-21. Prior to this event, Little Rock's wettest 24-hour period in March had occurred on March 9, 1878, when 4.08 inches fell. Similarly, North Little Rock netted 5.14 inches on March 20-21, edging the 24-hour March record established on March 7-8, 1990, when 5.05 inches fell. Storm-total rainfall topped 10 inches in several parishes in Louisiana, triggering lowland flooding. The Calcasieu River near Oberlin, LA, crested 6.94 feet above flood stage on March 26—the highest water level in that location since May 2004. During the multi-day storm event, daily-record totals topped 3 inches in locations such as Beaumont-Port Arthur, TX (4.22 inches on March 20); Shreveport, LA (4.06 inches on March 20); Hattisburg, MS (3.41 inches on March 21); Joplin, MO (3.06 inches on March 19); and Oklahoma City, OK (3.02 inches on March 19). Prior to reaching the Plains and South, the storm had produced heavy precipitation and high winds in the West. On March 18, wind gusts were clocked to 71 mph in Clayton, NM, and 70 mph in Lander, WY. On March 18-19, Flagstaff, AZ, received 26.4 inches of snow, while the nearby Arizona Snowbowl reported 53 inches. In Utah's Wasatch Range, Alta recorded a storm total of 50 inches. Later, impressive, late-season snow also fell in Oregon, where 1 to 3 feet blanketed the Cascades. In Eugene, OR, where 7.5 inches fell on March 20-21, the only spring storms of such magnitude occurred on March 5-7, 1951, when 7.6 inches fell, and March 3-4, 1916, when 13.7 inches fell.

By the end of March, the average water content of the high-elevation Sierra Nevada snow pack had climbed to 16 inches (approximately 55 percent of normal), up from 8 inches at the beginning of the month. In Crescent City, CA, the monthly rainfall climbed to 17.38 inches (221 percent of normal). Several Northwestern locations, including Portland, OR (7.89 inches), and Spokane, WA (4.56 inches), completed their wettest

March on record. Northwestern monthly totals were boosted by a late-month surge of moisture. Daily-record rainfall totals for March 29 included 2.54 inches in Astoria, OR, and 1.98 inches in Olympia, WA. On the same day, a wind gust to 82 mph was clocked along the Oregon coast at Sea Lion Caves. Meanwhile, locally heavy rain soaked Deep South Texas, where McAllen (4.37 inches on March 29) collected a daily-record amount. Late-month snowfall totals of 1 to 2 feet were common across the Cascades and Sierra Nevada, while high winds continued to rake portions of the West. On the last day of March, gusts were clocked to 121 mph on California's Mammoth Mountain and 106 mph on Nevada's Virginia Peak. Elsewhere, March precipitation totals ranged from a record high of 8.66 inches (previously, 8.03 inches in 1926) in College Station, TX, to record-low values of 0.00 inch in Scottsbluff, NE; a trace in Cheyenne, WY; 0.03 inch in Denver, CO; and 0.05 inch in Rapid City, SD.

With fairly typical weather returning to the nation's northeastern quadrant late in the month (starting on March 26-27), freezes threatened early-blooming fruit crops in the lower Great Lakes region and parts of the Northeast. Some of the coldest weather was observed in the northern Mid-Atlantic States on March 27, when temperatures locally dipped to 20°F or below. On the same date, freezes were noted as far south as the middle Ohio Valley, the central Appalachians, and western Virginia. In contrast, rare and historic March warmth persisted through month's end in many other parts of the country. Daily-record highs were set on March 25 in locations such as Roswell, NM (91°F), and Dalhart, TX (90°F). The following day, Roswell again reached 91°F, while highs climbed to daily-record levels for March 26 in Valentine, NE (87°F), and Mitchell, SD (85°F). Later, record-setting warmth intensified from the High Plains into the Southeast. On March 29, daily-record highs were noted in Lubbock, TX (91°F), and North Myrtle Beach, SC (88°F). Two days later, March ended on a record-setting note in dozens of locations, including Sioux City, IA (90°F); Lincoln, NE (91°F), and Roswell, NM (92°F). For Sioux City, it was the second-earliest date of the year's first 90-degree reading, behind 91°F on March 30, 1968. Record-setting highs for March were set or tied on the 31<sup>st</sup> in several locations, including Chadron, NE (83°F); Salt Lake City, UT (80°F); and Rawlins, WY (73°F). Salt Lake City also set a record for its earliest 80-degree reading, previously established with a high of 82°F on April 5, 1959.

As March began, cold weather followed earlier snowfall across the Alaskan mainland. For example, McGrath received 8.4 inches of snow from February 24-27, but dipped to -31°F by March 1. Later, daily-record lows were established in several communities, including King Salmon (-27°F on March 4) and Valdez (3°F on March 7). In some areas, snow preceded and accompanied the transition to colder weather. In Valdez, 17.3 inches of snow on March 5-6 boosted its snow depth to an all-time-record 100 inches on the latter date. By March 7, the season-to-date snowfall in Valdez reached 426 inches, 156 percent of normal. Elsewhere, March 5-7 snowfall reached 11.3 inches in Fairbanks, accounting for 20 percent of its season-to-date total. As the month progressed, Alaska's run of cold weather continued. King Salmon posted daily-record lows (-21 and -26°F) on March 18 and 20, respectively. A few days later, however, snow accompanied a surge of milder air across southwestern Alaska. March 21-23 totals reached 6.8 inches in Bethel and 12.0 inches in King Salmon. Toward month's end, Alaskan temperatures rebounded to near- or above-normal levels. Fairbanks (37°F) reached the freezing mark for the first

time this year on March 27, then attained 44°F the following day. Despite the late-month warming trend, both Nome and Kotzebue completed their second-coldest March in the last three decades. Meanwhile, heavy snow blanketed parts of the Aleutians, where Cold Bay's March 25-31 total reached 21.0 inches. Cold Bay also completed its second-snowiest March, with 43.3 inches, and wettest March on record, with 7.13 inches.

In early March, phenomenally heavy rain soaked parts of Hawaii, especially Kauai and Oahu, due to the passage of a slow-moving cold front. Barely a week after experiencing its wettest February day on record (6.39 inches on the 26<sup>th</sup>), Lihue, Kauai, endured its wettest March day (8.64 inches on the 5<sup>th</sup>). Previously, Lihue's wettest March day had been March 14, 2006, when 6.71 inches fell. Lihue's March 4-10 rainfall reached 16.67 inches, and its month-to-date sum through the 10<sup>th</sup> climbed to 17.55 inches. During an 8-day (192-hour) period from March 2-10, rainfall on Kauai totaled 48.74 inches at Hanalei, 46.49 inches at Wainiha, 34.75 inches on Mt. Waialeale, and 33.17 inches at Kapahi. During the same period on Oahu, the highest amount was 39.16 inches at the Oahu Forest National Wildlife Refuge. The highest observed 24-hour totals, both on Kauai, reached 14.37 inches (on March 3-4) on Mt. Waialeale and 14.00 inches (on March 5-6) at Wainiha. On Oahu, March 9 featured a brief tornado near Kailua and a state-record hailstone (4.25 inches in diameter, with an oblong shape) in Kaneohe. Following the early-month deluge, generally tranquil weather returned. On the Big Island, Hilo notched daily-record lows on March 27 and 29, with readings of 60°F both days. The final monthly rainfall total reached 18.17 inches (394 percent of normal) in Lihue. Elsewhere on Kauai, Mt. Waialeale netted 64.11 inches (169 percent of normal), while Wainiha (55.35 inches, or 424 percent) and Hanalei (52.66 inches, or 603 percent) topped the 50-inch mark.

## Fieldwork

*Fieldwork summary provided by USDA/NASS*

March delivered warmer-than-normal weather to areas from the Rocky Mountains to the Atlantic Coast, while near-normal temperatures prevailed in the Great Basin and along the Pacific Coast. Most notably, temperatures averaged at least 12°F above normal throughout the Great Lakes region, as well as much of the Corn Belt and northern Great Plains. In these regions, warmth promoted an earlier-than-normal start to spring fieldwork. Meanwhile, March storm systems brought above-average precipitation to the Pacific Northwest, Texas, and much of the Delta. Conversely, moisture accumulation was significantly below normal in the Southwest and central and southern Rocky Mountains.

Row crop producers in many states were working their fields as March began, cultivating, applying herbicides and fertilizer, and pre-irrigating before planting this year's crops. In portions of the South, corn, cotton, and sorghum were planted early in the month. Rice producers in California were draining fields around mid-month, while growers in Texas and parts of the Delta were seeding their fields. Sugarcane growers in Florida and Texas remained busy throughout the month, wrapping up the harvest of the 2011 crop. By April 1, corn planting was active in half of the 18 major estimating states, with 3 percent of the nation's

crop in the ground. This pace was slightly ahead of both last year and the 5-year average. However, despite the opportunity to plant early, producers in many locations remained hesitant out of concern for a spring freeze.

Warmer-than-normal weather, coupled with adequate soil moisture, provided favorable growing conditions for developing small grain crops in many areas. Winter wheat fields in portions of the southern United States were jointing and heading ahead of the normal pace. Conversely, winter wheat in the High Plains and Trans Pecos regions of Texas struggled developmentally due to continued dry weather and high winds. Late-month storm systems brought beneficial rain to portions of the central and southern Great Plains, boosting soil moisture levels and improving crop conditions in several major growing areas. However, isolated areas received more than 5 inches of rainfall, which led to lowland flooding and increased prevalence of powdery mildew and rust in some fields.

Vegetable growers spent the month harvesting their remaining winter crops, while readying fields and planting spring crops. Watermelons were planted in northern Florida around mid-month. Above-average temperatures prompted early blooming and budding in a variety of tree fruit, nut, and grape crops, leaving growers concerned about a possible spring freeze. By month's end, pea-sized fruit were evident on Valencia trees in Florida.

## U.S. Crop Production Highlights

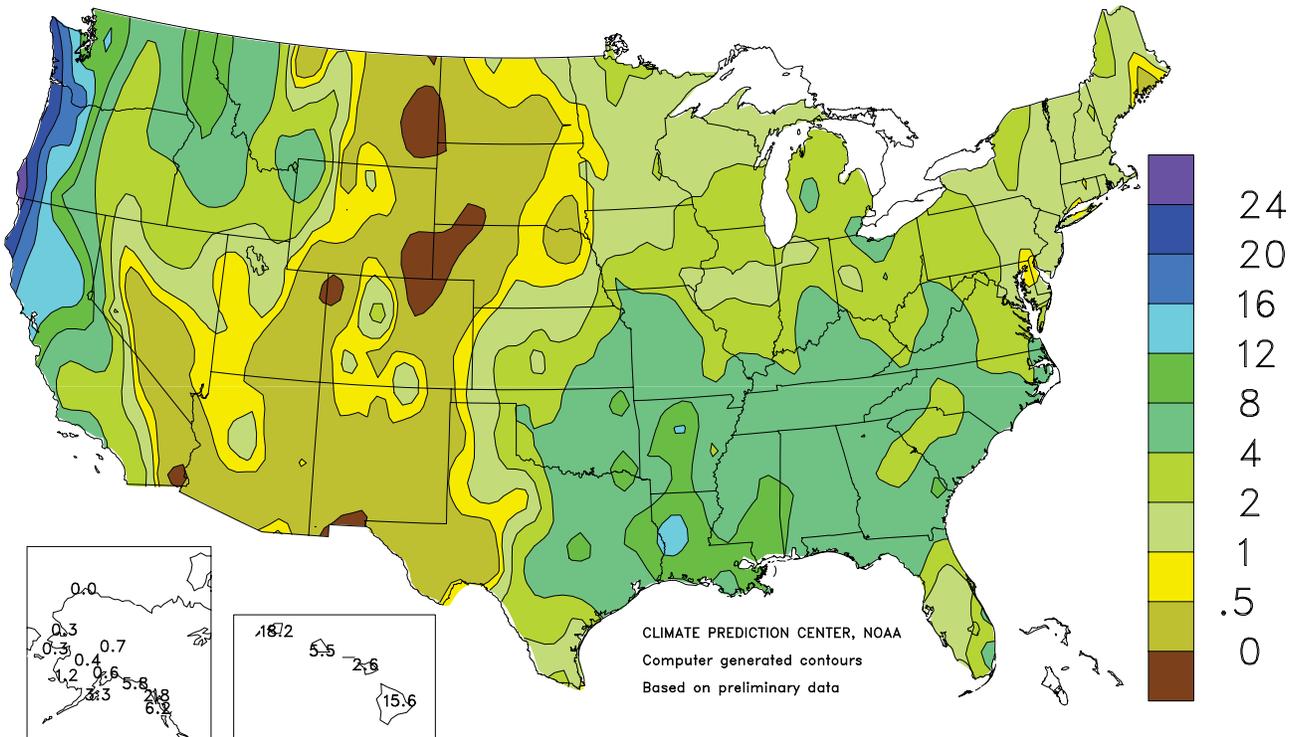
*The following information was released by USDA's Agricultural Statistics Board on April 10. Forecasts refer to April 1.*

The U.S. **all orange** forecast for the 2011-2012 season is 8.91 million tons, down 1 percent from the previous forecast but virtually unchanged from the revised 2010-2011 final utilization. The Florida all orange forecast, at 145 million boxes (6.53 million tons), is down 1 percent from the March forecast but up 3 percent from last season's revised final utilization. Early, midseason, and Navel varieties in Florida are forecast at 74.0 million boxes (3.33 million tons), unchanged from the March forecast but up 5 percent from last season. The Florida Valencia orange forecast, at 71.0 million boxes (3.20 million tons), is down 3 percent from the March forecast but up 1 percent from the revised 2010-2011 crop. Sizes for Valencia oranges in Florida are expected to be slightly smaller than average and fruit droppage is expected to be well above average.

The California all orange forecast is 58.0 million boxes (2.32 million tons), unchanged from the previous forecast but down 7 percent from last season's revised final utilization. The California Navel orange forecast is 44.0 million boxes (1.76 million tons), unchanged from the March forecast but down 8 percent from last season. The California Valencia orange forecast is 14.0 million boxes (560,000 tons), unchanged from the previous forecast but down 3 percent from last season's revised final utilization. Harvest of Navel oranges continued during March, while Valencia orange harvest began. The Texas orange forecast, at 1.39 million boxes (60,000 tons), is down 15 percent from the previous forecast and down 29 percent from last season's final utilization.

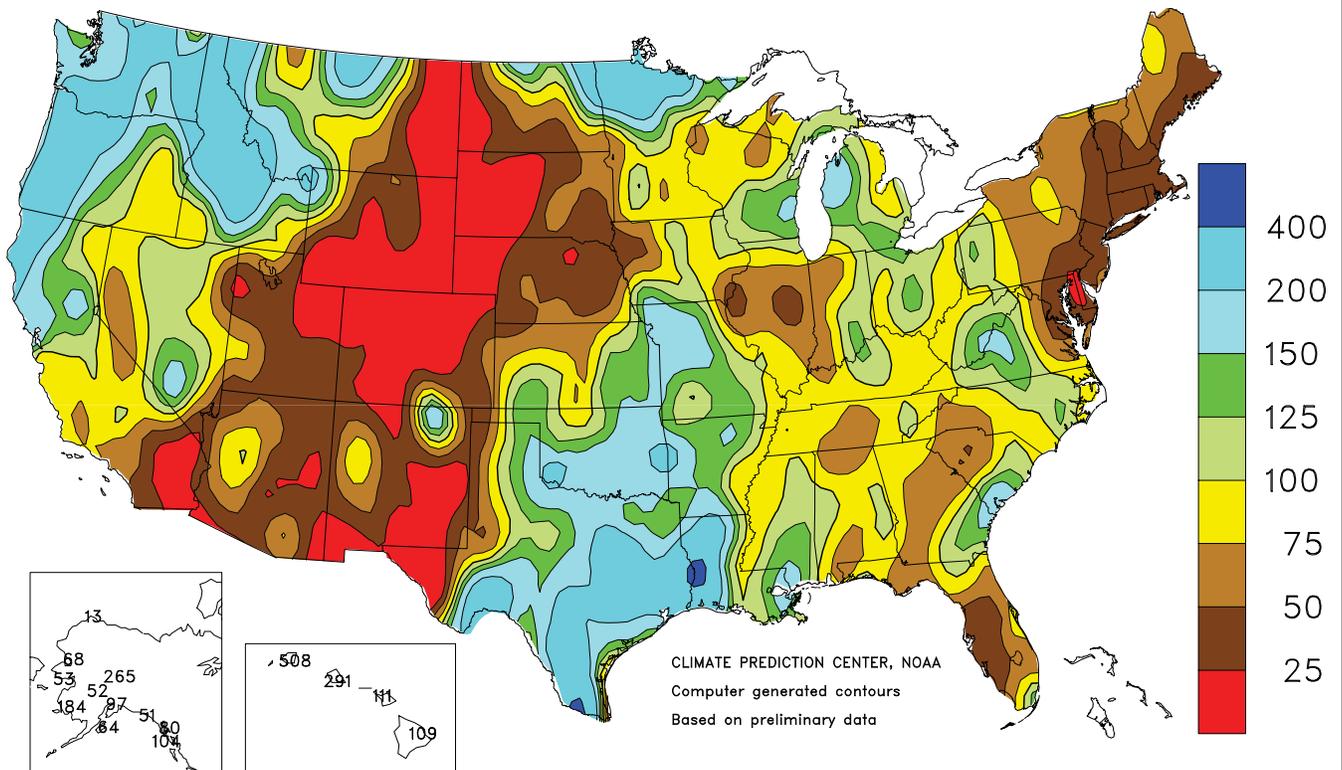
### Total Precipitation (Inches)

March 2012



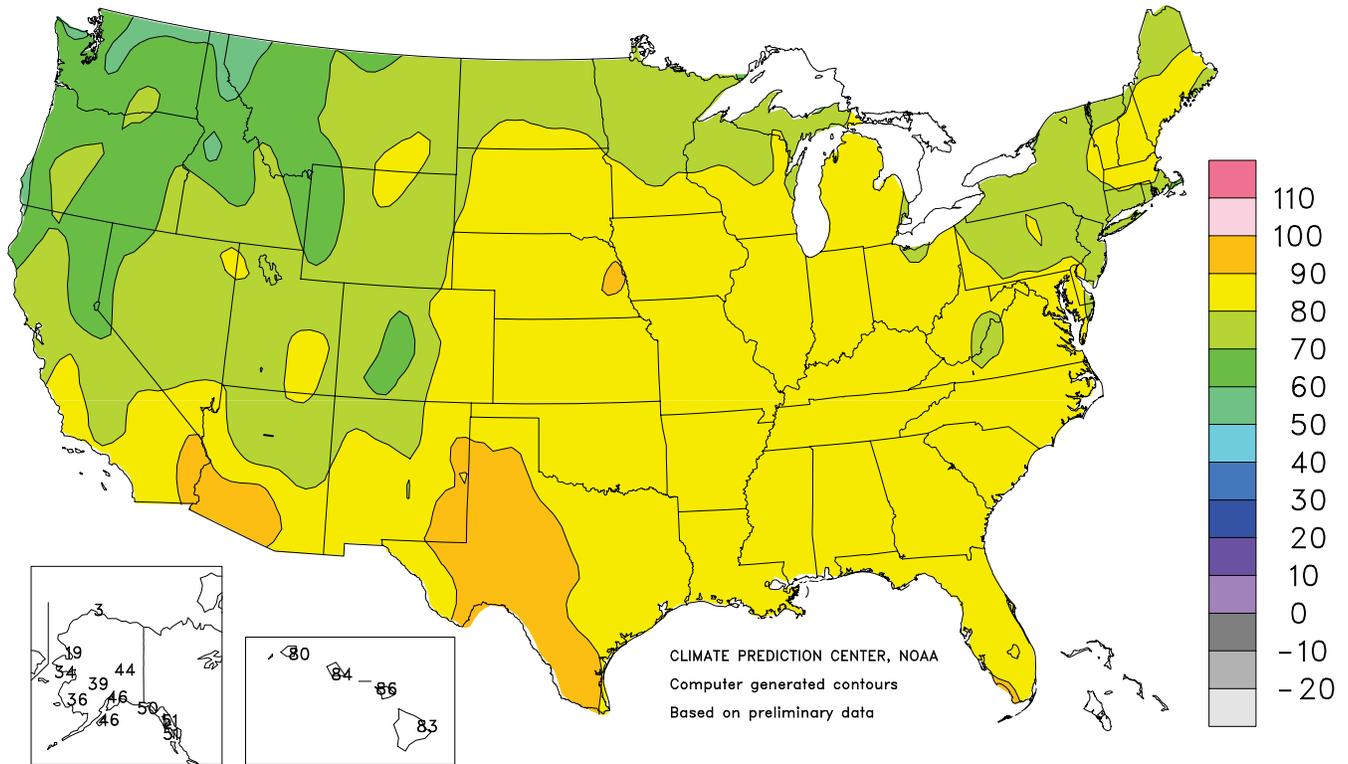
### Percent Of Normal Precipitation

March 2012



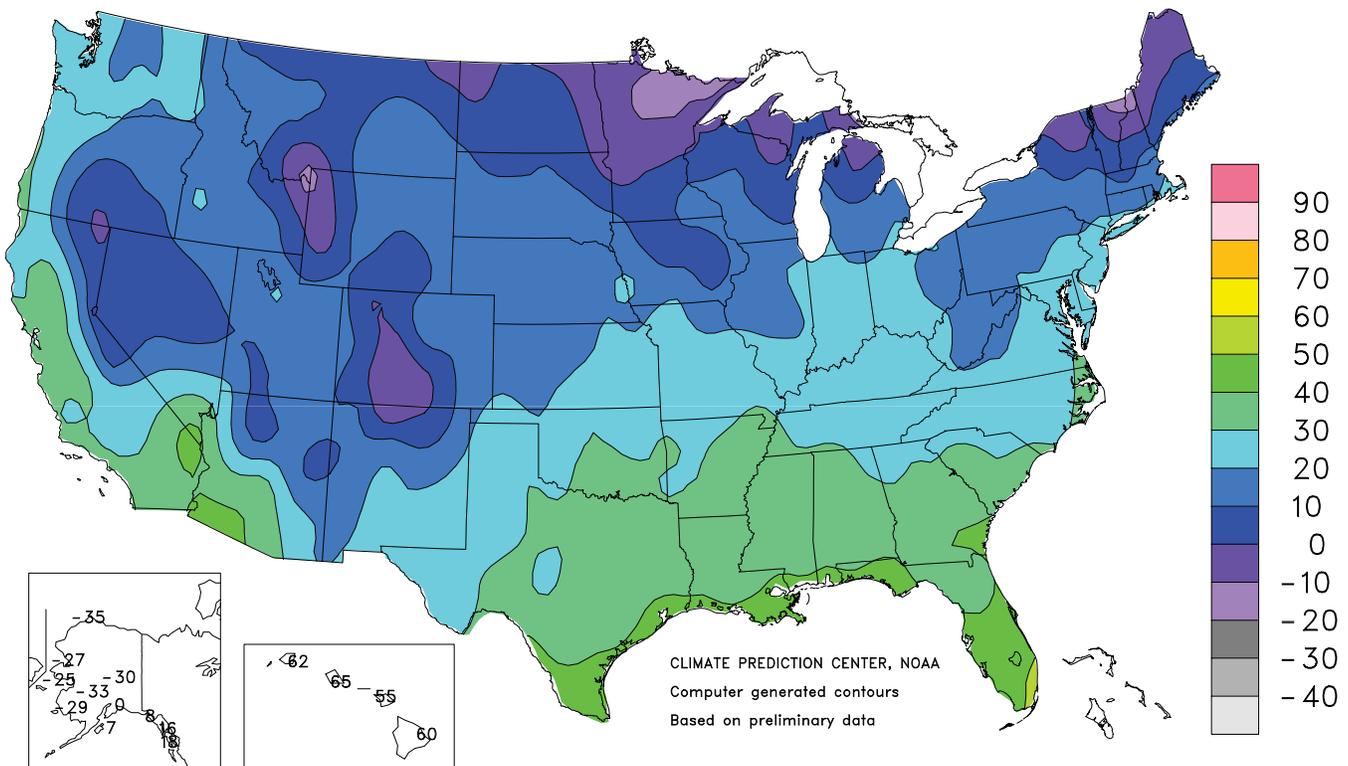
### Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F)

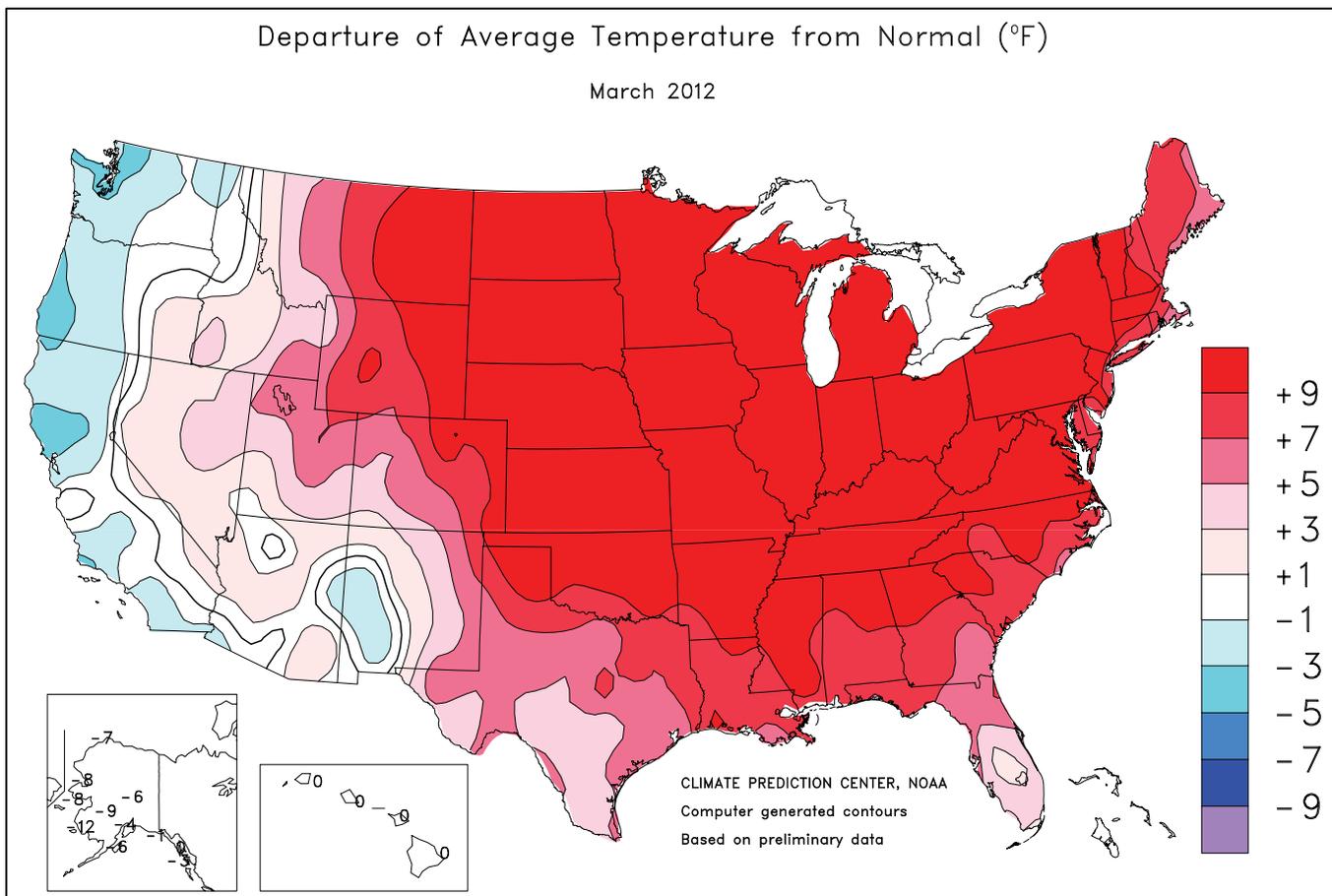
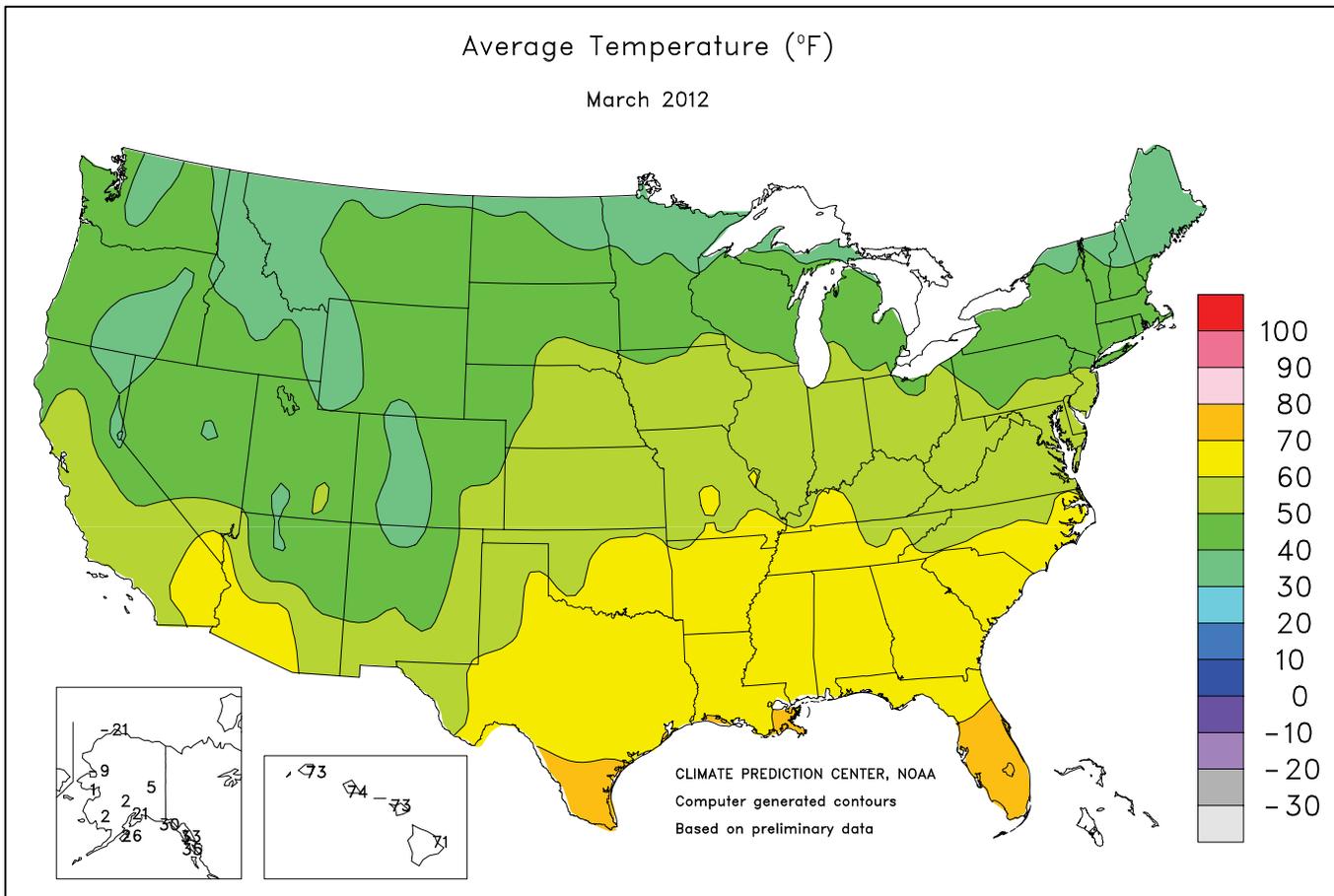
March 2012



### Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)

March 2012





National Weather Data for Selected Cities

March 2012

Data Provided by Climate Prediction Center (301-763-8000, Ext. 7503)

STATES AND STATIONS	TEMP, °F		PRECIP.		STATES AND STATIONS	TEMP, °F		PRECIP.		STATES AND STATIONS	TEMP, °F		PRECIP.	
	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE	TOTAL	DEPARTURE		AVERAGE	DEPARTURE	TOTAL	DEPARTURE		AVERAGE	DEPARTURE	TOTAL	DEPARTURE
AL BIRMINGHAM	65	10	4.71	-1.39	LEXINGTON	56	10	3.31	-1.10	COLUMBUS	54	12	4.92	2.03
HUNTSVILLE	64	12	4.32	-2.36	LONDON-CORBIN	57	10	4.05	-0.56	DAYTON	53	13	2.66	-0.63
MOBILE	68	8	6.69	-0.51	LOUISVILLE	60	13	6.22	1.81	MANSFIELD	50	13	3.14	-0.22
MONTGOMERY	67	9	3.80	-2.59	PADUCAH	61	13	4.00	-0.27	TOLEDO	51	14	3.84	1.22
AK ANCHORAGE	21	-5	0.63	-0.02	LA BATON ROUGE	69	9	6.42	1.35	YOUNGSTOWN	49	12	2.36	-0.69
BARROW	-21	-7	0.01	-0.08	LAKE CHARLES	70	9	7.46	3.92	OK OKLAHOMA CITY	61	10	5.03	2.13
COLD BAY	20	-10	7.13	4.65	NEW ORLEANS	71	9	8.10	2.86	TULSA	62	11	6.24	2.67
FAIRBANKS	5	-6	0.74	0.46	SHREVEPORT	67	9	7.94	3.76	OR ASTORIA	44	-2	14.13	6.76
JUNEAU	33	-1	2.82	-0.69	ME BANGOR	38	7	1.40	-2.04	BURNS	39	2	1.14	-0.10
KING SALMON	10	-14	1.35	0.56	CARIBOU	31	6	1.59	-0.98	EUGENE	44	-2	9.93	4.13
KODIAK	26	-7	3.33	-1.89	PORTLAND	41	7	2.05	-2.09	MEDFORD	45	-2	3.72	1.87
NOME	1	-8	0.32	-0.28	MD BALTIMORE	54	10	1.76	-2.17	PENDLETON	44	-1	1.93	0.67
AZ FLAGSTAFF	38	1	1.81	-0.81	MA BOSTON	47	8	1.21	-2.64	PORTLAND	45	-2	7.89	4.18
PHOENIX	66	3	0.25	-0.82	WORCESTER	44	10	1.66	-2.57	SALEM	44	-3	9.97	5.80
TUCSON	61	2	0.34	-0.47	MI ALPENA	41	13	1.88	-0.25	PA ALLENTOWN	50	11	1.00	-2.56
AR FORT SMITH	64	11	8.06	4.12	DETROIT	51	14	2.95	0.43	ERIE	49	12	2.20	-0.93
LITTLE ROCK	64	11	8.05	3.17	FLINT	49	15	2.03	-0.19	MIDDLETOWN	51	10	1.74	-1.54
CA BAKERSFIELD	58	1	1.27	-0.14	GRAND RAPIDS	51	16	3.14	0.55	PHILADELPHIA	52	9	0.79	-3.02
EUREKA	46	-3	12.02	6.47	HOUGHTON LAKE	44	15	2.97	0.92	PITTSBURGH	51	11	3.29	0.12
FRESNO	56	0	2.43	0.23	LANSING	49	15	2.78	0.45	WILKES-BARRE	49	11	2.45	-0.24
LOS ANGELES	57	-1	1.78	-0.62	MUSKEGON	49	15	3.39	1.03	WILLIAMSPORT	49	11	1.19	-2.02
REDDING	51	-2	6.45	1.30	TRAVERSE CITY	47	16	3.66	1.68	PR SAN JUAN	79	1	9.27	7.13
SACRAMENTO	53	-2	4.06	1.26	MN DULUTH	39	14	1.62	-0.07	RI PROVIDENCE	46	7	1.31	-3.12
SAN DIEGO	58	-2	0.97	-1.29	INT'L FALLS	38	14	2.81	1.85	SC CHARLESTON	65	7	5.51	1.51
SAN FRANCISCO	53	-1	4.76	1.50	MINNEAPOLIS	48	16	1.40	-0.46	COLUMBIA	65	10	2.21	-2.38
STOCKTON	53	-2	2.23	-0.05	ROCHESTER	49	18	1.24	-0.64	FLORENCE	64	8	4.60	0.60
CO ALAMOSA	38	5	0.10	-0.36	ST. CLOUD	44	16	1.15	-0.35	GREENVILLE	62	10	3.51	-1.80
CO SPRINGS	48	10	0.06	-1.00	MS JACKSON	66	9	7.06	1.32	MYRTLE BEACH	63	8	3.40	-0.39
DENVER	49	11	0.03	-0.86	MERIDIAN	65	8	8.97	2.04	SD ABERDEEN	44	13	0.38	-0.96
GRAND JUNCTION	48	5	0.20	-0.80	TUPELO	64	11	7.71	1.41	HURON	48	15	0.99	-0.68
PUEBLO	49	7	0.11	-0.86	MO COLUMBIA	60	16	4.21	1.00	RAPID CITY	48	13	0.05	-0.98
CT BRIDGEPORT	47	7	1.04	-3.11	JOPLIN	60	12	6.29	2.67	SIOUX FALLS	50	17	0.77	-1.04
HARTFORD	47	9	1.52	-2.36	KANSAS CITY	58	14	4.56	2.12	TN BRISTOL	57	10	2.58	-1.33
DC WASHINGTON	57	10	1.02	-2.58	SPRINGFIELD	58	12	2.73	-1.09	CHATTANOOGA	63	12	5.40	-0.79
DE WILMINGTON	51	8	0.92	-3.05	ST JOSEPH	58	14	4.33	1.97	JACKSON	62	11	4.17	-0.96
FL DAYTONA BEACH	70	5	2.01	-1.83	ST LOUIS	61	15	3.33	-0.27	KNOXVILLE	60	10	6.06	0.89
FT LAUDERDALE	76	5	1.63	-1.17	MT BILLINGS	47	10	0.70	-0.42	MEMPHIS	65	12	4.35	-1.23
FT MYERS	74	4	0.52	-2.22	BUTTE	36	6	1.20	0.37	NASHVILLE	61	11	3.11	-1.76
JACKSONVILLE	67	5	2.17	-1.76	GLASGOW	42	11	0.41	-0.06	TX ABILENE	62	6	1.21	-0.20
KEY WEST	76	2	0.79	-1.07	GREAT FALLS	40	7	1.10	0.09	AMARILLO	56	8	1.16	0.03
MELBOURNE	71	5	3.03	0.11	HELENA	41	6	0.89	0.26	AUSTIN	65	3	5.11	2.97
MIAMI	75	3	4.96	2.40	KALISPELL	37	2	1.65	0.54	BEAUMONT	69	7	7.52	3.77
ORLANDO	72	5	0.81	-2.73	MILES CITY	47	12	0.01	-0.57	BROWNSVILLE	73	4	0.51	-0.42
PENSACOLA	69	8	3.95	-2.45	MISSOULA	40	2	1.17	0.21	COLLEGE STATION	67	5	8.66	5.82
ST PETERSBURG	73	6	1.08	-2.21	NE GRAND ISLAND	54	16	0.83	-1.21	CORPUS CHRISTI	72	6	1.35	-0.38
TALLAHASSEE	69	8	4.14	-2.33	HASTINGS	53	14	0.86	-1.22	DALLAS/FT WORTH	64	7	5.74	2.68
TAMPA	74	7	0.97	-1.87	LINCOLN	55	16	0.89	-1.32	DEL RIO	68	4	1.31	0.35
WEST PALM BEACH	73	2	2.29	-1.39	MCCOOK	52	12	0.52	-0.89	EL PASO	58	1	0.08	-0.18
GA ATHENS	64	11	3.17	-1.82	NORFOLK	53	16	0.58	-1.39	GALVESTON	70	6	4.96	2.20
ATLANTA	64	10	3.52	-1.86	NORTH PLATTE	50	12	0.82	-0.42	HOUSTON	69	7	7.14	3.78
AUGUSTA	64	8	2.28	-2.33	OMAHA/EPPLEY	56	17	1.12	-1.01	LUBBOCK	58	7	0.71	-0.05
COLUMBUS	67	9	3.88	-1.87	SCOTTSBLUFF	49	12	0.00	-1.16	MIDLAND	60	4	0.11	-0.31
MACON	64	8	1.84	-3.05	VALENTINE	49	14	0.31	-0.80	SAN ANGELO	62	5	1.49	0.50
SAVANNAH	67	8	4.55	0.91	NV ELKO	41	2	1.36	0.38	SAN ANTONIO	66	4	3.24	1.35
HI HILO	71	-1	15.63	1.28	ELY	40	4	0.84	-0.21	VICTORIA	69	5	3.29	1.04
HONOLULU	74	0	5.50	3.61	LAS VEGAS	61	3	0.18	-0.41	WACO	63	5	8.33	5.85
KAHULUI	73	0	2.61	0.26	RENO	46	3	0.11	-0.75	WICHITA FALLS	62	8	3.49	1.22
LIHUE	73	0	18.17	14.59	WINNEMUCCA	42	1	1.00	0.14	UT SALT LAKE CITY	49	6	0.58	-1.33
ID BOISE	47	3	2.23	0.82	NH CONCORD	42	9	1.64	-1.40	VT BURLINGTON	43	12	0.98	-1.34
LEWISTON	44	-1	3.59	2.47	NJ ATLANTIC CITY	51	9	2.09	-1.97	VA LYNCHBURG	56	10	5.78	1.95
POCATELLO	42	4	1.16	-0.22	NEWARK	51	9	1.04	-3.17	NORFOLK	59	10	2.62	-1.46
IL CHICAGO/O'HARE	53	16	2.68	0.03	NM ALBUQUERQUE	51	3	0.20	-0.41	RICHMOND	58	10	2.51	-1.58
MOLINE	53	14	1.65	-1.27	NY ALBANY	46	11	1.54	-1.56	ROANOKE	57	10	3.52	-0.32
PEORIA	55	15	1.51	-1.32	BINGHAMTON	45	12	1.68	-1.29	WASH/DULLES	54	11	1.52	-2.03
ROCKFORD	53	17	2.08	-0.31	BUFFALO	47	13	1.86	-1.13	WA OLYMPIA	42	-2	8.57	3.28
SPRINGFIELD	57	15	1.68	-1.47	ROCHESTER	47	13	1.28	-1.30	QUILLAYUTE	42	-2	21.00	10.02
EVANSVILLE	59	13	2.51	-1.78	SYRACUSE	46	12	1.96	-1.06	SEATTLE-TACOMA	43	-3	7.20	3.45
FORT WAYNE	53	15	2.90	0.04	NC ASHEVILLE	56	10	2.72	-1.87	SPOKANE	39	-1	4.56	3.03
INDIANAPOLIS	56	14	4.14	0.70	CHARLOTTE	61	8	3.89	-0.50	YAKIMA	43	1	1.44	0.74
SOUTH BEND	53	15	1.67	-1.22	GREENSBORO	59	10	2.92	-0.93	WV BECKLEY	54	12	4.04	0.41
BURLINGTON	55	15	1.04	-1.92	HATTERAS	61	9	4.13	-0.82	CHARLESTON	56	11	3.37	-0.53
CEDAR RAPIDS	51	14	2.44	0.21	RALEIGH	60	9	5.36	1.33	ELKINS	50	10	4.08	0.16
DES MOINES	56	18	1.73	-0.48	WILMINGTON	62	7	3.58	-0.64	HUNTINGTON	57	11	2.62	-1.21
DUBUQUE	50	15	2.72	0.15	ND BISMARCK	43	13	0.52	-0.33	WI EAU CLAIRE	47	16	1.54	-0.32
SIoux CITY	53	16	0.70	-1.30	DICKINSON	44	14	0.04	-0.65	GREEN BAY	46	15	2.21	0.15
WATERLOO	51	16	1.27	-0.86	FARGO	42	15	0.78	-0.39	LA CROSSE	50	15	1.52	-0.48
KS CONCORDIA	57	15	1.61	-0.74	GRAND FORKS	38	12	1.79	0.90	MADISON	50	16	2.61	0.33
DODGE CITY	54	10	2.67	0.83	JAMESTOWN	41	13	0.42	-0.47	MILWAUKEE	49	14	3.19	0.60
GOODLAND	51	11	0.60	-0.60	MINOT	42	14	0.73	-0.32	WAUSAU	46	16	1.13	-0.79
HILL CITY	53	14	1.04	-0.50	WILLISTON	41	12	0.10	-0.64	WY CASPER	44	9	0.33	-0.57
TOPEKA	59	15	3.46	0.90	OH AKRON-CANTON	51	13	2.93	-0.22	CHEYENNE	45	11	0.00	-1.05
WICHITA	58	12	4.03	1.32	CINCINNATI	55	11	2.86	-1.04	LANDER	44	9	0.36	-0.88
KY JACKSON	59	12	4.07	-0.31	CLEVELAND	51	13	3.88	0.94	SHERIDAN	46	11	0.54	-0.46

## Crop Progress and Condition

### Week Ending April 8, 2012

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

Corn Percent Planted				
	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 8 2012	5-Yr Avg
CO	1	0	1	1
IL	3	5	17	1
IN	1	1	6	0
IA	0	0	1	0
KS	4	0	6	4
KY	4	5	32	7
MI	0	2	3	0
MN	0	0	1	0
MO	8	7	23	6
NE	1	1	1	0
NC	12	10	25	18
ND	0	0	0	0
OH	0	1	2	0
PA	0	0	2	0
SD	0	0	2	0
TN	9	15	46	15
TX	55	48	52	54
WI	0	0	0	0
<b>18 Sts</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>
These 18 States planted 92% of last year's corn acreage.				

Winter Wheat Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
AR	2	6	33	47	12
CA	5	5	10	45	35
CO	2	16	40	39	3
ID	1	1	11	76	11
IL	1	1	14	57	27
IN	1	1	15	64	19
KS	1	5	29	52	13
MI	1	4	29	52	14
MO	0	2	22	56	20
MT	1	9	58	29	3
NE	0	5	35	52	8
NC	0	0	9	66	25
OH	4	13	33	39	11
OK	0	4	19	50	27
OR	0	10	29	50	11
SD	10	8	34	40	8
TX	15	16	31	29	9
WA	1	2	15	67	15
<b>18 Sts</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>14</b>
Prev Wk	3	9	30	46	12
Prev Yr	16	20	28	29	7

Cotton Percent Planted				
	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 8 2012	5-Yr Avg
AL	0	3	4	1
AZ	19	20	25	21
AR	0	0	1	0
CA	14	0	5	24
GA	1	2	6	0
KS	0	0	0	0
LA	4	0	5	2
MS	0	0	0	0
MO	0	0	0	0
NC	0	0	1	0
OK	0	0	0	0
SC	0	0	0	0
TN	0	0	0	0
TX	11	12	15	10
VA	0	0	0	0
<b>15 Sts</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>
These 15 States planted 99% of last year's cotton acreage.				

Sorghum Percent Planted				
	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 8 2012	5-Yr Avg
AR	32	26	58	16
CO	0	0	0	0
IL	0	0	0	0
KS	0	0	0	0
LA	79	36	54	37
MO	0	0	1	1
NE	0	0	0	0
NM	1	0	0	1
OK	0	0	0	1
SD	0	0	0	0
TX	52	40	46	50
<b>11 Sts</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>
These 11 States planted 98% of last year's sorghum acreage.				

Oats Percent Planted				
	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 8 2012	5-Yr Avg
IA	29	58	75	21
MN	0	18	49	5
NE	29	38	50	29
ND	0	6	12	0
OH	4	18	42	14
PA	2	36	59	14
SD	2	16	50	4
TX	100	100	100	100
WI	2	2	26	8
<b>9 Sts</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>41</b>
These 9 States planted 65% of last year's oat acreage.				

Oats Percent Emerged				
	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 8 2012	5-Yr Avg
IA	1	NA	23	1
MN	0	NA	4	0
NE	1	NA	15	3
ND	0	NA	0	0
OH	0	NA	6	0
PA	0	NA	22	1
SD	0	NA	16	0
TX	100	NA	100	100
WI	0	NA	0	0
<b>9 Sts</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>36</b>
These 9 States planted 65% of last year's oat acreage.				

**Crop Progress and Condition**

**Week Ending April 8, 2012**

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

Rice Percent Planted				
	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 8 2012	5-Yr Avg
AR	17	18	49	13
CA	0	0	0	0
LA	64	37	51	55
MS	9	18	36	9
MO	3	9	47	3
TX	76	4	35	61
<b>6 Sts</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>19</b>
These 6 States planted 100% of last year's rice acreage.				

Rice Percent Emerged				
	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 8 2012	5-Yr Avg
AR	1	NA	11	1
CA	0	NA	0	0
LA	27	NA	12	19
MS	3	NA	12	2
MO	0	NA	5	0
TX	51	NA	15	32
<b>6 Sts</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>
These 6 States planted 100% of last year's rice acreage.				

Barley Percent Planted				
	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 8 2012	5-Yr Avg
ID	14	13	20	20
MN	0	6	18	2
MT	2	7	18	7
ND	0	3	7	0
WA	10	4	5	27
<b>5 Sts</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>10</b>
These 5 States planted 75% of last year's barley acreage.				

Spring Wheat Percent Planted				
	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 8 2012	5-Yr Avg
ID	15	12	19	23
MN	0	3	25	1
MT	1	5	11	4
ND	0	6	17	1
SD	4	25	52	6
WA	26	20	23	37
<b>6 Sts</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>5</b>
These 6 States planted 99% of last year's spring wheat acreage.				

VP - Very Poor; P - Poor;  
F - Fair;  
G - Good; EX - Excellent

NA - Not Available  
\* Revised

## National Agricultural Summary

April 2 – 8, 2012

*Weekly National Agricultural Summary provided by USDA/NASS*

### HIGHLIGHTS

Continuing this spring's trend, temperatures in the heart of the country remained well above average during the week, promoting a rapid development pace for small grain crops and providing ample days suitable for fieldwork as producers plant this year's row crops. Most notably, temperatures averaged more than 12°F above normal in portions of the northern Great Plains and western Corn Belt. Elsewhere, temperatures west of the Rocky Mountains

were below average. Precipitation was scattered across the nation, but areas in the northern Rocky Mountains, central and southern Great Plains, and Delta received amounts totaling more than four times the weekly normal. Conversely, many other locations across the United States received less than 2 percent of their normal weekly precipitation, compounding the effects of already short moisture supplies.

**Corn:** Producers planted 4 percent, or approximately 3.8 million acres, of the nation's intended corn acreage during the week. At 7 percent complete, progress was 4 percentage points ahead of last year and 5 points ahead of the 5-year average. This was the quickest corn planting pace on record. Planting advanced at least 27 percentage points in Kentucky and Tennessee, where warm, mostly dry weather provided ample time for fieldwork during the week.

**Winter Wheat:** Overall, 61 percent of the winter wheat crop was reported in good to excellent condition, up 3 percentage points from last week and 25 points above the same time last year. Favorable weather conditions across most of the major growing regions helped to improve crop conditions during the week. Compared with this time last year, the portion of the winter wheat crop rated very poor to poor decreased from 37 to 6 percent in Kansas, 60 to 4 percent in Oklahoma, and 66 to 31 percent in Texas.

**Cotton:** Nationally, 9 percent of the cotton crop was planted by April 8, two percentage points ahead of last year and 3 points ahead of the 5-year average. In Texas, producers on the Plains continued to irrigate fields ahead of planting, while recent moisture in southern portions of the state helped to improve fields that were already planted.

**Sorghum:** By week's end, 16 percent of this year's sorghum crop was planted, 2 percentage points behind last year but on par with the 5-year average. Progress was well ahead of normal in the lower Delta, while planting was behind the average pace in New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas.

**Rice:** By April 8, producers had seeded 37 percent of the rice crop, 14 percentage points ahead of last year and 18 points ahead of the 5-year average. Favorable weather conditions in the Delta and Texas continued to promote a rapid seeding pace during the week. Nationally, 9 percent of the rice crop was emerged by week's end, slightly ahead of last year and 3 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average.

**Small Grains:** Sixty-two percent of the oat crop was seeded by week's end, 22 percentage points ahead of last year and 21 points ahead of the 5-year average. Overall, progress was 12 percentage points or more ahead of the normal pace in all estimating states except Texas, where seeding had been complete since December. Nationally, 41 percent of the oat crop was emerged by April 8, five percentage points ahead of both last year and the 5-year average.

Barley producers had seeded 15 percent of this year's crop by week's end, 10 percentage points ahead of last year and 5 points ahead of the 5-year average. Seeding was at or ahead of the average in all estimating states except Washington, where temperatures have been below normal and precipitation has left some soils too wet for fieldwork.

By April 8, twenty-one percent of the spring wheat crop was sown, 18 percentage points ahead of last year and 16 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. In Minnesota and the Dakotas, seeding was at least 16 percentage points ahead of the average pace, as warm weather and adequate soil moisture supplies had producers completing fieldwork earlier than normal.

## 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 Crop Progress and Condition Reports published each Monday by NASS State Statistical Offices in cooperation with the National Weather Service. The crop reports are available on the Internet through the NASS Home Page on the World Wide Web at <http://www.nass.usda.gov>.*

**ALABAMA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Topsoil moisture 3% very short, 11% short, 83% adequate, and 3% surplus. Corn planted 61%, 41% 2011, and 44% five year average. Corn emerged 33%, 21% 2011, and 18% five year average. Corn condition 7% fair, 79% good, and 14% excellent. Winter Wheat Headed 59%, 0% 2011, and 0% five year average. Winter wheat condition 2% poor, 18% fair, 65% good, and 15% excellent. Livestock condition 2% poor, 17% fair, 64% good, and 17% excellent. Pasture and range condition 1% very poor, 3% poor, 20% fair, 61% good, and 15% excellent. The week's average mean temperatures ranged from 63.7 F in Gainesville, to 69.4 F in Mobile; total precipitation ranged from 0.03 inches in Talladega, to 3.20 inches in Coden. Wheat and canola crops in the northern part of the State received hail damage last week. Rainfall was variable across the State with some isolated areas of flooding in the northern part of the State, while the southeast region of the State received no rainfall and remains in a drought stage. Corn planting is progressing, but cool temperatures are slowing growth.

**ALASKA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE**

**ARIZONA:** Temperatures were mostly above normal for the week ending April 8, ranging from 5 degrees above normal at Grand Canyon to 5 degrees below normal at Parker. The highest temperature of the week was 92 degrees at Coolidge. The lowest reading was 10 degrees at Grand Canyon. Precipitation was not recorded in any of the 21 weather stations for the week. Cotton planting is 25 percent complete, ahead of the 5-year average of 21 percent. Alfalfa conditions are mostly fair to excellent, depending on location. Harvesting is occurring on three-quarters of the growing areas across the State. A third of the State's durum wheat crop has headed. Central Arizona growers shipped broccoli, cabbage, kale greens, cilantro, parsley and citrus. Western Arizona growers shipped broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, celery, cilantro, Chinese cabbage, endive, escarole, frisee, kale greens, Boston, green leaf, iceberg, red leaf, romaine, and other lettuces. Also shipped this week were arugula, bok choy, parsley, spinach and citrus. Rangeland conditions decreased from the previous week but continue to vary from very poor to good, depending on location. Dry conditions remain for most of the State.

**ARKANSAS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.6. Topsoil moisture 10% short, 82% adequate, and 8% surplus. Subsoil moisture 7% short, 84% adequate, and 9% surplus. Corn 84% planted, 59% 2011, 50% avg.; 48% emerged, 21% 2011, 23% avg. Sorghum 15% emerged, 1% 2011, 2% avg. Soybeans 10% planted, 5% 2011, 2% avg.; 2% emerged, 1% 2011, 0% avg. Winter wheat 73% headed, 16% 2011, 15% avg. Livestock were in good condition last week. Pasture and range condition were reported in mostly good condition. Heavy rains and winds occurred in the Southern part of Arkansas, but very little precipitation occurred in the Eastern and Northern parts of the state. There were several reports of armyworm infestations in wheat.

**CALIFORNIA:** Wheat, grain hay, rye and oats continued to mature and were in fair to excellent condition. Over half of the winter wheat crop had headed out. Precipitation events that have occurred in the past weeks have reduced the pressure on producers to irrigate their crops. Cotton producers' main activity was preparing seedbeds. However some producers began to plant during the week. Alfalfa fields continued to green well following pest and weed control applications. Producers were making their

first cutting of Alfalfa during the week. Rice ground preparation, fertilization and draining continued throughout the week. Plum, peach, apricot, and nectarine bloom was complete in all but the latest varieties. Trees were almost fully leafed out and showing fruit. Thinning continued in apricots. Cherries continued to bloom and leaf out. Prunes were past full bloom and beginning to leaf out in Sutter and Yuba Counties. Weed treatments and bloom sprays continued in stone fruit orchards. Kiwis continued to be exported. Grapevines continued to leaf out while growth was beginning to accelerate. Apples were starting bloom and leafing out. Strawberries were being transplanted in Siskiyou County. Roadside strawberry stands had opened in Tulare County. Olive groves were pruned. Navel oranges, tangerines, tangelos and lemons continued to be harvested and packed for export. The harvesting of late variety navel oranges and early Valencia oranges began. Cara Cara orange harvest was wrapping up. Seedless tangerine groves were netted in preparation of the coming bloom. Almond bloom was over; almond trees were leafing out and nuts were growing larger. Freeze damage was becoming apparent in some areas hit hard by the March cold spell. Walnuts were continuing to leaf out while early varieties were in bloom. Growers were applying blight sprays. Pistachios were leafing out. Walnuts, almonds, and pistachios continued to be exported. Kern County reported carrots being harvested and tomatoes being planted. In Tulare County, Italian squash, tomato, and cucumber seedlings were being planted and tented under plastic and hot caps while processing tomato seedlings were being planted on the west side of the county. Fresno County reported processing tomato transplants were prosperous while lettuce was beginning to be harvested. Garlic and onions had established a good start. In Stanislaus County, broccoli, and spinach were being harvested as tomato transplants were being planted. San Joaquin County reported continued harvesting of asparagus. In Sutter County, field preparation continued and processing tomato transplants were delivered to fields. Non-irrigated rangeland began to gradually improve in response to the late spring rains. Greening was reported across the State. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued. When weather conditions permitted, bees were working the cherry, plum and other stone fruit bloom.

**COLORADO:** Days suitable for field work 5.9 days. Topsoil moisture 8% very short, 37% short, 55% adequate. Subsoil moisture 10% very short, 38% short, 52% adequate. Barley 36% planted, 26% 2011, 24% avg.; 30% emerged, 10% 2011, 7% avg. Spring wheat 32% planted, 14% 2011, 15% avg.; 10% emerged, 2% 2011, 4% avg. Winter Wheat 1% pastured, 6% 2011, 6% avg.; 18% jointed, 9% 2011, 10% avg. Sugarbeets 18% planted, 4% 2011, 9% avg. Summer potatoes 21% planted, 6% 2011, 5% avg. Dry onions 45% planted, 41% 2011, 38% avg. Livestock condition 1% very poor, 3% poor, 31% fair, 60% good, 5% excellent. Colorado experienced above average precipitation while the rest of the State had below average precipitation levels. Temperatures were above average for this time of year, but reports of freezing temperatures at night in the Western regions affected some of the cherry and peach producing areas. Windy and dry conditions prevailed on the Eastern Plains and in the San Luis Valley. Overall, mountain snowpack is 49 percent of average leaving irrigators concerned with a possible reduction in water deliveries this growing season.

**DELAWARE:** Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Topsoil moisture 17% very short, 59% short, 24% adequate. Subsoil moisture 7%

very short, 34% short, 59% adequate. Hay supplies 4% very short, 52% short, 44% adequate. Pasture condition 6% very poor, 12% poor, 14% fair, 65% good, 3% excellent. Winter wheat condition 1% poor, 10% fair, 80% good, 9% excellent. Barley condition 1% poor, 11% fair, 80% good, 8% excellent. Corn planted 4%, 2% 2011, 2% avg. Barley headed 55%, 0% 2011, 0% avg. Winter Wheat headed 2%, 0% 2011, 0% avg. Green Peas planted 54%, 35% 2011, 48% avg. Potatoes planted 12%, 24% 2011, 31% avg. Sweet Corn planted 3%, 2% 2011, 2% avg. Apples bloomed 16%, 3% 2011, 10% avg. Peaches bloomed 59%, 18% 2011, 27% avg. Strawberries bloomed 36%, 16% 2011, 12% avg. Dry conditions have been good for working the ground, spraying, and planting. The small grains look good, but they need rain.

**FLORIDA:** Topsoil moisture 16% very short, 53% short, 29% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil moisture 14% very short, 48% short, 38% adequate. Peanut, cotton fields prepared for planting. Peanut planting active in Levy County. Cabbage supplies declined. Blueberry harvesting continued. Strawberry season concluded. Watermelons harvested ahead of schedule. Light harvest of potatoes, Hastings area. Vegetables marketed, snap beans, sweet corn, cucumbers, endive, escarole, endive, bell peppers, radishes, squash, tomatoes. Light supplies of celery, cabbage, eggplant shipped. Valencia harvest averaged over 5 million boxes weekly. Pea-sized, larger fruit visible. Harvesting, young tree care primary grove activities. Pasture Condition 4% very poor, 25% poor, 50% fair, 19% good, 2% excellent. Cattle Condition 1% very poor, 8% poor, 52% fair, 35% good, 4% excellent. Statewide; pasture condition lower due to drought, most fair. Most cattle in fair condition, slight decrease. Panhandle; pasture condition very poor to excellent. Cattle condition poor to excellent, most good. North; most pasture, cattle in poor to good condition. Central; most pasture in fair condition, varied from very poor to good as dry conditions continued. Southwest, pasture condition very poor to excellent, most fair. Hot, dry, windy conditions dried out soils, limited forage growth in pastures. Most cattle in fair condition.

**GEORGIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.1. Topsoil moisture 8% very short, 30% short, 58% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil moisture 12% very short, 36% short, 49% adequate, 3% surplus. Range and Pasture 3% very poor, 7% poor, 42% fair, 37% good, 11% excellent. Blueberries 15% very poor, 12% poor, 23% fair, 29% good, 21% excellent. Corn 1% poor, 20% fair, 72% good, 7% excellent. Corn Planted 71%, 49% 2011, 50% avg. Oats 3% poor, 37% fair, 48% good, 12% excellent. Onions 30% fair, 65% good, 5% excellent. Peaches 13% poor, 43% fair, 15% good, 29% excellent. Peaches Blooming 87%, 85% 2011, 90% avg. Rye 2% poor, 41% fair, 49% good, 8% excellent. Sorghum Planted 1%, 3% 2011, 2% avg. Tobacco Transplanted 11%, 5% 2011, 7% avg. Watermelons Planted 41%, 33% 2011, 39% avg. Winter Wheat 4% poor, 36% fair, 47% good, 13% excellent. Precipitation estimates for the State ranged from no rain up to 2.5 inches. The week's average temperatures ranged from the lower 60s to the mid 70s.

**HAWAII:** Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Soil moisture was at short to adequate levels. Very sunny and clear conditions early in the week gave way to overcast skies and isolated showers in the second half. These showers occurred mostly on windward areas. Increasing day length has helped encourage crop growth. Irrigation water supplies ensured that crops located in areas which did not receive precipitation this week continued to progress. National Weather Service gauge locations reported an average of 0.57 inches of measurable rainfall across all islands during the reference week. The National Drought Monitor listed 45.33 percent of land area in the State was classified as no drought present as of April 3, 2012, which is unchanged from the previous week's reference day. This is the third consecutive week in which drought conditions remained unchanged. No drought conditions were reported for the island of Kauai, the island of Oahu, or the southeastern tips of Hawaii and Molokai Islands. A total of 5.83 percent of the land area

remained rated as extreme drought. The areas which remain classified in extreme drought are located on the leeward tip of Molokai Island, the southern leeward coast Maui Island, and a pocket on the Kohala slopes of the Big Island.

**IDAHO:** Days suitable for field work 4.1. Topsoil moisture 2% very short, 11% short, 69% adequate, 18% surplus. Field corn planted 6%, 0% 2011, 0% avg. Winter wheat jointed 5%, 5% 2011, 4% avg. Onions planted 70%, 35% 2011, 55% avg; emerged 0%, 0% 2011, 8% avg. Potatoes planted 4%, 1% 2011, 2% avg. Oats planted 27%, 1% 2011, 20% avg; emerged 13%, 0% 2011, 5% avg. Dry peas planted 8%, 15% 2011, 10% avg. Lentils planted 0%, 0% 2011, 0% avg. Calving complete 89%, 89% 2011, 89% avg. Lambing complete 94%, 86% 2011, 87% avg. Hay and roughage supply 9% very short, 12% short, 67% adequate, 12% surplus. Irrigation water supply 23% fair, 50% good, 27% excellent. Sugarbeets planted 25%, 1% 2011, 25% avg; emerged 0%, 0% 2011, 3% avg. Spring wheat emerged 8%, 2% 2011, 5% avg. Barley emerged 8%, 1% 2011, 2% avg. The Nez Perce extension educator reported adequate soil moisture and mild temperatures have created excellent winter wheat conditions. The Franklin extension educator reports spring farming operations are moving right along.

**ILLINOIS:** Topsoil moisture 6 % very short, 40 % short, 51 % adequate, 3 % surplus. Subsoil moisture 7 % very short, 40 % short, 52 % adequate, 1 % surplus. Oats 91 % planted, 70 % last week, 30% average. Warm and dry conditions throughout most of the State continued last week with an average Statewide temperature of 56.4 degrees, 8.8 degrees above normal. Statewide precipitation averaged 0.44 inches, 0.26 below normal. Despite these good conditions for planting, many farmers were hesitant to plant too much too early. In some cases, fields were too dry, and farmers were waiting on rain.

**INDIANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.2. Topsoil moisture 4% very short, 18% short, 67% adequate, 11% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% very short, 11% short, 76% adequate, 11% surplus. Winter wheat jointed 29%, 7% 2011, 9% avg. Pasture condition 2% very poor, 6% poor, 15% fair, 56% good, 21% excellent. Availability of hay 2% very short, 13% short, 81% adequate, 4% surplus. Temperatures ranged from 50 to 120 above normal with a low of 22o and a high of 87o. Precipitation ranged from 0.0 to 1.61 inches. Some farmers have been working at a feverish pace, now that the earliest planting date that corn would be eligible for crop insurance replant payments has passed. In fact, six percent of intended corn acres have been planted which is ahead of the previous record of 3 percent established in 2004. However, other farming operations are waiting to begin planting until there is a less likely chance of frost. A few scattered fields of soybeans have also been planted at this point. Other activities included preparing planting equipment, performing pre-plant tillage operations, hauling grain to market, spreading fertilizer and manure, applying anhydrous ammonia, repairing and installing drainage tile and taking care of livestock.

**IOWA:** Topsoil moisture 12 percent very short, 31 percent short, 55 percent adequate, 2 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture 18 percent very short, 33 percent short, 47 percent adequate, 2 percent surplus. As Iowa's crop insurance plant date for corn slowly approaches (April 11), farmers are excited about getting planting underway. Most of the weekly rain occurred in the southeast corner of the State. The week's most common field activities were application of anhydrous, tiling, and leveling of last year's cornstalks.

**KANSAS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.5. Topsoil moisture 4% very short, 8% short, 80% adequate, 8% surplus. Subsoil moisture 5% very short, 17% short, 75% adequate, 3% surplus. Winter wheat jointed 79%, 30% 2011, 32% avg.; winter wheat headed 6%, 0% 2011, 0% avg.; wind damage 86% none, 10% light, 3%

moderate, 1% severe; insect infestation 82% none, 13% light, 4% moderate, 1% severe; disease infestation, 85% none, 12% light, 3% moderate, 0% severe. Range and pasture condition 13% very poor, 17% poor, 31% fair, 35% good, 4% excellent. Feed grain supplies 8% very short, 18% short, 72% adequate, 2% surplus. Hay and forage supplies 18% very short, 24% short, 56% adequate, 2% surplus. Stock water supplies 5% very short, 12% short, 79% adequate, 4% surplus. Last week, Kansas producers saw widespread precipitation and above normal temperatures, although temperatures were cooler than they have been the last several weeks. All stations received rain with three stations receiving over 2 inches - Clay Center at 2.17 inches, Concordia at 2.25 inches, and Garnett at 2.30 inches. Only 10 of the 53 stations received less than half an inch, mostly in the Southeast District. Record temperatures were reported early in the week with highs ranging from the low 80's to the low 90's before temperatures cooled later in the week. All stations reported at or above normal average temperatures with Emporia at 13 degrees above normal, while thirteen stations reported low temperatures at or below freezing, mostly in the northern districts. Producers are busy trying to control insects in alfalfa fields, preparing for spring planting, and applying herbicide and insecticide to wheat. The Central, South Central, and Southeast Districts all reported over 90 percent jointed as of Sunday. The Southeast District has 38 percent of this year's corn crop already planted. Many livestock producers have turned out cattle to spring pasture while some are finishing calving. Pasture burning has occurred in some areas, but spring burning has declined this year because of the early and rapid growth of grassland.

**KENTUCKY:** Days suitable fieldwork 5.2. Topsoil 2% very short, 11% short, 76% adequate, 11% surplus. Subsoil moisture 8% short, 82% adequate, 10% surplus. Rainfall averaged .49 inches Statewide, .5 in. below normal. Most precipitation Eastern locations, western areas need rain. Temperatures averaged 60 degrees, 7 degrees above normal. Tobacco transplants 84% set, 71% 2011, 75% avg. Transplants emerged 55%, 36%, 2011, 40% avg. Condition of winter wheat, 1% poor, 8% fair, 53% good, 38% excellent. Pasture conditions 3% poor, 19% fair, 54% good, 24% excellent. Winter kill light due to mild winter. Plant and forage growth continue 2 to 3 weeks ahead of normal.

**LOUISIANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.7. Soil moisture 1% very short, 2% short, 54% adequate and 43% surplus. Corn Planted 93%, 98% 2011, 94% avg; Emerged 68%, 81% 2011, 69% avg; 1% poor, 26% fair, 57% good, and 16% excellent. Winter Wheat headed 96%, 82% 2011, 62% avg; 4% poor, 24% fair, 59% good, and 13% excellent. Hay first cutting 4%, 1% 2011, 1% avg. Livestock 1% very poor, 5% poor, 32% fair, 56% good, and 6% excellent. Vegetables 2% very poor, 10% poor, 32% fair, 49% good, and 7% excellent. Range and Pasture 2% very poor, 5% poor, 26% fair, 56% good, and 11% excellent. Sugarcane 3% very poor, 5% poor, 20% fair, 54% good, and 18% excellent.

**MARYLAND:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.9. Topsoil moisture 3% very short, 33% short, 63% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 27% short, 72% adequate, 1% surplus. Hay supplies 3% very short, 16% short, 81% adequate. Pasture condition 3% poor, 25% fair, 61% good, 11% excellent. Winter wheat condition 17% fair, 65% good, 18% excellent. Barley condition 1% poor, 22% fair, 53% good, 24% excellent. Corn planted 5%, 1% 2011, 1% avg. Barley headed 20%, 0% 2011, 0% avg. Winter Wheat headed 4%, 0% 2011, 0% avg. Green Peas planted 33%, 20% 2011, 28% avg. Potatoes planted 72%, 17% 2011, 34% avg. Sweet corn planted 10%, 3% 2011, 7% avg. Tomatoes planted 6%, 3% 2011, 5% avg. Apples bloomed 64%, 1% 2011, 9% avg. Peaches bloomed 82%, 6% 2011, 13% avg. Strawberries bloomed 34%, 15% 2011, 24% avg. Dry conditions have been good for spraying, ground working, and planting. The small grains look good, but they need rain. Crops are two to three weeks ahead of schedule. Rye being chopped for

silage and corn will soon be planted behind it.

**MICHIGAN:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Topsoil 1% very short, 12% short, 76% adequate, 11% surplus. Subsoil 1% very short, 10% short, 74% adequate, 15% surplus. Pasture 3% very poor, 8% poor, 32% fair, 47% good, 10% excellent. Sugarbeets planted 85%, 2% 2011, 12% avg. Oats planted 46%, 3% 2011, 17% avg. Oats emerged 11%, 1% 2011, 1% avg. Lack of rain last week allowed farmers to make progress preparing fields for planting. Fertilizer and herbicide applications made to wheat. Overall, wheat appears to have weathered winter very well and is looking good. Sugarbeet planting continued. Emergence early planted sugarbeets very good. Temperatures at night have not been cold enough to negatively affect sugarbeets that have emerged. Alfalfa and oat planting continued. Livestock producers took advantage of dry weather to apply manure. Week of warm weather in March caused some enthusiasm to begin planting corn early, but with a return to more seasonal weather, this enthusiasm has waned. There was a small amount of corn planted last week. Unusually high temperatures during most of March caused fruit development to be about one month ahead of normal. Return of seasonable weather past two weeks has resulted widespread freeze damage. Severity of potential crop loss varies by fruit, area, and elevation. Tart cherries were in bloom. A heavy snow storm in northwest the weekend of March 3 caused extensive tree damage. Sweet cherries white bud to full bloom. Some buds killed many tart and sweet cherry blocks. Peaches in shuck southwest and bloom southeast. Strawberry flower trusses began emerging from crowns. Apples early bloom stages in southern areas. Blueberries mostly early to late pink bud. There have been no significant bud damage reports for apples or blueberries. Leaves out on juice grapes. Wine grapes at bud burst in south. Freeze damage has been moderate to severe in many vineyards. Vegetable growers taking advantage of warm spring weather. Southeast Michigan, soils in good condition for early April and some cabbage, sweet corn and potatoes planted. West central Michigan, recent below-normal temperatures delayed asparagus harvest until latter part of April. Onion planting now in full swing. Some onions planted mid-March already loop stage. Some early celery planted under tunnels and row cover.

**MINNESOTA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.2. Topsoil moisture 13% Very Short, 47% Short, 38% Adequate, 2% Surplus. Subsoil moisture 18% Very Short, 50% Short, 32% Adequate. Corn land prepared 16%, 1% 2011, 1% avg. Soybeans land prepared 4%, 1% 2011, 1% avg. Barley emerged 1%, 0% 2011, 0% avg. Approximate date full scale fieldwork to begin is April 18, 2012. More warm weather records were set early in the week with temperatures in the low to high 80's in southwest areas, contributing to Statewide average temperatures that were 9.7 degrees above normal this past week. A round of thunderstorms moved across the State late Monday evening and showers prevailed Saturday; however, amounts were sporadic for both rainfall events. Weekly rainfall amounts ranged from .36 inch in east central areas to 0 in southwest areas. Areas in the southern third of the State continue to be rated as undergoing a severe drought, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor.

**MISSISSIPPI:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.5. Soil moisture 78 percent adequate, 22 percent surplus. Corn 80% planted, 75% 2011, 73% avg.; 57% emerged, 46% 2011, 50% avg. Soybeans 16% planted, 6% 2011, 10% avg.; 7% emerged, 0% 2011, 3% avg. Sorghum 20% planted, 2% 2011, 4% avg.; 7% emerged, 0% 2011, 0% avg. Wheat 96% jointing, 95% 2011, 86% avg.; 79% heading, 32% 2011, 21% avg.; Wheat 8% poor, 26% fair, 52% good, 14% excellent. Watermelons 43% planted, 44% 2011, 48% avg. Hay 8% planted, 2% 2011, 6% avg. Blueberries 1% poor, 6% fair, 61% good, 32% excellent. Cattle 3% very poor, 7% poor, 36% fair, 44% good, 10% excellent. Pasture 2% very poor, 6% poor, 19% fair, 61% good, 12% excellent. Mississippi had a wet week with most of

the precipitation falling on the lower western half of the State. The added moisture has aided crop conditions, however most producers are hoping for dryer weather next week so that fields can dry out. There have been problems with weeds and insects which are occurring earlier than usual.

**MISSOURI:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.7. Precipitation 0.57 inches. Temperatures were 5 to 11 degrees above average. Topsoil moisture supply 1% very short, 16% short, 78% adequate, 5% surplus. Ground worked spring tillage 63%, 1 month ahead of 2011. Rice planted was 43 days ahead of 2011. Winter wheat headed and beyond 31%, nearly a month ahead of last year and the 5-yr average. Pasture condition 1% very poor, 5% poor, 26% fair, 58% good, and 10% excellent.

**MONTANA:** Days suitable for field work 4.7, 0.7 last year. Topsoil moisture 12% very short, 1% last year; 27% short, 3% last year; 58% adequate, 56% last year; 3% surplus, 40% last year. Subsoil moisture 11% very short, 0% last year; 29% short, 7% last year; 56% adequate, 71% last year; 4% surplus, 22% last year. Camelina planted 9%, 6% last year. Dry peas planted 10%. Flaxseed planted 5% percent. Lentils planted 10%. Oats planted 13%, 0% last year. Sugar beets planted 3%, 4% last year. Winter Wheat – spring stages 11% still dormant, 66% last year; 59% greening, 32% last year; 30% green & growing, 2% last year. Range and pasture feed condition 3% very poor, 2% last year; 17% poor, 15% last year; 46% fair, 44% last year; 30% good, 37% last year; 4% excellent, 2% last year. Livestock grazing 73% open, 36% last year; 10% difficult, 28% last year; 17% closed, 36% last year. Cattle and calves receiving supplemental feed 83%, 92% last year. Sheep and lambs receiving supplemental feed 82%, 93% last year. Calving complete 66%; 64% last year. Lambing complete 46%; 55% last year. A late winter storm brought snowfall and cooler nighttime temperatures to most of Montana toward the end of the week with many stations receiving 0.50 to 1 inch of precipitation. Rapelje received the highest amount of precipitation for the week with 2.50 inches of moisture. High temperatures ranged from the lower 50s to lower 80s, with the state-wide high temperature of 81 degrees recorded at Albion. A majority of stations reported lows in the upper teens to upper 20s, the coldest being West Yellowstone at 5 degrees, followed by Butte and Wisdom with 7 degrees.

**NEBRASKA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Topsoil moisture 18% very short, 43% short, 39% adequate. Subsoil moisture 15% very short, 41% short, 44% adequate. Wheat jointed 10%, 0% 2011, 1% avg. Alfalfa conditions rated 6% poor, 25% fair, 56% good, 13% excellent. Cattle and calves conditions 6% fair, 72% good, 22% excellent. Cows calved 83% complete. Calf losses 30% below average, 69% average, 1% above average. Even though conditions were favorable for planting corn, only a limited number of fields were planted with most producers waiting for the crop insurance initial planting date. Soil moisture levels continued below previous year and 5 year averages with precipitation limited to the southern tier of counties. Planting of oats reached the half way point with 15 percent of the crop emerged. Wheat was beginning to joint well ahead of average. Producers were applying fertilizer, performing spring tillage, and getting machinery ready for spring planting. Soil temperatures ranged from the mid 50's in the west to low 60's in the east. Cattle and calves were in mostly good to excellent condition. Spring calving was 83 percent complete with calf losses well below average. Temperatures averaged 3 degrees above normal across the western half of the State, while the eastern half was up to 10 degrees above normal. Highs reached the low 90's in the east and lows fell to the lower 20's in the Panhandle. Precipitation was limited to extreme southern counties with some locations receiving over one inch.

**NEVADA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Warm temperatures and some precipitation dominated the week's weather. Temperatures ranged from four degrees below normal to two degrees above

normal. Las Vegas recorded a high temperature of 86 degrees. Ely had the low of 9 degrees. Northern Nevada received some precipitation. Ely recorded 0.29 inches of precipitation. Windy conditions and rain showers prevented some field work in the northern part of the State. Seeding of spring crops was underway. Spring calving and lambing was underway. Main farm and ranch activities included prepping fields for seeding and equipment maintenance.

**NEW ENGLAND:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Topsoil moisture 12% very short, 52% short, 23% adequate, 13% surplus. Subsoil moisture 11% very short, 13% short, 62% adequate, 14% surplus. The week began windy with partly cloudy skies and average temperatures ranging from the upper 40s to mid-50s. Temperatures throughout the week were generally average across the region with the exception of Sunday, which brought cooler daytime temperatures to northern New England. Dry, windy conditions persisted throughout the week, fueling brushfires across New England. In contrast, northernmost latitudes of New Hampshire and Maine reported over 3 inches of winter precipitation at the end of the week. General farm activities included working in nurseries and greenhouses, tending to livestock, spraying fertilizers, spreading manure, disking, plowing, and getting ready to plant fields.

**NEW JERSEY:** Days suitable for field work 6.5. Topsoil moisture 5% very short, 40% short, and 55% adequate. Subsoil moisture 5% very short, 35% short, and 60% adequate. Pasture and Range condition 5% poor, 30% fair, and 65% good. Rainfall amounts were below normal for all locations. Temperatures reached highs in the mid 60s to mid 70s and lows in the upper 20s to upper 30s across the Garden State. Winter wheat is 100% emerged in the State, and the condition is 10% fair and 90% good. Most planting is on hold despite warm temperatures for fear of frost injury. So far frost has spared fruit producers from significant damage; however the season remains 3-4 weeks in advance with flowers in bloom with a threat of freeze for a month yet. Windy conditions have limited spraying opportunities. Dry conditions are noticeable but not critical due to the early date. Most winter grain crops look good. Producers are picking asparagus, and preparing fields for spring plantings. Other farming activities during the week are; tillage work, fertilization, irrigation of spinach and sod, establishing hay (spring planted) and spreading lime and fertilizer. Some early corn is planted. Insects are early as well. Livestock conditions are good. Conditions are favorable for calving and lambing. Dairy condition and milk production is average.

**NEW MEXICO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Topsoil moisture 55% very short, 26% short and 19% adequate. Wind damage 8% light and 2% moderate; 40% winter wheat damaged and 8% onion damage to date. Freeze damage 6% light and 2% moderate. Alfalfa 11% very poor, 5% poor, 40% fair, 37% good and 7% excellent; 4% first cutting complete. Cotton 2% planted. Corn 1% planted. Irrigated winter wheat 3% very poor, 8% poor, 69% fair, 8% good and 12% excellent; 44% grazed. Dry winter wheat 60% very poor, 39% poor and 1% fair; 30% grazed. Total winter wheat 40% very poor, 28% poor, 25% fair, 3% good and 4% excellent; 35% grazed. Lettuce 2% poor, 48% good and 50% excellent. Chile 74% planted. Onion 18% fair, 63% good and 19% excellent; 100% planted. Cattle 29% very poor, 26% poor, 32% fair, 10% good and 3% excellent. Sheep 24% very poor, 36% poor, 36% fair and 4% good. Range and pasture 64% very poor, 18% poor, 11% fair, 6% good and 1% excellent. A snowstorm started off our week, giving us some much needed moisture. Temperatures were below normal.

**NEW YORK:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Soil moisture 5% very short, 16% short, 76% adequate, 3% surplus. Pasture Conditions 5% very poor, 39% poor, 36% fair, 16% good, 4% excellent. Pastures were turning green across the State. Favorable weather has allowed many farmers to get a jump start on field

tillage operations, new seeding establishment, and manure spreading. Oats seedings 25% complete. Sweet corn was 7% planted. Lettuce was 11% planted. Fruit trees, grapes, and strawberries experienced early growth. There have been several evenings with freezing temperatures and this resulted in frost damage. The damage is being monitored. A few storms produced some rain across the State. Temperatures range from the low 20s to the high 60s.

**NORTH CAROLINA:** Days suitable for field work 4.6. Topsoil moisture 5% short, 74% adequate and 21% surplus. The State received normal precipitation and above normal temperatures the week ending April 8, 2012. Frost and hail damage were concerns for some farmers this week although there have been no reports of damage yet. Planting of corn continued this week and is earlier than last year and the 5 year average.

**NORTH DAKOTA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. The approximate starting date for field work is April 3. Topsoil moisture supplies 12% very short, 23% short, 57% adequate, 8% surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies 1% very short, 16% short, 72% adequate, 11% surplus. Durum wheat 8% planted. Dry edible peas 3% planted. Canola 1% planted. Potatoes 1% planted. Hay and forage supplies were 2% short, 82% adequate, 16% surplus. Grain and concentrate supply 4% short, 83% adequate, 13% surplus. Calving and lambing 60% and 76% complete, respectively. Shearing 85% complete. Cow condition 1% poor, 9% fair, 74% good, 16% excellent. Calf condition 6% fair, 77% good, 17% excellent. Sheep condition 8% fair, 70% good, 22% excellent. Lamb condition 7% fair, 69% good, 24% excellent. The percentage of feed obtained from pasture and range for cattle and sheep were 18% and 11%, respectively. Pastures and ranges 52% growing and 48% still dormant. Ideal weather conditions allowed fieldwork and planting activities to continue ahead of average. Seeding was prevalent in areas while fieldwork was delayed in parts of the State affected by precipitation.

**OHIO:** Days suitable for field work 4.8. Top soil moisture 1% short, 78% adequate, 21% surplus. Apples condition 1% very poor, 3% poor, 40% fair, 48% good, 8% excellent. Hay condition 3% poor, 20% fair, 60% good, 17% excellent. Livestock condition 4% poor, 18% fair, 61% good, 17% excellent. Range and Pasture condition 1% very poor, 7% poor, 23% fair, 48% good, 21% excellent. Peaches condition 3% very poor, 6% poor, 37% fair, 48% good, 6% excellent. Winter wheat condition 4% very poor, 13% poor, 33% fair, 39% good, 11% excellent. Winter wheat jointed 13%, 5% 2011, 6% avg. Potatoes planted 4%, NA% 2011, 3% avg. Apples green tip (or beyond) 85%, 12% 2011, 19% avg. Apples full bloom (or beyond) 40%, NA% 2011, 1% avg. Peaches green tip (or beyond) 84%, 14% 2011, 19% avg. Peaches full bloom (or beyond) 52%, NA% 2011, 3% avg.

**OKLAHOMA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.5. Topsoil moisture 3% very short, 16% short, 74% adequate, 7% surplus. Subsoil moisture 13% very short, 29% short, 54% adequate, 4% surplus. Wheat jointing 92% this week, 85% last week, 82% last year, 80% average; headed 41% this week, 8% last week, 6% last year, 6% average. Canola condition 1% very poor, 4% poor, 19% fair, 53% good, 23% excellent; blooming 99% this week, 87% last week, 69% last year, n/a average. Rye condition 1% very poor, 2% poor, 16% fair, 59% good, 22% excellent; jointing 94% this week, 86% last week, 92% last year, 90% average; headed 73% this week, 36% last week, 12% last year, 11% average. Oats condition 1% very poor, 2% poor, 19% fair, 60% good, 18% excellent; emerged 96% this week, 79% last week, n/a last year, n/a average; jointing 43% this week, 26% last week, 25% last year, 31% average. Corn seedbed prepared 88% this week, 84% last week, 81% last year, 76% average; planted 31% this week, 28% last week, 21% last year, n/a average. Sorghum seedbed prepared 55% this week, 48% last week, 50% last year, 34% average. Soybeans seedbed

prepared 33% this week, 26% last week, 31% last year, 33% average. Peanuts seedbed prepared 47% this week, 40% last week, 57% last year, 53% average. Cotton seedbed prepared 73% this week, 47% last week, 43% last year, 56% average. Livestock condition 2% very poor, 12% poor, 33% fair, 45% good, 8% excellent. Pasture and range condition 6% very poor, 14% poor, 36% fair, 38% good, 6% excellent. Additional moisture fell this week and every Mesonet station recorded rainfall. The average rainfall for the State was 0.93 inches. Heading of wheat and rye progressed well ahead of normal, due to the favorable spring conditions. Wheat and canola conditions continued to improve. Field preparation for spring crops continued between rain showers, as did corn planting. Conditions of pasture and range improved from recent rainfall, and new growth was reported. Improved grazing availability benefitted cattle producers.

**OREGON:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.2. Topsoil moisture 5% short, 60% adequate, 35% surplus. Subsoil moisture 5% very short, 5% short, 62% adequate, 28% surplus. Spring Wheat Planted 53%, 36% 2011, 61% average; Emerged 23%, 14% 2011, 26% average. Barley Planted 62%, 52% 2011, 62% average; Emerged 28%, 45% 2011, 39% average. Range & Pasture 6% very poor, 18% poor, 44% fair, 30% good, 2% excellent. Temperatures for the week were below normal for most stations across the State. They were also below normal for the weather year so far. Precipitation for the week was above normal for almost all stations & below normal for none. For the weather season, almost all stations also report above normal precipitation. Farmers & ranchers, in aggregate, had few days suitable for field work, but they had more such days than last week. Wet conditions have slowed field work but with hopes of drier weather soon for western Oregon. March was a good snow pack month for eastern Oregon. Wet, cool weather may adversely detract from Willamette Valley small grain potential. Reports on clover for seed varied. In Umatilla County, spring seeding continued, with spring wheat seeding leading the way. Pea & corn seeding was planned for the coming week. Potatoes were about 50 percent planted. Onions planting was nearing its finish. Producers in the many wet areas were itching to get in the field. Wasco County sweet cherry buds were in the green-tip stage of development. Still await the bloom. Temperatures in Hood River remained above critical levels for orchard crops. At week's end, crop development in the lower Hood River Valley was as follows - d'Anjou pear at blossom buds exposed to first white (WSU stages 2 to 4); Red Delicious apple at half-inch green (WSU stage 3); Bing cherry at green tip to open cluster (WSU stages 3 to 5); Pinot noir grape at Eichhorn-Lorenz stage 2. In the Willamette Valley, Peaches were in bloom. The cool, wet weather has not been favorable for bee flights & successful pollination. Some early sweet cherry varieties were in the popcorn stage of bloom. Eastern Filbert Blight control sprays were applied. Prunes in some areas were in bloom but very spotty. Pears in southern Oregon were starting to need protection with some buds starting to show. In Douglas County, plums were moving past full bloom. Peaches, nectarines, & cherries were at full bloom. Pears were about 7-10 days away from full bloom. Apples & prunes were about 10-14 days away from full bloom. Expected freeze did not hit the Roseburg area. It was still too early to determine if wet field conditions will affect planting of April green peas. In general, producers will delay planting vegetables if cool, wet conditions persist. Greenhouses were busy getting spring starts ready for spring planting. Some early spring decorative starts were now at outlets. Nurseries also were very busy with sales of trees & shrubs. Cool, wet weather as slowed sales to local consumers. Tall shrubs shipped to market. Cool soil temperatures have retarded pasture growth. Pastures were green or greening across the State. In Lake County, livestock producers were starting to turn out onto government allotments. Some had to haul water.

**PENNSYLVANIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Soil moisture 3% very short, 26% short, 69% adequate, and 2% surplus.

Tobacco planted in beds 25%, 50% Prv. Yr., 14% 5-Yr. Avg. Peaches in the pink 99%, 29% Prv. Yr. Peaches in full-bloom 97%. Cherries in the pink 99%, 47% Prv. Yr. Apples in the pink 68%. Winter wheat condition 10% fair, 56% good, 34% excellent. Pasture condition 5% very poor, 4% poor, 22% fair, 59% good, 10% excellent. Primary farm activities for the week included field preparation, manure hauling, planting oats and new seedings and spraying herbicide. Spring plowing is well underway and is 50% complete, which is ahead of the 7% reported at this time last year.

**SOUTH CAROLINA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Soil moisture 4% very short, 27% short, 68% adequate, 1% surplus. Winter wheat 1% poor, 30% fair, 64% good, 5% excellent. Pasture condition 1% very poor, 8% poor, 39% fair, 51% good, 1% excellent. Oats 1% very poor, 2% poor, 28% fair, 63% good, 6% excellent. Hay 50% fair, 48% good, 2% excellent. Peaches 60% fair, 39% good, 1% excellent. Livestock condition 1% very poor, 2% poor, 32% fair, 64% good, 1% excellent. Freeze damage 100% none. Corn planted 79%, 58% 2011, 55% avg; emerged 41%, 32% 2011, 29% avg. Winter wheat headed 60%, 16% 2011, 10% avg. Oats headed 60%, 20% 2011, 20% avg. Tobacco transplanted 18%, 9% 2011, 14% avg. Hay grain hay 5%. Snap beans, fresh planted 56%, 32% 2011, 33% avg. Cucumbers, fresh planted 31%, 27% 2011, 22% avg. Watermelons planted 52%, 43% 2011, 44% avg. Tomatoes, fresh planted 80%, 52% 2011, 51% avg. Cantaloupes planted 43%, 36% 2011, 32% avg. Record heat continued for the start of the week ending April 8, 2012. Charleston and Columbia both saw temperatures reach 91 degrees on Monday, April 2. Warm weather produced isolated thunderstorms across the State. Large hail was reported in a severe storm in the Upstate on Thursday with minimal crop damage observed. Cool weather moved in over the weekend with a light frost observed in parts of the State. The State average temperature for the period was seven degrees above normal with average rainfall at 0.8 inches.

**SOUTH DAKOTA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.7. Topsoil moisture 12% very short, 46% short, 40% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil moisture 9% very short, 39% short, 49% adequate, 3% surplus. Percent of winter wheat acreage hit by winter kill 8. Winter wheat boot 2%, 0% 2011, 0% avg. Barley seeded 27%, 2% 2011, 3% avg. Barley emerged 1%, 0% 2011, 0% avg. Spring wheat emerged 25%, 0% 2011, 0% avg. Feed supplies 2% short, 90% adequate, 8% surplus. Stock water supplies 1% very short, 9% short, 88% adequate, 2% surplus. Range and pasture 8% poor, 40% fair, 44% good, 8% excellent. Cattle moved to pasture 12% complete. Calving 55% complete. Cattle condition 1% poor, 7% fair, 69% good, 23% excellent. Lambing 66% complete. Sheep condition 1% poor, 5% fair, 65% good, 29% excellent. With little or no moisture seen across the State this week, small grain crops conditions have decreased slightly but allowed for row crop planting preparations to take place. Major activities last week included planting of small grains, preparing equipment and fields for the planting of row crops, applying fertilizers and chemicals, caring for livestock, calving and lambing.

**TENNESSEE:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil moisture 12% short, 80% adequate, 8% surplus. Subsoil moisture 10% short, 84% adequate, 6% surplus. Winter Wheat 94% top-dressed, 90% 2010, 87% avg; 85% jointed, 59% 2010, 51% avg. Apples 88% budding, 73% 2010, 79% avg; 62% blooming, 34% 2010, 33% avg. Range and Pasture Conditions 2% poor, 20% fair, 61% good, 17% excellent. Cattle 3% poor, 18% fair, 65% good, 14% excellent. Corn farmers took full advantage of the six days suitable for fieldwork to make great planting progress last week. Sub-normal precipitation, coupled with warmer than normal temperatures, allowed growers to end the week at forty-six percent planted. This pace is two weeks ahead five-year average and one of the most rapid starts on record. Winter wheat crop in good-to-excellent condition and developing at a rate two weeks earlier than usual.

Main farm work, other than planting, fertilizer and pesticide applications. Pastures looked exceptionally good.

**TEXAS:** Areas of North and East Texas received up to 2.5 inches of rainfall for the week while other areas observed scattered showers. Weather conditions remained dry in much of the High Plains and the Trans-Pecos. In areas of the High Plains, dryland wheat remained stressed due to inadequate rainfall and soil moisture. Irrigated fields were being watered. In most other areas, rainfall helped to improve wheat and oat fields. Many producers were grazing livestock on wheat, and small grains continued to be cut for hay. Some producers were spraying or scouting for armyworms. Pre-plant activities continued for corn and cotton in the Plains. Insufficient soil moisture meant that many producers were irrigating ahead of planting. In the southern part of the State, corn, sorghum and cotton planting were underway. Recent rainfall helped boost fields already planted. In areas of North Texas and the Upper Coast, wet weather slowed planting. Early-planted vegetables were making good progress in the Low Plains while vegetable planting continued from the Low Plains to East Texas. Pecan trees were leafing out in the Edwards Plateau. Peach trees were beginning to produce peaches and looked to be in good shape. In the Low Plains and South Texas, producers were beginning to plant watermelons. Some watermelon acreage in the Lower Valley was damaged by hail. Cabbage harvest continued in South Texas while sugarcane, citrus and vegetable harvest continued in the Lower Valley. Dry conditions hindered the growth of pastures and rangeland in the High Plains and the Trans-Pecos. In most other areas, favorable weather conditions and adequate soil moisture allowed cool and warm season grasses to grow well. Many ranchers were fertilizing hay fields. Supplemental feeding decreased and livestock body condition was generally improving. Calving season continued and producers were working calves and shearing sheep.

**UTAH:** Days Suitable For Field Work 6. Topsoil moisture 29 percent short, 65 percent adequate, and 6 percent surplus. Subsoil Moisture 32% short, 66% adequate, 2% surplus. Winter Wheat Condition 18% fair, 60% good, 22% excellent. Spring Wheat planted 72%, 23% 2011, 31% avg. Spring Wheat emerged 24%. Barley planted 66%, 24% 2011, 36% avg. Barley emerged 22%. Oats planted 27%, 25% 2011, 23% avg. Oats emerged 4%. Cows Calved 76%, 72% 2011, 71% avg. Cattle and calves condition 10% fair, 66% good, 24% excellent. Sheep Condition 4% fair, 70% good, 26% excellent. Range and Pasture 7% poor, 43% fair, 43% good, 7% excellent. Stock Water Supplies 1% very short, 7% short, 91% adequate, 1% surplus. Sheep Sheared On Farm 60%, 65% 2011, 42% avg. Sheep Sheared On Range 50%, 43% 2011, 28% avg. Ewes Lamb On Farm 72%, 60% 2011, 66% avg. Ewes Lamb On Range 35%, 19% 2011, 23% avg. Apricots full Bloom Or Past 86%. Sweet Cherries full Bloom Or Past 22%. Tart Cherries full Bloom Or Past 19%. Peaches, Full Bloom Or Past 26%. Parts of Northern Utah reported below normal precipitation and a lot of wind. The nights were extremely cold. The recent snow storm provided needed moisture for Morgan and Weber Counties. Box Elder County apricots and early peaches were blooming this week and may have suffered frost damage from the cold weather at night. Pollination may also be suffering as bees are not flying or may not have migrated back from their winter trips to California. Farmers are busy doing fieldwork. They are planting small grains, safflower, and new alfalfa. Corn farmers have mid-April as their target date to begin planting corn. Most of the winter wheat fields are looking well. Plant maturity seems to be a couple of weeks ahead of normal this year. Irrigation water supplies look good for this year. Farmers in Cache County have enjoyed ideal weather for getting crops planted. Most are quite happy about their field progress thus far. Small grains are mostly planted. Some safflower and alfalfa hay is also being planted this early. Corn growers are waiting awhile before planting corn. Growers who depend on irrigation water are feeling confident about water supplies if their

source is a reservoir. Growers who depend on surface runoff are bracing themselves for a tight water year. In Morgan County the recent snow storm provided much needed moisture for sprouting newly planted grain and alfalfa crops. Weber County reported fields were drying out, so growers were happy to see the recent snow that will provide the moisture to germinate seeded fields. In Duchesne-Daggett Counties field preparation and planting are in full swing. In Summit County the first part of the week was dry and warm which helped farmers with field work before the end of the week turned cold and wet. Crop land is dry in Beaver County and farmers are working to get their irrigation systems going. Box Elder County livestock producers reported that they are beginning to brand and doctor calves, preparing to turn them out on spring pastures. Range herds of sheep are being shorn and are expected to begin lambing in earnest by mid-April. Producers report that lambs seem to be doing well. Prices for most commodities remain strong. However, milk price has been falling for the last two months. Dairy producers are struggling financially to make ends meet. In Cache County cattle and sheep have done exceptionally well during the mild winter. Growers report minimal calving and lambing losses as a result of the ideal weather conditions. Most calves and lambs are growing well. The producers in Duchesne-Daggett Counties are finishing up on lambing and calving with young livestock being reported in good health. In Summit County ranchers are still calving and lambing and have reported things going well. In Uintah County the dry weather conditions have been good for livestock during the calving and lambing season, but more moisture will be needed to maintain range land vegetation and crops.

**VIRGINIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 36% short, 58% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 21% short, 74% adequate, 4% surplus. Pasture 2% poor, 29% fair, 60% good, 9% excellent. Livestock 3% poor, 23% fair, 60% good, 14% excellent. Other Hay 38% fair, 51% good, 11% excellent. Alfalfa Hay 35% fair, 50% good, 15% excellent. Winter Wheat 2% poor, 18% fair, 65% good, 15% excellent. Barley 2% poor, 22% fair, 64% good, 12% excellent. Tobacco Greenhouse 35% fair, 34% good, 31% excellent. Tobacco Plant beds 97% fair, 3% good. Potatoes 100% fair. All Apples 1% poor, 94% fair, 5% good. Peaches 1% very poor, 3% poor, 63% fair, 33% good. Grapes 11% poor, 35% fair, 54% good. Oats 20% fair, 79% good, 1% excellent. Corn planted 22%; 7% 2011; 11% 5-yr avg. Summer Potatoes 85% planted; 87% 2011; NA 5-yr avg.. Many producers across the Commonwealth continued with corn planting this week, although an anticipated drop in temperatures may have caused some to refrain from planting despite adequate air and soil temperatures. The dry and windy weather has begun to take a toll as top soil moisture is decreasing. Frost late in the week was reported in some areas and slowed the growth of pastures and hay. The small grain crops seem to be heading or starting to head and with the chance of morning frost still likely, producers are worried that the cool temperatures may damage the crop.

**WASHINGTON:** Days suitable for fieldwork were 2.0. Topsoil moisture conditions were 3 percent short, 66 percent adequate, and 31 percent surplus. The week was drier than the last which allowed more widespread fieldwork. Growth in hayfields was seen Statewide. Established hay stands looked excellent in Kittitas County. Winter wheat was beginning to green up in Pend Oreille and Spokane Counties. With favorable weather conditions many winter wheat producers in Adams County were able to spray with the hope of being completed in the coming week. In Franklin County, spring wheat and potato planting were in full swing with producers just starting to plant green peas and corn. In the Yakima Valley, fruit growers contended with frost protection during at least one morning when temperatures reached into the upper 20s. Apricots were in post bloom while peaches and nectarines entered full bloom. Field crews were blossom thinning peaches and nectarines. Earlier cherry varieties were entering bloom. Apples

were beginning to leaf out in the warmer areas of the county. Vegetable fields were being prepared with some growers laying out irrigation and black plastic. Tree fruit flower development was not affected by a cooler and wetter than normal spring in Chelan County. Temperatures up in the 60's jump started new growth on the raspberries in Whatcom County. Range and pasture conditions were 12 percent very poor, 6 percent poor, 42 percent fair, 38 percent good, and 2 percent excellent. Cattle operations continued feeding hay in most counties, although Asotin County cattle producers were sending a few out to pasture. In Klickitat County, green grasses were seen along the Columbia hills and the pastures in the valley were starting to grow.

**WEST VIRGINIA:** Days for suitable for field work 6. Topsoil moisture 5% very short, 18% short, 71% adequate, 6% surplus compared to 7% short, 78% adequate, 15% surplus last year. Intended acreage prepared for spring crops 39%, 27% in 2011, 36% 5-year avg. Hay and roughage supplies 4% short, 76% adequate, 20% surplus compared to 8% very short, 27% short, 54% adequate, 11% surplus last year. Feed grain supplies 2% short, 97% adequate, 1% surplus compared to 4% very short, 19% short, 76% adequate, 1% surplus last year. Corn 3% planted, 4% in 2011, 2% 5-year avg. Winter wheat conditions 18% fair, 82% good. Hay conditions 1% poor, 30% fair, 62% good, 7% excellent. Apple conditions 8% very poor, 9% poor, 40% fair, 43% good. Peaches 15% very poor, 14% poor, 35% fair, 36% good. Cattle and calves 2% poor, 17% fair, 76% good, 5% excellent. Calving 87% complete, compared to 79% last year. Sheep and lambs 2% poor, 11% fair, 82% good, 5% excellent. Lambing 89% complete, compared to 82% last year. Weather was mostly ideal for field work last week. Farming activities included monitoring frost damage, planting early garden crops, moving livestock, preparing fields and planting crops, seeding pastures, fencing, calving, and lambing.

**WISCONSIN:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.1. Topsoil moisture 6% very short, 24% short, 64% adequate, and 6% surplus. Spring tillage 19% complete, 1% 2011, 4% 5-yr avg. Temperatures remained above average this week, continuing the trend of this unusually mild winter. Farmers took advantage of the warm spring to get an early start on tillage and planting, though many producers remain concerned about the possibility of April frosts. The lack of snow cover this winter also contributed to dry conditions in some areas. Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week were 3 to 10 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 50 to 63 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 34 to 38 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.00 inches in Milwaukee to 1.20 inches in Eau Claire.

**WYOMING:** Days suitable for field work 6.30. Topsoil moisture 11% very short, 42% short, 47% adequate. Subsoil moisture 10% very short, 32% short, 58% adequate. Barley 70% planted, 12% emerged. Oats 12% planted, 1% emerged. Spring wheat 13% planted, 2% emerged. Winter wheat condition 28% fair, 72% good. Crop insect infestation 93% none, 7% light. Spring calves born 54%. Farm flock ewes lambing 62%. Farm flock sheep shorn 52%. Range flock ewes lambing 13%. Range flock sheep shorn 20%. Calf losses 36% light, 64% normal. Lamb losses 39% light, 61% normal. Range and pasture condition 5% very poor, 4% poor, 42% fair, 49% good. Spring grazing prospects 18% poor, 51% fair, 31% good. Stock water supplies 18% short, 82% adequate. Weekly air temperatures averaged above normal at all but 1 of the 33 reporting stations. Moisture levels were at or below normal for all but 5 reporting stations. Temperature averages ranged from 3 degrees below normal at Cody to 13 degrees above normal at Lake Yellowstone and Buford. Weston County reported little to no measurable precipitation, strong winds and warm temperatures. Campbell County reports nice weather but a desperate need for moisture. Uinta County reports a concern about the level of snowpack and lack of precipitation. Activities included planting small grains, feeding livestock, shearing sheep, lambing & calving.

## April 5 ENSO Update

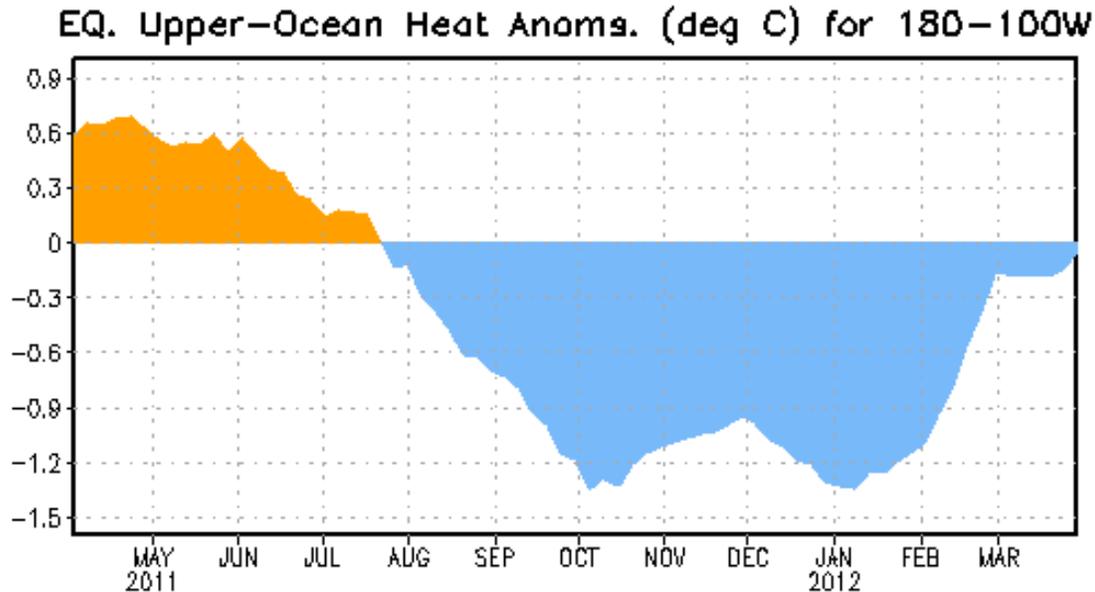


Figure 1: Area-averaged upper-ocean heat content anomaly (°C) in the equatorial Pacific (5°N-5°S, 180°-100°W). The heat content anomaly is computed as the departure from the 1982-2004 base period pentad means.

### ENSO Alert System Status: [La Niña Advisory](#)

#### **Synopsis: La Niña is expected to transition to ENSO-neutral conditions during April 2012.**

La Niña continued to weaken during March 2012, as below-average SSTs persisted primarily in the central Pacific. All of the Niño indices have warmed considerably during the last two months, and the Niño 4 and Niño 3.4 indices averaged only near -0.5 in March. The oceanic heat content (average temperature in the upper 300m of ocean) anomalies also continued to warm (Fig. 1), with alternating pockets of negative and positive temperature anomalies observed within the upper 100 m in the central and eastern Pacific. Significant anomalous low-level westerly winds developed in the western tropical Pacific in late March, associated with the MJO. This wind event could further warm the central and eastern Pacific within the coming few months. Presently, however, the larger scale atmospheric circulation anomalies and the Southern Oscillation Index retain their La Niña characteristics. Accordingly, convection remains suppressed in the western and central Pacific, and enhanced over Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines. Collectively, these oceanic and atmospheric patterns indicate that a transition from La Niña to ENSO-neutral conditions is underway.

A majority of models predict ENSO-neutral conditions for March-May 2012, continuing through the Northern Hemisphere summer 2012. Based on the continued weakening of the negative SST anomalies during March 2012, and on the historical tendency for La Niña to dissipate during the Northern Hemisphere spring, we continue to expect La Niña to dissipate during April 2012. ENSO-neutral conditions are then expected to persist through the summer. Thereafter, there is considerable

uncertainty in the forecast, which slightly favors ENSO-neutral or developing El Niño conditions over a return to La Niña conditions during the remainder of 2012 (see [CPC/IRI consensus forecast](#)).

Because atmospheric impacts often lag the demise of an ENSO episode, aspects of La Niña are reflected in the coming season. Over the U.S. during April - June 2012, La Niña has the following weak influences on the climate outlook: There is an increased chance of above-average temperatures in the south-central U.S., and below-average temperatures in the Northwest. Also, drier-than-average conditions are more likely across Utah and Colorado, and along the western Gulf of Mexico (see [3-month seasonal outlook](#) released on 15 March 2012).

This discussion is a consolidated effort of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), NOAA's National Weather Service, and their funded institutions. Oceanic and atmospheric conditions are updated weekly on the Climate Prediction Center web site ([El Niño/La Niña Current Conditions and Expert Discussions](#)). Forecasts for the evolution of El Niño/La Niña are updated monthly in the [Forecast Forum](#) section of CPC's Climate Diagnostics Bulletin. The next ENSO Diagnostics Discussion is scheduled for 3 May 2012. To receive an e-mail notification when the monthly ENSO Diagnostic Discussions are released, please send an e-mail message to: [ncep.list.ensu-update@noaa.gov](mailto:ncep.list.ensu-update@noaa.gov).

# International Weather and Crop Summary

April 1-7, 2012

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

## HIGHLIGHTS

**EUROPE:** Showers provided much-needed moisture to Spain’s winter wheat and barley.

**WESTERN FSU:** Widespread rain and snow maintained favorable soil moisture for winter grains and oilseeds.

**MIDDLE EAST:** Sunny skies promoted winter crop development and favored a rapid pace of fieldwork.

**NORTHWESTERN AFRICA:** Much-needed rain improved winter grain prospects in Morocco, although the moisture was mostly too late for more advanced crops.

**SOUTH ASIA:** Hot weather and occasional showers prevailed across India as cotton planting began in the north.

**EAST ASIA:** Mostly dry weather prevailed for reproductive to filling winter crops.

**SOUTHEAST ASIA:** Unseasonably heavy showers provided a pre-monsoon boost to moisture supplies in Indochina.

**AUSTRALIA:** Dry, seasonably warm weather favored summer crop maturation and harvesting in eastern Australia.

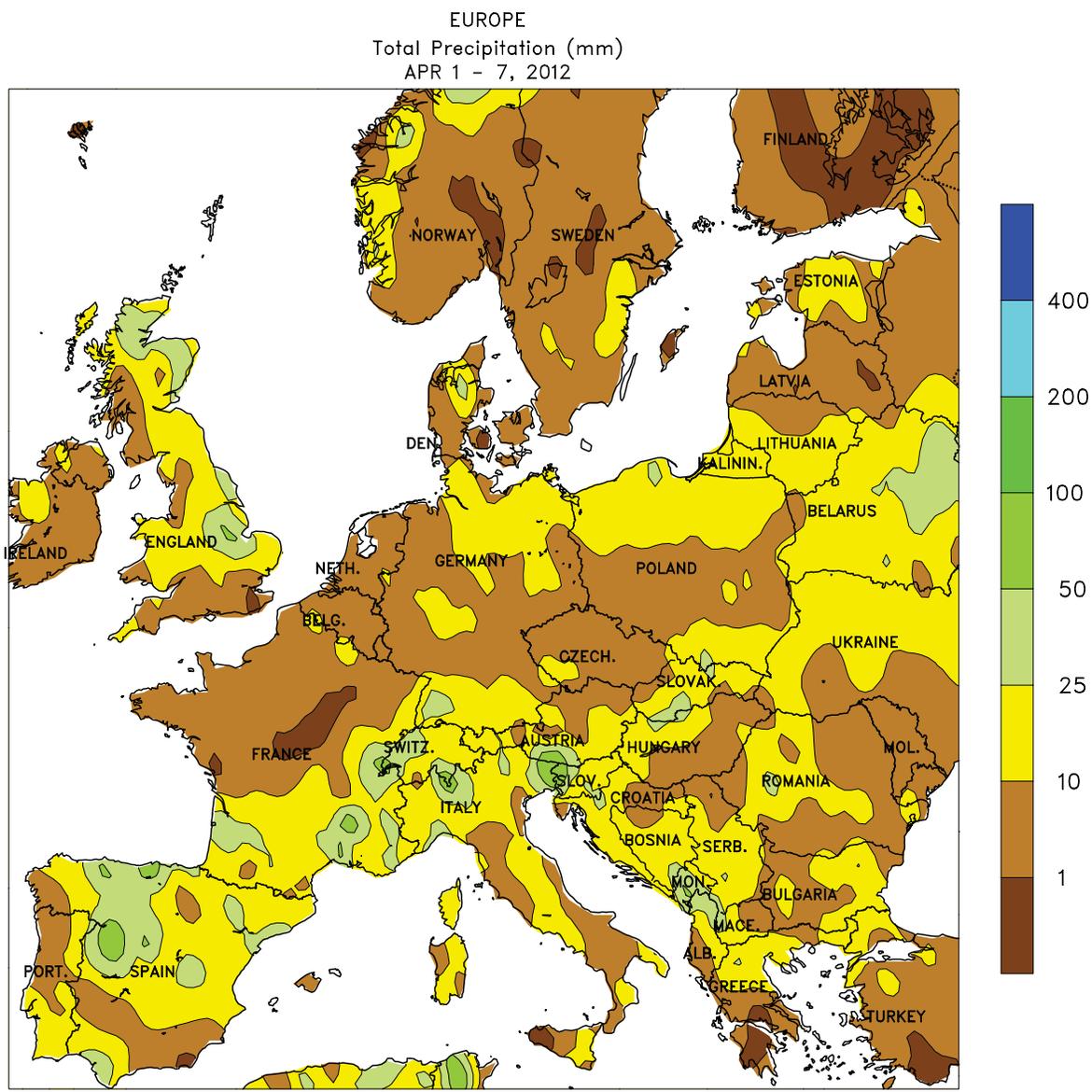
**SOUTH AFRICA:** Cool, dry weather slowed maturation of corn and other summer crops.

**ARGENTINA:** Warm, showery weather boosted moisture for late-planted corn and soybeans.

**BRAZIL:** Pockets of dryness returned to the south, where moisture remained limited for secondary (safrinha) corn.

**MEXICO:** Seasonable showers provided moisture for corn and sugarcane in production areas along the Gulf Coast.





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

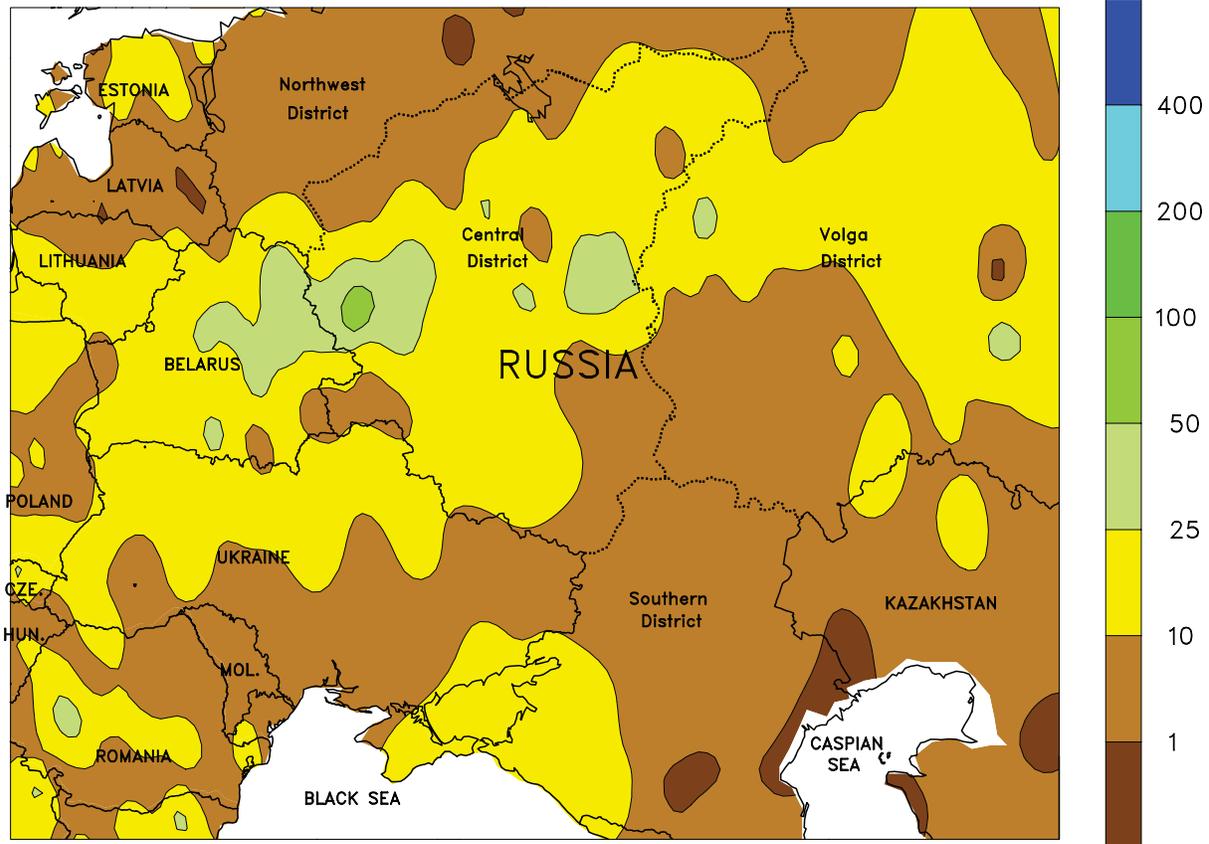


**EUROPE**

Rain overspread much of the continent, although pockets of dryness lingered in northern Europe. A slow-moving frontal boundary generated widespread showers (10-40 mm) across most of the region’s primary wheat and oilseed areas, boosting soil moisture for spring growth. In Spain and northern Italy, the rain (locally more than 50 mm) improved prospects for

reproductive winter grains and boosted irrigation reserves for summer crops. Likewise, 5 to 20 mm of rainfall eased short-term dryness in the Balkans. Despite the widespread wet weather, precipitation mostly bypassed northern France, northwestern Germany, and the Low Countries, although showers were arriving over this region as of April 9.

WESTERN FSU  
Total Precipitation (mm)  
APR 1 - 7, 2012



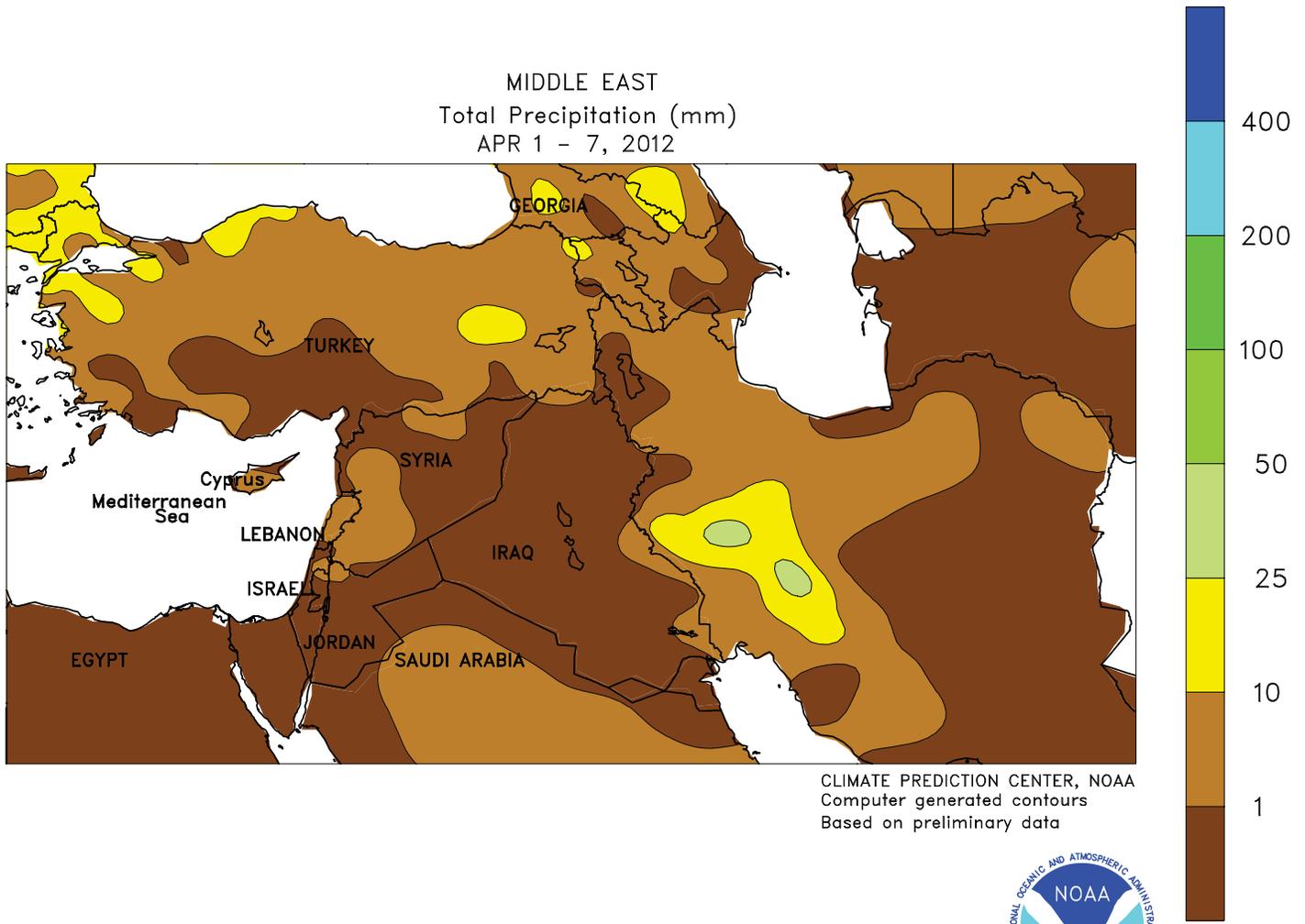
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA  
Computer generated contours  
Based on preliminary data



**WESTERN FSU**

Unsettled weather prevailed, with cooler-than-normal conditions in the north contrasting with above-normal temperatures across southern growing districts. A series of cold fronts generated rain and northern snow across most of the region. In southern Ukraine and Russia's Southern District, the rain (2-20 mm) was accompanied by temperatures up to 4°C above normal, encouraging

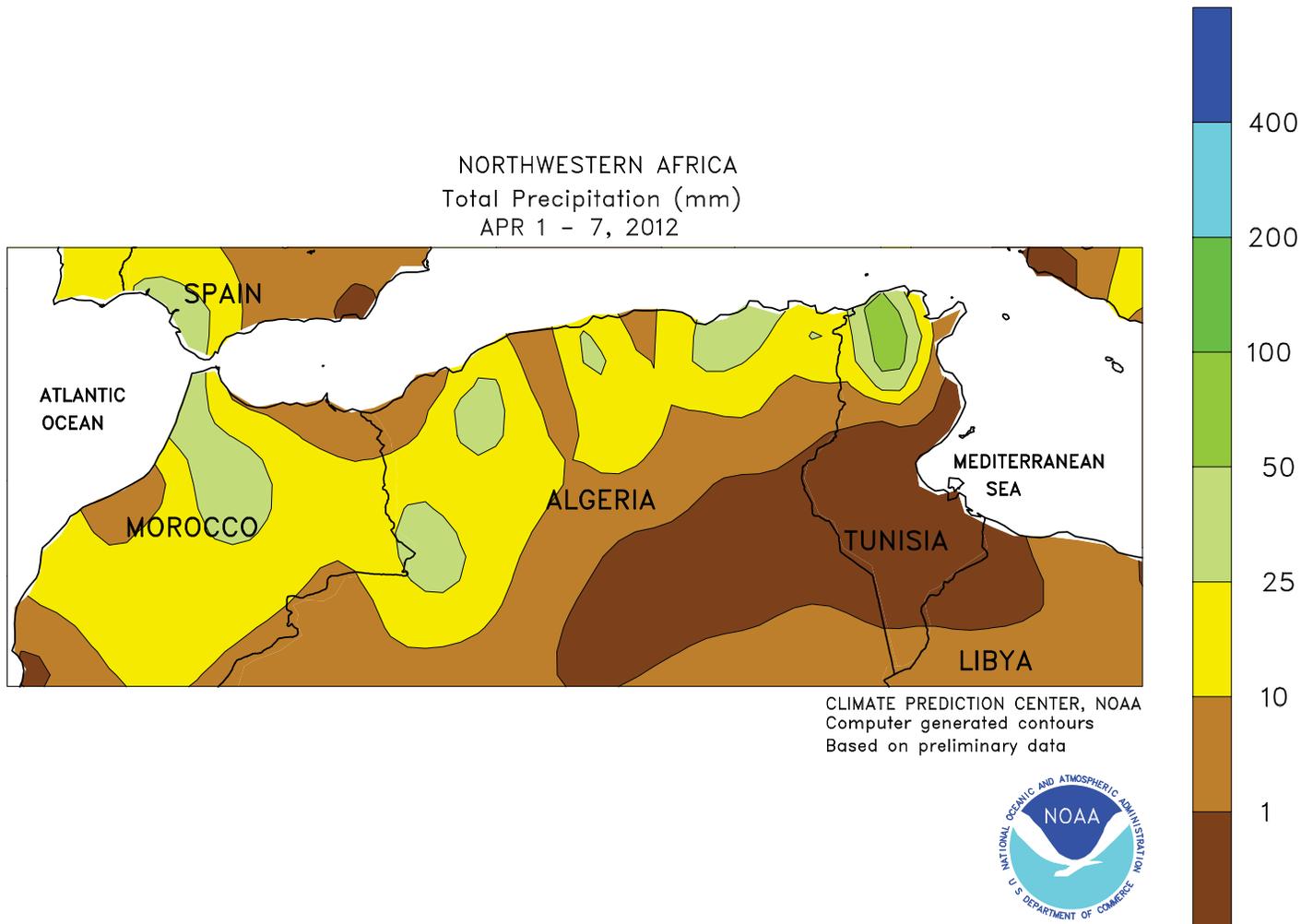
additional winter crop growth. Meanwhile, colder weather (up to 4°C below normal) from Belarus into the Volga District caused the precipitation (10-50 mm liquid equivalent) to fall as a mixture of rain and snow. Winter crops in the aforementioned northern growing areas remained dormant, as weekly average temperatures remained below 5°C.



**MIDDLE EAST**

Drier, milder weather settled over the region, encouraging fieldwork and crop development. In Turkey, precipitation was light (mostly less than 10 mm) and confined to northern and western growing areas, allowing producers to resume cotton planting and encouraging winter crop growth. A second area

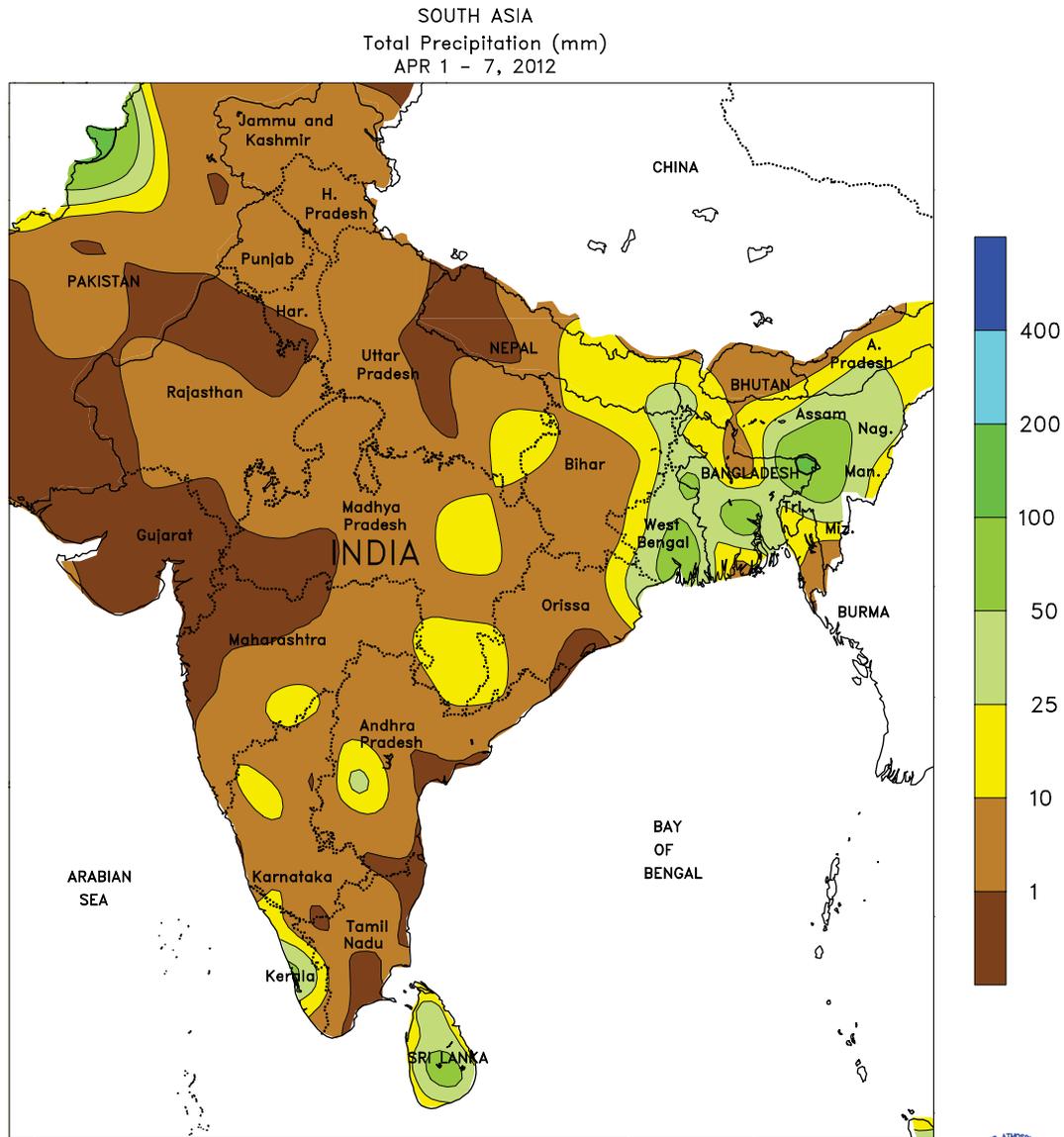
of light to moderate showers (10-35 mm) was in western Iran, where precipitation provided supplemental moisture to irrigated wheat and barley. Elsewhere, sunny, warm weather (2-5°C above normal) fostered winter crop development and a rapid pace of fieldwork.



**NORTHWESTERN AFRICA**

Rain overspread western growing areas, improving prospects for reproductive to filling winter grains. After a much drier-than-normal winter and early spring, much-needed rainfall (10-50 mm) arrived in Morocco's key wheat and barley areas.

However, the rain was mostly too late for filling winter grains in the south. Rain persisted across the rest of the region, providing additional, timely soil moisture to heading to flowering wheat and barley.



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

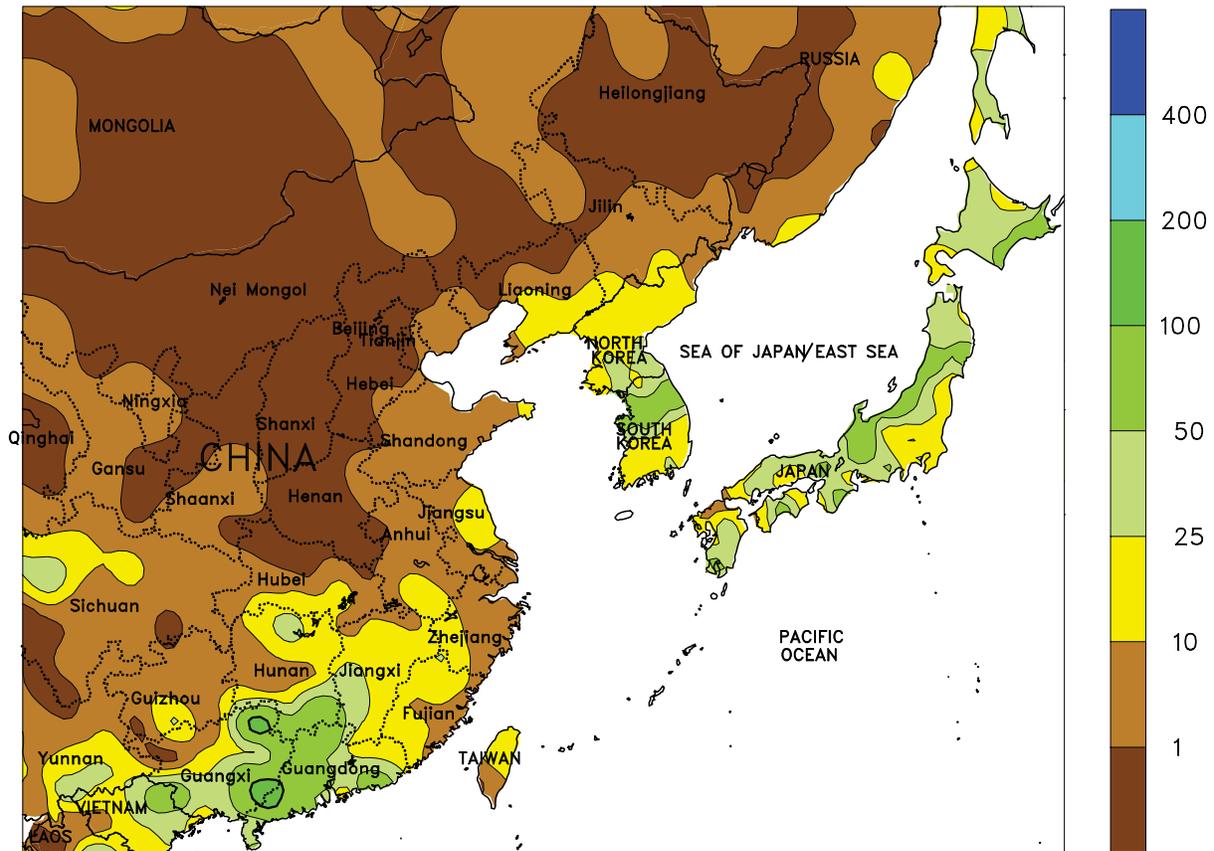


**SOUTH ASIA**

Intense spring heating in India spawned scattered thunderstorms during the week. Rainfall amounts varied widely between 2 and 26 mm, with the higher values occurring in eastern Uttar Pradesh and into eastern Madhya Pradesh. Pre-monsoon moisture moved through Bangladesh and far eastern India, where upwards of 100

mm of rain prevailed. Weekly temperatures averaged 3 to 4°C above normal in the traditionally hotter areas of western India as maximum temperatures soared into the lower 40s (degrees C). Limited cotton planting was underway in northern India but fieldwork will increase during April.

EASTERN ASIA  
 Total Precipitation (mm)  
 APR 1 - 7, 2012



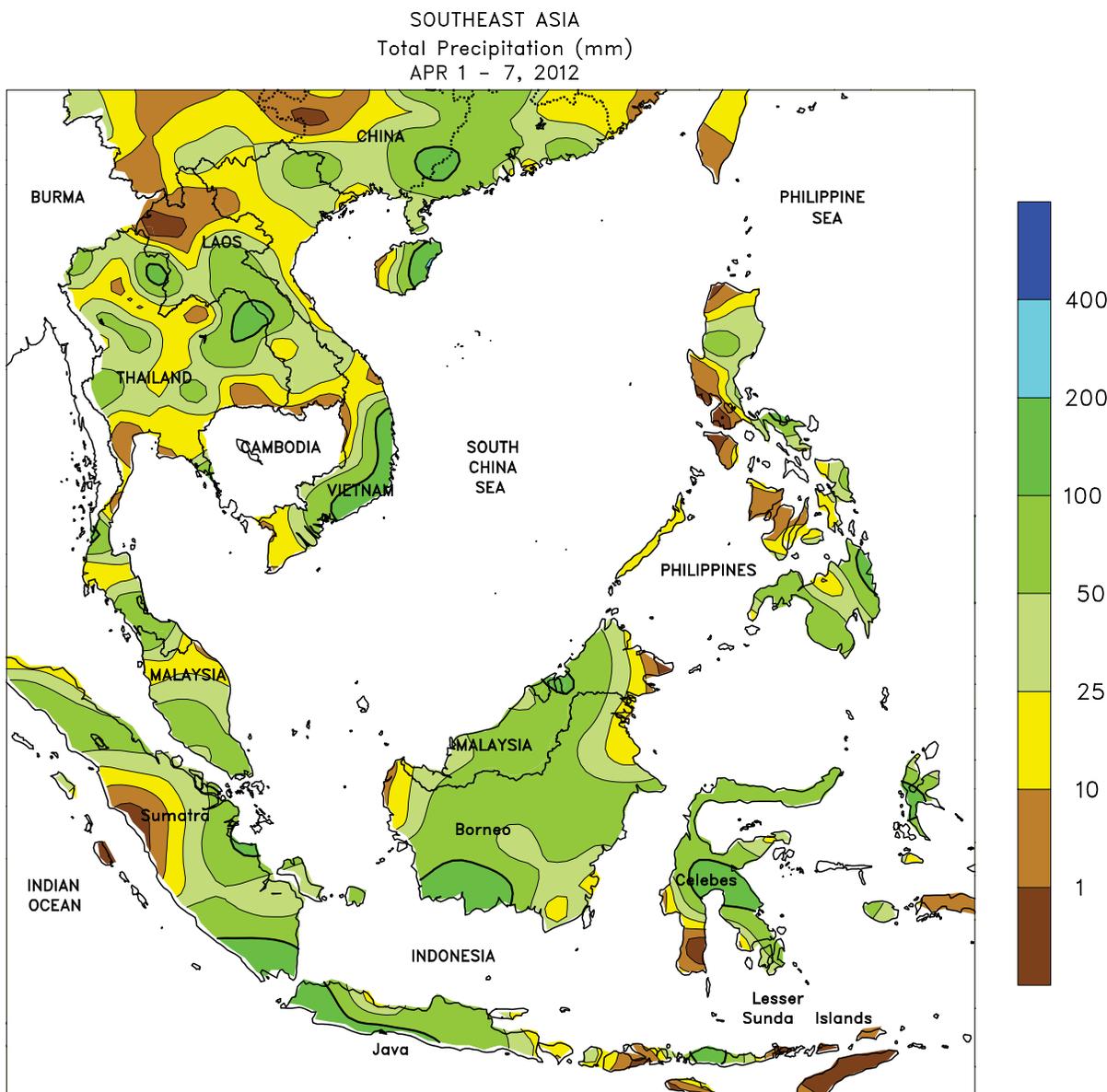
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA  
 Computer generated contours  
 Based on preliminary data



**EASTERN ASIA**

Generally dry weather prevailed in China, with rainfall confined mainly to the southern provinces. Nearly 100 mm of rain overspread much of Guangdong and Guangxi, benefiting sugarcane and rice. Just to the north, rainfall amounts between 10 and 25 mm maintained favorable moisture supplies for early double-crop rice in Hunan, Jiangxi, and Fujian. Rainfall totals diminished farther to the north, with less than 10 mm

occurring within the Yangtze Valley and little if any rain on the North China Plain. Moisture supplies remained favorable for filling winter rapeseed in the Yangtze Valley. However, more rainfall would be welcome on the North China Plain to decrease irrigation demands. Weekly average temperatures between 15 and 20°C throughout active growing areas of China were favorable for crop development.



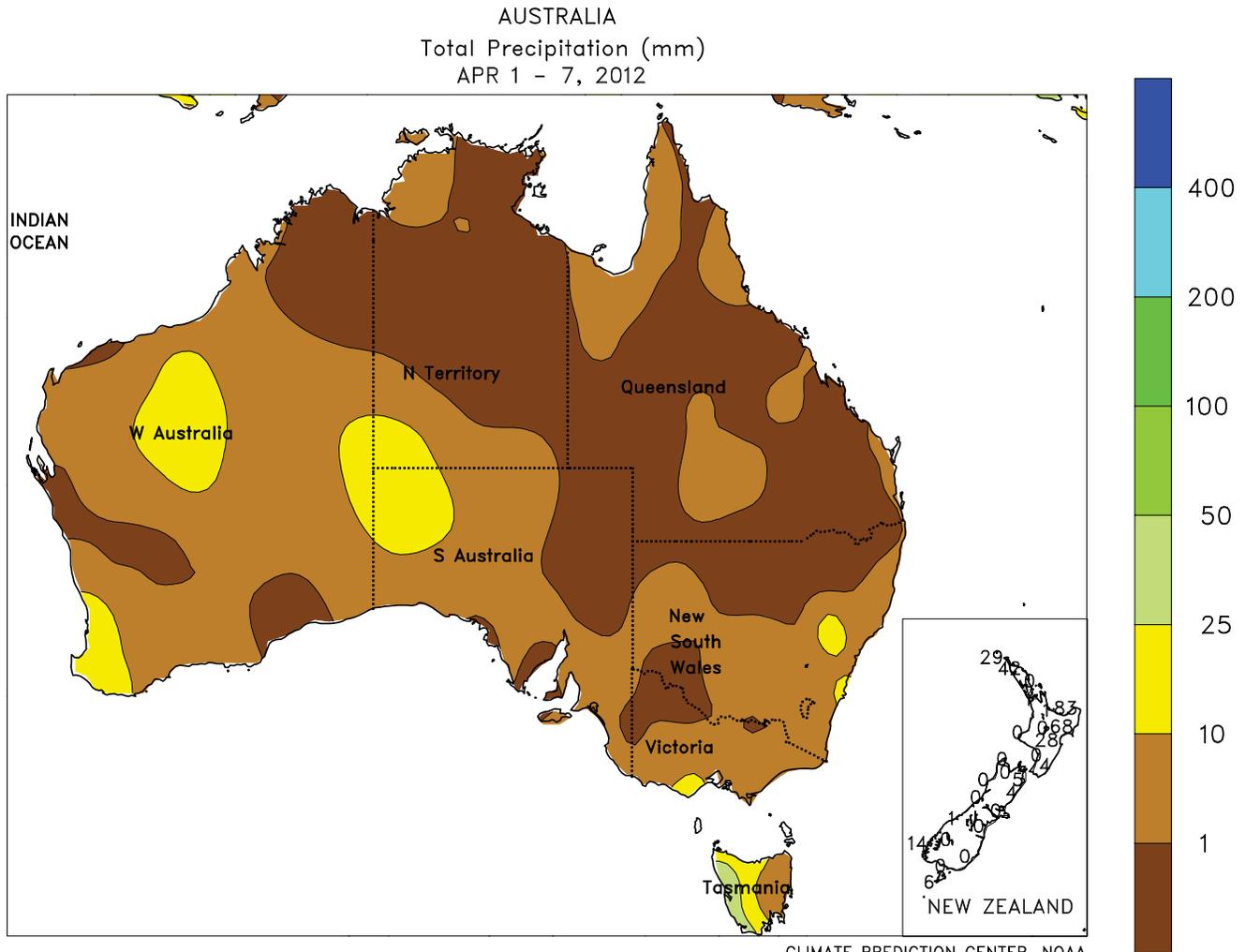
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA  
Computer generated contours  
Based on preliminary data



**SOUTHEAST ASIA**

Unseasonably heavy showers (25-100 mm) in Thailand provided a pre-monsoon boost to reservoir levels drawn down during the dry season. Main-season rice transplanting typically begins in early May. In Vietnam, heavy rainfall (25-175 mm) in the south was predominately a result of Tropical Cyclone Pakhar. The remnants of the storm moved through the Mekong Delta before recurving back into the South China Sea where it completely dissipated. The rainfall slowed spring rice harvesting but provided beneficial moisture to coffee in the Central Highlands. Farther north, nearly 50 mm of rain

increased moisture supplies for vegetative spring rice. Seasonal rainfall (25-150 mm) prevailed in the eastern Philippines, causing few rice and corn harvest delays, while generally light (less than 10 mm) showers made incursions into the western portions of the country. In Malaysia and Indonesia, 25 to 150 mm of rain maintained favorable soil moisture for oil palm, with periods of drier weather aiding harvesting. Meanwhile in Java, Indonesia, showers (25-150 mm) slowed rice harvesting, especially in the west, where the highest rainfall totals were reported.



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

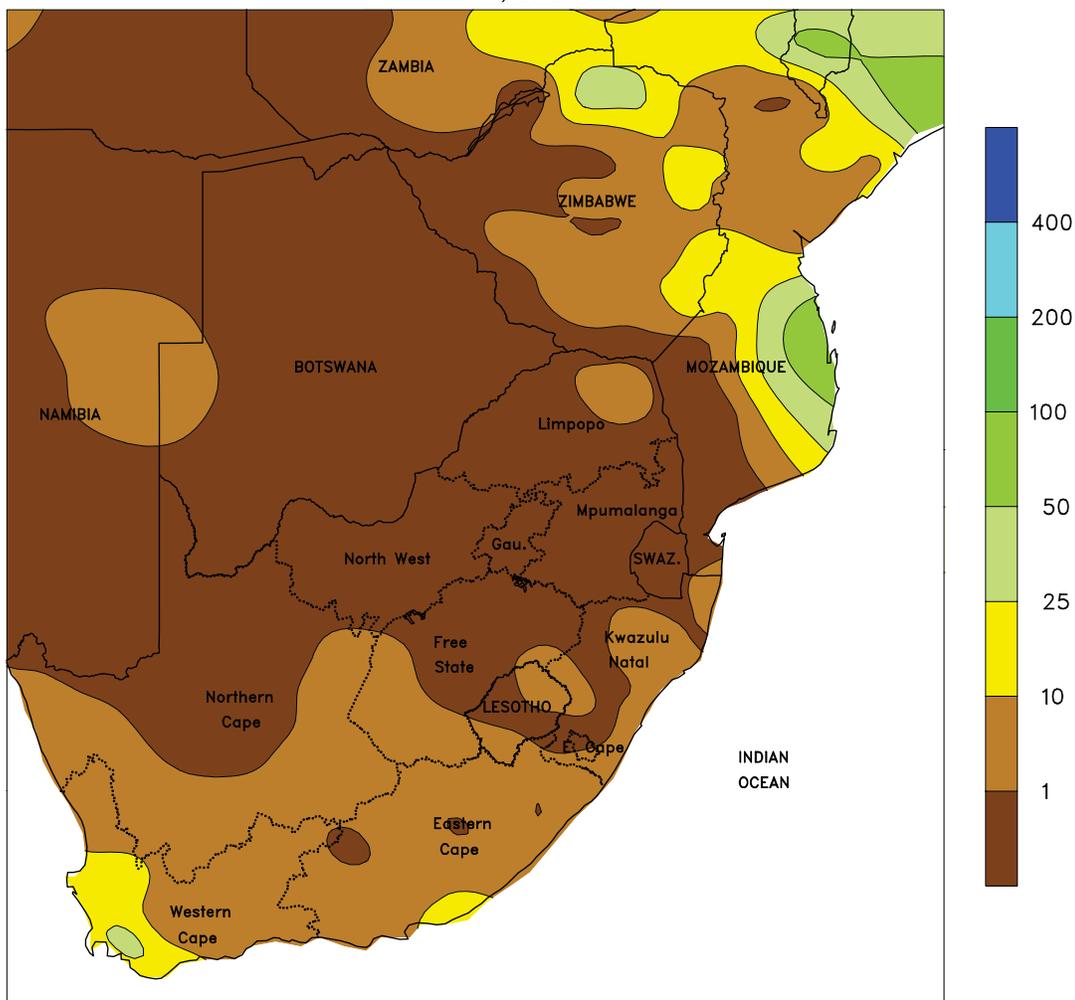


**AUSTRALIA**

In southern Queensland and northern New South Wales, dry weather continued to favor summer crop maturation and harvesting. Somewhat warmer weather overspread the region

as well, helping to accelerate the pace of crop development. Temperatures averaged near normal (within about 2°C of normal) in most major summer crop producing areas.

SOUTH AFRICA  
Total Precipitation (mm)  
APR 1 - 7, 2012



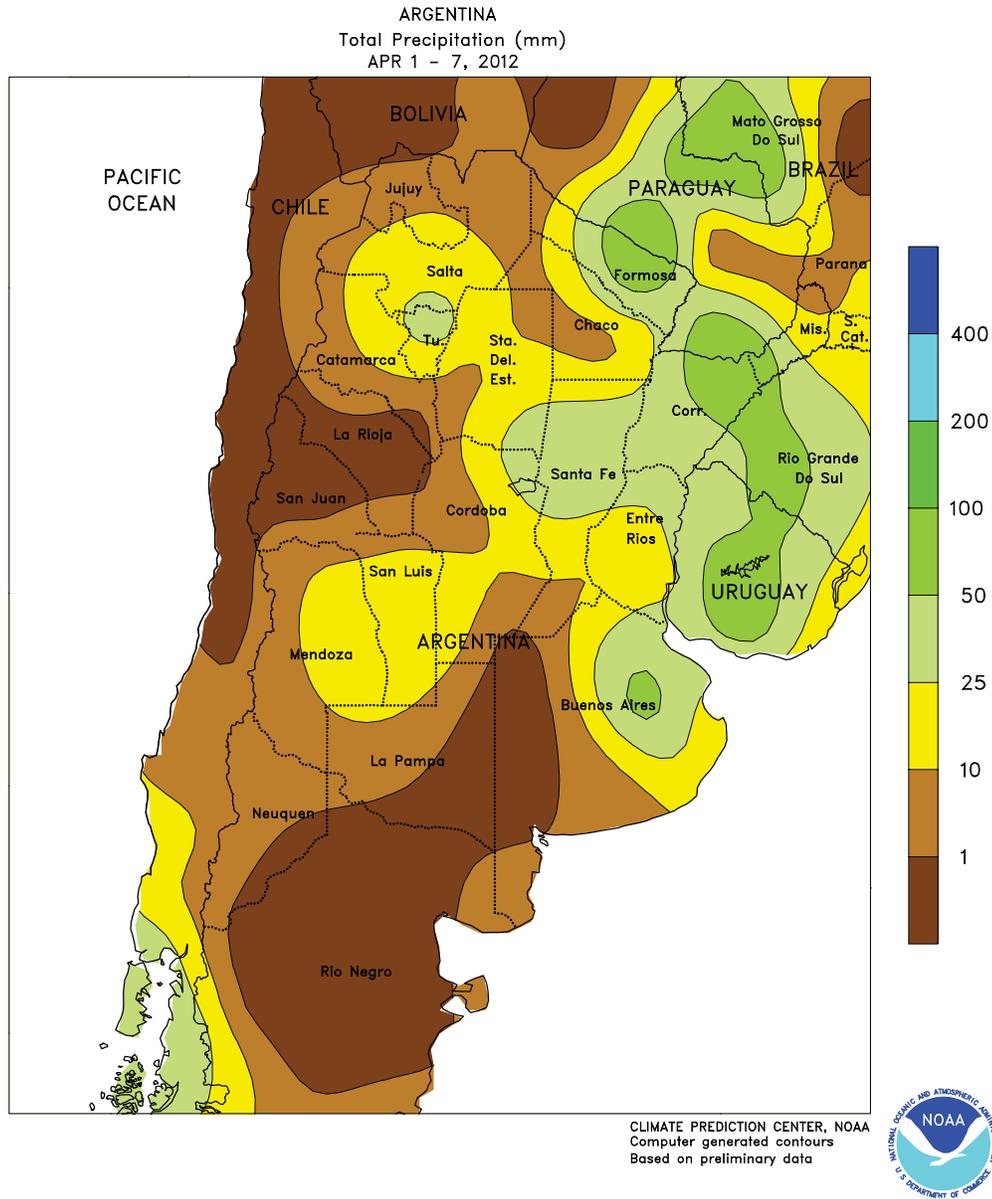
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**SOUTH AFRICA**

Cool, dry weather dominated the corn belt and most other agricultural areas of central and eastern South Africa. Weekly average temperatures were 1 to 3°C below normal, with morning lows dipping below 5°C in the traditionally cooler, high-elevation farmlands of southwestern Mpumalanga and eastern Free State. A few of these cooler spots recorded daytime highs below 20°C at the beginning of the week; however, warmer conditions gradually enveloped the entire corn belt, pushing temperatures into the middle and upper 20s (degrees C). Meanwhile, major sugarcane areas (coastal KwaZulu-Natal and eastern

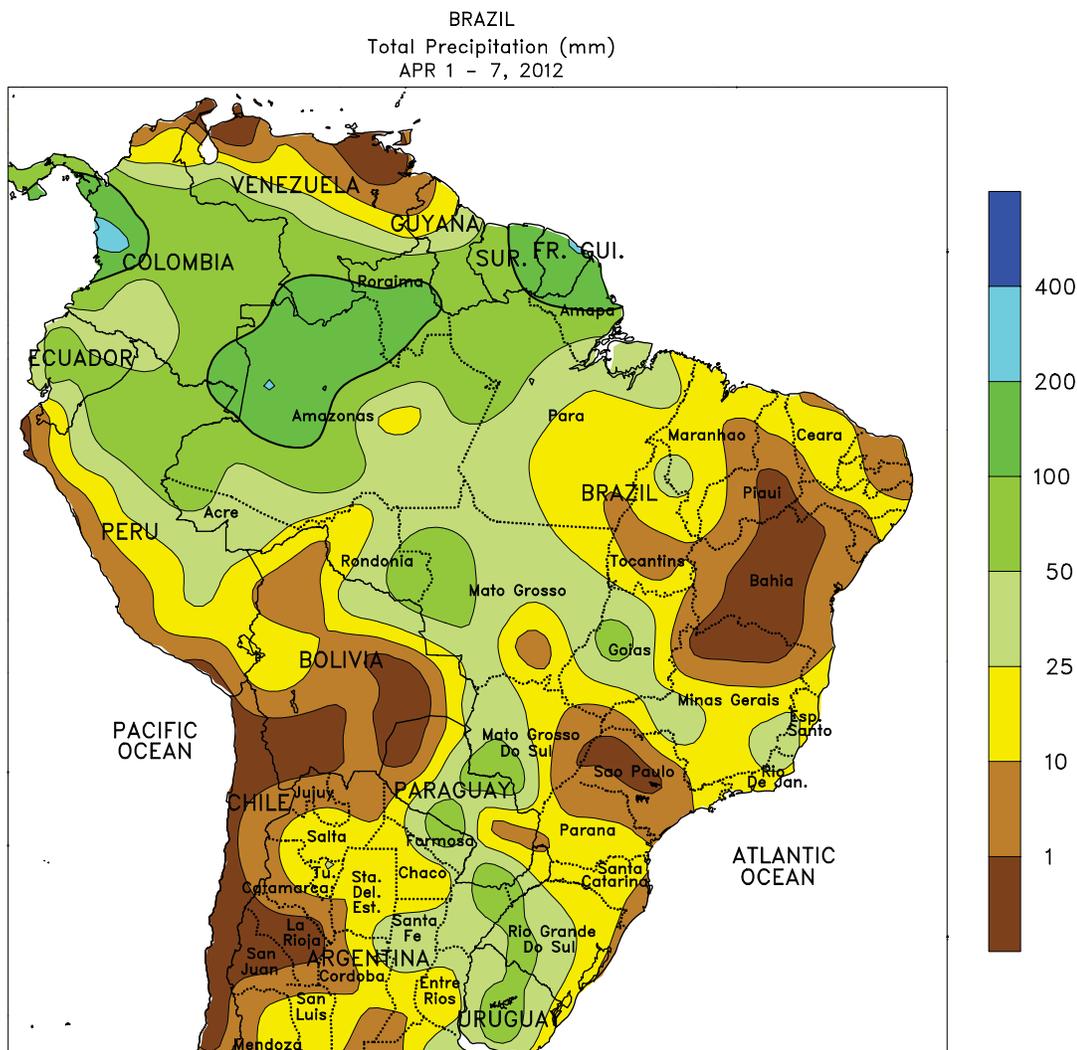
Mpumalanga) experienced a similar warming trend, with early week highs in the lower and middle 20s eventually rising as high as 30°C in most areas. However, minimum temperatures likely stayed at or above 10°C in most production areas. Sugarcane harvesting, which can last into September, typically begins in April when seasonal rains normally decline. Elsewhere, dry, seasonably mild weather aided summer crop maturation throughout Northern and Eastern Cape Provinces as timely rain (5-25 mm) increased moisture for winter wheat germination in the main production areas of Western Cape.



**ARGENTINA**

Favorably warmer weather, accompanied by locally heavy showers, benefited late-planted corn and soybeans. Following last week’s outbreak of unseasonably cool weather, weekly average temperatures were 1 to 3°C above normal in nearly all major farming areas. In fact, high temperatures reached the 30s (degrees C) as far south as La Pampa and Buenos Aires on several days, and most locations saw temperatures stay above 5°C for the entire week. Many areas also recorded a general increase in rainfall, with amounts exceeding 25 mm in eastern Buenos Aires and in several northern locations from Tucuman to northern Santa Fe and Corrientes. However, drier weather

continued in La Pampa and nearby locations of Buenos Aires and Cordoba, aiding drydown and harvesting of corn and first-crop soybeans. Later-planted summer crops, including corn and soybeans, are still susceptible to damage from a potential April freeze, necessitating seasonable to above-normal temperatures for several more weeks. According to Argentina’s Ministry of Agriculture, sunflowers were 95 percent harvested as of April 5, 5 points ahead of last week’s pace but still slightly behind last year (97 percent). Corn was 24 percent harvested, down 6 points from last year. Soybean harvesting advanced, though no national-level progress totals were reported.



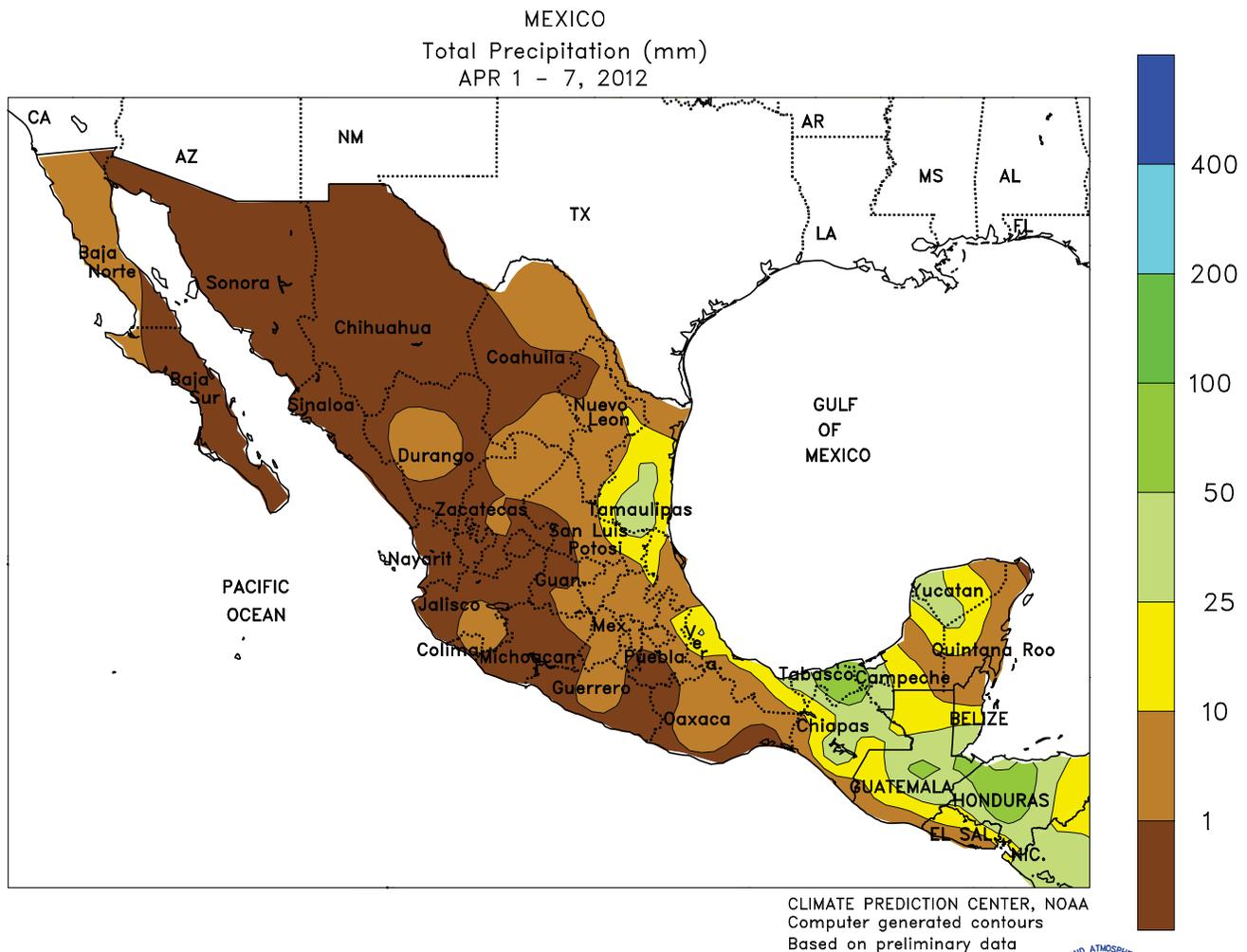
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA  
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**BRAZIL**

Rainfall diminished from the previous week across large portions of southern and northeastern Brazil, renewing concern for potential impacts on secondary (safrinha) corn and cotton. Although much-needed rain (25-50 mm or more) developed over Rio Grande do Sul, warm, mostly dry weather dominated other major farming areas of southern Brazil for most of the week. Rainfall totaled 10 mm or less over most of Parana and Sao Paulo and weekly temperatures averaged 1 to 2°C above normal; prior to the late-week arrival of showers, daytime highs frequently reached the lower 30s (degrees C). Drier-than-normal conditions extended northeastward through Minas Gerais into the northeastern interior, including key soybean and cotton areas in the vicinity of western Bahia and

Tocantins. Unseasonable warmth accompanied the dryness in these areas as well, with weekly temperatures averaging 2 to 3°C above normal (highs in the upper 30s). Showers were also patchy and light (rainfall totaling 5-50 mm) in parts of the Center-West Region (Mato Grosso, Goias, and Mato Grosso do Sul), with daytime highs similar to those recorded in the northeast. The recent drying trend in Brazil has raised concern for a possible second consecutive early end to the rainy season in Brazil's central interior (the rainy season typically ends in late April or early May). In the south, however, rain typically falls year round. A return to a more seasonable pattern of showers and temperatures is needed to improve prospects for Parana's safrinha corn.



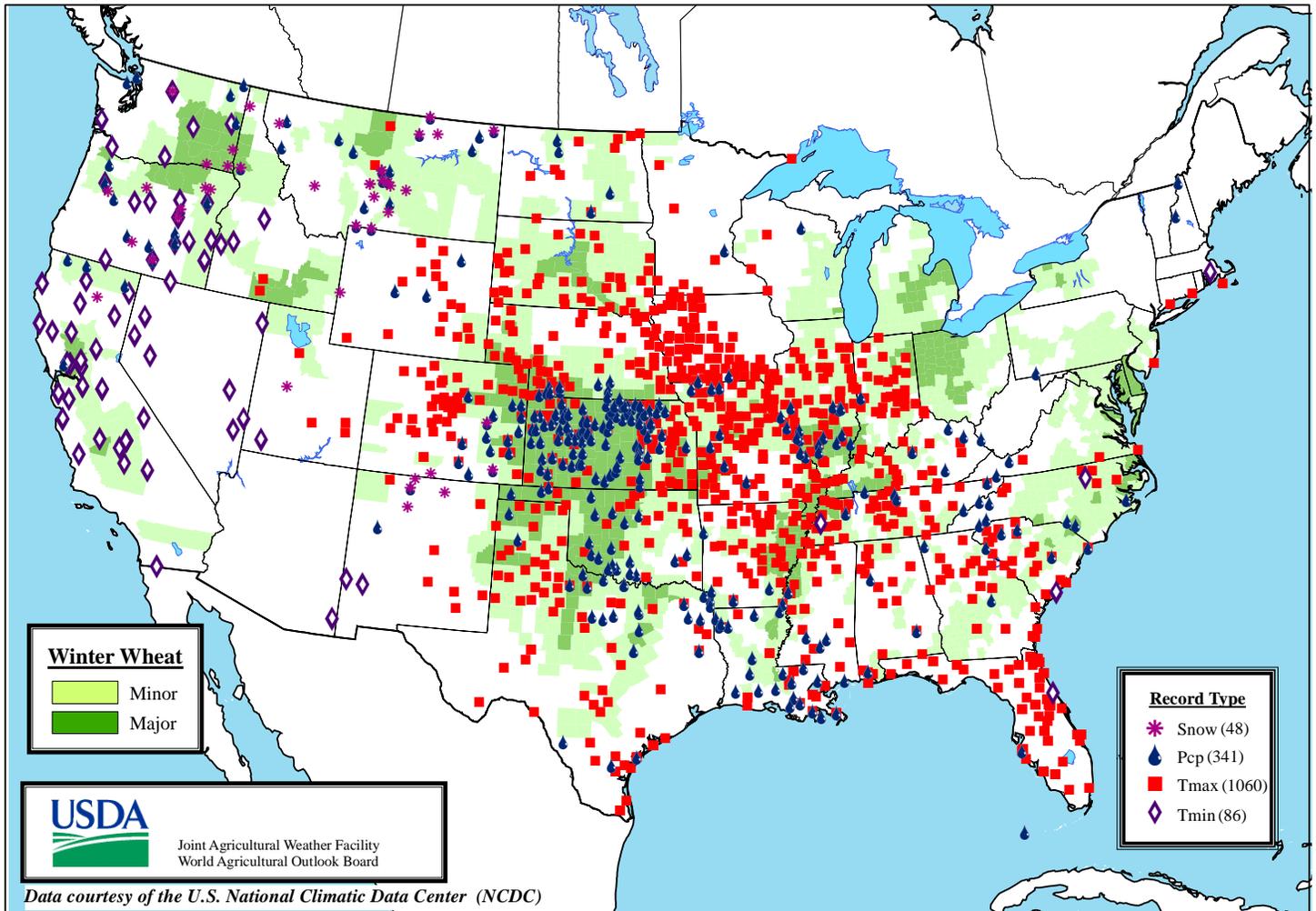
**MEXICO**

Seasonable showers increased moisture for agriculture along the western Gulf Coast, although above-normal temperatures maintained high moisture demands of established crops. The rainfall (5 to 25 mm or more) benefited rain-fed winter sorghum in Tamaulipas and provided moisture for early development of sugarcane in and around southern Veracruz. Despite the rain, however, weekly average temperatures were 2 to 4°C above normal, with highs ranging from 35 to 40°C in the northeast. Elsewhere, rain (less than 10 mm) fell for a second week in

eastern sections of the southern plateau, helping to condition fields for planting corn and other rain-fed summer crops. Showers (locally in excess of 50 mm) were also scattered throughout the Yucatan Peninsula, but drier conditions dominated farming areas near the southern Pacific Coast (southern Jalisco to Chiapas). Seasonable dryness also dominated the western half of the country, with generally seasonable temperatures aiding winter wheat development in the northwest. Wheat harvesting typically begins during the latter part of April in the northwest.

# Daily Weather Records (ASOS & COOP)

## April 1-7, 2012



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