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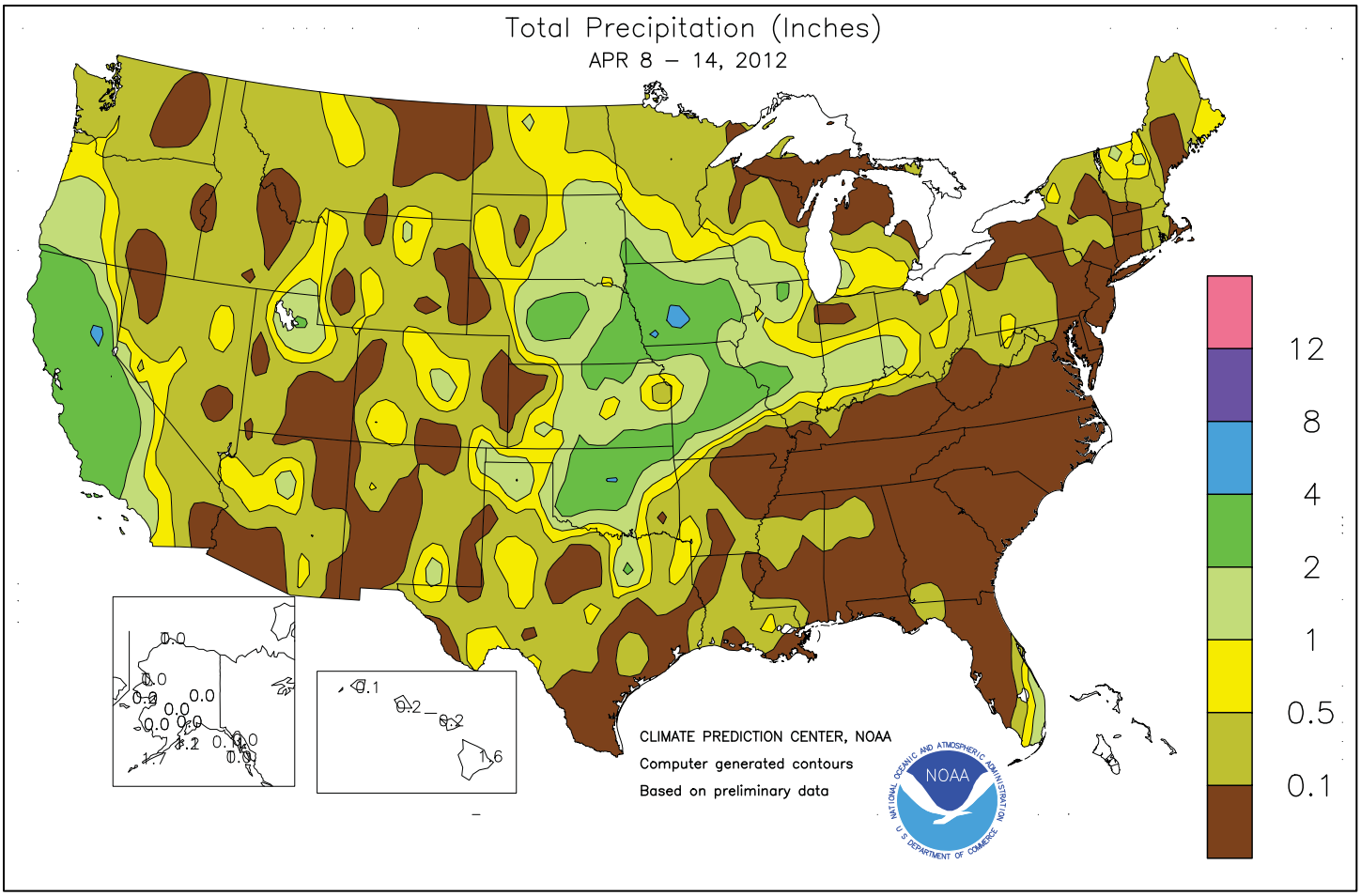
WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

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 8 - 14, 2012

Highlights provided by USDA/WAOB

Cool weather persisted in **California** and briefly settled across the **Midwest** and **East**. In the latter regions, producers continued to monitor temperature-sensitive crops, including fruits, winter wheat, and newly emerged corn for signs of freeze injury. Mid-week freezes were noted in most areas **north of a line from northern and eastern Missouri to western portions of Virginia and North Carolina**. Meanwhile, the majority of the U.S. continued to experience near- to above-normal temperatures. On the **southern Plains**, weekly

(Continued on page 5)

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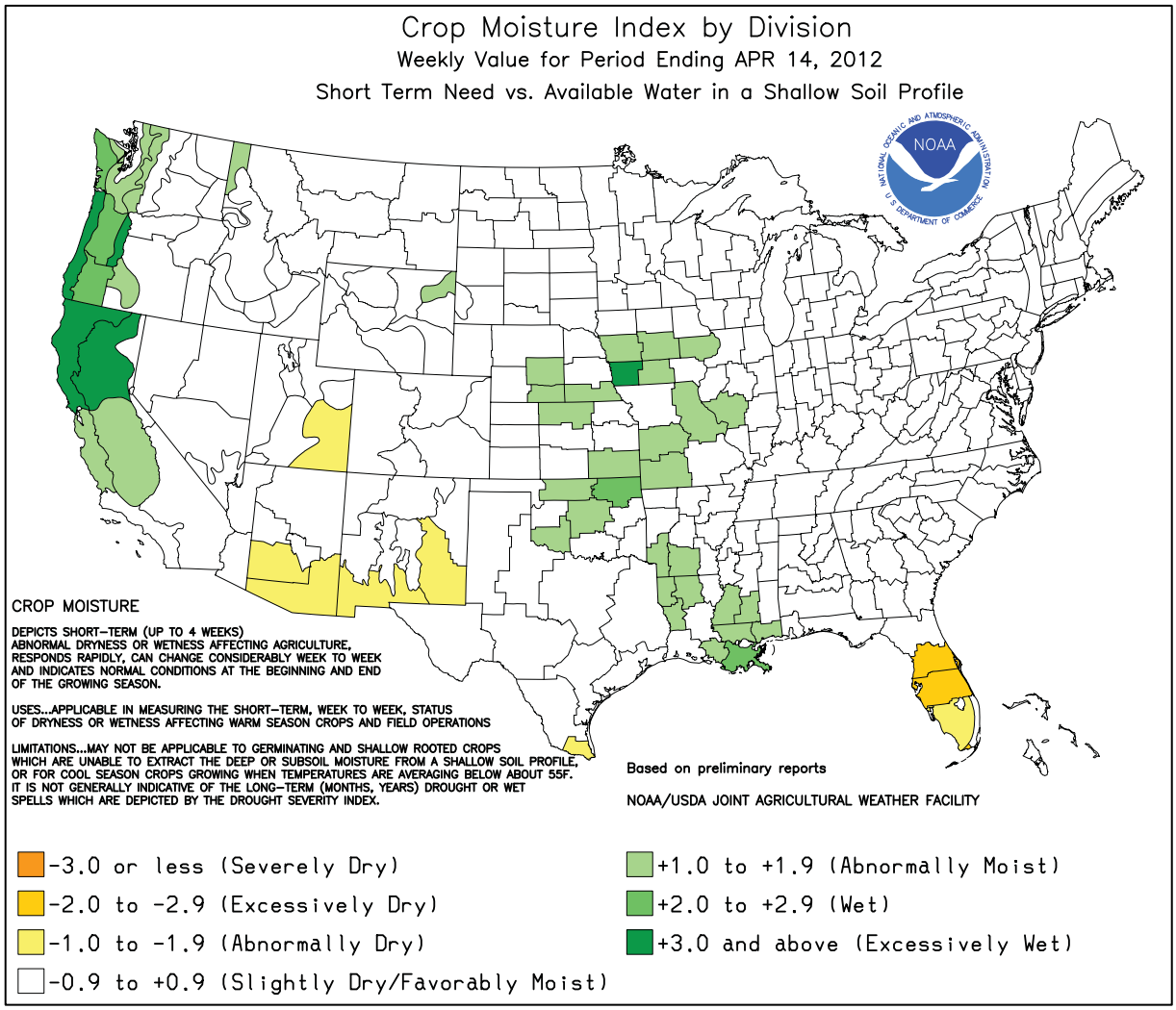
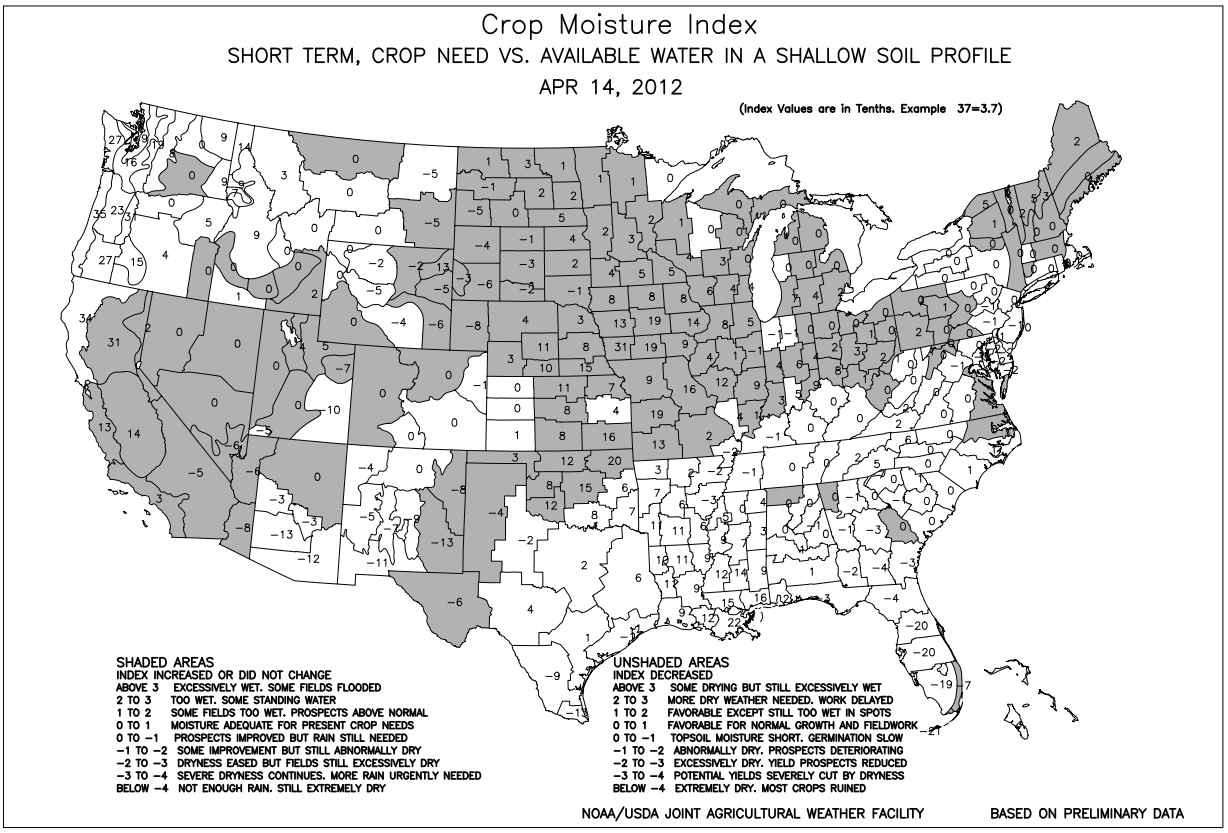
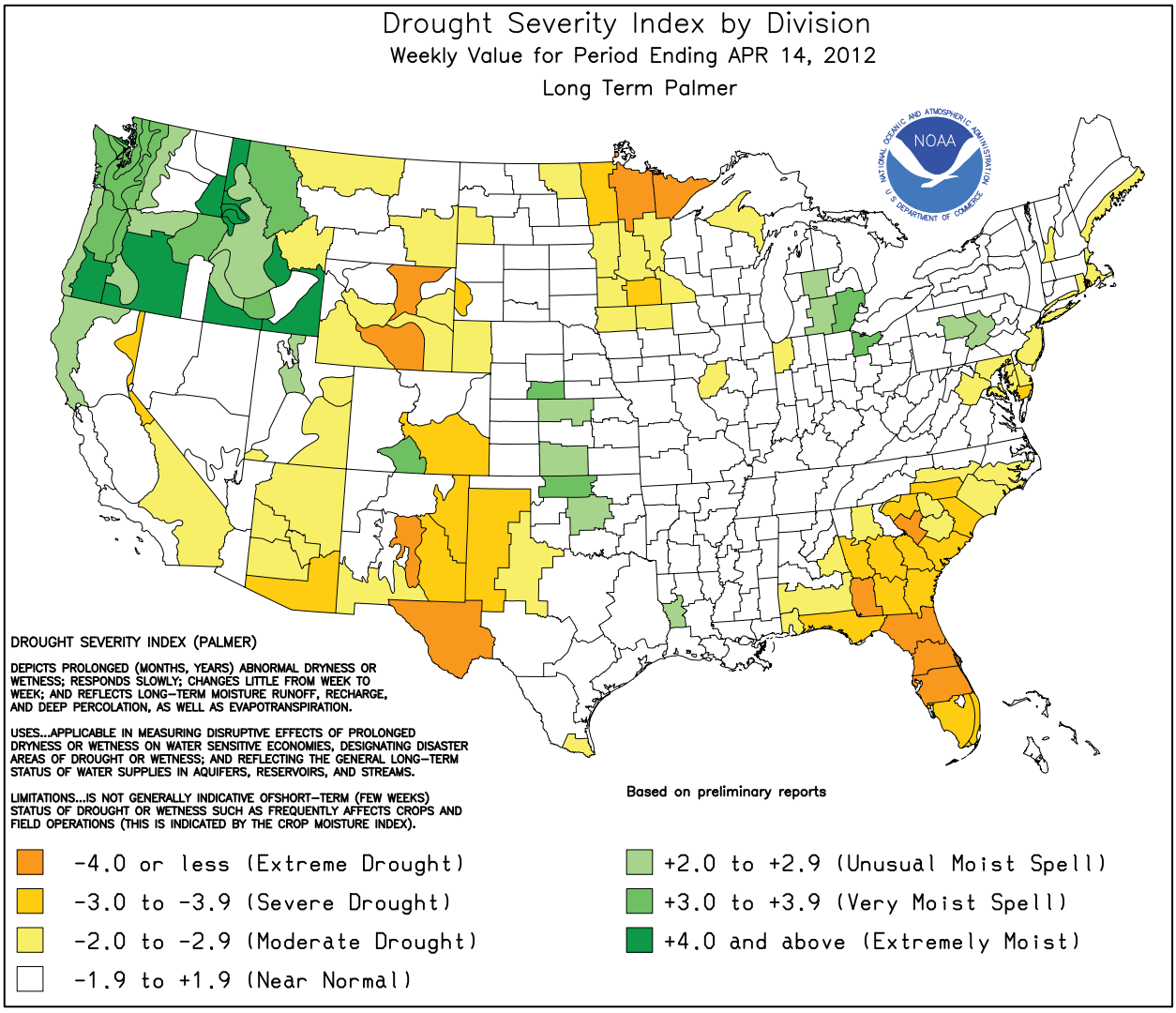
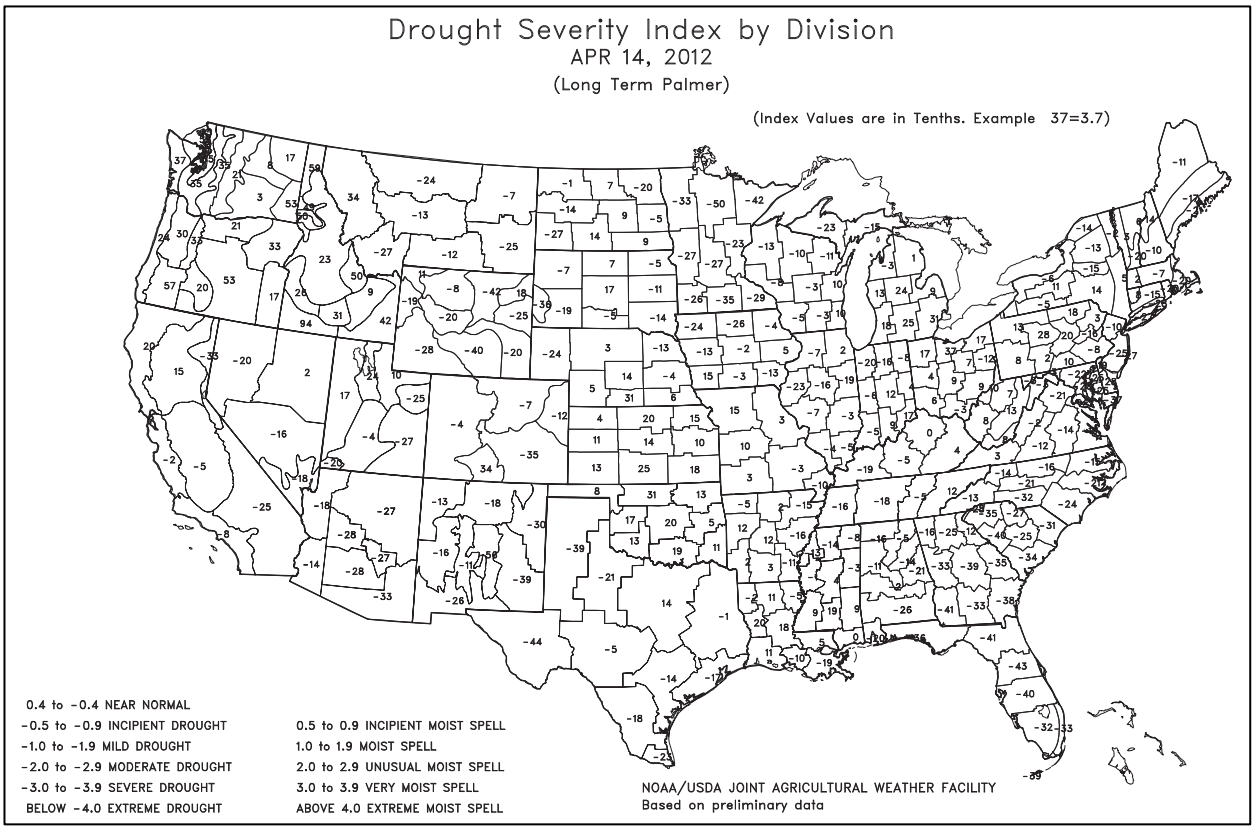
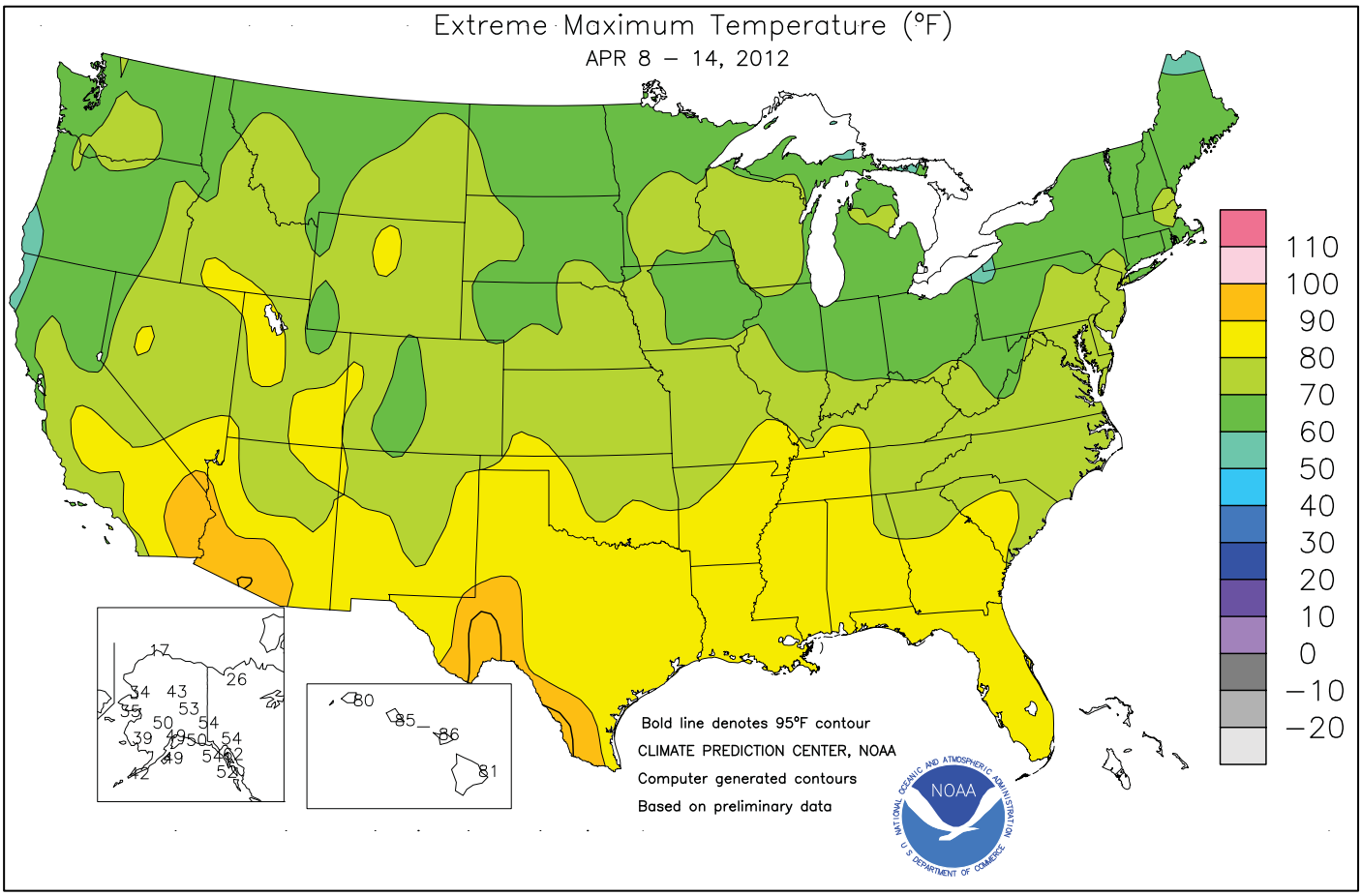
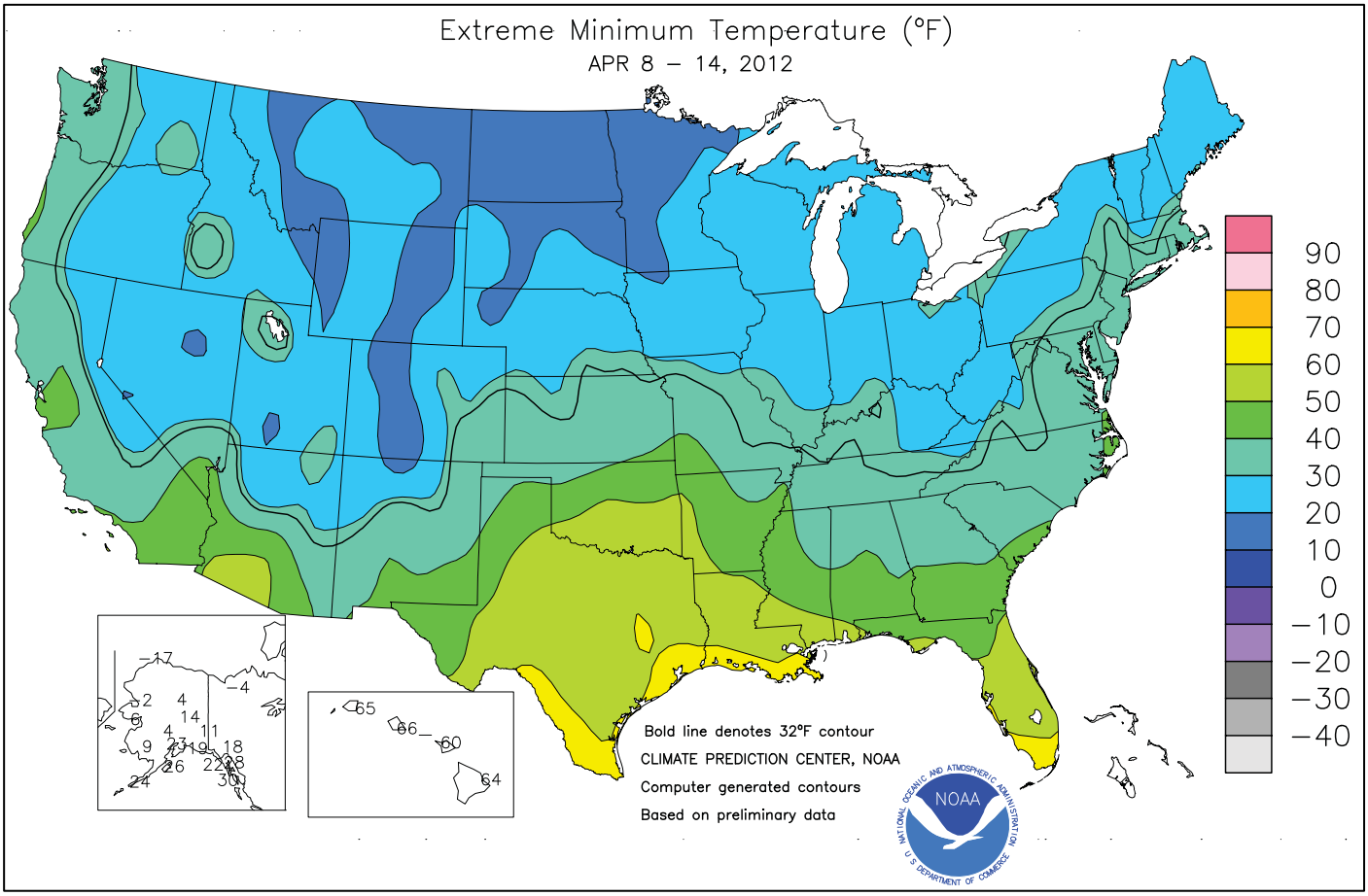

Crop Moisture Index by Division
Weekly Value for Period Ending APR 14, 2012
Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile
NOAA
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
CROP MOISTURE
DEPICTS SHORT-TERM (UP TO 4 WEEKS) ABNORMAL DRYNESS OR WETNESS AFFECTING AGRICULTURE, RESPONDS RAPIDLY, CAN CHANGE CONSIDERABLY WEEK TO WEEK AND INDICATES NORMAL CONDITIONS AT THE BEGINNING AND END OF THE GROWING SEASON.
USES...APPLICABLE IN MEASURING THE SHORT-TERM, WEEK TO WEEK, STATUS OF DRYNESS OR WETNESS AFFECTING WARM SEASON CROPS AND FIELD OPERATIONS
LIMITATIONS...MAY NOT BE APPLICABLE TO GERMINATING AND SHALLOW ROOTED CROPS WHICH ARE UNABLE TO EXTRACT THE DEEP OR SUBSOIL MOISTURE FROM A SHALLOW SOIL PROFILE, OR FOR COOL SEASON CROPS GROWING WHEN TEMPERATURES ARE AVERAGING BELOW ABOUT 55F. IT IS NOT GENERALLY INDICATIVE OF THE LONG-TERM (MONTHS, YEARS) DROUGHT OR WET SPELLS WHICH ARE DEPICTED BY THE DROUGHT SEVERITY INDEX.
Based on preliminary reports
NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY
-3.0 or less (Severely Dry)
-2.0 to -2.9 (Excessively Dry)
-1.0 to -1.9 (Abnormally Dry)
-0.9 to +0.9 (Slightly Dry/Favorably Moist)
+1.0 to +1.9 (Abnormally Moist)
+2.0 to +2.9 (Wet)
+3.0 and above (Excessively Wet)


Crop Moisture Index
SHORT TERM, CROP NEED VS. AVAILABLE WATER IN A SHALLOW SOIL PROFILE
APR 14, 2012
(Index Values are in Tenths. Example 37=3.7)
SHADED AREAS
INDEX INCREASED OR DID NOT CHANGE
ABOVE 3 EXCESSIVELY WET. SOME FIELDS FLOODED
2 TO 3 TOO WET. SOME STANDING WATER
1 TO 2 SOME FIELDS TOO WET. PROSPECTS ABOVE NORMAL
0 TO 1 MOISTURE ADEQUATE FOR PRESENT CROP NEEDS
0 TO -1 PROSPECTS IMPROVED BUT RAIN STILL NEEDED
-1 TO -2 SOME IMPROVEMENT BUT STILL ABNORMALLY DRY
-2 TO -3 DRYNESS EASED BUT FIELDS STILL EXCESSIVELY DRY
-3 TO -4 SEVERE DRYNESS CONTINUES. MORE RAIN URGENTLY NEEDED
BELOW -4 NOT ENOUGH RAIN. STILL EXTREMELY DRY
UNSHADED AREAS
INDEX DECREASED
ABOVE 3 SOME DRYING BUT STILL EXCESSIVELY WET
2 TO 3 MORE DRY WEATHER NEEDED. WORK DELAYED
1 TO 2 FAVORABLE EXCEPT STILL TOO WET IN SPOTS
0 TO 1 FAVORABLE FOR NORMAL GROWTH AND FIELDWORK
0 TO -1 TOPSOIL MOISTURE SHORT. GERMINATION SLOW
-1 TO -2 ABNORMALLY DRY. PROSPECTS DETERIORATING
-2 TO -3 EXCESSIVELY DRY. YIELD PROSPECTS REDUCED
-3 TO -4 POTENTIAL YIELDS SEVERELY CUT BY DRYNESS
BELOW -4 EXTREMELY DRY. MOST CROPS RUINED
NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY
BASED ON PRELIMINARY DATA

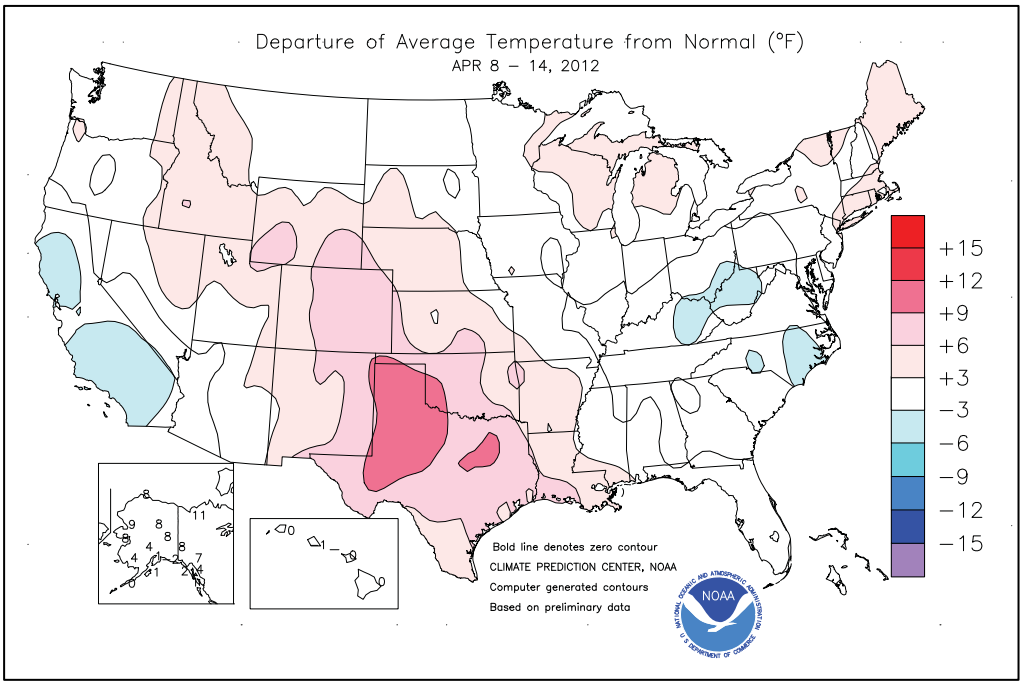

Drought Severity Index by Division
Weekly Value for Period Ending APR 14, 2012
Long Term Palmer
NOAA
DROUGHT SEVERITY INDEX (PALMER)
DEPICTS PROLONGED (MONTHS, YEARS) ABNORMAL DRYNESS OR WETNESS; RESPONDS SLOWLY; CHANGES LITTLE FROM WEEK TO WEEK; AND REFLECTS LONG-TERM MOISTURE RUNOFF, RECHARGE, AND DEEP PERCOLATION, AS WELL AS EVAPOTRANSPIRATION.
USES...APPLICABLE IN MEASURING DISRUPTIVE EFFECTS OF PROLONGED DRYNESS OR WETNESS ON WATER SENSITIVE ECONOMIES, DESIGNATING DISASTER AREAS OF DROUGHT OR WETNESS; AND REFLECTING THE GENERAL LONG-TERM STATUS OF WATER SUPPLIES IN AQUIFERS, RESERVOIRS, AND STREAMS.
LIMITATIONS...IS NOT GENERALLY INDICATIVE OFSHORT-TERM (FEW WEEKS) STATUS OF DROUGHT OR WETNESS SUCH AS FREQUENTLY AFFECTS CROPS AND FIELD OPERATIONS (THIS IS INDICATED BY THE CROP MOISTURE INDEX).
Based on preliminary reports
-4.0 or less (Extreme Drought)
-3.0 to -3.9 (Severe Drought)
-2.0 to -2.9 (Moderate Drought)
-1.9 to +1.9 (Near Normal)
+2.0 to +2.9 (Unusual Moist Spell)
+3.0 to +3.9 (Very Moist Spell)
+4.0 and above (Extremely Moist)


Drought Severity Index by Division
APR 14, 2012
(Long Term Palmer)
(Index Values are in Tenths. Example 37=3.7)
0.4 to -0.4 NEAR NORMAL
-0.5 to -0.9 INCIPIENT DROUGHT
-1.0 to -1.9 MILD DROUGHT
-2.0 to -2.9 MODERATE DROUGHT
-3.0 to -3.9 SEVERE DROUGHT
BELOW -4.0 EXTREME DROUGHT
0.5 to 0.9 INCIPIENT MOIST SPELL
1.0 to 1.9 MOIST SPELL
2.0 to 2.9 UNUSUAL MOIST SPELL
3.0 to 3.9 VERY MOIST SPELL
ABOVE 4.0 EXTREME MOIST SPELL
NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY
Based on preliminary data


Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F)
APR 8 – 14, 2012
110
100
90
80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
−10
−20
Bold line denotes 95°F contour
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA
Computer generated contours
Based on preliminary data
NOAA


Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)
APR 8 – 14, 2012
90
80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
−10
−20
−30
−40
Bold line denotes 32°F contour
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA
Computer generated contours
Based on preliminary data
NOAA

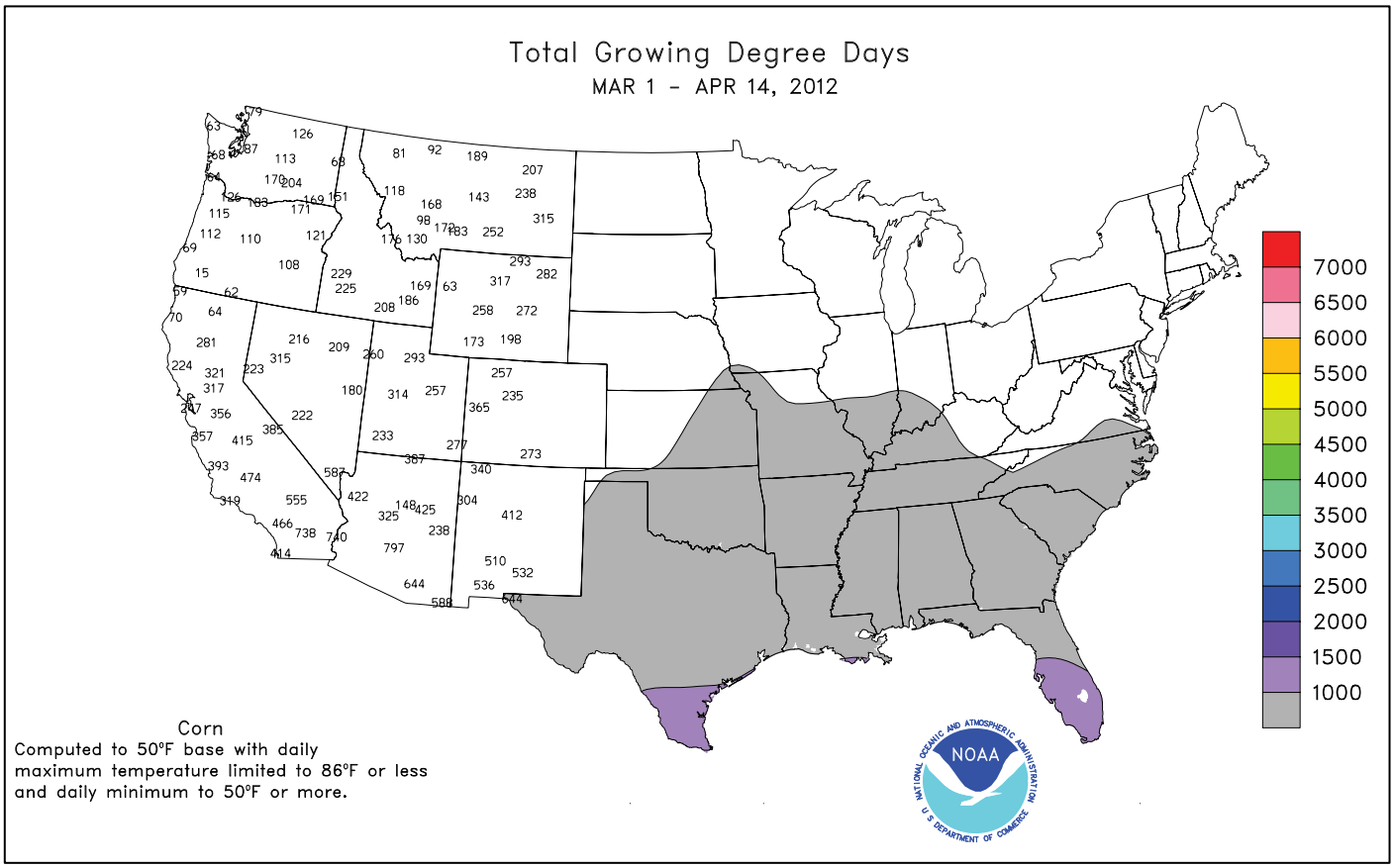
(Continued from front cover)
temperatures averaged as much as 10°F above normal. For much of the week, dry weather dominated the nation. In fact, little or no rain fell in the **Southeast**, depleting soil moisture in the **southern Atlantic States** and increasing drought stress on that region's pastures, winter grains, and emerging summer crops. Drought also continued to develop in parts of the **middle and northern Atlantic States**. Farther west, showers and thunderstorms associated with a pair of storms erupted across the **nation's mid-section**. Mid- to late-week rainfall totals topped 2 inches in a broad area from the **eastern Plains to the western Corn Belt**, boosting moisture reserves for winter wheat and in preparation for the heart of the summer crop planting season. Beneficial showers also dotted the **High Plains**, although rainfall coverage was spotty. At week's end, however, high winds, large hail, and isolated tornadoes battered **southern Iowa** and portions of the **central and southern Plains**. Elsewhere, early-week warmth across the **Intermountain West** was replaced by cooler, unsettled conditions. Heavy precipitation (2 inches or more) was largely confined to **California**, where summer water-supply prospects continued to improve. However, **California's** cool, stormy weather also limited fieldwork and slowed crop development.

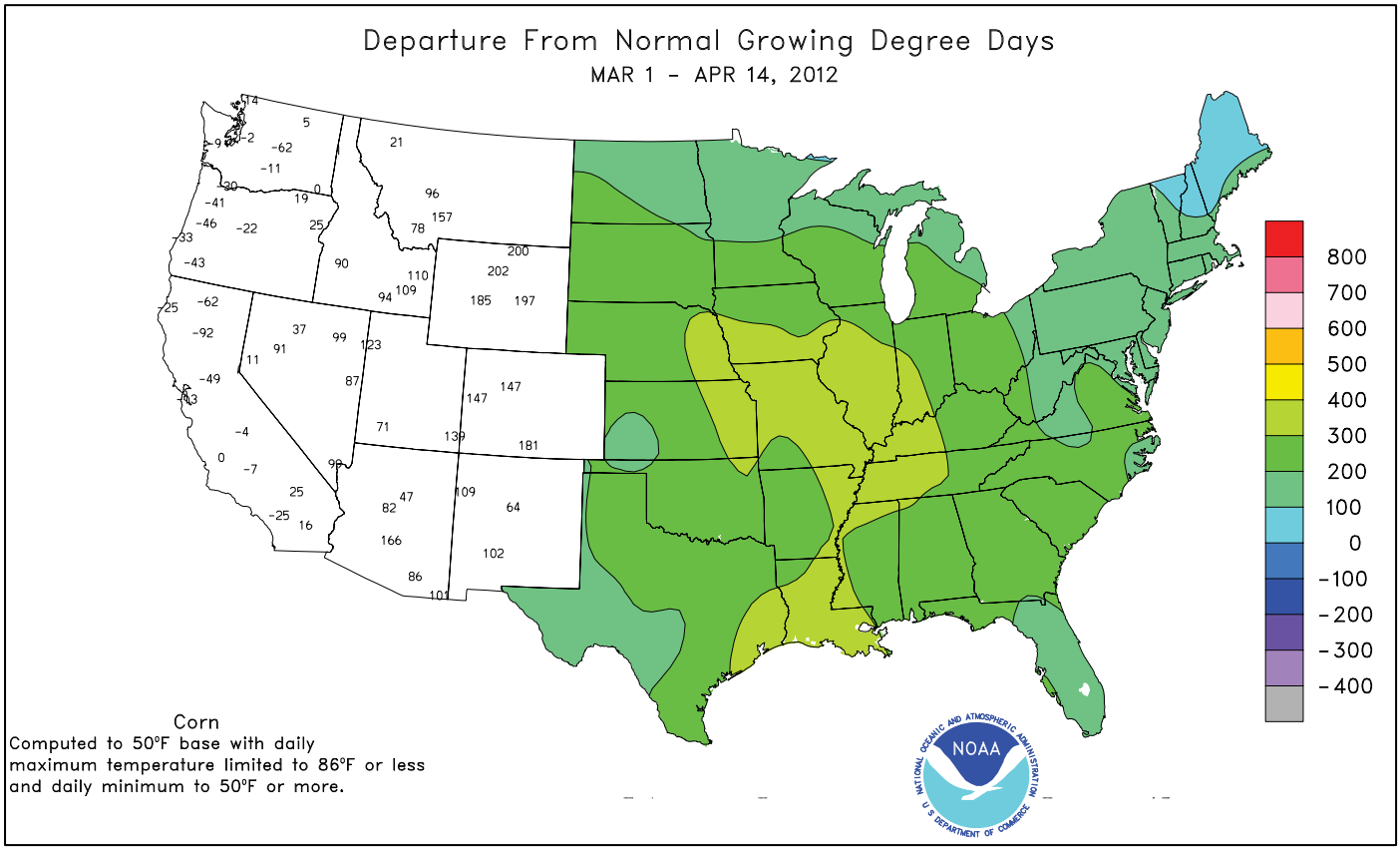


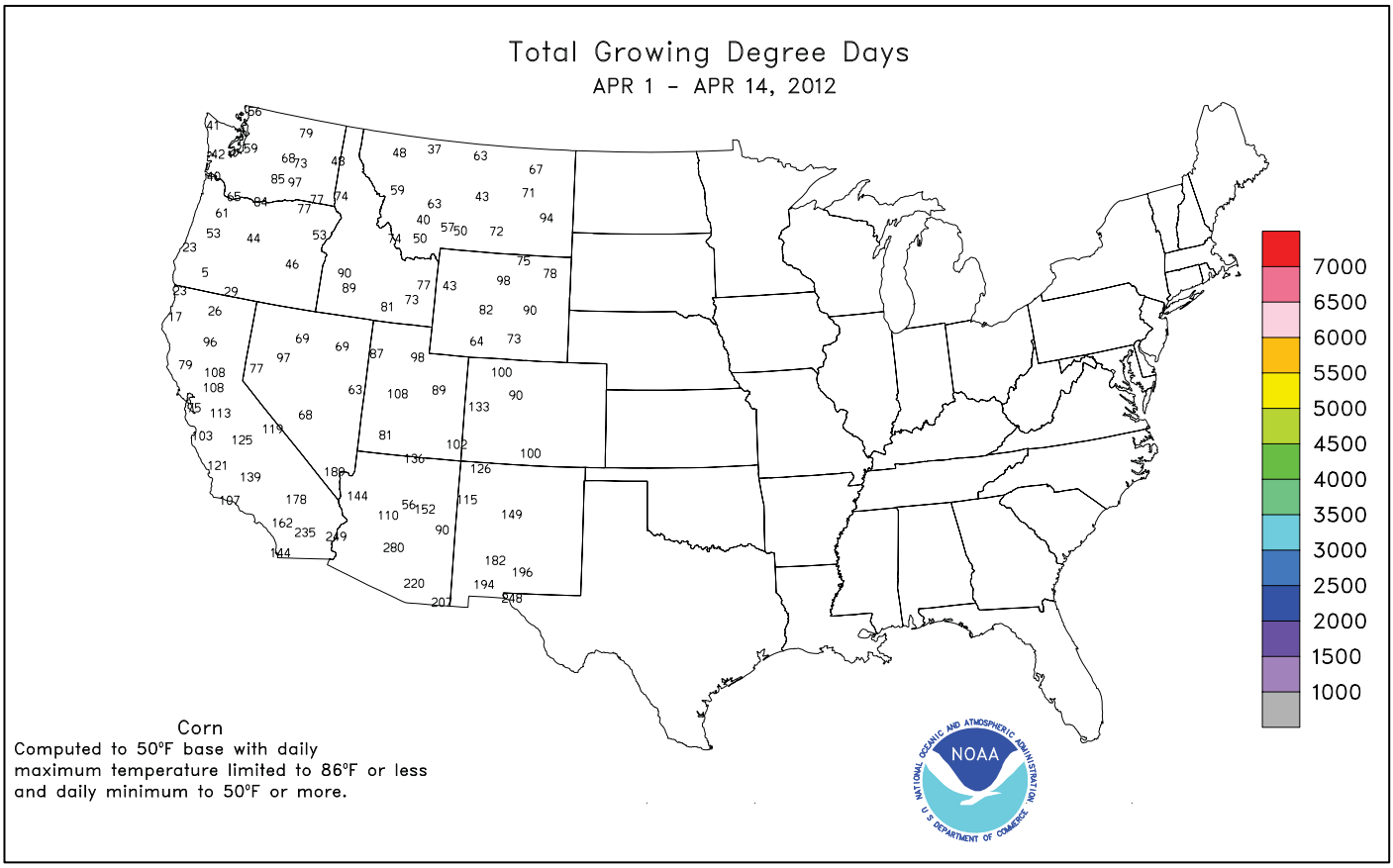
During the early- to mid-week period, warmth quickly overspread much of the **West**. In **Washington**, **Seattle** (70°F) and **Bellingham** (68°F) notched daily-record highs for April 8. Later, **Idaho Falls, ID** (73, 76, and 76°F), collected a trio of daily-record highs from April 9-11. During the warm spell, daily-record highs exceeded the 80-degree mark in locations such as **Salt Lake City, UT** (81°F on April 10), and **Grand Junction, CO** (84°F on April 11). Warm weather also covered the **Deep South**, where **Lake Charles and New Iberia, LA**, both tallied daily-record highs of 87°F on April 11. In contrast, chilly weather settled across the **Midwest** and **East**. On April 10, **Mobridge, SD**, registered a daily-record low of 15°F—the lowest reading in that location since March 3. Two days later, record-setting **Eastern** lows for April 12 included 28°F in **Danville, VA**, and 30°F in **Jackson, KY.** At week's end, chilly air trailed **Western** storminess. In **southern California**, daily record-tying lows for April 14 dipped to 39°F in **Burbank** and 41°F in **Thermal**.

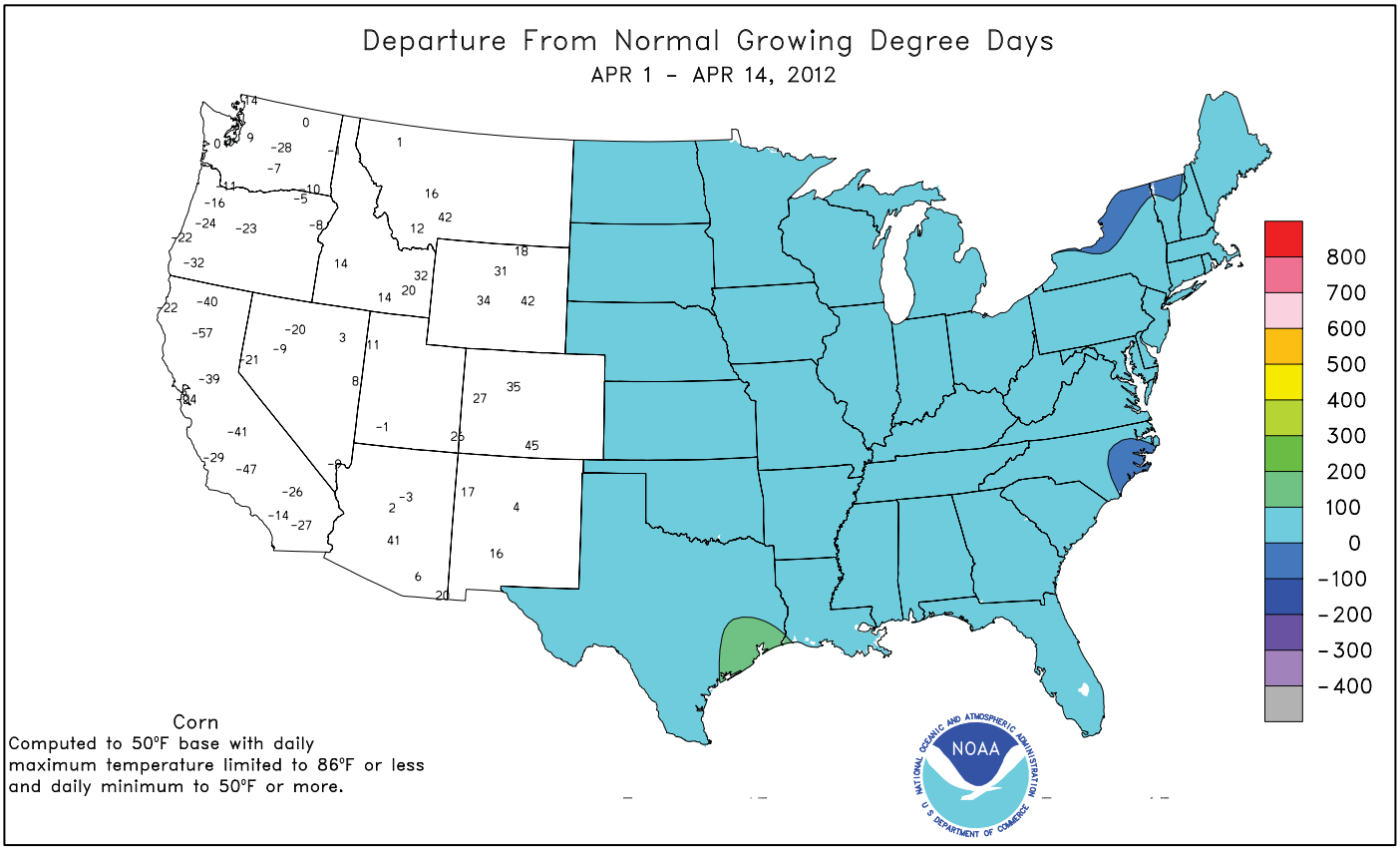
Early in the week, isolated thunderstorms dotted the **south-central U.S.**, while snow fell across **northern New England**. April 8 featured a daily-record rainfall (2.23 inches) in **Dallas-Ft. Worth, TX**, and a daily-record snowfall (6.2 inches) in **Caribou, ME.** By mid-week, unsettled weather stretched from the **Pacific Coast to the High Plains**. Hail up to 4 inches in diameter accompanied thunderstorms on the **southern High Plains**, where record-setting rainfall totals for April 11 included 1.17 inches in **Borger, TX**, and 1.01 inches in **Clayton, NM.** Farther west, significant precipitation fell across much of **California**. From April 10-14, rainfall totals in **California** reached 3.67 inches in **Mt. Shasta City**, 2.44 inches in **Redding**, and 1.76 inches in **Fresno**. Individual daily-record totals exceeded an inch in **California** locations such as **Mt. Shasta City** (1.73 inches on April 12); **Paso Robles** (1.37 inches on April 13); **Sacramento** (1.16 inches on April 12); and **Fresno** (1.09 inches on April 13). Meanwhile, heavy snow blanketed some **Western** mountains. In **Arizona**, for example, **Flagstaff** measured 9.7 inches of snow on April 14. Farther east, **Vichy-Rolla, MO**, closed the week with consecutive daily-record rainfall totals (1.94 and 1.74 inches, respectively) on April 13-14. Especially heavy rain soaked parts of **Iowa**, where daily-record totals for April 14 included 3.43 inches in **Des Moines** and 2.49 inches in **Sioux City**. For **Des Moines**, it was the second-wettest April day behind only 3.80 inches on April 28, 1974. Meanwhile, a large severe weather outbreak battered portions of **Iowa**, **Kansas**, **Nebraska**, and **Oklahoma** on April 14. Dozens of tornadoes were spotted, while hail up to 4.5 inches in diameter was reported in **Randolph, Riley County, Kansas**. Elsewhere in **Kansas**, April 14 wind gusts were clocked to 84 mph in **Wichita** and 74 mph in **Russell**. In **Iowa**, a gust to 97 mph was measured in **Oskaloosa**.

Warmer-than-normal weather covered much of **Alaska**, where weekly temperatures averaged as much as 10°F above normal. **Valdez** posted daily-record highs of 52°F on both April 11 and 13. **Delta Junction** closed the week with consecutive daily-record highs (52°F both days) on April 13-14. Other **Alaskan** daily-record highs included 62°F (on April 12) in **Juneau** and 53°F (on April 14) in **McGrath**. **Alaskan** precipitation was mostly confined to the **southwestern part of the state**, including the **Aleutians**. **Cold Bay** received a daily-record rainfall (1.26 inches) on April 8, followed by 6.1 inches of snow from April 9-12. Farther south, **Hawaiian** showers were generally light and mostly confined to windward locations. There were a few heavier showers, however, early in the week, when **Kilohana, Kauai**, netted 2.79 inches in a 24-hour period on April 8-9.


Total Growing Degree Days
MAR 1 - APR 14, 2012
7000
6500
6000
5500
5000
4500
4000
3500
3000
2500
2000
1500
1000
Corn
Computed to 50°F base with daily maximum temperature limited to 86°F or less and daily minimum to 50°F or more.
NOAA

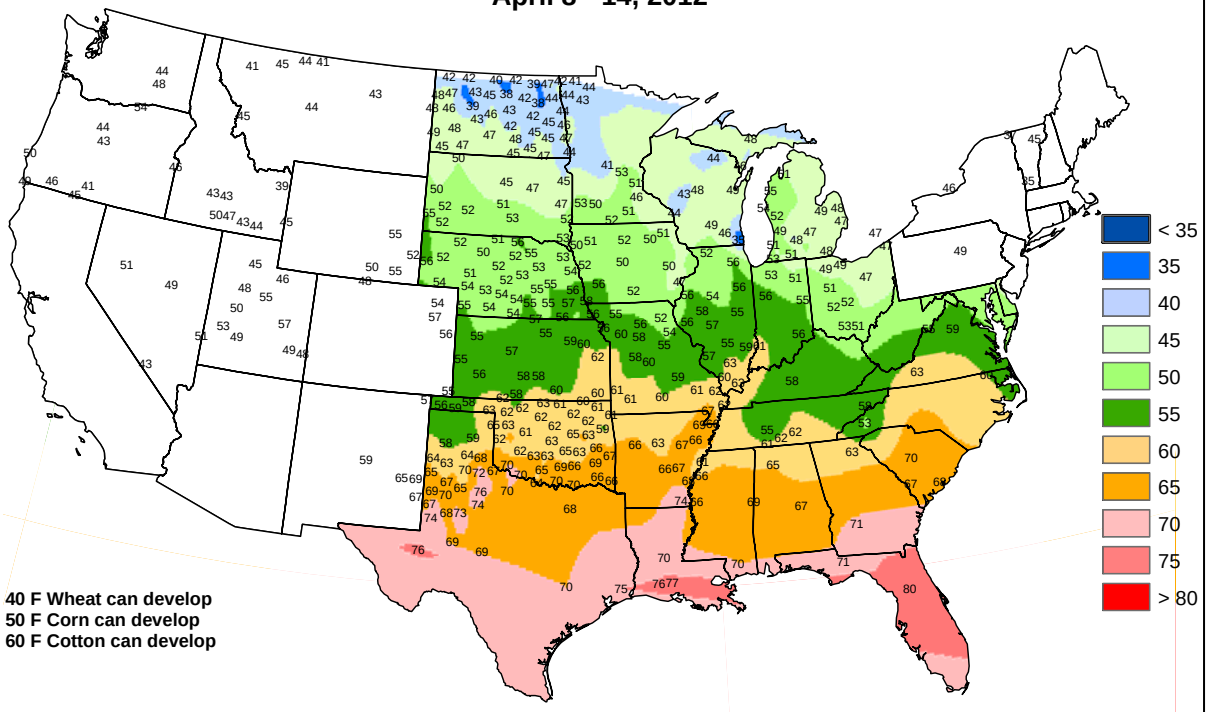

Departure From Normal Growing Degree Days
MAR 1 - APR 14, 2012
800
700
600
500
400
300
200
100
0
-100
-200
-300
-400
Corn
Computed to 50°F base with daily maximum temperature limited to 86°F or less and daily minimum to 50°F or more.
NOAA


Total Growing Degree Days
APR 1 - APR 14, 2012
7000
6500
6000
5500
5000
4500
4000
3500
3000
2500
2000
1500
1000
Corn
Computed to 50°F base with daily
maximum temperature limited to 86°F or less
and daily minimum to 50°F or more.
NOAA


Departure From Normal Growing Degree Days
APR 1 - APR 14, 2012
800
700
600
500
400
300
200
100
0
-100
-200
-300
-400
Corn
Computed to 50°F base with daily
maximum temperature limited to 86°F or less
and daily minimum to 50°F or more.
NOAA

Average Soil Temperature (° F, 4" Bare)

April 8 - 14, 2012



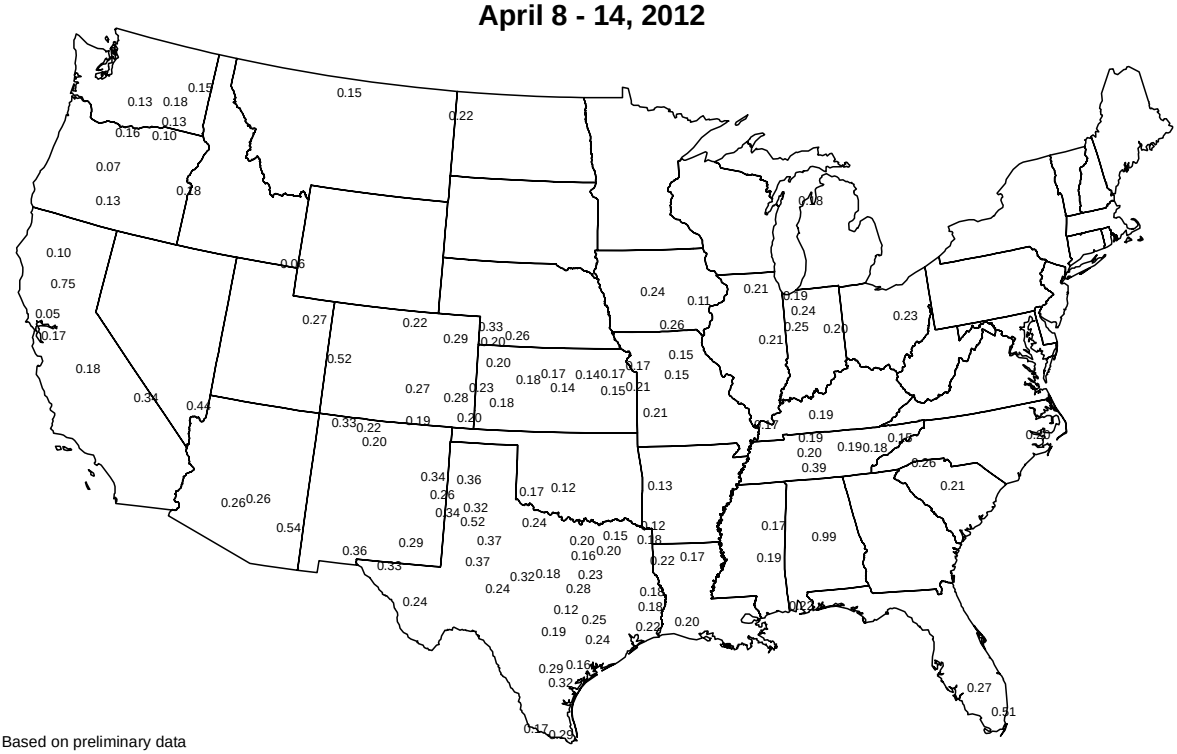
Based on preliminary data

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 Agriclimatic Information System, Mississippi State Univeristy, Oklahoma Mesonet, Purdue University, University of Missouri and USDA/NRCS Soil Climate Analysis Network.

Average Pan Evaporation (inches/day)

April 8 - 14, 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 14, 2012

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

STATES AND STATIONS		TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS			
																	TEMP. °F		PRECIP	
		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	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
AL	BIRMINGHAM	76	47	80	40	62	2	0.18	-0.91	0.18	5.11	61	13.97	77	87	26	0	0	1	0
	HUNTSVILLE	74	45	82	36	60	1	0.00	-1.05	0.00	6.07	68	17.42	90	81	41	0	0	0	0
	MOBILE	81	54	83	52	68	3	0.00	-1.17	0.00	7.90	81	17.39	85	84	44	0	0	0	0
	MONTGOMERY	78	49	83	44	63	0	0.00	-1.04	0.00	4.36	51	12.39	65	86	32	0	0	0	0
AK	ANCHORAGE	44	26	49	23	35	1	0.00	-0.11	0.00	1.16	133	4.25	186	78	64	0	7	0	0
	BARROW	10	-4	17	-17	3	7	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.17	189	0.58	176	89	76	0	7	1	0
	FAIRBANKS	49	23	53	14	36	8	0.00	-0.03	0.00	0.74	218	1.85	147	74	54	0	6	0	0
	JUNEAU	53	33	62	28	43	4	0.00	-0.65	0.00	2.84	59	12.37	91	90	73	0	3	0	0
	KODIAK	42	32	49	26	37	1	1.11	-0.11	0.87	5.03	66	17.15	80	86	73	0	3	3	1
	NOME	31	17	35	6	24	8	0.16	0.02	0.16	0.65	74	1.92	75	93	80	0	7	1	0
AZ	FLAGSTAFF	57	28	68	24	43	1	0.63	0.32	0.59	2.44	74	3.85	48	70	20	0	6	2	1
	PHOENIX	83	60	94	50	71	2	0.05	-0.01	0.05	0.30	24	0.30	11	30	18	3	0	1	0
	PRESCOTT	64	39	77	32	52	3	0.33	0.17	0.28	2.40	105	2.89	50	55	20	0	1	2	0
	TUCSON	81	52	92	44	66	1	0.12	0.07	0.12	0.46	49	0.68	24	37	22	3	0	1	0
AR	FORT SMITH	74	58	81	52	66	6	0.70	-0.14	0.70	9.61	170	16.21	153	80	52	0	0	1	1
	LITTLE ROCK	74	54	83	47	64	4	0.29	-0.98	0.29	8.78	119	15.37	107	84	43	0	0	1	0
CA	BAKERSFIELD	71	46	88	42	59	-2	1.34	1.22	0.83	2.62	152	3.35	82	70	49	0	0	3	1
	FRESNO	68	47	83	45	58	-2	1.76	1.55	1.09	4.30	158	6.43	92	79	56	0	0	4	2
	LOS ANGELES	63	50	70	45	56	-4	1.07	0.90	0.63	2.85	100	4.16	47	81	64	0	0	2	1
	REDDING	62	43	71	37	53	-3	2.44	1.81	1.02	9.11	138	16.35	88	89	58	0	0	4	3
	SACRAMENTO	65	45	73	41	55	-3	1.80	1.53	0.85	5.91	172	9.26	86	93	45	0	0	5	2
	SAN DIEGO	65	53	71	51	59	-3	0.42	0.20	0.28	1.44	51	3.03	43	72	51	0	0	3	0
	SAN FRANCISCO	60	48	65	43	54	-2	2.32	1.99	1.12	7.19	178	10.01	80	83	61	0	0	4	2
	STOCKTON	66	45	77	41	55	-4	1.63	1.38	0.78	3.86	135	5.94	74	84	60	0	0	4	2
CO	ALAMOSA	66	26	75	18	46	7	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.22	32	0.56	49	64	23	0	6	0	0
	CO SPRINGS	67	40	75	32	53	9	0.49	0.15	0.49	0.56	33	0.87	37	78	22	0	1	1	0
	DENVER INTL	69	38	78	34	54	10	0.33	0.18	0.17	0.83	71	1.99	122	79	25	0	0	2	0
	GRAND JUNCTION	70	39	84	27	55	6	0.08	-0.10	0.08	0.33	24	1.13	46	49	19	0	1	1	0
	PUEBLO	72	40	79	30	56	8	0.10	-0.18	0.10	0.66	44	1.29	61	78	40	0	1	1	0
CT	BRIDGEPORT	62	43	69	39	52	5	0.03	-0.90	0.02	1.34	22	5.90	46	60	33	0	0	2	0
	HARTFORD	62	39	71	31	51	4	0.03	-0.85	0.02	1.70	30	6.13	49	66	26	0	1	2	0
DC	WASHINGTON	67	45	75	40	56	2	0.01	-0.59	0.01	1.18	24	5.70	53	63	26	0	0	1	0
DE	WILMINGTON	64	39	72	34	52	2	0.02	-0.73	0.02	1.27	23	5.90	50	77	27	0	0	1	0
FL	DAYTONA BEACH	80	59	84	54	69	1	0.00	-0.65	0.00	2.03	39	3.83	34	86	41	0	0	0	0
	JACKSONVILLE	79	52	82	44	66	1	0.00	-0.76	0.00	2.30	42	3.53	29	90	41	0	0	0	0
	KEY WEST	81	71	82	67	76	0	0.15	-0.32	0.08	1.44	51	7.44	114	76	56	0	0	2	0
	MIAMI	84	68	88	65	76	1	2.23	1.46	2.05	7.37	181	10.96	137	77	45	0	0	2	1
	ORLANDO	83	60	86	54	72	2	0.00	-0.60	0.00	0.97	20	4.24	44	84	56	0	0	0	0
	PENSACOLA	79	57	83	53	68	2	0.04	-0.92	0.03	4.39	51	12.63	68	74	42	0	0	2	0
	TALLAHASSEE	83	52	86	48	68	3	1.80	0.92	1.80	6.86	81	13.01	70	83	43	0	0	1	1
	TAMPA	84	65	85	61	74	4	0.00	-0.43	0.00	1.22	33	4.19	48	76	39	0	0	0	0
	WEST PALM BEACH	82	65	86	61	74	1	1.39	0.56	0.87	4.19	77	8.39	72	82	51	0	0	2	2
GA	ATHENS	74	44	79	35	59	0	0.00	-0.78	0.00	3.77	57	8.59	55	74	38	0	0	0	0
	ATLANTA	74	49	80	40	62	2	0.00	-0.83	0.00	3.53	49	10.90	65	64	35	0	0	0	0
	AUGUSTA	76	42	82	33	59	-2	0.00	-0.74	0.00	3.54	57	6.06	41	79	48	0	0	0	0
	COLUMBUS	77	50	81	45	64	1	0.00	-0.92	0.00	4.06	53	13.16	77	78	25	0	0	0	0
	MACON	77	42	82	38	60	-1	0.00	-0.77	0.00	2.20	34	7.92	49	91	24	0	0	0	0
	SAVANNAH	77	47	82	45	62	-2	0.00	-0.82	0.00	4.76	89	8.86	73	86	35	0	0	0	0
HI	HILO	78	65	81	64	72	0	1.58	-1.58	0.73	19.13	91	34.72	88	89	79	0	0	7	1
	HONOLULU	81	67	85	66	74	-1	0.18	-0.08	0.16	5.73	235	7.42	99	78	69	0	0	2	0
	KAHULUI	83	64	86	60	74	0	0.24	-0.21	0.24	2.88	87	2.96	31	77	66	0	0	1	0
	LIHUE	79	68	80	65	73	-1	0.14	-0.55	0.04	18.43	369	31.66	246	81	72	0	0	4	0
ID	BOISE	69	44	77	41	56	7	0.10	-0.18	0.05	2.33	118	5.72	127	65	33	0	0	3	0
	LEWISTON	66	41	71	34	53	3	0.16	-0.12	0.08	4.23	253	6.83	182	78	56	0	0	3	0
	POCATELLO	66	29	78	21	48	4	0.32	0.07	0.28	1.57	83	3.83	95	77	30	0	5	3	0
IL	CHICAGO/O'HARE	61	40	67	32	50	4	0.16	-0.71	0.16	2.90	67	6.40	83	68	35	0	2	1	0
	MOLINE	61	38	69	28	50	2	0.17	-0.71	0.17	1.82	39	4.47	58	75	44	0	2	1	0
	PEORIA	62	40	69	30	51	2	0.30	-0.48	0.26	2.52	58	5.46	73	75	34	0	2	2	0
	ROCKFORD	61	37	70	27	49	3	0.54	-0.29	0.54	2.76	69	5.30	79	70	39	0	3	1	1
	SPRINGFIELD	64	40	71	28	52	1	0.94	0.20	0.78	2.74	59	5.81	72	76	30	0	2	2	1
IN	EVANSVILLE	66	39	79	31	53	-1	0.23	-0.77	0.23	2.99	48	8.13	66	77	43	0	1	1	0
	FORT WAYNE	59	37	65	28	48	1	0.15	-0.66	0.15	3.09	69	8.19	97	82	34	0	4	1	0
	INDIANAPOLIS	61	40	66	29	50	0	1.20	0.40	1.20	6.04	120	10.90	110	74	33	0	1	1	1
	SOUTH BEND	57	36	65	27	47	1	0.09	-0.76	0.08	1.79	39	7.06	80	79	49	0	4	2	0
IA	BURLINGTON	63	37	71	28	50	0	0.76	-0.04	0.53	1.80	40	3.47	47	77	30	0	2	2	1
	CEDAR RAPIDS	59	34	66	24	47	0	1.32	0.59	1.06	3.88	107	5.43	94	81	32	0	5	2	1
	DES MOINES	63	40	70	31	51	3	4.18	3.38	3.43	6.05	162	8.24	138	68	45	0	1	2	2
	DUBUQUE	57	35	66	26	46	1	0.45	-0.33	0.37	3.24	79	5.80	85	74	45	0	4	2	0
	SIOUX CITY	64	33	73	26	49	2	3.21	2.62	2.21	3.91	124	6.67	153	76	42	0	4	3	2
	WATERLOO	60	33	70	23	46	1	1.00	0.28	0.84	2.31	66	4.78	89	80	42	0	5	2	1
KS	CONCORDIA	67	42	75	32	55	4	0.51	0.01	0.25	4.37	130	6.97	147	80	45	0	1	3	0
	DODGE CITY	65	46	79	35	55	3	0.74	0.24	0.57	4.97	176	6.00	146	92	59	0	0	4	1
	GOODLAND	68	39	78	32	54	7	0.04	-0.22	0.03	2.20	129	2.71	105	89	60	0	1	2	0
	TOPEKA	69	46	81	36	58	5	0.23	-0.44	0.14	4.20	109	6.94	116	82	50	0	0	3	0

Based on 1971-2000 normals ***** Not Available**

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 14, 2012

STATES AND STATIONS		TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS			
																	TEMP. °F		PRECIP	
		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	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
	WICHITA	69	51	77	35	60	6	0.62	0.07	0.53	5.57	145	9.20	161	83	58	0	0	2	1
KY	JACKSON	65	40	76	30	53	-2	0.00	-0.83	0.00	5.00	83	13.76	104	64	27	0	2	0	0
	LEXINGTON	63	37	74	29	50	-3	0.00	-0.81	0.00	4.51	74	11.14	88	78	46	0	3	0	0
	LOUISVILLE	66	43	76	34	54	-1	0.11	-0.74	0.11	7.94	129	13.77	109	70	30	0	0	1	0
	PADUCAH	68	40	80	30	54	-1	0.00	-1.11	0.00	4.02	63	9.76	71	88	31	0	1	0	0
LA	BATON ROUGE	83	58	85	55	71	6	0.00	-1.29	0.00	8.03	106	21.34	113	94	46	0	0	0	0
	LAKE CHARLES	83	64	87	61	74	8	0.04	-0.73	0.04	8.57	168	25.38	183	95	52	0	0	1	0
	NEW ORLEANS	83	64	86	60	74	7	0.04	-1.19	0.04	13.58	176	20.10	106	82	48	0	0	1	0
	SHREVEPORT	80	60	86	57	70	6	0.31	-0.67	0.31	9.90	162	16.65	112	92	51	0	0	1	0
ME	CARIBOU	49	30	60	26	39	3	0.69	0.11	0.58	2.38	64	8.34	95	86	54	0	6	3	1
	PORTLAND	57	36	69	31	46	4	0.02	-0.98	0.01	2.21	36	7.97	60	77	37	0	1	2	0
MD	BALTIMORE	67	39	76	36	53	2	0.00	-0.67	0.00	1.82	34	6.78	57	64	40	0	0	0	0
MA	BOSTON	60	44	71	41	52	6	0.32	-0.54	0.32	1.77	32	5.44	42	61	30	0	0	1	0
	WORCESTER	56	39	67	37	48	5	0.15	-0.75	0.09	2.02	33	6.47	49	68	31	0	0	2	0
MI	ALPENA	55	30	74	20	42	4	0.12	-0.40	0.06	2.01	63	5.49	87	88	39	0	4	3	0
	GRAND RAPIDS	57	38	66	32	48	4	0.03	-0.78	0.01	3.84	92	9.04	117	79	37	0	1	3	0
	HOUGHTON LAKE	57	32	70	25	45	6	0.12	-0.41	0.12	3.10	99	7.72	129	88	43	0	5	1	0
	LANSING	57	36	66	29	47	4	0.00	-0.74	0.00	2.96	78	6.57	96	82	46	0	3	0	0
	MUSKEGON	55	37	62	29	46	3	0.00	-0.66	0.00	4.01	109	8.98	120	78	48	0	2	0	0
	TRAVERSE CITY	56	32	73	25	44	4	0.05	-0.61	0.05	3.84	117	6.60	82	88	31	0	5	1	0
MN	DULUTH	53	31	72	24	42	6	0.18	-0.29	0.13	2.36	90	4.14	90	73	50	0	5	2	0
	INT'L FALLS	51	25	62	18	38	2	0.21	-0.09	0.12	3.17	207	4.71	156	84	40	0	6	3	0
	MINNEAPOLIS	57	36	73	27	46	2	0.07	-0.45	0.07	2.11	73	4.18	88	67	35	0	3	1	0
	ROCHESTER	57	34	70	23	46	4	0.34	-0.33	0.24	1.63	51	3.83	79	77	43	0	4	2	0
	ST. CLOUD	56	30	74	20	43	2	0.14	-0.36	0.14	1.32	53	3.13	82	78	26	0	5	1	0
MS	JACKSON	78	52	84	48	65	3	0.30	-1.11	0.30	9.17	107	21.47	115	91	42	0	0	1	0
	MERIDIAN	78	48	84	42	63	1	0.04	-1.29	0.04	9.36	97	21.69	103	94	63	0	0	1	0
	TUPELO	74	46	82	36	60	1	0.00	-1.13	0.00	7.92	92	17.28	94	84	41	0	0	0	0
MO	COLUMBIA	66	43	77	34	54	1	3.10	2.19	1.63	8.05	163	11.46	129	75	36	0	0	6	2
	KANSAS CITY	66	44	76	35	55	3	0.33	-0.33	0.20	4.97	135	8.16	133	74	40	0	0	3	0
	SAINT LOUIS	66	44	80	36	55	0	2.42	1.59	1.36	7.50	143	11.84	122	70	36	0	0	2	2
	SPRINGFIELD	67	46	75	40	57	3	1.95	0.94	1.11	4.97	85	8.28	81	72	46	0	0	2	2
MT	BILLINGS	61	34	72	29	48	4	0.04	-0.31	0.04	0.90	50	1.75	55	66	32	0	3	1	0
	BUTTE	58	26	72	17	42	5	0.24	0.05	0.24	1.57	129	1.84	83	85	23	0	6	1	0
	CUT BANK	55	27	61	17	41	2	0.14	-0.02	0.13	0.47	55	0.99	65	76	27	0	5	2	0
	GLASGOW	60	29	69	19	44	2	0.00	-0.13	0.00	0.57	80	1.46	111	74	37	0	6	0	0
	GREAT FALLS	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	2.42	167	3.03	115	***	***	***	***	***	***
	HAVRE	59	30	71	24	44	2	0.04	-0.12	0.04	2.34	234	2.89	158	76	40	0	5	1	0
	MISSOULA	64	32	78	22	48	4	0.05	-0.16	0.05	1.30	95	3.77	118	79	41	0	3	1	0
NE	GRAND ISLAND	66	37	73	30	52	4	0.25	-0.30	0.23	1.40	45	2.60	60	76	43	0	3	2	0
	LINCOLN	65	35	78	26	50	1	3.09	2.48	2.75	3.98	117	6.23	132	82	40	0	4	3	1
	NORFOLK	63	34	73	25	49	2	1.89	1.34	1.29	2.48	82	4.39	100	74	43	0	4	3	1
	NORTH PLATTE	65	34	75	26	49	3	1.00	0.62	0.78	1.96	101	3.31	116	81	41	0	4	3	1
	OMAHA	65	39	77	31	52	3	1.89	1.29	1.58	3.39	103	5.74	118	79	46	0	2	3	1
	SCOTTSBLUFF	65	37	73	23	51	7	0.09	-0.28	0.07	0.09	5	1.11	37	66	40	0	2	3	0
	VALENTINE	62	31	67	20	47	3	0.55	0.17	0.47	0.88	49	3.34	129	84	38	0	4	2	0
NV	ELY	60	29	72	19	45	4	0.16	-0.02	0.10	1.35	95	3.24	111	68	30	0	5	2	0
	LAS VEGAS	75	52	88	44	64	0	0.01	-0.01	0.01	0.19	29	0.25	13	37	24	0	0	1	0
	RENO	62	37	75	30	50	3	0.03	-0.03	0.02	0.14	14	2.28	73	49	26	0	1	2	0
	WINNEMUCCA	64	30	79	22	47	2	0.18	0.01	0.15	1.18	96	2.47	92	65	32	0	4	2	0
NH	CONCORD	58	30	70	26	44	2	0.03	-0.66	0.03	1.75	39	5.99	61	84	32	0	6	1	0
NJ	NEWARK	65	43	74	40	54	4	0.00	-0.87	0.00	1.41	24	5.63	44	48	24	0	0	0	0
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	73	47	81	39	60	6	0.00	-0.11	0.00	1.01	122	1.67	95	42	15	0	0	0	0
NY	ALBANY	59	35	71	31	47	3	0.01	-0.76	0.01	1.68	36	4.94	53	71	33	0	3	1	0
	BINGHAMTON	54	35	66	33	45	3	0.11	-0.69	0.08	2.21	49	6.50	68	68	42	0	0	2	0
	BUFFALO	54	35	67	30	44	1	0.08	-0.64	0.06	2.31	52	8.45	85	81	42	0	1	2	0
	ROCHESTER	59	36	67	32	47	4	0.09	-0.56	0.04	1.59	41	7.04	85	70	42	0	1	3	0
	SYRACUSE	57	36	69	32	46	3	0.11	-0.66	0.04	2.21	48	7.50	81	79	37	0	1	4	0
NC	ASHEVILLE	68	39	74	33	53	0	0.01	-0.80	0.01	4.49	71	9.93	70	69	38	0	0	1	0
	CHARLOTTE	71	40	77	33	56	-3	0.00	-0.69	0.00	4.68	80	8.26	62	70	26	0	0	0	0
	GREENSBORO	68	40	76	32	54	-2	0.00	-0.77	0.00	3.56	66	7.23	60	69	24	0	1	0	0
	HATTERAS	68	50	72	41	59	1	0.06	-0.73	0.05	5.33	80	13.79	84	80	36	0	0	2	0
	RALEIGH	70	40	76	32	55	-3	0.00	-0.62	0.00	6.21	116	10.11	79	72	35	0	1	0	0
	WILMINGTON	72	45	78	38	59	-2	0.05	-0.60	0.04	4.00	72	7.93	58	86	22	0	0	2	0
ND	BISMARCK	57	28	67	18	43	2	0.65	0.35	0.58	1.20	86	1.98	84	83	45	0	5	3	1
	DICKINSON	58	27	66	16	42	2	0.16	-0.23	0.16	0.59	42	1.02	46	83	27	0	5	1	0
	FARGO	56	29	71	15	42	1	0.30	0.02	0.30	1.08	63	2.61	85	70	28	0	5	1	0
	GRAND FORKS	54	30	71	19	42	3	0.43	0.18	0.43	2.57	188	3.47	132	82	34	0	5	1	0
	JAMESTOWN	53	30	69	18	41	1	0.58	0.30	0.55	1.27	89	1.71	67	85	36	0	4	3	1
	WILLISTON	58	27	70	11	43	3	0.00	-0.20	0.00	0.10	9	0.50	24	80	36	0	5	0	0
OH	AKRON-CANTON	55	36	63	28	46	0	0.31	-0.43	0.27	3.54	77	9.37	100	77	45	0	2	3	0
	CINCINNATI	61	37	67	29	49	-3	1.25	0.34	1.25	4.26	74	11.19	98	75	41	0	2	1	1
	CLEVELAND	56	36	63	29	46	0	0.26	-0.51	0.11	4.19	94	9.66	105	84	42	0	3	4	0
	COLUMBUS	58	39	66	31	49	-1	0.62	-0.10	0.58	6.06	141	11.77	130	72	41	0	2	3	1
	DAYTON	59	37	64	27	48	-1	0.72	-0.21	0.72	3.38	66	9.38	94	70	29	0	3	1	1
	MANSFIELD	57	35	64	28	46	1	0.30	-0.66	0.26	3.59	68	9.72	97	84	33	0	3	3	0

Based on 1971-2000 normals ***** Not Available**

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 14, 2012

STATES AND STATIONS		TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS			
																	TEMP. °F		PRECIP	
		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	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
	TOLEDO	57	36	65	30	47	1	0.32	-0.45	0.30	4.45	108	8.65	109	77	45	0	3	2	0
	YOUNGSTOWN	55	33	63	28	44	-2	0.29	-0.48	0.21	2.71	59	10.43	116	78	49	0	2	4	0
OK	OKLAHOMA CITY	72	57	78	55	65	7	2.35	1.76	2.34	8.21	202	11.30	164	90	68	0	0	2	1
	TULSA	73	55	78	49	64	5	0.55	-0.26	0.28	6.93	134	9.15	105	87	59	0	0	3	0
OR	ASTORIA	58	43	66	41	51	3	0.00	-1.25	0.00	15.75	157	33.35	121	91	73	0	0	0	0
	BURNS	59	29	68	24	44	3	0.22	0.04	0.15	1.56	96	4.07	104	78	37	0	5	4	0
	EUGENE	61	41	68	37	51	2	1.16	0.25	1.00	12.09	156	24.26	112	90	71	0	0	4	1
	MEDFORD	62	41	72	37	51	1	0.99	0.69	0.57	4.90	198	9.85	140	87	42	0	0	4	1
	PENDLETON	64	36	69	32	50	0	0.41	0.16	0.33	2.67	152	5.60	126	87	59	0	1	3	0
	PORTLAND	63	44	68	39	54	4	0.50	-0.12	0.42	9.25	185	18.90	133	82	62	0	0	3	0
	SALEM	62	41	70	35	52	3	0.44	-0.23	0.14	11.19	201	25.65	156	91	65	0	0	4	0
PA	ALLENTOWN	63	34	72	29	48	1	0.04	-0.73	0.04	1.31	26	5.38	47	67	36	0	4	1	0
	ERIE	52	36	61	31	44	-1	0.19	-0.62	0.08	2.41	51	8.70	91	78	52	0	2	4	0
	MIDDLETOWN	62	39	72	35	51	1	0.09	-0.61	0.05	1.98	42	7.26	70	77	29	0	0	2	0
	PHILADELPHIA	64	43	73	39	54	3	0.00	-0.78	0.00	1.12	21	5.55	48	58	26	0	0	0	0
	PITTSBURGH	57	35	63	30	46	-2	0.46	-0.22	0.22	3.90	86	9.99	104	78	35	0	1	3	0
	WILKES-BARRE	59	35	69	28	47	0	0.02	-0.72	0.01	2.77	67	5.70	66	70	31	0	2	2	0
	WILLIAMSPORT	62	37	72	30	49	2	0.06	-0.74	0.03	1.35	28	6.11	60	70	42	0	1	3	0
RI	PROVIDENCE	61	38	70	32	49	2	0.09	-0.92	0.06	1.57	24	6.46	45	60	33	0	1	3	0
SC	BEAUFORT	75	49	80	43	62	-1	0.00	-0.78	0.00	8.01	150	11.37	91	87	28	0	0	0	0
	CHARLESTON	75	48	81	41	61	-2	0.00	-0.69	0.00	6.45	117	9.37	74	84	28	0	0	0	0
	COLUMBIA	76	46	82	37	61	-1	0.00	-0.76	0.00	2.51	40	6.73	46	67	30	0	0	0	0
	GREENVILLE	72	43	78	33	58	1	0.00	-0.80	0.00	4.49	64	9.58	61	71	24	0	0	0	0
SD	ABERDEEN	56	28	67	15	42	-1	1.27	0.86	0.84	1.67	78	3.24	105	83	50	0	5	3	1
	HURON	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	1.07	43	3.86	109	***	***	***	***	***	***
	RAPID CITY	61	34	73	27	48	5	0.88	0.51	0.84	1.34	78	2.03	80	68	31	0	4	2	1
	SIOUX FALLS	58	33	69	20	45	2	1.25	0.66	0.93	2.02	68	5.20	131	77	42	0	3	3	1
TN	BRISTOL	67	35	77	27	51	-2	0.00	-0.69	0.00	4.79	90	13.10	107	84	26	0	3	0	0
	CHATTANOOGA	72	44	79	39	58	0	0.00	-1.01	0.00	5.88	70	15.23	82	84	43	0	0	0	0
	KNOXVILLE	69	41	78	33	55	-1	0.00	-0.90	0.00	8.84	126	18.60	119	80	27	0	0	0	0
	MEMPHIS	75	51	84	43	63	3	0.00	-1.35	0.00	4.78	58	9.54	57	68	32	0	0	0	0
	NASHVILLE	70	41	79	33	55	-2	0.00	-0.87	0.00	4.47	67	12.41	87	84	28	0	0	0	0
TX	ABILENE	81	63	86	57	72	9	0.00	-0.35	0.00	1.63	78	6.10	146	90	65	0	0	0	0
	AMARILLO	80	50	85	42	65	10	0.97	0.69	0.83	2.16	129	2.84	99	88	27	0	0	2	1
	AUSTIN	84	61	86	52	72	5	0.00	-0.46	0.00	5.18	172	16.34	237	88	57	0	0	0	0
	BEAUMONT	82	64	85	60	73	6	0.79	-0.06	0.73	8.78	161	22.95	158	95	53	0	0	5	1
	BROWNSVILLE	87	69	89	61	78	5	0.00	-0.42	0.00	0.51	30	5.08	120	85	54	0	0	0	0
	CORPUS CHRISTI	86	70	88	63	78	8	0.00	-0.42	0.00	1.76	70	6.30	105	84	52	0	0	0	0
	DEL RIO	83	65	89	61	74	5	0.75	0.41	0.67	2.06	131	3.76	121	89	66	0	0	2	1
	EL PASO	84	56	88	49	70	7	0.09	0.06	0.06	0.17	53	0.85	73	50	17	0	0	3	0
	FORT WORTH	78	63	83	59	71	7	2.23	1.60	2.23	9.40	220	17.46	204	89	64	0	0	1	1
	GALVESTON	81	71	83	69	76	7	0.00	-0.56	0.00	5.50	140	15.83	149	85	63	0	0	0	0
	HOUSTON	84	65	87	61	75	8	0.00	-0.80	0.00	7.35	148	18.40	158	87	51	0	0	0	0
	LUBBOCK	82	55	88	51	68	10	0.79	0.53	0.44	1.50	122	2.08	85	83	59	0	0	3	0
	MIDLAND	84	60	92	52	72	10	0.05	-0.04	0.04	0.16	28	1.35	80	83	43	1	0	2	0
	SAN ANGELO	82	63	87	58	73	10	0.45	0.16	0.43	2.06	137	8.06	231	81	55	0	0	2	0
	SAN ANTONIO	82	66	85	61	74	7	0.02	-0.50	0.02	3.26	114	12.88	205	92	55	0	0	1	0
	VICTORIA	84	64	86	58	74	6	0.00	-0.60	0.00	3.39	100	8.41	107	93	60	0	0	0	0
	WACO	82	64	83	59	73	9	0.59	0.00	0.59	9.89	277	16.92	214	91	62	0	0	1	1
	WICHITA FALLS	78	60	83	52	69	8	0.14	-0.42	0.12	5.47	163	8.31	137	91	70	0	0	3	0
UT	SALT LAKE CITY	67	41	81	35	54	5	0.90	0.46	0.57	1.64	59	4.55	83	68	29	0	0	4	1
VT	BURLINGTON	56	37	69	31	46	5	0.31	-0.33	0.17	1.33	37	4.18	56	82	38	0	1	3	0
VA	LYNCHBURG	67	37	74	30	52	-2	0.00	-0.77	0.00	5.80	108	10.63	88	62	23	0	1	0	0
	NORFOLK	69	46	78	44	58	2	0.00	-0.78	0.00	2.95	52	7.42	57	70	24	0	0	0	0
	RICHMOND	70	43	78	39	56	1	0.00	-0.71	0.00	2.52	45	7.47	62	63	26	0	0	0	0
	ROANOKE	67	41	76	36	54	-1	0.00	-0.80	0.00	3.61	66	7.51	64	53	30	0	0	0	0
	WASH/DULLES	65	36	74	33	51	0	0.00	-0.72	0.00	1.69	34	5.78	53	73	28	0	0	0	0
WA	OLYMPIA	61	41	70	34	51	5	0.41	-0.49	0.32	9.72	135	23.45	112	88	66	0	0	5	0
	QUILLAYUTE	59	42	65	33	50	4	0.15	-1.68	0.15	24.29	164	51.28	126	89	66	0	0	1	0
	SEATTLE-TACOMA	62	43	70	38	52	3	0.11	-0.54	0.09	7.63	149	18.09	125	78	59	0	0	2	0
	SPOKANE	61	38	67	31	49	4	0.05	-0.23	0.04	5.11	244	8.60	159	75	32	0	1	2	0
	YAKIMA	67	36	71	28	52	5	0.01	-0.11	0.01	1.54	160	3.49	119	64	43	0	2	1	0
WV	BECKLEY	60	34	72	26	47	-3	0.00	-0.73	0.00	4.61	90	11.81	105	53	31	0	3	0	0
	CHARLESTON	64	36	76	29	50	-3	0.00	-0.72	0.00	3.45	64	8.80	75	80	27	0	2	0	0
	ELKINS	58	33	68	29	45	-2	0.13	-0.64	0.06	4.27	78	9.68	80	83	30	0	4	3	0
	HUNTINGTON	64	36	72	28	50	-4	0.01	-0.71	0.01	2.96	56	7.51	65	77	28	0	2	1	0
WI	EAU CLAIRE	56	32	73	24	44	2	0.08	-0.57	0.08	2.82	90	5.20	105	82	30	0	4	1	0
	GREEN BAY	58	35	73	30	47	5	0.01	-0.60	0.01	2.40	74	4.92	90	78	35	0	4	1	0
	LA CROSSE	58	35	71	26	47	1	0.48	-0.30	0.37	2.06	59	4.58	81	82	29	0	4	2	0
	MADISON	59	37	73	29	48	4	0.35	-0.44	0.35	2.98	78	5.41	85	68	39	0	2	1	0
	MILWAUKEE	56	37	69	31	47	4	0.04	-0.86	0.04	3.23	75	6.08	78	68	47	0	2	1	0
WY	CASPER	63	28	78	16	46	5	0.47	0.19	0.43	1.06	76	2.61	100	79	38	0	5	2	0
	CHEYENNE	61	36	70	24	48	8	0.12	-0.18	0.11	0.14	9	1.17	47	72	36	0	2	2	0
	LANDER	63	34	79	25	49	7	0.22	-0.21	0.22	1.00	49	2.31	75	60	22	0	1	1	0
	SHERIDAN	62	29	79	20	46	4	0.83	0.46	0.82	1.54	91	2.83	93	82	41	0	5	2	1

Based on 1971-2000 normals ***** Not Available**

National Agricultural Summary

April 9 – 15, 2012

Weekly National Agricultural Summary provided by USDA/NASS

HIGHLIGHTS

Temperatures throughout the Rocky Mountains, southern Great Plains, New England, and the Great Lakes region were above normal during the week, aiding spring fieldwork and a rapid crop development pace. Elsewhere, below-normal temperatures prevailed in California, hampering fieldwork and crop growth. Precipitation totaling 200 percent or more above normal benefited developing small grain crops throughout the Great Plains and improved soil moisture levels in portions of the Southwest.

Corn: Nationally, 17 percent of this year's corn crop was planted by April 15, twelve percentage points ahead of both last year and the 5-year average. Warm, mostly dry weather promoted rapid fieldwork in several States during the week. Most notably, progress was 22 percentage points or more ahead of normal in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri, and Tennessee.

Winter Wheat: Warmer-than-normal weather provided ideal conditions for rapid development of the Nation's winter wheat crop as dormancy broke this spring. By week's end, 29 percent of the crop was at or beyond the heading stage, 18 percentage points ahead of last year and 21 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Overall, 64 percent of the winter wheat crop was reported in good to excellent condition, up 3 percentage points from ratings last week and 28 percentage points better than the same time last year.

Cotton: By week's end, 13 percent of this year's cotton crop was planted, 5 percentage points ahead of last year and 4 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Producers in the Plains and western regions of Texas were busy preparing cotton land and weighing their options for planting as mostly dry conditions persisted. Elsewhere, planting advanced 13 percentage points in Arizona and Louisiana where producers had nearly a week of days suitable for fieldwork.

Sorghum: By April 15, producers had planted 18 percent of the sorghum crop, slightly behind last year but on par with the 5-year average. Despite planting being active in regions across Texas, progress was behind both last year and normal. Conversely, producers in Arkansas planted 20 percent of their crop under warm, mostly dry weather during the week, pushing overall progress to 48 percentage points ahead of normal.

Rice: Fifty-six percent of this year's rice crop was seeded by week's end, 23 percentage points ahead of last year and 27 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. With the exception of Louisiana, seeding in the Delta was 38 percentage points or more ahead of normal. By April 15, twenty-seven percent of the rice crop was emerged, 11 percentage points ahead of last year and 14 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Warmer-than-normal soils coupled with adequate moisture provided favorable conditions for seed germination and emergence across much of the major growing regions.

Small Grains: Oat producers seeded 76 percent of the Nation's crop by week's end, 32 percentage points ahead of last year and 28 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Advancing 12 points or more during the week, seeding was 23 percentage points or more ahead of normal in all estimating States except Texas, where progress was complete. Overall, 51 percent of the oat crop was emerged by April 15, fifteen percentage points ahead of last year and 14 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Warm weather aided a rapid crop development pace throughout much of the major growing areas.

One-third of the Nation's barley crop was seeded by week's end, 21 percentage points ahead of last year and 16 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. While seeding was well ahead of normal in four of the five major estimating States, progress in Washington was slow and behind the average pace as unfavorably wet fields continued to dry out. Nationally, 5 percent of the barley crop was emerged by April 15, three percentage points ahead of last year and 2 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average.

Spring wheat producers had seeded 37 percent of this year's crop by week's end, 32 percentage points ahead of last year and 28 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Seeding was 25 percentage points or more ahead of normal in Minnesota and the Dakotas, where above-average winter temperatures provided an early start for spring fieldwork. Ten percent of the spring wheat crop was emerged by April 15, nine percentage points ahead of both last year and the 5-year average.

Favorable temperatures and adequate soil moisture had sugarbeet producers in the four major estimating States planting this year's crop at a record pace. By week's end, 41 percent of this year's crop was planted, 37 percentage points ahead of last year and 27 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average.

Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending April 15, 2012

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

Corn Percent Planted

	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 15 2012	5-Yr Avg
CO	3	1	5	3
IL	8	17	41	6
IN	2	6	24	2
IA	1	1	5	3
KS	14	6	18	9
KY	11	32	59	14
MI	0	3	5	1
MN	0	1	7	2
MO	21	23	39	15
NE	2	1	4	1
NC	29	25	54	36
ND	0	0	3	0
OH	0	2	10	1
PA	0	2	5	2
SD	0	2	4	1
TN	17	46	80	25
TX	56	52	54	59
WI	0	0	2	0
18 Sts	5	7	17	5

These 18 States planted 92% of last year's corn acreage.

Cotton Percent Planted

	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 15 2012	5-Yr Avg
AL	1	4	6	2
AZ	24	25	38	29
AR	1	1	7	2
CA	29	5	10	46
GA	2	6	9	1
KS	0	0	0	0
LA	22	5	18	10
MS	1	0	5	3
MO	0	0	4	1
NC	1	1	3	0
OK	0	0	0	0
SC	0	0	6	1
TN	0	0	0	0
TX	12	15	18	13
VA	6	0	3	2
15 Sts	8	9	13	9

These 15 States planted 99% of last year's cotton acreage.

Winter Wheat Percent Headed

	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 15 2012	5-Yr Avg
AR	40	NA	93	27
CA	66	NA	65	75
CO	0	NA	0	0
ID	0	NA	0	0
IL	0	NA	40	0
IN	0	NA	9	0
KS	1	NA	19	0
MI	0	NA	0	0
MO	1	NA	52	1
MT	0	NA	0	0
NE	0	NA	0	0
NC	16	NA	76	12
OH	0	NA	0	0
OK	32	NA	72	17
OR	0	NA	0	0
SD	0	NA	0	0
TX	30	NA	51	25
WA	0	NA	0	0
18 Sts	11	NA	29	8

These 18 States planted 88% of last year's winter wheat acreage.

Winter Wheat Condition by Percent

	VP	P	F	G	EX
AR	2	8	40	40	10
CA	0	0	20	45	35
CO	5	13	40	38	4
ID	0	1	12	75	12
IL	1	2	20	52	25
IN	1	2	18	62	17
KS	2	5	24	53	16
MI	1	6	26	54	13
MO	0	4	25	53	18
MT	2	9	32	52	5
NE	0	5	32	54	9
NC	0	1	16	65	18
OH	5	13	36	35	11
OK	1	3	19	52	25
OR	0	8	23	53	16
SD	0	15	27	48	10
TX	16	16	30	28	10
WA	0	1	10	77	12
18 Sts	4	7	25	50	14
Prev Wk	3	7	29	47	14
Prev Yr	17	21	26	30	6

Sorghum Percent Planted

	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 15 2012	5-Yr Avg
AR	43	58	78	30
CO	0	0	0	0
IL	0	0	1	0
KS	0	0	0	0
LA	88	54	63	50
MO	1	1	1	1
NE	0	0	0	0
NM	2	0	1	2
OK	0	0	2	2
SD	0	0	0	0
TX	54	46	52	55
11 Sts	19	16	18	18

These 11 States planted 98% of last year's sorghum acreage.

Oats Percent Planted

	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 15 2012	5-Yr Avg
IA	57	75	87	40
MN	3	49	77	14
NE	52	50	77	48
ND	0	12	24	1
OH	11	42	60	25
PA	3	59	78	27
SD	7	50	80	12
TX	100	100	100	100
WI	8	26	48	16
9 Sts	44	62	76	48

These 9 States planted 62% of last year's oat acreage.

Oats Percent Emerged

	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 15 2012	5-Yr Avg
IA	8	23	45	6
MN	0	4	19	1
NE	5	15	35	10
ND	0	0	3	0
OH	1	6	21	3
PA	0	22	42	4
SD	0	16	43	1
TX	100	100	100	100
WI	0	0	10	2
9 Sts	36	41	51	37

These 9 States planted 62% of last year's oat acreage.

Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending April 15, 2012

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

Rice Percent Planted

	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 15 2012	5-Yr Avg
AR	31	49	75	26
CA	0	0	0	2
LA	77	51	68	67
MS	26	36	60	22
MO	6	47	71	10
TX	84	35	65	71
6 Sts	33	37	56	29

These 6 States planted 100% of last year's rice acreage.

Spring Wheat Percent Planted

	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 15 2012	5-Yr Avg
ID	30	19	48	35
MN	0	25	56	6
MT	2	11	23	8
ND	0	17	27	2
SD	7	52	83	13
WA	37	23	30	49
6 Sts	5	21	37	9

These 6 States planted 98% of last year's spring wheat acreage.

Barley Percent Planted

	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 15 2012	5-Yr Avg
ID	30	20	43	31
MN	1	18	35	7
MT	5	18	39	13
ND	0	7	17	1
WA	18	5	6	37
5 Sts	12	15	33	17

These 5 States planted 71% of last year's barley acreage.

Rice Percent Emerged

	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 15 2012	5-Yr Avg
AR	7	11	30	6
CA	0	0	0	0
LA	52	12	50	39
MS	10	12	35	6
MO	1	5	28	1
TX	65	15	40	50
6 Sts	16	9	27	13

These 6 States planted 100% of last year's rice acreage.

Spring Wheat Percent Emerged

	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 15 2012	5-Yr Avg
ID	7	NA	15	10
MN	0	NA	8	0
MT	0	NA	2	0
ND	0	NA	5	0
SD	0	NA	48	1
WA	4	NA	14	17
6 Sts	1	NA	10	1

These 6 States planted 98% of last year's spring wheat acreage.

Barley Percent Emerged

	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 15 2012	5-Yr Avg
ID	7	NA	12	9
MN	0	NA	8	0
MT	0	NA	2	0
ND	0	NA	1	0
WA	1	NA	0	11
5 Sts	2	NA	5	3

These 5 States planted 71% of last year's barley acreage.

Sugarbeets Percent Planted

	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 15 2012	5-Yr Avg
ID	13	NA	75	44
MI	9	NA	98	31
MN	0	NA	24	2
ND	0	NA	13	3
4 Sts	4	NA	41	14

These 4 States planted 84% of last year's sugarbeet acreage.

VP - Very Poor; P - Poor; F - Fair; G - Good; EX - Excellent
NA - Not Available; *Revised

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 was 6.7. Topsoil moisture 4% very short, 37% short, 58% adequate, and 1% surplus. Corn planted 75%, 58% 2011, and 60% five year average. Corn emerged 51%, 34% 2011, and 31% five year average. Corn condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 16% fair, 69% good and 14% excellent. Winter wheat headed 79%, 29% 2011, and 10% five year average. Winter wheat condition 0% very poor, 3% poor, 21% fair, 63% good, and 13% excellent. Livestock condition 1% very poor, 2% poor, 19% fair, 61% good, and 17% excellent. Pasture and range condition 1% very poor, 6% poor, 23% fair, 57% good, and 13% excellent. The average mean temperature for the week ranged from 55.3 degrees in valley head, to 70.4 degrees in Dauphin Island. The total precipitation ranged from 1.04 in Vernon to 0.01 in Valley Head. Light frost received during the week but no crop damage reported. Dry conditions begin moving into parts of Alabama; however, scattered showers were received this past week. The planting of corn and soybeans was slightly ahead of schedule because of favorably weather to keep soil temperature above normal. Pastures continue to look good due to warm temperatures, and the recent rain seems to have enhanced vigorous growth.

ALASKA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

ARIZONA: Temperatures were mostly above normal for the week ending April 15, ranging from 6 degrees above normal at Grand Canyon to 8 degrees below normal at Parker. The highest temperature of the week was 95 degrees at Roll. The lowest reading was 23 degrees at Grand Canyon. There was precipitation recorded in all but six of the 22 weather stations, ranging from 0.01 inches in Maricopa to 0.84 inches in Kingman. All weather stations have below normal precipitation to date in 2012. Alfalfa conditions remain mostly fair to excellent, depending on location. Harvesting has occurred on 80 percent of the growing areas across the State. Two-thirds of the State's durum wheat crop has headed. Central Arizona growers shipped broccoli, cabbage, kale greens and parsley. Western Arizona growers shipped broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, celery, cilantro, kale greens, Boston, green leaf, iceberg, red leaf, romaine, and processed lettuces. Also shipped this week were parsley, spinach and Swiss chard. Rangeland conditions continue to deteriorate with many areas reporting very dry pastures. Conditions ranged from very poor to good.

ARKANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Topsoil moisture 2% very short, 16% short, 72% adequate, and 10% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 9% short, 75% adequate, and 15% surplus. Corn 94% planted, 74% 2011, 64% avg.; 76% emerged, 40% 2011, 38% avg. Sorghum 47% emerged, 9% 2011, 9% avg. Soybeans 19% planted, 10% 2011, 7% avg.; 7% emerged, 2% 2011, 1% avg. Livestock were in good condition last week. Pasture and range condition were reported in mostly fair to good condition.

CALIFORNIA: Recent rain showers have improved soil moisture supplies for dry land crops. Early planted grain fields were growing well with wheat headed nearly two-thirds complete and some cutting for oat hay underway. Wheat conditions continued to improve with recent precipitation as the crop was rated mostly good to excellent. Seedbed preparations for corn and cotton halted in some rain affected areas, but the main activities included cultivation to remove weeds, herbicide applications, and reshaping seed beds. Some operators were able to start planting, however the majority of operators were waiting for warmer soil temperatures. Rice producers continue preparations for planting. 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. Cherry bloom was nearly complete as bees were being moved out of orchards. 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. Recent hail storms in the San Joaquin Valley hit stone fruit orchards hard causing growers significant fruit damage. Grapevines continued to leaf out while vineyards were being pruned and sprayed. Pomegranates were leafing out. Apples were starting bloom and leafing out. Strawberries were being transplanted in Siskiyou County. Early blueberries in Tulare County were starting harvest. Olive groves were pruned. Orange and avocado trees were in bloom in early locations. 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 to pick up. Almond bloom was over as almond trees were leafing out and nuts were growing larger. Freeze damage was becoming apparent in 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 blooming and leafing out. Walnuts, almonds, and pistachios continued to be exported. Kern County reported carrots, melons, peppers and processing tomatoes being planted. In Tulare County, squash, tomato, and peppers were being planted. Fresno County reported onion and garlic continued to grow well while being treated with herbicides for volunteer wheat. Harvesting of asparagus, broccoli and some head lettuce had begun. Some heavy rains made for muddy conditions for harvest of lettuce and broccoli. Processing tomatoes were being planted from seed as well as transplanting. Bell pepper, carrot, cantaloupe, honeydew and watermelon fields were being prepared for planting. Spring vegetables such as beets, radishes, cabbages, turnips, daikon, green onions, spinach, herbs, mustard greens, choys, chards and kales continued to be harvested. Eggplant and squashes continued to be planted. In Merced County, fresh market tomato and processing tomato planting continued as asparagus harvest continued. Some tomato fields were damaged by frost. In Stanislaus County, broccoli, and spinach continued to be harvested. San Joaquin County reported continued harvesting of asparagus. Non-irrigated rangeland continued to improve in response to the late spring rains with greening reported across the state. Range conditions were poor for this time of the year for much of the state. Livestock were moved to rangeland in some areas. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued. Sheep and cattle grazed on retired farmland and alfalfa fields. Pollination activities were winding down in stone fruits and blueberries. Some bees were being moved to citrus or shipped out-of-state. Milk production was negatively impacted by muddy corral conditions at some dairies.

COLORADO: Days suitable for field work 5.6 days. Topsoil moisture 8% very short, 33% short, 58% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 16% very short, 38% short, 46% adequate. Barley 50% planted, 37% 2011, 35% avg.; 32% emerged, 13%

2011, 11% avg. Spring wheat 45% planted, 25% 2011, 25% avg.; 12% emerged, 5% 2011, 7% avg. Winter Wheat 1 % pastured, 5% 2011, 5% avg.; 33% jointed, 16% 2011, 18% avg. Sugarbeets 28% planted, 7% 2011, 18% avg. Summer potatoes 35% planted, 11% 2011, 11% avg. Dry onions 64% planted, 56% 2011, 55% avg. Livestock condition 4% very poor, 5% poor, 20% fair, 67% good, 4% excellent. Above average precipitation along the Front Range and Eastern Plains while the rest of the State had below average precipitation. Temperatures were above average for the majority of last week with some cooler temperatures at the end. Windy and dry conditions in parts of the Eastern Plains and in the San Luis Valley. Overall, mountain snowpack is 40 percent of average raising concerns about the availability of irrigation water.

DELAWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Topsoil moisture 34% very short, 50% short, 16% adequate, 0% surplus. Subsoil moisture 15% very short, 50% short, 35% adequate, 0% surplus. Hay supplies 8% very short, 30% short, 62% adequate, 0% surplus. Pasture condition 4% very poor, 13% poor, 25% fair, 52% good, 6% excellent. Winter wheat condition 0% very poor, 2% poor, 20% fair, 50% good, 28% excellent. Barley condition 0% very poor, 3% poor, 20% fair, 49% good, 28% excellent. Corn Progress planted 18%, 4% 2011, 5% avg.; Barley headed 70%, 0% 2011, 0% avg.; Winter Wheat headed 13%, 0% 2011, 0% avg.; Green Peas planted 75%, 42% 2011, 63% avg.; Potatoes planted 58%, 37% 2011, 47% avg.; Sweet Corn planted 18%, 5% 2011, 4% avg.; Apples bloomed 29%, 9% 2011, 21% avg.; Peaches bloomed 55%, 23% 2011, 58% avg.; Strawberries bloomed 68%, 43% 2011, 31% avg.; Dry conditions continue to concern producers. Moisture is at critical stage.

FLORIDA: Topsoil moisture 29% very short, 50% short, 21% adequate. Subsoil moisture 16% very short, 55% short, 29% adequate. Sixty eight percent of Florida's landmass in severe, extreme, or exceptional drought. Peanut planting making good progress, Dixie, Gadsden, Hamilton, Madison, Marion counties. Jackson County limited peanut planting until it rains. Most corn crop planted, some continue to plant. Corn planting finished in Jackson, Madison counties. Walton and St. Johns counties still planting corn. Soybean planting started; a few fields planted in Walton County. Jackson County preparing fields for planting cotton. Irrigation pumps frequently pumping water to maintain fruit and vegetable crops. Blueberry harvesting underway, Hernando and Sumter counties. Hillsborough County light picking of cantaloupe and squash. Watermelon harvesting in Charlotte, Glades, Hendry counties. Union County watermelon being planted. St. Johns County planting cantaloupes, cucumbers, sweet corn, watermelons. Gulf County cucumber, pea, squash, sweet corn, tomato, watermelon being planted. Gadsden County tomatoes being planted. Vegetable movement included snap beans, cabbage, celery, cucumbers, eggplant, okra, bell peppers, radishes, squash, sweet corn, tomatoes. Light supply for peppers other than bell peppers, cabbage, celery. Drought conditions worsen across entire citrus region from moderate on east coast to extreme on much of west coast, per U.S. Drought Monitor, Apr 10, 2012. Valencia harvest continues to average over 5 million boxes weekly. Abundant pea-sized, larger fruit visible as new crop progresses. Harvesting, young tree care primary grove activity. Pasture Condition 5% very poor, 30% poor, 53% fair, 10% good, 2% excellent. Cattle Condition 1% very poor, 5% poor, 62% fair, 30% good, 2% excellent. Statewide, pasture condition lower due to drought, most fair. Most cattle in fair condition, slight decreased. Panhandle; pasture condition very poor to excellent. Cattle condition poor to excellent, mostly 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, with mostly fair. Hot, dry, windy conditions dried out soils, limited forage growth in pastures. Most cattle in fair condition.

GEORGIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Topsoil moisture 17% very short, 47% short, 35% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 23% very short, 41% short, 35% adequate, 1% surplus. Range and Pasture 5% very poor, 11% poor, 46% fair, 33% good, 5% excellent. Blueberries 16% very poor, 12% poor, 24% fair, 27% good, 21% excellent. Corn 0% very poor, 2% poor, 21% fair, 66% good, 11% excellent. Corn Planted 93%, 83% 2011, 78% avg. Onions 0% very poor, 15% poor, 59% fair, 25% good, 1% excellent. Onions Harvested 18%, 13% 2011, 6% avg. Peaches 0% very poor, 13% poor, 44% fair, 15% good, 28% excellent. Rye 0% very poor, 7% poor, 50% fair, 40% good, 3% excellent. Sorghum Planted 7%, 9% 2011, 8% avg. Tobacco Transplanted 70%, 37% 2011, 34% avg. Watermelons 0% very poor, 3% poor, 34% fair, 52% good, 11% excellent. Watermelons Planted 82%, 76% 2011, 72% avg. Winter Wheat 0% very poor, 6% poor, 40% fair, 45% good, 9% excellent. Precipitation estimates for the State ranged from no rain up to an inch. Average high temperatures ranged from the upper 60's to the lower 80's. Average low temperatures ranged from the upper 30's to the lower 60's.

HAWAII: Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Topsoil moisture 35% very short, 25% short, 40% adequate. A small amount of precipitation fell this week most occurring early on in the beginning of the reference week. The average rainfall for the State was 0.96 inches. Conditions of pasture and range decreased, as drought conditions increased, and rain gauges indicated monthly totals which are far behind schedule to meet historic April rainfall totals. State irrigation reservoirs remained adequately full from the heavy March storms and ensured proper crop development in areas where available.

IDAHO: Days suitable for field work were 5.3 days. Topsoil moisture 6% very short, 4% short, 77% adequate, 13% surplus. Field corn planted 7%, 0% 2011, 4% avg. Winter wheat jointed 8%, 9% 2011, 8% avg. Winter wheat boot stage 0%, 0% 2011, 0% avg. Onions planted 95%, 63% 2011, 78% avg. Onions emerged 11%, 0% 2011, 14% avg. Potatoes planted 24%, 2% 2011, 6% avg. Oats planted 43%, 7% 2011, 31% avg. Oats emerged 22%, 0% 2011, 13% avg. Dry peas planted 14%, 29% 2011, 15% avg. Lentils planted 0%, 11% 2011, 3% avg. Calving complete 93%, 95% 2011, 94% avg. Lambing complete 96%, 93% 2011, 92% avg. Hay and roughage supply 19% very short, 11% short, 58% adequate, 12% surplus, . Irrigation water supply 0% very poor, 0% poor, 16% fair, 60% good, 24% excellent. Sugarbeets emerged 7%, 1% 2011, 7% avg. Seed potatoes are still being shipped at a rapid pace. Caribou extension educator reported farmers are ahead of schedule. Field Corn planting is estimated to be 7 percent complete at the state level. This is 3 percentage points above average. The Cassia extension educator reports very dry weather and too much wind. Calving is finishing up and livestock are in good condition.

ILLINOIS: Topsoil moisture 3 % very short, 24 % short, 61 % adequate, and 12 % surplus. Subsoil moisture 4 % very short, 32 % short, 60 % adequate, and 4 % surplus. Oats 93 % planted, 59 % last year, 44% average. Weather conditions normalized last week with an average statewide temperature of 51.4 degrees, 1 degree above normal. Statewide precipitation averaged 0.98 inches, 0.09 below normal. Many farmers, however, are delaying planting until after a good rain to improve soil moisture. Frost conditions were reported in parts of the state, but the damage on wheat and emerged corn was mostly mild. Some farmers reported concern about the frost damage to hay conditions.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Topsoil moisture 5% very short, 27% short, 57% adequate, 11% surplus. Subsoil moisture 4% very short, 20% short, 70% adequate, 6% surplus. Corn emerged 3%, 0% 2011, 0% avg. Soybeans planted 5%, 0% 2011, 0% avg. Winter wheat jointed 57%, 19% 2011, 22% avg. Pasture condition 1% very poor, 3% poor, 19% fair, 61% good, 16% excellent. Availability of hay 2% very short, 14% short, 78% adequate, 6% surplus. Temperatures ranged from 6o below normal to 2o above normal with a low of 22o and a high of 79o. Precipitation ranged from 0.01 to 2.06 inches. Farmers made good progress with field preparations and planting most of the week until rain showers arrived in some areas over the weekend. Many areas experienced frost during the week, but the extent of damage to corn, soybeans, alfalfa, wheat, fruit and berry crops is unknown at this time. Planting of corn is moving at a record pace, well ahead of 2004 when approximately 10% of the acreage had been planted at this time. Farmers have also established a record pace for planting soybeans. Livestock are reported to be in mostly good condition at this time.

IOWA: There were 4.5 days suitable for fieldwork during the past week. The widespread rain impacted moisture levels throughout the state. Topsoil moisture levels improved to 6 percent very short, 21 percent short, 66 percent adequate, and 7 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture also improved and is now rated 14 percent very short, 31 percent short, 53 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus. Severe thunderstorms and tornadoes struck the state on Saturday, April 14. Farmers fear hay growth was affected during the early part of the week after receiving a hard freeze for three consecutive days.

KANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.1. Topsoil moisture 2% very short, 8% short, 78% adequate, 12% surplus. Subsoil moisture 4% very short, 17% short, 74% adequate, 5% surplus. Winter wheat jointed 91%, 45% 2011, 47% avg.; wind damage 84% none, 11% light, 4% moderate, 1% severe; insect infestation 79% none, 17% light, 4% moderate, 0% severe; disease infestation, 71% none, 20% light, 8% moderate, 1% severe. Range and pasture condition 10% very poor, 14% poor, 32% fair, 39% good, 5% excellent. Feed grain supplies 6% very short, 15% short, 77% adequate, 2% surplus. Hay and forage supplies 15% very short, 20% short, 62% adequate, 3% surplus. Stock water supplies 5% very short, 11% short, 79% adequate, 5% surplus. Kansas producers saw the fifth consecutive week of above normal temperatures along with severe thunderstorms and tornadoes. High temperatures ranged from the low 70's to low 80's, and low temperatures ranged from the low 30's to mid 40's. All stations reported at or above normal average temperatures with Hutchinson and Colby the warmest at 9 degrees above normal. Colby was also the only station that did not receive rain last week. Eighteen of the 53 stations reported over an inch of rain, with Beloit, Columbus, and Clay Center receiving the largest amounts with 3.97 inches, 2.73 inches, and 2.56 inches, respectively. All districts reported between 3.7 and 4.5 days suitable. Some producers contended with storm damage while others were preparing for spring planting and spraying for insects and disease. A few producers have even begun to cut alfalfa for the first time. The Kansas wheat crop continues to progress two to three weeks ahead of the average. Only the western third of the state is less than 85 percent jointed. The South Central district at 51 percent headed and the Southeast District at 61 percent headed are progressing more rapidly than the rest of the State. Only the western districts are below 10 percent corn planted, while the Southeast District already has 70 percent of this year's corn crop planted. Many cattle herds were turned out to spring pasture last week, while a few producers are still finishing calving.

KENTUCKY: Days suitable fieldwork 6.2. Topsoil 5% very short, 29% short, 62% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% very short 21% short, 71% adequate, 6% surplus. Rainfall averaged 0.10 inches Statewide, 0.91 in. below normal. Most precipitation Northern locations, much of the State needs rain. Temperatures averaged 54 degrees, 1 degree below normal. Tobacco transplants 89% seeded, 81% 2011, 86% average. Transplants emerged 70%, 61% 2011, 60% average. Winter wheat headed 70%. Condition of winter wheat, 1% poor, 9% fair, 58% good, 32% excellent. Frost midweek caused damage to wheat, fruit and vegetable crops. Alfalfa Hay average height 13 inches. Alfalfa and small grain hay harvest underway. Plant and forage growth continue 2 to 3 weeks ahead of normal.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Soil moisture 2% very short, 2% short, 77% adequate, 19% surplus. Corn planted 99% this week, 93% last week, 100% last year, 98% average; emerged 92% this week, 68% last week, 96% last year, 88% average; condition 16% fair, 68% good, 16% excellent. Winter wheat headed 99% this week, 96% last week, 95% last year, 83% average; turning color 27% this week, 7% last week, 3% last year, 1% average; condition 4% poor, 23% fair, 65% good, 8% excellent. Hay first cutting 17% this week, 4% last week, 8% last year, 6% average. Livestock condition 3% poor, 30% fair, 59% good, 8% excellent. Vegetables condition 3% poor, 37% fair, 53% good, 7% excellent. Range and Pasture condition 1% very poor, 2% poor, 25% fair, 62% good, 10% excellent. Sugarcane condition 2% very poor, 7% poor, 32% fair, 40% good, 19% excellent.

MARYLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Topsoil moisture 19% very short, 53% short, 28% adequate, 0% surplus. Subsoil moisture 11% very short, 42% short, 47% adequate, 0% surplus. Hay supplies 5% very short, 16% short, 79% adequate, 0% surplus. Pasture condition 2% very poor, 7% poor, 33% fair, 53% good, 5% excellent. Winter wheat condition 1% very poor, 2% poor, 20% fair, 71% good, 6% excellent. Barley condition 2% very poor, 3% poor, 25% fair, 60% good, 10% excellent. Corn progress planted 11%, 2% 2011, 4% avg.; Barley headed 74%, 1% 2011, 0% avg.; Winter Wheat headed 24%, 4% 2011, 0% avg.; Green Peas planted 60%, 66% 2011, 54% avg.; Potatoes planted 84%, 40% 2011, 56% avg.; Sweet corn planted 12%, 6% 2011, 11% avg.; Tomatoes planted 10%, 4% 2011, 7% avg.; Apples bloomed 97%, 5% 2011, 21% avg.; Peaches bloomed 94%, 15% 2011, 30% avg.; Strawberries bloomed 46%, 27% 2011, 40% avg.; Dry conditions continue to concern producers. Moisture is at critical stage.

MICHIGAN: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Topsoil 5% very short, 24% short, 65% adequate, 6% surplus. Subsoil 2% very short, 17% short, 75% adequate, 6% surplus. Pasture 4% very poor, 12% poor, 36% fair, 44% good, 4% excellent. Oats planted 70%, 11% 2011, 25% avg. Oats emerged 23%, 2% 2011, 5% avg. Growers progressed preparing fields to plant. Sugarbeet planting nearly complete. Emergence slow due to lack of rain. Oat planting continued. Corn planting on light ground continued on a limited basis. Fruit development slow, as normal early April weather prevailed. Cold, windy conditions reduced honeybee activity. Insect pest infestation inconsequential. Temperatures in twenties April 12 caused more frost damage. On most juice grape farms southwest, all primary buds dead. Many growers will probably not have enough grapes to make harvesting economically feasible. Wine grape damage varied by variety and age of vines. There has been widespread tart cherry damage across state. Reduction of crop potential not yet assessed. Sweet cherries mostly full bloom. Substantial crop reduction some orchards. Peaches generally have been unscathed by recent frosts. Some bud damage pears noted. Strawberries with emerged flower trusses may have sustained some freeze damage. Apples early bloom

to king bloom. Some flowers killed, especially on early varieties. Blueberries early to late pink bud; no significant bud damage has been reported. Plums ranged from shuck to petal fall. Cooler, seasonable weather slowed vegetable fieldwork since warm streak experienced earlier year. Asparagus harvest that had begun Southwest has mainly come to a halt. Asparagus harvest West Central not yet ready to begin. Onion planting continued. Celery planting continued under frost protection. Planting of carrots for processing began this past week. Other vegetable crops planted under protection.

MINNESOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil moisture 14% Very Short, 34% Short, 49% Adequate, 3% Surplus. Subsoil moisture 17% Very Short, 48% Short, 34% Adequate, 1% Surplus. Corn land prepared 27%, 2% 2011, 6% avg. Soybeans land prepared 8%, 1% 2011, 2% avg.; 1% Planted, 0% 2011, 0% avg. Potatoes 24% Planted, 0% 2011, 4% avg. Sweet Corn 1% Planted, 0% 2011, 0% avg. Green Peas 19% Planted, 0% 2011, 2% avg. Planting continued this past week amid cooler temperatures that settled across the region. Temperatures fell well below freezing across several areas of the state for the first time since early March. Morning lows were reported in the teens and twenties. Active weather moved across the state over the weekend and included thunderstorms, strong winds, snow, and reported tornadoes in localized areas. Average rainfall amounts ranged from .41 inch in northwest areas to 1.72 inches in northeast areas.

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Soil moisture 6 percent short, 84 percent adequate and 10 percent surplus. Corn 92% planted, 87% 2011, 85% avg,; 77% emerged, 67% 2011, 67% avg,; Sorghum 25% planted, 17% 2011, 13% avg,; 13% emerged, 0% 2011, 2% avg,; Wheat 99% jointing, 98% 2011, 94% avg,; 93% heading, 72% 2011, 49% avg,; 2% mature, 0% 2011, 0% avg,; Wheat 0% very poor, 7% poor, 29% fair, 50% good, 14% excellent. Watermelons 52% planted, 58% 2011, 64% avg,; Watermelons 37% fair, 63% good, 0% excellent. Hay 16% planted, 17% 2011, 13% avg,; Blueberries 1% poor, 9% fair, 90% good. Cattle 2% very poor, 10% poor, 44% fair, 35% good, 9% excellent. Many Mississippi farmers are ahead of schedule for planting most crops due to the early start to the season and the wet spring. Many farmers have completed corn planting and some cotton has been put into the ground. Winter wheat is starting to mature in some areas and farmers may start harvesting very soon.

MISSOURI: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.3. Precipitation 1.46 inches. Temperatures were normal to 4 degrees above average. Topsoil moisture supply 1% very short, 8% short, 71% adequate, 20% surplus. Ground worked spring tillage 70%, nearly 1 month ahead of 2011 and normal (5-yr avg). Corn emerged 11%. Soybeans planting was reported in all districts except the central and east-central. Winter wheat headed and beyond 52%, nearly a month ahead of last year and normal. Pasture condition 3% poor, 25% fair, 60% good, and 12% excellent.

MONTANA: Topsoil moisture 11% very short, 1% last year; 30% short, 3% last year; 56% adequate, 55% last year; 3% surplus, 41% last year. Subsoil moisture 10% very short, 0% last year; 31% short, 6% last year; 55% adequate, 71% last year; 4% surplus, 23% last year. Days suitable for field work 5.3, 1.3 last year. Camelina planted 30%, 10% last year. Camelina emerged 8%. Corn planted 5%. Dry peas planted 30%, 1% last year. Flaxseed planted 14%. Lentils planted 27. Oats planted 27%, 1% last year. Oats emerged 3%. Sugar beets planted 20%, 6% last year. Durum Wheat planted 12%. Winter Wheat – spring stages 4% still dormant, 39% last year; 29% greening, 49% last year; 67% green & growing, 12% last year. Range and pasture feed condition 3% very poor, 4% last year; 15% poor, 13% last year; 44% fair, 42% last year; 34% good, 38% last year; 4% excellent, 3% last year. Livestock grazing 82% open, 48% last year; 7% difficult, 22% last year; 11% closed, 30% last year. Cattle and calves receiving supplemental feed 77%, 90% last year. Sheep and lambs receiving supplemental feed 75%, 93% last year. Calving complete 78%; 71% last year. Lambing complete 60%; 59% last year. Montana had warm spring days and cool nights last week with measurable precipitation across most of the state. Fort Benton received the highest amount of precipitation for the week with 1.15 inches of moisture and most other stations saw 0.10 to 0.99 of an inch. High temperatures ranged from the lower 60s to lower 80s, with the state-wide high temperature of 81 degrees recorded at Drummond. A majority of stations reported lows in the upper teens to lower 30s, the coldest being Scobey at 9 degrees, followed by Opheim and St. Marie with 10 degrees.

NEBRASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.6. Topsoil moisture 7% very short, 21% short, 67% adequate, and 5% surplus. Subsoil moisture 9% very short, 34% short, 56% adequate, and 1% surplus. Wheat jointed 38%, 5% 2011, 6% avg. Alfalfa conditions rated 7% poor, 28% fair, 50% good, 15% excellent. Pasture and range conditions rated 1% very poor, 8% poor, 41% fair, 45% good, 5% excellent. Cattle and calves conditions 5% fair, 75% good, 20% excellent. Cows calved 88% complete. Calf losses rated 34% below average, 66% average. Strong storms late in the week delayed field activities but increased soil moisture levels. High winds, tornados and hail damaged property in parts of the State. However, the general rail was welcome and should aid germination of spring planted crops. Corn planting made little progress during the 4.6 days suitable for fieldwork. Seeding of oats was three-fourths completed with one third of the crop emerged. Wheat jointed at 38 percent was two and half weeks ahead of average creating concern for potential freeze damage. Soil temperatures cooled and ranged from the low 50's in the west to mid 50's in the east. Cattle and calves were in mostly good to excellent condition. Spring calving was 88 percent complete with calf losses below average. In general, temperatures averaged one degree below normal across the northern half of the State, and 1 degree above normal across the south. Highs reached the upper 70's and lows fell to the mid 20's in the Panhandle. An inch or more of precipitation was common across the eastern two-thirds of the State with two inches or more reported in portions of eastern and central Nebraska. Amounts were generally less than .5 inch in the Panhandle with some snow reported.

NEVADA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Temperatures cooled mid week as two cold fronts moved across the State bringing rain and some snow. Conditions warmed again by week's end. Temperatures ranged from four degrees below normal to three degrees above normal. Las Vegas recorded a high temperature of 88 degrees. Reno and Winnemucca had the low of 21 degrees. Winnemucca recorded 0.18 inches of precipitation. Rain showers prevented some field work. Seeding of spring crops was underway. Fall seeded grain was in good condition. Alfalfa fields were greening. Spring calving and lambing was underway. Main farm and ranch activities included prepping fields for seeding, ditch burning and equipment maintenance.

NEW ENGLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.1. Topsoil moisture 19% very short, 47% short, 30% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil moisture 9% very short, 42% short, 42% adequate, 7% surplus. The week began cloudy with variable daytime temperatures ranging from the low 40s to low 60s. Temperatures during the middle of the week were average to above average in the 50s and 60s. Light rain arrived on Thursday but failed to bring enough moisture to alleviate brush

fire danger conditions throughout southern New England. A dry heat wave started on Saturday and intensified Sunday with temperatures generally in the 70s. Total precipitation for the week ranged from 0.02 to 0.32 inches. General activities included working in nurseries and greenhouses, tending to livestock, spraying fertilizers, spreading manure, disking, plowing, irrigating, and planting early season vegetables.

NEW JERSEY: Days suitable for field work 7. Topsoil moisture 40% very short, 40% short, and 20% adequate. Subsoil moisture 10% very short, 55% short, and 35% adequate. Pasture and Range condition 10% poor, 50% fair, and 40% good. Rainfall amounts were below normal for all locations. Temperatures reached highs in the mid 70s to low 80s and lows in the low to upper 30s across the Garden State. The majority of winter wheat has headed and the condition was 10% fair and 90% good. Windy weather and some hot temperatures have dried soil reserves. This was interfering with planting, germination, and proper growth. More than sporadic rain showers were needed to help an especially early season. Windy and dry conditions have caused tip burn in some greens/lettuces and have caused poor asparagus growth due to curved spears. Strawberries were in full bloom while peaches and blueberries were starting to set fruit. Other farming activities during the week were irrigation, tillage, planting, discing, and spreading fertilizer. Livestock conditions were average. Milk production was average to slightly below average due to heat stress associated with higher temperatures.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Topsoil moisture 71% very short, 25% short and 4% adequate. Wind damage 20% light, 17% moderate and 8% severe; 47% winter wheat damaged and 13% onion damage to date. Alfalfa 26% very poor, 23% poor, 22% fair and 29% good; 8% first cutting complete. Cotton 14% planted. Corn 2% planted. Irrigated winter wheat 5% very poor, 15% poor, 73% fair and 7% good; 5% headed; 53% grazed. Dry winter wheat 62% very poor and 38% poor; 4% headed; 48% grazed. Total winter wheat 42% very poor, 30% poor, 26% fair and 2% good; 4% headed; 35% grazed. Lettuce 45% good and 55% excellent. Chile 6% very poor, 16% poor and 78% fair; 80% planted. Onion 15% fair, 65% good and 20% excellent. Cattle 36% very poor, 35% poor, 25% fair and 4% good. Sheep 22% very poor, 41% poor, 31% fair and 6% good. Range and pasture 66% very poor, 25% poor, 7% fair and 2% good. In New Mexico this week, a wide variety of weather was featured. Above average temperatures and some severe weather highlighted the first half of the week. An upper level cold system with below average temperatures and some snow highlighted the second half of the week. Areas that saw the most precipitation out of these events included Clayton at 1.19 inches (with a record 1-day total of 1.01inches), Tatum with 0.57 inches and Red River with 0.5 inches. The overall temperature profile for the State around near normal, ranging from Raton 5 degrees above normal to Grants at 4 degrees below normal.

NEW YORK: Days suitable 6.2. Soil moisture was rated 11% very short, 34% short, 52% adequate, and 3% surplus. Pasture Conditions were rated 4% very poor, 33% poor, 38% fair, 24% good, and 1% excellent. Some farmers were waiting for ground conditions to warm up before planting corn. Pastures were green across the state. Some manure spreading was being done to fields. Oats seedings began at 52%. Sweet corn and lettuce planting were underway. The dry, warm winter has early spring planting far ahead of schedule. Temperatures ranged from the mid 70s to the lower 30s. Light rain storms moved across the state.

NORTH CAROLINA: There were 6.1 days suitable for field work, compared to 4.6 the previous week. Statewide soil moisture levels were rated at 1% very short, 27% short, 68% adequate and 4% surplus. The state received below normal precipitation and temperatures the week ending April 15, 2012. Scattered frost impacted some crops, but the extent of the damage is unknown. Conditions were favorable for field work.

NORTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.9. Topsoil moisture supplies 9% very short, 20% short, 58% adequate, 13% surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies 1% very short, 13% short, 74% adequate, 12% surplus. Durum wheat planted 16% this week, 8% last week, 0% last year, 1% average. Canola planted 2% this week, 1% last week, 0% last year, 0% average. Dry edible peas planted 13% this week, 3% last week, 0% last year, 1% average. Potatoes planted 3% this week, 1% last week, 0% last year, 3% avg. Hay and forage supplies were 2% short, 79% adequate, 19% surplus. Grain and concentrate supply 4% short, 81% adequate, 15% surplus. Calving and lambing 69% and 81% complete, respectively. Shearing 90% complete. Cow condition 1% poor, 7% fair, 73% good, 19% excellent. Calf condition 6% fair, 70% good, 24% excellent. Sheep condition 7% fair, 70% good, 23% excellent. Lamb condition 8% fair, 68% good, 24% excellent. The percentage of feed obtained from pasture and range for cattle and sheep were 19% and 16%, respectively. Pastures and ranges 64% growing and 36% still dormant. Producers made progress planting crops despite widespread precipitation that occurred late last week. Reporters commented that the rain was beneficial in most areas. Other activities during the week included applying fertilizer.

OHIO: Days suitable for field work 5.9. Top soil moisture 2% very short, 17% short, 73% adequate, 8% surplus. Apples condition 12% very poor, 5% poor, 42% fair, 35% good, 6% excellent. Hay condition 4% poor, 33% fair, 52% good, 11% excellent. Livestock condition 3% poor, 16% fair, 63% good, 18% excellent. Range and Pasture condition 6% poor, 24% fair, 51% good, 19% excellent. Peaches condition 12% very poor, 16% poor, 37% fair, 31% good, 4% excellent. Potatoes planted 20%, 1% 2011, 11% avg. Apples green tip (or beyond) 87%, 34% 2011, 46% avg. Apples full bloom (or beyond) 50%, NA% 2011, 6% avg. Peaches green tip (or beyond) 86%, 35% 2011, 46% avg. Peaches full bloom (or beyond) 61%, NA% 2011, 11% avg.

OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.2. Topsoil moisture 3% very short, 14% short, 71% adequate, 12% surplus. Subsoil moisture 11% very short, 29% short, 55% adequate, 5% surplus. Wheat jointing 95% this week, 92% last week, 91% last year, 90% average. Canola condition 1% very poor, 4% poor, 22% fair, 51% good, 22% excellent; mature 9% this week, n/a last week, n/a last year, n/a average. Rye condition 1% very poor, 2% poor, 13% fair, 59% good, 25% excellent; jointing 98% this week, 94% last week, 97% last year, 95% average; headed 91% this week, 73% last week, 54% last year, 34% average. Oats condition 1% very poor, 2% poor, 18% fair, 60% good, 19% excellent; jointing 66% this week, 43% last week, 39% last year, 45% average; headed 12% this week, n/a last week, n/a last year, n/a average. Corn seedbed prepared 95% this week, 88% last week, 89% last year, 84% average; planted 52% this week, 31% last week, 46% last year, 36% average; emerged 19% this week, n/a last week, 5% last year, 10% average. Sorghum seedbed prepared 65% this week, 55% last week, 53% last year, 39% average. Soybeans seedbed prepared 40% this week, 33% last week, 40% last year, 42% average. Peanuts seedbed prepared 52% this week, 47% last week, 67% last year, 59% average. Cotton seedbed prepared 78% this week, 73% last week, 50% last year, 63% average. Watermelons planted 11% this week, n/a last week, n/a last year, 7% average. Livestock condition 2% very poor, 10% poor, 31% fair, 48% good, 9% excellent. Pasture and range condition

4% very poor, 10% poor, 35% fair, 44% good, 7% excellent. The week began with severe storms moving across the Panhandle and northwestern Oklahoma on Monday, April 9th. Severe storms returned Wednesday as a powerful storm system approached Oklahoma, with increasing intensity through the weekend. The average rainfall for the state was 1.42 inches; with the highest amount, 5.06 inches, recorded at Miami's Mesonet station. High winds, rain and hail from the storms damaged some wheat and canola fields. The crop conditions showed a slight decrease due to the damage. Storms limited field preparation for row crops during the week. Some fields that were ready for planting may need to be reworked as rain damaged seedbed formations. Pasture and range conditions continued to show improvement with all the recent rain, as only 14 percent was rated poor to very poor.

OREGON: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.6. Topsoil moisture 0% very short, 6% short, 63% adequate, 31% surplus. Subsoil moisture 5% very short, 6% short, 59% adequate, 30% surplus. Spring Wheat, Planted 70%, 44% 2011, 71% average. Spring Wheat, Emerged 35%, 19% 2011, 35% average. Barley, Planted 67%, 57% 2011, 72% average. Barley, Emerged 35%, 47% 2011, 48% average. Range & Pasture 1% very poor, 14% poor, 38% fair, 43% good, 4% excellent. As for weather conditions, there was normal weather this past week. Average temperature for the State was just slightly above normal at 48.2 degrees. Low temperatures ranged from 41 degrees in Roseburg, down to 21 degrees in Bend. High temperatures ranged from 55 degrees in Florence, up to 75 degrees in Rome. All but two stations reported measurable precipitation, but overall the amount was about normal for this time of year. The Moro station reported the most at 1.79 inches, which is 1.58 inches above normal for that station. A little more snow accumulation was welcomed in higher elevations. The Northeast was a little warmer & drier compared to the rest of the State this week. As for Field Crops, warmer temperatures yielded healthy wheat growth in north central Oregon for elevations below 1600 feet. Elevations above that were still playing catch up & have more water standing, delaying spraying. In Malheur planting for sugar beets were done, potato planting started. Too early for corn planted there. Umatilla County corn & pea planters hit the fields with spring planting. Wheat continued to grow well there, but all crops could use more moisture. In the north Willamette Valley, grass for seed was showing signs of recovery from the cold, wet spring. Some wheat may be lost due to winter & spring flooding. Red clover was growing well. In the south Willamette Valley, excessive spring rain has slowed fertilizer applications on grass seed & grain crops. Both were in fair shape considering the constant rains there. Relief needs to come as they head toward May. In southern Oregon, conditions were wet & cool, which delayed field work. Planted crops were looking good, but they could use some warm, sunny days. Hay crops should do well with some warmer weather. As for Fruits & Nuts, cherries & apricots in Wasco County started to bloom. At week's end, crop development in the lower Hood River Valley was as follows d'Anjou pear at full white to first bloom (WSU stages 5 & 6); Red Delicious apple at tight cluster (WSU stage 4); Bing cherry at first white to first bloom (WSU stages 6 & 7); Pinot noir grape still at Eichhorn-Lorenz stage 2. In the Willamette Valley, peaches were in bloom & nearing petal fall. Blueberries & gooseberries had leafed out. Asian Pears were blooming, & Bartlett's were budding. Gravenstein & apples were starting to bloom. Table grapes were at bud break. Control sprays for Eastern Filbert Blight continued to be applied. Prunes were in full bloom in the southern Willamette. In the Rogue Valley, peaches & apricots were about done with blooming. Some pear trees were in bloom, with some spraying done on those that were. Table grapes were sprayed with worries of a repeat of high mildew last fall. Wine grapes were at wooly bud stage in Douglas County. Bees were out throughout the State on some of the warm days. As for vegetables, some soil vegetables had come up in the Willamette Valley, but there was still a lot to be planted due to the wet soil. Garlic stood about 8 – 12 inches tall. Some growers were trying to plant sweet corn. Initial moldboard plowing on vegetable fields as weather permits. Asparagus in southern Oregon was up & will soon be cut. Onion planting in Malheur County was done. Nurseries were digging, balling, & shipping ornamental trees & shrubs. Greenhouses were quite busy with spring starts, now mostly early ornamentals. As for Livestock, Range & Pasture, pastures were putting on growth with warmer temperatures in areas of lower elevation. Higher elevations still had slow grass growth in ranges & pastures. In most parts of Umatilla County, cattle producers were about 10 days from turning animals out to grass. Lots of spring lambing & calving.

PENNSYLVANIA: Days suitable for fieldwork, 6. Soil moisture 2% very short, 42% short, 56% adequate, and 0% surplus. Tobacco planted in beds 74%, 61% Prv. Yr., 35% 5-Yr. Avg. Apples in the pink 83%, 5-Yr. Avg. 14%. Apples in full bloom or past 65%. Winter wheat condition 0% very poor, 2% poor, 9% fair, 59% good, 30% excellent. Pasture condition 1% very poor, 4% poor, 28% fair, 42% good, 25% excellent. Primary farm activities for the week included manure spreading, machinery maintenance, and seeding. Spring plowing is 59% complete, which is ahead of the 8% reported at this time last year and the 5-year average of 27%.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.7. Soil moisture 7% very short, 45% short, 48% adequate. Winter wheat 2% poor, 33% fair, 60% good, 5% excellent. Pasture condition 3% very poor, 9% poor, 41% fair, 46% good, 1% excellent. Oats 1% very poor, 2% poor, 29% fair, 64% good, 4% excellent. Hay 49% fair, 49% good, 2% excellent. Peaches 63% fair, 36% good, 1% excellent. Tomatoes, fresh 58% fair, 31% good, 11% excellent. Livestock condition 2% very poor, 3% poor, 35% fair, 60% good. Freeze damage 87% none, 12% light, 1% moderate. Corn planted 92%, 79% 2011, 74% avg. Corn emerged 65%, 54% 2011, 50% avg. Winter wheat headed 85%, 38% 2011, 29% avg. Oats headed 85%, 46% 2011, 38% avg. Tobacco transplanted 50%, 35% 2011, 33% avg. Hay grain hay 25%, 9% 2011, 5% avg. Snap beans, fresh planted 75%, 41% 2011, 47% avg. Cucumbers, fresh planted 39%, 38% 2011, 38% avg. Watermelons planted 72%, 64% 2011, 64% avg. Tomatoes, fresh planted 95%, 78% 2011, 75% avg. Cantaloupe planted 58%, 50% 2011, 53% avg. Cooler temperatures entered the State during the week ending April 15, 2012. Little to no rainfall was observed which contributed to an overall decline in soil moisture conditions. Soil moisture conditions were reported as 7% very short, 45% short and 48% adequate. Much of the Upstate and Midlands reported frost mid-week with observations of light frost damage to field crops. The State average temperature for the week was near normal with 6.7 days suitable for fieldwork. The State average rainfall for the period was 0.0 inches.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.9. Topsoil moisture 8% very short, 18% short, 70% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil moisture 8% very short, 29% short, 61% adequate, 2% surplus. Pct of winter wheat acreage hit by winter kill 7. Winter wheat boot 5% this week, 2% last week, 0% last year, 0% average. Barley seeded 60% this week, 27% last week, 4% last year, 6% average. Barley emerged 22% this week, 1% last week, 0% last year, 0% average. Cattle condition 5% fair, 72% good, 23% excellent. Calving 64% complete. Cattle moved to pasture 19% complete. Sheep condition 5% fair, 66% good, 29% excellent. Lambing 70% complete. Range and pasture 6% poor, 36% fair, 49% good, 9% excellent. Feed supplies 2% short, 90% adequate, 8% surplus. Stock water supplies 1% very

short, 7% short, 90% adequate, 2% surplus. The arrival of the first spring rain was welcomed all across the State, improving wheat and livestock conditions, as well as the outlook for germination of recently planted crops.

TENNESSEE: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 24% short, 71% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 18% short, 77% adequate, 4% surplus. Corn 40% emerged, 5% 2011, 9% avg; Winter Wheat 96% top-dressed, 96% 2011, 94% avg; 96% jointed, 81% 2011, 71% avg. Hay 7% First Cutting, 0% 2011, 0% avg; Apples 95% budding, 88% 2011, 90% avg; 80% blooming, 56% 2011, 59% avg. Range and Pasture Conditions 3% poor, 26% fair, 55% good, 16% excellent. Corn planting blistering pace. Hay and strawberry harvests began. Wheat crop in heading stage. Development at record rates three weeks ahead of five-year average tempo. Many corn growers completely finished planting. Wheat and pastures good-to-excellent condition. Frost occurred damage assessments inconclusive. Main farm work corn planting, hay and strawberry harvest, fertilizer and pesticide application, and scouting fields for freeze damage and threshold pest levels. Temperatures above normal west and middle; average for east and plateau. Rainfall amounts well below normal.

TEXAS: Most areas of Texas received rainfall last week. Areas of East and Coastal Texas received up to 2 inches of rainfall for the week while other areas observed scattered showers. Irrigation was active on wheat in areas of the High Plains which received little rainfall. Dryland wheat continued to suffer due to dry, windy conditions. In many other areas, wheat benefited from timely showers. Producers across the State continued to cut wheat and oats for hay. Other wheat and oat fields were being used for grazing. Many producers were monitoring or spraying for armyworms and aphids. Much of the land preparation was completed for cotton planting in the Plains and West Texas. Some cotton producers were pre-watering while others were making planting decisions. Corn and sorghum planting was underway around the State. In South Texas, dry conditions prompted some corn, cotton, and sorghum producers to irrigate. In the Cross Timbers, pecan trees looked to be in good shape with good catkin growth and nutlets present in most trees. Pecan producers were fertilizing and spraying zinc. In North and East Texas, vegetable fields were planted and making good progress. Most fruit trees had small fruit on them. In South Texas, cabbage harvest continued and watermelon transplants showed signs of establishment in fields. In the Trans-Pecos, fall-planted onions were bulbing. In the High Plains and Trans-Pecos, range and pastureland remained mostly dry, with winds drying out what little moisture was received. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued in these areas. In North, Central and South Texas, most pastures were greening and supplemental feeding eased. Weed spraying was underway in many pastures. Livestock body condition was good in most areas. Spring calving, lambing, and kidding season was winding down as ranchers worked calves and sheared sheep.

UTAH: Days Suitable For Field Work 5. Subsoil Moisture 0% very short, 30% short, 70% adequate, 0% surplus. Winter Wheat Condition 0% very poor, 0% poor, 28% fair, 54% good, 18% excellent. Spring Wheat planted 87%, 30% 2011, 52% avg. Spring Wheat emerged 44%, 5% 2011, 13% avg. Barley planted 81%, 28% 2011, 51% avg. Barley emerged 44%, 6% 2011, 10% avg. Oats planted 47%, 32% 2011, 31% avg. Oats emerged 9%, 3% 2011, 5% avg. Corn planted 3%, 1% 2011, 5% avg. Cows Calved 85%, 80% 2011, 78% avg. Cattle and calves condition 0% very poor, 0% poor, 7% fair, 76% good, 17% excellent. Sheep Condition 0% very poor, 0% poor, 6% fair, 80% good, 14% excellent. Range and Pasture 0% very poor, 4% poor, 44% fair, 46% good, 6% excellent. Stock Water Supplies 1% very short, 12% short, 86% adequate, 1% surplus. Sheep Sheared On Farm, Sheared On Farm 75%, 73% 2011, 49% avg. Sheep Sheared On Range, Sheep Sheared On Range 56%, 55% 2011, 37% avg. Ewes Lamb On Farm, Ewes Lamb On Farm 75%, 69% 2011, 76% avg. Ewes Lamb On Range, Ewes Lamb On Range 36%, 30% 2011, 30% avg. Apricots full Bloom Or Past 96%, 69% 2011, 57% avg. Sweet Cherries full Bloom Or Past 86%, 18% 2011, 25% avg. Tart Cherries full Bloom Or Past 83%, 9% 2011, 32% avg. Peaches, Full Bloom Or Past 71%, 17% 2011, 22% avg. Parts of Northern Utah reported winter storms with a lot of wind and scattered precipitation. Nights were cold. The recent snow storm provided needed moisture for Box Elder, Morgan, and Weber Counties. Box Elder County livestock producers report that their animals are doing well. Beef producers report that spring calving is almost completed. Sheep producers are extremely busy with lambing their range herds, which is reported to be going well. Livestock producers are concerned about the dry winter and dry spring and are anticipating the possibility that rangelands are going to be short of feed this year. In Cache County sheep and cattle are reported to be doing very well. Very few calving or lambing losses have been reported, due to the pleasant weather and relatively dry conditions. Beaver County reports that livestock are doing well. Garfield/Kane Counties have reported excellent calving success due to the mild winter and spring. Box Elder County received about an inch of precipitation on the east side of the county and very little on the west side of the county when a storm moved through the county on Thursday and Friday. Farmers are seeding safflower, spring wheat, barley, oats, and some new alfalfa. Fall wheat looks good. Onions are emerging and also look good. Alfalfa fields are greening up and beginning to grow. It was reported that at least one producer planted his grain corn this last week. There have been some losses reported by fruit producers due to the frost on April 7th, but they are still optimistic as some peaches and apples have yet to bloom. More will be known as time passes and it is determined how much fruit is setting. Farmers in Cache County report that most of the small grains have been planted, and some safflower is also going in. Soil temperatures are still too cold for planting corn, but that process is anticipated to start in the next few weeks. Farmers have applied most of the fertilizer and crops are reported to be looking very good right now. Reports from Carbon County are that temperatures have cooled somewhat, which is slowing the crop growth to normal. Beaver County reported that farm work is going well with farmers getting their irrigation systems going.

VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Topsoil moisture 22% very short, 48% short, 29% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 11% very short, 42% short, 45% adequate, 2% surplus. Pasture 1% very poor, 6% poor, 42% fair, 48% good, 3% excellent. Livestock 4% poor, 24% fair, 63% good, 9% excellent. Other Hay 8% poor, 46% fair, 40% good, 6% excellent. Alfalfa Hay 1% poor, 42% fair, 44% good, 13% excellent. Corn planted 44%, 18% 2011, 20% 5-yr avg. Corn emerged 6%, na 2011, na 5-yr avg. Winter wheat headed 39%, 1% 2011, 2% 5-yr avg; condition 2% poor, 19% fair, 74% good, 5% excellent. Barley 4% poor, 29% fair, 59% good, 8% excellent. Tobacco Greenhouse 45% fair, 40% good, 15% excellent. Tobacco Plant beds 99% fair, 1% good. Summer Potatoes 100% planted, 97% 2011, NA 5-yr avg. Potatoes 50% fair, 50% good. All Apples 1% poor, 94% fair, 5% good. Peaches 1% very poor, 4% poor, 45% fair, 45% good, 5% excellent. Grapes 7% poor, 28% fair, 64% good, 1% excellent. Oats 33% fair, 62% good, 5% excellent. Continued dry weather, along with windy conditions, has significantly decreased overall soil moisture across the state. Days suitable for fieldwork were 6.8. Corn planting progressed this week, although some producers have stopped planting due to concerns that the dry conditions will effect soil germination. The dry weather has also

halted hay and pasture growth and wheat is starting to show sign of drought stress. A couple nights of heavy frost this past week damaged some fruit trees and vegetables that were not protected. Everyone is in need of some rain for both the small grains and recent corn plantings.

WASHINGTON: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Topsoil moisture 6% short, 78% adequate, 16% surplus. Subsoil moisture 6% very short, 25% short, 63% adequate, 6% surplus. Irrigation water supply 87% adequate, 13% surplus. Hay and other Roughage 2% very short, 15% short, 78% adequate, 5% surplus. Range and Pasture Condition 3% very poor, 20% poor, 36% fair, 39% good, 2% excellent. Potatoes 35% planted, 27% last week, 47% last year, 35% average. Corn 6% planted, 2% last week, 13% last year, 13% average. Dry Edible Beans 0% planted, 0% last week, 3% last year, 22% average. Dry Peas 17% planted, 16% last week, 11% last year, 23% average. Processing Green Peas 30% planted, 26% last week, 43% last year, 36% average. There was minimal precipitation in southeastern counties last week which allowed producers to make progress on spraying, burning stubble, and spring seeding. Rust found on winter wheat in Whitman County was minimal in comparison to last year's outbreak. With several days of sunny weather in western Washington over the weekend producers were able to get out into the field and complete early season field activities. In the Yakima Valley, tree fruit was in bloom. Apple trees were leafed out and some blossoms were at pink tip. Pollination conditions were plenty warm. Orchard crews were still blossom thinning peaches and nectarines. Hop producers were stringing up the trellis as the hop plants began to emerge. Lowland blueberries were in bloom in Snohomish County. Planting of potatoes, sweet corn, and green peas continued in Grant County. Dairy farmers began cutting green chop and doing rotational grazing to take advantage of rapidly growing forage in Thurston County. Conditions remain dry in Yakima County which hindered growth of rangeland grasses. Pastures were also slow to mature in Douglas and Chelan Counties; therefore most livestock producers did not release their cattle yet. Shellfish growers in Pacific County continued preparations for oyster seeding operations, and completed limited clam harvesting.

WEST VIRGINIA: Days for suitable for field work was 6. Topsoil moisture was 9% very short, 52% short, 38% adequate and 1% surplus compared to 58% adequate and 42% surplus last year. Intended acreage prepared for spring crops was 57%, 41% in 2011, and 48% 5-year avg. Hay and roughage supplies were 4% short, 78% adequate and 18% surplus compared to 9% very short, 32% short, 50% adequate and 9% surplus last year. Feed grain supplies were 2% short, 97% adequate and 1% surplus compared to 4% very short, 17% short and 79% adequate last year. Corn was 4% planted, 5% in 2011, and 5% 5-year avg. Winter wheat conditions were 1% poor, 39% fair and 60% good. Wheat was 1% headed, comparison data not available. Hay conditions were 3% poor, 42% fair, 53% good and 2% excellent. Apple conditions were 3% very poor, 10% poor, 52% fair and 35% good. Peaches were 20% very poor, 16% poor, 35% fair and 29% good. Cattle and calves were 1% poor, 25% fair, 72% good and 2% excellent. Calving was 88% complete, compared to 82% last year. Sheep and lambs were 1% poor, 15% fair, 82% good and 2% excellent. Lambing was 92% complete, compared to 83% last year. Abnormally dry conditions that may lead to problems this growing season were ideal for field work last week. Farming activities included preparing fields and planting crops, assessing frost damage, showing livestock, planting early garden crops, vaccinating and moving livestock, seeding pastures, harvesting rye, fencing, calving, and lambing.

WISCONSIN: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Topsoil moisture 6% very short, 29% short, 61% adequate, and 4% surplus. Spring tillage 32% complete this week, 19% last week, 5% last year, 10% average. Corn planted 2% complete this week, n/a last week, 0% last year, 0% average. Nighttime temperatures dipped into the 20s across central Wisconsin and into the teens in some parts of northern Wisconsin this week, threatening fruit crops, hay and winter grains. The full extent of freeze damage varied, with the worst impacts reported on budding apple and cherry trees. Small grain, alfalfa and fruit development was reportedly running 3 to 4 weeks ahead of normal across the state. Thunderstorms caused localized heavy rains, but soil moisture was 35 percent short to very short statewide. Dry conditions aided fieldwork, though rain is needed in many areas. Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week were 1 to 5 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 56 to 59 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 32 to 37 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.01 inches in Green Bay to 0.48 inches in La Crosse.

WYOMING: Days suitable for field work 5.8. Topsoil moisture 8% very short, 37% short, 55% adequate. Subsoil moisture 10% very short, 34% short, 56% adequate. Barley planted 79%, 70% last week, 51% last year, 54% average; emerged 36%, 12% last week, 3% last year, 5% average. Oats planted 28%, 12% last week, 27% last year, 24% average; emerged 7%, 1% last week, 6% last year, 3% average. Spring wheat planted 17%, 13% last week, 6% last year, 11% average; emerged 5% this week, 2% last week, 1% last year, 2% average. Winter wheat jointed 9% this week, 0% last week, 0% last year, 1% average. Sugarbeets planted 18% this week, 0% last week, 2% last year, 11% average. Winter wheat condition 34% fair, 66% good. Crop insect infestation 92% none, 8% light. Spring calves born 66% this week, 54% last week. Farm flock ewes lambed 75% this week, 62% last week. Farm flock sheep shorn 65% this week, 52% last week. Range flock ewes lambed 21% this week, 13% last week. Range flock sheep shorn 29% this week, 20% last week. Calf losses 37% light, 63% normal. Lamb losses 30% light, 70% normal. Range and pasture condition 5% very poor, 4% poor, 46% fair, 45% good. Spring grazing prospects 14% poor, 49% fair, 37% good. Stock water supplies 3% very short, 12% short, 84% adequate, 1% surplus. Weekly air temperatures averaged above normal at all of the 33 reporting stations. Moisture levels were at or above normal for 14 of the 33 reporting stations. Carbon County reported that rain and snow storms have helped the soil moisture levels but concerns continue over irrigation water supplies. Platte County reported receiving snow over the weekend with hopes for more moisture next week. Laramie County reported wheat firing on lower leaves due to dry conditions. Lincoln County reports that the grass is not growing very well yet and top soil is drying out. Uinta County reports a low level of snowpack and the drought monitor is abnormally low. Activities included planting small grains and some row crops, feeding livestock, shearing sheep, lambing & calving.

International Weather and Crop Summary

April 8-14, 2012

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

HIGHLIGHTS

EUROPE: Widespread, locally heavy showers improved winter crop prospects across much of the region and eased drought on the Iberian Peninsula.

WESTERN FSU: Periods of rain maintained favorable soil moisture for winter grains and oilseeds.

EASTERN FSU: Sunny, unseasonably warm weather accelerated fieldwork and early crop emergence.

MIDDLE EAST: Showers and thunderstorms slowed fieldwork but were favorable for vegetative to reproductive winter crops.

NORTHWESTERN AFRICA: Additional, much-needed rain improved winter grain prospects in northern Morocco.

SOUTH ASIA: Hot weather continued across the region, spreading into nearly all of India, while occasional showers in the north alleviated some of the heat and benefited emerging cotton.

EAST ASIA: Widespread showers provide favorable soil moisture to winter and spring crops across eastern China.

SOUTHEAST ASIA: Seasonably drier weather occurred in Indochina and most of the Philippines.

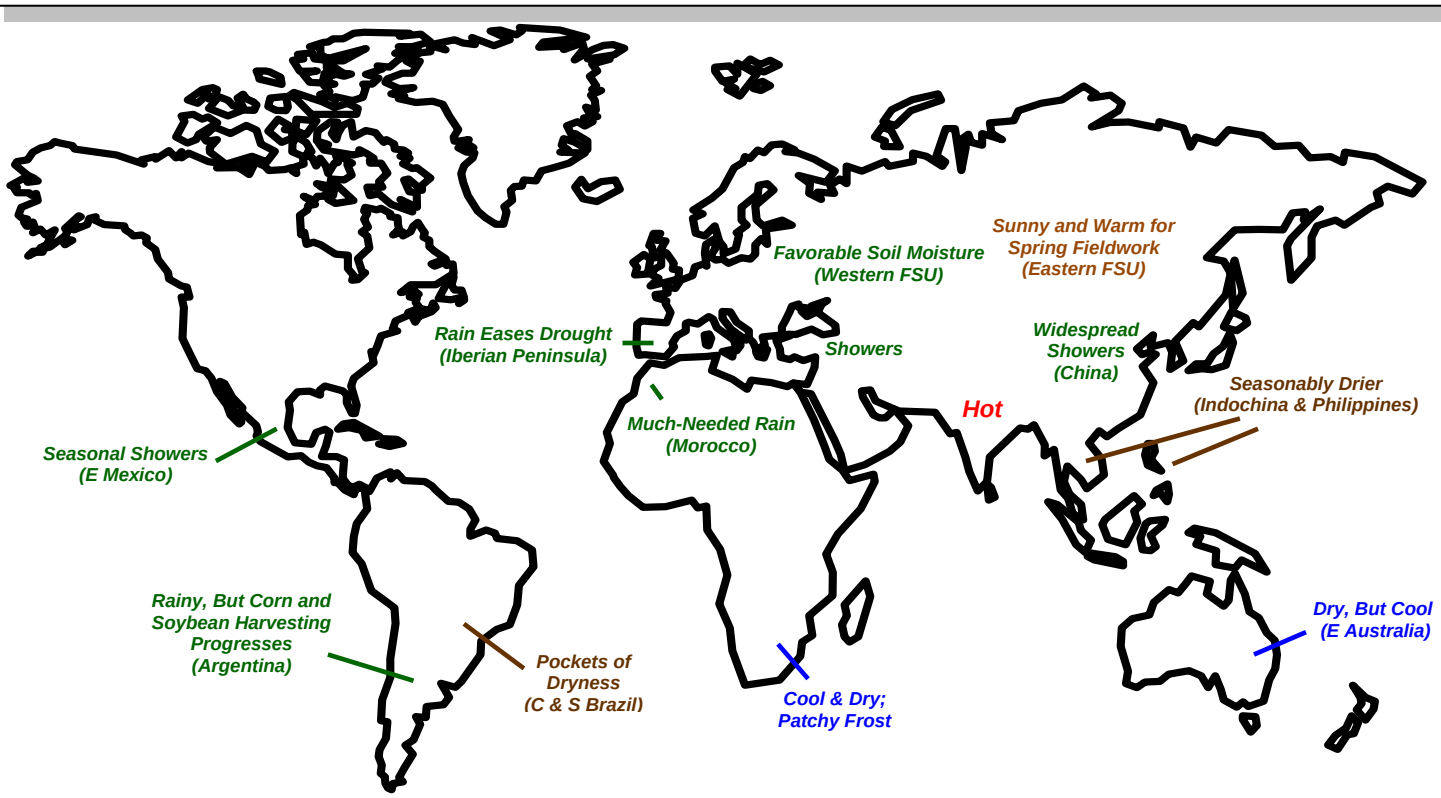
AUSTRALIA: Mostly dry weather favored summer crop maturation and harvesting in eastern Australia, but cooler-than-normal weather slowed the pace.

SOUTH AFRICA: Frost raised concern for potential damage to immature corn.

ARGENTINA: Corn and soybean harvesting progressed, though rain hampered efforts in some western and eastern farming areas.

BRAZIL: Lingering pockets of dryness reduced moisture for secondary (safrinha) corn.

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



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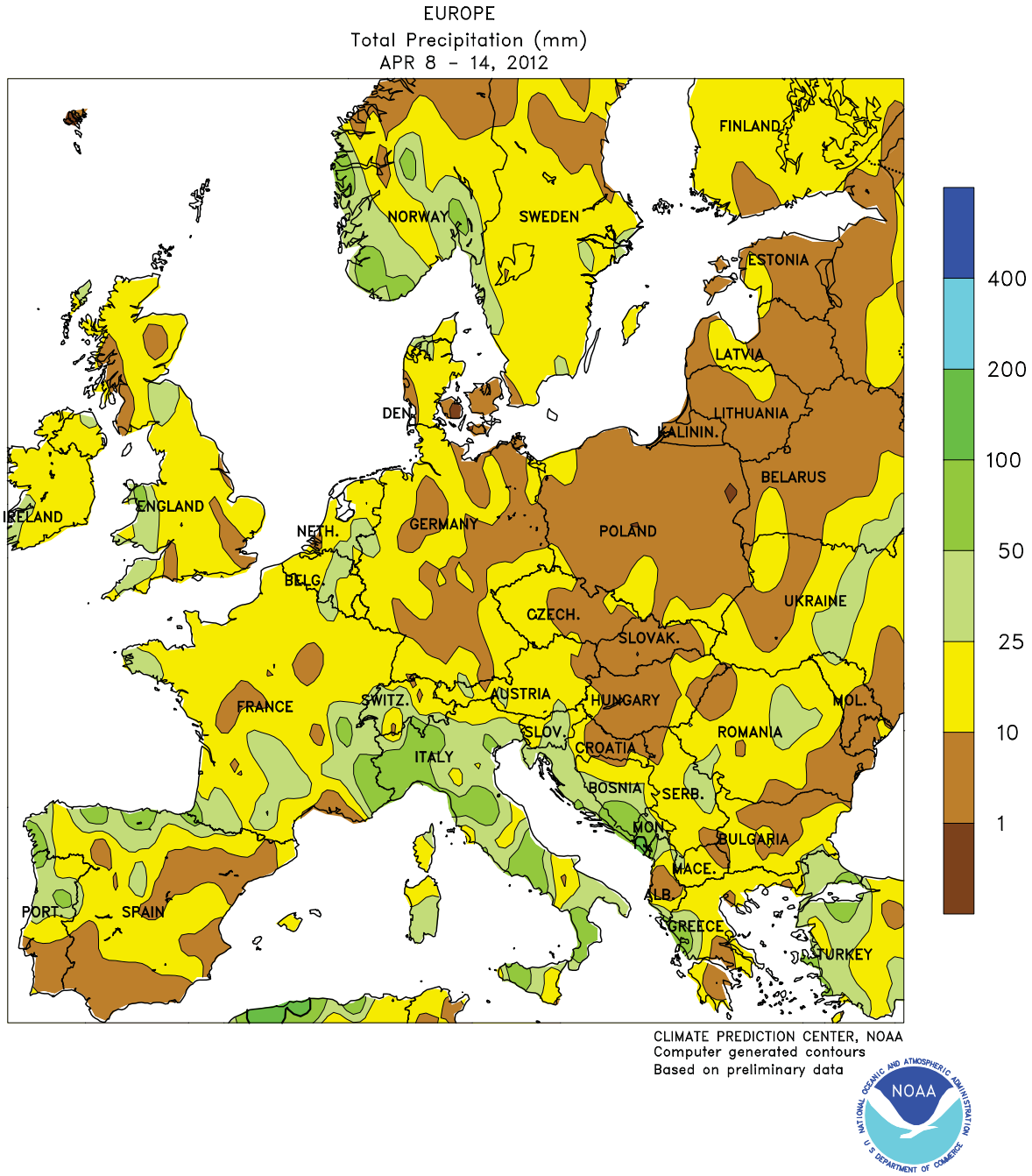
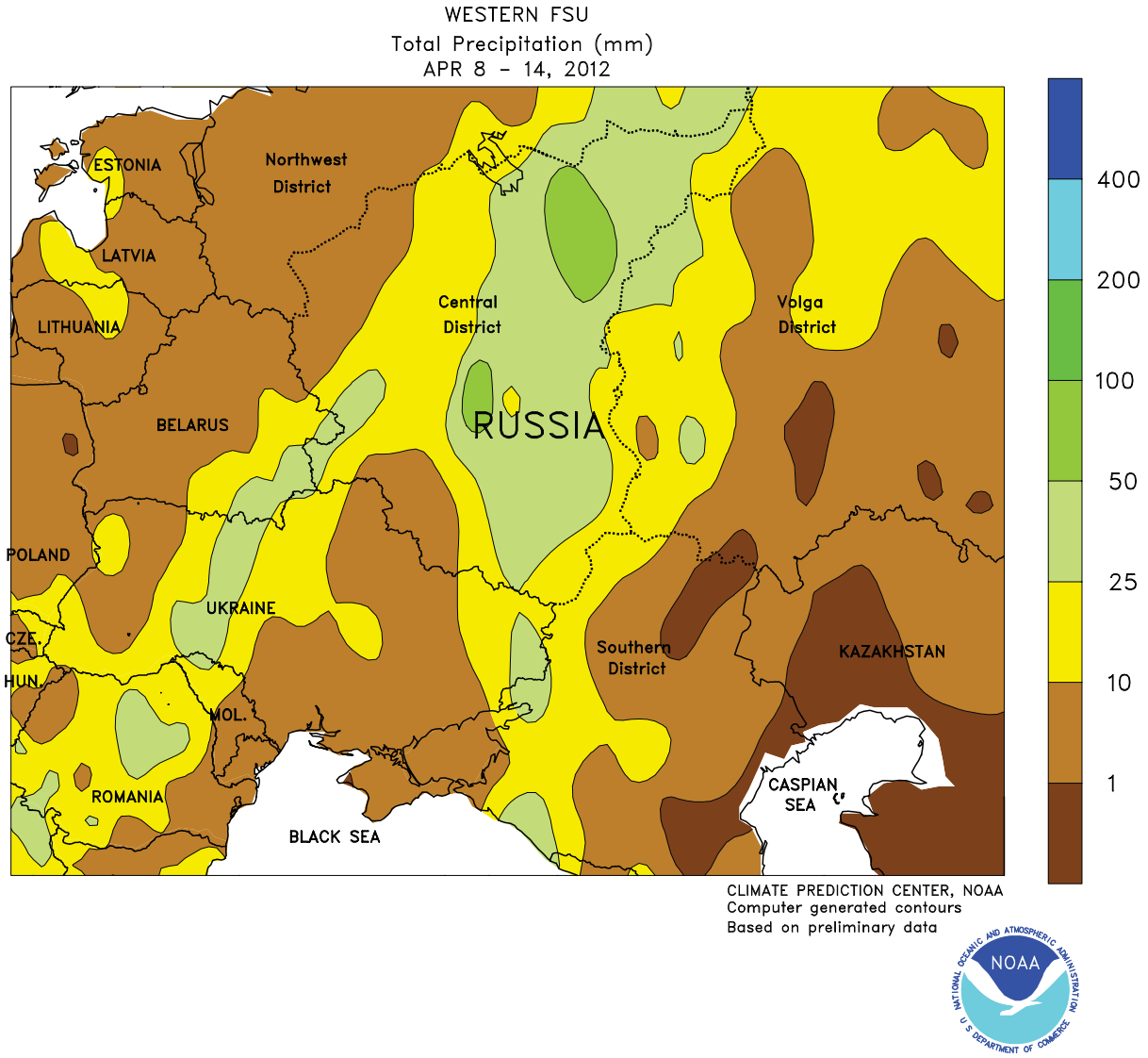


EUROPE

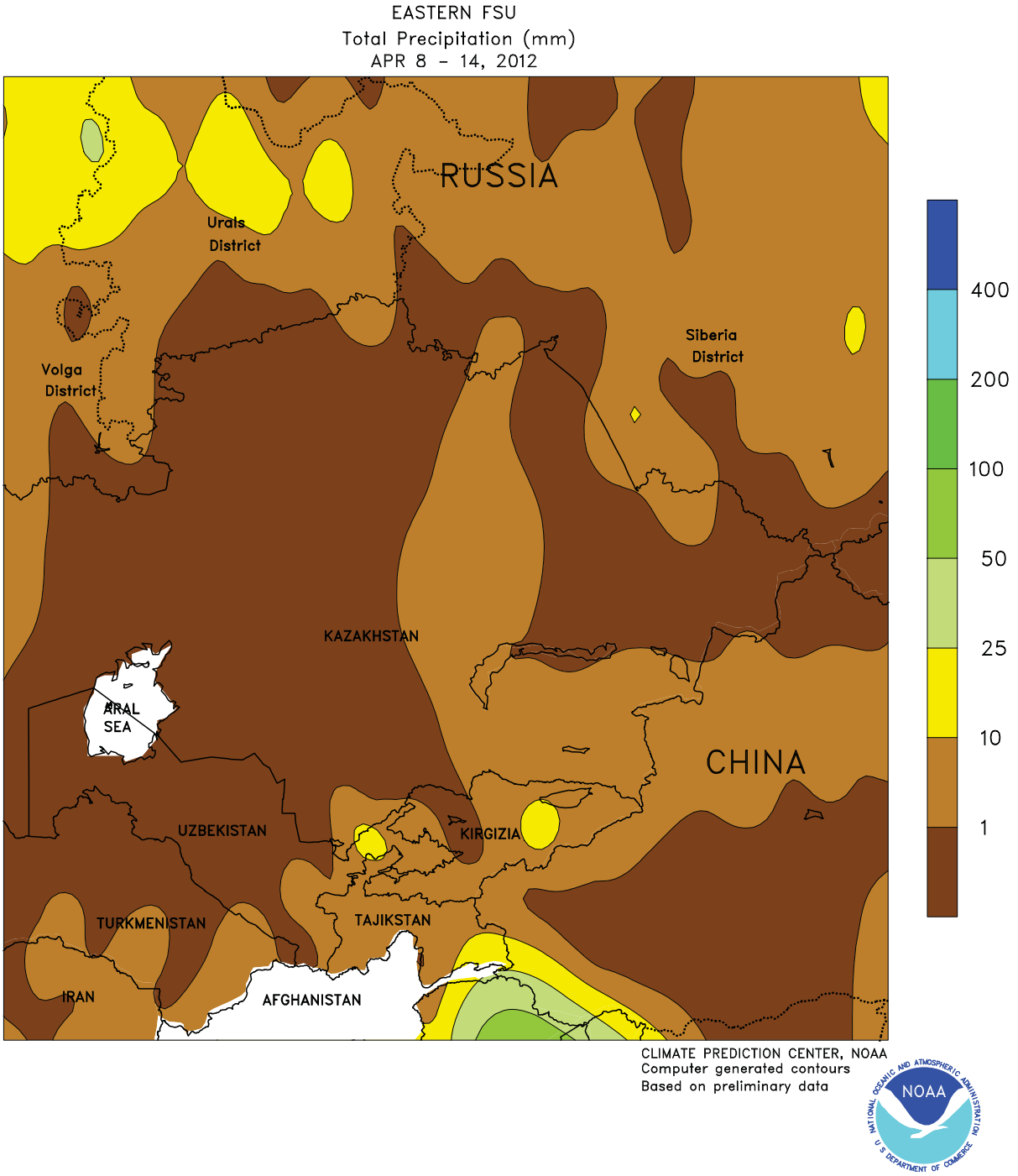
A pair of slow-moving storms brought beneficial rainfall to winter crops across most of the continent. In Spain, 10 to 50 mm of rain in northern portions of the country improved prospects for wheat and barley, while southern showers (5-10 mm) were mostly too late to reverse the damage of winter and early spring drought on small grains. Rain in Italy tallied 25 to 70 mm, improving soil moisture for winter wheat and boosting irrigation reserves for summer crops. Showers (10-50 mm) were also reported from England and France into Germany and the Balkans, maintaining adequate soil moisture for vegetative wheat and rapeseed. Despite the widespread wet weather, rain generally bypassed Poland, reducing moisture reserves for vegetative rapeseed but promoting a rapid pace of fieldwork. Temperatures averaged within 2°C of normal, although nighttime freezes (-8 to -4°C) slowed crop development from Hungary northward into central Poland.

For additional information contact: mbrusberg@oce.usda.gov



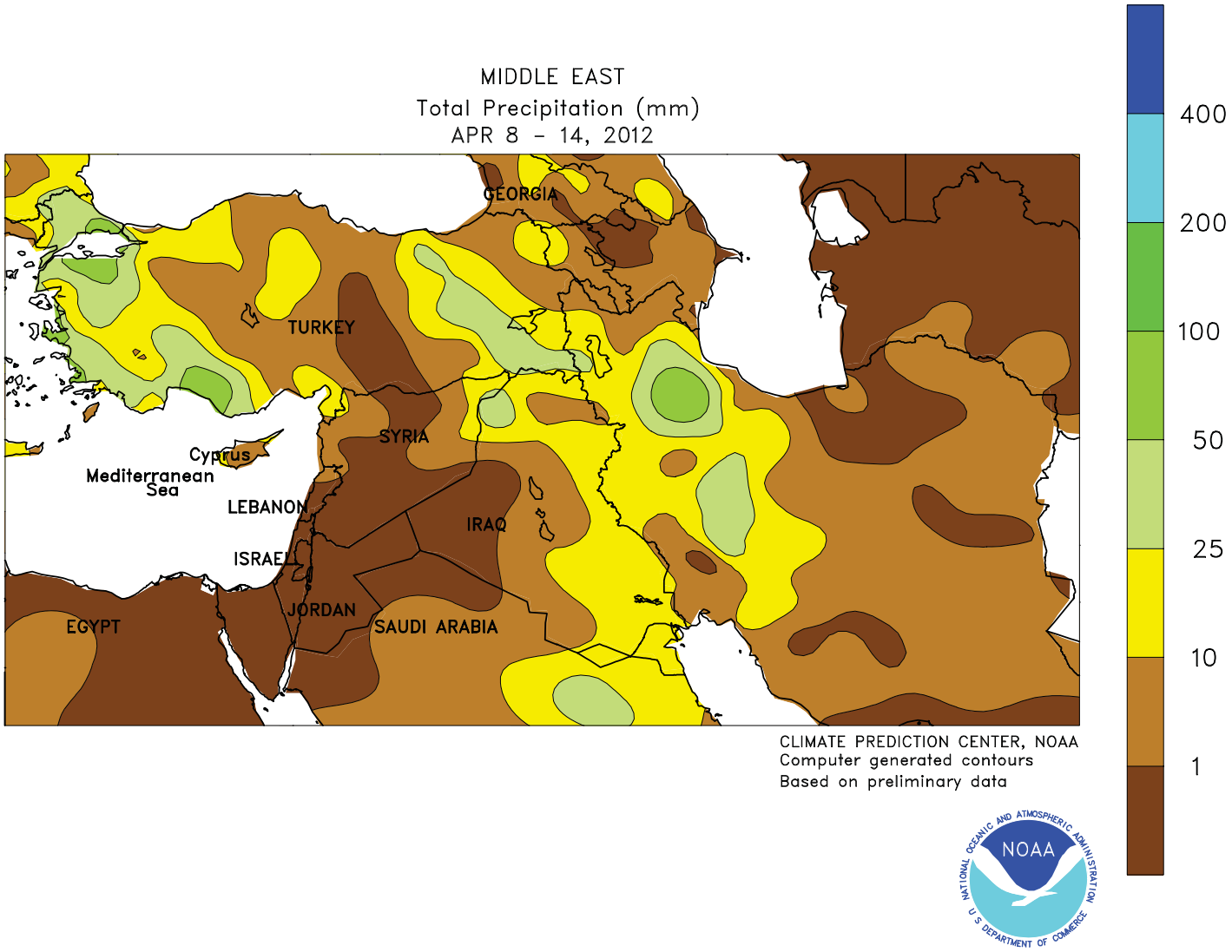
WESTERN FSU

Unsettled weather prevailed, with warmer-than-normal conditions in the east contrasting with near-normal temperatures across western growing districts. A slow-moving storm system generated rain across most central and western growing areas, with amounts averaging 10 to 50 mm. The moisture was beneficial for greening winter crops but slowed fieldwork. However, precipitation mostly bypassed south-central Ukraine, where soil moisture remained less than ideal. Dry weather also returned to the southern Volga District, although soil moisture remained favorable after late-March rainfall. Temperatures averaged 7 to 10°C above normal in Russia's Southern and Volga Districts, accelerating winter crops out of dormancy. Clouds and rain kept temperatures closer to seasonal norms from western Ukraine into western and northern Russia.



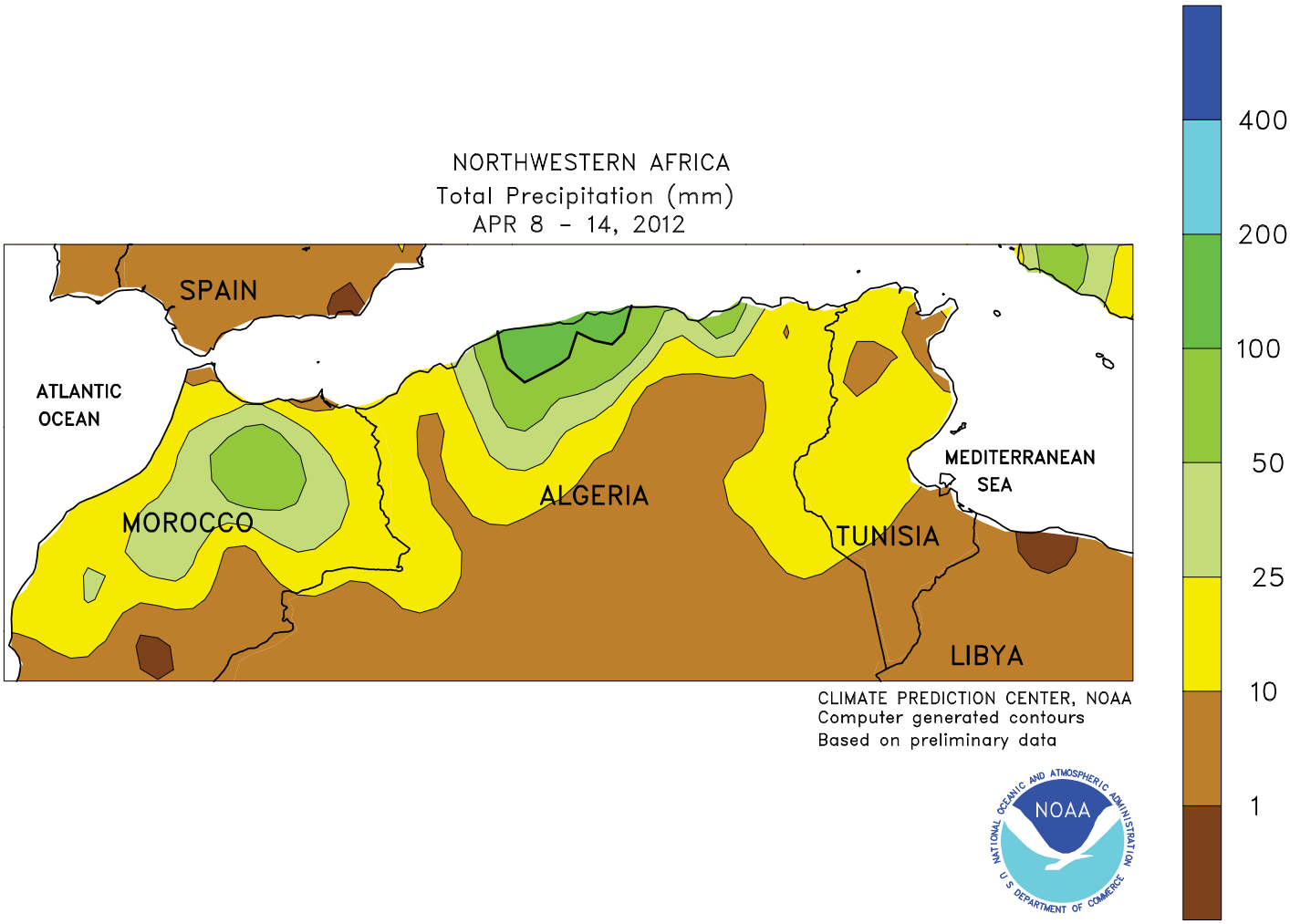
EASTERN FSU

Unseasonably warm, dry weather accelerated fieldwork and early crop emergence. Temperatures averaged up to 9°C above normal over primary spring wheat areas of northern Kazakhstan and central Russia, with daytime highs eclipsing 20°C (locally more than 25°C). The April warmth promoted fieldwork and encouraged rapid emergence of early planted small grains. Cotton planting resumed across the south after last week's showers and thunderstorms.



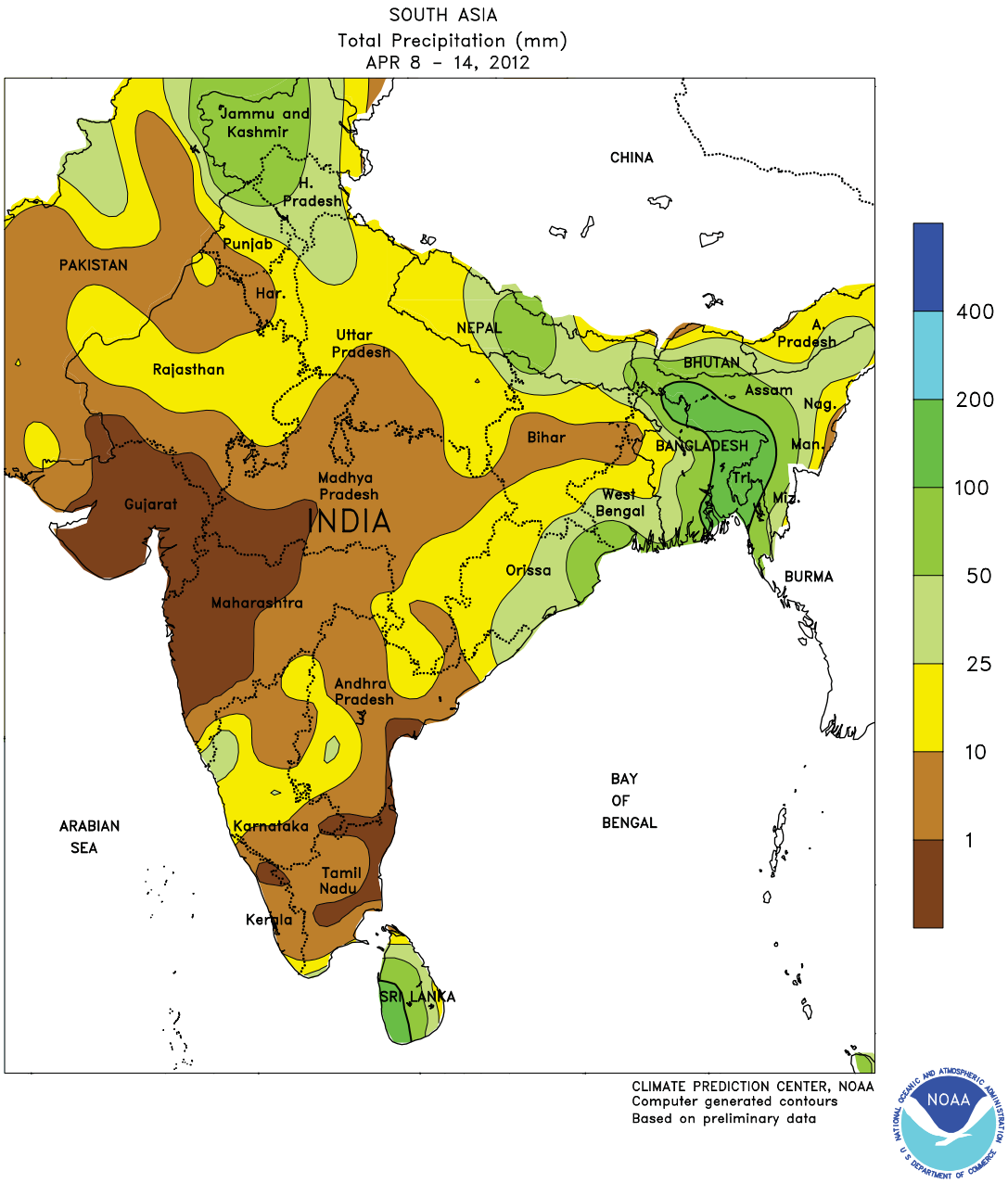
MIDDLE EAST

Rain returned to the region after last week's drier, milder weather. A slow-moving Mediterranean storm and its attendant cold front produced showers and thunderstorms (10-50 mm) from western Turkey into Iraq and western Iran, boosting soil moisture for vegetative (north) to reproductive (south) winter wheat and barley. However, the rain slowed cotton planting, particularly in western Turkey where weekly totals were highest. Despite the widespread rainfall, key wheat areas of southeastern Turkey were dry, although soil moisture remained favorable following a wetter-than-normal winter. Temperatures averaged 1 to 4°C above normal, accelerating crop development after a colder-than-normal March.



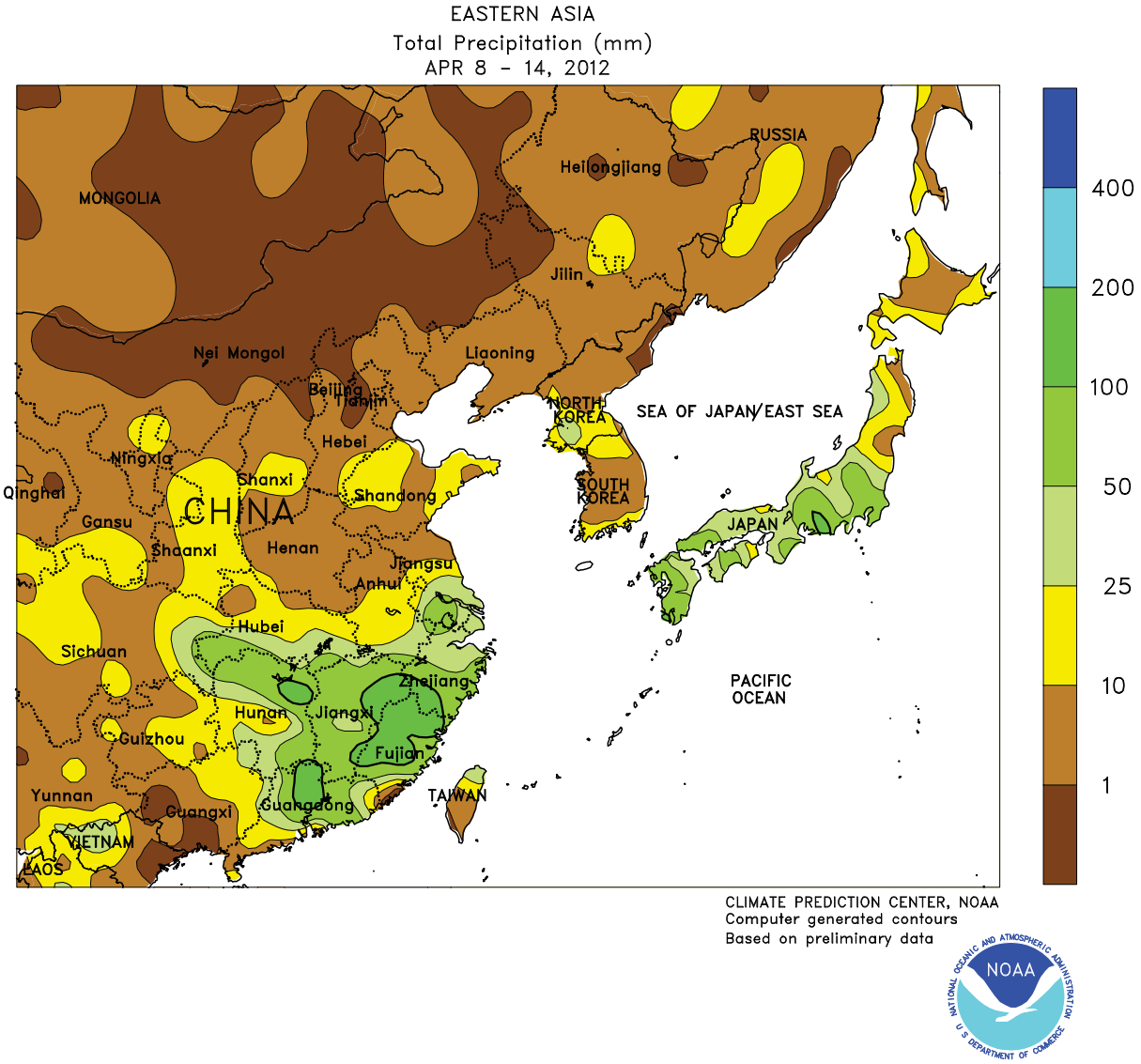
NORTHWESTERN AFRICA

Rain intensified over most growing areas, improving prospects for reproductive to filling winter grains. For the second consecutive week, moderate to heavy rain (10-50 mm) improved yield prospects for reproductive wheat in northern Morocco but was mostly too late for filling winter grains in the south. Farther east, widespread showers (10-20 mm) favored reproductive winter grains in Algeria and Tunisia, although locally excessive rainfall (100-130 mm) in north-central Algeria likely flooded low-lying fields. Temperatures averaged within 2°C of normal, with no excessive heat reported.



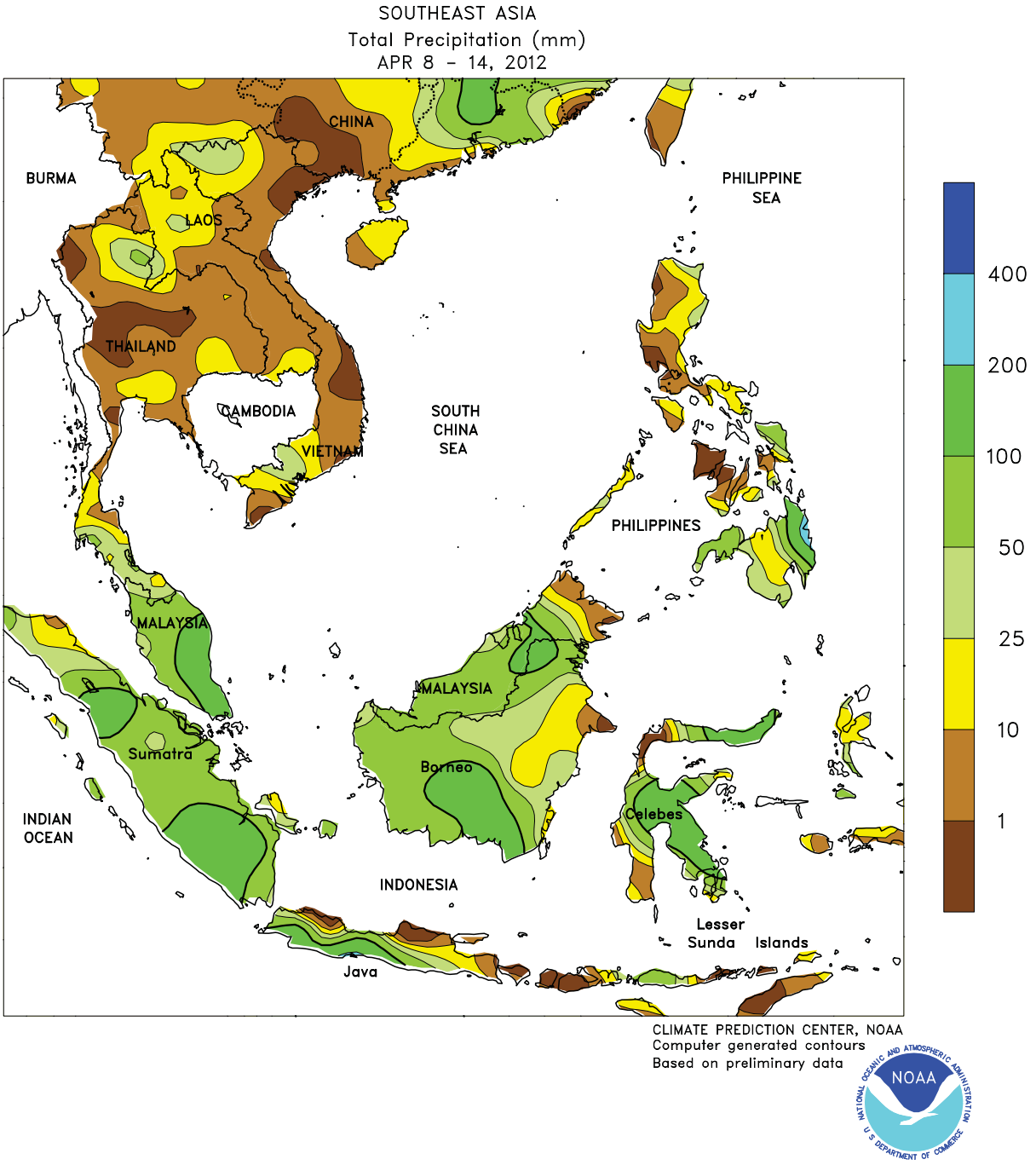
SOUTH ASIA

Hot weather continued across the region, with weekly maximum temperatures in the low 40s (degrees C) being reported in nearly all Indian states and into southeastern Pakistan. The heat spawned more localized thunderstorms in India and Pakistan with totals ranging between 10 and 25 mm. Seasonably heavy showers (40-75 mm) persisted in Assam, India, while above-normal rainfall (40-50 mm) continued in eastern Orissa and into southern West Bengal. Rainfall totals in Bangladesh surpassed 100 mm for the week, aiding the mid-season rice crop. In northern India, light showers (10-20 mm) alleviated some of the heat and kept weekly average temperatures below 30°C, benefiting emerging cotton.



EASTERN ASIA

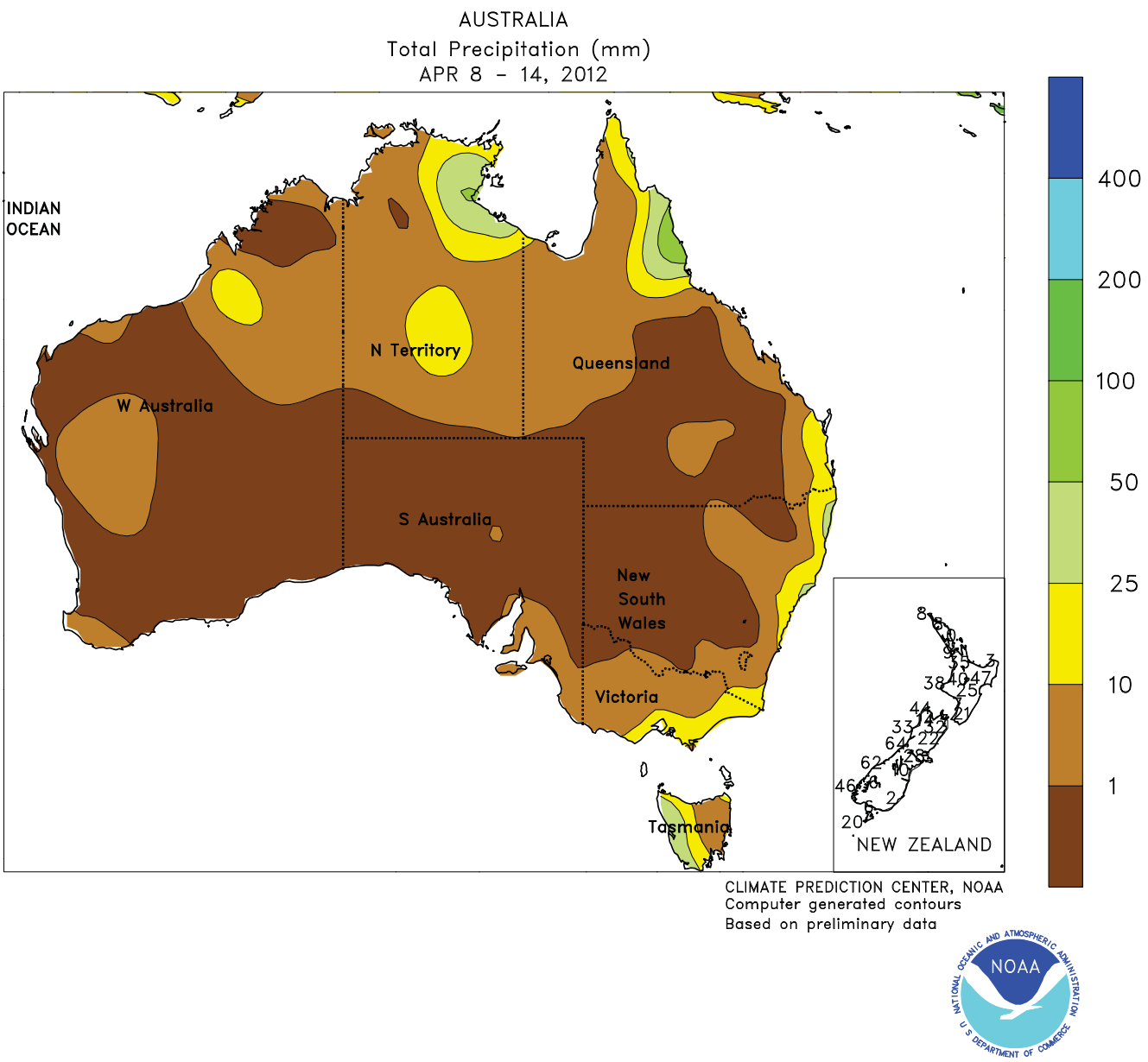
Showers flared along the monsoon boundary in eastern China, bringing beneficial moisture to most crops. The monsoon boundary – oriented along the Yangtze Valley – allowed rainfall (5-20 mm) to move onto the North China Plain and in particular western Shandong, boosting moisture supplies for winter wheat entering reproduction. Heavier showers (25-40 mm) eased short-term dryness in eastern Sichuan, while rainfall amounts approaching 100 mm favored immature winter rapeseed farther east. The highest rainfall totals occurred south of the boundary where 50 to 150 mm maintained good moisture conditions for rice nearing reproduction between the Xi and Yangtze Rivers. Meanwhile, weekly average temperatures continued to be ideal for crop development, with temperatures in the low 20s (degrees C) in the south and upper teens from the Yangtze Valley to the North China Plain.



SOUTHEAST ASIA

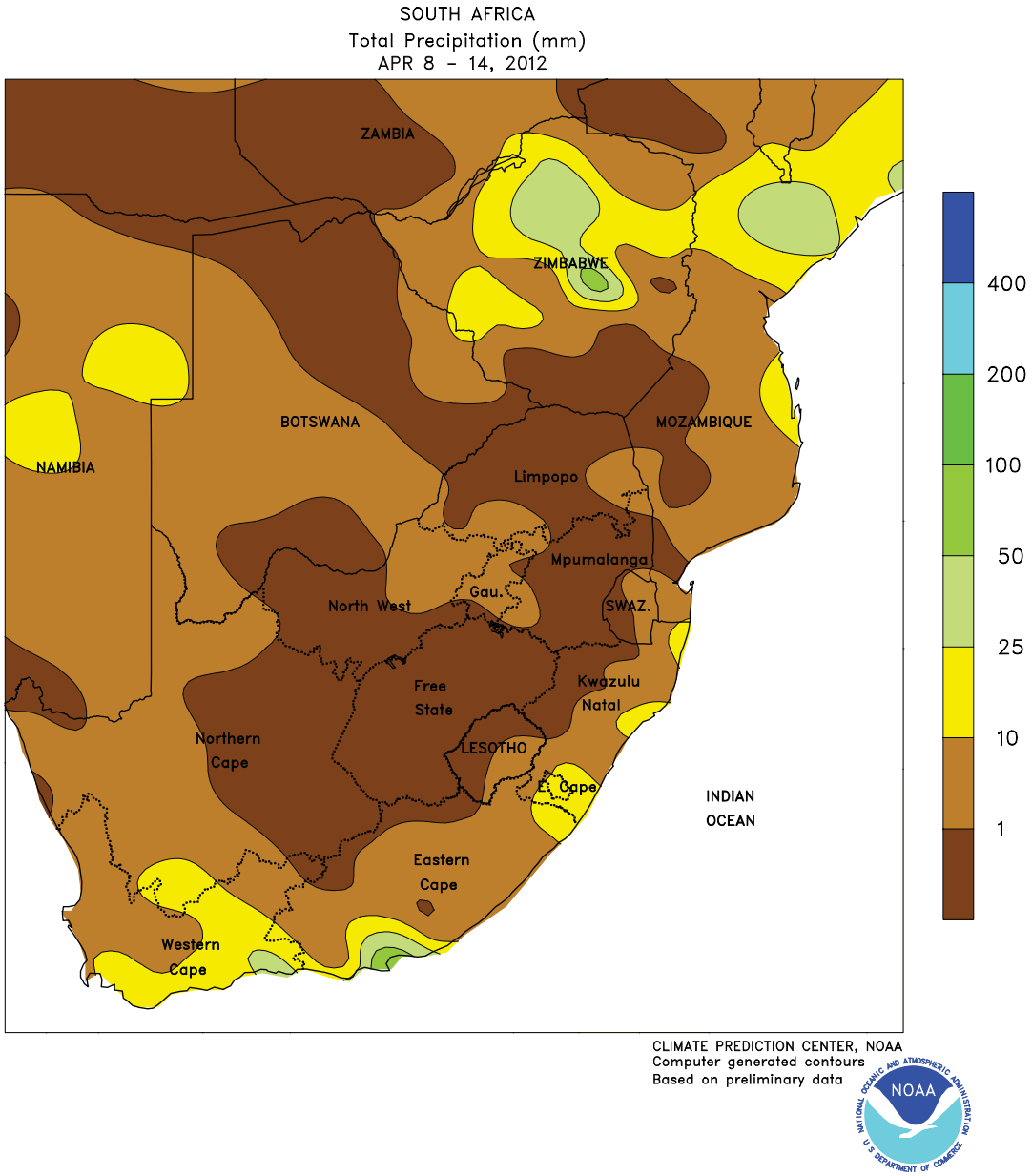
Seasonably drier weather returned to Indochina, with rainfall (25-35 mm) predominantly confined to southern Vietnam. Spring rice harvesting was nearing completion in southern Vietnam with summer rice transplanting underway. In northern Vietnam, moisture supplies remained adequate for vegetative spring rice although more rain would be welcomed. Showers diminished across much of the Philippines as the heaviest amounts occurred in Mindanao. Rainfall amounts between 10 and 35 mm maintained abundant moisture supplies for rice and corn going into the second quarter of the year, while rainfall totals in Mindanao varied greatly from 25 mm in central areas to nearly 300 mm along the eastern coast. In Malaysia and Indonesia, seasonal showers (50-150 mm) maintained adequate to abundant soil moisture for oil palm. In Java, Indonesia, heavy rain (over 150 mm) in minor rice production zones of the west caused harvest delays, with generally drier weather aiding harvest across the remainder of Java.

For additional information contact: mbrusberg@oce.usda.gov



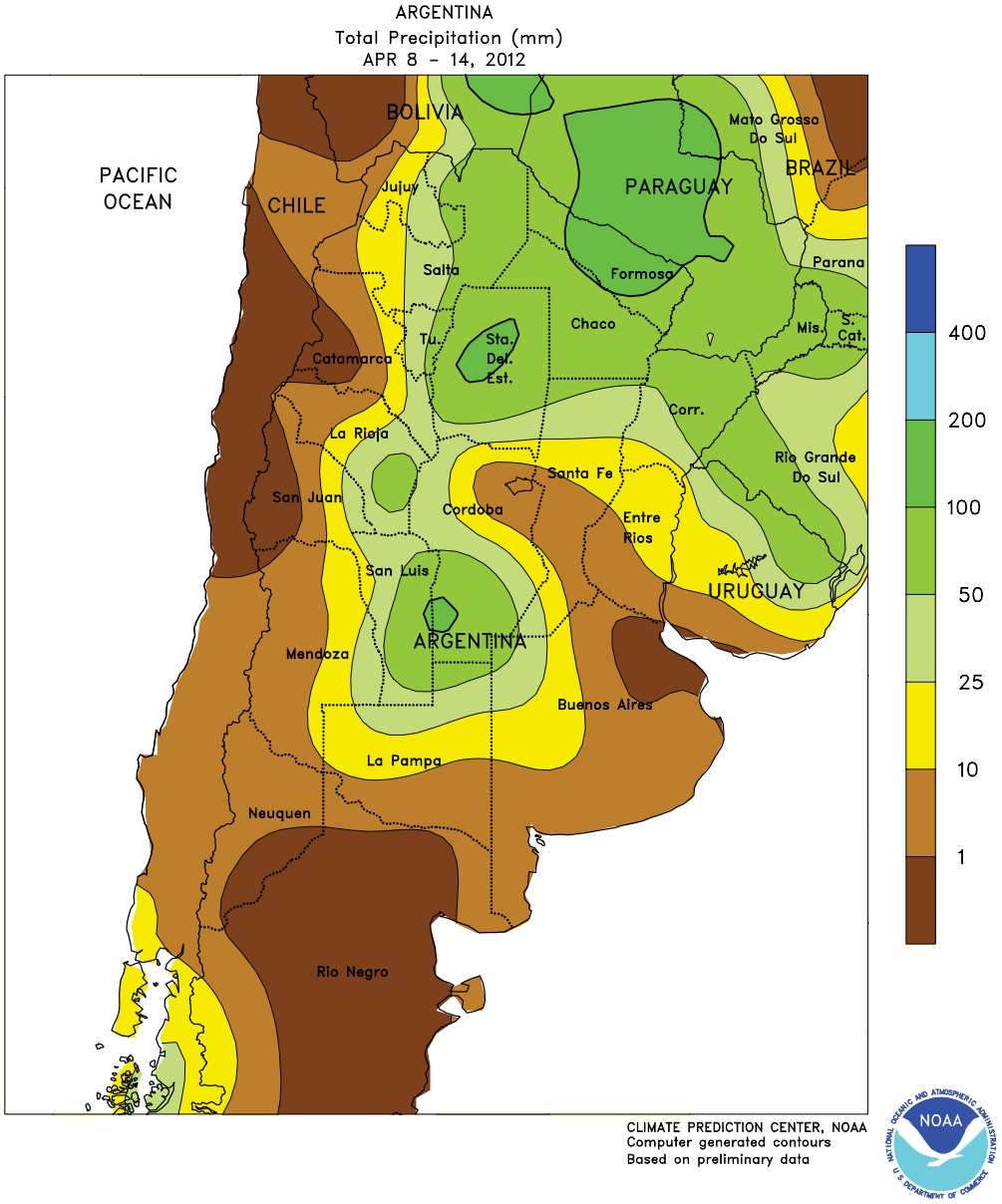
AUSTRALIA

Isolated showers (generally less than 5 mm) fell across southern Queensland and northern New South Wales. The mostly dry weather favored summer crop maturation and harvesting, but cooler-than-normal air likely slowed crop development. Temperatures averaged about 1 to 3°C below normal in most major summer crop producing areas.



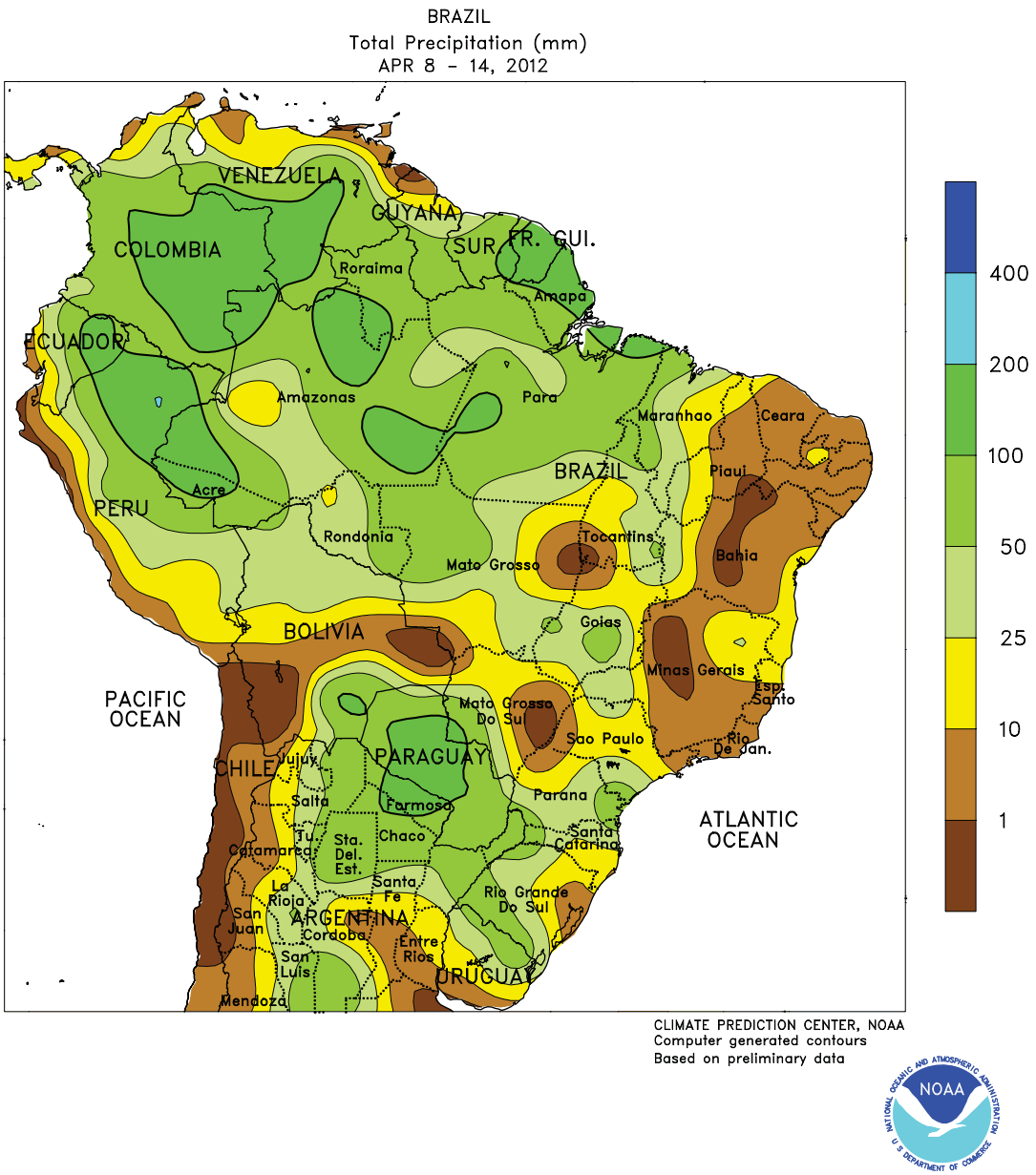
SOUTH AFRICA

For a second consecutive week, cool, dry weather slowed growth of maturing summer crops across the corn belt and in other prominent agricultural areas in central and eastern parts of the country. Weekly average temperatures were 1 to 3°C below normal throughout the region, with temperatures briefly approaching, or dropping just below, 0°C in major corn production areas in Free State. Throughout the corn belt, highs generally stayed in the middle and upper 20s (degrees C) for the remainder of the week. The unusually early freeze raised concern for potential damage to late-planted corn in the affected areas. Meanwhile, farming districts in and around the corn belt recorded virtually no rain, keeping topsoils unfavorably dry for winter wheat establishment. Cool, mostly dry weather also dominated KwaZulu-Natal, although temperatures stayed well above freezing and infrequent light rain (5-25 mm) allowed some harvesting. Similar conditions prevailed farther west, slowing maturation and late development of corn, cotton, and other summer row crops in Northern and Eastern Cape Provinces. In contrast, warm, dry weather aided winter wheat planting in Western Cape.



ARGENTINA

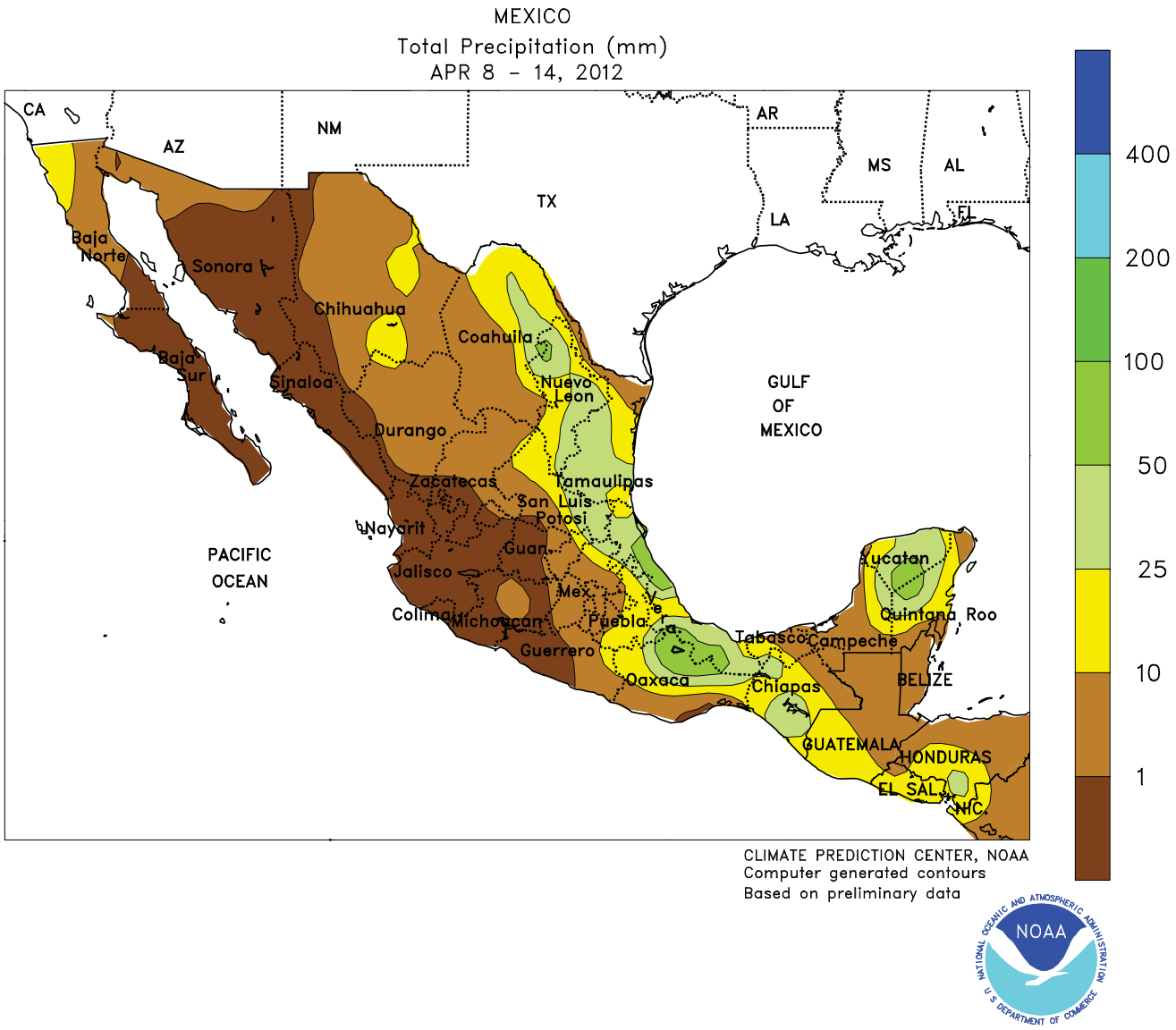
Unseasonably warm weather continued throughout the region, hastening maturation of summer grains, oilseeds, and cotton. Weekly average temperatures were 2 to 4°C above normal, with daytime highs reaching the lower 30s (degrees C) in many western and northern farming areas. Lows stayed well above freezing. In central Argentina, locally heavy showers (10-50 mm or more) concentrated over southern Cordoba hampered corn and soybean harvesting; otherwise, mostly dry weather aided seasonal fieldwork. Rainfall was more widespread farther north, with amounts of 25 to 50 mm or more over a broad region from Salta and Santiago del Estero eastward through Corrientes and Misiones. This area included most major cotton production areas of Chaco, northern Santa Fe, and Formosa, making the rainfall untimely for maturing cotton. According to Argentina's Ministry of Agriculture, sunflowers were 98 percent harvested as of April 12, on par with last season. Corn was 33 percent harvested, down 5 points from last year. Soybean harvesting was also 5 points down from last year at 29 percent complete.



BRAZIL

Pockets of dryness persisted in parts of the south, keeping moisture supplies limited for secondary (safrinha) corn. For a second week, rainfall totaled below 10 mm in an area encompassing northern Parana, eastern Mato Grosso do Sul, and western Sao Paulo. Heavier rain (25-50 mm or more) fell from southern Parana southward through Rio Grande do Sul. Weekly average temperatures were about 2 to 4° above normal, with highs in excess of 30°C on most days during the week. Consequently, temperatures throughout the south stayed well above freezing. Farther north, patchy showers (10-50 mm or more) provided local relief from dryness to safrinha corn and cotton in western Bahia and Tocantins, but the Center-West Region (Mato Grosso Goias, and northern Mato Grosso) continued to experience pockets of dryness. Additional rainfall would be welcome throughout central Brazil and the northeastern interior before the onset of the winter dry season, which typically occurs in late April or early May. Meanwhile, seasonably drier conditions continued along the northeastern coast, enabling late harvesting of sugarcane and cocoa.

For additional information contact: mbrusberg@oce.usda.gov

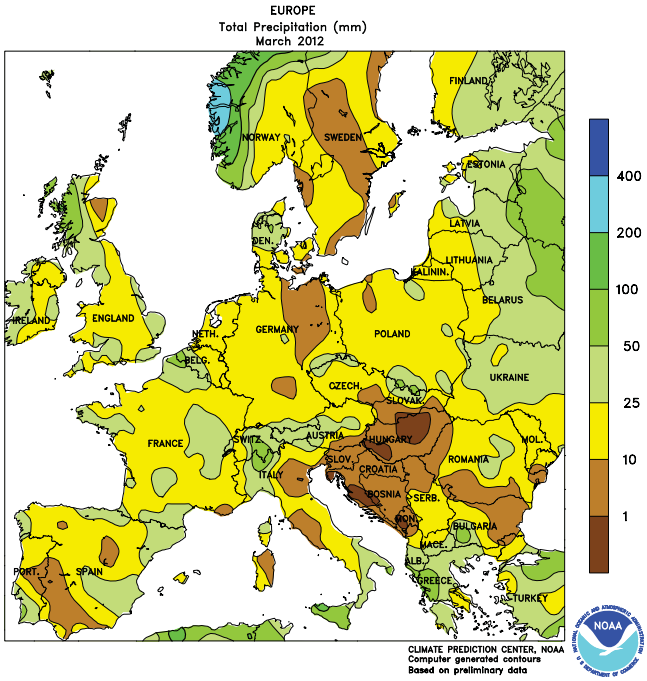


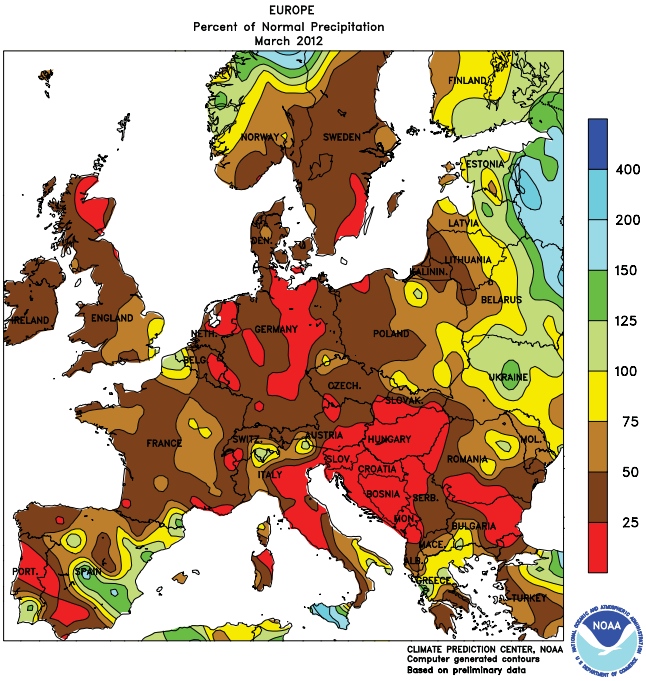
MEXICO

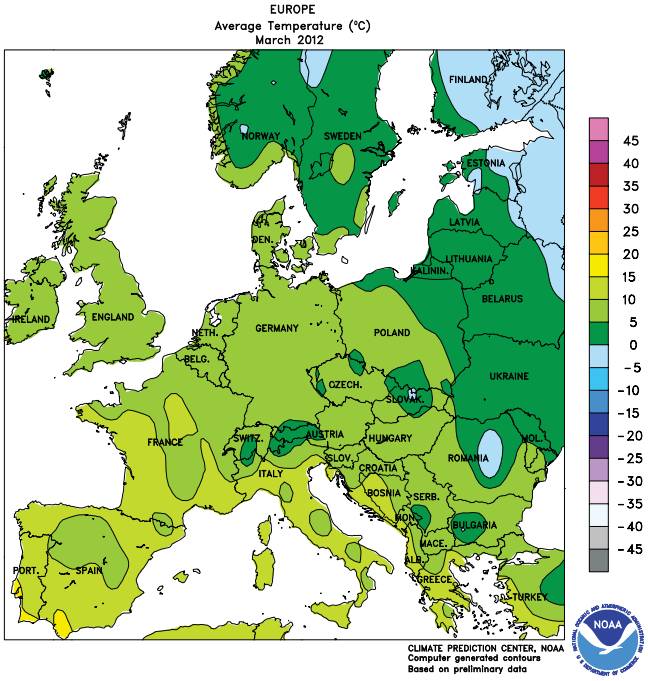
Seasonal showers continued along the Gulf Coast, increasing moisture for sugarcane, corn, and other summer crops in their early developmental stages. Rainfall totaled 5 to 25 mm or more in key sugar production areas of Veracruz and in neighboring locations of Oaxaca and San Luis Potosi. Light rain (5-25 mm) also continued in eastern sections of the southern plateau, where corn planting was likely underway. Similar amounts of rain were scattered across the northeast (notably Tamaulipas) and the Yucatan Peninsula, but drier conditions prevailed along the southern Pacific Coast. Throughout eastern Mexico, near to above normal temperatures (daytime highs reaching the lower and middle 30s degrees C) maintained high evaporative losses. Seasonably dry weather continued in western sections of the southern plateau, where farmers await the onset of the summer rainy season before planting can begin. Light showers (generally below 10 mm) boosted moisture for immature winter wheat in northern Baja California but mostly dry, seasonably warm weather prevailed elsewhere, advancing development of irrigated winter crops. Scattered showers (locally in excess of 10 mm) developed over north-central Mexico, but temperatures averaging more than 3°C above normal (highs in the lower and middle 30s) maintained high moisture requirements of livestock and predominantly irrigated crops such as cotton.

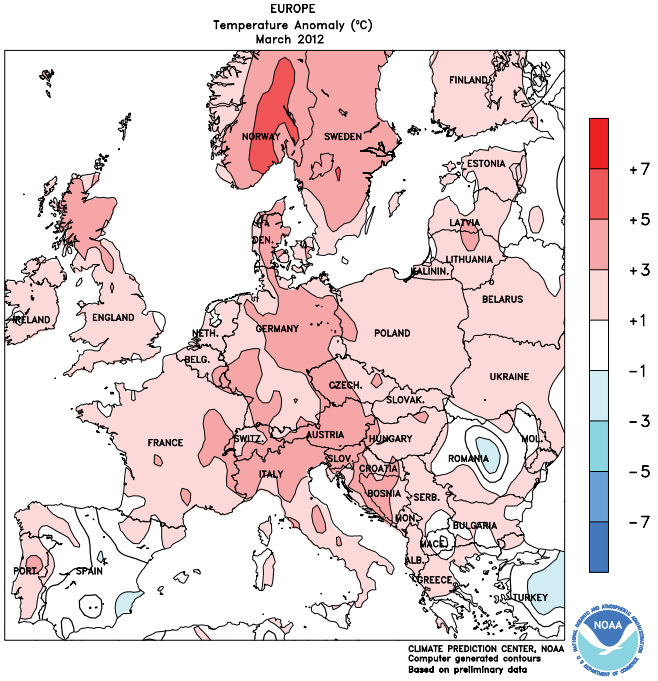
For additional information contact: mbrusberg@oce.usda.gov

March International Temperature and Precipitation Maps



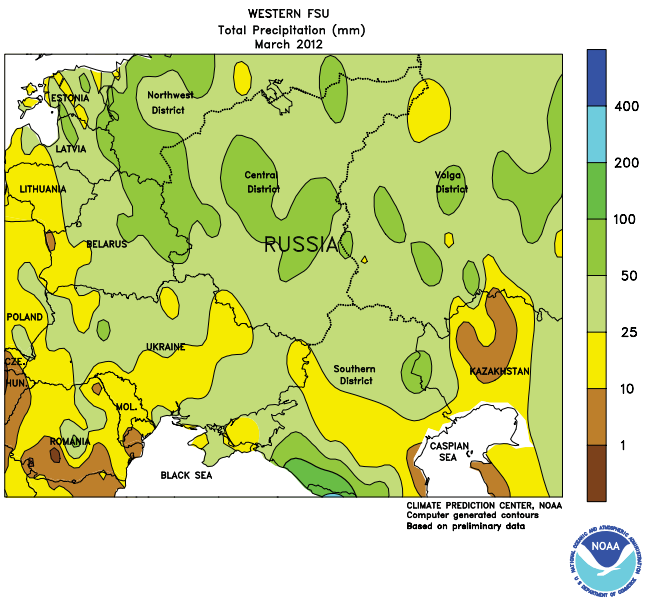


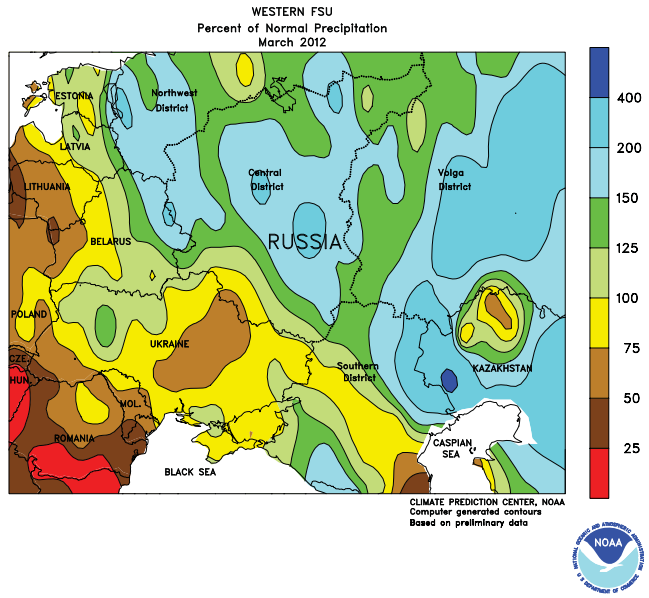


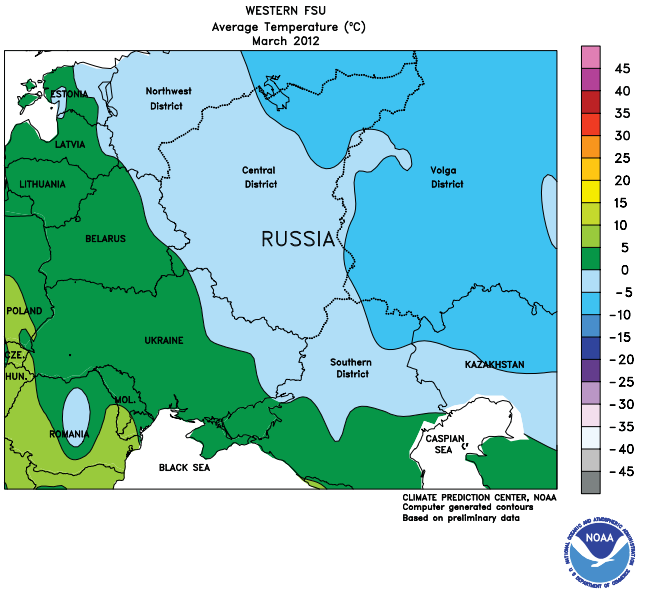


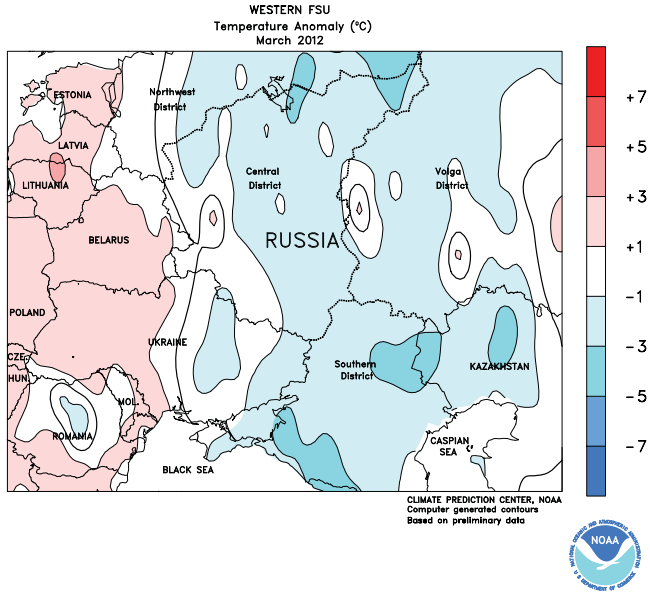
EUROPE

An abnormally dry, warm March accelerated crop development but reduced soil moisture for winter grains and oilseeds across most of Europe. In northern growing areas, soil moisture reserves were mostly in good supply for greening winter crops following a favorably wet winter. However, short-term dryness (March rainfall locally less than 30 percent of normal) has heightened the need for rain from France and Germany into the Balkans. Drought persisted on the Iberian Peninsula, although late-month showers (10-30 mm) provided some moisture for reproductive wheat and barley. Temperatures averaged 2 to 4°C above normal across Europe, promoting crop development in the west and easing winter wheat and rapeseed out of dormancy in the northeast.



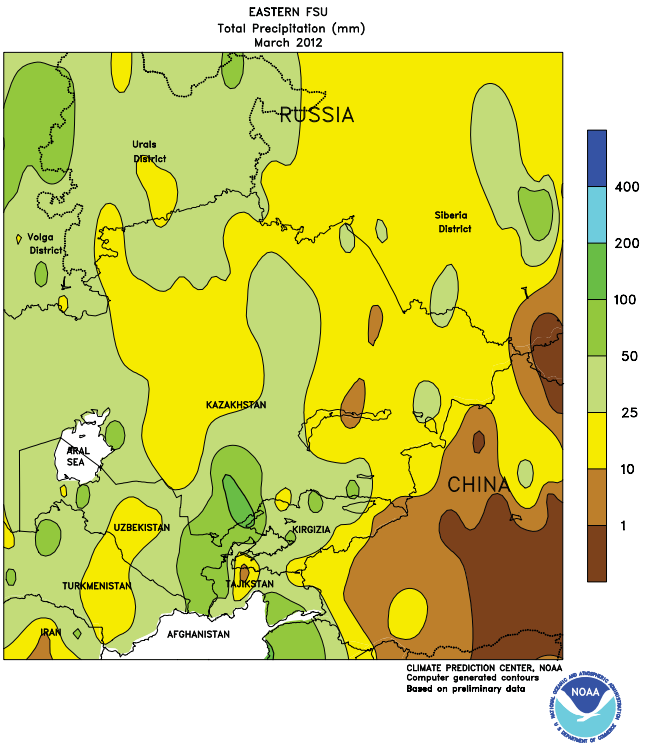


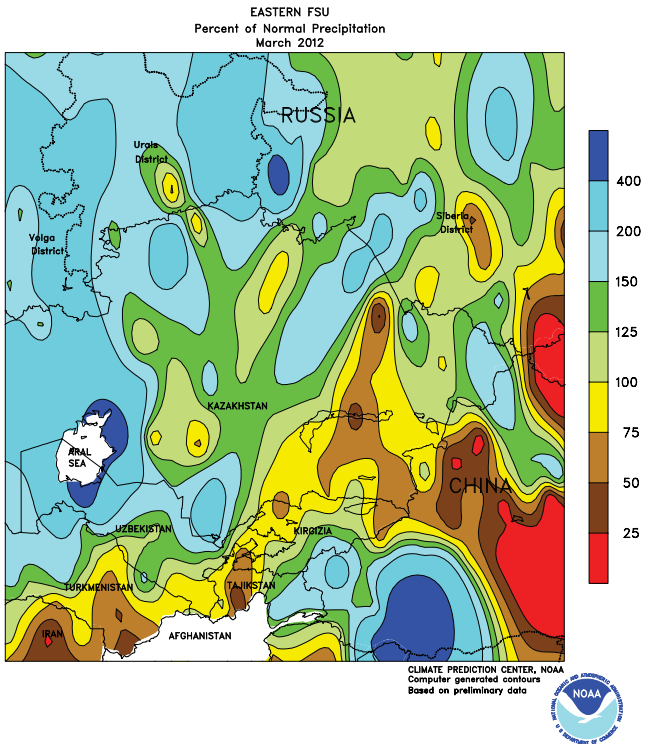


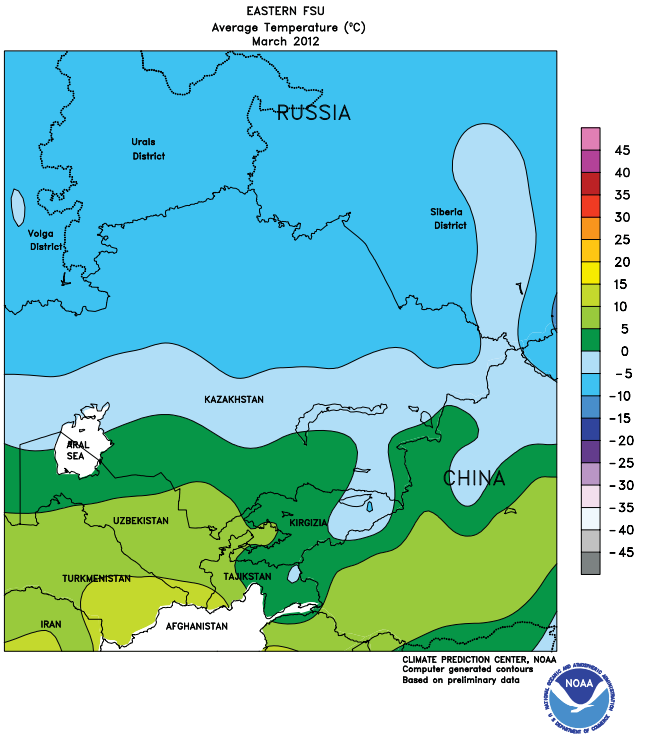


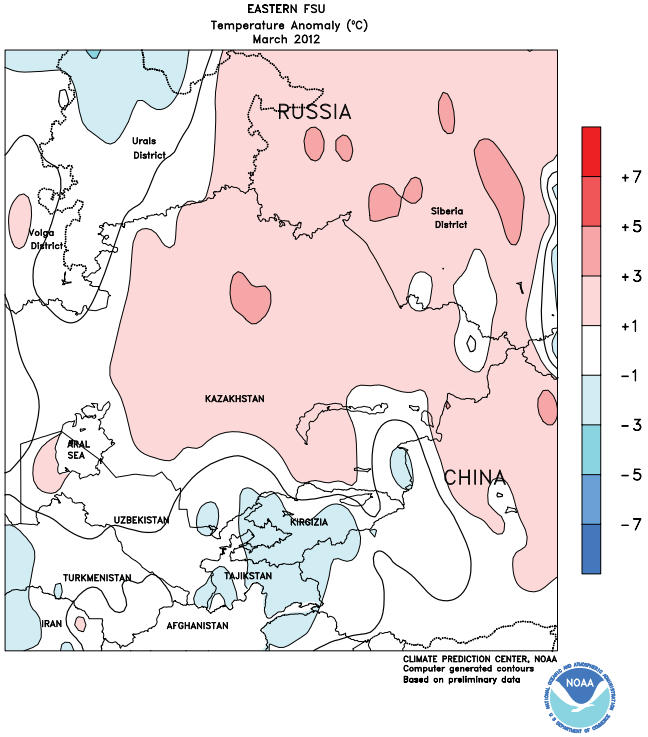
WESTERN FSU

In March, cold, snowy weather kept much of the region under a moderate to deep snowpack. However, warmer conditions during the latter half of the month melted most of the snow cover in Belarus, Ukraine, and southern Russia, and eased winter grains out of dormancy in southern- and western-most growing areas. Soil moisture was in good supply for spring growth in most primary winter grain and oilseed areas due to a wetter-than-normal winter and early spring.



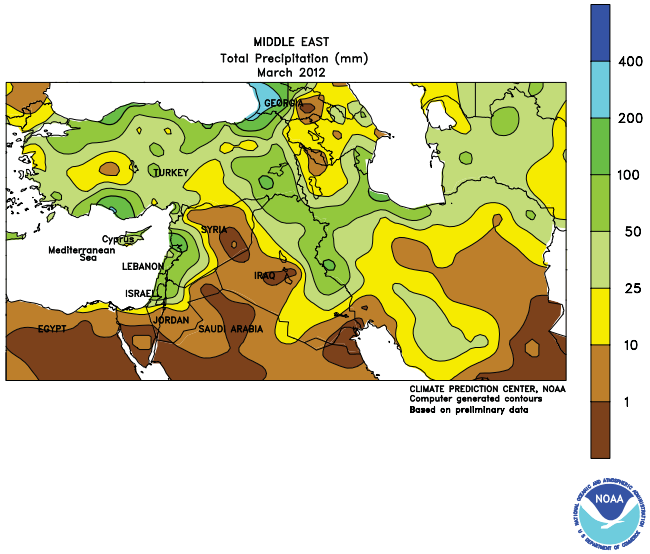


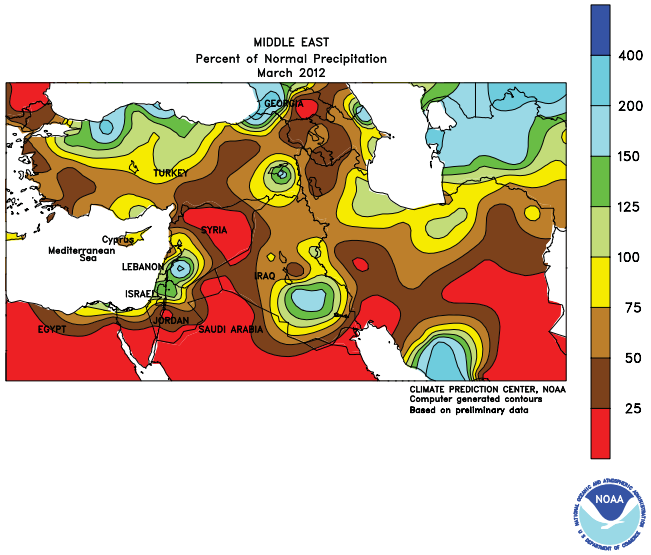


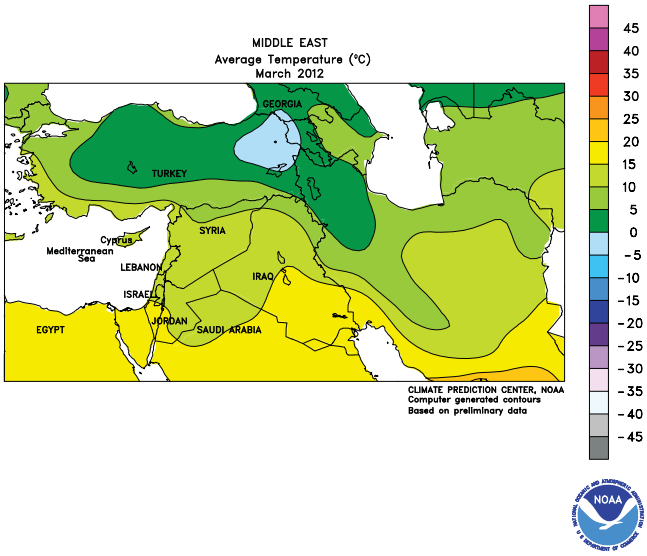


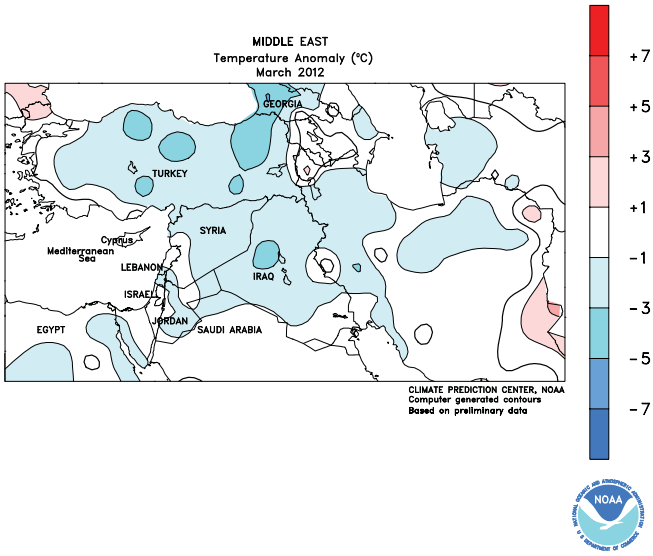
EASTERN FSU

In March, warmer- and wetter-than-normal weather arrived over Kazakhstan and Russia. After a bitterly cold winter, March temperatures averaged up to 3°C above normal, rapidly melting the region's snowpack. Precipitation totaled 10 to 30 mm, well above seasonal norms. By month's end, increasingly mild conditions (highs eclipsing 5°C) promoted early field preparations in eastern Kazakhstan and Russia's Siberia District. Meanwhile, locally heavy showers and thunderstorms (15-120 mm) in the south boosted irrigation reserves for cotton planting.



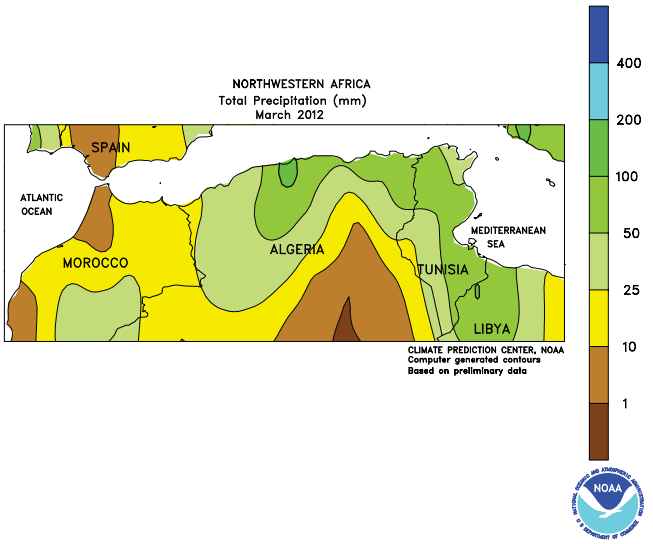


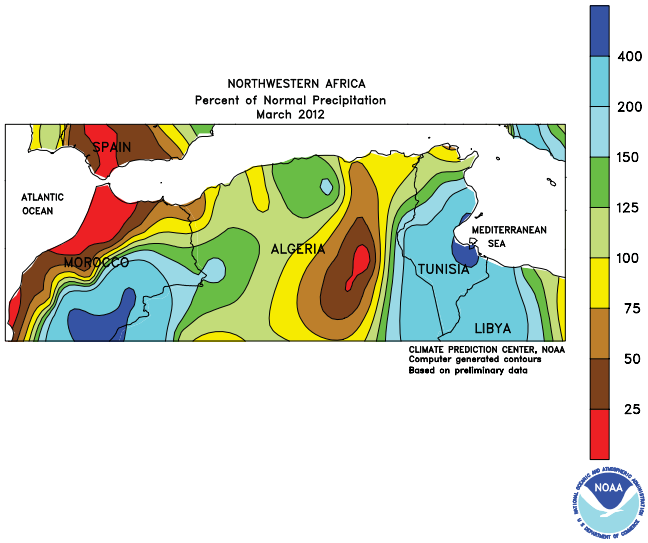


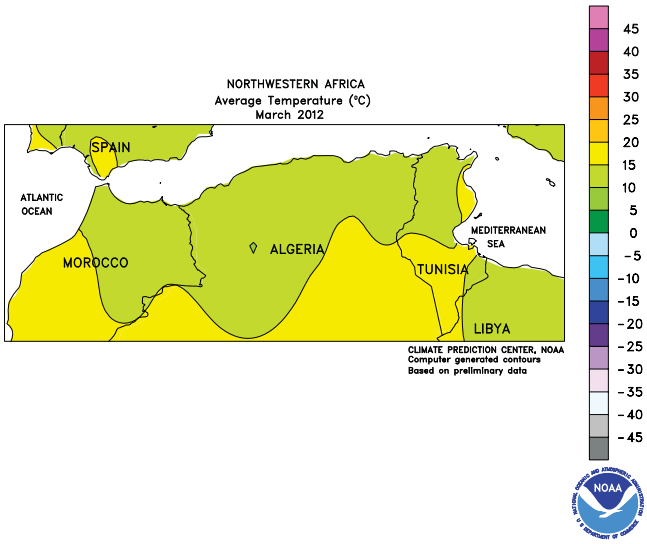


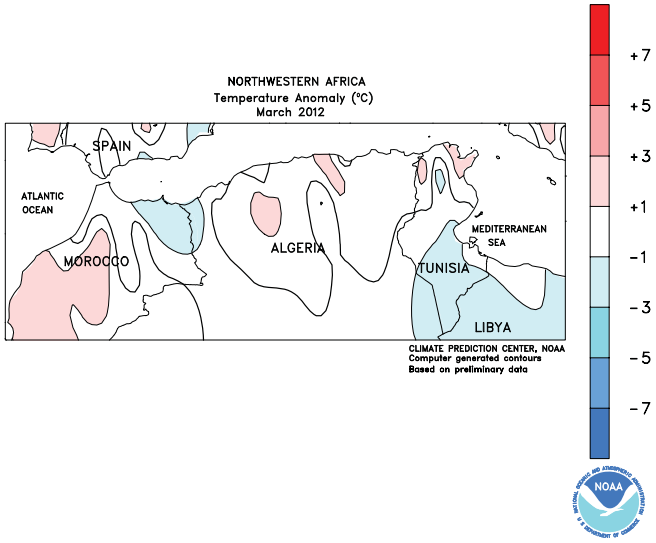
MIDDLE EAST

In March, widespread rain and snow maintained mostly favorable prospects for winter grains and oilseeds. Precipitation was especially welcomed in western Iran, where a drier-than-normal winter lowered moisture reserves for winter wheat and barley. Despite the widespread precipitation, pockets of dryness (locally less than 50 percent of normal) in southeastern Turkey and adjacent portions of northern and eastern Syria increased irrigation demands and lowered soil moisture for winter wheat. Below-normal temperatures slowed crop development, with snow cover slow to melt on Turkey's Anatolia Plateau. Winter grains broke dormancy at month's end in the north, and were reproductive across southern growing areas.



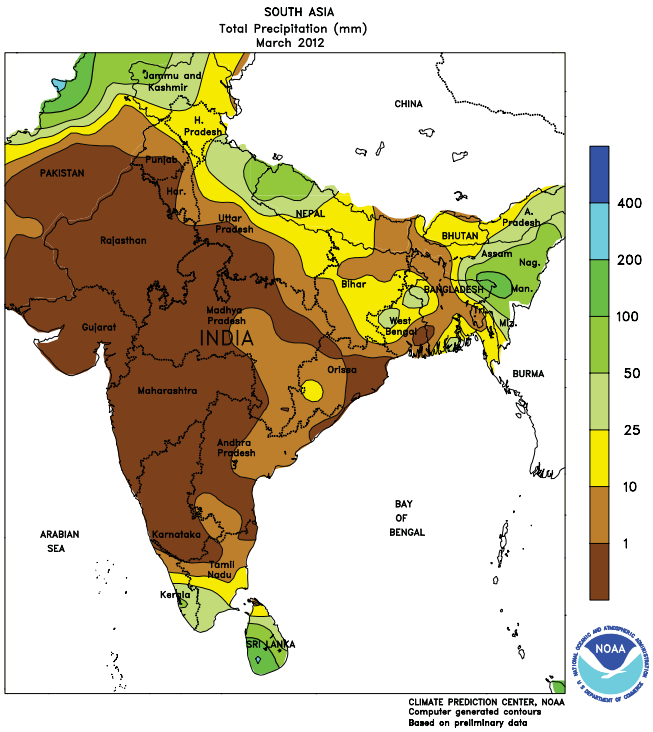


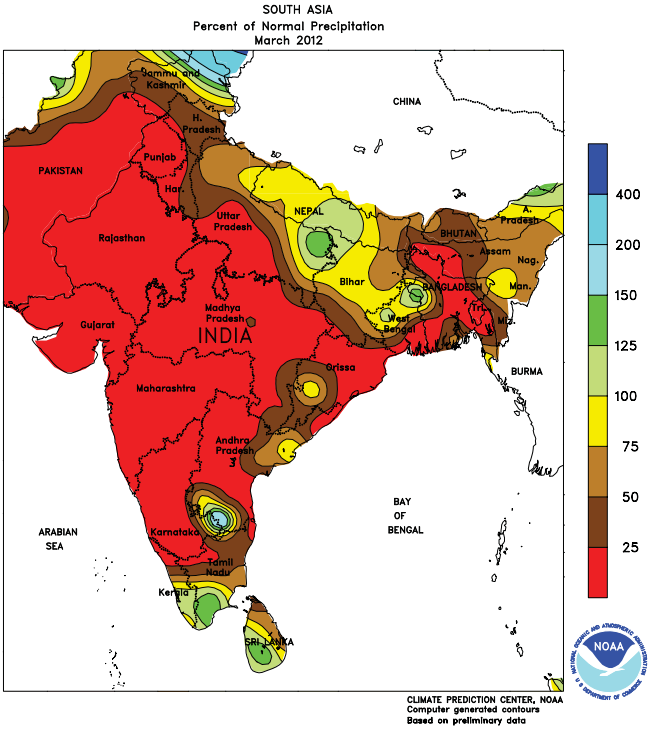


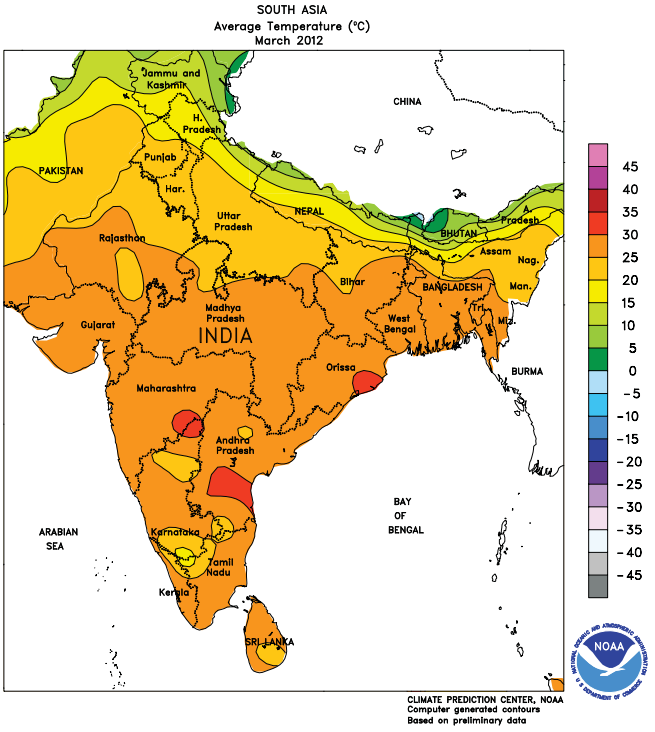


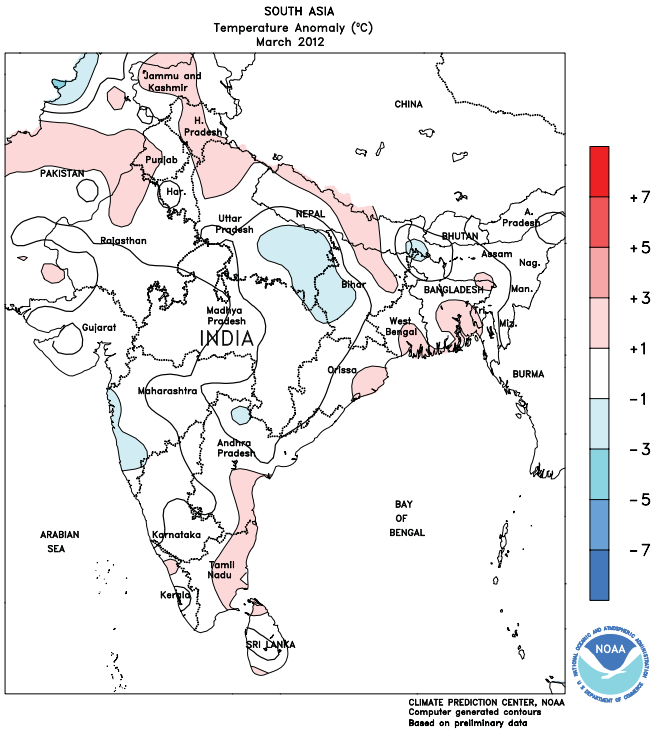
NORTHWESTERN AFRICA

During March, favorably wet weather in central and eastern crop districts contrasted with increasing short-term drought in Morocco. Widespread rain (50-125 mm) maintained favorable conditions for jointing to reproductive winter grains across Algeria and Tunisia. Unfavorably dry conditions – which developed early in the winter – persisted in Morocco, where a lack of March rainfall (10 mm or less) further reduced prospects for reproductive to filling wheat and barley.



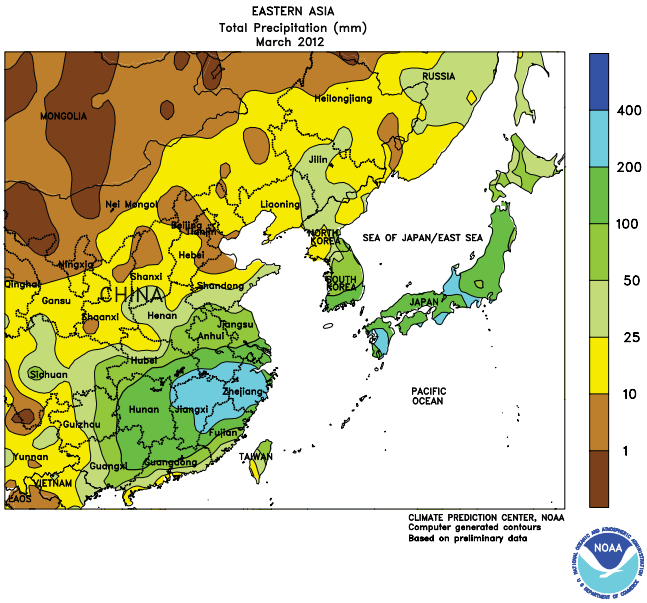


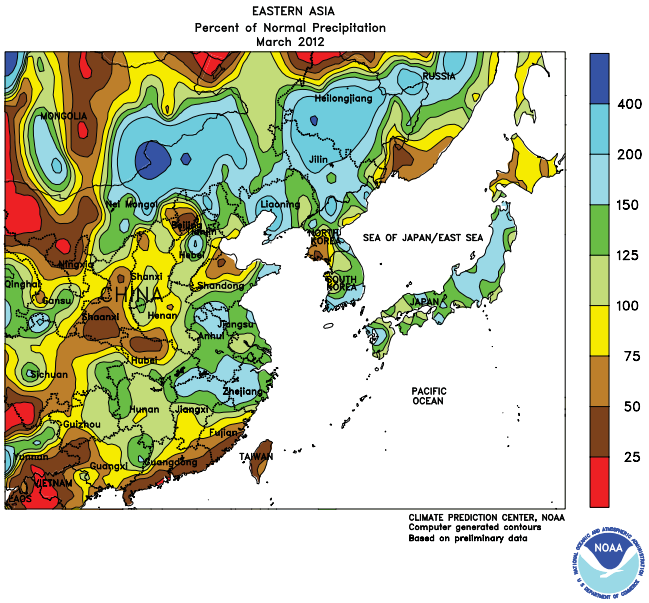


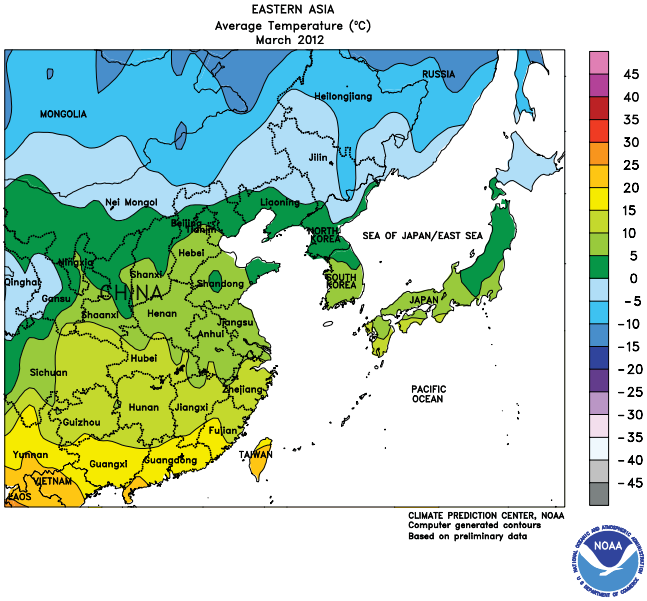


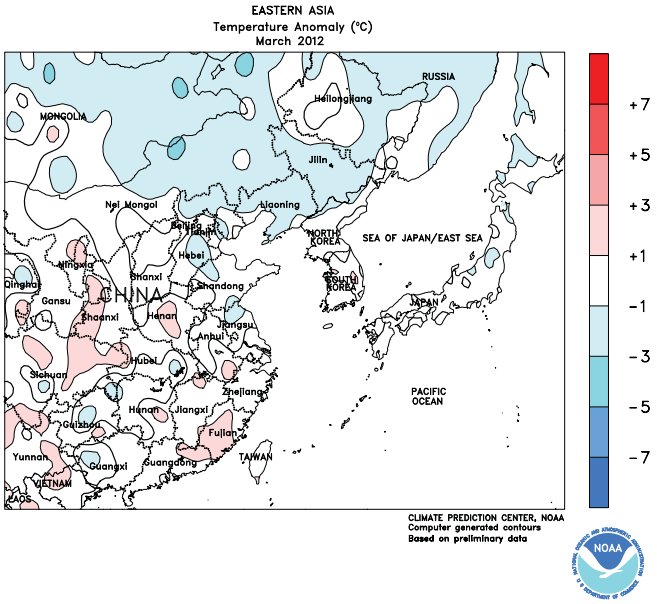
SOUTH ASIA

Heat began building in India during March. Winter rapeseed harvesting neared completion and winter wheat harvesting was well underway. Little or no precipitation fell during the month, favoring drydown and harvesting.



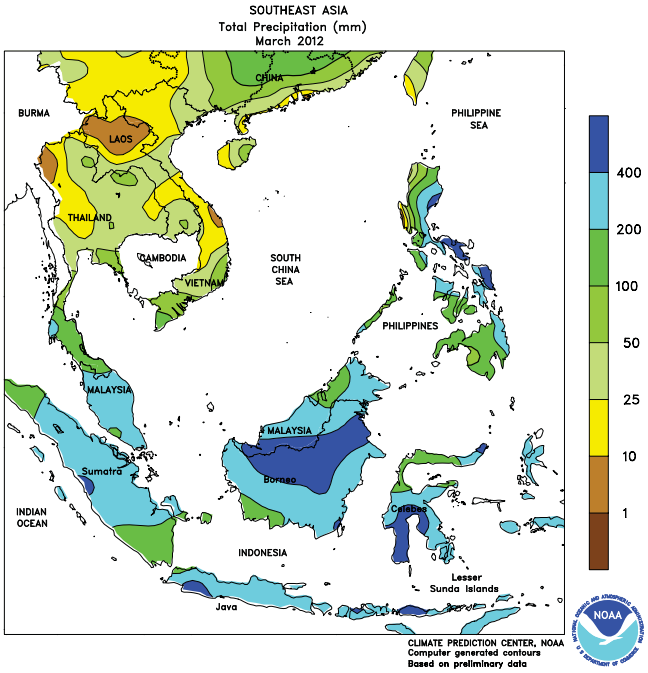


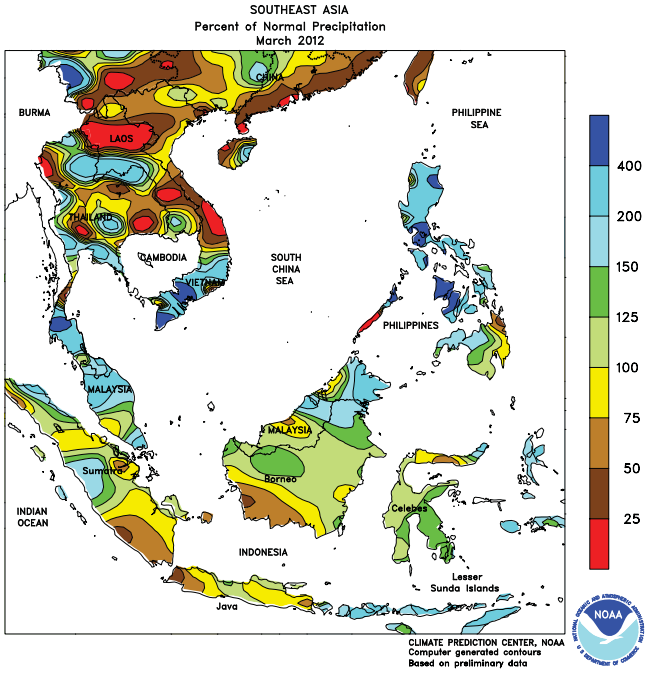


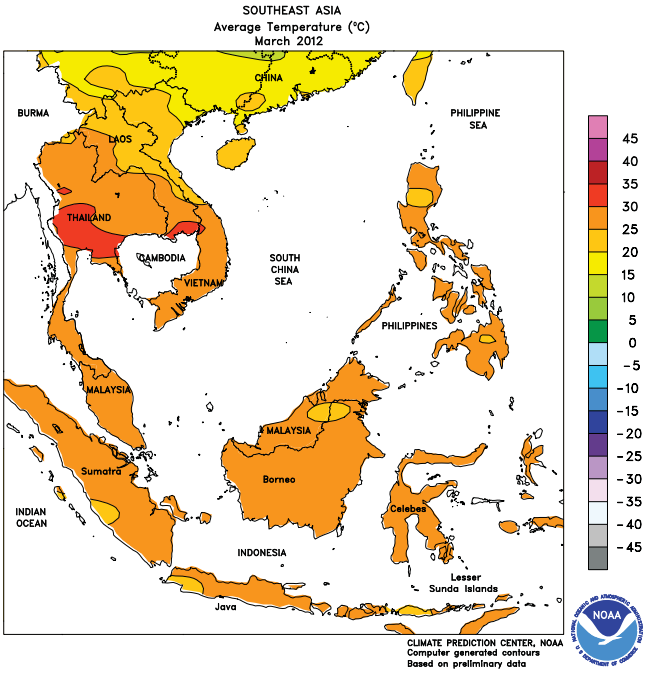


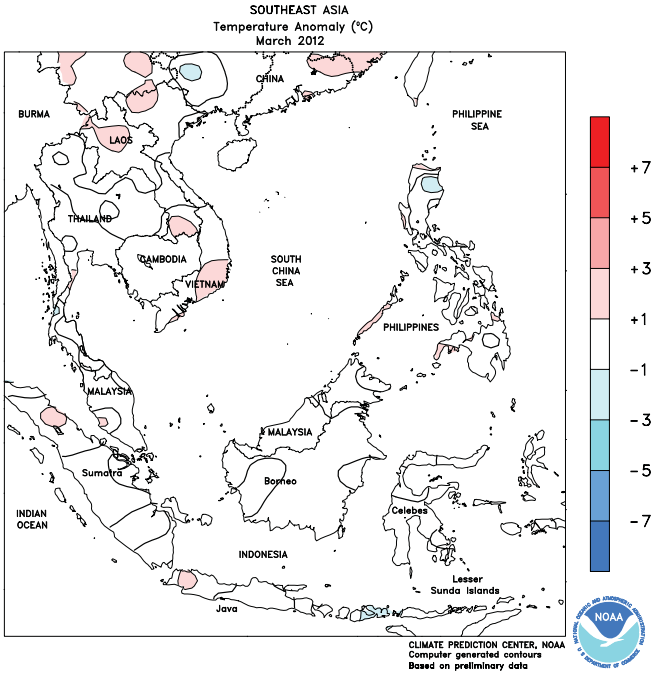
EASTERN ASIA

In March, vegetative winter crops benefited from near- to above-normal rainfall across the North China Plain and into the Yangtze Valley. Spring-sown rice and corn also benefited from near- to above-normal rainfall of 100 to over 200 mm in Sichuan and throughout much of the south. Below-normal monthly rainfall was confined to minor producing provinces in southwestern China. Seasonably cool weather also favored winter crop development, while warmer weather in spring crop areas aided establishment.



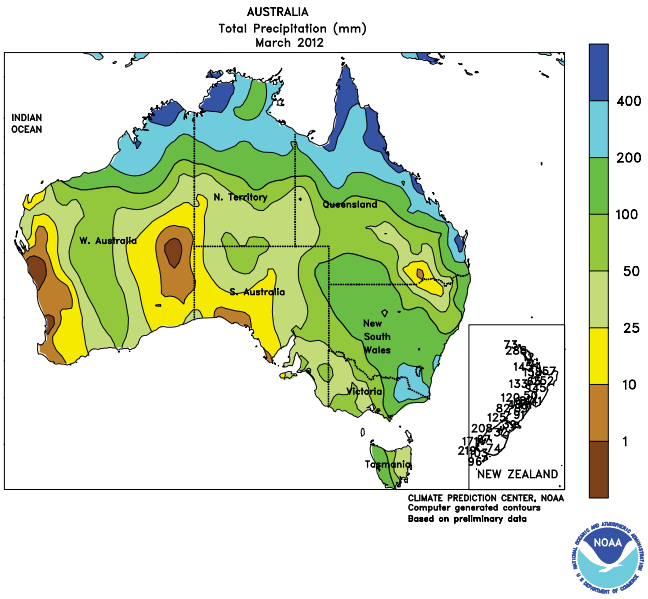


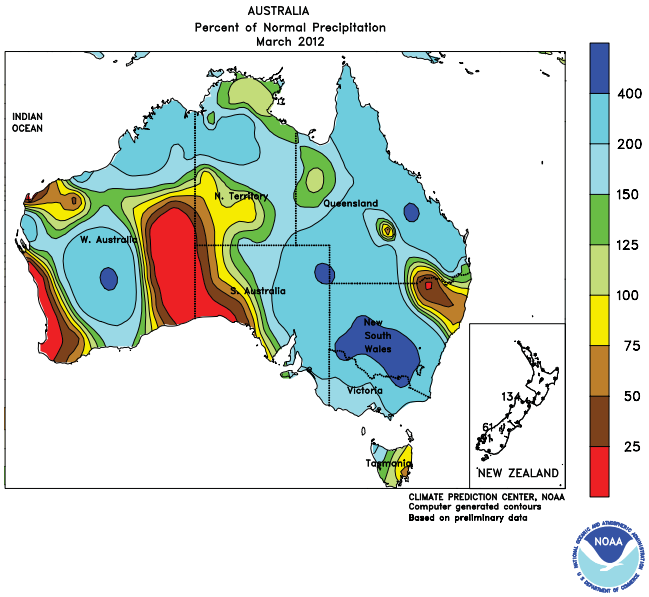


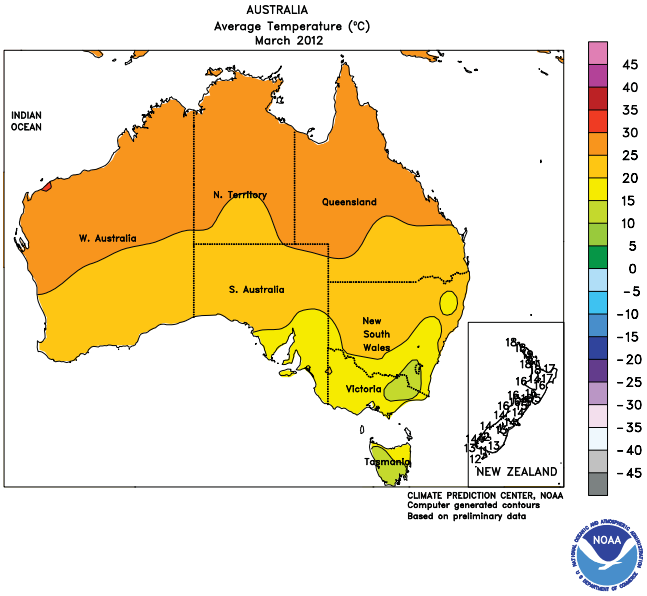


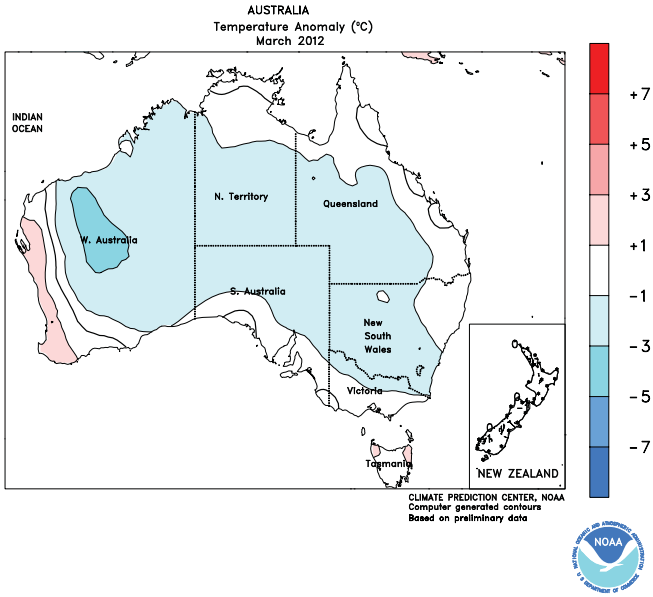
SOUTHEAST ASIA

Well-above-normal rainfall in the eastern Philippines maintained abundant to excessive soil moisture for rice and corn, while causing localized flooding in southern Luzon. An early season tropical cyclone made landfall in southern Vietnam at the end of March, bringing unseasonably heavy rains that delayed spring rice harvesting. Meanwhile, below-normal rainfall in Java, Indonesia, benefited rice harvesting.



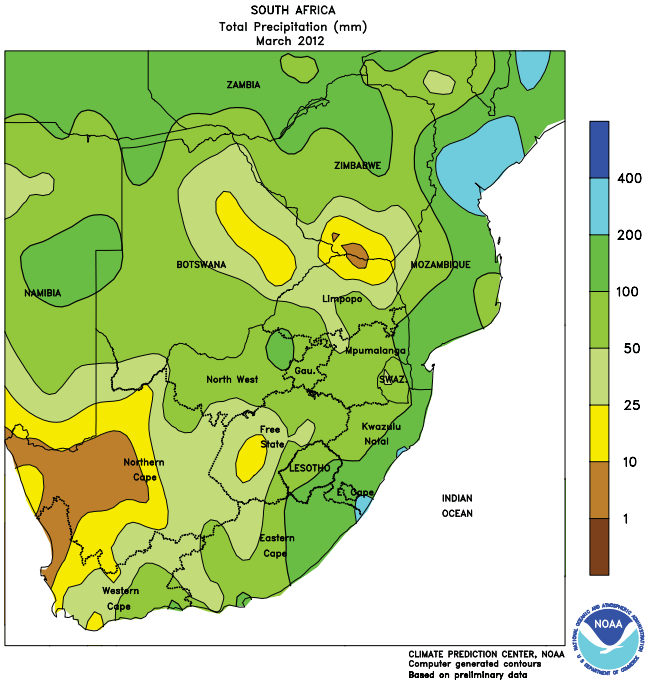


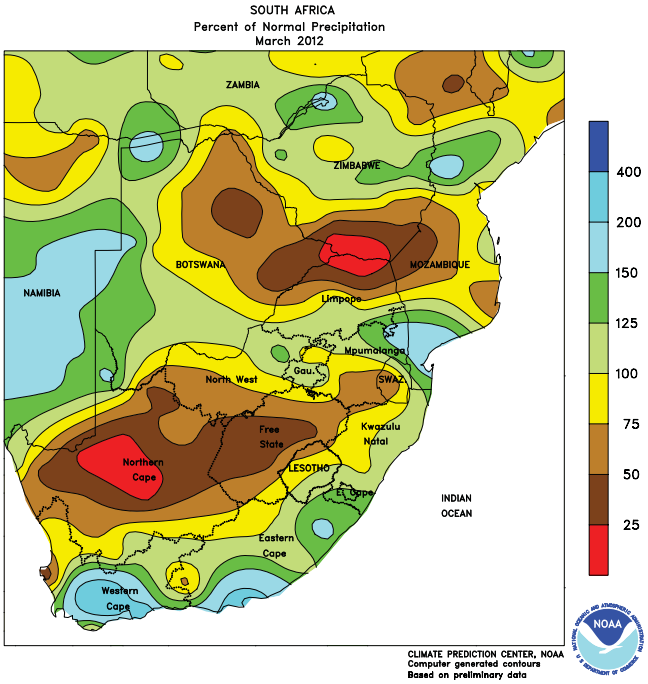


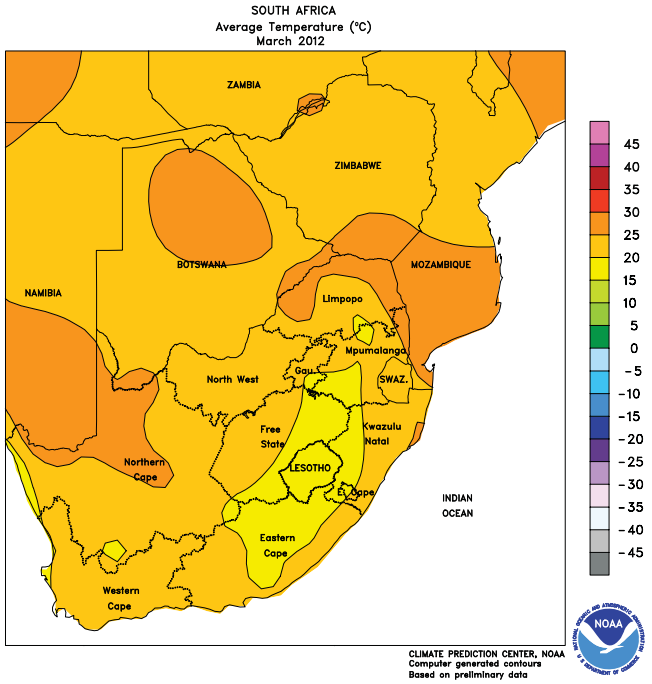


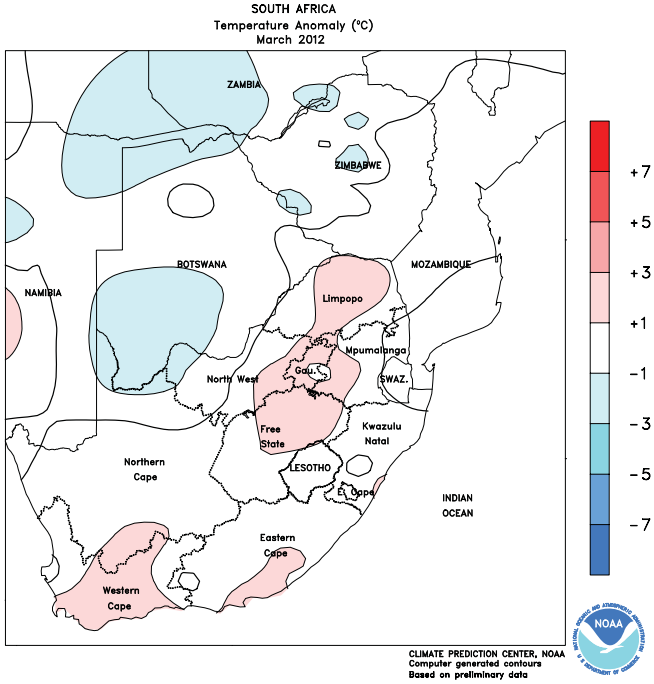
AUSTRALIA

In the wake of persistent wetness, near- to below-normal precipitation fell across southern Queensland and northern New South Wales in March. The drier weather aided summer crop drydown and harvesting, but unseasonably cool weather maintained a relatively slow pace for crop maturation.



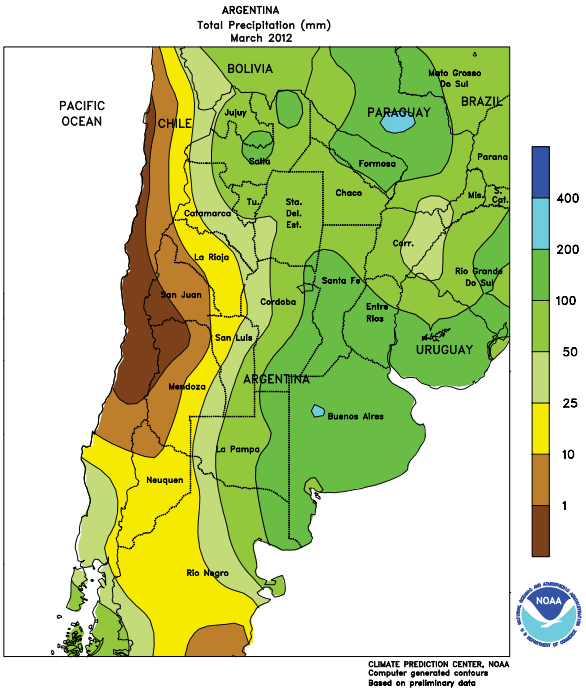


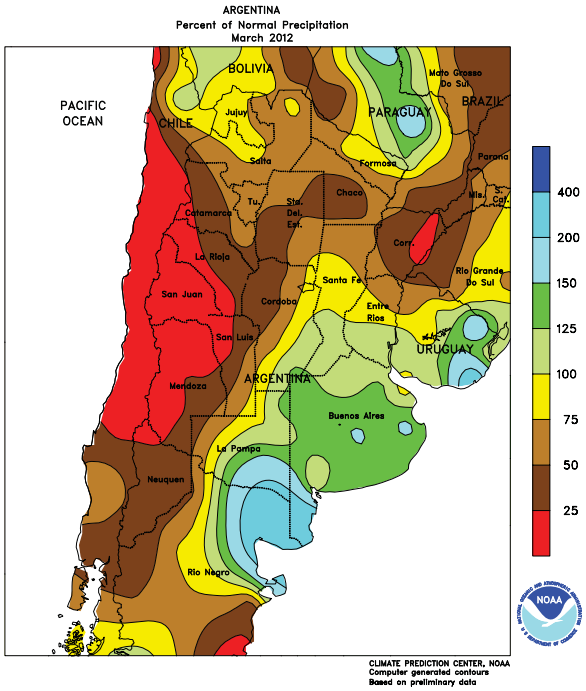


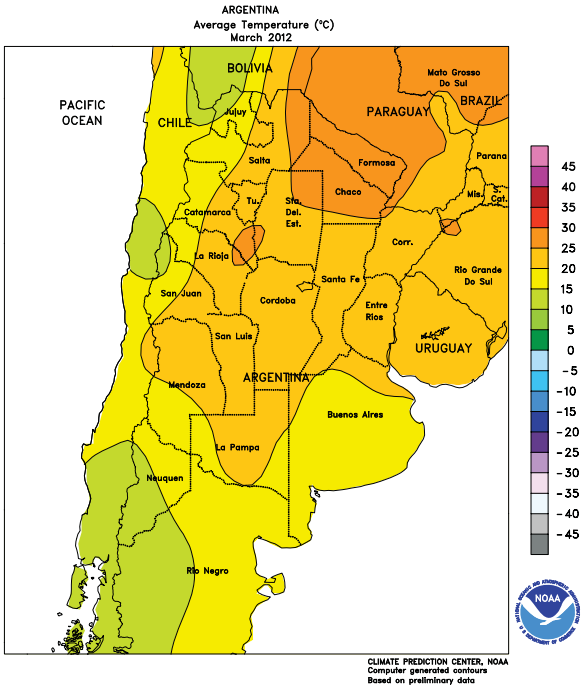


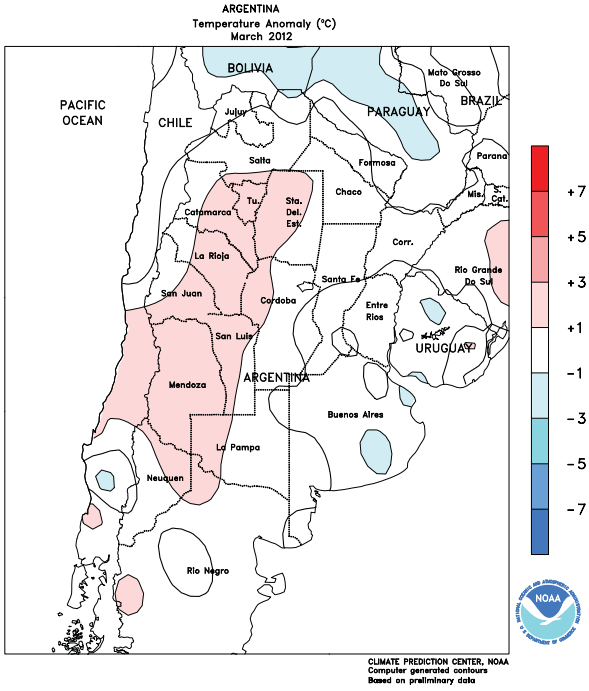
SOUTH AFRICA

A general pattern of unseasonable warmth and dryness persisted throughout much of March, maintaining overall unfavorable conditions for most rain-fed summer crops. Beneficial rain overspread the region at month's end, boosting moisture reserves for winter wheat but coming too late to significantly improve conditions of corn or sugarcane. The rain ushered cooler weather into the region but monthly temperatures still averaged more than 1°C above normal in parts of the corn belt, as daytime highs of 30°C or higher were common throughout much of the month. Unseasonable warmth also dominated Western Cape, where afternoon temperatures periodically reached 40°C. As in the corn belt, however, timely showers during the latter half of the month improved planting prospects of winter wheat.



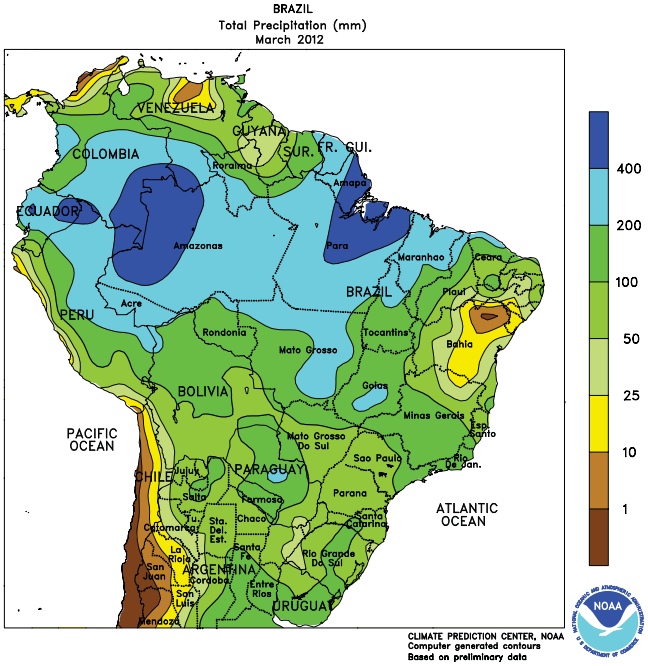


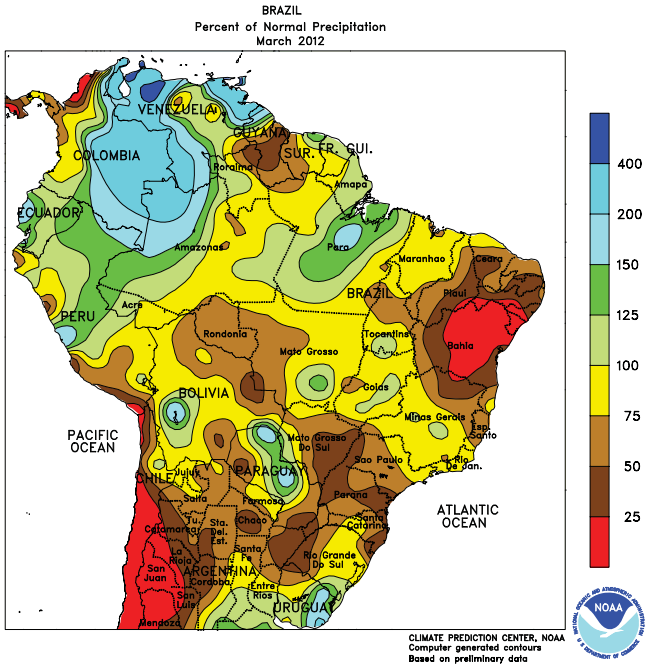


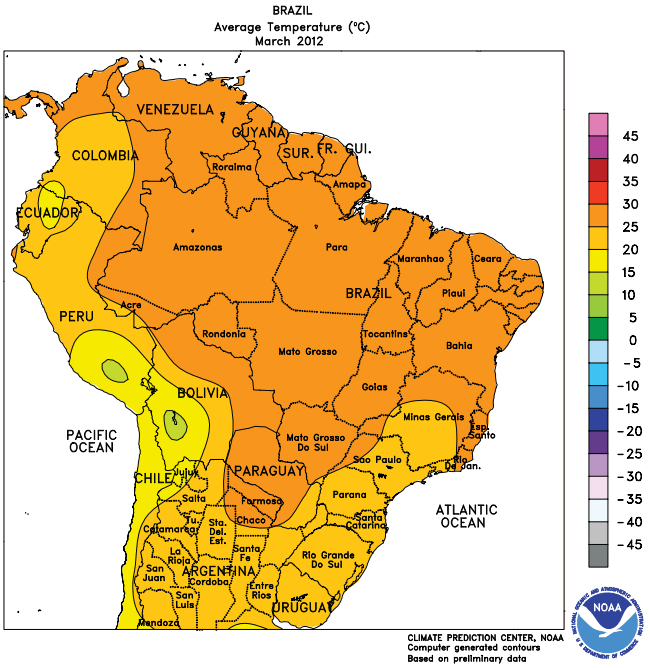


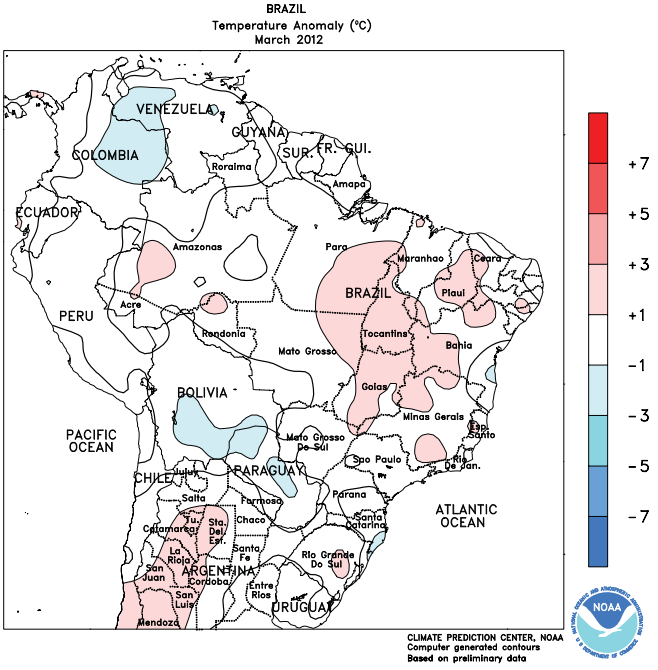
ARGENTINA

In March, unseasonably wet weather continued throughout much of central Argentina, elevating moisture reserves for late-planted summer grains and oilseeds and helping to further eradicate the effects of long-term drought. In spite of the wetness, unseasonably warm weather helped to accelerate development of crops, as high temperatures periodically reached the middle 30s (degrees C). However, colder, drier weather eventually settled into the region, aiding drydown and harvesting of early planted corn and soybeans. Although temperatures dipped into the low single digits, no widespread freeze was reported and damage, if any, to immature summer crops was likely negligible. Farther north, the frequency of rainfall increased from previous months, although most areas recorded below-normal monthly totals (50-100 mm). Temperatures averaged 1 to 2°C above normal, with highs reaching 40°C at some locations during the warmer early parts of the month. This included key summer grain, oilseed, and cotton areas in and around Chaco, which have been affected by stretches of stressful heat and dryness for much of the summer growing season.



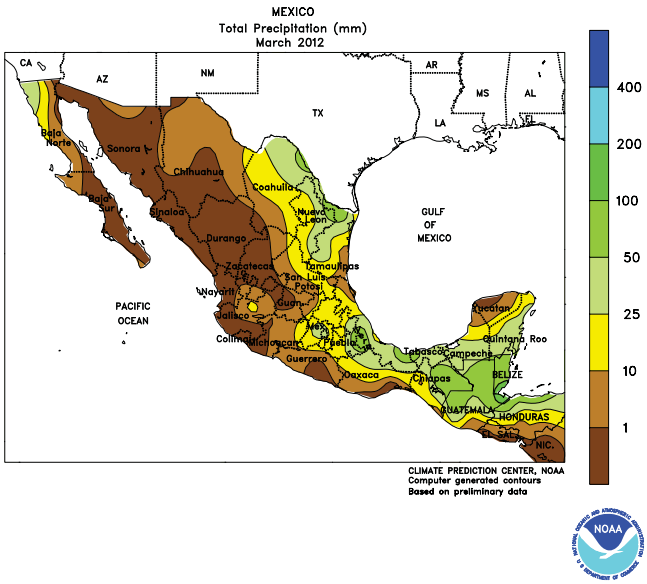


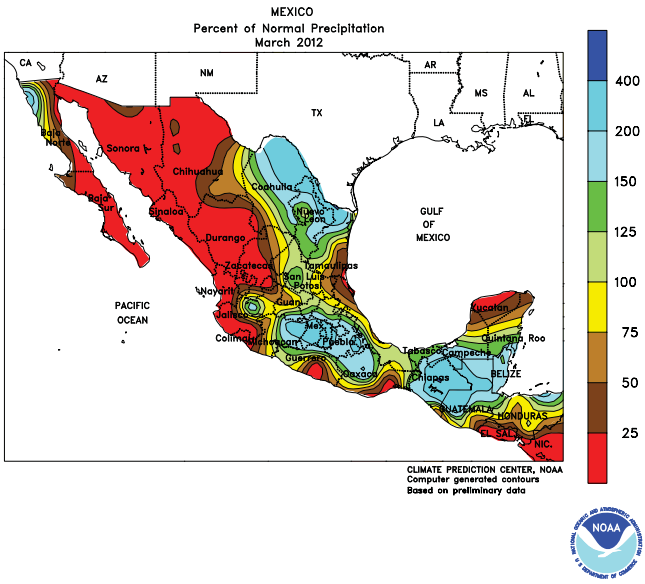


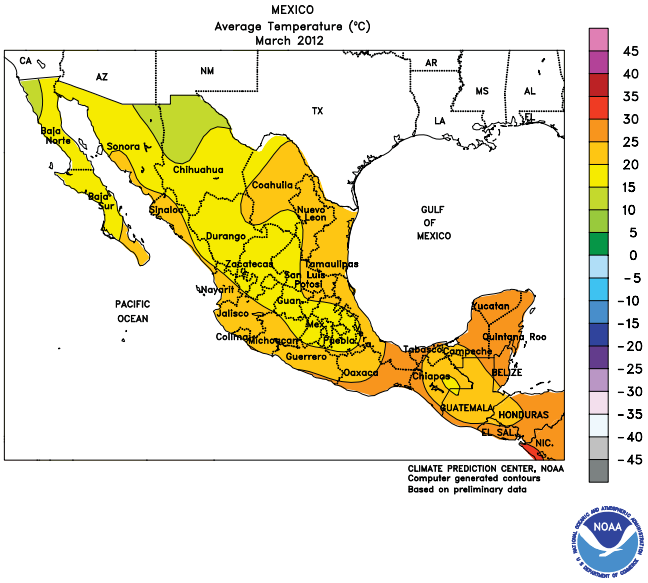


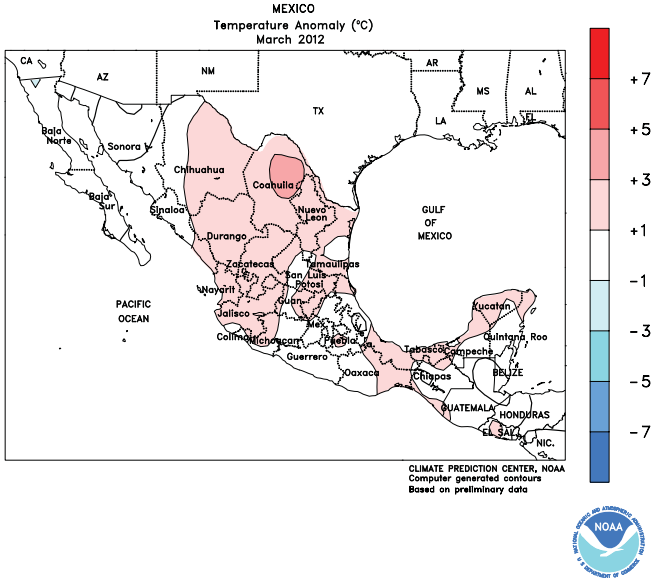
BRAZIL

During March, most major farming areas were affected by extended periods of unseasonable warmth and dryness, even though some locations recorded monthly rainfall totals near to only slightly below normal. In the south, showers brought only occasional relief from the drought that has plagued the region for most of the growing season. Rio Grande do Sul recorded much of its rain (more than 50 mm) on March 1, then experienced several weeks of dryness that saw temperatures in excess of 25°C. Elsewhere, dry spells lasting more than 1 week in the Center-West Region (Mato Grosso, Goias, and Mato Grosso do Sul) during the first half of the month were initially beneficial for soybean harvesting. The eventual return to seasonably wetter conditions boosted moisture for secondary (safrinha) corn in both the Center-West and south, although cool weather (temperatures falling near 5°C) slowed crop development in Parana. Meanwhile, March rainfall was less than 50 percent of normal over a large section of the northeast, including key soybean and cotton areas in and around western Bahia. Unseasonably hot weather (daytime highs frequently in excess of 35°C) accompanied the dryness, accelerating maturation of soybeans while lowering yield expectations.



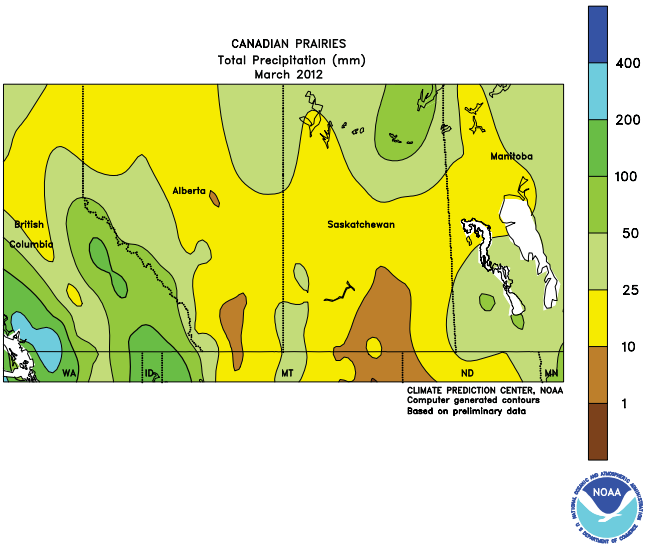


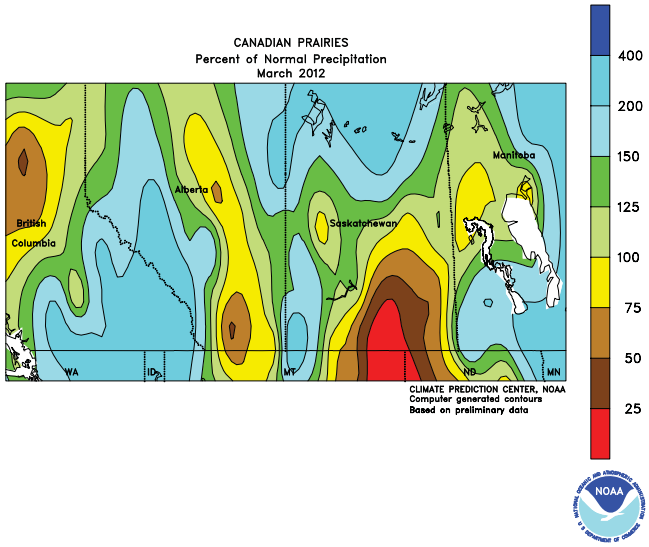


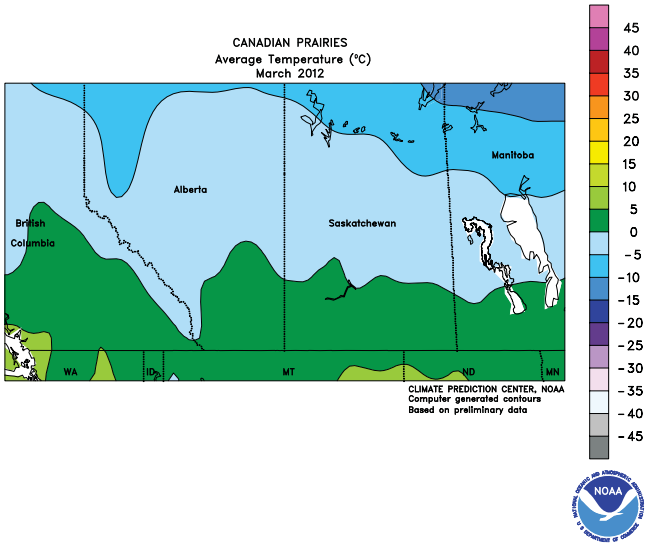


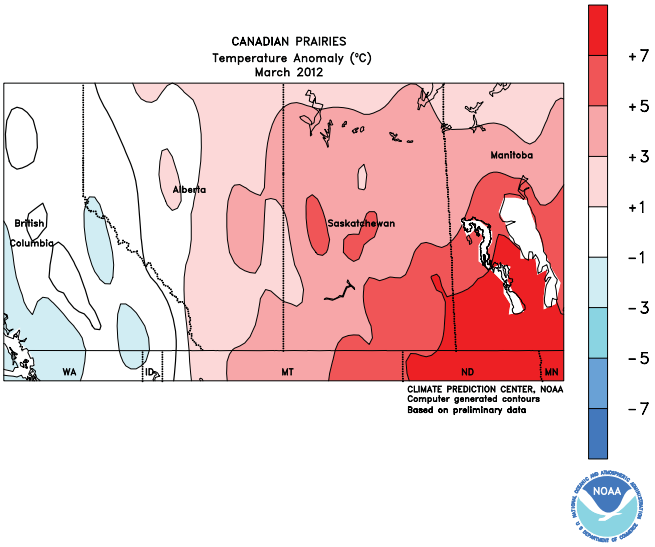
MEXICO

In March, seasonal showers increased along the Gulf Coast, boosting moisture levels for rain-fed agriculture and helping to condition fields for summer crop planting. Most of the rain in the northeast (notably Tamaulipas and Nuevo Leon) came toward the end of the month, although conditions were generally favorable for sorghum before the rain began due to earlier periods of unseasonable wetness. Farther south, showers were spread out over several weeks, improving planting prospects in eastern sections of the southern plateau corn belt. Light, less frequent rain was recorded in sugarcane areas in and around southern Veracruz. In spite of the occasionally wetter conditions, monthly average temperatures were 1 to 2°C above normal in the aforementioned areas, maintaining high evaporative losses. Rainfall was patchy and light elsewhere in the south. Meanwhile, seasonably drier weather continued in the western half of the nation, including western sections of the southern plateau corn belt. Seasonable warmth promoted development of winter wheat and other irrigated crops in the northwest. According to the government of Mexico, total national reservoir capacity was at 42.5 percent as of March 30, compared with 67.5 percent last year and 68.6 percent in 2010.



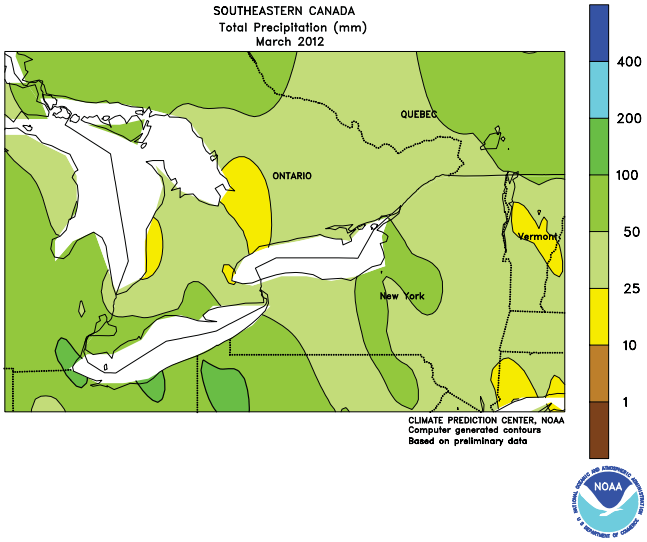


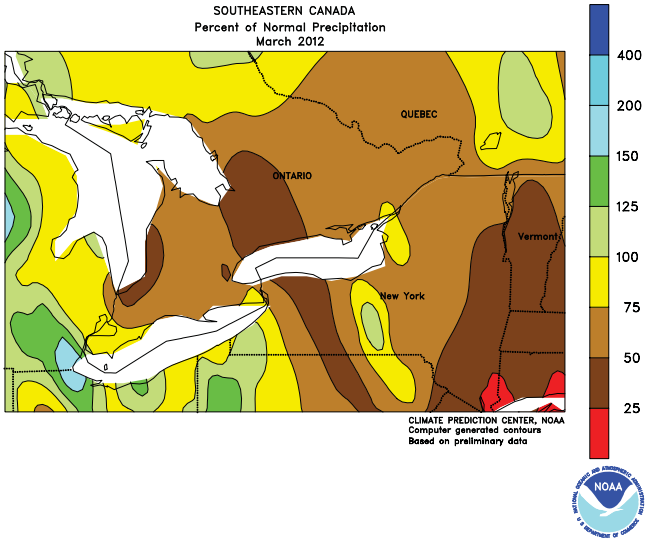


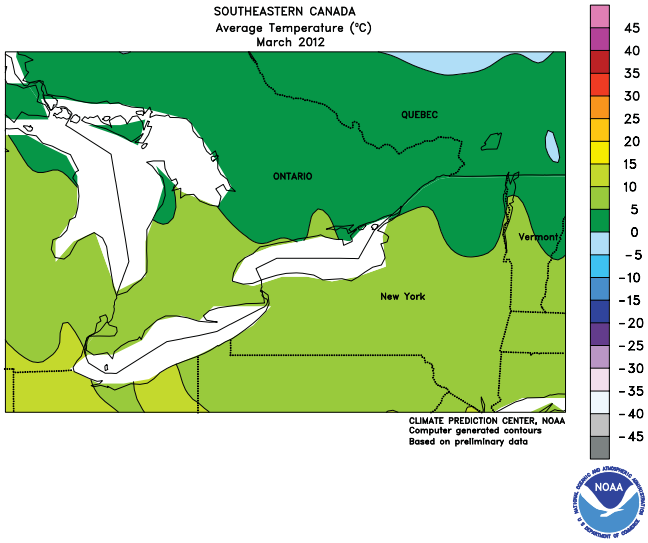


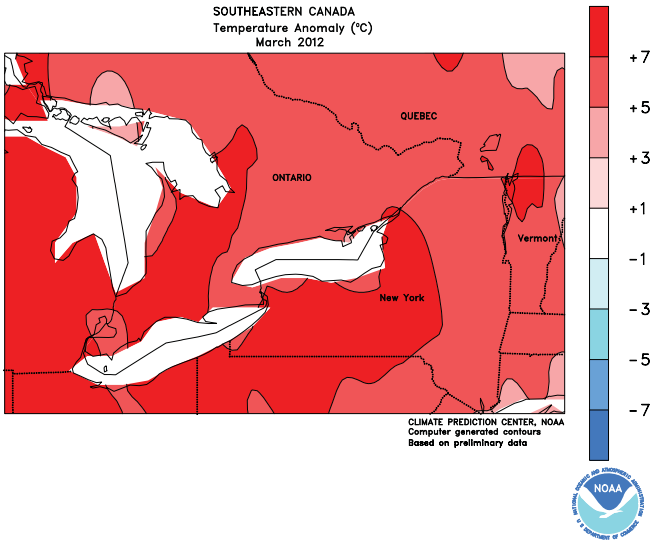
CANADIAN PRAIRIES

The trend of warmer-than-normal weather that has dominated the Prairies since last autumn continued through March. The warmest conditions relative to normal were in the east, with monthly temperatures averaging 6 to 8°C above normal in Manitoba and southeastern Saskatchewan. March temperatures averaged 3 to 5°C above normal elsewhere in Saskatchewan and about 2°C above normal in most of Alberta, the exception being the Peace River Valley, where temperatures averaged near normal. As in recent months, however, several areas experienced brief outbreaks of bitter cold (temperatures at or below -20°C) in spite of the generally warm weather pattern. Due to the prevailing winter dryness, snowcover was patchy during the early month cold snaps, providing overwintering grains with limited protection. A wetter weather pattern brought additional rain and snow showers to the region during the latter half of March, although damaging cold weather was generally confined to far northern agricultural areas. As a result of the surge in precipitation, March rainfall was near to above normal in many crop districts, boosting moisture reserves for the upcoming spring cropping season. These included sections of Manitoba and western Saskatchewan receiving total monthly accumulations of 25 to 50 mm (liquid equivalent).







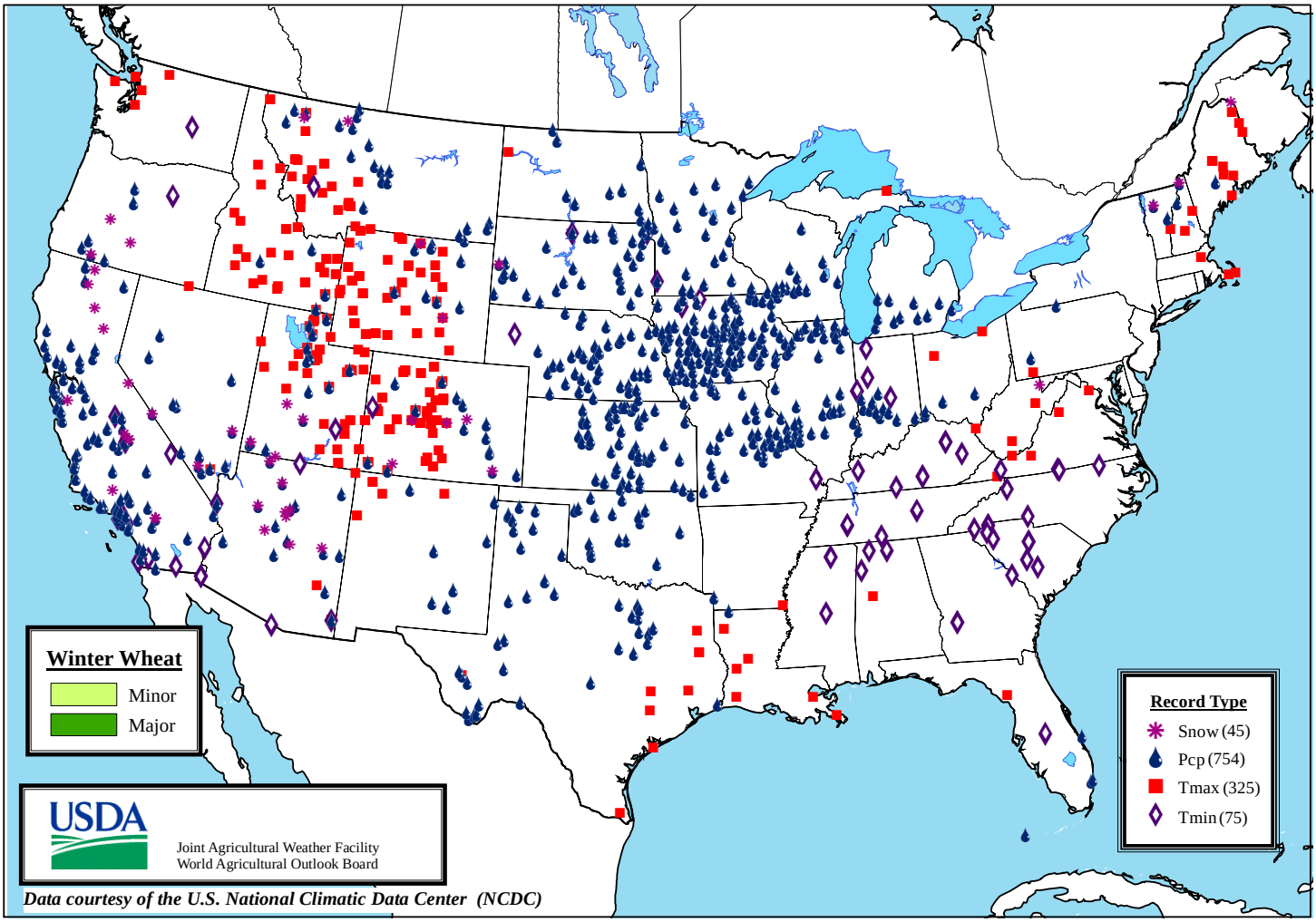


SOUTHEASTERN CANADA

During March, warmer- and drier-than-normal weather dominated the region. Much of the precipitation came as a mixture of rain and snow during the early part of the month, leaving most of the region void of a significant snow cover. In spite of the continuation of unseasonable warmth, however, the region experienced several days of bitter cold (temperatures at or below -20°C in outlying production areas) early in the month. The patchy nature of the snow cover in both Ontario and Quebec raised concern for potential damage to winter wheat in a few isolated locations. The early month cold outbreak was immediately followed by several weeks of drier, unusually warm weather, which saw daily average temperatures rise as high as 15°C. Winter grains reportedly began greening at one point but cooler weather at month's end halted the exceptionally early growth of crops and pastures.

Daily Weather Records (ASOS & COOP)

April 8-14, 2012



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