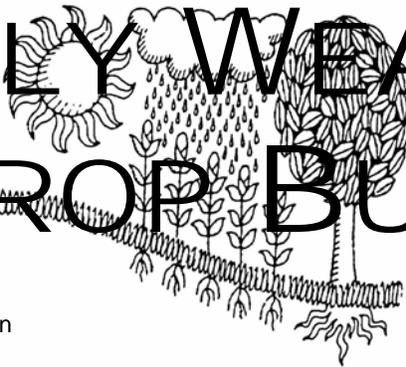
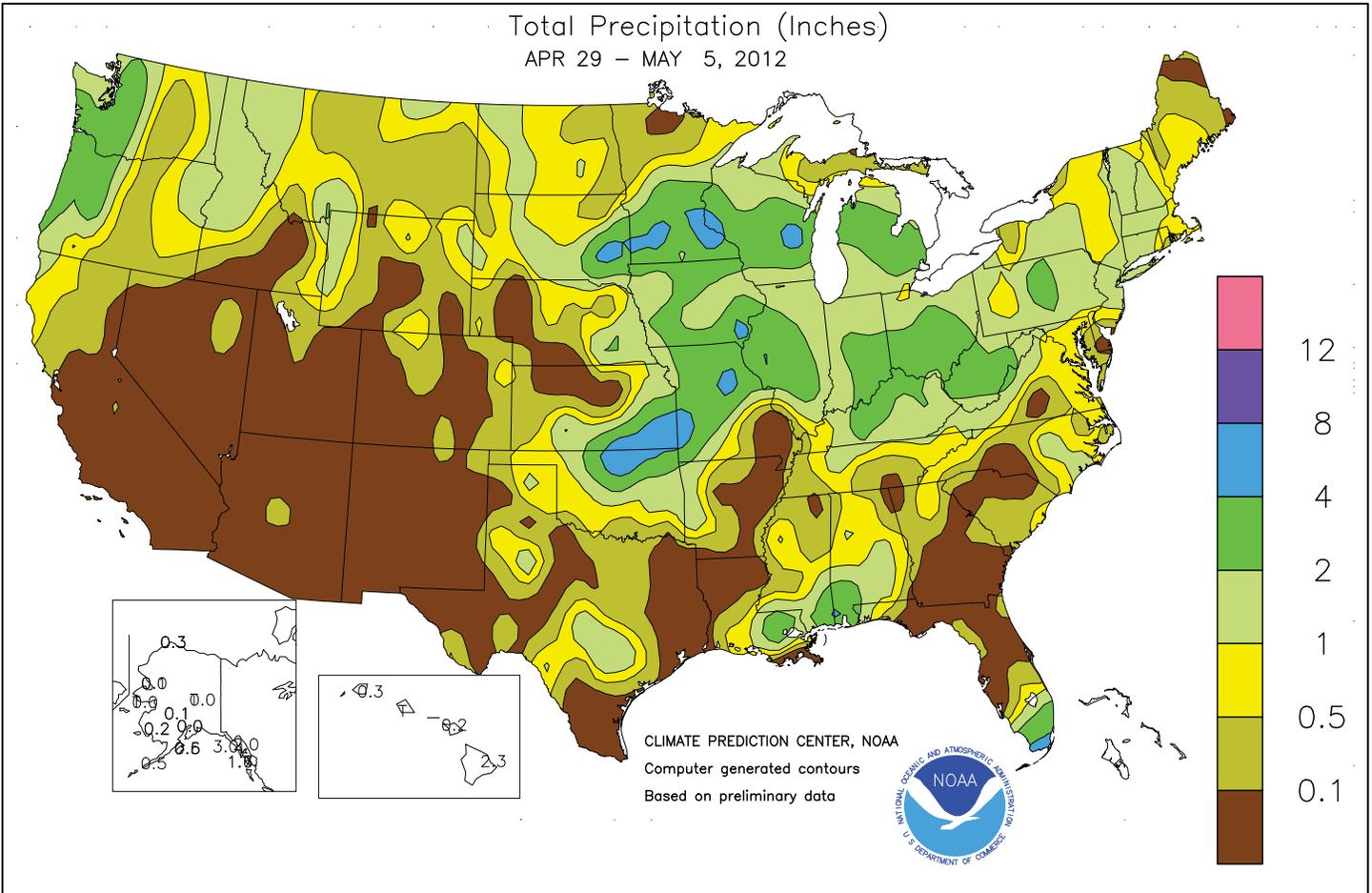


WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN



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 29 - May 5, 2012

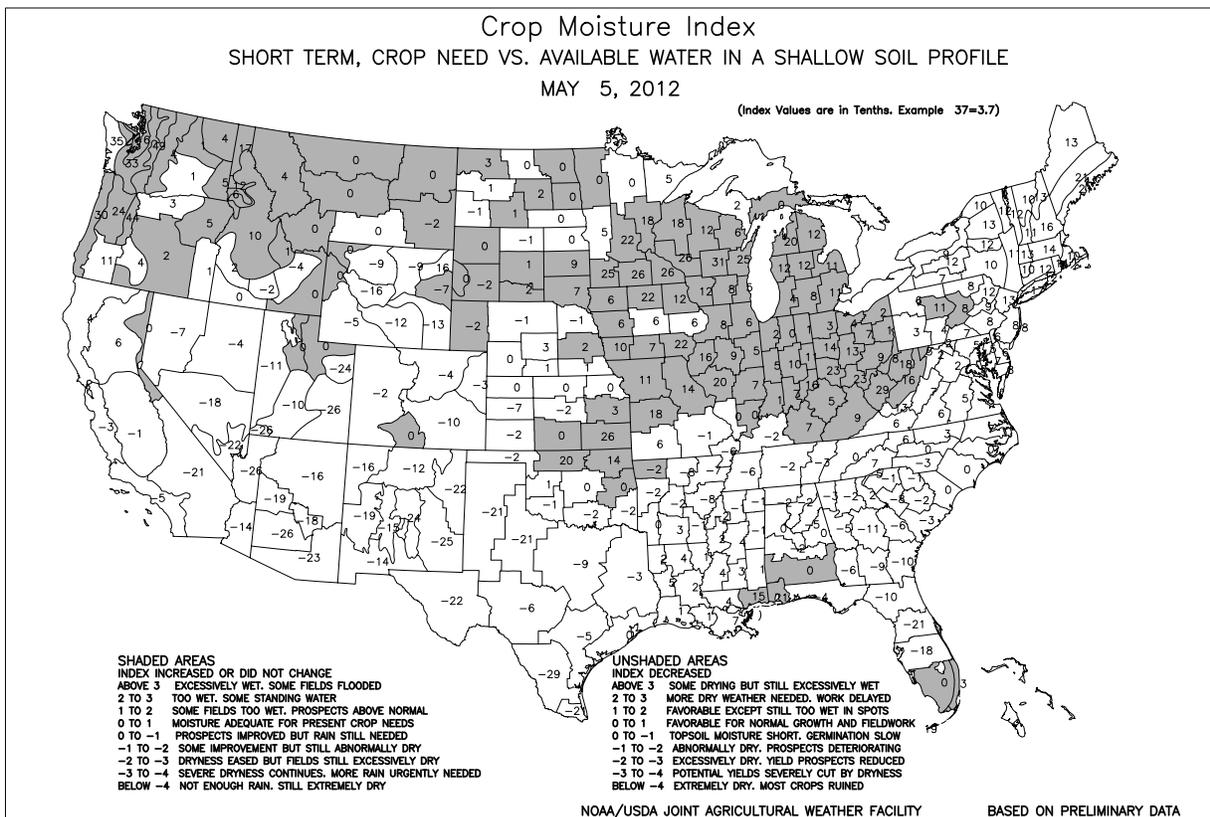
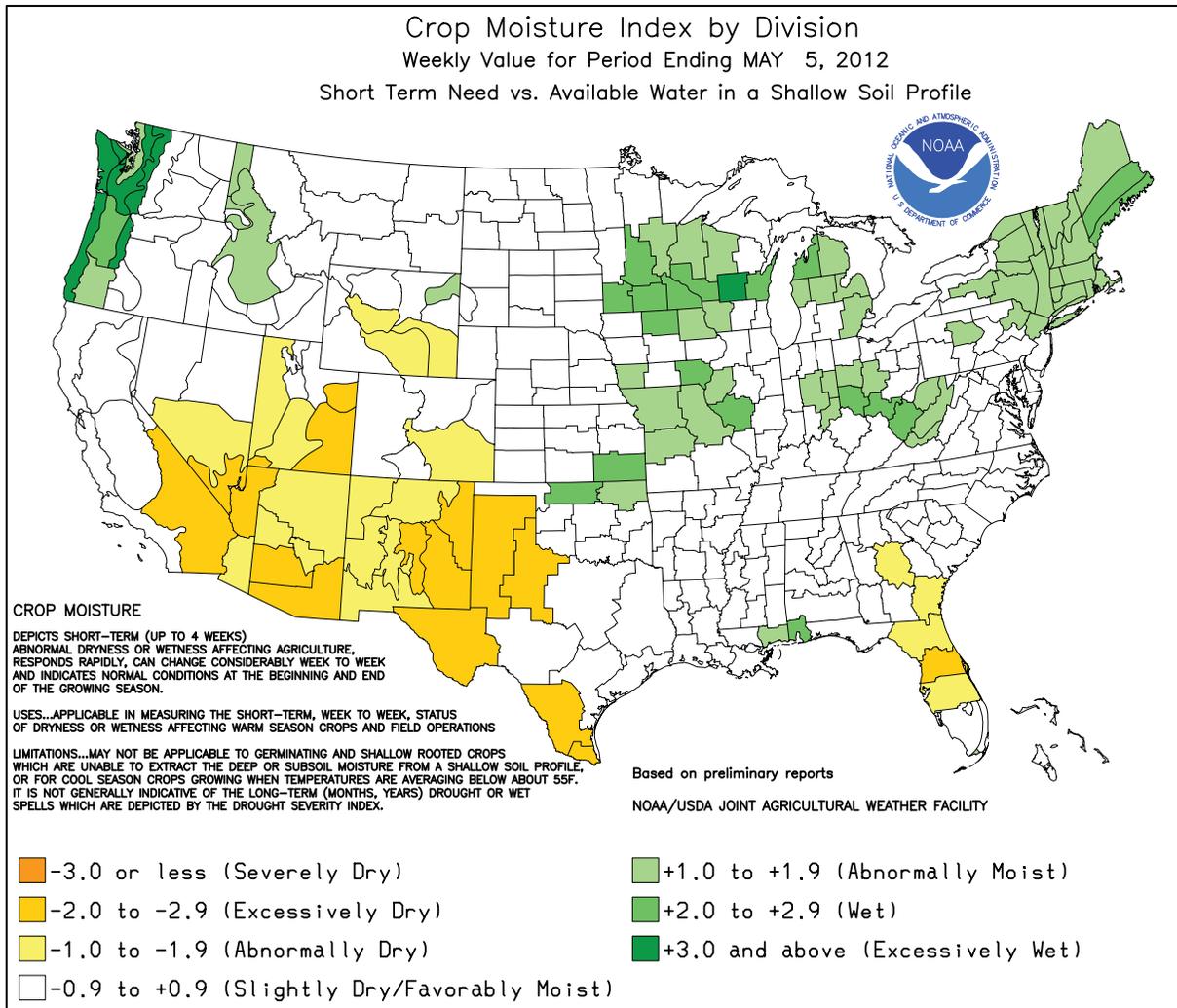
Highlights provided by USDA/WAOB

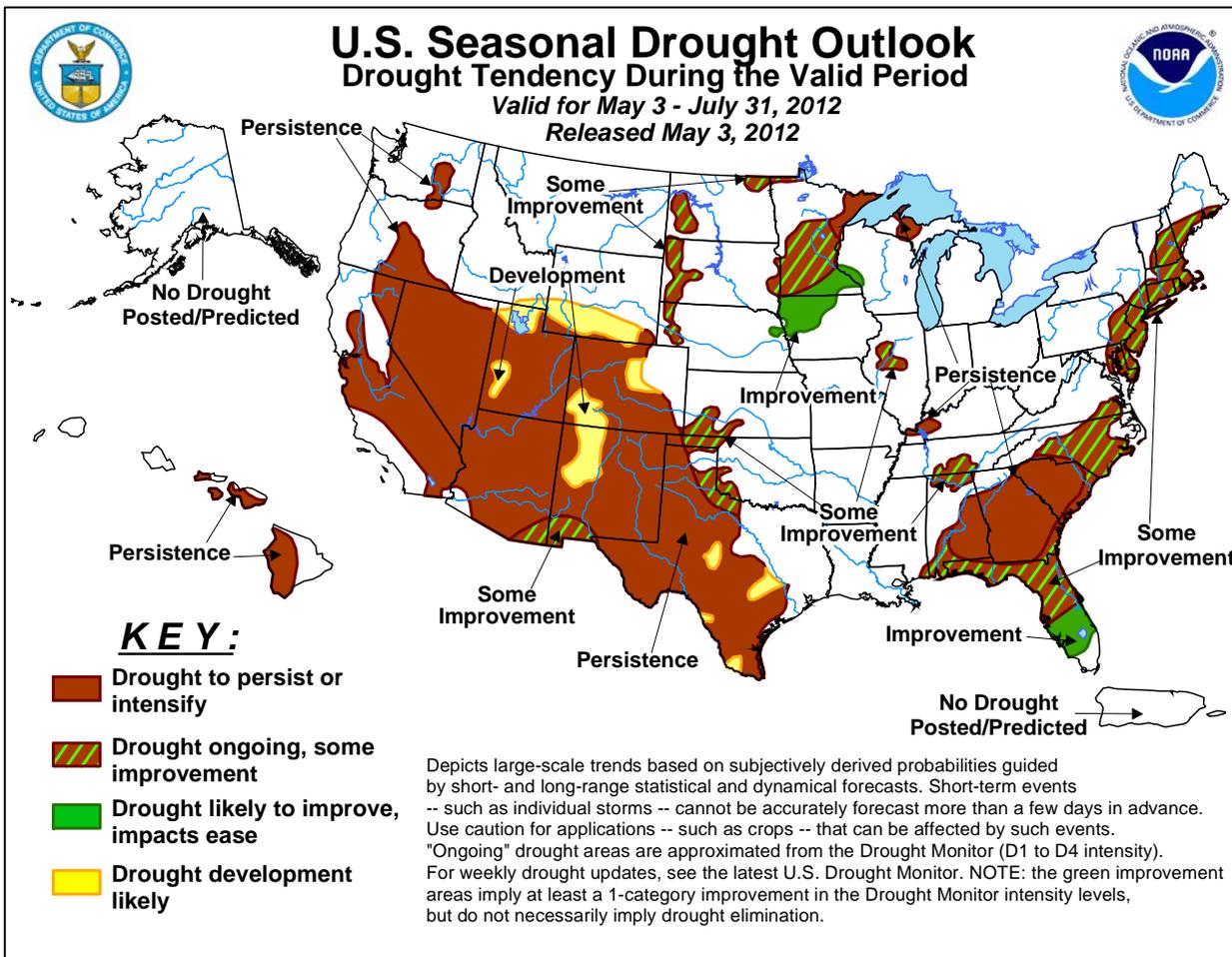
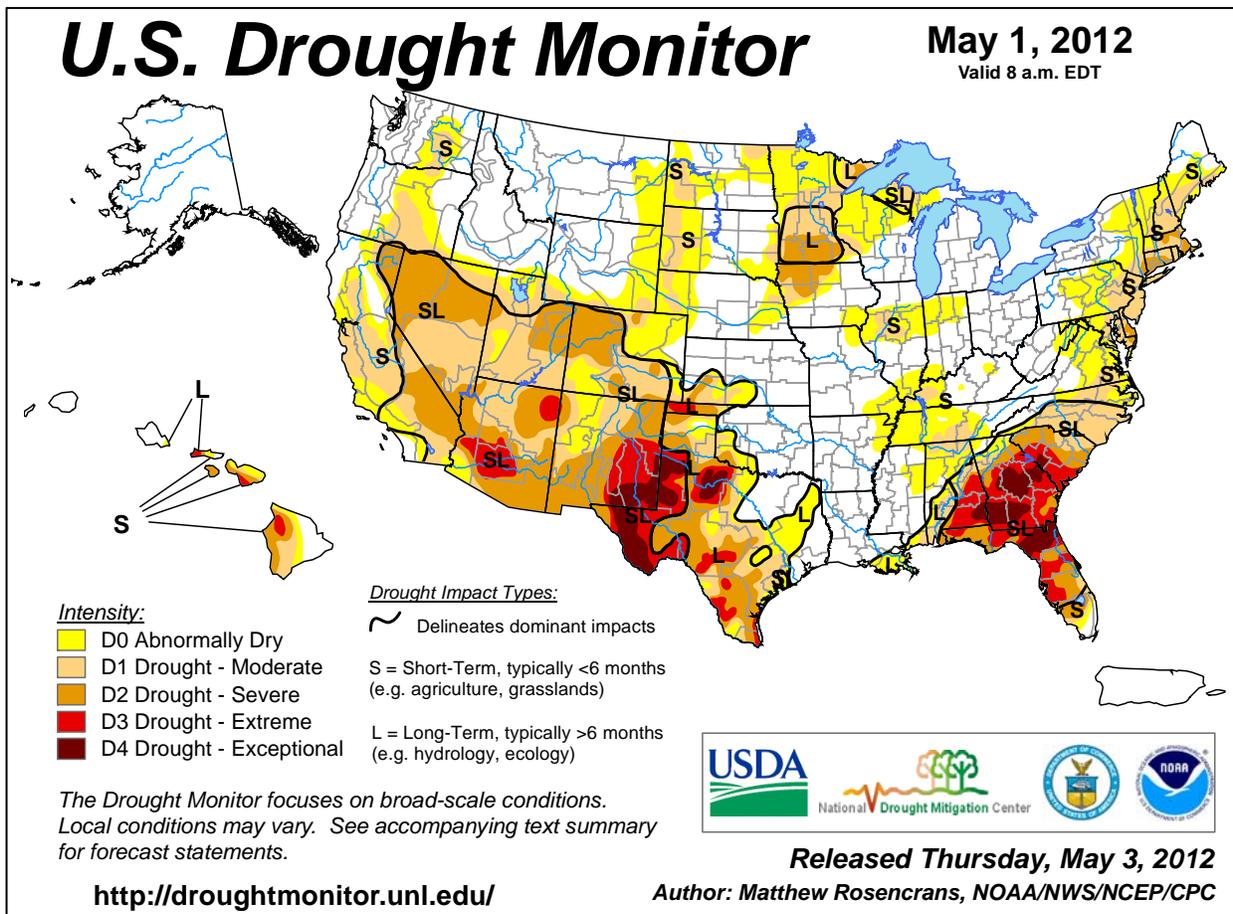
Midwestern showers and thunderstorms slowed a previously rapid pace of fieldwork but generally provided beneficial moisture for emerging summer crops. In areas where rainfall totaled 4 inches or more, mainly across the **northern and western Corn Belt**, isolated lowland flooding developed. Farther south, rainfall in excess of 4 inches caused some flooding from **north-central Oklahoma to the Ozark Plateau**, while little or no rain fell on the **central and southern High Plains**. In addition, early-season heat negatively affected winter

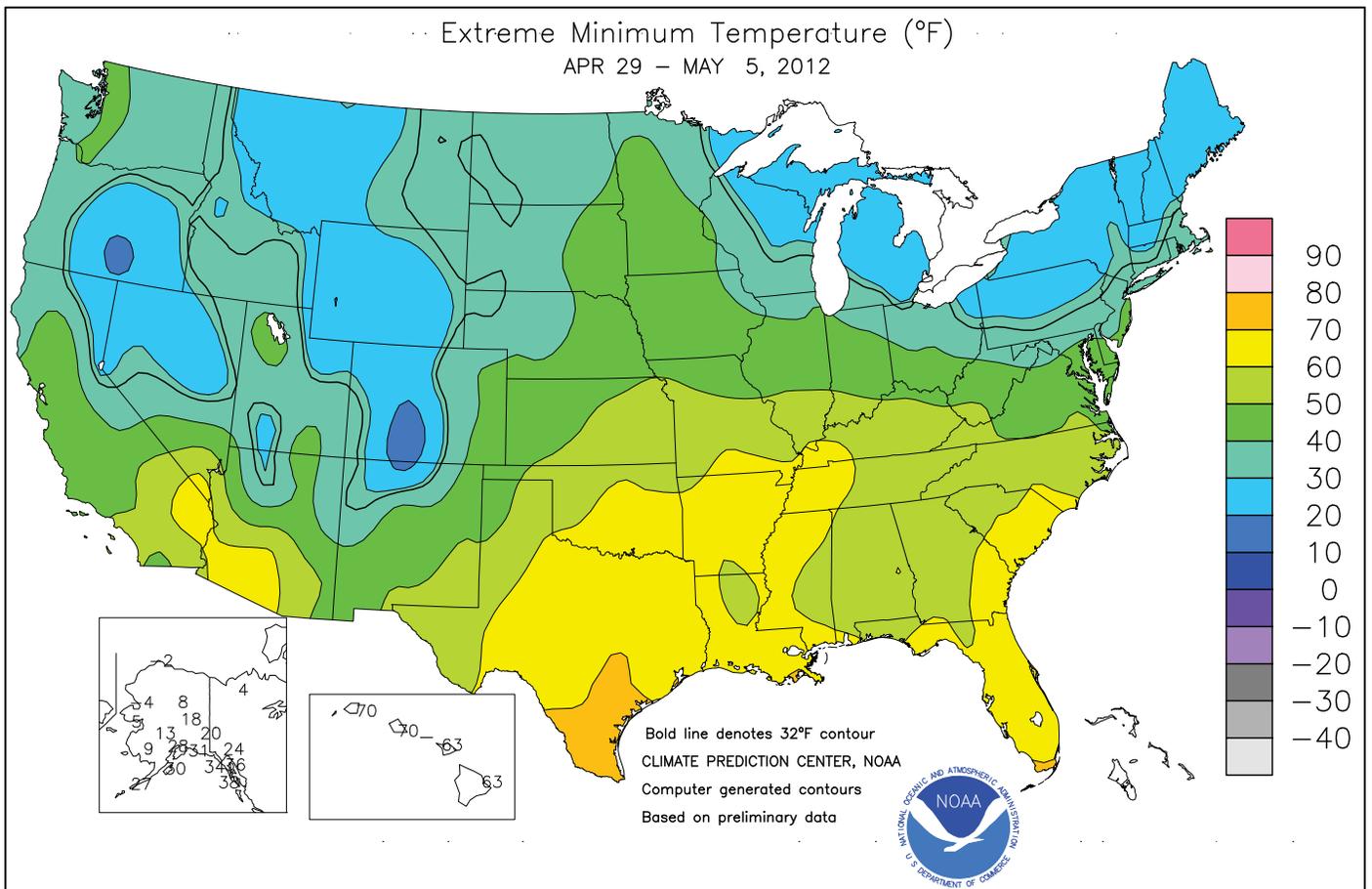
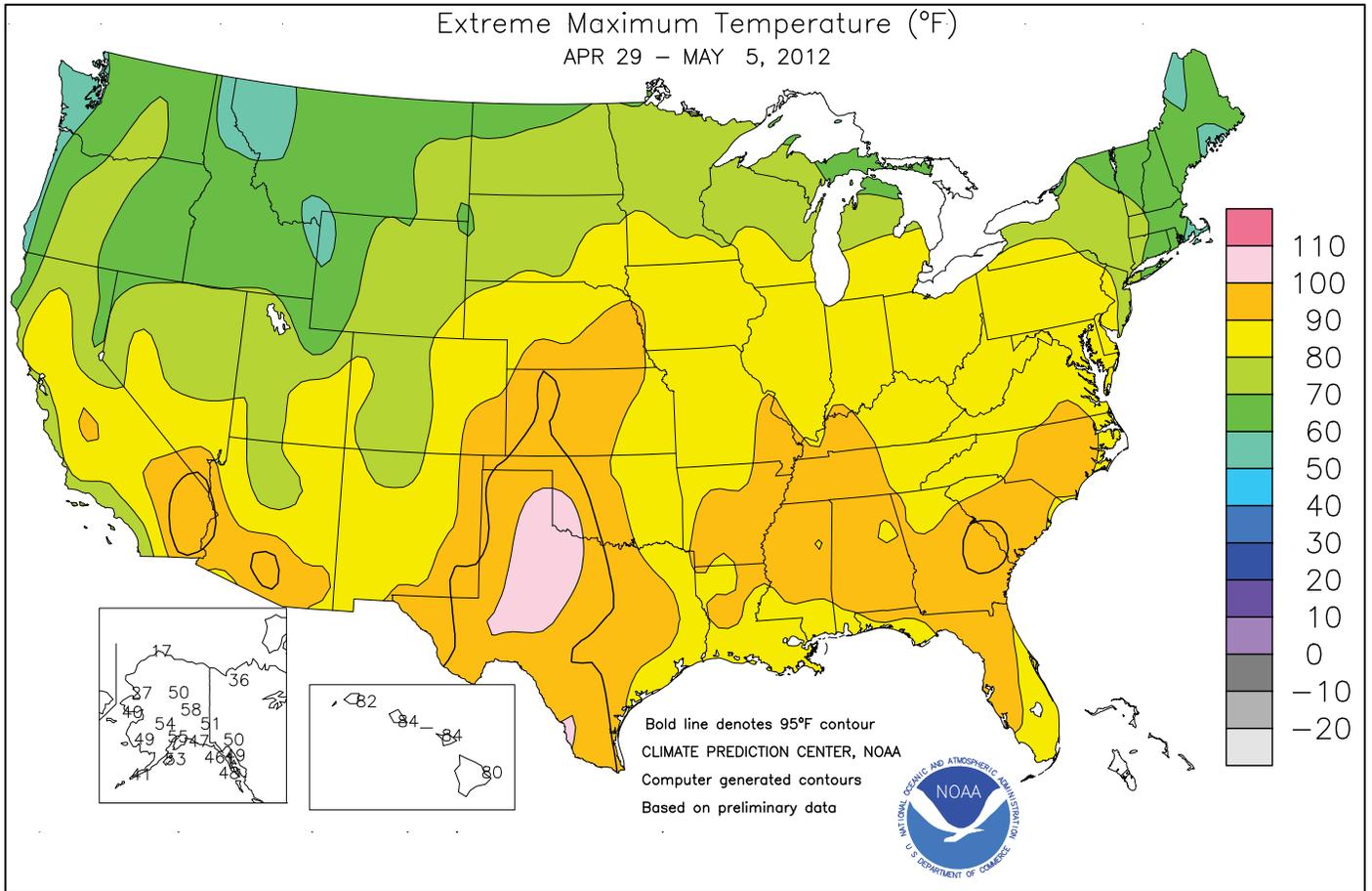
(Continued on page 5)

Contents

Crop Moisture Maps	2
May 1 Drought Monitor & U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook	3
Extreme Maximum & Minimum Temperature Maps	4
Temperature Departure Map	5
Growing Degree Day Maps	6
Soil Temperature & Pan Evaporation Maps	8
National Weather Data for Selected Cities	9
April Weather and Crop Summary	12
April Precipitation & Temperature Maps	16
April Weather Data for Selected Cities	19
National Agricultural Summary	20
Crop Progress and Condition Tables	21
State Agricultural Summaries	24
May 3 ENSO Update	31
International Weather and Crop Summary & April International Temperature/Precipitation Table	32
Northern Hemisphere Winter Grain Review	48
Bulletin Information & Record Reports	54





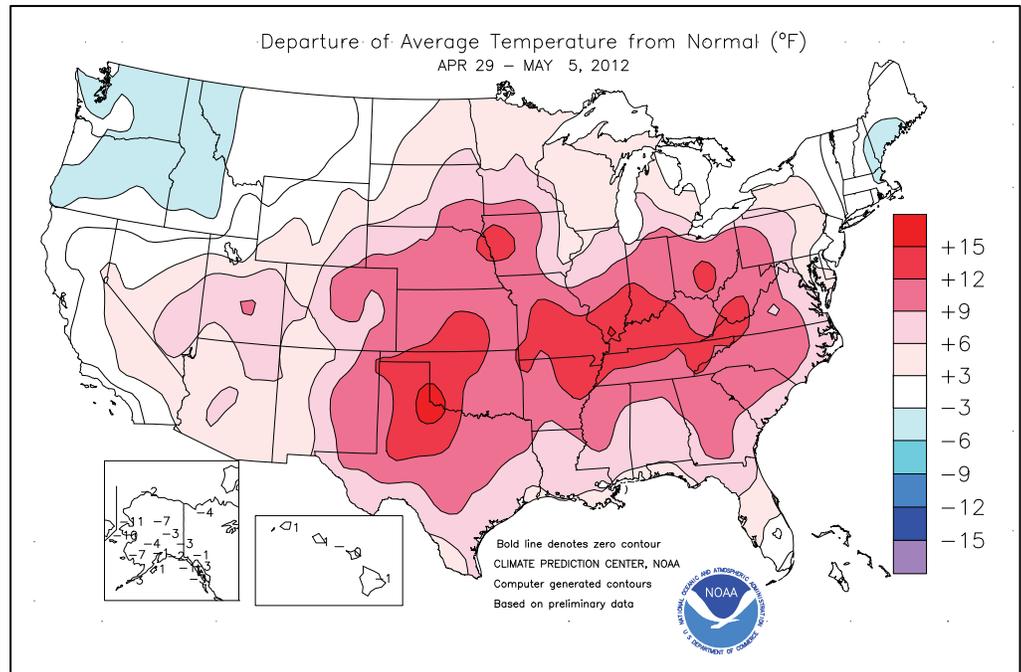


(Continued from front cover)

wheat and emerging summer crops on the **southern High Plains**, where soil moisture remains limited due to last year's historic drought. In fact, above-normal temperatures covered the majority of the U.S., while cooler-than-normal weather was confined to **coastal New England** and the **Northwest**. Weekly temperatures ranged from 5°F below normal at a few **Northwestern** locations to as much as 15°F above normal on the **southern Plains**. Record-setting warmth also extended into the **Southeast**, where significant shower activity was confined to **southern Florida** and the **central Gulf Coast region**. Drought continued to adversely affect pastures, maturing winter wheat, and emerged summer crops across the **lower Southeast**. In contrast, cool, showery weather limited fieldwork and crop development in the **Northwest**. Elsewhere, mild, dry weather persisted in the **Southwest** and continued in **California**, although planting progress and crop growth remained behind the normal pace in the latter location.

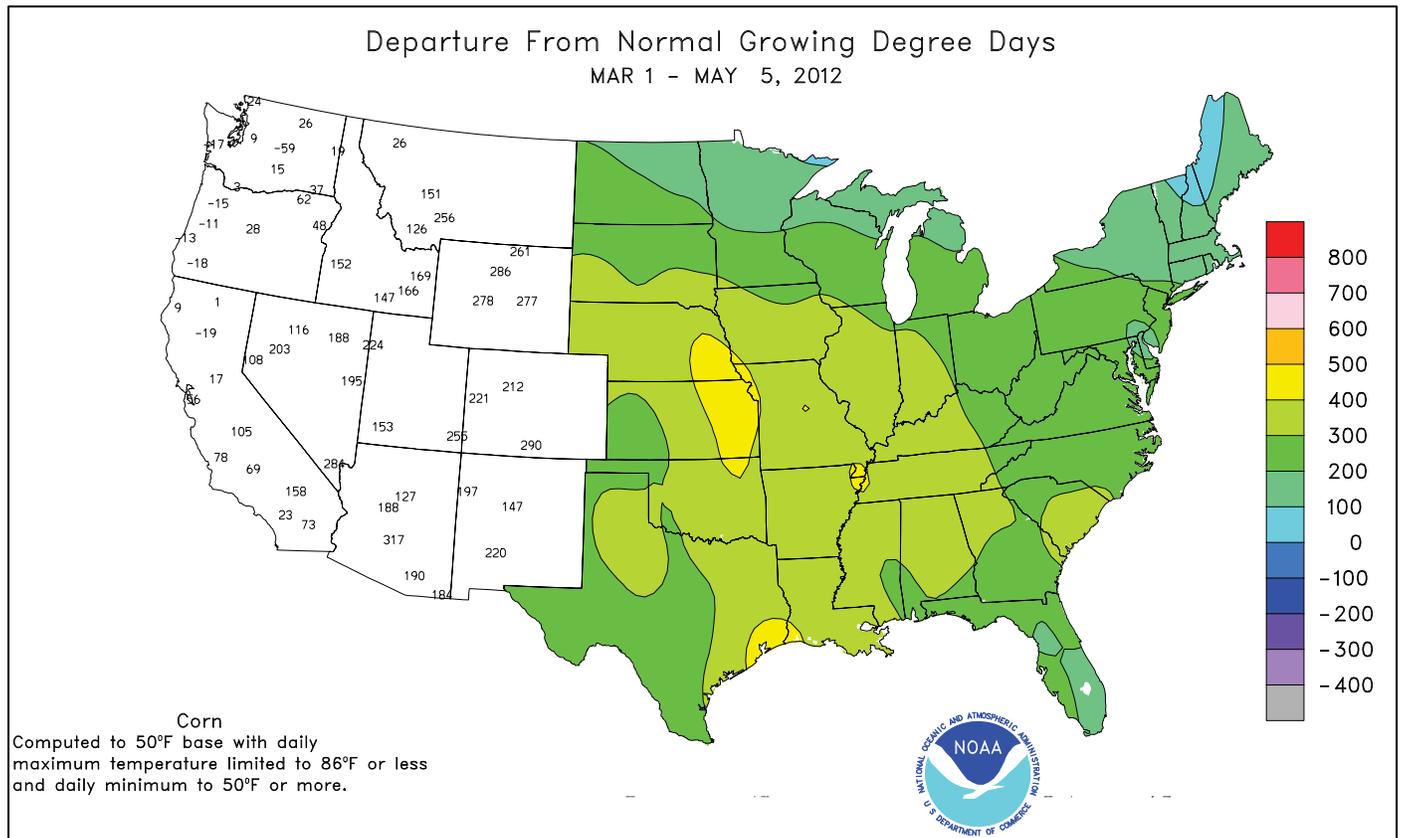
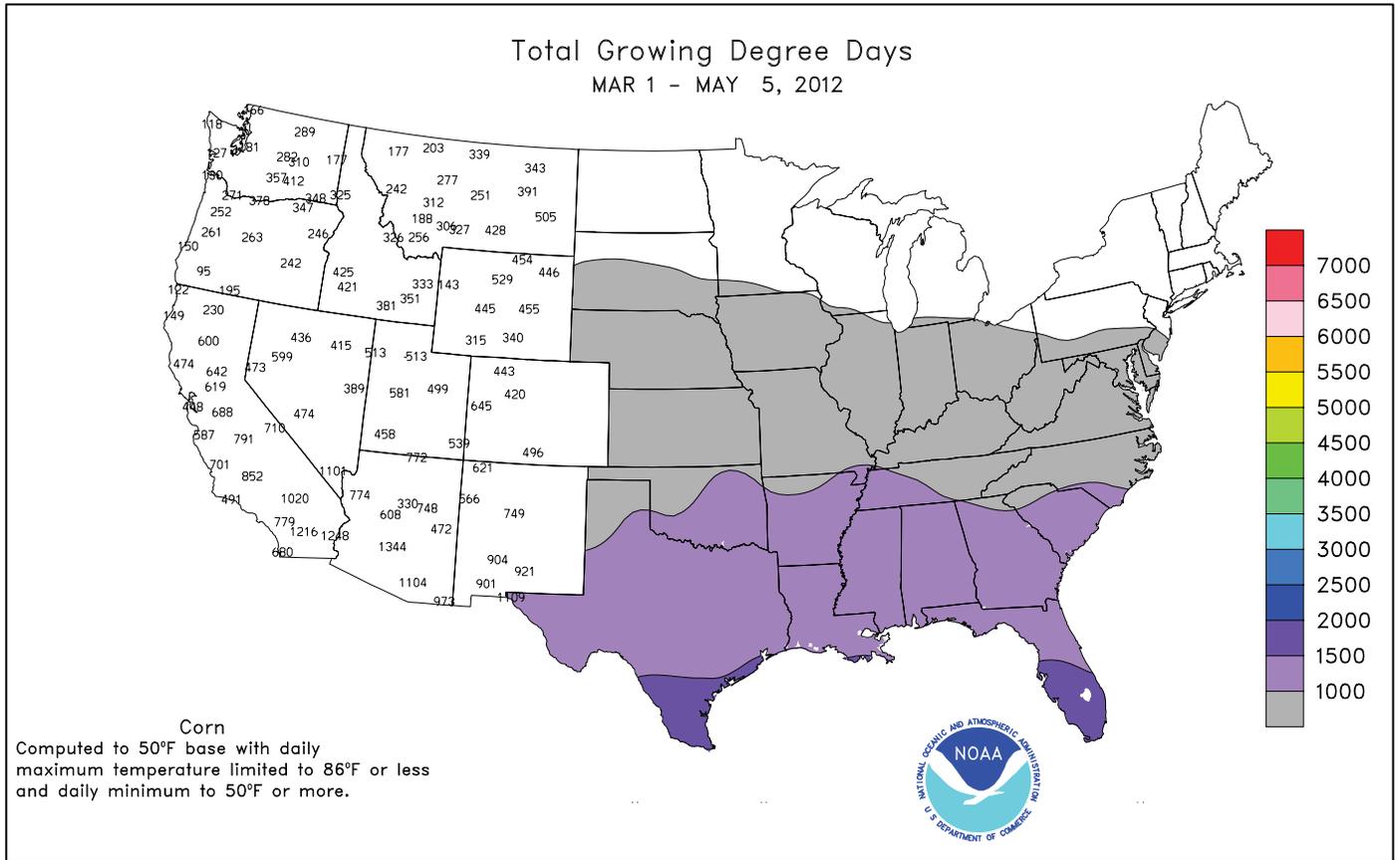
Early in the week, freezes continued to threaten fruits and other temperature-sensitive crops in the **Great Lakes and Northeastern States**. April 29 featured daily-record lows in locations such as **Flint, MI** (22°F); **Montpelier, VT** (24°F); **Rochester, NY** (27°F); and **Akron-Canton, OH** (29°F). The following day, record-setting lows on the last day of April included 23°F in **Watertown, NY**; 27°F in **Burlington, VT**; and 30°F in **Scranton, PA**. Meanwhile, uncharacteristically hot weather prevailed across the **Deep South**. Monthly record highs were tied or broken on April 30 in **Tallahassee, FL** (95°F), and **Columbus, GA** (94°F). **Tallahassee** tied a record last achieved on April 24, 1999, while **Columbus** edged its mark of 93°F originally set on April 27, 1986. As the week progressed, record-setting warmth expanded to the north and west. On May 1, daily-record highs included 97°F in **Roswell, NM**, and 91°F in **Huntsville, AL**. A day later, records for May 2 reached 104°F in **Childress, TX**, and 85°F in **Flint, MI**. In **Texas**, both **Lubbock** (96, 97, and 98°F from May 1-3) and **Wichita Falls** (97, 98, and 98°F from May 3-5) collected a trio of daily-record highs. **Lubbock** posted another daily-record high (99°F) on May 5. **Childress** topped its earlier reading with consecutive daily-record highs of 105°F on May 4-5. In **Michigan**, **Detroit** (85 and 89°F) tallied consecutive records on May 2-3. Meanwhile in **Kansas**, **Russell** (95 and 94°F) closed the week with consecutive daily-record highs on May 4-5.

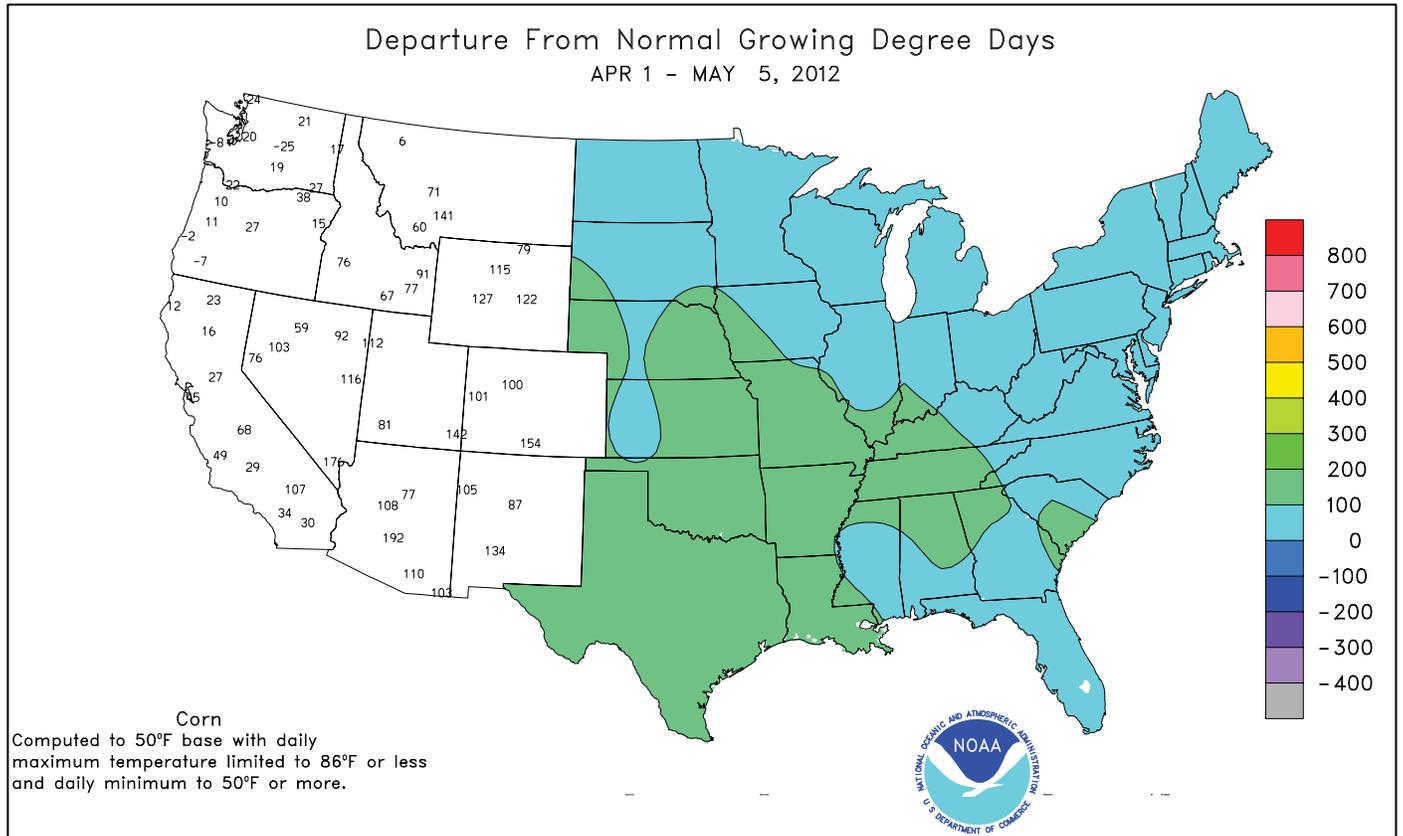
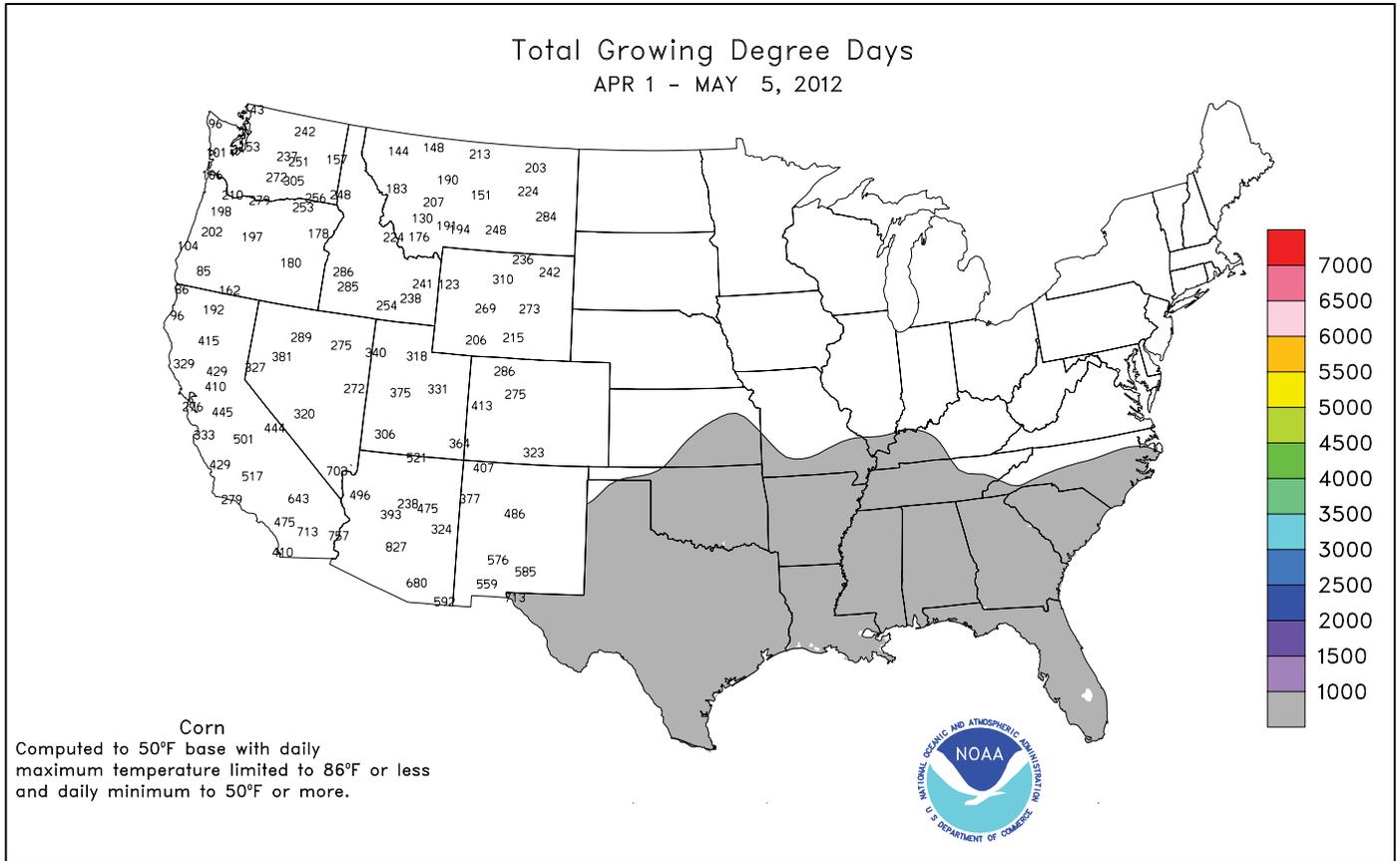
In late April, showers and thunderstorms peppered the **nation's mid-section**. Daily-record rainfall totals for April 29 included 3.08 inches in **Columbia, MO**, and 2.10 inches in **Borger, TX**. Heavy showers also lingered across **southern Florida**, where **Miami** (2.88 inches) netted a daily-record total for April 29. In



early May, rain intensified across the **Midwest**, while heavy showers developed along the **central Gulf Coast**. On May 2, **Mobile, AL** (6.80 inches), collected a daily-record amount. Isolated totals in excess of 10 inches were reported in the vicinity of **Daphne, AL**. A day later, **Oshkosh, WI** (3.07 inches on May 3), observed its wettest May day on record (previously, 2.88 inches on May 20, 1959). **Midwestern** daily-record totals for May 3 reached 2.56 inches in **Houghton Lake, MI**, and 2.00 inches in **Appleton, WI**. **Flint, MI**, received 3.23 inches (a daily record) on the 4th, boosting its May 3-4 rainfall total to 5.62 inches. Meanwhile, precipitation returned to the **Northwest**, where record-setting rainfall amounts for May 3 included 1.33 inches in **Astoria, OR**, and 1.09 inches in **Olympia, WA**. In the **Washington Cascades** on the slopes of **Mt. Rainier**, a foot of early-May snow blanketed **Paradise**. Toward week's end, heavy rain returned to the **upper Midwest**. In **South Dakota**, **Mitchell's** May 4-5 total of 4.47 inches was aided by a daily-record deluge (3.03 inches) on the 5th. Farther east, beneficial showers arrived in parts of the **Atlantic Coast States**. In **North Carolina**, record-setting totals for May 5 were established in locations such as **Raleigh-Durham** (1.58 inches) and **Elizabeth City** (1.53 inches).

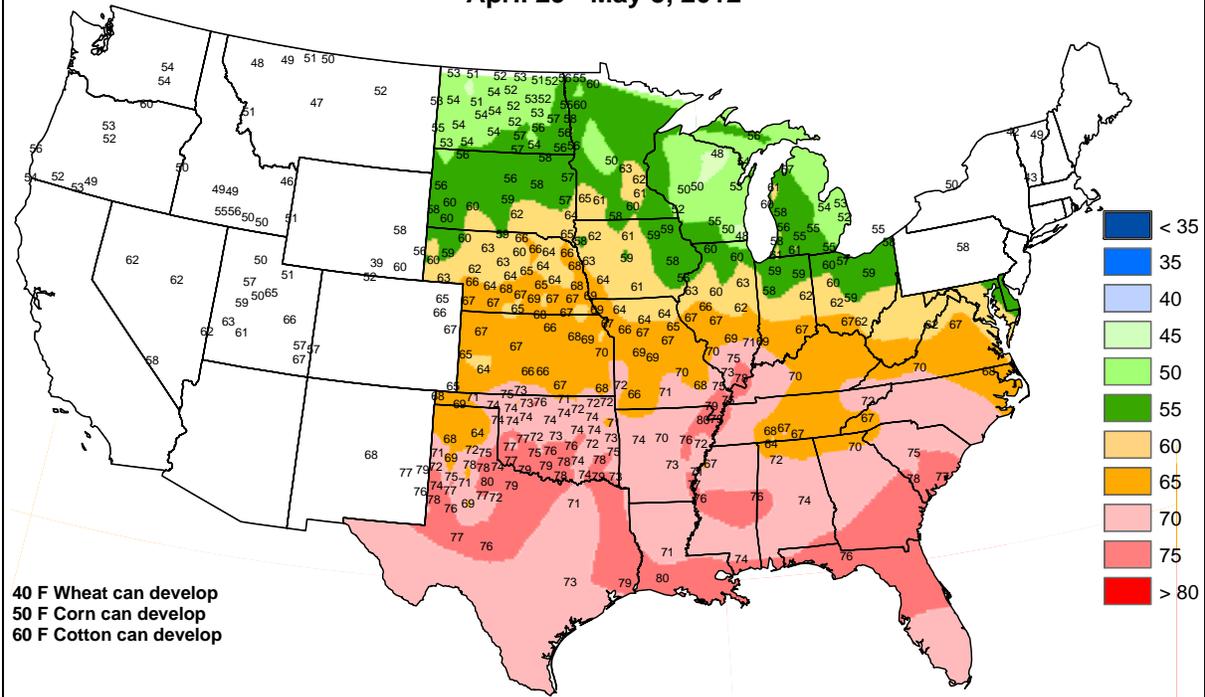
Cool air settled across much of **Alaska**, holding weekly temperatures more than 10°F below normal in some western locations. **Valdez** (32°F on May 3) was among a handful of communities reporting a daily-record low. Snow blanketed several locations, including **King Salmon**, where 3.7 inches fell from May 3-5. **Kotzebue** received an inch of snow on May 2-3, followed by a low of -4°F (not a record for the date) on May 4. At week's end, **Fairbanks** reported a brief thunderstorm on the evening of May 5—the year's earliest such event there since May 3, 1984. Farther south, scattered showers primarily affected **Hawaii's** windward locations. On the **Big Island**, **Hilo** reported a least a trace of rain on 86 consecutive days from February 10 - May 5. However, most of the recent rainfall has been light; **Hilo** last reported a calendar-day total in excess of an inch on March 24, when 3.69 inches fell.





Average Soil Temperature (° F, 4" Bare)

April 29 - May 5, 2012



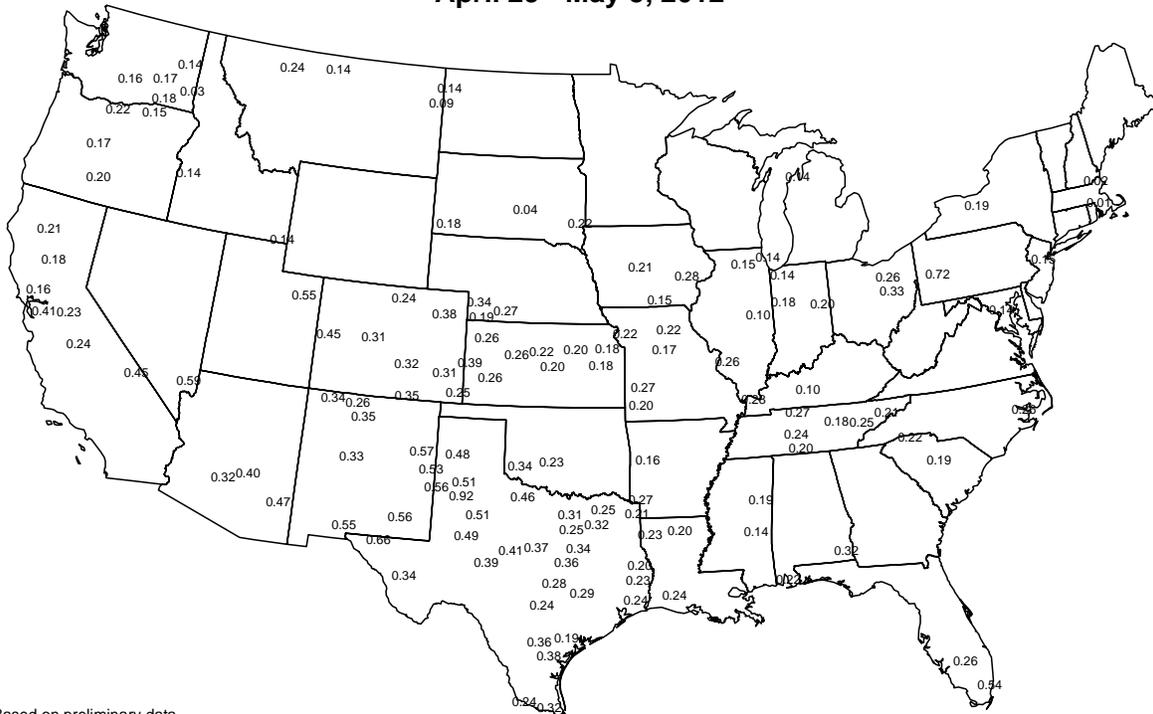
Based on preliminary data

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

Average Pan Evaporation (inches/day)

April 29 - May 5, 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 May 5, 2012

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

STATES AND STATIONS	TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS			
	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL, IN., SINCE MAR 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE MAR 1	TOTAL, IN., SINCE JAN 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE JAN 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	TEMP. °F		PRECIP	
																90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OF MORE	.50 INCH OF MORE
AL BIRMINGHAM	86	64	90	60	75	10	0.72	-0.35	0.51	6.69	58	15.55	73	90	46	1	0	2	1
HUNTSVILLE	86	62	91	58	74	9	0.78	-0.29	0.78	7.28	61	18.63	83	88	59	2	0	1	1
MOBILE	87	65	91	59	76	6	6.92	5.69	6.79	16.11	123	25.61	107	92	62	1	0	2	1
AK MONTGOMERY	87	65	92	58	76	8	1.70	0.76	1.66	6.91	60	14.94	68	93	52	3	0	2	1
ANCHORAGE	48	34	55	28	41	-1	0.00	-0.11	0.00	1.17	94	4.26	160	68	49	0	2	0	0
BARROW	13	4	17	-2	9	-1	0.25	0.22	0.16	0.44	191	0.85	185	88	73	0	7	3	0
FAIRBANKS	48	28	58	18	38	-4	0.01	-0.04	0.01	0.75	142	1.86	128	73	50	0	6	1	0
JUNEAU	45	38	49	36	42	-3	1.96	1.22	0.70	5.58	80	15.10	95	95	83	0	0	7	1
KODIAK	46	37	53	30	41	1	0.46	-0.92	0.28	7.52	64	19.64	77	79	63	0	1	4	0
NOME	26	12	40	5	19	-10	0.04	-0.10	0.04	0.69	51	1.96	65	81	68	0	7	1	0
AZ FLAGSTAFF	67	35	69	28	51	4	0.00	-0.23	0.00	3.05	75	4.46	51	70	19	0	2	0	0
PHOENIX	95	69	96	66	82	7	0.00	-0.03	0.00	0.33	25	0.33	11	29	15	7	0	0	0
PRESCOTT	76	46	78	42	61	7	0.00	-0.17	0.00	2.60	93	3.09	50	54	13	0	0	0	0
TUCSON	92	61	94	58	76	6	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.46	41	0.68	23	32	15	6	0	0	0
AR FORT SMITH	86	67	89	63	77	12	0.94	-0.12	0.65	11.35	132	17.95	132	85	51	0	0	2	1
LITTLE ROCK	86	67	90	63	76	10	0.09	-1.15	0.09	10.91	97	17.50	96	93	55	1	0	1	0
CA BAKERSFIELD	81	54	91	51	68	1	0.00	-0.03	0.00	2.89	154	3.63	85	67	39	1	0	0	0
FRESNO	82	54	92	49	68	3	0.00	-0.06	0.00	4.45	148	6.58	90	72	41	1	0	0	0
LOS ANGELES	66	57	71	54	62	0	0.01	-0.03	0.01	3.32	109	4.63	51	88	73	0	0	1	0
REDDING	75	52	87	42	64	2	0.04	-0.32	0.04	9.23	118	16.47	83	63	36	0	0	1	0
SACRAMENTO	76	50	85	47	63	1	0.00	-0.11	0.00	6.48	166	9.83	87	87	34	0	0	0	0
SAN DIEGO	66	60	68	59	63	-1	0.00	-0.03	0.00	1.92	63	3.51	48	77	69	0	0	0	0
SAN FRANCISCO	64	49	71	47	57	0	0.00	-0.10	0.00	7.62	169	10.44	81	80	60	0	0	0	0
STOCKTON	78	50	89	48	64	1	0.01	-0.10	0.01	4.27	129	6.36	75	77	47	0	0	1	0
CO ALAMOSA	74	27	80	17	51	6	0.00	-0.14	0.00	0.30	27	0.64	41	57	21	0	6	0	0
CO SPRINGS	79	45	86	32	62	12	0.00	-0.44	0.00	0.80	27	1.11	31	58	12	0	1	0	0
DENVER INTL	79	45	88	35	62	12	0.04	-0.44	0.04	1.47	64	2.63	96	66	17	0	0	1	0
GRAND JUNCTION	78	47	85	33	63	8	0.00	-0.21	0.00	0.49	24	1.29	41	36	15	0	0	0	0
PUEBLO	84	42	91	36	63	8	0.00	-0.30	0.00	0.91	37	1.54	51	64	28	2	0	0	0
CT BRIDGEPORT	60	48	67	39	54	0	1.19	0.31	0.57	5.21	59	9.76	63	72	62	0	0	4	1
HARTFORD	61	45	71	33	53	-2	0.87	-0.05	0.49	5.41	64	9.84	65	76	62	0	0	5	0
DC WASHINGTON	78	57	84	46	67	6	0.32	-0.42	0.16	3.24	47	7.76	61	86	51	0	0	4	0
DE WILMINGTON	69	50	80	37	59	1	0.82	-0.04	0.44	4.31	54	8.94	63	95	57	0	0	4	0
FL DAYTONA BEACH	84	67	88	64	76	4	0.00	-0.45	0.00	3.35	50	5.15	41	97	58	0	0	0	0
JACKSONVILLE	88	63	93	60	75	5	0.00	-0.63	0.00	3.64	48	4.87	34	96	50	2	0	0	0
KEY WEST	82	75	84	73	78	-1	2.97	2.45	2.46	6.40	149	12.40	155	86	73	0	0	3	1
MIAMI	81	73	84	71	77	-1	4.26	3.46	2.88	12.83	197	16.43	157	84	65	0	0	3	2
ORLANDO	88	67	91	65	78	4	0.00	-0.48	0.00	2.52	40	5.79	52	91	65	1	0	0	0
PENSACOLA	83	69	88	62	76	5	0.79	0.03	0.44	6.77	63	15.01	72	92	67	0	0	6	0
TALLAHASSEE	91	66	95	62	78	8	0.00	-0.74	0.00	8.27	78	14.42	70	87	59	4	0	0	0
TAMPA	89	72	92	71	81	7	0.00	-0.39	0.00	3.26	66	6.23	63	83	42	2	0	0	0
GA WEST PALM BEACH	81	72	84	70	77	1	0.87	0.02	0.48	8.00	102	12.20	86	86	71	0	0	4	0
ATHENS	89	62	91	59	76	11	0.04	-0.71	0.04	4.57	51	9.39	52	89	52	2	0	1	0
ATLANTA	87	66	88	62	76	10	0.48	-0.37	0.48	6.23	65	13.60	70	84	50	0	0	1	0
AUGUSTA	91	61	96	56	76	10	0.00	-0.53	0.00	3.74	47	6.26	38	95	46	6	0	0	0
COLUMBUS	90	66	94	60	78	10	0.03	-0.66	0.03	4.40	44	13.51	70	87	37	4	0	1	0
MACON	91	61	94	55	76	9	0.05	-0.56	0.04	2.93	35	8.65	48	94	37	6	0	2	0
SAVANNAH	89	65	95	62	77	8	0.00	-0.64	0.00	5.04	68	9.14	64	92	49	3	0	0	0
HI HILO	79	65	80	63	72	-1	2.32	0.05	0.59	24.05	84	39.64	84	90	78	0	0	7	1
HONOLULU	83	71	84	70	77	1	0.01	-0.19	0.01	5.77	184	7.46	91	73	63	0	0	1	0
KAHULUI	82	67	84	63	75	0	0.20	-0.05	0.10	3.18	74	3.26	31	79	64	0	0	4	0
LIHUE	81	71	82	70	76	2	0.29	-0.40	0.13	18.86	267	32.09	215	77	70	0	0	5	0
ID BOISE	61	42	65	36	52	-2	0.41	0.13	0.26	4.02	140	7.41	137	79	47	0	0	3	0
LEWISTON	60	43	70	40	51	-4	0.54	0.21	0.27	5.58	210	8.18	172	75	56	0	0	4	0
POCATELLO	60	39	65	35	50	0	0.04	-0.27	0.04	2.08	75	4.34	88	67	46	0	0	1	0
IL CHICAGO/O'HARE	69	53	86	43	61	8	2.07	1.29	1.32	6.05	88	9.55	93	84	66	0	0	4	1
MOLINE	70	53	83	41	62	6	3.32	2.44	1.70	6.57	89	9.22	88	92	78	0	0	4	3
PEORIA	73	56	84	45	65	8	2.03	1.11	0.81	5.47	78	8.41	82	95	70	0	0	5	2
ROCKFORD	70	52	84	40	61	7	0.62	-0.22	0.42	6.42	97	8.96	96	89	67	0	0	4	0
SPRINGFIELD	78	60	87	48	69	11	3.11	2.27	1.20	7.18	101	10.25	97	91	62	0	0	4	3
IN EVANSVILLE	86	63	89	56	75	14	2.30	1.19	1.28	5.89	62	11.03	71	90	60	0	0	4	2
FORT WAYNE	77	54	87	35	65	10	0.86	0.06	0.45	4.61	66	9.72	89	93	54	0	0	2	0
INDIANAPOLIS	77	59	85	46	68	11	1.98	1.07	1.48	8.99	117	13.85	110	93	64	0	0	2	2
SOUTH BEND	73	52	86	37	63	9	1.10	0.32	0.55	4.15	59	9.42	83	86	69	0	0	4	1
IA BURLINGTON	72	56	84	44	64	6	3.54	2.62	2.18	6.45	89	8.12	81	98	73	0	0	5	2
CEDAR RAPIDS	70	53	83	42	62	7	1.21	0.44	0.47	6.88	115	8.43	103	98	66	0	0	5	0
DES MOINES	75	59	87	46	67	11	0.92	0.04	0.72	8.39	131	10.59	123	91	68	0	0		

Weather Data for the Week Ending May 5, 2012

STATES AND STATIONS	TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION								RELATIVE HUMIDITY PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS			
	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL IN. SINCE MAR 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE MAR 1	TOTAL IN. SINCE JAN01	PCT. NORMAL SINCE JAN01	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	TEMP. °F		PRECIP		
																90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE	
WICHITA	83	65	90	59	74	14	1.52	0.82	0.96	7.47	129	11.10	145	93	70	1	0	2	2	
KY JACKSON	81	61	87	52	71	11	2.09	1.07	0.82	8.58	96	17.34	107	95	56	0	0	4	2	
LEXINGTON	82	61	86	48	71	12	0.69	-0.25	0.33	6.28	72	12.91	84	94	64	0	0	3	0	
LOUISVILLE	84	64	89	51	74	13	2.04	1.00	1.27	11.21	124	17.04	109	87	54	0	0	3	1	
PADUCAH	87	65	91	61	76	15	0.14	-1.04	0.14	4.70	47	10.44	60	89	47	2	0	1	0	
LA BATON ROUGE	89	67	90	62	78	8	0.79	-0.47	0.79	9.18	80	22.49	99	99	52	3	0	1	1	
LAKE CHARLES	86	69	88	66	78	7	0.20	-0.87	0.20	10.51	132	27.32	163	97	60	0	0	1	0	
NEW ORLEANS	88	71	90	68	80	8	0.18	-0.81	0.12	15.72	143	22.24	100	91	57	2	0	2	0	
SHREVEPORT	87	68	89	63	78	9	0.00	-1.11	0.00	11.36	121	18.11	99	94	54	0	0	0	0	
ME CARIBOU	54	34	65	25	44	-1	0.14	-0.51	0.07	6.06	107	12.02	112	85	43	0	3	2	0	
PORTLAND	52	40	61	30	46	-3	0.66	-0.26	0.51	7.55	83	13.31	82	88	66	0	1	4	1	
MD BALTIMORE	75	54	85	41	64	6	0.13	-0.63	0.07	3.88	52	8.84	63	90	69	0	0	3	0	
MA BOSTON	54	44	59	39	49	-5	0.74	0.00	0.60	5.04	63	8.71	57	82	64	0	0	4	1	
WORCESTER	56	42	65	33	49	-2	0.88	-0.03	0.64	5.66	64	10.12	63	86	58	0	0	4	1	
MI ALPENA	59	37	67	27	48	1	1.09	0.54	0.83	4.47	93	7.95	100	93	52	0	3	3	1	
GRAND RAPIDS	70	49	86	28	60	8	0.95	0.18	0.51	6.44	97	11.64	114	91	56	0	1	4	1	
HOUGHTON LAKE	64	41	74	24	53	5	2.89	2.39	2.56	7.80	166	12.42	165	91	62	0	1	3	1	
LANSING	70	46	86	25	58	7	1.51	0.91	0.68	6.14	105	9.75	110	91	68	0	1	5	2	
MUSKOGON	68	49	78	27	59	8	0.66	0.00	0.28	6.19	108	11.16	117	86	69	0	1	5	0	
TRVERSE CITY	64	42	72	26	53	4	2.04	1.52	1.59	8.31	164	11.07	113	92	43	0	1	5	1	
MN DULUTH	60	42	79	33	51	5	0.51	0.01	0.30	5.03	121	6.81	112	88	65	0	0	3	0	
INT'L FALLS	64	42	73	34	53	6	0.08	-0.29	0.05	4.54	174	6.09	149	85	52	0	0	2	0	
MINNEAPOLIS	70	52	81	44	61	7	2.89	2.34	0.91	7.30	160	9.97	146	90	66	0	0	6	3	
ROCHESTER	68	51	82	37	60	9	1.96	1.22	0.60	5.50	101	7.70	108	90	75	0	0	5	1	
ST. CLOUD	69	50	81	43	59	8	2.56	2.09	1.73	6.31	159	8.12	153	91	52	0	0	4	2	
MS JACKSON	87	67	91	61	77	10	1.30	0.02	1.30	12.93	102	25.23	111	94	51	1	0	1	1	
MERIDIAN	86	62	90	56	74	6	0.46	-0.75	0.38	10.84	81	23.17	94	97	69	1	0	2	0	
TUPELO	87	65	90	61	76	11	0.31	-0.88	0.30	9.79	81	19.15	87	89	68	1	0	2	0	
MO COLUMBIA	80	62	87	50	71	12	4.63	3.54	3.07	13.41	165	16.82	139	92	66	0	0	5	3	
KANSAS CITY	78	62	88	51	70	11	1.49	0.41	1.17	6.79	103	9.98	110	92	70	0	0	4	1	
SAINT LOUIS	82	64	92	51	73	11	1.24	0.34	0.57	11.31	142	15.65	127	84	64	2	0	4	2	
SPRINGFIELD	81	62	86	59	72	12	0.92	-0.04	0.65	7.32	83	10.63	80	88	67	0	0	4	1	
MT BILLINGS	62	39	67	35	51	0	0.14	-0.36	0.08	1.37	42	2.22	48	70	32	0	0	3	0	
BUTTE	50	30	57	25	40	-3	0.21	-0.11	0.09	2.34	112	2.61	84	87	35	0	5	4	0	
CUT BANK	56	34	60	26	45	-1	0.01	-0.30	0.01	0.79	47	1.31	56	80	31	0	3	1	0	
GLASGOW	61	39	68	35	50	-1	0.84	0.59	0.58	2.44	173	3.33	165	92	65	0	0	3	1	
GREAT FALLS	60	36	65	28	48	1	0.48	0.05	0.28	4.07	150	4.68	119	82	29	0	2	3	0	
HAVRE	62	36	69	29	49	-1	0.33	0.03	0.23	3.92	219	4.47	171	87	56	0	1	2	0	
MISSOULA	55	34	59	25	44	-5	0.22	-0.11	0.08	2.36	103	4.83	117	83	55	0	2	4	0	
NE GRAND ISLAND	82	54	95	42	68	13	0.01	-0.74	0.01	1.97	38	3.18	50	97	68	2	0	1	0	
LINCOLN	79	55	90	41	67	10	1.16	0.33	0.55	5.46	95	7.71	109	97	73	2	0	3	2	
NORFOLK	80	54	91	42	67	12	0.27	-0.45	0.13	4.03	79	5.94	93	91	71	1	0	3	0	
NORTH PLATTE	79	47	90	37	63	10	0.00	-0.63	0.00	4.50	123	5.85	128	93	44	1	0	0	0	
OMAHA	78	59	90	48	69	12	1.87	1.00	0.71	5.80	102	8.15	112	90	73	1	0	4	2	
SCOTTSBLUFF	76	44	87	34	60	9	0.26	-0.26	0.09	1.16	35	2.18	49	80	41	0	0	4	0	
VALENTINE	75	47	83	37	61	9	0.09	-0.54	0.06	3.34	94	5.81	134	92	56	0	0	2	0	
NV ELY	69	35	73	25	52	6	0.00	-0.25	0.00	1.87	88	3.76	104	57	23	0	5	0	0	
LAS VEGAS	88	66	93	62	77	6	0.00	-0.03	0.00	0.19	25	0.25	12	19	12	2	0	0	0	
RENO	71	43	78	36	57	5	0.00	-0.09	0.00	0.19	15	2.32	68	52	21	0	0	0	0	
WINNEMUCCA	68	34	73	26	51	0	0.00	-0.20	0.00	1.69	91	2.98	90	61	29	0	4	0	0	
NH CONCORD	57	40	70	28	48	-3	1.02	0.30	0.79	5.36	81	9.60	80	89	58	0	2	3	1	
NJ NEWARK	65	50	76	40	57	-1	1.09	0.10	0.51	5.58	63	9.80	62	76	61	0	0	4	1	
NM ALBUQUERQUE	82	53	85	51	68	8	0.00	-0.11	0.00	1.02	86	1.68	79	28	9	0	0	0	0	
NY ALBANY	62	44	78	29	53	0	1.23	0.47	0.52	5.75	83	9.01	78	84	51	0	2	5	1	
BINGHAMTON	66	44	79	29	55	4	1.32	0.52	0.59	5.74	82	10.03	83	83	62	0	2	6	1	
BUFFALO	66	45	82	28	55	3	0.81	0.15	0.64	5.11	79	11.26	93	86	51	0	1	5	1	
ROCHESTER	67	43	82	27	55	3	0.50	-0.08	0.21	4.64	81	10.09	100	87	55	0	2	5	0	
SYRACUSE	66	45	77	29	56	4	1.08	0.31	0.60	5.15	74	10.44	89	90	54	0	2	4	1	
NC ASHEVILLE	82	58	85	50	70	12	0.20	-0.62	0.19	7.61	88	13.05	79	94	49	0	0	2	0	
CHARLOTTE	86	62	88	53	74	9	0.00	-0.69	0.00	5.58	71	9.16	60	90	45	0	0	0	0	
GREENSBORO	85	62	89	52	73	11	0.45	-0.41	0.45	5.60	71	9.27	64	90	47	0	0	1	0	
HATTERAS	77	65	82	55	71	7	0.14	-0.56	0.13	9.59	110	18.05	97	90	66	0	0	2	0	
RALEIGH	86	63	91	55	74	11	1.58	0.86	1.58	9.58	130	13.48	91	89	62	3	0	1	1	
WILMINGTON	85	65	92	61	75	8	0.75	-0.04	0.75	5.79	75	9.73	61	94	47	3	0	1	1	
ND BISMARCK	68	41	75	31	55	5	0.77	0.36	0.28	3.08	118	3.86	108	94	60	0	1	4	0	
DICKINSON	66	39	71	32	52	3	0.58	0.17	0.31	2.11	77	2.54	72	94	41	0	1	6	0	
FARGO	70	47	79	41	59	7	0.12	-0.27	0.06	2.00	71	3.53	85	81	45	0	0	4	0	
GRAND FORKS	67	43	73	37	55	4	0.42	0.07	0.19	3.16	133	4.05	112	93	47	0	0	4	0	
JAMESTOWN	67	45	75	33	56	5	1.28	0.90	0.71	3.60	142	4.04	110	93	46	0	0	4	1	
WILLISTON	63	39	69	29	51	2	0.90	0.59	0.57	2.06	102	2.46	83	97	64	0	1	3	1	
OH AKRON-CANTON	78	53	88	29	66	12	0.68	-0.19	0.25	5.00	70	10.83	91	77	49	0	1	5	0	
CINCINNATI	80	59	86	45	69	10	1.47	0.54	0.75	7.46	87	14.39	101	90	69	0	0	4	1	
CLEVELAND	74	51	88	28	63	10	0.85	0.08	0.81	5.92	86	11.39	98	92	48	0	1	3	1	
COLUMBUS	81	59	88	42	70	13	1.21	0.39	0.55	9.22	137	14.93	130	78	50	0	0	4	1	
DAYTON	77	58	85	44	68	12	1.64	0.71	0.95	5.93	74	11.93	93	87	52	0	0	4	2	
MANSFIELD	77	53	86	31	65	12	2.05	1.09	0.93	6.32	77	12.45	96	96	47	0	1	4	2	

Based on 1971-2000 normals

*** Not Available

Weather Data for the Week Ending May 5, 2012

STATES AND STATIONS	TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS			
	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL IN., SINCE MAR 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE MAR 1	TOTAL IN., SINCE JAN 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE JAN 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	TEMP. °F		PRECIP	
																90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	0.1 INCH OR MORE	5.0 INCH OR MORE
OK TOLEDO	74	50	88	31	62	8	0.88	0.20	0.54	5.95	94	10.15	100	87	60	0	1	4	1
OK YOUNGSTOWN	77	49	88	26	63	10	1.26	0.49	1.00	5.04	73	12.76	113	81	57	0	1	4	1
OK OKLAHOMA CITY	85	65	91	61	75	11	1.56	0.60	1.26	11.17	169	14.26	151	88	59	1	0	4	1
OR TULSA	85	68	90	60	77	12	0.85	-0.32	0.83	9.94	119	12.16	102	85	61	1	0	2	1
OR ASTORIA	53	43	57	40	48	-3	2.90	2.05	1.50	23.76	184	41.36	136	93	80	0	0	7	2
OR BURNS	58	31	64	23	45	-2	0.38	0.18	0.30	3.20	143	5.71	126	84	56	0	5	3	0
OR EUGENE	59	41	68	34	50	-2	0.94	0.27	0.56	14.34	144	26.51	111	89	72	0	0	5	1
OR MEDFORD	65	44	78	40	55	0	0.15	-0.13	0.15	5.81	173	10.76	136	79	43	0	0	1	0
OR PENDLETON	62	39	70	35	51	-4	0.66	0.41	0.49	4.93	192	7.86	150	81	54	0	0	2	0
OR PORTLAND	58	46	65	42	52	-2	1.32	0.77	0.84	12.32	183	21.97	137	83	66	0	0	5	1
OR SALEM	59	42	68	36	50	-3	1.04	0.51	0.61	13.92	191	28.38	156	91	68	0	0	5	1
PA ALLENTOWN	70	47	82	30	59	5	0.67	-0.24	0.39	4.59	60	8.66	62	81	60	0	2	4	0
PA ERIE	70	47	84	27	58	6	1.23	0.54	0.76	4.90	70	11.19	95	86	62	0	1	5	1
PA MIDDLETOWN	72	50	81	35	61	4	0.85	-0.02	0.59	4.46	62	9.74	75	91	50	0	0	4	1
PA PHILADELPHIA	69	51	80	40	60	1	0.49	-0.37	0.25	3.84	48	8.27	58	80	64	0	0	4	0
PA PITTSBURGH	79	55	87	32	67	12	1.18	0.44	0.83	5.76	86	11.85	101	88	40	0	1	4	1
PA WILKES-BARRE	70	47	80	30	59	4	0.64	-0.16	0.39	5.67	87	8.61	78	83	47	0	2	5	0
PA WILLIAMSPORT	73	48	86	30	61	6	0.77	-0.03	0.39	3.78	52	8.54	67	87	55	0	2	4	0
RI PROVIDENCE	57	45	60	35	51	-3	0.80	-0.04	0.57	5.61	61	10.50	62	75	64	0	0	4	1
SC BEAUFORT	88	64	95	61	76	7	0.07	-0.40	0.03	8.34	119	11.70	83	96	47	1	0	5	0
SC CHARLESTON	87	64	93	61	76	8	0.14	-0.40	0.13	6.98	97	9.90	69	95	49	1	0	2	0
SC COLUMBIA	90	67	95	64	78	11	0.21	-0.31	0.21	4.66	59	8.88	54	85	53	3	0	1	0
SD GREENVILLE	85	63	87	53	74	11	0.00	-0.89	0.00	6.46	68	11.56	64	89	47	0	0	0	0
SD ABERDEEN	71	48	77	42	60	7	0.68	0.22	0.37	4.60	131	6.17	138	91	65	0	0	4	0
SD HURON	73	50	81	42	62	9	0.96	0.38	0.54	5.65	129	8.44	155	98	54	0	0	2	1
SD RAPID CITY	69	42	75	33	55	5	0.61	0.06	0.56	3.75	114	4.44	108	86	41	0	0	2	1
SD SIOUX FALLS	73	52	84	44	62	10	0.60	-0.07	0.30	3.80	77	6.98	117	95	68	0	0	3	0
TN BRISTOL	82	58	86	53	70	11	0.07	-0.80	0.06	6.49	84	14.79	101	95	46	0	0	2	0
TN CHATTANOOGA	89	63	92	58	76	12	0.00	-0.91	0.00	6.09	55	15.44	72	89	56	3	0	0	0
TN KNOXVILLE	85	64	88	59	75	13	0.53	-0.46	0.24	10.24	104	20.00	108	86	43	0	0	3	0
TN MEMPHIS	88	69	91	67	79	13	0.00	-1.30	0.00	5.39	44	10.15	49	82	47	3	0	0	0
TN NASHVILLE	86	64	89	60	75	12	0.24	-0.77	0.24	6.22	65	14.16	82	87	46	0	0	1	0
TX ABILENE	92	69	100	68	81	12	0.02	-0.44	0.02	2.09	61	6.57	119	86	49	4	0	1	0
TX AMARILLO	91	54	97	50	73	13	0.58	0.22	0.57	3.16	116	3.84	98	63	19	5	0	2	1
TX AUSTIN	90	71	95	70	80	8	0.12	-0.76	0.12	5.32	100	16.48	180	88	56	3	0	1	0
TX BEAUMONT	86	69	88	67	78	6	0.03	-1.00	0.01	11.30	135	25.48	147	96	58	0	0	3	0
TX BROWNSVILLE	91	75	94	73	83	6	0.01	-0.49	0.01	0.78	24	5.35	93	89	54	6	0	1	0
TX CORPUS CHRISTI	90	74	94	71	82	8	0.00	-0.61	0.00	3.93	93	8.47	110	91	54	4	0	0	0
TX DEL RIO	89	70	93	66	79	5	0.49	0.00	0.47	2.55	84	4.25	93	89	65	4	0	2	0
TX EL PASO	90	61	92	56	75	6	0.01	-0.05	0.01	0.18	34	0.86	63	16	7	3	0	1	0
TX FORT WORTH	89	70	93	67	80	11	0.00	-1.02	0.00	10.00	143	18.06	160	84	51	3	0	0	0
TX GALVESTON	84	76	85	75	80	7	0.00	-0.66	0.00	6.96	120	17.30	139	90	72	0	0	0	0
TX HOUSTON	88	71	91	68	79	7	0.00	-0.93	0.00	10.42	137	21.47	150	89	56	3	0	0	0
TX LUBBOCK	93	62	99	57	78	13	0.15	-0.23	0.13	1.74	75	2.32	66	69	33	5	0	2	0
TX MIDLAND	96	66	100	61	81	13	0.00	-0.31	0.00	0.16	12	1.35	54	75	29	6	0	0	0
TX SAN ANGELO	93	68	102	63	81	12	0.00	-0.56	0.00	2.07	69	8.07	162	73	43	5	0	0	0
TX SAN ANTONIO	92	73	96	72	82	10	0.02	-0.80	0.01	3.29	65	12.91	152	90	46	6	0	2	0
TX VICTORIA	91	71	93	67	81	8	0.00	-0.92	0.00	4.49	76	9.51	92	94	58	5	0	0	0
TX WACO	90	70	95	69	80	10	0.01	-0.93	0.01	10.01	163	17.04	163	88	56	3	0	1	0
TX WICHITA FALLS	94	69	98	63	82	15	0.01	-0.60	0.01	5.91	109	8.75	108	81	53	5	0	1	0
UT SALT LAKE CITY	68	47	75	42	57	3	0.24	-0.28	0.24	3.13	73	6.04	86	79	35	0	0	1	0
VT BURLINGTON	59	41	67	26	50	0	1.08	0.37	0.47	4.92	86	7.77	81	86	53	0	2	4	0
VA LYNCHBURG	78	57	87	44	67	8	0.17	-0.70	0.07	8.35	105	13.18	91	95	61	0	0	3	0
VA NORFOLK	79	59	89	49	69	7	0.25	-0.54	0.12	5.78	72	10.25	67	87	54	0	0	3	0
VA RICHMOND	81	59	89	47	70	9	0.64	-0.16	0.29	5.46	70	10.41	72	93	59	0	0	5	0
VA ROANOKE	79	59	89	46	69	9	0.54	-0.37	0.33	7.11	88	11.01	76	86	63	0	0	2	0
VA WASH/DULLES	78	53	84	40	65	7	0.18	-0.63	0.09	3.49	47	7.59	58	88	65	0	0	5	0
WA OLYMPIA	55	42	61	38	48	-2	1.71	1.10	1.10	14.04	151	27.77	121	93	77	0	0	6	1
WA QUILLAYUTE	53	43	56	39	48	-1	1.77	0.33	0.94	31.95	164	58.94	130	95	80	0	0	7	1
WA SEATTLE-TACOMA	55	44	60	41	50	-3	1.18	0.74	0.75	10.74	162	21.20	133	87	70	0	0	5	1
WA SPOKANE	55	39	63	34	47	-4	0.62	0.30	0.29	6.47	213	9.97	157	86	50	0	0	3	0
WA YAKIMA	64	40	71	35	52	0	0.12	0.04	0.10	2.43	188	4.38	134	68	38	0	0	2	0
WV BECKLEY	78	58	86	51	68	12	2.02	1.09	0.97	9.76	126	16.96	122	88	67	0	0	4	2
WV CHARLESTON	81	59	89	49	70	11	2.48	1.63	1.00	9.30	120	14.65	103	97	56	0	0	4	3
WV ELKINS	78	52	86	41	65	11	2.35	1.42	0.74	8.70	107	14.11	96	96	44	0	0	4	3
WV HUNTINGTON	81	58	89	46	70	10	2.34	1.45	1.64	7.42	95	11.97	85	97	57	0	0	4	2
WI EAU CLAIRE	69	48	81	36	59	7	2.01	1.30	0.71	6.47	123	8.85	124	96	51	0	0	7	2
WI GREEN BAY	65	45	80	29	55	4	2.00	1.45	0.91	6.20	124	8.72	121	92	60	0	1	5	2
WI LA CROSSE	68	51	83	37	60	5	1.32	0.55	0.45	5.98	101	8.50	105	97	60	0	0	6	0
WI MADISON	67	49	81	34	58	6	0.94	0.22	0.56	5.78	94	8.22	95	93	75	0	0	5	1
WI MILWAUKEE	64	48	83	38	56	5	0.45	-0.32	0.23	6.10	88	8.95	86	89	70	0	0	3	0
WY CASPER	69	32	75	24	50	3	0.39	-0.11	0.39	1.73	62	3.28	82	72	33	0	3	1	0
WY CHEYENNE	71	41	80	32	56	10	0.00	-0.48	0.00	0.44	15	1.47	38	67	31	0	2	0	0
WY LANDER	67	38	74	30	52	4	0.00	-0.57	0.00	1.38	37	2.69	56	66	18	0	2	0	0
WY SHERIDAN	63	34	68	30	49	1	0.29	-0.20	0.29	2.16	69	3.45	77	87	49	0	4	1	0

Based on 1971-2000 normals

*** Not Available

April Weather and Crop Summary

Weather

Weather summary provided by USDA/WAOB

Highlights: Most of the nation continued to experience unusually warm weather, with record-setting April warmth noted across parts of the southern Plains. Monthly temperatures averaged at least 5°F above normal at numerous locations on the central and southern High Plains. Cooler-than-normal weather was generally limited to areas along the Pacific Coast and parts of the Great Lakes and Northeastern States. In the latter region, early-blooming fruit crops were threatened by a series of freezes, the worst of which struck much of Michigan, New York, and Pennsylvania from April 27-30.

During April, significantly above-normal precipitation was mostly limited to the Pacific Coast States, the northern Rockies, southern Florida, northern Maine, and parts of the Plains and upper Midwest. Rainfall was especially important across the northern Plains and upper Midwest, where dryness had begun to develop in late-summer 2011.

In contrast, mostly dry weather prevailed across the eastern Corn Belt and much of the South. Planting advanced quickly across the dry regions, but pastures, winter grains, and emerging summer crops were in need of moisture in drought-affected areas of the southern High Plains and the lower Southeast.

Meanwhile, cool, showery weather slowed spring fieldwork and crop development in California and the Northwest. Elsewhere, further deterioration of water-supply prospects occurred in the Four Corners States, where April warmth prematurely melted already meager snowpacks.

Historical Perspective: According to preliminary information provided by the National Climatic Data Center, the contiguous U.S. experienced its third-warmest, 41st-driest April on record. The nation's April average temperature of 55.7°F was 3.6°F above the 1901-2000 mean. Only 2006 (56.3°F) and 1981 (56.2°F) featured a higher April average temperature. Monthly precipitation averaged 2.23 inches, 92 percent of the 20th-century mean. It was the nation's driest April since 2002, when an average of 2.20 inches fell.

All of the Contiguous States had an April temperature in the warm half of the historical distribution (figure 1). State-level temperature rankings ranged from the 55th-warmest April in Pennsylvania to the third-warmest April in Texas. Top-ten rankings for April warmth were also noted in Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, New Mexico, Wyoming, and four New England States (MA, ME, NH, and RI). Meanwhile, state-level precipitation rankings ranged from the sixth-driest April in Tennessee to the seventh-wettest April in Oregon (figure 2). Several other Southern and Eastern States were quite dry, with Alabama reporting its eighth-driest April.

Summary: Early in the month, record-breaking warmth dominated the nation's mid-section. On the first day of April, highs soared above the 90-degree mark in locations such as

Figure 1

April 2012 Statewide Ranks

National Climatic Data Center/NESDIS/NOAA

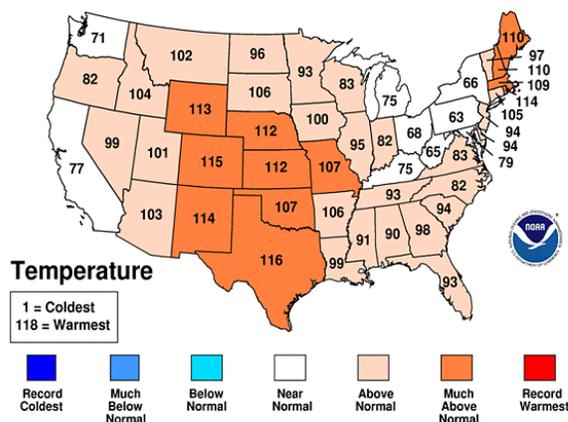
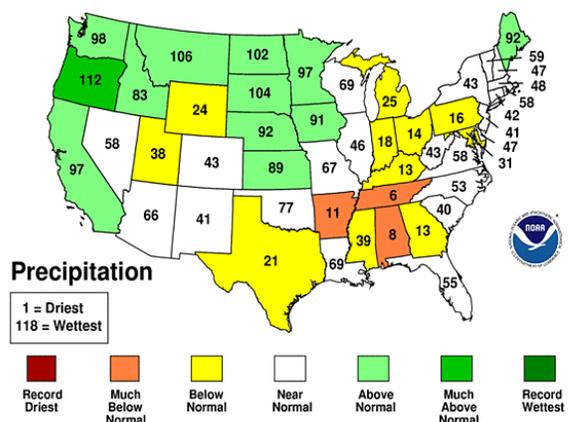


Figure 2

April 2012 Statewide Ranks

National Climatic Data Center/NESDIS/NOAA



Sioux City, IA (93°F); Garden City, KS (93°F); Borger, TX (93°F); Mitchell, SD (92°F); Norfolk, NE (92°F); and Ponca City, OK (91°F). Sioux City posted its earliest consecutive 90-degree days on record; the high had reached 90°F on March 31. By April 2, warmth lingered in the Midwest but began to shift into the South and East. Sioux City notched its third consecutive 90-degree reading, posting a high of 92°F on April 2. Farther east, Charleston, SC (91°F on April 2), registered its earliest reading above 90°F, previously set with a high of 93°F on April 3, 1946. Other record-setting highs for April 2 included 92°F in Tallahassee, FL, and 89°F in St. Louis, MO. Highs continued to top 90°F in parts of Florida for several more days. In Lakeland, FL, for example, readings of 92°F on April 3 and 4 set daily-record highs for both dates. Vero Beach, FL, also collected a daily-record high of 92°F on April 4. Meanwhile in southern Texas, Corpus Christi (97°F on April 5) tallied a daily-record high. In contrast, cold air invaded the West in early April. Both Redmond, OR (13 and 16°F), and Sacramento, CA (35 and 34°F), notched consecutive daily-record lows on April 5-6.

Elsewhere in California, daily-record lows for April 6 dipped to 20°F in Bishop and 29°F in Redding and Paso Robles. Western daily-record lows for April 7 included -1°F in Stanley, ID; 25°F in Lancaster, CA; and 31°F in Portland, OR.

In early April, widespread and significant precipitation associated with a slow-moving storm developed across the central and southern Plains and adjacent Rockies. Storm-total rainfall topped 2 inches in numerous locations from Kansas, Oklahoma, and northern Texas eastward into the southern Appalachians. Totals exceeded 4 inches in the Mississippi Delta, where New Orleans, LA, received 5.44 inches from April 2-5. Dodge City, KS, received an April 2-3 total of 1.56 inches, aided by a daily-record amount of 1.04 inches on the 2nd. On April 3, daily-record totals included 1.84 inches in Wichita Falls, TX, and 1.33 inches in Bristol, TN. Also on the 3rd, more than a dozen tornadoes raked northeastern Texas, including the Dallas-Ft. Worth area. On the storm's western fringe, early-April snowfall totals of 1 to 2 feet were common in the Rockies, with 20 inches reported at the Taos Ski Area near Red River, NM. Meanwhile, a winter-like storm moved into the Northwest. In Oregon, April 3-4 snowfall totals reached 6.5 inches in Joseph and 4.5 inches in John Day. Later, April 6 snowfall totaled 5.5 inches in Great Falls, MT.

A few days later, however, warmth quickly overspread much of the West. In Washington, Seattle (70°F) and Bellingham (68°F) notched daily-record highs for April 8. 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.

By the middle of the second week of April, 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 10.0 inches of snow on April 14-15. Farther east, Vichy-Rolla, MO, posted 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 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.

At mid-month, highly beneficial rain soaked the upper Midwest. Daily-record totals for April 15 included 2.87 inches in Sisseton, SD; 2.26 inches in Rockford, IL; and 1.51 inches in St. Cloud, MN. Later, heavy showers developed across parts of the South. In Texas, daily-record rainfall amounts for April 16 reached 2.16 inches in Corpus Christi and 1.76 inches in McAllen. On the same date in Louisiana, record-setting totals included 2.71 inches in New Iberia and 2.13 inches in Alexandria. April 13-15 totals in Missouri reached 4.37 inches in Jefferson City and 3.45 inches in Columbia. A few days later, additional rain fell across the upper Midwest. La Crosse, WI, received a daily-record total (1.60 inches) on April 19. Eventually, the focus for heavy precipitation shifted into the South and East. In Florida, daily-record totals included 1.99 inches (on April 21) in Key West and 1.49 inches (on April 20) in Vero Beach. Meanwhile, enough cool air arrived in the North to contribute to a daily-record snowfall (2.4 inches on April 21) in International Falls, MN.

Mid-April warmth covered parts of the East. In Maine, Houlton (72, 73, and 80°F) and Caribou (65, 76, and 76°F) tallied a trio of daily-record highs from April 15-17. Other record-setting highs for April 16 included 92°F in Hartford, CT; 91°F in Albany, NY; and 90°F in both Concord, NH, and Reading, PA. By April 18, however, a sudden turn toward colder weather in the East resulted in a daily-record low of 24°F in Watertown, NY. In Michigan's fruit belt, Traverse City reported 20 freezes (32°F or lower) during the month, including readings of 24°F on April 6 and 7; 25°F on April 12 and 27; and 26°F on April 2, 13, 18, 22, and 29. Meanwhile, heat began to build in the Desert Southwest. Death Valley, CA, reached 100°F for the first time this year on April 18, followed by its first 110-degree reading (a daily-record high) on April 21. Other Western records for April 21 reached 107°F in Palm Springs, CA; 103°F in Phoenix, AZ; and 88°F in Reno, NV. In fact, Reno set three consecutive daily-record highs (84, 88, and 90°F) from April 20-22—reaching the 90-degree mark for the first time on record in April.

Elsewhere on the 22nd, monthly record highs were tied or broken in locations such as Death Valley, CA (113°F); Barstow-Daggett, CA (103°F); Las Vegas, NV (99°F); and Winnemucca, NV (90°F). The following day, April 23, Winnemucca again reached 90°F, while monthly record highs were tied in Grand Junction, CO (89°F), and Pocatello, ID (86°F). Heat reached the High Plains on April 24, when Nebraska locations such as Scottsbluff (93°F) and Sidney (92°F) achieved monthly record highs. Across the southern half of the Plains, heat generally peaked on April 25, when monthly record highs were broken in locations such as Childress, TX (106°F); Abilene, TX (104°F); Lubbock, TX (104°F); Roswell, NM (102°F); and Topeka, KS (97°F). From April 25-27, San Angelo, TX (104, 105, and 102°F), tallied a trio of triple-digit, daily-record highs. In stark contrast, chilly conditions gripped the East. On April 23, high temperatures failed to reach the 50-degree mark in Virginia locations such as Lynchburg (48°F) and Danville (49°F). The following day, record-setting lows for April 24 dipped to 29°F in Danville and 37°F in both Mobile, AL, and Meridian, MS. In

Florida, Orlando and Vero Beach (both 44°F) collected daily-record lows on April 25.

By April 27, a new surge of cool air arrived in the Great Lakes and Northeastern States, threatening further injury to fruit crops. Daily-record lows for the 27th included 19°F in Rhinelander, WI, and 28°F in Ft. Wayne, IN. April 28 featured record-setting lows in Watertown, NY (21°F), and Dubois, PA (25°F). Among a flurry of daily-record lows on April 29 were readings of 22°F in Flint, MI; 24°F in Montpelier, VT; 27°F in Rochester, NY; and 29°F in Akron-Canton, OH. The following day, record-setting lows on the last day of April included 23°F in Watertown, NY; 27°F in Burlington, VT; and 30°F in Scranton, PA. Meanwhile, uncharacteristically hot weather prevailed across the Deep South. Monthly record highs were tied or broken on April 30 in Tallahassee, FL (95°F), and Columbus, GA (94°F). Tallahassee tied a record last achieved on April 24, 1999, while Columbus edged its mark of 93°F originally set on April 27, 1986.

At the beginning of the last full week in April, heavy precipitation eased dryness in the Mid-Atlantic and Northeastern States. Rainfall totals exceeded 4 inches at some places in coastal New England, while heavy snow (locally 1 to 2 feet) blanketed a few high-elevation locations from the central Appalachians into western New York. Providence, RI, netted consecutive daily-record rainfall amounts, totaling 3.19 inches, on April 22-23. Daily-record totals topped 3 inches in several locations, including Cape Hatteras, NC (3.18 inches on April 22), and Portland, ME (3.13 inches on April 23). Portland's April 22-23 rainfall total reached 4.20 inches. Meanwhile in New York, April 23-24 snowfall totaled 2.8 inches in Rochester and 1.0 inch in Buffalo. Some additional snow showers affected the Northeast late in the month, when Binghamton, NY (0.3 inch on April 27), received a daily-record snowfall. Farther west, showers overspread the Pacific Coast States. Daily-record rainfall totals for April 25 reached 0.54 inch in Sacramento, CA, and 0.45 inch in Yakima, WA. A day later in Idaho, record-setting totals for April 26 included 1.25 inches in McCall, 1.09 inches in Boise, and 1.06 inches in Stanley. In the northern Rockies, the combination of melting snow and heavy precipitation triggered some flooding, although cool weather and snow showers returned by month's end. Meanwhile in Montana, daily-record precipitation amounts for April 27 reached 1.04 inches in Havre and 0.88 inch in Lewistown. Farther south, high winds swept across parts of the Southwest. In New Mexico, both Albuquerque and Las Vegas clocked wind gusts to 75 mph on the afternoon on April 26. As April drew to a close, showers and thunderstorms peppered the nation's mid-section. Daily-record rainfall totals for April 29 included 3.08 inches in Columbia, MO, and 2.10 inches in Borger, TX. Heavy showers also affected southern Florida, where Miami (2.88 inches) netted a daily-record total for April 29.

Mild weather prevailed for much of the month in Alaska, where April temperatures ranged from near normal in western areas to as much as 5°F above normal at some interior and northern locations. Still, there were periods of cold weather, especially early in the month. Bethel, in southwestern Alaska, received 3.7 inches of snow on April 4-5, followed by a low of -12°F on April 6. Daily snowfall records for April 5 included 3.2 inches in King Salmon and 2.5 inches in Cold Bay. In addition, Cold Bay's season-to-date snowfall through April reached 128.3

inches (179 percent of normal), eclipsing its 1983-84 standard of 115.9 inches. Farther east, Valdez posted daily-record highs of 52°F on both April 11 and 13. Later, Delta Junction notched consecutive daily-record highs (52°F both days) on April 13-14. Other Alaskan daily-record highs around mid-month included 62°F (on April 12) in Juneau; 61°F (on April 16) in Fairbanks; and 56°F (on both April 16 and 17) in McGrath. Fairbanks' snow depth, which began the month at 22 inches, melted to a trace by April 20. As the month wound down, daily-record highs were established in locations such as Kodiak (59°F on April 25) and King Salmon (61°F on April 27). Although most of Alaska experienced drier-than-normal April weather, Yakutat received rainfall totaling 2.57 inches during the last 5 days of the month.

Following Hawaii's stormy March regime, April weather patterns were markedly more tranquil. All of the state's major observation sites reported significantly below-normal April rainfall totals. Any heavy showers were spotty and confined to windward locations. For example, Kilohana, Kauai, received 2.93 inches of rain in a 24-hour period on April 21-22. Elsewhere on Kauai, Lihue's April rainfall totaled just 0.37 inch (16 percent of normal). However, Lihue's year-to-date rainfall stood at 31.75 inches (231 percent), courtesy of the wet March.

Fieldwork

Fieldwork summary provided by USDA/NASS

During April, warmer-than-normal weather and generally adequate soil moisture levels promoted record-setting planting and development paces for many crops. Monthly temperatures averaged more than 5°F above normal in parts of Texas and the Rockies, while near-normal temperatures prevailed along the Pacific Coast and throughout the Ohio Valley. Precipitation totals for the month were below normal throughout much of the United States. In the Southeast, dry conditions limited cotton and peanut planting in some fields. Elsewhere, moisture benefited small grain development on the Great Plains but limited fieldwork in portions of the Pacific Northwest and California.

By April 1, corn planting was active in half of the 18 major estimating states, with 3 percent of the nation's crop in the ground, slightly ahead of both last year and the 5-year average. While favorably warm early spring weather across most of the major corn-producing regions promoted an early start to fieldwork, producers in some locations remained hesitant out of concern for a spring freeze. Warm, dry weather continued throughout the month, providing ample time for fieldwork. Emergence was 9 percent complete by April 22, seven percentage points ahead of both last year and the 5-year average. Producers continued planting at a blistering pace during the second half of the month. By April 29, fifty-three percent of the nation's crop was in the ground, 26 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Planting progress was at least 21 percentage points ahead of normal in seven of the ten top 10 producing states.

With activity limited to Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas, 13 percent of this year's sorghum crop was planted as April began. This was 3 percentage points behind last year but on par with the

5-year average. Heavy rainfall in portions of central and eastern Texas delayed planting and pushed progress behind both last year and the average pace for the state. Conversely, producers in Arkansas utilized warm, mostly dry conditions to plant 20 percent of their crop during the week ending April 15, leaving progress 48 percentage points ahead of normal. As April continued, favorable weather conditions and mostly adequate soil moisture levels provided ideal planting conditions in many of the major growing regions. By month's end, planting was active in all states, with nearly one-quarter of the crop was planted. This was slightly ahead of both last year and normal.

Warmer-than-normal weather prompted an early start to oat seeding. By April 1, producers had seeded 48 percent of the nation's crop, 10 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average—with seeding complete in Texas. Fieldwork continued at a rapid pace throughout the major growing regions as the month progressed. By mid-April, seeding was 23 percentage points or more ahead of normal in all major estimating states. Warm weather promoted a rapid crop development pace, and by April 22, fifty-eight percent of the crop was at or beyond emergence. This was 17 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Beneficial soil moisture levels in most locations boosted crop conditions. Overall, 73 percent of the oat crop was reported in good to excellent condition on April 29. With the accelerated pace of emergence this year, comparable data from last year was not available, as this was the earliest crop conditions had ever been estimated.

Nationally, 8 percent of the barley crop was seeded by April 1, four percentage points ahead of the 5-year average, with progress most advanced in Idaho. Fieldwork continued at a rapid pace across much of the nation's northern tier, with seeding well ahead of the normal pace in Idaho, Minnesota, Montana, and North Dakota by mid-month. Conversely, precipitation and cooler-than-normal weather hampered seeding in Washington. Emergence was well underway by April 22, ahead of both last year and normal, and gained speed toward month's end. Nearly ideal weather conditions provided ample time for fieldwork during the second half of the month. By April 29, two-thirds of the barley crop was seeded, the quickest pace on record. Meanwhile, emergence was 21 percent complete, 9 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average.

An unusually mild winter in many of the major winter wheat-producing regions made for early dormancy break and rapid crop development this spring. By April 15, twenty-nine percent of the crop was at or beyond the heading stage, 18 percentage points ahead of last year and 21 points ahead of the 5-year average. Above-average temperatures and increased moisture in many southern locations improved winter wheat conditions during the month and helped to maintain a fast development pace. By April 29, heading had advanced to 54 percent complete, 30 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Meanwhile, 64 percent of the crop was rated in good to excellent condition, compared with 34 percent at the same time last year.

Spring wheat producers were busy seeding this year's crop as April began, with progress 16 percentage points or more ahead of normal in Minnesota and the Dakotas by April 8. Nearly ideal weather conditions in many areas provided ample time for fieldwork and crop development as the month progressed. Conversely, wet fields and cool weather in Washington left

some producers waiting for improved conditions before seeding their crop. By April 29, seventy-four percent of the nation's crop was sown, 42 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average—and the quickest pace on record. Seeding was well ahead of normal in most states, while progress in Washington was behind normal but gaining speed as more fields dried out and became conducive to fieldwork. Thirty percent of the spring wheat crop was emerged by April 29, twenty-seven percentage points ahead of last year and 22 points ahead of the 5-year average.

As April began, rice producers in the Delta and Texas were busy seeding this year's crop. Warm weather coupled with adequate soil moisture levels left seeding in Arkansas—the largest rice-producing state—advancing at the quickest pace on record. Elsewhere, rainfall hampered paddy drainage in California, but producers readied fields as weather conditions permitted. Seeding and emergence remained fast throughout the month. Producers in the Delta applied fertilizers and herbicides toward month's end, while seeding was just beginning in California. By April 29, producers had sown 72 percent of the nation's rice crop, 16 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Emergence had advanced to 60 percent complete, 27 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Overall, 65 percent of the rice crop was reported in good to excellent condition on April 29. Due to the accelerated emergence pace this year, comparable data from last year was not available, as this was the earliest crop conditions had ever been estimated.

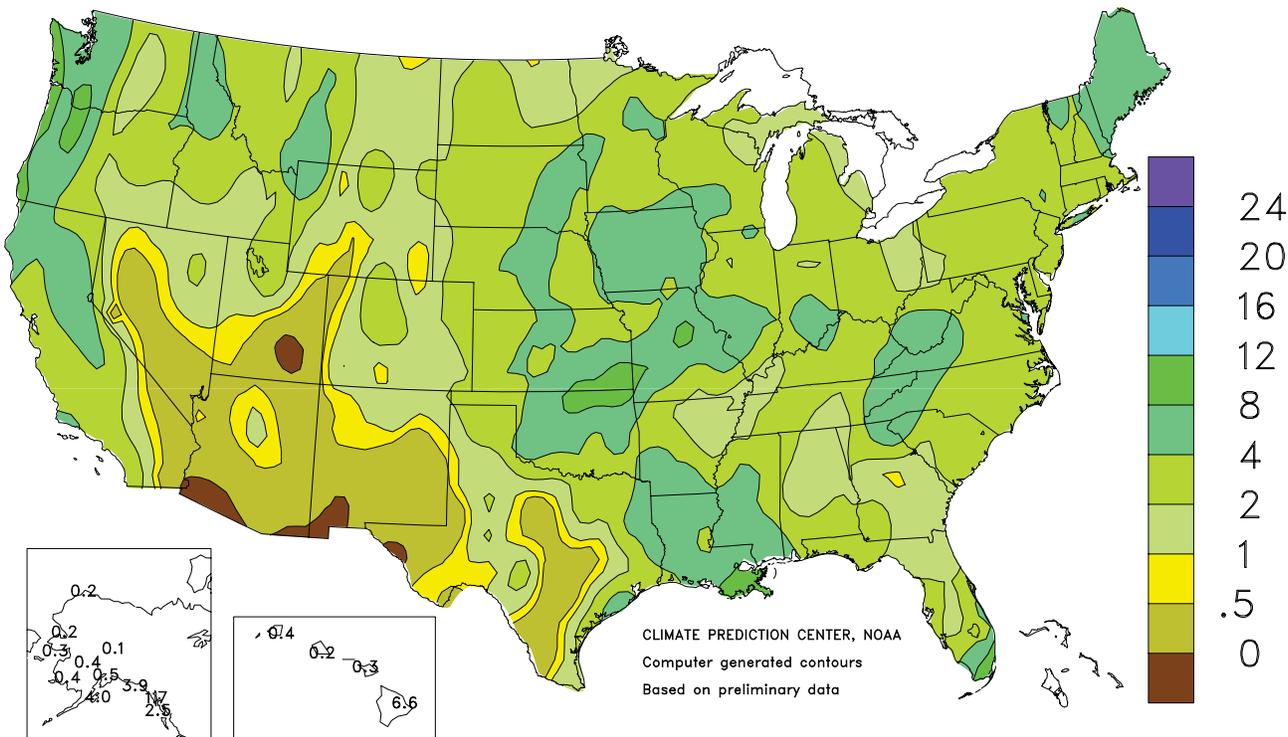
With the exception of Virginia, peanut producers in the major estimating states were busy planting this year's crop by April 22. Planting was most advanced in Florida, where warmer-than-normal spring weather had producers preparing fields early this year. Nationwide, 13 percent of the peanut crop was planted by April 29, seven percentage points ahead of both last year and the 5-year average. Rainfall was needed across much of the Southeast, and producers expected to limit planting activities in some areas until soil moisture levels improved.

Cotton planting was active in a limited number of states when April began, with progress most advanced in Arizona. In Texas, planting in southern regions had been underway since mid-March, while producers in the Plains regions were pre-irrigating fields and applying herbicides in preparation for planting. Overall planting was slow during the first half of the month due to hesitant producers in the Plains and western regions of Texas weighing the costs of seed against mostly dry soil conditions. Despite sunny skies providing ample time for planting in California toward month's end, overall progress remained behind normal. In the Delta, producers planted 26 percent or more of their crop during the 7 days ending April 29. Nationally, 26 percent of the cotton crop was planted by April 29, ten percentage points ahead of last year and 7 points ahead of the 5-year average.

During April, favorable temperatures and adequate soil moisture levels had producers in the major sugarbeet-producing states planting this year's crop at a record pace. By April 22, planting in Idaho and Michigan was nearing completion. Strong, late month winds in south-central Idaho damaged a portion of crop. By April 29, producers had planted 94 percent of the nation's crop, 81 percentage points—or over a month—ahead of last year and 46 points ahead of the 5-year average.

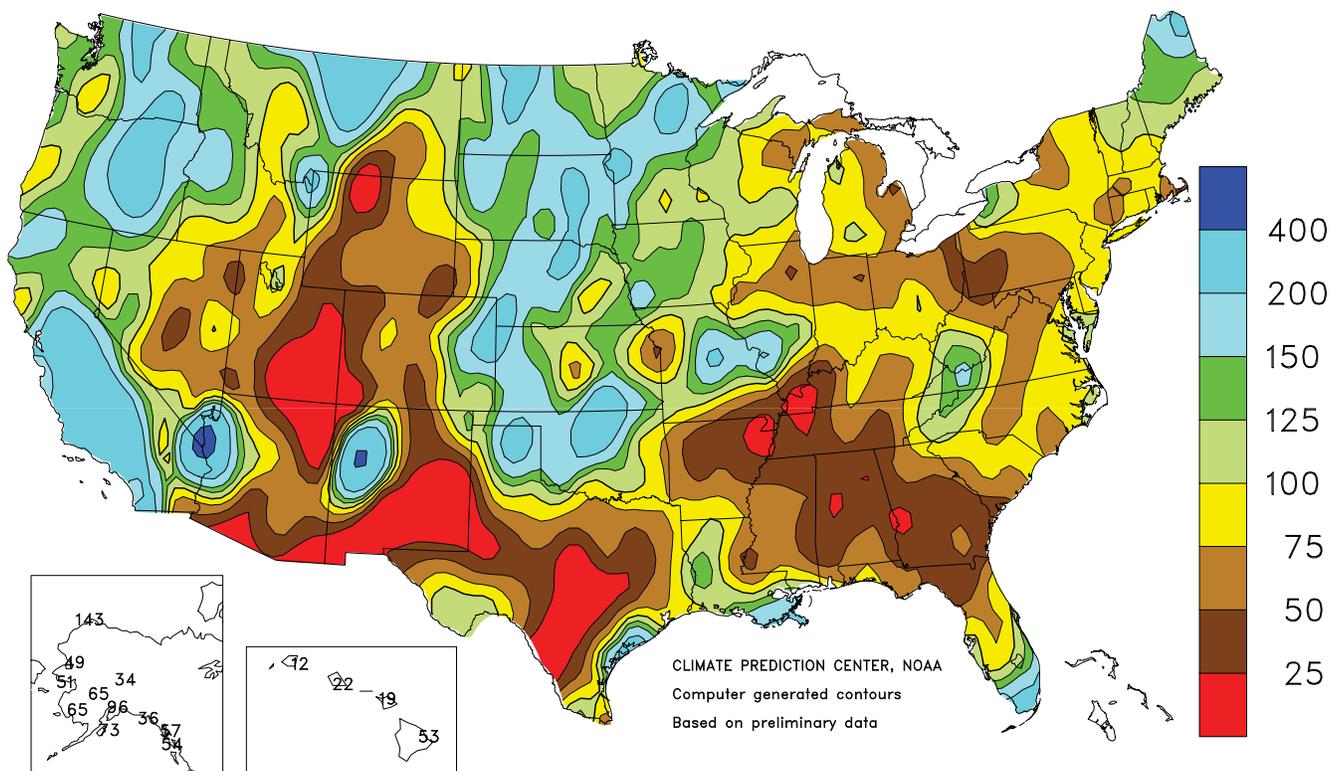
Total Precipitation (Inches)

April 2012



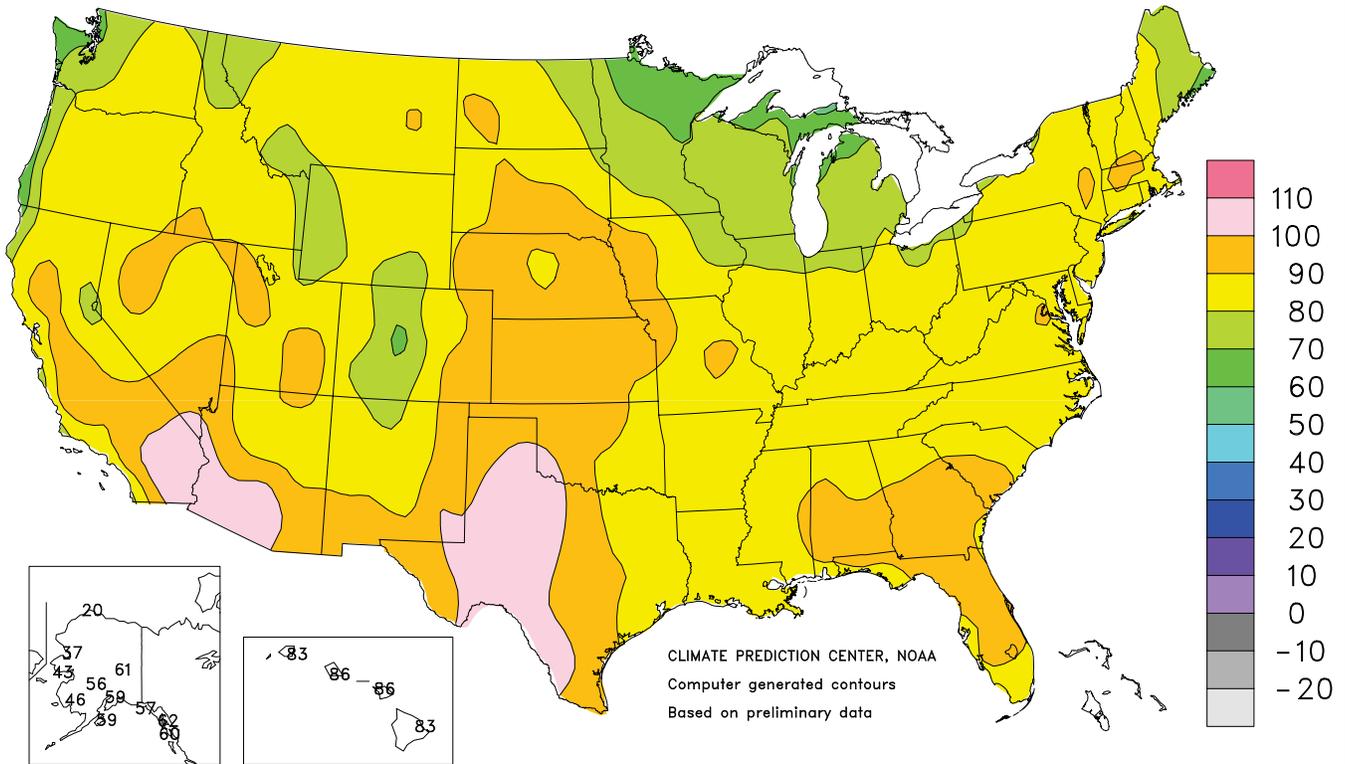
Percent Of Normal Precipitation

April 2012



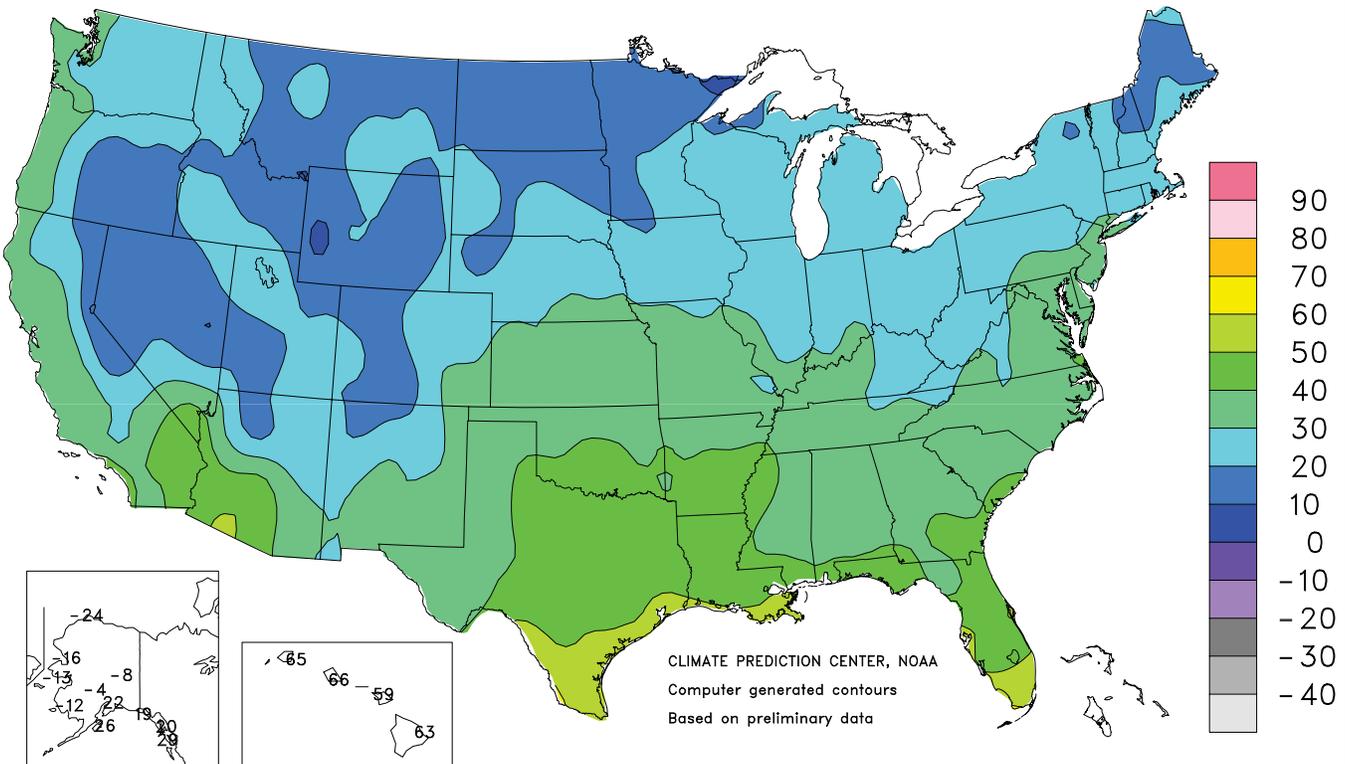
Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F)

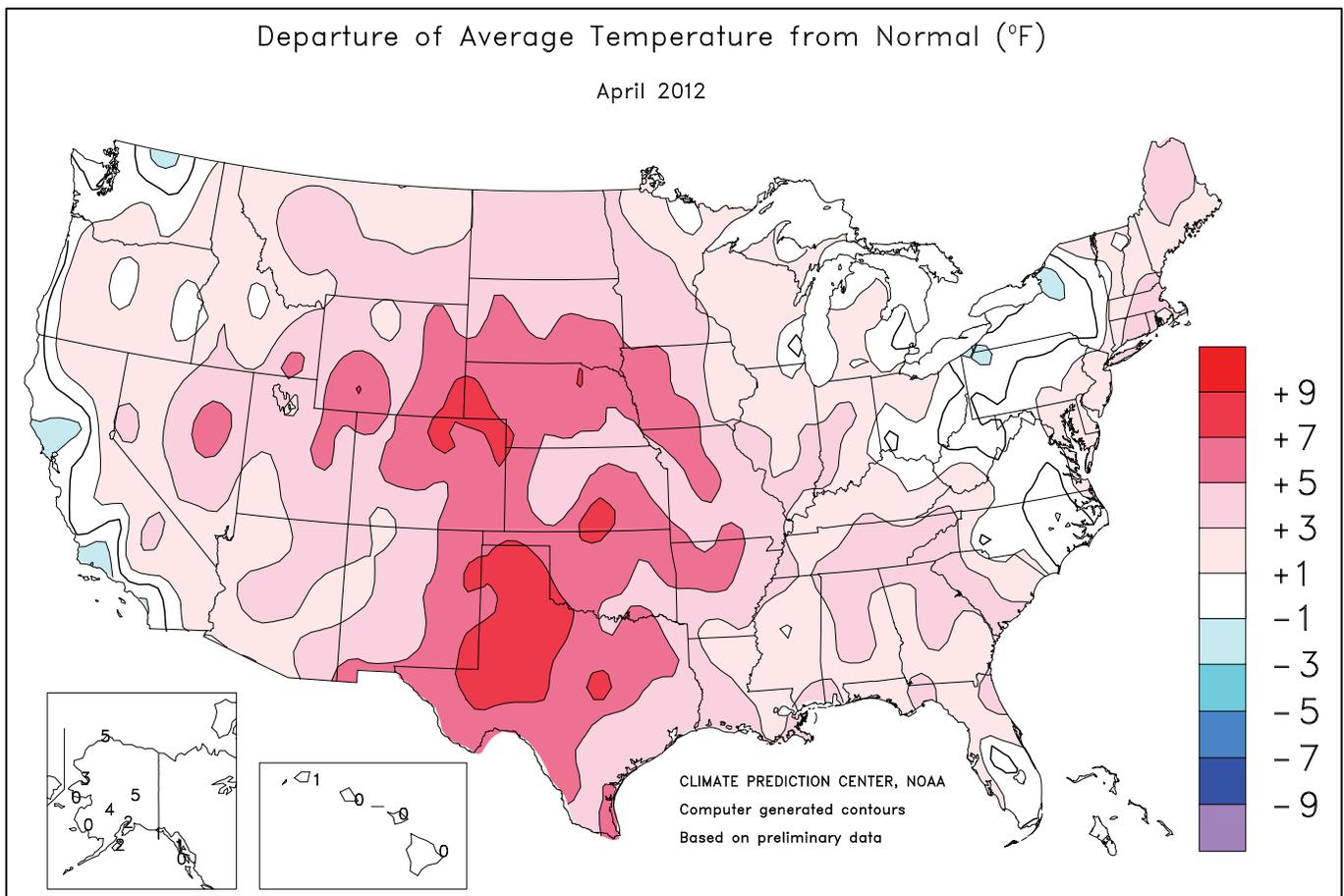
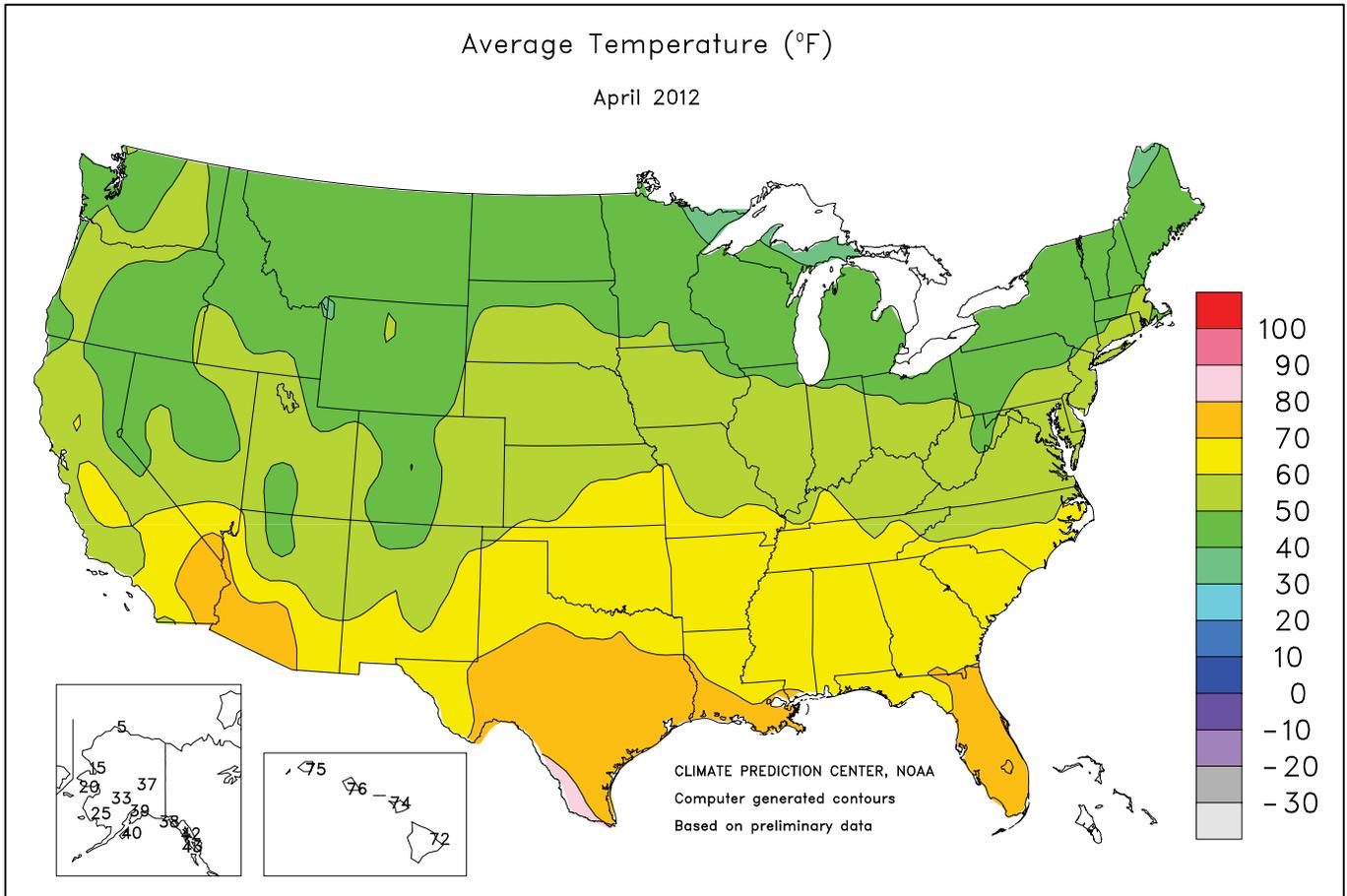
April 2012



Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)

April 2012





National Weather Data for Selected Cities

April 2012

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

STATES AND STATIONS	TEMP. °F		PRECIP.		STATES AND STATIONS	TEMP. °F		PRECIP.		STATES AND STATIONS	TEMP. °F		PRECIP.	
	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE	TOTAL	DEPARTURE		AVERAGE	DEPARTURE	TOTAL	DEPARTURE		AVERAGE	DEPARTURE	TOTAL	DEPARTURE
AL BIRMINGHAM	66	5	1.26	-3.41	LEXINGTON	56	1	2.30	-1.37	COLUMBUS	53	1	3.60	0.35
HUNTSVILLE	65	5	2.18	-2.36	LONDON-CORBIN	57	1	2.95	-1.06	DAYTON	52	1	2.17	-1.86
MOBILE	69	3	2.51	-2.55	LOUISVILLE	59	3	3.40	-0.51	MANSFIELD	49	2	1.82	-2.35
MONTGOMERY	68	4	1.38	-3.00	PADUCAH	60	3	0.56	-4.39	TOLEDO	49	1	1.74	-1.50
AK ANCHORAGE	39	3	0.50	-0.02	LA BATON ROUGE	70	3	3.27	-2.29	YOUNGSTOWN	47	0	1.60	-1.73
BARROW	5	6	0.17	0.05	LAKE CHARLES	71	4	2.82	-0.82	OK OKLAHOMA CITY	65	5	5.92	2.92
COLD BAY	31	-2	4.42	2.12	NEW ORLEANS	73	5	7.44	2.42	TULSA	66	5	3.62	-0.33
FAIRBANKS	37	5	0.07	-0.14	SHREVEPORT	69	4	3.40	-1.02	OR ASTORIA	49	0	7.40	2.47
JUNEAU	42	1	1.68	-1.28	ME BANGOR	46	3	3.99	0.67	BURNS	45	2	1.71	0.86
KING SALMON	36	3	0.56	-0.38	CARIBOU	41	3	4.32	1.68	EUGENE	52	2	3.62	-0.04
KODIAK	40	3	3.99	-1.49	PORTLAND	47	3	4.84	0.58	MEDFORD	54	2	1.92	0.61
NOME	20	0	0.33	-0.32	MD BALTIMORE	55	2	1.99	-1.01	PENDLETON	52	1	2.50	1.37
AZ FLAGSTAFF	46	3	1.24	-0.05	MA BOSTON	53	5	3.09	-0.51	PORTLAND	53	2	3.25	0.61
PHOENIX	75	5	0.08	-0.17	WORCESTER	49	4	3.12	-0.80	SALEM	52	2	3.08	0.32
TUCSON	70	4	0.12	-0.16	MI ALPENA	41	1	1.50	-0.81	PA ALLENTOWN	51	2	2.92	-0.57
AR FORT SMITH	67	6	2.99	-0.92	DETROIT	49	1	2.15	-0.90	ERIE	45	-2	2.17	-1.21
LITTLE ROCK	67	6	2.84	-2.63	FLINT	47	2	1.33	-1.80	MIDDLETOWN	53	1	1.87	-1.37
CA BAKERSFIELD	64	1	1.62	1.17	GRAND RAPIDS	48	2	3.09	-0.39	PHILADELPHIA	55	2	2.55	-0.94
EUREKA	50	-1	4.76	1.85	HOUGHTON LAKE	44	2	1.87	-0.42	PITTSBURGH	50	0	1.31	-1.70
FRESNO	63	2	2.02	1.26	LANSING	47	1	2.55	-0.54	WILKES-BARRE	48	-1	2.53	-0.75
LOS ANGELES	60	-1	1.51	0.88	MUSKEGON	47	2	2.28	-0.63	WILLIAMSPORT	50	1	1.85	-1.64
REDDING	58	0	2.73	0.33	TRAVERSE CITY	43	0	2.72	0.00	PR SAN JUAN	81	2	5.30	1.59
SACRAMENTO	60	1	2.42	1.40	MN DULUTH	42	3	3.70	1.61	RI PROVIDENCE	51	2	3.50	-0.66
SAN DIEGO	61	-2	0.88	0.13	INT'L FALLS	40	1	1.64	0.26	SC CHARLESTON	67	3	1.32	-1.45
SAN FRANCISCO	57	1	2.79	1.62	MINNEAPOLIS	50	3	3.04	0.73	COLUMBIA	67	4	2.28	-0.70
STOCKTON	60	0	2.02	1.06	ROCHESTER	49	4	2.66	-0.35	FLORENCE	65	2	2.21	-0.58
CO ALAMOSA	46	5	0.20	-0.34	ST. CLOUD	48	4	2.60	0.47	GREENVILLE	62	3	2.95	-0.58
CO SPRINGS	53	8	0.85	-0.77	MS JACKSON	67	4	4.57	-1.41	MYRTLE BEACH	64	2	1.87	-0.25
DENVER	54	9	1.39	0.34	MERIDIAN	66	2	1.39	-4.23	SD ABERDEEN	49	4	3.65	1.82
GRAND JUNCTION	56	5	0.29	-0.57	TUPELO	65	4	1.75	-3.19	HURON	51	5	5.44	3.15
PUEBLO	55	5	0.80	-0.45	MO COLUMBIA	59	5	8.05	3.89	RAPID CITY	51	6	3.08	1.22
CT BRIDGEPORT	53	4	2.97	-1.02	JOPLIN	62	4	6.26	1.94	SIOUX FALLS	52	6	2.40	-0.25
HARTFORD	52	3	3.02	-0.84	KANSAS CITY	59	5	1.93	-1.45	TN BRISTOL	58	3	3.83	0.60
DC WASHINGTON	58	2	1.92	-0.85	SPRINGFIELD	60	4	4.42	0.11	CHATTANOOGA	64	4	0.69	-3.54
DE WILMINGTON	53	1	2.56	-0.83	ST JOSEPH	58	4	2.11	-1.12	JACKSON	63	3	1.15	-3.96
FL DAYTONA BEACH	71	2	1.33	-1.21	ST LOUIS	60	3	7.30	3.61	KNOXVILLE	61	3	3.64	-0.35
FT LAUDERDALE	75	1	5.23	1.32	MT BILLINGS	51	5	0.64	-1.10	MEMPHIS	66	4	1.04	-4.75
FT MYERS	76	2	1.65	-0.02	BUTTE	42	3	1.23	0.21	NASHVILLE	62	4	2.86	-1.07
JACKSONVILLE	69	2	1.47	-1.67	GLASGOW	47	3	1.35	0.60	TX ABILENE	71	6	0.87	-0.80
KEY WEST	76	-1	5.53	3.47	GREAT FALLS	48	5	2.36	0.96	AMARILLO	63	7	1.99	0.66
MELBOURNE	72	2	2.45	0.37	HELENA	49	5	0.58	-0.33	AUSTIN	72	4	0.09	-2.42
MIAMI	76	0	7.85	4.49	KALISPELL	46	3	1.31	0.09	BEAUMONT	72	4	3.55	-0.29
ORLANDO	73	2	1.67	-0.75	MILES CITY	51	4	0.94	-0.46	BROWNSVILLE	79	5	0.26	-1.70
PENSACOLA	70	3	1.86	-2.03	MISSOULA	48	3	1.20	0.11	COLLEGE STATION	73	5	0.57	-2.63
ST PETERSBURG	74	2	1.59	-0.33	NE GRAND ISLAND	56	6	1.41	-1.20	CORPUS CHRISTI	77	6	2.58	0.53
TALLAHASSEE	70	4	2.33	-1.26	HASTINGS	56	5	2.95	0.08	DALLAS/FT WORTH	70	5	4.23	1.03
TAMPA	75	4	2.29	0.49	LINCOLN	56	5	3.49	0.59	DEL RIO	76	5	1.20	-0.51
WEST PALM BEACH	74	0	5.35	1.78	MCCOOK	55	5	2.18	-0.04	EL PASO	70	5	0.09	-0.14
GA ATHENS	64	3	1.36	-1.99	NORFOLK	55	6	3.14	0.55	GALVESTON	75	5	1.99	-0.57
ATLANTA	66	4	2.23	-1.39	NORTH PLATTE	52	4	3.68	1.71	HOUSTON	74	5	3.28	-0.32
AUGUSTA	65	3	1.45	-1.49	OMAHA/EPPLEY	57	6	3.72	0.78	LUBBOCK	67	7	1.03	-0.26
COLUMBUS	68	4	0.49	-3.35	SCOTTSBLUFF	54	8	0.98	-0.81	MIDLAND	72	8	0.05	-0.68
MACON	66	3	1.03	-2.11	VALENTINE	52	6	2.99	1.02	SAN ANGELO	73	8	0.57	-1.03
SAVANNAH	69	4	0.48	-2.84	NV ELKO	49	4	0.62	-0.19	SAN ANTONIO	74	5	0.04	-2.56
HI HILO	72	-1	6.63	-5.91	ELY	47	5	1.03	0.13	VICTORIA	74	4	1.20	-1.77
HONOLULU	76	0	0.24	-0.87	LAS VEGAS	69	3	0.01	-0.14	WACO	71	5	1.66	-1.33
KAHULUI	74	0	0.34	-1.41	RENO	54	5	0.07	-0.28	WICHITA FALLS	68	6	2.40	-0.22
LIHUE	75	1	0.37	-2.63	WINNEMUCCA	49	2	0.66	-0.19	UT SALT LAKE CITY	54	4	2.30	0.28
ID BOISE	55	4	1.94	0.67	NH CONCORD	47	2	2.69	-0.38	VT BURLINGTON	46	2	2.84	-0.04
LEWISTON	53	2	1.68	0.38	NJ ATLANTIC CITY	***	***	2.93	-0.52	VA LYNCHBURG	56	1	2.44	-1.02
POCATELLO	49	3	0.87	-0.31	NEWARK	55	3	3.45	-0.47	NORFOLK	60	3	2.95	-0.43
IL CHICAGO/O'HARE	51	3	1.65	-2.03	NM ALBUQUERQUE	61	5	0.81	0.31	RICHMOND	58	1	2.40	-0.78
MOLINE	53	2	2.88	-0.94	NY ALBANY	48	1	2.97	-0.33	ROANOKE	58	2	3.04	-0.57
PEORIA	55	4	2.52	-1.04	BINGHAMTON	44	0	2.65	-0.84	WASH/DULLES	54	1	1.82	-1.40
ROCKFORD	50	2	4.13	0.51	BUFFALO	45	0	3.04	0.00	WA OLYMPIA	49	2	4.35	0.77
SPRINGFIELD	57	4	4.48	1.12	ROCHESTER	46	1	3.05	0.30	QUILLAYUTE	48	1	10.29	2.85
EVANSVILLE	59	3	1.44	-3.04	SYRACUSE	46	1	2.24	-1.15	SEATTLE-TACOMA	51	1	2.68	0.09
FORT WAYNE	51	2	1.29	-2.25	NC ASHEVILLE	58	4	4.66	1.16	SPOKANE	49	2	1.39	0.11
INDIANAPOLIS	54	2	3.36	-0.25	CHARLOTTE	61	0	1.67	-1.28	YAKIMA	52	3	0.81	0.28
SOUTH BEND	49	1	2.22	-1.40	GREENSBORO	59	1	2.23	-1.20	WV BECKLEY	53	2	3.69	0.27
BURLINGTON	55	3	2.21	-1.40	HATTERAS	62	2	5.32	2.03	CHARLESTON	55	1	3.83	0.58
CEDAR RAPIDS	51	2	3.48	0.26	RALEIGH	60	1	2.63	-0.17	ELKINS	50	1	2.24	-1.29
DES MOINES	56	5	5.89	2.31	WILMINGTON	63	0	1.46	-1.48	HUNTINGTON	55	0	2.53	-0.80
DUBUQUE	49	2	2.31	-1.18	ND BISMARCK	47	4	1.71	0.25	WI EAU CLAIRE	47	2	3.27	0.36
SIoux CITY	55	6	4.82	2.07	DICKINSON	47	4	1.65	-0.11	GREEN BAY	46	2	2.39	-0.17
WATERLOO	51	3	3.75	0.52	FARGO	48	4	1.10	-0.27	LA CROSSE	50	2	3.56	0.18
KS CONCORDIA	58	5	4.37	1.92	GRAND FORKS	46	4	1.41	0.18	MADISON	48	2	2.85	-0.50
DODGE CITY	57	3	3.44	1.19	JAMESTOWN	46	3	2.23	0.87	MILWAUKEE	46	1	2.69	-1.09
GOODLAND	55	6	2.86	1.35	MINOT	46	3	2.81	1.26	WAUSAU	46	2	2.44	-0.40
HILL CITY	56	4	2.15	0.22	WILLISTON	46	4	1.20	0.15	WY CASPER	47	4	1.01	-0.51
TOPEKA	60	5	2.47	-0.67	OH AKRON-CANTON	49	1	1.62	-1.77	CHEYENNE	49	7	0.40	-1.15
WICHITA	62	7	5.24	2.67	CINCINNATI	54	0	3.57	-0.39	LANDER	50	6	1.02	-1.05
KY JACKSON	58	2	2.67	-1.12	CLEVELAND	49	1	1.97	-1.40	SHERIDAN	47	3	1.31	-0.46

National Agricultural Summary

April 30 – May 6, 2012

Weekly National Agricultural Summary provided by USDA/NASS

HIGHLIGHTS

Near-normal temperatures were recorded in the Pacific Northwest and New England, while above-normal temperatures covered the remainder of the United States. Most notably, weekly temperatures averaged more than 12°F above normal on the southern Great Plains and portions

of the Corn Belt. Weekly precipitation totaled more than 200 percent of normal in the Pacific Northwest, northern Great Plains, Corn Belt, and Ohio Valley. Conversely, most areas across the southern half of the country recorded little or no rainfall during the week.

Corn: By week's end, 71 percent of this year's corn crop was planted, 39 percentage points ahead of last year and 24 points ahead of the 5-year average. Despite late-week rainfall, double-digit planting progress was evident throughout much of the Corn Belt. Nationally, emergence advanced 17 percentage points during the week. At 32 percent complete, emergence was 26 percentage points ahead of last year and 19 points ahead of the 5-year average. Above-average temperatures provided continued favorable growing conditions across most of the major corn-producing region, with emergence most rapid in Illinois during the week.

Soybeans: Nationally, producers had planted 24 percent of the soybean crop by May 6, eighteen percentage points ahead of last year and 13 points ahead of the 5-year average. In Iowa, persistent rainfall limited fieldwork to approximately 2 days, allowing producers to plant just 4 percent of their crop during the week. By week's end, 7 percent of the nation's crop was emerged, 5 percentage points ahead of last year and 4 points ahead of the 5-year average. Progress was most advanced in the Delta, where at least 36 percent of the soybean crop had emerged.

Winter Wheat: By May 6, sixty-three percent of this year's winter wheat crop was at or beyond the heading stage, 24 percentage points ahead of last year and 29 points ahead of the 5-year average. In Kansas, the largest winter wheat-producing state, heading was nearing completion—as above-average temperatures pushed crop development 72 percentage points, or approximately 3 weeks, ahead of normal. Producers in Texas began harvesting during the week, with progress expected to gain speed within the next few weeks. Overall, 63 percent of the winter wheat crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down slightly from last week but 30 percentage points better than the same time last year.

Cotton: By week's end, 36 percent of the cotton crop was planted, 12 percentage points ahead of last year and 8 points ahead of the 5-year average—and the quickest pace since 2006. Double-digit progress was evident throughout most of the major growing regions. However, planting was limited to 2 percent in Texas, the largest cotton-producing state, as some producers on High Plains continued to water fields ahead of planting their crop.

Sorghum: With double-digit progress evident in Illinois, Louisiana, and Missouri, producers had planted 29 percent of the nation's sorghum crop by May 6. This was 4 percentage points ahead of both last year and the 5-year average. In northern Texas, sorghum was reported as growing well, but in need of additional moisture, as some fields showed signs of drought stress.

Rice: As seeding neared completion in the Delta and Texas, overall progress slowed during the week. By week's end, 77 percent of this year's crop was seeded, 25 percentage points ahead of last year and 9 points ahead of the 5-year average. In Arkansas, seeding and

emergence were nearly a month ahead of the normal pace. Elsewhere, improved weather conditions in California allowed producers to seed 8 percent of their crop during the week. Nationally, 67 percent of the rice crop was emerged by May 6, twenty-five percentage points ahead of last year and 21 points ahead of the 5-year average. Overall, 66 percent of the rice crop was reported in good to excellent condition, up slightly from last week.

Small Grains: With seeding nearing completion across most of the major oat-producing region, 94 percent of this year's crop was in the ground by week's end. This was 34 percentage points ahead of last year and 17 points ahead of the 5-year average. Emergence continued at a rapid pace, as warm, mostly sunny weather and adequate soil moisture provided nearly ideal growing conditions. By May 6, seventy-eight percent of the oat crop was emerged, 32 percentage points ahead of last year and 22 points ahead of the 5-year average. Overall, three-quarters of the oat crop was reported in good to excellent condition, up 2 percentage points from last week.

Barley producers had sown 83 percent of the crop by week's end, 51 percentage points ahead of last year and 30 points ahead of the 5-year average. Double-digit seeding was evident in all estimating states, but was most rapid in Washington, where previously wet fields dried out enough for producers to complete fieldwork. Emergence had advanced to 36 percent complete by May 6, twenty-three percentage points ahead of last year and 15 points ahead of the 5-year average. In North Dakota, rainfall limited seeding in isolated locations, but benefited the emerging crop.

By week's end, 84 percent of the spring wheat crop was seeded, 65 percentage points ahead of last year and 35 points ahead of the 5-year average. Seeding was 45 percentage points or more ahead of normal in Minnesota and North Dakota, where mild winter temperatures and continued favorable conditions provided ample time for producers to complete fieldwork for numerous spring crops. Nationally, 47 percent of the spring wheat crop was emerged by May 6, forty-two percentage points ahead of last year and 30 points ahead of the 5-year average.

Other Crops: Peanut producers had planted 30 percent of this year's crop by week's end, 14 percentage points ahead of last year and 16 points ahead of the 5-year average. Planting advanced 12 percentage points or more in all estimating states except Virginia, where planting was just beginning. Despite receiving less than 0.1 inch of rainfall on drought-affected fields, peanut growers in Georgia planted 17 percent of the state's crop during the week with hopes of soon receiving a soaking rain.

By week's end, 98 percent of the sugarbeet crop was planted, 70 percentage points ahead of last year and 33 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average.

Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending May 6, 2012

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

Corn Percent Planted				
	Prev Year	Prev Week	May 6 2012	5-Yr Avg
CO	42	22	58	40
IL	27	79	89	47
IN	3	70	84	35
IA	52	50	64	58
KS	59	57	75	52
KY	18	86	92	56
MI	6	28	45	32
MN	20	48	73	53
MO	51	75	84	50
NE	45	44	74	50
NC	93	89	94	93
ND	2	24	57	24
OH	2	57	79	33
PA	7	27	33	30
SD	13	31	57	23
TN	41	93	98	74
TX	85	70	75	80
WI	12	18	34	30
18 Sts	32	53	71	47
These 18 States planted 92% of last year's corn acreage.				

Soybeans Percent Planted				
	Prev Year	Prev Week	May 6 2012	5-Yr Avg
AR	19	45	57	25
IL	1	13	21	7
IN	0	28	48	10
IA	7	3	7	11
KS	8	5	19	5
KY	0	18	33	4
LA	64	42	62	55
MI	2	9	16	11
MN	1	4	19	13
MS	39	59	74	61
MO	5	8	16	6
NE	11	6	29	10
NC	12	5	11	9
ND	0	1	11	2
OH	0	16	35	13
SD	1	2	9	2
TN	1	9	23	6
WI	2	1	5	6
18 Sts	6	12	24	11
These 18 States planted 95% of last year's soybean acreage.				

Winter Wheat Percent Headed				
	Prev Year	Prev Week	May 6 2012	5-Yr Avg
AR	98	100	100	92
CA	96	90	97	97
CO	6	3	25	7
ID	0	0	0	0
IL	21	80	87	23
IN	7	34	58	7
KS	29	74	92	20
MI	0	0	0	0
MO	49	84	94	32
MT	0	0	0	0
NE	0	5	25	0
NC	94	98	100	88
OH	0	0	6	1
OK	91	97	98	83
OR	0	0	1	1
SD	0	0	4	0
TX	76	82	90	68
WA	0	0	0	1
18 Sts	39	54	63	34
These 18 States planted 88% of last year's winter wheat acreage.				

Corn Percent Emerged				
	Prev Year	Prev Week	May 6 2012	5-Yr Avg
CO	0	2	11	4
IL	5	34	64	18
IN	1	24	50	12
IA	1	5	23	11
KS	21	25	42	18
KY	10	56	76	35
MI	0	2	8	4
MN	0	1	12	6
MO	24	37	60	26
NE	3	4	25	7
NC	75	62	83	70
ND	0	1	4	1
OH	1	6	21	8
PA	1	1	4	6
SD	0	0	11	1
TN	27	75	92	48
TX	59	58	60	65
WI	0	0	0	3
18 Sts	6	15	32	13
These 18 States planted 92% of last year's corn acreage.				

Soybeans Percent Emerged				
	Prev Year	Prev Week	May 6 2012	5-Yr Avg
AR	13	NA	41	14
IL	0	NA	7	1
IN	0	NA	16	1
IA	0	NA	1	0
KS	0	NA	3	0
KY	0	NA	9	0
LA	31	NA	36	31
MI	0	NA	1	1
MN	0	NA	0	0
MS	27	NA	58	43
MO	0	NA	5	0
NE	0	NA	3	0
NC	0	NA	1	0
ND	0	NA	0	0
OH	0	NA	5	2
SD	0	NA	0	0
TN	0	NA	5	0
WI	0	NA	0	0
18 Sts	2	NA	7	3
These 18 States planted 95% of last year's soybean acreage.				

Winter Wheat Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
AR	1	8	34	44	13
CA	0	0	10	45	45
CO	2	10	34	46	8
ID	1	1	11	66	21
IL	1	3	14	62	20
IN	1	3	21	58	17
KS	3	8	29	47	13
MI	1	5	30	51	13
MO	1	6	24	52	17
MT	1	7	29	49	14
NE	1	5	28	55	11
NC	0	1	16	65	18
OH	3	9	33	41	14
OK	1	3	20	56	20
OR	0	6	20	54	20
SD	0	3	24	58	15
TX	17	20	29	27	7
WA	1	1	8	69	21
18 Sts	4	8	25	48	15
Prev Wk	3	7	26	50	14
Prev Yr	22	20	25	27	6

Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending May 6, 2012

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

Cotton Percent Planted				
	Prev Year	Prev Week	May 6 2012	5-Yr Avg
AL	23	25	50	30
AZ	71	65	75	69
AR	10	50	77	31
CA	84	55	85	91
GA	19	23	27	18
KS	4	4	10	1
LA	74	50	84	63
MS	16	39	68	31
MO	1	33	49	28
NC	36	9	31	33
OK	10	3	12	7
SC	29	14	27	21
TN	2	6	29	10
TX	22	25	27	25
VA	38	7	27	33
15 Sts	24	26	36	28
These 15 States planted 99% of last year's cotton acreage.				

Sorghum Percent Planted				
	Prev Year	Prev Week	May 6 2012	5-Yr Avg
AR	65	93	97	69
CO	1	2	11	5
IL	0	19	41	5
KS	2	1	4	2
LA	99	73	95	85
MO	4	16	26	8
NE	5	1	7	3
NM	11	5	8	6
OK	12	12	20	17
SD	0	1	2	1
TX	67	65	70	67
11 Sts	25	24	29	25
These 11 States planted 98% of last year's sorghum acreage.				

Sugarbeets Percent Planted				
	Prev Year	Prev Week	May 6 2012	5-Yr Avg
ID	82	97	99	95
MI	37	100	100	82
MN	13	93	98	53
ND	10	91	96	54
4 Sts	28	94	98	65
These 4 States planted 84% of last year's sugarbeet acreage.				

Oats Percent Planted				
	Prev Year	Prev Week	May 6 2012	5-Yr Avg
IA	93	98	99	88
MN	29	87	97	62
NE	91	93	96	92
ND	4	56	74	33
OH	17	100	100	71
PA	25	92	97	72
SD	54	92	93	68
TX	100	100	100	100
WI	28	80	86	63
9 Sts	60	89	94	77
These 9 States planted 62% of last year's oat acreage.				

Oats Percent Emerged				
	Prev Year	Prev Week	May 6 2012	5-Yr Avg
IA	64	76	90	57
MN	3	53	74	27
NE	57	70	80	65
ND	0	16	37	6
OH	8	66	86	37
PA	8	56	72	34
SD	17	76	81	28
TX	100	100	100	100
WI	8	39	51	31
9 Sts	46	69	78	56
These 9 States planted 62% of last year's oat acreage.				

Oat Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
IA	0	2	20	63	15
MN	0	0	24	65	11
NE	0	1	18	74	7
ND	0	5	15	55	25
OH	0	5	25	57	13
PA	0	3	39	40	18
SD	0	1	16	70	13
TX	5	6	20	48	21
WI	0	1	12	73	14
9 Sts	2	3	20	58	17
Prev Wk	2	3	22	57	16
Prev Yr	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

Peanuts Percent Planted				
	Prev Year	Prev Week	May 6 2012	5-Yr Avg
AL	8	10	38	11
FL	24	21	40	24
GA	13	14	31	9
NC	18	7	19	14
OK	25	14	34	21
SC	13	10	25	11
TX	32	4	16	27
VA	14	0	5	11
8 Sts	16	13	30	14
These 8 States planted 98% of last year's peanut acreage.				

Spring Wheat Percent Planted				
	Prev Year	Prev Week	May 6 2012	5-Yr Avg
ID	62	82	90	74
MN	14	93	99	48
MT	15	68	71	50
ND	5	66	82	37
SD	48	97	100	73
WA	69	60	81	84
6 Sts	19	74	84	49
These 6 States planted 98% of last year's spring wheat acreage.				

Spring Wheat Percent Emerged				
	Prev Year	Prev Week	May 6 2012	5-Yr Avg
ID	29	38	51	41
MN	1	44	64	20
MT	2	10	27	10
ND	0	24	41	9
SD	13	79	89	33
WA	39	24	48	56
6 Sts	5	30	47	17
These 6 States planted 98% of last year's spring wheat acreage.				

Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending May 6, 2012

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

Rice Percent Planted				
	Prev Year	Prev Week	May 6 2012	5-Yr Avg
AR	51	92	97	70
CA	12	2	10	37
LA	95	91	93	92
MS	75	95	98	78
MO	14	92	99	55
TX	93	89	93	93
6 Sts	52	72	77	68
These 6 States planted 100% of last year's rice acreage.				

Barley Percent Planted				
	Prev Year	Prev Week	May 6 2012	5-Yr Avg
ID	61	76	89	66
MN	7	77	97	43
MT	24	72	84	52
ND	2	55	73	32
WA	61	40	70	75
5 Sts	32	67	83	53
These 5 States planted 71% of last year's barley acreage.				

Barley Percent Emerged				
	Prev Year	Prev Week	May 6 2012	5-Yr Avg
ID	32	33	42	35
MN	1	19	60	19
MT	5	20	36	16
ND	0	11	26	6
WA	28	8	30	42
5 Sts	13	21	36	21
These 5 States planted 71% of last year's barley acreage.				

Rice Percent Emerged				
	Prev Year	Prev Week	May 6 2012	5-Yr Avg
AR	40	78	86	47
CA	0	0	0	7
LA	90	80	85	83
MS	63	77	89	59
MO	9	57	81	30
TX	79	76	84	80
6 Sts	42	60	67	46
These 6 States planted 100% of last year's rice acreage.				

Pasture and Range Condition by Percent											
Week Ending May 6, 2012											
	VP	P	F	G	EX		VP	P	F	G	EX
AL	2	10	33	44	11	NH	1	4	26	63	6
AZ	50	25	15	7	3	NJ	0	0	20	75	5
AR	1	12	25	56	6	NM	57	29	13	1	0
CA	0	5	10	70	15	NY	2	9	28	54	7
CO	4	33	45	18	0	NC	0	3	35	53	9
CT	0	0	18	71	11	ND	2	7	20	57	14
DE	2	3	25	62	8	OH	1	6	25	51	17
FL	5	35	45	14	1	OK	2	9	30	49	10
GA	9	20	45	24	2	OR	1	5	43	46	5
ID	0	1	20	71	8	PA	5	9	33	34	19
IL	0	2	12	60	26	RI	0	0	38	62	0
IN	0	4	22	59	15	SC	6	11	48	35	0
IA	1	4	22	49	24	SD	0	2	23	63	12
KS	8	11	32	43	6	TN	2	10	32	48	8
KY	1	9	30	49	11	TX	19	25	29	23	4
LA	1	3	24	61	11	UT	0	4	42	52	2
ME	0	10	15	59	16	VT	0	0	23	51	26
MD	1	4	29	61	5	VA	0	4	33	57	6
MA	0	0	45	55	0	WA	0	2	30	60	8
MI	2	7	26	50	15	WV	0	12	44	43	1
MN	0	7	28	58	7	WI	0	3	27	58	12
MS	0	7	31	45	17	WY	4	10	33	53	0
MO	1	5	27	54	13	48 Sts	6	11	29	45	9
MT	3	14	39	39	5						
NE	1	6	32	55	6	Prev Wk	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
NV	9	39	36	11	5	Prev Yr	10	14	28	40	8

Rice Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
AR	2	10	27	49	12
CA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
LA	0	1	25	61	13
MS	0	1	22	57	20
MO	0	7	34	59	0
TX	0	5	17	76	2
6 Sts	1	7	26	55	11
Prev Wk	1	6	28	55	10
Prev Yr	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

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 5.7. Topsoil moisture 13% very short, 44% short, 33% adequate, and 10% surplus. Corn planted 97%, 93% last week, 84% 2011, and 91% five-year average; emerged 90%, 81% last week, 61% 2011, and 75% five-year average; condition 11% poor, 34% fair, 54% good, and 1% excellent. Soybeans planted 27%, 11% last week, 3% 2011, and 17% five-year average; emerged 12%, 4% last week, 1% 2011, and 5% five-year average; condition 63% fair, 37% good. Hay Harvested-First Cutting 55%, 37% last week, 26% 2011, and 17% five-year average. Winter wheat headed 96%, 93% last week, 86% 2011, and 51% five-year average; harvested 2%, 1% last week, 0% 2011, and 0% five-year average; condition 3% poor, 32% fair, 59% good, and 6% excellent. Livestock condition 4% poor, 27% fair, 58% good, and 11% excellent. The week's average mean temperatures ranged from 72.2 F in Talladega, to 77.5 F in Headland; total precipitation ranged from 0.12 inches in Demopolis, to 7.63 inches in Mobile. Rain was received over much of the State; however, drought conditions continue to spread. Strawberry producers reported an abundant crop. Winter wheat and hay harvest progressed along with soybean and cotton planting.

ALASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil moisture 5% short, 85% adequate, 10% surplus. Subsoil moisture 5% short, 85% adequate, 10% surplus. Hay supplies 5% very short, 10% short, 80% adequate, 5% surplus. Livestock condition 10% fair, 65% good, 25% excellent. Little fieldwork was done as farmers wait for fields to dry out and warm up. Some fertilizer was applied to hay, pasture and grass seed acreage. Fieldwork is expected to begin next week.

ARIZONA: Temperatures were generally above normal for the week ending May 6, ranging from 3 degrees below normal at Parker to 8 degrees above normal at Phoenix and Prescott. The highest temperature of the week was 96 degrees at Paloma, Phoenix and Roll. The lowest reading was 26 degrees at Grand Canyon. There was no precipitation recorded at any weather station. All stations have below normal precipitation to date in 2012. Alfalfa conditions are mostly fair to excellent, depending on location. Harvesting has occurred on more than three-fourths of the growing areas across the State. Nearly the State's entire durum wheat crop has headed. Arizona growers shipped cabbage, onions and potatoes. Rangeland conditions continue to deteriorate as dry conditions prevail. A few areas reported some benefit from earlier precipitation. Conditions continue to range from very poor to good.

ARKANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Topsoil moisture 10% very short, 43% short, 44% adequate, and 3% surplus. Subsoil moisture 5% very short, 38% short, 56% adequate, and 1% surplus. Corn 100% planted, 88% 2011, 93% avg; 99% emerged, 81% 2011, 82% avg; condition 7% poor, 29% fair, 46% good, 18% excellent. Cotton 47% emerged, 4% 2011, 12% avg. Sorghum 93% emerged, 52% 2011, 50% avg; condition 2% poor, 41% fair, 52% good, 5% excellent. Winter Wheat 1% harvested n/a 2011, n/a avg. Livestock were in good condition. Pasture and range condition was mostly good. Although some rain occurred throughout Arkansas, much of the farmland in the eastern part of the State was still in need of moisture.

CALIFORNIA: Warm and dry conditions this week aided the maturation progress for the wheat crop. Nearly the entire crop was headed as some was harvested in southern parts of the State. Some early planted wheat was cut for hay and silage as conditions continued to be rated mostly good to excellent. Oat hay cutting continued. Alfalfa growers advanced to the second cutting in the Central Valley. Warmer soil temperatures were benefiting cotton as producers were planting at a rapid pace. Corn showed good development. Some rice was planted. Plum, prune, peach, apricot, and nectarine fruit continued to progress and develop. Harvest began in a few early peach and apricot varieties. Cherry fruit was developing as growers continued to spray for Oriental

Fruit Fly. Early cherry varieties were getting close to harvest in the San Joaquin Valley. Weed treatments and bloom spray applications continued in stone fruit orchards. Grape and kiwi vines were growing fast as temperatures increased while shoot thinning started in grape vineyards. Grapes were blooming in early varieties and locations. Mating disruptions for European Grapevine Moth were put up in high risk vineyards. Pomegranates and persimmons were continuing to leaf-out. Apples were blooming and leafing-out. Blueberries and strawberries were being picked and packed in Tulare County. Strawberries continued to mature in the northern part of the State. Orange and avocado trees were in full bloom. 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 continued to pick up. Almond nuts were developing nicely. Hail damage was still being evaluated in the San Joaquin Valley, but overall crop was looking large. Heavy sets were reported across the State. Walnuts were in full bloom as blight applications continued. Pistachio bloom ran its course in the Fresno area. Fungicides were applied to some orchards. Carrots and lettuce were harvested in Kern County. In Tulare County, tomatoes, peppers, cucumber, and squash continued to be planted as greenhouse squash harvest began. Fresno County reported irrigation and fertilization of garlic and onions. In Stanislaus County, tomatoes were being planted. San Joaquin County reported continued harvesting of asparagus. Processing tomatoes were being transplanted and onions were being planted. Field preparation continued as tomato transplants continued to be planted in Sutter County. Some rangeland grasses were beginning to dry in the San Joaquin and Sacramento Valleys. Non-irrigated pasture continued to support livestock at higher elevations. Cattle were being moved to Forest Service allotments in the Sierras. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued to wane. Sheep and cattle grazed on retired farmland and alfalfa fields.

COLORADO: Days suitable for field work 6.6 days. Topsoil moisture 14% very short, 29% short, 56% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 12% very short, 35% short, 53% adequate. Barley 83% planted, 84% 2011, 84% avg; 53% emerged, 42% 2011, 49% avg. Spring wheat 78% planted, 65% 2011, 65% avg; 45% emerged, 20% 2011, 30% avg. Winter Wheat 87% jointed, 62% 2011, 68% avg. Fall Potatoes 34% planted, 14% 2011, 15% avg. Summer potatoes 75% planted, 34% 2011, 37% avg; 33% emerged, 0% 2011, 2% avg. Sugarbeets 84% planted, 46% 2011, 69% avg; 34% Up to Stand, 0% 2011, 8% avg; condition 27% fair, 69% good, 4% excellent. Dry onions 96% planted, 92% 2011, 90% avg; condition 23% fair, 59% good, 18% excellent. Dry Beans 3% planted, 0% 2011, 0% avg. Livestock condition 1% very poor, 3% poor, 26% fair, 61% good, 9% excellent. Overall, continued warm temperatures with scattered showers. Progress about 2 weeks ahead of schedule. Mountain snowpack is 20 percent of average raising concerns about the availability of irrigation water.

DELAWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil moisture 20% short, 80% adequate. Subsoil moisture 2% very short, 46% short, 51% adequate, 1% surplus. Hay supplies 11% short, 89% adequate. Other Hay First Cutting 38%, 44% 2011, 15% avg. Alfalfa Hay First Cutting 37%, 41% 2011, 12% avg. Winter wheat condition 4% poor, 34% fair, 55% good, 7% excellent. Barley condition 4% poor, 34% fair, 55% good, 7% excellent. Corn planted 66%, 49% 2011, 55% avg; emerged 43%, 23% 2011, 19% avg. Soybeans planted 8%, 7% 2011, 4% avg. Barley headed 100%, 49% 2011, 39% avg; turned 10%, 12% 2011, 2% avg. Winter Wheat headed 89%, 38% 2011, 34% avg. Cantaloupes planted 27%, 28% 2011, 13% avg. Cucumbers planted 17%, 12% 2011, 10% avg. Green Peas planted 100%, 73% 2011, 87% avg. Potatoes planted 73%, 69% 2011, 88% avg. Snap Beans planted 26%, 18% 2011, 18% avg. Sweet Corn planted 38%, 36% 2011, 31% avg. Tomatoes planted 27%, 27% 2011, 15% avg. Watermelons planted

34%, 32% 2011, 17% avg. Apples bloomed 97%, 79% 2011, 83% avg. Peaches bloomed 100%, 84% 2011, 96% avg. Strawberries bloomed 100%, 92% 2011, 82% avg; harvested 9%, 5% 2011, 4% avg. Recent rainfall improved soil moisture, but slowed planting progress. First cutting of alfalfa was going to silage in some areas.

FLORIDA: Topsoil moisture 19% very short, 49% short, 32% adequate. Subsoil moisture % very short, % short, % adequate, % surplus. Field crops planted despite dry conditions. Jackson, Okaloosa counties; peanut and cotton planting steadily moving forward. Gadsden, Levy, Washington counties; fieldwork stopped due to lack of rain. Washington County; oat harvest underway some parts of county, many fields needed another week or two to ripen. Some wheat fields did not get enough chill hours for wheat to properly develop grain heads. Irrigated crops doing well, concern about seed planted in soils with marginal moisture. Vegetable market movement; snap beans, sweet corn, cucumbers, eggplant, bell peppers and other peppers, okra, squash, tomatoes. Potatoes harvested in Flagler County. Gilchrist County; watermelon harvest continued. Charlotte County; watermelon harvest continued, other vegetables ending. Miami-Dade County; winter vegetable harvest ending. Valencia harvest declined from previous week. Abundant fruit of various sizes visible as new crop progresses. Harvesting and young tree care primary grove activities. Currently, 18 packinghouses and 14 processors remain open. Cattle Condition 10% poor, 53% fair, 35% good, 2% excellent. Statewide; pasture condition very poor to excellent, most poor to fair. Hay, supplements fed. Cattle condition poor to excellent, most fair. Panhandle; pasture condition poor to good. Pastures continued to suffer from drought, negatively impacting cattle condition. Ryegrass hay for winter fed. North; most pasture condition poor to good, cattle condition fair to good. Central; some wells, water ponds drying, water transported to livestock. Grass not producing in most pastures. Southwest; pasture condition very poor to good, most poor to fair. Collier County; rain previous week helped maintain pasture conditions. Okeechobee County pastures greening up. Cattle very poor to excellent, most in fair condition.

GEORGIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Topsoil moisture 24% very short, 54% short, 22% adequate. Subsoil moisture 27% very short, 49% short, 24% adequate. Blueberries 19% poor, 29% fair, 27% good, 25% excellent; harvested 28%, 14% 2011, NA Avg. Corn 3% poor, 34% fair, 52% good, 11% excellent. Hay First Cutting 45%, 35% 2011, NA avg. Oats, 1% very poor, 4% poor, 43% fair, 44% good, 8% excellent; Harvested 18%, 10% 2011, NA Avg. Onions 15% poor, 57% fair, 26% good, 2% excellent; Harvested 62%, 60% 2011, 38% avg. Peaches 13% poor, 44% fair, 14% good, 29% excellent; Harvested 11%, 2% 2011, 1% Avg. Rye 6% poor, 59% fair, 34% good, 1% excellent; Harvested 8%, 10% 2011, NA Avg. Sorghum Planted 21%, 20% 2011, 19% avg. Soybean Planted 10%, 3% 2011, 7% avg. Tobacco 5% poor, 44% fair, 49% good, 2% excellent; Transplanted 98%, 99% 2011, 93% avg. Watermelons 3% poor, 47% fair, 42% good, 8% excellent; Planted 97%, 99% 2011, 95% avg. Winter Wheat 1% very poor, 8% poor, 39% fair, 44% good, 8% excellent. Precipitation estimates for the State ranged from 0 inches up to 1.5 inches. Average high temperatures ranged from the upper 70's to the lower 90's. Average low temperatures ranged from the upper 50's to the upper 60's.

HAWAII: Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Topsoil moisture 35% very short, 25% short, 40% adequate. Light precipitation fell over most areas this week, particularly over the island of Hawaii. The average rainfall for the State was 0.95 inch. Conditions of pasture and range showed slight improvement and re-growth after receiving some much needed precipitation this week. State irrigation reservoirs remained adequately full and ensured proper crop development in areas where available.

IDAHO: Days suitable for field work 6. Topsoil moisture 3% very short, 6% short, 74% adequate, 17% surplus. Field corn planted 35%, 13% 2011, 30% avg. Winter wheat jointed 38%, 20% 2011, 24% avg; boot stage 2%, 0% 2011, 2% avg. Onions emerged 100%, 42% 2011, 70% avg. Potatoes planted 82%, 45% 2011, 44% avg; emerged 7%, 0% 2011, 1% avg. Oats planted 67%, 58% 2011, 68% avg; emerged 41%, 27% 2011, 38% avg. Dry peas planted 28%, 55% 2011, 45% avg. Lentils planted 5%, 26% 2011, 33% avg. Hay and roughage supply

19% very short, 12% short, 61% adequate, 8% surplus. Irrigation water supply 16% fair, 67% good, 17% excellent. Sugarbeets emerged 39%, 23% 2011, 42% avg. The Caribou county extension educator reported cereal planting was finishing up. Caribou county extension educator also reported potato planting was under way.

ILLINOIS: Days suitable for fieldwork 1.5 days, compared to 4.8 the previous week.. Topsoil moisture 6% short, 68% adequate, and 26% surplus. Subsoil moisture 14% short, 73% adequate 13% surplus. Oats planted 99% this week, 84% last year, 87% average; headed 4% this week, N/A last year, 1% average; condition 3% poor, 28% fair, 61% good, 8% excellent. Alfalfa first cut 21% this week, 2% last year, 3% average; condition 2% very poor, 2% poor, 20% fair, 59% good, 17% excellent. Red clover condition 1% poor, 28% fair, 53% good, 18% excellent. Wet conditions slowed planting progress across most of the State last week. The Statewide average precipitation was 1.82 inches, 0.91 inches above normal. Planted progress was aided by the warm and wet conditions, with an average temperature of 68.5 degrees, 10.9 degrees above normal. Some farmers expect to replant corn acres due to oversaturation.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.5. Topsoil moisture 2% very short, 12% short, 63% adequate, 23% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% very short, 17% short, 73% adequate, 8% surplus. Winter wheat jointed 95%, 68% 2011, 75% avg. Alfalfa first cutting 27%, 0% 2011, 0% avg. Temperatures ranged from 70 to 150 above normal with a low of 360 and a high of 900. Precipitation ranged from 0.68 to 3.69 inches. Warm temperatures and much needed rainfall spurred emergence and growth of field crops. Some areas received heavy precipitation leaving standing water in low lying areas. Planting continued but is no longer moving at a record pace. However, planting of corn is approximately 31 days ahead of last year and 24 days ahead of the 5-year average pace. Winter wheat yield potential was reduced in many fields due to frost and dry conditions in March and April. Some wheat fields had been destroyed and replanted to corn. The first cutting of hay crops continued with many dairies harvesting the crop as haylage.

IOWA: Days suitable for fieldwork 1.5, compared to 4.3 days the previous week. The days suitable for fieldwork ranged from a low of .8 days in South Central and Southeast Iowa to a high of only 2.3 days in Northwest Iowa. Topsoil moisture levels increased to 3% short, 68% adequate, and 29% surplus. Subsoil moisture also increased and was rated 6% very short, 13% short, 66% adequate, and 15% surplus. Iowa's planting progress was slowed by persistent rain and thunderstorms that swept through the State. Farmers are looking forward to a stretch of clear weather to help dry out the fields so planting activities can resume.

KANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil moisture 6% very short, 20% short, 67% adequate, 7% surplus. Subsoil moisture 6% very short, 25% short, 66% adequate, 3% surplus. Winter wheat turned color 4%, 0% 2011, 0% avg; wind damage 82% none, 13% light, 4% moderate, 1% severe; freeze damage 94% none, 5% light, 1% moderate; insect infestation 74% none, 20% light, 5% moderate, 1% severe; disease infestation 52% none, 28% light, 15% moderate, 5% severe. Alfalfa cutting progress 60%, 3% 2011, 2% avg. Feed grain supplies 6% very short, 15% short, 77% adequate, 2% surplus. Hay and forage supplies 13% very short, 17% short, 67% adequate, 3% surplus. Stock water supplies 5% very short, 11% short, 81% adequate, 3% surplus. Last week many Kansas producers saw more hot and dry weather as many stations again set new daily high temperature records. Russell Springs had the State's highest and lowest weekly temperature with 99 degrees and 41 degrees. With average temperatures ranging from the mid-60's to mid-70's, the average weekly temperatures were 8 to 16 degrees above normal. The Southeast District saw ample amounts of precipitation with Parsons, Pittsburg, and Columbus receiving 7.80 inches, 6.20 inches, and 5.48 inches, respectively. There were reports from the Southeast District of localized flooding in low lying areas. However, only nine other stations received more than an inch of rain, while 17 stations received less than one half inch, and 9 stations received no rain at all. Producers across the State averaged 5 days suitable for fieldwork with the Southeast District only averaging 2 days suitable. As some producers become concerned with the hot and dry weather, they continued to spray wheat

for disease, apply fertilizer, and plant corn, soybeans, sorghum, and cotton. With only two districts reporting less than 90 percent headed, the Kansas wheat crop continues to progress three weeks ahead of the average. Four percent of the crop has already turned color, mostly in the South Central and Southeast Districts. Because of the heat and lack of moisture, the condition of the wheat crop continued to slightly decline. Cattle herds continue to be turned out to spring pasture as some producers are still finishing spring calving.

KENTUCKY: Days suitable fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil 7% very short, 25% short, 60% adequate, 8% surplus. Subsoil moisture 5% very short 28% short, 63% adequate, 4% surplus. Rainfall averaged 1.47 inches statewide, 0.38 in. above normal. Temperatures averaged 73 degrees, 12 degrees higher than normal for this time. Tobacco transplants 13% under 2 in. high, 36% 2-4 in., 51% over 4 inches. Dark tobacco set 12%. Burley tobacco set 9%. Condition of winter wheat 2% very poor, 14% poor, 26% fair, 49% good, 9% excellent. Hay crop condition 1% very poor, 10% poor, 35% fair, 46% good, and 8% excellent. Warm temperatures and scattered precipitation throughout the week.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Soil moisture 4% very short, 26% short, 67% adequate, 3% surplus. Corn silked 9% this week, n/a last week, n/a last year, n/a average; condition 20% fair, 62% good, 18 excellent. Winter Wheat turning color 100% this week, 88% last week, 89% last year, 69% average; harvest 21% this week, 1% last week, n/a last year, n/a average; condition 13% poor, 26% fair, 57% good, 4% excellent. Sweet Potatoes planted 8% this week, 3% last week, 3% last year, 1% average. Hay first cutting 57% this week, 41% last week, 41 last year, 31% average. Livestock condition 1% very poor, 4% poor, 27% fair, 59% good, 9 excellent. Vegetables condition 1% very poor, 4% poor, 28% fair, 57% good, 10% excellent. Sugarcane condition 2% very poor, 6% poor, 21% fair, 45% good, 26% excellent.

MARYLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.6. Topsoil moisture 3% very short, 24% short, 72% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 9% very short, 33% short, 58% adequate. Hay supplies 5% very short, 20% short, 73% adequate, 2% surplus. Other Hay First Cutting 30%, 16% 2011, 8% avg. Alfalfa Hay First Cutting 47%, 6% 2011, 7% avg. Winter wheat condition 1% very poor, 2% poor, 18% fair, 64% good, 15% excellent. Barley condition 3% very poor, 5% poor, 16% fair, 61% good, 15% excellent. Corn planted 59%, 36% 2011, 44% avg; emerged 32%, 9% 2011, 14% avg. Soybeans planted 4%, 2% 2011, 4% avg. Barley headed 95%, 69% 2011, 26% avg; turned 7%, 0% 2011, 0% avg. Winter Wheat headed 89%, 45% 2011, 40% avg. Cantaloupes planted 16%, 13% 2011, 19% avg. Cucumbers planted 14%, 13% 2011, 18% avg. Green Peas planted 95%, 94% 2011, 83% avg. Potatoes planted 100%, 96% 2011, 95% avg. Snap Beans planted 17%, 10% 2011, 16% avg. Sweet corn planted 47%, 32% 2011, 37% avg. Tomatoes planted 20%, 27% 2011, 30% avg. Watermelons planted 16%, 8% 2011, 16% avg. Apples bloomed 100%, 95% 2011, 82% avg. Peaches bloomed 100%, 85% 2011, 91% avg. Strawberries bloomed 87%, 69% 2011, 79% avg; harvested 12%, 1% 2011, 2% avg. Recent rainfall improved soil moisture, but slowed planting progress. First cutting of alfalfa was going to silage in some areas.

MICHIGAN: Days suitable for fieldwork 4. Topsoil 6% short, 58% adequate, 36% surplus. Subsoil 1% very short, 7% short, 71% adequate, 21% surplus. Oats 1% very poor, 1% poor, 30% fair, 56% good, 12% excellent; planted 90%, 33% 2011, 69% avg; emerged 74%, 9% 2011, 36% avg. Rains early and late week provided moisture to help crop emergence. Rains late week locally heavy with some growers reporting 4 to 6 inches of rain Friday and Saturday. Rains kept farmers out of fields for few days. Warmer temperatures at end of week aided herbicide efficacy, nitrogen movement to wheat, and seed emergence. Corn planting continued. Some growers in southern Michigan completed corn planting and moved to planting soybeans. Sugarbeets responded favorably to warmer temperatures and moisture. A substantial acreage of potatoes had been planted, though none emerged. Continual frosts throughout April caused worst weather damage to state fruit in past half-century. This compounded by poor pollination conditions for flowers that were still viable. Many growers adopting minimal spray programs to protect tree health. Apples ranged from king bloom north to 6 to 8 mm south. Crop will be well below average size. Tart cherry crop will be very small; many growers will not

have enough production to justify harvesting. Sweet cherries also scarce and ranged from late petal fall northwest to 12 mm fruit southwest. Juice grape crop southwest has very little potential; damage to wine grapes southwest varies by site and stage of development. Wine grape buds northwest have not been severely damaged. Most peach varieties have had substantial freeze damage. Pear and plum crops will be small. Strawberries early bloom. Blueberries had generally escaped injury, but freezes over last weekend April caused widespread damage. That varied greatly by variety and availability of sprinklers and wind machines. Vegetable planting held up by rains this week. Warmer temperatures pushed crop development. Asparagus harvest continued Southwest, and just beginning West Central. Onion planting still going on with some planted fields emerging. Celery planting continued, mostly under protection. Cabbage crop southeast generally looked good, although there some localized wind damage. Southwest, tomatoes, cucumbers, and squash being planted under tunnels. Some peas, radishes, and table beets have emerged.

MINNESOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.4. Topsoil moisture 1% Very Short, 10% Short, 71% Adequate, 18% Surplus. Spring Wheat 1% Jointing, 0% 2011, 0% avg.; condition 6% Fair, 68% Good, 26% Excellent. Barley 1% Jointing, 0% 2011, 0% avg.; condition 10% Fair, 57% Good, 33% Excellent. Oats 3% Jointing, 0% 2011, 0% avg. Corn land prepared 87%, 30% 2011, 63% avg. Soybeans land prepared 39%, 4% 2011, 26% avg. Potatoes 83% Planted, 29% 2011, 49% avg. Canola 70% Planted, 2% 2011, 23% avg. Dry Beans 5% Planted, 0% 2011, 1% avg. Sweet Corn 10% Planted, 2% 2011, 14% avg. Green Peas 79% Planted, 12% 2011, 45% avg. Spring rain and thunderstorms moved across the State this past week, slowing fieldwork in some areas. Precipitation amounts varied from light rainfall in the northwest portion of the State, up to 5.84 inches in southwestern areas.

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Soil moisture 4 percent very short, 21 percent short, 74 percent adequate and 1 percent surplus. Corn 100% planted, 98% 2011, 99% avg; 98% emerged, 95% 2011, 95% avg; 1% poor, 19% fair, 54% good, 26% excellent. Sorghum 75% planted, 45% 2011, 54% avg; 57% emerged, 32% 2011, 37% avg; 5% poor, 37% fair, 46% good, 12% excellent. Peanuts 41% planted, 26% 2011, 17% avg. Wheat 50% mature, 14% 2011, 4% avg; 1% harvested, 0% 2011, 0% avg; 6% poor, 23% fair, 59% good, 12% excellent. Watermelons 89% planted, 88% 2011, 90% avg; 2% poor, 10% fair, 63% good, 25% excellent. Hay 58% planted 43% 2011, 43% avg; 23% poor, 25% fair, 45% good, 7% excellent. Blueberries 1% poor, 9% fair, 65% good, 25% excellent. Cattle 3% poor, 25% fair, 53% good, 19% excellent. Warm temperatures and dry conditions prevailed last week; however, field conditions improved in some areas of the State from scattered showers over the weekend. Most growers were still hoping for some rain to finish up with planting.

MISSOURI: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.4. Precipitation 1.63 inches. Temperatures were 12 to 15 degrees above average. Topsoil moisture supply 5% very short, 12% short, 58% adequate, 25% surplus. Ground worked spring tillage 88%, nearly 1 month ahead of 2011 and normal (5-yr avg). Winter wheat turning color 15%; all districts developed well ahead of historic norms. Hot, dry conditions in the southeast district reduced wheat condition. Alfalfa hay 1st cutting 32%. Other hay cut 14%. High humidity slowed hay drying across some parts of the State. Although the dry south-central and southeast districts had nearly a week suitable for fieldwork, inundated by rain, the northeast had no days suitable, and the north-central district had only 1.5 days suitable.

MONTANA: Days suitable for field work 4.7, 4.4 last year. Topsoil moisture 3% very short, 0% last year; 14% short, 1% last year; 71% adequate, 66% last year; 12% surplus, 33% last year. Subsoil moisture 6% very short, 0% last year; 19% short, 2% last year; 67% adequate, 79% last year; 8% surplus, 19% last year. Camelina planted 52%, 21% last year; emerged 26%, 15% last year. Corn planted 29%, 19% last year. Dry peas planted 87%, 15% last year; emerged 10%. Lentils planted 90%, 28% last year; emerged 14%. Oats planted 74%, 14% last year; emerged 27%. Potatoes planted 36%. Sugar beets planted 82%, 38% last year; emerged 28%, 3% last year. Durum Wheat planted 65%, 2% last year; emerged 8%. Winter Wheat – spring stages

7% greening, 29% last year; 93% green & growing, 67% last year. Livestock grazing 92% open, 77% last year; 4% difficult, 15% last year; 4% closed, 8% last year. Cattle and calves receiving supplemental feed 47%, 64% last year. Sheep and lambs receiving supplemental feed 49%, 54% last year. Livestock moved to summer ranges – cattle and calves 33%, 13% last year. Livestock moved to summer ranges – sheep and lambs 25%, 12% last year. Calving complete 92%; 89% last year. Lambing complete 80%; 75% last year. Montana had cooler high temperatures along with limited precipitation last week across most of the State. Cooke City and Scobey received the highest amount of precipitation for the week with 1.25 inches of moisture and most other stations saw 0.01 to 0.99 of an inch. High temperatures ranged from the upper 60s to the middle 70s, with the state-wide high temperature of 77 degrees recorded at Albion. A majority of stations reported lows in the lower 20s to upper 30s, the coldest being Drummond and Wisdom at 18 degrees, followed by Martinsdale and West Yellowstone with 19 degrees.

NEBRASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil moisture 3% very short, 16% short, 76% adequate, and 52% surplus. Subsoil moisture 6% very short, 26% short, 66% adequate, and 2% surplus. Wheat jointed 87%, 40% 2011, 45% avg. Alfalfa 1st cutting 20%. Alfalfa conditions 5% poor, 24% fair, 54% good, 17% excellent. Wild hay conditions 2% poor, 29% fair, 65% good, 4% excellent. Producers made significant planting progress with favorable conditions. Above normal temperatures and limited precipitation allowed active field work and aided crop development. Wheat jointed was 87 percent with heading 19 days ahead of average. The first cutting of alfalfa continued 3 weeks ahead of average. Cattle have been moved to summer pastures. Temperatures averaged 9 degrees above normal across the State. High temperatures ranged from the mid 90's in the southern half of Nebraska to lows of mid 30's in the Panhandle. The East Central and Southeast Districts averaged over 1 inch of precipitation with other districts near half an inch or less.

NEVADA: Days suitable for fieldwork 7. Moderate temperatures with little precipitation dominated the week's weather. Windy conditions were common. Elko recorded 0.08 inches of rainfall. Other weather stations recorded trace amounts, or less, of rain. Weekly average temperatures ranged from zero to four degrees above normal. Las Vegas temperature hit 93 degrees. Eureka and Elko recorded low temperatures of 23 degrees. Pasture and range conditions rated mostly poor to fair due to little precipitation and very windy conditions. Irrigated crops were in generally good condition. Alfalfa fields were greening up and in mostly good condition. Seeding of potatoes and spring grains continued. Fall seeded crops were invigorated by the warmer temperatures and early spring seeded fields were emerging. Irrigation was underway and ditches were being cleaned. Calving and lambing were well along. Cattle were being moved out to summer ranges. Moderate drought conditions are prevalent throughout Nevada. Severe drought conditions exist in northern parts of the State. Main farm and ranch activities included irrigating, fertilizing, planting, ditch burning and weed control.

NEW ENGLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.4. Topsoil moisture 9% short, 73% adequate, 18% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 10% short, 76% adequate, 13% surplus. Maine Potatoes 15% planted, <5% 2011, 5% avg, condition N/A. Massachusetts Potatoes 95% planted, 20% 2011, 45% avg; 5% emerged, 0% 2011, 0% avg; condition 100% good. Rhode Island Potatoes 65% planted, 40% 2011, 45% avg; 20% emerged, 0% 2011, <5% avg; condition 100% good. Maine Oats 20% planted, 0% 2011, 10% avg. Maine Barley 20% planted, 0% 2011, 10% avg. Field Corn 15% planted, <5% 2011, 5% avg; <5% emerged, 0% 2011, 0% avg; condition 24% fair, 76% good. Sweet Corn 20% planted, 15% 2011, 15% avg; 15% emerged, 5% 2011, 5% avg; condition 12% poor, 14% fair, 74% good. First Crop Hay condition 2% poor, 40% fair, 55% good, 3% excellent. Apples 10% bud stage, 25% early bloom, 44% full bloom, 21% petal fall; condition 3% very poor, 9% poor, 32% fair, 50% good, 6% excellent. Peaches 3% bud stage, 15% early bloom, 31% full bloom, 51% petal fall; condition 15% poor, 17% fair, 66% good, 2% excellent. Pears 36% early bloom, 1% full bloom, 63% petal fall; condition 11% poor, 22% fair, 66% good, 1% excellent. Strawberries 1% dormant, 60% bud stage, 30% early bloom, 7% full bloom, 2% petal fall; condition 6% poor, 22% fair, 68%

good, 4% excellent. Massachusetts Cranberries 100% bud stage; condition 10% fair, 80% good, 10% excellent. Highbush Blueberries 21% bud stage, 49% early bloom, 27% full bloom, 3% petal fall; condition 6% poor, 37% fair, 54% good, 3% excellent. Maine Wild Blueberries 70% bud stage, 25% early bloom, 5% full bloom; condition 2% fair, 39% good, 59% excellent. The week began cold and rainy with frosty conditions reported in all six New England States. Precipitation and below average temperatures, predominantly in the 50s, persisted throughout the middle of the week for most of New England. Temperatures warmed up to seasonal levels by Friday and sunshine returned at the end of the week. Total precipitation for the week ranged from 0.10 to 1.25 inches. Average temperatures for the week ranged from 41 to 55 degrees. General activities included transplanting vegetable plants, spraying fertilizers, spreading manure, disking, plowing, irrigating, and planting a variety of vegetable crops and field crops.

NEW JERSEY: Days suitable for field work 5. Topsoil moisture 25% short, 70% adequate, and 5% surplus. Subsoil moisture 25% short, 70% adequate, and 5% surplus. Temperatures reached highs in the mid 70s to mid 80s and lows in the low 30s to upper 40s across the Garden State. Winter wheat condition was 15% fair and 85% good. Field corn planted was at 90% with 50% emerged. Substantial rains are relieving the imminent threat of drought stress. There have been some first cuttings made on hay. Last week's cold weather caused damage to some early crops, particularly blueberries in low lying areas. Asparagus and strawberry harvests continue. The strawberry crop is heavy on fruit. Greens were also being harvested. Sweet corn has been planted and is up, but did suffer from frost last week. Fields are still being prepared for planting. Sawflies, gnats, cabbage worms have increased.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.9. Topsoil moisture 61% very short, 30% short and 9% adequate. Wind damage 14% light, 6% moderate and 5% severe; 60% winter wheat damaged and 25% onion damage to date. Freeze damage 4% light; 1% winter wheat damaged and 3% onion damage. Alfalfa 2% very poor, 6% poor, 36% fair, 50% good and 6% excellent; 60% first cutting complete. Cotton 60% planted. Corn 47% planted; 6% emerged. Irrigated winter wheat 3% very poor, 9% poor, 69% fair, 5% good and 14% excellent; 60% headed; 57% grazed. Dry winter wheat 87% very poor and 13% poor; 50% headed; 58% grazed. Total winter wheat 57% very poor, 12% poor, 24% fair, 2% good and 5% excellent; 52% headed; 59% grazed. Peanut 8% planted. Lettuce 26% fair, 37% good and 37% excellent; 30% harvested. Chile 5% very poor, 15% poor, 22% fair, 36% good and 22% excellent; 95% planted. Onion 16% fair, 68% good and 16% excellent. Apples 100% fair; 20% light fruit set, 40% average fruit set and 40% heavy fruit set. Pecan Condition 1% poor, 63% good and 36% excellent. Nut set 100% average. Cattle 34% very poor, 24% poor, 36% fair and 6% good. Sheep 24% very poor, 31% poor, 35% fair and 10% good. Range and pasture 57% very poor, 29% poor, 13% fair and 1% good. Dry weather during the week and temperatures mostly above normal. A strong cold front plowed into northeast New Mexico on Sunday bringing gusty winds and moisture. Some rainfall reports 0.14 in at Las Vegas, 0.11 in at Raton, 0.37 in at Maxwell and 0.15 in at Eagle Nest.

NEW YORK: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.5. Soil moisture 2% very short, 10% short, 62% adequate, 26% surplus. Oats 73% planted, 12% last year, 60% avg. Oats 1% poor, 14% fair, 69% good, 16% excellent. Corn 15% planted, 2% last year, 18% avg. Apples 61% petal fall. Peaches 95% full bloom, 75% petal fall. Pears 95% full bloom, 75% petal fall. Sweet cherries 69% petal fall. Tart cherries 94% petal fall. Onions 48% planted, 19% last year, 49% avg. Pasture condition 2% very poor, 9% poor, 28% fair, 54% good, and 7% excellent. The average rainfall for the state was 1.00 inch. Temperatures averaged 4 degrees above normal and precipitation was above normal also.

NORTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9, compared to 4.4 the previous week. Statewide soil moisture levels were rated at 1% very short, 21% short, 69% adequate and 9% surplus. The State received below normal precipitation and above normal temperatures the week ending May 6, 2012. Corn, cotton, peanut and soybean planting, as well as tobacco transplanting, all made progress this week with favorable weather conditions in many areas.

NORTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.6. Topsoil moisture supplies 5% short, 82% adequate, 13% surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies 7% short, 80% adequate, 13% surplus. Durum wheat planted 55% this week, 41% last week, 1% last year, 20% average; emerged 19% this week, 12% last week, 0% last year, 3% average. Canola planted 51% this week, 17% last week, 2% last year, 21% average; emerged 6% this week, 1% last week, 0% last year, 2% average. Dry edible beans planted 2% this week, 1% last week, 0% last year, 2% average. Dry edible peas planted 70% this week, 44% last week, 1% last year, 41% average; emerged 19% this week, 9% last week, 0% last year, 5% average. Flaxseed planted 37% this week, 25% last week, 1% last year, 11% average; emerged 7% this week, 5% last week, 0% last year, 1% average. Potatoes planted 47% this week, 21% last week, 1% last year, 21% average; emerged 3% this week, 0% last week, 0% last year, 1% average. Hay and forage supplies were 3% short, 82% adequate, 15% surplus. Grain and concentrate supply 4% short, 88% adequate, 8% surplus. Calving and lambing 90% and 95% complete, respectively. Pastures and ranges 90% growing and 10% still dormant. Fieldwork continued between rain showers. Precipitation received was generally beneficial, although it slowed fieldwork in portions of the State. Planting of small grains remained ahead of average and emergence followed suit, also ahead of the average pace of development.

OHIO: Days suitable for field work 3.6. Top soil moisture 10% short, 69% adequate, 21% surplus. Apples condition 16% very poor, 10% poor, 30% fair, 40% good, 4% excellent. Peaches condition 23% very poor, 15% poor, 28% fair, 32% good, 2% excellent. Hay condition 4% poor, 30% fair, 58% good, 8% excellent. Livestock condition 2% poor, 16% fair, 64% good, 18% excellent. Winter wheat jointed 89%, 64% 2011, 74% avg. Alfalfa hay 1st cutting 2%, 0% 2011, 0% avg. Other hay 1st cutting 1%, 0% 2011, 0% avg. Apples full bloom (or beyond) 99%, 38% 2011, 67% avg. Peaches full bloom (or beyond) 98%, 45% 2011, 66% avg. Cucumbers planted 13%, 0% 2011, 2% avg. Strawberries harvested 4%, 0% 2011, 0% avg. Potatoes planted 73%, 10% 2011, 39% avg. Processing tomatoes planted 6%, 0% 2011, 1% avg.

OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Topsoil moisture 8% very short, 28% short, 57% adequate, 7% surplus. Subsoil moisture 12% very short, 32% short, 54% adequate, 2% surplus. Wheat soft dough 60% this week, 41% last week, 27% last year, 19% average. Canola condition 1% very poor, 2% poor, 22% fair, 54% good, 21% excellent; mature 59% this week, 41% last week, 50% last year, n/a average. Rye condition 1% very poor, 3% poor, 18% fair, 58% good, 20% excellent; soft dough 71% this week, 44% last week, 44% last year, n/a average. Oats condition 1% very poor, 2% poor, 18% fair, 61% good, 18% excellent; jointing 98% this week, 89% last week, 79% last year, 84% average; headed 65% this week, 41% last week, 33% last year, 30% average; soft dough 16% this week, n/a last week, n/a last year, n/a average. Corn condition, 18% fair, 71% good, 11% excellent; planted 92% this week, 68% last week, 87% last year, 81% average; emerged 53% this week, 40% last week, 36% last year, 49% average. Sorghum seedbed prepared 77% this week, 68% last week, 79% last year, 65% average. Soybeans seedbed prepared 68% this week, 62% last week, 62% last year, 61% average; planted 22% this week, 11% last week, 13% last year, 17% average. Peanuts seedbed prepared 85% this week, 72% last week, 86% last year, 87% average. Cotton seedbed prepared 83% this week, 82% last week, 73% last year, 82% average. Alfalfa condition 1% very poor, 3% poor, 27% fair, 55% good, 14% excellent; 1st cutting 80% this week, 59% last week, 41% last year, 39% average. Other hay condition 1% very poor, 4% poor, 27% fair, 54% good, 14% excellent; 1st cutting 41% this week, 29% last week, 18% last year, 16% average. Watermelons planted 73% this week, 57% last week, 77% last year, 55% average; running 21% this week, n/a last week, n/a last year, n/a average. Livestock condition 5% poor, 25% fair, 56% good, 14% excellent. The extent of the damage to wheat from hail and high winds the past few weeks will be seen as the crop is harvested over the next month. Although the rainfall the last two months has been close to or above normal, areas of western Oklahoma and the Panhandle have still not recovered adequate soil moisture to overcome the drought. The warm temperatures and windy conditions continued to dry out soil. Some areas are in need of more moisture for warm season forage to be cut, and insect problems after a mild winter were reported.

OREGON: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.6. Topsoil moisture 2% short, 78% adequate, 20% surplus. Subsoil moisture 4% very short, 3% short, 65% adequate, 28% surplus. Spring Wheat Planted 95%, 86% 2011, 93% average; Emerged 69%, 44% 2011, 70% average. Barley Planted 93%, 79% 2011, 89% average; Emerged 78%, 57% 2011, 68% average. A cooler, wet week ended with some nice warmer weather. All but two stations reported lower than normal temperatures, about 4 degrees cooler on average. All stations reported measurable precipitation, averaging close to a half an inch above normal across the State. Frost was reported in Josephine County with overnight temperatures dropping below 30 degrees. Malheur County reported over an inch of rain above normal, receiving heavy rains with some hail. Most Malheur County row crops were planted with exception of some field corn & some late grain. Spraying & cultivating will be the principal activities this coming week. Western Oregon conditions bear monitoring for Stripe rust. Field corn planting started on dried soils. Wheat growing rapidly, crimson clover & brassica seed crops were blooming. Plant growth regulators were applied to grass seed crops. Most fertilizing & spraying have been completed on most seed crops. In Hood River County, cool & wet conditions prevailed for most of the week changing to warmer & dryer by the weekend. At week's end, crop development in the lower Hood River Valley was d'Anjou pear at post bloom (WSU stage 8); Red Delicious apple near post bloom (WSU stage 9); Bing cherry at post bloom (WSU stage 9); Pinot noir grape at Eichhorn-Lorenz stages 5 to 7. Yamhill County weather conditions have produced several brown rot infection periods. The rain has also made it difficult to get control sprays on in a timely manner. The result has likely been a reduced fruit set due to brown rot blossom blight. Filberts treated for blight control with better weather openings. In southern Oregon, tree fruit crops were done with bloom & only plum crops looked to be light from poor pollination. Wine grape varieties have all broken bud & the new shoots were about 2-3 inches long. Blueberry crop potential looked good with nice fruit set on early varieties, & the later varieties were blooming nicely. Pest management programs for Spotted Wing Drosophila are going to be very necessary this year since the winter traps have been catching a good number of adults who have overwintered. Cherry, raspberry, blackberry, & blueberry growers will have to be very attentive. Vegetable growers were a few weeks behind normal planting pace with the wet soils. First plantings of sweet corn & field corn were scheduled for this last week, with some being planted depending on soil types. New seedlings were covered with low plastic coverings. Nurseries were digging & balling small trees. Rain helped upper level Malheur grazing areas. Lake County pasture conditions continued to improve with warmer weather & precipitation. In western Oregon pastures were improving & cattle were on rotation of plots.

PENNSYLVANIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4. Soil moisture 1% very short, 17% short, 67% adequate, and 15% surplus. Spring plowing 87% this week, 82% last week, 25% last year, and 63% average. Corn planted 33% this week, 27% last week, 7% last year, and 30% average. Barley headed 96% this week, 78% last week, 40% last year, and 42% average; yellow 29% this week, 0% last week, 4% last year, and 2% average. Winter Wheat headed 28% this week, 7% last week, 17% last year, and 14% average. Oats planted 97% this week, 92% last week, 25% last year, and 72% average; emerged 72% this week, 56% last week, 8% last year, and 34% average. Soybeans planted 10% this week, 5% last week, 0% last year, and 7% average. Tobacco planted in beds 100% this week, 86% last week, 96% last year, and 89% average. Potatoes planted 57% this week, 53% last week, 7% last year, and 27% average. Alfalfa first cutting 10% this week, 2% last week, 2% last year, and 4% average. Winter wheat condition 1% very poor, 3% poor, 18% fair, 53% good, 25% excellent. Oats condition 3% poor, 39% fair, 40% good, 18% excellent. Alfalfa stand condition 6% poor, 27% fair, 55% good, 12% excellent. Timothy clover stand condition 5% poor, 28% fair, 54% good, 13% excellent. Quality of hay made 74% fair, 26% good. Pasture condition 5% very poor, 9% poor, 33% fair, 34% good, 19% excellent. Peaches condition 2% very poor, 3% poor, 20% fair, 34% good, 41% excellent. Apples condition 1% very poor, 26% fair, 51% good, 22% excellent. Field activities were manure spreading, spraying, and planting.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Soil moisture 16% very short, 44% short, 40% adequate. Corn 1% very poor, 6% poor, 36% fair, 53% good, 4% excellent. Winter wheat 3% poor, 38%

fair, 55% good, 4% excellent. Oats 1% very poor, 5% poor, 36% fair, 55% good, 3% excellent. Tobacco 4% poor, 45% fair, 46% good, 5% excellent. Peaches 60% fair, 39% good, 1% excellent. Snap beans, fresh 80% fair, 16% good, 4% excellent. Cucumbers, fresh 74% fair, 24% good, 2% excellent. Watermelons 1% poor, 54% fair, 39% good, 6% excellent. Tomatoes, fresh 47% fair, 53% good. Cantaloupe 1% poor, 58% fair, 41% good. Livestock condition 1% very poor, 3% poor, 39% fair, 56% good, 1% excellent. Freeze damage 100% none. Corn planted 99%, 100% 2011, 98% avg; emerged 92%, 92% 2011, 88% avg. Soybeans planted 25%, 13% 2011, 11% avg; emerged 7%, 3% 2011, 3% avg. Winter wheat headed 100%, 98% 2011, 95% avg; turning color 60%, 20% 2011, 14% avg. Oats headed 100%, 98% 2011, 94% avg. Tobacco transplanted 100%, 98% 2011, 95% avg. Hay grain hay 75%, 53% 2011, 53% avg. Snap beans, fresh planted 95%, 76% 2011, 88% avg. Cucumbers, fresh planted 90%, 89% 2011, 89% avg. Watermelons planted 95%, 96% 2011, 92% avg. Tomatoes, fresh planted 100%, 99% 2011, 98% avg. Cantaloupe planted 95%, 93% 2011, 88% avg. High temperatures and little rainfall persisted through the week ending May 6, 2012. Livestock producers were harvesting hay at a quicker pace due to poor grazing conditions. Temperatures in the nineties were common throughout the State with the average temperature recorded at nine degrees above normal for the week. Isolated thunderstorms produced some rainfall but the State remained in a serious drought. The State's average rainfall for the period was 0.2 inches with decreased soil moisture conditions.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.9. Topsoil moisture 7% short, 85% adequate, 8% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% very short, 13% short, 79% adequate, 6% surplus. Winter wheat boot 37%, 11% 2011, 13% avg. Spring wheat condition 1% poor, 22% fair, 63% good, 14% excellent. Barley condition 9% fair, 89% good, 2% excellent. Barley seeded 95%, 23% 2011, 52% avg; emerged 78%, 2% 2011, 15% avg. Alfalfa hay condition 2% poor, 22% fair, 63% good, 13% excellent. Cattle condition 7% fair, 73% good, 20% excellent. Calving 86% complete. Cattle moved to pasture 51% complete. Sheep condition 7% fair, 67% good, 26% excellent. Lambing 90% complete. Feed supplies 1% short, 92% adequate, 7% surplus. Stock water supplies 1% very short, 5% short, 89% adequate, 5% surplus. Rain slowed planting progress in some areas of the State as farmers try to finish planting corn. Crops continued to look good with the help of recent rains.

TENNESSEE: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Topsoil moisture 13% very short, 34% short, 52% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 7% very short, 35% short, 57% adequate, 1% surplus. Winter Wheat 49% turning color, 2% 2011, 1% avg. Hay 37% First Cutting, 3% 2011, 7% avg. Corn condition 4% poor, 20% fair, 60% good, 16% excellent. Cattle condition 1% very poor, 3% poor, 23% fair, 61% good, 12% excellent. Unusually high temps, sunny days minimized benefits of scattered showers. All regions need general soaking rain. Farm activities included fertilizer and herbicide applications, cutting hay, scouting for insects and diseases, harvesting strawberries, continuing assessment of freeze damage on fruit crops. Rainfall totals were below normal. Temperatures averaged well above normal.

TEXAS: Portions of Central Texas received up to 2 inches of rainfall last week while other areas of the State observed isolated showers. Some hail damage was reported in areas of the Low Plains. Warm weather continued to mature wheat and oats ahead of schedule. Some producers began harvesting winter wheat for grain and many others were preparing to harvest within the next few weeks. In the Northern Plains, dryland wheat conditions were in decline due to a lack of moisture while irrigated wheat fields were generally in good condition. Many producers in the High Plains were planting corn, cotton, sorghum, sunflowers, and peanuts. Others continued to water fields ahead of planting. In North Texas, corn and sorghum were progressing well, though some fields were beginning to show stress due to a lack of moisture. Across the State, recently planted fields were in need of rain. Irrigation was active on row crops from East and Central Texas to the Lower Valley. In East Texas and the Edwards Plateau, peaches appeared to be doing very well with only limited insect damage. Pecan producers were irrigating trees and spraying for pests. In the Low Plains, some insect pressure was reported on vegetable fields. In the Lower Valley, melon, squash, tomato, pepper, and sweet corn harvests

continued. Hot, windy conditions across much of West Texas caused range and pastureland to dry out in many areas. Grasses remained thin in drought-damaged pastures. Pastures in North and East Texas were in better condition but still in need of moisture. Baling of winter forages continued, as did spraying for warm season weeds. Cattle were in fair to good condition in most areas but many were rapidly running out of grazing. Stock tank levels were a concern for livestock producers in South Texas. Ranchers around the State continued to work spring calves and shear sheep.

UTAH: Days suitable for field work were 6.6. Subsoil Moisture 37% short, 63% adequate. Irrigation Water Supplies 3% very short, 14% short, 82% adequate, 1% surplus. Winter Wheat Condition 31% fair, 48% good, 21% excellent. Spring Wheat emerged 91%, 30% 2011, 56% avg; condition 15% fair, 66% good, 19% excellent. Barley emerged 87%, 31% 2011, 47% avg; condition 6% fair, 69% good, 25% excellent. Oats planted 86%, 53% 2011, 67% avg; emerged 57%, 20% 2011, 32% avg. Corn planted 37%, 18% 2011, 22% avg. Alfalfa height 9%. Cattle and calves moved To Summer Range 12%. Cattle and calves condition 9% fair, 77% good, 14% excellent. Sheep and lambs moved To Summer Range 13%. Sheep Condition 7% fair, 71% good, 22% excellent. Stock Water Supplies 2% very short, 15% short, 82% adequate, 1% surplus. Sheep Sheared On Farm 96%, 92% 2011, 67% avg. Sheep Sheared On Range 91%, 90% 2011, 62% avg. Ewes Lamb On Farm 95%, 94% 2011, 93% avg. Ewes Lamb On Range 62%, 65% 2011, 64% avg. Apples Full Bloom Or Past 94%, 37% 2011, 60% avg. In Northern Utah the temperatures this week were typical for the first of May but cooled to below normal as a cold front moved through Friday night. Some areas of light frost were reported on both Saturday and Sunday mornings. In Box Elder County minimum temperatures were close to freezing several nights this past week but not enough to cause significant frost damage to fruit or alfalfa. Cache County reported two nights of freezing temperatures which caused concern for young alfalfa, fruit trees, and some other crops. Freezing temperatures have slowed growth of alfalfa and grass pastures in Summit County. The soil continues to dry out and concerns about irrigation water continue to increase. Topsoil moisture content was rated 32 percent short, and 63 percent adequate. Box Elder farmers continued to plant corn and irrigate fall wheat and alfalfa hay. Crop progress slowed with the cooler weather during the last part of the week. Alfalfa growth is progressing with average height. Farmers this week were also busy spraying weeds. Dryland farmers were finishing planting safflower. They were also busy plowing summer fallow or chemical fallowing. The dryland wheat crop continues to look good there is concern about rainfall which was spotty this week. Dry farm producers reported between one tenth and half an inch of rainfall. Alfalfa in Beaver County is looking good and is about 2-3 weeks ahead of schedule. Corn is being planted In Cache County rain showers during the week continued to help crops that have been planted, but slowed the planting of corn. No insect outbreaks yet, though farmers anticipate some difficulties as soon as warm weather arrives. Duchesne County has reported a lack of moisture that continues throughout the county. Farmers in Morgan and Weber Counties are beginning to plant corn and crops are progressing well. Summit County farmers continued planting small grains and spraying weeds. In Utah County cool conditions have slowed crop growth. Dryland crops are in need of moisture. Range conditions are fair and some areas where there was early grass growth were reported to be very dry. Corn is being planted and other crops are reported to be in good condition. In Box Elder County livestock producers are still reporting that their cattle are in good condition. Lamb producers with range flocks are in the middle of or are just beginning lambing. Several of the bigger producers moved their lambing back a couple of weeks to try to avoid losses due to spring storms that they have experienced the last couple of year. Most range sheep producers reported that they are shearing and are over half finished lambing. Summer ranges look good now but there is concern among cattle and sheep producers that the ranges may dry up if significant rainfall does not occur. Beaver County ranchers are turning out their livestock to summer pastures. In Cache County cattle and sheep are doing well on spring grass. Duchesne County producers plan to transport livestock to summer pastures in the next week, when branding of calves is complete.

VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.3. Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 13% short, 78% adequate, 8% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% very

short, 22% short, 74% adequate, 2% surplus. Livestock 4% poor, 23% fair, 57% good, 16% excellent. Other Hay 1% very poor, 7% poor, 42% fair, 43% good, 7% excellent. Alfalfa Hay 1% poor, 30% fair, 54% good, 15% excellent. Corn planted 79%, 69% 2011, 69% 5-yr avg; emerged 55%, 34% 2011, 41% 5-yr avg. Soybeans planted 10%, 7% 2011, 9% 5-yr avg. Winter wheat headed 92%, 58% 2011, 48% 5-yr avg; condition 2% poor, 19% fair, 69% good, 10% excellent. Barley 3% poor, 29% fair, 59% good, 9% excellent. Tobacco Greenhouse 4% poor, 38% fair, 45% good, 13% excellent. Tobacco Plant beds 74% fair, 22% good, 4% excellent. Flue Cured Tobacco transplanted 28%, 20% 2011, 29% 5-yr avg. Burley Tobacco transplanted 9%, 6% 2011, 4% 5-yr avg. Fire Cured Tobacco transplanted 9%, 13% 2011, 6% 5-yr avg. Potatoes 2% fair, 95% good, 3% excellent. All Apples 3% poor, 84% fair, 13% good. Peaches 8% poor, 43% fair, 45% good, 4% excellent. Grapes 1% very poor, 3% poor, 17% fair, 77% good, 2% excellent. Oats 27% fair, 66% good, 7% excellent. Scattered thunderstorms mid-week brought additional precipitation to the State and helped maintain and improve soil moisture conditions. Warmer temperatures also helped to improve crops and allowed producers to make progress with planting. With the additional moisture and warmer weather, conditions are improving for early planted corn, as well as assisting with rapid growth in pastures and hayfields. In southeastern Virginia, planting is well underway, with many growers finishing up corn and starting on soybeans and cotton. Other activities included field preparations for peanuts, cotton and soybeans, scouting of small grains for disease and following up with fungicide applications, when suitable.

WASHINGTON: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.9. Topsoil moisture 5% short, 65% adequate, 30% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 9% short, 81% adequate, 9% surplus. Irrigation water supply 95% adequate, 5% surplus. Hay and other Roughage 3% very short, 16% short, 80% adequate, and 1% surplus. Potatoes 85% planted, 77% last week, 82% last year, 79% average; 24% emerged, 16% last week, 13% last year, 23% average. Corn 65% planted, 50% last week, 46% last year, 49% average; 15% emerged, 5% last week, 0% last year, 12% average. Dry Edible Beans 6% planted, 2% last week, 27% last year, 56% average. Dry Peas 27% planted, 22% last week, 44% last year, 65% average. Processing Green Peas 80% planted, 75% last week, 79% last year, 75% average. With recent rains, the winter wheat crop in Lincoln County was in good to excellent condition. Growers were applying fungicides for foot rot along with the spring fertilizer applications. Spring wheat seeding in northern Lincoln County was delayed some due to the rains but was expected to finish up in the coming week. In Snohomish County, farmers were able to plow the fields but no corn planting was completed. Heavy rains in western Washington early in the week slowed fieldwork. High wind was seen in Benton County causing crop herbicide spray to be postponed. Producers in Spokane and Pend Oreille Counties needed to spray winter wheat but high winds and wet field conditions kept farmers out of the fields. In the Yakima Valley, orchard renewal continued with more new fruit trees planted throughout the area. Hops started climbing the trellis. In Chelan County, moderate weather slowed the previously rapid development of flowers on fruit trees, allowing growers to complete blossom thinning in a timely manner. An extraordinary blossom load was seen in most orchards of every tree fruit, which indicated a potential for good crops. Potato planting finished in Grant County as field corn planting was just starting to ramp up. Pasture conditions and field conditions remained extremely wet which limited equipment use in Pacific County. Otherwise, pasture conditions were improving nicely.

WEST VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4. Topsoil moisture 15% short, 75% adequate and 10% surplus compared to 58% adequate and 42% surplus last year. Intended acreage prepared for spring crops 78%, 45% in 2011, and 71% 5-year avg. Hay and roughage supplies 1% short, 86% adequate and 13% surplus compared to 12% very short, 29% short, 49% adequate and 10% surplus last year. Feed grain supplies 4% short, 95% adequate and 1% surplus compared to 6% very short, 21% short and 73% adequate last year. Corn 35% planted, 10% 2011, 33% 5-year avg; 6% emerged, 3% 2011, 9% 5-year avg. Soybeans 20% planted, 2% 2011 and 6% 5-year avg; 5% emerged, comparison data not available. Winter wheat conditions 2% very poor, 5% poor, 33% fair and 60% good. Wheat 29% headed, 17% 2011, 18% 5-year avg. Hay conditions 1% very poor, 6% poor, 32% fair, 59% good and 2% excellent. Apple conditions 12%

poor, 46% fair, 40% good and 2% excellent. Peaches 15% very poor, 26% poor, 33% fair, 25% good and 1% excellent. Cattle and calves 2% poor, 30% fair, 65% good and 3% excellent. Calving 97% complete, compared to 93% last year. Sheep and lambs 2% poor, 47% fair, 49% good and 2% excellent. Higher temperatures along with sunshine and scattered rains allowed farmers to do some planting. Farming activities included preparing fields for planting, planting, and repairing fence work.

WISCONSIN: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.7. Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 4% short, 62% adequate, and 33% surplus. Spring tillage 67% complete this week, 58% last week, 26% last year, 47% average. Severe thunderstorms brought heavy rain to much of Wisconsin this week, with hail and high winds affecting some areas. Localized flooding damaged homes and prompted road closures in Winnebago, Calumet and Manitowoc Counties on May 3rd. Reporters across the State noted water standing in fields and commented that a few days of dry weather will be necessary before fieldwork can resume. Significant soil erosion to tilled fields was reported where rains were heaviest. Hail damage to hay and small grains was reported in Buffalo, Trempealeau and Jackson Counties. Across the reporting stations, average temperatures this week were 4 to 7 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 64 to 69 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 45 to 51 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.45 inches in Milwaukee to 2.01 inches in Eau Claire.

WYOMING: Days suitable for field work 6.1. Topsoil moisture 10% very short, 36% short, 54% adequate. Barley planted 92% this week, 88% last week, 79% last year, 78% average; emerged 77% this week, 63% last week, 35% last year, 35% average. Oats planted 68% this week, 58% last week, 58% last year, 58% average; emerged 40% this week, 21% last week, 18% last year, 23% average. Spring wheat planted 70% this week, 53% last week, 29% last year, 45% average; emerged 43% this week, 17% last week, 7% last year, 12% average. Winter wheat jointed 69% this week, 53% last week, 49% last year, 21% average. Corn planted 27% this week, 13% last week, 4% last year, 22% average. Dry beans 2% this week, 1% last week, 0% last year, 2% average. Sugarbeets planted 83% this week, 63% last week, 41% last year, 68% average; emerged 7% this week, 2% last week, 3% last year, 7% average. Winter wheat condition 35% fair, 65% good. Crop insect infestation 88% none, 12% light. Spring calves born 87% this week, 81% last week. Farm flock ewes lambing 90% this week, 86% last week. Farm flock sheep shorn 86% this week, 81% last week. Range flock ewes lambing 34% this week, 28% last week. Range flock sheep shorn 69% this week, 47% last week. Calf losses 46% light, 54% normal, 0% heavy. Lamb losses 45% light, 55% normal, 0% heavy. Cattle condition 1% poor, 15% fair, 80% good, 4% excellent. Calves condition 10% fair, 86% good, 4% excellent. Sheep condition 1% poor, 13% fair, 84% good, 2% excellent. Lambs condition 1% poor, 10% fair, 87% good, 2% excellent. Irrigation water supplies 18% short, 81% adequate, 1% surplus. High temperatures ranged from 54 degrees in Yellowstone to 84 degrees in Torrington. Low temperatures ranged from 17 degrees in Big Piney to 34 degrees in Cody. Average temperatures ranged from 39 degrees in Yellowstone to 60 degrees in Torrington. Temperatures ranged from 2 degrees below normal at the Afton and Powell reporting stations to 15 degrees above normal at the Buford reporting station. Five of the 33 reporting stations received more than half an inch of rain. Newcastle received 1.07 inches, Yellowstone at 0.73, Sundance at 0.69 Afton at 0.67 and Old Fort Laramie at 0.56 inch. The reporting stations in Lander, Douglas and Cheyenne reported no precipitation last week. Five stations reported above normal precipitation for the week, three stations reported above normal precipitation for the year. These included Sundance, Shirley Basin and Yellowstone. Lincoln County reported good weather and cold mornings with a hard freeze, snowpack is down. Uinta County reported that runoff has begun with one reservoir full and the second one at 65 percent. Valley floor conditions are dry with little moisture over the last 6 weeks. Conditions are dry and dusty for this early in the year. Livestock were doing well but moisture was needed. Carbon County ranchers reported that they were on limited water allotments due to limited water from runoff. Converse County reported that growing conditions were approximately 3 weeks ahead of normal and that dry conditions persisted. Activities included planting small grains and some row crops, feeding livestock, shearing sheep, lambing & calving.

May 3 ENSO Update

EQ. Upper-Ocean Heat Anoms. (deg C) for 180-100W

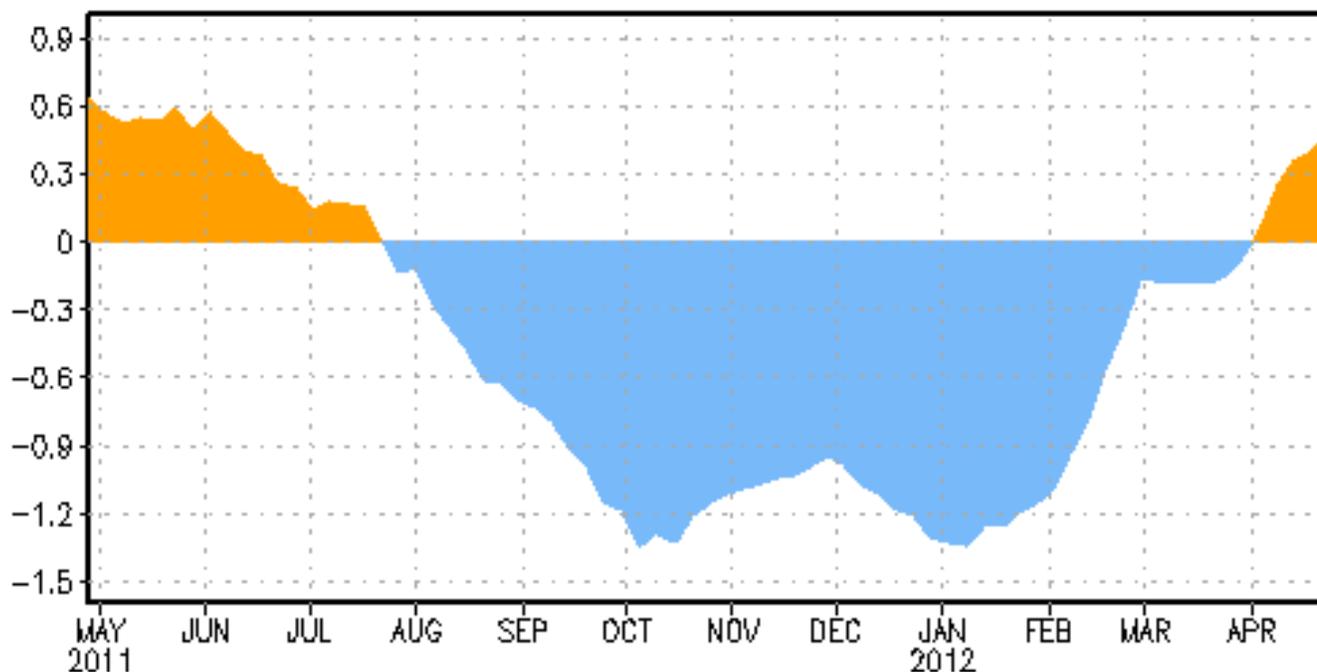


Figure 1: Area-averaged upper-ocean heat content anomaly (°C) in the equatorial Pacific (5°N-5°S, 180°-100°W). The heat content anomaly is computed as the departure from the 1982-2004 base period pentad means.

ENSO Alert System Status: **Final La Niña Advisory**

Synopsis: La Niña has transitioned to ENSO-neutral conditions, which are expected to continue through northern summer 2012.

La Niña dissipated during April 2012, as below-average SSTs weakened across most of the equatorial Pacific Ocean and above-average SSTs persisted in the east. The Niño 4 and Niño 3.4 indices were warmer than -0.5°C throughout the month, and the Niño 3 and Niño 1+2 indices remained positive. The oceanic heat content (average temperature in the upper 300m of the ocean) anomalies also became positive in April (Figure 1), as below-average sub-surface temperatures largely disappeared and above-average sub-surface temperatures expanded in both the central and eastern Pacific. Consistent with the demise of La Niña, enhanced trade winds and reduced convection over the central equatorial Pacific were much weakened during April, and the area of enhanced convection that had previously dominated the western Pacific and Indonesia became disorganized. Collectively, these oceanic and atmospheric patterns indicate a transition from La Niña to ENSO-neutral conditions.

The current and evolving conditions, combined with model forecasts, suggest that La Niña is unlikely to re-develop later this year. A majority of models predict ENSO-neutral conditions to continue from April-June (AMJ) through the June-August (JJA) season. However, at least half of the dynamical models

predict development of El Niño conditions by JJA. Still, from JJA onward there is considerable forecast uncertainty as to whether ENSO-neutral or El Niño conditions will prevail, due largely to the inability to predict whether the warmer SST will result in the ocean-atmosphere coupling required for a sustained El Niño event. The official forecast calls for ENSO-neutral conditions through JAS, followed by approximately equal chances of Neutral or El Niño conditions for the remainder of the year (see [CPC/IRI consensus forecast](#)).

This discussion is a consolidated effort of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), NOAA's National Weather Service, and their funded institutions. Oceanic and atmospheric conditions are updated weekly on the Climate Prediction Center web site ([El Niño/La Niña Current Conditions and Expert Discussions](#)). Forecasts for the evolution of El Niño/La Niña are updated monthly in the [Forecast Forum](#) section of CPC's Climate Diagnostics Bulletin. The next ENSO Diagnostics Discussion is scheduled for 7 June 2012. To receive an e-mail notification when the monthly ENSO Diagnostic Discussions are released, please send an e-mail message to: ncep.list.enso-update@noaa.gov.

April 2012

International Weather and Crop Summary

April 29 - May 5, 2012

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

EUROPE: Locally heavy rain over western and central Europe continued to improve winter crop prospects.

FSU-WESTERN: Dry, warm weather accelerated winter crop development but increased evaporative losses, most notably in southern Ukraine.

FSU-EASTERN: Widespread showers provided much-needed soil moisture for spring wheat planting and establishment.

MIDDLE EAST: Late-week showers favored winter crops in Turkey.

NORTHWEST AFRICA: Showers continued to provide a late boost to winter grain prospects in Morocco.

SOUTH ASIA: Seasonably drier weather returned to much of India along with hot weather.

EAST ASIA: Drier weather returned for flowering winter wheat on the North China Plain, while limited planting of corn, rice, and soybeans began in northeastern China.

SOUTHEAST ASIA: Pre-monsoon showers in Thailand helped prepare fields for the upcoming main growing season.

AUSTRALIA: Passing showers caused only brief delays in summer crop harvesting and helped condition topsoils in advance of winter crop planting.

ARGENTINA: Mild, dry weather promoted corn and soybean harvesting.

BRAZIL: Showers maintained overall favorable conditions for winter grains in southern production areas.

MEXICO: Moisture was needed for rain-fed corn and sugarcane in key eastern production areas.

CANADIAN PRAIRIES: Beneficial rain improved planting prospects of spring grains and oilseeds.

EASTERN CANADA: Scattered showers boosted moisture for winter wheat, but a cold snap likely burned back tender growth.

COUNTRY	CITY	TEMPERATURE (C)					PRECIP. (MM)		
		AVG MAX	AVG MIN	HI MAX	LO MIN	AVG	DEP NRM	TOT	DEP NRM
ALGERI	ALGER	21	10	31	5	16	0.8	177	128
	BATNA	20	6	32	-1	13	0.7	37	12
ARGENT	IGUAZU	26	17	32	8	21	-0.3	273	112
	FORMOSA	27	18	35	7	22	0	214	13
	CERES	25	14	33	3	20	0.8	65	-39
	CORDOBA	24	13	36	3	19	1.6	41	-31
	RIO CUARTO	22	12	33	2	17	0.6	78	17
	ROSARIO	24	13	32	2	18	1	24	-104
	BUENOS AIRES	22	11	30	1	17	0	20	-69
	SANTA ROSA	22	9	33	2	16	0.3	60	0
	TRES ARROYOS	20	9	28	-2	15	0.3	24	-60
AUSTRA	DARWIN	32	26	34	19	29	0.5	125	21
	BRISBANE	25	20	28	13	22	0.8	336	226
	PERTH	26	14	36	7	20	0.6	53	18
	CEDUNA	25	16	37	6	20	3.1	7	-12
	ADELAIDE	23	16	33	8	19	2.4	30	-8
	MELBOURNE	21	13	29	3	17	1.9	40	-4
	WAGGA	22	12	30	2	17	1.4	16	-31
	CANBERRA	20	11	26	1	15	1.9	15	-34
AUSTRI	VIENNA	16	5	29	-2	11	0.5	38	-2
	INNSBRUCK	15	5	29	-4	10	1.5	55	-8
BAHAMA	NASSAU	28	20	32	16	24	0.5	288	228
BARBAD	BRIDGETOWN	30	24	31	21	27	0.2	39	-17
BELARU	MINSK	13	4	29	-5	8	1.6	98	48
BERMUD	ST GEORGES	22	18	24	10	20	0.1	47	-48
BOLIVI	LA PAZ	13	2	16	-3	8	-0.8	55	-36
BRAZIL	FORTALEZA	30	25	31	25	28	0.2	100	-254
	RECIFE	30	25	31	20	27	-0.9	21	-230
	CAMPO GRANDE	29	21	33	12	25	0.3	100	5
	FRANCA	27	18	29	16	23	0.9	49	-15
	RIO DE JANEIR	29	22	36	20	26	0.6	39	-70
	LONDRINA	29	17	34	11	23	1.5	146	31
	SANTA MARIA	26	14	36	6	20	-0.4	108	-61
	TORRES	25	17	28	11	21	-2.9	45	-65
BULGAR	SOFIA	19	6	27	-5	13	2.1	59	8
BURKIN	OUAGADOUGOU	40	28	43	24	34	1.2	19	-1
CANADA	TORONTO	13	2	27	-2	7	0.9	44	-26
	MONTREAL	12	2	29	-4	7	1.1	67	-14
	WINNIPEG	13	-1	22	-12	6	1.8	40	7
	REGINA	11	-1	27	-9	5	0.8	0	-24
	SASKATOON	10	-1	22	-9	4	-0.2	0	-25
	LETHBRIDGE	14	0	28	-9	7	0.7	0	-32
	CALGARY	11	-1	26	-6	5	0.5	57	33
	EDMONTON	10	0	20	-7	5	-0.6	43	17
	VANCOUVER	13	6	17	2	10	0.4	94	10
CANARY	LAS PALMAS	22	16	24	13	19	-0.1	5	-1
CHILE	SANTIAGO	24	9	31	2	16	1.8	5	-13
CHINA	HARBIN	13	2	25	-10	8	0.3	34	11
	HAMI	23	6	31	0	15	1.2	1	-1
	BEIJING	22	11	30	3	16	1.4	55	34
	TIENTSIN	22	10	30	3	16	1.1	53	30
	LHASA	16	3	20	-2	10	1	6	-1
	KUNMING	25	11	27	7	18	1.2	16	-7
	CHENGCHOW	24	13	32	5	18	2.8	54	15
	YEHCHANG	23	14	30	10	19	1.5	54	-32
	HANKOW	23	14	30	7	19	1.2	115	-15
	CHUNGKING	25	17	33	11	21	2.2	61	-33
	CHIIKIANG	23	15	32	8	19	2.2	83	-67
	WU HU	25	15	33	8	20	3.4	56	-69
	SHANGHAI	22	14	28	8	18	2.9	59	-35
	NANCHANG	23	17	31	10	20	2.6	237	19
	TAIPEI	26	21	34	17	24	1.6	293	93
	CANTON	27	21	32	14	24	1.6	370	170
	NANNING	29	21	37	16	25	2	37	-63
COLOMB	BOGOTA	19	10	22	7	14	0.3	207	105
COTE D	ABIDJAN	31	26	33	23	28	0.1	71	-105
CUBA	HAVANA	29	19	32	13	24	-0.3	105	51
CYPRUS	LARNACA	23	12	27	7	17	0.3	9	-5
CZECHR	PRAGUE	14	4	29	-5	9	1.2	47	19
DENMAR	COPENHAGEN	10	3	18	-4	7	-0.1	29	-4

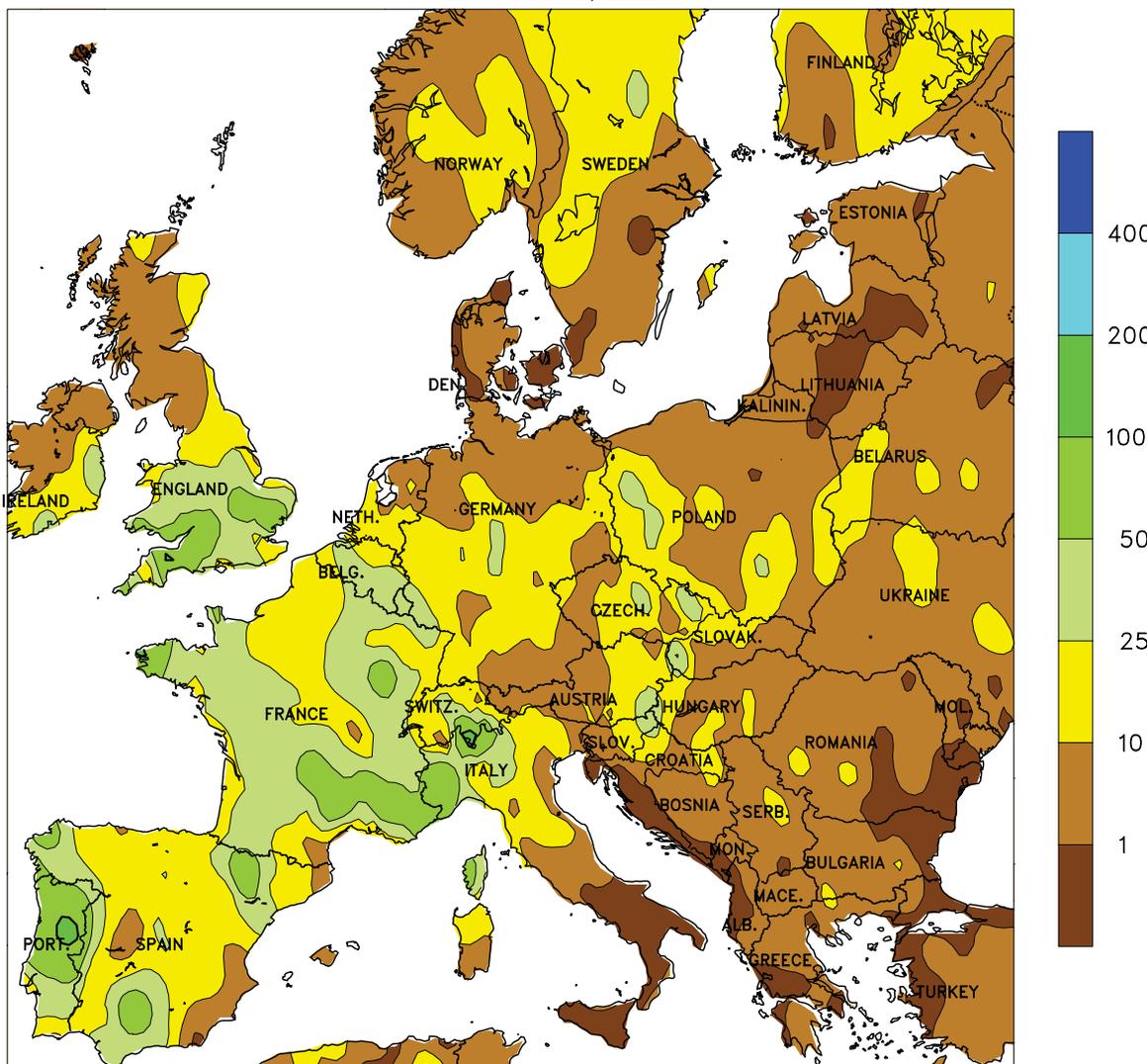
Based on Preliminary Reports

April 2012

COUNTRY	CITY	TEMPERATURE (C)					PRECIP. (MM)			COUNTRY	CITY	TEMPERATURE (C)					PRECIP. (MM)		
		AVG MAX	AVG MIN	HI MAX	LO MIN	DEP AVG	TOT NRM	DEP NRM	AVG MAX			AVG MIN	HI MAX	LO MIN	DEP AVG	TOT NRM	DEP NRM		
EGYPT	CAIRO	29	17	37	13	23	1.7	0	-1		TLAXCALA	24	9	29	4	17	-1.3	13	-13
	ASWAN	37	21	42	15	29	1.4	0	0		ORIZABA	25	15	32	9	20	0.7	44	4
ESTONI	TALLINN	8	1	17	-6	5	1.0	69	34	MOROCC	CASABLANCA	19	13	23	10	16	0.3	69	32
ETHIOP	ADDIS ABABA	***	***	26	7	***	*****	*****	*****		MARRAKECH	23	11	30	8	17	-0.9	50	16
F GUIA	CAYENNE	30	24	32	23	27	0.8	674	229	MOZAMB	MAPUTO	26	***	32	16	***	*****	15	-32
FIJI	NAUSORI	29	23	32	20	26	0.8	321	-50	N KORE	PYONGYANG	17	6	28	-2	12	0.6	163	122
FINLAN	HELSINKI	7	1	15	-8	4	0.5	28	-8	NEW CA	NOUMEA	27	24	29	21	25	1.2	67	-40
FRANCE	PARIS/ORLY	14	5	20	-1	9	-0.7	68	14	NIGER	NIAMEY	42	29	45	26	36	1.7	3	-5
	STRASBOURG	16	6	30	-2	11	1.1	31	-9	NORWAY	OSLO	7	-1	14	-7	3	0.2	45	-2
	BOURGES	14	5	19	-2	10	0.3	104	47	NZEALA	AUCKLAND	21	13	26	8	17	*****	25	*****
	BORDEAUX	15	7	21	2	11	-0.4	176	102		WELLINGTON	17	12	19	7	15	*****	41	*****
	TOULOUSE	16	8	21	4	12	0.8	65	2	P RICO	SAN JUAN	30	24	33	22	27	0.8	136	41
	MARSEILLE	19	10	29	2	14	1.4	51	-2	PAKIST	KARACHI	35	25	42	22	30	1.3	0	-4
GABON	LIBREVILLE	30	25	32	22	27	0.5	212	-134	PERU	LIMA	26	20	30	18	23	1.8	1	1
GERMAN	HAMBURG	12	4	22	-5	8	0.2	40	-7	PHILIP	MANILA	34	27	37	24	31	0.6	22	-8
	BERLIN	15	5	30	-2	10	1.3	29	-8	PNEWGU	PORT MORESBY	30	26	33	21	28	1.5	83	-37
	DUSSELDORF	14	5	26	-3	9	-0.5	64	8	POLAND	WARSAW	15	4	30	-5	9	1.4	55	20
	LEIPZIG	14	4	30	-4	9	1.5	15	-25		LODZ	14	4	30	-8	9	0.9	39	2
	DRESDEN	14	5	29	-3	10	1.8	28	-21		KATOWICE	15	4	30	-7	10	1.1	68	20
	STUTTGAERT	14	4	30	-2	9	0.5	52	-2	PORTUG	LISBON	17	11	24	6	14	-0.4	49	-10
	NURNBERG	15	3	31	-4	9	0.6	18	-24	ROMANI	BUCHAREST	21	7	30	-4	14	2.6	46	-10
	AUGSBURG	14	3	29	-6	9	0.5	54	3	RUSSIA	ST.PETERSBURG	9	2	16	-6	5	0.8	53	19
GREECE	THESSALONIKA	20	10	29	4	15	0.7	44	6		KAZAN	14	6	25	-4	10	4.6	42	8
	LARISSA	21	8	28	1	15	0.7	48	10		MOSCOW	13	4	29	-6	8	2.0	51	12
	ATHENS	21	13	30	5	17	1.0	36	3		YEKATERINBURG	14	5	29	-3	9	5.0	47	19
GUADEL	RAIZET	30	23	31	20	26	0.3	135	43		OMSK	15	3	29	-3	9	5.3	17	-4
HONGKO	HONG KONG INT	28	23	32	19	25	2.6	448	308		BARNAUL	14	2	27	-6	8	4.4	14	-13
HUNGAR	BUDAPEST	18	7	31	-3	13	1.5	22	-19		KHABAROVSK	11	-1	24	-16	5	0.6	16	-29
ICELAN	REYKJAVIK	***	***	10	4	***	*****	*****	*****		VLADIVOSTOK	7	1	17	-6	4	-0.2	90	34
INDIA	AMRITSAR	33	17	37	14	25	0.1	49	22		VOLGOGRAD	21	9	29	-1	15	5.6	6	-17
	NEW DELHI	36	22	39	18	29	0.1	21	5		ASTRAKHAN	24	9	30	-1	17	5.0	0	-22
	AHMEDABAD	39	25	42	22	32	0.6	8	6		ORENBURG	22	9	30	0	16	8.4	20	-3
	INDORE	38	23	40	20	31	0.5	2	-1	S AFRI	PRETORIA	25	12	30	9	19	0.3	6	-39
	CALCUTTA	36	25	40	19	31	0.6	121	76		JOHANNESBURG	22	10	25	4	16	0.1	20	-23
	VERAVAL	32	23	37	22	28	0.6	4	*****		BETHAL	24	7	30	1	16	0.5	18	-17
	BOMBAY	34	24	38	22	29	0.6	0	*****		DURBAN	26	17	30	11	21	-0.6	15	-60
	POONA	38	21	40	17	29	0.6	7	-3		CAPE TOWN	23	13	37	8	18	0.8	44	1
	BEGAMPET	38	25	41	21	32	0.1	19	0	S KORE	SEOUL	18	8	29	1	13	0.2	159	100
	VISHAKHAPATNA	M 33	27	36	25	30	0.4	17	-3	SENEGA	DAKAR	24	19	27	17	22	0.3	0	0
	MADRAS	36	27	39	24	31	0.5	4	-6	SPAIN	VALLADOLID	14	5	22	1	9	-1.1	93	49
	MANGALORE	34	24	36	21	29	-0.6	89	45		MADRID	17	7	23	1	12	-0.4	30	-8
INDONE	SERANG	32	24	34	22	28	-0.1	187	65		SEVILLE	21	11	28	6	16	-1.1	26	-29
IRELAN	DUBLIN	10	3	14	-2	7	-1.3	91	39	SWITZE	ZURICH	13	6	28	-1	10	1.4	57	-26
ITALY	MILAN	17	9	26	0	13	0.7	125	46		GENEVA	15	7	26	-1	11	1.8	106	44
	VERONA	19	9	29	2	14	1.7	97	28	SYRIA	DAMASCUS	28	10	34	0	19	3.0	2	-9
	VENICE	16	9	27	4	13	0.3	81	10	TAHITI	PAPEETE	30	25	32	23	27	0.3	144	25
	GENOA	18	12	27	8	15	0.7	131	20	TANZAN	DAR ES SALAAM	32	23	36	20	28	1.0	257	-15
	ROME	19	9	24	3	14	0.8	28	-39	THAILA	PHITSANULOK	37	26	40	23	31	0.0	78	23
	NAPLES	19	11	27	5	15	1.6	142	51		BANGKOK	37	28	40	24	32	1.8	56	-23
JAMAIC	KINGSTON	31	24	32	23	27	0.2	83	47	TOGO	LOME	33	26	34	21	29	1.2	108	8
JAPAN	SAPPORO	12	4	25	-4	8	0.8	37	-26	TRINID	PORT OF SPAIN	32	23	34	21	28	0.8	72	36
	NAGOYA	20	10	29	1	15	0.4	148	1	TUNISI	TUNIS	23	13	32	8	18	2.4	33	-5
	TOKYO	18	11	26	5	15	0.4	123	-6	TURKEY	ISTANBUL	19	11	28	3	15	2.4	91	45
	YOKOHAMA	18	11	26	5	15	-0.1	208	56		ANKARA	20	5	26	-4	12	2.8	16	-35
	KYOTO	20	10	31	0	15	0.0	121	0	TURKME	ASHKHBAD	29	15	33	9	22	3.9	1	-33
	OSAKA	20	11	30	3	16	0.8	97	-27	UKINGD	ABERDEEN	9	3	13	-2	6	-0.8	122	63
KAZAKH	KUSTANAY	19	5	30	-1	12	6.1	12	-9		LONDON	13	5	19	-1	9	-0.4	84	36
	TSELINOGRAD	19	4	28	0	12	7.2	20	3	UKRAIN	KIEV	17	8	30	-2	12	3.3	83	34
	KARAGANDA	19	4	28	-2	11	6.0	25	1		LVOV	15	5	29	-5	10	1.8	56	1
KENYA	NAIROBI	26	16	30	10	21	0.4	277	133		KIROVOGRAD	19	7	31	-2	13	4.0	18	-21
LIBYA	TRIPOLI	27	15	35	9	***	*****	3	-15		ODESSA	15	8	29	0	11	2.0	14	-20
	BENGHAZI	***	***	34	8	***	*****	*****	*****		KHARKOV	19	9	31	-1	14	4.6	11	-25
LITHUA	KAUNAS	13	3	29	-4	8	1.4	72	32	UZBEKI	TASHKENT	26	13	32	8	20	3.8	74	17
LUXEMB	LUXEMBOURG	12	4	26	-2	8	0.4	85	26	VENEZU	CARACAS	31	25	33	22	28	1.8	5	-23
MALAYS	KUALA LUMPUR	34	25	36	24	30	2.2	197	-46	VIETNA	HANOI	30	24	38	20	27	2.3	32	-60
MALI	BAMAKO	***	***	42	17	***	*****	*****	*****	YUGOSL	BELGRADE	19	9	30	0	14	2.0	68	9
MARSHA	MAJURO	***	***	32	25	***	*****	233	-58	ZIMBAB	KADOMA	26	12	30	8	19	-3.1	32	4
MARTIN	LAMENTIN	30	24	32	21	27	1.3	128	1										
MAURIT	NOUAKCHOTT	31	20	39	13	26	1.0	0	0										
MEXICO	GUADALAJARA	30	12	33	8	21	-0.9	0	-8										

Based on Preliminary Reports

EUROPE
Total Precipitation (mm)
APR 29 - MAY 5, 2012



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

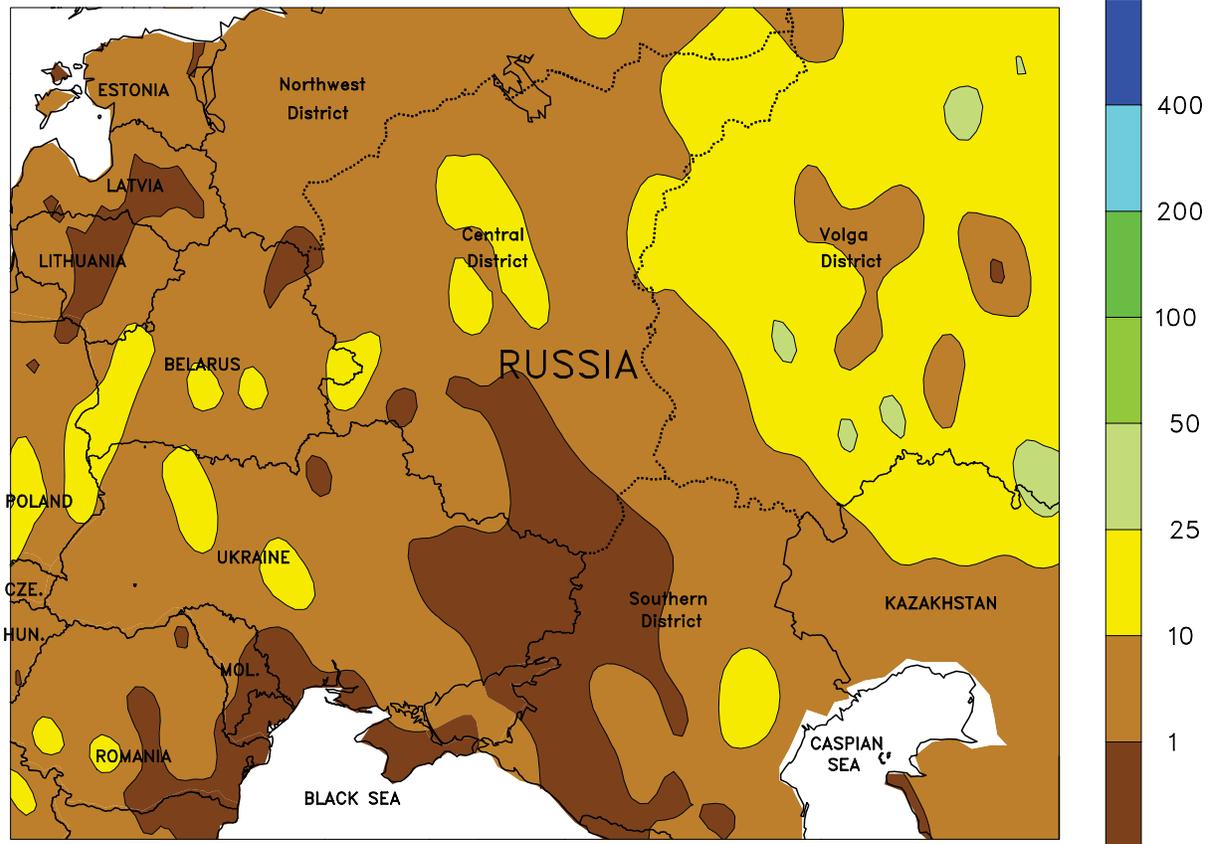


EUROPE

Locally heavy rain persisted over central and western Europe, while warm, showery weather continued in eastern growing areas. A stationary storm system produced 20 to more than 50 mm of rain across Spain, France, and southern England, further improving prospects for filling (south) to reproductive (north) winter grains and oilseeds. In addition, moderate to heavy showers (10-65 mm) in northern Italy slowed fieldwork but provided an additional boost to irrigation supplies. However, the rainfall hampered early corn and sunflower

planting across much of central and western Europe. Meanwhile, early week heat (daytime highs reaching 30°C or more) increased evaporative losses from central Poland southward into the Balkans, although scattered showers (2-25 mm) provided some soil moisture at week's end. Unseasonably warm weather (up to 9°C above normal) in eastern Europe accelerated crop development, while rain kept temperatures closer to seasonal norms in England and western France.

WESTERN FSU
Total Precipitation (mm)
APR 29 - MAY 5, 2012



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

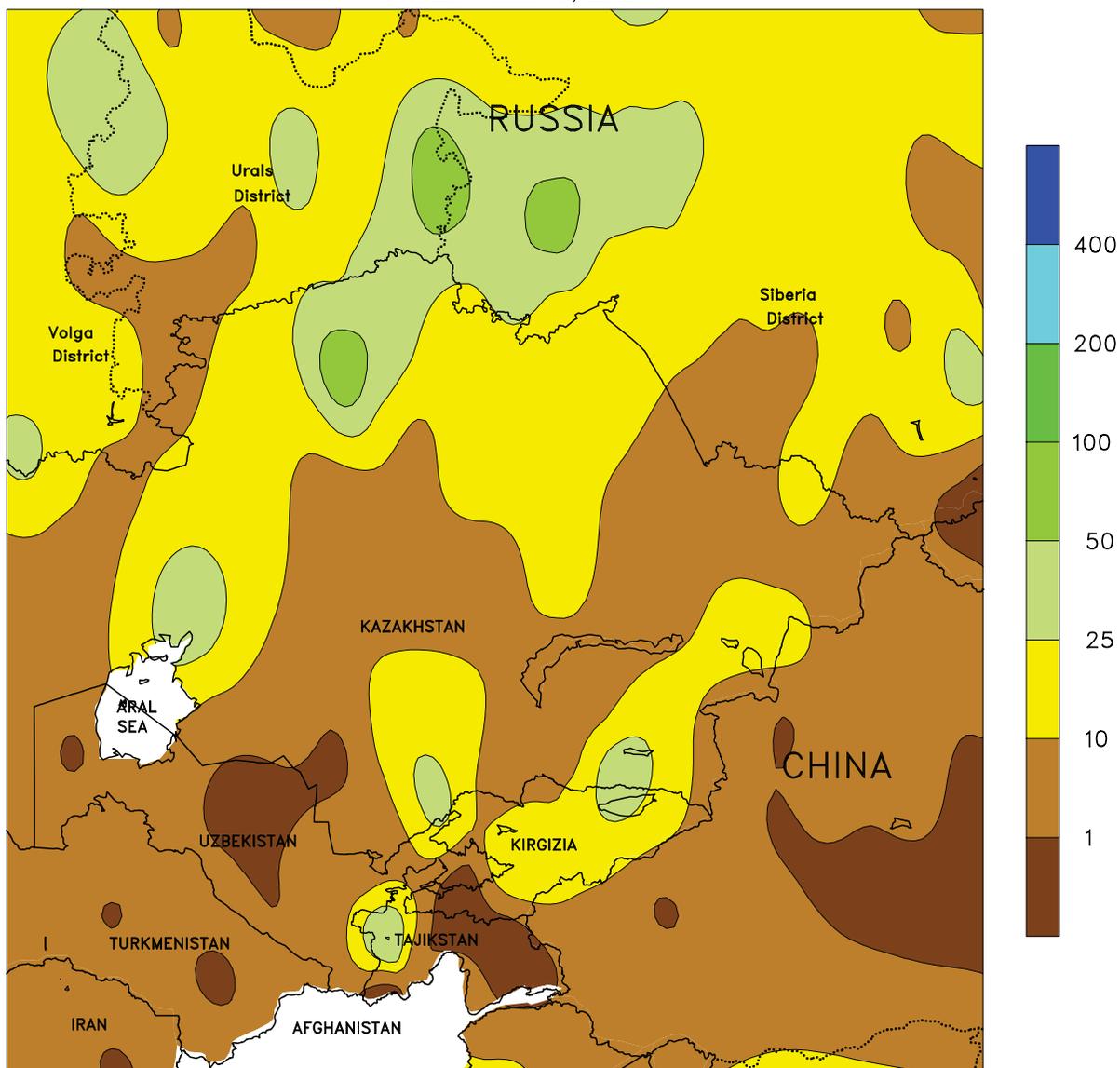


WESTERN FSU

Increasingly warm, dry weather in the west contrasted with beneficial rain in eastern crop districts. A ridge of high pressure brought sunny skies and above-normal temperatures (up to 10°C above normal, with highs reaching the lower 30s) to Belarus, Ukraine, and much of western and southern Russia. Consequently, winter grains and oilseeds developed at a rapid pace, although soil

moisture declined to unfavorably low levels in southern Ukraine. Soil moisture was also becoming limited in southern portions of the Southern District, where up to 50 percent of Russia’s winter wheat is grown. Meanwhile, showers and thunderstorms (5-30 mm) improved soil moisture for vegetative winter crops and spring wheat sowing in the Volga District.

EASTERN FSU
Total Precipitation (mm)
APR 29 - MAY 5, 2012



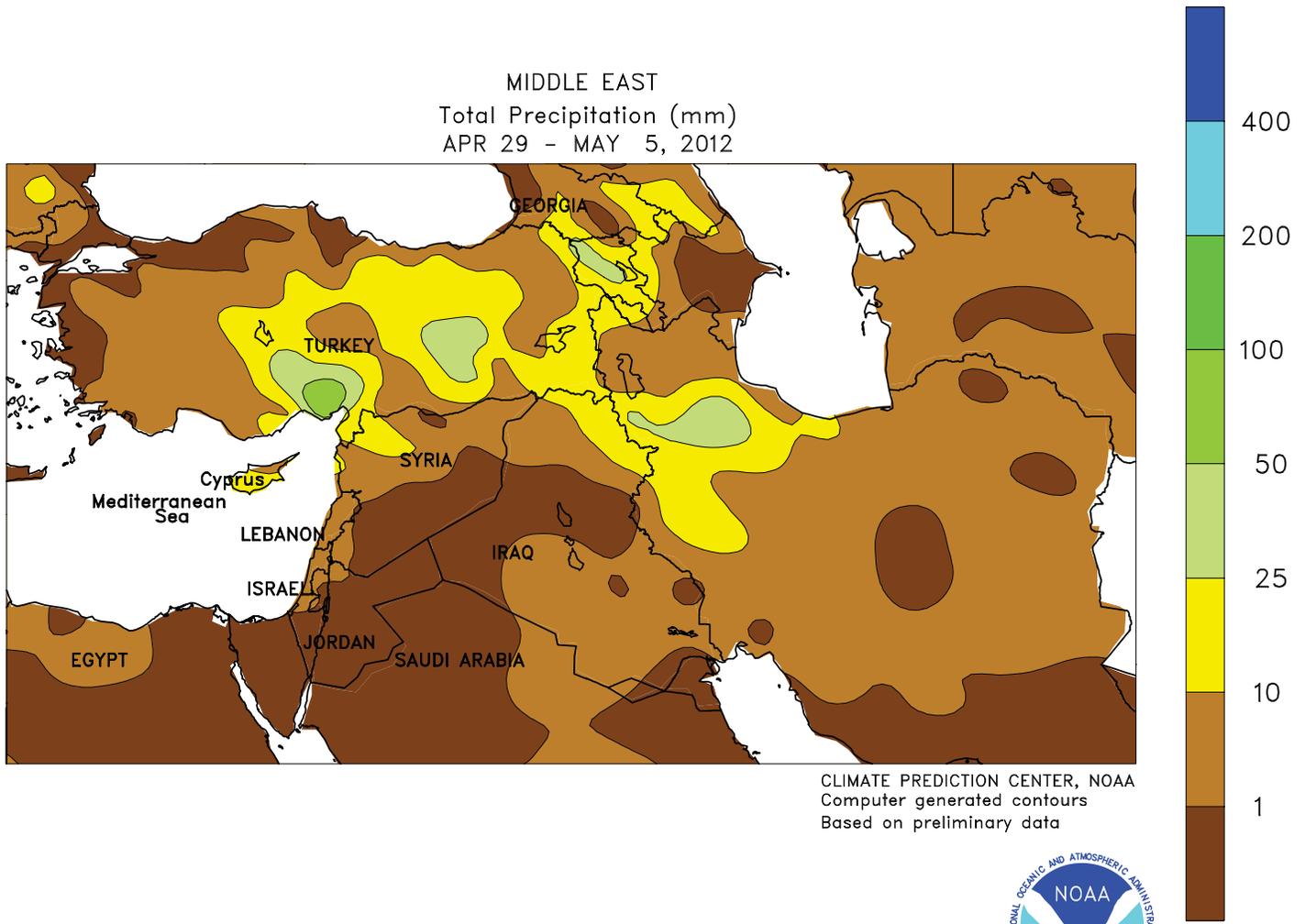
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA
Computer generated contours
Based on preliminary data



EASTERN FSU

Cool, wet weather replaced recent warmth and dryness in key spring wheat areas. After an unfavorably dry April, much-needed rain (10-50 mm) improved soil moisture for spring wheat planting in northern Kazakhstan and adjacent portions of south-central Russia. While causing fieldwork delays, the rain was overall beneficial for spring grain planting prospects.

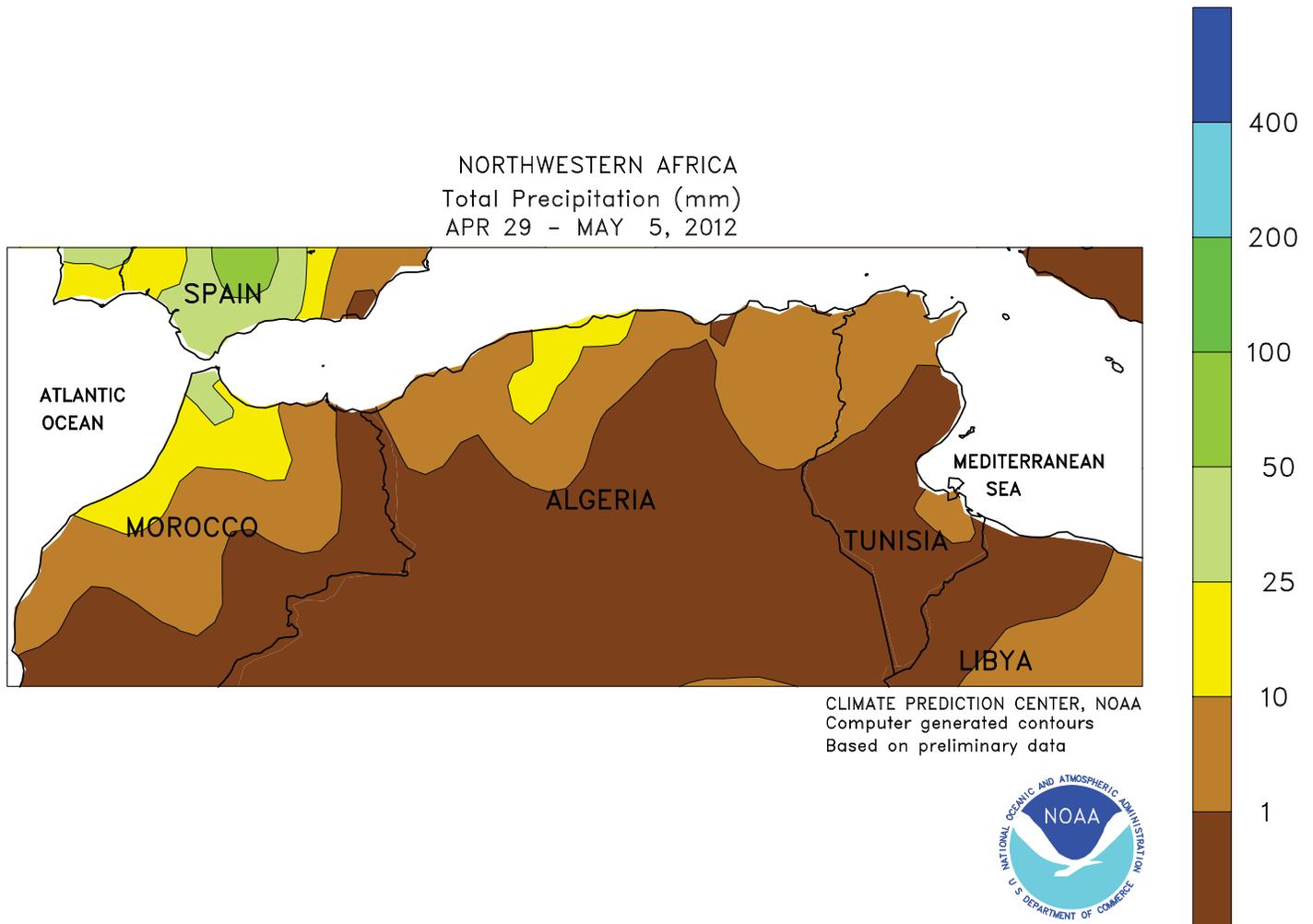
In addition, temperatures dropped to more seasonable levels (within 2°C of normal) after several weeks of summer-like heat. Meanwhile, cotton planting in southern Kazakhstan was interrupted by scattered showers and thunderstorms (locally more than 35 mm), although planting delays were not persistent or widespread in most southern cotton areas.



MIDDLE EAST

Late-week showers in the north contrasted with seasonable warmth and dryness in southern portions of the region. A slow-moving Mediterranean storm system generated 10 to 60 mm of rain across central and southern Turkey, boosting moisture supplies for vegetative to reproductive wheat on Turkey's Anatolia Plateau. However, the rain delayed cotton planting and early winter grain harvesting closer to the coast. Mostly sunny, seasonably warm weather

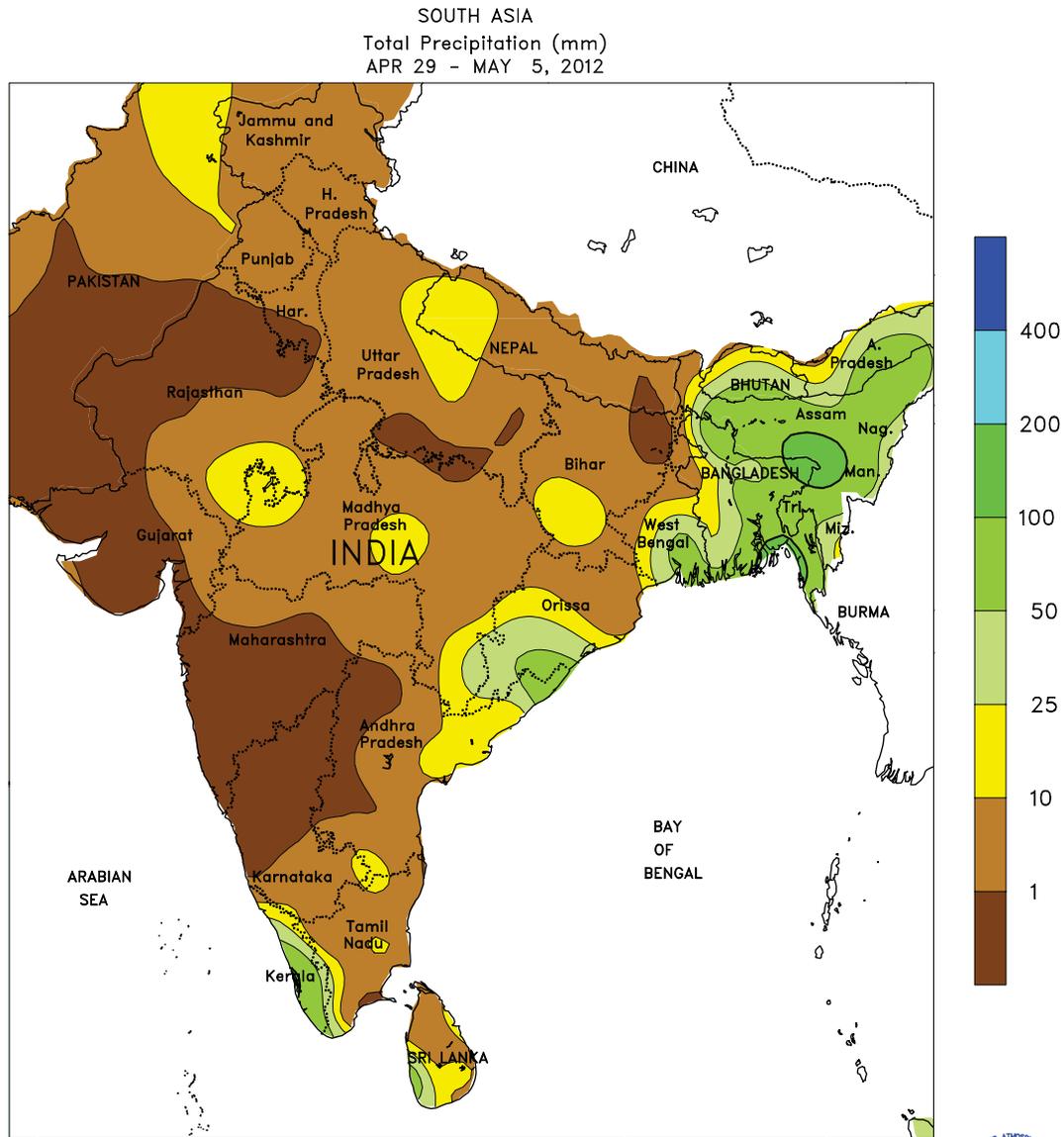
prevailed from Syria into central and southern Iraq, promoting winter crop maturation and harvesting. Light to moderate showers (10 to 35 mm) in western Iran were beneficial for reproductive to filling winter grains. Temperatures averaged up to 5°C above normal in central and western portions of the region, although daytime highs stayed below the threshold for heat damage for reproductive to filling winter wheat.



NORTHWESTERN AFRICA

Rain persisted over western growing areas, while showers arrived late in the week across eastern portions of the region. A stalled storm system north of the region produced showers and thunderstorms (10-35 mm) in northern Morocco, providing an additional boost to late-filling winter wheat and

barley. Light to moderate showers (1 to 15 mm) gradually reached northern wheat and barley of Algeria and Tunisia, maintaining favorable soil moisture for reproductive winter crops. Temperatures averaged 1 to 4°C below normal over the region, with no damaging heat observed.



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



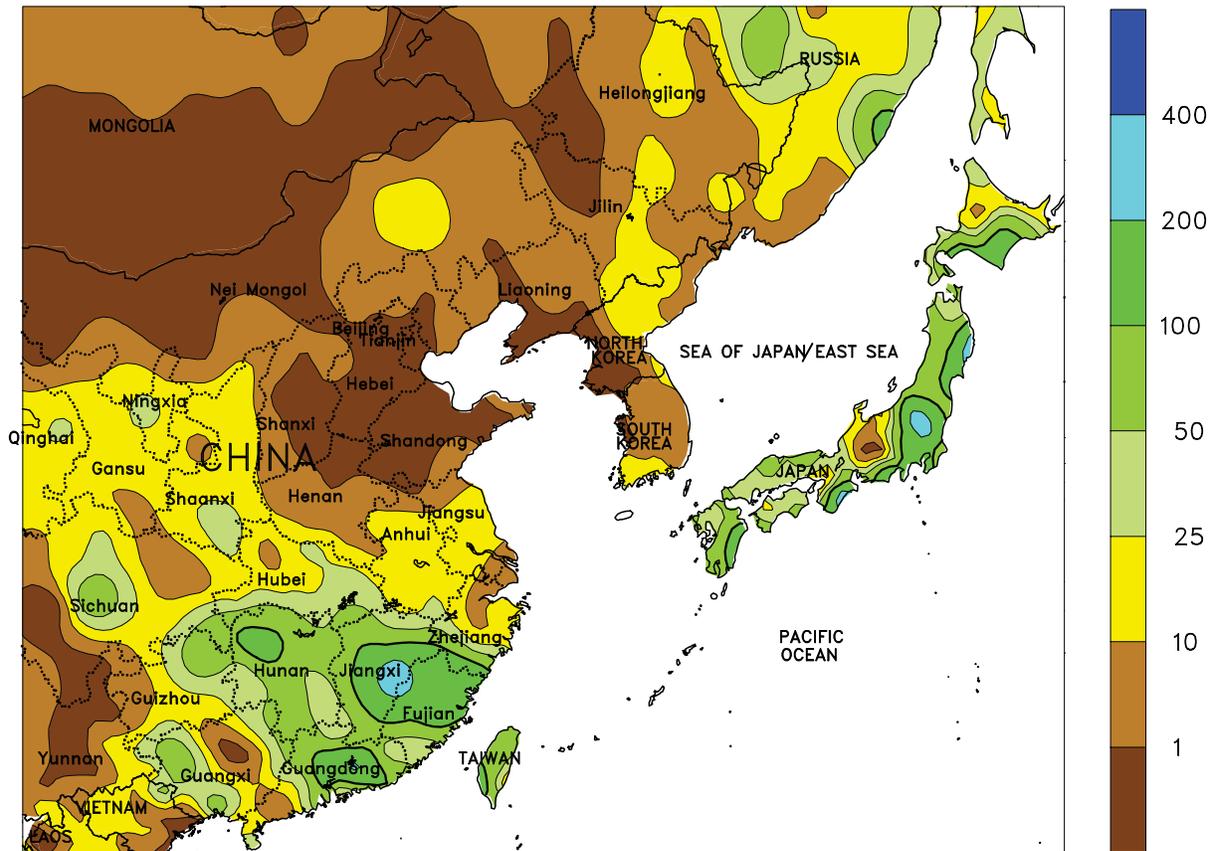
SOUTH ASIA

Pre-monsoon rainfall continued in parts of India albeit more spotty than in recent weeks. In southern India, most rainfall was confined to Kerala where 25 to over 50 mm occurred. In eastern India, similar rainfall amounts prevailed in a relatively small area along the Orissa/Andhra Pradesh border. Heavy

showers (25-150 mm) continued in Assam and neighboring Bangladesh, where rice transplanting was underway. With reduced rainfall across India, temperatures surpassed 40°C in most states and into Pakistan, although weekly temperatures were still below normal.

EASTERN ASIA

Total Precipitation (mm)
APR 29 - MAY 5, 2012



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

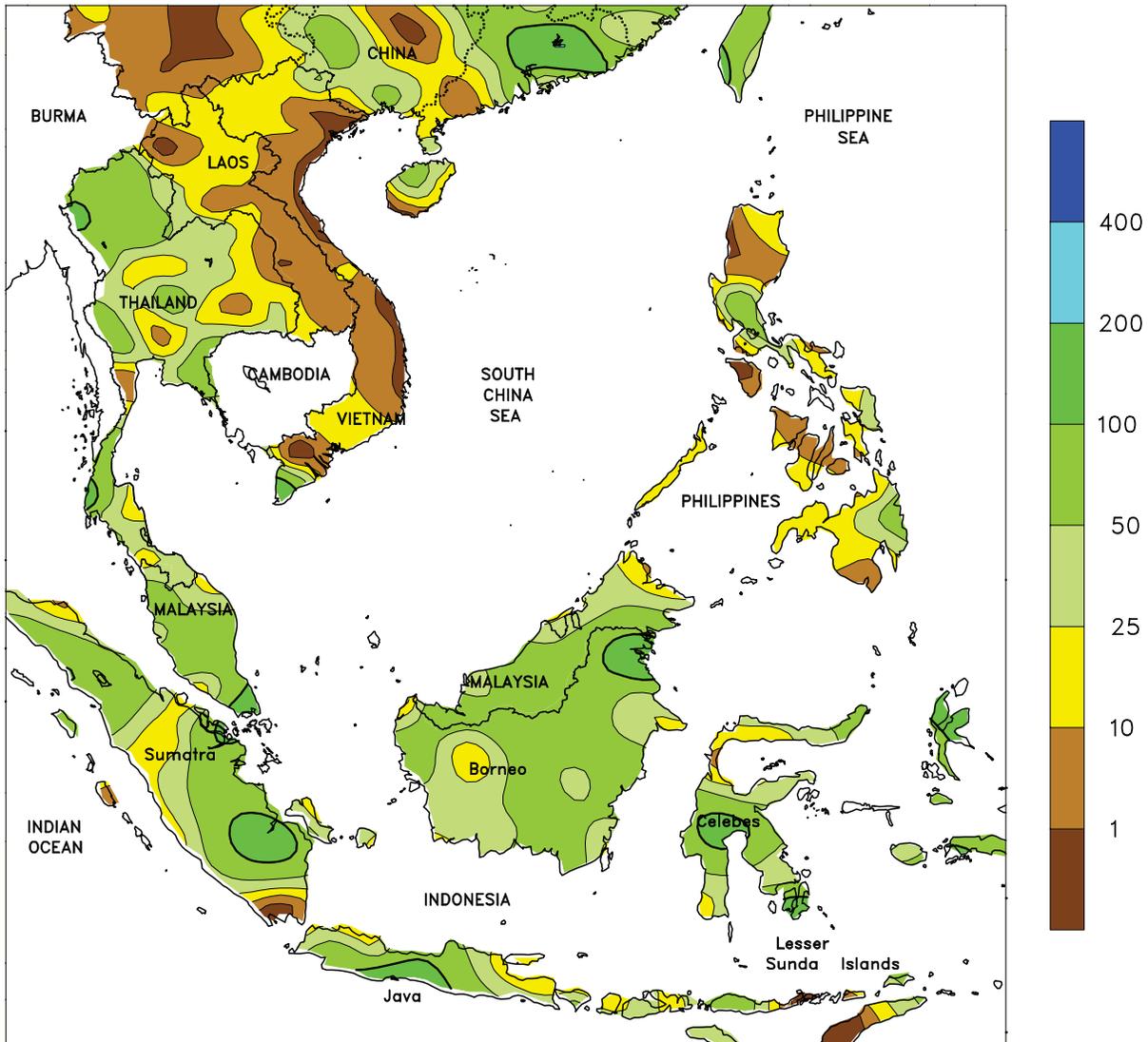


EASTERN ASIA

A shift in rainfall brought a return of dry weather to the North China Plain after last week's soaking. Winter wheat continued to flower and, along with adequate soil moisture, the sunny weather aided development. Rainfall was generally light within the Yangtze Valley where amounts were below 10 mm, but moisture supplies continued to be favorable for filling winter rapeseed and vegetative rice, corn, and cotton. The heaviest rainfall continued to occur in

southeastern China where over 50 mm kept soils beneficially wet for rice and sugarcane. Meanwhile in northeastern China, despite weekly average temperatures above 10°C, minimum temperatures remained near the freezing mark locally, limiting widespread corn, rice, and soybean planting. Elsewhere in the region, temperatures were sufficiently high enough to allow widespread planting on the Korean Peninsula and across Japan.

SOUTHEAST ASIA
 Total Precipitation (mm)
 APR 29 - MAY 5, 2012



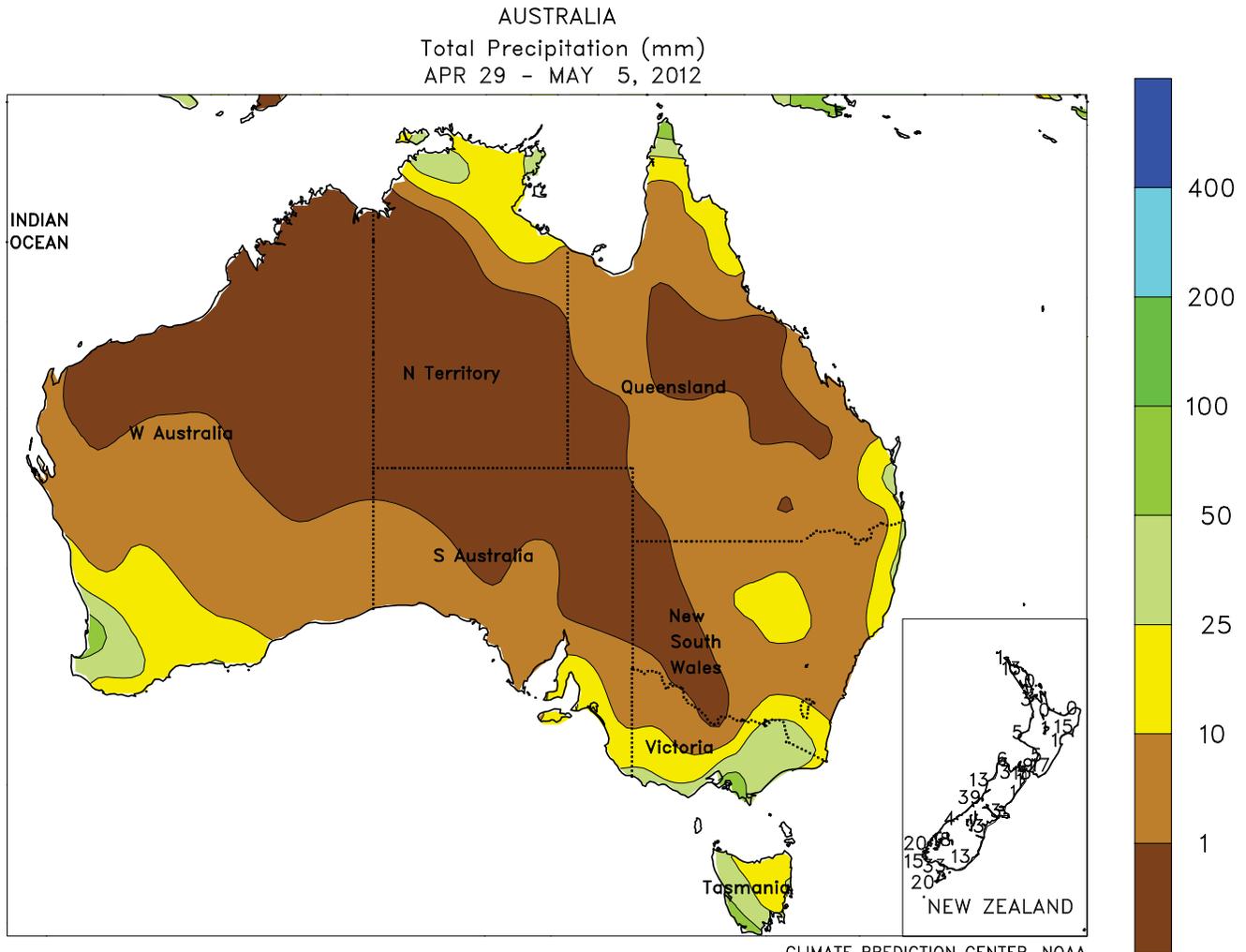
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA
 Computer generated contours
 Based on preliminary data



SOUTHEAST ASIA

The onset of the southwest monsoon across Thailand brought widespread rainfall amounts in excess of 25 mm and approaching 100 mm, while spurring planting of main-season rice in most areas. Showers (100 mm or more) in southern Vietnam maintained abundant moisture supplies for summer rice, while dry weather prevailed for spring rice in the north,

where little rain has occurred over the last 2 weeks. In the Philippines, rainfall (25-60 mm) in western Luzon encouraged rice and corn planting, while monsoon rains in the western Visayas has yet to become established. Oil palm in Indonesia and Malaysia benefited from increased rainfall where weekly totals ranged between 30 and 150 mm.



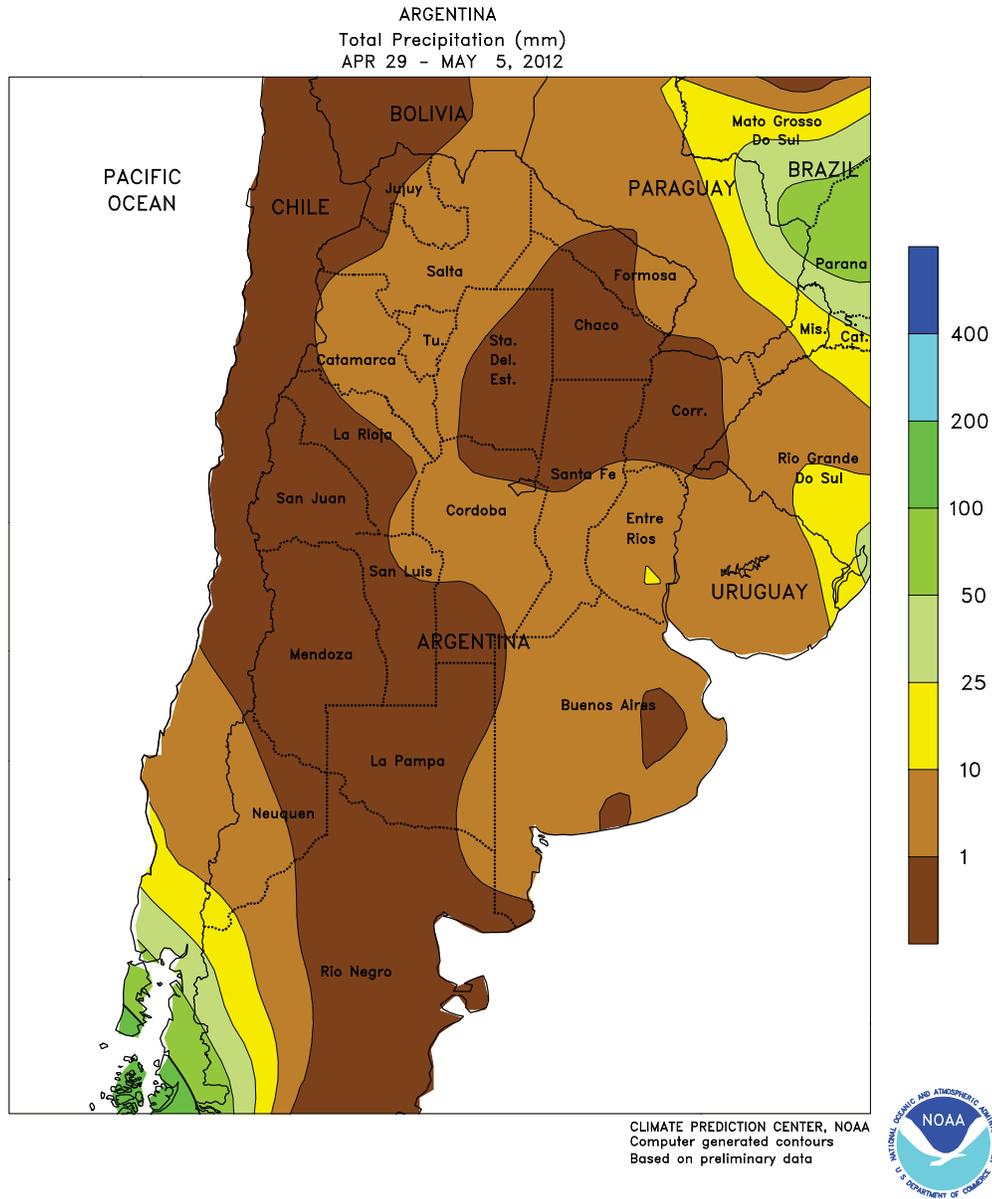
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Computer generated contours
Based on preliminary data



AUSTRALIA

In southern Queensland and northern New South Wales, midweek showers (5-25 mm or more) likely delayed local summer crop harvesting. During the remainder of the week, drier weather allowed fieldwork to resume, including early winter wheat planting. Temperatures in eastern Australia

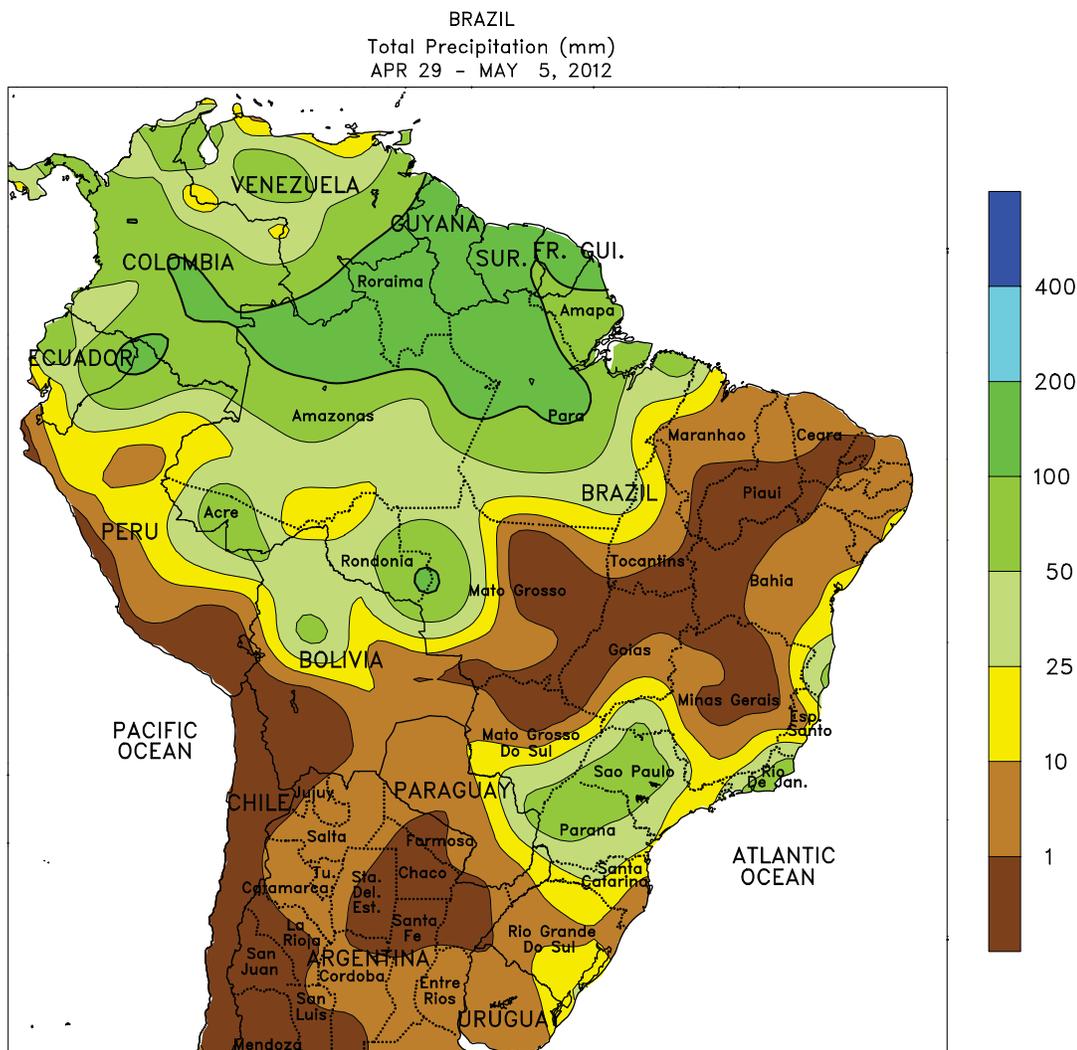
averaged 1 to 2°C below normal for the week. Elsewhere, scattered showers (5-25 mm or more) in southeastern and western Australia helped condition topsoils in advance of winter grain and oilseed planting. Most winter crops are typically planted during May and June in these regions.



ARGENTINA

Little to no rain fell throughout the main farming areas of both central and northern Argentina, continuing the recent trend toward drier weather that has supported summer crop drydown and harvests. Weekly average temperatures were near to above normal in key southern and western production areas (including La Pampa, Buenos Aires, and Cordoba), with no new areas recording season-ending freezes. In contrast, cooler-than-normal conditions persisted in the northeast, with weekly temperatures

averaging 2 to 4°C below normal. Temperatures briefly dropped below 5°C in the more northerly production areas but no freezes were reported. By week’s end, a warming trend had developed throughout the region, with daytime highs ranging from the middle 20s (degrees C) in southern production areas to near 30°C farther north. According to Argentina’s Ministry of Agriculture, corn and soybeans were 52 and 68 percent harvested, respectively, as of May 3, behind last season’s pace for both crops.



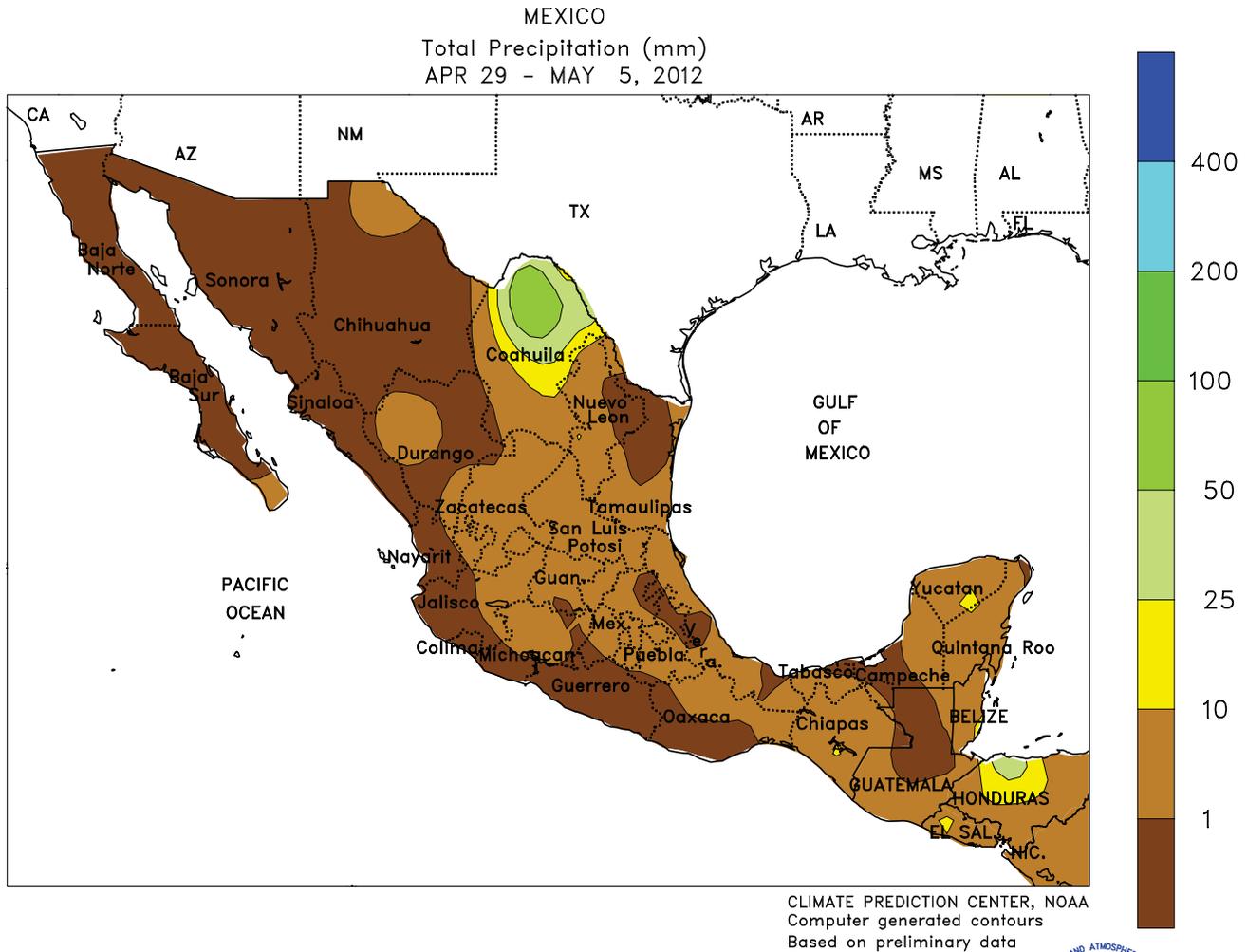
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Computer generated contours
Based on preliminary data



BRAZIL

Beneficial rain continued throughout much of the south, maintaining mostly favorable levels of moisture for winter grains. The heaviest rainfall (seasonable totals of 25-50 mm or more) was concentrated over Parana, Sao Paulo, southern Mato Grosso do Sul, and western sections of Minas Gerais. These areas are important producers of both secondary (safrinha) corn and winter wheat; a significant portion of the corn crop is advancing through reproduction and filling, and planting of the wheat crop is underway, making the moisture timely. Locally heavy rainfall may have interrupted the early stages of sugarcane harvesting in Sao Paulo, but the moisture will be overall favorable in the long term. Lighter amounts (greater than 10 mm) in neighboring locations of Rio Grande

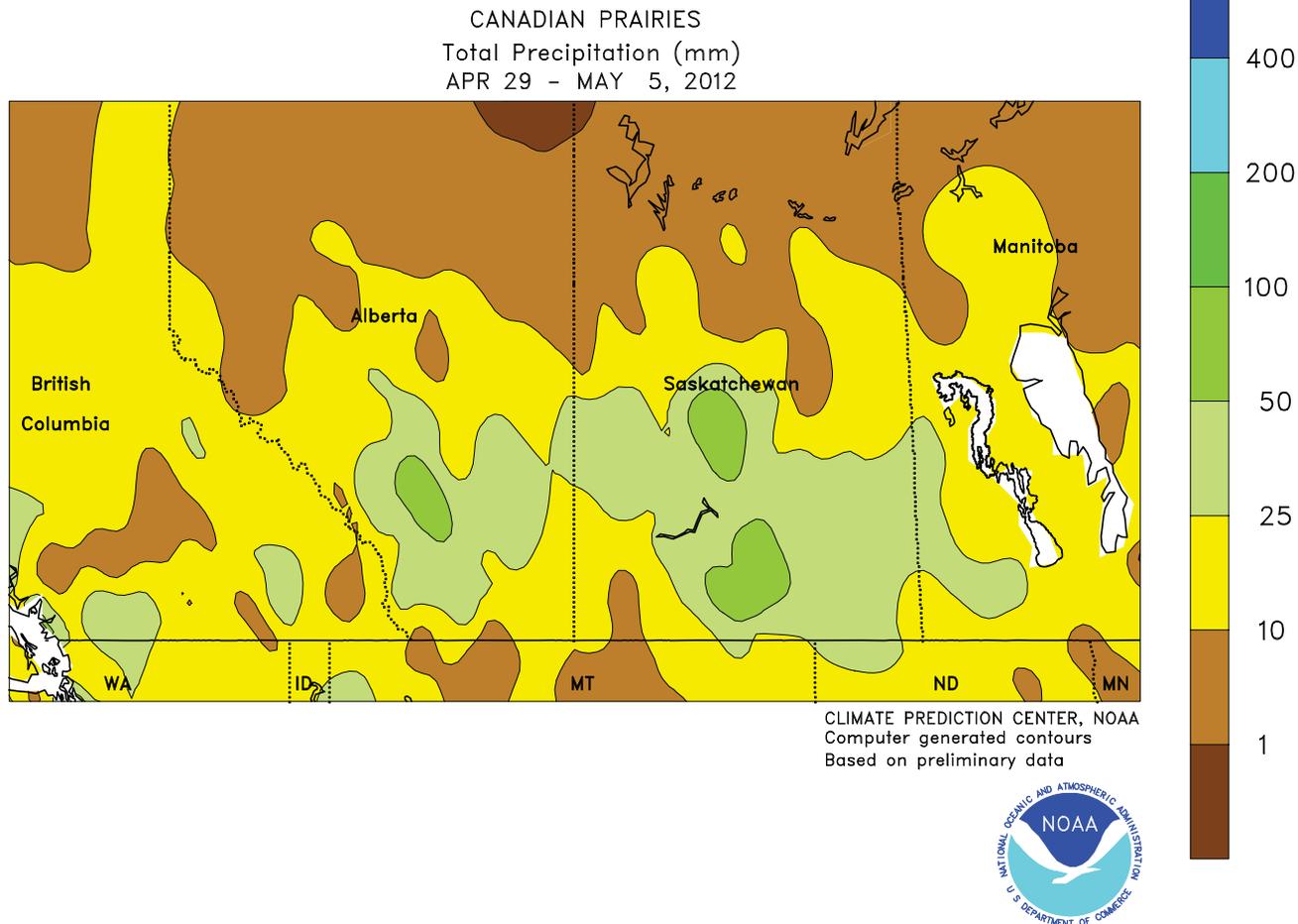
do Sul kept topsoils moist for wheat planting. Weekly average temperatures were generally 1 to 2°C below normal in these wetter southern areas but nighttime lows stayed well above freezing. Mostly dry weather dominated major row crop areas of the Center West Region and the northeastern interior (central Mato Grosso eastward to Bahia). Near- to above-normal temperatures accompanied the dryness in most areas, with daytime highs frequently reaching the middle 30s (degrees C) in the traditionally warmer parts of the northeastern interior (Tocantins and environs). Meanwhile, seasonal rains increased along the eastern coast from Rio de Janeiro to southern Bahia, boosting moisture for coffee and other plantation crops.



MEXICO

Unseasonably dry conditions lingered along the Gulf Coast, where moisture was limited for establishment of rain-fed summer crops. For a second consecutive week, virtually no rain fell over Tamaulipas, Veracruz, and eastern sections of the southern plateau, areas which received beneficial rainfall during the earlier parts of April. Rain is needed soon in these areas for corn and sugarcane crops that may have been planted in response to the wetter conditions of several weeks ago. Unseasonable dryness also persisted on the Yucatan Peninsula and in southern states bordering the

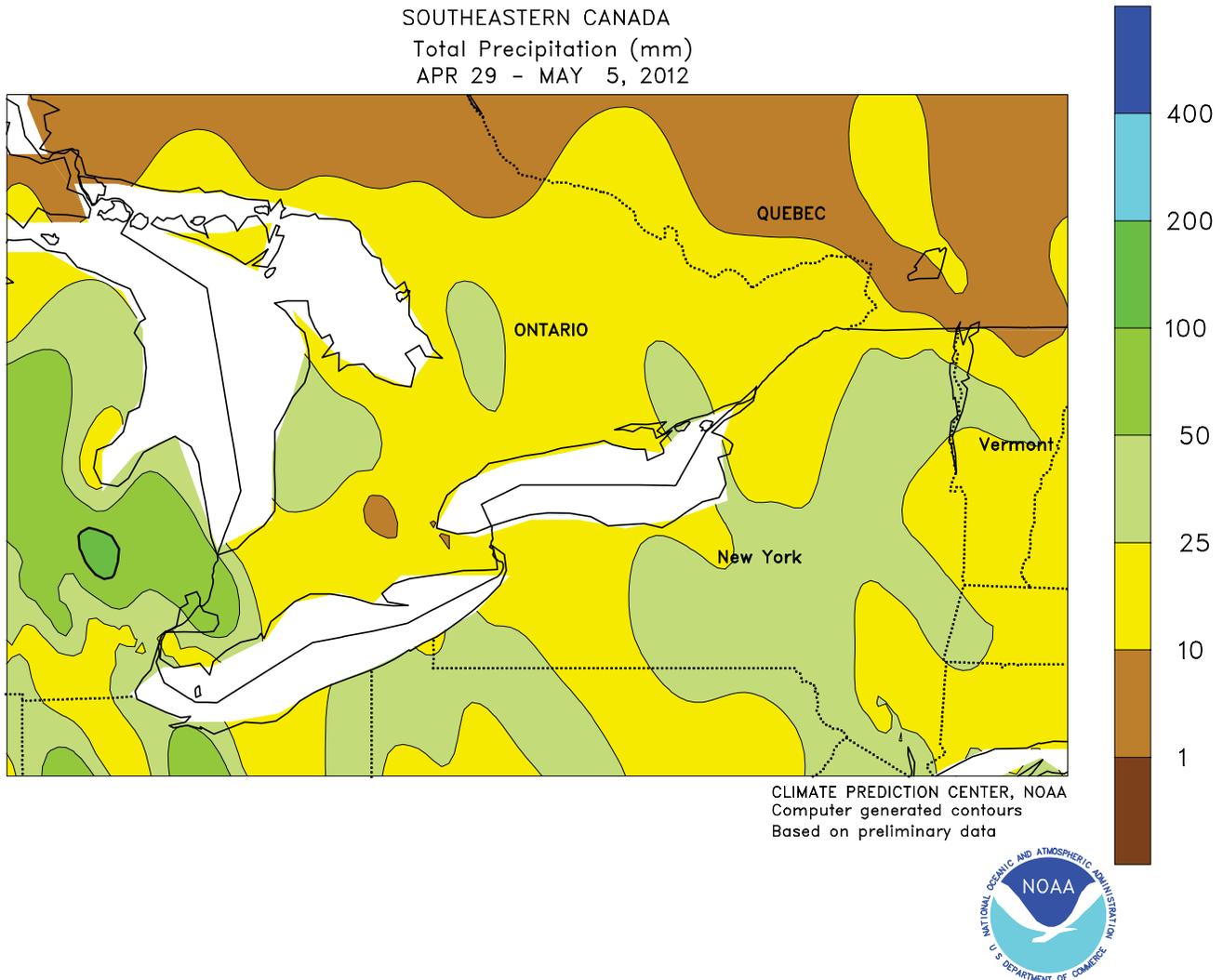
Pacific Coast (Oaxaca and Chiapas). Seasonably drier conditions dominated central and western sections of the southern plateau, which typically begins receiving significant rainfall by the end of May. In northern Mexico, locally heavy showers (10-50 mm or more) fell in middle Rio Grande Valley (northern Coahuila), otherwise dry, unseasonably warm (weekly temperatures averaging 2-4°C above normal) continued. Conditions remained overall favorable for drydown and harvesting of winter wheat and sorghum.



CANADIAN PRAIRIES

Beneficial rain maintained favorable early planting prospects of spring grains and oilseeds. Rainfall totaled 5 to 25 mm or more throughout the region, which began seeing an increase in seasonal rainfall during the early part of April. However, despite the recently wetter conditions, any problems with excessive moisture are likely isolated due to the dry winter and general lack of snow. This situation contrasts with last year when spring rains, combined with a late snow melt, caused significant flooding in parts of the east and resulted in large

amounts of unplanted acreage. Meanwhile, weekly average temperatures were near to above normal in eastern sections of the Prairies and near to below normal farther west. Temperatures averaged 5 to 10°C or higher throughout the region, sufficient for growth of grains and pastures, but frost and freezing weather (lows of -2 to 2°C) limited early development. The average date of the last spring freeze usually occurs in late May or early June, depending on location.



SOUTHEASTERN CANADA

Dry, unseasonably cold weather gave way to milder, wetter conditions later in the week. Weekly average temperatures were near to slightly above average (5-10°C) and supported growth of winter wheat and pastures. However, an early week outbreak of unusually low temperatures (lows of -5 to -2°C) burned back tender growth and raised concern for wheat in accelerated stages of development. The average date of the last spring freeze ranges from early May in southwestern Ontario to the latter half of the month in Quebec, but temperatures of this magnitude are usually less common this

late in the year. Seasonably warmer conditions moved in to region at midweek, with daytime highs briefly reaching the upper 20s (degrees C) in some of the harder hit locations in southwestern Ontario. Wetter conditions accompanied the warm up, with precipitation locally in excess of 25 mm in Ontario's previously dry western farming areas; some of these locations are currently experiencing varying degrees of drought, and additional moisture will be needed as overwintering crops advance in development and summer crop planting becomes more widespread.

2011/12 Winter Grain Prospects in the Northern Hemisphere Outside the United States

Prepared by the Joint Agricultural Weather Facility

This article summarizes early prospects for Northern Hemisphere winter grains outside the United States based on an assessment of weather and crop conditions from the autumn of 2011 to the present.

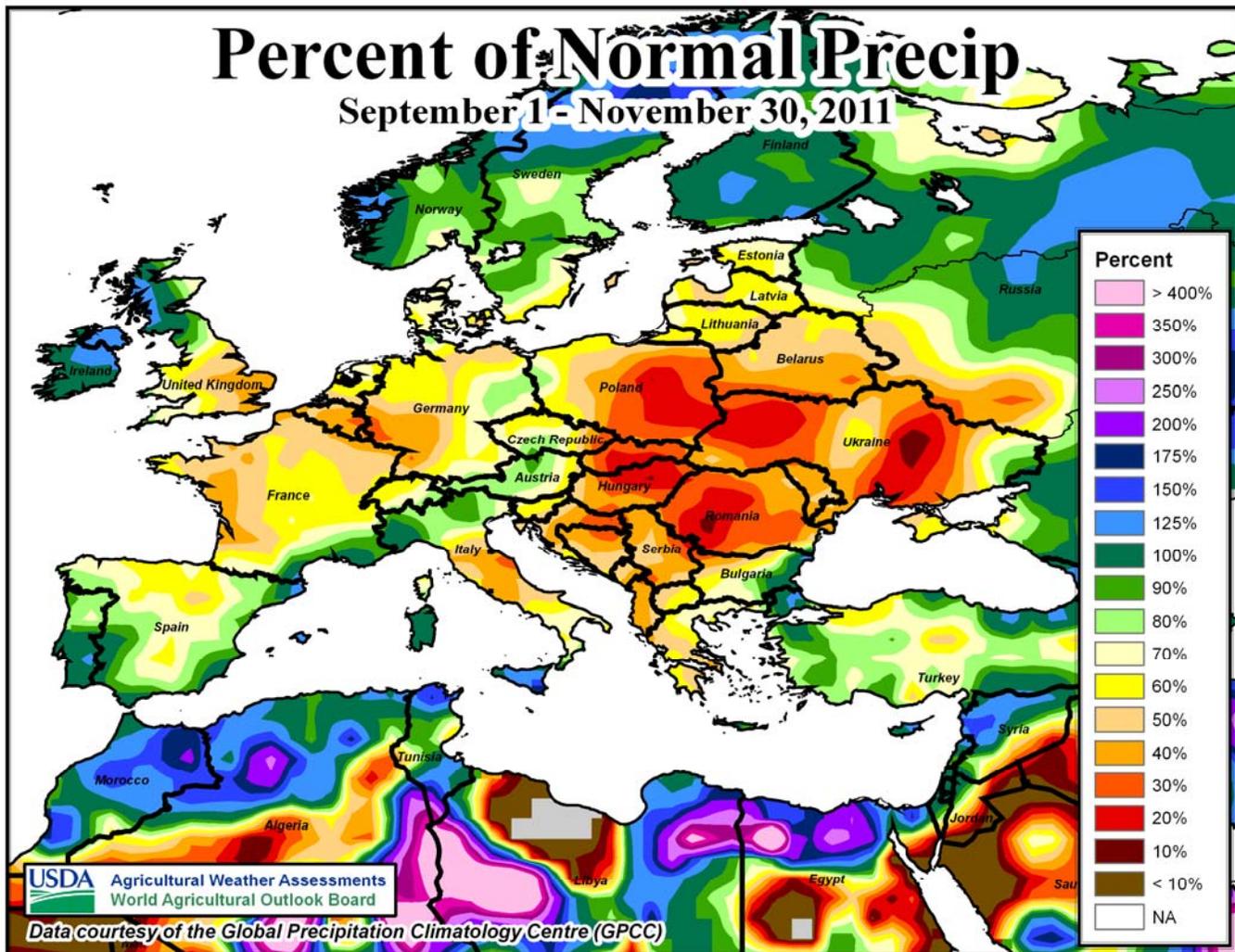


Figure 1. Percent-of-normal precipitation during the autumn, 2011. Abnormally dry conditions in eastern Europe and Ukraine limited moisture for winter crop planting and establishment. In contrast, rainfall was plentiful in northern Africa for wheat and barley planting.

Winter Grains Summary: Prospects for winter grains (notably wheat, barley, and rye) are mostly favorable in the main production areas of the Northern Hemisphere, although there are notable exceptions. In the eastern European Union, the outlook for grains and oilseeds declined due to a much drier-than-normal autumn as well as an incident of winterkill. In contrast, increasingly wet spring weather across France, England, and northern Spain has stabilized or improved crop prospects. In

Ukraine, exceptionally dry weather during fall planting and establishment has reduced winter crop yield expectations, while weather has been mostly favorable for vegetative winter grains and oilseeds in Russia. Meanwhile, untimely winter and early spring drought adversely impacted Moroccan wheat and barley, while persistent, timely precipitation in Algeria and Tunisia maintained favorable winter grain yields. In the Middle East, generally favorable weather prevailed, although concerns exist for central Turkey's winter wheat.

Abundant pre-planting moisture and irrigation supplies along with favorable winter weather in India raised prospects for an excellent wheat crop for 2012. In China, adequate irrigation, along with a wet early autumn and good overwintering conditions, favored wheat yields for 2012. In Canada, winter wheat prospects are mostly favorable in the main production areas of Ontario, although spring dryness and a late-April cold snap have generated concern for crops in accelerated stages of development. Overwintering conditions were unfavorable for crops and pastures on the Canadian Prairies. In Mexico's Sinaloa state, historically low reservoirs levels negatively impacted winter corn prospects; irrigation was adequate, however, for winter wheat elsewhere in the northwest. Meanwhile, above-normal rainfall aided production of rain-fed winter sorghum in northeastern Mexico.

European Union: Winter crop yields are mixed across the European Union, with losses in eastern portions of the region partially offset by improved crop prospects across much of Germany, France, and the United Kingdom. An exceptionally dry autumn from Poland into the Balkans left producers with minimal soil moisture for winter crop establishment (Figure 1). Precipitation deficits were greatest from central and eastern Poland southward through eastern Hungary into Romania. In these locales, winter wheat and rapeseed were poorly established, and in some cases, likely never emerged at all. Consequently, crops over much of eastern Europe entered the winter in poor condition. In contrast, favorable autumn rainfall in Spain provided moisture for wheat and barley establishment. The heart of Europe's wheat belt – France, Germany, and the United Kingdom – were drier than normal, although moisture was adequate for crop establishment.

Winter was mostly warmer and wetter than normal in northern and eastern Europe, which favored dormant winter crops. In addition, the return of wet

weather in eastern drought areas offered some hope for crop recovery. In contrast, exceptionally dry winter weather over the Iberian Peninsula increased stress on vegetative wheat and barley. Nevertheless, most of Europe's primary winter grain and oilseed areas were overwintering well until arctic air surged across the continent in early February. The cold wave – which lasted a little more than one week – impacted many snow-free areas of France, Germany, Poland, and the northern Balkans (Figure 2). Freeze damage was most prevalent in northwestern Poland's rapeseed areas, while lesser albeit still notable pockets of winterkill were likely realized in western Germany, northeastern France, and the northern Balkans. In eastern Europe, the cold snap added to drought-induced crop losses, while producers in northern and western Europe awaited the spring for crop assessment.

The spring to date has offered improving crop prospects across Europe, although the onset of warmer weather has verified the impacts of fall drought and the early February freeze in eastern growing areas. In Spain, rain arrived in time to stabilize winter grain yields in northern portions of the country, but was mostly too late for more advanced crops in southern portions of the country. Meanwhile, a dry start to the spring was replaced by increasingly heavy rainfall in France, Germany, and the United Kingdom, where winter crop

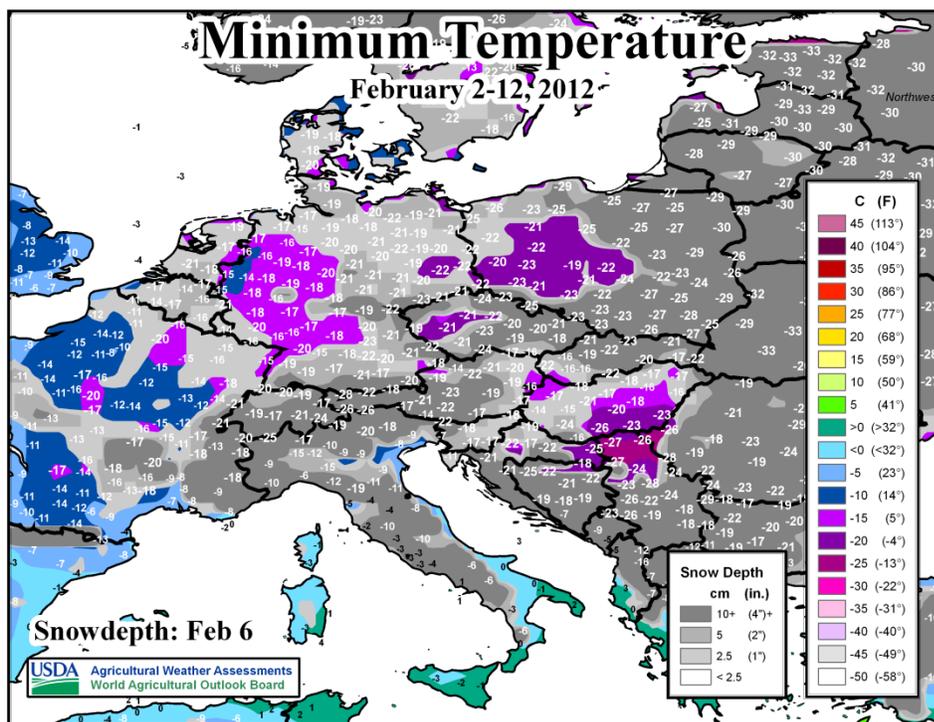


Figure 2. Minimum temperatures (plotted and color contoured) for February 2-12, 2012, with estimated snow depth overlaid in grey from February 6 (mid-way through the cold snap).

outlooks have improved. Satellite-derived vegetation health data indicated some lingering impacts in freeze areas of northeastern France and western Germany, although most of the primary agricultural areas in these two countries have seen better weather and crop health over recent weeks. Meanwhile, freeze- and drought-afflicted crop districts in Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, and Romania continued to exhibit a poor signal in the vegetation health data, likely indicating winter crop yields have been irreversibly lowered.

Ukraine: Current prospects for winter wheat and rapeseed are notably lower than last year, as pronounced autumn drought, as depicted in Figure 3, left winter crops with little soil moisture for establishment prior to dormancy. The onset of cold winter weather was accompanied by a protective snow cover, although southern-most crop districts were exposed to bitter cold for several days. However, most primary wheat and rapeseed areas were spared widespread winterkill or heaving (from freeze-thaw cycles). Winter also featured near- to above-normal precipitation, providing soil moisture recharge. Despite some drought recovery over the winter, the impacts of the exceptionally dry fall

were noted in the spring as crops broke dormancy. Early season satellite-derived vegetation health data exhibit a very poor signal in Ukraine's primary southern wheat districts, which also coincided with the largest autumn precipitation deficits. In addition, drier- and warmer-than-normal weather returned to southern portions of Ukraine in late April and early May, enhancing evaporative losses and increasing crop water demands.

Russia: As of early May, Russia's winter grains and oilseeds are in mostly favorable condition, on par with last year. Autumn precipitation averaged near to above normal over most of the country's primary winter crop areas, although pockets of dryness were noted in western portions of the Central District. Nevertheless, wheat, barley, and rapeseed entered the winter adequately established. During the winter, a persistent snow cover insulated crops from bitter cold, minimizing the threat for widespread winterkill. To date, spring has featured favorable precipitation across western Russia's primary winter wheat areas, while drier-than-normal weather has limited soil moisture for spring growth in the Volga District. Overall, prospects for winter crops remained favorable, although the key months for Russia's winter grains are May and June.

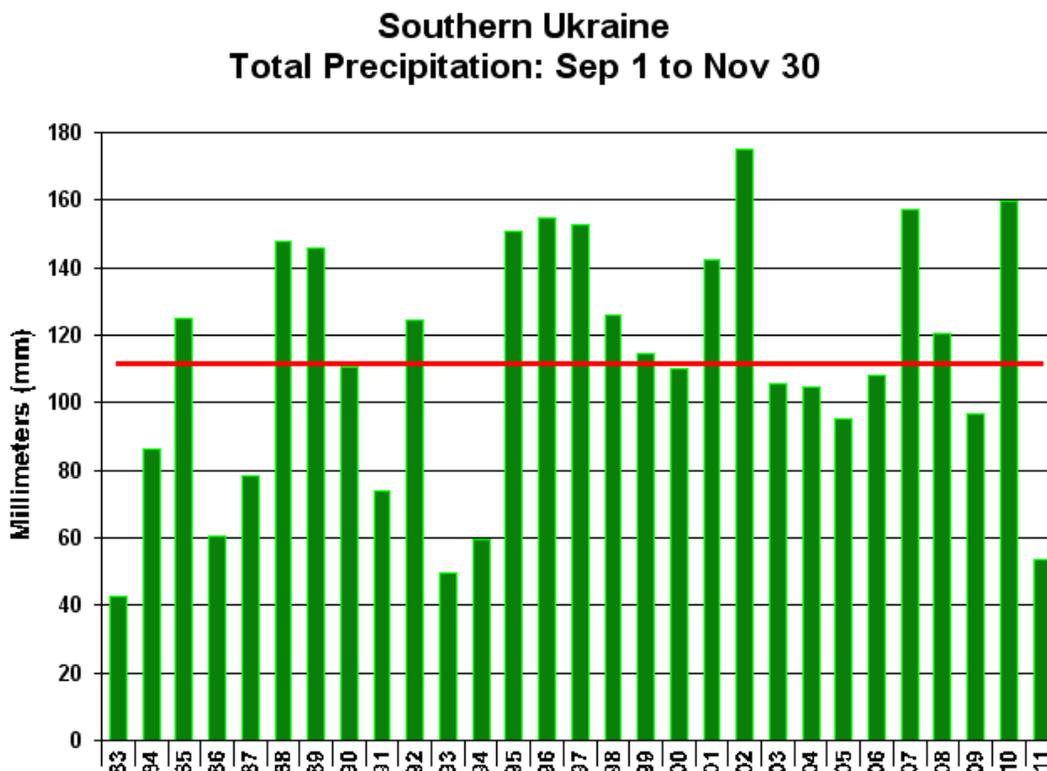


Figure 3. Total autumn rainfall for southern Ukraine's wheat areas dating back to 1983. This past season (2011) is on the far right.

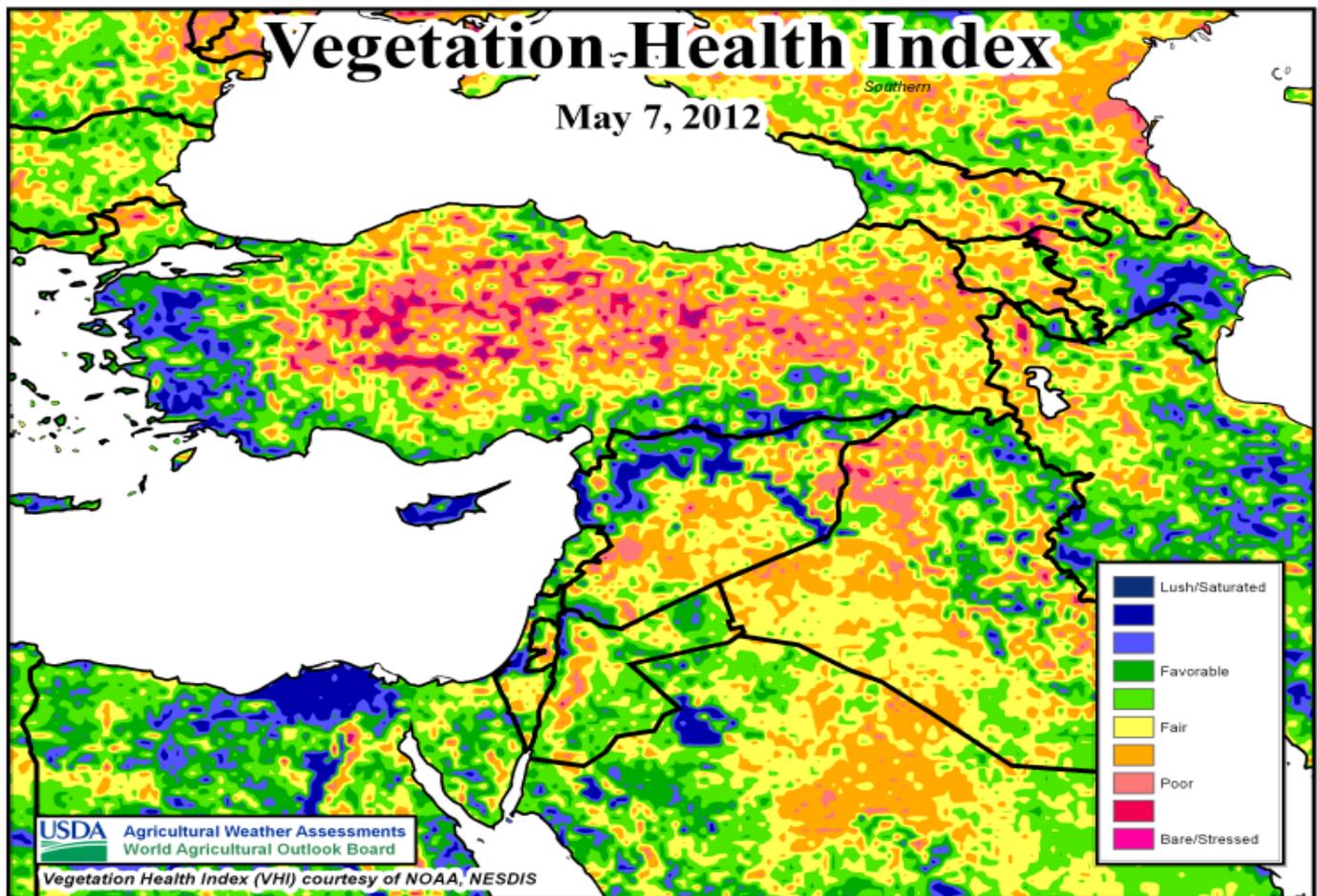


Figure 4. The early May Vegetation Health Index (VHI) for Turkey and neighboring environs, indicating large areas of poor crop health in key wheat areas of the Anatolian Plateau.

Northwestern Africa: Winter drought in western growing areas contrasted with favorable growing-season weather elsewhere. Near- to above-normal autumn precipitation (Figure 1) provided ample soil moisture for wheat and barley planting and establishment across the region. Over the winter, however, short-term drought developed in Morocco, depleting soil moisture for vegetative to reproductive winter grains. Precipitation returned to Morocco – the region’s largest wheat and barley producer – in the first week of April, stabilizing crop yields in northern districts but arriving mostly too late for more advanced winter grains in southern and western portions of the country. Meanwhile, favorable winter and spring rainfall has boosted yields in Algeria and Tunisia, although localized flooding in Tunisia likely resulted in some lost acreage.

Middle East: Winter grain prospects are mixed, with favorable conditions along the Mediterranean Coast and in eastern Iran contrasting with potential yield losses in central Turkey and western Iran.

Autumn precipitation averaged near normal in Turkey to well above normal in central and eastern Iran, resulting in favorable to abundant soil moisture for winter grain planting and establishment. Over the winter, wetter-than-normal weather persisted across Turkey and the eastern Mediterranean, while near-normal precipitation was reported in eastern Iran. Conversely, drier-than-normal conditions settled over western Iran and central Iraq. Nevertheless, total wet-season precipitation was mostly favorable for winter grains over much of the Middle East. However, recent satellite-derived vegetation health data (Figure 4) indicate potential crop losses across central Turkey’s Anatolian Plateau. The cause of the poor satellite signal remains uncertain, although a much colder-than-normal autumn and winter may have resulted in poor crop establishment. Despite the cold, winterkill was not a widespread issue, with a sufficient snow cover insulating winter crops during the periods of coldest weather. Reports from the field over the upcoming weeks should provide greater insight into the potential causes and impacts on Turkey’s winter wheat and barley.

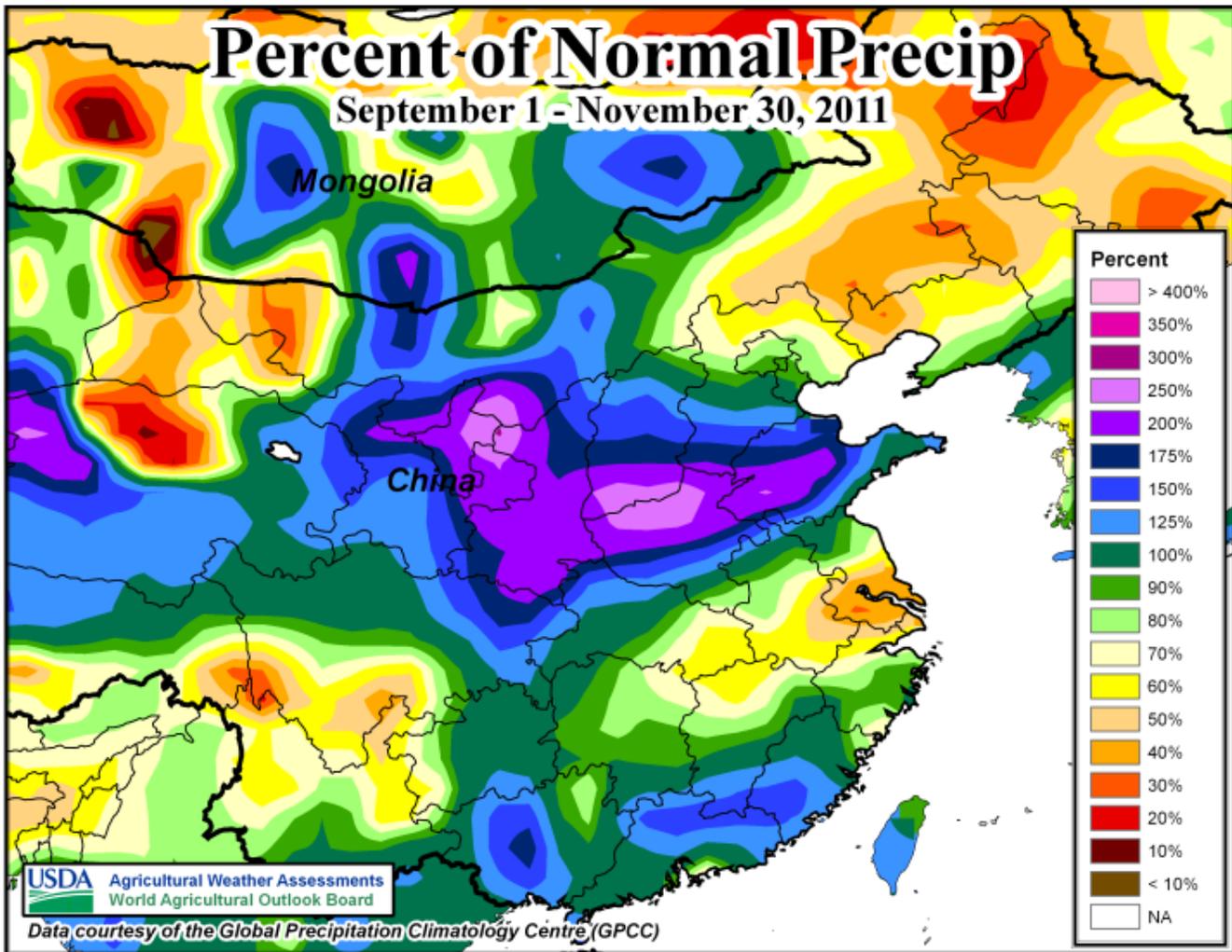


Figure 5. Percent-of-normal precipitation for autumn, 2011. Moisture was favorable for winter wheat establishment on the North China Plain.

India: Winter wheat prospects for 2012 are excellent. Rainfall during the monsoon season was near to above normal across the main producing states of Punjab, Haryana, and Uttar Pradesh, boosting moisture supplies for the irrigated crop. Generally dry conditions in the autumn favored planting across northern India, while cool winter weather provided ideal growing conditions. A lack of significant heat in the early spring helped maximize yield potential for the crop and generally dry conditions during March allowed harvesting to progress uninterrupted.

China: Heavy rainfall during August and into early September, as depicted in Figure 5, boosted moisture supplies in advance of winter wheat planting in the main producing provinces (Hebei, Shandong, and Hunan). A continuation of rainfall, albeit lighter, during the October planting period caused minor delays but maintained good moisture

conditions for establishment. Overwintering conditions were favorable for dormant winter wheat with no outbreaks of frigid cold weather. A slow warm-up in the spring eased wheat out of dormancy, while periodic rainfall from late March through April ensured yield prospects remained favorable. In particular, heavy showers in late April provided a timely moisture boost to flowering winter wheat. Harvesting typically begins in mid-June when drier weather would be more welcome.

Canada: For much of the autumn and winter, a general pattern of mild, showery weather dominated the main farming areas of eastern Canada. Although several outbreaks of bitter cold weather (temperatures falling below -20°C) were recorded, snow cover preceded the events in most areas, helping to mitigate the potential impact of the cold weather on overwintering crops and pastures. Consequently, winter wheat prospects were overall favorable in the main production areas of

Ontario as spring approached. Since March, however, the combination of drier-than-normal weather and highly variable temperatures has raised concern for potential stress on crops in accelerated stages of development. Winter wheat reportedly began greening in March, several weeks earlier than normal, and a hard freeze (temperature dropping below -5°C) in late April may have affected vulnerable stands.

Overwintering conditions were unfavorable for grains and pastures on the Canadian Prairies. Warmer- and drier-than-normal weather prevailed throughout the winter, resulting in extended snow-free periods. In spite of the overall warm pattern, however, the region experienced several outbreaks of bitter cold (temperatures falling below -30°C in some locations). As a result, most areas experienced at least one instance of arctic temperatures on days when snow cover was virtually non-existent. In April, near- to above-normal rainfall provided needed moisture for surviving winter crops and helped to condition fields for the upcoming spring planting season.

Mexico: The main winter grain areas of northern Mexico entered the 2011/12 winter dry season in

varying degrees of drought, caused by below-normal summer rainfall and a general trend of above-normal temperatures across the region. As a result, October reservoir levels were at some of the lowest levels in more than 5 years in the northwest (Figure 6); this was particularly true in Sinaloa, where farmers experienced higher-than-usual irrigation requirements to compensate for crop losses from the February 2011 freeze. The low levels reportedly resulted in lower planting acreage for winter corn in Sinaloa as producers entered the winter dry season with significantly lower amounts of irrigation than would normally be used. According to the Agricultural Secretariat of Mexico (SAGARPA), Sinaloa accounts for about 80 percent of Mexico’s winter corn, and just over 20 percent of the country’s total annual production.

Reservoirs in Sonora fared better, entering the winter at lower-than-usual levels that were still adequate to meet the demands of winter wheat producers. Meanwhile, above-normal rainfall since February in northeastern Mexico provided ample moisture for rain-fed winter sorghum in and around Tamaulipas, Mexico’s largest producer of that crop. On average, Tamaulipas produces approximately 75 percent of Mexico’s winter sorghum, virtually all of it rain-fed.

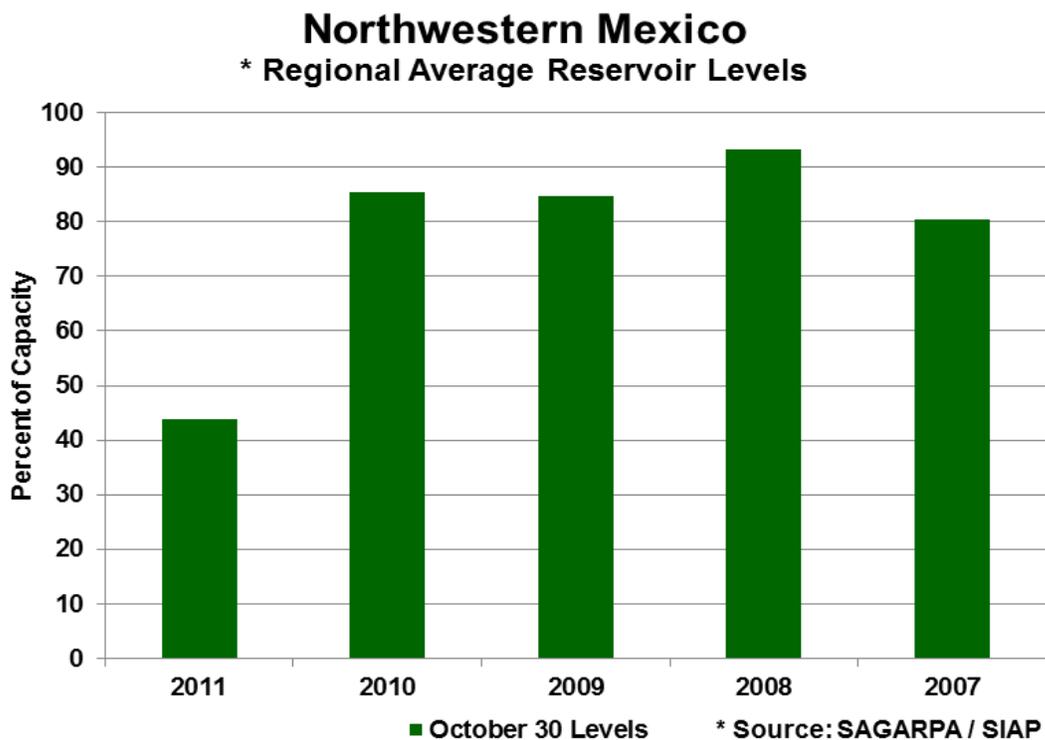
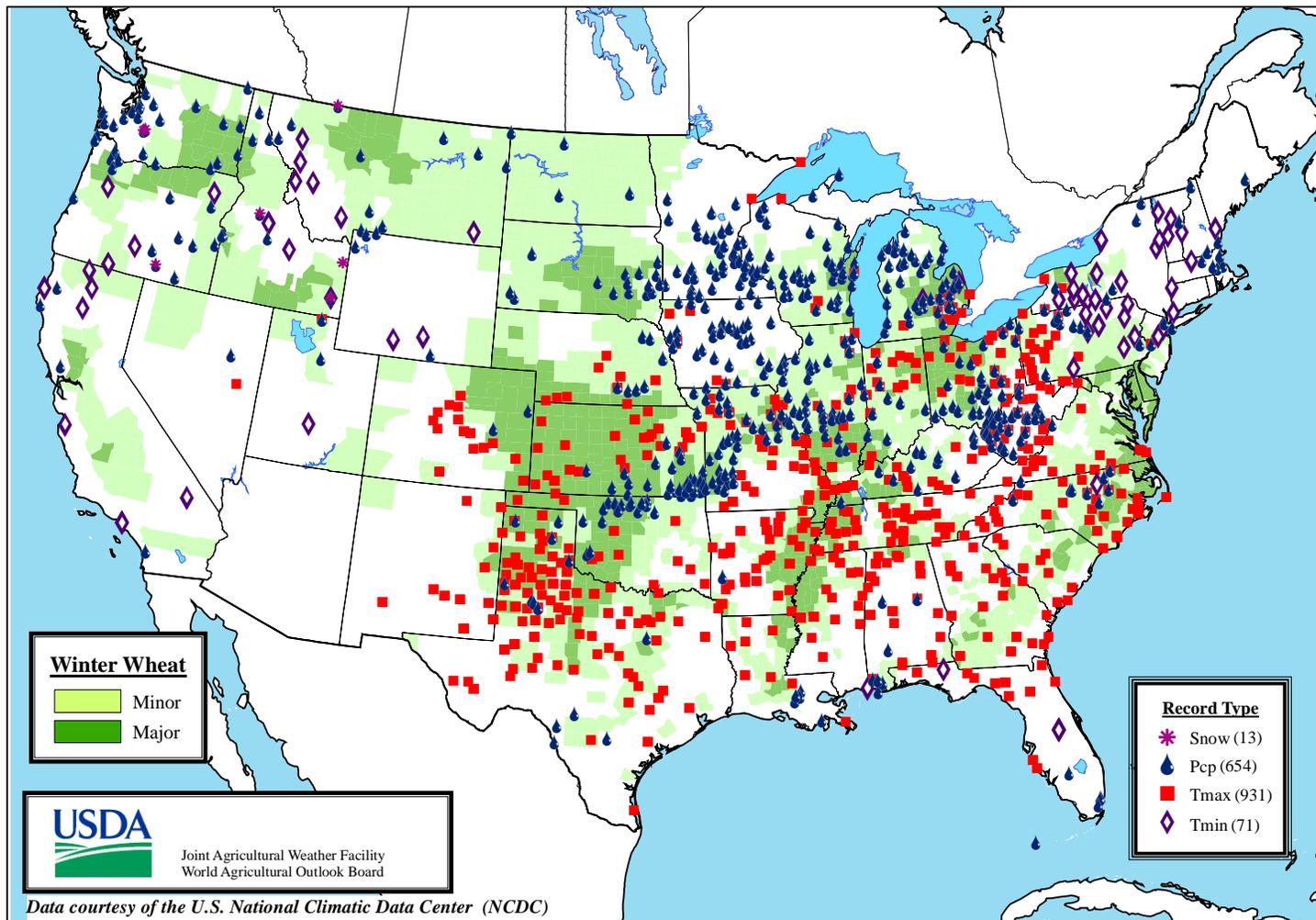


Figure 6. Averaged regional reservoir levels for northwestern Mexico. As depicted, levels were atypically low entering the 2011/12 winter dry season.

Daily Weather Records (ASOS & COOP)

April 29-May 5, 2012



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