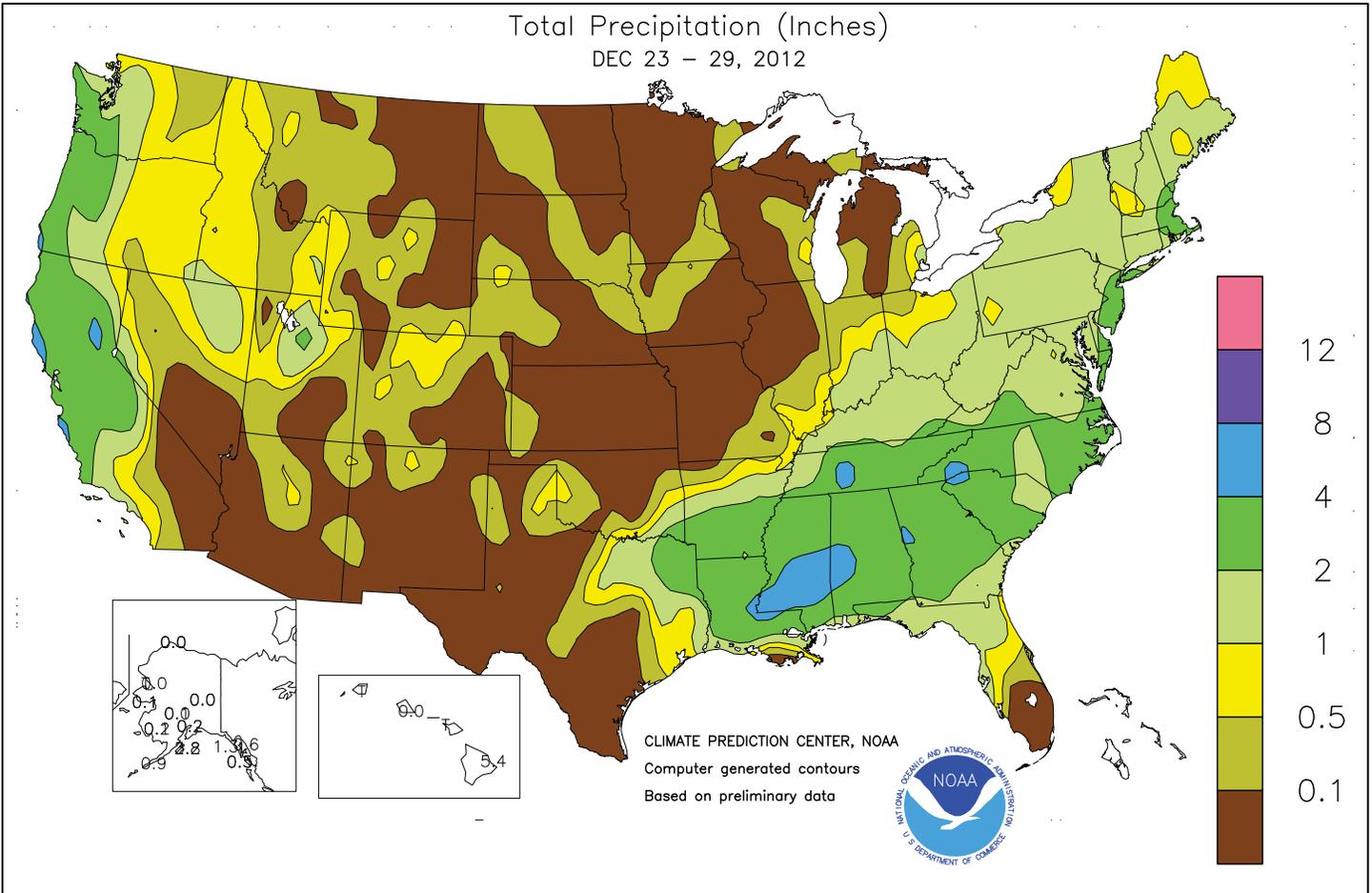


WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN



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

December 23 - 29, 2012

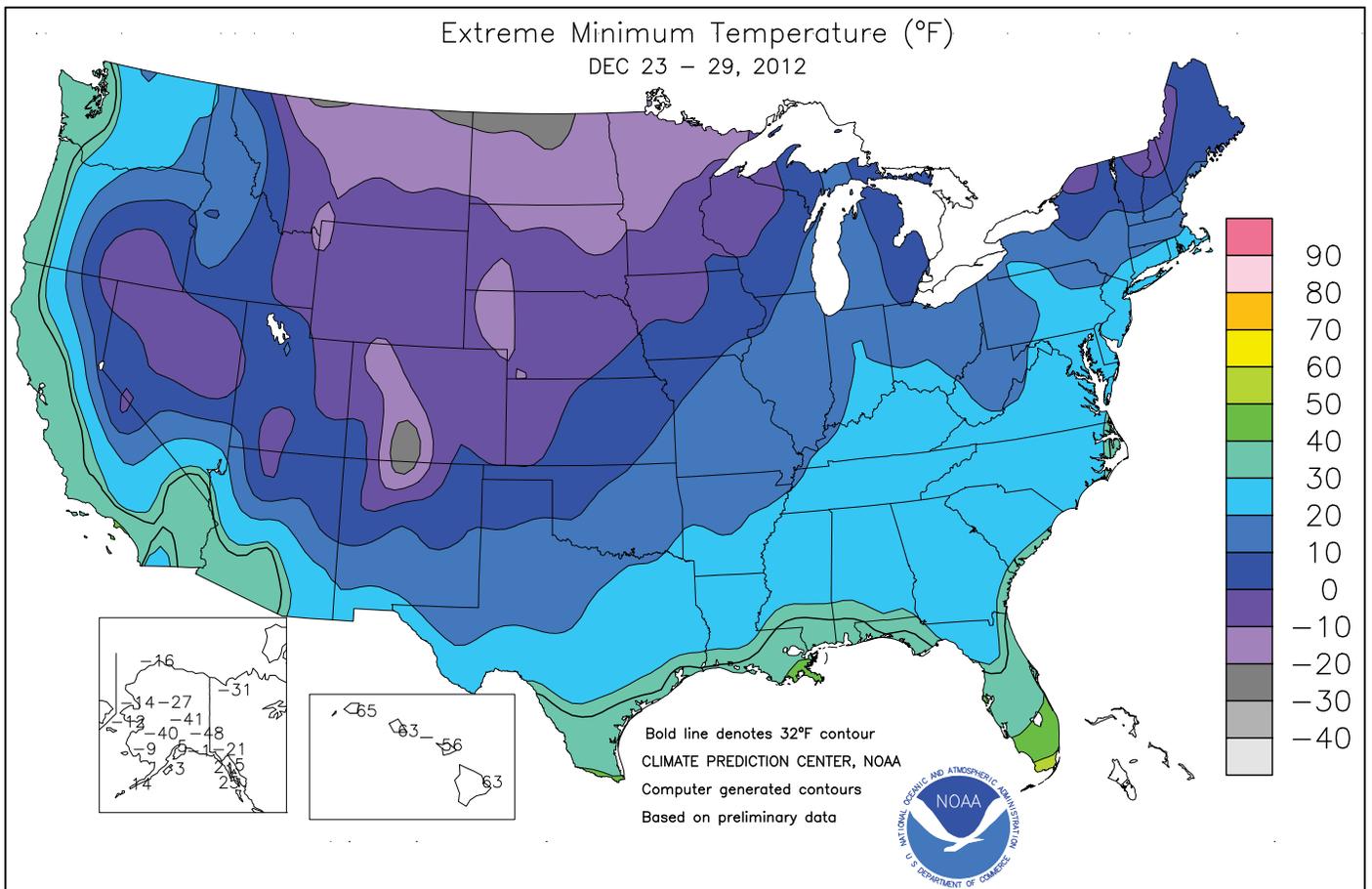
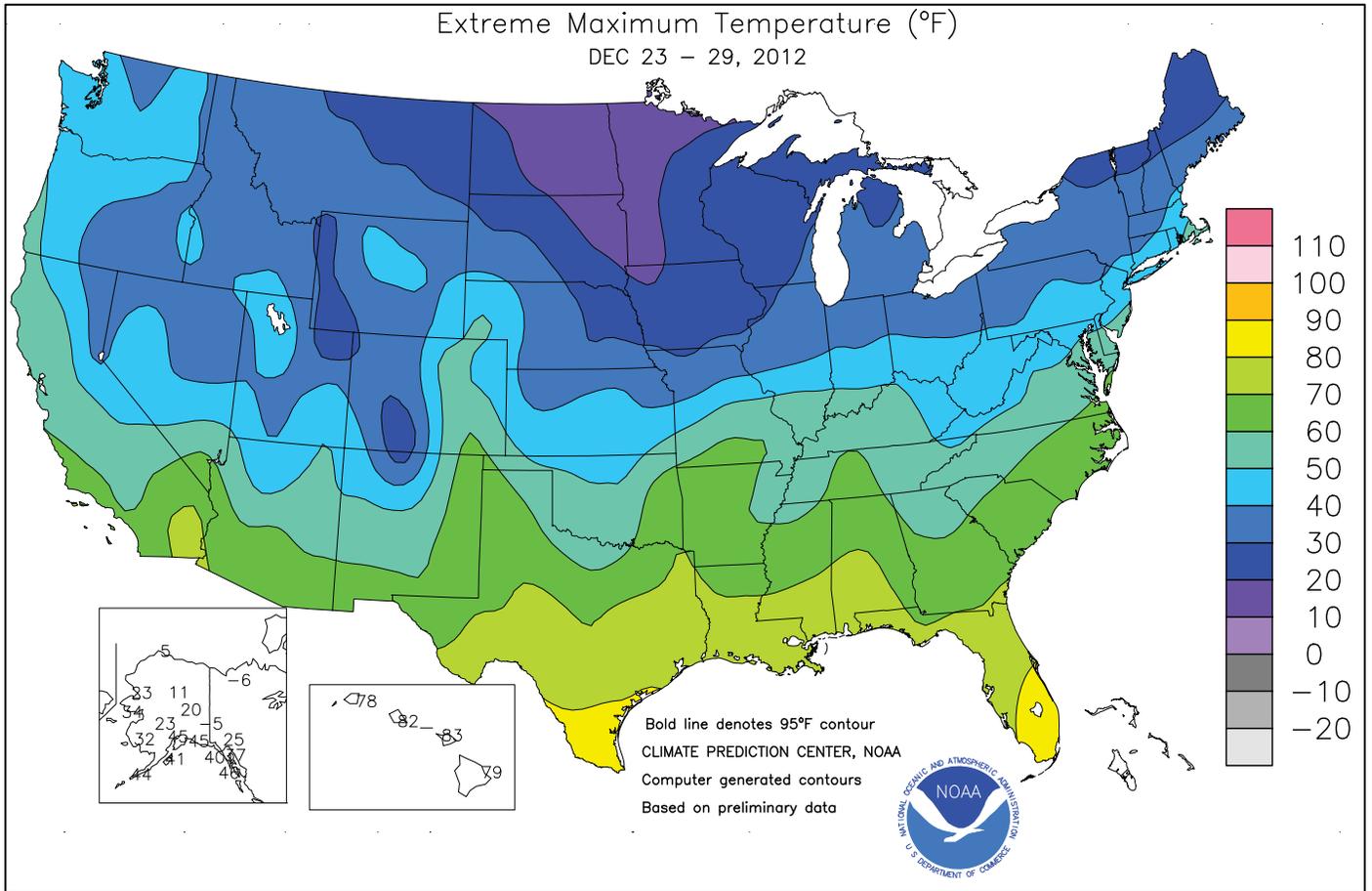
Highlights provided by USDA/WAOB

Active weather continued in the **West**, as well as the **South, East, and lower Midwest**. However, significant storminess bypassed the **nation's mid-section**, including the drought-stricken hard red winter wheat belt. A rapid-fire series of three storms delivered wintry precipitation from the **Mid-South into the Northeast**. The strongest winter storm, the middle of the three weather systems, resulted in significant travel disruptions from December 25-27. Of particular note were historic, Christmas Day snow accumulations across the **Mid-South** and a severe

(Continued on page 3)

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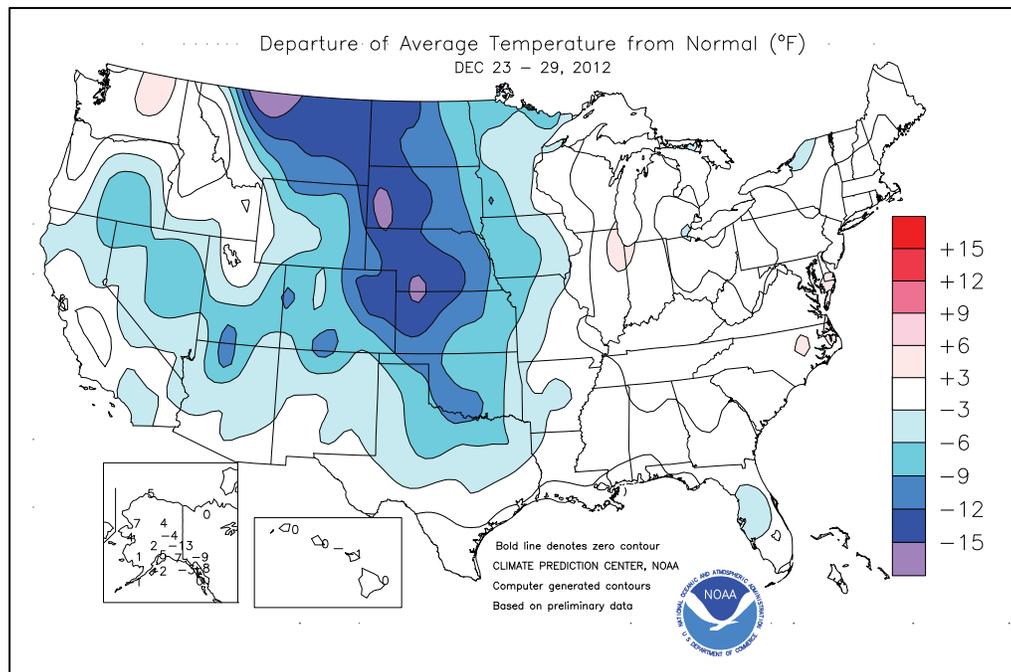


(Continued from front cover)

weather outbreak on the same date that spawned several dozen tornadoes from **eastern Texas to Alabama**. Elsewhere, drought-easing rainfall soaked much of the **Southeast**, although **Florida's peninsula** remained mostly dry. Farther west, patchy, light precipitation on the **Plains** provided a few areas with beneficial moisture. However, the precipitation had little effect on the region's long-running drought, which has adversely affected establishment of the 2013 hard red winter wheat crop. Elsewhere, cold but generally unsettled weather prevailed in the **West**. The heaviest precipitation fell across the **northern Intermountain West** and the **Pacific Coast States**. In addition to the cold weather in the **West**, some of the coldest air of the season across the **Plains** held weekly temperatures at least 5 to 15°F below normal in most locations. Widespread readings below -10°F were noted from **Montana to Minnesota**, starting December 24. Cold air made its strongest southward push on December 26, when sub-zero readings were common and a few readings below -10°F were noted as far south as the **central High Plains**. At the time of the coldest weather, the **central High Plains'** winter wheat crop had only a shallow snow cover for insulation. Wheat's protective snow cover was somewhat more substantial on the **northern Plains**. Winter agricultural areas in **California, Florida**, and the **Desert Southwest** had some chilly weather but did not experience significant freezes.

Record-setting warmth was generally confined to a few locations across the **Deep South**. For example, **Galveston, TX**, posted consecutive daily-record highs (76 and 75°F, respectively) on December 24 and 25. Elsewhere in **Texas**, **Brownsville** (88°F on December 25) also posted a daily-record high. Farther east, **Vero Beach, FL** (85°F), ended the week with a record-setting high for December 29. In contrast, much of the nation was blanketed by cold air in the wake of a sprawling, mid-week storm. In **Kansas**, **Goodland** achieved a record-setting low (-9°F) for December 25 late in the day, followed by another daily-record low (-10°F) on December 26. At the time, **Goodland** had a 4-inch snow depth, helping to insulate winter wheat. Elsewhere on the 26th, daily-record lows included -15°F in **Alliance, NE**, and 7°F in **Borger, TX**. Late in the week, cold air also spilled across the **West**, where **South Lake Tahoe, CA**, collected a daily-record low of -5°F on December 28.

Multiple storms maintained unsettled conditions across a broad swath of the nation. Early in the week, snow developed across the **Intermountain West** and spread onto the **northern High Plains**. Record-setting snowfall totals for December 24 included 4.4 inches in **Ely, NV**, and 4.0 inches in **Havre, MT**. Elsewhere in **Montana**, **Billings** (3.4 inches) not only measured a record-setting total for Christmas Eve, but also experienced its first measurable snowfall on December 24 since 1996. The following day, a record-setting snow storm developed across the **Mid-South**. In **Little Rock, AR**, the December 25 total of 9.0 inches easily surpassed its Christmas Day record of 4.2 inches, established in 1926. Light snow also dusted the **southern Plains**, where record-breaking December 25 totals in Texas included 2.5 inches in **Wichita Falls** and 1.0 inch in **Dalhart**. Meanwhile, severe thunderstorms ripped across the **Deep South**, while wintry precipitation spread from the **Ohio Valley into the Northeast**. Preliminary reports indicated that there were more than 50 tornadoes on December 25 in the **Gulf Coast States**, including an EF-3 twister (estimated winds near 140 mph) with a 61-mile path length through five counties in **southern Mississippi**. A day later, daily-record snowfall totals for December 26 reached 8.5 inches in



Rochester, NY; 7.7 inches in **Evansville, IN**; 7.0 inches in **Dayton, OH**; and 4.6 inches in **Paducah, KY**. Closer to the **Atlantic Seaboard**, record-setting precipitation totals for December 26 included 2.60 inches in **Atlantic City, NJ**, and 1.83 inches in **Wilmington, NC**. In **northern New England**, heavy snow continued through December 27, when daily-record totals in **Maine** reached 11.6 inches in **Portland** and 6.2 inches in **Caribou**. By week's end, the multi-storm (December 24-30) combination resulted in more than 20 inches of snow in several **Northeastern** locations, including **Burlington, VT** (26.0 inches), and **Syracuse, NY** (20.9 inches). During the same period, more than 10 inches blanketed parts of the **Ohio Valley**, including **Columbus, OH** (10.8 inches), and **Pittsburgh, PA** (10.2 inches). Both **Columbus** (5.9 inches) and **Pittsburgh** (4.4 inches) received daily-record snowfall totals for December 29. High winds accompanied and trailed the **Eastern** storms; for example, **Nantucket, MA**, clocked wind gusts to 61 mph on December 27 and 58 mph on December 29. Farther west, isolated locations in **northern California** received in excess of 10 inches of rain from December 20-24, while more than 5 feet of snow fell in parts of the **Sierra Nevada**. According to the California Department of Water Resources, the average water content of the high-elevation **Sierra Nevada** snow pack climbed to 14 inches (150 percent of normal) by December 27, up from just 6 inches in mid-December. Additional **Western** snow fell during the second half of the week; up to 2 feet fell in **Utah's Wasatch Range** from December 26-28, with 23 inches reported in **Alta** and 6.2 inches noted in the valley at **Salt Lake City**. Elsewhere, **Elko, NV**, received measurable snow on 6 consecutive days from December 22-27, totaling 15.8 inches.

Markedly milder air arrived in **Alaska**, boosting weekly temperatures more than 5°F above normal in some northern locations. Chilly conditions lingered, however, in parts of **east-central** and **southeastern Alaska**. For example, **Valdez** posted a high of 9°F on December 23, failing to reach the 10-degree mark on that date for the first time on record. **Kodiak** (3°F on December 25) noted its lowest reading since January 27, when temperature dipped to -5°F. **Alaskan** precipitation was generally light, except for some locally heavier amounts across the southern tier of the state. Farther south, significant **Hawaiian** rainfall was mostly confined to the **Big Island**. Most of that rain fell early in the week, when **Hilo** netted 4.25 inches in a 24-hour period on December 24-25. **Hilo's** weekly rainfall totaled 5.24 inches. However, many other parts of Hawaii remained dry. **Honolulu, Oahu**, completed its driest December on record, with a monthly total of 0.01 inch (3.23 inches below normal). Previously, **Honolulu's** driest December had occurred in 2002, when 0.04 inch fell.

National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending December 29, 2012

Data Provided by Climate Prediction Center

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 DEC 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE DEC 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 OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE	
AL BIRMINGHAM	52	34	67	29	43	-1	2.61	1.59	1.39	6.49	159	49.34	92	94	61	0	4	6	3	
HUNTSVILLE	50	35	65	30	43	2	2.26	1.04	1.50	6.75	130	52.20	91	86	73	0	4	6	1	
MOBILE	63	42	76	33	52	1	1.96	0.96	1.03	3.48	81	69.10	105	87	65	0	0	3	2	
AK MONTGOMERY	60	36	73	28	48	1	2.72	1.69	1.72	6.66	144	43.07	79	89	56	0	2	3	2	
ANCHORAGE	28	16	45	5	22	5	0.16	-0.05	0.15	1.71	182	21.36	134	75	66	0	7	2	0	
BARROW	-4	-11	5	-16	-7	5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.08	800	6.28	156	85	76	0	7	0	0	
FAIRBANKS	-1	-21	20	-41	-11	-4	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.00	0	9.45	92	81	74	0	7	0	0	
JUNEAU	25	14	37	5	20	-8	0.58	-0.64	0.36	3.95	79	62.47	108	88	75	0	7	3	0	
KODIAK	36	21	41	3	28	-2	2.85	1.03	1.18	4.59	65	56.88	76	95	83	0	4	6	2	
NOME	19	2	34	-12	11	4	0.09	-0.10	0.03	0.51	56	18.66	113	79	68	0	7	4	0	
AZ FLAGSTAFF	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	14.68	65	***	***	***	***	***	***	
PHOENIX	62	42	68	37	52	-1	0.00	-0.21	0.00	0.86	109	4.26	52	60	39	0	0	0	0	
PRESCOTT	45	22	53	17	34	-3	0.04	-0.24	0.02	1.01	89	10.65	56	81	32	0	7	2	0	
TUCSON	61	37	68	30	49	-2	0.00	-0.25	0.00	0.98	110	7.70	64	75	43	0	2	0	0	
AR FORT SMITH	44	28	69	20	36	-3	0.80	0.19	0.76	2.16	67	33.35	76	86	58	0	6	3	1	
LITTLE ROCK	44	30	62	19	37	-4	2.33	1.42	1.94	5.11	115	41.76	82	93	61	0	4	3	1	
CA BAKERSFIELD	55	40	58	32	47	1	0.12	-0.07	0.03	0.65	102	4.41	69	91	77	0	1	5	0	
FRESNO	54	42	58	35	48	4	0.81	0.48	0.42	2.03	175	9.97	90	92	80	0	0	4	0	
LOS ANGELES	61	49	62	44	55	-2	2.15	1.70	1.42	2.83	181	8.90	69	92	65	0	0	4	1	
REDDING	48	33	53	29	41	-4	2.36	1.21	1.19	10.04	239	36.44	110	93	84	0	4	4	2	
SACRAMENTO	51	38	53	31	44	-1	1.93	1.34	1.04	6.15	282	21.15	120	96	70	0	1	3	2	
SAN DIEGO	62	49	64	45	56	-1	0.25	-0.09	0.12	2.13	192	6.57	62	83	61	0	0	3	0	
SAN FRANCISCO	55	46	59	41	50	1	2.73	2.03	1.35	6.26	244	21.48	109	81	69	0	0	5	2	
STOCKTON	50	38	54	33	44	0	0.95	0.52	0.63	4.33	269	13.62	100	98	93	0	0	3	1	
CO ALAMOSA	24	-16	29	-26	4	-11	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.61	244	5.39	75	84	71	0	7	0	0	
CO SPRINGS	35	12	53	2	23	-5	0.12	0.03	0.06	0.26	84	8.10	47	79	35	0	7	3	0	
DENVER INTL	31	9	54	-2	20	-8	0.20	0.14	0.11	0.27	113	10.12	75	76	46	0	7	2	0	
GRAND JUNCTION	24	7	29	-3	16	-10	0.19	0.08	0.17	0.99	241	4.47	50	95	85	0	7	3	0	
PUEBLO	36	7	56	1	22	-7	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.24	77	4.94	40	76	54	0	7	0	0	
CT BRIDGEPORT	39	29	42	26	34	2	1.11	0.32	0.48	3.66	115	40.33	92	75	65	0	6	4	0	
HARTFORD	36	24	42	20	30	2	1.72	0.92	0.62	4.13	125	38.01	83	81	61	0	7	4	2	
DC WASHINGTON	45	33	51	29	39	2	1.78	1.08	1.44	3.08	111	32.50	83	85	52	0	2	3	1	
DE WILMINGTON	43	30	47	23	37	3	1.36	0.60	0.98	3.93	126	36.32	85	93	57	0	5	4	1	
FL DAYTONA BEACH	70	42	78	33	56	-3	0.56	-0.06	0.34	1.99	81	42.27	86	94	46	0	0	3	0	
JACKSONVILLE	67	38	73	27	52	-2	0.76	0.13	0.55	2.31	97	53.42	103	91	49	0	2	3	1	
KEY WEST	77	65	81	57	71	0	0.01	-0.49	0.01	0.67	35	47.00	121	85	68	0	0	1	0	
MIAMI	78	58	84	52	68	-1	0.01	-0.42	0.01	0.40	20	86.83	149	85	54	0	0	1	0	
ORLANDO	72	44	79	33	58	-4	0.47	-0.03	0.35	1.30	61	41.11	85	91	53	0	0	3	0	
PENSACOLA	65	44	74	36	55	2	0.86	-0.07	0.30	2.11	59	66.64	104	87	66	0	0	3	0	
TALLAHASSEE	66	38	71	27	52	0	1.16	0.16	0.51	3.28	89	59.32	94	88	61	0	3	5	1	
TAMPA	70	48	74	42	59	-3	1.45	0.96	0.90	2.23	106	56.01	126	87	49	0	0	3	1	
WEST PALM BEACH	78	54	85	46	66	-1	0.02	-0.57	0.02	1.13	38	78.74	129	88	57	0	0	1	0	
GA ATHENS	52	36	59	29	44	1	2.83	1.96	1.09	5.86	174	37.36	79	91	67	0	3	5	2	
ATLANTA	52	37	60	31	45	2	3.19	2.34	1.42	5.93	169	37.03	74	85	68	0	2	5	3	
AUGUSTA	55	35	63	25	45	0	2.86	2.05	0.86	4.67	167	36.07	82	92	65	0	3	5	4	
COLUMBUS	57	38	65	30	48	1	2.75	1.77	1.05	5.23	129	35.21	73	92	57	0	2	5	2	
MACON	56	37	61	25	46	0	2.85	1.92	1.06	4.86	136	32.40	73	96	59	0	3	5	2	
SAVANNAH	62	39	67	30	50	0	1.02	0.30	0.65	1.91	77	40.21	82	84	57	0	2	4	1	
HI HILO	77	65	79	63	71	-1	5.42	3.45	3.92	11.29	112	90.21	72	87	84	0	0	7	1	
HONOLULU	81	67	82	63	74	0	0.00	-0.66	0.00	0.00	0	8.57	48	84	72	0	0	0	0	
KAHULUI	82	61	83	56	72	-1	0.02	-0.74	0.01	0.19	7	5.17	28	84	73	0	0	2	0	
LIHUE	77	68	78	65	73	1	0.04	-1.03	0.04	4.34	99	41.17	105	85	76	0	0	1	0	
ID BOISE	36	25	42	19	31	2	0.16	-0.12	0.05	1.10	89	11.43	95	88	69	0	7	6	0	
LEWISTON	39	31	45	25	35	2	0.03	-0.19	0.01	0.87	93	15.44	122	90	79	0	4	3	0	
POCATELLO	30	14	40	-4	22	-2	0.45	0.21	0.17	1.40	146	10.67	86	86	78	0	7	4	0	
IL CHICAGO/O'HARE	33	26	34	20	29	4	0.02	-0.44	0.01	2.77	121	27.47	76	85	74	0	7	2	0	
MOLINE	28	16	31	9	22	-2	0.01	-0.42	0.01	2.58	126	27.16	72	83	73	0	7	1	0	
PEORIA	31	21	35	13	26	1	0.00	-0.43	0.00	1.87	82	26.96	75	86	73	0	7	0	0	
ROCKFORD	29	19	31	13	24	2	0.02	-0.36	0.01	2.49	129	23.34	64	85	77	0	7	2	0	
SPRINGFIELD	32	23	37	18	28	0	0.00	-0.50	0.00	2.71	114	29.49	83	93	72	0	7	0	0	
IN EVANSVILLE	40	28	56	17	34	1	1.62	0.94	1.15	3.32	99	32.97	75	86	68	0	6	4	1	
FORT WAYNE	33	23	39	19	28	2	0.51	-0.05	0.22	2.12	82	28.50	78	93	78	0	7	4	0	
INDIANAPOLIS	34	26	42	22	30	1	0.63	0.04	0.38	2.59	92	38.02	93	91	75	0	7	3	0	
SOUTH BEND	33	23	36	17	28	2	0.53	-0.08	0.31	3.14	109	34.40	87	85	74	0	7	3	0	
IA BURLINGTON	28	17	30	11	22	-3	0.00	-0.38	0.00	0.85	43	23.23	61	89	69	0	7	0	0	
CEDAR RAPIDS	23	10	28	4	17	-4	0.06	-0.20	0.06	0.60	43	23.60	71	94	77	0	7	1	0	
DES MOINES	22	9	29	2	15	-7	0.06	-0.18	0.05	1.73	141	26.07	75	82	71	0	7	2	0	
DUBUQUE	2																			

Weather Data for the Week Ending December 29, 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 DEC 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE DEC 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	33	15	45	7	24	-8	0.00	-0.27	0.00	0.18	15	24.88	82	81	60	0	7	0	0
KY JACKSON	42	30	52	25	36	0	1.21	0.33	0.61	6.37	159	51.95	106	95	72	0	5	5	1
LEXINGTON	40	29	49	24	34	0	0.99	0.12	0.33	6.46	174	42.53	93	96	79	0	6	5	0
LOUISVILLE	41	31	55	27	36	1	1.33	0.56	0.82	7.01	204	45.56	103	92	68	0	5	5	1
PADUCAH	41	30	59	21	36	2	1.08	0.23	0.56	3.55	85	29.69	61	94	64	0	6	5	1
LA BATON ROUGE	62	43	78	34	53	2	2.57	1.37	1.57	8.10	167	69.40	111	90	61	0	0	3	2
LAKE CHARLES	63	43	77	31	53	1	1.73	0.67	1.40	4.83	115	72.02	127	88	59	0	1	3	1
NEW ORLEANS	64	47	78	39	55	1	1.52	0.47	0.96	5.16	109	68.31	107	84	66	0	0	2	2
SHREVEPORT	52	35	70	26	44	-3	2.96	1.97	2.49	4.36	104	50.37	99	90	61	0	3	3	1
ME CARIBOU	21	7	26	1	14	1	0.46	-0.26	0.45	2.99	102	38.90	105	84	68	0	7	2	0
PORTLAND	33	20	37	14	27	2	1.69	0.76	1.35	8.21	209	54.38	119	81	55	0	7	3	1
MD BALTIMORE	44	30	49	25	37	3	1.41	0.65	1.06	3.11	102	37.42	90	85	58	0	6	4	1
MA BOSTON	39	28	47	23	34	2	2.60	1.77	1.61	5.89	171	36.69	87	79	56	0	7	4	2
WORCESTER	33	24	36	21	28	2	1.81	0.95	0.88	5.10	146	43.88	90	86	60	0	7	4	2
MI ALPENA	27	18	28	8	23	1	0.06	-0.33	0.05	2.53	154	27.59	98	86	68	0	7	2	0
GRAND RAPIDS	31	20	32	17	26	1	0.12	-0.38	0.07	2.60	102	33.60	91	86	67	0	7	3	0
HOUGHTON LAKE	26	17	28	10	22	1	0.01	-0.35	0.01	2.40	151	32.81	116	89	72	0	7	1	0
LANSING	29	18	32	12	23	-1	0.12	-0.28	0.09	1.76	86	28.20	90	85	72	0	7	3	0
MUSKOGON	33	22	37	19	27	1	0.15	-0.38	0.11	2.90	118	31.45	96	77	65	0	7	2	0
TRaverse CITY	29	23	32	20	26	2	0.04	-0.56	0.02	2.58	107	31.45	95	86	66	0	7	3	0
MN DULUTH	17	3	23	-7	10	-1	0.18	0.04	0.13	1.45	171	33.21	107	80	72	0	7	3	0
INT'L FALLS	9	-10	20	-19	-1	-6	0.03	-0.09	0.03	1.05	172	25.07	105	85	77	0	7	1	0
MINNEAPOLIS	19	7	26	0	13	-3	0.16	-0.03	0.09	1.09	120	29.04	99	81	71	0	7	3	0
ROCHESTER	19	7	24	1	13	-1	2.14	1.97	2.08	7.05	758	30.12	96	79	71	0	7	2	1
ST. CLOUD	16	0	22	-8	8	-3	0.07	-0.07	0.05	1.28	206	24.77	92	87	64	0	7	2	0
MS JACKSON	54	37	69	29	45	-1	4.53	3.34	3.44	8.71	176	69.50	125	89	59	0	2	3	2
MERIDIAN	54	34	71	28	44	-3	5.17	3.99	3.34	9.16	187	62.83	108	90	68	0	4	5	2
TUPELO	49	37	65	27	43	2	2.64	1.30	1.75	7.02	123	49.70	90	90	71	0	2	3	2
MO COLUMBIA	34	23	47	20	28	-2	0.01	-0.42	0.01	1.32	56	30.33	76	83	63	0	7	1	0
KANSAS CITY	29	16	35	7	22	-7	0.00	-0.30	0.00	1.23	80	22.17	59	82	61	0	7	0	0
SAINT LOUIS	37	27	50	22	32	1	0.06	-0.46	0.06	1.78	66	32.08	83	78	65	0	7	1	0
SPRINGFIELD	37	23	60	18	30	-3	0.01	-0.52	0.01	1.00	33	30.82	69	84	67	0	6	1	0
MT BILLINGS	20	7	28	-3	13	-12	0.18	0.03	0.13	0.27	48	7.14	49	83	68	0	7	2	0
BUTTE	25	6	33	-7	15	-2	0.06	-0.05	0.06	0.30	65	9.05	71	88	62	0	7	1	0
CUT BANK	11	-7	31	-22	2	-18	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.05	22	9.05	73	89	70	0	7	0	0
GLASGOW	9	-7	22	-12	1	-12	0.12	0.04	0.05	***	***	14.01	126	85	78	0	7	3	0
GREAT FALLS	18	2	32	-8	10	-13	0.30	0.13	0.22	0.54	96	13.10	89	82	63	0	7	4	0
HAVRE	12	-10	31	-25	1	-16	0.21	0.10	0.13	0.39	93	12.81	113	80	73	0	7	2	0
MISSOULA	30	21	37	14	25	3	0.04	-0.21	0.02	1.29	126	14.98	109	91	81	0	7	3	0
NE GRAND ISLAND	20	4	30	-2	12	-12	0.14	0.03	0.10	1.70	283	11.57	45	86	75	0	7	2	0
LINCOLN	20	5	28	-1	12	-12	0.00	-0.14	0.00	1.47	193	19.10	68	85	71	0	7	0	0
NORFOLK	19	4	29	-3	12	-10	0.19	0.10	0.19	0.90	155	14.27	54	82	73	0	7	1	0
NORTH PLATTE	22	-2	34	-8	10	-14	0.09	0.01	0.08	0.22	63	9.89	50	87	65	0	7	2	0
OMAHA	19	7	26	-1	13	-10	0.04	-0.10	0.04	1.59	189	22.35	74	83	72	0	7	1	0
SCOTTSBLUFF	30	4	52	-7	17	-7	0.10	-0.01	0.05	0.19	39	6.92	43	83	68	0	7	2	0
VALENTINE	20	3	30	0	11	-11	0.07	0.01	0.05	0.30	107	10.69	55	83	72	0	7	3	0
NV ELY	29	4	36	-12	17	-8	0.36	0.24	0.24	1.70	436	12.21	124	85	76	0	7	4	0
LAS VEGAS	53	36	63	32	45	-1	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.49	158	5.30	120	54	38	0	1	0	0
RENO	38	26	49	17	32	-1	0.70	0.51	0.39	2.04	255	5.70	77	83	65	0	7	5	0
WINNEMUCCA	32	13	39	-8	23	-6	0.66	0.49	0.35	1.69	245	5.82	71	89	74	0	7	5	0
NH CONCORD	33	19	39	13	26	3	1.04	0.41	0.60	4.21	154	38.30	102	85	57	0	7	4	1
NJ NEWARK	40	28	44	26	34	0	2.19	1.40	1.12	5.06	154	36.34	79	83	60	0	6	5	2
NM ALBUQUERQUE	43	23	52	13	33	-2	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.09	23	5.43	58	65	33	0	7	0	0
NY ALBANY	32	23	37	18	28	3	1.25	0.70	0.61	4.04	164	36.98	98	86	66	0	7	4	1
BINGHAMTON	27	20	33	13	24	-1	1.25	0.65	0.55	5.18	183	39.32	102	88	73	0	7	5	1
BUFFALO	30	25	35	22	28	1	0.85	0.06	0.40	3.36	95	32.50	81	89	71	0	7	6	0
ROCHESTER	31	24	35	16	27	0	1.32	0.76	0.77	3.50	138	34.05	101	89	75	0	7	5	1
SYRACUSE	31	21	37	10	26	0	2.65	2.05	1.41	7.53	257	35.07	88	86	68	0	7	6	2
NC ASHEVILLE	46	30	51	23	38	1	2.49	1.74	1.71	4.38	141	44.68	96	91	69	0	5	5	1
CHARLOTTE	52	35	57	21	44	1	2.38	1.63	1.72	3.84	134	33.69	78	90	51	0	3	3	1
GREENSBORO	48	33	55	22	41	2	1.69	0.99	1.19	2.63	94	36.68	86	88	52	0	3	3	1
HATTERAS	57	44	66	35	50	2	3.16	2.04	1.79	6.51	158	57.77	101	89	60	0	0	2	2
RALEIGH	52	35	60	25	44	3	1.85	1.13	1.40	3.01	110	40.86	96	84	52	0	2	3	1
WILMINGTON	59	39	68	28	49	2	3.15	2.28	1.83	4.58	133	50.43	89	88	48	0	2	3	2
ND BISMARCK	10	-6	14	-18	2	-11	0.23	0.15	0.10	0.72	206	14.98	89	86	78	0	7	3	0
DICKINSON	11	-2	26	-12	5	-11	0.07	0.01	0.03	0.26	96	10.42	64	89	73	0	7	3	0
FARGO	10	-5	17	-13	2	-8	0.16	0.03	0.09	0.35	73	16.01	76	80	70	0	7	4	0
GRAND FORKS	8	-4	15	-11	2	-6	0.04	-0.07	0.02	0.32	70	17.10	88	85	71	0	7	3	0
JAMESTOWN	8	-5	12	-12	1	-10	0.02	-0.07	0.01	0.09	26	12.90	70	87	73	0	7	2	0
WILLISTON	10	-9	24	-20	0	-10	0.14	0.03	0.06	0.47	98	13.10	93	87	81	0	7	4	0
OH AKRON-CANTON	33	24	36	17	29	1	0.91	0.30	0.58	4.05	146	37.77	99	87	74	0	7	4	1
CINCINNATI	37	28	50	25	32	0	1.13	0.43	0.84	5.66	186	38.69	91	90	73	0	7	4	1
CLEVELAND	34	26	36	21	30	1	0.84	0.23	0.45	3.75	127	44.44	115	90	69	0	7	4	0
COLUMBUS	35	27	41	22	31	0	1.22	0.63	0.70	5.52	202	37.09	97	90	75	0	6	3	1
DAYTON	34	25	40	19	29	0	0.95	0.31	0.68	3.70	129	32.52	83	93	76	0	7	4	1
MANSFIELD	31	23	34	19	27	0	0.78	0.13	0.43	3.69	121	39.99	93	98	76	0	7	3	0

Based on 1971-2000 normals

*** Not Available

Weather Data for the Week Ending December 29, 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 DEC 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE DEC 1	TOTAL IN., SINCE JAN 01	PCT. NORMAL SINCE JAN 01	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	TEMP. °F		PRECIP
																		01 INCH OR MORE	50 INCH OR MORE	
OK TOLEDO	33	20	37	13	26	-1	0.40	-0.12	0.22	2.11	86	30.30	92	88	73	0	7	4	0	
OK YOUNGSTOWN	33	22	35	15	27	-1	1.20	0.62	0.84	4.91	177	44.80	118	86	71	0	7	4	1	
OK OKLAHOMA CITY	38	20	47	13	29	-9	0.08	-0.32	0.06	0.32	19	29.12	82	86	55	0	7	2	0	
OR TULSA	39	21	58	14	30	-8	0.02	-0.42	0.02	0.16	7	28.04	66	82	63	0	7	1	0	
OR ASTORIA	46	40	48	37	43	1	2.21	0.01	0.99	14.68	150	91.40	137	89	81	0	0	5	2	
OR BURNS	27	5	37	-3	16	-8	0.57	0.29	0.27	1.73	152	10.32	99	92	81	0	7	4	0	
OR EUGENE	46	37	49	34	41	2	1.19	-0.53	0.66	7.51	96	50.25	100	96	89	0	0	4	1	
OR MEDFORD	42	33	45	30	37	0	0.51	-0.08	0.24	5.68	210	26.88	148	97	82	0	3	5	0	
OR PENDLETON	38	28	45	25	33	0	0.24	-0.06	0.14	1.18	88	14.43	114	94	71	0	6	3	0	
OR PORTLAND	44	36	47	29	40	1	1.35	0.16	0.65	7.70	144	50.57	138	91	83	0	1	5	1	
OR SALEM	45	37	48	30	41	2	1.48	0.14	0.76	7.63	125	54.68	138	97	89	0	1	6	2	
PA ALLENTOWN	37	25	41	22	31	1	1.01	0.28	0.59	4.31	138	41.01	91	86	62	0	7	5	1	
PA ERIE	34	26	36	22	30	0	1.02	0.28	0.49	4.50	128	39.37	93	83	68	0	7	4	0	
PA MIDDLETOWN	38	27	45	22	33	2	1.18	0.53	0.66	3.79	125	45.19	112	93	60	0	7	4	1	
PA PHILADELPHIA	42	32	46	29	37	2	1.56	0.82	1.18	4.38	145	35.89	86	84	55	0	5	4	1	
PA PITTSBURGH	34	25	38	21	30	0	0.80	0.22	0.58	4.91	185	41.12	109	90	69	0	7	4	1	
PA WILKES-BARRE	33	24	36	21	29	0	0.88	0.38	0.42	3.99	168	38.01	102	86	62	0	7	4	0	
PA WILLIAMSPORT	34	24	40	22	29	1	1.75	1.17	1.05	5.58	211	36.20	88	89	62	0	7	4	1	
RI PROVIDENCE	39	26	48	22	33	2	2.05	1.13	0.86	5.55	145	41.18	89	81	59	0	7	5	2	
SC BEAUFORT	61	38	68	29	49	0	1.50	0.72	0.76	2.71	98	35.82	72	93	50	0	2	4	2	
SC CHARLESTON	61	39	68	31	50	1	2.23	1.43	0.82	3.56	122	43.97	86	90	49	0	1	3	3	
SC COLUMBIA	57	37	67	26	47	2	2.01	1.16	0.71	3.55	118	42.79	89	85	56	0	2	4	2	
SC GREENVILLE	51	34	58	28	43	1	3.50	2.60	2.33	5.82	165	38.86	78	90	56	0	3	5	2	
SD ABERDEEN	11	-6	17	-16	3	-10	0.09	0.01	0.04	0.74	264	14.63	73	81	75	0	7	5	0	
SD HURON	14	-1	20	-10	6	-10	0.12	0.04	0.12	1.16	387	19.70	95	85	74	0	7	1	0	
SD RAPID CITY	17	-2	30	-7	7	-16	0.14	0.06	0.09	0.22	73	11.37	69	89	73	0	7	3	0	
SD SIOUX FALLS	15	0	19	-5	8	-8	0.22	0.14	0.20	1.29	287	17.33	70	87	77	0	7	2	0	
TN BRISTOL	46	32	52	18	39	4	1.66	0.92	0.54	4.00	127	46.15	112	94	67	0	4	6	1	
TN CHATTANOOGA	48	35	55	26	42	1	2.14	1.09	0.97	5.58	126	50.80	94	91	73	0	3	6	2	
TN KNOXVILLE	45	34	52	23	40	1	2.28	1.29	0.89	6.26	151	53.75	112	92	70	0	4	6	1	
TN MEMPHIS	45	34	58	25	40	-1	1.45	0.34	0.65	3.28	61	36.46	67	91	65	0	3	5	2	
TN NASHVILLE	45	34	62	28	39	1	2.17	1.23	0.70	4.66	110	45.78	96	92	68	0	1	6	3	
TX ABILENE	49	25	66	17	37	-7	0.01	-0.28	0.01	0.01	1	23.15	98	77	50	0	6	1	0	
TX AMARILLO	44	18	65	8	31	-5	0.09	-0.06	0.08	0.28	57	12.07	62	73	42	0	7	2	0	
TX AUSTIN	58	32	70	21	45	-6	0.02	-0.52	0.01	0.48	21	34.78	104	71	45	0	3	2	0	
TX BEAUMONT	63	43	77	31	53	0	1.14	-0.08	0.86	6.58	137	63.94	108	92	55	0	1	4	1	
TX BROWNSVILLE	73	52	88	39	62	2	0.00	-0.22	0.00	0.33	33	21.40	78	83	54	0	0	0	0	
TX CORPUS CHRISTI	72	47	85	35	59	2	0.00	-0.39	0.00	0.03	2	18.80	59	77	49	0	0	0	0	
TX DEL RIO	64	38	78	33	51	0	0.00	-0.13	0.00	0.03	5	13.86	76	70	40	0	0	0	0	
TX EL PASO	55	32	64	27	44	0	0.00	-0.16	0.00	0.09	14	6.03	65	51	23	0	4	0	0	
TX FORT WORTH	47	30	65	22	38	-7	1.37	0.80	1.33	1.76	75	31.06	90	82	53	0	5	3	1	
TX GALVESTON	65	47	76	36	56	-1	0.45	-0.33	0.27	2.75	85	47.08	108	94	64	0	0	3	0	
TX HOUSTON	63	42	77	31	52	0	0.24	-0.56	0.12	2.32	68	41.78	88	86	62	0	1	3	0	
TX LUBBOCK	46	20	69	13	33	-5	0.01	-0.12	0.01	0.17	30	10.92	59	69	46	0	6	1	0	
TX MIDLAND	55	25	66	18	40	-3	0.00	-0.14	0.00	0.00	0	12.72	86	58	40	0	6	0	0	
TX SAN ANGELO	57	26	76	18	42	-3	0.02	-0.17	0.02	0.03	4	21.80	105	68	44	0	6	1	0	
TX SAN ANTONIO	62	39	71	28	50	-1	0.00	-0.41	0.00	0.11	6	39.14	119	87	35	0	2	0	0	
TX VICTORIA	65	41	79	32	53	-1	0.06	-0.49	0.05	1.31	57	27.99	70	87	54	0	3	2	0	
TX WACO	53	31	73	23	42	-5	0.38	-0.19	0.32	0.70	27	32.22	97	83	57	0	5	2	0	
TX WICHITA FALLS	40	21	54	14	31	-10	0.21	-0.15	0.21	0.49	32	19.69	69	87	63	0	7	1	0	
UT SALT LAKE CITY	35	23	47	16	29	0	0.64	0.37	0.24	1.45	134	12.72	78	90	61	0	6	4	0	
VT BURLINGTON	26	15	30	8	20	-2	1.20	0.76	0.72	3.23	158	35.87	100	85	69	0	7	6	1	
VA LYNCHBURG	45	29	54	23	37	1	1.67	0.95	1.00	2.65	90	29.82	69	85	63	0	7	3	2	
VA NORFOLK	52	38	62	29	45	3	2.94	2.21	2.53	4.48	165	48.34	106	83	56	0	1	2	1	
VA RICHMOND	48	33	54	23	41	3	1.63	0.89	1.32	2.83	101	36.53	84	87	59	0	3	3	1	
VA ROANOKE	46	33	55	28	40	3	1.85	1.24	1.20	2.58	98	32.91	78	80	57	0	3	3	2	
VA WASH/DULLES	42	29	47	21	36	2	1.71	1.05	1.41	2.87	102	35.62	86	86	63	0	5	4	1	
WA OLYMPIA	43	34	47	32	39	2	1.14	-0.52	0.62	9.88	133	59.73	119	99	92	0	1	6	1	
WA QUILLAYUTE	45	37	48	32	41	1	3.30	0.20	1.13	17.43	128	119.43	118	99	94	0	1	6	3	
WA SEATTLE-TACOMA	44	38	47	37	41	1	1.20	0.03	0.53	7.08	134	48.49	132	86	74	0	0	6	1	
WA SPOKANE	31	24	38	15	28	2	0.53	0.08	0.29	2.85	137	21.59	131	100	88	0	7	7	0	
WA YAKIMA	35	26	38	22	30	2	0.50	0.20	0.26	2.15	172	9.34	115	90	84	0	7	4	0	
WV BECKLEY	39	27	45	19	33	0	1.08	0.39	0.61	3.16	112	44.33	107	88	75	0	6	4	1	
WV CHARLESTON	44	29	51	18	36	1	1.42	0.73	0.93	4.83	156	41.46	95	88	66	0	6	3	1	
WV ELKINS	40	23	46	6	31	0	0.96	0.22	0.43	4.31	135	46.53	102	94	66	0	7	5	0	
WV HUNTINGTON	42	29	51	24	36	1	1.07	0.33	0.63	3.89	125	40.10	95	91	71	0	6	4	1	
WI EAU CLAIRE	20	5	23	-4	13	-1	0.01	-0.18	0.01	1.50	160	23.91	75	86	64	0	7	1	0	
WI GREEN BAY	26	16	29	10	21	3	0.28	0.03	0.10	1.37	105	30.35	104	83	70	0	7	3	0	
WI LA CROSSE	22	8	25	2	15	-4	0.15	-0.05	0.13	1.51	134	26.21	81	87	67	0	7	2	0	
WI MADISON	25	14	29	4	19	-1	0.07	-0.23	0.07	2.60	168	26.36	80	88	77	0	7	1	0	
WI MILWAUKEE	30	23	33	20	27	4	0.07	-0.36	0.06	3.86	186	29.28	84	82	76	0	7	2	0	
WY CASPER	28	9	42	1	18	-5	0.31	0.20	0.12	0.39	75	7.89	61	73	58	0	7	4	0	
WY CHEYENNE	28	6	42	-4	17	-9	0.21	0.13	0.13	0.50	132	10.24	67	74	51	0	7	2	0	
WY LANDER	25	6	41	-4	15	-6	0.33	0.22	0.12	0.40	75	6.60	49	84	53	0	7	4	0	
WY SHERIDAN	22	2	36	-5	12	-9	0.21	0.06	0.10	0.52	90	9.55	65	81	72	0	7	4	0	

Based on 1971-2000 normals

*** Not Available

National Agricultural Summary

December 24 – 30, 2012

Weekly National Agricultural Summary provided by USDA/NASS

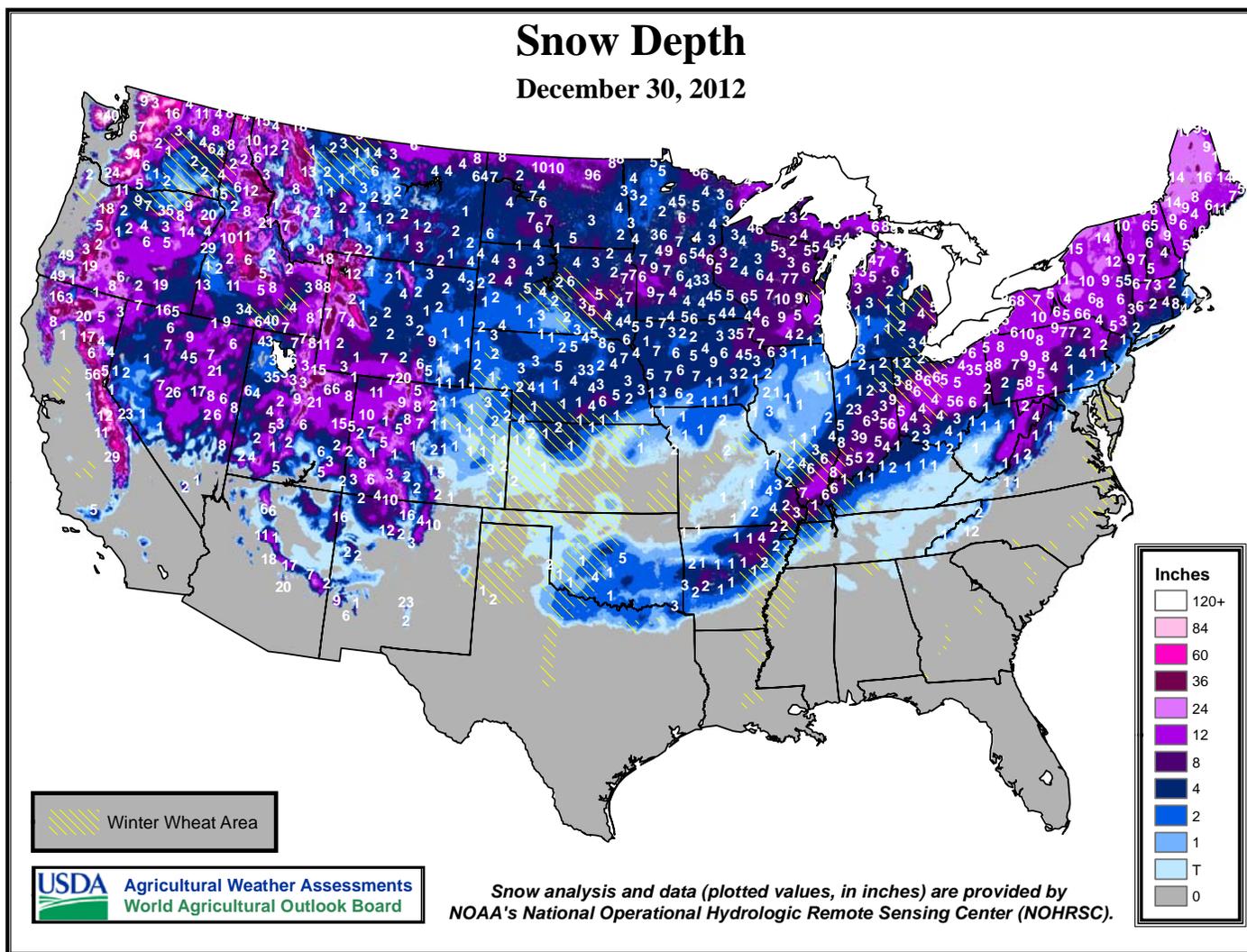
With the exception of portions of the Great Plains and Rocky Mountains, where weekly temperatures fell to more than 12°F below average, much of the Nation recorded near-normal temperatures. Precipitation was light throughout the country's mid-section. Much of the country east of the Mississippi River accumulated at least one inch of precipitation during the week, with portions of the Southeast totaling 2 inches or more. Similarly, coastal areas in California, Oregon, and Washington received precipitation in excess of 2 inches.

Warm, sunny weather dominated Florida throughout much of the week. Rainfall was scarce in southern portions of the State, while most northern locations accumulated one inch or more, benefitting overwintering small grains. With the exception of sugarcane, row crop harvest was complete in most areas. Vegetable growers continued to harvest winter crops, reporting very little damage from the freezing temperatures recorded in mid-December. Despite some rainfall, citrus orchards continued to be irrigated 1 to 2 times per week to help keep moisture in the ground and on trees.

Early and mid-season varieties were harvested. Growers were also busy mowing orchards and completing general maintenance activities.

Temperatures across Arizona were below normal during the week and precipitation was limited. Cotton harvest was just over 95 percent complete by week's end. Alfalfa hay harvest was nearly halfway complete. Vegetable and citrus harvest continued throughout the State, with growers shipping a variety of crops.

Storm systems in California continued to benefit small grain crops. Fruit and nut producers were busy pruning, disking, shredding, and working on trellises. Bees were brought into the State for the upcoming almond bloom. A variety of crops were harvested, including apples, kiwi, lemons, limes, and oranges. Fresno, Kern, and Tulare Counties reported numerous vegetable crops being harvested. Winter vegetables such as beets, chards choys, daikon, kales, turnips and mustard greens were growing nicely.



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: The month of December consisted of a winter storm that spawned severe weather throughout the entire State. Several reported storms during the last week of December 2012 brought freezing temperatures and much needed rain to drought stricken Alabama. However, the US Drought Monitor released on December 25, 2012 indicated dry conditions still prevail as majority of the State was 70.53 percent abnormally dry compared to only 29.47 percent free from drought. Though Mobile was the largest county affected by recent storms, Amanda Ryan, Farm Service Agency (FSA) County Executive Director, stated crops and livestock conditions looked great as rural areas within the county avoided major damage. Ryan also said all crops have been harvested, and winter wheat has been planted. Perry Woodruff, FSA County Executive Director, confirmed cotton recorded the best yields seen in a long time. Additionally, Perry stated corn harvest was complete and yields were very poor due to drought. Henry Dorough, Alabama Cooperative Extension System (ACES) Regional Extension Agent, said recent rain has been good for soil moisture, but cold temperatures were preventing forages from producing the dry matter needed for livestock grazing. As a result, producers were feeding hay and other supplements to provide the bulk of nutritional needs for livestock.

ALASKA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

ARIZONA: Temperatures across the State started out mostly above normal for the first three weeks of December and finished below normal in the last two weeks of the month. The temperature extremes for December were a high of 85 degrees in Coolidge and a low of -10 degrees at Grand Canyon. Precipitation was not recorded until the second week of the month. All but one of the twenty-one reporting stations finished the year with below normal precipitation. The Grand Canyon finished the lowest at 41 percent of normal precipitation. Parker finished the year at normal precipitation. Cotton harvesting was just over 95 percent complete by the end of the month. Alfalfa harvesting was about half finished and sheepling off continued on the alfalfa fields across the State. Vegetable and citrus harvesting activities continued throughout the month.

ARKANSAS: December started with above normal temperatures followed by several cold fronts that brought high winds, hail and other severe weather events throughout the State. On December 25th, a storm system brought freezing rain and record snowfall to central and northern Arkansas and blizzard conditions occurred in northeastern Arkansas. Despite the storms, drought

conditions remained for much of the Western and Northwestern parts of the State. Ponds and subsoil moisture remained low in many areas. Cattle producers were feeding hay. Field work was minimal during December. Many producers were planning for the 2013 crop season.

CALIFORNIA: Small grains crops continue to emerge. Weather systems continued to benefit the crop condition of small grains and the crop was rated mostly good to excellent. Pruning continued in vineyards and stone fruit orchards. Disking, shredding brush and trellis work was also ongoing. Late variety table grape harvest was nearly complete. Persimmon and kiwi harvest were complete. Apple harvest continued. Navel oranges continued to be harvested. Lemon and lime harvests continued. Hybrid grapefruit was picked and packed. Satsuma mandarin harvest continued. Owari and Clementine tangerine harvest continued. Pruning and other activities were wrapping up in almond, pistachio and walnut orchards. Nut trees were in dormancy for winter across the State. Kern County reported carrots being harvested, while broccoli, cauliflower and cabbage were growing. In Tulare County, planted winter vegetable crops continue to grow well due to adequate rain. Fresno County reported harvesting of carrots, fall broccoli, cabbage and head lettuce. Harvest was finished for eggplant, garlic, onion, squash and processing tomatoes. Field fumigation was ongoing for next year's onion, melon and tomato fields. Winter vegetables such as beets, chards, choys, daikon, kales, turnips and mustard greens were growing nicely. Recent moisture helped as pasture continued to recover from dry conditions. Bees in State for upcoming almond bloom.

COLORADO: Most areas of the State received below normal precipitation during December. Higher elevations received significant snowfall the last half of the month. Statewide, mountain snowpack is 68% of average as of December 20 with northern mountains closer to normal than southern. Temperatures averaged above normal the first half of the month and below normal the second half for most of the State. Winter wheat stands remain in mostly fair to poor condition. Soil moisture ratings continue as mostly short to very short in most areas.

DELAWARE: Hay supplies were mostly adequate, but varied across the State. Topsoil and subsoil moisture levels were at adequate levels thanks to steady rainfall. Soybean harvest continued into December. Barley and winter wheat plantings had emerged and are looking good due to the mild weather. Cover crops were also being planted as allowed by field conditions.

FLORIDA: Sugarcane harvest on schedule. Cotton harvest about 85% completed at beginning of month. Planted winter forages, cover crops. Emerged forages stressed by dry conditions. Most northern areas, winter field crops struggled due to lack of moisture. Cool season plantings needed rain. Almost all crops harvested by end of month in northern areas. Vegetable harvest slowed by cool temperatures at beginning of month. Irrigation necessary due to dry soils. Harvested, replanted winter vegetables. Vegetable growers irrigated to keep moisture levels up. Above normal temperatures resulted in good growing conditions; some harvesting behind schedule due to cool weather in November. Avocados, mangoes blooming. Vegetables marketed eggplant, lettuce, radishes, tomatoes, peppers, green beans, squash, cucumbers, sweet corn, and various specialty items. Early marketing of strawberries reported. Harvesting of early, mid-season oranges, grapefruit underway. Harvesting, mowing, and general grove maintenance primary grove activities. Statewide, pasture condition mostly fair, down slightly as drought expanded. Feeding of hay, supplements started. Some locations had reduced forage growth due to cooler temperatures, hard frost. Winter forage planted in Panhandle and northern areas. Northern counties, feeding hay. Most cattle in good condition. Stock pond's water levels low in southwest. Hay feeding increased as month progressed. Month's end, many pastures deteriorated to poor and fair condition due to cold temperatures, drought. Cattle condition ranged from very poor to excellent, with most fair to good.

GEORGIA: According to the National Agriculture Statistics Service's Georgia Field Office, Georgia climate cooled during the month of December. Precipitation estimates for the month in Georgia ranged from 1 inch on the southeast coast up to 8 inches in the Blue Ridge and lower Piedmont Regions of the State. December's average temperatures ranged from the mid 40s to the higher 50s. Most of the State was slightly warmer than normal for this time of year. Rain has improved soil moisture; however, severe drought still covers roughly 68% of the State, compared to 82% one year ago. Field activities included late harvesting of crops, late planting of small grains and routine care of livestock.

HAWAII: December weather conditions started out very dry with 100 percent of the State designated in some stage of drought. As the month wore on, trade winds delivered precipitation easing the drought conditions in some areas. Irrigation reservoirs operated by the Hawaii State Department of Agriculture (HDOA) increased water levels due to the rainfall received during the second half of the month. No irrigation water restrictions were in force on the Waimea irrigation system on the Big Island of Hawaii. The first week of December was the fifth week running with 100 percent of the State in some stage of drought. Trade winds were light most of the week bringing very little precipitation. The Island of Kauai was the one exception with the Omao area recording a weekly total of 3.19 inches of rain. Other

areas across the State experienced humid and vuggy conditions due to lack of trade winds. Shortening days and cooler nights slowed the growth and progress of many crops, particularly at higher elevation sites. Pasture conditions remained very poor in most areas due to continued lack of moisture. During the second week, drought conditions improved slightly with the areas of Kauai receiving a one category improvement as compared to the previous week, due to the rainfall received. Across the remainder of the State, drought conditions remained unchanged this week. Trade winds picked up and were more active throughout the second week of December bring much needed precipitation to many areas, particularly to the windward (eastern) side of the islands. Day length continues to shorten and nighttime temperatures continue to decrease as the winter solstice approaches. Pastures received a boost from the rainfall this week, however much more is still needed to encourage re-growth of forage in areas which have been severely affected by the drought. The third week of December brought some much needed rainfall. While the amount of precipitation varied by location, average weekly total measured by monitored National Weather Service automatic rain gauges was 1.39 inches across the State. The Mountain View area of the Big Island received an impressive weekly total of 6.72 inches. Drought conditions decreased again this week with all major islands except Kauai showing some improvement. Strong trade winds persisted throughout the week bringing moisture to many windward and central areas. Leeward areas received only isolated showers and continue to remain very dry. During the final full week of 2012, drought conditions again showed a slight improvement over those of the previous week. Most improvements in drought conditions occurred along the windward coast of the Island of Hawaii. Trade winds remained steady throughout the week with the occasional stronger gust, however precipitation totals decreased from those observed the previous week. With the end of the year in sight, yearly rainfall totals from monitored rain gauges measured approximately 55 percent of the historic annual average. This rainfall deficit is reflected by the current drought conditions, as 83 percent of the State remains abnormally dry or drier.

IDAHO: Calving complete 2%, 3% 2011, 3% avg. Lambing complete 1%, 1% 2011, 1% avg. Hay and roughage supply 0% very short, 13% short, 84% adequate, 3% surplus. Winter wheat condition 0% very poor, 0% poor, 7% fair, 71% good, 22% excellent. Franklin County Extension educator reports good accumulation of snowfall in the mountains. Livestock in good winter condition.

ILLINOIS: Topsoil moisture 2% very short, 28% short, 68% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil moisture 20% very short, 47% short, 32% adequate, 1% surplus. For the month of December, temperatures averaged 36.7 degrees, 6.7 degrees above normal. Precipitation was below normal with an average of 2.32 inches, 0.28 inches below normal.

INDIANA: Average temperatures thus far during December have been well above normal across the State. Precipitation totals have been below normal with the exception of some southeastern counties where precipitation has been normal to slightly above normal. The driest areas have been in southwestern counties. Winter wheat is reported to be in mostly good condition as temperatures have been mild, but the crop will need snow cover when temperatures do fall. A good deal of fall tillage was done during the month, and some dry fertilizer, manure and lime was spread. Many operations were busy moving grain to market and also forward contracting 2013 crops. Livestock are reported to be in mostly good condition. Hay supplies remain mostly adequate, but prices are beginning to climb as demand is starting to increase. Other activities included purchasing inputs for 2013 crops, income tax preparations, clearing fence rows, repairing and installing drainage tile, hauling grain to market and tending livestock.

IOWA: Topsoil moisture levels rated 45% very short, 42% short, 13% adequate, and 0% surplus. Moisture continues to be an important topic across Iowa. Although drought conditions in some areas have eased and many were glad to see significant snowfall in December; concerns remain about how much moisture will be available in the Spring. Along with slowing grain movement, snow and ice meant some producers had to feed hay to their livestock, but losses remain mostly average.

KANSAS: Topsoil moisture 47% very short, 39% short, 14% adequate, 0% surplus. Winter wheat condition 9% very poor, 22% poor, 45% fair, 23% good, and 1% excellent; wind damage 79% none, 15% light, 5% moderate, and 1% severe; freeze damage 85% none, 11% light, 4% moderate, and 0% severe. Range and Pasture condition 57% very poor, 27% poor, 14% fair, 2% good, and 0% excellent. Feed grain supplies 21% very short, 27% short, 50% adequate, 2% surplus. Hay and forage supplies 35% very short, 36% short, 28% adequate, 1% surplus. Stock water supplies 44% very short, 33% short, 23% adequate, 0% surplus. Most areas of Kansas received limited moisture during the month of December with only 3 of the 53 stations reporting over 1 inch of precipitation. The lightest amounts were in the south central where Hutchinson only received .07 inches. Most of the State did receive some snow during the last half of December. The temperatures varied widely during the month with a low of -11 degrees at Colby to a high of 76 in Winfield. Finishing cotton harvest was the primary fieldwork. For 2012, all 53 stations received below normal precipitation. Amounts ranged from a high of 41.37 inches at Pittsburg in the southeast to a low of 7.44 inches at Tribune in the west central. Departures from normal ranged from -17.63 inches in Ottawa to -4.42 in Johnson. Livestock producers were grazing cattle on crop residue and supplement feeding. Due to the lack of precipitation producers are concerned about pasture conditions and low stock pond level.

KENTUCKY: This past December recorded both above normal temperatures and rainfall. Precipitation was much needed as the State had been under a lengthy dry spell, stretching two months. However, the Commonwealth did experience some periods of cold weather, where wind chill values dropped into the teens and the livestock cold stress index was put into the danger category. Tobacco producers continued to strip their burley as December rains made conditions favorable. The wet weather also improved soil moisture conditions, which was beneficial for fall seeded small grain growth.

LOUISIANA: Louisiana's average rainfall total for the month of December is inconclusive due to the holidays. Harvesting of sugarcane was ongoing. Citrus producers were spraying to control diseases. Strawberries were being harvested. Livestock producers were fertilizing winter pastures and feeding hay. Crawfish producers were putting out traps. Other activities included repairing and cleaning equipment.

MARYLAND: Hay supplies were mostly adequate, but varied across the State. Topsoil and subsoil moisture levels were at adequate levels thanks to steady rainfall. Soybean harvest continued into December. Barley and winter wheat plantings had emerged and are looking good due to the mild weather. Cover crops were also being planted as allowed by field conditions.

MICHIGAN: The precipitation for the past four weeks ending December 30 varied from 1.81 inches to 2.12 inches in the Upper Peninsula and 1.86 inches to 3.17 inches in the Lower Peninsula. Field activities were finished heading into December. After above average temperatures in early and mid December, seasonal weather and snowfall late in the month provided some cover for winter wheat, but snow level still allowed for some manure spreading.

MINNESOTA: As of December 30, temperatures for the month averaged from 1.8 degrees above normal in the North Central District to 4.7 degrees above normal in the Southeast District. Temperature extremes included a low of -21 degrees at Warroad and a high of 64 degrees at Winona Dam. Precipitation averaged from 0.30 inch below normal in the Northwest District to 0.68 inch above normal in the Central District. As of December 30, the greatest monthly precipitation of 2.39 inches was recorded in Canby. As of December 25, the entire State was rated from abnormally dry to extreme drought by the U.S. Drought Monitor. Areas rated in extreme drought were primarily southern parts of the State, reaching up into the West Central and Central districts, as well as parts of northern Minnesota. Snow storms in mid-December brought snow cover across most of the State.

MISSISSIPPI: Soil moisture 0% very short, 0% short, 28% adequate, 72% surplus. Livestock condition 1% very poor, 10% poor, 22% fair, 66% good, 1% excellent. Range and pasture 3% very poor, 16% poor, 24% fair, 57% good,

0% excellent. Mississippi farmers have finished harvesting crops for the season. Winter wheat planting is nearing completion. Some areas of Mississippi are in need of soaking rain. Wheat looks good and we are getting much needed rainfall. Mild temps have allowed ryegrass to really grow. Most producers have been feeding hay for several weeks and few have ryegrass available for grazing. Wilkinson County has gone from being very dry to getting adequate rainfall over the course of the last 5 days. Slow steady rain is improving drought conditions.

MISSOURI: December was warmer and drier than normal. Average temperatures were 4 to 8 degrees above normal. Precipitation averaged 1.64 inches compared to the 30 year average of 2.70 inches. The condition of the dormant winter wheat crop ranges from fair to excellent with the majority rated good. Short stock water supplies continue to be an issue across the State.

MONTANA: Topsoil moisture 16% very short, 8% last year; 28% short, 40% last year; 53% adequate, 50% last year; 3% surplus, 2% last year. Subsoil moisture 27% very short, 13% last year; 30% short, 36% last year; 43% adequate, 46% last year; 0% surplus, 5% last year. Corn for grain harvested 93%, 97% last year. Range and pasture feed condition 42% very poor, 11% last year; 28% poor, 21% last year; 23% fair, 37% last year; 7% good, 26% last year; 0% excellent, 5% last year. Livestock grazing 44% open, 84% last year; 22% difficult, 11% last year; 34% closed, 5% last year. Livestock receiving supplemental feed – cattle 90%, 72% last year. Livestock receiving supplemental feed – sheep 96%, 69% last year. Much of Montana experienced some snowfall during the month of December with low temperatures dipping well below zero and average low temperatures in the lower teens to lower 30s at most reporting stations. West Glacier received the largest amount of precipitation for the week with 4.46 inches of moisture and most other stations saw 0.08 to 4.22 inches of precipitation. High temperatures ranged from the upper 40s to lower 60s, with the State-wide high temperature of 64 degrees recorded in Hardin and Joliet. The coldest reported low of -29 degrees was recorded in Scobey followed by Chester with -27 degrees.

NEBRASKA: Wheat conditions rated 15% very poor, 34 poor, 37 fair, 14 good, and 0 excellent. Hay and forage supplies rated 10% very short, 29 short, 61 adequate, and 0 excellent. Cattle and Calves condition rated 0% very poor, 2 poor, 28 fair, 64 good, and 6 excellent, well below last year's 93 percent good or excellent. Unseasonable warm and dry weather the first half of the month was followed by rain and snow that brought some much needed moisture to the State, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office. Temperatures averaged above normal but lows fell below zero the last half of the month. Snow provided cover for wheat, but made it difficult for cattle to graze stalks. Supplemental feeding is underway and feed supplies were adequate with cattle in good condition. The eastern third and southern tier of

counties received well above normal precipitation while most of the west was below normal. Fertilizer was still being applied until mid month when rain and snow fell. Wheat conditions continue well below year ago levels. The majority of the State saw temperatures average 1 to 5 degrees above normal during December. Topsoil temperatures ranged from 21 to 34 degrees during the last week of the month and in general were cooler in the central third of the State. The eastern third and southern tier of counties received from .7 to 2 inches of precipitation, while much of the remainder of the State received a half inch or less.

NEVADA: A series of storms passed across the northern part of the State leaving some much-needed precipitation. Snow accumulated at the higher elevations toward the end of the week. Weekly average temperatures averaged near normal due to much colder weather later in the week. Fall seeded crops got a blanket of snow. Winter livestock feeding increased. Hay loads continued to move to California dairies. Onion shipping continued. Potato processing remained active. Planning for 2013 grazing was underway as drought and fires severely hurt some ranges. Herd culling was active. Main farm and ranch activities included equipment maintenance, marketing of stored crops and planning for next season.

NEW ENGLAND: Temperatures were above normal across New England during December. Average highs ranged from the upper 20's in Maine to the lower 40's in the southern States. Precipitation during December was also above average at most locations. The first week was warmer than normal with record high temperatures recorded in some northern locations. Precipitation was light, with most areas receiving about a half inch of rain during the week. The second week began very warm with widespread precipitation. High temperatures reached the low 60's in the southern States. The rest of the week was mostly dry with temperatures falling back to more normal levels. The third week was much warmer than normal with several heavy rain storms that brought over 2 inches of precipitation to multiple locations across the region. Winter finally settled in during the fourth week of December as temperatures fell below average at many locations and a series of winter storms blanketed the region with snow by week's end. On December 30, the highest snow depths ranged from over a foot in the southern States to over 2 feet in the northern States.

NEW JERSEY: Temperatures were mostly normal the entire month of December. Precipitation was average in most locations across the Garden State. Farmers finished their 2012 season harvesting of corn and soybeans. Other activities included attending meetings, equipment repair, greenhouse work, and feeding stored hay to livestock.

NEW MEXICO: December began with temperatures above normal across the State. A storm moved into the State bringing snow over the northern mountains the second week in December. Average temperatures were

below normal. A late December storm brought needed moisture into the State. The winter storm brought in cold air and precipitation to the western and northern parts of the State. Native range soil conditions are very dry throughout the State, without much native grass available due to this year's drought. Minimal snow and precipitation has been received this winter to date. No standing volume of forage production. Primary feed is previous year's grasses or non-existent. Browse is very poor as well. Due to drought oaks, mahogany leaves, etc are shattering leaves at this time when under normal conditions they would offer some feed. Tanks are dry or nearly dry.

NEW YORK: Outside activities and daily chores continued. Temperatures ranged from below freezing to 40's. There were two snow storms in the last week. Producers were kept busy repairing machinery and removing snow when needed. Major activities included caring for livestock, spreading manure, grading and packing potatoes, onions, apples and cabbage. Winter meetings and trade shows were well attended.

NORTH CAROLINA: There were 3.4 days suitable for field work, compared to 5.9 days on December 10th. Statewide soil moisture levels were rated at 1% very short, 14% short, 69% adequate and 16% Surplus. The State received much needed rain for the week ending December 30th. Soybean harvest continues with the wet weather slowing down harvest in many areas. Producers continued to tend livestock.

NORTH DAKOTA: Average snow depth was 4.7 on December 30. Hay and forage supplies were 11% short, 76% adequate, 13% surplus. Snow cover protection for alfalfa was rated 21% poor, 57% adequate, 22% excellent. Snow cover protection for winter wheat was rated 15% poor, 57% adequate, 28% excellent. Cattle condition 2% poor, 13% fair, 68% good, 17% excellent. Sheep condition 3% poor, 17% fair, 65% good, 15% excellent. Road conditions 96% open, 4% difficult. Ten percent were drifted, 12% icy, 78% dry. Snowfall amounts varied across the state in December with no major impacts on winter operations reported. Areas with limited snowfall benefitted livestock producers, although some areas had only recently received adequate snow protection for alfalfa and winter wheat. Agricultural activities during December included moving hay and livestock to winter yards, and marketing grain.

OHIO: The December 2012 average temperature for Ohio was 38.0 degrees, 6.3 degrees above normal. Precipitation for the State averaged 4.60 inches, 1.76 inches above normal. Winter wheat producing counties report that the wheat crop is in good to excellent condition. Wet was planted in time for good growth before snow. Initial snow cover in fields occurred during the last week of December. Cattle are in good to excellent condition. Current hay inventories are reduced from normal; some operators are purchasing hay to make up for a shortfall in

hay production. The dry summer reduced the number of dry hay cuttings.

OKLAHOMA: Topsoil moisture 68% very short, 24% short, 8% adequate. Subsoil moisture 80% very short, 18% short, 2% adequate. Wheat 21% very poor, 40% poor, 28% fair, 11% good; grazed 22% this month, 37% last year, 35% average. Canola 17% very poor, 48% poor, 29% fair, 6% good. Rye 26% very poor, 44% poor, 26% fair, 4% good; grazed 30% this month, 63% last year, 64% average. Oats 25% very poor, 24% poor, 47% fair, 4% good; grazed N/A this month, 42% last year, 21% average. Livestock 3% very poor, 14% poor, 47% fair, 32% good, 4% excellent. Pasture and Range 46% very poor, 36% poor, 17% fair, 1% good. The condition of small grains and canola across Oklahoma continued to deteriorate under the protracted drought. The poor condition of small grains meant limited grazing opportunities for livestock producers already facing poor pastures and low hay supplies. A winter storm on Christmas Day brought snow, with the highest totals falling in southeastern Oklahoma. A few other minor precipitation events followed the last week of December. The Southeast district recorded 2.49 inches for the month so far, with most districts averaging less than half an inch. Overall the moisture received during December was still far below average for the month, leaving seasonal totals even further behind.

OREGON: Most of the State saw slightly warmer than average temperatures & above normal precipitation this December. High temperatures ranged from 50 degrees in Lakeview to 64 degrees in Echo. Low temperatures ranged from 32 degrees in Astoria & Tillamook down to -9 degrees in Burns. Only seven of the forty-two stations reported below normal temperatures, mostly in southeastern Oregon. Total precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) varied from .86 of an inch in Rome to 19 inches at Detroit Lake. Most stations in the State reported above normal precipitation, as only 11 stations reported below average precipitation levels. Most parts of the State did receive snowfall, as 54 stations of 70 reported snowfall but only 18 of these 54 stations still have measurable snow on ground at the end of the month. Even with the little moisture received, the snowpack in Wallowa County was doing well with the colder temperatures. For Morrow County, snowpack is down due to the dry fall weather. The blanket of snow is protecting wheat crop well in north central counties as they have no seeding & insect issues reported; farmers with no-till/direct-seeded fields continued to report issues with voles in Sherman & Wasco counties. Washington County saw rain & flooding, experiencing eight days of flooding. The resulting excess soil moisture was causing difficulties for some crops, notably grass for seed. Southern Oregon & northern California saw heavy snows & strong winds from the 20th to 25th, causing fallen trees & temporary power outages in many counties. Filberts were trimmed, with forecasts of a good harvest in 2013. Most livestock are on feed now.

PENNSYLVANIA: There were various reports of heavy frosts throughout the State of Pennsylvania during the month of December. Both soybean and corn harvests were in the process of being completed. Finishing up these harvests may have been delayed due to the lack of available storage. The late December snow has placed a protective cover on the ground. Farmers are currently catching up on building and equipment maintenance. Orchard owners are busy pruning trees, mowing, and controlling rodents. As of December 27, 2012, the Harrisburg area received 3.9 inches of snow for the month, with the greatest snowfall on December 26th. The highest temperature of 67 degrees occurred on December 4th, while the lowest temperature of 22 degrees occurred on the 24th. The average temperature was 39.9 degrees, which is 5.5 degrees above normal. A total of 3.54 inches of rain fell, which is 0.65 inches above the average. There was also low visibility due to thick fog during many days throughout the month. High winds were also an issue, with wind speeds approaching 48 miles per hour on the 22nd of December.

SOUTH CAROLINA: December began with cool temperatures and sunny skies. Highs were in the fifties for most counties with a few southern counties in the low sixties. Seasonally cool temperatures for Saturday eased higher for Sunday, December 4th. The Charleston AP reached 74 degrees on Sunday afternoon. The warm temperatures led to showers on Tuesday night, with Jocassee Dam receiving 1.64 inches and Pickens 0.95 inches. Walterboro's Wednesday afternoon 81-degree high temperature plummeted 44 degrees to a Thursday morning low temperature of 37 degrees. High temperatures on Friday, December 9th, retreated back into the 50's and settled into that range for the weekend. Florence and the North Myrtle Beach AP reached 57 degrees on Saturday afternoon. Sunday, December 11th, started with a frosty 31 degrees at Sandhill and McCormick. The State average temperature for the period from December 5th to December 11th was three degrees above normal. The State average rainfall for the period was 0.4 inches. A cold rain fell across the southern counties on Monday morning, December 12th. Tuesday's morning low temperature fell to 27 degrees at Saluda and Cedar Creek before much warmer air began to arrive from the south. Sandy Run and Pinopolis reported a mild 72 degrees on Wednesday. The string of unseasonably high temperatures continued on Friday, December 16th, for the central and eastern parts of the State with Columbia, Dillon, Hartsville and the Georgetown AP each recording 77 degrees. Mostly sunny, cool weather was observed over the last fall weekend of the year. The State average temperature for the seven-day period was seven degrees above normal. The State average rainfall for the week was 0.1 inches. Milder air was observed on Tuesday, December 20th as Orangeburg, Pinopolis and the Beaufort Marine Corps Air Station each reached 74 degrees. Evening showers fell over parts of the Piedmont and Upstate. By Wednesday morning, Pickens had measured 0.97 inches of rain. A boundary of cooler weather

eased into the State on Christmas Eve. McCormick and Saluda recorded a Saturday high temperature of just 58 degrees. Christmas Day Sunday began with partly cloudy skies, then periods of light rain for central South Carolina and eastward to the coast. The State average temperature for the seven-day period was nine degrees above normal. The State average rainfall for the period was 0.6 inches. Monday, December 26th began with mostly sunny weather and Walhalla reporting a low temperature of 27 degrees. A boundary passed through the State overnight with periods of heavy rain and a few reports of thunder. Much of Wednesday saw cooler air spreading over the State. On Thursday morning, the temperature at Anderson, Greenwood, Sandy Run and Cades fell to 25 degrees with heavy frost observed across the Midlands. A gradual warming trend started on Friday, December 30th and continued through the year-ending weekend. The State average temperature for the seven-day period was five degrees above normal. The State average rainfall for the period was 0.8 inches.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Average snow depth (inches) 4. Winter wheat snow cover 61% poor, 39% adequate. Winter wheat condition 21% very poor, 49% poor, 27% fair, 3% good. Alfalfa snow cover 37% poor, 61% adequate, 2% excellent. Feed supplies 23% very short, 32% short, 43% adequate, 2% surplus. Stock water supplies 31% very short, 36% short, 33% adequate. Calf deaths 12% below average, 88% average. Cattle condition 2% poor, 25% fair, 66% good, 7% excellent. Sheep condition 2% poor, 17% fair, 68% good, 13% excellent. Sheep & lamb deaths 3% below average, 97% average. Road conditions--township 93% open, 6% difficult, 1% closed. Road conditions--county 98% open, 2% difficult.

TENNESSEE: Winter Wheat condition 1% poor, 12% fair, 75% good, 12% excellent. Cattle condition 3% poor, 19% fair, 68% good, 10% excellent. Producers were feeding hay during December and most have ample hay stocks on hand. Hay stocks were rated 1 percent very short, 11 percent short, 77 percent adequate, and 11 percent surplus. Temperatures above normal. Rainfall near normal.

TEXAS: Most areas of Texas received below average precipitation during December. Monthly totals ranged from 0.1 inch or less in Central and West Texas to 4 inches or more in the eastern half of the State. Rainfall aided the growth of cool-season grasses in some areas. However drought conditions persisted across large portions of the State and more moisture was needed to promote small grain development. Snowfall and freezes occurred in the Plains and North Texas. Across the State, cotton harvest and planting of winter wheat and oats were mostly complete. Producers continued to prepare cropland for spring planting.

UTAH: For the week ending December 30, 2012. Box Elder County reports that December brought several

beneficial storms which soaked the soil and then covered the soil with snowpack. These storms were much needed. In Cache County, fields are covered with about 8 inches of snow and the temperature is near zero. No field work is being done. Box Elder County ranchers are beginning to feed their stock hay now as many of the fall pastures are covered with snow. Cache County reports that livestock have healthy appetites when the weather is this cold. Thankfully, most ranchers and dairymen have sufficient feed for at least a few months. Ranchers are hoping for warmer temperatures before most begin the calving season. Some baby lambs are being born in small farm flocks, but warm sheds and lots of bedding have proven to be adequate for success in these cases.

VIRGINIA: The month of December has been a mild month for producers across the Commonwealth, with warm temperatures and minimal rainfall. By and large, the soil moisture levels across the State continue to be low, although many areas have received much needed precipitation by way of rain or snow since Christmas. Small grain conditions have improved with the added moisture, as have pastures and hayfields improved as well. Although the small showing of rain has been beneficial, more moisture will be needed to prevent a drought moving into the spring. Activities included making planting decisions for 2013, taking soil samples and spreading lime and scouting small grain crops.

WASHINGTON: Much needed precipitation was received this month improving the moisture profile in Whitman, Grant, and Lincoln County. Winter wheat appeared to be in good condition prior to being blanketed by a layer of protective snow. In Yakima County there was no cause for concern regarding possible crop damage due to weather conditions. In Whatcom County, raspberry growers continue to tie and prune vines. In Grant County, dry corn harvest was mostly complete with the exception of a few growers. Persistent rainfall throughout the month limited most agricultural activity in the western region. In Grays Harbor and Thurston County, minor flooding along the Chehalis and Satsop Rivers occurred with no damage being reported to farm land or structures. Livestock owners in reported good demand for haylage Statewide as colder temperatures arrived the last week of the month in. In Northeastern Counties such as Stevens, cattle ranchers were hay feeding their cattle and will continue to do so until spring. In Thurston County, Christmas tree growers breathed a well deserved sigh of relief once the holiday had arrived and tree harvest was completed.

WEST VIRGINIA: Topsoil moisture was 5% short, 92% adequate and 3% surplus compared to 67% adequate and 33% surplus last year. Hay and roughage supplies were 6% short, 93% adequate and 1% surplus compared to 1% short, 90% adequate and 9% surplus last year. Feed grain supplies were 5% short and 95% adequate compared to 11% short, 87% adequate and 2% surplus last year. Winter wheat conditions were 44% fair and 56% good.

Cattle and calves were 1% poor, 8% fair, 87% good, and 4% excellent. Sheep and lambs were 1% poor, 6% fair, 92% good, and 1% excellent. Weather conditions in December were a mix of mild weather with rain and later snow as temperatures dropped in the State. Farming activities for the month included farmers celebrating the holidays, planning for the next crop season, and preparing for calving and lambing.

WISCONSIN: December average temperatures for the State of Wisconsin ranged from 4 to 8 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 31 to 40 degrees. Average low temperatures ranged from 15 to 28 degrees. Full month precipitation ranged from 1.85 inches in Eau Claire to 3.87 inches in Milwaukee. The entire State received snow in December, with significant accumulation in the latter half of the month. Of the reporting stations, Madison received the most snow, with 23.4 inches since December 1.

WYOMING: Topsoil moisture 23% very short, 44% short, 29% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil moisture 33% very short, 42% short, 24% adequate, 1% surplus. Average depth of snow cover 3.00 inches. Winter wheat condition 1% very poor, 28% poor, 45% fair, 26% good; wind damage 52% none, 46% light, 2% moderate; freeze damage 95% none, 3% light, 2% moderate. Farm flock sheep shorn 1%. Calf losses 76% light, 24% normal. Lamb losses 77% light, 23% normal. Cattle condition 2% poor, 56% fair, 41% good, 1% excellent. Sheep condition 1% very poor, 2% poor, 47% fair, 49% good, 1% excellent. Stock water supplies 8% very short, 36% short, 56% adequate. Hay and roughage supplies 3% very short, 28% short, 68% adequate, 1% surplus. Farm activities included tending to livestock. December's high temperatures ranged from 36 degrees at Lake Yellowstone to 70 degrees in Torrington. Low temperatures ranged from 18 degrees below zero at Lake Yellowstone to 1 degree in Casper. Average temperatures ranged from 17 degrees to Lake Yellowstone and Big Piney to 31 degrees in Torrington. Temperatures ranged from 3 degrees below normal in Dubois to 8 degrees above normal in Buffalo-Johnson. All stations received some precipitation ranging from 0.06 inch in Shirley Basin to 3.79 inches at Lake Yellowstone. Lake Yellowstone is the only station with above normal precipitation for the year. The rest of the State is reporting between 2 and 10 inches below normal precipitation for the year. Lincoln County reported weather is bitter cold with cattle producers feeding the full amount of hay. In Uinta County, snow accumulations are helping with the dry conditions. Supplemental feeding is in full swing. Temperatures are very cold. Albany County reported cold and windy conditions with a small amount of dry, fluffy snow. The open winter so far has helped producers stretch their available hay supplies. The mountains have received some snow lately, but still some concern for next year's irrigation needs. Calving is about 4-6 weeks away.

International Weather and Crop Summary

December 23-29, 2012

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

EUROPE: Mild, wet weather maintained mostly favorable conditions for dormant winter crops in central and northern Europe.

FSU-WESTERN: Cold conditions prevailed, although an increasing snowpack afforded winter crops more protection against winterkill.

MIDDLE EAST: Warm, wet weather benefited winter grains but kept many crop areas devoid of a protective snowpack.

NORTHWEST AFRICA: Western showers maintained favorable soil moisture for vegetative winter wheat and barley.

SOUTHEAST ASIA: Heavy rain boosted moisture for rice in Java, Indonesia, and tropical rains soaked rice and corn areas of the central Philippines.

AUSTRALIA: Showers benefited summer crops in the east, while hot, dry weather continued to favor winter grain harvesting in the south and west.

SOUTH AFRICA: Warm, showery weather fostered rapid summer crop growth.

ARGENTINA: Lingering rain slowed fieldwork in southern farming areas.

BRAZIL: Beneficial rain continued in the main soybean areas of southern and central Brazil.

December 2012

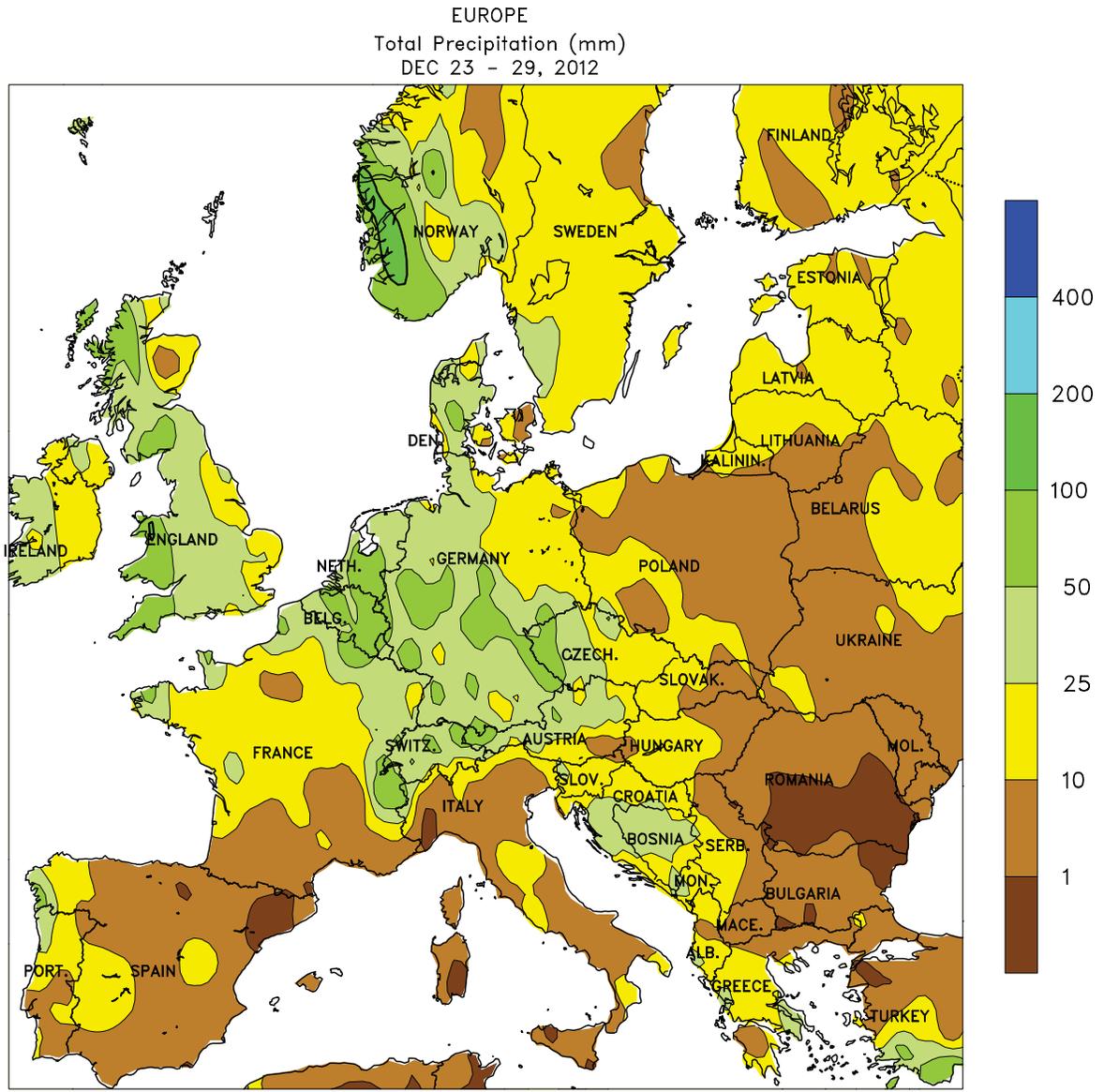
COUNTRY	CITY	TEMPERATURE (C)					PRECIP. (MM)		
		AVG MAX	AVG MIN	HI MAX	LO MIN	AVG	DEP NRM	TOT	DEP NRM
ALGERI	ALGER	18	7	26	1	13	0.9	47	-43
	BATNA	14	0	23	-5	7	0.4	5	-26
ARGENT	IGUAZU	32	22	35	19	27	1.4	293	108
	FORMOSA	33	24	38	17	29	2	252	94
	CERES	32	20	40	12	26	1.8	136	-14
	CORDOBA	31	16	37	11	23	0.5	109	-54
	RIO CUARTO	29	17	38	12	23	0.6	89	-67
	ROSARIO	30	18	37	13	24	0.9	333	225
	BUENOS AIRES	29	18	37	13	23	1.3	215	129
	SANTA ROSA	29	15	36	8	22	-0.5	94	-8
	TRES ARROYOS	27	19	34	14	23	2.8	183	91
AUSTRA	DARWIN	33	28	36	24	31	1.9	320	44
	BRISBANE	28	24	34	18	26	2.1	57	-61
	PERTH	31	17	42	6	24	2	23	16
	CEDUNA	27	14	40	6	21	-0.2	0	-18
	ADELAIDE	26	16	41	9	21	0.6	18	-6
	MELBOURNE	25	14	39	7	19	1.4	20	-27
	WAGGA	31	15	39	6	23	0.9	22	-28
	CANBERRA	28	13	34	2	20	1.4	37	-10
AUSTRI	VIENNA	2	-2	9	-8	0	-0.5	40	0
	INNSBRUCK	3	-2	13	-15	0	0.4	60	5
BAHAMA	NASSAU	27	21	29	16	24	1.4	44	-13
BARBAD	BRIDGETOWN	30	24	31	21	27	0.8	116	12
BELARU	MINSK	-4	-7	4	-18	-6	-2.3	66	14
BERMUD	ST GEORGES	22	17	24	14	20	0	73	-37
BOLIVI	LA PAZ	15	4	18	1	10	0.1	130	-20
BRAZIL	FORTALEZA	31	26	32	25	28	-0.2	3	-32
	RECIFE	29	25	31	23	27	-1.8	18	-23
	CAMPO GRANDE	31	23	34	21	27	1.5	142	-68
	FRANCA	29	20	32	18	24	1.8	270	24
	RIO DE JANEIR	33	25	39	22	29	3.1	47	-90
	LONDRINA	32	22	36	18	27	3.7	242	-5
	SANTA MARIA	31	20	38	15	26	1.2	467	350
	TORRES	27	20	35	16	24	-0.8	243	152
BULGAR	SOFIA	2	-3	12	-14	0	-1.1	41	1
BURKIN	OUAGADOUGOU	34	19	37	15	27	1.4	0	0
CANADA	TORONTO	4	-3	17	-8	1	3.5	58	-2
	MONTREAL	0	-7	13	-16	-4	2.7	165	87
	WINNIPEG	-10	-19	3	-29	-15	-0.4	15	-2
	REGINA	-11	-22	4	-34	-16	-3.1	0	-16
	SASKATOON	-13	-23	-2	-32	-18	-3.8	0	-16
	LETHBRIDGE	-24	-31	-16	-36	-28	-21.5	7	-11
	CALGARY	-6	-16	7	-27	-11	-3.4	14	2
	EDMONTON	-10	-18	3	-27	-14	-4.6	15	-4
	VANCOUVER	6	3	12	-1	4	0.8	220	46
CANARY	LAS PALMAS	22	17	26	15	20	0.7	2	-27
CHILE	SANTIAGO	28	12	32	8	20	0.6	14	12
CHINA	HARBIN	-16	-23	-4	-31	-19	-5.3	14	8
	HAMI	-4	-15	4	-26	-9	-2	10	9
	LANCHOW	***	***	1	-8	***	***	***	***
	BEIJING	-1	-7	3	-14	-4	-3.2	9	6
	TIENTSIN	-1	-7	5	-13	-4	-3.2	11	7
	LHASA	11	-6	19	-11	3	3.2	0	*****
	KUNMING	17	4	22	-2	10	1.7	0	-14
	CHENGCHOW	4	-3	12	-8	1	-0.9	10	-1
	YEHCHANG	8	3	19	-2	6	-2	25	7
	HANKOW	8	1	16	-7	4	-2.4	54	29
	CHUNGKING	12	8	17	1	10	0.3	11	-12
	CHIHKIANG	8	3	18	-3	6	-1.9	50	20
	WU HU	8	2	18	-4	5	-0.9	93	57
	SHANGHAI	9	4	18	-4	6	-1.5	87	49
	NANCHANG	10	5	21	-3	7	-1.1	158	117
	TAIPEI	20	16	27	9	18	0.3	178	107
	CANTON	19	12	28	3	15	-0.2	46	15
	NANNING	18	12	28	3	15	-0.6	46	22
COLOMB	BOGOTA	20	7	20	3	13	0.3	36	-11
COTE D	ABIDJAN	31	25	34	21	28	0.8	111	35
CUBA	HAVANA	27	17	31	7	22	-0.2	0	-50
CYPRUS	LARNACA	20	11	23	7	15	1.7	175	103
CZECHR	PRAGUE	2	-3	11	-12	0	-0.5	58	32

Based on Preliminary Reports

December 2012

COUNTRY	CITY	TEMPERATURE (C)					PRECIP. (MM)				COUNTRY	CITY	TEMPERATURE (C)					PRECIP. (MM)			
		AVG MAX	AVG MIN	HI MAX	LO MIN	DEP AVG	DEP NRM	TOT	DEP NRM	AVG MAX			AVG MIN	HI MAX	LO MIN	DEP AVG	DEP NRM	TOT	DEP NRM		
DENMAR	COPENHAGEN	2	-1	8	-9	1	-1.2	60	14	MEXICO	GUADALAJARA	24	11	28	7	17	1.6	0	-17		
EGYPT	CAIRO	21	13	28	10	17	1.1	0	-6		TLAXCALA	22	6	26	3	14	0.8	0	-5		
	ASWAN	25	12	31	9	18	1.0	0	0		ORIZABA	23	13	29	8	18	2.4	9	-34		
ESTONI	TALLINN	-5	-8	3	-18	-7	-4.8	52	-9	MOROCC	CASABLANCA	19	11	28	7	15	1.2	11	-67		
ETHIOP	ADDIS ABABA	23	10	25	6	16	1.1	22	4		MARRAKECH	21	6	28	2	13	0.4	2	-20		
F GUIA	CAYENNE	31	23	34	21	27	1.2	253	-81	MOZAMB	MAPUTO	***	***	34	19	***	*****	*****	*****		
FIJI	NAUSORI	30	24	32	21	27	1.3	344	83	N KORE	PYONGYANG	-4	-11	6	-18	-7	-4.6	35	18		
FINLAN	HELSINKI	-5	-9	2	-19	-7	-3.6	32	-25	NEW CA	NOUMEA	***	***	33	21	***	*****	59	-20		
FRANCE	PARIS/ORLY	9	4	14	-7	6	1.1	77	19	NIGER	NIAMEY	35	19	39	14	27	1.9	0	0		
	STRASBOURG	7	2	16	-10	4	1.6	45	-2	NORWAY	OSLO	-6	-9	3	-18	-7	-2.4	75	12		
	BOURGES	9	3	17	-5	6	1.8	115	50	NZEALA	AUCKLAND	23	16	27	11	20	*****	70	*****		
	BORDEAUX	12	6	17	-3	9	1.9	166	60		WELLINGTON	21	14	30	9	18	****	47	*****		
	TOULOUSE	11	5	18	-4	8	1.6	45	-5	P RICO	SAN JUAN	29	23	32	22	26	0.9	133	17		
	MARSEILLE	12	4	17	-4	8	0.2	8	-44	PAKIST	KARACHI	28	14	32	7	21	1.1	25	21		
GABON	LIBREVILLE	29	24	31	22	27	0.4	209	-127	PERU	LIMA	24	19	27	17	22	0.6	1	1		
GERMAN	HAMBURG	3	-1	11	-12	1	-1.3	82	4	PHILIP	MANILA	31	25	34	23	28	1.5	59	-5		
	BERLIN	3	-1	13	-11	1	-1.0	40	-15	PNEWGU	PORT MORESBY	32	27	34	22	30	2.3	9	-113		
	DUSSELDORF	7	3	14	-9	5	0.4	98	22	POLAND	WARSAW	-1	-5	8	-16	-3	-2.9	33	-2		
	LEIPZIG	4	0	14	-11	2	0.1	43	3		LODZ	0	-4	7	-13	-2	-2.0	26	-19		
	DRESDEN	3	-1	15	-11	1	-0.8	58	15		KATOWICE	1	-5	8	-17	-2	-1.8	37	-11		
	STUTTGART	5	0	16	-13	3	0.8	71	16	PORTUG	LISBON	15	10	18	6	13	0.9	114	15		
	NURNBERG	4	0	14	-11	2	0.5	87	35	ROMANI	BUCHAREST	2	-4	13	-19	-1	-1.3	102	64		
	AUGSBURG	4	-2	15	-19	1	0.3	58	5	RUSSIA	ST.PETERSBURG	-6	-9	3	-19	-8	-4.1	54	6		
GREECE	THESSALONIKA	10	3	19	-5	7	-0.3	50	2		KAZAN	-9	-13	4	-26	-11	-3.0	69	31		
	LARISSA	11	2	19	-5	6	-0.2	86	39		MOSCOW	-7	-11	4	-25	-9	-3.3	49	0		
	ATHENS	15	9	21	3	12	0.1	62	5		YEKATERINBURG	-13	-17	1	-26	-15	-4.4	23	-3		
GUADEL	RAIZET	29	22	31	19	25	0.3	90	-47		OMSK	-20	-27	-1	-41	-23	-9.9	14	-17		
HONGKO	HONG KONG INT	21	16	27	7	19	0.3	46	21		BARNAUL	-20	-28	-4	-43	-24	-11.5	16	-12		
HUNGAR	BUDAPEST	2	-2	9	-9	-1	-1.4	57	19		KHABAROVSK	-17	***	-4	-32	***	*****	18	0		
ICELAN	REYKJAVIK	***	***	3	-3	***	*****	*****	*****		VLADIVOSTOK	-11	-16	1	-22	-13	-4.4	23	9		
INDIA	AMRITSAR	19	6	25	2	13	0.0	25	13		VOLGOGRAD	-4	-9	12	-23	-7	-1.7	19	-19		
	NEW DELHI	22	9	28	6	16	0.1	4	-4		ASTRAKHAN	-1	-6	13	-25	-4	-1.6	28	14		
	AHMEDABAD	30	15	34	9	22	0.9	0	-2		ORENBURG	-8	-13	6	-26	-11	-1.5	22	-12		
	INDORE	27	12	32	9	20	0.7	0	-5	S AFRI	PRETORIA	29	18	34	14	24	1.4	135	23		
	CALCUTTA	25	14	30	9	20	-0.9	27	15		JOHANNESBURG	25	14	29	11	20	0.6	162	47		
	VERAVAL	32	18	35	14	25	1.3	0	*****		DURBAN	28	21	32	15	25	1.3	140	26		
	BOMBAY	33	19	36	14	26	0.1	0	*****		CAPE TOWN	28	17	35	14	22	2.6	1	-19		
	POONA	31	13	33	7	22	1.8	0	-7	S KORE	SEOUL	-1	-7	8	-15	-4	-4.5	42	19		
	BEGAMPET	31	17	34	13	24	2.4	0	-5	SAMOA	PAGO PAGO	31	25	32	23	28	0.4	469	129		
	VISHAKHAPATNA	29	20	32	18	25	0.5	0	-8	SENEGA	DAKAR	27	21	33	19	24	0.9	0	-5		
	MADRAS	30	22	33	21	26	1.4	196	13	SPAIN	VALLADOLID	9	3	15	-3	6	0.9	20	-33		
	MANGALORE	33	22	35	20	28	0.2	5	-11		MADRID	10	2	15	-4	6	-0.3	2	-45		
INDONE	SERANG	32	24	33	23	28	0.7	95	-101		SEVILLE	16	8	19	2	12	-0.3	14	-86		
IRELAN	DUBLIN	8	3	14	-3	6	-0.5	49	-27	SWITZE	ZURICH	4	0	13	-10	2	0.4	155	76		
ITALY	MILAN	5	-1	16	-7	2	-0.8	41	-13		GENEVA	6	0	13	-8	3	0.4	156	70		
	VERONA	6	0	12	-6	3	0.1	37	-15	SYRIA	DAMASCUS	16	5	22	0	11	3.3	19	-25		
	VENICE	6	0	12	-5	3	-0.6	28	-21	TAHITI	PAPEETE	29	25	32	23	27	0.2	548	210		
	GENOA	12	6	18	0	9	-0.8	27	-57	TANZAN	DAR ES SALAAM	33	24	35	22	29	1.3	79	-24		
	ROME	13	4	17	-2	9	-0.7	69	-15	THAILA	PHITSANULOK	32	22	34	20	27	2.9	0	-6		
	NAPLES	14	6	19	-2	10	0.0	143	34		BANGKOK	34	25	37	22	30	3.6	8	3		
JAMAIC	KINGSTON	32	24	34	22	28	1.2	5	-31	TOGO	LOME	33	25	34	23	29	2.4	0	-9		
JAPAN	SAPPORO	0	-5	7	-14	-2	-1.5	213	108	TRINID	PORT OF SPAIN	31	23	34	22	27	1.2	173	37		
	NAGOYA	10	2	14	-2	6	-0.9	97	59	TUNISI	TUNIS	18	10	21	6	14	0.9	34	-29		
	TOKYO	11	4	18	0	8	-0.7	71	31	TURKEY	ISTANBUL	11	6	19	-1	8	0.2	106	15		
	YOKOHAMA	11	4	18	1	8	-1.1	108	60		ANKARA	6	-1	17	-8	3	1.5	102	56		
	KYOTO	9	3	14	-1	6	-1.5	84	37	TURKME	ASHKHABAD	8	-1	26	-13	3	-1.5	40	18		
	OSAKA	10	4	15	-1	7	-1.4	94	56	UKINGD	ABERDEEN	6	1	11	-6	3	-0.6	156	79		
KAZAKH	KUSTANAY	-16	-21	1	-34	-19	-6.6	24	-1		LONDON	9	3	14	-4	6	0.1	94	39		
	TSELINOGRAD	-18	-24	0	-41	-21	-9.0	28	7	UKRAIN	KIEV	-3	-7	7	-18	-5	-3.0	134	93		
	KARAGANDA	-16	-23	-1	-39	-20	-8.7	39	16		LVOV	-2	-6	8	-15	-4	-2.4	54	5		
KENYA	NAIROBI	25	15	29	10	20	0.9	134	62		KIROVOGRAD	-2	-6	13	-20	-4	-1.6	50	18		
LIBYA	TRIPOLI	19	8	24	4	14	0.3	5	-35		ODESSA	3	-1	14	-13	1	-0.5	74	36		
	BENGHAZI	18	12	27	8	15	0.4	78	6		YALTA	9	5	17	0	7	1.1	89	13		
LITHUA	KAUNAS	-3	-6	4	-14	-4	-2.8	44	-4		KHARKOV	-4	-7	13	-21	-5	-2.1	59	21		
LUXEMB	LUXEMBOURG	5	1	11	-8	3	1.2	131	45	UZBEKI	TASHKENT	7	-3	23	-13	2	-1.7	36	-16		
MALAYS	KUALA LUMPUR	32	24	34	22	28	1.6	555	309	VENEZU	CARACAS	30	24	32	22	27	1.5	63	19		
MALI	BAMAKO	31	***	36	12	***	*****	0	-1	ZIMBAB	KADOMA	28	18	34	16	23	-0.8	127	-49		
MARSHA	MAJURO	***	***	31	25	***	*****	135	-148												
MARTIN	LAMENTIN	30	23	31	20	27	1.4	180	11												
MAURIT	NOUAKCHOTT	30	15	36	11	23	0.3	0	-3												

Based on Preliminary Reports



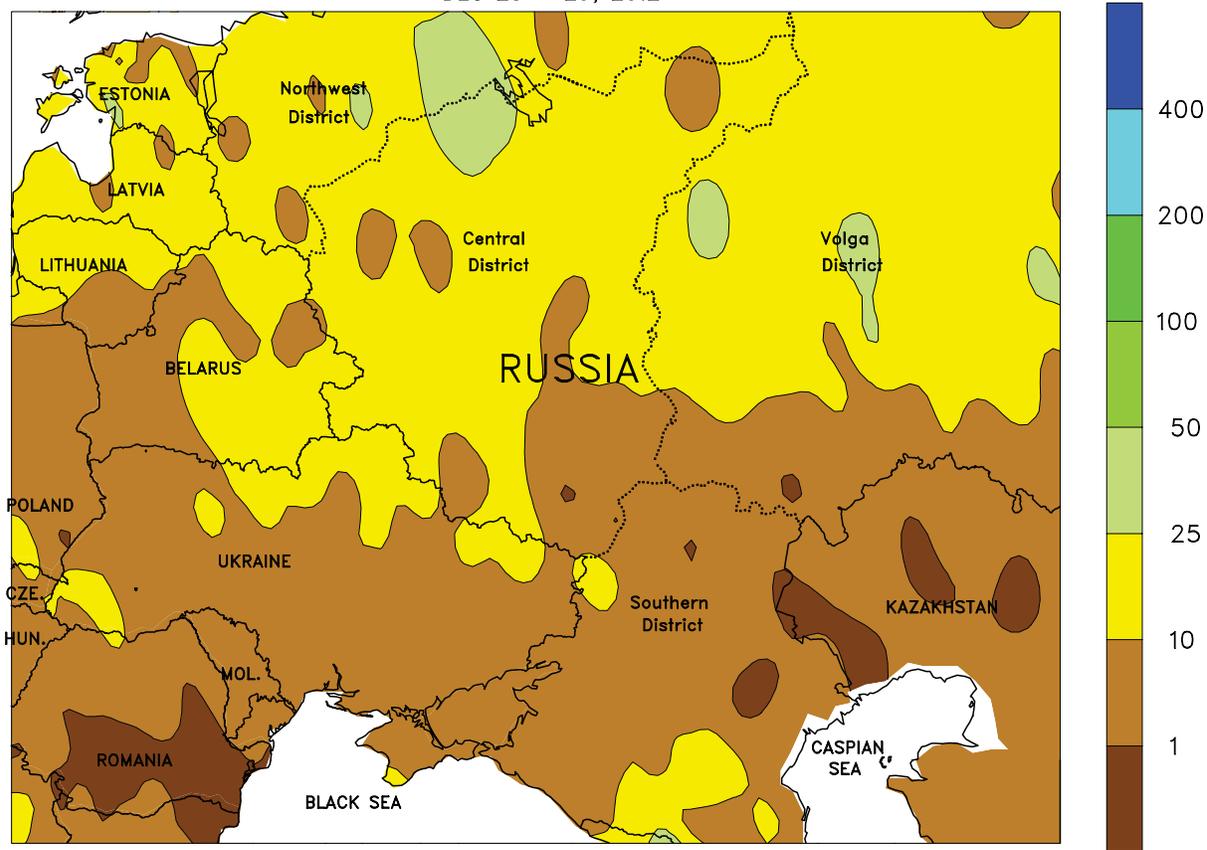
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA
Computer generated contours
Based on preliminary data

EUROPE

Wet, mild weather continued, maintaining favorable conditions for winter grains and oilseeds but leaving crops devoid of snow cover. A slow-moving Atlantic storm generated moderate to heavy rain (10-95 mm) from northern France and the United Kingdom southeastward into western Poland and the northern Balkans. The rain, which accompanied temperatures up to 8°C above normal,

melted most of the continent’s protective snow cover. Some snow fell in central and eastern Poland (2-10 mm liquid equivalent) where cold air lingered, although much of the snow melted here, too, by week’s end as warmer air arrived. Light to moderate showers (2-10 mm) fell in Italy and the Iberian Peninsula, promoting winter grain establishment.

WESTERN FSU
Total Precipitation (mm)
DEC 23 - 29, 2012



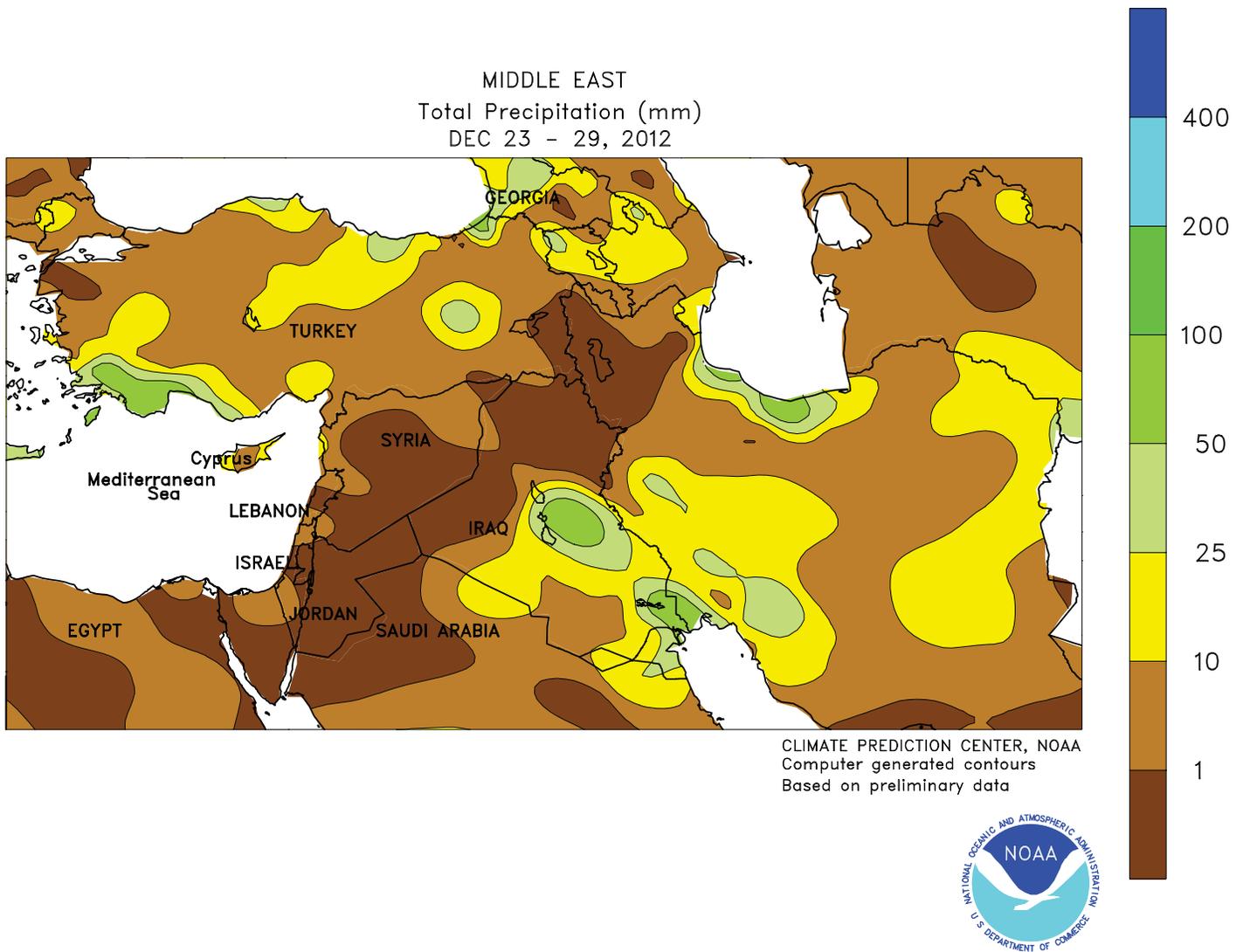
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA
Computer generated contours
Based on preliminary data



WESTERN FSU

Snow and somewhat milder weather eased the winterkill threat in Russia, although some additional burnback was likely early in the week. After several weeks of bitter cold, temperatures moderated to more seasonable levels. However, nighttime lows of -25 to -20°C early in the week once again posed a considerable winterkill risk in snow-free areas of central

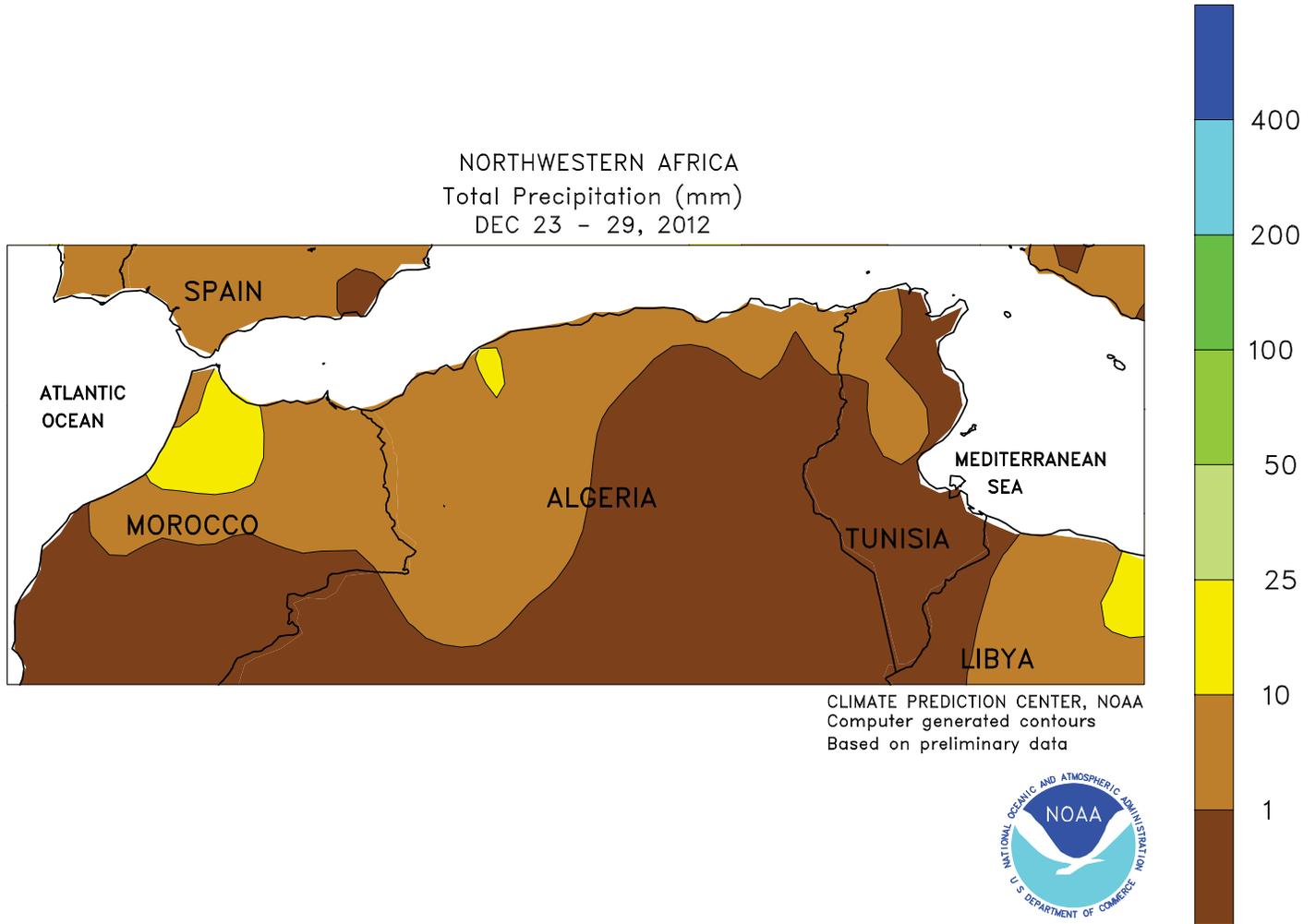
Russia, most notably southern portions of the Central and Volga Districts and northern sections of the Southern District. Snow depths averaged less than 5 cm in the aforementioned areas, while depths of 10 to 25 cm protected winter grains and oilseeds from northern Ukraine and southern Belarus into northern Russia.



MIDDLE EAST

Periods of rain and high-elevation snow persisted across the region, maintaining favorable prospects for vegetative winter grains. In Turkey, warmer weather (up to 5°C above normal) caused much of the precipitation (2-25 mm, locally higher near the southern coast) to fall as rain. Consequently, Turkey’s Anatolia Plateau — a key winter wheat area — remained devoid of a protective snowpack.

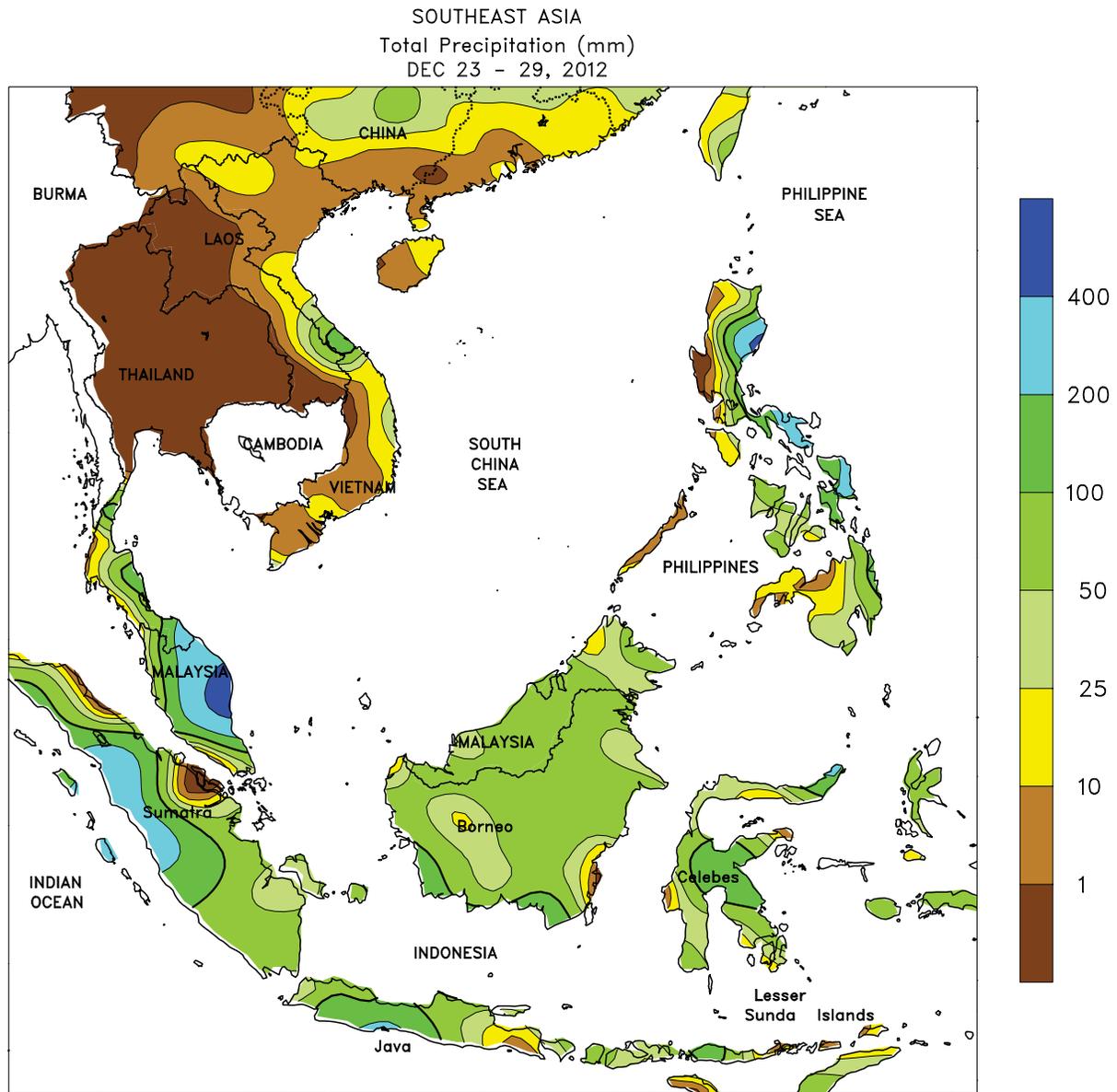
Snow was confined to Turkey’s eastern mountains, where it helped boost spring runoff prospects for irrigation. Meanwhile, widespread showers and thunderstorms (5-50 mm) were reported from southern Iraq into central and eastern Iran, maintaining favorable prospects for vegetative (south) to dormant (north) winter wheat and barley.



NORTHWEST AFRICA

Light showers moistened topsoils for vegetative winter grains. A weak cold front generated light to moderate showers (2-12 mm) from northern Morocco into northeastern Algeria, maintaining favorable moisture for wheat and barley. Showers diminished across northern

Tunisia (less than 2 mm), although subsoil moisture remained adequate for winter wheat. Temperatures averaged up to 4°C above normal, accelerating crop growth and keeping nighttime temperatures well above freezing.



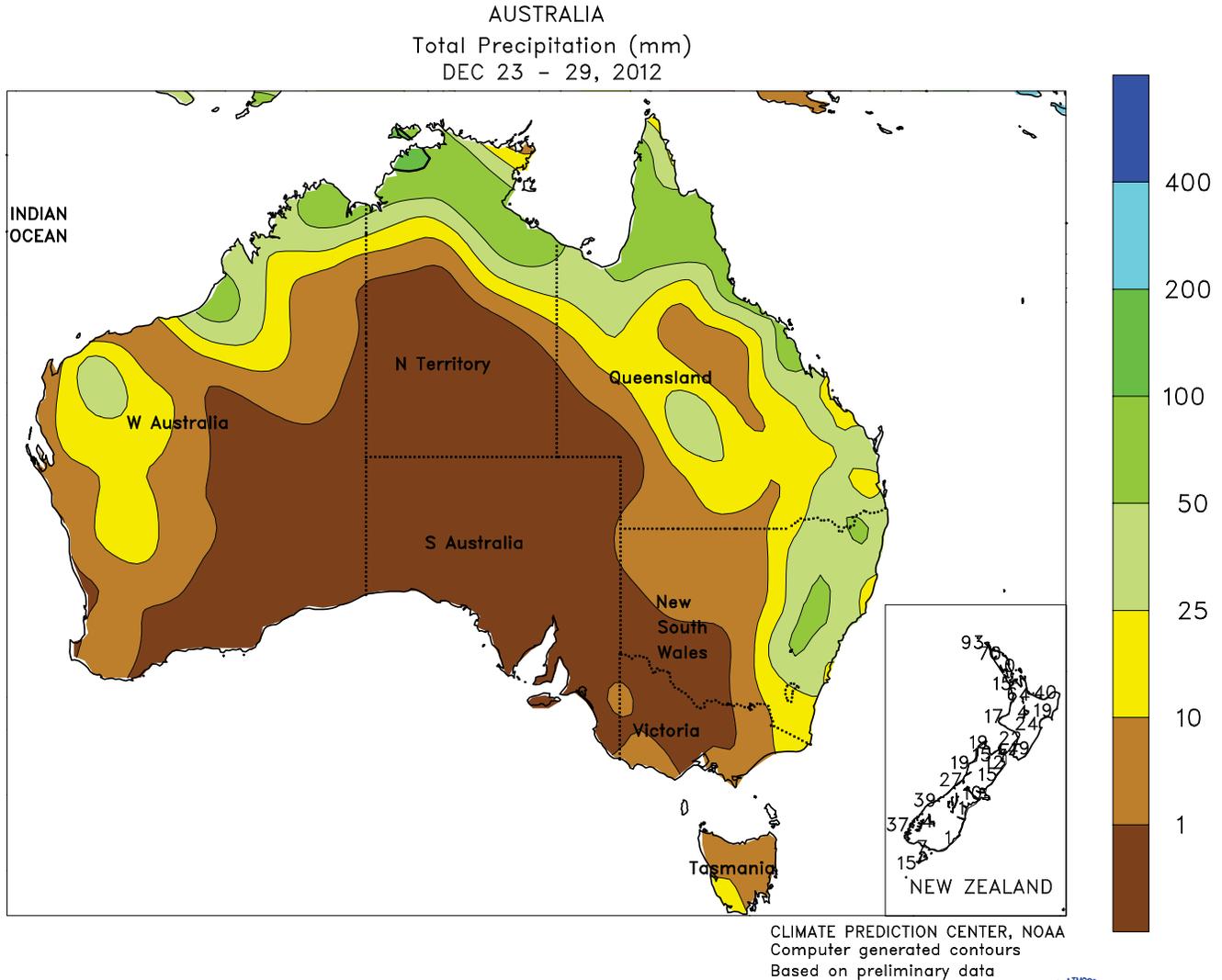
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA
Computer generated contours
Based on preliminary data



SOUTHEAST ASIA

Widespread, locally heavy rain overspread rice and oil palm areas of Indonesia and Malaysia. Rainfall totaling 25 to 100 mm across Java, Indonesia, increased moisture for rice and other crops, although amounts continued to be below normal for the season. Similar amounts were recorded in eastern Malaysia, but heavy rain (100 to more than 400 mm) soaked western Malaysia. Meanwhile, Tropical Storm

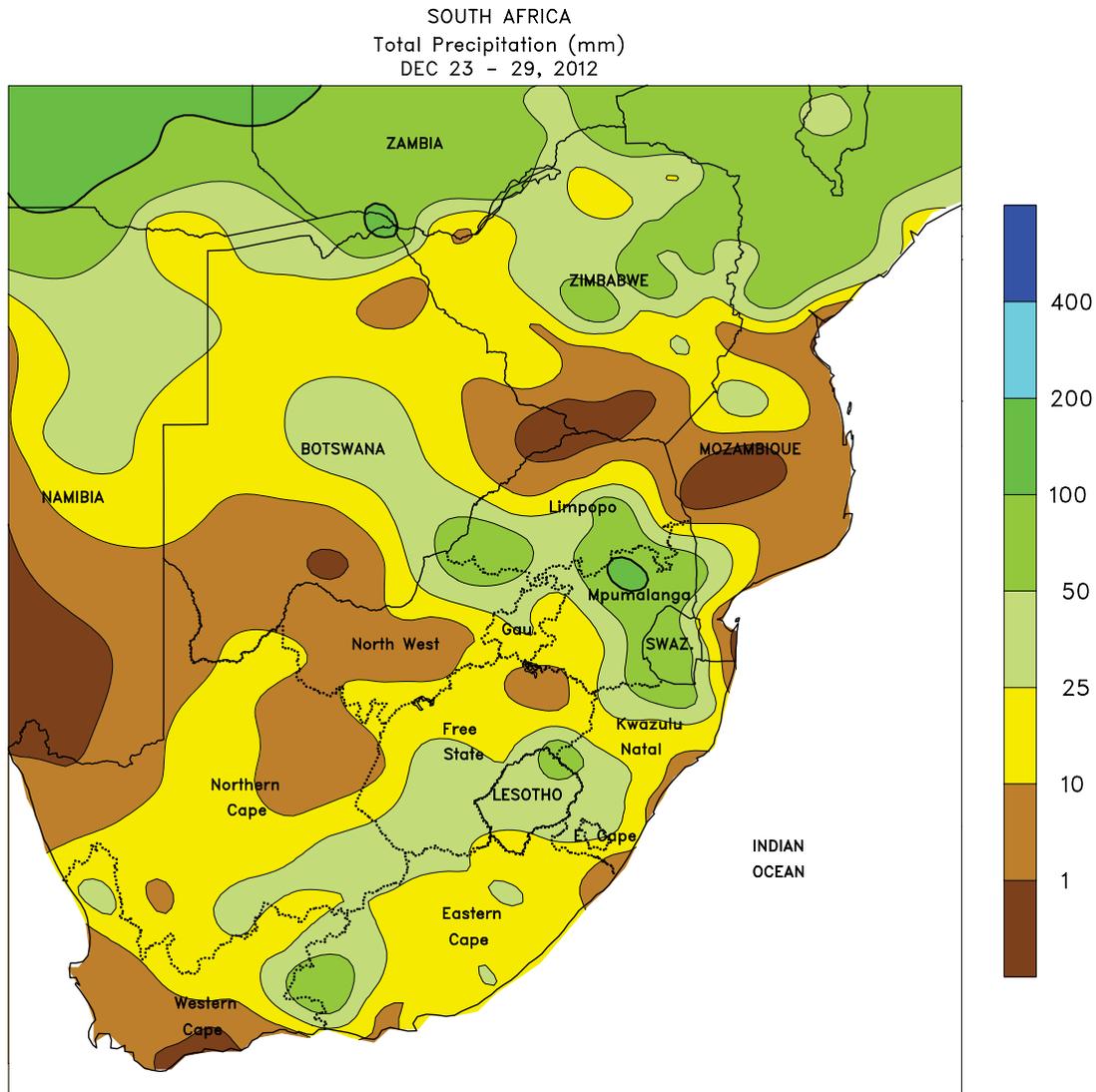
Wukong crossed the central Philippines, bringing heavy rain (50-200 mm, locally heavier) to corn and rice areas from southeastern Luzon to Mindanao. In Indochina, heavy showers (25-50 mm, locally in excess of 100 mm) developed along the eastern coast of Vietnam, but dry, unseasonably warm weather dominated the interior, fostering growth of dry-season rice and corn.



AUSTRALIA

Hot, mostly dry weather persisted in western and southern Australia, favoring uninterrupted winter grain harvesting. Temperatures averaged near to above normal (up to 4°C above normal), with maximum temperatures approaching 40°C in some areas. In eastern Australia, widespread showers (5-25 mm,

locally more) continued to benefit summer crops, increasing topsoil moisture for dryland cotton and sorghum while further reducing water requirements for irrigated crops. Temperatures in major summer crop producing areas were generally seasonable, with maximum temperatures in the 30s (degrees C).



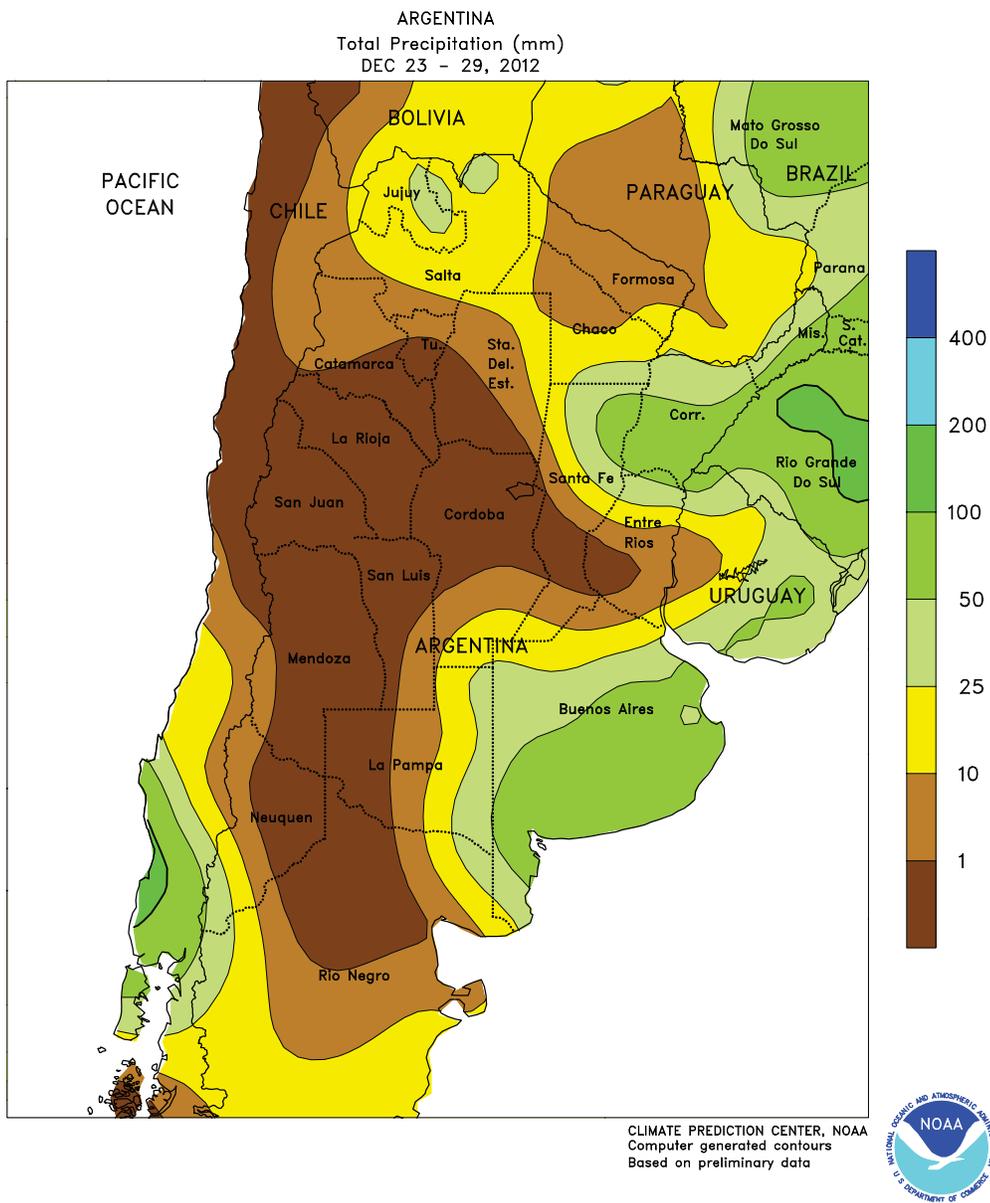
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA
Computer generated contours
Based on preliminary data



SOUTH AFRICA

Warmer conditions prevailed across the region, fostering development of corn, sugarcane, and other summer crops. Weekly average temperatures were 1 to 2°C above normal across the corn belt (agricultural districts in and around southern Mpumalanga), with highs reaching the lower 30s (degrees C) in eastern production areas at week’s end. Temperatures briefly reached the middle 30s in western production areas (North West and central Free State). Rainfall totaled less than 25 mm in most commercial corn areas, with higher amounts generally limited to fringe northern and

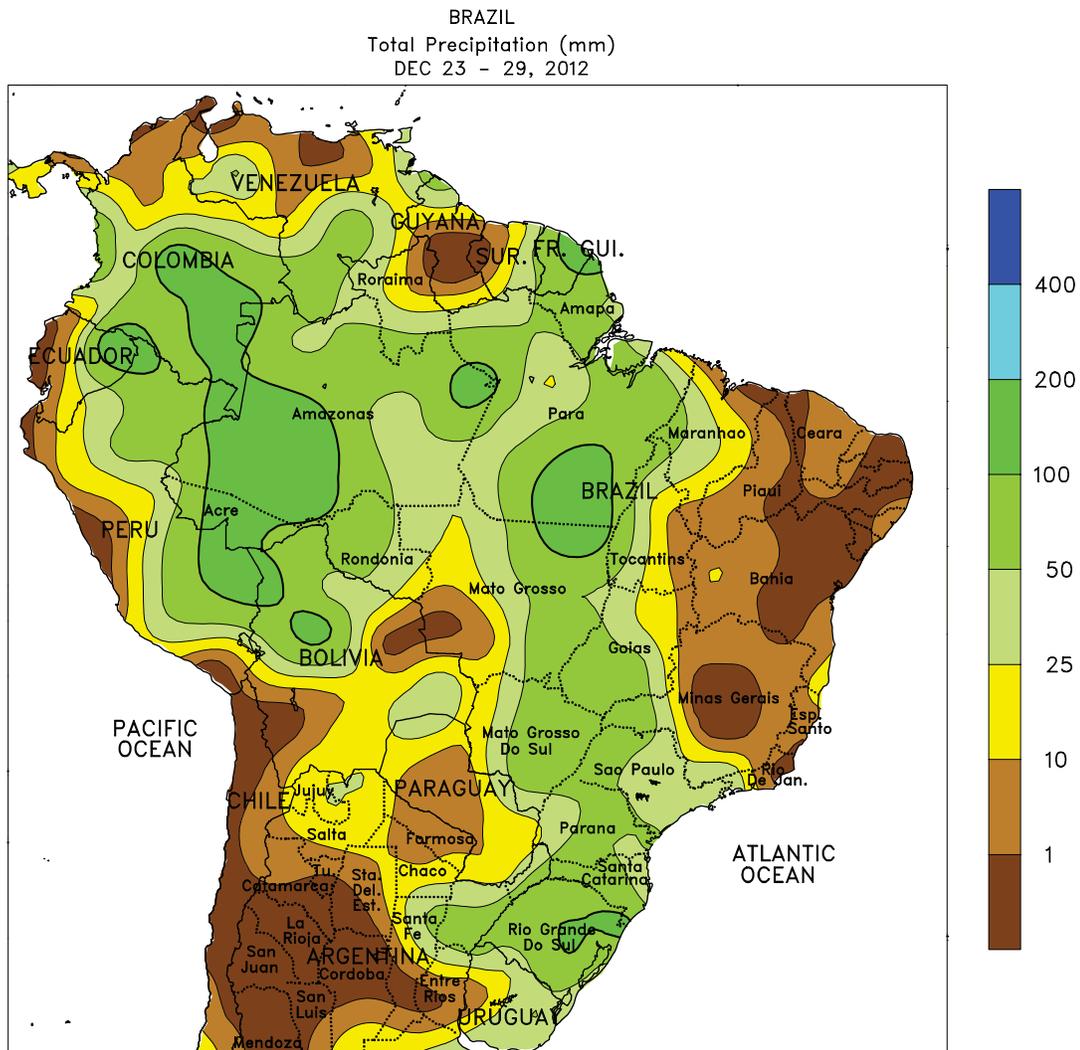
southern farming areas. A second week of warm, mostly dry weather (daytime highs in the lower 30s, with rainfall totaling less than 10 mm) spurred growth of rain-fed sugarcane in KwaZulu-Natal, although additional moisture would be welcome for sugar production. Locally heavy showers (10-50 mm) lingered over the Cape Provinces, boosting irrigation reserves for corn, cotton, and other summer row crops. Following scattered, locally heavy showers (3-30 mm) early in the week, warm, sunny weather promoted development of tree and vine crops in Western Cape.



ARGENTINA

Drier conditions prevailed throughout central Argentina, although unseasonably heavy rain lingered over southern production areas. Rainfall totaled 25 to 90 mm over central and southern Buenos Aires and nearby locations in La Pampa; in contrast, little to no rain fell from Cordoba to southern Entre Rios and northern Buenos Aires. Weekly average temperatures were near normal throughout central Argentina, with daytime highs reaching the middle and upper 30s (degrees C) on several days throughout the week. The warmth spurred rapid development of well-watered summer crops and, in the drier northern locations, further helped fields to dry out for the final stages of fieldwork. In northern Argentina, rain (25-100

mm) continued in eastern farming areas, including northern Santa Fe and southern Chaco, but somewhat drier conditions prevailed in the west, with most areas receiving less than 25 mm. As in central Argentina, weekly average temperatures were generally within 1°C of normal, although daytime highs reached 40°C early in the week from northern Cordoba northward. According to Argentina’s Ministry of Agriculture, corn and soybeans were 81 and 84 percent planted, respectively, as of December 27, lagging last year’s pace for both crops. Winter wheat was 70 percent harvested, an increase of 13 points from last week but still 9 points behind last year.



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Computer generated contours
Based on preliminary data



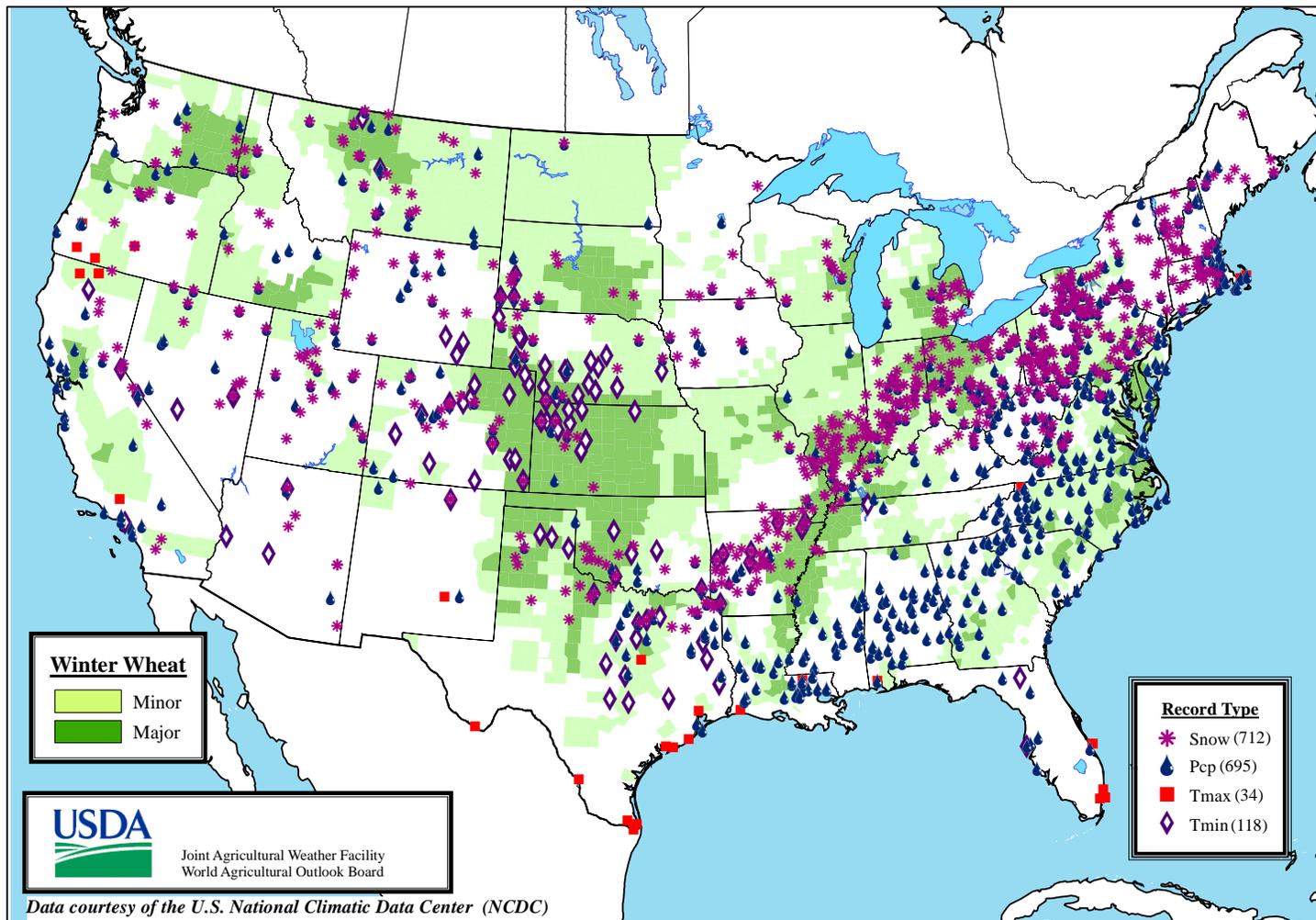
BRAZIL

Showers maintained mostly favorable conditions for soybeans in the main production areas of southern and central Brazil, although pockets of dryness lingered over the northeastern interior. Rainfall totaled 25 to 50 mm (local amounts approaching 100 mm) from Rio Grande do Sul to Mato Grosso, extending eastward into the sugarcane and coffee areas of Sao Paulo and southwestern Minas Gerais. Weekly temperatures averaging 1 to 3°C above normal (daytime highs in the lower and middle 30s degrees C) in these areas fostered rapid development of crops growing with adequate to abundant levels of moisture. In contrast, drier conditions dominated a

large section of the northeast, with little to no rain falling from central Minas Gerais to the northeastern coast. For a second week, showers were unseasonably light (5 to 25 mm at most locations) in the soybean and cotton areas of western Bahia, Tocantins, Piaui, and Maranhao. Weekly temperatures averaging 2 to 4°C above normal (daytime highs in the middle and upper 30s) exacerbated the effects of the dryness on developing crops and necessitated the immediate return of seasonal rainfall. Along the northeast coast, where drier conditions are expected this time of year, the warmth and dryness supported sugarcane and cocoa harvesting.

Daily Weather Records (ASOS & COOP)

December 23-29, 2012



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