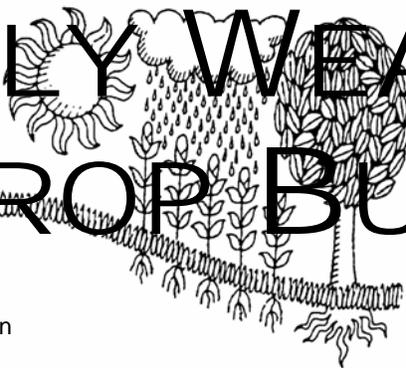
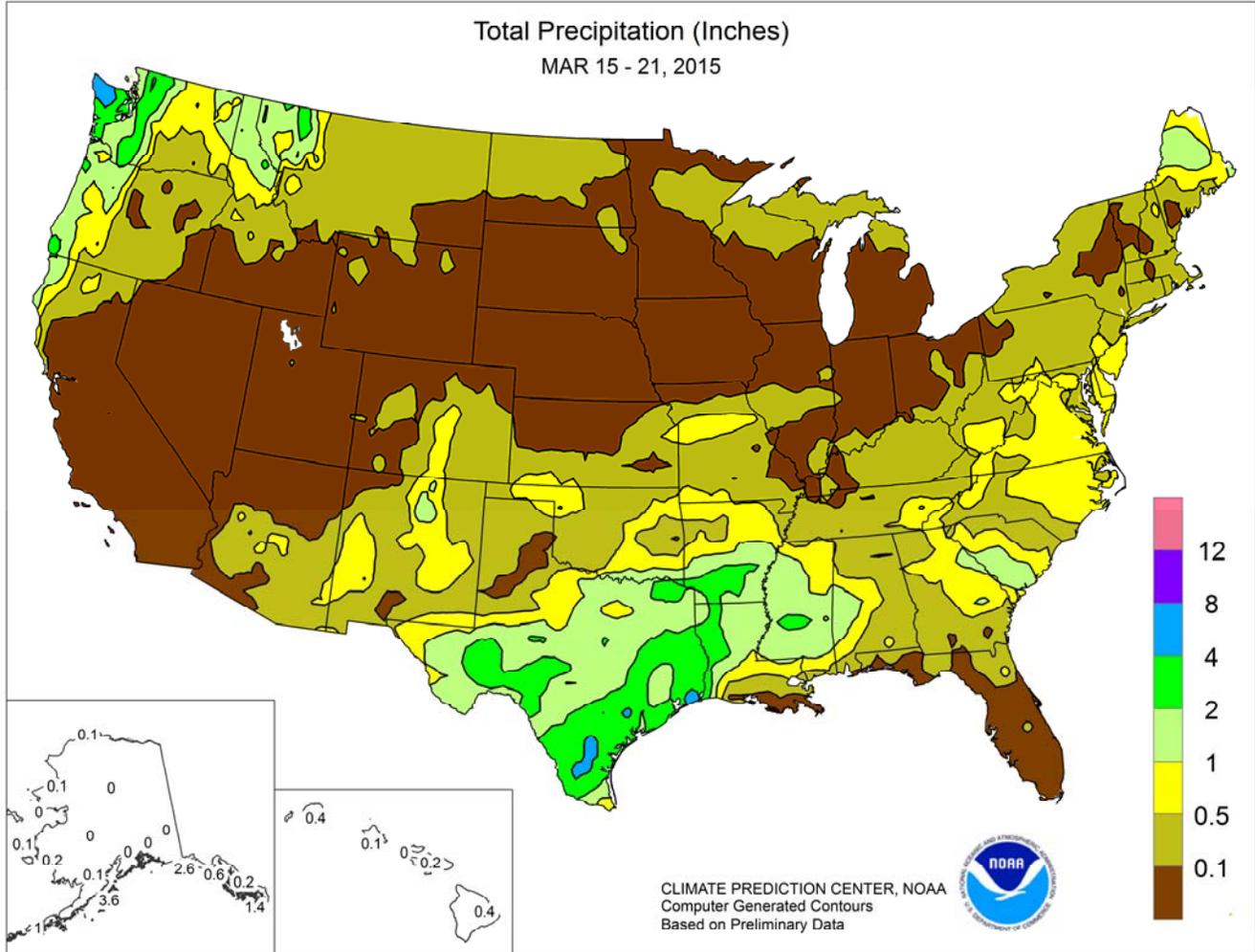


WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN



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

March 15 – 21, 2015

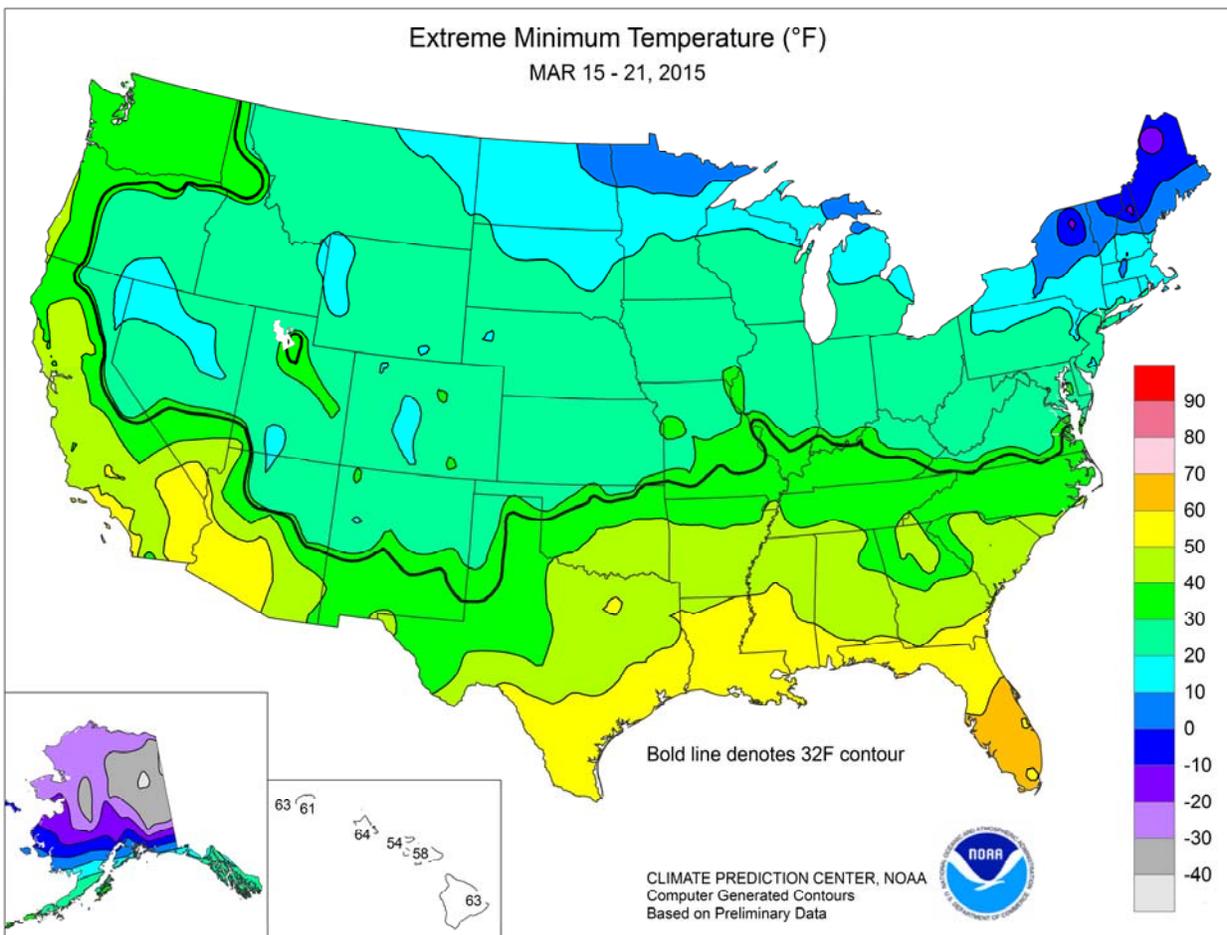
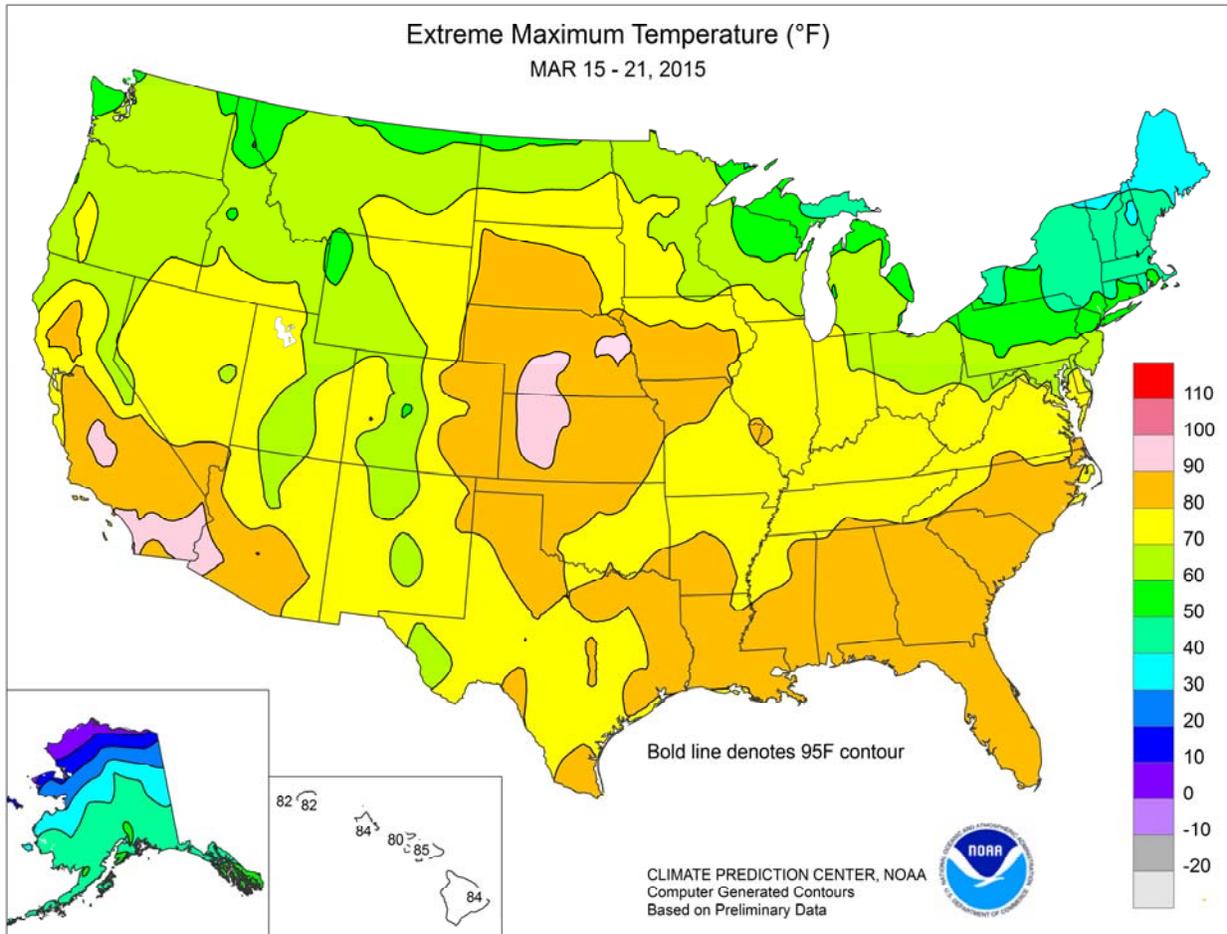
Highlights provided by USDA/WAOB

Another week of warm, dry weather led to further premature melting of mountain snowpack from California to the Intermountain West. By week's end, the average water content of the high-elevation Sierra Nevada snowpack stood at 3 inches, less than 10 percent of the late-March normal. In contrast, beneficial precipitation fell in the southern Rockies and the Pacific Northwest, just clipping northwestern California, although deficient snowpack remained a concern in many other areas of the West outside of drought-stricken California. Generally

(Continued on page 3)

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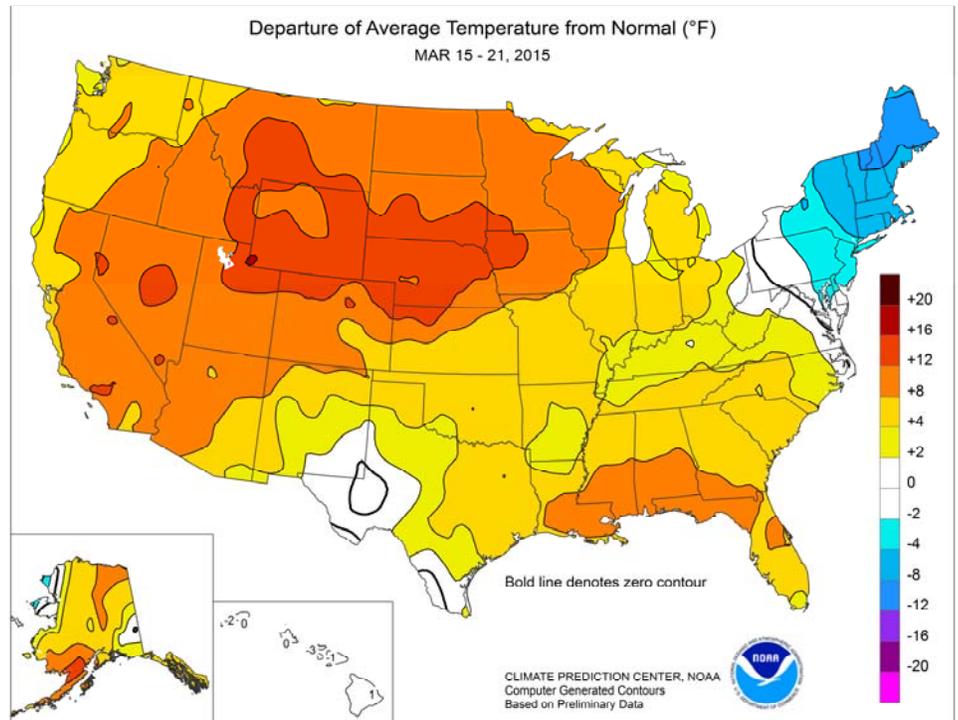
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(Continued from front cover)

dry conditions stretched eastward from **California** across the **northern half of the Plains** and much of the **Midwest**. Drought began to expand across the **upper Midwest**, following a nearly snow-free winter, but favorably dry weather in the **Ohio Valley** allowed swollen rivers to begin to recede. Farther south, however, another week of wet weather caused further fieldwork delays from the **western Gulf Coast region to the Mississippi Delta**. Mid- to late-week rainfall totaled 2 to 4 inches or more along and near the **Texas coast**. Near- to above-normal temperatures dominated the U.S., except the **Northeast**. In **New England**, weekly temperatures generally averaged 5 to 10°F below normal. Meanwhile, the most anomalous warmth covered the **lower Southeast** and stretched from **California and the Desert Southwest into the upper Midwest**. Weekly temperatures averaged at least 10°F above normal at several **Southeastern** locations, and averaged as much as 15°F above normal in an area centered on **Wyoming and Nebraska**. Across the **central Plains**, the early-season warm spell peaked on March 16, when monthly were tied or broken in **Nebraska** locations such as **Norfolk** (92°F) and **North Platte** (91°F).

Early in the week, record-setting warmth stretched from the **Pacific Coast to the Great Plains**. **Rapid City, SD**, posted a monthly record high of 84°F on March 15, edging by 1°F a mark most recently attained on March 31, 2012. The following day, March 16, featured the aforementioned monthly record highs in **Nebraska**, along with a fourth consecutive day of 90-degree heat in downtown **Los Angeles, CA**. **Los Angeles** had only twice experienced as many as 3 consecutive March days with 90-degree heat—March 9-11, 1934, and March 24-26, 1988. In addition, **Grand Island, NE** (90°F on March 16), noted its earliest 90-degree reading on record (previously, 90°F on March 22, 1907). **Fresno, CA** (91°F on March 15), also notched its earliest 90-degree heat (previously, 90°F on March 17, 1972). In **southern California**, five consecutive daily-record highs were set from March 12-16 in **Camarillo** (89, 92, 92, 88, and 86°F). **Vista, CA**, posted four consecutive daily records (92, 94, 93, and 89°F) from March 13-16. Among a stunning array of daily-record highs on March 16 were readings of 99°F in **Death Valley, CA**; 94°F in **Hill City, KS**; 93°F in **McCook, NE**; 90°F in **Sioux City, IA**; and 90°F in **Ft. Myers, FL**. Warmth was suppressed during the mid- to late-week period but lingered across the **South and West**. On March 16-17, **Salt Lake City, UT**, registered consecutive daily-record highs of 74°F. On the same dates, **Tallahassee, FL**, collected daily-record highs of 88 and 89°F, respectively. Toward week's end, warmth returned to portions of the **nation's mid-section** and lingered across the **South and West**. **Tallahassee** reported another daily-record high (89°F) on March 20. With a daily-record high of 79°F on the 20th, **Sioux City, IA**, noted its seventh March day of 70-degree warmth. Meanwhile in **California**, late-week records included 81°F (on March 19) in **Sacramento** and 80°F (on March 20) in **Sandberg**.



Early-week snow pushed **Boston, MA**, to a seasonal snowfall record. Boston's 2.9-inch total on March 15 boosted the season-to-date accumulation to 108.6 inches (previously, 107.6 inches in 1995-96). On March 17, wind gusts in the wake of the **Northeastern** snowfall were clocked to 58 mph in **Hartford, CT**, and 57 mph in **Bangor, ME**. High winds (and precipitation) also overspread the **Pacific Northwest**, where **Garibaldi, OR**, reported a wind gust to 83 mph on March 15. Elsewhere on the 15th, daily-record totals in **Washington** reached 2.20 inches in **Seattle**; 2.08 inches in **Olympia**; and 1.33 inches in **Spokane**. Later, mid-week precipitation resulted in daily-record amounts in locations such as **Victoria, TX** (1.73 inches on March 18), and **Pueblo, CO** (0.41 inch on March 19). Late in the week, snow returned to parts of the **Northeast**, while heavy rain expanded across the **western Gulf Coast region**. **Boston** reported 1.7 inches of snow on March 20-21. In **New York**, daily-record snowfall totals for March 20 reached 5.3 inches in **Islip** and 4.6 inches at **LaGuardia Airport**. A day later in **Texas**, record-setting rainfall totals for March 21 climbed to 6.11 inches in **Beaumont-Port Arthur** and 3.73 inches in **Galveston**.

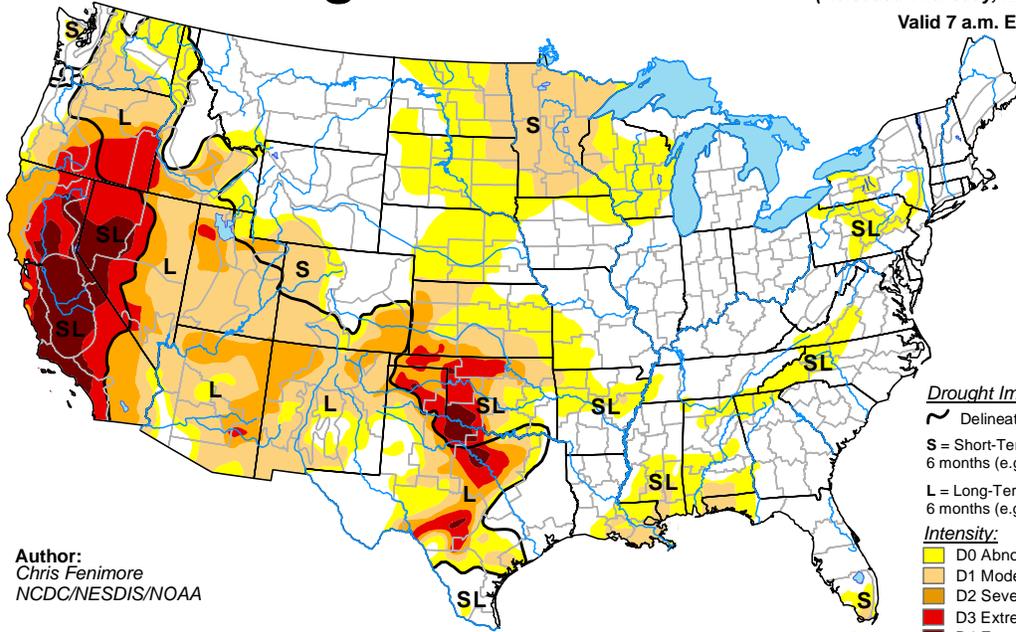
Near- to above-normal temperatures returned to **Alaska**, following a brief cold wave. Daily-record highs were set in several locations, including **King Salmon** (51°F on March 19); **Anchorage** (49°F on March 17); and **Bethel** (46°F on March 20). Meanwhile, mostly dry weather prevailed, except for some pockets of heavy precipitation in **southern Alaska**. For example, **Kodiak's** weekly precipitation totaled 3.54 inches. Similarly, **Yakutat's** weekly precipitation reached 2.69 inches, with 5.6 inches of snow falling on March 15-16. Farther south, mostly dry weather prevailed in **Hawaii**, except for locally heavy, mid- to late-week showers in windward sections of **Kauai**. In **Lihue, Kauai**, both month-to-date and year-to-date rainfall through March 21 was 27 percent of normal. **Lihue's** March 1-21 rainfall was 0.83 inch, while the January 1 – March 21 total was 2.74 inches. In addition, mid-week warmth (on March 18) resulted in daily record-tying highs of 82°F in **Lihue** and 84°F in **Hilo**, on the **Big Island**.

U.S. Drought Monitor

March 17, 2015

(Released Thursday, Mar. 19, 2015)

Valid 7 a.m. EST



Author:
Chris Fenimore
NCDC/NESDIS/NOAA

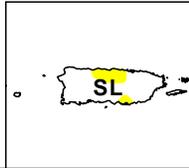
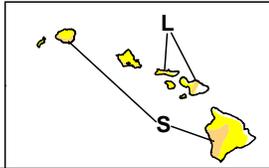
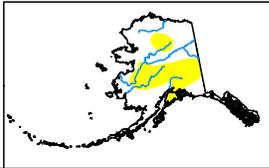
Drought Impact Types:

- ~ Delineates dominant impacts
- S = Short-Term, typically less than 6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)
- L = Long-Term, typically greater than 6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)

Intensity:

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

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



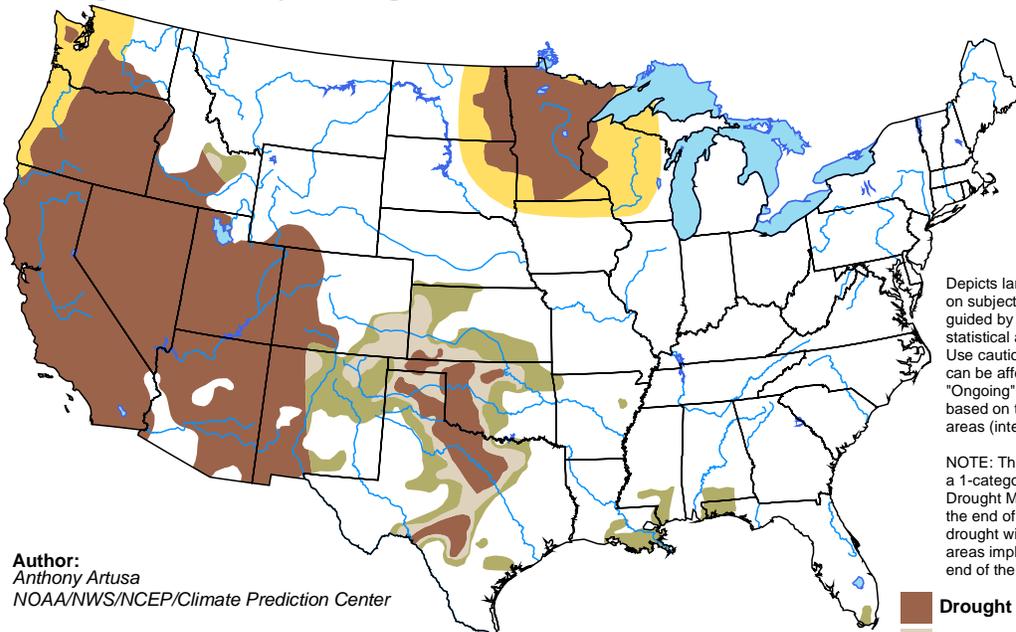
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for March 19 - June 30, 2015

Released March 19, 2015

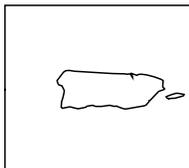
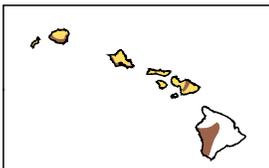
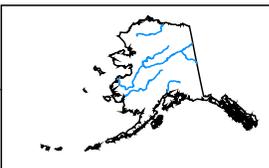


Author:
Anthony Artusa
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center

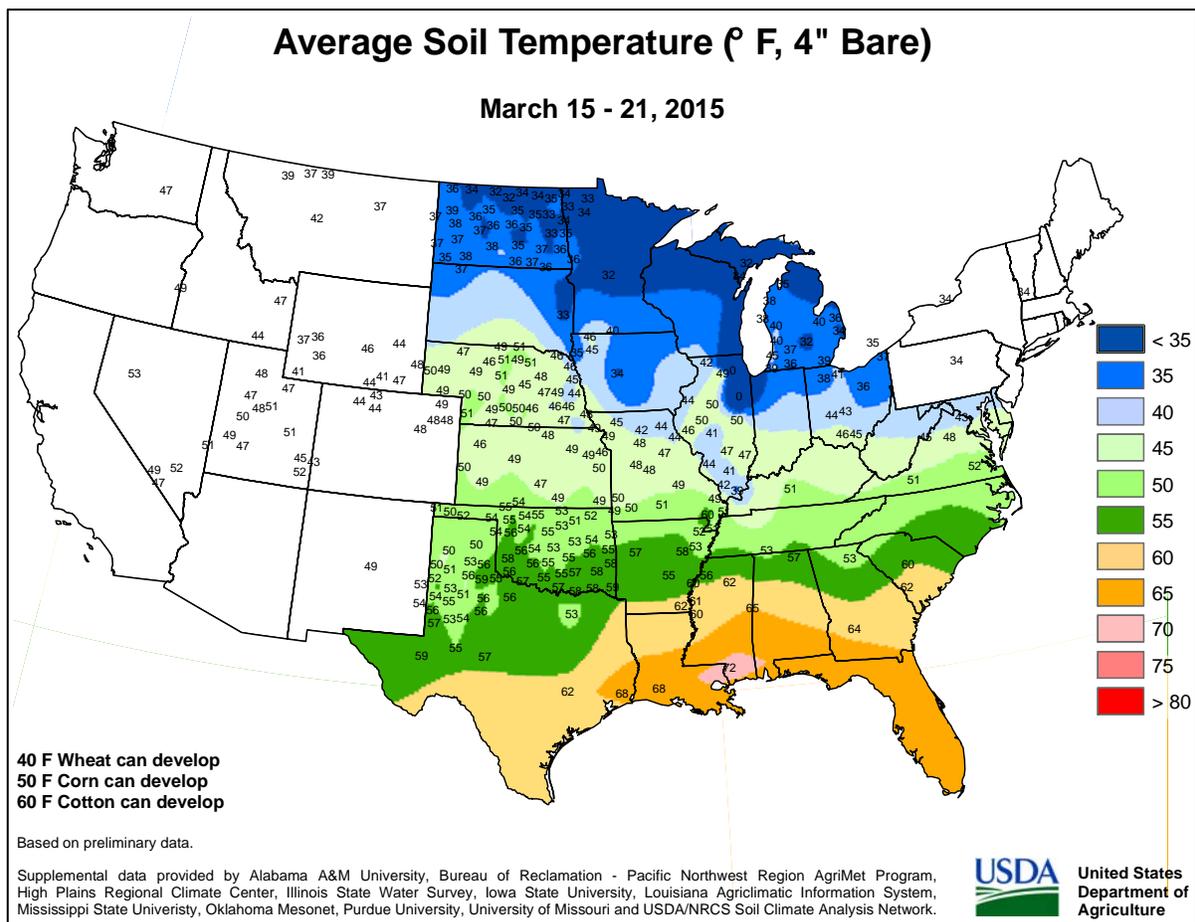
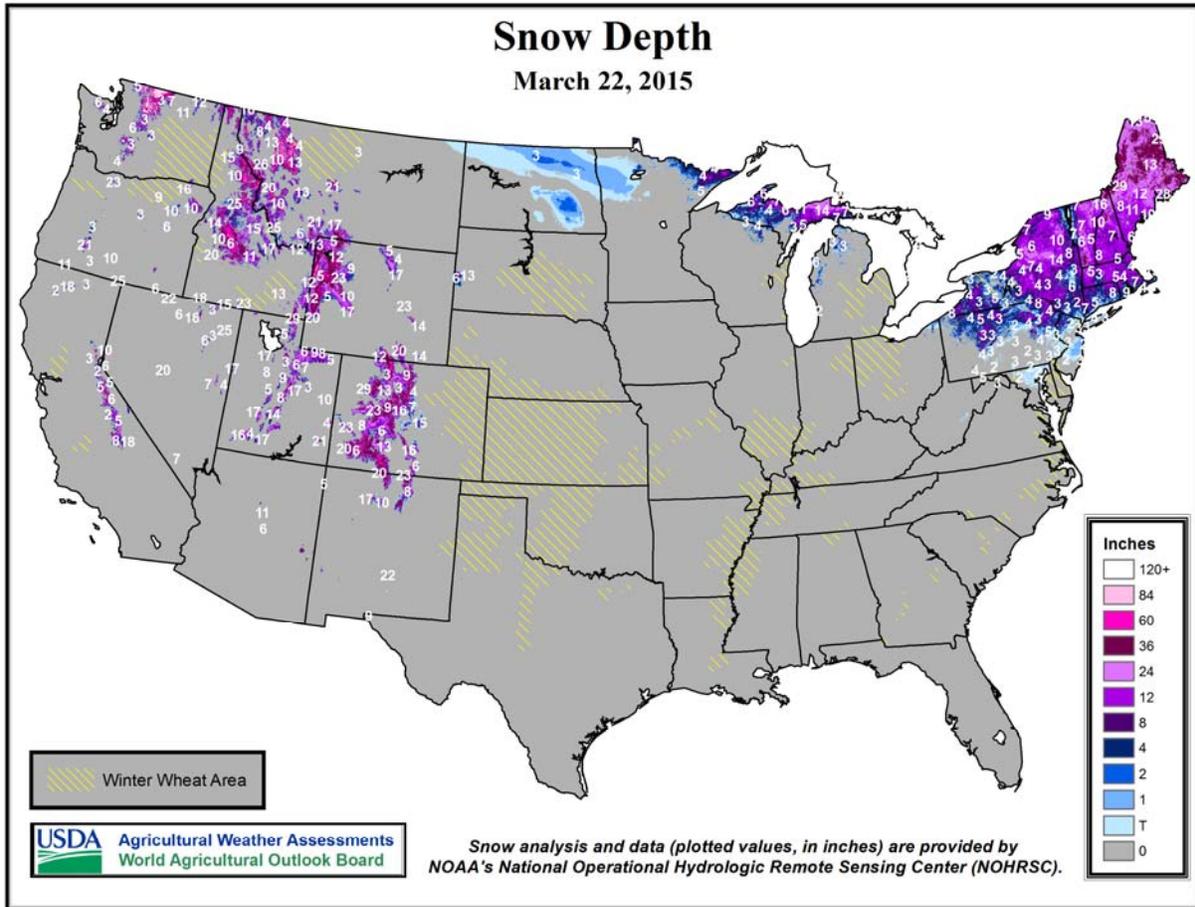
Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

- Drought persists/intensifies
- Drought remains but improves
- Drought removal likely
- Drought development likely



<http://go.usa.gov/hHTE>

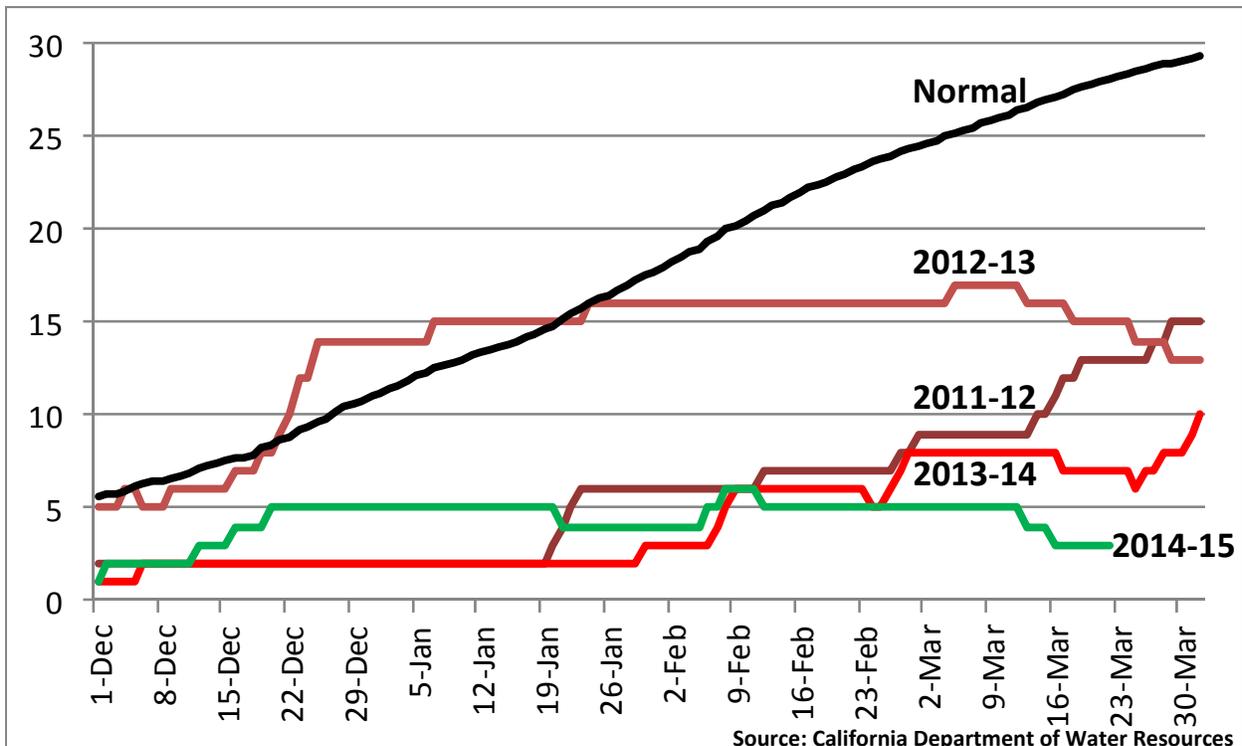


California Reservoirs, Recharge and Withdrawal *Million Acre-Feet and Percent of Average*

	<u>Recharge</u>		<u>Withdrawal</u>
2010-11	12.47 (151%)	2011	8.78 (107%)
2011-12	5.79 (70%)	2012	11.54 (140%)
2012-13	6.52 (79%)	2013	11.49 (139%)
2013-14	4.17 (51%)	2014	7.75 (94%)
2014-15	6.10* (74%)	2015	N/A
Avg.	8.24	Avg.	8.24

Note: The 2014-15 recharge value has been updated through Feb. 28. Recharge and withdrawal values are based on end-of-month statistics, not daily readings.

Daily Sierra Nevada Snowpack (Inches) vs. Normal



Source: California Department of Water Resources

Note: Prior to 2015, the record-low, end-of-season Sierra Nevada snowpack was shared by 1977 and 2014.

National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending March 21, 2015

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 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 OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
AL BIRMINGHAM	74	51	81	42	63	8	0.38	-1.05	0.13	2.73	68	11.43	83	92	43	0	0	5	0
HUNTSVILLE	71	51	81	44	61	9	0.22	-1.34	0.19	4.31	94	12.05	80	85	55	0	0	3	0
MOBILE	83	60	85	53	72	12	0.11	-1.59	0.11	3.27	67	9.32	59	94	51	0	0	1	0
AK MONTGOMERY	81	57	84	50	69	11	0.15	-1.32	0.13	1.76	39	9.42	63	88	44	0	0	2	0
ANCHORAGE	39	22	49	0	31	5	0.02	-0.11	0.01	0.78	173	1.88	101	70	56	0	7	2	0
BARROW	-4	-14	0	-25	-9	5	0.07	0.07	0.04	0.23	2300	0.80	333	84	74	0	7	3	0
FAIRBANKS	37	-1	48	-37	18	7	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.00	0	0.63	58	79	71	0	7	0	0
JUNEAU	44	30	49	25	37	4	0.61	-0.16	0.44	3.62	143	19.22	169	91	78	0	5	4	0
KODIAK	44	36	46	31	40	8	3.60	2.44	1.26	5.43	153	24.35	140	93	81	0	2	6	3
NOME	19	1	29	-22	10	1	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.70	194	2.34	115	89	77	0	7	0	0
AZ FLAGSTAFF	61	30	66	25	46	9	0.00	-0.59	0.00	3.77	195	8.07	121	84	23	0	5	0	0
PHOENIX	84	62	91	60	73	10	0.03	-0.21	0.02	0.33	43	1.14	48	49	32	2	0	2	0
PRESCOTT	69	41	74	37	55	11	0.11	-0.33	0.09	1.61	112	4.82	99	75	22	0	0	2	0
TUCSON	78	54	85	49	66	7	0.16	-0.02	0.14	0.50	82	3.43	138	61	36	0	0	2	0
AR FORT SMITH	68	47	75	45	58	6	0.04	-0.87	0.02	3.53	136	8.15	108	92	52	0	0	3	0
LITTLE ROCK	66	48	83	43	57	4	0.63	-0.47	0.44	7.01	231	13.82	138	89	52	0	0	2	0
CA BAKERSFIELD	80	55	92	51	68	11	0.00	-0.32	0.00	0.30	31	1.89	56	64	38	1	0	0	0
FRESNO	80	53	91	49	67	12	0.00	-0.51	0.00	0.07	4	1.41	24	66	44	1	0	0	0
LOS ANGELES	76	61	88	57	69	11	0.00	-0.54	0.00	0.50	27	2.03	26	75	51	0	0	0	0
REDDING	74	51	84	47	63	11	0.22	-0.97	0.17	0.65	17	4.30	27	78	57	0	0	2	0
SACRAMENTO	75	50	81	46	62	8	0.00	-0.63	0.00	0.22	10	3.05	32	86	34	0	0	0	0
SAN DIEGO	76	64	89	61	70	10	0.00	-0.52	0.00	0.93	58	1.63	28	68	48	0	0	0	0
SAN FRANCISCO	71	54	74	50	62	8	0.00	-0.74	0.00	0.02	1	2.03	19	95	75	0	0	0	0
STOCKTON	78	50	82	46	64	9	0.00	-0.52	0.00	0.14	8	1.62	24	75	52	0	0	0	0
CO ALAMOSA	60	27	69	19	43	10	0.34	0.25	0.21	0.41	171	1.76	251	84	44	0	5	2	0
CO SPRINGS	62	33	80	30	48	10	0.64	0.41	0.53	0.77	135	3.10	258	82	28	0	5	2	1
DENVER INTL	67	38	81	34	52	13	0.47	0.26	0.43	0.59	100	2.23	212	73	26	0	0	2	0
GRAND JUNCTION	68	38	73	29	53	10	0.00	-0.22	0.00	0.23	38	1.08	63	50	25	0	2	0	0
PUEBLO	66	32	85	29	49	7	0.44	0.23	0.41	0.49	94	1.88	169	79	40	0	5	3	0
CT BRIDGEPORT	42	29	55	23	36	-3	0.52	-0.43	0.30	3.77	143	10.12	109	74	58	0	5	3	0
HARTFORD	42	25	52	17	33	-5	0.25	-0.63	0.13	1.94	78	8.12	88	64	40	0	6	3	0
DC WASHINGTON	59	38	73	35	49	2	0.49	-0.35	0.49	3.30	135	8.72	105	68	39	0	0	1	0
DE WILMINGTON	50	31	69	24	41	-2	0.45	-0.46	0.45	7.04	267	13.64	154	79	41	0	5	1	0
FL DAYTONA BEACH	83	64	88	61	74	9	0.00	-0.88	0.00	0.09	4	5.52	66	97	51	0	0	0	0
JACKSONVILLE	81	58	88	51	70	8	0.61	-0.29	0.60	0.93	36	7.33	78	97	51	0	0	2	1
KEY WEST	82	71	84	69	77	3	0.00	-0.41	0.00	0.05	4	3.28	67	93	68	0	0	0	0
MIAMI	85	69	87	66	77	5	0.07	-0.47	0.07	0.96	64	4.72	87	88	53	0	0	1	0
ORLANDO	88	66	90	63	77	9	0.00	-0.82	0.00	0.36	16	8.46	119	94	49	1	0	0	0
PENSACOLA	81	62	87	56	71	10	0.05	-1.46	0.05	0.40	9	10.81	75	91	57	0	0	1	0
TALLAHASSEE	86	58	89	51	72	11	0.92	-0.61	0.92	1.97	44	11.15	77	90	47	0	0	1	1
TAMPA	83	67	84	64	75	7	0.00	-0.64	0.00	0.14	7	8.44	122	87	52	0	0	0	0
GA WEST PALM BEACH	86	68	90	66	77	6	0.00	-0.85	0.00	0.14	6	3.23	38	88	56	1	0	0	0
ATHENS	75	48	87	43	62	9	0.89	-0.26	0.89	2.05	59	9.02	72	83	51	0	0	1	1
ATLANTA	74	52	83	48	63	9	0.48	-0.77	0.45	1.43	38	9.94	74	79	50	0	0	3	0
AUGUSTA	75	47	85	37	61	5	0.94	-0.12	0.94	1.74	55	8.52	72	89	58	0	0	1	1
COLUMBUS	78	53	84	45	65	7	0.13	-1.21	0.12	1.62	41	9.08	69	90	36	0	0	2	0
MACON	77	49	85	39	63	7	0.43	-0.69	0.42	0.88	26	7.68	59	95	45	0	0	2	0
SAVANNAH	77	55	86	47	66	7	0.32	-0.50	0.32	1.14	50	8.70	95	87	52	0	0	1	0
HI HILO	82	64	84	63	73	1	0.42	-2.91	0.40	8.42	93	16.53	60	76	64	0	0	2	0
HONOLULU	81	66	84	64	74	0	0.08	-0.33	0.02	0.47	34	2.28	35	75	62	0	0	6	0
KAHULUI	82	62	85	58	72	-1	0.19	-0.33	0.19	7.83	515	12.14	159	79	68	0	0	1	0
LIHUE	79	66	82	61	73	0	0.39	-0.42	0.21	0.83	34	2.74	27	77	65	0	0	3	0
ID BOISE	64	43	72	34	53	9	0.01	-0.29	0.01	0.11	12	2.29	67	74	49	0	0	1	0
LEWISTON	60	42	67	37	51	6	0.27	0.03	0.11	0.33	48	2.62	94	80	68	0	0	4	0
POCATELLO	65	37	70	23	51	13	0.00	-0.30	0.00	0.17	19	1.27	42	65	35	0	2	0	0
IL CHICAGO/O'HARE	54	33	73	28	44	7	0.00	-0.57	0.00	0.15	10	3.02	62	76	39	0	4	0	0
MOLINE	60	33	80	26	46	7	0.00	-0.65	0.00	0.25	15	3.18	67	72	36	0	2	0	0
PEORIA	59	37	79	31	48	8	0.04	-0.59	0.04	0.29	17	4.01	82	77	35	0	2	1	0
ROCKFORD	57	32	74	25	44	8	0.00	-0.52	0.00	0.40	31	2.34	58	74	36	0	4	0	0
SPRINGFIELD	59	36	78	28	47	5	0.23	-0.48	0.23	0.57	29	3.86	71	83	41	0	3	1	0
IN EVANSVILLE	60	40	75	35	50	4	0.12	-0.84	0.07	5.76	207	11.29	128	83	51	0	0	2	0
FORT WAYNE	53	30	67	24	42	4	0.09	-0.54	0.09	0.71	41	4.47	78	79	49	0	5	1	0
INDIANAPOLIS	58	36	74	27	47	5	0.05	-0.72	0.03	2.21	100	5.36	75	81	39	0	1	2	0
SOUTH BEND	53	30	72	21	41	3	0.01	-0.62	0.01	0.14	8	4.04	68	73	42	0	4	1	0
IA BURLINGTON	59	36	79	32	48	8	0.00	-0.67	0.00	0.11	6	2.53	54	83	36	0	3	0	0
CEDAR RAPIDS	58	34	82	28	46	10	0.00	-0.49	0.00	0.25	20	1.57	46	84	29	0	3	0	0
DES MOINES	62	38	84	32	50	12	0.00	-0.48	0.00	0.01	1	2.03	59	69	30	0	1	0	0
DUBUQUE	55	32	77	27	44	9	0.00	-0.57	0.00	0.10	7	2.41	57	71	34	0	5	0	0
SIOUX CITY	67	33	90	21	50	14	0.00	-0.45	0.00	0.00	0	0.96	41	67	30	1	4	0	0
WATERLOO	57	31	81	27	44	9	0.00	-0.46	0.00	0.06	5	2.08	68	83	34	0	6	0	0
KS CONCORDIA	67	37	89	32	52	10	0.00	-0.55	0.00	0.00	0	1.52	53	79	37	0	1	0	0
DODGE CITY	66	35	91	28	51	7	0.27	-0.15	0.26	0.27	25	1.56	66	77	31	1	2	2	0
GOODLAND	68	36	89	28	52	12	0.02	-0.26	0.02	0.05	7	1.12	69	68	40	0	1	1	0
TOPEKA	65	36	85	28	50	6	0.16	-0.42	0.14	0.16	10	2.14	58	78	40	0	2	2	0

Based on 1971-2000 normals

Weather Data for the Week Ending March 21, 2015

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	65	37	83	29	51	5	0.08	-0.55	0.06	0.22	13	1.88	53	87	51	0	2	2	0	
KY JACKSON	59	40	78	30	50	3	0.41	-0.59	0.31	5.63	185	11.80	115	83	38	0	1	2	0	
LEXINGTON	59	38	74	26	49	3	0.24	-0.77	0.20	6.31	209	11.15	116	82	54	0	1	2	0	
LOUISVILLE	62	41	78	32	52	5	0.23	-0.78	0.21	11.61	388	14.72	155	79	35	0	1	2	0	
PADUCAH	61	39	74	36	50	2	0.13	-0.81	0.10	8.08	286	15.37	150	88	46	0	0	2	0	
LA BATON ROUGE	83	62	87	57	72	12	0.51	-0.60	0.51	3.35	101	13.10	90	95	52	0	0	1	1	
LAKE CHARLES	78	61	82	54	69	8	0.65	-0.16	0.64	6.22	270	14.70	132	96	65	0	0	2	1	
NEW ORLEANS	82	64	86	59	73	11	0.81	-0.34	0.60	6.02	175	13.74	93	89	59	0	0	3	1	
SHREVEPORT	71	55	85	51	63	5	1.46	0.55	0.65	7.87	279	19.61	169	95	71	0	0	3	2	
ME CARIBOU	29	10	39	2	20	-5	0.56	-0.02	0.26	0.94	57	5.06	76	75	49	0	7	3	0	
ME PORTLAND	36	21	45	13	29	-5	0.10	-0.83	0.04	1.26	48	8.74	89	73	36	0	7	3	0	
MD BALTIMORE	55	30	70	27	43	-1	0.69	-0.22	0.69	3.98	148	10.11	110	75	47	0	5	1	1	
MA BOSTON	39	25	51	19	32	-7	0.54	-0.32	0.26	1.97	79	8.93	92	74	36	0	7	4	0	
MA WORCESTER	37	21	46	14	29	-5	0.21	-0.75	0.10	1.67	61	9.98	101	76	33	0	7	4	0	
MI ALPENA	45	22	61	13	34	6	0.27	-0.21	0.20	0.64	49	2.42	55	83	36	0	6	3	0	
MI GRAND RAPIDS	51	29	65	25	40	6	0.00	-0.57	0.00	0.37	25	3.42	68	77	40	0	6	0	0	
MI HOUGHTON LAKE	45	23	63	15	34	5	0.00	-0.46	0.00	0.17	14	1.99	49	79	45	0	6	0	0	
MI LANSING	52	28	70	23	40	6	0.00	-0.50	0.00	0.29	22	2.55	59	73	40	0	6	0	0	
MI MUSKEGON	48	27	59	21	37	3	0.00	-0.52	0.00	0.45	33	3.75	73	80	49	0	6	0	0	
MI TRAVERSE CITY	46	27	61	17	36	5	0.07	-0.35	0.05	0.14	13	3.56	61	82	35	0	5	2	0	
MN DULUTH	47	25	64	14	36	11	0.36	-0.02	0.20	0.56	60	1.41	49	67	43	0	6	3	0	
MN INT'L FALLS	43	18	65	4	31	8	0.02	-0.18	0.02	0.12	24	2.16	109	74	37	0	6	1	0	
MN MINNEAPOLIS	52	32	70	26	42	10	0.00	-0.42	0.00	0.13	13	0.82	29	60	33	0	4	0	0	
MN ROCHESTER	51	31	62	27	41	10	0.00	-0.41	0.00	0.04	4	1.42	53	71	45	0	5	0	0	
MN ST. CLOUD	49	28	70	20	39	11	0.01	-0.31	0.01	0.15	20	0.74	35	80	34	0	5	1	0	
MS JACKSON	77	56	84	51	67	10	2.84	1.54	1.88	6.58	180	16.76	121	96	57	0	0	3	2	
MS MERIDIAN	78	54	84	49	66	9	0.86	-0.74	0.74	4.33	93	15.17	95	97	55	0	0	2	1	
MS TUPELO	70	50	82	47	60	7	0.49	-0.96	0.24	4.99	116	14.14	100	89	59	0	0	4	0	
MO COLUMBIA	60	39	79	35	50	6	0.46	-0.24	0.28	0.77	39	3.53	60	87	47	0	0	2	0	
MO KANSAS CITY	62	38	83	30	50	6	0.37	-0.18	0.29	0.37	24	2.56	64	85	38	0	1	2	0	
MO SAINT LOUIS	64	41	83	38	53	7	0.03	-0.79	0.03	1.67	73	4.65	69	70	50	0	0	1	0	
MO SPRINGFIELD	62	39	76	30	51	5	0.19	-0.67	0.14	2.07	90	4.69	70	91	60	0	1	2	0	
MT BILLINGS	61	39	75	30	50	13	0.20	-0.04	0.18	0.29	47	1.58	79	70	37	0	1	2	0	
MT BUTTE	54	31	62	24	42	11	0.33	0.15	0.21	0.33	67	0.63	42	87	35	0	4	3	0	
MT CUT BANK	50	31	64	26	41	10	0.25	0.14	0.13	0.25	86	0.97	101	87	52	0	5	4	0	
MT GLASGOW	51	32	60	24	41	10	0.43	0.34	0.27	0.45	188	1.52	179	87	65	0	4	3	0	
MT GREAT FALLS	58	35	66	29	46	13	0.05	-0.17	0.05	0.06	10	1.47	83	81	38	0	4	1	0	
MT HAVRE	54	31	63	24	42	10	0.36	0.21	0.11	0.36	88	1.97	159	91	68	0	5	4	0	
MT MISSOULA	56	36	65	27	46	8	0.27	0.06	0.17	0.29	48	2.49	102	85	65	0	2	5	0	
NE GRAND ISLAND	70	32	90	26	51	13	0.00	-0.46	0.00	0.06	5	1.24	51	68	29	1	5	0	0	
NE LINCOLN	67	32	90	21	50	11	0.00	-0.50	0.00	0.03	2	1.88	72	73	35	1	4	0	0	
NE NORFOLK	69	32	92	22	50	13	0.00	-0.44	0.00	0.00	0	0.89	36	63	28	1	4	0	0	
NE NORTH PLATTE	71	28	91	20	49	11	0.00	-0.27	0.00	0.01	1	0.76	47	73	16	1	5	0	0	
NE OMAHA	65	35	88	26	50	11	0.00	-0.48	0.00	0.01	1	1.33	47	72	37	0	2	0	0	
NE SCOTTSBLUFF	70	32	84	20	51	14	0.00	-0.25	0.00	0.07	11	0.91	51	67	29	0	3	0	0	
NE VALENTINE	66	31	84	25	49	14	0.00	-0.24	0.00	0.03	5	0.68	48	65	29	0	5	0	0	
NV ELY	66	30	69	19	48	12	0.00	-0.23	0.00	0.31	45	0.82	38	54	21	0	4	0	0	
NV LAS VEGAS	82	60	85	55	71	13	0.00	-0.13	0.00	0.28	64	1.69	98	31	18	0	0	0	0	
NV RENO	69	44	74	36	57	14	0.00	-0.19	0.00	0.01	2	1.49	54	48	30	0	0	0	0	
NV WINNEMUCCA	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	1.24	66	***	***	***	***	***	***	
NH CONCORD	36	20	47	13	28	-5	0.20	-0.48	0.12	0.81	42	6.88	95	74	39	0	7	4	0	
NJ NEWARK	47	31	60	27	39	-3	0.39	-0.58	0.36	3.84	141	10.31	107	67	39	0	4	2	0	
NM ALBUQUERQUE	64	41	71	37	53	5	0.11	-0.03	0.11	0.11	28	1.42	108	69	41	0	0	1	0	
NY ALBANY	40	23	46	15	32	-3	0.07	-0.62	0.04	0.38	20	4.71	71	71	36	0	7	2	0	
NY BINGHAMTON	35	22	45	15	29	-4	0.40	-0.25	0.11	1.36	73	5.30	77	83	65	0	7	5	0	
NY BUFFALO	40	25	45	16	33	-1	0.13	-0.54	0.09	0.67	35	5.66	76	84	46	0	7	4	0	
NY ROCHESTER	42	26	53	17	34	0	0.16	-0.41	0.11	0.77	48	5.03	84	83	54	0	7	3	0	
NY SYRACUSE	38	22	51	13	30	-3	0.50	-0.18	0.12	1.05	57	5.13	78	87	49	0	7	6	0	
NC ASHEVILLE	67	42	78	36	54	8	0.22	-0.83	0.22	1.21	39	7.05	64	76	44	0	0	1	0	
NC CHARLOTTE	69	43	84	40	56	3	0.21	-0.81	0.21	1.67	55	7.49	71	76	34	0	0	1	0	
NC GREENSBORO	67	44	82	39	55	6	0.64	-0.24	0.46	2.25	87	6.93	75	71	32	0	0	2	0	
NC HATTERAS	61	44	74	38	53	1	1.26	0.10	1.18	2.25	68	14.20	108	79	44	0	0	2	1	
NC RALEIGH	66	42	82	39	54	3	0.65	-0.28	0.40	2.81	99	9.07	88	78	45	0	0	2	0	
NC WILMINGTON	70	47	84	42	59	4	0.33	-0.65	0.19	1.58	54	10.90	98	89	36	0	0	2	0	
ND BISMARCK	51	28	73	15	40	10	0.07	-0.10	0.04	0.07	15	1.22	86	79	54	0	6	2	0	
ND DICKINSON	50	28	72	16	39	9	0.13	0.01	0.07	0.13	52	0.70	67	84	46	0	6	3	0	
ND FARGO	48	25	75	14	37	10	0.01	-0.25	0.01	0.02	3	1.01	50	76	41	0	6	1	0	
ND GRAND FORKS	45	23	70	7	34	8	0.13	-0.06	0.08	0.13	26	0.95	54	85	38	0	6	3	0	
ND JAMESTOWN	45	27	72	18	36	8	0.06	-0.13	0.06	0.06	12	0.48	29	83	47	0	6	1	0	
ND WILLISTON	48	30	63	15	39	10	0.21	0.05	0.13	0.22	54	1.17	87	82	60	0	6	3	0	
OH AKRON-CANTON	53	30	64	21	41	3	0.07	-0.64	0.07	1.93	95	7.39	109	74	50	0	4	1	0	
OH CINCINNATI	60	39	76	29	50	6	0.09	-0.79	0.07	5.30	212	9.45	116	68	46	0	1	2	0	
OH CLEVELAND	50	30	61	23	40	2	0.00	-0.65	0.00	0.91	50	6.42	97	77	47	0	5	0	0	
OH COLUMBUS	56	35	69	25	46	4	0.15	-0.50	0.13	3.65	198	8.21	125	81	52	0	2	2	0	
OH DAYTON	57	36	71	25	46	6	0.08	-0.64	0.07	2.89	145	7.24	105	76	46	0	2	2	0	
OH MANSFIELD	52	31	63	23	42	5	0.01	-0.74	0.01	1.78	89	6.94	102	78	45	0	3	1	0	

Based on 1971-2000 normals

*** Not Available

Weather Data for the Week Ending March 21, 2015

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	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	TEMP. °F		PRECIP	
																		01 INCH OR MORE	50 INCH OR MORE	01 INCH OR MORE	50 INCH OR MORE
OK TOLEDO	52	29	63	22	40	3	0.00	-0.57	0.00	0.33	21	3.96	74	77	45	0	6	0	0		
OK YOUNGSTOWN	50	28	62	22	39	2	0.02	-0.67	0.02	1.49	79	6.74	108	76	58	0	5	1	0		
OK OKLAHOMA CITY	66	47	79	42	56	5	0.42	-0.24	0.36	1.34	69	3.55	74	84	53	0	0	4	0		
OR TULSA	65	46	78	38	55	4	0.48	-0.34	0.30	2.08	90	4.60	78	94	64	0	0	2	0		
OR ASTORIA	59	43	62	39	51	5	2.56	0.90	1.92	4.16	80	19.64	87	92	80	0	0	5	1		
OR BURNS	61	32	70	21	46	9	0.12	-0.16	0.06	0.30	34	1.45	46	83	57	0	4	3	0		
OR EUGENE	63	41	71	36	52	6	0.95	-0.36	0.59	2.05	50	8.61	47	93	78	0	0	4	1		
OR MEDFORD	66	43	73	38	55	8	0.11	-0.30	0.07	0.97	74	5.41	92	92	50	0	0	2	0		
OR PENDLETON	61	41	66	36	51	6	0.34	0.06	0.18	0.47	57	2.02	58	82	61	0	0	3	0		
OR PORTLAND	63	45	67	37	54	7	1.57	0.74	1.16	2.93	111	9.96	84	93	72	0	0	4	1		
OR SALEM	63	42	68	36	53	6	1.62	0.69	1.12	2.84	94	10.38	74	90	72	0	0	4	1		
PA ALLENTOWN	46	28	59	19	37	-2	0.50	-0.31	0.50	3.56	153	8.13	95	74	44	0	6	1	1		
PA ERIE	46	27	59	21	37	1	0.13	-0.56	0.09	0.94	49	6.69	99	75	57	0	6	3	0		
PA MIDDLETOWN	49	31	61	27	40	-1	0.25	-0.48	0.24	2.95	133	6.54	82	80	38	0	5	2	0		
PA PHILADELPHIA	50	33	68	28	42	-1	0.70	-0.18	0.70	4.84	194	11.72	134	67	45	0	4	1	1		
PA PITTSBURGH	51	30	67	23	41	1	0.21	-0.51	0.21	3.38	165	7.21	101	78	42	0	5	1	0		
PA WILKES-BARRE	42	29	50	23	35	-3	0.42	-0.17	0.27	1.50	91	4.51	73	78	38	0	6	3	0		
PA WILLIAMSPORT	44	29	52	24	36	-2	0.37	-0.34	0.37	1.66	82	4.43	59	75	48	0	7	1	0		
RI PROVIDENCE	42	25	53	18	33	-6	0.30	-0.70	0.14	3.26	116	9.59	90	69	35	0	7	3	0		
SC BEAUFORT	75	55	86	48	65	8	0.62	-0.21	0.62	1.82	78	9.15	96	91	48	0	0	1	1		
SC CHARLESTON	74	53	86	47	64	6	0.67	-0.26	0.61	1.27	48	9.20	94	91	46	0	0	2	1		
SC COLUMBIA	74	50	85	41	62	7	0.82	-0.23	0.74	2.12	69	9.48	82	80	46	0	0	2	1		
SC GREENVILLE	72	46	84	42	59	7	0.32	-0.92	0.32	1.70	45	9.02	73	78	34	0	0	1	0		
SD ABERDEEN	55	26	79	17	41	10	0.00	-0.29	0.00	0.08	11	1.15	68	77	41	0	5	0	0		
SD HURON	60	29	81	16	44	12	0.00	-0.37	0.00	0.13	14	0.76	39	75	31	0	5	0	0		
SD RAPID CITY	63	30	84	22	47	12	0.00	-0.21	0.00	0.02	4	0.44	32	71	29	0	5	0	0		
SD SIOUX FALLS	60	32	78	23	46	14	0.00	-0.41	0.00	0.23	24	1.47	74	62	33	0	4	0	0		
TN BRISTOL	62	39	74	33	50	3	0.39	-0.50	0.28	3.61	133	8.94	93	93	43	0	0	2	0		
TN CHATTANOOGA	69	47	81	40	58	7	0.43	-1.01	0.41	3.27	77	10.26	71	82	59	0	0	2	0		
TN KNOXVILLE	64	44	76	40	54	4	0.82	-0.38	0.78	3.88	109	11.02	91	85	48	0	0	2	1		
TN MEMPHIS	69	48	78	45	58	5	0.32	-0.93	0.17	5.22	144	10.87	89	88	47	0	0	3	0		
TN NASHVILLE	65	43	80	38	54	4	0.13	-0.99	0.08	4.09	123	10.91	99	86	47	0	0	2	0		
TX ABILENE	69	49	80	39	59	3	0.58	0.28	0.28	1.59	175	5.09	169	88	62	0	0	4	0		
TX AMARILLO	65	38	82	31	51	3	0.18	-0.07	0.08	0.21	32	2.29	125	82	43	0	1	3	0		
TX AUSTIN	73	55	80	44	64	2	1.58	1.11	0.98	4.00	261	9.79	181	93	73	0	0	4	1		
TX BEAUMONT	79	60	84	53	70	8	6.12	5.27	6.11	8.04	335	15.02	131	98	61	0	0	2	1		
TX BROWNSVILLE	77	66	82	58	71	2	0.56	0.39	0.22	4.69	977	9.04	299	96	84	0	0	4	0		
TX CORPUS CHRISTI	74	64	79	60	69	3	2.73	2.37	1.83	6.09	512	9.55	205	94	80	0	0	5	2		
TX DEL RIO	74	59	82	56	67	3	1.96	1.77	1.06	2.24	373	3.25	153	86	69	0	0	3	2		
TX EL PASO	68	49	72	45	59	2	0.48	0.44	0.37	0.61	359	1.50	149	72	42	0	0	3	0		
TX FORT WORTH	70	54	81	50	62	5	0.52	-0.17	0.40	2.51	116	9.08	141	91	68	0	0	3	0		
TX GALVESTON	73	63	77	58	68	4	3.80	3.17	3.73	7.48	418	13.63	161	98	81	0	0	2	1		
TX HOUSTON	78	62	82	55	70	8	1.64	0.90	1.01	6.27	288	10.11	114	95	76	0	0	4	1		
TX LUBBOCK	68	42	79	31	55	4	0.06	-0.08	0.04	0.24	55	2.52	153	81	56	0	1	3	0		
TX MIDLAND	66	45	77	33	56	0	1.51	1.43	0.66	1.65	532	4.35	306	87	70	0	0	4	2		
TX SAN ANGELO	68	48	80	36	58	1	1.39	1.20	0.81	1.69	245	3.96	148	88	69	0	0	4	1		
TX SAN ANTONIO	73	59	77	52	66	4	1.39	0.98	0.79	3.00	238	7.18	154	91	68	0	0	4	1		
TX VICTORIA	74	61	79	54	68	4	3.90	3.40	1.73	8.28	556	12.34	207	99	79	0	0	5	3		
TX WACO	72	54	78	46	63	5	0.90	0.36	0.47	2.84	160	7.58	124	96	76	0	0	3	0		
TX WICHITA FALLS	67	49	79	43	58	4	0.71	0.21	0.41	1.27	86	3.87	93	88	66	0	0	3	0		
UT SALT LAKE CITY	69	44	74	34	57	14	0.00	-0.43	0.00	0.49	40	1.66	42	56	23	0	0	0	0		
VT BURLINGTON	36	16	41	11	26	-5	0.22	-0.29	0.12	0.50	36	3.49	66	76	42	0	7	3	0		
VA LYNCHBURG	62	38	77	29	50	4	0.59	-0.29	0.36	2.70	105	7.08	77	70	35	0	1	2	0		
VA NORFOLK	62	40	80	38	51	2	0.55	-0.39	0.50	2.23	81	8.41	84	76	42	0	0	2	1		
VA RICHMOND	64	36	79	30	50	2	0.74	-0.21	0.61	3.27	118	10.54	113	72	49	0	2	2	1		
VA ROANOKE	63	41	77	33	52	5	0.60	-0.28	0.49	3.09	121	7.00	79	55	34	0	0	2	0		
WA WASH/DULLES	57	30	69	25	43	0	0.54	-0.26	0.54	3.27	139	8.30	102	75	48	0	5	1	1		
WA OLYMPIA	58	39	63	33	48	5	2.73	1.55	2.17	4.24	113	16.20	93	95	78	0	0	5	1		
WA QUILLAYUTE	54	40	58	35	47	3	4.81	2.33	1.62	7.20	91	27.04	80	97	87	0	0	4	3		
WA SEATTLE-TACOMA	57	45	60	40	51	5	2.58	1.74	2.16	3.46	132	12.40	104	86	74	0	0	5	1		
WA SPOKANE	54	40	61	36	47	7	1.53	1.20	1.33	1.74	166	4.71	108	92	58	0	0	4	1		
WV YAKIMA	64	38	66	32	51	9	0.28	0.14	0.28	0.29	66	1.98	82	75	54	0	1	1	0		
WV BECKLEY	55	35	71	27	45	3	0.51	-0.32	0.36	5.00	203	11.68	135	74	47	0	2	2	0		
WV CHARLESTON	59	37	76	29	48	3	0.49	-0.40	0.25	5.43	202	10.65	117	86	37	0	1	2	0		
WV ELKINS	55	29	69	22	42	2	0.61	-0.28	0.52	6.05	227	11.77	127	85	39	0	5	3	1		
WV HUNTINGTON	59	39	76	30	49	3	0.39	-0.48	0.27	6.29	239	11.73	131	84	40	0	1	2	0		
WI EAU CLAIRE	52	29	65	25	40	9	0.02	-0.39	0.02	0.10	10	0.69	25	75	29	0	5	1	0		
WI GREEN BAY	51	31	63	27	41	10	0.04	-0.42	0.03	0.22	19	1.21	36	79	44	0	5	2	0		
WI LA CROSSE	56	33	69	28	45	11	0.00	-0.43	0.00	0.01	1	1.23	39	72	25	0	4	0	0		
WI MADISON	55	31	74	24	43	9	0.00	-0.49	0.00	0.11	9	1.52	40	68	38	0	4	0	0		
WI MILWAUKEE	52	32	71	28	42	7	0.00	-0.56	0.00	0.31	22	2.05	42	73	43	0	4	0	0		
WY CASPER	63	31	73	25	47	12	0.00	-0.19	0.00	0.53	93	1.84	103	65	36	0	5	0	0		
WY CHEYENNE	63	33	76	24	48	14	0.00	-0.23	0.00	0.07	12	0.88	59	60	40	0	4	0	0		
WY LANDER	62	34	67	28	48	12	0.00	-0.26	0.00	0.53	78	2.10	121	73	27	0	2	0	0		
WY SHERIDAN	61	34	76	30	48	13	0.08	-0.13	0.05	0.25	47	2.00	107	75	46	0	4	2	0		

Based on 1971-2000 normals

*** Not Available

National Agricultural Summary

March 16 – 22, 2015

Weekly National Agricultural Summary provided by USDA/NASS

HIGHLIGHTS

Temperatures were above average for the week nearly nationwide. Parts of the northern Rocky Mountains, the northern Great Plains, and the Gulf Coast recorded temperatures more than 9°F above normal for the week. Conversely, New England recorded below-normal temperatures, with temperatures averaging below freezing for the week.

Conditions were generally dry across the U.S., with no measurable precipitation stretching from southern California across the northern Great Plains and most of the Corn Belt. The major exception occurred in Texas and the Mississippi Delta. Some areas near the Gulf Coast of Texas recorded more than 5 inches of precipitation for the week.

In **Arizona**, the 2015 cotton crop was 5 percent planted. This was 6 percentage points behind last year and 5 points behind the 5-year average. Winter wheat was 85 percent planted, slightly behind both last year and the 5-year average. Sheep continued to graze on various alfalfa fields in many areas, but grazing was winding down. Barley conditions were mostly fair to good and Durum Wheat conditions were mostly good to excellent. Rangeland conditions varied widely from very poor to good, depending on location.

Reporters in **Arkansas** noted that muddy conditions and saturated soils were preventing fieldwork and creating difficulties tending livestock. Pasture conditions were rated 25 percent in the good to excellent categories. Livestock were rated 49 percent in the good to excellent categories as of March 22.

Irrigation of field crops continued due to the lack of rain in **California**. Growers were reporting the need to pre-irrigate fields to maintain moisture levels so that there will be sufficient moisture upon planting. Planting schedules were a couple of weeks ahead of average. Field preparations were underway for the spring planting of corn and cotton. Forage and grain crops continued to grow well but slowly, with wheat beginning to head out. Most weed spraying in forage crops came to an end and insect spraying began, particularly for alfalfa weevil in alfalfa. First cuttings of alfalfa were underway and some fields were baled. The wheat crop was rated as 85 percent good to excellent. Pasture and rangeland condition was 60 percent fair to good.

Warm, dry weather accelerated development of winter wheat in **Colorado**, leading to some concerns about drought stress. Indications were that field activity stalled in the San Luis Valley due to wet conditions. Stored feed supplies were rated 2 percent very short, 4 percent short, 79 percent adequate, and 15 percent surplus. Sheep death loss was 1 percent heavy, 60 percent average, and 39 percent light. Cattle death loss was 1 percent heavy, 84 percent average, and 15 percent light.

Harvest of early and midseason oranges was all but over in **Florida**. Valencia harvest was increasing but weekly totals were still behind last season. Colored grapefruit, Valencia oranges, and Honey tangerines were the only varieties being

harvested in significant quantities for the fresh market. Most grove owners were irrigating two to three times a week; some were applying herbicide, performing irrigation maintenance, and removing brush. Citrus trees were in full bloom and have begun petal drop on all varieties. Small, pea-size fruit is apparent on early variety citrus trees.

Kansas producers reported an increase in field activities with the recent mild weather, including fertilizer and herbicide application, planting preparation, and moving cattle off crop residue. Winter wheat condition rated 4 percent very poor, 13 percent poor, 42 percent fair, 37 percent good, and 4 percent excellent. Hay and roughage supplies were rated 1 percent very short, 10 percent short, 84 percent adequate, and 5 percent surplus.

Louisiana producers reported that saturated soils were delaying corn and rice planting; however some fieldwork was completed near the end of the week. Louisiana rice was 4 percent planted by week's end, 8 percentage points behind last year and 19 points behind the 5-year average.

Fields and pastures stayed saturated in **Mississippi**, delaying fieldwork. The winter wheat crop was 42 percent in the good to excellent categories, while heading progressed to 1 percent complete, 2 percentage points behind the 5-year average.

In **Oklahoma**, small grains were rated mostly fair to good with the exception of oats, which were rated 74 percent fair to poor. Seventy percent of oats had been seeded by March 22, six percentage points behind the previous year and 14 points behind the 5-year average. Winter wheat jointing reached 38 percent by week's end, up 11 percentage points from the previous year and down 5 points from the 5-year average.

Winter wheat on the Northern High and Low Plains of **Texas** continued to develop due to warm weather. In South Texas, wheat and oats entered the heading stage. Winter wheat fields on the Southern Low Plains began to improve due to recent fertilization. Producers in the Lower Valley delayed planting sorghum due to wet field conditions. Corn planting was active in the Blacklands and South Central Texas. Field preparations for cotton continued in many areas of the Northern Low Plains and the Upper Coast.

International Weather and Crop Summary

March 15-21, 2015

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

HIGHLIGHTS

EUROPE: Warm, mostly dry weather accelerated small grain planting and winter crop development over central and northern Europe, while rain favored winter crops in the south.

WESTERN FSU: Dry, warm weather accelerated small grain planting in the north and winter crop development in southern growing areas.

MIDDLE EAST: Widespread rainfall sustained good to excellent prospects for winter grains across most of the region.

NORTHWESTERN AFRICA: Rain returned to Morocco, easing short-term dryness and sustaining good to excellent winter grain prospects.

EAST ASIA: Showers benefited wheat and rapeseed in China, as early-crop rice transplanting accelerated under unseasonably warm conditions.

SOUTHEAST ASIA: Seasonably dry weather aided rice harvesting across much of the region, while showers continued to disrupt harvesting in Indonesia.

AUSTRALIA: Hot, dry weather favored summer crop maturation and harvesting prior to late week showers overspreading major growing areas.

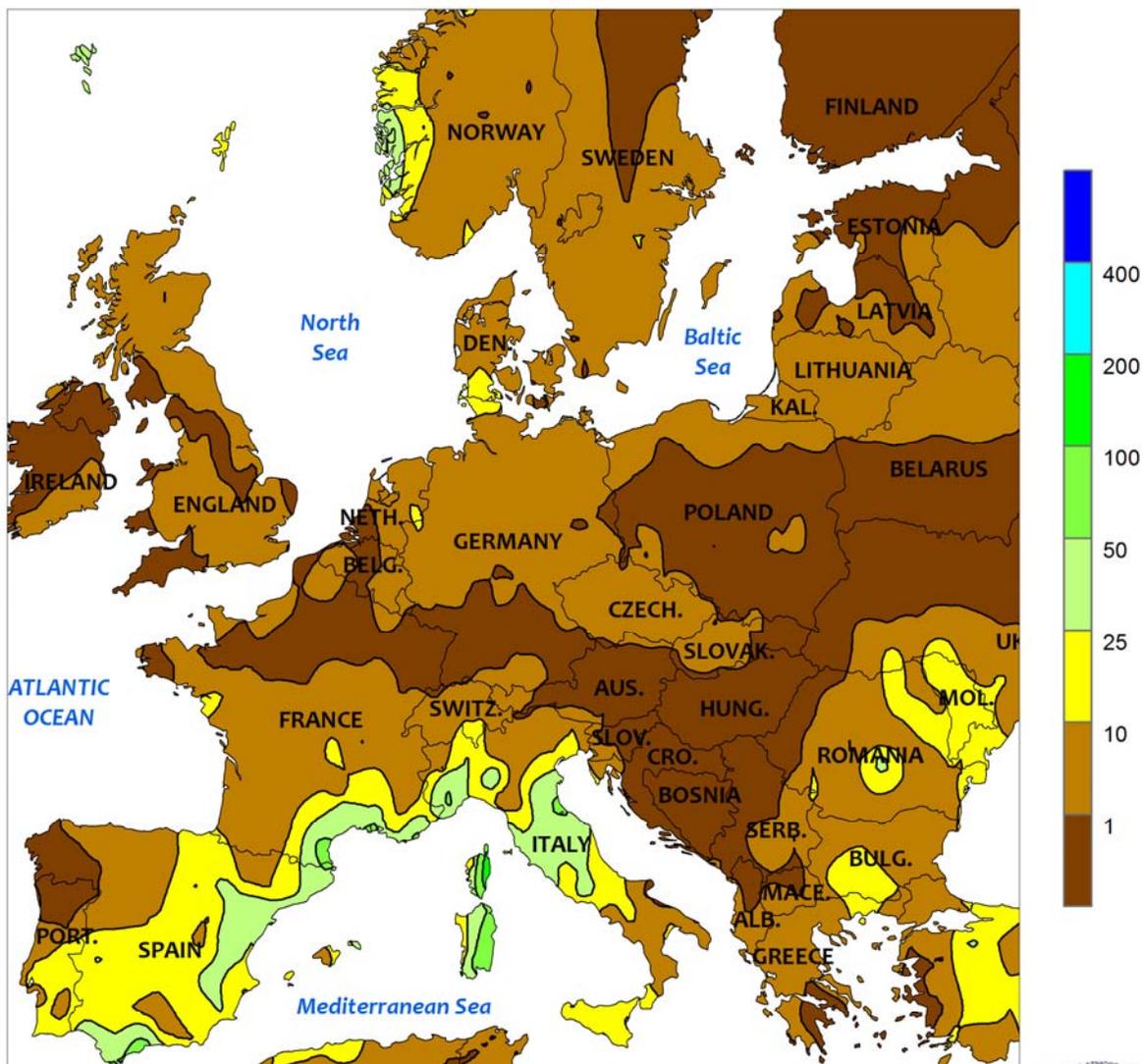
SOUTH AFRICA: Showers helped to stabilize corn and other filling summer crops in major commercial production areas.

ARGENTINA: Warm, dry weather prevailed over most of the region, spurring rapid growth of summer grains, oilseeds, and cotton.

BRAZIL: Rain maintained generally favorable levels of moisture for second-crop corn in central Brazil, while drier weather in the south aided soybean harvesting.



EUROPE
Total Precipitation (mm)
MAR 15 - 21, 2015



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

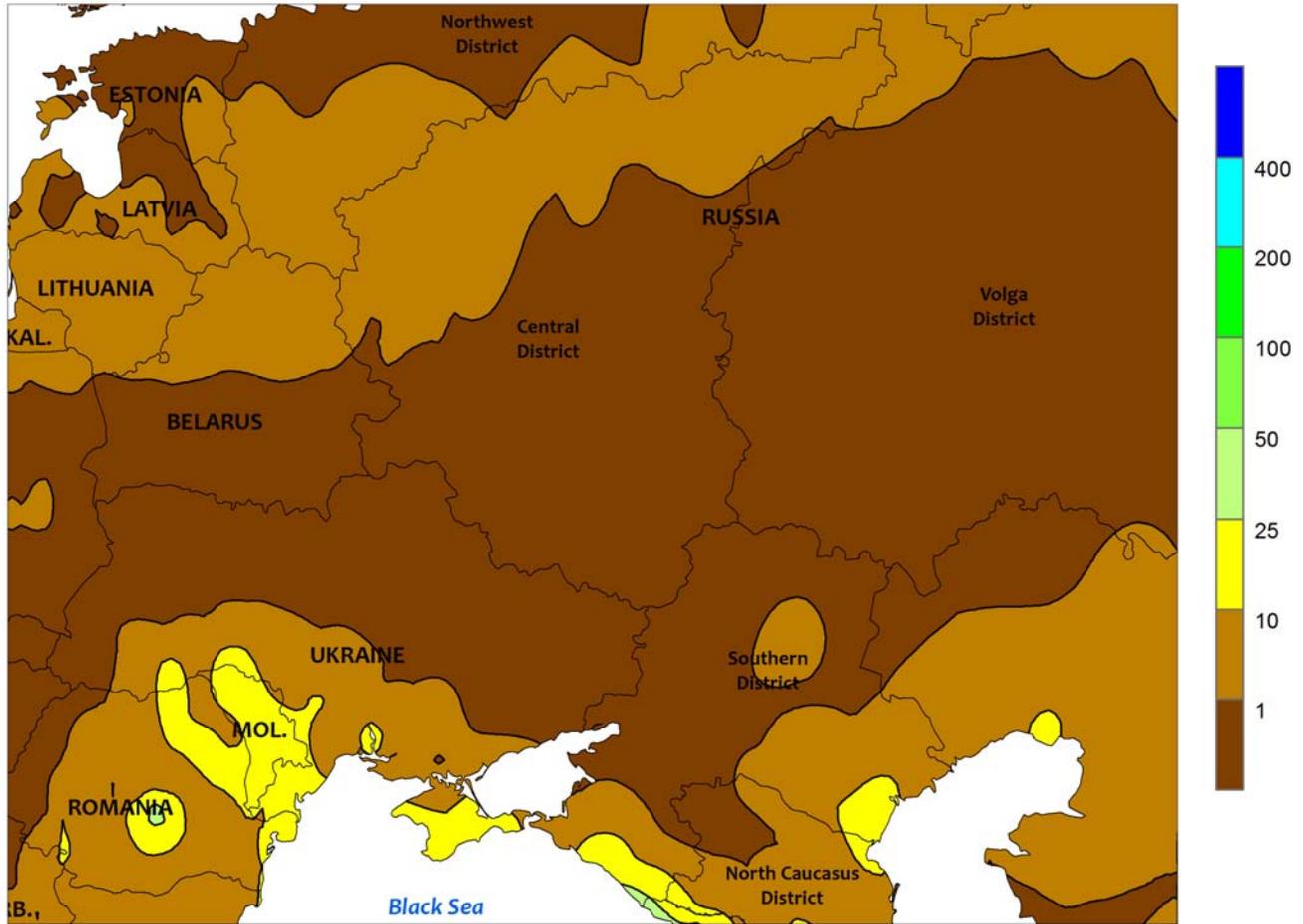


EUROPE

Warm, mostly dry weather over central and northern Europe accelerated fieldwork and winter crop development, while rain returned to southern growing areas. An area of high pressure provided sunny, warm conditions (1-4°C above normal) from central France into Poland and the Baltic States, further easing winter crops out of dormancy in the east while encouraging winter wheat development and small grain planting in the west. Dry but cool weather benefited winter wheat and rapeseed

in the United Kingdom as well as northwestern France. Meanwhile, locally heavy showers (5-35 mm) boosted prospects for vegetative to heading winter wheat in Spain but slowed corn planting and other seasonal fieldwork in Italy. In the Balkans, lingering light showers (1-10 mm) in southern portions of the Danube River Valley maintained abundant moisture reserves for spring growth, while dry, mild weather (1-3°C above normal) eased winter crops out of dormancy in the northern Balkans.

WESTERN FSU
Total Precipitation (mm)
MAR 15 - 21, 2015



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

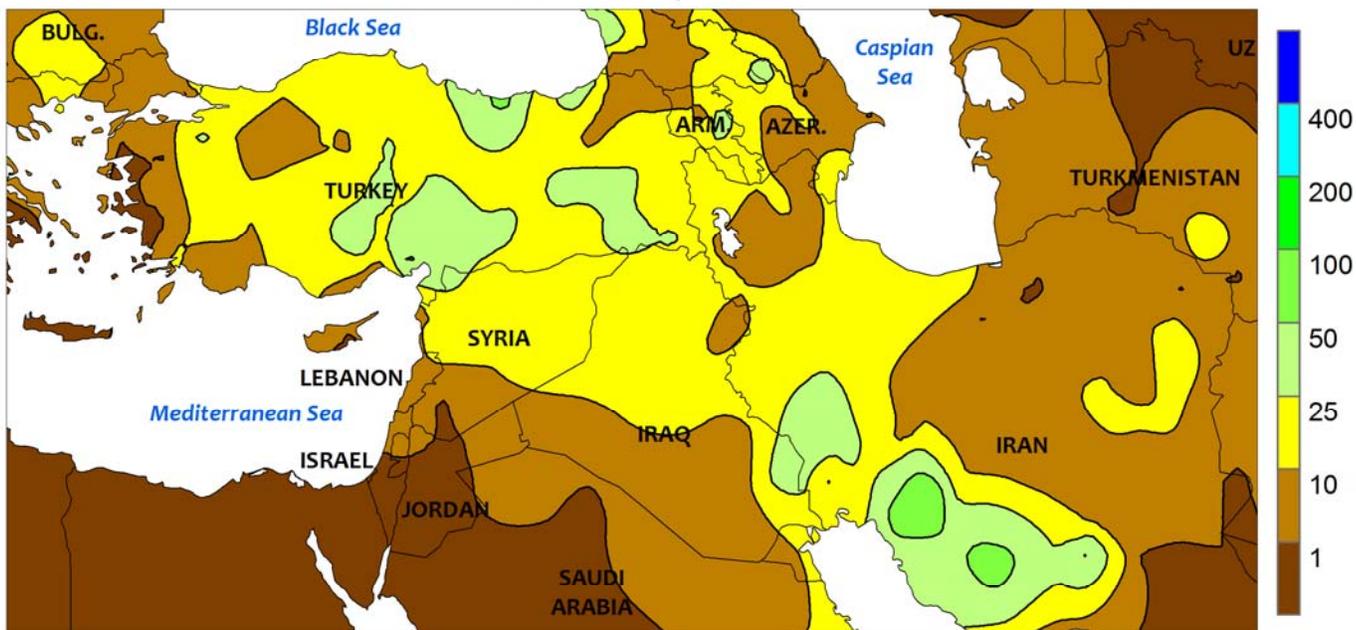


WESTERN FSU

Mostly dry, mild weather promoted fieldwork and winter crop development. A large area of high pressure provided sunny skies along with above-normal temperatures (3-7°C above normal) from Belarus and Ukraine into central and northern Russia. The sunny, warm weather melted the remaining snow cover in all but the coldest eastern

locales, reduced winter crop cold hardiness, and accelerated small grain planting. Farther south, light to moderate rain (1-15 mm) in southern-most portions of Ukraine and Russia kept topsoils moist for vegetative winter wheat, though cloudy skies slowed the unseasonably early crop development somewhat.

MIDDLE EAST
Total Precipitation (mm)
MAR 15 - 21, 2015



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

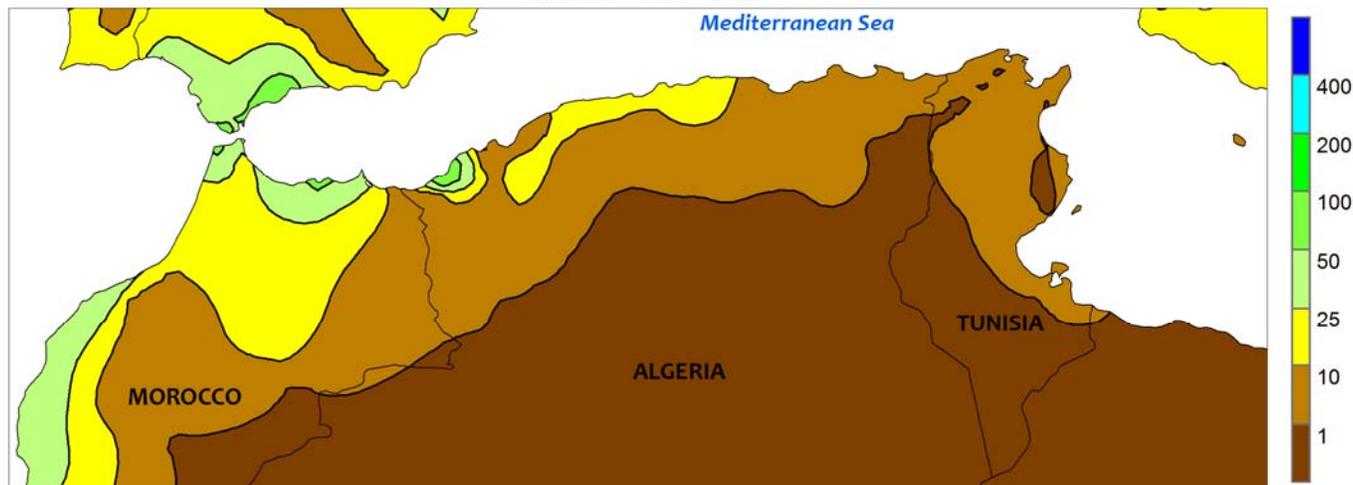


MIDDLE EAST

Stormy weather intensified across the region, sustaining the excellent winter crop growing campaign but likely causing localized flooding. A complex developing storm system generated widespread rain and high-elevation snow (10-50 mm liquid equivalent, locally more) over Turkey, Syria, Iraq, and northwestern Iran, maintaining good to excellent prospects for vegetative winter wheat and barley. However, colder air (up to 4°C below normal) in Turkey likely slowed or halted wheat

development, which had broken dormancy up to a month ahead of normal due to recent warmth. Unseasonable and unusually heavy rain (25-90 mm) in southern Iran eliminated the need for winter grain irrigation in this typically arid part of the country and likely caused lowland flooding. Lighter showers (1-15 mm) aided winter wheat prospects in eastern Iran, where prospects are vastly improved over last year's drought-stricken crop.

NORTHWESTERN AFRICA
 Total Precipitation (mm)
 MAR 15 - 21, 2015



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

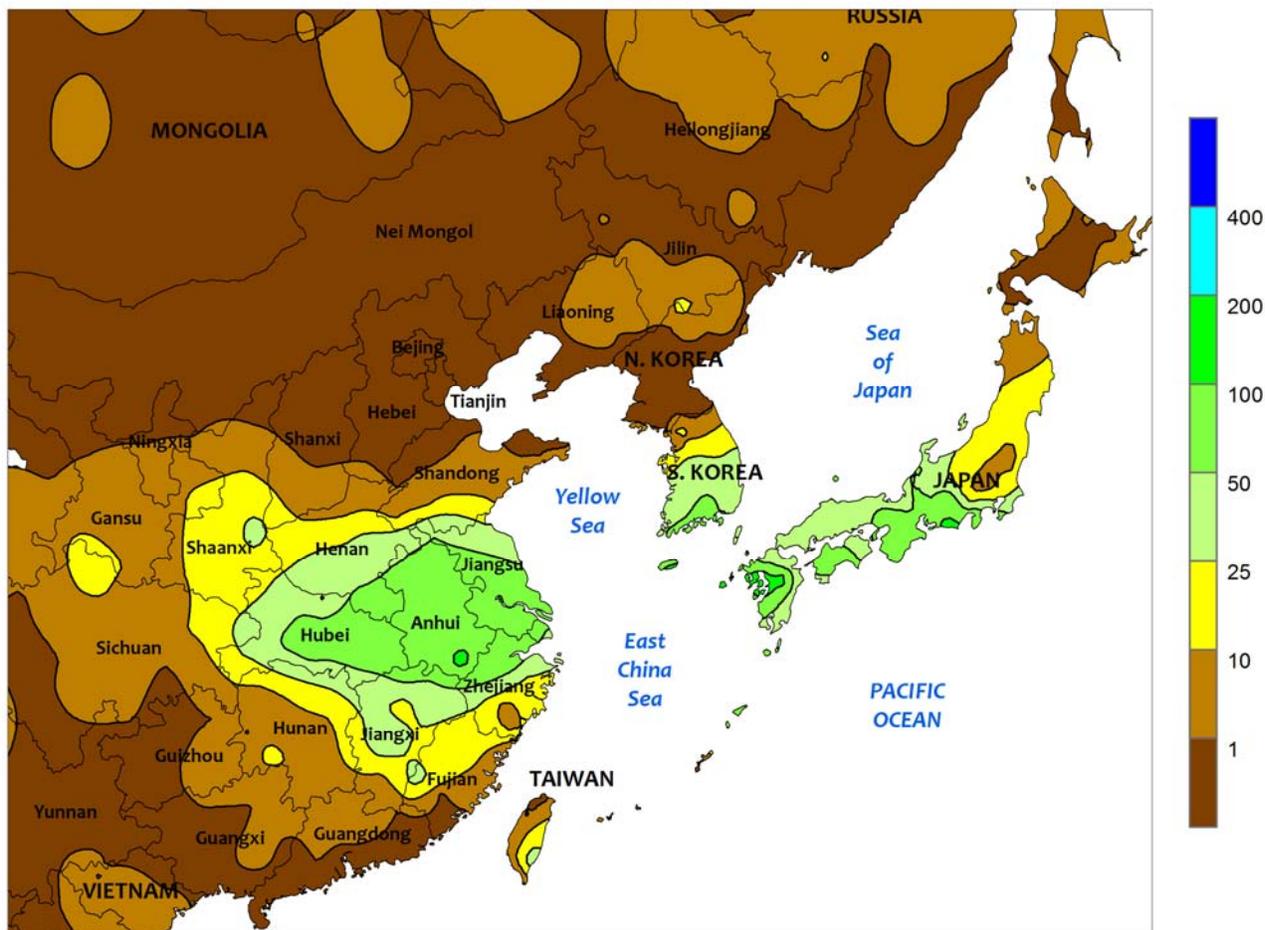


NORTHWESTERN AFRICA

Timely rain returned to western growing areas, while sunny skies benefited winter crops in eastern portions of the region. After a 1- to 2-month dry spell, widespread showers (5-50 mm, locally more) returned to Morocco, easing or eliminating short-term dryness and sustaining good to excellent yield prospects for vegetative to heading winter grains. Farther east, mostly sunny

skies provided a welcomed break from recent rainfall in northeastern Algeria and northern Tunisia, promoting wheat and barley development. Winter crop prospects are vastly improved over most of the region versus last year, with only areas of northeastern Algeria exhibiting slightly worse vegetation health due to the lingering impacts of autumn drought.

EASTERN ASIA
Total Precipitation (mm)
MAR 15 - 21, 2015



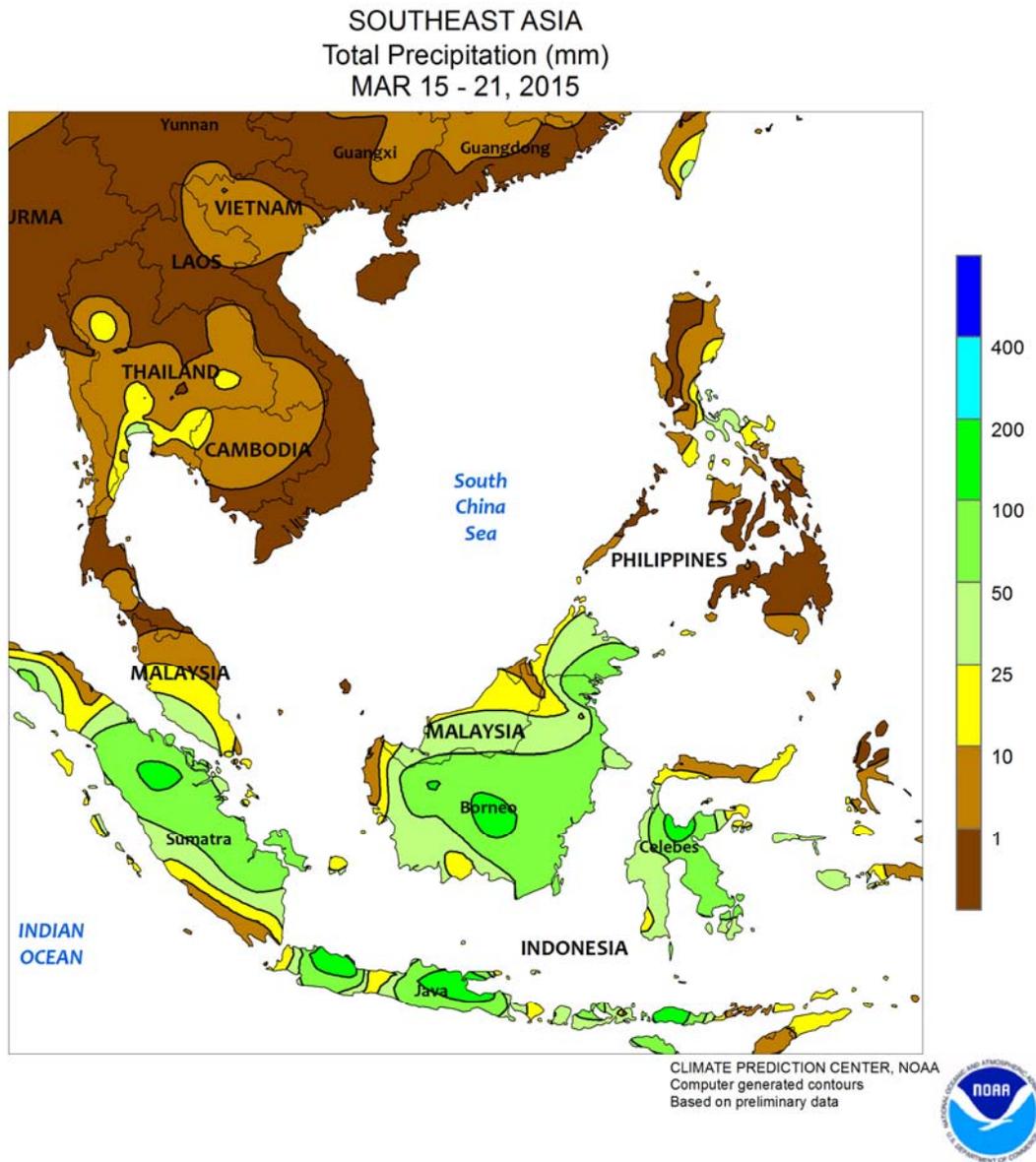
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA
Computer generated contours
Based on preliminary data



EASTERN ASIA

In China, showers overspread portions of the Yangtze Valley and North China Plain, providing favorable moisture to vegetative wheat and rapeseed. Rainfall ranging from 25 to over 100 mm was reported from eastern Sichuan to the coast of Jiangsu, while also extending northward into Henan and southern Shandong. Moisture conditions have been generally favorable in these areas since January 1, with the recent rainfall bringing year-to-date totals near to above normal and above last

year for the same period. In contrast, more northerly parts of the North China Plain (Hebei and Shandong) have missed out on consistent moisture, although deficits since January 1 are less than 10 mm. Meanwhile in southern China, early-crop rice transplanting continued under warmer-than-normal conditions (nearly 10°C above normal in some areas), and while water supplies have been adequate at this point in the season, more rainfall will be needed to ensure normal development.

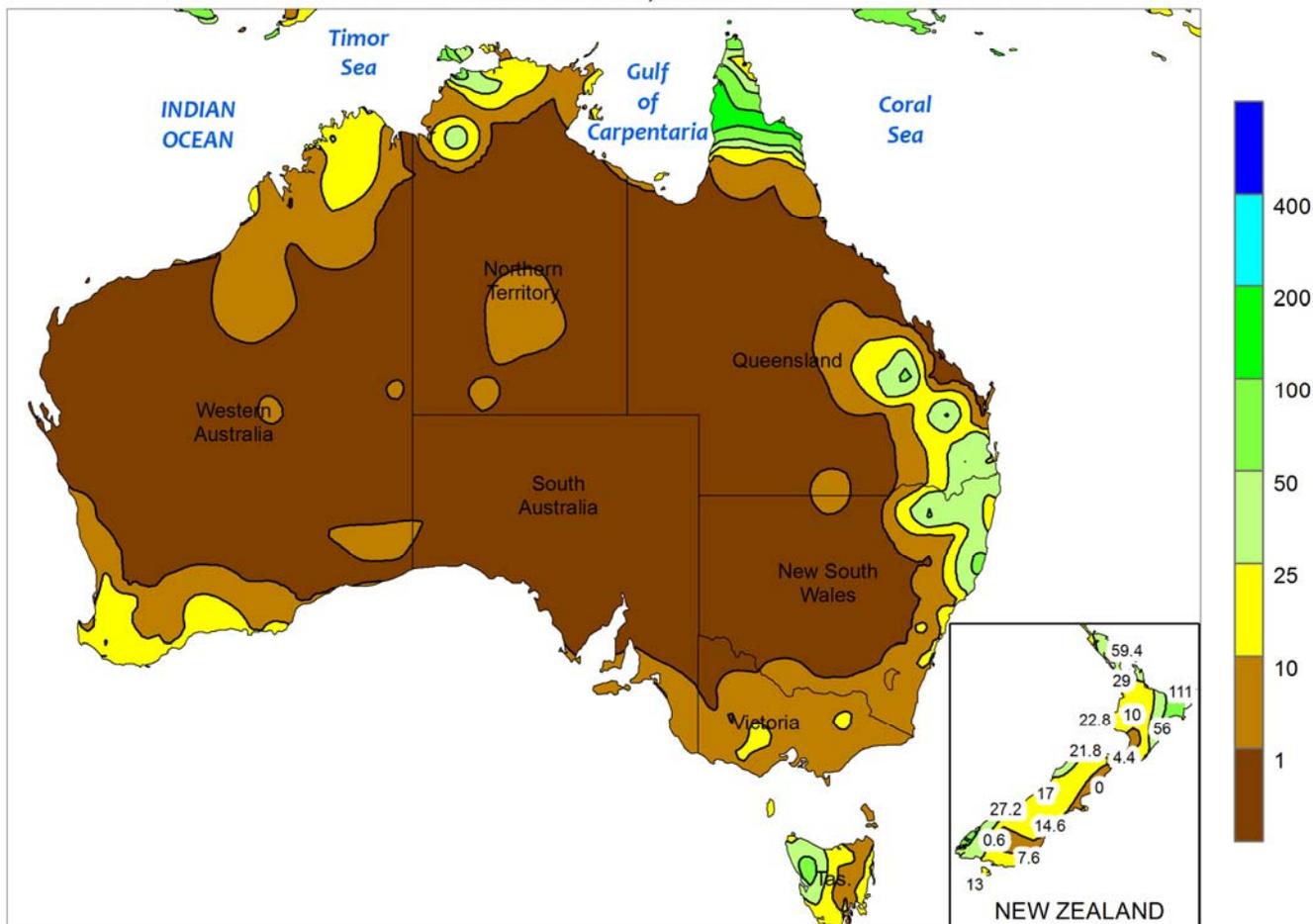


SOUTHEAST ASIA

Seasonably dry weather aided rice harvesting across the region. Dry-season rice harvesting continued in central Thailand with few delays from isolated showers (10-25 mm), while winter-spring rice harvesting in southern Vietnam progressed. In the Philippines, showers were focused in southern Luzon, with mostly dry weather aiding

rice and corn harvesting elsewhere. In contrast to the mostly dry weather in most of the region, showers (50-150 mm, locally over 200 mm) continued across Indonesia, slowing oil palm and rice harvesting. In particular, rice across Java was becoming ready for harvest and drier weather would be welcomed.

AUSTRALIA
Total Precipitation (mm)
MAR 15 - 21, 2015



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

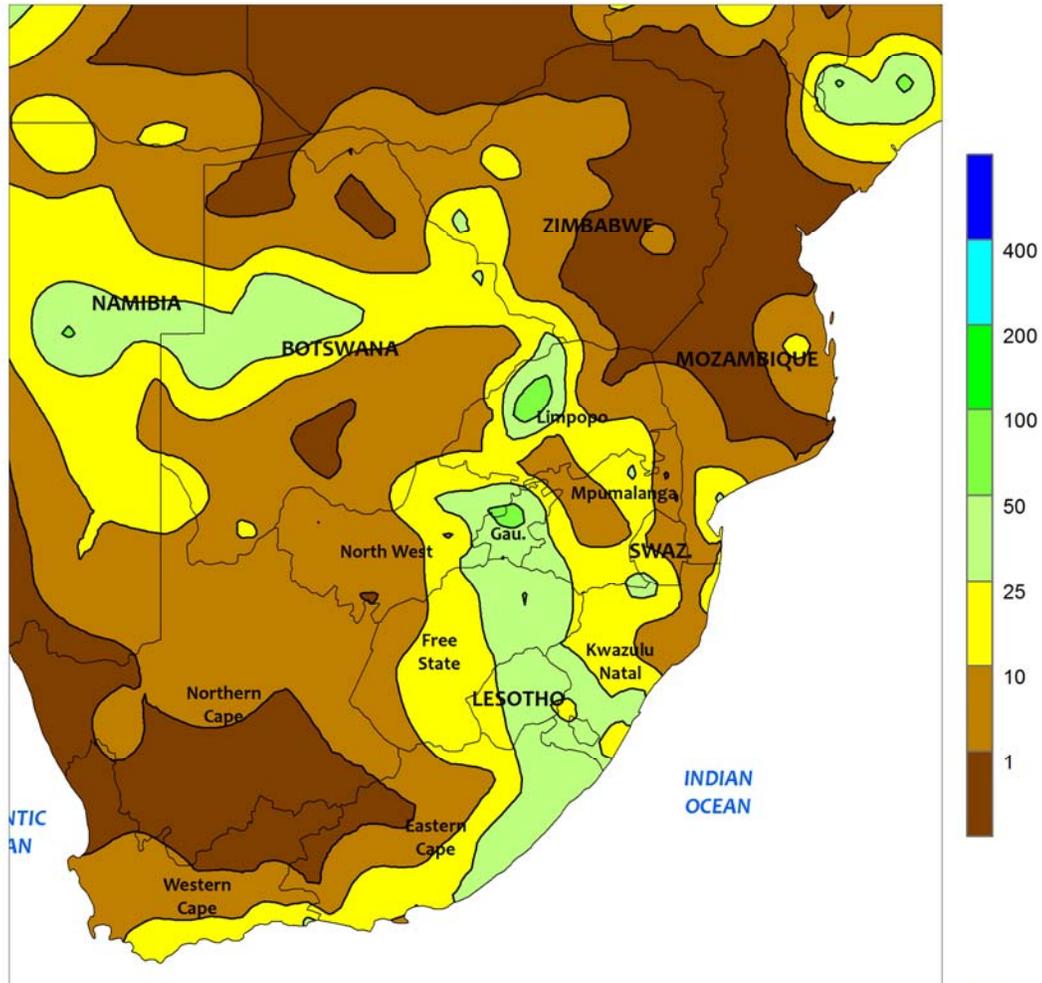


AUSTRALIA

In eastern Australia, hot, dry weather favored summer crop dry down and harvesting during most of the week. Local, midweek showers (5-30 mm) may have temporarily disrupted harvesting in northern New South Wales. More substantial delays likely occurred at the end of the week, however, when more widespread showers (5-25 mm, locally near 50 mm) overspread major growing areas. Although the rain was unfavorable for

maturing cotton and sorghum, later sown sorghum benefited from the added moisture. The intermittent nature of the recent shower activity has helped maintain yield prospects by keeping immature crops adequately watered while preventing mature crops from becoming waterlogged. Temperatures averaged about 1 to 2°C above normal, with maximum temperatures generally in the middle to upper 30s degrees C.

SOUTH AFRICA
Total Precipitation (mm)
MAR 15 - 21, 2015



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

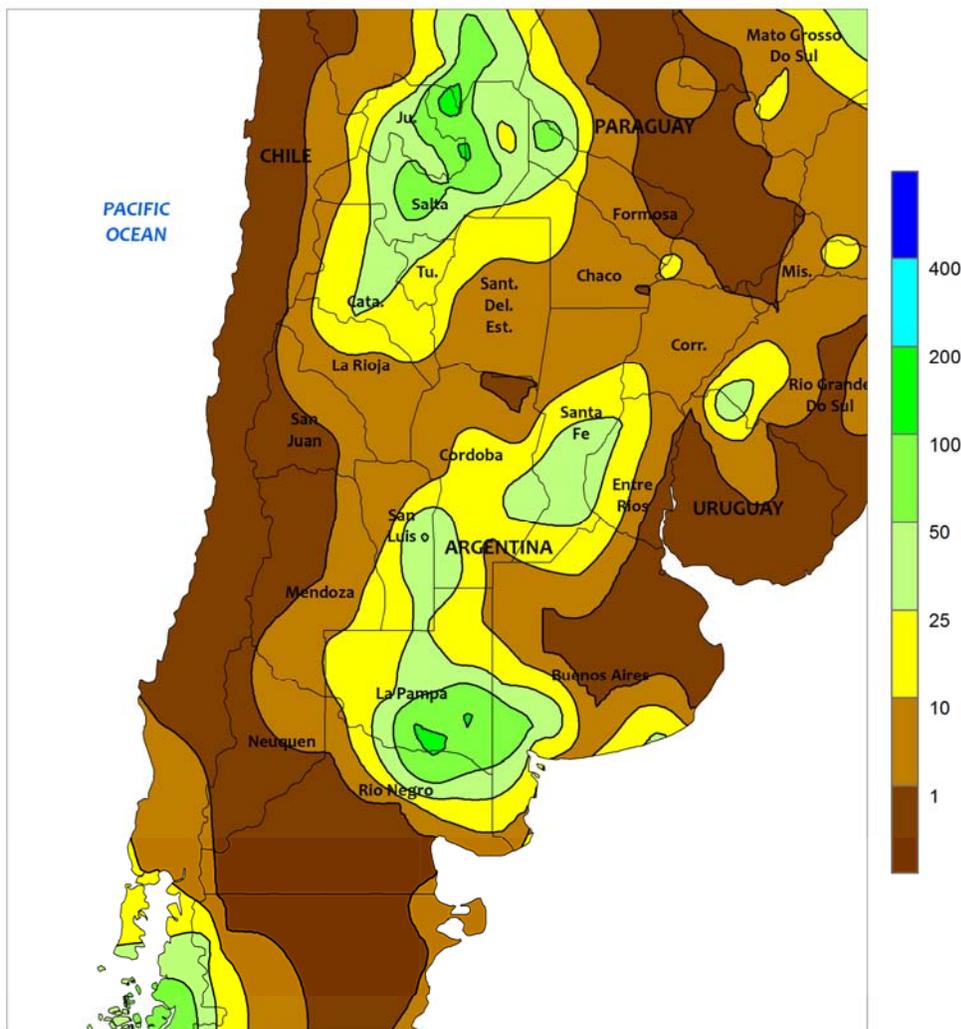


SOUTH AFRICA

Showers brought some relief from dryness to immature summer crops in central and eastern sections of the corn belt. Much of the region recorded more than 10 mm of rain, with heavier amounts (greater than 25 mm) in the vicinity of Gauteng and eastern Free State. However, weekly temperatures averaging 1 to 3°C above normal (daytime highs reaching the lower and middle 30s degrees C) maintained high evaporative losses and stress on filling corn in the driest areas. Elsewhere, light to moderate rain (10-35 mm) fell along the Indian Coast (Western Cape to southern KwaZulu-Natal),

providing a late-season boost in moisture for sugarcane and other rain-fed crops but slowing fieldwork. Meanwhile, drier conditions prevailed in irrigated sugarcane areas of northern KwaZulu-Natal and eastern Mpumalanga, with unseasonable warmth (daytime highs reaching the upper 30s) spurring rapid crop growth. Dry weather aided harvesting of fruits and vegetables in interior farming areas of Western Cape, and warm, sunny weather (daytime highs reaching the middle 30s) promoted rapid development of irrigated summer row crops — including corn and cotton — in the Orange River Valley.

ARGENTINA
Total Precipitation (mm)
MAR 15 - 21, 2015



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

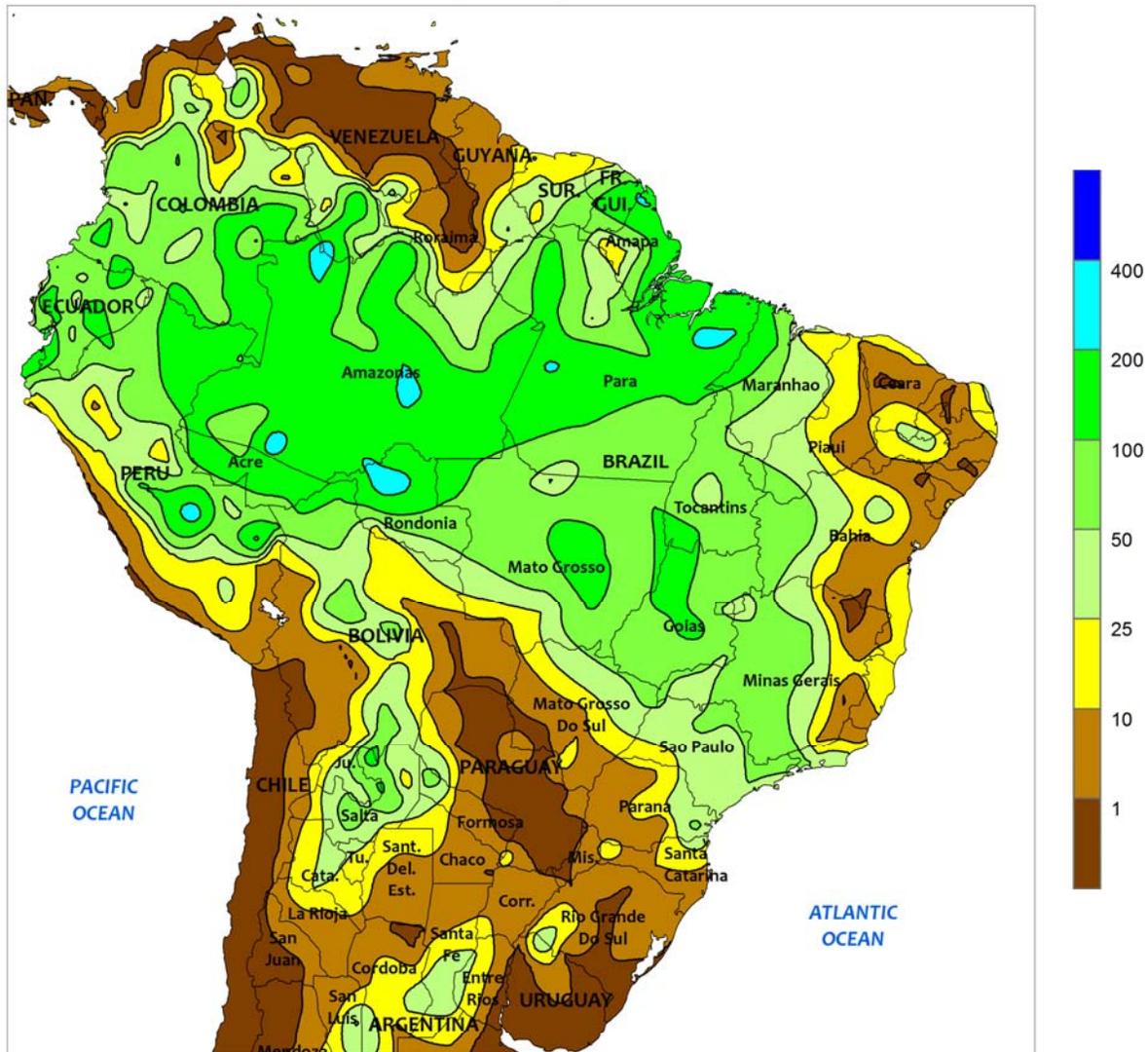


ARGENTINA

For much of the week, warm, mostly dry weather dominated major agricultural districts in central and northern Argentina, spurring rapid development of summer grains, oilseeds, and cotton and providing further relief from the recent flooding. Scattered showers moved into central Argentina at the beginning of the week, but drier, warmer weather quickly followed. Daytime highs reached the lower and middle 30s (degrees C) from March 16 to 20, resulting in weekly average temperatures from 2 to 4°C above normal. The late-week passage of a cold front brought milder, showery weather to the region, with daytime highs dropping into the 20s and nighttime lows falling below 10°C in southern farming areas (La Pampa, Buenos Aires, and southern Cordoba). As a result of the early- and late-week rain, rainfall totaled 10 to

50 mm in previously flooded locations of eastern Cordoba and Santa Fe. In contrast, little to no rain fell in central and eastern Buenos Aires, where additional rain would be welcome for late-planted corn. Moderate to heavy rain (10-85 mm) returned to northwestern production areas in and around Salta, but mostly dry weather continued from Santiago del Estero eastward. Weekly temperatures averaged 3 to 4°C above normal throughout the north, with highs approaching 40°C in western Formosa. According to Argentina’s Ministry of Agriculture, sunflowers were 64 percent harvested as of March 19, 6 points behind last year. Harvesting in Buenos Aires, the country’s largest producer of sunseed, was 46 percent complete versus 36 percent last year, aided by the recent dryness.

BRAZIL
Total Precipitation (mm)
MAR 15 - 21, 2015



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

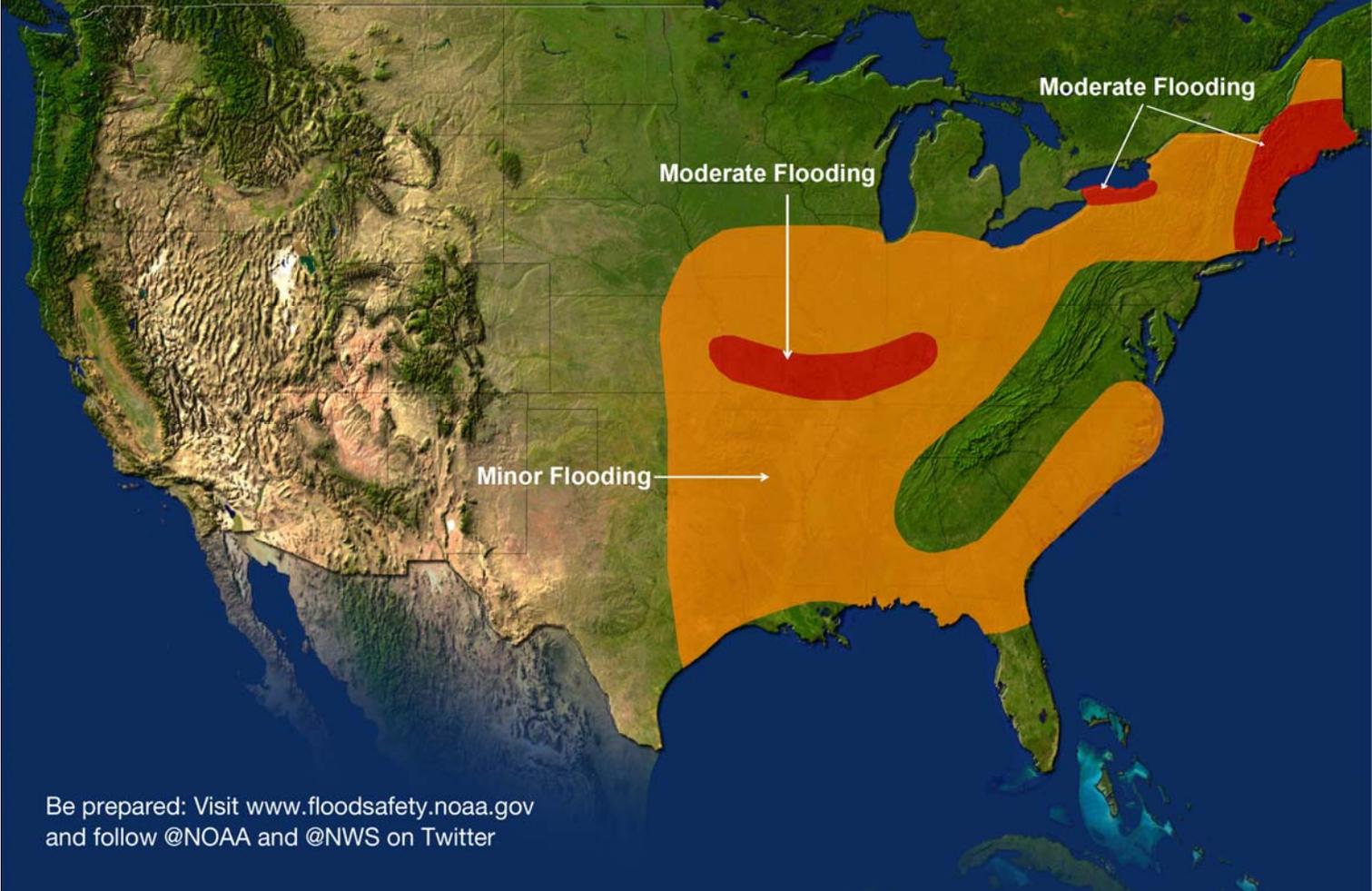
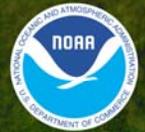


BRAZIL

Rain maintained overall beneficial conditions for second-crop (safrinha) corn in key production areas of central Brazil. Rainfall totaled more than 50 mm over a broad area stretching from Mato Grosso southeastward through southern Minas Gerais, and reaching northward into Tocantins and western Bahia; many other areas — including Sao Paulo — received at least 25 mm. In addition to the rain, seasonable temperatures (daytime highs occasionally reaching the middle 30s degrees C) fostered development of later-planted summer row crops in the absence of stressful heat. In contrast, mostly dry, warmer-than-normal weather (weekly temperatures averaging up to

3°C above normal, with highs reaching the middle 30s in some traditionally warmer locations) dominated a large part of the south (southern Mato Grosso do Sul to Rio Grande do Sul). While aiding drydown and harvesting of soybeans, additional moisture will be needed soon in some of the drier locations, many of which have now gone more than 2 weeks without appreciable rainfall. According to the government of Parana, 10 percent of the safrinha corn crop had reached the flowering stage of development as of March 16. Elsewhere, unseasonably dry weather continued along the northeastern coast, with only a few locations receiving more than 25 mm.

2015 U.S. Spring Flood Risk



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