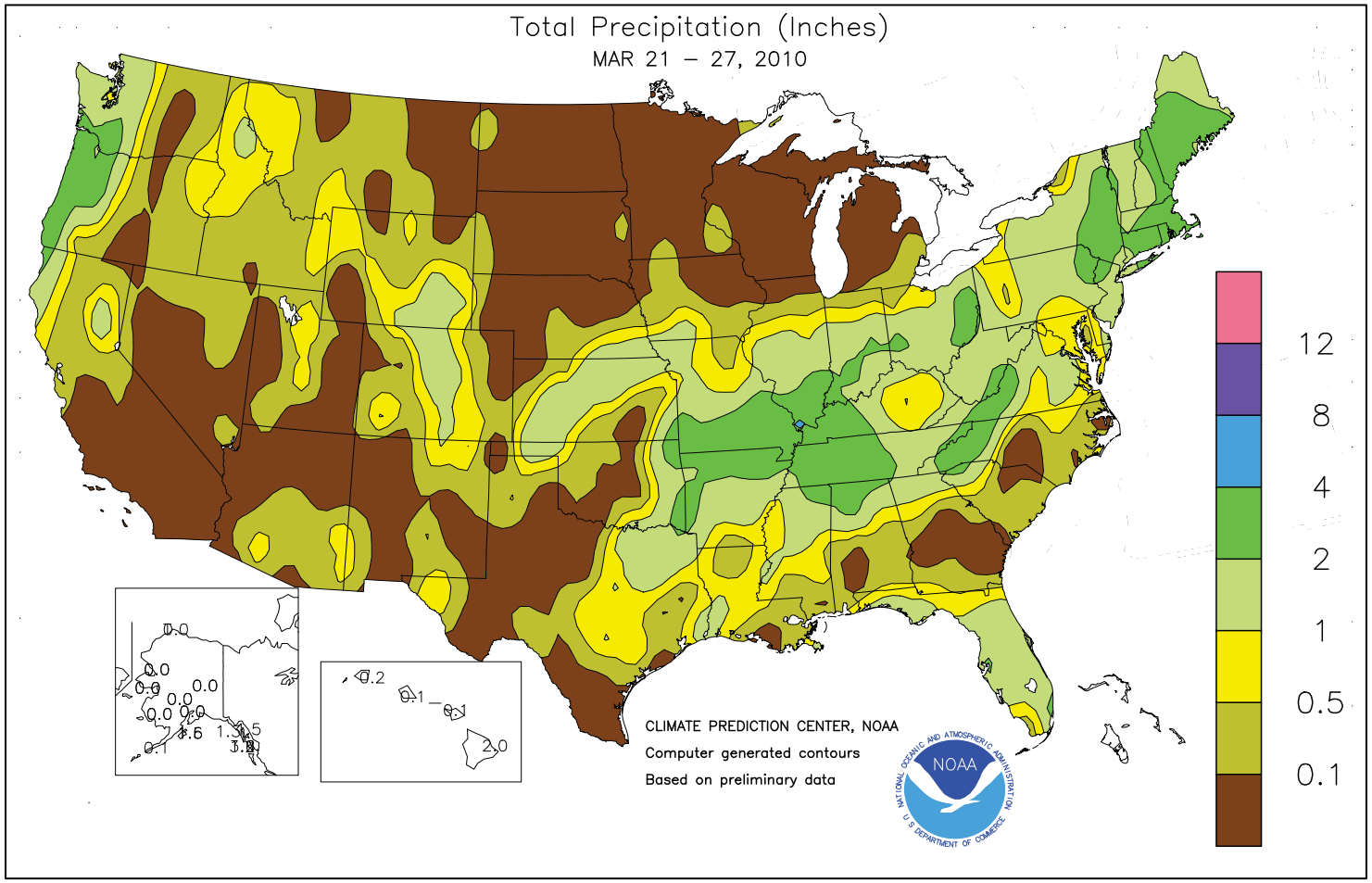
Volume 97, No. 13 http://www.usda.gov/oce/weather March 30, 2010

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 21 - 27, 2010

Highlights provided by USDA/WAOB

A series of storms arced across the **Northwest** and onto the **central and southern Plains**, maintaining unsettled, breezy conditions. The storms also produced as much as 1 to 4 inches of rain from the **Mid-South and the middle Mississippi Valley into the Northeast**. From the **Pacific Northwest to the northern and central Rockies**, precipitation aided winter grains and improved high-elevation snow packs. Despite the late-season boost in moisture, summer water-supply shortages remained a

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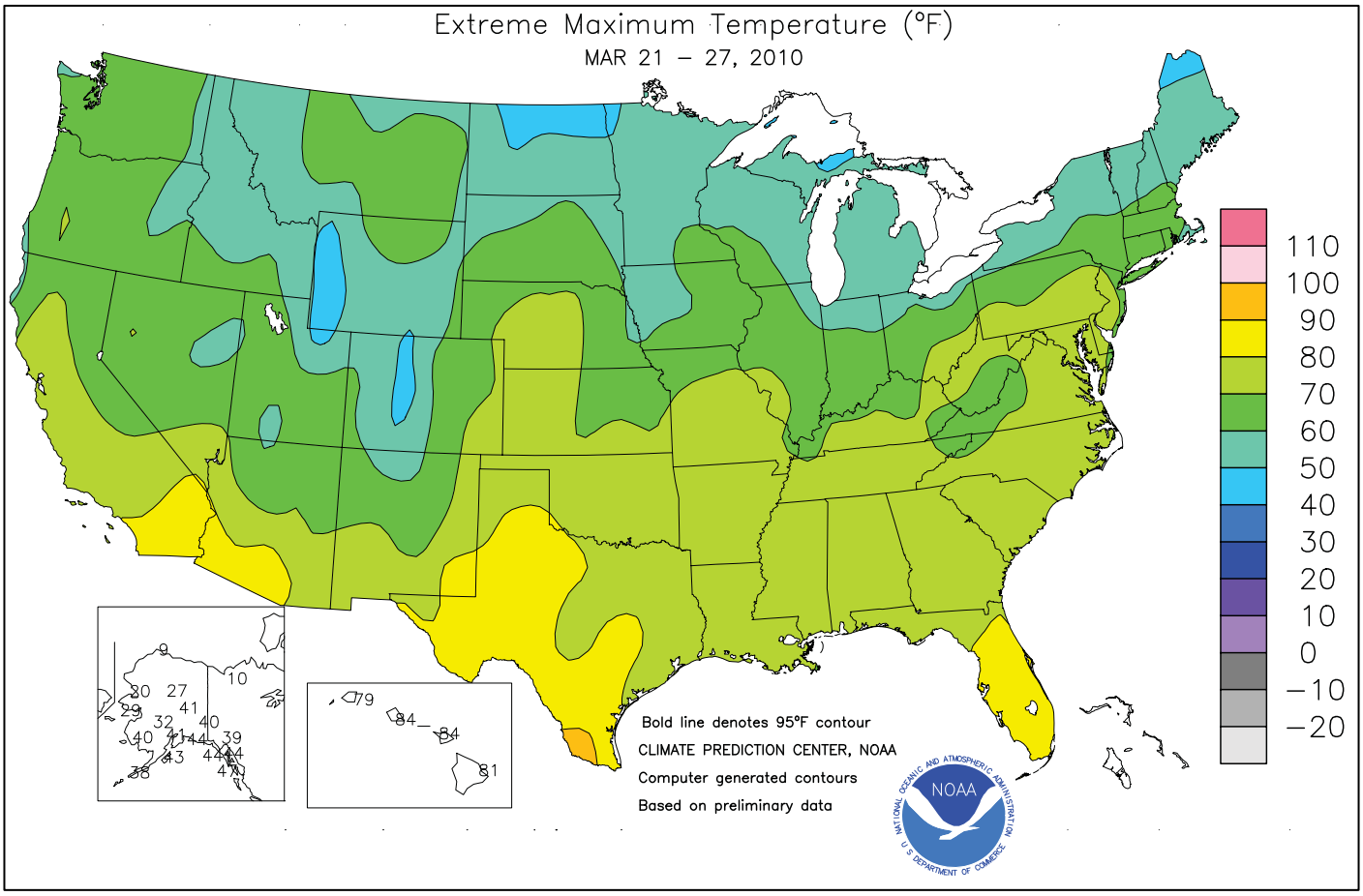
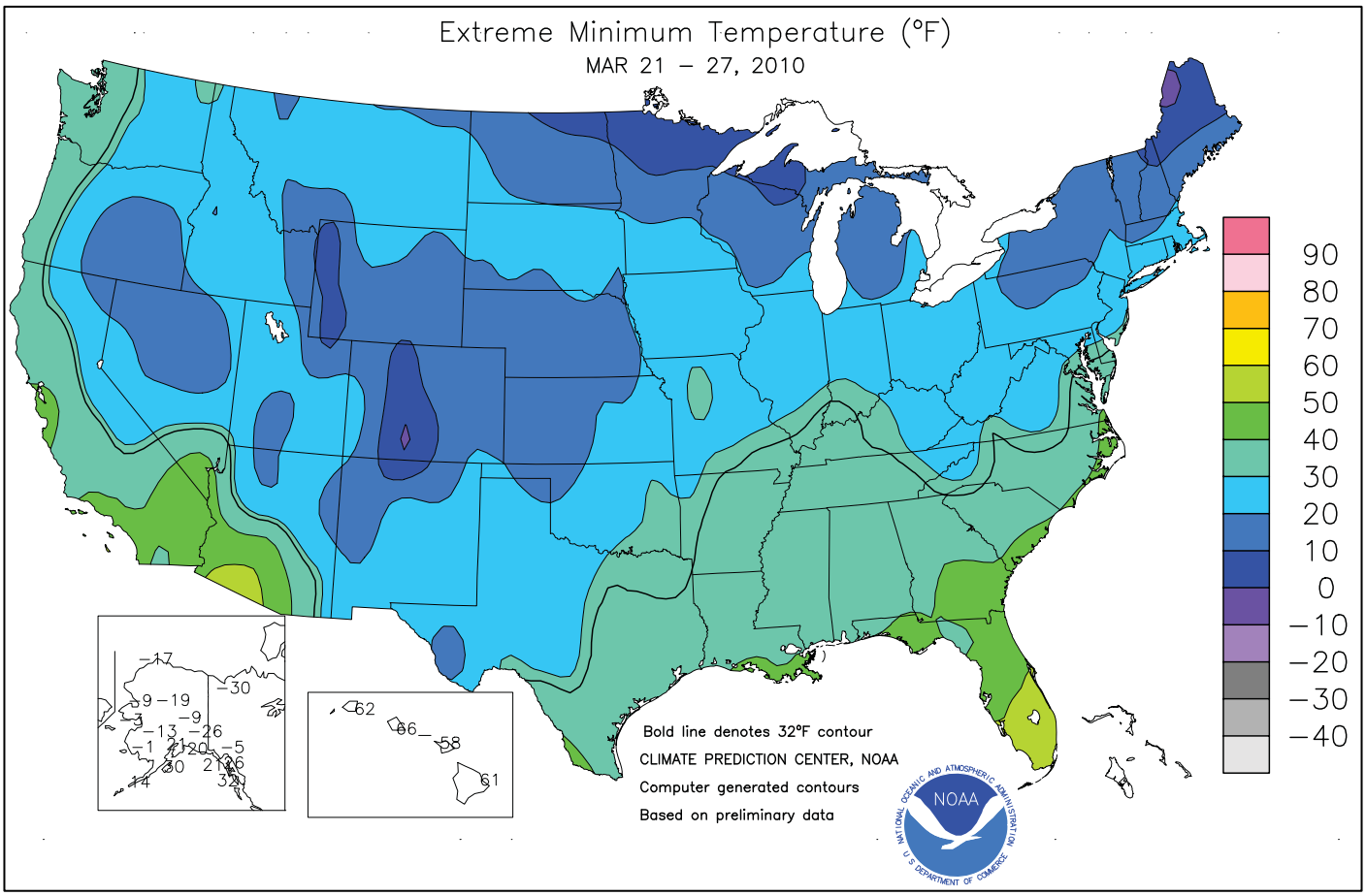
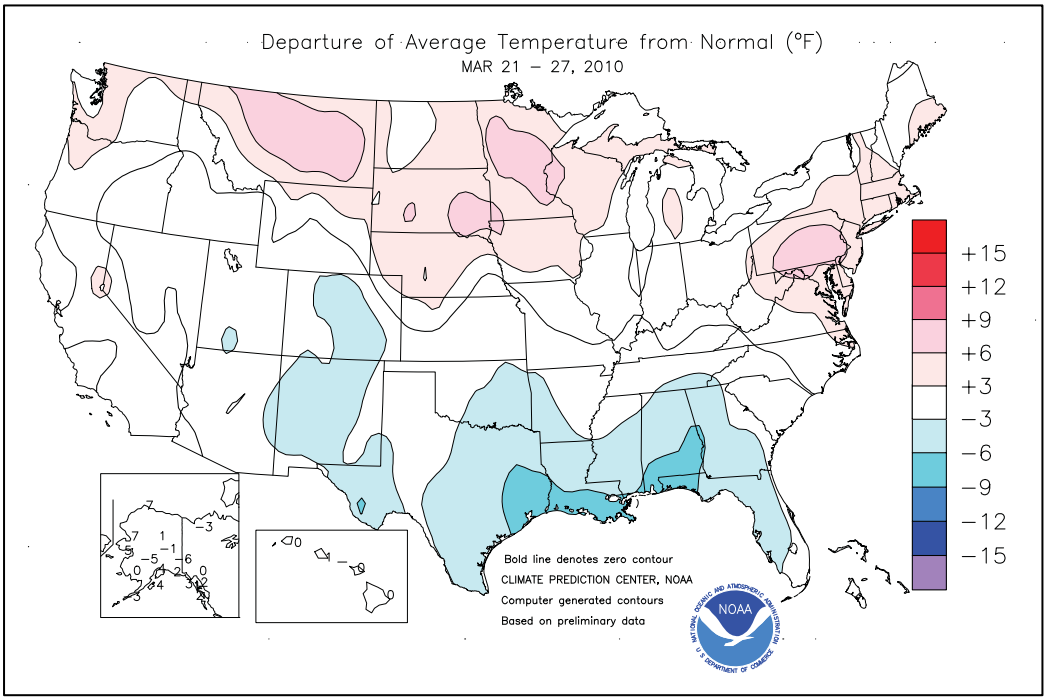
Contents


Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F)
MAR 21 – 27, 2010
110
100
90
80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
−10
−20
Bold line denotes 95°F contour
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA
Computer generated contours
Based on preliminary data
NOAA


Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)
MAR 21 – 27, 2010
90
80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
−10
−20
−30
−40
Bold line denotes 32°F contour
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA
Computer generated contours
Based on preliminary data
NOAA

(Continued from front cover)



significant concern across the **northern half of the West**. Farther east, winter wheat began to break dormancy under mild, dry conditions on the **northern Plains**, where temperatures occasionally climbed above 60°F. On the **central and southern Plains**, rain and wet snow slowed fieldwork but maintained generally favorable moisture levels for pastures and winter wheat. Meanwhile, lowland flooding persisted in parts of the **upper Midwest**, despite a stretch of mild, mostly dry weather. In the **Ohio and middle Mississippi Valleys**, at least an inch of rain largely postponed pre-planting fieldwork activities. Fieldwork was also stalled by heavy rain across the **interior Southeast**, but planting activities proceeded—despite cool conditions—from **southern Texas into Georgia and the Carolinas**. Weekly temperatures averaged more than 5°F below normal across parts of the **Deep South**, but ranged from 5 to 10°F above normal across the **northern High Plains**, the **upper Midwest**, and the **northern Mid-Atlantic region**.

Early in the week, chilly air continued to spread across the **Deep South**. Daily-record lows in **southern Texas** for March 21 included 31°F in **Del Rio**, 36°F in **Harlingen**, and 37°F in **Brownsville**. **Harlingen** (37°F) posted another daily-record low on March 22, along with **Wichita Falls, TX** (25°F). In addition, some snow lingered across the **Mid-South** on March 21, when **Harrison, AR**, received a daily-record total of 6.0 inches. Meanwhile, a cold front swept warmth out of the **East**, but not before daily-record highs were established on March 21 in locations such as **Allentown, PA** (74°F), and **Binghamton, NY** (66°F). Heavy rain accompanied the return to cool weather in the **East**, where daily-record amounts for March 23 reached 3.30 inches in **Providence, RI**; 2.22 inches in **Boston, MA**; and 2.04 inches in **Bangor, ME.** **Monpelier, VT**, noted consecutive daily-record amounts on March 22-23, totaling 2.02 inches.

Farther west, another storm quickly moved in behind the departing **Eastern** system. On March 22-23, snowfall totaled 18 inches on **Casper Mountain**, just south of **Casper, WY.** In **Colorado**, official totals for March 23-24 included 10.8 inches in **Denver**, 5.5 inches in **Colorado Springs**, and 4.7 inches in **Pueblo**. On March 24-25, snowfall totals reached 8.1 inches in **Dalhart, TX**, and 8.0 inches in **Boise City, OK.** Heavy rain fell farther east, with daily-record totals reported on March 25 in **Missouri** locations such as **Joplin** (1.93 inches) and **West Plains** (1.40 inches). Toward week's end, yet another storm arrived in the **Northwest**, where **Pocatello, ID** (3.0 inches), received a daily-record snowfall for March 26. **Ouray, CO**, was blanketed by 15.5 inches of snow in a 24-hour period on March 26-27. Meanwhile, high winds raked the **Southwest**, where **El Paso, TX**, experienced a dust storm and clocked a westerly wind gust to 84 m.p.h. on March 26. Other peak gusts on March 26 included 78 m.p.h. on **Whitaker Peak in southern California** and 71 m.p.h. at **Fort Stanton, NM.** Farther north and east, flooding persisted in parts of the **upper Midwest**. For example, the **West Fork of the Des Moines River** climbed 5.26 feet above flood stage at **Estherville, IA**, on March 23, representing the highest water level there since the summer of 1993. The **Red River** crest continued to move northward and reached **Drayton, ND** (10.19 feet above flood stage; seventh-highest level on record) on March 28.

Mild, mostly dry weather prevailed across the **Alaskan mainland**, while rain and snow affected the state's southern tier. **Juneau's** weekly total of 1.58 inches included daily-record precipitation and snowfall totals (0.70 and 3.1 inches, respectively) on March 23. Meanwhile, season-to-date snowfall through March 27 stood at just 24.8 inches (38 percent of normal) in **Fairbanks** and 36.7 inches (41 percent) in **McGrath**. Farther south, **Hawaiian** showers were mostly confined to windward locations. On March 21-22, 24-hour **Big Island** totals included 4.95 inches in **Laupahoehoe** and 3.91 inches in **Piihonua**. Elsewhere on the **Big Island**, **Hilo's** month-to-date rainfall was 7.78 inches (63 percent of normal), while the year-to-date total stood at just 10.10 inches (33 percent). Meanwhile on **Oahu**, **Honolulu** received 1.97 inches (29 percent of normal) from January 1 - March 27.

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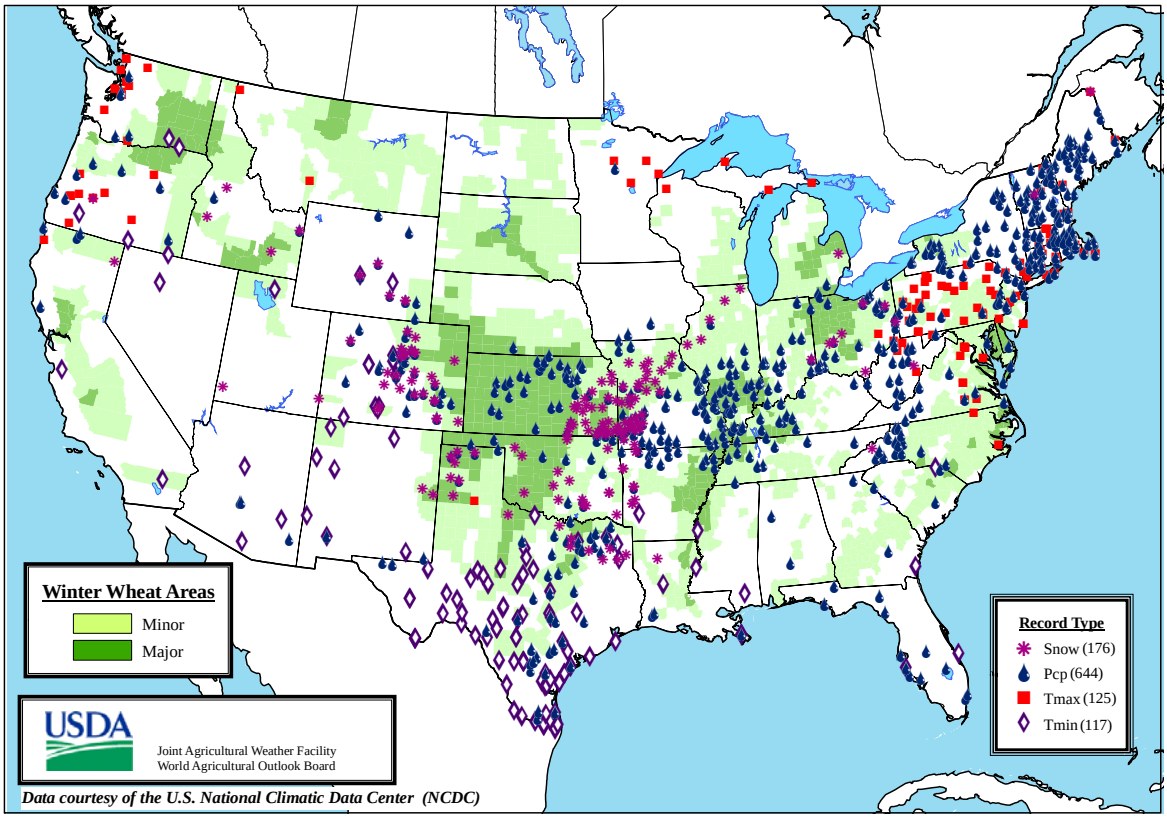
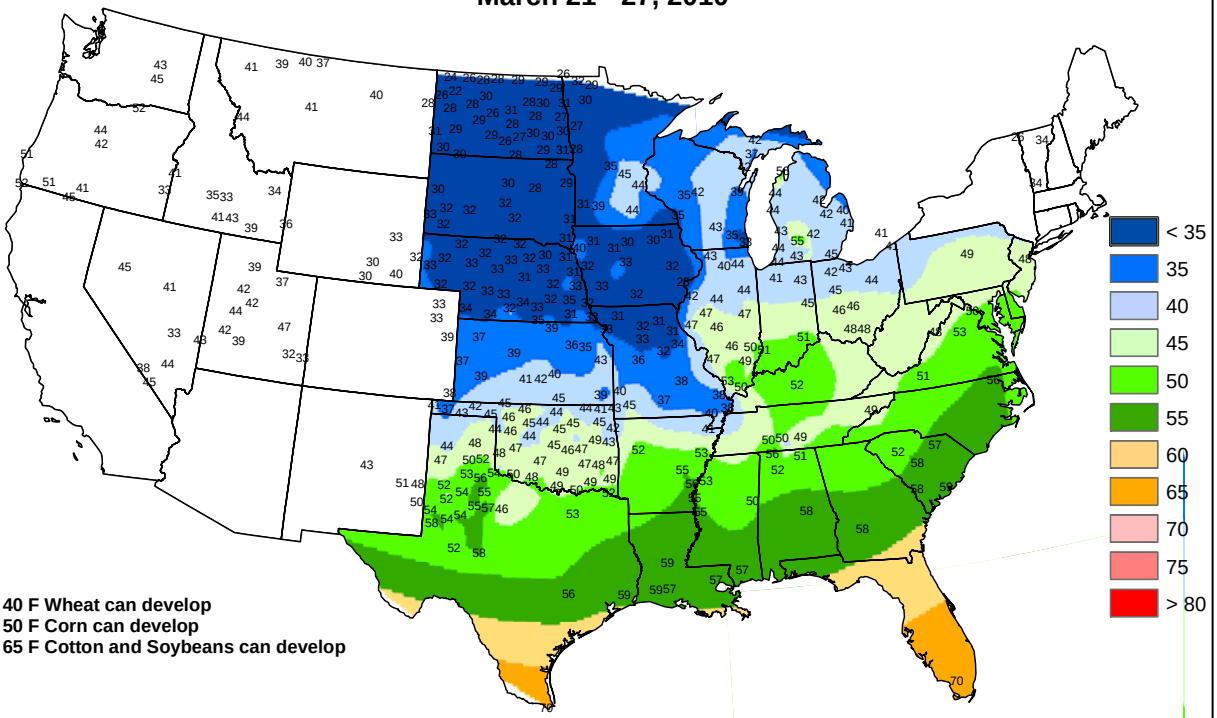
Daily Weather Records (ASOS & COOP)

March 21-27, 2010



Average Soil Temperature (° F, 4" Bare)

March 21 - 27, 2010



Based on preliminary data

NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY

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

Agricultural Weather Data Compiled by USDA's Stoneville Field Office

Weather Data for the Week Ending March 27, 2010

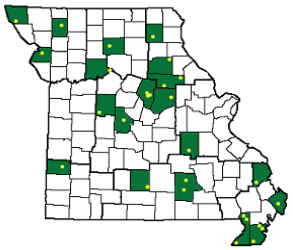
Data Provided by the Mississippi State Delta Research and Extension Center (DREC) and the University of Missouri Commercial Agriculture Program.

STATES AND STATIONS		TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							4-INCH SOIL TEMP. °F		NUMBER OF DAYS			
																	TEMP. °F		PRECIP	
		AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL IN. SINCE MAR01	PCT. NORMAL SINCE MAR01	TOTAL, IN., SINCE JAN01	PCT. NORMAL SINCE JAN01	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
MISSISSIPPI																				
ND	TUNICA 1W	63	42	70	37	53	-	1.31	-	0.48	2.67	-	9.42	-	-	-	0	0	4	0
	LYON	65	43	72	36	54	-	1.55	-	0.90	2.60	-	9.91	-	58	51	0	0	4	1
	VANCE	64	43	72	36	54	-	0.70	-	0.34	1.33	-	9.76	-	60	50	0	0	4	0
	PERTHSHIRE	65	43	71	36	54	-	1.08	-	0.48	2.09	-	10.81	-	60	48	0	0	4	0
	SCOTT	65	44	73	35	54	-	0.51	-	0.18	1.11	-	9.89	-	61	51	0	0	5	0
	SANDY RIDGE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NE	VERONA	64	41	72	34	53	-	1.55	-	0.96	3.16	-	10.31	-	59	47	0	0	3	2
SD	STONEVILLE x	65	40	72	36	53	-4	0.81	-0.52	0.50	1.86	38	13.09	88	64	52	0	0	3	1
	INDIANOLA 1S*	65	44	70	36	55	-	0.56	-	0.31	1.88	-	10.49	-	-	-	0	0	4	0
	INVERNESS 5E	65	44	72	36	55	-	0.26	-	0.08	0.73	-	10.88	-	60	51	0	0	4	0
	SIDON	67	45	73	36	56	-	0.82	-	0.46	2.73	-	10.77	-	61	53	0	0	4	0
	NORTH ISSAQUENA	65	44	73	36	55	-	0.40	-	0.17	1.00	-	9.37	-	62	53	0	0	3	0
	SILVER CITY	65	44	73	36	55	-	0.80	-	0.38	2.77	-	9.58	-	59	52	0	0	4	0
	ONWARD	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	MAYDAY	67	44	75	36	56	-	0.90	-	0.37	3.57	-	11.09	-	59	52	0	0	4	1
MISSOURI																				
NW	CORNING	55	34	64	24	44	-1	1.57	1.17	1.20	3.20	184	4.50	131	-	-	0	3	2	1
	ALBANY	54	33	66	24	44	-1	0.77	0.28	0.74	2.54	130	3.29	81	47	39	0	4	2	1
	ST. JOSEPH	53	35	65	28	44	-2	1.55	1.11	0.81	2.82	158	3.89	107	-	-	0	3	3	2
NC	LINNEUS	57	34	69	29	45	0	0.33	-0.20	0.22	1.86	93	3.42	79	47	40	0	4	4	0
	BRUNSWICK	56	36	70	29	45	-2	0.89	0.36	0.41	2.28	111	3.88	77	47	41	0	1	4	0
NE	NOVELTY	56	34	68	27	45	-1	0.37	-0.18	0.16	2.07	96	4.64	93	52	38	0	2	4	0
	MONROE CITY	56	34	69	26	45	-1	0.69	0.10	0.38	1.92	85	4.59	83	48	40	0	3	4	0
WC	GREEN RIDGE	57	36	71	29	46	-1	1.15	0.55	0.46	2.11	90	5.02	87	50	40	0	1	4	0
C	AUXVASSE	58	36	71	28	46	0	0.86	0.23	0.45	2.37	99	6.80	111	49	41	0	2	4	0
	COL-SANBORN FLD	58	37	72	31	47	-1	1.17	0.54	0.56	2.75	111	7.23	110	52	41	0	2	4	1
	WILLIAMSBURG	57	35	72	28	46	0	0.58	-0.07	0.21	2.10	84	5.94	86	53	44	0	1	4	0
	COL-JEFFERS F&G	58	36	72	30	46	-2	0.98	0.33	0.40	2.59	105	6.63	102	50	42	0	3	4	0
	COL SOUTH FARMS	58	36	71	29	46	-2	1.19	0.54	0.48	2.97	120	7.41	114	-	-	0	2	4	0
	COL-BF	58	34	71	28	45	-3	1.05	0.40	0.44	2.81	114	6.92	106	50	39	0	3	4	0
	VERSAILLES	59	37	75	30	47	-2	1.45	0.88	0.63	2.73	112	7.05	112	49	40	0	2	4	1
EC	VANDALIA	57	34	70	26	45	0	0.76	0.21	0.45	2.08	83	6.07	95	51	39	0	2	4	0
SW	LAMAR	57	37	70	29	46	-3	1.66	1.06	0.88	2.53	87	5.22	74	49	40	0	2	4	1
SC	COOK STATION	61	34	74	27	47	-2	2.38	1.77	0.97	3.02	100	7.52	98	54	43	0	2	5	3
	MOUNTAIN GROVE	58	36	69	29	46	-1	2.43	1.84	1.29	2.96	92	6.94	82	51	41	0	2	5	2
SE	DELTA	57	38	66	32	48	-2	3.47	2.80	1.82	4.54	129	7.87	79	54	44	0	0	4	2
	CHARLESTON	59	39	68	34	49	0	3.37	2.72	1.83	4.48	141	8.58	86	54	44	0	0	4	2
	GLENNONVILLE	60	41	68	35	50	-1	2.73	2.22	1.37	4.02	130	8.23	88	55	46	0	0	4	2
	CLARKTON	61	39	69	32	49	-2	3.29	2.77	1.79	4.58	146	8.76	92	56	45	0	0	4	2
	PORTAGEVILLE DC	60	41	69	35	51	-1	3.84	3.25	1.61	5.33	161	9.95	95	59	45	0	0	4	3
	PORTAGEVILLE LF	61	40	70	35	51	0	3.38	2.77	1.48	4.72	141	9.18	89	57	45	0	0	4	3
	STEELE	61	41	69	36	51	-1	2.99	2.27	1.13	4.47	125	9.13	85	57	47	0	0	4	3
	CARDWELL	61	40	69	37	51	-1	2.91	2.14	1.15	4.22	117	8.34	79	58	46	0	0	4	3

Compiled by USDA/OCE/WAOB's Stoneville Field Office. * Beasley Lake. X Based on 1971-2000 normals. - Sufficient data not available.
Data are preliminary and subject to revision.
Mississippi: ND = Northern Delta; NE = Northeastern Mississippi; EC = East Central Mississippi; SD = Southern Delta
Missouri: NW = Northwest; NC = North Central; NE = Northeast; WC = West Central; C = Central; EC = East Central; SW = Southwest; SE = Southeast; SC = South Central. (Col=Columbia, Col-Jeffers F&G=Columbia Jefferson Farm and Gardens, Col-BF=Bradford Farm)

Weather and Crop Summary for the Mississippi Delta: Temperatures plummeted almost 30 degrees F early week, along with a few reports of snow flurries and sleet. Temperatures rebounded by mid-week. While there were several periods of rainy weather, precipitation did not completely halt spring planting for corn, tilling, or burndown preparations.

Missouri Weather Stations



Note: For information on the weather stations in Missouri please visit:
http://agebb.missouri.edu/weather/stations/index.htm

Mississippi Weather Stations

Note: For information on the weather stations in Mississippi please visit:
http://www.deltaweather.msstate.edu/maps/weather_station_map.htm

National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending March 27, 2010

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

STATES AND STATIONS		TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS TEMP. °F		NUMBER OF DAYS PRECIP	
		AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL, IN., SINCE MAR 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE MAR 1	TOTAL, IN., SINCE JAN 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE JAN 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
AL	BIRMINGHAM	63	42	72	36	52	-4	1.21	-0.20	0.70	6.80	130	13.95	94	92	49	0	0	3	1
	HUNTSVILLE	61	41	73	35	51	-3	2.45	0.96	1.82	4.55	78	13.04	80	82	70	0	0	3	1
	MOBILE	67	44	74	37	55	-7	0.40	-1.24	0.35	4.06	65	20.60	120	88	68	0	0	2	0
	MONTGOMERY	66	42	74	38	54	-5	0.19	-1.20	0.12	4.07	72	15.12	94	88	47	0	0	2	0
AK	ANCHORAGE	38	25	41	21	31	3	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.37	69	1.89	96	66	52	0	7	0	0
	BARROW	1	-12	9	-17	-6	7	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.11	1100	0.52	217	84	72	0	7	1	0
	FAIRBANKS	29	-1	41	-9	14	-1	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.07	33	0.25	22	58	48	0	7	0	0
	JUNEAU	42	32	44	26	37	2	1.45	0.74	0.71	5.50	175	11.82	99	96	83	0	5	4	1
	KODIAK	41	33	43	30	37	4	1.56	0.40	0.58	4.34	96	25.23	137	88	79	0	2	6	1
	NOME	24	6	29	-3	15	5	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.16	35	0.83	39	67	53	0	7	0	0
AZ	FLAGSTAFF	52	22	59	15	37	-1	0.00	-0.53	0.00	1.26	53	8.53	120	75	18	0	7	0	0
	PHOENIX	76	53	82	51	64	0	0.52	0.31	0.52	1.09	116	4.88	192	59	30	0	0	1	1
	PRESCOTT	63	33	69	27	48	3	0.00	-0.37	0.00	0.85	49	8.49	163	54	12	0	5	0	0
	TUCSON	73	45	81	40	59	-1	0.12	-0.02	0.10	0.15	21	4.13	161	58	25	0	0	2	0
AR	FORT SMITH	62	38	75	32	50	-4	1.35	0.45	0.63	2.63	78	7.25	87	89	49	0	1	3	2
	LITTLE ROCK	66	42	75	38	54	-1	1.14	-0.02	0.57	2.24	55	9.75	89	88	46	0	0	3	1
CA	BAKERSFIELD	72	45	81	40	59	1	0.00	-0.29	0.00	0.24	20	3.83	106	76	49	0	0	0	0
	FRESNO	71	46	77	41	58	2	0.00	-0.46	0.00	0.83	42	5.82	93	82	54	0	0	0	0
	LOS ANGELES	68	53	82	51	61	3	0.00	-0.45	0.00	0.21	9	7.74	93	82	56	0	0	0	0
	REDDING	67	42	76	34	55	2	0.06	-1.02	0.06	1.67	36	17.50	105	80	49	0	0	1	0
	SACRAMENTO	69	45	73	38	57	2	0.03	-0.53	0.03	2.70	105	9.78	98	84	39	0	0	1	0
	SAN DIEGO	70	55	78	52	63	3	0.00	-0.48	0.00	0.68	34	6.34	100	80	57	0	0	0	0
	SAN FRANCISCO	64	48	71	45	56	2	0.08	-0.57	0.04	2.21	74	10.88	95	87	66	0	0	2	0
	STOCKTON	69	42	74	40	56	0	0.01	-0.46	0.01	1.44	71	7.55	105	86	58	0	0	1	0
CO	ALAMOSA	48	16	58	5	32	-2	0.30	0.19	0.30	1.01	306	1.85	234	78	48	0	7	1	0
	CO SPRINGS	51	25	65	16	38	-1	0.32	0.06	0.25	0.52	65	1.13	79	80	29	0	7	3	0
	DENVER INTL	50	27	66	15	39	-1	0.62	0.44	0.61	0.79	105	1.16	96	76	43	0	6	2	1
	GRAND JUNCTION	55	30	62	25	43	-2	0.12	-0.10	0.11	1.22	153	2.23	117	75	42	0	5	2	0
	PUEBLO	56	24	72	14	40	-3	0.71	0.47	0.38	1.01	140	1.97	150	86	52	0	6	3	0
CT	BRIDGEPORT	51	38	61	27	44	3	2.33	1.36	1.62	3.84	111	11.22	111	80	57	0	2	4	2
	HARTFORD	55	36	72	22	46	6	1.80	0.89	0.87	3.09	95	9.70	96	75	43	0	2	4	2
DC	WASHINGTON	63	44	76	33	54	6	0.89	0.09	0.53	2.54	81	6.82	76	75	39	0	0	4	1
DE	WILMINGTON	60	40	71	27	50	6	0.69	-0.21	0.34	3.21	94	11.60	120	88	41	0	1	4	0
FL	DAYTONA BEACH	74	53	80	49	64	-2	1.67	0.79	0.95	4.97	152	14.81	162	96	47	0	0	2	2
	JACKSONVILLE	71	47	79	41	59	-4	0.31	-0.60	0.16	1.45	43	8.12	80	94	48	0	0	2	0
	KEY WEST	76	66	81	61	71	-3	0.06	-0.37	0.05	0.43	29	6.21	119	87	70	0	0	2	0
	MIAMI	80	64	86	60	72	-1	1.04	0.43	0.84	2.48	122	8.06	135	86	57	0	0	2	1
	ORLANDO	75	54	80	49	65	-3	2.21	1.39	1.46	6.50	216	14.38	185	91	59	0	0	2	2
	PENSACOLA	65	47	71	40	56	-6	1.08	-0.38	0.69	3.87	69	15.97	102	87	60	0	0	3	1
	TALLAHASSEE	71	46	77	38	59	-3	0.89	-0.57	0.75	5.14	90	18.19	116	90	56	0	0	3	1
	TAMPA	74	57	83	51	66	-2	1.10	0.51	0.67	4.07	162	9.48	127	92	53	0	0	2	1
	WEST PALM BEACH	78	60	83	54	69	-2	1.00	0.09	0.57	10.22	342	16.64	179	84	60	0	0	3	1
GA	ATHENS	65	42	78	34	53	-2	0.33	-0.75	0.25	2.37	54	12.78	95	82	59	0	0	4	0
	ATLANTA	60	41	73	36	51	-5	0.62	-0.55	0.41	4.42	93	13.97	97	85	64	0	0	3	0
	AUGUSTA	68	43	77	37	56	-1	0.17	-0.85	0.17	2.71	67	10.46	83	85	51	0	0	1	0
	COLUMBUS	64	42	73	38	53	-6	0.47	-0.81	0.42	3.65	72	12.56	88	87	43	0	0	2	0
	MACON	67	43	76	40	55	-3	0.09	-0.97	0.09	3.39	78	11.96	86	92	42	0	0	1	0
	SAVANNAH	69	48	76	40	59	-2	0.06	-0.81	0.06	2.13	71	11.66	118	86	56	0	0	1	0
HI	HILO	79	65	81	61	72	0	2.01	-1.47	1.29	8.39	70	10.71	35	87	76	0	0	6	1
	HONOLULU	83	69	84	66	76	1	0.09	-0.27	0.08	0.63	37	2.01	30	75	66	0	0	2	0
	KAHULUI	81	66	84	58	74	1	0.13	-0.39	0.09	1.53	78	3.15	39	84	75	0	0	3	0
	LIHUE	78	67	79	62	73	0	0.21	-0.58	0.21	1.60	52	3.60	33	81	72	0	0	1	0
ID	BOISE	55	35	62	27	45	0	0.31	0.01	0.21	1.30	113	3.51	95	71	46	0	2	3	0
	LEWISTON	57	36	63	31	47	1	0.36	0.11	0.16	0.82	91	3.13	105	74	51	0	2	3	0
	POCATELLO	51	26	59	19	39	0	0.23	-0.07	0.16	0.59	51	1.69	51	81	50	0	6	2	0
IL	CHICAGO/O'HARE	49	31	59	27	40	1	0.06	-0.60	0.03	1.55	75	4.32	79	79	44	0	4	3	0
	MOLINE	55	32	66	25	44	3	0.09	-0.63	0.05	2.85	123	6.08	113	79	47	0	5	2	0
	PEORIA	55	33	66	27	44	2	0.86	0.19	0.42	2.90	125	6.64	121	77	37	0	3	3	0
	ROCKFORD	52	28	62	20	40	2	0.02	-0.58	0.02	1.42	78	2.93	64	75	44	0	6	1	0
	SPRINGFIELD	57	34	68	25	45	1	0.79	0.05	0.70	1.80	69	5.25	87	84	47	0	3	3	1
IN	EVANSVILLE	59	37	69	33	48	0	2.66	1.67	1.24	3.50	96	7.49	78	90	70	0	0	3	2
	FORT WAYNE	51	32	59	26	42	2	0.76	0.08	0.52	1.64	71	3.32	53	82	47	0	3	2	1
	INDIANAPOLIS	55	35	65	29	45	1	1.30	0.50	0.75	2.52	87	4.71	60	82	48	0	2	2	2
	SOUTH BEND	52	30	58	21	41	1	0.11	-0.59	0.11	1.64	71	4.20	64	71	42	0	5	1	0
IA	BURLINGTON	56	35	66	27	45	2	0.26	-0.44	0.23	2.56	106	4.61	88	78	42	0	2	2	0
	CEDAR RAPIDS	54	30	64	22	42	3	0.23	-0.33	0.23	1.52	88	4.16	107	80	34	0	5	1	0
	DES MOINES	54	34	61	26	44	3	0.26	-0.30	0.15	1.94	114	4.70	120	67	43	0	3	2	0
	DUBUQUE	52	30	61	21	41	4	0.00	-0.63	0.00	1.02	50	3.65	77	72	42	0	5	0	0
	SIOUX CITY	55	29	60	20	42	3	0.04	-0.46	0.04	1.38	90	3.68	134	80	51	0	5	1	0
	WATERLOO	54	27	61	19	40	2	0.00	-0.53	0.00	0.93	57	2.77	78	79	38	0	5	0	0
KS	CONCORDIA	56	32	65	19	44	0	1.25	0.70	1.04	2.73	141	3.61	109	83	53	0	3	3	1
	DODGE CITY	58	29	71	17	44	-2	0.72	0.27	0.37	2.12	146	3.44	126	82	43	0	4	2	0
	GOODLAND	58	27	71	18	42	1	0.02	-0.25	0.02	1.62	164	2.40	129	77	51	0	6	1	0
	TOPEKA	56	34	70	25	45	-1	0.28	-0.33	0.19	1.45	70	3.50	83	85	52	0	4	2	0

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

Weather Data for the Week Ending March 27, 2010

STATES AND STATIONS		TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS			
																	TEMP. °F		PRECIP	
		AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL, IN., SINCE MAR 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE MAR 1	TOTAL, IN., SINCE JAN01	PCT. NORMAL SINCE JAN01	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
	WICHITA	60	35	72	21	47	-1	0.17	-0.46	0.17	1.71	76	3.24	79	80	51	0	2	1	0
KY	JACKSON	61	39	71	30	50	1	0.78	-0.16	0.28	1.71	45	9.09	82	89	41	0	2	5	0
	LEXINGTON	59	38	69	30	48	0	0.47	-0.50	0.27	0.88	23	5.50	53	76	55	0	2	4	0
	LOUISVILLE	61	39	70	32	50	1	0.76	-0.22	0.46	1.07	28	5.84	56	86	45	0	1	3	0
	PADUCAH	59	37	69	33	48	-2	2.71	1.76	1.77	3.66	100	8.36	76	93	53	0	0	4	2
LA	BATON ROUGE	69	46	75	38	58	-4	0.65	-0.50	0.65	2.54	59	11.43	73	89	42	0	0	1	1
	LAKE CHARLES	68	47	72	37	58	-4	0.55	-0.27	0.47	1.61	54	9.29	79	89	45	0	0	2	0
	NEW ORLEANS	69	48	80	39	59	-5	0.02	-1.17	0.02	2.91	65	11.75	74	85	61	0	0	1	0
	SHREVEPORT	67	42	76	33	54	-6	0.61	-0.30	0.35	3.22	89	9.69	78	90	44	0	0	3	0
ME	CARIBOU	36	20	48	2	28	1	0.87	0.29	0.62	0.87	41	4.13	58	83	43	0	7	3	1
	PORTLAND	45	30	56	19	38	2	3.14	2.16	2.40	6.66	193	15.75	147	87	51	0	4	5	1
MD	BALTIMORE	61	40	75	30	51	6	0.79	-0.08	0.50	4.57	133	10.96	110	80	49	0	1	3	1
MA	BOSTON	50	37	65	25	43	2	2.49	1.61	2.20	9.93	306	16.18	155	84	51	0	2	4	1
	WORCESTER	48	31	60	19	40	4	2.04	1.05	1.64	5.99	168	14.05	131	91	45	0	2	4	1
MI	ALPENA	45	20	59	14	32	2	0.00	-0.50	0.00	0.43	25	1.55	32	75	34	0	7	0	0
	GRAND RAPIDS	52	28	60	19	40	3	0.00	-0.65	0.00	0.87	43	3.52	63	67	31	0	5	0	0
	HOUGHTON LAKE	48	20	57	13	34	2	0.00	-0.50	0.00	0.65	40	1.50	33	75	39	0	7	0	0
	LANSING	50	27	57	17	39	3	0.05	-0.54	0.05	0.43	24	2.64	54	69	40	0	6	1	0
	MUSKEGON	48	26	57	19	37	1	0.00	-0.58	0.00	0.91	49	3.95	70	74	38	0	6	0	0
	TRAVERSE CITY	48	22	54	19	35	2	0.00	-0.49	0.00	0.47	31	2.76	44	84	30	0	7	0	0
MN	DULUTH	46	24	56	10	35	7	0.04	-0.39	0.04	0.98	75	2.49	77	69	46	0	6	1	0
	INT'L FALLS	44	18	50	5	31	5	0.03	-0.20	0.03	0.63	89	1.73	79	79	36	0	7	1	0
	MINNEAPOLIS	52	30	61	24	41	6	0.00	-0.47	0.00	0.69	48	1.89	58	58	30	0	5	0	0
	ROCHESTER	50	28	60	21	39	6	0.13	-0.36	0.13	1.07	77	2.47	80	74	42	0	5	1	0
	ST. CLOUD	51	26	58	19	38	7	0.02	-0.38	0.02	1.21	111	2.70	111	70	28	0	6	1	0
MS	JACKSON	68	43	75	36	56	-2	1.15	-0.20	0.78	3.37	70	12.61	84	91	45	0	0	2	1
	MERIDIAN	66	39	75	34	53	-6	0.76	-0.81	0.55	5.47	91	14.62	85	95	68	0	0	3	1
	TUPELO	63	40	71	34	52	-3	1.23	-0.18	1.02	3.02	55	11.57	76	88	76	0	0	3	1
MO	COLUMBIA	58	36	70	29	47	1	0.77	0.03	0.44	2.72	103	7.31	111	88	48	0	3	4	0
	KANSAS CITY	55	36	70	28	46	0	0.70	0.15	0.40	2.19	109	3.95	88	86	50	0	2	3	0
	SAINT LOUIS	60	38	73	29	49	1	1.05	0.22	0.74	2.08	69	5.36	72	80	58	0	1	3	1
	SPRINGFIELD	58	35	72	29	46	-2	1.51	0.58	0.73	3.12	100	6.92	92	90	59	0	4	4	1
MT	BILLINGS	56	36	61	28	46	8	0.13	-0.14	0.12	0.17	20	1.65	74	68	35	0	2	2	0
	BUTTE	48	24	57	17	36	4	0.08	-0.11	0.06	0.23	35	1.19	72	85	30	0	7	2	0
	CUT BANK	52	30	60	23	41	9	0.02	-0.11	0.02	0.05	13	0.11	10	83	33	0	4	1	0
	GLASGOW	54	28	64	24	41	8	0.03	-0.08	0.03	0.17	50	0.88	93	90	65	0	6	1	0
	GREAT FALLS	56	32	63	24	44	9	0.00	-0.23	0.00	0.19	24	1.98	100	80	25	0	4	0	0
	HAVRE	54	29	63	25	42	7	0.38	0.22	0.22	0.38	69	0.91	66	88	62	0	6	2	0
	MISSOULA	53	28	58	22	41	2	0.08	-0.11	0.05	0.49	64	1.42	55	83	53	0	5	3	0
NE	GRAND ISLAND	56	31	72	18	43	3	0.07	-0.43	0.07	2.52	156	3.72	131	82	55	0	4	1	0
	LINCOLN	55	26	61	15	40	-2	0.65	0.11	0.58	1.68	97	3.49	114	80	55	0	6	1	1
	NORFOLK	55	31	64	18	43	4	0.00	-0.48	0.00	0.94	61	2.65	92	76	53	0	3	0	0
	NORTH PLATTE	57	26	72	15	42	2	0.01	-0.28	0.01	2.24	231	3.23	173	81	34	0	5	1	0
	OMAHA	55	30	59	21	42	0	0.12	-0.40	0.12	1.61	95	3.43	105	83	53	0	5	1	0
	SCOTTSBLUFF	57	27	67	17	42	3	0.23	-0.05	0.23	0.41	46	1.39	69	79	48	0	6	1	0
	VALENTINE	56	26	69	16	41	4	0.01	-0.25	0.01	1.20	141	1.82	112	81	52	0	6	1	0
NV	ELY	51	23	60	15	37	0	0.01	-0.21	0.01	0.47	53	1.48	62	77	35	0	6	1	0
	LAS VEGAS	71	51	79	47	61	2	0.00	-0.10	0.00	0.15	28	3.23	178	31	17	0	0	0	0
	RENO	64	36	73	34	50	6	0.06	-0.09	0.06	0.07	9	3.20	111	52	28	0	0	1	0
	WINNEMUCCA	56	23	65	13	39	-3	0.06	-0.13	0.02	0.95	138	2.23	104	75	36	0	6	2	0
NH	CONCORD	48	29	61	14	39	4	1.74	1.04	1.34	4.21	166	10.67	136	90	45	0	3	5	1
NJ	NEWARK	57	41	64	28	49	5	1.26	0.28	1.20	6.50	182	13.65	130	71	43	0	2	4	1
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	58	34	67	30	46	-3	0.04	-0.09	0.04	0.40	82	1.21	85	63	22	0	3	1	0
NY	ALBANY	49	30	58	20	40	3	1.73	1.00	0.92	1.86	73	7.60	105	80	44	0	4	4	1
	BINGHAMTON	51	29	66	17	40	5	1.33	0.64	0.84	1.67	68	6.16	82	80	45	0	4	3	1
	BUFFALO	42	30	49	21	36	0	0.79	0.10	0.42	1.45	58	6.24	77	82	57	0	4	3	0
	ROCHESTER	44	30	54	20	37	1	0.95	0.35	0.50	1.70	80	6.34	98	80	59	0	4	3	1
	SYRACUSE	48	30	57	18	39	3	1.58	0.86	0.67	1.67	68	4.96	69	85	48	0	3	3	2
NC	ASHEVILLE	58	34	72	31	46	-2	1.09	0.07	0.91	3.33	83	13.68	115	88	63	0	4	3	1
	CHARLOTTE	66	40	75	32	53	-1	0.51	-0.46	0.35	1.78	46	10.45	92	85	41	0	1	3	0
	GREENSBORO	65	41	73	33	53	2	0.18	-0.68	0.08	1.70	51	9.30	93	82	41	0	0	5	0
	HATTERAS	62	47	68	42	55	1	0.70	-0.43	0.59	4.49	105	16.26	116	91	61	0	0	3	1
	RALEIGH	68	41	76	32	55	3	0.07	-0.80	0.06	1.69	47	8.01	72	77	44	0	1	2	0
	WILMINGTON	69	44	76	40	56	-1	0.37	-0.55	0.25	2.65	71	10.30	87	89	40	0	0	2	0
ND	BISMARCK	47	25	57	19	36	4	0.05	-0.15	0.05	0.97	154	2.30	145	84	64	0	6	1	0
	DICKINSON	41	23	49	18	32	0	0.00	-0.18	0.00	0.22	54	1.13	93	90	60	0	7	0	0
	FARGO	46	27	53	14	36	6	0.00	-0.28	0.00	1.26	138	3.69	163	76	51	0	6	0	0
	GRAND FORKS	42	25	49	10	33	5	0.18	-0.02	0.18	1.45	213	2.58	133	85	57	0	6	1	0
	JAMESTOWN	44	24	59	15	34	4	0.01	-0.20	0.01	1.48	221	2.85	157	89	56	0	6	1	0
	WILLISTON	47	25	61	18	36	5	0.26	0.09	0.24	0.35	63	1.74	117	86	68	0	7	2	0
OH	AKRON-CANTON	53	31	66	23	42	2	1.97	1.25	1.49	2.77	105	7.35	99	82	61	0	4	3	1
	CINCINNATI	58	35	67	28	46	0	1.69	0.78	1.20	3.33	102	7.65	85	85	61	0	3	3	1
	CLEVELAND	47	32	57	26	40	0	1.22	0.53	0.80	1.56	64	5.96	83	79	52	0	4	3	1
	COLUMBUS	55	32	72	26	44	0	1.25	0.59	0.74	2.32	96	7.01	98	83	55	0	4	4	1
	DAYTON	54	32	63	26	43	1	1.60	0.81	0.94	3.67	137	6.63	88	82	56	0	3	3	2
	MANSFIELD	48	29	57	21	39	0	0.94	0.12	0.57	1.99	74	7.41	99	84	52	0	4	2	1

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

Weather Data for the Week Ending March 27, 2010

STATES AND STATIONS		TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS TEMP. °F		NUMBER OF DAYS PRECIP	
		AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL, IN., SINCE MAR 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE MAR 1	TOTAL, IN., SINCE JAN01	PCT. NORMAL SINCE JAN01	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
	TOLEDO	49	30	58	21	40	1	0.66	0.03	0.58	1.52	72	4.46	75	78	51	0	4	2	1
	YOUNGSTOWN	55	31	68	22	43	4	1.05	0.33	0.61	2.21	88	7.90	115	78	57	0	4	3	1
OK	OKLAHOMA CITY	62	37	76	27	50	-3	0.02	-0.63	0.02	0.98	40	6.22	117	83	43	0	2	1	0
	TULSA	61	39	74	30	50	-3	1.59	0.76	1.46	3.25	108	7.63	116	83	52	0	2	3	1
OR	ASTORIA	58	43	67	40	50	4	1.03	-0.56	0.47	4.76	73	23.36	97	87	66	0	0	4	0
	BURNS	51	22	59	14	37	-1	0.05	-0.20	0.02	0.39	36	3.88	115	84	56	0	7	3	0
	EUGENE	58	40	69	34	49	2	1.56	0.33	0.70	2.96	57	12.67	66	90	80	0	0	4	2
	MEDFORD	63	39	74	31	51	3	0.17	-0.21	0.13	1.24	76	5.04	81	86	43	0	1	3	0
	PENDLETON	60	36	68	29	48	2	0.07	-0.21	0.05	0.54	51	3.27	88	75	47	0	3	3	0
	PORTLAND	60	42	68	37	51	3	0.72	-0.06	0.30	1.99	60	9.73	78	90	70	0	0	6	0
	SALEM	59	41	69	33	50	3	1.49	0.64	0.73	2.96	79	12.88	88	89	72	0	0	5	2
PA	ALLENTOWN	60	36	74	22	48	7	1.22	0.41	1.02	2.50	83	9.03	97	79	42	0	3	3	1
	ERIE	43	29	50	19	36	-2	0.79	0.05	0.42	1.19	46	6.53	89	85	59	0	4	3	0
	MIDDLETOWN	61	39	74	24	50	7	0.69	-0.02	0.43	2.31	82	7.49	87	81	38	0	2	3	0
	PHILADELPHIA	61	42	75	31	52	7	1.21	0.33	1.05	4.99	154	12.93	136	79	47	0	1	4	1
	PITTSBURGH	58	35	72	26	47	5	0.85	0.13	0.52	1.76	66	7.88	102	82	41	0	2	3	1
	WILKES-BARRE	57	34	72	17	46	6	0.88	0.25	0.59	1.39	63	5.19	77	81	35	0	3	4	1
	WILLIAMSPORT	59	37	73	22	48	8	0.88	0.14	0.50	1.67	63	7.61	94	69	40	0	2	4	1
RI	PROVIDENCE	54	38	64	25	46	5	3.59	2.55	3.19	7.51	203	15.34	133	79	53	0	2	3	1
SC	BEAUFORT	69	48	75	43	58	-1	0.15	-0.72	0.15	1.48	48	9.86	96	86	47	0	0	1	0
	CHARLESTON	70	48	76	42	59	0	0.33	-0.60	0.33	3.15	92	12.22	116	86	44	0	0	1	0
	COLUMBIA	69	44	77	37	57	0	0.24	-0.80	0.24	1.76	44	7.82	63	81	46	0	0	1	0
	GREENVILLE	64	41	75	31	53	0	0.72	-0.43	0.59	2.06	44	11.66	87	89	44	0	1	2	1
SD	ABERDEEN	50	26	60	22	38	5	0.00	-0.33	0.00	1.24	123	2.96	150	86	59	0	6	0	0
	HURON	53	29	64	23	41	6	0.00	-0.42	0.00	1.83	143	3.47	149	85	45	0	6	0	0
	RAPID CITY	55	27	63	18	41	5	0.00	-0.25	0.00	0.17	22	0.60	38	78	36	0	5	0	0
	SIOUX FALLS	53	29	59	17	41	6	0.00	-0.47	0.00	1.02	75	3.56	150	80	50	0	5	0	0
TN	BRISTOL	60	34	68	24	47	-1	0.40	-0.44	0.25	1.68	49	7.50	72	94	50	0	3	4	0
	CHATTANOOGA	60	40	75	36	50	-3	1.12	-0.27	0.61	2.99	55	12.52	80	87	71	0	0	4	1
	KNOXVILLE	60	38	72	32	49	-2	0.67	-0.48	0.38	2.36	52	11.35	87	89	49	0	1	2	0
	MEMPHIS	65	43	73	38	54	-1	1.84	0.56	0.68	3.62	77	11.42	86	89	51	0	0	4	2
	NASHVILLE	60	39	73	34	50	-2	1.52	0.44	0.89	2.92	69	9.82	82	90	51	0	0	3	2
TX	ABILENE	71	41	82	29	56	-2	0.00	-0.30	0.00	1.78	152	7.11	217	62	39	0	2	0	0
	AMARILLO	63	32	79	20	48	-1	0.29	0.02	0.13	1.26	142	3.49	169	79	32	0	4	3	0
	AUSTIN	71	41	81	30	56	-7	0.69	0.26	0.69	2.97	157	9.07	157	77	50	0	1	1	1
	BEAUMONT	67	45	72	36	56	-8	1.05	0.17	0.95	2.87	91	11.16	91	95	48	0	0	2	1
	BROWNSVILLE	79	52	84	37	66	-4	0.00	-0.22	0.00	0.90	134	5.59	174	89	58	0	0	0	0
	CORPUS CHRISTI	75	50	84	35	63	-4	0.06	-0.30	0.06	1.15	77	8.33	168	90	60	0	0	1	0
	DEL RIO	78	47	84	31	63	-2	0.02	-0.18	0.02	1.16	151	5.22	227	67	31	0	1	1	0
	EL PASO	71	43	81	30	57	-1	0.01	-0.02	0.01	0.04	20	2.13	205	43	11	0	1	1	0
	FORT WORTH	67	44	75	32	56	-3	0.64	0.00	0.63	3.47	129	9.06	130	75	38	0	1	2	1
	GALVESTON	66	52	69	38	59	-6	0.21	-0.42	0.19	1.44	62	7.18	80	91	56	0	0	2	0
	HOUSTON	69	46	79	37	58	-6	0.44	-0.32	0.39	1.88	66	7.96	84	83	48	0	0	2	0
	LUBBOCK	69	35	83	25	52	-1	0.01	-0.15	0.01	2.86	493	6.05	338	67	32	0	2	1	0
	MIDLAND	74	37	84	27	55	-2	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.59	164	3.76	256	60	27	0	2	0	0
	SAN ANGELO	76	39	84	27	58	-1	0.00	-0.19	0.00	1.20	141	6.08	214	73	38	0	2	0	0
	SAN ANTONIO	72	45	83	35	59	-4	0.30	-0.11	0.22	2.15	134	10.97	219	82	39	0	0	2	0
	VICTORIA	73	47	82	36	60	-5	0.21	-0.29	0.18	1.95	102	8.17	128	92	58	0	0	2	0
	WACO	69	43	80	32	56	-4	0.71	0.21	0.71	4.63	210	13.39	205	81	45	0	1	1	1
	WICHITA FALLS	67	37	80	25	52	-4	0.00	-0.50	0.00	1.00	53	5.23	114	76	39	0	2	0	0
UT	SALT LAKE CITY	53	33	64	29	43	-2	0.23	-0.21	0.17	1.36	85	2.24	52	76	40	0	3	2	0
VT	BURLINGTON	42	26	55	14	34	1	1.76	1.20	0.98	1.83	98	6.37	111	90	58	0	7	4	2
VA	LYNCHBURG	62	38	69	29	50	2	0.70	-0.15	0.46	3.58	108	10.66	107	82	46	0	2	4	0
	NORFOLK	65	45	75	40	55	5	0.54	-0.38	0.47	2.99	85	11.01	102	82	45	0	0	2	0
	RICHMOND	67	42	76	31	55	6	1.17	0.25	0.97	3.93	111	10.35	103	75	53	0	1	3	1
	ROANOKE	61	40	69	29	51	2	1.26	0.40	0.42	2.88	87	9.56	99	77	46	0	1	4	0
	WASH/DULLES	64	40	78	30	52	7	0.69	-0.11	0.44	2.12	70	8.67	98	77	43	0	1	4	0
WA	OLYMPIA	58	38	68	32	48	4	0.85	-0.28	0.53	2.60	55	13.91	76	94	77	0	2	4	1
	QUILLAYUTE	56	41	63	36	48	4	1.51	-0.80	0.61	6.61	67	36.33	101	92	76	0	0	6	1
	SEATTLE-TACOMA	58	43	68	40	50	3	0.63	-0.17	0.62	2.14	65	11.83	94	84	70	0	0	2	1
	SPOKANE	52	34	58	30	43	2	0.20	-0.12	0.20	0.53	40	3.35	72	85	47	0	3	1	0
	YAKIMA	61	32	64	24	47	3	0.00	-0.14	0.00	0.10	18	3.08	122	76	47	0	4	0	0
WV	BECKLEY	54	34	65	23	44	0	1.38	0.58	0.93	5.24	166	10.33	111	80	59	0	4	5	1
	CHARLESTON	60	36	74	27	48	1	1.89	1.04	0.73	3.66	107	9.22	94	95	49	0	3	4	2
	ELKINS	59	31	70	21	45	3	0.82	-0.05	0.29	1.53	45	6.48	65	96	37	0	4	4	0
	HUNTINGTON	62	37	74	27	50	2	0.49	-0.35	0.21	1.94	58	7.70	80	88	42	0	2	4	0
WI	EAU CLAIRE	52	26	61	19	39	6	0.00	-0.49	0.00	0.48	35	1.74	54	72	24	0	6	0	0
	GREEN BAY	48	25	57	16	36	2	0.00	-0.52	0.00	0.31	19	2.02	53	82	40	0	7	0	0
	LA CROSSE	52	28	62	19	40	3	0.00	-0.53	0.00	0.71	49	2.96	81	75	26	0	5	0	0
	MADISON	51	26	59	19	38	2	0.00	-0.58	0.00	0.71	41	2.61	61	79	52	0	7	0	0
	MILWAUKEE	46	30	57	27	38	1	0.00	-0.66	0.00	0.77	39	2.06	38	72	46	0	7	0	0
WY	CASPER	49	27	58	19	38	1	0.12	-0.07	0.06	1.34	184	1.95	100	74	46	0	7	2	0
	CHEYENNE	44	24	57	12	34	-1	0.46	0.21	0.45	1.00	123	1.77	104	69	49	0	6	2	0
	LANDER	49	26	54	20	38	1	0.08	-0.22	0.07	1.56	168	2.69	135	78	27	0	6	2	0
	SHERIDAN	55	27	66	22	41	4	0.21	-0.03	0.12	0.43	58	0.86	41	83	54	0	6	3	0

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

National Agricultural Summary

March 22 - 28, 2010

Weekly National Agricultural Summary provided by USDA/NASS

Below-average temperatures persisted across much of the southern half of the country, with some locations in the central Rocky Mountains, Texas, and the Southeast averaging as much as 8 degrees below normal. In contrast, parts of the northern Rocky Mountains, Great Lakes, and Mid Atlantic States recorded temperatures up to 10 degrees above average. With the exception of coastal areas of the Pacific Northwest, much of the western half of the country was dry during the week. Elsewhere, portions of the eastern Corn Belt, the Ohio and Tennessee Valleys, New England, and Florida received more than twice the normal weekly precipitation.

In Georgia, higher temperatures and dry weather led to increased fieldwork, with many producers planting their spring crops. Although nearly 20 percent of the state's corn crop was planted during the week, overall progress remained well behind last year and the 5 year average. Nearly half of the winter wheat crop was jointed and some fields entered the boot stage.

Cooler- and wetter-than-normal weather in Arkansas limited fieldwork to 3 days during the week. Rice seeding was underway ahead of last year's pace, but slightly behind the normal pace. The winter wheat crop was reported in mostly fair to good condition, with stripe rust evident in some fields.

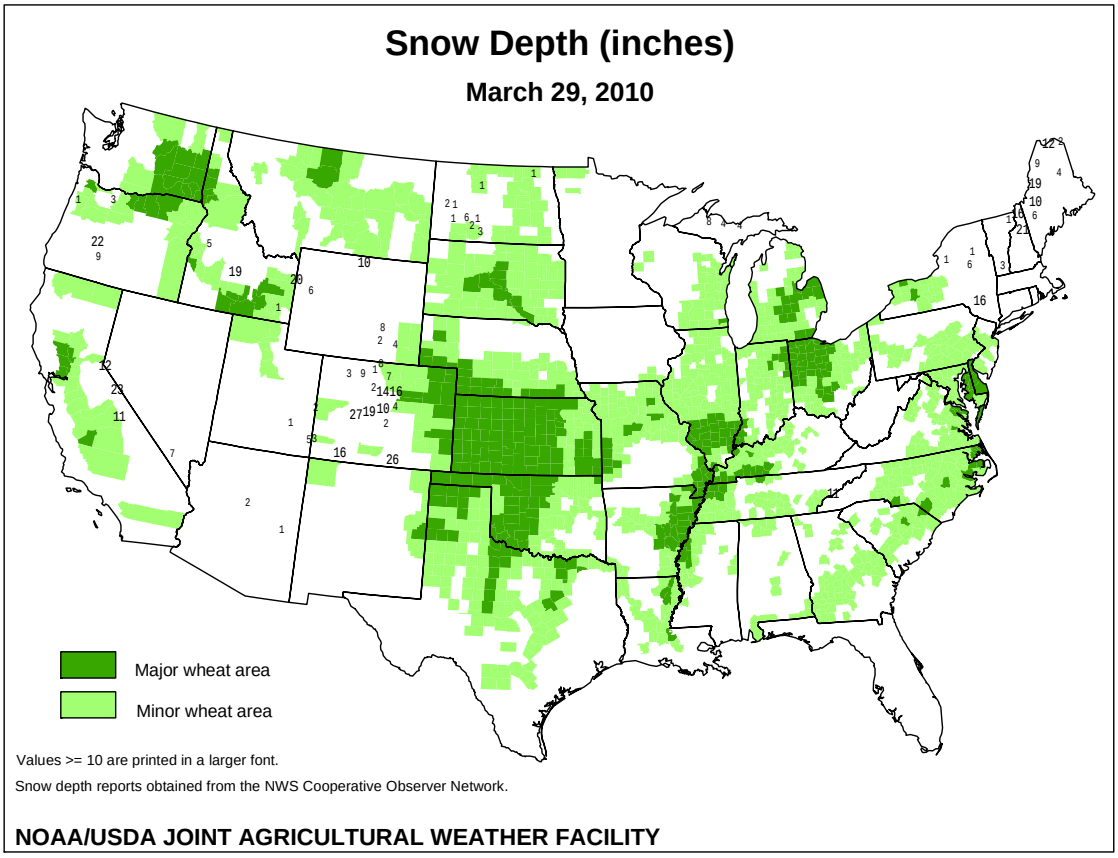
As weather conditions allowed, producers in the Northern High Plains of Texas stayed busy topdressing their winter wheat crop. Warm weather in South Texas aided head development in the oat crop. Corn planting in the Blacklands was hampered by excessive rainfall, while a few fields along the Upper Coast were expected to recover following a recent hail storm. Despite below-average soil temperatures in the Coastal Bend, sorghum producers continued to plant their crop. Emergence was evident in early planted fields. Producers in the High and Low Plains were waiting for more favorable soil conditions and warmer weather before planting their cotton crop. In the Trans Pecos, cotton land was being pre irrigated.

Muddy fields in Colorado limited fieldwork to less than 3 days during the week. Winter wheat was reported in mostly good to excellent condition, with 4 percent of the crop at or beyond the jointing stage. Barley and spring wheat seeding reached 12 and 7 percent complete by week's end, respectively. Sugarbeet planting was delayed due to recent changes in crop insurance.

Temperatures in Arizona were mostly below normal during the week and rainfall was limited. Cotton producers had planted 20 percent of their 2010 crop, ahead of last year and the 5 year average. Heading of the barley and durum wheat crops was well ahead of normal. Alfalfa harvest continued on over two thirds of the state's acreage. Vegetable growers continued to ship a variety of crops.

Spring planting continued at a rapid pace in Washington. Producers in the two major producing counties had seeded 38 and 50 percent of their barley and spring wheat crops, respectively, well ahead of last year and the 5 year average. Emergence was evident on approximately 20 percent of the acreage. Freezing temperatures overnight necessitated frost protection measures for fruit and vegetable crops in the Yakima Valley. Hop plants were emerging and producers were stringing up their yards.

In California, alfalfa fields were cut for hay and green chopped for silage. Some winter wheat fields were also harvested for silage. Heading was evident in other small grain crops. Rice producers continued field maintenance activities, including herbicide application and straw burning. Pre planting operations continued for a number of row crops. Orchard producers were busy harvesting grapefruit, lemons, Navel and Valencia oranges, and tangerines. Strawberry fields in the San Joaquin Valley were setting fruit, while warmer weather along the Central Coast aided budding in wine grape vineyards.



March 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 March produced warmer weather despite sufficient amounts of moisture still on the ground. The US Drought Monitor released March 25 indicated the state to be 100 percent free from drought, compared to 100 percent 3 months ago, and 27.3 percent one year ago. Bobby Boozer, Research Horticulturist at the Chilton Research & Extension Center, stated that potential repeat of last spring has growers anxious about seeing high levels of bacterial spot infection on peaches again this season. As a result, copper applications have been made several times already to this season's peach trees. Leonard Kuykendall, Regional Extension Agent for Autauga County, mentioned wheat is the only crop currently growing in the area. It has looked bad all winter due to late planting and the cold and wet winter. Since nitrogen applications have been applied the wheat looks better, however yield prospects were below average. The rain delayed corn planting that finally got started this week. Darrell Rankins, Professor in Animal Sciences at Auburn University, commented in comparison to last year spring forage growth is behind. Overall, the cow herd is in thin condition because forage is still slow.

ALASKA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

ARIZONA: The month of March continues to maintain moisture from the previous month across all areas of Arizona. All 22 weather stations had precipitation in the form of rain or melting snow and all weather stations except Grand Canyon have above normal precipitation levels to date for 2010. Temperatures fluctuated as much as 6 degrees above normal to 8 degrees below normal throughout the month. Small grain heading is at least 50 percent complete. Alfalfa harvesting is active on over two-thirds of the State. Cotton planting is underway in the western part of the state (Yuma County). Vegetable and citrus harvesting activities continued throughout the month.

ARKANSAS: Temperatures during the month of March varied from week to week, ranging from 8 degrees below normal to as high as 8 degrees above normal. March started out with dry, mild weather followed by severe storms on March 10. This storm system produced 5 tornadoes, hail, and very strong winds. The third week of March brought a spring snow storm to portions of western Arkansas, with localized totals ranging from 6 to over 12 inches of snow. Most of the state received only rain from this system. Mild temperatures immediately followed, allowing the snow to melt rapidly. The last week of March brought breezy conditions to much of the state, with normal temperatures. At the end of the week, a line of showers and thunderstorms moved through the state producing some hail and strong winds. Field work throughout the state occurred during the month of March, weather permitting. Some corn and rice plantings had occurred, with some corn emergence. Hay stocks were still depleted in many areas of the state. Producers were spraying and fertilizing their pastures in preparation for grazing. Livestock were in mostly fair to good condition.

CALIFORNIA: Winter wheat, oat, rye, and barley fields continued to progress. Early fields have started to head out. Dryland crops have continued to benefit from recent rainfall. As conditions allowed, field preparation for spring planting was carried out. Weed control continued in winter wheat, rye, and oat fields, as well as alfalfa fields. Cotton beds were maintained through cultivation and herbicide application. Corn and bean fields were also prepared for planting. Garbanzo beans have started to grow. Rice fields were drained and pre-plant herbicides were applied. Rice straw was being burned when conditions allowed. Potatoes were growing and leafing out. Alfalfa fields continued to grow well. Alfalfa was cut for hay and green chopped for silage. Winter wheat was also cut for silage. Irrigation districts began to turn on their water, which allowed field irrigation to start for grain and alfalfa fields. Fields were prepared for safflower planting. Sunflower field preparation and planting also took place. Widespread bloom continued for plum, prune, peach, cherry and other early varieties of stone fruit across the Central Valley. Fungicide sprays were applied to blooming stone fruit trees. Pruning of orchards and vineyards was approaching completion, while citrus trees were being topped. Picking of tangerines, navel oranges, grapefruit, and lemons continued, while harvesting of Valencia oranges began in the San Joaquin Valley. Strawberry and blueberry plantings began blooming, and out-of-state raspberry bushes arrived for planting. Strawberry fields were setting fruit in the San Joaquin Valley. Herbicide sprays were applied in Central Valley grape vineyards, and warmer temperatures aided budding of wine grape vineyards along the Central Coast. Widespread bloom continued in almond orchards, in addition to considerable petal fall occurring. Almond development has appeared healthy throughout the bloom. Some brown rot has been observed in almond orchards, which occurred due to wet weather earlier in the season. Most growers applied their second and third protective sprays to limit the impact of spring diseases. Walnut blight applications began as growers prepare for the upcoming walnut bloom. Pest traps were placed in almond orchards and irrigation started in areas where the winter moisture was less abundant. In Tulare County, harvesting of field spinach began. Squash was planted under plastic hot caps and fields were being prepared for summer vegetables. Processing tomatoes were being transplanted in Colusa County. Fieldwork, pre-plant herbicide treatments and ground preparation continued in Sutter County. Most of the winter carrots, lettuce, broccoli and cauliflower in Imperial County had been harvested. The carrot harvest was also coming to an end. Potatoes, carrots and leaf lettuce were being harvested in Kern County. Melons and tomatoes were planted. In San Joaquin County, the asparagus harvest was progressing well with excellent yields. The winter vegetable harvest in Fresno County progressed, but was winding down as some spring vegetables started to emerge. Beets, cabbage, cauliflower, green onions, herbs and turnips continued to be harvested. Spring broccoli plants were growing well. Asparagus spears were emerging in some fields, while harvest was beginning in others. Fall planted garlic and onion crops continued to grow well and were

treated for weeds. Tomatoes and carrots planted from seed were growing nicely. Spring lettuce was maturing well and fields were weeded, thinned and treated for pests. Early planted sweet corn had also emerged. Bed preparation continued for melons, when soil conditions were suitable. Seeded processing tomatoes were beginning to germinate and emerge, and growers continued to prepare subsequent fields for planting or transplanting. Asparagus harvests continued in Merced County and farmers began to plant watermelon fields. The radicchio harvest was completed. In preparation for the upcoming tomato season in Stanislaus County, tomato transplants were started in greenhouses. In Monterey County the harvest of cauliflower and broccoli continued. Range conditions continued to improve with the warm weather and rains promoting vigorous growth. The central valley and foothill rangeland continued to show marked improvement. Irrigated pasture was in good condition. Supplemental feeding continued to decline and cattle weight gains were reported to be improving given the flush of green grasses. Cattle and sheep grazed retired farmland and semi-dormant alfalfa hay, where field conditions permitted. Early in the month cool wet weather hindered pollination activity. Warm weather later in the month improved pollination activity. Bee hives were being moved between alfalfa fields, almond, blueberry, plum and cherry orchards as the bloom season progressed. Dairy and feedlots dried out from wet weather early in the month.

COLORADO: Most of Colorado received normal amounts of precipitation and average temperatures in March. Soil moisture supplies are mostly adequate going into planting season. Currently, the mountain snowpack is below average at 89% statewide. The winter wheat crop remains in mostly good to excellent condition coming out of dormancy. Pasture and range condition is in mostly good to fair condition showing improvement from this time last year. Calving and lambing continue under mild conditions.

DELAWARE: Hay supplies are rated adequate. Livestock are in good condition despite wet fields. Cold and wet conditions limited early planting and tillage of peas and corn. However, the occasional sunny days throughout the month allowed for farmers to do some spring groundwork and planting.

FLORIDA: Throughout March, majority of soil moisture adequate. Wet conditions hampered field work. Northern region leaching of fertilizer in some fields, continued saturation did not permit additional applications. Hastings area flooded potato fields replanted. Compared to previous year, increased soil moisture reduced expected wheat acreage. Cotton, peanut farmers prepared fields not overly saturated. Cold, wet weather slowed crop growth. Winter forage, small grains, winter grasses, not productive due to weather conditions. South sugarcane harvest nearly completed at end of month. Freezing temperatures may have damaged sugarcane; extended cold temperatures minimized sucrose loss. Rice planting delayed due to rain. Miami-Dade County beans, other specialty crops planted. Cold weather affected vegetable growth. Volusia County watermelons showing little growth for weeks. First week of March, production below normal for cabbage, celery, sweet corn, endive, escarole, radishes, tomatoes. Cabbage demand difficult to meet for Saint Patrick's holiday. Beginning of March, growers laid plastic and drip irrigation systems to prepare for spring vegetables planting. Highlands County cucumbers, watermelon, snap beans planted. Disease a concern for regions with abundant amounts of rain. Floriculture, Nursery crop damage yet to be fully assessed. Heavy, soaking rains benefited citrus crop. Harvesting of Murcott tangerines continued, Navel oranges almost finished, Valencia had begun. Citrus bloom full and widespread in southern counties, with more buds, fewer open flowers in more northern areas. Almost all processing plants opened. Early, midseason oranges finished. Valencia oranges, grapefruit are majority of fruit going to plants. Grove activities included harvesting, mowing, pesticide application, psyllid treatment, fertilizer application, brush removal. Pasture condition mostly poor to fair. Beginning of March, hay feeding active to supplement poor forage. Winter forage growth slow due to cold temperatures, wet weather. Many pastures grazed down. Small grain pasture top-dressed when field conditions permited. Standing water, some central areas. Statewide cattle condition very poor to excellent, most fair to good. Mid-month, forage recovering, but unable to supply enough for feed need. Panhandle, north pasture severely overgrazed, grass stunted by cold weather. Central, southern areas pasture greening up. Some pasture very poor due to standing water, frost. Ranchers feeding hay, supplements. Statewide cattle condition very poor to excellent, most fair. Month's end, winter forage growth varied depending local weather conditions. Some locations increased cool forage production. Most cool season forage approaching maturity. Hay, supplement feeding continued. Central pasture condition very poor to good, most poor to fair. Permant pasture greening up. Statewide cattle condition very poor to excellent, most fair to good.

GEORGIA: Temperatures ranged from highs in the Mid 70's to low's in the upper 20's. More rain kept soils wet in many areas, slowing planting progress most of the month. Rainfall during the second week caused minor flooding and erosion concerns in parts of the state. Warmer and drier weather occurred the last half of the month. Field work in preparation for planting spring crops were delayed by the wet conditions. Winter grazing continues to be limited and producers were still feeding supplements and hay to livestock. Winter wheat is jointing and peaches are beginning to bloom in southern counties. Field activities included harrowing, shredding cotton stalks, and preparing fields for planting. Winter grazing was limited the first half of the month. Crop conditions began to improve the third week as well as pasture and range conditions. By the end of the month, corn planting was moving forward as well as transplanting vegetables. Nearly half of the winter wheat has jointed and some fields are beginning to boot. Over three-quarters of the peach trees are blooming. Pastures and cover crops are taking off providing good grazing for livestock. Other activities for the month were fertilizing and weed control where conditions allowed.

HAWAII: Conditions for the State of Hawaii improved slowly throughout the month and were welcomed with guarded optimism. Early in the month, the North Kohala region of the Big Island came under D4, exceptional drought conditions. These were the most severe conditions that the State has ever encountered. Consistently high winds, with gusts over 40 mph that were also present in the first half of the month, caused damage in some areas to various crops, especially orchards. Cool temperatures also hampered crop development. As the month progressed, high winds died down and temperatures rose slightly. Very light rains came

across the State with some areas receiving heavy rains. These areas, mostly on the windward coasts were brought out of drought condition classifications. By the end of the month, conditions on windward sides of nearly all islands are faring quite well, while drought on the leeward sides has become more intense. After recovering from wind damage and cool temperatures earlier in the month, most crops are progressing well provided they have sufficient and available irrigation. Areas without irrigation, primarily pastures, are faring poorly especially in leeward areas.

IDAHO: Topsoil moisture 2% very short, 29% short, 67% adequate, 2% surplus. Calving complete 81%, 71% 2009, 76.% avg. Lambing complete 72%, 73.% 2009, 75.% avg. Hay and roughage supply 0% very short, 2% short, 93% adequate, 5% surplus. Winter wheat condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 10% fair, 78% good, 11% excellent.

ILLINOIS: March seemed to break the cold trend with a statewide average temperature of 42.8 degrees, 2.4 degrees above normal. While overall fields are wet, some producers are beginning to apply anhydrous where it is dry enough. Other places, producers are still busy moving grain and preparing equipment. Statewide precipitation averaged 2.70 inches, 0.05 inches below normal. Topsoil moisture was rated 45% adequate and 55% surplus. Winter wheat conditions stand at 5% very poor, 21% poor, 45% fair, 27% good, and 2% excellent. Oats planted stand at 4 percent.

INDIANA: Weather thus far during March has been warmer and slightly drier than normal. The average state temperature has been 43.2o which was 3.2o above normal. Total precipitation averaged 2.78 inches which was 0.13 inches below normal. Precipitation levels have been heaviest in central portions of the state and shortest in southern areas. The winter wheat crop has begun to break dormancy with very little damage being reported due to frost or standing water. A large percentage of the wheat crop has been top-dressed with nitrogen except in areas that have been too wet. A few of the remaining fields of corn were harvested during the month. Some dry fertilizer, lime and manure were spread on soils that were dry enough to support equipment. A limited amount of tillage work has been done. Very little anhydrous ammonia has been applied thus far this spring. Livestock are reported to be in mostly good condition. Feedlots and pastures remain muddy. Hay supplies are getting short in some areas, but pastures are beginning to green up. Calving remains active on many operations. Other activities included preparing planting and tillage equipment, signing up for farm programs at FSA offices, taking delivery of inputs, financial planning, spreading fertilizer and manure, moving grain to market and taking care of livestock.

IOWA: As snow melted away, rivers around the state reached critical flood stages during the month of March. However, warm, dry conditions eased flooding concerns and even allowed for some spring field work to begin during the last week of March. Farmers have also harvested some of the corn left in the fields from last year's crop. After experiencing snow and cold temperatures over most of the winter, March was exactly what many farmers needed. However, livestock producers continue to struggle with mud as spring calving gets underway. Soil moisture availability rated 0% very short, 3% short, 54% adequate, and 43% surplus. Grain movement for the state rated 22% none, 32% light, 38% moderate, and 8% heavy. Availability of hay and roughage supplies rated 28% short, 69% adequate, and 3% surplus. Quality of hay and roughage supplies rated 17% poor, 51% fair, and 32% good. Utilization of stubble fields for grazing rated 54% none, 38% light, 7% moderate, and 1% heavy. Hog and pig losses in March rated 11% light, 87% average, and 2% heavy. Cattle and calf losses rated 11% light, 81% average, and 8% heavy.

KANSAS: Topsoil moisture supply 1% short, 59% adequate, and 40% surplus. Subsoil moisture supply 1% very short, 3% short, 65% adequate, 31% surplus. Wheat breaking dormancy 88%; jointed 8%, 12% 2009, 17% avg.; condition 1% very poor, 4% poor, 25% fair, 58% good, and 12% excellent; Wind damage 86% no damage, 12% light damage, and 2% moderate damage; Freeze damage 85% no damage, 13% light damage, 2% moderate damage; Insect infestation 97% none, 3% light; Disease infestation 95% none, 5% light. Range and pasture condition 2% very poor, 8% poor, 29% fair, 55% good, and 6% excellent. Feed grain supplies 3% short, 88% adequate, and 9% surplus. Hay and forage supplies 1% very short, 10% short, 81% adequate, and 8% surplus. Stock water supplies 2% short, 81% adequate, and 17% surplus. Temperatures last week continued to be below normal across Kansas with the exception of the northwest. Many areas received additional precipitation with heaviest amounts in the southwest, north central and southeast. Cherokee County led the State with 1.99 inches, followed by Saline with 1.79 inches and Clay with 1.74 inches. In contrast, the Northwest and South Central Districts received almost no moisture. With the continued cool and wet weather last week, the winter wheat crop is still lagging behind, with jointing only advancing 2 percent. Field activities primarily involved top dressing fertilizer and spraying herbicide when fields were dry enough, along with limited field preparation for corn planting. Calving is drawing to a close in many areas, but cattlemen are still having difficulty with muddy pens and feedlots.

KENTUCKY: The first week of March received below normal temperatures and below normal precipitation. This marked the sixth straight week which averaged just over 5 degrees below normal, but it was also the driest week of the year to date. Temperatures for the period averaged 36 degrees across the state which was 5 degrees below normal. High temperatures averaged from 50 in the West to 44 in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 26 degrees in the West to 26 degrees in the East. Precipitation (liq. equ.) for the period totaled 0.00 inches statewide which was 1.03 inches below normal. Precipitation totals by climate division, West 0.00 inches, Central 0.00 inches, Bluegrass 0.00 inches and East 0.02 inches, which was 1.12, 1.06, 0.99 and 0.95 inches respectively below normal. After six straight weeks with below normal temperatures, the second week of March experienced some warm weather. The week started off with clear skies and highs in the 70s in some locations. Temperatures for the period averaged 52 degrees across the state which was 8 degrees above normal. High temperatures averaged from 59 in the West to 61 in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 45 degrees in the West to 41 degrees in the East. By mid week a weather system brought some rainfall which continued as scattered throughout the week. Rainfall for the period totaled 0.85 inches statewide which was 0.19 inches below normal. Rainfall totals by climate division, West 0.99 inches, Central 0.61 inches, Bluegrass 0.83 inches and East 0.95 inches, which was 0.13, 0.45, 0.16 and 0.01 inches respectively below normal. The Commonwealth experienced warmer than normal temperatures once again during the third week of March. The western part of the state received some

heavy rainfall on Sunday. This provided just above normal rainfall levels for western portions of the state, however central and eastern parts of the state were still well below normal. Temperatures for the period averaged 51 degrees across the state which was 5 degrees above normal and 1 degree cooler than the previous week. High temperatures averaged from 60 in the West to 61 in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 41 degrees in the West to 39 degrees in the East. Rainfall for the period totaled 0.43 inches statewide which was 0.61 inches below normal. Rainfall totals by climate division, West 1.14 inches, Central 0.46 inches, Bluegrass 0.05 inches and East 0.07 inches, which was +0.02, -0.60, -0.94 and -0.90 inches respectively from normal. After five straight weeks with below normal precipitation the Commonwealth finally received above normal rainfall during the last week of March. Rainfall for the period totaled 1.31 inches statewide which was 0.28 inches above normal. Rainfall totals by climate division, West 1.89 inches, Central 1.18 inches, Bluegrass 1.05 inches and East 1.14 inches, which was 0.77, 0.13, 0.05 and 0.17 inches respectively above normal. Temperatures for the period averaged 49 degrees across the state which was 0 degrees from normal and 2 degrees cooler than the previous week. High temperatures averaged from 59 in the West to 58 in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 40 degrees in the West to 37 degrees in the East. Farmers were busy performing routine equipment maintenance in preparation for the upcoming planting season. Producers continue making planting decisions for the upcoming 2010 crop season. Costs of inputs are being weighed against anticipated selling prices.

LOUISIANA: The state averaged 2.38 inches of rain over the last four weeks, remaining slightly behind the norm. Field crop producers prepared fields for spring planting and planted sorghum, rice, and corn. Strawberry producers continued to harvest strawberries. Citrus producers scouted for insects and vegetable producers planted spring crops. Sugarcane producers were busy off barring sugarcane. Livestock producers continued to feed hay. Cattlemen remained busy with calving. Crawfish producers continued to put out traps with limited catches due to cooler weather.

MARYLAND: Hay supplies are rated adequate. Livestock are in good condition despite wet fields. Cold and wet conditions limited early planting and tillage of peas and corn. However, the occasional sunny days throughout the month allowed for farmers to do some spring groundwork and planting.

MICHIGAN: The precipitation for the past four weeks ending March 28 varied from 0.03 inches in northwest Lower Peninsula to 2.60 inches in southeastern Lower Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 4.0 degree above normal in south central Lower Peninsula to 5.0 degrees above normal in western Upper Peninsula. Overall, March's weather was dry and mild. There was light fruit damage caused by freezing temperatures late in the week. Growers started planting sugar beets on March 18. Field activities for the month were hauling manure, and spreading fertilizer.

MINNESOTA: Livestock condition 1% poor, 15% fair, 57% good, 27% excellent. Hay and roughage supplies 1% very short, 8% short, 86% adequate, 5% surplus. Temperatures for March have been averaging warmer than normal. In early March, many observers saw their first temperature readings of 40 degrees F or higher since December 1st of last year. Areas with deeper snow cover (SW, WC, and NW) remained in the 30s F. The alternating freeze/thaw cycles due to daytime and nighttime temperature fluctuations were helping to gradually discharge some of the snow cover around the state and accelerated the runoff flows into southern and western Minnesota watersheds. As March progressed, the spring snow melt flooding diminished and brought little precipitation. Flooding levels may be relatively short-lived in many places. Livestock condition was generally good. Sun and wind helped dry outside lots and improve calving conditions. Corn harvest resumes for the remaining corn and some field work has begun.

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.2. Soil moisture 1% short, 43% adequate and 56% surplus. Corn 23% planted, 46% 2009, 35% avg.; 2% emerged, 16% 2009, 17% avg. Winter Wheat 12% jointing 49% 2009, 37% avg.; 2% very poor, 12% poor, 35% fair, 44% good, 7% excellent. Watermelons 38% planted, 37% 2009, 19% avg. Blueberries 1% very poor, 1% poor, 12% fair, 83% good, 3% excellent. Cattle 3% very poor, 21% poor, 39% fair, 32% good, 5% excellent. Pasture 11% very poor, 18% poor, 45% fair, 22% good, 4% excellent. The previous week allowed farmers a few days to work in their fields between rain showers. Soggy soils are still delaying work, but planting has begun for several crops. As warmer weather finally arrives in Mississippi, ryegrass is responding favorably and farmers are hopeful to fully begin the planting season this week.

MISSOURI: March temperatures and precipitation were near normal. Precipitation averaged 3.33 inches compared to the March 30-year average of 3.48 inches. The southeast district reported the most precipitation with 5.14 inches, while the northeast district reported the least precipitation at 2.21 inches. Temperatures across the State ranged from 3 degrees below normal to 2 degrees above normal. As of March 28, topsoil moisture supply was 38 percent adequate and 62 percent surplus. The condition of the winter wheat crop was 10 percent very poor, 16% poor, 48% fair, 25% good, and 1% excellent. Corn planting has begun in the south central and southeast districts, which reported 1 and 2 percent complete, respectively. Pasture condition was 5% very poor, 23% poor, 43% fair, 28% good, and 1% excellent.

MONTANA: Topsoil moisture 5% very short, 4% last year, 19% short, 11% last year, 68% adequate, 74% last year, 8% surplus, 11% last year. Subsoil moisture 7% very short, 8% last year, 25% short, 18% last year, 64% adequate, 70% last year, 4% surplus, 4% last year. Winter wheat condition 2% very poor, 1% last year, 7% poor, 3% last year, 53% fair, 40% last year, 34% good, 52% last year, 4% excellent, 4% last year. Winter wheat wind damage 77% none, 62% last year, 18% light, 33% last year, 5% moderate, 4% last year, 0% heavy, 1% last year. Winter wheat freeze and drought damage 75% none, 53% last year, 21% light, 37% last year, 3% moderate, 9% last year, 1% heavy, 1% last year. Winter wheat protectiveness of snow cover 38% very poor, 24% last year, 17% poor, 43% last year, 21% fair, 25% last year, 20% good, 6% last year, 4% excellent, 2% last year. Winter wheat spring stages 65% still dormant, 82% last year, 29% greening, 17% last year, 6% greening and growing, 1% last year. Most of Montana received below normal moisture for the month ending March 28th. Neihart received the most monthly accumulated precipitation with 1.29 inches. Temperatures during March were above normal in most of the state. Highs ranged from the mid 50s to the mid 70s, and lows ranged

from negative single digits to positive low 20s. Hardin and Huntley shared the monthly high temperature of 75 degrees, and Wisdom had the monthly low temperature of minus 9 degrees. Cattle and calves receiving supplemental feed 94%, 90% last year. Sheep and lambs receiving supplemental feed 94%, 93% last year. Livestock grazing 67% open, 40% last year, 25% difficult, 41% last year, 8% closed, 19% last year. Calving completed 45%, 52% last year. Lambing completed 27%, 30% last year.

NEBRASKA: Wheat conditions 0 % very poor, 8 poor, 35 fair, 51 good, 6 excellent; below last year's condition of 68 % good or excellent. Hay and forage supplies 2 % very short, 20 short, 74 adequate, 4 surplus; well below year ago levels of 95 % adequate or surplus. Cattle and Calves conditions 1 % very poor, 6 poor, 29 fair, 62 good, 2 excellent; below year ago levels. Calving progressed to 57 % complete near year ago with calf losses mostly average. For the month of March 2010, temperatures averaged above normal. Precipitation was above normal with most areas receiving one to two inches of moisture, except for the Panhandle which was below normal. Soil temperatures are now above freezing across the entire state. Cold and wet conditions have caused higher than normal calf losses for some producers. Cattle have been removed from muddy lots to drier areas where possible. Field work has been limited because of the wet conditions. Some anhydrous applications and hauling of grain has taken place.

NEVADA: March weather alternated between cool and warm temperatures. Light snowstorms quickly passed through the region and melted rapidly. Pahrump recorded a record snowfall for the month of March with 2 inches falling on the 9th breaking the old record set in 1917. Most Nevada snowpacks are 75 to 89 percent of average. The eastern Nevada snow pack is currently 113 percent of average. Supplemental feeding of range livestock continued. Winter wheat is in good condition. Other farm and ranch activities included: equipment maintenance, spring calving, fence repairs, crop and livestock marketing.

NEW ENGLAND: New England experienced significant rainfall and above average temperatures throughout the month of March, with average high temperatures ranging from 41.5 degrees in northern Maine to 55.0 degrees in southern Connecticut. Low temperature averages ranged from 20.8 degrees to 36.9, north to south. Snowfall totals were insignificant, with the exception of northernmost latitudes reporting a few inches. Rainfall totals ranged from 0.94 in northern Maine to nearly ten inches in coastal Massachusetts. The first week of March saw above average temperatures throughout New England. Light precipitation in the form of rain and snow fell in most locations during March 1 - 4. Above average temperatures continued during the following week, with high temperatures ranging from the upper 30s to the upper 50s. Sunny, dry climate marked the first days of this week, until a severe rainstorm crossed New England, resulting in flooding rains and strong winds during March 13 - 15 to all but northern latitudes. This storm caused tree damage, power outages, and major flooding to the affected region as 1.2 to 7.0 inches of rain fell during the storm. The third week of March saw spring-like temperatures and sunny weather throughout New England. Daytime temperatures occasionally broke records and ranged from the low 50s to the low 70s. Temperatures cooled at the start of the fourth week and a major rainstorm sent many rivers back to above flood stage. Total precipitation reported during March 22 - 23 ranged from 0.5 to 3.4 inches. A strong cold front moved in the area on March 26, resulting in February-like temperatures with highs ranging from the mid-30s to upper-40s. Maple syrup production suffered due to nighttime temperatures being unseasonably warm during the month, causing maple trees to begin budding, thus decreasing sap flow. Some sugar producers decided to pull their taps due to this issue. Farm activities included nursery/greenhouse work, tending livestock, and preparing for the spring planting season.

NEW JERSEY: Temperatures were above normal for much of March in most localities. High and low temperatures ranged from the mid-70s to the high-20s. There were measurable amounts of precipitation in all districts with rainfall of up to 10 inches in some areas. Farmers continued field preparations for spring crops when weather permitted. Other activities included greenhouse work, repairing machinery, and livestock care.

NEW MEXICO: First week of March. A few showers fell early in the week, mainly across the northern mountains and the eastern plains of New Mexico. A storm system crossed the state, bringing rain, thunderstorms, and mainly mountain snow showers. Average temperatures for the week were generally at or slightly below normal. Second week of March. Winter storms continued to bring precipitation and cooler temperatures to New Mexico during the week. Most areas received precipitation, except in the southwest corner of the state where conditions remained dry. Third week of March. Another storm system impacted New Mexico with showers, thunderstorms and mountain snow. Some snow reports were around 10 to 14 inches in the east side of the central mountain chain and over the Abiquiu area and into the Northern Mountains, around 2 inches in the Albuquerque Foothills. Last week of March. Average temperatures this week were in the mid to upper thirties in the northern half of the state. Central New Mexico saw average temperatures in the low to mid forties. The southern half of the state had average temperatures in the upper forties to mid fifties.

NEW YORK: Unseasonably warm weather hindered normal maple syrup production. Temperatures reached into the high 60's for a few days during the month. 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: Days suitable for field work 4.8 the week ending March 28, the same as previous week. Statewide soil moisture levels were rated at 1% short, 66% adequate and 33% surplus. Warmer temperatures in March allowed farmers to get in fields. The state received scattered showers during the last week of March, with amounts reaching up to 2.98 inches in Goldsboro. Average temperatures during the final week of March were about normal, ranging from 45 to 57 degrees.

NORTH DAKOTA: Average snow depth was 0.60 inches on March 28. Hay and Forage supplies were rated 6% short, 85% adequate, 9% surplus. Pastures and ranges remained 100% dormant. Grain and Concentrate supplies were rated 4% short, 88% adequate, and 8% surplus. Corn 84% harvested, neither previous year nor average available. Cow condition 2% poor, 15% fair, 75% good, and 8% excellent. Calving was 30% complete. Calf condition 1% poor, 13% fair,

78% good, 8% excellent. Twelve percent of cattle/calves obtained feed from pasture and ranges. Sheep condition 3% poor, 18% fair, 74% good, and 5% excellent. Lambing was 46% complete. Lamb condition 2% poor, 20% fair, 73% good, and 5% excellent. Shearing was 65% complete. Five percent of sheep/lambs obtained feed from pasture and ranges. County and secondary roads were rated 89% open, 6% difficult, 5% closed. One percent were drifted, 21% muddy, and 78% dry. Above normal temperatures were reported throughout the state during March. Though some counties in eastern North Dakota experienced minor flooding this month, the effects on agriculture were very small compared to last year. Main activities for March included marketing grain, harvesting corn, calving and lambing.

OHIO: The March 2010 average temperature for Ohio was 41.9 degrees, 3.1 degrees above normal. Precipitation for the state averaged 2.66 inches, 0.08 inch below normal. Winter wheat producing counties report that the wheat crop is in good condition. Much of the crop was planted late; however, those late plantings received good snow cover and are in better condition than anticipated. Fields are wet, but very little loss due to flooding is expected. Cattle are in good to excellent condition. There has been very little stress on livestock due to favorable weather and good feed supplies.

OKLAHOMA: Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 7% short, 71% adequate, 21% surplus. Subsoil moisture 4% very short, 12% short, 68% adequate, 16% surplus. Wheat condition 1% very poor 3% poor, 27% fair, 55% good, 14% excellent; jointing 48% this month, 60% last year, 56% average. Rye condition 3% very poor, 5% poor, 30% fair, 52% good, 10% excellent; jointing 54% this month, 78% last year, 67% average. Oats condition 2% very poor 6% poor, 52% fair, 35% good 5% excellent; 95% planted this month, 92% last year, 93% average; jointing 11% this month, 10% last year, 14% average. Corn seedbed prepared 41% this month, 69% last year, 57% average. Sorghum seedbed prepared 14% this month 24% last year, 23% average. Soybean seedbed prepared 12% this month, 31% last year, 30% average. Peanuts seedbed prepared 42% this month, 42% last year, 30% average. Cotton 30% emerged this month, 61% last year, 45% average. Livestock condition 3% very poor, 11% poor, 34% fair, 46% good, 6% excellent. Pasture and range condition 7% very poor, 21% poor, 37% fair, 33% good, 2% excellent.

OREGON: Spring is here, with fruit crops blooming early. Cherries, pears, peaches were blooming, apples were pushing in Linn, Benton Counties. Farmers markets will soon be starting up. Fertilizer was applied to hay fields in Josephine County where weather permitted, but some farmers were prevented by standing water. Early warm weather has given grains a good start with little sign of freeze damage. In Southwestern Oregon, livestock were already using pasture but with some supplemental feeding. There are lots of baby lambs, new calves on the ground, good pig litters this year. In much of the State, eyes are on snowpack levels needed for summer irrigation. They are below normal levels across Oregon, but farmers are particularly worried in Klamath County where conditions are already dry. Projected water availability ranges from lower than normal to none at all. Some ranchers are stocking up on hay. Daytime temperatures were warmer this month, but most areas still fell below freezing at night. All but one station reported at least one night below freezing, but eighteen out of forty-two stations had less than a week of sub-freezing nighttime temperatures. High temperatures ranged from 74 degrees in Medford, Roseburg AP, down to 62 degrees in Parkdale Meso. Low temperatures ranged from 4 degrees in Christmas Valley, up to 33 degrees in Astoria/Clatsop. Eighteen stations reported more than ten days of rain, although only three stations reported higher than normal precipitation for the month of March. However, there are two remaining days in March not included in the monthly total, so additional rain may diminish the departure from normal precipitation.

PENNSYLVANIA: Farmers are continuing to prepare for the upcoming season. Principal farm activities for the month of March included hauling and spreading manure, applying chemicals and fertilizers, machinery maintenance, and plowing. When the weather permitted, farmers were able to seed alfalfa, oats, and tobacco. March brought a mixture of weather conditions. Temperatures this month were highly variable. The average temperature for the month was 47.1 degrees which is 5.9 degrees above normal. High temperatures reached into the 70s with the highest temperature at 74 degrees on the 21st. This month also included many wet and windy days. The total precipitation for the month was 3.22 inches which was comprised of mostly rainfall and very little snow.

SOUTH CAROLINA: The first week of March arrived with continuing cold weather. On Tuesday, wintry precipitation began to develop Upstate as low pressure moved eastward along the Gulf of Mexico. Snow showers expanded into central South Carolina during the day and into the evening hours. Mostly sunny skies followed for Wednesday as high pressure became parked over the region. Frosty mornings accompanied sub-freezing temperatures into the weekend. On Friday morning, Sandy Springs reported a low of 22 degrees and Bennettsville noted 25 degrees. The usual cold location of Cedar Creek recorded 20 degrees on Saturday morning. Blue skies and almost twelve available hours of sunshine combined to offer Saturday afternoon high temperatures up in the 60's. Although parts of the state observed periods of overcast skies Sunday, several locations reported 40-degree temperature rises from the morning low to the afternoon high. The state average temperature for March 1 – March 7 was 10 degrees below normal. For the second week of March, most of the state shared in the 70-degree mild temperatures on Monday. The season's warmest weather occurred on Tuesday with Columbia and Charleston recording 77 degrees and Florence 76 degrees. It was the highest temperature in four months for those sites. On Wednesday, a nearly stationary boundary separated the Upstate with the coast. Rain showers developed during the day and spread eastward. Heavy rains formed in thunderstorm clusters near the coast on Thursday with Charleston City measuring 1.93 inches. The unsettled weather continued Friday with isolated showers rotating southeastward and small hail reported over Charleston County within a late night storm. Mostly sunny, windy conditions were observed Saturday. Passing sprinkles joined the alternating hours of clouds and sunshine on Sunday. The state average temperature for the seven day period was 1 degree above normal. For the third week of March, Dillon, Camden, Cades and Manning all reported a high temperature of 69 degrees on Monday. An area of low pressure, well south of the state, sent clouds northward Tuesday afternoon, and by Wednesday morning light showers were drifting northward into Aiken County. Gray skies limited any sunshine warmth. Occasional showers fell over much of

eastern South Carolina and continued through Thursday. Thursday's highest temperature of 70 degrees occurred at Clemson AP due to a nearly full day of sunshine. A few of the usual cold sites observed frost on Friday morning. Pelion recorded a minimum temperature of 34 degrees. The season's warmest weather arrived on Saturday, the first day of spring. Cloudy, cool conditions with periods of rain were observed on Sunday. The state average temperature for the seven day period was 1 degree below normal. For the period beginning March 22 and ending March 28, late season cold returned on Monday following the passing of a cold front. On Tuesday morning, Hunts Bridge recorded a low temperature of 29 degrees. A slow warming trend began Wednesday for much of the state. Tree pollen was beginning to appear on exposed surfaces across the Midlands. The Columbia Metro AP and downtown Columbia Owens AP both reported a 77-degree high temperature on Thursday. The interaction between building warmth to the south and weak boundaries entering from the north produced a few light showers within the partly sunny conditions though Friday. On Saturday morning, Table Rock and Chesnee dropped to 32 degrees. Seasonal weather was observed over the weekend ahead of storms that developed Sunday evening. Passing showers and increasing winds evolved into severe thunderstorms that included hail and tornadoes on Sunday night. Golf ball-sized hail fell over parts of Pickens, Greenville, Abbeville, York and Cherokee counties. Preliminary surveys indicated tornado paths within McCormick, Edgefield, Lexington and Fairfield counties. The state average temperature for the seven day period was near normal.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Topsoil moisture 1% short, 66% adequate, 33% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 2% short, 81% adequate, 16% surplus. Winter wheat breaking dormancy 45%. Winter wheat 7% poor, 25% fair, 61% good, 7% excellent. Corn harvested 97%. Feed supplies 2% very short, 11% short, 84% adequate, 3% surplus. Stock water supplies 2% very short, 4% short, 75% adequate, 19% surplus. Accessible livestock feed supplies 79% readily, 18% difficult, 3% inaccessible. Accessible stock water supplies 90% readily, 9% difficult, 1% inaccessible. Range and pasture 6% very poor, 5% poor, 31% fair, 51% good, 7% excellent. Cattle death losses 2% below normal, 92% normal, 6% above normal. Calf deaths 3% below average, 87% average, 10% above average. Calving 38% complete. Cattle moved to pasture 3% complete. Cattle condition 3% poor, 25% fair, 65% good, 7% excellent. Sheep, lamb deaths 4% below average, 92% average, 4% above average. Lambing 59% complete. Sheep condition 1% poor, 17% fair, 70% good, 12% excellent. Road conditions--township 79% open, 16% difficult, 5% closed. Road conditions--county 94% open, 5% difficult, 1% closed. Melting snow and wet conditions, and in some cases flooding, has kept producers busy throughout the month of March. Some reports mentioned the closed roads due to being under water or washed out by moving water. Farm activities focused on calving and lambing, preparing equipment for fieldwork, tending to livestock, and dealing with high water issues.

TENNESSEE: Temperatures ranged from 8 degrees below normal to 6 degrees above. Precipitation was mostly lower than normal. Farm activities included fertilizer application and preparing fields for planting. The winter wheat crop improved, and was rated at month's end in fair-to-good condition. Cattle and pastures were also rated in fair-to-good condition. Hay supplies were adequate.

TEXAS: Agricultural Summary. Precipitation was steady during March with 0.01 to 2.5 inches of rainfall across much of the State but the Trans-Pecos receiving less than 0.25 of an inch. Increasingly warm temperatures were observed during the month of March with some light freezes and snow covering fields in the beginning to optimal planting conditions towards the end. Small grains progressed due to adequate soil moisture and drier, warmer weather in the middle of the month. Corn planting was delayed due to the excessive rainfalls in the Blacklands but a few fields in the Upper Coast had planting activity. Spring planting preparation was active across much of the State. A recent freeze caused minor damage to some vegetable crops, peach and other fruit trees in the Cross Timbers but the severity is still undetermined. Harvest of spinach was completed and the harvest of cabbage was active in South Texas. A late winter storm in the Northern High Plains had some effect on cattle condition but minimal death losses were reported. However, livestock in the Northern Low Plains were in fair to excellent condition and some supplemental feeding was being done. Range and pasture condition remained constant through most of the month from fair during periods of normal precipitation in the beginning to good with drier, warmer temperatures in the end.

UTAH: Weather-wise March brought a variety of weather to Utah. Temperatures went back and forth with some warmer days and then more cold days. There were several snow storms but mostly in the mountains. The snow that fell in the valleys, usually melted by the end of the day. There were also some days of valley rainfall. Although Southern Utah received more precipitation this winter than Northern Utah, there is sufficient water storage in the reservoirs for irrigation this summer throughout the state. With some milder days crop producers have been able begin field preparation and planting. Box Elder and Cache Counties reported no news of winter wheat winterkill. Fieldwork is being done in preparation for spring planting. Some spring barley, wheat, and onions have already been planted. Soil conditions are very dry for this early in the season. Irrigators are concerned about the snowpack, because it is below average so far this year. There have been some reports of meadow vole damage in fields and yards, resulting from several weeks of snow cover. Numerous producers have been forced to spread poison wheat on their lands in an effort to get control of the burgeoning vole populations. Weber, Utah, Morgan, and Salt Lake Counties reported that herbicide and fertilizer applications were being made to alfalfa fields. Small grains were being planted. Millard and Beaver Counties reported that producers have been slow to get into the fields due to weekly storms, and below average temperatures. Some producers have been able to plant a variety of spring crops in between storms. Duchesne and Uintah Counties reported that the snow had melted by mid-month, which allowed farmers to begin field work. Producers are hoping for rain soon which would help reduce the risk of drought. Emery and Grand Counties reported that major field work has just gotten under way. Valley snow levels were well above normal and have just recently melted off of the fields. Mountain snowpack is below normal. Winter seeded annual crops are in good shape due to the moisture they received throughout winter. Apricots have just recently started blooming. San Juan County reports that many fields are still snow covered. There is some concern about winterkill and snow mold on the winter wheat, due to lingering snow cover. There should be a good amount of runoff in San Juan and Grand Counties. Garfield, Kane, Wayne, Sevier, and Piute Counties reported that snow has

been melting and farmers have been getting ready to begin field work. In some areas of the counties field work is three weeks late than last year. Soils are too wet to plow in some fields, and snow still covers fields in higher elevations. Box Elder County reported that livestock producers have seen a successful calving season thus far. Most report very few problems; the calves seem to be healthy and active. Cache County reported that beef producers have had near ideal weather for calving. Farm flocks have also enjoyed success in lambing. Morgan and Utah Counties reported that calving is nearing completion. There was one reported calf loss due to Bovine Virus Diarrhea. Duchesne County reported that some producers were affected by cold weather and lost a few calves at the beginning of the month. Lambs and calves are currently in good condition. Uintah County reported that cattle and sheep were in good to fair condition. Garfield, Kane, and Wayne Counties reported that as the snow melts producers are beginning to find dead livestock on the ranges. Total cattle death loss has not yet been determined; those figures will be recorded when the cattle are gathered and moved to the spring range.

VIRGINIA: Livestock 1% very poor, 6% poor, 42% fair, 44% good, 7% excellent. Pasture 4% very poor, 21% poor, 34% fair, 34% good, 7% excellent. Small Grain and Winter Grazing Crops 6% very poor, 15% poor, 40% fair, 35% good, 4% excellent. Beef Cattle Forage Obtained from Pastures 19%; 16% 2009. Milk Cow Forage Obtained from Pastures 5%; 5% 2009. Sheep Forage Obtained from Pastures 13%; 10% 2009. Weather patterns throughout the month of March have been conducive for early growth. Wheat and barley field conditions have appeared to be improving. Pasture and small grains have responded well to the temperate weather and have greened up nicely. Growers are gearing up for corn planting with anticipation of consistent spring weather conditions. There has been an increase in spring field work with applications of nitrogen and lime, and some spreading of liquid manure to ease pressure on full manure storage structures. Producers continue to feed livestock and repair fences for turn-out time. Although weather has improved, wet fields continue to interfere with field preparation in some areas. Indications of delayed fertilization of winter grains and forages appear to be evident. Strawberry development has been delayed about two weeks due to the cold weather.

WASHINGTON: A very mild winter gave way to a very early spring as farmers began tilling and planting earlier than many had ever done before. Winter wheat conditions were mostly good, with some replanting occurring in the east central part of the State. Wheat in Whitman and especially Walla Walla County looked good. By month's end, over 50 percent of spring wheat had been planted, while potato planting was in excess of 20 percent. Dry and processing pea planting was well ahead of the years previous and five year average marks. Cattle calving conditions were excellent and hay was reported to be in surplus supplies. The overriding concern at this point is the lack of snow pack and the almost inevitable drought conditions likely to follow.

WEST VIRGINIA: Topsoil moisture was 1% short, 65% adequate and 34% surplus compared with 11% very short, 11% short, 77% adequate and 1% surplus last year. Hay and roughage supplies were 5% very short, 18% short, 74% adequate, and 3% surplus compared with 3% very short, 12% short, 83% adequate and 2% surplus last year. Feed grain supplies were 8% short, 91% adequate and 1% surplus compared to 3% very short, 8% short and 89% adequate last year. Wheat conditions were 17% fair, 81% good and 2% excellent. Cattle and calves were 6% poor, 34% fair, 57% good and 3% excellent. Calving was 66% complete compared to 64% last year. Sheep and lambs were 8% poor, 23% fair, 67% good and 2% excellent. Lambing was 77% complete compared to 73% last year. Farming activities included: spreading lime and fertilizer on pastures, calving, lambing, repairing fences, top dressing small grains, pruning fruit trees, and making plans for spring vaccinations and parasite control.

WISCONSIN: March precipitation in Wisconsin ranged from 0.31 inches in Green Bay (1.51 inches below normal) to 0.83 inches in Milwaukee (1.43 inches below normal). Few areas received snowfall for March with snowfall averaging 4.7 to 8.6 inches below normal. Snowfall totals for the month ranged from 0.0 inches in Green Bay, La Crosse, and Eau Claire to 1.8 inches in Madison. March temperatures for the state of Wisconsin were not available at the time of this report.

WYOMING: Topsoil moisture 18% short, 79% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil moisture 5% very short, 21% short, 74% adequate. Average depth of snow cover 0.8 inches. Barley progress 26% planted. Spring wheat progress 6% planted. Winter wheat condition 1% very poor, 1% poor, 6% fair, 91% good, 1% excellent. Winter wheat wind damage 59% none, 34% light, 7% moderate. Winter wheat freeze damage 65% none, 29% light, 6% moderate. Spring calves born 38%.Farm flock ewes lambed 40%.Farm flock sheep shorn 40%.Range flock ewes lambed 12%.Range flock sheep shorn 34%.Calf losses 26% light, 74% normal. Lamb losses 30% light, 70% normal. Cattle conditions 1% poor, 23% fair, 76% good. Calves conditions 15% fair, 84% good, 1% excellent. Sheep conditions 1% poor, 17% fair, 82% good. Lambs conditions 10% fair, 90% good. Range and pasture condition 9% very poor, 12% poor, 28% fair, 50% good, 1% excellent. Stock water supplies 11% short, 88% adequate, 1% surplus. Hay and roughage supplies 6% short, 91% adequate, 3% surplus. Winter weather has varied across the state during March with only a few counties receiving moisture. This has made for nice lambing and calving conditions. However, it is a double edge sword with the current prospects for rangeland forage production looking poor. Needless to say, drought conditions remain a concern as winds begin to pick up and snowpack remains below normal for the majority of the state. Activities calving and lambing; sheering of sheep; small grain planting beginning in some areas.

International Weather and Crop Summary

March 21 - 27, 2010

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

HIGHLIGHTS

EUROPE: Widespread rain improved soil moisture for winter crops, while above-normal temperatures over eastern Europe eased winter wheat and rapeseed out of dormancy.

FSU-WESTERN: Warm conditions in western growing districts melted much of the area's snow cover, while an unseasonably deep snow pack in central and eastern Russia kept crops dormant.

MIDDLE EAST: Showers favored winter wheat in southern growing districts, while above-normal temperatures in Turkey accelerated crop development.

NORTHWEST AFRICA: Mostly sunny weather maintained favorable prospects for reproductive to filling winter grains.

SOUTH ASIA: Unfavorably hot weather hastened winter wheat toward maturity in India.

EAST ASIA: Showers brought beneficial moisture to winter growing areas of eastern China.

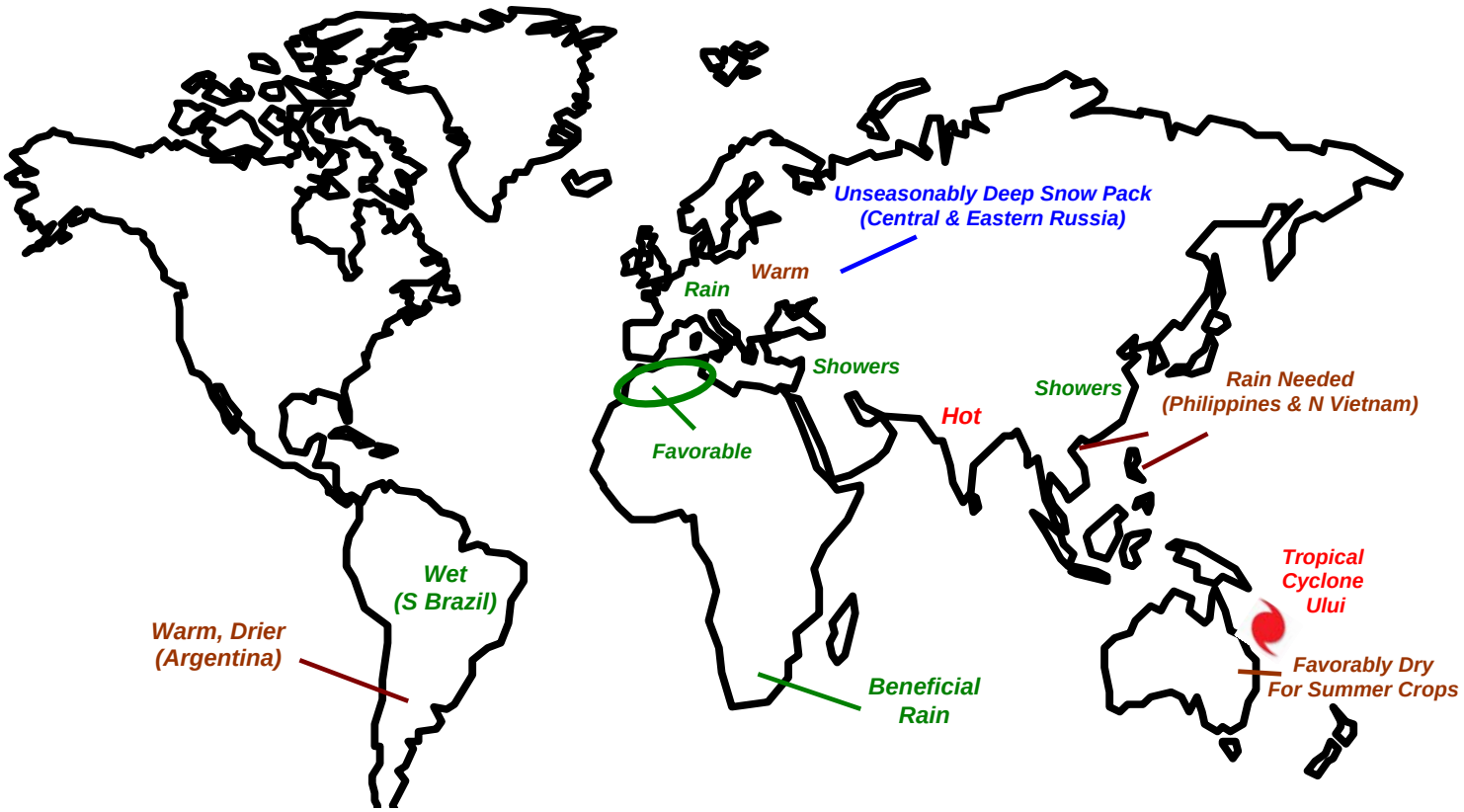
SOUTHEAST ASIA: Drier weather returned to the Philippines and northern Vietnam, where more rain is needed for spring-grown rice.

AUSTRALIA: Tropical Cyclone Ului brought heavy rains and damaging winds to the coast of central Queensland, while mostly dry weather farther south aided summer crop maturation and harvesting.

SOUTH AFRICA: Showers and unseasonable warmth maintained favorable prospects for summer crops in the western corn belt.

ARGENTINA: Warmth and dryness promoted dry down and harvesting of summer crops after a period of heavy rain.

BRAZIL: Locally heavy rain maintained abundant moisture for late development of summer crops but was untimely for the soybean harvest.



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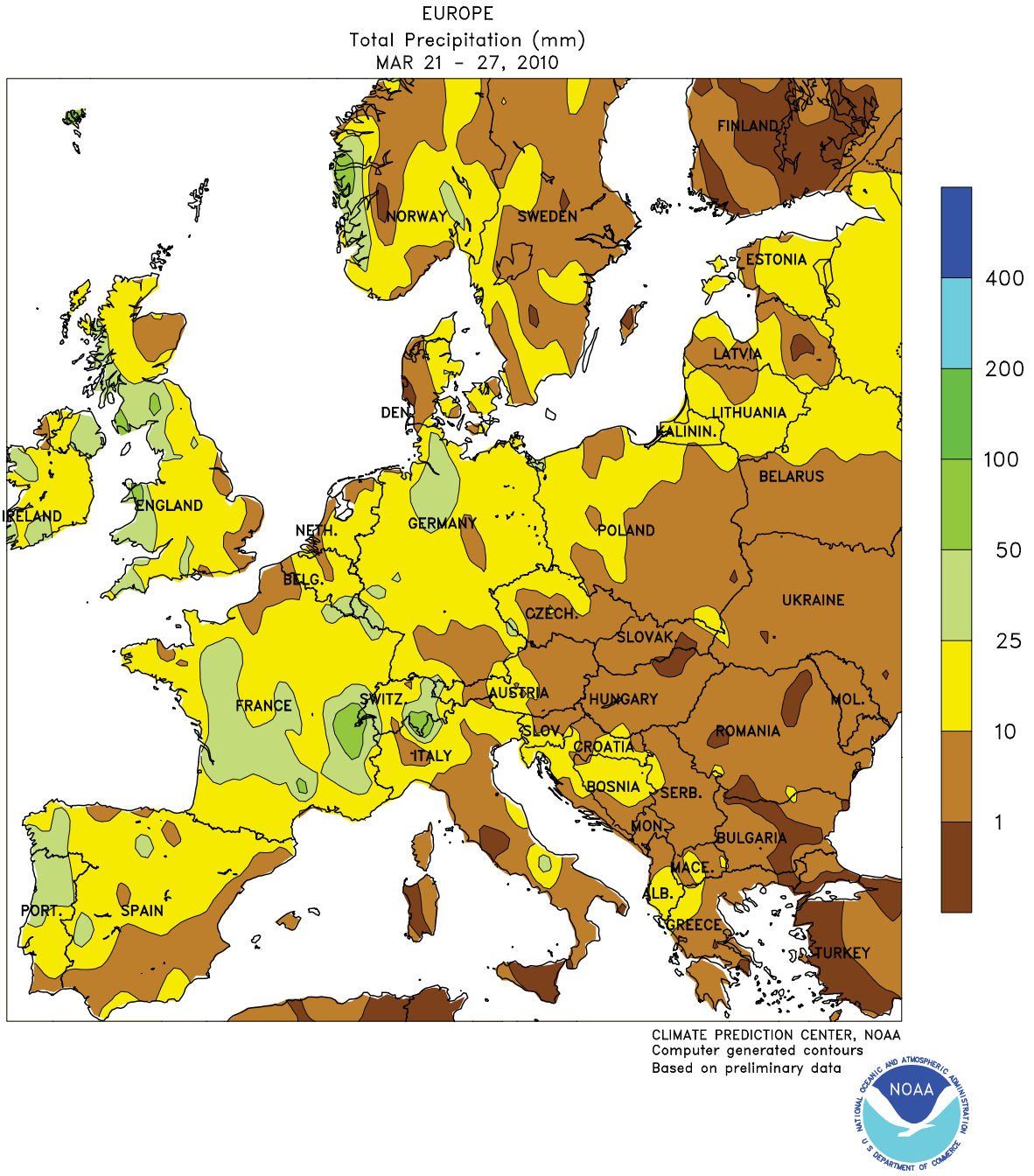
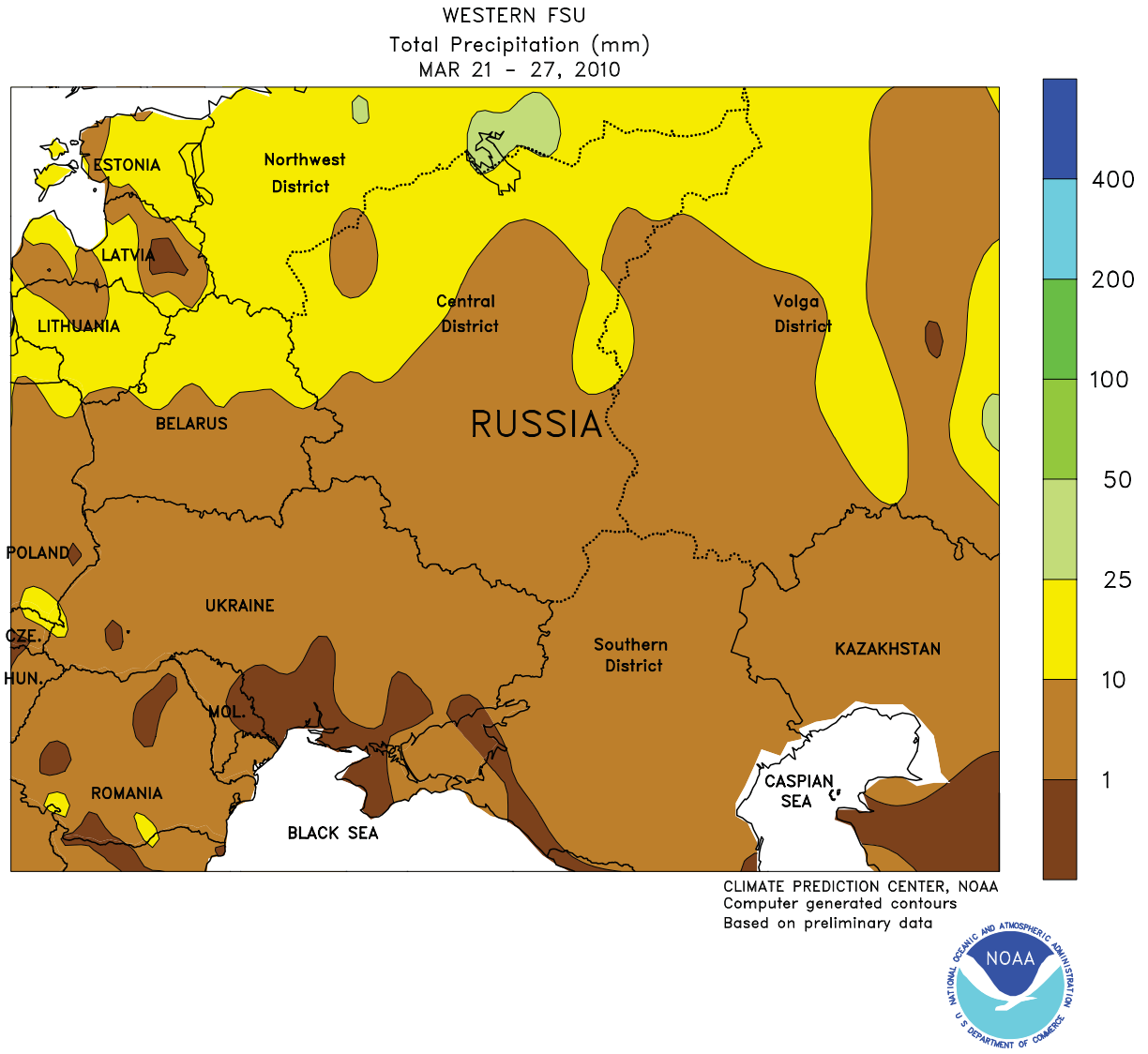


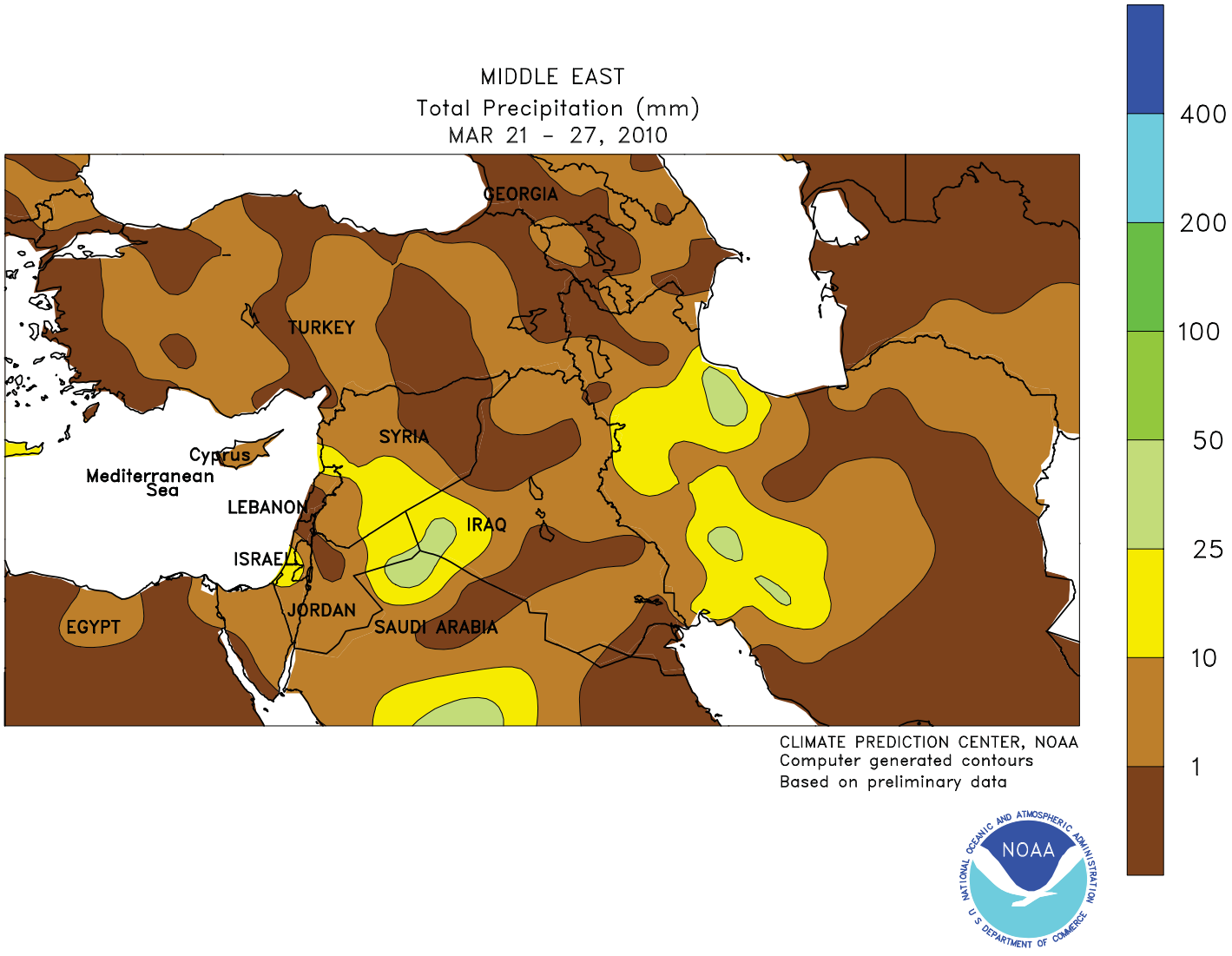
EUROPE

Periods of rain over central and northern Europe contrasted with dry conditions across the Balkans. After a relatively dry start to the week, a large, complex Atlantic storm moved slowly across the continent, producing 10 to 60 mm of rain over most winter crop areas. The rain ended a month-long dry spell in northeastern France and Germany, improving soil moisture supplies for winter grains and oilseeds. In Spain, prospects for vegetative (north) to flowering (south) winter wheat are excellent, with plentiful winter and spring rainfall maintaining abundant soil moisture while recharging reservoirs for the upcoming summer dry season. In Italy, showers (10-20 mm) in the north were beneficial for jointing winter grains, while dry weather in central and southern Italy facilitated corn planting and citrus harvesting. Dry conditions prevailed in southeastern Europe, although soil moisture was adequate for winter crop development. Temperatures averaged 6 to 8 degrees C above normal in central and eastern Europe, easing winter grains and oilseeds out of dormancy in Germany, Poland, and the northern Balkans. As of March 27, snow cover had melted from all of Europe's primary growing areas, although the northern Baltic States were still reporting 2 to locally more than 20 cm of snow on the ground.



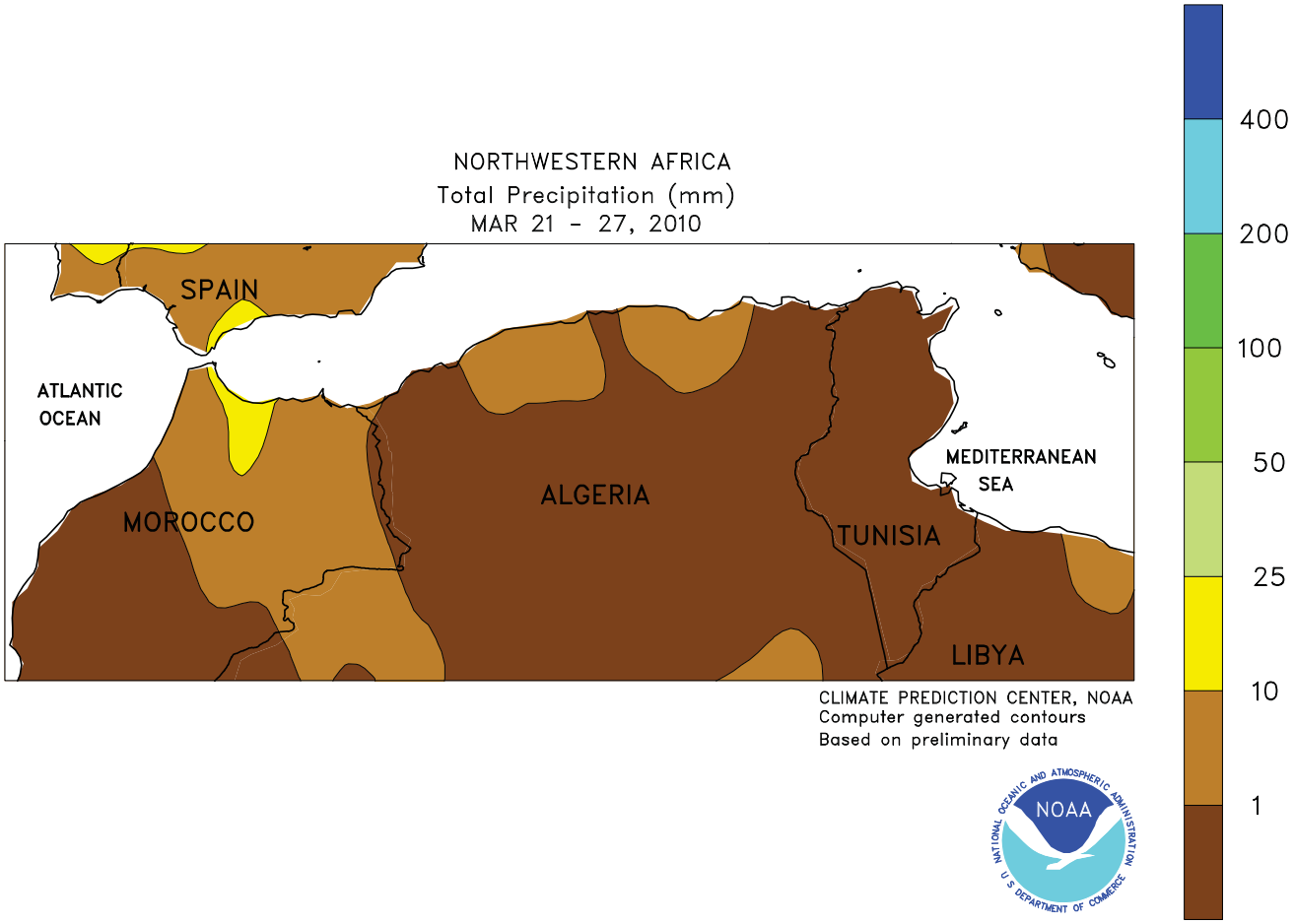
FSU-WESTERN

Warmer, drier weather settled over the region, although winter crops remained dormant in most growing areas. A strong area of high pressure provided above-normal temperatures (2-6 degrees C above normal) from Belarus and Ukraine southeastward into Kazakhstan, causing the snow cover over western portions of the region to finally melt. In addition, weekly average temperatures between 5 and 8 degrees C allowed some greening of winter grains in southern Ukraine, western Belarus, and Russia's Southern District. Snow depths were mostly less than 5 cm in northeastern Ukraine, eastern Belarus, and Russia's Central District. The remainder of the western half of the region is now snow free. In contrast, a deep snow pack (20-80 cm) remained in place across northern Kazakhstan and Russia's Volga District, inhibiting fieldwork and keeping winter crops dormant.



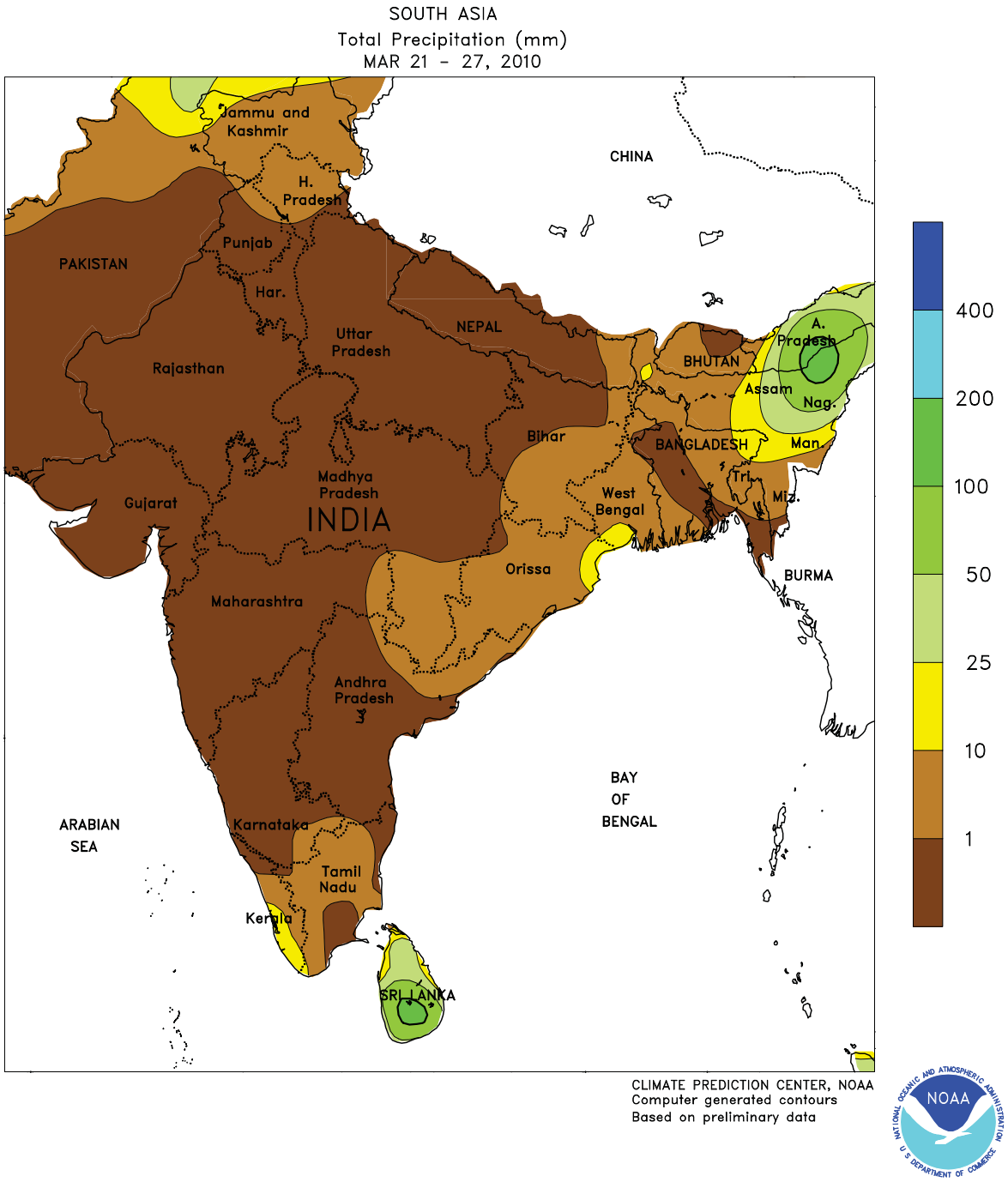
MIDDLE EAST

Wet weather over central and southern growing areas contrasted with drier, warmer weather in Turkey. A slow-moving storm system generated 2 to more than 30 mm of rain from central and southern Syria eastward into western and central Iran. The moisture was beneficial for reproductive to filling winter grains, which have been subjected to periods of extreme heat over the past 2 weeks. In eastern Iran, where the last significant rain fell in early March, dry weather caused soil moisture to decline to unfavorable levels for reproductive winter grains. Meanwhile, high pressure provided sunny, warm weather (3-6 degrees C above normal) in Turkey, accelerating winter grain development; soil moisture remained adequate to abundant in most of Turkey, although pockets of dryness are developing in southern and southeastern wheat districts.



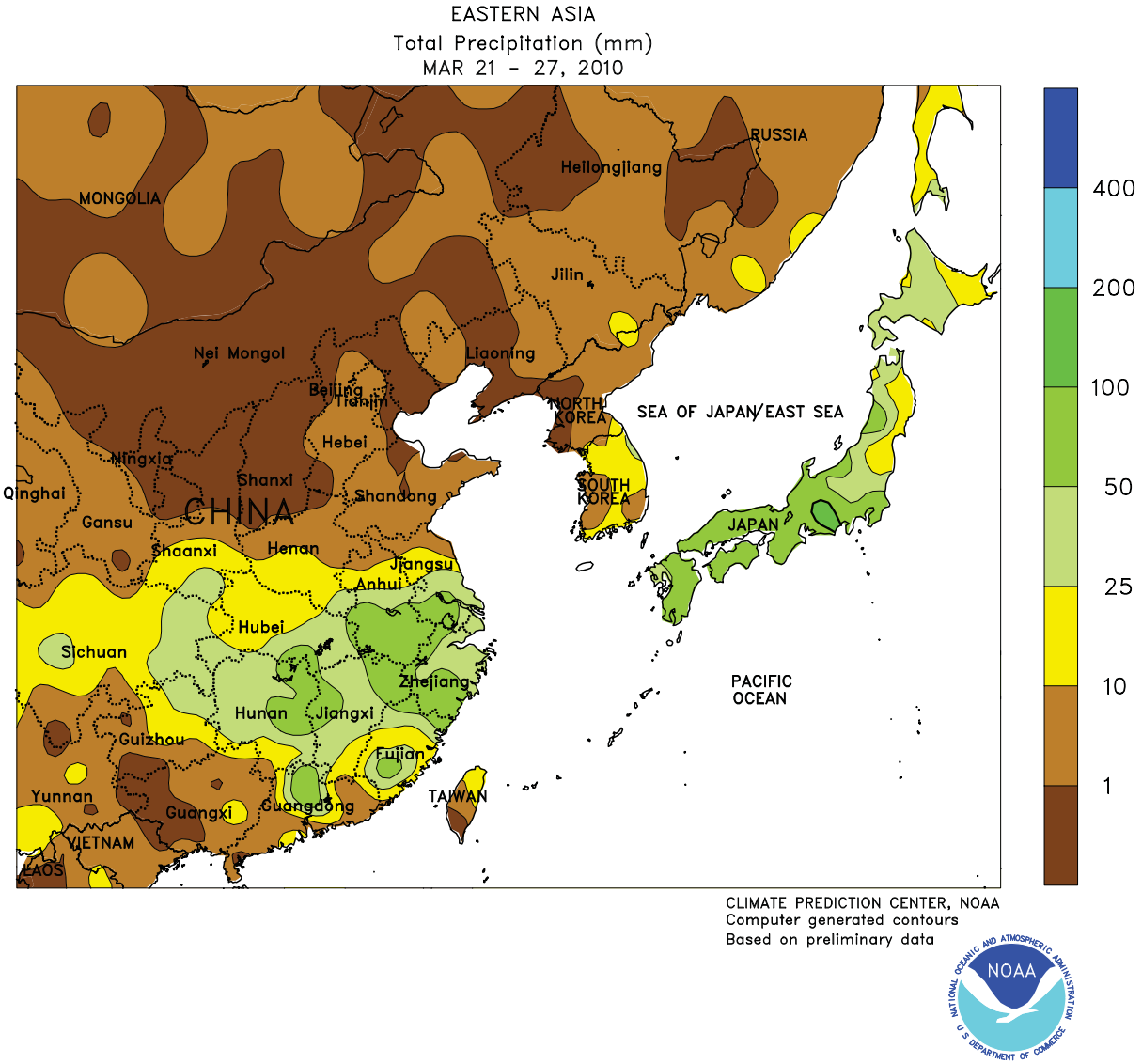
NORTHWEST AFRICA

Sunny skies and above-normal temperatures accelerated winter grain development. A few light showers (1-10 mm) kept topsoils moist in eastern Morocco and central Tunisia, but dry weather prevailed across the remainder of the region. Despite the recent decline of topsoil moisture due to short-term dryness, subsoil moisture remained adequate to abundant for reproductive to filling winter wheat and barley. Temperatures averaged 2 to 5 degrees C above normal, with daytime highs in the middle and upper 20s accelerating grains through reproduction and into the filling stage of development.



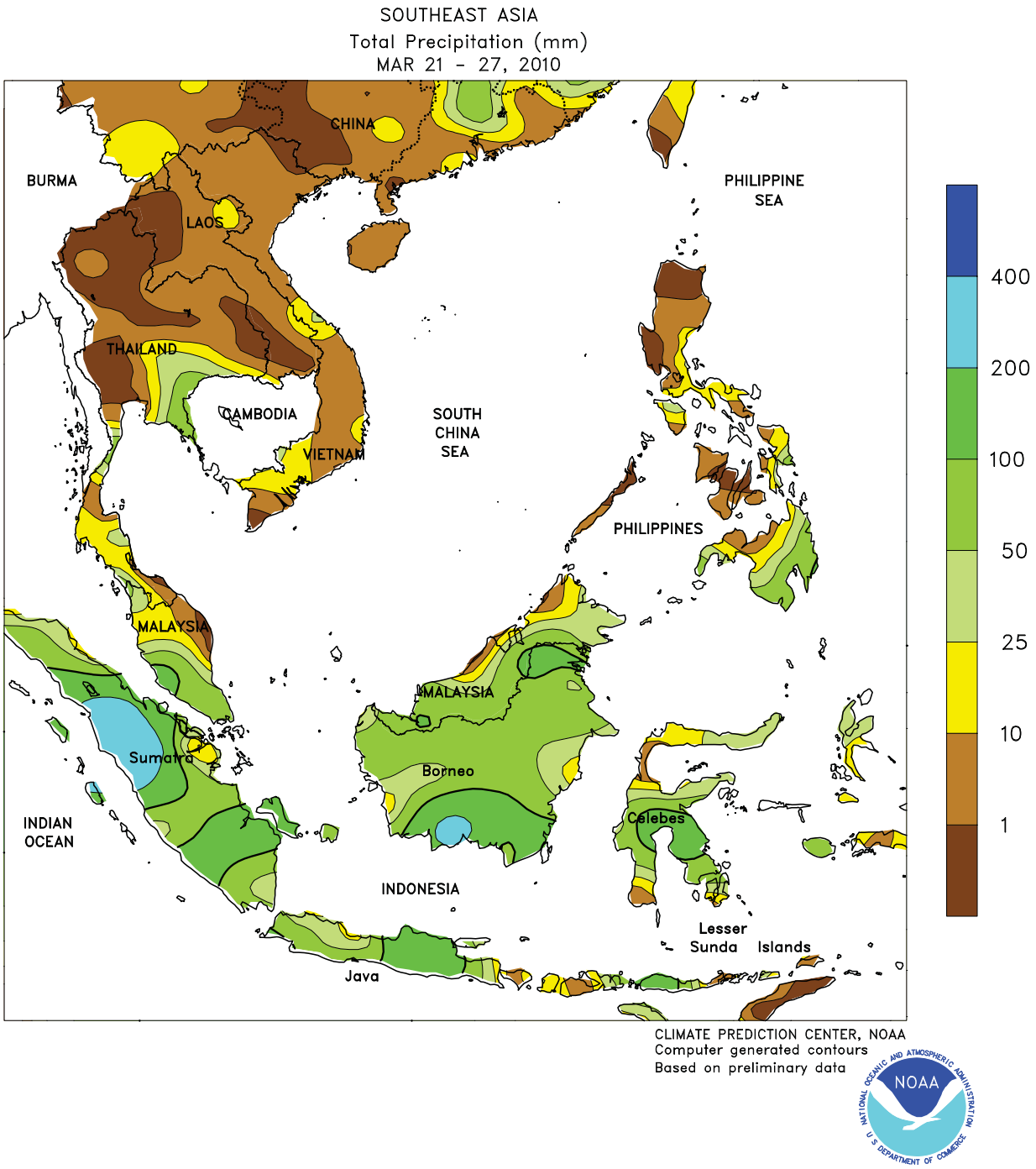
SOUTH ASIA

Unfavorably hot, dry weather persisted over the subcontinent, hastening winter wheat toward maturity. Temperatures for the week averaged up to 9 degrees C above normal in key winter wheat areas of Punjab and Haryana, and 4 to 6 degrees C above normal in Uttar Pradesh (India's top wheat producing state). Daytime highs above 40 degrees C over much of northern India likely reduced yields for immature wheat, and caused filling winter grains to advance rapidly toward maturity (the threshold for damage to reproductive to filling winter wheat is generally accepted to be 35 degrees C). The recent spell of excessive heat, while not uncommon prior to the onset of the Southwest Monsoon, was more typical of readings seen in April, when wheat harvesting is usually underway.



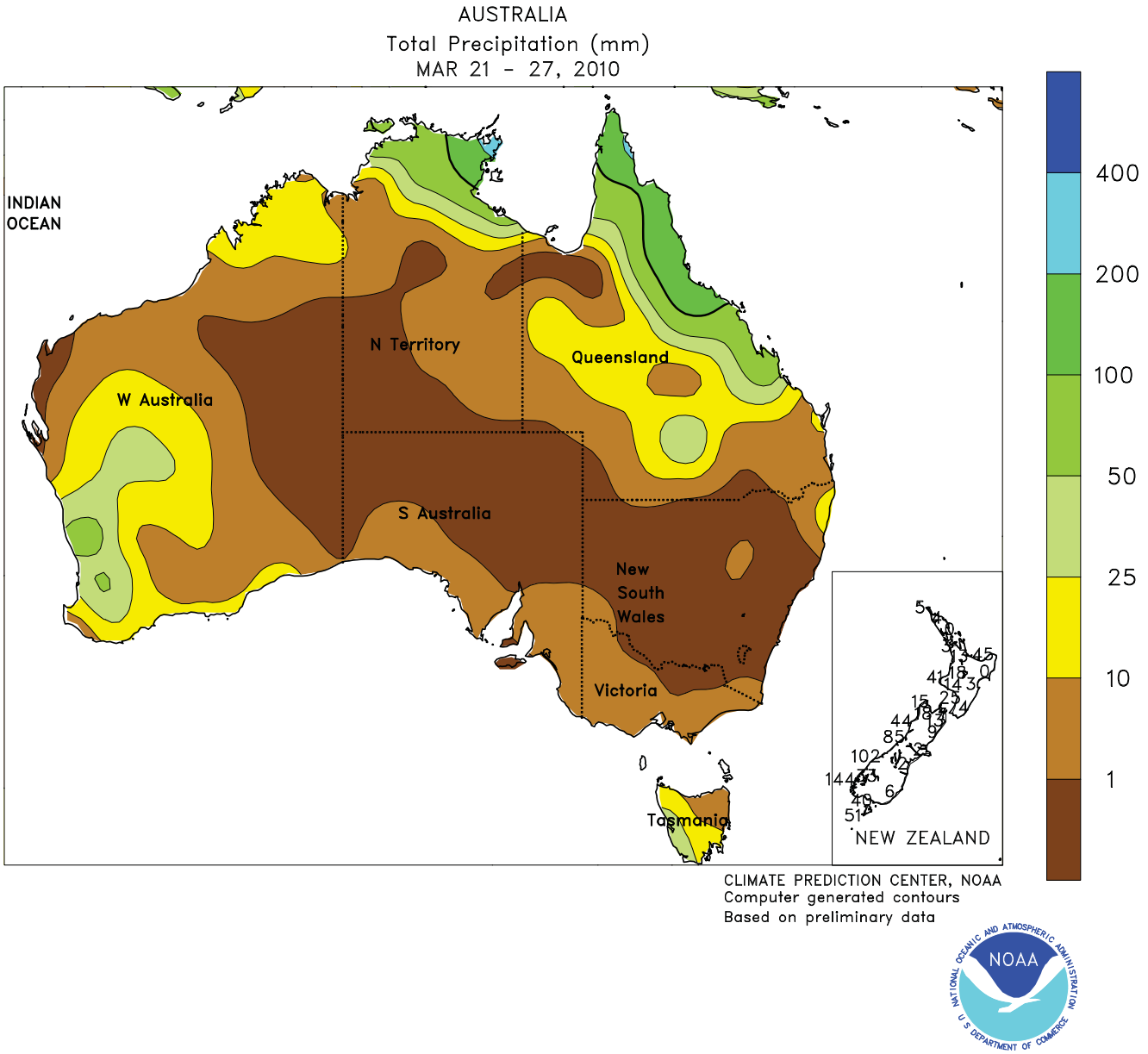
EAST ASIA

A cold front pushed through eastern China, bringing rainfall to winter growing areas for much of the week. Light showers (less than 10 mm) maintained favorable soil moisture for winter wheat on the North China Plain. Meanwhile, heavier rainfall (10-100 mm) boosted moisture supplies for winter rapeseed and early crop rice in the Yangtze Valley and Sichuan Basin. Drier weather in the southeast eased excessive wetness after several weeks of drenching rainfall, while dryness persisted in the drought areas of the southwest. The passage of the front ushered in cooler weather as well, although freezing temperatures were confined to areas north of the Yellow River.



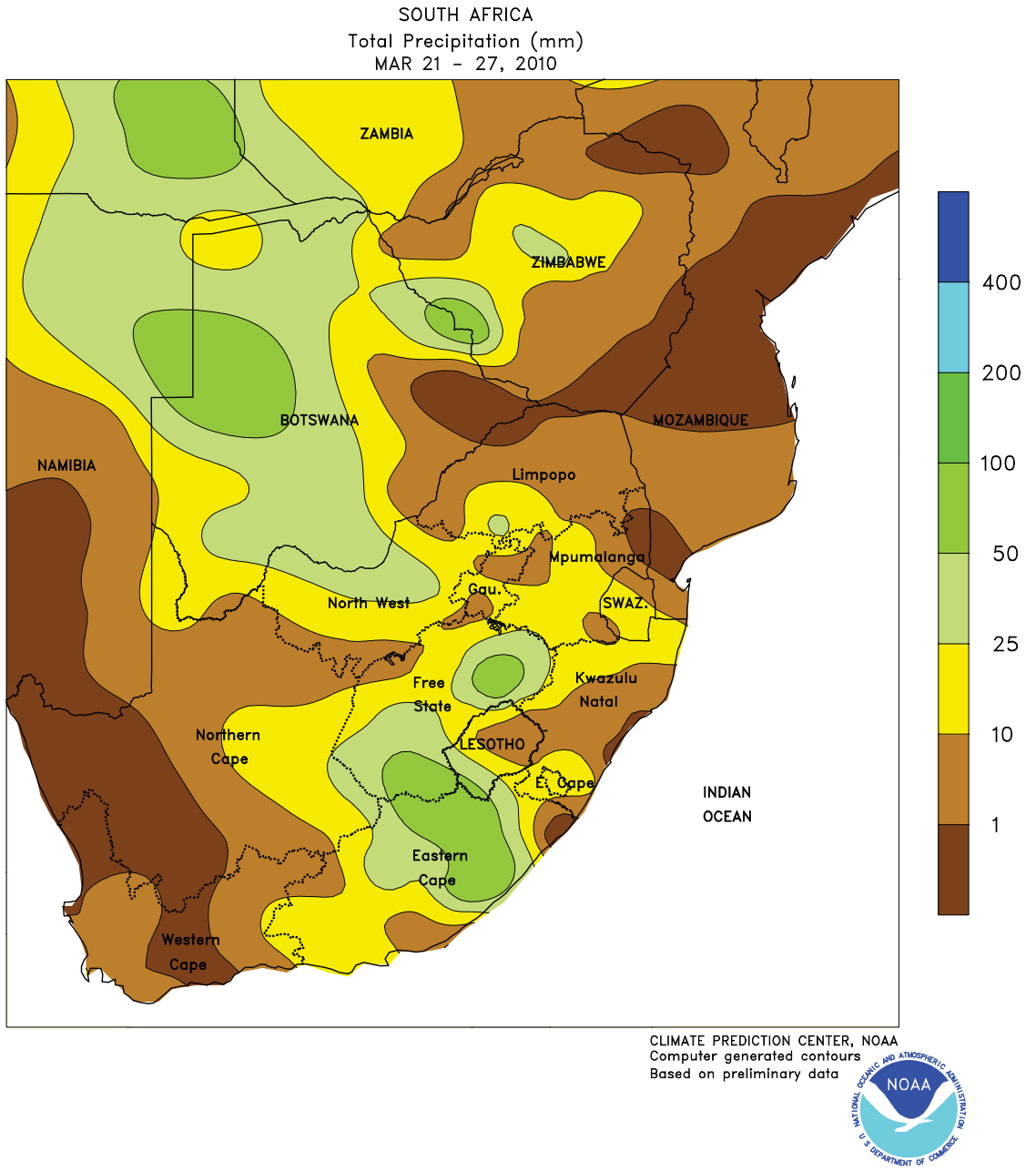
SOUTHEAST ASIA

Drier weather returned to the Philippines after resurgent rainfall over the past couple of weeks eased long-term dryness. Rainfall was generally light (under 10 mm) across Luzon, providing some moisture to spring rice, but more rain is needed to ensure normal development. Showers continued, albeit lighter (25-100 mm), in Java, Indonesia, where occasional breaks in the rain aided early harvest activities. Oil palm continued to benefit from increased showers (50-100 mm) in Indonesia, although drier weather returned to key oil palm areas in Malaysia. Meanwhile, hot, mostly dry weather prevailed in Vietnam, increasing water demands for winter-spring rice in the north.



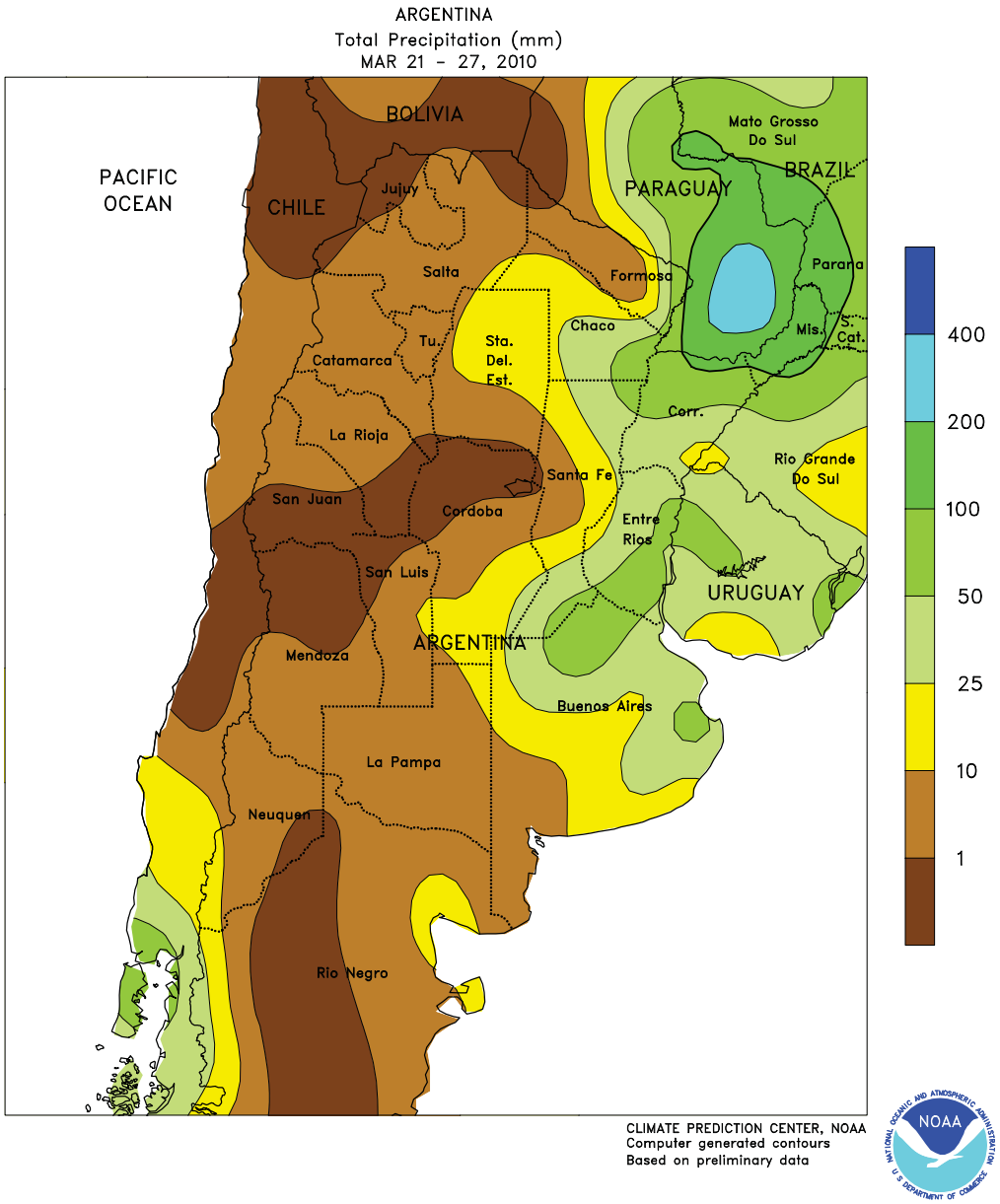
AUSTRALIA

On March 21, severe Tropical Cyclone Ului made landfall approximately 110 km north–northwest of Mackay, Queensland. The cyclone produced heavy rains (25-100 mm, locally more than 200 mm) and high winds along the central Queensland coast, reportedly causing some damage to sugarcane, but the storm weakened rapidly as it moved further inland. The rainfall (10-50 mm) associated with the remnants of Ului slowed summer crop maturation and harvesting across inland portions of central Queensland, but the storm likely caused little if any additional damage as it dissipated. Farther south, warm, mostly dry weather dominated across major cotton and sorghum areas in southern Queensland and northern New South Wales. The warmth and dryness continued to benefit summer crop maturation and harvesting. Following recent soaking rains, the sunny weather combined with adequate topsoil moisture to aid development of immature summer crops as well. Temperatures in eastern Australia averaged 1 to 2 degrees C above normal, with maximum temperatures generally in the upper 20s and lower 30s degrees C.



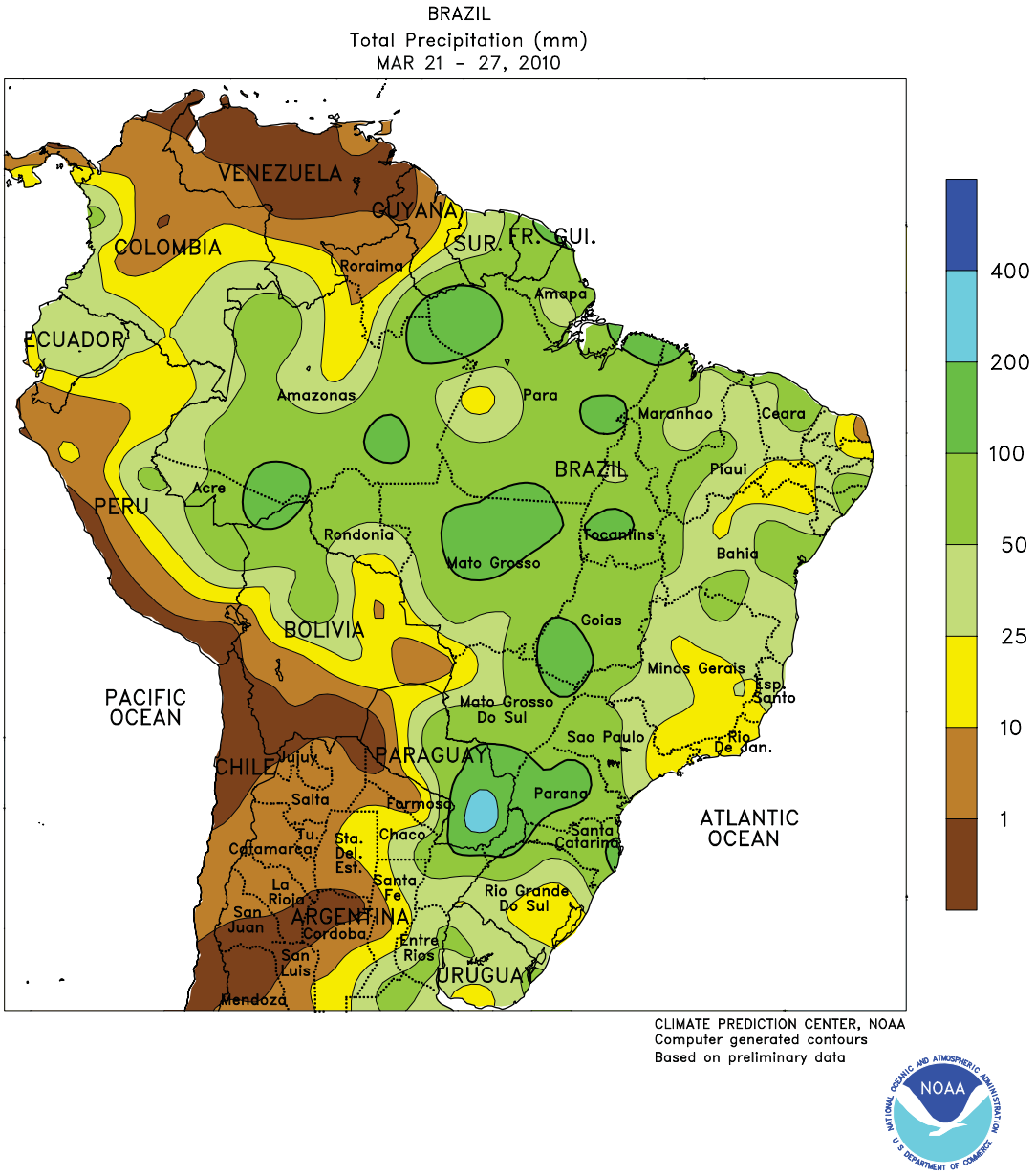
SOUTH AFRICA

Warm, showery weather maintained favorable prospects for summer crops in western sections of the corn belt. Rainfall totaled 10 to 25 mm in major production areas of Free State and North West, with unseasonable warmth (weekly temperatures averaging up to 2 degrees C above normal, with highs approaching 30 degrees C) helping to advance crops toward maturity. Corn sown toward the end of the planting window (late December to early January) in these western production areas has benefited from the late-season rain of the past few weeks. Lighter showers (rainfall totaling 3-25 mm) prevailed in northern and eastern sections of the corn belt (eastern North West to Mpumalanga) and the continuation of summer-like warmth (highs in the middle and upper 20s degrees C) fostered summer crop maturation. Drier weather also covered much of KwaZulu-Natal, possibly spurring early sugarcane harvesting. Elsewhere, moderate to heavy rain (10-50 mm or more) increased irrigation reserves in eastern growing areas of Northern and Eastern Cape Provinces. Isolated showers (exceeding 25 mm) were recorded in Western Cape but dry, seasonably warm weather prevailed for much of the week, allowing harvesting of tree and vine crops to continue.



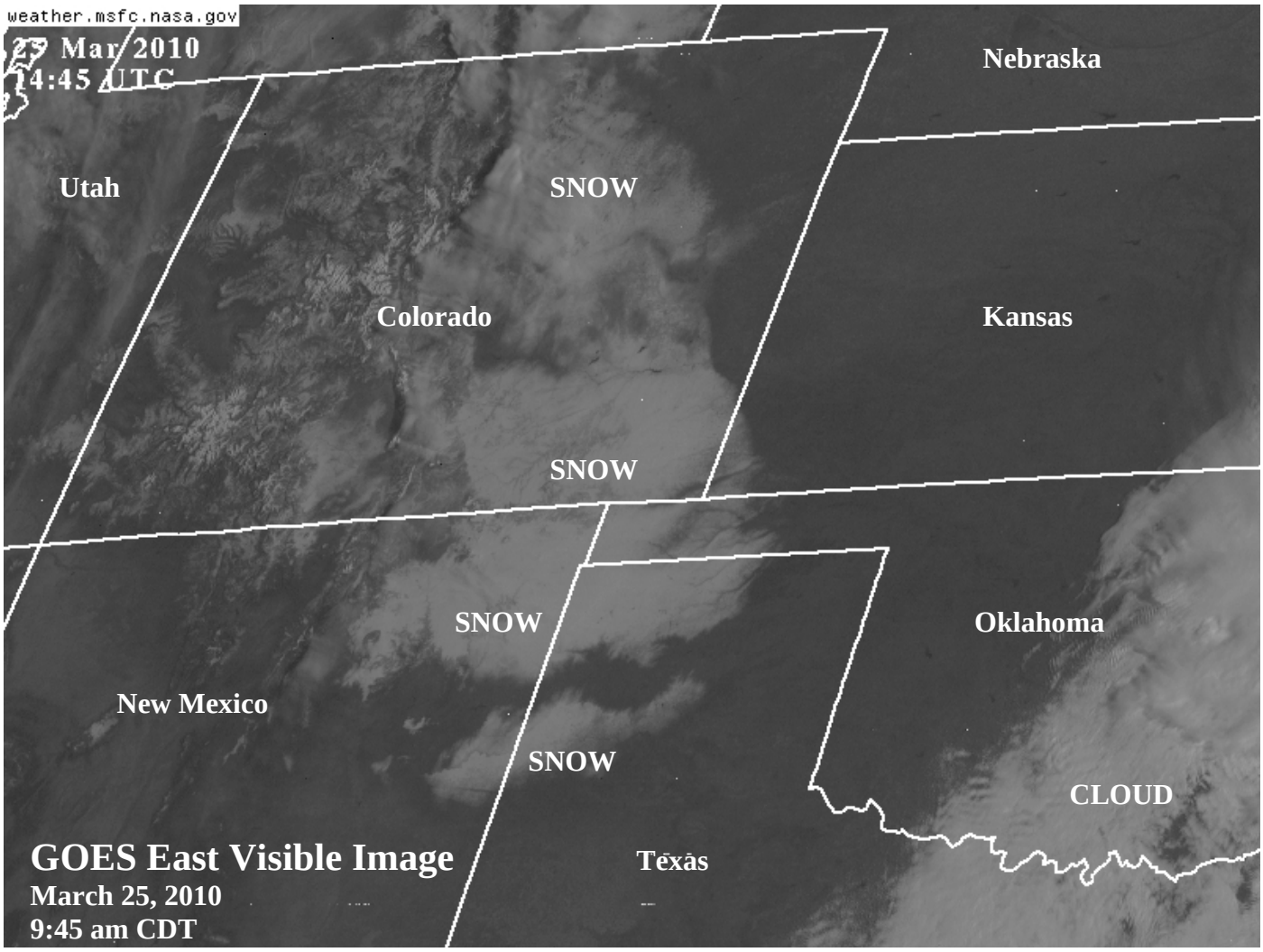
ARGENTINA

Early week showers gave way to warmer, drier conditions, spurring summer crop harvesting and helping to alleviate excessive moisture in the Parana River Valley. In central Argentina, the heaviest rain (greater than 50 mm) fell on March 22 in sections of northern Buenos Aires and southern Entre Rios, likely contributing to localized flooding of low-lying farmland. Lighter rain (up to 25 mm) fell in Cordoba, La Pampa, and southwestern Buenos Aires. Warmer, drier conditions developed immediately thereafter, and afternoon temperatures reached the upper 20s and lower 30s degrees C on a daily basis for the remainder of the week. A similar pattern existed in northern Argentina, with locally heavy showers in the eastern agricultural areas contrasting with warmer, drier conditions farther west. In the cotton belt, rain (greater than 25 mm) was generally confined to easternmost growing areas of Formosa, Chaco, and Santa Fe. Warm, sunny weather over the remainder of the area spurred pasture growth and development of flowering to filling cotton following last week's soaking rain. According to Argentina's Ministry of Agriculture, sunflowers were 69 percent harvested, compared with 89 percent last year. Corn was 24 percent harvested, slightly behind last season's pace. In addition, cotton harvesting was reportedly underway in some of the earlier-planted fields.



BRAZIL

Above-normal rainfall covered nearly all major farming areas, increasing moisture for late-season development of grains, oilseeds, and cotton but slowing harvesting of mature summer crops. In the south, shower activity intensified from the previous week, with accumulations totaling 50 to 100 mm from Rio Grande do Sul northward through Mato Grosso and Goias. Unseasonably heavy rain (25-50 mm, locally exceeding 100 mm) also fell throughout the northeastern interior, including soybean and cotton areas of western Bahia and Tocantins. Nearer to the coast, moderate showers (greater than 25 mm) fell from Brazil's northeastern tip southward through Espirito Santo, increasing moisture for coffee, sugarcane, and other plantation crops but likely slowing seasonal fieldwork. According to climatology, seasonal rainfall should be declining throughout the region, making this past week's surge in moisture unusual. However, above-normal temperatures spurred development of summer crops while maintaining high evapotranspiration rates, with highs occasionally hitting the middle 30s degrees C in traditionally warmer locations of Mato Grosso and the northeastern interior.



On March 23-24, a storm system crossing central portions of the Rockies and Plains generated some late-season snow. Official storm totals in Colorado included 10.8 inches in Denver, 5.5 inches in Colorado Springs, and 4.7 inches in Pueblo. Snow lingered into the pre-dawn hours of March 25 on the southern High Plains, where totals reached 8.1 inches in Dalhart, TX, and 8.0 inches in Boise City, OK. The snow provided beneficial moisture and insulation for winter wheat; in Colorado, more than three-quarters (76 percent) of the wheat crop was rated in good to excellent condition on March 28, according to USDA.

The *Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin* (ISSN 0043-1974) is published weekly and is jointly prepared by the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Publication began in 1872 as the *Weekly Weather Chronicle*. It is issued under general authority of the Act of January 12, 1895 (44-USC 213), 53rd Congress, 3rd Session. The contents may be redistributed freely with proper credit.

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