

Weekly Weather Crop Bulletin

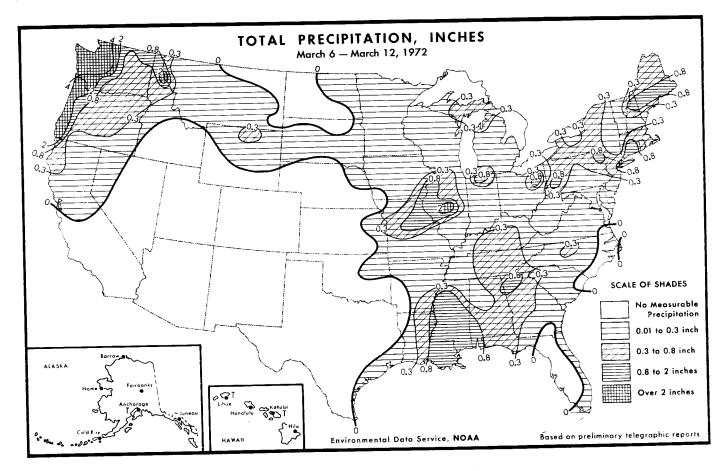
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Edited by Lucius W. Dye

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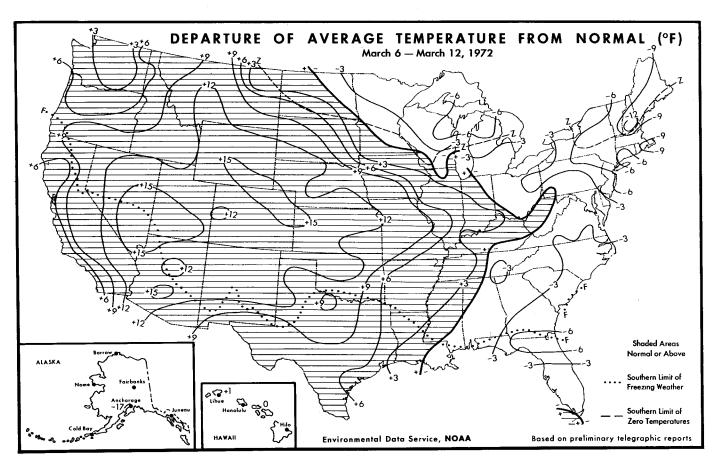
NATIONAL WEATHER SUMMARY

HIGHLIGHTS: The rainy season continued along the northern Pacific Coast. No rain or only widely scattered light sprinkles fell from central and southern California to Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas. Frontal precipitation occurred over the eastern half of the Nation.

PRECIPITATION: A storm centered over southern Alberta Monday morning, March 6, caused 40 to 50 m.p.h. gusty wipds portions of the Rocky Mountains, the Great Plains, and the Great Lakes Region as it moved eastward and intensified. Gusts reached 100 m.p.h. at Lander, Wyo., and one gust at Cheyenne, Wyo., reached 107 m.p.h. Much of the City of Lander was without power Monday afternoon. A front draped southward and southwestward from the storm center. Southwesterly winds occurred

ahead of the front shifting to northwesterly with the frontal passage. Scattered snow flurries occurred near the Great Lakes. Freezing rain fell in the Milwaukee, Wisc., area late Monday.

fell in the Milwaukee, Wisc., area late Monday.
Windy weather continued Tuesday causing
some difficulty to motorists in northeastern
North Dakota where the snow drifted and where
blowing snow reduced the visibility. By midmorning Tuesday, the storm front extended from
New York along the Appalachians to the Gulf
Coast. Showers preceded, accompanied, or
followed the frontal passage. Amount of precipitation ranged generally from 0.50 to 1.00 inch
in the Deep South but from only about 0.10 to
0.50 inch from the Ohio River northeastward to
New England. The northern portion of the front
was marked by snow flurries rather than rain



showers. Little precipitation fell elsewhere over the Nation at midweek.

Three precipitation areas began to shape up as the weekend approached. A storm in the Pacific Northwest brought occasional rain from Washington to northern California. A storm centered in West Virginia caused light snow from northern and central Ohio to central Pennsylvania. Light rain or drizzle also fell in extreme South Texas. Most of the southwestern quarter of the Nation received no rain or only light scattered sprinkles.

TEMPERATURE: Sunny weather prevailed over much of the Nation early in the week. A storm center moved from southern Alberta to the Great Lakes Region and continued on to Ontario and Quebec. An arctic air mass pushed into the northern Great Plains and spread southward and eastward. A long front marked the advance of the cold arctic air. Southwesterly winds warmed the area south of the front. Hill City, Kans., warmed to 93° Monday afternoon, March 6. Grand Island, Nebr., regiswith less than 5% relative humidity. The strong winds picked up dust from the dry areas. Visibility in some of the dust storms became reduced to less than one-half mile. Cold northerly winds behind the eastward-moving storm brought falling temperatures. Subzero weather came to the upper Great Lakes area Monday, to northern New England Tuesday, and to the northern portions of North Dakota and Minnesota on Wednesday. In some places the northerly winds gusted

to more than 50 m.p.h. They picked up snow and dust and the visibility became less than 2 miles. Worthington, Minn., measured one gust of 75 m.p.h. Blowing and drifting snow were common from North Dakota to Michigan Tuesday afternoon. Mild weather continued along the Gulf of Mexico with afternoon temperatures reaching the 70's or 80's at most locations.

High pressure and fair weather covered mid-America from the Rocky Mountains to the Appalachians at midweek. Winter continued its grip over the eastern half of the Nation. Warming occurred over the West and Central. Goodland, Kans., was 9° warmer than Tampa, Fla., Thursday afternoon. The Southwest was hot with temperatures soaring to the 90's on most days. Phoenix and Yuma, both in Arizona, registered 94° Thursday. Cold weather persisted near the Great Lakes. 3-Wednesday afternoon. Marquette, Mich., registered only 12° and Chicago, Ill., 28°. Slightly warmer temperatures occurred over the northern Great Plains and Great Lakes region Thursday but maximums were generally below freezing.

Temperatures averaged cooler than normal in the vicinity of the Great Lakes and over the States bordering the Atlantic Ocean. Most of the rest of the Nation averaged warmer than normal. Much of the Great Basin, the central and southern Rocky Mountains, and the central Great Plains averaged more than 10° warmer than normal.

L. W. Dye

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

AGRICULTURAL HIGHLIGHTS: Warm dry weather prevailed in Great Plains and Southwest for the 4th straight week; rain needed. Range and grass fires occurred in Nebraska with some loss of livestock, hay, and buildings.

SMALL GRAINS: For the 4th straight week, warm dry conditions prevailed over most of the Great Plains. Topsoil moisture is becoming increasingly short from Texas to Nebraska. Winds continued to cause some soil erosion in western and central Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, and Montana. Wheat fields continued to green-up as far north as Montana heat fields continued to

under the warm temperatures and are in generally good condition. Some fields in Oklahoma were sprayed for green bugs. Topdressing continued; earlier delays in some areas of the South have retarded development. Irrigated wheat in Texas is making excellent progress.

Dryland wheat acreage in Texas and New Mexico still needs moisture. A few early wheatfields in the Yuma Arizona area are heading. In the Pacific Northwest, the snow cover has gone and growth looks good although there are some erosion problems in southeastern Washington fields.

Another open week in the Plains pushed Kansas oat seeding to 41% completion, the average is 25%; spring barley 29% complete, average 12%. In Oklahoma, where planting is essentially complete, 2/3 of the crop is up.

OTHER CROPS: Land preparation for spring crops was the center of activity in most areas of the country. Rains hindered plowing in the Delta and Appalachian States. Planting cotton, corn, and sorghum is ahead of a year ago in the Central and Southern areas of Texas. Corn is 23% planted compared to 8% a year ago. Sugarbeet planting proceeded at a rapid pace in all areas. Spring beets in Arizona are making good growth and root development. Burley tobacco bed preparation and seeding are progressing but are behind schedule

in Tennessee. Plants are up in the Southern part of the flue-cured area with an ample supply of plants. Potato digging was delayed in Florida by heavy rains.

Fruits and Nuts: Peaches are nearing full bloom in Louisiana. The below-normal temperatures in the remainder of the Southern Peach States tended to hold back development. In Florida, citrus tree condition is excellent for upcoming full open bloom 2 to 3 weeks away. Citrus harvest is progressing in Texas, Arizona and California. Lack of rainfall slowed harvest in California, growers are irrigating. Grape and orchard pruning is active in Washington. California fruits are near full bloom. Grapes are starting to leaf.

Vegetables: Spring lettuce harvest is under-

Vegetables: Spring lettuce harvest is underway in Arizona and Florida. Early spring onion harvest in Texas remains relatively light, general harvest will be underway by March 20 to 25. Onion planting on High Plains beginning. Cabbage harvest is at the peak in Lower Valley of Texas and in good volume from Florida. California artichoke harvest is increasing with Imperial Valley at near peak levels. Carrot digging is increasing in areas of Texas and California.

Florida sweet corn is moving in full volume.
Strawberries are in light but increasing in supply.
Land preparation for tomatoes and other spring vegetables is active coastal counties of South Carolina.

PASTURES AND LIVESTOCK: Livestock herds continue to rely heavily on supplemental feeding. Pastures are providing some grazing but native grasses are still dormant in most areas. Range and grass fires occurred in several areas of Nebraska with some loss of livestock, hay, and buildings. The weather was favorable for lambing and calving. These activities diminished in Washington State but were increasing over the rest of the country.

Daniel Buckner Agricultural Statistician Temperature and Precipitation Data for the Week Ending Midnight, l.s.t., MARCH 12, 1972

	Ten	pera-	Precipitation		tion Data for the W		pera-		pitation	, i.s.t., MARCH	Tempera-		Precipitation	
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ALA.Birmingham. Mobile. Montgomery. ALASKA, Anchorage. Barrow. Fairbanks Juneau. Nome. ARIZ.Flagstaff. Phoenix Tucson. Winslow Yuma. ARK.Fort Smith. Little Rock CALIF, Bakersfield Eureka. Fresno. Los Angeles Red Bluff San Diego San Francisco Stockton. COLO.Denver Grand Junction. Pueblo. CONN.Bridgeport Hartford D.C.Washington. Ft. Myers Jacksonville. Key West Lakeland. Miami Orlando Tallahassee Tampa GA.Atlanta Augusta Macon Savannah HAWAII.Hilo Honolulu Kahului Lihue LIDAHO.Boise Lewiston. Pocatello ILL.Cairo Chicago Moline. Peoria Rockford Springfield IND.Evansville Fort Wayne. Indianapolis South Bend.	57 53 5 5 6 7 7 7 5 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6	+ 1 + 3 0	.8 1.36 6T 	5 4 8 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 3 4 4 4 4 7 2 2 1	New Orleans Shreveport. MAINE.Caribou Portland. MD.Baltimore. MASS.Boston Nantucket MICH.Alpena Detroit Flint Grand Rapids. Houghton Lake Lansing Marquette Muskegon. S.Ste.Marie MINN.Duluth Internatl Falls Minneapolis Rochester St. Cloud MISS.Jackson Meridian. MO.Columbia Kansas City St. Louis Springfield MONT.Billings Glasgow Great Falls Havre Helena. Kalispell Miles City Missoula. NEBR.Grand Island Lincoln Norfolk North Platte Omaha Valentine NNev.Ely Las Vegas Reno. Winnemucca N.H.Concord N.J.Atlantic City Trenton N.MEX.Albuquerque Roswell N.Y.Albany Binghamton Buffalo New York Rochester Syracuse N.C.Asheville Charlotte Greensboro	60 11 20 39 30 18 28 19 12 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13	- 2 + 5 - 9 - 2 - 6 - 3 - 3 - 8 - 2 - 6 - 3 - 8 - 5 - 1 - 1 + 2 - 0 + 19 + 10 + 11 + 11 + 12 + 17 + 10 + 11 + 11 + 11 + 12 - 14 + 13 - 12 - 14 - 14 - 14 - 15 - 16 - 16 - 16 - 16 - 16 - 16 - 16 - 16	1 .2 T T T 3 1 3 1 2 T T T 9 9 8 6 2 2 1 T 1 0 T 1 1 3 T 1 1 0 T T 0 0 T T 1 2 4 0 - 1 7 4 9 3 4 2 2 3 3 4 2 2 3 3 4 2 2 3 5 6 5 6 7 6 7 6 7 6 7 6 7 6 7 6 7 6 7 6	1 9 + .1, 7 9 2 5 5 1 1 2 3 3 4 1 	OKLA.Okla. City Tulsa OREG.Astoria. Burns. Medford Pendleton Portland. Salem PA.Allentown. Erie Harrisburg. Philadelphia. Pittsburgh. Scranton. R.I.Providence. S.C.Charleston. Columbia. Greenville. S.DAK.Aberdeen. Huron Rapid City. Sioux Falls TENN.Chattanooga. Knoxville Memphis. Nashville TEX.Abilene Amarillo. Austin. Beaumont. Brownsville. Corpus Christi Dallas Del Rio El Paso Fort Worth. Galveston Houston Lubbock Midland San Angelo. San Angelo. San Antonio Victoria. Waco. Wichita Falls UTAH.Blanding Salt Lake City. VT.Burlington VA.Lynchburg. Norfolk Richmond. Roanoke WASH.Colville Omak. Quillayute. Seattle-Tacoma Spokane Walla Walla Vakenda.	58 58 50 44 47 41 48 43	$\begin{array}{c} +1226904454321407943236233253201815697894628965981337144432\\ +1111111111111111111$	T.153.161662T1886T14T211531600TT21TT001TT000TT0000T1T11T14944465	4 +1.3 + .1.3 + .3 + .3 + .3 + .528881397281258812581258125812334611233346878 + .378 + .378 + .378 + .378 + .378 + .378 + .378 + .378 + .378 + .37887887887887887887887887887888788888888
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^{*} Departures are from 30-year means (1931-60). Based on preliminary reports.

CONDENSED STATE SUMMARIES

These summaries provide brief descriptions of condition and activities important on a national scale. Detailed reports of crop and weather conditions during the growing season are contained in State issues of Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletins published by field offices of the Statistical Reporting Service, U.S.D.A. in cooperation with NOAA Climatologists.

ALABAMA: Fair and cool first of period, then brief showers Tuesday night and Wednesday. Clearing and colder Wednesday night and Thursday. Mostly fair and a gradual warming over weekend. Average temperatures slightly above normal. Precipitation moderate all sections. Fair progress made with fieldwork in southern and central counties. In northern counties, wet fields continued to limit farm activities. Soil moisture adequate to surplus. Small grains made satisfactory progress but a delay in applying nitrogen retarded development. A few farmers were able to top dress small grains on well-drained fields. Planting of Irish potatoes neared completion in late spring area. Small acreage of early summer potatoes was planted on Sand Mountain. Planting of watermelons and tomatoes continued in southern areas. Livestock remain fair condition. Clover beginning to afford limited grazing southern and central counties.

ALASKA: Temperatures during February were well below normal due to persistent cold rather than unusual extremes. Snowfall amounts were below normal. Matanuska Valley snow cover on ground was thin because of strong winds. Total precipitation amounts generally well below average. Skies were mostly clear latter half of month. Livestock are in generally good condition considering the extended period of below-normal temperatures throughout the railbelt. No above normal losses of livestock except a few that became snowbound on Kodiak Island. Local produced forage supplies are short to adequate. Reliance on out-of-State feed continues.

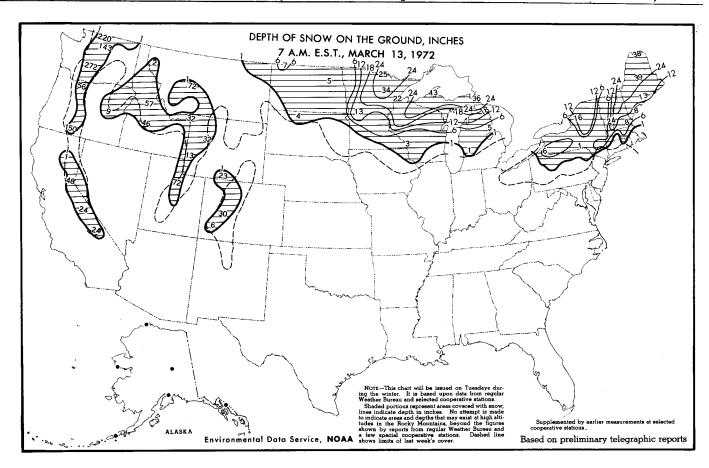
ARIZONA: Skies mostly clear and temperatures again much above normal. No precipitation. Unseasonably warm weather hastened land preparation and cotton planting in southwest and central areas. Early-planted fields at Yuma are almost up to stand. Pre-irrigation, listing, and bed shaping major activities in Salt River Valley. Few fields planted in central Arizona. In the southeast, seedbed preparation is completed, premergence herbicides being applied for weed control. Preparation for planting grain sorghum active southwest and central areas. Fields seeded and plants beginning to emerge some at

Sugar beets making good growth and root development. In southeast, planting of sugar beets for fall harvest well underway. Harvest and curing of first cutting alfalfa at Yuma progressing satisfactorily. Southeast, alfalfa just starting to grow. Northwest fields about ready for first cutting. Harvest spring lettuce underway Salt River Valley, Pima, and Pinal County areas. Yuma County harvest winter lettuce continues. Harvest carrots, cabbage, miscellaneous winter vegetables continues Salt River Valley, Yuma. Cantaloupes making good growth; limited harvest mandarins, Valencia oranges, and grapefruit continues Salt River Valley. Harvest of grapefruit, oranges limited Yuma. Range conditions continue to deteriorate. Soil moisture and stock water becoming low. Supplemental feeding holding livestock generally fair to good condition.

ARKANSAS: Mean temperatures 4° to 10° above normal with largest departures in western 1/3 of State and least in narrow band from central section to northeast corner. Warm early in week followed by cooling midweek and pronounced warming by weekend. Highest 81° at Calico Rock on 10th. Lowest at Calico Rock on 9th. Precipitation generally less than 0.25 inch except 0.50 inch or more over south-central and southeastern sections. Most precipitation 1.12 inches at Arkansas City. Least a trace at Evening Shade, Morrilton, Georgetown, Augusta, Dardanelle and Clarendon. Spring fieldwork made good progress. Preparation of seedbeds for rice, cotton, soybeans, and other crops well advanced; completed on some farms. Pastures and winter grains responding favorably to earlier applications of nitrogen. Fruit tree blooms increasing, particularly peaches. Livestock mostly good condition. Fairly good grazing available south and west, very limited grazing north. Moisture needed most areas except extreme east.

CALIFORNIA: Fifth consecutive week with much above normal temperatures. Except on extreme south coast, departures range from 6° to 16° above normal, increasing from west to east. Near record March maximums temperatures desert area. Light precipitation northern 1/3 of State end of week. Amounts mostly near 0.25 inch. Continued dry weather decreasing prospects dryland small grains. Few fields abandoned. Cotton planting started desert, begins March 15 San Joaquin Valley. Field preparation very active for spring planting. Growth orchards, vineyards ahead normal. Prospect good all crops. Growers irrigating due lack rainfall. Most fruits near full bloom. Grapes starting leaf. Navel harvest progressing, quality good. Valencia fruit sizes below normal. Grapefruit, lemon harvest slowed; lack rainfall hindered citrus. Picking avocados light. Range feed drying up. More rain needed. Livestock moving to better feed, central coast and Sacramento Valley. Bee colonies moving out of almonds. Artichoke harvest increasing. Asparagus Stockton, cutting increasing. Imperial Valley near peak levels. Broccoli and cauliflower Salinas good volume. Santa Maria supplies increased. South coast cabbage cutting increasing. Desert carrot digging continues. Ventura, orange celery areas expects steady slightly heavier supplies this week. tuce Imperial declining. Blythe cutting underway. South coast strawberry increasing.

COLORADO: Warm and dry. Temperatures averages 10° to 15° above normal. Maximums 40's and 50's in mountains, 70's and 80's lower elevations. Several new record highs for dates or for so early in season. No precipitation. Mountain snow-pack deteriorating. High wind continuing to affect many areas. Surface soil moisture generally short. Winter wheat and fall-seeded grains made favorable growth past week. Condition fall-seeded crops good. Field preparation for spring planting progressing. Range and pastures fair, limited forage available. Supplemental feeding continuing all areas. Hay and forage supplies short to adequate. Livestock condition good. Calving and lambing making good progress. Weather ideal for newborn livestock.



FLORIDA: Temperatures averaged 3° to 6° below normal north and near normal south. Cold air on 6th and 10th briefly dropped temperature to 32° or below in northern Florida with a low of 28° at De Funiak Springs. Rainfall generally below 0.25 inch mainly as prefrontal shower on 8th. Considerable sunshine. Small grain growth good. Land preparation active as weather permits. Grass growth limited central and north. Pastures improved in south. Spring fertilization made good progress. Livestock improved. Citrus tree condition excellent for upcoming bloom. Moisture levels generally adequate. Little irrigation. Full open bloom 2 to 3 weeks away. Potato digging was delayed in Dade County most of week by heavy rains in East Glades section. Harvest of whites active at Ft. Myers-Immokalee as reds decline. Increasing supplies expected. Harvest of other winter crops active. Cabbage in good volume all areas. Tomatoes: Most mature greens in good supply. Celery, sweet corn moving in full volume. Snap beans, escarole endive, peppers, and radishes in good seasonal supply. Carrots, Chinese cabbage, squash, parsley and various leafy greens available. Lettuce and strawberries in light but increasing supply. Eggplant and cukes are mostly reshipments of imports. First spring watermelons expected to be cut this week with supplies light until April.

GEORGIA: Sunny most of week. Showers and thundershowers north and central early Wednesday as cold front moved through State. Amounts ranged from almost 1.00 inch parts of north to none extreme south and southeast. Cool beginning and middle of week with lows in 20's extreme north and freezing most of State on 1 or more mornings. Savannah had

30° Friday. Warmer weekend. Highs reached midto upper 70's all areas Sunday. Land preparation became quite active during week aided by drying soils and good weather. Tobacco plant beds, pasture, and small grains remain fair to good condition, grain topdressing beginning. Spring planting of vegetables, watermelons, and field crops continued to be limited.

HAWAII: Weather clear with scattered showers. Temperatures continued cool retarding growth and maturity of most tender crops. Insects and diseases prevalent but frequent spraying keeping damage down. Sugarcane harvesting increasing as additional mills started grinding. Harvesting of pineapples light. Supplies of vegetables adequate but fruits light. Cattle and pastures continued in fair to good condition. Soil moisture ample all areas.

IDAHO: Week began cool but warmed to average, for the 4th week, 3° to 13° above normal. Scattered light precipitation ranged zero to 0.20 inch. Farmers tilling soils in preparation for spring seeding. Range grasses making good growth at lower elevations in southern portions. Livestock in good condition with calving and lambing well underway. Early seeding of onions started.

ILLINOIS: Warm and sunny. Heavy rain on 12th. Two to 3 inches from Quincy to Springfield. 1.00 inch in northwest, 0.30 inch extreme south. Very warm on 11th, 82° at Springfield and 81° at Quincy. Daily low temperatures in teens in northwest at midweek. Soil moisture short 40%, adequate 60%, as of Friday. Winter wheat, other small grain, and legumes reported good throughout

State. Livestock good throughout State. Lots are becoming muddy and some marketing problems due to softening roads. Fieldwork has started in many areas weather permitting.

INDIANA: Warm and sunny with temperatures averaging 6 above normal and ranging from 12° on 9th at Fort Wayne to 77° at Lafayette on 11th. Light rain in south early in week, heavy in north on weekend averaging over 1.00 inch. Break in weather allowed some fieldwork which included spreading of fertilizer, lime, and manure. Some seeding of hay and legumes and harvesting of few isolated fields of corn accomplished.

IOWA: Temperatures averaged 1° to 7° above normal except slightly below normal northeast. Precipitation negligible until 12th when light rain covered State becoming heavy in the southeast. Snow cover was gone except in northeast corner by weekend. Record maxima on 6th and 11th at many localities causing minor flood threats in northwest.

KANSAS: Moderate to heavy rains part extreme east, locally over 1.00 inch. Dry weather continued elsewhere. Very warm. Weekly means temperatures averaged 10° to 17° above seasonal. New record-high temperatures established for so early in season at Goodland on 6th and at Topeka on 11th. Highest temperatures 93° at Hill City March 6. Oat seeding moved ahead rapidly, now 41% complete compared with 5% year ago, average 25%. Spring barley 29% seeded, 1% year ago, average 12%. Wheat made moderate growth under mild weather -- some soil blowing in wheat fields local areas west and central Kansas. Topsoil moisture short nearly all central and western Kansas but subsoil moisture generally adequate over all areas of State. Tillage of row-crop land active. Livestock favored by warm weather. Calving, lambing, farrowing continued. Cool season grasses beginning to green but additional moisture needed. Cattle and calves continued to graze wheat fields some areas. Many stock cattle on native ranges still being fed supplemental forage and grain.

KENTUCKY: Rainfall light, ranged trace to 0.50 inch. Temperatures below normal 4 days and above to much above normal on 3 days. Sunny and windy most days. Rain 7th. A few snow flurries in northeast on 8th and in north-central on 10th. Afternoon readings in 70's on 11th and 12th within several degrees of records on 11th and near or exceeding old records on 12th. Soils drying. Little spring plowing started on rolling land. Work beginning on tobacco beds in southern counties. Pastures and small grains greening. Early growth barley and rye. Many farm chores pointed towards getting ready for spring work.

LOUISIANA: Temperatures near normal east 2° to 6° above normal west. Cold Monday, sharply warmer then cool again after midweek. Precipitation Tuesday and Wednesday all sections. Cloudless skies, dry weather last of week. Temperature extremes: 80° Shreveport Tuesday, Monroe Sunday; 28' Ashland last Monday. Precipitation totals less than 0.25 inch western 1/3, 0.50 inch to more than 1.00 inch remainder. Greatest 1-day total, 1.55 inches measured Wednesday afternoon Covington. Resumption of fieldwork delayed by shower activity early in week. Some land preparation in lighter soils toward end of week, also cultivation and chemical control in sugarcane. Application of

nitrogen to winter grains and pastures continued as weather permitted but excessive moisture limited response. Scrapping of strawberries, shallots, and cabbage continued. Tomato plants still in cold frames. Peaches nearing full bloom. Supply of pasture feed improved to average. Livestock in fair to good condition.

MARYLAND AND DELAWARE: Temperatures averaged 1° to 4° below normal. Extremes: 71°; 5°. Lightest precipitation totals in 7 weeks plus strong drying winds helped to reduce some topsoil wetness. Some progress in fertilizer and lime spreading but most areas too wet. Tobacco growers busy with seed beds and stripping last year's crop. Other activities mainly livestock chores and preparing for start of crop season.

MICHIGAN: Continued unseasonably cold early, rapid warming late in week. Sleet, freezing rain, and rain south as period ended. Temperature averages: 5° to 10° below normal Upper Peninsula, 1° to 10° below normal Lower Peninsula with largest departures northern half. Precipitation totals: Near 0.25 inch Upper Peninsula, 0.25 to over 1.00 inch west and south, less than 0.10 inch much of northeast Lower Peninsula.

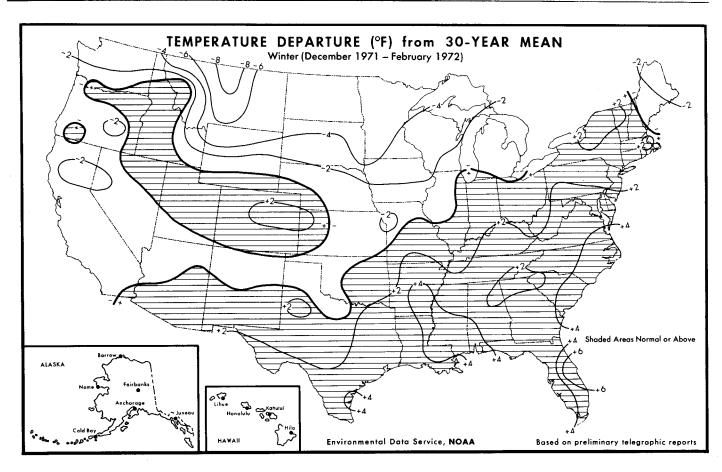
MINNESOTA: Average temperatures ranged from 3° below normal in south to 5° below normal in north. Maximum temperature 51°; minimum temperature 25°. Precipitation: Less than 0.20 inch across State. Snow depth: Generally 20 to 24 inches in north-central and northeast and 13 inches or less rest of State.

MISSISSIPPI: Rain 2 or 3 days. On 8th, severe thunderstorms crossing State caused extensive wind damage; estimates over \$100,000. Weekly average temperatures mostly below normal. Weekly extremes: 76° and 22°. Over weekend: Dry; warmer with 81° at Yazoo City Sunday. Surplus moisture continued to limit fieldwork. Average 1.8 days suitable for fieldwork. Plowing about 34% completed. Wheat 18%, oats 17% jointed. Wheat, oats, Irish potatoes and truck crops fair to good condition. Livestock and pastures fair to good condition.

MISSOURI: Heavy rains broke the drought. Thunderstorms crossed State Sunday, March 12, causing from 1.00 to 2.00 inches of precipitation across northern 2/3 of State. Many locations received more precipitation on Sunday than total they had received since January 1. Temperatures averaged above normal all but southeast. Cool early in week, warming to recordbreaking levels by weekend with many stations in 80's on Saturday.

MONTANA: Mild and generally dry with above-normal temperatures all divisions. Daytime temperatures mostly and 50's and 60's. Record breaking warm temperatures 9th. Fifth consecutive week of above-normal temperatures west. Winter wheat continues good condition. Wind damage light except moderate central and south-central divisions. Signs of winter wheat greening, some areas but crop generally dormant. Soil has thawed enough to absorb melting snow except for northeast. Livestock continue able to graze more but supplemental feeding continued at near 100%. Calving 25% complete. lambing and shearing 15% complete.

NEBRASKA: Fourth consecutive dry, warm, windy week. Disking, plowing, fertilizing, and stalk



WINTER WEATHER (December 1971-February 1972)

TEMPERATURE: Bone-chilling cold prevailed over the northern Great Plains through most of the winter. Temperatures over that area averaged 4° to 9° colder than normal. In contrast, most of the area south of a line from Yuma, Ariz., to Burlington, Vt., averaged warmer than normal through the winter months. Southern Mississippi and nearby parts of neighboring States and the eastern half of the Florida Peninsula averaged 4° to 5° warmer than normal.

In general, December was cold over most of the West and mild over the East. January was cold from the northern Rocky Mountains to the Great Lakes and southward to Oklahoma and northern Arkansas. In February, temperatures averaged cooler than normal north of a line from northern Montana to Florida and mild south of that line.

Temperatures ranged widely and in parts of the winter, changed frequently. One of the coldest temperatures that has come to our attention was 53° below zero at Moose Lake, Minn., about midJanuary. At the other extreme, Cotulla, Tex., registered 91° on January 23 and Del Rio, Tex.,

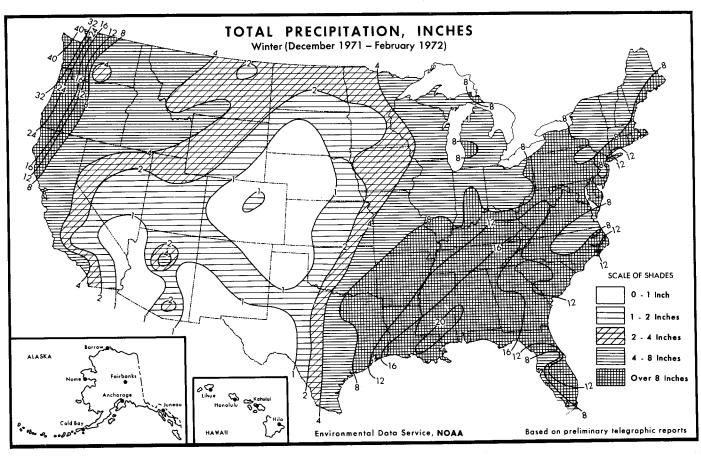
recorded 91° on February 25. Higher temperatures may have occurred in the Southwestern Desert on one or more days. Temperatures frequently reached the 80's along the southern edge of the Country during the winter months.

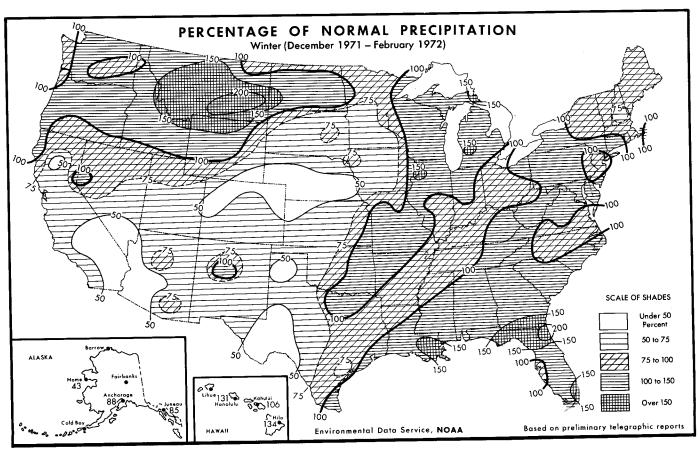
PRECIPITATION: Heavy rains fell along the northern Pacific Coast. This is not unusual; winter is the rainy season in the Pacific Northwest. Neither were the deep snows unusual that occurred in the nearby hills and mountains and eastward to the Great Plains, the flurries in the Great Lakes Region, nor the heavier snows that fell in the Appalachians. The time distribution of precipitation over the East was not quite normal. For instance, precipitation over the Northeast was only about half of normal in January but near or above normal in December and February. Heavy rains fell in the Deep South in January, however. At the other extreme, large areas in the Southwest received less than 25% of normal in January and February.

L. W. Dye

cutting last week. Minor topsoil erosion occurred in open areas. Winter wheat good condition although top soil dry in many areas. Range and grass fires occurred several areas with loss of livestock, hay, and buildings in the major ones. Field forages being grazed although supplemental feeding required most cases. Livestock conditions generally good.

NEVADA: Dry, warm week. Temperatures 11° to 15° above normal all divisions. Spotty traces of precipitation northwest. None elsewhere. Snow melting on mountains. Calving and lambing activity increasing. Most lower ranges now open and starting to turn green. Early seed bed preparation underway in north. Green onion harvest underway in the south. Radishes Moapa Valley





good condition harvest expected in about one week

NEW ENGLAND: Week cold except mild March 8 and again at close. Mean temperatures 3° to 6° below normal except up to 10° below normal in north. Dry in north with precipitation mostly less than 0.50 inch but nearer normal in south with mostly 0.50 to 1.00 inch. Tapping maple trees active southern areas. Small quantity of syrup made. Producers in northern areas tapping or preparing to do so.

NEW JERSEY: Temperatures averaged near normal for week with afternoon readings ranging from the low 30's to near 60 degrees. Overnight lows varied from the teens or lower to low 40's. Rain mixed with snow midweek and again Sunday. Precipitation over North Jersey averaged 0.70 inch while the remainder of State averaged 0.30 inch.

NEW MEXICO: Continued fair and warmer. Temperatures averaged more than 10° above normal except in extreme southeast. Minimum temperatures in north were below freezing. Maximum temperatures in south were in 80's. Soil moisture adequate to very short. Winter wheat fair to good but needs moisture. Winter and spring barley good to fair. Fertilizing, irrigation underway some areas. Land preparation active. All onions fair good. Spring lettuce good. Ranges poor to good. Supplemental feeding all areas. Livestock fair to good. Calving, lambing active.

NEW YORK: Briefly mild early week and on 12th; otherwise temperatures much below normal. Maximums 58° New York City and 45° to low 50's Upstate on 7th decreasing to teens and low 20's Upstate and near 30° coastal sections by 9th. Lowest minimums 5° below zero; 10° 2 or 3 mornings latter half of week. Light snow and frequent snow showers in western half from early week through 10th with liquid totals 0.20 to 0.40 inch. Sleet and rain southern tier to Long Island on 12th with totals up to 0.50 inch. Dry week in north east quarter. Snow cover 4 to 8 inches Southern Plateau and 12 to 24 inches or more northern half of State, with 3 inches or less Hudson Valley and much of Great Lakes Plain.

NORTH CAROLINA: Mild days and cold nights averaging below normal. Lowest in 20's and highest near 70° most areas. Showers on 8th mostly 0.25 inch or less. Otherwise generally fair and good outdoor weather except rather windy some days. Soil moisture decreased, mostly adequate statewide. Tempo farm activities increasing. Land preparation active; top dressing small grains and pastures. Tobacco plant bed preparation in mountains, seeding continues piedmont, virtually complete coastal plain. Some plants up, condition mostly good. Transplanting cabbage late due to excessive moisture and short plant supplies. Irish potato planting continues. Some seeding spring small grains. Transplanting tree seedlings and pruning fruit trees in late stages. Condition small grains and pastures improving mostly fair to good. Feed grain and roughage supply generally adequate.

NORTH DAKOTA: Mild except cold Tuesday and early Wednesday. Temperatures averaged 5° above normal extreme southwest to 9° below normal northeast. Warmest since early in December. Mostly sunny, only light scattered precipitation. Some flooding along Little Missouri. Snow cover heaviest in

northcentral and northwest with 1 to 9 inches remaining; little or none southwest. Mild temperatures greatly reduced snow cover last half of week only 1 to 2 inches of snow remains Red River Valley. Muddy conditions making many county roads difficult to travel. Feed supplies adequate, surplus most counties. Calving and lambing getting underway; newborn stock doing well.

OHIO: Temperatures generally 10° to 20° above normal on 7th, 11th, and 12th. On 6th, 8th to 10th temperatures generally 10° to 20° below normal. A new record low of 6° for March 10 was set at Toledo Airport. Snowfall on 8th and 9th ranged from a trace to 4 inches. On 12th thundershowers portions of State with hail in northeast. Spring farming activities still limited. Fertilizer application areas where ground remained frozed but other areas warmer temperatures brought thawing which prevented any fieldwork. Maple syrup harvest getting underway north, flow south remains slow.

OKLAHOMA: Thundershowers produced to more than 1.00 inch of rain Sunday night from central Oklahoma eastward into east-central and southeast Temperatures areas. Isolated golfball size hail. averaged 7° above normal. Wheat condition remains mostly good, 15 percent jointing, somewhat ahead of average. Soil moisture continued to decline. Surface moisture rated 81% short, 19% adequate, subsoil moisture 13% short, 87% adequate. ago subsoil moisture 38% short. Spring-seeded small grains fair to good condition, essentially all planted, about 2/3 up to acceptable stand. A few additional fields of corn were planted during Top dressing small grains continues, some week. fields sprayed for green bugs. Heavy infestation alfalfa weevel some central and south-central counties. Blooming of peaches, plums, apricots becoming more widespread. Early-planted vegetables good condition. Good gains small grain pastures. Winter clovers and grasses furnishing limited grazing but native grasses mostly dormant and supplemental feeding continues. Additional cattle moved off wheat pastures.

OREGON: General rain and showers early in week with sunny days midperiod and rain westside at close. Temperatures averaged 3° to 4° above normal except 3° to 11° above normal south-central 1/3 of State. Minima 18° to 32° except 35° to 44° southwest. Maxima 58° to 74°. Precipitation totaled 0,10 to 0.25 inch east side and southwestern valleys, 0.60 to 1.00 inch Willamette Valley, 2.00 to 3.40 inches Cascades and along coast. Spraying and fertilizing are main activities. Some plowing. Grain and hay crops looking good. Feeding tapering off as pastures improve. Carryover of hay expected in some areas.

PENNSYLVANIA: Rapidly changing temperatures during week with several frontal passages. Temperatures averaged near normal in extreme southwest and parts of southeast, and 4° to 8° below normal central and north. Maxima in 50's and 60's Tuesday, minima near zero. Colder mountain areas Thursday through Saturday. Little precipitation until weekend most areas. Weekly totals under 0.10 inch southeast and parts of central mountains, 0.20 to 0.80 inch northeast and northwest, up to over 3.00 inches in southwest, much of which fell in thunderstorms late in weekend. Light snow most areas Thursday night and Friday morning. Snow cover now several inches higher mountain

PUERTO RICO: Rainfall averaged 0.61 inch or about normal for week. Heaviest rains totaling 2.00 to 4.00 inches in western interior and southeast. Highest weekly total, 4.18 inches western Cordilleras. A section of south-central coast again reported no rain and a 2d dry zone has developed on northwest coast. Crop moisture conditions near normal all divisions except some zones in western interior too wet for fieldwork and too dry in south-central coast where agriand too dry in south-central coast where agricultural drought has developed. Temperatures averaged 76° on coast and 70° to 71° in interior with averaged departure of 1.2° below normal. Highest maximum 91°, lowest minimum 50°. Sugarcane harvesting good progress. Coffee plantations good progress pruning, weeding, fertilizing, and planting. Tobacco harvesting and drying operplanting. Tobacco harvesting and drying oper-Pastures poor in south-central ations continued. coast, good to excellent in most other zones. Weeding, fertilizing, and planting made good progress. Some aphids in northwest where lack of rain retarding growth. Other zones good harvest of yams, taniers, plantains, cabbage, and root celery.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Rainfall up to 0.50 inch in north-west, very light elsewhere. Cool air persisted and weekly temperatures averaged 4° below normal. Land preparation and other outside activities in full swing. Pee Dee area--preparation of fields for tobacco planting underway. Tobacco plant beds good condition with ample supply of plants. Preparation in progress for tomatoes and other spring vegetables in coastal counties. Small grains good growth and development. Pastures not yet coming out.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Weekly temperatures averaged from near normal portions of the east to 12° above normal in West. Extremes ranged from 8° below zero at Pollock on 8th to 84° at Philip and Wood on 10th Rapid City reported 80° on 10th which was a record high for so early in season. Precipitation mostly end of week as rain occasionally mixed with snow with totals up to about 0.30 inch. Freezing rain on 12th. Snow cover up to about 1 foot on 10th in north-central and northeast but elsewhere little or no snow cover. Mild temperatures over weekend caused considerable melting of snow cover. Cold weather strain on livestock reduced and supplemental feeding also reduced. Feedlots and stack yards muddy in many areas making feeding and caring of livestock more difficult. Preparing for spring planting gaining precedence in farm activities. Many fields becoming susceptible to blowing.

TENNESSEE: Temperatures averaged 2° to 4° above normal with highest temperatures on weekend. Freezing at least 2 mornings all stations, coldest 16° at Mountain City 9th. Light scattered rainshowers most areas of State Wednesday; otherwise no precipitation. Excessive soil moisture continues to limit fieldwork. Spring plowing and tobacco bed preparation slightly behind schedule. Farmers renovating and fertilizing pastures as weather permits. Pastures and small grains remain in good condition. Weather favorable for livestock with adequate supply of hay still on hand.

TEXAS: For the 4th consecutive week, rainfall was light and widely scattered. Many sections receiving none. Temperatures continued mild. Planting progress of cotton, corn, sorghum, ahead of year

ago central and southern areas. Irrigated wheat making excellent progress on High and Low Plains. Dryland wheat good progress but needs rain. Seedbed preparation making good progress on High and Low Plains. Percent planted to date: cotton 5%, 4% year ago; corn 23%, 8% year ago; sorghum 14%, 9% year ago. Cabbage harvest at peak lower valley with carrot digging increasing. Light supplies broccoli, beets, greens available. Early spring onion harvest remains relatively light but harvest momentum expected to begin increasing current week and general harvest getting underway week of March 20 to 25. Spring vegetables good progress Lower Valley in mild temperatures. Spinach harvest moderately active Winter Garden with light supplies cabbage, carrots. Planting onions, potatoes getting underway High Plains. Grapefruit harvest past peak but picking Valencia oranges continues active. Trees beginning to bloom. Peaches blooming.

UTAH: Virtually no precipitation last week. Zion-National Park now has reported 76 consecutive days without measurable moisture. Temperatures continued well above normal for 5th consecutive week, averaging 10° to 16° above normal. Some stations set new records for day during period and some warmest so early in season. Soil temperatures at 4-inch depth now range from low 40's Cache Valley to mid-40's Salt Lake City and low 60's St. George. Early spring farmwork in full progress, far ahead of normal. Topsoil dried out and good rains or snowstorm needed now. Fruit trees have developed rapidly during past month of above-normal temperatures. Farm flock lambing and calving continues. Care and feeding of dairy herds, poultry flocks, beef cattle and sheep continued to be major activities. Limited marketing of potatoes and apples from storage continues.

VIRGINIA: Temperatures below normal except above normal on 7th and 12th. Light rain at midweek with totals less than 0.25 inch. Excess topsoil moisture dried up. Plowed, spread lime, and fertilizer. Seeding of burley, fire and sun cured tobacco beds active. Some late flue cured sown. Grass, clover, and oats planted. Cabbage plant beds seeded in Carroll County and on eastern shore. Wet soils hampered potato planting but well underway. Pruned fruit trees, sprayed some small grain sprayed for weeds. Livestock required less feed and care. Forage secured from grazing increased.

WASHINGTON: Western Washington: Mild and wet with high water levels, saturated fields and earth slides. Increased root rot in strawberries, raspberries and flower bulb crops causing some concern. Daffodil blooming underway and some picking begun. Some pasture growth noted but cattle generally restricted to drier fields. Hay and feed supplies remain adequate but some local shortages beginning to show up. Eastern Washington: Generally mild and dry weather with good field growth. Planting of sugar beets, potatoes, peas, onions, and small grains proceeding rapidly. Grape and orchard pruning continuing along with trellising and stringing of hops. Wheat field snow cover gone and growth looks good although erosion is a problem in some of the southeastern fields. fertilization also continuing. Livestock in good shape with lambing and calving activities diminishing.

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WEST VIRGINIA: Temperatures in teens beginning of period with light snow flurries March 5, 8, and 10. Springlike weather by end of period with temperatures reaching into 70's many areas March 12. Light thundershowers night of March 12. Weekly precipitation generally below 0.50 inch. Pastures have started to grow in some areas. Winter wheat in generally in good condition. Supplemental feeding of livestock still heavy but decreasing as relatively mild weather continues. Soil moisture mostly adequate. Farm activities mainly routine chores and preparing equipment for spring planting.

WISCONSIN: A mixture of winter and spring weather. Several light snows early in week with temperatures down to near 30° below zero locally in north Friday morning. Sunny and mild Saturday with temperatures reaching low 60's along Illinois border. Some melting of snow cover in south with melted water ponding in low areas of fields due to poor infiltration in deeply frozen soils. Slight settling of snow cover in north. Snow depths still in excess of 40 inches at some northern locations such as Medford, Laona, and Goodman. Livestock in good condition with feed supplies mostly adequate.

WYOMING: Precipitation scattered and light except some heavy higher mountains. South Pass City had most moisture with 0.89 inch. Very windy Monday with statewide damage. Temperatures averaged much above normal for 4th week, ranging 5° to 15° above normal this week. Maxima mostly high 40's to low 60's west of Divide, 60's and 70's east. Minima mostly -5° to 25° statewide. Temperature extremes: 80° at Torrington and -9° at Bondurant. Calving and lambing picked up momentum. Livestock improved with unusually warm weather. Feed and stockwater supplies adequate.

NATIONAL FLOOD SUMMARY - Monday, March 13, 1972

Snowmelt and ice jams produced flooding on tributaries in the middle and upper Missouri River Basin during the weekend and continues in most areas today. Considerable lowland flooding is reported in several places. The Little Missouri River reached 4.2 feet over flood stage Saturday afternoon at Medora, N. Dak. The record stage at Medora was 20.5 feet in 1947 and was caused by an ice gorge. The Yellowstone River is 6 feet over flood stage at Sidney, Mont.

Some of the other better known rivers that have been or are forecast to go over banks include the Floyd, Rock, and Big Sioux in western Iowa, the Grand and Moreau in South Dakota, and the Heart and Knife in North Dakota.

Several tributaries of the Missouri River in Missouri are also flooding today due to heavy overnight rains. Some of these are the Blackwater, Moniteau Creek, and the Petite Saline.

Heavy rain yesterday and last night is producing rapid rises in the Youghiogheny Basin in Pennsylvania.

Some lowland flooding continues on a portion of the Lower Ohio River and in a few areas in the east Gulf and south Atlantic drainages.

The most significant precipitation since 7 a.m.. Friday, March 10, occurred in the 24 hours ending 7 a.m. today. During this period more than an inch of rain fell over most of central and northern Missouri and across much of central and northern Illinois to the southern Lake Michigan area. Locally heavy rain fell from eastern Ohio through southwestern Pennsylvania.

Hydrologic Services Division National Weather Service