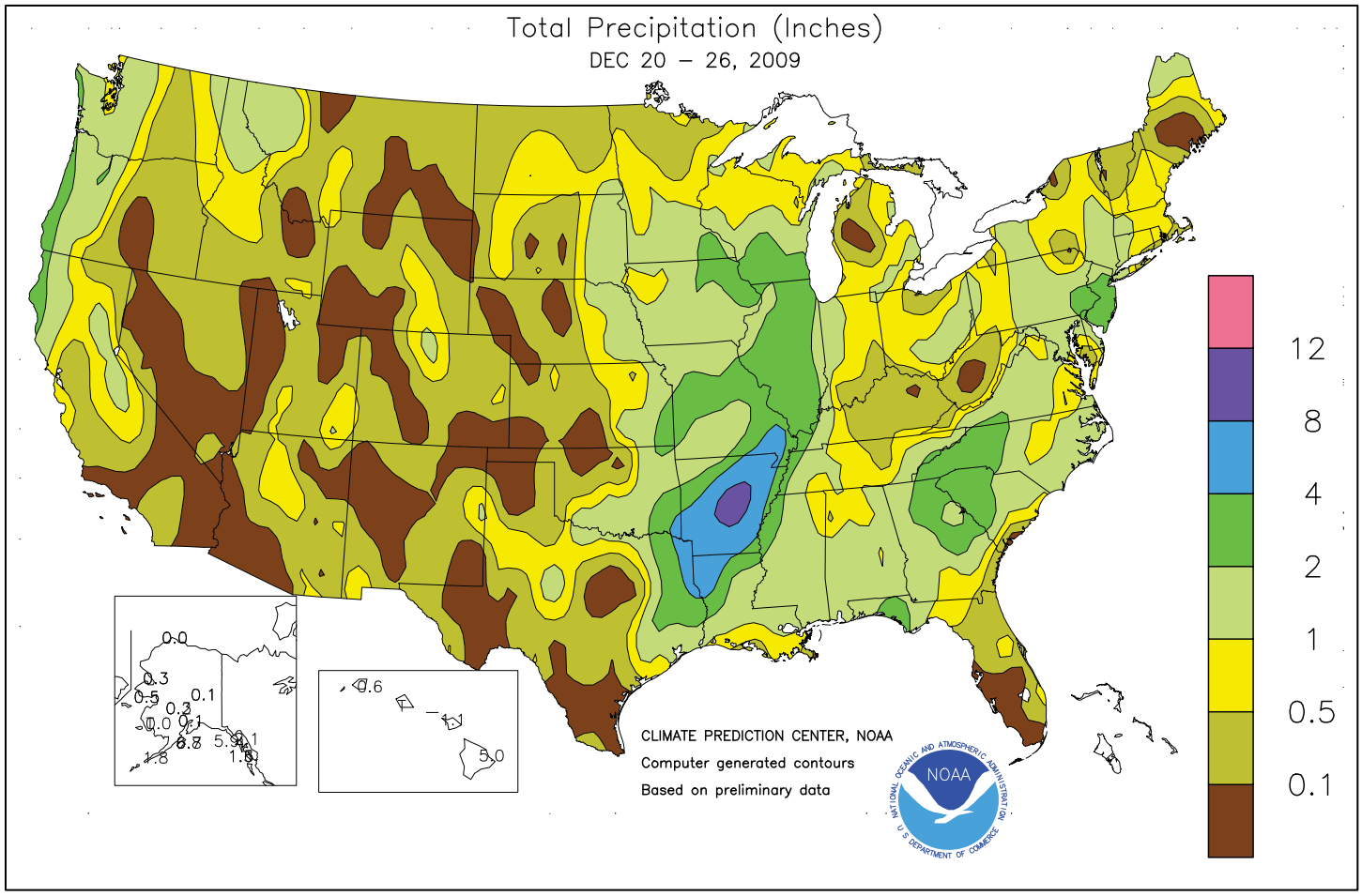
Volume 96, No. 52 http://www.usda.gov/oce/weather December 29, 2009

WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
National Agricultural Statistics Service
and World Agricultural Outlook Board



HIGHLIGHTS

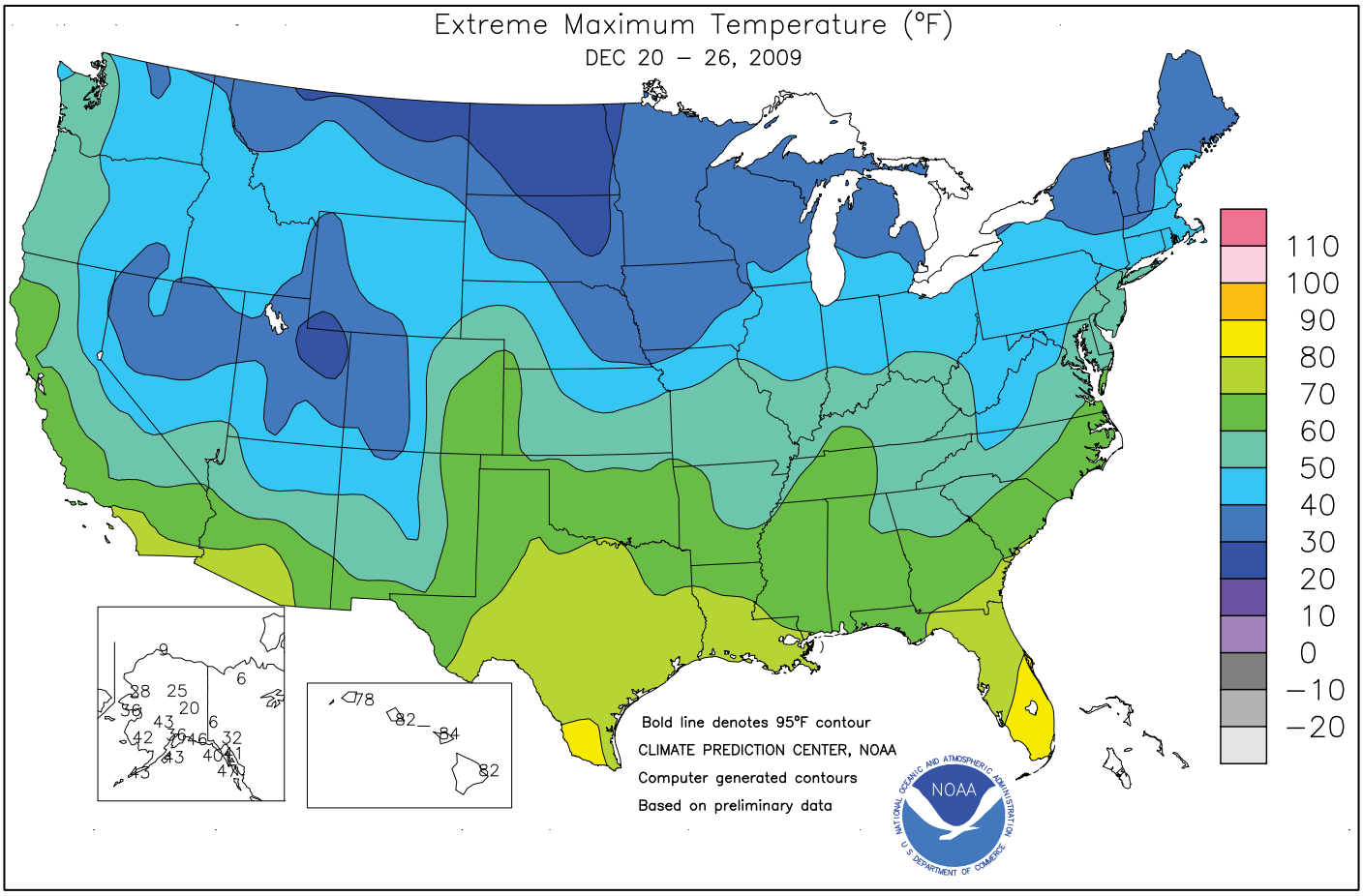
December 20 - 26, 2009

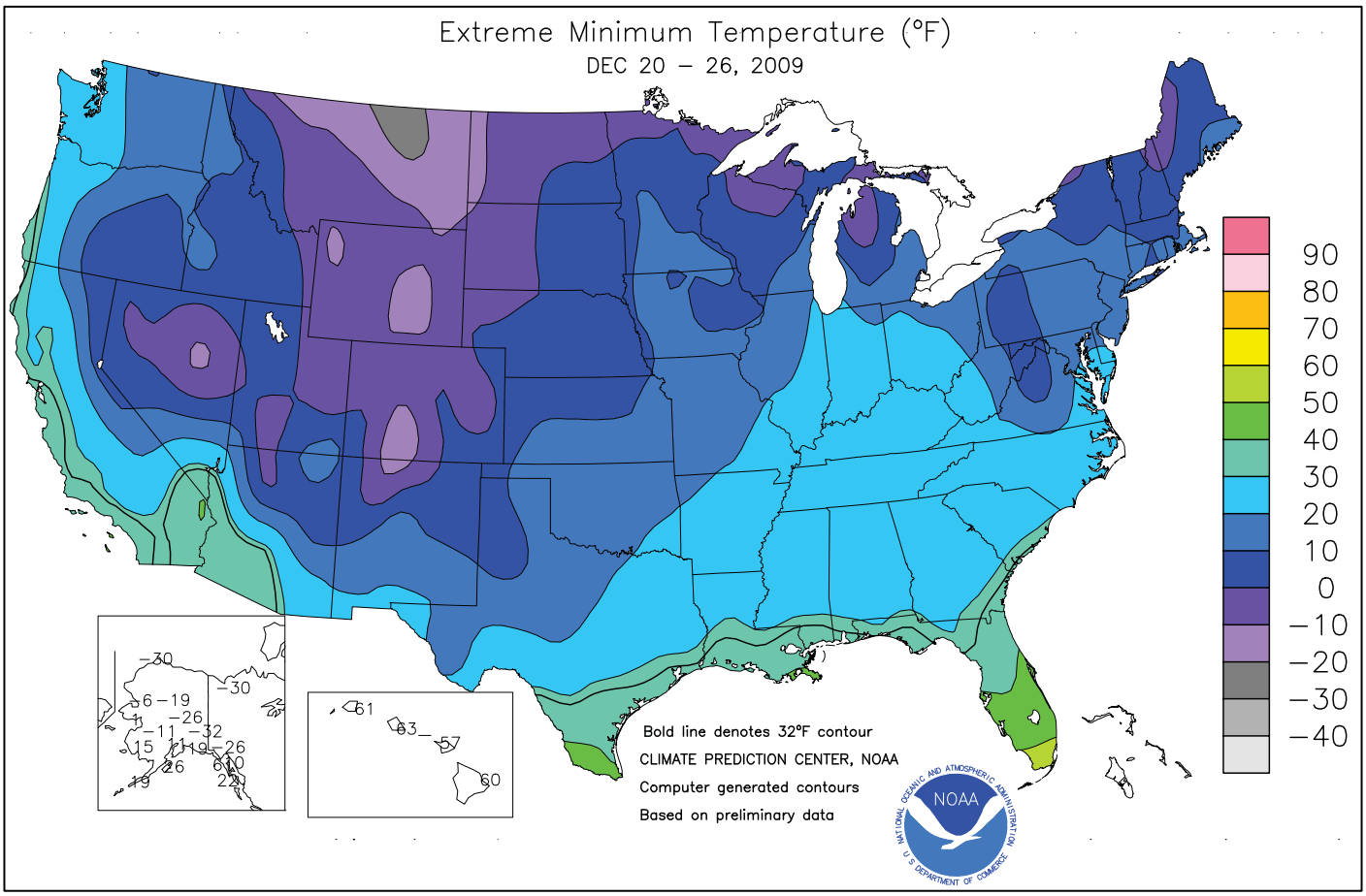
Highlights provided by USDA/WAOB

Stormy weather shifted back into the **nation's mid-section**, where snow blanketed much of the **Plains** and **Midwest**. The snow, which fell from December 23-26, disrupted holiday travel, severely stressed livestock, and halted final corn harvesting. Cold weather and high winds accompanied and trailed the storm, which dropped measurable snow as far south as **northern Texas** and buried portions of the **eastern Plains** and **upper Midwest** with 1 to 2 feet of snow. Meanwhile, flooding rains soaked the **Mid-South** and the **middle Mississippi**

(Continued on page 3)

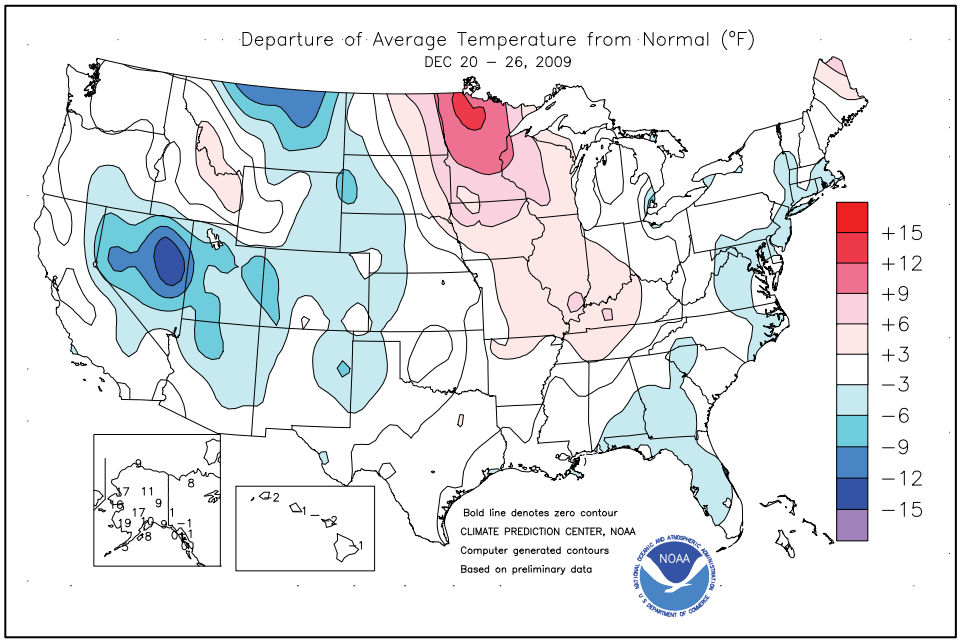
Contents


Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F)
DEC 20 – 26, 2009
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)
DEC 20 – 26, 2009
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)

Valley. Storm-total rainfall—most of which fell on December 23-24—exceeded 8 inches in **central Arkansas**. In the **Southeast**, wet weather continued to hamper cotton harvesting and other late-season fieldwork. Elsewhere, cool but relatively dry weather settled across the **West**, following some early-week rain and snow showers. Cotton harvesting neared completion in the **Southwest**, while some of **California's** citrus growers used protective measures against frosty conditions on December 23-24. Weekly temperatures were only slightly below normal in **California**, but averaged more than 10°F below normal across parts of the **Intermountain West**.



Early in the week, warmth briefly affected the **Pacific Northwest**, where daily-record highs on December 20 in **western Washington** included 57°F in **Seattle** and 56°F in **Olympia**. Showers accompanied the warmth, with **Quillayute, WA** (1.77 inches), registering a daily-record rainfall for December 20. By mid-week, however, cool air settled across much of the **West**, resulting in a daily-record low of 32°F on December 23 in **Camarillo, CA.** Two days later, **Casper, WY** (-15°F), experienced its lowest Christmas Day temperature on record.

Heavy snow lingered into December 20 across the northern **Mid-Atlantic region** and **southern New England**. With 14.3 inches of snow on December 20, **Providence, RI**, set a record for its greatest calendar-day snowfall in December (previously, 10.6 inches on December 12, 1960). **Providence** noted a December 19-20 storm total of 16.0 inches, narrowly missing its December single-storm record of 17.0 inches established from December 5-7, 2003. On **Long Island**, **Islip, NY**, received 14.3 inches on December 20, achieving a 2-day storm total of 23.9 inches.

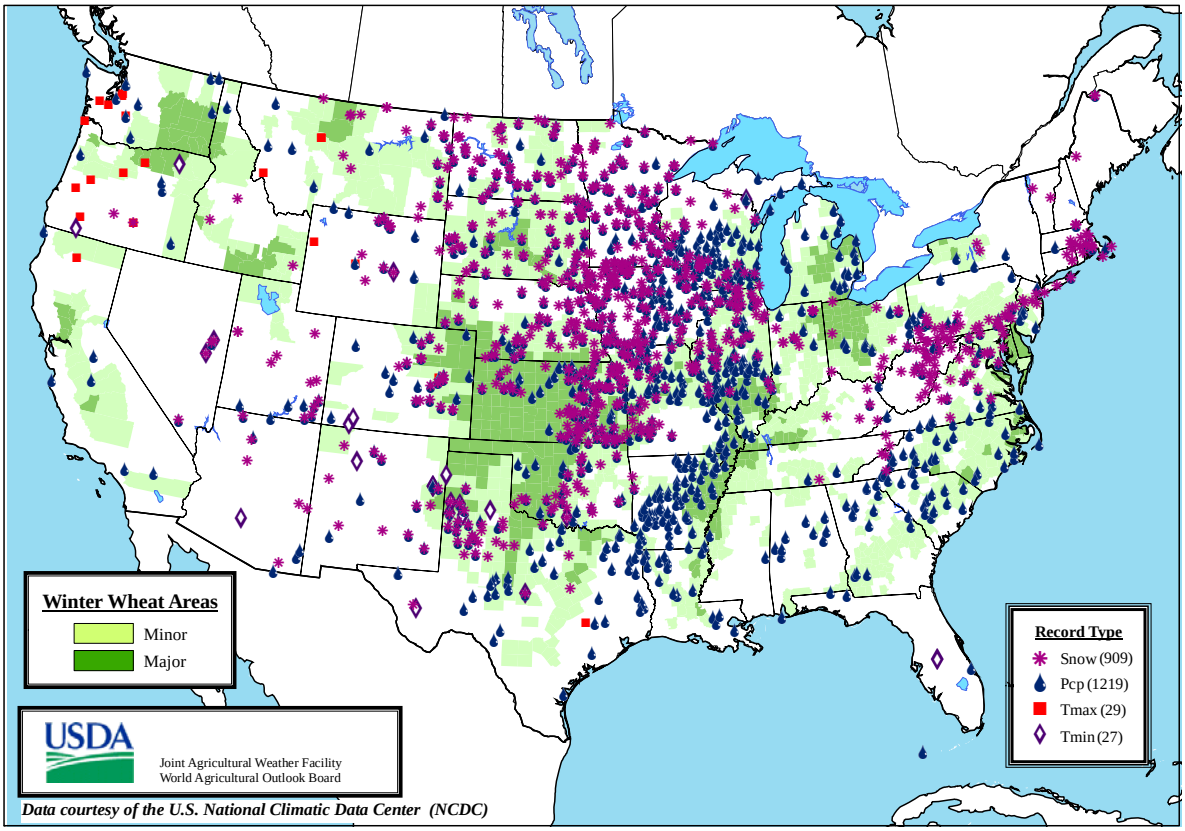
By December 22, a developing storm over the **West** produced widespread snow, while a narrow band of snow affected the **Midwest**. December 22-23 snowfall totaled more than a foot in **Williams, AZ.** Daily-record snowfall totals for December 22 included 4.8 inches in **Ely, NV**; 3.8 inches in **Madison, WI**; and 3.4 inches in **Rockford, IL.** A day later, torrential rains developed across the **Mid-South**, where records in **Arkansas** for December 23 reached 5.00 inches in **North Little Rock** and 3.84 inches in **Texarkana**. Significant rain also reached the **middle Mississippi Valley**, resulting in a daily-record total (1.49 inches) in **Springfield, IL.** During the 5-day period from December 23-27, **Springfield** received 3.31 inches. In **Arkansas**, December 22-24 rainfall totals reached 9.51 inches in **North Little Rock** and 6.98 inches in **Jonesboro**. In addition, more than two dozen tornadoes ripped across the **Deep South** on December 23-24 from **eastern Texas to southern Mississippi**.

December 24 was the snowiest day on record in **Oklahoma City, OK** (previously, 11.3 inches on March 19, 1924), and the snowiest day since March 5, 1989, in **Wichita Falls, TX.** Christmas Eve totals reached 14.1 inches in **Oklahoma City** and 7.8 inches in **Wichita Falls**. Farther north, December 23-26 snowfall totals included 25.1 inches in **Grand Forks, ND**; 20.7 inches in **Sioux City, IA**; 20.4 inches in **Huron, SD**; 19.1 inches in **Norfolk, NE**; 10.6 inches in **Topeka, KS**; and 8.1 inches in **Kansas City, MO.** In all of those locations, it was also the snowiest Christmas Day on record, with totals of 15.7 inches in **Grand Forks**, 8.0 inches in **Sioux City**, 9.5 inches in **Huron**, 11.8 inches in **Norfolk**, 3.9 inches in **Topeka**, and 3.7 inches in **Kansas City**. On December 25, wind gusts were clocked to 62 m.p.h. in **Oklahoma City** and 59 m.p.h. in **Valentine, NE.** Farther east, it was the wettest Christmas Day on record in locations such as **Columbia, SC** (3.06 inches), and **Asheville, NC** (2.46 inches). By December 26, a number of monthly snowfall and precipitation records had been broken. New December precipitation records included 10.50 inches in **Savannah, GA**; 9.06 inches in **Columbia, SC**; 8.69 inches in **Augusta, GA**; and 7.92 inches in **Richmond, VA.** In **New Orleans, LA**, the month-to-date rainfall of 25.43 inches surpassed the October 1937 all-time record of 25.11 inches. Meanwhile, December 1-26 snowfall totals climbed to monthly record-setting levels in locations such as **Sioux City** (32.4 inches) and **Huron** (26.0 inches). **Sioux City** also achieved its snowiest month on record, edging the January 1982 standard of 29.1 inches.

Mild weather covered **Alaska**, accompanied by occasional precipitation. Weekly temperatures averaged as much as 20°F above normal in **western Alaska**. In **McGrath**, the temperature rebounded from a low of -45°F on December 19 to a daily-record high of 43°F on December 21. In **southern Alaska**, **Kodiak's** daily-record rainfall of 2.21 inches on December 19 contributed to a weekly sum of 6.72 inches. Meanwhile in **Hawaii**, locally heavy showers early in the week yielded to cool, mostly dry conditions. One exception was the western islands, where locally heavy showers briefly returned after mid-week. On December 24-25, the **Oahu Forest National Wildlife Refuge** received 5.52 inches in a 24-hour period.

Daily Weather Records (ASOS & COOP)

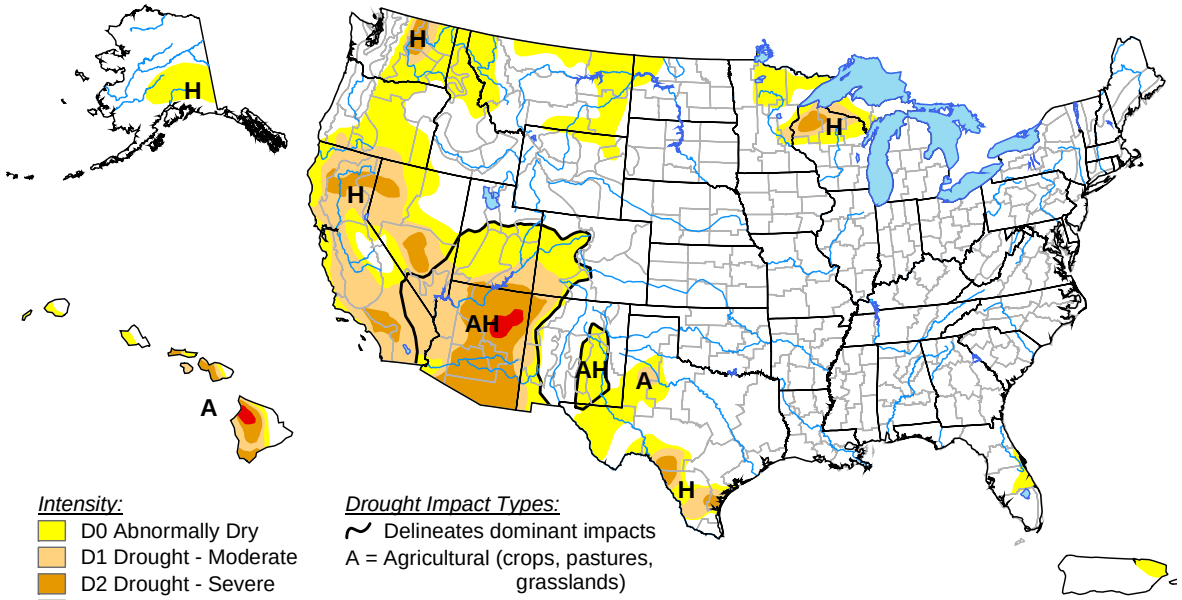
December 20-26, 2009



Data courtesy of the U.S. National Climatic Data Center (NCDC)

U.S. Drought Monitor

December 22, 2009
Valid 7 a.m. EST



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

Drought Impact Types:
- ~ Delineates dominant impacts
- A = Agricultural (crops, pastures, grasslands)
- H = Hydrological (water)

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

http://drought.unl.edu/dm

Released Thursday, December 24, 2009

Author: Richard Heim/Liz Love-Brotak, NOAA/NESDIS/NCDC

Selected Holiday Storm Snowfall Records

Updated through December 26

Greatest Single-Storm Snowfall (Inches)

Location	Total/Dates	Previous Record
Oklahoma City, OK	14.1 on December 24	12.1 on January 5-7, 1988

Greatest 24-Hour Snowfall (Inches)

Location	Total/Dates	Previous Record
Oklahoma City, OK	14.1 on December 24	11.3 on March 19, 1924

Greatest Single-Storm December Snowfall (Inches)

Location	Total/Dates	Previous Record
Sioux City, IA	20.7 on December 23-26	not available
Sioux Falls, SD	19.0 on December 23-26	17.7 on December 21-22, 1968

Greatest Single-Day December Snowfall (Inches)

Location	Total/Date	Previous Record
Oklahoma City, OK	14.1 on December 24	8.3 on December 14, 1987
Wichita Falls, TX	7.8 on December 24	7.0 on December 6, 1942

Selected Monthly and December Precipitation Records

Updated through December 26

Record-High Monthly Snowfall (Inches)

Location	Total	Previous Record
Sioux City, IA	32.4	29.1 in January 1982

Record-High December Snowfall (Inches)

Location	Total	Previous Record
Beckley, WV	34.4	26.5 in 1993
Sioux City, IA	32.4	26.4 in 1897
Yankton, SD	31.1	27.6 in 1968
Huron, SD	26.0	26.0 in 1968
Baltimore, MD	22.2	20.4 in 1966
Concordia, KS	20.3	16.7 in 1983
Washington, DC	16.6	16.2 in 1962
Oklahoma City, OK	14.1	9.1 in 1914

Record-High Monthly Precipitation (Inches)

Location	Total	Previous Record
New Orleans, LA	25.43	25.11 in October 1937

Record-High December Precipitation (Inches)

Location	Total	Previous Record
New Orleans, LA	25.43	10.77 in 1977
Savannah, GA	10.50	9.44 in 2007
Columbia, SC	9.06	8.54 in 1981
Augusta, GA	8.69	8.40 in 1981
Roanoke, VA	7.96	7.10 in 1948
Richmond, VA	7.92	7.10 in 1905
Norfolk, VA	6.90	6.24 in 2003
Blacksburg, VA	6.61	6.03 in 1973

National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending December 26, 2009

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 DEC 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE DEC 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	55	34	61	27	45	1	1.47	0.50	1.47	5.93	162	71.52	135	90	47	0	4	1	1
	HUNTSVILLE	54	34	61	27	44	2	0.92	-0.29	0.88	7.94	170	67.48	119	88	64	0	5	2	1
	MOBILE	60	37	68	30	49	-2	1.02	0.05	1.01	14.79	377	75.97	116	88	58	0	4	2	1
	MONTGOMERY	57	33	64	27	45	-3	1.52	0.46	1.51	10.08	238	61.06	113	92	51	0	4	2	1
AK	ANCHORAGE	31	23	36	11	27	10	0.12	-0.10	0.07	0.57	67	13.46	85	80	76	0	7	4	0
	BARROW	4	-9	9	-30	-3	9	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.28	2800	6.02	149	89	78	0	7	0	0
	FAIRBANKS	12	-9	20	-26	2	9	0.05	-0.12	0.05	0.17	30	8.25	81	83	78	0	7	1	0
	JUNEAU	32	23	41	10	27	-1	2.11	0.87	0.65	3.89	87	58.98	103	94	91	0	5	4	3
	KODIAK	41	35	43	26	38	8	6.67	4.90	2.19	9.38	152	88.81	120	92	84	0	3	7	4
	NOME	32	15	36	1	23	16	0.46	0.26	0.17	0.88	106	14.60	89	88	73	0	7	4	0
AZ	FLAGSTAFF	37	8	48	-6	22	-8	0.29	-0.10	0.17	1.16	79	9.96	44	88	42	0	7	2	0
	PHOENIX	62	42	71	35	52	-2	0.18	-0.02	0.18	0.47	68	3.27	41	62	38	0	0	1	0
	PRESCOTT	45	24	52	16	34	-3	0.14	-0.14	0.14	1.75	172	10.19	54	82	37	0	7	1	0
	TUCSON	62	36	72	27	49	-2	0.17	-0.08	0.16	0.55	71	6.27	53	59	37	0	3	2	0
AR	FORT SMITH	52	31	63	23	42	2	2.24	1.59	1.27	2.78	91	56.40	130	85	59	0	5	2	2
	LITTLE ROCK	53	35	59	29	44	2	9.60	8.64	4.96	12.30	297	81.79	162	88	55	0	4	3	2
CA	BAKERSFIELD	57	36	63	31	47	1	0.16	-0.01	0.16	1.27	231	4.86	78	86	70	0	2	1	0
	FRESNO	55	36	60	31	46	2	0.42	0.11	0.28	2.23	223	8.90	82	88	77	0	2	3	0
	LOS ANGELES	64	49	74	44	56	-1	0.00	-0.41	0.00	1.95	146	7.38	58	72	38	0	0	0	0
	REDDING	56	37	68	29	47	2	0.57	-0.50	0.35	3.20	87	22.22	68	76	62	0	3	2	0
	SACRAMENTO	55	36	58	29	46	1	0.04	-0.50	0.03	3.29	172	18.53	107	92	56	0	2	2	0
	SAN DIEGO	63	48	71	42	56	-1	0.02	-0.28	0.02	2.25	239	5.47	53	70	47	0	0	1	0
	SAN FRANCISCO	56	43	59	40	50	1	0.59	-0.07	0.44	2.81	125	16.35	84	80	65	0	0	2	0
	STOCKTON	55	36	58	29	45	1	0.05	-0.35	0.03	1.65	116	10.30	77	90	76	0	3	2	0
CO	ALAMOSA	34	2	42	-10	18	2	0.02	-0.04	0.02	0.10	43	7.27	102	80	48	0	7	1	0
	CO SPRINGS	36	15	58	1	26	-2	0.31	0.23	0.22	0.53	196	15.60	90	80	40	0	7	2	0
	DENVER INTL	38	17	59	-1	27	-2	0.34	0.28	0.16	0.46	209	18.13	134	79	45	0	7	3	0
	GRAND JUNCTION	29	8	38	1	19	-8	0.18	0.07	0.18	0.88	238	7.57	86	85	73	0	7	1	0
	PUEBLO	41	14	65	1	27	-3	0.07	-0.01	0.06	0.18	64	15.83	129	75	44	0	7	2	0
CT	BRIDGEPORT	36	20	45	10	28	-5	0.77	0.00	0.49	4.77	169	39.29	90	77	54	0	6	4	0
	HARTFORD	33	20	42	11	26	-3	0.94	0.16	0.85	4.34	147	47.14	104	76	56	0	7	2	1
DC	WASHINGTON	42	28	54	24	35	-3	1.46	0.78	0.87	5.47	221	45.57	118	78	55	0	6	2	2
DE	WILMINGTON	38	24	53	18	31	-4	1.91	1.17	1.47	7.25	260	50.73	120	85	60	0	6	2	1
FL	DAYTONA BEACH	66	46	81	40	56	-4	0.40	-0.20	0.40	3.81	174	50.17	103	92	53	0	0	1	0
	JACKSONVILLE	62	41	75	34	52	-2	0.16	-0.43	0.16	5.78	277	59.13	114	93	51	0	0	1	0
	KEY WEST	72	65	79	58	69	-2	0.03	-0.45	0.03	4.44	260	33.46	87	82	67	0	0	1	0
	MIAMI	74	62	83	52	68	-1	0.00	-0.45	0.00	3.01	161	52.08	89	82	52	0	0	0	0
	ORLANDO	68	49	79	40	58	-4	0.83	0.33	0.83	5.38	280	51.47	107	84	55	0	0	1	1
	PENSACOLA	59	40	68	33	49	-4	1.23	0.36	1.21	12.30	386	86.91	137	88	61	0	0	2	1
	TALLAHASSEE	62	36	73	28	49	-4	0.93	0.00	0.63	10.54	326	57.84	93	91	48	0	3	2	1
	TAMPA	68	50	76	41	59	-3	0.01	-0.49	0.01	1.85	97	45.43	102	82	48	0	0	1	0
	WEST PALM BEACH	72	58	82	47	65	-3	0.01	-0.57	0.01	7.37	266	59.06	97	74	54	0	0	1	0
GA	ATHENS	52	31	55	27	41	-3	1.87	1.04	1.74	8.75	294	60.10	128	87	52	0	5	2	1
	ATLANTA	52	33	59	27	42	-2	2.25	1.44	1.62	8.79	280	69.12	140	88	60	0	3	2	2
	AUGUSTA	57	30	66	24	44	-2	1.83	1.08	1.78	8.69	362	50.30	115	94	52	0	6	2	1
	COLUMBUS	56	33	62	27	44	-4	1.41	0.45	0.87	13.43	369	80.04	167	93	50	0	4	2	2
	MACON	56	31	64	26	44	-3	1.13	0.24	0.96	8.04	255	60.65	137	91	53	0	5	2	1
	SAVANNAH	60	38	72	31	49	-1	0.50	-0.17	0.46	10.51	493	60.92	125	89	55	0	1	2	0
HI	HILO	80	62	82	60	71	-1	4.96	2.92	4.85	11.63	123	131.93	105	80	60	0	0	2	1
	HONOLULU	80	66	82	63	73	-1	0.01	-0.65	0.01	0.78	34	12.20	69	82	69	0	0	1	0
	KAHULUI	81	60	84	57	71	-2	1.14	0.42	0.75	2.62	110	13.99	77	87	77	0	0	2	1
	LIHUE	77	64	78	61	71	-2	0.65	-0.42	0.34	0.69	18	26.54	69	85	74	0	0	4	0
ID	BOISE	36	24	48	17	30	0	0.19	-0.09	0.18	1.51	134	11.06	93	84	74	0	6	2	0
	LEWISTON	42	31	53	21	36	3	0.37	0.15	0.18	0.79	93	11.18	89	83	71	0	5	3	0
	POCATELLO	32	19	45	6	25	1	0.05	-0.17	0.03	0.43	51	15.19	123	89	75	0	7	2	0
IL	CHICAGO/O'HARE	33	26	43	20	29	3	1.44	0.94	0.48	2.63	125	42.48	118	90	81	0	7	6	0
	MOLINE	33	26	42	15	29	4	1.52	1.06	0.80	2.57	137	50.32	133	92	82	0	6	7	1
	PEORIA	36	27	47	18	32	6	2.23	1.76	1.13	3.23	152	53.58	150	89	79	0	5	5	2
	ROCKFORD	31	24	40	14	28	5	2.41	2.00	1.26	3.44	190	46.57	128	89	81	0	7	6	2
	SPRINGFIELD	39	29	50	14	34	5	3.09	2.56	1.49	4.10	186	52.28	148	92	77	0	5	5	2
IN	EVANSVILLE	46	35	58	28	40	6	1.01	0.29	0.75	3.29	106	50.38	115	82	74	0	5	4	1
	FORT WAYNE	34	26	45	17	30	3	0.80	0.22	0.66	2.52	106	40.88	113	89	77	0	7	6	1
	INDIANAPOLIS	38	30	49	25	34	4	0.52	-0.10	0.35	3.18	121	48.53	120	87	75	0	5	6	0
	SOUTH BEND	32	25	42	21	29	2	0.85	0.20	0.60	1.70	64	41.76	106	87	77	0	7	5	1
IA	BURLINGTON	37	27	49	11	32	6	0.75	0.34	0.42	1.46	79	52.84	140	99	83	0	5	5	0
	CEDAR RAPIDS	30	21	39	2	26	4	0.90	0.62	0.36	1.20	92	48.28	145	99	86	0	7	6	0
	DES MOINES	31	23	35	13	27	4	1.24	0.98	0.58	1.95	170	37.68	109	85	81	0	7	5	1
	DUBUQUE	30	21	38	9	26	5	2.31	1.99	0.86	2.91	197	46.67	132	93	88	0	7	7	2
	SIOUX CITY	31	20	34	7	25	4	2.71	2.60	2.06	3.08	581	33.71	130	89	83	0	7	6	1
	WATERLOO	29	21	37	8	25	5	1.66	1.46	0.77	2.10	214	38.53	117	96	91	0	6	7	1
KS	CONCORDIA	31	20	41	8	26	-3	0.44	0.27	0.40	1.34	191	26.63	94	92	78	0	7	3	0
	DODGE CITY	36	21	55	12	29	-3	0.17	0.00	0.12	0.38	62	30.83	139	82	58	0	7	3	0
	GOODLAND	34	17	63	3	26	-3	0.17	0.09	0.15	0.40	143	22.58	115	79	61	0	7	2	0
	TOPEKA	38	23	48	12	31	1	1.28	1.01	0.74	1.83	148	41.66	117	88	73	0	6	4	1

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

Weather Data for the Week Ending December 26, 2009

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 DEC 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE DEC 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	39	22	55	12	31	-1	0.06	-0.22	0.03	0.16	14	37.33	124	87	68	0	6	2	0
KY	JACKSON	44	30	58	26	37	0	0.30	-0.61	0.14	5.64	155	55.77	114	91	63	0	5	3	0
	LEXINGTON	44	32	53	27	38	3	0.23	-0.66	0.13	3.56	106	53.55	118	82	67	0	5	3	0
	LOUISVILLE	46	35	56	29	41	5	0.28	-0.50	0.21	2.68	86	53.75	122	83	61	0	3	3	0
	PADUCAH	47	32	59	22	40	5	2.08	1.17	1.63	3.69	96	54.89	113	91	61	0	5	3	1
LA	BATON ROUGE	62	37	72	32	50	-1	0.74	-0.43	0.72	13.11	304	62.60	101	92	45	0	4	2	1
	LAKE CHARLES	63	40	74	33	52	0	0.43	-0.58	0.41	8.08	216	72.64	129	89	49	0	0	2	0
	NEW ORLEANS	62	43	73	36	52	-2	0.51	-0.55	0.50	25.46	591	78.85	124	80	56	0	0	2	1
	SHREVEPORT	61	35	69	26	48	1	2.46	1.47	1.89	4.38	115	59.79	118	87	50	0	3	3	1
ME	CARIBOU	26	18	34	6	22	8	1.10	0.38	0.53	2.58	98	37.70	102	92	82	0	7	3	2
	PORTLAND	34	19	45	9	26	0	0.03	-0.89	0.03	3.46	98	56.82	126	77	56	0	7	1	0
MD	BALTIMORE	40	22	52	14	31	-4	1.75	1.01	0.96	7.67	282	55.18	134	87	63	0	6	2	2
MA	BOSTON	34	22	43	16	28	-5	0.15	-0.68	0.14	3.08	99	42.66	102	73	55	0	7	2	0
	WORCESTER	30	18	39	12	24	-3	0.19	-0.65	0.11	3.57	114	49.11	102	80	58	0	7	2	0
MI	ALPENA	30	17	39	0	24	1	0.71	0.32	0.66	1.60	109	34.88	124	92	71	0	7	3	1
	GRAND RAPIDS	32	22	41	11	27	1	0.49	-0.04	0.31	1.56	66	41.61	113	83	71	0	7	5	0
	HOUGHTON LAKE	29	14	37	-5	22	0	0.58	0.22	0.48	1.30	90	30.49	108	90	78	0	7	4	0
	LANSING	32	22	41	13	27	2	0.39	-0.04	0.30	1.30	68	37.88	121	85	69	0	7	4	0
	MUSKEGON	31	23	39	17	27	0	0.78	0.24	0.46	1.92	85	36.78	113	85	77	0	7	4	0
	TRAVERSE CITY	31	17	39	-1	24	-1	0.21	-0.38	0.11	1.02	47	27.85	84	92	70	0	7	5	0
MN	DULUTH	28	17	34	7	22	10	1.07	0.93	0.51	1.23	150	27.41	89	85	78	0	7	5	1
	INT'L FALLS	25	14	31	4	19	13	0.95	0.84	0.45	1.35	237	25.41	107	88	77	0	7	4	0
	MINNEAPOLIS	29	21	37	13	25	8	1.28	1.09	0.56	1.92	229	24.90	85	87	74	0	7	5	1
	ROCHESTER	27	19	37	8	23	8	3.11	2.94	2.17	4.44	499	33.07	106	88	82	0	7	6	1
	ST. CLOUD	29	19	36	4	24	12	0.94	0.80	0.34	1.22	214	28.50	106	85	69	0	7	5	0
MS	JACKSON	58	35	66	28	47	0	1.19	0.01	1.14	6.02	136	56.26	102	90	46	0	4	2	1
	MERIDIAN	58	34	65	27	46	-2	0.87	-0.29	0.87	7.59	173	58.11	101	94	64	0	5	1	1
	TUPELO	55	35	61	27	45	3	0.55	-0.82	0.45	2.90	57	61.87	113	86	59	0	5	2	0
MO	COLUMBIA	41	28	51	16	35	4	1.92	1.44	1.32	2.65	120	50.37	126	91	78	0	5	4	2
	KANSAS CITY	40	24	54	13	32	2	1.08	0.77	0.45	1.52	106	44.88	119	94	75	0	6	4	0
	SAINT LOUIS	42	32	52	22	37	5	2.19	1.63	1.11	4.13	164	50.81	132	84	77	0	5	4	2
	SPRINGFIELD	44	26	54	15	35	1	1.17	0.58	0.58	1.79	62	51.99	116	86	73	0	5	5	2
MT	BILLINGS	28	12	47	-2	20	-5	0.17	0.03	0.17	0.67	140	10.92	75	92	75	0	7	1	0
	BUTTE	32	13	44	-4	22	5	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.01	2	12.53	99	86	56	0	7	0	0
	CUT BANK	21	3	28	-13	12	-9	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.07	33	4.96	40	89	70	0	7	0	0
	GLASGOW	12	-4	25	-23	4	-10	0.13	0.05	0.08	0.44	183	10.20	92	88	82	0	7	3	0
	GREAT FALLS	27	9	41	-8	18	-6	0.16	0.01	0.09	0.76	158	14.68	100	90	71	0	7	3	0
	HAVRE	13	-3	25	-25	5	-13	0.20	0.09	0.08	0.49	132	8.68	77	89	79	0	7	3	0
	MISSOULA	31	22	40	12	27	4	0.29	0.04	0.23	0.59	65	11.33	83	87	78	0	6	2	0
NE	GRAND ISLAND	29	18	40	4	23	-1	0.71	0.60	0.27	1.42	249	25.25	98	89	79	0	7	3	0
	LINCOLN	31	19	38	7	25	0	0.66	0.51	0.45	1.06	147	21.71	77	86	79	0	7	4	0
	NORFOLK	29	18	36	4	24	1	0.43	0.32	0.24	0.69	121	23.68	89	91	83	0	7	3	0
	NORTH PLATTE	30	15	50	3	22	-3	0.10	0.02	0.06	0.35	113	23.55	120	86	64	0	7	3	0
	OMAHA	31	20	35	8	25	1	0.78	0.63	0.44	1.28	158	26.96	90	91	84	0	7	4	0
	SCOTTSBLUFF	31	15	49	3	23	-2	0.08	-0.03	0.05	0.56	124	19.34	119	78	65	0	7	3	0
	VALENTINE	24	13	42	-1	19	-4	0.10	0.04	0.08	0.22	85	21.65	111	85	78	0	7	2	0
NV	ELY	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	0.43	143	9.48	97	***	***	***	***	***	***
	LAS VEGAS	53	37	55	32	45	-1	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.29	107	1.59	36	46	35	0	2	0	0
	RENO	37	16	47	9	27	-6	0.12	-0.07	0.06	1.83	254	8.31	114	83	70	0	7	2	0
	WINNEMUCCA	35	12	44	2	24	-5	0.15	-0.02	0.08	0.72	118	7.19	88	88	75	0	7	6	0
NH	CONCORD	28	15	38	8	22	-2	0.07	-0.56	0.07	2.74	111	45.94	124	78	60	0	7	1	0
NJ	NEWARK	39	26	55	19	32	-3	1.81	1.04	1.35	6.37	216	47.17	103	68	52	0	6	3	1
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	42	24	51	19	33	-2	0.03	-0.08	0.03	0.15	44	6.68	72	68	35	0	7	1	0
NY	ALBANY	28	18	39	12	23	-4	0.30	-0.26	0.25	2.61	116	40.44	107	77	62	0	7	2	0
	BINGHAMTON	28	19	40	11	23	-3	0.33	-0.30	0.18	1.51	58	36.30	95	83	66	0	7	3	0
	BUFFALO	33	23	44	17	28	0	1.11	0.30	0.67	4.57	141	43.82	110	86	68	0	7	3	1
	ROCHESTER	32	22	44	13	27	-1	0.78	0.21	0.41	2.18	94	32.80	98	83	73	0	6	3	0
	SYRACUSE	30	19	40	12	24	-3	0.62	-0.01	0.38	1.89	69	35.10	89	82	66	0	6	3	0
NC	ASHEVILLE	41	24	47	17	33	-5	2.65	1.92	2.34	9.06	326	62.03	134	94	66	0	6	2	1
	CHARLOTTE	51	28	53	23	39	-4	2.34	1.62	2.30	6.77	267	47.91	112	94	51	0	5	2	1
	GREENSBORO	47	30	50	26	38	-2	1.25	0.58	1.25	4.86	196	45.86	108	85	53	0	6	1	1
	HATTERAS	50	36	64	28	43	-6	1.95	0.90	1.27	5.64	157	57.92	102	96	65	0	4	2	2
	RALEIGH	51	29	59	24	40	-2	0.80	0.12	0.80	5.91	244	40.25	95	92	57	0	5	1	1
	WILMINGTON	56	33	66	28	45	-3	2.14	1.30	2.14	8.07	264	59.20	105	93	48	0	4	1	1
ND	BISMARCK	20	12	25	-1	16	2	0.58	0.50	0.27	0.67	209	22.90	137	87	81	0	7	5	0
	DICKINSON	16	6	31	-10	11	-6	0.17	0.11	0.09	0.21	84	15.24	94	91	75	0	7	3	0
	FARGO	26	13	30	5	20	9	0.71	0.60	0.23	0.80	190	23.84	113	88	76	0	7	5	0
	GRAND FORKS	23	11	28	-4	17	8	0.55	0.44	0.24	0.69	164	17.92	92	93	79	0	7	5	0
	JAMESTOWN	22	11	24	3	17	5	0.24	0.16	0.14	0.26	84	15.89	87	94	80	0	7	3	0
	WILLISTON	16	6	22	-12	11	0	0.39	0.28	0.14	0.45	105	13.77	98	85	80	0	7	4	0
OH	AKRON-CANTON	34	23	43	15	29	0	0.67	0.04	0.60	2.53	100	36.17	95	87	71	0	6	3	1
	CINCINNATI	40	31	51	27	35	2	0.47	-0.25	0.38	2.64	96	42.83	102	86	73	0	5	5	0
	CLEVELAND	37	27	46	21	32	2	0.36	-0.28	0.32	2.23	82	35.28	92	82	61	0	6	2	0
	COLUMBUS	37	29	47	25	33	1	0.86	0.25	0.80	3.98	159	35.86	94	80	65	0	6	3	1
	DAYTON	37	28	49	26	32	2	0.69	0.04	0.60	2.75	105	35.38	90	83	66	0	7	5	1
	MANSFIELD	33	26	42	21	30	2	0.53	-0.14	0.50	2.40	85	35.84	84	86	63	0	6	3	1

Based on 1971-2000 normals

***** Not Available**

Weather Data for the Week Ending December 26, 2009

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 DEC 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE DEC 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	34	27	44	23	30	3	0.80	0.25	0.72	2.72	120	37.71	115	88	70	0	7	3	1
	YOUNGSTOWN	35	20	43	7	27	-2	1.11	0.50	0.92	2.88	113	34.68	92	83	65	0	6	4	1
OK	OKLAHOMA CITY	49	27	64	19	38	0	0.31	-0.10	0.31	0.77	50	35.00	99	80	51	0	5	1	0
	TULSA	49	28	60	18	38	0	1.47	1.00	0.84	1.70	79	45.94	109	83	64	0	5	3	2
OR	ASTORIA	49	36	57	31	43	1	1.00	-1.24	0.56	4.06	46	65.95	100	83	75	0	3	3	1
	BURNS	32	11	41	3	22	-2	0.09	-0.19	0.06	0.95	93	10.58	103	88	81	0	7	2	0
	EUGENE	42	32	62	26	37	-2	0.81	-0.95	0.40	3.13	44	29.84	60	93	90	0	5	3	0
	MEDFORD	42	30	59	22	36	-2	0.24	-0.37	0.14	0.94	38	10.95	61	95	77	0	5	2	0
	PENDLETON	37	27	52	20	32	-1	0.12	-0.18	0.09	1.35	111	13.02	104	91	81	0	6	2	0
	PORTLAND	43	33	52	24	38	-2	0.46	-0.76	0.29	2.85	59	29.91	83	91	81	0	4	4	0
	SALEM	45	33	59	22	39	-1	0.94	-0.44	0.47	4.20	76	32.16	82	93	85	0	5	3	0
PA	ALLENTOWN	36	22	49	18	29	-2	0.97	0.25	0.76	5.74	204	44.03	99	81	66	0	6	2	1
	ERIE	36	23	44	12	29	-2	0.90	0.11	0.50	2.35	73	39.64	94	84	62	0	6	4	1
	MIDDLETOWN	38	24	48	18	31	-1	0.88	0.21	0.59	4.70	168	45.09	113	77	60	0	6	3	1
	PHILADELPHIA	39	25	56	17	32	-4	2.06	1.34	1.73	7.12	263	50.79	123	82	61	0	6	2	1
	PITTSBURGH	36	23	45	14	30	-1	0.74	0.14	0.70	3.25	134	32.56	87	86	58	0	6	5	1
	WILKES-BARRE	33	21	45	14	27	-3	0.06	-0.46	0.05	2.22	101	34.96	94	79	63	0	6	2	0
	WILLIAMSPORT	39	25	48	17	32	3	1.26	0.67	0.91	3.91	154	39.54	96	75	59	0	6	3	1
RI	PROVIDENCE	34	21	45	14	28	-4	0.85	-0.06	0.79	5.39	157	54.11	118	75	55	0	6	2	1
SC	BEAUFORT	58	39	70	32	49	-1	0.23	-0.50	0.21	9.81	410	49.01	100	91	52	0	1	2	0
	CHARLESTON	59	38	69	31	49	0	0.83	0.08	0.82	9.84	389	55.77	110	91	52	0	1	2	1
	COLUMBIA	55	31	65	26	43	-3	3.03	2.24	3.03	9.04	346	54.68	115	92	47	0	5	1	1
	GREENVILLE	49	29	52	23	39	-3	1.63	0.76	1.58	8.51	274	52.66	106	92	54	0	5	2	1
SD	ABERDEEN	24	14	26	5	19	5	0.79	0.71	0.29	1.00	417	24.61	123	89	83	0	7	7	0
	HURON	26	16	27	4	21	4	0.47	0.41	0.17	0.56	207	22.10	106	91	80	0	7	4	0
	RAPID CITY	24	13	39	-3	18	-6	0.87	0.79	0.48	1.20	462	19.23	117	87	74	0	7	5	0
	SIOUX FALLS	28	16	34	6	22	5	1.67	1.59	0.72	2.03	472	23.14	94	90	84	0	7	7	1
TN	BRISTOL	45	29	56	24	37	1	0.18	-0.56	0.16	5.48	194	48.50	119	93	59	0	6	2	0
	CHATTANOOGA	51	31	57	27	41	0	0.90	-0.13	0.63	7.21	180	62.36	116	94	61	0	5	2	1
	KNOXVILLE	50	30	59	26	40	1	0.40	-0.59	0.33	5.98	161	60.35	127	90	53	0	6	2	0
	MEMPHIS	51	36	61	28	43	1	1.70	0.52	1.16	4.94	99	61.07	113	83	59	0	4	2	2
	NASHVILLE	52	32	62	25	42	3	0.39	-0.58	0.32	3.66	95	57.54	121	86	53	0	5	2	0
TX	ABILENE	55	32	70	14	43	-1	0.65	0.35	0.36	1.67	167	21.40	91	79	52	0	4	2	0
	AMARILLO	44	20	67	8	32	-4	0.08	-0.06	0.07	0.10	24	22.04	113	83	42	0	7	2	0
	AUSTIN	64	36	75	23	50	-1	0.27	-0.28	0.20	2.13	106	33.72	102	82	49	0	4	5	0
	BEAUMONT	62	40	73	30	51	-2	1.19	0.00	0.83	5.48	129	58.64	100	92	50	0	1	3	1
	BROWNSVILLE	69	52	79	40	60	0	0.08	-0.14	0.07	3.78	411	24.33	89	89	56	0	0	2	0
	CORPUS CHRISTI	64	47	74	35	56	-1	0.04	-0.35	0.04	3.33	240	19.98	63	90	61	0	0	1	0
	DEL RIO	63	38	71	29	51	0	0.16	0.01	0.16	0.73	124	14.86	82	84	53	0	3	1	0
	EL PASO	55	33	63	24	44	0	0.15	-0.02	0.15	0.56	95	8.43	91	74	32	0	4	1	0
	FORT WORTH	59	35	75	24	47	1	0.42	-0.17	0.42	1.50	72	40.55	118	81	48	0	4	1	0
	GALVESTON	61	46	70	34	54	-3	0.77	0.01	0.31	5.65	195	36.29	84	92	64	0	0	4	0
	HOUSTON	64	41	76	32	53	0	0.20	-0.60	0.16	4.62	151	46.21	98	85	53	0	1	3	0
	LUBBOCK	52	21	68	5	37	-2	0.76	0.62	0.55	1.42	278	12.81	69	72	46	0	5	2	1
	MIDLAND	58	29	70	19	43	-1	0.47	0.33	0.22	0.99	198	14.93	102	87	45	0	4	5	0
	SAN ANGELO	61	33	75	19	47	1	0.52	0.32	0.43	1.59	212	25.46	123	81	50	0	4	2	0
	SAN ANTONIO	62	40	72	31	51	0	0.32	-0.11	0.16	1.59	98	30.35	93	84	47	0	2	2	0
	VICTORIA	66	42	77	31	54	0	0.26	-0.29	0.14	3.09	151	30.15	76	92	57	0	1	4	0
	WACO	62	34	75	21	48	1	0.19	-0.42	0.18	1.32	57	37.31	113	86	59	0	4	2	0
	WICHITA FALLS	53	27	70	14	40	-2	1.32	0.94	1.31	2.01	146	29.03	102	82	56	0	5	2	1
UT	SALT LAKE CITY	28	17	31	6	22	-7	0.13	-0.12	0.13	0.97	101	15.46	95	92	77	0	7	1	0
VT	BURLINGTON	26	15	42	7	21	-2	0.07	-0.37	0.05	0.96	51	35.38	99	86	66	0	7	3	0
VA	LYNCHBURG	42	24	50	14	33	-4	0.86	0.14	0.86	6.59	251	46.70	109	87	56	0	6	1	1
	NORFOLK	47	34	60	26	40	-3	0.92	0.23	0.92	6.65	279	63.74	141	84	58	0	5	1	1
	RICHMOND	46	27	57	17	37	-2	0.89	0.19	0.65	7.79	314	47.94	111	85	61	0	6	2	1
	ROANOKE	41	30	45	24	35	-3	1.44	0.83	1.44	7.96	336	53.53	127	84	61	0	5	1	1
	WASH/DULLES	40	23	47	13	32	-2	1.03	0.37	0.62	4.87	192	47.54	115	78	59	0	6	2	1
WA	OLYMPIA	46	29	56	20	37	0	0.87	-0.82	0.79	3.50	52	46.74	94	97	91	0	5	2	1
	QUILLAYUTE	49	32	54	25	41	1	2.57	-0.59	1.65	5.33	43	86.56	87	95	86	0	4	2	2
	SEATTLE-TACOMA	48	35	57	30	41	1	0.65	-0.54	0.56	2.40	50	38.10	105	88	73	0	2	3	1
	SPOKANE	33	24	42	15	29	3	0.83	0.36	0.60	1.76	92	15.33	94	92	73	0	5	2	1
	YAKIMA	37	24	45	17	30	2	0.09	-0.21	0.07	0.52	47	6.52	82	90	81	0	6	2	0
WV	BECKLEY	37	26	46	21	32	-1	0.10	-0.58	0.05	4.40	173	44.02	107	86	70	0	7	3	0
	CHARLESTON	42	31	53	28	37	1	0.21	-0.48	0.19	3.95	140	45.10	104	88	63	0	5	3	0
	ELKINS	38	25	49	19	31	-1	0.04	-0.70	0.03	4.05	141	51.31	113	94	67	0	6	2	0
	HUNTINGTON	42	32	56	30	37	1	0.39	-0.35	0.36	3.25	116	47.08	113	87	64	0	6	3	0
WI	EAU CLAIRE	29	20	37	3	24	8	0.99	0.80	0.54	1.22	137	24.37	76	91	72	0	7	3	1
	GREEN BAY	28	15	38	7	22	3	0.79	0.53	0.40	1.25	102	26.64	92	90	74	0	7	4	0
	LA CROSSE	30	21	39	9	26	6	1.52	1.30	0.60	2.06	191	29.08	90	92	71	0	7	4	2
	MADISON	30	22	40	11	26	5	1.23	0.91	0.49	2.82	194	37.97	116	88	82	0	7	5	0
	MILWAUKEE	33	26	42	19	29	5	1.70	1.25	0.97	2.65	138	35.85	104	88	77	0	7	5	1
WY	CASPER	30	8	46	-15	19	-4	0.67	0.56	0.24	0.96	204	15.76	122	80	64	0	7	3	0
	CHEYENNE	31	17	48	4	24	-3	0.26	0.18	0.17	0.76	217	18.61	121	72	55	0	6	3	0
	LANDER	27	9	42	-7	18	-3	0.18	0.09	0.07	0.79	172	16.21	122	84	60	0	6	3	0
	SHERIDAN	30	12	49	-1	21	-1	0.04	-0.10	0.03	0.16	31	11.66	80	86	73	0	7	2	0

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

National Agricultural Summary

December 21 - 27, 2009

Weekly National Agricultural Summary provided by USDA/NASS

HIGHLIGHTS

Strong winter storms delivered above-average precipitation to many areas east of the Rocky Mountains, leaving producers with unharvested crops struggling to complete any fieldwork during the week. Weekly precipitation throughout most of the Great Plains and Mississippi Valley exceeded 400 percent of normal. In contrast, parts of the Southwest, Rocky Mountains, and southern Florida received little or no precipitation during the week. Cool weather prevailed across much of the western half of the nation, with temperatures in some areas of the Great Basin and northern Montana averaging more than 12 degrees F below average. Elsewhere, warmer-than-normal weather prevailed in the Corn Belt, Ohio Valley, and Great Lakes region.

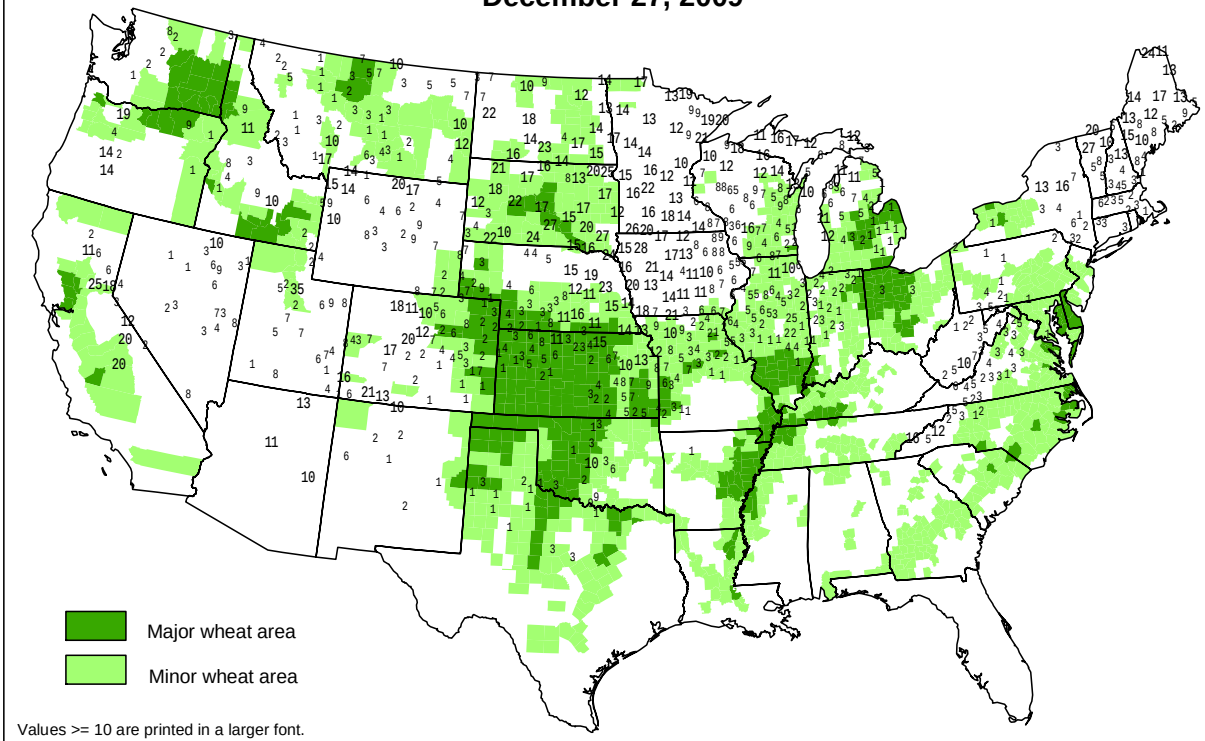
In California, small grain producers continued to seed wheat, oats, and barley. Grape growers spent the week pruning, cultivating, irrigating, and removing old vines. Satsuma and Clementine mandarins, navel oranges, and grapefruit were picked in the Central Valley, while the lemon harvest in the desert region progressed normally. Greenhouse cucumbers, cauliflower, and broccoli were harvested in Tulare County. Elsewhere, radicchio fields and tomato beds were being prepared for planting.

In Arizona, cotton producers were busy harvesting their remaining cotton fields, while vegetable growers shipped a variety of winter crops, including broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, and lettuce.

Persistently wet conditions in Florida's Panhandle continued to delay fieldwork, leaving fall plantings behind schedule and winter plantings at a standstill. Sugarcane harvest was active in the Everglades, although locally heavy rainfall delayed progress for couple of days in some areas. A variety of winter vegetables were harvested to meet holiday demands, but volume was light on many items. Previously wet weather across the major vegetable growing regions caused some disease and quality problems as well as a higher number of culls.

Snow Depth (inches)

December 27, 2009



Values >= 10 are printed in a larger font.

Snow depth reports obtained from the NWS Cooperative Observer Network.

NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY

International Weather and Crop Summary

December 20 – 26, 2009

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

HIGHLIGHTS

FSU-WESTERN: Cold, snowy weather maintained favorable overwintering conditions for dormant winter grains.

EUROPE: Locally heavy rain eased long-term drought in Spain, while wintry weather maintained a firm grip over the remainder of Europe.

MIDDLE EAST: Showers boosted moisture reserves for winter wheat and barley in Turkey.

NORTHWEST AFRICA: Locally heavy rain improved prospects for winter grains in Morocco, while favorable, albeit lighter rainfall was reported elsewhere.

SOUTH ASIA: Warm, dry weather prevailed for overwintering crops.

EAST ASIA: Cold, dry weather covered most of the winter growing areas.

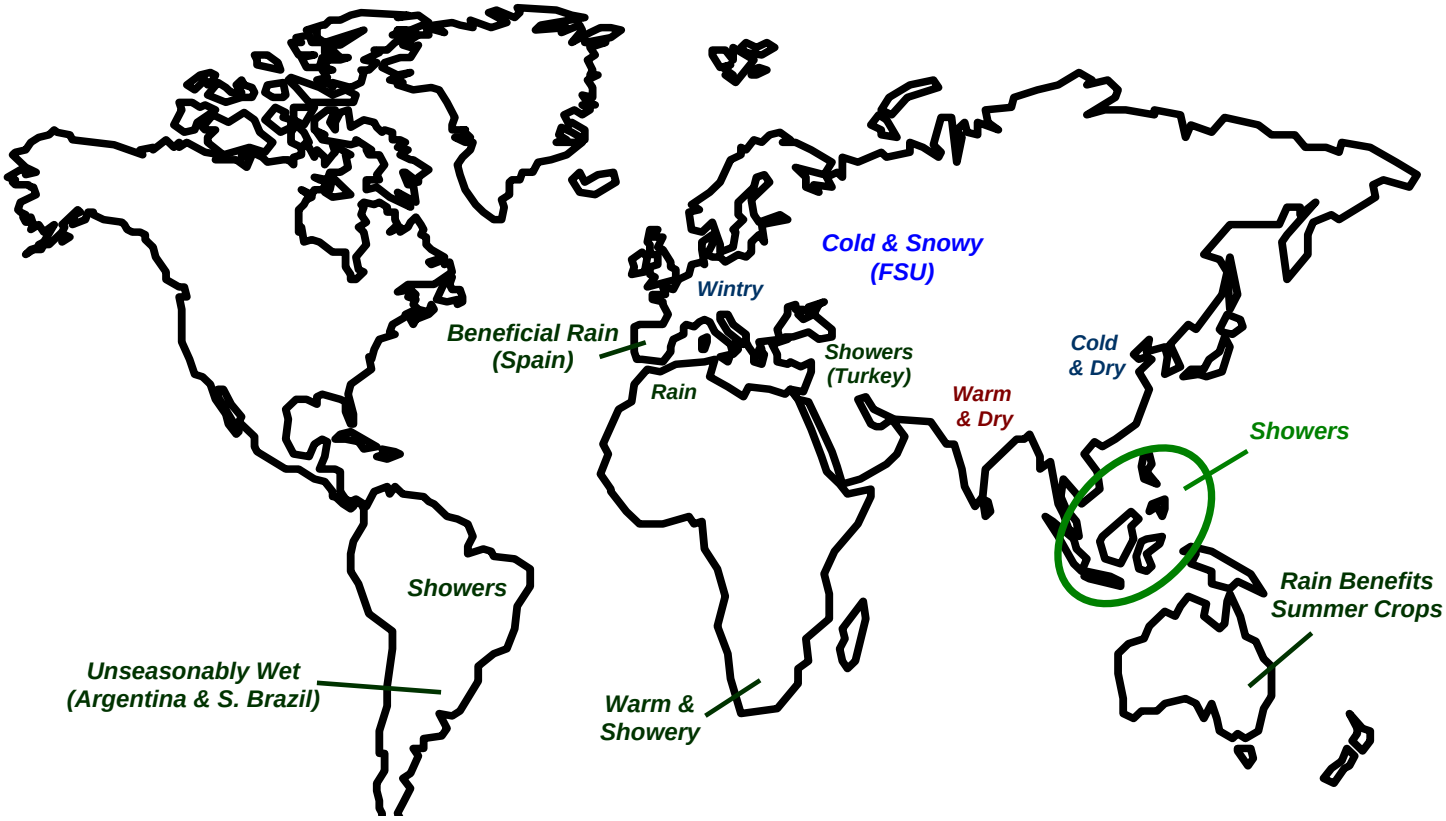
SOUTHEAST ASIA: Showers provided favorable moisture to crops in the Philippines and Java, Indonesia.

AUSTRALIA: Widespread, locally heavy rain benefited vegetative summer crops, boosting topsoil moisture and increasing reservoir levels for cotton and sorghum.

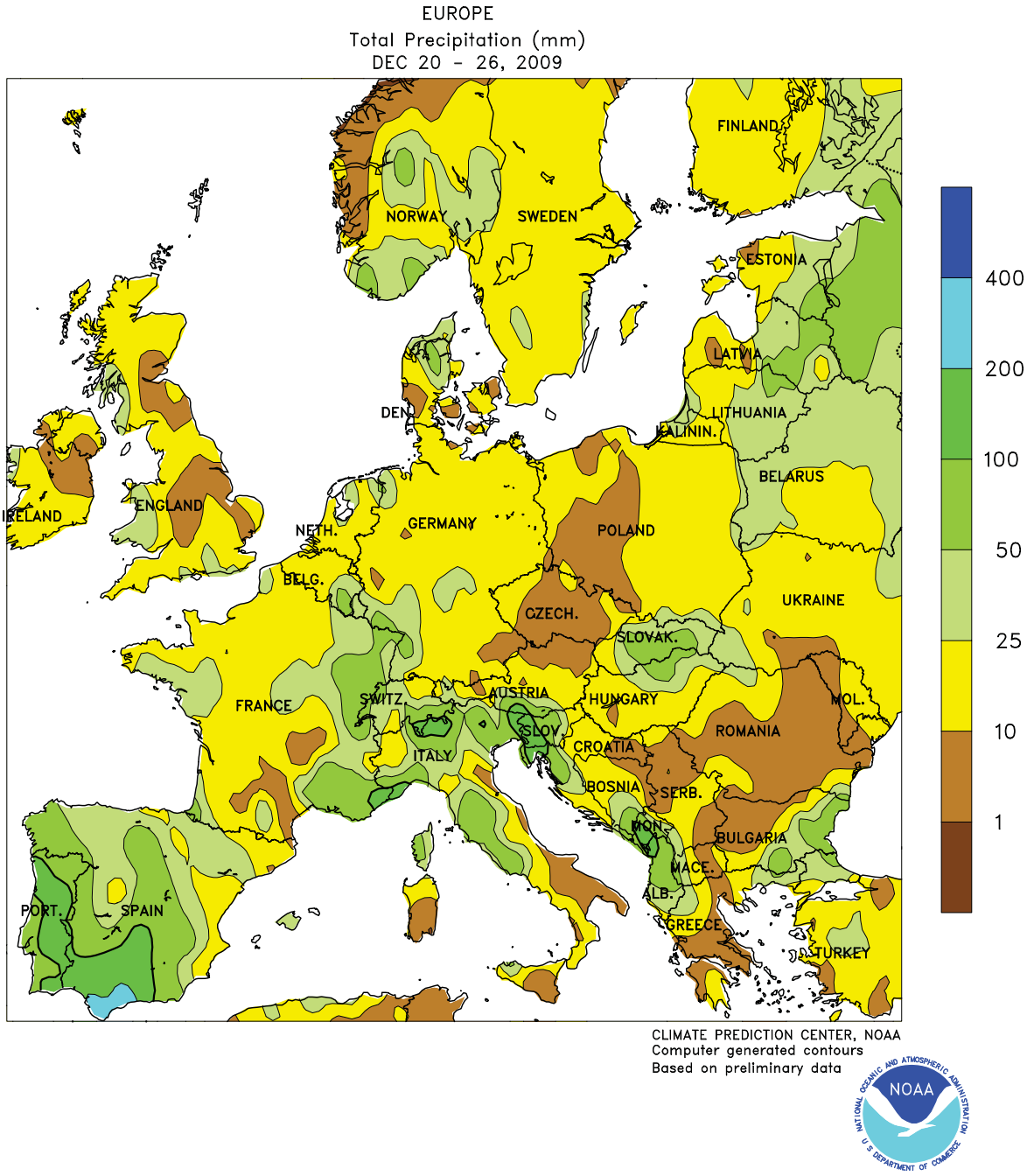
ARGENTINA: Heavy rain provided abundant moisture for summer crops while causing fieldwork delays and some flooding.

BRAZIL: Wet weather returned to Rio Grande do Sul, disrupting spring fieldwork but keeping summer crops abundantly watered.

SOUTH AFRICA: Warm, showery weather maintained overall favorable conditions for vegetative summer crops across the corn belt.

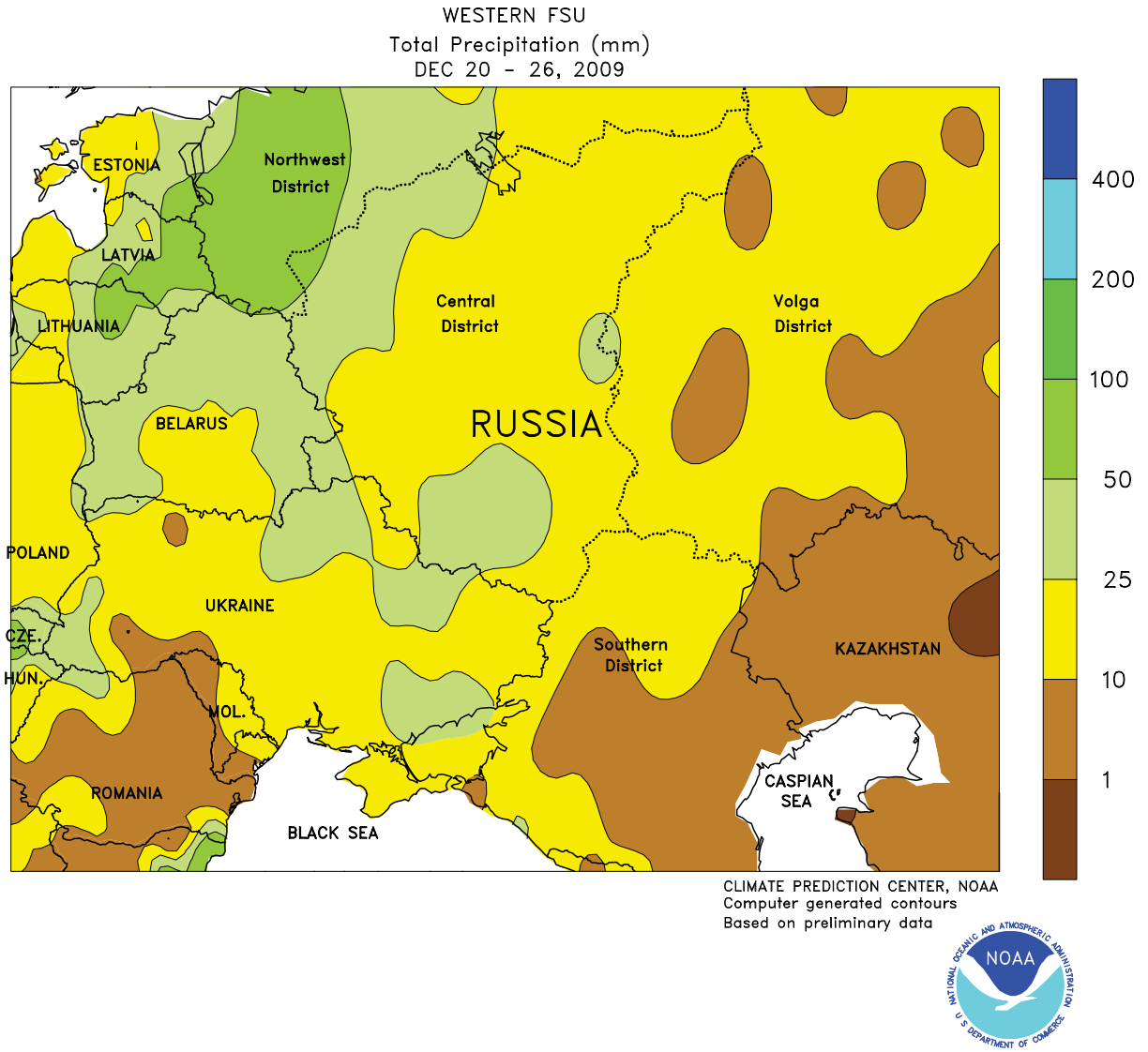


For additional information contact: meteorologists@oce.usda.gov



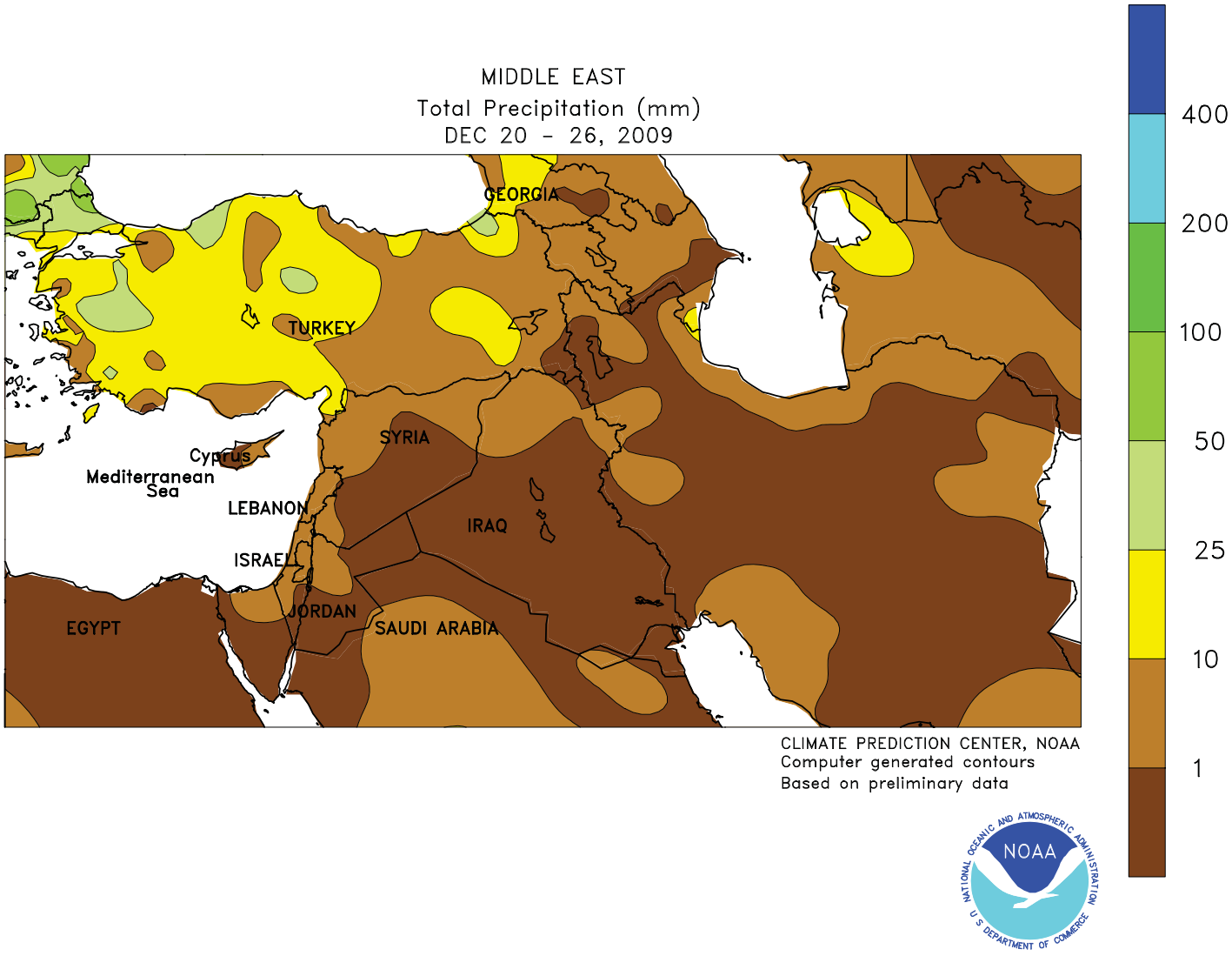
EUROPE

Winter maintained a firm grip on the continent, with cold, unsettled conditions reported over most of the region. An Atlantic storm brought locally heavy rain (25-100 mm or more) to Spain, providing additional relief from lingering long-term drought and improving prospects for rain-fed winter grains. Meanwhile, widespread snow (5-50 mm liquid equivalent) and southern rain maintained favorable overwintering conditions for dormant winter grains across central and northern Europe. The snow was especially beneficial in Poland, where minimum temperatures fell below -20 degrees C in some locations. Farther south, heavy snow in the Alps boosted irrigation reserves for northern Italy's wheat and barley. Snow was also reported in the Balkans, with depths exceeding 25 cm in western and northern portions of Romania.



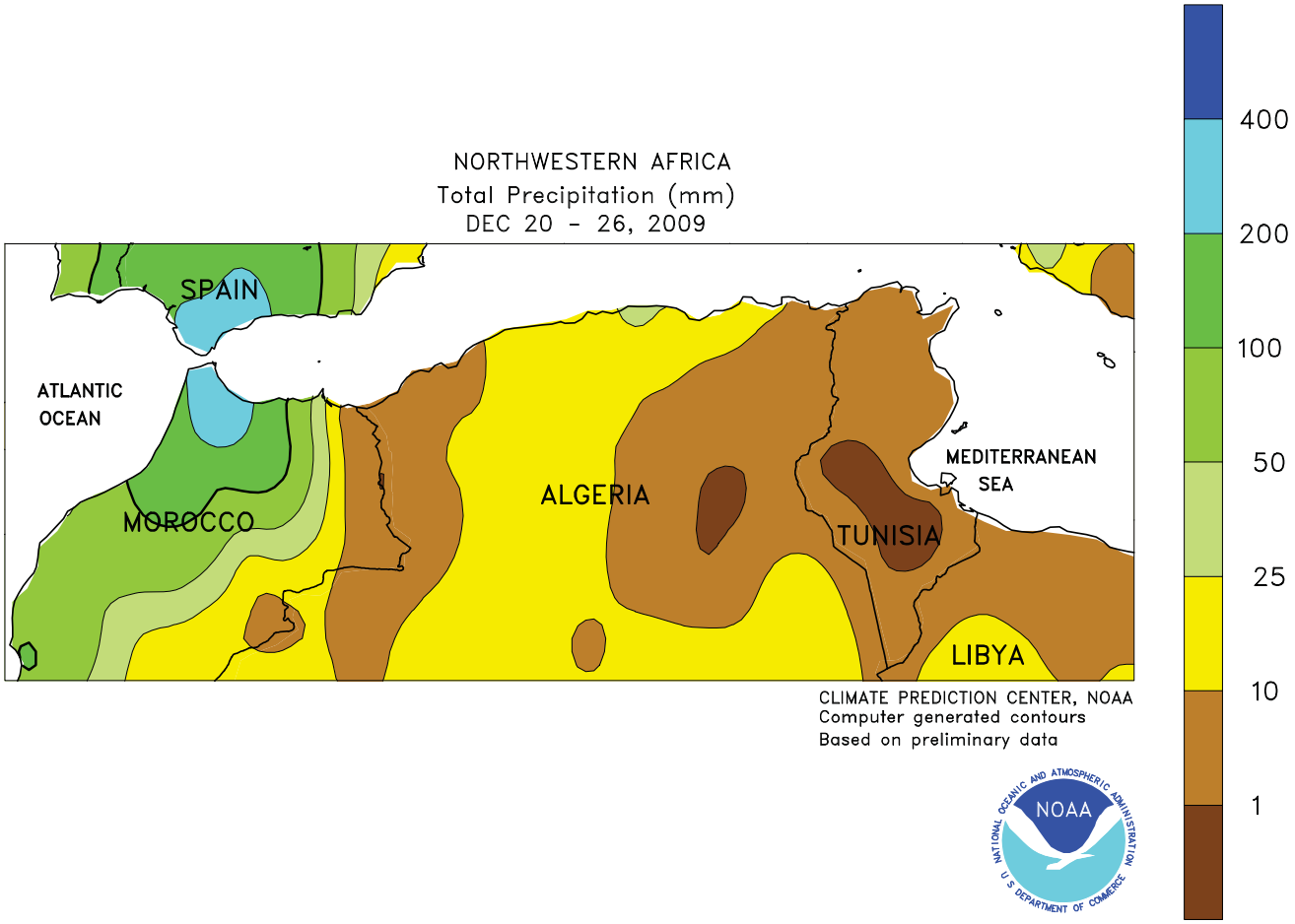
FSU-WESTERN

Cold, snowy (10-50 mm liquid equivalent) weather continued, maintaining mostly favorable overwintering conditions for dormant winter crops. Locally heavy snow (more than 25 mm liquid equivalent) fell across portions of Belarus, Ukraine, and western and southern sections of the Central District in Russia, maintaining a protective snow cover for dormant winter crops. Farther east, the snow was generally lighter (10-25 mm liquid equivalent). Nevertheless, the snow was especially welcomed in the northern Volga and eastern Central Districts, where crops had recently been exposed to extreme cold due to a lack of a widespread snow pack. Colder-than-normal conditions persisted, with temperatures averaging about 1 to 2 degrees C below normal.



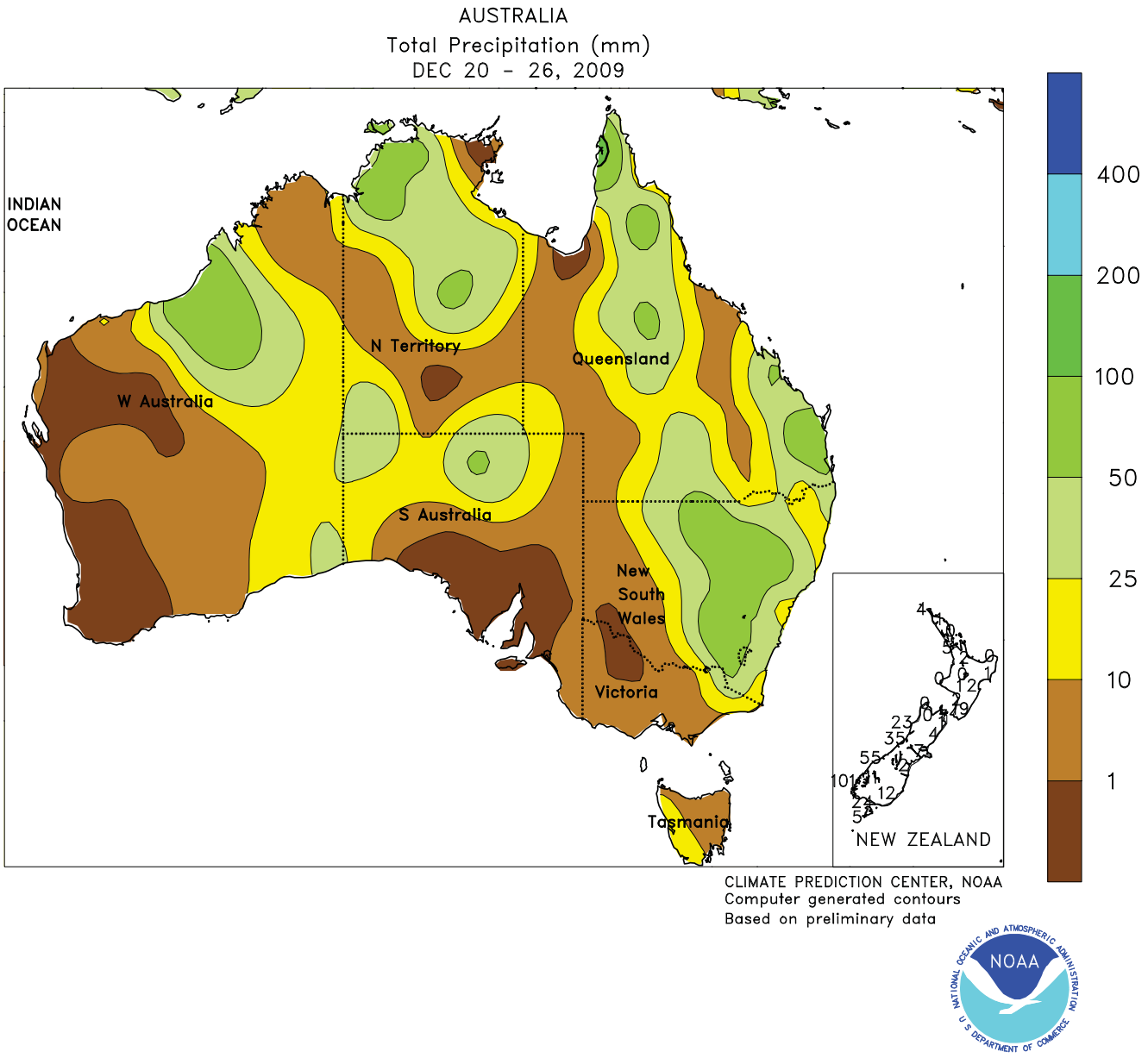
MIDDLE EAST

Wet weather prevailed in western growing areas, while drier conditions returned farther east. In particular, showers (10-40 mm) boosted soil moisture reserves for dormant to semi-dormant winter grains in Turkey. Showers were generally less than 5 mm from the eastern Mediterranean Coast into central Iran, although soil moisture and irrigation reserves were favorable for vegetative winter wheat and barley following last week's locally heavy rainfall. Rain continued to bypass central and southern Iraq, however, where more moisture is needed for vegetative winter grains. Generally light, albeit beneficial rain (1-10 mm) was reported in eastern Iran, providing some topsoil moisture for winter crops. Temperatures averaged 2 to 5 degrees C above normal, with no incursions of bitter cold. Much of the region remained devoid of any protective snow cover.



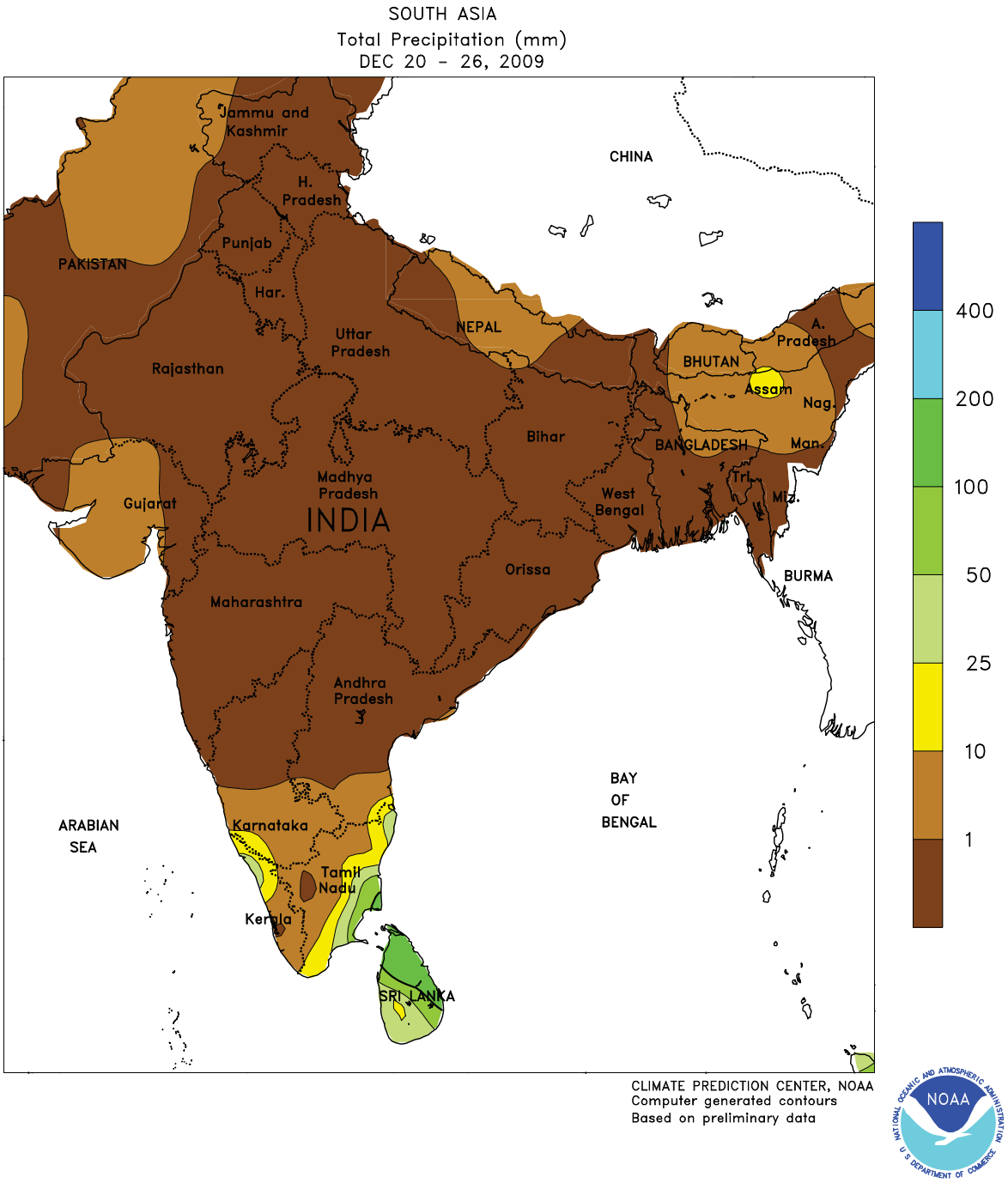
NORTHWEST AFRICA

Widespread, locally heavy showers persisted, improving prospects for winter grains. In Morocco, heavy rain (25-200 mm) boosted soil moisture but caused localized flooding, further improving winter grain prospects on the heels of a drier-than-normal autumn. Farther east, 2 to 25 mm of rain from western Algeria into northern Tunisia maintained adequate to abundant soil moisture reserves for vegetative wheat and barley. Temperatures averaged 3 to 6 degrees C above normal, with no adverse heat or cold reported.



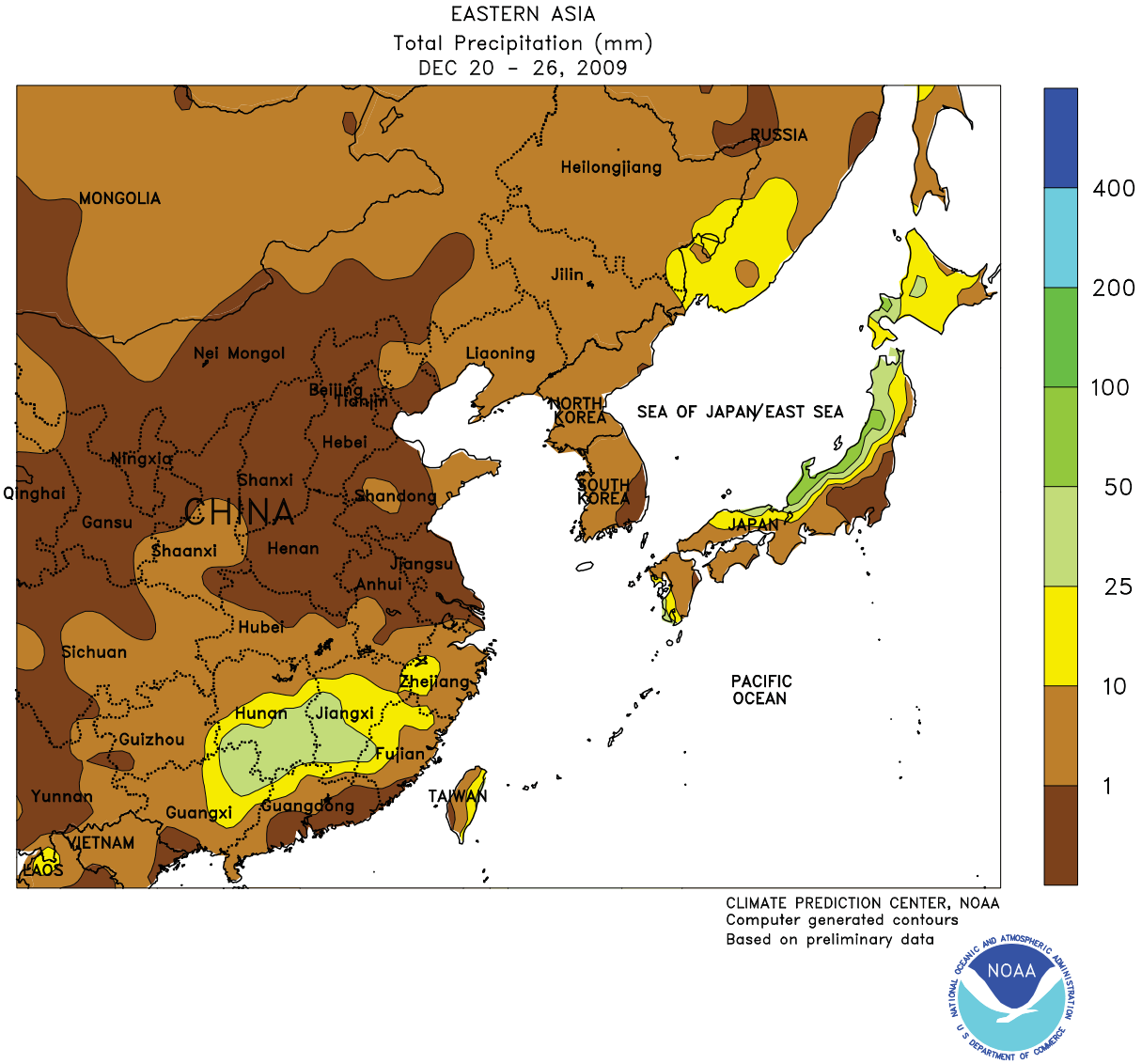
AUSTRALIA

In Western Australia, the fifth consecutive week of dry weather continued to promote rapid winter crop harvesting. Farther east, mostly dry weather in South Australia and Victoria allowed uninterrupted winter grain harvesting throughout much of the area. Elsewhere in the wheat belt, widespread, locally heavy rain (25-90 mm, locally near 125 mm) stalled fieldwork throughout New South Wales and southern Queensland. The rain was very beneficial for vegetative summer crops, boosting topsoil moisture and increasing reservoir levels for cotton and sorghum. Temperatures in major summer crop areas averaged about 2 to 3 degrees C above normal, with maximum temperatures in the lower to upper 30s degrees C.



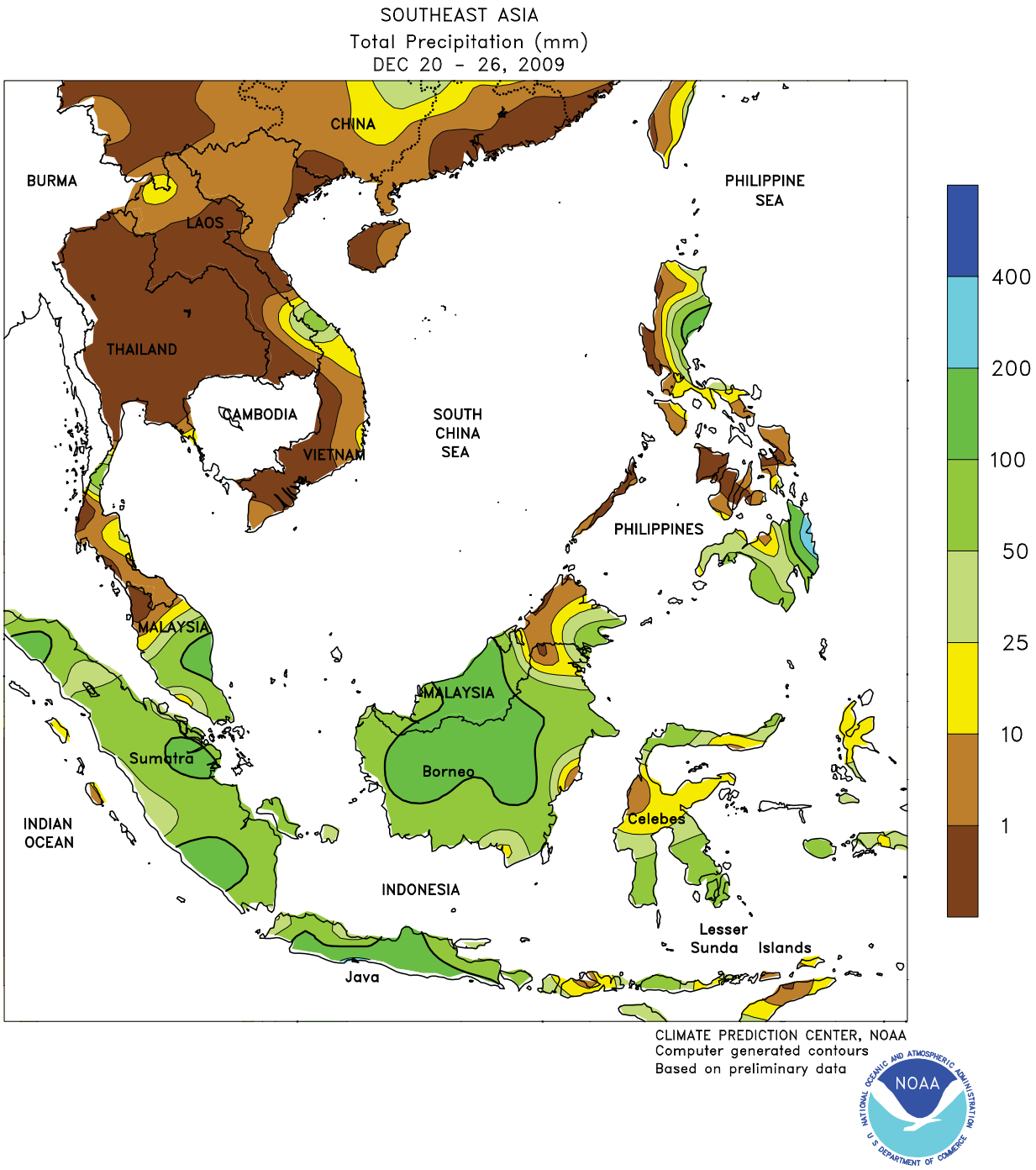
SOUTH ASIA

Seasonably warm, dry weather prevailed for winter crops in India. Moisture reserves remained adequate for overwintering wheat and rapeseed in Haryana and Uttar Pradesh. However, irrigation requirements continued to be high for winter rapeseed in eastern Rajasthan.



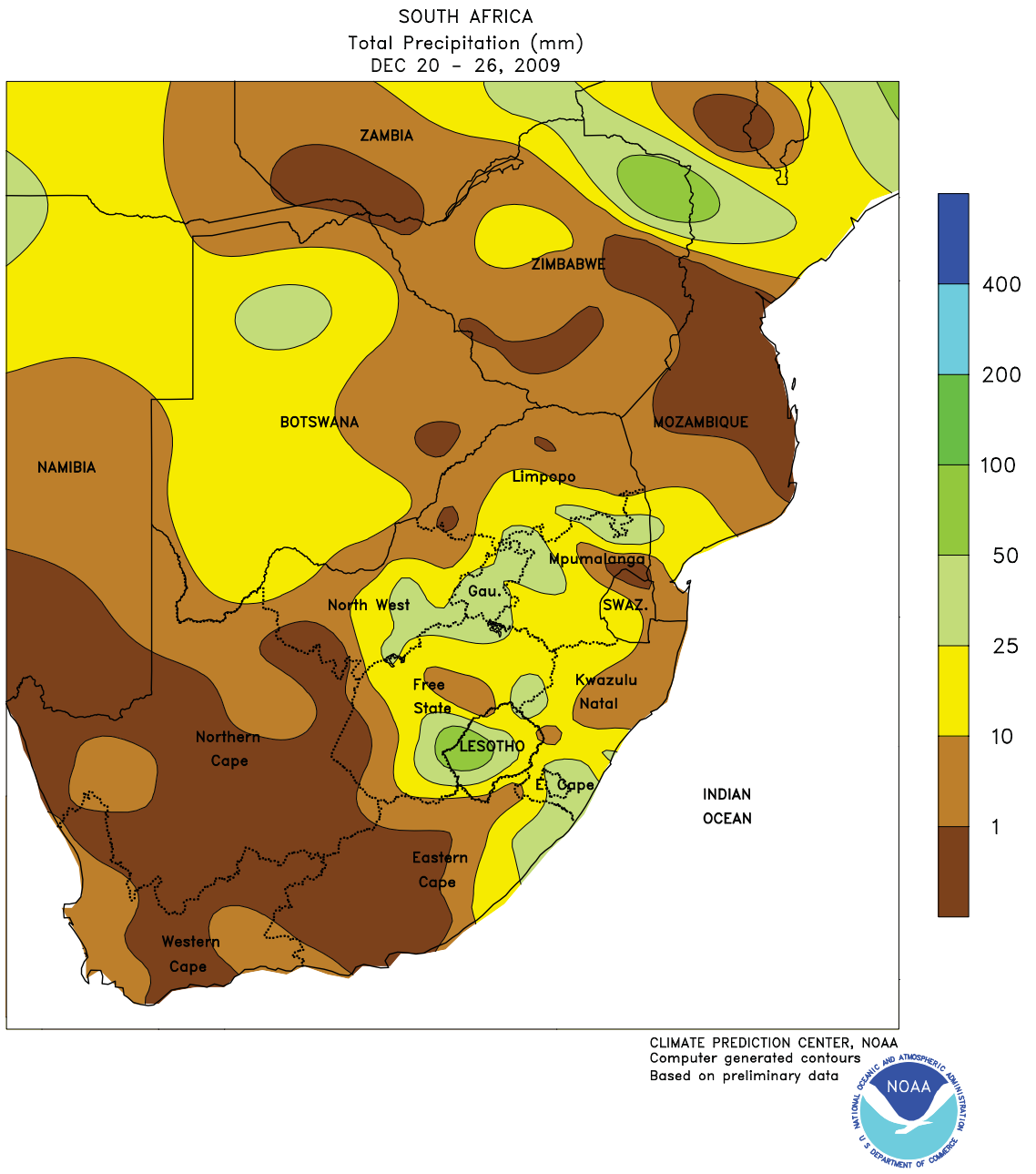
EAST ASIA

Seasonably cold, dry weather prevailed across most winter growing areas. Rainfall (10-50 mm) was generally confined to rapeseed and sugarcane areas south of the Yangtze River. Seasonably cold air continued, with freezing temperatures extending just south of the Yangtze River. Temperatures in China's main winter grain and oilseed areas remained above the threshold for winterkill.



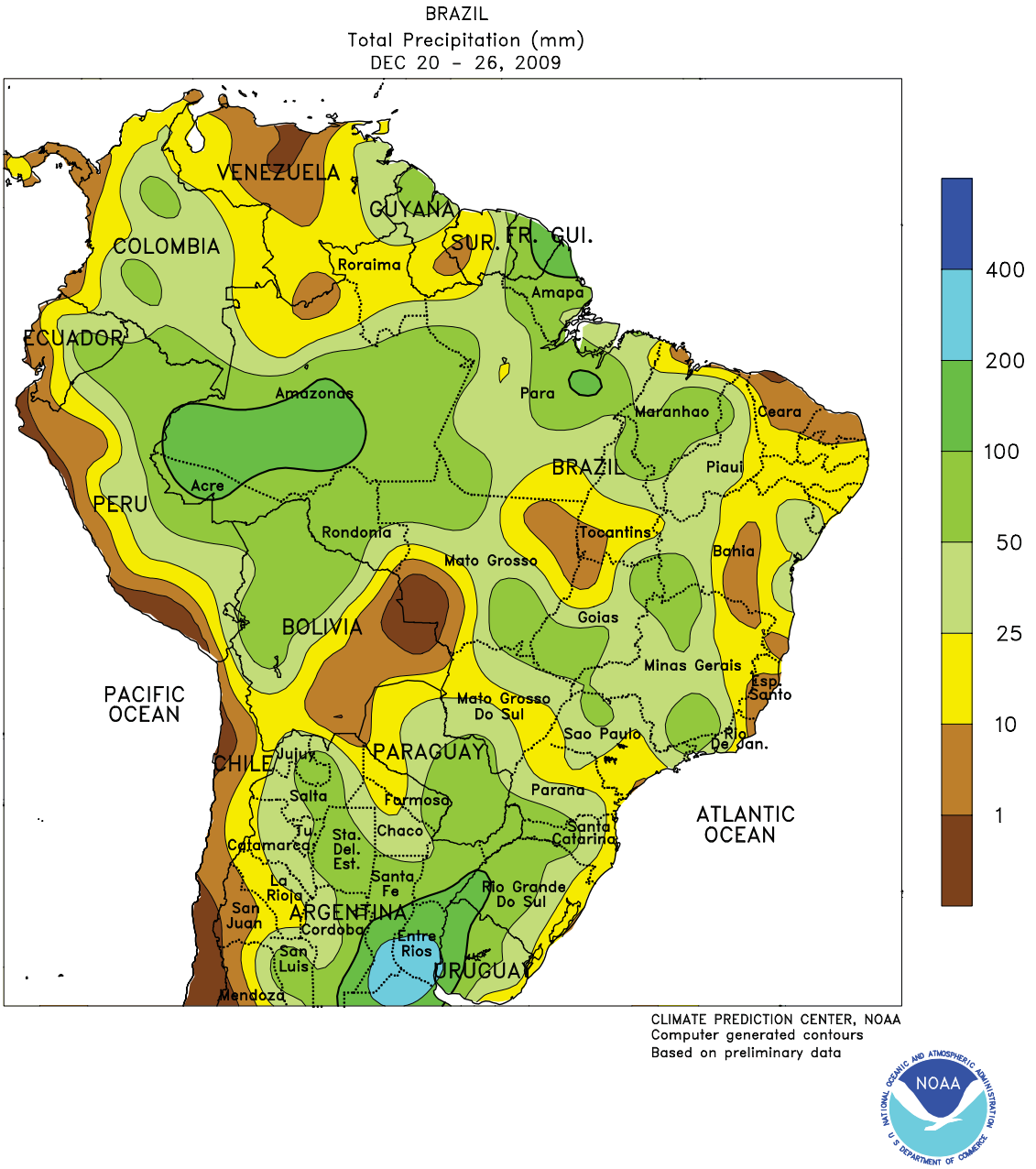
SOUTHEAST ASIA

Showers increased across the Philippines, while continuing rainfall in Java, Indonesia benefited rice. In the Philippines, locally heavy showers (more than 100 mm along the east coast of Mindanao) in the south caused minor flooding but provided beneficial moisture to winter corn. Likewise, rainfall over 25 mm in Luzon benefited winter rice, while generally light showers (less than 25 mm) occurred in the eastern Visayas. Heavy downpours (over 100 mm) continued to cause harvest delays for oil palm in Malaysia and Indonesia. Meanwhile, 25 to 100 mm of rain in Java, Indonesia continued to boost soil moisture for vegetative rice. More rain, however, would still be welcomed in central Java. Mostly dry weather prevailed in Vietnam, although light showers (10-25 mm) provided locally beneficial moisture for winter-spring rice.



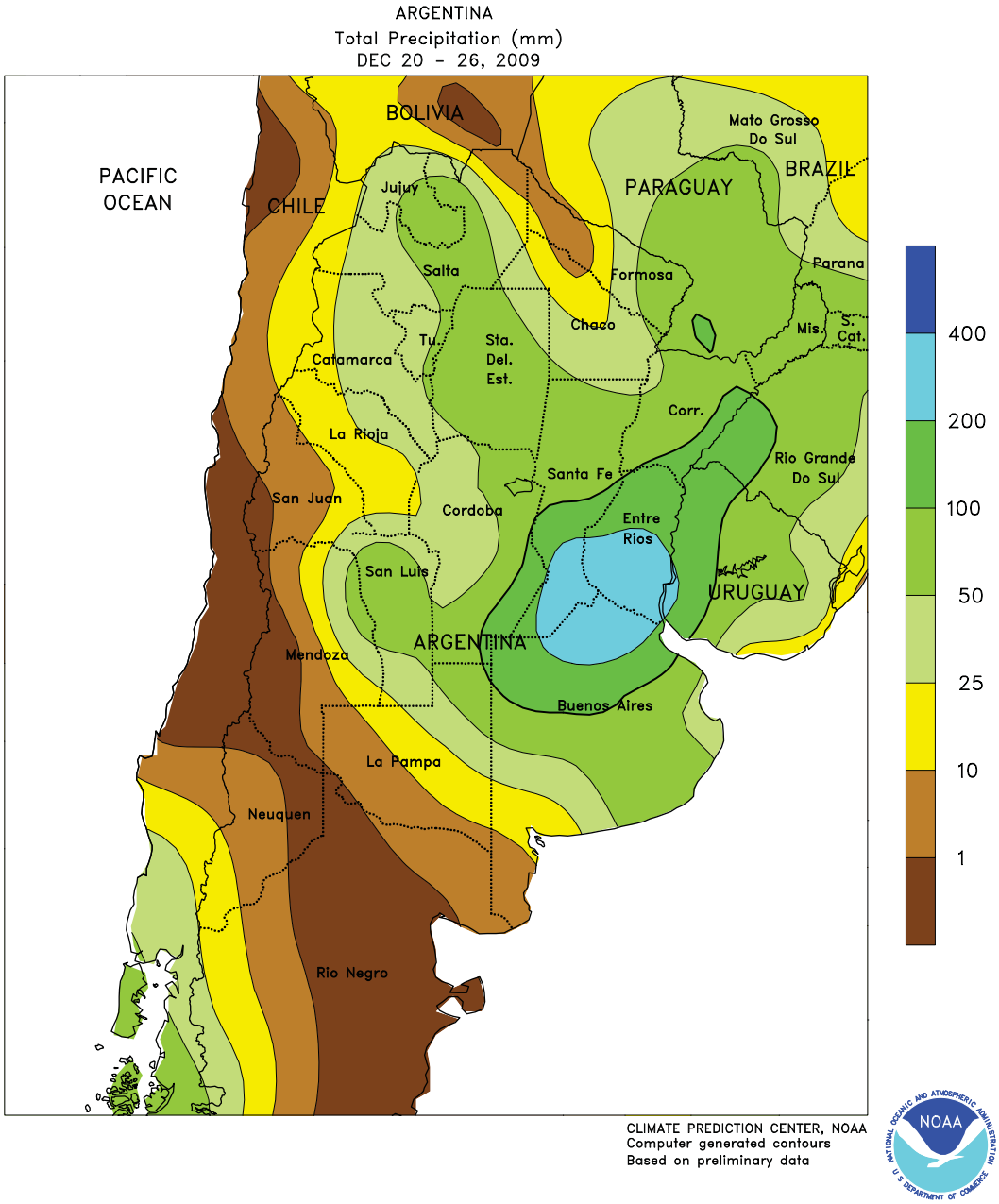
SOUTH AFRICA

Warm, showery weather provided most of the corn belt with beneficial moisture. Rainfall totaled 10 to 25 mm or more in most areas, and temperatures averaged up to 3 degrees C above normal (highs mostly in the lower 30s degrees C), fostering growth of vegetative summer crops. In the western corn belt (North West and central Free State), the increase in rainfall was timely for late planting; early planted crops in eastern sections of the corn belt are likely nearing reproduction. Elsewhere, scattered showers (greater than 10 mm) lingered in southern KwaZulu-Natal and adjacent areas in Eastern Cape. Dry, occasionally warm weather (early week highs in the lower and middle 30s degrees C) sustained growth of tree and vine crops in western sections of Western Cape. Near- to above-normal temperatures increased moisture requirements of crops and livestock elsewhere in the Cape Provinces.



BRAZIL

Following a brief respite, heavy rain returned to the region encompassing Brazil's southernmost growing areas. Rainfall totaled 50 to 100 mm over most of Rio Grande do Sul as well as neighboring areas locations in Santa Catarina, southern Parana, and the countries of Uruguay and Paraguay. The rainfall maintained high moisture reserves for summer crops but renewed delays in fieldwork that included wheat harvesting and the late stages of soybean planting. Temperatures averaging 1 to 2 degrees C above normal promoted rapid development of summer grains, oilseeds, and cotton throughout these areas. Farther north, moderate to heavy rain (25-50 mm or more in most areas) maintained generally favorable conditions for summer crops in key growing areas of central Brazil and the interior northeast, although these amounts reflect a decline in rainfall activity when compared to recent weeks. In contrast, showers (10-25 mm, locally exceeding 50 mm) were recorded along the northeastern coast, boosting irrigation reserves but possibly slowing sugarcane harvesting and other seasonal fieldwork. As in the south, near- to above-normal temperatures (highs reaching the middle 30s degrees C in the main interior farming areas) fostered rapid development of summer grains, oilseeds, and cotton in Brazil's more northerly agricultural areas.



ARGENTINA

Above-normal rainfall provided ample moisture for summer crops, but excessive wetness was a problem in a few areas. The wettest location was a main summer production area of central Argentina (northern Buenos Aires and neighboring locations in Santa Fe and Entre Rios), where rainfall totaling more than 100 mm renewed concerns for flooding in southern portions of the Parana River Valley. Elsewhere, amounts generally ranged from 25 to 100 mm; while timely for summer crop establishment, the rain slowed winter wheat harvesting and the final stages of summer crop planting. Temperatures averaged 1 to 2 degrees C above normal in central Argentina, with midweek highs reaching the lower 30s degrees C between periods of heavy rain. Farther north, temperatures averaged 2 to 4 degrees C above, with highs reaching the upper 30s degrees C in most farming areas.

2009 Bulletin Index
Volume 96

*Regular Features**

Text:

National Charts:

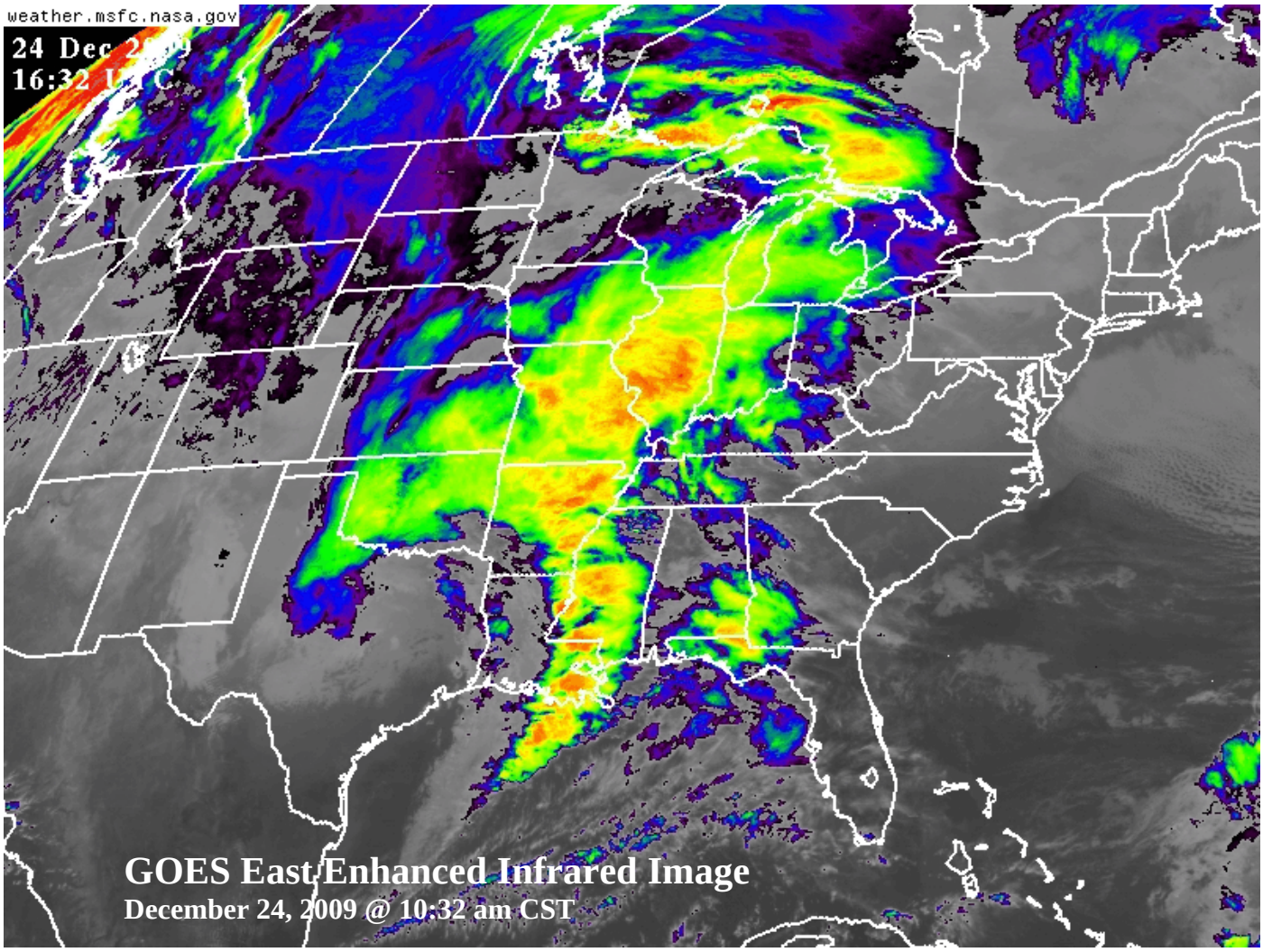
International Charts (major crop areas):

National Tabulations:

International Tabulation:

* **w** = weekly, **m** = monthly, **s** = seasonal (published every March, June, September, and December for the preceding 3 months)

Special Features



December 24 was the snowiest day on record in Oklahoma City, OK, where 14.1 inches fell. The previous highest calendar-day total in Oklahoma City was 11.3 inches on March 19, 1924. In addition, Oklahoma City's storm-total snowfall of 14.1 inches surpassed its record of 12.1 inches, established from January 5-7, 1988. Finally, Oklahoma City's peak wind gust during the storm reached 62 m.p.h. Farther east, thunderstorms spawned more than two dozen tornadoes on December 23-24 across eastern Texas, Louisiana, and southern Mississippi. Elsewhere, December 23-26 snowfall reached 25.1 inches in Grand Forks, ND; 22.9 inches in Sisseton, SD; and 20.7 inches in Sioux City, IA, while December 22-24 rainfall totals in Arkansas included 9.60 inches in Little Rock and 6.76 inches in Pine Bluff.

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