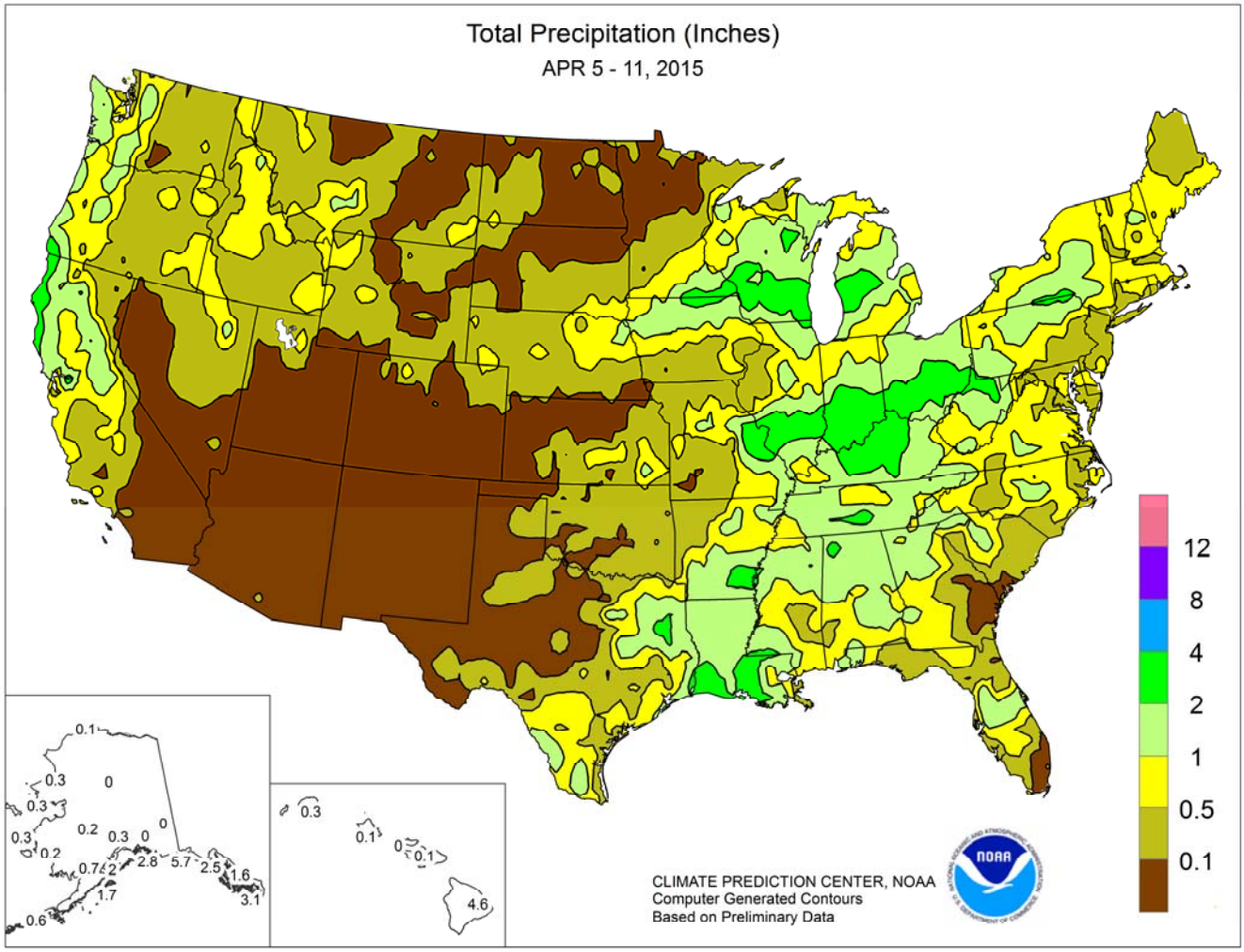
Volume 102, No. 15 *http://www.usda.gov/oce/weather* **April 14, 2015**

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

April 5 – 11, 2015

Highlights provided by USDA/WAOB

A more typical spring pattern brought beneficial precipitation to parts of the upper Midwest, but left many other areas of the Corn Belt—including the Ohio Valley—with muddy fields and pockets of lowland flooding. In addition, severe thunderstorms produced localized wind and hail damage, along with isolated tornadoes, across portions of the Plains, South, and Midwest. Rain extended beyond the Midwest, also covering much of the South and East. The abundant rainfall curtailed fieldwork, but also boosted topsoil

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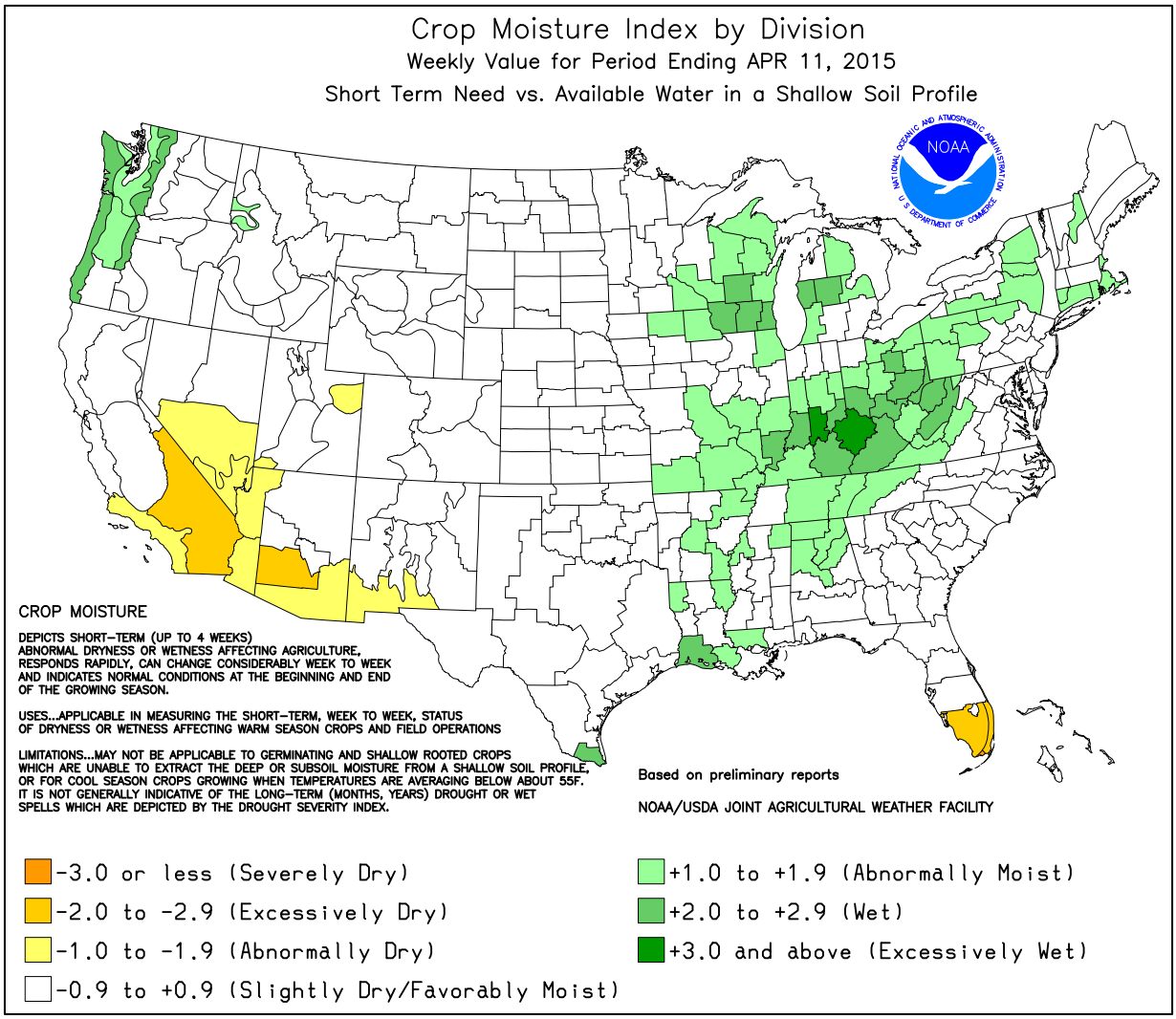
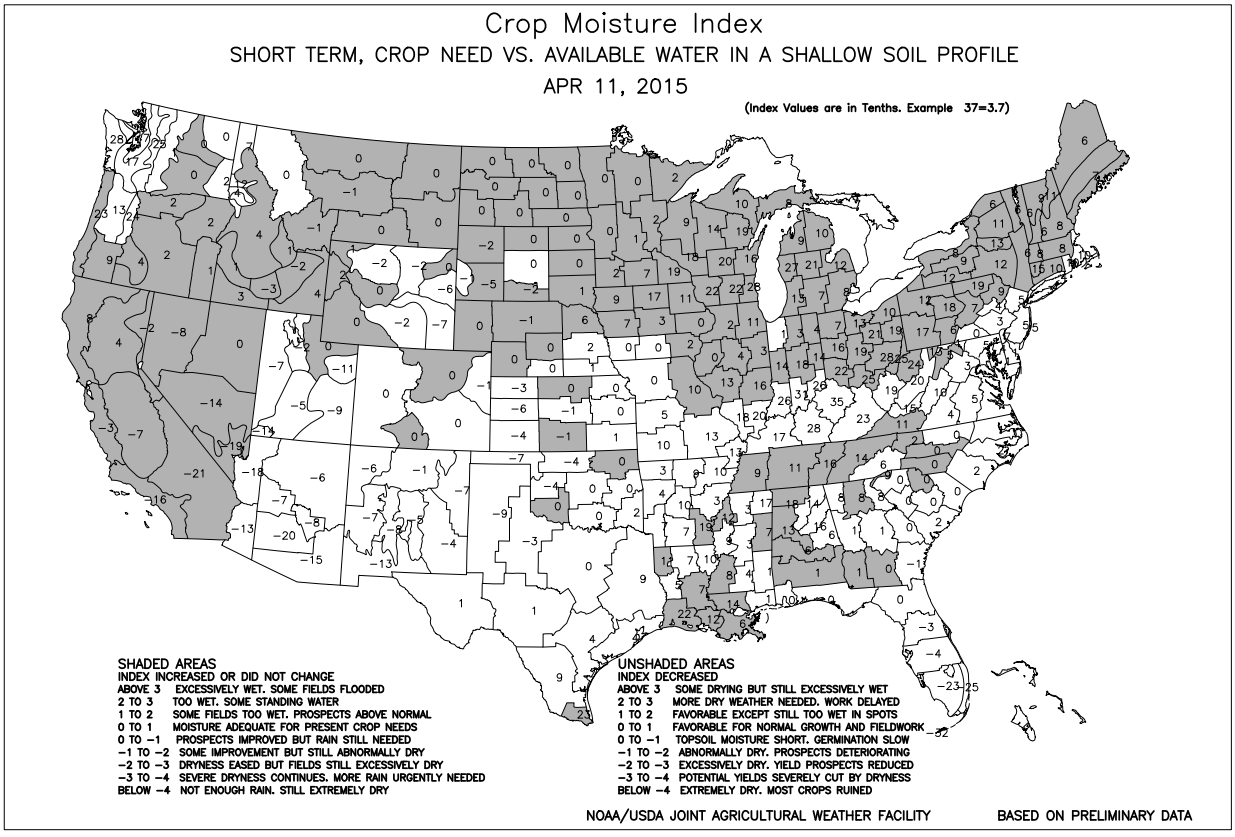
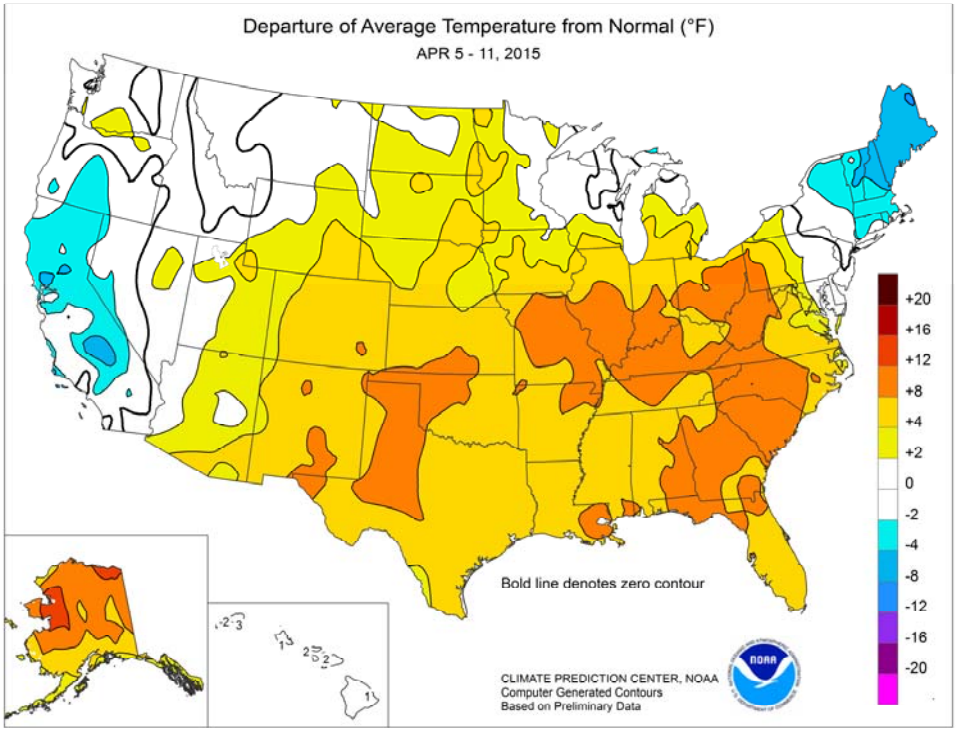

Crop Moisture Index by Division
Weekly Value for Period Ending APR 11, 2015
Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile
NOAA
CROP MOISTURE
DEPICTS SHORT-TERM (UP TO 4 WEEKS) ABNORMAL DRYNESS OR WETNESS AFFECTING AGRICULTURE, RESPONDS RAPIDLY, CAN CHANGE CONSIDERABLY WEEK TO WEEK AND INDICATES NORMAL CONDITIONS AT THE BEGINNING AND END OF THE GROWING SEASON.
USES...APPLICABLE IN MEASURING THE SHORT-TERM, WEEK TO WEEK, STATUS OF DRYNESS OR WETNESS AFFECTING WARM SEASON CROPS AND FIELD OPERATIONS
LIMITATIONS...MAY NOT BE APPLICABLE TO GERMINATING AND SHALLOW ROOTED CROPS WHICH ARE UNABLE TO EXTRACT THE DEEP OR SUBSOIL MOISTURE FROM A SHALLOW SOIL PROFILE, OR FOR COOL SEASON CROPS GROWING WHEN TEMPERATURES ARE AVERAGING BELOW ABOUT 55F. IT IS NOT GENERALLY INDICATIVE OF THE LONG-TERM (MONTHS, YEARS) DROUGHT OR WET SPELLS WHICH ARE DEPICTED BY THE DROUGHT SEVERITY INDEX.
Based on preliminary reports
NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY
-3.0 or less (Severely Dry)
-2.0 to -2.9 (Excessively Dry)
-1.0 to -1.9 (Abnormally Dry)
-0.9 to +0.9 (Slightly Dry/Favorably Moist)
+1.0 to +1.9 (Abnormally Moist)
+2.0 to +2.9 (Wet)
+3.0 and above (Excessively Wet)


Crop Moisture Index
SHORT TERM, CROP NEED VS. AVAILABLE WATER IN A SHALLOW SOIL PROFILE
APR 11, 2015
(Index Values are in Tenths. Example 37=3.7)
SHADED AREAS
INDEX INCREASED OR DID NOT CHANGE
ABOVE 3 EXCESSIVELY WET. SOME FIELDS FLOODED
2 TO 3 TOO WET. SOME STANDING WATER
1 TO 2 SOME FIELDS TOO WET. PROSPECTS ABOVE NORMAL
0 TO 1 MOISTURE ADEQUATE FOR PRESENT CROP NEEDS
0 TO -1 PROSPECTS IMPROVED BUT RAIN STILL NEEDED
-1 TO -2 SOME IMPROVEMENT BUT STILL ABNORMALLY DRY
-2 TO -3 DRYNESS EASED BUT FIELDS STILL EXCESSIVELY DRY
-3 TO -4 SEVERE DRYNESS CONTINUES. MORE RAIN URGENTLY NEEDED
BELOW -4 NOT ENOUGH RAIN. STILL EXTREMELY DRY
UNSHADED AREAS
INDEX DECREASED
ABOVE 3 SOME DRYING BUT STILL EXCESSIVELY WET
2 TO 3 MORE DRY WEATHER NEEDED. WORK DELAYED
1 TO 2 FAVORABLE EXCEPT STILL TOO WET IN SPOTS
0 TO 1 FAVORABLE FOR NORMAL GROWTH AND FIELDWORK
0 TO -1 TOPSOIL MOISTURE SHORT. GERMINATION SLOW
-1 TO -2 ABNORMALLY DRY. PROSPECTS DETERIORATING
-2 TO -3 EXCESSIVELY DRY. YIELD PROSPECTS REDUCED
-3 TO -4 POTENTIAL YIELDS SEVERELY CUT BY DRYNESS
BELOW -4 EXTREMELY DRY. MOST CROPS RUINED
NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY
BASED ON PRELIMINARY DATA

(Continued from front cover)

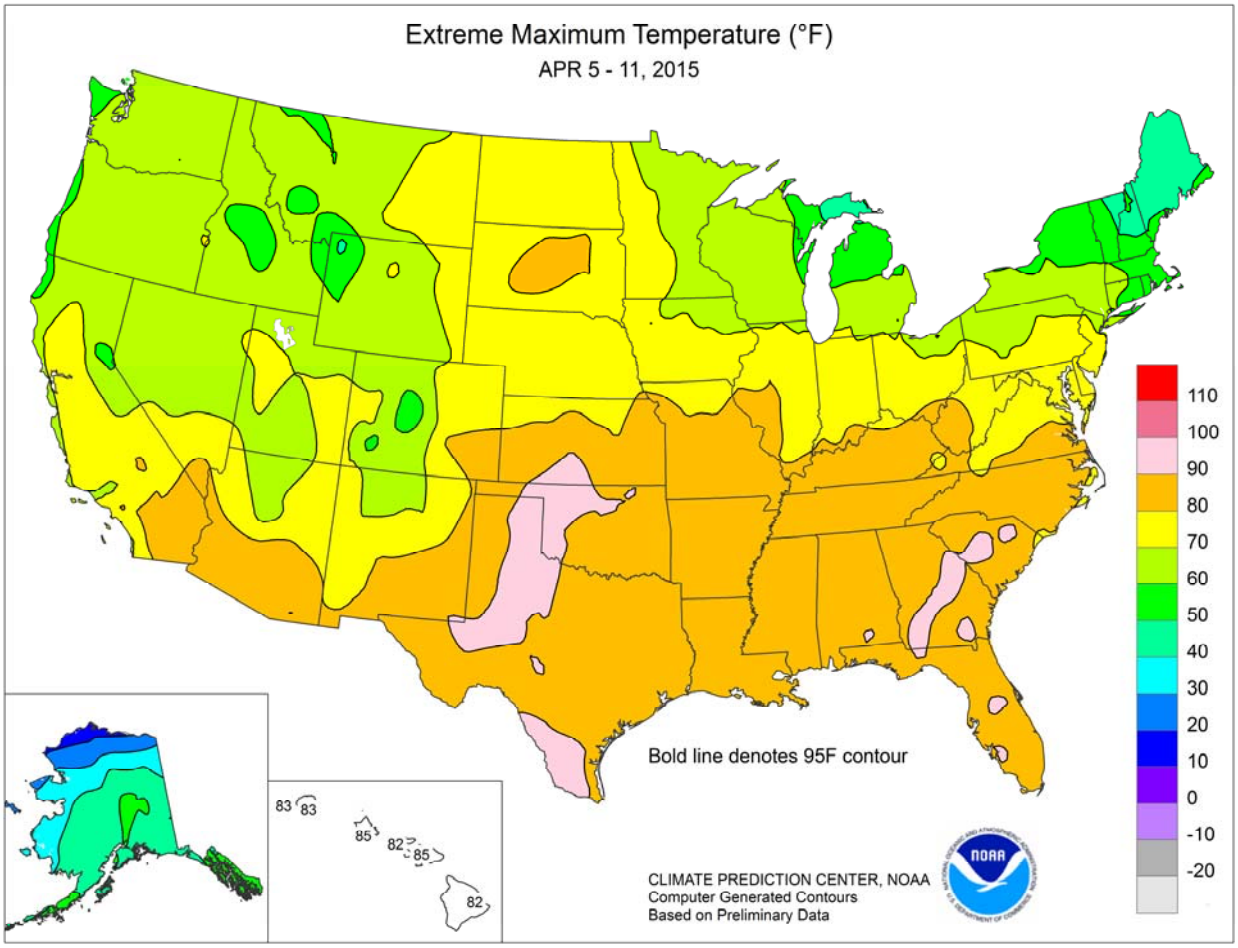
moisture in areas that have been trending dry. Farther north, wintry conditions lingered in **New England**, where accumulating snow was reported. Meanwhile, beneficial precipitation dotted the **Plains**, locally easing stress on winter wheat. However, mostly dry weather persisted across the **Dakotas** and many key wheat areas from **Kansas southward**. At week's end, a developing storm brought some rain to the **south-central U.S.**, including **southern Texas**. Elsewhere, late-season storminess nearly doubled the **Sierra Nevada** snowpack—from 5 to 8 percent of the early-April average. Beneficial precipitation also dampened the remainder of **northern and central California**, as well as the **Northwest**, boosting topsoil moisture but providing little overall relief in areas experiencing long-term, hydrological drought. **California** and neighboring areas also got a reprieve from unusual warmth, with below-normal temperatures prevailing for several days. In contrast, early-April warmth stretched from the **central and southern Rockies eastward into the Ohio Valley and the southern Atlantic States**—with weekly readings averaging as much as 10°F above normal in some locations.

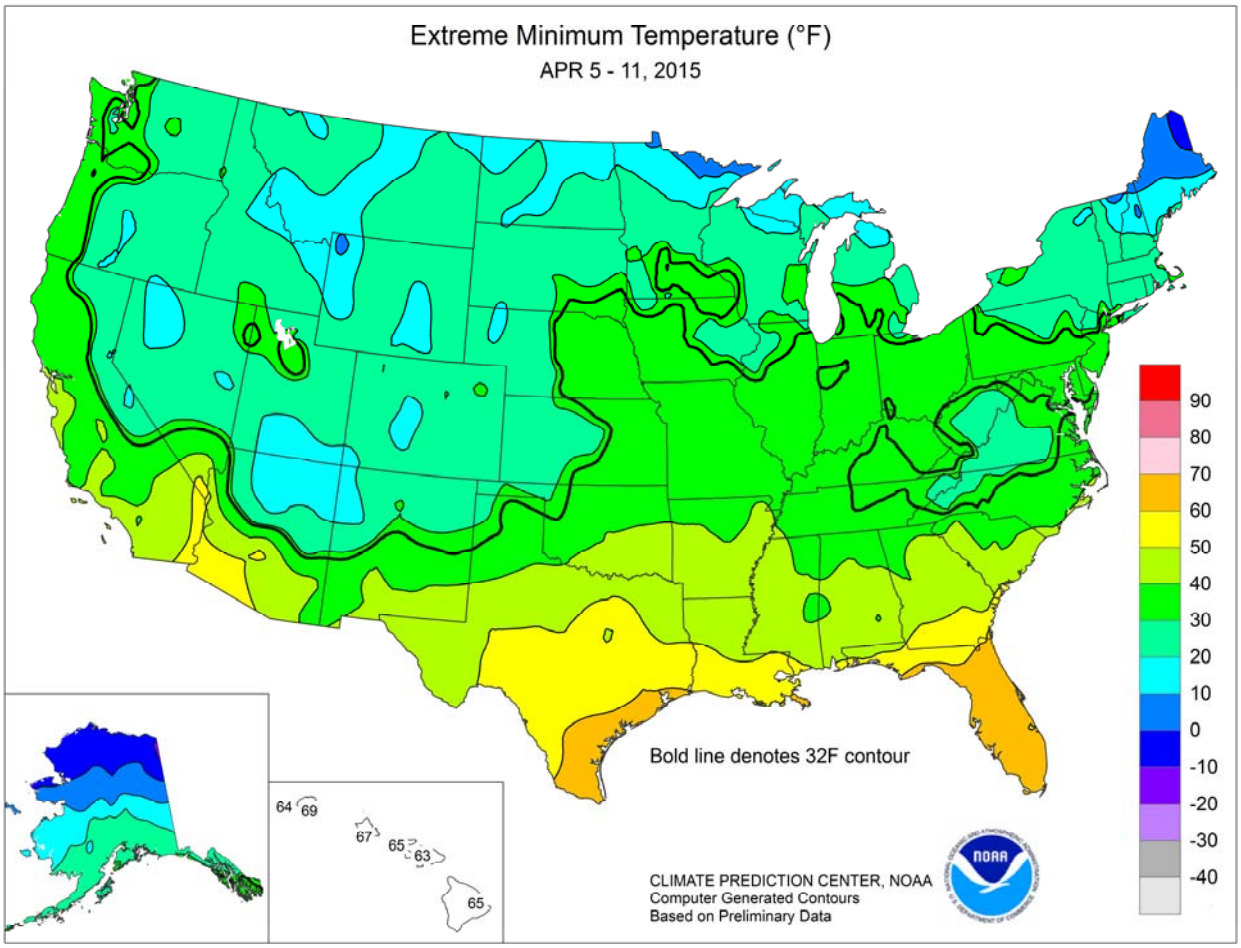


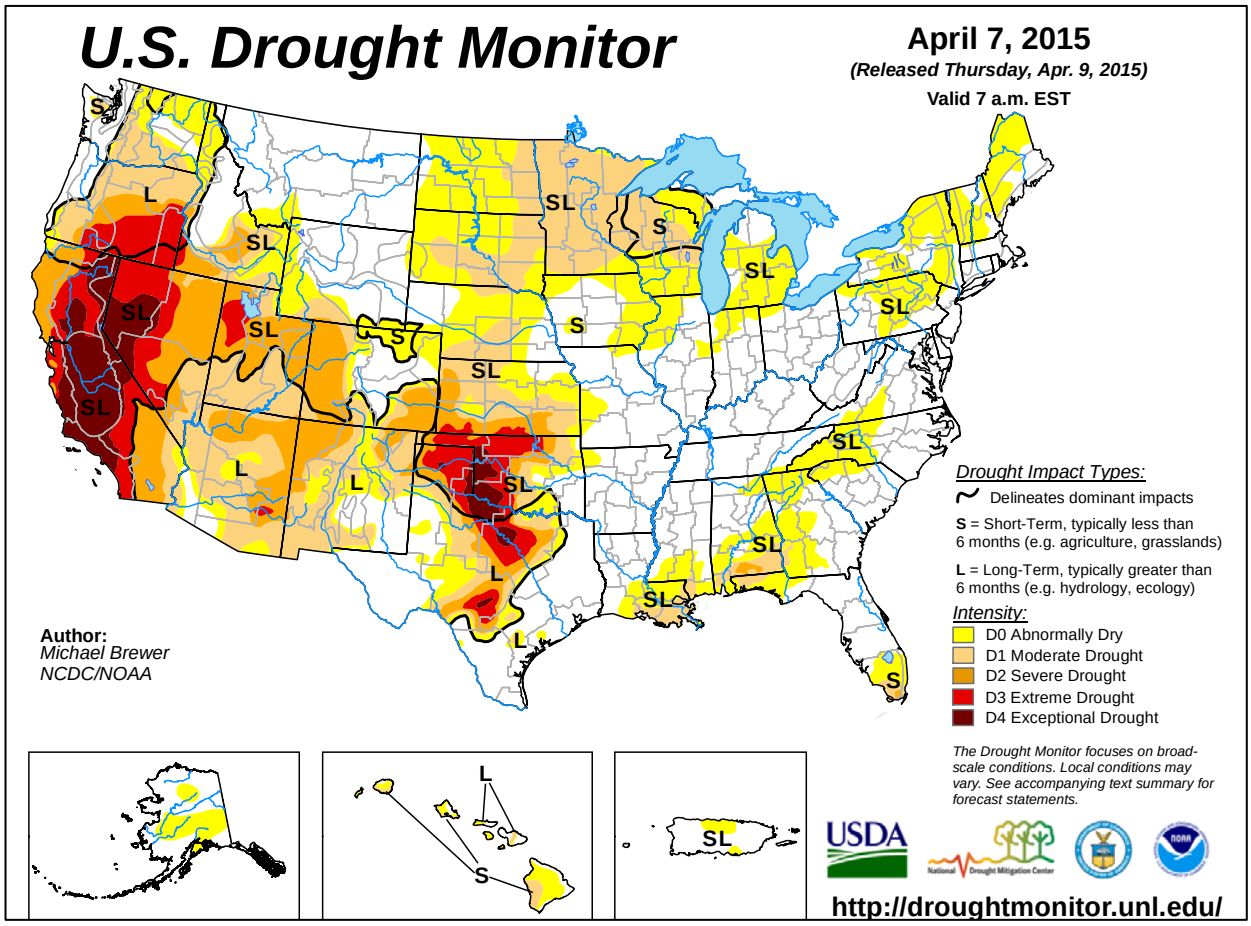
Early in the week, much-needed precipitation overspread **California**. Record-setting rainfall totals in **California** for April 6 reached 2.49 inches in **Crescent City** and 1.66 inches in **Eureka**. In the **Northwest**, daily-record totals included 0.47 inch (on April 5) in **Ontario, OR**, and 0.30 inch (on April 6) in **Wenatchee, WA**. Elsewhere in **Washington**, **Spokane** netted a daily-record snowfall (1.0 inch) on April 6. The following day, precipitation continued in **California** and erupted across the **mid-South** and **Midwest**. Record-setting totals for April 7 were set in locations such as **Frankfort, KY** (1.96 inches), and **Sacramento, CA** (0.96 inch). On April 7-8, more than a foot of snow blanketed parts of the **Sierra Nevada**, with 13 inches reported at an elevation of 8,600 feet in **Tuolumne Meadows, CA**. Meanwhile, additional heavy rain soaked the **Midwest**, setting daily records in **Milwaukee, WI** (3.18 inches on April 9); **Muskegon, MI** (2.24 inches on April 9); **Rockford, IL** (2.24 inches on April 9); and **Mansfield, OH** (1.48 inches on April 8). During a multi-day severe weather outbreak from April 7-9, more than three dozen tornadoes—based on preliminary reports—were noted from the **southern Plains into the mid-South and Midwest**. The outbreak's most impressive tornado, rated EF-4, cut a 30-mile swath during the evening of April 9 across portions of **Lee, Ogle, De Kalb, and Boone Counties in north-central Illinois**. The EF-4 twister, with estimated winds as high as 200 mph, resulted in two fatalities and nearly two dozen injuries. Farther east, **Bangor, ME**, received 6.3 inches of snow from April 4-9. In **Marquette, MI**, April 10 featured an 8.6-inch snowfall. Farther south, rain developed during the second half of the week in parts of the **south-central U.S.**, resulting in record-setting totals in **Texas** locations such as **Tyler** (2.17 inches on April 9) and **Laredo** (1.86 inches on April 11). **Lake Charles, LA**, was soaked by a daily-record sum of 4.22 inches on April 10.

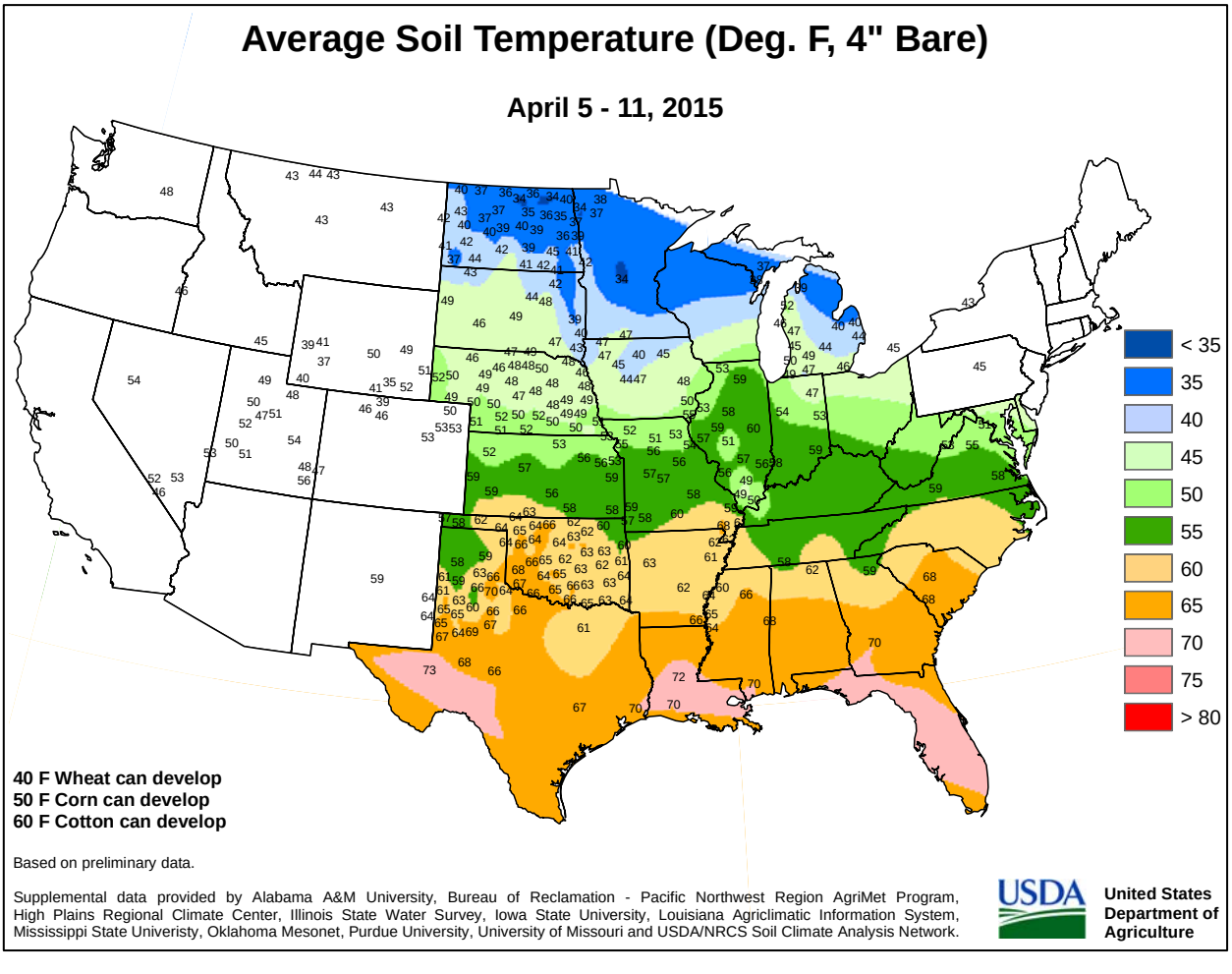
Frigid, early-week conditions set records in **New England**. In **Maine**, monthly record-low temperatures were established on April 6 in **Houlton** (-13°F) and **Caribou** (-4°F). Previously, **Houlton's** record had been -6°F on April 10, 1977, while **Caribou's** had been -2°F on April 2, 1964. By April 11, **Caribou's** snow depth stood at 6 inches—the least amount of snow on the ground in that location since January 3. Farther south, enough cool air settled across the **Mid-Atlantic States** on April 5 to set a daily-record low (29°F) in **Danville, VA**. In contrast, scattered record highs in **Florida** included 91°F (on April 8) in **Tallahassee** and 90°F (on April 5) in **Fort Myers**. From April 7-9, warmth also surged across the **central and southeastern U.S.** in advance of a cold front. Selected daily-record highs reached 85°F (on April 7) in **Kansas City, MO**; 87°F (on April 8) in **Baton Rouge, LA**; and 92°F (on April 9) in **Columbia, SC**. For **Columbia**, it was the first 90-degree reading since October 11, 2014. Meanwhile in **Arizona**, a daily-record low of 11°F was reported on April 9 at **Sunset Crater National Monument**.

Weekly temperatures averaged more than 10°F above normal in parts of **Alaska**, with mild weather covering the entire state. Selected daily-record highs included 53°F (on April 5) in **Juneau** and 50°F (on April 7) in **Anchorage**. However, widespread precipitation accompanied the mild conditions, especially in **southern and western Alaska**. Weekly snowfall totaled 10.4 inches in **King Salmon**, with measurable snow falling each day from April 6-11. In **Juneau**, the 2.49-inch weekly rainfall was aided by a daily-record total (1.14 inches) on April 8. Similarly, **Valdez** netted a daily-record total (2.27 inches) on April 7, while posting a weekly sum of 5.71 inches. Farther south, some of **Hawaii's** windward locations experienced an increase in rainfall. On the **Big Island**, for example, weekly rainfall in **Hilo** totaled 4.41 inches. On **Kauai**, famously wet **Mt. Waialeale** received 7.78 inches in a 24-hour period on April 11-12. Leeward locations, however, remained mostly dry. For example, April 1-11 rainfall totaled 0.13 inch (38 percent of normal) in **Honolulu, Oahu**, and 0.36 inch (35 percent) in **Lihue, Kauai**.


Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F)
APR 5 - 11, 2015
110
100
90
80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
-10
-20
83 83
85 82 85
82
Bold line denotes 95F contour
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA
Computer Generated Contours
Based on Preliminary Data
NOAA


Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)
APR 5 - 11, 2015
90
80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
-10
-20
-30
-40
64 69
67 65 63
65
Bold line denotes 32F contour
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA
Computer Generated Contours
Based on Preliminary Data
NOAA


U.S. Drought Monitor
April 7, 2015
(Released Thursday, Apr. 9, 2015)
Valid 7 a.m. EST
Author:
Michael Brewer
NCDC/NOAA
Drought Impact Types:
Delineates dominant impacts
S = Short-Term, typically less than 6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)
L = Long-Term, typically greater than 6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)
Intensity:
D0 Abnormally Dry
D1 Moderate Drought
D2 Severe Drought
D3 Extreme Drought
D4 Exceptional Drought
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.
http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/


Average Soil Temperature (Deg. F, 4" Bare)
April 5 - 11, 2015
< 35
35
40
45
50
55
60
65
70
75
> 80
40 F Wheat can develop
50 F Corn can develop
60 F Cotton can develop
Based on preliminary data.
Supplemental data provided by Alabama A&M University, Bureau of Reclamation - Pacific Northwest Region AgriMet Program, High Plains Regional Climate Center, Illinois State Water Survey, Iowa State University, Louisiana Agriclimatic Information System, Mississippi State Univeristy, Oklahoma Mesonet, Purdue University, University of Missouri and USDA/NRCS Soil Climate Analysis Network.
United States Department of Agriculture

National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 11, 2015

Data Provided by Climate Prediction Center

STATES AND STATIONS		TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS TEMP. °F		NUMBER OF DAYS PRECIP	
		AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL, IN., SINCE MAR 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE MAR 1	TOTAL, IN., SINCE JAN 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE JAN 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
AL	BIRMINGHAM	77	57	85	43	67	8	1.97	0.81	1.74	7.33	92	16.03	91	94	46	0	0	2	1
	HUNTSVILLE	76	55	84	38	66	8	1.39	0.26	0.88	7.24	85	14.98	79	84	53	0	0	2	2
	MOBILE	81	63	85	49	72	8	0.43	-0.82	0.19	4.51	49	10.56	53	96	65	0	0	4	0
	MONTGOMERY	82	60	88	44	71	9	2.22	1.12	1.28	4.79	59	12.45	67	90	50	0	0	2	2
AK	ANCHORAGE	46	33	50	32	39	6	0.42	0.31	0.20	1.19	145	2.29	102	81	67	0	3	4	0
	BARROW	7	-2	12	-8	3	10	0.12	0.12	0.10	0.40	444	0.97	294	88	76	0	7	3	0
	FAIRBANKS	44	23	52	13	34	9	0.08	0.05	0.08	0.58	181	1.21	98	74	57	0	7	1	0
	JUNEAU	47	36	53	28	41	3	2.49	1.86	1.02	7.15	158	22.75	170	90	79	0	2	5	2
	KODIAK	43	33	47	28	38	3	1.70	0.50	0.80	9.45	133	28.37	135	85	66	0	3	6	1
	NOME	29	20	34	5	25	10	0.32	0.18	0.13	1.02	124	2.66	107	94	85	0	7	3	0
AZ	FLAGSTAFF	58	27	61	16	43	2	0.00	-0.34	0.00	3.73	117	8.03	101	47	15	0	5	0	0
	PHOENIX	85	59	89	54	72	5	0.00	-0.09	0.00	0.33	27	1.14	40	25	12	0	0	0	0
	PRESCOTT	67	37	71	28	52	4	0.00	-0.19	0.00	2.13	95	5.34	94	38	10	0	1	0	0
	TUCSON	85	51	87	48	68	4	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.50	55	3.43	123	28	13	0	0	0	0
AR	FORT SMITH	76	53	85	44	65	7	0.13	-0.71	0.10	4.64	88	9.26	91	83	45	0	0	2	0
	LITTLE ROCK	77	56	87	45	66	7	0.67	-0.59	0.60	9.71	142	16.52	120	86	45	0	0	3	1
CA	BAKERSFIELD	71	47	79	44	59	-1	0.06	-0.10	0.06	0.33	20	1.92	47	62	37	0	0	1	0
	FRESNO	70	46	79	43	58	-1	0.56	0.30	0.56	0.62	23	1.96	28	76	44	0	0	1	1
	LOS ANGELES	66	52	69	48	59	-1	0.12	-0.11	0.12	0.61	22	2.14	24	81	48	0	0	1	0
	REDDING	64	42	73	37	53	-2	1.05	0.33	0.90	2.10	33	5.75	31	85	58	0	0	2	1
	SACRAMENTO	67	43	77	37	55	-2	1.04	0.72	0.96	1.26	38	4.10	38	90	39	0	0	2	1
	SAN DIEGO	68	58	69	56	63	1	0.00	-0.28	0.00	0.93	34	1.63	23	65	49	0	0	0	0
	SAN FRANCISCO	64	49	69	46	57	2	0.78	0.39	0.59	0.84	21	2.85	23	95	69	0	0	3	1
	STOCKTON	68	43	76	37	56	-2	0.58	0.28	0.58	0.75	27	2.23	28	83	57	0	0	1	1
CO	ALAMOSA	63	27	66	21	45	7	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.40	63	1.76	161	49	14	0	5	0	0
	CO SPRINGS	67	37	75	28	52	9	0.00	-0.32	0.00	0.85	55	3.18	146	53	12	0	2	0	0
	DENVER INTL	67	35	74	31	51	8	0.11	-0.03	0.10	1.07	96	2.71	173	82	26	0	2	2	0
	GRAND JUNCTION	67	36	72	27	51	3	0.00	-0.19	0.00	0.27	21	1.12	47	33	15	0	1	0	0
	PUEBLO	73	35	81	28	54	7	0.00	-0.28	0.00	0.57	41	1.96	99	58	20	0	2	0	0
CT	BRIDGEPORT	50	37	60	33	44	-2	0.27	-0.68	0.13	5.11	90	11.46	93	92	71	0	0	3	0
	HARTFORD	50	35	62	28	43	-2	1.13	0.24	0.64	4.33	82	10.51	87	85	59	0	2	5	1
DC	WASHINGTON	65	46	77	40	56	3	0.36	-0.27	0.22	4.64	100	10.06	96	74	49	0	0	4	0
DE	WILMINGTON	59	40	74	36	50	1	0.91	0.13	0.79	6.42	123	13.02	114	85	53	0	0	4	1
FL	DAYTONA BEACH	83	65	87	63	74	7	0.16	-0.56	0.16	1.04	21	6.47	59	98	56	0	0	1	0
	JACKSONVILLE	83	62	89	60	73	8	0.46	-0.35	0.46	2.92	56	9.32	77	98	53	0	0	1	0
	KEY WEST	84	75	84	70	79	3	0.07	-0.40	0.07	1.59	61	4.82	76	86	65	0	0	1	0
	MIAMI	85	74	86	69	80	5	0.14	-0.62	0.10	1.46	39	5.22	68	79	54	0	0	2	0
	ORLANDO	88	66	91	64	77	7	1.47	0.81	1.46	2.22	48	10.32	110	93	50	2	0	2	1
	PENSACOLA	79	65	82	54	72	7	1.26	0.17	1.20	3.64	44	14.05	77	95	69	0	0	2	1
	TALLAHASSEE	85	65	91	59	75	11	0.08	-0.93	0.08	3.27	40	12.45	69	90	55	1	0	1	0
	TAMPA	86	71	88	69	79	9	2.06	1.60	1.90	3.09	86	11.39	134	85	53	0	0	2	1
	WEST PALM BEACH	85	74	88	65	79	7	0.00	-0.87	0.00	1.04	21	4.13	36	80	56	0	0	0	0
GA	ATHENS	79	56	89	44	68	9	0.68	-0.16	0.31	3.78	59	10.75	70	86	55	0	0	3	0
	ATLANTA	78	58	87	45	68	9	2.13	1.24	1.52	5.97	87	14.48	88	79	49	0	0	2	2
	AUGUSTA	83	56	91	39	70	10	0.36	-0.45	0.29	3.43	58	10.21	70	91	47	1	0	3	0
	COLUMBUS	81	60	88	48	71	9	0.36	-0.64	0.18	2.96	40	10.42	63	90	40	0	0	3	0
	MACON	81	57	88	40	69	8	0.60	-0.23	0.57	2.96	47	9.76	62	96	49	0	0	3	1
	SAVANNAH	83	61	89	48	72	9	0.01	-0.84	0.01	2.05	41	9.61	81	90	49	0	0	1	0
HI	HILO	80	66	82	65	73	1	4.55	1.24	1.73	13.87	71	21.99	57	93	77	0	0	7	5
	HONOLULU	83	70	85	67	77	2	0.07	-0.21	0.04	0.73	31	2.54	34	73	63	0	0	4	0
	KAHULUI	83	69	85	63	76	2	0.08	-0.40	0.08	9.87	315	14.18	154	77	64	0	0	1	0
	LIHUE	81	71	83	69	76	2	0.30	-0.40	0.16	2.02	43	3.93	31	75	66	0	0	6	0
ID	BOISE	59	39	69	33	49	1	0.52	0.23	0.19	1.03	55	3.21	73	72	49	0	0	4	0
	LEWISTON	61	39	69	32	50	1	0.14	-0.14	0.11	1.37	88	3.66	101	82	58	0	1	2	0
	POCATELLO	56	31	65	23	44	1	0.19	-0.06	0.10	0.44	25	1.54	39	86	53	0	5	4	0
IL	CHICAGO/O'HARE	60	38	71	34	49	5	1.50	0.66	1.41	2.96	75	5.82	80	87	57	0	0	3	1
	MOLINE	66	39	79	28	53	6	0.12	-0.75	0.09	1.02	24	3.95	54	85	54	0	1	2	0
	PEORIA	68	45	80	35	57	9	1.28	0.53	1.09	2.57	64	6.29	88	83	50	0	0	4	1
	ROCKFORD	62	38	71	33	50	6	2.25	1.45	2.24	3.81	106	5.75	90	85	52	0	0	2	1
	SPRINGFIELD	71	48	81	33	60	11	0.75	0.01	0.40	2.40	56	5.69	74	86	43	0	0	3	0
IN	EVANSVILLE	71	52	81	35	62	9	1.39	0.40	0.80	9.28	159	14.81	125	79	53	0	0	3	2
	FORT WAYNE	65	39	74	33	52	7	1.05	0.26	0.48	3.38	83	7.14	88	93	54	0	0	4	0
	INDIANAPOLIS	68	47	80	34	58	9	1.37	0.57	0.74	5.31	113	8.46	88	83	48	0	0	3	1
	SOUTH BEND	65	42	73	33	53	8	0.23	-0.61	0.11	1.25	30	5.15	61	79	51	0	0	4	0
IA	BURLINGTON	67	42	80	32	55	6	0.06	-0.72	0.03	0.51	12	2.93	42	91	49	0	1	3	0
	CEDAR RAPIDS	61	37	71	26	49	4	0.17	-0.53	0.14	0.88	27	2.20	40	93	57	0	2	3	0
	DES MOINES	61	42	74	36	52	5	0.19	-0.57	0.10	1.12	33	3.14	56	81	63	0	0	3	0
	DUBUQUE	58	37	68	30	48	4	0.61	-0.15	0.56	1.41	38	3.72	58	86	60	0	1	2	1
	SIOUX CITY	58	40	75	35	49	4	1.52	0.94	1.43	2.60	90	3.56	87	81	62	0	0	4	1
	WATERLOO	58	35	70	27	46	2	1.16	0.47	0.60	2.11	66	4.13	81	90	61	0	2	3	1
KS	CONCORDIA	64	43	74	34	54	4	0.00	-0.50	0.00	0.19	6	1.71	38	81	61	0	0	0	0
	DODGE CITY	74	42	89	27	58	7	0.45	-0.04	0.44	0.74	28	2.03	52	86	31	0	1	2	0
	GOODLAND	67	35	76	28	51	5	0.05	-0.20	0.05	0.73	46	1.80	73	93	55	0	4	1	0
	TOPEKA	73	46	86	39	59	8	0.01	-0.64	0.01	0.98	27	2.97	52	77	54	0	0	1	0

Based on 1971-2000 normals

***** Not Available**

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 11, 2015

STATES AND STATIONS		TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS TEMP. °F		NUMBER OF DAYS PRECIP	
		AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL IN., SINCE MAR 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE MAR 1	TOTAL IN., SINCE JAN01	PCT. NORMAL SINCE JAN01	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
	WICHITA	75	48	86	34	62	10	0.10	-0.47	0.06	0.42	12	2.08	38	79	47	0	0	3	0
KY	JACKSON	72	51	84	38	62	8	1.83	1.00	1.08	12.59	221	18.76	145	81	41	0	0	3	2
	LEXINGTON	71	49	82	34	60	8	2.33	1.50	1.22	16.19	282	21.03	170	82	57	0	0	3	2
	LOUISVILLE	75	53	84	36	64	11	1.81	0.95	1.21	16.42	284	19.53	159	81	41	0	0	5	1
	PADUCAH	74	54	84	33	64	10	0.60	-0.47	0.45	11.35	192	18.64	140	90	41	0	0	3	0
LA	BATON ROUGE	82	63	87	52	73	9	2.42	1.16	1.31	5.84	83	15.59	85	97	59	0	0	3	2
	LAKE CHARLES	80	63	84	55	71	6	5.01	4.24	4.22	11.22	236	19.70	145	96	70	0	0	3	2
	NEW ORLEANS	83	69	86	62	76	10	1.01	-0.23	0.38	7.37	103	15.08	81	90	63	0	0	4	0
	SHREVEPORT	77	59	86	46	68	5	1.78	0.82	1.08	9.92	175	21.66	150	93	54	0	0	2	2
ME	CARIBOU	37	14	43	-4	26	-8	0.58	0.00	0.54	2.64	76	6.76	79	74	39	0	7	2	1
	PORTLAND	44	29	54	23	36	-4	0.80	-0.22	0.33	2.76	48	10.25	79	89	54	0	6	3	0
MD	BALTIMORE	61	40	76	36	51	1	1.45	0.75	0.65	6.22	123	12.35	107	80	53	0	0	4	2
MA	BOSTON	46	35	57	32	41	-4	0.47	-0.41	0.30	3.94	75	10.90	88	87	63	0	1	4	0
	WORCESTER	45	32	55	29	38	-3	0.69	-0.24	0.41	3.53	62	11.84	92	89	57	0	4	4	0
MI	ALPENA	43	30	59	19	37	1	1.28	0.76	1.05	2.38	81	4.16	69	92	58	0	4	3	1
	GRAND RAPIDS	57	35	66	32	46	4	2.38	1.59	1.93	3.61	95	6.66	90	93	51	0	2	3	1
	HOUGHTON LAKE	48	29	56	21	39	1	1.56	1.01	1.26	2.14	74	3.96	69	92	75	0	5	5	1
	LANSING	59	35	68	31	47	5	0.62	-0.12	0.46	1.47	42	3.73	57	90	61	0	1	3	0
	MUSKEGON	56	37	62	33	47	6	3.40	2.74	2.24	4.61	136	7.91	110	86	64	0	0	5	2
	TRAVERSE CITY	49	32	57	24	41	2	0.67	0.02	0.56	1.78	60	5.20	67	91	52	0	2	3	1
MN	DULUTH	44	28	67	22	36	2	0.09	-0.38	0.08	0.88	36	1.74	40	78	54	0	7	2	0
	INT'L FALLS	48	21	68	7	35	1	0.24	-0.04	0.24	0.90	64	2.94	102	84	31	0	7	1	0
	MINNEAPOLIS	50	36	68	32	43	1	0.90	0.38	0.63	1.85	69	2.54	56	87	61	0	1	4	1
	ROCHESTER	50	34	63	33	42	2	2.46	1.82	1.35	4.19	147	5.57	122	91	77	0	0	5	2
	ST. CLOUD	49	31	69	26	40	1	0.22	-0.28	0.09	0.69	30	1.29	36	87	49	0	5	4	0
MS	JACKSON	79	58	87	46	69	8	0.58	-0.83	0.33	8.33	105	18.51	102	92	53	0	0	3	0
	MERIDIAN	79	56	85	38	68	6	0.34	-1.05	0.26	5.98	65	16.82	82	94	63	0	0	2	0
	TUPELO	75	54	85	38	65	7	1.78	0.60	1.34	8.56	104	17.71	98	87	53	0	0	3	1
MO	COLUMBIA	72	48	81	39	60	9	0.66	-0.20	0.29	3.28	72	6.04	71	86	50	0	0	3	0
	KANSAS CITY	73	45	85	35	59	8	0.10	-0.51	0.08	1.65	49	3.84	66	90	55	0	0	2	0
	SAINT LOUIS	73	52	84	43	62	9	3.39	2.56	1.76	7.30	149	10.28	110	74	50	0	0	4	2
	SPRINGFIELD	72	48	82	38	60	7	0.08	-0.92	0.08	5.08	94	7.70	79	81	54	0	0	1	0
MT	BILLINGS	56	33	71	27	44	1	0.01	-0.32	0.01	0.38	23	1.67	56	77	36	0	4	1	0
	BUTTE	48	24	55	17	36	0	0.17	-0.02	0.14	0.58	51	0.88	41	88	33	0	7	4	0
	CUT BANK	49	23	59	19	36	-2	0.12	-0.03	0.08	0.37	48	1.09	76	90	40	0	7	2	0
	GLASGOW	55	29	72	27	42	2	0.26	0.14	0.18	1.02	157	2.10	167	81	55	0	6	2	0
	GREAT FALLS	54	28	63	20	41	1	0.01	-0.25	0.01	0.10	7	1.51	58	83	32	0	5	1	0
	HAVRE	55	30	66	24	43	3	0.04	-0.10	0.03	0.65	71	2.26	129	88	57	0	6	2	0
	MISSOULA	56	27	63	20	41	-2	0.10	-0.10	0.08	0.64	50	2.84	92	78	51	0	7	2	0
NE	GRAND ISLAND	59	40	74	33	49	3	0.49	-0.04	0.49	0.71	25	1.89	46	83	69	0	0	1	0
	LINCOLN	60	43	75	38	51	3	0.19	-0.40	0.14	1.51	48	3.37	76	82	69	0	0	3	0
	NORFOLK	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	1.25	49	2.13	55	***	***	***	***	***	***
	NORTH PLATTE	61	35	76	22	48	3	0.32	-0.03	0.21	0.54	31	1.29	48	88	50	0	3	3	0
	OMAHA	60	42	75	34	51	3	0.31	-0.27	0.28	1.96	65	3.28	71	81	69	0	0	2	0
	SCOTTSBLUFF	65	33	77	24	49	6	0.00	-0.34	0.00	0.28	17	1.12	40	84	50	0	3	0	0
	VALENTINE	59	34	77	25	46	4	0.54	0.20	0.31	0.57	35	1.22	51	82	57	0	3	2	0
NV	ELY	57	27	64	18	42	2	0.14	-0.05	0.12	0.51	38	1.02	36	69	29	0	5	2	0
	LAS VEGAS	75	54	83	50	65	2	0.00	-0.03	0.00	0.28	43	1.69	88	27	13	0	0	0	0
	RENO	58	34	69	27	46	0	0.01	-0.06	0.01	0.02	2	1.50	48	51	30	0	3	1	0
	WINNEMUCCA	58	29	69	17	43	-1	0.11	-0.08	0.07	0.28	24	1.47	56	61	37	0	5	1	0
NH	CONCORD	46	28	52	23	37	-4	0.80	0.10	0.46	2.34	56	8.41	89	87	49	0	6	3	0
NJ	NEWARK	56	40	64	35	48	-1	0.34	-0.55	0.19	5.02	89	11.49	91	80	53	0	0	4	0
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	74	45	77	41	59	6	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.11	14	1.42	83	34	11	0	0	0	0
NY	ALBANY	48	33	63	25	41	-2	0.70	-0.07	0.36	2.32	54	6.66	74	81	41	0	3	4	0
	BINGHAMTON	46	33	63	26	39	-1	1.75	0.97	0.67	4.29	103	8.23	89	96	84	0	3	7	2
	BUFFALO	52	34	66	30	43	1	0.86	0.14	0.39	2.99	73	7.98	82	88	63	0	2	5	0
	ROCHESTER	51	36	64	32	44	3	0.76	0.11	0.53	2.60	72	6.86	86	87	65	0	1	4	1
	SYRACUSE	49	35	62	30	42	1	0.97	0.20	0.57	3.19	75	7.27	81	90	51	0	2	5	1
NC	ASHEVILLE	73	50	83	29	61	9	1.23	0.38	0.72	3.77	63	9.61	69	81	43	0	1	2	2
	CHARLOTTE	78	56	88	36	67	9	1.34	0.60	0.76	4.08	73	9.90	75	79	39	0	0	4	2
	GREENSBORO	76	53	84	32	65	10	0.74	-0.04	0.72	3.49	69	8.17	70	79	41	0	1	2	1
	HATTERAS	69	54	73	49	61	4	0.59	-0.28	0.34	3.61	56	15.56	96	95	58	0	0	2	0
	RALEIGH	77	54	84	33	65	8	0.64	-0.02	0.53	3.92	77	10.18	81	83	58	0	0	2	1
	WILMINGTON	76	55	83	39	65	5	1.09	0.40	0.63	4.52	84	13.84	102	93	50	0	0	3	1
ND	BISMARCK	54	29	77	18	41	2	0.10	-0.17	0.09	0.55	44	1.69	76	79	51	0	6	2	0
	DICKINSON	55	28	76	21	42	4	0.40	0.04	0.40	0.87	71	1.44	71	88	34	0	6	1	0
	FARGO	55	32	80	24	43	5	0.11	-0.17	0.11	0.41	26	1.40	47	70	29	0	3	1	0
	GRAND FORKS	52	28	78	23	40	3	0.11	-0.13	0.11	0.42	33	1.24	49	79	27	0	7	1	0
	JAMESTOWN	51	29	76	24	40	2	0.03	-0.23	0.03	0.64	49	1.06	43	83	30	0	6	1	0
	WILLISTON	54	26	77	19	40	2	0.06	-0.13	0.03	0.56	54	1.51	77	84	47	0	6	3	0
OH	AKRON-CANTON	63	46	68	39	55	10	1.84	1.10	0.76	5.48	127	10.94	121	79	65	0	0	5	1
	CINCINNATI	69	47	75	33	58	7	1.09	0.18	0.45	9.60	180	13.75	125	81	56	0	0	5	0
	CLEVELAND	63	40	70	37	51	7	1.29	0.52	0.71	4.02	97	9.53	107	89	55	0	0	4	1
	COLUMBUS	66	46	74	36	56	7	1.75	1.05	0.56	6.49	163	11.05	127	82	63	0	0	5	1
	DAYTON	67	46	75	37	57	10	2.35	1.44	1.22	7.04	150	11.39	119	89	54	0	0	5	2
	MANSFIELD	64	44	69	37	54	10	3.18	2.23	1.48	7.23	150	12.39	129	92	55	0	0	5	2

Based on 1971-2000 normals

***** Not Available**

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 11, 2015

STATES AND STATIONS		TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS TEMP. °F		NUMBER OF DAYS PRECIP	
		AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL, IN., SINCE MAR 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE MAR 1	TOTAL, IN., SINCE JAN01	PCT. NORMAL SINCE JAN01	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
	TOLEDO	61	36	69	29	48	3	1.25	0.49	0.83	3.02	80	6.64	87	94	71	0	1	5	1
	YOUNGSTOWN	63	44	69	35	53	9	0.96	0.19	0.46	3.83	90	9.08	105	83	60	0	0	4	0
OK	OKLAHOMA CITY	74	54	86	39	64	7	0.27	-0.31	0.19	3.01	79	5.22	78	83	46	0	0	4	0
	TULSA	74	53	87	39	63	5	0.54	-0.26	0.35	4.28	89	6.80	81	85	59	0	0	5	0
OR	ASTORIA	57	40	63	37	49	2	1.11	-0.23	0.79	8.14	85	23.62	87	92	67	0	0	5	1
	BURNS	55	26	68	21	41	0	0.11	-0.08	0.11	1.06	68	2.21	58	82	46	0	7	1	0
	EUGENE	58	39	63	34	49	1	0.51	-0.47	0.27	4.06	55	10.62	50	91	73	0	0	6	0
	MEDFORD	59	38	69	35	48	-2	0.25	-0.06	0.13	1.71	73	6.15	89	86	47	0	0	3	0
	PENDLETON	57	36	64	29	47	-2	0.19	-0.06	0.14	1.42	86	2.97	69	82	60	0	1	3	0
	PORTLAND	60	43	66	37	51	1	0.47	-0.18	0.26	5.52	116	12.55	90	92	73	0	0	5	0
	SALEM	59	40	66	33	49	0	0.65	-0.05	0.26	5.44	103	12.98	80	90	73	0	0	5	0
PA	ALLENTOWN	58	37	75	30	47	1	0.36	-0.41	0.18	5.12	107	9.69	88	82	50	0	1	4	0
	ERIE	57	35	67	34	46	3	1.03	0.21	0.44	3.66	83	9.41	102	84	66	0	0	6	0
	MIDDLETOWN	60	40	75	37	50	2	0.27	-0.42	0.16	4.01	92	7.60	75	80	48	0	0	3	0
	PHILADELPHIA	59	42	75	39	51	1	0.36	-0.44	0.25	6.00	118	12.88	114	78	56	0	0	4	0
	PITTSBURGH	66	48	76	37	57	10	1.63	0.94	0.68	6.41	150	10.24	110	84	46	0	0	5	1
	WILKES-BARRE	54	37	70	31	46	1	0.55	-0.17	0.22	3.03	80	6.04	72	82	52	0	1	5	0
	WILLIAMSPORT	56	36	71	28	46	1	1.45	0.65	0.42	4.09	92	6.86	69	91	61	0	2	5	0
RI	PROVIDENCE	51	35	59	29	43	-2	0.72	-0.31	0.23	5.52	91	11.86	85	90	60	0	2	5	0
SC	BEAUFORT	81	61	86	50	71	9	0.00	-0.83	0.00	2.63	52	9.96	82	91	55	0	0	0	0
	CHARLESTON	81	60	87	47	70	8	0.15	-0.61	0.15	2.49	48	10.42	84	90	51	0	0	1	0
	COLUMBIA	83	59	92	37	71	10	1.39	0.56	1.19	4.23	71	11.59	80	82	47	1	0	2	1
	GREENVILLE	78	56	87	41	67	10	1.32	0.47	1.21	3.88	58	11.20	73	85	44	0	0	2	1
SD	ABERDEEN	56	32	81	26	44	3	0.00	-0.39	0.00	0.23	12	1.30	45	80	60	0	3	0	0
	HURON	57	35	80	26	46	4	0.25	-0.24	0.13	0.41	17	1.04	30	84	52	0	1	3	0
	RAPID CITY	57	30	78	27	43	2	0.12	-0.22	0.09	0.22	14	0.64	27	82	43	0	7	3	0
	SIOUX FALLS	56	36	74	33	46	5	0.55	-0.02	0.31	0.88	33	2.12	57	84	66	0	0	4	0
TN	BRISTOL	72	48	84	27	60	8	1.61	0.91	1.57	6.74	134	12.07	101	95	44	0	1	3	1
	CHATTANOOGA	75	52	85	37	64	7	1.03	-0.06	0.54	6.67	84	13.66	75	90	53	0	0	3	1
	KNOXVILLE	74	51	84	31	62	7	0.83	-0.11	0.49	6.00	90	13.14	86	89	50	0	1	3	0
	MEMPHIS	76	57	85	44	67	8	0.72	-0.61	0.29	6.21	81	11.86	73	80	46	0	0	3	0
	NASHVILLE	75	54	85	34	65	9	1.23	0.33	0.63	6.43	102	13.25	95	91	46	0	0	3	2
TX	ABILENE	80	59	91	48	69	7	0.02	-0.31	0.02	1.66	86	5.16	128	82	67	1	0	1	0
	AMARILLO	80	44	88	32	62	9	0.00	-0.28	0.00	0.21	13	2.29	84	67	19	0	1	0	0
	AUSTIN	77	62	86	55	70	4	0.13	-0.30	0.08	4.17	149	9.96	149	91	78	0	0	3	0
	BEAUMONT	82	66	85	59	74	8	1.67	0.82	1.09	9.81	192	16.78	119	97	65	0	0	3	1
	BROWNSVILLE	85	72	88	64	79	7	0.11	-0.27	0.10	5.11	343	9.46	235	96	69	0	0	2	0
	CORPUS CHRISTI	81	70	85	65	76	6	0.30	-0.09	0.13	6.51	279	9.97	172	94	77	0	0	3	0
	DEL RIO	80	65	87	57	73	5	0.32	0.02	0.21	2.53	179	3.54	120	86	71	0	0	2	0
	EL PASO	85	57	87	46	71	9	0.00	-0.03	0.00	0.61	203	1.50	132	31	12	0	0	0	0
	FORT WORTH	75	59	83	51	67	5	0.84	0.25	0.75	3.49	87	10.06	122	89	61	0	0	2	1
	GALVESTON	77	69	79	67	73	5	1.28	0.70	1.20	8.97	243	15.12	146	100	84	0	0	2	1
	HOUSTON	80	66	87	57	73	7	1.89	1.09	1.74	8.24	179	12.08	107	92	66	0	0	3	1
	LUBBOCK	82	51	90	40	67	10	0.00	-0.23	0.00	0.35	32	2.63	113	85	43	1	0	0	0
	MIDLAND	84	58	91	50	71	10	0.08	0.01	0.08	1.73	333	4.43	272	83	53	1	0	1	0
	SAN ANGELO	83	61	90	52	72	10	0.00	-0.25	0.00	2.15	158	4.42	132	83	57	1	0	0	0
	SAN ANTONIO	79	65	86	58	72	6	1.18	0.70	1.18	4.18	160	8.36	139	89	65	0	0	1	1
	VICTORIA	80	67	85	61	73	5	0.76	0.20	0.61	9.13	294	13.19	174	99	83	0	0	3	1
	WACO	75	59	83	49	67	4	0.08	-0.46	0.06	3.16	96	7.90	104	92	71	0	0	2	0
	WICHITA FALLS	76	55	88	40	65	5	0.60	0.06	0.35	2.39	77	4.99	86	90	65	0	0	2	0
UT	SALT LAKE CITY	63	41	70	37	52	4	0.25	-0.18	0.25	0.96	37	2.13	40	68	18	0	0	1	0
VT	BURLINGTON	46	29	54	23	37	-2	0.49	-0.14	0.25	1.82	55	4.81	67	83	41	0	6	4	0
VA	LYNCHBURG	69	46	77	28	58	5	1.26	0.48	0.57	4.62	91	9.00	77	83	51	0	1	4	2
	NORFOLK	71	48	87	36	59	5	0.27	-0.53	0.13	2.96	55	9.14	72	86	50	0	0	3	0
	RICHMOND	70	47	83	33	59	5	1.25	0.51	0.64	5.03	95	12.30	104	83	53	0	0	4	1
	ROANOKE	71	48	80	32	60	7	1.07	0.26	0.40	5.44	106	9.35	82	80	53	0	1	4	0
	WASH/DULLES	64	41	76	34	53	3	0.25	-0.48	0.13	4.39	93	9.42	89	79	50	0	0	4	0
WA	OLYMPIA	59	38	64	29	48	2	0.99	0.03	0.41	7.01	102	18.97	92	92	75	0	1	4	0
	QUILLAYUTE	57	35	63	31	46	1	1.67	-0.25	1.34	17.85	127	37.69	94	96	75	0	1	2	1
	SEATTLE-TACOMA	59	43	63	37	51	3	0.49	-0.20	0.34	5.21	107	14.15	100	81	65	0	0	4	0
	SPOKANE	55	35	62	29	45	1	0.33	0.05	0.30	2.78	141	5.75	108	86	46	0	2	2	0
	YAKIMA	63	36	67	29	49	2	0.00	-0.13	0.00	0.73	80	2.41	84	75	42	0	2	0	0
WV	BECKLEY	68	47	80	28	58	10	0.98	0.25	0.46	8.42	176	15.10	138	74	47	0	1	4	0
	CHARLESTON	73	47	85	29	60	8	1.07	0.34	0.60	8.74	172	13.96	121	87	41	0	1	3	1
	ELKINS	68	41	76	24	55	9	2.63	1.85	1.17	10.93	212	16.65	141	93	39	0	3	5	2
	HUNTINGTON	71	48	84	32	60	8	1.28	0.55	0.51	10.23	205	15.67	139	86	45	0	1	3	1
WI	EAU CLAIRE	50	34	66	30	42	2	0.48	-0.15	0.33	1.50	53	2.09	45	91	49	0	1	5	0
	GREEN BAY	46	34	61	32	40	0	1.02	0.41	0.73	1.98	66	2.97	57	94	69	0	1	5	1
	LA CROSSE	55	36	67	34	45	1	2.99	2.25	1.42	4.03	129	5.25	99	91	52	0	0	6	2
	MADISON	56	36	64	28	46	4	3.29	2.53	1.80	4.07	118	5.48	92	89	59	0	1	5	2
	MILWAUKEE	50	36	63	32	43	1	3.91	3.04	3.25	4.80	122	6.54	88	86	67	0	1	5	1
WY	CASPER	63	25	69	18	44	4	0.02	-0.22	0.02	0.66	52	1.97	79	74	32	0	7	1	0
	CHEYENNE	60	30	68	27	45	6	0.11	-0.17	0.08	0.30	20	1.11	47	71	41	0	5	2	0
	LANDER	57	31	66	26	44	3	0.76	0.36	0.76	1.44	78	3.02	104	73	29	0	5	1	1
	SHERIDAN	58	29	68	21	43	2	0.40	0.06	0.40	0.80	53	2.55	89	84	42	0	4	1	0

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

March Weather and Crop Summary

Weather

Weather summary provided by USDA/WAOB

Highlights: Warm, dry weather dominated the western and central U.S., particularly from California to the central Plains and the upper Midwest. The March warmth and dryness ensured a fourth consecutive year of drought for California and the Great Basin and caused declines in winter wheat condition on the Great Plains. In addition, Western warmth triggered premature melting of already meager mountain snowpack, leaving the Sierra Nevada with just 5 percent of its average snow-water equivalency by April 1. Spring snowpack conditions were not much better in several other regions, including the Southwest and Pacific Northwest. Meanwhile, more than one-fifth of the winter wheat was rated in very poor to poor condition by April 5 in Nebraska (30 percent), South Dakota (27 percent), and Kansas (23 percent).

Farther east, dry conditions in the upper Midwest contrasted with saturated soils in parts of the lower Midwest, including the Ohio Valley. In fact, March rainfall and melting snow triggered widespread lowland flooding and curtailed fieldwork in a broad area stretching southwestward from the Ohio and Tennessee Valleys to the western Gulf Coast region, including the northern Mississippi Delta. By April 5, planting in Texas was behind schedule for crops such as corn (37 percent planted vs. the 5-year average of 50 percent); sorghum (23 vs. 40 percent); rice (21 vs. 47 percent); and cotton (1 vs. 10 percent). In Arkansas, rice planting was 6 percent complete by April 5, compared to the 5-year average of 13 percent.

Elsewhere, generally drier-than-normal conditions prevailed in the Northeast and Southeast, although frigid weather in the former region contrasted with consistent warmth farther south. By month's end, snow still covered parts of the Northeast, with a foot reported on the ground on March 31 in Caribou, ME. Meanwhile, a sudden, Southeastern cold snap threatened peaches, blueberries, and other blooming fruit crops on March 29 as far south as central Georgia.

Historical Perspective: According to preliminary information provided by the National Climatic Data Center, the contiguous U.S. experienced its 12th-warmest, 19th-driest March during the 121-year period of record. The nation's average temperature of 45.4°F was 3.9°F above the 1901-2000 mean, while precipitation averaged 2.08 inches—82 percent of normal. March temperatures averaged higher in several recent years, such as 2000, 2004, 2007, and 2012.

State temperature rankings ranged from the eighth-coldest March in Rhode Island to the second-warmest March in the Pacific Coast States. In fact, top-ten values for March warmth were noted in all eleven Western States, along with South Dakota, Nebraska, and Florida. In California, where the monthly average temperature of 57.0°F was 8.2°F above normal, the only warmer March occurred in 1934. California also completed its warmest October-March "cold season" on record, with an average temperature of 53.9°F—5.8°F above the 20th century mean. California's previous warmest cold season had been 1933-34, with an average temperature of 51.8°F. Meanwhile, top-ten March dryness in nine states from California to Vermont contrasted with the fourth-wettest March in Texas. In South Dakota, it was the second-driest March behind 1926.

Figure 1 Statewide Average Temperature Ranks
March 2015
Period: 1895–2015

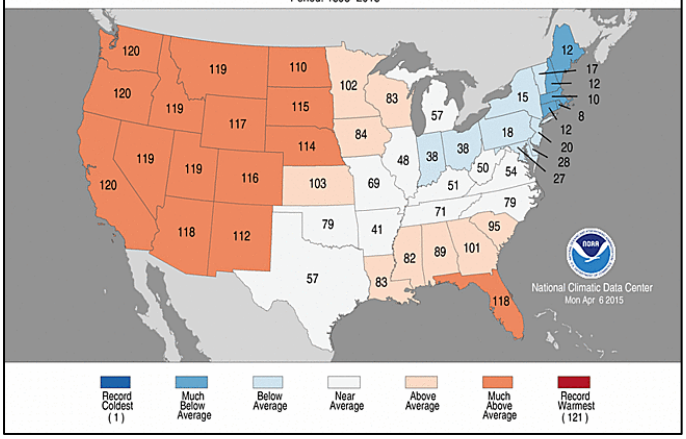
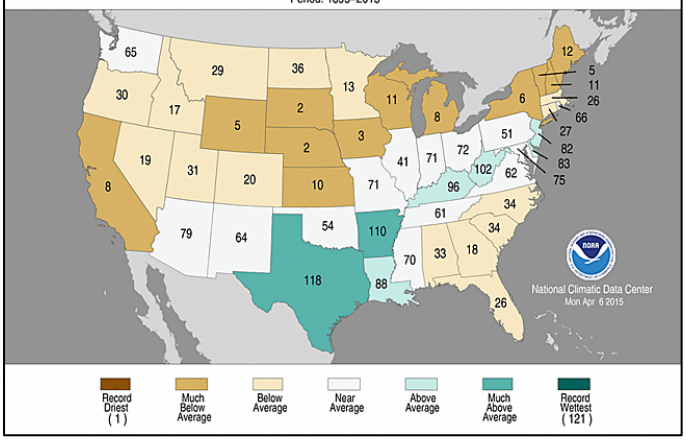


Figure 2 Statewide Precipitation Ranks
March 2015
Period: 1895–2015



Summary: Contiguous U.S. snow cover reached a season-high 63.4 percent on March 1 but fell below 40 percent by the end of the first week of March—largely on the strength of melting in the south-central U.S. Meanwhile, the average early-March water content of the high-elevation Sierra Nevada snowpack remained stalled at 5 inches, less than 20 percent of normal. Later, premature melting of mountain snowpack left the Sierra Nevada with a record-low average of just an inch of stored water on April 1—a mere 5 percent of normal.

As the month began, a disturbance crossing the lower Midwest and Northeast contributed to daily-record snowfall totals for March 1 in Indianapolis, IN (5.9 inches); Islip, NY (5.6 inches); and Columbus, OH (3.6 inches). Meanwhile, heavy rain in the Gulf Coast region led to a daily-record rainfall amount (3.09 inches) in Lake Charles, LA. Farther west, a developing storm brought heavy precipitation to parts of the Southwest. Record-setting totals for March 2 included 1.71 inches in Flagstaff, AZ, and 0.79 inch in Cedar City, UT. Flagstaff's March 1-3 total of 3.69 inches included 17.3 inches of snow. Precipitation fell as far north as Wyoming, where daily-record amounts for March 2 reached 0.48 inch in Casper and 0.40 inch in Rawlins. During the 4-day period ending March 2, several 2- to 4-foot snowfall totals were reported in western Colorado. Coal

Bank Pass, CO, received nearly 30 inches. From March 3-5, heavy precipitation fell across the interior Southeast. Three-day totals in Kentucky included 3.86 inches in Frankfort, 3.62 inches in Lexington, and 3.51 inches in Louisville. Much of the heavy rain fell on March 4, when daily-record amounts totaled 2.43 inches in Texarkana, AR, and 2.36 inches in Jackson, KY. By day's end, rain across the interior Southeast and lower Midwest changed to heavy snow. On March 4-5, Lexington's 17.1-inch snowfall marked the greatest 2-day total in station history (previously, 13.5 inches on January 13-14, 1917, and January 26-27, 1943). With 11.9 inches on March 4-5, Louisville observed its second-highest 2-day total in March behind only 12.4 inches on March 22-23, 1968. Heavy snow spread into the Mid-Atlantic States and southern New England on March 5, when daily-record totals reached 9.5 inches at Virginia's Dulles Airport; 7.0 inches in Wilmington, DE; 7.0 inches in Atlantic City, NJ; and 6.3 inches in Providence, RI. Accumulating snow was reported on March 5 across parts of the Deep South, resulting in daily-record totals in locations such as Waco, TX (0.7 inch); Jackson, MS (0.3 inch); and Alexandria, LA (0.3 inch).

March began with bitterly cold air in place over the Northeast, where record-setting lows for March 1 dipped to -14°F in Bangor, ME, and -10°F in Glens Falls, NY. Later, warmth briefly overspread the Deep South in advance of a Southwestern storm. By March 3, daily record-tying highs in Florida soared to 87°F in Ft. Myers and 85°F in Tampa. The following day, record-setting highs for March 4 surged to 85°F at Audubon Park in New Orleans, LA, and 84°F in Savannah, GA. In contrast, another strong push of frigid air began to engulf the central and eastern U.S. Huron, SD, reported a wind gust to 52 mph on the morning of March 3. A day later, Rawlins, WY, reported a daily-record low (-21°F) for March 4. Enough cool air briefly reached the Northwest to produce a daily-record low (25°F on March 4) in Hillsboro, OR. Farther east, monthly record lows were broken on March 6 in several locations, including Frankfort, KY (-10°F); Cape Girardeau, MO (-8°F); Paducah, KY (-6°F); and Pittsburgh, PA (-5°F). With a low of -2°F on March 6, Lexington, KY, tied a monthly record originally set on March 6, 1960. Harrisburg, PA, set monthly record lows on consecutive days, with minima of 0°F on March 6 and -1°F on March 7. In New Orleans, Audubon Park reported a freeze (32°F on March 6) less than 48 hours after posting a daily-record high. On March 5-6, consecutive daily-record lows were set in locations such as Saranac Lake, NY (-21 and -29°F); Montpelier, VT (-6 and -16°F); and Youngstown, OH (-1 and -4°F). Other daily-record lows for March 5 plunged to -12°F in Dubuque, IA; 10°F in Oklahoma City, OK; and 12°F in Childress, TX. Record lows for March 6 included -26°F in Houlton, ME; -3°F in Parkersburg, WV; and 9°F in Batesville, AR, and Nashville, TN. Farther west, however, warmth returned to the Pacific Coast States and spread eastward. In southern California, record-setting highs for March 6 soared to 87°F in Long Beach and 86°F in Santa Maria. In Oregon, Klamath Falls (65 and 68°F) and Burns (62 and 67°F) notched consecutive daily-record highs on March 6-7.

As the month progressed, record-breaking warmth expanded into the north-central U.S., where Fargo, ND, notched six daily-record highs in 7 days from March 9-15. Fargo's warmth peaked with highs of 68 and 75°F, respectively, on March 14-15. Warmth was equally persistent in the West, where Yakima, WA, posted daily-record highs on March 9, 10, 12, and 14. Yakima's highest reading during the warm spell was 74°F on March 9. Meanwhile, downtown Los Angeles notched four consecutive highs of 90°F or greater, starting on March 13—the longest such March streak on record in that location. Los Angeles had only twice experienced 3 consecutive March days with 90-degree heat—March 9-11, 1934, and March 24-26, 1988. The heat wave in Los Angeles peaked with a high of 93°F on March 14. On the same date, other daily-record highs in southern California included 95°F in Santa Maria; 94°F in Santa Ana and Long Beach; 91°F in Bakersfield; and 90°F in San Diego. Santa Ana had also collected a daily-record high (96°F) on March 13. In central California, monthly record highs were tied or broken on March 15 in locations such as Salinas (92°F; previously, 88°F on March 9, 1934) and Gilroy (90°F; tied 90°F on March 20, 1997). Meanwhile, mid-month warmth also overspread the lower Southeast. Daily-record highs for March 11 climbed to 87°F in Savannah, GA, and 86°F in Florence, SC. On March 11-12, Ft. Myers, FL, registered consecutive daily-record highs (88 and 90°F). Elsewhere in Florida, Naples (90 and 89°F) and Tampa (88 and 86°F) logged consecutive daily-record highs on March 12-13. Surges of warmth across the northern Plains and upper Midwest also led to daily-record highs in numerous locations, including Sioux City, IA (78°F on March 12), and Glasgow, MT (75°F on March 14).

Prior to mid-month, additional heavy rain aggravated already wet conditions from the western Gulf Coast into the Ohio Valley. In Texas, daily-record rainfall totals for March 8 included 1.22 inches in Victoria and 1.04 inches in Corpus Christi. Brownsville, TX, received 4.08 inches of rain from March 8-12, marking its fourth-wettest 5-day period on record in March. Victoria (2.90 inches), Corpus Christi (2.15 inches), and Brownsville (2.03 inches) all reported daily-record amounts on March 9. Elsewhere, record-setting totals for March 9 reached 3.09 inches in College Station, TX; 2.04 inches in Texarkana, AR; and 1.78 inches in Hattiesburg, MS. New Orleans, LA, netted a daily-record sum (2.27 inches) on the 10th, en route to a March 9-13 total of 4.07 inches. With a final surge of heavy rain on March 12, Shreveport, LA, collected a daily-record sum of 2.46 inches. The following day, record-setting values for March 13 totaled 3.31 inches in Cape Girardeau, MO, and 2.11 inches in Paducah, KY. By early March 15, the Ohio River at Cincinnati, OH, crested 5.72 feet above flood stage. That marked the highest level in that location since early-March 1997, when the river crested nearly 7 feet higher (12.70 feet above flood stage).

Across the central Plains, an early-season warm spell peaked on March 16, when monthly record highs were tied or broken in Nebraska locations such as Norfolk (92°F) and North Platte (91°F). In fact, mid-month warmth stretched from the Pacific Coast to the Great Plains. Rapid City, SD, posted a monthly record high of 84°F on March 15, edging by 1°F a mark most recently attained on March 31, 2012. In addition, Grand Island, NE (90°F on March 16), noted its earliest 90-degree reading on record (previously, 90°F on March 22, 1907). Fresno, CA (91°F on March 15), also notched its earliest 90-degree heat (previously, 90°F on March 17, 1972). In southern California, five consecutive daily-record highs were set from March 12-16 in Camarillo (89, 92, 92, 88, and 86°F). Vista, CA, posted four consecutive daily records (92, 94, 93, and 89°F) from March 13-16. Among a stunning array of daily-record highs on March 16 were readings of 99°F in Death Valley, CA; 94°F in Hill City, KS; 93°F in McCook, NE; 90°F in Sioux City, IA; and 90°F in Ft. Myers, FL. Thereafter, warmth was suppressed but lingered across the South and West. On March 16-17, Salt Lake City, UT, registered consecutive daily-record highs of 74°F. On the same dates, Tallahassee, FL, collected daily-record highs of 88 and 89°F, respectively. Tallahassee reported another daily-record high (89°F) on March 20.

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

Wintry conditions also lingered in the lower Great Lakes region, where daily-record snowfall totals for March 23 included 5.1 inches in Rockford, IL, and 4.7 inches in South Bend, IN. Chicago, IL, netted a March 22-23 storm total of 5.8 inches—most (5.6 inches) of which fell on the latter date. For Rockford and Chicago, March 23 was the snowiest spring day since April 5, 1982, when respective totals reached 9.4 and 6.3 inches. Meanwhile, precipitation overspread the Northwest, while high winds swept across parts of southern California. Daily-record amounts for March 23 totaled 1.00 inch in Portland, OR, and 0.65 inch in Lewiston, ID. On March 24, a wind gust to 72 mph was clocked in Sandberg, CA. The following day, March 25, a gust to 85 mph was reported on southern California's Whitaker Peak. Farther north, another round of precipitation led to daily-record totals for March 25 in Washington locations such as Quillayute (2.49 inches) and Bellingham (1.15 inches). A few days later, snow showers developed across the mid-South and adjacent regions. On March 28, a trace of snow fell in Memphis, TN, and Tupelo, MS, while 0.1 inch was reported in Jonesboro, AR. Farther west, high winds overspread the northern Plains and northern Intermountain West, with March 28 gusts clocked to 71 mph in Lander, WY; 68 mph in Dickinson, ND; and 66 mph in Cut Bank, MT.

Late in the month, frigid conditions persisted in the Northeast, resulting in daily-record lows for March 24 in Bangor, ME (4°F), and Binghamton, NY (10°F). Meanwhile, in advance of a strong cold front, high soared to daily-record levels on March 25 in Ft. Smith, AR (86°F), and McAlester, OK (84°F). On the same date, several tornadoes struck Oklahoma and Arkansas. One of the Oklahoma twisters, rated EF-2 with estimated winds of at least 125 mph, carved a 9-mile path across Osage and Tulsa Counties, resulting in one fatality before lifting near Sand Springs, just west of Tulsa. Toward month's end, warmth again exploded across the West and quickly expanded across the nation's mid-section. Paso Robles, CA, tied a monthly record with a high of 91°F on March 26, followed by a new March record of 93°F on the 27th. With a high of 83°F, Sandberg, CA, also achieved a monthly record high on March 27. Elsewhere in California, downtown Los Angeles experienced its sixth day of 90-degree heat on the 27th, doubling its previous March record of 3 such days in 1934, 1988, and 1997. Similarly, San Diego, CA, reported its seventh day of 80-degree warmth on March 27, toppling its March standard of 5 days set in 1947 and 1988. Meanwhile in Montana, monthly records were tied on March 28 in Miles City (83°F) and Billings (80°F). Previously, Billings' earliest 80-degree reading had occurred on March 31, 2004 and 2012. Sheridan, WY, also tied a monthly record with a high of 80°F on March 28. On the northern Plains, daily-record highs for March 28 surged to 83°F in Rapid City, SD, and 80°F in Dickinson, ND. In the East, however, lingering heat in Florida contrasted with a sharp cold snap farther north. In Florida, record-setting highs for March 27 climbed to 91°F in Miami and Ft. Lauderdale. The following day, March 28, Akron-Canton, OH, registered a daily-record low of 12°F. By March 29, freezes were noted as far south as central Georgia, where Macon (27°F) collected a daily-record low. Other record-setting lows for March 29 included 7°F in Elkins, WV; 13°F in Zanesville, OH; 17°F in Lynchburg, VA; and 25°F in Greenville-Spartanburg, SC (25°F).

In the West, lingering, late-month warmth capped the warmest March on record in dozens of locations. Record-setting March warmth stretched from the Pacific Coast to the Intermountain West, encompassing California cities such as [downtown] Los Angeles (68.2°F), San Diego (66.6°F), and Fresno (64.0°F). Previous March records had been set in 1931, 1978, and 1934, respectively. With an average temperature of 49.7°F, Salt Lake City, UT, edged a March record originally set in 1910. Colville, WA, with 46.7°F, toppled a March 1926 standard. March average temperature records from 2004 were broken in locations such as Las Vegas, NV (66.7°F), and Paso Robles, CA (60.2°F). Death Valley, CA, ended the month with five consecutive daily-record highs (99, 102, 102, 103, and 104°F) from March 27-31. Previously, Death Valley's highest March temperature had been 103°F on March 31, 2011. Meanwhile, Alamosa, CO, posted four daily-record highs in a row (69, 71, 69, and 71°F) from March 27-30. Phoenix, AZ, closed the month with five consecutive readings of 95°F or greater, including a daily-record high of 97°F on March 29.

Dry weather dominated much of the nation in late March, followed by a more active pattern in early April. In the Pacific Northwest, Quillayute, WA, netted a daily-record rainfall total (1.93 inches) for March 29. Two days later, the month ended on a snowy note in the Northeast, where Williamsport, PA, received a daily-record snowfall (4.3 inches) for March 31. In Nebraska, North Platte completed its driest March on record, while Valentine experienced its driest March since 1997. North Platte, which received 0.01 inch, edged its March 1882 standard of 0.04 inch. Valentine recorded 0.03 inch, slightly higher than its March 1997 total of 0.01 inch. Interestingly, North Platte also set a record for the greatest number of March days with a 50-degree temperature swing—8 days, compared to the previous mark of 5 days in 1968, 1972, and 1997. North Platte also had an average daily temperature variation of more than 40°F in March, from a low of 23.4°F to a high of 63.5°F.

Despite a brief blast of cold weather, Alaskan monthly temperatures were mostly above normal. The month opened on a mild note, with daily-record highs reported in locations such as Annette Island

(53°F on March 2); Kodiak (47°F on March 5 and 7); and Bethel (42°F on March 2). Widespread precipitation accompanied the early-month warmth. For example, Kodiak collected a daily-record total of 1.68 inches on March 2. On March 6, Nome netted daily-record totals for both snowfall (5.5 inches) and precipitation (0.45 inch). Bettles also received a daily-record snowfall (3.6 inches) for March 6. Daily-record totals for March 7 included 4.3 inches of snow in Fairbanks and precipitation totaling 0.51 inch in Anchorage. Subsequently, sharply colder conditions overspread Alaska, accompanied by widespread precipitation in the southeastern part of the state. Fairbanks reported minimum temperatures of -30°F or lower on 6 consecutive days from March 10-15. Meanwhile, Juneau collected 7.3 inches of snow on March 11. Yakutat received 27.5 inches of snow during the month, all of which fell from March 9-16. During the second half of the month, above-normal temperatures returned to Alaska. Daily-record highs were set in several locations, including King Salmon (51°F on March 19); Anchorage (49°F on March 17); and Bethel (46°F on March 20). In fact, Anchorage posted five daily-record highs in the 14-day period from March 17-30. Elsewhere, late-month, daily-record highs climbed to 53°F (on March 25) in Yakutat; 53°F (on March 29) in King Salmon; 52°F (on March 26) in Fairbanks; 50°F (on March 27) in Bethel; and 42°F (on March 28) in Bettles.

In parts of Hawaii, significant, early-month rain helped to ease the effects of a previously sub-par wet season. On the Big Island, Hilo received 6.87 inches of rain during the first 6 days of March, following a February total of just 5.29 inches (55 percent of normal). Kahului, Maui, also received heavy rain—5.51 inches from April 1-6. The remainder of the month was quieter, although Kahului netted another 2.66 inches of rain on March 25-26. Meanwhile, an extended, early- to mid-month cool spell resulted in several daily-record lows. On March 10, for example, record-setting lows dipped to 57°F in Lihue, Kauai, and 58°F in Honolulu, Oahu. Warmth returned during the second half of the month, with Honolulu reporting consecutive daily-record highs (85 and 87°F, respectively) on March 22-23. Toward month's end, heavy showers developed in some windward locations, with Kauai's Mt. Waialeale reporting 7.47 inches in a 48-hour period from March 29-31. At the state's major airport observation sites, highly variable March rainfall ranged from 0.63 inch (31 percent of normal) in Honolulu to 9.79 inches (400 percent) in Kahului.

Fieldwork

Fieldwork summary provided by USDA/NASS

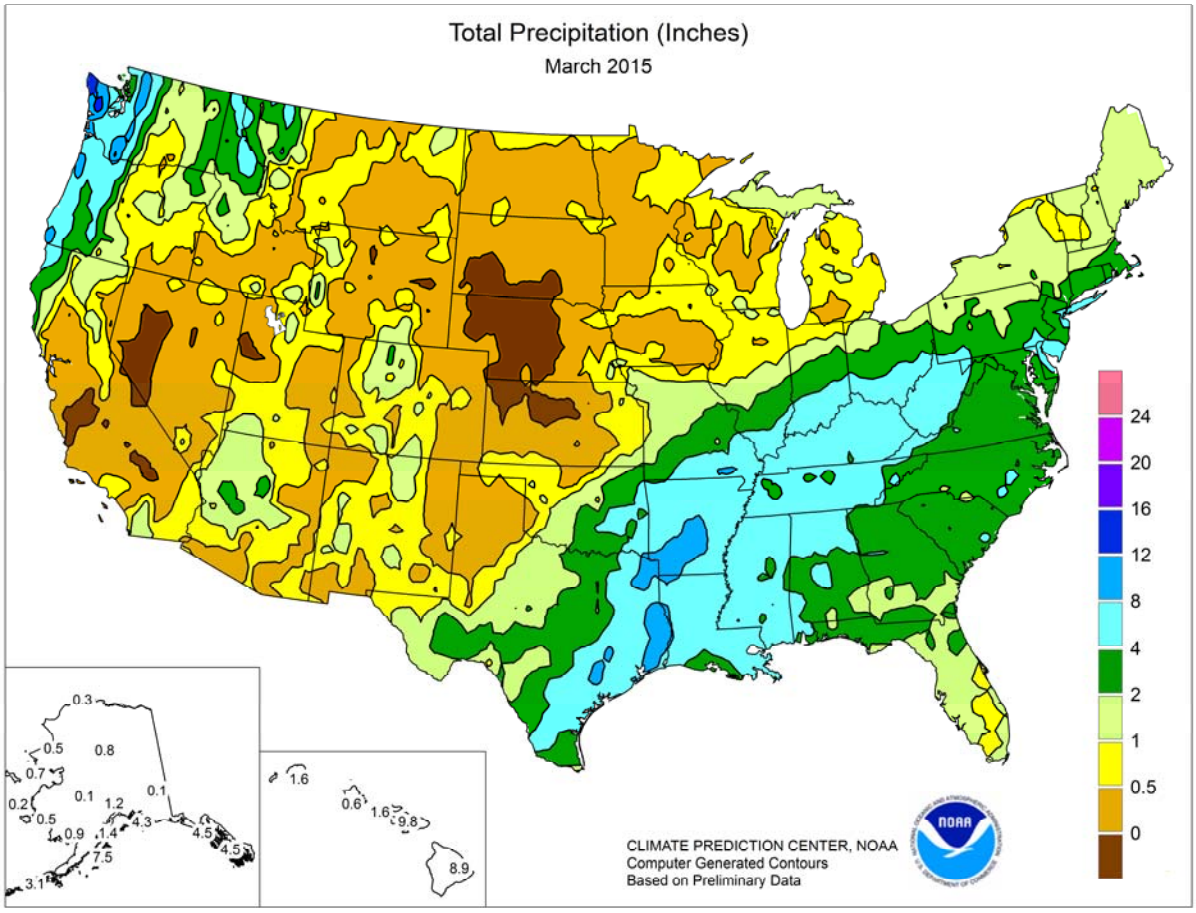
Most of the U.S. recorded little precipitation during March, with large portions of the Great Plains, Great Basin, and California receiving less than 25 percent of the normal precipitation. The major exception to this trend occurred in a band stretching from eastern Texas across the Mississippi Delta and the Ohio River Valley, where some locations received 6 to 12 inches of rainfall for the month. Monthly temperatures were above average across the western U.S., with scattered locations across California, Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota recording average temperatures more than 10°F above normal. A band stretching from Texas, the Mississippi Delta, the eastern Corn Belt, and New England recorded below-average temperatures for the month, with readings more than 6°F below normal in New York and New England.

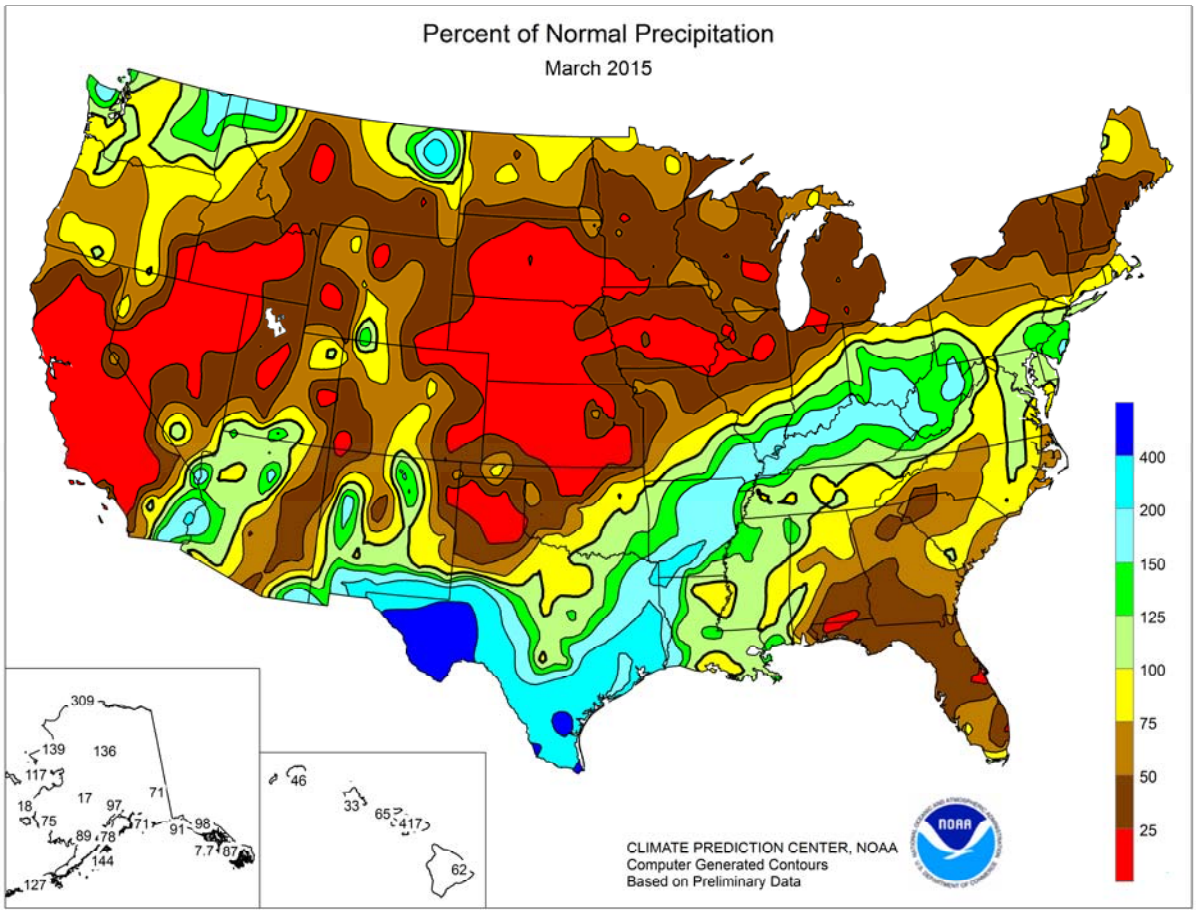
Winter wheat conditions deteriorated in several northern Great Plains States. Kansas producers reported 39 percent of the winter wheat crop in good to excellent condition on March 29, down 5 percentage points from March 1. Condition ratings in Nebraska and South Dakota dropped to 34 and 35 percent, respectively, in the good to excellent categories. These ratings were down 28 and 14 percentage points, respectively, from the beginning of the month. In Kansas, the winter wheat crop was 15 percent in the jointing stage or beyond on March 29, ten percentage points ahead of last year but 3 points behind the 5-year average. Colorado's winter wheat was 2 percent jointing at the end of the month, equal to last year and slightly behind the 5-year average.

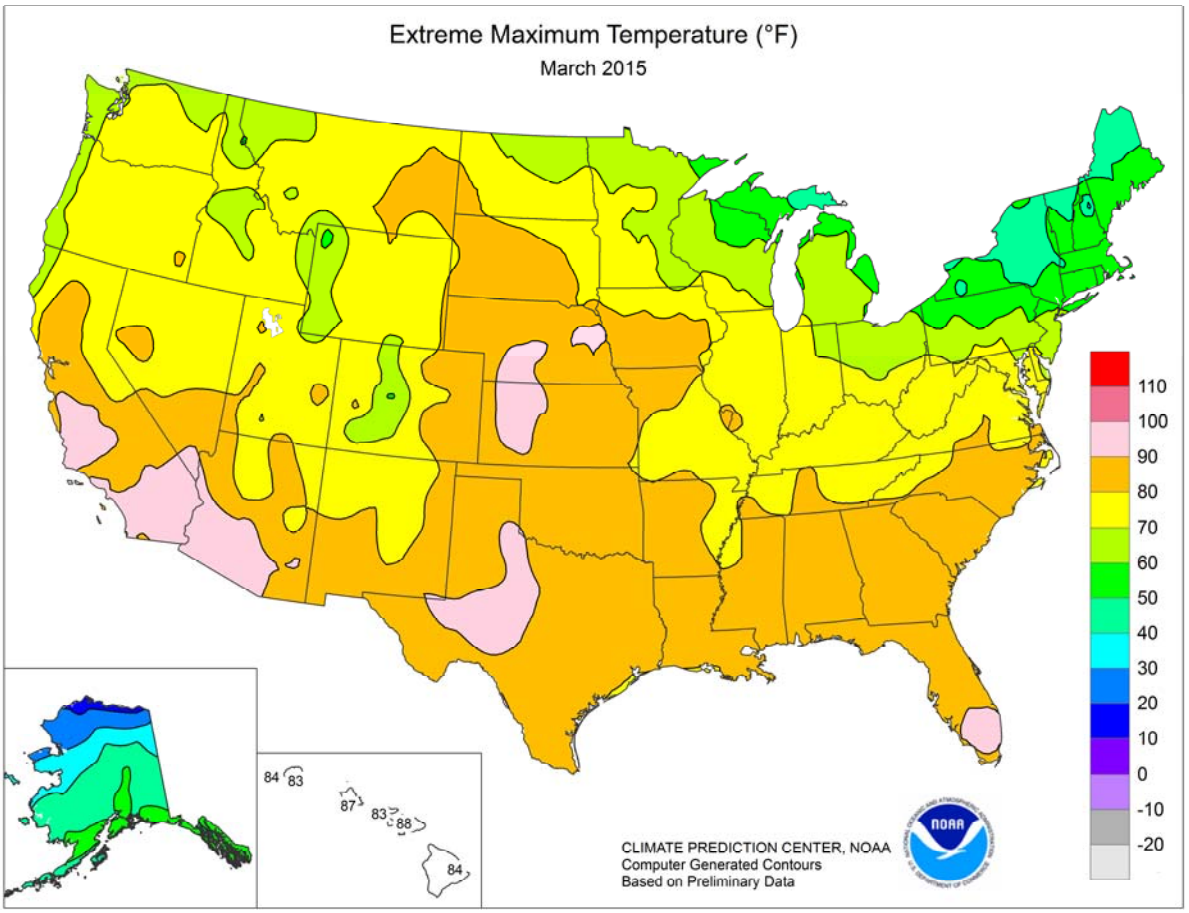
By the end of the month, Texas pasture and range condition was reported at 47 percent in the good to excellent categories, 24 percentage points above the 5-year average. Alabama and New Mexico rated pasture and range condition at 49 percent good to excellent. Cold, wet conditions led to less favorable pasture ratings in other parts of the U.S. with good to excellent ratings at 25 percent in Virginia, 27 percent in North Carolina, and 28 percent in Arkansas.

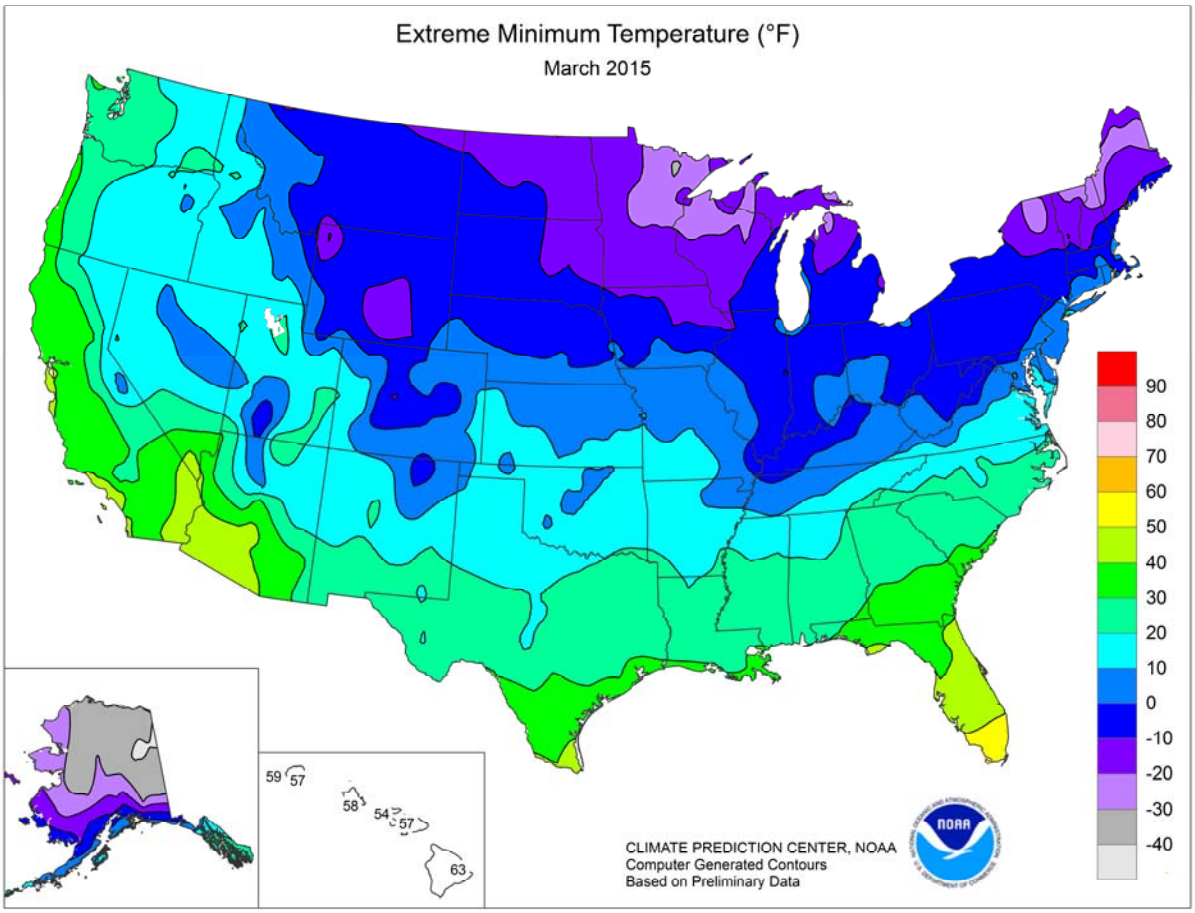
At the beginning of the month, wheat, oats, and other winter forage crops continued to grow well in California. Alfalfa fields were cultivated and planted. Ground was prepared for planting and beds were shaped in some fields, while others remained fallow awaiting warmer weather for planting. Alfalfa fields were irrigated and treated for pests. Alfalfa seed fields re-grew, following a short dormancy period. Established alfalfa was making good progress. Field preparations were underway for the spring planting of corn and cotton. Growers prepared ground for the upcoming cotton season by tilling soil, making furrows, and repairing drip tape. By the end of the month, irrigation of field crops continued due to the lack of rain in the state. Growers were reporting the need to pre-irrigate fields to maintain moisture levels so that there will be sufficient moisture when they do plant. Planting schedules were a couple of weeks ahead of average. Field preparations were underway for the spring planting of corn and cotton. Forage and grain crops continued to grow well but slowly, with wheat beginning to head out. Most weed spraying in forage crops came to an end and insect spraying began, particularly for alfalfa weevil in alfalfa. First cuttings of alfalfa were underway and some fields were baled.

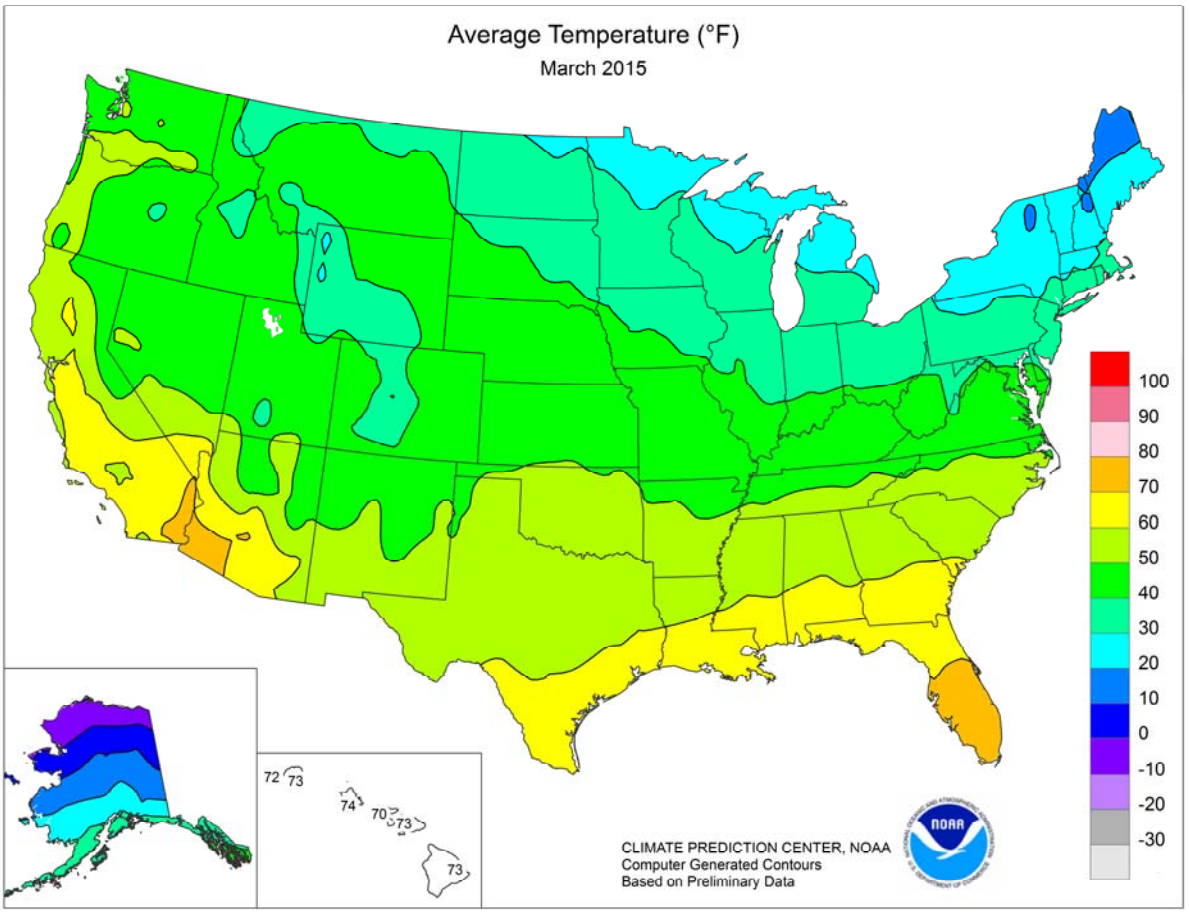
In Florida, processing plants finished with early and midseason oranges, began running grapefruit, or had transitioned to late orange harvesting. The Valencia harvest was lagging last season due to low maturity levels. Honey tangerines, colored grapefruit, white grapefruit, midseason oranges, Temples, and Valencias were going fresh. Grove activity included fertilizing, irrigating two to three times a week, some hedging and topping of trees after harvest, applying of herbicide, and removing brush. Citrus trees were in full bloom, petal drop began, and small pea-size fruit was apparent on early-variety citrus trees.

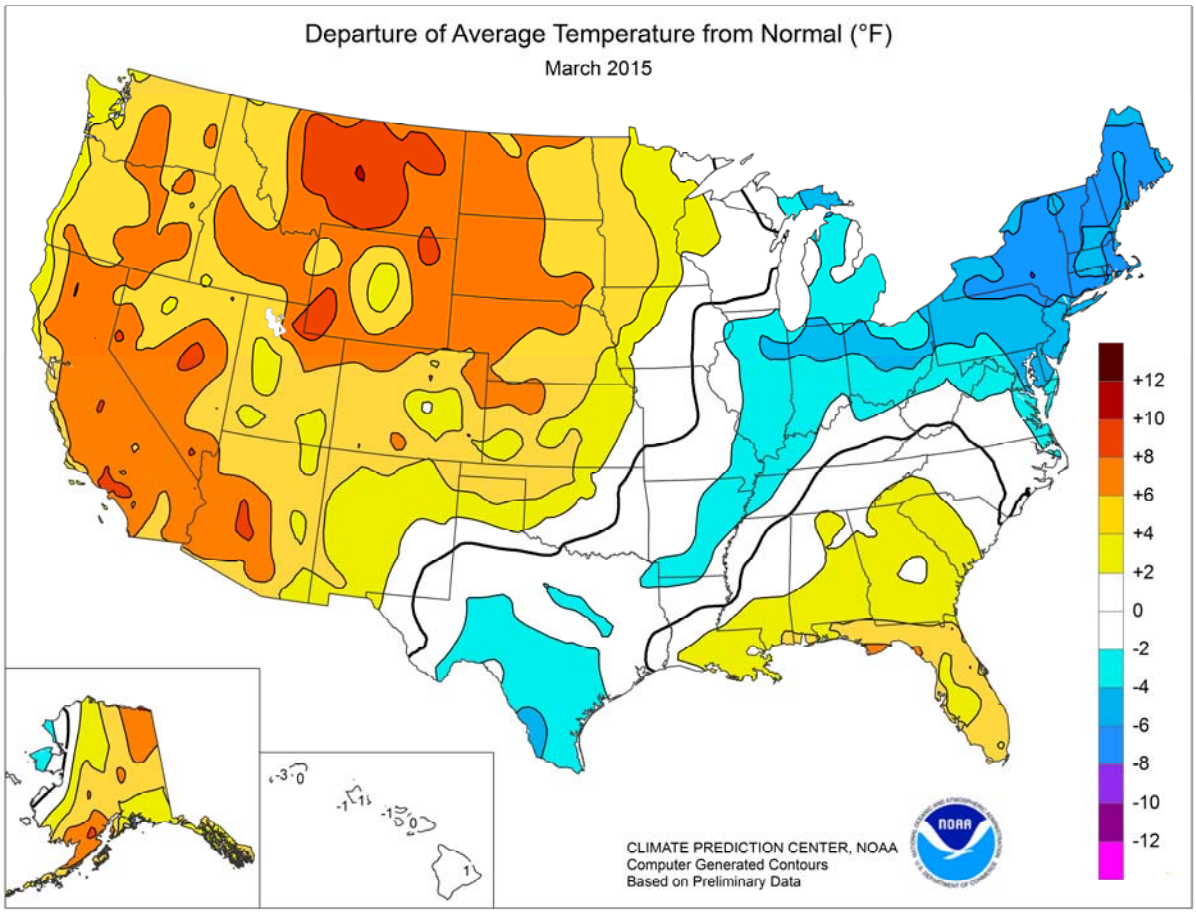

Total Precipitation (Inches)
March 2015
24
20
16
12
8
4
2
1
0.5
0
0.3
0.5
0.8
0.7
0.2
0.1
1.2
0.1
0.5
0.9
1.4
4.3
4.5
7.5
4.5
3.1
1.6
0.6
1.6
9.8
8.9
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA
Computer Generated Contours
Based on Preliminary Data
NOAA


Percent of Normal Precipitation
March 2015
400
200
150
125
100
75
50
25
309
139
136
117
18
75
17
97
71
89
78
71
91
98
144
7.7
87
127
46
33
65
417
62
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA
Computer Generated Contours
Based on Preliminary Data
NOAA


Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F)
March 2015
110
100
90
80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
-10
-20
84
83
87
83
88
84
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA
Computer Generated Contours
Based on Preliminary Data


Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)
March 2015
90
80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
-10
-20
-30
-40
59
57
58
54
57
63
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA
Computer Generated Contours
Based on Preliminary Data


Average Temperature (°F)
March 2015
100
90
80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
-10
-20
-30
72
73
74
70
73
73
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA
Computer Generated Contours
Based on Preliminary Data


Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F)
March 2015
+12
+10
+8
+6
+4
+2
0
-2
-4
-6
-8
-10
-12
-3
0
-1
1
-1
0
1
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA
Computer Generated Contours
Based on Preliminary Data

National Weather Data for Selected Cities

March 2015

Data Provided by Climate Prediction Center

	STATES AND STATIONS	TEMP, °F		PRECIP.			STATES AND STATIONS	TEMP, °F		PRECIP.			STATES AND STATIONS	TEMP, °F		PRECIP.	
		AVERAGE	DEPARTURE	TOTAL	DEPARTURE			AVERAGE	DEPARTURE	TOTAL	DEPARTURE			AVERAGE	DEPARTURE	TOTAL	DEPARTURE
AL	BIRMINGHAM	56	1	4.23	-1.87		LEXINGTON	44	-2	7.46	3.05		COLUMBUS	38	-4	3.92	1.03
	HUNTSVILLE	55	3	5.62	-1.06		LONDON-CORBIN	48	1	5.33	0.72		DAYTON	39	-1	3.91	0.62
	MOBILE	64	4	3.96	-3.24		LOUISVILLE	46	-1	7.80	3.39		MANSFIELD	34	-3	2.87	-0.49
	MONTGOMERY	62	4	2.00	-4.39		PADUCAH	46	-2	8.72	4.45		TOLEDO	33	-4	1.34	-1.28
AK	ANCHORAGE	30	4	0.77	0.12	LA	BATON ROUGE	65	5	3.38	-1.69		YOUNGSTOWN	33	-4	2.33	-0.72
	BARROW	-11	3	0.28	0.19		LAKE CHARLES	63	2	6.21	2.67	OK	OKLAHOMA CITY	54	3	2.62	-0.28
	COLD BAY	34	4	3.15	0.67		NEW ORLEANS	66	4	6.36	1.12		TULSA	53	2	3.71	0.14
	FAIRBANKS	16	5	0.49	0.21		SHREVEPORT	57	-1	8.02	3.84	OR	ASTORIA	50	4	6.58	-0.79
	JUNEAU	37	3	4.52	1.01	ME	BANGOR	24	-7	1.45	-1.99		BURNS	43	6	0.95	-0.29
	KING SALMON	31	7	0.95	0.16		CARIBOU	19	-6	1.65	-0.92		EUGENE	51	5	3.18	-2.62
	KODIAK	37	4	7.53	2.31		PORTLAND	30	-4	1.79	-2.35		MEDFORD	53	6	1.45	-0.40
	NOME	7	-2	0.70	0.10	MD	BALTIMORE	40	-4	4.67	0.74		PENDLETON	50	5	1.19	-0.07
AZ	FLAGSTAFF	42	5	3.73	1.11	MA	BOSTON	33	-6	3.05	-0.80		PORTLAND	53	6	4.71	1.00
	PHOENIX	72	9	0.33	-0.74		WORCESTER	29	-5	2.42	-1.81		SALEM	52	5	4.23	0.06
	TUCSON	66	7	0.50	-0.31	MI	ALPENA	27	-1	0.96	-1.17	PA	ALLENTOWN	34	-5	4.46	0.90
AR	FORT SMITH	53	0	4.50	0.56		DETROIT	34	-3	0.80	-1.72		ERIE	31	-6	2.00	-1.13
	LITTLE ROCK	53	0	8.10	3.22		FLINT	33	-1	0.92	-1.30		MIDDLETOWN	36	-5	3.56	0.28
CA	BAKERSFIELD	64	7	0.27	-1.14		GRAND RAPIDS	32	-3	1.04	-1.55		PHILADELPHIA	39	-4	5.52	1.71
	EUREKA	51	2	3.21	-2.34		HOUGHTON LAKE	27	-2	0.47	-1.58		PITTSBURGH	36	-4	4.01	0.84
	FRESNO	64	8	0.06	-2.14		LANSING	33	-1	0.74	-1.59		WILKES-BARRE	33	-5	1.96	-0.73
	LOS ANGELES	65	7	0.49	-1.91		MUSKEGON	32	-2	1.13	-1.23		WILLIAMSPORT	33	-5	2.36	-0.85
	REDDING	61	8	1.05	-4.10		TRAVERSE CITY	30	-1	0.92	-1.06	PR	SAN JUAN	79	1	1.50	-0.64
	SACRAMENTO	61	6	0.22	-2.58	MN	DULUTH	31	6	0.79	-0.90	RI	PROVIDENCE	33	-6	4.40	-0.03
	SAN DIEGO	67	7	0.93	-1.33		INT'L FALLS	27	3	0.64	-0.32	SC	CHARLESTON	60	2	2.26	-1.74
	SAN FRANCISCO	60	6	0.06	-3.20		MINNEAPOLIS	35	3	0.67	-1.19		COLUMBIA	59	4	2.78	-1.81
	STOCKTON	62	7	0.17	-2.11		ROCHESTER	33	2	1.07	-0.81		FLORENCE	57	1	3.40	-0.60
CO	ALAMOSA	40	7	0.40	-0.06		ST. CLOUD	32	4	0.38	-1.12		GREENVILLE	55	3	2.08	-3.23
	CO SPRINGS	43	5	0.81	-0.25	MS	JACKSON	60	3	7.27	1.53		MYRTLE BEACH	56	1	2.30	-1.49
	DENVER	45	7	0.79	-0.10		MERIDIAN	59	2	4.91	-2.02	SD	ABERDEEN	35	4	0.23	-1.11
	GRAND JUNCTION	48	5	0.27	-0.73		TUPELO	54	1	6.42	0.12		HURON	37	4	0.16	-1.51
	PUEBLO	45	3	0.57	-0.40	MO	COLUMBIA	46	2	1.54	-1.67		RAPID CITY	42	7	0.10	-0.93
CT	BRIDGEPORT	34	-6	4.71	0.56		JOPLIN	49	1	1.83	-1.79		SIOUX FALLS	38	5	0.33	-1.48
	HARTFORD	32	-6	2.66	-1.22		KANSAS CITY	47	3	0.88	-1.56	TN	BRISTOL	48	1	3.90	-0.01
DC	WASHINGTON	45	-2	4.04	0.44		SPRINGFIELD	47	1	3.38	-0.44		CHATTANOOGA	55	4	4.17	-2.02
DE	WILMINGTON	38	-5	5.39	1.42		ST JOSEPH	45	1	1.33	-1.03		JACKSON	49	-2	4.96	-0.17
FL	DAYTONA BEACH	70	5	0.86	-2.98		ST LOUIS	46	0	3.00	-0.60		KNOXVILLE	51	1	4.44	-0.73
	FT LAUDERDALE	75	4	0.62	-2.18	MT	BILLINGS	47	10	0.37	-0.75		MEMPHIS	53	0	5.48	-0.10
	FT MYERS	74	4	1.49	-1.25		BUTTE	37	7	0.41	-0.42		NASHVILLE	51	1	4.29	-0.58
	JACKSONVILLE	65	3	2.29	-1.64		GLASGOW	40	9	0.75	0.28	TX	ABILENE	56	0	1.60	0.19
	KEY WEST	77	3	1.48	-0.38		GREAT FALLS	44	11	0.09	-0.92		AMARILLO	51	3	0.21	-0.92
	MELBOURNE	72	6	0.43	-2.49		HELENA	45	10	0.15	-0.48		AUSTIN	58	-4	4.04	1.90
	MIAMI	77	5	1.32	-1.24		KALISPELL	39	4	1.66	0.55		BEAUMONT	64	2	8.12	4.37
	ORLANDO	73	6	0.75	-2.79		MILES CITY	***	***	0.10	-0.48		BROWNSVILLE	67	-2	4.71	3.78
	PENSACOLA	65	4	2.38	-4.02		MISSOULA	42	4	0.49	-0.47		COLLEGE STATION	60	-2	5.83	2.99
	ST PETERSBURG	72	5	1.44	-1.85	NE	GRAND ISLAND	44	6	0.16	-1.88		CORPUS CHRISTI	64	-2	6.13	4.40
	TALLAHASSEE	66	5	3.15	-3.32		HASTINGS	44	5	0.20	-1.88		DALLAS/FT WORTH	56	-1	2.53	-0.53
	TAMPA	73	6	1.03	-1.81		LINCOLN	43	4	0.77	-1.44		DEL RIO	63	-1	2.21	1.25
	WEST PALM BEACH	76	5	1.04	-2.64		MCCOOK	47	7	0.03	-1.38		EL PASO	60	3	0.61	0.35
GA	ATHENS	57	4	2.79	-2.20		NORFOLK	43	6	0.82	-1.15		GALVESTON	63	-1	7.69	4.93
	ATLANTA	57	3	2.98	-2.40		NORTH PLATTE	44	6	0.01	-1.23		HOUSTON	63	1	6.34	2.98
	AUGUSTA	58	2	3.04	-1.57		OMAHA/EPPLEY	44	5	0.54	-1.59		LUBBOCK	53	2	0.30	-0.46
	COLUMBUS	60	2	2.46	-3.29		SCOTTSBLUFF	45	8	0.27	-0.89		MIDLAND	55	-1	1.65	1.23
	MACON	58	2	2.28	-2.61		VALENTINE	43	8	0.03	-1.08		SAN ANGELO	57	0	1.67	0.68
	SAVANNAH	62	3	2.02	-1.62	NV	ELKO	45	6	0.16	-0.82		SAN ANTONIO	61	-1	2.97	1.08
HI	HILO	73	1	8.92	-5.43		ELY	43	7	0.36	-0.69		VICTORIA	62	-2	8.37	6.12
	HONOLULU	74	0	0.63	-1.26		LAS VEGAS	67	9	0.28	-0.31		WACO	56	-2	2.85	0.37
	KAHULUI	73	0	9.79	7.44		RENO	52	9	0.01	-0.85		WICHITA FALLS	54	0	1.78	-0.49
	LIHUE	73	0	1.64	-1.94		WINNEMUCCA	45	4	0.17	-0.69	UT	SALT LAKE CITY	50	7	0.71	-1.20
ID	BOISE	50	6	0.51	-0.90	NH	CONCORD	28	-5	1.48	-1.56	VT	BURLINGTON	26	-5	0.90	-1.42
	LEWISTON	49	4	1.17	0.05	NJ	ATLANTIC CITY	38	-4	6.64	2.58	VA	LYNCHBURG	45	-1	3.28	-0.55
	POCATELLO	44	6	0.25	-1.13		NEWARK	38	-4	4.63	0.42		NORFOLK	47	-2	2.69	-1.39
IL	CHICAGO/O'HARE	35	-2	1.10	-1.55	NM	ALBUQUERQUE	53	5	0.11	-0.50		RICHMOND	47	-1	3.78	-0.31
	MOLINE	38	-1	0.89	-2.03	NY	ALBANY	30	-5	1.25	-1.85		ROANOKE	47	0	4.32	0.48
	PEORIA	41	1	0.65	-2.18		BINGHAMTON	27	-6	1.99	-0.98		WASH/DULLES	40	-3	3.92	0.37
	ROCKFORD	35	-1	1.30	-1.09		BUFFALO	29	-5	1.44	-1.55	WA	OLYMPIA	48	4	5.94	0.65
	SPRINGFIELD	40	-2	1.56	-1.59		ROCHESTER	30	-4	1.34	-1.24		QUILLAYUTE	47	3	14.71	3.73
IN	EVANSVILLE	45	-1	6.85	2.56		SYRACUSE	27	-7	1.52	-1.50		SEATTLE-TACOMA	51	5	4.46	0.71
	FORT WAYNE	34	-4	2.07	-0.79	NC	ASHEVILLE	51	5	2.11	-2.48		SPOKANE	46	6	2.43	0.90
	INDIANAPOLIS	39	-3	3.53	0.09		CHARLOTTE	54	1	2.70	-1.69		YAKIMA	50	8	0.73	0.03
	SOUTH BEND	34	-4	0.78	-2.11		GREENSBORO	51	2	2.72	-1.13	WV	BECKLEY	43	1	5.69	2.06
IA	BURLINGTON	40	0	0.30	-2.66		HATTERAS	51	-1	2.55	-2.40		CHARLESTON	45	0	5.77	1.87
	CEDAR RAPIDS	37	0	0.52	-1.71		RALEIGH	51	0	3.28	-0.75		ELKINS	39	-1	7.37	3.45
	DES MOINES	43	5	0.49	-1.72		WILMINGTON	55	0	3.43	-0.79		HUNTINGTON	44	-2	6.33	2.50
	DUBUQUE	34	-1	0.80	-1.77	ND	BISMARCK	36	6	0.45	-0.40	WI	EAU CLAIRE	33	2	0.71	-1.15
	SIOUX CITY	42	5	0.88	-1.12		DICKINSON	38	8	0.47	-0.22		GREEN BAY	33	2	0.90	-1.16
	WATERLOO	35	0	0.60	-1.53		FARGO	34	7	0.30	-0.87		LA CROSSE	36	1	0.81	-1.19
KS	CONCORDIA	47	5	0.11	-2.24		GRAND FORKS	31	5	0.31	-0.58		MADISON	35	1	0.76	-1.52
	DODGE CITY	49	5	0.29	-1.55		JAMESTOWN	33	5	0.61	-0.28		MILWAUKEE	35	0	0.83	-1.76
	GOODLAND	47	7	0.11	-1.09		MINOT	34	6	0.37	-0.68		WAUSAU	31	1	0.82	-1.10
	HILL CITY	47	8	0.06	-1.48		WILLISTON	37	8	0.47	-0.27	WY	CASPER	40	5	0.64	-0.26
	TOPEKA	47	3	0.77	-1.79	OH	AKRON-CANTON	35	-3	2.76	-0.39		CHEYENNE	42	8	0.11	-0.94
	WICHITA	49	3	0.28	-2.43		CINCINNATI	42	-2	6.32	2.42		LANDER	40	5	0.55	-0.69
KY	JACKSON	47	0	6.26	1.88		CLEVELAND	34	-4	1.97	-0.97		SHERIDAN	42	7	0.40	-0.60

Based on 1971-2000 normals

***** Not Available**

National Agricultural Summary

April 6-12, 2015

Weekly National Agricultural Summary provided by USDA/NASS

HIGHLIGHTS

Temperatures were above normal across the central United States, aiding fieldwork where soil moisture conditions allowed producers to get into the fields. Average temperatures were more than 3°F above normal across the southern Great Plains, eastern Corn Belt, Mississippi Delta, and the Southeast. Areas of heavy precipitation were noted in the Corn Belt and the lower Mississippi Valley with some locations recording more than 2.5 inches of rainfall for the week. Tornado touchdowns were reported in Iowa, Illinois, and Ohio during the second half of the week.

Corn: By week's end, 2 percent of the Nation's corn crop was planted, slightly behind last year and 3 percentage points behind the 5-year average. Planting progress is at or behind the 5-year average in all estimating States except Kansas.

Winter Wheat: Nationally, 42 percent of the winter wheat crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down 2 percentage points from last week but 8 percentage points above this time last year. Drought conditions continued to worsen across Oklahoma, where winter wheat ratings were 36 percent in the Good-to-Excellent categories, dropping 7 percentage points since last week. Six percent of the 2015 winter wheat crop is heading, slightly ahead of last year but 2 percentage points behind the 5-year average.

Cotton: Planting inched forward during the week, as cotton producers in the Mississippi Delta and Southeast began seeding their crop. By April 12, four percent of the Nation's crop was planted, 4 percentage points behind both last year and the 5-year average.

Sorghum: By April 12, sixteen percent of this year's sorghum crop was planted, 3 percentage points behind last year and 4 percentage points behind the 5-year average. Planting was most active in Louisiana and Texas, where planting progress advanced 14 and 16 percentage points during the week, respectively.

Rice: Producers had seeded 26 percent of the 2015 rice crop by week's end, 2 percentage points ahead of last year but 4 percentage points behind the 5-year average. In Texas, rice planting continued with some delays due to wet field conditions. The rice crop began to emerge this week in Arkansas, Mississippi, and Texas. Eight percent of the Nation's crop was emerged by April 12, equal to last year but 3 percentage points behind the 5-year average.

Small Grains: Forty-three percent of the oat crop was seeded by April 12, nine percentage points ahead of last year but 2 percentage points behind the 5-year average. Good planting conditions aided fieldwork in the Missouri River Valley, with planting progress advancing 25 percentage points or more in Iowa, Nebraska, and South Dakota. By week's end, 28 percent of the Nation's oat crop was emerged, slightly behind last year and 5 percentage points behind the 5-year average.

By April 12, seventeen percent of the spring wheat crop was seeded, 12 percentage points ahead of last year and 6 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Spring wheat planting progress is ahead or equal to the 5-year average pace in all 6 estimating States.

Twenty-seven percent of the Nation's barley was planted by week's end, 12 percentage points ahead of both last year and the 5-year average. Planting progress is well ahead of the historical pace in the Pacific Northwest, with 65 percent planted in Idaho and 55 percent planted in Washington. This is 33 and 28 percentage points ahead of the 5-year averages, respectively, in these States.

Other Crops: By week's end, 15 percent of the sugarbeet crop was planted, 10 percentage points ahead of last year and slightly ahead of the 5-year average. Cold and wet conditions have delayed seeding in Michigan.

Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending April 12, 2015

Weekly U.S. Progress and Condition Data provided by USDA/NASS

Corn Percent Planted

	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 12 2015	5-Yr Avg
CO	0	NA	0	1
IL	1	NA	0	9
IN	0	NA	0	4
IA	0	NA	0	1
KS	10	6	14	8
KY	3	NA	1	15
MI	0	NA	0	1
MN	0	NA	0	1
MO	8	1	4	15
NE	1	NA	0	1
NC	17	NA	25	28
ND	0	NA	0	0
OH	0	NA	1	2
PA	0	NA	0	2
SD	0	NA	0	1
TN	6	2	5	23
TX	57	37	46	54
WI	0	NA	0	0
18 Sts	3	NA	2	5

These 18 States planted 92% of last year's corn acreage.

Cotton Percent Planted

	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 12 2015	5-Yr Avg
AL	1	0	1	2
AZ	34	32	35	30
AR	0	0	1	1
CA	77	10	15	31
GA	0	0	0	2
KS	0	0	0	0
LA	0	0	0	6
MS	1	0	1	1
MO	0	0	0	1
NC	0	0	0	1
OK	1	0	1	0
SC	0	0	0	1
TN	0	0	0	0
TX	11	1	5	12
VA	0	0	0	1
15 Sts	8	2	4	8

These 15 States planted 99% of last year's cotton acreage.

Winter Wheat Percent Headed

	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 12 2015	5-Yr Avg
AR	1	2	7	24
CA	74	NA	65	50
CO	0	NA	0	0
ID	0	NA	0	0
IL	0	NA	0	5
IN	0	NA	0	1
KS	0	NA	2	3
MI	0	NA	0	0
MO	0	NA	0	9
MT	0	NA	0	0
NE	0	NA	0	0
NC	1	NA	1	14
OH	0	NA	0	0
OK	3	NA	6	16
OR	0	NA	0	0
SD	0	NA	0	0
TX	15	7	22	22
WA	0	NA	0	0
18 Sts	5	NA	6	8

These 18 States planted 87% of last year's winter wheat acreage.

Winter Wheat Condition by Percent

	VP	P	F	G	EX
AR	3	13	31	42	11
CA	0	5	15	25	55
CO	3	11	32	47	7
ID	0	8	27	61	4
IL	1	9	36	47	7
IN	2	8	34	47	9
KS	8	20	44	26	2
MI	6	9	32	47	6
MO	2	6	42	48	2
MT	2	6	30	33	29
NE	12	18	34	33	3
NC	2	10	36	43	9
OH	2	7	34	48	9
OK	8	18	38	33	3
OR	0	5	57	32	6
SD	6	21	47	26	0
TX	3	9	36	42	10
WA	2	10	58	28	2
18 Sts	5	14	39	35	7
Prev Wk	4	12	40	37	7
Prev Yr	12	20	34	30	4

Sorghum Percent Planted

	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 12 2015	5-Yr Avg
AR	5	6	14	29
CO	0	0	0	0
IL	0	0	0	0
KS	0	0	0	0
LA	33	27	41	55
MO	0	0	0	1
NE	1	0	0	0
NM	0	0	0	1
OK	0	1	10	0
SD	0	0	0	0
TX	51	23	39	51
11 Sts	19	9	16	20

These 11 States planted 98% of last year's sorghum acreage.

Oats Percent Planted

	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 12 2015	5-Yr Avg
IA	26	17	42	46
MN	0	5	17	21
NE	25	44	70	46
ND	0	0	7	4
OH	5	1	6	24
PA	3	0	2	29
SD	14	10	43	23
TX	100	100	100	100
WI	0	2	5	16
9 Sts	34	32	43	45

These 9 States planted 66% of last year's oat acreage.

Oats Percent Emerged

	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 12 2015	5-Yr Avg
IA	0	0	4	10
MN	0	0	0	3
NE	4	0	12	10
ND	0	0	0	0
OH	1	0	1	5
PA	0	0	0	8
SD	0	0	5	6
TX	100	100	100	100
WI	0	0	0	2
9 Sts	29	26	28	33

These 9 States planted 66% of last year's oat acreage.

Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending April 12, 2015

Rice Percent Planted

	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 12 2015	5-Yr Avg
AR	16	6	21	27
CA	4	0	1	1
LA	67	63	74	69
MS	9	9	29	19
MO	4	0	0	19
TX	58	21	42	66
6 Sts	24	14	26	30

These 6 States planted 100% of last year's rice acreage.

Rice Percent Emerged

	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 12 2015	5-Yr Avg
AR	2	0	3	6
CA	0	0	0	0
LA	32	17	35	36
MS	0	0	4	7
MO	0	0	0	4
TX	28	0	7	40
6 Sts	8	3	8	11

These 6 States planted 100% of last year's rice acreage.

Spring Wheat Percent Planted

	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 12 2015	5-Yr Avg
ID	52	50	60	35
MN	0	1	20	11
MT	3	1	10	7
ND	0	NA	5	5
SD	6	17	44	21
WA	42	42	70	42
6 Sts	5	NA	17	11

These 6 States planted 99% of last year's spring wheat acreage.

Barley Percent Planted

	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 12 2015	5-Yr Avg
ID	52	58	65	32
MN	0	NA	10	9
MT	3	4	20	15
ND	0	NA	2	3
WA	23	26	55	27
5 Sts	15	NA	27	15

These 5 States planted 77% of last year's barley acreage.

Sugarbeets Percent Planted

	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 12 2015	5-Yr Avg
ID	27	27	40	37
MI	0	0	0	36
MN	0	0	11	3
ND	0	0	12	2
4 Sts	5	5	15	14

These 4 States planted 84% of last year's sugarbeet acreage.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork

	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 12 2015		Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 12 2015
AL	2.9	4.5	3.9	NE	5.7	5.3	3.9
AZ	7.0	7.0	7.0	NV	NA	7.0	5.0
AR	3.5	4.0	3.9	NH	2.9	1.5	0.7
CA	5.7	6.9	6.5	NJ	5.8	3.0	4.0
CO	6.0	6.0	6.4	NM	6.2	6.7	6.7
CT	5.6	0.0	2.7	NY	1.8	0.5	1.5
DE	5.5	4.5	4.5	NC	5.5	5.3	5.4
FL	5.8	6.6	6.5	ND	0.6	2.9	3.5
GA	4.3	5.5	5.5	OH	0.8	1.1	0.2
ID	5.9	4.7	4.8	OK	6.2	5.7	6.1
IL	2.5	2.5	2.9	OR	6.0	5.0	5.1
IN	1.3	1.7	1.2	PA	2.7	2.0	2.0
IA	3.6	4.2	2.7	RI	5.8	5.0	2.5
KS	5.9	6.0	6.0	SC	5.7	5.4	5.4
KY	3.2	3.6	1.8	SD	3.5	5.7	4.5
LA	3.5	5.6	3.7	TN	3.9	3.6	2.6
ME	0.9	0.0	1.0	TX	6.1	6.1	5.9
MD	4.8	4.5	5.0	UT	6.5	6.6	6.5
MA	4.9	0.1	2.5	VT	2.2	0.6	0.4
MI	1.7	1.7	1.5	VA	5.1	4.8	4.7
MN	0.4	2.7	3.5	WA	6.5	5.8	5.7
MS	2.3	3.7	3.3	WV	4.6	4.5	3.0
MO	4.1	2.4	2.3	WI	1.4	2.9	2.2
MT	2.9	4.6	5.0	WY	4.4	6.5	5.9

Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending April 12, 2015

Topsoil Moisture Condition by Percent

	VS	S	AD	SP
AL	2	2	54	42
AZ	2	21	70	7
AR	0	0	61	39
CA	45	30	25	0
CO	8	34	57	1
CT	0	0	19	81
DE	8	12	49	31
FL	0	44	51	5
GA	2	17	67	14
ID	8	29	60	3
IL	0	7	68	25
IN	0	2	49	49
IA	2	17	76	5
KS	22	34	42	2
KY	0	1	43	56
LA	1	1	45	53
ME	0	0	56	44
MD	0	0	71	29
MA	0	20	30	50
MI	0	3	49	48
MN	5	32	60	3
MS	0	1	58	41
MO	0	3	68	29
MT	7	22	61	10
NE	15	32	50	3
NV	45	35	20	0
NH	0	0	54	46
NJ	0	5	87	8
NM	14	44	42	0
NY	0	0	25	75
NC	0	7	75	18
ND	4	29	64	3
OH	0	0	34	66
OK	25	33	38	4
OR	4	42	52	2
PA	0	5	74	21
RI	0	0	35	65
SC	0	6	77	17
SD	25	44	30	1
TN	0	1	59	40
TX	11	24	53	12
UT	11	57	32	0
VT	0	12	38	50
VA	1	8	83	8
WA	0	19	79	2
WV	0	7	67	26
WI	1	15	63	21
WY	5	59	36	0
48 Sts	6	17	53	24
Prev Wk	5	18	56	21
Prev Yr	14	22	51	13

Subsoil Moisture Condition by Percent

	VS	S	AD	SP
AL	2	3	66	29
AZ	0	17	81	2
AR	1	4	62	33
CA	40	45	15	0
CO	16	37	45	2
CT	0	0	20	80
DE	12	13	44	31
FL	1	36	61	2
GA	2	13	76	9
ID	6	35	59	0
IL	0	10	74	16
IN	0	3	61	36
IA	2	20	75	3
KS	23	42	35	0
KY	0	2	60	38
LA	1	2	49	48
ME	0	0	59	41
MD	0	0	93	7
MA	0	20	30	50
MI	2	4	58	36
MN	4	36	60	0
MS	0	1	56	43
MO	1	10	81	8
MT	6	21	53	20
NE	13	29	57	1
NV	35	45	20	0
NH	0	0	74	26
NJ	0	0	92	8
NM	12	26	62	0
NY	0	0	40	60
NC	0	3	74	23
ND	3	23	70	4
OH	0	1	51	48
OK	37	32	29	2
OR	7	46	47	0
PA	0	11	79	10
RI	0	0	50	50
SC	0	7	65	28
SD	19	46	35	0
TN	0	2	68	30
TX	10	26	54	10
UT	12	56	32	0
VT	0	0	51	49
VA	1	8	84	7
WA	4	25	68	3
WV	0	8	76	16
WI	2	19	66	13
WY	4	51	45	0
48 Sts	6	17	58	19
Prev Wk	5	18	60	17
Prev Yr	15	26	51	8

VP - Very Poor
P - Poor
F - Fair
G - Good
EX - Excellent

VS - Very Short
S - Short
AD - Adequate
SP - Surplus

NA - Not Available
* Revised

April 9 ENSO Update

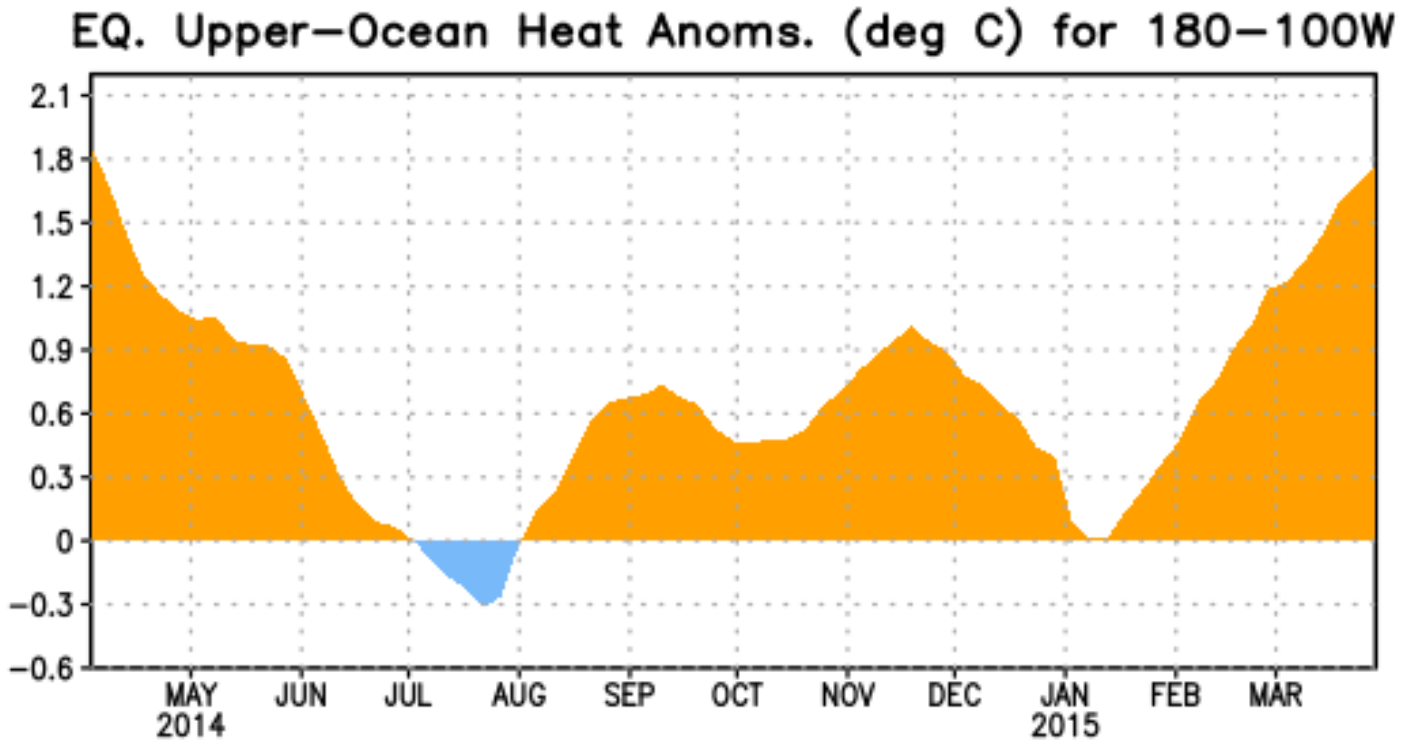


Figure 1: Area-averaged upper-ocean heat content anomaly (°C) in the equatorial Pacific (5°N-5°S, 180º-100ºW). The heat content anomaly is computed as the departure from the 1981-2010 base period pentad means.

ENSO Alert System Status: El Niño Advisory

Synopsis: There is an approximately 70% chance that El Niño will continue through Northern Hemisphere summer 2015, and a greater than 60% chance it will last through autumn.

By the end of March 2015, weak El Niño conditions were reflected by above-average sea surface temperatures (SST) across the equatorial Pacific, and by the expected tropical atmospheric response. The latest weekly Niño indices were +1.1°C in the Niño-4 region, +0.7°C in the Niño-3.4 region, and +0.6°C and +1.4°C in the Niño-3 and Niño-1+2 regions, respectively. Subsurface temperature anomalies increased substantially during the month (Fig. 1) in response to a downwelling oceanic Kelvin wave, which resulted in strong positive subsurface anomalies across most of the Pacific. Consistent with ocean-atmosphere coupling, enhanced convection shifted eastward to the central equatorial Pacific, while low-level westerly wind anomalies continued over the western equatorial Pacific and upper-level easterly wind anomalies continued in the central Pacific. Also, both the traditional and the equatorial Southern Oscillation Index (EQSOI) remained negative during the month. Collectively, these features reflect weak El Niño conditions.

Compared to last month, more models predict El Niño (3-month values of the Niño-3.4 index equal to or greater than 0.5°C) to continue throughout 2015. These forecasts are supported by the increase in subsurface temperatures, enhanced convection over the Date Line, and the increased persistence of low-level westerly wind anomalies. However, model forecast skill tends to be lower during the Northern Hemisphere spring, which limits the forecast probabilities of El Niño through the year. At this time, there is also considerable uncertainty as to how strong this event may become. In summary, there is an approximately 70% chance that El Niño will continue through the Northern Hemisphere summer 2015, and a greater than 60% chance that it will last through autumn (click CPC/IRI consensus forecast for the chance of each outcome for each 3-month period).

This discussion is a consolidated effort of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), NOAA's National Weather Service, and their funded institutions. Oceanic and atmospheric conditions are updated weekly on the Climate Prediction Center web site (El Niño/La Niña Current Conditions and Expert Discussions). Forecasts are also updated monthly in the Forecast Forum of CPC's Climate Diagnostics Bulletin. Additional perspectives and analysis are also available in an ENSO blog. The next ENSO Diagnostics Discussion is scheduled for **14 May 2015**. To receive an e-mail notification when the monthly ENSO Diagnostic Discussions are released, please send an e-mail message to: ncep.list.enso-update@noaa.gov.

International Weather and Crop Summary

April 5-11, 2015

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

HIGHLIGHTS

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

WESTERN FSU: Widespread rain eased dryness concerns for winter crops in central Russia and maintained favorable conditions for vegetative winter wheat in the south.

MIDDLE EAST: Widespread showers sustained good to excellent prospects for winter grains across most of the region but likely hampered fieldwork.

NORTHWESTERN AFRICA: Additional showers in Morocco sustained excellent prospects for reproductive winter grains.

EAST ASIA: Showers shifted to the south in China, bringing improved moisture conditions for rice across the southeast but drier weather to wheat on the North China Plain.

SOUTHEAST ASIA: Tropical Cyclone Maysak continued to weaken as it crossed the northern Philippines, while showers eased in most parts of Java, Indonesia.

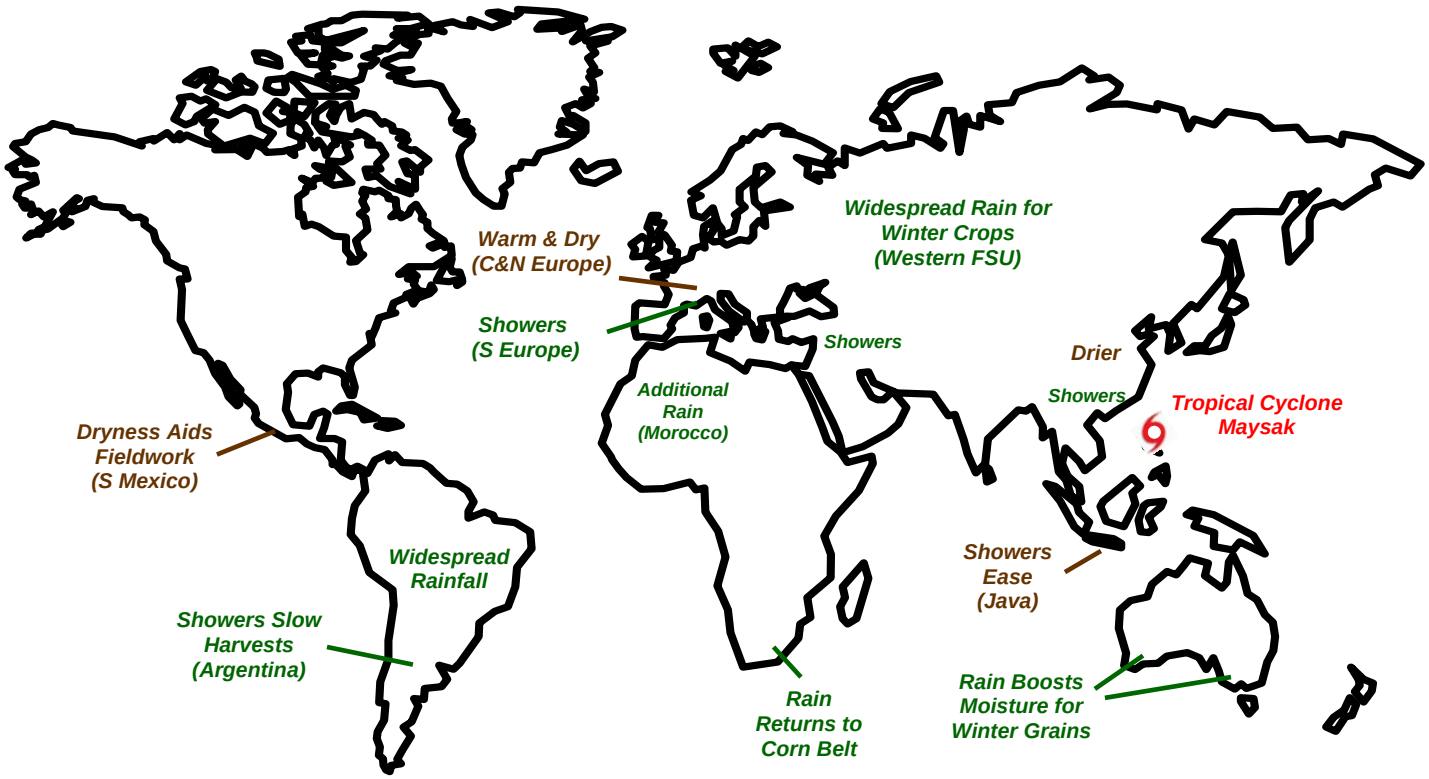
AUSTRALIA: Rain in the west and southeast provided a welcome boost in topsoil moisture in advance of upcoming winter crop sowing.

SOUTH AFRICA: Rain returned to northern and eastern sections of the corn belt but drier conditions persisted in the west.

ARGENTINA: Showers caused some additional delays in summer crop harvesting.

BRAZIL: Widespread, locally heavy rain maintained overall favorable conditions for second-crop corn.

MEXICO: Dry weather aided sugarcane harvesting and the early stages of summer corn planting.



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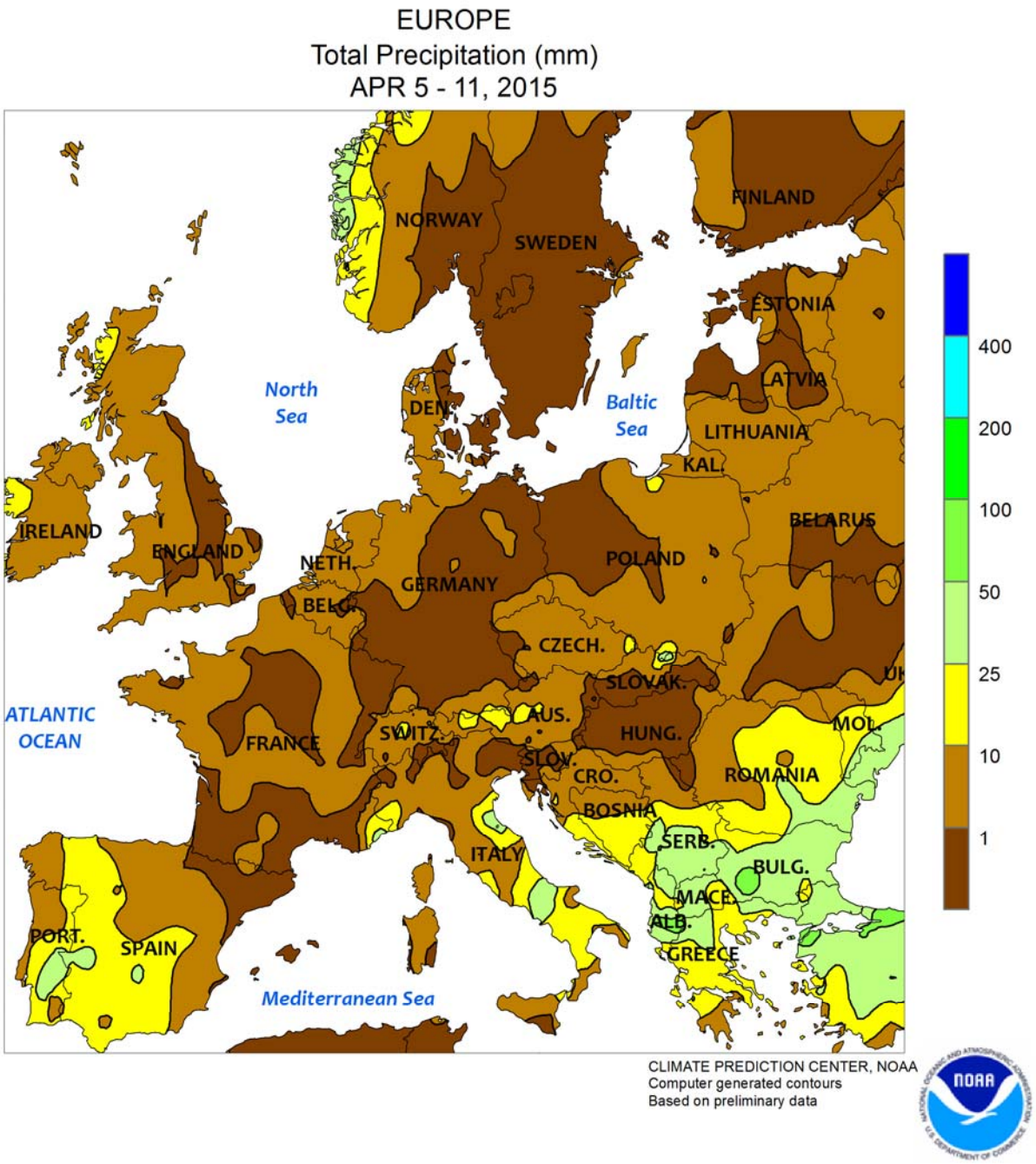

EUROPE

Warm, mostly dry weather over central and northern Europe favored fieldwork and winter crop development, while showers lingered in southern growing areas. An area of high pressure provided sunny, warm conditions (1-4°C above normal) from France and the United Kingdom into Poland and the Baltic States, promoting the development of vegetative winter wheat and rapeseed. In addition, spring grain planting and other seasonal fieldwork proceeded without delay over these same growing areas. In contrast, widespread showers (10-40 mm) boosted prospects for vegetative to heading winter wheat in Spain but hampered fieldwork in the southern Balkans. Soils in the lower Danube River Valley are likely saturated after a wet winter and start to the spring, and a respite from the rain would be welcomed. In Italy, dry weather in the north promoted corn planting and other fieldwork, while light to moderate showers (10-25 mm, locally more) further south caused temporary fieldwork delays.

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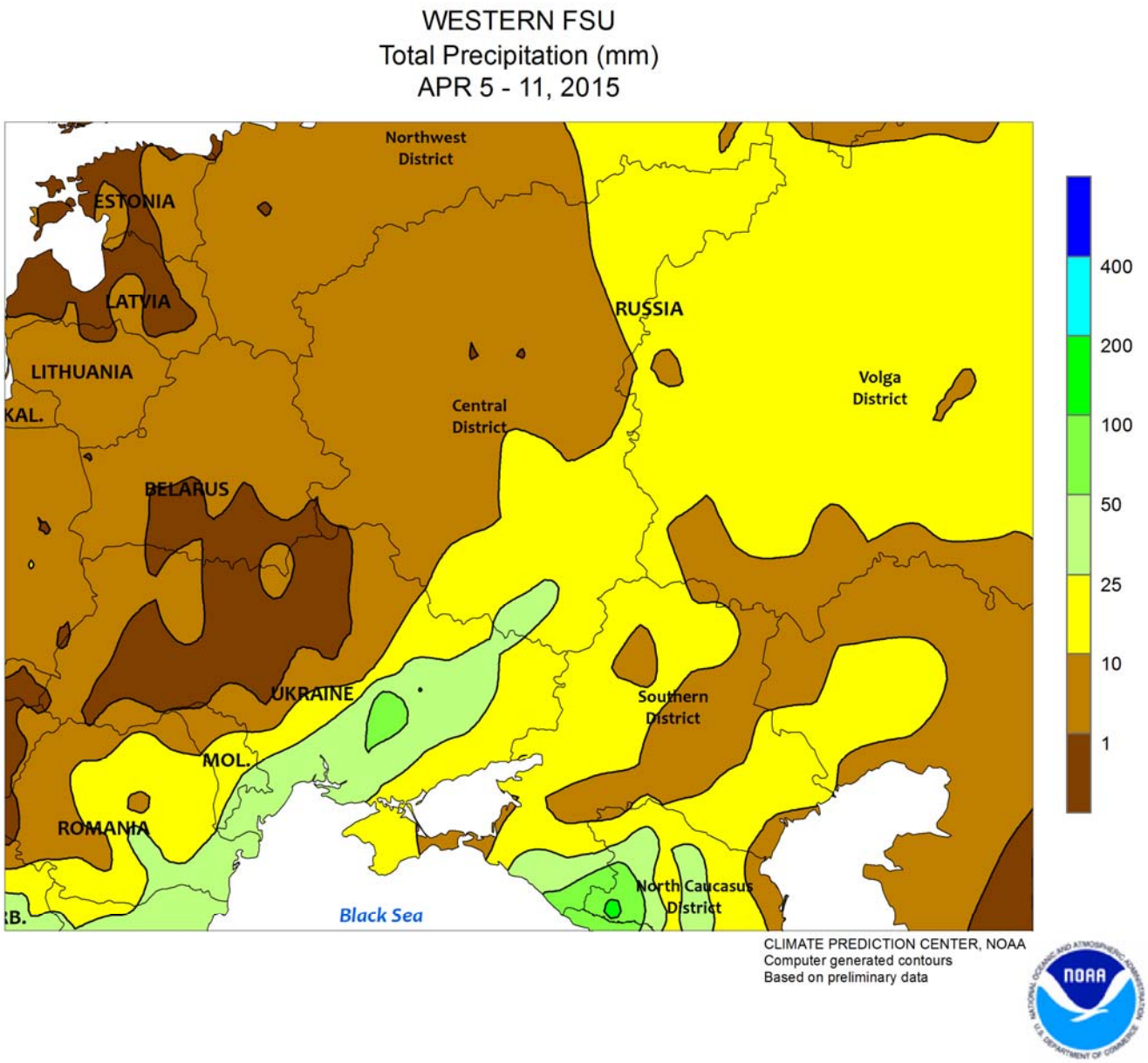

WESTERN FSU

Rain eased dryness concerns in central growing areas and maintained favorable soil moisture in the south. A slow-moving storm system generated moderate to heavy rain and wet snow (10-50 mm liquid equivalent, locally more) from Moldova and southern Ukraine northeastward into central Russia. The moisture was especially welcomed across the northern half of Russia's Southern District as well as adjacent portions of the Central District, where recent dryness coupled with autumn drought had depleted soil moisture and raised concerns over conditions for winter wheat. Some snow fell in central Russia, though warmer weather by the end of the period melted the snow cover in all but the eastern Volga District. Farther south, the rain sustained generally favorable conditions for crop development in the major winter wheat areas of southern Russia and central and southern Ukraine. Meanwhile, dry weather accelerated spring grain planting in Belarus and northern Ukraine.

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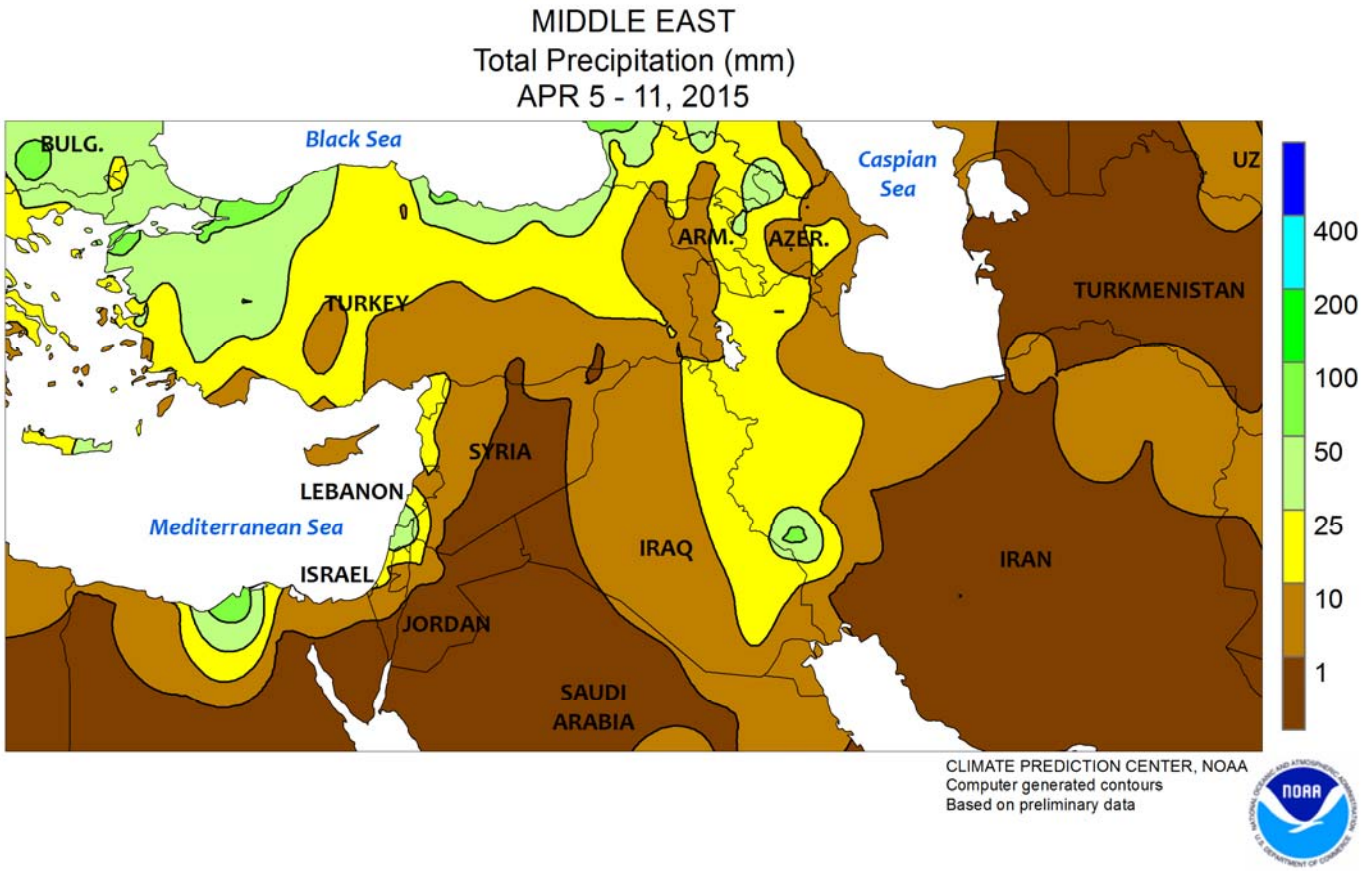

MIDDLE EAST

Showers across the region sustained good to excellent winter crop prospects but likely hampered fieldwork. A complex developing storm system generated additional widespread rain and high-elevation snow (5-50 mm liquid equivalent, locally more) over Turkey and the eastern Mediterranean Coast into northwestern Iran, maintaining good to excellent prospects for vegetative winter wheat and barley. However, the rain likely slowed or halted cotton planting, particularly in western Turkey where the rain was heaviest. Showers generally bypassed eastern Syria and Iraq, though crop conditions in these two countries remained good to excellent following a wetter-than-normal winter. Sunny, warm weather (3-5°C above normal) promoted winter crop development in southern portions of Iran following recent, unseasonably heavy rainfall.

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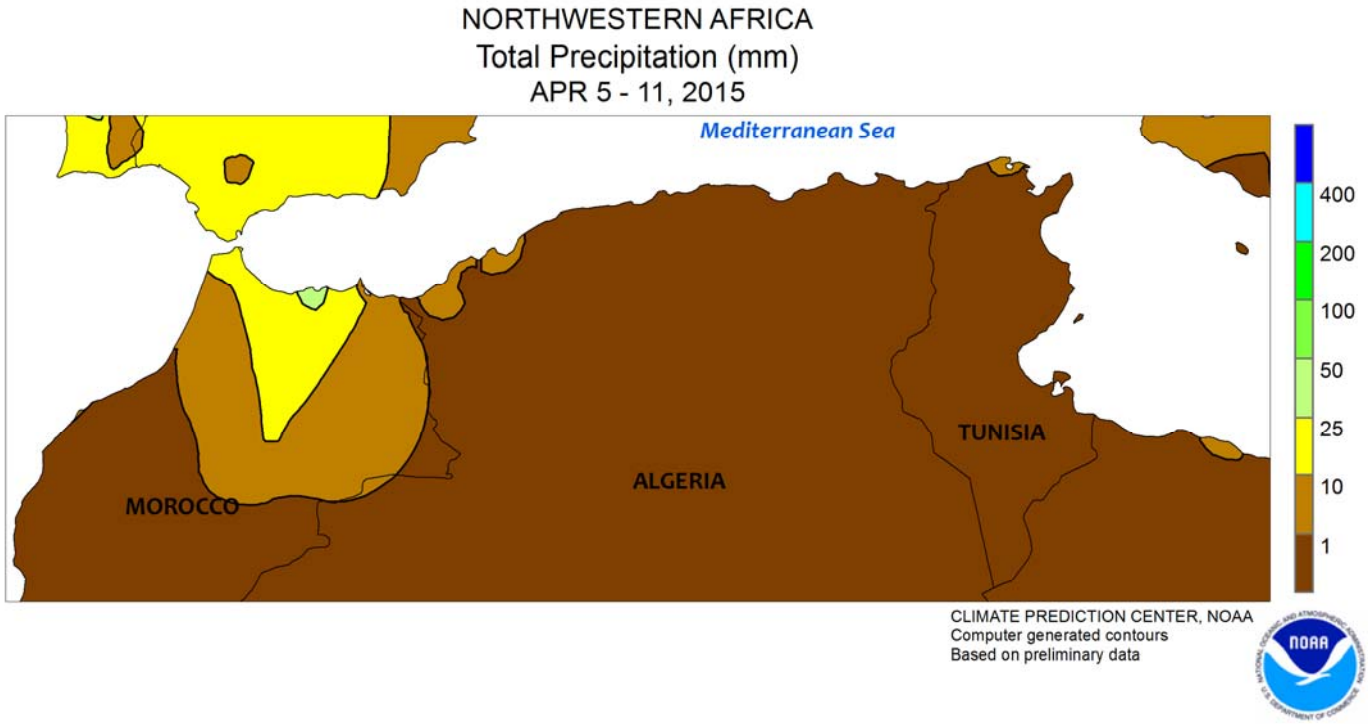

NORTHWESTERN AFRICA

Showers in western growing areas contrasted with mostly sunny skies for winter crop development in eastern portions of the region. Another round of beneficial showers (10-25 mm, locally more) in Morocco sustained good to excellent yield prospects for reproductive winter grains, particularly in northern portions of the country. Farther east, sunny skies and near- to below-normal temperatures (1-3°C below normal) maintained favorable growing conditions for vegetative to reproductive winter wheat and barley, though a pronounced autumn drought likely impeded winter crop establishment in northeastern Algeria.

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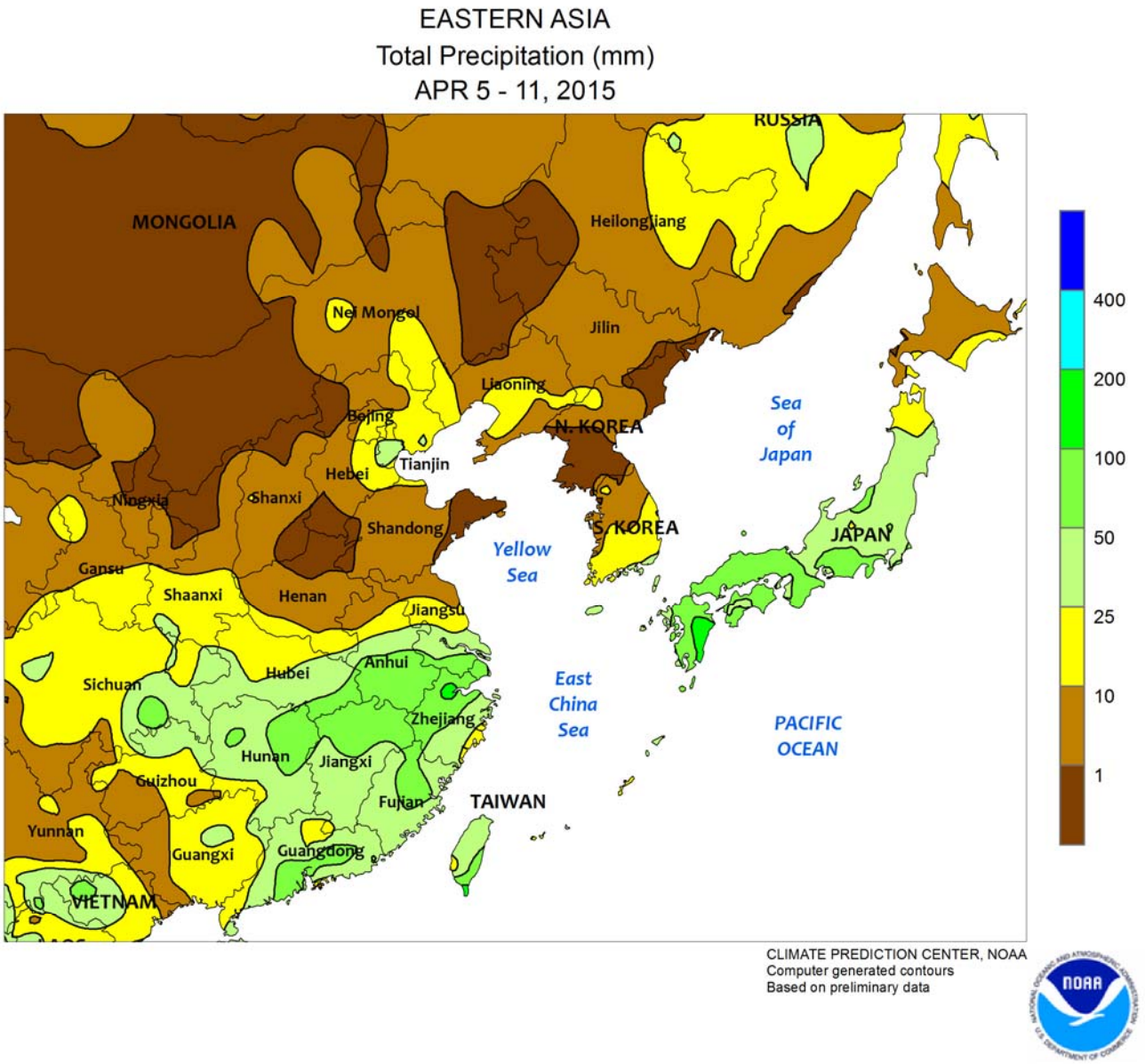

EASTERN ASIA

The prevailing pattern of spring rainfall across eastern China shifted to the south, bringing increased moisture to early-crop rice in southeastern provinces. The showers (25-75 mm) were particularly welcome in Fujian and Guangdong where spring moisture deficits have mounted. Favorable rainfall was also reported across the Yangtze Valley, as upwards of 80 mm benefited reproductive to ripening winter rapeseed. In contrast, the shift in rainfall brought a return to drier conditions on the North China Plain, where spring (since March 1) rainfall totals remained above the long-term average, primarily as a result of the previous week's rain. Winter wheat was entering the moisture critical reproductive phase of development and supplemental irrigation may be needed to meet water requirements of the crop. Meanwhile, with the recent showers, temperatures averaged up to 4°C below normal in most growing areas. Some isolated freezes were also reported in portions of the North China Plain but did not meet the threshold for incurring damage to wheat.

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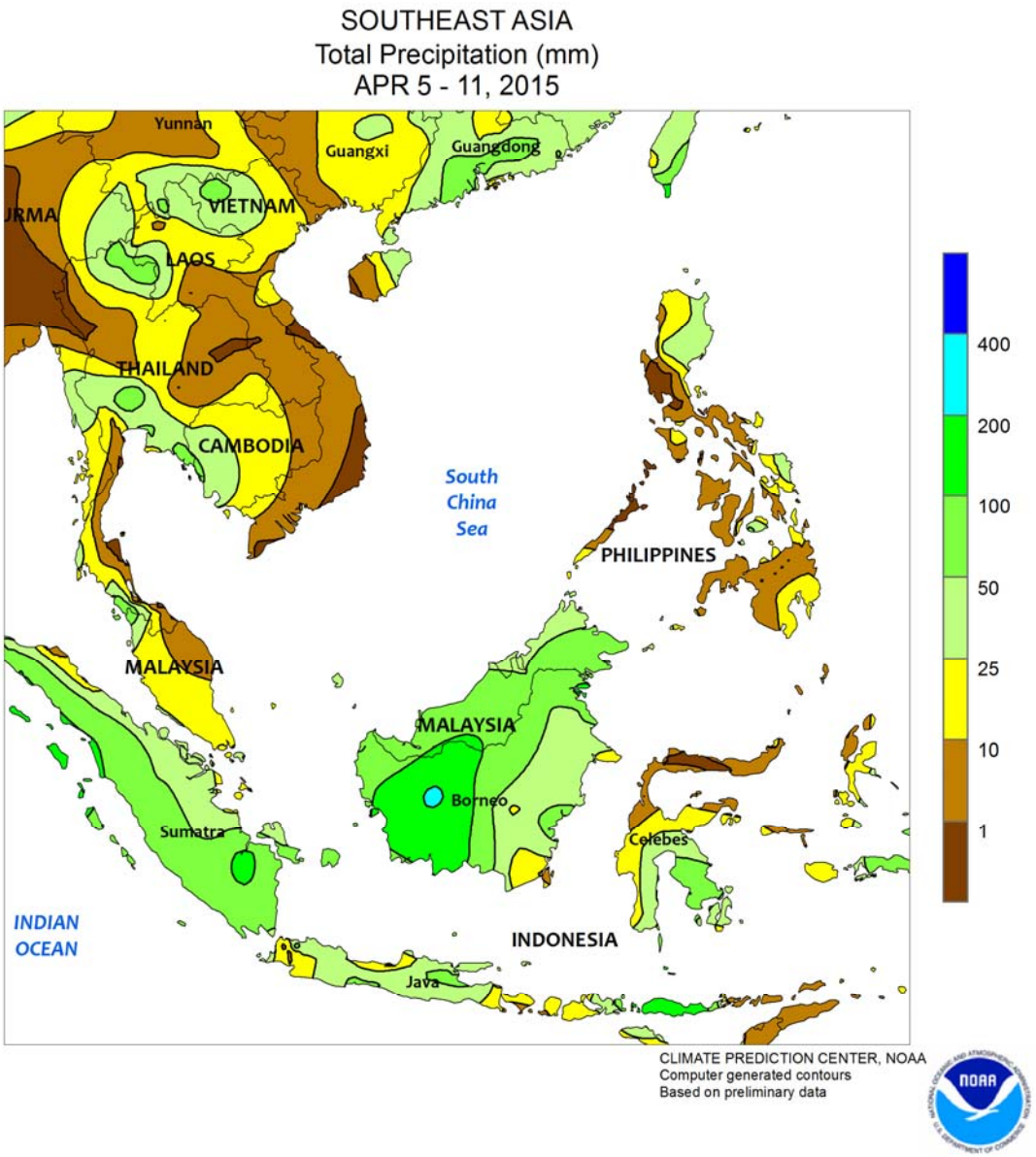

SOUTHEAST ASIA

A significantly weakened Tropical Cyclone Maysak moved ashore in the northeastern Philippines early in the period. Sustained wind speeds were 45 knots at the time of landfall and rainfall across eastern Luzon was less than 50 mm. Maysak had been a Category 5 Super Typhoon as of April 1 but weakened rapidly as it approached the Philippines. Rainfall for the week across the country was unseasonably light, aiding harvesting but extending spring (since March 1) rainfall deficits. Farther south in the region, rainfall continued to diminish in eastern Java, Indonesia, and was easing in central portions of Java; March typically marks the last month of the rainy season in these areas. Western Java also experienced diminished rainfall for the week, where April is usually the last month of the rainy season. The onset of drier conditions aided rice harvesting across Java, as sufficient moisture reserves were available to benefit later-developing varieties. In other parts of Indonesia, rainfall (50-100 mm, or more) maintained favorable soil moisture for oil palm throughout Sumatra and Kalimantan as well as into neighboring portions of Malaysia (Sabah and Sarawak). However, Peninsular Malaysia continued to experience inconsistent rainfall with mostly dry weather adversely affecting production prospects.

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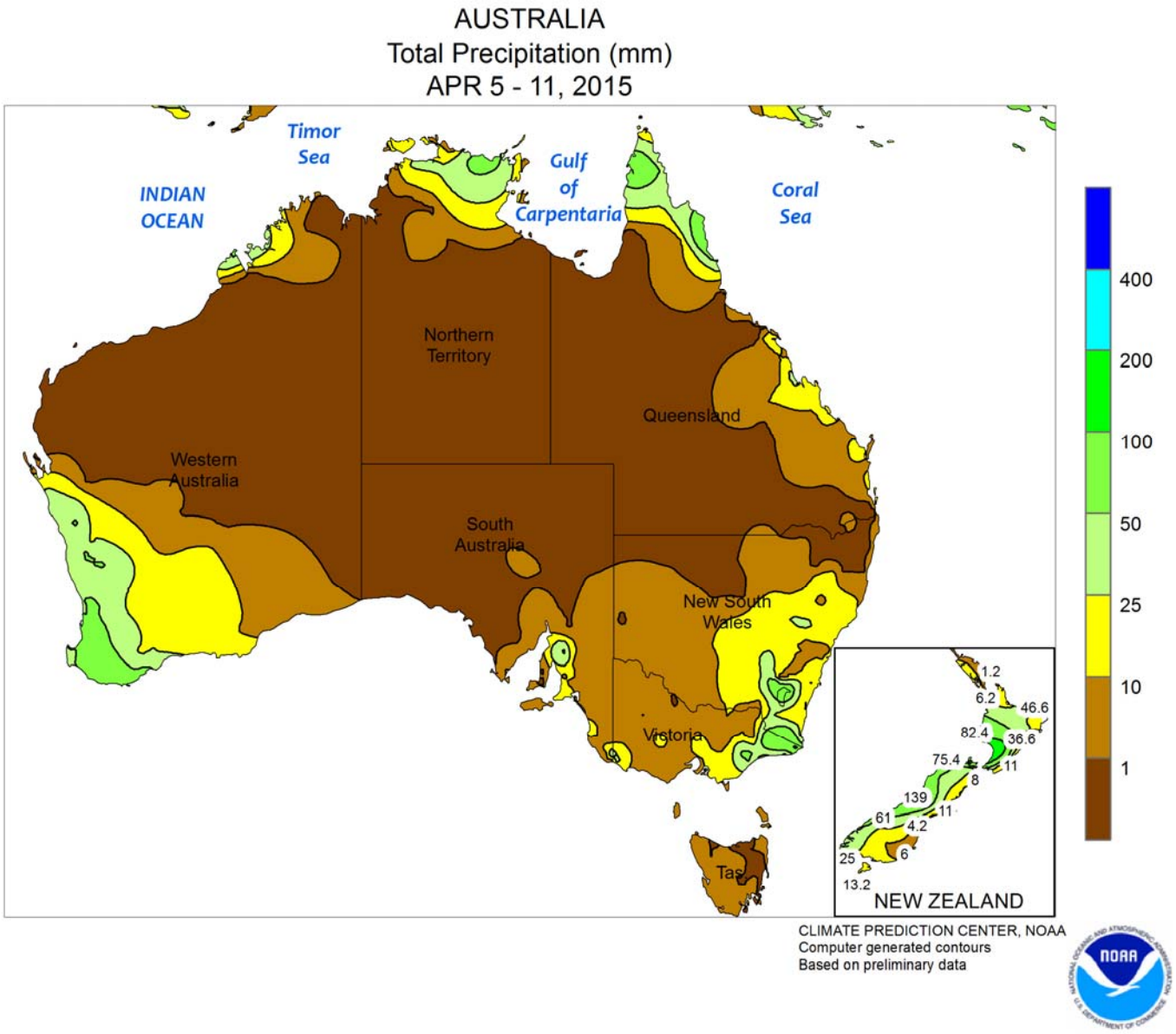
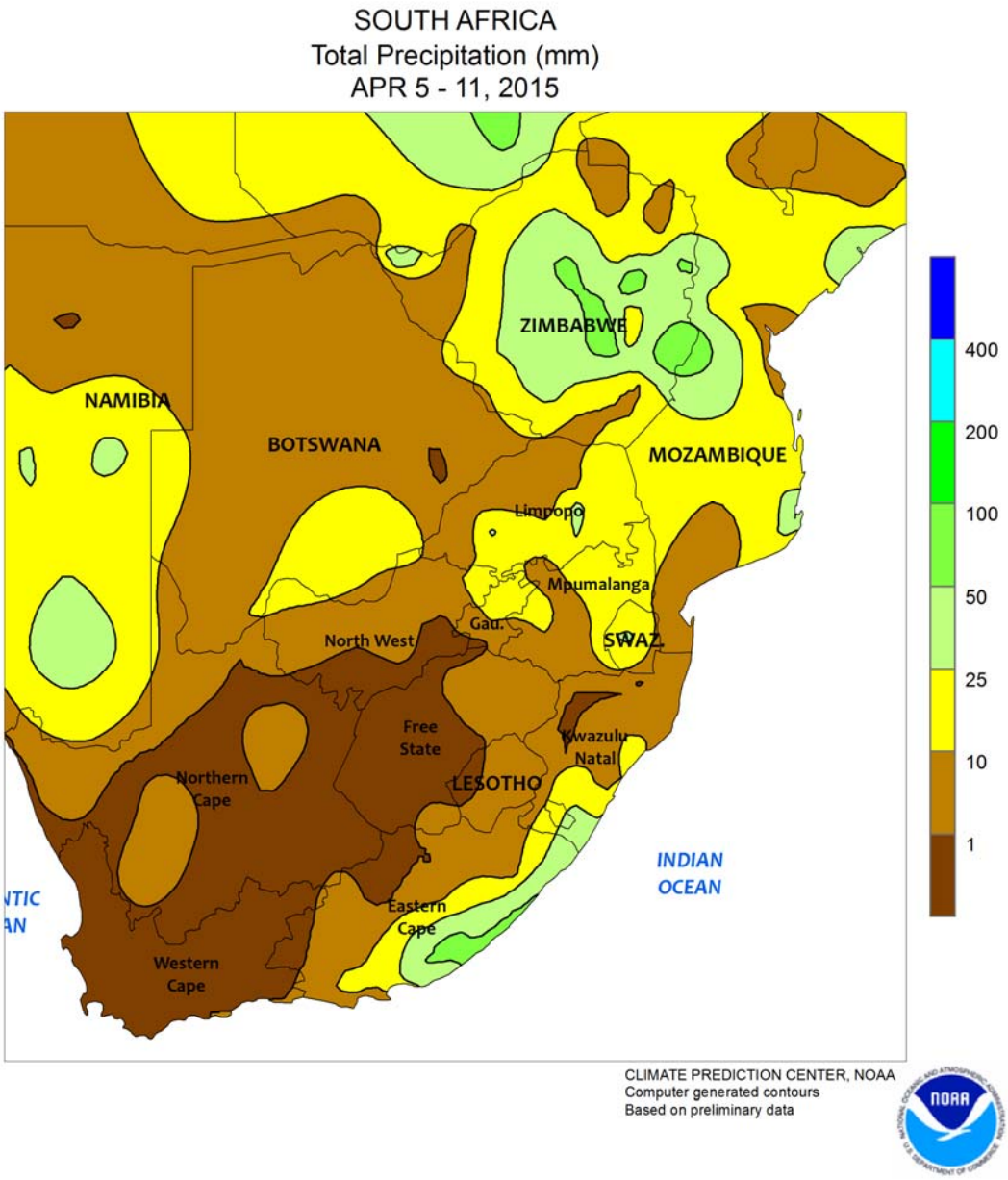


AUSTRALIA

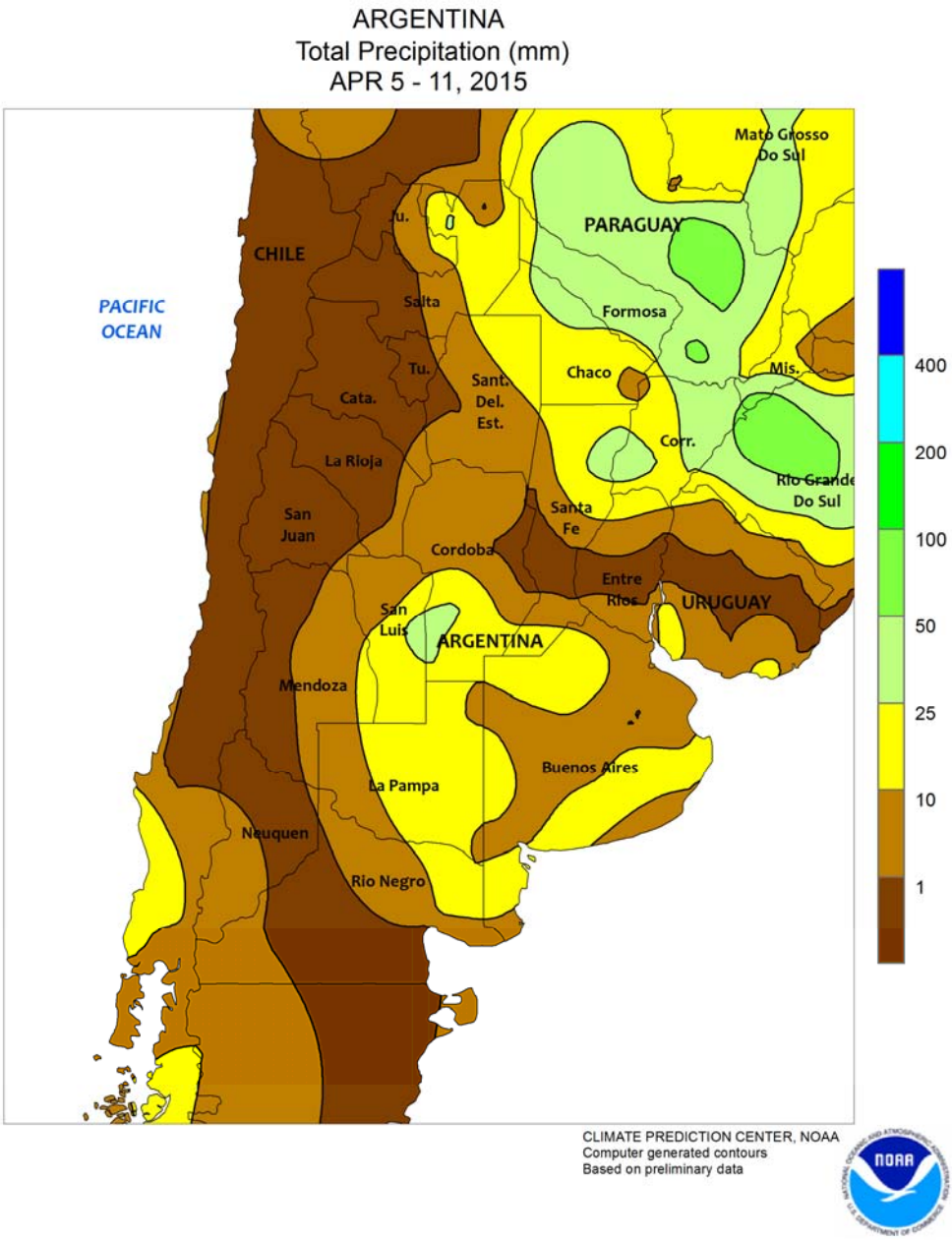
In southern Queensland and northern New South Wales, somewhat drier weather overspread major summer crop producing areas, allowing harvesting to regain momentum in the border region. Elsewhere in these states, scattered showers (5-25 mm) slowed local cotton and sorghum harvesting, but the rainfall further increased moisture supplies in advance of upcoming winter wheat planting. In southeastern and western Australia, widespread showers (5-25 mm, locally more) boosted topsoil moisture prior to autumn wheat, barley, and canola sowing. Most winter crops are not planted until May or June, but this rainfall was very beneficial, helping to condition topsoils for the upcoming growing season. Temperatures averaged near to slightly below normal (1°C) throughout the wheat belt, with maximum temperatures in the 20s degrees C in most areas.



SOUTH AFRICA

Following last week's dry, generally warm weather, showers returned to northeastern sections of the corn belt. Rainfall totaling more than 10 mm accumulated over several days in Gauteng, Limpopo, and nearby locations in North West and Mpumalanga. Drier weather prevailed elsewhere in the corn belt, however, with little to no rain in the commercial white corn areas of Free State and North West. Most summer crops are in filling to maturing stages of development and would not significantly benefit from additional moisture. Weekly temperatures averaged within 1°C of normal across the corn belt, with daytime highs occasionally reaching the 30s (degrees C) in western production areas. Mostly dry, occasionally warm weather (highs reaching 30°C) also continued in sugarcane areas of KwaZulu-Natal and eastern Mpumalanga, though some locations received some rain (greater than 10 mm). Somewhat heavier rain (10-75 mm) fell along the southeast coast (Eastern Cape to southern KwaZulu-Natal) but the remainder of the Cape Provinces were mostly dry. Hot weather (daytime highs approaching 40°C) in the main winter wheat areas of Western Cape dried topsoils ahead of planting.

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



ARGENTINA

Showers caused temporary fieldwork delays in summer crop areas of central and northern Argentina. Rainfall totaled 10 to 25 mm from southern Cordoba and La Pampa eastward through Buenos Aires; although relatively light, the rain fell on several days, reducing opportunities for fieldwork. Weekly average temperatures were near to above normal, with daytime highs reaching the lower 30s (degrees C) on several days in northern production areas of La Pampa and Buenos Aires and neighboring locations from Cordoba to Entre Rios. While the overall warm weather pattern aided crop maturation, an early-week frontal passage briefly dropped nighttime lows to near freezing (0-2°C). Elsewhere, locally heavy rain (10-50 mm) lingered from the previous week over the northeast, but drier, warmer weather prevailed for the remainder of the week, with highs reaching the lower and middle 30s aiding the drying process from April 8 onward. Similar conditions were recorded in Paraguay. In contrast, drier weather accompanied the warmth in northwestern agricultural areas, where late-planted crops may still benefit from moisture. According to Argentina's Ministry of Agriculture, sunflowers were 94 percent harvested as of April 9, same as last year. In addition, corn and soybeans were 16 and 20 percent harvested, respectively, ahead of last year's pace for both crops.

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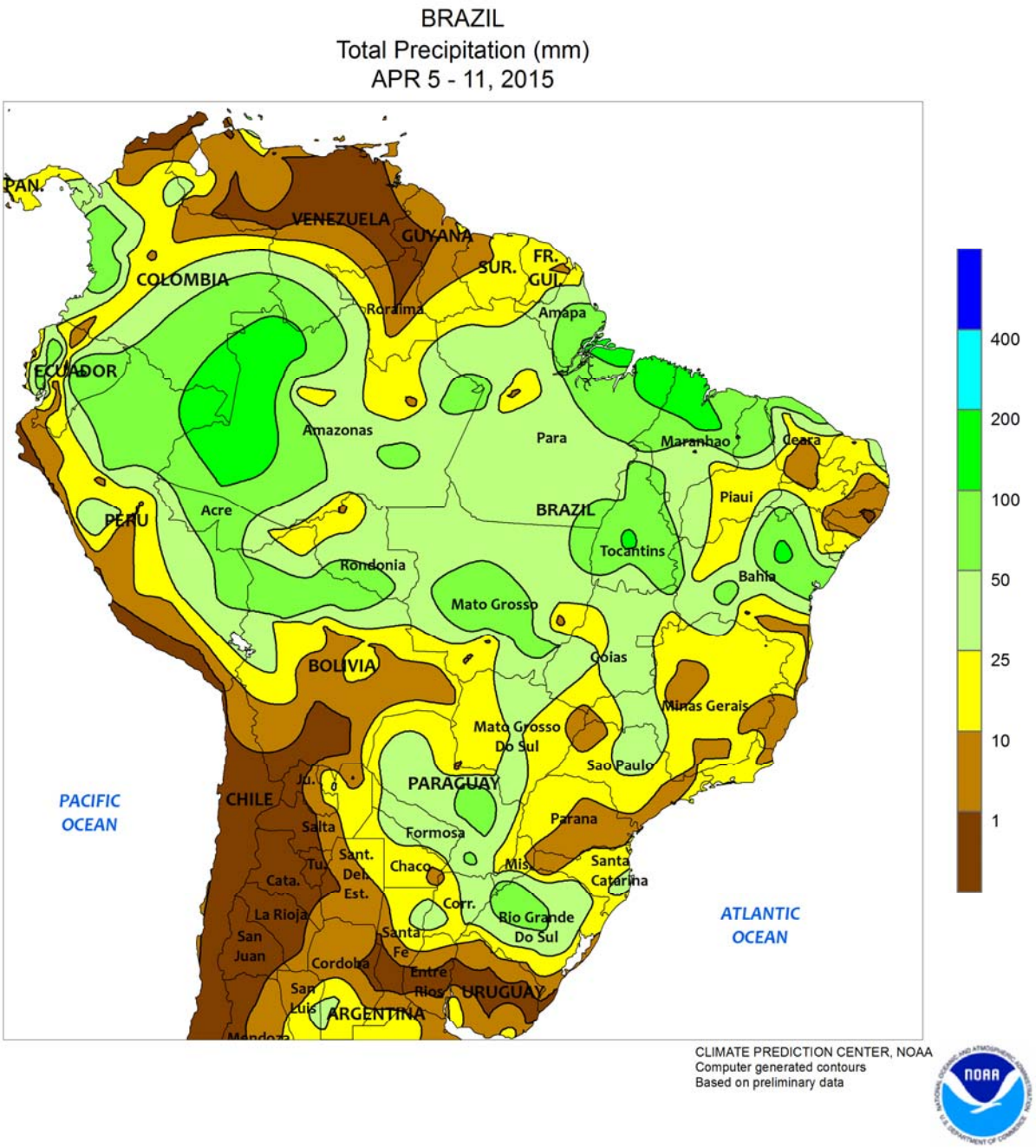

BRAZIL

Conditions remained overall favorable for development of second-season crops. Most agricultural areas of the Center-West and northeastern interior regions (Mato Grosso to western Bahia and Maranhao) recorded at least 25 mm, with many locations receiving more than 50 mm. Weekly temperatures averaged 1 to 2°C above normal (daytime highs in the lower and middle 30s degrees C), spurring rapid development of second-crop (safrinha) corn and cotton. Rainfall was more variable farther south, ranging from 2 to 50 mm (locally higher) from Mato Grosso do Sul and Minas Gerais southward to Rio Grande do Sul. In addition, temperatures were generally more seasonable, with highs ranging from the middle and upper 20s to the lower 30s. Rainfall averaged less than 25 mm in Parana, where — according to government reports — safrinha corn is mostly in vegetative to reproductive stages of development. Meanwhile, showers increased along the northeastern coast, with rainfall in excess of 50 mm in sections of Bahia, aiding local irrigation reserves.

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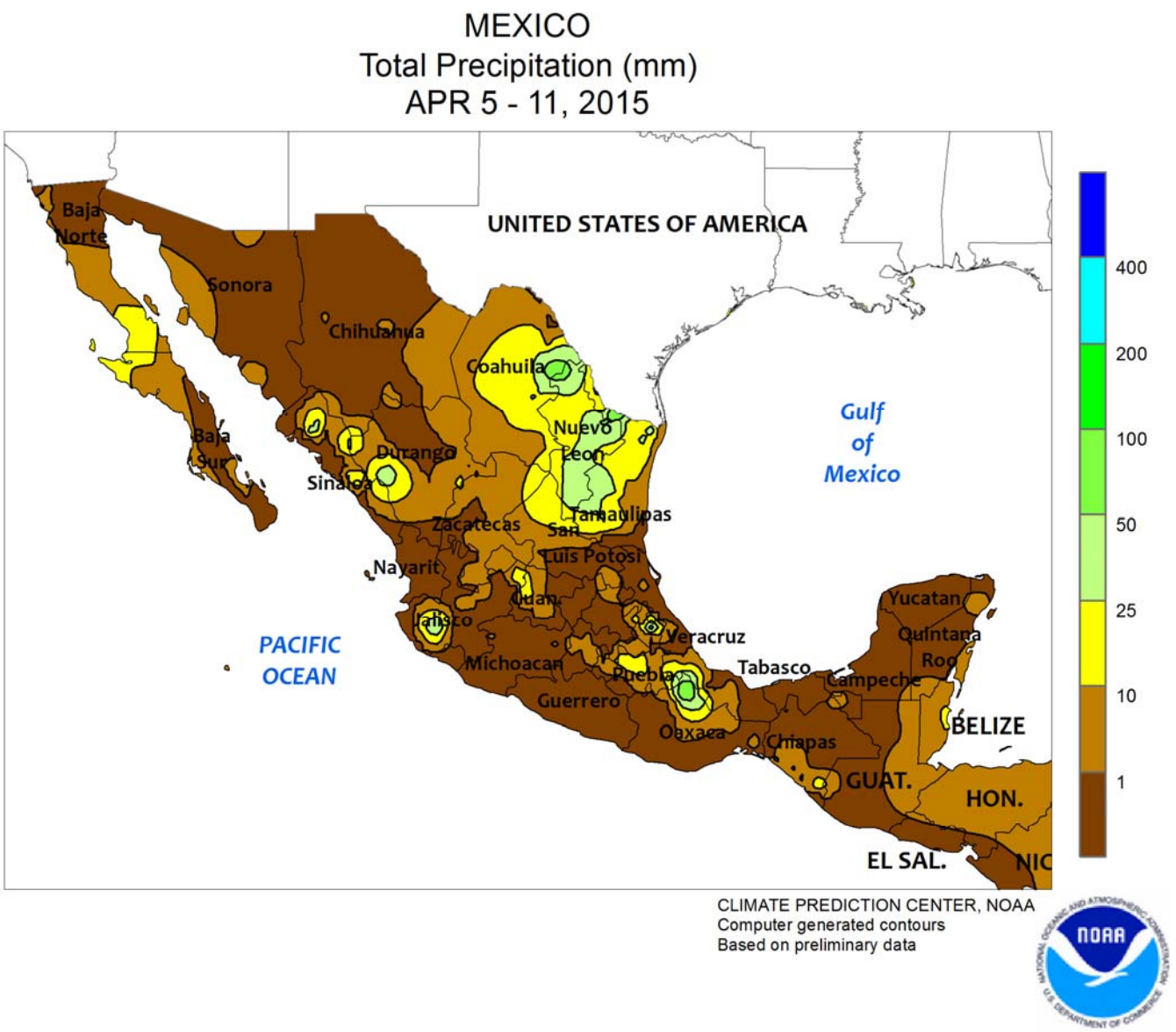

MEXICO

Dry weather favored sugarcane harvesting and corn planting in key southern production areas. Little to no rain fell in southern Mexico, with just a few isolated locations receiving rainfall in excess of 10 mm. It was the second week of dryness in Veracruz and eastern sections of the southern plateau after several weeks of unseasonable rainfall. Corn planting typically begins in April in eastern sections of the southern plateau, moving west upon the development of seasonal rains. Sugarcane harvesting typically tapers off during April but likely increased recently due to earlier delays from the unseasonable wetness. Warm, seasonably dry weather in northwestern Mexico fostered rapid development of filling to maturing winter wheat. In contrast, showers intensified over the northeast, boosting moisture for immature, rain-fed winter sorghum.

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U.S. Crop Production Highlights

The following information was released by USDA's Agricultural Statistics Board on April 9, 2015. Forecasts refer to April 1.

The U.S. **all orange** forecast for the 2014-2015 season is 6.68 million tons, up slightly from the previous forecast but down 1 percent from the revised 2013-2014 final utilization. The Florida all orange forecast, at 102 million boxes (4.59 million tons), is unchanged from the previous forecast but down 3 percent from last season's revised final utilization. Early, midseason, and Navel varieties in Florida are forecast at 47.0 million boxes (2.12 million tons), unchanged from the previous forecast but down 12 percent from last season's final utilization. The Florida Valencia orange forecast, at 55.0 million boxes (2.48 million tons), is unchanged from the previous forecast but up 7 percent from last season's revised final utilization.

The California Valencia orange forecast is 10.0 million boxes (400,000 tons), unchanged from the previous forecast but down 7 percent from last season's revised final utilization. The California Navel orange forecast is 40.0 million boxes (1.60 million tons), unchanged from the previous forecast but up 3 percent from last season's revised final utilization. The Texas all orange forecast, at 2.18 million boxes (93,000 tons), is up 8 percent from the previous forecast and up 23 percent from last season's final utilization.

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

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