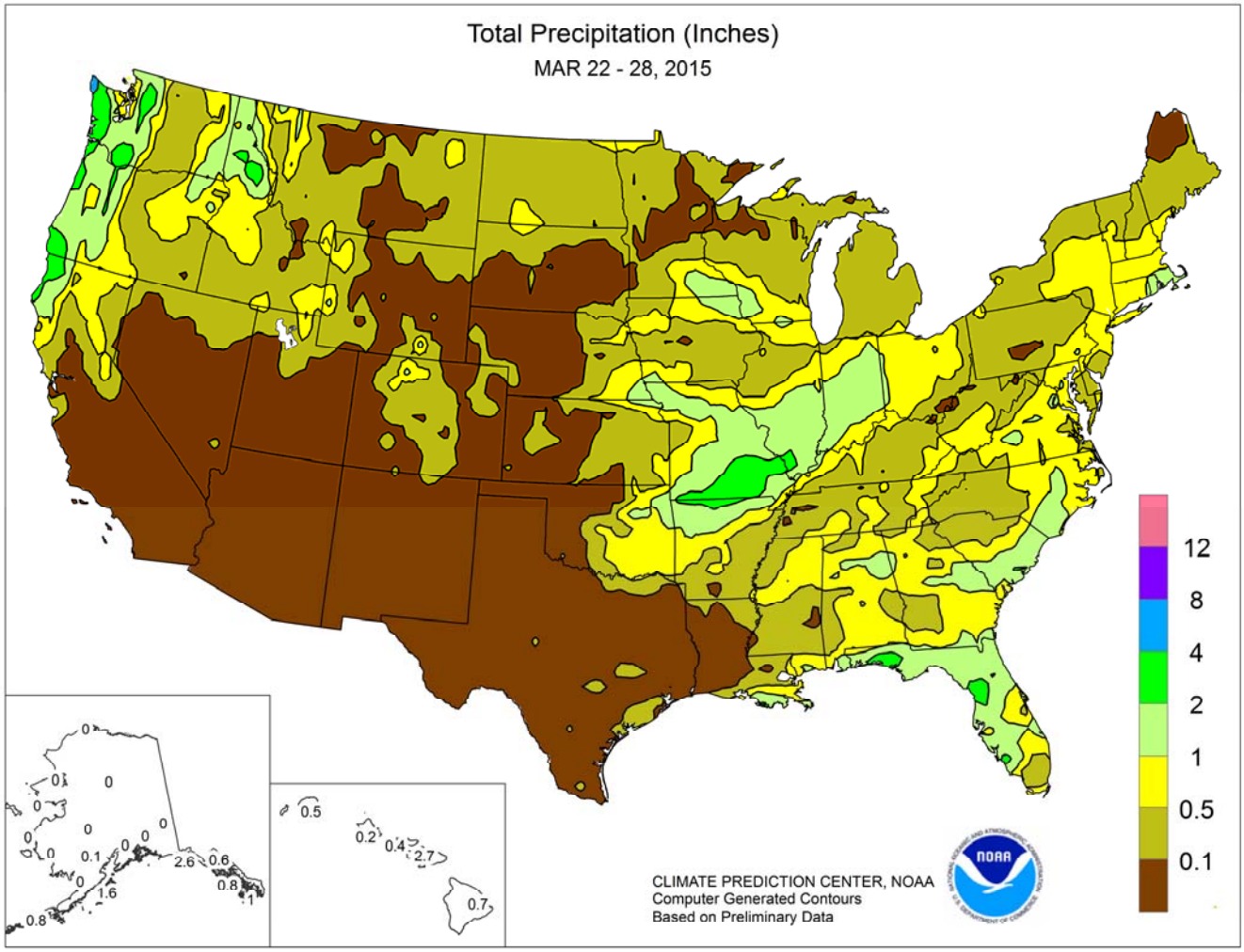
Volume 102, No. 13 http://www.usda.gov/oce/weather March 31, 2015

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

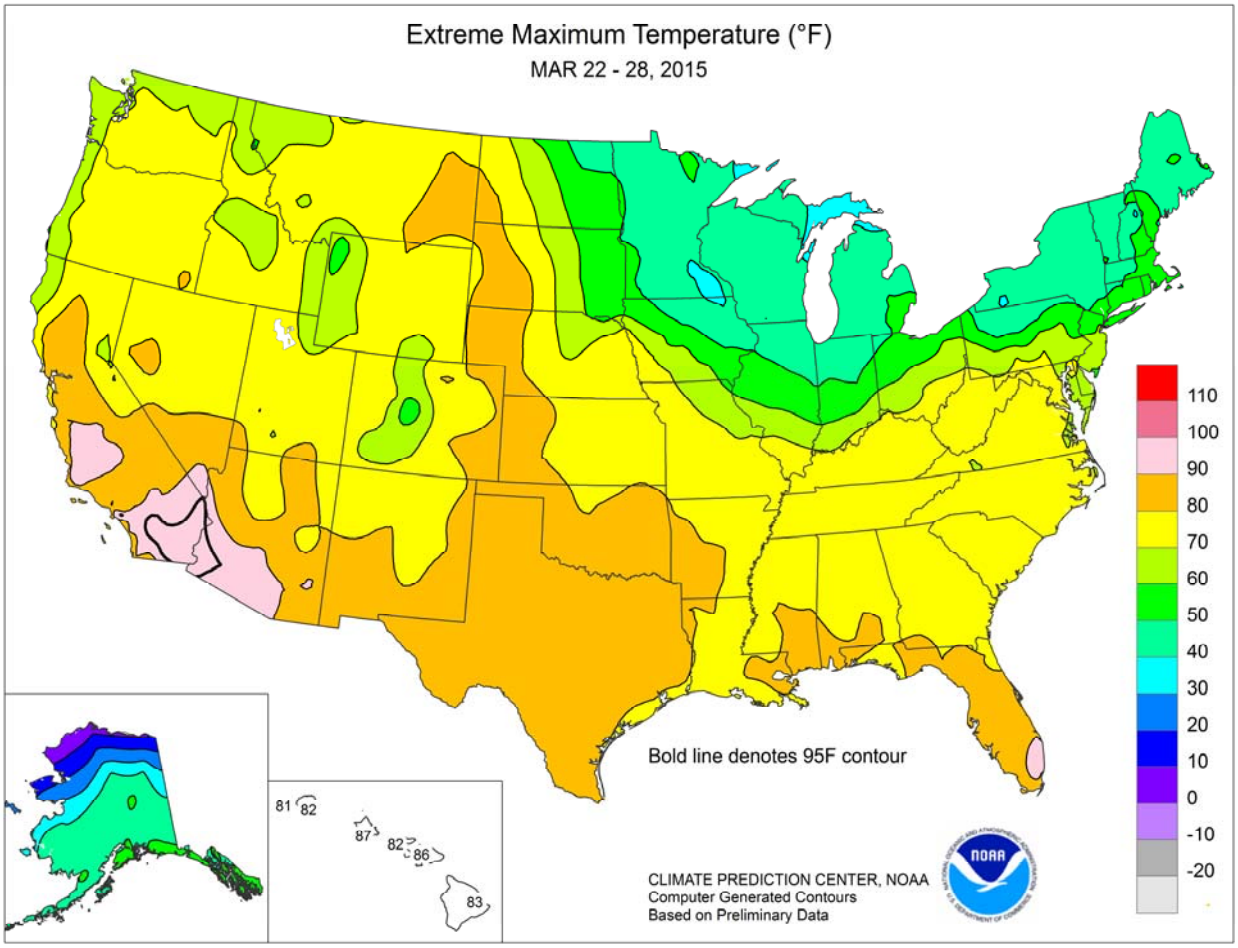
March 22 – 28, 2015

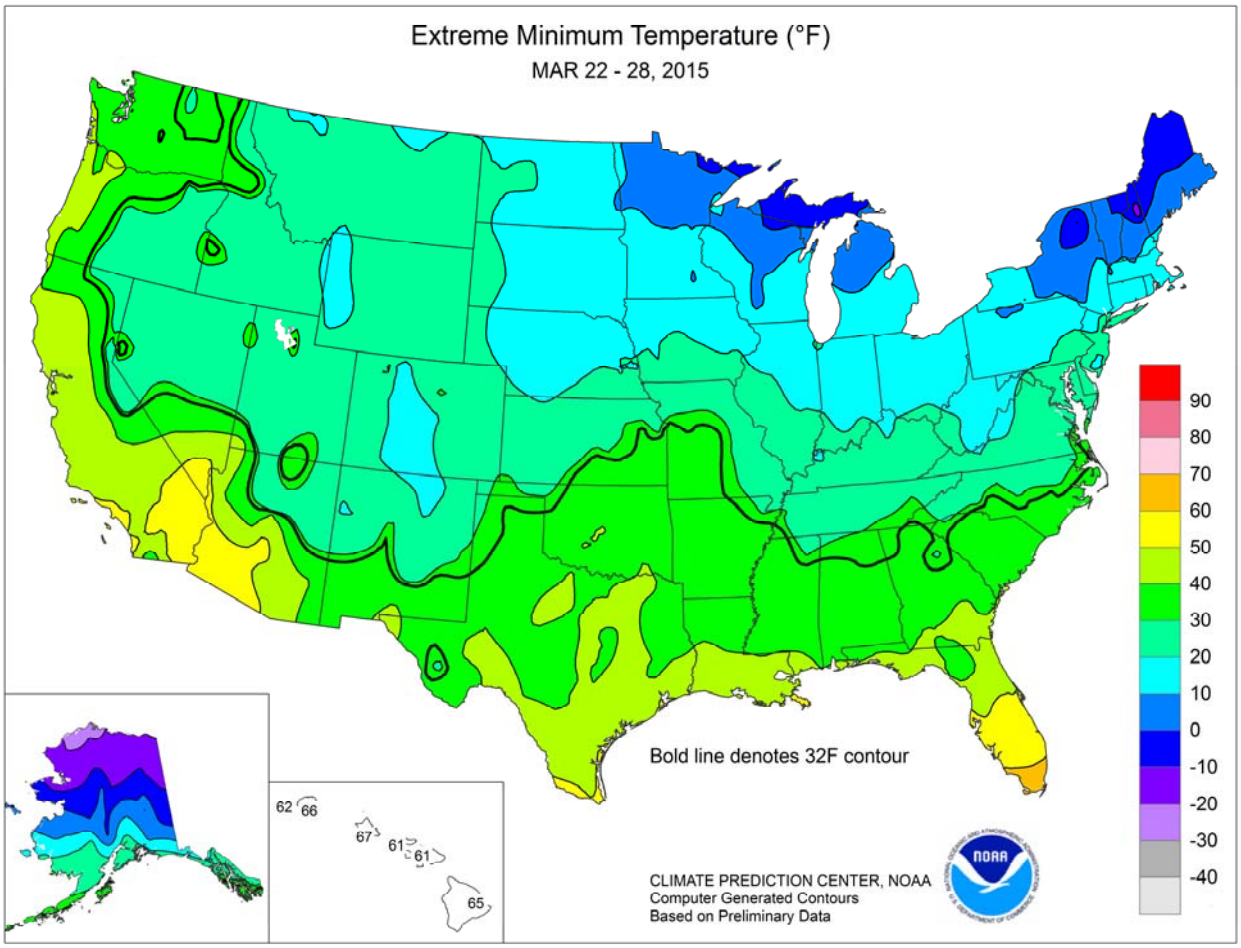
Highlights provided by USDA/WAOB

Mostly dry weather covered the nation, except for scattered totals in excess of an inch in the Northwest, Southeast, mid-South, and lower Midwest. From the western Gulf Coast region to the Mississippi Delta, dry weather favored a limited return to fieldwork, although pockets of lowland flooding persisted. Farther north, however, rain continued to restrict fieldwork across much of the mid-South and lower Midwest. Generally dry weather covered the Plains, promoting spring fieldwork but reducing moisture availability for winter wheat

(Continued on page 3)

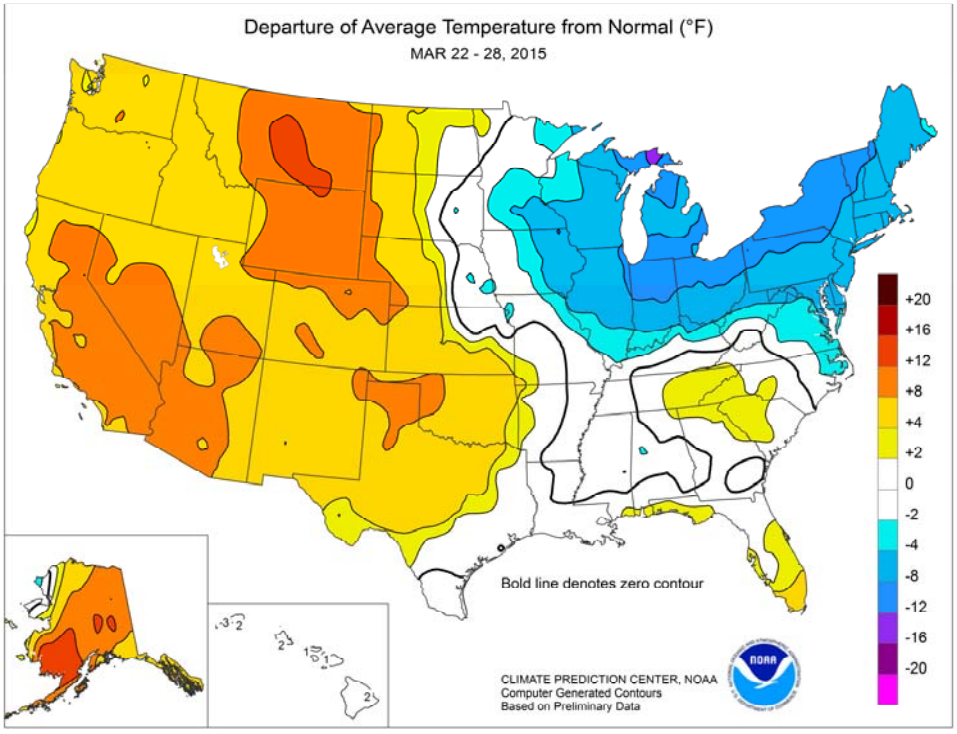
Contents


Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F)
MAR 22 - 28, 2015
110
100
90
80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
-10
-20
Bold line denotes 95F contour
81
82
87
82
86
83
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA
Computer Generated Contours
Based on Preliminary Data
NOAA


Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)
MAR 22 - 28, 2015
90
80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
-10
-20
-30
-40
Bold line denotes 32F contour
62
66
67
61
61
65
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA
Computer Generated Contours
Based on Preliminary Data
NOAA

(Continued from front cover)

development. Some rain was observed, however, across **eastern sections of Nebraska, Kansas, and Oklahoma**. In **central and eastern Oklahoma**, strong thunderstorms and isolated tornadoes accompanied the rain, most of which fell on March 25. Meanwhile, unfavorably warm, dry weather prevailed from **central and southern California to the southern Rockies**. Warmth also covered the **Northwest**, despite periodic showers. Weekly temperatures averaged at least 10°F above normal in numerous locations from **California and the Desert Southwest to the northern High Plains**. Elsewhere, near- to below-normal temperatures prevailed from the **Mississippi Valley to the Atlantic Seaboard**. Temperatures generally averaged 5 to 10°F below normal from the **Great Lakes States into the Northeast**. At week's end, a strong surge of cold air reached deep into the **Southeast**, threatening peaches and other freeze-sensitive crops. Across the **Southeastern** peach belt, the coldest weather occurred on the morning of March 29.

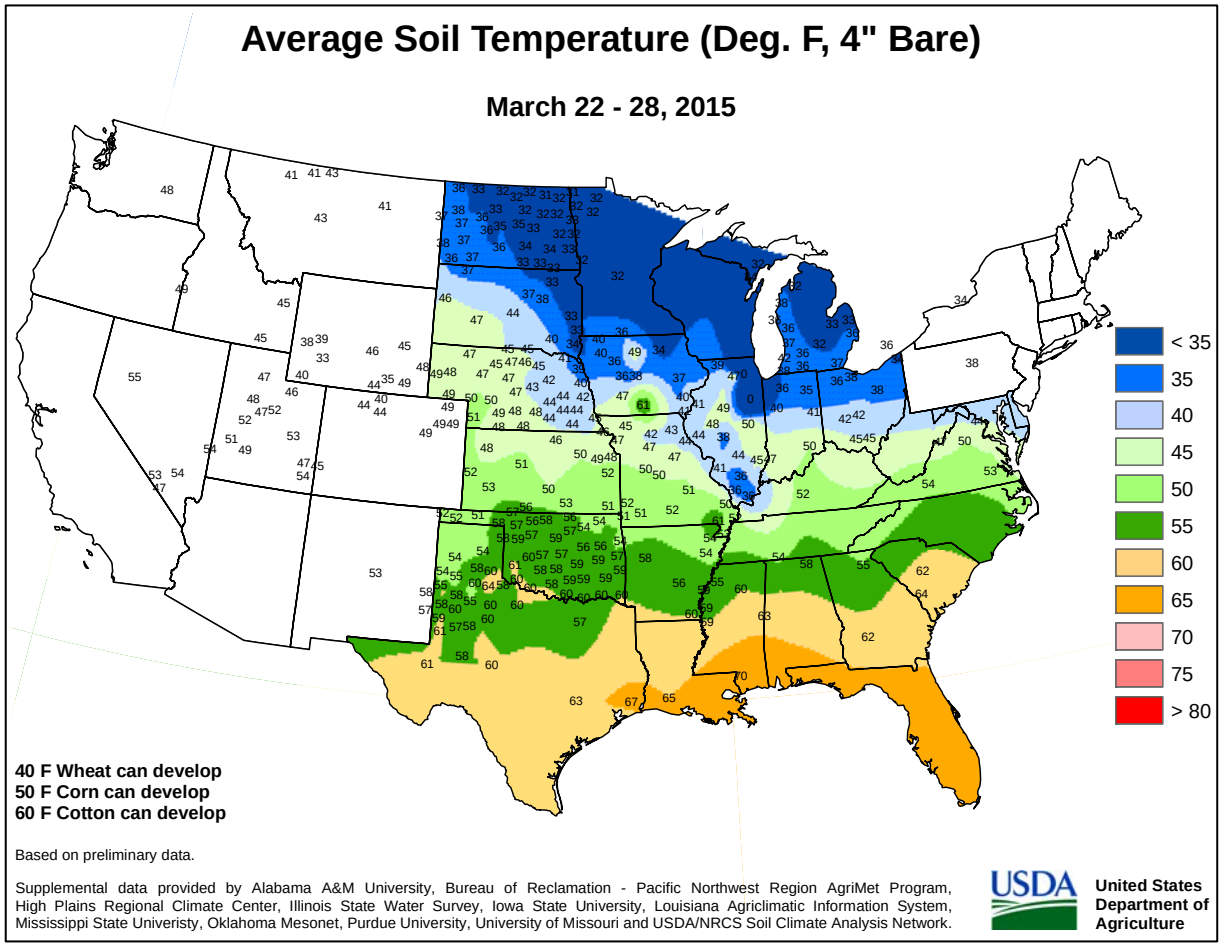


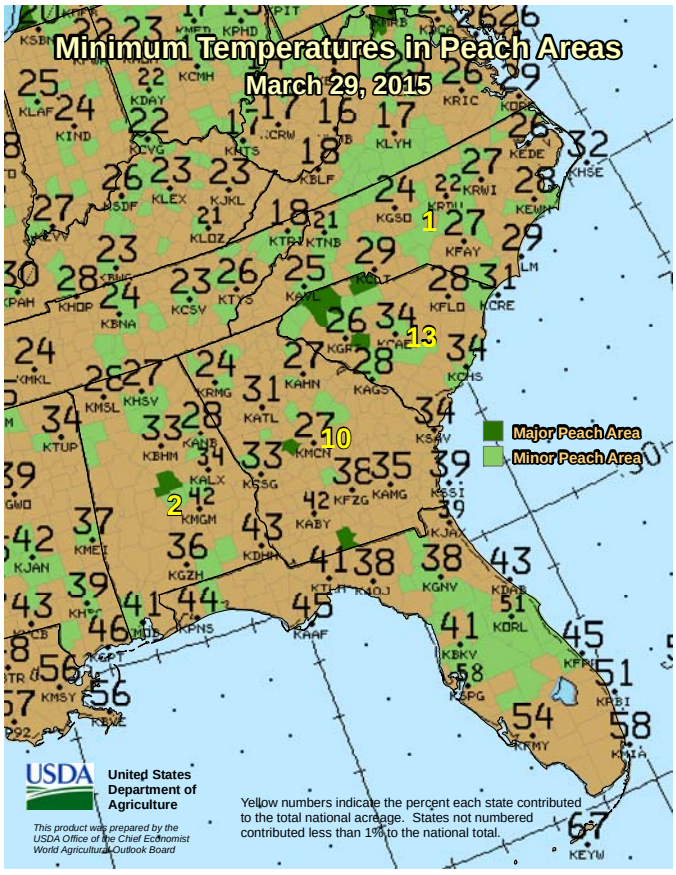
Early in the week, late-season snow blanketed portions of the **Great Lakes region**. Daily-record snowfall totals for March 23 included 5.1 inches in **Rockford, IL**, and 4.7 inches in **South Bend, IN**. **Chicago, IL**, netted a March 22-23 storm total of 5.8 inches—most (5.6 inches) of which fell on the latter date. For **Rockford** and **Chicago**, March 23 was the snowiest spring day since April 5, 1982, when totals reached 9.4 and 6.3 inches, respectively. 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). Toward week's end, 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**.

Early-week warmth was most prominent across the **South**, where daily-record highs in **Texas** included 87°F (on March 23) in **Lubbock** and 81°F (on March 22) in **Dalhart**. Meanwhile, frigid conditions persisted in the **Northeast**, resulting in daily-record lows for March 24 in **Bangor, ME** (4°F), and **Binghamton, NY** (10°F). 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**. During the second half of the week, warmth 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. In the **Desert Southwest**, consecutive daily-record highs were set on March 28-29 in locations such as **Death Valley, CA** (102°F both days); **Palm Springs, CA** (98 and 100°F); and **Phoenix, AZ** (95 and 97°F). Farther north, 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 Sunday morning, March 29, freezes were noted as far south as **central Georgia**, where **Macon** (27°F) collected a daily-record low.

Mild weather prevailed in **Alaska**, except for cool conditions across the northwestern corner of the state. Daily-record highs were established in several locations, including **Yakutat** (53°F on March 25); **King Salmon** (51°F on March 23); **Fairbanks** (52°F on March 26); **Bethel** (50°F on March 27); and **Bettles** (42°F on March 28). **Anchorage** collected daily-record highs (48, 47, and 49°F, respectively) on March 22, 24, and 27. Significant precipitation was limited to **southern Alaska**, where weekly rainfall reached 2.67 inches in **Yakutat** and 1.81 inches in **Kodiak**. Farther south, brief periods of locally heavy showers dotted **Hawaii**. On **Maui**, **Kahului** was drenched by 2.66 inches of rain on March 25-26. Through March 28, **Kahului's** month-to-date rainfall climbed to 9.00 inches (409 percent of normal). However, month-to-date totals were less than one-third of normal in **Honolulu, Oahu** (0.56 inch, or 30 percent of normal), and **Lihue, Kauai** (1.29 inches, or 31 percent). **Honolulu** also opened the week with consecutive daily-record highs (85 and 87°F, respectively) on March 22-23. Late-week showers were heaviest across windward sections of **Oahu**, where the **Manoa Lyon Arboretum** netted 3.37 inches in a 24-hour period on March 28-29.

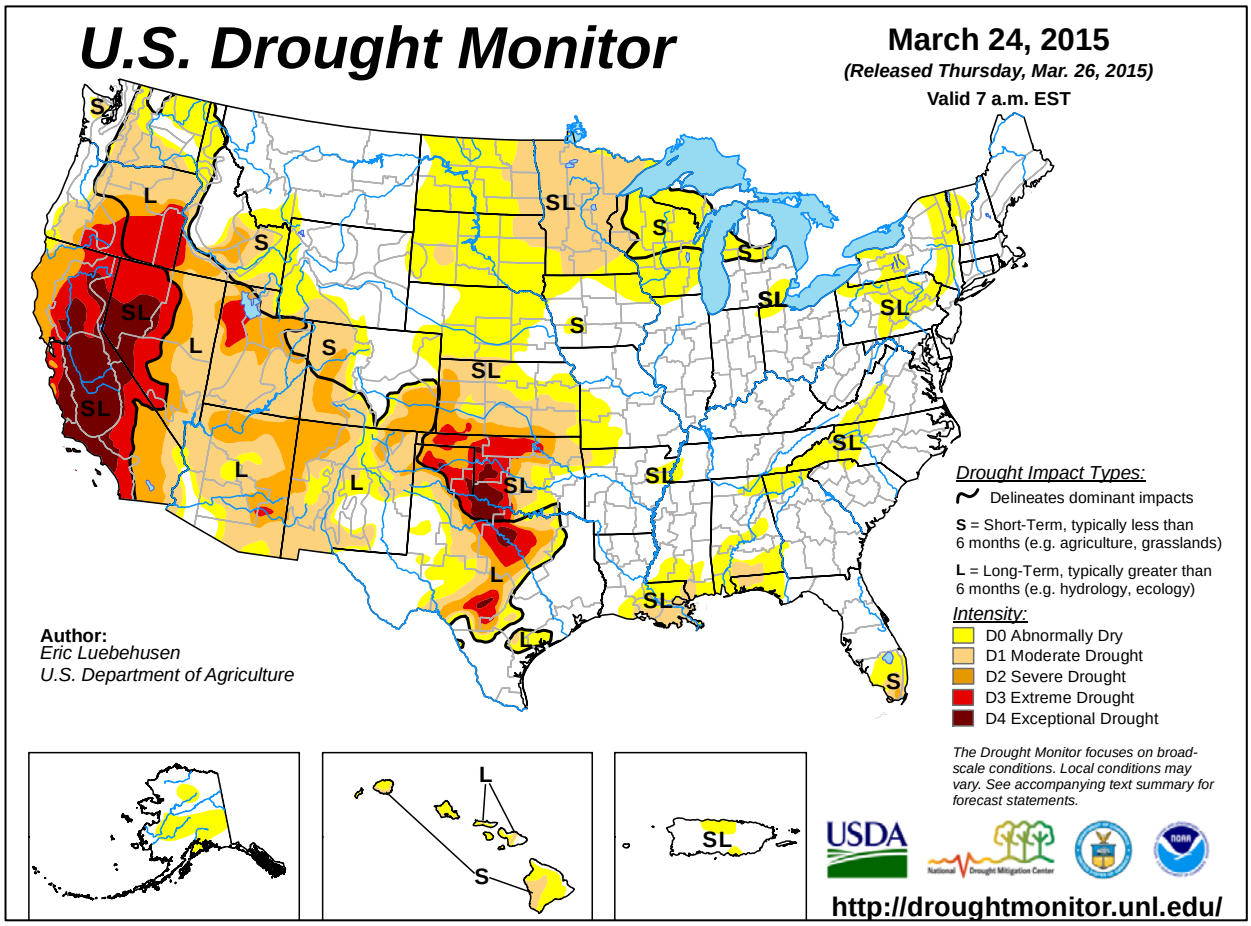


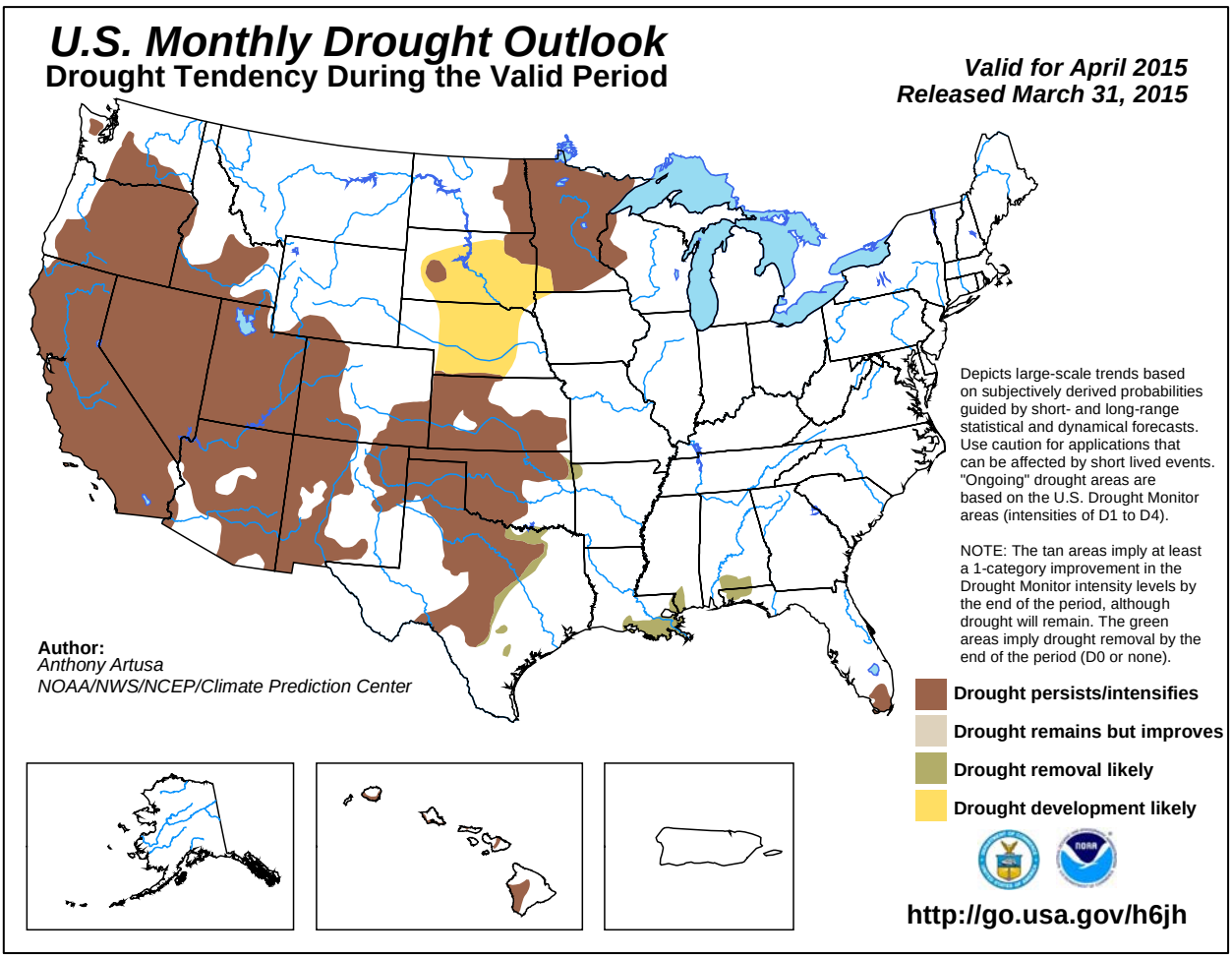


On March 29, a freeze struck peach-production areas in the southeastern U.S. The freeze-affected region typically accounts for roughly one-quarter of U.S. peach production. Daily-record lows for March 29 were established in a large number of Southeastern locations, including Greenville-Spartanburg, SC (25°F), and Macon, GA (27°F). Prior to the cold snap, warm weather had helped to accelerate crop development, especially across the lower Southeast.

The USDA/NASS state report for South Carolina noted that low temperatures "caused some minor damage [to] peaches." A NASS report from North Carolina stated that "peach growers are concerned about the extent of damage." Although damage in all freeze-affected areas is still being evaluated, early reports seem to indicate that peach losses were dependent on orchard temperatures and the stage of development. In some cases, a "thinning freeze" could benefit producers by reducing the time spent on removing excess peaches. Evaluation of the freeze will continue for the next several weeks.

Farther north, cool March weather in the northern Mid-Atlantic States has limited crop development. As a result, peaches were not yet blooming and therefore should be largely unharmed, despite widespread temperatures below 20°F.


U.S. Drought Monitor
March 24, 2015
(Released Thursday, Mar. 26, 2015)
Valid 7 a.m. EST
Author:
Eric Luebehusen
U.S. Department of Agriculture
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.
USDA
http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/


U.S. Monthly Drought Outlook
Drought Tendency During the Valid Period
Valid for April 2015
Released March 31, 2015
Author:
Anthony Artusa
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center
Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).
NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).
Drought persists/intensifies
Drought remains but improves
Drought removal likely
Drought development likely
http://go.usa.gov/h6jh

National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending March 28, 2015

Data Provided by Climate Prediction Center

STATES AND STATIONS		TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS			
																	TEMP. °F		PRECIP	
		AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL, IN., SINCE MAR 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE MAR 1	TOTAL, IN., SINCE 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	66	46	79	33	56	0	0.81	-0.60	0.58	3.54	65	12.24	81	91	47	0	0	4	1
	HUNTSVILLE	68	46	78	31	57	3	0.37	-1.10	0.23	4.68	77	12.42	75	81	56	0	1	3	0
	MOBILE	72	55	81	38	63	1	0.42	-1.20	0.33	3.69	57	9.74	56	93	62	0	0	2	0
	MONTGOMERY	68	51	80	37	59	0	4.18	2.81	3.27	5.94	102	13.60	83	89	51	0	0	4	2
AK	ANCHORAGE	47	29	49	25	38	10	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.78	139	1.88	95	72	60	0	6	0	0
	BARROW	-2	-13	3	-24	-7	5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.23	2300	0.80	333	86	75	0	7	0	0
	FAIRBANKS	44	10	52	1	27	12	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.00	0	0.63	55	81	64	0	7	0	0
	JUNEAU	47	32	50	26	39	4	0.60	-0.10	0.30	4.22	130	19.82	164	95	85	0	3	4	0
	KODIAK	45	39	47	34	42	9	1.63	0.47	0.81	7.06	151	25.98	140	91	83	0	0	6	1
	NOME	22	3	24	-3	12	1	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.70	149	2.34	109	84	73	0	7	0	0
AZ	FLAGSTAFF	65	29	72	24	47	9	0.00	-0.52	0.00	3.77	155	8.07	112	63	13	0	6	0	0
	PHOENIX	90	62	95	59	76	12	0.00	-0.20	0.00	0.33	34	1.14	44	35	16	2	0	0	0
	PRESCOTT	73	38	80	36	55	10	0.00	-0.35	0.00	1.61	89	4.82	92	53	12	0	0	0	0
	TUCSON	86	52	93	50	69	9	0.00	-0.13	0.00	0.50	68	3.43	131	41	15	2	0	0	0
AR	FORT SMITH	69	46	86	39	58	4	0.98	0.09	0.47	4.51	129	9.13	108	85	41	0	0	4	0
	LITTLE ROCK	68	47	81	40	57	2	0.88	-0.29	0.64	7.89	187	14.70	132	87	42	0	0	3	1
CA	BAKERSFIELD	81	52	93	46	66	8	0.00	-0.28	0.00	0.30	24	1.89	52	66	40	2	0	0	0
	FRESNO	80	53	91	49	66	10	0.00	-0.44	0.00	0.07	3	1.41	22	70	44	1	0	0	0
	LOS ANGELES	74	57	85	54	66	7	0.00	-0.44	0.00	0.50	22	2.03	24	85	47	0	0	0	0
	REDDING	76	49	84	46	63	10	0.41	-0.65	0.41	1.06	22	4.71	28	80	51	0	0	1	0
	SACRAMENTO	77	51	84	49	64	9	0.00	-0.54	0.00	0.22	8	3.05	30	88	35	0	0	0	0
	SAN DIEGO	75	60	84	58	68	7	0.00	-0.47	0.00	0.93	45	1.63	26	76	46	0	0	0	0
	SAN FRANCISCO	69	53	79	52	61	7	0.04	-0.60	0.04	0.06	2	2.07	18	95	74	0	0	1	0
	STOCKTON	78	51	86	48	65	9	0.03	-0.43	0.03	0.17	8	1.65	23	81	56	0	0	1	0
CO	ALAMOSA	63	23	71	13	43	8	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.41	117	1.76	217	70	23	0	7	0	0
	CO SPRINGS	64	33	76	23	48	9	0.04	-0.22	0.03	0.81	98	3.14	215	72	19	0	3	2	0
	DENVER INTL	65	39	79	30	52	12	0.20	0.02	0.20	0.79	103	2.43	198	68	22	0	2	1	0
	GRAND JUNCTION	67	35	78	25	51	6	0.04	-0.18	0.03	0.27	33	1.12	58	54	25	0	2	2	0
	PUEBLO	69	32	80	25	51	8	0.08	-0.16	0.08	0.57	75	1.96	145	77	30	0	4	1	0
CT	BRIDGEPORT	43	28	54	20	35	-7	0.68	-0.30	0.31	4.45	123	10.80	105	70	54	0	5	4	0
	HARTFORD	42	25	50	17	33	-7	0.72	-0.19	0.35	2.66	78	8.84	87	70	50	0	5	4	0
DC	WASHINGTON	54	39	77	31	47	-2	0.74	-0.05	0.43	4.04	125	9.46	104	61	35	0	1	2	0
DE	WILMINGTON	48	30	71	24	39	-6	0.57	-0.32	0.29	7.61	216	14.21	145	77	38	0	5	3	0
FL	DAYTONA BEACH	77	59	84	47	68	2	0.77	-0.11	0.43	0.86	25	6.29	68	97	60	0	0	3	0
	JACKSONVILLE	72	55	77	41	63	0	1.32	0.41	0.53	2.25	65	8.65	84	97	68	0	0	5	1
	KEY WEST	82	72	84	67	77	3	1.43	0.99	0.66	1.48	95	4.71	89	89	69	0	0	3	1
	MIAMI	86	69	91	63	78	5	0.36	-0.26	0.36	1.32	62	5.08	84	86	46	1	0	1	0
	ORLANDO	82	63	88	54	72	4	0.39	-0.42	0.31	0.75	24	8.85	112	90	59	0	0	3	0
	PENSACOLA	72	58	83	42	65	3	1.98	0.54	1.68	2.38	41	12.79	81	90	57	0	0	2	1
	TALLAHASSEE	74	55	83	42	65	3	1.17	-0.27	0.95	3.14	53	12.32	78	90	61	0	0	3	1
	TAMPA	80	64	85	52	72	4	0.89	0.30	0.56	1.03	40	9.33	124	89	56	0	0	2	1
	WEST PALM BEACH	85	67	91	57	76	5	0.90	-0.01	0.73	1.04	33	4.13	44	88	54	2	0	4	1
GA	ATHENS	67	47	75	29	57	2	0.58	-0.49	0.55	2.63	58	9.60	70	90	55	0	1	2	1
	ATLANTA	66	50	74	36	58	2	1.05	-0.11	0.99	2.48	50	10.99	75	83	53	0	0	4	1
	AUGUSTA	70	50	77	39	60	2	1.20	0.19	1.16	2.94	70	9.72	76	88	59	0	0	3	1
	COLUMBUS	66	49	75	37	58	-1	0.43	-0.83	0.42	2.05	39	9.51	66	95	50	0	0	2	0
	MACON	66	50	74	34	58	0	0.46	-0.59	0.37	1.34	30	8.14	58	95	62	0	0	4	0
	SAVANNAH	68	53	80	38	61	0	0.86	-0.01	0.32	2.00	64	9.56	96	89	66	0	0	4	0
HI	HILO	82	66	83	65	74	2	0.71	-2.79	0.35	9.13	73	17.24	55	86	73	0	0	4	0
	HONOLULU	83	70	87	67	77	2	0.22	-0.13	0.10	0.69	39	2.50	37	76	68	0	0	6	0
	KAHULUI	83	66	86	61	75	2	2.68	2.16	2.68	10.51	513	14.82	182	83	72	0	0	1	1
	LIHUE	80	70	82	66	75	2	0.47	-0.32	0.43	1.30	41	3.21	29	78	66	0	0	4	0
ID	BOISE	62	39	77	32	51	6	0.34	0.04	0.28	0.45	38	2.63	71	74	47	0	1	2	0
	LEWISTON	61	42	76	36	51	5	0.84	0.59	0.66	1.17	126	3.46	115	82	60	0	0	5	1
	POCATELLO	59	33	74	25	46	6	0.10	-0.20	0.07	0.27	23	1.37	41	76	42	0	3	2	0
IL	CHICAGO/O'HARE	36	26	42	19	31	-9	0.96	0.29	0.61	1.11	51	3.98	72	80	55	0	6	5	1
	MOLINE	43	27	52	16	35	-6	0.58	-0.16	0.32	0.83	34	3.76	68	79	51	0	6	2	0
	PEORIA	45	30	54	22	38	-4	0.29	-0.38	0.18	0.58	24	4.30	77	78	47	0	5	2	0
	ROCKFORD	38	25	43	16	31	-8	0.84	0.23	0.53	1.24	64	3.18	68	81	49	0	6	3	1
	SPRINGFIELD	47	32	58	22	40	-4	0.94	0.20	0.56	1.51	55	4.80	78	86	50	0	4	4	1
IN	EVANSVILLE	56	37	67	25	46	-2	1.09	0.10	0.76	6.85	181	12.38	126	76	53	0	2	3	1
	FORT WAYNE	40	23	49	15	31	-10	1.35	0.66	0.72	2.06	85	5.82	91	86	52	0	7	3	1
	INDIANAPOLIS	44	29	54	17	37	-7	1.21	0.41	0.59	3.42	114	6.57	83	79	47	0	5	4	2
	SOUTH BEND	40	22	48	12	31	-9	0.67	-0.04	0.36	0.81	33	4.71	71	77	46	0	6	2	0
IA	BURLINGTON	45	30	55	24	38	-5	0.11	-0.60	0.06	0.22	9	2.64	49	88	47	0	5	2	0
	CEDAR RAPIDS	42	26	48	18	34	-5	0.21	-0.36	0.10	0.46	25	1.78	45	89	51	0	7	3	0
	DES MOINES	47	31	64	26	39	-2	0.45	-0.12	0.45	0.46	26	2.48	62	75	49	0	5	1	0
	DUBUQUE	38	24	43	17	31	-7	0.49	-0.15	0.30	0.59	28	2.90	60	81	55	0	7	3	0
	SIOUX CITY	50	28	73	17	39	0	0.88	0.37	0.87	0.88	54	1.84	65	78	50	0	4	2	1
	WATERLOO	41	25	45	17	33	-5	0.43	-0.11	0.39	0.49	28	2.51	70	89	56	0	7	2	0
KS	CONCORDIA	57	31	74	25	44	-1	0.11	-0.44	0.08	0.11	5	1.63	48	88	59	0	3	3	0
	DODGE CITY	69	37	80	25	53	7	0.02	-0.43	0.02	0.29	19	1.58	56	83	27	0	1	1	0
	GOODLAND	66	32	81	25	49	7	0.06	-0.21	0.05	0.11	11	1.18	62	81	42	0	4	2	0
	TOPEKA	57	37	73	31	47	0	0.41	-0.20	0.28	0.57	26	2.55	59	84	54	0	1	4	0

Based on 1971-2000 normals

***** Not Available**

Weather Data for the Week Ending March 28, 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	67	42	74	35	54	6	0.06	-0.57	0.06	0.28	12	1.94	46	75	52	0	0	1	0
KY	JACKSON	60	37	78	24	49	0	0.56	-0.38	0.56	6.19	156	12.36	110	70	35	0	2	1	1
	LEXINGTON	55	33	73	19	44	-4	0.27	-0.69	0.21	6.58	165	11.42	108	76	50	0	4	2	0
	LOUISVILLE	56	37	77	23	46	-3	0.67	-0.30	0.59	12.28	310	15.39	147	74	44	0	2	2	1
	PADUCAH	61	37	78	24	49	-1	0.65	-0.30	0.37	8.73	231	16.02	143	90	44	0	3	2	0
LA	BATON ROUGE	74	53	81	42	64	2	0.03	-1.13	0.03	3.38	75	13.13	83	93	50	0	0	1	0
	LAKE CHARLES	75	52	78	44	64	2	0.00	-0.82	0.00	6.22	200	14.70	123	96	52	0	0	0	0
	NEW ORLEANS	73	58	81	50	65	1	0.36	-0.84	0.35	6.38	138	14.10	88	83	61	0	0	2	0
	SHREVEPORT	73	49	83	39	61	1	0.17	-0.74	0.17	8.04	216	19.78	158	90	49	0	0	1	0
ME	CARIBOU	35	13	45	4	24	-4	0.07	-0.51	0.07	1.01	45	5.13	71	77	42	0	7	1	0
	PORTLAND	41	24	49	13	32	-4	0.51	-0.47	0.46	1.77	49	9.25	85	76	43	0	5	3	0
MD	BALTIMORE	50	31	74	24	41	-5	0.64	-0.22	0.32	4.62	131	10.75	107	68	44	0	4	3	0
MA	BOSTON	42	27	56	18	35	-6	1.17	0.29	0.80	3.14	93	10.10	95	78	50	0	5	4	1
	WORCESTER	39	23	49	12	31	-5	0.74	-0.25	0.41	2.41	65	10.72	98	80	45	0	5	4	0
MI	ALPENA	33	13	41	9	23	-8	0.27	-0.23	0.25	0.91	50	2.69	55	83	47	0	7	2	0
	GRAND RAPIDS	38	20	43	12	29	-8	0.32	-0.34	0.32	0.69	33	3.74	66	71	41	0	7	1	0
	HOUGHTON LAKE	34	12	43	3	23	-9	0.24	-0.26	0.24	0.41	24	2.23	49	81	49	0	7	1	0
	LANSING	38	19	48	11	29	-8	0.19	-0.41	0.19	0.48	25	2.74	55	75	45	0	7	1	0
	MUSKEGON	37	22	45	12	30	-6	0.45	-0.14	0.45	0.90	46	4.20	73	68	43	0	6	1	0
	TRAVERSE CITY	35	17	42	6	26	-7	0.26	-0.24	0.26	0.40	25	3.82	60	85	44	0	7	1	0
MN	DULUTH	37	19	47	10	28	0	0.12	-0.31	0.12	0.68	50	1.53	46	77	46	0	7	1	0
	INT'L FALLS	39	15	51	3	27	0	0.21	-0.03	0.21	0.33	44	2.37	106	80	36	0	7	1	0
	MINNEAPOLIS	37	25	41	17	31	-4	0.35	-0.13	0.20	0.48	32	1.17	35	80	53	0	7	3	0
	ROCHESTER	33	21	36	12	27	-7	1.02	0.52	0.62	1.06	72	2.44	77	84	63	0	7	4	1
	ST. CLOUD	37	23	43	11	30	-1	0.07	-0.34	0.03	0.22	19	0.81	32	89	47	0	7	3	0
MS	JACKSON	69	47	80	36	58	0	0.69	-0.67	0.52	7.27	145	17.45	115	91	54	0	0	3	1
	MERIDIAN	67	46	80	34	56	-3	0.54	-1.03	0.52	4.87	78	15.71	90	95	64	0	0	2	1
	TUPELO	65	45	77	30	55	0	0.78	-0.61	0.65	5.77	101	14.92	96	88	60	0	1	3	1
MO	COLUMBIA	55	37	72	32	46	0	0.77	0.02	0.37	1.54	56	4.30	64	86	53	0	2	4	0
	KANSAS CITY	54	36	73	29	45	-1	0.51	-0.04	0.21	0.88	42	3.07	67	87	52	0	2	4	0
	SAINT LOUIS	54	37	68	28	46	-2	1.31	0.48	0.59	2.98	96	5.96	79	74	56	0	2	4	2
	SPRINGFIELD	61	39	76	35	50	2	1.32	0.38	1.14	3.39	105	6.01	79	89	51	0	0	3	1
MT	BILLINGS	64	39	80	30	52	13	0.08	-0.19	0.07	0.37	42	1.66	73	66	23	0	2	2	0
	BUTTE	52	28	68	23	40	8	0.08	-0.11	0.03	0.41	59	0.71	42	87	35	0	6	4	0
	CUT BANK	52	31	67	18	42	9	0.00	-0.13	0.00	0.25	60	0.97	89	83	41	0	4	0	0
	GLASGOW	56	30	75	22	43	9	0.26	0.15	0.14	0.71	203	1.78	185	84	57	0	5	2	0
	GREAT FALLS	60	34	74	26	47	12	0.03	-0.21	0.02	0.09	11	1.50	75	76	27	0	4	2	0
	HAVRE	59	33	75	26	46	11	0.17	0.02	0.14	0.53	93	2.14	153	84	56	0	5	2	0
	MISSOULA	55	34	74	25	44	4	0.19	0.00	0.11	0.48	61	2.68	102	89	67	0	3	3	0
NE	GRAND ISLAND	53	27	77	19	40	-1	0.10	-0.40	0.07	0.16	9	1.34	46	87	57	0	5	3	0
	LINCOLN	52	28	76	20	40	-2	0.74	0.19	0.70	0.77	42	2.62	83	86	58	0	6	2	1
	NORFOLK	50	28	74	18	39	-1	0.82	0.34	0.68	0.82	51	1.71	58	85	63	0	6	3	1
	NORTH PLATTE	64	26	77	17	45	5	0.00	-0.30	0.00	0.01	1	0.76	40	86	29	0	7	0	0
	OMAHA	51	30	75	22	41	-1	0.52	0.00	0.52	0.53	30	1.85	56	83	52	0	5	1	1
	SCOTTSBLUFF	65	32	82	23	49	10	0.20	-0.08	0.16	0.27	29	1.11	54	80	38	0	4	3	0
	VALENTINE	60	25	79	16	42	5	0.00	-0.26	0.00	0.03	3	0.68	41	81	48	0	6	0	0
NV	ELY	64	27	74	21	45	8	0.00	-0.22	0.00	0.31	34	0.82	34	62	29	0	7	0	0
	LAS VEGAS	83	60	91	57	71	11	0.00	-0.09	0.00	0.28	52	1.69	93	26	16	1	0	0	0
	RENO	68	43	80	35	55	11	0.00	-0.15	0.00	0.01	1	1.49	51	58	32	0	0	0	0
	WINNEMUCCA	64	33	78	24	49	7	0.13	-0.06	0.13	***	***	1.37	67	66	39	0	4	1	0
NH	CONCORD	42	21	52	9	31	-5	0.67	-0.03	0.54	1.48	56	7.55	95	79	41	0	5	4	1
NJ	NEWARK	48	30	64	23	39	-5	0.69	-0.28	0.39	4.53	122	11.00	103	62	41	0	5	3	0
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	73	41	81	37	57	7	0.00	-0.12	0.00	0.11	22	1.42	99	43	15	0	0	0	0
NY	ALBANY	39	21	49	12	30	-7	0.87	0.14	0.78	1.25	47	5.58	76	72	41	0	6	3	1
	BINGHAMTON	31	18	40	10	25	-10	0.52	-0.17	0.39	1.88	73	5.82	77	79	62	0	7	4	0
	BUFFALO	34	21	46	16	27	-10	0.60	-0.10	0.39	1.27	49	6.26	77	85	51	0	7	5	0
	ROCHESTER	36	21	49	14	28	-8	0.43	-0.17	0.31	1.20	55	5.46	83	77	62	0	6	4	0
	SYRACUSE	34	18	48	8	26	-10	0.46	-0.27	0.36	1.51	59	5.59	77	82	49	0	6	3	0
NC	ASHEVILLE	61	43	72	27	52	4	0.36	-0.66	0.19	1.57	38	7.41	62	85	53	0	2	3	0
	CHARLOTTE	67	48	74	34	57	2	0.48	-0.48	0.24	2.15	54	7.97	69	81	41	0	0	4	0
	GREENSBORO	63	43	74	29	53	2	0.43	-0.42	0.29	2.68	78	7.36	73	81	43	0	1	3	0
	HATTERAS	59	47	70	36	53	-1	0.25	-0.87	0.18	2.50	56	14.45	102	85	63	0	0	3	0
	RALEIGH	64	43	75	29	53	0	0.31	-0.55	0.18	3.12	85	9.38	84	79	52	0	1	2	0
	WILMINGTON	66	46	77	36	56	-1	1.85	0.95	0.75	3.43	89	12.75	106	93	56	0	0	5	2
ND	BISMARCK	47	24	68	19	36	4	0.25	0.05	0.12	0.32	48	1.47	91	88	71	0	7	4	0
	DICKINSON	53	26	80	20	40	7	0.25	0.06	0.13	0.38	86	0.95	77	88	46	0	7	3	0
	FARGO	41	24	54	9	33	2	0.01	-0.27	0.01	0.03	3	1.02	44	81	45	0	7	1	0
	GRAND FORKS	39	22	50	12	31	2	0.11	-0.10	0.06	0.24	34	1.06	54	89	53	0	7	2	0
	JAMESTOWN	40	23	54	14	32	1	0.27	0.06	0.16	0.33	47	0.75	41	93	50	0	7	3	0
	WILLISTON	53	27	79	20	40	8	0.25	0.08	0.12	0.47	81	1.42	94	87	61	0	6	4	0
OH	AKRON-CANTON	43	23	63	12	33	-7	0.79	0.07	0.54	2.72	99	8.18	109	74	58	0	5	4	1
	CINCINNATI	50	31	70	19	41	-5	0.89	-0.02	0.68	6.19	182	10.34	114	78	52	0	5	4	1
	CLEVELAND	38	23	56	16	30	-10	0.74	0.05	0.55	1.65	65	7.16	98	79	56	0	6	3	1
	COLUMBUS	45	28	66	17	36	-8	0.74	0.07	0.45	4.39	176	8.95	124	81	56	0	5	3	0
	DAYTON	44	29	61	18	37	-6	0.87	0.07	0.50	3.76	134	8.11	105	83	49	0	5	3	1
	MANSFIELD	40	21	57	7	30	-9	0.90	0.07	0.43	2.68	95	7.84	103	89	55	0	6	4	0

Based on 1971-2000 normals

***** Not Available**

Weather Data for the Week Ending March 28, 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	39	22	50	14	30	-10	0.86	0.22	0.60	1.19	54	4.82	80	80	56	0	7	2	1
	YOUNGSTOWN	41	20	60	11	30	-9	0.74	0.01	0.46	2.23	85	7.48	107	83	62	0	6	4	0
OK	OKLAHOMA CITY	73	47	84	42	60	7	0.39	-0.25	0.39	1.73	67	3.94	73	82	39	0	0	1	0
	TULSA	71	48	83	42	59	5	1.63	0.81	1.62	3.71	118	6.23	93	84	58	0	0	2	1
OR	ASTORIA	58	44	66	41	51	5	2.25	0.67	0.95	6.41	95	21.89	90	94	82	0	0	6	1
	BURNS	59	30	76	27	45	7	0.65	0.40	0.34	0.95	85	2.10	62	86	58	0	5	4	0
	EUGENE	62	45	70	44	54	7	1.04	-0.18	0.73	3.09	58	9.65	50	92	79	0	0	6	1
	MEDFORD	66	43	80	38	54	6	0.36	-0.01	0.18	1.33	79	5.77	92	92	51	0	0	4	0
	PENDLETON	62	41	74	35	51	5	0.72	0.44	0.24	1.19	108	2.74	73	85	62	0	0	5	0
	PORTLAND	62	45	73	44	54	6	1.58	0.81	0.90	4.51	133	11.54	91	93	77	0	0	4	1
	SALEM	62	45	72	43	54	7	1.19	0.35	0.91	4.03	104	11.57	78	90	76	0	0	6	1
PA	ALLENTOWN	44	26	53	21	35	-6	0.74	-0.07	0.63	4.30	137	8.87	94	70	50	0	5	3	1
	ERIE	36	21	52	15	28	-11	0.54	-0.20	0.48	1.48	55	7.23	97	79	59	0	6	2	0
	MIDDLETOWN	47	28	68	24	38	-6	0.59	-0.12	0.49	3.54	121	7.13	82	76	38	0	5	4	0
	PHILADELPHIA	48	32	67	27	40	-5	0.59	-0.28	0.35	5.43	161	12.31	128	60	43	0	5	3	0
	PITTSBURGH	44	25	69	15	35	-7	0.44	-0.28	0.21	3.82	138	7.65	98	83	53	0	5	3	0
	WILKES-BARRE	41	23	60	16	32	-8	0.14	-0.50	0.11	1.64	72	4.65	68	67	42	0	6	2	0
	WILLIAMSPORT	42	24	50	20	33	-7	0.25	-0.50	0.16	1.91	69	4.68	57	73	45	0	7	2	0
RI	PROVIDENCE	43	26	58	17	35	-6	1.14	0.10	0.63	4.40	114	10.73	92	72	53	0	5	4	1
SC	BEAUFORT	68	53	80	39	60	1	0.79	-0.09	0.28	2.61	82	9.94	96	94	64	0	0	5	0
	CHARLESTON	69	51	79	36	60	1	1.00	0.08	0.50	2.27	64	10.20	95	94	63	0	0	4	1
	COLUMBIA	69	51	78	40	60	3	0.65	-0.38	0.46	2.77	68	10.13	80	82	58	0	0	2	0
	GREENVILLE	65	47	73	32	56	3	0.18	-0.95	0.10	1.88	39	9.20	68	92	51	0	1	3	0
SD	ABERDEEN	45	23	58	11	34	0	0.13	-0.21	0.10	0.21	20	1.28	63	81	55	0	5	2	0
	HURON	45	21	57	11	33	-2	0.03	-0.40	0.03	0.16	12	0.79	33	91	46	0	6	1	0
	RAPID CITY	62	29	83	25	45	8	0.02	-0.24	0.02	0.04	5	0.46	28	81	36	0	7	1	0
	SIOUX FALLS	44	25	53	12	34	-1	0.11	-0.37	0.11	0.34	24	1.58	64	85	55	0	7	1	0
TN	BRISTOL	64	40	76	25	52	3	0.20	-0.63	0.17	3.81	107	9.14	87	84	37	0	1	2	0
	CHATTANOOGA	68	45	78	32	57	4	0.32	-1.05	0.28	3.59	64	10.58	67	83	43	0	1	3	0
	KNOXVILLE	66	44	78	31	55	4	0.60	-0.53	0.53	4.48	96	11.62	88	85	38	0	1	3	1
	MEMPHIS	65	45	78	36	55	0	0.17	-1.11	0.12	5.39	110	11.04	82	85	52	0	0	2	0
	NASHVILLE	65	42	77	27	54	2	0.17	-0.90	0.16	4.26	97	11.08	92	80	43	0	1	2	0
TX	ABILENE	80	50	88	42	65	7	0.01	-0.29	0.01	1.60	132	5.10	154	74	50	0	0	1	0
	AMARILLO	76	40	84	32	58	8	0.00	-0.27	0.00	0.21	23	2.29	109	76	18	0	1	0	0
	AUSTIN	78	48	81	39	63	0	0.06	-0.37	0.06	4.06	208	9.85	169	85	51	0	0	1	0
	BEAUMONT	78	53	80	44	65	1	0.08	-0.80	0.08	8.12	248	15.10	123	97	47	0	0	1	0
	BROWNSVILLE	80	58	83	52	69	-1	0.05	-0.17	0.03	4.74	668	9.09	280	96	62	0	0	2	0
	CORPUS CHRISTI	77	58	80	48	67	0	0.05	-0.31	0.04	6.14	399	9.60	192	93	63	0	0	2	0
	DEL RIO	81	56	88	43	69	4	0.00	-0.20	0.00	2.24	280	3.25	139	83	51	0	0	0	0
	EL PASO	80	50	88	45	65	6	0.00	-0.03	0.00	0.61	305	1.50	144	42	14	0	0	0	0
	FORT WORTH	76	52	82	43	64	5	0.08	-0.55	0.08	2.59	93	9.16	130	83	43	0	0	1	0
	GALVESTON	72	60	76	54	66	0	0.01	-0.62	0.01	7.49	308	13.64	150	95	63	0	0	1	0
	HOUSTON	78	53	82	44	66	2	0.09	-0.68	0.09	6.36	216	10.20	106	93	51	0	0	1	0
	LUBBOCK	81	41	87	34	61	8	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.24	40	2.52	139	75	28	0	0	0	0
	MIDLAND	80	48	87	40	64	7	0.00	-0.06	0.00	1.65	446	4.35	294	76	35	0	0	0	0
	SAN ANGELO	81	52	88	38	66	7	0.00	-0.19	0.00	1.69	192	3.96	138	76	46	0	0	0	0
	SAN ANTONIO	79	54	83	44	67	3	0.00	-0.41	0.00	3.00	180	7.18	141	85	45	0	0	0	0
	VICTORIA	78	54	82	44	66	1	0.09	-0.41	0.09	8.37	423	12.43	192	97	56	0	0	1	0
	WACO	75	48	84	37	62	2	0.01	-0.48	0.01	2.85	126	7.59	115	91	57	0	0	1	0
	WICHITA FALLS	75	47	88	40	61	5	0.12	-0.38	0.12	1.39	71	3.99	86	88	53	0	0	1	0
UT	SALT LAKE CITY	63	39	74	33	51	6	0.18	-0.26	0.13	0.67	40	1.84	42	69	29	0	0	2	0
VT	BURLINGTON	34	17	49	8	26	-8	0.42	-0.14	0.38	0.92	47	3.91	67	76	50	0	6	2	0
VA	LYNCHBURG	56	36	72	21	46	-2	0.57	-0.28	0.52	3.27	95	7.65	76	76	44	0	1	3	1
	NORFOLK	55	42	71	32	48	-3	0.26	-0.65	0.14	2.49	68	8.67	79	78	57	0	1	2	0
	RICHMOND	60	39	77	28	50	0	0.46	-0.45	0.30	3.73	101	11.00	108	73	46	0	1	3	0
	ROANOKE	57	40	75	26	48	-1	1.22	0.37	0.90	4.31	126	8.22	84	61	47	0	1	2	1
	WASH/DULLES	51	33	74	25	42	-4	0.77	-0.03	0.53	4.04	128	9.07	101	62	43	0	4	3	1
WA	OLYMPIA	60	41	72	34	50	6	1.40	0.28	0.47	5.64	116	17.60	95	94	83	0	0	6	0
	QUILLAYUTE	54	43	61	39	49	5	4.80	2.51	2.51	12.00	117	31.84	88	98	92	0	0	7	3
	SEATTLE-TACOMA	60	46	71	42	53	6	0.90	0.10	0.31	4.36	128	13.30	105	88	74	0	0	6	0
	SPOKANE	56	39	70	33	48	7	0.69	0.38	0.26	2.43	179	5.40	115	93	62	0	0	6	0
	YAKIMA	66	39	80	33	53	9	0.45	0.31	0.41	0.74	128	2.43	95	76	52	0	0	2	0
WV	BECKLEY	56	34	73	18	45	1	0.56	-0.23	0.50	5.56	171	12.24	130	70	45	0	2	3	1
	CHARLESTON	58	35	76	21	46	-1	0.32	-0.53	0.31	5.75	163	10.97	110	77	34	0	2	2	0
	ELKINS	51	29	71	13	40	-2	0.52	-0.34	0.34	6.57	187	12.29	121	88	40	0	4	5	0
	HUNTINGTON	56	34	75	22	45	-3	0.03	-0.80	0.03	6.32	183	11.76	120	76	38	0	4	1	0
WI	EAU CLAIRE	39	21	47	13	30	-4	0.33	-0.17	0.25	0.43	29	1.02	31	83	38	0	7	4	0
	GREEN BAY	37	22	42	17	30	-4	0.39	-0.14	0.39	0.61	37	1.60	41	77	49	0	7	1	0
	LA CROSSE	39	24	43	17	32	-5	0.77	0.22	0.38	0.78	50	2.00	54	84	43	0	7	4	0
	MADISON	39	22	46	14	30	-6	0.56	-0.03	0.20	0.67	37	2.08	48	79	51	0	7	3	0
	MILWAUKEE	35	24	43	18	30	-7	0.49	-0.18	0.36	0.80	38	2.54	45	68	51	0	6	4	0
WY	CASPER	59	32	75	28	46	9	0.11	-0.08	0.10	0.64	84	1.95	98	65	38	0	5	2	0
	CHEYENNE	59	34	75	21	47	12	0.02	-0.23	0.02	0.09	11	0.90	52	59	30	0	2	1	0
	LANDER	62	33	74	26	47	9	0.02	-0.28	0.02	0.55	56	2.12	104	62	19	0	4	1	0
	SHERIDAN	64	35	80	27	50	13	0.17	-0.08	0.08	0.42	54	2.17	102	71	45	0	2	4	0

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

National Agricultural Summary

March 23 – 29, 2015

Weekly National Agricultural Summary provided by USDA/NASS

HIGHLIGHTS

Precipitation was generally minimal across the U.S., with only small bands in the southern Corn Belt, the Pacific Northwest, and the Southeast reporting more than 2 inches for the week. Temperatures were generally above average in the western U.S., with portions of Montana and southern California more than 9°F above normal for the week. Temperatures from the Corn Belt into New England were much lower, averaging more than 6°F below normal—with some locations in New York and Ohio averaging more than 12°F below normal.

Winter wheat conditions deteriorated in several of the Great Plains States. **Kansas** producers reported that 39 percent of the winter wheat crop was in good to excellent condition, 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, 10 percentage points ahead of last year but 3 points behind the 5-year average. **Colorado's** winter wheat was 2 percent jointing, equal to last year and slightly behind the 5-year average.

The planting of the 2015 corn crop has commenced in some southern U.S. locations, with **Texas** 20 percent complete, **Louisiana** 16 percent complete, **Mississippi** 4 percent complete, and **Arkansas** 2 percent complete. All states reporting corn planting progress were well behind their respective 5-year average paces.

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** have rated pasture and range condition at 49 percent good to excellent. Cold, wet conditions have led to less favorable pasture ratings in other parts of the nation, with **Virginia** at 25 percent in the good to excellent categories, **North Carolina** at 27 percent, and **Arkansas** at 28 percent.

In **Florida**, processing plants finished with early and midseason oranges, began running grapefruit, or transitioned to late-orange harvesting. The Valencia harvest was lagging last season's pace 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.

March State Agricultural Summaries

These summaries, issued weekly through the summer growing season, provide brief descriptions of crop and weather conditions important on a national scale. More detailed data are available in Crop Progress and Condition Reports published each Monday by NASS State Statistical Offices in cooperation with the National Weather Service. The crop reports are available on the Internet through the NASS Home Page on the World Wide Web at http://www.nass.usda.gov.

ALABAMA: Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 2% short, 67% adequate, and 30% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 2% short, 69% adequate, and 28% surplus. Livestock condition 1% poor, 25% fair, 68% good, and 6% excellent. Pasture and range condition 1% very poor, 7% poor, 43% fair, 45% good, and 4% excellent. Winter wheat condition 1% poor, 32% fair, 55% good, and 12% excellent. The US Drought Monitor released on March 24, 2015 indicated the state of Alabama was 56.66 percent free from drought compared to 78.22 percent a year ago. The average mean temperature for the month ranged from 54.6 F in Huntsville to 64.2 F in Mobile; total precipitation ranged from 2.69 inches in Montgomery to 4.77 inches in Huntsville. Winter wheat was a few weeks behind schedule due to severe wet conditions, and nitrogen applications had difficulty staying on top of the ground. Some producers were able to dodge rain showers to get some burndown complete and plant early corn.

ALASKA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

ARIZONA: Temperatures across the State were mostly above normal for the month of March. The temperatures for March were in the upper 90s in several parts of the State and a low of 2 degrees at the Grand Canyon. Only 19 of the 50 reporting stations finished the month of March with above normal precipitation. Page and Canyon De Chelly finished the highest at 195 and 176 percent of normal precipitation, respectively, and Desert Ridge finished the Lowest with 48 percent of normal precipitation. Cotton planting was under way in March. Alfalfa harvesting was active on about three-fourths of the alfalfa acreage and sheeping off continued on various alfalfa fields across the State. Vegetable and citrus harvesting activities continued throughout the month.

ARKANSAS: The year started with relatively normal temperatures. March continued the trend of previous months with by starting with a strong cold front that brought rain, freezing rain, sleet, and snow throughout the state. Mid-month brought warmer temperatures, and what seemed like endless rainfall. Temperatures were roughly a degree warmer than normal, but precipitation levels were over 4 inches above normal for the month. Due to the volatile winter weather season and overly saturated soils, field preparations have been sporadic. Livestock producers were planting hay and preparing to fertilize pastures.

CALIFORNIA: Days suitable for field work was 7.0 days. Topsoil moisture 55% very short, 30% short, and 15% adequate. Subsoil moisture 40% very short, 45% short and 15% adequate. Pacific moisture streamed into the State early in the week, which led to light and scattered rainfall for the northern third of the State on Monday and Tuesday. Most amounts were very light, although isolated locations exceeded half an inch on Monday. Beginning Wednesday, the Pacific moisture influx shut off, and high pressure built over the West Coast, which resulted in the State remaining dry for the rest of the week. The buildup of high pressure corresponded with an increase in daily temperatures, as readings over the weekend were roughly 10 degrees warmer than last weekend. The valley typically saw highs in the 70s to 80s with lows in the 40s to 50s. Temperatures were similar along the coast, slightly cooler in the north and warmer in the south. The southern deserts saw summer like temperatures, with highs exceeding 100 degrees after Friday at a few locations. The mountains continued to stay cool, with highs in the 40s to 60s and lows in the single digits 20s and 30s. Warming temperatures continued to erode what is left of the mountain snowpack, which is getting hard to find, even at higher elevations. Alfalfa fields were baled and newly planted fields were irrigated. Forage crops continued to show good development with the warm weather. Winter forage crops were harvested. Wheat fields were irrigated. Wheat and barley started to head nicely in southern areas. Cotton fields were ready to be planted. The wheat crop was rated as 85 percent good to excellent. Pasture and rangeland condition was 60 percent fair to good. Most fruit crops went through petal drop and are now fully leafed-out. Mechanical and chemical weed control continued in fruit tree orchards. Bloom sprays were applied to some stone fruit orchards. Orchard replant continued. Early and mid-maturing varieties of grapes continued to leaf-out while some late varieties have yet to start. Fungicide applications on wine grapes continued. In San Joaquin County, the cherry harvest was anticipated to begin up to two weeks early due to warm weather following a good bloom. In Tulare County, bloom continued with late varieties of stone fruit approaching the end of the bloom period while early varieties of nectarines were undergoing fruit thinning. Cherries and plum varieties were developing well. The citrus bloom was declared in the central part of the State. Some citrus groves continued to hedge rows, top and skirt. Navels, tangelos, tangos, sweet limes, and lemons continued to be harvested and packed. Olive trees were starting to bloom. Almonds have gone through petal drop and are now fully leafed-out. Almonds were maturing well, with touch up weed control and suckering continuing. Orchard replant continued. Due to warm temperatures older walnut trees have started to bloom and leaf-out while young walnut trees were being whitewashed to prevent sunburn. Micronutrients were sprayed on pistachios. In Colusa County, continued dry weather and above average temperatures lead to drying soils. Transplanting of row crops such as processing tomatoes continued. In Sutter County, weed control and field preparation for summer vegetables continued. Fields were prepared for processing tomatoes and cucurbits for seeds. In Monterey County,

harvesting of broccoli and cauliflower was going strong. Asparagus season was in full swing and looked good. The head lettuce harvest started in a few fields and Romaine and leaf lettuce harvest was picking up. In San Mateo County, herbs were growing strong and seedlings continued to take hold for spring/summer crops. In Fresno County, growers continued planting processing tomatoes and Bell peppers. Carrot stands were reported as looking good. In Tulare County, growers began planting eggplants. Bell peppers and squash continued to grow well. Due to the continued dry weather, these crops were irrigated. Hilly, dry pastureland continued to be grazed by cattle. Some beehives were still in orchards. Reports of very dry weather have allowed for early cleaning of corrals at dairies. Non-irrigated pasture and rangeland conditions were degrading due to the lack of precipitation. Cattle were moved to areas where some green grass remained. Supplemental feeding continued.

COLORADO: Topsoil moisture 8% very short, 27% short, 64% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 15% very short, 34% short, 49% adequate, 2% surplus. Spring wheat planted 6% this week, 4% 2014, 11% avg. Barley planted 4% this week, 11% 2014, 17% avg. Onions planted 2% this week, 13% 2014, 19% avg. Potatoes outside SLV planted 9% this week, none 2014, 2% avg. Sugarbeets planted 6% this week, 5% 2014, 3% avg. Cows calved 59% this week, 63% 2014, 61% avg. Ewes lambed 54% this week, 49% 2014, 48% avg. Pasture and range condition 5% very poor, 37% poor, 24% fair, 31% good, 3% excellent. Livestock condition 3% poor, 23% fair, 65% good, 9% excellent. Above normal temperatures were sustained last week while precipitation occurred in trace amounts, stimulating pasture growth and spurring opportunities for fieldwork in most districts. High winds impacted eastern districts while localized moisture stress was apparent in several instances. Calving and lambing progressed well amid warm and dry conditions. As of March 30, mountain snowpack statewide was 74 percent of average. The Southwest and San Luis Valley were 60 and 66 percent of average, respectively.

FLORIDA: Fieldwork and soil preparation for spring plantings was active in Panhandle area. Flagler, Putnam county farmers started harvesting cabbage. By mid-month, farmers in Washington, Madison, and Suwannee counties began planting corn. Sugarcane harvest continued in Highlands, St. Lucie, Palm Beach, Glades, and Hendry counties. In Suwannee County planting of watermelons, tomatoes, bell peppers began. Gilchrist, Levy, Madison, Dixie county farmers were setting watermelon sets. Strawberries were harvested in Polk County, blueberries in Glades County, and peaches in Charlotte County. The cabbage harvest continued in Flagler, Putnam, and St. Lucie counties. Potato planting was complete in Flagler and Putnam counties. Green beans, pole beans, yellow squash, zucchini, tomatoes, peppers, eggplant, sweet corn, boniato, malanga, strawberries, bitter melon, and herbs were harvested in Miami-Dade County. Cold weather in north Florida delayed growth of grass in pastures. Cattle were provided supplemental feed due to lack of forage crops. Ranchers fertilized pastures to revitalize them. By mid-month, warmer weather and longer days boosted pasture growth in Panhandle, north, and central Florida. Southwest Florida pasture quality declined due to dry soil conditions. In citrus growing counties, warm, dry conditions existed at the start of March. Processing plants finished with early and midseason oranges, began running grapefruit or transitioning to late orange harvesting. Valencia harvest lagging behind last season due to low maturity levels. Honey tangerines, colored grapefruit, white grapefruit, midseason oranges, Temples, and Valencias were going fresh. Early, mid-season orange harvest was complete. 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.

GEORGIA: March was warm as temperatures in southern Georgia were typically 3 to 6 degrees high than historical averages and 2 to 3 degrees higher in northern Georgia. Daily average temperature highs in northern Georgia were in the mid and high 60s and low to high 70s in southern Georgia. Lows in northern Georgia were in mid 40s and mid 50s for southern Georgia. Most of the state has little or no drought as primarily northern Georgia is considered abnormally dry according to the U.S. National Drought Monitor. Comments from reporters describe winter plantings and grazing recovering nicely from a cold winter and producers having accommodating early planting conditions in the early part of the month.

HAWAII: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

IDAHO: Temperatures for the month ranged between 3 and 11 degrees above normal. Northern Idaho received the most precipitation for the month, while south central Idaho received the least. The overall level of precipitation for Idaho was lower than normal. In parts of Idaho there has been a loss on winter wheat greater than 20 percent. In many other areas of Idaho fall planted crops looked good. Voles were a major pest problem for alfalfa and winter wheat. Pastures were dry in some areas of Idaho.

ILLINOIS: Topsoil moisture 5% short, 76% adequate, 19% surplus. Subsoil moisture 7% short, 82% adequate, 11% surplus. Winter wheat condition 3% very poor, 9% poor, 36% fair, 44% good, 8% excellent. Statewide, precipitation averaged 2.41 inches for the month, 0.53 inches below normal. The average temperature in March was 37.3 degrees, 3.4 degrees below normal.

INDIANA: Topsoil moisture 1% short, 59% adequate, 40% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% short, 69% adequate, 29% surplus. Winter wheat condition 3% very poor, 10% poor, 34% fair, 44% good, 9% excellent. Temperatures for the month averaged 36.5 degrees, 3.8 degrees below normal. Statewide average precipitation was 3.62 inches. Farmers are anxious for spring to begin and temperatures to warm up to start planting for the season. The increased precipitation this month has made some roads difficult to haul grain and livestock. Ruts are prevalent in many fields

and pastures. Concerns for the winter wheat crop are high in some areas, as it still remains dormant and is difficult to assess the condition. Some farmers have identified dead spots from excess water and are preparing to make the decision to keep or let the crop go. Hay stocks seem to be plentiful and in good condition, keeping livestock healthy moving into spring. Farmers have been selling livestock, calving, hauling grain, working on planters, and tilling fields when they can.

IOWA: Topsoil moisture 2% very short, 19% short, 77% adequate, and 2% surplus. March brought activity to Iowa agriculture, including soil sampling, oat and alfalfa seeding, spring tillage, and manure spreading. Anhydrous applications were reported in the southern two-thirds of the State. Iowa grain movement saw an increase for the month of March as compared to February, with grain going to elevators located near the Mississippi river as well as processing plants. Livestock conditions were described as good for the month of March and hay and roughage supplies remained fairly steady from February.

KANSAS: Topsoil moisture supplies rated 16% very short, 37% short, 46% adequate, and 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies rated 19% very short, 42% short, 39% adequate, and 0% surplus. Winter wheat condition rated 4% very poor, 13% poor, 44% fair, 35% good and 4% excellent; jointing, 15%, 5% 2014, 18% avg. Hay and Roughage supplies were rated 2% very short, 10% short, 84% adequate, 4% surplus. Stock water supplies were rated 14% very short, 26% short, 60% adequate, and 0% surplus. Cattle and Calves condition rated 1% very poor, 2% poor, 31% fair, 60% good and 6% excellent. Cattle and Calves death loss rated 0% heavy, 72% average and 28% light. Sheep and Lambs condition rated 0% very poor, 0% poor, 29% fair, 65% good and 6% excellent. Sheep and lambs death loss rated 0% heavy, 63% average and 37% light. Temperatures averaged near normal. Light precipitation was reported. Producers reported an increase in field activities with the recent mild weather, including fertilizer and herbicide application, planting preparation, and moving cattle off crop residue. The lack of moisture was a concern in a number of counties.

KENTUCKY: The Bluegrass State experienced mixed weather conditions during the month of March. Both temperatures and precipitation have ranged from below to above normal. The first full week of March saw well below normal temperatures and much above normal precipitation. The second week brought spring like temperatures accompanied by excessive rainfall. The Commonwealth got a chance to dry out a little during the third week of March due to above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation. The last full week of March ended with below normal temperatures and moisture. Wet conditions have put famers 10 days to 2 weeks behind schedule in many areas. Some bottom land is still flooded. The large amount of snow received in February along with recent rains has created wet conditions which creates a challenge for producers to treat small grains for weeds. Famers have begun spreading fertilizer and spraying herbicides where conditions allowed. Overall, wheat and canola producers are optimistic about the 2015 crop. Winter wheat condition 1% very poor, 4% poor, 17% fair, 67% good, 11% excellent. Hay supplies continue to run tight due to the cold, snowy winter. Pastures have really started to green up and are growing well with the recent warmer weather. However, many producers are still feeding hay until pasture conditions show more improvement. Hay and roughage supplies 11% very short, 31% short, 55% adequate, 3% surplus. At the end of February, 67% of supplies were rated as adequate to surplus, compared to 58% currently. Winter was rough on livestock with some losses reported during the February cold spell. However, livestock are recovering well due to warmer conditions. Livestock producers are making management decisions in terms of placements this spring. Livestock condition 2% very poor, 7% poor, 25% fair, 60% good, 6% excellent. Burley growers are faced with the decision of whether to raise tobacco this year as the US Burley contract volume will be reduced significantly. Producers marketed their grain and tobacco crops and attended various commodity meetings across the state. Farmers were busy performing routine equipment maintenance in preparation for the upcoming planting season.

LOUISIANA: The state averaged 5.8 inches of rain this past month. The entire state experienced a soil moisture surplus hindering producers to start the planting season. Row crops planting such as corn, rice and sorghum have been mainly affected. Producers were barely able to put anything in the ground where under the norms corn would started to emerge already. Winter wheat started to head in some part of the state. Due to flooded fields, vegetable and fruit producers delayed preparations; livestock producers were feeding hay and preparing to fertilize pastures.

MARYLAND and DELAWARE: Overall, the month of March continued a rainy, snowy and cold pattern on most part of the region. Both states experienced snow and rain precipitation in the ranges of 0.21 to 1.12 inches for a single day in the areas of Frederick, Maryland and Wilmington, Delaware respectably. Delaware registered maximum temperatures reaching 71.0 degrees Fahrenheit and minimum temperature reaching 6.0 degrees Fahrenheit. Maryland reported maximum temperatures reaching 77.0 degrees Fahrenheit, and minimum reaching 0 degree Fahrenheit. Some reporters indicated farmers delaying field operations due to weather condition improvement to come. In some areas, muddy conditions have prevailed affecting livestock operations with feed needs and efficiency problems. Other farming activities for the month included feeding hay to livestock, making fertilizer decisions, planting and attending meetings.

MICHIGAN: Topsoil moisture 7% short, 80% adequate, and 13% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% very short, 13% short, 76% adequate, and 9% surplus. Winter wheat condition rated 6% very poor, 7% poor, 43% fair, 40% good, and 4% excellent. Precipitation for the month of March averaged 0.71 inches throughout the state, 1.35 inches below normal. Temperature for the month of March

averaged 28.0 degrees, 2.7 degrees below normal. While the ground is still frozen throughout the state, most snow cover was gone by mid-month as temperatures were warmer with the coming spring. Reporters noted that the ground has been soaking up water well without flooding. Wheat is still dormant in much of the state, but some earlier planted wheat is greening up in the southern parts of the state. Growers are largely prepping equipment and preparing for field work with the ground still frozen, but some are applying fertilizer to the frozen ground. With some rain and warmer temperatures, growers will begin field activity.

MINNESOTA: March started off colder than normal with high winds. Record cold maximum temperatures were set on the 4th at Duluth, International Falls and St. Cloud. Northern Minnesota cities reported record lows on the 5th, with Cotton reaching -40 degrees Fahrenheit. Temperatures quickly warmed with record high temperatures in the 60's and 70's set across the State on the 10th and the 12th. Records continued to be set through the 16th, with the highest temperature of 78 degrees recorded in Browns Valley on the 15th. The statewide average temperature for March looks to be above average. Precipitation came in the form of snow across parts of the state March 3-4. Another storm March 22-23 brought wet snow to the central and southern parts of the State, setting new daily snowfall records in some areas. However, precipitation for the month remains below average. Recent favorable conditions allowed farmers to begin preparations for fieldwork, and in some cases, enter their fields.

MISSISSIPPI: March started off with a lot of rain during the first two weeks of the month. Temperatures for the month ranged from highs of 86.6 degrees in Collins during the third week to 25.1 degrees in Independence during the first week. The state averaged 6.1 inches of rain for the month of March which is 1.6 inches above norm. Corn and rice planting still behind due to the soil moisture from the rain and sleet. As of week ending March 29th, wheat headed was one percent compared to the five year average of eight percent.

MISSOURI: Topsoil moisture 6% short, 74% adequate, 20% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% very short, 19% short, 72% adequate, 7% surplus. Hay and roughage supplies 5% short, 86% adequate, 8% surplus. Stock water supplies 4% short, 89% adequate, 7% surplus. Pasture and range condition 1% very poor, 8% poor, 60% fair, 29% good, 2% excellent. Winter wheat condition 1% very poor, 8% poor, 44% fair, 45% good, 2% excellent.

MONTANA: Topsoil moisture 6% very short, 3% last year; 22% short, 20% last year; 56% adequate, 70% last year; 16% surplus, 7% last year. Subsoil moisture 6% very short, 3% last year; 23% short, 20% last year; 48% adequate, 72% last year; 23% surplus, 5% last year. Winter wheat – wind damage 75% none, 76% last year; 18% light, 20% last year; 5% moderate, 4% last year; 2% heavy, 0% last year. Winter wheat – freeze and drought damage 70% none, 79% last year; 21% light, 17% last year; 7% moderate, 4% last year; 2% heavy, 0% last year. Winter wheat – protectiveness of snow cover 69% very poor, 8% last year; 17% poor, 13% last year; 14% fair, 53% last year; 0% good, 25% last year; 0% excellent, 1% last year. Winter wheat – 35% breaking dormancy. Livestock grazing accessibility – 67% open, 41% last year; 24% difficult, 19% last year; 9% closed, 40% last year. Livestock birthing – calving 23% completed, 47% last year. Livestock birthing – lambing 15% completed, 30% last year. Livestock receiving supplemental feed – cattle and calves 96% fed, 98% last year. Livestock receiving supplemental feed – sheep and lambs 96% fed, 96% last year. The month ending March 31 in Montana was mostly mild with unusually warm temperatures for all but a few wintery days. High temperatures across the state ranged from the mid 60s to the mid 80s with the statewide high recorded in Mizpah at 85 degrees. Low temperatures ranged from -20 degrees to the lower teens with the statewide low temperature of -20 recorded at West Yellowstone. All reporting stations received measurable precipitation during the month of March and Heron recorded the highest amount received with 4.20 inches of moisture. Soil moisture conditions decreased from the previous month due to comparatively low precipitation across the state. Winter wheat conditions improved from the previous month in the mild weather and began to break winter dormancy. Reporters are noting that spring crops will be seeded in good conditions over the coming weeks. Livestock producers are also benefitting from the warmer than normal temperatures which is both easing livestock birthing and allowing better grazing conditions than are typical for March in Montana.

NEBRASKA: Topsoil moisture 16% very short, 38% short, 45% adequate, and 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 13% very short, 29% short, 57% adequate, and 1% surplus. Winter wheat condition 11% very poor, 18% poor, 37% fair, 31% good, 3% excellent. Stock water supplies 2% very short, 14% short, 83% adequate, and 1% surplus. Hay and roughage supplies 1% very short, 6% short, 90% adequate, 3% surplus. Cattle and calves condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 14% fair, 75% good, 10% excellent. Sheep and lambs condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 16% fair, 70% good, 13% excellent. For the month of March 2015, temperatures averaged above normal with only limited precipitation falling in the western two-thirds of the State. Rainfall of up to an inch fell across much of the southeast and portions of northeastern Nebraska, but western areas were short, prompting concerns from winter wheat producers. Activities included fertilizer application and preparation for spring planting.

NEVADA: Temperatures in southern Nevada started out at an average of 57 degrees the first week of March. However, towards the end of the first week and into the second week temperatures climbed into the low 80s, which was above the historical average of 69 degrees. Above average temperatures continued reaching the low 90s by the latter part of the month. The first part of the month in northern Nevada was dry. Reported temperatures were between 45 and 68 degrees, which was below average. Later temperatures climbed to above average levels

between 70 and 80 degrees during the remainder of the month. The average precipitation was 1.1 inches for the region.

NEW ENGLAND: Some scattered snowstorms occurred in New England throughout March, but produced less snowfall than previous snowstorms throughout January and February. The week of March 2nd – 8th saw temperatures ranging from 3 to 15 degrees below normal and precipitation between 0.03 to 2.26 inches in the region. The week of March 9th – 15th saw temperatures ranging from 6 degrees below normal to 9 degrees above normal, with precipitation ranging from 0 to 1.60 inches in the region. The week of March 16th – 22nd saw temperatures ranging from 2 to 14 degrees below normal, with precipitation ranging from 0.05 to 1.52 inches in the region. The week of March 23rd – 29th saw temperatures ranging from 4 to 15 degrees below normal, with precipitation ranging from 0.01 to 1.46 inches in the region. Snowpack was still covering some fields in the region, even though a lot of the snow had started to melt. Maple syrup tapping has begun throughout the region, although it started a little later than usual due to the snow and colder temperatures. Some sap producers indicated their sap was running slower due to the cold conditions and deep snow against the trees. The pruning of orchards has also been delayed some due to the snow and cold weather. Farm activities in March included tapping maple trees (CT, ME, VT), some pruning of orchards (CT, MA, NH), taking care of new livestock being born (NH), starting up greenhouses (NH), seeding some crops (NH), and livestock producers catching up with animal processing (NH).

NEW JERSEY: The weather for March is still colder than normal. There were some snow and icy condition during the 1st week of the month. The lowest temperature 40 to highest 60 through March except there were two days where it was 70 degree. Weather is getting better and people are starting to work the fields. Ag Meetings have continued without any interruption.

NEW MEXICO: Topsoil moisture 5% very short, 50% short, 45% adequate. Subsoil moisture 7% very short, 24% short, 69% adequate. Chile planted 50% complete, 29% last year, 41% 5-year average. Onions planted 90% complete, 78% last year, 81% 5-year average. Alfalfa condition 17% fair, 46% good, 37% excellent. Winter wheat condition 50% fair, 40% good, 10% excellent. Cattle and calves condition 1% very poor, 1% poor, 40% fair, 56% good, 2% excellent. Cows calved 16% complete. Cattle receiving supplemental feed 84%. Sheep and lambs condition 19% very poor, 18% poor, 14% fair, 49% good. Ewes lambed 8% complete. Sheep receiving supplemental feed 77%. Pasture and range condition 8% very poor, 7% poor, 36% fair, 36% good, 13% excellent. Hay and roughage supplies 5% very short, 43% short, 49% adequate, 3% surplus. Stock water supplies 8% very short, 24% short, 68% adequate. Precipitation totals across much of the state fell well below normal during March. As a result, soil moisture and winter wheat conditions declined from a month ago. Northern areas have begun to see runoff from mountain snowpack, and as the days warmed up, new grass growth was starting to emerge. Apricot trees in Rio Arriba County were reported to be in full bloom.

NEW YORK: Cold weather continues through March. Temperatures have caused concern over new lambs and calves, has caused damage to vineyards, has delayed the maple season, has damaged bee colonies, and has caused freeze damage to pipes. On the other hand, continuing low temperatures have eased fears of an early thaw cutting the maple season short, and have prevented excessive runoff and moisture problems. In addition, temperatures have risen enough to allow spreading of manure. Maple, though a few weeks behind is of good quality. Vineyards, while reporting some worry of damage, are progressing well in Long Island. Field activities for the month include applying fertilizer, tending livestock, trees, and vines, and fixing and maintaining machinery, structures and infrastructure.

NORTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for field work 3.4. Topsoil moisture 1% short, 45% adequate and 54% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% short, 56% adequate and 43% surplus. The state received widespread precipitation this month with several areas receiving over 4.0 inches. Most of March was cold and wet, with the last couple of weeks reaching more normal temperatures. The average temperatures for the month were at normal or slightly below normal. Small grain conditions are rated very poor or poor in some locations due to the continued cold, wet conditions over the winter months. However, overall the small grain conditions are rated fair to good.

NORTH DAKOTA: Topsoil moisture 2% very short, 27% short, 67% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% very short, 20% short, 73% adequate, 5% surplus. Winter wheat condition 1% very poor, 11% poor, 35% fair, 49% good, 4% excellent. Calving 26% complete. Cattle and calves condition 0% very poor, 1% poor,10% fair,72% good, 17% excellent. Cattle and calf death loss 0% heavy, 43% average, 57% light. Lambing 43% complete. Sheep and lambs condition 0% very poor, 2% poor, 16% fair, 66% good, 16% excellent. Sheep and lamb death loss 0% heavy, 55% average, 45% light. Hay and roughage supplies 0% very short, 2% short, 80% adequate, and 18% surplus. Stock water supplies 0% very short, 6% short, 86% adequate, and 8% surplus. Above normal temperatures along with drier conditions were experienced statewide. The lack of snow cover had livestock producers concerned for grazing and haying potential. However, these same conditions allowed for good lambing and calving with minimal death losses. Crop producers welcomed the cooperative weather conditions and should be able to start planting their crops much earlier than the previous two years. Precipitation will be needed this spring in areas that lack adequate moisture.

OHIO: Topsoil moisture 1% short, 58% adequate, and 41% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% short, 68% adequate, and 30% surplus. Winter wheat condition rated 1% very

poor, 7% poor, 29% fair, 56% good, and 7% excellent. Precipitation for the month of March averaged 3.29 inches throughout the state, 0.55 inches above normal. Temperature for the month of March averaged 35.9 degrees, 3.4 degrees below normal. Reports noted that some wheat was still under snow cover, however ground is slowly beginning to thaw and drainage tiles were starting to flow last week. Livestock producers have noted that spring calving is underway, and pasture growth is slow this spring. Winter Wheat condition was 63% good to excellent, down slightly from 67% in February.

OKLAHOMA: Freezing temperatures in the single digits were experienced throughout the state earlier in the month, bringing along sleet, snow, and near zero wind chills. Moderate snowfall provided some moisture for winter wheat in areas of the Panhandle, while cold weather conditions delayed land preparations for spring crops in areas of the Southwest district. Mid-month, the state experienced warm, spring-like temperatures with highs ranging between the mid 60's and the low 70's. Conditions of small grains improved gradually, and producers reported having more days suitable for fieldwork. Land preparations for corn however continued to be delayed in areas of the South Central district due to wet weather conditions. Throughout March, drought conditions continued to be rated extreme to exceptional across the western half of the state, with conditions most severe in the Southwest district. The most recent drought monitor indicates that the percentage of the state experiencing exceptional drought increased from 5.75 to 8.41 percent since the first week of March, a 46 percent increase. The majority of the state recorded precipitation departures below normal with exception of the South Central, Southeast, and East Central districts. Topsoil and subsoil moisture conditions were rated mostly short to adequate throughout the month.

OREGON: In western Oregon both wheat and grass seed have been growing well. There was very early flowering on blueberries. Tree fruits were continuing to bloom. Hazelnut spraying was in full swing. All pear trees were finishing bloom this week. Apple and blueberries were just starting to bloom. Wine grape buds were formed early. Livestock condition was excellent, and very few ranches were supplemental feeding. Grass was growing well in pastures. In eastern Oregon crops were doing very well. Spring field work has begun. Calving was about done, and most ranchers were finishing up branding calves.

PENNSYLVANIA: Varied weather conditions this March saw temperatures ranging from -1 to 68°F with a diverse accompaniment of rain, snow and sunshine. The average temperature for the month registered at 35.3°F, lower than the historical average by 6.1°F. Farms across Pennsylvania are prepping for spring field work despite awkward weather conditions that have left most fields cold and wet. Field activities have been minimal and seem to be limited to machine maintenance and fertilizer applications.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Topsoil moisture 4% short, 75% adequate, and 21% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 12% short, 54% adequate, and 33% surplus. The US Drought Monitor released on March 24, 2015 indicated the state of South Carolina was 95.94 percent free from drought, compared to 99.57 percent a year ago. Continued rain has been reported. Wheat is growing and looks good. Corn planting is slow because of the weather. If rains continues, corn will be replaced with cotton or soybeans. Low temperatures at the end of March caused some minor damage on peaches and strawberries, but that winter vegetables are growing well.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Topsoil moisture 19% very short, 45% short, 36% adequate. Subsoil moisture 14% very short, 44% short, 41% adequate, 1% surplus. Winter wheat condition 5% very poor, 17% poor, 43% fair, 35% good. Stock water supplies 8% very short, 24% short, 66% adequate, 2% surplus. Hay and forage supplies 3% poor, 90% adequate, and 7% excellent. Cattle and calf conditions 11% fair, 76% good, 13% excellent. Cattle and calf death loss 57% average, 43% light. Calving progress 34%. Sheep and lamb condition 15% fair, 72% good, 13% excellent. Sheep and lamb death loss 51% average, 49% light. Lambing progress 70%. For the month of March 2015, above average temperatures and below average precipitation dominated the weather pattern.

TENNESSEE: Days suitable 3.0. Topsoil moisture 2% short, 64% adequate, 34% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% short, 69% adequate, 29% surplus. Winter wheat condition 2%poor, 27% fair, 53% good, 18% excellent. Pasture and Range condition 2% very poor, 19% poor, 44% fair, 32% good, 3% excellent. Extremely wet conditions delayed fertilizer applications and other field activities. A late week freeze may have damaged fruit crops.

TEXAS: Warmer temperatures began to flow towards Texas. Precipitation varied during March with 2.0 to 10 inches of rainfall across much of the state. North and South East Texas and the Upper Coast received the majority of precipitation. Winter wheat continued to develop, aided by precipitation and warmer weather in many parts of the state. Oats entered the heading stage of development in South Texas. Producers continued field preparations for cotton, corn and sorghum. Pecans continued to develop, with some orchards reporting trees beginning the bud break stage Vegetable planting continued throughout many areas of the state. Livestock were in fair to good condition with producers beginning to reduce supplemental feeding in most of the state.

UTAH: Topsoil moisture 10% very short, 52% short, 38% adequate. Subsoil moisture 11% very short, 51% short, 38% adequate. Barley planted 44% complete, 9% last year, 21% 5-year average. Oats planted 25% complete, 6% last year, 9% 5-year average. Spring wheat planted 49% complete, 13% last year, 15% 5-year average. Winter wheat condition 2% poor, 25% fair, 62% good, 11% excellent. Cattle and calves condition 15% fair, 72% good, 13% excellent. Cows calved 36%

complete, 18% last year, 46% 5-year average. Cattle receiving supplemental feed 55%. Sheep and lambs condition 22% fair, 72% good, 6% excellent. Farm flock ewes lambed 18% complete, 14% last year, 34% 5-year average. Range flock ewes lambed 5% complete, 2% last year, 10% 5-year average. Sheep receiving supplemental feed 38%. Stock water supplies 3% very short, 25% short, 72% adequate. Hay and roughage supplies 2% short, 93% adequate, 5% surplus. Pasture and range condition 1% very poor, 16% poor, 49% fair, 32% good, 2% excellent. With the arrival of an early spring, producers have been busy planting crops sooner than what is typical for Utah. Small grain seeding was advancing at a rapid pace. Most crops were reported to be in good condition as March drew to a close, but summer irrigation water supply shortages are expected as some producers had started their irrigation approximately six weeks ahead of normal. Cow pea aphid infestations were evident in some alfalfa fields due to the abnormally mild winter. Elsewhere, ground squirrels had caused damage to growing alfalfa. Peach and apricot trees were in full bloom in the northwestern part of the state. The mild weather has not only benefitted livestock in terms of calf and lamb deaths, but has allowed producers to decrease the amount of supplemental feed needed.

VIRGINIA: Winter wheat 1% very poor, 3% poor, 32% fair, 59% good, 5% excellent. Oats 2% very poor, 5% poor, 51% fair, 41% good, 1% excellent. Barley 1% very poor, 5% poor, 42% fair, 49% good, 3% excellent. Livestock very poor 2%, 10% poor, 35% fair, 46% good, 7% excellent. Pasture 5% very poor, 30% poor, 40% fair, 23% good, 2% excellent. March was a difficult month for Virginia's producers. Temperatures varied significantly throughout the month. Snow fall was also present throughout the month. The quick changes in the temperature, including some areas at subzero temperatures, contributed to some wine grape damage, increase in death lose for livestock, and slower than normal pasture growth. Hay stocks are tight, but in some areas pastures were able to be grazed. Towards the end of the month, fruit trees were in the bud swell stage; some peach growers are worried that sub-freezing temperatures might have damaged the crop, but other growers are still optimistic that peach crop will be unaffected. Tobacco growers have begun seeding tobacco in greenhouses. Field work was limited due to wet and muddy fields; however, in some places small grains were topdressed with nitrogen, burn down chemicals were applied in preparing for row crops, and fertilizer and lime were applied on cropland. Other farming activities included starting vegetables under cover, tending to the strawberry crop, and maintaining farming equipment.

WASHINGTON: In western Washington some spring wheat was planted early. Blueberries were in bloom. Raspberry growers were busy pruning and applying chemical sprays when weather permitted. Pasture growth was good except in some wet areas. Standing water was in many fields this month. A few fields have been dry enough for field work. Dairy farmers were applying manure to dryer fields. In eastern Washington winter wheat was beginning to green up. Orchard and vineyard pruning was nearly complete by the middle of March. Apricots were at post bloom in some areas while peaches, nectarines and cherries were in full bloom. Calving was easier this spring due to warm temperatures. Some cattle have been turned out on spring pasture but most of them are still being fed.

WEST VIRGINIA: Topsoil moisture was 6% short, 92% adequate, and 2% surplus, compared to 1% short, 88% adequate, and 11% surplus last year. Subsoil moisture was 5% short, 85% adequate, and 10% surplus, comparison data not available. Hay and roughage supplies were 1% very short, 19% short, 78% adequate, and 2% surplus compared to 2% very short, 29% short, 66% adequate, and 3% surplus last year. Feed grain supplies were 5% short, 92% adequate, and 3% surplus compared to 5% very short, 20% short, and 75% adequate last year. Winter wheat conditions were 1% poor, 43% fair, 55% good, and 1% excellent. Cattle and calves were 6% poor, 27% fair, 66% good, and 1% excellent. Calving was 67% complete, compared to 71% last year. Sheep and lambs were 5% poor, 23% fair, 71% good, and 1% excellent. Lambing was 75% complete, compared to 74% last year. Farming activities for the month included lambing and calving; some producers report calf health issues. Cold temperatures have slowed forage growth. On Wednesday, March 4th, Governor Tomblin declared a State of Emergency due to winter storms and flooding.

WISCONSIN: Temperatures were around average for the month of March, ranging from -0.7 degrees below normal to 2.2 degrees above normal. The highest temperature of the month was 74 degrees on March 16th in Madison while the lowest temperature was -13 degrees on March 5th in Eau Claire. Total precipitation ranged from 0.62 inches in Eau Claire to 0.82 inches in Milwaukee. Average precipitation was less than half of normal in the major cities. Snowfall totals across the state were slightly below to moderately above average. Green Bay and Madison saw the least snow with 4.2 inches while La Crosse saw the most with 9.9 inches. Warm weather, limited snowfall and moderately dry weather allowed some farmers to haul manure, however the ground is still too hard for plowing in many areas.

WYOMING: Topsoil moisture 4% very short, 65% short, 31% adequate. Subsoil moisture 3% very short, 55% short, 42% adequate. Barley planting 18%. Winter wheat condition 83% fair, 16% good, 1% excellent. Livestock condition 1% poor, 2% fair, 83% good, 14% excellent. Stock water supplies 13% short, 87% adequate. Hay and roughage supplies 84% adequate, 16% surplus. Calving progress 20%, 28% 2014, 37% avg. Cattle death loss 47% average, 53% light. Lambing progress 27%. Sheep shorn 28%. Sheep death loss 53% average, 47% light. Range and pasture condition 4% very poor, 17% poor, 37% fair, 40% good, 2% excellent.

International Weather and Crop Summary

March 22-28, 2015

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

HIGHLIGHTS

EUROPE: Wet weather overspread western and southern Europe, while a late-season freeze in Spain posed a risk to more advanced winter crops.

WESTERN FSU: Warm weather accelerated fieldwork and winter crop development, while improving soil moisture in the south contrasted with pronounced short-term dryness in northern winter wheat districts.

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

NORTHWESTERN AFRICA: Widespread showers maintained good to excellent prospects for heading (west) to vegetative (east) winter wheat and barley.

EAST ASIA: Drier weather returned to wheat and rapeseed areas of China, necessitating supplemental irrigation to maintain adequate soil moisture.

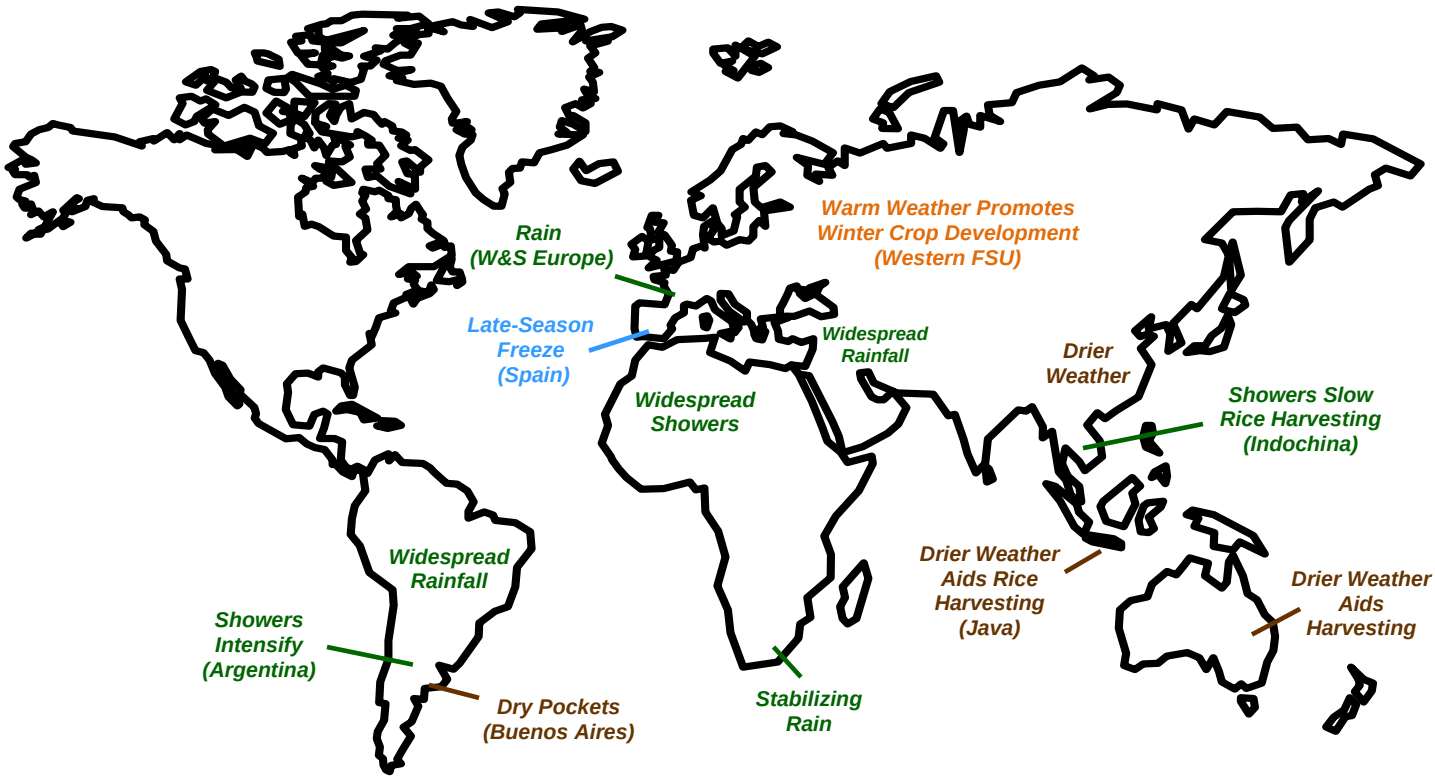
SOUTHEAST ASIA: Drier weather in eastern Java, Indonesia, aided rice harvesting, as heavier-than-usual rainfall in northern portions of the region slowed rice harvesting.

AUSTRALIA: Somewhat drier weather overspread eastern Australia later in the week, aiding summer crop maturation and harvesting.

SOUTH AFRICA: Rain helped to stabilize filling corn in western sections of the corn belt.

ARGENTINA: Showers intensified across the north but pockets of dryness lingered in Buenos Aires.

BRAZIL: Widespread, locally heavy rain maintained mostly favorable prospects for second-crop corn.



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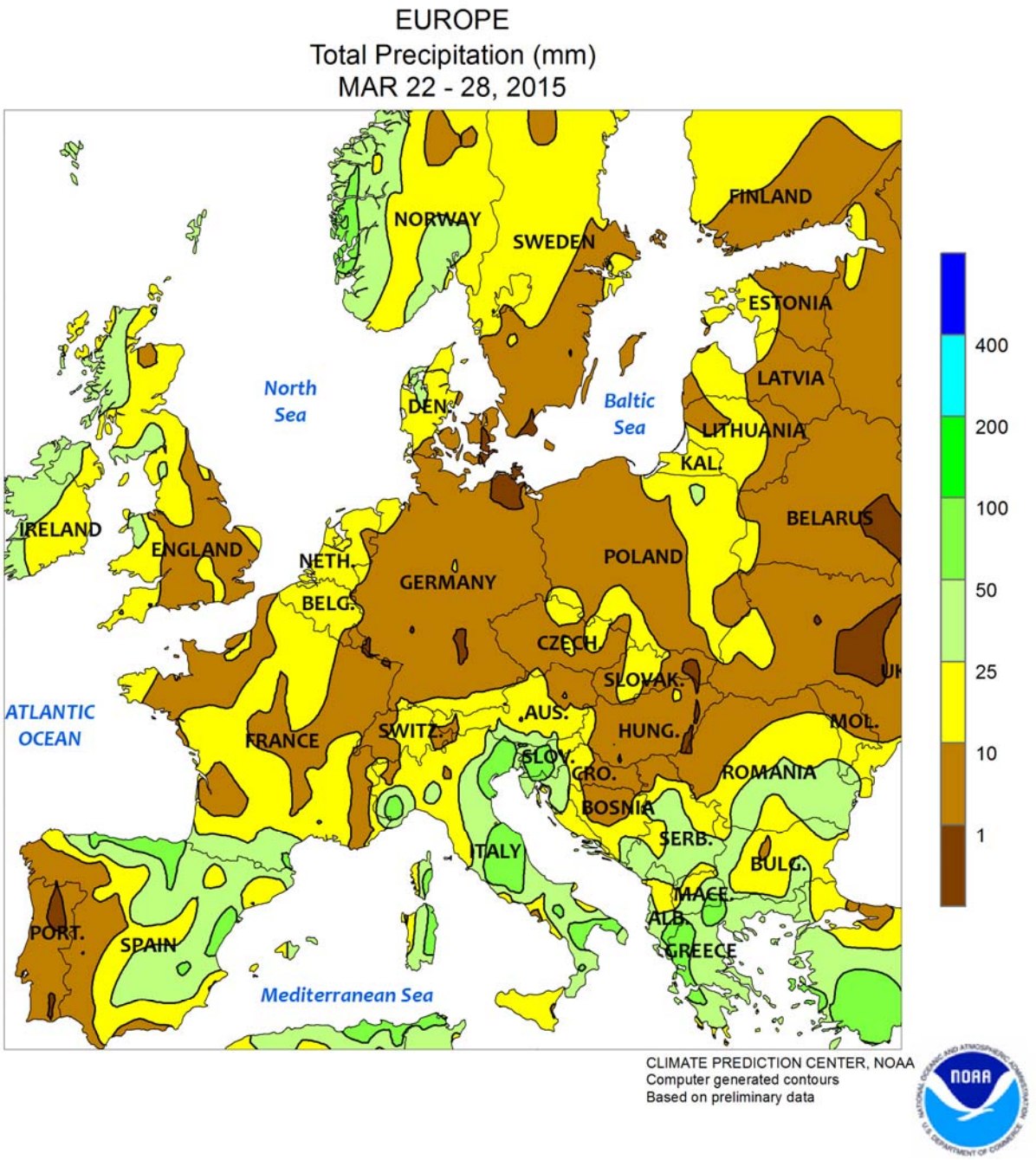

EUROPE

Wet weather over western and southern Europe benefited winter crops, though a late-season freeze in Spain posed a risk to more advanced winter wheat and barley. A series of slow-moving storms generated widespread rain (5-60 mm, locally more) from the United Kingdom and France into the Mediterranean Basin, maintaining adequate to abundant soil moisture for vegetative (north) to reproductive (south) winter grains. However, the wet weather slowed fieldwork, particularly citrus harvesting and corn planting. After a brief spell of dry weather, moderate to heavy rain (10-50 mm) returned to the southern Balkans, hampering fieldwork but sustaining abundant moisture supplies for winter wheat and rapeseed. Farther north, light to moderate showers (2-25 mm) improved soil moisture for dormant winter cops in Germany, Poland, and the Baltic States, though short-term deficits lingered due to drier-than-normal weather over the past 60 days. Above-normal temperatures in eastern Europe contrasted with colder conditions (1-3°C below normal) over western portions of the continent. In particular, a hard freeze (-7 to -2°C) in northwestern Spain may have posed a risk to more advanced wheat and barley, though crop development in the north typically lags the warmer south where wheat was likely heading.

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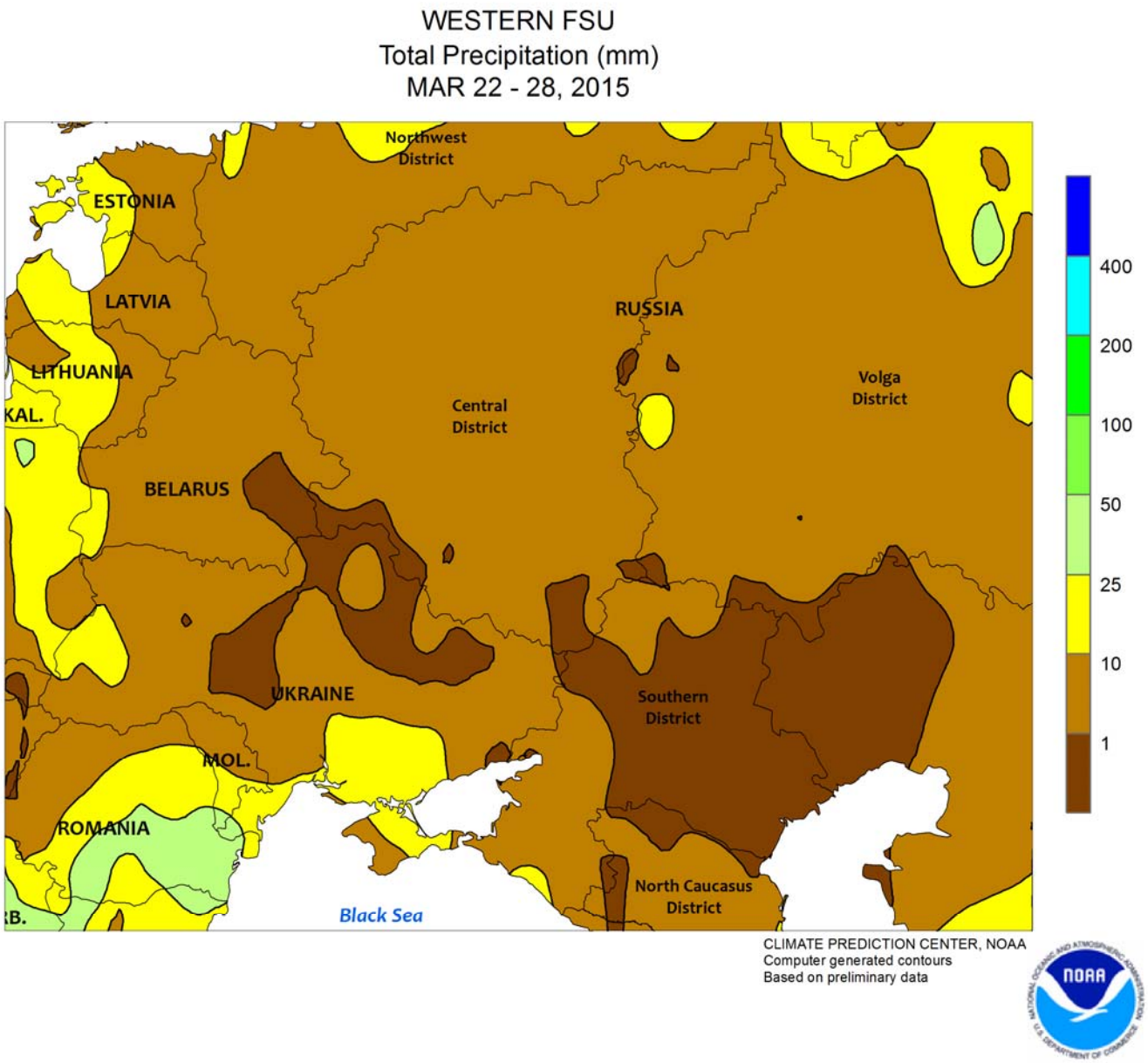

WESTERN FSU

Warmer-than-normal weather prevailed, with beneficial showers in the south contrasting with unfavorably dry conditions in northern wheat areas. Near- to above-normal temperatures encouraged winter wheat development in the south and continued to erode the vestiges of snow in the Volga District. Mostly dry weather prevailed from southern Belarus and northern Ukraine into northern portion of Russia's Southern District, further limiting soil moisture for winter wheat development following autumn drought in these same locales. However, winter crops in these more northerly areas remained dormant despite the mild weather, affording producers additional time to benefit from spring rain. After a dry start to the week, welcomed showers (2-15 mm, locally more) returned to southern portions of Ukraine and Russia, improving soil moisture for vegetative winter wheat. These southern crop districts were not as adversely affected by autumn dryness as their northern neighbors.

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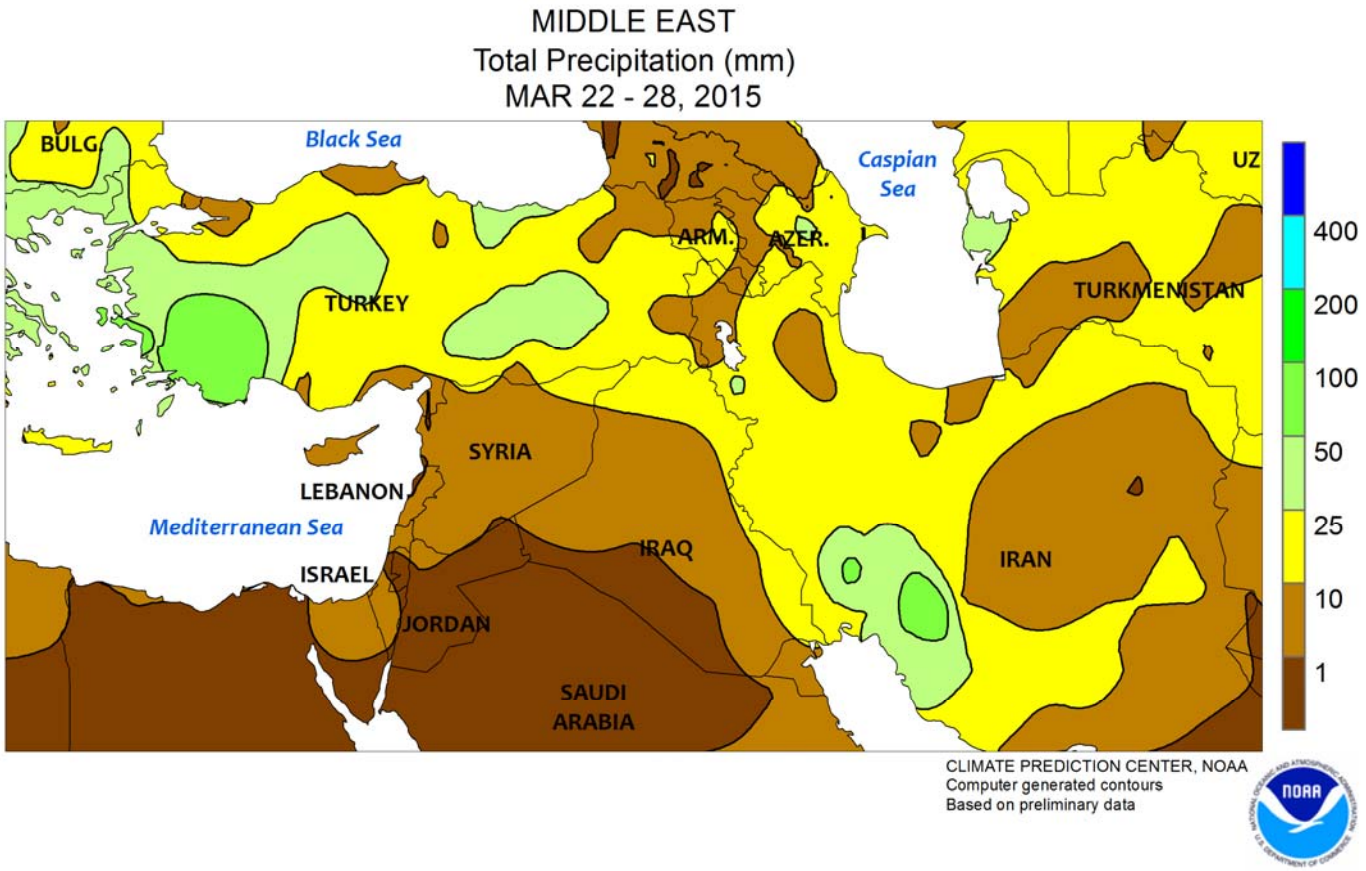

MIDDLE EAST

Stormy weather prevailed across the region, sustaining good to excellent winter crop prospects but likely causing localized flooding. For the second consecutive week, a pair of complex Mediterranean storms generated widespread rain and high-elevation snow (12-90 mm liquid equivalent, locally more) over Turkey, northern Iraq, and northwestern Iran, maintaining good to excellent prospects for vegetative winter wheat and barley. The clouds and rain kept temperatures near to below normal in central portions of the region, while somewhat milder conditions (1-5°C above normal) returned to western Turkey and eastern Iran. Showers were lighter (less than 10 mm) but still beneficial for winter crops in Syria and along the eastern Mediterranean Coast. In southern Iran, another round of unseasonable and unusually heavy rain (10-90 mm) eliminated the need for winter grain irrigation in this typically-arid part of the country and likely caused additional lowland flooding. Light to moderate showers (2-22 mm) further aided winter wheat in eastern Iran, where prospects are vastly improved over last year's drought-stricken crop.

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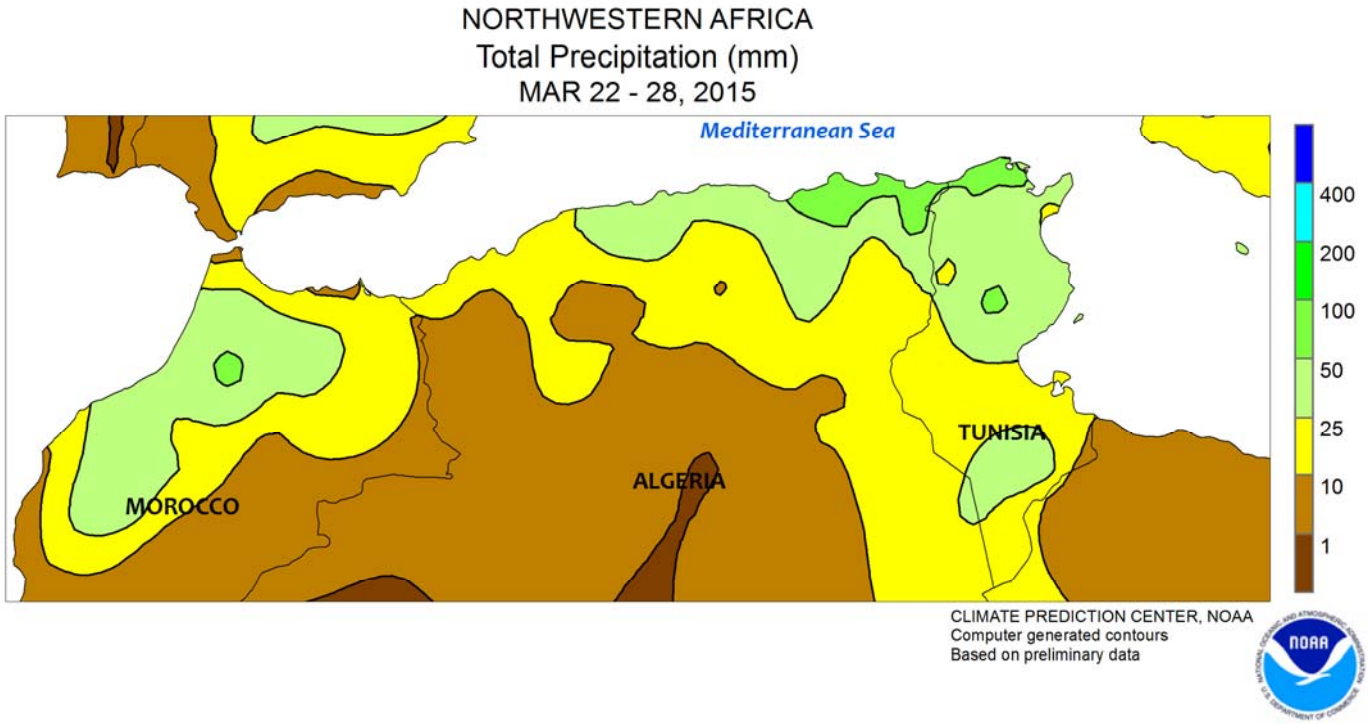

NORTHWESTERN AFRICA

Rain across the region maintained good to excellent winter grain yield prospects. For the second consecutive week, timely showers (10-60 mm) in Morocco boosted soil moisture for reproductive winter wheat and barley. Farther east, moderate to heavy showers (25-60 mm) in Algeria and Tunisia benefited vegetative wheat and barley development. However, updated satellite-derived vegetation health data indicated winter crops in northern Algeria may have suffered irreversible negative impacts from a prolonged autumn dry spell, which would have affected winter crop planting and emergence. In contrast, vegetation health data over Morocco indicated excellent crop prospects over most of the country.

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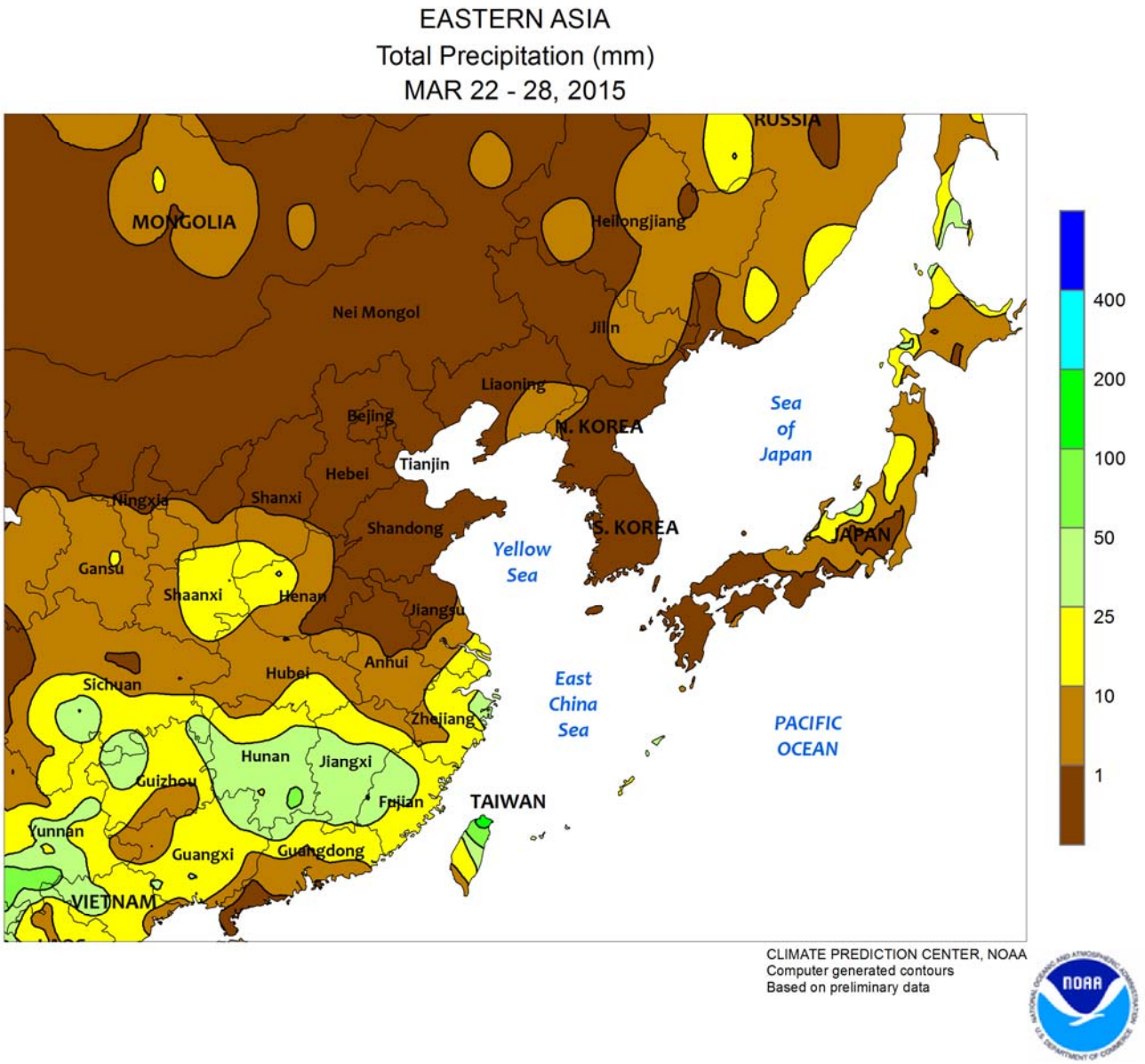

EASTERN ASIA

Unseasonably mild conditions encompassed active crop areas in China. Temperatures were as much as 4°C above normal on the North China Plain and into the Yangtze Valley. The warmer-than-normal weather promoted winter wheat and rapeseed development as well as early-crop rice establishment in southern provinces. In addition, rainfall overspread most rice areas, with the highest totals (25-50 mm) centered in Hunan and Jiangxi. Lighter rainfall (less than 10 mm) occurred in the Yangtze Valley and little if any rain fell on the North China Plain. The lack of significant rainfall along with the warm weather necessitated supplemental irrigation to meet moisture demands of crops.

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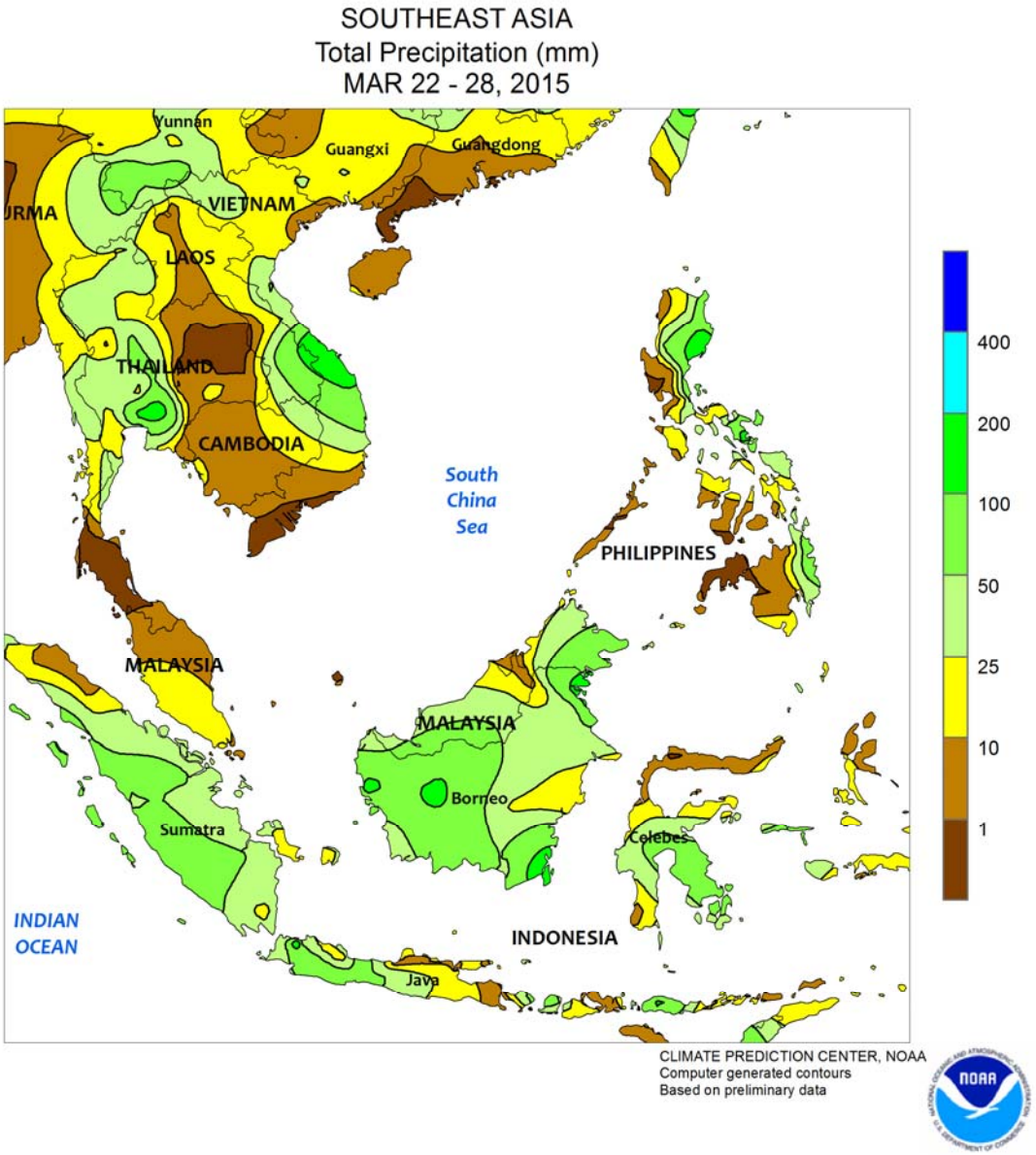

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Monsoon rainfall eased in the eastern half of Java, Indonesia, allowing harvesting to proceed with few delays. Generally, March marks the end of the rainy season in eastern and central Java, although heavy rainfall has lingered late into the month this year. In the western half of Java, heavy rainfall continued, with amounts between 50 to 100 mm benefiting rice planted late in the season; rice has a long planting window in Java and harvesting continues into June. In other parts of Indonesia, over 50 mm of rain in Sumatra and over 100 mm in Kalimantan maintained adequate soil moisture for oil palm. In contrast, drier conditions prevailed across neighboring plantations in Malaysia, aiding harvesting but increasing short-term moisture deficits. Meanwhile in the Philippines, showers (50-100 mm) returned to eastern growing areas (particularly eastern Luzon) and reversed a trend of drier-than-normal weather dating back to January. Rice and corn harvesting progressed despite the wetter weather, as fields began to transition for the upcoming summer season crops. In Indochina, unseasonable showers (20-100 mm, locally more) overspread much of Vietnam and Thailand. The out-of-season rainfall boosted reservoir levels as well as irrigation ponds used for rice but was unfavorable for dry-season rice harvesting.

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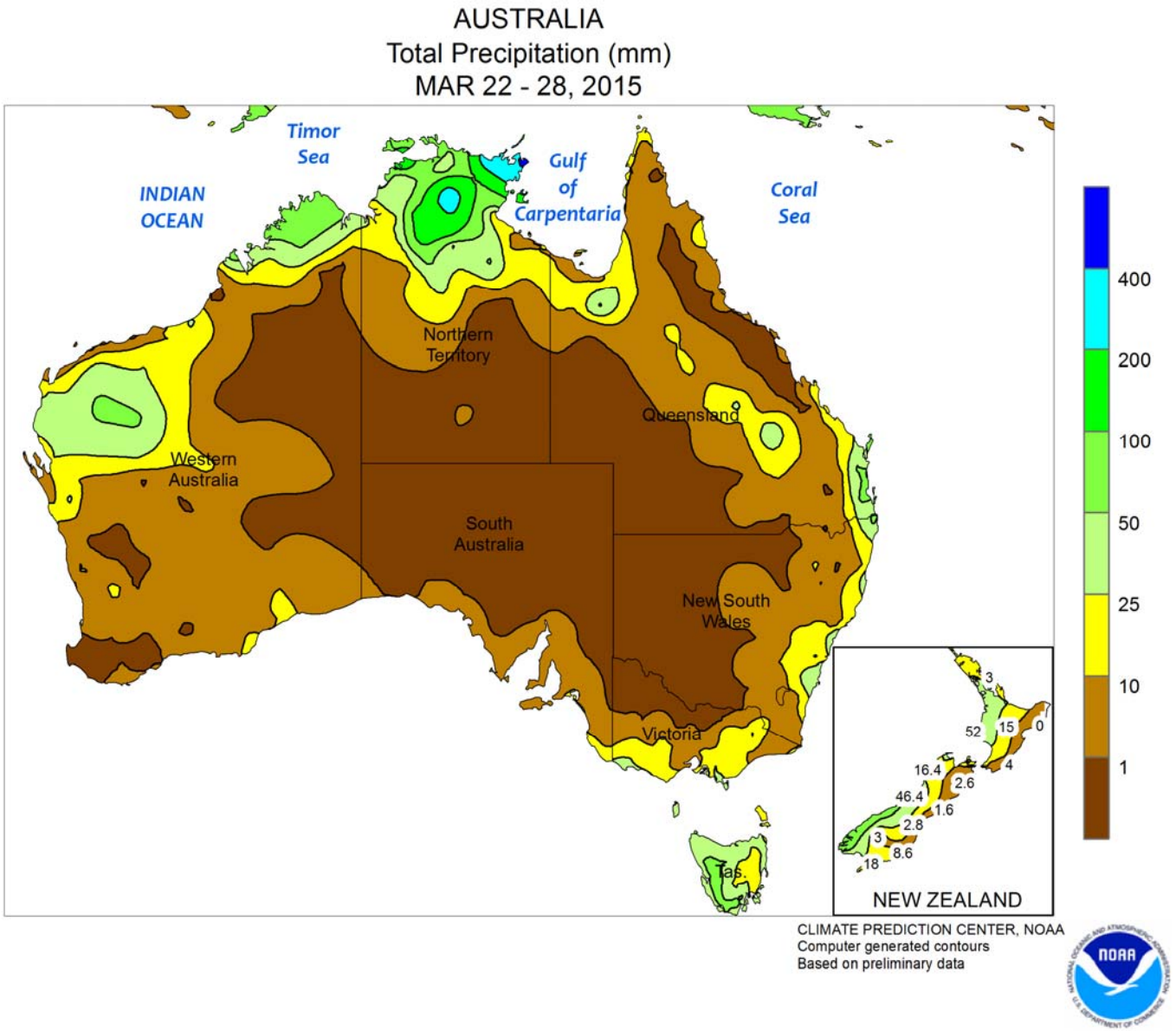

AUSTRALIA

Widespread showers (5-25 mm) early in the week gave way to lighter, more widely scattered showers during the remainder of the period. The somewhat drier weather favored mature cotton and sorghum, aiding drydown and harvesting. Immature summer crops benefited as well, with the combination of sunny skies and adequate moisture supplies benefiting crops that had been sown later in the growing season. Additional, intermittent rainfall would be welcome in upcoming weeks to help condition topsoils in advance of winter wheat planting. Sowing typically begins in April in central Queensland, while the bulk of the planting normally occurs in May and June in the remainder of the wheat belt. Temperatures averaged near to slightly above normal (up to 1°C) in major summer crop producing areas, with maximum temperatures generally in the 30s degrees C.

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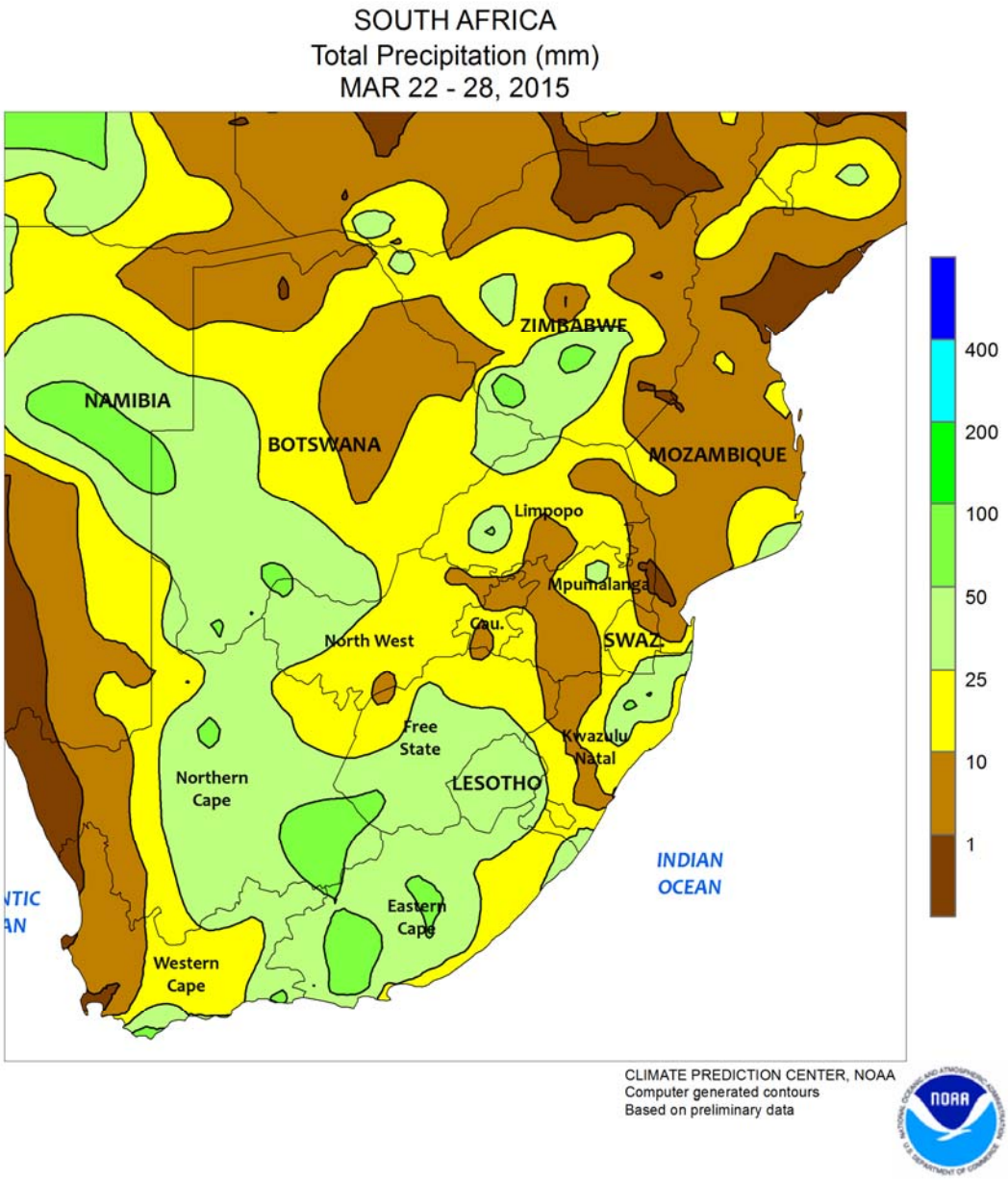

SOUTH AFRICA

Rain brought some relief from dryness to western sections of the corn belt. The rainfall (15-40 mm) was timely for filling crops in key commercial white corn production areas of North West and Free State. In addition, the wetter conditions lowered temperatures to more seasonable levels (daytime highs reaching the upper 20s and lower 30s degrees C) after several weeks of unseasonable warmth exacerbated the drying trend. Lighter rain (5-25 mm) fell in eastern sections of the corn belt (Mpumalanga and neighboring locations in Gauteng, Free State, and KwaZulu-Natal), where summer crops — traditionally planted earlier than in the west — were mostly filling to maturing. As in western corn areas, summer warmth fostered rapid advances in summer crop development. Elsewhere, warm, showery weather (daytime highs reaching the middle 30s, with rainfall locally in excess of 25 mm) continued in Limpopo. Patchy showers (rainfall locally exceeding 25 mm) also developed over sugarcane areas of KwaZulu-Natal and eastern Mpumalanga, with highs ranging from the lower 30s in the more southerly rain-fed production areas and the upper 30s farther north. Meanwhile, locally heavy rain (10-50 mm) returned to the Cape Provinces, providing a late-season boost in moisture for rain-fed summer row crops, including corn and cotton grown in the Orange River Valley.

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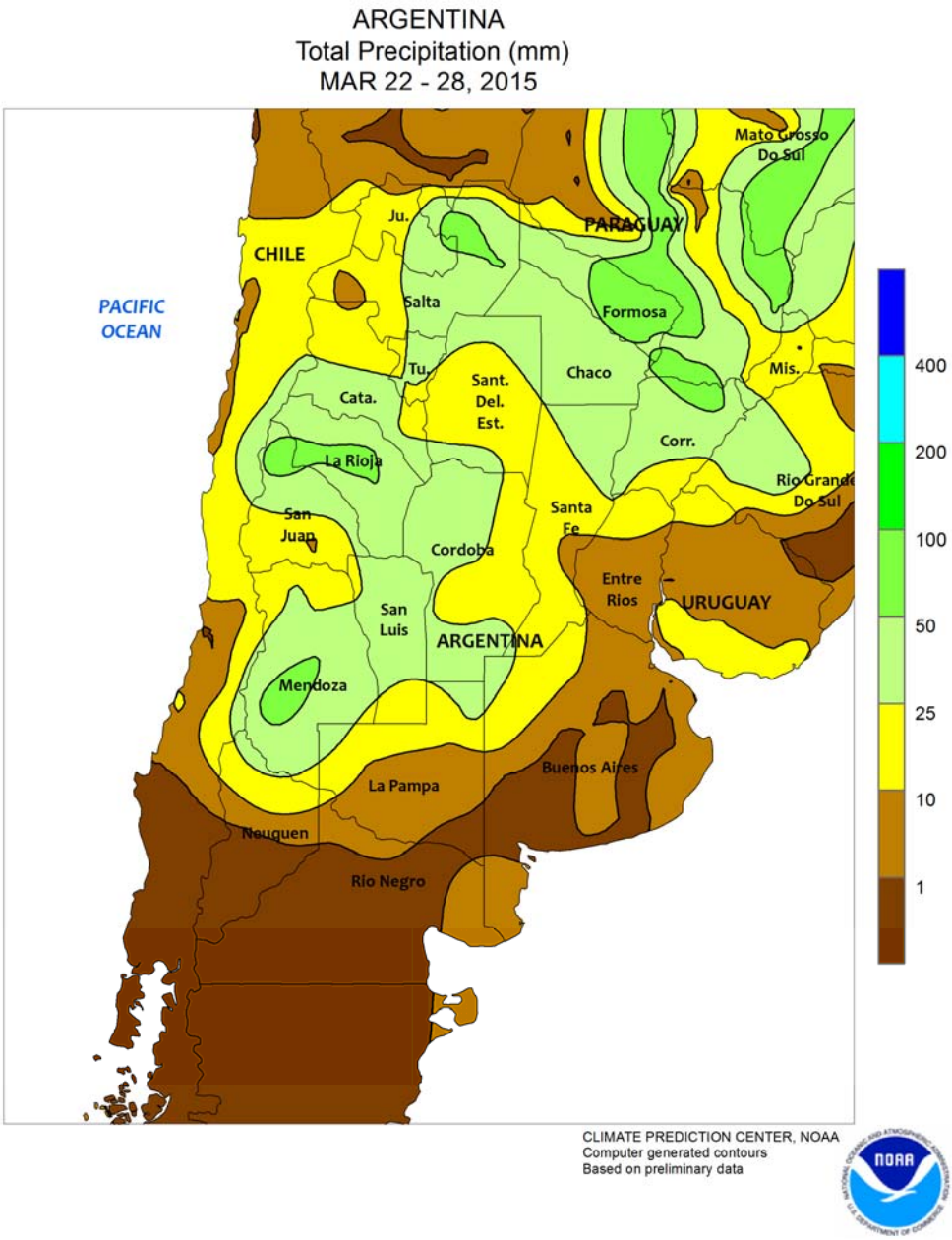

ARGENTINA

Unseasonably heavy rain overspread northern Argentina, providing immature corn, soybeans, and cotton with a late-season boost in moisture. Most areas recorded 10 to 50 mm, with a broad area stretching between Salta and Corrientes receiving more than 25 mm. Cooler-than-normal weather (weekly temperatures averaging 3-4°C below normal) accompanied the wetter conditions, though daytime highs reached the lower and middle 30s during the early part of the week before the onset of the heavier rain. Farther south, moderate showers (5-30 mm) continued in western production areas of central Argentina (Cordoba and neighboring areas in Santa Fe, Buenos Aires, and La Pampa), maintaining adequate to abundant moisture for late-season development of summer grains and oilseeds. In contrast, drier conditions persisted in eastern sections of Buenos Aires, where moisture was limited for normal development of late-planted corn. As in the north, conditions were cooler than normal for most of the week; although warmer weather (highs reaching the upper 20s and lower 30s degrees C) returned at week's end, weekly temperatures averaged 2 to 3°C below normal, with nighttime lows falling below 5°C in some of the traditionally warmer locations of Buenos Aires. According to Argentina's Ministry of Agriculture, sunflowers were 80 percent harvested nationally as of March 26, 6 points behind last year; in Buenos Aires, the country's largest producer of sunseed, harvesting was 72 percent complete versus 60 percent last year.

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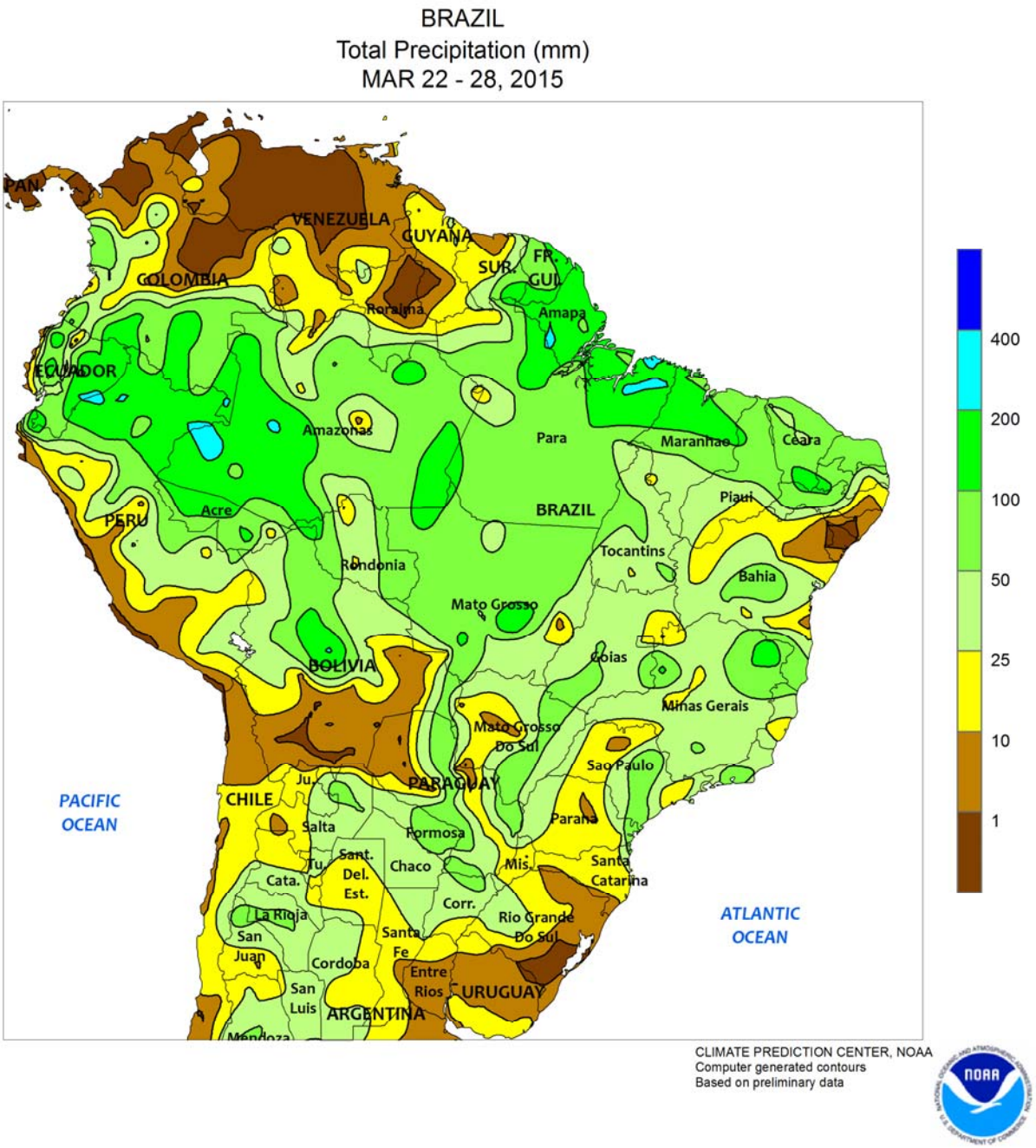

BRAZIL

Widespread, locally heavy rain maintained overall favorable conditions for corn and other second-season (safrinha) crops. Most major farming areas from Mato Grosso eastward through Bahia and Minas Gerais recorded at least 25 mm, with isolated totals ranging from 50 to 100 mm. Summer warmth (weekly temperatures averaging up to 2°C above normal, with daytime highs in the lower and middle 30s degrees C) promoted rapid growth of row crops in various stages of development. According to reports emanating from Mato Grosso, planting of the second corn crop was complete as of March 19, despite a slower-than-optimal planting pace for the month of February. Elsewhere, scattered showers (10-50 mm, most areas) returned to Brazil's southern agricultural areas (Mata Grosso do Sul southward), slowing fieldwork but boosting moisture for corn. According to Parana's agriculture department, corn was 93 percent planted and soybeans were 77 percent harvested as of March 23. Meanwhile, showers intensified along the northeastern coast, with amounts ranging from 10 to more than 100 mm boosting moisture reserves for corn, sugarcane, and other crops.

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U.S. Prospective Planting Highlights

The following information was released by USDA's Agricultural Statistics Board on March 31, 2015.

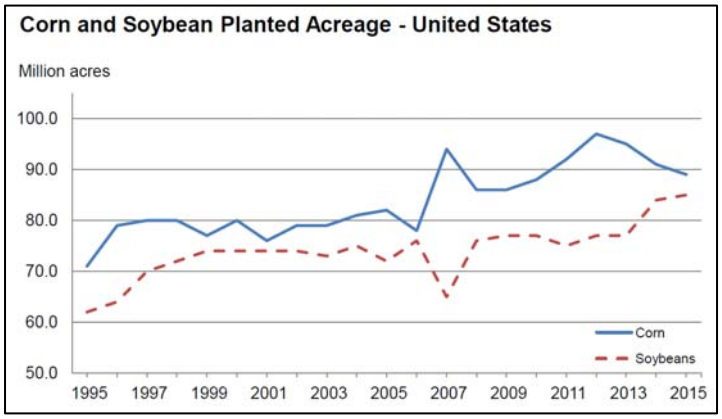
Corn planted area for all purposes in 2015 is estimated at 89.2 million acres, down 2 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the third consecutive year of an acreage decline and would be the lowest planted U.S. acreage since 2010.

Soybean planted area for 2015 is estimated at a record-high 84.6 million acres, up 1 percent from last year (figure 1). Compared with last year, planted acreage intentions are up or unchanged in 21 of the 31 major producing states.

All wheat planted area for 2015 is estimated at 55.4 million acres, down 3 percent from 2014. The 2015 winter wheat planted area, at 40.8 million acres, is down 4 percent from last year but up less than 1 percent from the previous estimate. Of this total, about 29.6 million acres are Hard Red Winter, 7.75 million acres are Soft Red Winter, and 3.43 million acres are White Winter. Area planted to other spring wheat for 2015 is estimated at 13.0 million acres, down slightly from 2014. Of this total, about 12.1 million acres are Hard Red Spring wheat. The intended Durum planted area for 2015 is estimated at 1.65 million acres, up 18 percent from the previous year.

All cotton planted area for 2015 is expected to total 9.55 million acres, 13 percent below last year. Upland area is estimated at 9.40 million acres, down 13 percent from 2014. American Pima area is estimated at 150,000 acres, down 22 percent from 2014.

Figure 1



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