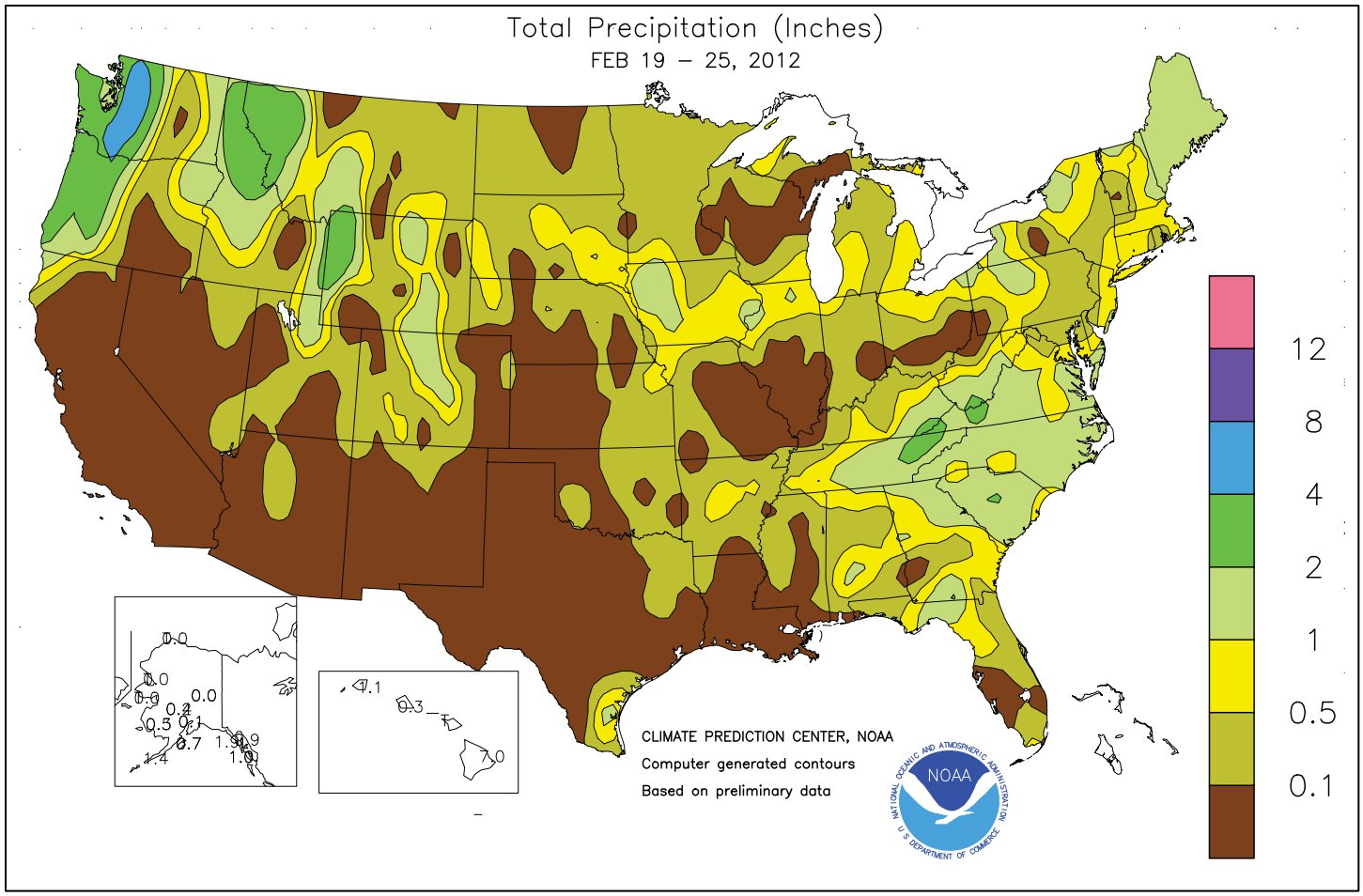
Volume 99, No. 9 http://www.usda.gov/oce/weather February 28, 2012

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

February 19 - 25, 2012

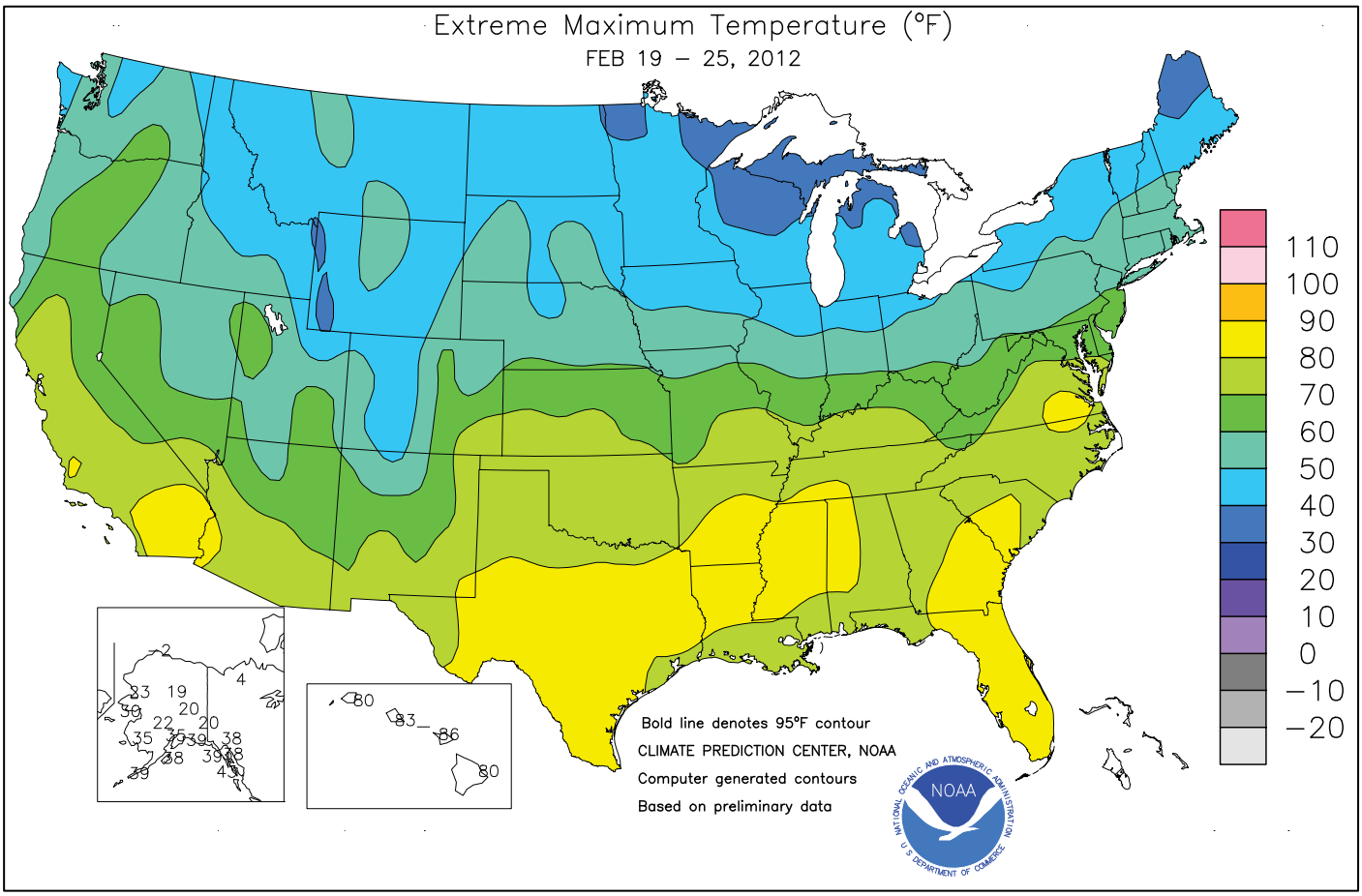
Highlights provided by USDA/WAOB

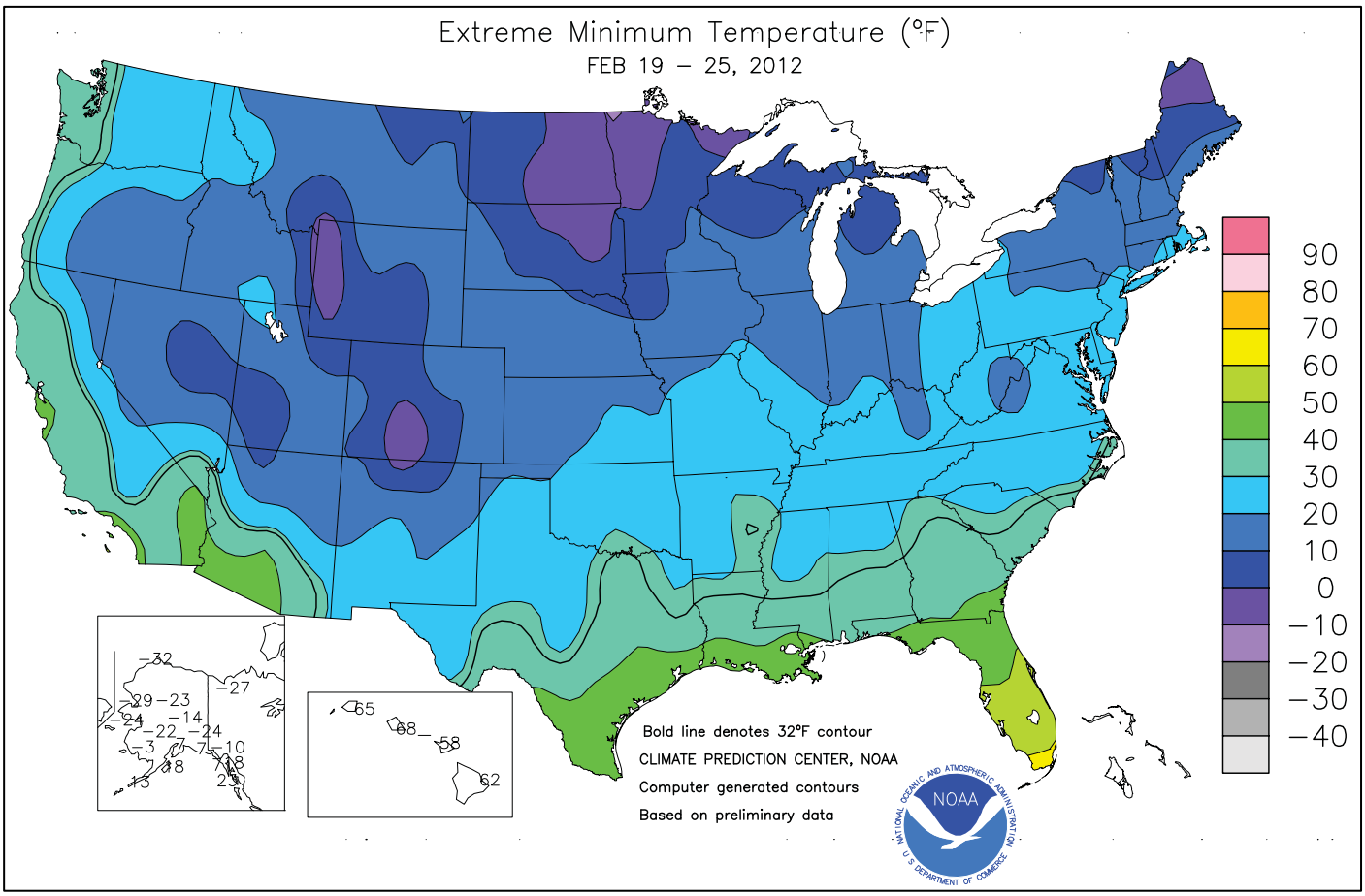
Near- to above-normal temperatures prevailed nearly nationwide, especially from the **Plains to the East Coast**. Despite the mild weather, snow blanketed parts of the **nation's northern tier**, including parts of the **northern Plains**, **upper Midwest**, and **Northeast**. Farther south, weekly precipitation totaled an inch or more from the **central and southern Appalachians into the southern Mid-Atlantic region**. In the latter region, heavy snow fell on February 19. Later, locally severe thunderstorms accompanied additional **Southeastern** rain—mainly on

(Continued on page 3)

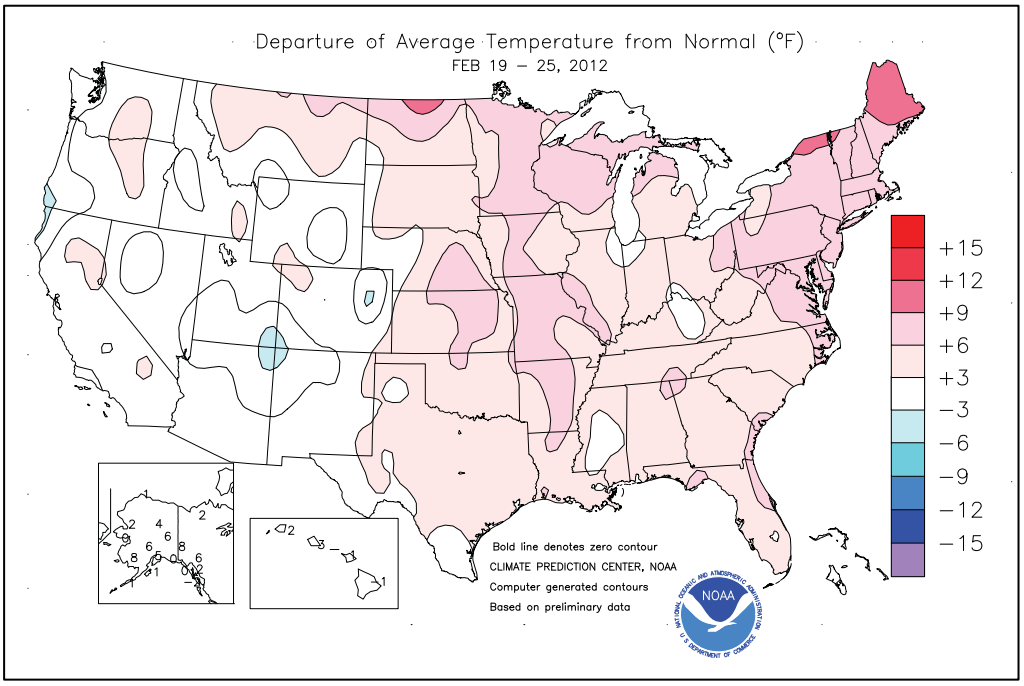
Contents

Extreme Maximum & Minimum Temperature Maps.....2
Temperature Departure Map 3
February 21 Drought Monitor & Record Reports 4
National Weather Data for Selected Cities 5
National Agricultural Summary & Snow Cover Map 8
February State Agricultural Summaries 9
International Weather and Crop Summary 16
Bulletin Information &
Sierra Nevada Snow Pack, 2011-12 vs. Normal 28


Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F)
FEB 19 – 25, 2012
110
100
90
80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
−10
−20
Bold line denotes 95°F contour
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA
Computer generated contours
Based on preliminary data
NOAA


Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)
FEB 19 – 25, 2012
90
80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
−10
−20
−30
−40
Bold line denotes 32°F contour
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA
Computer generated contours
Based on preliminary data
NOAA

(Continued from front cover)
February 24. However, rainfall largely bypassed **Florida's** parched peninsula. Meanwhile, mostly dry weather stretched from **California to the central and southern High Plains**. Periodic high winds raised dust across the **southern High Plains**, primarily on February 20, 23, and 25. Elsewhere, precipitation overspread the **northern half of the West**, from the **Pacific Northwest to the northern and central Rockies**. However, high-elevation snow packs remained substantially below late-February averages across the majority of the **West**, including **California**, **Oregon**, **Nevada**, **Utah**, **Arizona**, **western Colorado**, and **southern Idaho**.



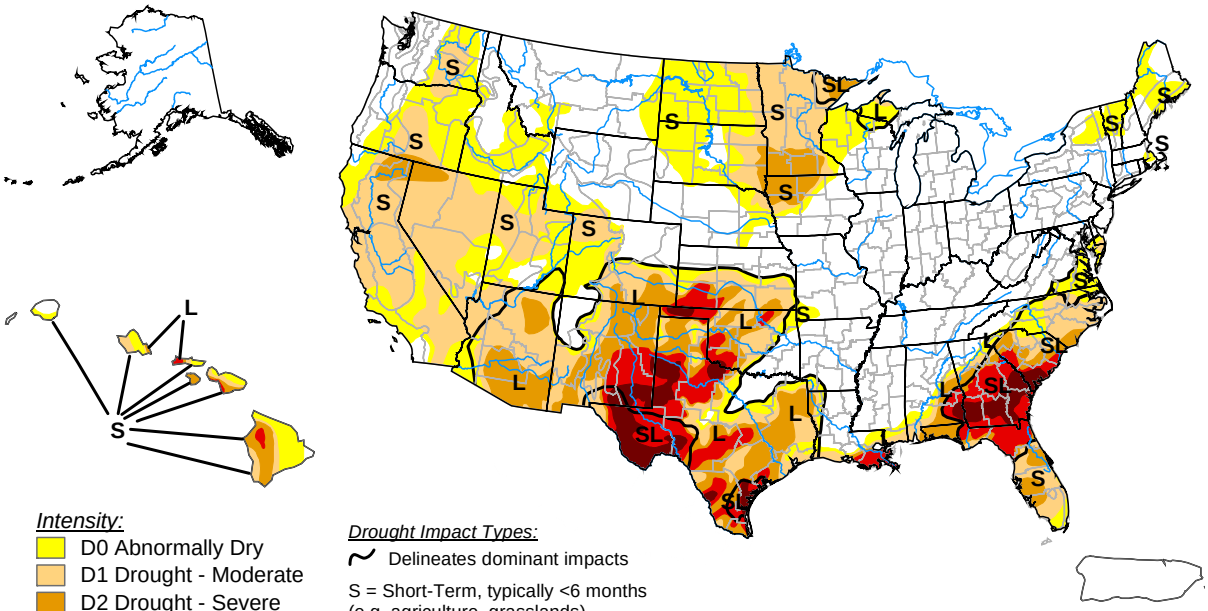
Early in the week, heavy precipitation fell in parts of the **Southeast**. **Charleston, SC** (1.26 inches on February 19), received a daily rainfall in excess of an inch for the first time since August 13, 2011. Similarly, **Savannah, GA** (1.29 inches), netted more than an inch for the first time since October 10, 2011. Farther north, daily-record snowfall totals for February 19 included 3.1 inches in **Jackson, KY**, and 1.6 inches in **Greensboro, NC.** It was **Greensboro's** first measurable snow of the season. In **Richmond, VA**, the season's first measurable snowfall totaled 4.0 inches on February 19-20. Elsewhere, February 19-20 snowfall reached 6.9 inches in **Bluefield, WV**, and 7.7 inches in **Lynchburg, VA.** A few days later, significant precipitation spread across the **Northwest**, where **Big Sky, MT** (6.5 inches on February 21), received a daily-record snowfall. February 21-22 snowfall totals of 2 to 3 feet were common across **western Wyoming** and neighboring areas, while high-elevation wind gusts locally topped 100 mph. Farther south, **Lubbock, TX** (63 mph on February 20), clocked its highest wind gust since October 17, 2011. Toward week's end, precipitation shifted into the **Midwest**, **South**, and **East**. **Waterloo, IA** (4.1 inches), received a daily-record snowfall on February 23, followed the next day by record-setting amounts in locations such as **Houghton Lake, MI** (7.3 inches), and **Rockford, IL** (4.0 inches). On February 24, locally severe thunderstorms swept across the **Southeast**, where at least a half-dozen tornadoes were reported. On the same day, **Augusta, GA**, noted a squall line-induced wind gust to 70 mph. Farther north, locally heavy snow blanketed the **Northeast**, where February 25-26 snowfall reached 30 inches atop **Vermont's Jay Peak**.

Warmth lingered across the **southern Atlantic region** on February 19, when **Miami** and **Vero Beach, FL**, posted daily-record highs of 87°F. At mid-week, a new surge of warmth quickly spread from **California to the southern High Plains**. Daily-record highs for February 22 included 79°F in **Santa Rosa, CA**, and 77°F in **Dalhart, TX.** A day later, record-setting warmth lingered in the **West** and exploded across the **South** and **East**. **Santa Rosa** (80°F on February 23) notched a record for the second consecutive day. Meanwhile, monthly record highs were established on February 23 in locations such as **Monroe,** LA (89°F; previously, 86°F on February 25, 1977, and earlier dates); **Monticello, AR** (85°F; previously, 84°F on February 27, 1986, and earlier dates); and **Greenwood, MS** (84°F; previously, 83°F on February 27, 2011, and earlier dates). On February 23-24, consecutive daily-record highs were established in locations such as **Stockton, CA** (73 and 74°F), and **Charleston, SC** (81°F both days). Other **Southeastern** records for February 24 included 89°F in **Vero Beach, FL**; 86°F in **Savannah, GA**; and 82°F in **Norfolk, VA.**

Near-normal temperatures across **southern Alaska** contrasted with a third consecutive week of above-normal readings across much of **interior Alaska**. Periods of heavy precipitation affected **southeastern Alaska**, where Pelican (2.38 inches) netted a daily-record total on February 20. Late in the week, storminess began to overspread **Alaska** from the southwest. As a result, February 24-26 snowfall reached 7.4 inches in **McGrath** and 6.8 inches in **Bethel**. At the same time, bitterly cold air returned to northwestern Alaska, where **Kotzebue** dipped to -30°F on February 25. Meanwhile, most of **Hawaii** experienced an increase in rainfall, including some very heavy totals across **Kauai** at week's end. On the **Big Island**, **Hilo's** weekly rainfall totaled 7.33 inches, aided by a February 21 sum of 2.53 inches. Farther west, **Kauai's** heavy rain arrived on February 25-26, when 24-hour totals reached 7.52 inches on **Mt. Waialeale** and 6.93 inches at **Mana**. The 26th was the wettest February day on record in **Lihue, Kauai**, where the 6.39-inch sum surpassed the 5.40-inch total observed on February 28, 1954.

U.S. Drought Monitor

February 21, 2012
Valid 7 a.m. EST



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

Drought Impact Types:
Delineates dominant impacts
S = Short-Term, typically <6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)
L = Long-Term, typically >6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)

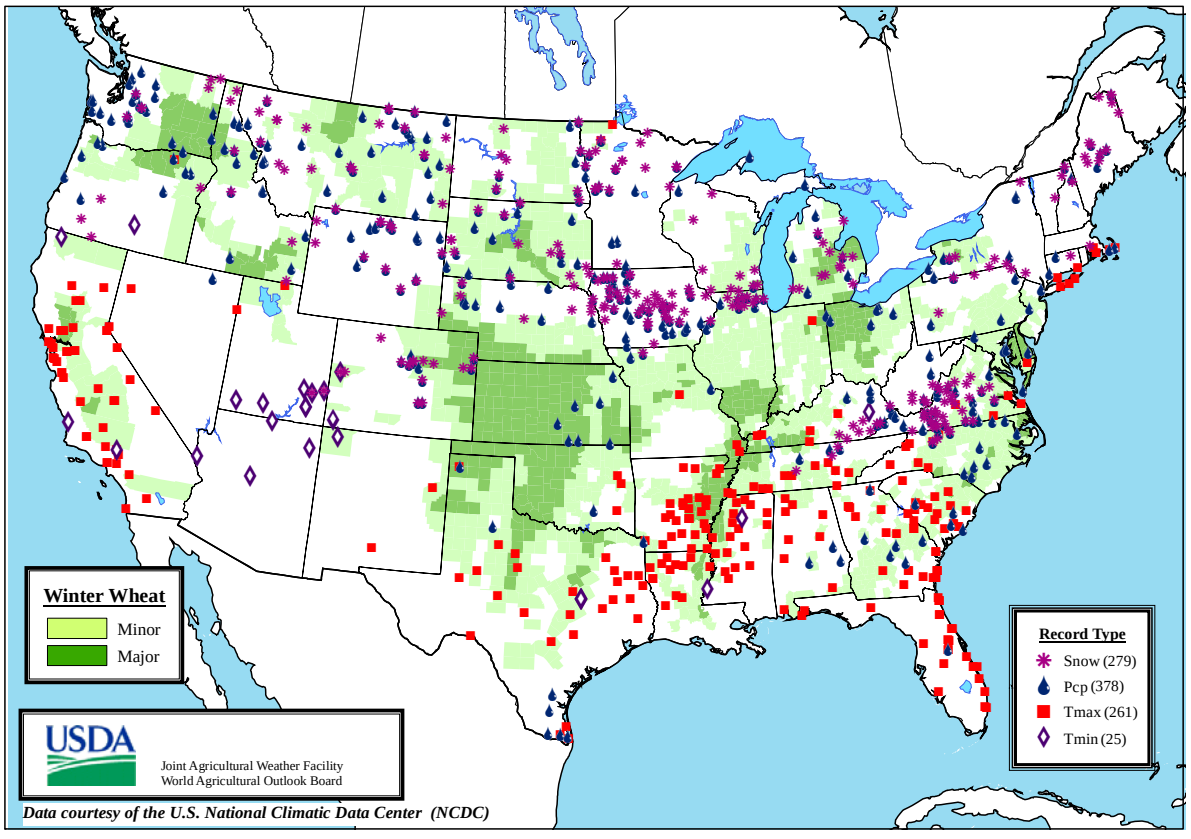
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/

Released Thursday, February 23, 2012
Author: Mark Svoboda, National Drought Mitigation Center

Daily Weather Records (ASOS & COOP)

February 19-25, 2012



National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending February 25, 2012

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

STATES AND STATIONS		TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS TEMP. °F		NUMBER OF DAYS PRECIP	
		AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL, IN., SINCE DEC 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE DEC 1	TOTAL, IN., SINCE JAN 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE JAN 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
AL	BIRMINGHAM	66	41	79	29	54	6	0.08	-0.95	0.08	13.76	101	8.52	94	89	39	0	2	1	0
	HUNTSVILLE	64	37	77	28	51	5	1.36	0.08	0.75	17.51	114	11.14	114	82	57	0	2	3	2
	MOBILE	68	50	75	37	59	4	0.08	-1.20	0.05	10.06	68	8.18	81	87	56	0	0	3	0
	MONTGOMERY	68	46	79	34	57	5	0.25	-1.16	0.25	10.95	74	7.53	77	86	51	0	0	1	0
AK	ANCHORAGE	29	20	35	7	25	5	0.13	-0.06	0.08	5.21	224	2.47	193	81	65	0	7	3	0
	BARROW	-10	-19	-2	-32	-15	1	0.02	-0.01	0.01	1.03	303	0.43	195	83	74	0	7	2	0
	FAIRBANKS	14	-4	20	-14	5	7	0.00	-0.08	0.00	1.64	103	0.69	80	87	82	0	7	0	0
	JUNEAU	36	28	38	18	32	2	0.87	-0.12	0.46	17.48	127	9.36	112	97	87	0	6	5	0
	KODIAK	36	26	38	18	31	1	0.74	-0.57	0.61	17.25	82	11.33	84	78	60	0	5	3	1
	NOME	14	-1	30	-24	7	1	0.03	-0.13	0.03	3.43	133	1.26	80	84	74	0	7	1	0
AZ	FLAGSTAFF	50	21	57	13	35	2	0.08	-0.58	0.08	3.33	54	1.17	27	77	25	0	7	1	0
	PHOENIX	75	48	81	44	62	3	0.00	-0.20	0.00	1.10	47	0.00	0	39	23	0	0	0	0
	PRESCOTT	61	28	68	22	44	3	0.00	-0.48	0.00	2.79	63	0.46	15	64	14	0	6	0	0
	TUCSON	74	42	78	38	58	2	0.00	-0.22	0.00	2.25	82	0.22	13	55	26	0	0	0	0
AR	FORT SMITH	65	38	77	31	52	7	0.13	-0.55	0.13	9.91	126	6.47	144	76	32	0	1	1	0
	LITTLE ROCK	66	39	82	32	53	6	0.25	-0.59	0.15	14.33	128	6.59	102	77	26	0	1	2	0
CA	BAKERSFIELD	69	42	81	38	56	2	0.00	-0.30	0.00	0.61	21	0.61	28	68	44	0	0	0	0
	FRESNO	66	43	77	41	55	3	0.00	-0.52	0.00	1.84	35	1.84	46	78	55	0	0	0	0
	LOS ANGELES	66	50	76	46	58	0	0.00	-0.76	0.00	1.98	26	1.31	23	86	57	0	0	0	0
	REDDING	65	45	75	39	55	5	0.01	-1.30	0.01	7.15	44	6.77	59	56	42	0	0	1	0
	SACRAMENTO	66	42	74	38	54	2	0.02	-0.82	0.02	3.24	34	2.97	42	80	32	0	0	1	0
	SAN DIEGO	66	52	75	49	59	0	0.00	-0.50	0.00	2.07	38	1.21	30	80	59	0	0	0	0
	SAN FRANCISCO	62	46	70	42	54	1	0.03	-0.92	0.03	2.74	25	2.61	32	81	63	0	0	1	0
	STOCKTON	67	42	74	38	54	2	0.00	-0.58	0.00	2.12	32	1.96	40	76	52	0	0	0	0
CO	ALAMOSA	45	5	54	-1	25	0	0.00	-0.05	0.00	0.59	84	0.32	86	72	38	0	7	0	0
	CO SPRINGS	52	21	65	12	37	4	0.07	-0.03	0.07	0.77	85	0.31	63	64	18	0	6	1	0
	DENVER INTL	47	24	65	16	35	3	0.08	0.00	0.06	1.95	310	1.17	366	67	35	0	6	3	0
	GRAND JUNCTION	46	24	59	16	35	-1	0.24	0.12	0.23	1.05	71	0.70	74	69	42	0	7	2	0
	PUEBLO	56	21	69	4	39	3	0.23	0.16	0.23	1.17	136	0.33	70	64	42	0	6	1	0
CT	BRIDGEPORT	48	32	60	25	40	7	0.94	0.23	0.94	7.97	82	4.27	68	69	39	0	2	1	1
	HARTFORD	46	28	57	17	37	7	0.74	0.04	0.72	8.84	88	3.84	60	76	49	0	6	2	1
DC	WASHINGTON	54	39	67	32	46	7	0.40	-0.26	0.30	8.03	94	3.13	57	75	35	0	1	3	0
DE	WILMINGTON	52	34	63	26	43	8	0.27	-0.44	0.27	7.94	86	3.50	60	82	37	0	3	1	0
FL	DAYTONA BEACH	78	57	88	49	67	6	0.42	-0.26	0.42	3.79	46	0.71	13	90	45	0	0	1	0
	JACKSONVILLE	74	50	84	40	62	5	0.38	-0.37	0.32	2.63	29	0.79	12	91	42	0	0	2	0
	KEY WEST	79	71	81	67	75	4	0.00	-0.33	0.00	7.19	126	6.79	191	89	71	0	0	0	0
	MIAMI	83	66	87	61	74	5	0.00	-0.50	0.00	4.60	78	3.56	96	88	53	0	0	0	0
	ORLANDO	80	58	89	49	69	6	0.88	0.28	0.88	2.81	42	2.01	46	85	47	0	0	1	1
	PENSACOLA	69	52	81	41	60	4	0.11	-1.06	0.05	16.04	120	8.34	89	85	56	0	0	5	0
	TALLAHASSEE	72	51	83	42	62	6	1.60	0.42	1.50	9.42	70	5.02	54	87	56	0	0	3	1
	TAMPA	76	61	82	52	69	6	0.03	-0.66	0.03	3.15	46	2.96	65	85	57	0	0	1	0
	WEST PALM BEACH	81	64	88	59	72	4	0.00	-0.55	0.00	4.23	46	3.33	55	90	59	0	0	0	0
GA	ATHENS	63	41	79	34	52	5	0.56	-0.53	0.30	8.21	67	4.53	53	86	59	0	0	2	0
	ATLANTA	63	43	76	33	53	5	0.26	-0.90	0.20	11.41	88	6.99	77	81	55	0	0	2	0
	AUGUSTA	68	42	82	30	55	5	0.63	-0.39	0.53	3.79	34	2.51	31	88	50	0	3	2	1
	COLUMBUS	67	46	77	37	56	5	0.48	-0.66	0.46	14.11	108	9.09	105	88	44	0	0	2	0
	MACON	67	43	78	34	55	5	0.25	-0.87	0.14	8.68	67	5.65	63	93	49	0	0	2	0
	SAVANNAH	73	49	86	39	61	7	1.23	0.56	1.07	4.59	49	3.44	52	87	45	0	0	2	1
HI	HILO	78	64	80	62	71	0	7.01	4.80	2.17	31.10	111	10.83	62	88	82	0	0	6	5
	HONOLULU	81	70	83	68	76	3	0.28	-0.29	0.27	2.59	34	1.49	31	75	68	0	0	2	0
	KAHULUI	82	63	86	58	73	1	0.02	-0.49	0.01	0.09	1	0.09	2	78	68	0	0	2	0
	LIHUE	79	69	80	65	74	2	1.10	0.33	0.54	7.23	59	5.53	74	83	74	0	0	4	1
ID	BOISE	48	31	56	22	39	1	0.34	0.06	0.21	3.69	98	3.33	140	66	50	0	4	3	0
	LEWISTON	51	35	58	31	43	3	0.50	0.28	0.28	2.78	93	2.57	132	78	61	0	2	5	0
	POCATELLO	42	26	49	19	34	2	0.06	-0.19	0.04	2.29	75	2.09	107	78	52	0	6	2	0
IL	CHICAGO/O'HARE	39	26	45	17	32	3	0.94	0.55	0.55	5.86	105	3.21	103	87	63	0	6	4	1
	MOLINE	41	23	50	16	32	3	1.15	0.76	0.52	5.04	100	2.38	84	90	68	0	7	4	1
	PEORIA	44	27	54	20	35	5	0.30	-0.14	0.14	5.01	95	2.13	75	86	52	0	5	3	0
	ROCKFORD	38	23	45	12	30	3	0.71	0.38	0.37	4.14	90	2.08	83	86	67	0	6	3	0
	SPRINGFIELD	49	29	58	21	39	7	0.08	-0.41	0.04	5.15	92	2.53	83	82	42	0	4	3	0
IN	EVANSVILLE	53	31	68	22	42	5	0.29	-0.51	0.21	10.79	119	4.75	86	83	58	0	3	2	0
	FORT WAYNE	42	26	49	18	34	5	0.46	-0.02	0.26	8.32	129	4.55	123	92	68	0	6	3	0
	INDIANAPOLIS	45	29	58	21	37	4	0.15	-0.46	0.13	9.54	127	4.44	98	84	52	0	4	2	0
	SOUTH BEND	38	25	43	17	32	3	0.85	0.37	0.38	7.04	100	4.42	112	83	69	0	6	4	0
IA	BURLINGTON	43	29	56	22	36	6	0.47	0.05	0.26	4.80	104	1.48	58	89	51	0	5	4	0
	CEDAR RAPIDS	38	22	48	12	30	3	0.40	0.13	0.37	3.99	116	1.11	57	91	59	0	7	3	0
	DES MOINES	43	28	53	17	35	6	1.02	0.72	0.86	4.52	135	1.99	99	79	59	0	4	3	1
	DUBUQUE	36	22	43	11	29	4	0.08	-0.28	0.06	8.31	201	5.63	230	89	69	0	7	2	0
	SIOUX CITY	40	24	53	8	32	5	0.88	0.71	0.58	2.83	170	2.05	205	87	71	0	7	2	1
	WATERLOO	38	21	46	14	29	4	0.39	0.13	0.28	4.25	152	1.87	111	87	69	0	7	3	0
KS	CONCORDIA	55	29	64	20	42	8	0.17	-0.05	0.16	4.44	224	2.57	229	81	47	0	5	2	0
	DODGE CITY	55	26	72	20	41	3	0.03	-0.16	0.03	3.15	171	1.02	95	71	35	0	7	1	0
	GOODLAND	53	21	67	15	37	3	0.01	-0.12	0.01	0.88	79	0.47	65	74	49	0	7	1	0
	TOPEKA	55	32	65	22	44	9	0.38	0.05	0.36	5.38	165	1.97	107	83	47	0	3	2	0

Based on 1971-2000 normals

***** Not Available**

Weather Data for the Week Ending February 25, 2012

STATES AND STATIONS		TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS			
																	TEMP. °F		PRECIP	
		AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL, IN., SINCE DEC 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE DEC 1	TOTAL, IN., SINCE JAN01	PCT. NORMAL SINCE JAN01	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
	WICHITA	58	30	74	24	44	6	0.08	-0.22	0.08	7.02	244	3.33	218	81	51	0	5	1	0
KY	JACKSON	53	32	71	20	42	3	0.55	-0.41	0.47	11.35	104	7.18	107	88	50	0	4	4	0
	LEXINGTON	52	30	69	20	41	3	0.46	-0.40	0.37	9.93	98	5.51	91	84	60	0	5	3	0
	LOUISVILLE	54	33	70	24	43	4	0.16	-0.69	0.09	10.50	108	5.29	88	78	43	0	3	2	0
	PADUCAH	57	36	74	22	46	6	0.05	-0.94	0.05	12.49	111	5.20	75	82	38	0	3	1	0
LA	BATON ROUGE	70	50	80	39	61	7	0.08	-1.11	0.07	16.07	100	13.25	122	90	46	0	0	2	0
	LAKE CHARLES	70	55	78	46	62	7	0.00	-0.70	0.00	21.49	163	16.80	196	87	52	0	0	0	0
	NEW ORLEANS	70	55	80	48	63	6	0.00	-1.28	0.00	7.82	49	6.52	60	82	62	0	0	0	0
	SHREVEPORT	72	47	87	32	59	6	0.12	-0.91	0.05	14.59	113	6.71	80	80	34	0	1	3	0
ME	CARIBOU	32	17	40	-4	24	9	1.32	0.84	0.80	9.04	113	5.72	120	88	61	0	7	4	1
	PORTLAND	42	23	51	18	33	7	1.25	0.50	1.01	9.25	83	5.74	84	89	45	0	7	4	1
MD	BALTIMORE	53	35	65	23	44	8	0.16	-0.61	0.16	7.82	83	3.32	55	74	43	0	2	1	0
MA	BOSTON	47	33	57	28	40	8	0.59	-0.21	0.54	7.36	70	3.39	49	79	36	0	4	2	1
	WORCESTER	42	28	52	21	35	8	0.68	-0.07	0.67	9.10	86	3.94	58	88	39	0	6	2	1
MI	ALPENA	36	18	40	3	27	7	0.63	0.31	0.61	3.84	81	2.84	98	86	57	0	7	2	1
	GRAND RAPIDS	38	26	45	17	32	6	0.69	0.33	0.47	7.03	116	4.44	132	89	60	0	6	5	0
	HOUGHTON LAKE	35	18	40	2	26	5	0.50	0.20	0.49	4.43	100	3.33	125	83	63	0	7	2	0
	LANSING	37	25	42	17	31	6	0.53	0.20	0.42	5.27	105	3.05	107	90	63	0	7	5	0
	MUSKEGON	39	26	43	16	33	7	0.40	0.04	0.31	6.44	103	4.11	114	83	58	0	5	3	0
	TRAVERSE CITY	37	23	42	8	30	7	0.10	-0.26	0.06	3.50	48	2.00	43	87	56	0	7	3	0
MN	DULUTH	31	18	39	10	25	8	0.32	0.15	0.22	1.31	47	0.76	42	85	63	0	7	3	0
	INT'L FALLS	35	16	41	1	25	12	0.55	0.41	0.27	1.88	90	1.39	99	87	54	0	7	5	0
	MINNEAPOLIS	36	22	44	11	29	7	0.33	0.15	0.24	1.73	65	0.74	44	80	55	0	7	3	0
	ROCHESTER	37	21	41	11	29	9	0.10	-0.07	0.08	2.08	81	0.87	56	85	67	0	7	3	0
	ST. CLOUD	34	16	43	4	25	7	0.24	0.12	0.19	1.22	64	0.82	67	90	57	0	7	2	0
MS	JACKSON	68	43	84	31	56	5	0.22	-0.85	0.22	18.75	125	12.08	125	90	40	0	1	1	0
	MERIDIAN	67	41	81	30	54	3	0.09	-1.25	0.08	17.08	108	11.67	110	96	67	0	2	2	0
	TUPELO	65	37	83	27	51	5	0.65	-0.57	0.65	14.49	95	8.73	96	80	52	0	2	1	1
MO	COLUMBIA	53	32	68	24	42	7	0.10	-0.47	0.05	6.87	114	3.36	94	77	37	0	4	3	0
	KANSAS CITY	52	30	61	21	41	6	0.26	-0.10	0.23	4.95	130	1.92	88	84	43	0	4	2	0
	SAINT LOUIS	54	34	69	24	44	7	0.06	-0.53	0.03	7.44	108	4.32	107	67	43	0	3	3	0
	SPRINGFIELD	56	32	68	26	44	5	0.16	-0.42	0.16	5.67	79	2.84	70	70	41	0	4	1	0
MT	BILLINGS	45	26	52	19	35	3	0.03	-0.10	0.01	1.00	52	0.79	63	73	39	0	7	3	0
	BUTTE	36	18	43	5	27	3	0.07	-0.04	0.04	0.56	40	0.27	31	80	44	0	7	3	0
	CUT BANK	39	18	48	5	29	4	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.59	64	0.36	61	83	48	0	7	0	0
	GLASGOW	36	19	43	11	28	6	0.61	0.55	0.45	1.34	146	0.99	180	86	68	0	7	3	0
	GREAT FALLS	42	21	52	15	31	3	0.24	0.12	0.15	0.86	50	0.66	62	81	42	0	7	3	0
	HAVRE	43	21	54	16	32	8	0.09	0.01	0.07	0.61	50	0.49	70	82	63	0	7	2	0
	MISSOULA	39	28	44	25	34	3	0.52	0.34	0.26	2.94	104	2.37	140	86	65	0	7	5	0
NE	GRAND ISLAND	47	27	56	18	37	7	0.01	-0.18	0.01	2.25	136	1.14	115	83	56	0	5	1	0
	LINCOLN	47	26	54	14	37	7	0.11	-0.08	0.10	2.81	143	1.23	112	83	57	0	6	2	0
	NORFOLK	43	25	56	13	34	6	0.45	0.25	0.31	1.91	109	1.12	101	80	61	0	6	3	0
	NORTH PLATTE	47	21	55	15	34	3	0.02	-0.12	0.02	1.64	144	1.32	178	91	50	0	7	1	0
	OMAHA	44	27	55	16	35	5	0.31	0.10	0.23	3.11	137	1.40	104	81	61	0	5	3	0
	SCOTTSBLUFF	46	22	61	16	34	2	0.34	0.20	0.27	1.10	72	0.76	78	81	56	0	6	4	0
	VALENTINE	42	21	49	12	31	3	0.58	0.45	0.56	1.12	117	0.92	146	89	61	0	7	2	1
NV	ELY	45	19	53	7	32	1	0.09	-0.10	0.09	1.32	73	1.10	83	69	42	0	7	1	0
	LAS VEGAS	67	44	74	39	56	3	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.20	13	0.06	5	38	24	0	0	0	0
	RENO	57	31	66	24	44	4	0.00	-0.25	0.00	1.84	65	1.84	94	60	40	0	3	0	0
	WINNEMUCCA	50	22	60	12	36	-1	0.00	-0.14	0.00	2.19	102	2.18	164	76	48	0	6	0	0
NH	CONCORD	42	23	52	13	33	8	1.12	0.56	1.04	8.14	102	4.06	81	88	43	0	7	3	1
NJ	NEWARK	50	35	60	27	43	8	0.58	-0.13	0.58	8.31	82	3.80	58	68	36	0	3	1	1
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	58	28	66	22	43	0	0.00	-0.11	0.00	1.86	142	0.66	80	56	18	0	6	0	0
NY	ALBANY	43	26	54	16	35	9	0.39	-0.14	0.39	6.59	94	2.83	65	80	44	0	6	1	0
	BINGHAMTON	38	26	48	18	32	7	0.48	-0.13	0.33	7.13	92	4.02	85	79	54	0	6	3	0
	BUFFALO	37	27	43	22	32	5	1.01	0.43	0.44	9.68	106	6.06	114	88	60	0	7	5	0
	ROCHESTER	39	26	46	20	33	7	0.75	0.25	0.37	7.33	107	4.82	117	85	63	0	7	3	0
	SYRACUSE	41	26	52	19	34	8	0.49	-0.01	0.15	7.53	100	5.05	114	86	52	0	6	5	0
NC	ASHEVILLE	58	33	71	27	46	6	0.35	-0.60	0.28	9.66	90	4.55	61	84	53	0	4	3	0
	CHARLOTTE	63	36	76	28	50	4	0.69	-0.20	0.54	6.92	68	3.51	50	87	46	0	2	3	1
	GREENSBORO	60	34	78	27	47	5	1.33	0.57	0.70	6.54	70	3.52	57	86	43	0	4	3	1
	HATTERAS	62	48	70	40	55	8	1.59	0.67	1.07	11.62	84	8.46	90	86	60	0	0	4	1
	RALEIGH	62	37	78	28	50	6	1.00	0.15	0.71	5.66	56	3.61	51	84	51	0	2	3	1
	WILMINGTON	65	45	78	33	55	6	1.17	0.28	0.81	4.44	39	3.86	50	88	47	0	0	2	1
ND	BISMARCK	37	14	47	-1	26	5	0.29	0.18	0.24	1.06	83	0.59	70	86	61	0	7	2	0
	DICKINSON	37	14	46	3	26	3	0.31	0.23	0.28	0.55	51	0.43	59	94	51	0	7	3	0
	FARGO	32	13	47	-3	23	6	0.35	0.21	0.32	1.30	73	0.94	78	80	62	0	7	3	0
	GRAND FORKS	30	10	40	-9	20	4	0.42	0.28	0.38	1.46	85	0.81	69	93	69	0	7	4	0
	JAMESTOWN	32	12	43	0	22	4	0.25	0.14	0.20	0.61	42	0.35	35	92	59	0	7	3	0
	WILLISTON	37	16	46	9	26	6	0.11	0.03	0.07	0.41	29	0.23	27	89	63	0	7	2	0
OH	AKRON-CANTON	43	28	54	21	36	6	0.41	-0.16	0.18	9.56	129	4.81	109	82	53	0	6	4	0
	CINCINNATI	48	28	57	19	38	2	0.20	-0.50	0.15	12.80	150	6.28	119	81	58	0	5	4	0
	CLEVELAND	42	30	53	26	36	6	0.86	0.31	0.48	9.68	128	4.72	106	87	58	0	6	5	0
	COLUMBUS	46	30	58	24	38	5	0.24	-0.30	0.16	10.57	144	5.13	116	81	53	0	4	2	0
	DAYTON	45	28	56	19	36	4	0.11	-0.45	0.05	10.62	139	5.28	115	83	52	0	5	3	0
	MANSFIELD	42	27	54	21	35	6	0.43	-0.09	0.29	10.05	129	4.96	110	94	56	0	6	3	0

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

Weather Data for the Week Ending February 25, 2012

STATES AND STATIONS		TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS TEMP. °F		NUMBER OF DAYS PRECIP	
		AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL, IN., SINCE DEC 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE DEC 1	TOTAL, IN., SINCE JAN01	PCT. NORMAL SINCE JAN01	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
	TOLEDO	39	26	44	17	33	5	0.68	0.21	0.30	6.92	112	3.55	100	89	67	0	7	4	0
	YOUNGSTOWN	43	29	54	25	36	7	1.02	0.52	0.52	10.93	156	6.51	160	84	59	0	6	4	1
OK	OKLAHOMA CITY	63	34	74	26	48	4	0.02	-0.43	0.02	4.99	115	3.13	128	70	32	0	4	1	0
	TULSA	62	35	75	30	49	5	0.12	-0.42	0.12	3.47	62	2.02	65	68	40	0	3	1	0
OR	ASTORIA	48	40	50	34	44	-1	2.93	1.05	1.02	21.45	79	16.60	99	92	81	0	0	7	3
	BURNS	48	23	56	14	35	3	0.03	-0.25	0.02	2.83	83	2.48	118	83	62	0	6	2	0
	EUGENE	53	36	60	28	44	1	0.98	-0.54	0.27	15.46	71	10.45	78	89	81	0	2	5	0
	MEDFORD	53	35	62	28	44	0	0.38	-0.12	0.20	5.32	74	4.38	101	91	60	0	4	3	0
	PENDLETON	53	33	67	26	43	3	0.81	0.53	0.24	3.23	81	2.83	113	80	59	0	3	4	0
	PORTLAND	51	40	57	36	45	1	0.92	-0.08	0.29	11.46	79	8.95	101	86	78	0	0	7	0
	SALEM	51	37	57	31	44	0	1.09	-0.13	0.28	16.17	96	12.85	123	90	81	0	2	6	0
PA	ALLENTOWN	49	29	59	20	39	8	0.30	-0.37	0.29	7.90	85	3.73	63	75	41	0	5	2	0
	ERIE	39	29	49	23	34	5	0.79	0.22	0.31	11.69	142	6.43	144	82	65	0	6	5	0
	MIDDLETOWN	49	31	59	24	40	7	0.29	-0.45	0.21	7.34	85	4.08	76	83	38	0	4	2	0
	PHILADELPHIA	52	36	62	29	44	8	0.29	-0.38	0.29	7.76	84	3.39	58	68	36	0	1	1	0
	PITTSBURGH	47	29	57	23	38	6	0.14	-0.45	0.09	7.25	95	4.78	101	79	43	0	5	4	0
	WILKES-BARRE	44	29	54	21	36	6	0.47	-0.03	0.37	5.83	85	2.72	63	77	43	0	5	3	0
	WILLIAMSPORT	46	29	56	21	37	7	0.52	-0.11	0.30	7.98	99	4.30	83	79	49	0	5	2	0
RI	PROVIDENCE	48	29	58	22	38	6	0.54	-0.29	0.48	8.14	70	4.19	56	74	43	0	6	2	0
SC	BEAUFORT	71	46	85	36	59	7	1.42	0.72	1.34	4.19	42	3.12	45	90	42	0	0	4	1
	CHARLESTON	69	46	81	37	58	6	1.11	0.38	0.99	3.49	35	2.84	42	88	48	0	0	2	1
	COLUMBIA	66	42	81	31	54	5	1.74	0.81	0.86	5.11	45	4.00	50	87	51	0	1	3	2
	GREENVILLE	62	36	76	29	49	3	0.57	-0.52	0.39	9.00	76	5.04	63	87	44	0	2	3	0
SD	ABERDEEN	38	18	49	2	28	7	0.33	0.21	0.29	1.38	115	1.05	128	87	69	0	7	2	0
	HURON	38	17	53	-5	28	5	0.62	0.47	0.38	1.63	129	1.39	160	90	60	0	7	3	0
	RAPID CITY	45	20	56	13	32	3	0.17	0.05	0.08	0.78	72	0.49	71	86	46	0	7	5	0
	SIOUX FALLS	36	21	45	0	29	6	0.72	0.59	0.47	2.12	154	1.50	174	87	69	0	6	2	0
TN	BRISTOL	57	31	71	24	44	5	0.93	0.07	0.59	11.47	116	7.37	114	92	39	0	4	3	1
	CHATTANOOGA	64	39	78	30	51	6	0.65	-0.56	0.55	15.92	110	9.39	98	79	63	0	2	4	1
	KNOXVILLE	60	36	76	29	48	5	1.31	0.29	0.86	13.86	111	8.95	112	88	42	0	3	3	1
	MEMPHIS	62	42	79	31	52	6	0.84	-0.26	0.50	13.22	97	4.67	59	76	35	0	1	3	1
	NASHVILLE	60	34	77	24	47	4	0.80	-0.15	0.52	11.80	101	7.55	106	83	41	0	3	3	1
TX	ABILENE	68	41	84	34	55	5	0.00	-0.30	0.00	6.40	203	4.47	238	66	35	0	0	0	0
	AMARILLO	60	29	76	22	44	2	0.00	-0.14	0.00	2.13	130	0.59	57	66	27	0	5	0	0
	AUSTIN	72	45	89	35	59	3	0.00	-0.53	0.00	16.00	267	11.11	313	77	49	0	0	0	0
	BEAUMONT	70	54	81	42	62	5	0.02	-0.71	0.01	18.21	130	14.21	162	94	51	0	0	2	0
	BROWNSVILLE	74	58	84	45	66	2	0.19	-0.05	0.18	5.46	153	3.91	160	95	67	0	0	2	0
	CORPUS CHRISTI	73	56	85	45	65	4	0.66	0.19	0.63	5.68	115	4.51	141	86	62	0	0	2	1
	DEL RIO	72	45	86	38	59	1	0.00	-0.25	0.00	2.65	125	1.67	122	82	52	0	0	0	0
	EL PASO	69	38	76	29	54	2	0.00	-0.08	0.00	1.42	93	0.68	91	38	13	0	1	0	0
	FORT WORTH	67	43	82	35	55	4	0.00	-0.67	0.00	12.41	195	8.06	212	72	33	0	0	0	0
	GALVESTON	68	57	75	49	63	4	0.06	-0.50	0.04	14.76	148	10.35	160	91	62	0	0	2	0
	HOUSTON	72	54	82	43	63	6	0.00	-0.72	0.00	15.36	153	11.08	175	78	58	0	0	0	0
	LUBBOCK	64	33	78	26	49	4	0.00	-0.17	0.00	2.04	118	0.52	49	61	41	0	3	0	0
	MIDLAND	70	35	84	30	52	2	0.00	-0.14	0.00	2.83	174	1.20	122	59	38	0	3	0	0
	SAN ANGELO	70	40	85	30	55	4	0.00	-0.30	0.00	7.00	256	6.00	335	66	43	0	1	0	0
	SAN ANTONIO	71	49	85	42	60	4	0.00	-0.44	0.00	12.26	240	9.42	299	82	46	0	0	0	0
	VICTORIA	71	53	85	44	62	4	0.00	-0.50	0.00	6.37	95	5.02	119	85	64	0	0	0	0
	WACO	68	39	80	27	54	2	0.00	-0.65	0.00	11.99	179	7.03	179	86	56	0	2	0	0
	WICHITA FALLS	67	36	75	30	52	5	0.00	-0.43	0.00	4.31	106	2.86	121	72	40	0	3	0	0
UT	SALT LAKE CITY	47	29	59	22	38	2	0.24	-0.09	0.22	2.60	70	2.57	104	78	39	0	5	2	0
VT	BURLINGTON	39	22	50	15	31	10	0.61	0.22	0.33	5.06	85	2.83	76	84	50	0	6	3	0
VA	LYNCHBURG	58	30	79	20	44	5	1.52	0.75	0.68	8.92	94	4.31	69	87	46	0	5	3	2
	NORFOLK	63	42	82	28	52	9	0.85	0.04	0.59	5.64	57	4.08	60	78	43	0	2	4	1
	RICHMOND	60	35	81	23	47	6	1.29	0.53	0.85	6.02	65	3.99	65	84	53	0	3	5	1
	ROANOKE	58	33	74	23	45	5	1.10	0.34	0.65	7.61	87	3.42	58	80	50	0	4	3	1
	WASH/DULLES	53	33	66	22	43	7	0.20	-0.50	0.20	7.20	85	2.74	50	75	42	0	2	1	0
WA	OLYMPIA	47	37	50	30	42	1	1.81	0.36	0.52	17.74	84	13.05	99	91	79	0	2	5	2
	QUILLAYUTE	47	40	49	36	43	0	5.87	2.83	2.34	34.28	87	26.38	107	94	83	0	0	7	3
	SEATTLE-TACOMA	46	39	50	35	43	-1	0.94	-0.04	0.38	12.50	86	10.26	115	82	75	0	0	5	0
	SPOKANE	42	29	48	26	36	2	0.67	0.31	0.46	4.27	80	3.26	104	91	58	0	7	5	0
	YAKIMA	53	31	65	25	42	5	0.00	-0.17	0.00	1.97	61	1.63	88	72	48	0	5	0	0
WV	BECKLEY	49	30	63	20	40	5	1.14	0.40	0.57	10.04	113	6.03	105	82	56	0	5	4	2
	CHARLESTON	51	32	61	25	42	4	1.16	0.35	0.76	7.80	84	4.37	73	82	44	0	3	4	1
	ELKINS	51	27	62	18	39	6	1.02	0.21	0.64	7.41	77	3.67	59	84	37	0	6	4	1
	HUNTINGTON	51	32	62	24	41	3	0.52	-0.27	0.38	7.19	78	3.86	66	83	42	0	4	4	0
WI	EAU CLAIRE	36	19	41	10	28	7	0.09	-0.08	0.08	1.90	70	0.70	41	87	52	0	7	2	0
	GREEN BAY	39	23	42	18	31	9	0.07	-0.16	0.06	3.04	88	1.64	80	83	53	0	6	2	0
	LA CROSSE	40	22	44	14	31	6	0.08	-0.14	0.04	2.69	82	1.28	62	88	46	0	7	3	0
	MADISON	39	22	44	15	31	6	0.24	-0.06	0.13	4.05	102	1.82	78	84	55	0	7	3	0
	MILWAUKEE	39	24	45	18	31	4	0.68	0.29	0.50	4.38	80	2.15	66	86	57	0	6	4	1
WY	CASPER	36	18	49	4	27	-1	0.63	0.47	0.30	2.11	124	1.40	130	73	60	0	7	3	0
	CHEYENNE	40	20	53	14	30	0	0.04	-0.07	0.02	1.13	92	0.70	91	70	45	0	6	2	0
	LANDER	38	17	52	7	28	1	0.33	0.20	0.20	2.08	137	1.11	122	82	39	0	7	3	0
	SHERIDAN	41	21	52	14	31	2	0.53	0.41	0.46	1.60	84	1.02	83	88	61	0	7	3	0

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

National Agricultural Summary

February 20 – 26, 2012

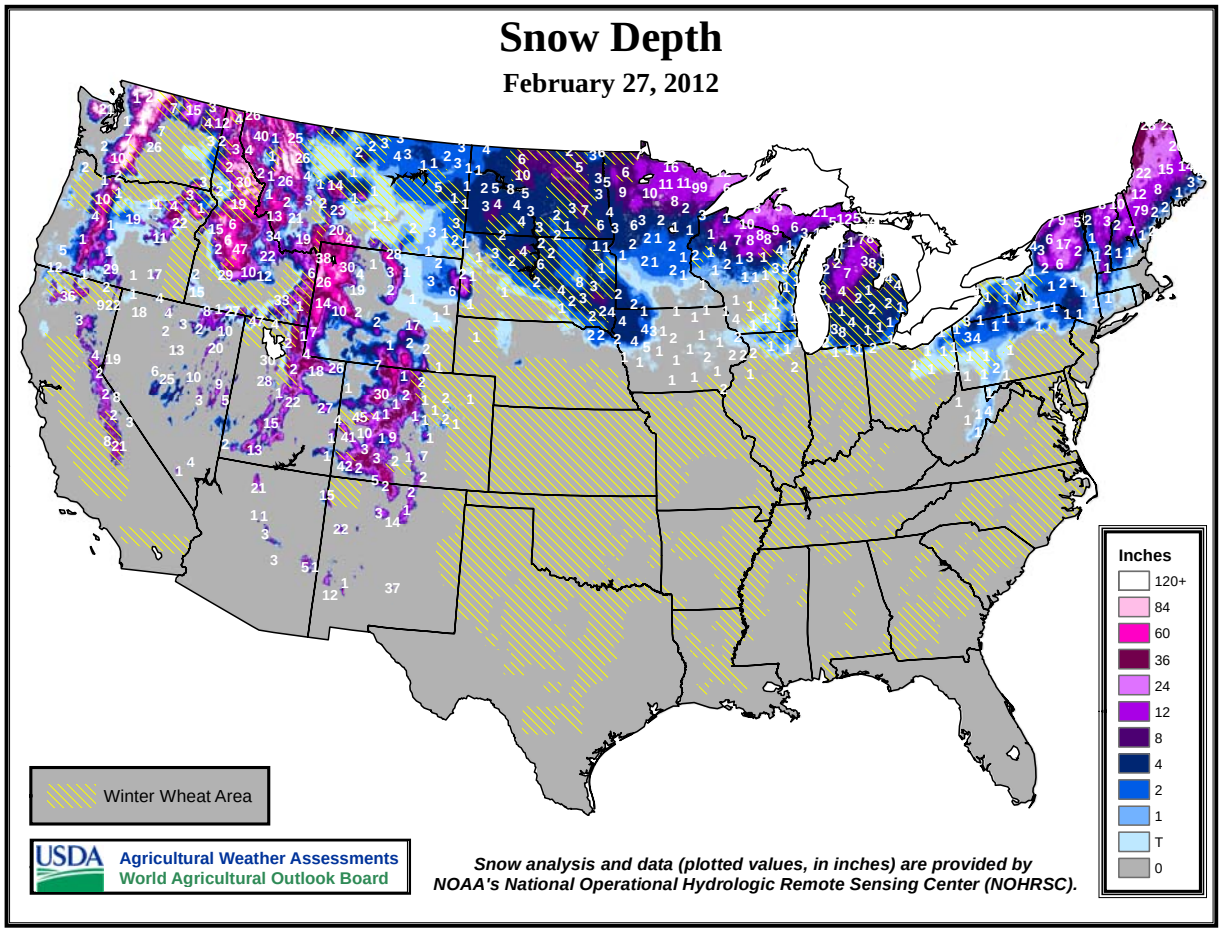
Weekly National Agricultural Summary provided by USDA/NASS

Temperatures across much of the nation were above normal during the week. Most notably, much of the Northeast recorded temperatures more than 6°F above average. Dry conditions persisted throughout much of the West, leaving many producers concerned about the lack of high-elevation snow pack and its effect on irrigation availability during the upcoming crop season. Much of the nation's northern tier received weekly precipitation totaling at least 200 percent of average.

In Florida, temperatures ranged from 4 to 6°F above average, aiding the developing of winter wheat. Unusually windy conditions across much of the state depleted topsoil moisture. Conditions remained dry until a late-week storm system delivered much-needed moisture to many fields; however, additional rainfall was needed in the wheat-producing region of northern Florida. Statewide, producers were busy preparing fields for spring planting. Fruit orchards and vegetable fields were frequently irrigated to battle against drought-like conditions. A delay in the maturity of strawberry fields in central Florida was reported. Harvesting of grapefruit, tangerines, and temple oranges increased, while Navel orange and tangelo harvest slowed. Citrus bloom continued in the southern portion of the growing region. Producers irrigated, cared for young trees, and completed limited hedging and topping.

Rainfall was scattered and temperatures were above average in Texas during the week. On the High Plains, the winter wheat crop continued to suffer from dry, windy conditions, while small grain crops in northern and central Texas were developing ahead of normal due to recent moisture and warm weather. South Texas producers were planting corn and sorghum, while cotton producers continued listing fields and booking seed. Garden preparation and vegetable planting was ongoing in East Texas. Fruit trees in the Cross Timbers were blooming. Wet field conditions in the Lower Valley disrupted citrus, sugarcane, and vegetable harvests.

Temperatures in Arizona were mostly above average during the week, with little to no precipitation reported across the state. Drought conditions remained a concern for producers statewide, as year-to-date precipitation totals varied from 0 to 77 percent of normal. Alfalfa conditions were reported mostly fair to good, with harvest active on more than two-thirds of fields.



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: Relatively mild temperatures have graced the State during the month of February, thus decreasing cattle energy needs and conserving hay stocks, said Jack Tatum, Alabama Cooperative Extension System Regional Extension Agent. The average mean temperature throughout Alabama ranged from 43.5°F in Moulton to 56.9°F in Mobile. Total precipitation for the month ranged from 1.28 inches in Anniston to 6.10 inches in Atmore. According to The US Drought Monitor, the southern part of the State is still experiencing drought conditions. Robert T. Boozer, Alabama Cooperative Extension System Area Extension Research Horticulturist, said that peach producers are concerned about the lack of chilling, or colder temperatures needed for the peach crop. Boozer said the cooler weather met chilling requirements of some of the lower chill peach varieties, and the warm weather has already brought on budding 7-10 days early; however, producers are still concerned about a deep freeze in the next month which could damage the peach crop.

ALASKA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

ARIZONA: Temperatures across the State were mostly above normal in February. They were below normal only during the third week of the month. The temperature extremes for February were a high of 87 degrees in Roll and a low of 8 at Flagstaff. Precipitation in the form of rain or snow was recorded in all but three of the 21 weather stations in February. All reporting stations are below normal in precipitation for the year. Three of the reporting stations have yet to receive precipitation in 2012. Cotton harvesting was completed in February. Small grain seedings was also finished this month. Limited alfalfa harvesting continued across the State. Vegetable and citrus harvesting remains active throughout the month. Range and pasture conditions vary from very poor to good. The lack of precipitation and above normal temperatures are drying out stock tanks and grazing areas.

ARKANSAS: February began with very mild weather, as temperatures remained warmer than normal and dry conditions existed throughout the State. The last week of the month brought rain to the entire State, with the western side of Arkansas recording the heaviest rainfall amounts. With the relatively dry February, fieldwork progressed for Arkansas producers. Producers continued to attend winter meetings and plan for the 2012 crop season. Livestock producers were still feeding hay. The warmer weather helped winter wheat conditions, and some producers were applying fertilizer and herbicides to wheat fields.

CALIFORNIA: Dry-land grains showed good growth and steady development, although more precipitation was still needed. Some replanting of wheat fields was required. Some poor fields were destroyed so that other crops could be planted pending forecasted rain. Irrigated small grain fields showed outstanding development. Weed control in hay, wheat, rye and oat fields continued. Ground preparation and fertilization also continued. Rice fields were being drained. Alfalfa fields showed decent growth as a result of recent rainfall. Field preparation for spring cotton planting continued with bed formation, pre-irrigation and weed control. Fields were also being prepared for corn planting. Peach, prune and other stone fruit orchards were irrigated, pruned, and planted. After a very dry January, recent rains were a relief to growers; weed control and dormant sprays could be more effectively applied. Lack of rainfall and mountain snowpack remained a concern for growers. Early plums and apricots were blooming. Grape and kiwi vineyards continued to be pruned and sprayed. Olives were dormant. Navel orange and tangerine harvests continued. Frost damage was reported. A few growers were still irrigating, planting, and pruning in walnut and pistachio orchards. Growers also applied some fertilizers, herbicides, and dormant sprays. Almond orchard work was complete. Almond bloom began to pick up across the State. Some operations applied bloom sprays. Due to lack of precipitation, many orchards have been irrigated at least once. Kern County reported continued planting and harvesting of carrots, as well as planting of lettuce and organic mixed vegetables. In Fresno County, winter vegetable harvest was starting to wind down, while garlic and onions were being irrigated and fertilized. In Stanislaus County, broccoli and parsley continued to be harvested, asparagus and spinach were growing very well, and crops were being irrigated due to lack of rain. Non-irrigated rangeland remained in poor condition despite recent showers. More precipitation was needed to spur growth. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued. Sheep and cattle grazed on retired farmland and alfalfa fields. Bees continued to be brought into the State and placed in almond and plum orchards.

COLORADO: Precipitation was above normal during February. Average temperatures across the State were generally above normal. Currently, the mountain snowpack in the northern regions are 77% of average while the southern areas are 79% of average. Overall, mountain snowpack is currently 77% of average. The winter wheat growing areas experienced better than normal moisture with variable windy conditions during the month. Winter wheat remains in mostly fair to good condition. The soil moisture in these areas improved slightly but still remained in mostly short supply.

DELAWARE: Mild winter weather continued throughout February. Precipitation during the month kept soil moisture at adequate levels. Winter grazing was extended through limited snow cover and mild temperatures. Hay supplies remained adequate thanks to good pasture conditions. Cover crop and small grain conditions were steady thanks to mild weather during the winter.

FLORIDA: February's weather better for vegetables compared to recent years. Early frost damage minor despite temperatures in mid-to-high 20s in fruit and vegetable growing areas. Producers covered young crops with plastic and monitored temperatures. Freeze damage limited to mostly upper leaves of unprotected vegetables. Some potato fields had more severe damage. February was dry except for heavy showers that were not widespread. Vegetable movement included snap beans, bell peppers, cabbage, celery eggplant,

endive, radishes, squash, sweet corn, strawberries, tomatoes. Harvesting of early oranges (Navel and Hamlin) peaked and is decreasing. White and colored grapefruit, Valencia, and Honey tangerine harvests increasing. A few tangelos and Sunburst tangerines still being harvested, largely finished. Production practices included general grove work, fertilizer application and irrigation as needed. Statewide, cattle condition ranged from fair to good. Pasture condition ranged from poor to good. Drought and seasonal cold temperatures limiting factors to forage growth. Freezing temperatures burned forage on several occasions. Pastures in many locations suffered from overgrazing. Winter forage ready for grazing at end of month; cattlemen fed hay and supplements throughout the month, especially in Panhandle, north and central areas. Hay stocks were low for some producers. Mid-month, warmer weather reduced feeding requirements. Southwest pasture condition poor to fair due to drought, condition also decreased by frost. Many cattle watering ponds were dry.

GEORGIA: February warmed slightly from January. Precipitation estimates for the month ranged from an inch in the eastern piedmont region up to 5 inches in the Southwestern coastal plain area. The average temperature ranged from the lower 40s to the upper 50s. All of Georgia was warmer than normal for this time of year and received less chill hours than were received in February of 2011. Rains gave some relief from the exceptional drought; however, extreme drought still covers over two-thirds of the State compared to 0% one year ago. Field activities include preparation for spring planting and routine care of poultry and livestock.

HAWAII: The first week of February brought warmer weather with only light rains, with one exception. The Kawainui Stream gage in the Kamuela area reported 1.24 inches of rainfall overnight January 31, 2012. However, unusually dry conditions continued to persist across most areas. Irrigation, where available, continued to ensure proper crop development which was enhanced by the warmer weather. Rain returned to the islands during the second week of February, with most areas receiving some amount of precipitation. Irrigation reservoir levels increased for both Hawaii and Honolulu Counties, and remained constant in Maui County. Despite the rains, most areas remained abnormally dry and irrigation was required to ensure proper crop development. The third week of February showed a slight improvement in drought conditions, as the land area classified as having no drought present increased from 7.24 percent to 9.30 percent. Several storms dumped large amounts of rain over the island of Hawaii, with a maximum amount of 4.75 inches occurring in Mountain View. Rain fell on the windward side of Maui, while the leeward side remained very dry with minimal forage available for livestock grazing. During the fourth week in February, rains continued to fall across the majority of areas. The island of Kauai experienced heavy rainfall on Sunday February, 25, 2012. These storms brought the monthly average to 8.3 inches, a total of 2.1 inches above the historic February average. Mountain View on the island of Hawaii also received a total of 8.35 inches of rain this week. Even with the rains water conservation measures remained in place for the counties of Maui and Honolulu.

IDAHO: Topsoil moisture 3% very short, 16% short, 76% adequate, 5% surplus. Calving complete 41%, 24% 2011, 37% avg. Lambing complete 49%, 40% 2011, 41% avg. Hay and roughage supply 30% very short, 15% short, 49% adequate, 6% surplus. Winter wheat condition 23% fair, 64% good, 13% excellent.

ILLINOIS: 1 % very short, 15 % short, 78 % adequate, and 6 % surplus. Above normal temperatures and below normal snowfall throughout the State continued into the month of February. Some farmers were anticipating an early planting season if current conditions continue. Temperatures averaged 34.3 degrees, 4.6 degrees above normal. Total precipitation was 1.20, 0.63 inches below normal. Farmers reported good progress for winter wheat, though the continually soft ground has challenged some winter livestock work.

INDIANA: The weather during February has been warmer and drier than normal. Temperatures through the 26th of the month have averaged 34.2o which is 4.1o above normal. The State only received an average of 1.16 inches of precipitation which was just 55 percent of normal. Some northern counties received heavier amounts of precipitation that came mostly in the form of lake-effect snow. Winter wheat remains in mostly good condition with many farmers still trying to make nitrogen applications as soil conditions permit. Wheat acreage in some southern counties is beginning to green up due to the warmer than normal temperatures. The warm temperatures are a concern for fruit growers as the crops could break dormancy early and then suffer freeze damage. Producers have been visiting their local FSA offices to enroll in the farm programs before spring tillage and planting activities begin. Calving and lambing has begun on several livestock farms with very few problems reported. Muddy conditions have been a problem for producers as they try to feed livestock. Hay supplies are mostly adequate but are beginning to get tight in areas that were excessively dry last summer. Other activities included income tax preparations, preparing tillage and planting equipment, spreading fertilizer and lime, clearing fence rows, purchasing inputs for 2012 crops, repairing and installing drainage tile, hauling grain to market and tending to livestock.

IOWA: Topsoil moisture levels rated 19% very short, 34% short, 46% adequate, and 1% surplus. Although Iowa saw snow in February, it did not stick around long in most areas. Lack of deep frost has made it possible for the moisture from the melting snow and occasional rain to soak into the ground. With the continued mild winter, tilers are still laying tile.

KANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 14. Topsoil moisture 11% very short, 25% short, 62% adequate, 2% surplus. Winter wheat condition 3% very poor, 8% poor, 37% fair, 45% good, and 7% excellent; wind damage 89% none, 9% light, 2% moderate; freeze damage 96% none, 4% light. Range and pasture condition 29% very poor, 25% poor, 32% fair, 14% good. Feed grain supplies 10% very short, 18% short, 69% adequate, 3% surplus. Hay and forage supplies 26% very short, 28% short, 44% adequate, 2% surplus. Stock water supplies 10% very short, 19% short, 70% adequate, 1% surplus. Weather in Kansas during February saw precipitation Statewide in varying amounts in the form of rain and snow, combined with unseasonably warm temperatures across most of the State. High temperatures ranged from the low 60's to 76 degrees in Ashland, while low temperatures were in the high teens to the low single digits. Average temperatures were mostly above normal across Kansas, with only 4 of the 52 stations reporting below average temperatures for the month of February. Producers saw precipitation Statewide during the previous month with 20 stations reporting 2 inches or greater, led by Medicine Lodge with 4.83 inches, followed by Wilmore with 3.88 inches and Wichita with 3.30 inches. Producers were busy top dressing wheat during February, along with preparing equipment for spring seeding. High winds combined with below

average precipitation in the western third of the State continued to have an impact on the wheat coming out of dormancy in those areas. Livestock producers were busy with calving, along with turning some herds out for grazing on winter wheat. The mild winter weather has helped the forage and hay supplies to last longer than in a normal year.

KENTUCKY: February began with unseasonably mild temperatures and below normal rainfall. No significant snowfall occurred during the first week but measureable rainfall occurred 3 to 4 days. Temperatures during the workweek were mainly in the 60s but cooled to the upper 40s on the weekend. Temperatures for the period averaged 49 degrees across the State which was 15 degrees warmer than normal and 6 degrees warmer than the previous period. High temperatures averaged from 59 in the West to 56 in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 42 degrees in the West to 39 degrees in the East. Precipitation (liq. equ.) for the period totaled 0.70 inches Statewide which was 0.16 inches below normal and 81% of normal. Precipitation totals by climate division, West 0.59 inches, Central 0.69 inches, Bluegrass 0.61 inches and East 0.91 inches, which was -0.35, -0.25, -0.13 and 0.09 inches respectively from normal. During the second week of February, Kentucky experienced nearly a full week of below normal temperatures and rainfall. The workweek started in the 40's but after a cold frontal passage with Arctic air behind it on Tuesday, the temperature plunged for the remainder of the week and through the weekend. Temperatures for the period averaged 33 degrees across the State which was 2 degrees cooler than normal and 16 degrees cooler than the previous period. High temperatures averaged from 41 in the West to 38 in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 27 degrees in the West to 26 degrees in the East. Precipitation (liq. equ.) for the period totaled 0.10 inches Statewide which was 0.79 inches below normal and 11% of normal. Precipitation totals by climate division, West 0.07 inches, Central 0.07 inches, Bluegrass 0.12 inches and East 0.15 inches, which was 0.91, 0.90, 0.65 and 0.68 inches below normal. Limited precipitation during the third week allowed some drying to occur for much of the State. On the weekend, a low pressure system resulted in some snow across southeast Kentucky with depths of 2 to 5 inches, to as much as 10 inches at the Kingdom Come State Park. Many areas received nothing from this system. Temperatures for the period averaged 40 degrees across the State which was 2 degrees warmer than normal and 8 degrees warmer than the previous period. High temperatures averaged from 47 in the West to 50 in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 33 degrees in the West to 33 degrees in the East. Precipitation (liq. equ.) for the period totaled 0.60 inches Statewide which was 0.3 inches below normal and 67% of normal. Precipitation totals by climate division, West 0.51 inches, Central 0.53 inches, Bluegrass 0.49 inches and East 0.87 inches, which was -0.50, -0.45, -0.28 and 0.03 inches respectively from normal. The last full week of February experienced mostly dry and unseasonably mild temperatures. Temperatures approached 70 degrees and some southern locations approached 80 degrees by Thursday. It was the 4th week straight with below normal rainfall. Limited rainfall was confined to the central and eastern sections of the State. Temperatures for the period averaged 44 degrees across the State which was 4 degrees warmer than normal and 4 degrees warmer than the previous period. High temperatures averaged from 58 in the West to 55 in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 35 degrees in the West to 31 degrees in the East. Precipitation (liq. equ.) for the period totaled 0.23 inches Statewide which was 0.74 inches below normal and 24% of normal. Precipitation totals by climate division, West 0.10 inches, Central 0.16 inches, Bluegrass 0.35 inches and East 0.33 inches, which was 0.99, 0.88, 0.49 and 0.57 inches below normal. Farmers were kept busy tending to their livestock and performing routine equipment maintenance. Producers marketed their grain and tobacco crops and attended various commodity meetings across the State. Farmers continue making planting decisions for the upcoming 2012 crop season. Costs of inputs and rental agreements are being weighed against anticipated selling prices.

LOUISIANA: The State averaged 9.22 inches of rain over the last four weeks, three inches above average. Field crop producers were preparing fields for spring planting as weather conditions permitted, as well as getting equipment ready for the upcoming season. Strawberry producers continued harvesting and selling their crop. Crawfish producers continued to put out traps for harvest. Livestock producers were fertilizing pasture and feeding hay.

MARYLAND: Mild winter weather continued throughout February. Warm temperatures allowed livestock, poultry, and greenhouse operations to save on winter heating costs. Precipitation during the month kept soil moisture at adequate levels. Hay supplies were mostly adequate due to favorable pasture conditions. Small grains and cover crops conditions were steady thanks to the mild winter weather.

MICHIGAN: The precipitation for the four weeks ended February 26 varied from 0.55 inches to 0.75 inches in the Upper Peninsula and 0.52 inches to 2.15 inches in the Lower Peninsula. Temperatures were warmer than usual for the last 30 days, ranging from 5.6 to 12.7 degrees above normal across the State. A very unusual winter has led to below average snow cover and milder than normal temperatures. The wheat crop is mostly in good condition despite the lack of snow cover. Freeze damage may be a concern in some areas. Winter wheat condition for the state was reported 18% excellent, 45% good, 28% fair, 7% poor, and 2% very poor. Major activities were pruning fruit trees, calving and lambing, and preparing for spring.

MINNESOTA: February was warmer than normal, continuing a string of six consecutive warmer than normal months. Temperatures averaged from 6.3 degrees above normal in the Southwest District to 9.0 degrees above normal in the North Central District. Temperature extremes included a low of -15 degrees at Crookston and a high of 55 degrees at Montevideo, Lamberton, and Marshall. Precipitation averaged from 0.55 inch below normal in the Southeast District to 0.22 inch above normal in the North Central District. Greatest monthly precipitation of 0.79 inch was recorded in Grand Marais. Using an estimated temperature for February, the meteorological winter average for 2011-2012 is 26.1 degrees, the fourth warmest winter on record. February 20-22 brought several inches of new snow to areas of the State. For some it was the snowiest three-day period of the winter. For several locations, including Duluth, Minneapolis-St. Paul, and Rochester, snowfall totals are between one-third and one-half of normal, according to the Minnesota State Climatology Office. As of February 21, the southeastern tip of the State was rated abnormally dry, while the rest of the State was rated as undergoing a moderate to severe drought by the U.S. Drought Monitor.

MISSISSIPPI: Soil moisture 5 percent short, 57 percent adequate and 38 percent surplus. Wheat 48% jointing, 11% 2011, 3% avg,; Wheat 12% poor, 35% fair, 46% good, 7%

excellent. Cattle 3% very poor, 11% poor, 43% fair, 39% good, 4% excellent. Pasture 9% very poor, 25% poor, 23% fair, 40% good, 3% excellent. Mississippi has had a warm and wet winter so far, therefore wheat is developing faster than normal. In most cases, our wheat has broken dormancy and was now under threat from freeze damage. Wheat acreage conditions are variable, and there was one report of lodging problems in Sunflower County. Winter weeds have become a problem in many areas. Progress on fieldwork has been slow due to saturated fields.

MISSOURI: February was warmer and drier than normal. Average temperatures were 3 to 7 degrees above normal. Precipitation averaged 1.85 inches or 0.20 of an inch below normal. The condition of the dormant winter wheat crop ranges from good to excellent with the majority rated good.

MONTANA: Topsoil moisture 14% very short, 1% last year; 39% short, 7% last year; 46% adequate, 73% last year; 1% surplus, 19% last year. Subsoil moisture 14% very short, 4% last year; 38% short, 10% last year; 44% adequate, 82% last year; 4% surplus, 4% last year. Winter wheat condition 2% very poor, 0% last year; 10% poor, 4% last year; 64% fair, 25% last year; 22% good, 56% last year; 2% excellent, 15% last year. Winter wheat – wind damage 46% none, 72% last year; 19% light, 24% last year; 32% moderate, 3% last year; 3% heavy, 1% last year. Winter wheat – freeze and drought damaged 55% none, 77% last year; 31% light, 19% last year; 13% moderate, 4% last year; 1% heavy, 0% last year. Winter wheat – protectiveness of snow cover 69% very poor, 0% last year; 23% poor, 3% last year; 6% fair, 18% last year; 2% good, 65% last year; 0% excellent, 14% last year. Livestock grazing 63% open, 4% last year; 18% difficult, 29% last year; 19% closed, 67% last year. Cattle and calves receiving supplemental feed 91%, 99% last year. Sheep and lambs receiving supplemental feed 91%, 99% last year. Calving complete 14%; 15% last year. Lambing complete 6%; 9% last year.

NEBRASKA: Wheat conditions rated 1% very poor, 5 poor, 29 fair, 59 good, 6 excellent. Hay and forage supplies rated 1% very short, 5 short, 92 adequate, and 2 excellent. Cattle and Calves condition rated 1 poor, 8 fair, 74 good and 17 excellent. For the month of February 2012, temperatures averaged 4 degrees above normal for the eastern half of the State and near normal for the western half. Heavy precipitation in the forms of rain and snow fell early in the month. Overall, precipitation for the month was above normal for most of the State. Moisture accumulation was greatest across the South East District with over 2 inches received. Elsewhere, one half to one and a half inches was common. At the end of the month, snow depth was limited mainly to the Northeast District with near 2 inches of snow cover. Strong winds have dried soils leaving soil moisture was mostly adequate to short. During the last week of the month, soil temperatures ranged from 32 to 37 degrees. The coolest soils were in the northern half of the State and increased moving to the south. Hauling grain to market, preparation for spring planting and livestock care were the main activities during the month. Wheat condition continued well above year ago levels. Producers have not had to do as much supplemental feeding of cattle due to mild conditions. Most feed supplies were adequate. Cattle and calves were in good to excellent condition and calving was progressing well with the mild weather. Average snow depth at the end of February averaged less than one half inch Statewide. By region, the heaviest snow depth was across the northern third of the State. Temperatures averaged above normal at the beginning and end of the month but below normal for the second week. Average temperatures for the month got warmer moving from north to south across the State.

NEVADA: Storm systems brought precipitation to most Nevada locations. Temperatures ranged from 1.6 degrees below normal to 1.4 degrees above normal. Las Vegas recorded the monthly high at 74 degrees. Eureka recorded the lowest temperature of the month at -2 degrees. Ely recorded the most precipitation with 0.71 inches. Nevada snow packs are below average for this time of year. Other farm and ranch activities included equipment maintenance, calving and lambing, crop and livestock marketing, industry meetings.

NEW ENGLAND: The unusually mild February brought monthly average temperatures ranging from 4 to 8 degrees above normal throughout New England. Almost all of New England, outside of northernmost latitudes, received less than 10 inches of snow, with accumulations of less than 2 inches in various locations as far north as Concord, NH. Precipitation falling in the form of rain was also minimal, averaging around 1 inch throughout New England. The first week began rainy with record-breaking high temperatures in the 50 and 60s throughout southern and central New England, followed by partly cloudy skies and average temperatures in the 30s and 40s. Average to above average temperatures dominated most of the second week with the exception of northern Maine, which experienced temperatures as low as negative double-digits. Mild temperatures and lack of significant precipitation persisted throughout the entire third week and first half of the fourth week. Significant rain and snow, temperature permitting, fell throughout the region during the second half of the fourth week. Reported precipitation was generally over half the total monthly precipitation in most locations. The week ended with damaging winds that downed trees and caused power outages. The worst sustained winds were reported to be above 40 miles per hour. Farmers kept busy during February tending livestock, working in greenhouses, moving potatoes and apples out of storage, and preparing for the spring planting season. Mild winter conditions are encouraging maple producers to tap trees well ahead of schedule.

NEW JERSEY: Temperatures averaged much above normal across the State for the majority of February. Extreme temperatures ranged from highs in the 60s to lows in the teens. There were measurable amounts of precipitation in most localities. Light amounts of snow fell the second week, leaving up to 3 inches in some northern areas. Agricultural producers continued repairing machinery, feeding stored hay to livestock, and attending educational meetings.

NEW MEXICO: Wind and cold temperatures affected all aspects of agriculture during the first week of February. Cattle operators benefitted from higher prices on all classes and still higher than usual receipts at area auctions. Dry land still holding moisture needed to improve chances for harvest chances. Livestock still requiring more than usual feed to maintain condition, particularly cows calving and nursing. Temperatures warmed mid-month. Precipitation was sparse despite an upper level system that moved across New Mexico during the third week, bringing moisture to the western highlands and central mountain chain. A late-month storm brought snow over the northern mountain range/central mountains and parts of western New Mexico.

NEW YORK: Outside activities and daily chores continued. Weather was warmer than normal for this time of year with very little snow. Producers were kept busy repairing machinery and removing snow when needed. Major activities included caring for livestock, spreading manure, grading and packing potatoes, onions, apples and cabbage. Winter meetings and trade shows were well attended.

NORTH CAROLINA: State-wide soil moisture levels were rated at 1% very short, 8% short, 75% adequate and 16% surplus. The State received mostly above normal precipitation and temperatures throughout the month of February. Producers were beginning to start spring planting preparations.

NORTH DAKOTA: Average snow depth was 3.8 on February 26. Hay and forage supplies were 2% short, 75% adequate, 23% surplus. Snow cover protection for alfalfa was rated 52% poor, 45% adequate, 3% excellent. Snow cover protection for winter wheat was rated 45% poor, 49% adequate, 6% excellent. Cattle condition 9% fair, 67% good, 24% excellent. Sheep condition 9% fair, 69% good, 22% excellent. The percentage of feed obtained from pasture and range for cattle and sheep were 15% and 7%, respectively. Road conditions 86% open, 13% difficult, 1% closed. Twenty percent were drifted, 17% icy, 2% muddy, 61% dry. Favorable weather conditions allowed producers to make considerable progress in shearing, calving and lambing. A winter storm late in February provided snow protection for crops in some areas where it was needed. Agricultural activities during February included feeding livestock, calving and lambing, hauling and cleaning grain.

OHIO: The February 2012 average temperature was 34.1 degrees, 4.5 degrees above normal. Precipitation averaged 1.12 inches, 0.98 inches below normal. Winter wheat producing counties reported that the crop is in fair-to-good condition. Much of the crop was planted late and acreage planted is down from operator planting intentions due to a wet fall. Most of the winter wheat growing areas have been without snow cover during February; continued freezing and thawing conditions and lack of snow cover have contributed to the deterioration of the winter wheat conditions over last month. Livestock are in good to excellent condition. There are no widespread disease problems reported by producers. Hay supplies vary from short to good.

OKLAHOMA: Topsoil moisture 8% very short, 33% short, 54% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil moisture 29% very short, 32% short, 38% adequate, 1% surplus. Wheat 1% very poor, 6% poor, 26% fair, 53% good, 14% excellent; grazed 45% this month, 35% last year, 34% average. Canola 1% very poor, 4% poor, 30% fair, 53% good, 12% excellent. Rye 1% very poor, 5% poor, 19% fair, 59% good, 16% excellent; grazed 70% this month, 62% last year, 63% average. Oats 1% very poor, 7% poor, 22% fair, 61% good, 9% excellent; grazed 42% this month, 14% last year, 14% average. Livestock 9% very poor, 17% poor, 35% fair, 35% good, 4% excellent. Pasture and Range 37% very poor, 30% poor, 25% fair, 7% good, 1% excellent. Livestock conditions continued to be rated mostly in the good to fair range with 26 percent rated poor to very poor. Limited hay supplies and low pond levels were still major concerns for producers.

OREGON: February conditions made some days feel like winter could drag on, and other days it seemed spring was not far away. Generally the month had average temperatures with less than normal precipitation. About half of the stations reported slightly above normal temperatures, and the other half reported slightly below normal temperatures. High temperatures ranged from 51 degrees in Joseph, up to 69 degrees in Medford. Low temperatures ranged from 34 degrees in McMinnville, down to 5 degrees in Christmas Valley. Average temperatures across the State ranged from 31 degrees to 47 degrees. All but three stations reported below normal precipitation, and more than half of those received less than an inch for the month. Along the Coast and in the Willamette Valley, precipitation ranged from 5 to 10 inches, with flooding in low areas. Detroit Lake reported the most precipitation of 9.78 inches for the month, down from January's report of 20.75 inches. Many counties were still concerned with below normal snow accumulation. There was some improvement, but still much anticipation for more. Wallowa County snow pack rose a little to 60 to 80 percent of normal. Lake County was around 60 percent of normal for the water year. Cottenwood and Drews reservoirs were 119 percent of average and 60 percent capacity. The lack of moisture was still a significant concern for all crops throughout Umatilla County, but winter grain crops were still looking good for now. Wheat in the Willamette Valley was struggling from excess rainfall. Green color had really started to show in grass for seed and pasture grass. Equipment was being readied for spring planting. Berries, tree fruits, and hazelnuts were being pruned. Hazelnuts in Washington County bloomed with long catkins. Blueberries broke top buds early in the month in Lane County. Pear buds were swelling, and prunes and plums had a pre-white bloom. Calving conditions have really improved from this time last year. Milder temperatures and lack of high winds has reduced calf losses. The mild winter has reduced feed costs for many producers.

PENNSYLVANIA: Weather for the month of February has been uncharacteristically mild. Temperatures for most of the month have been above normal for this time of year. Principal farm activities for the month of February included manure spreading and some plowing by Amish operators utilizing horses. February began with mild weather conditions, and above average temperatures. The Harrisburg area received 2.4 inches of snow or ice throughout February. The average high temperature was 45.8 degrees and the average low was 27.9 degrees. February 1st was the warmest day of the month, with a high at 61 degrees. The lowest temperature of the month was 19 degrees, which happened on February 12th. The average temperature for the month was 36.9 degrees, which is 4.2 degrees above normal.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Spring-like, 70-degree warmth was observed on the first day of February. Light rains moved east through the State on the evening of Wednesday, February 1st. By Thursday morning, Chester had received 0.30 inches and Winnsboro 0.28 inches. The State's highest temperature on Thursday occurred at Givhans with 79 degrees. A boundary of colder air eased into the State during the darkness of Friday morning but any freezing was limited to the highest elevations. Saturday's passing rains fell mostly across the Foothills and Piedmont. Further south and under more sunshine, Clarks Hill and Sandy Run reported afternoon high temperatures of 74 degrees. The absence of "winter cold" was evident on Sunday, February 5th, as the thermometer pushed to near or above 80 degrees for central South Carolina and parts of the Lowcountry. The Charleston airport established a date record 81 degrees. The State average temperature for the week was ten degrees above normal. The State average rainfall for the week was 0.1 inches. With no warming sunshine, Monday afternoon high temperatures across the State settled into the 40's. Freezing

was observed on the morning of Tuesday, February 7th, for locations in central South Carolina and north into the Piedmont. A late push of mild air moved into the southern coastal plain, allowing Beaufort to reach 68 degrees on Wednesday afternoon. During the afternoon hours on Friday, February 10th, the season's second arctic-sourced air mass began charging southeast into the northernmost counties. Limited moisture ahead of the cold front supported a few showers but most of the State remained dry. On Sunday morning, temperatures fell to their lowest since January 4th, 2012. Saluda and Johnston recorded 17 degrees. Even with a full day of clear, sunny skies, the Sunday afternoon temperature hovered in the 40's. The State average temperature for the week was three degrees below normal. The State average rainfall for the week was 0.0 inches. Many inland sites reported Monday, February 13th morning low temperatures in the teens. Precipitation drifted east through the Foothills and Piedmont overnight with a trace of snow observed at Caesars Head and public reports of brief sleet at Newberry just before 6:00 a.m. on Tuesday morning. Mild air eased northward for Wednesday with Charleston and Florence warming to 70 degrees. On Thursday, February 16th, areas of light rain over the Midlands left puddles ringed with the outline of tree pollen, a result of a very mild winter. Steady rains entered the State Saturday evening. Rains continued for much of Sunday from the effects of a large low pressure feature moving northeast through the State. The State average temperature for the seven-day period was two degrees above normal. The State average rainfall for the period was 1.3 inches. Most of the State recorded afternoon high temperatures in the 50's on Monday, February 20th. The Tuesday morning low temperature fell to 27 degrees at Pelion and the Rock Hill airport. An area of low pressure crossed the UpState on Wednesday night with thunderstorms observed in Clemson. Much warmer air entered the State overnight along with isolated thundershowers. The Thursday morning low temperatures were the mildest in the State since December 22nd, 2011. More spring-like weather was observed on Friday, February 24th, with temperatures climbing into the middle 80's. Strong thunderstorms formed during the mid-day hours over the southern Piedmont and sped eastward, producing two tornadoes and dumping rain over much of the State. Brisk northwest winds on Saturday brought high temperatures back into the 50's. Sunday, February 26th, saw temperatures in the mid 50's. The State average temperature for the week was four degrees above normal. The State average rainfall for the week was 0.5 inches.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Average snow depth (inches) 2.3. Winter wheat snow cover 71% poor, 29% adequate. Winter wheat condition 31% poor, 40% fair, 28% good, 1% excellent. Alfalfa snow cover 71% poor, 28% adequate, 1% excellent. Feed supplies 1% short, 93% adequate, 6% surplus. Stock water supplies 1% very short, 4% short, 93% adequate, 2% surplus. Accessible livestock feed supplies 98% readily, 2% difficult. Accessible stock water supplies 98% readily, 2% difficult. Cattle death losses 36% below normal, 63% normal, 1% above normal. Calf deaths 26% below average, 70% average, 4% above average. Calving 9% complete. Cattle condition 7% fair, 78% good, 15% excellent. Sheep & lamb deaths 22% below average, 78% average. Lambing 22% complete. Sheep condition 5% fair, 71% good, 24% excellent. Road conditions--township 95% open, 5% difficult. Road conditions--county 98% open, 2% difficult. South Dakota saw its first snow storm of the season the last full week of February, leaving an average snow depth of 2.3 inches for the State. With the arrival of the first snow storm of the season, snow cover conditions improve but some still worry about the quality and survival rate of the alfalfa and winter wheat for the State.

TENNESSEE: Winter Wheat 1% poor, 17% fair, 61% good and 21% excellent. Cattle 4% poor, 25% fair, 60% good and 11% excellent. Mild winter conditions have farmers antsy to begin seeding. Over the past month farmers were busy preparing equipment for planting and applying herbicides. Eighty-two percent of this year's winter wheat crop is rated in good or excellent condition. Wheat producers began top-dressing fields with nitrogen. Others reported wheat fields being too wet in low-lying areas and some farmers are worried that there will be a late spring freeze. Muddy, sloppy feeding conditions for livestock remain in many areas. For the month of February hay stocks were rated 6 percent very short, 16 percent short, 66 percent adequate, and 12 percent surplus. Seventy-one percent of cattle were rated in good or excellent condition. Temperatures averaged well above normal across the entire state. Precipitation averaged below normal in most of the West and Middle Tennessee while East Tennessee received normal to slightly above normal amounts of precipitation over the last few weeks.

TEXAS: Winter wheat suffered from dry conditions in the High Plains. In North and Central Texas, small grains benefited from precipitation and warm temperatures, with some producers reporting that wheat and oats were maturing ahead of schedule. Farmers around South Texas began planting corn and sorghum. However in many areas, wet field conditions delayed land preparation and planting. Cotton producers continued to list fields and book cotton seed for the upcoming season. Lack of moisture remained a serious concern for both corn and cotton producers in the High Plains and the Trans-Pecos. Garden preparation and vegetable planting continued in East Texas. In the Cross Timbers, fruit trees were in bloom. In South Texas, spinach harvest was active while cabbage and onions continued to make progress. Wet field conditions in the Lower Valley interrupted sugarcane, citrus, and vegetable harvest. In the High Plains, the Trans-Pecos and parts of South Texas, range and pastureland remained in need of additional moisture. Livestock producers continued to supplement with hay and protein. In most other areas, cool and warm season grasses benefited from rainfall and warm temperatures, allowing producers to scale back supplemental feeding. Across the State, weed growth was a concern. The calving season continued and lambing and kidding was underway. South Texas stock tanks remained low, while tanks from the Edwards Plateau to East Texas were filling due to recent rainfall.

UTAH: Lower than average precipitation throughout the month of February. Producers were beginning to get very concerned about the potential of facing a drought this coming summer. The mild and dry winter has been beneficial to most livestock producers thus far. Livestock are in good condition across the State, and farmers were anticipating planting crops early this spring. Producers were hoping for late winter or early spring snow storms to help increase mountain snowpack and bring it within normal levels. Due to the relatively mild weather conditions, producers in Box Elder County were able to avoid feeding supplemental hay until just recently. Intermittent rains have kept the soil moisture in relatively good shape. Calving has begun in the county; however the majority of calving will occur during March and April. So far, there have been very few calving problems. Cache County producers have enjoyed the rather mild winter. Sheep and cattle have

done extremely well. Lambing and calving has begun; most young animals were in good condition. Calving in Carbon County has also begun and livestock are in good condition. Hay stocks look adequate. More moisture was needed in the mountains to improve summer range conditions. Many livestock in Duchesne County have started to calve and lamb. The moderate weather has improved calving conditions as well as reduced the amount of supplemental feed needed. Livestock prices were very good, but the cost of inputs continues to rise which has a limiting affect on profits. Lambing and calving in Beaver County were going well. Ranges and mountains are quite dry. Most beef producers in Garfield and Kane Counties have begun feeding supplemental hay to livestock. Producers have enjoyed the mild winter weather which has improved calf survival. The area is in need of substantial snowfall to ward off the looming drought. Box Elder County producers were concerned with the rising fuel prices which also translate to higher fertilizer, chemical, and equipment costs. Farmers were making plans for spring planting; farmers may get an early start this year due to the lack of snow cover. Water supplies for the Bear River Valley were adequate. The water level in Bear Lake was nearly at capacity. Cache County growers were concerned about the potential of winter kill in winter wheat and barley because of the lack of an insulating covering of snow over the crops. The valleys in Duchesne County remain dry; some plowing and other field work has begun due to the absence of frost or snow on the ground. Carbon and Emery counties were already facing drought conditions. The mild winter has not generated enough snow to supply an adequate snowpack this year. Fields in Uintah County were nearly frost free. Field work will begin soon.

VIRGINIA: Topsoil moisture 1% short, 91% adequate, 8% Surplus. Subsoil moisture 3% short, 91% adequate, 6% surplus. Beef Cattle Forage Obtained from Pastures 14%. Milk Cow Forage Obtained from Pastures 9%. Sheep Forage Obtained from Pastures 19%. Livestock 2% poor, 26% fair, 60% good, 12% excellent. Small grain and winter grazing crops 1% poor, 21% fair, 67% good, 11% excellent. It has been a mild winter thus far across the Commonwealth, with moderate precipitation and temperatures throughout the month. Even though there has only been one significant snow storm so far this year, soil moisture levels remain adequate, and some areas are saturated preventing fieldwork. In those areas with drier soil, producers have been busy with soil sampling and lime application, as well as topdressing small grains with nitrogen and herbicides. With this assistance, and the warmer weather, small grains are beginning to grow and are in good condition. Livestock producers are repairing fences and feeding hay and several are making plans to market fall born calves.

WASHINGTON: February weather was fairly typical without extremes. There was no early “false” spring to heighten activity or a return of severe winter weather. Moisture levels were lacking at the beginning of the month, but there was a trend of precipitation seen Statewide during the second half of the month. The current dryland wheat crop looks to be in good condition. Despite rains in second half of February, many eastern counties will need more precipitation for successful seeding of 2013 dryland wheat crop. Lincoln County was over 5 inches of moisture behind average rainfall from September 1st to date. The counties in the northeast corner of the State were concerned about moisture levels due to frost on the ground, recent precipitation was not able to soak through. Cattle were still on feed and calving season was underway. Many farmers were looking for alfalfa, which was scarce in Kittitas County. In Franklin County, there was some ground just north of Pasco worked up for early potatoes during the last week of the month. Cut-flower peony growers reported new growth emerging marking the beginning of another growing season in Grays Harbor County. Shellfish growers were busy with oyster and clam harvest operations in Pacific County. Heavy rains after mid-month caused some normal flooding in Snohomish County. Raspberry growers continued to prune and tie the remaining fields in Whatcom County.

WEST VIRGINIA: Topsoil moisture was 5% short, 90% adequate and 5% surplus compared to 2% very short, 10% short, 59% adequate, and 29% surplus last year. Hay and roughage supplies were 2% short, 89% adequate, and 9% surplus compared with 6% very short, 21% short, 62% adequate, and 11% surplus last year. Feed grain supplies were 1% short, 98% adequate, and 1% surplus compared with 2% very short, 23% short, and 75% adequate last year. Winter wheat conditions were 8% fair and 92% good. Cattle and calves were 1% poor, 23% fair, 75% good, and 1% excellent. Calving was 32% complete, compared with 39% last year. Sheep and lambs were 1% poor, 11% fair, 87% good, and 1% excellent. Lambing was 35% complete, compared to 41% last year. The month of February has been mild and wet causing muddy conditions in fields for farmers and livestock. Farming activities included feeding hay, treating livestock for disease, repairing fences, rotating livestock feeding areas to minimize muddy conditions, calving and lambing.

WISCONSIN: Temperatures ranged from 7 to 9 degrees above normal. Precipitation ranged from 0.31 inches in Eau Claire (0.73 inches below normal) to 1.41 inches in Madison (0.16 inches above normal). Snowfall totals for the month ranged from 2.4 inches in Eau Claire to 8.8 inches in Milwaukee. The entire State received snow this month, though above average temperatures resulted in little to no accumulation in the southern portions of the State.

WYOMING: Topsoil moisture 3% very short, 26% short, 69% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil moisture 8% very short, 26% short, 64% adequate 2% surplus. Average depth of snow cover 1.9 inches. Wheat condition 2% poor, 31% fair, 67% good. Winter wheat wind damage 51% none, 34% light, 15% moderate. Winter wheat freeze damage 95% none, 3% light, 2% moderate. Spring calves born 12%. Farm flock ewes lambed 14%. Farm flock sheep shorn 13%. Calf losses 65% light, 35% normal. Lamb losses 79% light, 21% normal. Cattle condition 4% fair, 96% good. Sheep condition 1% poor, 6% fair, 93% good. Spring grazing prospects 6% poor, 43% fair, 51% good. Stock water supplies 9% short, 91% adequate. Hay and roughage supplies 5% short, 93% adequate, 2% surplus. Mixed conditions across State. Most of the north and western parts of Wyoming had above normal temperatures and below normal moisture during February while the eastern and southern parts had below normal temperatures and above normal moisture. Converse County reports colder and wetter than normal conditions have left area snow pack at 100% of normal. Platte County reported that high winds have plagued the county. Temperatures have been pretty normal and moisture level light. Wheat had looks good but some plants have brown edges due to wind. High temperatures ranged from the high 30s to the low 60s. Low temperatures ranged from 17 below zero to 10 above.

International Weather and Crop Summary

February 19-25, 2012

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

HIGHLIGHTS

EUROPE: Milder weather eased crop stress and melted much of the continent's protective snow cover.

WESTERN FSU: Additional snowfall boosted soil moisture reserves and kept dormant winter crops adequately insulated from cold weather.

MIDDLE EAST: A deep snowpack insulated dormant winter crops in Turkey and northern Iran from colder-than-normal weather.

NORTHWESTERN AFRICA: Widespread showers in the east contrasted with increasingly dry conditions in Morocco.

SOUTH ASIA: Sunny, warmer weather across northern India aided winter rapeseed maturation and advanced wheat development.

EAST ASIA: More rainfall in southeastern China benefited winter rapeseed that was likely breaking dormancy across the Yangtze Valley.

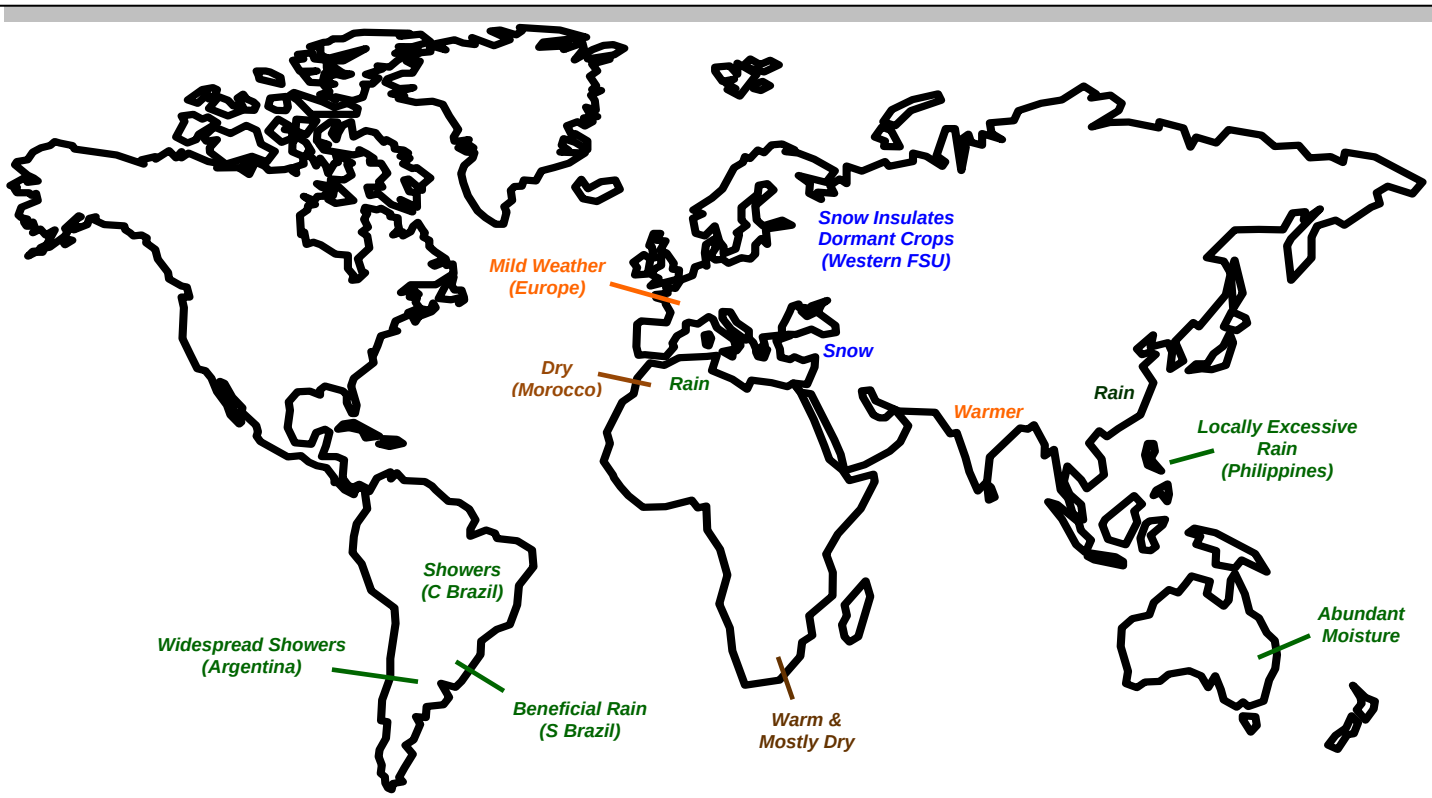
SOUTHEAST ASIA: Rainfall continued to be locally excessive in the Philippines, although moisture conditions for rice and corn remained favorable.

AUSTRALIA: Widespread showers maintained abundant moisture supplies for immature summer crops in eastern Australia, favoring crop development.

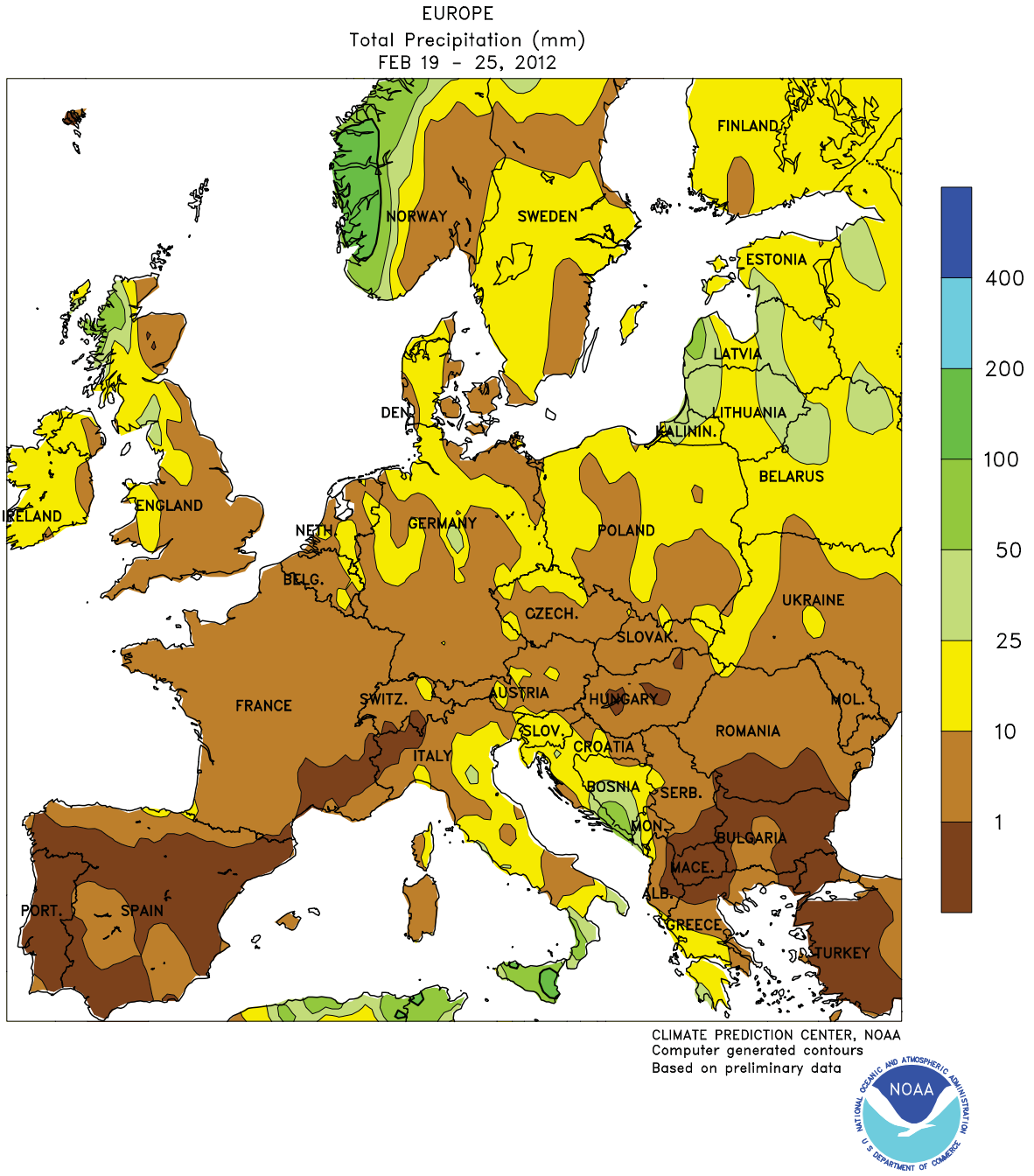
SOUTH AFRICA: An untimely pattern of unseasonable warmth and dryness persisted across the corn belt.

ARGENTINA: Rain swept across the region, providing a late-season boost in moisture for immature summer grains, oilseeds, and cotton.

BRAZIL: Showers benefited immature soybeans in the south while providing timely moisture for germination of secondary (safrinha) corn.



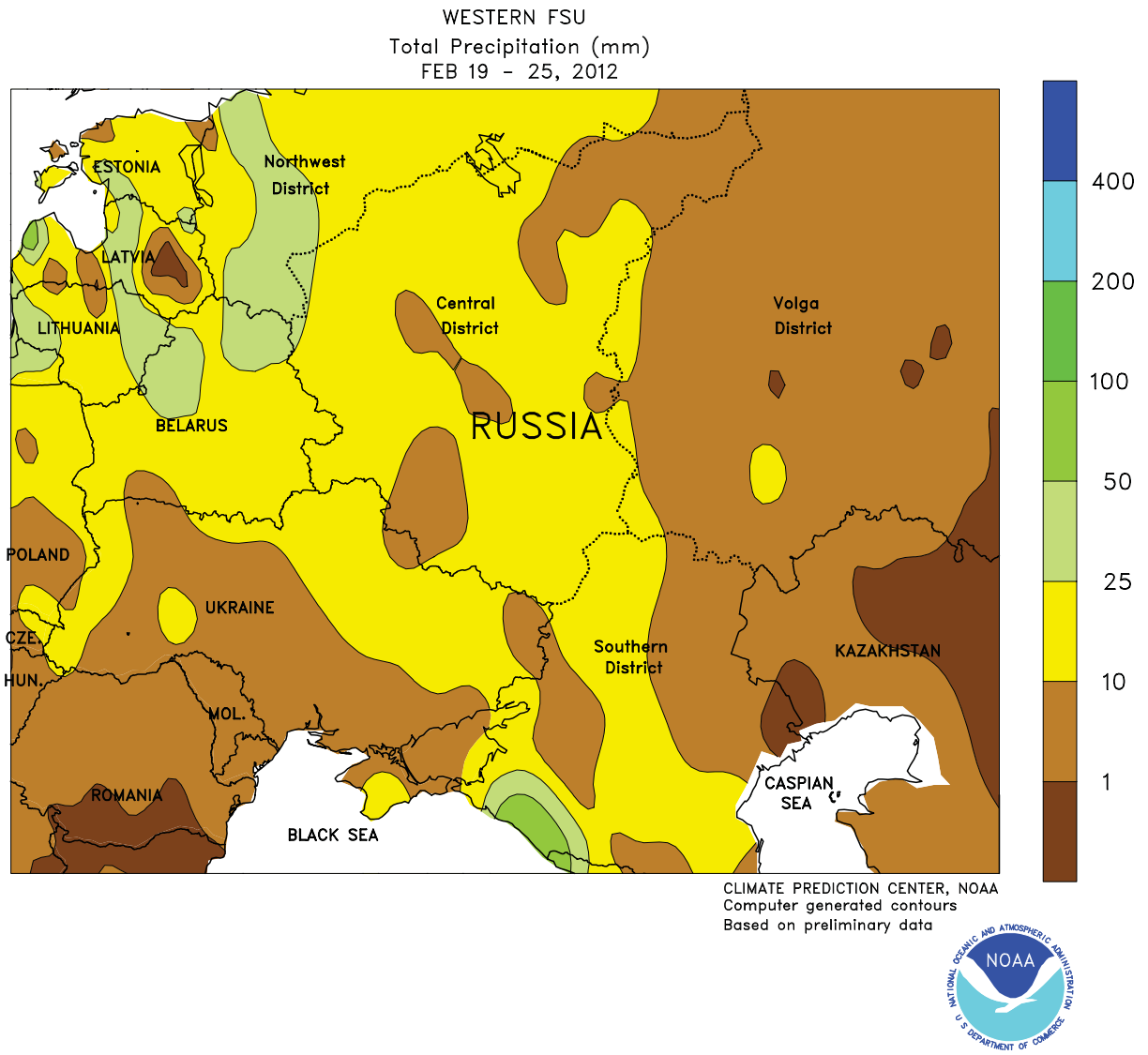
For additional information contact: mbrusberg@oce.usda.gov



EUROPE

Milder weather settled over the continent, while unfavorably dry conditions persisted on the Iberian Peninsula. After several weeks of bitter cold, temperatures averaged 1 to 5°C above normal from England and northern France into Poland and the Baltics. The warmer weather (daytime highs above 10°C) eased crop stress and melted much of the continent's snow cover. However, a deep snowpack remained in place over the Balkans, which aided in keeping this region cooler than normal (up to 5°C below normal). Precipitation, which fell mostly as rain, tallied 2 to 20 mm across much of northern Europe's wheat and rapeseed areas. Beneficial showers (5-25 mm) were also reported in northern Italy's Po River Valley, where season-to-date precipitation (since September 1) has been well below normal. Developing drought persisted on the Iberian Peninsula, with season-to-date rainfall totaling less than 50 percent of normal in many of Spain's primary wheat and barley areas. There are still several weeks, however, for rain to benefit winter crops before they progress into the key moisture-sensitive reproductive and filling stages of development.

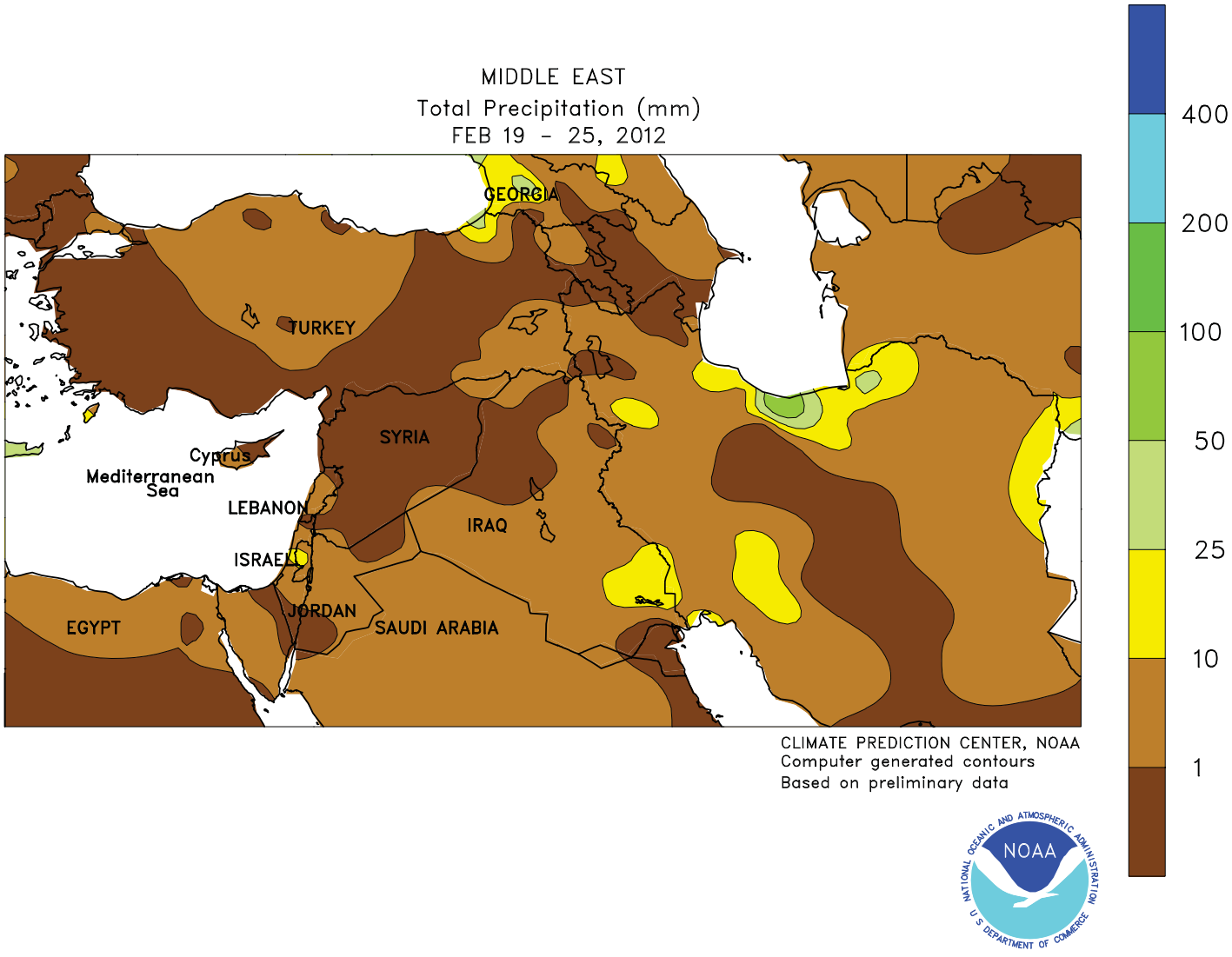
For additional information contact: mbrusberg@oce.usda.gov



WESTERN FSU

Snowy, somewhat milder weather prevailed over the region. After several weeks of frigid conditions, temperatures averaged 1 to 4°C above normal from Belarus and western Ukraine into northwestern Russia, easing the potential for crop stress. In contrast, bitter cold (-30 to -20°C) lingered over the eastern half of the region, although dormant winter crops remained adequately protected by 25 cm or more of snow cover. A fresh snowfall overspread central and western portions of the region (2-22 mm liquid equivalent), boosting moisture reserves for dormant winter crops and maintaining adequate insulation from potential winterkill.

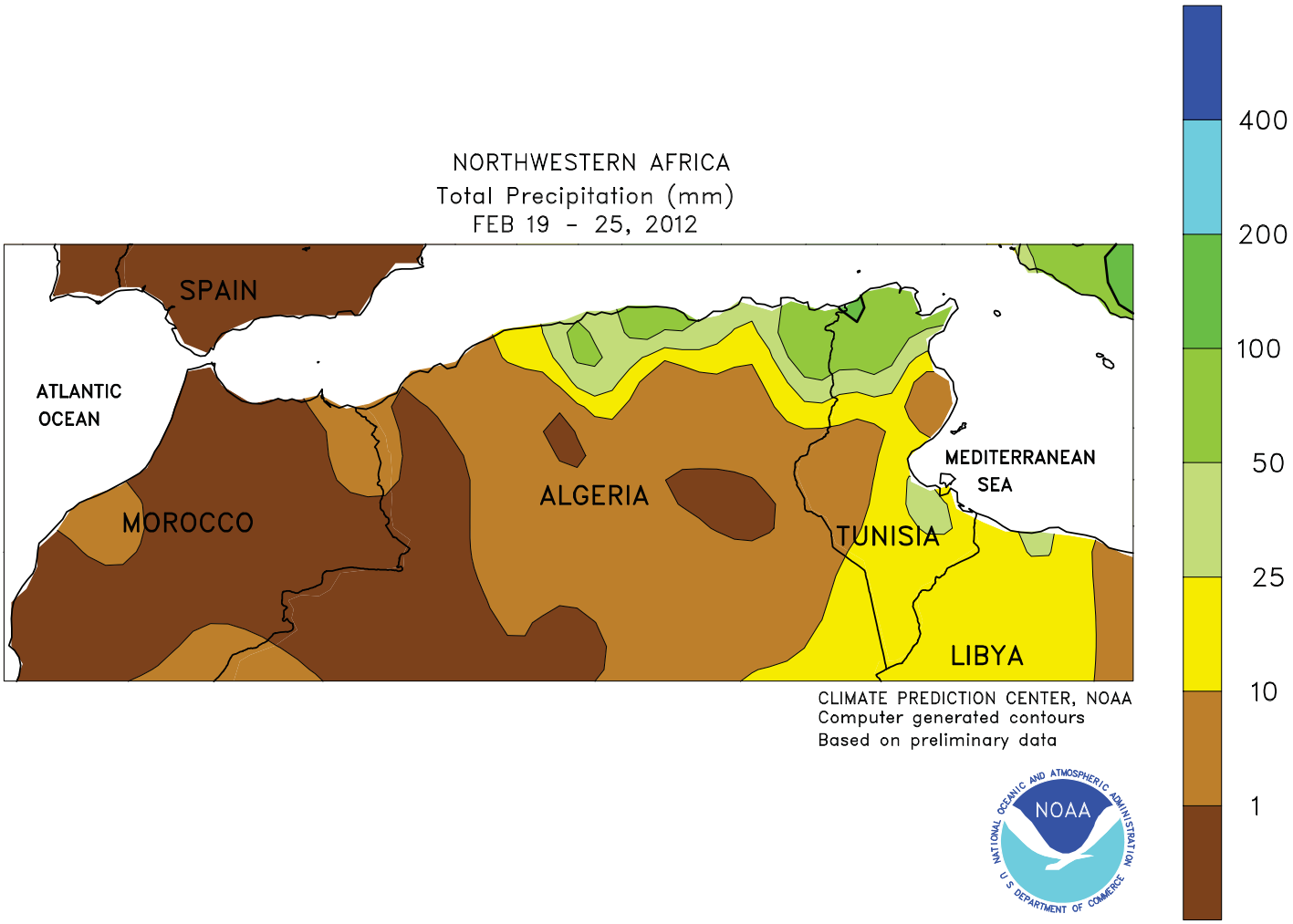
For additional information contact: mbrusberg@oce.usda.gov



MIDDLE EAST

After several weeks of stormy weather, dry, cold conditions settled over the region. Some light, spotty precipitation (6 mm or less liquid equivalent) fell across Iran's winter crop areas, but most of the region reported dry conditions for the week. A deep snowpack (10-25 cm, locally more) and clear skies allowed nighttime temperatures to drop below -15°C on Turkey's Anatolia Plateaus, although dormant winter crops were adequately insulated from potential winterkill by 10 to 25 cm of snow cover. Sunny skies across the eastern Mediterranean promoted crop development after several weeks of locally heavy rain. Winter crop prospects remained favorable over much of the region.

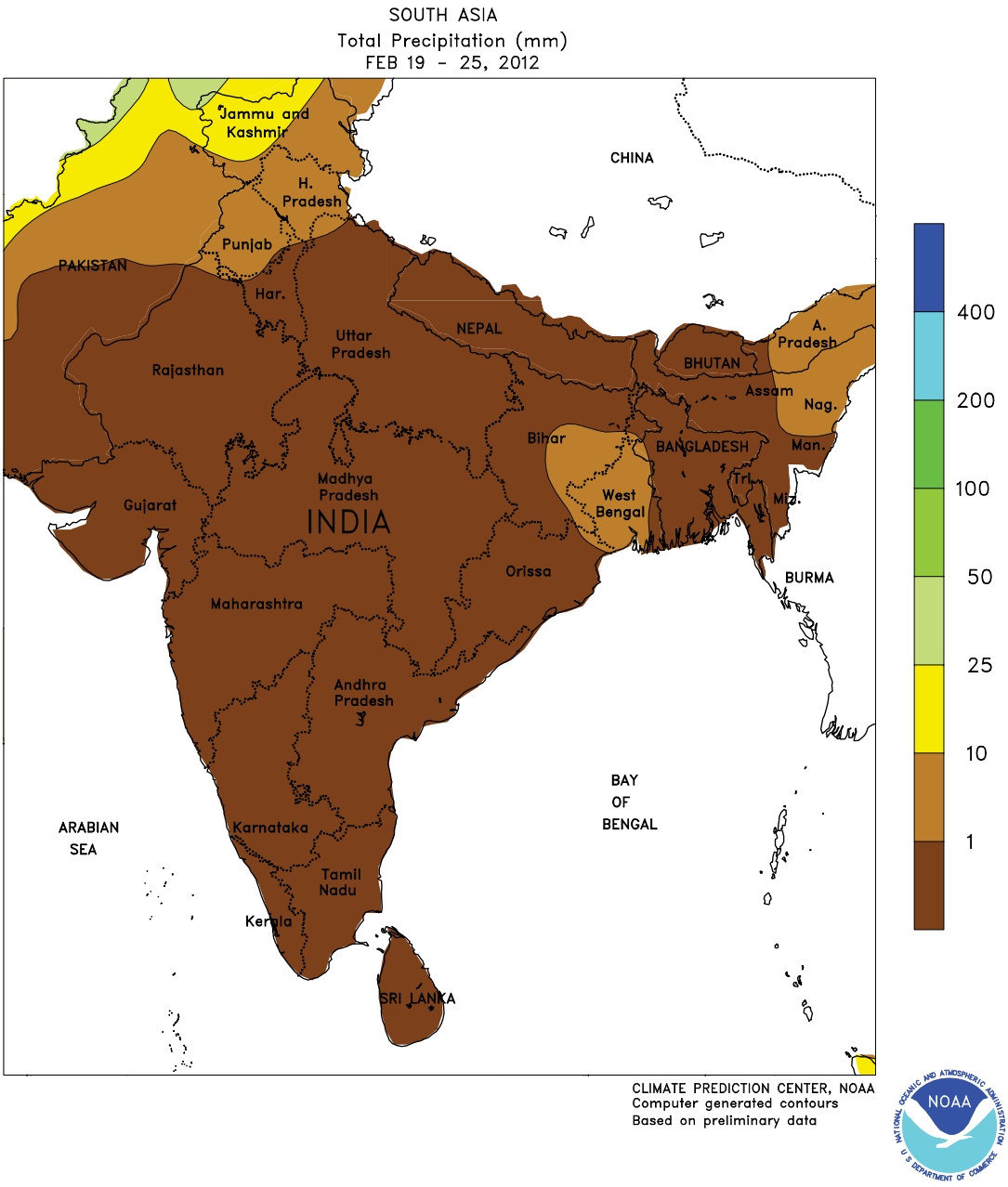
For additional information contact: mbrusberg@oce.usda.gov



NORTHWESTERN AFRICA

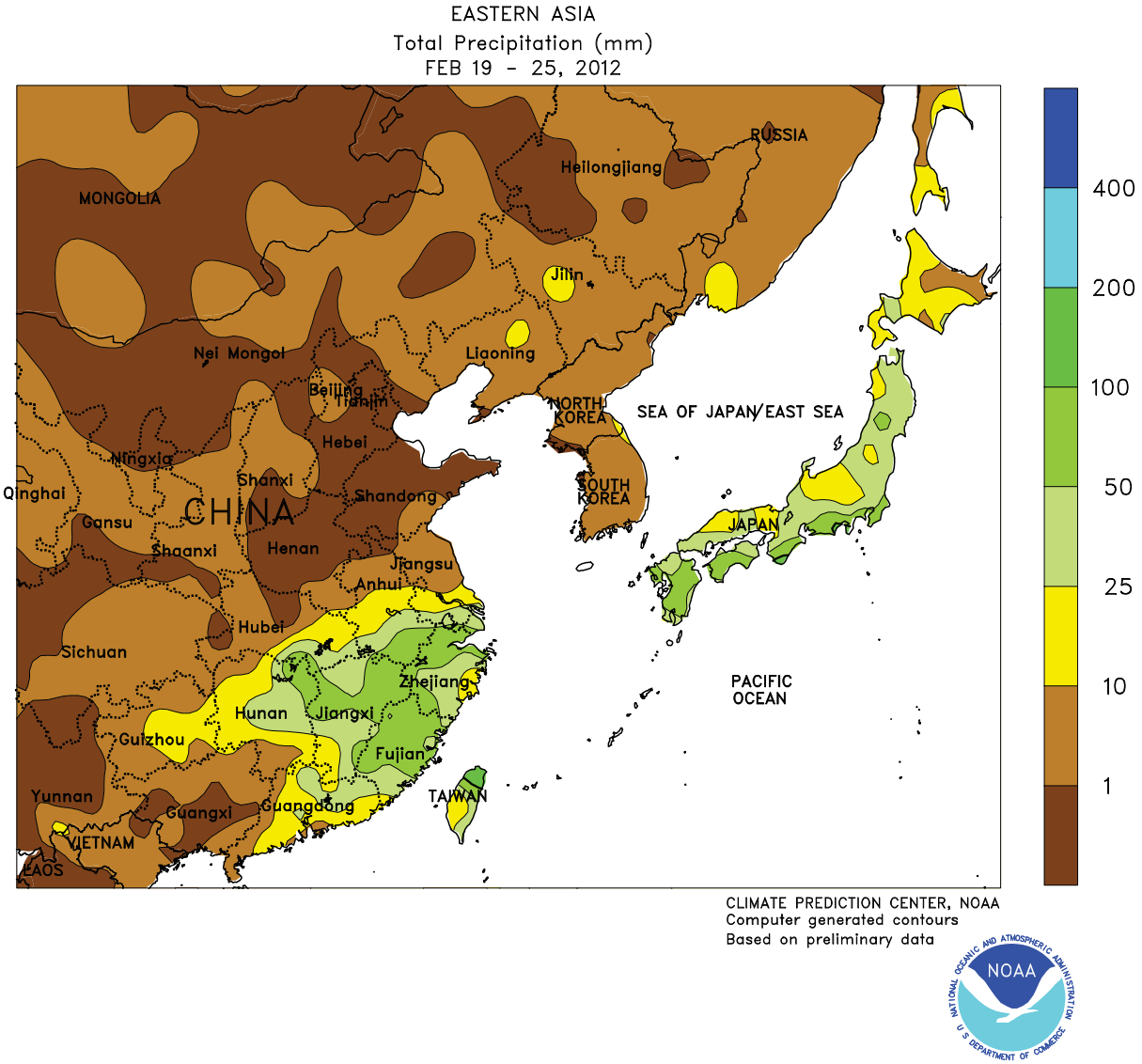
Milder weather returned, while western dryness contrasted with favorable rain in the east. After several weeks of unseasonable cold, temperatures averaged closer to seasonal norms (1-3°C below normal). The somewhat milder conditions (nighttime lows mostly above freezing) eased the threat of freeze damage to temperature-sensitive crops and encouraged more normal rates of crop development. Moderate to heavy showers (10-75 mm) continued across primary wheat and barley areas of Algeria and Tunisia, maintaining favorable winter crop prospects. Dry weather persisted over Morocco, although winter grains have likely suffered no widespread yield impacts from the recent dry trend due to late-January rainfall. However, rain will be needed soon in western portions of the region as winter crops enter the reproductive stages of development over the upcoming weeks.

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



SOUTH ASIA

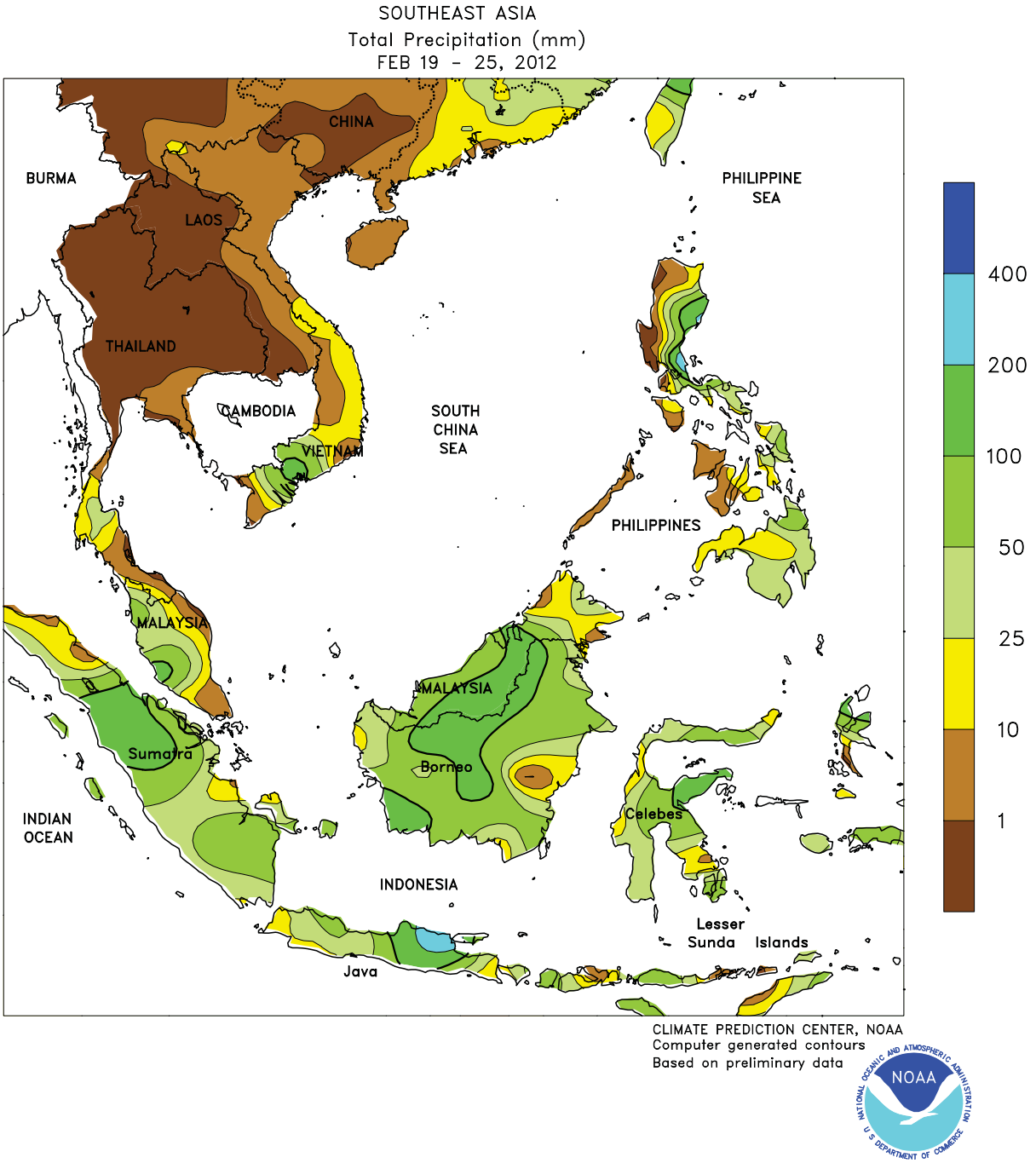
Sunny, warm weather prevailed across India as weekly temperatures averaged near to slightly above 20°C in northern growing areas. Winter rapeseed was likely mature in the main producing state of Rajasthan, while wheat was likely still filling in Punjab and Haryana. Cooler, somewhat wetter weather occurred in Pakistan, where upwards of 10 mm of rain and weekly temperatures averaging 15°C favored wheat development.



EASTERN ASIA

Showers passed through southeastern China in the middle to latter portion of the week. Rainfall amounts in the eastern Yangtze Valley and spring rice areas exceeded 50 mm, with markedly lesser totals (1-25 mm) to the west of these areas. Additionally, a sharp delineation existed to the north, on the North China Plain, where little if any rain occurred. Moisture conditions remained favorable for winter rapeseed, which was likely breaking dormancy as temperatures have consistently averaged above 5°C over the last two weeks. Moisture reserves were also well established for early double-crop rice, with transplanting about to begin in the next couple of weeks. On the North China Plain, mild weather benefited overwintering wheat that remained dormant and in good condition despite the typically dry winter.

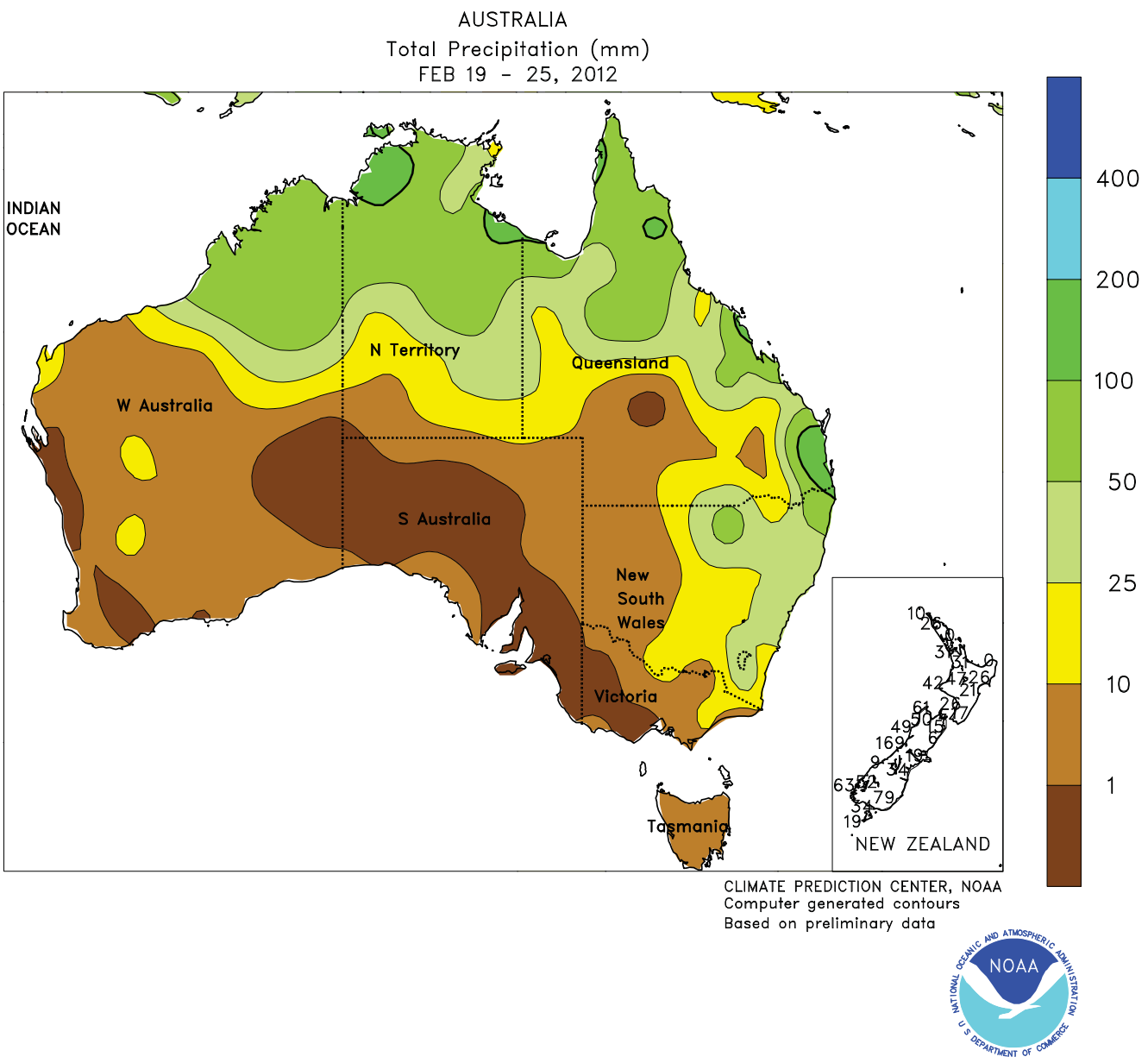
For additional information contact: mbrusberg@oce.usda.gov



SOUTHEAST ASIA

The unusually strong easterly fetch that has been bringing flooding rainfall to coastal areas of the eastern Philippines continued. A report of nearly 500 mm of rain occurred on the east-central coast of Luzon with far lesser amounts (25-100 mm) in the surrounding areas. Despite the local flooding, moisture conditions are considered favorable for rice and corn prospects during the first half of the year. In Vietnam, heavy showers (over 100 mm) slowed spring rice harvesting in the south, while warm, dry weather aided spring rice transplanting in the north. Meanwhile, rainfall continued in Java, Indonesia, where 25 to 100 mm benefited filling rice; however, drier weather would be welcome in the next several weeks as harvesting begins. Throughout the rest of Indonesia and into Malaysia, seasonable showers (50-150 mm) maintained abundant moisture supplies for oil palm with few harvest delays.

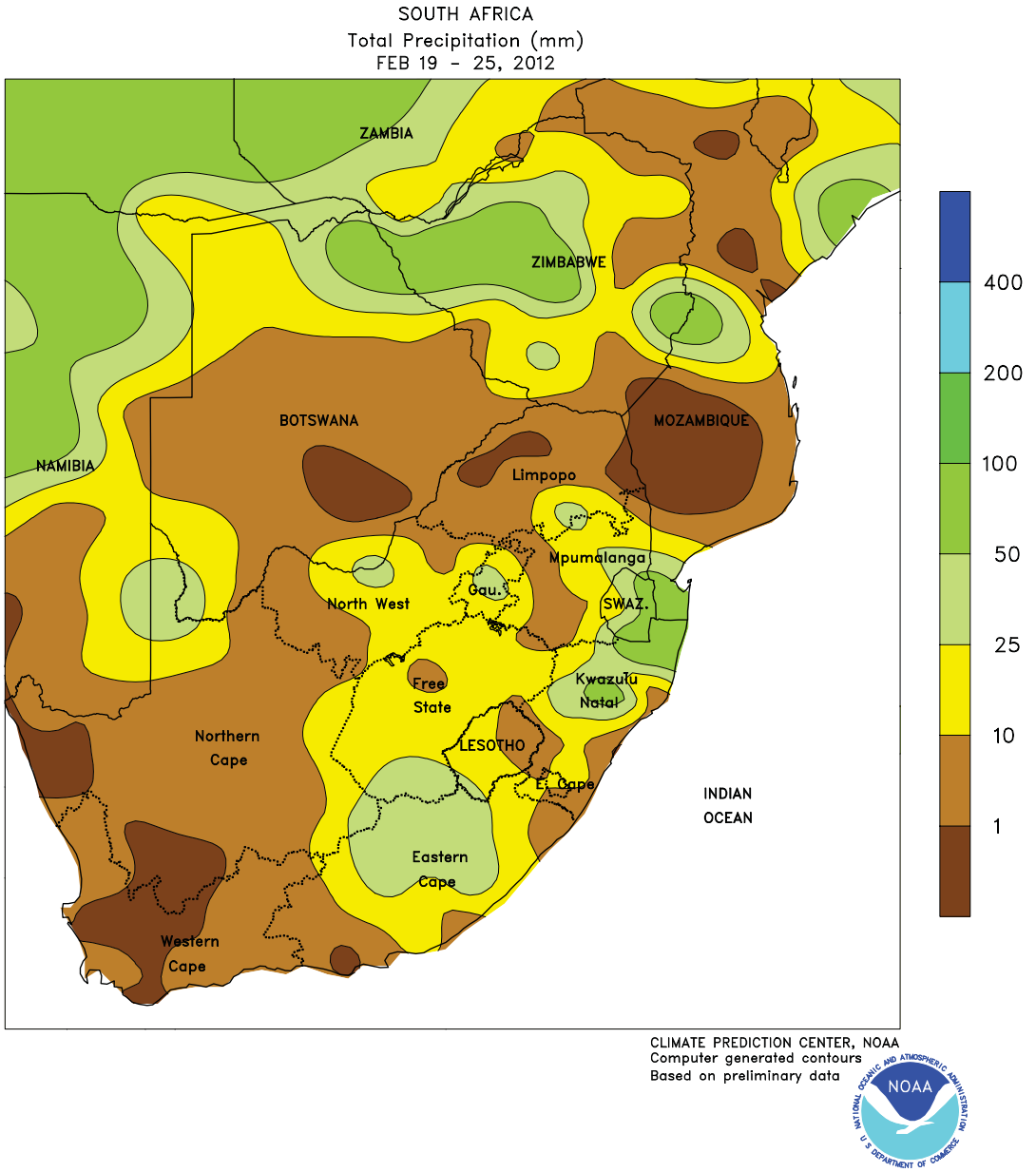
For additional information contact: mbrusberg@oce.usda.gov



AUSTRALIA

In northern New South Wales and southern Queensland, widespread showers (10-50 mm or more) maintained abundant moisture supplies for immature cotton and sorghum, favoring crop development. Temperatures in eastern Australia were generally seasonable, with only a few areas averaging slightly below normal (up to 2°C below normal).

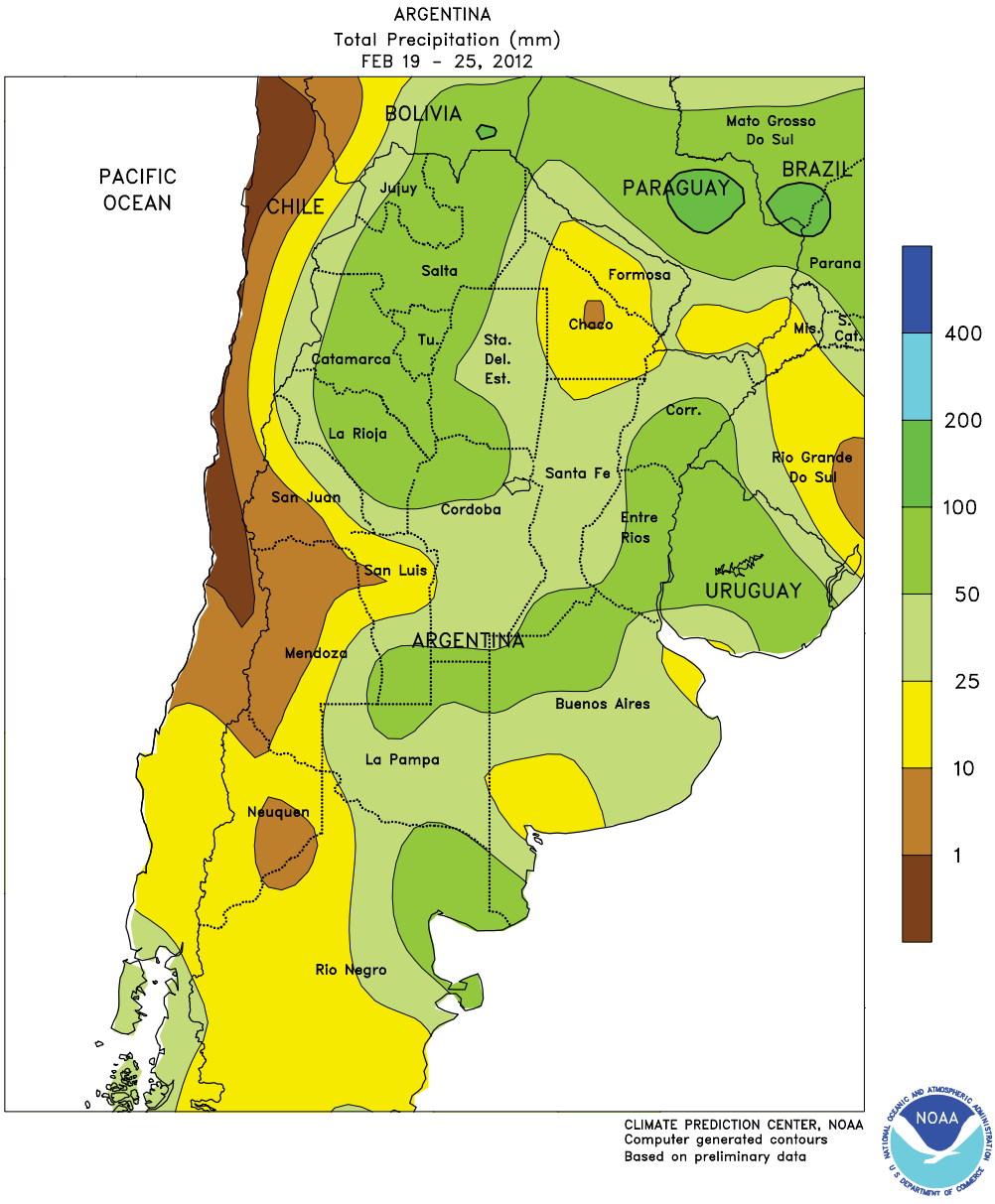
For additional information contact: mbrusberg@oce.usda.gov



SOUTH AFRICA

A general pattern of warm, mostly dry weather continued from the corn belt into other neighboring farming areas. Although showers occurred on several days, rainfall totaled below 25 mm in all but a few isolated locations. Additionally, weekly temperatures averaging 1 to 3°C or more above normal, with daytime highs briefly reaching the 30s (degrees C), maintained high crop moisture demands. Portions of the corn belt have been trending warm and dry since January, reducing moisture for corn and other rain-fed summer crops advancing through reproductive phases of development; additional moisture is needed as crops fill out, especially later-planted varieties in western sections of the corn belt (Free State and North West). Similar conditions existed in rain-fed sugarcane areas of southern KwaZulu-Natal, where virtually no rain fell, while showers (5-25 mm or more, locally exceeding 50 mm) developed on several days in the primarily irrigated sugarcane areas of northern KwaZulu-Natal and eastern Mpumalanga. Elsewhere, moderate rain (greater than 25 mm) covered a large section of Eastern Cape, but showers were generally scattered and light elsewhere in the Cape Provinces. Daytime highs approached 40°C early in the week in key production areas of Western Cape but temperatures quickly moderated, with highs mostly in the lower 30s for the remainder of the week.

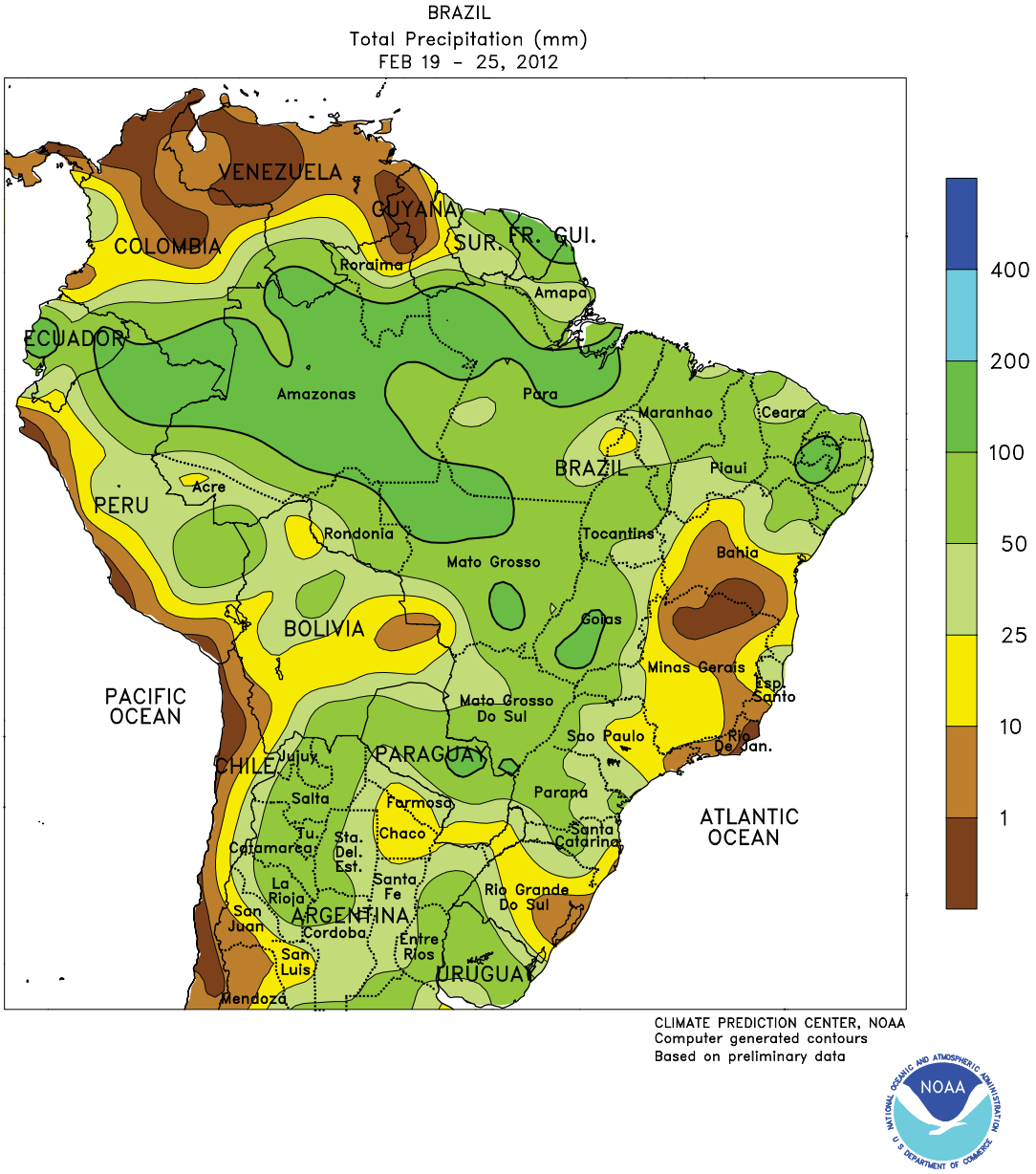
For additional information contact: mbrusberg@oce.usda.gov



ARGENTINA

Widespread, locally heavy rain soaked the region, providing a much-needed late-season boost in moisture for immature summer grains, oilseeds, and cotton. However, while the improved conditions were timely for late-planted corn and soybeans, most crops had already experienced varying degrees of stress, and significant improvement to overall yield potential is not expected. Most major agricultural areas recorded 25 to 50 mm or more of rainfall. In central Argentina, most of the rain came early in the week, ushering in a welcome period of cooler weather (weekly average temperatures about 1°C below normal, with daytime highs below 30°C). However, the rain-producing cold front arrived later in the week in northern Argentina, allowing temperatures to remain at stressful levels (daytime highs from 35-40°C) for several days. As a result, weekly average temperatures were 1 to 2°C above normal throughout the north. This included the cotton belt, which has accumulated rainfall at a near- to below-normal pace since November and can ill afford additional periods of stressful heat. According to Argentina's Ministry of Agriculture, corn and soybean planting is finished. Harvesting of sunflowers was 26 percent complete as of February 23, similar to last year's pace and unchanged from last week.

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

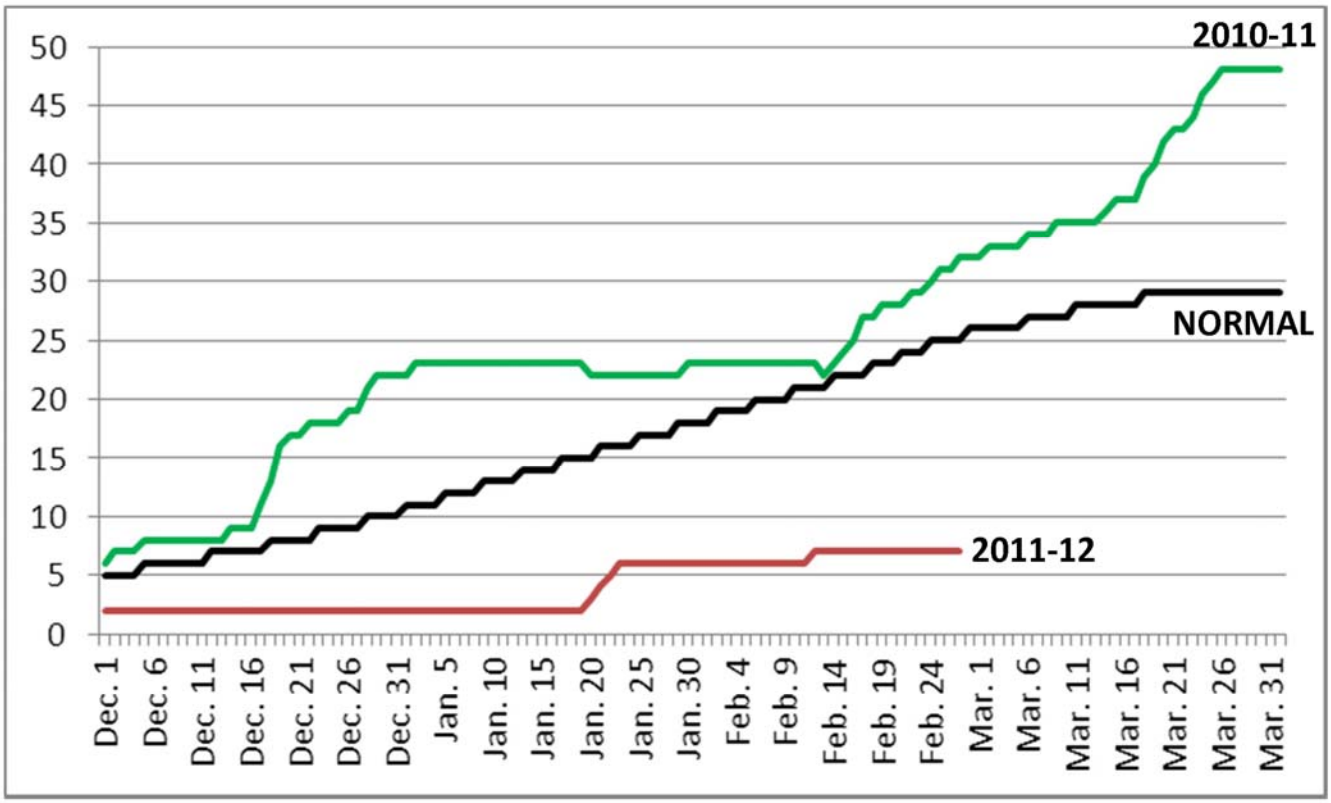


BRAZIL

Showers and milder weather gradually developed over southern Brazil, ending an extended period of stressful warmth and dryness. Key agricultural areas of Parana and Rio Grande do Sul recorded temperatures in the middle 30s (degrees C) early in the week ahead of a slow-moving cold front; beginning on February 20, however, showers and milder weather enveloped the region. In Rio Grande do Sul, light rain (10-25 mm) helped to stabilize the condition of immature soybeans and corn, though amounts were insufficient to significantly improve the overall moisture situation. In addition, daytime highs again reached the lower and middle 30s when drier weather returned during the latter part of the week. In contrast, Parana, southern Mato Grosso do Sul, and Sao Paulo recorded somewhat more frequent, heavier rainfall (25-50 mm or more), benefiting unharvested summer crops and providing timely moisture for germination and establishment of secondary (safrinha) corn. However, near- to above-normal temperatures (daytime highs in the lower 30s) maintained high crop moisture requirements and evaporative losses. Farther north, heavy rain (50-100 mm or more) continued throughout the Center-West Region (Mato Grosso, Goias, and northern Mato Grosso do Sul) and most of the northeastern interior, but drier conditions prevailed in western Bahia. Unseasonably heavy rain (50-100 mm or more) helped to replenish irrigation reserves in Brazil's northeastern tip but likely disrupted fieldwork, including late harvesting of sugarcane and cocoa.

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

Sierra Nevada Snow Pack
Water Equivalency (Inches)



Source: California Department of Water Resources (http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/reports/DLYSWEQ)

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

Correspondence to the meteorologists should be directed to:
***Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin*, NOAA/USDA, Joint Agricultural Weather Facility, USDA South Building, Room 4443B, Washington, DC 20250.**
Internet URL: **http://www.usda.gov/oce/weather**
E-mail address: ***brippey@oce.usda.gov***

The *Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin* and archives are maintained on the following USDA Internet URL:
http://www.usda.gov/oce/weather/pubs/Weekly/Wwcb/index.htm

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
World Agricultural Outlook Board
Managing Editor.....***Brad Rippey*** (202) 720-2397
Production Editor.....***Brian Morris*** (202) 720-3062
International Editor.....***Mark Brusberg*** (202) 720-3508
Editorial Advisors.....***Charles Wilbur and Brenda Chapin***
Agricultural Weather Analysts.....***Tom Puterbaugh, Harlan Shannon, and Eric Luebehusen***

National Agricultural Statistics Service
Agricultural Statistician and State Summaries Editor……
Julie Schmidt (202) 720-7621

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service/Climate Prediction Center
Meteorologists.....***David Miskus, Brad Pugh, and Adam Allgood***