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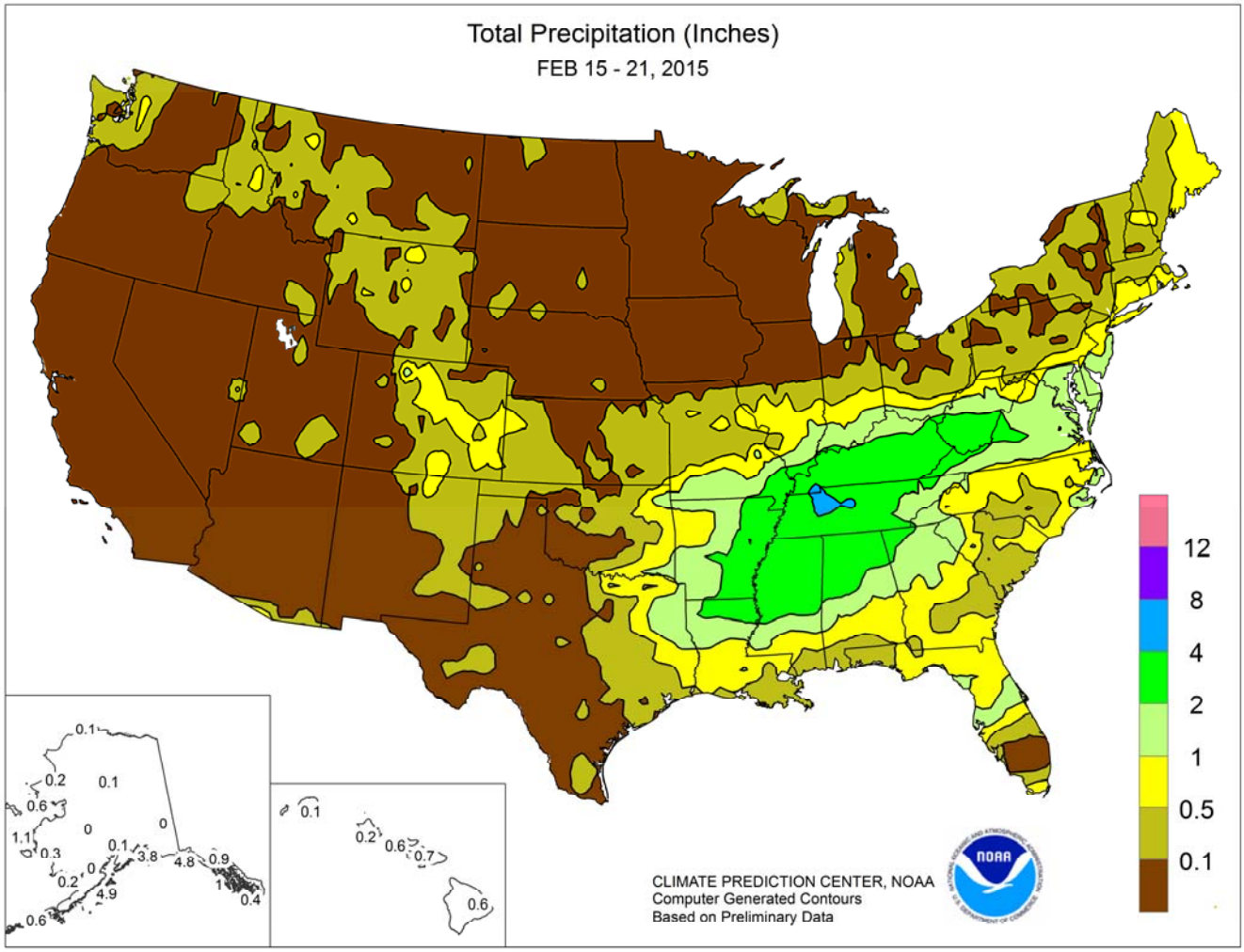
WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

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

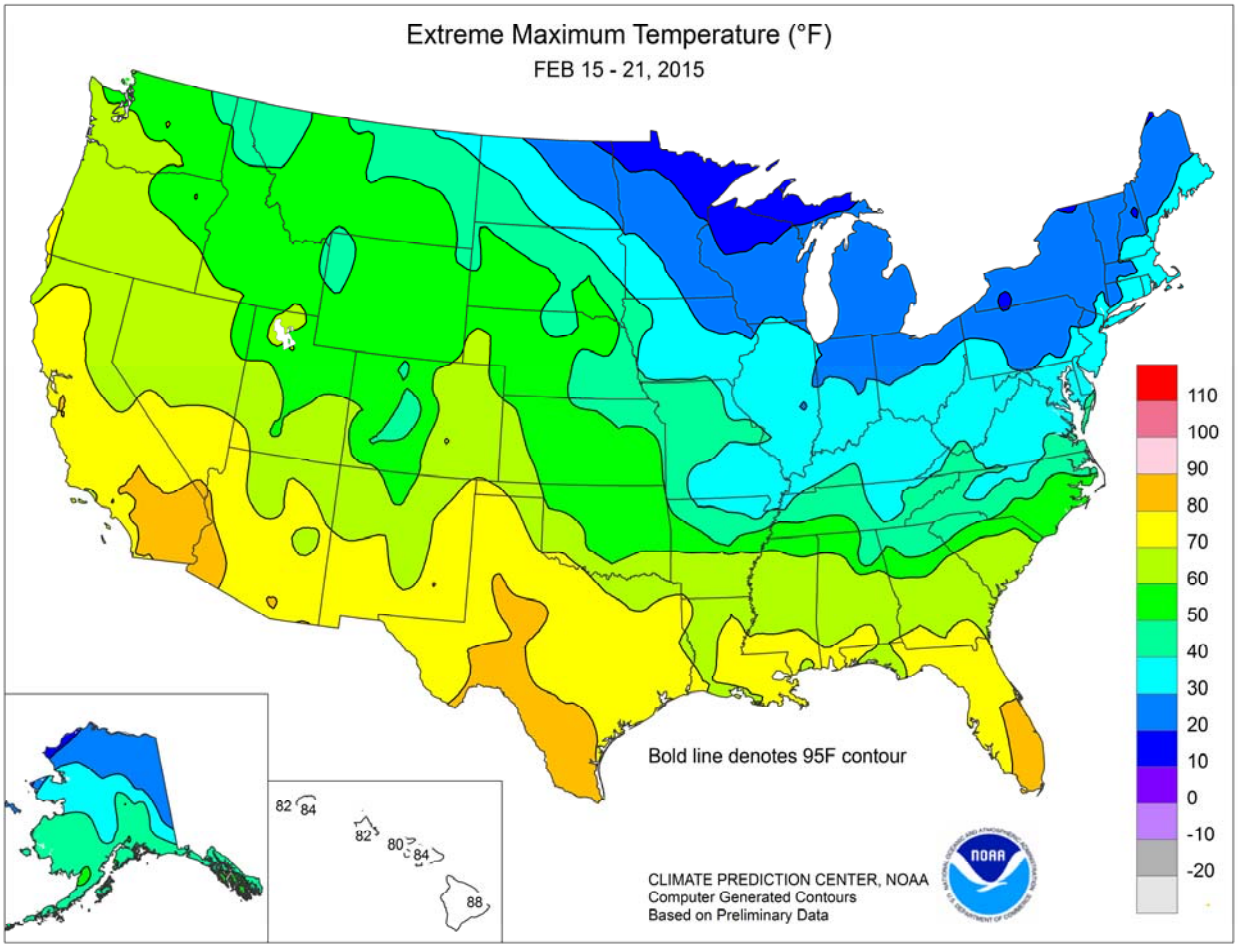
February 15 – 21, 2015

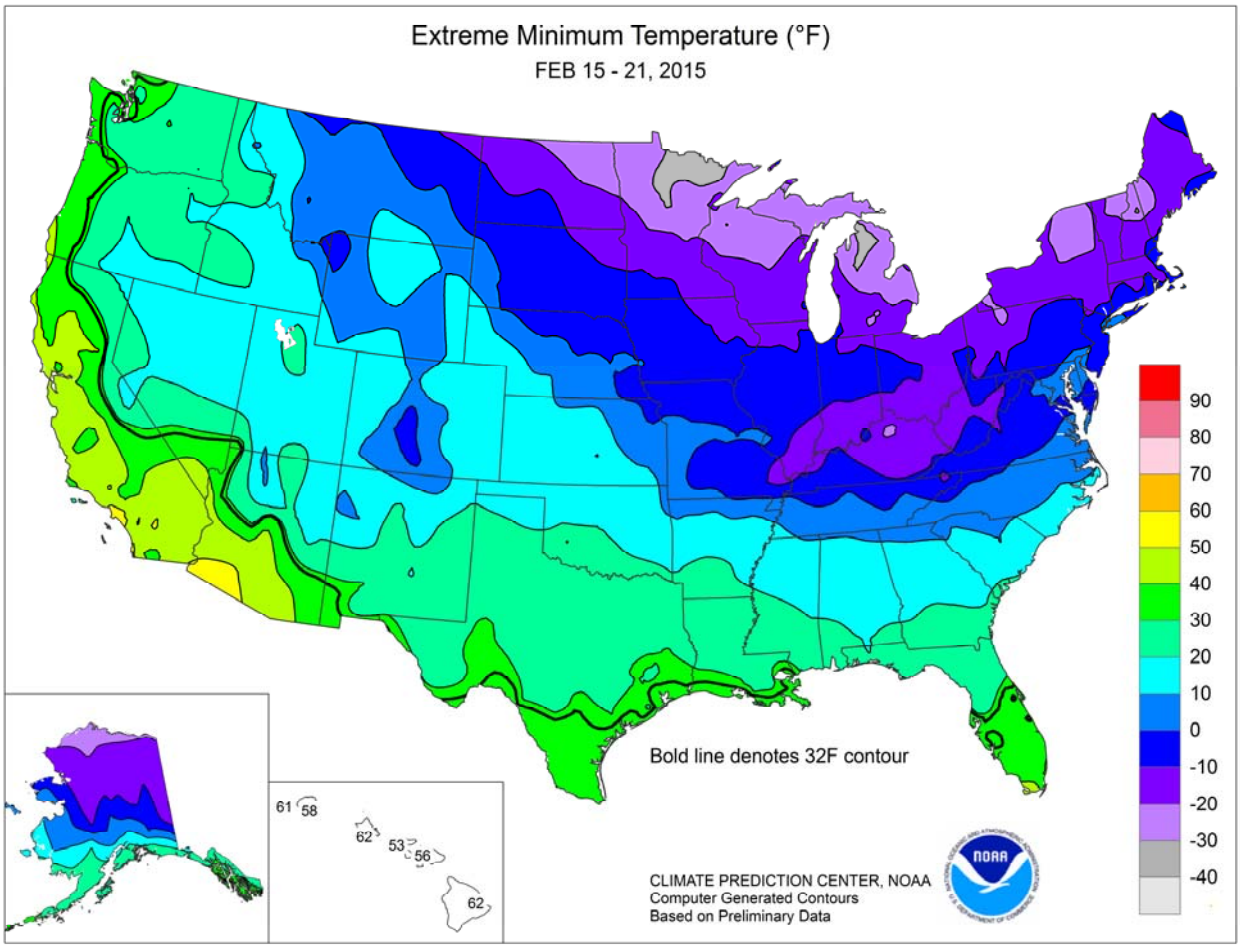
Highlights provided by USDA/WAOB

A pair of late-winter storms produced snow in the **Rockies** and a mix of snow, sleet, freezing rain, and rain in the **South**, **East**, and **lower Midwest**. Significant snow fell early in the week from the **mid-South to the southern Mid-Atlantic States**, causing travel disruptions but providing insulation for soft red winter wheat. However, early-week snow coverage was thin and patchy in a few areas, including **central sections of Illinois and Indiana**. Later, the second storm deposited additional heavy snow from the **Ohio Valley into the Mid-Atlantic States**, while

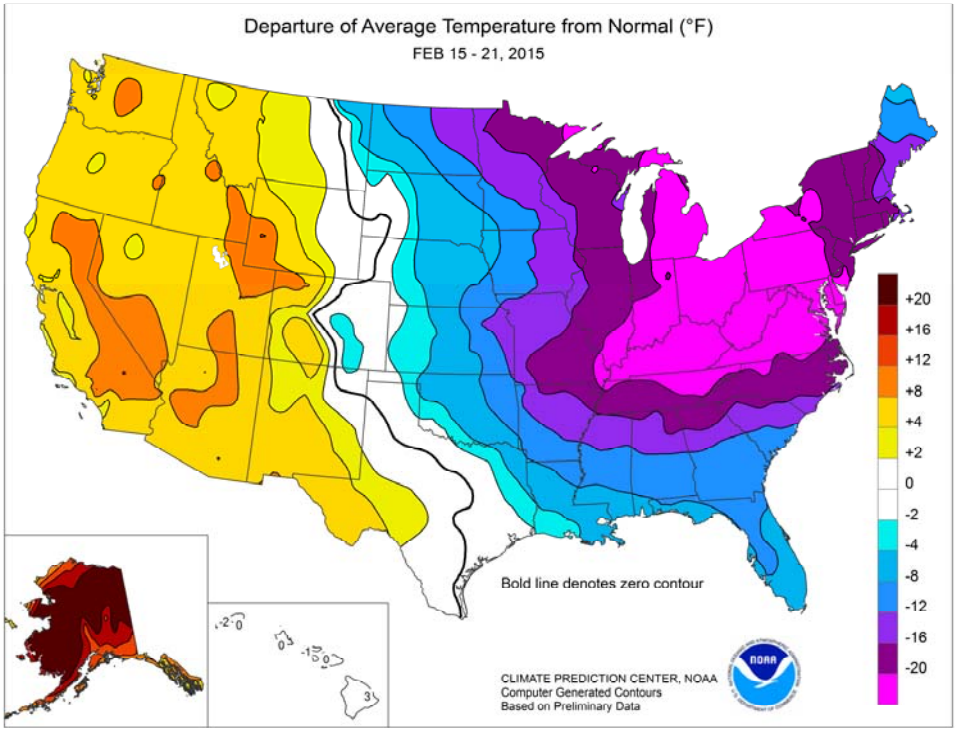
(Continued on page 3)

Contents


Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F)
FEB 15 - 21, 2015
110
100
90
80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
-10
-20
82
84
82
80
84
88
Bold line denotes 95F contour
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA
Computer Generated Contours
Based on Preliminary Data
NOAA


Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)
FEB 15 - 21, 2015
90
80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
-10
-20
-30
-40
61
58
62
53
56
62
Bold line denotes 32F contour
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA
Computer Generated Contours
Based on Preliminary Data
NOAA

(Continued from front cover)



rain or mixed precipitation fell farther south. Conversely, little or no precipitation fell **west of the Rockies** and from the **northern Plains into the Great Lakes region**. By week's end, the average water content of the high-elevation **Sierra Nevada** snowpack stood at 5 inches, just one-fifth of the late-February normal. In addition, persistent **Western** warmth boosted weekly temperatures at least 10°F above normal in several locations. In stark contrast, a severe cold wave gripped areas from the **Mississippi Valley to the East Coast**. As a result, temperatures averaged at least 20°F below normal in the **Ohio Valley** and were more than 10°F below normal in most areas from the **Mississippi Valley eastward**. The coldest air of the season reached into **Florida's** winter agricultural areas, with light freezes noted as far south as **Lake Okeechobee**. The cold weather necessitated freeze protection for several crops, including strawberries, blueberries, and vegetables. The **Plains** largely escaped the cold wave, with sub-zero temperatures primarily confined to the **Dakotas** and parts of **Montana** and **Nebraska**. Nevertheless, snow cover was patchy or shallow in hard red winter wheat areas from **central Montana to eastern Nebraska**, raising concerns for the health of a crop that may have lost some winter hardiness during recent periods of warmth.

On February 15, the latest round of wind-driven snow struck **coastal New England**. **Boston, MA**, received 13.0 inches of snow, boosting its 23-day (January 24 – February 15) total to 90.2 inches. It was the fourth time in 3 weeks—along with January 27, February 2, and February 9—that **Boston's** daily snowfall topped a foot. **Boston's** peak wind gust on February 15 reached 51 mph, while **Nantucket, MA**, clocked a gust to 65 mph. A day later, heavy snow spread from the **mid-South into the Mid-Atlantic States**. In **Kentucky**, record-setting totals for February 16 included 11.8 inches in **Jackson**, 10.8 inches in **Paducah**, and 10.2 inches in **Lexington**. It was the third-snowiest day on record in **Paducah**, behind 14.0 inches on December 22, 2004, and 11.0 inches on January 16, 1978. Other daily-record totals for February 16 reached 6.3 inches in **Cincinnati, OH**; 5.7 inches in **Evansville, IN**; and 4.8 inches in **Springfield, MO**. Snow also fell in portions of the **Rockies** and environs on February 16, when record-breaking totals in **Wyoming** included 3.3 inches in **Casper** and 2.9 inches in **Lander**. Meanwhile, rain across the **South** led to daily-record amounts in locations such as **Monroe, LA** (1.29 inches on February 16), and **Gainesville, FL** (1.08 inches on February 17). A weaker storm crossed the **Ohio Valley** at mid-week, but still produced daily-record snowfall totals in **Jackson, KY**, and **Cincinnati, OH**—4.5 inches in both locations. By February 20-21, another significant, late-winter storm affected the **Ohio Valley** and surrounding regions, although precipitation types other than snow were more prevalent across the **mid-South**. During the 2-day event, **Peoria, IL**, received 11.8 inches of snow, including a daily-record amount (8.9 inches) on February 20. Record-setting totals for February 21 reached 8.9 inches at **Dulles Airport in Virginia**; 5.9 inches in **Cincinnati, OH**; and 5.0 inches in **Wilmington, DE**. **Cincinnati's** weekly snowfall total climbed to 16.7 inches. Snow also returned to the **Rockies** and neighboring areas, where daily snowfall records for February 21 included 7.4 inches in **Lander, WY**, and 2.1 inches in **Pocatello, ID**. Meanwhile, heavy precipitation across the **South** led to record-setting totals for the 21st in **Jackson, TN** (3.13 inches), and **London, KY** (2.94 inches).

In the **Southwest**, persistent warmth led to daily-record highs in **Bishop, CA**, on February 15-16 and 18-20. **Bishop's** warm spell peaked with a high of 80°F on February 16. Other **Western** daily-record highs included 82°F (on February 16) in **Lancaster, CA**; 79°F (on February 15) in **Las Vegas, NV**; 66°F (on February 16) in **Salem, OR**; 65°F (on February 19) in **Eureka, NV**; and 62°F (on February 17) in **Olympia, WA**. **Ely, NV**, posted consecutive daily-record highs (66 and 65°F, respectively) on February 18-19. Farther east, however, sustained cold weather led to several impressive records. In **Virginia**, **Dulles Airport** reported seven consecutive sub-10°F lows from February 15-21, the longest such February streak in that location on record and the longest in any month since December 1989. From February 16-20, **Cape Girardeau, MO**, logged five consecutive daily-record lows (-2, -11, -7, -14, and 11°F)—and achieved a monthly record (previously, -8°F on February 2, 1965; February 3, 1985; and February 4, 1996). On February 20, monthly record lows were also established in **Ohio** locations such as **Toledo** (-19°F) and **Cleveland** (-17°F). **Paducah, KY** (-10°F on February 19), and **Pittsburgh, PA** (-10°F on February 20), reported their latest observance of a reading of -10°F or lower. Previously, records had been -14°F on February 2, 1951, in **Paducah**, and -10°F on February 17, 1979, in **Pittsburgh**. A few locations, including **Erie, PA** (-18°F on February 16), and **Lynchburg, VA** (-11°F on February 20), set or tied all-time record lows. **Erie** tied a record originally set on January 19, 1994, while **Lynchburg** edged by 1°F a record set on January 21, 1985, and February 5, 1996. **Cincinnati, OH**, reported three sub-zero readings from February 17-20—including a low of -12°F on the 20th—setting a daily-record each time. **Gaylord, MI**, opened the week with consecutive daily-record lows (-24 and -22°F, respectively) on February 15-16. Elsewhere on the 16th, daily-record lows dipped to -36°F in **Watertown, NY**, and -27°F in **Alpena, MI**. Even colder air arrived in Michigan by February 20, when lows plunged to -31°F in **Gaylord**, -29°F in **Alpena**, -25°F in **Flint**, and -22°F in **Traverse City**. Other daily-record lows on the 20th dipped to -21°F in **Frankfort, KY**; -16°F in **Huntington, WV**; and 30°F in **Vero Beach, FL**. By February 21, lingering cold in the **Northeast** led to a daily-record low of -17°F in **Concord, NH**.

Uncommonly warm weather returned to the **Alaskan mainland**, with weekly temperatures averaging at least 20°F above normal in most locations. Early-week warmth was most prominent across **southern Alaska**, where **Sitka** posted consecutive daily-record highs (56 and 54°F, respectively) on February 16-17. Later, on February 21, highs surged to daily-record levels in locations such as **King Salmon** (53°F), **McGrath** (41°F), and **Nome** (40°F). Significant precipitation was confined to **southern Alaska**, where **Kodiak's** weekly rainfall of 4.93 inches was aided by a daily-record total of 2.32 inches on February 20. Farther south, mostly dry weather prevailed in **Hawaii** until the second half of the week, when showers spread across the islands and briefly became heavy in windward sections of the **Big Island**. **Hilo** received 4.20 inches of rain on February 21, boosting its month-to-date sum to 4.28 inches (61 percent of normal). Earlier, on February 19, daily-record highs had included 84°F in **Lihue, Kauai**, and 88°F in **Hilo**.

National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending February 21, 2015

Data Provided by Climate Prediction Center

STATES AND STATIONS		TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS			
																	TEMP. °F		PRECIP	
		AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL, IN., SINCE 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	44	24	62	13	34	-13	2.20	1.22	1.45	14.08	109	6.93	82	77	28	0	6	3	2
	HUNTSVILLE	38	21	58	11	30	-15	2.47	1.27	1.35	12.72	87	6.99	78	68	48	0	6	3	2
	MOBILE	57	35	70	25	46	-8	0.31	-0.90	0.19	10.43	74	5.16	55	85	52	0	4	2	0
	MONTGOMERY	52	30	67	20	41	-10	0.55	-0.81	0.55	9.60	69	4.71	53	71	30	0	4	1	1
AK	ANCHORAGE	38	28	44	21	33	14	0.39	0.20	0.37	1.56	70	0.88	75	80	67	0	5	2	0
	BARROW	2	-9	21	-26	-3	13	0.05	0.02	0.04	0.59	184	0.39	195	87	76	0	7	2	0
	FAIRBANKS	26	1	37	-13	14	17	0.00	-0.08	0.00	1.08	70	0.15	19	81	75	0	7	0	0
	JUNEAU	42	34	44	29	38	9	0.86	-0.13	0.46	17.86	135	14.57	187	97	91	0	2	6	0
	KODIAK	43	33	45	24	38	8	4.92	3.54	2.25	31.88	157	18.09	143	95	83	0	4	5	3
	NOME	32	21	40	10	26	20	0.63	0.46	0.25	1.88	76	1.34	91	94	85	0	7	4	0
AZ	FLAGSTAFF	60	24	64	19	42	10	0.00	-0.64	0.00	5.63	97	2.19	55	69	15	0	7	0	0
	PHOENIX	79	55	80	50	67	8	0.00	-0.18	0.00	1.72	78	0.81	63	51	32	0	0	0	0
	PRESCOTT	67	33	72	27	50	10	0.00	-0.46	0.00	4.08	99	2.15	75	56	13	0	3	0	0
	TUCSON	75	51	81	45	63	8	0.10	-0.11	0.10	4.83	184	2.66	167	66	37	0	0	1	0
AR	FORT SMITH	42	23	57	17	33	-11	1.08	0.45	0.50	6.27	84	3.96	97	79	45	0	7	4	2
	LITTLE ROCK	39	24	60	19	32	-13	2.39	1.58	1.36	9.07	85	5.91	99	83	48	0	6	5	2
CA	BAKERSFIELD	72	48	80	44	60	6	0.00	-0.29	0.00	2.78	100	0.76	38	86	69	0	0	0	0
	FRESNO	67	48	76	45	58	6	0.01	-0.51	0.01	2.98	59	0.69	19	94	79	0	0	1	0
	LOS ANGELES	66	56	74	53	61	3	0.00	-0.77	0.00	5.29	75	1.25	24	91	69	0	0	0	0
	REDDING	74	46	79	39	60	11	0.00	-1.33	0.00	14.03	91	3.64	34	74	59	0	0	0	0
	SACRAMENTO	66	47	73	43	56	4	0.00	-0.87	0.00	11.42	127	2.82	43	97	63	0	0	0	0
	SAN DIEGO	68	59	76	57	63	4	0.00	-0.50	0.00	4.92	97	0.42	11	72	57	0	0	0	0
	SAN FRANCISCO	66	52	75	49	59	6	0.00	-0.98	0.00	12.69	122	2.03	27	98	80	0	0	0	0
	STOCKTON	65	44	73	39	55	4	0.02	-0.57	0.01	7.56	119	1.47	32	97	85	0	0	2	0
CO	ALAMOSA	48	8	58	-3	28	5	0.06	0.03	0.06	0.67	100	0.46	135	82	38	0	7	1	0
	CO SPRINGS	43	20	65	11	32	0	0.56	0.49	0.31	1.99	234	1.83	426	87	43	0	7	3	0
	DENVER INTL	42	21	63	14	32	1	0.62	0.58	0.37	1.78	307	1.20	444	89	57	0	7	4	0
	GRAND JUNCTION	53	23	60	15	38	3	0.00	-0.11	0.00	1.78	128	0.73	84	66	37	0	7	0	0
	PUEBLO	48	22	71	16	35	0	0.19	0.15	0.12	0.88	107	0.64	149	88	65	0	7	3	0
CT	BRIDGEPORT	25	4	31	-2	14	-18	0.75	0.06	0.69	11.75	126	6.10	104	68	50	0	7	3	1
	HARTFORD	24	-3	32	-9	11	-18	0.68	-0.01	0.64	10.45	109	5.90	98	69	42	0	7	2	1
DC	WASHINGTON	26	11	35	5	19	-19	1.25	0.62	0.73	8.73	108	5.23	103	64	33	0	7	3	1
DE	WILMINGTON	23	5	33	2	14	-20	0.97	0.30	0.70	9.42	107	6.41	118	74	39	0	7	4	1
FL	DAYTONA BEACH	72	41	106	31	57	-3	1.13	0.48	0.86	7.51	96	4.68	92	93	39	1	2	2	1
	JACKSONVILLE	60	35	74	24	47	-9	0.62	-0.12	0.62	9.18	106	5.44	90	92	36	0	3	1	1
	KEY WEST	71	59	77	49	65	-6	1.15	0.80	0.83	5.43	99	3.18	94	84	59	0	0	2	1
	MIAMI	73	53	83	42	63	-6	0.67	0.15	0.67	3.61	65	2.29	67	78	40	0	0	1	1
	ORLANDO	68	45	80	33	57	-6	1.14	0.58	0.63	8.59	135	7.00	173	79	48	0	0	2	2
	PENSACOLA	60	39	71	27	50	-5	0.40	-0.72	0.23	11.82	93	8.32	96	80	44	0	4	2	0
	TALLAHASSEE	62	35	71	22	48	-7	0.40	-0.71	0.40	16.08	126	7.30	84	80	43	0	3	1	0
	TAMPA	66	46	74	34	56	-7	1.43	0.76	1.27	7.57	117	6.00	145	79	41	0	0	2	1
	WEST PALM BEACH	72	50	83	38	61	-6	0.11	-0.46	0.11	4.49	50	2.73	47	73	44	0	0	1	0
GA	ATHENS	40	23	51	14	32	-14	1.19	0.11	1.01	10.05	87	5.36	68	66	39	0	7	3	1
	ATLANTA	41	24	56	15	32	-15	1.36	0.22	1.24	12.50	102	6.99	83	59	39	0	5	3	1
	AUGUSTA	49	25	68	13	37	-11	0.58	-0.42	0.52	7.44	70	3.23	43	62	39	0	6	2	1
	COLUMBUS	51	29	66	21	40	-10	0.67	-0.42	0.57	9.68	78	5.06	63	68	26	0	5	2	1
	MACON	51	26	65	18	39	-10	0.68	-0.42	0.43	9.75	79	3.86	46	76	36	0	6	2	0
	SAVANNAH	54	32	68	21	43	-10	0.21	-0.48	0.21	9.39	104	5.37	87	65	46	0	3	1	0
HI	HILO	82	66	88	62	74	3	0.61	-1.51	0.61	9.51	36	3.41	21	81	66	0	0	1	1
	HONOLULU	80	66	82	62	73	0	0.23	-0.35	0.18	2.83	39	1.76	39	83	71	0	0	4	0
	KAHULUI	81	63	84	56	72	0	0.75	0.21	0.71	6.61	76	2.38	42	88	76	0	0	2	1
	LIHUE	80	64	84	58	72	0	0.05	-0.72	0.05	3.29	28	1.89	27	80	65	0	0	1	0
ID	BOISE	53	31	59	27	42	5	0.00	-0.28	0.00	5.30	147	1.96	88	78	60	0	5	0	0
	LEWISTON	51	33	54	28	42	3	0.12	-0.10	0.06	3.86	134	2.02	110	88	74	0	4	3	0
	POCATELLO	49	24	57	13	36	6	0.16	-0.08	0.16	1.90	65	1.13	62	84	59	0	7	1	0
IL	CHICAGO/O'HARE	16	1	32	-8	9	-18	0.04	-0.35	0.03	3.24	61	2.45	84	71	55	0	7	2	0
	MOLINE	20	6	32	-3	13	-14	0.00	-0.36	0.00	6.90	144	6.18	239	69	53	0	7	0	0
	PEORIA	21	8	32	-2	15	-14	0.00	-0.41	0.00	4.69	94	3.46	134	70	49	0	7	0	0
	ROCKFORD	16	1	30	-10	8	-17	0.01	-0.30	0.01	2.57	59	1.64	70	74	55	0	7	1	0
	SPRINGFIELD	24	7	38	-2	16	-15	0.83	0.39	0.51	4.66	88	2.71	98	82	49	0	7	5	1
IN	EVANSVILLE	25	5	35	-7	15	-21	2.38	1.62	0.98	9.45	110	6.02	119	75	56	0	7	5	1
	FORT WAYNE	15	1	29	-5	8	-20	0.21	-0.26	0.21	5.34	86	3.62	106	79	59	0	7	1	0
	INDIANAPOLIS	20	2	35	-6	11	-21	0.71	0.12	0.44	5.44	76	2.89	70	79	55	0	7	5	0
	SOUTH BEND	16	1	30	-12	8	-20	0.34	-0.13	0.25	8.88	131	7.41	201	74	59	0	7	4	0
IA	BURLINGTON	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	2.71	65	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
	CEDAR RAPIDS	18	2	31	-11	10	-15	0.00	-0.25	0.00	1.73	53	1.08	60	84	57	0	7	0	0
	DES MOINES	23	8	39	-3	16	-11	0.01	-0.27	0.01	2.80	88	1.76	96	64	50	0	7	1	0
	DUBUQUE	16	-1	29	-11	7	-17	0.01	-0.33	0.01	2.31	59	1.38	62	77	58	0	7	1	0
	SIOUX CITY	29	9	49	-5	19	-7	0.00	-0.13	0.00	2.17	139	0.77	86	71	56	0	7	0	0
	WATERLOO	17	2	29	-9	10	-13	0.01	-0.24	0.01	2.90	110	1.26	82	76	58	0	7	1	0
KS	CONCORDIA	33	16	50	11	24	-9	0.10	-0.06	0.05	2.17	119	1.43	147	78	61	0	7	2	0
	DODGE CITY	47	20	57	15	33	-3	0.31	0.16	0.21	2.00	116	1.00	105	77	39	0	7	3	0
	GOODLAND	44	19	63	14	32	-1	0.57	0.48	0.44	2.31	224	0.85	135	87	63	0	7	3	0
	TOPEKA	30	12	49	1	21	-13	0.39	0.11	0.12	4.17	136	1.90	115	83	57	0	7	5	0

Based on 1971-2000 normals

***** Not Available**

Weather Data for the Week Ending February 21, 2015

STATES AND STATIONS		TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS TEMP. °F		NUMBER OF DAYS PRECIP	
		AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL, IN., SINCE 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	42	19	56	12	31	-6	0.17	-0.07	0.09	2.61	97	1.32	99	74	48	0	7	3	0
KY	JACKSON	23	5	38	-7	14	-24	3.22	2.30	1.66	8.62	83	6.13	100	82	46	0	7	3	2
	LEXINGTON	22	1	36	-18	12	-24	2.34	1.53	1.16	8.15	85	4.85	87	85	63	0	7	4	2
	LOUISVILLE	24	5	38	-6	15	-23	1.75	0.95	0.93	6.67	72	3.10	56	85	55	0	7	5	2
	PADUCAH	27	6	35	-10	17	-21	3.84	2.85	1.95	10.18	95	7.29	115	85	53	0	7	4	3
LA	BATON ROUGE	62	38	73	28	50	-4	0.93	-0.30	0.93	13.75	89	8.08	80	90	48	0	3	1	1
	LAKE CHARLES	62	42	70	32	52	-2	0.86	0.12	0.77	10.17	80	8.14	100	92	61	0	1	2	1
	NEW ORLEANS	62	42	75	30	52	-4	0.43	-0.91	0.33	11.17	73	7.21	71	81	59	0	1	3	0
	SHREVEPORT	56	35	71	29	46	-6	2.14	1.10	1.06	13.72	111	9.97	128	82	49	0	4	4	2
ME	CARIBOU	16	-1	23	-7	7	-6	1.05	0.57	0.43	10.07	131	4.19	93	77	53	0	7	5	0
	PORTLAND	26	3	34	-3	14	-11	0.47	-0.27	0.30	13.29	125	7.02	109	72	41	0	7	3	0
MD	BALTIMORE	23	5	33	1	14	-21	1.34	0.61	0.96	9.53	107	5.95	106	66	44	0	7	3	1
MA	BOSTON	25	6	34	-3	15	-17	0.70	-0.10	0.39	13.34	132	6.78	106	77	46	0	7	5	0
	WORCESTER	20	0	29	-9	10	-16	0.42	-0.31	0.34	11.93	119	7.03	113	77	42	0	7	2	0
MI	ALPENA	11	-13	25	-29	-1	-20	0.02	-0.29	0.02	3.24	72	1.55	57	80	46	0	7	1	0
	GRAND RAPIDS	14	-2	26	-13	6	-19	0.13	-0.23	0.07	4.23	72	2.66	84	75	49	0	7	2	0
	HOUGHTON LAKE	10	-14	24	-29	-2	-22	0.07	-0.21	0.04	2.92	69	1.49	60	75	52	0	7	3	0
	LANSING	13	-6	28	-16	4	-20	0.02	-0.32	0.01	3.53	73	1.97	74	74	62	0	7	2	0
	MUSKEGON	15	1	27	-9	8	-17	0.38	0.02	0.19	4.61	76	2.89	85	72	56	0	7	3	0
	TRAVERSE CITY	12	-7	24	-22	3	-19	0.01	-0.40	0.01	3.98	56	2.16	48	79	53	0	7	1	0
MN	DULUTH	8	-8	18	-19	0	-15	0.09	-0.08	0.07	2.08	78	0.82	48	72	61	0	7	2	0
	INT'L FALLS	6	-16	18	-36	-5	-17	0.15	0.01	0.12	2.74	136	1.89	143	80	54	0	7	3	0
	MINNEAPOLIS	14	-1	25	-11	6	-15	0.10	-0.07	0.08	1.53	60	0.67	43	72	59	0	7	3	0
	ROCHESTER	13	-3	24	-16	5	-14	0.03	-0.14	0.02	2.20	89	1.18	81	78	68	0	7	2	0
	ST. CLOUD	12	-5	23	-16	4	-13	0.09	-0.02	0.07	1.34	73	0.59	51	78	54	0	7	2	0
MS	JACKSON	53	31	67	23	42	-7	2.27	1.19	1.25	11.49	80	7.56	83	81	39	0	5	3	2
	MERIDIAN	52	30	67	19	41	-9	1.58	0.28	0.94	17.36	115	8.68	89	73	49	0	5	2	2
	TUPELO	38	23	60	13	31	-14	3.52	2.37	2.45	13.25	91	8.17	97	74	53	0	6	3	2
MO	COLUMBIA	27	13	41	1	20	-14	0.47	-0.08	0.17	4.56	80	2.38	74	82	54	0	7	5	0
	KANSAS CITY	27	13	47	3	20	-13	0.48	0.17	0.18	3.90	109	2.07	106	86	54	0	7	6	0
	SAINT LOUIS	27	11	41	1	19	-17	0.65	0.10	0.25	5.31	81	2.59	71	71	53	0	7	6	0
	SPRINGFIELD	28	11	37	-5	20	-17	1.06	0.51	0.40	3.99	58	2.22	60	82	60	0	7	5	0
MT	BILLINGS	43	25	60	12	34	4	0.08	-0.03	0.04	1.95	106	1.28	109	84	44	0	5	3	0
	BUTTE	39	17	50	-2	28	5	0.04	-0.06	0.02	0.84	63	0.28	35	87	35	0	7	2	0
	CUT BANK	39	18	52	0	29	5	0.02	-0.04	0.02	1.03	116	0.71	127	91	50	0	7	1	0
	GLASGOW	32	11	44	0	22	2	0.04	-0.02	0.03	1.22	137	1.11	213	81	63	0	7	2	0
	GREAT FALLS	41	21	53	1	31	4	0.22	0.11	0.07	2.45	148	1.35	138	92	48	0	6	5	0
	HAVRE	39	20	51	4	30	7	0.00	-0.07	0.00	1.95	167	1.61	244	80	67	0	7	0	0
	MISSOULA	45	25	50	19	35	6	0.21	0.04	0.15	3.44	126	2.18	138	85	69	0	7	3	0
NE	GRAND ISLAND	31	11	46	2	21	-8	0.13	-0.02	0.13	1.57	103	0.81	93	77	64	0	7	1	0
	LINCOLN	30	10	43	0	20	-9	0.02	-0.12	0.01	2.37	129	1.15	117	73	57	0	7	2	0
	NORFOLK	30	10	53	-1	20	-7	0.01	-0.16	0.01	1.88	115	0.68	69	76	57	0	7	1	0
	NORTH PLATTE	38	15	54	7	26	-4	0.01	-0.11	0.01	1.72	164	0.68	105	84	41	0	7	1	0
	OMAHA	27	11	41	1	19	-10	0.01	-0.17	0.01	2.91	136	1.23	101	71	50	0	7	1	0
	SCOTTSBLUFF	42	23	62	19	32	1	0.10	-0.03	0.05	2.30	159	0.83	93	87	64	0	7	3	0
	VALENTINE	35	12	50	-7	23	-4	0.15	0.04	0.13	1.46	166	0.56	102	83	59	0	7	2	0
NV	ELY	57	17	66	11	37	7	0.00	-0.17	0.00	1.04	61	0.31	26	66	29	0	7	0	0
	LAS VEGAS	73	50	79	47	62	10	0.00	-0.17	0.00	1.17	81	0.87	83	30	19	0	0	0	0
	RENO	64	32	70	29	48	9	0.00	-0.25	0.00	2.20	82	1.27	71	71	44	0	3	0	0
	WINNEMUCCA	57	20	65	17	39	2	0.00	-0.14	0.00	2.10	102	0.94	75	81	49	0	7	0	0
NH	CONCORD	26	-3	35	-17	12	-12	0.78	0.23	0.38	11.29	147	6.13	130	75	37	0	7	5	0
NJ	NEWARK	26	6	32	1	16	-18	0.71	0.02	0.60	11.32	116	6.41	104	64	44	0	7	3	1
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	63	30	69	24	47	5	0.00	-0.10	0.00	1.84	148	0.70	93	56	17	0	5	0	0
NY	ALBANY	19	-5	27	-10	7	-18	0.27	-0.25	0.15	9.68	144	4.31	106	73	42	0	7	4	0
	BINGHAMTON	13	-5	22	-10	4	-20	0.27	-0.34	0.16	12.80	172	9.50	216	81	56	0	7	5	0
	BUFFALO	11	-5	24	-10	3	-23	0.27	-0.31	0.17	7.01	80	4.86	98	77	55	0	7	3	0
	ROCHESTER	14	-6	23	-11	4	-21	0.33	-0.17	0.16	5.71	87	3.40	89	74	56	0	7	5	0
	SYRACUSE	13	-11	24	-17	1	-24	0.32	-0.18	0.08	6.75	93	3.73	90	97	62	0	7	5	0
NC	ASHEVILLE	30	13	40	3	22	-17	1.07	0.13	0.89	7.53	74	5.13	75	61	44	0	7	2	1
	CHARLOTTE	35	18	43	7	26	-19	0.66	-0.20	0.55	7.83	80	5.26	80	63	33	0	7	2	1
	GREENSBORO	30	14	39	6	22	-19	0.48	-0.27	0.44	5.70	64	3.49	60	67	33	0	7	3	0
	HATTERAS	44	21	59	12	32	-15	1.01	0.10	0.77	11.37	85	8.92	101	78	47	0	7	3	1
	RALEIGH	31	15	40	7	23	-20	0.66	-0.17	0.31	9.93	104	4.97	76	56	38	0	7	3	0
	WILMINGTON	48	21	60	13	35	-14	0.95	0.07	0.72	12.09	110	7.11	98	79	39	0	7	3	1
ND	BISMARCK	23	2	36	-6	12	-7	0.03	-0.08	0.01	1.20	98	1.09	140	81	63	0	7	3	0
	DICKINSON	29	4	46	-9	17	-5	0.00	-0.09	0.00	0.64	63	0.57	84	82	56	0	7	0	0
	FARGO	12	-7	27	-19	3	-12	0.09	-0.04	0.06	1.10	65	0.85	75	78	65	0	7	3	0
	GRAND FORKS	10	-11	24	-28	-1	-15	0.13	-0.01	0.08	1.02	62	0.80	73	83	62	0	7	3	0
	JAMESTOWN	16	-5	30	-16	5	-12	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.40	29	0.37	39	82	65	0	7	0	0
	WILLISTON	26	2	38	-11	14	-4	0.08	0.00	0.05	0.91	67	0.88	111	77	64	0	7	3	0
OH	AKRON-CANTON	14	-3	29	-10	5	-23	0.53	-0.03	0.42	7.70	109	5.39	132	77	59	0	7	2	0
	CINCINNATI	20	1	34	-12	10	-24	1.42	0.75	0.85	7.73	95	4.13	85	81	58	0	7	3	1
	CLEVELAND	14	-5	26	-17	5	-24	0.20	-0.35	0.16	7.11	98	5.16	125	82	52	0	7	4	0
	COLUMBUS	16	0	33	-8	8	-24	0.71	0.19	0.52	7.20	102	4.50	109	76	61	0	7	3	1
	DAYTON	18	1	30	-5	9	-22	0.65	0.10	0.49	6.99	95	4.20	99	77	58	0	7	3	0
	MANSFIELD	12	-3	28	-11	5	-23	0.41	-0.11	0.32	6.89	92	5.03	119	88	52	0	7	3	0

Based on 1971-2000 normals

***** Not Available**

Weather Data for the Week Ending February 21, 2015

STATES AND STATIONS		TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS TEMP. °F		NUMBER OF DAYS PRECIP	
		AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL, IN., SINCE 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	13	-7	24	-19	3	-24	0.20	-0.27	0.15	4.34	73	3.25	99	81	63	0	7	2	0
	YOUNGSTOWN	13	-6	28	-16	4	-24	0.42	-0.06	0.32	7.42	110	5.10	135	81	57	0	7	3	0
OK	OKLAHOMA CITY	48	27	59	21	38	-5	0.14	-0.25	0.12	2.68	66	1.98	91	79	40	0	5	2	0
	TULSA	42	23	54	15	33	-9	1.12	0.64	0.79	4.16	80	2.19	78	81	55	0	6	4	1
OR	ASTORIA	58	41	65	36	50	6	0.17	-1.77	0.11	25.38	97	14.81	94	88	69	0	0	2	0
	BURNS	53	24	62	22	38	7	0.00	-0.27	0.00	3.35	103	1.06	55	84	56	0	7	0	0
	EUGENE	59	37	65	32	48	5	0.00	-1.56	0.00	13.29	64	6.22	50	93	79	0	2	0	0
	MEDFORD	65	33	69	30	49	5	0.00	-0.51	0.00	6.24	90	3.93	97	91	48	0	3	0	0
	PENDLETON	53	32	56	27	43	4	0.01	-0.27	0.01	4.29	112	1.49	64	85	71	0	3	1	0
	PORTLAND	60	40	64	36	50	7	0.01	-1.01	0.01	12.67	91	6.62	80	88	68	0	0	1	0
	SALEM	62	40	66	36	51	8	0.00	-1.26	0.00	14.26	88	7.39	76	82	63	0	0	0	0
PA	ALLENTOWN	22	0	31	-3	11	-19	0.52	-0.13	0.44	8.09	91	4.44	80	68	45	0	7	2	0
	ERIE	13	-7	28	-18	3	-25	0.39	-0.16	0.27	8.41	107	5.96	144	76	57	0	7	2	0
	MIDDLETOWN	20	1	30	-1	11	-20	0.60	-0.12	0.46	6.89	84	3.63	73	78	40	0	7	4	0
	PHILADELPHIA	25	7	34	2	16	-19	1.06	0.42	0.80	9.91	113	6.64	121	59	42	0	7	3	1
	PITTSBURGH	16	-1	34	-10	7	-24	0.47	-0.10	0.41	6.09	84	3.46	79	86	51	0	7	3	0
	WILKES-BARRE	19	-1	29	-6	9	-20	0.24	-0.26	0.20	5.84	89	3.06	76	69	41	0	7	3	0
	WILLIAMSPORT	19	-1	26	-5	9	-20	0.17	-0.46	0.13	5.39	70	2.79	58	66	43	0	7	3	0
RI	PROVIDENCE	25	3	34	-5	14	-17	0.57	-0.26	0.39	12.21	110	5.96	86	72	48	0	7	4	0
SC	BEAUFORT	53	31	64	21	42	-9	0.28	-0.45	0.27	8.33	87	4.66	72	77	38	0	3	2	0
	CHARLESTON	53	28	65	18	41	-10	0.31	-0.41	0.31	8.22	86	4.82	76	74	34	0	6	1	0
	COLUMBIA	46	26	66	12	36	-12	0.75	-0.16	0.47	8.08	74	4.18	56	58	38	0	7	2	0
	GREENVILLE	37	20	44	9	29	-16	1.13	0.09	0.98	9.96	89	6.33	86	73	34	0	7	3	1
SD	ABERDEEN	22	1	39	-11	12	-7	0.03	-0.07	0.02	1.23	109	0.98	131	77	61	0	7	2	0
	HURON	26	4	50	-8	15	-7	0.01	-0.11	0.01	1.10	94	0.40	51	76	43	0	7	1	0
	RAPID CITY	40	15	55	0	28	0	0.20	0.09	0.12	0.80	78	0.38	61	86	52	0	7	3	0
	SIOUX FALLS	25	6	46	-4	15	-6	0.00	-0.10	0.00	2.27	176	0.94	122	73	59	0	7	0	0
TN	BRISTOL	26	8	43	-13	17	-21	1.54	0.70	0.79	7.67	82	4.64	78	85	43	0	7	4	2
	CHATTANOOGA	33	19	41	8	26	-18	2.39	1.22	1.33	10.83	79	6.43	72	64	44	0	7	4	2
	KNOXVILLE	28	13	40	3	21	-21	2.29	1.32	1.23	10.64	89	6.41	86	84	58	0	7	3	2
	MEMPHIS	37	21	58	13	29	-16	3.28	2.21	1.88	7.90	61	5.30	73	76	54	0	6	4	2
	NASHVILLE	30	14	46	5	22	-20	3.81	2.90	2.37	9.98	90	6.77	104	83	53	0	7	4	2
TX	ABILENE	64	36	80	25	50	1	0.00	-0.28	0.00	2.29	77	1.77	104	80	51	0	3	0	0
	AMARILLO	57	26	75	21	41	0	0.02	-0.10	0.02	1.76	113	1.63	172	90	41	0	7	1	0
	AUSTIN	67	40	78	25	54	-1	0.05	-0.45	0.05	7.75	136	5.64	174	85	66	0	3	1	0
	BEAUMONT	66	45	75	32	55	-1	0.44	-0.32	0.40	10.00	73	6.86	82	94	56	0	1	3	0
	BROWNSVILLE	72	53	80	39	63	0	0.09	-0.19	0.08	5.55	162	4.12	178	90	70	0	0	2	0
	CORPUS CHRISTI	72	49	80	32	60	0	0.08	-0.39	0.07	3.95	84	2.91	99	90	67	0	1	2	0
	DEL RIO	72	48	86	35	60	4	0.00	-0.25	0.00	1.23	62	0.98	80	77	59	0	0	0	0
	EL PASO	72	45	77	32	58	7	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.97	66	0.85	121	49	20	0	1	0	0
	FORT WORTH	63	37	73	28	50	0	0.29	-0.32	0.24	5.16	86	4.03	118	83	52	0	4	2	0
	GALVESTON	64	50	71	38	57	-1	0.22	-0.37	0.09	9.97	103	6.10	99	94	69	0	0	3	0
	HOUSTON	66	44	75	33	55	-1	0.18	-0.54	0.15	9.29	97	3.69	62	92	71	0	0	3	0
	LUBBOCK	64	29	81	25	47	3	0.02	-0.15	0.02	2.02	123	1.63	168	83	42	0	5	1	0
	MIDLAND	66	37	79	31	51	2	0.00	-0.14	0.00	2.65	171	2.43	270	76	46	0	3	0	0
	SAN ANGELO	68	41	80	27	55	5	0.11	-0.19	0.08	2.50	98	2.14	132	77	55	0	3	3	0
	SAN ANTONIO	69	47	79	32	58	3	0.10	-0.34	0.08	5.31	109	4.07	140	82	47	0	1	2	0
	VICTORIA	69	45	78	30	57	0	0.11	-0.39	0.09	6.00	93	3.79	96	93	73	0	1	2	0
	WACO	65	38	73	26	51	0	0.42	-0.21	0.42	4.44	70	3.90	110	86	70	0	3	1	0
	WICHITA FALLS	58	31	75	25	44	-2	0.09	-0.31	0.06	3.21	84	2.26	107	85	58	0	5	2	0
UT	SALT LAKE CITY	53	31	61	26	42	7	0.03	-0.28	0.03	2.46	70	1.06	46	75	35	0	5	1	0
VT	BURLINGTON	16	-6	25	-16	5	-15	0.23	-0.16	0.12	6.86	120	3.01	86	73	42	0	7	3	0
VA	LYNCHBURG	25	4	34	-11	14	-24	1.82	1.07	0.82	7.05	78	3.93	68	73	39	0	7	4	2
	NORFOLK	31	16	48	9	24	-18	0.40	-0.40	0.19	8.42	90	4.72	74	67	33	0	7	3	0
	RICHMOND	28	10	39	4	19	-21	1.70	0.98	1.01	9.39	107	6.25	110	55	37	0	7	3	2
	ROANOKE	24	8	34	0	16	-23	2.05	1.30	1.04	6.17	74	3.63	66	66	45	0	7	5	2
	WASH/DULLES	23	5	33	0	14	-21	1.32	0.65	0.93	8.18	101	4.92	97	62	41	0	7	3	1
WA	OLYMPIA	56	33	62	26	45	4	0.09	-1.42	0.09	17.38	86	11.38	92	93	78	0	4	1	0
	QUILLAYUTE	57	39	65	32	48	6	0.37	-2.72	0.33	32.99	88	18.78	82	90	68	0	1	3	0
	SEATTLE-TACOMA	55	42	61	39	49	6	0.21	-0.81	0.18	12.47	89	7.68	92	89	69	0	0	2	0
	SPOKANE	47	27	50	25	37	4	0.00	-0.36	0.00	4.92	95	2.95	101	93	57	0	7	0	0
	YAKIMA	58	29	62	25	44	8	0.00	-0.19	0.00	2.10	67	1.18	67	81	54	0	7	0	0
WV	BECKLEY	19	2	38	-9	11	-23	3.18	2.46	2.11	9.50	113	6.51	122	77	60	0	7	5	2
	CHARLESTON	21	4	39	-11	13	-24	2.14	1.36	1.34	7.99	90	5.14	93	80	50	0	7	3	2
	ELKINS	18	-4	35	-12	7	-25	1.40	0.62	0.94	9.24	101	5.63	99	89	54	0	7	6	1
	HUNTINGTON	20	3	37	-16	11	-26	3.63	2.87	1.29	9.83	112	6.52	121	83	52	0	7	7	3
WI	EAU CLAIRE	11	-5	20	-16	3	-16	0.00	-0.17	0.00	1.13	43	0.45	28	77	50	0	7	0	0
	GREEN BAY	13	-3	28	-13	5	-16	0.10	-0.12	0.07	2.59	78	0.91	48	78	56	0	7	2	0
	LA CROSSE	16	-1	29	-12	8	-15	0.03	-0.19	0.03	2.26	72	1.16	60	73	49	0	7	1	0
	MADISON	15	0	30	-11	8	-15	0.00	-0.30	0.00	2.37	62	1.34	62	72	54	0	7	0	0
	MILWAUKEE	16	3	28	-9	9	-17	0.05	-0.34	0.02	2.56	48	1.53	50	69	53	0	7	3	0
WY	CASPER	39	18	57	8	28	1	0.42	0.27	0.15	2.49	156	1.24	127	81	66	0	7	4	0
	CHEYENNE	40	19	56	11	29	0	0.16	0.07	0.09	1.05	90	0.38	54	73	55	0	7	4	0
	LANDER	39	17	55	7	28	2	0.94	0.82	0.38	3.13	217	1.31	158	90	52	0	7	3	0
	SHERIDAN	38	22	53	15	30	3	0.95	0.84	0.33	2.32	127	1.58	137	87	77	0	7	5	0

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

National Agricultural Summary

February 16 - 22, 2015

Weekly National Agricultural Summary provided by USDA/NASS

HIGHLIGHTS

Temperatures were very low across most of the eastern U.S., with most locations east of the Mississippi River at least 15°F below normal. Some locations in Indiana, Kentucky, and Ohio recorded average temperatures more than 25°F below normal for the week. Conversely, nearly all locations west of the Rocky Mountains recorded above-average temperatures. Precipitation was close to normal across most of the nation. The most notable exception was Kentucky and Tennessee, where several locations had weekly totals greater than 4 inches.

In **Arizona**, alfalfa conditions were mostly fair to excellent, depending on location. Harvesting occurred on two-thirds of the alfalfa acreage across the state. Sheep continued to graze on various alfalfa fields in many areas. Warm weather was depleting soil moisture around the state. Rangeland conditions varied widely from very poor to good, depending on location. Central Arizona growers shipped Bok Choy, broccoli, Chinese cabbage, red and green cabbage, cilantro, kale greens, lemons and parsley. Western Arizona growers shipped anise, arugula, Bok Choy, broccoli, Chinese cabbage, red and green cabbage, cauliflower, celery, cilantro, endive, escarole, kale greens, various lettuce including Boston, iceberg, romaine, green and red leaf lettuce, parsley, and spinach.

Wheat, oats, and other winter forage crops in **California** continued to grow well but slowly. Irrigation continued due to lack of rain. Alfalfa fields were cultivated and planted. Field preparations were underway for the spring planting of corn. Some weevil controls were applied in alfalfa. Winter wheat was in boot stage. Wheat was growing well due to sunny weather and benefited from nitrogen applications. The wheat crop was rated 80 percent good to excellent. Pasture and rangeland condition was 55 percent poor to fair. Pruning and shredding continued in tree fruit orchards. Early stone fruit varieties were showing full bloom in some areas. Fungicides were applied to protect the blooms and prevent brown rot and shot hole fungus. Grapevines were pruned and tied. Mechanical and chemical weed control continued in fruit tree orchards and vineyards. Kiwifruit, Navel oranges, Cara Caras, Moro Blood oranges, Mandarins, Minneola Tangelos, lemons, and grapefruits were packed and shipped to domestic and foreign markets. Orange trees were topped in advance of the bloom. Seedless Mandarins and Murcotts were covered with netting to prohibit cross pollination. Olive trees were pruned. Pecans, walnuts, and pistachios were packed and exported to foreign and domestic markets. An inconsistent almond bloom was reported, with pollinating occurring later for the Nonpareil variety. Also, there were reports of premature leafing. Scattered sightings of spider mites have been reported. Petal fall has begun. In Colusa County, the warm weather was advancing local organic vegetables to maturity. Harvest was underway for asparagus. In Sutter County, weed control and field preparation for summer vegetables continued. In San Joaquin County, asparagus was harvested and sweet corn was planted. In Madera County, there was ground preparation for processing tomatoes. In Monterey County, there was some brassica harvesting. In San Mateo County, growers started fumigating fields to prepare for spring planting. In Fresno County, growers prepared processing tomato beds and planted fresh onions. There were reports of onions treated for bulb mites. Seed crops (Mazuma mustard, black kale, and watercress) were treated for aphids. Fields were fumigated for weed and nematode control in preparation for planting spring carrots. In Tulare County, fields continued to be prepared for spring and summer planting. Early varieties of summer vegetables (tomatoes, cucumbers, squash, and eggplant) were germinated in greenhouses. Those planted in the fields were under hot caps. Spinach and broccoli fields were progressing well. In Kern County, fields were treated for an outbreak of downy mildew in onions. Leaf burn was also found in some onion fields. Rangeland feed conditions were beginning to falter with the lack of recent rains. More rain was needed to help with the germination and long-term development of foothill grasses and forbs. Optimal weather conditions increased dairy production. Bee hives were delivered for orchard pollination.

In **Florida**, rain and cold weather slowed fieldwork in the Panhandle. In Gadsden County, farmers tilled the soil in preparation for corn and peanut planting. Sugarcane harvest slowed in Glades and Hendry Counties due to rain early in the week. Sub-freezing temperatures caused concern for crops. Planting of late cabbage and harvesting of strawberries, onions, and greens occurred in Bradford County. Flagler and Putnam County farmers were harvesting cabbage. In southern Florida, several days of windy weather preceded the freeze, battering sensitive vegetable crops. However, damage to most vegetables was minimal. Some vegetables showed damage to the tops of plants; more extensive damage was noted on corn and beans. Blueberries also appeared to be damaged by the frost. Vegetable growers in St. Lucie County used helicopters to force warm air onto crops, helping to minimize damage from the frost. Pastures across the state continued to be in poor condition due to sub-freezing temperatures. Ranchers were providing supplemental feed due to the lack of forage crops. Statewide, the cattle condition was mostly good, while the winter forage and pasture condition was fair to good. All citrus areas had temperatures into the middle to upper 30s or lower on 2 consecutive days. Several citrus processing plants plan on finishing early and midseason oranges this month. Valencia orange harvest was still very minimal at this point. Honey tangerines and colored grapefruit are now the primary varieties being harvested for fresh market. A small amount of white grapefruit, midseason oranges, and Valencia oranges were also going fresh. Grove activity included irrigation on several days, fertilizing, and some hedging and topping after harvest. Field workers across the citrus region have noticed medium to heavy bloom on all citrus varieties and feathery new growth in well-taken-care-of groves.

Winter wheat and oats across **Texas** made good progress. Producers on the Southern High Plains reported greenbug and winter grain mites in fields, while the Blacklands experienced fungal pressure and rust on small grains. South East Texas corn producers began planting. The High Plains areas began field preparations for cotton and sorghum planting. Harvest of citrus and vegetables continued in South Texas. Sub-freezing temperatures adversely impacted winter vegetables in the Blacklands. Rainfall and warmer weather provided additional moisture needed for range and pasture development. Range and pasture conditions were rated fair to good, with supplemental feeding continuing across the state.

International Weather and Crop Summary

February 15-21, 2015

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

HIGHLIGHTS

EUROPE: Mild weather continued, with rain and mountain snow in western Europe contrasting with dry conditions over the eastern half of the continent.

WESTERN FSU: Mild, mostly dry weather sustained favorable overwintering conditions for wheat and barley, though southern growing areas remained devoid of snow cover despite the arrival of colder air.

MIDDLE EAST: Widespread rain and snow further boosted prospects for winter grains across the region.

NORTHWESTERN AFRICA: Additional moderate to heavy rainfall benefited vegetative winter grains from Morocco into Tunisia.

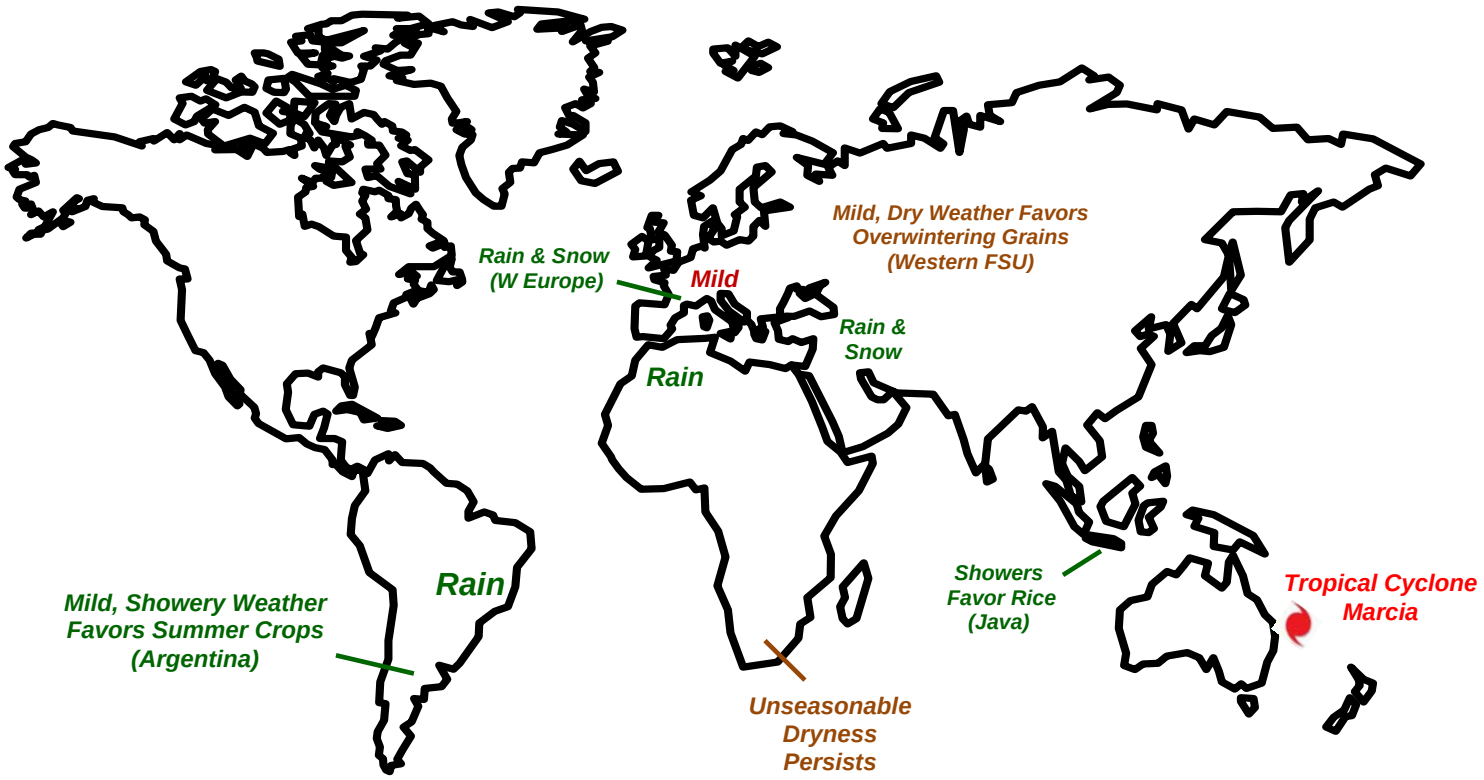
SOUTHEAST ASIA: Showers maintained favorable rice prospects in Java, Indonesia.

AUSTRALIA: Severe Tropical Cyclone Marcia likely caused minimal damage to summer crops.

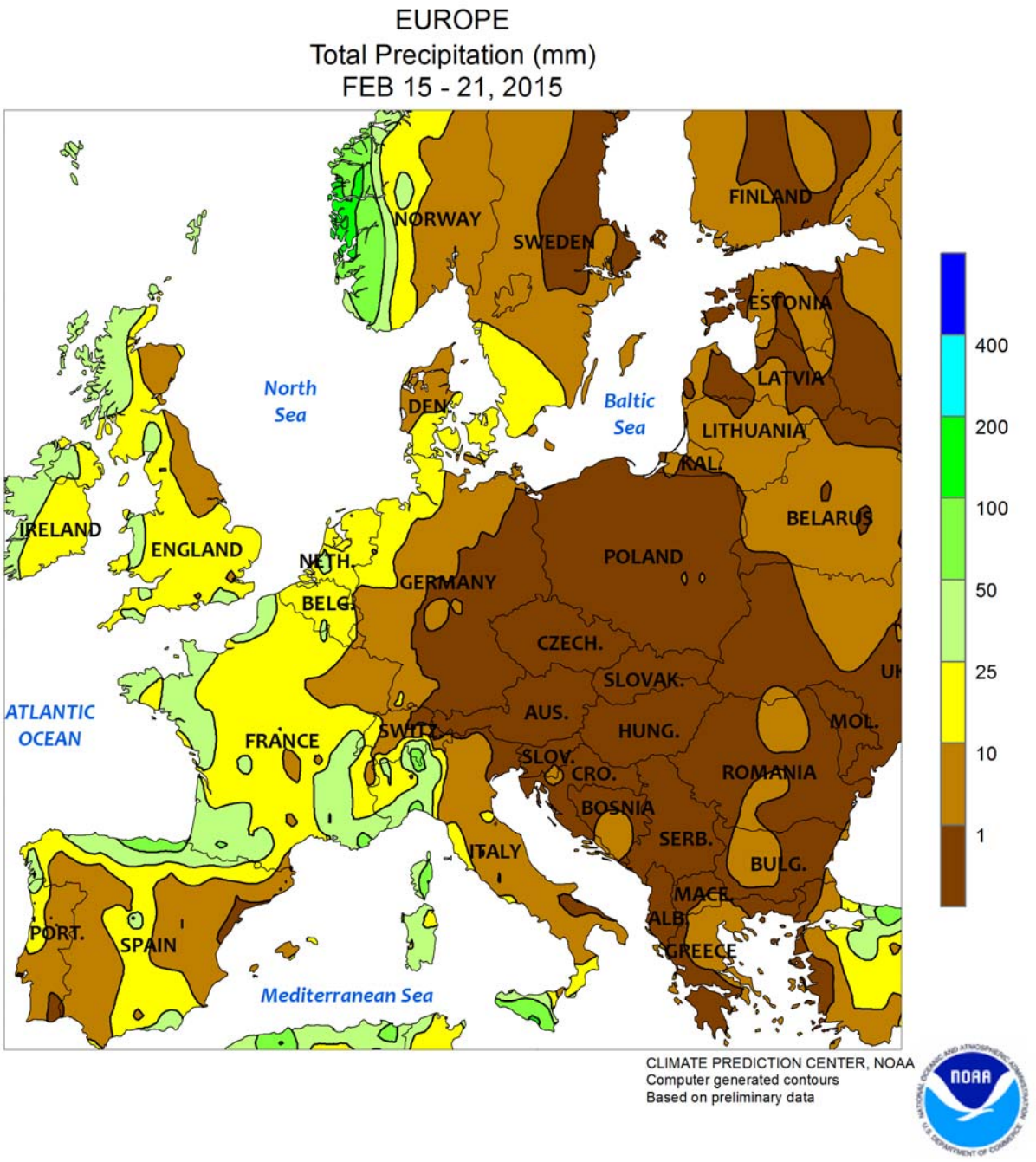
SOUTH AFRICA: Warm, unseasonably dry weather limited moisture for normal development of reproductive to filling corn.

ARGENTINA: Mild, showery weather maintained overall favorable conditions for summer grains, oilseeds, and cotton.

BRAZIL: Rain increased moisture for soybeans and second-crop corn in nearly all major production areas.



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



EUROPE

Mild weather prevailed across the region, with rain and snow in the west contrasting with dry conditions over the eastern half of the continent. A large area of high pressure provided mostly dry, mild weather (1-4°C above normal) from Germany and Poland south into the northern Balkans. Winter crops remained dormant, and despite a lack of snow cover there were no concerns for freeze damage or winterkill due to the lack of bitter cold (nighttime lows were above -10°C). Meanwhile, a slow-moving storm system and its attendant cold front generated widespread rain and mountain snow (10-50 mm liquid equivalent) across Spain, Italy, France, and the United Kingdom. In the north, the precipitation boosted moisture reserves for dormant winter wheat and rapeseed. Across the Iberian Peninsula and Italy, the rain was beneficial for vegetative to semi-dormant winter grains, while fresh mountain snow further boosted spring runoff prospects vital for irrigated summer crops. Temperatures in these southern and western areas averaged near normal, though warmer-than-normal conditions were noted in Italy and England.

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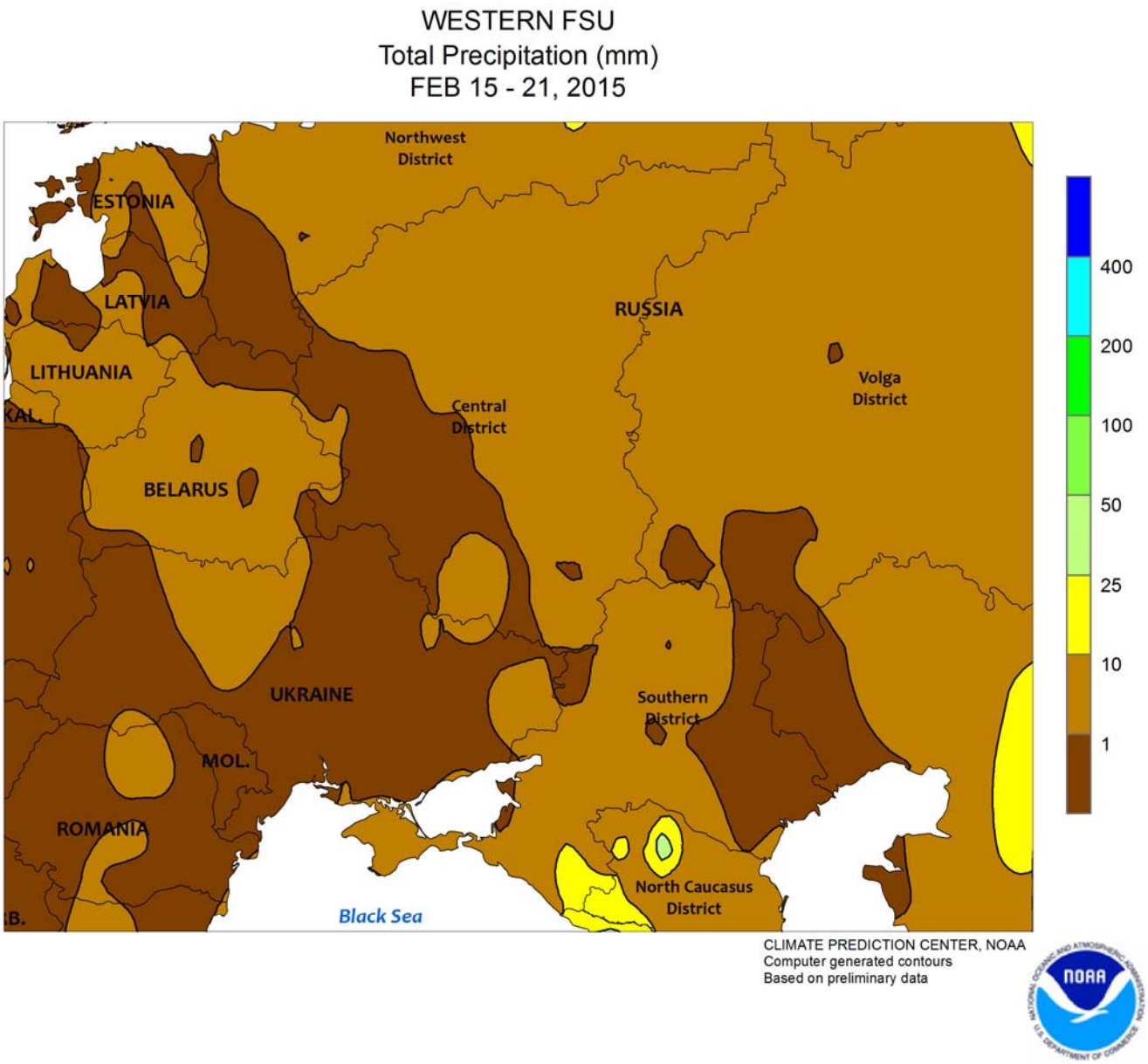

WESTERN FSU

Mild, mostly dry weather sustained favorable overwintering conditions for wheat and barley, though southern growing areas remained devoid of snow cover despite the arrival of colder air. High pressure provided sunny skies along with near- to above-normal temperatures (locally up to 5°C above normal) from Belarus and northern Ukraine into northern Russia, with winter wheat remaining dormant under a shallow snowpack (2-10 cm) in Ukraine and more than 25 cm of snow in Russia. Farther south, early-week rain (1-10 mm) in Russia's Southern and North Caucasus Districts sustained favorable soil moisture reserves for spring growth, but crops remained devoid of snow cover from central Ukraine into southern Russia. Despite the arrival of somewhat chillier air (locally more than 3°C below normal) in the Southern District, nighttime lows of -15°C or greater did not pose a risk for freeze damage or winterkill.

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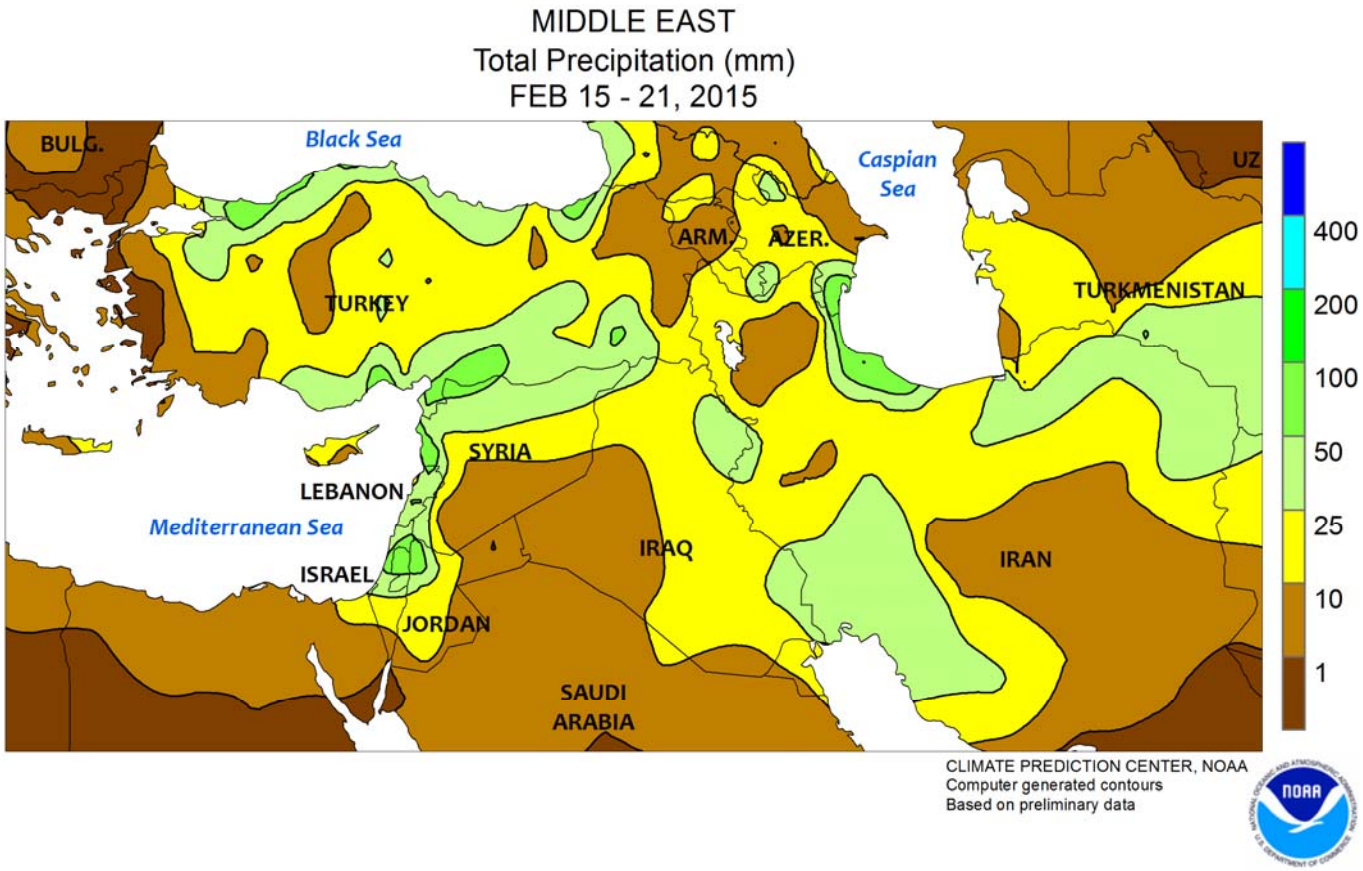
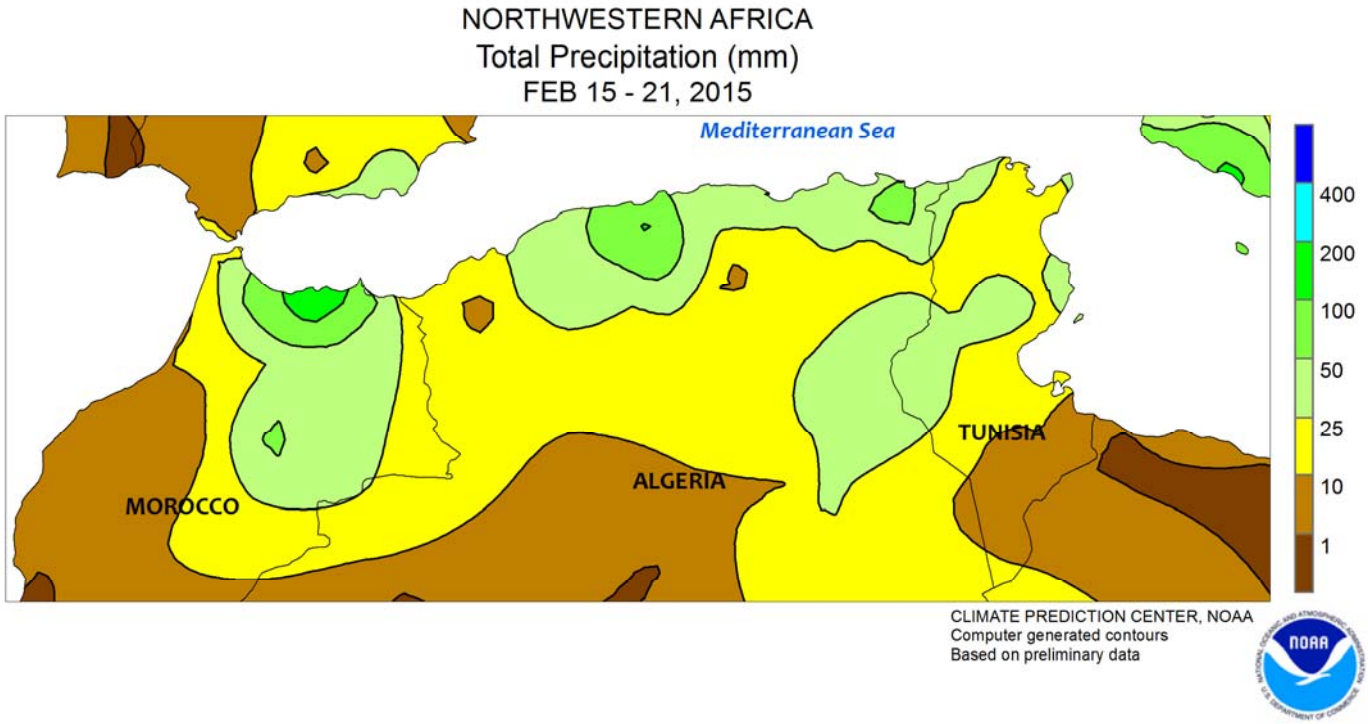


MIDDLE EAST

Rain and snow developed across much of the region, maintaining good to excellent prospects for dormant (north) to vegetative (south) winter grains. A slow-moving Mediterranean storm produced widespread rain and high-elevation snow, with precipitation amounts averaging 10 to locally more than 50 mm (liquid equivalent) in most major growing areas. The moisture sustained the good to excellent start to the 2014-15 winter grain growing campaign and boosted mountain snowpacks for warm-season runoff and irrigation. In addition, the rainfall extended southward into the typically dry, irrigated areas of southwestern Iran, providing supplemental moisture for vegetative wheat and barley. Colder conditions settled into Turkey (1-5°C below normal) behind the storm, while unseasonable warmth (up to 5°C above normal) over much of Iran likely continued to cause unseasonable early growth of winter wheat in central and western portions of the country.



NORTHWESTERN AFRICA

Widespread rain continued to benefit vegetative winter grains across the entire region. A Mediterranean storm system generated moderate to heavy rainfall (10-100 mm) from northern Morocco into Tunisia. In northern Morocco, the rainfall sustained the current excellent yield prospects for winter wheat and barley. Farther east, the moisture further improved winter grain prospects following an unfavorably dry autumn in northeastern Algeria and northern Tunisia. However, showers were light (less than 10 mm) in southern Morocco, where more rainfall will be needed to maintain the current above-average wheat and barley yield prospects. Temperatures averaged near normal, though cooler-than-normal conditions (1-3°C below normal) were noted in Morocco.

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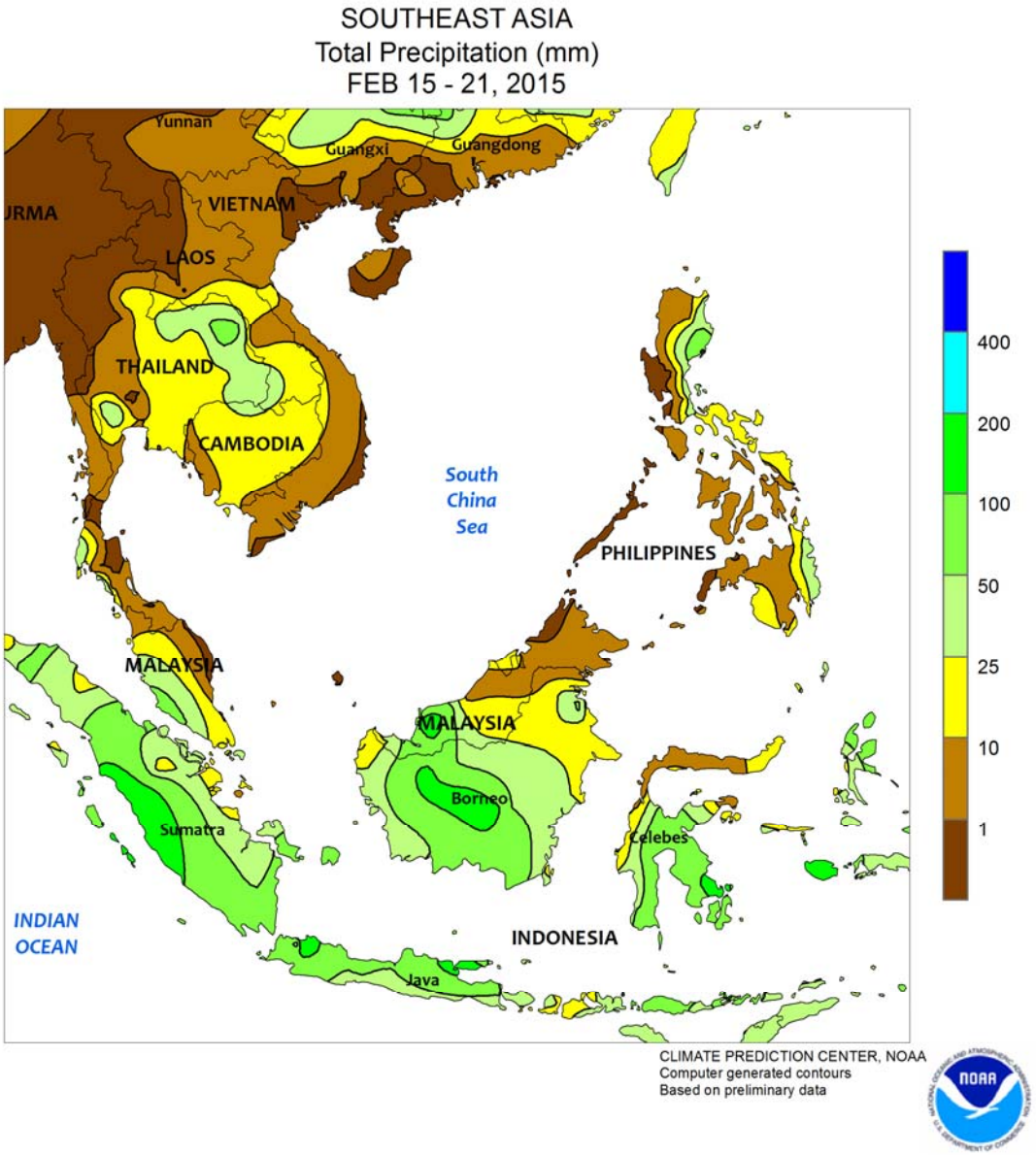

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Continued seasonably heavy rainfall across Java, Indonesia (averaging 80 mm for the week) maintained near- to above-normal rainfall for rice. And although seasonal rainfall (since November 1) has been below the last 3 years for the area as a whole, rice prospects remained favorable. In oil palm areas of Indonesia and neighboring Malaysia, rainfall (25-100 mm, locally more) maintained good soil moisture, while drier conditions in areas of eastern Peninsular Malaysia aided harvesting. Meanwhile, showers continued for rice and corn in the eastern and southern Philippines, albeit lighter, as totals were generally below 25 mm in most areas. Elsewhere in the region, a brief period of rainfall from eastern Thailand into central Vietnam provided an unexpected boost to overall irrigation supplies during what is typically the latter half of the dry season.

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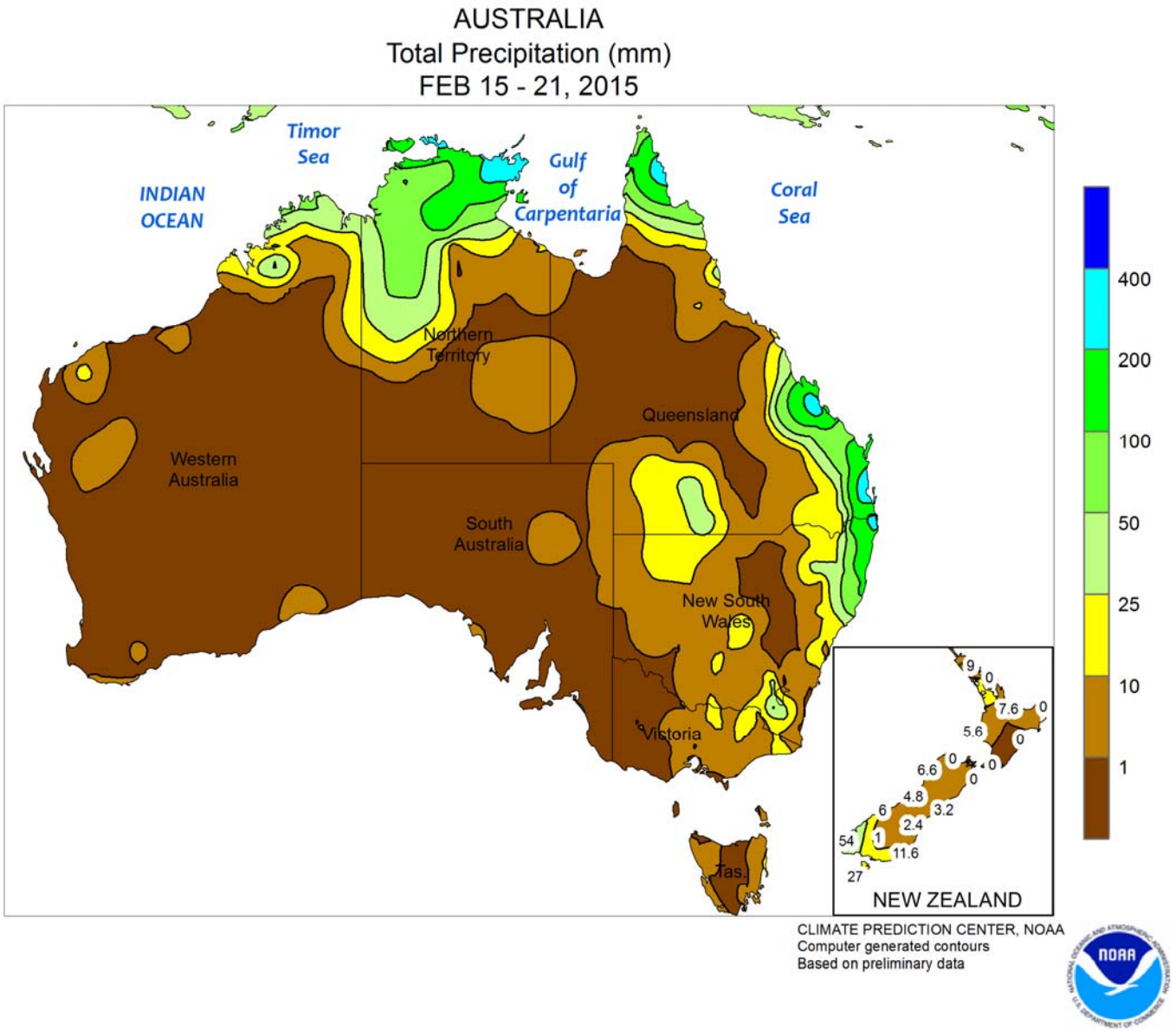

AUSTRALIA

Severe Tropical Cyclone Marcia made landfall in southern Queensland, near Rockhampton, on February 20. Maximum sustained winds were reportedly near 110 knots (125 mph) just prior to landfall, but the storm weakened rapidly while moving inland. As a result, wind damage was confined primarily to coastal areas, near where the storm came ashore, potentially causing some damage to sugarcane but likely causing little if any harm to summer crops that are grown farther inland. The storm produced heavy rain (locally more than 250 mm) and caused some flooding along coastal areas of southern Queensland and northern New South Wales. Lighter showers (5-25 mm) fell across major cotton and sorghum producing areas in southern Queensland, benefiting immature crops but slowing maturation of earlier sown crops. Mostly dry weather prevailed across major summer crop producing areas in northern New South Wales, potentially increasing local irrigation requirements while aiding drydown of the most advanced crops. Temperatures in southern Queensland and northern New South Wales averaged near normal, aiding crop development.

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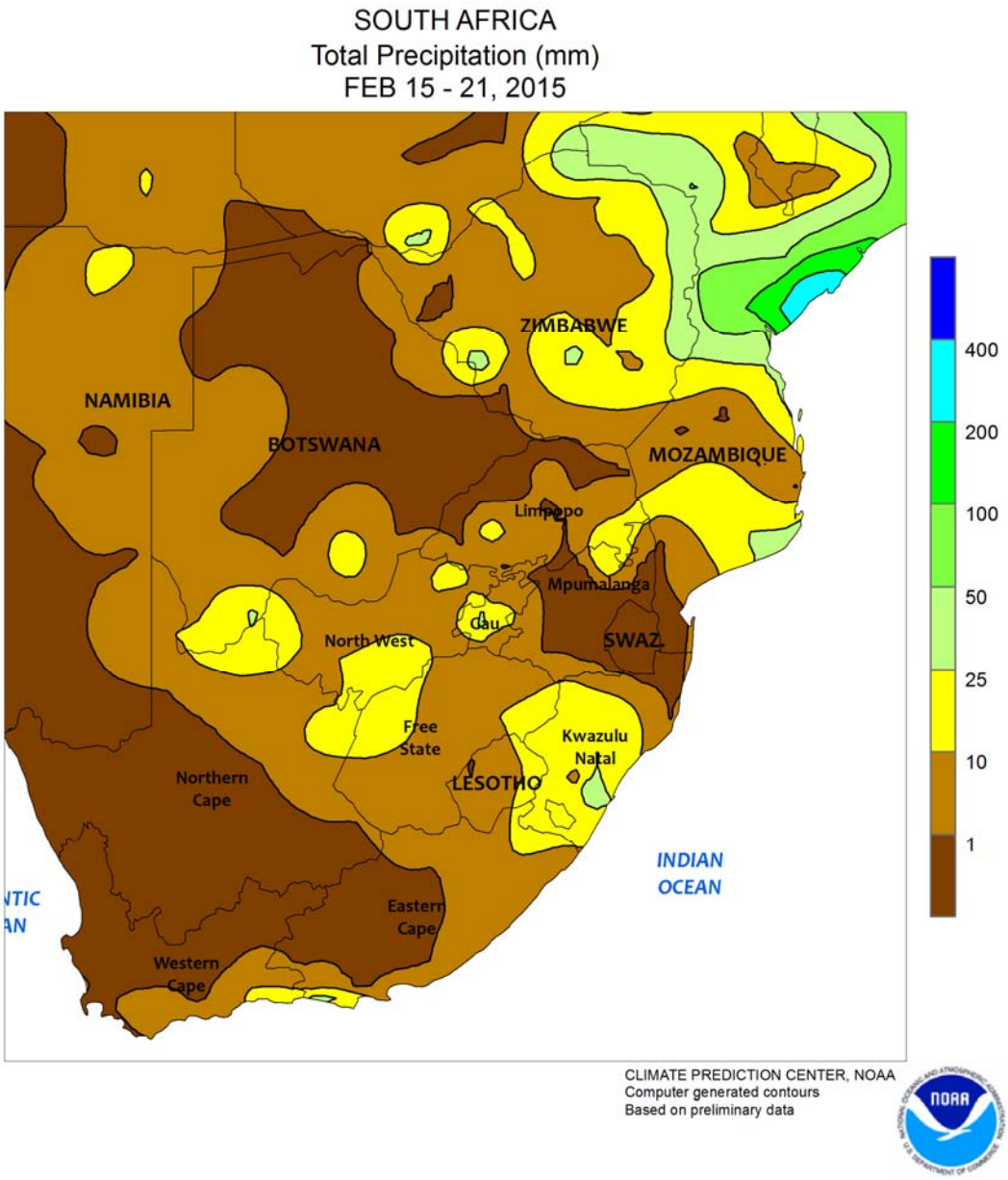

SOUTH AFRICA

Drier-than-normal weather persisted across most major farming areas, reducing moisture for normal development of corn and other predominantly rain-fed summer crops. Most locations in eastern sections of the corn belt (Mpumalanga and nearby locations in Gauteng and Free State) recorded less than 10 mm of rainfall for the third consecutive week. Temperatures averaged near normal (daytime highs ranging from the middle 20s to low 30s degrees C), however, helping to reduce losses through evaporation. Mostly dry weather also dominated the west (North West and central Free State), where daytime highs reached the middle 30s on several days. Warmer- and drier-than-normal weather has dominated western farming areas for much of the growing season, and crops are currently advancing through reproduction, making this week's weather particularly stressful. Similar conditions prevailed in Limpopo. Scattered, albeit light, showers (less than 25 mm) covered KwaZulu-Natal's southern sugarcane areas, which have also experienced unfavorably low rainfall this season. Meanwhile, hot (daytime highs ranging from 35-40°C), sunny weather spurred rapid growth of irrigated sugarcane in northern KwaZulu-Natal and eastern Mpumalanga. Mostly dry weather — accompanied by summer warmth — also fostered development of irrigated crops in the Cape Provinces.

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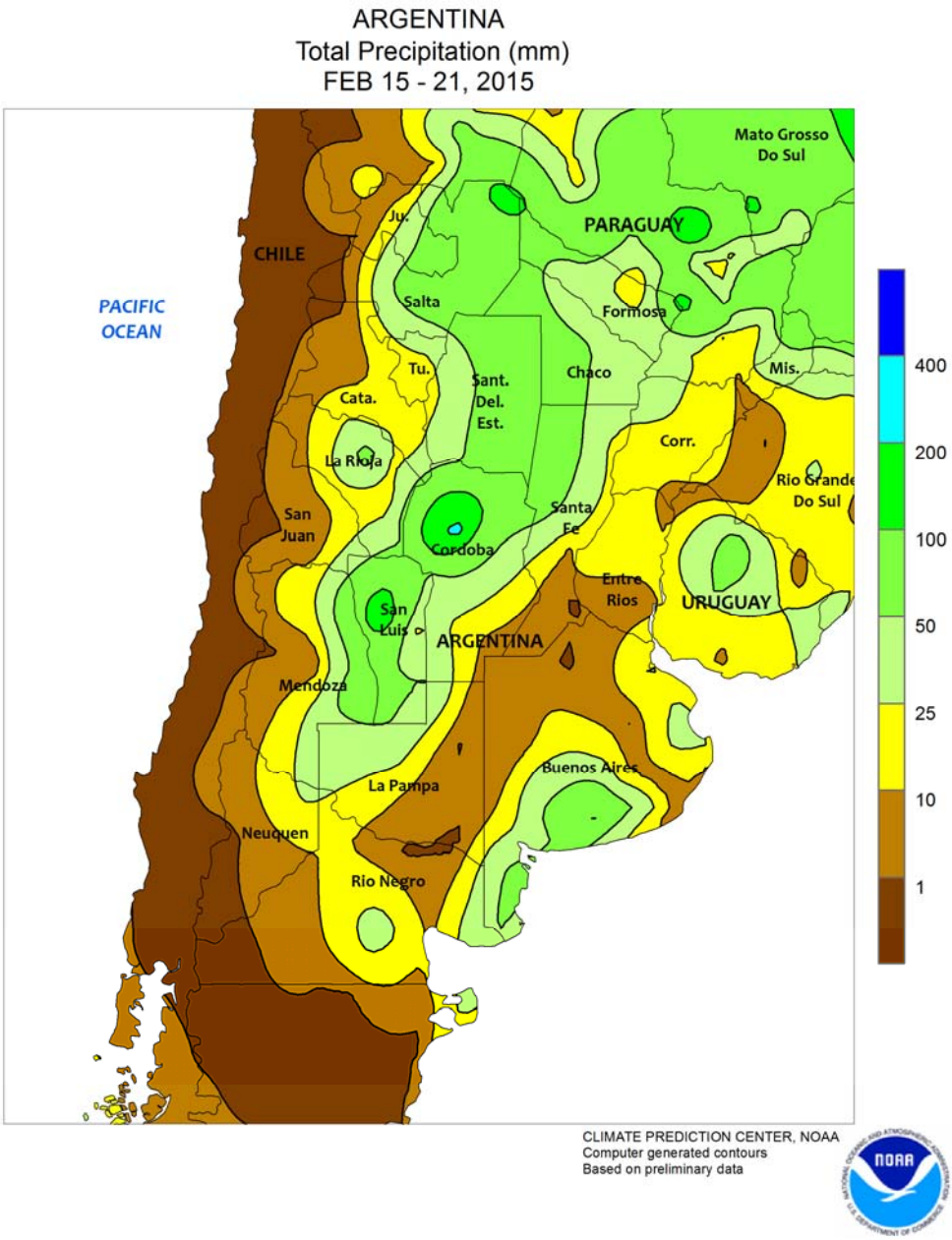

ARGENTINA

Warm, showery weather maintained overall favorable conditions for immature summer crops, although later-planted crops in some locations will require additional moisture. Rainfall totaled below 10 mm across a broad area stretching from La Pampa to southern Entre Rios; western portions of this area are in need of moisture after several weeks of warmth and dryness, but sub-soil moisture was likely adequate in previously wet eastern sections. Elsewhere in central Argentina, beneficial rain (10-50 mm, locally higher) fell in southern and eastern sections of Buenos Aires, as well as central and northern farming areas of Cordoba. Unlike the rest of central Argentina, these areas have benefited from improved rainfall. Weekly average temperatures were near to below normal in the aforementioned areas, with daytime highs reaching the lower 30s (degrees C) at the beginning of the week. By week's end, however, a cooler air mass was dominating the region, allowing nighttime lows to fall below 10°C. Meanwhile, widespread, locally heavy showers overspread the north, with rainfall totaling 10 to 100 mm. Weekly temperatures averaged near normal, with daytime highs in the lower and middle 30s early in the week falling into the 20s with the passage of a cold front. According to Argentina's Ministry of Agriculture, sunflowers were 26 percent harvested as of February 19, same as last year.

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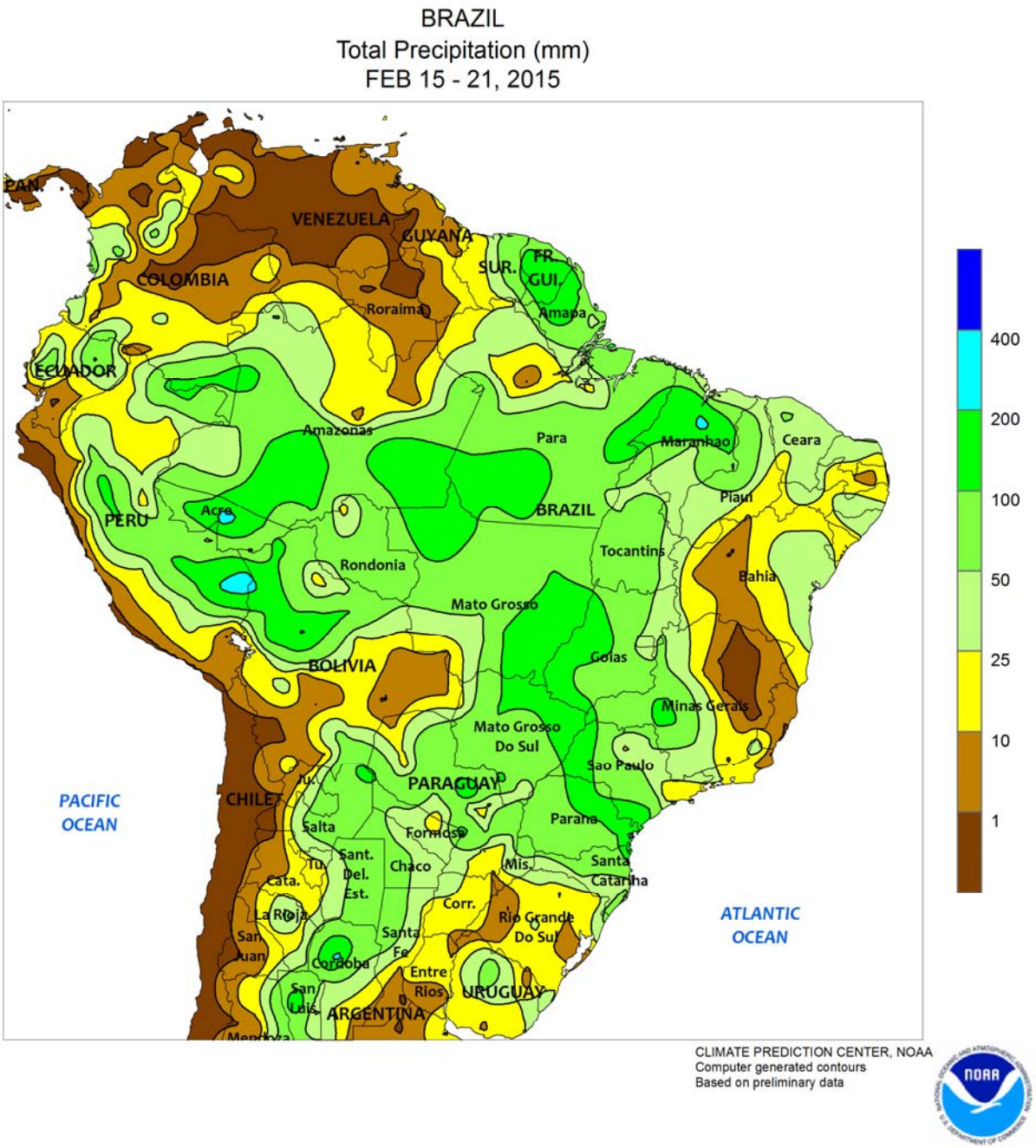

BRAZIL

Rain maintained overall favorable conditions for immature soybeans and emerging second-crop corn in key production areas of central and southern Brazil. Rainfall totaled more than 50 mm over a broad area stretching from Mato Grosso and Tocantins southward to Santa Catarina. Somewhat lighter amounts (10-50 mm) were recorded in eastern production areas, including recently dry locations in Piaui and western Bahia. Seasonal warmth (daytime highs mostly in the lower and middle 30s degrees C) in the aforementioned areas fostered rapid development of row crops. Rainfall was variable in the southeast, ranging from 50 to 100 mm in western sections of Sao Paulo and Minas Gerais to 5 to 25 mm along the coast. Additional moisture would be welcome for sugarcane and coffee in these areas before the rainy season ends in April or May. In Rio Grande do Sul, drier-than-normal weather continued for a third week, with rainfall totaling below 25 mm in most areas. While reducing moisture for generally well-watered summer crops, the dryness — and the accompanying summer warmth (highs reaching the upper 20s and lower 30s) — was overall beneficial for fieldwork; according to the government of Rio Grande do Sul, corn was 39 percent harvested as of February 19, ahead of the expected pace. In addition, soybeans were mostly in the filling stage, with 7 percent reaching maturity. In contrast to the southern drydown, unseasonably heavy rain (10-50 mm) boosted moisture reserves for sugarcane and other crops along the northeastern coast.

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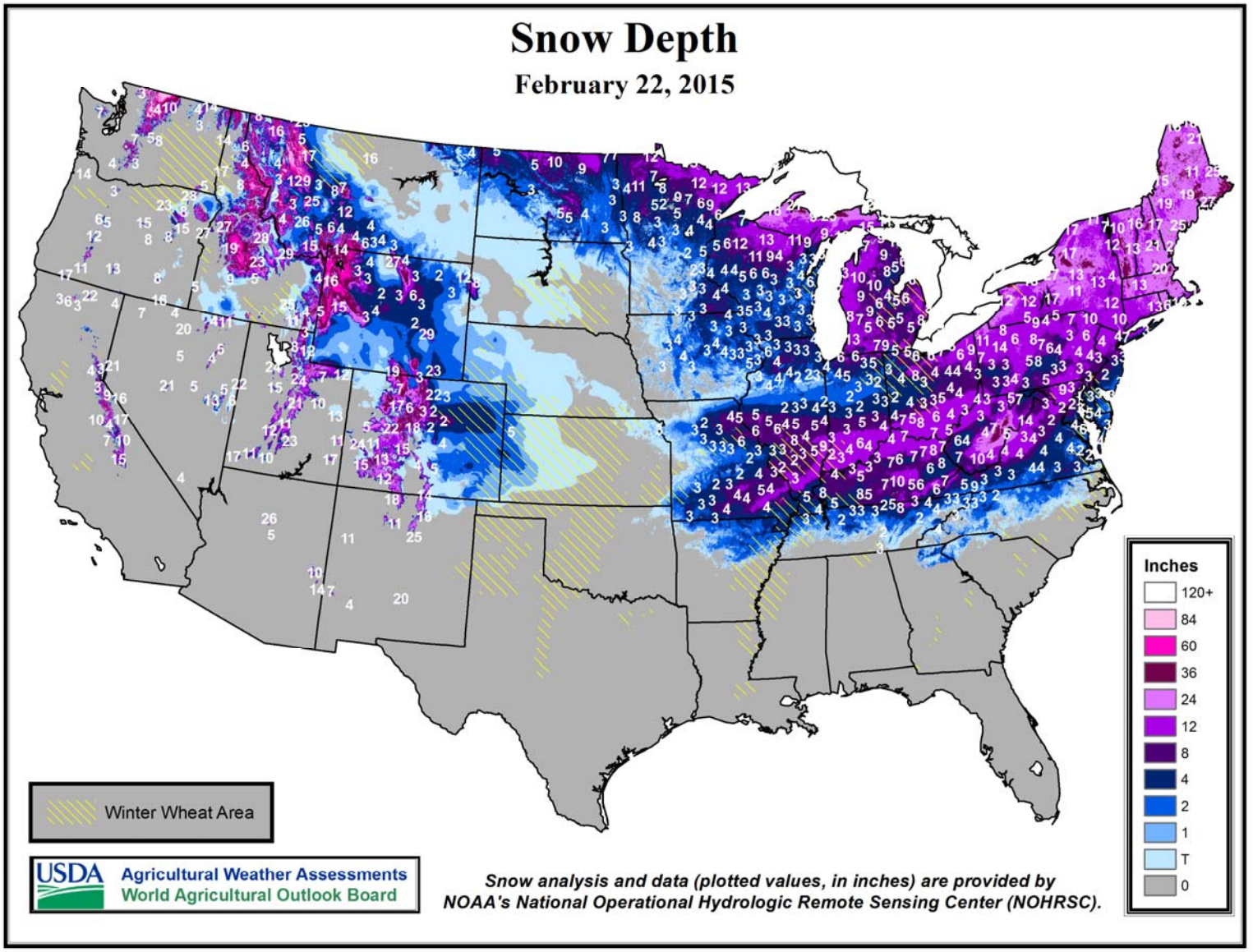

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