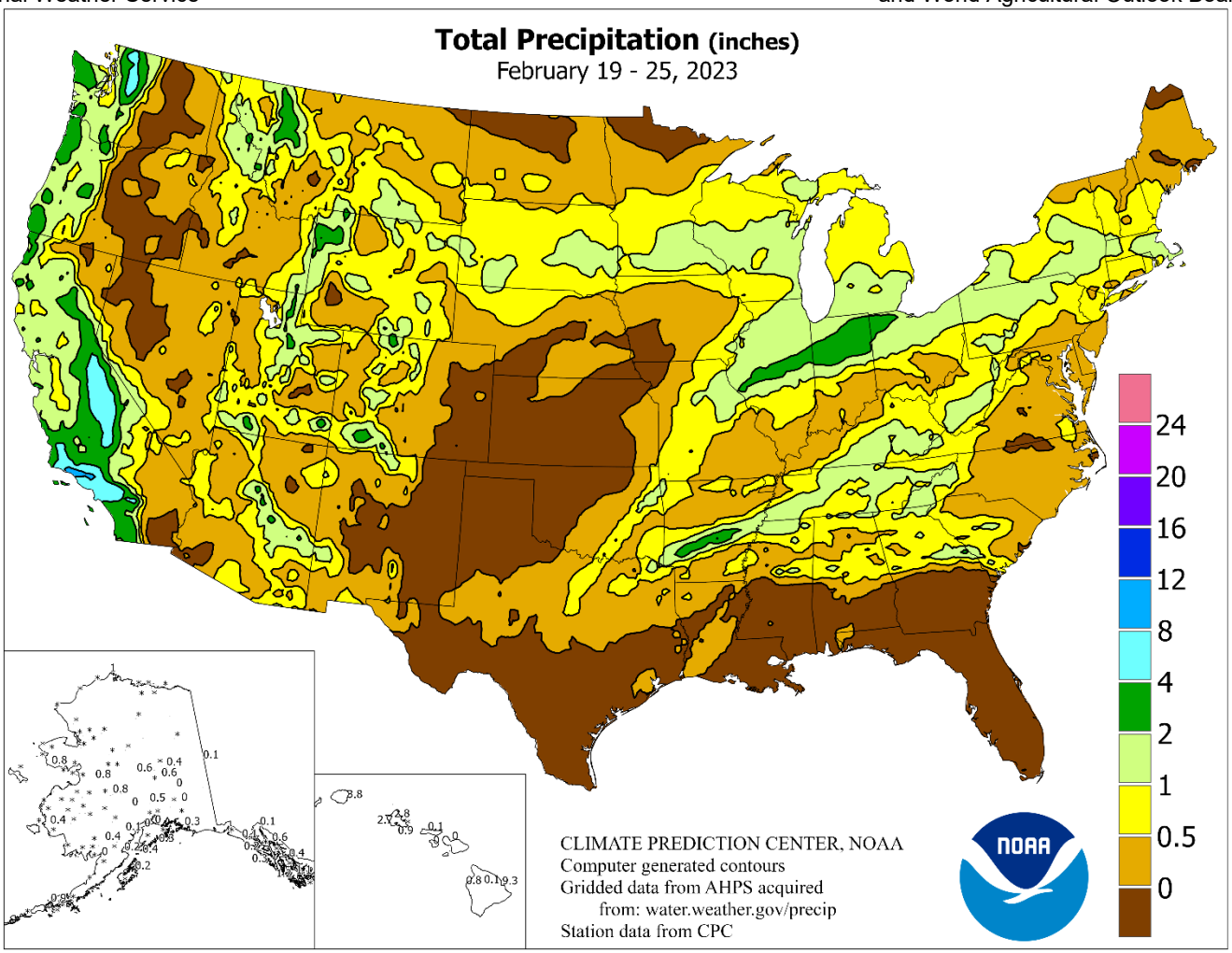
Volume 110, No. 9 www.usda.gov/oce/weather-drought-monitor February 28, 2023

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, 2023

Highlights provided by USDA/WAOB

Sprawling and complex storm systems delivered hazardous weather across a vast area of the country. In the **West**, cold, windy, unsettled weather included snow falling at unusually low elevations, with major accumulations occurring in **Portland, OR**, and other **Pacific Coast State** communities. Heavy snow in **California** followed a month of relatively tranquil weather. Farther east, the combination of bitter cold, high winds, and heavy snow led to blizzard conditions across parts of the **northern Plains** and **upper Midwest**. For those regions, multi-day

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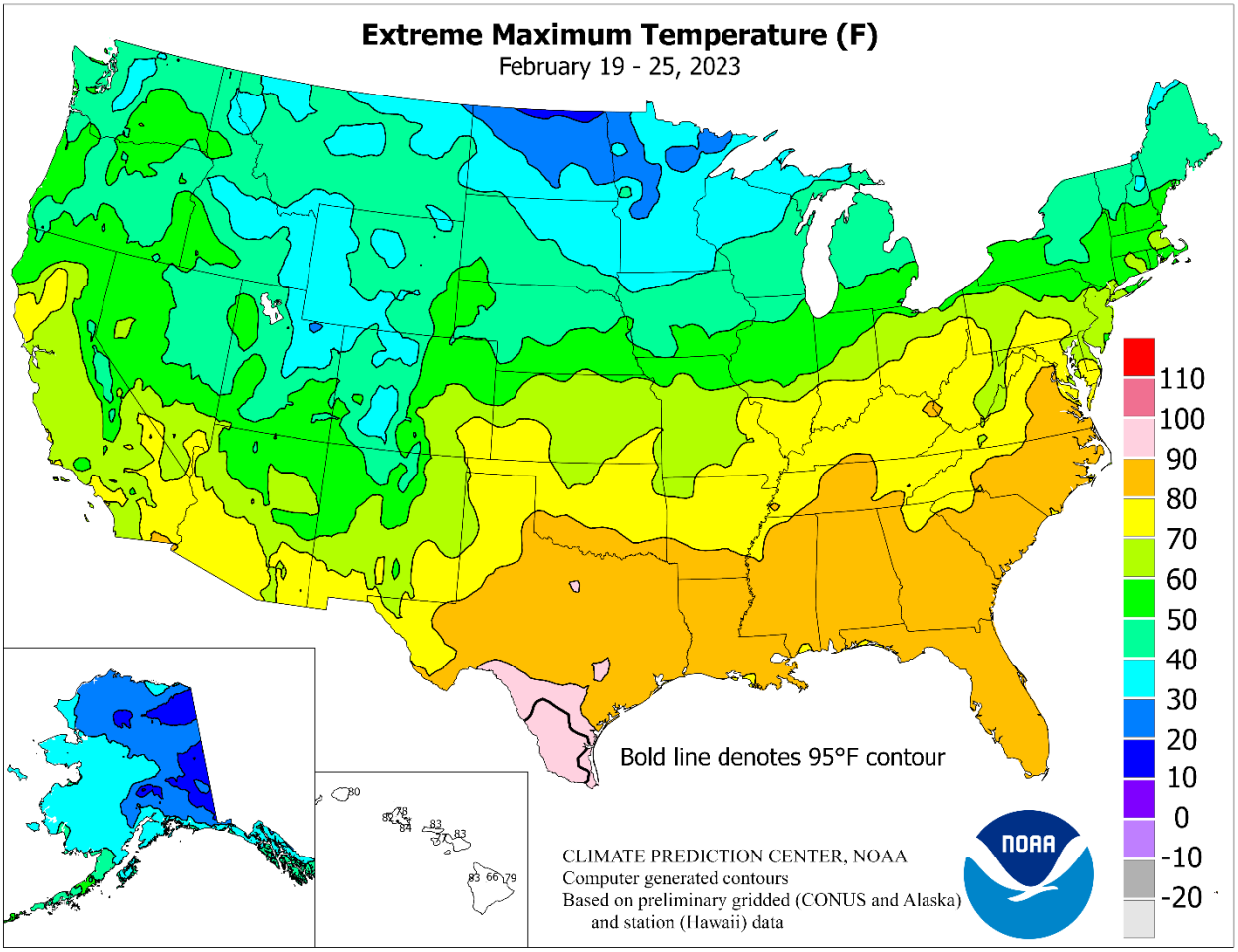
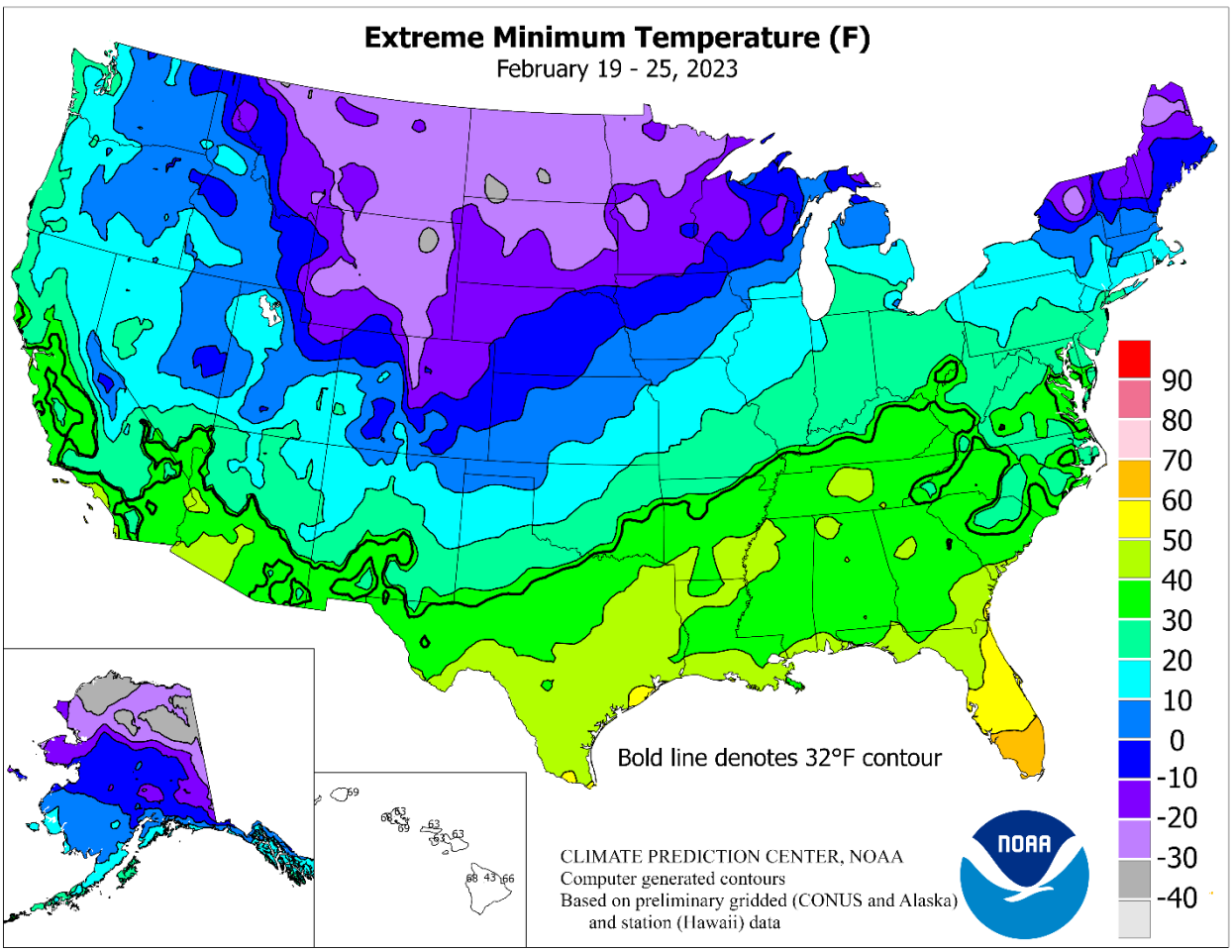
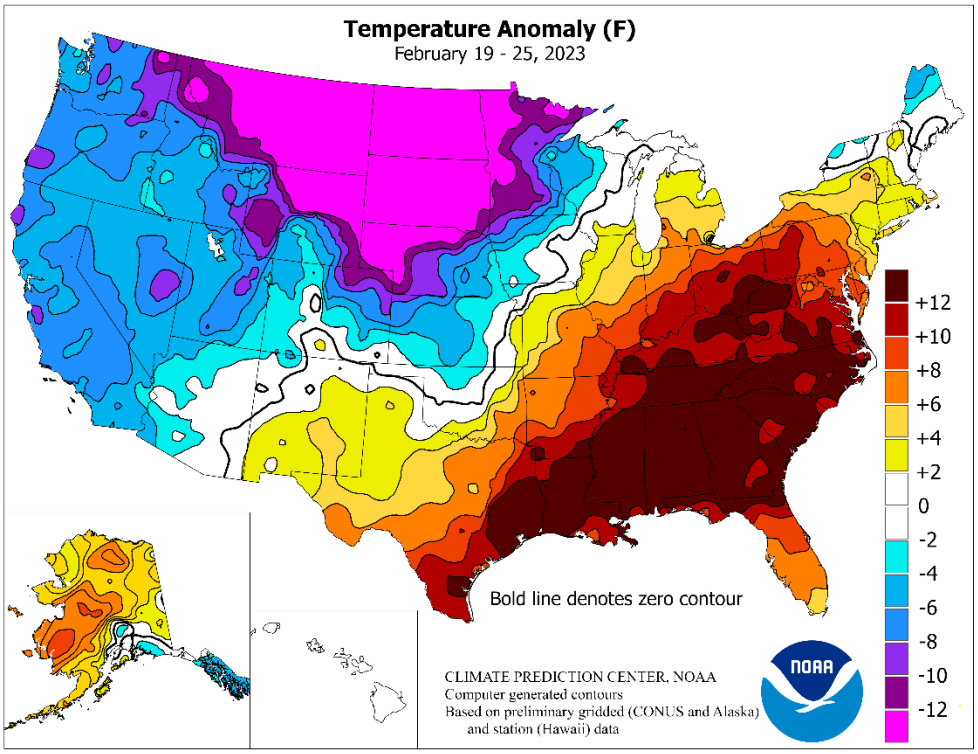

Extreme Maximum Temperature (F)
February 19 - 25, 2023
110
100
90
80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
-10
-20
Bold line denotes 95°F contour
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA
Computer generated contours
Based on preliminary gridded (CONUS and Alaska)
and station (Hawaii) data
NOAA


Extreme Minimum Temperature (F)
February 19 - 25, 2023
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 gridded (CONUS and Alaska)
and station (Hawaii) data
NOAA

(Continued from front cover)

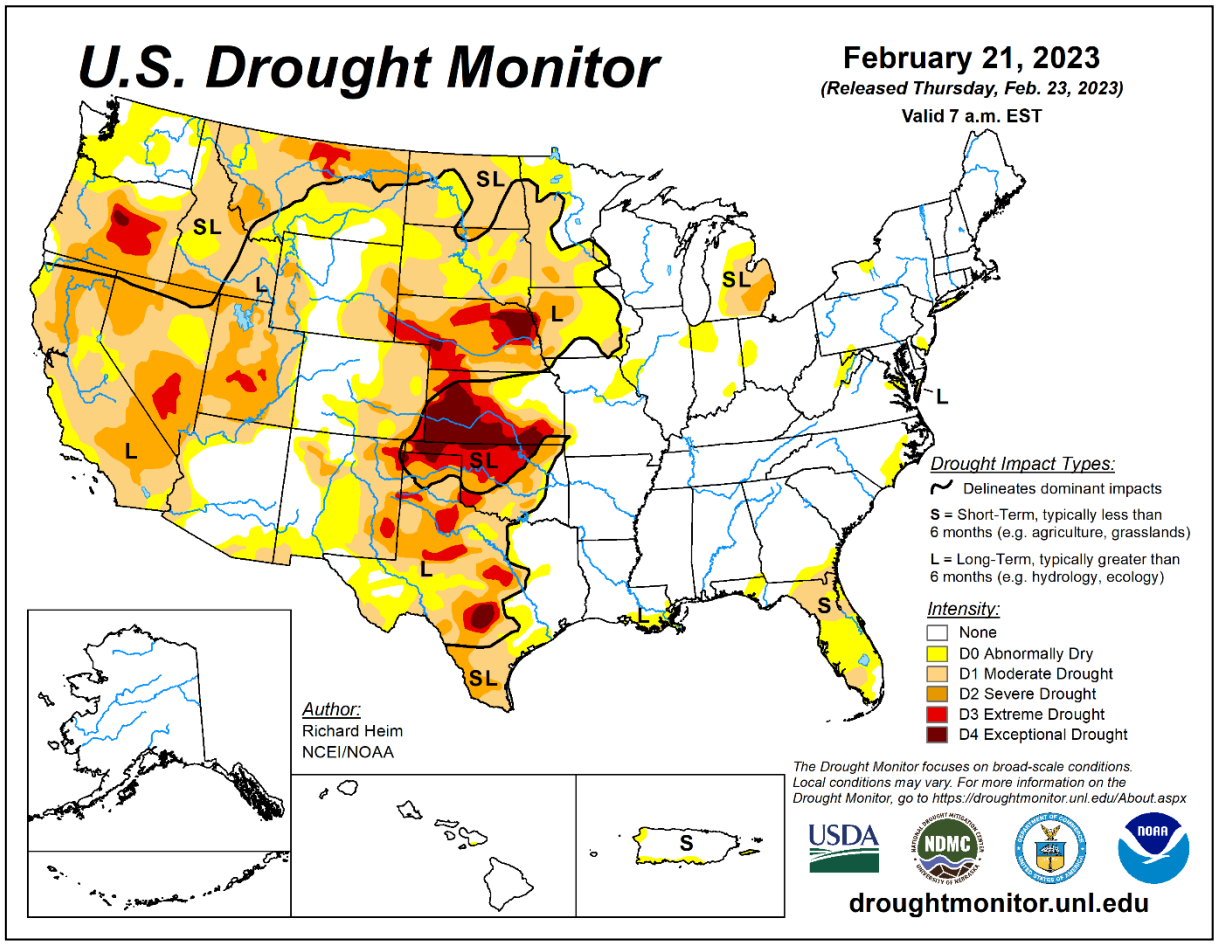
(February 20-23) snow accumulations contributed to major travel disruptions and severe livestock stress, including areas where lambing and calving operations were underway. Meanwhile, locally heavy fell in the **lower Midwest**, especially on February 22, resulting in flash flooding and muddy conditions in fields and feedlots. In contrast, little or no rain fell during the week in several areas, including the **Deep South**, allowing spring fieldwork to advance. However, **Southern** producers were monitoring the rapid pace of crop development and raising concerns about the potential effects of spring freezes. Elsewhere, a mid-week dust storm blasted portions of the **southern Plains** and **Southwest**, fueled by winds gusting to 60 mph or higher. The active weather was sparked by sharply contrasting temperatures, which included record-setting warmth in the **Southeast** and frigid conditions across the **northern Plains** and **upper Midwest**. Weekly temperatures averaged at least 10 to 15°F above normal across much of the **South**, while significantly above-normal temperatures extended as far north as the **Ohio Valley**. Conversely, readings averaged 10 to 20°F below normal across the **northern Plains** and **far upper Midwest**. Cold weather in the **West** was less extreme, compared to normal, although temperatures averaged as much as 10°F below normal in scattered locations **west of the Rockies**.

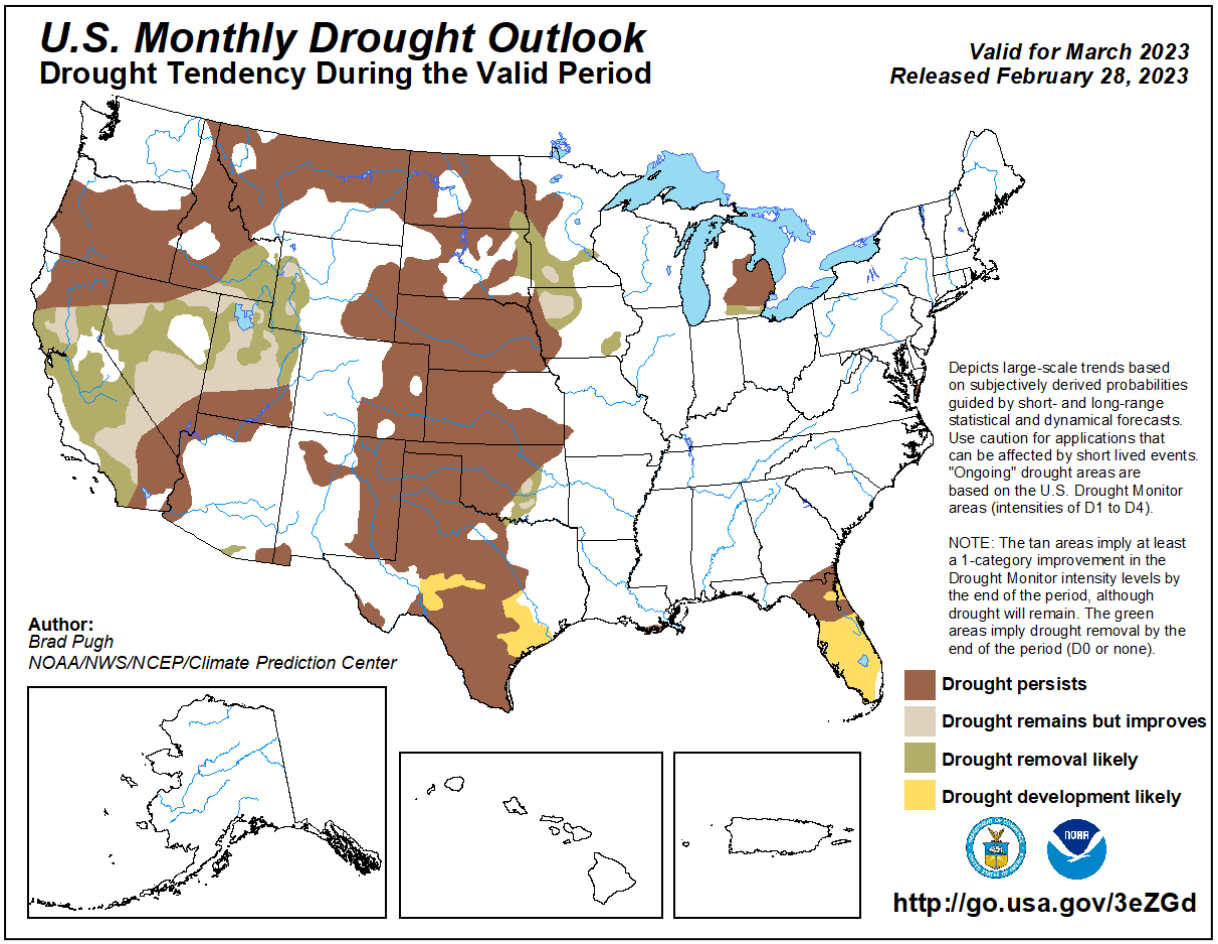


During a post-storm push of cold air across the **Plains** and **upper Midwest**, consecutive daily-record lows were set on February 22-23 in **Denver, CO** (-7 and -11°F), and **Casper, WY** (-17 and -26°F). Elsewhere on the 23rd, daily-record lows plunged to -27°F in **Worland, WY**, and -20°F in **Scottsbluff, NE**. In **northern sections of the Plains and Intermountain West**, temperatures generally bottomed out on February 24, with daily-record lows of -30°F in **Worland** and -29°F in **Bismarck, ND**. Farther west, freezes (and daily-record lows) struck on February 23 in normally temperate **California** locations such as **Santa Rosa** (28°F) and **Red Bluff** (30°F). In **California's Sacramento Valley**, both **Red Bluff** and **Redding** reported 5-inch snow depths on the morning of February 24. On February 24-25, consecutive daily-record lows occurred in **Oregon** locations such as **Portland** (25 and 18°F, respectively) and **Hillsboro** (16°F both days). Elsewhere in the **Northwest**, daily-record lows tumbled to 2°F (on the 25th) in **Pendleton, OR**, and 3°F (on the 24th) in **Spokane, WA**. In stark contrast, record-setting warmth had briefly preceded the **Western** cold wave. In **California**, for example, daily-record highs for February 20 had surged to 80°F in **Redding** and 79°F in **Red Bluff**. Later, a fleeting surge of warmth across the **southern Plains** led to a daily-record high for February 21 in **Lawton, OK** (84°F). More consistent warmth covered the **South**. In **southern Texas**, **Harlingen** registered consecutive daily-record highs (94 and 96°F, respectively) on February 22-23, while **McAllen** recorded 98°F on the 22nd. During the mid- to late-week period, many monthly records were set or tied, starting on February 22 with highs of 83°F in **Muscle Shoals, AL**, and 77°F in **Beckley, WV**. Muscle Shoals toppled that mark with a high of 86°F on February 23. During the largest wave of February records on the 23rd, highs catapulted to 88°F on **St. Simons Island, GA**; 87°F in **Vicksburg and Tupelo, MS**; 86°F in **Wilmington, NC**; 85°F in **Nashville, TN**, **McComb, MS**, and **Elizabeth City, Fayetteville, and Raleigh-Durham, NC**; 84°F in **Greenwood, MS**; 83°F in **Richmond, VA**; and 81°F in **Greensboro, NC**. **St. Simons Island** attained 88°F again on February 24. As the week ended, lingering heat along the **Gulf Coast** led to February record highs on the 25th in **Mobile, AL** (84°F), and **Pensacola, FL** (83°F).

Although the week began on a quiet note, stormy weather soon developed across the **Northwest** and quickly spread eastward. **Minneapolis-St. Paul (MSP), MN**, measured snow each day from February 20-23, totaling 15.1 inches, accompanied by a peak wind gust of 48 mph. Nearly half of **MSP's** snow, 6.5 inches, fell on the 23rd. As the storm began on February 21, daily snowfall records were broken in **Ely, NY** (6.0 inches); **Casper, WY** (4.6 inches); and **Bismarck, ND** (4.5 inches). By February 22, double-digit, daily-record totals were observed in locations such as **Salt Lake City, UT** (11.5 inches), and **Huron, SD** (11.0 inches). **Casper** (6.8 inches on the 22nd) noted a second consecutive daily-record snowfall. Elsewhere in **Wyoming**, the 22nd was the wettest February day on record in **Rawlins**, with a snow-water equivalency of 1.24 inches (previously, 0.60 inch on February 17, 2000). Heavy snow extended eastward into portions of the **Great Lakes region** and **northern New England**; for example, daily-record snowfall amounts for February 23 reached 20.0 inches in **Marquette, MI**; 10.3 inches in **Sturgeon Bay, WI**; and 6.2 inches in **Duluth, MN**, and **Burlington, VT**. Farther south, a band of freezing rain caused extensive power outages, especially across **southern Michigan**, while heavy showers dotted **Illinois** and environs. The 22nd was the wettest-ever February day in **Lincoln, IL**, where 3.40 inches fell (previously, 2.09 inches on February 4, 1942), while daily-record amounts in **Illinois** included 1.41 inches in **Peoria** and 1.20 inches in **Chicago**. During the mid- to late-week period, cold, slow-moving disturbances near the **Pacific Coast** profoundly influenced **Western** weather. On the 22nd in **Oregon**, **Portland's** 10.8-inch total represented its second-snowiest day, behind only 14.4 inches on January 21, 1943. Two days later, on the 24th, record-shattering rainfall struck **California's Central Valley**, where **Hanford** (2.70 inches) reported its wettest day (previously, 2.44 inches on February 10, 1978). February 24 was the seventh-wettest day ever in **Fresno, CA**, where 2.16 inches fell. Extremely heavy, wind-driven precipitation, including hail and low-elevation snow, engulfed **southern California** on the 24th, when **Burbank** (4.61 inches) endured its wettest February day (previously, 4.50 inches on February 8, 1993. By the morning of February 26, a 30-inch snow depth was reported on **southern California's Palomar Mountain**. Elsewhere, heavy rain briefly affected the **mid-South**, including parts of **Arkansas**, where daily-record totals for February 24 reached 4.19 inches in **Little Rock** and 3.13 inches in **Hot Springs**.

Most of **Alaska** experienced an active week of weather, with widespread precipitation and near- or above-normal temperatures. Warmth (temperatures locally more than 10°F above normal) was prominent across **northern and western Alaska**. In contrast, cold, weather covered **southeastern Alaska**, followed by late-week snowfall. In fact, **Juneau** received 20.6 inches of snow on February 24-25, securing its snowiest February—with a total of 46.4 inches—since 1965, when 86.3 inches fell. Meanwhile, **Fairbanks** received at least a trace of snow on each of the first 25 days of the month, except the 11th, including a daily-record sum of 5.6 inches on February 23. Farther south, **Hawaii's** wet regime continued, especially early in the week. **Lihue, Kauai**, collected a daily-record rainfall of 2.40 inches on February 20. On the **Big Island**, **Hilo** netted more than an inch of rain each day from February 20-24, helping to boost its month-to-date sum to 35.54 inches (397 percent of normal).


U.S. Drought Monitor
February 21, 2023
(Released Thursday, Feb. 23, 2023)
Valid 7 a.m. EST
Drought Impact Types:
Delineates dominant impacts
S = Short-Term, typically less than 6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)
L = Long-Term, typically greater than 6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)
Intensity:
None
D0 Abnormally Dry
D1 Moderate Drought
D2 Severe Drought
D3 Extreme Drought
D4 Exceptional Drought
Author:
Richard Heim
NCEI/NOAA
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx
USDA
NDMC
NOAA
droughtmonitor.unl.edu


U.S. Monthly Drought Outlook
Drought Tendency During the Valid Period
Valid for March 2023
Released February 28, 2023
Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).
NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).
Drought persists
Drought remains but improves
Drought removal likely
Drought development likely
Author:
Brad Pugh
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center
http://go.usa.gov/3eZGd

National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending February 25, 2023

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
AK	ANCHORAGE	28	16	35	6	22	-1	0.10	-0.11	0.10	5.87	217	1.96	127	96	78	0	7	1	0
	BARROW	4	-14	29	-35	-5	0	0.95	0.89	0.59	1.76	315	1.15	342	86	73	0	7	3	1
	FAIRBANKS	19	2	28	-6	10	7	0.62	0.48	0.43	2.77	168	1.61	149	84	65	0	7	6	0
	JUNEAU	31	21	39	13	26	-5	0.61	-0.38	0.39	14.40	87	11.25	113	85	43	0	6	3	0
	KODIAK	40	31	42	26	35	3	0.19	-1.27	0.19	16.61	72	10.34	73	82	54	0	5	1	0
	NOME	24	10	33	-14	17	7	0.82	0.56	0.43	3.69	128	2.06	112	98	81	0	7	6	0
AL	BIRMINGHAM	72	57	82	40	65	14	0.62	-0.70	0.35	16.07	112	11.82	125	87	54	0	0	4	0
	HUNTSVILLE	71	54	82	40	62	14	0.36	-0.99	0.28	16.03	104	9.93	104	90	51	0	0	2	0
	MOBILE	80	62	84	42	71	14	0.00	-1.15	0.00	11.81	78	7.06	73	89	53	0	0	0	0
	MONTGOMERY	79	56	85	40	68	14	0.00	-1.30	0.00	11.85	84	8.29	92	91	52	0	0	0	0
AR	FORT SMITH	64	43	77	34	54	7	0.31	-0.39	0.31	9.71	110	5.78	109	83	46	0	0	1	0
	LITTLE ROCK	66	47	77	38	57	10	2.46	1.35	2.13	19.79	164	13.63	195	84	47	0	0	3	1
AZ	FLAGSTAFF	42	20	51	18	31	-3	1.52	0.91	0.68	10.49	178	8.18	206	91	50	0	7	4	2
	PHOENIX	69	50	76	44	60	-1	0.09	-0.17	0.08	3.27	138	1.26	77	64	27	0	0	2	0
	PRESCOTT	52	29	61	25	41	-3	0.18	-0.18	0.08	4.17	125	3.27	140	89	35	0	6	3	0
	TUCSON	66	47	76	36	57	-1	0.09	-0.13	0.06	3.35	130	2.11	131	73	31	0	0	2	0
CA	BAKERSFIELD	59	39	70	36	49	-6	2.04	1.72	1.33	5.82	174	4.21	187	80	41	0	0	4	2
	EUREKA	45	34	55	32	40	-9	1.86	0.41	0.79	16.85	85	7.81	66	95	83	0	1	3	2
	FRESNO	57	39	68	36	48	-6	3.03	2.52	1.87	12.05	212	7.54	193	91	43	0	0	3	2
	LOS ANGELES	59	47	68	44	53	-5	3.92	3.14	2.17	13.24	170	10.79	194	82	55	0	0	3	2
	REDDING	57	34	80	28	46	-6	1.45	0.09	1.30	19.85	115	11.66	106	86	43	0	3	2	1
	SACRAMENTO	56	37	68	32	47	-6	0.81	-0.07	0.69	14.32	139	6.54	96	87	45	0	1	3	1
	SAN DIEGO	61	48	66	43	55	-5	1.14	0.54	0.97	8.31	148	6.76	171	78	49	0	0	4	1
	SAN FRANCISCO	56	43	66	39	49	-5	0.95	-0.06	0.80	21.09	182	11.50	154	86	50	0	0	4	1
	STOCKTON	57	38	68	34	48	-6	0.67	0.05	0.35	15.08	205	6.56	133	86	45	0	0	3	0
CO	ALAMOSA	45	14	53	9	29	2	0.05	-0.02	0.05	0.69	75	0.67	118	86	34	0	7	1	0
	CO SPRINGS	49	18	65	-2	33	-1	0.07	-0.02	0.07	1.40	174	0.90	156	66	32	0	6	1	0
	DENVER INTL	43	12	60	-11	28	-6	0.02	-0.08	0.02	2.63	239	1.48	198	78	40	0	7	1	0
	GRAND JUNCTION	45	25	51	20	35	-3	0.10	-0.04	0.05	2.63	157	1.38	128	88	45	0	7	3	0
	PUEBLO	53	17	70	4	35	-2	0.06	-0.03	0.06	0.75	86	0.62	107	75	31	0	7	1	0
CT	BRIDGEPORT	42	30	53	20	36	2	0.29	-0.55	0.11	9.81	99	5.74	96	95	53	0	4	5	0
	HARTFORD	41	26	63	11	34	2	0.83	0.01	0.48	11.27	111	6.83	113	92	47	0	5	5	0
DC	WASHINGTON	61	41	81	34	51	10	0.04	-0.62	0.02	7.15	83	3.39	65	80	34	0	0	3	0
DE	WILMINGTON	51	30	61	25	41	4	0.13	-0.60	0.10	8.89	92	3.70	64	93	45	0	4	2	0
FL	DAYTONA BEACH	84	60	87	50	72	9	0.00	-0.57	0.00	3.06	42	1.95	40	98	48	0	0	0	0
	JACKSONVILLE	84	56	88	44	71	12	0.00	-0.72	0.00	3.52	40	3.31	56	96	43	0	0	0	0
	KEY WEST	83	74	84	70	79	6	0.00	-0.34	0.00	4.13	76	0.09	2	87	65	0	0	0	0
	MIAMI	85	71	86	68	78	6	0.00	-0.47	0.00	5.35	86	3.63	96	90	52	0	0	0	0
	ORLANDO	86	61	88	55	74	9	0.00	-0.48	0.00	2.47	36	1.54	35	97	43	0	0	0	0
	PENSACOLA	78	63	83	44	71	12	0.00	-1.22	0.00	11.83	80	6.37	68	93	62	0	0	0	0
	TALLAHASSEE	81	58	86	39	70	13	0.00	-1.20	0.00	12.60	101	10.54	129	97	51	0	0	0	0
	TAMPA	81	64	85	57	73	7	0.01	-0.55	0.01	4.38	57	2.00	39	96	59	0	0	1	0
	WEST PALM BEACH	87	67	89	65	77	8	0.00	-0.59	0.00	4.78	51	1.32	22	90	49	0	0	0	0
GA	ATHENS	73	52	81	36	63	13	0.41	-0.72	0.37	16.71	131	12.00	145	91	54	0	0	3	0
	ATLANTA	73	56	81	43	64	14	0.26	-0.92	0.18	12.89	97	9.48	109	86	54	0	0	4	0
	AUGUSTA	76	49	84	30	62	10	2.39	1.42	2.36	15.51	141	11.77	165	98	51	0	1	2	1
	COLUMBUS	77	56	84	39	67	13	0.00	-1.19	0.00	10.17	78	8.61	105	93	53	0	0	0	0
	MACON	79	56	84	35	67	14	0.00	-1.06	0.00	12.96	102	10.96	135	91	53	0	0	0	0
	SAVANNAH	80	58	86	42	69	14	0.00	-0.74	0.00	8.91	99	7.19	124	87	45	0	0	0	0
HI	HILO	77	67	79	66	72	1	9.33	6.64	2.56	43.78	151	36.30	215	95	73	0	0	7	6
	HONOLULU	81	72	84	69	76	3	0.94	0.38	0.45	5.69	99	3.46	97	88	63	0	0	3	0
	KAHULUI	81	66	83	63	73	0	0.04	-0.45	0.04	9.52	135	5.72	136	88	54	0	0	1	0
	LIHUE	79	71	80	69	75	3	3.81	2.80	2.61	18.20	172	13.35	224	88	34	0	0	5	2
IA	BURLINGTON	44	24	53	12	34	2	0.61	0.13	0.61	4.37	91	3.57	122	89	52	0	6	1	1
	CEDAR RAPIDS	36	18	46	7	27	0	0.10	-0.26	0.10	2.24	62	1.94	96	92	64	0	7	1	0
	DES MOINES	38	17	52	4	28	-2	0.05	-0.31	0.05	4.34	113	2.42	107	90	54	0	7	1	0
	DUBUQUE	35	18	43	8	26	1	0.39	-0.04	0.38	6.14	136	3.93	145	91	68	0	7	2	0
	SIOUX CITY	31	10	50	-4	21	-6	0.07	-0.16	0.04	3.83	158	2.17	151	90	66	0	7	2	0
	WATERLOO	36	15	48	1	25	-1	0.23	-0.09	0.20	4.77	137	3.12	154	84	62	0	7	2	0
ID	BOISE	47	25	55	20	36	-3	0.01	-0.23	0.01	2.70	70	0.87	37	72	34	0	6	1	0
	LEWISTON	43	26	58	14	34	-6	0.13	-0.11	0.11	1.90	59	0.72	35	83	42	0	5	2	0
	POCATELLO	35	14	43	2	25	-7	0.13	-0.13	0.04	3.11	100	1.52	77	90	63	0	6	4	0
IL	CHICAGO/O_HARE	40	27	51	18	33	2	1.26	0.70	1.20	7.42	127	5.28	142	83	50	0	5	2	1
	MOLINE	42	25	53	15	34	3	0.96	0.44	0.96	6.47	122	4.81	148	84	48	0	5	1	1
	PEORIA	46	28	56	17	37	4	1.40	0.85	1.40	6.72	111	4.06	107	87	49	0	5	1	1
	ROCKFORD	39	23	48	14	31	3	0.95	0.50	0.94	6.62	133	4.09	135	86	52	0	7	2	1
	SPRINGFIELD	49	29	59	18	39	5	0.78	0.26	0.74	5.24	89	3.16	85	88	50	0	5	3	1
IN	EVANSVILLE	61	39	76	28	50	10	0.28	-0.59	0.28	11.80	118	8.26	133	86	43	0	1	1	0
	FORT WAYNE	46	30	60	26	38	7	1.94	1.38	1.93	7.95	116	5.76	132	86	50	0	5	2	1
	INDIANAPOLIS	56	33	71	22	45	10	0.40	-0.26	0.40	8.62	105	6.03	114	83	40	0	3	1	0
	SOUTH BEND	43	28	54	24	36	7	1.41	0.78	1.33	8.17	115	5.03	107	88	50	0	6	2	1
KS	CONCORDIA	46	17	64	4	32	-3	0.01	-0.20	0.01	2.04	82	1.39	96	75	35	0	7	1	0
	DODGE CITY	53	16	74	3	34	-3	0.00	-0.16	0.00	0.72	34	0.64	55	77	26	0	7	0	0
	GOODLAND	41	14	59	-4	27	-6	0.04	-0.08	0.02	0.58	48	0.58	79	85	51	0	7	2	0
	TOPEKA	52	21	66	11	37	-1	0.09	-0.26	0.05	3.66	104	2.70	133	83	36	0	7	2	0

Based on 1991-2020 normals ***** Not Available**

Weather Data for the Week Ending February 25, 2023

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
	WICHITA	50	21	65	11	36	-4	0.02	-0.29	0.02	2.35	75	1.57	82	77	38	0	7	1	0
KY	LEXINGTON	62	40	77	32	51	12	0.98	0.00	0.55	13.17	121	9.80	148	84	38	0	1	3	1
	LOUISVILLE	63	41	77	30	52	11	0.49	-0.46	0.49	10.91	103	7.66	120	75	36	0	1	1	0
	PADUCAH	66	42	77	33	54	12	0.30	-0.79	0.30	15.37	132	10.92	149	84	40	0	0	1	0
LA	BATON ROUGE	82	63	87	39	73	15	0.00	-1.06	0.00	20.87	133	13.62	132	93	55	0	0	0	0
	LAKE CHARLES	76	62	81	41	69	11	0.08	-0.70	0.08	16.49	123	7.26	82	98	71	0	0	1	0
	NEW ORLEANS	80	63	83	42	71	12	0.00	-1.05	0.00	13.61	99	5.59	63	98	59	0	0	0	0
	SHREVEPORT	74	58	88	43	66	12	0.00	-1.16	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0	83	51	0	0	0	0
MA	BOSTON	41	28	61	13	35	2	0.94	0.10	0.48	9.91	94	6.23	100	93	49	0	3	5	0
	WORCESTER	38	25	55	11	31	3	1.02	0.17	0.47	13.43	125	7.33	114	91	53	0	6	4	0
MD	BALTIMORE	60	38	79	31	49	11	0.04	-0.72	0.02	8.22	87	3.45	61	85	30	0	2	2	0
ME	CARIBOU	22	1	43	-13	11	-5	0.17	-0.47	0.08	11.04	127	6.53	128	79	41	0	7	3	0
	PORTLAND	34	18	52	0	26	-2	0.50	-0.42	0.42	12.59	113	8.65	130	92	46	0	7	2	0
MI	ALPENA	31	15	48	4	23	1	0.74	0.33	0.32	5.43	108	3.97	126	91	58	0	7	3	0
	GRAND RAPIDS	37	26	47	22	31	3	0.61	0.06	0.46	6.60	96	5.15	117	85	58	0	6	4	0
	HOUGHTON LAKE	30	18	43	6	24	2	0.69	0.30	0.39	4.80	102	3.49	118	87	66	0	7	3	0
	LANSING	38	27	51	22	32	5	0.85	0.39	0.82	5.17	94	4.19	117	81	52	0	6	2	1
	MUSKEGON	38	27	47	21	33	4	0.57	0.02	0.41	5.71	85	4.53	105	81	57	0	6	4	0
	TRAVERSE CITY	34	22	47	10	28	3	0.32	0.05	0.21	2.89	66	2.24	87	80	56	0	7	3	0
MN	DULUTH	18	0	32	-13	9	-9	1.92	1.63	1.40	7.73	234	4.52	248	82	52	0	7	5	1
	INT_L FALLS	14	-12	33	-24	1	-12	0.12	-0.06	0.07	1.06	44	0.76	54	78	47	0	7	4	0
	MINNEAPOLIS	23	6	35	-8	14	-9	0.96	0.71	0.35	5.85	208	4.08	248	88	62	0	7	4	0
	ROCHESTER	24	4	36	-11	14	-7	0.87	0.59	0.36	5.44	172	3.83	205	94	74	0	7	5	0
	ST. CLOUD	20	0	33	-15	10	-9	0.80	0.58	0.33	5.25	239	3.36	254	89	62	0	7	5	0
MO	COLUMBIA	56	32	65	20	44	6	0.94	0.37	0.94	4.94	81	3.74	94	82	43	0	3	1	1
	KANSAS CITY	49	22	62	11	36	0	0.13	-0.28	0.08	5.35	133	4.17	170	89	43	0	6	2	0
	SAINT LOUIS	58	36	73	23	47	8	0.46	-0.12	0.37	5.85	82	3.89	85	80	38	0	2	4	0
	SPRINGFIELD	59	34	67	22	46	6	0.49	-0.18	0.49	7.48	103	5.26	113	80	41	0	3	1	0
MS	JACKSON	79	58	87	38	69	16	0.00	-1.26	0.00	17.50	115	11.88	119	88	49	0	0	0	0
	MERIDIAN	78	58	84	39	68	14	0.05	-1.31	0.05	20.10	128	16.09	155	94	52	0	0	1	0
	TUPELO	73	53	87	38	63	14	0.72	-0.72	0.61	16.37	106	9.22	96	84	48	0	0	4	1
MT	BILLINGS	25	3	42	-18	14	-16	0.33	0.18	0.13	1.72	106	1.11	106	86	60	0	7	4	0
	BUTTE	25	-1	42	-21	12	-12	0.04	-0.07	0.04	1.08	84	0.59	74	83	46	0	7	1	0
	CUT BANK	18	-3	40	-32	7	-17	0.22	0.16	0.16	0.26	35	0.26	62	89	63	0	7	2	0
	GLASGOW	14	-4	40	-18	5	-16	0.24	0.15	0.12	2.58	223	1.70	228	78	60	0	7	4	0
	GREAT FALLS	24	2	41	-22	13	-14	0.45	0.30	0.23	2.55	158	1.64	152	89	59	0	7	5	0
	HAVRE	15	-1	41	-20	7	-16	0.34	0.25	0.24	2.31	196	0.84	108	86	66	0	7	4	0
	MISSOULA	30	10	46	-2	20	-10	0.25	0.03	0.14	2.72	96	1.46	83	80	51	0	6	3	0
NC	ASHEVILLE	65	42	74	33	54	10	0.16	-0.69	0.09	11.17	97	7.60	105	86	40	0	0	4	0
	CHARLOTTE	70	51	80	37	60	13	0.06	-0.78	0.05	13.17	134	8.63	138	90	42	0	0	2	0
	GREENSBORO	66	46	81	32	56	12	0.28	-0.46	0.26	10.80	119	7.04	119	90	38	0	1	2	0
	HATTERAS	67	51	73	30	59	9	0.17	-0.87	0.14	8.92	65	5.64	63	98	64	0	1	3	0
	RALEIGH	70	49	85	32	59	13	0.26	-0.47	0.13	9.20	99	5.56	94	89	40	0	1	3	0
	WILMINGTON	76	52	86	33	64	13	0.08	-0.78	0.07	7.58	71	5.42	78	92	45	0	0	2	0
ND	BISMARCK	12	-9	32	-29	2	-18	0.41	0.26	0.20	2.72	177	0.63	67	86	65	0	7	4	0
	DICKINSON	14	-6	37	-24	4	-17	0.07	-0.03	0.06	0.21	30	0.07	13	85	65	0	7	2	0
	FARGO	9	-10	27	-21	-1	-17	0.27	0.06	0.15	2.49	113	0.52	40	90	71	0	7	4	0
	GRAND FORKS	7	-14	30	-25	-3	-16	0.29	0.13	0.25	1.76	110	0.44	47	81	65	0	7	2	0
	JAMESTOWN	10	-10	31	-26	0	-17	0.06	-0.06	0.04	0.61	62	0.19	29	82	65	0	7	2	0
NE	GRAND ISLAND	38	13	58	-2	26	-6	0.11	-0.07	0.10	1.88	89	1.44	114	83	52	0	7	2	0
	LINCOLN	40	14	55	2	27	-5	0.05	-0.16	0.04	2.52	93	1.89	124	86	53	0	7	2	0
	NORFOLK	33	11	49	-4	22	-6	0.02	-0.19	0.01	2.59	120	1.91	145	85	59	0	7	2	0
	NORTH PLATTE	35	10	51	-7	22	-9	0.05	-0.11	0.04	3.28	244	1.94	217	83	55	0	7	2	0
	OMAHA	38	15	50	2	27	-5	0.01	-0.24	0.01	3.51	125	2.48	157	89	59	0	7	1	0
	SCOTTSBLUFF	33	5	54	-20	19	-13	0.32	0.16	0.28	2.45	175	1.80	205	87	46	0	7	2	0
	VALENTINE	26	3	42	-14	14	-15	0.39	0.21	0.33	5.81	455	3.58	423	86	65	0	7	3	0
NH	CONCORD	35	18	55	3	27	0	0.63	-0.07	0.38	10.53	117	6.52	124	95	47	0	7	4	0
NJ	ATLANTIC_CITY	51	32	59	24	41	4	0.13	-0.72	0.09	10.24	95	4.73	75	93	49	0	5	3	0
	NEWARK	48	33	64	23	41	4	0.41	-0.37	0.21	9.48	92	5.00	82	86	45	0	3	3	0
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	58	32	65	28	45	1	0.01	-0.11	0.01	1.24	97	0.62	83	74	27	0	3	1	0
NV	ELY	35	10	43	-3	22	-10	0.27	0.04	0.27	4.23	195	2.74	182	85	54	0	6	1	0
	LAS VEGAS	60	40	69	34	50	-5	0.26	0.04	0.24	1.02	59	0.95	74	59	25	0	0	3	0
	RENO	43	26	61	20	35	-7	0.38	0.09	0.23	8.35	255	3.28	151	84	38	0	7	4	0
	WINNEMUCCA	39	22	50	17	31	-8	0.13	0.00	0.12	3.32	198	0.91	98	82	43	0	5	2	0
NY	ALBANY	40	23	56	12	32	3	1.26	0.65	0.65	8.54	108	4.78	103	84	51	0	6	4	1
	BINGHAMTON	40	24	50	13	32	6	0.96	0.32	0.56	8.41	107	4.67	98	91	59	0	7	4	1
	BUFFALO	39	25	53	16	32	4	0.85	0.21	0.68	15.63	168	5.85	105	83	54	0	7	4	1
	ROCHESTER	39	24	56	17	31	3	0.92	0.35	0.67	19.76	278	5.49	124	87	53	0	7	5	1
	SYRACUSE	38	23	51	10	31	4	0.98	0.33	0.59	9.28	115	6.12	128	87	55	0	7	5	1
OH	AKRON-CANTON	54	31	72	24	42	10	0.76	0.10	0.75	7.81	98	5.94	117	75	41	0	4	2	1
	CINCINNATI	59	35	73	26	47	10	0.40	-0.43	0.31	9.06	92	6.42	105	89	40	0	2	3	0
	CLEVELAND	48	31	67	23	39	7	1.44	0.77	1.36	8.50	104	7.29	140	72	41	0	4	3	1
	COLUMBUS	57	34	73	28	45	11	0.34	-0.30	0.34	7.03	85	5.02	98	84	38	0	2	1	0
	DAYTON	56	34	70	24	45	10	0.40	-0.22	0.39	6.41	78	4.93	95	76	38	0	3	2	0
	MANSFIELD	50	30	68	24	40	9	0.93	0.25	0.93	7.60	89	6.26	115	84	46	0	6	1	1

Based on 1991-2020 normals

***** Not Available**

Weather Data for the Week Ending February 25, 2023

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
	TOLEDO	46	30	62	25	38	6	2.11	1.49	2.07	6.84	100	5.94	136	81	47	0	4	2	1
	YOUNGSTOWN	52	27	69	18	39	9	0.91	0.22	0.89	7.53	89	5.96	113	81	44	0	5	3	1
OK	OKLAHOMA CITY	56	33	73	21	45	1	0.15	-0.22	0.15	4.19	96	2.17	85	76	40	0	4	1	0
	TULSA	58	34	74	25	46	1	0.24	-0.20	0.24	7.00	128	4.45	146	81	41	0	2	1	0
OR	ASTORIA	44	33	49	23	38	-6	1.22	-0.47	0.58	21.68	78	10.13	59	93	63	0	4	6	1
	BURNS	37	14	43	8	25	-8	0.03	-0.19	0.03	3.83	103	1.45	66	82	54	0	7	1	0
	EUGENE	47	29	56	21	38	-6	0.47	-0.70	0.43	8.92	51	3.92	38	89	57	0	5	3	0
	MEDFORD	51	29	58	25	40	-5	0.12	-0.37	0.06	5.20	65	1.20	26	91	43	0	6	3	0
	PENDLETON	38	23	57	2	31	-9	0.32	0.03	0.21	2.77	67	1.29	49	79	51	0	4	2	0
	PORTLAND	43	32	53	18	37	-8	0.98	0.09	0.83	13.38	95	5.03	60	80	57	0	4	2	1
	SALEM	44	31	53	20	38	-7	0.82	-0.26	0.31	10.74	62	5.15	50	86	58	0	3	3	0
PA	ALLENTOWN	49	26	62	19	38	4	0.40	-0.31	0.22	8.96	93	4.63	80	89	45	0	6	2	0
	ERIE	43	26	53	18	35	5	1.26	0.60	1.21	8.94	91	7.89	140	88	54	0	6	4	1
	MIDDLETOWN	56	31	71	28	44	9	0.21	-0.44	0.15	7.43	85	3.08	57	87	38	0	5	3	0
	PHILADELPHIA	54	36	64	27	45	7	0.08	-0.63	0.04	9.14	95	4.33	77	90	39	0	3	2	0
	PITTSBURGH	55	31	70	22	43	10	0.57	-0.11	0.45	6.01	74	4.35	82	82	37	0	4	4	0
	WILKES-BARRE	49	28	59	18	38	6	0.49	-0.05	0.22	7.11	98	3.46	78	89	50	0	4	4	0
	WILLIAMSPORT	49	29	61	21	39	7	0.00	-0.61	0.00	8.44	101	3.36	67	83	47	0	5	0	0
RI	PROVIDENCE	41	28	60	15	35	1	0.63	-0.29	0.33	13.56	116	7.57	108	97	50	0	5	5	0
SC	CHARLESTON	79	55	86	37	67	13	0.20	-0.56	0.14	9.11	96	7.44	121	91	48	0	0	2	0
	COLUMBIA	75	51	83	30	63	12	0.37	-0.52	0.23	12.22	119	9.23	141	95	51	0	1	2	0
	FLORENCE	74	52	84	29	63	12	0.59	-0.17	0.45	10.76	116	8.05	139	91	47	0	1	2	0
	GREENVILLE	71	50	79	33	61	13	0.06	-0.94	0.04	14.96	123	10.52	139	87	41	0	0	3	0
SD	ABERDEEN	14	-5	35	-23	4	-16	0.62	0.45	0.25	2.41	141	0.97	89	90	73	0	7	4	0
	HURON	18	-3	39	-23	7	-16	0.50	0.30	0.23	2.62	138	0.88	71	88	69	0	7	3	0
	RAPID CITY	27	1	50	-17	14	-14	0.48	0.33	0.37	1.90	174	1.21	164	87	57	0	7	3	0
	SIOUX FALLS	24	2	39	-14	13	-12	0.60	0.37	0.28	5.34	248	3.72	282	83	64	0	7	3	0
TN	BRISTOL	64	42	79	32	53	11	0.81	-0.17	0.48	12.61	116	8.76	124	87	41	0	1	4	0
	CHATTANOOGA	70	52	82	41	61	14	0.78	-0.54	0.31	15.39	104	9.33	98	89	46	0	0	5	0
	KNOXVILLE	67	51	80	34	59	15	0.75	-0.51	0.72	15.03	107	9.55	105	85	38	0	0	3	1
	MEMPHIS	66	49	78	40	57	10	1.41	0.19	0.53	18.35	134	12.44	153	92	53	0	0	3	1
	NASHVILLE	68	49	85	42	58	13	0.43	-0.74	0.32	10.81	87	6.41	80	83	40	0	0	3	0
TX	ABILENE	67	45	88	34	56	5	0.18	-0.15	0.18	2.36	67	1.90	85	64	33	0	0	1	0
	AMARILLO	63	31	75	14	47	4	0.00	-0.12	0.00	0.65	34	0.50	42	65	24	0	3	0	0
	AUSTIN	77	55	91	45	66	8	0.00	-0.48	0.00	4.87	69	2.98	69	91	39	1	0	0	0
	BEAUMONT	79	63	82	41	71	12	0.08	-0.63	0.05	12.03	91	6.40	78	99	70	0	0	2	0
	BROWNSVILLE	86	66	92	51	76	8	0.00	-0.19	0.00	0.80	25	0.54	27	100	57	1	0	0	0
	CORPUS CHRISTI	86	64	95	47	75	12	0.00	-0.32	0.00	1.20	27	0.89	35	97	55	1	0	0	0
	DEL RIO	82	55	96	45	69	9	0.02	-0.13	0.02	0.21	11	0.21	18	68	24	3	0	1	0
	EL PASO	67	43	72	36	55	2	0.37	0.28	0.37	0.91	64	0.58	76	70	28	0	0	1	0
	FORT WORTH	70	49	90	39	59	7	0.41	-0.34	0.39	7.12	91	4.75	96	80	37	1	0	2	0
	GALVESTON	75	64	78	53	70	9	0.01	-0.48	0.01	6.94	66	3.77	60	97	80	0	0	1	0
	HOUSTON	80	64	83	43	72	13	0.10	-0.66	0.07	11.84	113	8.00	125	97	61	0	0	3	0
	LUBBOCK	63	37	80	24	50	4	0.03	-0.13	0.03	1.16	58	0.74	60	71	30	0	3	1	0
	MIDLAND	66	42	83	32	54	3	0.06	-0.07	0.04	0.48	27	0.40	34	80	33	0	1	3	0
	SAN ANGELO	71	43	89	37	57	4	0.08	-0.23	0.07	2.44	85	1.42	72	69	27	0	0	2	0
	SAN ANTONIO	77	55	89	43	66	9	0.00	-0.41	0.00	2.34	42	1.87	53	88	41	0	0	0	0
	VICTORIA	82	60	89	45	71	11	0.00	-0.49	0.00	8.69	129	7.26	165	99	60	0	0	0	0
	WACO	69	48	82	39	58	5	0.22	-0.51	0.22	5.24	67	4.69	95	94	47	0	0	1	0
	WICHITA FALLS	63	42	88	29	53	5	0.10	-0.27	0.10	4.89	123	2.86	118	76	36	0	2	1	0
UT	SALT LAKE CITY	42	28	49	19	35	-5	0.66	0.31	0.39	5.80	145	3.51	136	82	49	0	6	4	0
VA	LYNCHBURG	65	41	79	32	53	13	0.28	-0.46	0.27	11.44	119	5.86	96	82	31	0	1	2	0
	NORFOLK	68	48	81	32	58	12	0.00	-0.72	0.00	8.05	86	5.20	86	86	45	0	1	0	0
	RICHMOND	66	42	83	32	54	12	0.40	-0.28	0.40	9.33	103	4.84	87	80	30	0	1	1	0
	ROANOKE	65	45	78	32	55	13	0.23	-0.50	0.22	9.34	105	5.41	93	73	28	0	1	2	0
	WASH/DULLES	61	35	80	27	48	10	0.04	-0.62	0.02	8.33	97	3.42	65	76	32	0	2	3	0
VT	BURLINGTON	30	14	46	-6	22	-2	0.63	0.17	0.46	7.19	116	4.62	125	82	49	0	7	3	0
WA	OLYMPIA	43	29	50	16	36	-5	0.32	-0.87	0.15	14.10	69	6.48	52	95	60	0	4	4	0
	QUILLAYUTE	41	31	48	22	36	-6	1.51	-0.74	0.76	29.76	78	15.15	62	92	64	0	4	5	1
	SEATTLE-TACOMA	42	32	48	22	37	-8	0.33	-0.54	0.21	12.35	83	4.86	53	78	51	0	4	4	0
	SPOKANE	34	17	48	3	25	-9	0.10	-0.26	0.06	5.31	95	1.76	54	82	54	0	6	2	0
	YAKIMA	42	21	60	9	31	-7	0.00	-0.19	0.00	3.33	99	1.19	61	71	34	0	7	0	0
WI	EAU CLAIRE	25	9	35	-10	17	-5	0.45	0.15	0.17	3.54	106	2.53	127	86	60	0	7	5	0
	GREEN BAY	31	17	45	-1	24	1	0.61	0.29	0.21	3.90	92	2.21	90	89	61	0	7	6	0
	LA CROSSE	31	13	46	-4	22	-4	0.67	0.35	0.29	5.17	136	3.15	137	88	59	0	7	5	0
	MADISON	34	20	45	10	27	1	0.54	0.11	0.41	5.55	124	3.21	114	88	57	0	7	5	0
	MILWAUKEE	38	25	46	15	31	2	0.84	0.38	0.68	6.53	126	4.26	130	83	53	0	7	5	1
WV	BECKLEY	58	39	77	33	49	12	0.64	-0.19	0.18	9.50	103	6.72	114	84	30	0	0	5	0
	CHARLESTON	62	38	78	29	50	11	0.90	-0.01	0.35	9.07	92	7.90	126	95	39	0	3	4	0
	ELKINS	58	33	70	24	46	11	1.02	0.15	0.34	8.61	87	5.47	87	88	39	0	5	5	0
	HUNTINGTON	63	40	80	32	52	12	0.69	-0.22	0.35	9.20	95	7.56	124	85	36	0	1	4	0
WY	CASPER	24	0	41	-26	12	-16	0.51	0.35	0.26	3.41	214	2.67	271	83	62	0	7	2	0
	CHEYENNE	33	6	52	-19	20	-11	0.16	0.02	0.13	1.57	122	1.52	188	73	46	0	6	2	0
	LANDER	23	-3	47	-21	10	-17	1.05	0.87	0.68	5.22	296	3.90	343	85	54	0	7	2	1
	SHERIDAN	26	-2	49	-25	12	-15	0.88	0.72	0.31	3.43	198	2.40	201	81	50	0	7	4	0

Based on 1991-2020 normals ***** Not Available**

February 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: February temperatures ranged from 3.7 to 9.9 degrees warmer than normal depending on location. Total rainfall for the month ranged from 1.3 inches in Dale County to 9.2 inches in Marshall County. Most of the State received a significant amount of rain in February, with only the southeastern region of the State not receiving much precipitation. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, 0.5 percent of the State had abnormally dry conditions by month's end, compared to 3 percent at the month's beginning. Despite the warmer temperatures, reporters in some areas noted fruit, early planted winter small grain crops, and grazing crops in poor condition due to deep freezes in December and January. Crops that were planted later were noted to have bounced back well from the freeze. Operators began field preparations for spring row crop plantings, although wet field conditions prevented some field work. Pastures continued to improve and started to green due to the warm temperatures and significant precipitation. Livestock were reported to be in good condition, although some operators had to supplement feed due to the lack of grazing in parts of the State.

ALASKA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

ARIZONA: This report for Arizona is for the month of February 2023. Responses were based on the entire month, with consideration for any weather-related impacts that are forecast between now and month's end. By the end of the month, 44 percent of the barley crop had been planted, 36 percent had emerged, and 3 percent had headed. Sixty-three percent of intended Durum wheat acres had been planted, 27 percent had emerged, and 1 percent had headed. Ninety-seven percent of the alfalfa crop was rated good to excellent depending on location last week, with harvest taking place on more than three-quarters of the alfalfa acreage across the State. Statewide, 72 percent of the pastures and ranges were rated fair to good as soil moisture conditions remained mostly adequate. According to the United States Drought Monitor by February 27, moderate drought covered 20.6 percent of the State and severe drought was present across just 1.2 percent. The State was free of extreme and exceptional drought. In the northeastern part of the State, below freezing temperatures and near steady snowfall allowed for some moisture retention in the soil. In the southeastern part of the State, winter storms have improved soil moisture, but native forages were still dormant due to freezing conditions. In the south-central part of the State, significant precipitation has improved range conditions, but temperatures were still below normal. In the western part of the State, a few freezes resulted in frost damage in some areas. Above average precipitation was reported in the northwestern part of the State during the month. In the last 30 days, the average minimum temperature was reported around 15 Fahrenheit degrees, mostly in the north-central and northeastern part of the State. The average maximum was around 70 Fahrenheit degrees, mostly in the southwestern part of the State.

ARKANSAS: For the week ending February 26, 2023, topsoil moisture 1% short, 42% adequate, 57% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% very short, 3% short, 53% adequate, 42% surplus. Days suitable for fieldwork during the month of February were 14.0 days. February brought more rain than normal which improved soil moisture, but limited producers time in the fields. Cool-season forages have begun their transition from dormancy into the green-up stage. Ranchers continued to feed hay and supplements to their herds. Farmers did a lot of maintenance and seed orders as well as attending meetings for updates for commodities.

CALIFORNIA: For the week ending February 26, 2023 - Days suitable for fieldwork 4.7. Topsoil moisture 50% adequate, 50% surplus. Subsoil moisture 40% adequate, 60% surplus. Pasture and range condition 50% good, 50% excellent. Winter wheat condition 5% fair, 85% good, 10% excellent. A major winter storm hit the State during the last week of the month bringing rain, hail, and snow. The northern part of the State recorded as much as 6 feet of snow. Snow was also reported at lower elevations in the San Joaquin Valley. The rain halted ground preparations in parts of the State. Rain also delayed tomato planting and herbicide and fungicide applications. Winter wheat and oats continued to grow well, except in Yolo County where there was localized flooding. Alfalfa hay and silage fields were dormant. When conditions allowed, fields were sprayed for weeds. Old Almond and walnut orchards were removed. Almond orchards were in bloom during February, with frost concerns in the northern part of the State. Cold, wet weather hindered bee pollination activity in almond orchards across the State. Vegetable crop planting in the Salinas Valley was delayed due to food safety restrictions from previous flooding in the area. Garlic was planted and has sprouted. Broccoli was harvested and the plants were mowed before discing the fields. Range grass sprouted and was growing well.

COLORADO: This report for Colorado is for the entire month of February 2023. Topsoil moisture 12% very short, 15% short, 64% adequate, 9% surplus. Subsoil moisture 22% very short, 31% short, 45% adequate, 2% surplus. Winter wheat condition 8% very poor, 22% poor, 41% fair, 28% good, 1% excellent. Livestock condition 10% very poor, 13% poor, 31% fair, 40% good, 6% excellent. Pasture and range condition 10% very poor, 23% poor, 34% fair, 32% good, 1% excellent. Seasonal moisture during February improved the outlook in areas across the State. According to the U.S Drought Monitor, 45 percent of the State is showing no signs of drought, up from 41 percent at the beginning of the month. Snow events brought above average moisture conditions across the State, with some areas receiving more than 200 percent of normal precipitation throughout February,

helping improve drought conditions. Northwestern counties were experiencing colder than average temperatures, with areas of Moffat and Routt Counties realizing temperatures more than 12 degrees below normal. Crops remain dormant as snow remains on the ground with more storms on the way. In northeastern and east-central counties, reporters noted that stored feed supplies continue to be very short. Livestock condition declined due to poor growing conditions last season and lack of available supplemental feed. County reports noted snow cover was still significant but recent warm temperatures have started the melt off process and soils are benefiting from the moisture. Southwestern counties received varying amounts of moisture in February, with totals ranging from one-half inch to more than 4 inches in the high country. Reporters noted the recent snow brought optimism for the growing season and the moisture seems to be infiltrating the soil well. Some locales reported that deep mud remained due to precipitation melt off. Snowpack in the area continued to improve during February and is currently 142 percent of median snowfall. The San Luis Valley received above average moisture during February, but most of the area remains abnormally dry according to the U.S. Drought Monitor. According to county reports, livestock remained in good condition, with calving and lambing starting off well. Potato growers are beginning to prepare seed potatoes. Statewide, winter wheat condition declined, with 29 percent of the crop rated good to excellent, compared with 38 percent good to excellent from the previous report, and 21 percent good to excellent last year. As of February 26, 2023, snowpack in Colorado was 123 percent measured as percent of median snowfall.

DELAWARE: The State experienced warmer than normal conditions. Some producers are concerned that warmer temperatures are causing small grains and fruit trees to break dormancy too early for typical spring temperatures. There was very little precipitation and wind for the month. Water tables were reported in good condition. Fieldwork activities included spraying small grains to kill insects and disease, nitrogen application, and spreading manure on dry soil.

FLORIDA: February temperatures ranged from 4.3 to 9.1 degrees warmer than normal depending on location. Total rainfall for the month ranged from no rain in Collier County to 6.5 inches in Broward County. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, 80 percent of the State had abnormally dry conditions by month's end, compared to 72 percent at the month's beginning. Most of the State did not receive much precipitation in February, as only the southeastern and north-central regions of the State received a significant amount. The lack of precipitation worsened drought conditions across the State and negatively impacted pastures, with pastures reported as mostly poor to fair. The dry weather helped sugarcane harvest progress rapidly. Reporters noted that preparations for spring planting of row crops began in the second half of the month. Citrus grove activities throughout the month included mowing, fertilizing, spraying pesticides, removal of dead trees, and general grove maintenance. Fruits and vegetables that were planted and harvested during February include green beans, yellow squash, potatoes, strawberries, zucchini, sweet corn, pepper, and avocadoes. Rice planting began and progressed well throughout the month.

GEORGIA: February temperatures ranged from 6.2 to 8.2 degrees warmer than historical averages depending on location. Total rainfall for the month ranged from 1.1 inches in Muscogee County to 7.6 inches in Lowndes County. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, 10 percent of the State had abnormally dry conditions and 3 percent had moderate drought conditions by month's end, compared to 21 percent abnormally dry and 9 percent moderate drought at the beginning of the month. Georgia experienced unseasonably warm temperatures for February, which impacted many areas of agriculture across the State. Abundant rainfall in some areas delayed farmers from prepping fields for spring planting, although many areas reported that field work had begun. Winter grazing and cool season pastures benefitted from the recent mild winter weather and were showing growth with lime and fertilizer applications being made. Livestock conditions were mostly good; however, hay supplies ran low in some areas. The growth of wheat, rye and oats were reported to be good due to the warm conditions and good soil moisture levels. Wheat fields were top-dressed with nitrogen. The Vidalia onion crop was reported to be progressing well, however, yields are anticipated to be down this year due to the freeze event at the end of December. Many areas reported that corn fields are going to begin being planted in the next two to three weeks due to the warm soil temperatures. Peanuts could be planted early if the warm temperatures remain. Many farmers are wary of a potential late season freeze after the warm weather of February.

HAWAII: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

IDAHO: The average temperatures in Idaho for February varied from below normal in most regions of the State to above normal in parts of north and central Idaho. Accumulated precipitation remained below normal in northern Idaho and above normal in southeast Idaho for the water year. In northern Idaho, the area saw cooler than average temperatures throughout February. In southwest Idaho, temperatures were above freezing, with good precipitation. Hay stocks looked good. The groundwork for cropland began. In south-central Idaho, conditions were mild with above average moisture. The feed supply appeared adequate. Soils were too wet or frozen for any early fieldwork. Manure hauling was the primary activity. In eastern Idaho, temperatures were below normal, with heavy snowfall. Snow coverage protected fall crops from extremely cold temperatures. Teton, Fremont, and Madison Counties experienced heavy snowfall, followed by extremely cold temperatures. High winds made livestock care challenging. Bannock, Bingham, and Butte Counties received good precipitation from snow. Calving and lambing season continued on-schedule.

ILLINOIS: For the week ending February 26, 2023. Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 8% short, 65% adequate, 26% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% very short, 11% short, 68% adequate, 19% surplus. Statewide, the average temperature in February was 33.8 degrees, 4.3 degrees

above normal. Precipitation averaged 2.46 inches, 0.49 inch above normal.

INDIANA: Topsoil moisture for the month of February was 2% very short, 10% short, 66% adequate, 22% surplus. Subsoil moisture for the month was 5% very short, 19% short, 65% adequate, 11% surplus. Winter wheat condition was rated 2% very poor, 5% poor, 27% fair, 54% good, 12% excellent. Statewide temperatures averaged 37.6 degrees, 7.5 degrees above normal for the month of February. Statewide average precipitation was 2.59 inches, 0.48 inch above normal. Average temperatures throughout February hovered consistently above normal for much of the State which frequently resulted in precipitation in the form of rain rather than snow. Precipitation averages were also consistently above normal this month, which slightly increased soil moisture levels from the previous month and resulted in muddy field conditions for some. Winter wheat conditions improved slightly from January with 66 percent of the crop rated in good to excellent condition. Livestock were reported to be doing well despite muddy field conditions. Other activities for the month included equipment preparations, grain hauling, nitrogen applications, and spring calving.

IOWA: Farmers reported widely varying weather conditions for February, with temperatures from below zero to the 50s and a blizzard near the end of the month. Multiple snow and rain events during the month have producers more optimistic about soil moisture levels for the 2023 growing season. Calving and lambing is well underway. Livestock were reported to be in good condition, although feedlots were muddy and there were concerns regarding the effect of steep temperature fluctuations and the end-of-month blizzard on livestock health. Grain movement was normal for the season with some reports of gravel roads in poor condition. There were reports of trees being tapped for maple syrup.

KANSAS: For the week ending February 26, 2023, topsoil moisture supplies rated 30% very short, 30% short, 37% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies rated 42% very short, 33% short, 24% adequate, 1% surplus. Winter wheat condition rated 25% very poor, 26% poor, 30% fair, 17% good, 2% excellent.

KENTUCKY: For the month of February, Kentucky saw well above normal temperatures and above normal precipitation. Preliminary data suggests this could be in the top 5 warmest Februarys on record. The warm weather has increased the growing degree days as early vegetative development has been observed. Although precipitation for the month was close to normal, there were two flood events resulting from excessive rain. Temperatures for the period averaged 46 degrees across the State, 8 degrees above normal. Precipitation (liq. equ.) for the period totaled 3.62 inches Statewide, which was 0.24 inch above normal and 107% of normal. Hay supplies remain mostly adequate despite a fall drought that led to early supplementation. For the month, hay supplies 6% very short, 26% short, 62% adequate, 6% surplus. Livestock condition 1% very poor, 7% poor, 30% fair, 53% good, 9% excellent. Condition of winter wheat 1% very poor, 2% poor, 26% fair, 61% good, 10% excellent.

LOUISIANA: For the week ending February 26, 2023, topsoil moisture 1% short, 70% adequate, 29% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% short, 76% adequate, 23% surplus. Days suitable for fieldwork during the month of February were 17.0 days. Conditions for the State consisted of temperatures warming and less rainfall frequency during the month of February. Field conditions were improving, and soil temperatures were on the rise allowing the planting preparation to begin. The warm temperatures resulted in early flowering of many plants. Several acres of herbicide were being applied in fields intending to be planted of rice and corn. A few acres of corn have already been planted in areas where ground conditions are allowing. Some rice acres will soon be planted in water seeded systems by air. Sugarcane producers have begun going back in the fields. Farmers and producers focused on planning for the new crop year and remain hopeful for the upcoming growing season.

MARYLAND: The State experienced warmer than normal conditions. Some producers are concerned that warmer temperatures are causing small grains and fruit trees to break dormancy too early for typical spring temperatures. There was very little precipitation in February. Field work activities included nitrogen application and spraying small grain to kill insects and prevent disease. Overall, crops looked good.

MICHIGAN: Topsoil moisture 3% very short, 16% short, 74% adequate and 7% surplus. Subsoil moisture 5% very short, 30% short, 63% adequate, and 2% surplus. Winter wheat condition rated 1% very poor, 5% poor, 27% fair, 52% good, and 15% excellent. Precipitation for the month of February to date averaged 2.06 inches throughout the State, 0.74 inch above normal. Temperatures for the month of February to date averaged 26.9 degrees, 5.3 degrees above normal. Approximately 44 percent of the State experienced abnormally dry conditions or worse, with 21 percent experiencing moderate drought and 10 percent experiencing severe drought conditions, according to the US Drought Monitor. The driest areas include central, southeastern and thumb regions of the Lower Peninsula. February's weather fluctuations have producers concerned about crop condition. Flooding from warm temperatures turned into frozen ponds with the latest temperature drops. The most recent storm brought snow and ice cover, but producers are concerned that it was too late. Other activities throughout the month included crop planning, equipment maintenance and tending livestock.

MINNESOTA: The weather during February was typical, with average temperatures only a few degrees from normal over most of the State. Snow depth had been decreasing the first few weeks of the month, but much of the loss was offset by a heavy snowfall later, which brought most of the southern half of the State a foot of snow. There were multiple reports mentioning minimal ground frost due to the consistent snow cover. Some livestock were lost to the cold, but largely there was no major concern.

MISSISSIPPI: For the week ending February 26, 2023, topsoil moisture supplies were 1% very short, 1% short, 58% adequate, and 40% surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies were 1% short, 60% adequate, and 39% surplus. Days suitable for

fieldwork during the month of February were 15.0 days. Conditions for most of February have been mild, but mid and late February brought above average wet, rainy conditions. Wheat crops were showing signs of recovery from the January freeze. Livestock were maintaining a fair body condition with only hay to graze. Waterlogged field conditions made some work impossible, but warmer, dry conditions helped improve these areas. Many flowers were blooming, and crops were growing due to rainfall with warmer temperatures. Overall, with temperatures on the rise and excess rainfall across the State for the month of February, crop progress for the State has mostly recovered from cold winter temperatures last month.

MISSOURI: For the week ending February 26, 2023. Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 7% short, 84% adequate, and 8% surplus. Subsoil moisture 3% very short, 18% short, 77% adequate, and 2% surplus. Winter wheat condition 0% very poor, 4% poor, 25% fair, 67% good, and 4% excellent. Statewide, precipitation averaged 2.66 inches for the month of February, 0.66 inch above average. Temperatures averaged 38.6 degrees, 4.5 degrees above normal.

MONTANA: This report for Montana is for the month of February 2023, through February 26. Responses were based on the entire month, with consideration for any weather-related impacts that are forecast between now and month's end. Topsoil moisture 6% very short, 32% short, 59% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil moisture 10% very short, 50% short, 37% adequate, 3% surplus. Winter wheat condition 1% very poor, 8% poor, 70% fair, 21% good. Winter wheat wind damage 62% none, 26% light, 11% moderate, 1% heavy. Winter wheat freeze and drought damage 77% none, 10% light, 11% moderate, 2% heavy. Winter wheat protectiveness of snow cover 1% very poor, 5% poor, 33% fair, 60% good, 1% excellent. Pasture and range condition 14% very poor, 31% poor, 31% fair, 24% good. Livestock grazing accessibility 27% open, 30% difficult, 43% closed. Livestock receiving supplemental feed cattle and calves 99% fed. Cows calved 11%; 5% last year. Livestock receiving supplemental feed sheep and lambs 98% fed. Ewes lambed 7%; 5% last year. The month of February brought below zero temperatures and snowy weather with varying precipitation totals to the State. Temperatures for the month of February ranged from 10 degrees below average to six degrees above average. Along the northern border and eastern half of the State, precipitation remained scarce and totaled 1 inch or less. The southern border and western portion received more precipitation with totals over 1 inch to more than 5 inches at higher elevations. Drought conditions improved slightly in areas experiencing moderate, severe, and extreme drought, however, overall drought conditions continued to persist compared to last month. Snow Water Equivalent totals for the State's basins remained close to or above average. Of the 13 basins, 7 of them remain above average. In Blaine County, cold temperatures were reported with increased need for supplemental livestock feed. Mineral, Missoula, and Ravalli Counties reported unseasonably cold and snowy conditions at the end of February. Area temperatures in late February were well below zero and frostbite was noted in newborn livestock. Extreme temperature swings stressed mothers and newborn livestock. Golden Valley and Musselshell County reports noted beneficial wet and heavy snow was received during February, but conditions were windy. Yellowstone County reports noted winter weather caused challenging calving and lambing conditions. In Broadwater County, there were concerns fall seeded winter wheat and hay crops experienced freeze damage due to ice. Extent of the damage was not yet known.

NEBRASKA: For the week ending February 26, 2023, topsoil moisture supplies rated 13% very short, 35% short, 44% adequate, and 8% surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies rated 30% very short, 43% short, 26% adequate, and 1% surplus. Winter wheat condition rated 11% very poor, 29% poor, 41% fair, 18% good, and 1% excellent.

NEVADA: For the week ending February 26, 2023 - Days suitable for fieldwork 3.9. Topsoil moisture 20% very short, 40% short, 40% adequate. Subsoil moisture 20% very short, 10% short, 65% adequate, 5% surplus. Pasture and range condition 25% very poor, 5% poor, 15% fair, 20% good, 35% excellent. Most of the State received less than an inch of precipitation during the month. Conditions were windy and the ground remained frozen in northern parts of the State. Only 6 percent of the State was in D3 drought, while almost 53% of the State was in D2 drought.

NEW ENGLAND: February started off very dry, with less than two-tenths of an inch of precipitation in New England States. A late February storm brought snow in New England. Connecticut experienced warm temperatures and rains in some areas and little winter conditions. Pruning is ongoing and maple taps appeared to be doing well. In much of Maine, snow was minimal and potato crops have been a concern in some areas. Massachusetts reported that maple taps were started in the early part of the month among some farmers in anticipation of a warm winter. In New Hampshire, the weather was reported as much the same as other States. Rhode Island reported a cold snap at the beginning of February; however, warmer temperatures have been more predominant throughout. Vermont respondents reported variable weather conditions from average to fluctuating from cold to very warm. Snow cover also was reported as minimal here in many areas. Water supplies are in good shape which will keep surface water supplied through the beginning of spring. Farm activities remained the same this past month. Orchardists continued pruning. Farmers attended meetings and finished up last year's record-keeping. Growers are getting ready for the growing season by purchasing seed and fertilizer. Some farmers have started seeding vegetables in greenhouses. Farmers are working on farm equipment like tractors and planters in preparation for spring tillage and planting.

NEW JERSEY: This month has been quite dry, with precipitation (almost all of it rainfall) averaging just over 1 inch. This is almost 2 inches below normal. Temperatures have averaged about 5 degrees above normal. This ranks the month well into the top 10 for warmth in comparison to all Februarys going back to 1895. Warm temperatures and adequate rainfall have allowed growers to prepare land for spring planting. Direct seeding started this past week for early

vegetables and herbs with fields being covered with row cover. Early greenhouse plants are ready to transplant which will start this week or next. Nurseries are shipping plants to garden centers.

NEW MEXICO: This report for New Mexico is for the month of February 2023, through February 26. Responses were based on the entire month, with consideration for any weather-related impacts that are forecast between now and month's end. Topsoil moisture 17% very short, 33% short, 49% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 21% very short, 42% short, 36% adequate, 1% surplus. Winter wheat condition 1% very poor, 24% poor, 58% fair, 14% good, 3% excellent. Cows calved 6%, 15% last year. Cattle receiving supplemental feed 79%, 89% last year. Cattle condition 1% very poor, 7% poor, 29% fair, 45% good, 18% excellent. Ewes lambed 3%, 20% last year. Sheep receiving supplemental feed 72%, 80% last year. Sheep and lambs condition 7% very poor, 23% poor, 34% fair, 28% good, 8% excellent. Hay and roughage supplies 21% very short, 41% short, 37% adequate, 1% surplus. Stock water supplies 32% very short, 29% short, 39% adequate. Dry conditions continued throughout New Mexico during the month of February, but the State did see some improvement in overall topsoil and subsoil moisture. Comments from across the State reported high winds. In some areas fire danger was high due to lack of moisture. Winter wheat condition showed some improvement due to receiving needed moisture, but still only had 17 percent of the crop rated in good to excellent condition, compared with 13 percent last month and 5 percent last year. Converted moisture totals during the past month ranged from a trace of precipitation to approximately 3 inches. Any significant precipitation continued to mostly be accumulated in the western counties, but most counties saw below average precipitation again during the month. Average temperatures during February were generally above normal in the southeastern part of the State, where temperatures were slightly below normal in the northwestern part of the State. According to the United States Drought Monitor for February 23, exceptional drought (D4) continued its hold across a portion of land in Union County. Extreme drought (D3) was noted across 3.6 percent of the State, severe drought (D2) covered 14.6 percent, moderate drought (D1) covered 29.1 percent, and abnormal dryness (D0) covered 30.4 percent. Drought-free conditions covered increased to 21.9 percent of the State.

NEW YORK: February continued with variable extremes, having deep freezes and little snow cover in some areas, and then switching back to warmer temperatures. Overall, the month was warmer than normal. Areas where there were more extreme cold or heat, caused some concern for fruit crops, honeybees, and maple production. Vineyard crews did hand pruning and tied vines to wire.

NORTH CAROLINA: For the week ending February 26, 2023, Subsoil moisture 6% short, 60% adequate and 34% surplus. Topsoil moisture 9% short, 57% adequate and 34% surplus. Barley condition 1% poor, 18% fair, 79% good and 2% excellent. Hay and roughage supplies 1% very short, 13% short, 85% adequate and 1% surplus. Oats condition 26% fair, 74% good. Pasture and range condition 1% very poor, 12% poor, 52% fair, 32% good and 3% excellent. Winter wheat condition 13% fair, 79% good and 8% excellent. Throughout February, it has been very favorable for work conditions. The surge of warm weather the past two weeks has allowed farmers to start considering their first nitrogen application on wheat crops. The rainfall has been very adequate and in some cases a surplus keeping farmers out of the fields.

NORTH DAKOTA: For the week ending February 26, 2023, topsoil moisture supplies rated 7% very short, 27% short, 60% adequate, 6% surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies rated 10% very short, 35% short, 50% adequate, 5% surplus. Winter wheat condition rated 1% very poor, 4% poor, 49% fair, 44% good, 2% excellent. Cattle and calf conditions rated 1% very poor, 6% poor, 36% fair, 53% good, 4% excellent. Cattle and calf death loss rated 1% heavy, 61% average, 38% light. Calving progress was 10%, near 9% last year. Sheep and lamb conditions rated 2% very poor, 7% poor, 38% fair, 48% good, 5% excellent. Sheep and lamb death loss rated 2% heavy, 56% average, 42% light. Lambing progress was 25%, ahead of 20% last year. Shearing progress was 37%, ahead of 28% last year. Hay and roughage supplies rated 2% very short, 14% short, 81% adequate, 3% surplus. Stock water supplies rated 2% very short, 16% short, 79% adequate, 3% surplus.

OHIO: Topsoil moisture for the month was 5% short, 78% adequate, 17% surplus. Subsoil moisture for the month was 13% short, 77% adequate, 10% surplus. Winter wheat condition was rated 1% very poor, 6% poor, 39% fair, 46% good, 8% excellent. The Statewide average temperature was 37.8 degrees, 8.2 degrees above normal. Precipitation averaged 1.67 inches Statewide, 0.43 inch below normal for February. Above average temperatures and limited snowfall accumulations raised concerns among some farmers about vernalization requirements for winter wheat crops. Limited snowfall accumulations were sustained in the State's northern tier and at high elevations. Elsewhere, no snow cover persisted. Though precipitation was limited relative to historic averages in most counties, mild temperatures and wet weather in northwestern counties translated into muddy fields. Southeastern counties reported emergence of grass and hayfields in pastures. Livestock contended with wide temperature fluctuations during February. Some operations reported beef cattle entering calving season.

OKLAHOMA: For the month of February, rainfall totals averaged 0.57 inch throughout the State, with the Southeast district recording the highest precipitation at 1.01 inches and the Panhandle district recording the lowest precipitation at 0.16 inch. According to the February 21 U.S. Drought Monitor Report, drought conditions were rated 81 percent abnormally dry to exceptional drought, down 12 points from last year. Additionally, 75 percent of the State was in the moderate drought to exceptional drought categories, down 12 points from the previous year. Statewide, temperatures averaged in the 40's, with the lowest recording of 5 degrees at Goodwell on February 23 and the highest recording of 87 degrees at Burneyville on February 21. Topsoil moisture conditions were rated adequate to very short and subsoil moisture conditions were

rated very short to adequate. There were 5.3 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending February 26.

OREGON: Moisture conditions throughout the State ranged from very wet to wet for February. However, the western part of Oregon was still behind normal for seasonal precipitation. Temperatures ranged from lower than normal to around normal. Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington Counties reported below average temperatures and heavy snowfall. Nursery crops without cover and small fruit canes were the most vulnerable. The snow cover protected winter grains in the Portland area. Benton and Lincoln Counties reported low temperatures and heavy snowfall late in the month, with as much as 15 inches of snow. Morrow County reported temperatures in single digits, with up to 4 inches of snow late in the month. The snow cover provided protection for winter wheat. Gilliam, Hood River, Wheeler, and Wasco Counties reported low temperatures and snowfall late in the month. The snow accumulation was anticipated to help with ground water supply and boost the crops. Low temperatures were a concern for cattle producers in their calving season. Baker and Grant Counties reported mostly mild winter weather with low temperatures and snow late in the month. Producers enjoyed milder winter conditions while calving. Douglas, Jackson, and Josephine Counties reported rainfall and snowfall during the month. Drought continued for Douglas County, and producers could soon be eligible for drought assistance if conditions do not improve. Tillamook and Clatsop Counties reported snowfall and low temperatures. In Tillamook County, record snowfall of more than 12 inches halted field activities until the snow melted and fields dried.

PENNSYLVANIA: The State experienced fluctuating weather conditions this month. There were spurts of snow and a few days of rainfall, along with some rather mild, warm days. The mild weather has been affecting the soil moisture. Some farmers were corn stalk chopping and baling this month. Small grains and forage like wheat, barley, and rye were quickly greening up. From now until the end of Spring will be a critical time for weather conditions, as this will affect the fruit crops.

SOUTH CAROLINA: February temperatures ranged from 5.1 to 8.7 degrees warmer than historical averages depending on location. Total rainfall during the month ranged from 2.2 inches in York County to 5.3 inches in Greenwood County. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, 100 percent of the State had no drought classification by month's end, compared to 19 percent abnormally dry and 5 percent moderate drought at the beginning of the month. South Carolina experienced unseasonably warm temperatures for February, which impacted many areas of agriculture across the State. The warm weather pushed some perennial fruit crops into an early bloom, which raised concern among producers about a potential late freeze. Fields were being prepared for spring planting with lime applications being made and fields being burnt down. Abundant rainfall in the Lowcountry region delayed some field preparations due to wet field conditions. Hay supplies for livestock were noted to be dwindling, however pasture and forages were reported to be greening up earlier this year. Wheat in the Pee Dee and Lowcountry regions were reported to be progressing well and in good condition. Strawberries were noted to have had a difficult winter, with a late planting and an abundance of fundal diseases. Tobacco producers have set seeds in their greenhouses in preparation for the spring planting.

SOUTH DAKOTA: For the week ending February 26, 2023, topsoil moisture supplies rated 5% very short, 33% short, 60% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies rated 9% very short, 48% short, 42% adequate, 1% surplus. Winter wheat condition rated 3% very poor, 17% poor, 57% fair, 22% good, and 1% excellent.

TENNESSEE: For the week ending February 26, Days Suitable 2.7. Topsoil moisture 1% short, 64% adequate, 35% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% short, 69% adequate, 30% surplus. Winter wheat condition 3% very poor, 10% poor, 30% fair, 49% good, 8% excellent. Pasture and Range condition 5% very poor, 23% poor, 40% fair, 30% good, 2% excellent. Cattle condition 1% very poor, 7% poor, 31% fair, 54% good, and 7% excellent. Hay and roughage supplies 6% very short, 32% short, 57% adequate, 5% surplus. Tennessee has experienced bouts of unseasonably warm temperatures during the month of February. Precipitation levels have been high, replenishing the water table after the summer and fall drought, but creating challenges for producers needing to fertilize wheat and spray hay fields. Some wheat stands are still suffering from the freeze event in late December, coupled with periodic flooding at the beginning of this year.

TEXAS: For the month of February, precipitation mostly ranged from trace amounts to upwards of 3 inches. However, isolated areas in East Texas received up to 6 inches of rainfall. Wheat and oats are responding to recent rains, but more moisture is needed to further the progress of the crops. Cattle are in fair condition and producers are depending on supplemental feed for much of their herd. Pasture and range conditions are mostly poor to very poor due to the lack of moisture and high winds.

UTAH: This report for Utah is for the entire month of February 2023. Topsoil moisture 1% short, 77% adequate, 22% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% short, 99% adequate. Pasture and range condition 2% very poor, 10% poor, 59% fair, 29% good. Winter wheat condition 6% poor, 28% fair, 66% good. Hay and roughage supplies 2% very short, 39% short, 59% adequate. Stock water supplies 8% short, 92% adequate. Cattle and calves condition 8% poor, 50% fair, 42% good. Sheep and lambs condition 6% poor, 53% fair, 41% good. Livestock receiving supplemental feed for cattle 87%. Livestock receiving supplemental feed for sheep 84%. Cows calved 8%. Ewes lambed-farm flock 12%. Cold winter temperatures along with isolated snowstorms occurred throughout the State for the month of February. As of February 26, 2023, snowpack in Utah was 153 percent measured as percent of median snowfall Box Elder County reports livestock producers continued feeding cattle due to the cold weather. Beaver County and Box Elder County report livestock producers were dealing with calving issues due to the cold weather.

VIRGINIA: Topsoil moisture 3% short, 86% adequate, 11% surplus for week ending February 26, 2023. Subsoil moisture 7% short, 88% adequate, 5% surplus for week ending February 26, 2023. Winter wheat condition 14% fair, 55% good, 31% excellent. Barley condition 18% fair, 70% good, 12% excellent. Livestock condition 6% poor, 31% fair, 55% good, 8% excellent. Pasture and Range condition 6% very poor, 21% poor, 41% fair, 31% good, 1% excellent. Hay supplies 4% very short, 21% short, 73% adequate, 2% surplus. Percent of feed obtained from pastures 9%. Virginia experienced unseasonably warm temperatures and varied precipitation with flooding occurring in a few areas for the month of February. The heavy rainfall has led to a great deal of mud in some areas. Small grains are greening and growing fast in a few areas. Hay and roughage supplies are mostly adequate to short. Primary activities for the month include seeding tobacco greenhouses, planting spring gardens, and scouting small grains.

WASHINGTON: In south-central Washington, it was an extremely dry February. There were small skiffs of snow and wind in recent weeks, with lows dipping to the single digits. Weather was not ideal for crops or livestock, but calving had begun around the region. In Yakima County, nearly all the precipitation came in the first week of February and measured less than half an inch. Producers made significant pruning progress on orchards and vineyards during the warmer times of the month. Northeast Washington had mild weather until mid-February. In Stevens County, blizzard-like conditions were experienced, and temperatures dropped well below zero with the windchill. In east-central Washington, February weather was fair. One week of high winds produced windchill that caused a few calf losses. Winter wheat was in mostly good condition after an assessment of the crop showed minimal damage. In western Douglas County, some areas were still under snow cover, which marked over 100 consecutive days of snow cover. Snow mold, pink and gray, started to damage susceptible winter wheat varieties. In southeast Washington, February conditions were dry with cold temperatures, causing possible livestock losses in the extreme cold and heavy winds.

WEST VIRGINIA: For the week ending February 26, Topsoil moisture 4% short, 86% adequate, and 10% surplus. Subsoil moisture 6% short, 88% adequate, and 6% surplus. Hay and roughage supplies 11% short, 85% adequate, and 4% surplus. Feed grain supplies 6% short, 92% adequate, and 2% surplus. Winter wheat condition 47% fair, 51% good, and 2% excellent. Cattle and calves condition 2% poor, 38% fair, 57% good, and 3% excellent. Cows calved 30%. Sheep and lambs condition 1% poor, 35% fair, 60% good, and 4% excellent. Ewes lambed 25%. Weather conditions for the month have been unseasonably warm with a mix of cold temperatures and rain and snow. Some flowers are in bloom and grasses are breaking dormancy. Farming activities for the month included preparing for the next growing season, calving, and lambing.

WISCONSIN: February brought temperature swings and mixed precipitation to Wisconsin. The month started with below normal temperatures and Statewide snow cover. Warmer mid-month temperatures melted snow and even brought rain to much of the State. A large storm system February 22 and 23 brought over a foot of snow to parts of northwestern Wisconsin and freezing rain and ice in the South. Overall temperatures for the month averaged 2.4 degrees above normal and precipitation was 0.74 inch above normal through February 26. Except for parts of northern Wisconsin which were snow-covered throughout the month, there were concerns about winterkill in winter wheat and alfalfa. The above normal temperatures meant most livestock fared well, but there were reports of cattle suffering from respiratory problems due to the large temperature changes.

WYOMING: This report for Wyoming is for the entire month of February 2023. Topsoil moisture 20% short, 65% adequate, 15% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 34% short, 60% adequate, 5% surplus. Winter wheat condition 4% very poor, 18% poor, 58% fair, 20% good. Hay and roughage supplies 23% very short, 16% short, 61% adequate. Livestock condition 1% very poor, 1% poor, 13% fair, 84% good, 1% excellent. Stock water supplies 1% very short, 10% short, 88% adequate, 1% surplus. Pasture and range condition 1% very poor, 36% poor, 33% fair, 29% good, 1% surplus. Cows calved 4%. Ewes lambed 3%. Sheep shorn 10%. Wyoming saw continued relief from drought conditions in February, with most of the State receiving above normal amounts of moisture. Isolated areas of south-central and north-central Wyoming received precipitation levels as much as 2 inches above average. Some parts of the west, south, and east, however, received below average levels of moisture. Temperatures ran below normal for all of Wyoming in February. Western and central portions of the State were hit the hardest with frigid weather. Areas of Fremont County experienced temperatures in a range of 9-15 degrees below normal. According to the United States Drought Monitor report published on February 23, 2023, the amount of land rated drought free increased to 36.6 percent, compared to 29.8 percent as published on January 26, 2023. The amount of land rated abnormally dry stood at 19.6 percent, compared to 25.4 percent at the end of January. Moderate drought was found in 34.1 percent of Wyoming, a significant increase from 24.0 percent last month. Severe drought fell to 8.7 percent, compared to 17.7 percent last month. Extreme drought improved to 1.3 percent, compared to 3.1 percent at the end of January. In Carbon County, some producers reported that the severe winter conditions required purchasing supplemental feed and clearing grounds of snow to bring feed to livestock. A report from Goshen County indicated that soil moisture levels were improving. The bitter cold, however, was hard on livestock and hay supplies were low. Snow covered much of Laramie County. Grasses were expected to improve as warmer weather approached, but it was difficult to assess field conditions at this time. Heavy snowpack was found in Lincoln County, with southern areas seeing the highest amounts of snow. With the higher levels of snow and continued stormy weather, future overland flooding remained a concern with spring on the way. Farmers and ranchers were looking forward to the end of the cold season. Platte County experienced a lot of wind in February. Combined with the snow, producers were seeing very high snow drifts. Though heavy snow systems brought good amounts of moisture, winds were pulling some of that moisture out of pastures and fields. Producers were concerned that soil moisture levels remained low as a result, and more snow or rain was needed.

International Weather and Crop Summary

February 19-25, 2023

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

HIGHLIGHTS

EUROPE: Continued warm but showery weather over much of Europe ushered winter crops out of dormancy and eased western short-term dryness.

MIDDLE EAST: Warm and dry weather heightened drought concerns for semi-dormant to vegetative winter grains in Turkey and reduced topsoil moisture elsewhere.

NORTHWESTERN AFRICA: Timely showers in the west contrasted with intensifying drought in eastern growing areas.

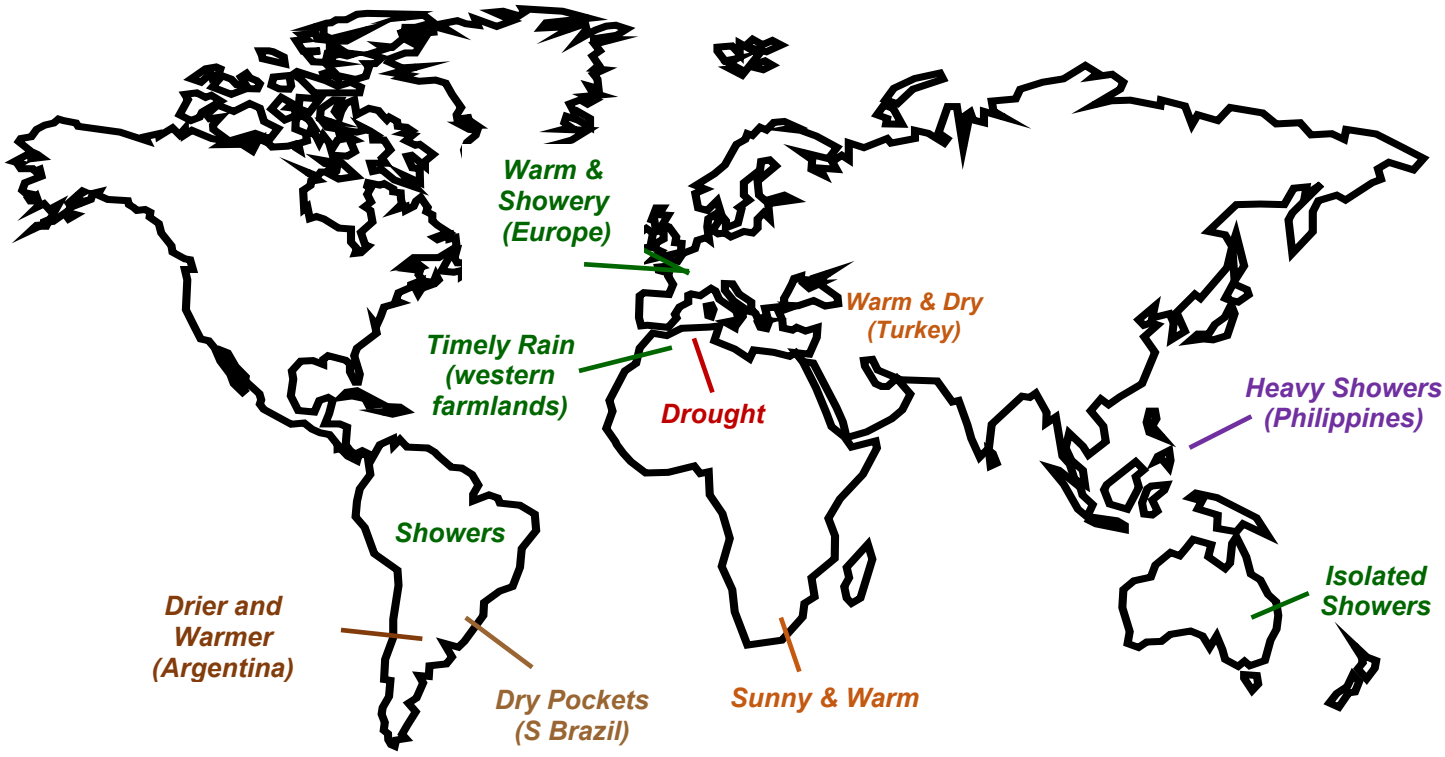
SOUTHEAST ASIA: Heavy showers returned to most of the Philippines after a brief respite.

AUSTRALIA: Isolated showers provided little additional moisture for immature summer crops but aided early harvesting.

SOUTH AFRICA: Warm, sunny weather promoted growth of corn and other rain-fed summer crops.

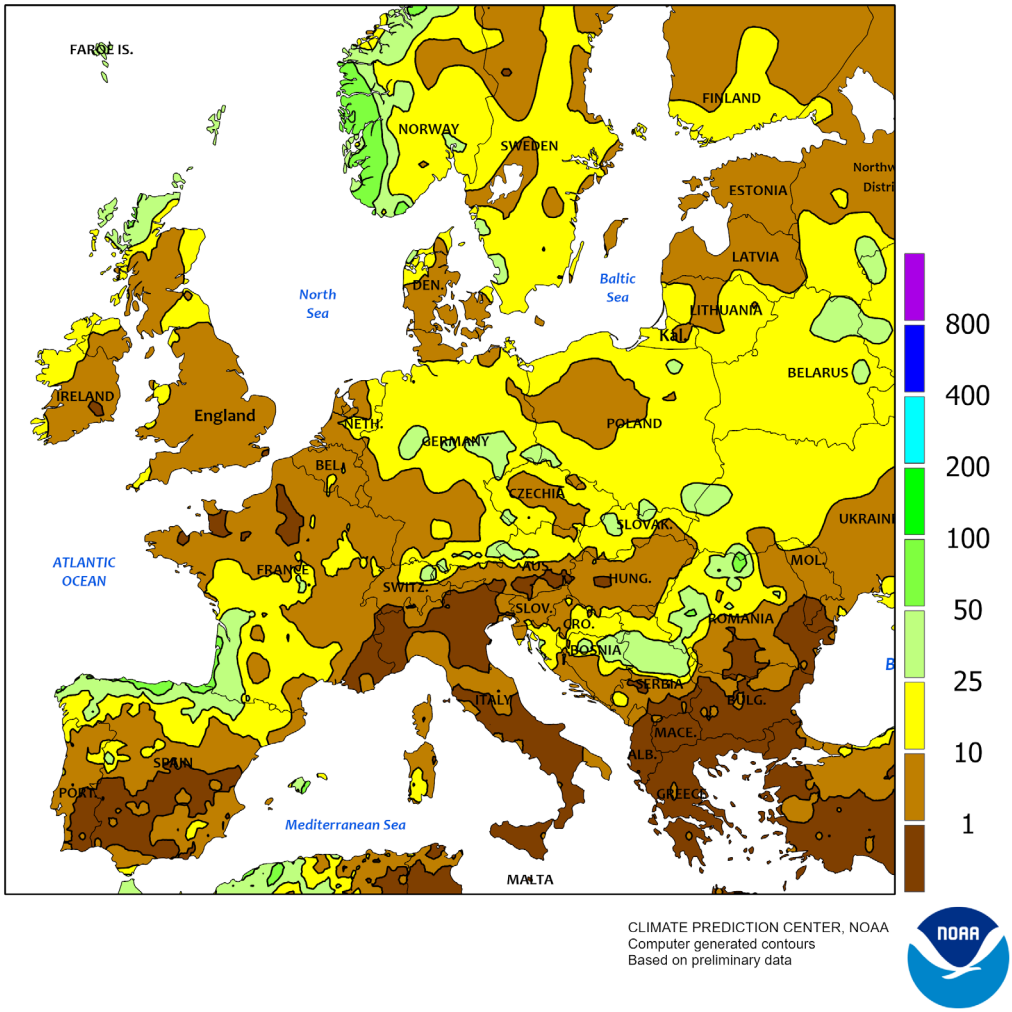
ARGENTINA: Dry, increasing warm weather increased growth rates of summer grains, oilseeds, and cotton.

BRAZIL: Conditions remained overall favorable for second-crop corn and cotton in central Brazil, while drier conditions returned to some southern farming areas.



For additional information contact: mark.brusberg@usda.gov

EUROPE
Total Precipitation(mm)
February 19 - 25, 2023



EUROPE

Continued warm but showery weather prevailed over much of the continent, though dryness lingered across the Mediterranean Region. Much-needed rain (5-60 mm) eased short-term dryness in northern Spain and southwestern France, while lighter showers (1-10 mm) moistened soils locally from central France into southeastern England. Widespread moderate to heavy showers (10-35 mm) improved soil moisture for spring growth from Germany into Poland and the northern Balkans. Farther north, 10 to 100 mm of rain boosted moisture reserves in Scandinavia. Conversely, mostly dry weather was reported across the Mediterranean Region, renewing drought concerns from southern Spain into northwestern Italy. However, locally heavy rainfall overspread many of these drier southern locales at the end of the period. Temperatures averaged 2 to 7°C above normal over much of Europe, easing winter crops out of dormancy in western and central growing areas while encouraging winter grain development in climatologically warmer southern portions of the continent. Conversely, winter grains and oilseeds remained dormant across Poland and the Baltic States.

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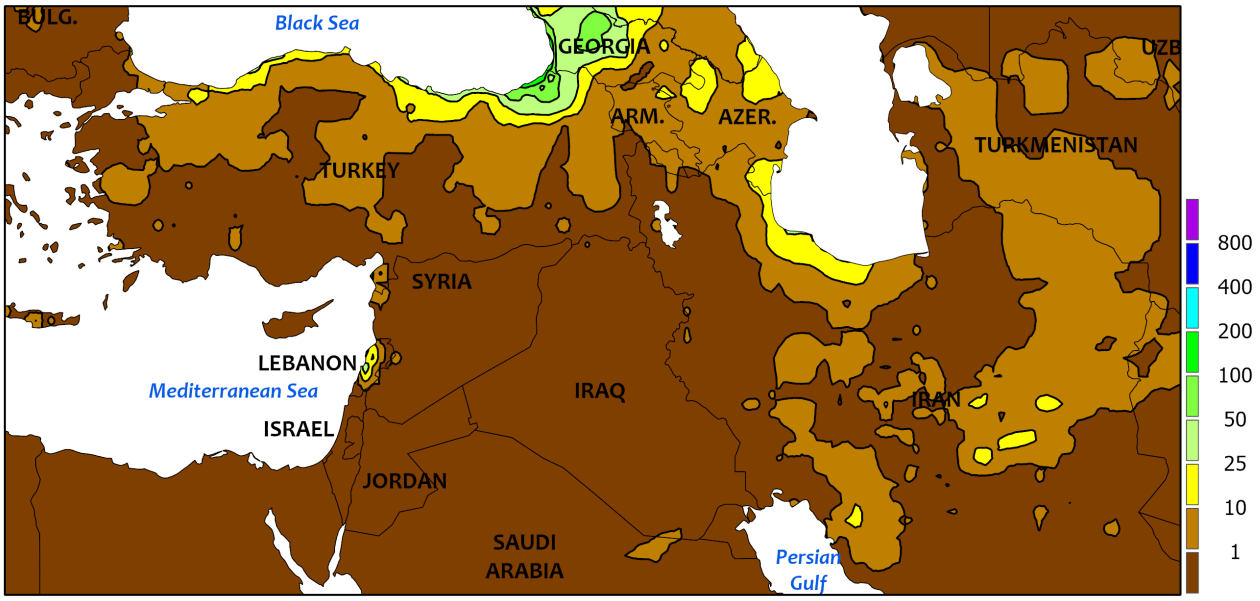
MIDDLE EAST
Total Precipitation(mm)
February 19 - 25, 2023



CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA
Computer generated contours
Based on preliminary data

MIDDLE EAST

Warmer and drier weather expanded across the entire region. Sunny skies in Turkey and Syria favored earthquake recovery efforts, which had previously been hampered by rain and snow. However, the recent spell of much-colder-than-normal weather came to an end, with temperatures during the past week averaging up to 5°C above normal in northern Turkey and 1 to 3°C above normal elsewhere. Likewise, near- to above-normal temperatures (up to 3°C above normal) prevailed from the eastern Mediterranean Coast into Iran. Significant rainfall (10-50 mm) was confined to the northernmost reaches of the region, heightening drought concerns in Turkey and reducing topsoil moisture from Syria into Iraq and Iran. Season-to-date precipitation (since September 1) slipped to near 50 percent of normal in northwestern Turkey's Thrace Region (2nd driest of the past 30 years), while the Anatolian Plateau stood at 60 percent of normal over the same timeframe, the third driest of the past 30 years. Dry weather also reduced topsoil moisture for vegetative winter grains from the eastern Mediterranean Coast into eastern Iran, though many of these croplands benefitted from heavy rain and snow earlier in the winter. In fact, the latest satellite-derived Vegetation Health Index (VHI) was vastly improved over last year when severe drought gripped much of Syria, Iraq, and southwestern Iran, though the VHI in parts of Turkey and northwestern Iran was below average and worse than last year at the same time.

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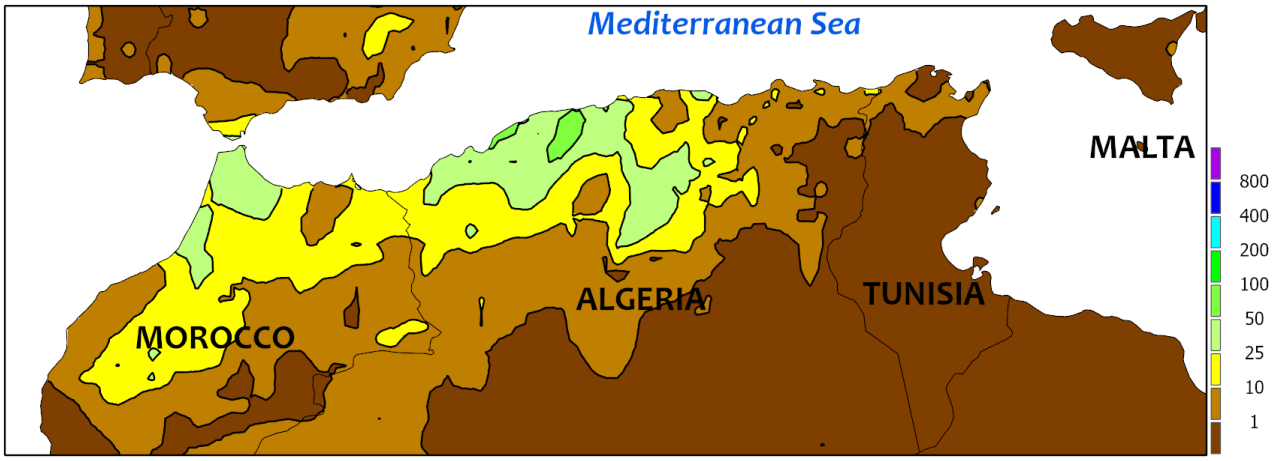
NORTHWESTERN AFRICA
Total Precipitation(mm)
February 19 - 25, 2023



CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA
Computer generated contours
Based on preliminary data

NORTHWESTERN AFRICA

Timely rain in the west contrasted with intensifying drought in eastern growing areas. Highly variable showers in Morocco (3-70 mm) provided moisture locally for reproductive winter wheat and barley. Despite the soil moisture improvements for winter grains, the most recent satellite-derived Vegetation Health Index (VHI) continued to depict fair to poor crop conditions across much of central and southwestern Morocco. A more uniform soaking rainfall (10-60 mm) was observed over western and central Algeria, providing much-needed moisture for reproductive (west) to vegetative (central) winter grains. Conversely, unseasonably warm (up to 7°C above normal) and dry weather heightened soil moisture losses and exacerbated drought from eastern Algeria into Tunisia. At the end of the period, season-to-date rainfall (since September 1) in Tunisia's northern Tell and central Steppe Regions stood at 55 and 33 percent of normal, respectively, the second driest of the past 30 years in both locales. Winter wheat and barley were still in the vegetative stages of development in these eastern crop areas, indicating there was still time to stave off significant yield losses with timely rain despite a very poor VHI signal at week's end.

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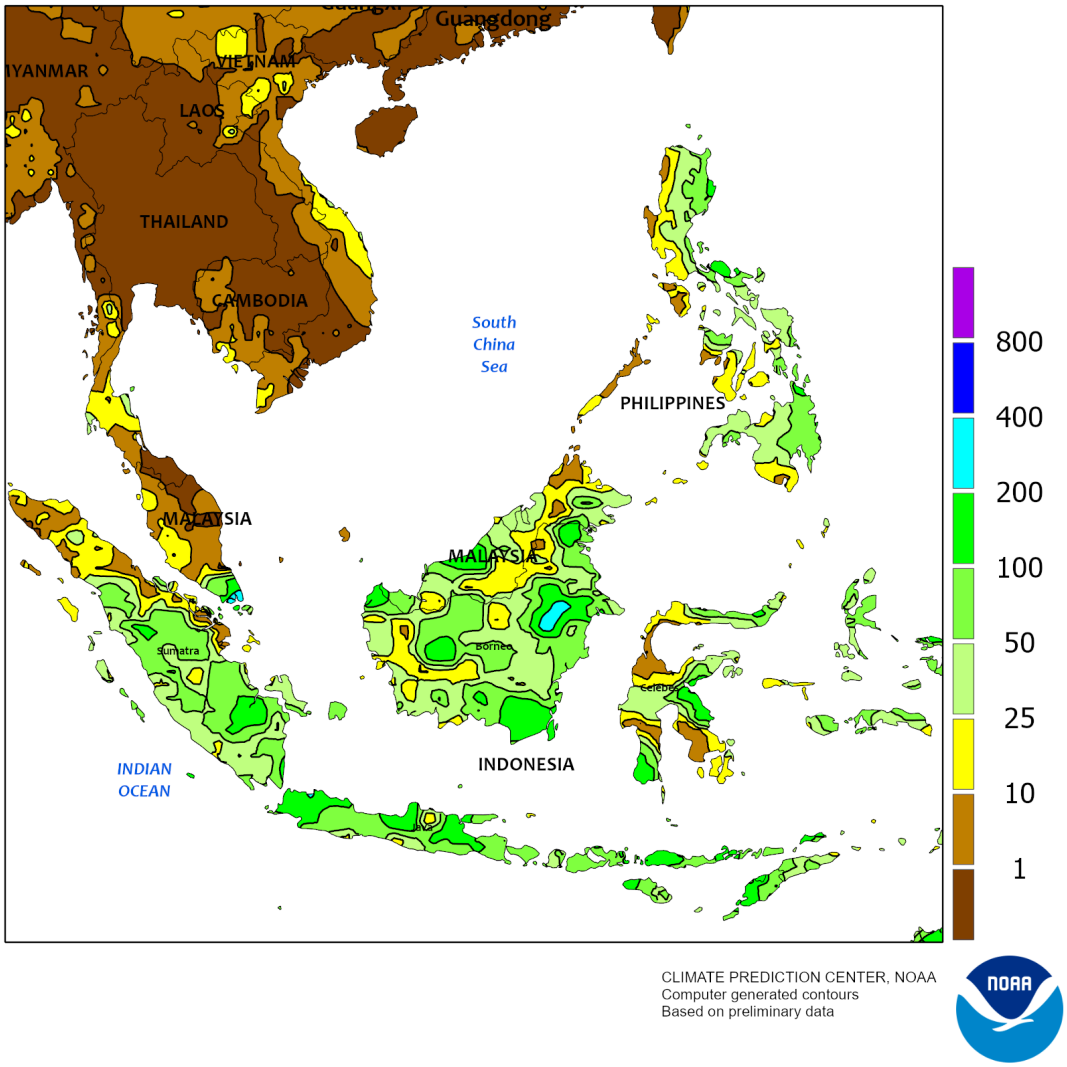
SOUTHEAST ASIA
Total Precipitation(mm)
February 19 - 25, 2023



CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA
Computer generated contours
Based on preliminary data

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Wet weather continued in the traditionally wetter eastern and southern sections of the region. Showers returned to most of the Philippines with many areas recording 25 to 100 mm but little additional flooding. Meanwhile, much of the heavier rainfall (25-100 mm) in Malaysia and Indonesia shifted southward, bringing more moisture to oil palm and rice outside of northern Sumatra (Indonesia) and the Malaysian peninsula. Elsewhere, seasonable heat (over 35°C) continued in western portions of Thailand and some of the nearby areas, while most other reaches experienced a break in the heat; seasonal rice in Indochina is generally in the latter stages of development and harvesting will begin soon.

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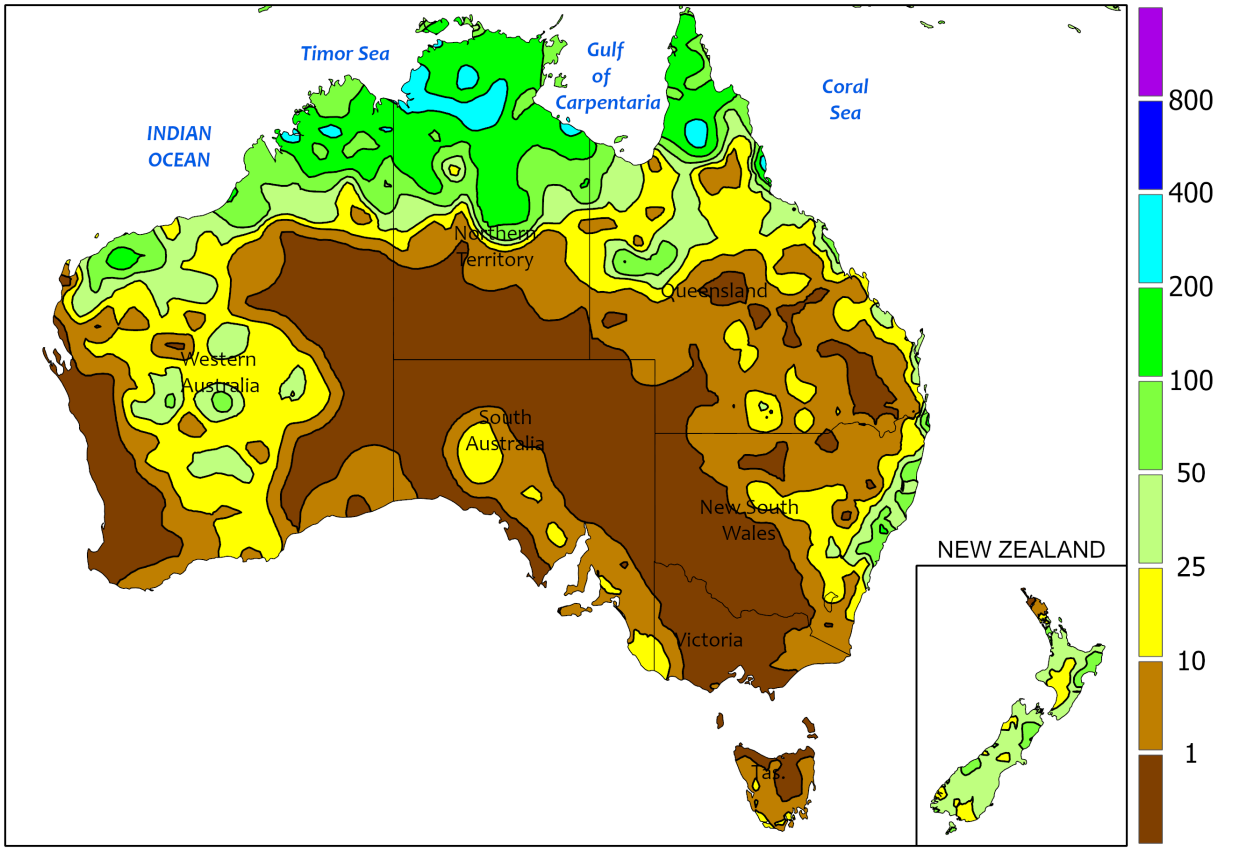
AUSTRALIA
Total Precipitation(mm)
February 19 - 25, 2023



Gridded data from the Australian Bureau of Meteorology: www.bom.gov.au/
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CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA
Computer generated contours
Based on preliminary data

AUSTRALIA

Widely scattered, generally light showers (less than 10 mm, isolated greater amounts) in southern Queensland and northern New South Wales provided little additional moisture to immature summer crops. However, the relatively dry weather benefited maturing cotton and sorghum, aiding drydown and early harvesting. A more concentrated area of rain (10-25 mm) in central New South Wales maintained adequate moisture supplies for immature summer crops. In contrast, dry weather in southern New South Wales promoted early rice and cotton harvesting. Temperatures averaged near normal in New South Wales, with maxima in the middle to upper 30s (degrees C). Farther north, temperatures averaged 1 to 2°C below normal in southern Queensland, with maxima mostly in the lower to middle 30s.

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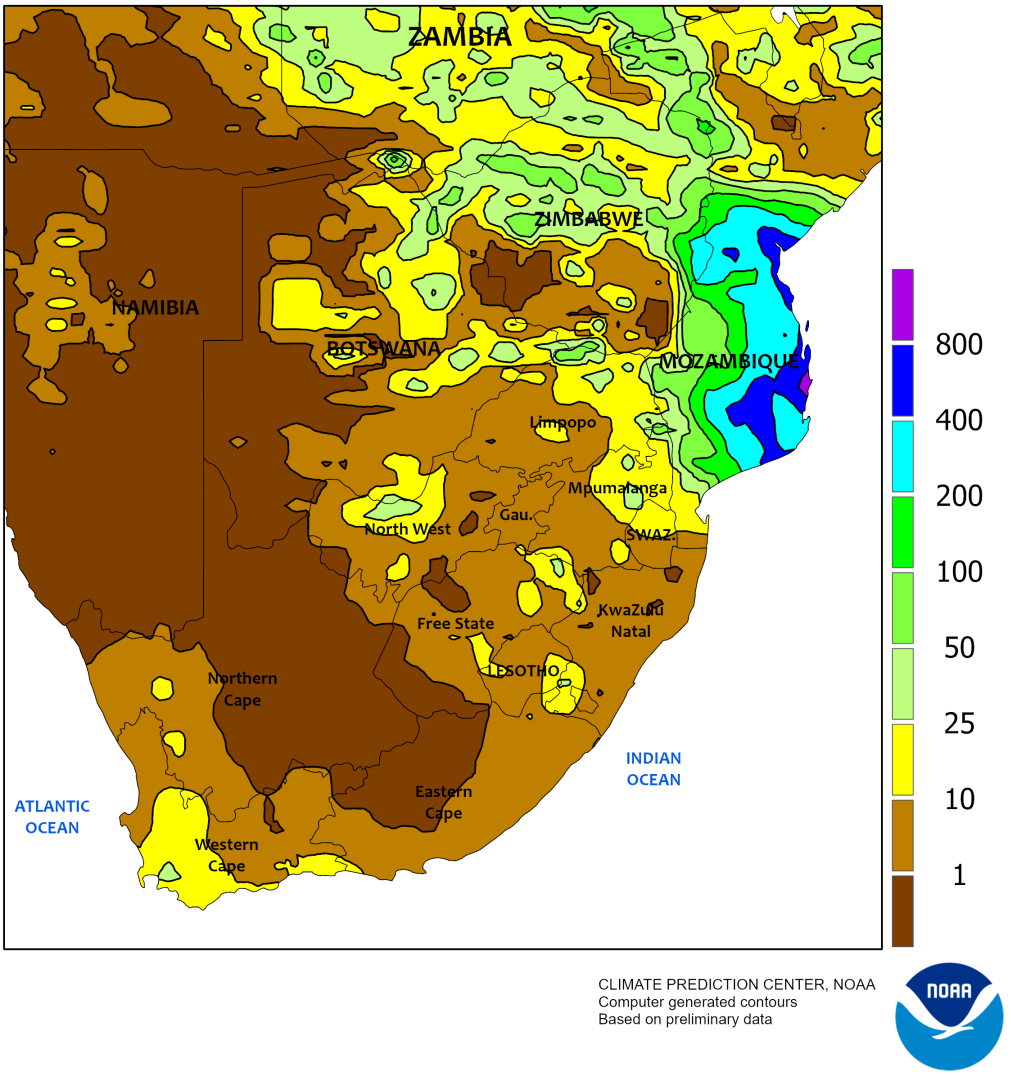
SOUTH AFRICA
Total Precipitation(mm)
February 19 - 25, 2023



CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA
Computer generated contours
Based on preliminary data

SOUTH AFRICA

Following last week's beneficial rainfall, warm, generally sunny weather promoted growth of reproductive to filling corn in the main commercial production areas. Rainfall totaled 5 mm or less in most of the region stretching from North West and Free State to southwestern Mpumalanga; at week's end, rain from the remnants of Tropical Cyclone Freddy was reaching sugarcane areas in eastern Mpumalanga and moving farther inland (additional information will appear in next week's bulletin). Weekly temperatures generally averaged within 1°C of normal in the aforementioned areas, with highest daytime temperatures mostly ranging from the upper 20s to lower 30s (degrees C). Elsewhere, sunny, hot weather (highs reaching the upper 30s) fostered rapid growth of irrigated corn and cotton in the Orange River Valley farming areas of Northern Cape and Free State. Meanwhile, unseasonable rainfall (locally greater than 25 mm) was untimely for development of tree and vine crops.

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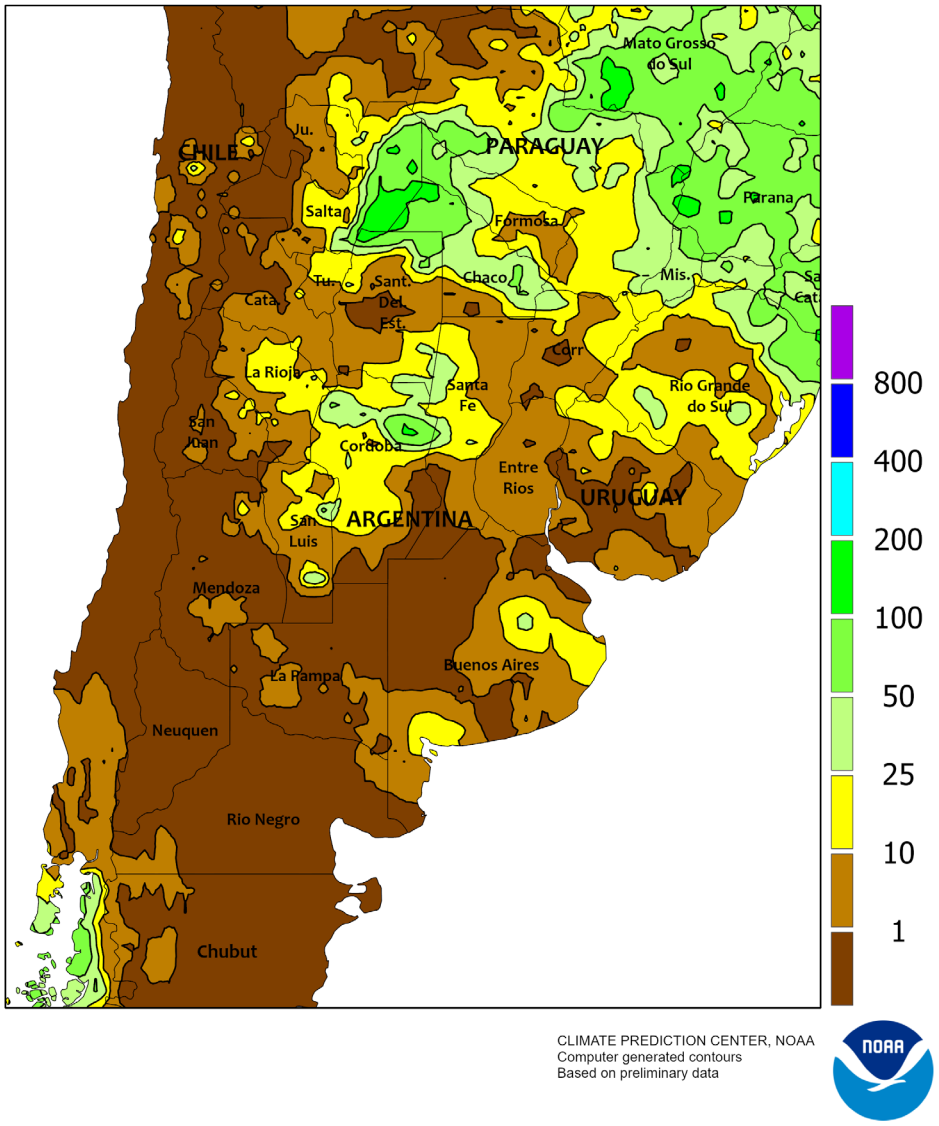
ARGENTINA
Total Precipitation(mm)
February 19 - 25, 2023

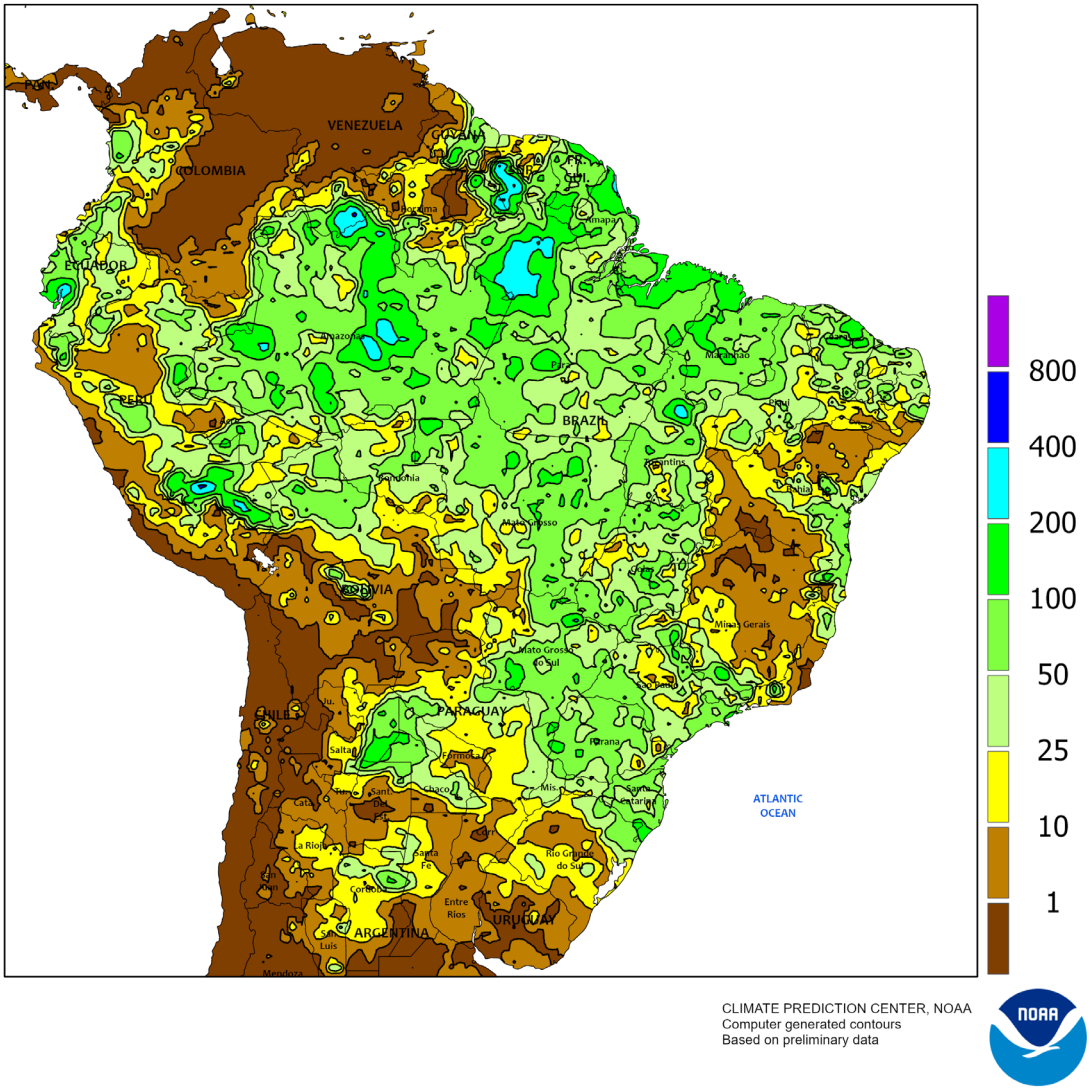


ARGENTINA

Drier, gradually warmer weather returned to central Argentina, increasing growth rates of summer crops after last week's cool spell. Little to no rain (less than 5 mm) covered a broad area stretching from La Pampa to Entre Rios, where daytime highs reached the middle 30s (degrees C) on multiple days. Meanwhile, scattered showers (locally exceeding 25 mm) provided local relief from dryness in eastern Buenos Aires, though additional rainfall would be welcomed for development of second-crop soybeans. Light to moderate rain (10-50 mm, locally higher) increased moisture levels for cotton and other immature summer crops farther north, although temperatures reaching the upper 30s increased crop moisture demands and evaporative losses. According to the government of Argentina, sunflowers were 25 percent harvested as of February 23, still on par with last year's pace (24 percent), with fieldwork farthest advanced in the country's northern growing areas.

For additional information contact: mark.brusberg@usda.gov

BRAZIL
Total Precipitation(mm)
February 19 - 25, 2023



BRAZIL

Drier conditions returned to Rio Grande do Sul, following a brief period of more favorable rainfall. Although locally heavy rain (greater than 25 mm) fell in eastern parts of the state, rainfall totaled less than 10 mm farther west and south, where highest daytime temperatures reached the lower and middle 30s (degrees C). According to the government of Rio Grande do Sul, soybeans were 85 percent reproductive to filling as of February 23, with only 4 percent having reached maturity; corn was more advanced, however, with 54 percent already harvested. Scattered showers prevailed elsewhere, with much of the region from Paraná northward recording 25 to 100 mm. Summer warmth accompanied the dryness, with highest daytime temperatures mostly in the lower and middle 30s. According to the government of Mato Grosso, soybeans were 76 percent harvested as of February 24, slightly ahead of the 5-year average (71 percent); corn was 73 percent planted versus 79 percent on average, while cotton was nearly 100 percent planted.

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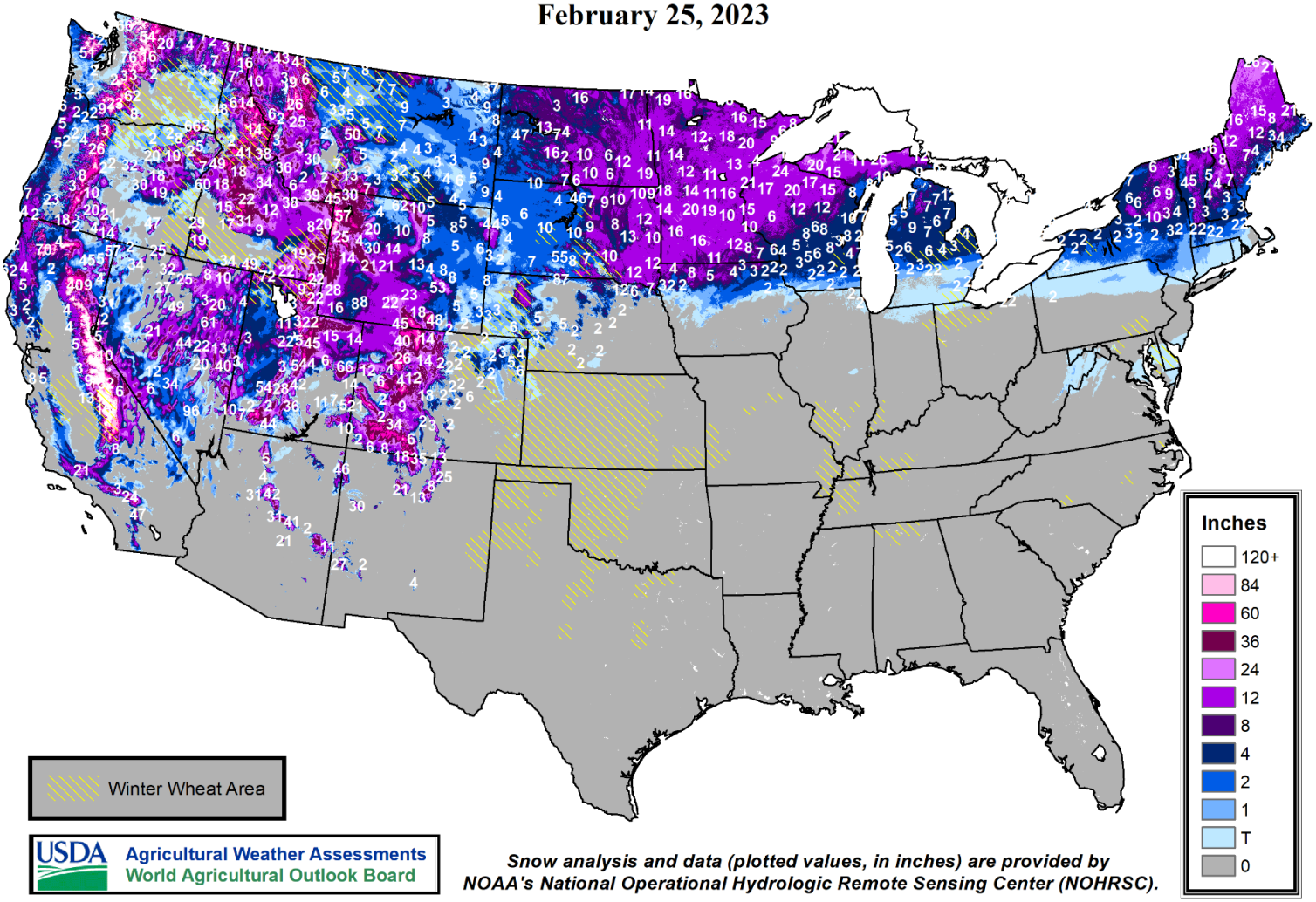
Snow Depth

February 25, 2023



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

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