

# Weekly Weather & Crop Bulletin

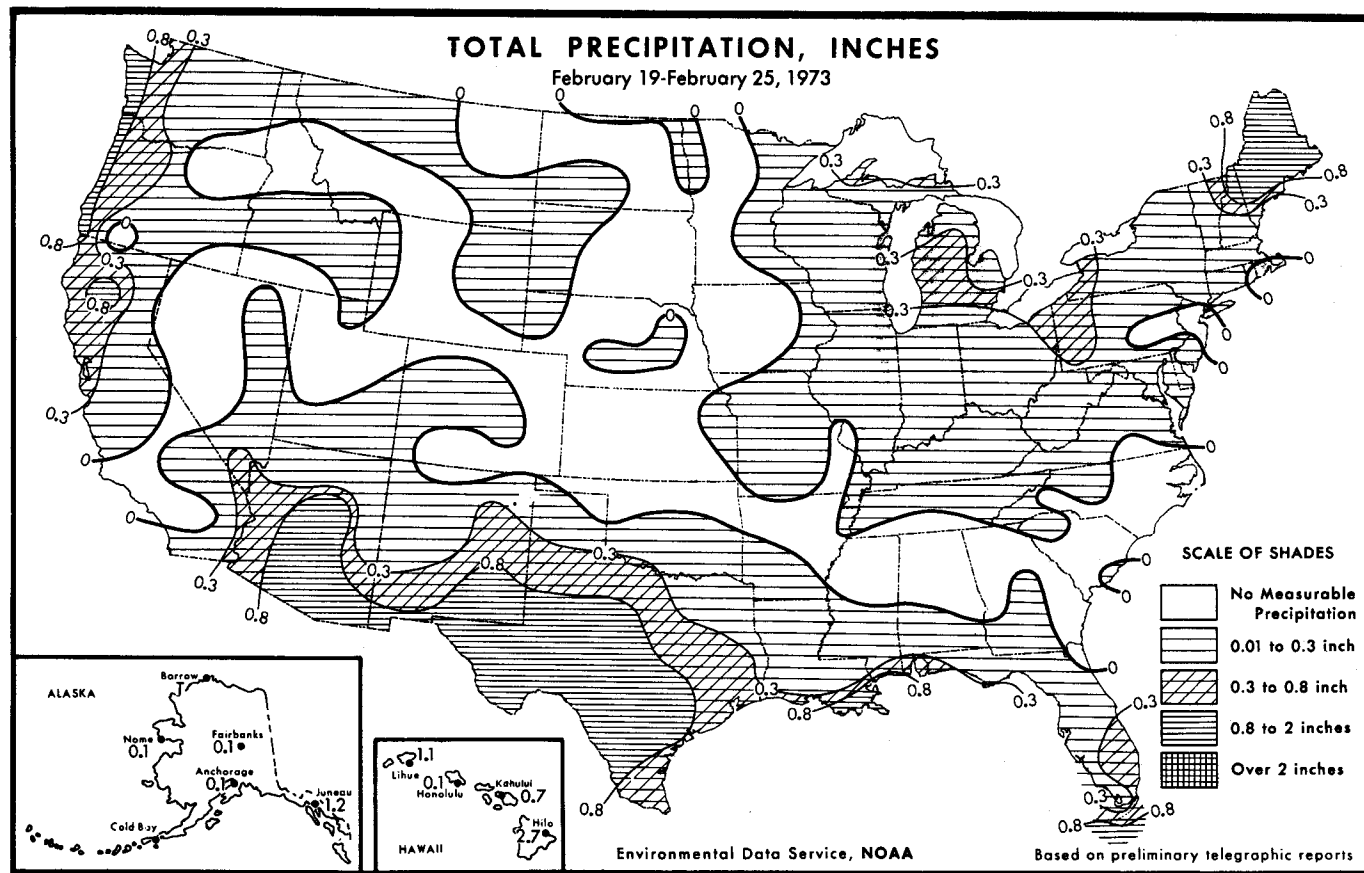
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Edited by Lucius W. Dye

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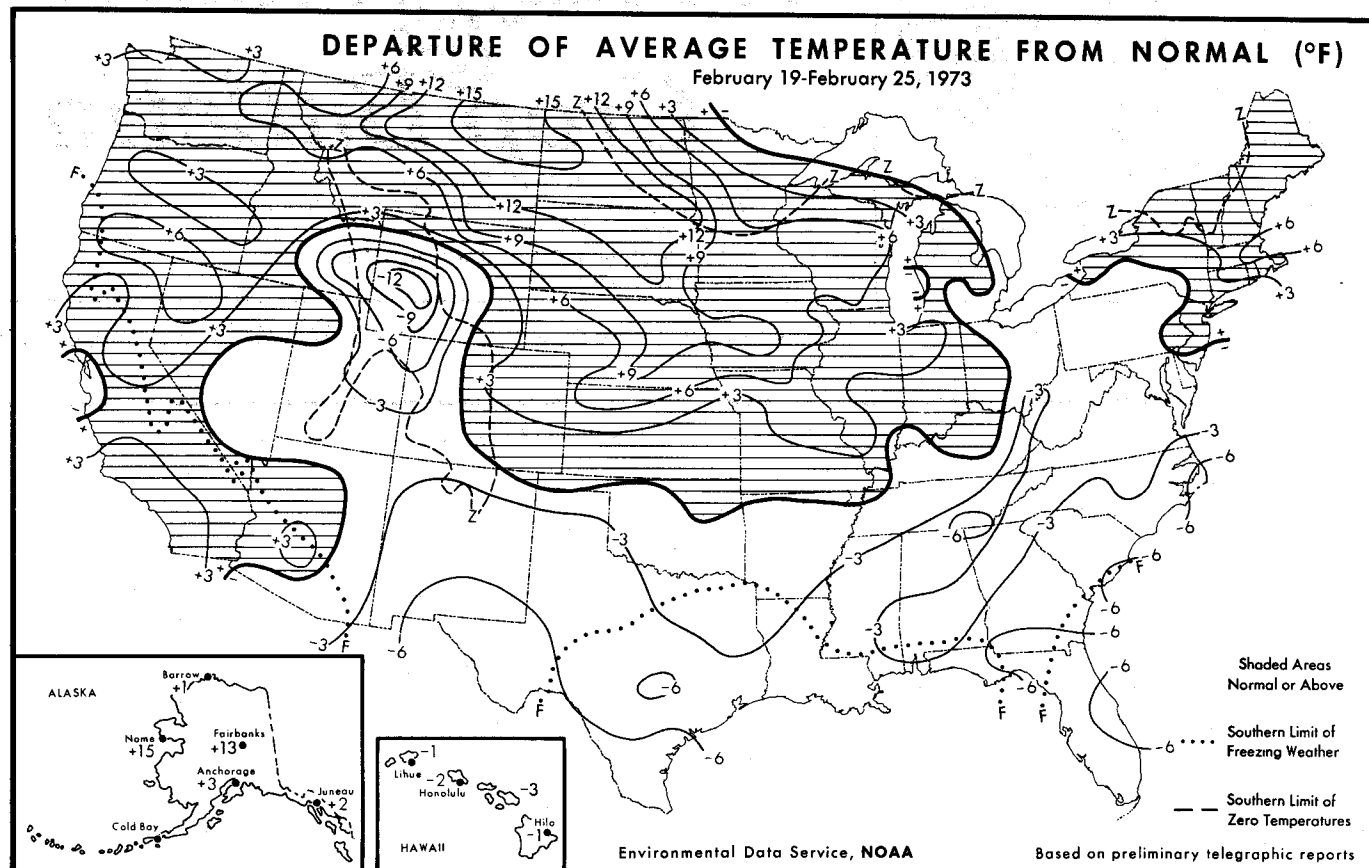
## NATIONAL WEATHER SUMMARY

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Temperatures averaged warmer than normal over the Far West, from the Northwest to the Great Lakes, and in New England and colder than normal over most other areas. Bitter cold temperatures were registered in the central Rocky Mountains west of the Continental Divide. Heavy snow fell from Bryce Canyon, Utah, to Flagstaff, Ariz. A Pacific storm brought moderate rain to the Coast late in the week.

**PRECIPITATION:** Precipitation early in the week was mostly spotty and light. Fog shrouded the interior valleys in California. Cloudy weather prevailed from the northern and central Rocky Mountains to the Great Lakes. Light scattered snow flurries occurred in portions of this area. Freezing drizzle iced spots in the Upper Mississippi River Valley. Drizzle was seen along the western Gulf Coast and rain splashed down in

central and southern Florida. The fog in California dissipated in a day or so. A storm off the coast of Baja California pumped moist Pacific air across the Mexican Border into the dry Southwest. Rain fell from southern California to central and southern Texas. Snow fell at times in the mountains of southern Arizona and southern New Mexico. Warm rain fell on the snow pack in some mountainous sections of Arizona and New Mexico and caused rapid runoff. By midweek, the storm had crossed northern Mexico and was producing rain as far east as Louisiana. Snow accumulated to 5 inches at Carrizozo and Ruidoso, N. Mex. Phoenix, Ariz., received 0.86 inch of rain and 1.25 inches fell at Tucson in the 48 hours ending early Thursday morning.

Flurries continued from the northern Great Plains to the Great Lakes. Three inches fell at Detroit, Mich., Wednesday forenoon. The snow



spread over the Northeast late Wednesday and Thursday. A storm off the middle Atlantic Coast increased the activity in the Northeast.

The western storm continued dumping snow in the southwestern Mountains from Arizona to Texas. Grand Canyon, Ariz., received a foot of new snow early Thursday and by noon, 13 inches lay on the ground at Guadalupe Pass, Tex. Flagstaff, Ariz., received 11.5 inches of new snow bringing their seasonal total to 116.7 inches. Not in the last 2 decades has so much snow fallen in any season to the end of February. Fog combined with the snow in parts of eastern Arizona Thursday afternoon and evening. This increased the hazards of automobile driving.

As the weekend approached, moist Gulf air flowed northward over the western Great Plains continuing the precipitation over the southern Rocky Mountains. Winds blowing across the Great Lakes picked up moisture and produced snow from the lee shores of the Lakes to New England. Fair skies prevailed over the central Great Plains.

Weekend precipitation included light to moderate rain along the Pacific Coast, light sprinkles along the Gulf Coast, and snow flurries from the Great Lakes to the northern and middle Atlantic Coast. Strong winds accompanied the rain in some places in the Far West. The snow accumulated to about 10 inches in spots near the Great Lakes.

**TEMPERATURE:** Fair weather prevailed over much of the Nation early in the week. Temperatures Monday afternoon, February 19, ranged from below freezing in the central Rocky Mountains and the northern Great Plains to the 60's in the Florida Peninsula

and the 70's in southern California. Temperatures dropped to below freezing Tuesday morning over the entire Nation except along the Pacific Coast, the Mexican Border, and the Gulf of Mexico and southern Atlantic Coasts. Tallahassee, Fla., registered 31° Tuesday morning. Subzero weather occurred in northeastern North Dakota, northern Minnesota, and the central Rocky Mountains. Fraser, Colo., and Big Piney, Wyo., recorded -24° Tuesday morning. Bitter cold pushed across the northern Great Plains but southern California enjoyed summer temperatures, 81° at Culver City Tuesday.

Cold arctic air pouring across the Canadian Border held afternoon temperatures over much of Minnesota and Wisconsin in the 12° to 20° range. Wednesday afternoon and spots in northern New Mexico remained below freezing all day Thursday. The highest temperature at Las Vegas, N. Mex., Thursday was 32°. Warming occurred over North Dakota where Bismarck recorded 53° Thursday. Birmingham, Ala., also recorded 53° Thursday due to northerly winds resulting from a High over the southern Great Plains and a Low centered off the northern Atlantic Coast. Much of the area from the Great Lakes to the Ohio River remained below 32° all day Thursday.

Early morning temperatures over the weekend ranged from a few degrees above zero in the vicinity of the Great Lakes to the 50's in southern California, along the Gulf of Mexico, and most of Florida. Afternoon temperatures were generally near 20° in northern New England, near freezing over the northern Great Plains, near 70° along the Gulf of Mexico, and in the 70's in southern California and in most of Florida.

L. W. Dye

## NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

**AGRICULTURAL HIGHLIGHTS:** Winter wheat in Kansas turning greener and making some growth. \* Late cotton harvest drags on, still not complete.

\* Cold weather continues to slow Florida vegetable growth. \* Favorable weather in the South spurred fieldwork. \* Calving and lambing increasing seasonally throughout the Nation.

**SMALL GRAINS:** Winter wheat in Kansas became noticeably greener last week and made some growth. The crop is in generally good condition in Kansas with ample moisture supply, but ground cover is needed in some areas to prevent possible damage by wind and blowing soil. Cool temperatures in Oklahoma and Texas have slowed winter wheat growth rates. Topdressing is becoming more widespread. Nebraska and Colorado winter wheat acreage continues in good to excellent condition. Poor snow cover protection continued to worry many wheat farmers in the northern Great Plains as mild temperatures caused additional melting. Montana winter wheat is in fair to good condition, but there is growing concern about the below normal winter precipitation. Warm weather in Washington helped winter wheat break dormancy making it vulnerable to a hard freeze. Small grain crops in Washington and Oregon suffered some winterkill, but open weather has allowed reseeding in early areas.

Warm days and abundant sunshine stimulated the growth of small grains in California. Small grains in Arizona are making excellent progress. Farmers in the South Atlantic and South Central States were busy topdressing fall planted acreage. Oats and barley seeding in Kansas and Oklahoma continued to be delayed by muddy fields.

**COTTON:** Cold, cloudy, wet weather persisted over Texas and the abnormally late cotton harvest dragged on last week with an increase of 2 points to 97 percent complete. The Texas 1971 crop cotton harvest was completed by about February 20. Soggy soils in Mississippi held cotton harvesting to 93 percent complete, a 1 point increase over a week earlier. Dry, sunny weather prevailed over most of the South and farmers from Oklahoma to North Carolina were able to make good progress in salvaging remaining cotton. Wet weather in South Texas delayed cotton planting preparations. Planting in California desert areas is expected to begin about March 1.

**OTHER CROPS:** A few more fields of corn and soybeans were harvested last week in the Corn Belt under mild, relatively dry weather. Many farmers are concerned about the condition of stored corn as warmer weather approaches. Much corn was picked and stored at rather high moisture levels and was expected to be marketed by this time; however, local grain dealers do not have storage space available and they are not buying much corn now. Open weather in the South permitted farmers to salvage additional fields of soybeans and corn. Soybean combining in Mississippi advanced 1 point to 90 percent complete. The soybean harvest is virtually completed in Arkansas. Open weather in many areas

of the Nation permitted increased outside activity as farmers prepared equipment for spring planting and accomplished some plowing and fertilizing. Tobacco growers from Virginia to South Carolina were busy preparing and seeding tobacco plant beds. Several Baldwin County, Alabama growers have completed planting of Irish potatoes; planting is fairly active in the central area of Louisiana. Planting of early potatoes started in the mid-Columbia Basin of Oregon. Potato digging was hampered by wet fields in California. Some freeze damage has been reported to sugar beets in the Sacramento Valley of California. Arizona sugar beets are making good progress.

**Fruits and Nuts:** Prolonged cold in Florida has delayed citrus bloom progress, but condition of citrus trees and fruit continued excellent. Rain virtually stopped Texas citrus harvesting -- with harvest running behind, supplies are expected to be available in May and perhaps in June. In California, the harvest of central valley navel oranges continues slow, while valencias from the desert area are increasing. The Arizona citrus harvest was delayed by rain. In California, almond, apricot, early peach, plum and nectarine trees are in full bloom. Spraying, fertilizing and pruning of orchards gained momentum in Oregon and in the mid-Atlantic States. Strawberry picking is increasing in California; Louisiana prospects look good.

**Vegetables:** A fourth consecutive week of below normal temperatures continued to slow Florida vegetable growth -- tomato volume was very light, cabbage moderate, and sweet corn was in good winter supply. Cold, wet weather continues to hamper the Texas vegetable harvest. In the Lower Rio Grande Valley, lettuce is available in light supply and damage to the spring onion crop has been light. In California, rain slowed carrot digging at Imperial and Coachella and interrupted the Imperial lettuce harvest. Rain also delayed the Arizona winter vegetable harvest; planting of spring lettuce is complete in Cochise County.

**PASTURES AND LIVESTOCK:** Calving and lambing have increased seasonally throughout the Nation without problems in most areas. Mild weather over the North Central States has left feedlots and yards quite muddy with adverse affects on cattle weight gains. Grazing of winter wheat pastures and crop stubble fields has increased in the southern Great Plains, but supplemental feeding continues. In the South Central and South Atlantic States, several weeks of below normal temperatures have retarded growth of winter pastures. Topdressing increased last week under open weather as farmers try to boost pasture condition to offset hay shortages and high feed prices.

Arlon M. Scott  
Agricultural Statistician

## Temperature and Precipitation Data for the Week Ending Midnight, l.s.t., Feb. 25, 1973

States and Stations	Temperature °F		Precipitation Inches		States and Stations	Temperature °F		Precipitation Inches		States and Stations	Temperature °F		Precipitation Inches	
	Average	Departure	Total	Departure		Average	Departure	Total	Departure		Average	Departure	Total	Departure
ALA,Birmingham. . .	45	- 4	0	-1.4	La,Baton Rouge. . .	53	- 4	.1	-.9	Youngstown. . .	25	- 3	.3	-.3
Mobile. . .	54	- 3	.5	-.7	Lake Charles. . .	52	- 5	.2	-1.0	OKLA,Okla. City. . .	42	- 1	T	-.3
Montgomery. . .	49	- 2	0	-1.1	New Orleans. . .	53	- 5	1.1	+.1	Tulsa. . .	44	+ 1	T	-.4
ALASKA,Anchorage. . .	23	+ 3	.1	-.1	Shreveport. . .	50	- 2	.1	-.9	OREG,Astoria. . .	48	+ 5	.9	-1.6
Barrow. . .	17	+ 1	T	-.1	MAINE,Caribou. . .	17	+ 3	1.0	+.5	Burns. . .	35	+ 2	T	-.3
Fairbanks. . .	13	+13	.1	0	Portland. . .	29	+ 5	.2	-.8	Medford. . .	50	+ 8	T	-.6
Juneau. . .	30	+ 2	1.2	+.4	MD,Baltimore. . .	35	- 1	.2	-.5	Pendleton. . .	43	+ 4	T	-.3
Kodiak. . .	-	-	-	-	MASS,Boston. . .	37	+ 6	T	-.8	Portland. . .	49	+ 5	.6	-.5
Nome. . .	21	+15	.1	-.1	Chatham. . .	33	-	T	-	Salem. . .	46	+ 3	.7	-.6
ARIZ,Flagstaff. . .	30	- 1	1.3	+.8	MICH,Alpena. . .	18	- 1	.2	-.2	PA,Allentown. . .	32	+ 2	T	-.6
Phoenix. . .	59	+ 4	.9	+.7	Detroit. . .	25	- 2	.3	-.2	Erie. . .	24	- 1	.4	-.2
Tucson. . .	53	- 2	1.2	+.9	Flint. . .	26	+ 3	.3	-.2	Harrisburg. . .	32	- 2	T	-.6
Winslow. . .	40	0	.9	+.8	Grand Rapids. . .	26	+ 1	.4	0	Philadelphia. . .	35	+ 1	T	-.7
Yuma. . .	59	0	.4	+.3	Houghton Lake. . .	21	+ 2	.6	+.2	Pittsburgh. . .	29	- 1	.7	+.1
ARK,Port Smith. . .	42	- 3	0	-.9	Lansing. . .	23	- 2	.7	+.2	Scranton. . .	26	- 3	.1	-.4
Little Rock. . .	45	- 1	T	-1.1	Marquette. . .	20	0	.2	-.2	R.I. Providence. . .	34	+ 3	T	-.8
CALIF,Bakersfield. . .	58	+ 4	T	-.3	Muskegon. . .	25	- 1	.5	0	S.C. Charleston. . .	45	+ 7	T	-.9
Eureka. . .	52	+ 4	.6	-.9	S. Ste. Marie. . .	16	- 1	.4	+.1	Columbia. . .	44	- 5	0	-1.0
Fresno. . .	53	+ 1	T	-.6	MINN,Duluth. . .	15	+ 2	T	-.2	Greenville. . .	44	- 3	T	-1.1
Los Angeles. . .	63	+ 5	0	-.8	Internatl Falls. . .	9	- 1	T	-.2	S.D. Aberdeen. . .	31	+14	T	-.2
Red Bluff. . .	53	+ 1	1.0	+.1	Minneapolis. . .	24	+ 6	.2	0	Huron. . .	31	+12	T	-.1
San Diego. . .	62	+ 5	T	-.6	Rochester. . .	24	+ 6	.1	-.1	Rapid City. . .	35	+ 9	T	-.1
San Francisco. . .	50	- 2	.4	-.4	St. Cloud. . .	21	+ 5	T	-.2	Sioux Falls. . .	29	+ 7	T	-.3
Stockton. . .	56	+ 5	.1	-.5	MISS,Jackson. . .	48	- 4	.1	-1.1	TENN,Chattanooga. . .	39	- 6	T	-1.4
COLO,Denver. . .	38	+ 5	T	-.2	Meridian. . .	50	- 2	.1	-1.2	Knoxville. . .	41	- 3	.1	-1.2
Grand Junction. . .	32	- 4	.1	-.1	MO,Columbia. . .	39	+ 4	.1	-.4	Memphis. . .	44	- 1	T	-1.1
Pueblo. . .	36	+ 1	T	-.1	Kansas City. . .	40	+ 2	T	-.3	Nashville. . .	42	- 1	.1	-1.0
CONN,Bridgeport. . .	33	+ 2	.2	-.5	St. Louis. . .	42	+ 5	T	-.5	TEX,Abilene. . .	46	- 4	1.0	+.7
Hartford. . .	33	+ 3	.2	-.5	Springfield. . .	41	+ 2	.1	-.4	Amarillo. . .	38	- 5	.3	+.2
D.C.Washington. . .	38	- 1	.1	-.5	MONT,Billings. . .	36	+ 6	T	-.1	Austin. . .	50	- 6	.9	+.2
FLA,Apalachicola. . .	54	- 3	.4	-.6	Glasgow. . .	34	+17	T	-.1	Beaumont. . .	52	- 5	.7	-.4
Daytona Beach. . .	53	- 8	T	-	Great Falls. . .	39	+13	T	-.2	Brownsville. . .	58	- 7	.3	-.1
Ft. Myers. . .	59	- 7	.3	-.3	Havre. . .	32	+13	.2	+.1	Corpus Christi. . .	56	- 6	.7	+.3
Jacksonville. . .	52	- 7	T	-.8	Helena. . .	30	+ 4	T	-.1	Dallas. . .	49	- 2	.3	-.4
Key West. . .	64	- 7	.9	+.4	Kalispell. . .	30	+ 3	T	-.2	Del Rio. . .	52	- 6	.8	+.6
Lakeland. . .	57	- 7	T	-.6	Miles City. . .	36	+13	T	-.1	El Paso. . .	43	- 8	.9	+.8
Miami. . .	63	- 6	.4	-.1	Missoula. . .	35	+ 7	T	-.2	Fort Worth. . .	49	- 2	.3	-.3
Orlando. . .	59	- 3	T	-.6	NEBR,Grand Island. . .	37	+ 9	.1	-.1	Galveston. . .	53	- 5	.7	-.1
Tallahassee. . .	50	- 7	.2	-.9	Lincoln. . .	36	+ 5	T	-.3	Houston. . .	51	- 4	.4	-.4
Tampa. . .	57	- 6	T	-.7	Norfolk. . .	35	+ 9	.1	-.1	Lubbock. . .	40	- 5	.7	+.6
W.Palm Beach. . .	62	- 6	1.1	-	N.Platte. . .	34	+ 4	.1	0	Midland. . .	44	- 6	.9	+.7
GA,Atlanta. . .	45	- 2	T	-1.2	Omaha. . .	34	+ 7	T	-.2	San Angelo. . .	48	- 4	.9	+.7
Augusta. . .	46	- 4	T	-.9	Valentine. . .	34	+ 9	T	-.1	San Antonio. . .	53	- 4	1.2	+.8
Macon. . .	47	- 5	.1	-1.0	NEV,Ely. . .	27	- 1	.1	-.1	Victoria. . .	54	- 6	.8	+.2
Savannah. . .	50	- 4	T	-.9	Las Vegas. . .	50	0	.4	+.3	Waco. . .	48	- 5	.7	+.1
HAWAII,Hilo. . .	70	- 1	2.7	-.4	Reno. . .	43	+ 5	T	-.3	Wichita Falls. . .	45	- 3	.4	0
Honolulu. . .	71	- 2	.1	-.1	Winnemucca. . .	40	+ 6	0	-.3	UTAH,Blanding. . .	32	- 2	.1	-.2
Kahului. . .	69	- 3	.7	-.7	N.H.Concord. . .	27	+ 3	0	-.6	Salt Lake City. . .	35	0	T	-.3
Lihue. . .	70	- 1	1.1	-.1	N.J.Atlantic City. . .	34	- 1	T	-.8	VT,Burlington. . .	22	+ 4	.2	-.2
IDAHO,Boise. . .	40	+ 3	T	-.3	Trenton. . .	35	+ 1	T	-.7	VA,Lynchburg. . .	38	- 2	T	-.7
Lewiston. . .	42	+ 4	T	-.2	N.MEX,Albuquerque. . .	37	- 5	.1	0	Norfolk. . .	39	- 3	T	-.8
Pocatello. . .	23	- 7	T	-.2	Roswell. . .	-	-	-	-	Richmond. . .	40	- 1	T	-.7
ILL,Cairo. . .	44	+ 2	T	-.8	N.Y.Albany. . .	28	+ 3	.1	-.4	Roanoke. . .	38	- 2	T	-.7
Chicago. . .	32	+ 3	.1	-.3	Binghamton. . .	23	- 2	.1	-.5	WASH,Colville. . .	36	+ 4	.2	-.2
Moline. . .	34	+ 6	.1	-.2	Buffalo. . .	26	+ 1	.4	-.3	Omak. . .	32	+ 2	.2	-.1
Peoria. . .	35	+ 5	T	-.4	New York. . .	36	+ 2	T	-.8	Quillayute. . .	44	+ 3	1.1	-2.1
Rockford. . .	31	+ 5	.1	-.3	Rochester. . .	25	0	.3	-.4	Seattle-Tacoma. . .	47	+ 5	.5	-.6
Springfield. . .	36	+ 2	T	-.5	Syracuse. . .	28	+ 3	.1	-.7	Spokane. . .	39	+ 7	.1	-.4
IND,Evansville. . .	38	- 2	.1	-.7	N.C.Asheville. . .	40	- 1	T	-.8	Walla Walla. . .	43	+ 3	T	-.4
Ft. Wayne. . .	31	+ 2	.1	-.4	Charlotte. . .	41	- 4	T	-.9	Yakima. . .	42	+ 5	T	-.2
Indianapolis. . .	34	+ 2	T	-.5	Greensboro. . .	39	- 3	.3	-.5	W.Va.Beckley. . .	33	- 2	.2	-.8
South Bend. . .	33	+ 5	.2	-.3	Hatteras. . .	40	- 7	T	-1.0	Charleston. . .	36	- 2	.1	-.8
IOWA,Burlington. . .	35	+ 5	.1	-.2	Raleigh. . .	42	- 2	0	-.9	Huntington. . .	35	- 4	.1	-.6
Des Moines. . .	35	+10	T	-.3	Wilmington. . .	45	- 5	0	-.9	Parkersburg. . .	34	- 3	T	-.7
Dubuque. . .	29	+ 5	.1	-.2	N.DAK,Bismarck. . .	29	+13	T	-.1	WIS,Green Bay. . .	26	+ 6	.2	-.1
Sioux City. . .	34	+ 9	T	-.3	Fargo. . .	21	+ 7	T	-.1	La Crosse. . .	28	+ 6	.1	-.1
KANS,Concordia. . .	40	+ 6	T	-.2	Williston. . .	30	+15	T	-.1	Madison. . .	29	+ 8	.2	-.1
Dodge City. . .	39	+ 2	T	-.2	OHIO,Akron-Canton. . .	28	- 1	.3	-.3	Milwaukee. . .	28	+ 4	.3	0
Goodland. . .	38	+ 6	T	-.2	Cincinnati. . .	35	+ 1	T	-.7	WYO,Casper. . .	27	- 1	T	-.2
Topeka. . .	-	-	-	-	Cleveland. . .	28	- 1	.3	-.3	Cheyenne. . .	31	+ 2	T	-.1
Wichita. . .	39	0	T	-.3	Columbus. . .	32	0	T	-.6	Lander. . .	15	-12	0	-.2
KY,Lexington. . .	38	+ 1	T	-.8	Dayton. . .	33	+ 1	T	-.5	Sheridan. . .	36	+10	T	-.2
Louisville. . .	39	+ 2	.1	-.7	Toledo. . .	27	- 1	.3	-.2	P.R.San Juan. . .	78	+ 3	.1	-.5

## CONDENSED STATE SUMMARIES

These summaries provide brief descriptions of conditions and activities important on a national scale. Detailed reports of crop and weather conditions during the growing season are contained in State issues of Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletins published by field offices of the Statistical Reporting Service, U.S.D.A. in cooperation with NOAA Climatologists

**ALABAMA:** Rain, mostly light, across extreme southern counties Saturday evening, otherwise much fair weather during week. Much of northern Alabama has had no measurable rain in almost 2 weeks—rare for February. Cool most of week but warmer Friday and Saturday. Most active week of year for fieldwork. Fair progress made turning land, applying fertilizer and lime, and harvesting remaining 1972 cotton, soybean, and corn production. Warmer temperatures favorable for recovery of small grains and winter grazing crops from earlier cold weather. Many fields suffered light damage from snow and low temperatures earlier and have been grazed heavily, especially in southern counties. Growers made extra effort to apply fertilizer to small grains and winter grazing crops. Several Baldwin County producers finished planting Irish potatoes. Open weather permitted grazing of winter pastures thus providing relief from heavy feeding of limited supplies of hay.

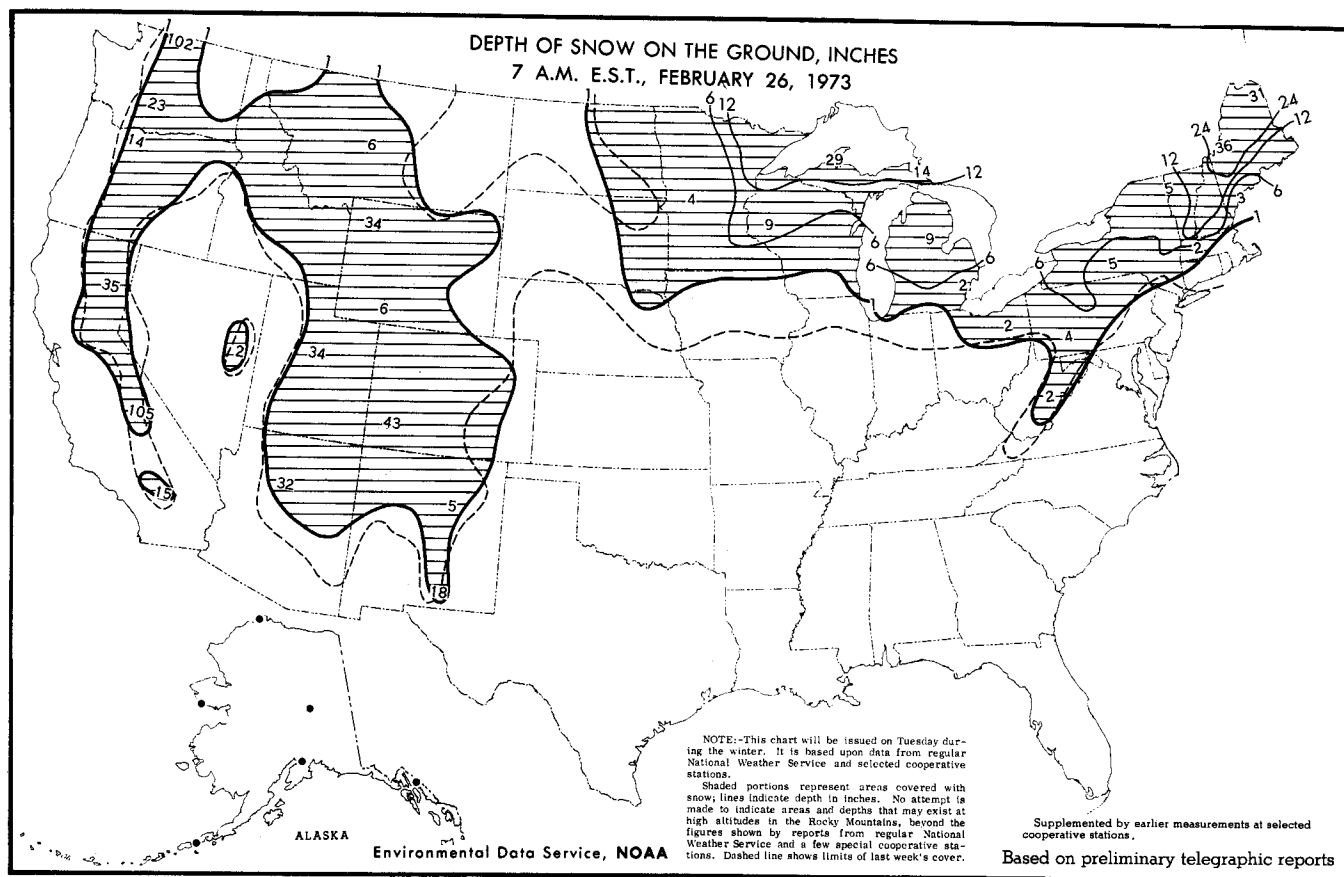
**ARIZONA:** Temperatures were slightly below normal much of week but minimums remained above freezing in both Salt River Valley and Yuma area all week. A well-developed Pacific storm brought general precipitation to Arizona on 20th, 21st and 22d, heaviest on 21st. Snow fell above about 6,000 feet with heavy accumulations in San Francisco Mountains and in White Mountains. On morning of 23d, Flagstaff reported 20 inches of snow on ground, while Holly Lake in White Mountains reported 4 feet. Cotton preplant operations continue. Small grains making excellent progress. Safflower planting near completion. Sugar beets good progress. Harvest winter vegetables, Valencia oranges, Kinnow Mandarins; planting cantaloupes delayed by rain and wet fields Yuma, Salt River Valley. Planting spring lettuce completed Cochise County. Harvest lemons complete Yuma. Groves Yuma, Salt River Valley making new growth. Ranges received precipitation past week, prospects for spring runoff good most areas. Desert ranges green and providing good forage. Stockwater varies, surplus to adequate. Cattle, calves fair to good. Sheep, lambs northern Indian reservations fair to poor. Sheep, lambs on desert pastures fair to good.

**ARKANSAS:** Mean temperatures near normal with departures ranging from +3° to -2°. Mild early in week followed by brief cooling late in week and warmer on weekend. Highest, 68° at Calico Rock on 24th. Lowest 14° at Calico Rock and Gilbert in north-central section on 22d. Precipitation light over entire State with many stations reporting none or only a trace. Largest weekly total 0.40 inch at Morrilton in central section. Most precipitation occurred late in week and on weekend. Open weather permitted much fieldwork during week. Final harvest cotton and soybeans now virtually complete all areas. Stalk cutting widespread. Turning land general on well-drained soils. Small grains good condition and topdressing with nitrates underway. Limited grazing from small grains and cool season pastures in south, but elsewhere growth too short. Heavy feeding of livestock still required and hay supply short to very short most counties.

**CALIFORNIA:** Warm days during week. Average temperatures mostly a few degrees above normal; greatest departures south coast and mountains. Locally moderate showers desert midweek; general rains weekend. Growth small grains stimulated by sunshine, drier weather. Some freeze damage sugarbeets Sacramento Valley. Alfalfa growth increasing, green chopping more active. Fieldwork underway lighter soils central valleys. Cotton planting to begin about March 1 desert areas; picking, shredding, disking continue San Joaquin Valley. Dormant spraying, pruning deciduous orchards, vineyards. Almonds, apricots, early peaches, plums, nectarines full bloom. Perlette grapes Coachella leaf-out. Harvest central valley navel oranges continues slow. Valencias desert increasing; lemons continue increase, good quality. Artichoke increasing central coast. Asparagus increasing desert, southern California; light volume San Joaquin, central coast. Broccoli, cauliflower central coast some increase. Carrot digging slowed Imperial, Coachella by rain. Celery supplies Oxnard, San Diego remain present levels, some decrease Orange County. Imperial lettuce interrupted by rain midweek, Palo Verde spring deal to start in 2 weeks. Potato digging central valley, central coast hampered wet field conditions. Strawberries picking increase Vista, Orange, beginning Oxnard. Rangeland conditions improving, supplemental feeding declining. Calving and lambing continue in Sacramento and central valleys. Livestock have come through winter in good condition. Egg production seasonally low. Bees active in almonds, plums, other deciduous fruits with colony strengths increasing.

**COLORADO:** Temperature averages in mountains ranged from 3° to 20° below normal with the greatest departures in the northwest. Eastern plains near or slightly above normal. Weekly highs mostly 40's in mountains except the northwest, 50's and low 60's east. Weekly lows from +20° at La Junta to -28° at Walden. Clear skies prevailed all areas most of week as only a few scattered light snow showers occurred. Winter wheat and barley conditions good to excellent. Soil moisture supplies adequate statewide. Muddy fields limiting soil preparation for spring planting Eastern Plains. Most areas Western Slope still under varying amounts of snow. Ranges and pastures providing limited forage. Crop residue and wheat pastures also providing forage. Supplemental feeding of livestock heavy statewide. Livestock condition poor to fair. Calving increasing most areas.

**FLORIDA:** Clear and cool most of week with temperatures averaging 7° to 10° below normal. Temperatures climbed to near normal Sunday for first time in 2 weeks. Little or no rainfall except scattered showers Sunday, averaging 0.25 inch over Panhandle and southern Florida. Land preparation for spring planting active. Sugarcane benefitted by cool weather. Moisture favorable but cool weather has slowed grass growth. Cattle and calves fair or better with supplemental feeding continuing. Citrus tree and fruit continued excellent. Moisture adequate all areas. Bloom progress delayed



by prolonged cold, very little new growth. Vegetable growth slowed by the continued below-normal temperatures. Tomato volume very light, cabbage moderate, sweet corn in good winter supply. Potato digging light expected to increase as Dade reaches good volume by mid-March. Generally good volume for most other commodities. Watermelon seeding in Trenton-Brooker areas slowed by cold. Early melons around Immokalee have not set fruit.

**GEORGIA:** Fine weather with mild sunny days and cool nights. Highs in 50's and 60's and lows in 20's and 30's north and 30's and 40's south. Slightly warmer at end of week. No rain until Sunday night when light amounts fell in eastern section. Soil moisture adequate to mostly excessive. Limited land preparation occurred on higher elevations and lighter soils - others still too wet. Small grains mostly fair to good. Top-dressing occurring as soil moisture permits. Tobacco beds fair to good.

**HAWAII:** Weather cool with light to moderate showers. More rain needed. Irrigation continued in heavy use dry areas. Crop progress fair to good with adequate water supply. Sugarcane harvesting increasing seasonally--pineapples light. Pastures and cattle fair to good condition.

**IDAHO:** Below-normal temperatures east and near normal elsewhere. Highest temperatures at end of week. Precipitation was light and less than normal all areas. Snow depths decreased all stations. Preparing fields for spring planting is underway on a wide scale in south and southwest. Early calving and lambing well advanced, very little death loss.

**ILLINOIS:** After a rather cold weekend on 17th and 18th maximum temperatures climbed into the mid- and upper 30's north and 40's and 50's south by midweek. Weekly temperatures averaged from near normal to 6° above normal. Weekly precipitation totals through Friday were generally less than 0.10 inch most coming early in week in form of an inch or less of snow north and light rain south. Warm weather latter part of week left feedlots quite muddy, but livestock conditions generally were good. Main activities consisted of routine farm chores, machinery maintenance, some fertilizer application, and crop planning.

**INDIANA:** Warm and dry. Exception was a 4-inch snow near Lake Michigan on 21st and 22d. Temperatures ranged from teens on 22d to 60° in south on 24th. Averages ranged from 31° to 40° and were 3° above normal. Surface soils and lakes frozen over in north. Many days sunny. Fieldwork limited after midweek by thawed soil conditions. Few fields corn and soybeans harvested, and some tilling accomplished early in period. Farmers mostly active in doing chores and getting equipment ready for the start of the 1973 season.

**IOWA:** A warm week with negligible precipitation. Temperatures averaged 5° to 9° above normal with maxima 24th reaching around 60° in some southern counties. Snow cover is nearly all melted except 1 or 2 inches over some northernmost counties. Stream levels are relatively high.

**KANSAS:** Cloudy skies with very light precipitation 19th. Generally fair and mild rest of week. Precipitation totals under 0.10 inch entire State. Temperatures averaged 3° to 6° above normal north

and 1° to 2° above seasonal south. Daily maxima 30's to 50's 19th and 25th, otherwise, readings mostly 40's to 60's. Minima generally teens to 30's. Wheat noticeably greener; some growth. Condition generally good, but ground cover needed some areas to prevent possible blowing. Soil moisture continued good supply. Some harvest progress on corn, sorghums and soybeans still in field. Fieldwork limited. Oat and spring barley seeding continued to be delayed by muddy fields. Heaving damaged stands on a few alfalfa fields seeded last fall. Livestock required less supplemental feeding, conditions improved with warmer weather and drying lots. More livestock grazing wheat and crop aftermath. Hay and forage shortage in a few counties. Hay sales and livestock marketings active. Newborn livestock losses light.

**KENTUCKY:** Temperatures averaged near normal. Precipitation generally less than 0.10 inch. Temperatures averaged below normal 20th to 22d, mostly above normal balance. Maxima generally in 50's and 60's last 3 days. Mostly sunny 5 days. Mixture rain and snow on 20th; snow flurries northeast on 21st; no measurable snow accumulations most areas, but up to 1 inch at several central locations. Very little farmwork; however, several reporters commented about soybeans and corn being harvested. Winter grains satisfactory condition, fewer acres than desired in localities where wet fall delayed harvests. Livestock wintering well, calving underway. Stocks of farm grown hay, silage, and feed grains being drained as stockmen resist high priced commercial feed.

**LOUISIANA:** Mild to cool weather prevailed throughout week with afternoon temperatures 50's and 60's and morning lows 30's and 40's. Weekly temperature departures 4° to 6° below normal except near normal northwest. Temperature extremes: 70° at Baton Rouge and Lafayette Sunday and 32° Covington Thursday and Saturday. Rainfall light to moderate Thursday, Friday, and Saturday as low pressure wave moved through north Gulf of Mexico. Weekly totals less than 0.50 inch except southeast where local amounts exceeded 1.01 inches at Moisant Airport, New Orleans, Sunday morning. Soil moisture supplies continued excessive most areas. Some plowing and land preparation, shaving of sugarcane, topdressing winter pastures where soil is dry enough. Some tomato plants moved to cold frames. Irish potato planting fairly active in central area. Strawberry prospects good. Growth of winter pastures continued slow, pasture feed much below average. Supplemental feeding continued, hay supplies very short most areas. Cattle in fair to good condition.

**MARYLAND AND DELAWARE:** Temperatures, above normal 20th and 21st, near normal weekend, and below normal other days, averaged 1° to 4° below normal. Extremes mostly mid-40's to low 50's, teens and low 20's except 0° to teens in west. Precipitation generally light, less than 0.25 inch. Snowfall light except up to 11 inches in Garrett County area. Limited field activity. Pruning and care of apple orchards slowed during week, but progress near normal due to earlier open weather. Pruning of peaches expected to continue into March to allow for potential freeze damage. Livestock farmers emphasized care of young animals.

**MICHIGAN:** Intermittent snow with near seasonal temperatures except clear and colder midweek and as period ended north. Temperatures averaged: Normal to 2° above normal Upper Peninsula; 1° below normal to 3° above normal Lower Peninsula. Precipitation totals: 0.25 to 0.65 inch Upper Peninsula; 0.20 to 0.75 inch Lower Peninsula.

**MINNESOTA:** Temperatures averaged 1° below normal in northeast to 7° above normal in southwest. State average 4° above normal. Precipitation: Little to none across the State except a 1- to 3-inch snowfall across southeast late evening of 24th. Snow depth: Western and southern districts, zero to 4 inches; rest of State more than 5 inches. Northeast averages near 12 inches.

**MISSISSIPPI:** Dry except for some patchy light rains in southern Mississippi at end of week, amounts generally less than 0.10 inch. Temperatures averaged below normal for 2d week. Most of State averaged 9° to 12° below normal. Cool morning temperatures and mild afternoons. Temperatures ranged from 12° on 17th at University to 71° Sunday at Meridian and Yazoo City. Mostly sunny and mild over weekend except for some scattered light rains in southern Mississippi Friday night and Saturday. Greatest amount was 0.24 inch at Columbia measured Saturday morning. Days suitable for fieldwork averaged 3.2, up from slightly less than 1 day last week. Soil moisture adequate to surplus. Cotton and soybean acreage harvested advanced 1 point to 93% and 90% respectively, plowing 9% completed. Irish potato planting increased slightly last week. Hay, roughage, and feed grain supplies mostly short. Wheat and oats in poor to fair condition. Pasture and livestock condition poor to fair.

**MISSOURI:** Temperatures for week began and ended below normal but were well above normal during middle of week. Weekly temperatures averaged from 3° below normal southeast to 4° above normal northwest. Light precipitation fell early in week with most areas receiving less than 0.10 inch.

**MONTANA:** Very mild week with temperatures again above normal. Greatest departures from normal were again the north-central and northeast divisions with temperatures averaging about 15° above normal. Elsewhere, temperatures averaged about 10° above normal except over the southwest where temperatures averaged near normal. Highest: 60° at Great Falls; lowest -18° at West Yellowstone. Very light to no precipitation over all the State. Snow cover protection poor for winter wheat. Concern developing about below-normal winter precipitation major winter wheat areas. Winter wheat condition fair central and southwest, good northwest, fair to good elsewhere. Livestock condition good, grazing mostly open.

**NEBRASKA:** Mild weather, little precipitation. Most of week's precipitation fell in Panhandle on 18th. One to 2 inches snow reported. Average weekly temperatures from 4° to 9° above normal. Weekend saw cooler weather moving back into State, especially in east. Grand Island and Norfolk reported 1 inch of new snow Monday morning. Trace amounts elsewhere in east. Milder temperatures allowed frost to leave soil gradually, thus waterlogged soils should start draining. Harvest took place last week where field conditions and storage capacities allowed. Farmers concerned about corn in storage as warmer weather approaches. Most corn in storage was picked at rather high moisture levels and was expected to be marketed by this time; however, local grain dealers do not have storage available and are not buying much corn at present time. Corn harvest remains at 97% complete, grain sorghum 93% complete. Winter wheat in good to excellent condition. Livestock losses remain above average, gain slow. Most feed lots in poor condition.

**NEVADA:** Warm week. Temperatures 2° to 3° above normal north; and near normal extreme south. Spotty precipitation midweek. Heaviest amounts 0.20 to 0.40 inch extreme south. Otherwise generally clear and sunny. Warm days ideal for calving and lambing, which have become more active. Early contracting for fall delivered calves active. Stockwater and supplemental feed generally adequate but hay shortage could develop before feeding season ends. Fall-planted grains have wintered in generally good condition. Major farm activity still confined to southern valleys.

**NEW ENGLAND:** A mild week except colder over weekend. Means mostly 4° to 8° above normal. Many maxima in 40's on 20th and 21st. Subzero minima in north over weekend. Frequent precipitation in north but week quite dry in south. Precipitation totals mostly a trace to 0.50 inch except ranging to over 1.00 inch in northern Maine. Little change in snowcover.

**NEW JERSEY:** Temperatures averaged very near normal ranging from the low 50's on 21st to low teens on 25th. Little or no precipitation over the northern 2/3 of State. Between 0.10 and 0.20 inch melted precipitation fell over counties bordering Delaware Bay.

**NEW MEXICO:** Precipitation at midweek, heaviest in south, with totals of from 0.50 to more than 1.00 inch. Temperatures averaged below normal especially during the day. Central Valley and southeast averaged 5° or more below normal. Daytime cooling to midweek then warming to warmest on Sunday. Warmest nights in midweek during cloudiness and precipitation. Snow, rain statewide halted field operations. Where weather permitted, land preparation for spring plantings continued as the primary activity. Livestock, ranges fair to good. Supplemental feeding instrumental in maintaining stock condition.

**NEW YORK:** Temperatures averaged near normal but 10° or more warmer than previous week. Moderating trend on 18th continued into 22d. Maximums mostly in 40's Upstate to near 50° on Long Island on 20th. Temperatures turning somewhat cooler latter half of week. Minimum by 25th ranged from -5° northern mountains up to low 20's coastal sections with teens southern Upstate. Precipitation totals 0.30 to 0.50 inch near Lake Erie ranging down to 0.10 inch or less northern valleys and extreme southeast. Snowfall 4 to 7 inches near Lake Erie on 21st and 22d with generally 1 to 3 inches elsewhere Upstate. Little net change in snow cover from previous weekend except considerable melting in much of Hudson Valley.

**NORTH CAROLINA:** Sunniest week since mid-September. Little or no precipitation until showers beginning night of 25th. Some drifted snow remained in shaded areas southeastern counties after 2 weeks. Temperatures ranged zero to 60°, averaging much below normal but rising during period. Fieldwork averaged 2.7 days during week. Main activities preparing and seeding tobacco plant beds -- which are behind schedule. Soybean, corn and cotton growers worked to salvage unharvested acreage. Growers topdressing small grains -- fertilizer and lime in short supply. Small grains mostly good condition, but wet fields generally fair. Feed grain prices high, supplies scarce in western part of State

**NORTH DAKOTA:** Temperatures averaged 10° to 15° above normal. Only short periods of cold weather. Precipitation totals trace to 0.05 inch. Precipitation much below normal for year to date. Snow cover about 1 inch with bare places east, none in west. Mild temperatures latter part of week caused further melting of snow. Livestock continued good condition and obtaining limited amounts of feed from grazing. Feed and roughage supplies generally adequate. Conditions for calving and lambing favorable. Farmers and ranchers marketing livestock and grain and laying in fertilizer for upcoming crop year.

**OHIO:** Week started off warm, became colder and then warmed up again. Low temperatures from 19th to 21st were mostly in 20's and 30's. For rest of week, they were in teens and 20's. On 19th, 24th, and 25th, the high temperatures climbed into the 50's. From 20th to 23d, the highs ranged from low 20's to low 40's. On 21st, the snowbelt in northeastern Ohio had as much as 8 inches of snow. Cleveland had 3 inches and Youngstown had 2 inches. On 22d, 1 to 3 inches of snow fell in northern Ohio. Harvest of remaining corn and soybean acreage was scattered. Hay and straw supplies are becoming short in some areas. Farmers are doing routine winter chores such as livestock care and getting machinery ready for spring work. Calving and lambing underway in a few areas.

**OKLAHOMA:** Temperatures averaged 1° to 3° below normal. Precipitation was light with the greatest average 0.40 inch southwest and south-central. Snow up to five inches on Thursday. Second week of light moisture permitted near completion of cotton harvest in west but soft soils in south-central and east-central allowed only limited activity. Wheat making only moderate growth under the cool temperatures. Topdressing more widespread and grazing increasing some areas. Wet soil holding seeding of spring oats to 1/5 intended acreage and barley to 1/4 compared with 2/3 or better year ago. Ranges mostly cropped short with existing forage poor quality. Cattle condition improved under seasonally warmer temperatures.

**OREGON:** Rain showers first day of week followed by sunny mild days. Temperatures averaged mostly 2° to 6° above normal. Minima eastside mostly 1° to 24°, westside 26° to 36° with 29° to 32° northern half of coast. Maxima 46° to 73°. Showers missed southeast half of State but elsewhere totaled 0.10 to 0.36 inch. Open weather dried fields allowing farmers to get much spring work underway. Seeding of early potatoes started in the mid-Columbia Basin. Reseeding of winter-killed fall grain underway in early areas. Seed for spring grains in short supply. Spraying, fertilizing, and orchard pruning also actively continuing. Potato movement slowing. Livestock in good condition. Milk and egg production improving. Full feeding still required in most areas.

**PENNSYLVANIA:** Cool, dry week. Daily maximum temperatures mostly 20's to 40's, minima near zero to 20's. Weekly values 1° to 2° above normal southeast corner, 2° to 4° below normal central and north. Extremes: 51°, - 6°. No measureable precipitation much of southeast and middle Susquehanna, under 0.25 inch central and northeast, 0.25 to 0.60 inch west. Frequent snow flurries west and central. Snow cover Monday morning: 2 to 4 inches central mountains and western plateau, 3 to 9 inches north-central mountains. Farmers tending to winter chores.



**PUERTO RICO:** A dry cool week. Rainfall averaged 0.23 inch or 0.46 inch below normal. Highest weekly total rainfall 0.82 inch in western coast. Little or no rain south and northeast coasts. Crop moisture conditions near normal all divisions except parts of south where agricultural drought is slowly developing as dry season progresses. Temperatures averaged 77° on coast and 71° interior divisions with mean departure of about 0.7° below normal. Significant cooling trend in week. Highest maximum 92°; lowest minimum 52°. Sugarcane harvesting and grinding operations progressed well in favorable weather except parts of west where some showers caused minor delays. Coffee plantations continued cultivating and good crop development reported. Tobacco plantations harvesting and drying under favorable weather conditions. Pastures generally excellent all divisions except parts of south where poor to fair due lack of rain. Minor crops in good abundance on market and good yields islandwide except parts of south where more rain needed for optimum growth and favorable planting conditions.

**SOUTH CAROLINA:** Cold air masses dominated and temperatures averaged 8° to 10° below normal all sections. No rain except a few sprinkles 20th. Favorable weather permitted farmers to get in fields most areas. Some cotton and soybean harvesting, repairing damage from snowstorm Pee Dee area. Shipping tomato plants to Florida from Charleston-Beaufort area. Peach tree pruning Piedmont.

**SOUTH DAKOTA:** Temperatures averaged up to 11° above normal. Extremes ranged from 6° below zero near Waubay and at Summit on 21st to 67° at Vivian on 23d. Little or no precipitation. One of the largest amounts reported was 0.03 inch at Rapid City on 20th. Snow cover reported as zero in most areas of State on 23d although 1 to 3 inches reported in portions of east. Mild temperatures over the weekend melted most of this. Many operators looking for an early spring as preparations for spring planting are well ahead of normal. Some concern over fall-seeded grains because fields should have greened up during warm weather but many did not. Muddy yards are still a problem. Preparations for spring planting and caring for livestock are main farm activities.

**TENNESSEE:** Partly cloudy with little or no precipitation. Temperatures averaged 2° to 3° below normal in most areas except 6° below normal extreme southeast. Extremes: 15° at Chattanooga on 19th and 70° at Jackson on 24th. Light rain February 20 turned to light snow flurries before ending. This was the most rain-free week farmers have had in some time. Excellent progress was made harvesting corn, cotton, and soybeans. Farm activities for week included the usual farm chores, preparing tobacco beds, and some early plowing.

**TEXAS:** Cold, cloudy, wet weather covered most sections of State for 5th consecutive week. Sunshine and warmer temperatures returned over weekend. Harvest of cotton continues to drag on with 97% harvested compared to 100% last year. Cold, wet weather restricting harvest of cotton on High and Low Plains to short periods of clear weather between cold fronts. Preparations for planting this year's cotton crop have been delayed by wet weather from the upper Gulf Coast to the Lower Rio Grande Valley. Wheat coming out of dormant stage on High and Low Plains but growth rates slow. Grazing increasing in the southern

half of State, but most fields too muddy to graze. In the Lower Rio Grande Valley vegetable harvest curtailed most of week by rains. With clearing weather on Friday and a strong market, some harvest crews were in fields cutting cabbage despite mud. Wet fields have stopped carrot digging and several days of clear warm weather will be required before any digging can resume. Lettuce available in light supply. Damage to spring onion crop light. In the Winter Garden-San Antonio area most onions are still young enough not to be adversely effected by the unseasonably cold weather. Some spinach and lettuce have been damaged from the freezes. Carrot, cabbage, lettuce, and spinach harvests continue when weather permits. At Laredo most onions are making a good recovery from the freeze and should sustain minimal damage. In the Coastal Bend replanting of cucumbers and watermelons continues when weather permits. Citrus harvest virtually stopped during week because of rains. With harvest running behind, supplies expected to be available in May and perhaps in June. Picking of Valencias remains light with most emphasis still on clearing up the early and midseason crop.

**UTAH:** Scattered showers latter part last week south portion and northwest over weekend. Accumulated amounts of moisture light to moderate. Average temperatures for period, again, below normal. 2° to 11° below normal, except 14° to 23° below normal northern mountains and Uintah Basin. Rising temperatures latter part of period clearing snow cover at lower elevations, permitting some early plowing in a few southern Utah areas. Farm flock lambing in full progress. Marketing of potatoes, dry onions, and apples from storage continues but nearing completion. Some orchard pruning started. Fruit outlook still fair to good, even though very severe temperatures occurred last fall before maximum hardness in fruit trees developed. Care and feeding of cattle and sheep on winter range lands, on valley farms, and in feedlots plus caring for dairy herds and poultry flocks continue major activities. Preparation of machinery for spring fieldwork along with weed burning and irrigation ditch cleaning in some areas are current activities.

**VIRGINIA:** Temperatures around normal except for below normal at midweek. Scattered light rain and snow at midweek. Mud diminished but surplus moisture remains in nearly half of the topsoil. Days suitable for fieldwork averaged 2.0, highest this month. Prepared, gassed, and seeded tobacco plant beds. Topdressed pastures, small grains, and hay. Some land plowed where soil conditions permitted. Harvested soybeans, corn, and grain sorghum where grounds sufficiently dry or frozen to support equipment. A few pastures reseeded. Soil testing active.

**WASHINGTON:** Western Washington: Rains up to 0.50 inch first of week. Temperatures climbed to 60's with frosty nights. Main activities plowing, fertilizing, pruning, lifting and planting tree seedlings, and harvest forced rhubarb. Some caneberries budding and shrubs leafing out. Calving and lambing continue in good shape. Eastern Washington: Warm days increased orchard and field activities and helped wheat break dormancy. Wheat vulnerable to a hard freeze, winter-kill varies widely. Calving and lambing continue with no major problems.

WEST VIRGINIA: Dry cold week with precipitation totals below 0.25 inch. Light rain February 20 followed by light snow flurries February 21, 22, and 23. Cold but sunny weekend February 24 to 25. Soil moisture adequate in most areas. Main activities tending livestock and preparing equipment for spring planting. Livestock continues in good condition.

WISCONSIN: Another very pleasant winter week. Temperatures quite mild and precipitation light. Sunshine plentiful around midweek. Weekly extremes in temperature of mid-40's in southwest on 23d and -10° in extreme north late on 25th. Several light snowfalls early and late in period. Snowfall locally heavy over weekend in east-central Wisconsin between Lakes Michigan and Winnebago where up to 10 inches of fluffy snow fell. Livestock doing good though feed supplies often low and quality of feed poor.

WYOMING: Scattered light snow statewide. Casper reported the most moisture with 0.28 inch. Temperatures averaged 3° to 20° below normal west of Divide, Wind River, and Upper Platte Drainages, near to 8° above normal elsewhere. Maxima were mostly 27° to 42° west of Divide, Wind River, and Upper Platte Drainages; low 40's to upper 50's elsewhere. Minima were mostly -10° to -30° west of Divide and Upper Platte Drainage, -15° to 20° elsewhere. Temperature extremes: 59° at Archer and -30° at Bondurant. Agricultural activities included feeding and care of livestock. Early lambing and calving are underway in some areas. Livestock generally in good condition.



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