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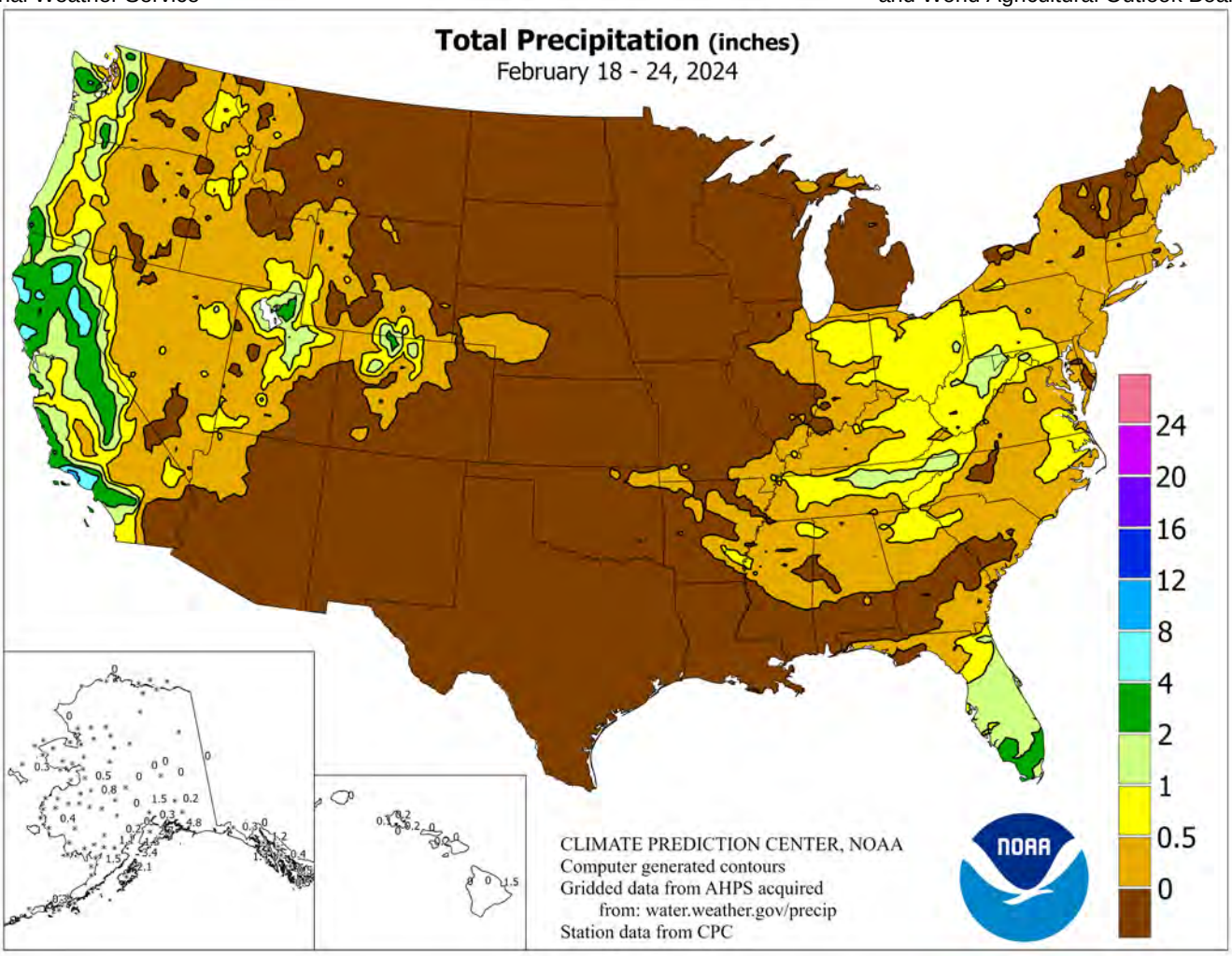
WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
National Agricultural Statistics Service
and World Agricultural Outlook Board



HIGHLIGHTS

February 18 – 24, 2024

Highlights provided by USDA/WAOB

Mild, dry weather dominated the **nation's mid-section**, while significant precipitation was confined to parts of the **East** and **West**. The open weather in the **central U.S.** favored outdoor activities, including pre-planting fieldwork. In fact, planting was well underway across the **Deep South**. However, warmth also coaxed winter wheat out of dormancy across roughly the **southern half of the country**, with the crop actively developing in the **South**. Meanwhile, rain briefly fell across the **Ohio and Tennessee Valleys**, as well as neighboring areas, with

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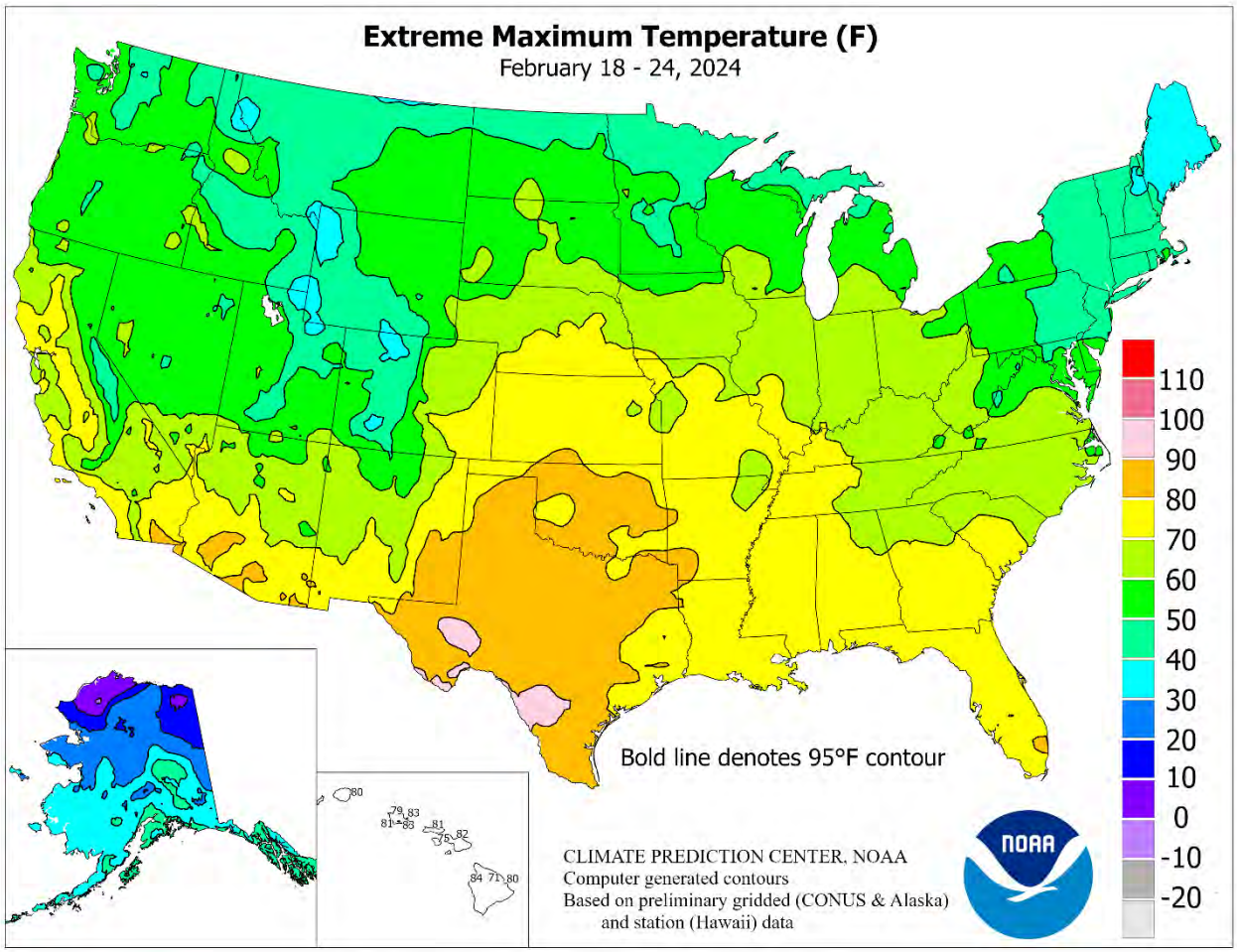
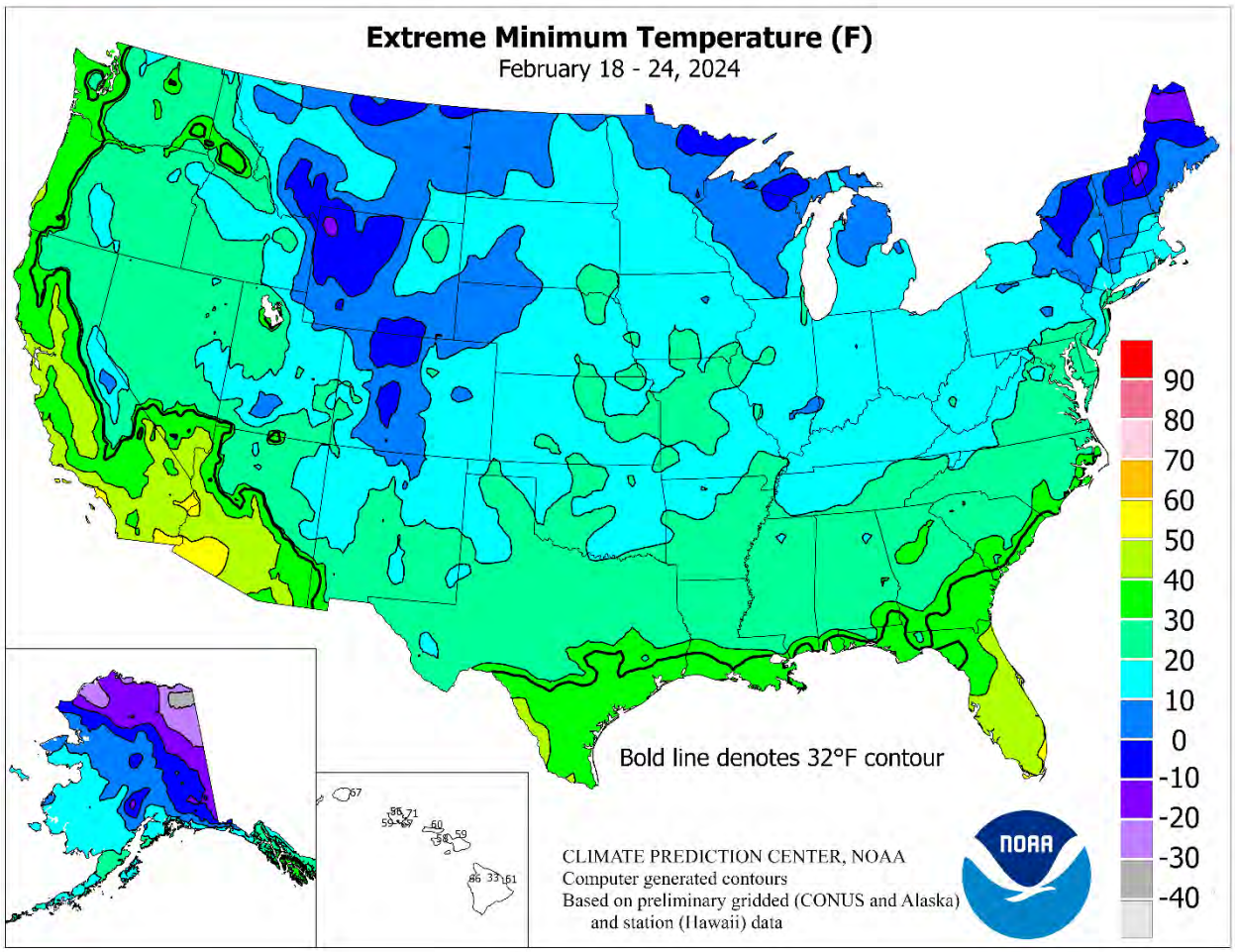
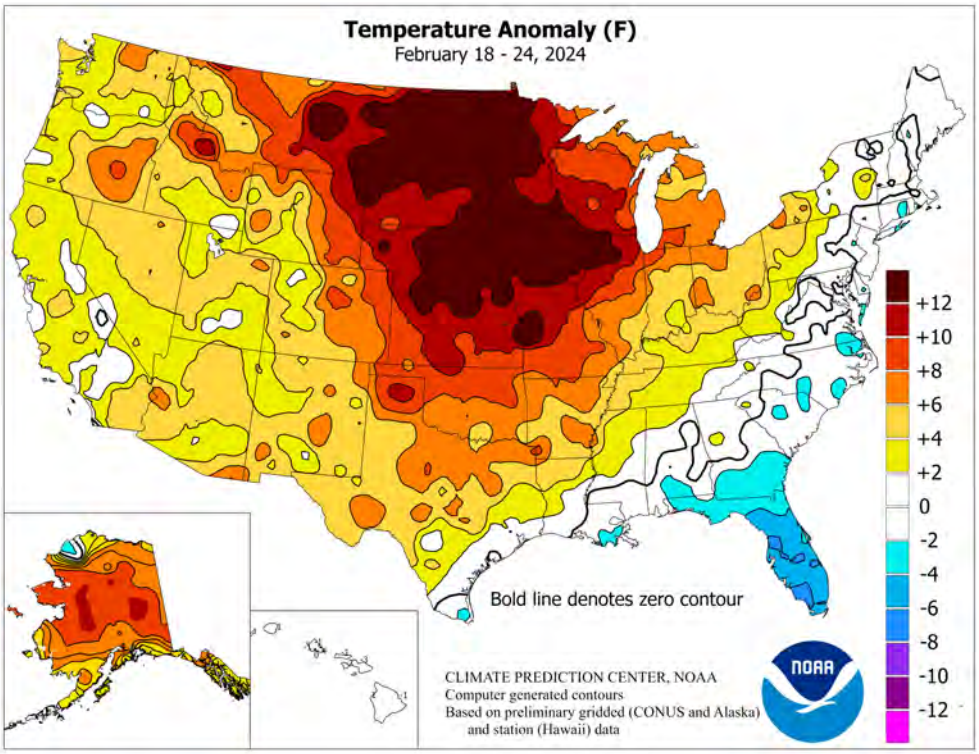

Extreme Maximum Temperature (F)
February 18 - 24, 2024
110
100
90
80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
-10
-20
Bold line denotes 95°F contour
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA
Computer generated contours
Based on preliminary gridded (CONUS & Alaska)
and station (Hawaii) data
NOAA


Extreme Minimum Temperature (F)
February 18 - 24, 2024
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

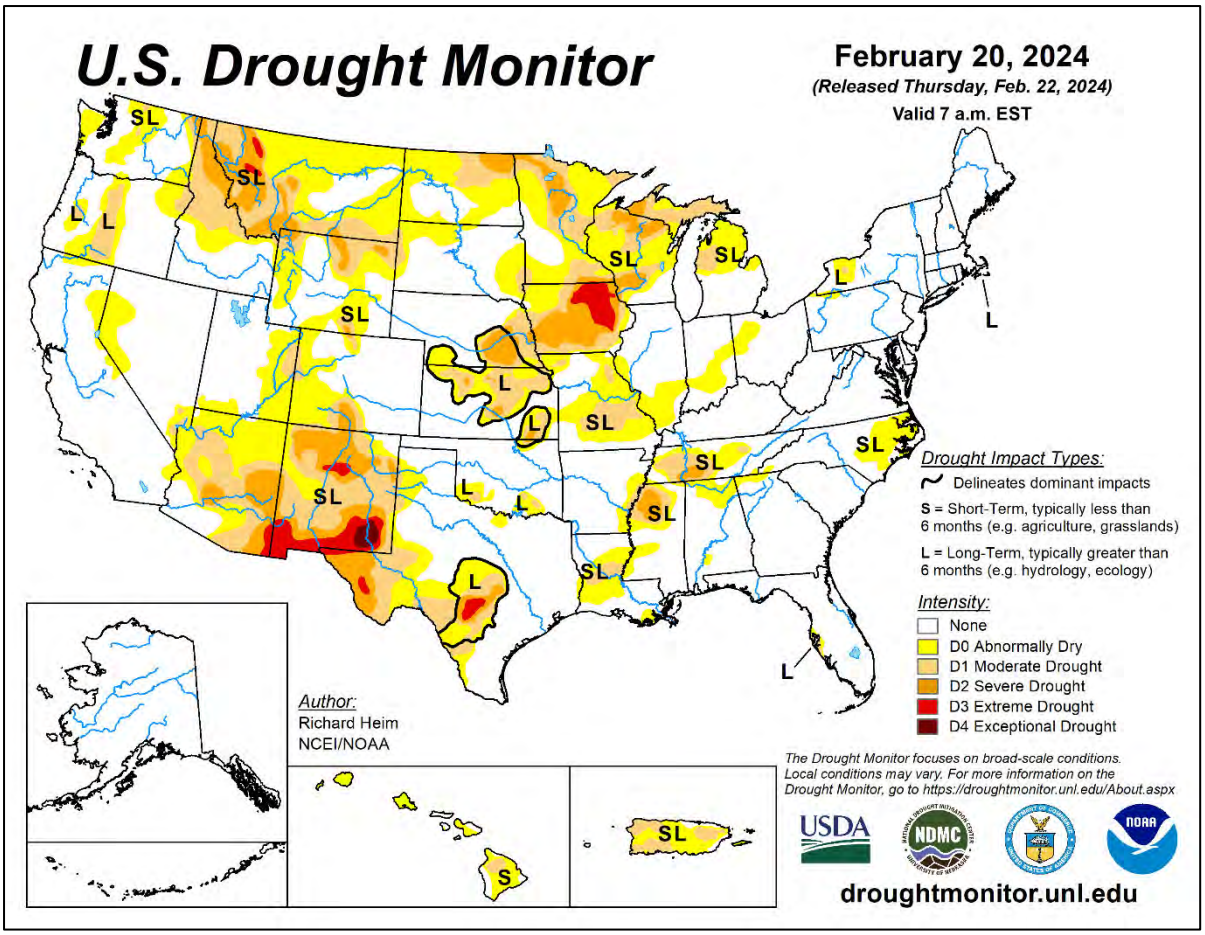
(Continued from front cover)
some locations receiving more than an inch on February 22. Earlier, heavy rain had pelted **Florida's peninsula** as the week began. Elsewhere, **Western** precipitation was heaviest across **California**, while lighter amounts extended into the **Pacific Northwest**, **Great Basin**, **Intermountain West**, and **northern Rockies**. According to the California Department of Water Resources, the water equivalency of the **Sierra Nevada** snowpack climbed above 18 inches, more than 80 percent of the late-February average. Weekly temperatures generally averaged 10 to 20°F above normal across the **northern and central Plains** and **upper Midwest**. Above-normal temperatures also covered the remainder of the **Plains** and **Midwest**, as well as much of the **West**. In contrast, cooler-than-normal conditions were largely confined to the **Southeast** and **mid-Atlantic**. Weekly temperatures averaged at least 5°F below normal in scattered locations across the **southern Atlantic States**.

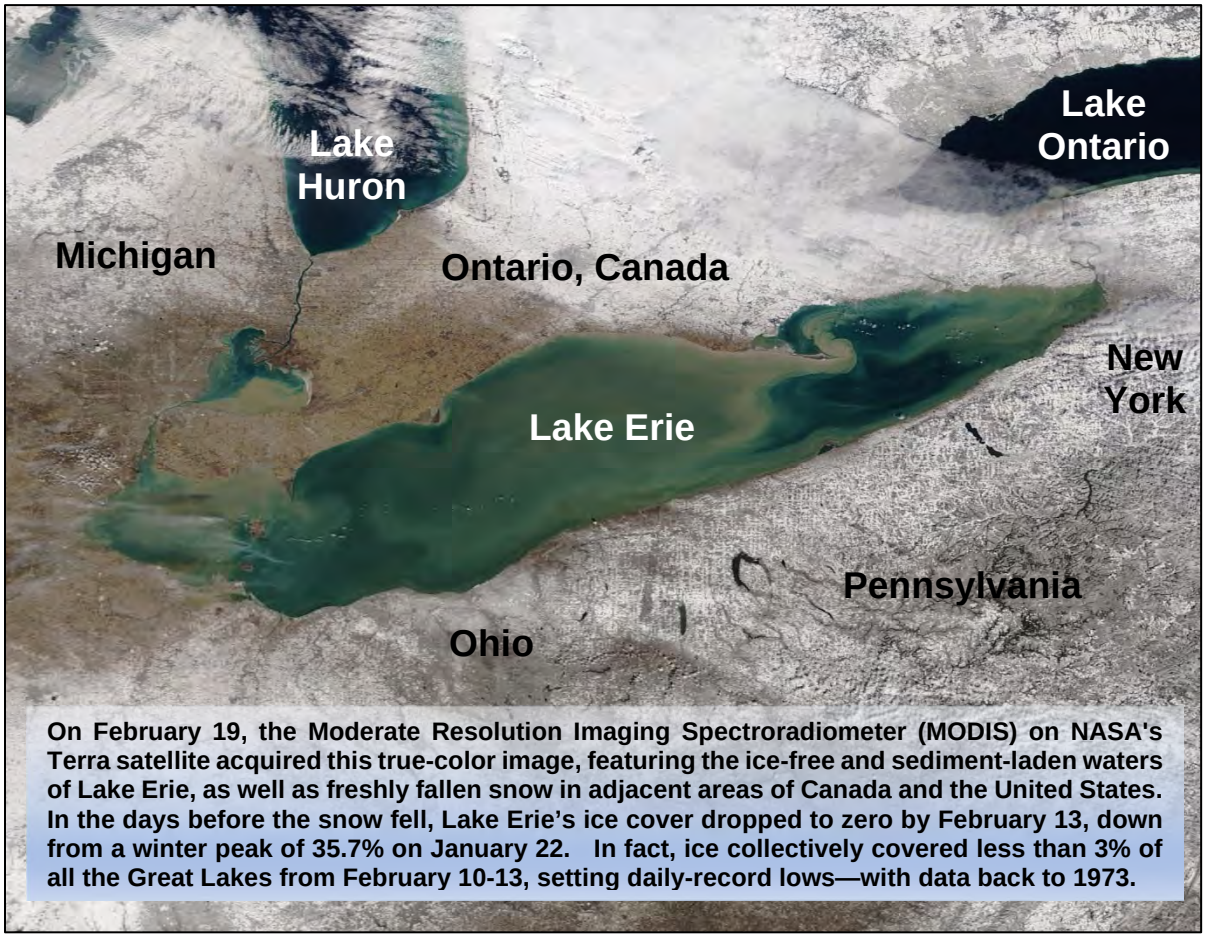


The most significant warmth across the **Plains** and **Midwest** peaked on February 20-21. On the 20th, highs topped the 70-degree mark as far north as **Nebraska**, where daily records included 72°F in **Imperial** and 71°F in **Lincoln**. Warm weather extended into the **western Corn Belt**, including **Iowa**, resulting in daily-record highs for February 20 in **Sioux City** (67°F) and **Des Moines** (64°F). Meanwhile in the **Southwest**, **Douglas, AZ**, posted a daily-record high (79°F on the 20th). By February 21, daily-record highs soared to 85°F in **Texas** locations such as **Borger** and **Lubbock**. Elsewhere, record-setting highs for the 21st surged to 83°F in **Oklahoma City, OK**; 74°F in **St. Joseph, MO**; and 60°F in **Bismarck, ND**. As warmth shifted eastward on February 22, daily-record highs in **Arkansas** rose to 84°F in **Texarkana** and 77°F in **Little Rock**. On the 23rd, lingering warmth across the **Deep South** led to a daily-record high (81°F) in **Gulfport, MS**. At week's end, significantly above-normal temperatures quickly returned across the **nation's mid-section**. By February 24, daily-record highs climbed to 61°F in **Mobridge, SD**, and 54°F in **Fargo, ND**.

The week began with rain pelting **Florida's peninsula**. On February 18, daily-record totals topped 2 inches in **Florida** locations such as **West Palm Beach** (2.74 inches), **Fort Lauderdale** (2.23 inches), and **Key West** (2.23 inches). Separately, heavy rain returned across **southern California**. **Santa Barbara, CA**, measured 3.86 inches from February 18-21, aided by a daily-record sum of 2.22 inches on the 18th. Through February 24, month-to-date rainfall in downtown **Los Angeles, CA**, reached 12.56 inches, approaching the normal annual rainfall of 14.25 inches. Even without additional rain, **Los Angeles** has secured its fourth-wettest February and seventh-wettest month on record. Similarly, February 1-24 rainfall in **Long Beach, CA**, climbed to 11.93 inches, marking the second-wettest February and third-wettest month in that location. **Western** precipitation extended to other areas, with daily-record totals being observed on February 19 in **Bishop, CA** (0.93 inch), and **Klamath Falls, OR** (0.77 inch). In **Utah**, 24-hour snowfall totals on February 20-21 included 8.0 inches in **Randolph** and 3.1 inches in **Logan**. Month-to-date snowfall in **Alta, UT**, totaled 121.3, well above the February normal value of 81.2 inches. By February 22, rain briefly overspread the **Ohio Valley** and **central Appalachians**; in **West Virginia**, daily-record totals on that date included 1.01 inches in **Clarksburg** and 0.93 inch in **Morgantown**. Elsewhere, season-to-date snowfall remained in the 4- to 10-inch range in **upper Midwestern** communities such as **Mobridge, SD** (5.5 inches, or 24 percent of normal), and **Fargo, ND** (8.5 inches, or 23 percent).

Above-normal temperatures again dominated **Alaska**, with the warmest weather—relative to normal—covering the middle one-third of the state. In fact, weekly temperatures averaged at least 10 to 15°F above normal in **Alaska's** "warm belt," with **Fairbanks** posting a daily-record high of 45°F on February 20. That marked the highest reading in **Fairbanks** since October 16, 2023. **Anchorage** also logged a daily-record high of 45°F on February 20, followed by 7.6 inches of snow from February 22-24. A peak wind gust to 69 mph occurred in **Anchorage** early on February 22. A day earlier, on the 21st, wind gusts included 76 mph in **Cold Bay** and 47 mph in **Nome**. Amid the mild conditions, stormy weather also hit other parts of **Alaska**, with **King Salmon** netting a daily-record sum of 0.72 inch on February 19. **McGrath** reported measurable precipitation each day during the week, except February 22, totaling 0.77 inch. Farther south, most of **Hawaii** remained entrenched in a drier-than-normal pattern. Through February 24, month-to-date rainfall at **Hawaii's** major airport observation sites ranged from 0.15 inch (9 percent of normal) in **Honolulu, Oahu**, to 4.08 inches (48 percent) in **Hilo**, on the **Big Island**. With a month-to-date sum of 0.26 inch (9 percent of normal), **Lihue, Kauai**, was on the verge of completing its driest February since 1983, when only a trace fell.





On February 19, the Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) on NASA's Terra satellite acquired this true-color image, featuring the ice-free and sediment-laden waters of Lake Erie, as well as freshly fallen snow in adjacent areas of Canada and the United States. In the days before the snow fell, Lake Erie's ice cover dropped to zero by February 13, down from a winter peak of 35.7% on January 22. In fact, ice collectively covered less than 3% of all the Great Lakes from February 10-13, setting daily-record lows—with data back to 1973.

National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending February 24, 2024

Data Provided by Climate Prediction Center

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
AK	ANCHORAGE	38	28	45	19	33	11	0.51	0.30	0.39	3.90	146	2.08	137	87	57	0	6	2	0
	BARROW	-5	-11	1	-18	-8	0	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0	81	64	0	7	0	0
	FAIRBANKS	28	8	42	-3	18	15	0.04	-0.10	0.04	1.51	93	0.57	54	87	61	0	7	1	0
	JUNEAU	39	32	41	26	36	5	1.24	0.25	0.85	22.62	138	12.17	124	97	75	0	4	5	1
	KODIAK	41	28	44	17	35	2	2.13	0.64	1.33	19.95	87	13.89	100	95	65	0	5	5	1
	NOME	29	20	34	14	24	15	0.31	0.05	0.12	2.75	96	2.33	129	93	74	0	7	5	0
AL	BIRMINGHAM	65	37	71	25	51	1	0.11	-1.19	0.08	15.45	109	10.75	116	77	25	0	3	2	0
	HUNTSVILLE	62	36	70	25	49	1	0.33	-1.02	0.31	15.52	102	10.57	113	84	33	0	2	2	0
	MOBILE	70	40	77	29	55	-1	0.06	-1.07	0.04	15.78	106	9.74	103	88	31	0	1	2	0
	MONTGOMERY	68	37	76	26	52	-2	0.09	-1.21	0.09	17.04	123	15.48	176	87	26	0	2	1	0
AR	FORT SMITH	70	37	81	21	54	7	0.00	-0.70	0.00	6.31	72	4.37	84	77	28	0	3	0	0
	LITTLE ROCK	69	41	77	26	55	9	0.06	-1.04	0.06	13.50	113	12.08	177	73	30	0	2	1	0
AZ	FLAGSTAFF	49	24	53	20	36	3	0.06	-0.55	0.06	6.00	103	5.46	140	84	33	0	7	1	0
	PHOENIX	79	54	82	51	66	6	0.00	-0.25	0.00	2.78	119	2.04	128	58	20	0	0	0	0
	PRESCOTT	61	32	66	29	46	3	0.03	-0.32	0.03	2.92	89	2.31	101	78	21	0	4	1	0
	TUCSON	75	45	82	44	60	3	0.00	-0.22	0.00	4.15	163	2.93	186	68	19	0	0	0	0
CA	BAKERSFIELD	67	49	72	44	58	3	0.33	0.02	0.15	4.31	130	3.67	167	92	50	0	0	3	0
	EUREKA	58	45	63	41	51	3	1.08	-0.37	0.39	22.44	114	16.21	141	96	63	0	0	4	0
	FRESNO	67	48	71	44	58	4	0.76	0.25	0.72	5.86	104	5.19	135	90	43	0	0	2	1
	LOS ANGELES	64	54	75	51	59	1	1.57	0.78	0.71	15.01	195	11.44	210	96	65	0	0	4	2
	REDDING	62	47	73	40	55	3	1.66	0.29	1.00	19.79	115	12.37	114	89	54	0	0	4	1
	SACRAMENTO	64	46	70	41	55	3	1.63	0.73	0.80	12.75	126	8.05	120	98	54	0	0	4	2
	SAN DIEGO	67	54	73	50	60	1	0.83	0.22	0.43	8.93	161	8.08	209	92	55	0	0	3	0
	SAN FRANCISCO	63	49	69	45	56	2	1.07	0.06	0.54	12.74	111	8.93	122	92	62	0	0	3	1
	STOCKTON	67	46	71	40	56	3	0.59	-0.05	0.39	8.93	123	6.28	129	98	47	0	0	3	0
CO	ALAMOSA	51	12	58	6	31	5	0.00	-0.07	0.00	1.07	119	0.68	122	81	17	0	7	0	0
	CO SPRINGS	58	27	67	15	42	8	0.01	-0.07	0.01	2.42	306	1.84	326	70	19	0	6	1	0
	DENVER INTL	56	27	66	21	42	8	0.17	0.07	0.17	1.75	161	1.63	223	68	24	0	7	1	0
	GRAND JUNCTION	56	29	62	23	42	5	0.00	-0.14	0.00	1.21	73	0.67	63	70	26	0	5	0	0
	PUEBLO	64	22	71	14	43	6	0.00	-0.09	0.00	3.01	352	1.71	303	80	17	0	7	0	0
CT	BRIDGEPORT	41	26	47	21	33	-1	0.09	-0.74	0.06	15.18	155	6.98	120	76	46	0	6	2	0
	HARTFORD	40	20	46	14	30	-1	0.33	-0.48	0.28	16.52	165	9.11	154	80	42	0	6	2	0
DC	WASHINGTON	51	32	53	26	42	0	0.04	-0.63	0.02	13.16	154	6.91	135	78	41	0	4	2	0
DE	WILMINGTON	46	26	48	22	36	-1	0.21	-0.51	0.18	15.67	165	7.69	136	83	45	0	6	2	0
FL	DAYTONA BEACH	67	47	77	41	57	-5	1.72	1.15	1.31	10.02	142	5.37	114	99	48	0	0	3	1
	JACKSONVILLE	67	42	74	36	54	-4	1.20	0.48	0.71	12.84	151	6.39	111	86	33	0	0	2	1
	KEY WEST	74	64	78	61	69	-4	2.22	1.88	2.21	11.95	224	6.06	191	89	58	0	0	2	1
	MIAMI	74	57	79	54	66	-6	2.00	1.53	1.90	7.74	126	3.93	106	89	47	0	0	3	1
	ORLANDO	71	49	79	46	60	-5	1.62	1.14	1.37	7.62	113	3.96	93	94	41	0	0	3	1
	PENSACOLA	69	44	79	35	56	-2	0.11	-1.10	0.11	12.20	84	7.46	82	79	28	0	0	1	0
	TALLAHASSEE	69	36	80	29	53	-4	0.01	-1.18	0.01	17.77	145	7.15	89	91	29	0	2	1	0
	TAMPA	69	51	74	46	60	-5	0.96	0.38	0.87	10.72	143	6.28	127	89	42	0	0	3	1
	WEST PALM BEACH	74	54	79	48	64	-5	2.88	2.29	2.79	9.55	103	5.69	99	93	52	0	0	3	1
GA	ATHENS	63	35	69	29	49	0	0.31	-0.81	0.31	18.98	151	14.80	182	77	25	0	4	1	0
	ATLANTA	64	40	70	31	52	2	0.18	-1.00	0.18	13.03	99	9.40	110	64	24	0	1	1	0
	AUGUSTA	64	34	73	26	49	-3	0.01	-0.96	0.01	10.04	92	5.75	82	90	24	0	5	1	0
	COLUMBUS	67	40	74	31	54	0	0.10	-1.08	0.10	14.11	119	12.25	173	74	21	0	1	1	0
	MACON	67	36	73	28	51	-1	0.04	-1.02	0.04	12.80	102	10.89	137	92	25	0	3	1	0
	SAVANNAH	66	39	73	33	53	-3	0.01	-0.73	0.01	9.80	110	5.22	92	86	30	0	0	1	0
HI	HILO	76	63	80	61	70	-1	1.52	-1.13	0.55	14.75	51	7.02	42	97	58	0	0	7	1
	HONOLULU	79	68	83	67	74	0	0.03	-0.52	0.03	3.63	64	2.74	79	75	44	0	0	1	0
	KAHULUI	78	62	82	59	70	-3	0.02	-0.46	0.02	5.74	82	4.75	115	79	47	0	0	1	0
	LIHUE	78	70	80	67	74	1	0.03	-0.96	0.03	8.06	77	3.84	66	74	54	0	0	1	0
IA	BURLINGTON	56	29	64	20	43	12	0.00	-0.47	0.00	4.00	84	1.96	69	78	33	0	5	0	0
	CEDAR RAPIDS	55	25	65	16	40	14	0.00	-0.35	0.00	1.53	43	0.60	31	84	31	0	6	0	0
	DES MOINES	57	30	66	23	44	15	0.00	-0.36	0.00	5.83	154	4.31	196	75	32	0	5	0	0
	DUBUQUE	51	26	62	16	39	14	0.00	-0.43	0.00	3.92	88	1.97	74	80	37	0	5	0	0
	SIOUX CITY	57	23	68	18	40	14	0.00	-0.23	0.00	3.20	134	1.63	116	92	38	0	7	0	0
	WATERLOO	55	21	65	9	38	12	0.00	-0.31	0.00	2.29	65	1.52	74	77	31	0	7	0	0
ID	BOISE	54	34	62	32	44	5	0.13	-0.11	0.12	5.27	138	4.01	177	84	43	0	3	2	0
	LEWISTON	50	37	56	34	44	3	0.29	0.04	0.15	3.70	117	2.54	126	87	61	0	0	3	0
	POCATELLO	44	24	51	14	34	3	0.42	0.16	0.31	4.31	141	3.29	171	94	63	0	7	2	0
IL	CHICAGO/O_HARE	52	30	63	20	41	10	0.08	-0.46	0.08	6.49	113	3.54	97	77	36	0	5	1	0
	MOLINE	56	29	66	18	42	12	0.00	-0.51	0.00	5.52	106	2.90	91	78	32	0	5	0	0
	PEORIA	55	30	65	21	42	10	0.20	-0.34	0.20	6.51	109	3.67	98	82	36	0	5	1	0
	ROCKFORD	53	24	64	13	39	11	0.05	-0.40	0.05	5.65	115	2.54	86	79	32	0	5	1	0
	SPRINGFIELD	55	29	70	17	42	7	0.00	-0.52	0.00	7.59	134	4.61	132	89	39	0	4	0	0
IN	EVANSVILLE	59	29	71	16	44	5	0.00	-0.85	0.00	8.65	88	6.70	111	86	33	0	4	0	0
	FORT WAYNE	47	25	63	14	36	5	0.71	0.16	0.49	6.47	96	4.80	112	86	54	0	5	3	0
	INDIANAPOLIS	51	28	68	13	39	5	0.57	-0.07	0.56	6.63	82	5.48	106	86	42	0	4	2	1
	SOUTH BEND	49	26	64	15	38	9	0.52	-0.10	0.27	7.92	113	5.20	113	88	43	0	5	3	0
KS	CONCORDIA	66	32	73	24	49	15	0.00	-0.21	0.00	3.85	157	2.39	169	75	24	0	3	0	0
	DODGE CITY	66	30	74	22	48	11	0.00	-0.16	0.00	3.93	188	1.57	140	79	22	0	4	0	0
	GOODLAND	62	26	72	17	44	10	0.00	-0.12	0.00	2.79	235	1.83	255	77	20	0	7	0	0
	TOPEKA	66	29	71	21	48	11	0.00	-0.35	0.00	5.57	161	2.77	140	86	26	0	4	0	0

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

Weather Data for the Week Ending February 24, 2024

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	65	31	72	18	48	9	0.00	-0.31	0.00	4.93	159	2.32	125	81	28	0	4	0	0
KY	LEXINGTON	56	31	67	16	43	4	0.68	-0.30	0.68	9.90	93	7.91	122	77	36	0	4	1	1
	LOUISVILLE	58	32	69	18	45	4	0.47	-0.47	0.47	8.99	86	7.20	115	75	31	0	4	1	0
	PADUCAH	60	32	74	18	46	5	0.29	-0.79	0.29	11.56	100	9.67	135	85	35	0	3	1	0
LA	BATON ROUGE	73	45	80	31	59	1	0.00	-1.06	0.00	16.72	108	10.24	100	82	30	0	1	0	0
	LAKE CHARLES	71	46	79	34	59	1	0.00	-0.79	0.00	13.97	105	11.60	133	95	40	0	0	0	0
	NEW ORLEANS	70	47	77	39	58	-1	0.00	-1.04	0.00	20.69	153	11.31	130	89	39	0	0	0	0
	SHREVEPORT	73	45	81	28	59	6	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	78	28	0	2	***	***
MA	BOSTON	39	24	43	18	31	-2	0.05	-0.79	0.04	13.54	130	7.83	128	80	42	0	6	2	0
	WORCESTER	38	20	43	16	29	1	0.21	-0.63	0.20	16.18	153	8.78	140	76	43	0	6	2	0
MD	BALTIMORE	48	27	51	23	37	-1	0.24	-0.51	0.22	14.34	154	7.35	132	84	44	0	6	3	0
ME	CARIBOU	25	4	35	-10	15	-2	0.01	-0.62	0.01	5.82	67	2.50	50	85	50	0	7	1	0
	PORTLAND	35	19	39	13	27	0	0.24	-0.67	0.23	14.66	133	8.10	124	84	49	0	6	2	0
MI	ALPENA	41	15	55	6	28	6	0.05	-0.35	0.04	4.35	87	2.72	88	90	45	0	7	2	0
	GRAND RAPIDS	46	22	62	12	34	6	0.00	-0.56	0.00	18.85	277	17.07	396	87	46	0	6	0	0
	HOUGHTON LAKE	43	17	54	7	30	8	0.00	-0.28	0.00	0.70	27	0.56	34	89	40	0	4	0	0
	LANSING	46	22	61	14	34	7	0.00	-0.47	0.00	5.64	104	3.49	99	83	44	0	6	0	0
	MUSKEGON	47	22	58	15	35	6	0.00	-0.56	0.00	5.14	77	3.50	83	82	40	0	6	0	0
	TRAVERSE CITY	43	19	53	13	31	6	0.00	-0.26	0.00	2.45	56	1.19	47	87	46	0	7	0	0
MN	DULUTH	41	18	50	8	29	12	0.02	-0.27	0.02	4.13	127	1.05	59	80	43	0	7	1	0
	INT_L FALLS	37	10	46	1	23	12	0.00	-0.19	0.00	2.39	101	1.20	87	81	38	0	7	0	0
	MINNEAPOLIS	44	23	52	17	33	11	0.00	-0.24	0.00	3.06	110	0.78	48	82	45	0	7	0	0
	ROCHESTER	46	21	56	10	33	12	0.00	-0.27	0.00	1.89	60	0.76	41	90	49	0	7	0	0
	ST. CLOUD	44	20	50	15	32	14	0.00	-0.22	0.00	4.55	210	1.19	92	86	44	0	7	0	0
MO	COLUMBIA	61	33	71	20	47	9	0.00	-0.57	0.00	5.64	94	2.91	74	79	31	0	3	0	0
	KANSAS CITY	62	31	69	19	46	11	0.00	-0.40	0.00	5.15	130	2.13	89	81	31	0	5	0	0
	SAINT LOUIS	61	34	73	23	48	9	0.00	-0.57	0.00	6.52	93	4.36	97	74	30	0	3	0	0
	SPRINGFIELD	63	35	72	19	49	8	0.04	-0.62	0.04	4.43	61	3.32	72	74	31	0	3	1	0
MS	JACKSON	69	39	77	26	55	2	0.00	-1.25	0.00	17.38	116	14.12	144	85	31	0	2	0	0
	MERIDIAN	69	36	75	25	52	-1	0.23	-1.13	0.23	13.37	86	10.65	104	93	30	0	3	1	0
	TUPELO	65	37	75	25	51	2	0.08	-1.35	0.07	13.73	90	11.26	121	82	34	0	2	2	0
MT	BILLINGS	52	29	59	15	41	10	0.00	-0.15	0.00	1.31	82	0.97	94	69	30	0	5	0	0
	BUTTE	40	13	45	-3	27	3	0.00	-0.11	0.00	1.56	123	1.24	158	83	47	0	7	0	0
	CUT BANK	43	26	46	0	34	10	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.39	53	0.37	88	84	55	0	6	0	0
	GLASGOW	43	20	49	7	31	11	0.00	-0.09	0.00	1.10	95	1.02	140	83	52	0	7	0	0
	GREAT FALLS	45	29	48	19	37	10	0.00	-0.15	0.00	2.09	132	2.01	190	76	49	0	6	0	0
	HAVRE	38	19	42	-5	28	6	0.00	-0.09	0.00	2.02	173	1.81	237	88	68	0	7	0	0
	MISSOULA	43	26	51	14	34	4	0.11	-0.11	0.07	2.02	72	1.54	89	96	58	0	7	2	0
NC	ASHEVILLE	57	30	65	24	44	0	0.12	-0.73	0.11	15.85	140	9.52	133	81	29	0	6	2	0
	CHARLOTTE	60	34	66	28	47	0	0.21	-0.64	0.21	14.32	147	8.05	131	76	29	0	4	1	0
	GREENSBORO	56	31	66	24	44	-1	0.07	-0.68	0.07	15.63	174	8.58	148	74	33	0	5	1	0
	HATTERAS	52	43	58	38	48	-2	0.15	-0.91	0.11	10.58	78	3.50	40	88	64	0	0	2	0
	RALEIGH	58	33	68	27	45	-1	0.35	-0.39	0.27	12.46	135	5.67	98	79	30	0	4	2	0
	WILMINGTON	60	37	65	32	48	-2	0.46	-0.42	0.46	11.58	110	3.46	50	84	34	0	1	1	0
ND	BISMARCK	50	19	60	10	35	15	0.00	-0.15	0.00	0.86	56	0.43	47	92	36	0	7	0	0
	DICKINSON	47	22	52	8	34	13	0.00	-0.10	0.00	0.16	23	0.01	2	87	47	0	7	0	0
	FARGO	45	23	54	20	34	18	0.00	-0.20	0.00	3.26	150	0.64	50	81	48	0	7	0	0
	GRAND FORKS	38	20	50	14	29	17	0.00	-0.16	0.00	1.30	83	0.37	40	84	53	0	7	0	0
	JAMESTOWN	46	20	58	15	33	17	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.60	63	0.02	3	87	43	0	7	0	0
NE	GRAND ISLAND	63	27	72	20	45	14	0.00	-0.18	0.00	2.75	132	1.51	122	77	23	0	6	0	0
	LINCOLN	65	23	72	16	44	13	0.00	-0.21	0.00	2.81	105	1.33	88	77	22	0	7	0	0
	NORFOLK	60	26	71	22	43	15	0.00	-0.20	0.00	2.94	138	1.41	110	82	27	0	7	0	0
	NORTH PLATTE	62	22	71	10	42	11	0.51	0.35	0.51	1.82	137	1.43	165	91	24	0	7	1	1
	OMAHA	62	25	68	20	43	12	0.00	-0.25	0.00	2.58	93	0.92	60	87	26	0	6	0	0
	SCOTTSBLUFF	56	26	64	1	41	9	0.10	-0.06	0.10	1.81	131	1.70	198	83	30	0	6	1	0
	VALENTINE	56	23	61	4	40	11	0.00	-0.17	0.00	1.95	156	1.37	167	88	31	0	7	0	0
NH	CONCORD	38	14	44	8	26	0	0.22	-0.48	0.22	13.83	156	6.94	135	88	43	0	7	1	0
NJ	ATLANTIC_CITY	45	24	50	20	34	-3	0.34	-0.52	0.21	14.42	136	7.83	128	87	46	0	6	3	0
	NEWARK	44	27	49	19	35	-1	0.06	-0.72	0.04	13.37	132	5.88	98	76	41	0	6	2	0
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	61	33	67	25	47	4	0.00	-0.12	0.00	1.74	138	0.74	102	56	18	0	3	0	0
NV	ELY	47	25	54	18	36	5	0.35	0.12	0.27	1.91	89	1.87	128	91	40	0	6	3	0
	LAS VEGAS	66	48	70	45	57	2	0.14	-0.08	0.14	1.22	72	1.16	93	71	30	0	0	1	0
	RENO	56	34	61	28	45	3	0.39	0.11	0.28	2.76	85	2.38	111	83	27	0	3	4	0
	WINNEMUCCA	55	29	58	23	42	4	0.33	0.14	0.21	3.66	141	3.38	215	84	35	0	5	2	0
NY	ALBANY	40	19	48	12	29	1	0.12	-0.48	0.11	10.82	139	5.17	114	82	39	0	7	2	0
	BINGHAMTON	38	19	49	11	28	3	0.21	-0.43	0.13	11.12	143	5.20	112	82	51	0	7	3	0
	BUFFALO	39	24	54	16	32	4	0.02	-0.61	0.01	8.87	96	5.10	93	81	47	0	5	2	0
	ROCHESTER	40	21	54	14	31	2	0.09	-0.46	0.06	7.07	100	4.28	98	79	46	0	6	3	0
	SYRACUSE	39	19	52	7	29	2	0.29	-0.36	0.27	10.02	126	4.91	105	73	43	0	6	2	0
OH	AKRON-CANTON	45	24	58	12	34	3	0.64	-0.01	0.63	6.51	82	3.97	79	86	48	0	6	2	1
	CINCINNATI	53	30	65	14	42	5	0.44	-0.39	0.44	9.10	93	7.22	121	84	37	0	4	1	0
	CLEVELAND	46	25	61	16	36	3	0.54	-0.12	0.54	7.64	94	4.35	85	81	46	0	6	1	1
	COLUMBUS	50	26	62	13	38	4	0.85	0.22	0.71	9.07	111	5.84	116	91	40	0	5	2	1
	DAYTON	50	29	63	12	40	5	0.76	0.14	0.65	8.43	104	6.52	129	85	45	0	4	2	1
	MANSFIELD	45	23	58	12	34	3	0.71	0.04	0.62	7.17	85	4.78	89	87	51	0	6	2	1

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

Weather Data for the Week Ending February 24, 2024

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	49	25	64	16	37	6	0.34	-0.28	0.33	6.79	101	5.08	119	85	46	0	5	2	0
	YOUNGSTOWN	46	25	59	14	35	5	0.57	-0.11	0.57	7.68	92	5.04	98	80	47	0	6	1	1
OK	OKLAHOMA CITY	70	35	83	19	52	8	0.00	-0.36	0.00	4.59	107	2.85	114	80	27	0	3	0	0
	TULSA	70	37	83	21	53	9	0.00	-0.43	0.00	5.78	106	3.98	133	77	25	0	2	0	0
OR	ASTORIA	55	43	59	38	49	5	0.93	-0.76	0.40	30.49	111	17.99	107	96	69	0	0	6	0
	BURNS	49	30	58	25	40	7	0.44	0.21	0.26	5.73	156	4.11	191	91	55	0	5	3	0
	EUGENE	56	40	59	35	48	5	0.57	-0.61	0.28	13.80	79	7.59	75	96	69	0	0	4	0
	MEDFORD	60	38	67	34	49	4	0.13	-0.35	0.10	7.78	98	5.58	126	93	44	0	0	2	0
	PENDLETON	51	35	59	31	43	4	0.17	-0.13	0.05	4.39	108	2.93	115	94	64	0	3	4	0
	PORTLAND	55	41	62	36	48	3	0.61	-0.28	0.28	19.98	143	11.39	139	88	59	0	0	4	0
	SALEM	55	40	60	36	48	3	0.82	-0.28	0.31	19.60	115	12.07	120	95	66	0	0	5	0
PA	ALLENTOWN	41	19	48	12	30	-4	0.05	-0.65	0.05	15.20	159	6.73	119	81	46	0	6	1	0
	ERIE	43	27	59	18	35	5	0.47	-0.18	0.47	7.72	79	4.51	81	79	47	0	5	1	0
	MIDDLETOWN	44	26	48	20	35	1	0.28	-0.36	0.23	12.91	149	7.75	148	82	48	0	6	3	0
	PHILADELPHIA	46	28	48	25	37	0	0.13	-0.58	0.08	14.90	157	7.13	130	80	41	0	6	2	0
	PITTSBURGH	48	26	59	18	37	4	0.62	-0.07	0.59	7.89	98	5.39	104	81	35	0	5	2	1
	WILKES-BARRE	41	21	46	14	31	-1	0.23	-0.30	0.19	11.97	167	6.20	143	76	47	0	6	2	0
	WILLIAMSPORT	42	24	50	18	33	2	0.48	-0.13	0.44	12.03	146	6.89	140	75	44	0	5	2	0
RI	PROVIDENCE	40	22	48	16	31	-2	0.16	-0.75	0.16	15.55	135	8.76	128	90	47	0	6	1	0
SC	CHARLESTON	65	38	73	32	52	-2	0.28	-0.49	0.28	11.80	126	4.94	82	83	29	0	1	1	0
	COLUMBIA	63	33	72	27	48	-3	0.23	-0.67	0.23	9.63	95	5.05	79	93	30	0	5	1	0
	FLORENCE	62	34	68	26	48	-3	0.24	-0.54	0.13	7.59	83	4.34	76	91	32	0	4	2	0
	GREENVILLE	61	33	68	26	47	0	0.48	-0.52	0.47	17.24	144	12.37	167	73	24	0	4	2	0
SD	ABERDEEN	48	20	60	14	34	14	0.00	-0.17	0.00	2.11	125	0.29	26	90	49	0	7	0	0
	HURON	44	20	59	11	32	10	0.00	-0.20	0.00	2.27	121	1.04	86	91	57	0	7	0	0
	RAPID CITY	55	25	61	11	40	13	0.00	-0.15	0.00	1.10	102	0.80	111	73	32	0	7	0	0
	SIOUX FALLS	53	25	60	21	39	14	0.00	-0.22	0.00	3.09	146	1.29	100	83	44	0	7	0	0
TN	BRISTOL	57	28	70	19	42	1	1.53	0.55	1.04	10.47	98	6.87	99	89	32	0	5	3	1
	CHATTANOOGA	62	34	68	27	48	1	0.20	-1.11	0.20	15.28	105	9.13	98	81	28	0	4	1	0
	KNOXVILLE	59	31	67	24	45	1	0.35	-0.91	0.27	15.92	114	9.94	112	85	30	0	5	2	0
	MEMPHIS	63	41	74	25	52	5	0.12	-1.09	0.12	12.75	94	10.18	128	79	36	0	2	1	0
	NASHVILLE	61	35	71	19	48	3	0.37	-0.80	0.37	11.20	91	8.44	107	81	29	0	3	1	0
TX	ABILENE	75	44	88	22	59	8	0.00	-0.33	0.00	4.43	128	3.03	139	68	23	0	1	0	0
	AMARILLO	70	31	83	19	51	8	0.00	-0.12	0.00	3.24	174	1.52	131	70	15	0	4	0	0
	AUSTIN	76	50	88	33	63	5	0.00	-0.47	0.00	9.03	130	6.94	164	73	27	0	0	0	0
	BEAUMONT	73	46	80	34	60	1	0.00	-0.71	0.00	17.32	133	13.31	166	95	39	0	0	0	0
	BROWNSVILLE	77	53	86	40	65	-3	0.00	-0.19	0.00	3.37	106	3.27	166	97	51	0	0	0	0
	CORPUS CHRISTI	78	49	83	37	64	1	0.00	-0.31	0.00	4.76	109	4.25	174	96	42	0	0	0	0
	DEL RIO	81	50	91	35	65	6	0.00	-0.15	0.00	1.19	65	0.58	51	65	21	1	0	0	0
	EL PASO	73	42	81	29	58	5	0.00	-0.09	0.00	0.57	41	0.38	50	38	13	0	1	0	0
	FORT WORTH	74	46	81	28	60	8	0.00	-0.74	0.00	8.35	109	4.82	100	78	27	0	1	0	0
	GALVESTON	69	53	77	41	61	1	0.00	-0.48	0.00	10.56	101	7.61	124	93	50	0	0	0	0
	HOUSTON	74	48	80	33	61	2	0.00	-0.76	0.00	13.18	127	10.64	169	86	36	0	0	0	0
	LUBBOCK	72	33	85	20	53	6	0.00	-0.16	0.00	1.87	95	1.29	107	71	18	0	2	0	0
	MIDLAND	73	39	86	24	56	4	0.00	-0.14	0.00	0.81	46	0.25	21	65	19	0	1	0	0
	SAN ANGELO	77	39	88	22	58	5	0.00	-0.31	0.00	3.08	109	0.95	49	83	20	0	1	0	0
	SAN ANTONIO	74	47	87	32	61	3	0.00	-0.41	0.00	7.28	134	6.19	180	78	35	0	1	0	0
	VICTORIA	75	47	81	36	61	1	0.00	-0.47	0.00	11.08	166	10.40	241	91	39	0	0	0	0
	WACO	74	42	85	25	58	5	0.00	-0.71	0.00	8.76	114	5.65	117	86	30	0	2	0	0
	WICHITA FALLS	73	38	86	22	56	8	0.00	-0.36	0.00	5.57	142	4.19	177	77	28	0	1	0	0
UT	SALT LAKE CITY	52	33	60	31	43	4	0.72	0.38	0.35	4.76	120	3.80	149	90	47	0	3	4	0
VA	LYNCHBURG	54	28	65	22	41	1	0.30	-0.44	0.25	12.10	128	7.06	118	80	38	0	6	2	0
	NORFOLK	52	34	62	28	43	-2	0.26	-0.46	0.26	11.71	127	5.31	90	86	47	0	3	1	0
	RICHMOND	55	30	63	23	42	0	0.54	-0.13	0.30	15.58	174	6.76	124	85	36	0	5	2	0
	ROANOKE	58	32	67	24	45	3	0.02	-0.72	0.02	10.17	116	6.01	106	68	32	0	4	1	0
	WASH/DULLES	51	27	52	20	39	1	0.08	-0.58	0.04	12.74	150	7.06	136	82	42	0	6	2	0
VT	BURLINGTON	34	13	47	4	23	-1	0.31	-0.14	0.24	9.02	147	3.36	93	82	48	0	6	3	0
WA	OLYMPIA	53	38	57	32	45	4	0.71	-0.47	0.35	21.73	108	11.37	93	99	76	0	1	4	0
	QUILLAYUTE	54	42	58	34	48	6	1.91	-0.33	0.77	36.41	96	21.66	90	87	73	0	0	6	1
	SEATTLE-TACOMA	51	41	56	35	46	2	0.56	-0.31	0.36	16.14	109	7.85	87	90	62	0	0	3	0
	SPOKANE	44	33	51	28	39	5	0.32	-0.04	0.10	6.57	118	3.27	102	96	65	0	3	4	0
	YAKIMA	49	34	56	28	42	4	0.16	-0.04	0.12	3.74	112	2.33	122	88	59	0	2	3	0
WI	EAU CLAIRE	44	18	56	8	31	10	0.00	-0.30	0.00	2.01	60	0.59	30	87	42	0	7	0	0
	GREEN BAY	44	20	57	10	32	9	0.00	-0.32	0.00	2.44	58	1.13	47	84	44	0	7	0	0
	LA CROSSE	49	21	63	13	35	10	0.00	-0.31	0.00	2.07	55	1.12	50	82	31	0	7	0	0
	MADISON	48	21	60	9	35	10	0.01	-0.40	0.01	4.13	94	2.50	91	84	36	0	6	1	0
	MILWAUKEE	48	27	60	20	37	8	0.07	-0.38	0.07	5.94	116	3.74	116	83	47	0	5	1	0
WV	BECKLEY	50	28	61	15	39	2	0.61	-0.21	0.37	9.60	105	6.86	118	81	41	0	4	3	0
	CHARLESTON	55	29	63	21	42	2	0.42	-0.49	0.30	8.89	92	6.85	112	86	35	0	5	3	0
	ELKINS	49	22	58	13	35	0	0.81	-0.05	0.43	8.85	91	6.18	100	93	48	0	6	3	0
	HUNTINGTON	56	30	66	18	43	3	0.57	-0.33	0.55	9.43	99	7.75	130	82	33	0	5	3	1
WY	CASPER	47	25	52	14	36	8	0.01	-0.14	0.01	0.97	61	0.91	93	78	37	0	6	1	0
	CHEYENNE	49	28	54	11	38	8	0.03	-0.11	0.03	1.37	107	1.26	159	67	31	0	7	1	0
	LANDER	42	19	48	-2	30	4	0.04	-0.14	0.04	2.57	148	1.86	168	80	43	0	7	1	0
	SHERIDAN	53	21	60	0	37	10	0.00	-0.16	0.00	0.85	49	0.75	64	75	31	0	7	0	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 were generally higher than historical averages, particularly in the northern half of the State. Temperatures ranged from 2 degrees lower than normal in Montgomery County to 5.4 degrees higher than normal in Lawrence County. Total rainfall for the month ranged from 1.7 inches in Mobile County to 9.2 inches in Montgomery County. The rainfall helped alleviate drought conditions across the State. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, 16.3 percent of the State had abnormally dry conditions by month's end, compared to 62.9 percent at the month's beginning. Despite warmer temperatures across much of the State, many winter crops were reported to be in bad condition due to previous freeze events. Winter grazing conditions were reported to be mostly improving due to rising temperatures and rain. Hay shortages were reported in some areas due to the fall drought. Much of the State's livestock were reported to be in fair condition due to the lack of winter grazing, fluctuating temperatures, and hay shortages.

ALASKA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

ARIZONA: This report for Arizona is for the month of February 2024. Responses were based on the entire month, with consideration for any weather-related impacts that are forecast between now and month's end. By month's end, 91 percent of Arizona's barley had emerged, and 27 percent has headed, up 55 and 24 percentage points respectively from the previous year's report, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Arizona barley was rated in mostly good to excellent condition, with only 3 percent of the crop rated fair. Fifty-four percent of Arizona's Durum wheat has emerged, and 26 percent has headed, up 27 and 25 percentage points respectively from the previous year's levels. Durum wheat condition was also rated in mostly good to excellent condition, with only 2 percent of the crop rated fair. Arizona's alfalfa crop was rated in mostly good to excellent condition, with only 5 percent of the crop rated fair. Reports from southeastern counties stated that precipitation received throughout the month has helped to improve soil moisture levels and annual weeds have become vegetatively active as a result. Twenty-four percent of the State's pasture and rangeland was rated very poor, 13 percent was rated poor, 39 percent was rated fair, 22 percent was rated good, and 2 percent was rated excellent. Reports from Apache and Navajo Counties stated that ranchers have reported 0% water storage in tanks, earthen dams, and springs. Topsoil moisture levels remained mostly adequate, with 13 percent rated very short, 12 percent rated short, 63 percent rated adequate, and 12 percent rated surplus. Subsoil moisture levels followed a similar trend. Throughout the month of February, measurable precipitation was received across much of the State. According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), almost all areas of Arizona received at least 1 to 2 inches of precipitation excluding areas within the Painted Desert which received anywhere from 0.10 to 0.50 inch. The final drought information statement for northern Arizona was released on February 17 as drought conditions have improved to D2 or better. Water year precipitation throughout the area has reached 70-90% of normal. Although above normal precipitation was received throughout a majority of southeastern Arizona over the last 30 days, the drought information statement was updated on February 22 in response to below normal average precipitation experienced in portions of Graham and Greenlee Counties. According to the National Weather Service, Arizona has experienced several widespread rain events over the last 30 days. Despite recent precipitation, the seasonal outlook for March, April, and May shows equal odds for either above, near, or below normal seasonal mean temperatures and seasonal total precipitation. Subsequently, Arizona's seasonal drought outlook shows that conditions are expected to persist throughout central and eastern regions of the State. Streamflow conditions across Arizona have largely improved throughout the month of February. However, streamflow in the Upper San Pedro in addition to portions of the Upper and Lower Colorado River Basins continues to be well below normal. As of February 20, the U.S. Drought Monitor showed an improvement in conditions when compared to that of the previous report. Abnormally dry conditions (D0) spanned 38 percent of the State, moderate drought (D1) enveloped 30 percent, severe drought (D2) encompassed 16 percent, and extreme drought (D3) fell to 2 percent of the State's total land area. Arizona once again remained free of exceptional (D4) drought. Throughout the month of February, temperatures across much of the State increased or remained near normal according to the High Plains Regional Climate Center (HPRCC). Daytime highs throughout Arizona ranged from 3 degrees below to 4 degrees above normal and ranged from the low 40s in Coconino County to the low 70s across southwestern regions of the State. Overnight lows ranged from 2 degrees below to 5 degrees above normal and ranged from 20 to 40 degrees across northern and eastern counties, whereas southwestern counties experienced lows of 45 to 55 degrees Fahrenheit.

ARKANSAS: For the week ending February 25, 2024, topsoil moisture 1% very short, 2% short, 68% adequate, 29% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% very short, 3% short, 60% adequate, 35% surplus. Days suitable for fieldwork during the month of February were 16.0 days. February conditions for the State were above average for precipitation and temperatures. These warm temperatures have resulted in early budding of some fruit trees that will potentially be damaged by any frost experienced in April. Fields were wet and unworkable for most of the month. Some burndown has started. Livestock producers were still feeding hay and supplements as needed.

CALIFORNIA: For the week ending February 25 - Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Topsoil moisture 75% adequate and 25% surplus. Subsoil moisture 5% short, 75% adequate and 20% surplus. Winter wheat condition 5% fair, 20% good and 75% excellent. Pasture and range condition 40% fair, 25% good, and 35% excellent. As of February 23, snowpack content ranged from 14.5 to 23.1 inches in the Northern, Southern and Central Sierras, well below average for this time of year. According to the California Department of Water Resources at the beginning of February, the State had around half of the snowpack it should have for this time of year. Despite this, water storage levels remained strong. In the first half of the month, the State experienced torrential rainstorms that led to expansive flooding and damage from strong winds. As of February 20, around 93% of the State was not in drought. Growth in newly planted winter wheat, barley, and oats for grain and forage was accelerated by continuous moisture. Herbicides and pesticides were applied to wheat and forage crop fields. Storms delayed some vegetable crop harvests. Broccoli, brussels sprouts, carrots, celery, and cabbage harvests continued. Daikon radish fields approached harvest. Lettuce, onions, garlic, and some peas have been planted. Lemon, Navel orange, tangerine, pummelo, and grapefruit harvests continued. Rainstorms delayed harvest for many citrus fruits leading to larger fruit sizes. Almond and peach trees were in bloom. Bees were moved into the State to prepare for spring pollination and

placed in almond orchards between rainstorms. Olives were pruned. Because of the warmer winter, blueberries started waking from dormancy earlier than in previous years. Sheep continued grazing on retired cropland, harvested grain fields, and dormant alfalfa fields. Calving and lambing seasons continued.

COLORADO: This report for Colorado is for the entire month of February 2024. Topsoil moisture 5% very short, 17% short, 65% adequate, 13% excellent. Subsoil moisture 8% very short, 19% short, 61% adequate, 12% excellent. Winter wheat condition 3% very poor, 4% poor, 37% fair, 49% good, 7% excellent. Livestock condition 1% very poor, 3% poor, 10% fair, 79% good, 7% excellent. Pasture and range condition 1% very poor, 3% poor, 18% fair, 69% good, 9% excellent. Seasonal moisture during February improved the outlook in areas across the State, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. According to the U.S Drought Monitor, 63 percent of the State was showing no signs of drought, up from 42 percent at the end of January. Under 4 percent of the State is in a state of severe drought, down from almost 7 percent at the end of January. Conditions in the south-central area of the State improved, with areas of Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla, and Rio Grande Counties no longer under extreme drought conditions. Snow events brought above average moisture conditions across the eastern portion of the State, while western counties and the high country primarily experienced below average moisture throughout the month of February. Northwestern counties were experiencing warmer than average temperatures, with areas of Moffat and Rio Blanco Counties realizing temperatures more than 6 degrees above normal. Reporters noted snowpack in the area is average, with warmer temperatures having melted snow and created issues with mud. Northeastern and east-central counties received more than 200 percent of normal moisture in February, with most of the area receiving more than an inch of moisture. Southwestern counties received varying amounts of moisture in February, with totals ranging from a quarter of an inch to more than 5 inches in the high country. Reporters noted the conditions the last few weeks depleted topsoil moisture, but winter moisture has improved subsoil moisture conditions. Snowpack in the area remains below average and is currently 89 percent of median snowfall. Snowstorms during February in San Luis Valley improved moisture conditions, but most of the area remains in moderate or severe drought according to the U.S. Drought Monitor. According to county reports, livestock remained in good condition, with calving and lambing starting off well. Statewide, winter wheat condition declined, with 56 percent of the crop rated good to excellent, compared with 63 percent good to excellent from the previous report, and 29 percent good to excellent last year. As of February 26, 2024, snowpack in Colorado was 94 percent measured as percent of median snowfall.

DELAWARE: February temperatures averaged between the mid 30s to the low 40s. There was an increased amount of rainfall characterized by high winds and a trace amount of snow. Soils were still saturated from the precipitation and pastures with livestock were reported in poor condition. Farmers started to service their agricultural equipment, pre-purchase seed, and were applying manure, lime, chemicals, and fertilizer to their fields as conditions allowed.

FLORIDA: February temperatures were on par with historical averages, with temperatures fluctuating throughout the month. Total rainfall for the month ranged from 0.6 inch of rain in Marion County to 5.5 inches in Washington County. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, 2.5 percent of the State had abnormally dry conditions by month's end, compared to 2.7 percent at the month's beginning. Most of the State received moderate amounts of rainfall in February with heavier amounts of rainfall received at the end of the month. Pasture conditions remained mostly fair to good and seem to have improved since January with this month's more favorable weather conditions. As pasture conditions improved, availability of grazing also improved. Livestock remained in mostly fair to good condition as well, despite a hay shortage at the beginning of the month. Strawberry producers in central Florida experienced significant fruit damage and drop from mid-month rain and wind events. Sugarcane operations progressed throughout the month but remained slightly behind schedule. Citrus grove activities throughout the month included spraying pesticides and nutritionals, laying herbicide, fertilizing, mowing, hedging, topping, removal of dead trees, replanting young trees, and general grove maintenance. Eleven packinghouses were active in early and late February. Heavy rains delayed rice planting. Other crops that were planted and harvested include tomatoes, green beans, yellow squash, zucchini, sweet corn, eggplant, peppers, boniato, bitter melon, other Asian vegetables, avocado, and other tropical fruits.

GEORGIA: February temperatures ranged from no difference to 4.9 degrees warmer than historical averages depending on location. Total rainfall for the month ranged from 1.6 inches in Bartow County to 8.1 inches in Muscogee County. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, 3.5 percent of the State had abnormally dry conditions by month's end, compared to 8.8 percent abnormally dry and 1.3 percent moderate drought at the beginning of the month. Georgia experienced unseasonably warm temperatures and some excessive rainfall during February, which impacted many areas of agriculture across the State. On February 12, parts of western and central Georgia experienced heavy rains and flooding. Winter grazing and cool season pastures benefitted from the recent mild winter weather and were showing growth. Ornamental plants and blueberries were beginning to bloom and peach buds were swelling with the recent warm temperatures. Livestock producers continued to feed hay with supplies noted to be tight in some areas. Cover crops and small grains conditions were improving with the warmer temperatures. Fields were being fertilized as field conditions permitted. The excess rainfall did cause flooding in some wheat fields. Onions were progressing well with solid stands. As fields begin to dry out, farmers are beginning to prepare fields for planting.

HAWAII: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

IDAHO: Idaho experienced mild, slightly warmer than normal temperatures in February. Accumulated precipitation was below average in the northern part of the State and average to above average in the southern part of the State. The soil was heavily saturated, creating muddy conditions for cattle operations. Spring calving was underway. Ada and Owyhee Counties reported significant moisture in the mountains and valleys. Producers reported that calving and lambing were progressing well, and hay stocks were sufficient. Initial spring field work was beginning. Owyhee County added that topsoil and mild moisture levels were better than anticipated. Bud break for the trees was early, and multiple varieties came out of dormancy. Perennial grasses were still dormant, but annual broadleaves were flourishing. Jerome and Twin Falls Counties reported that calving and lambing were well underway. Most fields were still too wet for fieldwork. Camas and Gooding Counties reported two feet of snow on the valley floor slowly melting into the ground. Blaine County also reported that most pasture and cropland was covered with snow. Bonneville and Madison Counties reported satisfactory moisture levels. Though the snowpack was a little light, reservoir levels were good. Hay stocks were dwindling but should be enough for a normal spring season. Like the rest of the State, Clark, Fremont, and Madison Counties reported slightly warmer than average temperatures for the month. Clark, Custer, and Lemhi reported that ranchers were busy with calving season.

ILLINOIS: For the month of February 2024. Topsoil moisture supply was rated 3% very short, 26% short, 69% adequate, and 2% surplus. Subsoil moisture supply was rated 10% very short, 21% short, 67% adequate, and 2% surplus. Winter wheat condition was rated 1% very poor, 3% poor, 30% fair, 49% good, and 17% excellent.

Statewide, the average temperature was 39.5 degrees, 9.9 degrees above normal. Precipitation averaged 0.43 inch, 1.27 inches below normal.

INDIANA: Topsoil moisture for the month of February was 2% very short, 13% short, 67% adequate, and 18% surplus. Subsoil moisture for the month was 5% very short, 22% short, 64% adequate, and 9% surplus. Winter wheat condition was rated 1% very poor, 3% poor, 26% fair, 59% good, and 11% excellent. Statewide temperatures averaged 38.1 degrees, 8.3 degrees above normal for the month of February. Statewide average precipitation was 0.94 inch, 1.03 inches below normal. Compared to previous years, February was unseasonably warm. Winter wheat condition remained stable despite temperature fluctuations and depleting soil moisture levels for many. Indiana witnessed a variety of forms of precipitation in February, including snow, rain, and thunderstorms. Isolated instances of brush fires were reported in drier parts of the State. Other activities for the week included grain shipping, fertilizer applications, and attending grower meetings and trainings.

IOWA: The beginning of February brought some precipitation to the State, although the eastern half saw more precipitation than the western half. Overall, February was drier than usual and much warmer than average. Given the weather conditions, field activities have already commenced. Activities have been primarily fertilizer and manure applications with some tillage reported. Although unusually early, reports of oats seeded were received. Overall, livestock conditions have been good, with reports of calving. Grain movement picked up this month compared to January. The lack of moisture continues to be a concern for the State's farm operators as they contemplate the 2024 crop year.

KANSAS: For the week ending February 25, 2024, topsoil moisture supplies rated 4% very short, 26% short, 67% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies rated 8% very short, 33% short, 57% adequate, 2% surplus. Winter wheat condition rated 5% very poor, 8% poor, 30% fair, 50% good, 7% excellent.

KENTUCKY: For the month of February, Kentucky saw well above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation. At this point, we are in the midst of one of the warmest Februarys in state history. Although rainfall was very scattered, there was enough precipitation to remove Kentucky from the drought monitor when coupled with January totals. Temperatures for the period averaged 45 degrees across the State, 8 degrees above normal. Precipitation (liq. equ.) for the period totaled 2.45 inches Statewide, which was 0.79 inch below normal and 76% of normal. Hay stocks are dwindling for many. As a result, producers are purchasing more hay and, in some instances, reducing herds. For the month, hay supplies 13% very short, 34% short, 49% adequate, 4% surplus. Livestock condition 5% poor, 23% fair, 59% good, 13% excellent. Condition of winter wheat 1% poor, 10% fair, 75% good, 14% excellent.

LOUISIANA: For the week ending February 25, 2024, topsoil moisture supplies were 1% very short, 7% short, 83% adequate, and 9% surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies were 1% very short, 29% short, 63% adequate, and 7% surplus. There were 21 days suitable for fieldwork during the month of February. Favorable conditions persisted following the significant rain that the State received last month. Pastures continued to make good growth, and many producers were fertilizing ryegrass. Fruit trees were beginning to break dormancy, and vegetable growers were planting potatoes and spring vegetables. Many producers were draining ponds and beginning spring tillage to prepare fields for planting row crops.

MARYLAND: February was characterized by wet and mild weather. Temperatures were average to above average. Precipitation was normal for this time of year. Soil moisture levels continued to be in good condition. Small grains, early planted wheat and cover crops were in good condition. Nitrogen applications have been delayed due to unfavorable weather conditions.

MICHIGAN: Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 12% short, 66% adequate and 21% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% very short, 17% short, 63% adequate, and 18% surplus. Winter wheat condition rated 1% very poor, 8% poor, 34% fair, 39% good, and 18% excellent. Precipitation for the month of February to date averaged 0.53 inch throughout the State, 0.74 inch below normal. Temperatures for the month of February to date averaged 31.3 degrees, 9.8 degrees above normal. Approximately 62 percent of the State experienced abnormally dry conditions or worse, with 31 percent experiencing moderate drought and 3 percent experiencing severe drought conditions, according to the US Drought Monitor. The driest areas include the northern Lower Peninsula and the Upper Peninsula. February brought unseasonably warm temperatures and very little snow cover. Producers were concerned about wheat viability after an odd winter. There are reports of some 2023 corn and soybeans left to be harvested. Maple syrup production started which was the earliest anyone could remember. Other activities throughout the month included crop planning, equipment maintenance and tending livestock.

MINNESOTA: Above average temperatures continued in February with little to no precipitation. The possibility of forage crops winterkill continues to concern producers. Maple trees were beginning to produce, a month ahead of normal. Some farmers were getting spring fieldwork done early. Feedlots and pastures were still muddy, but no livestock health issues were reported.

MISSISSIPPI: For the week ending February 25, 2024, topsoil moisture supplies were 1% very short, 12% short, 72% adequate, and 15% surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies were 1% very short, 16% short, 75% adequate, and 8% surplus. Days suitable for fieldwork during the month of February were 17.0 days. Conditions for most of February were mild with little to no rainfall. Cattlemen were fertilizing on rye grass and spraying weeds. Temperatures were warmer than normal but caused lower stress on livestock and pastures throughout various counties. Rainfall is still needed to help improve spring gardening growth. Overall, mild temperatures are helping with winter forage conditions that were late due to drought. Producers expect conditions to improve from week to week as winter comes to an end.

MISSOURI: For the week ending February 25, 2024. Topsoil moisture 3% very short, 24% short, 73% adequate, and 0% surplus. Subsoil moisture 11% very short, 27% short, 62% adequate, and 0% surplus. Winter wheat condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 30% fair, 62% good, and 7% excellent. Statewide, precipitation averaged 0.64 inch for the month of February, 1.23 inches below average. Temperatures averaged 43.9 degrees, 10.0 degrees above normal.

MONTANA: This report for Montana is for the entire month of February 2024. Topsoil moisture 7% very short, 45% short, 48% adequate. Subsoil moisture 23% very short, 48% short, 29% adequate. Winter wheat condition 2% poor, 53% fair, 41% good, 4% excellent. Winter wheat wind damage 24% moderate, 38% light, 38% none. Winter wheat freeze damage 10% severe, 23% moderate, 24% light, 43% none. Snow cover 12% very poor, 58% poor, 27% fair, 3% good. Pasture and range condition 24% very poor, 38% poor, 34% fair, 3% good, 1% excellent. Grazing accessibility 64% open, 23% difficult, 13% closed. Cows calved 13%. Cattle receiving supplemental feed 97%. Ewes lambed 9%. Sheep receiving supplemental feed 96%. The month of February brought mostly above normal temperatures and slightly above normal precipitation to much of Montana, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service,

USDA. Temperatures ran highest in the eastern third of the State. Temperatures ran as high as 16 to 20 degrees above average in parts of the northeast, according to data from the High Plains Regional Climate Center (HPRCC). Average temperatures ran lower in the west. Moisture levels were in a range of approximately 0.5 to 1.0 inch above average for much of Montana. Parts of Cascade and Madison Counties, as well as surrounding areas, received moisture as much as 1.5 inches above normal. Precipitation levels in the west, and in some parts of the east and southeast, were closer to average or below normal. Drought conditions deteriorated once again according to the U.S. Drought Monitor report released on February 20, 2024. The amount of land rated drought free fell to 12 percent, down from 20 percent as reported on January 23, 2024. Abnormal dryness was found in 45 percent of the State, up 4 percentage points. Moderate drought stood at 22 percent, down from 26 percent on the report published on January 23. Severe drought conditions increased to 20 percent, up 7 percentage points. Extreme drought, which has not been seen since the first part of November, was found in about 1 percent of Montana. Calving conditions were excellent in Powder River County with the warm and dry conditions. At the same time, the lack of moisture and high winds were a concern to many farmers and ranchers. With the higher temperatures in Wibaux County, operators were also in need of more moisture.

NEBRASKA: For the week ending February 25, 2024, topsoil moisture supplies rated 7% very short, 30% short, 61% adequate, and 2% surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies rated 10% very short, 41% short, 48% adequate, and 1% surplus. Winter wheat condition rated 2% very poor, 5% poor, 33% fair, 48% good, and 12% excellent.

NEVADA: For the week ending February 25 - Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Topsoil moisture 35% adequate and 65% surplus. Subsoil moisture short 5%, 40% adequate and 55% surplus. Pasture and range condition 15% fair, 20% good, and 65% excellent. As of February 20, the US Drought Monitor showed 83% of the State was not in drought. Significant rainstorms throughout the month have led to a surplus of moisture in most of the State. Alfalfa is still dormant. Annual weeds started to germinate.

NEW ENGLAND: New England states experienced warmer than normal temperatures in February without much moisture. In Vermont, there was very little snow cover with much freezing and thawing raising concern for winter kill in sod ground. Flooding was not of major concern at this point with most waters being open due to warm temperatures this winter. Daytime highs averaged around the freezing mark with nighttime temperatures averaging in the 20s. Sap began to flow across Northern New England. In Maine, the ground was still frozen in some places but overall looks good. Mud season looks like it could come early this year. Producers are still cleaning up from heavy winds and rain in December and January with some producers having to replace portions of their sap lines. Producers are also struggling with increased feed prices and having to use their surplus of silage due to low yields and quality of last year's crop. In Massachusetts, cranberry buds are dormant and in the event of a mid-winter warming, growers may need to flood the cranberry beds to maintain the dormancy as this might be followed by a cold spell. In Connecticut, there was barely any frost on the ground and lots of open water. It was not cold enough to freeze out insects or disease. Maple sap producers got an early start this year and have been reporting great sap production.

NEW JERSEY: In February, there was below average precipitation, but soil was still overly moist in most areas due to January rain, preventing most field work. Winter wheat and overwinter spinach were top-dressed in drier areas, and small plantings of spring herbs were underway. Greenhouse tomatoes were starting to be harvested, with no reports of greenhouse disease.

NEW MEXICO: This report for New Mexico is for the month of February 2024. Topsoil moisture 41% very short, 39% short, 19% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 41% very short, 41% short, 17% adequate, 1% surplus. Pecans harvested 96%. Winter wheat condition 2% very poor, 34% poor, 32% fair, 29% good, 3% excellent. Cows calved 12%. Cattle receiving supplemental feed 89%. Cattle condition 6% very poor, 20% poor, 45% fair, 23% good, 6% excellent. Ewes lambed 5%. Sheep receiving supplemental feed 55%. Sheep and lambs condition 4% very poor, 14% poor, 62% fair, 19% good, 1% excellent. Hay and roughage supplies 25% very short, 45% short, 28% adequate, 2% surplus. Stock water supplies 29% very short, 37% short, 33% adequate, 1% surplus. Most counties saw average precipitation throughout February. Pecan harvest was behind last year's progress. Measurable moisture was recorded throughout New Mexico during the month of February. According to National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) data, counties across the State accumulated between 0.25 inch and 2 inches of precipitation in February. The Ortero-Lincoln County border measured 2 to 3 inches of precipitation and the southern half of Catron County saw over 4 inches in some areas. Reporters in the northeast noted a snowstorm early in the month and otherwise wet but warm weather throughout the month. Counties in the southwest and northeast saw above average precipitation during February, while precipitation in the southeast corner of New Mexico was below normal, despite cooler-than-average temperatures. Average temperatures during February were generally normal except for the southeastern corner of the State where temperatures dipped 1 to 5 degrees below normal, and isolated areas in the northwest that were just above normal. According to the United States Drought Monitor for February 20, exceptional drought (D4) had improved since January, dropping from 6 percent last month to 4 percent. The worst of the drought conditions remained in Eddy County and parts of Chaves County. Extreme drought (D3) was noted across 16 percent of the State, severe drought (D2) covered 29 percent, moderate drought (D1) covered 40 percent, and abnormal dryness (D0) covered 9 percent. Drought-free conditions were present in 3 percent of the State, up from 1 percent last month. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 25 percent very short, 45 percent short, 28 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus, nearly unchanged from 28 percent very short, 45 percent short, 25 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus last month. Stock water supplies were reported as 29 percent very short, 37 percent short, 33 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus compared with 21 percent very short, 30 percent short, and 49 percent adequate last month.

NEW YORK: February continued with milder temperatures with some temperature swings. Snow cover was not consistent, and concern was expressed if there could be impact to winter and perennial crops as well as honeybee colonies. This concern was also expressed among Maple Syrup producers and Fruit growers. Many operators took advantage of the warmer temperatures and spread manure and applied fertilizer as well as maintained machinery. Some areas experienced muddy conditions due to rain. Long Island vineyards were able to do some dormant pruning.

NORTH CAROLINA: For the month of February 2024. Subsoil moisture 6% short, 92% adequate and 2% surplus. Topsoil moisture 2% very short, 9% short, 86% adequate and 3% surplus. Barley condition 2% very poor, 4% poor, 13% fair, 77% good and 4% excellent. Hay and roughage supplies 7% very short, 5% short, 72% adequate and 16% surplus. Oats condition 17% fair, 79% good and 4% excellent. Pasture and range condition 1% very poor, 4% poor, 67% fair, 26% good and 2% excellent. Winter wheat condition 2% poor, 9% fair, 85% good and 4% excellent. Throughout February, there was consistent moisture from rainfall. Most field activities have occurred uninterrupted.

NORTH DAKOTA: For the week ending February 25, 2024, topsoil moisture supplies, 14% very short, 36% short, 48% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies, 14% very short, 36% short, 48% adequate, 2% surplus. Winter wheat condition, 1% very poor, 6% poor, 45% fair, 47% good, 1% excellent. Cattle and calf conditions,

1% very poor, 2% poor, 17% fair, 70% good, 10% excellent. Cattle and calf death loss, 0% heavy, 40% average, 60% light. Calving progress, 12% complete. Sheep and lamb conditions, 0% very poor, 2% poor, 16% fair, 72% good, 10% excellent. Sheep and lamb death loss, 0% heavy, 48% average, 52% light. Lambing progress, 24% complete. Shearing progress, 35% complete. Hay and roughage supplies, 2% very short, 8% short, 82% adequate, 8% surplus. Stock water supplies, 4% very short, 16% short, 79% adequate, 1% surplus.

OHIO: Topsoil moisture for the month was 0% very short, 4% short, 70% adequate, 26% surplus. Subsoil moisture for the month was 0% very short, 8% short, 83% adequate, 9% surplus. Winter wheat condition was rated 0% very poor, 3% poor, 29% fair, 56% good, 12% excellent. The Statewide average temperature was 37.4 degrees, 7.9 degrees above normal. Precipitation averaged 1.02 inches Statewide, 0.98 inch below normal for February. Warmer than normal temperatures have been observed across the State. Any snow that fell lasted a short time. Overall, a mild winter was reported. Reporters noted that the soil has been wet but it was retaining the much-needed moisture. Livestock producers described stressed livestock due to the swings in temperature.

OKLAHOMA: For the month of February, rainfall totals averaged 1.21 inches throughout the State, with the Northeast district recording the highest precipitation at 1.77 inches and the Panhandle district recording the lowest precipitation at 0.51 inch. According to the February 20 US Drought Monitor Report, 17 percent of the State was in the abnormally dry to exceptional drought category, down 64 points from the previous year. Additionally, 3 percent of the State was in the moderate drought to exceptional drought category, down 72 points from the previous year. Statewide temperatures averaged in the lower 40's to lower 50's, with the lowest recording of 12 degrees at Kenton on Sunday February 18, and the highest recording of 87 degrees at Waurika on Wednesday, February 21. Topsoil and subsoil moisture conditions were rated mostly short to adequate.

OREGON: Temperatures throughout the State ranged from normal to above normal. Moisture conditions throughout the State ranged from dry to very wet for February. Columbia, Multnomah, and Washington Counties reported saturated soil with conditions too wet for field work. Low temperatures affected crop progress, but yields should not be affected. Clatsop and Tillamook Counties reported above average precipitation with wet field conditions. Some field work and manure applications were done on the dry days. Pasture growth remained dormant. Morrow County reported above average precipitation. The wheat crop emerged and was in good condition, with no signs of stripe rust. Producers and farmers were on the lookout for this disease. Herbicide applications began in fields with no-till fallow. Gilliam, Hood River, Wheeler, and Wasco Counties reported a positive outlook for crops despite the recent winter spell. Calving season was in good condition. Baker and Grant Counties reported above normal temperatures. Livestock lambing and calving were in good condition due to the warmer weather. Some producers' fields were dry enough for field work. Umatilla County reported that most winter wheat fields were doing well despite some cold injury from the previous month. Stripe rust was forecasted to be a potential detriment this season. Douglas, Jackson, and Josephine Counties reported a moisture surplus in pastures.

PENNSYLVANIA: The State continued to experience mild weather conditions this month. The warmer weather conditions and increasing daylight hours has allowed more time for farmers to be in the fields. Farmers were pleased with the improved soil and subsoil moisture levels. Some farmers will soon begin to top-dress small grains with nitrogen fertilizer when conditions allow. Small grains and forage like wheat, barley, and rye were starting to green up. Maple sap has been running for a few weeks.

SOUTH CAROLINA: February temperatures ranged from no difference to 3.6 degrees warmer than historical averages, depending on location. Total rainfall during the month ranged from 1.2 inches in Cherokee County to 5.1 inches in Colleton County. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, the State had no drought classification throughout the entire month. Weather conditions during the month permitted for great working days. Producers were able to prepare fields for corn and cotton planting with chicken litter applications being made and fields being burnt down. Livestock were noted to be in good condition. Greenhouses in the Pee Dee region were being prepared and planted with tobacco seed. Hay inventory should be sufficient as pasture began to improve with the warmer temperatures and rainfall. Small grains were continuing to do well with wheat tillering with good vigor.

SOUTH DAKOTA: For the week ending February 25, 2024, topsoil moisture supplies rated 5% very short, 24% short, 69% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies rated 5% very short, 29% short, 65% adequate, 1% surplus. Winter wheat condition rated 1% very poor, 6% poor, 35% fair, 55% good, and 3% excellent.

TENNESSEE: For the week ending February 25, Days suitable 4.6. Topsoil moisture 4% short, 76% adequate, 20% surplus. Subsoil moisture is 1% very short, 7% short, 78% adequate, 14% surplus. Winter wheat condition 11% poor, 37% fair, 40% good, 12% excellent. Pasture and Range condition 6% very poor, 20% poor, 40% fair, 32% good, 2% excellent. Cattle condition 1% very poor, 4% poor, 32% fair, 56% good, and 7% excellent. Hay and roughage supplies are 7% very short, 34% short, 54% adequate, 5% surplus. Tennessee received moderate rainfall and slightly above average temperatures so far in February. Most producers report that seeded winter wheat remains in good shape thus far. Pastures are slowly recovering from the fall drought and January deep freeze with cool season grasses starting to come in. Pasture regrowth cannot come soon enough, as many cattle producers face low hay supplies. Weather permitting, producers have begun spreading fertilizer and spraying pasture and hay fields. Gearing up for the growing season ahead.

TEXAS: For the month of February, precipitation ranged from trace amounts to upwards of 5 inches, with East Texas, South Central, the Upper Coast, and the Lower Valley districts receiving the most. Winter wheat and oats showed improvement and progressed due to the moisture and warm temperatures. Range and pasture conditions were mostly rated fair to poor, with winter forages greening up due to favorable growing conditions. Livestock producers continued supplemental feeding across the State.

UTAH: This report for Utah is for the entire month of February 2024. Topsoil moisture 5% very short, 12% short, 74% adequate, 9% surplus. Subsoil moisture 11% short, 80% adequate, 9% surplus. Pasture and range condition 18% poor, 37% fair, 42% good, 3% excellent. Winter wheat condition 8% poor, 14% fair, 69% good, 9% excellent. Hay and roughage supplies 5% very short, 7% short, 70% adequate, 18% surplus. Stock water supplies 83% adequate, 17% surplus. Cattle and calves condition 7% poor, 17% fair, 66% good, 10% excellent. Sheep and lambs condition 11% poor, 21% fair, 54% good, 14% excellent. Livestock receiving supplemental feed for cattle 89%. Livestock receiving supplemental feed for sheep 89%. Cows calved 10%. Ewes lambed - farm flock 5%. Ewes lambed - range flock 5%. Cold temperatures along with isolated snowstorms occurred throughout the State for the month of February. Snowpack in Utah, according to Natural Resources Conservation Service as of February 26, 2024, was 115 percent measured as percent of median snowfall. Cache County reported winter wheat suspectable to snow mold. Beaver County reports noted that livestock producers were dealing with no calving and lambing issues.

VIRGINIA: Topsoil moisture 9% short, 79% adequate, 12% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 9% short, 82% adequate, 8%

surplus. Winter wheat condition 2% very poor, 5% poor, 47% fair, 41% good, 5% excellent. Barley condition 1% very poor, 2% poor, 59% fair, 35% good, 3% excellent. Livestock condition 1% very poor, 5% poor, 41% fair, 46% good, 7% excellent. Pasture and Range condition 10% very poor, 24% poor, 32% fair, 31% good, 3% excellent. Hay supplies 12% very short, 34% short, 49% adequate, 5% surplus. Percent of feed obtained from pastures 7%. Virginia temperatures and precipitation have varied throughout February. Some pastures continue to be holding excess water in low-lying areas which has proved to be a challenge for some farmers. Pasture and range conditions are mostly fair. Hay and roughage supplies are mostly adequate to short. Primary activities for the month include preparing to seed tobacco greenhouses, reading soil samples, applying lime, and spreading other soil additives.

WASHINGTON: Western Washington saw a warmer February than usual. There was less precipitation than normal. In central Washington, operations saw typical February weather, with less precipitation than normal. There was a week of snow, which all melted and helped the soil profile. Crops were getting through the winter in good shape. In Yakima County, significant progress was made in pruning orchards and vineyards, with some orchard removal. Fields of hay, winter wheat, and grasses were greening up. In east-central Washington, producers experienced moderate weather during February. It was too early to tell if the cold snap in January damaged any of the winter wheat crowns. Northeastern Washington had a mild February. There were few reports about winter kill on winter wheat and canola, and calving was underway. In southeast Washington, February brought spring like conditions with little precipitation, causing the snowpack to be well below normal.

WEST VIRGINIA: For the week ending February 25, Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 16% short, 74% adequate, and 9% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 19% short, 73% adequate, and 7% surplus. Hay and roughage supplies 2% very short, 11% short, 83% adequate, and 4% surplus. Feed grain supplies 25% very short, 29% short, 45% adequate, and 1% surplus. Winter wheat condition 3% fair, 96% good, and 1% excellent. Cattle and calves condition 2% poor, 17% fair, 76% good, and 5% excellent. Percent calved 26%. Sheep and lambs condition 2% poor, 7% fair, 88% good, and 3% excellent. Percent lambed 22%. Weather conditions for the month have been wet, with some area flooding, along with a mix of snow as temperatures fluctuated. Farming activities for the month included calving and lambing, cleaning up debris from area flooding, and repairing fences.

WISCONSIN: February temperatures averaged 30.8 degrees, 12.3 degrees above normal. The State averaged 0.40 inch of precipitation throughout the month, 0.47 inch below normal. One storm left around six inches of snow cover, however, most of the snow melted quickly due to warmer than average temperatures. Maple sap season began sooner than typical, and spring fieldwork could get an early start. There are still concerns over winter freeze damage because of large temperature fluctuations and lack of snow cover.

WYOMING: This report for Wyoming is for the entire month of February 2024. Topsoil moisture 12% very short, 45% short, 43% adequate. Subsoil moisture 20% very short, 46% short, 34% adequate. Winter wheat condition 4% very poor, 11% poor, 59% fair, 25% good, 1 percent excellent. Hay and roughage supplies 1% very short, 2% short, 90% adequate, 7% surplus. Livestock condition 1% very poor, 2% poor, 6% fair, 84% good, 7% excellent. Stock water supplies 3% very short, 10% short, 85% adequate, 2% surplus. Pasture and range condition 2% very poor, 8% poor, 58% fair, 30% good, 2% surplus. Wyoming received little relief from the ongoing drought conditions during the month of February. Precipitation was scattered and total accumulations varied, ranging from a trace to as much as 6 inches during the month, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Temperatures across the State were warmer than normal, ranging from 2 to 10 degrees above average. Drought conditions in the State slightly improved during February according to the United States Drought Monitor report published on February 20, 2024. The amount of land rated drought free equaled 44 percent, compared with 41 percent on January 23, 2024. Abnormally dry conditions covered 34 percent of the State, moderate drought was found in 16 percent, and severe drought was found in 6 percent.

International Weather and Crop Summary

February 18-24, 2024

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

HIGHLIGHTS

EUROPE: Continued anomalous warmth accelerated winter grain and oilseed green up and development, with additional rain in central and northern crop areas juxtaposed with acute short-term dryness in the Balkans.

WESTERN FSU: Colder weather over Russia contrasted with persistent warmer-than-normal conditions in western croplands.

MIDDLE EAST: Mostly drier and cooler weather favored winter grain development after last week's heavy rain.

NORTHWESTERN AFRICA: Persistent severe drought in the west transitioned to additional timely rain in eastern growing areas.

SOUTHEAST ASIA: Southern showers maintained favorable moisture for rice and oil palm.

AUSTRALIA: Occasional showers benefited immature summer crops, but periods of dry weather favored early sorghum harvesting.

SOUTH AFRICA: Dryness and summer heat further reduced moisture for corn and other reproductive summer crops.

ARGENTINA: Warm, showery weather favored rapid growth of summer crops.

BRAZIL: Widespread, locally heavy showers benefited immature soybeans, corn, and cotton.

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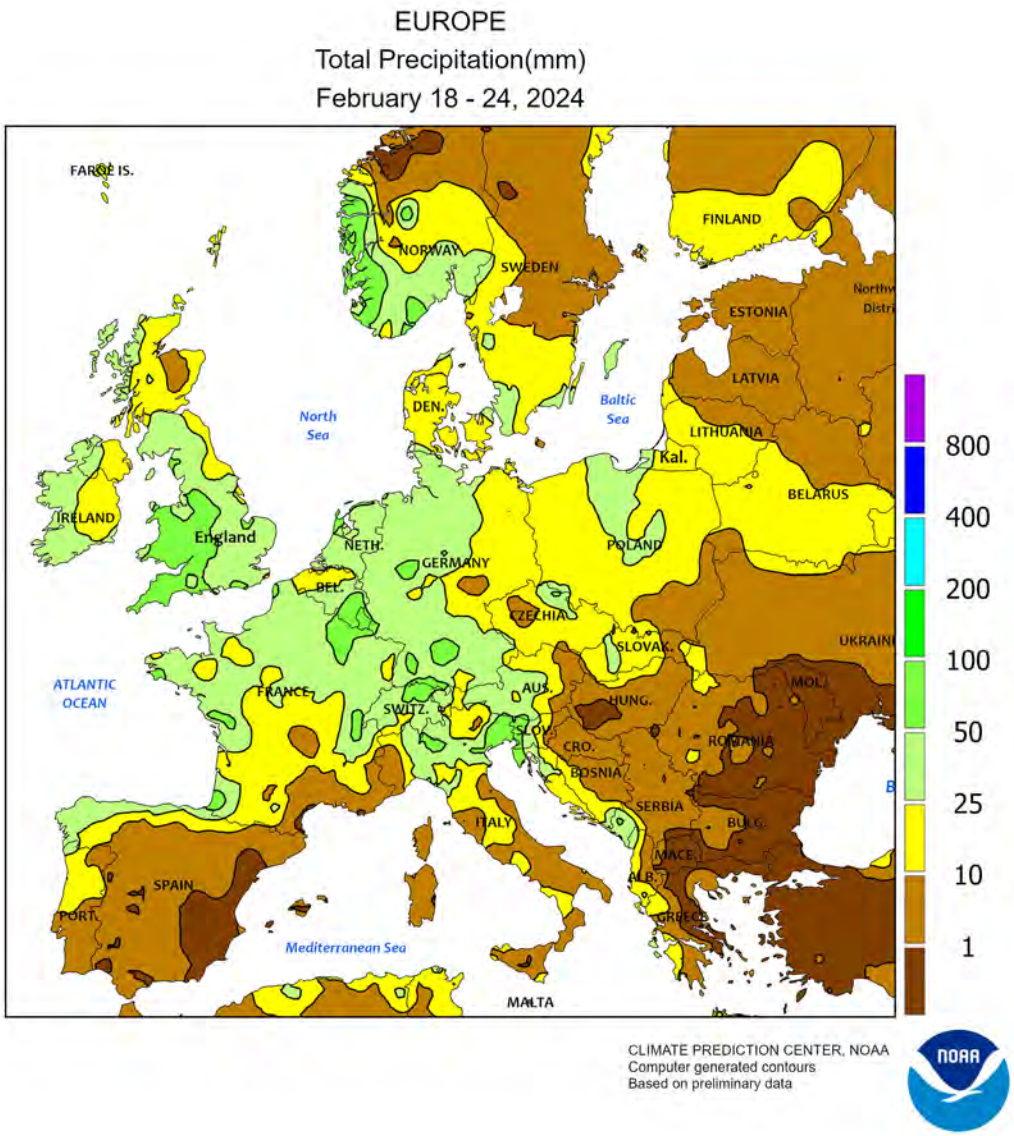

EUROPE

Anomalous and record-setting February warmth persisted across the continent for a third consecutive week. Temperatures during the monitoring period averaged 3 to 7°C above normal over most of Europe, accelerating winter grain and oilseed green up in the east and vegetative growth in the west and south. As of February 24, temperatures for the month have been the warmest of the past 30 years — by far — over much of the continent, with month-to-date temperatures averaging more than 5 and 6°C above normal in Poland and the Balkans, respectively. Widespread moderate to heavy showers (10-50 mm, locally more) sustained adequate to abundant soil moisture for spring growth over central and northern Europe, though there were numerous reports of damaging wind gusts courtesy of the European Severe Storms Laboratory (ESSL) from western and northern France into Norway and Sweden. Conversely, mostly dry weather over the Danube River Valley in southeastern Europe favored seasonal fieldwork but heightened short-term rainfall deficits and soil moisture losses; in particular, 30-day rainfall has tallied a meager 10 percent of normal or less in southeastern Romania and northeastern Bulgaria.

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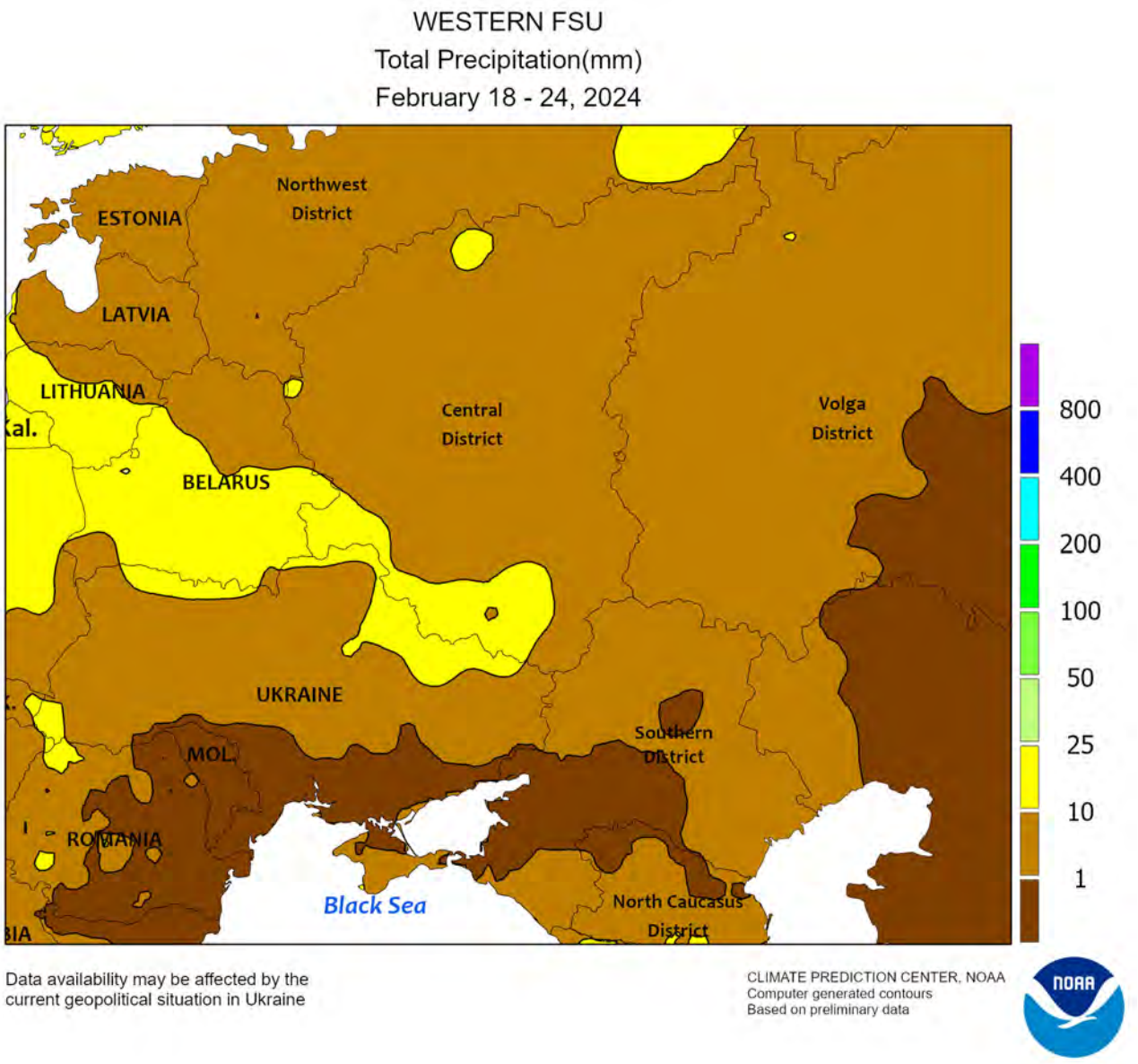

WESTERN FSU

Persistent anomalous warmth in the west contrasted with colder weather farther east. The recent spell of record-setting February warmth abated in Russia, with temperatures during the past week averaging near normal in the Southern District and up to 10°C below normal in the eastern Volga District. The unseasonably early greening of southern Russia's winter wheat was slowed or halted by the colder weather, while winter crops in west-central Russia remained dormant. Progressively warmer weather was noted to the west; temperatures in central and eastern Ukraine averaged 2 to 5°C above normal, while readings up to 7°C above normal were noted in Moldova, western Ukraine, and western Belarus. Consequently, the unseasonably early winter crop green up continued in western- and southern-most portions of the region. While near- to above-normal precipitation over the past 90 days boosted moisture reserves for spring growth across most of Belarus, Ukraine, and Russia, 30-day rainfall has totaled less than half of normal over Moldova and environs.

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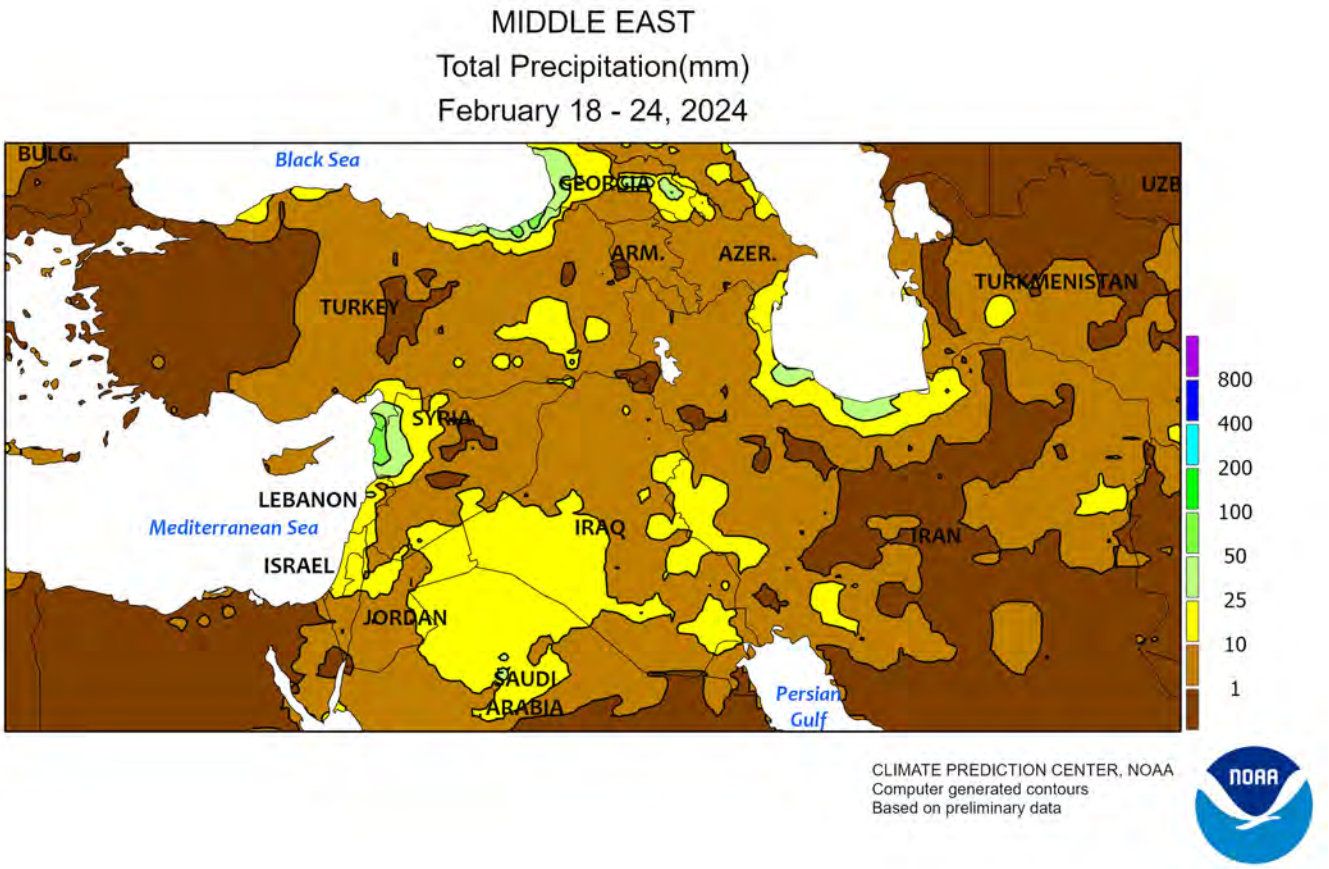

MIDDLE EAST

Somewhat drier and milder weather replaced the preceding week's unseasonably warm and rainy conditions. Temperatures averaged within 2°C of normal across the Middle East, though a pocket of anomalous warmth in eastern Turkey (5-9°C above normal) contrasted with cold weather in eastern Iran (2-4°C below normal). The preceding week's heavy rain was replaced by mostly sunny skies from Turkey into central and southern Iran, promoting seasonal fieldwork and winter grain development. Nevertheless, moderate to heavy showers (10-110 mm) lingered from the eastern Mediterranean Coast into Saudi Arabia, while pockets of moderate rain (10-25 mm) were also noted in eastern Turkey's Armenian Highlands and along the central Iraq-Iran border. Winter grains continued to develop several weeks ahead of normal due to the record or near-record warmth since the beginning of December, though prospects for vegetative (north) to reproductive (south) wheat and barley remained good to excellent across most of the region due to favorable rainfall over the winter.

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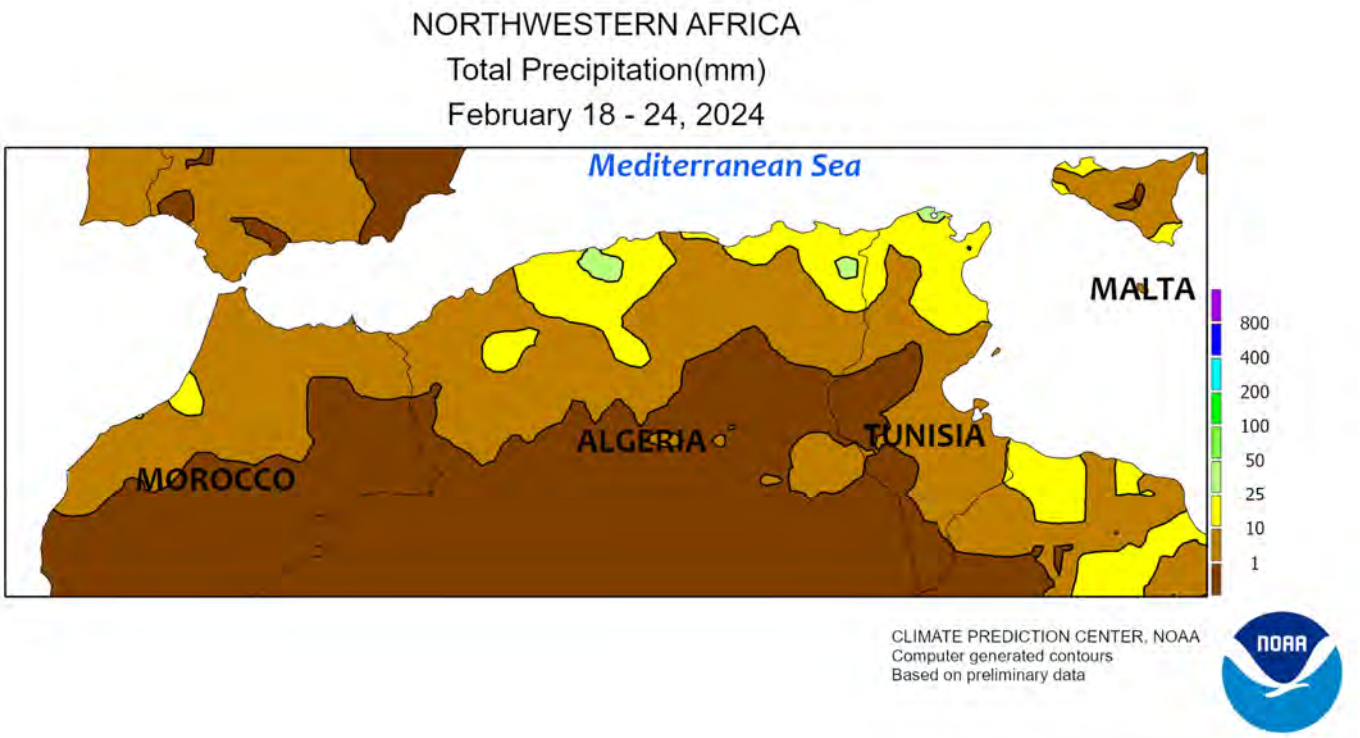

NORTHWESTERN AFRICA

Worsening drought in the west juxtaposed with beneficial rain farther east. In Morocco, despite scattered light showers (less than 10 mm) in northern portions of the country, mostly dry and warmer-than-normal weather (2-4°C above normal) sustained high evapotranspiration rates and exacerbated drought. Even with early February's locally heavy downpours, season-to-date rainfall (since September 1) in Morocco's primary croplands adjacent to the central Atlantic Coast remained near half of normal and the fifth driest of the past 30 years. Similarly, severe drought continued in western Algeria, where the current water year rainfall (47 percent of normal since September 1, deficit of more than 110 mm) remained the lowest of the past 30 years. Conversely, additional moderate to heavy showers (10-45 mm) from north-central Algeria into central and northern Tunisia improved prospects for vegetative to reproductive wheat and barley. The rain was also accompanied by cooler weather, with temperatures over the eastern half of the region averaging within 2°C of normal.

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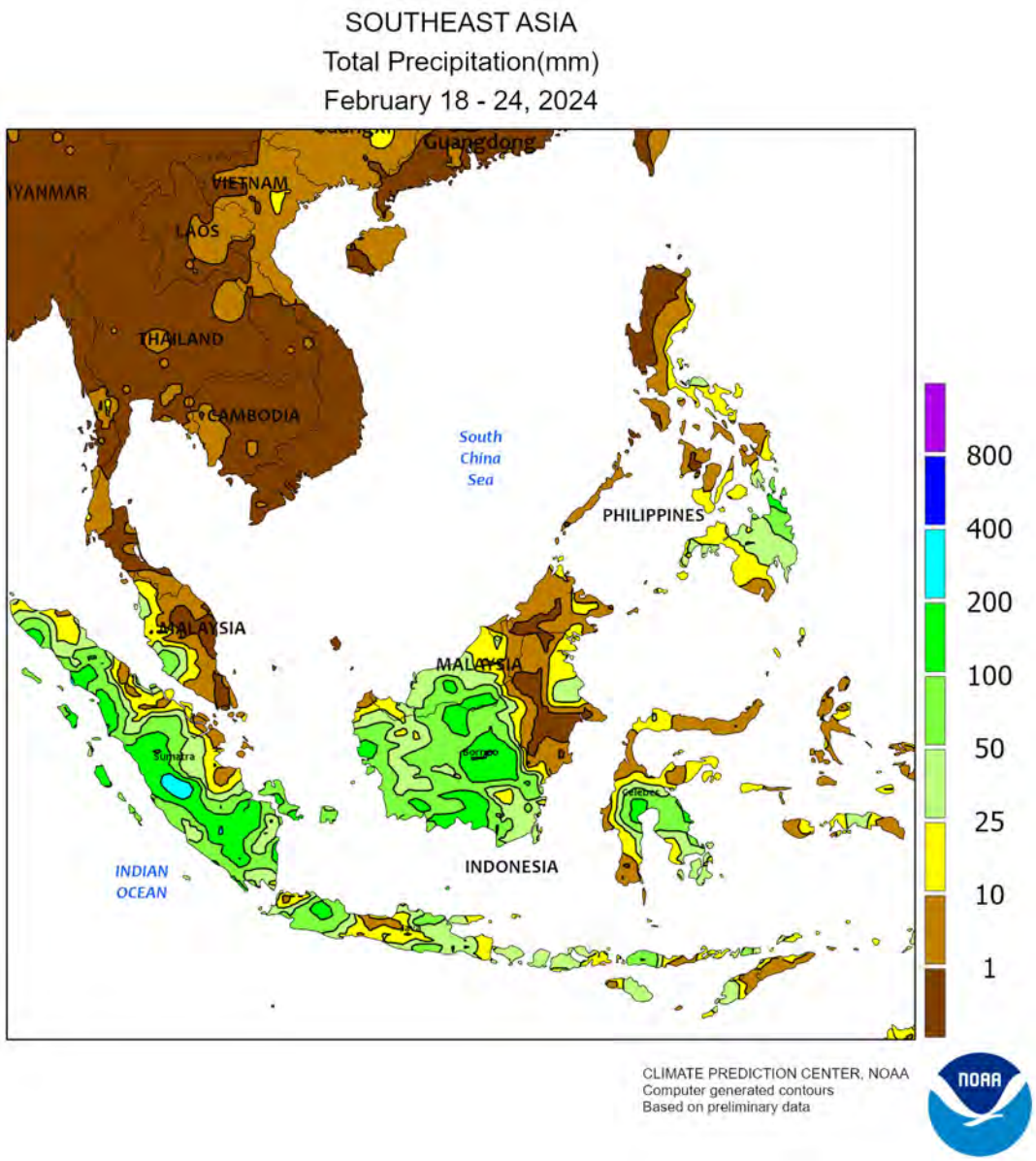

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Showery weather remained limited to the seasonally wetter southern sections of the region. Most locales in Indonesia recorded 25 to 100 mm of rain, favoring rice and oil palm. However, showers were lighter in large sections of Malaysia. Rainfall has been limited in key western oil palm areas of Malaysia (Peninsular) over the last four weeks, but longer-term moisture (60-90 days) has been adequate for trees. In contrast, eastern Malaysia (Sabah) has experienced prolonged dryness (less than 70 percent of normal rainfall) since December 1, lowering yield potential for oil palm. Meanwhile, precipitation was unseasonably light in the Philippines, with most reaches reporting less than 25 mm. While adequate moisture existed in southern areas for crops, drought continued to plague the north. Elsewhere, earlier-than-normal heat continued in Thailand and environs, as most areas experienced temperatures (upper 30s degrees C) more typical in April.

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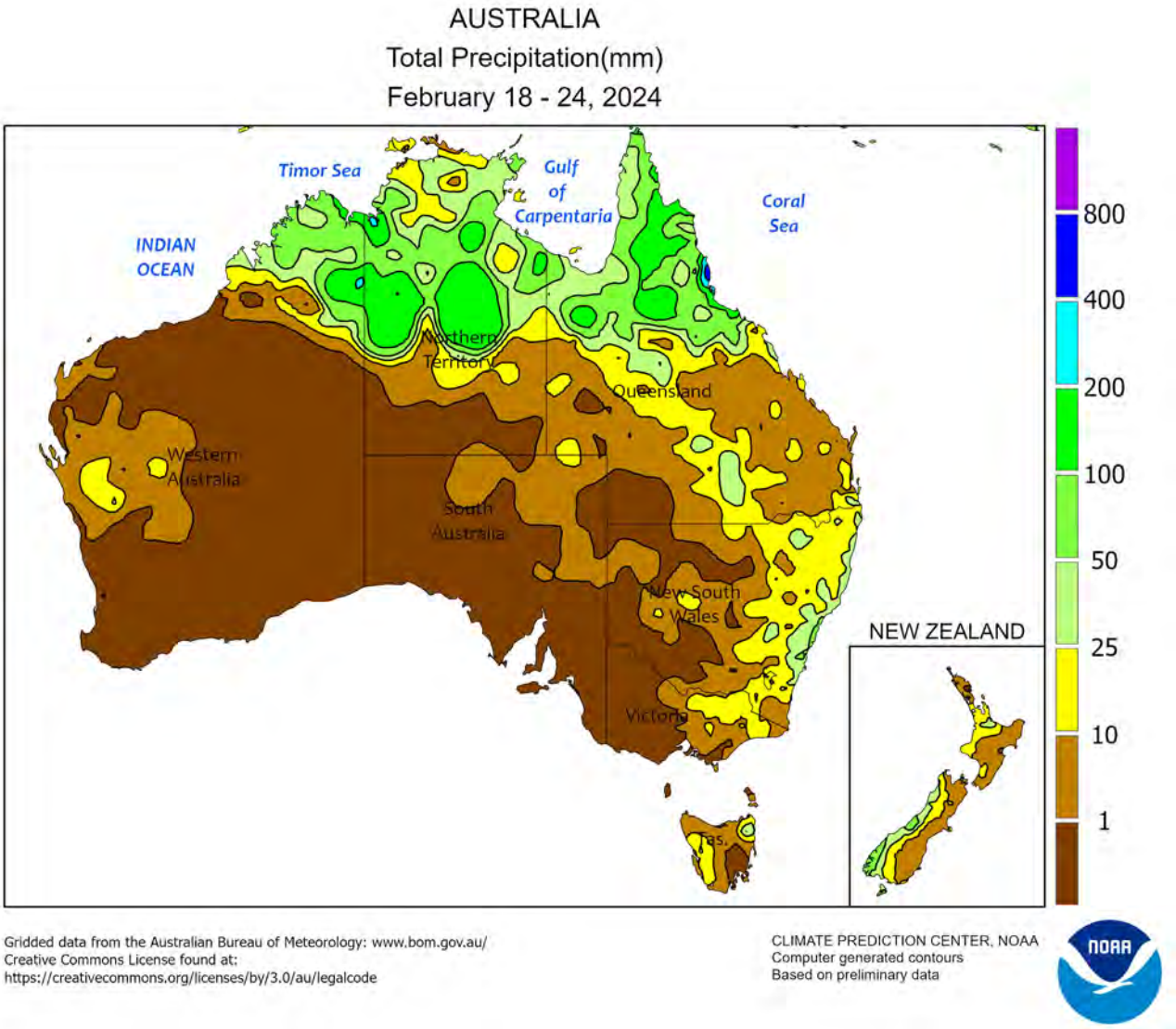

AUSTRALIA

In southern Queensland, isolated showers (5-15 mm or more) benefited local immature dryland summer crops, but mostly dry weather elsewhere favored maturation and harvesting of the earliest planted sorghum. The lack of rain in many locations likely increased local irrigation requirements as well. Farther south, more widespread showers (5-25 mm or more) in New South Wales maintained ample soil moisture for immature summer crops, while periods of dry weather allowed fieldwork to progress. Seasonably warm weather covered eastern Australia, aiding crop development, but hot weather blanketed southern and western Australia. Maximum temperatures were in the middle to upper 30s (degrees C) in the east and upper 30s to middle 40s in the south and west. Although winter crop planting won't begin until April, cooler weather would be welcome in these latter areas to help reduce evaporation rates and subsequently conserve pre-planting moisture supplies.

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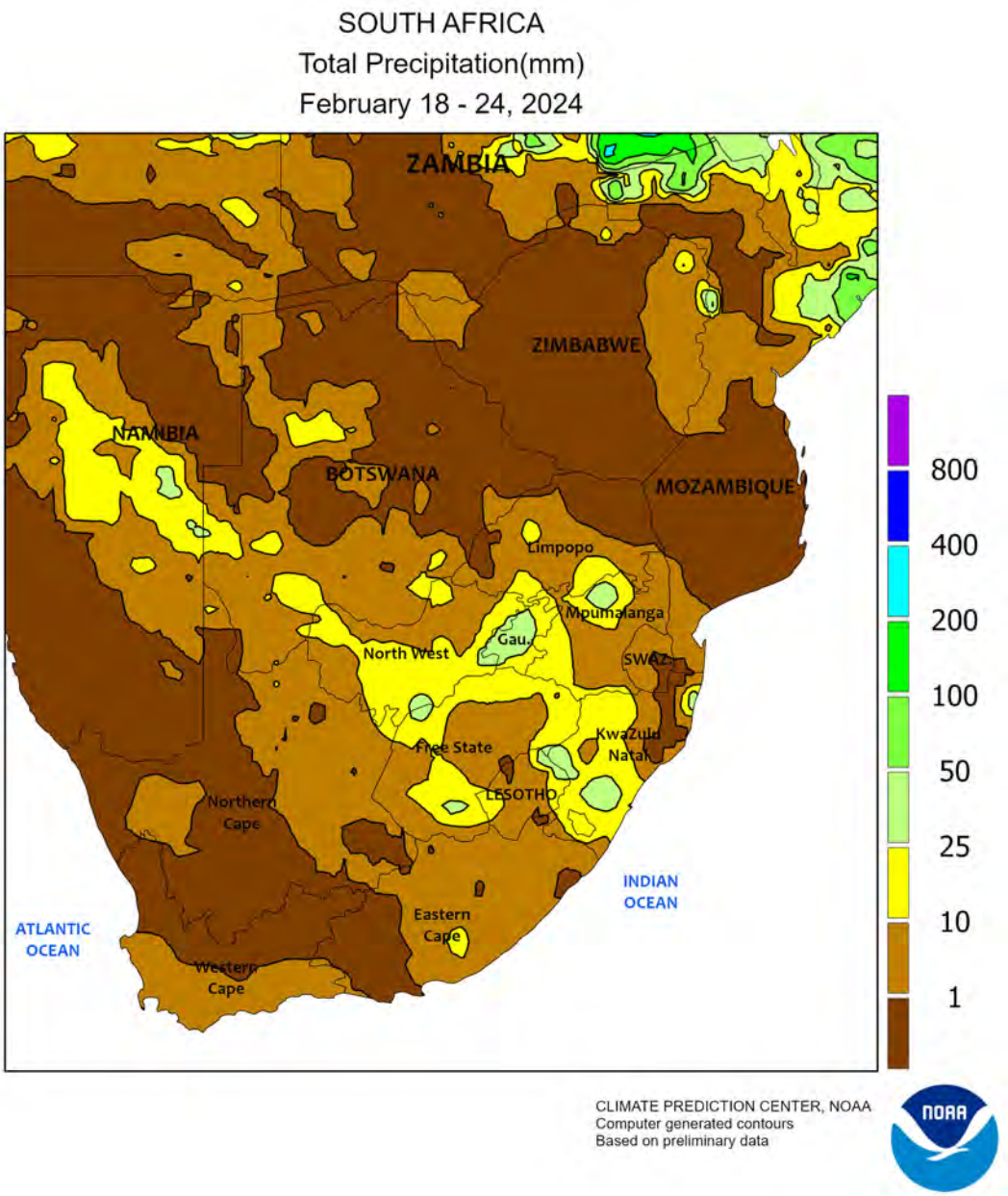

SOUTH AFRICA

Unseasonable warmth and dryness further reduced moisture reserves for corn and other rain-fed summer crops, threatening losses in yield potential as crops advanced through reproductive phases of development. Except for an outbreak of strong storms over Gauteng (rainfall totaling greater than 25 mm) at midweek, showers were generally widespread and light, with few other locations receiving more than 25 mm in the main eastern farming areas. Temperatures averaging 2 to 4°C above normal exacerbated the impact of the continuing dryness, which began as early as January in some locations. Highest daytime temperatures ranged from the upper 20s to lower 30s (degrees C) over eastern sections of the corn belt (western Mpumalanga and environs) and in rain-fed sugarcane areas of southern KwaZulu-Natal. Higher temperatures (35-40°C) were recorded elsewhere, including northern and western sections of the corn belt. The heat – combined with the extended drying trends – was untimely for later-planted corn in reproductive to filling stages of development. Meanwhile, hot, sunny weather (highs reaching 40°C) spurred rapid growth of irrigated crops in the Cape Provinces.

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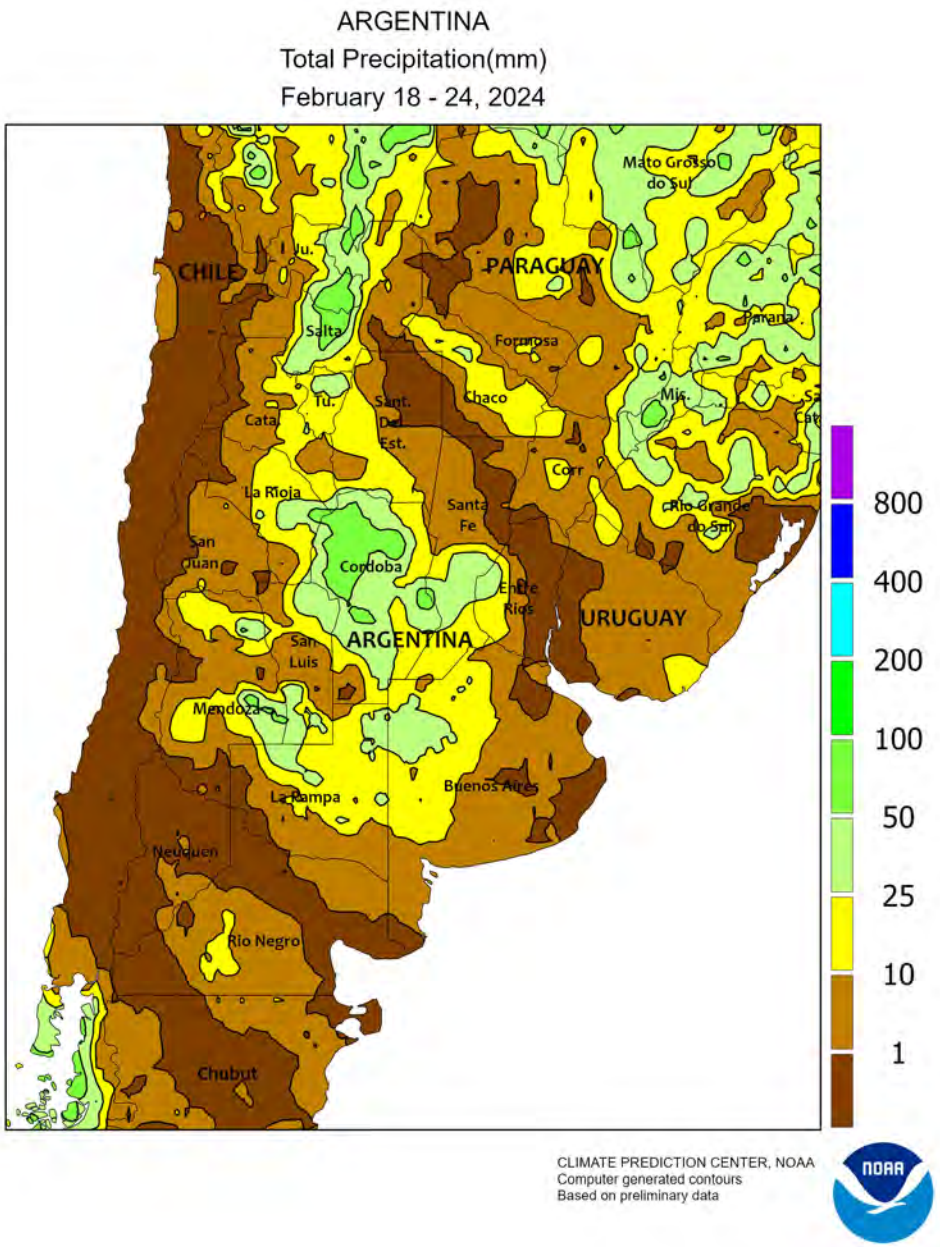

ARGENTINA

Warm, showery weather benefited immature summer crops in many major production areas. Rainfall totaled 10 to locally more than 50 mm from La Pampa and western Buenos Airies northward, with some of the heaviest rainfall (greater than 50 mm) concentrated over Córdoba. Amounts were lower (mostly below 10 mm) in eastern farming areas (eastern Buenos Aires to Formosa), although moisture reserves remained favorable following weeks of beneficial rain. Temperatures averaged 1 to 2°C above normal regionwide, with daytime highs holding in the low and middle 30s (degrees C) in the high-yielding farming areas of central Argentina (La Pampa, Buenos Aires, and neighboring areas from Córdoba to Entre Rios). According to the government of Argentina, sunflowers were 19 percent harvested (24 percent last year) as of February 22; fieldwork was nearing completion over earlier-maturing northern production areas, but no harvesting was reported yet in Buenos Aires or La Pampa. Additionally, later-planted summer crops had reportedly benefited from improved conditions.

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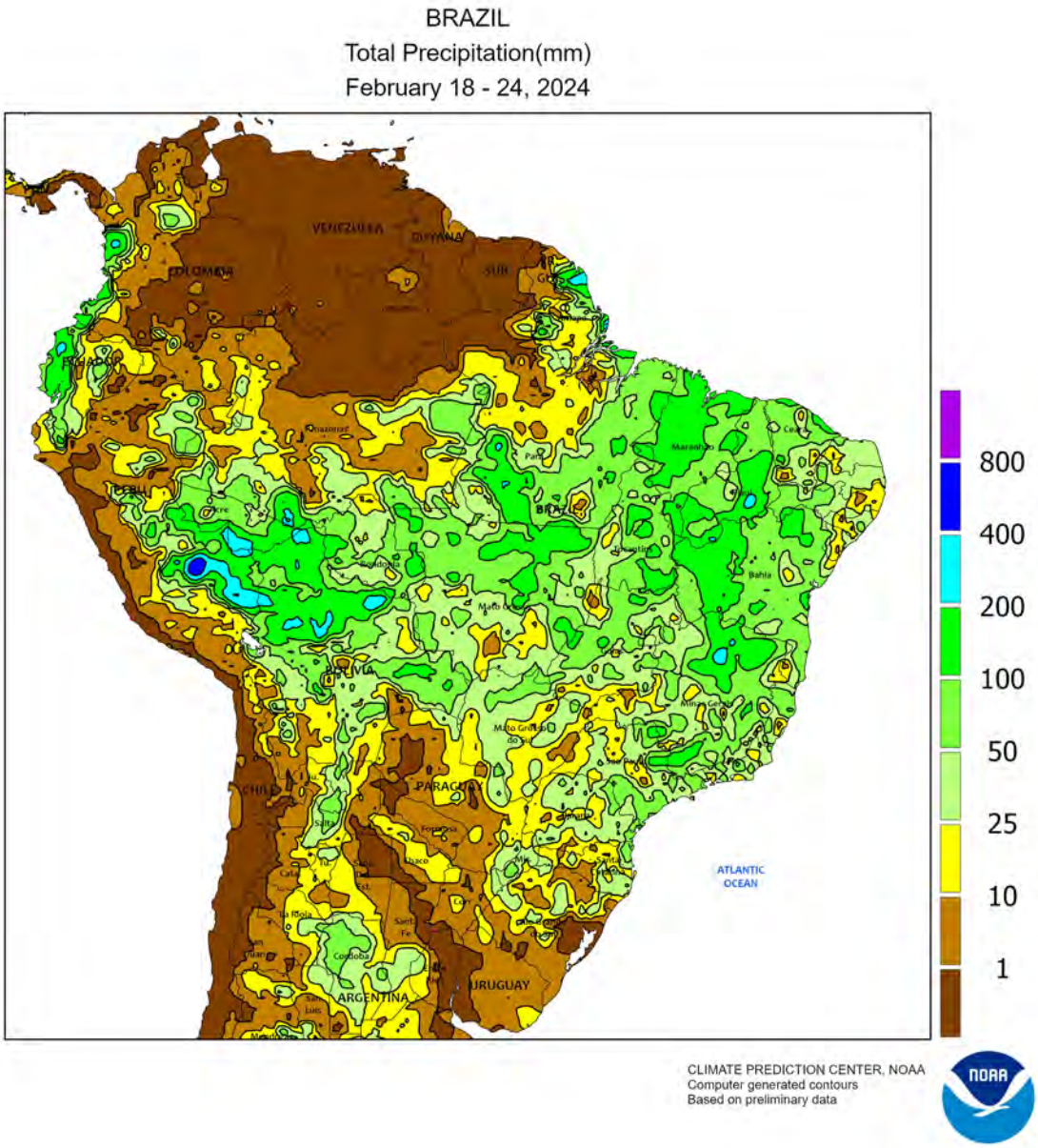

BRAZIL

Widespread, locally heavy showers maintained generally favorable conditions for immature summer crops. Rainfall totaling 25 to more than 100 mm overspread a broad area from Mato Grosso eastward, reaching nearly all major interior and coastal farming areas as far south as Minas Gerais. Temperatures averaging within 1°C of normal (highs reaching the lower and middle 30s degrees C) fostered rapid development of crops under mostly seasonable conditions. According to the government of Mato Grosso, soybeans were 76 percent harvested as of February 23, 4 points ahead of last year's pace; corn planting was 80 percent completed, compared with 73 percent last year and the 5-year average of 75 percent. Rainfall was patchy farther south, totaling 5 to 50 mm from southern Mato Grosso do Sul and São Paulo southward through Rio Grande do Sul, although most of Paraná recorded more than 25 mm. In addition, temperatures averaging 1 to 3°C above normal maintained high evaporative losses, particularly in western and northern locations where daytime highs reached the middle 30s. According to the government of Rio Grande do Sul, corn was 65 percent harvested as of February 22; meanwhile, nearly 85 percent of soybeans had flowered, with 3 percent reaching maturity. In Paraná, first-crop corn and soybeans were 55 and 42 percent harvested, respectively, as of February 19; second-crop corn was 55 percent planted.

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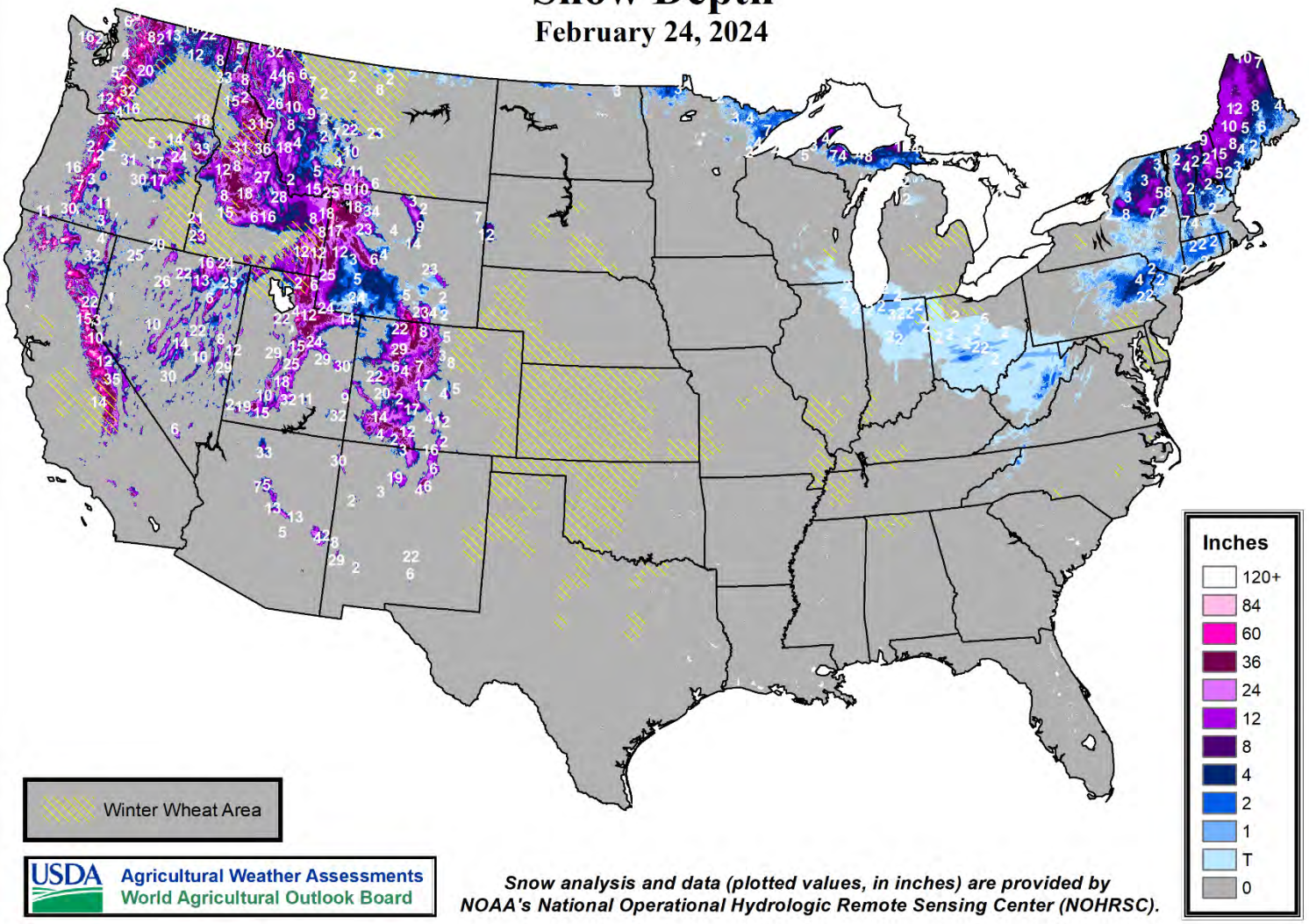
Snow Depth

February 24, 2024



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