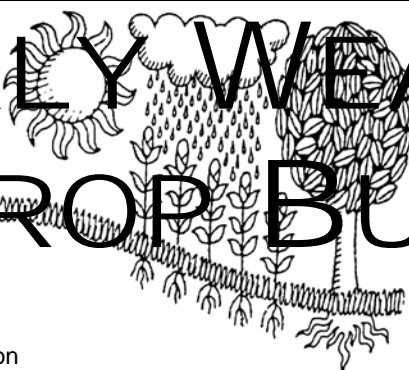
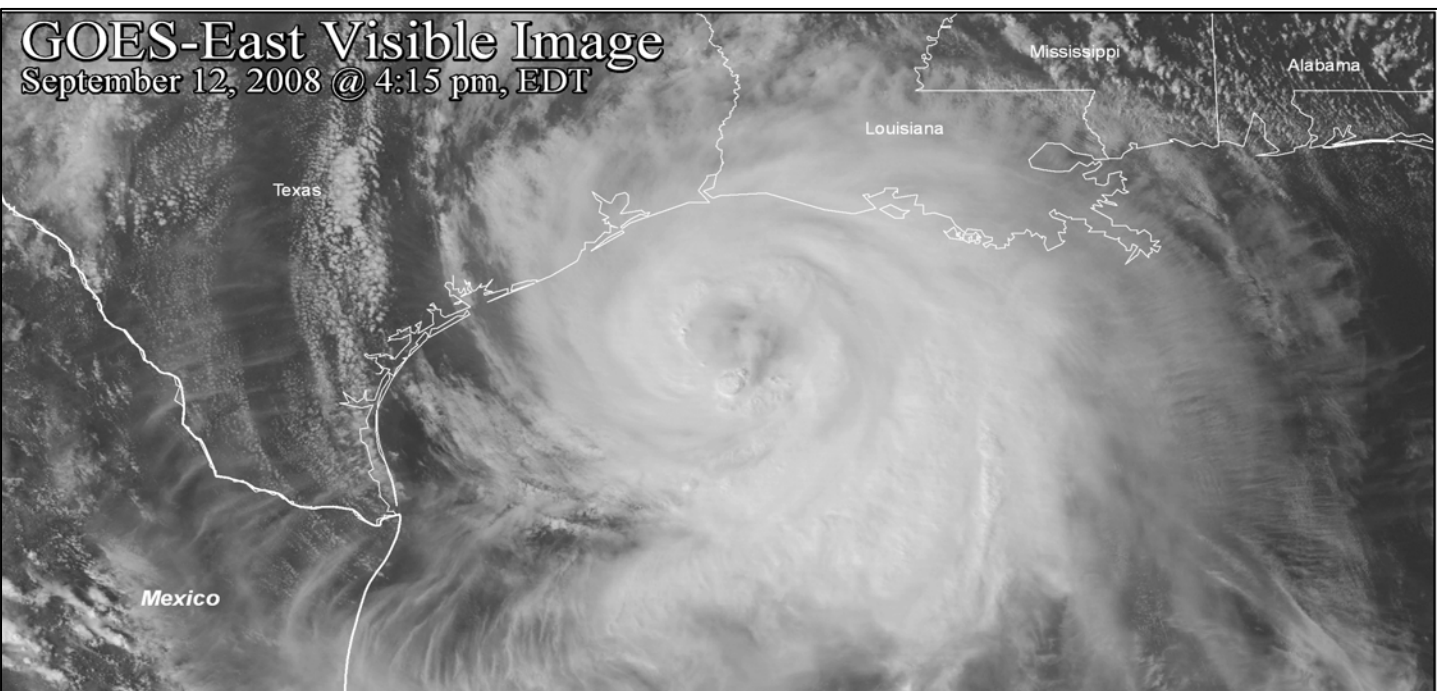


WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN



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



Ike, once a category 4 hurricane with maximum sustained winds near 145 m.p.h., never regained its status as a major hurricane after battering Cuba from September 7-9. Nevertheless, Ike was still a formidable category 2 hurricane at landfall (2:10 a.m. CDT on September 13) on Galveston Island, TX, with sustained winds near 110 m.p.h. Prior to reaching the U.S., Ike's landfalls as a category 3 or 4 hurricane included the U.K.'s Turks Islands (135 m.p.h. on the night of September 6-7); Great Inagua Island, Bahamas (135 m.p.h. on the morning of September 7); and near Cabo Lucrecia, Cuba (125 m.p.h. during the late evening of September 7).

HIGHLIGHTS September 7 - 13, 2008

Highlights provided by USDA/WAOB

Hurricane Ike made landfall on **Galveston Island, TX**, at 2:10 a.m. CDT on September 13. Maximum sustained winds were near 110 m.p.h., making Ike the third category 2 hurricane (along with Dolly and Gustav) to strike the U.S. this year. Ike was the sixth consecutive named **Atlantic Basin** tropical system to make landfall in the U.S. (following Dolly, Edouard, Fay, Gustav, and Hanna), breaking the satellite-era record of five storms in a row set on several occasions, most recently in August-September 2004.

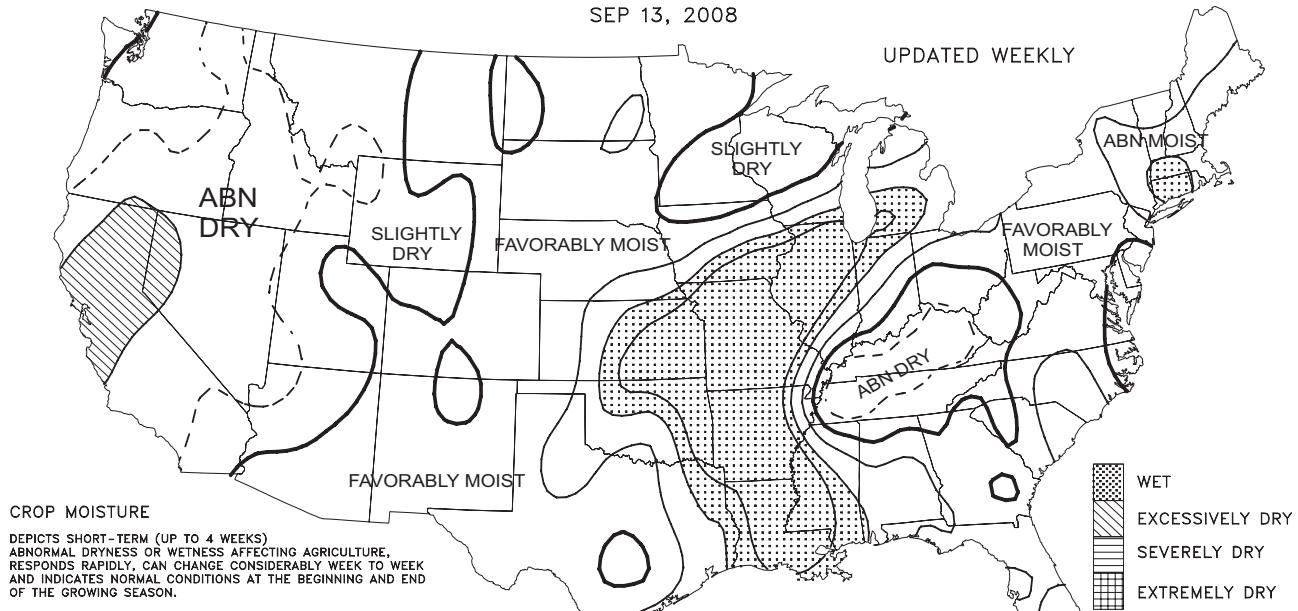
(Continued on page 7)

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Crop Moisture
SHORT TERM, CROP NEED VS. AVAILABLE WATER IN 5-FT. SOIL PROFILE
SEP 13, 2008

UPDATED WEEKLY



CROP MOISTURE

DEPICTS SHORT-TERM (UP TO 4 WEEKS) ABNORMAL DRYNESS OR WETNESS AFFECTING AGRICULTURE, RESPONDS RAPIDLY, CAN CHANGE CONSIDERABLY WEEK TO WEEK AND INDICATES NORMAL CONDITIONS AT THE BEGINNING AND END OF THE GROWING SEASON.

USES...APPLICABLE IN MEASURING THE SHORT-TERM, WEEK TO WEEK, STATUS OF DRYNESS OR WETNESS AFFECTING WARM SEASON CROPS AND FIELD OPERATIONS

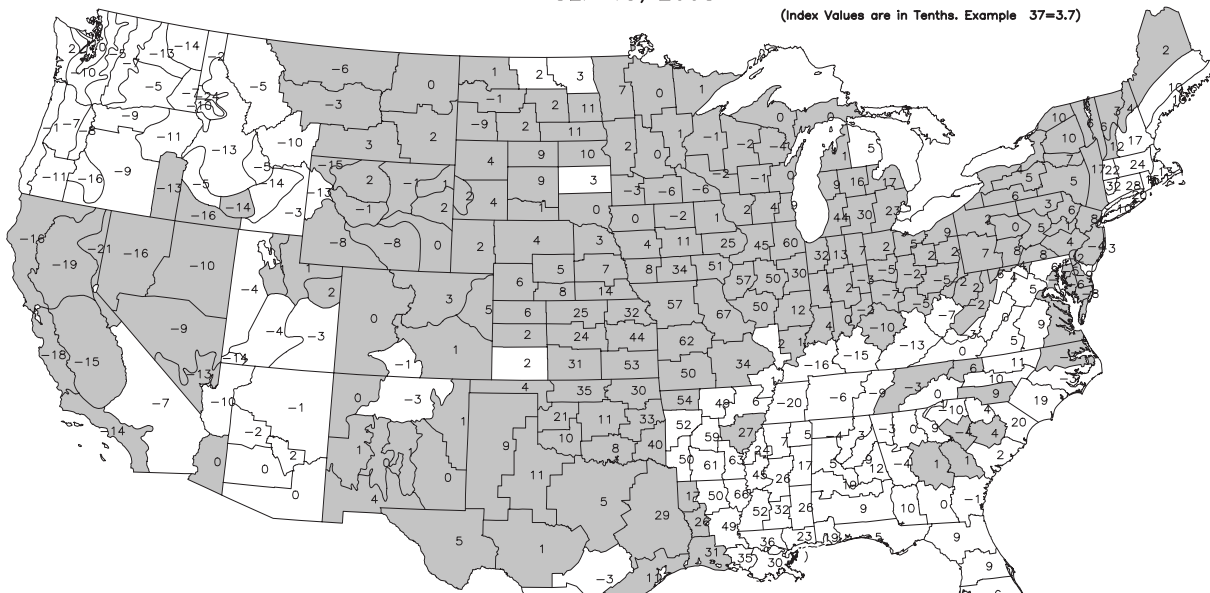
LIMITATIONS...MAY NOT BE APPLICABLE TO GERMINATING AND SHALLOW ROOTED CROPS WHICH ARE UNABLE TO EXTRACT THE DEEP OR SUBSOIL MOISTURE FROM A 5-FOOT PROFILE, OR FOR COOL SEASON CROPS GROWING WHEN TEMPERATURES ARE AVERAGING BELOW ABOUT 55F. IT IS NOT GENERALLY INDICATIVE OF THE LONG-TERM (MONTHS, YEARS) DROUGHT OR WET SPELLS WHICH ARE DEPICTED BY THE DROUGHT SEVERITY INDEX.

Computer generated contours
Based on preliminary reports

NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY

Crop Moisture Index
SHORT TERM, CROP NEED VS. AVAILABLE WATER IN 5-FT. SOIL PROFILE
SEP 13, 2008

(Index Values are in Tenths. Example 37=3.7)



SHADED AREAS
INDEX INCREASED OR DID NOT CHANGE
ABOVE 3 EXCESSIVELY WET. SOME FIELDS FLOODED
2 TO 3 TOO WET. SOME STANDING WATER
1 TO 2 SOME FIELDS TOO WET. PROSPECTS ABOVE NORMAL
0 TO 1 MOISTURE ADEQUATE FOR PRESENT CROP NEEDS
0 TO -1 PROSPECTS IMPROVED BUT RAIN STILL NEEDED
-1 TO -2 SOME IMPROVEMENT BUT STILL ABNORMALLY DRY
-2 TO -3 DRYNESS EASED BUT FIELDS STILL EXCESSIVELY DRY
-3 TO -4 SEVERE DRYNESS CONTINUES. MORE RAIN URGENTLY NEEDED
BELOW -4 NOT ENOUGH RAIN. STILL EXTREMELY DRY

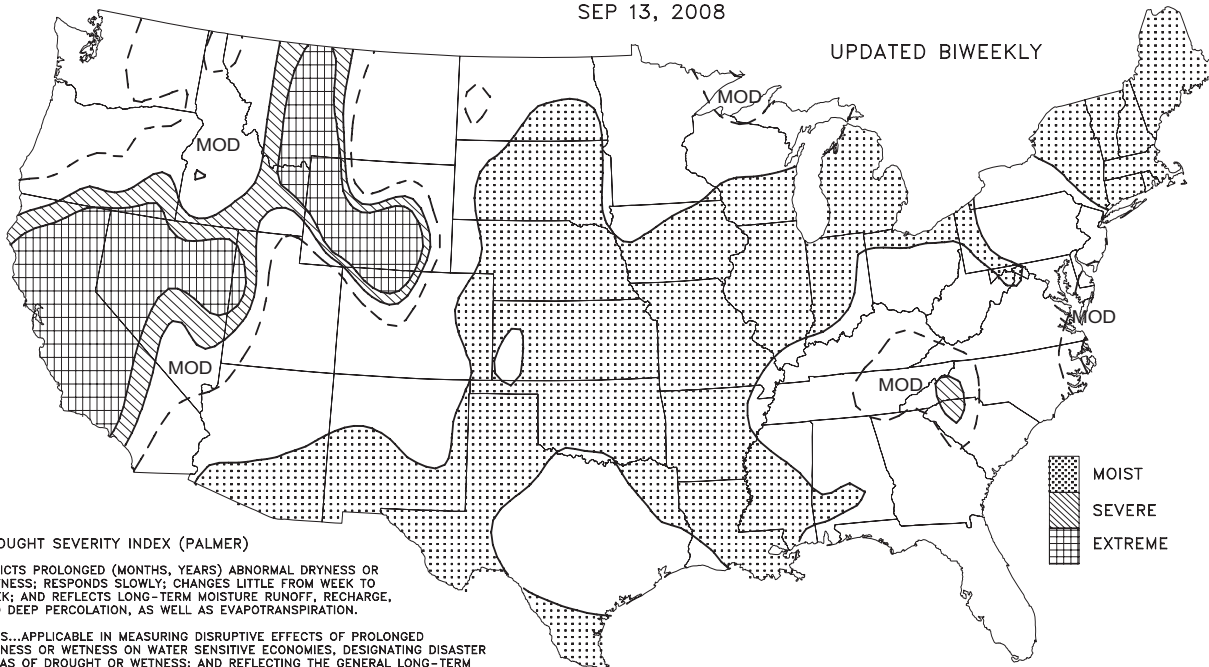
UNSHADED AREAS
INDEX DECREASED
ABOVE 3 SOME DRYING BUT STILL EXCESSIVELY WET
2 TO 3 MORE DRY WEATHER NEEDED. WORK DELAYED
1 TO 2 FAVORABLE EXCEPT STILL TOO WET IN SPOTS
0 TO 1 FAVORABLE FOR NORMAL GROWTH AND FIELDWORK
0 TO -1 TOPSOIL MOISTURE SHORT. GERMINATION SLOW
-1 TO -2 ABNORMALLY DRY. PROSPECTS DETERIORATING
-2 TO -3 EXCESSIVELY DRY. YIELD PROSPECTS REDUCED
-3 TO -4 POTENTIAL YIELDS SEVERELY CUT BY DRYNESS
BELOW -4 EXTREMELY DRY. MOST CROPS RUINED

NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY

BASED ON PRELIMINARY DATA

DROUGHT SEVERITY
LONG TERM PALMER
SEP 13, 2008

UPDATED BIWEEKLY



DROUGHT SEVERITY INDEX (PALMER)

DEPICTS PROLONGED (MONTHS, YEARS) ABNORMAL DRYNESS OR WETNESS; RESPONDS SLOWLY; CHANGES LITTLE FROM WEEK TO WEEK; AND REFLECTS LONG-TERM MOISTURE RUNOFF, RECHARGE, AND DEEP PERCOLATION, AS WELL AS EVAPOTRANSPIRATION.

USES...APPLICABLE IN MEASURING DISRUPTIVE EFFECTS OF PROLONGED DRYNESS OR WETNESS ON WATER SENSITIVE ECONOMIES, DESIGNATING DISASTER AREAS OF DROUGHT OR WETNESS; AND REFLECTING THE GENERAL LONG-TERM STATUS OF WATER SUPPLIES IN AQUIFERS, RESERVOIRS, AND STREAMS.

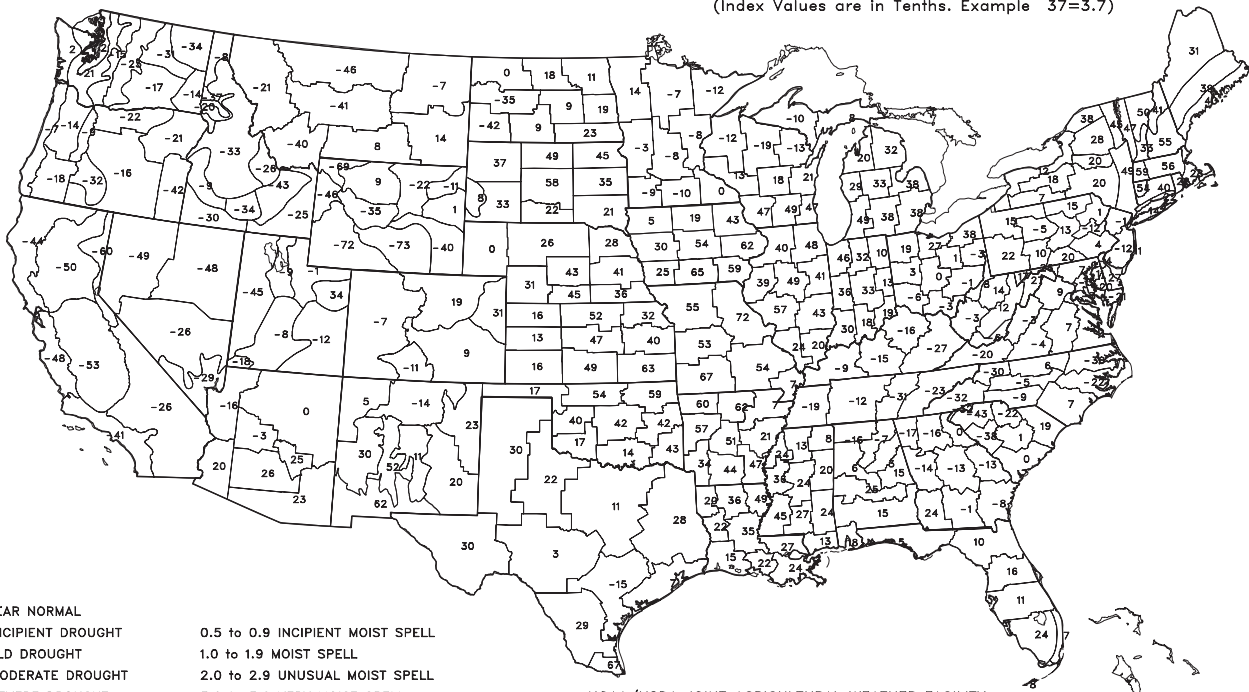
LIMITATIONS...IS NOT GENERALLY INDICATIVE OF SHORT-TERM (FEW WEEKS) STATUS OF DROUGHT OR WETNESS SUCH AS FREQUENTLY AFFECTS CROPS AND FIELD OPERATIONS (THIS IS INDICATED BY THE CROP MOISTURE INDEX).

Computer generated contours
Based on preliminary reports

NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY

Drought Severity Index by Division
SEP 13, 2008
(Long Term Palmer)

(Index Values are in Tenths. Example 37=3.7)



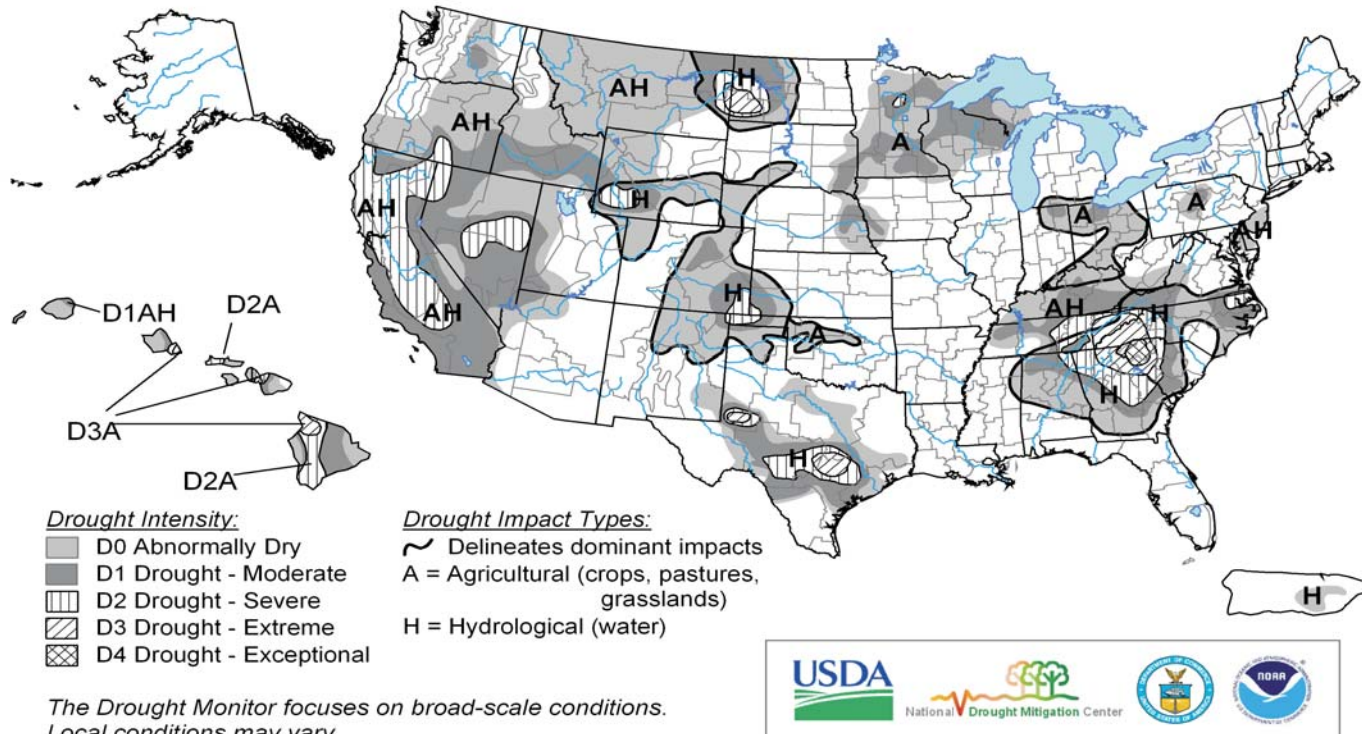
- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 0.4 to -0.4 NEAR NORMAL | 0.5 to 0.9 INCIPIENT MOIST SPELL |
| -0.5 to -0.9 INCIPIENT DROUGHT | 1.0 to 1.9 MOIST SPELL |
| -1.0 to -1.9 MILD DROUGHT | 2.0 to 2.9 UNUSUAL MOIST SPELL |
| -2.0 to -2.9 MODERATE DROUGHT | 3.0 to 3.9 VERY MOIST SPELL |
| -3.0 to -3.9 SEVERE DROUGHT | 4.0 to 4.9 EXTREME MOIST SPELL |
| BELOW -4.0 EXTREME DROUGHT | |

NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY
Based on preliminary data

U.S. Drought Monitor

September 9, 2008

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

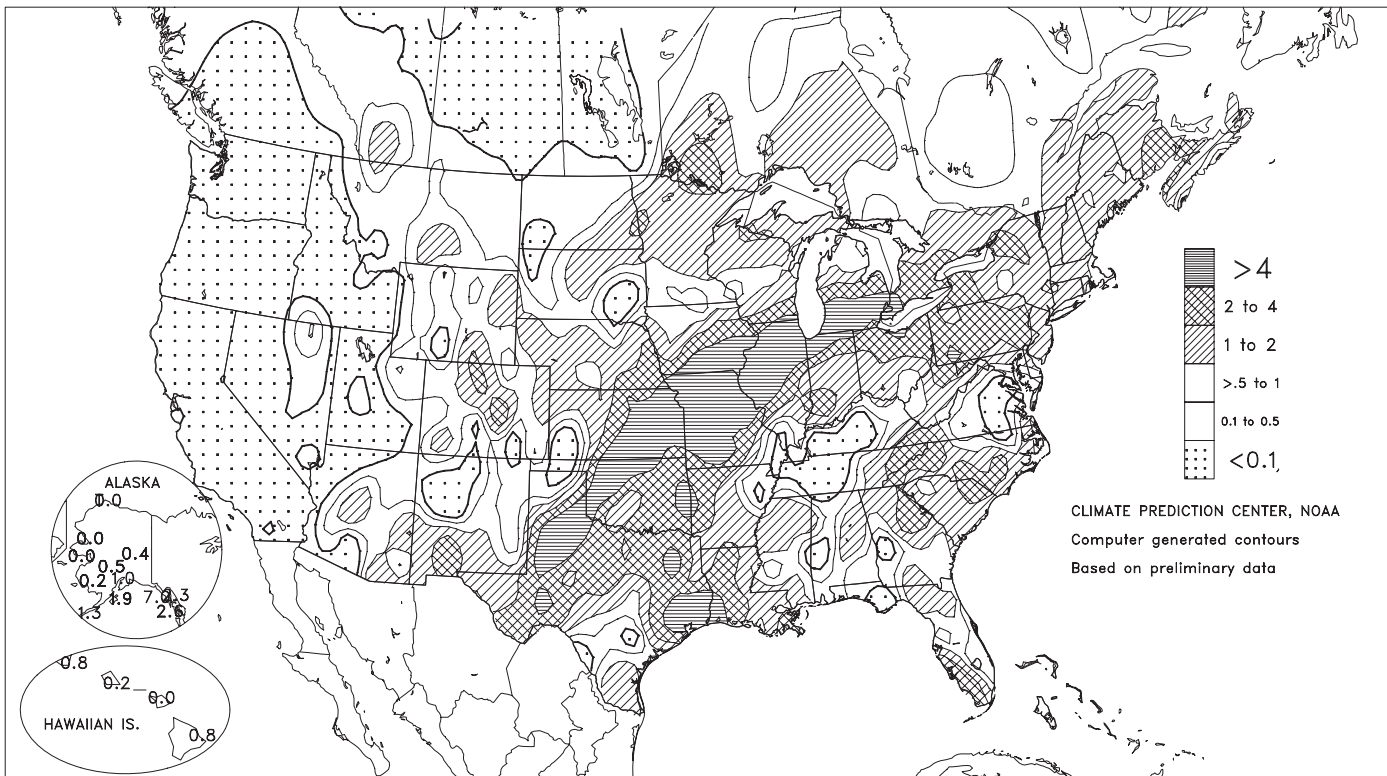


Released Thursday, September 11, 2008
Author: David Miskus, JAWF/CPC/NOAA

<http://drought.unl.edu/dm>

Total Precipitation (Inches)

SEP 7 - 13, 2008

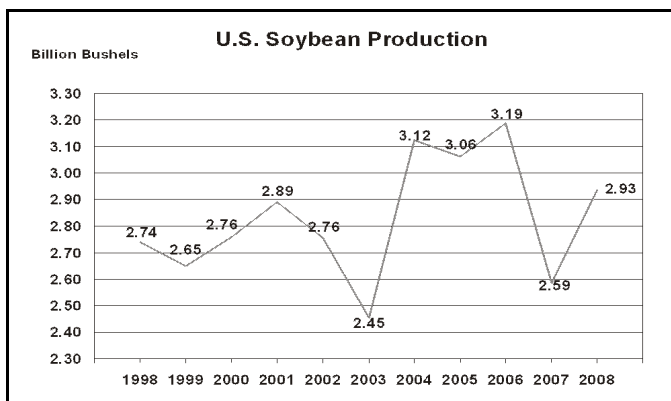
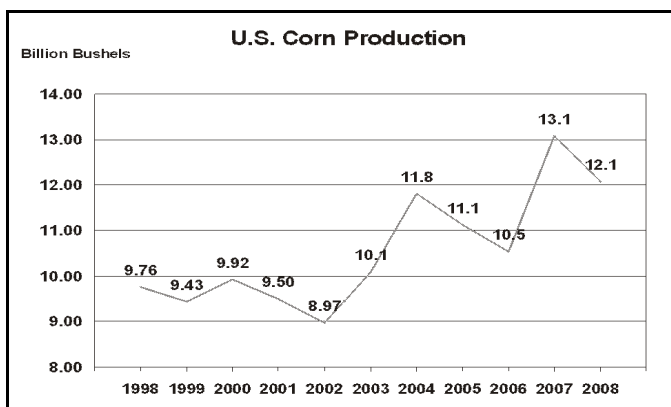


U.S. Crop Production Highlights

The following information was released by USDA's Agricultural Statistics Board on September 12. Forecasts refer to September 1.

Note About Hurricane Gustav: Gustav made landfall on September 1, then moved northward through Louisiana and into Arkansas over the course of several days. Because the information in this report is based on conditions as of September 1, the full impact of this weather event is not reflected in this report.

Corn production is forecast at 12.1 billion bushels, down 2 percent from last month and 8 percent below 2007. Yields are expected to average 152.3 bushels per acre, down 2.7 bushels from August but 1.2 bushels above last year. If realized, yield will be the second highest on record, behind 2004, while production will be the second largest, behind last year. Yield forecasts are lower than last month across the northern and eastern Corn Belt and the Ohio and Tennessee Valleys, where the lack of August rainfall reduced soil moisture supplies and stressed the crop. Yield prospects also decreased across much of the middle Mississippi Valley and adjacent areas of the Great Plains, as dry weather during August eliminated topsoil moisture surpluses.



Soybean production is forecast at 2.93 billion bushels, down 1 percent from the August forecast but up 13 percent from last

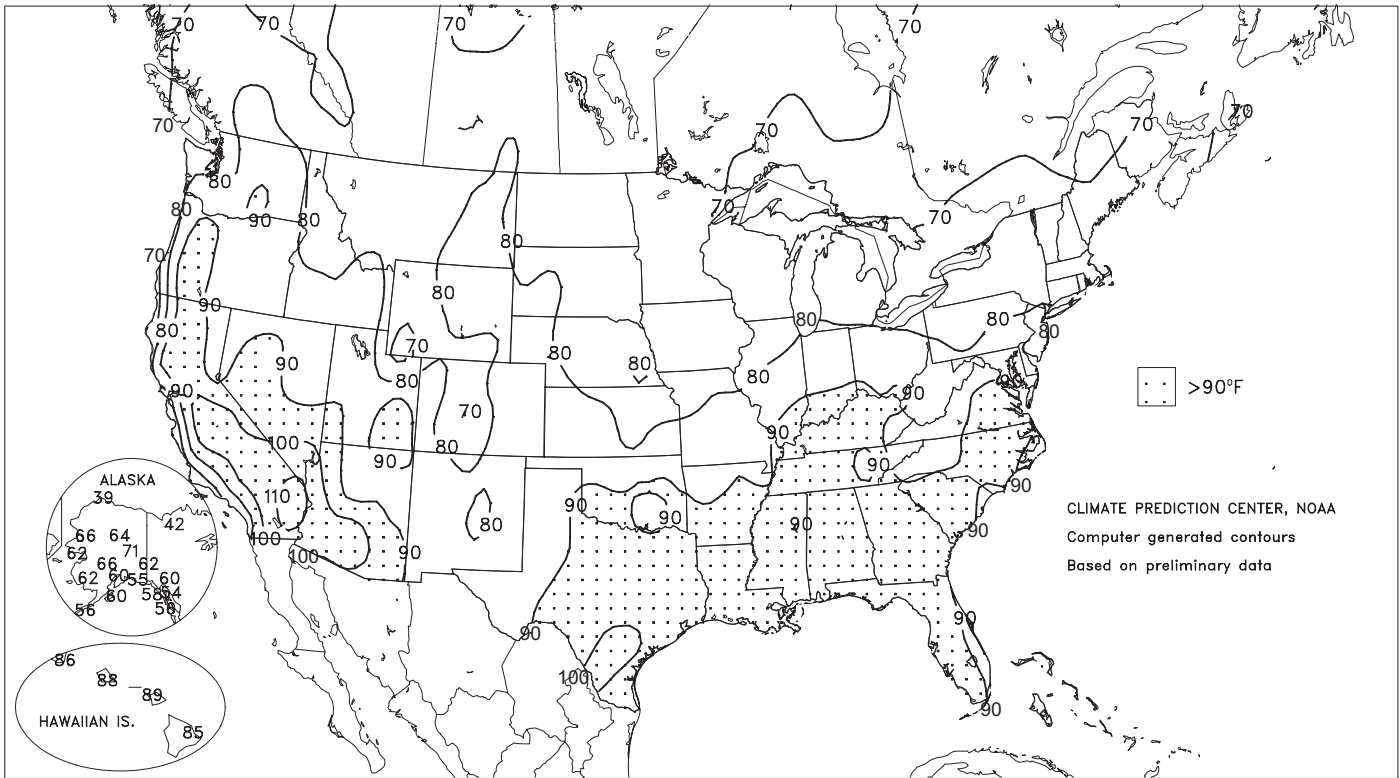
year. If realized, this will be the fourth-largest production on record. Yields are expected to average 40.0 bushels per acre, down 0.5 bushel from last month and down 1.2 bushels from 2007. Compared with last month, yields are forecast lower or unchanged in the Mid-Atlantic States, the central and eastern Corn Belt, Louisiana, Nebraska, and South Dakota. Yields increased or are unchanged from the August 1 forecast across the Southeast and the remainder of the Great Plains. Area for harvest in the U.S. is forecast at 73.3 million acres, unchanged from last month but up 17 percent from 2007.

All Cotton production is forecast at 13.8 million 480-pound bales, up 1 percent from last month but down 28 percent from last year. Yield is expected to average 849 pounds per harvested acre, up 7 pounds from last month but down 30 pounds from the record yield in 2007. Upland cotton production is forecast at 13.4 million 480-pound bales, up 1 percent from last month but 27 percent below 2007. Producers in Texas are expecting increased yields from last month, while Georgia producers expect lower yields due to the effects of Tropical Storm Fay. Upland growers in Arkansas and Oklahoma are expecting record-high yields, surpassing the records set in 2004 and 2007, respectively. American-Pima production is forecast at 459,000 bales, down 46 percent from last year. Producers expect to harvest 9.41 million acres of all cotton and 7.66 million acres of upland cotton, both down 25 percent from last year and the lowest harvested acreage since 1983. American-Pima harvested area is expected to total 170,000 acres, down 41 percent from 2007.

California navel orange production for the 2008-09 season is forecast at 32.0 million boxes (1.20 million tons), down 34 percent from last season's revised production of 48.5 million boxes (1.82 million tons). This initial forecast is based on an objective measurement survey conducted in California's Central Valley between July 21 and August 27. Survey results show average fruit set per tree is at the lowest level on record, down 48 percent from last year's set and down 23 percent from the previous record low. The low fruit set is due to high temperatures in May, which resulted in excessive fruit drop. Average fruit size is lower than average, but fruit quality is expected to be good.

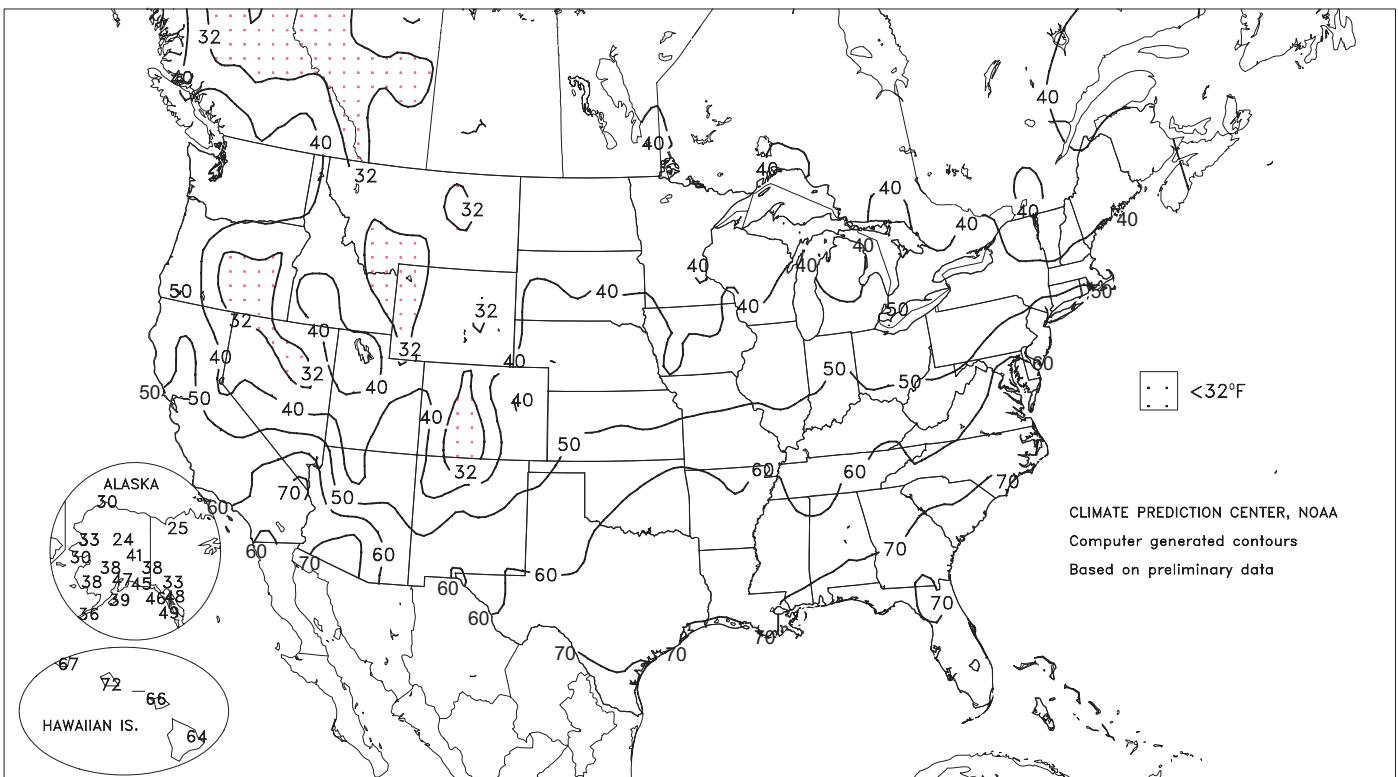
Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F)

SEP 7 - 13, 2008



Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)

SEP 7 - 13, 2008



(Continued from front cover)

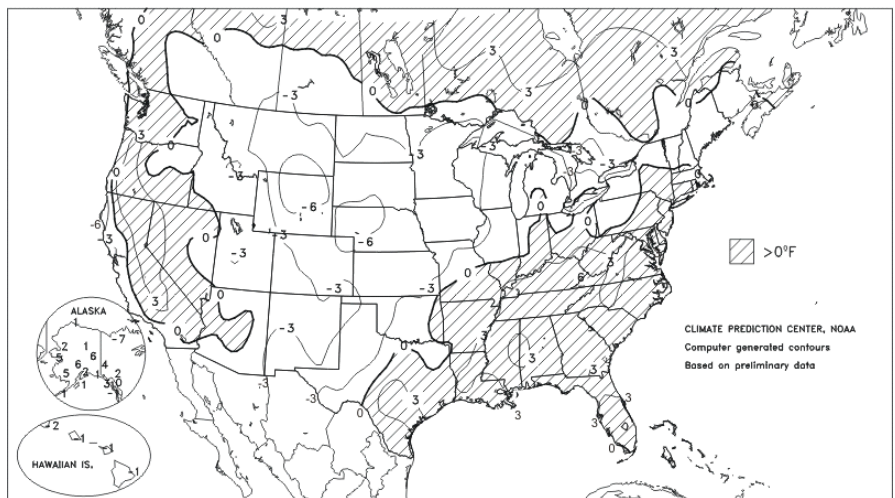
Ike had a profound effect on the **Galveston/Houston area** due to flooding (induced by both rainfall and storm surge) and high winds. However, the largest measured storm surge occurred east of the storm's center at **Sabine Pass**, on the Texas-Louisiana border. Surge values were more than 10 feet above normal on parts of **Galveston Island** and 12.5 feet above normal at **Sabine Pass**. In **southern Louisiana**, sugarcane producers monitored the effects of salt-water intrusion, since storm-surge heights in many cases were similar to those observed with Hurricane Gustav just 2 weeks earlier. Along the **Texas coast**, the rice harvest was nearly complete, but a portion of the cotton crop was battered by wind and rain. In the **lower Mississippi Valley** and neighboring areas, cotton, rice, sorghum, and soybeans that were adversely affected by Gustav were subjected to another round of gusty winds and locally heavy rain. Farther north, a moisture-laden cold front preceded Ike's arrival. Moisture associated with former **eastern Pacific** Tropical Storm Lowell entrained into the cold front contributed to 4- to 10-inch rainfall totals from **western Texas into southern Michigan**. Locations reporting their wettest day on record included **Lubbock, TX** (7.46 inches on September 11), and **Chicago, IL** (6.64 inches on September 13). On the **southern Plains**, downpours halted winter wheat planting preparations and threatened the quality of sorghum, open-boll cotton, and other unharvested summer crops. In parts of the **southern, central, and eastern Corn Belt**, crops such as corn, sorghum, and soybeans were subjected to flooding rains or wind gusts as high as 60 to 75 m.p.h., or a combination of both, raising concerns about lodging and crop quality. Elsewhere, chilly weather settled across the **northern Plains** and the **upper Midwest**, while warm, dry weather promoted fieldwork and crop development in the **West Coast States**. Widespread temperatures below 40°F were noted across the **northern Plains** and the **upper Midwest** on September 8-9, but immature corn and soybeans escaped the cool spell without injury.

Cool weather settled into the **Northwest** early in the week, followed by several chilly days across the **northern Plains** and the **upper Midwest**. **Boundary Dam, WA** (33°F), opened the week with a daily-record low for September 7. Farther east, **Sisseton, SD**, noted consecutive daily-record lows of 37°F on September 8 and 9. Other daily-record lows for September 9 included 36°F in **Atlantic, IA**, and 42°F in **St. Joseph, MO**. By mid-week, cool weather returned to much of the **West**, where **Boundary Dam** (31°F on September 11) posted another daily-record low. In **northern Idaho**, **Porthill** (27 and 23°F) notched consecutive daily-record lows on September 11-12. In contrast, record warmth briefly affected areas **west of the Oregon Cascades**, where records highs for September 11 included 91°F in **Portland** and 86°F in **Tillamook**. Record warmth also prevailed toward week's end around the periphery of Hurricane Ike. A daily record-setting high of 94°F in **Tampa, FL**, on September 12, was followed the next day by records in **Texas** locations such as **San Antonio** (100°F) and **Austin** (99°F).

Prior to Ike's arrival, widespread showers were associated with a pair of cold fronts. By mid-week, the first front stalled across the **South**, generating locally heavy showers. **Tyler, TX** (2.49 and 2.85 inches), measured consecutive daily-record amounts on September 8 and 9. Elsewhere in **Texas**, **San Angelo** (3.05 inches) received a daily-record total for September 8. Meanwhile, daily-record totals in **Tennessee** reached 1.28 inches (on September 8) in **Knoxville** and 1.49 inches (on September 9) in **Bristol**. Locally heavy showers also dotted the **Northeast**, where **Scranton, PA** (1.58 inches on September 9), netted a daily-record amount. Heavy rain lingered along the **Mid-Atlantic Coast** through September 11, when **Norfolk, VA**, collected 3.16 inches. Farther west, phenomenally heavy rainfall developed on September 11 on the **central and southern High Plains**. In fact, September 11 was the wettest day on record in **Lubbock, TX** (7.46 inches; previously 5.70 inches on June 1, 1967), and **Colorado Springs, CO** (4.29 inches; previously, 3.98 inches on August 4, 1999). **Lubbock's** 24-hour total on September 11-12 reached 7.80 inches, shattering its record of 5.82 inches established on October 18-19, 1983. The following day, September 12, featured an all-time-record daily total of

Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F)

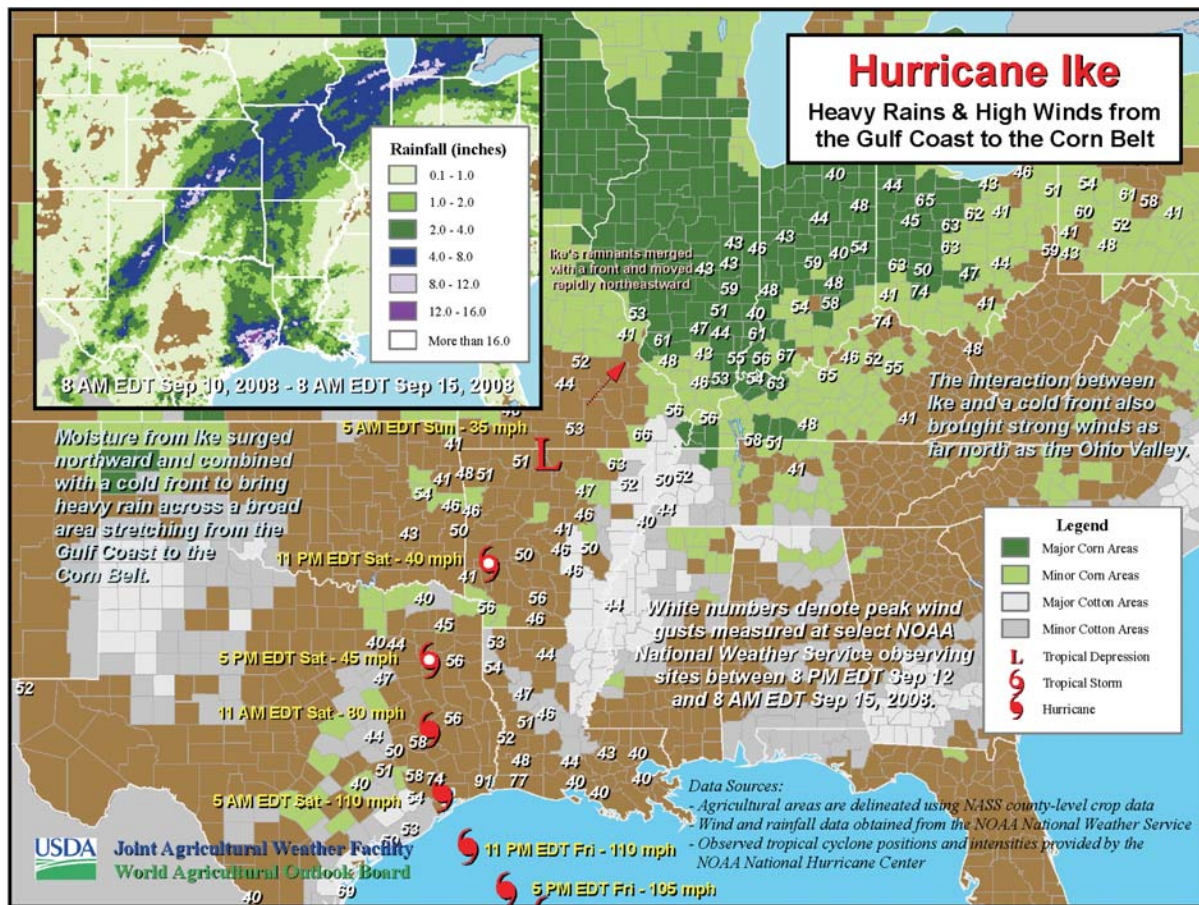
SEP 7 - 13, 2008



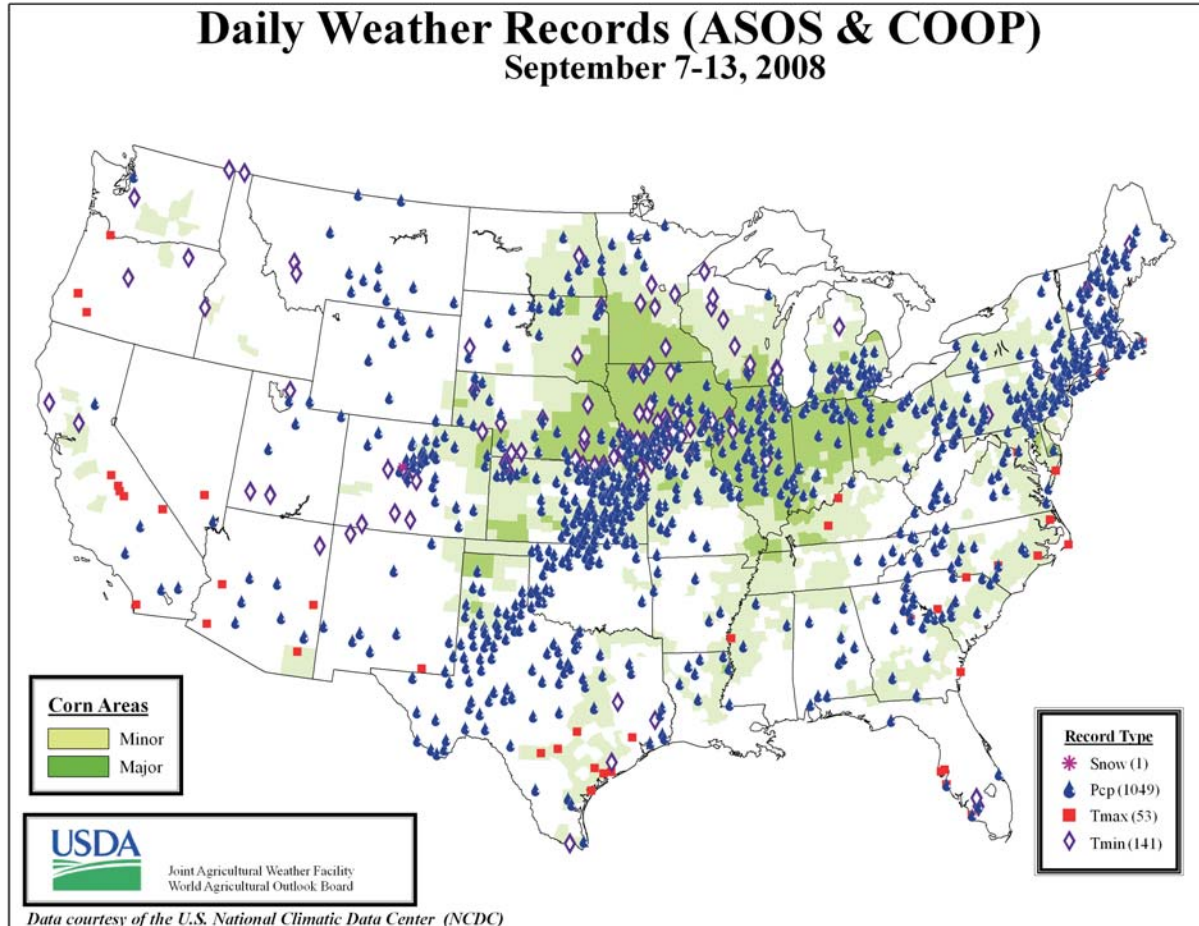
10.31 inches in **Wichita, KS** (previously, 6.82 inches on June 8, 1923). **Wichita** also achieved records for its wettest 24-hour period (10.31 inches; previously 7.99 inches on September 6-7, 1911) and wettest September (12.94 inches; previously, 10.69 inches in 1999).

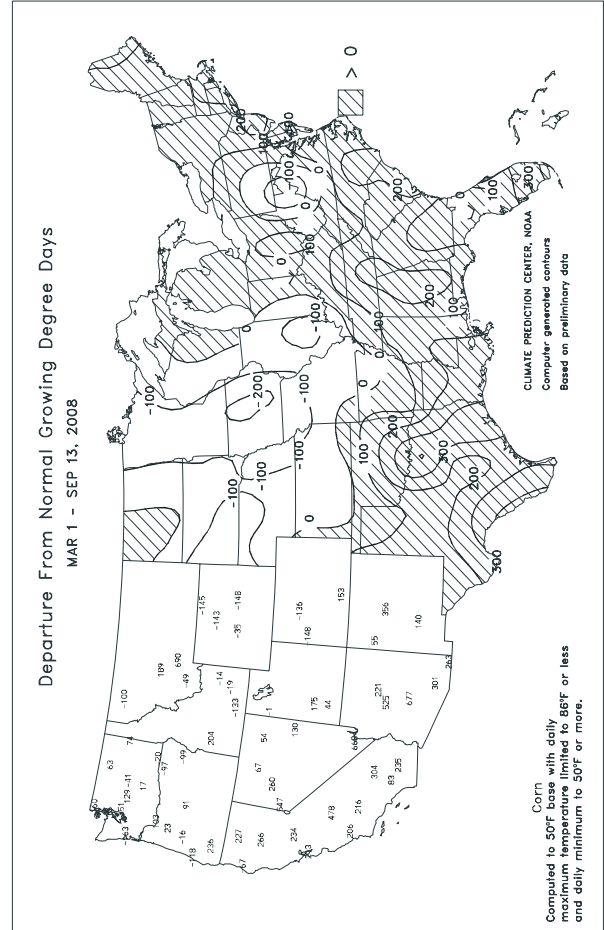
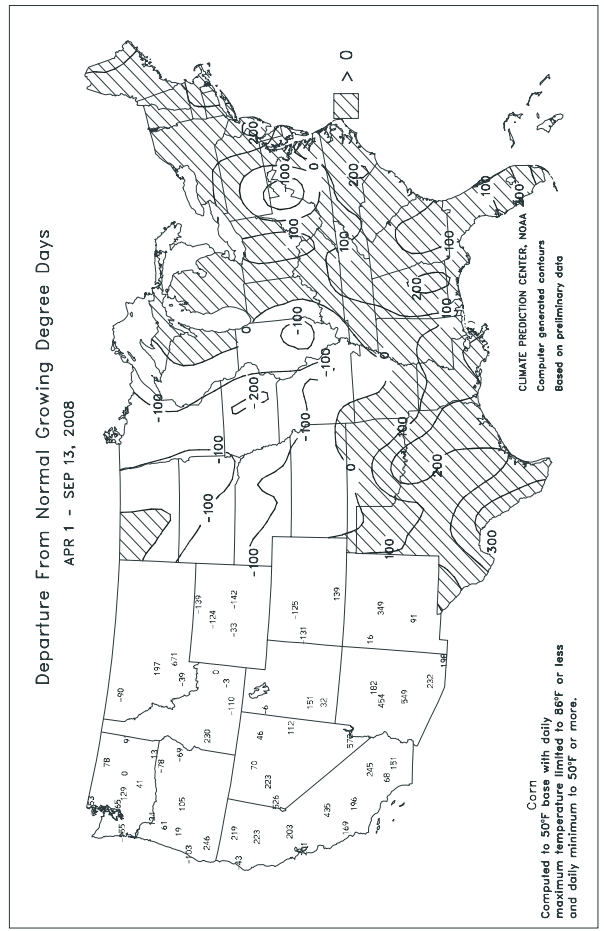
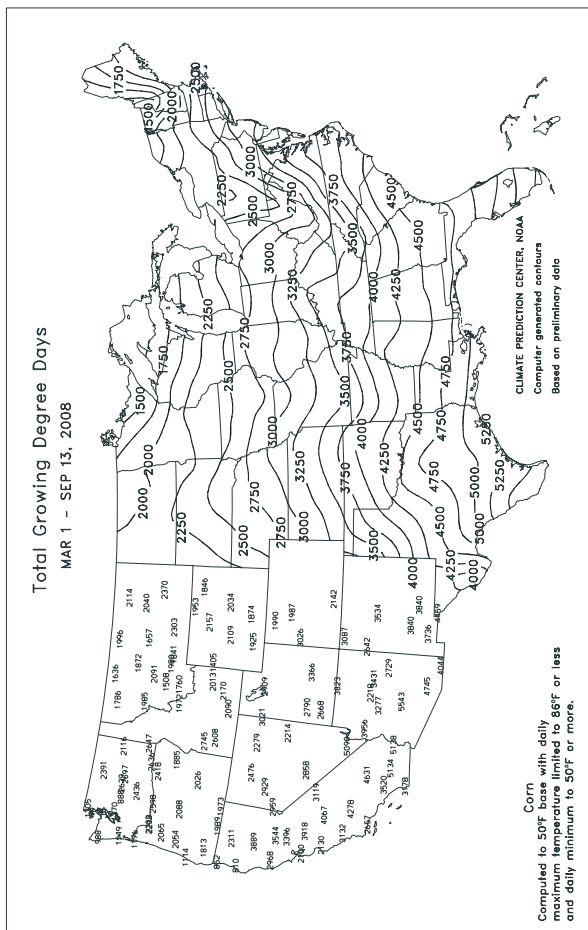
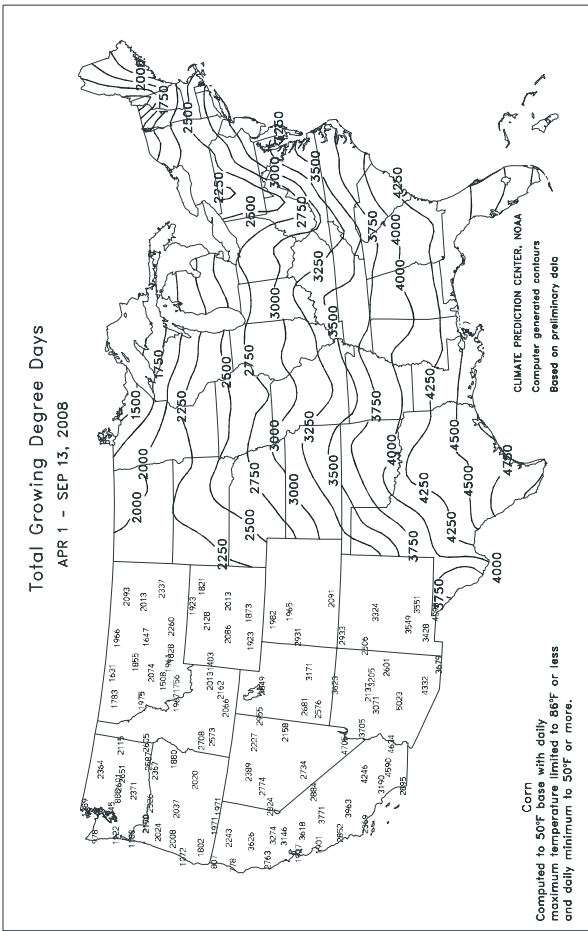
From September 8-10, Hurricane Ike grazed **southern Florida**, where **Key West** measured 2.31 inches of rain and clocked a wind gust to 60 m.p.h. On September 13, peak gusts in **Texas** from instrumentation that survived the hurricane's final landfall included 102 m.p.h. at **Anahuac Airport (Chambers County)**, 99 m.p.h. at **Sea Rim State Park (Jefferson County)**, and 92 m.p.h. at **Houston's Hobby Airport**. After landfall, Ike accelerated northeastward while merging with a cold front, reaching the **lower Great Lakes region** by the afternoon of September 14. Rainfall records associated with Ike's passage through **Missouri** on September 14 included 4.58 inches in **St. Louis** and 4.43 inches in **Vichy-Rolla**. With Gustav and Ike, **Arkansas** experienced the passage of two former hurricanes in one season for the first time since 1985, when the remnants of Danny and Elena crossed a portion of the state. High winds were observed east of Ike's center in the **Ohio Valley**, where peak gusts in **Ohio** on September 14 reached 75 m.p.h. in **Columbus** and 74 m.p.h. in **Cincinnati**. In parts of the **Midwest**, heavy rain preceded Ike's arrival. On September 13, **Chicago, IL** (6.64 inches), and **South Bend, IN** (6.58 inches), set single-day rainfall records. Former records were 6.49 inches (on August 14, 1987) in **Chicago** and 4.69 inches (on June 25, 1968) in **South Bend**. The 2-day (September 13-14) rainfall in **South Bend** reached 10.65 inches, boosting its monthly total (13.65 inches through September 14) to a record-setting level for September (previously, 9.01 inches in 1977) and any month (previously, 10.86 inches in June 1993). In the rain's wake, record crests were noted in several locations, including the **Little Calumet River at Munster, IN** (5.32 feet above flood stage on September 14; previously, 5.03 feet on November 28, 1990); the **Kankakee River at Shelby, IN** (4.06 feet above flood stage on September 16; previously, 3.98 feet on March 24, 1982); and the **Illinois River at Morris, IL** (8.84 feet above flood stage on September 16; previously, 7.91 feet on July 14, 1957). In **Hermann, MO**, the **Missouri River** (10.44 feet above flood stage on September 16) climbed to its ninth-highest level on record, and highest level since May 19, 1995.

Near- to above-normal temperatures prevailed in **Alaska**, with readings as much as 6°F above normal across the mainland. **Nome** experienced its warmest first 10 days of September on record, including 8 days with highs of 60°F or greater. **Nome's** former September record for days at or above 60°F was 6 days in 1968. **Alaskan** daily-record highs included 65°F (on September 7) in **Kotzebue** and 62°F (on September 9) in **Nome**. Heavy precipitation was confined to **southern Alaska**, where the weekly rainfall total in **Yakutat** reached 7.61 inches. Farther south, mostly dry weather persisted in **Hawaii**, although enough rain fell in **Lihue, Kauai** (0.59 inch on September 12), to result in a daily-record total. Several other locations on **Kauai** and **Oahu** received at least 1 to 2 inches of rain on September 12-13. Nevertheless, **Lihue's** year-to-date rainfall through September 13 stood at just 10.41 inches (43 percent of normal).



Daily Weather Records (ASOS & COOP) September 7-13, 2008





Agricultural Weather Data Compiled by USDA's Stoneville Field Office

Weather Data for the Week Ending September 13, 2008

Data Provided by the Mississippi State Delta Research and Extension Center (DREC) and the University of Missouri Commercial Agriculture Program.

STATES AND STATIONS	TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							4-INCH SOIL TEMP. °F		NUMBER OF DAYS			
	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 SEP01	PCT. NORMAL SINCE SEP01	TOTAL, IN., SINCE JAN01	PCT. NORMAL SINCE JAN01	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	TEMP. °F		PRECIP.	
																90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	0.1 INCH OR MORE	5.0 INCH OR MORE
MISSISSIPPI																			
ND TUNICA 1W	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LYON	89	69	95	60	79	-	0.18	-	0.18	3.30	-	-	-	81	75	4	0	1	0
VANCE	86	69	91	62	78	-	0.06	-	0.06	2.81	-	-	-	88	76	1	0	1	0
PERTSHIRE	88	69	93	60	78	-	0.13	-	0.10	4.98	-	-	-	84	76	4	0	2	0
SCOTT	88	70	94	62	79	-	0.26	-	0.20	4.98	-	-	-	82	76	4	0	2	0
SANDY RIDGE	88	70	92	61	79	-	0.17	-	0.11	3.74	-	-	-	89	75	1	0	3	0
NE VERONA	86	69	90	59	78	-	0.96	-	0.96	2.89	-	29.53	-	87	73	1	0	1	1
SD STONEVILLE x	88	69	95	61	79	-2	0.21	-0.54	0.16	10.49	795	45.39	121	87	76	3	0	2	0
INDIANOLA 1S*	90	70	94	61	80	-	0.02	-	0.02	3.39	-	33.70	-	86	77	4	0	1	0
INVERNESS 5E	89	70	93	62	79	-	0.20	-	0.20	3.31	-	32.71	-	88	77	2	0	1	0
SIDON	91	71	94	63	81	-	0.05	-	0.04	3.30	-	-	-	90	78	5	0	2	0
NORTH ISSAQUENA	89	71	94	63	80	-	0.19	-	0.09	11.92	-	-	-	87	78	3	0	3	0
SILVER CITY	89	71	92	63	80	-	0.04	-	0.03	3.36	-	40.09	-	83	75	5	0	2	0
ONWARD	89	71	93	63	80	-	0.15	-	0.15	8.32	-	-	-	90	78	4	0	1	0
MAYDAY	89	70	91	61	80	-	0.00	-	0.00	3.78	-	-	-	86	77	3	0	0	0
MISSOURI																			
NW CORNING	75	57	82	40	65	-5	3.10	2.42	2.21	3.45	231	23.70	88	-	-	0	0	6	2
ALBANY	72	56	76	42	64	-5	4.68	4.06	2.43	6.39	544	31.89	117	69	63	0	0	6	4
ST. JOSEPH	71	58	75	44	64	-6	5.09	4.19	1.92	7.17	439	33.40	121	-	-	0	0	6	3
NC LINNEUS	72	56	77	41	64	-6	8.86	8.17	4.10	11.81	1059	51.91	189	70	63	0	0	6	3
BRUNSWICK	73	58	80	47	66	-4	3.67	3.08	1.86	6.36	666	39.36	140	73	67	0	0	6	3
NE NOVELTY	71	56	76	43	64	-6	4.37	3.72	1.76	6.72	633	48.52	188	72	63	0	0	6	3
MONROE CITY	73	57	77	49	65	-6	4.36	3.56	2.92	8.69	717	46.17	175	71	64	0	0	5	2
WC GREEN RIDGE	76	59	82	52	67	-4	5.02	4.30	2.76	9.94	777	44.34	150	70	66	0	0	3	3
C AUXVASSE	75	58	79	50	66	-5	6.03	5.37	3.23	9.95	873	53.61	192	70	66	0	0	4	2
SANBORN FIELD	76	59	80	52	67	-5	4.96	4.18	2.95	8.13	670	49.10	165	76	67	0	0	3	2
WILLIAMSBURG	77	59	83	50	67	-4	3.38	2.64	1.85	6.81	524	43.87	135	71	63	0	0	4	2
COLUMBIA	76	59	81	51	67	-4	5.32	4.60	3.29	8.96	778	49.15	166	-	-	0	0	3	2
VERSAILLES	78	60	85	53	68	-4	2.45	1.70	2.30	7.46	578	47.25	159	72	68	0	0	3	1
EC COOK STATION	81	62	89	50	70	-1	0.07	-0.77	0.06	4.23	331	43.99	147	73	70	0	0	2	0
SW LAMAR	78	62	87	56	70	-3	4.49	3.57	4.25	8.84	579	53.34	160	74	70	0	0	3	1
SC MOUNTAIN GROVE	79	63	85	55	70	-1	1.06	0.19	0.59	5.36	395	43.64	132	75	68	0	0	3	1
SE DELTA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CHARLESTON	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GLENNONVILLE	85	66	90	59	75	1	0.00	-0.28	0.00	1.19	157	30.07	105	82	71	1	0	0	0
CLARKTON	87	64	93	57	74	0	0.00	-0.26	0.00	1.25	157	29.27	99	85	71	3	0	0	0
PORTAGEVILLE DC	86	66	90	59	75	1	0.00	-0.54	0.00	1.20	113	32.09	103	84	71	2	0	0	0
PORTAGEVILLE LF	87	67	93	58	76	2	0.00	-0.66	0.00	0.73	61	30.63	97	85	71	2	0	0	0
STEELE	86	66	91	58	75	0	0.00	-0.54	0.00	0.94	88	32.15	97	88	74	2	0	0	0
CARDWELL	87	65	92	58	75	0	0.00	-0.53	0.00	1.46	149	31.14	99	78	73	3	0	0	0

Compiled by USDA/OCE/WAOB's Stoneville Field Office. * Beasley Lake. X Based on 1971-2000 normals. - Sufficient data not available

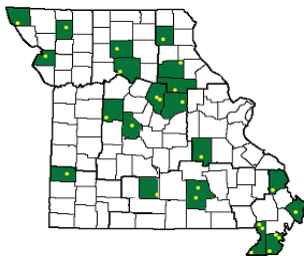
Data are preliminary and subject to revision.

Mississippi: ND = Northern Delta; NE = Northeastern Mississippi; EC = East Central Mississippi; SD = Southern Delta.

Missouri: NW = Northwest; NC = North Central; NE = Northeast; WC = West Central; C = Central; EC = East Central; SW = Southwest; SE = Southeast.

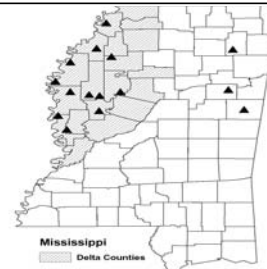
Weather and Crop Summary for the Mississippi Delta: Occasional cloudiness and periods of near- to above-normal temperatures were mixed with episodes of light to moderate rain. At week's end, the main weather focus surrounded the approach of Hurricane Ike. Ike made landfall along the upper Texas Coast, but inland tropical storm warnings, lake-wind advisories, and flash flood watches were issued for parts of the Delta, as gusty winds, showers, and local downpours affected some areas.

Missouri Weather Stations



Note: For information on the weather stations in Missouri, please visit: <http://agebb.missouri.edu/weather/stations/index.htm>

Mississippi Weather Stations



Note: For information on the weather stations in Mississippi, please visit: http://www.deltaweather.msstate.edu/maps/weather_station_map.htm

August Crop Summary

Summary provided by USDA/NASS

Corn silking was 93 percent complete by August 10, five percentage points behind last year and 3 points behind the 5-year average. Other than in Colorado, Michigan, and Pennsylvania, the crop was silking at or behind the average pace. Early in the month, development to the dough stage was behind the normal pace in most States. Development was more than 30 points behind normal in Indiana and Missouri on August 10. In Colorado and North Carolina, however, development to the dough stage was 2 points ahead of the average pace. As the month went on, most State's development continued to lag the normal pace. Major advancement occurred during the last week of the month in Colorado, Iowa, Minnesota, and North Dakota. By month's end, acreage at the dough stage reached 83 percent, 12 and 8 points behind last year and the 5-year average, respectively. Acreage in Colorado was developing ahead of the 5-year average while development in all other States remained at or behind the average pace. Development to the denting stage reached 14 percent by August 17, twenty-four percentage points behind last year and 16 points behind the 5-year average. A major delay was evident in Missouri, where acreage was reaching the dent stage 42 points behind normal. Other than in Colorado, where progress was ahead by 4 points, all other States were at or behind the 5-year average. Development was most advanced in Tennessee and North Carolina. By month's end, 45 percent of the acreage had reached the dent stage, 30 and 20 points behind last year and the 5-year average, respectively. Colorado, Michigan, and Pennsylvania were ahead of the 5-year average, but all other States were behind. By August 31, six percent of the Nation's corn acreage was mature. More than half of the crop was mature in Texas and North Carolina, and the crop was beginning to mature in all States except Indiana, Minnesota, North Dakota, and Wisconsin. At the beginning of the month, 66 percent of the acreage was rated good to excellent. Ratings were stable during the first half of the month, but declined later as dry weather set in. By the end of the month, 61 percent of the crop was rated good to excellent.

By August 3, sorghum coloring had occurred on 30 percent of the acreage, 5 points behind last year's pace but 1 point ahead of the 5-year average. Coloring was occurring well ahead of schedule in Colorado as ideal conditions allowed for rapid development, while in New Mexico and Texas, development was ahead by no more than 7 points. Elsewhere, acreage was coloring behind the 5-year average pace. By August 31, coloring reached 55 percent complete, 13 points behind last year and 3 points behind the 5-year average. Coloring was complete in Louisiana, and remained 55 points ahead of the 5-year average in Colorado. Sixty-four percent of the sorghum crop was heading by August 10, thirteen points behind last year and 7 points behind the 5-year average. Heading progress was at or behind the 5-year average, in all States except Colorado. As the month continued, development in New Mexico jumped ahead of the 5-year average. By month's end, 88 percent of the crop was headed, 8 points behind last year and 2 points behind the 5-year average. Early in the month, sorghum was maturing in the Delta and southern Great Plains. Reaching 24 percent nationwide, development was the same as last year but 2 points ahead of the 5-year average. The crop matured slowly throughout the month, with only 30 percent mature by month's end, compared with 34 percent last year and 31 percent for the 5-year average. Harvest activities were evident throughout the Delta and southern Great Plains by August 24. Acreage was 23 percent harvested nationwide, 2 points ahead of last year and 1 point ahead of the 5-year average. Producers had harvested more than half of the crop in Louisiana and Texas, but were only beginning in Arkansas and Oklahoma. Half of the crop was rated good to excellent at the beginning of August. As the month progressed, conditions improved, then declined, resulting in a condition rating of 51 percent, by month's end, 1 point better than early August.

Oat producers had harvested 54 percent of the crop by August 10, twenty-four points behind last year and 14 points behind the 5-year average. By month's end, 96 percent of the crop was harvested, 3 points behind last year and the same as the 5-year average. On August 10, fifty-five percent of the crop was rated good to excellent.

Barley producers had harvested 22 percent of their acreage by August 10, thirty-three points behind last year and 15 points behind the 5-year average. Progress was behind in all States, most significantly in Minnesota. By month's end, harvest progress reached 79 percent complete, 16 points behind last year and 6 points behind the 5-year average. Progress in Minnesota and North Dakota was ahead of the average pace. Fifty-two percent of the barley crop was rated good to excellent on August 24, the final rating of the season.

Harvest of the 2008 winter wheat crop had progressed to 92 percent complete by August 10, five points behind last year and 3 points behind the 5-year average. A cool spring and early summer kept harvest progress well behind normal in Idaho and Montana. By August 17, 95 percent of the crop was harvested, 4 points behind the 5-year average. At that time, harvest was complete in most States, with significant activity limited to Idaho, Montana, and Washington, where progress remained well behind the average pace.

Spring wheat harvest was 16 percent complete by August 10, twenty-eight points behind last year and 20 points behind the 5-year average. Delays were evident in all States until the last week of the month. Early in the month, producers in South Dakota faced the most significant delay. However, by month's end, progress in Idaho and Washington trailed well behind the 5-year average pace. Condition of the spring wheat crop was rated 55 percent good to excellent on August 24.

Rice heading had occurred on 60 percent of the acreage by August 10, eighteen points behind last year and 15 points behind the 5-year average. Heading was more than 15 points behind in Arkansas, Mississippi, and Missouri. By August 31, heading reached 94 percent and was only 3 points behind last year and the 5-year average, within 5 points of the average in all States. Rice harvest was just getting underway by August 17 with 8 percent of the acreage harvested, 2 points behind last year and the 5-year average. By month's end, only 12 percent of the crop had been harvested, 11 points behind last year and 8 points behind the 5-year average. Harvest in Louisiana was significantly delayed, trailing the average by 30 percentage points. Rice condition was rated 70 percent good to excellent on August 31.

Soybean blooming was 88 percent complete by August 10, six points behind the 5-year average and by August 24 was nearing completion at 97 percent, just 2 points shy of the 5-year average. Pod-setting advanced to 60 percent complete by August 10, fifteen points behind the 5-year average, and reached 94 percent complete by month's end, only 3 points behind normal. The soybean condition was rated 63 percent good to excellent on August 10, and declined as the month progressed. By August 31, the crop was rated 57 percent good to excellent.

Peanuts were pegging on 94 percent of the acreage by August 10, four points ahead of last year but the same as the 5-year average. By August 17, pegging was 98 percent complete, 1 point ahead of the 5-year average. Pegging was virtually complete in every State, except Alabama. As of August 31, sixty-three percent of the crop was rated in good to excellent condition.

Cotton squaring was nearly complete by August 10, one point behind the 5-year average. Boll-setting was nearly three-fourths complete by August 10, and was delayed 8 points when compared with the 5-year average pace. By August 31, ninety-four percent of the acreage was setting bolls, 2 points behind last year and 3 points behind the 5-year average. Nationwide, 9 percent of the acreage had open bolls on August 10, the same as the 5-year average. Moving a few percentage points each week, 21 percent of the acreage had open bolls by month's end, 7 points behind average. Development in the top producing States was delayed. The percentage of the crop rated in good to excellent condition increased 5 points from early August, reaching 50 percent by August 31.

Summer Weather Review

Review provided by USDA/WAOB

Highlights: The tropics were quite active, with four consecutive named Atlantic Basin storms striking the U.S. between July 23 (Hurricane Dolly in southern Texas) and September 1 (Hurricane Gustav in south-central Louisiana). Other systems were Tropical Storms Edouard (August 5 in Texas) and Fay (August 18-23 in Florida). However, Midwestern flooding was a commanding highlight in June, when overwhelmed tributaries of the Mississippi River surged to record levels in parts of the central Corn Belt. Meanwhile, significant areas of summer drought included the Southeast (for the second or third year in a row), parts of the High Plains, and the Far West (a lag effect from two consecutive dry winters)—including much of California and the Great Basin. Ironically, the previously drenched Midwest experienced a marked August drying trend, reducing topsoil moisture and increasing stress on late-developing, shallow-rooted crops. However, Midwestern corn and soybeans also escaped the entire growing season with little or no heat stress. In fact, near- to below-normal summer temperatures were common across the Plains, Midwest, and Northeast. June-August temperatures averaged only slightly above normal across the South, with extreme heat (summer readings as much as 2 to 4°F above normal) confined to interior California, the Great Basin, and the Desert Southwest.

June: Torrential Midwestern rainfall in late May and early June pushed rivers to record-setting levels in parts of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, and Wisconsin. On June 17, the Mississippi River from Keithsburg, Illinois, to Burlington, Iowa, surpassed crest records set in July 1993. Farther downstream, the Mississippi burst through several levees in Illinois, Iowa, and Missouri while climbing to its second- or third-highest level on record, behind July 1993 and April 1973, from Keokuk, Iowa (crested on June 17), to Winfield, Missouri (June 27). Many Mississippi River tributaries also flooded, with the Cedar River at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, surging 19.12 feet above flood stage on June 13 and eclipsing the previous record crest by a stunning 11.12 feet. Record flooding was also observed in several other watersheds, including parts of Indiana's White River basin, Iowa's Iowa River basin, and Wisconsin's Kickapoo and Rock River basins. Heavy rain also pelted the east-central and southeastern Plains, although those areas avoided major flooding. Nevertheless, rain slowed fieldwork, including winter wheat harvesting. In contrast, crop conditions took a turn for the worse across the southern half of the High Plains, in spite of occasional showers, due to hot weather and pre-existing sub-soil moisture shortages. Crops and pastures also deteriorated during June across much of the South. Drought intensified in the western Gulf Coast region, including southern Texas, while showers were insufficient to prevent stress on rain-fed crops in most areas from the lower Mississippi Valley into the Southeast. Crop areas from Alabama to the Carolinas were especially vulnerable to drought stress due to lingering sub-soil moisture deficiencies following last year's drought. However, much-needed precipitation developed across Florida, where rainfall curbed irrigation demands and reduced the wildfire threat. In California, however, a rash of lightning strikes on June 20-21 ignited more than 800 wildfires. For the remainder of the month, more than two dozen large wildfire

complexes shrouded northern and central California in smoke. Elsewhere in the West, late-month heat replaced cool conditions, especially across the northern half of the region. Although the heat promoted crop growth, topsoil moisture shortages stressed some Northwestern small grains.

Monthly temperatures ranged from more than 5°F above normal at several locations in Texas, the Southeast, and the Desert Southwest to as much as 5°F below normal on the northern Plains.

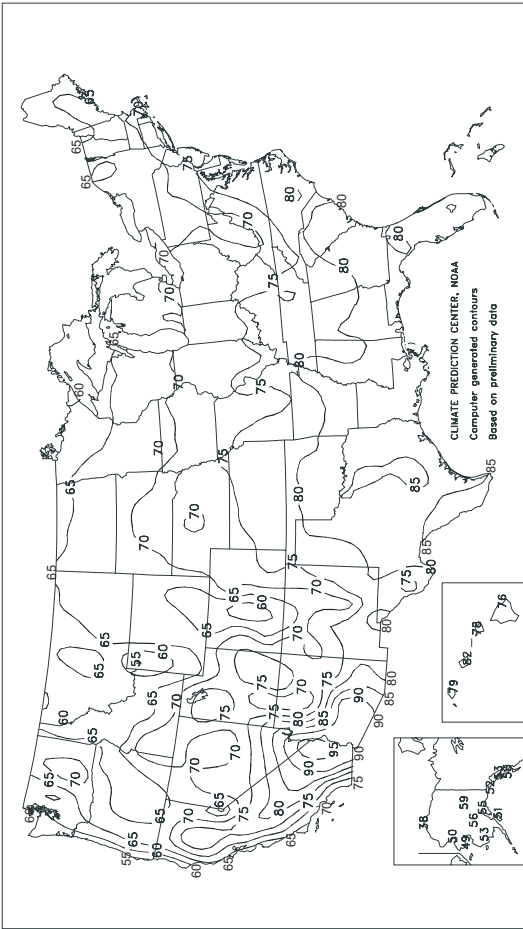
July: Abundant rainfall and near- to below-normal temperatures provided nearly ideal conditions for Midwestern corn and soybeans, many of which entered the reproductive stage of development during July. During the 5-week period from June 29 to August 3, nearly three-quarters (74 percent) of the nation's soybeans began to bloom, while 80 percent of the corn began to silk. Meanwhile, intensifying heat across the South increased stress on pastures and summer crops. Locally heavy showers tempered the effects of late-month heat in the Southeast, but growing conditions deteriorated for rain-fed crops under a hot, dry weather regime from central and eastern Texas into the lower Mississippi Valley. Hurricane Dolly, which made landfall on July 23 on South Padre Island, Texas, as a low-end Category 2 storm with maximum sustained winds near 100 m.p.h., was the only tropical system to directly strike the U.S. during July. (Tropical Storm Cristobal grazed North Carolina's Outer Banks on July 20 with few impacts.) Despite rapidly weakening once inland, Dolly caused wind damage and triggered flash flooding across Deep South Texas, where as much as a foot of rain fell. After curving northward into New Mexico, Dolly's circulation lost its identity on July 28 while approaching the southern High Plains. Despite locally heavy showers on the Plains, several areas remained very dry. In particular, developing or intensifying drought on the northern and central High Plains increased stress on pastures and summer crops. However, dryness in those same areas promoted small grain maturation and harvesting. Elsewhere, heavy rain pounded much of Arizona and New Mexico, while hot, mostly dry weather covered much of the remainder of the West. Rainfall in New Mexico was further enhanced in late July as the remnants of Dolly were absorbed into the monsoon circulation. In contrast, some Northwestern small grains were adversely affected by drought, although dryness favored winter wheat maturation and harvesting. In northern California and parts of the Northwest, wildfires remained a periodic threat.

Despite building heat in late July, near-normal monthly temperatures were observed across the central and southern Plains and the South. Meanwhile, Midwestern summer crops experienced near- to below-normal temperatures and little or no heat stress. Farther west, however, July temperatures averaged as much as 5°F above normal across the Intermountain region. In contrast, monsoonal showers suppressed temperatures in Arizona and New Mexico.

August: *A complete review appeared in last week's Bulletin.*

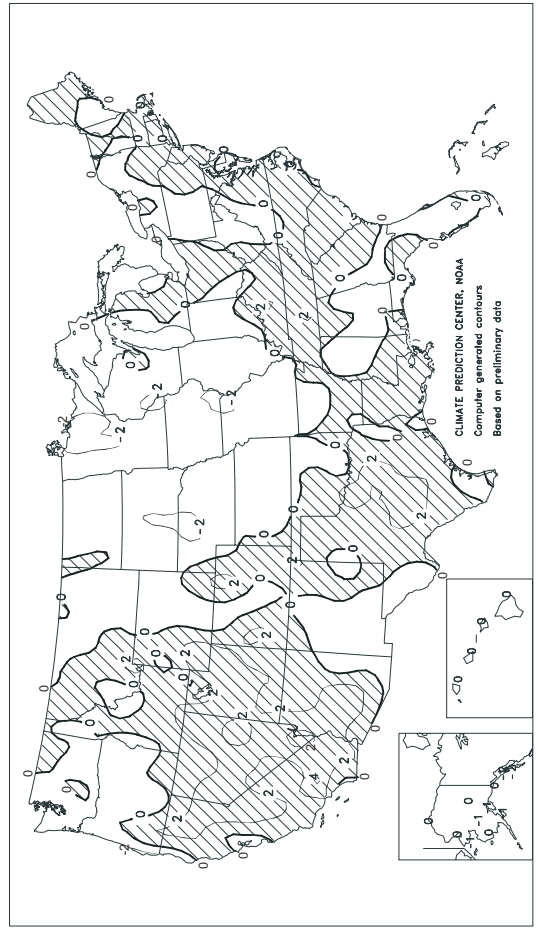
Average Temperature (°F)

JUN - AUG 2008



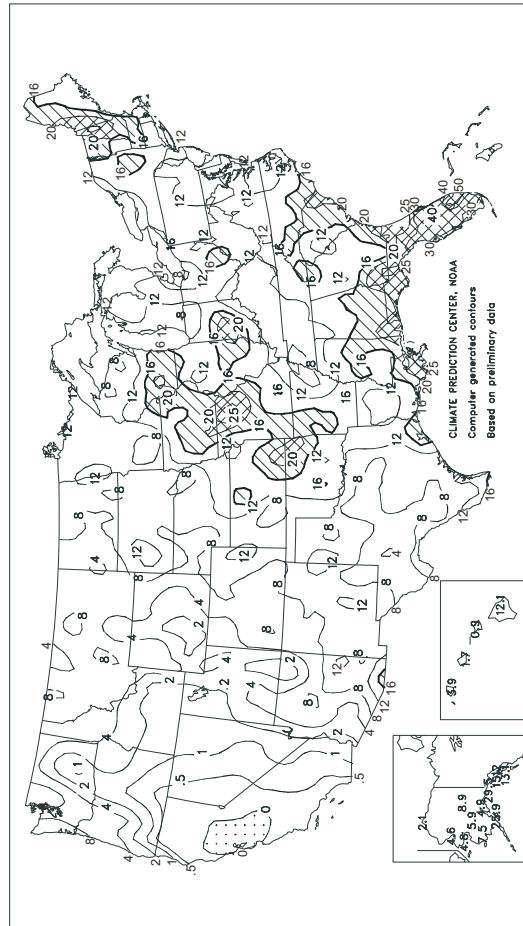
Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F)

JUN - AUG 2008



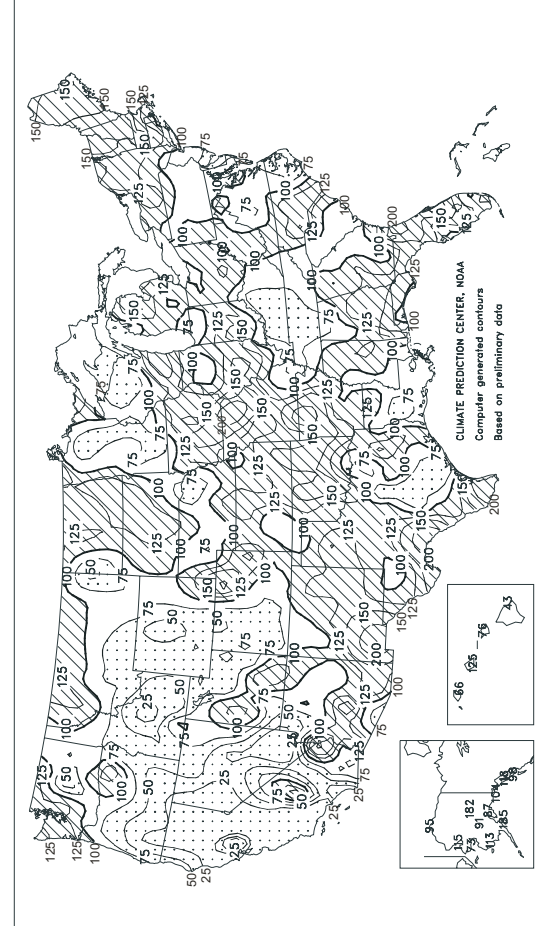
Total Precipitation (Inches)

JUN - AUG 2008



Percent Of Normal Precipitation

JUN - AUG 2008



Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending September 14, 2008

Weekly U.S. Progress and Condition Tables provided by USDA/NASS

Corn Percent Dough				
	Sep 14	Prev	Prev	5-Yr
	2008	Week	Year	Avg
CO	100	98	98	94
IL	98	95	100	100
IN	97	94	100	100
IA	92	82	99	99
KS	100	97	100	100
KY	100	99	100	100
MI	93	90	99	93
MN	97	94	100	97
MO	95	92	100	100
NE	97	94	100	99
NC	100	100	100	100
ND	89	82	100	95
OH	100	92	99	99
PA	94	90	98	94
SD	98	93	100	99
TN	100	100	100	100
TX	99	98	100	100
WI	84	76	97	91
18 Sts	96	91	100	98
These 18 States planted 91% of last year's corn acreage.				

Corn Percent Mature				
	Sep 14	Prev	Prev	5-Yr
	2008	Week	Year	Avg
CO	34	11	31	26
IL	16	4	81	58
IN	19	8	54	42
IA	11	3	61	45
KS	41	28	78	72
KY	74	61	90	80
MI	16	10	38	23
MN	6	2	61	31
MO	30	17	82	82
NE	9	5	41	30
NC	95	84	99	93
ND	2	1	39	28
OH	18	10	25	19
PA	32	25	48	36
SD	7	2	37	28
TN	76	58	100	92
TX	67	66	84	83
WI	8	5	30	19
18 Sts	19	11	58	44
These 18 States planted 91% of last year's corn acreage.				

Winter Wheat Percent Planted				
	Sep 14	Prev	Prev	5-Yr
	2008	Week	Year	Avg
AR	0	NA	1	1
CA	5	NA	7	2
CO	34	NA	19	30
ID	14	NA	21	14
IL	1	NA	1	1
IN	0	NA	0	1
KS	5	NA	6	9
MI	2	NA	2	4
MO	0	NA	1	1
MT	7	NA	23	21
NE	18	NA	30	31
NC	0	NA	0	1
OH	0	0	0	0
OK	11	NA	10	17
OR	15	NA	12	8
SD	18	NA	29	28
TX	8	NA	7	20
WA	35	NA	47	39
18 Sts	11	NA	12	16
These 18 States planted 90% of last year's winter wheat acreage.				

Corn Percent Dented				
	Sep 14	Prev	Prev	5-Yr
	2008	Week	Year	Avg
CO	80	57	73	72
IL	77	60	98	96
IN	77	61	93	89
IA	71	50	95	92
KS	94	85	98	97
KY	93	85	98	96
MI	78	68	83	71
MN	81	61	99	87
MO	81	72	98	98
NE	85	70	97	91
NC	99	96	100	99
ND	55	34	90	80
OH	83	63	89	85
PA	70	62	81	76
SD	81	63	93	87
TN	100	98	100	100
TX	95	90	100	98
WI	48	31	84	69
18 Sts	78	62	95	89
These 18 States planted 91% of last year's corn acreage.				

Soybeans Percent Dropping Leaves				
	Sep 14	Prev	Prev	5-Yr
	2008	Week	Year	Avg
AR	12	8	42	38
IL	7	2	52	39
IN	32	18	57	48
IA	16	5	46	44
KS	21	9	37	39
KY	16	7	41	24
LA	57	52	76	67
MI	28	11	21	25
MN	18	5	71	49
MS	51	40	81	82
MO	5	2	24	24
NE	13	3	22	27
NC	11	6	18	14
ND	30	12	66	52
OH	37	20	47	41
SD	43	26	56	59
TN	36	23	69	45
WI	27	5	33	34
18 Sts	21	10	48	41
These 18 States planted 95% of last year's soybean acreage.				

Spring Wheat Percent Harvested				
	Sep 14	Prev	Prev	5-Yr
	2008	Week	Year	Avg
ID	91	75	99	97
MN	97	87	100	91
MT	86	82	99	94
ND	91	87	99	93
SD	100	100	100	100
WA	96	83	100	100
6 Sts	92	87	99	94
These 6 States harvested 99% of last year's spring wheat acreage.				

Barley Percent Harvested				
	Sep 14	Prev	Prev	5-Yr
	2008	Week	Year	Avg
ID	85	67	99	94
MN	99	95	100	96
MT	81	76	100	96
ND	100	97	100	97
WA	95	75	100	100
5 Sts	92	85	100	96
These 5 States harvested 85% of last year's barley acreage.				

Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending September 14, 2008

Weekly U.S. Progress and Condition Tables provided by USDA/NASS

Cotton Percent Bolls Opening				
	Sep 14	Prev	Prev	5-Yr
	2008	Week	Year	Avg
AL	61	53	68	63
AZ	80	70	76	78
AR	60	28	84	73
CA	41	25	51	48
GA	53	37	39	56
KS	16	15	11	20
LA	84	65	84	83
MS	58	39	88	83
MO	46	28	92	60
NC	57	35	82	62
OK	41	29	30	44
SC	39	19	51	44
TN	45	25	94	61
TX	22	21	31	34
VA	54	31	78	70
15 Sts	40	29	52	50
These 15 States planted 99% of last year's cotton acreage.				

Cotton Percent Harvested				
	Sep 14	Prev	Prev	5-Yr
	2008	Week	Year	Avg
AL	1	NA	4	4
AZ	15	NA	9	5
AR	0	NA	8	4
CA	0	NA	0	0
GA	1	NA	0	2
KS	0	NA	0	0
LA	5	NA	1	11
MS	0	NA	4	9
MO	0	NA	18	4
NC	0	NA	1	0
OK	0	NA	0	0
SC	0	NA	0	0
TN	0	NA	4	2
TX	14	NA	8	16
VA	0	NA	0	0
15 Sts	7	NA	6	9
These 15 States harvested 99% of last year's cotton acreage.				

Rice Percent Harvested				
	Sep 14	Prev	Prev	5-Yr
	2008	Week	Year	Avg
AR	16	5	38	36
CA	4	0	13	9
LA	73	48	88	90
MS	20	8	62	50
MO	6	0	38	19
TX	91	90	91	93
6 Sts	25	14	44	41
These 6 States harvested 100% of last year's rice acreage.				

Sorghum Percent Headed				
	Sep 14	Prev	Prev	5-Yr
	2008	Week	Year	Avg
AR	100	100	100	100
CO	100	100	100	98
IL	100	100	100	99
KS	95	92	100	98
LA	100	100	100	100
MO	97	96	99	100
NE	100	99	100	99
NM	86	82	86	90
OK	89	80	95	94
SD	100	97	100	100
TX	96	93	100	96
11 Sts	96	93	100	97
These 11 States planted 95% of last year's sorghum acreage.				

Sorghum Percent Coloring				
	Sep 14	Prev	Prev	5-Yr
	2008	Week	Year	Avg
AR	100	97	100	100
CO	96	91	74	60
IL	52	39	95	90
KS	63	52	85	75
LA	100	100	100	100
MO	61	52	80	88
NE	68	45	91	81
NM	49	*45	60	47
OK	59	45	67	68
SD	85	67	93	87
TX	75	73	95	76
11 Sts	71	64	89	77
These 11 States planted 95% of last year's sorghum acreage.				

Sorghum Percent Mature				
	Sep 14	Prev	Prev	5-Yr
	2008	Week	Year	Avg
AR	89	79	100	95
CO	41	20	36	25
IL	5	0	82	55
KS	10	5	17	21
LA	100	100	100	99
MO	23	10	38	47
NE	1	0	12	13
NM	2	1	5	5
OK	25	20	17	30
SD	5	2	33	24
TX	67	66	84	66
11 Sts	38	34	49	43
These 11 States planted 95% of last year's sorghum acreage.				

Sorghum Percent Harvested				
	Sep 14	Prev	Prev	5-Yr
	2008	Week	Year	Avg
AR	28	10	85	73
CO	3	0	4	1
IL	0	0	16	6
KS	0	0	2	6
LA	86	74	92	93
MO	4	1	12	15
NE	0	0	0	0
NM	0	0	0	0
OK	11	8	6	13
SD	0	0	2	1
TX	66	65	79	62
11 Sts	29	28	37	32
These 11 States harvested 96% of last year's sorghum acreage.				

Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending September 14, 2008

Weekly U.S. Progress and Condition Tables provided by USDA/NASS

Corn Crop Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
CO	5	11	30	32	22
IL	3	6	25	52	14
IN	3	11	31	43	12
IA	3	9	25	48	15
KS	3	8	30	49	10
KY	2	10	21	39	28
MI	7	14	29	35	15
MN	5	9	24	52	10
MO	4	15	34	38	9
NE	2	4	17	55	22
NC	25	26	30	15	4
ND	2	6	23	55	14
OH	9	19	37	29	6
PA	1	13	22	45	19
SD	2	4	17	51	26
TN	3	15	34	42	6
TX	16	16	26	38	4
WI	7	15	32	39	7
18 Sts	4	9	26	47	14
Prev Wk	4	9	26	47	14
Prev Yr	5	9	23	46	17

Cotton Crop Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
AL	3	12	38	41	6
AZ	0	2	16	67	15
AR	1	10	35	42	12
CA	0	0	5	40	55
GA	4	10	44	35	7
KS	5	10	30	45	10
LA	24	30	39	7	0
MS	7	10	23	42	18
MO	3	8	23	57	9
NC	2	11	33	44	10
OK	4	12	39	35	10
SC	5	11	49	33	2
TN	0	8	33	52	7
TX	9	18	33	31	9
VA	0	19	48	25	8
15 Sts	6	14	33	36	11
Prev Wk	6	14	31	37	12
Prev Yr	7	14	30	37	12

Sorghum Crop Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
AR	0	9	41	38	12
CO	4	13	44	37	2
IL	3	2	17	61	17
KS	2	8	28	51	11
LA	0	11	44	42	3
MO	1	7	39	45	8
NE	0	3	23	56	18
NM	0	32	33	34	1
OK	1	14	31	50	4
SD	3	4	24	53	16
TX	5	14	36	40	5
11 Sts	3	11	32	46	8
Prev Wk	3	11	33	44	9
Prev Yr	2	7	26	50	15

Soybeans Crop Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
AR	4	13	33	37	13
IL	3	6	28	53	10
IN	5	12	36	38	9
IA	3	9	28	47	13
KS	0	4	24	52	20
KY	5	15	27	35	18
LA	20	32	38	10	0
MI	9	16	30	35	10
MN	3	7	25	49	16
MS	6	13	32	37	12
MO	5	16	36	34	9
NE	2	6	23	55	14
NC	2	13	32	43	10
ND	1	5	15	61	18
OH	10	21	39	25	5
SD	1	4	21	51	23
TN	9	17	33	37	4
WI	7	15	30	39	9
18 Sts	4	10	29	45	12
Prev Wk	4	10	29	44	13
Prev Yr	6	11	27	43	13

Rice Crop Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
AR	2	9	30	45	14
CA	0	5	21	60	14
LA	6	22	39	27	6
MS	0	4	11	48	37
MO	0	1	9	49	41
TX	3	3	28	50	16
6 Sts	2	9	27	46	16
Prev Wk	2	8	29	44	17
Prev Yr	0	3	26	51	20

Peanuts Crop Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
AL	2	1	26	54	17
FL	0	0	29	55	16
GA	2	4	29	53	12
NC	0	2	28	60	10
OK	0	2	22	70	6
SC	0	4	23	63	10
TX	1	4	31	61	3
VA	0	12	45	34	9
8 Sts	1	3	29	56	11
Prev Wk	1	3	28	56	12
Prev Yr	7	13	32	37	11

Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending September 14, 2008

Weekly U.S. Progress and Condition Tables provided by USDA/NASS

Pasture and Range Crop Condition by Percent Week Ending Sep 14, 2008											
	VP	P	F	G	EX		VP	P	F	G	EX
AL	4	15	32	40	9	NH	0	0	31	57	12
AZ	2	23	33	30	12	NJ	0	0	70	30	0
AR	0	2	25	54	19	NM	3	8	24	48	17
CA	81	19	0	0	0	NY	0	5	23	59	13
CO	8	20	39	26	7	NC	10	14	37	34	5
CT	0	3	26	59	12	ND	17	26	32	22	3
DE	35	48	13	3	1	OH	17	28	32	21	2
FL	5	5	25	55	10	OK	2	7	32	50	9
GA	4	12	43	38	3	OR	23	32	34	11	0
ID	3	22	42	30	3	PA	13	28	40	15	4
IL	2	6	30	54	8	RI	0	10	30	40	20
IN	11	24	37	25	3	SC	6	21	37	35	1
IA	4	13	32	42	9	SD	1	9	25	50	15
KS	4	8	25	54	9	TN	11	25	38	25	1
KY	29	29	29	12	1	TX	8	15	38	32	7
LA	6	12	46	33	3	UT	9	14	29	41	7
ME	0	0	16	67	17	VT	0	29	28	40	3
MD	3	23	41	30	3	VA	8	23	42	25	2
MA	0	0	25	75	0	WA	10	28	38	22	2
MI	13	28	31	24	4	WV	3	16	40	40	1
MN	12	24	33	29	2	WI	11	31	34	22	2
MS	2	4	32	50	12	WY	2	13	44	34	7
MO	1	6	30	54	9	48 Sts	11	16	31	35	7
MT	7	20	38	29	6						
NE	3	11	27	52	7	Prev Wk	11	17	32	34	6
NV	11	20	44	24	1	Prev Yr	16	18	27	31	8

VP - Very Poor; P - Poor;
F - Fair;
G - Good; EX - Excellent

NA - Not Available
* Revised

National crop conditions for selected States are weighted based on the year 2007 planted acres.

National Agricultural Summary

September 8 - 14, 2008

Weekly National Agricultural Summary provided by USDA/NASS

Corn: Hurricane Ike moved through southern areas of the Corn Belt, accompanied by a band of heavy rain. Significant rain associated with a cold front preceded Ike's arrival from eastern Kansas into the Great Lakes region. Temperatures remained below average to the west of the band of rain, but were above normal to the east. Nationally, 96 percent of the corn acreage had reached the dough stage, 4 points behind last year and 2 points behind the 5-year average. Progress in all States was within 7 points of normal. By week's end, 78 percent of the Nation's acreage had reached the dent stage, 17 points behind last year and 11 points behind the 5-year average. Denting was complete in Tennessee and was nearly complete in North Carolina and Texas. In Colorado and Michigan, the crop was reaching the dent stage ahead of the 5-year average. Elsewhere, the crop was developing at or behind the normal pace. Nationally, 19 percent of the corn acreage had reached maturity, 39 points behind last year and 25 percentage points behind the 5-year average. In Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, and Missouri, corn development was more than 30 points behind average. Corn was developing to maturity 42 and 52 points behind normal in Illinois and Missouri, respectively. Corn condition was rated 61 percent good to excellent, unchanged from last week.

Soybeans: Heavy rain fell from Kansas northeastward to the Great Lakes, with more than 6 inches observed across much of the region. Elsewhere, lighter amounts fell over the remainder of the soybean-growing area. Leaf dropping had occurred on 21 percent of the national soybean acreage, 27 points behind last year and 20 points behind the 5-year average. Leaf-dropping was occurring behind average in all States except Michigan, where development was 3 points ahead of the 5-year average. In Illinois, Minnesota, and Mississippi, the crop was developing more than 30 points behind normal. Condition of the crop was rated 57 percent good to excellent, unchanged from the previous week.

Winter Wheat: Heavy rains fell from the Low Plains of Texas northward through portions of Oklahoma and Kansas. Producers had planted 11 percent of their winter wheat acreage, 1 point behind last year and 5 points behind the 5-year average. Below-average temperatures over major winter wheat-producing areas of the country kept planting activities behind schedule. In Montana, Nebraska, South Dakota, and Texas, planting was 10 or more points behind normal. Elsewhere, planting was within 7 points of the usual pace.

Cotton: The Delta region was spared a direct hit from Hurricane Ike, but did receive some rainfall. Temperatures in the region remained within 4 degrees F of normal. West of the Mississippi River, cooler-than-average temperatures persisted.

Boll opening had occurred on 40 percent of the nation's cotton acreage, 12 points behind last year and 10 points behind the 5-year average. In Arkansas and Mississippi, development was 13 and 25 points behind the 5-year average, respectively. Meanwhile in Louisiana, bolls were opening 1 point ahead of normal. Nationally, producers had harvested 7 percent of the cotton crop by week's end, 1 point ahead of last year's pace but 2 points behind the 5-year average. Harvest progress was most advanced in Arizona and Texas. Condition of the cotton crop was rated 47 percent good to excellent, a 2-point decline from the previous week.

Sorghum: Major sorghum-producing areas of Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas received up to 10 inches of rainfall during the week. Nationally, 96 percent of the sorghum acreage was at or beyond heading, 4 points behind last year and 1 point behind the 5-year average. Heading was complete or nearly complete except in New Mexico and Oklahoma. Seventy-one percent of the national acreage was coloring or beyond, 18 points behind last year and 6 points behind the 5-year average. Acreage reaching maturity, at 38 percent, lagged 11 points behind last year and 5 points behind the 5-year average. Major delays were evident in Illinois, where development was 50 points behind the 5-year average. Nationally, producers had harvested 29 percent of the sorghum acreage, 8 points behind last year and 3 points behind the 5-year average. Harvest in Arkansas was 45 points behind average. Elsewhere, harvest was within 11 points of normal. Fifty-four percent of the crop was rated good to excellent, 1 point better than the previous week.

Rice: One-quarter of the nation's rice acreage had been harvested, 19 points behind last year and 16 points behind the 5-year average. The most significant delays were in Arkansas and Mississippi, where producers were harvesting 20 and 30 points behind the 5-year average, respectively. Rice condition was rated 62 percent good to excellent, 1 point better than a week ago.

Small Grains: Barley producers had harvested 92 percent of the crop, 8 points behind last year and 4 points behind the 5-year average. Other than in Montana, where harvest was 15 points behind the 5-year average, harvest was within 9 points of normal in all States.

Spring wheat harvest reached 92 percent complete, 7 points behind last year and 2 points behind the 5-year average. Harvest was within 8 points of the average pace in all States.

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: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Topsoil moisture 4% very short, 19% short, 70% adequate, 7% surplus. Corn 98% mature, 98% 2007, 97% avg.; 52% harvested, 65% 2007, 61% avg. Soybean condition 8% very poor, 18% poor, 34% fair, 35% good, 5% excellent; 96% setting pods, 99% 2007, 98% avg.; 43% dropping leaves, 67% 2007, 51% avg.; 3% harvested, 10% 2007, 7% avg. Livestock condition 0% very poor, 13% poor, 47% fair, 36% good, 4% excellent. Pasture and range condition 4% very poor, 15% poor, 32% fair, 40% good, 9% excellent. The amount of topsoil moisture available in some places declined during the past week despite the beneficial rainfall brought by afternoon thunderstorms that popped up in several locations across the state. Temperatures across the state varied from the mid-seventies to the mid-eighties during the past week, and were well above normal at all reporting weather stations. The majority of weather stations reported receiving some precipitation during the past week. Overall, pastures across Alabama showed some improvement during the past week. Livestock in Alabama continued to show signs of improvement, as pasture grasses continued to provide adequate forage.

ALASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil moisture 100% adequate. Subsoil moisture 5% short, 95% adequate. Barley 50% harvested. Oats 5% harvested with harvested underway in the Fairbanks area. Potatoes 20% harvested. First cutting hay harvest was 98% complete statewide; second cutting was reported as 75% complete with most farms not getting a second cutting this year. Winter supplies of hay were reported as 40% short, 60% adequate statewide. Range and pasture condition 5% poor, 35% fair, 60% good. Wind or rain damage to crops was reported as 95% none, 5% light. The main farm activities for the week were harvesting hay, small grains, potatoes and vegetables, general maintenance.

ARIZONA: Temperatures were mostly below normal across the State for the week ending September 14. Precipitation was reported at 18 of the 22 reporting stations. Eighty percent of the cotton acreage has open bolls. Cotton harvesting is complete on 15 percent of the acreage across the State. Cotton condition in the State varies from fair to excellent. Alfalfa harvest remains active on over three-quarters of the State's acreage. Range and pasture conditions across the State are mostly poor to good.

ARKANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.5. Topsoil moisture 2% short, 50% adequate, 48% surplus. Subsoil moisture 4% short, 61% adequate, 35% surplus. Corn 98% mature, 100% 2007, 99% avg.; 37% harvested, 79% 2007, 80% avg.; condition 1% very poor, 9% poor, 29% fair, 42% good, 19% excellent. Rice 100% headed, 100% 2007, 100% avg. Soybeans 100% setting pods, 100% 2007, 100% avg.; 32% yellowing, 55% 2007, 52% avg.; 7% mature, 30% 2007, 28% avg.; 3% harvested, 20% 2007, 20% avg. There was no significant row crop damage reported due to Hurricane Ike. The corn crop reaching maturity increased 6% last week. Farmers harvested an additional 12% of the corn crop but were more than two weeks behind last year and the 5-year average. Cotton opening bolls made a significant increase of 32% by week's end. Rice farmers harvested 11% more of the crop but were 22% behind 2007 and 20% behind the 5-year average. The entire sorghum crop had changed color by week's end, and sorghum reaching maturity was two weeks behind last year and a week behind the 5-year average. Sorghum harvested was still a considerable 57% behind the previous year and 45% behind the 5-year average. Soybeans yellowing was two weeks behind 2007 and the 5-year average while shedding was 30% behind last year and 26% behind the 5-year average. Soybeans reaching maturity was 23% behind last year and 21% behind the 5-year average. Producers harvested only an additional 1% of the crop by the end of the week, 17% less than both last year and the 5-year average. The crops were in mostly fair to good condition despite the recent weather. Livestock were rated in fair to good condition. Producers continued to be concerned with armyworms in their forage crops. Producers were not able to harvest hay due to wet field conditions and were concerned about the declining quality of already cut hay due to recent excess rainfall. Despite their concerns, pasture and range and hay crops were rated in mostly fair to good condition.

CALIFORNIA: Wheat fields continued to be harvested. Wheat being baled for straw was slowing down. Alfalfa growers were still cutting, windrowing, raking, baling for the production of alfalfa hay. Alfalfa seed

fields were being harvested. Corn for grain and silage continued to be harvested. Cotton fields were in full bloom, setting bolls. Growers continued to look for aphid, mite, lygus in cotton. Rice fields continued to mature while growers were draining the fields. Fall sugar beets were being irrigated and treated to control insects, diseases. Early planted sugar beet fields were still being harvested. Safflower harvest continued. Sudan grass was being harvested for hay, sprayed for worms. Black eye beans were dried for harvest. Grape harvest was on schedule. Thompson, Flame, Black, Crimson Seedless, Autumn Royal, Princess, Lindy Black, Kyoho, Red Globe, Summer Royal table grapes were being harvested. Wine, juice grapes were also picked. Varieties included Alicante Bouchet, Barbera, Cabernet Sauvignon, Carignane, Carnelian, Chardonnay, Grenache, Merlot, Muscat, Sarraz, Zinfandel. Grape raisin harvest continued. Harvest of early pomegranates was still underway. Stone fruit harvest also continued. Autumn Flame, Full Moon, Ivory Princess, Jasper Gem, Jasper Treasure, O'Henry, Rich Lady, September Flame, September Sun, September Snow, Snow Magic, Spring Treat, Summer Zee, Sweet September, Sweet Sun peaches; Angelino, Betty Ann, Ebony Sun, Flavor Fall, Fortune, Friar, Howard Sun, September Yummy plums; Apple Fire, Black Pearl, Dapple Fire, Flavor Treat, Flavor Heart pluots; Autumn Flare, Autumn Bright, Arctic Mist, Arctic Pride, Arctic Snow, August Red, Ruby Bright, September Red, Summer Bright, Summer Fire, Sunny Gun, Zee Fire nectarines were being picked, packed. Gala, Granny Smith apples, Brown Turkey, Mission figs, Asian pears were being harvested. Fall strawberry harvest had begun in Tulare County. Some strawberry blocks were being replanted. Olives were sizing well, though some groves looked to have low yields. Many growers were irrigating where yields looked low to prevent loss. Some groves were not expected to be harvested. Valencia orange harvest remained slow with the bulk of the picking for domestic markets. Navels were developing size. Lemon harvest was underway in the desert regions, with some picking still taking place in the coastal areas. Walnut harvest began in certain orchards. A few walnut growers were still preparing for harvest or applying treatments for pests. Pistachio harvest was also underway with almond harvest still in full swing. In Tulare county, local markets for eggplant, squash, peppers, okra, cucumbers, tomatoes experienced active harvests. However, tomato distribution was dragging, leaving packed volume piling up in cold storage. In Fresno County, garlic, onion harvest was winding down, while bell peppers, processing tomato harvests continued. The carrot harvest began. On Fresno's Westside, fall broccoli was planted, fall lettuce was thinned, asparagus harvest began. Farmers market crops continued, including amaranth, basil, bean varieties, cilantro, cucumbers, daikon, dill, dongua, eggplant, gailon, okra, ona choy, parsley, chili peppers, radishes, sinqua, spinach, summer squashes, sweet corn, swiss chard, tong ho, yam leaf, as well as many varieties of herbs. Fields were weeded, irrigated, fertilized, treated for pest control. Mixed melon, cantaloupe, honeydew, watermelon harvests carried on, pumpkin plants showed good signs of growth, fruit sizing. In Sutter County, honeydew harvest started. Beans were treated for worms, lygus, while melons were treated for worms, weeds. The processing tomato harvest slowed, but beans, cucumbers, melon, squash, seed crops persevered. In Merced County, worm spraying continued for tomatoes. The freezer squash harvest was completed, but fresh market tomato, sweet potato, bell pepper, processing tomato, cantaloupe, honeydew maintained their harvests. Dryland pasture, rangeland forage continued to decline due to the prolonged dry weather, with poor to very poor conditions reported in most areas. Lower-elevation water sources continued to dry out. Fire danger remained high. Beef cattle on dry pasture, rangeland were receiving supplements of hay, other nutrients, herd reduction continued in some areas due to the poor feed, water conditions. Movement of cattle to lower elevations for over-wintering continued. Fall beef cow calving continued, with reportedly good to excellent calving conditions. Irrigated pastures were in good condition. Cooler weather benefited both poultry, dairy production. Sheep were grazing on idle farmland, harvested grain fields, some rangeland in the central part of the state. Honeybees continued to pollinate melon fields in the central area, sunflower, vineseed crops in the north.

COLORADO: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.3. Topsoil moisture 5% very short, 21% short, 64% adequate, 10% surplus. Subsoil moisture 13% very short, 39% short, 43% adequate, 5% surplus. Spring barley 97% harvested, 98% 2007, 96% avg. Dry onions 45% harvested, 52% 2007, 56% avg.;

condition 4% poor, 25% fair, 55% good, 16% excellent. Sugarbeets 2% harvested, 1% 2007, 1% avg.; condition 3% very poor, 4% poor, 19% fair, 45% good 29% excellent. Summer potatoes 35% harvested, 43% 2007, 59% avg.; condition 8% very poor, 8% poor, 15% fair, 53% good, 16% excellent. Fall potatoes 24% harvested 14% 2007, 16% avg.; condition 9% very poor, 9% poor, 28% fair, 42% good, 12% excellent. Dry Beans 30% cut, 40% 2007, 47% avg.; 15% harvested, 17% 2007, 20% avg.; condition 1% very poor, 1% poor, 33% fair, 51% good 14% excellent. Spring wheat 58% harvested, 88% 2007, 90% avg.; condition 5% very poor, 18% poor, 30% fair, 32% good, 15% excellent. Alfalfa 74% 3rd cutting, 71% 2007, 66% avg.; 6% 4th cutting, 4% 2007, 8% avg.; condition 2% very poor, 8% poor, 35% fair, 40% good, 15% excellent. Corn Silage 34% harvested, 51% 2007, 45% avg. Most of Colorado experienced precipitation levels above average for this time of year. Temperatures averaged a little below normal.

DELAWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.2. Topsoil moisture 13% very short, 45% short, 42% adequate, 0% surplus. Subsoil moisture 40% very short, 53% short, 7% adequate, 0% surplus. Hay supplies 1% very short, 28% short, 53% adequate, 18% surplus. Other Hay 3rd cutting 61%, 71% 2007, 87% avg.; 4th cutting 1%, 0% 2007, 10% avg. Alfalfa hay 3rd cutting 98%, 100% 2007, 97% avg.; hay 4th cutting 28%, 35% 2007, 40% avg. Pasture condition 35% very poor, 48% poor, 13% fair, 3% good, 1% excellent. Corn condition 7% very poor, 21% poor, 46% fair, 17% good, 9% excellent; 100% dough, 71% 2007, 91% avg.; 95% dent, 98% 2007, 94% avg.; 75% mature, 77% 2007, 72% avg.; harvested for grain 15%, 18% 2007, 22% avg.; 50% harvested for silage, 0% 2007, 58% avg. Soybean condition 13% very poor, 32% poor, 44% fair, 8% good, 3% excellent; 92% setting pods, 87% 2007, 92% avg.; 26% turning color, 40% 2007, 29% avg.; 19% dropping leaves, 21% 2007, 16% avg. Apple condition 2% very poor, 5% poor, 16% fair, 68% good, 9% excellent. Cantaloupes 96% harvested, 90% 2007, 92% avg. Cucumbers 90% harvested, 85% 2007, 88% avg. Lima Beans 58% harvested, 53% 2007, 63% avg. Potatoes 98% harvested, 78% 2007, 91% avg. Snap beans 89% harvested, 95% 2007, 95% avg. Sweet Corn 93% harvested, 93% 2007, 89% avg. Tomatoes 89% harvested, 90% 2007, 88% avg. Watermelons 95% harvested, 90% 2007, 93% avg. Apples 20% harvested, 41% 2007, 36% avg. Peaches 98% harvested, 94% 2007, 93% avg. Delaware reported continued dry conditions even with rainfall received last Tuesday. Soil moisture was rated short to adequate in Delaware with some still rated very short.

FLORIDA: Topsoil moisture 2% very short, 13% short, 68% adequate, 17% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 9% short, 67% adequate, 23% surplus. Peanuts 8% harvested, 9% 2007, 11% 5-yr avg.; condition 29% fair, 55% good, 16% excellent. Peanut harvesting, began in Jackson County and surrounding counties in Panhandle. Disease, late harvest, rains delayed peanut progress Levy County. Hamilton County harvested corn, worked to recover a few hundred acres damaged by Tropical Storm Fay. Central Florida, farmers baling hay, fields drying out. First cutting for many. Sugarcane near harvesting Lee County. Farmers spraying crop, expect average yields. Soil moisture conditions mostly adequate all areas. Squash planted Hernando County. Tomatoes planted Highland, Hardy counties. Tomato crop not affected by recent storms, looked good. Vegetable preparation good, planting underway Lee County. Growers planting tomatoes, peppers, snap beans, corn. Okra, avocados continued to be marketed. Hurricane Ike, far southwest of coastline in Gulf of Mexico, generated over 2.50 in. rain, Immokalee area. Apopka had 1.50 in. rainfall. All other monitored areas citrus producing counties had half in. or less. Growers, Indian River still dealing with standing water from Tropical Storm Fay. Isolated groves have yellowing of leaves, dying trees, small percentages of fruit drop. Other citrus producing areas back to general maintenance schedules mowing, fertilizing, herbiciding, tree removal, preparing for harvest. Some dryer areas back on regular irrigating schedules. One packinghouse opened, several planning on opening in next two weeks. Citrus season overall is going well with good sizes on oranges, grapefruit. Trees look good, heavy foliage, healthy looking fruit; owners optimistic about good season. Pasture Feed 5% very poor, 5% poor, 25% fair, 55% good, 10% excellent. Cattle Condition 5% poor, 15% fair, 75% good, 5% excellent. Panhandle pasture condition fair to good. Washington County pasture grass grown some, quality declined, cattle condition mostly good. North pasture condition mostly good, condition improved, cattle condition mostly fair to excellent. Central pasture very poor to excellent, most fair to good. Much forage under water, several pastures severely damaged, forage lost. Some damage from loopers, army worms. Sumter County pasture grass growth slowed. Most cattle in good condition. Southwest pasture condition very poor to excellent. Statewide cattle condition poor to excellent, most in good condition.

GEORGIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.6. Topsoil moisture 5% very short, 32% short, 58% adequate, 5% surplus. Soybeans 2% very poor, 12% poor, 44% fair, 37% good, 5% excellent. Soybeans 94% setting pods, 95% 2007, 98% avg.; 10% dropping leaves, 10% 2007, 20% avg. Sorghum 1%

very poor, 8% poor, 39% fair, 49% good, 3% excellent; harvested for grain 37%, 13% 2007, 31% avg. Apples 0% very poor, 4% poor, 13% fair, 28% good, 55% excellent; 18% harvested, 27% 2007, 28% avg. Hay 5% very poor, 17% poor, 45% fair, 31% good, 2% excellent. Pecans 5% very poor, 13% poor, 42% fair, 37% good, 3% excellent. Corn harvested for grain 76%, 77% 2007, 76% avg. Cotton 98% setting bolls, 100% 2007, 100% avg. Peanuts 4% dug, 3% 2007, 7% avg. Rye 1% planted for all purposes, 3% 2007, 3% avg. Other small grains 1% planted. Tobacco 89% harvested, 87% 2007, 96% avg. Red crown rot has appeared in soybeans. A light amount of white mold and some limb rot was reported on some peanuts. Soybeans, pasture and vegetables were returning to a healthy condition after the damages from tropical storm Fay. Lack of rain was reported in some areas of the state. Other activities included digging peanuts and finishing up tobacco.

HAWAII: Days suitable for fieldwork 7. Soil moisture received a boost in some areas from heavy afternoon showers. Overall, soil moisture was adequate in most areas and short in some leeward areas by the end of the week. Banana orchards were in fair to good condition having benefited from showers. Farmers continued to rogue plants in an effort to control the spread of the Banana Bunchy Top virus. Papaya orchards were in fair to good condition. Showers improved the condition of some fields in parts of the Big Island. Spraying continued to slow the pressure from insects. Head cabbage continued to make steady progress. Irrigated fields had good-sized heads, but non-irrigated fields showed smaller-sized heads. Maui's dry onion crop was in fair condition as farmers continued to closely monitor the fall crop. The last commercial sugarcane operation on the island of Kauai announced its closure with the intention of using the land for the production of bio-fuel. All planting activity has stopped and the Kauai company expects to harvest the remaining crop in 18 to 24 months. Hawaii will have one remaining commercial sugarcane company located on the island of Maui. Weather conditions during the week were fair to good for agriculture. Trade wind weather continued to prevail during most of the week resulting in mostly sunny skies in leeward areas and partly cloudy days with some light showers in windward areas. The trade winds subsided over the weekend making the days warm and humid. A trough of low pressure aloft combined with daytime heating result in some heavy downpours developing over the island of Kauai and Oahu during the weekend. The heavy showers interrupted farm activities on both islands. However, the added showers helped to replenish reservoirs and added to soil moisture.

IDAHO: Days suitable for field work 6.9. Topsoil moisture 18% very short, 47% short, 35% adequate, 0% surplus. Field corn harvested for silage 9%, 36% 2007, 28% avg. Onions 30% harvested, 54% 2007, 45% avg. Potato vines killed 56%, 86% 2007, 77% avg.; 7% harvested, 13% 2007, 12% avg. Oats harvested for grain 75%, 99% 2007, 91% avg. Dry peas 99% harvested, 100% 2007, 99% avg. Lentils 95% harvested, 99% 2007, 100% avg. Dry beans 38% harvested, 58% 2007, 52% avg. Peaches 75% harvested, 90% 2007, 93% avg. Alfalfa hay 3rd cutting harvested 67%, 80% 2007, 80% avg.; 4th cutting harvested 19%, 42% 2007, 44% avg. Irrigation water supply 0% very poor, 8% poor, 33% fair, 51% good, 8% excellent. Potato condition 0% very poor, 4% poor, 18% fair, 73% good, 5% excellent. Dry peas harvested are estimated at 99% complete and lentils are estimated at 95% complete, essentially finishing the harvest for these crops. Most crops are still behind normal. The Caribou County extension educator reported that good weather helped farmers catch up on cereal harvest. The Franklin County extension educator reported that much of the corn is not mature yet. Farmers are hoping for a longer season so it can finish maturing. In Southwestern Idaho, the prune and plum harvest is about half complete and the apple harvest is just getting underway.

ILLINOIS: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.1. Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 4% short, 38% adequate, 57% surplus. Alfalfa hay third cutting 90%, 96% 2007, 96% avg. Corn 60% dent, 96% 2007, 88% avg.; 16% mature, 81% 2007, 96% avg.; 3% very poor, 6% poor, 25% fair, 52% good, 14% excellent Soybeans turning yellow 41%, 81% 2007, 72% avg.; 7% shedding leaves, 52% 2007, 39% avg.; 3% very poor, 6% poor, 28% fair, 53% good, 10% excellent. Sorghum 52% coloring, 95% 2007, 90% avg.; 5% mature, 82% 2007, 55% avg.; 3% very poor, 2% poor, 17% fair, 61% good, 17% excellent. Winter wheat. 1% planted, 1% 2007, 1% avg. Streams and rivers are flooding, and soil is totally saturated throughout parts of Illinois. The remnants of Hurricane Ike were felt across the state this past weekend, with heavy winds and consistent rainfall being prevalent. Producers are expecting to wait a few days before entering fields. Cool temperatures were also received with the heavy precipitation this past week. The average temperature was 3.0 degrees below normal. The average weekly precipitation was 3.24 inches above normal.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.8. Topsoil moisture 8% very short, 29% short, 54% adequate, 9% surplus. Subsoil moisture 9% very

short, 34% short, 50% adequate, 7% surplus. Corn 97% dough, 100% 2007, 100% avg.; 77% dented, 93% 2007, 89% avg.; 19% mature, 54% 2007, 42% avg.; condition 3% very poor, 11% poor, 31% fair, 43% good, 12% excellent. Soybeans 32% shedding leaves, 57% 2007, 48% avg.; condition 5% very poor, 12% poor, 36% fair, 38% good, 9% excellent. Tobacco 34% harvested, 34% 2007, 47% avg. Pasture condition 11% very poor, 24% poor, 37% fair, 25% good, 3% excellent. Livestock remain in mostly good condition. Average temperatures ranged from 40 below normal to 60 above normal, with a high of 94o and a low of 38o. Precipitation averaged from 0.17 inches to 8.69 inches. Hurricane Ike was responsible for the rain that fell across many western and central areas of the state. The heaviest rains occurred in north central areas of the state with nearly nine inches being reported while some eastern counties remain very dry. Only a few isolated corn and soybean fields have been harvested at this time. Harvest of seed corn, corn silage, fruit, vegetable crops and tobacco continues.

IOWA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.8. Topsoil moisture 5% very short, 13% short, 68% adequate, 14% surplus. Subsoil moisture 4% very short, 17% short, 67% adequate, 12% surplus. Corn 92% at or beyond the dough stage, 71% dented, 11% mature, condition 3% very poor, 9% poor, 25% fair, 48% good, 15% excellent. Soybeans 58% turning color. 16% dropping leaves, condition 3% very poor, 9% poor, 28% fair, 47% good, 13% excellent. Third cutting of alfalfa is 71% complete. All hay condition 4% very poor, 13% poor, 34% fair, 40% good, 9% excellent. Pasture condition 4% very poor, 13% poor, 32% fair, 42% good, 9% excellent. Heavy rainfall shortened the work week for many Iowa farmers. The precipitation reduced moisture shortages in some areas and produced isolated but significant surpluses in parts of southern and southeastern Iowa. Statewide, topsoil and subsoil moisture supplies were mostly adequate. Cool temperatures and ample moisture supplies promoted forage growth, but wet fields limited hay harvest. Farmers chopped corn silage and harvested seed corn when weather permitted.

KANSAS: Days suitable for field work 2.6. Topsoil moisture 3% very short, 4% short, 63% adequate, 9% surplus. Subsoil moisture 5% very short, 9% short, 68% adequate, 18% surplus. Corn 100% dough stage, 100% 2007, 100% avg. Sorghum 0% harvested, 2% 2007, 6% avg. Sunflowers 69% ray flowers dry, 66% 2007, 71% avg.; 38% bracts yellow, 37% 2007, 46% avg.; condition 5% poor, 21% fair, 67% good, 7% excellent. Cotton 16% bolls opening, 11% 2007, 20% avg.; 0% harvested, 0% 2007 0% avg. Fourth cutting of alfalfa is 55% completed, 63% 2007, 60% avg. Feed grain supplies 3% very short, 9% short, 87% adequate, 1% surplus. Hay and forage supplies 2% very short, 8% short, 80% adequate, 10% surplus. Stock water supplies are 2% very short, 5% short, 83% adequate, and 10% surplus. Primary farm activity involved cutting hay, high moisture corn harvesting, cutting corn and sorghum silage, and preparing for wheat planting.

KENTUCKY: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil moisture 44% very short, 34% short, 22% adequate. Subsoil moisture 41% very short, 40% short, 19% adequate. Farm activities last week included cutting tobacco, harvesting corn, and other general farm work. Burley tobacco cut 73%, 74% last year, 73% average. Dark tobacco 69% cut, 78% last year, 66% average. Tobacco condition 5% very poor, 12% poor, 29% fair, 38% good, 16% excellent. The hay crop condition was rated 17% very poor, 31% poor, 35% fair, 16% good, and 1% excellent. Pasture condition was rated 29% very poor, 29% poor, 29% fair, 12% good and 1% excellent.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.8. Soil moisture 2% short, 46% adequate, 52% surplus. Corn 87% harvested, 95% 2007, 98% avg. Hay 91% second cutting, 98% 2007, 97% avg. Sweet potatoes 15% harvested, 16% 2007, 19% avg. Sugarcane 38% planted, 74% 2007, 79% avg.; 10% very poor, 28% poor, 43% fair, 19% good. Livestock 2% very poor, 10% poor, 38% fair, 45% good, 5% excellent. Vegetables 26% very poor, 17% poor, 42% fair, 14% good, 1% excellent. Range and Pasture 6% very poor, 12% poor, 46% fair, 33% good, 3% excellent.

MARYLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 31% short, 67% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 6% very short, 43% short, 51% adequate, 0% surplus. Hay supplies 5% very short, 11% short, 78% adequate, 6% surplus. Other Hay 3rd cutting 76%, 54% 2007, 62% avg.; 4th cutting 10%, 7% 2007, 7% avg. Alfalfa Hay 3rd cutting 99%, 95% 2007, 93% avg.; 4th cutting 52%, 68% 2007, 46% avg. Pasture condition 3% very poor, 23% poor, 41% fair, 30% good, 3% excellent. Corn condition 2% very poor, 16% poor, 39% fair, 34% good, 9% excellent; 99% dough, 0% 2007, 17% avg.; 88% dent, 94% 2007, 86% avg.; 68% mature, 67% 2007, 57% avg.; harvested for grain 27%, 19% 2007, 12% avg.; 65% harvested for silage, 0% 2007, 48% avg. Soybean condition 20% very poor, 21% poor, 24% fair, 29% good, 6% excellent; 95% setting pods, 86% 2007, 86% avg.; 48% turning color, 44% 2007, 32% avg.; 28% dropping leaves,

15% 2007, 12% avg. Apple condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 17% fair, 79% good, 3% excellent. Cantaloupes 93% harvested, 95% 2007, 93% avg. Cucumbers 91% harvested, 91% 2007, 88% avg. Lima Beans 61% harvested, 63% 2007, 68% avg. Potatoes 100% harvested, 99% 2007, 94% avg. Snap beans 90% harvested, 91% 2007, 93% avg. Sweet Corn 92% harvested, 92% 2007, 92% avg. Tomatoes 91% harvested, 91% 2007, 89% avg. Watermelons 94% harvested, 96% 2007, 92% avg. Apples 59% harvested, 63% 2007, 50% avg. Peaches 98% harvested, 96% 2007, 95% avg. Western and Central portions of Maryland as well as the lower Eastern Shore reported improved field conditions and good crop development following several rain showers over the last week.

MICHIGAN: Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Topsoil 7% very short, 7% short, 46% adequate, 40% surplus. Subsoil 12% very short, 16% short, 45% adequate, 27% surplus. Corn 7% very poor, 14% poor, 29% fair, 35% good, 15% excellent; 41% silage harvested, 55% 2007, 41% avg. Soybeans 9% very poor, 16% poor, 30% fair, 35% good, 10% excellent; 70% turning, 57% 2007, 59% avg. Pasture 13% very poor, 28% poor, 31% fair, 24% good, 4% excellent. Potatoes 34% harvested, 34% 2007. All hay 7% very poor, 14% poor, 34% fair, 37% good, 8% excellent. Third cutting hay 72%, 76% 2007, 78% avg. Fourth cutting hay 19%, 15% 2007, 17% avg. Dry beans 9% very poor, 5% poor, 22% fair, 49% good, 15% excellent; 81% turning, 93% 2007, 95% avg.; 51% dropping leaves, 68% 2007, 73% avg.; 16% harvested, 29% 2007, 23% avg. Apples 18% harvested, 24% 2007. Blueberries 99% harvested, 100% 2007, 99% avg. Peaches 78% harvested, 99% 2007. Precipitation varied from 0.97 inches northwestern Lower Peninsula to 6.13 inches southwestern Lower Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 3 degrees below normal western Upper Peninsula to normal west central and southeastern Lower Peninsula. Growers northeast and east central experienced first frost of season, but it had little impact on crops. Much of State experienced heavy rains past weekend. These rains brought fieldwork to a halt and caused some localized flooding southern part of State. Many farmers eager to begin harvest and planting activities must now wait for fields to dry. Strong rains and wet soils impeded fieldwork. Benefit from rain depended on a crop's stage of development. Most corn crop dough and dent stages. Condition improved slightly, but because crop close to maturity, improvement from rains limited. Many soybeans turned this week and some dropping leaves. Regrowth of alfalfa boosted by recent rains, but harvest held up by precipitation. A few farmers getting a fourth cutting, but most cutting for a third time. Dry beans continued to turn and drop leaves. Harvest continued before rains came. Winter wheat planting began, with a few farmers planting before rains. Rains held up sugarbeet harvest. Apple harvest continued across State. Southwest, picking of Gala and Golden Supreme varieties continued; light picking of McIntosh and Honeycrisp varieties began southeast. Harvest of Gingergold apple varieties began northwest. Harvest of late season blueberries completed; fruit quality a concern. Harvest of peaches, pears, plums and fall raspberries continued. The rain received last week welcomed as it relieved stressed vegetable plants. May have been too late to benefit most crops, while it postponed harvesting and fieldwork. Nearly 40 percent of celery acreage remained to harvest, and rains flooded some fields. Carrot harvest continued and pumpkin harvest began. Fresh market tomato harvest continued with below average yields. Processing tomatoes from non-irrigated fields have less than a 50 percent crop due to lack of summer rainfall. Onion harvest nearing completion. Sweet corn and potato harvest continued. Zucchini harvest expected to be mostly complete by end of last week, but with additional moisture, farmers delayed harvesting activities. Cucumber and summer squash harvest continued. Cole crops, including cabbage, cauliflower, and broccoli, have made it to retail markets.

MINNESOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Topsoil moisture 9% very short, 30% short, 55% adequate, 6% surplus. Corn 35% silage cut, 77% 2007, 56% avg. Soybeans 70% turning yellow, 94% 2007, 83% avg.; 0% mature, 30% 2007, 15% avg. Potatoes 36% harvested, 46% 2007, 45% avg.; condition 1% poor, 9% fair, 50% good, 40% excellent. Canola 60% harvested, 97% 2007, 89% avg. Sweet Corn 78% harvested, 90% 2007, 83% avg. Dry Edible Beans 37% harvested, 36% 2007, 30% avg.; condition 2% very poor, 4% poor, 29% fair, 49% good, 16% excellent. Pasture condition 12% very poor, 24% poor, 33% fair, 29% good, 2% excellent. Sugarbeet condition 1% very poor, 1% poor, 21% fair, 46% good, 31% excellent. Sunflower condition 2% poor, 21% fair, 55% good, 22% excellent. Minnesota's small grain harvest is nearly complete as the spring wheat crop reached 97 percent harvested during the past week. Precipitation received across the state was generally welcomed by farmers and increased topsoil moisture supplies. The majority of the soybean crop reached the yellowing stage of development while some of the earliest planted corn was mature. Crop progress of both corn and soybeans, however, remained behind last year and average. The average temperature for the week was 56.6°, 3.0° below normal.

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.1. Soil moisture 0% very short, 2% short, 48% adequate, 50% surplus. Corn 100% dough, 100% 2007, 100% avg.; 100% dent, 100% 2007, 100% avg.; 98% mature, 100% 2007, 100% avg.; 62% harvested, 90% 2007, 88% avg.; 92% silage harvested, 100% 2007, 100% avg.; 8% very poor, 16% poor, 21% fair, 40% good, 15% excellent. Cotton 58% open bolls, 88% 2007, 83% avg.; 0% harvested, 4% 2007, 9% avg.; 7% very poor, 10% poor, 23% fair, 42% good, 18% excellent. Peanuts 4% harvested, 16% 2007, 15% very poor, 0% poor, 3% fair, 62% good, 20% excellent. Rice 99% heading, 100% 2007, 100% avg.; 85% mature, 98% 2007, 88% avg.; 20% harvested, 62% 2007, 50% avg.; 0% very poor, 4% poor, 11% fair, 48% good, 37% excellent. Sorghum 100% heading, 100% 2007, 100% avg.; 99% turning color, 100% 2007, 100% avg.; 87% mature, 98% 2007, 100% avg.; 53% harvested, 89% 2007, 89% avg.; 84% silage harvested, 1% very poor, 4% poor, 19% fair, 53% good, 23% excellent. Soybeans 76% turning color, 94% 2007, 94% avg.; 51% shedding leaves, 81% 2007, 82% avg.; 18% harvested, 43% 2007, 60% avg.; 6% very poor, 13% poor, 32% fair, 37% good, 12% excellent. Winter Wheat 0% planted, 0% 2007, 1% avg. Hay (harvested-warm) 87%, 92% 2007, 92% avg.; 0% very poor, 4% poor, 29% fair, 35% good, 32% excellent. Sweetpotatoes 5% harvested, 32% 2007, 28% avg.; 0% very poor, 0% poor, 10% fair, 85% good, 5% excellent. Cattle 2% very poor, 4% poor, 21% fair, 60% good, 13% excellent. Pasture 2% very poor, 4% poor, 32% fair, 50% good, 12% excellent. Remnants of Hurricane Gustav and the recent rains brought on by Hurricane Ike decreased fieldwork for several producers. The wet weather has slowed harvesting activities for corn, soybeans, and hay; and some producers are reporting deterioration in the quality of corn, soybeans, rice, and cotton. Sweet potato and peanut harvesting is underway for some producers in the state.

MISSOURI: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.9. Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 5% short, 50% adequate, 44% surplus. Pasture condition 1% very poor, 6% poor, 30% fair, 54% good, 9% excellent. Heavy rains and winds from Hurricane Ike brought fieldwork to a standstill the latter part of the week. Some areas reported receiving up to 8 inches of rain. Reporters in the Bootheel commented wind from the hurricane damaged crops and buildings. Excessive rains once again flooded rivers and tributaries in some areas across the State. Corn in flood zones in Marion and Scotland counties were flooded above the height of the ear. Temperatures were 1 to 6 degrees below average in the northern half of the State, while southern areas were near normal to 2 degrees above normal. Rainfall for the week averaged 3.97 inches, ranging from 0.09 inches in the southeast district to 6.43 inches in the north-central district, with Adair and Schuyler counties receiving more than 8 inches. Other than the southeast area, all other areas have received more than 7.50 inches over the past 4 weeks. Activities 3rd cutting alfalfa; care of livestock.

MONTANA: Days suitable for field work 4.4. Topsoil moisture 10% very short, 46% last year, 27% short, 35% last year, 57% adequate, 17% last year, 6% surplus, 2% last year. Subsoil moisture 22% very short, 47% last year, 33% short, 32% last year, 43% adequate, 20% last year, 2% surplus, 1% last year. Barley 81% harvested, 100% last year. Oats 89% harvested, 100% last year. Spring wheat 86% harvested, 99% last year. Winter wheat 97% harvested, 100% last year, 7% planted, 23% last year. Durum wheat 83% harvested, 95% last year. Lentils 89% harvested, 97% last year. Alfalfa hay second cutting 93% complete, 99% last year. All other hay second cutting 79% complete, 91% last year. Corn chopped for silage 11%, 61% last year. Corn condition 1% very poor, 0% last year, 1% poor, 1% last year, 20% fair, 10% last year, 59% good, 76% last year, 19% excellent, 13% last year. Continued rainfall during the past two weeks has left many small grain fields unharvested. Reports indicate that the rain has caused quality damage to wheat fields in the north central and northeast districts. The harvest of most oilseeds is behind the previous year, but farmers should be finished in the next couple weeks. This year's sugar beet crop is mostly in good condition. The state received moderate precipitation for the week ending September 14th. Great Falls and Simpson set daily high precipitation records on September 13th at 0.54 and 0.37 of an inch, respectively. Nye received the most weekly accumulated precipitation at 1.75 inches. Highs were in the 70s to 80s, and lows were mostly in the 30s. Roundup and Hardin shared the high temperature of 84 degrees, and Wisdom had the low temperature of 20 degrees. Range and pasture feed condition 7% very poor, 17% last year, 20% poor, 19% last year, 38% fair, 38% last year, 29% good, 22% last year, 6% excellent, 4% last year. Cattle and calves moved from summer ranges 22% complete, 23% last year. Sheep and lambs moved from summer ranges 26% complete, 20% last year.

NEBRASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.1. Topsoil moisture 3% very short, 17% short, 77% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil moisture 7% very short, 27% short, 65% adequate, 1% surplus. Overall corn conditions 2%

very poor, 4% poor, 17% fair, 55% good, 22% excellent. Irrigated corn conditions 1% very poor, 2% poor, 14% fair, 58% good, 25% excellent. Dryland corn conditions 2% very poor, 7% poor, 22% fair, 52% good, 17% excellent; 97% dough, 100% 2007, 99% avg.; 85% dent, 97% 2007, 91% avg.; 9% mature, 41% 2007, 30% avg.; 1% harvested, 3% 2007, 3% avg. Soybean conditions 2% very poor, 6% poor, 23% fair, 55% good, 14% excellent; 55% turning color, 74% 2007, 75% avg.; 13% dropping leaves, 22% 2007, 27% avg. Sorghum conditions 0% very poor, 3% poor, 23% fair, 56% good, and 18% excellent; 100% headed, 100% 2007, 99% avg.; 68% turning color, 91% 2007, 81% avg.; 1% mature, 12% 2007, 13% avg. Winter wheat 18% seeded, 30% 2007, 31% avg. Proso millet 16% harvested, 31% 2007, 30% avg. Dry Bean conditions 0% very poor, 3% poor, 30% fair, 58% good, 9% excellent; 79% turning color, 99% 2007, 86% avg.; 31% dropping leaves, 73% 2007, 53% avg.; 6% harvested, 24% 2007, 18% avg. Alfalfa conditions 3% very poor, 5% poor, 24% fair, 59% good, 9% excellent; 97% 3rd cutting, 98% 2007, 97% avg.; 19% 4th cutting, 34% 2007, 35% avg. Pasture and Range conditions 3% very poor, 11% poor, 27% fair, 52% good, and 7% excellent. Nebraska saw another week of cool, damp weather which slowed crop maturity and harvest. High moisture corn, dry beans, proso millet and silage harvest is progressing slowly. The moisture has been beneficial for pastures and rangeland. Temperatures averaged 5 degrees below normal across the state. The state saw upper 70's or low 80's for highs with lows dipping into the mid to upper 30's in most districts. All districts received at least a half inch of rain with the Southeast district averaging over two inches of precipitation.

NEVADA: Days suitable for fieldwork 7. Alfalfa is in generally good condition throughout the state as third cutting finishes. Livestock are in predominately good condition as cattle are being moved back to the ranch from summer and fall pastures. Onions are in good to very good condition with harvest underway. Garlic, alfalfa seed, and mint harvests are underway. Potato harvest has started. Main farm and ranch activities include irrigation, harvest of hay, weed control, equipment maintenance, and preparation for fall-seeded crops. Cooler temperatures and some precipitation were recorded during the week. Temperatures averaged from three degrees below to six degrees above normal across the state. The week's high temperatures ranged from 85 degrees in Ely to 102 degrees in Las Vegas. The week's low temperatures ranged from 29 degrees in Ely to 71 degrees in Las Vegas. Precipitation was recorded in Ely, Eureka, and Las Vegas. Ely had the most precipitation with 0.32 inches recorded.

NEW ENGLAND: Days suitable for field work 5.7. Topsoil moisture 4% short, 79% adequate, 17% surplus. Subsoil moisture 3% short, 84% adequate, 13% surplus. Pasture condition 12% poor, 20% fair, 58% good, 10% excellent. Maine Potatoes 5% harvested, 5% 2007, 5% average; condition fair/good. Rhode Island Potatoes 80% harvested, 80% 2007, 70% average; condition good/excellent. Massachusetts Potatoes 45% harvested, 30% 2007, 40% average; condition good. Maine Oats 75% harvested, 65% 2007, 65% average; condition good/fair. Maine Barley 85% harvested, 55% 2007, 75% average; condition fair/good. Field Corn 10% harvested, 25% 2007, 15% average; condition fair/good in Vermont and good/excellent elsewhere. Sweet Corn 90% harvested, 90% 2007, 85% average; condition good/fair in Connecticut and good/excellent elsewhere. Shade Tobacco 99% harvested, 95% 2007, 99% average; condition good/fair. Broadleaf Tobacco 99% harvested, 95% 2007, 95% average; condition fair/good. First Crop Hay 100% harvested, 100% 2007, 100% average; condition fair. Second Crop Hay 90% harvested, 95% 2007, 90% average; condition good/fair. Third Crop Hay 50% harvested, 60% 2007, 50% average; condition good/fair in Connecticut and Rhode Island and good/excellent elsewhere. Apples 30% harvested, 30% 2007, 30% average; Fruit Size average/above average in Rhode Island and average elsewhere; condition good/fair in Connecticut and New Hampshire and good/excellent elsewhere. Peaches 95% harvested, 85% 2007, 90% average; Fruit Size average; condition good/fair. Pears 40% harvested, 30% 2007, 35% average; Fruit Size average; condition good/fair. Massachusetts Cranberries Fruit Size average/above average; condition good. Highbush Blueberries 99% harvested, 99% 2007, 99% average; Fruit Size average/above average; condition good/fair in Connecticut and good/excellent elsewhere. Maine Wild Blueberries 100% harvested, 100% 2007, 100% average; Fruit Size average; condition good. The past week began with partly cloudy skies and thunderstorms throughout New England. Temperatures were average to above average ranging from the high-60s to mid-70s. Mid-week brought much needed relief from the rain with some sunny, breezy days. However, daytime temperatures dropped below average and were in the low- to mid-60s. Hurricanes Hanna and Ike dumped more rain on the area over the weekend. High temperatures were average to above average in the mid-70s to low-80s. Nighttime temperatures were average to below average all week, ranging from the mid-40s to low-60s. Frost warnings occurred several nights during the week, but no damage to crops was reported. Total precipitation for the week ranged from 0.44 to 1.99 inches in the eleven weather stations

tracked for this report. Several crop specialists reported receiving as much as three to four inches of rain in areas of New Hampshire and Vermont. Major farm activities included cutting hay, harvesting oat, barley, potato, fruit, and vegetable crops, mowing orchard floors, weeding, and chopping field corn.

NEW JERSEY: Days suitable for field work 6.0. Topsoil moisture 5% short, 90% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil moisture 25% short, 70% adequate, 5% surplus. There were measurable amounts of rainfall for the week in all localities. Temperatures were above normal during the week across the Garden State. Soybeans were relieved by recent rainfall, while corn continued to be chopped for silage. Hay production was slowed by weather conditions as third-cuttings continued. Late fall vegetable planting included cucumbers, cabbage, and squash. Fresh-market tomatoes experienced slow-ripening in some southern areas. Apple orchards were sprayed with pesticides and peach harvesting was finishing up. Reports for pumpkin conditions were good as they colored nicely. Producers continued planting vegetables and preparing equipment for harvesting.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Topsoil moisture 8% very short, 19% short, 64% adequate, 9% surplus. Wind damage 10% light. Hail damage 1% light. Alfalfa 4% very poor, 10% poor, 17% fair, 65% good, 4% excellent; fourth cutting 95% complete, fifth cutting 45% complete. Cotton 17% fair, 65% good, 18% excellent; 26% bolls open. Corn 1% poor, 4% fair, 70% good, 25% excellent; 95% dough, 70% dent, 30% mature. Irrigated sorghum 97% good, 3% excellent; 45% coloring, 6% mature. Dry sorghum 50% poor, 50% fair; 78% headed, 51% coloring. Irrigate winter wheat 73% good, 27% excellent; 50% planted. Dry winter wheat 29% poor, 29% fair, 42% good; 55% planted. Peanuts 50% fair, 40% good, 10% excellent; 5% harvested. Chile conditions 4% poor, 13% fair, 70% good, 13% excellent; 78% harvested green. Pecans 2% fair, 72% good, 26% excellent. Cattle 2% poor, 41% fair, 37% good, 20% excellent. Sheep 5% very poor, 8% poor, 44% fair, 30% good, 13% excellent. Range and pasture 3% very poor, 8% poor, 24% fair, 48% good, 17% excellent. Most areas received some precipitation which helped push most totals closer to monthly and yearly normals. Average temperatures were below normal for the week.

NEW YORK: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.8. Soil moisture 7% very short, 83% short, 10% adequate. Pasture condition 5% poor, 23% fair, 59% good, 13% excellent. Hay condition 8% poor, 28% fair, 46% good, 18% excellent. Corn 2% poor, 10% fair, 51% good, 37% excellent. Oats 98% harvested, 98% 2007, 97% average. Alfalfa Third cutting of 80%, 80% 2007, 76% average. Silage corn 10%, 23% 2007, 16% average. Potatoes 50%, 61% 2007, 57% average. Apple condition 31% poor, 31% fair, 28% good, 10% excellent. Grapes 11% poor, 26% fair, 49% good, 14% excellent. Peaches 6% poor, 28% fair, 55% good, 11% excellent; 84% harvested, 90% average. Pears 35% poor, 16% fair, 49% good, 47%, 74% average. Apples 23%, 40% average. Grapes 8%, 22% 2007. In the Finger Lakes, grape harvest continued in early varieties, while downy mildew posed challenges to growers in their efforts to keep foliage green and functional. The Lake Erie region was harvesting hybrids. In Long island vineyards, many grape varieties continued to develop nicely including Sauvignon Blanc, Chardonnay and Merlot. Sweet corn condition 1% poor, 9% fair, 58% good, 32% excellent. Snap beans 3% poor, 16% fair, 59% good, 22% excellent. Onions 4% poor, 5% fair, 66% good, 25% excellent; 72%, 66% 2007. Lettuce 47% fair, 45% good, 8% excellent. Cabbage 2% poor, 9% fair, 68% good, 21% excellent. Tomatoes 18% poor, 29% fair, 38% good, 15% excellent; 71% harvest, 77% 2007. Sweet corn 84%, 87% 2007. Snap beans 85%, 89% 2007. Cabbage 64%, 62% 2007. Temperatures averaged slightly above normal for most of the week while precipitation was heavy in many areas at the beginning of the week.

NORTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for field work 4.4. Soil moisture 3% very short, 17% short, 55% adequate, 25% surplus. Activities during the week included the harvesting of hay, corn for grain, corn for silage, apples, sweetpotato, sorghum and tobacco and scouting for pest and disease problems. North Carolina received scattered showers with precipitation ranging from .07 inches in Williamston, to 3.71 inches in Lenoir. Average temperatures ranged from 67 to 81 degrees. The Coastal Region received a fair amount of rain in the last two weeks, which helped some crops like hay and soybeans, but there are some reports that excessive moisture may negatively affect tobacco and sweetpotato crops.

NORTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.5. Topsoil moisture 16% very short, 14% short, 67% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil moisture 22% very short, 22% short, 55% adequate 1% surplus. Durum 82% harvested, 94% 2007, 84% average. Canola 98% swathed, 100% 2007, 98% avg.; 67% harvested, 96% 2007, 85% average. Corn for silage 21% chopped, 32% 2007, 45% average. Dry edible beans 91% lower leaves yellowing, 98% 2007, 88% avg.; 77% dropping leaves, 90% 2007, 78% avg.; 17% cut, 45% 2007, 47% avg.; 2% harvested, 27% 2007, 29% avg.; condition 1%

very poor, 5% poor, 24% fair, 53% good, 17% excellent. Flaxseed 47% harvested, 83% 2007, 73% average. Potatoes 66% vines killed, 79% 2007, 74% avg.; 20% dug, 33% 2007, 27% avg.; condition 2% poor, 14% fair, 61% good, 23% excellent. Soybeans 75% leaves yellowing, 93% 2007, 80% average. Sugarbeets 4% lifted, 7% 2007, 5% avg.; condition 1% very poor, 3% poor, 9% fair, 67% good, 20% excellent. Sunflowers 91% ray flowers dried/dropped, 94% 2007, 89% avg.; 64% bracts turned yellow, 76% 2007, 68% avg.; 20% bracts turned brown, 34% 2007, 27% avg.; condition 1% very poor, 4% poor, 31% fair, 53% good, 11% excellent. Hay condition 19% very poor, 31% poor, 33% fair, 15% good, 2% excellent. Stockwater supplies 21% very short, 23% short, 55% adequate, 1% surplus. Alfalfa second cutting was 95% complete. Mostly dry conditions early in the week gave way to rainfall late in the week. The southeastern corner of the state saw the greatest amounts of precipitation. Harvest made good progress until rain and cool weather slowed harvest at the end of the week.

OHIO: Days suitable for field work 5.8. Topsoil moisture 32% very short, 38% short, 30% adequate, 0% surplus. Corn 83% dented, 89% 2007, 85% avg.; 18% mature, 25% 2007, 19% avg.; silage harvested 55%, 54% 2007, 44% avg.; condition 9% very poor, 19% poor, 37% fair, 29% good, 6% excellent. Soybeans 37% dropping leaves, 47% 2007, 41% avg.; 5% mature, 12% 2007, 9% avg.; condition 10% very poor, 21% poor, 39% fair, 25% good, 5% excellent. Apples harvested (Fall & Winter) 24%, 23% 2007, 16% avg. Grapes 39% harvested, 16% 2007, 19% avg. Cucumbers 90% harvested, 87% 2007, 84% avg. Potatoes 67% harvested, 46% 2007, 62% avg. Processing tomatoes 45% harvested, 62% 2007, 62% avg. Alfalfa hay 4th cutting 50%, 41% 2007, 33% avg. Other hay 3rd cutting 76%, 60% 2007, 60% avg. Hay condition 11% very poor, 19% poor, 36% fair, 29% good, 5% excellent. Livestock condition 0% very poor, 4% poor, 26% fair, 60% good, 10% excellent. Pasture condition 17% very poor, 28% poor, 32% fair, 21% good, 2% excellent. The major field activities for the past week were cutting and baling hay, corn silage harvest, and preparation for winter wheat seeding. Other field activities included preparation for row crop harvest, and the harvest of tomatoes, melons, sweet corn, and squash vegetable crops, tillage of wheat stubble ground, machinery repair, spreading lime, and installing drainage tiles. Scattered rains were reported throughout the State, with some reports stating that precipitation has come too late to improve row crop development. Crop conditions of corn and soybeans continued to deteriorate.

OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.3. Topsoil moisture 4% very short, 15% short, 60% adequate, 21% surplus. Subsoil moisture 9% very short, 18% short, 63% adequate, 10% surplus. Wheat seedbed prepared 71% this week, 70% last week, 73% last year, 79% average. Rye seedbed prepared 73% this week, 72% last week, 69% last year, 81% average; 19% planted this week, 13% last week, 17% last year, 32% average. Oats seedbed prepared 53% this week, 52% last week, 54% last year, 60% average. Corn condition 5% poor, 23% fair, 65% good, 7% excellent; 98% dough this week, 94% last week, 100% last year, 100% average; 53% mature this week, 48% last week, 88% last year, 73% average; 29% harvested this week, 45% last week, 58% last year, 47% average. Soybeans condition 1% very poor, 6% poor, 47% fair, 39% good, 7% excellent; 88% setting pods this week, 84% last week, 75% last year, 88% average; 16% mature this week, 13% last week, 15% last year, 33% average. Alfalfa condition 1% very poor, 10% poor, 41% fair, 41% good, 7% excellent; 4th cutting 87% this week, 84% last week, 90% last year, 85% average; 5th cutting 35% this week, 26% last week, 37% last year, 32% average. Other hay condition 2% very poor, 7% poor, 38% fair, 44% good, 9% excellent; 2nd cutting 60% this week, 58% last week, 68% last year, 72% average. Livestock condition 3% poor, 23% fair, 59% good, 15% excellent. Pasture and range condition 2% very poor, 7% poor, 32% fair, 50% good, 9% excellent. Livestock; Prices for feeder steers less than 800 pounds averaged \$111 per cwt. Prices for heifers less than 800 pounds averaged \$105 per cwt. Livestock conditions were rated mostly in the good to fair range with mostly light to moderate insect activity reported.

OREGON: Days suitable for field work 6.9. Top soil moisture 38% very short, 38% short, 24% adequate. Sub soil moisture 40% very short, 38% short, 22% adequate. Corn condition 36% fair, 48% good, 16% excellent. Range, pasture condition 23% very poor, 32% poor, 34% fair, 11% good. Winter Wheat 15% planted, 6% previous year, 8% 5-year average. Alfalfa third cutting 75%, 96% previous year, 74% 5-year average. Weather. Conditions were generally warm, dry throughout much of the State last week. High temperatures ranged from 98 degrees in Medford, down to 61 degrees in Crescent City. Low temperatures ranged from 51 degrees also in Medford, down to 27 degrees in Christmas Valley. Out of the forty-one weather stations reporting, none reported any measurable precipitation. As a result, precipitation levels were below average State-wide for the second week in a row. With the exception of coastal areas, temperatures were above normal at most stations. Field Crops; Warm, dry weather conditions

this past week were ideal for harvesting grains still standing. Sprout damage on some grains that were harvested late was apparent. Haying continued across the State as the third cutting of alfalfa hay progressed. In Marion County, some fourth cuttings of hay were made, the mint, hop harvests in were nearing completion. Fall ground preparations continued throughout the State. While winter wheat began to appear in early seeded fields in Gilliam County, more moisture is needed to help grain seeding in eastern areas. Vegetables; Even though vegetable crops were nearing the end of harvest, local markets remained busy with a plentiful amount of produce. Freezing temperatures during the past couple weeks have had an impact on some sweet corn in the northeastern part of the State. The carrot seed harvest was just beginning in central Oregon. Harvest conditions were looking favorable, despite starting a week or two later than last year. Vegetable seed crops were being combined in Douglas County. Fruits, Nuts; Hazelnut orchards continued to prepare for harvest with some early varieties beginning to drop. Although still behind normal ripening pace, the dry, warm conditions from last week allowed wine grapes to mature nicely, the crop continued to look good. The pear harvest was moving quickly in Douglas County with some varieties such as Bartlett's nearing completion, other varieties such as Comice, Anjou about 30 percent complete. Gala, other early varieties of apples were being harvested. Prunes, late blackberries, late peaches were also being harvested. The summer pear harvest continued in mid-Hood River Valley orchards, the winter pear harvest began in the lower valley. Nurseries, Greenhouses; Greenhouses were beginning to get fall decorative plants, vegetable starts out. Nurseries continued to be busy with stock up-keep. Livestock, Range, Pasture; Hot, dry weather has deteriorated dryland pastures, range all across the State, requiring producers to supplement feed. Drinking water was also limited in some areas. Livestock were still doing well, especially on irrigated pastures.

PENNSYLVANIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4. Soil moisture 12% very short, 21% short, 63% adequate, 4% surplus. Fall 24%, 32% 2007, 26% avg. Corn 94% dough, 98% 2007, 94% avg.; 70% dent, 81% 2007, 76% avg.; 32% mature, 48% 2007, 36% avg.; 55% silage harvested, 54% 2007, 48% avg.; 12% harvested, 10% 2007, 8% avg.; condition 1% very poor, 13% poor, 22% fair, 45% good, 19% excellent. Soybean crop condition 1% very poor, 8% poor, 26% fair, 53% good, 12% excellent. Winter wheat 6% planted, 7% 2007, 6% avg. Barley 17% planted, 10% 2007, 15% avg. Tobacco 86% harvested, 80% 2007, 81% avg. Potatoes 38% harvested, 25% 2007, 41% avg. Alfalfa fourth cutting 62% complete, 45% 2007, 36% avg. Peaches 98% harvested, 99% 2007, 96% avg. Apple crop condition 3% poor, 25% fair, 50% good, 22% excellent; 36% harvested, 51% 2007, 42% avg. Quality of hay made 2% very poor, 1% poor, 34% fair, 51% good, 12% excellent. Pasture conditions 13% very poor, 28% poor, 40% fair, 15% good, 4% excellent. The rain did not allow farmers to get out into the fields as much last week as the previous weeks. Principal farm activities included mowing weeds, making hay, fall plowing, spreading manure and lime, planting alfalfa, barley and wheat, picking fruit, as well as harvesting corn, tobacco and potatoes. Farmers are also continuing fall plowing, as fall plowing is now 24 percent complete.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Soil moisture 6% very short, 32% short, 55% adequate, 7% surplus. Corn 46% very poor, 27% poor, 21% fair, 6% good, 0% excellent; 100% matured, 100% 2007, 99% avg.; 77% harvested, 84% 2007, 75% avg. Soybeans 10% very poor, 19% poor, 34% fair, 32% good, 5% excellent; 100% bloomed, 100% 2007, 99% avg.; 97% pods set, 86% 2007, 91% avg.; leaves turning color 11%, 14% 2007, 16% avg.; leaves dropped 5%, 5% 2007, 4% avg. Sorghum 26% very poor, 30% poor, 20% fair, 24% good, 0% excellent; 100% headed, 100% 2007, 100% avg.; turned color 81%, 90% 2007, 94% avg.; 49% matured, 68% 2007, 67% avg.; 22% harvested, 39% 2007, 38% avg. Sweetpotatoes 0% very poor, 10% poor, 45% fair, 45% good, 0% excellent; 1% harvested, 2% 2007, 10% avg. Apples 0% very poor, 5% poor, 70% fair, 25% good, 0% excellent; 33% harvested, 35% 2007, 36% avg. Livestock condition 2% very poor, 12% poor, 40% fair, 44% good, 2% excellent Tobacco 95% harvested, 94% 2007, 96% avg.; stalks destroyed 66%, 49% 2007, 60% avg. Hay other hay 99%, 100% 2007, 99% avg. Peaches 97% harvested, 95% 2007, 97% avg. Winter grazings 14% planted, 6% 2007, 14% avg. Most of South Carolina received rainfall this past week. The only problem is that areas that had a lot of rain from Fay and Hanna in previous weeks got even more to the point of being too wet for field work. However, the northernmost counties in the Upstate were dry again. This part of the state has not had much more rain this year than last year which was one of the driest on record. Corn harvest has been very busy the past three weeks. Better yields have been coming off of later planted fields, but overall production has been low for most growers. Recent rains have caused unwanted growth in some. Cotton fields at a time when drier weather would be welcome. There may be difficulty harvesting due to the excessive growth of the tops. A few farmers began defoliation this past week with many more planning to begin shortly. Late last week some early planted peanuts were being dug. Rainfall over the last week has

helped fill soybean pods. Farmers were still scouting later maturing beans for stink bugs and worms with treatments being applied. Sweet potato harvest has just begun. Farmers are trying desperately to get the last of the tobacco leaf out of their fields that have been too wet for tractors and harvesters. The last cutting of hay was almost complete. Pastures in many parts of the state received rain last week. Apple harvest was ongoing. This year's peach crop was coming to an end. The state average temperature for the week was four degrees above normal. The state average rainfall for the period was 0.9 inches.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.6. Topsoil moisture 3% very short, 35% short, 58% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil moisture 5% very short, 31% short, 60% adequate, 4% surplus. Winter wheat 1% emerged, 4% 2007, 2% avg. Corn silage 33% harvested, 49% 2007, 56% avg. Sorghum silage 39% harvested, 53% 2007, 58% avg. Soybeans 1% mature, 11% 2007, 13% avg. Sunflower ray flowers dry 84%, 92% 2007, 85% avg.; bracts yellow 54%, 72% 2007, 62% avg.; 0% mature, 8% 2007, 10% avg.; 1% very poor, 3% poor, 27% fair, 56% good, 13% excellent. Alfalfa hay 3rd cutting harvested 75%, 83% 2007, 78% avg.; 1% very poor, 3% poor, 19% fair, 61% good, 16% excellent. Feed supplies 6% short, 81% adequate, 13% surplus. Stock water supplies 2% very short, 14% short, 77% adequate, 7% surplus. Cattle condition 10% fair, 71% good, 19% excellent. Sheep condition 1% poor, 7% fair, 70% good, 22% excellent. Continued cool and wet weather has further delayed crop progress, but has had little effect on the completion of fall planting and silage harvest activities.

TENNESSEE: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Topsoil moisture 17% very short, 39% short, 43% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 26% very short, 39% short, 34% adequate, 1% surplus. Corn silage 89% harvested, 91% 2007, 88% avg. Tobacco 95% topped, 99% 2007, 98% avg.; 1% very poor, 5% poor, 33% fair, 52% good, 9% excellent. Burley tobacco 53% harvested, 74% 2007, 71% avg. Dark air-cured tobacco 80% harvested, 91% 2007, 85% avg. Dark fire-cured tobacco 72% harvested, 75% 2007, 74% avg. Pastures 11% very poor, 25% poor, 38% fair, 25% good, 1% excellent. Mostly dry weather across the state last week provided favorable harvest conditions. Corn and tobacco harvest progressed with isolated showers mid-week causing only temporary delays. Tropical Depression Ike passed through on Sunday bringing light rain with a few thunderstorms and windy conditions, especially to West and Middle Tennessee. The extent of damage to crops and livestock is unknown, although numerous trees and power lines were knocked down from the winds. Other field activities last week included defoliating cotton and harvesting hay.

TEXAS: Top soil moisture was mostly adequate statewide. Corn condition was mostly fair to good statewide. Cotton condition was mostly fair to good statewide. Peanuts condition was mostly fair to good statewide. Rice condition was mostly fair to good statewide. Rice condition was mostly fair to good statewide. Sorghum condition was mostly fair to good statewide. Soybean condition was mostly fair to good statewide. Range and pasture condition was mostly fair to good statewide. Small grain planting was delayed due to wet conditions in parts of the Panhandle, Cross Timbers, the Blacklands, and Edwards Plateau. Cotton development was slowed in parts of Edwards plateau and the Panhandle due to cool, wet weather. Corn harvest was underway in the High Plains; however, it was delayed later in the week due to rain. Sorghum continued to progress even though there was cooler weather in the Plains. Peanuts continued to mature in South Texas and the Southern High Plains. Land preparation continued for vegetables in South Texas. Pecans nut development moved into the shell hardening stage in some areas of the Trans-Pecos. Livestock conditions continued to improve due to the greened up pastures and ranges.

UTAH: Days suitable for field work 7. Subsoil moisture 22% very short, 39% short, 39% adequate, 0% surplus. Winter Wheat 17% Planted For Harvest Next Year, 18% 2007, 27% avg. Barley harvested (grain) 92%, 99% 2007, 98% avg.; Condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 23% fair, 61% good, 15% excellent. Oats harvested (grain) 81%, 93% 2007, 90% avg. Corn 47% dent, 70% 2007, 64% avg.; 15% mature, 32% 2007, 28% avg.; height 104 inches, 100 inches 2007, 100 inches avg. Alfalfa height 36%, 36% 2007. Alfalfa Hay 3rd Cutting 69%, 93% 2007, 86% avg. Alfalfa Hay 4th Cutting 1%, 31% 2007, 21% avg. Other Hay Cut 100%, 100% 2007, 100% avg. Onions 56% harvested, 45% 2007, 43% avg. Cattle and calves moved From Summer Range 6%, 63% 2007, 30% avg. Sheep and lambs moved From Summer Range 4%, 34% 2007, 21% avg. Stock Water Supplies 15% very short, 29% short, 56% adequate, 0% surplus. Apples 6% harvested, 32% 2007, 34% avg. Apricots 100% harvested, 100% 2007. Peaches 88% harvested, 77% 2007, 79% avg. Pears 12% harvested, 70% 2007, 75% avg. Crops continue to progress around the state. Livestock continue to do well. There has been no report of major disease. Box Elder reports silage corn producers have opened some fields and expect to begin

chopping this week. Corn silage yields have been good in some fields and poor in other. Grain corn is maturing and harvest will begin in about two weeks. Almost all of the small grain has been harvested except for some dry land spring grain that will have to wait until the weeds freeze down. Some producers within the county are beginning to harvest safflower. Yields will vary widely but the price has been reported to be around \$.30 per lb. A few dry land producers have been able to plant fall grain while some producers are waiting for a good storm. Hay producers reported that the compressed hay plant south of Tremonton has stopped buying hay for the season. Farmers are unsure how this will affect hay prices. Cache County reports farmers are enjoying near perfect weather for harvest. Third crop alfalfa is being harvested this week and winter wheat is being planted. Farmers anticipate the chopping of corn silage within the next 10 days. Carbon County reports that the summer range looks very good. Recent fall rains have helped reduce concerns over drought conditions. A lot of hay is being sold out of the area while stockmen have saved enough for winter feeding. High hay prices have become a major concern for horse owners. Beaver County reports 3rd crop alfalfa cutting is going well while fall pastures are drying out. Garfield and Kane counties report that the higher elevations within the county received frost this week. Box Elder reports sheep produces will begin shipping lambs as they come off the summer ranges. Cache County reports livestock and dairy producers have been anticipating pneumonia problems, but have had few cases thus far.

VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.2. Topsoil moisture 5% very short, 19% short, 68% adequate, 8% surplus. Subsoil moisture 16% very short, 33% short, 50% adequate, 1% surplus. Pasture 8% very poor, 23% poor, 42% fair, 25% good, 2% excellent. Livestock 1% very poor, 4% poor, 23% fair, 62% good, 10% excellent. Other Hay 5% very poor, 27% poor, 37% fair, 27% good, 4% excellent. Alfalfa Hay 14% poor, 31% fair, 45% good, 10% excellent. Corn 92% dent, 99% 2007, 89% avg.; 77% mature, 83% 2007, 70% avg.; 16% harvested, 25% 2007, 20% avg.; silage 64% harvested, 76% 2007, 71% avg.; condition 11% very poor, 22% poor, 26% fair, 27% good, 14% excellent. Soybeans 97% setting pods, 95% 2007, 96% avg.; 15% dropping leaves, 14% 2007, 17% avg.; condition 9% very poor, 17% poor, 38% fair, 28% good, 8% excellent. Flue-cured Tobacco 37% harvested; 66% 2007, 61% avg.; condition 2% very poor, 16% poor, 32% fair, 29% good, 21% excellent. Burley Tobacco 36% harvested, 40% 2007; 52% avg.; condition 4% poor, 22% fair, 65% good, 9% excellent. Dark Fire-cured tobacco 90% harvested. Peanuts condition 12% poor, 45% fair, 34% good, 9% excellent. Cotton bolls 54% opening, 78% 2007, 70% avg.; condition 19% poor, 48% fair, 25% good, 8% excellent. Summer Apples 98% harvested, 100% 2007, 100% avg. Fall Apples 19% harvested, 33% 2007, 46% avg.; condition 1% poor, 22% fair, 71% good, 6% excellent. Grapes 3% poor, 16% fair, 68% good, 13% excellent. Virginia received isolated rain showers this week. The rain improved pasture and hay conditions. In some areas, the rain will contribute to a second cutting of hay. The corn harvest was well underway, but still behind the norm for this time of year. Wet fields from Tropical Storm Hanna and a cooler than normal spring contributed to the late harvest. Corn yields vary significantly due to location and time of planting. However, the forecasted State yield for corn is 104 bushels per acre. Other farming activities included planting winter wheat, planting strawberries, harvesting tobacco, harvesting pumpkins, attending meetings, and analyzing price input cost for next year's crop.

WASHINGTON: Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Topsoil moisture 12% very short, 38% short 50% adequate. Spring grain harvest continued, with the end in sight. Whitman County reported their harvest was slowing. Asotin and Garfield Counties also reported grain harvest was nearly finished. A very dry soil profile throughout most of the eastern grain growing counties left many farmers wondering when to seed. However, Whitman, Adams and Lincoln Counties reported substantial seeding progress with few growers holding off until rain comes. Hay growers continued putting up third crop and fourth crop of hay, where allowed. Walla Walla County reports alfalfa seed harvest in progress. Garbanzo bean growers in Whitman County were picking up the speed of their harvest. Christmas tree growers continued top-working Noble fir and shearing Douglas fir. Kittitas County reported sweet corn harvest was nearing completion. In the Yakima Valley, no frost or precipitation was reported in the crop producing areas of the County. Bartlett pears, Gala and Honeycrisp were being harvested in

the upper Valley. Golden Delicious apples were being harvested along the mid to lower Valley. Douglas and Chelan Counties reported apple and pear harvest continued. Whatcom County reported blueberry harvest was done. Pacific County reported cranberry growers were close to harvest. Yields were expected to be off due to cool, wet spring conditions. Range and pasture conditions 10% very poor, 28% poor, 38% fair, 22% good, 2% excellent. On the west side, livestock producers applied liquid manure and prepared fields for fall seeding to pasture. On the eastern side, cattle continued moving to market. Garfield and Asotin Counties reported cattle operations were considering culling more heavily or getting out of the business due to high cost of feed, before cattle come back for the fall. Growers were very concerned regarding what to feed them when they return from summer pasture. Pacific County reported oyster growers continued harvest operations for triploid stock and finished seeding activities.

WEST VIRGINIA: Days suitable for field work 6. Topsoil moisture 6% very short, 44% short, 50% adequate, 34% very short, 40% short, 26% adequate last year. Corn conditions 2% poor, 10% fair, 67% good, 21% excellent; 78% doughing, 91% 2007, 88% 5-yr avg.; 48% dented, 59% 2007, 61% 5-yr avg.; 3% mature, 12% 2007, 14% 5-yr avg. Soybean conditions 2% fair, 87% good, 11% excellent; 26% dropping leaves, 33% 2007, 34% 5-yr avg. Wheat 3% planted, 2% 2007, 5% 5-yr avg. Hay 1% very poor, 9% poor, 45% fair, 42% good, 3% excellent; second cutting 88% complete, 81% 2007, 82% 5-yr avg.; third cutting 19% complete, 14% 2007, 5-yr avg not available. Apple conditions 10% poor, 50% fair, 30% good, 10% excellent; 31% harvested, 23% 2007, 22% 5-yr avg. Peach conditions 20% poor, 50% fair, 30% good, 73% harvested, 82% 2007, 86% 5-yr avg. Cattle and calves 2% poor, 14% fair, 80% good, 4% excellent. Sheep and lambs 1% poor, 8% fair, 88% good, 3% excellent. Farming activities included cutting hay, chopping corn for silage, moving cattle, hauling water for livestock, harvesting vegetables, clipping pastures and picking apples and peaches.

WISCONSIN: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil moisture 13% very short, 49% short, 33% adequate, 5% surplus. Temperatures ranged from 0 to 4 degrees below normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 68 to 72 degrees across the state. Lows averaged from 49 to 57 degrees for the week. Precipitation ranged from 0.15 inches in LaCrosse to 1.92 inches in Milwaukee. Corn 84% dough, 48% dented, 8% mature, 16% silage harvested. Soybeans 65% turning, 27% dropping leaves. Third cutting hay was 92% complete and fourth cutting hay was 31% complete. There were some reports of light frost. The majority of the state received a fair amount of rain this past week, which helped green up pastures.

WYOMING: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil moisture 3% very short, 29% short, 66% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil moisture 19% very short, 36% short, 45% adequate. Barley 89% harvested, 85% previous week, 96% 2007, 96% avg. Oats 92% harvested, 85% previous week, 95% 2007, 92% avg. Spring wheat 95% harvested, 83% previous week, 100% 2007, 96% avg. Winter wheat 72% planted, 33% previous week, 77% 2007, 71% avg.; 12% emerged, 0% previous week, 38% 2007, 31% avg. Dry beans 84% turning color, 65% previous week, 92% 2007, 94% avg.; 26% windrowed, 12% previous week, 54% 2007, 52% avg.; 9% combined, 3% previous week, 20% 2007, 26% avg.; condition 15% fair, 85% good. Corn 90% milk, 73% previous week, 96% 2007, 97% avg.; 73% dough, 47% previous week, 87% 2007, 85% avg.; 40% dented, 17% previous week, 66% 2007, 58% avg.; 6% mature, 0% previous week, 21% 2007, 21% avg.; condition 2% poor, 23% fair, 75% good. Corn for silage 27% harvested, 11% previous week, 36% 2007, 43% avg. Alfalfa hay 94% second cutting, 90% previous week, 98% 2007, 97% avg.; 21% third cutting, 16% previous week, 36% 2007, 32% avg. Sugar beets condition 1% poor, 17% fair, 82% good. Range and pasture condition 2% very poor, 13% poor, 44% fair, 34% good, 7% excellent. Stock water supplies 2% very short, 16% short, 80% adequate, 2% surplus. Wyoming has experienced scattered rain showers last week. Nights remained cold with warmer days. Range and pasture conditions continued to lack moisture. Second cutting of alfalfa in isolated are was reported damaged due to the morning frost. Haying was still in progress. Winter wheat began emerging and corn began to mature. Activities hay harvest, moving hay to stock yards, shearing range sheep, branding and moving livestock.

International Weather and Crop Summary

September 7 - 13, 2008

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

HIGHLIGHTS

FSU-WESTERN: Several days of warm, dry weather aided summer crop harvesting and winter grain planting in Ukraine and southern Russia, while widespread rain slowed final spring grain harvest efforts across northern Russia.

FSU-NEW LANDS: Widespread showers slowed spring grain harvesting in Russia, while unseasonably warm, dry weather helped harvest activities in Kazakhstan.

EUROPE: Saturated fields in central and northern crop areas slowed fieldwork and maintained quality concerns for unharvested small grains.

MIDDLE EAST: Long-term drought prevailed over much of the region, limiting topsoil moisture for winter crop planting and emergence.

AUSTRALIA: Showers provided little additional moisture for winter grains.

EAST ASIA: Warm, mostly dry weather benefited crop maturation and harvest activities in Manchuria and southern China, but wet weather slowed harvesting on the North China Plain.

SOUTHEAST ASIA: Widespread monsoon showers and tropical activity caused flooding in parts of Indochina and the Philippines.

SOUTH ASIA: A resurgent monsoon generated locally heavy showers in northern growing areas, boosting moisture reserves for reproductive summer crops and upcoming winter wheat planting.

ARGENTINA: Dry, frosty weather maintained mostly unfavorable conditions for vegetative to reproductive winter wheat.

BRAZIL: Rain benefited immature wheat in southern Brazil but the wetter conditions hampered seasonal harvests.

CANADA: The absence of a widespread freeze aided late spring crop development in the eastern Prairies.

MEXICO: Beneficial rain continued throughout northwestern and southern Mexico.

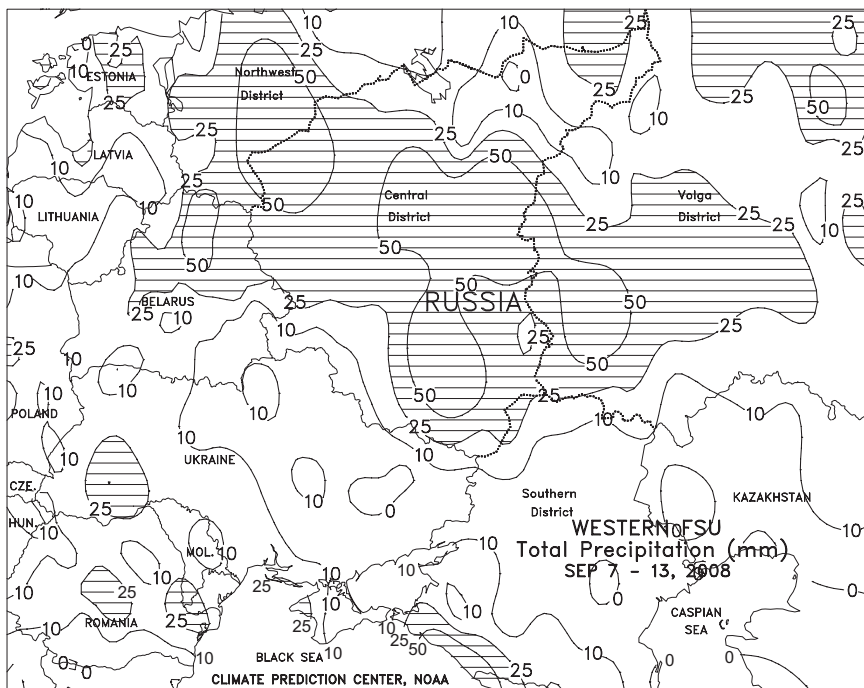
EUROPE

Unsettled weather prevailed across central and northern Europe, while drought maintained poor summer crop prospects in portions of the Balkans. A strong Atlantic storm system and its attendant cold front generated locally heavy showers (10-80 mm) from England southeastward into southern Germany, causing additional small grain quality concerns and harvesting delays. By week's end, a secondary area of low pressure developed along the tail end of the front, enhancing rainfall from northern Italy into western Hungary; the rain was beneficial for winter crop planting but slowed corn and sunflower maturation and harvesting. Rain continued to bypass drought-stricken portions of the Balkans (notably the lower Danube River Valley), where remote sensing data indicated severe stress on filling corn and sunflowers. Dryness also prevailed in Greece, maintaining high irrigation demands and limiting water reserves for winter wheat planting. Elsewhere, showers (3-30 mm) across the remainder of eastern Europe provided topsoil moisture for winter rapeseed planting, while dry weather in Spain favored summer crop harvesting.



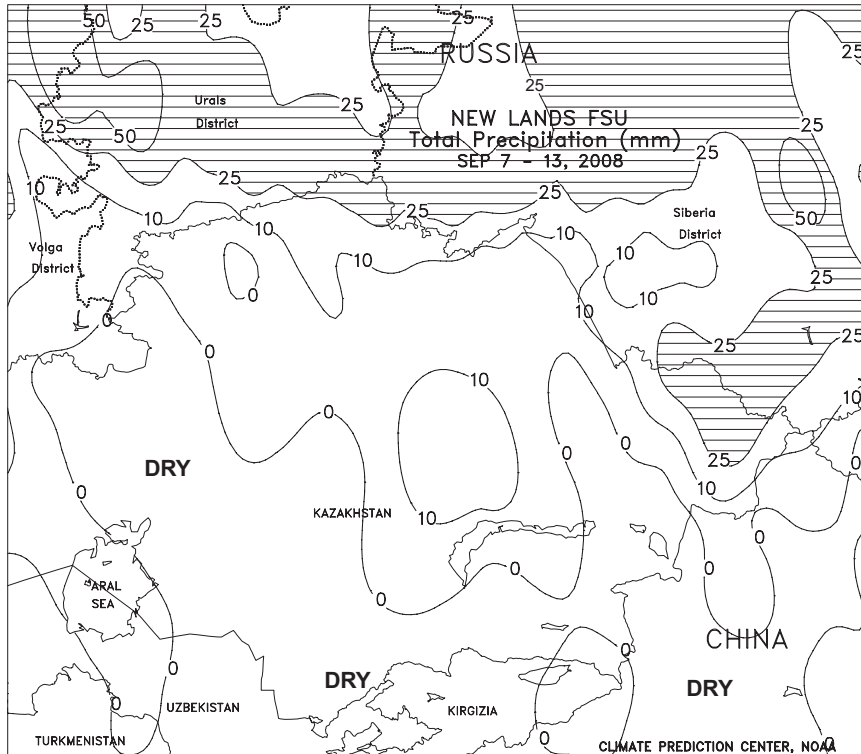
FSU-WESTERN

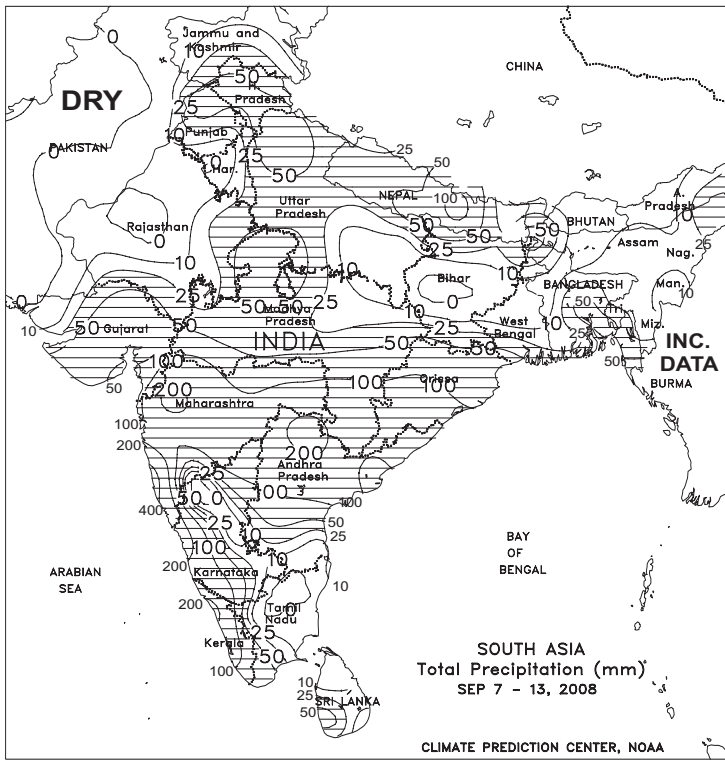
In Russia, widespread rain (15-50 mm or more) fell from the Central District eastward across the Volga District, slowing final spring grain harvest efforts but providing abundant topsoil moisture for winter grain emergence and early plant establishment. Farther south, unseasonably warm, dry weather prevailed in the Southern District, helping early summer crop harvesting and winter grain planting. Weekly temperatures averaged 2 to 6 degrees C above normal in the Southern District, promoting rapid maturity of summer crops. Reports from Russia as of September 15 indicated that corn, sugar beets, and sunflowers were 8, 17, and 10 percent harvested, respectively. In Ukraine, several days of warm (weekly temperatures averaging 2 to 4 degrees C above normal), dry weather helped fieldwork for summer crop harvesting and planting the 2009 winter grain crop. At week's end, a storm system spread light to moderate showers (10-25 mm or more) across western and southern areas, interrupting fieldwork but providing much-needed topsoil moisture for winter grain emergence. Elsewhere, mild, showery weather (10-25 mm or more) in Belarus slowed summer crop harvesting but provided topsoil moisture for newly emerging winter grains.



FSU - NEW LANDS

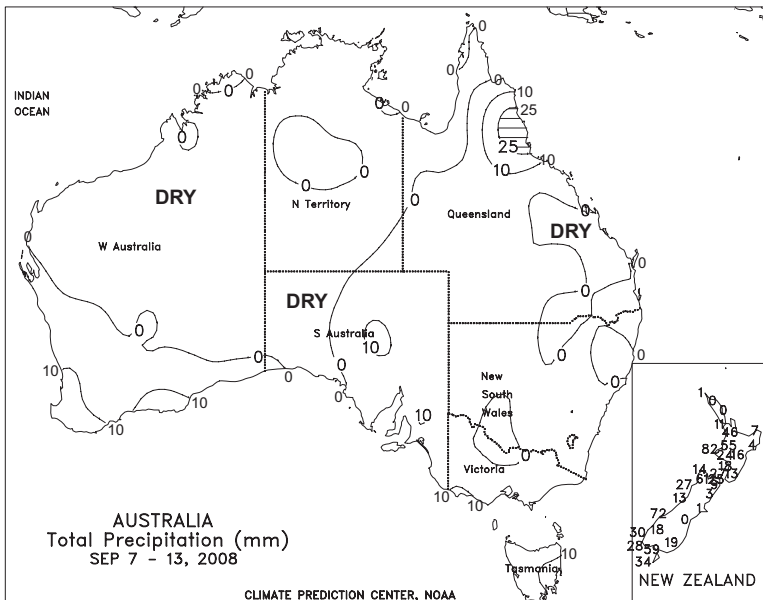
In Russia, widespread showers (10-25 mm or more) fell from the Urals District eastward across Siberia, slowing spring grain maturation and harvesting. Weekly temperatures averaged near to slightly above normal. Reports as of September 15 from Russia indicated that the grain harvest was 78 percent complete. In Kazakhstan, unseasonably warm (weekly temperatures averaging 1 to 4 degrees C above normal), dry weather allowed spring grain harvesting to progress rapidly. Significant precipitation (10 mm or more) was confined to northernmost crop areas bordering Russia. In cotton growing areas of Central Asia, mild, dry weather continued to favor boll maturation and early cotton harvesting.





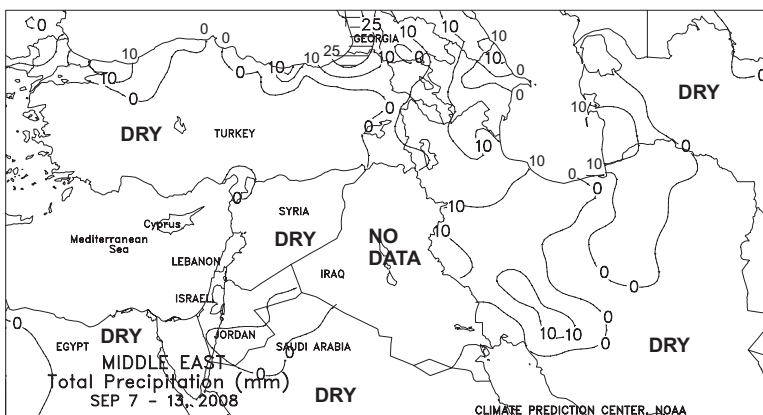
SOUTH ASIA

A resurgent monsoon generated wet weather over much of the subcontinent. Rain (10-50 mm) returned to India's far northern crop areas, boosting moisture reserves for reproductive summer crops as well as upcoming winter wheat planting. Meanwhile, a monsoon low tracked westward across central India, dropping 25 to 250 mm of rain from Orissa and northern Andhra Pradesh into Maharashtra and Gujarat. The rain was beneficial for reproductive summer crops but caused local flooding. Scattered showers also prevailed in southern India, although the rain was not as widespread or heavy as last week. Drier conditions returned to rice areas of Bangladesh and eastern India, allowing rivers to subside and flood recovery efforts to continue. In contrast, dry weather in Pakistan promoted maturation and early harvesting of rice and cotton.



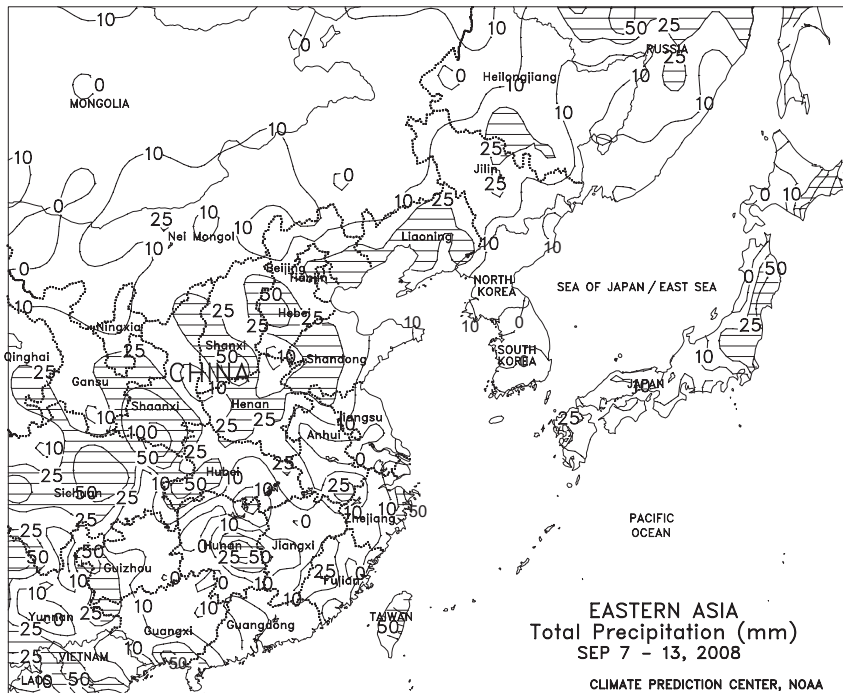
AUSTRALIA

Widely scattered showers (generally less than 5 mm) fell across the wheat belt, providing little additional moisture for winter wheat and barley. Soaking rains are needed to maintain yield prospects as winter grains advance through the moisture-sensitive reproductive stage of development during the next few weeks. Temperatures were generally seasonable in major agricultural areas.



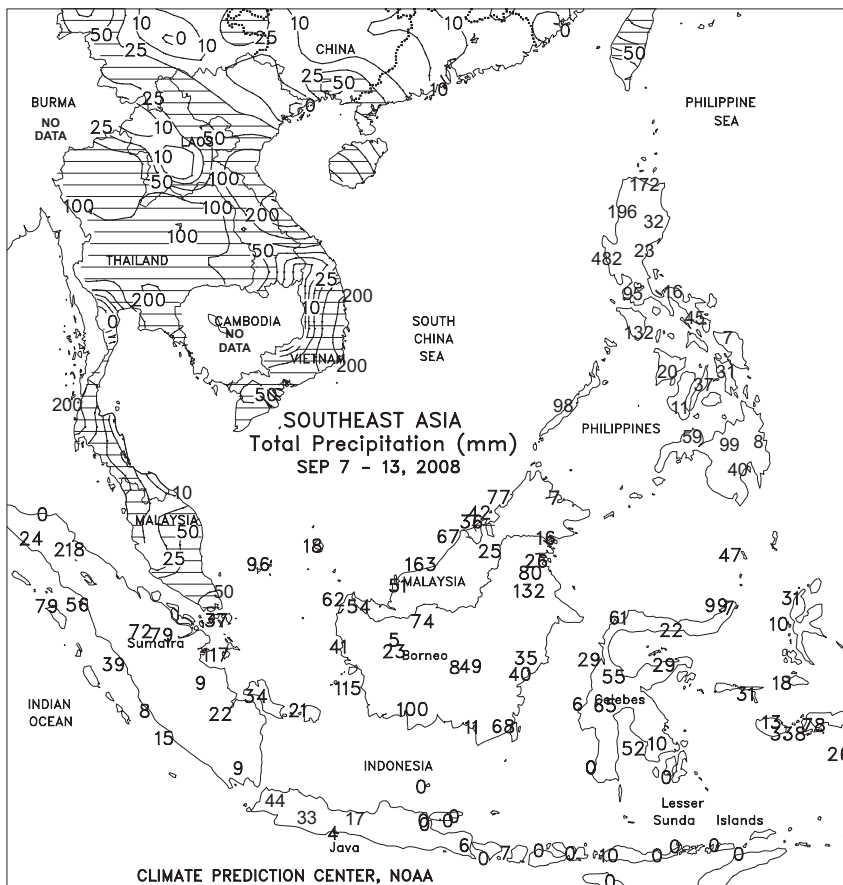
MIDDLE EAST

The 2008-09 growing season picked up where the 2007-08 season left off, with drought entrenched over much of the region. Drought conditions are most pronounced from northern Syria eastward into Iran, although light to moderate showers (1-20 mm) in western Iran's winter wheat areas provided some short-term relief. Nevertheless, significant long-term moisture deficits across the eastern half of the region have depleted irrigation reserves and highlighted the need to a favorable start to the fall-winter wet season. In Turkey, dry conditions favored cotton harvesting but further reduced topsoil moisture for winter crop planting and establishment.



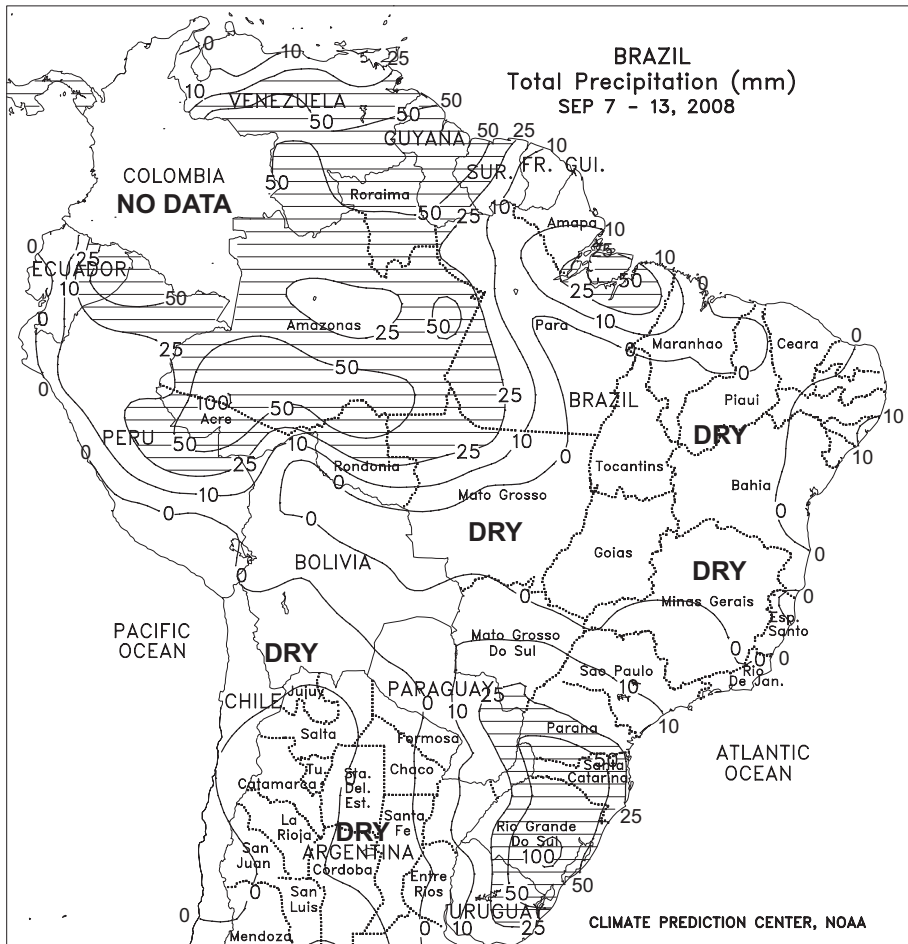
EASTERN ASIA

Monsoon showers (10-50 mm) continued to extend as far north as the Yellow River, bringing unfavorable wet conditions to mature summer crops across the North China Plain. The rainfall was especially unwelcomed for unharvested cotton in Henan and Shandong, which produce most of the eastern grown cotton. In Manchuria, temperatures 1 to 3 degrees C above normal and occasionally dry weather aided maturing corn and soybeans. Minimum temperatures remained above freezing throughout Manchuria, further aiding crop development. The first autumn freeze typically occurs in late September across northern Manchuria. Light showers (1-10 mm) prevailed throughout the south but rice harvesting continued with little delay.



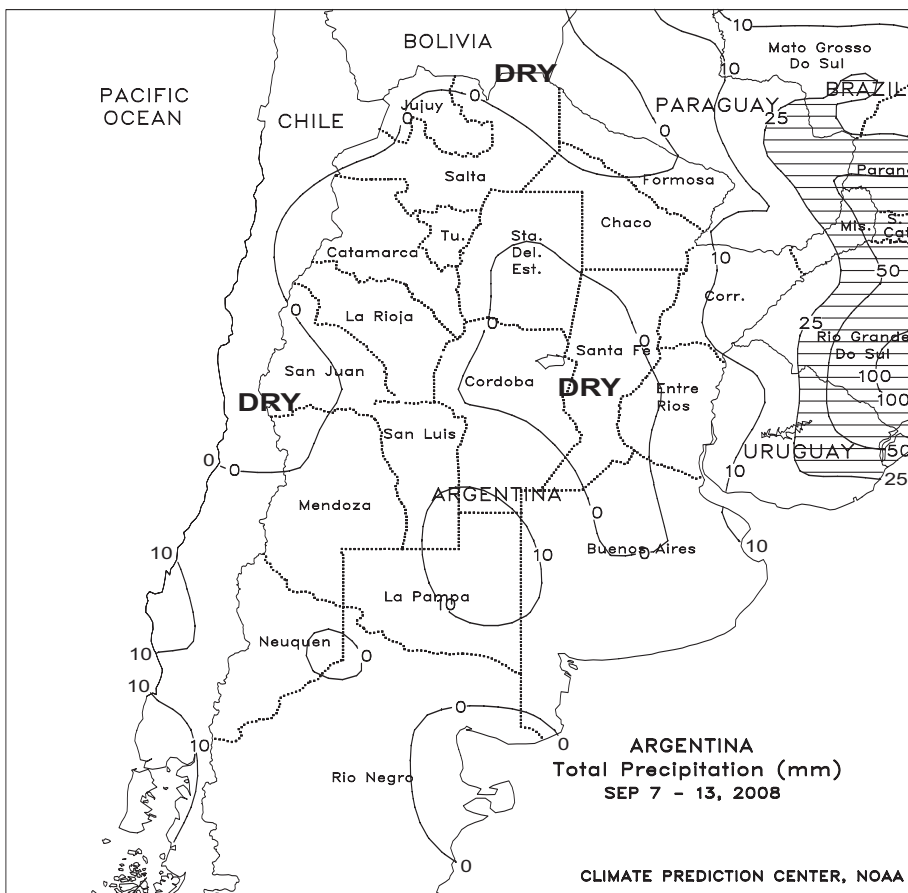
SOUTHEAST ASIA

Monsoon showers continued to increase across Indochina, while Tropical Cyclone Sinlaku affected the Philippines. A copious amount of rainfall (50-200 mm) in Thailand saturated soils and likely caused temporary ponding in some fields, but was generally favorable for reproductive rice. Similarly, 50 to 100 mm of rain in Vietnam increased irrigation supplies for winter rice across the south and aided coffee development in the Central Highlands. Tropical Cyclone Sinlaku formed off the eastern coast of the Philippines early in the week and enhanced monsoon showers across Luzon. Rainfall totals between 100 and 200 mm renewed flooding in western Luzon and likely caused some localized damage to rice and corn. Meanwhile, more reasonable rainfall amounts (25-100 mm) throughout the rest of the Philippines benefited rice and corn. The torrential showers from last week abated somewhat in oil palm areas of Indonesia and Malaysia, although locally heavy amounts (100-200 mm) continued.



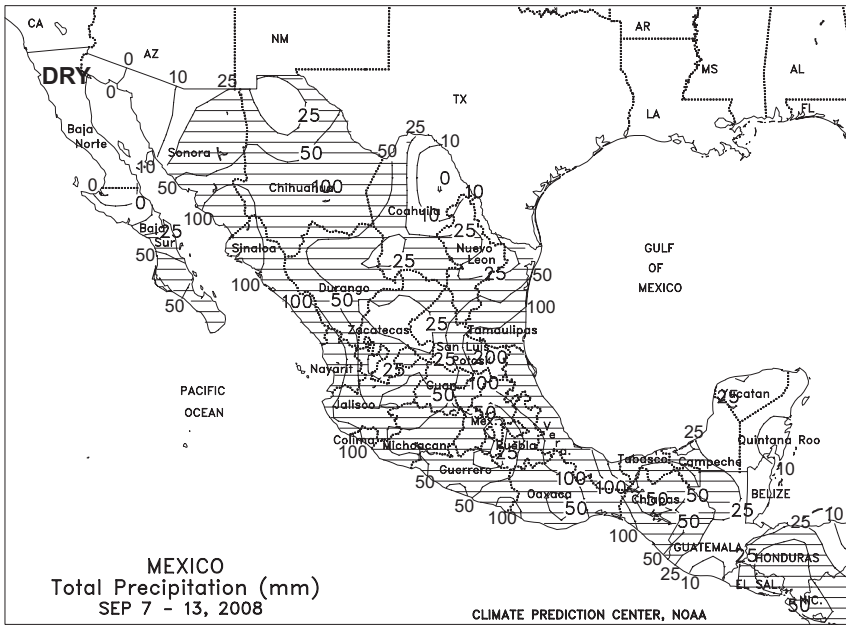
BRAZIL

Rain (10-50 mm or more) maintained overall favorable moisture levels for immature wheat in Rio Grande do Sul. By week's end, however, the moisture had pushed northward into Sao Paulo and southern growing areas of Mato Grosso do Sul and Minas Gerais, slowing seasonal fieldwork that may have included harvesting of winter wheat, sugarcane, and coffee. Temperatures averaged near to below normal in the south, with lows falling into the lower single digits degrees C early in the week. Freezing temperatures (-1 to 0 degrees C) were recorded on the eastern fringes of the growing areas in Santa Catarina, and some isolated damage to immature wheat may have occurred. Elsewhere, seasonably drier weather and above-normal temperatures (highs in the upper 30s and lower 40s degrees C) dominated much of the central and northeastern interior, where farmers await the start of the rainy season. Scattered showers (locally exceeding 25 mm) continued for a second week in northwestern Mato Grosso, and some early soybean planting was likely underway, although seasonal rains are several weeks away for most of the remainder of the Center-West (notably southeastern Mato Grosso and Goias). Rain was generally light (less than 10 mm) along the northeastern coast, which typically receives lower rain during the South American autumn and winter (September through February).



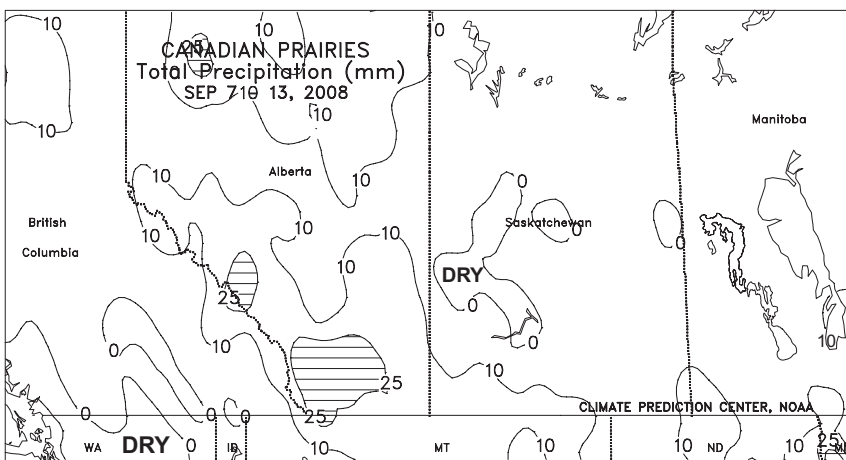
ARGENTINA

Dry weather persisted throughout much of central and northern Argentina, maintaining unfavorable prospects for winter wheat. The exception was in southwestern farming areas (La Pampa and neighboring locations in Cordoba and southwestern Buenos Aires), where a brief period of light rain (less than 10 mm in most areas) brought limited relief from long-term dryness. Temperatures averaged about 1 degree C below normal, with sub-freezing lows extending northward through Cordoba. The frost raised concern for potential damage to wheat in minor northern growing areas, which should be in or nearing reproductive phases of development at this time of year. Seasonably warmer weather and rainfall is needed immediately to prevent significant declines in yield potential of winter grains and to help condition fields for early plantings of summer crops.



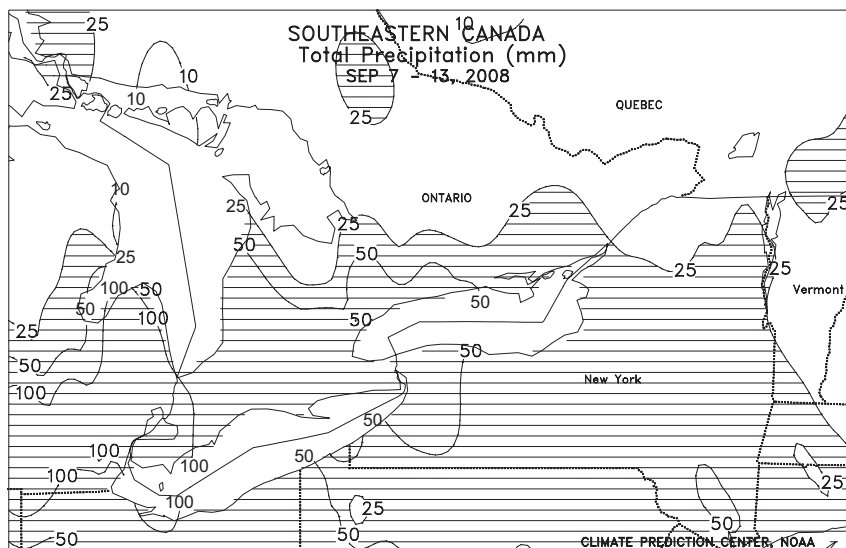
MEXICO

Beneficial rain (10-50 mm or more) increased moisture for corn and other rain-fed summer crops throughout central and southern Mexico. The rainfall was especially timely in northern sections of the southern plateau corn belt that had been trending dry (eastern Jalisco to Hidalgo). In addition, moderate to heavy rain (50-100 mm) benefited Veracruz, which has received sporadic rains for much of the season. Locally heavy showers (25-100 mm or more) also covered northwestern watersheds, increasing irrigation reserves but likely resulting in some localized flooding. The rainfall in the northwest was the result of an influx of tropical moisture from the remnants of Tropical Storm Lowell into the monsoon circulation. Scattered showers (generally less than 25 mm) also occurred in the lower Rio Grande Valley (notably northern Tamaulipas) but drier conditions prevailed in the middle Rio Grande Valley (Coahuila) and on the Yucatan Peninsula.



CANADA

The central and eastern Prairies continued to lack a widespread, killing freeze, allowing late-season development of spring grains and oilseeds. Temperatures averaged near to slightly below normal in Saskatchewan and Manitoba, with nearly all locations recording lows in the lower single digits degrees C. However, colder weather settled into the area at week's end, and several locations reported subzero temperatures on September 14 (additional information will appear in next week's Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin). Rain (5-10 mm or more) was generally confined to southern growing areas, likely causing localized delays in harvesting. Heavier rain (10-25 mm or more) covered southern Alberta, disrupting fieldwork but improving moisture levels for winter grains and pastures. Temperatures averaged up to 2 degrees C below normal in Alberta's central and southern growing areas, but many locations have yet to record their first autumn freeze. Light precipitation (less than 10 mm, most areas) and seasonably cool weather covered Alberta's northern growing areas, likely slowing harvesting but moistening topsoils for winter grain planting.



In eastern Canada, locally heavy rain (10-25 mm, locally exceeding 50 mm) increased moisture reserves for the upcoming winter wheat crop in southern and central growing areas of Ontario. Weekly accumulations were lighter (less than 25 mm) in Quebec and eastern growing areas of Ontario, but heavy rain from the remnants of Hurricane Ike were approaching the region at week's end (additional information will appear in next week's Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin). Temperatures were generally seasonable, with highs in the middle 20s degrees C promoting growth of filling to maturing corn and soybeans.

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