



Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending March 30, 2008

Agricultural Summary

Cool and very wet weather put a hold on almost all fieldwork around the state. **Pasture** and **wheat** growth has been delayed by the cool temperatures. Flooding problems from very heavy rains two weeks ago have been minor in most areas. A few wheat fields in central and east-central areas suffered slight damage from creek bottom flooding and sand and gravel deposits in small areas of the fields. However, Howell County in the south-central district reported major damage to roads and bridges, while the Bootheel has lost substantial wheat acres from river flooding. **Topsoil moisture** rates 53 percent adequate and 47 percent surplus. **Spring tillage** is 13 percent complete, compared with 34 percent as normal. There were 1.8 **days suitable for fieldwork**.

Field Crops Report

Corn planting progress was minimal. Franklin County reported a few planters on sandy fields, while the Bootheel reports only 1 percent planted compared with 45 percent last year. **Wheat** condition is rated 3 percent very poor, 9 percent poor, 34 percent fair, 49 percent good, and 5 percent excellent. The worst condition is in the Bootheel, where 30 percent is rated poor to very poor. Mississippi and New Madrid County lost most of the wheat planted between the Mississippi River and their levees. Damage was also done by flooding from overflowed drainage ditches. While some areas have seen floodwaters recede, damage is still evident in the form of yellowing plants.

Pasture & Livestock

Pasture condition is rated 8 percent very poor, 21 percent poor, 46 percent fair, 22 percent good, and 3 percent excellent. Several reporters commented on the need for warmer temperatures to stimulate pasture grasses. Farmers are eager to stop supplemental hay feeding and begin grazing, especially in the south-central district, where dryness cut hay supplies last year.

Weather Summary

Average **temperatures** were near normal in the south, while northern and central areas were mostly 2 to 4 degrees below average. **Rainfall** averaged 0.70 inches. Precipitation was light in the three northern districts and the west-central district, while the others ranged from 0.72 to 1.51 inches.

Audio Commentary

Weekly Crop Progress and Condition Audio Commentary by State Director Gene Danekas is available on the [Missouri Field Office Audio Publications page](#).

http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Missouri/Publications/Audio/

Weather Data

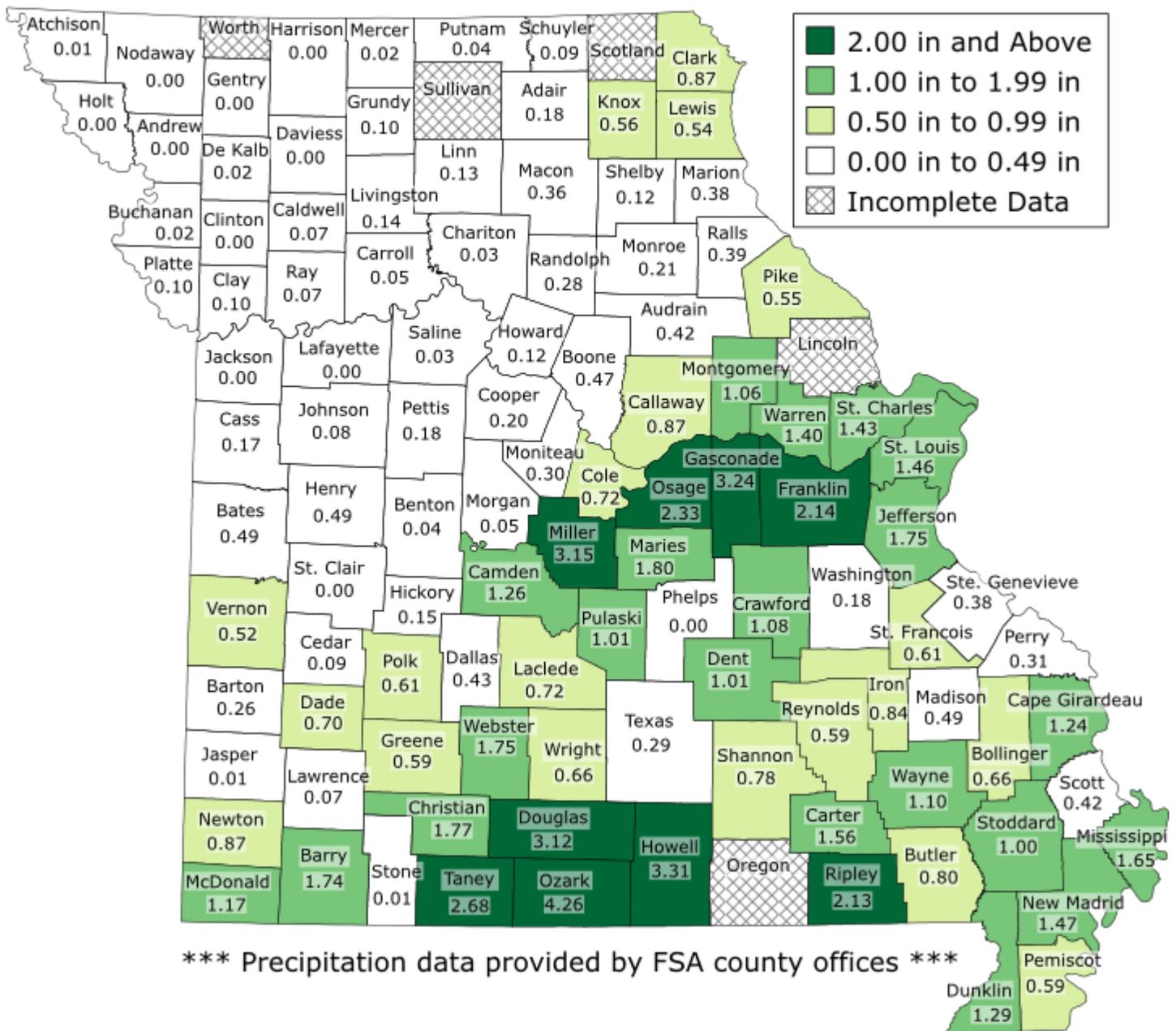
Hourly and daily weather data from stations throughout the state is available at the [Missouri Historical Agricultural Weather Database](#).

<http://agebb.missouri.edu/weather/history/>

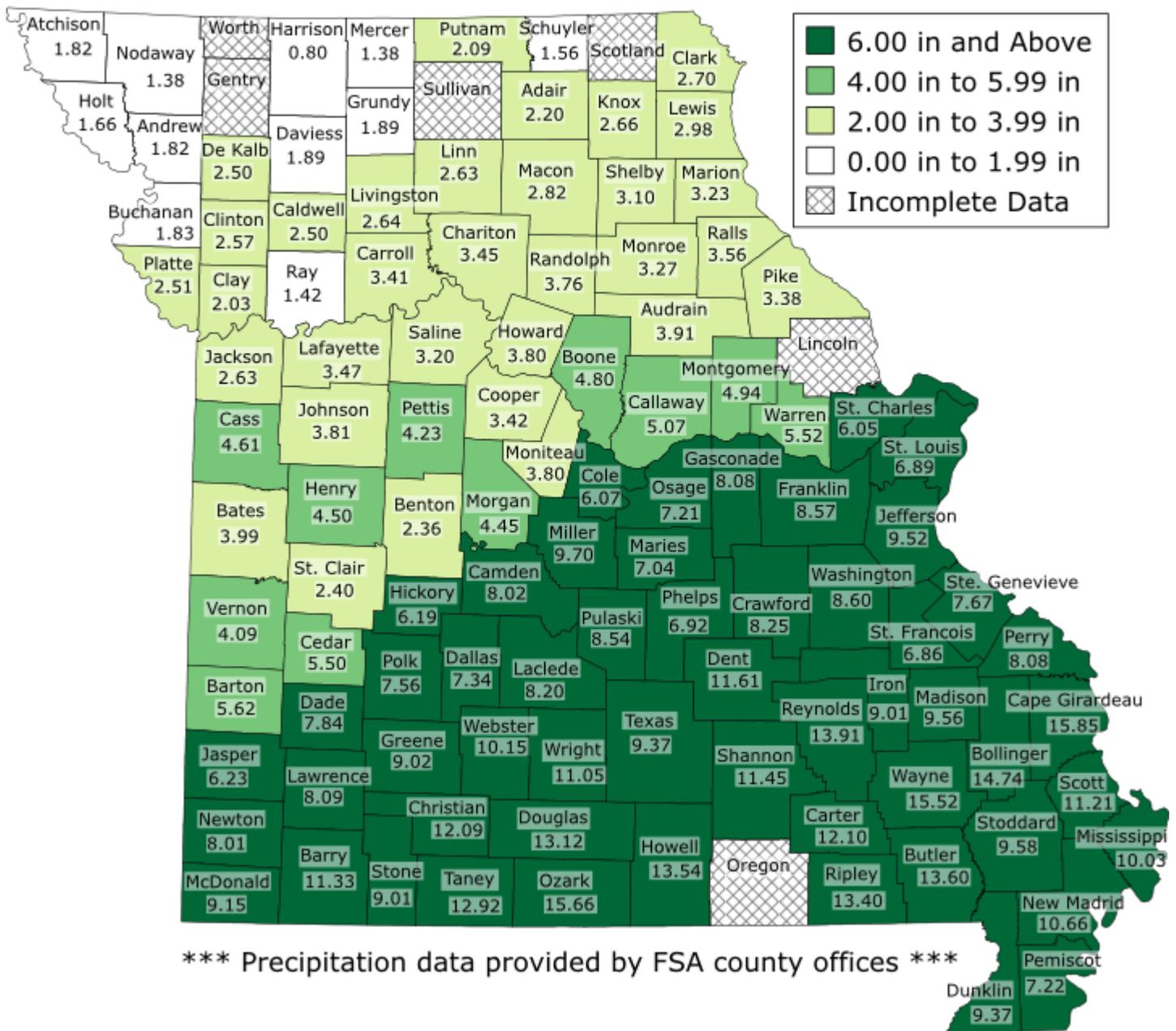
District Summaries As Of March 31, 2008

	Missouri	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE
Days Suitable For Fieldwork										
This Year	1.8	3.7	1.9	1.0	3.5	1.0	0.4	2.0	1.2	0.5
Last Year	3.0	2.7	1.8	1.2	2.5	2.3	2.9	3.6	4.6	5.2
Topsoil Moisture Supply										
Very Short	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Short	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adequate	53	74	62	50	61	55	41	29	49	15
Surplus	47	26	35	49	39	45	59	71	51	85
Ground Worked Spring Tillage, Percent										
This Year	13	5	24	13	23	7	5	16	13	15
Last Year	36	34	33	14	46	22	29	45	44	69
Normal	34									
Corn Planted, Percent										
This Year	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Last Year	8	1	1	0	3	2	7	10	9	45
Normal	5									
Winter Wheat Condition										
Very Poor	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	8
Poor	9	5	3	5	6	1	7	0	3	22
Fair	34	57	46	22	28	29	36	21	20	41
Good	49	34	43	64	58	65	48	79	46	28
Excellent	5	4	8	9	8	4	9	0	28	1
Pasture Condition										
Very Poor	8	10	20	17	0	10	10	1	0	1
Poor	21	29	22	24	12	14	23	2	34	4
Fair	46	39	39	37	59	50	42	57	44	41
Good	22	20	18	21	20	25	25	34	17	47
Excellent	3	2	1	1	9	1	0	6	5	7
Average Precipitation	0.70	0.03	0.12	0.41	0.20	0.72	1.26	0.72	1.51	1.06

Precipitation for Week Ending March 30, 2008



Precipitation for Four Weeks Ending March 30, 2008



*** Precipitation data provided by FSA county offices ***