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USSR WEATHER AND CROP INFORMATION, 2 - 13 APRIL 1953

Underlined dates refer to days of publication. All temperatures are in degrees centigrade.

3 April

On 2 April, warm, dry weather, favorable for field work, continued throughout the Ukraine, Moldavia, Crimea, the Northern Caucasus, and a large part of Rostovskaya Oblast. Daytime temperatures exceeded 10 degrees above zero; in Odessa and Kishinev, they reached almost 20 degrees. It became cooler in the Baltic republics, Belorussia, and the central regions.

The weather remained cold in the northern regions, the Volga Region, and the Urals. Daytime temperatures were 2-3 degrees above zero in Stalingrad, Kuybyshev, Kazan', and Ufa.

The snow had melted from the fields in Yaroslavskaaya, Ivanovskaya, Gor'kovskaya, and Saratovskaya oblasts, but a snow cover remained on the ground in Stalingradskaya Oblast. The soil was in condition for field work in many areas of Rostovskaya Oblast and in various places in Astrakhanskaya Oblast. Frost remained on the ground in the central chernozem zone, delaying the drying out of the soil there.

Moderately warm weather prevailed in Central Asia and southern Kazakhstan.

4 April

On 3 April, it was warmest in the southwestern portion of the European USSR, coldest in the northeastern portion. Noon temperatures were 16 degrees above zero in Kishinev, 15 in L'vov, 14 in Odessa, 12 in Kiev, Dnepropetrovsk, Simferopol', and Krasnodar, 10 in Rostov on the Don and Voroshilovgrad, and 8

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in Nal'chik. Sowing of early spring crops was in progress in all these areas. Farther north, supplemental additions of fertilizer and harrowing of winter crops and preparation for sowing of spring crops continued. Noon temperatures rose to 6 degrees above zero in the Leningrad area, 5 in Riga, and 3-4 in Kursk, Voronezh, Tambov, Saratov, Gor'kiy, Moscow, and Velikiye Luki.

Still farther north, the weather was cold; snow was still lying on the ground north of a line running through Tikhvin in Leningradskaya Oblast, Vologda, Kostroma, Gor'kiy, Penza, Kuybyshev, Ural'sk, and Chkalov.

Precipitation fell in almost the entire western half of the Transcaucasus; it was quite heavy at some places in this area. Noon temperatures rose to 10-12 degrees above zero. Temperatures of 14-16 degrees above zero were recorded in most portions of the Central Asian republics.

In Kazakhstan, cold weather continued in Aktyubinskaya and Akmolinskaya oblasts and the oblasts adjoining them on the north and west.

5 April

On 4 April, dry but cool weather prevailed throughout almost all the European USSR. Rain fell only in some foothill regions of the Northern Caucasus. Daytime temperatures higher than 10 degrees above zero were recorded only in the extreme western parts of the Baltic republics, Belorussia, and the Ukraine. Daytime temperatures were only 8 degrees above zero in Krasnodar, 6 in Simferopol', and 4 in Orel, Tambov, and Saratov; they were 2-3 degrees below zero in Ufa and Chkalov.

On the morning of 4 April, a snow cover remained on the ground north of a line running approximately from Leningrad to Chkalov. Snow was also still lying on the fields of Stalingradskaya Oblast, where cold weather still prevails; daytime temperatures of zero degrees were recorded in the oblast.

Sowing of spring crops was in full swing in the Ukraine, Moldavia, and the Northern Caucasus. Potatoes were being planted in the Tiraspol' area. Fruit trees in orchards of southern Dnepropetrovskaya Oblast were beginning to blossom.

It was warm in southern Kazakhstan and in Central Asia. Temperatures were 10-12 degrees above zero in Ashkhabad and Dzhambul and 18 in Stalina-bad. Local rains fell in these republics. In many areas, tomatoes were being transplanted; in some areas, potato plants were beginning to emerge from the ground.

7 April

On 6 April, moderately warm weather prevailed throughout almost all the European USSR. Noon temperatures were 5-8 degrees above zero almost everywhere. It was somewhat cooler in the southern Urals and the Lower Volga Region. Higher temperatures were observed in the Northern Caucasus: 11 degrees above zero in Rostov on the Don and 14 degrees in Krasnodar.

Light precipitation in the form of rain and wet snow fell in eastern Belorussia. Strong winds which had prevailed in the southern Ukraine and the Northern Caucasus diminished in force. During the last few days, the snow has completely disappeared from the fields in the Kamyslin and Stalingrad areas. In the central regions, night frosts are delaying conditioning of the soil for field work.

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It was comparatively warm in Western Siberia; noon temperatures ranged from one to 4 degrees above zero. The weather was very warm in the Transbaykal region. Daytime temperatures were 12 degrees above zero in Chita and 17 in Blagoveshchensk.

It was considerably warmer in Central Asia and southern Kazakhstan. Daytime temperatures rose to 13-16 degrees above zero.

8 April

On 7 April, dry weather continued in most of the European USSR. Rains fell during the night and early morning in the Baltic republics, Belorussia, and the northwestern Ukraine. Daytime temperatures in the Crimea, Kuban', and most of the Ukraine rose as high as 15 degrees above zero. Daytime temperatures were 12 degrees in Orel and Voronezh, 7 in Moscow, Minsk, Saratov, and Kuybyshev, and 2-3 in Ufa and Chkalov. It was comparatively cold in Stalingradskaya Oblast; during the day, a reading of only 4 degrees above zero was recorded in Stalingrad. Low temperatures have prevailed in the oblast for some time, as a result of which snow is still lying on the fields in many portions of the oblast. On the other hand, the snow cover has already disappeared in oblasts further north, including Ul'yanovskaya Oblast.

The boundary of continuous snow cover has continued to move northeastward and on the morning of 7 April ran approximately from Petrozavodsk through Vologda and Kazan' to Chkalov. The line up to which the soil was in condition for field work ran through Kurskaya and Voronezhskaya oblasts. In some places, the soil was ready to be worked in the northern regions, although the weather was still cold there and the ground still retained considerable frost.

It was cold in Western Siberia. Daytime temperatures were 2 degrees below zero in Barnaul and 5 below in Novosibirsk; at night, temperatures dropped to 10 degrees below zero. Here and there in Western Siberia, a new snow cover had appeared.

It was warm and dry in southern Kazakhstan and Central Asia. Daytime temperatures were about 15 degrees above zero in Dzhambul and Kzyl-Orda and 20 in Ashkhabad and Tashkent. Conditions were altogether favorable for field work and the development of crops.

9 April

On 8 April, noon temperatures rose to 14-15 degrees above zero in the Krasnodar area, Rostov on the Don, Voroshilovgrad, and Dnepropetrovsk, 13 in Voronezh, 12 in Kursk, 11 in Gor'kiy, Tambov, and Simferopol', 10 in Moscow, Orel, Kiev, and Kishinev, 9 in L'vov and Sverdlovsk, 8 in Odessa, 7 in Stalingrad, Kuybyshev, and Riga, 6 in Minsk, Velikiye Luki, Kirov, and Syktyvkar, 5 in Kazan' and Vologda, 3 in Leningrad, Chkalov, and Ufa, and one in Petrozavodsk and Arkhangel'sk.

During the first 12 hours of 8 April, rains fell mainly in the central and northwestern regions of the European USSR.

On 8 April, the southern boundary of snow cover ran along a line from the southeastern shore of Lake Ladoga through Vologda, Shar'ya in Kostromskaya Oblast, Yelabuga in the Tatarskaya ASSR, and Ural'sk, to a point north of Chkalov. The soil had reached the right condition for field work as far north as a line running from Brest to Astrakhan'.

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Cold weather prevailed throughout Siberia. It was warm in southern Kazakhstan and in the Central Asian republics. Generally, daytime temperatures rose to 22-23 degrees above zero. It was somewhat colder in the mountainous regions. At a depth of 10 centimeters, the soil had warmed to 14-16 degrees above zero.

10 April

On 9 April, very warm weather continued in the Kuban' and Rostovskaya Oblast; daytime temperatures exceeded 15 degrees above zero. In Stalin-gradskaya Oblast, the weather continued to warm up rapidly. The daytime temperature which had been only 4 degrees above zero on 7 April and 7 degrees on 8 April, had risen to 13 degrees on 9 April. Temperatures of 13 degrees above zero prevailed also in the western Ukraine; in the eastern Ukraine, rain began to fall and temperatures fell somewhat, ranging around 10 degrees.

The thermometer registered 8-10 degrees above zero in the central regions, the Baltic republics, and Belorussia. Rain was falling in Kostromskaya, Gor'kovskaya, Vladimirskaya, Tambovskaya, and Voronezhskaya oblasts. The rain belt was moving toward the Volga Region and the southern Urals, where it was still cold. Daytime temperatures were 2 degrees above zero in Kirov, Chkalov, and Kazan' and one degree above zero in Kuybyshev; snow was still lying on the ground in these areas. The rain which fell in the central regions somewhat delayed the drying of the soil but promoted the thawing-out and warming-up processes, consequently, conditions for the development of winter crops and the growth of grasses in meadows and pastures were improved.

It was cold in Siberia as far as Lake Baykal. Daytime temperatures were around zero, although 5 degrees below zero were recorded in Irkutsk. A new snow cover was formed here and there in the southern portion of Krasnoyarskiy Kray.

It was warm in Central Asia and southern Kazakhstan. Temperatures were 10 degrees above zero in Alma-Ata and Dzhanbul, 16 in Stalinabad, and 20 in Tashkent.

11 April

On 10 April, warm weather continued in most of the Ukraine, in Rostovskaya Oblast, and in the Northern Caucasus. Temperatures recorded were 14 degrees above zero in Lvov, 16 in Dnepropetrovsk and Voroshilovgrad, 18 in Rostov on the Don, and 22 in Krasnodar. Rain fell in Moldavia and the extreme southern Ukraine; temperatures rose to only 8 degrees in Odessa and 9 in Kishinev. Slightly cooler weather accompanied by precipitation was observed in the northwestern regions and the Urals. The thermometer registered 6 degrees above zero as compared with 10 degrees the day before in Riga; in Velikiye Luki, the temperature dropped 5 degrees in a 24-hour period. On 10 April, snow fell in Sverdlovsk, Ufa, and Chkalov, but the temperature did not fall below zero. It was 10-11 degrees in Moscow, Orel, Kursk, and Saratov. In many areas of the central zone, the soil has thawed out completely. The line up to which the soil is in condition for working has moved almost up to Pskov, Kalinin, and Saransk. The soil is still frozen in the Middle Volga Region and snow lies on the ground in the Urals.

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The sowing of spring crops continued in the Ukraine. Crops were already sprouting in the southern portion of the republic. In places, winter crops had entered the stemming-out stage.

In Western Siberia and northern Kazakhstan, temperatures rose to 5-6 degrees above zero during the day but dropped to as low as 6 degrees below zero at night. The fields were free from snow throughout the area south of Omsk and Krasnoyarsk. The line up to which the soil was in condition for field work ran through the southern part of Karagandinskaya Oblast.

It was warm in southern Kazakhstan and Central Asia. Rain fell in Stalinabad. Daytime temperatures rose to 15-20 degrees almost everywhere. Weather conditions for the growth of crops were good. Apple trees had finished blossoming. Lemon trees had entered the phase of forming buds.

12 April

The cool weather which set in on 10 April became colder on 11 April and spread southward. In a 24-hour period, temperatures dropped 5 degrees in Kursk, 8 in Moscow, and 10 in Dnepropetrovsk.

Warm, dry weather prevailed in the Lower Volga Region, the eastern Ukraine, and the Northern Caucasus. Daytime temperatures were 12 degrees above zero in Saratov and Voroshilovgrad, 14 in Rostov on the Don, 15 in Stalingrad, and 23 in Krasnodar.

Rains and light, local snowfalls occurred in most portions of the Ukraine except the eastern, the chernozem zone, and in Penzenskaya, Ryazan'skaya, Tul'skaya, Moskovskaya, and Vladimirskaya oblasts. Noon temperatures were 9 degrees above zero in Kishinev and Simferopol', 5 in Kursk, Kiev, and Dnepropetrovsk, 5 in Minsk, and 3 in Moscow and Kazan'. The daytime temperature in Chkalov was one degree below zero. In the Baltic republics and Belorussia, temperatures dropped to 2-4 degrees below zero at night.

Warm weather continued in Central Asia and southern Kazakhstan; daytime temperatures ranged between 15 and 20 degrees. Spring grain crops were in the bushing stage; winter grain crops had entered the stemming-out stage. The condition of crops was good.

14 April

On 12 and 13 April, the weather became considerably warmer in the western and northwestern European USSR. In the southeastern regions and the chernozem zone, temperatures dropped sharply. While noon temperatures of 12-14 degrees were recorded in Petrozavodsk, Leningrad, Riga, Minsk, Kiev, and Kishinev, they rose to only 2 degrees above zero in Orel, Kuybyshev, and Voronezh. In Kursk, Saratov, and Stalingrad, the thermometer registered zero degrees; occasional snowfalls were observed in these areas.

Rainy weather prevailed throughout almost all the European USSR. Heavy rain fell on 11 April in the eastern half of the Ukraine and throughout the central zone, including the chernozem regions and the region west of the Volga River. On 12 April, precipitation occurred in the Volga Region; during the morning of 13 April, it was continuing in the Middle Volga Region.

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Meteorological conditions for the growth of grass and development of crops were favorable everywhere, particularly in the Ukraine and the Volga Region. All types of spring field work could be carried out successfully in Beloussia, that portion of the Ukraine west of the Dnepr River, the Crimea, Moldavia, and Northern Caucasus.

It was warm in Western Siberia. Fields were free from snow in the northern portion. In the southern portion, the soil was getting into condition for field work.

Cooler weather returned to Central Asia and southern Kazakhstan. Rain was falling in many areas. Daytime temperatures were 8 degrees above zero in Stalinabad and 9 in Alma-Ata.

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