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USSR WEATHER AND CROP INFORMATION, 1 - 16 MARCH 1953

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

1 March

On 28 February, the coldest temperature in the European USSR of 19 degrees below zero was recorded at noon in the Chkalov area. The second center of cold weather was concentrated in the Tambov and Orel areas where noon temperatures reached 10 degrees below zero. Noon temperatures were 7-8 degrees below zero in Kursk, Voronezh, Gor'kiy, Kazan', and Ufa, 6 below in Sverdlovsk, Kuybyshev and Saratov, 5 below in Stalingrad, Dnepropetrovsk, and Moscow, 4 below in Kirov, Kiev, Kisilnev, and Odessa, one below in Simferopol', Rostov on the Don, Vologda, and Arkhangel'sk, zero in Leningrad, Velikiye Luki, and Nal'chik, one degree above zero in Riga and Minsk, and 2 degrees above zero in L'vov and Krasnodar.

During the first 12 hours of 28 February, snow fell in the northwestern and northeastern regions, some areas of the central regions, and the Lower Volga Region.

Temperatures dropped in the western and central portions of the Transcaucasus. The noon temperature in Tbilisi did not rise above 3 degrees above zero. Rain fell in many localities of the above mentioned areas. Warm weather prevailed only in the Yerevan area and the southeastern portion of the Transcaucasus.

Temperatures dropped to 20 degrees below zero in the Semipalatinsk area of the northern Kazakh SSR, and to 16 below in the Akmolinsk and Aktyubinsk areas. The noon temperature in the Barnaul area was approximately 16 degrees below zero. It was 13 degrees below zero in Omsk and Novosibirsk. Temperatures ranged between 6 and 8 degrees below zero in Krasnoyarsk, Irkutsk, and Chita. It was 3 degrees below zero in Blagoveshchensk and 2 degrees above zero in Khabarovsk.

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The drop in temperatures increased in Central Asia and the southern Kazakh SSR. Temperatures everywhere in this area only rose to 10 degrees above zero compared with 14-16 degrees above zero the day before. The temperature dropped to zero in the Dzhambul area, to 2 degrees above zero in Alma Ata, and 4 above in Kzyl Orda. During the night, temperatures in these areas ranged between 4 and 7 degrees below zero.

3 March

On 2 March, warm weather with daytime thaws prevailed in the western and central regions of the European USSR. Daytime temperatures were one degree above zero in Petrozavodsk and Leningrad, two degrees above zero in Riga, Moscow, Kiev, Kishinev, and Odessa. During the day, slightly below zero weather prevailed in the rest of the European USSR.

Precipitation fell in the Northern Caucasus, the Lower Volga Region, Komi ASSR, and the northern Urals. As a result of considerably subzero temperatures for this time of the year recorded during the last few days in the Crimea and the Northern Caucasus, the upper layer of the soil froze up to 10 centimeters, and locally up to 15 centimeters.

Slightly below zero temperatures prevailed throughout all Siberia from the Urals to Khabarovsk. During the day, temperatures almost everywhere ranged between 6 and 8 degrees below zero. Light snowfalls occurred in Western Siberia.

Warm weather prevailed in the southern Kazakh SSR and in Central Asia. Daytime temperatures rose to 12 to 18 degrees above zero in the Ashkhabad and Stalinabad areas and to 5 to 8 degrees above zero in the Alma-Ata and Kzyl-Orda areas. Quite heavy rains fell in some areas. The temperature of the soil at a depth of 10 centimeters rose to 8 to 10 degrees above zero in the Uzbek SSR and to 10 to 14 degrees in the Tadzhik and Turkmen SSRs.

4 March

On 3 March, slightly below zero temperatures prevailed in most of the European USSR. During the day, above zero temperatures were recorded in the northwestern regions, the Western Ukraine, and the Crimea. Daytime temperatures ranged from one to five degrees below zero in the rest of the European USSR.

Snow and rains with snow fell in the Baltic republics, the northwestern, northern, and northeastern regions, and the Urals. Heavy snowfalls fell in Astrakhanskaya and Guryev'skaya oblasts and in the foothills of the Northern Caucasus.

It became somewhat colder in the Transcaucasus, but daytime temperatures ranged between 5 and 10 degrees above zero.

During the day, cloudy weather with slightly below zero temperatures prevailed in Western Siberia.

It was very warm in Central Asia and especially in the southern Kazakh SSR. Daytime temperatures were 25 degrees above zero in Chimkent and Dzhambul and 20 above in Frunze. Because of the very warm weather which has prevailed here in the last month, crops have developed earlier than usual. In the Uzbek SSR, for example, the blossoming of apricots occurred 20-25 days earlier than usual and a half a month earlier than last year. Apricots are blossoming also in the Turkmen SSR and the Kulyabadskiy, Shaartuzskiy, Kirovabadskiy, and Kurgan-Tyubinskiy rayons of the Tadzhik SSR. Cherries and plums are blossoming in Bayram-Aliyevskiy Rayon in the Turkmen SSR.

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5 March

Colder weather prevailed in the Baltic republics, Belorussian SSR, western Ukraine, and central regions of the European USSR. Daytime temperatures were 5 degrees below zero in Leningrad, Minsk, Kiev, and Kishinev, 7-8 degrees below zero in Moscow, Orel, and Kursk. The temperature was one degree above zero in Simferopol' and Odessa. There was no substantial change in the weather in the rest of the European USSR. Slightly below zero temperatures prevailed everywhere during the day. It was 2 to 3 degrees below zero in Kirov and Sverdlovsk, and 4 below in Chkalov and Saratov.

It became warmer in the northern Kazakh SSR. During the day, temperatures rose to 7 degrees above zero in Makhachkala and Nal'chik, and 5 in Krasnodar compared with 2 degrees below zero the day before. Precipitation fell in the Ukraine, the central chernozem zone, Arkhangel'skaya and Vologodskaya oblasts, and Komi ASSR.

In the Severo-Osetinskaya ASSR, field work and the sowing of oats has begun. In Babayurtovskiy Rayon in the Lagestanskaya ASSR, the sowing of wheat and the harrowing of winter grain has begun. It is reported from Samukh and Prishib in the Azerbaydzhan SSR that winter barley and wheat have reached the tube stage. Slightly below zero temperatures prevailed in Western Siberia and snowfalls occurred. Daytime temperatures were 3 degrees below zero in Omsk and one degree above zero in Novosibirsk. Heavy thaws occurred in Eastern Siberia. Daytime temperatures were 5 degrees above zero in Krasnoyarsk, and one degree in Irkutsk.

It was somewhat colder in Central Asia, especially in the Turkmen SSR. The daytime temperature in Ashkhabad rose to 3 degrees above zero and to 13 to 16 degrees above in Tashkent and Stalinabad. Rain fell in some areas of Central Asia.

6 March

On 5 March, the drop in temperatures increased in the European USSR. Daytime temperatures were about 7 degrees below zero in Leningrad, Moscow, Saratov, Kiev, and Kazan' and 9 below in Vologda, Gor'kiy, Tambov, and Stalingrad. Daytime temperatures dropped below zero in the Far North. Temperatures were one degree below zero in Krasnodar and Odessa, and 3 below in Rostov on the Don. Snowfalls and snowstorms occurred in the central regions and the Middle Volga Region. Cold weather prevailed in the Transcaucasus. Temperatures dropped in Western Siberia.

Cold weather also prevailed in Central Asia and the southern Kazakh SSR. The temperature in Kzyl-Orda was about zero and snow fell. Daytime temperatures were 7 degrees above zero in Ashkhabad, and 12 above in Stalinabad and Tashkent. From Iolotan' in the Turkmen SSR it is reported that alfalfa is being sown, cotton fields are being plowed, leaves are appearing on mulberry trees, and cherry trees are blossoming. After rains, the temperature of the soil at a depth of 10 centimeters dropped to 11 degrees above zero. It is reported from Kulyub in the Tadzhik SSR that the blossoming of apricot trees has finished.

7 - 11 March

[No weather and crop information was published during this period.]

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12 March

On 11 March, slightly below zero weather prevailed in all the European USSR. Precipitation, mostly in the form of snow, fell in the Urals, some areas of the central region, the southern Belorussian SSR, the northern Ukraine, and the Crimea.

Noon temperatures were about zero in Simferopol', Kishinev, Voronezh, and Kuybyshev, one degree below zero in Moscow, Saratov, Kiev, and Dnepropetrovsk, 2 below in Kursk, Gor'kiy, and Chkalov, 3 below in Kirov and Ufa, and 6 below in Leningrad. Above zero temperatures were recorded during the day in the Lower Volga Region (Stalingrad, one degree above zero) and the Northern Caucasus (Rostov on the Don, one degree above zero, and Krasnodar, 4 degrees).

Daytime temperatures ranged between 12 and 15 degrees below zero in Western Siberia in the Omsk and Tobol'sk areas; snowfalls were recorded in some areas. It was warmer in the Novosibirsk and Krasnoyarsk areas where noon temperatures ranged between 4 and 6 degrees below zero.

Cold weather alternating with warmer weather has prevailed in Central Asia during the last few days. Daytime temperatures were 2 degrees above zero in Ashkhabad and 3 in Stalinabad. Temperatures rose in the southern Kazakh SSR. Noon temperatures in Dzhambul were about zero.

Winter crops in the Leninabad and Pendzhikent areas of the Tadzhik SSR and the Iolotan' area of the Turkmen SSR have begun to enter the tube stage.

13 March

On 12 March, cloudy with intermittent clear weather accompanied by lower temperatures prevailed in the western regions of the European USSR. Daytime temperatures were 8 degrees below zero in Leningrad, Velikiye Luki, Riga, and Minsk, and 6 below in Kiev, Kursk, and L'vov. Cloudy, locally overcast weather with slightly below zero temperatures prevailed in the eastern and southern regions. Daytime temperatures were 3 degrees below zero in Sverdlovsk, Kirov, and Saratov, 2 degrees below in Kazan', Gor'kiy, Kuybyshev, Stalingrad, and Simferopol', and zero in Rostov on the Don and Odessa. It was 4 degrees above zero in Krasnodar and 5 in Makhachkala.

Quite heavy rains fell in the Kuban'. Snow fell in Rostovskaya, Stalin-skaya, Voroshilovgradskaya, and Stalingradskaya oblasts, the Middle Volga Region, and the central regions.

Temperatures rose in Western Siberia and light snowfalls were recorded. Daytime temperatures were 5 degrees below zero in Tobol'sk, Novosibirsk, Barnaul, and Krasnoyarsk, and 2 below in Omsk.

Rising temperatures prevailed in Central Asia. Noon temperatures in Ashkhabad, Stalinabad, and Tashkent ranged between 12 and 15 degrees above zero. Temperatures rose in the southern Kazakh SSR. Daytime temperatures were 7 degrees above zero in Kzyl-Orda, and 3 above in Dzhambul. The growth of crops which had been retarded by previous cold weather was again renewed with rising temperatures.

14 March

On 13 March, slightly cloudy, cold weather prevailed in the western regions of the European USSR. Daytime temperatures were 5 degrees below zero in Riga, 6 below in Kiev, 7 below in Leningrad, and 9 below in Minsk. Cold

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weather prevailed in the southern regions. Noon temperatures in Odessa and Simferopol' were about one degree below zero, 3 below in Kislinev, and 2 below in Rostov on the Don.

Overcast weather with light snowfalls prevailed in the Urals and the Middle Volga Region. Daytime temperatures were about zero in Ufa, Kazan', and Kuybyshev. Snowfalls occurred in the central chernozem zone. Cold weather prevailed in the Transcaucasus. The daytime temperature in Tbilisi was one degree below zero and snow fell.

During the day, overcast weather with light snowfalls and slightly below zero temperatures prevailed in Western Siberia. Daytime temperatures were 8 degrees below zero in Omsk, 3 below in Novosibirsk, and 5 below in Barnaul.

A further rise in temperatures occurred in Central Asia. Daytime temperatures were about 18 degrees above zero in Ashkhabad and Tashkent, 5 in Kzyl-Orda, and 4 in Alma-Ata. Because of rising temperatures, the temperature of the soil has also risen. The temperature of the soil in Iolotanskiy Rayon in the Turkmen SSR was 10 degrees above zero at a depth of 10 centimeters. Plum trees are blossoming.

15 March

On 14 March, slightly cloudy, cold weather, with wide variations of temperature in a 24-hour period prevailed in the western and northern regions of the European USSR. During the night, temperatures dropped to 15-20 degrees below zero, but during the day they rose to 8 degrees below zero in Minsk, 5 below in Kiev, L'vov, and Syktyvkar, 4 below in Vologda, and one below in Leningrad. The drop in temperatures increased in the southern Ukraine, the Crimea, and the Northern Caucasus. Noon temperatures were one degree below zero in Odessa, 2 below in Voroshilovgrad, 3 below in Rostov on the Don and snowfalls occurred. Subzero temperatures ranging from one to three degrees below zero prevailed on the Black Sea coast of the Caucasus and the southern coast of the Crimea, snow fell locally.

Wet snow and rain fell in the Lower Volga Region and the central chernozem zone. Overcast weather with slightly below zero temperatures and strong winds prevailed in the eastern regions and the Urals. Daytime temperatures were 3 degrees below zero in Gor'kiy and Kazan', 4 below in Ufa and Kirov, and 8 below in Sverdlovsk.

Temperatures rose somewhat in the Transcaucasus and precipitation ceased. The weather again favored field work. Under favorable conditions, winter crops have entered the tube stage. Early spring crops have entered the three-leaf stage locally.

Overcast weather with slightly below zero temperatures prevailed in Western Siberia and the Kazakh SSR.

It was warm in Central Asia and the southern Kazakh SSR. Rains fell locally. Noon temperatures were 7 degrees above zero in Ashkhabad, 8 in Kzyl-Orda, 12 in Tashkent, and 16 in Stalinabad.

16 March

[No weather and crop information was published on this date.]

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