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USSR WEATHER AND CROP INFORMATION, 9 - 21 MAY 1953

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

10 May

On 9 May, the weather gradually became warmer in the northwestern and central regions of the European USSR. Daytime temperatures were 7 degrees above zero in Arkhangel'sk, 8 in Leningrad, 11 in Moscow, 12 in Tambov, 14 in Orcl, and 17 in Kursk. Cold weather continued and rain and snow fell in Belorussia, the western Ukraine, and Moldavia. Moon temperatures were 4 degrees above zero in Minsk, 5 in L'vov, 8 in Kiev, and 9 in Kishinev.

On 8 May, heavy rains, totaling up to 20 and at some places up to 35 millimeters during the 24-hour period, fell in Kostromskaya, Vladimirskaya, Gor'kovskaya, Ryazanskaya, and Tambovskaya oblasts. During the first 12 hours of 9 May, the rains continued in the eastern portion of the central region and in the Middle Volga Region. It was dry and very warm in the eastern Ukraine, Caucasus, Urals, and Lower Volga Region. Daytime temperatures rose to 13-20 degrees; in Kirovskaya Oblast, they reached 23 degrees. On 8 May, up to 15-30 millimeters of rain fell in Rostovskaya, southern Zaporozhskaya, and Stalin'skaya oblasts. Downpours also occurred in those parts of Saratovskaya and Kuybyshevskaya oblasts lying east of the Volga River.

The warm weather prevailing in the south and east was promoting the growth of crops. Spring wheat had sprouted in Ul'yanovskaya and Voronezhskaya oblasts. Winter grains had stemmed out in Kuybyshevskaya Oblast. In Khar'kovskaya Oblast, sugar beets had sprouted and barley had entered the three-leaf stage. The condition of spring crops was very good to excellent everywhere.

It was dry and warm in the Central Asian republics, western Kazakhstan, and Siberia. Daytime temperatures were 16 degrees in Omsk and Aktyubinsk, 20 in Akmolinsk, and 23 in Tashkent. It became cooler in eastern Western Siberia.

- 1 -

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and rain was falling at some places. Spring wheat had sprouted around Barnaul and Minusinsk; it was entering the bushing stage in Tashkentskaya Oblast. Winter wheat was entering the bushing stage in Samarkandskaya Oblast. The condition of crops was very good.

12 May

On 10 and 11 May, cool weather with precipitation prevailed in the western European USSR. During a 24-hour period, about 15-20 millimeters of rain fell in Odesskaya, Nikolayevskaya, and Kievskaya oblasts. Light rains fell in most of the other Ukrainian oblasts and also in Krinskaya and Rostovskaya oblasts.

Very warm, mostly dry weather, favorable for the performance of field work and the growth of agricultural crops, prevailed in the remaining, greater portion of the European USSR and the Caucasus.

On 11 May, temperatures were slightly lower and rains fell at some places in the north and Urals.

On 11 May, daytime temperatures were about 8-10 degrees in the north, Baltic republics, Belorussia, and the Ukraine except for the southern portion: in most other areas, they were about 13-15 degrees, but rose to 17 in Moscow and Kuybyshev, 19 in Tambov, 21 in Saratov, 24 in Makhachkala, and 26 in Yerevan.

Warm weather with precipitation prevailed in the eastern European USSR; it speeded up the development of crops. Winter rye had stemmed out throughout the territory south of a line running from Petrozavodsk through Vologda to Kirov. Well supplied with moisture, spring wheat was entering the bushing stage in the southern Ukraine, the Crimea, and Northern Caucasus. Northward, to a line running from Tallin through Minsk, Gomel', Ryazan', Saransk, and Ufa, spring crops were sprouting. Spring wheat was also sprouting at some places in Udmurtskaya ASSR and Molotovskaya Oblast.

It was dry and warm in Kazakhstan and Western Siberia. Daytime temperatures were 19 degrees in Aktyubinsk, 16 in Semipalatinsk, and 15 in Novosibirsk and Barnaul. Mostly dry, cool weather with temperatures of about 8-10 degrees prevailed in Eastern Siberia.

Spring wheat was sprouting well in Kazakhstan, southern Novosibirskaya Oblast, and in Krasnoyarskiy Krai.

Very warm weather continued in the Central Asian republics; this was favorable for the growth of cotton, most of which had the first and in the south the third permanent leaf. Cotton fields were in very good condition everywhere.

13 May

On 12 May, warm and mostly dry weather, favorable for field work, continued in the Urals, Volga Region, and the Northern Caucasus. It was cool and rain fell during the night in the rest of the European USSR. Rains continued to fall in Chuvashskaya and Mordovskaya ASSRs and Gor'kovskaya and Vladimirovskaya oblasts. Rain also fell at some places in the portion of Saratovskaya Oblast west of the Volga River.

Daytime temperatures were 6 degrees above zero in Minsk and Leningrad, 10 in Kiev, Kishinev, and Odessa, 15 in Kirov and Ufa, 16 in Saratov and Stalingrad, 17 in Rostov on the Don, and 21 in Krasnodar.

In Western Siberia, the weather continued to become warmer.

- 2 -

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

14 May

On 13 May, cool weather with precipitation continued in most of the European USSR. It was very warm only in the Caucasus, Lower Volga Region, and southern Urals. It was gradually becoming warmer in the Ukraine and Belorussia. Noon temperatures were 9 degrees above zero in Leningrad, 10 in Syktyvkar, Kirov, Vologda, Moscow, Voronezh, and Orel, 12 in Riga and Minsk, 13 in L'vov, Odessa, and Kursk, 14 in Kiev, 15 in Dnepropetrovsk, and 16 in Voroshilovgrad and Rostov on the Don.

On 12 May, heavy rains fell in the Baltic republics, the Ukraine, and the eastern central zone; at some places, they totaled 10-15 millimeters. Quite heavy rains fell in Belorussia and the central regions. Light rains with thunderstorms occurred in the Urals. Rains were continuing during the first 12 hours of 13 May in the central regions and the Urals.

Spring crops which had been sown early were sprouting in the southern Urals; orchards were beginning to blossom there.

It was cool in northwestern Siberia. In Tobol'sk, the daytime temperature was only 5 degrees above zero as compared with 16 degrees the day before. In the rest of Western Siberia, the weather was still very warm. Noon temperatures rose to 20 degrees in Novosibirsk, 21 in Omsk, and 24 in Barnaul.

16 May

On 15 May, the weather was warm and mostly dry in the northern and southern European USSR but cool and rainy in the central zone.

Daytime temperatures were 17 degrees above zero in Ufa and Kirov, 18 in Syktyvkar and Vologda, 19 in Leningrad, Kishinev, Odessa, and Stalingrad, but only 13 in Kursk, 12 in Kiev and Saratov, and 10 in Minsk and Orel.

During the first 12 hours of the 24-hour period, precipitation totaled 5 millimeters in Sumskaya and Chernigovskaya oblasts, 7-8 in Kaluzhskaya, Tul'skaya, and Ryazanskaya oblasts, and about 10 in Saratovskaya and Stalingradskaya oblasts.

Soil moisture was good everywhere, and the development of crops and growth of grasses in pastures and meadows was proceeding normally. Sowing of oats was continuing and transplanting of cabbage had begun in Arkhangel'skaya and Vologodskaya oblasts. In Ul'yunovskaya Oblast, oats and sunflowers had sprouted. Sowing of hemp was in progress in Kurskaya Oblast. In the Baltic countries, potatoes were being planted.

Warm weather continued to prevail in Western Siberia and northern Kazakhstan. Light rains fell during the night in Omskaya, Novosibirskaya, and Pavlodarskaya oblasts. Daytime temperatures were 15 degrees above zero in Novosibirsk and Barnaul, about 20 in Omsk and Tobol'sk. Sowing of crops was in general progress. Winter crops were stemming out.

17 May

On 16 May, warm, dry weather prevailed in most of the European USSR, but it was cool in Belorussia, the western portion of the central chernozem zone, and the Ukraine. Noon temperatures were 18 degrees above zero in Moscow and Voronezh, 19 in Riga, Leningrad, and Arkhangel'sk, 20 in Vologda and Gor'kiy, 21 in Syktyvkar and Stalingrad, 24 in Voroshilovgrad, 26 in Krasnodar, and 27 in Rostov on the Don.

- 3 -

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Heavy rains, totaling 25-30 millimeters, fell on 15 May in the Lower and Middle Volga regions and at some places in Belorussia and the southern Ukraine. On 16 May, rains were continuing to fall in Belorussia.

Spring wheat had begun to stem out in the southern Ukraine; spring crops were sprouting in the central regions and Urals. Winter grains had stemmed out in the central regions and were heading in the southern parts of these regions.

The weather was cool and quite heavy rains fell in Western Siberia. In Kazakhstan and Central Asia, it continued very warm and dry.

#### 19 May

[On 18 May], warm, slightly cloudy weather without precipitation was observed in most of the European USSR. Daytime temperatures were 25 degrees in Syktyvkar, 22 in Kirov, 25 in Chkalov, 27 in Saratov, and 28 in Stalingrad. Temperatures were considerably lower in the west and south: 15 degrees in Riga and Odessa, 16 in Simferopol', and 18 in Kiev.

During the first 12 hours of 18 May, rains fell in Orlovskaya, Kurskaya, and Voronezhskaya oblasts, in the Ukraine east of the Dnepr River, and in the Crimea. In some parts of the Crimea, precipitation totaled 15-23 millimeters.

The generally warm weather favored the growth of agricultural crops and the performance of field work. In some parts of Moldavia, alfalfa had begun to flower and maize had begun to sprout. Winter rye had begun to head in Rovenskaya Oblast and winter wheat in Napredniskaya Oblast. In some areas of Belorussia, flax had begun to sprout.

In Western Siberia, the weather was warm, but there were sharp temperature variations during the day: daytime temperatures rose to 12-15 degrees above zero during the day but dropped to slightly below freezing at night.

In Eastern Siberia, the weather was cool; daytime temperatures were 9 degrees above zero in Irkutsk and 4 in Chita. Quite heavy rains fell in the Transbaykal region.

#### 20 May

On 19 May, very warm, slightly cloudy but dry weather, very favorable for the growth of agricultural crops, prevailed throughout almost all the European USSR. Noon temperatures were 29 degrees in Velikiye Luki, Moscow, Kazan', Minsk, Riga, Orel, and Kiev and 28-30 degrees in Voronezh, Saratov, Stalingrad, and Rostov on the Don. It was considerably cooler in the southern Ukraine, Crimea, and Northern Caucasus; daytime temperatures were only 15-18 degrees in Simferopol', Kishinev, and Krasnodar. It was hot in the Transcaucasia.

During the first 12 hours of the 20-hour period, rains fell in Moldavia, some parts of the Ukraine, and the Kuban'; in some places, they totaled up to 9 millimeters. Rains also fell in the north. In the central zone, cherries, plums, and pears were blossoming.

It was cool in Novosibirskaya and Kemerovskaya oblasts and Altayskiy and Krasnoyarskiy krays. Daytime temperatures were 8-10 degrees above zero in Novosibirsk, Barnaul, and Krasnoyarsk.

The weather was dry and very warm in the Central Asian republics. Rains fell only in the mountainous areas.

- 4 -

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21 May

On 20 as on 19 May, quite heavy rains fell in Arkhangel'skaya Oblast and Komi ASSR. Light rains also continued to fall in Kuybyshevskaya and Chkalovskaya oblasts and in many areas of the Ukraine. There was no precipitation in the rest of the European USSR. Daytime temperatures were only 6 degrees above zero in Arkhangel'sk and Syktyvkar, but 22 in Kuybyshev, 25 in Chkalov, and 30-31 in Stalingrad and Voroshilovgrad; in the rest of the European USSR, they ranged between 21 and 25 degrees.

Spring wheat was stemming out in the southern Ukraine; winter rye was heading in Kamenets-Podol'skaya and Nikolayevskaya oblasts; potatoes were emerging from the ground in the area around Sinel'nikovo in Dnepropetrovskaya Oblast.

It was considerably warmer in Western Siberia; daytime temperatures were 22 degrees in Omsk and 15 in Novosibirsk and Barnaul. In Eastern Siberia, it became cooler during the 24-hour period; the daytime temperature was only 5 degrees above zero in Irkutsk.

Dry, hot weather prevailed generally in Central Asia. Conditions for the growth of cotton were good.

22 May

On 21 May, cooler weather, which began on 20 May in the far northeast, spread to the Urals. Daytime temperatures dropped to 6 degrees above zero in Kirov, 7 in Sverdlovsk and Ufa, and 10 in Kazan'. The cooler weather was accompanied by light rains in Molotovskaya and Kirovskaya oblasts and Tatarskaya and Bashkirskaya ASSRs. During the next 24 hours, the cooler weather was expected to spread south of these regions; during the night of 23 May, light frosts might be possible north of a line running from Gor'kiy to Kuybyshev, Chkalov, Kustanay, and Omsk.

In the rest of the European USSR, the weather remained warm, slightly cloudy but dry.

Winter wheat had stemmed out almost everywhere, had begun to head in the Kuban', was flowering in the steppe areas of Azerbaydzhan, and had even reached the milky maturity stage in a few areas.

Temperatures dropped somewhat in the region east of the Urals and in Omskaya Oblast; the daytime temperature in Omsk was 17 degrees above zero. In the rest of Western Siberia, it was slightly warmer; daytime temperatures in Novosibirsk and Barnaul were 23 degrees.

Cool weather continued in Eastern Siberia; temperatures were 10 degrees in Krasnoyarsk and Irkutsk.

Dry, hot weather continued in the Central Asian republics. Winter wheat was flowering in the Uzbek and Tadzhik SSRs; it was setting grain in the Turkmen SSR.

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- 5 -

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