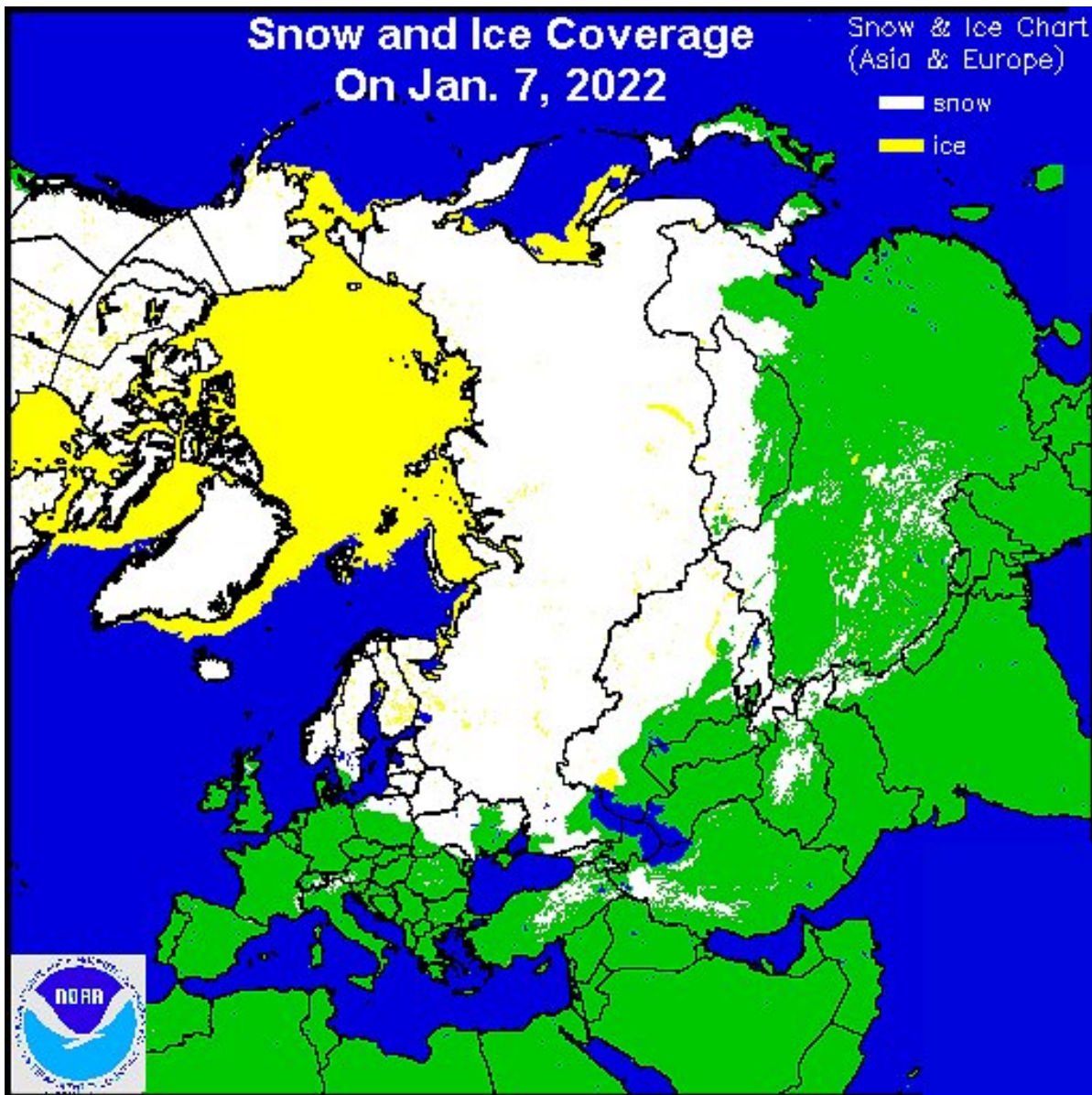


CIS Weekend Bitter Cold Has Low Impact On Winter Crops

By Drew Lerner

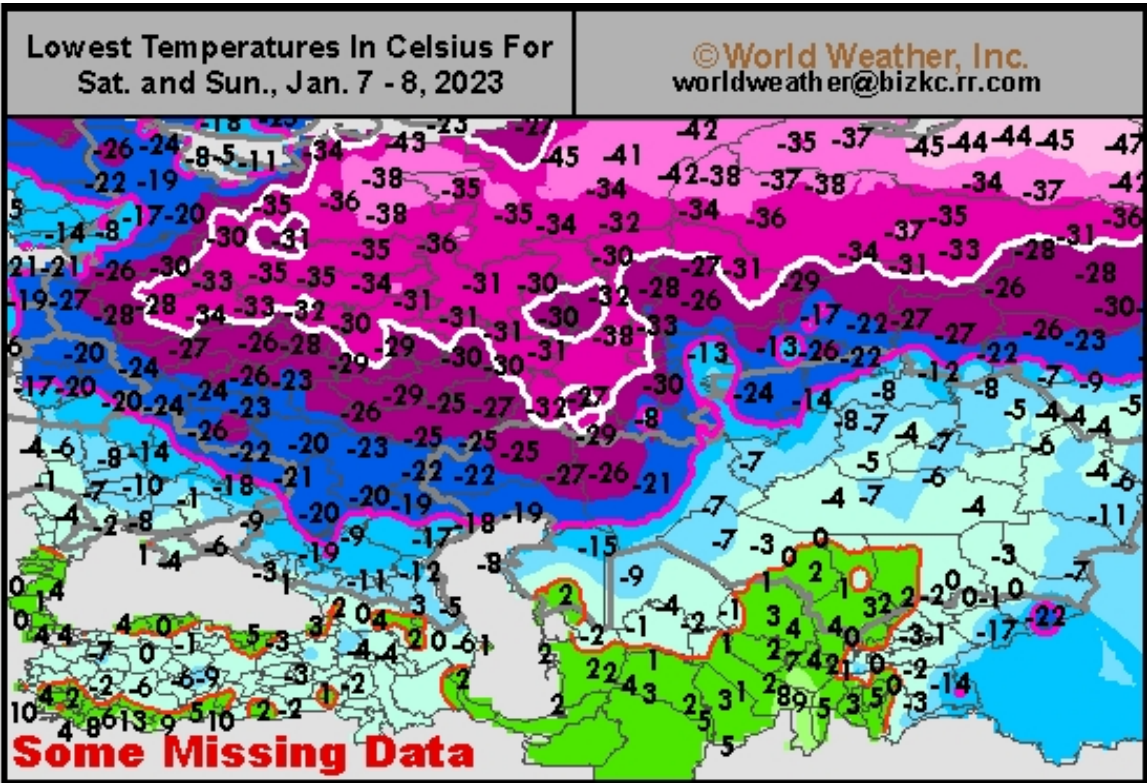
Kansas City, January 8 (World Weather Inc.) – Bitter cold temperatures impacted most of Russia except the far southernmost parts of the Southern Region during the weekend. The cold also impacted northernmost Ukraine. Most of these areas had adequate snow cover to protect crops, but satellite imagery suggested a few pockets of either snow free conditions or of minimal snow coverage which “may” have raised the potential for damage to crops. *Most crop areas should have been adequately protected from the coldest conditions minimizing the potential for permanent damage. Any losses that “might” have occurred are likely to be well within the norm for any winter season.*



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Snow cover was minimal in interior east-central and southeastern Ukraine as well as a few southwestern Russia Southern Region crop areas. Another snow-free region was in the southeastern corner of Russia's Southern Region. Most of the areas with either no snow or minimal snow cover experienced temperatures that were near the damage threshold, but not necessarily below that threshold. Some damage cannot be ruled out, but if there was any it should have impacted only a very small part of the overall production region. Most likely, temperatures in the snow free areas were not low enough for a long enough period of time to induce serious damage that would cut into production.

An assessment of the damage or lack thereof will not be possible until spring when the crop normally greens up. Most of the temperatures near the southern extent of the snow field were in the negative and positive single digits Fahrenheit. Temperatures much colder occurred farther to the north where snow cover was widespread and in many areas accumulations were quite deep.



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